



Beardie Works

November 2010

www.RockyMountainBeardies.com

RMBCCC Board of Directors

Nancy Shock, President

303-940-7961 nashock@juno.com

Jill Floberg, Past President

303-948-0071 brightybeardie@aol.com

Jan Schefcik, Vice President

303-690-6634 jvsbooks@msn.com

Meg Naylor, Treasurer

303-400-1993 naylormk@mho.com

Elodji Means, Secretary

303-646-9638 elodji@msn.com

Norm Lazarus, Director

303-756-6695 nandolazarus@yahoo.com

Nan Matthews, Director

303-843-6414 nan@themattgrp.com

Peggy Reed, Director

303 660 2345 Peggyb2345@msn.com

Presidents Message

Nancy Shock

Happy Holidays to one and all.

I can't believe it's already December and the National has been over for almost two months. After over two years of planning and meetings and ideas and laughter we did a fantastic job. Congratulations to all and as I have said before, it was an honor to work with you.

I have made copies of all the e-mails and cards and Facebook messages from across the country praising the National and all of our hard work. I have them all in a notebook and will bring it to the next few club events so everyone has a chance to read them.

The Holiday/National Celebration Party was the first weekend in December. I hope I got to see many of you there. Thanks to Jan and Nan for planning this event and to Meg and Michael for hosting us all.

Our next RMBCC Board meeting is January 15th, I'll e-mail the membership and board members the time and location, as always all are welcome to attend. We are planning on having a herding event in May again this year and an annual picnic in June. We are all taking a much needed break but look for e-mail announcements for some informal get-togethers. We are so fortunate that hosting a National brings us all closer together and strengthens the bonds of our friendship.

And finally a Big Thanks to Tammy Begler for taking on the duties of putting out our club Newsletter... We all appreciate you efforts Tammy.

Nancy

An Open Letter to the RMBCC

The National specialty is over and we will celebrate our success at our annual Christmas Party. Many of you won't be able to attend, so I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the part you played in making this event the wonderful success it was.

There are people in particular who need to be thanked for their participation over the past 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years.

First on my list is Nancy. We started this journey together and I had no idea what I was in for. She knew enough thankfully to say if we as a club were to do this she would not do it alone. It is a daunting undertaking, not for the faint of heart. We worked well with each other. We played to our strengths and bolstered

each other when our weaknesses came to the front. We split our responsibilities and committees so that neither would be overwhelming.

We had committee heads who overlapped other duties and I would like to thank here those who served on my committees. If I tried to do this at the party I know I would leave someone out.

Agility, Helen O'Connor was on top of things from the very beginning and she and her team put on an excellent agility trial. Very organized, getting all the big stuff out of the way first and then those nagging little thing that crop up at the end. All handled beautifully, right down to the snacks for ringside. We moved them over to the judges tables at the confirmation rings and then passed it all on to the excellent staff at The Ranch.

Herding, Renee Jarrett took care of everything with a group of helpers all working well together. As with all the performance events there is much coordination that must happen with other groups. Renee juggled many balls and they all stayed on track. She must have even lined up the weather Gods as we had a beautiful day that carried through the entire week.

Obedience and Rally, Kathy Thomas had a good idea how many entries we would get, but they exceeded her wildest guesstimates. That was probably the only thing that didn't go according to her plan. That did not deter from both being great events. Kathy had the biggest job of working on the premium lists with Michele Ritter and the AKC. This paper work has to be exact and requires a great deal of knowledge, we are fortunate to have Kathy.

Grounds and Grooming, can enough be said for Tammy's commitment to make this work. She handled the assignment of the grooming reservations and spaces like a general planning his troop maneuvers. Even though there were many e-mails back and forth with concerns for squeezing everyone in, our trusted map maker Nancy gave us hope that it would all work and it did. A few overflow folks moved into the other room. The grounds were managed with the same attention to detail as the grooming and I would say that we have never had more areas to walk and less nasty doggy smell than we did. The RV area was less than perfect, no fault of anyones and everyone there adjusted. The bathing station was a challenge, The shower heads broke, bought new ones, and the towels, *OMG* did you ever see folks go through more towels in a day. Twice they were hauled over to the hotel and washed. And no it was not our towels that caused the hotel fire. That is another story and you will just have to ask about that one another time. All in all Tammy earns my unsung hero award for work above and beyond throughout the whole process.

Our raffles for the BCCA and the RMBCC were both very successful. Pre-sales were brisk and Jody Martin, cataloged every ticket order and sent out to everyone their ticket stubs. She and I worked on this together and without her excellent organization of this I would have been lost. At the actual week long event she came and helped the welcome committee get started with the sales then turned over the selling of tickets to them.

Laura Tappero was in charge of fund raising and visiting vendors for donations for many different areas of the show. She was able to have donated buckets and poop scoopers. Laura was relentless and tireless in her efforts.

Meg Naylor had the ever daunting task of Logo Wear and all the responsibilities that go with making this one of the most anticipated area of profit for the club. She had a job that went so very smoothly right to the end and then when we were slammed with a huge road block she handled it with grace and humor and with her helpers no one would have ever realized what a stressful situation this presented to our overall success. Meg you receive the Purple Heart for this one as you took hit after hit and still saved the day.

We had many unsung heroes that worked tirelessly in many areas during this event and I will name those who helped over at the show venue. Michael Bain for spending hours one day being sure that the bathing station towels were washed and ready for the next days round of shampoos. Mike Tupa for his trip to the hardware store to pick up more buckets for the waste stations. Melissa Peters and Stacey Collings for more than I even know, but mostly for their help in setting up the grooming area and keeping the bathing station supplied with product. Doni Lazar who was our judges hospitality who ran errands and helped wherever asked beyond keeping up with the judges needs. Linda Abramczyk for her help with winning photo shots. Everyone who helped did much more than I am able to report here and worked tirelessly with the committee chairs they reported to.

To all the vendors who participated, to The Ranch, The Embassy Suites and their staff. You helped to make it the best ever.

Finally to all the RMBCC club members who hung in there with us and participated in making this such a success. You know who you are!

With Gratitude, Jill

RMBCCC Braggs & Waggs

Ch Meadows' Emerald Gemineye, HIC

Emie finished her championship at less than 2 years old! We're proud of our girl.



Meg Naylor & Emie

News from Tammy Begler:

Woodsong's Danner Take a Hike, PT

Danner owned by Nancy Thompson from Phoenix finished his Rally Novice title at the National specialty.



Kenda and Danner enjoying the grounds.

News from Kathy Thomas:

Ian, Ch Summit's No Strings Attached CD RAE3 PT, was ranked #1 by *Front and Finish* dog training magazine in their 2009 Rally Combined Rating (combined Excellent B and Advanced B). The ranking is based on the number of dogs defeated where the dog earned a class placement. Ian defeated 173 fellow competitors in 2009.

At the 2010 BCCA National Specialty rally trial, Ian was second in excellent B and was tied for second in Advanced B but was given third due to time to complete the course (his handler moving with a cane slowed him down). Ian received the High Scoring Veteran in the Rally Trial!!



Audra, Ch Sherwood Cool Sequel at Summit CD RE HT, earned a PT leg at the 2010 BCCA National Specialty herding trial.



Beardie Minute

November 2010

Mike Tupa

After watching the Veterans Class showing at the recent National Specialty and seeing all those great poised Beardies parading around the ring I was thinking just what was a veteran Beardie equal to in human years. And having a 12yr old Beardie in our household I am even more aware of the time clock and the speed at which it seems to capture the foolishness, grace and wisdom of our companions.

A quick Google search tells me that a dog's lifespan flexes with the dog's age. A 6 month old Beardie is equal to a 5 year old toddler and at 1 year more equal to a 15 year old teen. How many "teenage" Beardies do we know at their first year birthday? As dogs age the equation seems to shift so that at 5 years they are more like a 37 year old human. More mature, family in progress, championships and other foolishness out of the way and ready to meet with life and its challenges.

At 10 years a Beardie is more like a 62 year old human. Their human equivalent of nearing retirement, more settled in their ways, eager for new things but well aware of the consequence that those adventures can bring. At 12 years my Beardie has lived a span equal to 72 human years. She's a little slower, still eager for affection and a good walk but cautious about new things that pop up in her environment.

The chart doesn't go beyond 14 years and fortunately our Beardies often outlive that life span. I have to wonder if this chart is equally applied to a small dog or large dog. My friend with Irish Wolfhounds laments their short lifespan and marvels at my expectations that Beardies easily run to 14

or 16 years still active to the end.

Anyone who shares their life with a dog knows what other dog owners know. We understand how a dog's life cycle repeats itself from puppy to adult to elder. As the elder years approach we quickly seek a puppy before our senior family member gets too infirm. We know that the vigor and excitement a puppy brings, and the promise of a future of new adventure, is important to our lives. Maybe as important as food or companionship. The energy and personality they bring to your home cannot be compared to anything else, in my mind.

There are a lot of reasons, all objective, about why dogs are important to their humans. From therapy empath's to seeing eye companions. But there are other subjective benefits. An older NIH study (1987) notes that "proven pet programs (are) superior in producing psychological benefits compared to some other alternative therapies such as arts and crafts programs, friendly visitor programs and conventional psychotherapy."

When we visit my mother in her apartment at the senior center she is almost more excited about the arrival of our dogs than seeing us. Here's a Brooklyn born war bride who wouldn't let us kids have a cat or dog inside the farm house, rarely visited the barn and would have nothing of baby kittens or puppies anywhere near the front door. But now she has spent time with our dogs, learned to accept their patient nosing's, and has welcomed them into her apartment. When we are there I've seen her stroking their heads and backs sharing their energy. She is even anxious to share them with her neighbors who also dote

Beardie Minute

Continued...

over the lovely loving Beardies who change the routine of their complex.

A senior dog in a household can be difficult. We've been through that routine more times than I wish to know. Tears come to my eyes even as I think of those now past. But that memory also includes the seemingly fearless manner with which our elder Beardies have faced their last years. Always ready for a walk even if we had to

carry them home. Always pushing a ball at our feet even if they couldn't see where you would toss it. And always warm at your feet to the end.

So, do I lament the ages of our Beardies who now register 62 and 72 in human years? In truth I watch them to learn how I should live out my senior years.

RMBCCC Call for Awards

The next two pages include information on Awards to be presented at the annual meeting.

The first page is the application for awards for accomplishments over the past year. The description of the recognized accomplishments are on the form.

The second page is the request for nominees for the RMBCCC Special Recognition award.

We appreciate your participation in the awards process!



**RMBCC 2010 ANNUAL AWARD APPLICATION
RULES & REGULATIONS**

1. One brass plate will be given for each AKC title earned. Members may apply for any AKC event title (i.e., conformation, obedience, rally, agility, herding, tracking), BCCA HIC and versatility titles, AKC CGC, and therapy dog certification. Associate members will be presented with a certificate of accomplishment but may order awards at the cost incurred by the Club.
2. Titles must be confirmed by the AKC. **Please attach a photocopy of your title certificate to the application.** The period covered will be for the calendar year 2010.
3. All persons applying must be members of the RMBCC in good standing, as well as with the AKC, at the time in which the title is awarded, achieved and presented.
4. If you are a regular member and this is your first award, please indicate on the form below that a plaque will be needed to hold the award plate(s). A separate application is required for each dog if more than one dog in your household has received titles during 2010.

APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE AWARDS CHAIRPERSON (LISTED BELOW) BY MAY 15, 2011. NO EXCEPTIONS!



Members Name: _____

Title(s) awarded: (Championship, obedience, rally, tracking, herding, agility, BCCA HIC and versatility awards, CGC, therapy dog)

ATTACH A COPY OF THE TITLE CERTIFICATION TO THE APPLICATION

Dog's Registered Name: _____

Dog's Call Name: _____

Check here if you are a regular member and have not received a plaque: _____

Return by May 15, 2011 to: Kathy Thomas, Awards Chairperson
1007 S. Summit View Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80524



RMBCC Special Recognition Award

The Board of Directors for the RMBCC has charged the Awards Committee with creation of a new award to honor beardies and/or members of our club that have accomplished something “special” over the past year. Members may nominate their own beardies or other members or their beardies. Some examples: rescue dogs who have overcome bad life experiences and are now serving as therapy dogs or working on AKC titles or simply have become wonderful companion animals; members who work with the rescue program; members who are going to nursing homes with their beardies; a dog that accomplished a special “feat” over the past year; or recognizing a member who goes above and beyond. These are just some examples and other situations may come to your mind. **Please write a short nomination statement and submit it to the Awards Chair by May 15, 2011.** This award will be presented at the annual meeting.

