

July 2023

The Parson's Nook

Official Newsletter of the Parson Russell Terrier Association of America

Parsons & Their Kids

Page 12



*Featured in
this issue*

- NH 4Hers
Learn About
Parson
Russells
- Nominating
Committee
Report
- Puppies Make
Children
Better
- Member
Achievements

Show Results

- 147th Annual
Westminster
Kennel Club



The Parson's Nook

Editor & Committee Chair

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Editorial Policy

It is the policy of The Parson's Nook to encourage submission of articles, photographs, letters to the editor and other information based on materials written and/or submitted by members of the PRTAA. The Parson's Nook will print new member applicants and approved Specialties as provided by the PRTAA Secretary. The Parson's Nook Committee and Editor reserve the right to refuse publication of any materials they deem contrary to the best interests of the breed and/or the PRTAA, or that are libelous in nature. The Nook Committee reserves the right to edit submissions for length, clarity and personal content. The Parson's Nook will not knowingly accept fraudulent or misleading material or advertising. All changes by the Nook Committee are final. Opinions expressed in The Parson's Nook are not necessarily those of The Parson's Nook Committee, The Editor or the Directors of the PRTAA. No article, portion of articles and/or artwork may be reprinted without written permission of the Editor. Editorial policies are not intended to be exclusive and may be modified as needed by vote of the committee and approval by the BoD.

Advertising Policy

1. Advertising space may be purchased by members and non-members in any issue of The Parson's Nook. If possible, text copy should be submitted via electronic format to be ready for speedy inclusion in the digitally created Nook. The Nook is able to scan photos and assist with layout.
2. Images must be identified with the name of dog, its owner and owner's address; accompanied by a statement of permission for use in the Nook.
3. The following sizes will be accepted;
 - Full page - \$35 Half page - \$25 Quarter page - \$15
 - There is no limit on the number of photos in an ad.
 - PRTAA Specialty Announcement – full page, no cost
 - Litter announcement \$.10 per word. Min. \$5.00. Max. 75 words
- *The PRTAA/Parson's Nook do not license nor endorse any breeders, including those listed here. The PRTAA/Parson's Nook have no control over their business practices and are not liable for any dealings between buyer and breeder. The PRTAA/Parson's Nook do not sell dogs and make no warranty or guarantee as to the health, quality, parentage or any value of any dogs. These listings are provided as a service to the membership/public.
4. All ad payments may be made by check submitted with the ad to a Nook committee member or by PayPal to the PRTAA treasurer at prtaatreasurer2020@gmail.com. Payment must be received prior to the use of ads submitted electronically. Ads not meeting these requirements will not be published. A \$25 surcharge will be levied on every "insufficient funds" check received for payment of advertising.
5. All material should be mailed in a non-bendable envelope. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return of your image. The PRTAA accepts no responsibility for material damaged in mailing.

Contents

Regular Columns

Editor's Desk	3
President's Message	4
Member Notices	5
AKC Delegate Report	26
The Dog Behind the Tail	30

Features

Member Memorial

Sharon Youngblood	7
New Member, Gail Walters	8
New Hampshire 4H-ers Learn About Parson Russells	10
Parsons & Their Kids	12

Guest Article, Dr. Carmen Battaglia

Puppies Make Children Better	22
AKC Purebred Preservation Bank	27

Show Results

147 th Westminster Kennel Club.....	9
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Front cover photo
Submitted by Shannon Rives



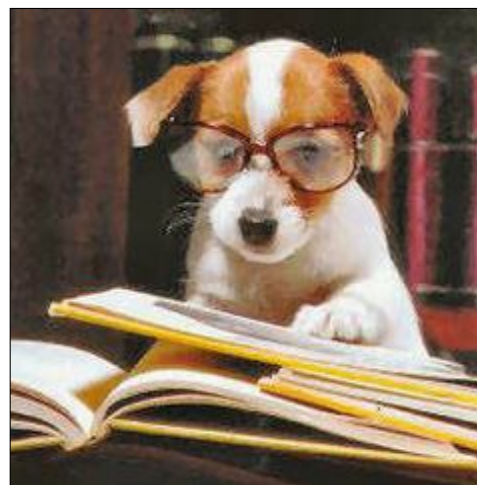
The Editor's Desk

Brenda Koeppel

In the early days of the then-JRTBA, I was the breeder referral contact for several years. One of the most frequent questions from callers (this was before website and email) was whether the breed was good with children or not. I imagine this question is still asked frequently, and thus the idea of a Parsons & Their Kids issue came about. We are so grateful to all members who took the time to share their thoughts and photos. Thinking back to that time in breeder referral, I recall that Sharon Youngblood was one of the first breeders on the list and we include a tribute to this longtime member.

We hope you enjoy looking at all the cuties in this issue, both human and canine.

Brenda



The Parson's Nook invites members to submit articles, ideas, photos, stories about your dogs, or any other content that would be of interest. We prefer not to publish articles that have already appeared in another publication and can be found with a simple online search. We know our members have a wealth of information, experience and humor, and we hope that you will share it with the Nook. We work with most file types and will be happy to assist with layout.

Deadline for Submissions

Winter issue	January 15 th
Spring issue	April 15 th
Summer issue	July 15 th
Fall issue	October 15 th

2023 PRTAA Directors and Officers

Joe Pavlic	President	joseph.pavlic@gmail.com
Debra Crespo	Vice President	debrajrespo@gmail.com
Lance Wang Nobriga	Treasurer	prtaatreasurer2020@gmail.com
Janine Rose	Secretary	panhattan@gmail.com
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Carol Chase	Director	fiacredals@aol.com
Connie Presley	Director	soranch@aol.com
Denise Tschida	Director	chibbey@mac.com

Contact the PRTAA board at board@prtaa.org

Gary Koeppel	AKC Delegate	eganearl@comcast.net
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President's Message

Joe Pavlic

Hello all:

I wanted to start off this president's message with a note of appreciation for our nook editors. I appreciate their patience as I stumble over writers' block with every Nook.

This time I'd like to highlight a bit of exciting news from AKC that could bring enormous benefit to a low entry low registration breed like ours.

"The American Kennel Club (AKC®), a not-for-profit organization, the world's largest purebred dog registry and leading advocate for dogs, is pleased to announce the formation of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank, a 501 C3, not-for-profit canine genetic material repository primarily focused on frozen semen.



The possibilities of this new AKC Purebred Preservation Bank are staggering. I hope everyone will take a moment to check it out. AKCPPB.org

A Huge Thanks to the AKC and all those who worked to make this a possibility.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe

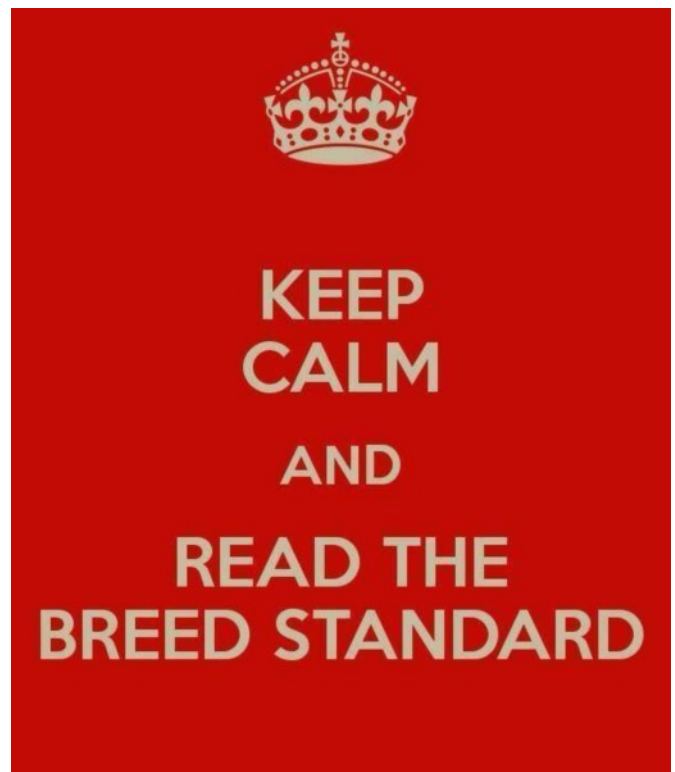
Joe Pavlic, President



See full press release on page 27. Ed.



We love to share your dogs' accomplishments! Announce new conformation and performance titles for your dog on the PRTAA Facebook page. Send the dog's name with new title(s) earned along with a photo to the Facebook administrator at brenda.koeppel@yahoo.com.



MEMBER NOTICES

Welcome New Members!



Loree Conley, OH

Michelle Della Santa, MD

Gail Walters, NC

Meet new member Gail Walters on page 8.

Prospective Members

First publication

Brian & Beth Williams, Maryland

Sponsors: Joe Pavlic

Tricia Stanczyk

Peggy Weigle, New Mexico

Sponsors: Judy Slater Moody

Sharon Hipps

Kathleen Lormis, Georgia

Sponsors: Patty Burmeister

Joe Pavlic

Please direct any comments to

board@prtaa.org

Judges - 2025 National Specialty

The results are in for the 2025 National Specialty in Reno, Nevada. Voter turnout was a record 78% with 90 of 116 electors casting ballots.

Regular classes: **Candace Way**
(50 votes)

Sweepstakes: **Lance Wang Nobriga**
(53 votes)

Both Ms. Way and Mr. Wang Nobriga have graciously accepted and signed contracts for their judging assignments.

Breeder Directory Renewals

August is time to renew your membership for the PRTAA Breeders Directory. Also if you have been a member for 2 or more years and are breeding Parsons and would like to be added this is the time. Please email or personal message Michelle Freshour at michelle.freshour3@gmail.com or Sharon Hipps at saddlesridgeprt@gmail.com and we will send you information on how to be added.

2023 PRTAA MEETING SCHEDULE

August	17	Board of Directors
September	11-12	AKC Delegates
	14	Board of Directors
October	19	Board of Directors
November	1	New Board seated
December	14-15	AKC Delegates

MEMBER NOTICES

Election of Directors

The annual election of Directors is underway to fill five (5) vacant 2-year terms for the Class of 2025. The Board appointed a Nominating Committee to present a slate of candidates to the membership.

2023 Nominating Committee

Isabella Della Santa , Chair
Linda Edwards
Nelda Herman

The Nominating Committee has completed its work and the slate was presented to the membership in a letter dated July 14, 2023. Biographies of each of the candidates were included.

Class of 2025 Nominations

Sharon Hipps, GA
Liane Paulson, AZ
Leah Shirokoff, CA
Denise Tschida, TN
Lance Wang Nobriga, HI

Excerpts from *PRTAA Bylaws, Art. IV, Sect. 4.*

- a. The Nominating Committee shall nominate one candidate for each vacant position on the Board of Directors.
- b. **Additional nominations of eligible members may be made by petition** addressed to the Secretary and received at his/her regular address, and/or via electronic means, on or before August 15th, signed by ten (10) members and accompanied with the written acceptance of each such additional nominee signifying his/her willingness to be a candidate.

- c. If no additional nominations are received by the Secretary at his/her regular address, or via electronic means, on or before August 15th, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected and no balloting will be required.
- d. If one or more valid nominations are received by the Secretary at his/her regular address, and/or via electronic means, on or before August 15th, the Secretary (or an independent professional firm designated by the Board) shall, on or before August 27th, mail to each member in good standing a ballot listing all of the nominees for each position in alphabetical order, with the names of the states in which they reside, together with a blank envelope and a return envelope addressed to the Secretary (or designated professional firm) marked "ballot" and bearing the name of the member to whom it was sent. So that the ballots may remain secret, each voter, after marking their ballot, shall seal it in the blank envelope, which in turn shall be placed in the second envelope addressed to the Secretary (or designated professional firm). The inspectors of election (or designated professional firm) shall check the returns against the list of members whose dues are paid for the current year prior to opening the outer envelopes and removing the blank envelopes, and shall certify the eligibility of the voter as well as the results of the voting, which shall be announced in October.
- e. Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting or in any other manner than those provided above.

Consult the Bylaws for full text describing the election process or contact the Board with any questions.



Member Memorial

Sharon Youngblood 1941 - 2023

Sharon E. Youngblood, 82, of Mackeyville passed away Thursday, May 4, 2023 surrounded by loving family at The Gatehouse, Williamsport.

Born April 9, 1941 in Lock Haven, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Evelyn Ertwine Swope.

Sharon was a graduate of Lock Haven High School and then earned her degree in Early Childhood Education from Lock Haven University. She was married to her love, Kenneth Arland Youngblood, who preceded her in death in 2001.

Sharon served as a teacher at Clinton County Head Start.

She was a member of First Church of Christ, Lock Haven.

Sharon's love for both dogs and horses were evident by her involvement in Parson Jack Russell Club, Take the Lead Organization and Arabian Horse Association. She was a longtime dog groomer, one of the top AKC dog groomers in the United States. She was also an Arabian horse enthusiast. Sharon shared her passion for animals with youngsters by serving as a 4H Leader for many years.

Her greatest enjoyment came from loving on others, especially children.



Sharon is seen at right handling her GCH Rag Valley Golden Girl to Best in Veteran Sweeps at the PRTAA Specialty at MCKC 2017. She would go on to win Best of Opposite Sex later in the day.

Photo Brenda Koeppl





Club News Meet the New Members

Gail Walters, North Carolina
PRTAA member since 2023

I am pleased to be accepted as a member of PRTAA. I have always been involved with larger breeds so having a terrier is a new experience for me. My other breeds were Goldens and more recently Rhodesian Ridgebacks. The Ridgebacks were AKC conformation champions and at one time I had four sharing my house. My last Ridgeback Roko was my constant companion and guardian angel after my husband passed six years ago. Roko's health at 13 years declined in January and I had to say goodbye.

I had been researching smaller breeds and then I remembered how much I admired my friend Sally Yancey's dog that she was showing



Archie

in a Greensboro show years past. I read some information on Parsons and contacted her to see if she thought a Parson would be a good fit for me. She referred me

to Janie Smith who had just had a litter and I am now the lucky proud owner of "Archie," Ardsley Run Water's Edge.



I can't thank both Sally and Janie enough for their guidance and mentoring.

He is the best puppy and such a great fit for me. I love to watch that ball of white run around my yard. We have been to puppy shows in Georgia and recently Pinehurst. We were lucky enough to attend the National in Perry where Janie introduced me to other Parson owners.

Archie especially enjoyed a visit to my brother's in Safety Harbor FL and swimming in the pool. He is a great traveler.

There are so many events and activities to choose from so I am not sure where our journey will lead us but know it will be a good one.





147th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show

Arthur Ashe Stadium

May 9, 2023

Judge: Mr. David Kirkland

Best of Breed: GCHS Blossom Valley High Hopes Henry of Stillwater

Best of Opposite: GCH Brywood Fashionista

Select Dog: GCH Panther Creek Stone Cold Sober



Best of Breed

GCHS Blossom Valley High Hopes Henry of Stillwater

“Henry”

Breeders/Owners: Kimberly Neal & Annette Gilliam

Public Education

New Hampshire 4H Kids Learn About the Parson Russell Terrier

Pamela Pultz

On June 17, in New Boston, New Hampshire, Sihtric and I represented the Parson Russell Terrier breed to the New Hampshire 4H Dog Project kids and their parents. Each year, the New Hampshire 4H Dog Project has a Meet the Breeds from one of the AKC groups, and this year they learned about terriers. Our time began with a demonstration, then a discussion about the Parson Russell Terrier, and ended with a Happy Ratters Rat Test. It was a great time, and a fantastic turnout of interested 4H-ers.

When we were invited to present at this event, we were asked to demonstrate some of the things that we do together. The venue was a huge indoor horse arena at Hillsborough County Fairgrounds. I knew Sihtric was going to love the myriad smells in that barn, and probably would watch the birds in the rafters! I had to figure out what type of routine or demonstration we could do for this crowd how to work with the number of distractions we would face!

Sihtric dances Freestyle, has 52 tricks (that often make up his freestyle routines), competes in AKC Obedience and Rally, AKC Nose Work, Agility, and Happy Ratters. Dancing in front of 70 or so people was going to be challenging in that arena; when he dances on stage the lights keep him from

seeing the audience but in the arena he could see all those kids-and what a distraction they proved to be! Introducing him, I talked about the training it takes for a dog to be able to perform in public and how choreographing dancing and tricks should have a flow that allows the dog to remain focused on the handler, rather than the surroundings. It can be difficult because when doing freestyle with a dog, there are times when we disconnect. That might be fine for some breeds, but for our breed, the Parson Russell Terrier, disconnection means that the dog will look around and say "hey, I should be visiting those kids or doing something more interesting."

And visit the kids he did! He said hello to just about all of them, and of course, the kids loved him. When I got him back on track, he continued his tricks and dancing, but oh, how he wanted to go back to all those children and spend time with each one.

"... the kids had lots of questions about how to train... , and how to manage a dog who is so high energy and inquisitive."

Everyone in the audience understood just how distracted he was, and the kids had lots of questions about how to train for that, and how to manage a dog who is so high energy and inquisitive.

The second part of our time was at our table, representing our breed. I spoke to the participants in groups of 8 or 10, and talked about what the Parson Russell Terrier is bred

for and how they work. Everyone received a handout with information about our breed, and had a chance to watch him more individually doing some of his tricks. I believe that the most important training tool for high energy, high drive dogs is patience and a sense of fun. Without these two components, training the Parson Russell Terrier can be challenging. For the sports we do, and for conformation showing, I need a joyful and happy dog, and the only way to that goal is with training that engages him. Both the kids and parents were impressed with the fact that he does sports and conformation and succeeds in both. I thought that was an important part of the representation of this fantastic breed.

Using an exercise ball, I showed the groups how I trained Sihtric to stand on his hind legs and dance. This was an important part of his training, because he needs great balance for some of his tricks, and for the sports he does. They were interested and charmed by him as he stood on the ball, keeping his balance and doing tricks. He got treats from the kids, hugs and kisses, and was such a wonderful representative of the breed—well-bred and handsome, and able to show off his obedience and trick training and the sweet nature that is the Parson Russell Terrier.

At the end of the day, Sihtric found the rat in the tube, said goodbye to all the kids and parents, and slept the sleep of a happy terrier who did his job to the very best of his ability!



Sihtric



The dog was created specially for children.
He is the god of frolic.

Henry Ward Beecher, Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit

Parsons and Their Kids

PRTAA Member Contributions



Dana Bryson- Benn

The Nook asked readers to send us your photos and to comment on your experience with kids and Parsons. We asked the breeders to share their insights with buyers adding a Parson to their families. The response was overwhelmingly positive!

“Great idea!”

“Love seeing children with our beloved Parsons.”

“This will be fun to see!”

On the following pages we get a glimpse of Parsons and kids together. We hope you enjoy them as much as they enjoy each other.



Janine Rose



Carol Howton

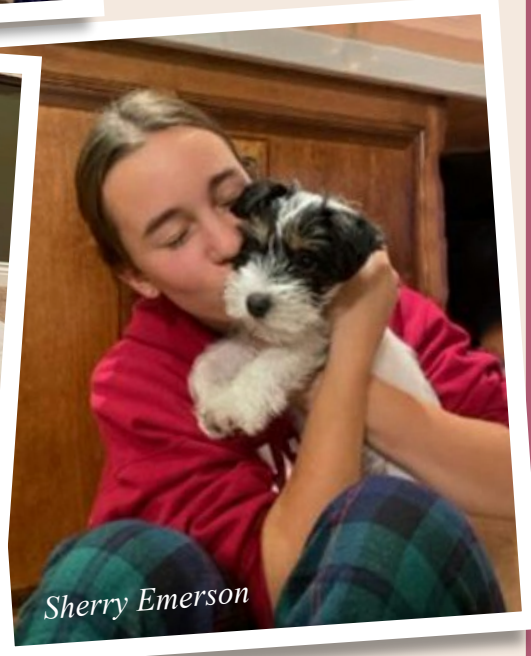
Teach the kids to be gentle and kind with the puppies from the beginning..
Carol A. Howton
Rosewood Parson Russell Terriers



Janie Smith



Tricia Stanczyk



Sherry Emerson

First question is do I have an age limit and the answer is no. I am a mother of 6 children and 5 grandchildren. My Parsons have been raised with my children and my grandchildren that I have lived with for going on 2 years. I do not advise at anytime that children be left alone with a puppy without adult supervision. As a breeder when I am looking at potential homes I look at how they are and have been with their current dog. I meet them first. I watch how the parents and the children act with their current dog and mine. Are the children gentle and kind but not fearful. Are the parents mindful and teaching their children.

Sharon Hipps, Saddles Ridge PRT's



Judy Slater-Moody



Nelda Herman



Loree Conley



Shannon Rives



Debi Brum

I think for me, it's a two-way street not only do I socialize my puppies to children and noises and other animals. I have taught my children to respect the Puppy and the dogs and to read their body language and to know when to give them space. My kids are involved from birth to the time the puppy leaves my home, playing, feeding, walking, bathing, all aspects of life with a puppy. For the first time terrier owners I include the book Terrier-Centric Dog Training by D. Antoniak-Mitchell. I print out selected articles and them include in my puppy binders for all my puppies.

I really don't have an age limit on how old or younger child must be. I usually just have a frank open conversation with potential families about the puppy. And if I'm really being honest, most people that contact me wanting a Parson, Russell are usually empty-nesters or people who are choosing not to have children but want a small, sturdy active dog.

Shannon Rives



Izzy Della Santa

My daughter Ryann was the youngest junior to receive a Master Earth Dog title (according to AKC records). Pictured with her PRT Madeline

Carol Chase



Carol Chase



Loree Conley



Nelda Herman



Janie Smith



Shannon Rives



Linda Edwards

my experience with kids and parsons is that any dog with a half decent temperament will generally love respectful kids. teaching proper boundaries on both sides is of course important, and its crucial to make sure the dog has down time if they're overstimulated by kids. ollie is friends with a lot of kids, he thinks kids are just his speed and kids generally think he's the best dog ever.

Izzy Della Santa



Carol Howton



Nelda Herman

I do not have a specific minimum age; rather a few criteria by which I use to evaluate any potential placement.

1. Families that have had terriers previously with/without children often have a better understanding of the terriers and their tenacity. Interviews include understanding their ability to manage a terrier.

2. When visiting I observe not only how the child interacts with a young pup (usually how they have been taught by parents), but also how the parents/guardians observe and manage the interactions during the visit.

3. When the children are of an appropriate age, I encourage obedience classes to support the bonding as well as helping the child and the dog learn good behaviors.

Judy Slater-Moody & Vickie Moody
Thunder Hill Terriers



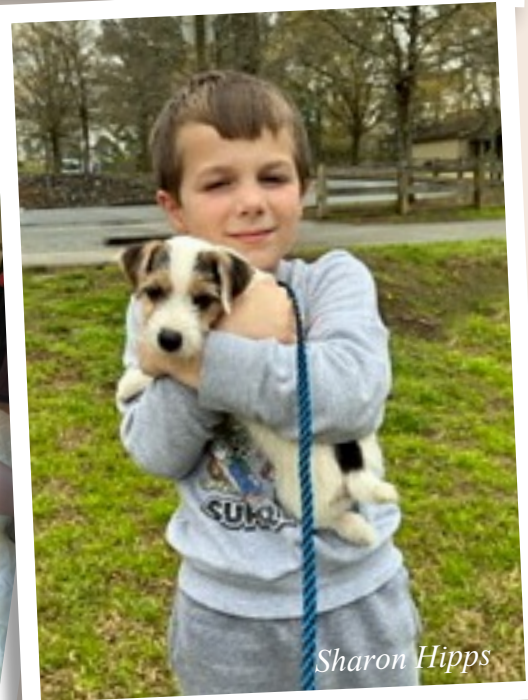
Linda Edwards



Brenda Koepfel



Judy Slater-Moody



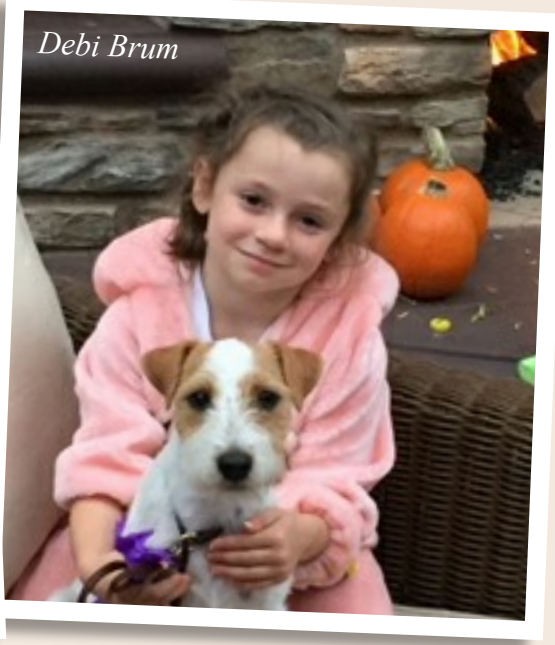
Sharon Hipps



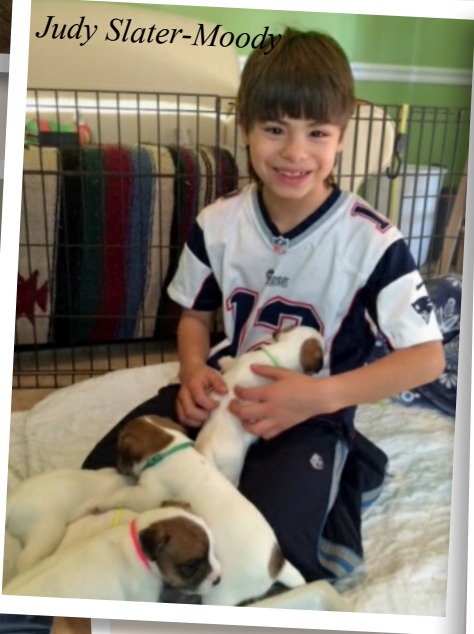
Izzy Della Santa



Janine Rose



Debi Brum



Judy Slater-Moody



Carol Howton



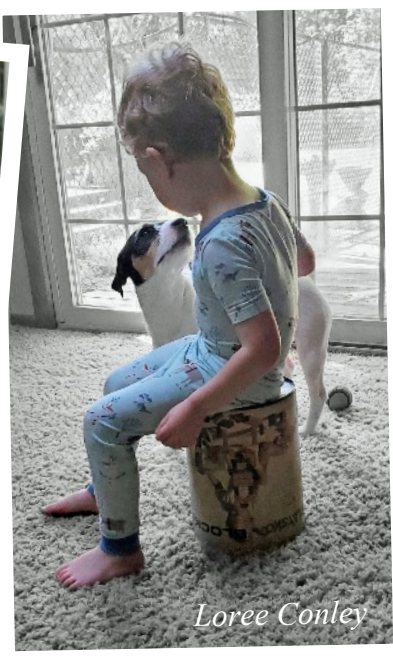
Sharon Hipps

Next is selecting the proper dog. Not all puppies are kid puppies. Mine are handled by me first then my kids and grandkids. Then the family comes to meet the litter around 3 weeks old. I watch how they act and educate them while they interact with the litter. As they grow I continue to watch and socialize them. All my dogs absolutely love children. They are allowed to greet them respectfully, calm no jumping or biting is allowed, it is always redirected to toys. From this litter in the photos I had 3 that I could have chosen for this family. They wanted a female. I had them visit the pups again at 6 weeks the female was high drive and I suggested they consider the male puppy and they trusted me and took my advice. And absolutely fell in love with the boy! He was the perfect puppy for this family and they were the perfect family for him!

Sharon Hipps
Saddles Ridge PRT's



Brenda Koeppel



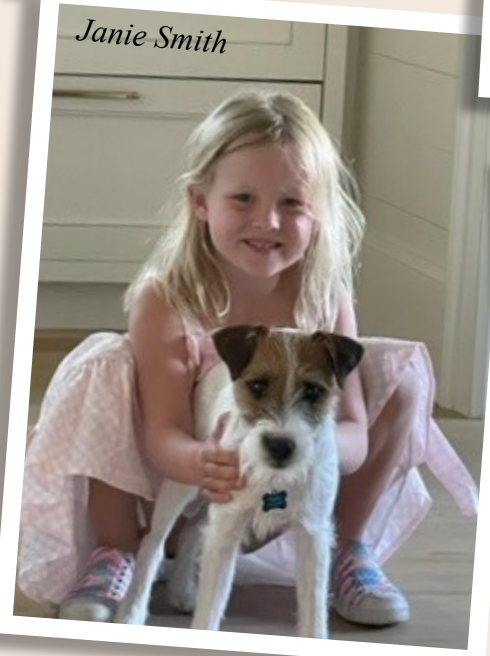
Loree Conley



Pamela Pultz



Denise Tschida



Janie Smith



Sharon Hipps

Early in my breeding JRTs/PRTs, I was advised to “never” place a JRT/PRT pup with families with infants and/or young children. For several years, I would not generally consider families with young children. As I gained more experience in my breeding program related to health and temperament of my dogs, I also became more confident to begin evaluating the potential of expanding the families I would interview. I make every effort to have children of all ages visit our pups when the pups are old enough.

Over the years, I have been amazed at what a wonderful opportunity it is for youngsters to bond and have a Parson Russell Terriers to grow up with. Overall, I have had good experiences. There have been occasions when I would decline a family when I observed behaviors from either the parents, children or the pups that concerned me. Each potential placement involving children is evaluated individually, the same as with any placement.

I have been blessed with many wonderful children who love their little white dogs!

Judy Slater-Moody & Vickie Moody
Thunder Hill Terriers



Debi Brum



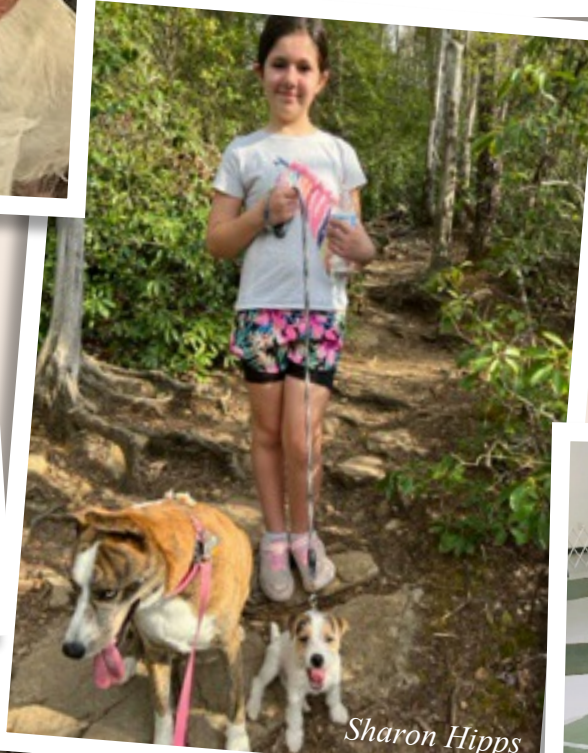
Carol Howton



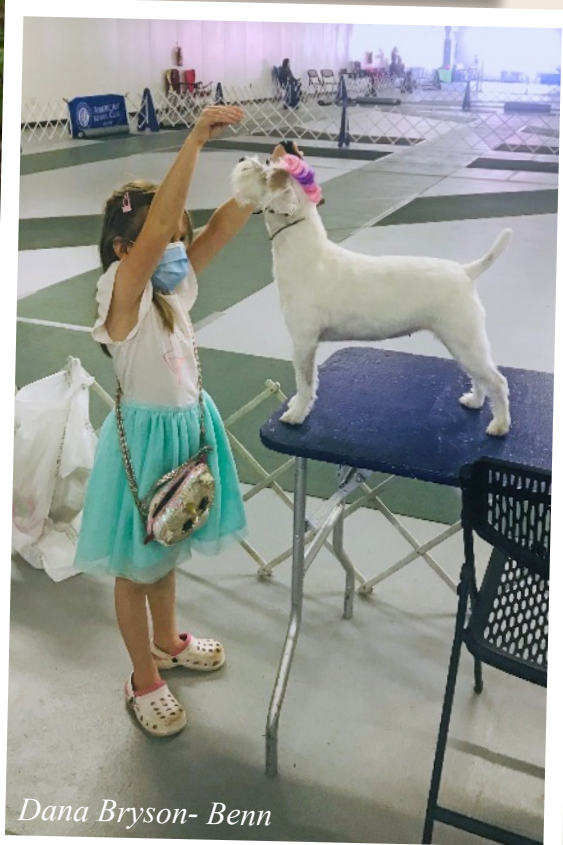
Tricia Stanczyk

We try to place our
parsons with a bit
older kids. They
usually do quite well..

Sherry Emerson



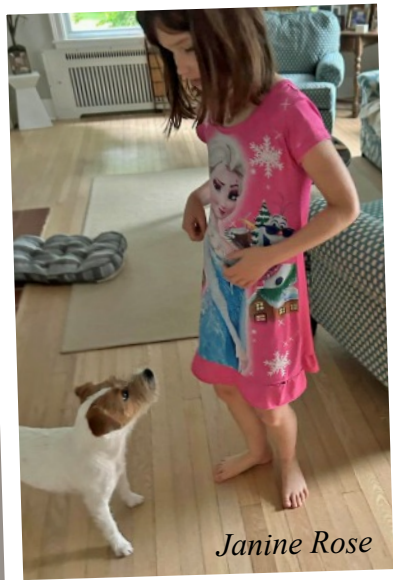
Sharon Hipps



Dana Bryson- Benn



Loree Conley



Janine Rose



Janice Taft



Nelda Herman



Loree Conley



Carol Howton



Liane Paulson



Sharon Higgs



Sherry Emerson



Judy Slater-Moody

... and then,

Patty Burmeister



Nelda Herman



Judy Slater-Moody

The Nook thanks the following contributors for sharing these thoughts and images.

Debi Brum
Dana Bryson-Benn
Patty Burmeister
Carol Chase
Loree Conley
Izzy Della Santa

Linda Edwards
Sherry Emerson
Nelda Herman
Sharon Hipps
Carol Howton
Brenda Koepfel

Judy Slater Moody &
Vicky Moody
Liane Paulson
Pamela Pultz
Shannon Rives
Janine Rose

Janie Smith
Tricia Stanczyk
Janice Taft
Denise Tschida



Guest Article

Puppies Make Children Better

Dr. Carmen Battaglia

BACKGROUND

Every child at some point begs their parents for a puppy. If you were one of those parents or if you know one, here is what most likely happened. The parent immediately begins to think about all of the added chores and financial obligations that come with owning a puppy.

Most parents want their children to be happy, healthy, smart and successful, and they do so by enrolling them in good schools. Most do not consider the advantages of having a dog as a way to achieve some of those goals and most are surprised when they learn they may have overlooked the many hidden benefits to dog ownership.

Over the past 20 years, science and technology have made a number of discoveries that confirm a long list of benefits for children who live with a dog. Among them are better physical and emotional health and better social relationships as an adult. Published studies show that pet involvement has many advantages and they come in a variety of different forms. For some, it is the experiences of growing up with and caring for a family dog or participating in a dog sport. For others, it is living in a neighborhood where on a regular basis the children play with a friend's dog.

INFANCY AND BEYOND

A collection of scientific studies outlined by Nienke Endenburg and Ben Baarda, *The Role of Pets in Studies Enhancing Human Well-*

being: Effects on Child Development, reported that pets in a home have many positive effects on a child's mental and physical health.

The research collected about children and dogs is summarized in this paper which shows there are at least seven benefits to having a dog.

1. Improved Health and Immune Systems

Studies in Pediatric Health concluded that children who lived with a dog during their first year of life had a better immune system than those who did not, and that those exposed to a dog during infancy when sick needed a shorter course of antibiotics compared to children who did not live with a dog or a pet.

Besides these benefits, early exposure to a dog was also found to be a major benefit to developing resistance to allergies. Young children- who played with a dog were found to be more physically active and less likely to develop allergies. Their parents also benefited. In families where at least one parent was suffering from allergies or asthma the likelihood of other members developing a similar illness declined if they had a dog in the house. In homes with dogs, children and their families were found to be better protected against the risk for eczema and those without a dog in the home were four times more likely to develop eczema.

Puppies and dogs also provided other benefits. Pets are one of the best ways to pry kids off the couch and away from screen time. On

average, children who have a dog exercise an average of 11 minutes more per day than those who do not have a dog. When added up, those minutes total to 5.5 hours a month and 66 hours per year! Some researchers believe that dog ownership may be a viable way to help combat childhood obesity.

2. Less Stress and Happier

Researchers and teachers noticed that stress levels decreased when young children played with a dog and when they read aloud to a dog. Playing with a dog decreases their levels of serotonin and dopamine. Petting decreases

“Among them are better physical and emotional health and better social relationships as an adult.”

the level of cortisol and increases the level of Oxytocin which is a chemical that occurs during times of happiness, courtship and at birth when a newborn is nursing with their mother. It is also known to calm the mind and increase one’s mood.

3. Higher self-esteem

Simple tasks such as allowing a 3-year-old to put the food and water bowl down were found to be good examples. Kids who were given tasks to complete, such as helping to care for a pup or dog, were found to have improved self-esteem.

Empathy is learned when a child interacts with a parent who encourages them to help in the care and nurturing of a dependent animal.

Multiple studies have shown that children who grew up living with a pup or a dog were more likely to be empathetic towards others as an adult.

4. Improved cognitive skills

Several researchers found that children often named their pet when asked who they would go to with a problem. One report found that “Pets can make people feel unconditionally accepted, whereas fellow humans will judge and criticize”. Several researchers noted that kids who talked to their dog whether by giving praise, commands or just babbling, showed improved cognitive development.

5. Become More Responsible

Having a puppy or dog was also found to improve the likelihood of a child becoming a more responsible person as an adult. Getting a child involved with their pet’s care prepares them for handling responsibilities later in life. For example, teaching a child about the needs of a puppy or dog, such as regular potty breaks and involving them at their dog’s mealtime improves their understanding of scheduling, time requirements and other needs of an animal which helps teach them to handle more responsibility as an adult. Another example of teaching responsibility was found in the kids who saved their allowance and used some of it toward paying for dog food or other necessities. Those who attended training classes with a parent also learned about the value of planning, preparation and the importance and the value of regular practice sessions.

6. Better Emotional Intelligence (EQ)

EQ is a measure of child’s emotional intelligence, meaning their emotional skills.

These are learned and acquired over time as children become involved in the care for another's life. Learning to take care of a puppy or dog requires becoming more compassionate. It occurs when children learn to: feed, brush and walk their dog on a regular basis. These activities oftentimes compete with other activities they might rather be doing. Thus, the caring for a puppy or dog promotes learning to step outside the time normally used for themselves which helps them practice being selfless. Teachers who studied this skill in children reported that having a pet is an invaluable aid to helping them gain pride in caring, and empathy for the needs of themselves and others". In addition to improving EQ, caring for a dog builds a child's self-esteem which they accomplish through small tasks: filling up their water dish, grooming, walking and putting things away all help improve how they feel about themselves and their sense of accomplishment.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) found that children with puppies and dogs in the home had reduced anxiety levels and reduced amounts of perceived stress. Researchers at the Johns Hopkins Medicine Center reported that children who cuddle with their dog decrease their cortisol levels which is a hormone associated with stress. The CDC also found that kids who interacted with dogs were also found to have increased levels of Oxytocin released into their brains.

AUTISM

One in 45 children in the United States is diagnosed with autism (ASD) which is nearly 2% of the entire population of children ages 2-17. The Good Dog organization reported that therapy dogs have an amazing impact on the

quality of life and development of children with ASD. Some of the benefits include:

- Providing a sense of security
- Decreasing meltdowns
- Decreasing anxiety and acts of aggression
- Increasing willingness to try new things
- Increases the ability to face fearful situations
- Increases social interactions and shifts the focus away from the child's disability
- Encourages verbal communication

The Drake Center's involvement with Good Dog! Autism Companions studied 6.4 million children in the United States who had been diagnosed with ADHD which is increasing at the rate of almost 2% a year. Some of the benefits to children who lived with a dog in their home included:

- Dogs helped create consistency and a routine
- Provided an outlet for excess energy to help aid hyperactivity
- Helped the child cope with isolation and depression
- Took some of the stress out of new social situations

Until recently there were no current studies evaluating the impact of children in dog sports or their success and impact on them later in life. The earliest effort occurred in 1932 when the American Kennel Club, (Westbury Kennel Association) offered the first "Children's Handling Class" (Battaglia). A more recent study confirms the value of dogs in the life of very young children, teenagers and those over 18 years of age (Loonsk).

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About the Author

Carmen L. Battaglia holds a Ph.D. and Master's Degree from Florida State University. He is an author of many articles, several books, an AKC Director, judge and researcher. He is a well-known lecturer and leader in the promotion of breeding better dogs. Dr. Battaglia is also a popular guest on TV and radio talk shows including several appearances on Animal Planet. His seminars on breeding better dogs, selecting sires and choosing puppies have been well-received by breed clubs.

Those interested in learning more about his writings and seminars should visit the website: <http://www.breedingbetterdogs.com>

AKC Delegate Report

Gary Koeppel

At the June Delegates meeting there was plenty of buzz about the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank but this is covered elsewhere in this issue of The Parson's Nook.

In routine business, the delegates voted on the approval of a new AKC Member Club. The American Toy Fox Terrier Club was accepted as a member.

By far, however, the most talked about issue was the vote on a pending rule change. An amendment to Article VI, Section 6 of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club removes the reference to professional judges (one who charges a fee in excess of expenses) as it relates to Delegate occupational eligibility.

Prior to this change the rules essentially

prohibited a Delegate from charging any fees beyond their expenses when judging. This put a restriction upon Delegate-Judges not applicable to their non-Delegate peers. The common opinion is that this policy discouraged many judges, who would otherwise be excellent candidates, from becoming delegates. The matter had been debated for many years and in this session the amendment was adopted.

As always I welcome input from members and the board. The next Delegates Meeting will be held on September 11-12, 2023 in Newark, NJ. Respectfully,

Gary



Member Spotlight Finn Earns Scent Work Honors

Penny Link

Finn, owned and handled by Penny and Dr. Steven Link, recently received one of three NW3 titles toward her NW3 Elite title at a National Association Canine Scent Work (NACSW) trial. She recorded this accomplishment while receiving a perfect score of 100!

Just a few weeks prior, Finn also titled in a NASDA trial.

Congratulations Finn and Penny!



(Continued from [page 25](#))

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Press Release

The American Kennel Club Announces the Creation of the 'AKC Purebred Preservation Bank'



B. Hunter Munden

New York, NY- The American Kennel Club (AKC®), a not-for-profit organization, the world's largest purebred dog registry and leading advocate for dogs, is pleased to announce the formation of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank, a 501 C3, not-for-profit canine genetic material repository primarily focused on frozen semen.

The mission of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKCPPB) is to ensure the viability of purebred dogs both now and in the future, particularly in low population breeds. While coordinating efforts with non-profit breed-specific clubs, the AKCPPB will educate breeders, clubs, and the public about the importance of safeguarding frozen semen and protecting purebred dog breeds for future decades.

The project began in 2021, with the recommendation from AKC's President and CEO Dennis B. Sprung that AKC explore establishing a frozen semen program which would increase gene pools, ensure saving of quality producers, and make it easy for each Parent Club to take this step for their breed. There is no cost to the owner/donor or Parent Club to donate genetic material.

"The preservation of purebred dogs is at the core of the AKC's mission," said Dr. Charles Garvin, Chairman of the AKCPPB. "Preserving the genetic materials of our dogs, via frozen semen, will undoubtedly prove valuable for

breed preservation, reducing the risk of extinction in breeds with lower popularity and allow us to do the important work of improving our breeds. The AKC is pleased to offer this valuable service and look forward to the many ways it will enhance the legacy of our beloved breeds."

Preservation of genetic material is not just for the breeds with lower-than-average levels of breeding activity. Any breed could be susceptible to genetic bottlenecks or difficulties as the discovery of new diseases emerges or other crises arise. Storing diverse genetic material could address unknown future health concerns and rejuvenate breeding programs.

To learn more about the AKCPPB, please visit: <https://akcppb.org>.



"Long term preservation of our breeds has become a central issue of focus for many AKC Parent Clubs. Preservation is not just for the breeds with lower-than-average levels of breeding activity, but for any breed that might face genetic bottlenecks or other genetic difficulties, now or in the future."

– Dr. Charles Garvin, Delegate, Dalmatian Club of America (June 2021 Perspectives)





Sunday October 8, 2023
Montgomery County Kennel Club
 The World's Largest Terrier Show



PRTAA Specialty

Macungie Memorial Park
 50 Poplar St
 Macungie, PA 18062

Judges
 Sweepstakes - Ms. Mary Paisley
 Regular Classes - Mr. Brian C. Bogart

Superintendent – MB-F Inc. www.infodog.com Closing date – September 20, 2023

Also, don't miss...

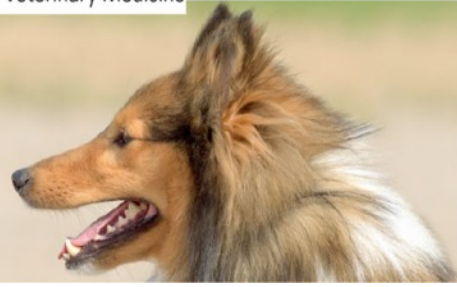


Hatboro Dog Club
 Thursday October 5, 2021
 Friday October 6, 2023
 Macungie, PA



Devon Dog Show Assoc.
 Saturday October 7, 2023
 Ludwig's Corner, PA

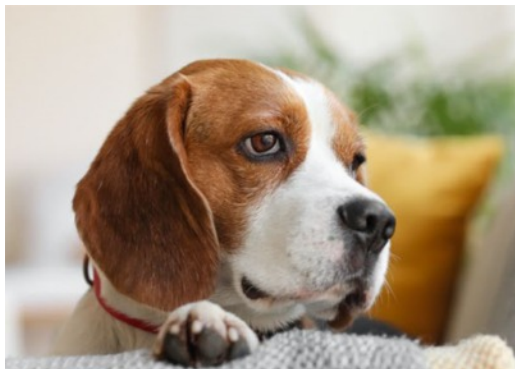
Is your dog at increased risk of developing bladder or prostate cancer?



Scientists and clinicians at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine are recruiting dogs for groundbreaking studies relating to **bladder/prostate cancer** (also known as urothelial carcinoma/transitional cell carcinoma).

Facts about bladder and prostate cancer in dogs

- 95% of canine bladder/prostate cancers are diagnosed in dogs age 6 years or older
- Affected dogs may show no clinical signs until the cancer is at an advanced stage
- Once established, **progression is often rapid**
- Several breeds show elevated risk of **bladder/prostate cancer**, including the following:



American Eskimo Dog
 Beagle
 Parson Russell Terrier
 Russell Terrier
 Scottish Terrier
 Shetland Sheepdog
 West Highland White Terrier
 Wire Fox Terrier

To be eligible for the study, dogs:

- *must be age **six years or older**, from one of the breeds listed above*
- *must **not** have been diagnosed with bladder/prostate cancer*
- **The research team is carrying out genetic testing of urine from dogs with no clinical signs of bladder/prostate cancer**
- **The goal is to improve methods for EARLY DETECTION of the disease, to maximize treatment opportunities**

Testing is performed at **NO COST to the owner (includes shipping supplies and fees)**

- View this [site](#) for more information on eligibility and study benefits
- Complete this online [questionnaire](#) to register interest and find out if your dog is eligible
- Email UCClinicalTrials@ncsu.edu with any questions

But Wait, There's Still... The Dog Behind The Tail

No symphony orchestra ever played music like a two-year-old girl laughing with a puppy.

Bern Williams

Watch for Montgomery Kennel Club results in the Fall Issue of The Parson's Nook...

