This is a study being done at the Veterinary School at Davis. Dr. Pedersen says: “We have been working with a group of Standard Poodle breeders who have been concerned about loss of genetic diversity. Working with a colleague, Dr. Ben Sacks, and our Veterinary Genetics Laboratory, we have developed a relatively inexpensive genetic panel that can be used for parentage, genetic diversity, and DLA class I and II haplotypes. The panel can be used to select potential mates out of a large pool of Standard Poodles that will produce litters of maximal genetic diversity. The selection is based on internal relatedness, which gives a measure of how closely related two individuals are to each other. You would basically develop a Standard Poodle dating service, where all of the participants would provide information (in a secret manner) on the dog, its genetic profile, willingness to use it for a mate, etc. The person looking for a dog to mate their dog with would then ask the program to select potential mates based on whatever degree of relatedness they desire. The more related they are willing to accept, the more dogs would appear in the potential pool of mates. People would screen first for genome-wide relatedness, and from among that pool, they could then move down to relatedness in the DLA class I and II... We could apply this to every breed of dogs and develop it independently of the clubs and registries. It would not affect people wanting to use pedigrees and it would only involve those that want to take advantage of a ‘dating-type’ service.”

The above is an e-mail the Poodle Club got from Dr. Pedersen in December. The study has now been completed for Standard Poodles and Italian Greyhounds and is in the research phase for Akitas, Black Russians and Golden Retrievers.

Here’s the introduction from their website, www.vgl.ucdavis.edu.

The genetic information used to formulate the enclosed tables and graphs came from DNA samples of 782 dogs from North America, the UK, and Continental Europe. Therefore, we believe that these dogs represent almost all of the genetic diversity that still exists within the breed. This data will be updated as more dogs are tested, so allele and DLA haplotype frequencies may change to a limited extent over time. The breed appears to have reasonable breed-wide diversity, but this diversity is very unbalanced. As a result of genetic bottlenecks traced back to the mid-twentieth century and certain lines, a majority of Standard Poodles are relatively inbred and contain a minority of the existing genetic diversity. This has resulted in an increased incidence of heritable traits, including characterized simple recessive disorders such as PRA, Von Willebrand’s disease, and neonatal encephalopathy; possible recessive disorders such as juvenile renal disease, juvenile cataracts, and enamel dysplasia; and more complex genetic disorders such as autoimmune disease (e.g., SA, AD, IMHA, ITP, thyroiditis, chronic active hepatitis, masticatory myositis), allergies, hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, atrial septal defect, patent ductus arteriosus, degenerative myelopathy, and bloat. These various disorders appear to have resulted from both ancient and relatively new mutations that have been concentrated in certain lines as a result of inbreeding. The hope is that breeders will use genetic diversity testing, along with pedigrees, to re-establish genetic diversity across the breed by careful mate selection, while continuing to investigate diseases that appear to have a genetic basis.
Our next regular type meeting will be in June when we have our annual meeting, very important election of officers and board, and discuss the coming year events and what we would like to do. There have been some thoughts and ideas suggested that could make it more fun for the club members.

Way back when, it was suggested to have the meeting night on training night because we could draw more people, Ha! That didn’t happen. It was reasoned that the trainers could invite students to the meeting and encourage them to join. That didn’t happen. Rightfully, the trainers felt the class was more important than the meeting and didn’t cancel class for students to attend. Then, of course, we lost the trainers as well. Our meeting declined to the point that we decided to change the by-laws to make it easier for members to make the few meetings we have a year.

I had another thought. What if we changed our meeting night from Mon. to another night of the week? Our trainers could come and they could invite students. Also, we could try to include some programs that would be of interest to the membership. Remember, we have only four meeting a year, three are social events, one annual meeting. Can I get some feed back from everyone? Trainers, what do you think? Would you come out another night once every few months for a program if you didn’t have to train? Would you invite students? What night would be best?

Many of the members who came out to train on Monday nights have moved to other places because it was too difficult putting up the required fencing and taking it down at the end of the evening. What if we had a once a month mini show and go on a Mon. night. We could put up the fencing, call each other through and make it as close to competition as possible. With more people to help put up and take down it would go quicker and easier. We could get the much needed practice and offer more to our members. What do you think?

Congratulation to the nominating committee! They have put together a new board with new members serving. I am still president. Anyone? Someone? Would like to vote me out? I’m more than willing to go, but I need someone to step up and take over. We have a new member and new trainer willing to hold the office of Vice President, Christy Hill. Another new member, Karen Anderson has stepped up to Secretary. Our wonderful and faithful Treasurer, Sarah Ball is still paying our bills. Anyone willing to take over her job. I’m sure Sarah would not complain. I am just grateful she is willing to stay on for another year. Kathy Horton has agreed to be our board member. Nominations are open. Anyone interested in serving on the board or as an officer, please let me know and I’ll add your name. Imagine that would could possibly have a real election. Thanks to the nominating committee!

Look for all our ongoing and new classes on our website.

Audrey Austin
President
We’re so late — first some “old” brags...

Cathy Colley and her talented Golden Retrievers, Windy and Hazy have been bringing home the birds.

Hazy earned two passes in the Junior Hunter tests in March and one more on Easter Sunday. It takes four passes for the JH title. Hazy is almost there. She is such a fun dog to train. Windy is in training now for the advanced hunt tests that are very difficult. Good luck with the upcoming test.

Susan Nikkel’s Papillons worked fabulously at the German Shepherd Dog Club trial in March. Goldie earned her second leg in Rally A with a score of 99 and that High In Trial ribbon. At the Papillon Club of Southern California Surfer Dude earned a 2nd. Novice leg and a first place ribbon. Way to go super dogs and talented handlers.

JOANNE GRIFFIN and her fabulous Sheltie LYRIC are at it again

Here is a photo of Lyric’s Highest Scoring Dog in Trial Award from the Del Sur KC show. She earned a score of 198(of a possible 200) from the competitive Open B class.

She then went on to win back-to-back Highest Scoring Dog Awards at the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Southern California Specialties.

Thank you to my wonderful friend and teammate, Lyric!

And then there’s CATHERINE ZINSKY and DAX...

On March 14th & 15th, Dax and I competed at the AKC National Obedience Championship(NOC) competition at Purina Farms in Missouri. I have had many people ask me what the NOC is and how it works. Firstly, the NOC is by invitation only and it is based on the number of OTCH points accrued between Dec. 1st and Nov. 31st. (For example, a Border Collie would probably need at least 150 points to be in the first round of invitations; a Golden Retriever would need even more!)

The actual event itself is—-to put it mildly—daunting. It’s also grueling. It’s an obedience marathon. There are 8 rings & 8 judges (see photo, though photo was taken at the Thursday trial put on by a local obedience club, which btw, had 53 teams in UB!) In the two days in which we showed, we were in the ring 17 times!!!! (one ring was for groups, which on Saturday everyone did around 11:30 AM).

136 teams were signed up for the NOC. Am not sure how many ultimately showed. After the Saturday results, only the top 50 (based by score alone) would go on to Sunday.

My only goal going into the competition was to be in the top 50 and make it to the 2nd round. I refused to allow myself to be delusional: Dax is still young (he is 4 and there was only one other dog at the NOC that was his age: all the rest were 6-9 years of age). Too, he has only shown indoors a handful of times and is not especially thrilled with indoor shows. The odds were not in our favor.

Well Dax surpassed my wildest dreams: not only did we end up in the top 50, Dax was # 15(!!!) and placed as 4th in the Herding Group—which is no small achievement. I was thrilled!

Dax and I had made it. Despite all his misgivings and insecurities in the new environment, his youth and his personal idiosyncrasies, Dax had rallied himself (continued on page 4
and tried his absolute best--and it was all for me. After our last ring, I fell to my knees before him...and broke down. True to form, Dax simply kissed my tears away.

The next morning came way too early.

Sunday was a whirlwind: Dax and I zipped through 8 rings in under 2 hours!!! (THis, because there are now only 50 dogs to go through each ring rather than the 136, which took 8 hours!). Unfortunately Dax failed an exercise, which put us out of the finals. But quite frankly, I didn’t even care. Dax really tried, and that’s all one can ever ask. I was positively over the moon happy with him and look forward to going again.

Please allow me to thank Jennifer Barber for her unwavering support and superb coaching. She absolutely got me to each ring on time and in working order:-) Most of all, my profound and deep gratitude goes to Dax. He was wonderful.

CATHY COLLEY and Hazy...

My Golden Retriever Hazy won 2nd place in the Super Singles retriever event on 5/30/15. This event was sponsored by Inland Valley Retriever Club. Hazy ran in the lower division, competing against other dogs w/ much more experience than she has. Hazy is just over 1 yr. old. She did a nice job on all her marks!

Magicgold’s Red Sky at Morning, CGC
KATHY UPTON’S RIGEL...

At his very first obedience trial, Del Sur Kennel Club in March, Rigel (Lariel’s Bright Star of Orion, AXJ, OA, XF [and a whole lot of Elite NADAC agility titles])..earned his Beginners Novice and Rally Novice titles in three days.

Obedience is very challenging for this high-drive agility dog! NOT ENOUGH ACTION HERE! Most of our points lost in Rally were the result of his comments (yaps) about the finishes. Our biggest challenge in Advanced Rally will be the jumps and get back to heeling immediately. (“What do you MEAN, ONLY ONE Jump?”) We’re going to the Bahia Sur show this month and see how Novice and Rally Advanced go. Despite the fact that ring practice has been non-existant except for the HVOC Show and Go last month, we are looking forward to it! Obedience has helped his agility competition!

Eleni & Bruce ...

We may not be winning anything but Bruce and I are walking fools - at the Brain Cancer Walk at the new water park downtown on May 30, and at the AIDS Walk in September 2014.

THE END
Mail your renewal check and this form to: Mrs. Scotty Mahoney, 9609 Benavente St, San Diego CA 92129-3004

Member Name

Additional Family Members:

Address (to make sure we have the right one):

City, State, Zip:

Email Address:

Best Phone Number to reach you:

Dogs’ Names & Breeds:

If you wish to renew your membership, our current membership fees are:

☐ $5.00 Junior
☐ $30.00 Individual
☐ $40.00 Family
☐ $15.00 Dog Daze Subscription only

Yearly membership for ABOCI is from July 1 to June 30 every year.

So DUES are just about DUE!