Canine Capers

A publication of the Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

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Obedience & Rally Trial Huge Success

NEMKC's return to performance trials started of with a huge success! Sunday, July 12th we hosted 150 entrants for our rally and obedience trials. Many of our volunteers had never worked a trial before but you wouldn't have known it. Everything ran smoothly with only a few very minor glitches that were quickly corrected.

Many members received very positive feedback throughout the day with suggestions to hold a two day trial weekend next year.

Further details about this years trial, as well as any photos I can obtain will be published in the next newsletter after final numbers have been received.

If you have any feedback, photos, comments or suggestions about this year's trial, or for next year's planning please forward them to me at

phoenixrottweilers@yahoo.com

NOTE:

Puppy Senior Picnic is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th at 6:00pm. It was rescheduled due to weather.

Contact Guy Long at revguy2@gmail.com if you're attending.

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Have You Seen the New Website?!

If not you should definitely stop in and check it out. You're dog may be featured on a page header or gallery! Anyone who sent in photos can be found somewhere on this awesome new website. Be sure to take a peek at those gallery pages and see who's there. The photos will change from time to time to be sure to check back periodically.

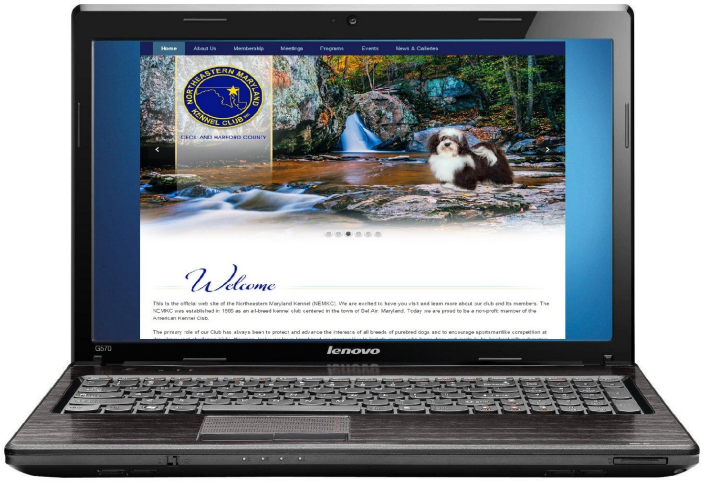
In addition to member photos, there are several new areas to the site. There are updated pages for coming events with lots of information and details, the member's only section has been updated to allow

Club Website (cont'd)

each use to have their own login and password for increased security, and there's a section for club announcements. The new site also implements the use of PayPal in order to receive payments for things like seminars, dues renewals and trophy donations. Of course you can still pay for these items the old fashioned way too, but this gives you another option in case you're like me and wait till the last minute to pay.

The new website is a great way to stay in touch with what the club is doing, what's current, what's coming, and what's exciting! Stop in for a tour around the site and keep popping in to find new information and photographs!

If you have a photo or tidbit that you'd like to see added to the website, be sure to send it to Marylou (olbay101@aol.com) or Joyce (joyengle@comcast.net) for consideration.



What Is This Club Coming To?!

For many years now NEMKC has held the usual conformation events twice a year. It was a pretty predictable routine, with the same location.

Times they are a changin'!!

With the recent return to performance events, NEMKC has some exciting things in the works!

The performance committee is working on bringing you many new and exciting opportunities for you and your dog to work as a team.

There is a nosework trial scheduled for October 30, 31, and November 1. Volunteers are needed to help this be as much of a success as the recent obedience and rally trials. Contact Joyce (joyengle@comcast.net) or Dawn (phoenixrottweilers@yahoo.com) for more details.

Barn Hunt is also on the committee's radar with hopes to hold an event sometime next year. If you have experience with this type of event please be sure to contact the performance committee to see how you can help.

Wheels are already spinning for next year's rally and obedience trials too! If you are interested in helping out with this event again next year, yep...you guessed it. Please contact the performance committee and see how you can help.

If there is an event that you would like the club to host next year let us know! We're working hard to bring new competition events to the area.

25 Heroic Dogs and How They Saved People

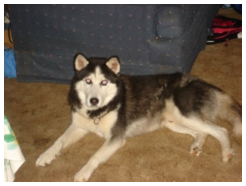
People have always seemed to have a soft spot for heroic dogs. Whether it's TV classics like Lassie or heart-warming family films like Homeward Bound, the idea of dogs rescuing their human masters (or even complete strangers) captures our love and affection as few other things do. So it's only natural to love hearing about dogs who save people in real life! Here are 25 true accounts of dogs who saved people from perilous circumstances.

1) Brutis was a 7 year old golden retrieverwhen he became a hero in 2004. That's when the loveable pooch snatched up a coral snake as it was slithering dangerously close to a young child, suffering a near-deadly bite from the snake in the process. His heroics did not go unnoticed however, as Brutis was promptly flown to Los Angeles to recieve the National Hero Dog award. Said the committee who awarded the medal, "when we give an award like this, we're looking for something extra, something that would make people wonder why a dog would do what he did."

2) Zoey Everyone knows that smaller dogs have to display in attitude what they lack in size, and Zoey is living proof. A five pound chihuahua from Colorado, Zoey made headlines in 2007 for rescuing a one year old child from an approaching three foot rattlesnake when the snake got too close for comfort. While Zoey sustained a small wound from a snakebite above her eye, she eventually recovered and the snake was killed by the dog's owner.

3) Katrina Hurricane Katrina was a miserable occurance for everyone down south, but inspiring stories of heroism have helped give victims something to smile about. That's certainly the case with Katrina, the ironically named black labrador who saved a drowning man before rising flood waters claimed his life. The dog, who was later rescued herself by rescue teams, was honored at that year's Genesis Awards with a standing ovation.

4) Shana In a Fox News story titled "Half-Breed Wolf Dog Hero Rescues Elderly Owners From Snowstorm", readers learn the heroic tale of Shana, a half wolf dog/half German shepard who saved an elderly couple from a treacherous snow storm. When Shana found Norman and Eve trapped by snow, she went to work, diligently digging out a tunnel through which she would pull the couple back to the safety of their home.



5) Maya You don't get to be the 2008 Dog of the Year for nothing, and this pooch is no exception. Maya took home this year's honors for courageously saving Angela Marcelino, her owner, from a vicious male attacker. The pitbull's act of bravery earned some high praise from the Animal Miracle foundation, who was happy to report that "the pitbull breed can be hero dogs just like any other breed."

6) 2007's Dog of the Year winner was Moti, the five year old German Shepherd who literally took a bullet for his human family. When a masked intruder made his way into the Patel household, Moti wasted little time, leaping to his feet and barking to draw the gunman's attention. Faced with the angry pooch, the gunman shot him and ran off without harming any of the Patels. Luckily, this furry hero is making a full recovery!

7) Honey was the 2006 Dog of the Year, an award she earned by saving her owner from a violent car accident. When she and Michael Bosch found their SUV rolled over and stuck upside down in a deep ravine, Bosch was trapped and knew that Honey was his only hope. With all his strength, he managed to release the dog and hope that she would somehow find help. Sure enough, the then 5 month old English Cocker Spaniel got the attention of a man about a half-mile away and brought him to the scene of the accident. Rescuers concluded that had it not been for this, Bosch would have died.

8) Napoleon Cats and dogs are always made out to be enemies, but this not always so! Enter Napoleon, the English Bulldog who defied the poor swimming skills of his breed to swim deep out into a lake and rescue a burlap sack containing 6 abandoned kittens! While two of the kittens didn't make it, the other four were nursed back to health, leading to a hero's welcome for Napoleon back at the local adoption center.

9) Hero In a truly heartwarming story, a four year old Golden Retriever was credited with saving a paralyzed man who got his wheelchair stuck in the middle of a muddy field. When Gareth Jones found himself unable to move, the former soldier's service dog was ready to answer the call, dutifully pulling the rope Jones threw to him until the wheelchair was pulled free.
Said Jones, "He didn't let go until I was clear. He knew exactly what he was doing."

10) Eve Everyone loves those heart-pounding movie scenes where the hero escapes a burning pit seconds before it explodes, but it's not so fun in real life. That's what Kathie, a paralyzed parapalegic, learned when her Rotweiller (Eve)pulled her by the ankles from her burning, smoldering truck. Upon pulling Kathie out, Eve proceeded to drag her to a nearby ditch, just far enough away to avoid the explosion of her vehicle. After firemen cleared the scene, Eve was awarded the Stillman Award for her bravery.

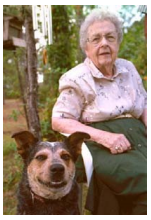
11) Ginny Is Ginny a traitor to canine's everywhere, or an undisputed hero? The 300 cats who attended her memorial service would probably say the latter, paying homage to a dog who endangered herself on multiple occasions to save dying or stranded cats from peril. On one particularly remarkable occasion, Ginny threw herself against a vertical pipe at a construction site so that it would topple and the stranded cats inside could escape. Another time, Ginny suffered severe cuts on her paws to find an injured cat inside a box of broken glass.

12) Trakr owns arguably the most prestigious rescue on our list. Together with police officer James Symington, Trakr helped dig through some 30 feet of unstable debris at the World Trade Center "ground zero" site and locate the last human survivor of the attack. The dog's bravery was so celebrated that he is going to be cloned for use in other police rescue forces!

13) Shelby became the 45th Skippy Dog Hero of the Year for saving two adults and two children from carbon monoxide poisoning. The dog (with her keen sense of smell) was the first to detect the rising C0 levels while the rest of the family was asleep, nudging each of them out of their sleep and refused to stop barking, scratching, and whining until the family was safely outside. Luckily, each family member was treated at a nearby hospital and made a full recovery. "In my eyes, and in the eyes of my family, Shelby is more than a hero; she is a lifesaver, a guardian angel," said Joleen Walderbach.

14) Rocky A Lakewood, Colorado police dog, Rocky made headlines in 2002 for chasing down a burglar, taking a bullet in the process and ultimately helping to capture the 20 year old thug. According to Darren Mauer, the dog's officer/partner, the bullet to Rocky's paw never slowed him down. "He was the same dog after as he was before."

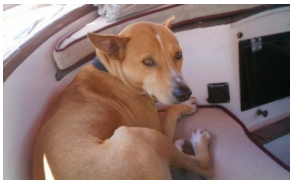
15) Blue Most people wouldn't dare to go one-on-one with an alligator, but that's exactly that Blue did to take home 2001 "Dog Hero of the Year" honors. The Australian Blue Heeler saved Ruth Gay, his 85 year old owner, from an alligator attack behind her home. Reportedly, Ms. Gay had fallen while walking Blue. When a nearby gator lumbered over, threatening to attack, Blue charged into action and sparred with the gator long enough to scare it away. Both Gay and Blue made full recoveries, and blue was awarded with doggie treats, cash, and a specially engraved Dog Hero food bowl.



16) Patty Blue's runner up to the 2001 award was Patty, a yellow lab retreiver who saved her owner from drowning while on a winter duck hunting excursion. After Ray Fogg's boat capsized and dumped the two into frigid North Atlantic waters, Patty allowed him to grab hold of her tail while she vigorously doggy-paddled against the powerful current. They made it all the way to the nearest land, where they were rescued by game wardens later on that evening.

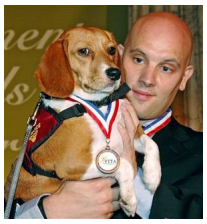
17) Neo This 11 month old Siberian husky earned his hero stripes by getting human help for his imperiled owner, Marci Snead. When Snead (a diabetic with fibromyalsia and rheumatoid arthritis) went into hypoglycemic shock, Neo ran to the nearest building. There, he grabbed the attention of several people who followed Neo back to where Snead had fallen. Within moments, an ambulance was called and the

18) Kankuntu It's not every day that a dog saves its family from armed pirates at sea, but amazingly, that's exactly what Kankuntu did. When Peter Lee found himself about to be hijacked on his 41 foot yacht by armed pursuers, the dog (who "thinks he's a lion") leapt right into action, furiously attacking the gunmen until one of them shot and stabbed the pooch between his shoulder blades. Amazingly, the dog was nursed back to the health and the family continued with their voyage.



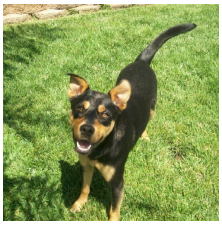
19) Junior Don't let the name fool you; there was nothing "junior" or small about this dog's effort. As fire tore through the Davilmar household in the middle of the night, the 14 month old shihtzu mix started barking and did not relent until everyone (including the family's half-dozen visiting relatives) was awake and out of the house.

20) Belle In a nearly unbelievably story titled "Dog Makes Cell Phone Call to Save Owner's Life", readers learn about Belle, a beagle who literally bit "911" into Kevin Weaver's cell phone after the diabetic man collapsed from a seizure. Said Weaver, "there's no doubt in my mind that I'd be dead if I didn't have Belle", who became the first canine to win VITA's Wireless Samaritan Award. Evidently, the pooch had been trained to bite down on the phone's keypad in the event of an emergency!



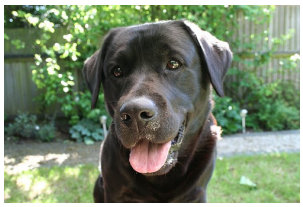
21) Toby MSNBC tells the story of Toby, a golden retriever who heroically saved owner Debbie Parkhurst from choking to death on an apple in her Maryland home. When it became apparent that she was choking, the dog leapt hard onto her chest and forced the lodged morsel to come loose from her throat. For his efforts, Toby took home a share of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' "Dog of the Year" award in 2007.

22) Nyla Nyla is another dog that risked her own life to save her human owner from the threat of fire. When Sheila found herself surrounded by smoke and flames, unable to see in front of her, Nyla courageously buided her toward a nearby door, barking whenever Sheila lost track of her. While her home and belongings were destroyed, Sheila was guided to safety, noting that "Nyla could have left anytime. Instead, she chose to stay and risk her own life and face death to save me."

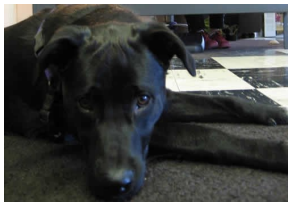


23) Roselle When Michael Hingson found himself on the 78th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, it took some unexpected heroics from his yellow labrador to save his life. When the building started to sway and the air filled with choking smoke, Roselle lead Michael to safety, guiding him through the crumbling office toward a stairwell. It wasn't easy for Michael or Roselle, who was panting and extremely thirsty, but the two managed to reach safety just moments before Tower 1 collapsed.

24) Nellie All dogs are known for their super-sharp hearing, but most of them don't win awards for it. But when Nellie, a 4 year old black lab, used her high powered ears to detect an intruder in time to save her severely deaf owner, it would've been a crime to give the Heroic Hearing Dog of the Year award to anyone else! The charity that trained Nellie couldn't have been more proud.



25) Kaze earned top honors from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department for saving the life of a woman in her late 20's, reported missing a few days earlier. On his first-ever rescue mission, Kaze located the missing woman under a bridge, in a coma that authorities later reported that would have killed her within the hour if she had not been found. Luckily, the woman was rushed to a hospital, where she recovered after a week's time.



Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club Raises Money for AKC Reunite at Texas

By Mary Lou Olszewski

The beer was cold, the rib meat fell off the bone, and we had a ball!
The Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club recently hosted a 10% Night at a local Texas Roadhouse restaurant as a fundraiser for AKC Reunite. It was a huge success, with more than $350 raised for our cause.

Meet Carol and Jerry Wiley, huge AKC Reunite supporters and members of the Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club. They manned the table with our donation box and a trifold a member made us for display touting the AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer project.

Raffle items donated included dinner for two from Texas Roadhouse with some coupons, peanuts and a bucket; a basket of McCormick grilling spices and rib rack donated by club members; and a Yankee Candle donated by a member.

Despite the weather (a tornado warning at one point!), many people came out to support the event and this worthwhile project.

Don't forget to send in your brags, photos, articles of interest, quips, quotes, anecdotes, etc! If you think another dog enthusiast would enjoy it or benefit from it, share it! Send it to Dawn at: phoenixrottweilers@yahoo.com