



The  
TAILWAGGER

## Events

**Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup>**

**IECC Obedience/Rally Fun Match**

Spokane Dog Training Club (SDTC)



**Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup>**

**IECC Obedience/Rally Fun Match**

SDTC

*Events continued. . .*

**Friday February 17<sup>th</sup>**

AKC Rally Trial

SDTC



**Saturday & Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>**

AKC Obedience Trial

SDTC



**Saturday February 25-26<sup>th</sup>**

AKC All-Breed Scentwork Trial

SDTC



**March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Ephrata-Moses Lake Kennel Club**

**Agility Trials**



**Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>**

**IECC Obedience/Rally Fun Match**

SDTC



**March 17-19<sup>th</sup>**

**Tri-Cities All-Breed Obedience & Rally**

Columbia Basin Dog Training Club



*Events continued. . .*

**March 25 – April 1**

**Collie Club of American National – Conformation, Herding, Agility, Obedience and Rally**

Fort Wayne



**April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**IECC Conformation (AM & PM) & All-Breed Obedience & Rally**

Moses Lake



**April 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Ephrata- Moses Lake Kennel Club All-Breed Conformation & Obedience & Rally**



**April 14-16<sup>th</sup>**

**Spokane Agility Club Agility Trials**

Spokane Fairgrounds



**April 20<sup>th</sup>**

**IECC All-Breed Tracking Test**



Events continued. . .

April 21st-24<sup>th</sup>

**Palouse Hills Dog Fanciers and Lewiston Kennel Club All-Breed Conformation, Obedience & Rally**



May 7<sup>th</sup>

**Spokane Dog Training Club All-Breed Tracking Test**



May 12 -14<sup>th</sup>

**Spokane Dog Training Club All-Breed Agility**

Sonntag Park



May 17-19<sup>th</sup>

**Spokane Dog Training Club All-Breed Obedience Rally**



# CCA Western Herding Regionals

As is our tradition, IECC took the lead in organizing and managing the CCA Western Herding Regionals held at Fido's Farm near Olympia this year. In addition, the Saturday and Sunday arena and open field trials, along with instinct testing, this year we added two ranch course trials on Friday. Although the entry was small (three runs per trial, plus one entry that unfortunately had to pull due to lameness),

the participants enjoyed the chance to try a relatively new AKC herding course, and we hope to expand to holding an all-breed ranch course next year.

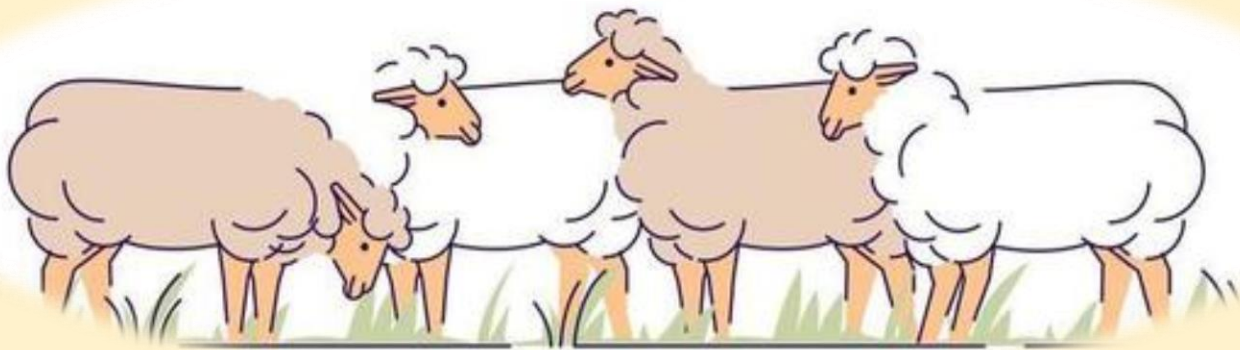


Our thanks to Chris Soderstrom and her crew for once again being excellent hosts for our event. Linda Ward coordinated with CCA to apply for the event, hired the judges and arranged for their lodging, ordered ribbons and rosettes, managed all the financial record keeping, helped with course set-up, and provided back up when our secretary's computer threw tantrums. Suzanne Schwab transported 35 not at all odiferous ducks from Newport WA to the trial site in Olympia, ordered trophies, familiarized sheep and ducks with trial obstacles and checked all livestock for any lame or unreasonably cantankerous individuals before the trial, helped with course set-up and tear-down, organized and cleaned up after lunches for workers, and with some assistance from Truffle, helped set out sheep for the Instinct Tests on Saturday and Sunday. Eileen White and Sherry McCauley earn special kudos for making the 600 + mile round trip to sleep in their van or in the barn in order to be on hand to help at the

trial even though they didn't have a dog entered. Sherry was initiated into the world of herding trials by scribing all day Saturday, and Eileen did double duty as score sheet runner and timer on Saturday and Sunday.

In addition to the hard work of our IECC members, we greatly appreciate Kathy Walshon's hard work as event secretary, and all the help with course set-up (Jeanine Blaner, Maria Siebeck, Sally Wells), sheep and duck screening and obstacle familiarization (Jeanine), duck trial stock set out (Sally Wells), chief errand runner/ tool finder/refreshment distributor (Maria), and sheep set out for the instinct test (Jeanine and Mircea).

This annual event is a great way to showcase the original purpose of our breed and help identify collies who still retain the instinctive ability to help manage livestock. Everyone mark your calendars for next year's event (Sept 8-10) and consider participating.



*Rosie, let's get to work"*

— Jon Katz, *Soul of a Dog: Reflections on the Spirits of the Animals of Bedlam Farm*

# When to Spay/Neuter Companion Dogs

*By Suzanne Schwab*

Back in the stone age when I was a child, dog ownership was very different. Dogs were pretty much free to roam the neighborhood, professional grooming was maybe done on a poodle, no one clipped toenails, and brushing your dog's teeth would have earned you a psychiatric evaluation. Bitches might eventually be spayed, but only after a litter or two sired by whatever male won the fight in the back yard, and neutering males was pretty much unheard of in my dairy farming community where horses and cattle were routinely castrated. As the human population grew, dogs became more commonplace in urban and suburban areas, shelters began to struggle to keep up with ever-increasing numbers of homeless dogs and cats, and routine euthanasia of millions of healthy but homeless dogs and cats

became less and less socially acceptable. One of the principal tools used to reduce the population of homeless dogs and cats was an aggressive campaign to encourage spaying/neutering (S/N) of pets, and by the early 2000's roughly 2/3 of dogs in the US were S/N, and most shelters and rescue organizations required S/N before releasing an animal for adoption, even when that meant puppies as young as 2 months old were S/N before adoption.

As the prevalence of S/N increased, research on the effect of S/N on a variety of medical conditions in dogs began to emerge. What can I say – nerds are always on the lookout for a new topic to investigate, and this is a topic that has practical implications for a lot of dog owners. Overall, the results of these studies were somewhat to very alarming. Hip dysplasia, cranial cruciate ligament injuries, lymphoma, mast cell tumors, hemangiosarcoma, osteosarcoma and urinary incontinence were all found to be

more prevalent in S/N dogs than their intact counterparts. While no one wants to go back to the days of crammed animal shelters and freezers full of animals euthanized because they vastly outnumbered the homes available to them, increasing the risk of orthopedic issues and premature death of our canine companions isn't great either. As sort of a compromise, many breeders and veterinarians continue to encourage S/N but recommended that pets reach full maturity before being sterilized. The problem is that information on how much the age at which a dog is S/N actually affects the increased risk of cancer or orthopedic problems is pretty thin. And some of the risk may be breed specific. For example, the concern about the effect of S/N on osteosarcoma is based largely on a study done on Rottweilers, a breed with an exceptionally high incidence of osteosarcoma. It's highly debatable whether one should be concerned about S/N increasing the risk of osteosarcoma in a breed where that particular cancer is rare.

A team of researchers at the Vet school at UC Davis has been working to address the issue of whether age of S/N and the breed of dog influence the risk that appears to be associated with S/N. In initial studies on golden retrievers, S/N increased the risk of obesity regardless of how old the dog was when sterilized, but S/N only increased the risk of orthopedic issues in dogs sterilized before they were 6 months old and goldens that were S/N after a year of age actually had somewhat lower rates of orthopedic problems than intact goldens. Similar studies by this same group for German Shepherd Dogs and Labrador Retrievers makes the question of the effect of breed and age on of S/N on various health issues murkier and murkier. Without going into all the details, the overall answer to whether S/N is a health risk or not, and whether age at S/N affects that health risk is a clear and definitive, "uhm, well, it depends".



This same team of researchers has expanded their research now to include 35 breeds of dog, comparing the incidence of hip and elbow dysplasia, cranial cruciate ligament injuries, lymphoma, hemangiosarcoma, mast cell tumors, and osteosarcoma in intact dogs and dogs S/N at less than 6 months old, between 6 months and a year old, between 1 and 2 years old, and over 2 years old. They examined (well, they had computers, and probably an army of work/study students examine) the computerized records of over 15,000 dogs, categorized by breed, intact vs S/N, and age of S/N, and then compared the incidence of each medical condition in each category. If you want to seek out all the nitty gritty details for a particular breed, you can go to the link at the end of this write-up, and dig in. But this is a newsletter for a collie club, so I'll report the details for our breed. Although the authors (and their army of students) looked at the records of a lot of dogs, unfortunately for us, only 116 collie records were available for the study – 29 intact males, 26

neutered males, 24 intact females, and 37 spayed females. None of the 26 neutered males developed hip or elbow dysplasia or experienced cranial cruciate ligament injuries, and of 29 intact males, one had developed hip dysplasia and one had developed elbow dysplasia. Of the 61 female collies, the only joint problem was one who was spayed between six months and a year and experienced a cranial cruciate ligament injury. So, with only roughly 25 to 35 collies in each category, it's pretty tough to say whether S/N had any effect on common orthopedic problems, but it's nice to know that those problems seem pretty rare in collies overall. For the four types of cancer studied, five of the 55 males developed one of those cancers during the course of the study – one male neutered at less than six months, one male neutered after two years of age, and three intact males. Of the 61 female collies, only three developed one of the four cancers studied, two that were spayed before six months, and one that was spayed after two years. So, for collies I would say

first that we need a bigger sample size (the lament of every researcher), but based on the limited evidence available, there's no compelling reason to avoid or delay S/N surgery.

One of the limitations of this study, besides the small sample size for many breeds, is that it depended on data contained in a set of computerized veterinary records associated with one Veterinary Hospital. For many of the dogs, those records did not necessarily continue for the entire life of the dog, for a variety of reasons. But many cases of health issues may have been overlooked simply because the health problems may not have been recorded in that particular hospital's set of records because the owner may have moved away, or switched vets, or placed the dog in a different home. But recognizing that this study, like all research, has its limitations, I think it does clearly show that recommendations on S/N should be tailored to breed. For many of the 35 breeds studied, there simply

weren't enough records for that individual breed to make sound recommendations. But in general, the detrimental effect of S/N on orthopedic problems was mainly confined to a few of the larger breeds, and increased risk of cancer following S/N was limited to a few breeds. For most breeds, S/N had no detectable effect on the medical conditions studied.

Here's where you can dig into all the details of this study if you are so inclined:

Assisting Decision-Making on Age of Neutering for 35 Breeds of Dog, by B. Hart, L. Hart, A.P. Thigpen, & N. Willits, published in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, 7 July 2020.

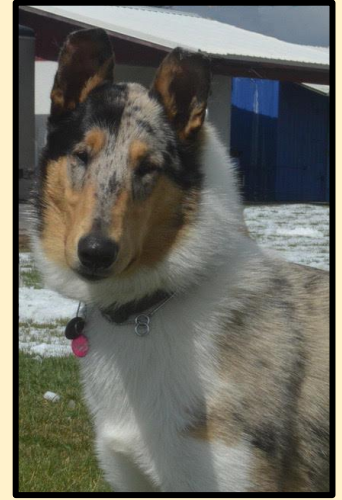
<https://www.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fvets.2020.00388/full>



# 2022 Title List

GLENELG'S HAP O' GUDE CHEER CGC –  
“Hap”

Breeders: R. Michael & Sharen Hunley – Owner: Sherry  
McCauley



CH MOXIE'S ROYAL NONESUCH  
“Huck”

Breeders: Melinda Barber & Alene Evans – Allison  
Seeber & Melinda Barber

MOXIE THAT'S NO MOON CGC  
“Kylo”

Breeders: Melinda Barber – Owners: Teri  
Liechty & Melinda Barber





MOXIE'S DO OR DO NOT – I AM A TRI **RN**  
CGC IT

“Luke”

Breeders: Melinda Barber – Owners: Teri Liechty  
& Melinda Barber

MOONSTONE'S I'LL PINE FOR YOU TD HSAds

AHBA HTAD1ds HTD1d **HRD1s** **ASCA STDds**

“Torrey”

Breeder: Louise Torkleson – Owner: Suzanne Schwab



GCH CH SINKONA'S COLORS OF THE WIND **RN** **RI**

HT NJP OFP CGC **TKN** VA “Storm”

Breeders: Linda Marie & Tanya Ward – Owner: Bobbi  
Graves & Rusty Graves

SINKONA'S EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES

**CD** BN **RN** SCN SIN SBN CGC TKI

“Tessa”

Breeders: Linda Marie & Tanya Ward – Owner: Bobbi Graves



CH SINKONA'S JAZZMAN CDX BN

RE PT FDC **OAP** **OJP** **NFP** ACT1

SWA **SEE** CGC VX

“Louie”

Breeders/Owners: Linda Marie & Tanya Ward – Owner: Barb Flaherty & Linda Marie Ward & Tanya Ward

**CH** SINKONA'S BLACK MAGIC PT  
NJP CGC VA

"Ebony"

Breeders/Owners: Linda Marie & Tanya  
Ward



GCH CH PACH **UCDX** SINKONA'S DREAM  
CATCHER CDX BN GN **GO** RE **HSAd HSAsM**  
**MXP5 MXPS MJP5&6 MJPS** PAX MFP T2BP CA  
BCAT CGC GV AHBA JHD

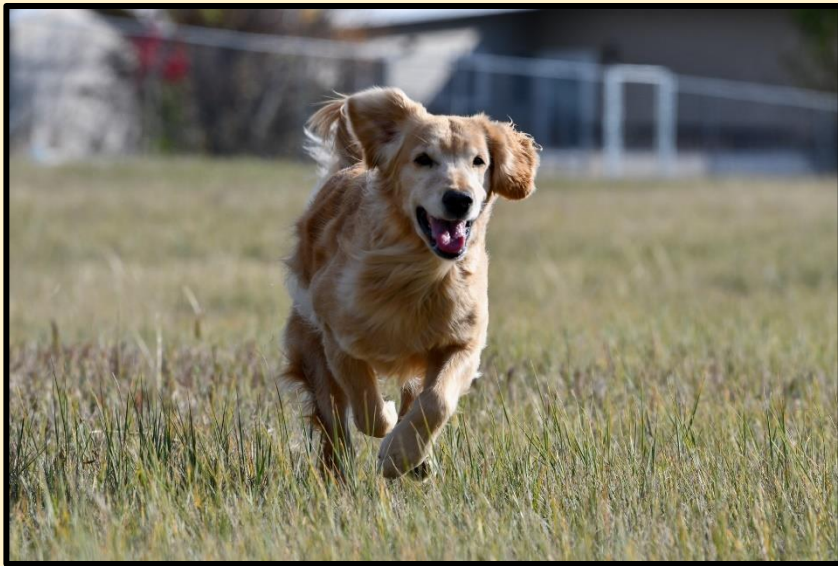
"Elsa"

CH **UCDX** SNOVALLEY SILVA  
SINKONA CDX BN GN **RAE**  
TD PT MX MXJ **MXP MJP2**  
**MJPB** OF T2B CA BCAT CGC  
VX AHBA JHD

"Isis"

Breeders: Mary & Terry Cox &  
Alene Evans – Owners: Tanya &  
Linda Marie Ward





BEARPAW'S ODE TO JOY **CDX**  
**RA**

“Joy”

Breeder: Micki League – Owner:  
Barbara Flaherty

Golden Retriever

**CH** CAIRDEAN'S TSESIT STONE  
SINKONA **CGC**

“Petra”

Breeders: Shannen L. Fogarty & Ralph  
A Larson – Owners: Tanya Ward &  
Linda Marie Ward & Shannen L.

Fogarty

*Belgian Malinois*



GOODENOUGH MY ROSE WITHOUT A THORN CD BN RE RAE ACT2  
“Kitty”

Breeder: Margaret Deuzabou –Owners: Deirdre Kane  
*Border Collie*



*Yellowstone Valley Kennel Club, May 2022*

*Belle Excellent B two 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Kitty Excellent B two 1<sup>st</sup> two 2<sup>nd</sup>*

*Rally Excellent title*

*Two RAE legs*

*Two High Combined*



**CH MARNIYA'S POWER CONFIDENTIAL**

“Wrex”

Breeder: Cheryl Marniya – Owner: Allison

Seeber & Cherryl Marniya

*Shiba Inu*



MACH PACH U-CDX SINKONA'S SAPPHIRE  
MOUNTAIN BREEZE UDX2 OM3 BN GN GO VER  
**RM RM2 RAE** MXB MJS **MXP4&5 MXPS MJP4&5**  
**MJPS** PAX MXF T2B CA BCAT TKA AHBA JHD

“Bree”

Breeders: Renee Oertli & Kathryn Yates – Owners:

Tanya & Linda Marie Ward

*Miniature Poodle*

RYAN'S TURQUESA AHBA JHD ASCA RTDs

STDs

“Turk”

Breeders: Michael Ryan – Owners: Ric & Eileen White

*Australian Shepherd*



GCH CH TOONTOWN'S HOPE SPRINGS  
ETERNAL

“Hope”

Breeder: Mary & Michelle Ridenour -

Owner: Caroline Baines

Pomeranian

9

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Outstanding Member for 2022 is

**LINDA WARD!**



The Inland Empire Collie Club would like to congratulate and extend many thanks to Linda for her endless hard work and reliability during 2022 and many, many years prior! Linda always creates quality monthly budgets to keep our club finances in order and does much of the dirty work getting our specialty, obedience, rally, and other events and trials approved by AKC. And for the cherry on top, Linda is always welcoming to new members and is a great advocate for the breed. Linda, you are greatly appreciated, and your hard work does not go unnoticed! Thank you!

# Bragg

Suzanne Schwab

## Moonstone's I'll Pine For You TD, HSAds

Sept 3-5, 2022, Black Sheep Australian Shepherd Club – 5 qualifying scores in Started Trial Dog, ducks; 5 qualifying scores in Started Trial Dog, sheep. High Combined sheep and duck scores for the weekend, High Combined started level scores for the weekend

Sept 9-11, 2022, Collie Club of America Western Herding Regionals – 1<sup>st</sup> place, High in Trial (Ranch Trial #1); 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Reserve High in Trial (Ranch Trial #2); 2<sup>nd</sup> place Intermediate Arena Sheep (Saturday); 1<sup>st</sup> place Intermediate Arena Sheep, and 1<sup>st</sup> place Intermediate Arena Ducks (Sunday)



# Brag

Sherry McCauley

## Glenelg's Hap O' Gude Cheer

Hap earned his CGC after completing his first classes ever, Beginning and Advanced Home Companion Classes at the Spokane Dog Training Club! He's such an awesome dude.



# Braggs

## Moxie Collies

At The **Overlake Collie Club Specialty** and 3 concurrent **All Breed shows** in Cashmere, Wa.

**Moxie's Night At The Museum, "Burke"** was Runner Up in Sweeps under *Judge Deb Smith*. Congrats to his owner, *Doris Wagner Campbell*.

Under *Specialty Judge Susan Bertrand*:

**Moxie Take Back Th' Night "Colter"** was WD for his 2nd Major.

**NEW CHAMPION Moxie's Royal Nonesuch IT "Huck"** WD/BOW for his 3rd Major to finish. Handled by his owner, *Ali Seeber*.

**Moxie's Urban Jungle "Memphis"** went Reserve to the Major.

**BIS MBISS GChB Moxie's RockNRolla IT "Caper"**- Best In Specialty.

At the All Breed show on Saturday under *Judge David Alexander*:

**Moxie's Urban Jungle "Memphis"**- WD

**Moxie's Night At The Museum "Burke"**- RWD

**Moxie Enjoy That Journey "Alexis"**- Major Reserve

**BIS MBISS GChB Moxie's RockNRolla IT "Caper"** picked up his 2nd All Breed BOV of the weekend and went on to win a HUGE Group 1 in a quality packed group under *Judge David Alexander!*

On Sunday under *Judge Debra Gschwender:*

**Moxie's Urban Jungle "Memphis"**- WD

**Moxie Keep Me Where The Light Is "Azami"**- RWB (handled by her co-owner, *Ali Seeber*)

**CH Moxie's Royal Nonesuch IT "Huck"**- Select (handled by co-owner *Ali Seeber*)

**BIS MBISS GChB Moxie's RockNRolla IT "Caper"**- BOV

I'm a dogaholic on the road  
to recovery.

.....just kidding. I'm on my  
way to the next dog show.

THINGS DOG HANDLERS SAY

# Bragg

Thank you, *Annie Oster* for always making my dogs shine. Thank you to my dog show family for another fantastic weekend.

Congratulations also to *Teri Marrazzo Liechty* for picking up her first Rally Leg and a first place with Luke. So happy for you.



1year old Moxie Take Back Th' Night, IT "Colter" picked up his 2<sup>nd</sup> Specialty 5pt Major



# Brag

**BIS MBISS GChB Moxie's RockNRolla IT "Caper"** had a great first weekend back after taking the summer off! He was awarded BISS at the Overlake Collie Club's 80th Anniversary Specialty under Judge Susan Bertrand!

Caper was also BOV at all 3 of the concurrent All Breed shows and won a very competitive Herding Group under *Judge David Alexzander!*

Caper is still the #2 Collie All Breed, #4 Collie in Breed (CC stats).

Thanks to his friends for always cheering him on and to his handler, *Annie Oster* for always presenting him so beautifully.



# Brag

*Last minute press release*



**"Caper"** finished 2022 as:

**BIS MBISS GChS Moxie's RockNRolla IT**

**#2 All Breed ♦ #5 Breed ♦ #43 Herding Dog**

*What an incredible year for our young dog.*

*Thank you to the Judges and Breed Specialists who recognized Caper's virtues. Thank you to those who shared kind words, candid photos, and memories of dogs past that our boy reminds you of. Truly an honor!*

*This dog has always had my whole heart and I know how lucky I am to share this journey with him.*

*None of this would be possible without Annie Oster and her expert presentation of Caper*

*We will continue to represent the breed in 2023, and beyond.*





Multi-group-winning BIS MBISS  
 GChB Moxie's RockNRolla  
 CCA WD '21, CCA AOM '22

*Caper*



A warm Thank You  
 to Annie Oster for  
 always presenting  
 him so beautifully.



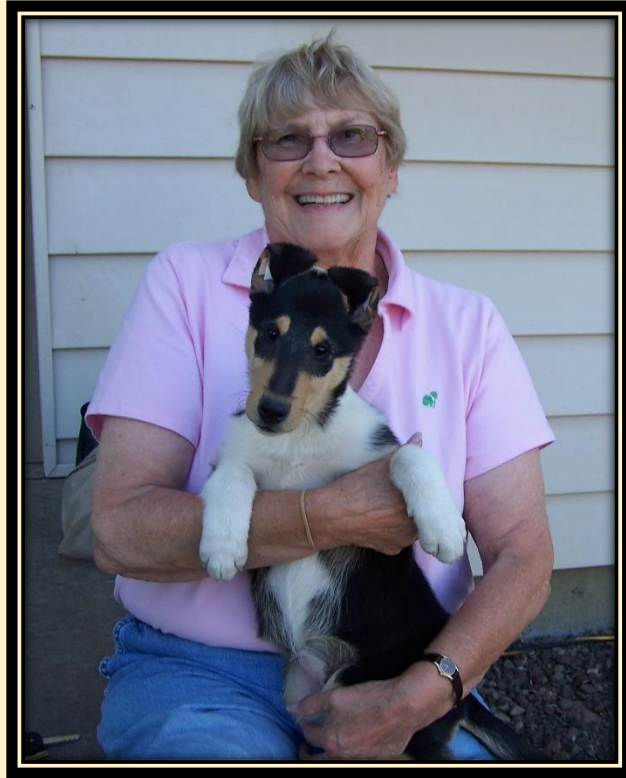
Caper is celebrating  
 his 3rd Birthday by  
 taking a much deserved  
 summer vacation.  
 We look forward  
 to seeing everyone  
 in the fall.

> *Pedigree*



# Margaret Joan Meagher

*SumerHill Collies*



*October 30, 1935 - November 17, 2022*



**Joan** was the first of four children to Malcolm and Betty Sharp, and the only daughter. She married Michael S. Meagher in 1963 and were together just short of 60 years. She graduated high school from Holy Names Academy, and graduated with a BA and most of a Masters from Gonzaga University.

She was a woman with an unquenchable desire to learn about... everything. She read voraciously from tomes of art history, birds and flowers to fantasy and science fiction. She had both hidden and obvious talents. She was a professional ballerina who learned the shimmy from Blaze Starr for a Denver dance production. That early

ballet training lent itself to her always graceful movements. She had an exquisite eye for art and jewelry but could frame a postcard as readily as buy an original painting. She worked at Shell Oil in the 60's but signed up for an archeology expedition in South America, intent on learning Spanish.

She loved folk music, and her house was filled with the sounds of Glen Yarbrough, the Kingston Trio, and the Chad Mitchell Trio, later morphing into Meatloaf, Tina Turner, Broadway albums and other artists. Quiet and unassuming Joan was, nonetheless, an adventuresome soul; she loved skiing enough that she and Michael went skiing for their honeymoon. She was a veterinarian office billing clerk and their secret puppy mid-wife. A great wife and mom, Joan supported her children, believing in them, and ensuring they were exposed to both extra-curricular sports and art classes. Smart and insightful, she had a wonderful sense of humor that showed up unexpectedly and the warmest greeting for special people (“Hello, Princess”) and eyes that sparkled with intelligence and genuine amusement. Joan also raised the sweetest, championship collies.

Joan joined the Inland Empire Collie Club in the early 70's and that is where I met her, as we became members around the same time. She was a member of the Collie Club of America for 49 years. During her years of SumerHill Collies (yes, just one “m” she would always say), she shared many memories with me, and I wish I had paid closer attention. She lived in town on a small, oversized lot by Cliff Park. She would always tell me about that one litter of 12 pups – ALL SMOOTHS! Joan's love was smooths but, in those days, there were not many people who knew about smooths. She bred to Black Hawk of Kasan, among those puppies was CH SumerHill The Winds of

Chance – (Whisper). In the Hawkins Ratings, she was #7 Smooth Bitch for 1979. There were 2 more of her collies that made the top 10: 1983 - #3 CH SumerHill Inherit The Wind (Runner) and 1985 - #7 CH Sumerhill Special Delivery (Pilot). She had many other champions also. Her dogs were very special to her, and she was very careful about them finding the right homes. She was humble about her achievements but also very proud since she did not do a lot of breeding.

Joan was very willing to come out and sit with a new litter of pups as I went to work. On the very first one, I thought that the dam was done, and Joan delivered a much later puppy she had to work to get him to breathe and survive. That puppy was Banjo, and he was my son's lifelong companion. From then on, Joan and I formed a very close friendship. We traveled together to many dog events. She told me so many stories of her trips, several to the National. We had discussions about many dogs and breeding as she had seen, in person, many of the dogs I hadn't. She would gladly talk about those dogs (well any collie), their attributes and faults. Breedings were discussed and possibilities mulled over. As health testing became available, we discussed all the possibilities. In 2014, I had a litter born from GCH King's Valley Smooth Blue Jazz HT CGC (Fergus) x Sinkona's Shadow Dancer (Tango). Joan came out every week and sat with puppies, easily for an hour or more, just snuggling and watching them. At one point she told me that she would like to have one of the pups. I fretted and fretted about that pup as she went through some horrible growing stages, and I told Joan "I don't know if we will be able to show her". Well, Joan was patient, and we took that puppy out to shows. That puppy became GCHB Sinkona's SumerHill Dancer PT (Sedona)! She would bring her out for herding practice, and we



traveled to the CCA Western Herding Regional together, Joan loving every minute of watching Sedona “shine” in the ring! I am so glad that she had that final girl that accomplished those special things for her. During the years I knew Joan, she was one of the most kind, respectful, and helpful person to anyone that she met. There is so much that can be said about her and many wonderful memories.

Joan will be missed sitting by the ring watching the collies, marking those catalogs, and talking with whomever wanted to talk about collies. She is with her SumerHill (with one “m”) collies enjoying watching us.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her three children Shannon Meagher, Sean Meagher, and Colin Meagher; daughters-in-law Lorie Arnold, Pamela Shaw, and Nikki Rohan; two grandchildren, Sadie Roraback-Meagher and Madoc Meagher; step-grandchildren Hazel and Hudson Hollatz, and brother Donald Sharp SJ, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Humbly,  
Linda Marie Ward  
Sinkona Collies

Some of the above was written and shared with me by Joan’s family.