



"Howler"

The Butler
County Kennel
Club, Inc.
Summer 2020



The Butler County Kennel Club, Inc. is dedicated to the promotion of excellence in all-breed conformation. Founded in 1939, we are an AKC member club.

THE BUTLER COUNTY KENNEL CLUB, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS –

President – Marty Kroll, bckcpresident@gmail.com

Vice President – Clint Graham, cgrahamswft@gmail.com

Treasurer – James Miller-Marquez, James.Millermarquez@gmail.com

Secretary – Susan Chapin, swimfinn@zoominternet.net

Board Members – John Namachar, namachar@zoominternet.net,
Regina Beilstein & Jeannette Nestor

2020 MEETING SCHEDULE (Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at 7PM, the first Tuesday of the month at the Butler YMCA – Trustees Room)

(Meeting, Event & Refreshment Schedule)

January 2020 – Winter Recess, No meeting scheduled

February 2020 – Refreshments – Kathie McCormick

March 2020 – Refreshments –

April 2020 – Refreshments –

May 2020 – Refreshments –

June 2020 – Virtual Meeting

July 2020 – Virtual Meeting

August 2020 – Virtual Meeting

September 2020 – Virtual Meeting

October 2020 – Refreshments -

November 2020 – Holiday Dinner, Saxonburg Hotel

December 2020 – Winter Recess, No meeting scheduled

EDUCATION – On hold due to Pandemic

BCKC Handling Classes at BDTA Building begin at 8:00PM on Wednesdays. 2020 Class schedule:

3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22

5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3, 6/10, 6/17

8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2, 9/9, 9/16

For additional information, call: Gary 724-352-9383.

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION – The "Howler" is a quarterly newsletter. If you are aware of something that the club membership should be informed of please send to Heather Donley at Heather.Donley@gmail.com, or you may contact her at 412-427-4849 or send correspondence to 78 Seldom Seen Rd, Bradfordwoods, PA 15015. We would like to add photos of your dogs in each edition. Please send those pics in .jpg format. Forward articles and photos to arrive no later than **Sunday October 11, 2020 for the 2020 Fall Edition.**

Facebook -

Remember to visit our Facebook page and give it a "Like". Questions regarding posting pictures, etc. can be directed to Jean Kroll at krollj@yahoo.com.

BCKC WEBSITE ACCESS –

<http://www.butlercountykennelclub.com/>

To get to the Members Only section of the website, the username and password are the same for EVERYONE

1. Go to this URL:
<http://www.butlercountykennelclub.com/membersonly.htm>
2. The Username box, type in bckcmember (this is case sensitive – all lower case!)
3. In the Password box, type in bckc2006 (also case sensitive, zeros, not the letter o)

MEMBERSHIP & CLUB DIRECTORY– Sue Chapin, Secretary

Remember to notify the club secretary whenever there is a change to your home address/email address and phone number. An updated membership listing has been sent along with the newsletter, please review and send any updates to Heather.Donley@gmail.com, and I will update and add to the website.

Current Active Membership – 40

AKC DELEGATE – Barbara Ioia, barjon72@msn.com

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 7:00PM, 2021 BOARD NOMINATION MEETING -

Please plan to attend the September meeting, which will be held electronically. Details for joining will be forthcoming shortly before the meeting. The nominating committee has nominated the following slate of candidates for the Board for next year:

Board Nominees for 2021:

President: Marty Kroll
Vice President: Sue Chapin
Secretary: Heather Donley
Treasurer: James Miller-Marquez
Board Members: Jeannette Nestor, Ross Chapin, and Barb Blume

Additional nominations may be made at the September meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person nominated accepts (verbally at meeting or in writing presented to the Secretary). Nominations cannot be made at the annual meeting in October. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election at the annual October meeting, and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting. No person may be a candidate for more than one position, and the additional nominations, which are provided, may be made only from among those members who have not accepted a nomination by the Nominating Committee.

BUTER 2020 SHOWS UPDATE -

After much careful thought, it was decided that the show for this year is cancelled, for multiple reasons.

We were all set with the Premium, including a page on Covid-19, and following all AKC guidelines for doing a show during the Pandemic. However, the Lawrence County Fairgrounds will not be opening their grounds this summer, regardless of whether we had everyone sign Waivers or not. Their attorney advised them not to open, stating that the grounds would be responsible for lawsuits, despite any Waivers. Insurance companies are not covering anything related to Covid-19.

Jean contacted multiple other venues, but many were already booked for our show weekend, and some sites were just not good for setup, far drives, etc. With help down this year, it just did not seem feasible.

But on a good note, we did not waste any money this year, no fees went out that we are losing, and we have judges lined up for next year, so try again then! Jean can take a well-deserved break this year lol!

GENERAL CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES -

Covid-19 has of course caused havoc for everyone, our club and dog events in general being no exception. We have been experimenting with electronic formats over the last few months, to see what works best for the club.

In June, Sue got a letter from AKC, stating that we can hold electronic meetings if it does not contradict our by-laws.

An electronic meeting was held in June via Web-ex, July via Zoom, and August again via Web-ex. It was decided at the July meeting, to try and get an official Web-ex license for the club to use for ongoing meetings, as that seemed to work best for more of the members. Several said prior to the July meeting that they could not do Zoom. Marty is going to purchase a month to month Web-ex license for the club for ongoing use, until such time it is not needed.

The Butler Y has re-opened for meetings, but we would have to wear masks, and maintain social distancing in the meeting room, which may be difficult to do. Thus, we will likely continue with electronic meetings for some time.

It was discussed at the August meeting as to whether we wanted to try to get an onsite location for the September meeting, since that is the last chance prior to the annual meeting in October to propose nominees for the board. However, after further discussion, most felt that it would be just too difficult to pull off at this time, and so our September meeting will be via Webex as well. Details for joining will be sent shortly before the meeting.

We will see come the September meeting, as to whether the Annual meeting will be electronic or in person. Jean thinks that we could probably do an electronic vote, by designating one person to collect the votes and tabulate during the meeting. More discussion will be had during the September meeting on this topic.

Website Updates – Our Webmaster, Tammy, is looking to do an overall upgrade of her platform. She asked for some suggestions as to look and feel and gave us some other examples from other sites she hosts to review. The club decided to continue with Tammy's services ongoing, and I will be the new liaison for having updates made to the site. If you would like any updates posted, please let Heather know, as she will be working with Tammy to get the Membership list and other things updated on the site.



AKC REUNITE
The way home for lost pets.

DOG ACTIVITIES
DURING COVID-19!

AKC  **GoodDog!** SM
HELPLINE

New Things to Do with your Dog While Stuck at Home

By Hilarie Erb, AKC GoodDog! Helpline Trainer

A great many dogs, and their owners, can probably use more fun things to do while staying at home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is a lot of basic training you can do indoors with your dog, but that can get boring after a while. To liven up the routine, mix it up with games and tricks. The games provided here are intended for enjoyment under supervision; dogs should not be left alone with the items used.

- **Muffin Tin Game:** Drop treats into muffin slots, cover with ball or toy. Let your dog work it out.
- **Treat Under Blanket:** Place treat under blanket or towel to make the dog work harder to get it. Start with a small hand towel so she can learn the game. Then move to larger towels and blankets to increase the challenge.
- **Tea Towel Snuffle Mat:** Lay a towel flat on the floor, and place some treats in the center. Then fold the towel longways across the treats. Next, tie the towel in a loose knot so the treats are in the middle. Your dog will have to figure out how to untie the tea towel to get at the treats inside. Easy for you to make, but not easy for your dog to undo! To add to the challenge, tie several tea towels together in a row with treats in each one.
- **Treat Treasure Hunt:** Hide treats around the dog's area for her to sniff out. A similar game for a nice day is simply toss a handful of kibble onto the grass in your back yard. Hunting for the goodies can occupy a good amount of time.
- **Communication:** Hide treats while the dog is in another room. Bring dog to room and have him find the treats.
- **Memory:** Hide treats while the dog is watching, then remove dog from room for a short time. Return to room and ask the dog if he can find all of the treats that he saw you hide.
- **Wild Sits (or other wild things!):** Run around and get your dog excited. Then stop suddenly and ask for a sit and reward for correct behavior. If the dog jumps, turn away and ignore 10 to 15 seconds before resuming the game. To keep your dog on her toes, you can also ask for downs or other behaviors your dog knows like "give a paw." See Teach Tricks, next!
- **Teach Tricks:** Tricks are fun for your dog and you. Teach high five, spin, leg weave and more. There are videos to get you started on the [AKC Trick Dog: Resources](#) page.

When your dog is ready for some bigger challenges:

Teach Your Dog to Solve a Problem

Let your dog figure out how to pull a string to get a **treat**. Tie a ribbon or small rope to a treat and hide it under a small platform or piece of furniture, far enough back so they cannot reach the treat with their mouth or paw. Encourage your dog to investigate and see how long it takes for him to tug on the string to retrieve the treat. Reasoning skills are essential for developing **puppies** and older dogs alike. Successful problem solving is also a big confidence booster.

Shoebox Hide-and-Seek

You don't have to participate in an **AKC Scent Work** trial to have fun with your dog's nose; you can do some scent work in the house. All you need is a set of empty containers like shoeboxes or yogurt tubs. Place the containers in a group on the floor and bait one or a few with smelly treats. Then allow your dog to sniff all the containers in a search for the hidden treasure.

In the beginning, you can make your dog's job easier by leaving the lids off the containers. You can progress to replacing the lids but first poke holes in them. Once your dog has the idea, start increasing the challenge by only baiting one of the containers and spreading them out around the room. In addition, the more containers your dog must search through, the greater the effort required.

The Cup Game

Place a treat under an upside down plastic or stainless-steel bowl or cup. Different sizes and different surfaces increase or decrease difficulty of game.

Let your dog see you hide one treat under a cup on the floor. Tell him to "take it," and when he noses or knocks over the cup let him eat the treat it was hiding.

Once this is mastered, the dog is ready for the shell game. Rub the treat on your fingers and along the inside of three mugs lined up in a row, so the smell of it is everywhere. This is a visual tracking game, and we don't want him cheating with his talented nose! Let him see you hide the goody under one of the cups. Tell him to "take it" and give him the treat when he makes the right choice, no matter how long it takes him, and no matter how many mistakes he makes. Repeat many times, hiding kibble under each of the three cups, one at a time.

Note: for very small or timid dogs, begin with small disposable plastic cups to set them up for success. As skill improves, make the cups/bowls bigger or heavier, but make sure they are made of a safe substance (nothing breakable).

Name That Toy

Teach your dog names of toys (one toy at a time) and ask for specific toys. These can be hidden, and the dog can be asked to "Go Find... (toy name)" Start with his two favorites and teach him to fetch them by name one at a time, in a room with no other toys to choose from. If he isn't a naturally motivated retriever, use lots of praise, tug, or treats to reward the good fetches.

Once he knows the names of two toys, put both on the floor and ask him to fetch one at a time. Reward correct choices with whatever makes him happy and by continuing the game. If your dog makes incorrect choices, repeat the request (avoid saying "no"), eventually guiding him toward the right toy if he really needs help. If he can succeed with two, try three or more. This is difficult brain work, so expect to build your dog's vocabulary very gradually.

We think these activities will be just as much fun for you as they are for your dog – part of the fun, after all, is just being with your best friend.

Braggs and Member Updates!

On the cover – Our own Gary and his Bassett Hounds Hercules and Queenie are now famous and made the Butler Eagle! A couple more shots below!

Also, congratulations are in order, Gary and Jeannette just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Hotel Saxonburg the last week of July! Happy Anniversary!



Hercules and Queenie got lots of walks during Quarantining!



Dancing Winds Updates



Meet 'Kiaw', Dancing Winds Heavens Essential, born 4/7/20 out of 'Talia', Ch. Dancing Winds Heaven's Mist, C.G.C., T.D.I.

This beautiful girl was too beautiful to not keep!

Favorite Activity for Quarantine - riding around in the golf cart looking for deer & critters, left. Below, they are waiting patiently for mom to take them on a ride!



Shamokin Siberians Updates

Below, Courtney Herzing's beautiful view of the Amish farms across from her 5 open acres in Stump Creek, between DuBois and Punxsutawney, gorgeous!



Quarantine wasn't bad for everyone! Left, Courtney and her new puppy 'Nikoma', Dancing Winds In the Nik of Time to Shamokin Siberians. She is out of Maggie's Talia.



Left, 'Chance', Mapelane's Take a Chance on Me celebrated his 5th birthday on July 10th!

Above, Shamokin's Redhead in the Family, 'Archie', is now staying with Courtney as her new family backed out due to Covid. But Courtney is looking forward to many shows with this boy, she couldn't picture him living anywhere else!

Mistic Grove Kennel & Cattery Updates!

During quarantine I officially registered Mistic Grove Cattery! And got my first Maine Coon kitten, Kramd'nCoon's Bella of Mistic Grove! If my dogs ever come into heat again and I actually have puppies, I will register them as this same Kennel name! I will show the kitten too if cat shows ever start up again, less likely than dog shows since they are all inside!



