



Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club

2015

Issue 4

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*The Board of Directors
and
Your Collaboration Team
wish you a Happy and Healthy 2016*



This 'n That ...

Did you know ... you do not have to live in the Mid-Atlantic region to be a voting member of the club.

By joining you will find a supportive group of like minded friends who have Rat Terriers and who participate at a variety of events with their dogs. You don't even have to participate in any event to join and still find support from those who love the breed. All you need is to love the Rat Terrier breed. Finding sponsors is pretty easy, just ask and someone will step up. The application is at the back of this newsletter to make it easy for you and you can pay dues via PayPal or snail mail.

Right now our club newsletter is made public, but at some point that will probably not be the case. We welcome contributions in the form of brags about your dog successes in any event (AKC only for conformation), love photos of your dog just being a Rattie, and if you have ideas for something you'd like to see in the newsletter please let us know. Email any newsletter contributions directly to Sandra at midatlanticrtc@cox.net OR you can send to the club email at midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com.



Board of Directors

Amy Miskiewicz ~ President
Tricia McCree ~ Vice-President
Jackie Maye Olsen ~ Secretary
Judith Babarsky ~ Treasurer

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501(c)3 tax-exempt organization
2015

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Introducing your Newsletter Collaboration Team ...

Sandra Ball ~ Arizona
Kerry Maguire Cox ~ Maryland
Cory Downey Hart ~ Washington
Tricia McCree ~ Maryland
Jackie Maye Olsen ~ Pennsylvania
Mandy Truitt ~ Pennsylvania

Contact email: MidAtlanticrtc@cox.net or midatlanticratterrier@yahoo.com

We are continually looking for photos, articles, and news to include in a future newsletter. Please send us anything that you think might be of interest. Providing us with URL links for potential items is welcome too. We LOVE photos of the Rat Terrier doing those things that they were bred to do, plus any of them doing the various performance events (Lure coursing, Barn Hunt, rally or obedience, agility, and on and on.). Help us make this newsletter something that you look forward to and want to keep.

What we have done ... What we have planned

A look to the past, the present and to the future

In two short years (how time flies!), the Mid-Atlantic Rat Terrier Club has much to be proud of in the way of accomplishments. But we also have much to do.

What have we accomplished? We have established a legal entity and an online presence for the Club. We have begun to grow our membership. The Club has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization. Several fundraisers have boosted our coffers (Terrier show raffle, Fun Pasta sales, Tupperware sales). We have held two matches (learning how to effectively organize and run matches). The Club has sponsored prizes for several different venues (conformation and agility). And a Rat Terrier color chart was developed as our educational project. All of this has been documented in beautiful quarterly online newsletters. And, last but absolutely not least, we have provided a forum for Rat Terrier lovers of all kinds in an atmosphere that is welcoming and inviting to everyone.

Where are we now? Currently we are working on establishing more consistent Board of Director meetings and making plans for an annual membership meeting. Believe it or not, we would love to turn over the reins to new blood. So ... if anyone is interested ... speak up now and express your interest. While Club membership is open to all with voting privileges, only residents of the Mid-Atlantic States can hold office. This doesn't mean that those who can't be officers have no role in the club. In fact, your contributions are greatly needed and appreciated. You can be on any committee and have a voice in how things function within those committees. We value the contributions of all our members, officers or not! We continue to explore avenues open to us to achieve AKC Regional Club Status under the AKC Rat Terrier Parent Club. An educational project for 2016 has to be determined and work begun on this endeavor. The Club will continue to sponsor Rat Terrier events as appropriate – if you are part of an event that includes Rat Terriers, please let us know of possible sponsorship opportunities.

Where are we going? That's a huge question! Aside from wanting to be the best club for Rat Terrier fanciers that there is, much of where we are going is related to where we are now. As we continue to grow, undoubtedly new challenges as well as new opportunities will arise. We're all in this together. So stay tuned as we move forward. And please be as generous with your time, talents and treasure as you are able.

May all have a wonderful holiday season with both human and furry friends!

Amy Miskiewicz, President

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/midatlanticratterrierclub/>

Treasurer's Report

DECEMBER 11, 2015

As many of you are already aware, the Club achieved 501c3 tax exempt status effective August 26, 2015. We received official notification of this accomplishment just after the publication of the last newsletter. The benefits to our tax-exempt status are many but among them are the following: (1) donations to the Club are tax deductible by the donor on their tax return; (2) purchases made by the Club are eligible for exemption from state sales taxes; (3) the Club is now exempt from paying State and Federal income taxes on eligible expenses (mostly all of them!); and (4) we no longer have to pay the \$12.00 service charge each month to PNC Bank (every little bit helps!).

SO ... for those of you who are determining where to send those last dollars to benefit your charitable exemptions on your tax returns ... consider MARTC!! Your donation is fully tax deductible and you will receive the necessary documentation to claim the deduction on your taxes.

The achievement of the tax-exempt status was a major undertaking. Now that it is accomplished attention can be turned elsewhere as we undertake new initiatives and have the time and energy to determine the future course and direction of the Club. In the \$\$ department, we are working on consistency in tracking membership applications and renewals as well as finalizing plans for a member package (no ... we haven't forgotten about that!). On this note, please get your membership renewals in. The application is available on the Facebook page and payment can be made through PayPal or via check. We're working on making it possible to accept credit card payments.

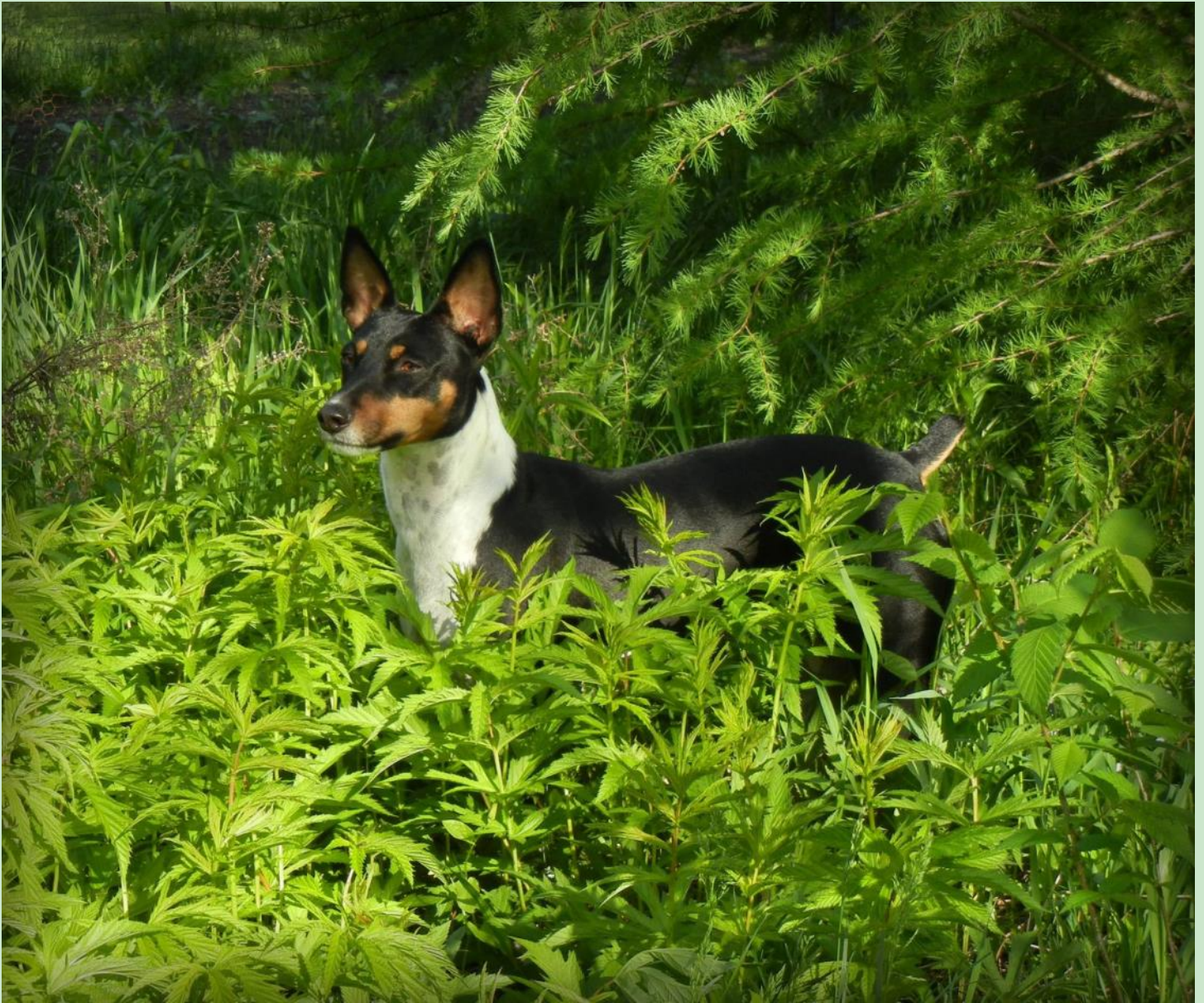
One of the things that the Club must do as a part of the tax-exempt status is promote education concerning the various aspects of the Rat Terrier. We are currently exploring the options for an educational project this year. Suggestions (and energetic volunteers!) are always welcome. We continue to look for ways to disseminate our Rat Terrier color chart in various venues (that was last year's educational project).

The current TOTAL balance in both the PNC Bank Account and the Club PayPal Account is \$1221.24, broken down as \$525.16 in the bank and \$696.08 in PayPal. The Treasurer's Reports for October and November will be up on the Member's Facebook Page soon. Although we are only in the beginning of December, we have already had tax-deductible donations totaling \$200.00 (included in the above figures).

As always, I want to thank everyone for ALL that you do, both large and small, to promote our club and our efforts to make it the BEST club for Rat Terrier lovers.

Judith R. Babarsky
Treasurer

Pretty as a Picture



Clan Clarks Sir Odin

Taken by Sue Lee Ringwelski

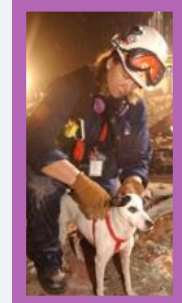
“Odin caught hunting voles in the Queen of the Prairie”

The Rat Terrier

Search & Rescue Dog

A very special contribution on 9-11-2001

By Cory Hart



Search and Rescue (SAR) is one of most useful and difficult jobs that dogs do for us. It takes a dog with the right temperament, a good nose, excellent health and top level work ethic to succeed in this field. The human handler needs a dedication to SAR – it takes a lot of time and energy to become qualified to actually do searches! Many of the people actively involved are employed as firefighters, police officers or military personal – the same people often called to situations where a dog trained in SAR is a very valuable partner. However, just as many of the dog/handler teams are volunteers who put in hundreds of hours of training just because of the satisfaction they get from helping reunite people with their loved ones or aiding in searches.

SAR Teams can be certified in a variety of types of search. Trailing, HRD (Human Remains Detection), Water and Disaster are the most common types. Trailing dogs are usually certified in Wilderness, Suburban and Urban tracks. The trailing dogs work in the way most similar to the tracking styles seen in trials such as those held by various Kennel and Dog Sport Clubs. The other scent-work a dog does in Rescue is “airscenting”, which is different than what we see in tracking. Most of the dogs “airscent” even when trailing since the goal is to find the person or object rather than demonstrate the ability to stay on a track. Of course in the other types of search, the ability to airscent is vital.

SAR dogs require agility, trainability, endurance and sociability. Generally the larger sporting and working breeds that have been bred to use their noses in the course of their work are the most common choices. However, some small breeds – such as the Rat Terrier – have all those qualities, and their size can be an advantage in many situations.

One Rat Terrier SAR Dog gained fame when he was called in (with his team) to work at the disaster site of the World Trade Center in September of 2011.

Ricky was a three year old when he was called to help at Ground Zero. He had been adopted as a pup by his handler, Janet Linker (who was also a Seattle Firefighter, and a member of Northwest Disaster Search Dogs). Very quickly he displayed the intelligence, endurance and agility so common in the Rat Terriers. He loved his tennis ball, solving problems and had energy to spare—a perfect combination for a Search and Rescue dog!

By the time he was two years old, Ricky could climb aluminum ladders, run complex patterns on command and had learn to differentiate between the scents of the living and the dead. On June 17, 2000 Ricky passed his Basic Level Certification for Disaster Search. His test consisted of searching through piles of concrete at a site the size of half a baseball field and finding three victims in less than 10 minutes. He accomplished all this while ignoring distractions such as bulldozers, jackhammers, cats in cages and dirty laundry. At 17 inches tall and 18 pounds, he was the smallest search dog in the United States.

He learned to give distinct signals to indicate if it was a live find or a deceased one. For a live find, his ability to bark non-stop until Rescue arrived was something that was remarked on – most dogs cannot keep up the barking quite like a Rat Terrier can! For a HRD, he simply stood still with his hair up and stared.

Ricky and Janet were part of the Puget Sound Urban Search and Rescue Team. They arrived with 62 firefighters and 3 other search dogs at Ground Zero on September 19th. Twenty-eight elite teams were on site, coordinated by FEMA.

Upon arrival, Janet and Ricky were teamed with another SAR pair from the Puget Sound Team, Kent Olson and his 5 year old Golden Retriever named Thunder. They were assigned the night shift for the work. For ten days their schedule consisted of:

3:00pm, Wake up, water and feed the dogs, eat dinner, take the bus to the WTC site.

7:00pm to 7:00am, Search.

7:00am, Medical checkup & a bath – for both dogs and Handlers.

Ricky and Thunder worked in tandem, their strengths complimenting each other well. Ricky was able to get into tight spots the 64 pound Thunder could not manage, while Thunder brought his experience (he was a certified Advanced Level dog) to the efforts, and could verify Ricky's finds.

They searched constantly through the rubble, the collapsed stairwells and subway tunnels. Ricky would lead the team into smaller and smaller places, climbing under beams and sometimes disappearing from site for long moments. They located a number of victims.

"It's really hard to know exactly how many people Ricky helped find," says Ms. Linker. "I saw them take a policeman and a firefighter out from areas that we had just searched. I don't know how many people were in the stairwell. There were lots of people in there. They were gone, not alive."

They located many victims, but unfortunately Ricky & his canine partner were never able to use a "live find" indication. They were able to locate personal items – jewelry, clothing and pocket items – which were given to the victims' families, and hopefully brought some comfort.

The site was dusty rubble – as Janet put it: **"To me, it was unrecognizable. I never saw steps. I never saw handrails. It was rare that you'd find a softball-sized chunk of concrete. The only intact thing was the paper."**

It has been often noted by those who do searches at disaster sites that long days and depressing work takes a toll on both dogs and handlers. Janet expressed this in an interview after they returned:

"Sometimes I wonder if the dogs feed off our emotions. If I'm nervous, my dog is nervous. If I'm upset, my dog is upset. Toward the end, he was just tired of working, tired of the noise, the commotion, the power and construction equipment always running. I've never seen Ricky as mellow as he was when he got home." — Janet Linker, Seattle firefighter, speaking about her partner "Ricky"

After close to two weeks, the team returned to Seattle. Several weeks after their return, The Seattle City Council held a ceremony to honor all the members of the Puget Sound team that went to New York. Ricky joined the other three SAR dogs and the sixty two other members of the team on the podium. He was heartwarming and impressive in his official "dress uniform" adorned with patches from his various affiliations (FEMA, NDSD, Puget Sound Urban Search and Rescue Team).

It is unclear when Ricky retired from SAR, but it is known he spent all his days with the Linker family as a valued friend & companion.

I was unable to make contact with Ms. Linker or anyone on the team who went to the WTC disaster site. All quotes from this article are from sources on the Internet including:

<http://neverforget911-neverforget911.blogspot.com/>

<https://365dogheros.wordpress.com/2011/09/29/ricky-the-smallest-dog-at-ground-zero/>

http://www.ratbonerescues.com/Barker_09_11.php

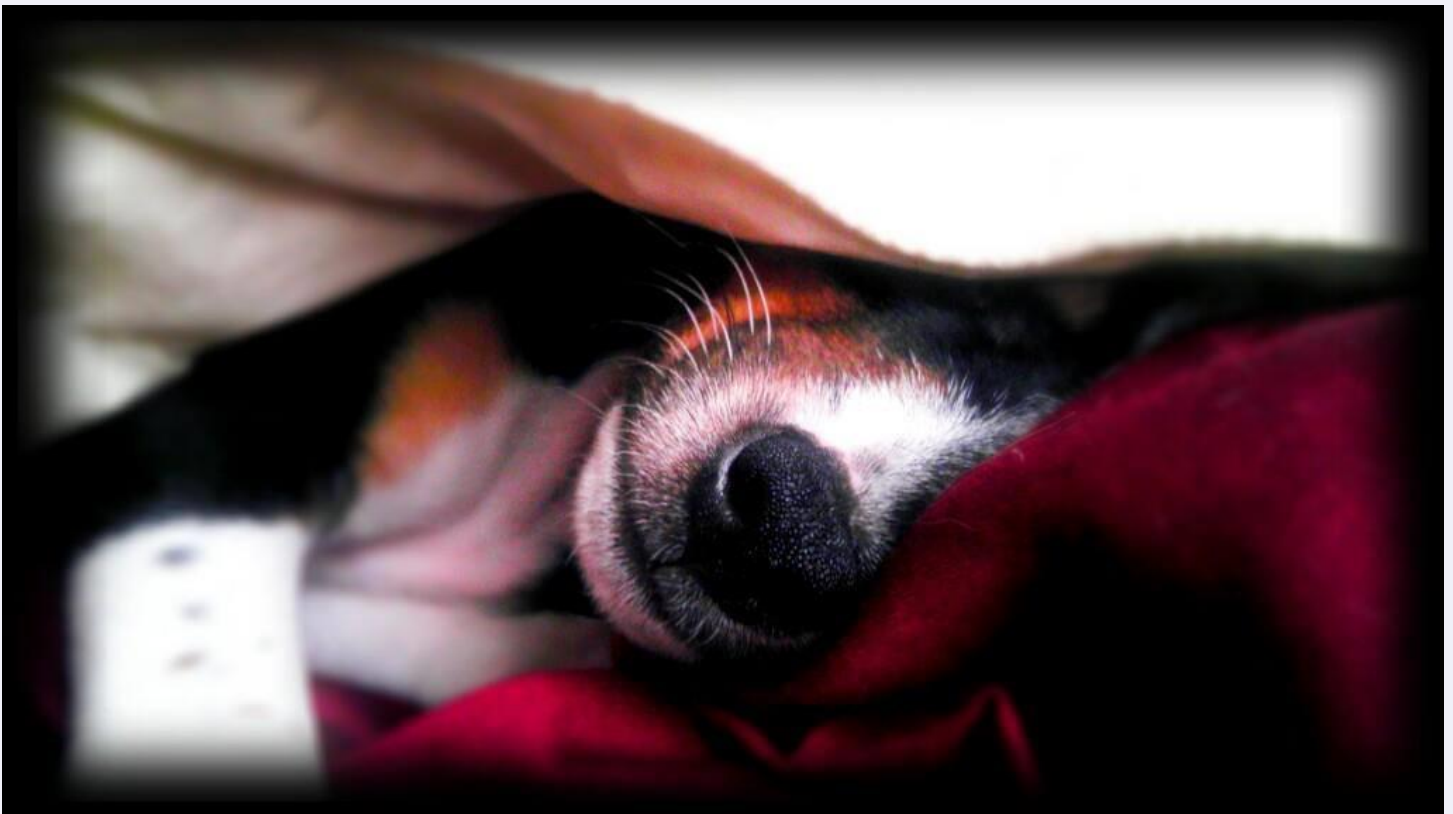
If you are interested in exploring the opportunity to do Search and Rescue with your Rat Terrier, be prepared to put in long hours. While clearly the dog must be in shape and have the right talent for the work, the handler also has to be in excellent shape and must be prepared to learn many skills to aid both the dog and the team on site. The people I have known who have done or do SAR spend many weekends and several nights a week at meetings and in classes, and often years before the team passes certification.

Start by joining your local Search and Rescue group, attending seminars and learning the skills needed. Here are a few links to get your started:

This is the group that Ricky and Janet were a part of: <http://ndsd.net/>
FEMA's information site: <http://www.fema.gov/canine-handler-certification>
NASAR Canine Fact sheet: <http://www.nasar.org/page/49/Canine-Fact-Sheet>

Search and Rescue Dogs of the United States: <http://www.sardogsus.org/>

National Search Dog Alliance: <http://www.n-sda.org/index.php>



Age – When is it Time to Begin Training?

by Dr. Debbie Gross

Your perfect puppy arrives from the perfect parents and you just know the puppy is destined for wonderful things! But you also want to facilitate the puppy on the road to the wonderful place and are eager to start training the puppy and to start strengthening and conditioning. It is sometimes easy to place the puppy in the pack with the older dogs and assume the older dogs will train the puppy and the puppy will tire itself out with the older dogs. Some of this is true. The older dogs definitely help with potty training and some manners. But the puppy can also pick up on some of the bad habits of the older dogs so be careful!

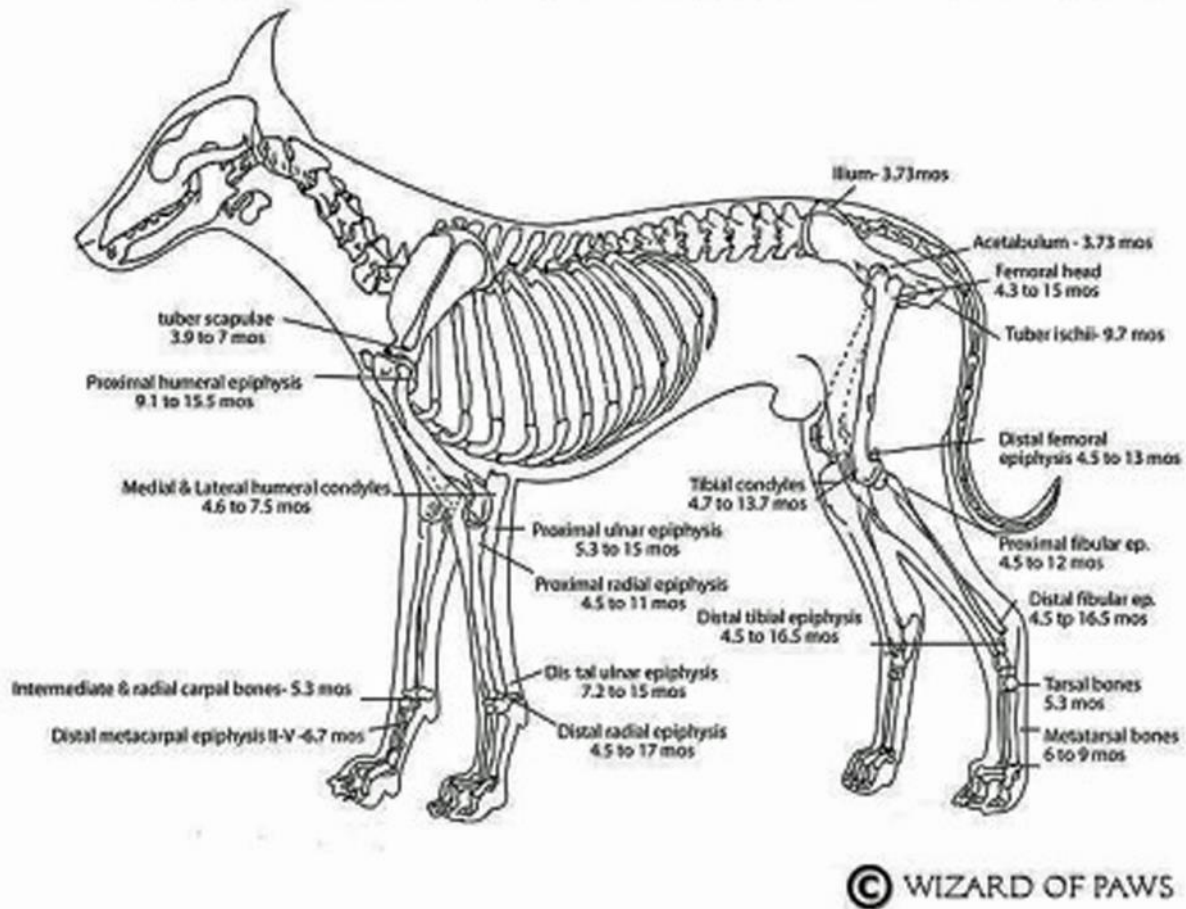
Exercise and exercise restriction is a topic that needs to be addressed with puppies. Certainly exercise is needed to help with the puppy energy and to assist in everyone in the house resting at night. However, too much exercise, and inappropriate exercise may cause serious ramifications that may affect the life and physical well being of the puppy. Jumping, running, and even over walking may result in physical issues. These issues include growth plate dysfunction, panoestitis, elbow and hip dysplasia, laxity of the ligaments, back injuries, Osteochondritis dissecans or OCD lesion, and stress fractures. These orthopedic conditions are commonly observed in young dogs between the ages of five and ten months. Predispositions include genetics, rapid weight gain in growing animals, a high nutrition level, poor pelvic muscle mass and high levels of activities. Many of the working breeds are large dogs and usually do have rapid weight gains – such as our Great Danes, Mastiffs and Bernese Mountain Dogs. Genetics is beyond our control but part of the weight gain may be controlled. In addition, we can do things to assist with the pelvic mass and decrease the amount of activities. We will get to that shortly.

Many of the working breeds have inherent problems with dysplasia and a proper growth process is essential with these dogs. No one, and especially no breeder wants to hear about hip and elbow dysplasia, but it does occur. A proactive approach is always better than a reactive approach. There are many working dogs with varying levels of hip and elbow dysplasia but they are well maintained and strengthened. A young dog that is predisposed to hip or elbow dysplasia may not ever develop the proper strength and support needed if too much activity or improper activity is introduced too early on. Dysplasia is defined as an abnormality of the joint caused by either the joint and/or a laxity in the surrounding ligaments. Some of the laxity may be strengthened with the appropriate strengthening exercises. In addition, problems associates with the laxity may be prevented with the proper management as puppies.

A growing puppy's body goes through many transformations before they reach skeletal maturity. During the growth process, the bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons, grow in length and size. Typically, the bones grow faster than muscles and there are stages in the dog's life in which she experiences growth pains. Many of us refer to this as the 'gangly' or ugly phase in the dogs' growth – especially in the large working dogs. Each bone possesses a growth plate, or an epiphyseal plate. This is the area of growing tissue located near the end of the bones. Most bones have at least two growth plates and the growth plate determines the future length and depth of the bone. When the bone has finished growing, the growth plate is filled in with adult and solid bone. These growth plates are the most vulnerable part of the dogs' growing skeleton. Growth plate injuries may occur in the growing dog as a result of a traumatic event or from chronic stress and overuse, such as too much running or walking outside, walking on a jogger or treadmill, or frequent jumping. The timing of the closure of the growth plate varies in dogs.

Some of the growth plates in different parts of the dog's body close on an average of fourteen weeks of age and others do not close until forty eight weeks. And that is the average. In addition, there are numerous growth plates throughout the body. Different growth plates will close at different times in the same dog. The closure time may differ anywhere from twelve weeks to forty weeks. The closure of the femoral head may not occur until seventy seven weeks in some larger dogs. Typically, the growth plates of the larger bones close at a later rate. The bone has not finished growing until the growth plates have closed. This is a huge consideration in many of the large working breeds. Overzealous activity should not be performed until the dog has reached skeletal maturity.

CANINE GROWTH PLATE CLOSURE - AVERAGE TIME



The musculoskeletal system, or the muscles, of the dog continue to grow in a young dog. Developments may continue until the dog is two years of age in some breeds. We often see this as dogs 'fill out' or their 'chest drop' when they hit full development. And some working breeds will take longer than others. As the dogs are growing, they may have the desire to jump, run and play. And they should – but just in reasonable amounts and in a controlled environment. Young dogs love to jump, but if we repetitively ask them to perform jumping activities, damage may be performed to the growth plates and skeletal system. If they do not have the strength, their body will begin to compensate and the activity may begin to cause problems.

So what is appropriate for a young dog to do? Core strength and conditioning may be initiated at an early age. This will help the dog develop the core strength and the postural muscles at an early age. Beginning for short periods of time at eight weeks of age is very beneficial. Balls, physiorolls, discs, donuts, or the balance pods may be utilized. The new balance pods, as seen in the photo, are wonderful to work with stacking your dog and also promoting core strength at an early age. They are easy to use and their soft surface provides balance and proprioceptive training that many other stacking alternatives do not. And this may be continued in to adulthood

Running or jogging with your young dog is not a good idea until they are skeletally mature. This is often a tough call as to when they hit this point. Some of the larger breeds do not hit maturity until they are two years of age, while some of the smaller breeds are skeletally mature as early as ten months of age. Walking up to a mile is great in a dog that is ten months or greater, but this may be too much for a larger breed dog. Conditioning for the younger dog may need to consist of playing with others or shorter, more frequent walks. Puppy play time, as long as controlled, is a great way of working on your young dogs' condition. Of course, some breeds do not do well with this!

Treadmills are a great way to condition a dog, but I would not recommend it until the dog is at least six months of age, and longer with larger breeds. For example, a Mastiff or a Bernese mountain dog would need to wait until approximately ten to twelve months of age to start a treadmill. And even then, times of ten to fifteen minutes should be adhered too to protect the musculoskeletal system. Underwater treadmills may be started a little earlier because of the weight bearing properties of the water. The water is able to offer protection and decreased weightbearing to the joints.

Dogs with inherent conditions, such as hip or elbow dysplasia, will need a tailored strengthening program to assist with muscle atrophy and joint preservation. They may require a combination of strengthening exercises to assist with their movement and quality of life.

Young dogs are so much fun to work with and show! It is crucial to keep them young and healthy and the ultimate goal should be to always provide the longest and best quality of life possible. Beginning with appropriate strengthening programs is the first step!

Permission to reprint given by:
Debbie Gross, DPT, MSPT, Diplomat ABPTS, CCRP
Wizard of Paws Physical Rehabilitation for Animals, LLC
www.wizaardofpaws.net





Waaaaahhhhhhhh ...

I wanna go to Westminster !!!!!

Drum Roll!!



GCH Crosswind the Big Man in Town aka "Kirby" is the first Rat Terrier to win Best of Breed at Morris & Essex on October 1. He is currently ranked #2 Rat Terrier—All Systems. Bred by Judy Labonte and Stacy McWilliams and owned by Stacy McWilliams, Louise Schroll and Jane Gardner.

~ Pennsylvania ~



GCH Evanlee's May D'odds B Evr N Ur Favor River Ridge aka "Victor" was Best of Breed at the National Dog Show put on by the Kennel Club of Philadelphia on November 14. Victor is owned by Stacy McWilliams, Jane Garner & Donna McMahan.

~ Pennsylvania ~



Ratitatt's Senorita Lolita's Lollipop, aka Lolly finished her Champion title with a major at the Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County club on December 5 under Judge James Ham. Lolly is owned by Edithmary Stenz and Gretchen A. Chambers. Trained and handled by Edithmary Stenz.

~ Arizona ~

Congratulations!!



Ch. Dynamite Snidget of Sugarloaf
Owners Barbara Lancaster-Jordan and Donald Jordan. Bred by Kacve Yates

Dynamite Snidget of Sugarloaf aka Snidget was Winner's Dog for a major to finish his Champion title under Judge Darryl Vice on October 25 at the Kennel Club of Riverside show in Lake Perris, CA. Snidget is owner/handled.

Proud owners are Barbara and Donald Jordan.

~ California ~



Cal Val Lily Luna of Sugarloaf aka "Luna" was Winner's Bitch and Best of Opposite Sex on October 24 out of the 6-9 month class for her first major under Judge Mrs. Carolyn A. Herbel at the Kennel Club of Riverside show in Lake Perris, CA. Luna is owner/handled.

Proud owners are Barbara and Donald Jordan.

~ California ~

Cruzin's Beside Still Waters aka Brook was Best of Opposite Sex and Winner's Bitch for a major at the Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County show under Judge Robert Widden on December 4. Owned and handled by Christina Martinez.

~ California ~



Send us your brags
for next quarters
newsletter!

FANTASTIC!!!



Indigo IGO Baby Blu'z Almighty Nitro aka Nitro was Best of Winners and Best of Opposite Sex out of the 6-9 month class at the Timberland Valley Dog Fanciers show in Chehalis, WA on September 13. Judge: Mr. David A. Alexander.

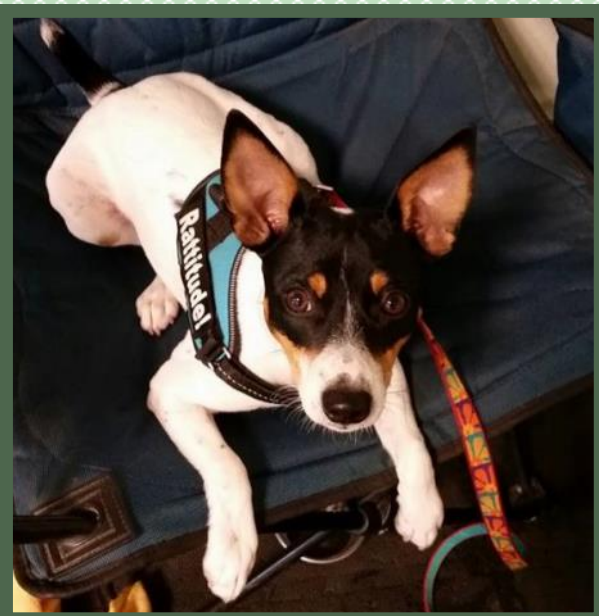
Nitro is owned, loved, and handled by Jennifer Ferguson.

~ Idaho ~



Seegmillers Indigo IGO Legacy aka Indi was Best of Winners at the Olympic Kennel Club show on August 15. Judge: Mrs. B. Stenmark. He was Best of Winners and Best of Opposite Sex at the Timberland Valley Dog Fanciers show in Chehalis, WA on September 12. Judge: Mr. J. Constantine. Owned, and loved by Jennifer Ferguson and handled by Dixie Rae Sick.

~ Idaho ~



River Ridge's Kiss My Grits RATI aka Sassafras earned her Barn Hunt Instinct title at the Georgia Barn Hunt in September. She is owned and loved by Riley Allen.

~ Georgia ~



AWESOME!!!



Evanlees Dark Side of the Moon aka Floyd owned by Lisa Kendrick and Stacy McWilliams was Best of Winners for a major at the Kennel Club of Riverside show in October.

Floyd finished his Champion title on December 5 at the Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County, Inc. show in Costa Mesa.

Floyd has been Owner Handled to his title by Lisa.

~ California ~

Venture Hills Leader of the Pack or Else, CD, RAE, GN, AX, AXJ, CGC, RATO aka "Elsie" earned her Barn Hunt Open title at the Fargo Moorhead Kennel Club location on September 26, 2015. Elsie is owned and loved by Kris Altenbernd.

~ North Dakota ~



STUPENDOUS!!!



River Ridge's Itchin' to Party RATI TDCH, aka "Pox", owned by Ashley Kutzli, was the first Rat Terrier to earn the Trick Dog Champion title through Do More With Your Dog, just before his first birthday. In order to apply for the title, the dog must have earned Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Expert titles, in which Pox achieved by learning over 30 tricks of varying difficulty. The Champion title is awarded to exceptional dogs who demonstrate outstanding skill in performing a large number of difficult tricks, and who also demonstrate skill in every facet of foundation behaviors.

~ Michigan ~



New Rattitude

Rat Terrier Rescue



What New Rattitude is About

Meet Alonzo—he is full of personality, is 4-5 years of age and about 10 lbs. He is a Rat Terrier/Chihuahua mix. He is described as quirky and smart, loves toys and snuggling. Check him out at the link below.

We are seeking adoptive homes. You can view our available dogs, see several photos and read their full bio at: <http://www.newrattitude.org/dogs.htm>. All New Rattitude dogs are neutered/spayed, wormed, checked for heartworm and on preventative, up to date on vaccinations, and microchipped. Adoption fee is \$175 for adult dogs and \$225 for puppies under six months of age.

All adoption fees go toward rescue and care of Rat Terriers in need.

New Rattitude has many opportunities available to those who are able to volunteer a little or a lot of their time and energies. We would love to have you join us Simply submit a member application found on our site. We have a great retail store where you can purchase dog toys for less and the money supports the dogs in need. New Rattitude is a national, all-volunteer organization that rescues and rehomes Rat Terriers and Rat Terrier mixes. We are a tax-exempt, non-profit 501(c)3 charitable corporation. We were incorporated August 4, 2008, and are licensed by the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

<http://www.newrattitude.org>

Board of Directors

Jena Gammon (Louisiana) - President
Stephanie Mathson (Michigan) - Vice President
Terry Beale (Georgia) - Secretary
Sue Kangas (Michigan) - Treasurer
Julee Allen (Washington) - Director
Debbie Collins (Alabama) - Director
Susan Beard (North Carolina) - Director

High Drive Dogs



“Drive” is a highly desired aspect in most dog sports, whether your area of interest is agility, flyball, herding, hunting, coursing, or something else. Sport and performance dog handlers specifically look for the “high drive” puppies and work to build their puppy’s drive further through tug, chase, and other games. Arousal and excitement are considered signs of a talented dog who will go far. But there’s a dark side to this drive building, one that negatively impacts the performance of many otherwise talented dogs in their chosen sport. Here’s the thing: **arousal and drive are *not* one and the same.**

So often, I’m told about a “high drive” dog who is in actuality just frantic. **“Drive” refers to focused commitment to a specific goal.** A dog who ping pongs from one distraction to another without truly “locking on” to anything is not in drive, she’s simply distracted. Arousal is not drive, and high drive dogs do not necessarily show high arousal or excitement.

Consider Layla, a dog with high prey drive. If Layla finds a chipmunk in the backyard, she chases it up the downspout of my rain gutter. If I don’t interrupt her and bring her inside, she then pulls that chunk of gutter pipe off the house and carries it into the center of the yard (chipmunk inside). She stands or crouches, staring intently at the gutter pipe. This can go on for hours. If she moves at all, it will only be slight muscle trembling in her back legs. When the chipmunk inevitably ventures out, thinking that the coast is clear, Layla grabs it, quickly killing and eating it.

No one who watches Layla catch a chipmunk could have any doubt that she is intently focused on her task. When she’s working a chipmunk, she has laser focus on catching and killing it, and the rest of the world fades into the background. She doesn’t allow herself to become distracted by my other dogs, people walking past, or even another prey, such as the squirrel in the tree or the bunny outside the fence. This is an example of true drive.

Trying to build your dog’s drive by increasing her excitement may work really well if she’s naturally focused on and motivated by the task at hand. However, getting an excited but distractible dog further aroused is not only unlikely to make him more talented at the sport of your choice; it’s likely to make matters worse. **The more aroused and frantic the dog becomes, the harder it gets for him to think.**

If you truly want to increase your dog's drive, work on his focus and on making the task at hand highly motivating. While Layla and Dobby came to me naturally motivated by toys and play, my youngest dog, Mischief, had very low drive for these activities. Now a year old, she will work very hard with intense focus, howling for the chance to play tug or chase. She does this because I've made these things very fun and rewarding for her. Getting her excited without giving her something to focus that excitement on just results in a frustrated, bitey, barky dog and does nothing to increase her drive.

The take home message, regardless of which sport or activity you do with your dog is clear. Select a dog who will naturally want to participate in your chosen sport. Whether you go to a breeder or rescue a dog, **don't confuse hyperactivity or frantiness with drive.** And once you bring home your new partner, nurture that dog's focus and make working with you fun.

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<http://paws4udogs.wordpress.com>

Sara Reusche, CPDT-KA, CVT, ANWI owns Paws Abilities Dog Training, LLC in Rochester, Minnesota. Sara has ten years of training experience. She became a Certified Professional Dog Trainer in 2005 and a Certified Veterinary Technician in 2006. In addition to training, Sara has worked as a dog groomer, vet tech, doggy daycare attendant, and animal shelter caretaker and trainer. She currently spends the majority of her time working with serious behavior cases and has a special fondness for reactive and anxious dogs.



SENSATIONAL!!



On Oct. 18th River Ridge's Eye of the Storm "Fynn" earned both his Canine Good Citizen and his Canine Good Citizen Advanced titles at 16 months old....Fynn is owned and loved by Karen McNally.

On the same day River Ridge's Made in America "Luke" earned his Canine Good Citizen title at 14 months old.....Luke is owned and loved by Dave McNally.

~ Maryland ~



River Ridge's Kiss My Grits RATI aka "Sassafras" owned, loved, and trained by Riley Allen successfully earned her Canine Good Citizen title on December 8. The challenge for this sweet little beauty was containing her desire to give the Judge lots of kisses.

~ Georgia ~



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Facebook



Honor Roll!!!



Gigi



My Gigi, MACH4 Harpur's Giddy Upp MXB2 MJG2 OAP OJP XF NFP T2B CGC was the first EVER rat terrier to earn a title at an AKC Sanctioned Event per the AKC record book. She received a terrific write up in the AKC Gazette (March 2006 page 16) for her accomplishment. That was in January 2006 and she is still going strong at age 13. I just love my Gigi. She may be older and grayer now, but wow she still loves to compete. Gigi is often a loaner dog for new students or for handlers who have injured dogs and still want to play. This is her win photo from that first title. The second photo is of a much older Gigi enjoying life with a true Rat Terrier spirit and determination.

Owned, loved and handled by Deborah Davidson Harpur.

~ California ~

WOW!!!



GG Yabba Dabba Doo aka "Fred"
went WD at Hatboro on Friday and Montgomery All Terrier
Show on Sunday from the 12-18 month class. October 2 & 4.
Fred finished his AKC Championship in Dallas on December 5.
He has finished in UKC and AKC this year. Jane Engemann was
handling .

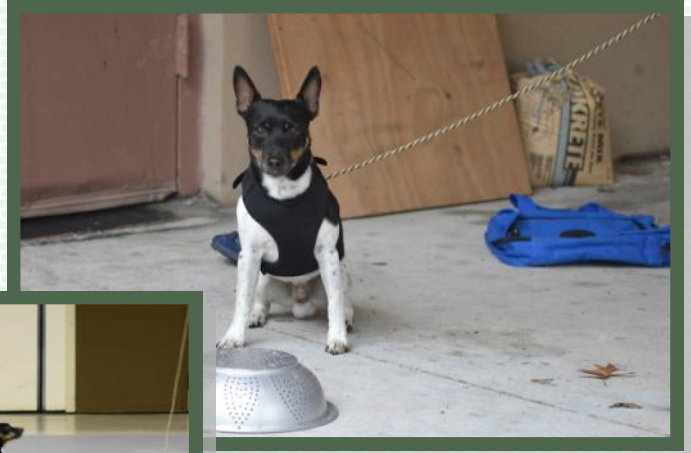
Breeder/Owner/Handler and loved by Vera Boyle.
~Kansas ~



GCH River Ridge's Blue Solar Flare OA AXJ OF RATO AAD
ASA earned her OA, AXJ and OF AKC titles this fall. In
October Spry traveled to Tennessee for her first National
competition, Cynosports, winning 16" Steeplechase
Quarter Finals and Team Jumpers. Spry is owned, loved
and trained by Beth Szczygiel.

~ Massachusetts ~

AMAZING!!!



Hawkeye (KTR's Last of the Mohicans) passed both his advanced container tests on October 3 to earn his UKC Advanced Container (AC) nosework title.

Hawkeye is owned and handled by Beverly Calhoun. He passed all of his UKC Nosework tests the weekend of November 7. He earned his Novice Exterior (NE) and Novice Vehicle (NV) titles, finishing up all of his novice titles (NN designation for all four).

~ Texas ~



EXCEPTIONAL



River Ridge Life Moves Pretty Fast aka “Ferris”—earned his first title with the UKI Beginner International Dog (BID) on September 20 and his UKI Beginner Speedstakes (SSB) Title on 10/4.

Ferris earned his first Q in AKC in Novice Fast at the Welsh Terrier Club of America agility trial on September 28 and went on to finish his Novice FAST title on 10/26. He also finished his AKC Novice Agility title on 11/29 in 3 attempts and with 3 first places.



Riverridge Mischief Managed, aka “Remus”, finished 3 UKI Championships ... International Agility Champion, International Win Agility Champion (for all points required for champion title from first place wins) and his Speedstakes Championship on 10/4. In USDAA, he finished his Advanced Standard Agility title (ASA) on 11/8, his Jumpers Master (JM) title on 9/12, Advanced Relay on 10/12 and his Advanced Agility Dog versatility title on 11/8. In AKC he finished his Time 2 Beat 2 title on 10/25 and Master FAST Bronze (MXFB) title on 9/28. Remus also was the top ranked Rat Terrier all heights in the Breed Power 10 speed rankings for 3Q 2015. Remus won Speedstakes at the UKI trial December 11 to finish his Win Champion of Speedstakes (WCSS). To earn the Win Championship you have to have all the required points from First Place wins.

Owned, trained, and loved by Deb Stevenson

~ New Jersey ~



OUTSTANDING!!!



Nimh's Coldwater Well Armed Woman aka Korie owned by Janette Oglesby and Ashley Bond was Winner's Bitch under Judge Mr. Frank T Sabella for a 5 point major at the Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia show on August 21 and Winner's Bitch for a 4 point major Judge Mr. Robert J Shreve at the Lawrenceville Kennel Club, Inc. show on August 22.

~ North Carolina ~



MACH2 ADCH UCH Smartypants Spring Loaded RA MXS MJC MXF T2B CGC FDCH-S NW3 aka Spring. Owned by Alyssia Greiner. On September 27 at the Easton, PA NACSW Nosework 3 trial earned her Nosework 3 title, placing 3rd overall out of 9 qualifiers. She also earned her Exterior and Vehicle Elite Element titles. She is the FIRST Rat Terrier to earn the NW3 title.

~ Virginia ~



Why do we walk our dog?

By Chantal Conscience-di Renzo

CCOTI, PB, RM

I sometimes wonder if people realize why dogs need to go out and smell the world. I see so many people that walk like machines or run with their dogs without giving them even the time to pee.

As you know I work with difficult dogs and yes they need to be under control most of the time. But you cannot limit their world so much that they can't do what they NEED to do to be healthy and balanced. The walk is not just a time to exercise your dog it is also a time to socialize and bond with your dog. Dogs meet with their nose. They need to stop and smell that other dog pee, they learn about other animals by the smell they leave on the ground.

We all have busy lives, but if you don't have the time to spend 30 minutes to an hour to walk your dog, then have a cat. Most dog trainers will tell you it is a good time for training. Yes it is, but start with a 10 minutes walk on a long leash. This is the perfect opportunity to gently teach your dog what is right and wrong but it's not training, as we don't ask the dog to heel. Then 10 minutes of healing and again some free time. If you use a flex leash please learn how to use it first. It can be dangerous for you, your dogs and others, so take the time to learn or ask your trainer to show you how to use it. It is a great tool if you know how and when to use it.

When meeting someone with a dog makes sure your dog is not overly excited, teach him to come gently and politely. If your dog is dog aggressive make sure you do the right thing, ask your trainer to show you how to meet with other dogs. Make sure that if someone wants to approach your dog they do it the right way. Don't let kids run to the dog or friendly people reach and touch too quickly. If your dog is shy take the time. Never be ashamed to ask and do the right thing, it is easier to have a happy dog at home than having a monster that no one can approach except you.

Be fair to your dog, walk with him/her. Let the dog do doggy things. Remember, if you let your dog free on an open field, even the best trained dog may take off if the right situation comes along. Take the time to make your dog happy, and remember it is only when walking outside that they really understand the world, so don't make your dog a prisoner.

Don't get me wrong, I still think that the dog needs manners, walking on the leash without pulling like a maniac is one of many other little details.

Educate your dog, don't chain it to you.

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Chantal Conscience-di Renzo is a Certified Canine Obedience Trainer-Instructor, Pet Behaviourist, Reiki Master-Instructor and have a long experience working with difficult dogs. She is owner/operator at Domtom Services and Chantal's Pet & Home Sitting since 2001

Titer Testing Your Dog: Are You Wasting Your Money?

by Will Falconer DVM in Vaccine Articles and News



I'm seeing a potentially dangerous trend among animal owners in pursuit of avoiding vaccinations, a laudable goal. That same trend can cost you needless money, so gather round, and let's explore this.

Cheryl wrote in the comments to last week's post:

“ *One of my furbabies is a little Chihuahua named Ricco who has an enormous amount of skin issues and allergies. When I discovered he had been to about 4 different households in his life before me, I realized that his issues are more than likely due to vaccinosis. He is now slowly on the mend and all my furbabies now get yearly titers. (italics mine)* ”

As I alluded to in my Fallacies of Titer Tests page, titers have value, but using the information from them wrongly will:

- Hurt your animal
- Hurt your pocketbook

The Dangers of a Little Knowledge

You are part of a growing community of people seeking to provide the best natural care to your animals. You want them to be Vital Animals, those glowing, well-balanced, fully free animals that bring you joy not only today and this week, but for many happy healthy years into the future. And, when it's time for them to shuffle off their mortal coil, Vital Animals can usually do this at

home, with ease, naturally, and without ERs or euthanasia solutions in the equation.

A large part of getting this glorious outcome depends on you walking the Natural Path, and taking responsibility for the animals in your care. It's no longer in your best interests to turn that responsibility over to Dr. WhiteCoat, as he's not on the same path, especially in the most important piece of health care you must decide: vaccinations.

Many of you have, rightly, sought to reduce or eliminate vaccinations after reading in various places that the common practice of repeatedly vaccinating your animal throughout her life is neither useful nor safe. One alternative that's been offered to you is titer testing.

Titers: What, Why, and When?

Titer tests are blood tests that measure the level of antibodies your animal has made. Your dog goes in, gets a needle poked into a vein, blood is pulled into a syringe and it gets tested, usually in a lab but now perhaps, in your vet's clinic. You pay anywhere from \$40 to \$200 to get some numbers on a piece of paper.

Many view these numbers as their "get out of vaccination jail" card. But I submit misreading these numbers may get you and your animal into trouble. Let's dig in and try to avoid that.

The What: Numbers? I Don' Need No Steenking Numbers!

The lab report comes back with numbers indicating the amount of antibodies your animal made against those diseases tested (usually canine distemper, parvo, rabies, or feline distemper).

That's an immunologically sound thought. But only to a point.

The Why: Assessing Immunity

The reason these titers could be of interest is that the numbers on a titer test correlate pretty well with **immunity**. Immunity is resistance to disease. It's what we'd like our animals to have, and it's what we hope is the outcome of those much maligned things called vaccinations.

But:

“ *Vaccination does not equal Immunization* ”

Did you know this? It's not common knowledge, even among many veterinarians. It's often assumed that pumping the vaccine into your animal automatically means he's now safe from the dreaded diseases that could kill him. Not so.

For example, if you vaccinate your pup at six weeks of age, or even younger, there's about a 50:50 chance that no immunity will result to distemper or parvovirus. Why? Mom's colostrum gave your pup antibodies against both, and those antibodies are preventing the vaccine from stimulating his own immunity. Mom's protection is temporary though, and we need long term protection.

Many also think that immunity "runs out" on day 364 since the last vaccine was pumped in. When those postcards come, saying, "Beau is due for his vaccinations! Please call for an appointment today!", it sets some people into a bit of a panic.

The act of squirting more vaccine under Beau's skin is somehow thought to be akin to filling an empty reservoir.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

A truth in immunology is this:

“Immunity to viruses persists for years or for the life of the animal.”

And another truth, from the same veterinary immunologists:

“Furthermore, revaccination...fails to stimulate...(further immunity)”

The When: Run a Titer When it Makes Sense. Save Your Money (and your pet!) by Not Running it When it Doesn't!

It's a given that titers have limits. Any immunologist knows this. They fail to measure a significant piece of immunity, called cell mediated immunity.

The most useful time to run a titer test is after your youngster has received her initial series of vaccinations. Especially if you've limited that series to just one or two vaccinations, the last being after 16 weeks of age. The odds are you've just conferred lifetime immunity to your youngster.

If you want to know how effective your vaccinations were in conferring immunity (i.e. did vaccination = immunization?), ask your vet to run a titer test a few weeks later.

Here's what's useful in assessing those numbers:

If there's any measurable titer to the disease in question, your goal has been reached. Your youngster has actively made immunity to those viruses you had squirted in via vaccination. It doesn't need to meet some standard of "protective" to be useful; it just has to be positive.

That indicates you are more than likely now the proud owner of an immune pet, and you can confidently say "No!" to more vaccines. For how long?

For life.

Falling Titers: Oh-oh or No Big Deal?

Testing yearly will eventually show titers that fall off. Does that mean immunity is gone and you've got to head in for a "topping up" of the immunity reservoir?

No!

(And stop thinking that a "reservoir" even exists. I actually hesitated writing this word, as I don't want you to think this is in any way reality).

It only means the antibody levels are waning. And why wouldn't they? It's a waste to keep making more antibodies when there's no exposure to more virus. In its wisdom, the vital force deems its work is done in this area, and stops pumping more antibodies into the blood.

But, the good news is this: cellular memory is still very likely present to the bad guy you vaccinated against and, should your buddy ever be exposed to this virus again, BOOM, the antibody production factory fires up and the titer rises once again, and rather quickly at that.

So, it'd be a mistake to equate a titer that's fallen with a lack of protection, and a greater one to think you need more vaccinations to re-establish protection. Immunity is still there, quietly, watchfully alert.

[In the older guys, I like to add a nice immune boost in the form of transfer factors, just to be sure their immune systems are acting out of the greatest responsive intelligence. And perhaps that's a subject for another post.]

Have you used titers? Does this info help? Maybe you've even seen this: your animal's titers kept on increasing for years after you stopped vaccinating! That's what happened to my colleague's dog on testing rabies titers. Let us know in the comments.

About Will Falconer DVM

Dr Will Falconer is a Certified Veterinary Homeopath based in Austin, Texas with a global practice treating all species with the most holistic medicine ever. His latest thoughts and useful information can be found on his blog at VitalAnimal.com

<http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/titer-testing-dog/>

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The STATISTICS

Conformation

2015 Rat Terriers

AKC RAT TERRIER TOP TWENTY

The Canine Chronicle
Statistics thru November 30, 2015

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	BIS	GRP1	Owner
1	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	M	369	0	1	T Little/R Little
2	GCH CH Crosswind The Big Man In Town	M	309	0	0	L Schroll/S McWilliams/J Gardner
3	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennessee	M	188	0	0	L Hibbard
4	GCH CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	F	118	0	0	B Veltri
5	GCH CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr N Ur Favor River Ridge	M	61	0	0	S McWilliams/J Gardner/D MCMAHAN
6	GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tlkabout@GIhl	F	60	0	0	A Burns/L Meek
7	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	M	54	0	0	T Gillies/D Gillies
8	GCH CH Seegmillers Challenge Accepted RN	M	51	0	0	K Seegmiller/A Chestnut
9	GCH CH Trimark's Take It All River Ridge	F	44	0	0	P Smith/B Trammell
10	GCH CH King Pen Bentley Royal	M	41	0	0	L Thoming
11	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	M	38	0	0	A Agostine
12	CH Seegmillers Dos Miss Margo	F	33	0	0	K Seegmiller
13	CH Bur-Way Cock It & Pull It	F	24	0	0	F Trammell/B Trammell
14	GCH CH Ratitatt Gala Shindig	F	22	0	0	V Schiefer
15	GCH CH Cal Val Stiletto's Igo Tequila	F	19	0	0	J Ferguson/M Ferguson
16	Seegmillers Tuffenuff To Envy	F	18	0	0	K Seegmiller/B Pettry
17	CH Bur-Way Crossin The Thin Red Line	F	17	0	0	P Smith/M Martin
17	CH Atencio's Once Upon A Dream	F	17	0	0	R Anthony/D Atencio-Kupfer
17	GCH CH Wildcliff A Likely Story	F	17	0	0	B Kneale/S Kellogg
20	GCH CH River Ridge New Direction	F	15	0	0	J Gardner/S McWilliams/K Cryan
20	GCH CH Call Me One Tuff Cricket RN CA	F	15	0	0	C Humphrey/B Pettry

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2015 Rat Terriers

ALL BREED STANDINGS

The Canine Chronicle
Statistics thru November 30, 2015

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	BIS	GRP1	Owner
1	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	M	975	0	1	T Little/R Little
2	GCH CH Crosswind The Big Man In Town	M	676	0	0	L Schroll/S McWilliams/J Gardner
3	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennessee	M	188	0	0	L Hibbard
4	GCH CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	F	118	0	0	B Veltri
5	GCH CH Seegmillers Challenge Accepted RN	M	89	0	0	K Seegmiller/A Chestnut
6	CH Seegmillers Dos Miss Margo	F	88	0	0	K Seegmiller
7	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	M	82	0	0	A Agostine
8	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	M	71	0	0	T Gillies/D Gillies
9	CH Bur-Way Cock It & Pull It	F	70	0	0	F Trammell/B Trammell
10	GCH CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr N Ur Favor River Ridge	M	61	0	0	S McWilliams/J Gardner/D MCMAHAN
11	GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tkbout@Ghl	F	60	0	0	A Burns/L Meek
12	GCH CH Trimark's Take It All River Ridge	F	44	0	0	P Smith/B Trammell
13	CH Seegmillers Mission Complete	F	43	0	0	K Seegmiller
14	GCH CH King Pen Bentley Royal	M	41	0	0	L Thoming
15	Seegmillers Tuffenuff To Envy	F	36	0	0	K Seegmiller/B Pettry
16	Knd's Prehistoric Princess	F	30	0	0	V Boyle
17	GCH CH Rattatt Gala Shindig	F	22	0	0	V Schiefer
18	GCH CH Cal Val Stiletto's Igo Tequila	F	19	0	0	J Ferguson/M Ferguson
19	CH Bur-Way Crossin The Thin Red Line	F	17	0	0	P Smith/M Martin
19	Seegmillers Fortunate Son	M	17	0	0	K Seegmiller/T Dennis
19	GCH CH Wildcliff A Likely Story	F	17	0	0	B Kneale/S Kellogg
19	CH Atencio's Once Upon A Dream	F	17	0	0	R Anthony/D Atencio-Kupfer



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Rat Terriers

AKC GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

The Canine Chronicle
Statistics thru November 30, 2015

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	Owner
1	GCH CH Crosswind The Big Man In Town	M	247	L Schroll/S McWilliams/J Gardner
2	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	M	246	T Little/R Little
3	GCH CH Rock-E-Hill Tennessee	M	171	L Hibbard
4	GCH CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka-Dah	F	107	B Veltri
5	GCH CH River Ridge New Direction	F	84	J Gardner/S McWilliams/K Cryan
6	GCH CH Ratitatt Gala Shindig	F	77	V Schiefer
7	GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tlkabout@Ghl	F	66	A Burns/L Meek
8	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	M	65	T Gillies/D Gillies
9	GCH CH Trimark's Take It All River Ridge	F	53	P Smith/B Trammell
10	GCH CH Evanlee May D'Odds B Evr N Ur Favor River Ridge	M	45	S McWilliams/J Gardner/D MCMAHAN
11	GCH CH Seegmillers Challenge Accepted RN	M	44	K Seegmiller/A Chestnut
12	GCH CH River Ridge's Flower In Her Hair	F	35	D Hileman/S McWilliams
13	GCH CH River Ridge's 2 Busy B'N Foona	F	34	S McWilliams
13	GCH CH Wildcliff A Likely Story	F	34	B Kneale/S Kellogg
15	GCH CH King Pen Bentley Royal	M	32	L Thoming
16	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	M	31	A Agostine
17	GCH CH Cal Val Stiletto's Igo Tequila	F	24	J Ferguson/M Ferguson
18	GCH CH Wild Oaks Courage Under Fire	F	22	J Ader
19	GCH CH Rnb She's A Witchy Woman	F	21	S Hendrix
19	GCH CH Call Me One Tuff Cricket RN CA	F	21	C Humphrey/B Pettry
19	CH Wildcliff She'll Tickle Ur Fancy	F	21	B Amico/S McWilliams



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2016 Owner-Handler Breed Top 15

The Canine Chronicle
Statistics thru November 30, 2015

Rank	Dog Name	Owner-Handled Name	Breed	OHS Points
1	CH Felixville s Seasoned Traveller CA	Ransome little Joana Plattsmier	Rat Terrier	35
1	Rnb s Virgin Queen	Capt. Margaret Van Der Hagen	Rat Terrier	35
3	GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tlkabout Glhl	Alma Burns Linda Meek	Rat Terrier	25
3	CH Miyuki From Empress	Yolanda Cunningham Joel Cunningham	Rat Terrier	25
3	CH Short s Flash Of Blue Kitchi	Wendy Sherman	Rat Terrier	25
6	GCH CH Trimark s Take It All River Ridge	Patricia Smith Barbara Trammell	Rat Terrier	20
7	CH Evanlee s Ticket To The Stars	Anna Morris DONNA MCMAHAN	Rat Terrier	15
8	CH Bur-Way Crossin The Thin Red Line	Patricia Smith Marcia Martin	Rat Terrier	10
8	CH Hdk K2 Erandi Mistress Of The Night	Heidi L. Sparks Tracey A Kallas	Rat Terrier	10
8	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	Loretta Iazzetti Stacy McWilliams	Rat Terrier	10
8	Seegmillers Tuffenuff To Envy	Mrs. Kimberly Seegmiller Mrs. Brandy Pettry	Rat Terrier	10
12	GCH CH Aacres Go The Distance	Christel Carl Tammy Dennis	Rat Terrier	5
12	CH Cal Val Ib A Red Chili Pepper	Dorothy Baker Kimberly Seegmiller	Rat Terrier	5
12	GCH CH Cal Val Stiletto s Igo Tequila	Jennifer Ferguson Michael Ferguson	Rat Terrier	5
12	Dos Onesti Mischief Managed	Ms. Kathryn McKewen	Rat Terrier	5
12	Dos Rnb s Dark Chrystal	Dud & Sherry L Hendrix	Rat Terrier	5
12	Dos Wicked Trouble	Tracey Gillies Darin Gillies	Rat Terrier	5
12	GCH CH Raganratitatt Absolut Lee Blu	Frances B Nasiatka Valerie Schiefer	Rat Terrier	5
12	CH Ratitatt Bonnie Blue	Lois Deitrich Valerie Schiefer	Rat Terrier	5
12	GCH CH Rnb Dos Defying Gravity	Tracey Gillies Darin Gillies	Rat Terrier	5
12	Warrenmtn She s A Firecracker	Carolyn Helewski Pete Helewski	Rat Terrier	5
12	CH Wild Oak s Anson St. Church	David Littleton Nancy Littleton	Rat Terrier	5
12	CH Wildcliff Steady N Strong Duty Calls	Annette Agostine Tracey Spillane	Rat Terrier	5



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FINAL RESULTS 2015

AKC NATIONAL OWNER-HANDLED SERIES RANKING

For Events Processed Through: October 7, 2015

The [AKC National Owner-Handled Series Points](#) are displayed based on the selected qualifying period year and breed.

* Indicates required field.

Please select a qualifying year*

2015 ▼

Please select a breed*

Rat Terrier ▼

Qualifying Period: *October 09, 2014 through October 07, 2015*

Points Ranking for Rat Terrier (2015)

Today's Date: October 23, 2015

Rank	Dog Name	Owner Name	Sex	OHS Points
No. 1	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov' N Life CM	Annette Agostine	Dog	255
No. 2	GCH CH Crosswind The Big Man In Town	Louise Schroll/Stacy McWilliams/Jane Gardner	Dog	205
No. 3	GCH CH River Ridge Winning Ways	Loretta Iazzetti/Stacy McWilliams	Dog	110
No. 4	GCH CH Arkay Sgk Sumthing2tlkabout@Ghl	Alma Burns/Linda Meek	Bitch	95
No. 5	CH River Ridge's Give Em Someth'N 2talk About	Jaclyn Maye/Beth Szczygiel/Stacy McWilliams	Dog	90
No. 6	CH Bur-Way Cock It & Pull It	Felicity Trammell/Barbara Trammell	Bitch	80



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No. 7	GCH CH Call Me One Tuff Cricket RN CA	Cynthia Humphrey/Brandy Pettry	Bitch	70
	CH Wildcliff She'll Tickle Ur Fancy	Beth Ann Amico/Stacy McWilliams	Bitch	70
No. 9	GCH CH Raganratitatt Absolut Lee Blu	Frances B Nasiatka/Valerie Schiefer	Bitch	60
	GCH CH Stoneybays Ur Martini's Serv'D CM	Stacy McWilliams/Tammy Jordan	Dog	60
No. 11	CH Evanlee's Ticket To The Stars	Anna Morris/DONNA MCMAHAN	Dog	55
No. 12	GCH CH River Ridge New Direction	Jane Gardner/Stacy McWilliams/Kat Cryan	Bitch	50
No. 13	Kenann's Tee 'N It Up	Connie B Blanken	Dog	35
	GCH CH River Ridge's Flower In Her Hair	Denise Hileman/Stacy McWilliams	Bitch	35
	GCH CH Trimark's Ooh La-La-Polka- Dah	Beth Veltri	Bitch	35
No. 16	Broc Silver Bullett CA	Yolanda Cunningham/Joel Cunningham	Dog	30
	CH Turn Slice Of Heaven BN RN	Susan R Mulligan/Susan D Turner	Bitch	30
	Warrenmtn She's A Firecracker	Carolyn Helewski/Pete Helewski	Bitch	30
No. 19	GCH CH Crosswind's Little Black Dress	Chester David Hileman Sr./Denise Aileen Hileman	Bitch	25
	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch	Theda Little/Ransome Little	Dog	25



DOG NEWS

TOP TEN LIST

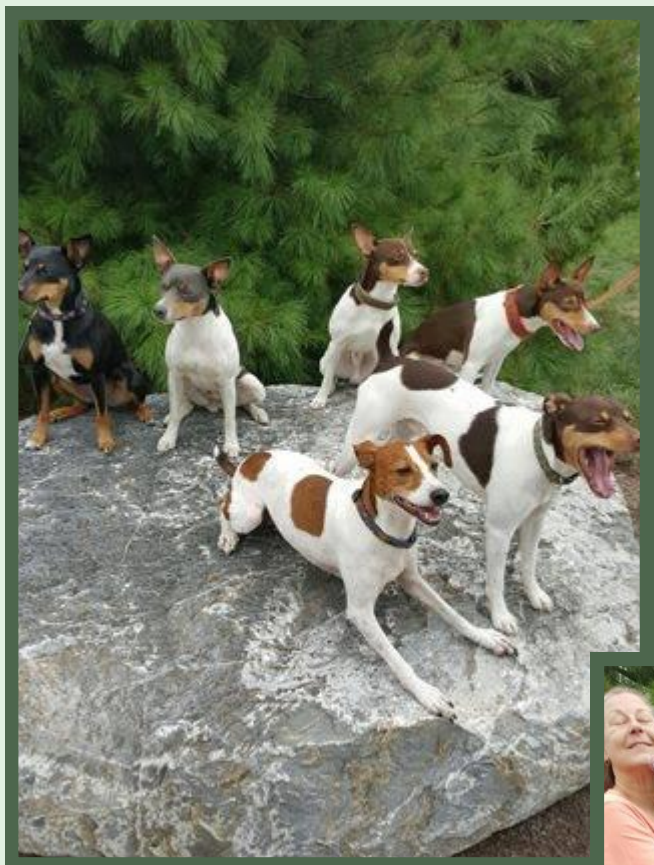
Rat Terriers

October 2015

	RAT TERRIERS	Best In Show	Reserve Best In Show	Group One	Group Two	Group Three	Group Four	TOTAL
1	GCH CH Felixvilles Traveling Pooch (M) T Little/R Little	0	0	1	1	4	6	584
2	GCH CH Crosswind The Big Man In Town (M) L Schroll/S McWilliams/J Gardner	0	0	0	1	3	5	394
3	GCH CH Seegmillers Challenge Accepted RN (M) K Seegmiller/A Chestnut	0	0	0	0	0	1	70
4	CH Bur-Way Cock It & Pull It (F) Trammel/B Trammell	0	0	0	0	0	1	49
5	GCH CH Kenann's Liv'N N Lov'N Life CM (M) A Agostine	0	0	0	1	1	1	47
6	CH Seemillers Challenge Accepted RN (M) K Seegmiller/A Chestnut	0	0	0	0	0	1	43
7	CH Seegmillers Mission Complete (F) K Seegmiller	0	0	0	0	0	1	31
8	KND's Prehistoric Princess (F) V Boyle	0	0	0	0	0	1	30
9	Seegmillers Tuffenuff to Envy (F) K Seegmiller/B Pettry	0	0	0	0	0	1	25
10	GCH CH RNB DOS Defying Gravity (M) T Gillies/D Gillies	0	0	0	0	1	0	22



AGILITY



Rat Infestation at the All Terrier Trial during the week of September 28 at In The Net in Palmyra, PA.

Above: is Lindy, Spry, Luke, Fynn and bottom is Remus and Ferris B.

Photo to the right is: Betsy Spilis, David McNally and Karen McNally with Beth Szczygiel and Deb Stevenson down front.



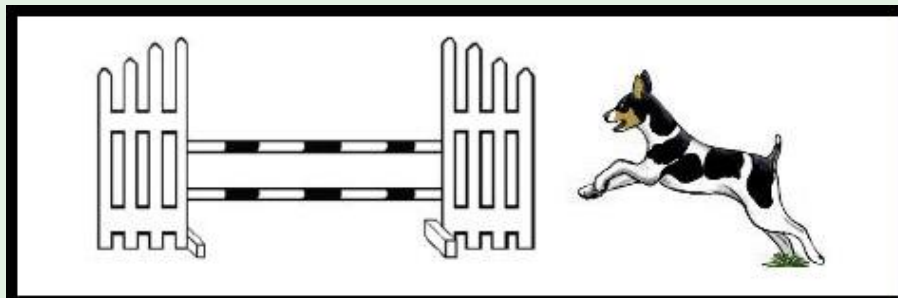
Rat Terrier Ranking by PowerScore for 2015 Q3

The Breed Power 10 is a group of the top 10 dogs in each breed *at each height* ranked by PowerScore. The Breed Power 10 recognizes the fastest dogs in our sport by using average yards per second, rather than double qualifying (QQ) runs or points.



8" Regular

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	12.59	Penny Lane — MACH10 Ratitatt Portrait Of The Queen MXS3 MJS3	M Liebhardt/V Schiefer	4.76	3.91
2	11.88	Ellie — MACH4 Ellie May MXB2 MJS2 MXF T2B4	H Williams/B Williams	4.54	3.67
3	9.51	Ratitatt Franibur Sing Zblus RN AX MXJ NF CA	C Lent/V Schiefer	3.60	2.96
4	9.05	Beretich's Musical Zeaner RE AX AXJ	P Meeks	3.81	2.62



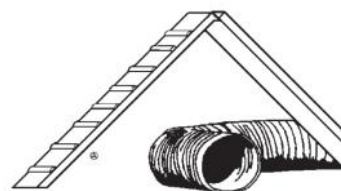
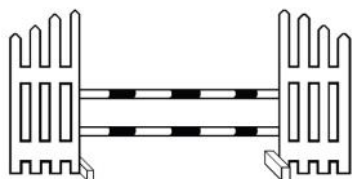
12" Regular

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	13.77	Gus — MACH2 Ratitatt Gusters Rebel Force CD BN RA MXS MJG XF T2B	M BASU/V Schiefer	5.25	4.26
2	13.34	Pecatonica's Angelina Nali MX MXJ	D Rabbach	5.16	4.09
3	13.31	Ryder — Burway Ryder On The Storm CM MX MXS MXJ MJS RATO	C Clemente	5.02	4.14
4	12.67	Woody — MACH9 Ratitatt Wood U Buzz Me MXS3 MJC3 MXF MFS TQX T2B	Y Mancino/D Mancino	4.90	3.88
5	12.55	Aris Legacy Up Up And Away AX MXJ OF T2B	D Davidson-Harper/M Matsuo	4.53	4.01
6	12.26	MACH23 Pebbles' Magic Act MXB6 MJG6 MXF TQX T2B	D Kennedy	4.80	3.73
7	12.11	MACH22 Lady Maria Isabella Boyd MXC5 MJG6 MXF TQX T2B2	G Capen	4.61	3.75
8	12.07	Dj's Johnny Boy MX MXJ OF T2B	R Taylor/D Taylor	4.90	3.58
9	11.85	Flash — MACH3 Call Me Greased Lightning MXC MJB2 XF T2B CA	K Brown	4.73	3.56
10	11.81	MACH Penelope's Pied Piper MXS MJS	N Sewell	4.46	3.67



16" Regular

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	15.01	Remus — Riverridge Mischief Managed RN MX MXJ MJB MXF MFB T2B	D Stevenson	5.82	4.60
2	13.78	Gus — MACH2 Ratitatt Gusters Rebel Force CD BN RA MXS MJG XF T2B	M BASU/V Schiefer	5.44	4.17
3	13.49	Tuckaway Arrow MX MXJ OF T2B	P Caldwell	5.08	4.20
4	13.48	Taylor — MACH Taylorswift MXS MJS NF T2B	S McGinty	5.09	4.20
5	13.44	Porter — MACH2 Bur-Way Anything Goes MXS MJS T2B CA	M Obidinski	4.97	4.23
6	11.99	Pecatonica Infinity & Beyond AX AXJ OF	C Kempf	4.69	3.65
7	11.85	MACH2 'R Short Circuit CDX RA MXS MJG XF	B Krynski/T Woepse	4.95	3.45
8	11.52	MACH8 MR. Big MXS3 MJC3 FTC2 MFC2 TQX T2B	C Oman	4.45	3.54
9	11.46	Ratitatt Textin Repete Action BN PCD RN AX AXJ CGC	S Harames	4.56	3.44
10	11.39	MACH5 Maggie Mae Becker MXS2 MJG2 XF	B Becker/B Becker	4.21	3.59



3" Preferred

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	13.13	Woody — MACH9 Ratitatt Wood U Buzz Me MXS3 MJC3 MXF MFS TQX T2B	Y Mancino/D Mancino	5.04	4.04
2	12.65	Jack AX MXJ MJP OF OFF T2B T2BP JE	D Hodges/C Hodges	5.03	3.81
3	12.26	MACH Ratitatt She's Got Moxie MXB MJB	R Nicotra	5.00	3.63
4	11.75	MACH5 Ratitatt Charmin Zboys MXC MJS2 MXF TQX CA	K Meyer	4.59	3.58
5	11.28	MACH3 Rpk's Lexi MXG MJG XF	L Samson	4.33	3.48
6	10.22	MACH Rudolph's Wish Upon A Star RA MXB MJC MJP OF	R Rudolph	3.78	3.22
7	9.37	Ratitatt It's Jamboree Jade AX AXJ	R Nicotra	3.40	2.98
8	9.33	Stella — MACH4 PACH2 Dragonfly's Shooting Star MXG2 MJG2 MXP9 MXPG MJP9 MJPG PAX3 MXF MFC TQX MFP T2B6	V Meyer	3.42	2.96
9	9.09	Austin — MACH10 PACH Hollys Hope Of Austins Powers MXB3 MJS3 MXP3 MXPB MJP3 MJPB PAX MXF MFS TQX MFP T2B T2BP	K Wells, Dvm	3.34	2.87

12" Preferred

	Power Score	Dog	Owner	JWW YPS	STD YPS
1	12.64	Willis — MACH6 PACH Willis MXS2 MJG2 MXP3 MXPB MJP3 MJPB PAX T2B	M Obidinski	4.95	3.84
2	12.01	MACH Ratitatt Gotta Hava Kitkat MXB MJB	R Nicotra	4.70	3.66
3	11.37	MACH5 Maggie Mae Becker MXS2 MJG2 XF	B Becker/B Becker	4.23	3.57
4	10.90	Raganrat Finding My Way AX AXJ	N James	4.08	3.41

MEET THE EXHIBITOR!!



Deborah Davidson Harpur is known in dog circles as a Rat Terrier mom and though she has multiple ratties, she has also owned other breeds of dogs and has been showing since 1998 when she began competing with her Border Collie Pjupp, who has since passed on. She is a handler of multiple breeds of dogs and has earned over 30 agility championships with the dogs she handles and loves. Some of the breeds she's shown include cocker, english cocker, mixed breeds french bulldog, sheltie, bedlington terrier, staffy bull terrier and the list goes on. She is a founder of the PM2 Dog Agility team which is named after the 3 original dogs on the team Pjupp a border collie and Mojo and Magi, mixed breeds.

She got her first rat terrier in 2004 from a local shelter. That little pound puppy earned a place in AKC history as the first rat terrier to earn a title (in any sport) under AKC Sanctioning. Her name is Gigi and she is 13 years old and still competing. She joined Pjupp and Winston (a shepherd mix) in the Harpur family and things were going nice and smooth and then a bundle of joy joined the family. Yep, another rat terrier. Rickie Roo joined the family in 2007 and from the minute she arrived she had the house going wild. Known as the naughtiest puppy in the world, Rickie Roo is the joy of Deb's life. Rickie Roo came to Deb from her friend Barbie Trammell and the Burway Stars Kennel. Rickie Roo is a top competitor in the sport of agility and likely you recognize her name from her crusade to promote genetic testing - specifically for PLL. Rickie Roo suffered from this genetic defect and after 2 emergency surgeries her vision and her eyes were saved. She was bred before the test for PLL was widely available but as soon as it was Barbie had tested Roo and they found out she was at risk. Luckily a good relationship was made with a top eye specialist and today she can see and compete with some of the best dogs in the U.S. in the sport she loves so much. Of course, who could leave it at 2 ratties? Deb had a Jr. Handler, Mei who needed a dog to run, so LCpie - Rickie Roo's niece joined the family. Originally to live with Mei, LCpie moved in with Debs pack while still a puppy. Chili Dog also joined as a re-home from a local family. His breeder is Gail Holloway who thankfully approved the home change (we checked with her first, per the contract) He lives with Mei and her family. Life was going along, busy with dog shows, modeling jobs, acting gigs for the dogs. Pjupp, Winston and his replacement Hobo all passed away and Gabe and

Bunnee, both Border Collies, joined the family. They train and compete in herding and agility. Most recently little rat terrier puppy Tierney joined the family. She is co-owned by Barbie Trammell and is the daughter of Rickie Roo's nephew, Ryder.

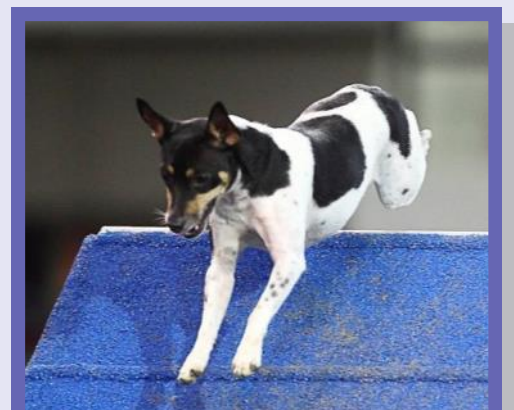
What are some things you might not know about Deborah, even if you have shown with her for years? She was an award winning costume designer for theatre and dance companies, and earned multiple dramalogue awards for her work in Hollywood. She also was a top hairstylist heading the color and perm department (trichology department) at several very famous salons. She grew up in a small town where her family had pet dogs, chickens, ducks and other critters. She didn't get her first dog until she was married and even then for a few years she had cats. Two of them lived to be 24 and 25. And she still has a cat today, it lives at the shop and is named Kit Kat. She used to be well known in the sport of Karting, she earned multiple podium spots at the Road Race Grand Nationals competing against the guys. She left karting after a head injury and went into dog agility as her full time activity. She enjoys a good Texas hold'em garage tournament and is very seldom not working on some type of project. Likely you know that if you've ever met her.

Deborah considers herself so lucky to have rat terriers Harpur's Giddy Upp "Gigi", Burway it's like this "Rickie Roo", Aris Legacy up up and away "LCpie", Cal Val he's all mine "Chili dog" and Pyxis 21st Century Fox @ Burway "Tierney". All train in agility along with their Border Collie brother Gabriel and sister Bunnee who also train in herding. With just a touch of conformation here and there to shake things up, the dogs have lots of fun. The pack gets to come to work with Deb every day at the families marine engine business. Besides being full of vintage Chris Craft boats her husband is working on, Deb has her agility yard out back and enjoys teaching and training with dogs on the team and her students' dogs.

Why does Deb think her dogs excel in agility? It's their drive, their love of the sport and their independent thinking that keep their trainer on her toes and that brings joy to all of their lives. The travel to meet other rattie friends in other states is a bonus and the PM2 pack is always happy to meet a new rattie pal. They have met pals at events all over the US and were touched when friends from several states came to cheer on Rickie Roo at Westminster.

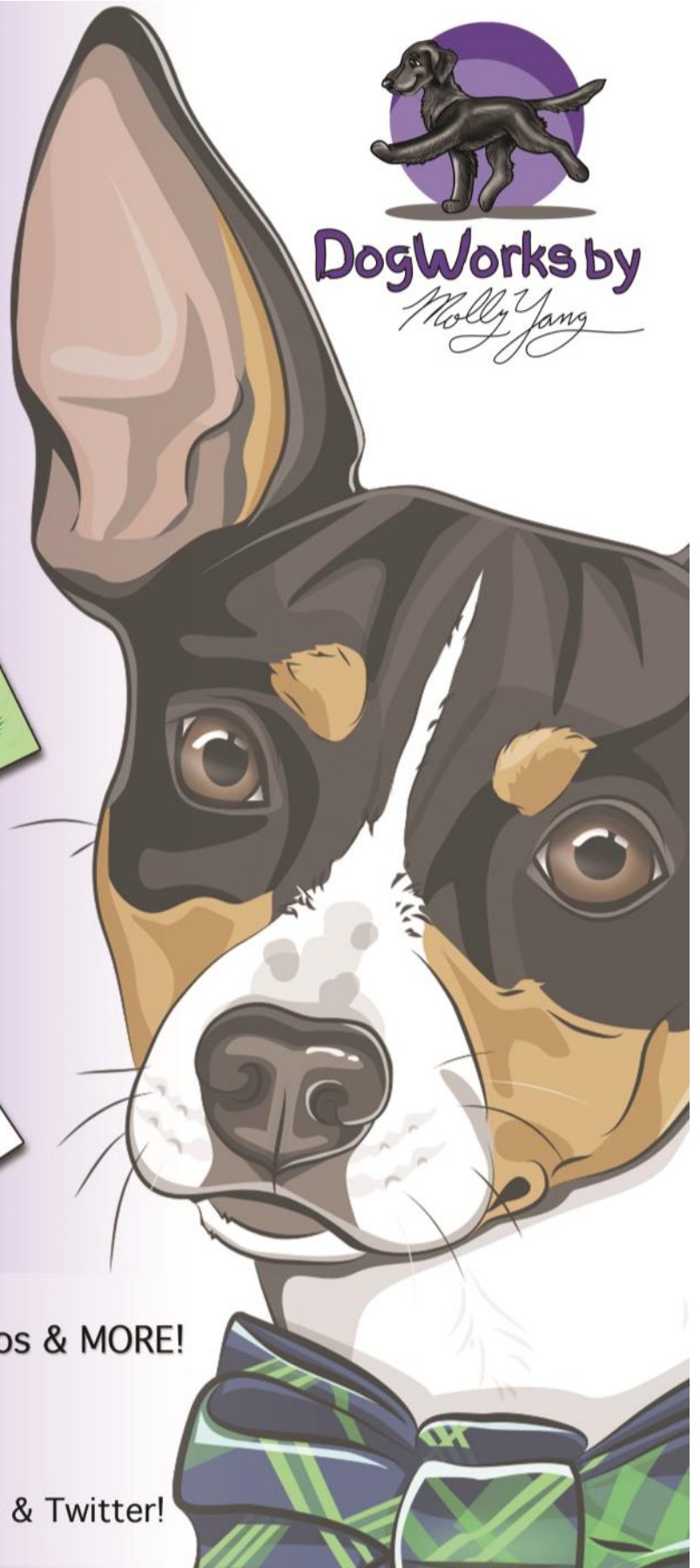
Currently Debs life revolves around her "kids" the dogs, going to the stables and teaching dog agility. Her closest friends are all dog or horse people (or both) and her life has been enriched with MANY Rickie Roo relatives and the people who love them. They hope to see you at and agility trial soon.

By Deborah Davidson Harpur





DogWorks by
Molly Yang



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RAT TERRIER COLORS & PATTERNS

MARTC collaborated with Dogworks to have a basic breed color chart created with hopes of helping new Rat Terrier owners and Judges correctly identify colors for the breed. With 19 colors and 9 patterns (based upon what is currently offered on AKC paperwork) it is not often easy to discern what color and pattern a Rat Terrier displays.

As a new breed with such complex colors and patterns, our club has hopes that RTCA will approve and accept this color chart. We believe it would be of great help to Judges and exhibitors. At the time of this newsletter, the club is still awaiting RTCA feedback and blessing on the chart.

In addition, another nice benefit is the club now has all the colors and patterns to create some nice items for future fund raising.

~~~~~

# Rat Terrier

## AKC Colors and Patterns



019 115



019 115



030 115



034 115



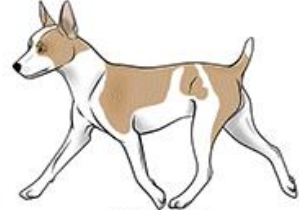
260 084



158 115  
140 067



199



200 025



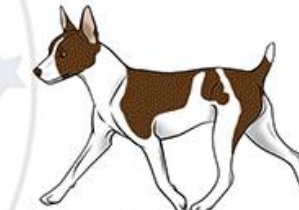
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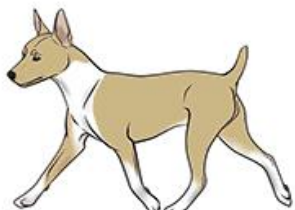
288 025



334 025



287 025



207 115



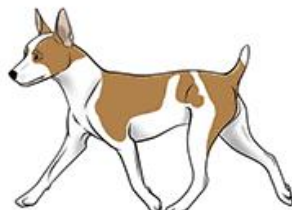
211 025



214 025



216 025



217 025



219 025



397 025

### COLOR CODES

|                   |     |                        |     |
|-------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| BLACK & WHITE     | 019 | WHITE & BLUE FAWN      | 334 |
| BLACK TAN & WHITE | 030 | WHITE & CHOCOLATE      | 287 |
| BLACK WHITE & TAN | 034 | WHITE & FAWN           | 207 |
| BLUE WHITE & TAN  | 260 | WHITE & LEMON          | 211 |
| RED               | 140 | WHITE & RED            | 214 |
| RED WHITE & SABLE | 158 | WHITE & SILVER         | 216 |
| WHITE             | 199 | WHITE & TAN            | 217 |
| WHITE & APRICOT   | 200 | WHITE BLACK & TAN      | 219 |
| WHITE & BLACK     | 202 | WHITE, CHOCOLATE & TAN | 397 |
| WHITE & BLUE      | 288 |                        |     |

### MARKING CODES

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| BADGER MARKINGS            | 001 |
| BLANKET-BACK               | 084 |
| IRISH MARKED               | 115 |
| PIEBALD                    | 025 |
| SABLE, WHITE MARKINGS      | 067 |
| SPOTTED OR PATCHED         | 106 |
| TAN POINTS                 | 029 |
| WHITE MARKINGS, TAN POINTS | 030 |
| WHITE MASK WHITE MARKINGS  | 104 |

### DISQUALIFICATIONS

Any dog over six months of age measuring less than 10 inches, or over 18 inches. Any blue color in the eye(s). Cropped ears. An absence of coat (genetic hairlessness). Any suggestion of kink or curl, or coat type other than described. Solid colorations (other than white). Bi-colors without white, or dogs with a patch or strip of white measuring less than one inch at its widest dimension. Brindle or merle color patterns.

# Blast to the Past



Please send your  
oldies but goodies  
to us for the next issue.

# Love At First Rat

By Amanda Hall

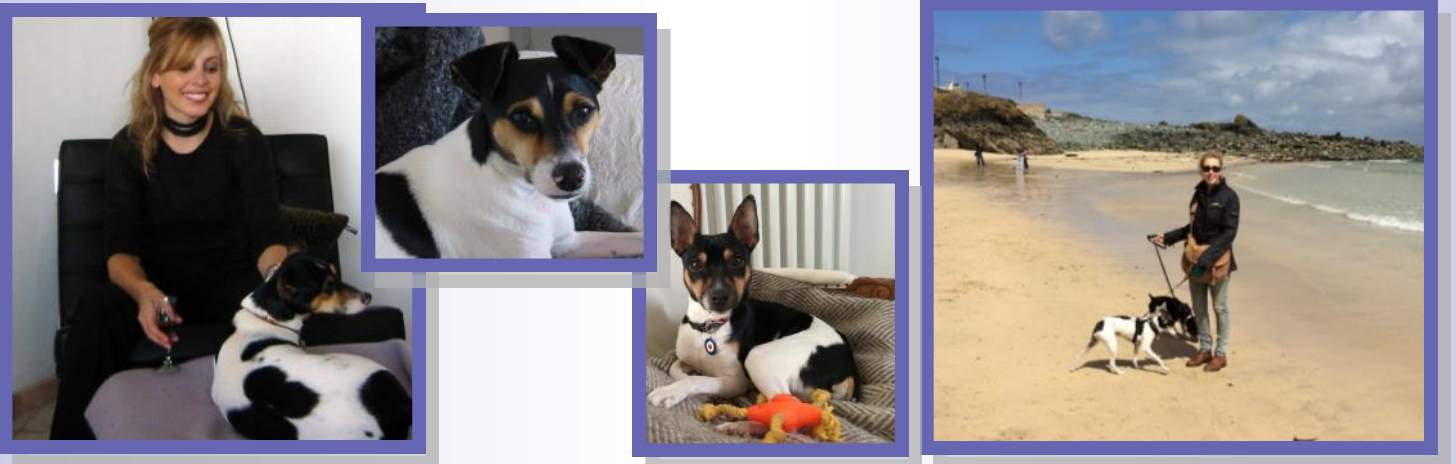
My Rat terrier love affair started some years ago in Chicago when my friend got a puppy Sammy... He was completely different from my own dog and I had never considered getting a small dog before.

Sammy and I quickly became best friends and he would race up the street to see me if he spotted me, I often looked after him when they went away and he was a charming fun little character and he seemed to love my elderly GSD, I was sold, I even considered kidnapping him I was so fond of him. After my own 14 year old Bunny passed, I moved to France and decided to get a Rattie myself. As small dogs were accepted everywhere in France I thought a Rattie would be a perfect companion.

I found Troy via a breeder online who seemed to have a good line and was ethical and prepared to keep him until he was old enough to travel. I flew to Chicago to meet him off his flight from Alabama, then we flew back to Nice where we lived for several years before relocating to the UK, Troy is now 13.

Last year I went to California to stay with friends. I had talked with Candace of Rosethorn Terriers and selected a pup from her line. Bogart flew back with me to the UK to join Troy, he is now 14 months old and they have bonded well. They are quite different personalities but share Rattie traits. I love the breed and can't imagine life without one and have been called crazy to travel continents to get a Rattie.

I am a dog portrait artist and they are the perfect muses, with their endless catalogue of expressions.



# The Art of Amanda Hall

## "You Yo W Tails"

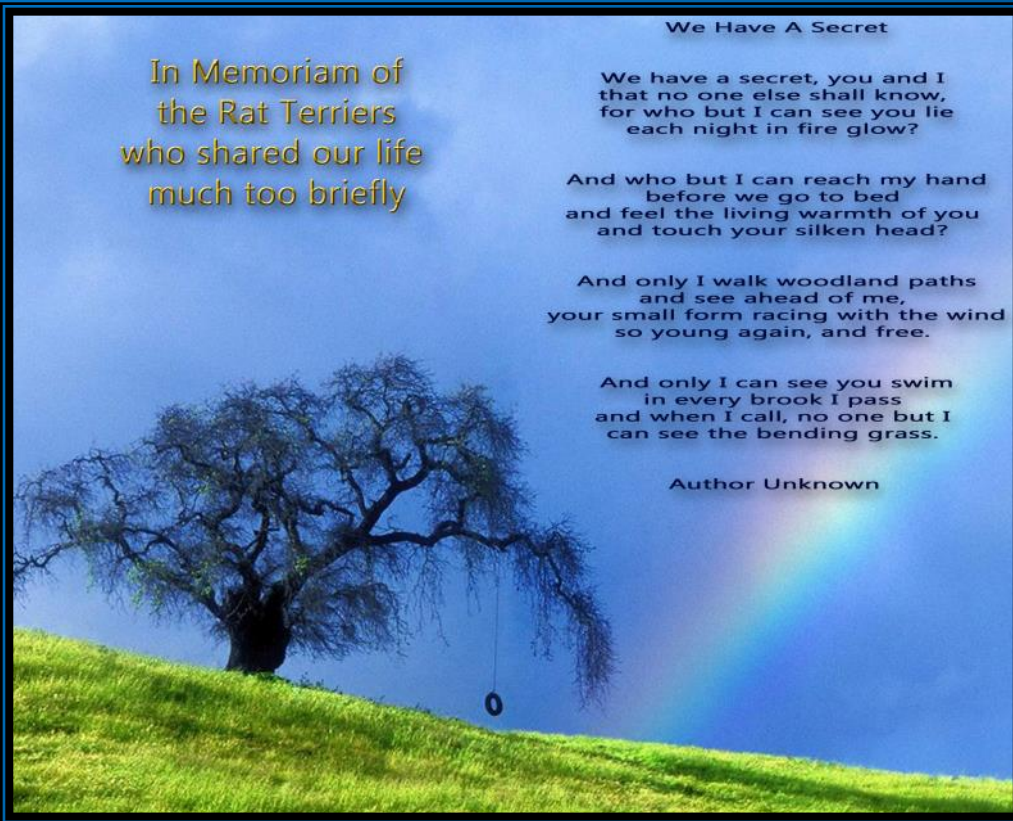
The "eyes" say it ALL



CHECK OUT

Amanda's Facebook art page: [www.facebook.com/Youyowtails](http://www.facebook.com/Youyowtails)

And Bogart's blog at: <https://www.facebook.com/RosethornTerriers>



In Memoriam of  
the Rat Terriers  
who shared our life  
much too briefly

We Have A Secret

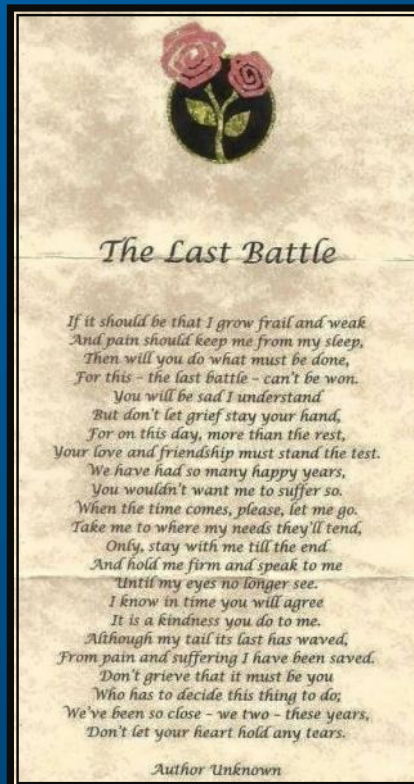
We have a secret, you and I  
that no one else shall know,  
for who but I can see you lie  
each night in fire glow?

And who but I can reach my hand  
before we go to bed  
and feel the living warmth of you  
and touch your silken head?

And only I walk woodland paths  
and see ahead of me,  
your small form racing with the wind  
so young again, and free.

And only I can see you swim  
in every brook I pass  
and when I call, no one but I  
can see the bending grass.

Author Unknown



*The Last Battle*

*If it should be that I grow frail and weak  
And pain should keep me from my sleep,  
Then will you do what must be done,  
For this - the last battle - can't be won.  
You will be sad I understand  
But don't let grief stay your hand,  
For on this day, more than the rest,  
Your love and friendship must stand the test.  
We have had so many happy years,  
You wouldn't want me to suffer so.  
When the time comes, please, let me go.  
Take me to where my needs they'll tend,  
Only, stay with me till the end  
And hold me firm and speak to me  
Until my eyes no longer see.  
I know in time you will agree  
It is a kindness you do to me.  
Although my tail 'tis last has waved,  
From pain and suffering I have been saved.  
Don't grieve that it must be you  
Who has to decide this thing to do;  
We've been so close - we two - these years,  
Don't let your heart hold any tears.*

Author Unknown

This page is reserved as a memorial for the special dogs that we lose. If you have had a loss and would like your dog honored here, please contact us.

# Rat Terrier Breed Standard

## General Appearance

The Rat Terrier was originally bred for ratting and farm work. A multipurpose companion dog that is capable of hunting rodents and vermin above and below ground, and to course small game. He is a sturdy, compact, small-to-medium sized parti-colored dog giving the appearance of elegance and fitness, denoting speed, power and balance. Honorable scars or a couple of broken or missing canines or incisors teeth are not to be faulted. The following is a description of the ideal Rat Terrier. Variations are penalized to the extent of the deviation.

## Size, Proportion, Substance

**Size-** There are two separate size divisions. Miniature At least 10 inches, not to exceed 13 inches. Standard  $\geq$  over 13 inches, and up to and including 18 inches in height measured at the withers. Any dog six months of age or older measuring less than 10 inches, or any dog over 18 inches are to be disqualified.

**Proportion -** The Rat Terrier is just slightly longer than tall. The height, measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the withers, is slightly less than the length, measured horizontally from the point of the shoulders to the point of the buttocks. Shortness in leg is a serious fault.

**Substance -** Moderate bone in proportion to size. A well-balanced, hard-muscled dog with smooth lines under taut skin. This dog should not be rangy nor fine boned and toyish, and never bulky or coarse. They are shown in good, hard physical working condition.

## Head

The head resembles a smooth, blunt wedge from a front or profile view. When seen from the front, the head widens gradually towards the base of the ears in an unbroken line and is well filled up under the eyes. The expression is intelligent, alert and full of interest. The eyes are not large. They are obliquely set wide apart and are oval in shape. Eye color varies with coat color from darkest brown to hazel. Eye rim pigmentation corresponds with nose color and facial markings. Gray eyes are acceptable in blue or blue-fawn dogs only, being a serious fault in other colorations. Any blue in the eye(s) is a disqualification.

**Ears-** Set on the top outer edge of the skull, V-shaped, with the length in proportion to the head moderately pointed at the tip. When viewed from the side, the base of the ear is on line with the outer corner of the eye. Ears should match in shape and carriage when alert, and can be carried erect, semi-erect and tipped, or button without preference. When alert, a rose ear is a fault. Cropped ears are a disqualification.

**Skull -**When viewed from the front the skull is moderate in width, relatively flat on top, and rounded at crown and the sides as it widens smoothly from the corner of the eyes to the base of the ears. The occiput is not prominent. The cheeks are flat and well-muscled, but never bulging. The stop is moderate but distinct. The muzzle is strong, just slightly shorter in length than the skull and tapers smoothly along the sides to the nose. The nose color corresponds with the body color and is entirely pigmented. Flesh-colored noses are considered a fault in lemon or light apricot colorations while being a serious fault in other colorations. Seasonal fading is permitted. The lips are clean and tight, and correspond in color with the nose leather or may be pink; either solid or spotted is acceptable. The lower jaw and teeth are strong and well developed with no sign of being snipey or weak.

**Bite-** A scissor bite is preferred. A level bite is acceptable.

## Neck, Topline, Body

**Neck-**Length of neck is in proportion to the head. Strong, arched along the crest and dry, the neck blends smoothly into the flat shoulder blades.

**Topline-** Smooth and blending from the back through the loin and set of the tail. **Body  $\square$**  The body is compact, strong and flexible with well sprung ribs. The brisket extends to the elbow. When viewed from the front, the ribs appear to be oval. The Rat Terrier, while muscled and fit, has flat muscles that blend into the body. The chest is moderately wide and well filled with a discernible forechest. The underline ascends gradually with the ribs extending well back to a moderate tuck-up.

**Back -** The back is level and firm from the withers to the loin. The short loin has a slight muscular arch blending into the gently rounded croup.

**Tail-** The tail set is a continuation of the spine. Tails are customarily docked between the second and third joint, or can be a natural bobtail or left naturally long and tapering to the hock joint. Length is unimportant. The carriage is variable depending on attitude, carried from slightly below horizontal to almost erect, but not over the back or a ring tail.

## Forequarters

The shoulder blades are well laid back with flat muscles providing enough space between the shoulder blades to allow for free movement. The shoulder blades and the upper arms are nearly equal in length and well set back so that the elbows fall directly under the highest point of the shoulder blade. The depth of the body at the elbow is the same distance as from the elbow to the ground. The forelegs stand straight and parallel with elbows turning neither in nor out. The pasterns are slightly sloping when viewed from the side. The feet are oval in shape. The toes turn neither in nor out, are compact, moderately arched, with thick pads and strong nails. The front dewclaws may be removed.

## Hindquarters

The hindquarters are muscular but smooth and in balance with the forequarters. They should not be bulging or coarse. Stifles are well-bent with short hocks that are parallel and perpendicular to the ground. The hind feet although slightly smaller are similar to the front feet. Rear dewclaws are removed.

## Coat

Short, close lying, smooth and shiny coat. Texture varies; a very slight ruff or wave along the back is allowed, but undesirable. Any suggestion of kink or curl is cause for disqualification. Whiskers must not be removed. Absence of coat (total genetic hairlessness) is a disqualification.

## Color

Any variation of Pied patterning is acceptable. Pied is described as comparatively large patches of one or more colors in combination with white. Except for the "solid white" extreme piebald dog with only mottled/spotted skin. Disqualification - Rat Terriers are never a solid ground color without white markings, or bi-colored without one color being white. Acceptable colors with or without "tan points", include the predominate Black, or Chocolate, Red, Apricot, Blue, Fawn, Tan, Lemon, or White. Intense, dark shades of color with clearly defined and delineated coloration is preferred. White on the body is preferred to be between 10% and 90%, but all Patterns; spotted, patched or splashed with white in conjunction with (or without) any combination of white on the face, head or ears are equally acceptable without prejudice. "Tan Points" are common and vary in shades of cream to rust. Badger markings are acceptable. Speckling, ticking and mottling is common, but heavy ticking is undesirable. Sabbling is permitted in the coat or as shading on the head or penciling on the toes. A "black mask/black muzzle", on a dog not having black as coloration is to be seriously faulted. A few white hairs do not constitute an acceptable marking. A minimum white marking consists of a patch or strip of white with underlying white/pink skin on the forehead or body that exceeds one inch. Less than one inch of white at its widest dimension is a disqualification. Brindle or Merle color patterns are disqualifications.

## Gait

A ground-covering efficient trot with good reach and drive suggesting agility, speed and power. The legs are parallel at a trot, but as speed increases, the legs converge toward a center line. There should be no elbowing out, weaving or rolling action while in motion.

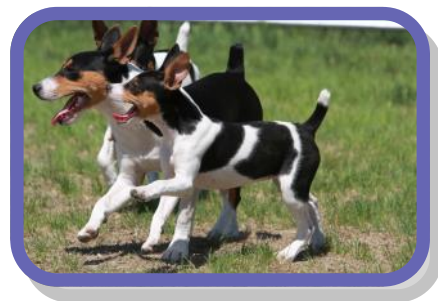
## Temperament

Keenly observant, devoted, full of energy, yet easily trained and obedient to command. The Rat Terrier is a non-sparring breed and generally friendly with other dogs, but may be reserved with strangers. Submissiveness is not a fault. Overt aggression and excessive shyness should be penalized.

## Disqualifications

Any dog over six months of age measuring less than 10 inches, or over 18 inches. Any blue color in the eye(s). Cropped ears. An absence of coat (genetic hairlessness). Any suggestion of kink or curl, or coat type other than described. Solid colorations (other than white). Bi colors without white, or dogs with a patch or strip of white measuring less than one inch at its widest dimension. Brindle or Merle color patterns.

Approved November 11, 2009  
Effective July 1, 2010





# Shameless Plug for ...

## NEW members!!!

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our newsletters and are finding them helpful, enjoyable, and worthy of archiving on your computer for future reference.

Please consider joining our MARTC family and developing friendships with people who share a common interest in the Rat Terrier breed at all levels and becoming a part of the work to continue to help the breed grow and prosper within AKC rules and guidelines.

While MARTC is not an AKC affiliated club at this time, it is the hope and future goal to become an AKC affiliated regional breed club. As has been mentioned previously in this newsletter, you can become a voting member and not live in the Mid-Atlantic region. This right gives you the opportunity to have a say in the future path that the club takes. How exciting it is to anticipate the growth of a club with the goals of benefitting the breed, educating the public, and developing friendships all across the country!!

We welcome people who participate in conformation, agility, barn hunt, lure coursing, rally, obedience and any other event with this delightful breed. More importantly, we welcome people who have the pets that never compete in any event because, for all of us, our dogs are pets first and the rest is frosting on top.

Old and new members will be welcomed and appreciated. Let's set the goal together of developing an awesome platform from which to promote our breed!!!



Find us on  
**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/midatlanticratterrierclub/>

**MID-ATLANTIC RAT TERRIER CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**



**Type of Membership:**

- Regular-\$25.00**  
Individual adult member residing in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Regular Household-\$30.00**  
Two adult members (same household) in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Associate-\$20.00**  
Individual adult member residing outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Associate Household \$25.00**  
Two adult members (in the same household) outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Junior-\$15.00**  
Individual under 18 years of age. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office and the right to vote.

*\*The "Mid-Atlantic" shall include only the following states: MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check one or more of the following that best describes your interests:*

- Agility  Barn Hunt  Breeder  Conformation  Obedience  Pet Owner  Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Tell us about yourself and your dogs...*

We would love to hear about your hobbies, accomplishments, show brags or how your dogs like to spend their time. Please include registered names and call names for your dogs, as well as anything else you would like to share!

*If you are a member of any other dog clubs, please list them here. (Note any Board or other elected positions you currently hold.)*

*This club is run entirely by volunteers, if you would like to contribute, please list any special skills or areas of interest you may have.*

*Please provide the names of two current MARTC members who have agreed to sponsor your membership in the Club.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

You agree that, if accepted in membership, you will abide by the MARTC Constitution, Bylaws, and Codes for Ethical Behavior and Good Sportsmanship. You will also adhere to the rules set forth by AKC and their Code of Sportsmanship.

**Consent to Electronic Communications**

You understand and agree to accept notification of Club meetings, dues notices, minutes, and newsletters, as well as Board of Director notifications of meetings, and minutes from said meetings via email. This authorization (which is revocable in writing) also releases the Club from liability should the notification be received late or not received by the member due to circumstances beyond the Club's control.

**Electronic Signatures**

By typing your name below, you understand that you are electronically signing this document and are agreeing to all of the policies, terms and conditions set forth above. If you understand, accept and agree to the policies, terms and conditions set out above, then type in your name on the line below to acknowledge your acceptance.

Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Quickest Processing:**

Send Dues via PayPal to:  
MidAtlanticRatTerrier@yahoo.com

Applications will also be accepted electronically to the above e-mail address

**For Regular Mail:**

Make personal checks payable to **MARTC** and mail to: Judith Babarsky  
37649 Snickersville Tpke  
Purcellville, VA 20132

**MID-ATLANTIC RAT TERRIER CLUB 2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**



**Type of Membership Renewal:**

- Regular-\$25.00**  
Individual adult member residing in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
- Regular Household-\$30.00**  
Two adult members (same household) in the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, including the right to hold office.
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Individual adult member residing outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Associate Household \$25.00**  
Two adult members (in the same household) outside the Mid-Atlantic. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office.
- Junior-\$15.00**  
Individual under 18 years of age. Enjoys all privileges, except holding office and the right to vote.

*\*The "Mid-Atlantic" shall include only the following states: MD, NJ, DE, DC, VA, WV, NY, and PA.*

Name (or Names if Household): \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please update any address, email or other information which has changed. If there are no changes to the information provided on your original application, please leave these fields blank.*

Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

City\*: \_\_\_\_\_ State\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check one or more of the following that best describes your interests\*:*

- Agility  Barn Hunt  Breeder  Conformation  Obedience  Pet Owner  Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Tell us about yourself and your dogs...*

We would love to hear about your hobbies, accomplishments, show brags or how your dogs like to spend their time. Please include registered names and call names for your dogs, as well as anything else you would like to share!

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are a member of any other dog clubs, please list them here. (Note any Board or other elected positions you currently hold.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*This club is run entirely by volunteers, if you would like to contribute, please list any special skills or areas of interest you may have.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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Applications will also be accepted electronically to the above e-mail address

**For Regular Mail:**

Make personal checks payable to **MARTC** and mail to: Judith Babarsky  
 37649 Snickersville Tpke  
 Purcellville, VA 20132

# The faces we adore



Don't forget to send us your fun photos to include in future issues of our newsletter.

# and ... Doing what they do



**Thank you ... Thank you!!! To our many contributors who help make our newsletter a success. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and valued.**



# The End

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**See you next issue!!**



**If you would like to see your favorite  
"end" here send us the photo to consider**