



AMERICAN WORKING MALINOIS ASSOCIATION MEMEBER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

JUNE 2005

FEATURES

- Introduction from the president
- Introduction from the editor
- Story from a competitor, Mike Baker, about the AWDF Championship.
- Review book/ video/ seminar
- Classifieds/bragg section
- Upcoming event announcements

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Michael Ellis- rolmik1989@yahoo.com
Secretary	Molly Butler- fanfaretervs@earthlink.com
Treasurer	Cynthia Zimmerman- cynthia@workingdogworld.com
Membership	
Chair	Anne Camper- anne_c@erc.montana.edu
Directors	Tami Stephenson- Filosch3@aol.com Christopher Smith- thedogtrainer@usa.com Glenn Stephenson- EWRK@aol.com
Director of	
Judges	Glenn Stephenson EWRK@aol.com
Helper	
Committee	Joey Leigh- maitailrott@hotmail.com Mike Baker- mike@donnertal.com Les Flores- vles@dogequiptment.com
Website	
Committee	Tami Stephenson- Filosch3@aol.com Jona Decker- jona@redtaildesign.com Molly Butler- fanfaretervs@aol.com Christopher Smith- thedogtrainer@usa.com
Sponsorship	

June 2005

Introductions

Hello All AWMA Members..

My name is Desiree' and I am very excited as this is the first issue of our newsletter. I really want to try to bring the Malinois community a little closer together. My hopes are that by having a quarterly newsletter it will give us all a chance to hear about events, learn about the other malinois clubs, and just feel a little more connected to the organization. I want to invite all of our members who would like to share with us to please send in your stories, announcements, or pictures. Any comments or advice would also be appreciated. I really want to thank those of you who helped me organize everything, and those who wrote stories for this first issue. I hope you all enjoy!

***-Desiree' Shaw

Hello, and welcome to the first AWMA newsletter. My name is Michael Ellis and I am the current AWMA president. I thought I might take this opportunity to give the membership some idea of the direction I would like to see our organization take in the near future, and to solicit your help and input. I would also like to sincerely thank Desiree Shaw for stepping up and producing this much needed newsletter. The AWMA is a Malinois breed club, and as such we have a duty to expand our membership to include a larger portion of the diverse working Malinois community. The Malinois that we know and love was created primarily through the disciplines of Belgian Ring, French Ring, and KNPV. In my opinion, an understanding of the breed requires at least a rudimentary understanding of these tests. I feel very strongly that this is a crucial piece of information if we are charting a direction for our breed club. Up to this point we have focused the bulk of our energies on competitive IPO and the selection of a team to represent the US at the FMBB (the Belgian Shepherd IPO World Championships). This has been a huge job and a great stepping off point. I would like to acknowledge the considerable efforts of our founding members...this was no easy task. IPO should, and will, continue to be a large part of the AWMA workings. But, we have several proposals on the drawing board that will, hopefully, draw new members from the ringsport and law enforcement communities, as well as the world of competitive agility. In the works are a judges program, a helper selection/certification program for IPO, and a breed suitability test. We hope to have a demonstration of the breed test at this years championship in Atlanta. It is not what you think of when you think of traditional breed tests. In addition, we are hoping to expand our championships to include a MR trial and an agility trial as well. These proposals are all designed to expand membership, get the current membership more involved, and provide additional services for our members. So, please, feel free to contact me, or any of the board members with your ideas and suggestions. I think we have a golden opportunity to create a pioneering organization for the working Malinois in America. Thank you all for your participation.

Malinois Community

This years AWDF National Championship was an important one for the American Working Malinois Association. The top scores at this event alone, would represent the United States at the FMBB (Belgian World Championship.) The event was hosted by Lyle Roetemeyer's club in Nashville, Tennessee. The Mid-Eastern Region is always questionable on the climate, and we proved it with any and all possible weather. Most trainers started pulling into town early in the week on Tuesday and Wednesday. Both days provided us with beautiful Cumberland Valley skies and temperatures that hit in the 80's. The temperature had a major impact for us from the north considering we had 10 inches of snow the week before. It was short lived though. By the time the trial began on Friday morning the weather took a change for the worst. The rain was so bad that not even my military Gore-Tex could keep my underwear dry. Friday was difficult for all phases. Tracking was at times 2-4 inches below water while winds blew the rain sideways. Dogs, handlers, and helpers worked as hard on the field. On Saturday the rain had stopped, but it had already brought low temperatures. Most were glad the rain stopped, but shivered in their smile. The temperature drop gave my dog a boost of energy that I didn't really want him to have. Finally, on Sunday the temperature came up. The weather gave it's approval as the sun shined on the podium, and a **Malinois** at #1.

This years AWDF Champion was Ivan Balabanov and a male from his own breeding, Qenny Ot Vitosha, taking High In Trial and High in Protection. Also representing the American Working Malinois Association this year with a super turn out:

- Django Ot Vitosha, Ivan Balabanov
- Quinta Ot Vitosha, Silke Balabanov
- A'Bete Visage Noir vom BMT, Cynthia Zimmermann
- Giltedge Gladiator Ot Vitosha, John Wiitanen
- Falcon Regulus, Paula Daigle
- Ripp des Ombres Valeureux, Philip Behun
- Bacchus vom Drachenherz, Mike Morgan
- Atreju Chateau Schonwalde, Scott Rowan
- Zohra Van Tessini's, Krystin Hildebrandt
- Varak du Chenil Victoire, Mike Baker
- Boras van Joefarm, Desiree' Shaw



I hear many people talking that watch the Malinois with a different eye. I hear them say, "All the Malinois people know each other," and, "You Malinois people stick together." The community of dog trainers is large, but none as cool as the Malinois community. It's a pleasure being part of the top community of trainers in the world.

Moving on from the AWDF Nationals provides many other trialing opportunities for the Malinois in 2005. There are many that will prepare for the largest Malinois Nationals to date, in Atlanta this October 21-23. Even if your Mali is not ready for the Nationals, plan on coming out to support the AWMA and the Malinois at this years event.

-Mike Baker/Ohio

Malinois Community

**GOOD LUCK TO THE
AWMA WORLD TEAM
AT THE 2005
BELGIAN SHEPHERD
WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP!**

(From the Spirit Working Dog Club)

Send us your club's trial results and we will list them here also. Or if there is a special member of your club you would like to brag about let us know.

Classified Ads & Brags

*As an incentive to our AWMA members, you are able to place classified ads in the quarterly newsletter at no charge. If you are selling equipment, announcing new litters, whatever it is, you can advertise in the newsletter for FREE! Take advantage of your membership and email dezireeshaw@yahoo.com for more details.



Malinois Community

Tapes in Review

“DOG ON DOG AGGRESSION”,

with Dr. Ian Dunbar

I had the opportunity recently to see Dr Dunbars' second video in a series of 3 behavioral seminars, this one concerning dog on dog aggression. The video features Dr Dunbar in a seminar setting and his British humor makes the tape very watchable. He addresses dominance in dog aggression as well as fear and possession issues in a very understandable manner and offers solutions that appear to work immediately on the video. Of course we have no idea of the duration of these success stories and having put some of them to use in my practices I have had “spotty” results. The dogs used in the video appear to be on the “softer” end of the scale and sure enough, with these types of dogs his techniques seem to bear fruit and for those who are not familiar with dog aggression protocols it would be a very good beginning tape. The series is available through “Dog’s Best Friend” press and several other outlets at a very reasonable cost and the quality of the cinematography appeared high. Enjoy it – but don’t get too excited about it until you have tried it for yourself.

-Gary A Shaw/North Carolina

Reviews

Read a good dog book or seen a good dog video lately?.....



YOUTH MEMBER:

Eleen Balabanov
with her dog
Turcodos Van De
Duvetorre!

The Funny Bone

The liquid on the INside of a fire hydrant is H₂O

The liquid on the OUTside of a fire hydrant is K9P

T Joiner

How to tell if your dog has a problem

Ask yourself the following questions.

1. Does your dog know the spelling, Latin root and French translation of the word "walk," yet is unable to grasp the meaning of the word "come"?
2. Does your dog immediately leap on a cat, bunny rabbit, or child upon hearing the words "Don't worry he LOVES cats, bunny rabbits and children"?
3. Is your dog shameless, graceless, without dignity and extremely in touch with his inner puppy?
4. Does he wake you up in the middle of the night to warn you of the dangers of a kitchen chair, then sleep through the theft of all your valuable possessions?
5. Does he develop a tragic and profound deafness at the sound of "It's time to go home," yet possess bionic hearing at the sound of a can opener?
6. At a dog trial you have ever said, "he has never done that before!"

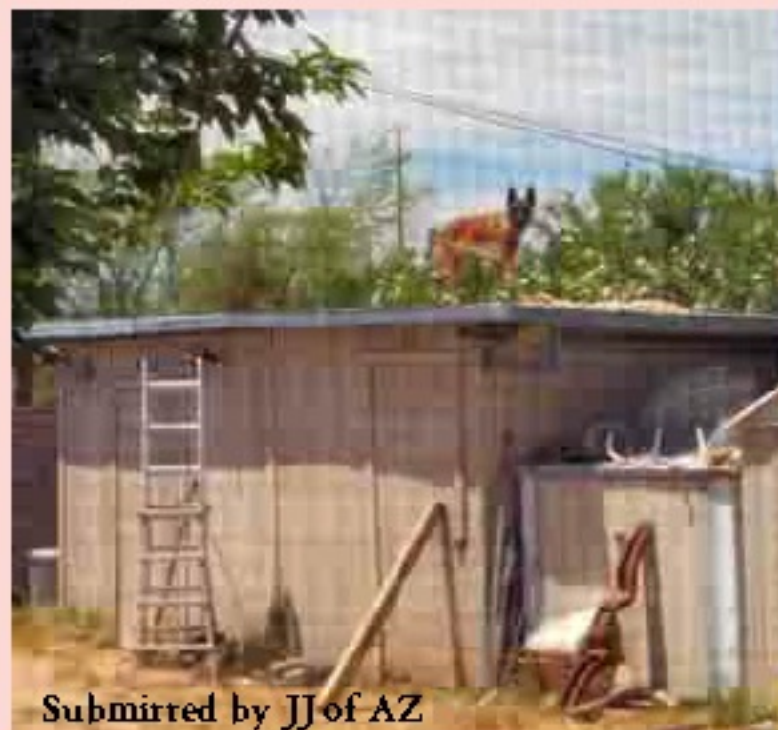
If you answered "yes" to most of these questions.

Relax, your dog is normal

If you think you have a funny picture email it to dezireeshaw@yahoo.com



What happens when you forget to put the ladder away?



Submitted by JJ of AZ