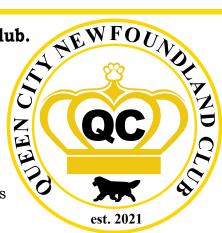


The first AKC Newfoundland Specialty Club.

The Queen City Newfoundland Club is located in the greater Charlotte, NC area. We have completed and been granted our license and have become an AKC Specialty Club.

The purpose of our Club is to provide choices, education and specialties, which enable Newfoundland faciers more opportunities to earn titles and ACK points/championships.



President: 1st Vice President: 2nd Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer:	Laura Rader Julie Fitser Carol Czerw Matt Townsend Janette Phillips			Susan Egan Cathy Rubens Connie Sovie
Nomin QCNC 2023 A Water Water Newsle	ent's Message ating Committee Fundraising Awards Workshop Training Information etter Information Specialties	2 3 4 5-6 7-8 8	Victory Lane Classic 3 Carolina Clusters Basket Raffle Draft Workshop Education Corner Let's Train Dogs Brags Chewing	10 11 12 13-15 16-17 18-19 20

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### MAY 15th, 2024

### QUEEN CITY NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB 1st ANNUAL AWARDS DEADLINE

(see page 3 for details)

#### JUNE 5th, 2024

#### **BEGINNER WATER WORKSHOP**

(see page 4 for details)

#### JULY 12-16th, 2024

VICTORY LANE CLASSIC featuring
3 QUEEN CITY CONCURRENT SPECIALTIES
with SWEEPSTAKES

(see pages 5-6)

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### GREETINGS TO THE QUEEN CITY MEMBERSHIP

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Springtime!! Soon summer will be here before we know it and newf fanciers will be ready for water training. I am very happy to announce our AKC Concurrent Specialty shows in July. We are holding (3) Concurrent Specialties shows Saturday July 13, Sunday July 14 and Monday July 15. These specialties are held in conjunction with All breed Victory Land Classic shows and the Carolina Working Group Association shows July 12-15, 2024 Concord, NC at the Cabarrus Arena & Event Center. Featuring: Sweepstakes puppy & Veteran, NOHS, Stud dog class, Brood Bitch Class, VN Class, Working dog class. You will have 9 chances to show in 5 days.ÊThere are amazing trophies for each show this year!! There will be a special award called The Queen Charlotte Award in which the winner will be determined by Best of Breed wins from the nine (9) Newfoundland shows beginning July 12 through July 15. A QCNC Frame of Crown award and Rosette will be offered as well. I would like to thank Cathy Rubens for these special awards. I would also like to thank all our members and other contributors for donating monetarily to our trophy funds.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming AKC Specialty shows in Concord, NC at the Cabarrus Arena & Event Center. If you are interested in helping volunteer with our trophy table or Basket Raffle table, we would greatly appreciate your help.

See you soon!!

Laura Rader



#### **NEWS FROM OUR NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The 2024-2025 Nominating Committee for the Queen City Newfoundland Club was formed, and the proposed slate of officers for the upcoming year is as follows:

President: Laura Rader
!st Vice President: Julie Fitser
2nd Vice President: Carol Czerw
Secretary: Matt Townsend
Treasurer: Janette Phillips
Board Member: Connie Sovie
Board Member: Susan Egan
Board Member: Janet Rogers

Following is a brief bio from our newest nominee, Janet Rogers...

JANET FRAZIER ROGERS - (NOMINEE FOR BOARD SEAT) My first interaction with the Newfoundland Breed was at the young age of 16. I took one look and boy was I hooked. Their sweet face, huge feet and gentle souls have been ingrained in my heart for decades. Then on my 50th birthday, I sat down and started to write my bucket list and I never wrote beyond number one. Here I am, seven Newfoundlands later and recently added a new fellow in my life, his name is Frazier. My husband, Rob and I have earned over 27 AKC and NCA titles with 2 of our Newfoundlands including Versatile Newfoundland, Confirmation, Therapy Dog, Obedience, Rally, Draft, and Water Rescue. All of which has brought such joy into our lives and keeps us young at heart.

I've been a member of the Penn-Ohio Newfoundland Club (PONC) since 2013 and currently hold the position of Club Secretary and seeking a third term. I'm also a member of the Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) since 2014, and I'm an active member of my local kennel club in Morgantown, WV, Mountaineer Kennel Club (MKC). Also, I joined the Queen City Newfoundland Club immediately following its inception and now I'm seeking a Board seat for the upcoming year. My work in the finance sector for the past 30+ years has afforded me the opportunity to bring many skillsets to the Queen City Board. I've held many executive positions for both large and small corporations, such as Board of Directors, Treasurer, and Financial Director of a \$1B dollar government contract are just a few. I have discovered the way to bring more happiness into your life, is to give of yourself to others. As a Board member, I feel I can bring new insight to an already strong and well-grounded club. It would be my honor and pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors for the Queen City Newfoundland Club. I look forward to working together to strategically guide and assist Queen City in any way possible.

We sadly say goodbye to Cathy Rubens as a Board Member...without her and her expertise Queen City Newfoundland Club would not be where we are today. Her experience and knowledge with creating AKC Specialty Clubs was instrumental in securing us a "fast track" journey to our AKC license. We can't thank you enough Cathy! Don't go far...we still need you!

#### QCNC FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Queen City Newfoundland Club has joined a fundraising facebook group named

#### "SMALL DOG CLUB HELPERS"

that is helping with our fundraising by running raffles on their site to benefit Queen City! The raffles to benefit us are up and running!

JOIN/FOLLOW THEIR FACEBOOK PAGE TODAY!

# to hold FIRST ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION

Everyone has been working super hard this past year with their Newfoundlands...traveling, showing, working and having fun! It's time for you to be honored! We are planning on having an "AWARDS" presentation following our Annual Meeting in Concord, NC (our specialties weekend) to honor new titleists! More info will be coming closer to the event, but the following form needs to be filled out by MAY 15th, 2024, and sent to CONNIE SOVIE!

#### QUEEN CITY NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB

Awards Form - 2023

(Please use a separate form for each dog and forward to the Awards Chairperson) AWARD INFORMATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 15th. 2024

#### PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Award —
Registered Name
AKC#
Date of 2023 New Title(s) [include copy of title(s)]
List of Existing Title(s) —
Name of Breeder(s)
Name of Owner(s)
Address —
Phone
Signature
Date

#### PLEASE PRINT AND SIGN THIS FORM. THEN MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:

Connie Sovie, 297 Stonebrook Drive, Maggie Valley, NC 28751 954-999-7143 conniesovie@gmail.com

# WATER WORKSHOP with CONNIE SOVIE

### JUNE 15th, 2024

#### ATTENTION ALL NEWFOUNDLAND DOG ENTHUSIASTS!

WD Demo by MICHELLE BENNETT and "TANNER", assisted by CONNIE SOVIE and "MAVERICK"

The Queen City Newfoundland CLub is thrilled to announce an upcoming **WATER TRAINING EVENT!** This is a fantastic opportunity for you and your gentle giants to dive into the world of water work, a discipline that showcases the natural abilities of the Newfoundland breed.

#### **EVENT DETAILS:**

Date: JUNE 15th, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: 604 Swiss Pine Lake Drive, Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Activities: Water rescue demonstrations, beginner training sessions. Whether you're a seasoned handler or new to the breed, this event promises to be a day full of learning, splashing, and camaraderie among fellow Newfie Lovers. Stay tuned for more information and how to register your Newfoundland for a **SPLASHING GOOD TIME!** 

For any inquiries or to express interest, please visit the Queen City Newfoundland Club's website, or join our Facebook group for the latest updates, or contact **CONNIE SOVIE!** 

#### WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AND YOUR NEWFIE MAKE A SPLASH!

(human lifejackets will be a requirement!)

#### EVENT LIMITED TO 10 DOGS...\$50.00

(all proceeds go to support Queen City Newfoundland Club)







#### **QUEEN CITY NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB**

is proud to present our 1st Annual

#### WATER WORKSHOP JUNE 15th, 2024

604 Swiss Pine Lake Drive Spruce Pine, NC 28777 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

#### **PARTICIPATION LIMITED TO 10 DOGS**

Name of owner:
Dog's name:
Phone number:
Experience level: Novice Intermediate Excellent
Payment via: Check PayPal
<b>Participation fee:</b> \$50.00 (all proceeds to benefit the Queen City Newfoundland Club). Pay via PayPal (QueenCityNewfoundlandClub@gmail.com) or by check made out to QCNC and sent to <b>Connie Sovie</b> with this form.
<b>Remember to bring:</b> bumpers, towels, water bowl, treats, drag line, crate, life jackets for humans, sunscreen and a lunch for yourself (should you choose).
Please send this form and your payment/method to: Connie Sovie 297 Stonebrook Drive Maggie Valley, NC 28751

#### WATER TRAINING INFORMATION

This article is reprinted, with permission, from the Newfoundland Club of America "E-Notes".

#### How to Introduce Your Newfoundland to Water

It's always exciting when I have the opportunity to introduce a young Newfoundland to the water for the very first time. It's a time of great anticipation, as well as an awesome responsibility, to lay the foundation for a working partnership that I hope will last a lifetime. I foresee fun-filled water-test weekends in the puppy's future, made all the more likely by a positive first encounter with the water.

Thus, as a puppy and I begin our aquatic adventure together, my thoughts focus on having fun and developing confidence, which is where the buckle collar and a six-foot nylon lead come in. I believe it is important to train on lead to provide gentle guidance and strengthen the bond of teamwork all along the way.

Because swimming does not stress growing bones and joints as land activities can, water training can begin at an early age. An advantage to early training is that young puppies are often less fearful of the "disappearing lake bottom" when they take their first swimming strokes than older dogs are. I was once at the pond for a Newfoundland family's first swim. The pups followed their mama like a line of ducklings as she entered the pond, never hesitating for a second when they could no longer touch the bottom. That is, undoubtedly, the best way to introduce a puppy to the water, with the help of its mother, but few of us have that option.

Those of us who live in northern climates only have a short four-month window for water work, so puppies born in the fall or winter are often eight months old (or older) before the water is warm enough for us to take the plunge. As a rule of thumb, it's best to introduce a Newfie to the water during its "puppy summer," however many months old that may be.

So, let's pretend for a moment that summer has arrived and, with it, the long-awaited day to take your puppy for his first swim.

Come along with puppy and me for our first day of water training as we enthusiastically approach the water's edge, running together on lead, side-by-side. We pause to take in the smells and sights, and sounds of the shoreline as we inch ever so closer to the water, all the while sharing the joys of the day.

#### How to Train Your Dog to Swim

I back a short distance into the water and, with the aid of the lead, if necessary, encourage the puppy to come to me in the water. It's important to give lots of praise every step of the way. The goal is to encourage the puppy into chest-deep water where it is still touching the bottom but where it will be swimming if I take one step forward.

Once we reach that depth, we will stay there and not return to shore for the remainder of this first lesson. I try to "read" my puppy's reaction and make sure it is comfortable beside me in the chest-deep water before proceeding with the big, first "swimming step."

With the lead in my right hand and my left hand through the puppy's collar, I give a gentle nudge as I say "swim," and, with the puppy in tow beside me, I walk one step into deeper water. As the puppy's feet leave the bottom for the first time, I circle it around me to the right and back toward shore, where its feet touch the bottom once again. The puppy will swim only a few strokes, but as soon as it is swimming and perhaps thinking about panicking, it is touching the bottom once again. The puppy gains confidence as it learns that when the bottom drops out from under its feet, it comes back again quickly. Be sure to hold on to the lead and keep the puppy in chest-deep water, and do not allow him to return to shore.

Repeat this exercise about six times, with the puppy swimming only a few strokes each time before touching the bottom once again, with lots of praise in between. Then give the puppy a break to ponder what he has learned. He has bravely stepped beyond wading depth and survived. He should be very proud of himself!

Build Upon Your Previous Lessons

In subsequent training sessions, review what you did in the previous lesson and make sure your dog feels comfortable before progressing to the next step. Some dogs gain confidence more quickly than others. The next step is to gradually increase the distance you ask your dog to swim before turning back toward shore and touching the bottom. As the dog becomes more comfortable swimming with additional strokes, continue to increase the distance you ask him to swim until you can no longer touch the bottom.

It is important for you to touch the bottom so that you can maintain control of the dog. Each time you say "Swim," give the dog a gentle nudge forward on his collar, so he starts swimming immediately. From the very beginning of training, never permit the dog to hesitate at its drop-off point. This hint will prevent problems later on if you aspire to earn a water title.

If you have ever attended a water test, you have probably seen one or more dogs fail because they waded into the water, then hesitated at the drop-off point and "messed

around" instead of swimming out to complete the exercise. If you never allow a dog to hesitate in practice, chances are it won't hesitate at a test!

How to Teach Newfies to Retrieve in Water

When the dog becomes comfortable swimming short distances, I introduce a short piece of floating line, knotted to facilitate carrying, to our training. As soon as the dog has swum out and is turning toward shore, I splash the line in the water close in front of him. Even dogs that are not avid retrievers on land will often grab at an enticing line in the water and carry it while swimming. If they don't grab it on their own, you can open their mouths and place it inside, and they will generally continue to hold it as long as they are swimming. This is a great beginning for the "Take-a-Line" exercise.

As the dog approaches, the assistant will say "Around" and guide the dog around him and back toward shore. Praise the dog as he returns to wading depth and repeat the exercise several times. When the dog shows proficiency at a short distance, you can gradually extend the distance the dog goes out to another person. Next, you can add the short line for the dog to carry as it goes to the person, but when you do, be sure to begin at a short distance once again. I recommend never introducing more than one slight change at a time.

Happy Swimming!

Here's wishing you and your puppy many hours of enjoyment working together in the water! This article is accurate and true to the best of the author's knowledge. It is not meant to substitute for diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, prescription, or formal and individualized advice from a veterinary medical professional. Animals exhibiting signs and symptoms of distress should be seen by a veterinarian immediately.

This publication is the official Newsletter of the Queen City Newfoundland Club. Articles and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the QCNC.

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QUEEN CITY
NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB
proudly presents our
AKC CONCURRENT
SPECIALTIES
at the
VICTORY LANE
CLASSIC DOG SHOW
EXTRAVAGANZA

9 shows - 5 days

July 12-16, 2024

Cabarrus Arena & Event Center - Concord, NC

Superintendent - MB-F, Inc. (infodog.com)



# **2**WORKING DOG SHOWS

FRIDAY
July 12, 2024

Judges Mrs. Stephanie Hamblin Barnhill Mrs. Nancy J. Eilks



#### 4+ ALL BREED SHOWS

#### SATURDAY

July 13, 2024 Greater Hickory Kennel Club Mrs. Sandra Pretari Hickson

#### SUNDAY

July 14, 2024 Salisbury NC Kennel Club Ms. Joyce Siddall

#### MONDAY

July 15, 2024 Salisbury NC Kennel Club Mr. Bradford Dunn

#### **TUESDAY**

July 16, 2024 Lake Norman Kennel Club Judge to be assigned



#### 3 AKC CONCURRENT NEWFOUNDLAND SPECIALTIES

2 SWEEPSTAKES with Puppy & Veteran

3 NOHS, STUD DOG/ BROOD BITCH CLASSES

#### SATURDAY

July 13, 2024
Mr. Richard W. Powell -Sweepstakes
Larry Hansen - Breed (Breeder judge from AZ)

#### SUNDAY

July 14, 2024
Becky Reynnells - Sweepstakes
Lou Ann Lenner - Breed (Breeder judge from PA)

#### **MONDAY**

July 15, 2024 (no sweepstakes) Anna Lorenz - Breed (Breeder judge from WI)

(separate additional entries for these shows)

Exciting "QUEEN CHARLOTTE" Award for the most BEST OF BREED wins for the 9 shows!

The NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. gives permission to QUEEN CITY NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB (an AKC Specialty Club) to hold 3 Concurrent Specialties and 2 Sweepstakes!

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Concord!

#### BACK TO BACK WEEKENDS OF ALL BREED SHOWS AT THE SAME LOCATION

## CABARRUS ARENA AND EVENTS CENTER 4751 HIGHWAY 49 NORTH CONCORD, N.C. 28025

WE'VE ADDED ANOTHER SHOW! THE LAKE NORMAN KENNEL CLUB AKC MENTORED SHOW







Speedway Classic of the Carolinas



THE TWO CLASSICS ARE TEAMING UP FOR A WEEK OF SHOWS AND EVENTS

## 31 SPECIALTIES AND SUPPORTED ENTRIES TO DATE BUT WHO'S COUNTING??

CANE CORSO CLUB OF THE CAROLINAS - CENTRAL CAROLINA CHIHUAHUA CLUB
DOBERAAN PINSCHER CLUB OF CHARLOTTE, INC. - MAGNOLIA PUNI CLUB OF NORTH CAROLINA
PAPILLION CLUB OF THE CAROLINAS - QUEEN CITY NEVFOUNDLAND CLUB
SCOTTISH TERRIER CLUB OF THE PIEDMONT - TARHEEL GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB
TARHEEL LEONBERGER CLUB - THE UNITED STATES NEAPOLITAN MASTIFF CLUB

ADDITIONAL SPECIALTIES ARE COMING -- WATCH FOR UPDATES AND THE PREMIUM LIS

## 3 weekends in the Carolinas Back to Back!!! The 1st 2 are same site = NO MOVING Grooming and Motorhomes

#### When you hear July, think CAROLINAS!!!

#### Cabarrus Arena and Events Center - Concord NC

July 12 Carolina Working Group Assn.

July 13 Greater Hickory KC

July 14 Salisbury NC KC

July 15 Salisbury NC KC

July 16 Lake Norman KC

July 18 -Columbia KC

July 19 -Columbia KC

July 20 - Greater Monroe KC

July 21 -Greater Monroe KC

#### Greenville, SC

July 25 -Piedmont KC

July 26 – Greenville KC

July 27 - Piedmont KC

July 28 - Greenville KC



#### **BASKET RAFFLE**

Get your baskets and items ready for our 3rd annual BASKET RAFFLE FUNDRAISER at the Victory Lane shows! Always a big draw by dog fanciers, lets try to have even more baskets this year than last! Think about spending some time manning the table to sell tickets, and put on your thinking caps for your basket! The tables will be set up in our grooming spaces again this year...drop off your baskets/items Friday or Saturday and join in the fun!

Contact **LAURA RADER** with your basket information and to man the raffle table! catsquarerader@aol.com

#### DRAFT WORKSHOP

Queen City Newfoundland Club held their 2nd Annual Draft Workshop in February, at the home of Jessica & Mark Geise. Many thanks to Connie Sovie for organizing this wonderful event, and to all those who came, learned, worked with their dogs, and to our "hosts with the mosts"! The winner of the carting newfoundland leaded stained glass window panel was won by Cathy Rubens! She has graciously donated it back to the club, and it will be given out at the Victory Lane Classic Show Cluster as the "Queen Charlotte" award, going to the Newfoundland with the most Best of Breed wins for the 9 shows! Thanks, Cathy!













































#### **EDUCATION CORNER**

#### LET'S TRAIN DOGS

**by Pam Sauerman** OCNC Education Chair

Dogs are resilient. Last Labor Day weekend, Moses, my Clumber Spaniel was attacked by a much larger dog from behind as we were getting ready to enter the obedience ring. He did not recover at that five day show. His main goal was to try and return to his crate which he could see. After a six month break from showing, we entered the obedience ring for our first time in Preferred Open. Much to my dismay, his main goal was to leave the ring again. I had even placed his crate in a different room in the building. I had assumed time would heal all and Moses would have long forgotten his angst in the ring.

As I drove home from the show, I was evaluating the situation in my mind. I know it no longer mattered the cause of his reticence in the ring. Possible, the attack had nothing to do with his desire to leave the ring. I knew I wanted to intentionally reinforce the behavior I wanted and the behavior I thought would increase his confidence in the ring. I wanted him to know what was expected of him. This required consistency on my part. I needed to up my game here. Even if I was practicing in my kitchen for thirty seconds, I needed to be the same person every time and have the same criteria for whatever we were practicing. Otherwise, my thinking was why bother as I was just wasting a training opportunity. I also thought I would be muddying the waters for him which would only erode his confidence even more. Dogs thrive on clearness and consistency.

I knew I was likely to lose him at three points which would increase his likelihood of heading toward the ring gate exit. These points are walking into the ring, between exercises, and healing. The unifying element in all of these is attention. As I work on these parts of our ring performance, I always make sure I have his attention. I can work on these in my kitchen, my driveway, and my backyard. One doesn't need to go to a training building. Attention is actually the backbone of obedience - one that I treated haphazardly especially in these three situations. I am backtracking with Moses her now focusing on his attention. I am making attention front and center with my twenty month old Newfy on our obedience journey. I had a framework and had identified our most challenging areas. Now I needed a plan.

In my last article, I take about playing the name game which really doesn't require attention. It just requires that your dog respond to his name. Just a side note, I am very judicious in using my dogs' names so when they hear their name it will get their attention. Overuse of their name can lead them to tune you out. You are building value for the dog's name. Moses has the name game and this next step for attention. We can call it the attention game. You start with your dog in front of you, hold a treat in one hand slightly away from your body. The dog's natural inclination is to look at your hand with the treat. Be patient. Be quiet. Be still. Once your dog looks up at your eyes, mark the behavior, then reward bringing the treat down the center of your body beginning near your eyes. Eventually you can progress to the dog sitting in front of you, with both arms extended straight out from your body, and treats in both hands. Once the dog makes eye contact, mark, bring your arms to the center of your face, and bring them together down the center of your body and reward. Eventually you can name this skill.

Moses has this skill, so I decided our most challenging times were entering the ring and between exercises. I think this can be a challenge for many dogs without his history. So once again this applies to all dogs. I use what my instructor, Jane Johnson calls "the finger" to move him around the ring - including ring entry. These were the times when he would disconnect the most, giving him the opportunity to make a dash to the ring entry before I could respond. I have heard that after you lose your dog's attention it takes several seconds to get their attention back. Even though you can say you aren't ready to the judge, if that becomes a pattern pleading with your dog for his attention, you will try the patience of even the most patient judge and it will be demotivating to you and your dog.

To teach this skill, put a treat between your thumb and middle finger on your left hand with your index finger stretched forward. Again be patient, but you can make that hand look interesting and exciting lifting it up and down to get the dog's attention. Start in a stationary position. Once the dog looks up at

your finger, mark the behavior, then reward from your left hand. Once the dog understands there is something exciting in your finger, start moving - similar to a find heel game. Have your arm extended with your finger out. Once he catches up with you, mark, then reward. Most of the time in practice when using this to move your dog or regain his attention you want to reward with a treat. You really want to build value for this. This will help you enter the ring, give your dog something to focus on between exercises, helps the dog stay connected with you so you can walk into the next exercise and set up immediately, and if you lose your dog's attention, you can use "the finger" to reengage your dog in a fun way for which you have created value and excitement. Since all our dogs are companion dogs, this can also be used negotiating a busy sidewalk, a crowded patio restaurant, or any number of situation where you need your dog's attention. However, it is not a way to teach heeling.

The name game, the attention game, and "the finger" game are all a work in progress for all three of my dogs - even semi retired Shiphrah. Moses was in a show the third and fourth weekends in March and he earned his PCDX three weeks after his first time in the Open ring. It was challenging. To me this is a journey where I keep learning and adapting. I really worked on his attention and using "the finger" to keep him connected to me. Our last time in the ring, he improved his score by 10 points and I felt like this was the time I was the most effective partner for him in keeping him connected to me. My goal was to let him know I had his back. And I want Joshua and Shphrah to know as we continue I have their backs, too. We are on a path forward but with all things it won be a linear progression. Those bumps in the road make you a better trainer. These ideas are not novel, go by various names, and I am very glad someone shared them with me so I could add them to my toolbox. Rome was not built in a day and there is more than one road to Rome. I think getting out there trying and experimenting, which often requires making oneself vulnerable can be the best teacher. So lets go train dogs.

A Disclaimer: As I said in my first article I am relatively new at this, slightly obsessed, and a hobbyist at best. If you have concerns about your dog, always consult with a trainer you trust.







#### **BRAGS**



Shiphrah entered rally choice for the first time earning a first place and two second places. She was also in Veteran's Obedience with a first place.



Moses earned his PCDX title and two GN legs in March.

Submitted by Pam Sauerman



2024 has started off with a bang. Maverick and I continue to do therapy visits daily. Maverick sure loves to visit all his friends.

We have been working very hard on draft. We are so fortunate to have a wonderful training group, even though most of them are Berners. Maverick did earn his BDD at the Colonial Newfoundland Club test in Ashland, VA in March. I am sad to say that the draft equipment is about to be put to bed for the year.

On to water training! Look for the upcoming notice of Queen City's first water training day. We will have a splashing good time.
Continue to enjoy and train your four-legged buddy. Nothing better!!!

Submitted by Connie Sovie

#### **CHEWING**

This article is reprinted, with permission, from the Newfoundland Club of America "E-Notes".



When Will My Puppy Quit Chewing?

Many puppy owners find themselves asking this question, and the answer is a simple one: it depends. (We know; that's not the answer you want to hear when you've returned from work or running errands to find your dog has gnawed some woodwork, or made a shredded mess of your favorite pair of shoes.) "What does it depend on?" might be the tougher question to answer, as there's no single variable. Some breeds chew more than others - retrievers are known for this - and some individual dogs chew more than others. In addition to genetic factors, there are environmental and training considerations to factor in. Is your dog left alone for long periods? Boredom may lead to chewing. Does your dog experience separation anxiety? That could lead to prolonged chewing. Did you consistently and positively redirect your puppy away from chewing on forbidden objects by offering appropriate toys? If not, that could lead to chewing. As noted in the earlier "Teething" article, it's crucial that we let our puppies know what is OK to chew on, and what is not, and that we are consistent and firm in teaching that lesson.

Newfoundlands are not, in general, known to be a "chewing" breed, but many a Newf owner could tell stories that might indicate otherwise. If your Newf is still a heavy chewer much past the age of 18 - 24 months, you may have an "exception to the rule" Newf on your hands, but even then, there's no need to worry. Some dogs outgrow their chewing habit a bit more slowly than others, but even if not, there is much that can be done to keep your valuables from being damaged.

It's a truism in the world of dog training that a tired dog is a good dog, so providing as much exercise and stimulation as you can for your Newf is a great way to minimize all sorts of canine mischief, including chewing, so daily walks, play time, obedience or draft or water training - all of these will help your Newf chew less and enjoy life more. Of course, keeping valuable items out of your dog's reach is always important, and providing appropriate chew toys, and making sure your dog understands which is which, will go a long way toward protecting those items that can't be hidden away. Dogs engage the world through their mouths in ways that we humans may not fully appreciate, but with a little time and patience and love, it's a "dog thing" that can be very effectively managed.