

# HAPPY TAILS

Spring 2020

## Upcoming Dates

### 2020

May 17	Board Meeting
Jun 11	Board Meeting
July 9	Board Meeting
July 15	Newsletter Deadline
Dec 10	DSFCA Open Show (Orlando, FL)

## DSFCA Officers

### President:

Alison Smith | MA  
thegrinningdog@me.com

### Vice President:

Bebe Mabry | IA  
bhmabry@gmail.com

### Secretary

Carey Segebart | IA  
carey.segebart@gmail.com

### Treasurer:

Linda Avsharian | CA  
LA9@me.com

### Board Members:

Melody Farquhar-Chang | CA  
mfarquharchang@gmail.com

Pam Jensen | NE  
pjayspen@gmail.com

Aimee Kincaid | FL  
aimee.obed@att.net

Carol Lemmon | CA  
lundyslemmon@gmail.com

### AKC Liaison:

Dorothy Herman | FL  
chapsUD@gmail.com



## President's Message

Truth be told, I've had more than a little trouble crafting a President's Message for this issue of our newsletter. The Covid-19 pandemic and the horror it has wrought on the world has left me short of words. I turned to my husband, Brendan, a few nights ago and said "I just can't get my mind focused on writing this message. I feel a bit guilty writing about dogs when people all around the globe are dying. It feels indulgent, somehow insensitive and tone deaf. How can I write about dogs and dog clubs at a time like this?"

His response pretty much describes our yin/yang marriage. I overthink everything, traffic in safety and guard against the reckless use of what I inherently understand as metered joy. Brendan takes huge bites of life and finds enjoyment and opportunity under each rock. I remembered to buy us toilet paper and he started a hydroponic flower garden in our basement - just for fun!

He reminded me that if everyone else has been getting as much pleasure from our FaceBook Chat Page as he has in the past few weeks, then it's clear the dogs and the community that DSFCA creates is absolutely an important part of supporting us all through this crisis.

I realize Brendan is right. Our Farmdogs couldn't possibly be more vital than right now. They are Essential Workers in their own right. They are stepping straight into their roles as our emotional support companions. They execute their jobs skillfully and so seamlessly that we don't even realize they are on duty. That's how it's supposed to work.

Farmdogs fulfilling these roles leap off our shared FaceBook page every day. They provide salve to our jangled nerves, company to those of us weathering stay at home orders solo, and a much needed break from the relentless fear, confusion and grief around us.

Our dogs so frequently serve as both a reflection and projection of our beliefs and emotions. They reflect back exactly what we need to see, imagine and feel. Give to them and they will always send it right back at you.

When I finally turn off my computer and walk down to the stream with my dogs, I like to imagine I'm taking THEM for a walk, but I think they are actually taking ME down to the stream so I can stretch my legs and get out of my head. To breath, process and refresh.

When we teach new tricks, we think we are doing some dog training, when in reality they are providing us an opportunity to smile, to get into the moment, to applaud and connect. When we reward them with a click and a "yes!", a pat and a treat we are likely all stimulating our own endorphin release. And, boy, we could sure use some of that these days.

Feeding, grooming and caring for our companions provides us familiarity and much needed routine to our disrupted lives. They help us to build just the scaffolding we need to keep us present and grounded during this period of disorientation and vulnerability.

A warm, furry body sleeping curled up against us is steadying and calming. A living "teddy bear" to keep us safe when things go bump in the night.

So let's keep turning to our dogs. Let's enjoy the

respite they offer from the fright outside our doors. Connecting with each other to share Farmdog news, accomplishments, antics and simply cute moments reminds us we are each held as part of a community.

I've often said that the real role of the domestic dog nowadays is as companion, providing emotional support to the humans. I've always believed we must keep that purpose front of mind in our breeding, selection and training programs. Writing about that should have been obvious. But I lost sight of that as I rushed into my default crisis management mode - organize, count, mitigate, prepare, rinse, repeat... My husband, in his way, naturally took comfort from the dogs, from creating and growing life (refer to the aforementioned flowers in the basement). He took time to enjoy the shared trick videos, photos and posts on the DSFCA FB page, cuddled dogs on the couch and relaxed rules about just how many extra dog treats are ok. I hate it when he is right....

We will get through this and come out the other side, our Farmdogs by our sides, having ably performed their duties of support, comfort and smile eliciting. We'll be indebted to them - mine tell me a few special toys to eviscerate would serve as the perfect reward! Yours might say the same...

Please take good care and stay very, very safe.

*Alison Smith, DSFCA President*



## Club Reports

visit  
[www.farmdogs.org](http://www.farmdogs.org)  
and log on to the  
**Members Only**  
section to view  
Meeting Minutes and  
Treasurer's Reports  
Forms and Documents >  
Documents > BOD (click folder icon)

## Membership Report

# 79

members

Welcome new members:

Marty Greer

Barb Ziegelbauer

\*the membership count reported in the previous newsletter was for December 2019, prior to the completion of the membership renewal period

## Registration Report

# 152

3 generation pedigree

Danish-Swedish

Farmdogs

registered with AKC

## Veterinary Medicine From A Client Perspective (Who Is Also A Veterinarian)

by Martha Tubman, DVM

I recently had the “pleasure” of viewing veterinary medicine from a client perspective and thought I would share some thoughts. My old horse colicked for the first time in her life and needed surgery. I had always said I would not have colic (basically bloat) surgery done on my pasture pet horses, but when push came to shove, I said yes. My pony is doing great 2 months later and back to running around the field, but I did learn a few things.

1. You (the owner) know your pet best. You know when they are not themselves and you know when they are really suffering. You know when they are saying that there is something wrong. When at 3 am my horse was giving me the whale-eyed look and the whites of her eyes were red, I knew she was in the worst pain of her life.
2. When in doubt, get it checked out. I could have just given my horse pain medications and waited but she seemed very uncomfortable and it seemed best to have an equine vet assess her. They treated her medically, but when she was doing worse hours later, it was clear that there was something serious going on. I had the reassurance that I was not alone and that we were doing the right thing.
3. Try to make peace with your decisions. There honestly are no right or wrong answers, so many times you have to go with your gut. Having a face to face conversation with your vet and family members or phoning a friend is great, but random facebook advice is probably not helpful. I have euthanized thousands of animals over the years and very often it is a grey line- some people choose to treat a sick animal and some choose to let them go, and both choices are right. It is never wrong to stop an animal's suffering, no matter how hard it is on us. It is also okay to not be able to spend thousands of dollars, so long as you are up front about it and figure out a plan that works for you and your animal. It is perfectly acceptable to let an animal go partly for financial reasons. I know this sounds wrong but you need to be able to feed your family and other animals and medicine has no guarantee.
4. We as vets are not always the best at communicating.

Partly I think it is that we do not know the correct answer or choice for that animal, and partly we do not want to force treatment on a family that cannot do it, but we also don't always get the information across in the best way. I honestly made my decision to do surgery more from the tone and innuendoes of the surgeon more than what he said. It is hard, and especially if you do not know the vet you are seeing, it is even harder. Please do ask questions, but please also listen to what we are saying and listen to what we are feeling.

5. No one is trying to rip you off. Medicine and diagnostics are expensive. It sucks, but you do have to advocate for yourself and your wallet and you may not be able to do all the diagnostic tests to figure out what is going on. Ultimately, vets want to do what will work best for you and your animal and we hate that things cost money, so yelling at us about it is not the best response. Some clinics are more expensive because they are big and corporate but many times a clinic is more expensive because they provide more services/better care. And the larger an animal is the more expensive medications are (horse Prilosec costs \$30 a day!)
6. It is 1000% normal to second guess yourself. What if I hadn't let my pony lick the cattle tub? What if I had waited longer or less long or what if we tried to hospitalize her with fluids before surgery? Maybe I should have euthanized her and not spent huge amounts of money. I talk a big game about being zen with decisions but it is much easier on other people's animals than my own.
7. Some tradeoffs have to be made. My Swissy broke her tooth on a bone last week, and while I felt absolutely terrible and know that it is a risk with any hard thing they chew on, I also think that dogs really like to chew on things and the softer things can get swallowed and stuck. Plus, I kind of like my house in fewer pieces.
8. Other breeders and dog friends are here for you. We are a great community of people who care about our breed and animals in general. Best wishes for healthy dogs and nice litters.



## Farmdog Lessons – or What My Farmdog is Teaching Me

By Deborah Neufeld

Published in Front and Finish

Coolibah's Secrets and Surprises, Daisy, is almost 8 months old now. She is the light of my life and acknowledged ruler of the house. Since Daisy is my first Farmdog I don't know if they are all like her or not, but here is what she's teaching me.

Daisy housebroke very fast. There were few accidents and limiting her access to remote rooms helped with that issue. She learned to ring a bell at the door to go outside very fast, and she learned "hurry" meant go potty fast as well. As a youngster she was all teeth and all full-speed-ahead any time she was awake. She didn't bother my old Cavalier, who recently had a stroke and did not want her attention. She bonded with my Boxer and routinely hung off Maya's lips and cheeks. The Boxer took over the "Mommy" role and was quite tolerant.

As a young puppy, everything under the sun went into that grabby little mouth! I ended up teaching her to trade what she had for a cookie. This worked well and kept her out of a lot of trouble she could have gotten into. It also allowed me to praise her behavior, instead of constantly fussing at her for getting into things. Every time we went outside she was clearing the yard of twigs and leaves, one at a time, and asking for my approval while doing it. The energy level was non-stop and from some of the online training courses I decided to teach "mat work". Mat work means you send the dog to a mat, rug or dog bed, and reinforce for being on the bed. It's kind of a positive way of getting a "time out" and re-focus. Daisy liked that one enough that she would randomly offer going to the mat and waiting there to see if I would get her a treat.

Very early she started sleeping in the bed with me. There is a terrier-type section of her brain linked to digging that is very active. Not so much outside, but inside she will pick a spot on a dog bed or my bed and dig at high speed until she falls over, exhausted. I have not discouraged this as it appears to be something she needs to do and it doesn't create problems. My husband calls it "going for Chinese food", as though she's digging her way to China for dinner. She would not go to sleep as long as there is a light on, but as soon as the light was out, so was she. Every morning she yawns and her yawn includes a vocalization that is quite cute.

There have been a couple of minor injuries because she's such a confident hooligan at times and just throws her little body into everything without concern or caution, but nothing has presented a lasting problem. Young bodies heal quickly, especially with good Vet care.

Now:

At almost 8 months of age Daisy is more focused, and I'm glad I decided to wait to teach anything formal. She no longer explores the world with her mouth, although my Boxer's cheeks and neck are still some of her favorite tug toys. She is respectful if the Boxer lets her know she's too rough, and she's really good at reading how to appropriately greet new dogs. Daisy is still a voracious chewer, but good about keeping to appropriate items most of the time. She still does like to shred paper and paper towels. Hopefully that will subside with time.

Daisy has learned to take food gently – no more grabby puppy teeth. She is always willing to play a game that might earn her a reward and the reward doesn't have to be food, it can be tug or even just praise. She loves to train and can't wait to go with me. So much so that after a couple of weekends when I was out of town she took to sleeping on my suitcase.

She now has moments of calm, but will still occasionally run laps in the yard. I have put the running behavior on cue and taught her to come to me while she is in that state of wild abandon. I always touch her collar when I call her, to prevent her from learning to dodge away from me. She is mannerly, cuddly, and almost never barks. She taught "me" to focus and teach one behavior at a time, so she doesn't think I want her to do everything she knows at once. She has bonded equally with me and my husband – the first dog we've ever had to do so.

My plan is to move slowly and let Daisy tell me when she's ready for various activities. She's almost ready for CGC and knows around 15 tricks. We're also working on scent work, at which she is stellar! Overall, I couldn't be happier with how we are progressing. We are a team in every sense, and she is exactly the dog I dreamed of getting. I guess I am a Farmdog convert!



## TOPO VALLEY LES'S TROPHY BUCK "Apollo" owned by Melissa Smart

Farmdog – will work for snuggles

Our Farmdog Apollo is very mellow – even by Farmdog standards. He is completely happy to hang out in bed or on the couch for the bulk of the day. Our family also has a younger mixed breed rescue dog that is extremely hyper, and she often annoys Apollo. The two dogs tussle and grumble all day and this stresses out my daughter Alex while she is trying to do her schoolwork.

My parents live next door to us, and my father has a caregiver for 8 hours a day to assist him with daily living tasks. His caregiver, Rosanna, is an amazing woman who has quickly become a beloved member of our family and since she loves dogs, she offered to keep Apollo during the day to give him a break from his annoying sister. When we decided to give this a try, we had no idea what a huge impact this would make on our lives.

My daughter is happier because our problem child is calmer without a brother to pester and Alex can do her homework and manage our crazy dog, even working on some training with her to improve her behavior.

Rosanna's workday has improved as she now has a reason to go outside and get a little fresh air, taking Apollo out for quick walks around the yard several times a day. I know my father has always loved dogs and thought this arrangement would be good for him too, but I never expected just how much he and Apollo would bond.

Let me just say that I have never taken Apollo to any kind of service dog training, but Apollo has decided that being my dad's caregiver is his job. If we are running late taking him to my parent's house he will stand at the door or gate and do that thing where he stares intently at you and then intently at the thing he wants you to do, and sometimes adds a little bark or whine and a little fast tap dance if we are being particularly slow to grasp what we are supposed to do. Then he races to my parent's house, gives an enthusiastic greeting to my Mom, and once that duty has been performed, he races upstairs to be with Rosanna and my Dad.

Apollo has toys and chews at his disposal but chooses to spend his time watching over my Dad. If my Dad puts his hand down beside his wheelchair Apollo will run over and stand next to him to get pets and will stand up on his hind legs to get more love. When my dad is in his reclining chair, Apollo waits for him to get his thick blanket on and then he jumps up and lays on him getting snuggles. When my Dad's pain is really bad, he will get back in bed for a while and then Apollo lays next to him to take his mind off of his troubles, and when he falls asleep, Apollo will sit on the bed keeping watch.

When visiting nurses and therapists come to check in, Apollo greets them and then sits attentively looking for all the world like he is taking notes on the appropriate care for my father.

Needless to say, everyone who comes by falls in love with Apollo, even my brother who is NOT a dog person will grudgingly admit he is a good boy.

Now you might think that this is just a case of a dog finding his person, but this is not it at all! At 6:00 Apollo knows his workday is over and he starts pestering to come home. If I am late because I have errands to run, he starts letting my mom know that all is not right in his world. When I pick him up, he is just as eager to race back home where he makes sure everything is in its proper place and he has some zoomies in the yard with the crazy sister. He plays with my daughter and then snuggles up with me for the evening and at 9:30 he grabs a toy and goes to my bedroom door where he will persistently inform me that it is bedtime until I give in and join him.

Apollo can be a real devil at home, he likes to steal things and try to get us to chase him – behavior he never exhibits at "work". He can be very bossy at home, barking at us if we are "late" with his food or if he feels his water dish is too low. He doesn't like it if chairs are left askew – he wants everything in its place at home. At work he is a different dog. He is quiet and supportive and absolutely charming at every turn. At home he will leap through the air to try to snatch a tasty morsel from an unsuspecting hand, at work he never does more than lay at your feet and look soulfully at you to encourage you to drop a little something for him. He keeps up his work persona even when his regular family is at his day job, which we all find extremely amusing.

Apollo clearly loves his job, and he has had such a positive impact on his co-workers. My Dad called me at work the other day to complain – he was determined that he was never going to fall in love with another animal, losing his last pet was too painful, and Apollo has wormed his way into his heart. I am just glad when my dad's biggest complaint of the day is loving my dog too much!



# 2020 Q1 Titles Earned

## Agility

MFB Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 TQX Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 MJG Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 AXJ Gullvivebackens Evige Elvis  
 MXS Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 MACH2 Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun  
 NF Gullvivebackens Evige Elvis  
 MJG Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun  
 OF Woppers Magic Moment  
 MJS Winstrides' True To Target  
 MXF Paradox Capricious  
 MJB Gullvivebackens Firecracker  
 SJ Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 SCH-G Winstrides' True To Target  
 TM-G Winstrides' True To Target  
 MCSACH-B Winstrides' True To Target  
 JCH-P Winstrides' True To Target  
 LAA-S Winstrides' True To Target

Jennifer Giacchi  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 B Reinhard  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 Cynthia Heyman  
 B Reinhard  
 Cynthia Heyman  
 Carey Segebart  
 Deborah Ogg  
 Kelly Ansaldo  
 Casey Roman  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 Deborah Ogg  
 Deborah Ogg  
 Deborah Ogg  
 Deborah Ogg  
 Deborah Ogg

FD Winstrides' Mojo Rhythm  
 FDX Winstrides' Mojo Rhythm  
 FG80K Matilde's Tigger "I'm the only one"

Debi Lofgren  
 Debi Lofgren  
 Sue Cohen

## Obedience

CD Woppers Magic Moment

Carey Segebart

## Rally

RA Winstrides' Mae The Road Rise Up Av Nordost  
 RE Woppers Magic Moment

Monica Turner  
 Carey Segebart

## Scent Work

SCA Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 SIE Stolta Ebbas Einride Of Sweden  
 SHDN Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 SBA Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 SEA Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix  
 SWA Gullvivebackens Cajsja Dot Matrix

Jennifer Giacchi  
 Cynthia Heyman  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 Jennifer Giacchi  
 Jennifer Giacchi

## Canine Good Citizen

CGCA Stolta Ebbas Einride Of Sweden  
 CGCU Stolta Ebbas Einride Of Sweden

Cynthia Heyman  
 Cynthia Heyman

TKA Stolta Ebbas Einride Of Sweden

Cynthia Heyman

## Conformation

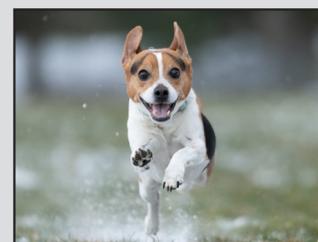
CM Winstrides' Wee Piper  
 CM Muttington's Nina Dela Primavera

Farquhar-Chang  
 Jon & Ed Pardini

\*AKC reporting only through 3/6/2020 due to COVID-19

## Braggs

- **Apollo**, owned by Melissa Smart of California, won Best of Breed twice and Best of Opposite once at the Del Mar Open Shows as well as Best of Breed at the Golden Gate Kennel Club Open Show
- **Bullet**, owned by Debbie Ogg of California, earned several USDAA agility titles: Snooker Champion - Gold, Tournament Master - Gold, MC Standard Agility Champion - Bronze, Jumpers Champion - Platinum, Lifetime Achievement Award - Silver.
- **Greta**, owned by Ed and Jon Pardini of California, earned her Certificate of Merit.
- **Jack**, owned by Sam-E Marion of Virginia, earned his BCAT and a new personal best of 21.5 mph, earning fastest Misc/FSS dog in two trials.
- **Jimmy**, owned by Christy Gaither of California, went Best of Breed and Group 2 in 3 out of 6 shows at the Del Mar dog show. He also earned his Trick Dog Novice and Trick Dog Intermediate titles.
- **Mojo**, owned by Debi Lofgren of California, earned her FD and FDX flyball titles
- **Mouse**, owned by Martha Tubman of Virginia, earned her Novice and Intermediate Trick Dog titles
- **Moxie**, owned by Carey Segebart of Iowa, earned his Companion Dog (CD) and Rally Excellent (RE) titles, his Open Fast title in agility, as well as his Trick Dog Intermediate and Trick Dog Advanced titles.
- **Piper**, owned by Melody Farquhar Chang of California, earned her Certificate of Merit.
- **Trudy**, owned by Bebe Mabry of Iowa, earned her Trick Dog Novice and Trick Dog Intermediate titles.



## Certificate of Merit Recipients

1. Stolta Ebbas Oliana Olwen (Olga) - Marty Greer
2. Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet) - Cynthia Heyman
3. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
4. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart
5. Valhalla's Pistol (Pistol) - B Coleman
6. Flora's Make a Joyful Noise (Tabitha) - Elaine Alston
7. Woppers Magic Moment (Moxie) - Carey Segebart/Bebe Mabry
8. Winstrides' Truly Great Expectations (Pip) - Dorothy Herman
9. Winstrides' True To Flora (Jordi Jo) - Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart
10. Winstrides' True To Target (Bullet) - Debbie Ogg
11. Quicksilver's Charmed Glass of Ice Wine (Tchotchke) - Aimee Kincaid
12. Adens Jazzinga Jens (Jens) - Marty Greer
13. Double G's Olga's Helsing (Helga) - Leslie Karnes
14. Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor) - Cynthia Heyman
15. Winstrides' Wee Piper (Piper) - Melody Farquhar-Chang
16. Muttington's Nina Dela Primavera (Greta) - J Pardini/E Pardini

## Best In Open Show Winners

1. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry/ Carey Segebart
2. Gartnervejens Ingi Af Rind (Pixel) - Jill Heczko
3. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
4. Winstrides' Truly Great Expectations (Pip) - Dorothy Herman
5. Winstrides' True to Flora (Jordi) - Bebe Mabry/Carey Segebart
6. Woppers Magic Moment (Moxie)- Carey Segebart/Bebe Mabry
7. Flora's Make a Joyful Noise (Tabatha) - Elaine Alston
8. Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor) - Cynthia Heyman
9. Kennel of My Dreams Vindaloo's Oona (Oona) - Brita Lemmon
10. Quicksilver's Charmed Glass of Ice Wine (Tchotchke) - Aimee Kincaid
11. Winstrides' Mae the Road Rise Up Av Nordst (Mae) - Monica McPherson
12. Quicksilver Extra Special - Elaine Alston

## Master Agility Champions

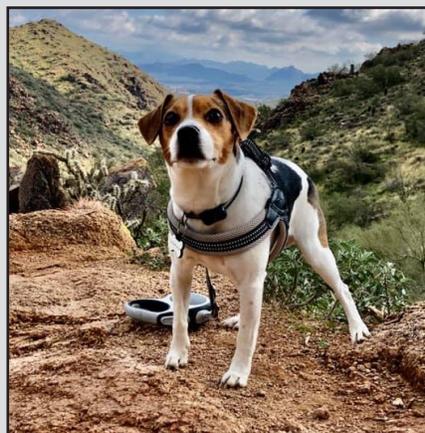
1. Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet) - Cynthia Heyman
2. Stolta Ebbas Njord Noatun (Connor) - Cynthia Heyman
3. Winstrides' True To Target (Bullet) - Debbie Ogg
4. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry & Carey Segebart
5. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi

## AKC Agility Invitational Medallion Recipients

1. Gullvivebackens Cajsa Dot Matrix (Dottie) - Jen Giacchi
2. Flora's Winnemucca Nevada Gertrude (Trudy) - Bebe Mabry and Carey Segebart
3. Stolta Ebbas Einride of Sweden (Jet) - Cynthia Heyman

## Flyball Highest Point Earners

Matilde's Nellie - 220,105 NAFA  
Flora's Lady Eva Annelise - 97,205 UFLI



Send your brags, pictures, updates and important dates to  
[newsletter@farmdogs.org](mailto:newsletter@farmdogs.org)