

The Parson's Nook

Official Newsletter of the Parson Russell Terrier Association of America
25TH Anniversary Edition



PRTAA National Specialty October 5, 2025

Judge: Vicki Abbott

**Best of Breed/Best Bred By Exhibitor/Best Owner Handled -
BIS NBISS MRBIS MBISS GCHS Classic's High Voltage Zap!**

Handler: Tricia Stanczyk

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Presidents Message

I am looking forward to a productive new year. One of my lines of focus this year will be to improve the memberships understanding of our bylaws and the need for a growth in our governing mindset that will leave our club in a better place. I encourage members to step up and become involved, especially if you never have. Our hardest working and most dedicated volunteers are getting tired and older. I would be happy to see some newer members start taking responsibility for our future. It is harder to promote the breed if we dont promote each other.



*Best Regards,
Rita Ford*

Editors Message

We sincerely hope you enjoy this special 25th anniversary edition. We would like to extend our gratitude to the members who contributed articles, photos, and kennel ads to make this edition possible. Compressing the file for email distribution was quite a challenge, but we are thrilled to share this special edition with the world.

*Warm regards,
Lance and Denise
Media Committee*



MEMBER NOTICES Prospective Members

Second Publication

Shawn Fuller & Billy Lake: Maryland

Sponsors: Sandy Peterman & Janine Rose

Vickie Tippens & Cheyenne Tippens: Georgia

Sponsors: Dorothea Carters & Christine Cox

Kai Wang Nobriga: Hawaii

Sponsors: Michelle Tilley Freshour & Norbert Benaiche

Please direct any comments to
board2025@prtaa.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MCKC

2025 National Specialty

Best of Breed/Best Bred By Exhibitor/Best of Owner Handled & Bred by Terrier GROUP 4 GCHS Classic's High Voltage Zap!

Owners: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk, Jennifer Johnston, Joe Pavlic & Debbie Rathgeber



Best of Winners/Best Puppy Catamount Take One

Owners: Shawn Fuller & Drita Manson

Best of Opposite Sex GCHB Classic's Ballroom Blitz

Owners: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk, Jennifer Johnston, Joe Pavlic & Debbie Rathgeber

Select Dog

GCHB Bridge Bay Go Fly A Kite

Owners: Michelle Freshour & Sharon Hipps



Select Bitch
GCH Catamount Ready for My Close Up
Owners: Janine Rose & Norbert Benaiche

Award of Merit
GCHB Brillwood Tonks of Loyalville
Owners: Linda Edwards and Lisa Walsh



Award of Merit/Best Veteran/Best Brood Bitch
GCHG Thunderhill Day Dream Believer
Owners: Judith Slater- Moody & Victoria Moody



Award of Merit
GCH Goodwin's Classic Little Joe's Puppy
Owners: Joe Pavlic, Rebecca England & Tricia Stanczyk



Winners Bitch
Spring Canyon Queen of the Pacific Cleopatra
Owners: Jerry & Sherry Emerson & Jennifer Johnston



Reserve Winners Dog

Brillwood Justified

Owners: Linda Edwards & Lisa Walsh



Reserve Winners Bitch

Classic's Sent To Discover Down Under @ Fox Bolt

Owners: Tricia Stanczyk, Debbie Rathgeber & Charlotte Taylor



Best Stud Dog

GCH Saddles Ridge He's A Pistol

Owners: Sharon Hipps



Best Brace

GCH Saddles Ridge He's A Pistol & CH Saddles Ridge Lil Miss Independence

Owners: Sharon Hipps & Michelle Freshour



2025 National Judges' Critique

I would like to thank the Parson Russell Terrier Association of America for entrusting me with the best of their best to judge at the National Specialty. It was truly an honor to be asked to judge, and I had such a great time. There were so many beautiful dogs there to look at – and some very hard decisions to make. It is a wonderful breed. In the end, I was very pleased with the line-up – and wished I had more ribbons to hand out. The breed is in very good shape in your hands. Too many nice dogs to choose from at a National is not a bad thing to have!

Vicki Abbott



Best of Breed/Best Owner Handled/Best Bred By Exhibitor GCH Classic's High Voltage Zap!

This is a wonderfully balanced, nice sized, medium boned dog with an absolutely natural appearance and beautiful harsh, close and dense double coat. I found his silhouette to be compact; topline strong, straight, and level standing and in motion. Chest oval and very spannable. Strong head with a very keen expression – and moved with a ground covering trot and good reach and drive. A very typey and great example of the breed!

Best of Opposite Sex GCHB Classic's Ballroom Blitz!

This little girl is decidedly feminine, also medium boned and balanced, with construction indicative of strength and endurance for her purpose as a working terrier. She also displayed a beautiful harsh, weatherproof, close and dense double coat. Head in good proportion to her body with pretty dark almond eyes and a keen (and very mischievous) expression. Muscular rear with good angulation and bend of stifle, good feet and very nice unrestricted movement with reach and drive.

Select Dog GCHB CH Bridge Bay Go Fly A Kite BCAT Rato

This is a very masculine and typey dog with excellent compact balance. He appeared in really good condition with great muscling giving him a very athletic look. His oval chest with fairly sprung ribs was easily spannable. His strong level topline, moderate length of loin and correct length of tail lent to a very nice silhouette. Pretty and strong head with lovely dark almond eyes with dark rims and keen expression.

Select Bitch

GCH Catamount Ready For My CloseUp

Another very pretty, feminine, and typey bitch with moderate bone and a lovely harsh, dense double coat. Strong, straight and level topline and correct compact balance made for a very nice silhouette. Chest was flexible and compressible, and of moderate depth. Her small “V” shaped ears were carried correctly forward close to the head with the fold level with the top of her skull. Combined with her lovely dark almond shaped eyes with dark rims and a perfect degree of stop, her head was extremely pleasing and expression keen and full of life as it should be!

Winners Dog/Best of Winners/Best Puppy

Catamount Take One

This puppy just caught my eye when he walked into the ring – even though young, he had all the right things going for him! Great harsh double coat in very nice condition. Proper balance, excellent topline, good tail set and carriage. Wonderful head, earset, and beautiful eyes and expression. He only got better the longer he was in the ring.

Reserve Winners Dog

Brillwood Justified

A very nice dog with good balance and medium bone. He exhibited great attitude and had a keen expression. Strong and rectangular muzzle with well-defined but not prominent stop. Double harsh coat in good condition. Back and loin were of moderate length and strong. Fair length of neck and length of tail to match level of the skull.

Winners Bitch

Spring Canyon Queen of the Pac Cleopatra

Nice feminine bitch with correct proportions and medium bone. Pretty head with small ears, strong muzzle, and dark eyes, full of life. Keen expression. Nice harsh double coat with good sheen. Level topline and correct length of tail to balance the silhouette. Very spannable. Straight front legs, and good cat like feet all around. She moved very nicely with reach and drive.

Reserve Winners Bitch

Classic's Sent to Discover Down Under @ Foxbolt

Lovely Smooth bitch with a double coat with good sheen. Level topline and good oval chest – very spannable. Her pigment was exceptional – with pretty dark eyes and rims and nice dark nose. Keen expression and small ears with great ear set. Overall balance on this bitch was very pleasing with correct length of neck, length of tail, and compact body.

MCKC Sweepstakes

Judge: Mr Lance Wang Nobriga

Best Puppy in Sweepstakes
CH. Sunrock's Saddles Ridge All Revved Up
Owners: Sheila Kelle, Debra Crespo, Kathleen Owsley



Best of Opposite in Puppy Sweepstakes
Classic's Sent To Discover Down Under @ Fox Bolt
Owners: Tricia Stanczyk, Debbie Rathgeber & Charlotte Taylor

My Experience Judging the Parson Russell Terrier National

It was an incredible honor of a lifetime—one that almost slipped away due to a government shutdown! Just two days prior to my flight to the East Coast, I faced the challenge of justifying my travel plans. You see, during a shutdown, all personal leave (vacation time) is canceled, and essential employees must report to work. Fortunately, I was able to persuade my agency to grant me the time off!

I'm unsure if it was the time difference or my excitement, but I struggled to sleep the night before our National event. I arrived at the show site an hour prior to my ring time, feeling fortunate to have Nancy Dougherty, someone I have long admired and respected, as my ring steward. Nancy has contributed immensely to our club and breed, and I had the honor of serving on the board with her for several years.



Best in Veteran Sweepstakes

GCHG Thunderhill Day Dream Believer

Owners: Judith Slater- Moody & Victoria Moody



Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweepstakes

GCHG Highland Downs Helltoupee

Owners: Rita Ford & Nelda Herman



Next, I was warmly welcomed by the ever-enthusiastic Linda Clark, who kindly took my hand and asked if this was my first judging assignment. I excitedly confirmed that it was! She insisted we capture the moment with some photos, and we strolled over to the stunning display created by the incredible 2025 National Committee. After taking a few more selfies with the three of us, it was finally time to bring in the first class of dogs.

I must admit, it had been years since I'd had my hands on a Parson—boy, was I excited! Everything I had hoped for in the breed I truly adore was right in front of me.

I hope you all don't mind me sharing my impressions of the entry I was fortunate enough to judge:

Improved Coats: Every Parson I had the honor of examining was groomed beautifully and correctly. I'll admit I've been concerned in recent years about a trend toward over-grooming, so it was refreshing to see breeders and exhibitors presenting their dogs in proper coat. Bravo, bravo, bravo!

Size and Structure: One after another, the Parsons placed on my table had lovely, spannable chests. I couldn't help but quietly remark to each exhibitor —“Lovely chest... beautiful chest... awesome chest!” I also observed that the overall size of the breed has slightly decreased—a trend I personally feel was needed. Well done, breeders!



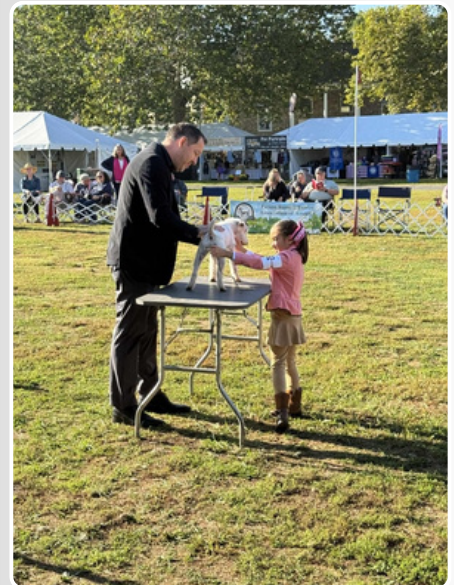
Temperament and Confidence: Working and training dogs professionally has taught me the importance of soundness and confidence. I found that the Parsons most confident on the table were also the ones that moved around the ring effortlessly. This was a key factor in how my class winners separated themselves. As for the puppies—they can be puppies! Early exposure to a variety of stimuli is so important, and I commend you all for your efforts. Keep up the great work.

When all of my class winners entered the ring, I could hardly contain my excitement. I trusted the advice of two amazing mentors—one told me, “Lance, it’s simple. Your winner should be the one you’d take home yourself.” Another said, “Your winner will catch your eye first.” Truth be told, I would have been proud to own every single Parson I judged, and each one caught my eye in a special way. My Best in Sweeps and Best Opposite shared so many similar traits and type—but ultimately, my Best in Sweeps had that extra something that drew my eye just a bit more.

And then came the Veterans! What an absolute honor to get my hands on these wonderful representatives of our breed. They were all in incredible condition. My toughest decision of the day came in the 7–9 year bitch class—two beautiful veterans, both outstanding examples. Ultimately, my Best Veteran had that “something extra” that set her apart. My Best Opposite Veteran had a lovely chest, even at his age, and I could still picture him doing the job he was bred for with ease. Bravo, young man!

As I reflect on my experience judging our National, I’m filled with gratitude—for the exhibitors who presented their dogs with such pride, the breeders who continue to preserve and improve our wonderful Parson Russell Terrier, and the friends and mentors who have guided me along the way. To stand in the ring surrounded by so many fine examples of the breed I love was truly humbling. Thank you to the PRTAA and the 2025 National Committee for your hard work, hospitality, and dedication. It was an experience I will cherish for a lifetime—and one that reminded me just how special our Parson community truly is.

***Happy Holidays,
Lance :-)***





Morris & Essex

Best of Breed

GCHS CH CLASSIC'S HIGH VOLTAGE ZAP!

Owner/Breeder: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk & Jennifer Johnston & Joe Pavlic & Debbie Rathgeber



Best of Winners / Best Bred By BRILLWOOD JUSTIFIED

Owner: Linda Edwards & Lisa Walsh

Best Opposite Sex

GCH CATAMOUNT READY FOR MY CLOSEUP

Owner: Janine Rose & Norbert Benaiche



Select Dog

SUNROCK'S SADDLES RIDGE ALL REVVED UP

Owner: Sheila Kelle & Kathleen Owsley & Debra J Crespo

Select Bitch

GCHB CH CLASSIC'S BALLROOM BLITZ!

Owner: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk & Jennifer Johnston & Joe Pavlic & Debbie Rathgeber

Award of Merit

GCH RED ROCK UNFORGETTABLE BCAT RATN FITS FTN

Owner: Debi Brum & Roger Brum

Best Puppy

BRILLWOOD KARMA

Owner: Linda Edwards
Breeder: Linda Edwards & Lisa Walsh

**Reserve Winners Dog
HIGHLAND DOWNS TENNESSE SUMMIT**

Owner: Rita Ford & Jade Boddie
Breeder: Rita Ford.

**Reserve Winners Bitch
ROSEWOOD QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Owner: Catherine Bauer
Breeder: Carol Howton.

**Winners Bitch
HIGHLAND DOWNS HRH**

Owner/Breeder: Rita Ford



Morris & Essex Sweepstakes

A Message and Critique from Mrs. Jane Newport (Digaden), England, Sweeps Judge

Thank you to The Parson Russell Terrier Association of America for kindly inviting me to judge the Sweepstakes at the Morris and Essex Kennel Club Show. I had the most wonderful day, everyone made me so welcome, and it was a pleasure to judge some lovely dogs as well as admire the breed in the ring of the main classes. A big thank you to Joe Pavlic and Janine Rose who were most helpful before and on the day of the show. I would also like to complement my two ring stewards who were both very professional and excellent in their roles. Finally, I would like to mention how much I enjoyed admiring all the super outfits and hats worn by the attendees of this show and the judge's lunch was delicious.

**Best In Sweepstakes
HIGHLAND DOWNS TENNESSE SUMMIT**

Owner: Rita Ford & Jade Boddie



Thirteen-month-old tri colored dog, I like everything about this dog he showed all the attributes of a traditional working terrier, nicely put together with no under or over exaggerations. Attractive tri markings with very good dark almond shaped eyes, tidy ears and good dentition, loose pelt and good double tight coat, nice length of neck showing off his correct topline, good lay of shoulder and rear quarters maturing nicely, second thigh still needs to strengthen up. Good tail and tail set, tight feet and moved soundly with correct footfall when he did settle on the move. Spanned easily.

Best Opposite in Sweepstakes
CLASSIC'S SENT TO DISCOVER DOWN
UNDER @ FOXBOLT

Owner: T Stanczyk & D Rathgeber & C
Taylor

Eight-month-old, smart bitch with plenty of bone. Strong tan and white head which she is still growing in to, good bite with large dentition, excellent coat and loose pelt, spannable, tight feet, nicely matched front and rear angulations, lovely tail and tail set, this nice young bitch won her class on her movement which showed plenty of drive and she coved the ground with ease.

Best Veteran in Sweepstakes
GCHG HIGHLAND DOWNS HELLTOUPEE TKN
Owner: Rita Ford & Nelda Herman



Best Opposite in Sweepstakes
GCH POSEY CANYON CLASSIC JOINT
VENTURE

Owner: Sherry Emerson & Jennifer
Johnston & Jerry Emerson

Rising eight years old, all white attractive feminine head, broad skull, lovely dark eyes, in superb hard and fit condition throughout, really tight elbows and a tidy front and chest for her age, tight feet, nice length of rib, I would have preferred to see a rise over the loin, easily spannable, good double coat, moved out and handled well.

Nine year old handsome tan and white dog in fine form and great shape, strong head with best of strong jaws without protruding cheeks, his up to size cleanest dentition is a credit to him, clear dark eyes, tidy ears, excellent thick loose pelt, feet still tight, good slope of shoulder, elbows still tight to the chest, strong over the loin into nicely angulated rear quarters, good tail and tail set, spanned ok, coved the ground well with very sound movement.



Way to go Team Kate!

Kate earned her 10th leg and Master Agility Jumper Title at the Montgomery Terrier Agility Cluster.
CH RACH Parhelion Christmas Star CD, RM3, RAE2, RC, AX, MXJ, BCAT, CGC, TKN

Hatboro Day 1

Best of Breed

GCH CH CATAMOUNT READY FOR MY CLOSEUP

Owner: Janine Rose,Norbert Benaiche



Best of Winners

SPRING CANYON QUEEN OF THE PAC CLEOPATRA

Owners/Breeders: Sherry & Jerry
Emerson,Jennifer Johnston

Best Opposite Sex / Best Owner Handler

GCHS CH CLASSIC'S HIGH VOLTAGE ZAP!

Owners/Breeders: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk,Jennifer
Johnston,Joe Pavlic,Debbie Rathgeber

Select Dog

CH SUNROCK'S SADDLES RIDGE ALL REVVED UP JE

Owner: Sheila Kelle,Debra Crespo,Kathleen
Owsley

Award of Merit

GCHG CH THUNDER HILL DAYDREAM BELIEVER CA FCAT2 R

Owner: Judith Slater-Moody,Victoria
Moody

Select Bitch

CH PARHELION OH MY GARLAND

Owner: Cheyenne Tippens,Victoria Tippens
Breeder: Victoria Tippens ,Cheyenne Tippens

Award of Merit

GCHB CH BRILLWOOD TONKS OF LOYALVILLE

Owner: Linda Edwards,Lisa Walsh



Award of Merit

GCH CH GOODWIN'S CLASSIC LITTLE JOE'S PUPPY

Owner: Joe Pavlic, Rebecca England, Tricia Stanczyk

Winners Dog

BRILLWOOD JUSTIFIED

Owner: Linda Edwards, Lisa Welch

Reserve Winners Bitch

BLUE MOON COCO LOCO STR

Owner: Johnny & Loree Conley

Reserve Winners Dog

HIGHLAND DOWNS TENNESSEE SUMMIT

Owner: Rita Ford, Jade Boddie



Hatboro Day 2

Best of Breed

GCHB CH CLASSIC'S BALLROOM BLITZ!

Owners/Breeders: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk, Jennifer Johnston, Joe Pavlic, Debbie Rathgeber



Best Of Winners

STONEMAPLE'S LAST SHAKER

Owner: Peyton Wells

Select Bitch

GCH CH RED ROCK UNFORGETTABLE BCAT RATN CGC FITS

Owners: Roger & Debi Brum



Best Of Opposite

GCH CH SHALIMAR WHISPER MY NAME

Owner: Carol Burgasser, Jay Caulk



Select Dog

GCHS CH CLASSIC'S HIGH VOLTAGE ZAP!

Owners: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk, Jennifer Johnston, Joe Pavlic, Debbie Rathgeber

Award of Merit

GCHS CH BRIDGE BAY GO FLY A KITE DCAT

Owner: Michelle Freshour

Award of Merit

GCH CH FOXBEND HOW SWEET IT IS

Owners: David & Susan Crawford

Reserve Winners Dog

BLUE MOON YOU BELONG WITH ME

@CCRUZ STR

Owners: Payton Dean, Breanna Dean, John Conley, Loree Conley

Reserve Winners Bitch

SPRING RUNS BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON

Owners: Sandy Peterman, Shawn Fuller, Billy Lake

Award of Merit

**GCHB CH COBBLESTONES MILLION DOLLAR
BABY**

Owners: Michael & Michele Asher

Winners Dog

HIGHLAND DOWNS TENNESSEE SUMMIT

Owners: Rita Ford, Jade Boddie



DEVON

Best Of Breed

GCH CATAMOUNT READY FOR MY CLOSEUP

Owners: Janine Rose & Norbert Benaiche



Best of Winners

CATAMOUNT TAKE ONE

Owners: Shawn Fuller & Drita Manson

Best of Opposite

GCH CLASSIC'S HIGH VOLTAGE ZAP!

Owners: Russ & Tricia Stanczyk & Jennifer Johnston & Joe Pavlic & Debbie Rathgeber

Select Dog

GCH FOX VALLEY SIDE HUSTLE

Owners: Julie Felten & Karen Fitzpatrick

Select Bitch

GCH CH BRILLWOOD TONKS OF LOYALVILLE

Owners: Linda Edwards & Lisa Walsh

Winners Bitch

CLASSIC'S SENT TO DISCOVER DOWN UNDER @ FOXBOLT

Owners: T Stanczyk & D Rathgeber & C Taylor

Reserve Winners Dog

BRILLWOOD JUSTIFIED

Owners: Linda Edwards & Lisa Walsh

Reserve Winners Bitch

BLUE MOON COCO LOCO STR

Owners: John Conley & Loree Conley



🎉 **Introducing Our 2026 National Specialty Logo!** 🎉

We're thrilled to unveil the official logo for our 2026 National Specialty, taking place August 14–16 in Enumclaw, Washington!

Our new design beautifully captures the spirit of the Parson Russell Terrier — bold, determined, and always true to its roots. The logo features a Parson Russell in pursuit of a fox, set against the stunning backdrop of the Cascade Mountains, representing both our breed's hunting heritage and the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest.

We can't wait to celebrate with all of you next August in Enumclaw — mark your calendars for a memorable weekend of dogs, friends, and fun beneath the Cascades!

Yours In Sport,
The 2026 National Committee
Carol, Connie, Denise, Melissa & Lance

Host Hotel

**Best Western Plus Mountain View
Auburn Inn
Room Rate: \$159.00
No Pet fee - up to 4 dogs per room**

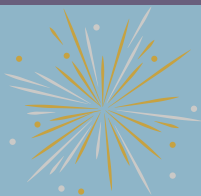
Schedule of Events:

**Aug 14: All-Breed Show
Aug 14: Annual Dinner & AGM
Aug 15: All-Breed Show
Aug 16: National Specialty**



[LINK](#)

**Dock Diving; Obedience; Rally; and a
variety of Vendors**



Support Your 2026 National

\$150

Best of Opposite Sex
Best of Winners

\$125

Winners Dog
Winners Bitch
Best Puppy in Sweeps

\$100

Reserve WD
Reserve WB
Best Bred By Exhibitor
Best of Breed Owner Handler
Best of Opp Puppy in Sweeps
Best Veteran in Sweepstakes

\$75

Best Veteran
Best Puppy
Breeder of Best of Breed
Best of Opp Veteran in Sweeps
Select Dog
Select Bitch

\$55

Awards of Merit x 3

1st thru 4th in Regular & Non
Regular

\$45 each

6-9 Puppy Dog
6-9 Puppy Bitch
9-12 Puppy Dog
9-12 Puppy Bitch

12 - 15 Dog
12 - 15 Bitch

15 - 18 Dog
15 - 18 Bitch

Bred by Exhibitor Dog
Bred by Exhibitor Bitch

Novice Dog
Novice Bitch

Am Bred Dog
Am Bred Bitch

Open Dog
Open Bitch

Veteran Dog
Veteran Bitch

Working Dog
Working Bitch

Stud Dog
Brood Bitch

Brace



Dear Members,

The 2026 National Committee truly appreciates your ongoing support. We understand that the success of our national event relies heavily on your continued commitment. If you're interested in sponsoring a class, please contact Lance at nobrigs@msn.com.

***Thank you,
2026 Committee***

Question and Answer Series Featuring Our 25-Year Members

In this series, we have the chance to explore the journeys of some of our members who have been with us for 25 wonderful years. We hope you enjoy this engaging experience!

What to Anticipate...

Nostalgic Reflections: Looking back on the early days

Evaluating Impact: Discussing the influences throughout the years

Current and Future Insights: Discovering where we stand today and where we're heading next



Q&A with Brenda and Gary Koeppel



Recalling the beginning

What initially drew you to the club 25 years ago? What were your expectations for membership back then?

When we bought our second Jack Russell from Liz Faber (still a good friend and mentor to this day) in 1990, she encouraged us to join the club. We did so and had no idea what to expect as we had never been involved in a dog club.

Can you share any funny or memorable stories about your early days as a member?

I remember preparing and serving judges' lunches with Holly Lestinsky, another early member, in the Faber kitchen and judges referring to some of the dogs as "barn rats". The quality of dogs varied wildly in those days. I also remember Gary attending a handling clinic by Pat Beresford at Starkweather (having never shown a dog before) and not having an appropriate show lead. Kaja Donovan lent him a Resco lead. We had so much to learn!

How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

The early Nationals always ended in the Faber garage with wine and cheese, a raffle, and sincere happiness for the winners. Everyone got along. I miss that camaraderie. The year Derek Hume judged was particularly memorable. I recall him advising those who did not win to not be discouraged just because their dog didn't catch the judge's eye that day.

Reflecting on the impact

What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the past 25 years?

The most significant benefit to me has been meeting others in the breed who have generously shared their knowledge. The only benefit I see now is a vote, and even that is being diluted lately by adding members who are clearly not interested in the breed.

How has the club influenced your personal or professional life over this period?

As Gary and I have both been deeply involved in the club for over 30 years, it has been a huge part of our life. We have used many vacation days traveling to club events or just working on committee projects. We have taken a step back recently but will always be members.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

I am most proud of the Nook that I was editor of for many years. The breed deserved a good newsletter, and we did our best to deliver. I am also proud of getting the bylaws changed to allow for electronic voting. The days of counting paper ballots in hotel lobbies and parking lots are thankfully over.

Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that have been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

I recall our first AGM at Montgomery when the breed finally was added to the terrier group.. It was a very emotional event after so much work by so many members and the JRTCA fighting it all the way.



Perspectives on the present and future



What suggestions or advice do you have for the club as it looks toward the future?

I would advise the club leadership to learn from the past and not to repeat mistakes. It feels like we are re-living the 2007/2008 era in the club which was not a fun time for anyone. A punitive board is a weak board. We are better than this.

What is your favorite memory or anecdote from your 25 years of membership?

The National Specialty at Great Western stands out. Our flight got in very late. The Queen Mary gave our room away and put us in what was basically a large closet. The next morning, we found out a member had tried to kill another member. Despite all that, it was a beautiful show thanks to the hard work of Lance and his committee.

Recalling the beginning

What initially drew you to the club 25 years ago?

What were your expectations for membership back then?

To get my terriers registered with the AKC, you first had to get them in the FSS (Foundation Stock Service). Pat Wilcox was a huge help getting me started in doing this as the BA needed the numbers to get the breed approved. It was a natural progression that I should then join the Parent club seeking AKC recognition.

Can you share any funny or memorable stories about your early days as a member?

The early days were filled with fun matches and shows and getting to know each other and putting names to faces.... Feeling quite like a small potato... The BA (JRTBA) Jack Russell Terrier Breeders Association, as it was called then since Parsons were still being called Jack Russells. That's a history lesson for another time.

Q&A with Sally Yancey



How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

The club offers more incentives now like in the performance categories along with conformation. Awards are given for these divisions.

Reflecting on the impact

What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the past 25 years?

A significant benefit I would say is being privy to the Nook, Parsons Page and any updated info on the website as well as the Breeders Directory. Upcoming events are listed. And the Awards.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

I was told not to be a bragging kind of person but over the years I have to be proud of the numerous awards my dogs have acquired the time my old girl got her JEX in Earthdog. Getting that Senior Earthdog was a thrill beyond compare and then moving on to Master was akin somewhat to natural hunting depending on the judge. We got Earthdog of the Year award. Many Conformation champions with titles at both ends...a proud breeder. Also, quite proud to have been given the opportunity to judge at MCKC.

Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that have been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

No more PRTAA Earthdog, as I created this for us to have in Stokesdale NC..the owners of the property died and Carolina Terrier took it over...So, I enjoyed going to those...My showing days are limited as Duffy is an older gent now and not as spannable as he once was so, he sits on the sidelines. He enjoyed getting his F Cat this spring and will go to CTA training day to visit with the rats again. I have some options in the works as to showing again...so maybe????

What is your favorite memory or anecdote from your 25 years of membership?

Lots of memories and friends made over the years. Sadly, we have lost a few, but there are still new friends to make as I just met a Parson owner that I hadn't known a few weeks ago. So, hoping for more good times to put in my memory book.



Q&A with Kim Baker

Recalling the beginning

What initially drew you to the club 25 years ago?

What were your expectations for membership back then?

I adopted my first Jack Russell, Riley, from JRTBA rescue coordinator, Dorrie Carters. Dorrie encouraged me to join the club and I did. I remember the first National Specialty that I attended. It was held at Starkweather, the home of Peter and Liz Faber in Winsted, CT. It was a beautiful fall weekend. There was Conformation, Earthdog and Racing. Everyone was so warm and welcoming.



Can you share any funny or memorable stories about your early days as a member?

I remember traveling to Hartford, CT in a massive snowstorm with a van full of terriers so that we could hold our required A match prior to acceptance into the AKC. It was hectic and yet so much fun.

Every Labor Day weekend a large group of us would gather at the home of Suzanne Tolleson and Howard "Crowe" Dickinson at Baird Hill in Conway, NH. It was always a lovely weekend, with the crispness of fall creeping in. I fondly remember the deep-fried turkeys that Crowe and Peter would cook.

We also used to have such fun with Earthdog practice days at Lords Creek Farm in CT.

How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

The history of the club and our founding members seems to be fading which saddens me. Just like with our country, these dedicated individuals paved the way for all of us to enjoy AKC recognition and all of the associated performance events. I will forever be grateful to Peter (deceased) and Liz Faber, Suzanne Tolleson, Dorrie Carters, Cynthia Bliven, Susan Porter, Linda Freeman (deceased) and Tim Acker for their time that they not only gave the club over the years, but also to me personally. It truly takes a village and I was fortunate to have these people mentor me.

Reflecting on the impact

What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the past 25 years?

I am proud that I have been a member since 1997. I saw us enter the Miscellaneous group and then the Terrier group. I was at the first National Specialty held at Montgomery County Kennel Club. The then Jack Russell had arrived! For true terrier people, this has long been the Super Bowl of dog shows. The history of terriers runs deep and I still get goosebumps at that show. I have also served on the Board, many committees, and am past President.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

I am most proud of piloting Gch Cobblestone Gathers No Moss JE (bred by Mike & Michele Asher) and co-owned with Suzanne Tolleson and myself to win the first roving National at Great Western Terrier Association and garner a Group 4 placement. Mossy was the first in our breed to win a group placement in conjunction with a National and the first National Specialty winner with an Earthdog title. I was honored to represent our breed in the group ring at such a prestigious show and to be amongst RC Carusi and Gabriel Rangel with a group placement was icing on the cake!

Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that have been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

I received the Club Service award many years ago. I also was on the board when we changed the name from the Jack Russell Terrier to the Parson Russell Terrier with the AKC.

Perspectives on the present and future

What suggestions or advice do you have for the club as it looks toward the future?

We need to honor our history. Study pedigrees and find a mentor who understands structure and what the Parson should be. It doesn't have to be a Parson person! This is not a dog that should be lacking in confidence! List all of our National Specialty winners with the breeders/owners on the website. List all Club Service award recipients on the website. Review what other long standing Terrier clubs do to honor their history.

What is your favorite memory or anecdote from your 25 years of membership?

Judging Parson Russell Terrier and Russell Terrier sweepstakes at Montgomery County Kennel Club is a beautiful memory.





Q&A with Sandy Peterman



Recalling the beginning

What initially drew you to the club 25 years ago? What were your expectations for membership back then?

The breed and member Lee Sweitzer who was instrumental in helping the club go through the AKC channels to be a recognized breed and who mentored me and sponsored me to membership in the Club. I had never belonged to a dog club before, so I had no idea what I was getting into.

Can you share any funny or memorable stories about your early days as a member?

Showing one of my first pups in a match held by Liz Faber in Hartford Conn. I don't remember the year, but I was so nervous about showing a dog, any dog. Till this day, it still isn't my thing walking into the ring, but I fell in love with this breed and being a breeder and the pride if one of my puppies got a nod from the judge. The people in those days were wonderful, open and it was always a team effort. I did sit on the board of directors and served on various committees (Breeders education and Nook committees). In those early days we drove to meeting spots. I served with Nancy Dougherty, Suzanne Tolleson and Peter Faber, who served as president. The focus was getting organized, having a sense of direction, and following the rules that were put in place by the AKC. We needed people who had the knowledge and insight to get us going and many people from other breeds had valuable input.

How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

Bullied committees. Stagnant education. A website left idle for years. In my lifetime, I hope to see change and not going backwards to what we had the last several but moving forward. I hope for a brighter future and to maybe get involved again. This past year has been a turning point for our breed. Some think it is awful and some think this is a good thing that we may see a brighter future.

Reflecting on the impact

What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the past 25 years?

The breed. Enjoying the dogs and the people I have met through my dogs. Most have come through Breeder Referral. Honestly at this point in time that has been the biggest impact to me, and it has been life changing. What do people do without these crazy terriers in their life?

How has the club influenced your personal or professional life over this period?

I have learned how to juggle as a single parent to my crew. I even bought a house near my job so I could go home, check on, and let my dogs out on my half-hour lunch break. I can't imagine any other life the last 25 years. Some people like to travel, go places do things, I am perfectly happy to be a dog parent and getting to a few shows to see dogs, evaluate them and plan my next breeding.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

BISS CH The Bully Pulpit and watching him on T.V. at Westminster. I cried. One of MY puppies made it there. That was back in 2005 but I remember it like yesterday. Thanks forever to founding member and co-owner Suzanne Tolleson in her help to get him there.



Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that have been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

The year 2000 and AKC recognition and the pride of those members who made it happen. The cover of the AKC Gazette with my Teddy's sire's picture on it. BISS CH Parson's Dragon Fly. I still have the original magazine.



Perspectives on the present and future

What are your favorite club activities or events that you still enjoy participating in today?

Our Nationals. The place to go to view dogs. And it used to be spectacular with all the dogs showing in the early days.

How do you see the Club's role within the community, both past and present?

The club has sadly gone in a wrong direction for years, denying another clubs formation. Not being about the breed more and only focusing on Specialties and who is judging. I remember asking a board member a question a few years back and he specifically told me, he did not have to answer my questions. That was not his job. Note that was about two years ago. We need new blood, not old, returned blood but new blood to help turn this club around.

What suggestions or advice do you have for the club as it looks toward the future?

Bring in people with experience in business. Yes, breed experience is helpful, but we need people to get this club up and running in the right direction. Promote the whole of the breed, not just a few people. There needs to be fairness and people in there who are working to make this a better club for our breed and for everyone.

What is your favorite memory or anecdote from your 25 years of membership?

This is a tough one, but I guess I have to go back to the people I have met over the years through my dogs and had I not been a member that would have never happened.



Q&A with Kathleen Owsley

What initially drew to the club 25 years ago? What were your expectations for membership back then?

After being in dogs for approximately 17 years, my breeds were Rottweilers and Pembroke Welsh Corgis. My rottweilers passed away and I was looking for a smaller breed that didn't shed as much as my corgis. We moved from Lake Tahoe in 1995 to Santa Barbara / Ventura area. I went to many events and met some long time breeders of jrtca dogs, I found a breeder that went AKC with mostly English dogs, and had breeders that were registering their dogs also in the AKC. In 1999 I went to look at the puppies and I was smitten with a little smooth rowdy boy, and couldn't resist him. He grew up to be CH Sunnysdells White Out - Whitey.

I happened to be in the right place at the right time when an incredible dog became available, through no fault of his own, apparently the other dog at the person's house who originally purchased him was bullying him, so he was returned to a mutual friend and I happened to be able to keep him until his breeder could be contacted about what had happened. Long story short that turned out to be my future BFF Debra Crespo, she agreed to let me keep him as long as she could show him.

My love of showing started again after that long hiatus between the rotties, and corgis to my first parson and grew even more of a love when we started showing Wyatt.

I had always belonged to the parent breed clubs of my other 2 breeds, and wanted to get involved in the PRATA.

My expectations of being in a club with "like minded people" sharing a love of their chosen breed has always been my reason for joining the parent club.

Can you share a funny or memorable stories about the early days as a club member?

My most memorable time was on my first trip to the whole MCKC circuit in 2006 with Wyatt, we were very proud when he won the breed at the second day of Hatboro and won an Award of Merit at the National at MCKC. it was a dream come true.

Funny story- years later after coming out of the porta potties at the College venue, apparently my skirt got stuck in my nylons! Thank goodness for kind person to let me know!!!

How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

I do like to see awards being given out for the many dog sports as people are competing more in these fun activities. It also gives us a fun way to still be "active" in the club with older dogs who may not be showing anymore.



What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the 25 years?

The friends I have made over the many years.

How has the club influenced your personal or professional life over this period?

I held many positions over the years and enjoyed contributing to the greater good for the club.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

I have to say that I have been very proud of being awarded the 2009 AKC Sportsmanship Award, the 2018 Club Service Award and the 2023 AKC Sportsmanship Award.

Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that has been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

I truly enjoyed the 2013 National at the Queen Mary, there was great camaraderie, and much fun to be had! Members from all over came we had multiple opportunities to sit and chat with friends and just enjoyed the excellent venue!

What are your favorite club activities or events that you still enjoy?

Mostly I enjoy our National circuit where many come from near and far, just the opportunity to see our friends and "Talk Dogs"!

How do you see the Club's role within the community, both past and present?

The club has provided a little bit of education, and guidance on health... We have held many events that highlight our dogs in conformation , earthdog and performance . Being a small breed club we have a solid record of moving forward, nothing to radical but being good stewards to our breed. We have made good progress during the past 8-9 years with building events and education , especially difficult during the covid times.

What suggestion or advice do you have for the club as it looks toward the future?

I think for the club to move forward is what originally brought us all together in the first place is our parsons, we need to concentrate on the dogs and not so much the other end of the leash.

What is your favorite memory or anecdote from your 25 years of membership?

I have many great memories and made life long friends who have the same passion I have for our parsons.



Recalling the beginning

What initially drew you to the club 25 years ago? What were your expectations for membership back then?

I was asked to join the club by Liz Faber. I had purchased a dog from her, and she was recruiting members for the JRTBA (as it was known then), membership was \$5 or \$10 and I got a club pin as well. I still have my original pin. I had been participating in JRTCA events and was delighted to see more events being held in my area of CT. I am the oldest continual dues paying member for the JRTBA/JRTAA/PRTAA.

Can you share any funny or memorable stories about your early days as a member?

Oh, there are soo many, most of them are NSFW! The JRTBA was lucky to have several members with properties (The Faber's Starkweather, The Maloney's Willowwall, Crow Dickinson's Baird Hill) that allowed the club to host our National Specialty, which at the time included not only conformation, but terrier races, go to ground (as it was known), trailing and locating, as well as a very robust auction.

One year the event was held at Starkweather and a bunch of us were all staying in the house. There used to be a public radio show hosted by Robert J. Lurtzimer, he was known among public radio listeners throughout New England for his sonorous voice. The beginning part of his show was noted for an extended audio of bird chirping. Crow Dickinson decided to wake up the ENTIRE house by getting up, BLASTING the bird chirping while making the morning coffee and calling all of us lazy for sleeping in until the grand hour of 6 am. There was the time Peter Faber was using the Bobcat to dig some new earthdog tunnels for an upcoming event and almost ran over Suzanne Tolleson and myself.

One year the club treasury was so low that I held a yard sale at my then home in New Haven, CT. The proceeds from the sale allowed the club to purchase trophies and rosettes for the upcoming National. The club had a lot of leftover rosettes from other events, and I spent an exceptionally large amount of time replacing old center strips with new center strips and carefully ironing all the class rosettes. Several years at Starkweather, the club used to borrow a large tent from Goshen Ford. Peter would drive to Goshen, get the tent and he and some friends (many of them not even dog people) put up the tent and then take it down. I remember one year an exhibitor asked if Ford was sponsoring the show.

How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

The good, the fanciers are forming regional clubs, specialty clubs to host events for members and fanciers. It's not all on the Parent Club to provide events for fanciers.

Reflecting on the impact

What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the past 25 years?

I've made a lot of good friends over the years in this breed on both sides of the Pond.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

Being on the Board in several positions including all the officer positions, the club's first AKC Delegate, serving on multiple committees and doing things to benefit our members. I was the person who started the rosettes to honor our top dogs from the previous year and coined the term, The Parson's Page, The Intermittent Newsletter to The Membership. I was lucky to have a group of people that I was able to tap into their talent and pick their brains to make our events better, (Linda Miller, Linda Freeman, Nancy Dougherty, Cynthia Levario and her family, Cynthia and Fred Bliven, Sue Sobiak (nee Porter). The club was very lucky in the well before AKC days to have people like Pat Beresford (former Editor of the AKC Gazette) use her connections to help us navigate the AKC, the Foundation Stock Service, Club Relations, dealing with AKC BOD members, the list goes on. Those people were invaluable to the club learning about AKC and growing. My goal as an officer and BOD member was to always try to improve on what we had done in the past to make things nicer and better for our members.

Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that have been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

Our first National Specialty at Montgomery County Kennel Club. We had just been accepted into the Terrier Group and to see such a lovely turn out of dogs on that very chilly morning in Ambler was amazing. Not so amazing where the incessant number of people who made it their mission year after year to just be troublemakers at the AGM. Oddly or maybe not so, most of those people never volunteered to do a dammed thing for the club unless it specifically benefited them. And yes, I have receipts ;)!

Perspectives on the present and future

What are your favorite club activities or events that you still enjoy participating in today?

My last Parson passed away a few years ago and I still participate in Conformation and Earthdog with my Lakeland Terriers and my Wirehaired Dachshund. I try to watch as much PRT judging as I can during MCKC week. I miss not having a white dog and hope to add one again to my gang soon. Sorry to see that the PRATA does not hold any earthdog trials anymore anywhere.

How do you see the club's role within the community, both past and present? What suggestions or advice do you have for the club as it looks toward the future?

The Club and the BOD need to remember that the purpose a Parent Club exists is to protect the Breed Standard and educate the public about the breed. My advice to people running for the BOD, be willing to put aside your egos and personal agendas and serve the breed, the membership, and the club. I've seen far too many BOD members forget this. Being on a BOD is about a lot of sacrifice, of time, of energy, of personal resources. I do hope the club can find a happy medium that seems to be missing these past few years. It saddens me to see the club lose good BOD members, volunteers, and regular members over the actions of the BOD. How many illustrated breed standard revisions do we need, how many executive sessions and how many new websites?





Q&A with Jennifer Johnston

Recalling the beginning

What initially drew you to the club 25 years ago? What were your expectations for membership back then?

At the time I joined the club I had been a member of the JRTCA for several years. I enjoyed learning about the dogs, their pedigrees, and the breeders.

I just wanted more of that and still have so many of the old articles and stud books.

Can you share any funny or memorable stories about your early days as a member?

Gary Koeppel was one of the first members I had contact with. Before we went into the AKC we were able to get a club Championship. I had shown a dog in ARBA and he helped me calculate champion points. He was so kind and welcoming. At that time, I was not able to travel East for events so my first National was in 2001. My dog Mitchell won Best of Opposite in Sweeps under Suzanne Tolleson. Everyone was so welcoming, and I was overjoyed seeing all the dogs. Some of the very best memories were flying out early and staying with Joan. We worked on table decorations for the annual dinners and spent hours searching for the best pumpkins, gourds, chrysanthemums, hay bales and corn stalks! Those very early morning ring decorating sessions could be cold and stressful, but didn't Joan just do the best job making our experience so special!!!

How has the club changed and evolved over the past 25 years, and how have those changes impacted your experience?

There have been some very positive changes over the years. My favorite is the roving National. It has offered people in different areas of the country the option to drive and the ability to enter more than one dog. Its also brought out the creativity in different members willing to take on the job of chairing the National. This change allowed us to have one of the best nationals I've attended. So much camaraderie with members, great food, easy travel, fun events, good weather and some nice wins. Lance and his team did an awesome job.

BOD members being able to attend meetings via a zoom call instead of only in person has also been a positive. It made it possible for me to serve on the BOD as club treasurer. I've also served on several committees over the years.



Reflecting on the impact

What has been the most significant benefit or aspect of being a member of this club for you over the past 25 years?

As others have said, I think the most significant benefit is the friends I have made and will cherish for my life.

How has the club influenced your personal or professional life over this period?

Putting myself out in service to the breed has often been a painful experience. When you know you sincerely want to do the best for the breed and the club and so many negative people can think of nothing but attacking you and your motives, it's difficult. It affects you personally.

What is a specific achievement or experience you are most proud of during your 25 years of membership?

Piloted by my dear friend Tricia Stanczyk, several dogs I've bred, and co-owed with her, have won our National. The first being Stuart under the great terrier man Paul Ross.

Can you recall any specific events or moments within the club that have been particularly impactful or meaningful to you?

I so enjoyed judging sweepstakes at MCKC. I was proud to receive the Club Service and the AKC Good Sportsmanship awards.

Perspectives on the present and future

How do you see the Club's role within the community, both past and present?

In the past it was the club's role to work on getting the breed AKC recognized. Now It's the club's job to protect the breed, the breed standard, provide breed education and bring sincere fanciers together.

What suggestions or advice do you have for the club as it looks toward the future?

I'm deeply saddened by the current atmosphere of the club. When members are so hateful to one another it truly takes the joy out. I don't think it is the duty of the club to attempt to control the speech of members on their personal media pages. The maligning and punishing of some of the best members that have given more to this club than anyone in recent years, is not healthy. If you want to serve the club, please learn how to properly use Roberts Rules and our club bylaws. We must do better.

What is your favorite memory or anecdote from your 25 years of membership?

In 2008 Joan and I left MCKC just as we were parking in the lot. She got a call that her home had been broken into and she was needed at home. I didn't want her to face that alone. My favorite memory was when Tricia called to tell me that she and Stuart had won the National. Tricia's first AKC parson and our first National win. A very special memory.



Celebrating 25 Years with Kalen M. Dumke Voogt Nonsuch Parson Russell Terriers

Who could have guessed that 25 years could have passed so quickly? My journey, however with "Parsons" began in 1979 in the little town of "Brough" in the Lake District of England. My sister and I were on a camping trip around Great Britain, and we kept seeing these darling, mostly white terriers. I instantly fell in love with them. At that point I decided to take a chance on finding a puppy and taking it back to the States with us. After some searching, we were able to locate the last male puppy out of a top working Terrier "Sovereign" from a north of England pack. The Owner, and Mr. William Brightmore, lived in a quaint cottage at the edge of a Moor. I remember that there was an Archaeological group doing excavations for Roman ruins not far away. Our puppy "Brough" came home with us and was the beginning of a love affair with the breed that has spanned 45 years. After importing three more Terriers, from two other Breeders in Great Britain, I finally purchased my first AKC registerable Parson from a Breeder in Canada. Nonsuch Parson Russell Terriers took off from that point and I was excited to be a part of an historic chapter in the history of our breed in the United States. I've served as a Board Member, Vice President, President and the Judges Education Chair and loved actively breeding/showing and being involved in the breed. I've been approved to judge Parsons since they're acceptance into the AKC, and have judged Sweepstakes at Montgomery and a roving National in Long Beach, CA. Congratulations to the PRTAA in achieving the milestone of 25 years as an AKC recognized breed. Even though our numbers in the show ring have declined, I believe our quality has been maintained. I'd like to thank the following Breeders that have journeyed along with me at the beginning and influenced my Breeding program: Suzanne Tolleson, Nancy Dougherty, Jim Gupko, Mindy Musick King and Julie Felten.

Best wishes for another 25 years and many more...

Kalen



Welcome to our newest honorary members!

Patty Burmeister



Teri Paris



Nancy Dougherty



Living With Multiple Dogs by Karen Fitzpatrick

I don't think one can ever be an expert at one breed. Even as successful breeders, we are always learning. But I can say for sure, that after 35 years of owning Parson Russell Terriers (and 25 years of Border Terriers), I am an expert when it comes to living harmoniously with them in numbers. I have learned over the years that if I can read their body language, I can think faster than they can act. I thought I would share a few common mistakes that novice or even experienced owners of terriers often make when bringing in a new member.

Without a doubt, the misconception that pet owners and even those of us who own one show dog and want another, is that a second terrier will get along fine with the first. Many will breed their show bitch and keep the pick of litter bitch to someday show. Only to find that down the road dam and offspring have reached a point of trying to kill each other. One must remember that these are first and foremost Parson Russell Terriers. If you can remember that under no circumstances do they share anything, you'll have fewer problems along the way. That means toys, food, sleeping space and most importantly, YOU. When keeping a second terrier you have now established that you have a pack and someone needs to be in charge. It should be you, not one of them. And if you can keep that in perspective from day 1, you'll make things much easier. Keeping the opposite sex is perhaps the easiest.



Karen Fitzpatrick is a long time breeder/owner/handler of Border Terriers and Parson Russell Terriers. Her kennel name of Meadowlake is well known both here and abroad.

When I keep a puppy from a litter, she is the bottom member of the pack. She will be treated as such from the other members of my household, including her mother and you should always allow that to happen. Don't ever interfere, even if her mother sends her screaming to the corner. If you own an older bitch and you are bringing in another puppy that isn't hers, it's a bit more difficult as they quite resent puppies in general, male or female, especially when they have been the only dog. Parsons aren't very tolerant of an outside 9 week old puppy coming in and jumping on their faces, it can be costly. But if you buy a puppy from an outside breeder, make sure that puppy has spent time with other adults or adequate time with their own mother; they often have better pack etiquette because of it. If a litter has been protected from the time of weaning from adults or taken from their mother at that time, they have learned nothing of respect for their elders. Problems can start from day 1. A puppy with a good foundation has learned to respect a growl from an adult and will either flop over on her stomach, or grovel away. That's a good thing!!

They should always be fed separately, in a crate preferably. NEVER leave free choice food around. I make my dogs either stack or sit for a treat. I don't toss treats to my dogs to catch, because if someone misses and a piece falls, an argument can take place.

We have 3 toys boxes to choose from, but the rule of thumb when you come into my home is you NEVER pick up a toy and play with any of my terriers. My terriers all play together, they have respect when one has a bone, but we always have several lying around. When I give them a new bone, they are crated with them. When the newness wears off, they go in the toy box. When they start getting under the furniture, they go in the garbage. When you pick up a toy to play with a dog, the fights will start, but not about the toy, it's about who gets to play with you! If you want to play with a puppy one on one, take it outside, or to an area where there is no competition. Make sure your family members and houseguests understand that too. I don't allow tug of war at any age, especially with children. It's heck on puppy teeth and often teaches puppies to become dominant winners, and mouthy winners learn easily how to dominate children. If an adult and puppy play, that's different. A puppy won't win, unless it gets to rough, and an adult will usually take charge of that lesson.

If you are sitting on the couch or lying in bed and you have a terrier with you and another wants to get close, many fights start this way. Again, it's over getting closest to you. Never allow a Parson to become possessive or territorial. If they start to protect your lap, a ball or a toy, I take it away. I shove them off the bed or couch at any hint of getting angry. If they repeat it, they can sleep in a crate. Staring or even a stiff body posture is a sign that trouble is brewing. Correct for even that and don't miss it! If a fight breaks out, you have cut the chances of your dogs getting along in half. If you have had more than one fight, chances are that you are buying a lot of baby gates or building a kennel to keep them separated. Learning to read your dog's body language is very important to living successfully with multiple terriers. Whether you are purchasing a puppy from a breeder or raising your own, the importance of socializing, proper adult/puppy manners is a strong beginning to having adults who respect each other and most importantly, respecting you as the pack leader.



For many years, Gary and Brenda Koepfel dedicated themselves to offering our members The Parsons Nook. Today, we are excited to revisit one of their all-time favorite articles... ENJOY!

Parsons and Their Kids

PRTAA Member Contributions



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.



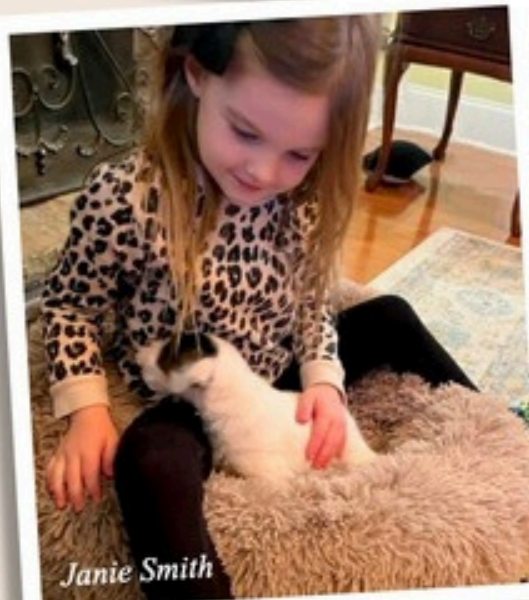
Janine Rose



Carol Howton

Teach the kids to be gentle and kind with the puppies from the beginning..

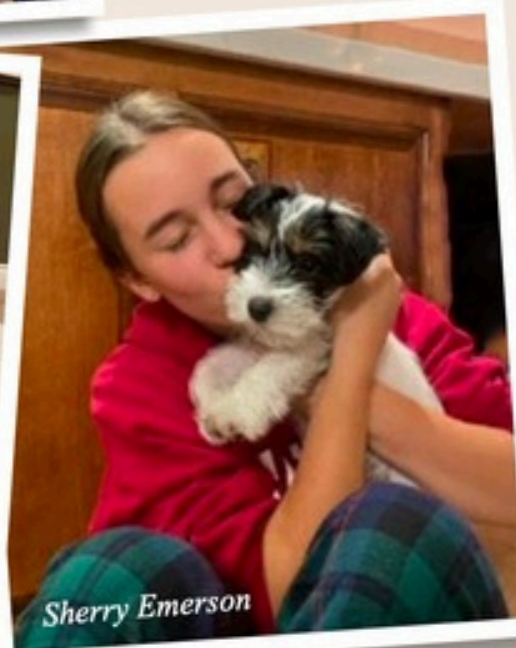
Carol A. Howton
Rosewood Parson Russell
Terriers



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.

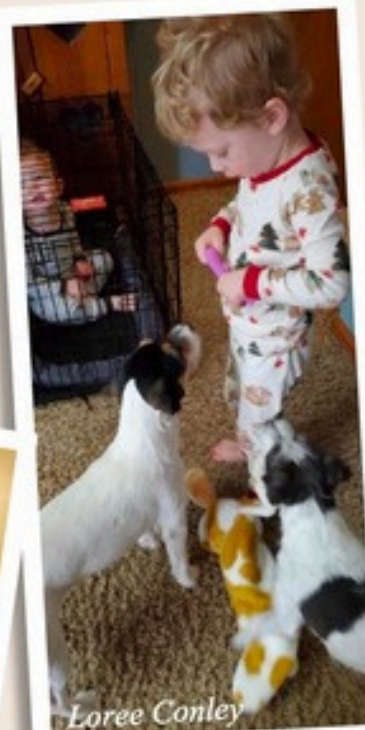
Sharon Hipps, Saddles Ridge PRT's



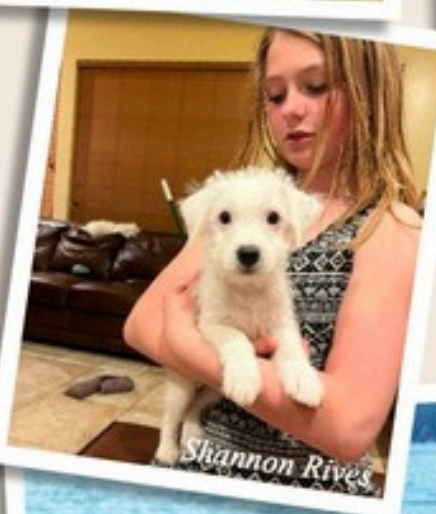
Judy Slater-Moody



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



Linda Edwards

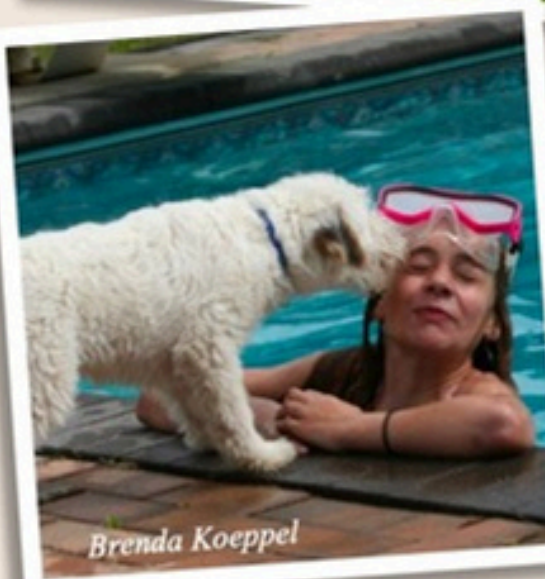


I do not have a specific minimum age; rather a few criteria by which I use to evaluate any potential placement.

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

Brenda Koeppel



Judy Slater-Moody



Sharon Hipps





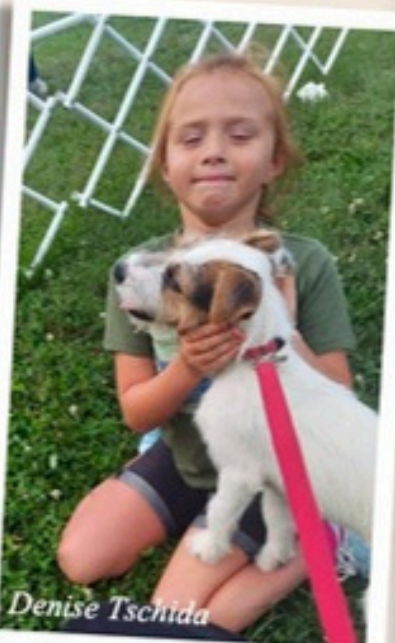
Brenda Koeppel



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!

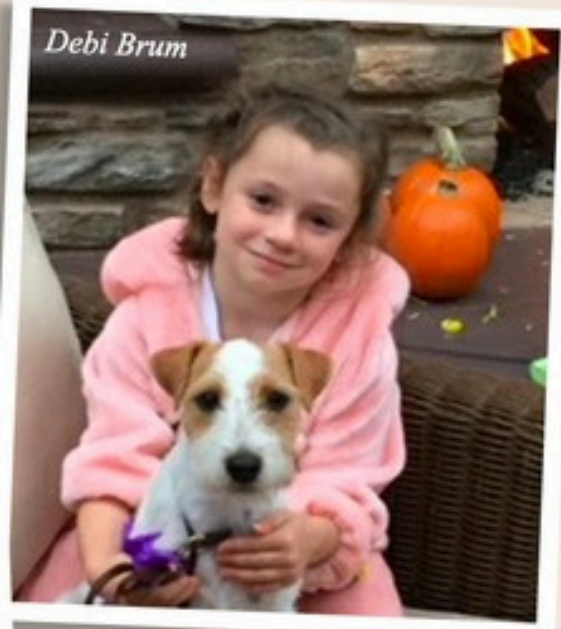
Judy Slater-Moody & Vickie Moody
Thunder Hill Terriers



Izzy Della Santa



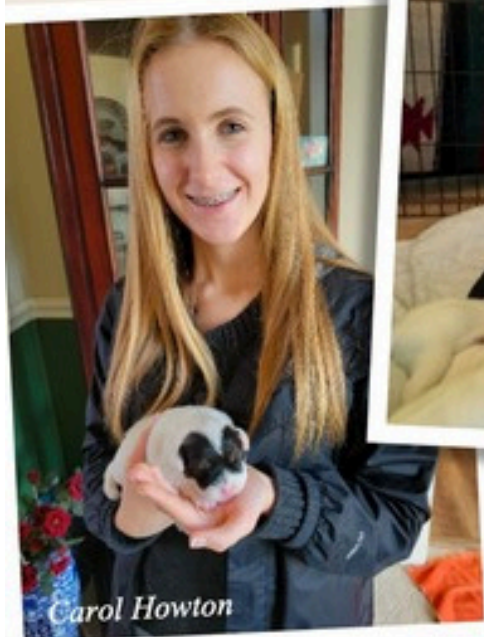
Janine Rose



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



Janice Taft



Nelda Herman



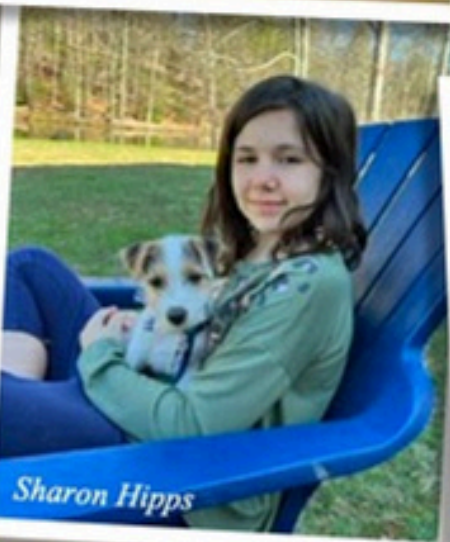
Loree Conley



Carol Howton



Liane Paulson



Sharon Higgs



Sherry Emerson



Judy Slater-Moody



Debi Brum



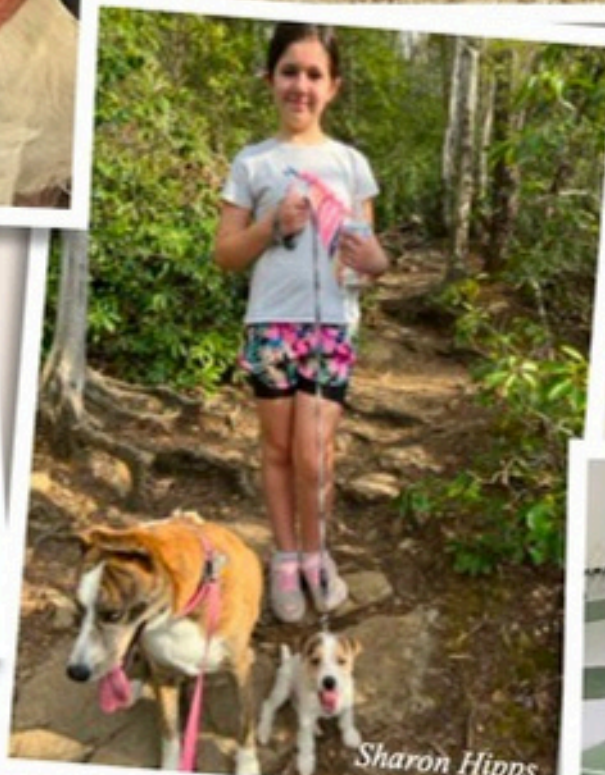
Carol Howton



Tricia Slanczyk

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



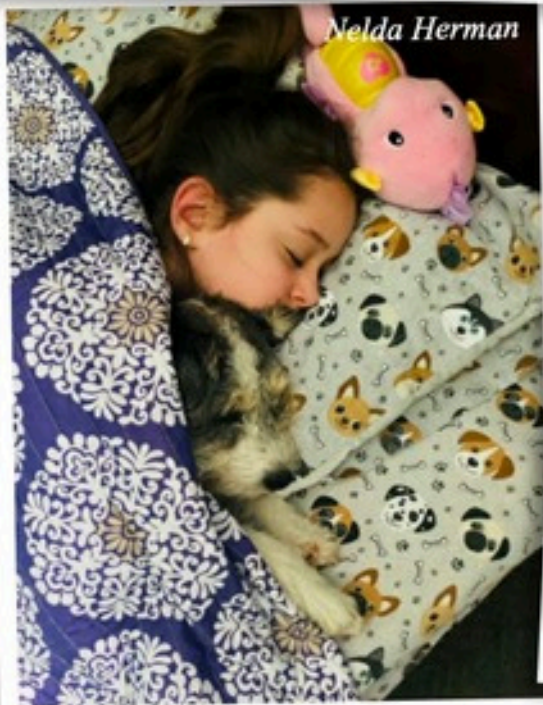
Janine Rose

... 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 Koeppel

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

Janie Smith
Tricia Stanczyk
Janice Taft
Denise Tschida



DIARY OF A WOULD-BE HUNTER by Sally Yancey

Very few groundhog holes are to be found down here in Greensboro and when found they are most often in ye ole kudzu patches. I had sold a puppy, called Shredder, to the Whip for the Sedgefield Hunt, Steve Joyce, who was anxious to get his terrier, now an adult, entered to earthwork. Thinking Steve would be a fine digger, he was invited to our hunting party. Gwyn Brady was already an avid hog hunter with her jrt, Recovery and a member of todays hunt.

We struck out about 1:00 pm and headed for our first kudzu patch. Right many holes but the search with the terriers kept coming up blank. Meanwhile Dink, my hole dog, is getting frustrated and Gwyn has to pick up her kids from school, so we arrange to meet at the next kudzu patch at 3:00.

I went home and switched out terriers and headed for our next plan of attack. I am now “fearless leader” of this meager hunting party. My poor dogs hardly ever get to work on their own as we always let the “company” have the honor but not so today it'll be their turn. I've got Grit and Viper thinking one would be a good locator and the other a possible draw dog as Viper was a bit bigger. Steve and Shredder and my two headed for the large sette of condominium type holes looming in front of us. I had one terrier on lead checking the situation of “hog in a hole”..and sure enough Grit showed interest so his lead was removed. He was wearing a locator collar so we would be able to know where he was underground. Soon we could hear Grit steadily baying and the terriers on top were staked out and going mad...



We let him work for a while before we located him about 3 ft down and 3 ft in...and then Steve brought out the post hole diggers and started and I pitched in with my ladies shovel...Meanwhile Gwyn has arrived with her kids in tow and they are quite excited at the activity going on. Guessing Grit is giving the hog a lot of stick and thinking it might bolt we we had Viper on ready in case that happened....and sure enough, that hog was shot out of the side hole like a cannon. He ran up in a woodpile brushy area with Viper in pursuit along with Grit who had left the hole by now and was tracking the ghog...They bolted him from that and he takes off for another sette of holes. I put the lead on Viper and let Grit do his thing again. I learned the hard way that I only want ONE dog down at a time. In no time we again heard that sweet loud baying sound that my Grit makes. He was on him again!!! There is excitement in the air as this can be much more gratifying than a blue ribbon in comformation. Again we listen and wait..Grit had pushed that hog up the pipe about 10 feet giving stick all the time I'm sure. We decide to dig this time and broke in about 3 feet down on top of the hog that was just a growlin by now ...we put a shovel between Grit and hog and pulled him out and inserted Viper who immediately grabbed hold...she started tugging and hog was resisting...again the terriers on top were going crazy with screams and the people weren't far behind. I pulled Viper out by her tail and hog attached...both on land again I disengaged Viper and that hog bolted unscathed for another day of hunting and the terriers were just dirty with few signs of any fight underground.

The younger terriers got a go of it by sniffing out holes and were showing interest but it was getting late by now and so, they will get to try another day, hopefully after some rain and the digging was like trying to dig in concrete.

So, always remember your Terriers...
Protect them from hot and from cold
For the love of a tyke for his Master
Can never be measured in Gold

Fun times at the Awards Dinner



CELEBRATING 4 GENERATIONS AT MORRIS & ESSEX



Brillwood Farm
BrillwoodFarm.com



PARSON RUSSELL TERRIERS

Congratulations PRTAA.....here's to 25 more! 🥂🥂



THUNDER HILL PARSON RUSSELL TERRIERS

Beginnings

Thunder Hill Terriers began with breeding, hunting and showing Jack Russell Terriers as members of the JRTCA. The name was coined by Donna Motter who had the vision and passion for her beloved dogs. In 2000 after AKC opened the books for our breed (still called Jack Russells), we were gifted with Button Top Raggety Ann (Rags) owned by Karen Richards. Rags came from a long line of Jack Russells from England. She was an amazing foundation bitch which stamped our lines which can still be seen today. I often mused at the fact that if you put all of Rags litters together (all with different sires), you would not know which pup came from which litter. The true mark of a brood bitch.

Donna and Karen were the heart of Thunder Hill. No longer with us, their influence, support and vision framed the future of our breeding program. After Donna passed, I was blessed with a beautiful litter of pups in 2007 (CH Thunder Hill Moon Shadow x CH Rednock Never a Saint). It was this foundation litter that sealed my desire to continue our breeding program. In 2010, Vickie joined me on the journey for which I am forever grateful!

I joined the PRTAA in 2007 and have been an active member since that time. If you knew me then, you would have laughed at my awkward grooming and showing! I had big shoes to fill and the journey has been worth the effort. As I became more confident in my breeding decisions, I began setting goals for our future.

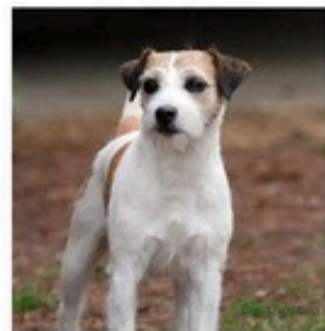


**CH BUTTON TOP RAGGETY ANN
RAGS**

**CH THUNDER HILL MOON SHADOW
CALLIE**



**GCHS CH THUNDER HILL RUMER HAS IT
RUMER**



**GCH CH THUNDER HILL SOUL PASSION
MOXIE**

Thunder Hill has continued a breeding program spanning over two decades produced over 17 CH, 6 GCH, 1 GCHB, 2 GCHS and 1 GCHG and over 65 champions and grand champions.

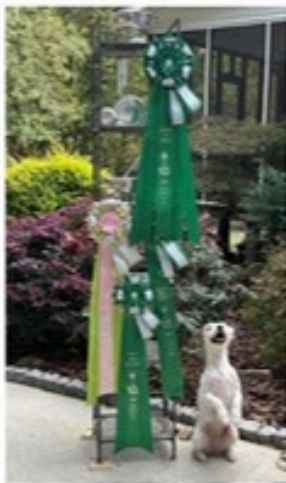
THUNDER HILL PARSON RUSSELL TERRIERS

Present and Future

Our breeding program has contributed to several top winning/producing dogs. MBIS MBISS Thunder Hill Soul Journey, Murphy, was sire to the top winning PRT in history- GCHG CH Brywood Heluva Ride, Toodles.

MBISS OHBISS MBOSS GCHG CH THUNDER HILL DAYDREAM BELIEVER CHIC CGC TKN FCAT2 CA RATO- Josie came out of retirement this year and with very limited showing, as of September 30, 2025 Josie currently ranks #3 Breed, #6 All Breed, #6 Owner Handled, and #4 GCH.

At our 25th anniversary national, she made the cut at both Hatboros and our National. Josie went on to win Best Veteran in Sweeps, Best of Breed Veteran, Best of Breed Brood Bitch and Award of Merit.

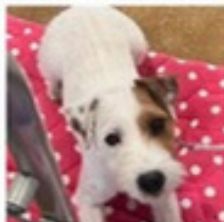


GCHB CH Thunder Hill Journey Across Time CHIC CGC ATT TKI BCAT FTI

Lulu (Thunder Hill Daydream Believer x Thunder Hill Crazy in Love) was busy this year bringing us a beautiful litter of five pups!

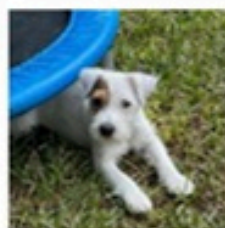
Sired by GCHS CH Bridge Bay's Go Fly a Kite BCAT RATO (Benjamin)
CHARLEY

LULU



LUMI

MASON



POPPY

CHARLEY



FRISBEE



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www.RosewoodPRT.com



GCH. CH.
Rosewoods On The Road Again

"Willie"

Breeder/Owner:
Carol & Steve Howton
(503) 581-1648

GCH. CH.
Rosewoods Always On My Mind

"Charlie"

Owners:
Michael Lowell &
Carol Howton



Melissa White
River Glenn Terriers
208.739.5437

Past....



US GCH N SE FI LT EST NORDV-14 River Glenn Play That Funky Music "Roman"

Present...



GCH River Glenn Dancing With the Devil "Eve"

Future...!



GCHS Sunrock's Castaway At Shasta X River Glenn I'm Too Sexy "Rogue"

Celebrating 25 Years with our Little White Dogs in the AKC!

1998



**CQH Daisy Mae
CDX OA OAJ**

2023



**CH RACH Parhelion
Christmas Star CD
RM3 RAE2 RC AX MXJ**

***The 1st JRT/PRT to
Earn an AKC Title!***

***Conformation & Rally
Championships at 2 years!***

Chris Cox / Judge: Phil Rustad

Chris Cox / Judge: Phil Rustad

Thank You Vickie and Cheyenne Tippens for Trusting us with this Special Girl. Kate is a joy to live with and we cannot believe what she has accomplished at such a young age!!!

Chris & Dale Cox - Marietta, OK
612-270-8964 – coxranch@live.com
facebook.com/Kate.the.Parson

Spring Canyon Kennel

Anna & Cloe
want to Congratulate all
Family and Friends
who participated at Terrier Week
(Morris & Essex, Hatboro, Devon, Montgomery)
2025 Nationals



We hope to see everyone soon in Enumclaw WA for 2026 Nationals
August 14 - 15 - 16, 2026

Jerry & Sherry Emerson
slashe@icloud.com

Highland Downs Pied Piper @ CCruz

Bred By: Rita Ford

Owned, Loved and Handled By:
Bre, Payton and Amy



“Piper”



BLUE MOON

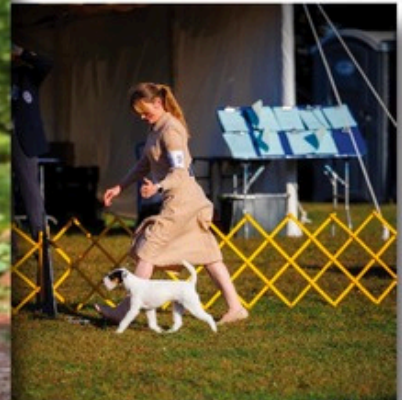


KENNELS

Congratulations on your first 25 years! - Johnny and Loree Conley

CATAMOUNT PARSON RUSSELL TERRIERS

Lovingly bred by Janine Rose and Norbert Benaiche in Bennington VT [PANHATTAN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:panhattan@gmail.com)



GO TEAM GLORIA!



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2025 NATIONAL SPECIALTY WINNERS!

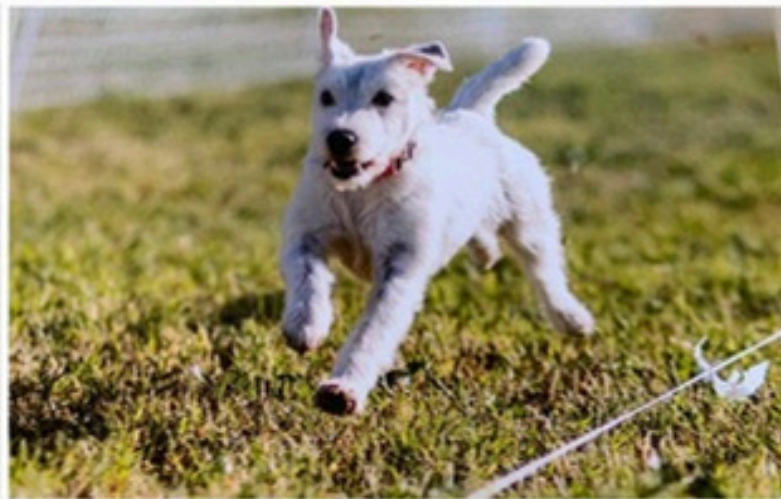
Bridge Bay Parson Russell Terriers & Saddles Ridge Parson Russell Terriers

Conformation - Barn Hunt - FastCat - Dock Diving - Rally and so much more!!



...wish to congratulate all the winners at our 2025 National Specialty!

See you in Perry GA April 2026 !



Connie Presley **Bravo Parson Russells**



I look forward to seeing everyone in
Enumclaw WA - August 2026!!!

- Connie