

The Barker

The newsletter of
the Greater
Lincoln Obedience
Club



Nominations

The Nominating Committee offers the following names as candidates to serve as GLOC Board Officers for a 1-year term and the at-large persons for the Board to serve for 2-year terms beginning in January, 2007. All candidates have consented to have their names placed on this slate. Voting will take place at the January, 2007, meeting. No nominations were made at the December meeting.

OFFICERS:

President: Janet Ball
Vice President: Mary Schweitzer
Recording Secretary: Nancy Bowen
Treasurer: Jayne Sebby
Corresponding Secretary: Cheryl Griffith

BOARD:

Jennifer Brown
Staci Sullivan
Georgia Davis

NOTE: Vince Kamrath and Elbert Traylor have 1 more year to serve to complete their terms on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Vince Kamrath, Chairman
Sherry Drbal
Beverly McGhghy

Announcements

Upcoming Show-n-Goes: Obedience: January 19 (third Friday of the month). Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Runs begin at 7:00 p.m. Agility: January 5, 2007. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. Runs begin at 7:00 p.m. Entry Fees: \$6 for the first run of each dog; \$4 for each subsequent run of each dog.

UKC Agility Trial: Interested in competing in UKC agility? Want to have some fun? GLOC is hosting a UKC agility event (4 trials in one weekend!) on January 20 and 21, 2007. If you don't have a dog to enter, consider attending to help out by moving equipment, changing jump heights, and other tasks. If you want a premium list, contact Alicia at 261-3532 or via email at glocbarker@gmail.com.

Looking for the **Table of Contents**? See the back page!

Alicia Graybill is the Barker editor. Send an nouncements, brags, or other information of interest to her at gloc barker@gmail.com or call 402 -261-3532. The Barker deadline is the 15th of each month.

GREATER LINCOLN OBEDIENCE CLUB BOARD MEETING**Minutes: December 7, 2006**

No board meeting therefore, no board meeting minutes.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Bowen, Recording Secretary

GREATER LINCOLN OBEDIENCE CLUB GENERAL MEETING**Minutes: December 7, 2006**

Attending: Alicia Graybill, Brandi Hatch, Carrie Johnstone, Staci Sullivan, Nancy Bowen, Cheryl Griffith, Margot Peterson, Jon Peterson, Vince Kamrath, Dave Griffith, Dale Rethe, Beverly McGhghy, Jayne Sebby, Jennifer Brown, Judy Vitamvas, Georgette Wolters, Don Tuttle, Vicky Graybill, Elbert Traylor, Eileen Van Lent, Stephanie Bower. Guests: Cheri Miller, Shane Hatch, Sarah Hartwig, Kevin Sullivan, Ronne Hill.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 following the potluck dinner.

November, 2006, general membership meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jayne Sebby, Treasurer, gave the financial report in summary form. The full report is available elsewhere in the Barker.

Correspondence Cheryl Griffith reported on the thank-you cards she received after the fall events. They were for cash for high-combined, for help at Council Bluffs show, and for class refund for ill dog.

Agility Committee: Jayne Sebby presented the report and indicated that classes are finishing up for 2006. They are working on assembling the required equipment for the UKC agility trial in January. There will be a UKC show-and-go on 1/5/07 and the UKC trial will be held 1/20/07 and 1/21/07.

Obedience Committee: New hosts are needed for 2007 show-and-go events at the building. Contact Janet Ball to volunteer to host one of these monthly events.

Flyball Committee: Brandi Hatch reminded the group that the flyball team has been with GLOC for one year. They now have a class for flyball listed in the Southeast Community College catalog. She also announced that Stephanie Bower's dog Bummer received a title in flyball recently.

Public Relations: Cheryl Griffith reported that GLOC/GRRIN won the Animal Unit trophy at the Star City Parade in December. She thanked Jerry Harder for providing his wagon and sled for use in the parade entry. Alicia Graybill will be taking over as chair of the PR committee.

Training Committee: Elbert Traylor reported that classes are full and he noted the positive attitude and welcoming environment of the GLOC instructors and building. Elbert says he really is going to hold a training session for instructors in 2007.

New Business

Building: A building cleaning event will be held January 13, 2007, 1:00-3:00 pm. We want the building to look great for the UKC agility trial. Judy Vitamvas had the GLOC building checked out by an Emergency Management person who said it is fine for hail and regular rain, but is not considered storm-worthy for very strong winds or tornados. The visit by Emergency Management is part of the preparation for holding competitive events at the building.

Membership: Sarah Hartwig (Rhodesian Ridgebacks) had her first reading. Sarah was in attendance at the meeting. Kim Weygint had her first reading at the Nov. 2006 meeting and was not present at that meeting. She was not present at the Dec. 2006 meeting and, therefore, will have her second reading in Jan. 2007 or the next time she attends. Three applicants were voted into membership. Rona Hill, Cheri Miller, and Bob Ringo were voted into membership.

Elections: The proposed slate for 2007 Board of Directors was presented to the members. Nominations were invited from the floor and none were offered. A motion was made and passed to close the nominations.

Activity Passes: Janet Ball announced that in 2006, 26 people bought activity passes. Purchasing this pass is not only a good deal for members who train multiple dogs or participate in

Training you to train your dog for 43 years.

several activities, it is a financial shot in the arm for the GLOC treasury. Thanks to all those members who took this important step in supporting GLOC and the vision of a big, active dog club in Lincoln.

Volunteers: The new Awards chair will be Jennifer Brown. The new Programs chair will be Vicky Graybill. The new Public Relations chair will be Alicia Graybill.

Annual Awards:

- Golden Bolt (success in spite of self) = Janet Ball and Conrad
 - Twig (repeat performance) = Georgette Wolters and Dandy
 - Black Star (most improvement) = Stephanie Bower and Bummer
 - Cleared Hurdle (overcoming obstacles) = Mary Schweitzer and Zippy
 - Top Novice Dog = Cha Cha and Margot Peterson
 - Top Open Dog = Stella and Rosalee Classen
 - Top Utility Dog = Lark and Jill Morstad
 - Top Competition Dog = Lark and Jill Morstad
 - New Rally Obedience award = Goshey and Vicky Graybill (Elbert Traylor's and Jennifer Brown's dogs also received scores of 100)
 - Most Valuable Volunteer = Jayne Sebbby
- Respectfully submitted by Nancy Bowen, Recording Secretary.

DECEMBER, 2006, TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>SEPT., 2006</u>	<u>OCT., 2006</u>	<u>NOV., 2006</u>	<u>YTD</u>
INCOME	\$ 632.00	\$17,475.02	\$ 1,495.00	\$52,521.97
PAID OUT	<u>\$3,068.01</u>	<u>\$12,551.20</u>	<u>\$ 3,112.28</u>	<u>\$51,740.18</u>
TOTALS	\$(2,436.01)	\$ 4,923.82	(\$1,617.28)	\$ 781.79

BALANCES

CHECKING	\$ 8,682.38
MONEY MARKET	\$21,862.25
CD 1 (\$5000)	<u>\$ 5,353.63</u>
TOTALS	\$35,901.26

Phone List



Jan. 7 - Sharon Hayes	Feb. 11 -Judy Vitamvas
Jan. 14 - Janet Ball	Feb. 18 - Sharon H.
Jan. 21 - Alicia Graybill	Feb. 25 - Janet B.
Jan. 28 - Brandi Hatch	Mar. 4 - Alicia G.
Feb. 4 - Marcy Graybill	Mar. 11 - Brandi H.

BRAGS

No brags this month? What a shame! Remember, this is your newsletter, your chance to let the people who know and love you and your dog(s) what you've done recently. Just email the info to Alicia at glocbarker@gmail.com to see it appear here. PICTURES WELCOME!!

Do you have a brag or a new puppy? Send information to the editor (glocbarker@gmail.com) by the 15th of each month. Be sure to include the dog's registered name, accomplishment, date and show (if necessary), and who is submitting the brag. Pictures are welcome!

Training you to train your dog for 43 years.

Behind the Scenes with the Dog Whisperer

By Jill Morstad (2 of 2)

July 15, 8:15 a.m. There is a good bit of down time between activities, as the producers work down their list of the interviews, farm shots and other images that will help tell Mollie's story. Cameras are moved and adjusted, lighting assessed and all the while, the Eggers' politely field many questions about their history on the farm, the day-to-day operations, numbers of livestock and other crops. A newspaper reporter arrives from nearby Deshler (pop 817), and as she asks questions for her news story, the conversations grow lively as the locals explain to visitors what life is like in Thayer County.



Cue Mollie (after some work with Cesar).

Soon, it's 9:30 a.m. and the summer sun is high when a nondescript taupe sedan pulls on to the property. Cesar is driving, and with him are his wife Ilusion and their seven year old son, Calvin. They pour out of the car, along with traveling companions Daddy and Coco, a pit bull and a Chihuahua respectively, two dogs who would be instantly

recognizable to anyone who has seen the television show. Another round of introductions and soon Cesar is walking around, familiarizing himself with the layout, the farm, the work and the Eggers family. His challenge: to keep Mollie out from under Mark's pick-up.

Mark Eggers drives out to the family farm each morning from his home in nearby Ruskin. Mollie is the 'hired hand'. She helps with the cattle, announces the arrival of strangers, and she's good company. But Mollie's innate talents and courage for moving ornery cattle also takes another form – she chases and bites the truck tires whenever Mark leaves the farm without her. As a younger pup, her teeth were twice caught in the tire treads, and one instance required veterinary attention. As she got older, she got bolder and more determined and her third attack on the tires cost her an eye.

Mark and Leasha both regard Mollie as a valued asset to the farm, and important and necessary to the work done there. They would like Cesar's help to discourage Mollie from going after the car tires, and to maintain her as a balanced and respectful member of the family pack. They are well-aware that if Mollie doesn't learn to leave the truck tires alone, her failure to do so may well cost her her life.

Over in the barn, Cesar's interview with the Eggers doesn't take long. He has quickly understood their problems, and their concerns and he shares their appreciation for a good dog with a good job to do. Mollie is getting plenty of exercise behind the cows, and she has shown herself to be a dog of discipline and focus. Moreover, the Eggers respect her for exactly what she is: a working farm dog. This time, Cesar will not have to remind anyone that dogs are not children, nor that dogs

need exercise, and work to do. There is plenty of hard physical work to be done on the farm, and Mollie's good physical condition suggests that she's been doing her share.



Interviewing the Eggers

With the groundwork laid and the back-stories safely in the camera, it's time to get to work.

It's now late morning on what is promising to be a very hot July afternoon. On an ordinary day, the farm would be quiet except for machinery noises and cattle. If Mark needs to leave and go to town for an errand or for lunch he prefers to leave Mollie behind to rest, and to watch the property. In the truck,

alone, it is when he pulls down the driveway that Mollie goes into action; he has tried to correct her by stopping and stepping out, but as soon as the wheels stop, Mollie stops too, and retreats. On this not so ordinary day, more than a half a dozen people are gathered around to film or direct, and there is some concern that Mollie won't offer her tirebiting behaviors in front of an audience. Consequently, SueAnn shoos all unnecessary personnel into the motorhome and in just a few minutes several of us, including Ilusion, Calvin, Daddy and Coco, are safely stashed inside and relocated to a different part of the farm. Out of Mollie's sight and out of Mollie's mind, we're grateful for the air conditioning -- our conversation is punctuated occasionally by muffled shouts and automobile noises, suggestive of what's happening outside.

Because the motorhome is parked at an angle from the house, we can't see Mollie attacking the truck tires but after twenty minutes or so we are all surprised to look up and see the Eggers' enormous green combine emerging slowly from a shed directly across the farm yard -- with Cesar Millan in the driver's seat. Climbing out of the motor home, we learn that Mollie has indeed performed right on cue and without concern for people and cameras. Cesar has seen what he came to see, what he *needed* to see, and he has a recommendation for the Eggers family. In a few minutes, Mark will again climb into the truck and Cesar will implement his plan while cameras roll, but for now, Mollie has a few minutes to rest in the shade while Cesar tours the farm, a tour that includes a spin at the wheel of the combine which stands more than fifteen feet high above the corn.

Mollie is rested, and it's time to try again, and this time, Cesar wants Mark to be ready. Cesar's solution to Mollie's tire-chasing involves a remote training collar, and an appeal to Mollie's instincts as a working cattle dog. As their owners know, the typical heeler is powerful, athletic, highly intelligent and intently focused. The happiest heelers are those who receive regular exercise, training and a task to do every day. For these hardy little dogs, a sense of selfworth and being part of the pack are key.

Before affixing the e-collar, Cesar and Mark briefly discuss an important concept of livestock handling: the flight zone. According to livestock expert Dr. Temple Grandin, the flight zone is the animal's "personal space". When a dog (or a person) enters their flight zone, cattle will move away; understanding the flight zone can reduce stress on the animals, and help prevent accidents to handlers. Grandin notes that the size of the flight zone varies depending on the tameness or wildness of the livestock and the size of the flight zone will slowly diminish when cows receive frequent, gentle handling.



Leasha Eggers and Cesar Millan

The daily handling of beef cattle is what heelers were bred to do; this work demands a strong will and these dogs have no shortage of either determination or focus. They focus on their job as if their very lives depended on it-- when facing down a one-and-a-half ton steer, lives do sometimes hang in the balance. Another critical factor: stock dogs should expend the least amount of effort possible while still getting the job done. To reduce stress on the cattle themselves, economy is the name of the game when moving livestock.

Mollie is an experienced cattle dog who knows a little something about balance points. If she enters the cattle's flight zone they will move away, but if she penetrates the flight zone too deeply, the cattle will either bolt away or turn back and run past the dog. An experienced dog handler like Mark Eggers relies on his dog's *instinct and training* both, knowing that the best place to work is on the edge of the flight zone to make cattle move in an orderly manner. The animals will stop moving when dog and handler retreat from the flight zone.

As he fits the remote collar to Mollie's neck, Cesar encourages Mark to create a flight zone around and across the front of his truck. When Mollie enters the flight zone, Mark is instructed to push the button on the collar to ward Mollie back, much as the dog penetrates the flight zone to move cattle.

Grandin notes that when the handler is **outside the flight zone** the animals will turn and face the handler, and maintain a safe distance. And so it was with Mollie. When Mark put the truck in gear, his little dog locked in and tensed up, waiting for tires to start rolling and as the truck started forward, she came forward as well. Communicating via the remote collar, Mark turned her back

at the edge of the truck's flight zone and Mollie retreated quickly and quietly to the shade, turned to face Mark and laid down to await further instructions.

The application of the e-collar in this instance is one of doing what's necessary to save the dog's life. Mollie is chasing cars and biting tires. She's been run over three times, and has lost an eye. I understood Cesar to 'borrow' the concept of flight zone and ask the owner to define a flight zone in front of and around the truck. Dog enters the flight zone, and is turned back by thoughtful and strategic use of the e-collar. The initial training session took about fifteen minutes. Earlier I suggested that stock dogs should expend the least amount of effort possible while still getting the job done. Cesar's work with Mollie has extended that goal to the stock dog trainer as well: to reduce stress on the dog, clear, unemotional and efficient communication is key to reducing or eliminating dangerous behaviors.

Some people watch Cesar Millan and think he solves all dog problems in fifteen minutes, which of course is not true. The stories must be edited for television and edited to fit the format, and often that means that events are compressed in time and space. But in Mollie's case, the e-collar worked brilliantly -- at the precise moment that Mollie 'locks on' the car tires, she is corrected-- from where I stood, you could see her just turn away from the edge of the flight zone around the truck and trot smartly into the shade and lay down. Change Mollie's focus and her energy will change. No more anxious behavior aimed at truck tires. Just a calm and balanced dog waiting in the shade for the farmer to return.

It's 1:00 p.m. and the production is almost done. The executive director checks her list and there are just a few things left to set up and film. An hour later, as the camera crew strikes the set and Rojo packs the motorhome, Cesar answers the last of Mark's questions, signs books and CDs and shares *thank yous* all around. Headed back towards the driveway, Daddy is curious about the cattle so he and Cesar step over for a closer look. Leasha shares a laugh with me. "Look at the cows," she says.

The cattle are very respectful of Mollie, she continues, but they've never seen anything like Daddy. Having squeezed under a bottom rail, he stands placidly in the pen wagging his tail slowly back and forth while a dozen very curious cows gather around him just a couple of feet away, leaning their heads inching towards the big red pit bull, their eyes wide with curiosity and blowing hard from their noses.

Finally everything is ready to go, and Rojo loads up the dogs and the cameraman's assistant and they turn out of the drive and head the motorhome south towards Texas, waving out the window as they depart.

It was a privilege to observe the telling of Mollie's story, and understand Cesar's role in it. Her story considers ways in which responsible dog ownership means accepting full responsibility for our dogs in terms of their needs, as well as exploring the ethical standards for training and leadership that owning a dog entails. These stories have power, and such stories are one of the most powerful ways we make sense of our dogs. In the hearing and telling of stories we learn about who we are as dog owners; why we're here with dogs, how we came to be here, and what we value most; and how we see the world with dogs in it.

Photos courtesy Jill Morstad. Editor's Note: The episode this article refers to first aired on November 6, 2006.

TRAINING CALENDAR

Members must pre-register for regular classes with Elbert Traylor at 435-7886 to receive their discount.

Direct your non-member friends to register with Southeast Community College:

<http://www.southeast.edu/> As of June 1, all classes will be taught at the GLOC building, unless otherwise specified. For directions, see the web site (www.glocdogs.org) For now, for agility classes contact Mary Schweitzer at schweitzerautomotive@binary.net. For flyball, contact Brandi Hatch at sbhatch@alltel.net.

Class	Day	Start Date	Time	Ring	Session	Tuition
Puppy Manners	Mon	08-Jan	7:00-7:50 pm	A	6	\$60
	Tue	27-Feb	8:00-8:50 pm	A	6	\$60
Dog Obedience (Basic)	Fri	02-Feb	6:30-7:20 pm	A	6	\$60
Steps Obedience Training	Mon	08-Jan	6:30-7:20 pm	B	6	\$60
	Tue	09-Jan	7:30-8:20 pm	B	6	\$60
	Wed	10-Jan	7:00-7:50 pm	A	6	\$60
	Sat	13-Jan	9:00-9:50 AM	A	6	\$60
	Mon	05-Feb	6:30-7:20 pm	B	6	\$60
	Tue	06-Feb	7:30-8:20 pm	B	6	\$60
	Wed	07-Feb	7:00-7:50 pm	A	6	\$60
Intermediate Obedience	Mon	08-Jan	8:00-8:50 pm	A	6	\$60
	Tue	27-Feb	6:30-7:20 pm	B	6	\$60
Novice Competition Ready	Wed	10-Jan	7:30-8:20 pm	B	6	\$60
	Wed	28-Feb	7:30-8:20 pm	B	6	\$60
Beginning Agility	Wed	10-Jan	6:30-7:20 pm	C	6	\$60
	Wed	21-Feb	6:30-7:20 pm	C	6	\$60
Intermediate Agility	Tue	09-Jan	7:30-8:20 pm	C	6	\$60
	Wed	10-Jan	8:30-9:20 pm	C	6	\$60
	Tue	27-Feb	7:30-8:20 pm	C	6	\$60
	Wed	28-Feb	8:30-9:20 pm	C	6	\$60
Advanced Agility	Tue	09-Jan	8:30-9:20 pm	C	6	\$60
	Tue	27-Feb	8:30-9:20 pm	C	6	\$60
Flyball	Mon	08-Jan	7:00-7:50 pm	C	6	\$60
	Mon	26-Feb	7:00-7:50 pm	C	6	\$60

REMINDER: Drop-in Obedience classes every Thursday night (except for the first Thursday of the month) at 7:00 p.m.- \$4 members; \$8 non-members. **Drop-in Agility** classes every Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m., same fees.

Greater Lincoln Obedience Club, Board of Directors & Committees

President	Janet Ball	5015 W. Kingsley Lincoln 68524	416-5540
Past President	Judy Vitamvas	2014 Burnham St., Lincoln 68502	423-1498
Vice President	Mary Schweitzer	840 E. Sanborn Dr., Lincoln 68505	467-5235
Recording Secretary	Nancy Bowen	421 S. 54th St., Lincoln 68510	327-9457
Corresponding Sec.	Cheryl Griffith	1633 Frisco Dr., Lincoln 68521	742-6605
Treasurer	Jayne Sebby	320 S. 29 th St., Lincoln 68501	474-3059
Members at Large	Jennifer Brown	4537 Turner, Lincoln 68504	325-9362
	Georgia Davis	3152 Stephanos Dr., Lincoln, 68516	261-4239
	Vince Kamrath	4110 Fran Ave., Lincoln 68516	488-3139
	Staci Sullivan	2700 W. Highridge Cir., Lincoln 68522	560-1649
	Elbert Traylor	802 Judson St., Lincoln 68521	435-7886

Committee Chairs

Agility	Mary Schweitzer	840 E. Sanborn Dr., Lincoln 68505	467-5235
Awards	Jennifer Brown	4537 Turner, Lincoln 68504	325-9362
Building	Nancy Bowen	421 S. 54th St., Lincoln 68510	327-9457
Fall Obedience Trial	Sherry Wolf-Drbal	4430 Van Dorn St. Lincoln 68506	489-8069
	and Janet Ball	5015 W. Kingsley Lincoln 68524	416-5540
Flyball	Brandi Hatch	620 Driftwood Dr., Lincoln, 68510	486-9269
Librarian	Beverly McGhghy	5240 Colby St., Lincoln 68504	465-4282
Membership	Sharon Hayes	3429 Woodbine Ave., Lincoln 68516	488-8983
Programs	Vicky Graybill	4234 St. Paul Ave., Lincoln 68504	261-3532
Public Relations	Alicia Graybill	4234 St. Paul Ave., Lincoln 68504	261-3532
Training Director	Elbert Traylor	802 Judson St., Lincoln 68521	435-7886

GLOC Training Building 5740 Johanna Road 464-6529

GLOC Mail P.O. Box 84031, Lincoln, NE 68501

Website: <http://www.glocdogs.org>

Barker email: glocbarker@gmail.com

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Add your dog to the GLOC Web Site--We are looking for brags for the "Braggs" page on the <http://www.glocdogs.org/brags.html> web site. *Important*--include a good photo of your dog and the titles and years of accomplishments. If you don't have a photo scanned, deliver it to Alicia and she can scan it in. We also have a "Hall of Fame" section for dogs who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge. For more information, contact Alicia at glocbarker@gmail.com.

GLOC Event Schedule for January

Mark your calendars and plan to help out with as many of these events as possible.

- 4** Evening GLOC general membership meeting-- Elect next year's officers! 7:00 p.m. on
- 5** Evening Agility Fun Match (UKC rules) 6:30 p.m. on
- 13** Afternoon Building Cleaning Party 1-3:00 p.m.
- 19** Evening Obedience Show-n-Go (tentative) 6:00 p.m. on
- 20-21** All Day UKC Agility Trials 7:30 a.m. on

Thanks to all the Parade Participants with special thanks to Jerry, Emma, Sampson and Argent Harder (for the use of their wagon) and Cassie and Hannah Almanza (for providing their stuffed dogs). Once again, we received the Best Animal Unit Award. Submitted by Cheryl Griffith
(Editor's Note: Thanks to Cheryl Griffith for her hard work in putting the parade entry together. We appreciate you, Cheryl!)