EDITOR'S NOTE

Again, this year we were very impressed with the applications received for the AKC Junior Scholarship. This year there were 61 applications with 33 recipients. The Scholarships ranged from $500-$5,000. The average GPA of the recipient is a 3.64. Recipients were from 29 states and Puerto Rico. Students range from High School Seniors to those attending Veterinary School. Applicants participated in all facets of the fancy earning titles in Conformation, Obedience, and Agility, qualifying for Westminster, as well as participating in many of the other Performance Events.

In addition to the recognized AKC events that the recipients participate in there are numerous other activities related to animals which include: Therapy Dogs, 4-H Participants and leaders, Adoption Counselor at the SPCA, Assistant Hunting Dog Trainer, Grooming Business, Veterinary Technician, Veterinary assistant, Junior Showmanship Judge, Match Show Judge, Web Page Designer for Specialty Club, CGC recipient, Junior News Contributor.

It is always rewarding to learn about the extra curricular activities that so many young people participate in, with or without their dogs. Juniors are great ambassadors for purebred dogs and represent the fancy in their schools and communities as responsible dog owners. We encourage everyone to be ambassadors for the AKC, purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership. If you are giving a presentation in your school or community and are interested in the types of materials or brochures that might be available for your use you may contact Amy Reid (919) 816-3814, juniors@akc.org or the Public Education Office - (919) 816-3718, publiced@akc.org. The Public Education Department has just released a new program called Safety Around Dogs, Your Safety Begins With You!

Applications for the 2002-2003 Junior Scholarship will be available in the fall. If you are a high school senior or already enrolled in secondary education and would like an application please notify, Amy Reid - (919) 816-3814, juniors@akc.org

We are pleased with the contributions from juniors and aged out juniors and look forward to receiving your articles. Please contact us with your ideas for future Juniors News at 919-816-3814, or mbo@akc.org.

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED AT AKC/EUKANUBA AMERICAN DOG CLASSIC

AKC is pleased to announce that a special competition will exist for juniors at the Classic, which will be held Wednesday December 12, 2001 in Orlando, Florida. Criteria for eligibility for a Junior to enter:

Five wins in an Open Class with competition, between the dates of January 1, 2001 and the closing date. One may still compete in this event if the qualifying wins are earned prior to reaching one’s 18th birthday, rather than the date of the actual event.

Additionally, a grade point average of a 3.0 or equivalent for the past two complete semesters of work, as described by the attending school submitted with an official school transcript.

Eligibility for entry and ownership specifications are as described in the Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations. Preliminary classes will be held. Judges will select a specified number of juniors to compete in the finals. No placements will be made in the preliminary classes.

For more information and a list of Juniors that have qualified with 5 wins in Open to date check our website at www.akc.org.
**TRACKING –**

**BY CAITLIN ASCHER**

My name is Caitlin Ascher, and I’m ten years old. On April 16, 2000, I completed my first tracking title as a Junior in the AKC Junior Program.

My initial interest in tracking began while training with my mom and her friends. When I was four years old, I used to track my old dog, Abby. Abby already had her TDX title, so I learned a lot following behind an experienced dog. We would run training tracks and I would always ask to run the alternate tracks at TD and TDX test when we could.

Two years ago, I got my new dog Relay, (Lookout’s No Passing Zone TD, AX, OAJ). I started training Relay as a puppy, following hotdogs, laid on the ground along the track. As Relay got better, so did I. We learned about wind conditions, vegetation, terrain, age of tracks, and how all of these factors affect the track. Some days we had a lot of success, and others, we called learning experiences.

The final practice track we ran together before the test, we ran some very difficult cover. When we got to our track test, we found ourselves in a similar type of ground cover. That training day came in very helpful during the test. Relay showed what a wonderful tracking dog she was that day, as well as what a great team we made. In the future, I hope to take Relay on to a TDX, as well as continue on in agility. Relay is a fun and talented young dog. I hope to share many more special memories with her in the years to come.

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1. Stephanie Ahlbom, Major: Biology
   University of Delaware
   Advice: “Relax and have fun! As long as you enjoy showing you never lose - you just don’t always win!”

2. Lindsay Balder, Major: Business Administration
   Grand Valley State University
   Lindsay learned the most from her mother, who taught her the importance of good sportsmanship and hard work.

3. Carissa Boettcher, University of Wisconsin-Madison
   Major: Zoology, Biological aspect of Conservation, environmental Studies certificate.
   Carissa learned the most from other Juniors. She says “I still go to the ring to watch the juniors.”

4. Amy Batzner, Marquette University
   Major: Pre-Med
   Amy has remained quite active in the fancy while attending college. She has shown many breeds over the years and hopes one day to breed Irish Setters.

5. Rindi Gaudet, St. Petersburg Junior College
   Major: Veterinary Technology
   While working full-time and going to school, Rindi is active in showing in conformation and says compete because you want to or you have a goal to accomplish. Not because someone else wants you to.

6. Mary Lynn Butcher, Wittenberg University
   Major: Education
   Advice: “Have fun with your dogs and don’t worry about always winning.”

7. Casandra Clark, California State University-Monterey Bay
   Major: Management & International Entrepreneurship
   Advice: “Win or Lose always remember to be gracious and humble. Keep in mind, it is only a sport!”

8. Alessandra Folz, Mount Holyoke College
   Major: Anthropology
   Alessandra feels that it is more important to be in school doing well than to be winning at a dog show. A first place will last a fleeting day, an education will last a lifetime.

9. Wyatt Delfino, University of California at Davis
   Major: Animal Science
   Wyatt says he has tried to learn from everyone he sees in the ring, if you like what someone does, remember it and incorporate it, if you don’t like how they do something, remember that too, and don’t repeat that person’s mistake.
10. Lindsey Gaulke,
University of Washington
Major: Zoology
Advice: Use every class as a learning experience. Watch handlers that you admire, and figure out what makes them so good... and then do it yourself.

11. Phillip Horsley,
University of Arizona
Major: Pre-Pharmacy
Phil began showing dogs at the age of 12. He feels that thru juniors he has learned responsibility and social skills. Responsibility from the caring of the dogs and the social skills from the interaction with adults and peers.

12. Lisa Kleven,
University of Wisconsin- River Falls
Major: Elementary Education
Advice: “The years you spend in juniors could quite possibly be the most important years of your dog show career. The friends you make while showing in juniors will be some of the best friends you will ever make because they have the same desire as you do.”

13. Sarah Hill,
Southern Methodist University
Major: Financial Consulting
Sarah has enjoyed the camaraderie she found among her fellow juniors. She feels a lot of what she learned in Juniors she now applies to her approach to academics and life.

14. Rebecca Helmke,
LeMoyne College
Major: Political Science/Philosophy
Rebecca became involved with Junior Showmanship through her 4H club and still remains active in the organization. She also has shown her breed to Herding, Agility, and Obedience titles.

15. Susan Jacob,
North Carolina School of the Arts
Major: Film
Susan is an AKC Judge for Junior Showmanship and has been asked to be one of the preliminary judges at the AKC/Eukanuba American Dog Classic. She created and maintains her club’s website. Susan donates pieces of her artwork to her club’s annual auction.

16. Andrea Hitt,
State University of NY at Binghamton
Major: Theater
Rebecca says that during competition always remember why you started in dogs, not for the ribbon.

17. Melissa LaMere,
St. Cloud State University
Major: Undecided
Advice: “Try Everything! – Give the dogs credit they deserve, don’t stop with juniors, get titles at both ends.”
20. Dina Raichel, Colorado State University
Major: Veterinary Medicine
Dina plans to finish Veterinary School. “As a veterinarian I will continue to work in a community service effort to educate the public about the responsibilities of pet ownership.”

21. Sarah Purdy, Oregon State University
Major: Anthropology
Advice: “Listen to what others have to say, they will be the ones to help you out the most.”

22. Meghan Riese, State University of West Georgia
Major: Computer Science
Meghan says that she learned the most about breeding and structure from her mom. She will continue to breed and show her Welsh Springer Spaniels and hopes to be part of the group that will discover the DNA link to epilepsy in the breed.

23. Eve Rivinus, University of Oregon
Major: Psychology
Advice: Have fun and show because you love it, not for the wins and prestige. If it stops being fun, there is no point in doing it any more.

24. Carol Rappaport-Fish, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Major: Secondary Education/Social Studies
Carol’s future involvement in purebred dogs will be as a breeder of Bedlington Terriers. She has also taken a great interest in Public Education and Rescue.

25. Manuel Rodriguez, University of Puerto Rico
Major: Biology
Manuel is now giving the training class for the Caribe Kennel Club for Juniors and adults. He hopes to become a judge one day.
26. Karyn Ryan, Miami University (OH)  
Major: Elementary Education  
Karyn says that she learned the most from her brother because they would always critique each other and share knowledge that they may have read or learned from others. Like her brother Chris, Karyn began in dogs by participating in 4-H.

27. Christopher Ryan,  
The University of Connecticut  
Major: Accounting  
Advice: Use Junior Showmanship as a learning experience that teaches you how to compete in the breed ring. Too often juniors use a different style while competing in junior showmanship than when in the breed ring and their style appears inappropriate.  
Chris is an AKC Judge for Junior Showmanship and has been asked to be one of the preliminary judges at the AKC/Eukanuba American Dog Classic.

28. Jessica Sedivy,  
North Dakota State University  
Major: Chemistry  
Advice: “The extra effort needed to balance college and your interest in the fancy is worth it — the love of learning and the spirit of competition can both be important in your life.”

29. Joanna Smith,  
Ohio University  
Major: undeclared  
Advice: “The destination is not as important as the journey. Have fun training and building the relationship with your animal. Look at titles and ribbons as icing on the cake.”

30. David Zavasky,  
John Carroll University  
Major: Pre-Vet  
David says he learned the most by observing and listening to other juniors and professional handlers. He always tries to get another point of view regardless of whether he agrees with the person. I learned not only tactics but also ring etiquette and sportsmanship from these people.

31. Nicholas Urbanek,  
Penn State University  
Major: Animal Science  
“I believe that I learned the most from the handlers that I worked for. These people taught me the mechanics, sportsmanship, and responsibility of showing dogs. They also helped me develop as a person.”

32. Lisa Stahl,  
Judson College  
Major: Business Administration/management  
Lisa’s advice to juniors would be to love your dog more than anything. Your teamwork with your dog will either make or break you - make competing a positive experience for the both you and your dog.

33. Danielle Zezulinski,  
Syracuse University  
Major: Communication Design  
Minor: Anthropology  
Danielle would tell juniors today that in order to be successful, they need to respect the sport and its history. Learning from the masters by reading and watching group rings can be as valuable as apprenticing. Confidence and maturity are also necessary for successful juniors. Juniors is about fun, and dog shows will always be there, so don’t miss the rest of your life trying to be # 1.
I started showing Kileagh in Agility last year and we just received our Novice JWW title. There are very few Juniors showing in this area, so I became known as the little girl with the Sheltie. I have also shown him in USDAA Agility events. My mom shows him in Open Standard and they received that title in November. Kileagh is 18 5/8 inches so he is required by AKC to jump 20 inches. Since he is 11 years old, we both thought it was too hard on him to compete against the much larger dogs in his class, so we were looking for something in which to continue to compete but that wouldn’t be so hard on him physically.

We both enjoyed the teamwork in Agility and have danced together since I was a baby. When Susan Colledge, and her Yorkie, Misha introduced Freestyling to our area I thought that this would be a great way to have fun together and still compete. What could be a better combination than a teenager, music, and her dog? So, what is freestyling?

Freestyling is basically an obedience dance routine choreographed to music. There are required moves established by the Canine Freestyle Federation (www.canine-freestyle.org) for competition but you can also perform for exhibition only and not have to do the required moves. Basic obedience training is all that is needed to begin. The music is selected to complement the dog’s natural rhythms and often a dog will show a reaction to a certain piece of music and therefore select it himself.

Learning to work as a team with trust has been difficult. Dally used to over jump obstacles and usually crashed. She has matured and stopped doing that but I am still always leery of her over jumping and other things on the course. I am learning to trust her more and more everyday. I know that she trusts me on my judgement so it’s only fair for me to trust her on hers. We have been very successful on our journey and we’ll continue to work and learn more about each other.

Believe and Succeed

Courage does not always roar. Sometimes it is a quiet voice at the end of the day saying, “I will try again tomorrow.”
It is a great way to work as a team with your dog and teach him new moves. The routine you design is yours alone so everyone is not doing the same events. You are judged on how well you work as a team and how well the routine shows off your individual dog.

There are not many Freestyle events in our area but I hope it will catch on. It seems like fun for young and old, both dogs and handlers, and it doesn’t require a lot of speed or strain. We are also going to start doing therapy visits with our dog club and we can use our Freestyle routine for that as well. I would love to see more Juniors competing in Freestyle.

If you would like more information just go to the website listed above. Susan and her Yorkie are pictured there.

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**CENTRAL OHIO KENNEL CLUB YOUTH AWARD**

The Central Ohio Kennel Club is pleased to announce its annual youth award. The award is in the amount of $500.00 and is open to anyone in the United States who meets the following criteria:

1. Must be competing in AKC sanctioned events – e.g. conformation, agility, obedience, etc..
2. Must be 21 years of age or younger.
3. Must submit a 300-400 word essay on your involvement in dog competition. Include at the top of your essay: name, address, and telephone number include area code.

Winners will be chosen from all eligible entries. The COKC Scholarship Committee will make the final decision. All entries must be received by December 30, 2001. The winners will be announced in January 2002. All entries must be submitted to:

Mrs. Joan Barrett  
11374 Rockwood Ct. NW  
Pickerington, OH 43147

For more information contact Roberta Brady--614-882-9062 or Joan Barrett: Jaybarl@earthlink.net.