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Review of Terrier Group Clubs in the US

by GLATA Members Steve and Debi Russell

Currently fifteen All Terrier Clubs/Associations operate in the USA including the Great Lakes All Terrier Association (GLATA). Most of the clubs are located geographically on the East (7) and West (6) coasts while only two clubs operate in the center of the country — GLATA in Illinois and Terrier Club of Michigan. Each of the clubs has hosted at least one single day All Terrier Show each year over the past three years. Four host two-day shows — All Terrier Club of Western Washington, Great Western Terrier Association in California, Northern California Terrier Association, and Tampa Bay Terrier Club in Florida. Two of the clubs host Spring/Fall shows — Group IV Terrier Club of Salt Lake in Utah and Terrier Club of Michigan. To date, entries are relatively stable with small year-over-year growth of about 3% from 2003 to 2004 and about 4% from 2004 to 2005. Shows are dispersed throughout the year in all months, except February (Westminster and International KCs) and December.

The market share amongst the All Terrier Clubs has not changed substantially. The various clubs are ranked by average number of entries over the past 3 years:

- #1 Montgomery County Kennel Club (2,374)
- #2 Great Western Terrier Association (914) has about half of MCKC's entries
- #3 Three clubs have about 1/4

of MCKC's entries: Northern California Terrier Association (593), Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland (574), and Great Lakes All Terrier Association (564).

Likewise, the clubs also can be ranked by number of specialties hosted at the All Terrier shows:

- #1 Montgomery County Kennel Club (21)
- #2 Great Western Terrier Association (13-16)
- #3 Three clubs have about 1/2 of MCKC's specialties: Great Lakes All Terrier Association (11), Northern California Terrier Association (9), and Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland (7).

The only scheduling conflict is between the Great Western Terrier Association and Virginia Terrier Club this year on June 23, 2006. Also notable is that two sets of major All Terrier shows are held on back-to-back weekends: Northern California Terrier Association and Columbia Terrier Association (in Maryland) in April, along with GLATA and Great Western Terrier Association (in California) in June.

The services and activities offered throughout the year by the various clubs include shows, sweepstakes, futurities, junior showmanship, obedience, rally, agility, matches, rescue, seminars, grooming classes, handling classes, stewarding classes, CGC testing, breeder referral, lure coursing,

flyball, information booths, club websites, and social events. New trends designed to increase entries have added Rally events along with Obedience Trials; two of the top clubs have done this most recently — GLATA (rally added in 2006) and Northern California Terrier Association.

What does all of this mean for GLATA? A direct correlation exists between the number of specialties hosted and the number of entries (and potentially revenue) received and prestige perceived. Only thirteen breed clubs have submitted applications for specialties at Montgomery in 2006 (as of January 2006). While it is still early (applications are required 6 months in advance), this is a significant reduction from the twenty-one specialties Montgomery hosted in 2005. Some anecdotal information exists to indicate breed clubs have (Bedlingtons) or are considering (Scotties) a change in venue due to the frequently poor conditions at these outdoor show sites. The Chicago area offers benefits over the locations of the other fifteen All Terrier Clubs — a central USA location, great air transportation, accommodations, food service, etc. — that can be used to attract specialties with larger entries. The GLATA local show site conditions may well improve with indoor facilities at a new Lake County Fairgrounds coming perhaps in 2007(?) and can provide something new and appealing to attract more breed club specialties.

So let's put GLATA on the map in the world of terriers!

See pages 4 and 5 for explanatory maps and charts.

In the Veteran's Ring

By GLATA Member Richard C. Bumstead

In my nine years of showing dogs in conformation, like most of you I have experienced unexpected highs and disappointing lows in the ring. But the one moment that I will always cherish and remember with great pride didn't take place in the Breed ring nor in the Group ring, but in the Veteran's ring.

When I finished the championship on my first show dog, Kyle, I decided to try my hand with him as a Special. At that time, there were several dogs out with notable owners/handlers that were to become hallmarks of the breed, and Kyle's Specials career was short lived. I did however, bring him out each year for the GLTA/GLATA and the Montgomery County shows to keep him active and to support my local and national breed clubs at their specialties. At these events, I watched when the Veteran's entered the ring before the Best of Breed was judged, as the dogs and their owners seemed to be there just for fun and the chance to be out again with their friend – the dogs lit up with each trip around the ring as the audience applauded their efforts. I always watched with admiration for both the dogs and their owners.

The year Kyle marked his magical seventh birthday and was eligible for the Veteran's class, his birthday fell two weeks after the Scottish Terrier Club of Chicago specialty in June. Although I had planned on going to Montgomery County that year, my plans evaporated and I soon realized that I would have to wait until the

following year to take Kyle out as a Veteran. But one evening at home while I was going through show premiums, I found that the Davenport, Iowa shows in late September held a Best in Show Puppy match during the Saturday show and a Best in Show Veteran match during the Sunday show. I sent in my entry and got busy grooming. The morning of the show, as I packed up the car, Kyle was eager to join in the adventure – he recognized the routine and knew he was going to a show. When I was in the Breed ring, the judge had difficulty opening Kyle's mouth – the only part of the show ring presentation he ever disliked. The judge leaned over to me and asked "Do you remember Shannon? (Ch. Braeburn's Close Encounter, a Scottish Terrier with the best show record on the books at one time she was shown) I never did get a chance to look in her mouth either!" and then asked me to move Kyle. Later, Kyle entered the Group ring and took a Group II that day – the first Group placement I ever put on a dog.

The following year, I took Kyle into the Veteran's ring at the Chicago Specialty where he won the class; I took him back to Davenport where he took a Group I and we entered a Best in Show ring for the first time; and at the Montgomery County show, he took second place in the class, with others placing behind him. The following year, he again took the Veteran's Class at the Chicago Specialty and at Montgomery County, when the judge pulled the dogs out to spar, Kyle stacked himself up, had

all four feet on the ground, gave a growl I never heard but could only feel through the lead, and he presented a textbook spar. The judge gave him the class win that day – I was so proud of my guy. Kyle relished the applause more than ever before as he made his victory lap, and entered the Best of Breed ring with great pride – representing the previous generations of champions at our national specialty.

This past April, the Scottish Terrier Club of America's National Rotating Specialty was held nearby in Louisville. By this time, Kyle was nearing 10 years of age, and I felt this might be his final bow to a memorable career in the ring. As I had kept his coat striped all these years, he was easy to get groomed and ready for the show ring. Unfortunately, the weekend before we left, I had to say goodbye to Kyle's older half sister and his best friend. I didn't know what to expect from Kyle at the show that weekend as he was clearly mourning the loss of his leader, but as he was the only Veteran entry, I got him prepared and ready for the ring. Kyle loves the show ring, and all I have to do is show him a lead, and he is ready, and that day, he was supercharged. When they called the class into the ring, applause greeted us, and Kyle immediately lit up. Being a national specialty with a large entry, the ring was bigger than a normal show ring, but Kyle burned up the mats, and as he took each lap, the applause grew louder and louder, which energized him

No matter
how little
money and how
few possessions
you own, having a
dog makes you rich.



— Louis Sabin, *All
About Dogs As Pets*

Continued on page 4



President's Message: Peter Lamken

I believe that this may be my last chance to write about the June 2006 show in our newsletter. If it turns out that I have another chance then this is the beginning of a series about the show.

I will not stop talking about the importance of this year's show for our club to build on our past successes. There will be five terrier breeds that are having a national specialty show over the weekend of June 16 - 18 2006. We are working with the all breed clubs (Little Fort Kennel Club of Waukegan and Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club) to make this weekend as enjoyable as possible for these and all exhibitors. There are many little things that the club or individual members of this club can do to help. The largest one is to make

yourself available to help with our show on Saturday, June 17 whenever and wherever you can.

We all have to realize that it usually follows that the hardest workers in our club are also the hardest workers in their individual breed clubs. Members with breeds having Nationals on the weekend may not be available to help us as much as other years. So we need more help from others in the club. We are hoping that no one will have to overextend themselves because the rest of us will be picking up any slack.

I also want to emphasize that this is a chance for our club to show that we can do a very good job for any club that wants to join us for our show weekend. We are centrally located in the county. We usually

have good weather in June even though this is an indoors show less affected by the weather. The three shows on our June weekend are all in the same location. We have consistently drawn more entries each year. And did I say that we are the most centrally located terrier group show site in the country?

I would like all of you to contact a member of the board to volunteer to work on the show in some way. We need people the day of the show for many jobs, but we can also make use of some help on various jobs before the show. So, let us know of your availability soon. Right now as you read this is as good a time as any; that way you won't forget! I look forward to seeing or hearing from you all soon.



Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful.
— Ann Landers

Braggin' Rights: Wins & Litter Announcements

Club member Jean Richardson reports that she got a title on each dog in her house in 2005. Her winning Staffordshire Bull Terrier crew includes Westside Mingus Dynasty TD (Charlie), Inkwood Intricate CD RN, and Dragonquest Weyrmaster CD TDIA RN (Zeke).

Charlie got his tracking title when he was one year and two weeks old while Zeke came out of retirement at eleven years of age to win his first rally title.

When you next see Jean, be sure to congratulate her on these outstanding achievements!



Understanding AKC Rally Events

By GLATA member Nancy Foster

Rally has been a sport for a number of years but only one year with the AKC. It is fun for young dogs before they trial in obedience and for older dogs who are retired couch potatoes or in combination with their other activities. It is an easier, laid back, fun sport during which you can talk to your dog, clap your hands, etc., but no food or toys are allowed.

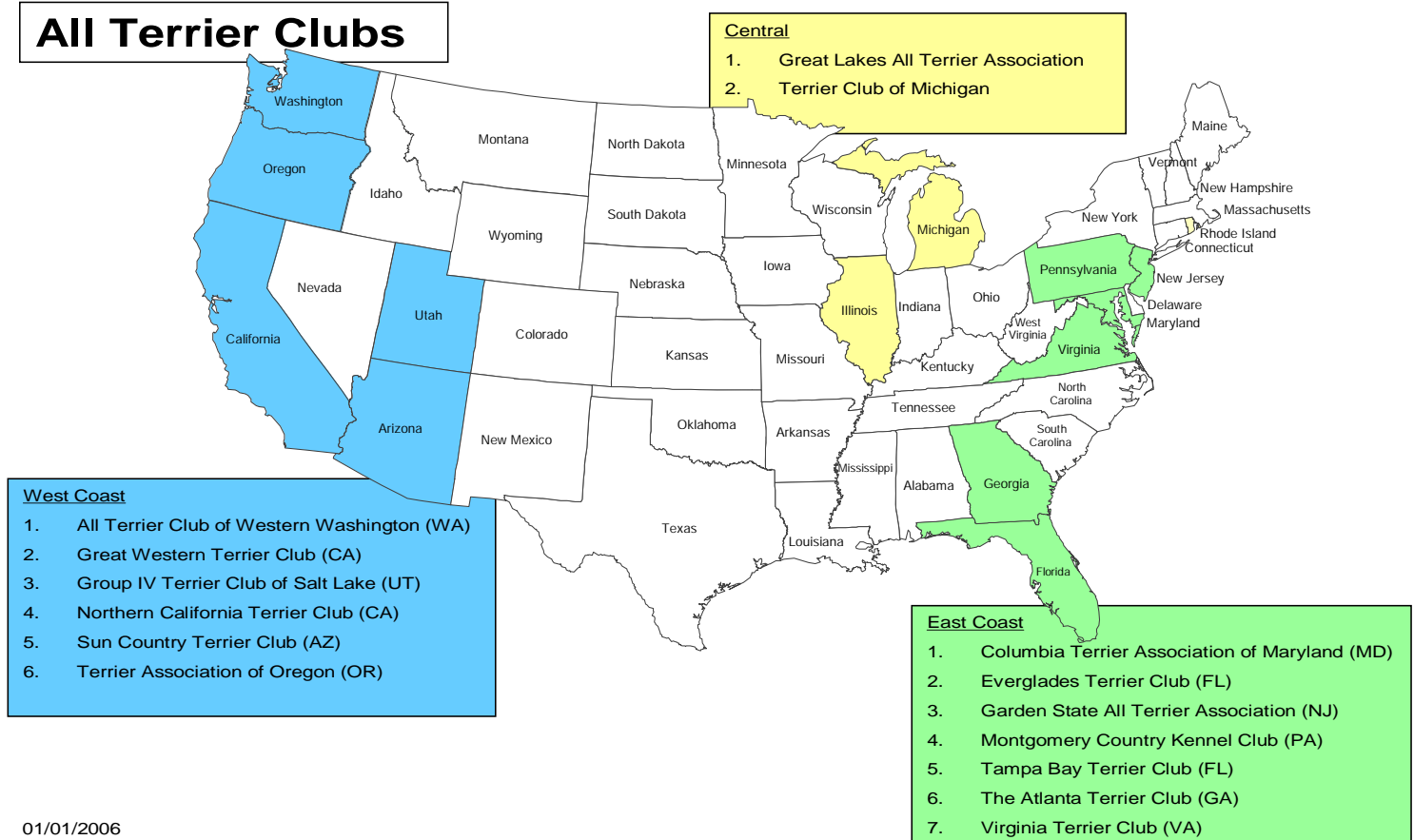
The AKC website explains rally as follows:

"Rally is a sport in which the dog and handler complete a course that has been designed by the rally judge. The judge tells the handler to begin, and the dog and handler proceed at their own pace through a course of designated stations (10 - 20, depending on the level). Each of these stations has a sign providing instructions regarding the next skill that is to be performed. Scoring is not as rigorous as traditional obedience.

The team of dog and handler moves continuously at a brisk, but normal, pace with the dog under control at the handler's left side. There should be a sense of teamwork between the dog and handler both during the numbered exercises and between the exercise signs; however, perfect "heel position" is not required. Any faults in traditional obedience that would be evaluated and scored as a one-point deduction or more should be scored the same in Rally, unless otherwise mentioned in the Rally Regulations. After the judge's "Forward" order, the team is on its own to complete the entire sequence of numbered signs correctly.

Continued on page 4

All Terrier Clubs



01/01/2006

Bumstead, cont'd. from page 2

Veterans

more and more. When we entered the Best of Breed Ring, the class was huge, and with each cut, Kyle moved out like an 18-month old pup until we were one of the last eight entries in the ring. After the ribbons were given to the BOB, BOW, BOS and the AOMs, Kyle and I left the ring, and once again the audience applauded my boy. Kyle ate it up, but it choked me up – he had given me the show of his life that afternoon, he knew it and they knew it. It didn't matter that there was no competition, no prize to win, no point to prove - it was just the two of us in the ring enjoying the time we were spending together remembering past glories, as a team and as great friends. Moments like these are the reason I love to show in the Veterans class, which create memories I will forever cherish.



Kyle and Richard at Montgomery

Foster, cont'd. from page 3

Rally

Unlimited communication from the handler to the dog is to be encouraged and not penalized. Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations, handlers are permitted to talk, praise, encourage, clap their hands, pat their legs, or use any verbal means of encouragement. Multiple commands and/or signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. The handler may not touch the dog or make physical corrections. At any time during the performance, loud or harsh commands or intimidating signals will be penalized."

There are three levels of Rally, Novice, Advanced and Excellent. After obtaining those titles, dog and handler can continue competing at a higher level, in both Advanced and Excellent at the same trial. The exercises are timed, but the time is used to determine placements when the teams' scores are the same.

GLATA

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TO:

*GLATA
Terrier Specialties,
Group Show,
Rally,
& Obedience Trial
Saturday,
June 17, 2006*



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[Editor's note: I have one of these, same size, and have used it for the last two litters—easy to assemble, clean, and store when not in use.]

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