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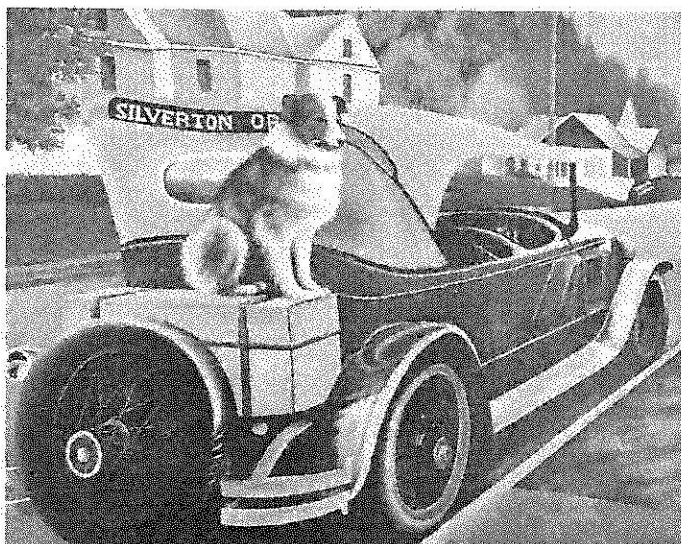
# CollieConnection

Summer 2023

## Bobbie, The Wonder Dog

By Ted Slupik

It is not often that we experience a "feel good" story. When we do, however, we want to share it. In the search of a refreshing and uplifting narrative, some of our members vacationed in scenic Oregon recently. The draw of this trip was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Bobbie, the Wonder Dog". The seemingly unbelievable story of Bobbie drew our attention to a little town of Silverton in Oregon. Bobbie was a Scotch collie with a bobbed tail, a wide blaze and unique markings. Of course, the lure of a story about an amazing collie sweetened the pot. With a population of 10,300, and roughly an hour's drive south of Portland, this oasis named Silverton was a mecca of beauty; with flowering trees, shrubs, and colorful flowers that



almost overload the senses, and there was exquisiteness at every turn on the winding roads and hills that make up this beautiful town.

Founded in 1854, few people settled in this unique spot. Known as the town that no one goes through to get to any other town or city, you have to intend to travel there. Currently, with 10,300 people living in Silverton, you experience a friendliness that makes you feel at home. Totally self-contained, the town offers every type of shop that one could need for everyday living. It boasts of having a total of three stop lights and the downtown area is full of wonderful shops and restaurants. We were drawn into this town which also boasts large painted murals that depict important historic events important to the residents.

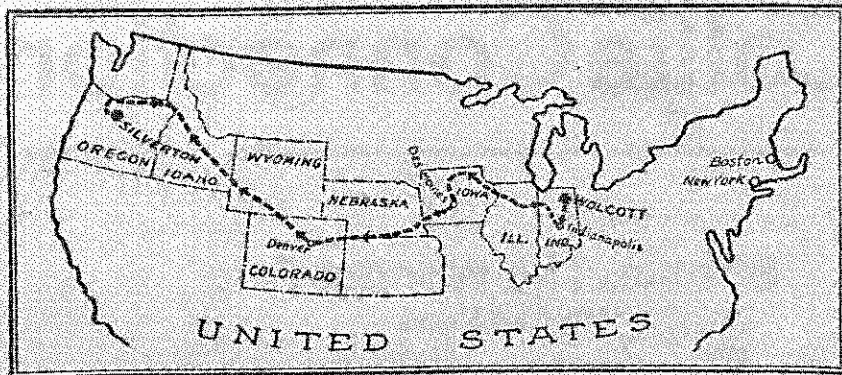
In 1923 one of the families that lived in Silverton was the Brazier family. Having moved from a rural area into town, the Braziers opened

a restaurant. Bobbie was originally sold to the new owner of the Brazier farm but he was unhappy without his family. Having the innate intelligence and loyalty that collies have, he kept escaping the farm and finding his way into town to locate his family. The Braziers finally gave up and bought him back from the farmer for three times what the farmer paid for him.

In August of 1923, the Braziers decided to undertake a long and arduous journey via automobile to Wolcott, Indiana to visit family. Travel in those days was not without difficulty as roads were often treacherous, but they safely arrived. However, upon arriving in Indiana, Bobbie was attacked and run off by a pack of local dogs. Each time Bobbie tried to rejoin his family, the mean pack would run him off again. The Brazier

family desperately tried to find Bobbie and extended their stay to find him. After quite some time, they sadly finally had to give up hope and return to Silverton. The family was devastated.

What happened next was an amazing tale. Almost six months to the exact day of being left behind and in February 1924, Bobbie arrived in Silverton. Injured and matted, with his pads cracked and severely damaged, Bobbie found his way to his home. This family rejoiced! Talk about the original Lassie Come Home Story! They could not believe their good fortune in once again having their faithful friend back home. News of Bobbie's story spread like wildfire. Remember, these were the days of no internet, television, and limited radio. The local newspaper ran articles of this wonderful feat and soon national magazines and newspapers covered the story in these days of no social media and internet. Accounts of Bobbie's travels of

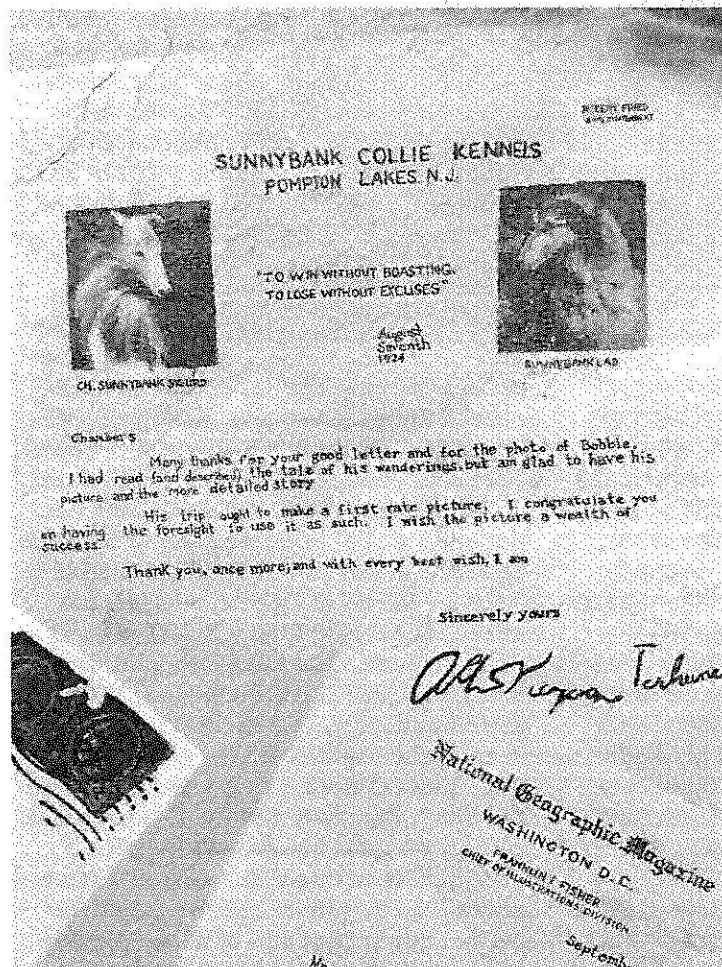
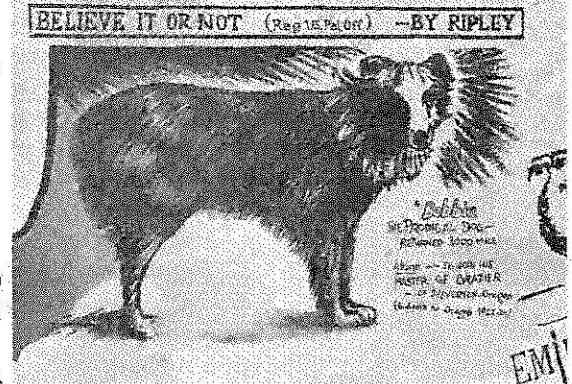


DODD, MEAD AND COMPANY, Publishers, New York

over 2,500 miles spread nationwide, and confirmed sightings of this uniquely marked dog were verified and substantiated. He even returned home with the remnants of a rope around his neck that he chewed through to continue on with his mission that someone who wrote in had the other end of. Bobbie became a celebrity and received hundreds of letters from famous organizations and people such as the National Geographic and author Albert Payson Terhune. These letters allowed the newspaper to track Bobbie's return trip. It is a wonder how

he managed to cross mountain ridges and rivers, but this is a tribute to the loyalty and steadfastness of the collie breed. People traveled to Silverton just to meet this marvel of a dog that traveled such a great distance and survived perils to make his way home to his beloved family. One of his personal appearances attracted 40,000 people! Ripley's Believe It or Not publicized his travels. In 1924, a silent movie, *The Call of the West*, was made chronicling Bobbie's

led by Bobbie's son Pal, families and/or their children march with their beloved pets whether they are dogs, cats, rabbits, llamas, and iguanas, whatever the species. From Sapphire the pullet to Toby the pony, every species is celebrated by their loving families. It seems like every organization in town is represented — from the fire truck that starts the parade, to the high school marching band, to churches and local businesses, everyone is represented and welcome. Children watching the parade sit on the curbs anxiously grabbing candy thrown their way.



amazing trip starting the amazing dog himself. Later, he went on to sire a litter of 15 (all male) puppies. Sadly, Bobbie passed away in 1927 and is buried in a beautiful honored gravesite on the grounds of the Oregon Pet Shelter in Portland. What follows after Bobbie's death is a wonderful tribute to his story. Each year, the town of Silverton honors the love of pets and their families in an annual parade on the third Saturday in May. Labeled simply as the "Pet Parade", thousands of people gather to celebrate their love of their beloved pets each year. Begun in 1932 and

## Collie Connection

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### Deadlines for future issues:

Fall 2023	Oct. 1
Winter 2023	Jan. 1
Spring 2024	April 1

Include SASE for return of photos.

AWCA Logo designed by Diana Hiiesalu.



The parade is a celebration of American families and their beloved pets; no matter what the variety, and reminds us of all that is good and wholesome in America.

That all of this annual celebration was inspired by one family dog encourages us that the love of a family, whether human or animal, is most important no matter the hardships that may be faced. Our pets create a bond with us that is unconditional and unwavering. A quote that exemplifies the experience we had during this trip was:

*"No matter the odds or hardships, when you feel abandoned or all alone, love and loyalty will always guide you home."* (Courtesy of KOIN 6 TV)

Bobbie certainly proved this quote, and his story is really about the unconditional love of a collie. You can view a news story about the parade at the following YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbK0PeOWh7w>.

Resources: "Bobbie, A Great Collie of Oregon" by Charles Alexander; "Bobbie the Wonder Dog, a True Story" by Tricia Brown.



McGee, who were the 2019 Ambassador team!

A huge shout-out and even larger thank you to **Dena Campbell** for once again running the Herding Critter Raffle. It was a barking success! Thanks go to all the generous donors, too, and congratulations to all who won prizes. The President's Prize (6-month subscription to Bark Box) was won by **Lillian Puchalski**. Yay! Note: if you have not received your prize by the end of July, please do notify Dena. It doesn't need mentioning, but I will anyway: when you do receive your prize, please acknowledge its receipt so the donor will know it has arrived.

I also want to thank **Wayne Lewis**, our Treasurer, for his timely and outstanding work sending and receiving checks, balancing our checkbook, and sending me a statement each month. And another HUGE thank you to our Secretary, **Judy Cummings**, who holds us all together, fielding weird requests, sending reminders, and coordinating all the intricacies of this Associating. They make my job easy and fun. And summer is for fun!

We had a couple of referrals for Collies in Need this quarter, but thanks to the generous collie community, no one needed our help. But...**BOLO**: The American Working Collie Association accepts donations anytime, but especially at dues renewal time, that go to help collies in need. These funds are available to anyone who needs assistance with veterinary bills; they don't need to be AWCA members. Surgeries, MRI's, radiographs, heart worm medication, euthanasia – we have helped with all. We do have funds available at this time, and I am asking that anyone who knows of an owner who needs financial help for his or her collie to pass along the information.

If you know of any collie needing assistance, contact the Director of Rescue, **Deanne Balutis**, who will liaise with the veterinarian office and help set up the account. (Reminder: unfortunately, we are unable to reimburse the owner who has paid his/her bill in full. Our funds go directly to the veterinary clinic.)

Have a wonderful summer, pray for rain or not-rain, take your dogs camping, teach your collie a new trick, keep 'em hydrated, remember to carry water

## AWCA BUSINESS

### President's Message

Welcome to summer!

For many, it will be sweltering, so keep everyone in your household (skinny and furry alike) well hydrated. As you know, dogs cool themselves through panting by evaporating the saliva in their mouths and across their tongues. Therefore, sufficient intake of water is essential for this process!

Some tricks to help your dogs drink if they are not so inclined:

- Keep your dog's water bowl clean.
- Pour some unsalted broth into your collie's water bowl (wash the bowl daily at least)
- Put water bowls throughout your house and yard
- Get a bigger dog bowl
- Make doggy ice pops: frozen yogurt, almond milk, broth, smoothie ingredients, etc. in silicone molds or small

paper cups

- Make a smoothie for your dog: green leafies, strawberries, apples, blended with water, almond milk, or broth
- Try a dog drinking fountain
- Try giving water-laden treats: cucumbers, zucchini, celery, and fruits like apples, melons, and blueberries

Signs of a hot dog:

- Heavy panting
- Long, spatulate tongue
- Bright red gums
- Mustard and pickle relish but no ketchup!

Some signs of dehydration in your dog:

- Sticky gums
- Thick, ropey saliva
- Loss of appetite
- Lethargy
- Heavy panting
- Increased heart rate

And now on to happier things: Congratulations, **Rose Hutches**, for being awarded the CCA Lifetime Service Award with her collie, Fibber

wherever you go for both you and your collies, and above all, strive to be the person your dog knows you are.

Anne Robinson, President

## From The Editor

Grab the June 2023 *AKC Gazette*! You won't want to miss President Anne's wonderful article about AWCA. It's in the "Breeds Column" section under Collie.

I live in a semi-rural town close to Stanford University in Northern California. There is no commercial enterprise allowed here, houses are widely spaced with lots of open areas between. In addition, there are a few nature preserves within the town limits. As you all have heard, we had an overabundance of rain through the winter months, resulting in a huge growth of vegetation, especially in those open areas. In many places the wild grasses are 3-4 feet high. While the rains were very welcome in our water-starved state, the superbloom of vegetation will become a grave fire hazard once the summer heat arrives. Therefore, it was interesting to read in our local paper that 445 goats have been clearing the grass in these open areas, accompanied by human and dog herders. While I don't think any collies have been employed, I am sure they could do the job of keeping the goats where they need to be. Any volunteers?

If you enjoy the favorite moments/memories contributions in this issue, but forgot to get yours to me, you still have an opportunity – we will continue this theme in the Fall issue!

## New Members

Judy Blackburn  
Sarah Hess  
Nan Marks  
LeeAnn & Katelyn Whaley

**Welcome to AWCA!!**

Happy 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday

To

Cassidi!!

*Tartanside  
Scotian Sizzle*

Every year is a  
celebration and  
a treasure.

Debbie Wenzel



Happy 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday

To

Rita

*Halcyon Days  
Cinco de Mayo,  
BN, RN, PT,  
THDA, CGC,  
TKI, VCX*

She celebrated  
with a birthday  
party held at a  
pet therapy visit.  
Here she is with  
a friend.

Eileen Mason





## 2023 Herding Critter Raffle!!

Donor	Donation	Winner
Anne Robinson	"Prez Prize"-6 month subscription to Bark Box"	Lillian Puchalski
Judith Kirkeby	Red & white collie Tote Bag	Deanne Balutis
Judith Kirkeby	Unframed collie Print	Kristen Van Derpool
Judith Kirkeby	Collie necklace and 2 collie pins	Terry Dalla Valle
Christine Tomczak	Signed and numbered collie folk art print	Barbara Charley
Christine Tomczak	Signed and numbered collie folk art print	Kristen Van Derpool
Rose Hutches	Porcelain figurine: sable rough collie, walking	Ellen Anderson
Rose Hutches	Wood figurine: sable rough collie, lying down	Lillian Puchalski
Rose Hutches	Porcelain figurine: sable rough collie, standing	Judy Kirkeby
Rose Hutches	Stuffed toy lamb	Kristen Van Derpool
Rose Hutches	Collie Beanie Baby	Ellen Anderson
Rose Hutches	Metal sheep decoration	Janet Wall
Rose Hutches	Sable rough collie mug	Barbara Charley
Rose Hutches	Sable rough collie and kitten Christmas ornament	Terry Dalla Valle
Rose Hutches	Sable rough collie with lights Christmas ornament	Kristen Van Derpool
Judy Cummings	Etched glass collie ornament	Lillian Puchalski
Judy Cummings	Wood tricolor collie figurine	Nancy Van Note
Judy Cummings	Collie necklace and earrings	Christine Tomczak
Judy Cummings	Collie pendant necklace	Kristen Van Derpool
Judy Cummings	Dog Lovers playing cards	Sally Mobraaten
Judy Cummings	Dog trivia game	Judy Kirkeby
Debi Pace	<i>Paw Prints Across My Heart</i> , book by Debi Pace	Ellen Anderson
Debi Pace	<i>Paw Prints Across My Heart</i> , book by Debi Pace	Kristen Van Derpool
Debi Pace	<i>Paw Prints Across My Heart</i> , book by Debi Pace	Sally Mobraaten
Debi Pace	<i>Paw Prints Across My Heart</i> , book by Debi Pace	Terry Dalla Valle
Andrea Sjoreen	Crocheted duck	Kristen Van Derpool
Andrea Sjoreen	Crocheted duck	Barbara Charley
Terry Dalla Valle	"Cassie The Collie Dog" Beanie Baby	Judy Kirkeby
Terry Dalla Valle	Rough collie wine glass	Judy Cummings
Wayne Lewis	<i>Giant Book of Classic Dog Stories</i> , edited by Wayne Lewis and Charles Waugh	Debi Pace
Wayne Lewis	<i>Giant Book of Classic Dog Stories</i> , volume 2, edited by Wayne Lewis and Charles Waugh	Judy Kirkeby
Wayne Lewis	<i>Boys and Dogs: No Better Chums</i> , edited by Wayne Lewis and Charles Waugh	Linnea Ulrich
Wayne Lewis	<i>Gray Dawn</i> , by Albert Payson Terhune, foreword by Wayne Lewis	Christine Tomczak

Donor	Donation	Winner
Wayne Lewis	<i>Buff: a Collie</i> , by Albert Payson Terhune, Grosset & Dunlap illustrated cover	Terry Dalla Valle
Wayne Lewis	<i>Sunnybank: Home of Lad</i> , by Albert Payson Terhune, Grosset & Dunlap illustrated cover	Sandra Bishop
Wayne Lewis	<i>Lassie Come-Home</i> , by Eric Knight, Square Fish Press 2020 edition	Lillian Puchalski
Wayne Lewis	Lassie Come-Home, cotton tote bag	Carla Prinki Repac
Wayne Lewis	Collie playing cards, unopened	Janet Wall
Wayne Lewis	Dog car seat hammock	Judy Cummings
Sandra Bishop	Collie magazine	Sally Mobraaten
Sandra Bishop	Collie socks	Deanne Balutis
Sandra Bishop	Collie coasters	Christine Tomczak
Sandra Bishop	<i>Collies, A Complete Pet Owner's Manual</i> (book)	Linnea Ulrich
Sandra Bishop	<i>Collies, A Complete Pet Owner's Manual</i> (book)	Terry Dalla Valle
Sandra Bishop	<i>Pet Owner's Guide to the Rough Collie</i> (book)	Andrea Sjoreen
Sandra Bishop	<i>Collie, A Comprehensive Guide to Owning and Caring For Your Dog</i> , (book)	Terry Dalla Valle
Nancy Van Note	One year subscription to The Cassette	Debi Pace
Miriam Goldsmith	24 x 36 in. Penn Plax crate cover	Judith Kirkeby
Miriam Goldsmith	6' Bling lead	Sally Mobraaten
Miriam Goldsmith	Mosser collie figurine	Robin Dettman
Ellen Anderson	Sable collie figurine and collie stickers	Carla Prinki Repac
Ellen Anderson	Sable collie figurine and collie stickers	Christine Tomczak
Ellen Anderson	Sable collie figurine and collie stickers	Kristen Van Derpool
Ellen Anderson	Tricolor collie figurine and collie stickers	Debi Pace
Deanne Balutis	3 Tell a Tale books: <i>Lassie and the Kittens</i> , by The Lassie TV Show, <i>Hooray for Lassie</i> , by Marion Borden, and <i>Lassie: The Busy Morning</i> by Jean Lewis	Robin Dettman
Deanne Balutis	Dog Magnetic Poetry and a dog toy	Cindy Stratton
Deanne Balutis	Framed collie print by Sharon Blaine	Lillian Puchalski
Deanne Balutis	<i>Lassie Come Home</i> , by Eric Knight	Meg Goldsmith
Barbara Charley	<i>Meet Me on Spirit Lane</i> , A Foxglove Corners Mystery, By Dorothy Bodoïn	Deanne Balutis
Barbara Charley	<i>Meet Me on Spirit Lane</i> , A Foxglove Corners Mystery, By Dorothy Bodoïn	Rose Hutches
Barbara Charley	<i>Meet Me on Spirit Lane</i> , A Foxglove Corners Mystery, By Dorothy Bodoïn	Christine Tomczak
Joany White	Duck training treats	Debi Pace

### New Versatility Titles – April – June, 2023

#### VCX

*Ch. Star Country's Lady Galadriel*, CD, RE, HSAdS, AX, AXJ, CGC, owned by Kelly Evers

#### VC

*Halcyon Days Sweet Dreams*, CGC, TKI, VHMP, VSWB, CEA,, owned by Rebecca Christenson



## Meet Our New Members!!

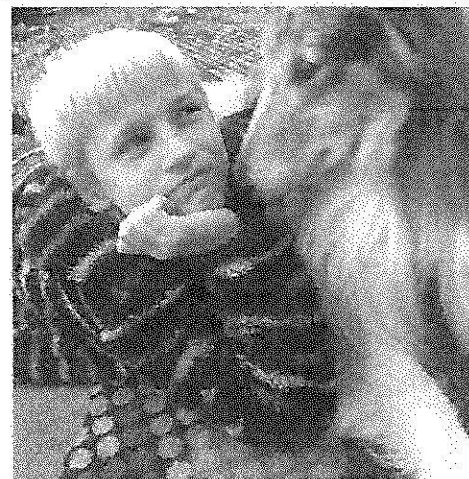
### Nan Marks

I'm delighted to join an organization I have such respect for.

Jillian Joy (*Barksdale Light in the Night Sky, RA, THDN, CGCA, CGCU, TKN*) is my sixth collie. She joins her sister Mella (*Ch. Barksdale Bluish, CD, RE, FDC, CA, BCAT, THD, CGCA, TKN*). All joined me in my later years although I dreamed of having collies all my life, and read Albert Payson Terhune in my childhood until virtually memorized. Until Jilly my collies have mostly come to me as adults (Mella at 5), several as seniors, but their lovely collie work ethic led all to work successfully with me in obedience, rally, and therapy work. Jilly Joy joined me at 8 months and swiftly showed me she is eager to partner with me in many things. New wind beneath my wings. She is already doing lovely work as a therapy dog, happily partners with me in Canine Free-style and has earned Beginner Novice



titles in that sport, and is doing lovely work in rally and obedience. The picture shows us at the recent Nationals where she delighted me by handling



travel and a large active venue with ease earning, among other things, her Rally Advanced title. We have dipped our toes in the agility waters, and she is clear she wants more, also scent work and tracking. The picture of Mella shows one of her favorite therapy gigs working with children.

### Judy Blackburn

After retiring several years ago, I knew the timing was right to purchase Calie (*Wyndlair Black Magic, BN, RN, CGC*). After researching many collie breeders, I selected Wyndlair Collies, which produces exceptional quality collies. Calie is a beautiful tricolored rough collie with an excellent temperament, beautiful coat, great willingness to work, and a healthy, happy, athletic approach to every task. Although she was born on the fourth of July, she is not a fan of fireworks. Calie joined my family of grown children, little grandchildren, and a ten-year-old Golden Retriever, Colby, and she went right to work in true collie fashion. At first Colby couldn't understand why this fluffy, rambunctious puppy wouldn't just leave him alone but now they are best friends, and Calie does her best to try to get Colby to chase her around the yard so she can hide behind bushes and then dart to the other side. Calie herds the grandchildren to keep them safe, especially at the top of the stairs. She barks when Colby barks even though she isn't sure what they are barking at. Calie is an excellent goalie during the backyard soccer games, not letting any balls get past her.

We belong to Western Waukesha County Dog Training Club in Wisconsin where we train with wonderful, knowledgeable trainers and take classes with fun, friendly dog people. We have participated in Agility, Scent Work, Obedience, and Rally classes. As a retired counselor/educator, I have always been interested in animal team therapy work. Calie and I recently went through classes, training, and the evaluation, and are now a registered therapy animal team and member of Pet Partners. We are looking forward to volunteering and visiting places where Calie can share her loving collie personality. We look forward to trying many different classes and trials, but at the end of the day, all the titles in the world aren't necessary to tell me I have a great collie companion who is always happy chasing her favorite ball and playing with the grandkids.



## In Memory Of Beltane

I've lived a life that's full  
I traveled each and every highway  
And more, much more than this  
I did it my way  
"My Way," sung by Frank Sinatra

*GVCH Ch. Deep River's Beltane, VCD2, UD,  
PUTD, RM, RAE, HXAs, HXBd, HXAdM, HRD1-  
g,s, HTD1-d, AX, AXJ, XF, SWME, SHDE,  
CWAGS CW-ScR3, CW-SS, NACSW-ORT,  
NSAM, NSA3, CPE CSSS-L2; CFF-II, CGC,  
TKA, CCA 2018 High-Scoring Preferred Obedi-  
ence, CCA 2019 Most Versatile Collie qualifier*

Titles, 80. Different dog sports, 8. Memories?  
Uncountable.

I'm going to miss you, Partner. Life was never  
boring with you in it!

**Susan Klein**



## It's A Dog's World

By Robbie

*[This series of stories appeared in my local club's newsletter a looong time ago! Robbie was my U-UD Blossom Hill  
Rob Roy, UD, HIC, CGC, a very special collie.*

*Judy Cummings]*



Hi! I heard there was this newsletter for the Dog Training Club, and I decided we dogs should have a column. I'll try to find time on the computer to write something each month (I can't hold a pencil very well), and maybe some of you dogs out there have something to say, too.

This time I thought I'd tell you about my family. I own two persons, but you already know about one of them because I bring her to training class each week. The other person is gone most of the day, but he's always glad to have me waiting at the

door when he comes home. But what I really want to tell you about are my cats. I have four of them! Three of them don't like me very much. There's a brown one who makes a lot of noise and uses her claws when I come too close. I like to sneak up on her and make her run like crazy for the nearest tree. Then there's the orange one. She is very shy and nervous when I'm around, though she doesn't attack me like the brown one. She's not much of a challenge, so I usually leave her alone. Then I have a gray and white cat. She is quite old and can be very grumpy. She usually ignores me and won't run if I try to chase her. Sometimes, though, when she is resting in a chair, I go to her and put my head on the cushion beside her. That's when she **LIKES** me and licks my face all over! But the one I really want to tell you about is my Jake. He's a **BIG** gray-striped and white cat, and he will **PLAY** with me! I can chase him all over the house and he won't jump up where I can't reach him (except sometimes when he's tired of playing). He even lets me catch him. I have to put one of my paws across him so he will stay still for me to sniff and lick him. And he **LETS** me! He's a good friend.

So that's my family. If I am quiet, they will all share a nap in the sun with me on my deck. So long until next time, when I will tell you about the happiest day of my life!



## In Memory Of Nina

*Ch. Sunnland's Koliako Dream Catcher, VA, NTD, ITD,  
ATD, CGN, RA, AGS, AGNJS, AGPADS, BPDx, VC,  
VCX, CRN, CRAMCL*

*Am. Ch. Blu Ridge Let It Ride x MBISS Am. GCH Can.  
Ch. Sunnland's Marie's Antoinette*

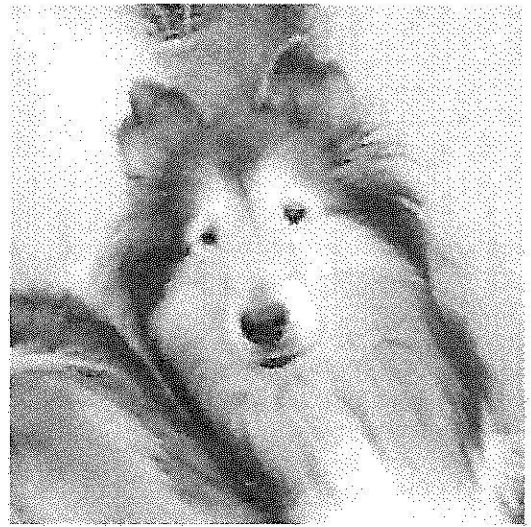
September 10, 2011 - April 28, 2023

My Nina pretty little ballerina. I am lost without you. The perfect collie. Lover of Children. The best bed buddy.

Sweet, fun, joy.

I Miss you so much. You are my very beating heart.

**Kornelia Geldrich**



## In Memory Of Jagger

*Ch. Cherfire Life's A Dance, CD, NPS, AGNS, RE,  
AGNJS, CGN, HIC, ATD, ETD, VX, BPDx, VC, VCX,  
ACD, SGDC, CRNCL, CRAMCL, CREMCI*

*Ch. Southland's Lexington x Ch. Cherfire Bella Starr,  
HIC, CGN, RN*

February 14, 2010 - April 27, 2023

Saying goodbye to a great dog is so hard, and you are still so much of my heart. The only thing that helps is knowing how much of your heart you gave to me. Jagger, I love you so much. You worked for me always with joy and happiness. Run free my boy. Ohhhh how I will miss you.

**Kornelia Geldrich**





# THE AMERICAN

•**Debbie Wenzel** sends a nice report!!  
 “Just a bit of good news to report about my challenging youngster, Carli (*Crimson’s Scotian Journey*). She just earned her Trick Dog Novice title (TKN) and had a great time doing so. She knows the order of the 10 tricks we practiced so well she was eager to do the next one before I could tell her to do so!” Here’s a photo of one of her favorite tricks “Thinking Inside the Box.”



*Debbie’s Carli*

•**Kim Broster** writes, “I am happy to announce that Sky added two more herding titles to his credits at the Memorial Day Weekend trials at RottiEwe Farm. He finished his Advanced A Sheep title on Saturday and got an insurance leg on Sunday; then on Monday he placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Advanced A Ducks and 1<sup>st</sup> in Intermediate D Course Sheep to finish his Int D Sheep title. He will now be: *GCH Ch. RACH, VCH, multi HIT, RHIT, multi PHIT Halcyon Days The Forth Be With Ewe, CD, PCD, RM3, RAE3, HIASd, HXAsd, HSAsd, HIDs, HSBd, SCA, SBA,*



*Kim’s Sky*

*SWN, SOC II, THD, CGCA, TKP, CCA GK.”*

•**Susan Klein** has wonderful news!!  
 “Since you last heard from us in the Fall 2022 *Collie Connection*, Beltane has been slowing down, but still wanting to play the game. He earned 8 more scentwork related titles, including the C-WAGS Ranger Level 3 and Super Sleuth (Level 4) and the CPE Level 2 title. But the big achievement was acquired on what I planned as his official retirement outing. He needed just one last AKC Master Exterior leg to complete his Scentwork Master Elite title. (With the exception of the Detective title, this is probably the most difficult AKC Scentwork title to earn, requiring 10 legs in each of the 4 Master elements.) Knowing that this would be his last outing, I knew that if he didn’t qualify, he would be retired one qualifying score short of the title. It would have been heartbreaking to retire him just short of that title, but I’ve done it before and was ready to do it again. (I’d already retired him from tracking, agility, and herding just short of a goal.) Much to my dismay, upon arrival at the trial, we were told that the Master Exterior class would require going up a half-flight of open stairs. Beltane hadn’t done flights of stairs for 6 months! Let’s just say that it wasn’t pretty...Once up the stairs, Beltane dusted himself off and promptly said, “Let’s do this!” He proceeded to find his hides in a very business-like

manner, and then immediately went to the next search and qualified again, just to prove that this was no mistake! That made his 80<sup>th</sup> title – what a note to finish his competition career on!”

•**Terry Dalla Valle** and Annie have been busy!! “Annie has completed her Master Interior title and her Master Division title. In early June I received her Excellent Handler Discrimination title. She is now on to Detective work and



*Terry’s Annie*



# WORKING COLLIES

hopefully Master Handler Discrimination."

•**Kornelia Geldrich** has new titles to celebrate!! "Faith, *Koliako's Solhaven We Got Faith*, would like to show off her Trick title and ribbon at 5½ months of age. Tatum, *Davenloch Solhaven-Koliako Aura*, had a great weekend and qualified for her Novice Vehicle and Novice Interior to earn her title of Novice Nosework. She also earned her Ad-



*Kornelia's Faith (top), Tatum (bottom)*

vanced Exterior and Superior Containers. She is a very thoughtful searcher."

•**Chris Carilli** writes, "Just a couple brags for Buck and me, in May he got another leg towards his HXBd and a compliment on our ability to 'shed' from the judge. This past weekend [mid-June] we went to an ASCA trial and were HIT Other Breed from his Advanced Duck run! Buck is *HTCh HC Ability's Time Traveler*, *HIBd*, *HXAsd*, *HXDs*, *HRDIIs*, *HTADIIIsd*, *HTDIIIsd*, *STDc*, *OTDs*, *ATDd*."

•**Marilyn Clayton** and Goose (*Am./Can. Ch. Calibre's Golden Goose*, *SD-SP-S*, *SDN*, *RATN*, *ATD*, *VA*, *PCD*, *NS*, *HIC*, *VC*) have been busy!! "Mid-April we ventured into the obedience ring earning Goose's CKC Pre-Companion Dog (PCD) title. I'd hoped to enter him in Novice at the next trial as he's a very good worker, however, I discovered we need a lot more distraction proofing before doing so! However, the following weekend Goose redeemed himself by completing his CKC Novice Sprinter (NS) title. It's amazing how crazy such a cool, calm, controlled dog can get when a lure is in sight."



*Marilyn's Goose*

•**Rose Hutches** has great news!! "Lordy, Lordy and Molly took first place in brace obedience at the CCA national specialty in March at Fort Wayne, Ind. While they were the only brace entered, they did come off with a good score: minus 15 out of a possible 400. If ever two collies were unlikely to work as a



*Rose with Lordy & Molly*

Photo by MaryAlice Smarsh

team, it is Lordy and Molly. Molly explodes when she works; Lordy takes

time to think and then moves slowly if he judges all is all right to proceed. However, that day they were right together. Judge Shirley Spall told the group watching that she loves to judge brace obedience and veteran, and she wished they were first to perform because if people saw what fun it is, more people would do it." Rose has a recent update: "Lordy Lordy

(*Green Acres Lord of the Dance*, *CD*, *BN*, *RE*, *HIC*,

*BCAT*, *SWN*, *SWA*, *SWE*, *RATN*, *CGCU*, *TKN*, *TDIRVA/THDX*) and Molly (*Sweet Molly From Greenup*, *CD*, *BN*, *RAE*, *HSAs*, *NJP*, *NAP*, *OJP*, *DCAT*, *CAX*, *SWN*, *SWA*, *SBE*, *SHDN*, *RATCHX3*, *CGCA*, *CGCU*, *TKI*, *TDIRVA/THDX*) recently earned the AKC's Therapy Dog Excellent (THDX) title for having com-

pleted 200 therapy dog visits. (They are certified through Therapy Dogs International, and the equivalent title from TDI is Therapy Dog International Remarkable Volunteer Achievement, requiring 250 visits.) The dogs took their tests together and have worked as a duo for most visits since they began. Lordy received his medallion from AKC a couple of months ahead of Molly, as she had taken time off during a pregnancy. They are such good, loving dogs. They get very excited when we pull up to a facility we visit. Most of their human friends they visit get pretty excited, too."

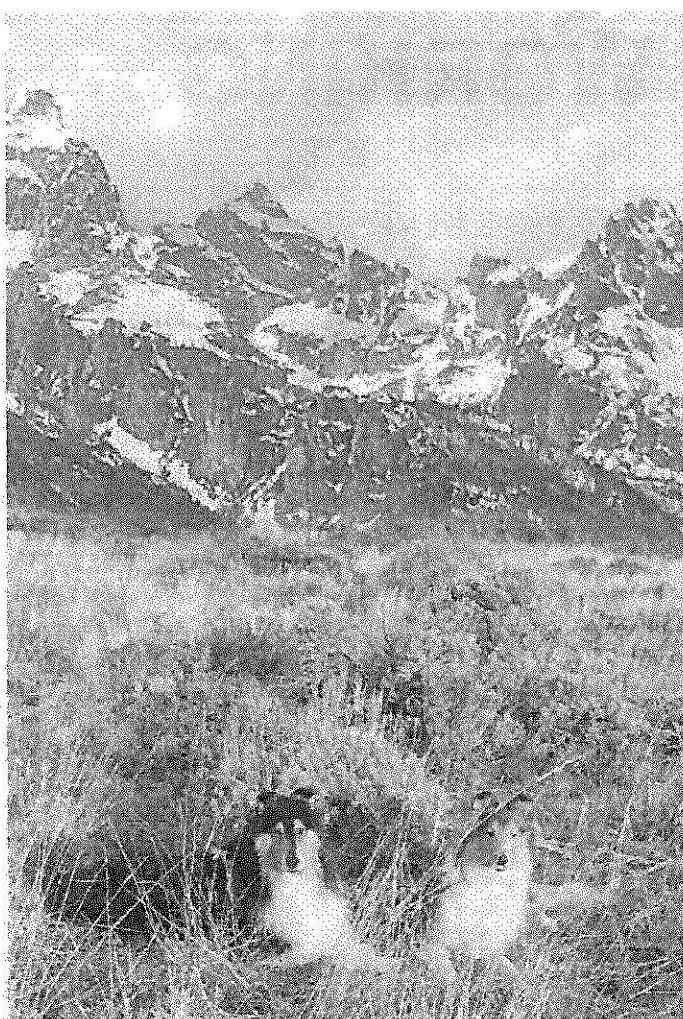
•**Joany White** has some special successes to share!! "Your article on fun in "A Balanced Approach to Training" [Spring 2023 *Collie Connection*] was just in time for our stab at Boone's CD! After Boone finished up his RA, I was wondering if he enjoyed obedience training since I can't talk much to him in the obedience ring. Does he feel a sense of fun from me, and does he feel that our training is based on our relationship, not perfunctory rewards? Do I change it up enough for him to stay interested and enthusiastic? Especially for the sit/stay, am I a good trainer for him? But as it turns out, I think Boone might have read your article and decided to change up how he trains me to help me have fun with obedience (instead of worrying) based on our relationship! What he did was surprise me at agility class. Usually, he lies next to me to watch the other dogs run, but this time he went to the end of his agility leash and turned to face me as he sat and stared at me with the Exact same expression as when we're practicing his obedience sit/stays...Wow! It surprised me and meant so much to me that he initiated our little training session! And we had fun getting his CD, including a 1<sup>st</sup> place! which also meant that he got his AKC VCD1/Versatile Companion Dog 1 (a title that combines a dog's CD, NA, NAJ + TD). Since he has versatility titles with all 3 US organizations that offer versatility titles to collies (AKC/ VCD1, AWCA/VCX + CCA/VX), he's the 2<sup>nd</sup> collie to earn the Versatility Triple Crown, joining Mom Beulah! Hooray for my fun and surprising trainer, *Ch. Mountainside Takin' the Love Train, VCD1 (CD, NA, NAJ, JTD), BN, RA, RNPairs, PT, OF, NAP, NJP, NFP, FCAT3, CAA, BPD, TKA, THDN, TDI, FDC, ATT, CGCA, CGCU, MVC-Q, VCX, VX*. Since Mistletoe was certified

by TDI last quarter, we started going to visit the residents at the local nursing home/ rehab center and earned her AKC

THDN/Therapy Dog Novice title. She loves visiting people so much that she's started whining as we pull into the nursing home parking lot. She's everybody's favorite "Lassie", and I'm so proud of my favorite *Mountainside Mistletoe from Aryggeth, RI, TD, HSAd, BCAT, TKA, THDN, TDI, FDC, ATT, CGCA, CGCU, VCX, ptd*.

Pictured are Boone and Mistletoe during our May trip to Wyoming to visit my girls and celebrate my older daughter's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday! Harris is last year's pup who did a great job finishing up his RN/Rally Novice title! He was so very good because I had just fallen and was in serious pain from hurting my back, so I was moving really, really slowly. I thought about going home, but I'd driven 11 hours to take him into the ring. There's a saying that we performance people are committed, or we should be, or both! Harris was so attentive and gentle with me, and he even started qualifying for the Rally National Championship. Such a good boy! *Mountainside Harris Teeter, RN, TKN*." And last but not least, Boone and Mistletoe's 6 pups passed their TKNs at 7 weeks of age, which Joany uses as part of their temperament testing!!

•**Shay Alder** writes that Jude earned his TKA title recently, making him *Moxie's Magical Mystery Tour, CD, PCD, BN, RM, FDC, BPD, CGCA, CGCU, TKA, ATT, IT, VC*!!



Joany's Boone & Mistletoe

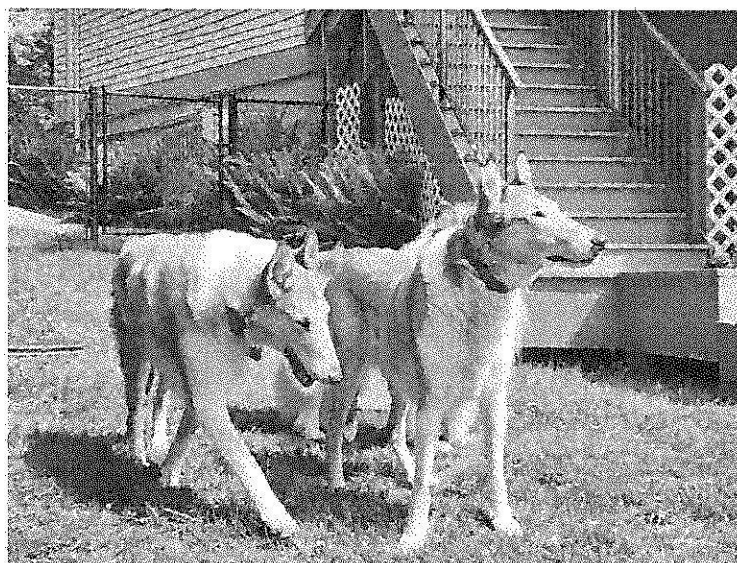


Joany with Harris



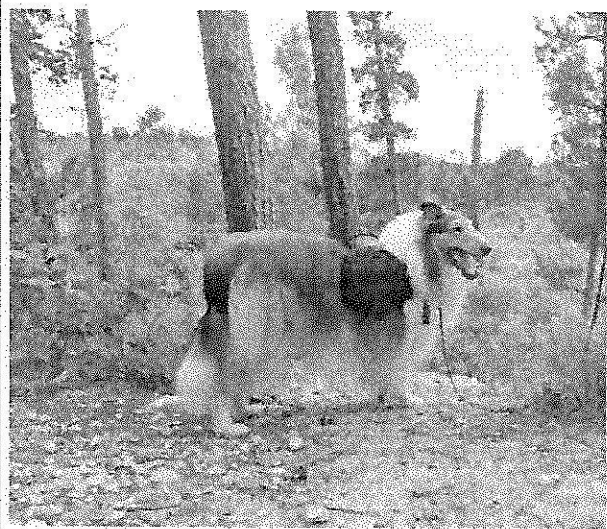
•Deborah Gates sends happy senior dog news!! "We are celebrating our smooth sable boys going on 13 years old! LP (Lassie Prototype) and Joey are littermates and we have acquired new skills from the smoothie boys! We learned how to fix plaster pulled off walls; enhanced our negotiation skills to persuade Toyota headquarters to order a replacement passenger interior after a car door handle was chewed off; we also acquired techniques for refurbishing leather furniture including the replacement of stuffing! To tire out our exuberant smoothies we did agility, herding, and obedience! Our boys found their true passion and we saved our upholstery and pocket-books." LP is owned and loved by Jim and Mary Russell; Joey is owned and loved by Deborah Gates.

Right: Joey & LP



## New Backpacking Title!!

Shay Alder and Jude (*Moxie's Magical Mystery Tour*, CD, PCD, BN, RM, FDC, BPD, CGCA, CGCU, TKI, ATT, VC) earned their BPD title in Texas using the Natural Terrain option.



## Ear Fiasco

By Anne Robinson

*[Editor's note: Jib has been gone now for several years, but Anne will never forget this struggle!]*

Well, yesterday I noticed that Jib's ears were pricking again. The Tear Mender is either losing its effectiveness or it's losing its effectiveness. Since the puppy has a bit of nude skin in his ears, I thought, OK, I'll use Nu-Hope this time to glue his ears over, thus preventing the Siberian husky dog look and making his ears look pretty and perky.

I get out the Nu-Hope. I put Jibby on the grooming table. I remove the remnants of Tear Mender with Detachol, clean the Detachol off his ears, wipe them with alcohol, and unscrew the Nu-Hope bottle. Apply the stuff to his ear insides and hold them folded over. My fingers are slightly sticky, there is a bit of Nu-Hope sliding around inside his ears, catching the sensitive ear hair.

Jib gives a vigorous shake of his head while dancing away from me at the same time. His ears are jerked out of my hands. He shakes his head again. Disaster! His left ear is full of ruff fur, dangling at half mast, and his right ear is plastered to his forehead. I yell epithets and grab for his ears, hoping to pry them from his face and neck. Big mistake. I grab the glue on his ears instead.

My fingers immediately glue themselves to each other. Jib jumps around on the grooming table. I make another grab for his ears and cannot extricate the hair from the Nu-Hope. OK, I think, I'll simply ungoo us. So I reach for the Goo Gone. The bottle immediately sticks to my right hand. I laboriously unscrew the top with my left hand.

Now I have the Goo Gone lid stuck to my left hand and the bottle stuck to my right. I can't unstick them. I shake my right hand. Goo Gone sprays over the back porch, the bottle doesn't move. I finally manage to squeeze the Goo Gone bottle between my body and hand and tip a small amount into my left hand to unstick the cap. Then I squeeze Goo Gone into my right hand over the stuck bottle. I drop the Goo Gone, drop the cap. Rub hands together, madly trying to unglue them.

Jib is shaking his head and jumping around on the grooming table.

I manage to Goo Gone his ears, forehead, backskull, and one eyebrow. He is a sticky mess. I am a sticky mess. Finally, I unstick the Nu-Hope from my left hand, from my right hand, from Jib's ears, backskull, ruff, and eyebrow. I wash the Goo Gone from our various body parts and get Jib off the grooming table. He jumps around and looks at me with a wild eye.

I'll try with the ears again tomorrow. After his bath. Nu-Hope ... should be called No Hope.



# Favorite Moments & Memories!!

## Jackie Wyandt

I have many favorite moments and memories of Dazzle. I had her for 12 years and she was a great collie! Going through pictures and trying to pick just one was very difficult, but I did choose this one. Dazzle winning first place at the rally/obedience match. Her competition was stiff and this was for Rally Advanced, off lead. At home she was great off lead (and I wish the virtual rally and obedience stuff was around when she was younger and physically able to do the work, but that's life). Away from home she was usually a nervous wreck. She wasn't that nervous at this match because it was held in our training building for the club's students. Dazzle was a bit nervous, but she knew where she was (even though our ring was in an area we never went to when we were at the building) so she was able to concentrate and do the exercises extremely well. I was told she was a joy to watch at this match. She had a wagging tail the whole time and was completely focused on me. Our score was 99 out of 100. Yes, I lost the point, not her. This picture was taken in April of 2015



*Jackie & Dazzle*

Dazzle was a handy dog to have around. She fit right into the farm/country life. I could leave the stall doors open when I was feeding the horses rather than having to mess with a heavy door every time I went in or out. Dazzle would position herself near the open doors so the horses knew she was there. I only have two horses and the doors open from the same post (one slides left, the other slides right). Dazzle would make sure neither horse came out of the stalls. One afternoon I went out to check on the horses and their stock tank. It was pretty low with a lot of tree debris in it, so I thought I had better clean it out and refill it. I went back out of the horse corral, to get the hose and turn the hydrant on and swung the gate closed. A big gust of wind blew it back open and here comes Stormy at a full gallop once he saw the open gate! I yelled "NO - GET BACK" and Dazzle streaked by me into the horse corral. She got Stormy turned and headed for the barn!! Of course I went running after them as I was afraid she'd get kicked! She was fine and came trotting back to me, wagging her tail. The last time Stormy got out, it took me 45 minutes to catch him!! She saved the day.

## Andrea Moss

My favorite all-time moments/accomplishments with Georgia were as follows:

- 1) She got her MACH in September 2017. (It took us until she was just turning 8 because of my learning curve and many handler errors.)
- 2) We qualified for and attended the National Agility Championships in 2018 with a qualifying run in Jumpers.
- 3) We attended and participated in the CCA National in 2017 and BOTH Georgia AND Gusty (not even 2 years old) qualified in the Most Versatile Collie competition! Georgia took 5<sup>th</sup> place. This is so much harder than one would think - to train in multiple performance sports and qualify under pressure. (Since I'm always a nervous wreck when I step in the ring.)
- 4) After much effort, including a UKC Altered Conformation Championship with one Best in Show and three Reserve Best in Shows, Georgia got her AWCA Versatility Championship Certificate and title.

Georgia went to the Rainbow Bridge in February 2021 and there will never be another dog to compare. She had so much heart and drive and gave me so many wonderful and cherished moments.



*Georgia & Andrea*

## Christine Tomczak

In the Spring *Collie Connection*, you asked for some of our favorite moments with our collies for the summer edition. Here are some of my highlights:

Just before I left my old neighborhood, which had gone downhill pretty badly, a murdered man's body was found in the street a few blocks away. The killer had not been found. A few nights later, someone with a flashlight was at my gate trying to get onto my property. Cadence, who was only 4 months old at the time, was the first to sound the alarm. The two dogs raised a huge ruckus, and I ran to the door in time to see his flashlight

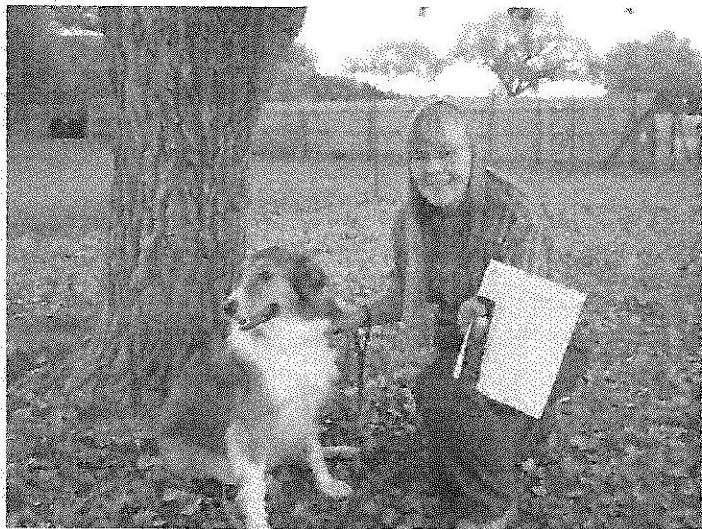


swinging in the dark as he ran away from my collies and my house.

It was starting to rain, so I decided to cut the dogs' playtime short and told them to "go house." Teddy obediently headed for the front door. Cadence is usually obedient, but that day she decided not to cooperate. Instead she backed up, and if the fence had not been there, she would have backed right over my rooster. He crowed and flapped his wings against the fence and Cadence's rear end. She jumped up, tucked her tail between her legs, and ran to the house so fast she nearly knocked Teddy off the top step. The next time I told them to "go house" she ran straight for the door. No arguments, thanks to a feathered training partner with a really bad attitude.

In February, I had a bad fall on the ice and broke my arm/wrist. I had to be put back together with a plate and screws. For about a week I slept on the recliner with my arm up, and Teddy stayed right next to me. He watched over me until he was sure that I was going to be OK and provided plenty of snuggles.

Then there was Teddy getting his PT herding title, Cadence herding the chickens into the coop, then deciding the wild birds ought to go in too, Teddy finding and bringing me a lost item, and more good and fun memories. I love this idea for a newsletter.



Top: Cadence; Bottom: Teddy & Christine

## Judy Cummings

Favorite moments? There are too many to list, but here are a few.

In 1998 Geordie qualified in Open for what was called the AKC's Western Regional Obedience Competition, an invitational event sponsored by PupPeroni. It was a big deal. For this, the teams had to survive 3 rounds of Open with 3 different judges, plus a set of Group exercises. Not only did he finish 4<sup>th</sup> in a huge class of exceptional dogs, he was the only dog to hold his Long Sit in the Group exercise when the microphone malfunctioned and blasted the arena. Everyone got to do the exercise again, but I was very proud of this calm, confident collie!



Judy & Geordie

Basic obedience is at the heart of all dog activities. This was brought home to me in a very real way by an incident while herding several years ago. Jamie and I were practicing some herding controls with 5 sheep in a not-too-large paddock, preparing to move them into a larger arena. Suddenly, two dogs got loose and managed to wiggle into our area. These dogs were skilled at herding, but they were in full-blown excitement mode due to their glee at escaping their owner and seeing their opportunity to play with the livestock. Pack mentality was taking them over the edge of control into predatory behavior. They panicked one sheep into a fence, where it got hung up and needed help to disentangle it. Then they tore off after the others – sheep and dogs flying everywhere! When called to help sort out this mess, I didn't have time to leash up Jamie and tie him to a fence, so I told him to Sit and Stay and prayed that he would comply and not add more chaos to the circus. After a few tense minutes, two of us managed to move the sheep into a nearby barn and haul out the misbehaving dogs. It was only then that I was able to turn my

attention to Jamie, who was sitting calmly where I had left him! This melee had occurred all around him, yet he still remembered and adhered to his core obedience training. Indeed, this training can be a life-saver!

Another favorite memory with Jamie occurred when he was just a youngster. We were walking in a local park one day when a group of kids came running and yelling up behind us. Jamie whirled around and hid behind me, and I knew I had my work cut out to conquer his new fear of children. Fortunately, our then-7-year-old neighbor boy came over one day to meet my dogs (we had 3 at the time, with Jamie the youngest at 14 mos.). Jamie took one look at Matt and ran to the farthest end of the yard and hid in a bush until Matt left! After that day, I was better prepared. I asked Matt to come again as often as he could, and together, we embarked on several weeks of counterconditioning Jamie.

Jamie's all-time favorite toy had always been his soccer ball. While all this work with Matt was going on, he was also involved with playing ball with my other 2 dogs. On about Matt's 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> visit, I had him toss the ball to Jamie, then walk away. Sure enough, Jamie jumped on the ball and took it to Matt for a re-throw! From that moment on they were best friends. And Matt further helped by often bringing a friend along on future visits, so Jamie's good experiences with kids spread to encompass many. Not long after, I was at a collie playday where a bunch of collies, including Jamie, were turned out into a paddock to romp together. A young boy entered the paddock to release his dog. Jamie saw him, spied a soccer ball in one corner, ran to get it and took it to the boy, inviting him to play with him. This almost brought tears to my eyes, because my once-fearful dog was now very comfortable with children.



*Jamie*

Next up is Tavish. I told you in the last newsletter how he found my car keys that I had dropped at the end of a practice track we had just run. Thank heavens for a tracking dog!

Another memory keeper occurred when Tavish earned his 3<sup>rd</sup> leg in Novice B. I thought we had done a pretty good job, but was blown away when the steward told me later that as we left the ring, the judge said, "Wow! Just Wow!" We scored a 199, losing a total of 1 point for a crooked finish – nothing on heeling – and went on to a runoff for High in Trial.

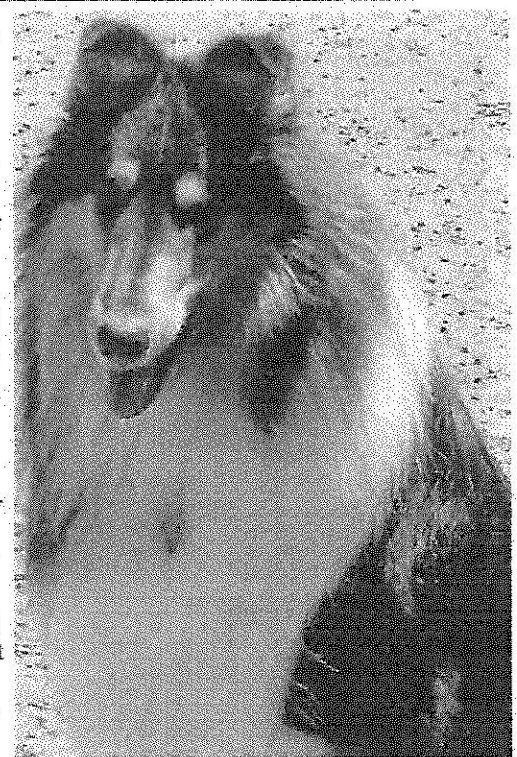
And finally, there's Banner. Two events stand out in my

mind. The first was when I tried to introduce an 8-week-old kitten into our household of 3 dogs. Banner was smitten from the outset, gently playing with her and allowing her to climb all over him.

(Unfortunately, while oldest dog Drummer also welcomed the newcomer with ease, Tavish saw this intruder as prey and never changed his focus, so the kitten had to be returned for her safety.)

But that's not the only time Banner showed compassion for another animal. When we were out walking one day, we came across an injured cottontail bunny being harassed by several birds. I picked it up and Banner immediately sniffed it, then nuzzled it. I took it home, put it in a box while figuring out where to take it for help. Banner stayed right by the box, intent on his new friend. Later, I delivered the

bunny to our local emergency veterinary clinic, where they assured me they would do what they could to return it to health. I don't know the outcome, but do know that Banner is at ease with the critters that frequent our yard.



*Top: Tavish; Bottom: Banner*

### Wayne Lewis

This evening when I was with Bonnie in the park a woman with two small children came up to me and said "You won't recognize me, but when I was a small girl I lived in the middle house over there and played with Lucky. I saw you out here with a collie and had to introduce myself".



Lucky was the collie that I had in the 1990s. He must have made some impression on a young girl for her to remember him 30 years later.

I am sure that she remembered me only because I had Bonnie with me.

This is not the first time I have had people say they used to live near here and remember one of my collies.



*Lucky*

### **Linnea Ulrich**

Bruce, my first collie, was so good with my girls when they were little. My oldest, Victoria, had one of those walker chairs on wheels and Bruce hated that thing, he would go way out of his way to avoid her when she was in it. One night my sister came over and brought her Doberman, Alex, with her. Victoria headed toward Alex (who was behind a baby gate by the way), and Bruce



*Bruce*

ran over to put himself between her and Alex, letting her bump into him again and again. He was pretty happy with himself for "saving" her.

### **Deanne Balutis**

I have been blessed to have so many wonderful memories/experiences with my past and current collies. I loved each one the best. One collie had a huge following due to her extra special personality and beauty.

Brynn was one very special collie. She lived with epilepsy, but she lived each day to the fullest. She loved everyone and everything and made an impact on everyone that met her. She was a huge help in the cat rescue I run, making every cat/kitten love dogs.

My favorite memory of her role in the rescue was when we took in a Siamese kitten, Quinlyn, that was neurologically impaired, blind and had seizures. This kitten walked in circles, and in the house she would bang into an object and continue to repeat this action, as she did not sense where objects were. She was safest outside and had some freedom to be a kitten/cat with her nanny nursemaid Brynn keeping her safe. She followed Brynn by movement and sound, and when she wandered too far or was getting into danger, Brynn was there to rescue her or bark for help. They shared a neurological condition, but much more, they shared a common bond of friendship and trust. Quinlyn, lived two years till seizures claimed her, and Brynn was called to the Bridge one week after turning 10 last August, also as a result of her seizures.

My life revolved around Brynn and also her 21 pills a day she took and she enjoyed taking, and I have not one regret. Brynn's happy outlook taught me and all who met her what is really important in life – living life to the fullest and enjoying the simplest things in life. I miss her greatly.



*Brynn & Quinlyn*

### **Marilyn Clayton**

When my daughter was 5 years old, she had a [miserable, nasty] male hamster, Sylvester, who bit anyone dumb enough to get their finger near him, except my daughter – she could do anything with him – and my male tri rough collie, Jackson. Jackson and Sylvester would often sit nose to nose through the bars of his cage. One night my husband went home early from the party we were

attending to find my daughter (and babysitter) totally distraught. Sylvester was missing. They looked everywhere for him but could not find him. Eventually my daughter cried herself to sleep. When I got home and heard of the tragedy, I just shook my head; brought Jackson upstairs and told him to find Sylvester. He found that hamster in minutes...under my daughter's bed. I never understood the relationship those 2 intact males had. But they were best buddies.

Another Jackson-hamster story. This was a subsequent hamster, Snowball. Each night, while I read to Catherine before bed, Snowball was put in one of those hamster balls that lets them run around the house (and not be free). We have forced-air heating vents on the floor, so had to listen to ensure we heard the ball moving from place to place. When we couldn't hear the ball moving, it usually meant Snowball had gotten the ball on one of the hot-air registers and could not get off. So we had to get her off before she over-heated. One night, we could no longer hear the ball moving. I raced out of my daughter's room only to find Jackson lying on the floor in the living room with Snowball sitting up between his forepaws watching TV! [No idea what they were watching J] Instead of grabbing my camera and getting the perfect shot, I grabbed Snowball and stuffed her back into her hamster ball. The look Jackson gave me was...What are you doing? Do you know how long it took me to get her out of that ball? After that we never let Jackson "supervise" Snowball when she was rolling around – especially if she was outside on the deck. Jackson (*Am./Can. Ch. Woodruff's Runin' With The Nite, Can. CDX, CGC, VC*) was such a sweet gentle soul!

Jackson was also our cat's protector from the moment we brought Kitty home. One day Emerald, the cat across the street, came up our driveway. Kitty didn't think that was a good idea – after all this was HER property – so she attempted to challenge Emerald. But Emerald was bigger and older than Kitty. It was not going to turn out well for Kitty until Jackson calmly tippy-toed up behind Kitty. When Emerald saw Jackson he turned and ran. Kitty, thinking she'd won, puffed herself up and stalked away like a real big shot. She had no idea Jackson had been behind her. He was so discreet.

A funny Kitty-Ziggy story. One day Kitty, Ziggy (another tri rough male) and I were out in the front yard and Ziggy had a poop. Well, Kitty marched up to Zig with a look of dismay; stalked over to Zig's poop and spent several minutes making a huge show of kicking dirt, leaves, and sticks over his poop until it was totally buried. Zig watched in amazement (or maybe it was amusement), but, much to Kitty's disgust, he never caught on to cat-poop etiquette. Ziggy (*Can. Ch. Woodruff's Oh What A Feeling!, Can. CDX, CGC, VC*) was Jackson's brother.



Jackson



Ziggy

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**Reminder:** When mailing for point slips in our Versatility Program, don't forget to include an SASE with your request (Canadian members are exempt from this requirement). You can, however, send your documentation and point slip request to all coordinators except, Jean Lenon, via email.

#### AWCA Peer Grief Support Coordinator

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**Certified Perinatal Loss  
Counselor**



# 50 WAYS TO FAIL AT NOVICE

By Anne Robinson & Jib

Down on the sit, Twit  
Roll the down, Brown  
Stay on the Heel, Seal  
Spin on the Stand, Sand

Two calls for the come, Bum  
Sit still on the eight, Mate  
Stop on the slow, Whoa  
Heckle your neighbor, Saber

Snarl at the judge, Fudge  
Leave the ring fast, Blast  
Freak at the hat, Bat  
Poop in the ring, King

Jib here.

Mom sang to me on the way home from the dog show. She made up funny ways to fail at Novice. She said I didn't do all of them. Only one of them. And nobody snarled at the judges. And nobody left the ring. But she says that I Not Quited again. This means I Did Not Qualify.

But she was wrong.

I heeled, very well at times. I was perfect on the Stand-To-Be-Petted. I ran to Mom when she called. I sat when she stopped. Well, once I forgot and another time I almost forgot. I did sniff the Posts. But only to see if they had cookies in their pockets. That made me late. I did watch the Judge to see if he was friendly, too. That made me slow down when Mom didn't. But I remembered to stay with Mom when she ran off across the ring. And I stayed with her when the judge ran us under the ring ropes.

But I did NOT heckle my neighbor. I did not. I politely sniffed him. Both days. Mom said that if I had sniffed from where she left me, it would have been OK. But I got up to sniff. I had to say Hi. How can you say Hi if you don't sniff? I had to step close to the Rat Terror. And I had to visit T-Bone, too. I know him from dog school. So I got up to say Hi, what did you have for breakfast? His mouth was what Mom calls St. Bernard irresistible. I call it big and drooly. And breakfasty.

Mom says we have work to do. But she said that because of me, she is no longer afraid to fail. She says this is a big relief. She says this makes her not even Sub-Nervous. And she said that SHE was perfect, even if I wasn't. And all because of me.

Aren't I grand?



## AWCA Members Google Email Group

The AWCA Members email list is available for AWCA members (only) to share experiences with our programs and ask questions. It will also provide a way to get information to you between newsletters, as well as alert you to newsletter deadlines, article themes, and new website features.

AWCA Members group on Yahoo Groups was shut down as of Dec. 15. We have set up a new AWCA members group on Google Groups. If you want to migrate to the new email platform, please let Anne Robinson know: send your name and email address to [seawaifl@aol.com](mailto:seawaifl@aol.com); subject: Google Group add. She will add you.

You will need to set up a Google account. You do not need to have gmail.com as your email address; your current address will do. After being added, go to [groups.Google.com](http://groups.Google.com) and click on My Groups. The American Working Collie Association should be there.

**Extra Copies of *Collie Connection*, \$2.50 each: checks made payable to AWCA. Mail your request to Judy Cummings.**

**Reminder:** If you would like a new membership list, the Secretary can email a pdf file that you can view and print from your computer, or you can send your request for a hard copy, along with a business size SASE to [jccollie@att.net](mailto:jccollie@att.net).



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