



Working Notes

Northstar Working Group Association monthly publication.
Celebrating 10 Years!

Officers

President

Sid Levin

Vice President

Kirsten Ludwig

Secretary

Diane Levin

Treasurer

Jim Olson

Directors

Bliss Bancroft

Kari Hahn

Sunny Lambert

Sharon Olson

Debby Wilkins

Next Meeting

Thursday, March 18
Meeting at Perkins, Lakeville
Board Meeting 7:15 PM
Club Meeting 7:30 PM

Directions: I-35 south or north to exit 85 (County Rd 5/50 in Lakeville). Go northwest on County Rd 5 to 172nd St. W. Turn left onto 172nd St. W., then turn left again onto Kenyon Avenue. Perkins Restaurant is at the end of Kenyon Ave.

Announcement!! Northstar Working Group Association is in NEED of a volunteer to be Publicity Chair. Please contact, President Sid Levin at SeredipityDanes@aol.com

NORTHSTAR WORKING GROUP ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2010

The Board of the Northstar Working Group Association met at the Perkins Restaurant in Lakeville on February 18, 2010. Board members present were Bliss Bancroft, Sunny Lambert, Diane Levin, Sid Levin, Jim Olson, Sharon Olson, and Deb Wilkins; there was a quorum. Club members present were John Wilkins and Deb Merritt. The meeting was called to order at 8:40 p.m. by President Sid Levin.

The Board discussed whether to sponsor a seminar by Dr. Christine Zink, DVM, as suggested at the January meeting. Sunny reported on Dr. Zink's seminar "Coaching the Canine Athlete," which she had just attended in Illinois; she said it was reasonably full, given that the sponsoring club was not near a city and the weather was not good over the weekend. She felt that we would draw much better attendance in the Twin Cities. Deb Merritt agreed with her: she said that she had attended one of Dr. Zink's seminars a few years ago and it was packed. Sunny requested information from Dr. Zink about her fees, availability in 2011, and possible topics for a two-day seminar. Dr. Zink does not do seminars in April or May, but has three out of four weekends available in March 2011. Everyone agreed that summer and fall are too crowded with events to schedule a weekend seminar, and winter weather poses too much of a

problem. Sid said that he spoke to Sue Kothe at Total Recall, and we could rent the facility for a weekend for \$600.00. He ran a report based on Dr. Zink's fees and probable expenses and our costs for building rental and food; even using a fairly low registration fee and being conservative about attendance, we would not lose money. It was moved and seconded that we try to book Dr. Zink for the last weekend in March, 2011; the motion was carried. Sunny will take the lead and make arrangements with Total Recall and Dr. Zink. Diane and Deb Wilkins will work with Sunny.

There was discussion at the January meeting about whether or not to buy the automobile sunshades that had been chosen for August show trophies, as the seller requires a minimum order of fifty. The consensus of the Board was that the extra sun shades could be used for other events or purchased by club members. It was moved and seconded to go ahead with the sunshade order. The motion was carried.

The question of making a donation in support of local dog-related legislative activity was discussed. The Minnesota Cat and Dog Council (MCDC) is trying to raise \$50,000.00 to fund telephone bank activity. Sunny explained that using this system, callers will contact people about

proposed animal- or breeder-regulating legislation; if any person agrees to oppose such legislation, the phone bank will immediately connect him to his legislator's office. MCDC plans to use the phone bank already set up by local sportsmen's associations: they are trying to pull all interested groups together. Various dog clubs have made donations as high as \$5,000.00. It was moved that NWGA donate \$1,000.00 to MCDC's fund drive. An amendment to the motion was offered, raising the amount of the donation to \$1,500.00. The proposed amendment was discussed: there is no guarantee that these organizations will stay together and active for a year, and we can always make an additional donation if the club thinks it necessary. The original motion to donate \$1,000.00 was seconded and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Following the meeting, brags were announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Levin, Secretary, NWGA

NORTHSTAR WORKING GROUP ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes February 18, 2010

The Northstar Working Group Association met at the Perkins Restaurant in Lakeville on February 18, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by President Sid Levin. There was no quorum.

President's Report: Sid said that he has been talking to the sales manager at the Holiday Inn Express on Cliff Road in Eagan about a corporate room rate for our judges. The sales manager said she would put something in writing for him. This hotel has an airport shuttle, which reduces the need for the club to provide judge transportation.

Secretary's Report: Diane Levin reported that she sent membership termination letters to Peggy Hagen, Julie Mulloy, and Carol Van Nostrand. She mailed our AKC Compliance Statement and supporting documentation in conjunction with submitting the application for the August show. She received a follow-up letter from the Minnesota Cat and Dog Council (MCDC) requesting a donation; a letter from the Minnesota Federation of Field Trial Clubs requesting a donation in support of legislative lobbying activities; letters from AKC approving the July agility trials; e-mail from AKC regarding the new Grand Champion titling program; e-mail from AKC regarding changes to the Canine Partners (mixed-breed dog) program; e-mail from AKC regarding legislative issues and

containing information on their new Government Relations toolbox; a follow-up letter from AKC regarding their political action committee and requesting donations from individuals; and a note from Kathleen Robinson from Des Moines thanking the club for holding the January obedience and rally trials.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Olson reported that he had received a note from Peggy Hagen to let him know that she would not be renewing her membership. He noted that the club's Certificate of Deposit is coming up for renewal, but interest rates are so low that renewal might not be worthwhile. The club's checking account balance as of February 17 was \$19,962.50; the Junior Showmanship account balance is \$1,000.00; the CD is worth \$12,360.00. Jim also had the final financial report for the obedience and rally trials. We lost \$261.69 for the weekend. We did not do food sales this year, so our income came from entries only. Jim felt that we would probably have done a little better if we had done some advertising for the trials; in the absence of a Publicity Chair, nothing was done.

Committee Reports:

Show: January 2010: Diane said that she received the closeout letter and turnaround application for the January show. She said that she had written a brief article

about the show for *Dog News* magazine; it appeared in the February 5 issue. Deb Wilkins receives *Dog News* and brought a copy to the meeting.

August 2010: Diane submitted the show application using AKC's Online Event Management service. The Common Site Application and Special Attraction Application can't be processed through the online system, so were mailed to AKC along with the Compliance Statement. Deb Wilkins is waiting for contracts to be returned by judges; as soon as she has received all of them, the Judges Panel Application will be submitted. Diane received the usual information packet from Judy Cunningham, St. Croix Valley Combined Specialties Coordinator, along with premium list copy to be updated and returned to Judy by mid-March. Diane will need trophy descriptions by the first week of March, and will also need to know who will judge the Best Bred-by-Exhibitor (BBE) group. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that Jim Olson would judge the BBE group. Because he can't do this and steward, Sharon Olson will be Chief Ring Steward for the show. Deb noted that changes to AKC's rules may allow exhibitors to move a dog from any class to any other class, which could cause problems if a price break is given for the Bred-by-Exhibitor class.

Meeting Minutes continued...

Judges: Deb has all contracts but one in hand for the August show. She is expecting the remaining contract within the week.

Obedience: Sharon Olson reported that she has hired two judges for 2011, one local and one from out of state. Diane noted that the trial report was printed in the February newsletter, and again thanked everyone who worked.

Agility: Sharon said that everything is on track for the July trials. She is working on the premium list updates. She noted that we will be using 24-inch weaves at our trials.

Match: Debbie Wuetherich was absent. Sid asked John Wilkins, who is on the board of St. Croix Valley Kennel Club (SCVKC), if SCVKC planned to host an AKC Canine Experience event this year. John said that the Canine Experience will definitely be held sometime in the summer. NWGA will participate, as doing so will give us credit for an independent match and will also count as an education event.

Juniors Program: Deb received no comments on her first proposal. Her committee members are Kirsten Ludwig and Susan Peterson.

Hospitality: Bliss Bancroft said that the awards banquet/holiday party will be held on the same weekend as last year—the Sunday before Thanksgiving—unless there is a show that weekend. The restaurant (Buca di Beppo in Burnsville) is making some menu changes and will send the new menu to Bliss later in the month.

She should have more information at the March meeting.

Publicity: The need for a chairperson was discussed. Bliss expressed interest and will talk to Diane about what the job would entail.

Membership:
Membership Application, First Reading: Heidi Hosinski, who has Dogues de Bordeaux, is sponsored by Diane and Sid Levin. Diane wrote a letter in support of her application.

Membership Application, Second Reading: Kara Maytag.

Ways and Means: John said that there were bargains available in fleece products and various other kinds of outerwear. Rain jackets are in transit from the manufacturer but he hopes to have some available later in the season.

Finance: Sid will talk to the bank to see if we could get a better rate on our CD. It might be worthwhile to open a money market checking account.

Web Site: Deb Merritt said that she expects to post January show and trial results, with photos, next week.

Old Business:

Sid found a company that produces custom pins in a variety of materials and finishes. Cost would be approximately \$2.50 per pin, depending on materials, for an order of one hundred. Diane will look into design options and charges.

Because there was no quorum, Sid decided to defer discussion of remaining Old Business and take it up at the Board meeting.

New Business: Diane noted that although our tablecloths look very nice, they are extremely difficult to care for because the fabric attracts and holds dog hair that needs to be removed before the tablecloths are washed. They can't be sent out for cleaning because the appliquéd club logo is glued on rather than sewn; the appliqué must be ironed back down after the tablecloths are dry, and occasionally a small piece of appliqué comes off and must be reglued. Diane and Sharon discussed the matter and thought oilcloth might be a better material; the club logo could be stamped on it and the tablecloths could be cleaned by vacuuming and/or wiping down. Diane looked for oilcloth online and was unable to find maroon, but did locate yardage in white at a good price. Deb Wilkins offered to look locally to see what is available.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Following the meeting, the Board met.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Levin
Secretary, NWGA

