Volume 8 #2 Issue: Summer 2007





Summer Events around the Country

We just wanted everyone to know that there are four 10th Anniversay Gatherings, with three of them having Fun Matches. There will be AKC judges in attendance at the Fun Matches (these are learning Matches for both Judges and ourselves). The first will be June 10, in Tunbridge VT. Fun Match & Party, the next will be in Myrtle Creek OR, (Party) the next will be in Sequim, WA. June 30, Party and July 1 Fun Match, the last will be in Hagerstown, MD. August 25, Party and Fun Match combined.

These Parties and Fun Matches are being sponsored by the newly formed regional chapters **Nordvestur Icelandic Sheepdog Chapter (NISC) and the Alantshaf Icelandic Sheepdog Chapter (AISC)**. All ages of Icelandic Sheepdogs are invited to participate in the Fun Matches regardless of whether or not they have been spayed or neutered. Events are planned for all levels of obedience and fun for the whole family. You can register in advance for these events, the entry forms are on the NISC http://icelanddogs.com/Chapter-NISC.html and AISC pages http://icelanddogs.com/Chapter-AISC.html of the ISAA website, these are donation only events but advanced registration would be greatly appreciated!

These Chapters were formed with the purpose of giving folks in a region a network to allow them to meet, compete and promote this fabulous breed. If you live in either of these regions and think you'd like to get involved planning or participating in "Meet the Breed" events, gatherings, fun matches etc. we'd love for you to join either of these chapters. Membership applications are also on the web pages above.

First Event:

Sunday, June 10th. Judi and Jean-Pierre Debeuf are hosting a 10th anniversary party for the ISAA. An AKC Judge, Susan Parson will be present for our 1st Fun Match. The Judges' education seminar will start at 10:00 am, judging will be starting at 11:00 with food, fun, games & prizes later.

Judge Susan Parson has 30 years of eventing experience, starting with Junior handler. She has judged the Icelandic Sheepdog at rare breed events and has graciously accepted our invitation to view ours at the very first Fun Match this year. There will be T-shirts commemorating this event, also a raffle to benefit the AISC Chapter and the ISAA.

The Debeufs live on 300 acres in Vermont and have a perfect location for LOTS of Icies, and their owners! There is a pond for the dogs to swim in (people too!) and hiking/biking trails throughout the property.

Judi and Jean-Pierre have graciously offered to provide the food for the party so that those people having to travel won't have the inconvenience of having to bring a dish. Soft drinks will be provided. We'd love to have a big turnout for this special occasion, so plan on packing up your dogs, bikes and whatever else you want to bring and head for Vermont June 10th!

Judi and Jean-Pierre would appreciate an RSVP to have an idea of how much food they will need. They can be reached by email, snail mail or phone. Judi and Jean-Pierre Debeuf, 10 Chester Dr. Tunbridge, VT. 05077(802) 889-3709 jdebeuf@aol.com

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Second Event:

June 23rd & 24th in Myrtle Creek, OR We will start out with a "Dock Dog" Demonstration and training session at 10:00 am. Need proof of vaccinations and \$5 per dog, the demonstration will be at Metz Hill north of Sutherlin. If needed we can carpool from Gwen's to the site. Gwen has 13 acres with ponds to explore, I'm sure Kutur will be willing and able to show all our Icies the best places. There is fishing to be done (catch and release). For organized fun we'll have some games for our Icies and if you have any Agility equipment that you would like to bring we'll set it up for some informal runs.

Directions: I-5 to exit 103, (exit 108 closed) Turn East and follow the main road into Tri City. There is a blinking yellow light at Chadwick Land, turn West. Follow Chadwick back across I-5, the driveway is the very first one on the left after the overpass. The mailbox is painted to look like the Icelandic flag and is directly across the street from the driveway.

There is room for self contained RV's, also space for tent camping. If you are more comfortable in a Motel or full hook-up campground here is the list:

Motels: Campgrounds w/full hook up:

Rose Motel \$40/night On the River Golf & RV Resort \$24/night 316 Norton Lane 111 Whitson Lane

Myrtle Creek Myrtle Creek 541-863-3581 541-679-3505 approx 10 min approx 15 min

Leisure Inn \$54.95/night \$10/dog Surprise Valley RV Park 554 SW Pine 116 Surprise Valley Rd

Canyonville Canyonville
541-839-4278 541-839-6634
approx 10 min approx 10 min

Third Event:

June 30th and July 1st are the dates for the next event. This event is being held at Jerry Lynn and Gerry David Costa's home at 33 Morning Star Way, Sequim, WA. Saturday, June 30, 12:00 start time for food, fun and games for Icies and their people, the property is completely fenced and safe for all. Bring potluck items to go with JL & GD's barbeque.

Sunday, July 1st we will hold a "Judges Education Seminar" followed by our Fun Match which will be a conformation event with up to five AKC judges present to coach us regarding how to show our dogs in the ring. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded and there will be a fun raffle, proceeds will go to our NISC Chapter and ISAA. There will be food and fun and we can all learn together in a safe environment. We hope that a lot of Saturday's participants will be able to join us. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact Donna McDermott either at donnamcdermott@yahoo.com or at the Saturday event.

Richard and Nancy Byrd will the official AKC Judges for this event, AKC Judge Rosemary Leist will be joining them and possibly others. Also joining us is Pat Putman (now an AKC Judge) who knew and worked with Mark Watson, who along with Sigridur Petersdottir were instrumental in saving the Icelandic Sheepdog. Pat will be a wonderful source of history on our breed.

Just a thought from the organizers of these events. If you plan on bringing your female Icie and she is in Season you might want to reconsider. Bringing a Female in Season to these events could cause a huge amount of chaos, there will be numerous intact males. We hate to leave anyone out so come alone and enjoy all the other Icie smiles.

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Fourth Event: Date: Aug.25th, 2007 Time: 10:30am until 7:30pm Phone: 301-797-7619

Location: 9650 Beaver Creek Church Rd, Hagerstown, MD

Email: squinter@aol.com
Hosts: Robert and Elisabet Hurley

Located near Hagerstown, MD, this get together will feature:

- * Fun time with other Icie lovers
- * Canine Contests for all age and skill levels (see schedule below)
- * Raffle, Silent Auction and Cool Prizes
- * Experienced dog trainer (Leeray Downs) is giving an obedience demo at 2:00 in afternoon
- * Icelandic menu picnic (covered dishes are welcome) (also folding chairs) (leashes too)
- Unpolluted creek for the dogs to play in (you can too)
- * Two fenced in areas for the dogs to play without leashes
- * Cool walking trails (13 acres) thru the woods and along the creek
- * Canoe to take your Icies on a little Viking cruise
- * Electric hook-up available for a camper or RV
- * 3 dog friendly motels nearby if you need to stay overnight. Anyone who wishes to obtain a room please make reservations well in advance.....they get booked early for summer. ---

Clarion Hotel, 888-528-6738 (closest)

Super 8, 800-800-8000 Sleep Inn, 800-424-6423

* AKC sanctioned dog obedience trial in Baltimore that weekend also...Sat. and Sun., check AKC scheduled events....

NEWNewly forming Eastern chapter of the ISAA called Alantshaf Icelandic Sheepdog Chapter (AISC) is sponsoring an AKC sanctioned "Fun Match" Conformation Show!!! We will have an official AKC judge (Karin Ashe) to judge this fun-for-all match beginning at 11:00am. No actual AKC points will be given, but the ISAA is giving out real ribbons to the winners. You need not have any experience with showing, this is a FUN match, and a learning experience for all...including the AKC judge!

The kids might even enjoy showing their Icie....puppies and mature dogs welcome....

Please go to the AISC website to sign up Come and bring your Icelandic Sheepdogs and join us for the day on Saturday, August 25th for a fun Icelandic picnic to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the ISAA!

We are asking for folks to please RSVP me ASAP. Elisabet Stacy-Hurley

ISAA on the Move! - Yeah! Jo Ann

Just to let you everyone know.... I was given the opportunity to do the ISAA's first judges' education program on the ISD for the Mason Dixon Judges Association, here in Maryland. I had the privilege of being accompanied by the founding member of the ISAA Elisabet Stacy-Hurley with Viking Koko and Istolt Aska. I was so happy she could be there for that "first" which she has worked so long with the club to achieve. Along with Elisabet was my partner Jonathan Pickett, Isi Kaffisukkulathi and our Viking Lilja. The judges, of course, loved the dogs, they were very pleased with the booklets that Jaime and Knox put together for the program and loved the video from Iceland.

We had a good mix of dogs there, brown nosed, long haired and medium, Red sables, gold sables and red-gold sables and a chocolate Tri- with Lilja in her summer coat! I felt badly that she'd totally blown her coat after all the baths from being sprayed by the skunk but I was also pleased that they could see what an ISD looked like in their summer

clothes. The judges were amazed by the diversity within the breed.

They were very interested in learning as much as they could about proper ear and tail set, gait, proportion, coats and color. It was a fantastic learning experience for myself as well with this awesome group of judges. I have been invited to attend their monthly meetings which I think I'll take them up on. It has been really interesting to see and hear how other breed clubs present their dogs and standards and the materials and format they use.

Thanks so much to the BOD for the opportunity, *Jo-Ann*



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SO, YOU WANNA BE A MOVIE STAR? By Donna R. McDermott

Adding the American Kennel Club (AKC) Canine Good Citizen (CGC) title to your dog's name is a great start! Did you know there are currently 17 Icelandic Sheepdogs who are members of the ISAA and hold the CGC title. You could be #18!

The AKC's CGC Program was started in 1989 with the intent to promote "responsible dog ownership for owners and basic training for dogs." The program's objective is to:

- 1. teach responsible dog ownership to "owners";
- 2. provide basic training and good manners to dogs.

Editorial note: If you are like me, you don't "own" your ISD. It is the other way around. But, you get the point anyway, right?

The CGC is one of the first certificates your dog can own and the training for CGC provides a wonderful foundation for future training and competitive obedience in the AKC or UKC. The CGC is a prerequisite for some therapy dog groups and many state legislatures have endorsed the program. Most importantly, it is a great deal of fun. The bond you already share with your dog will be enhanced as you will feel more confident as a trainer and may be more willing to take him or her with you more often.

There are CGC classes offered by most reputable dog training clubs. While this is a wonderful idea and will insure success, don't let the absence of such a class stop you.

The CGC is comprised of ten small tests. They are:

- Accepting a friendly stranger: You can all just check this one off the study list. ISDs love people and the only problem you may experience here is that your ISD greets the examiner with too much glee. "Your dog must show no sign of "resentment or shyness, and must not break position or try to go to the evaluator." Hmm. Kol gave our evaluator a big kiss and wagged her whole body. It was not held against her. Most evaluators are pretty friendly types, but practicing a sit, stay for greetings is a swell idea. Most folks don't want to be jumped on.
- <u>Sitting politely for petting</u>: This may be a stretch for your ISD. Famous for wiggling the entire body when petting is occurring is a trademark of the breed. So, you may have to actually practice this one. Your ISD should sit at your side "as the evaluator approaches and begins to pet the dog on the head and body only." It is also permissible for your dog to stand if you prefer (great practice for the show ring!) Again, no shyness or resentment. I know one ISD that was bonked on the head as a baby by another dog. She does not like her head touched. In preparation for this portion of the class, they are working on this very hard by moving slowly and gently, having others pet her, etc. I have no doubt that our girl will pass with flying colors.
- <u>Appearance and Grooming</u>: Dirty ISD? Never! Sometimes, however, it is fun to brush out the little fluffy pantaloons and show off the beautiful style of our long-haired friends. "The evaluator inspects the dog, then combs or brushes the dog, and lightly examines the ears and each front foot". Taking your dog to the vet requires that s/he will be touched. (While not part of the exam I highly encourage regular nail trimming and teeth brushing.) Bring your own brush to the test so your sweet ISD won't have to use another icky brush.
- <u>Out for a Walk</u>: This loose lead exercise is designed to demonstrate that you have control of your ISD. There are a few rules to this one. Your fluffy tailed dog must be on one side or the other. It doesn't matter which side. They will provide a little course with a left turn, right turn, at least one stop, and an about turn. Your pup does not need to be perfectly aligned with you and does not need to sit when you stop.
- <u>Walking Through a Crowd</u>: This was my favorite part of the test because it is just so dorky and fun. Several people mill about as if they just happen to be hanging out in the middle of the ring chatting. You and your dog walk around them and pass close to several people (at least three). Your dog should show some interest in the strangers (not a problem), without appearing over exuberant, shy or resentful. We practiced at the hardware store...Piece of cake. The only thing you need to train your dog to do is not to pull on the leash.

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<u>Sit and Down on Command and Stay in Place</u>: You learned this in your Puppy 101 class, right? Lots of room for extra commands in this exercise. Take your time, it is okay. The evaluator will tell you to leave the dog and you walk forward the length of a 20 ft. line. Your pup needs to remain in place. They will supply a 20 ft. lead if you don't have one, but I suggest that you practice with one so your dog isn't surprised by anything new. If you are really confident, you can do the exercise off leash or lay your leash down in front of the dog and walk away. Because there are many dogs in the area of the test, please be cautious of any dogs that may not be friendly to yours. If you have any questions, wait till they are done or use the 20 ft. line so you maintain some control. Your dog can change positions, but must stay in place.

<u>Come when Called</u>: Walk 10 ft. from your dog (half of the length of your new 20 ft. lead), face your dog and call her/him. You can encourage her/him to come to you. The evaluator may provide mild distractions like petting your dog, so this is a good one to practice at home with a friend acting as the evaluator. Hint: bait is a good motivator with the recall command. Intermittent reinforcement is the most powerful tool. It cannot be used during the test, but you can practice right before you go in with bait and s/he will never know if this is the time with the reward or without it

Reaction to Another Dog: Of course, your ISD behaves well with other dogs! All of ours are perfect. This test was clearly made up for other breeds, but we have to perform it. This is a piece of cake. You approach another handler who has a dog from about 15 feet, meet, shake hands, exchange pleasantries and move on. Your dog should show no more than a casual interest in the other dog. Hint: Arrive early to the test. Let your dog sniff everyone and get it out of his/her system. When they meet in the ring again, no big deal.

Reactions to Distractions: The evaluator and some assistants will create some "natural" distractions such as dropping a book or a pan (they used tin pie pans in our test). Your dog may express a natural interest/curiosity or be slightly startled, but should not panic or run away or bark (uh oh!). If you are like me, we get to practice this daily while cooking. A phone book is also a nice practice tool. We also hung out in front of the grocery store. Those noisy carts are perfect, car doors, lots of great noises. I was able to collect a few dollars in change in that pie tin as well!

<u>Supervised Separation</u>: You made it to the last test. Yippee!! All you need to do is leave your sweet darling with an attendant, walk away and hide around the corner. Remain out of sight for 3 minutes and Walla, you are done. Your dog does not have to sty in position, but cannot continually bark, whine or pace unnecessarily.

CGC tests are offered regularly at AKC shows, by local trainers and local dog clubs. For more information, go to www.AKC.ORG or you can email them directly at CGC@AKC.org. If you prefer the direct method, you can call the AKC CGC Program at 919.233.9767.

Just for fun, try the test on for size in the safety of your living room. Easy, isn't it? Now, try it at the local park with a friend. Did it? You are ready! Please remember to tell James Hansen and me whenever you get a title so we can include you in the ISAA records!

Future CGC? Agility? Anything they want.









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Icies in Action



With great personal pride, I'd like to introduce you, via attached photograph, to Ch. Pineridge Kolperla, CGC. The attached picture is actually Kol winning BIS Reserve on day one of the two day show in St. Helens, Oregon.

Perla & Sandi



Kol & Donna

Nosi's done it again!

In February Nosi finished his UKC Champion and now in March he has completed the UKC Novice agility title - UAGI Div 2.

Nosi made his agility debut this weekend at the Timber Ridge UKC Agility trial at Camp Bandy. There were two trials on Saturday and one trial on Sunday. I was so excited for our very first trial that I went to bed early and got to the trial early the next day. Which for those of you that know me, know that's a big deal!

Nosi & Gail

We have another ISD WOW dog. Tyra is our flyball superstar. She lives with Scott and Candise Berard. Check out these amazing stats.

FD (Flyball dog)

FDX (Flyball Dog Excellent)

FDCH (Flyball Dog Champion)

FDCH-S (Flyball Dog Champion Silver)

FDCH-G (Flyball Dog Champion Gold)

FM (Flyball Master)

She currently has 9407 pts, 593 pts away from her next title of FMX (Flyball Master Excellent) which she should receive at her next tournament.

Just in case that is not enough for you, Tyra also holds a Herding Instincts certificate. I'll have to do a little research re: ISD "firsts", but am quite sure Little Ms. Tyra has set some USA ISD records here.



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What is Canine Agility?

By Kathryn Ananda-Owens

Canine agility is a rapidly-growing spectator sport involving dog and handler in the navigation of specially-designed timed obstacle courses. Obstacles commonly encountered on agility courses include jumps, tunnels, weave poles, tables, and even seesaws! Dog-and-handler teams are organized into different jump height classes to compete against each other and against the clock. For most agility organizations, no competitive "win" is necessary to achieve an agility title, as long as your dog is beating the clock at your level of competition. Courses range from simple S-shapes at the novice level to mind-bendingly complicated patterns intended to challenge the experienced elite.

How do I make heads or tails of all these agility titles?

Agility titles are grouped according to the sanctioning body. AKC and UKC sanction agility events, but so do a number of other organizations dedicated exclusively to cynosports generally or agility specifically. In the United States and Canada, these organizations include CPE (Canine Performance Events), DOCNA (Dogs on Course in North America), NADAC (North American Dog Agility Council) and USDAA (United States Dog Agility Association).

AKC Agility Titles:

Novice Agility (NA) - Three qualifying legs earned in Standard competition at the novice level. Obstacles include jumps, tunnels, weave poles, dogwalk, A-frame, seesaw, pause table.

Novice Jumpers with Weaves (NAJ) - Three qualifying legs earned in Jumpers with Weaves competition at the novice level. Obstacles include jumps, weave poles, and possibly a tunnel or two.

Open Agility (OA) - Three qualifying legs earned in Standard competition at the open level.

Open Jumpers with Weaves (OAJ) - Three qualifying legs earned in Jumpers with Weaves competition at the open level.

Excellent Agility (AX) - Three qualifying legs earned in Standard competition at the Excellent level, in the Excellent A class (some time faults permitted).

Excellent Jumpers with Weaves (AXJ) - Three qualifying legs earned in Jumpers with Weaves competition at the Excellent level, in the Excellent A class (some time faults permitted).

Master Agility (MX) - Ten qualifying legs earned in Standard competition at the Excellent level, in the Excellent B class (no time faults permitted).

Master Jumpers with Weaves (MXJ) - Ten qualifying legs earned in Jumpers with Weaves competition at the Excellent level, in the Excellent B class (no time faults permitted).

Master Agility Champion (MACH) - Twenty "Double Qs" (qualifying in Excellent B Standard and Excellent B Jumpers with Weaves on the same day) and 750 speed points. One speed point is earned for every second a dog's qualifying Excellent B leg is under the standard course time allotted by the judge.



Picture by Great Dane Photos

Aldebaran Tisla OA AXJ NAC NCC OJC O-TN-O
O-TG-N O-WV-N CGC "Viva"

Breed Record Holder, Clean Run Ultimate Weave Pole Challenge; Recipient of NADAC Novice Versatility Award Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the AKC - Canine Health Foundation Breeders Symposium in Lansing, MI A variety of topics were touched on that weekend but they all had a reoccurring theme....... HEALTH TESTING!

The one lecture that did affect me most profoundly while there was the one on Hereditary Eye Disease and some of the absolutely horrific states that it can progress to in canines. I'll spare you the gory details but it wasn't pretty. I also had the opportunity to hear the programs and so of the extremes that other breeds have gone to in an attempt to rid their breed of eye disease. Again, testing was the reoccurring theme. I couldn't help but think, "WOW, we are in a really unique situation in the Canine Community, we have a small but diverse population, relatively disease free, testing is available to all of us, our breeders voluntarily test and are so ethical that they will not use affected dogs! With conscientious folks like this involved with the Icelandic Sheepdog, we could have one of the healthiest populations for generations to come." Needless to say, I found it all very exciting!

For many, Health Testing is a new experience, something they've never done with any other dog before and they aren't sure just what they're looking for, or maybe what they'll even find, why they should have testing done and how it is helpful to the breed as a whole. I hope I can briefly answer these questions and define a few of the things which might show up in our breed here.

Even though your dog may never contribute to the gene pool his eye test results will help breeders determine whether a sibling of his is a good candidate for a particular breeding pair. A breeder may want to avoid mating a pair that had an occurrence of the same hereditary eye disease in both sides of the pedigrees. This will help to avoid creating any new affected dogs; with information that the CERF exam was clear for an entire litter or there was an affected dog in the litter will help them make the best choices possible. It's a team effort to breed healthy dogs, and everyone is invited to be a member of the team, No Auditions or Try-Outs required. (To raise Children it may take a village but to breed puppies it takes a team)

So which Hereditary Eye Disease have been popping up on the CERF exams in our breed, well there have been reports of Distichia, PPM's, Juvenile Cataracts, Cataracts, Retinal Folds and Retinal Dysplasia

Distichiasis and Ectopic Cilia - Abnormal hairs growing from the Meibomian glands of the eye lid. If the hair grows from the Meibomian gland (an oil gland) opening onto the surface of the eye this is called Distichia, the hairs can often be long and stiff which can cause irritation to the eye. Ectopic Cilia are also hair that grow from the Meibomian gland but grow on the inside of the eyelid, is very painful for the dog and can cause Corneal Ulcers.

This condition is considered by some breeds to be cosmetic but it has also been found to be genetically linked. Surgery is required to remove the offending eye lash and is said to be 85%90% effective in preventing the regrowth of the lash. Although, this does not prevent the lashes from growing in other areas of the lid, those would require additional surgery.

Persistent Pupillary Membrane "PPM's" - These are remnants of a fetal structure called the pupillary membrane. This membrane covers the pupil before the animal is born providing a blood supply to the developing lens. The Pupillary Membrane is partially present in puppies at birth and continues to disappear as they mature and normally disappearing by 4 or 5 weeks of age. Sometimes absorption is not complete and a few strands of this fine web like structure remain.

This is a common finding in the CERF exam. In some breeds it is considered genetic, not enough data has been collected on the Icelandic Sheepdog to determine this within our breed yet. There are several different types of PPM's that may be found. Iris to Iris in general cause no problems, they may be single or forked strands spanning across the pupil, sometimes these strands break becoming less prominent but will not completely disappear. Iris to Lens can cause problems. They cause cataracts at the point where they are attached to the lens capsule. The Cataracts do not become any larger and cause only minor visual impairments. Iris to Cornea cause opacities on the cornea as they damage the corneal endothelium (inner lining of the cornea). The opacity may be small or become severe as corneal edema may occur. This can cause blindness in a puppy, it has a possibility of improving as they age but will never disappear.

Juvenile Cataracts and Cataracts - CERF defines a cataract as "a partial or complete opacity of the lens". They are one of the most common intraocular lesion and a leading cause of vision loss in dogs. Cataracts can be caused by genetics, trauma, ocular inflammation diabetes mellitus, specific nutritional deficiencies, genetic retinal atrophy, congenital abnormalities and of course, due to metabolic changes due to old age!

Nor'Star Waylon: what he's up to now:

He isn't supposed to sit on the couch, and when I come home from work and see dog hair on the couch, if you say, "Waylon, were you on the couch?" he will look incredibly guilty and cowers down on all fours and crawls into the corner of the room and puts his nose in the corner like a little kid in "Time Out." It's so cute so you can never really be mad if he gets on the couch. And while he puts himself in "Time Out," his tail wags the entire time and he just looks at you so sadly until you tell him it's ok. It's so funny. Sarah, In CO.

Kol and I are at a show this weekend and are doing well, having fun. However, all the pretty ribbons in the world don't hold a candle to this little excerpt from the show...

So, we are standing in the ring, pretty dogs all in a row, and the judge is taking forever, she looks at us and says, "Although I am placing you in second, you get the 'best teamwork award'. It is obvious that you both love each other very much and make a marvelous team. Never forget that is the most important thing."

(Yes, this is an unusual show. More on that later.)

So, the fighting dog won the blue ribbon and I am left with love. I am thinking I am the big winner.

(BUTTTTTTT, just in case you are concerned that I have lost my competitive edge & gone all mush on you...we kicked the fighting dog's stubby tail in the next round! Fluffy butts always have the last



Enjoy the day, Donna

From: Steve Londino, let's see what Blackstar Ari is up

I thought you all might want to hear the latest adventure of

Never have I seen such a playful (sometimes) puppy. It is almost like having a toddler. I am too old for this.

I have been taking Ari to work with me every couple of

Yesterday I had to go to the pet store to get some crickets for Buck.

Buck is a bearded dragon (large lizard) I have at my office. Anyway, I purchased 100 large crickets. The pet store put them in a plastic bag as usual. I put the bag in the back seat and decided to go have lunch. By the way, I got Ari a bone to chew on because I didn't want him to get in trouble in the car while I was eating lunch. I made sure I sat by the window while I ate so I could see him in the car window. He was standing there with that smile that they are known for and I could see his tail wagging. All of a sudden he disappeared. I wasn't too concerned so I continued with my lunch. After a few seconds, he popped back up in the window.

When I got back to the car he was sitting there waiting for me smiling and tail a wagging. HOWEVER, when I opened the door I saw a couple of crickets loose and a few on him. I didn't think too much of that until I got in and noticed more crickets loose. I looked in the back seat and he had punctured the plastic bag. All the crickets got out!!!!!!!! They were all over the place -the front seat, the dash, the floor, windows and roof chirping. Ari did not seem concerned as they were on him as well. I jumped out of the car and tried to brush them out. I got most but not all. They got in the cracks and under the seat. Driving home last night I would hear a couple in different locations of the car. This morning when I got in I found a few more. I am not sure how long this is going to last. We had a few get out in the house a while back we would hear a cricket in the heating ducts every now and then for a couple of months. And that was when it was going from Fall to Winter and getting cold. This is now the time of year when it gets warmer.

As I am typing this, he is laying next to me on his back sleepingwith his legs spread wide for all to see. His favorite position.

He got to meet his aunt a couple of weeks ago. We met Peg and Birit. He had a great time at the beach running in the water and playing with the other dogs.

Until next time.

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Canadian Kennel Club Calendar of Events for Summer 2007

Submitted by: Val Sharp

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Hello Folks, We would like to invite you to the First Annual Canadian Icelandic Sheepdog Club Gathering and Booster. Host- Canadian Icelandic Sheepdog Club is working with the Alberta Kennel Club (AKC) to host this booster, and CGN test. Dates of Event- Aug 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th. - Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Four CKC Conformation Shows including one Icelandic Booster

Carlos Fernandez-Renau - Spain.

Dick Beauchamp - USA. -Icelandic Booster Judge-Saturday Aug 4th

Marie Merchant - Australia. Annika Ulltveit-Moe - Sweden

Darle Heck - Canada

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This is going to be a very busy fun filled four day long weekend, with lots of choices for earning titles, as well as four All-breed CKC shows, including a Icelandic Sheepdog Booster on Saturday, The AKC working with different breed clubs is also offering on the show grounds.

Four CKC Agility Trials Four NADAC Agility Trials Four CKC Obedience Trials 1 CKC Rally Obedience 3 ARPT Rally Obedience Trials

On Sunday the Canadian Icelandic Sheepdog Club is hosting a CGN test, tester will be Lori Rogers, Sharon S from Belglen Kennel will be in charge of preregisteration. Contact Sharon at belglen@sasktel.net

The Standard Classes for Conformation (available at all four CKC Shows, one show per day)

Junior Puppy-A dog between 6 to 9 months of age on the day of show

Senior Puppy- A dog between 9 months & 12 months on the day of the show

12 to 18 months- A dog between 12 & 18 months on the day of the show

Canadian Bred - A dog which is born in Canada

Bred by Exhibitor- The Handler of the dog is also the owner and breeder

Open Class- For all dogs

Specials Only - Dogs who are Canadian Champions only

Non-Standard Classes (FUN Classes only, hosted by CISC, these are NOT worth points, held after show hours) We are very pleased to announce that our Unofficial Non-Standard Class judge is D Bowering.

Award of Merit

Brace

Stud Dog and two or three Get Brood Bitch and two or three Get

Parade of Veterans

Parade of Obedience and Working Title Holders

Best Med Coated Male and Female in Class

Best Long Coated Male and Female in Class

The CISC will be offering Prizes for all winners of the Non-Standard Classes and BB, BOS, BP in the regular classes for the Icelandic Booster. Prizes to be announced. We will also be giving out our first Breeder Award.

The Alberta Kennel Club will be offering Cash and prizes for the Icelandic Sheepdog Booster as follows:

The Alberta Kennel Club will provide beautiful rosettes for the following classes the day of your Booster. BB, BOS, BW, WM, WF, RWM, RWF, BP and HQS for an Iceland Sheepdog in Obedience the day of your booster.

In addition to the prizes the CISC will offer, the Alberta Kennel Club will offer the following prizes for your Booster. BB \$25.00;
 BOS \$15.00; BP \$10.00; and Highest scoring Iceland Sheepdog in Trial \$15.00.

Overview of the Four days gathering at this time (adjustments to be made in future if required)

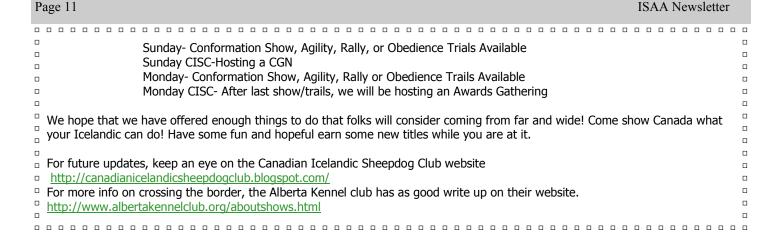
Friday-Conformation Show, Agility, Rally or Obedience Trials available

Friday CISC -After hours, Meet and Greet, with Wine and Cheese.

Saturday- Icelandic Sheepdog Booster, Agility, Rally or Obedience Trails available.

Saturday CISC - After Hours Non-Standard Classes to be hosted by CISC

Ring of Fire-After Hours, AKC CGC test being hosted by Ring of Fire.



Continued from page 8

CERF'n USA

Genetic Cataracts can be diagnosed anywhere between the ages of 2 months to 7 years old, age of onset determines whether he same size or increase in time. Breeding is not recommended of dogs who are affected by cataracts; it is prudent to assume that cataracts are hereditary unless the cause is specifically known.

Cataracts can cause inflammation of the eye, glaucoma, blindness or retinal detachment if treatment is not sought for them. Cataracts can be surgically removed using Phacoemulsification, an instrument is inserted into the eye and the cataract is emulsified with ultrasonic waves then removed through aspiration. In most instances a plastic lens can be inserted to replace the damaged lens and improves near vision for the dog. This surgery can only be preformed if the rest of the eye is healthy, the dog must also be healthy enough to go under general anesthesia. There is a 90 - 95% success rate of restored vision under this procedure.

Retinal Folds and Retinal Dysplasia -The Retina forms from a small part of the front of the neural tube, the structure that becomes the nervous system (brain and spinal cord). Although rare, malformations while the fetus is developing can occur due to either hereditary or environmental influences while in the uterus. Retinal Dysplasia occurs when two primitive layers do not form together properly. Retinal Folds or mild dysplasia are folds in the inner retinal layer, they cause small blind spots in the dog which they are probably not aware of. Retinal Dysplasia has larger areas of defective retinal development and can be as severe as the two retinal layers not coming together and causing Retinal Detachment. This can lead to large deficits in the dogs' field of vision and dogs with retinal Detachment are completely blind.

In most cases, the cause of Retinal Dysplasia is genetic although it can be caused by prenatal infections with the parvovirus and herpes virus. Retinal Dysplasia is not progressive; the animal is born with it and can be diagnosed as early as 6 -8 weeks in a CERF exam.

So now you've had your dog CERF'd, you have your results, what do you do to "hit a home run for the team" and not" sit on the sidelines warming the bench"? If your dog has a clean report send it in to CERF and register him, the results can be viewed on the CERF website. If they have found an abnormality, report it to the Tracking Chairman, Jaime Hansen, email jaimehansen1@comcast.net or one of the Health and Genetics Committee Chairman Cheryl Shelton at toltallyice@toltallyice.com or Jo-Ann Secondino at jasecondino@aol.com . We will be sure to put it in the database so that breeders can "make a game plan" for their next litter.

And the breeders, what might they do to be a good TEAM CAPTAIN? Maybe have your puppies CERF'd before they leave home. Or maybe you could put in your sales contacts that you'll contribute to the cost of a CERF exam at 2 or 3 years old as some of the breeders in Europe do.

For more information about CERF programs and Hereditary Eye Disease visit the CERF website at www.vmdb.org/cerf. There will be a CERF clinic hosted by the Northeastern New York Golden Retriever Club June 9 in Ballston Spa, NY to register and for more information go to www.nenygrc.org. There will be a CERF clinic August 25 in Stillwater, MN \$25.00 exams (a real bargain!) For more information and to register www.tcvessa.org or email tcvessa@gmail.com

Hope everyone will come out CERF'n for the team this summer! It's up to us all to keep our Icelandic Sheepdogs bright eyed and bushy tailed for generations to come.

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ICELANDIC SHEEPDOG ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ISAA Website http://Iceland_Dogs.com

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As noted earlier there are now two Regional Chapters of the ISAA, we have all had a wonderful time planning the upcoming events. We hope that you will all try to bring your Icies to these events. We also understand that we may not be in your area, so why don't you get together in your own area and create a Chapter. The more people out there in the public talking about and showing off these wonderful dogs the more chances others will have to find the perfect dog for their family

Form an ISAA Chapter; plan informal or formal events for Icelandics in your area. See details on our website.

ISAA has beautiful Banners to lend to members
hosting informational Icelandic Sheepdog booths or
events. You can email Teg
Johnson if you have questions about size or what
they look like and scheduling their use.

peg jahotmail.com

North American—Icelandic Sheepdog books are still available THEY MAKE GREAT GIFTS for anyone who would like to learn about our Icelandics - order from Jaime Hansen \$24.95 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling. Email Jaime today!

jaimehansen1@comcast.net

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Opinions expressed herein are those of individual authors and not necessarily those of the ISAA.