

# METRO EXPRESS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

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Website: [www.metrossc.com](http://www.metrossc.com)  
Editor : Karen Newquist

## UPCOMING METRO MEETINGS

### Proposed Dates for 2008 -

April	General Meeting
June	General Meeting
July 27 @ Duke Island Park	Club Picnic
September 28 @ Deer Path Park	Sheltie Rescue Picnic
November	General Meeting
December 13	Holiday Party
February 2009	Cheryl Anderson Seminar
February 2009	Annual Meeting



## Elected Board Members 2008

The slate submitted to the membership was voted on and accepted at the Annual Meeting on February 9, 2008. The Board Members for 2008 are as follows:

Position	Nominee
President	John Caruso
Vice President	Bonnie Ovnicek
Corresponding Secretary	Karen Newquist
Recording Secretary	Cathy Caruso
Treasurer	Helen Ackley
Board Member	Abbey Culp
Board Member	Laurence Gesquiere
Board Member	Marie Colasanti
Board Member	Linda Savino



## Annual Meeting & Awards Nite

On Saturday evening, February 9<sup>th</sup>, we gathered to celebrate, play, eat and vote! We celebrated the many accomplishments of our members and their team mates in varied venues. Members and their dogs had a chance to try an indoor agility course as well as a rally course. Of course a

party wouldn't be a party without food, so everyone got to feast on Pizza, drinks and a wonderful carrot cake. Many thanks to all who worked to make the night so successful: Laurence Gesquiere, Linda Savino and Karen Newquist. BTW Cathy/John, the cake was delicious and Pat, the scarves and collar scrunchies were quite festive!

### Congrats to our award winners:

Member	Team Mate	Titles Earned
<b>Cathy/John Caruso</b>	Mary	AKC Champion
	Cartman	OA, NJP, CGC
	Chuckie	CGC, PT, HRD1s, HTD1s
	Heather	PT, NA, OAJ, JHDs
<b>Helen Ackley</b>	Flirt	OA, AXJ, NF
	Duffy	MXJ, MX, NF
<b>Linda Savino</b>	Kobi	RA, OA RL3
<b>Laurence Gesquiere</b>	Angel	MACH, NF
	Bandit	NA
<b>Karen Newquist</b>	Halo	ARCHX, TN-O, TN-G, RA, RE
	Bailey	RN, RL1
	Mysty	NJC
<b>Eleanor Campbell</b>	Presto	MACH2, NF, PD1, PS1
	Ozma	RN, ASCA CD
<b>Jamie/Stephen McKay</b>	Derby	CGC, TDI
	Piper	RN, AX, MXJ, NF, WV-N, EJC, NCC, TN-E, NAC
<b>Pat Salvatoriello</b>	Lucy	RI1, RN, CGC
<b>Barbara Bonalski</b>	Trista	TDI
<b>Marie Potts</b>	Star	ASCA CDX
	Twister	NAJ, OAJ
<b>Bonnie Ovnicek</b>	Brady	RN



## BRAGS & WAGS

### From Eleanor Campbell:

Ozma (Heart Lake Dnstrbr Ruler of Oz RN) earned her AKC CD at the York County DTC Trials on January 26.



### From Karen Newquist:

Halo is happy to the news of her successful QQ in her first rally trial (K9 Obedience Training Club) since completing her radiation treatments. Not a pretty performance, but a QQ. One RAE QQ down... only 9 more to go!

### From Laura Galbo:



Laura is happy to share a pic of Diamond on the MSG site for the Westminster Show. MSG asked for pictures of dogs, so she sent one in. Diamond is featured.



If that wasn't enough she learned that Mojo



and Buddy were featured as well.

### From Marie Colasanti:

Kim Carnevale asked me and to be a board member for Canine and Abled.

Also, besides being a Therapy dog evaluator and captain for Bright and Beautiful therapy dogs, June Golden the founder of Bright and Beautiful offered me the position of NCRC Coordinator for Bright and Beautiful Disaster dog teams. NCRC is the Northeast Crisis Response Coalition which Jake my goldie and Angie, my sheltie, were one of the first teams to qualify for membership.

## Group Herding Lessons

Metro Group Herding Lessons w/Gene Sheninger  
February 23, 2008 & March 15, 2008 - 12:00-4:00 each day

Limit 10 Dogs Per Day - SPECTATORS WELCOME  
Wayside Farm Training Field  
Boonton, NJ

\*Flash\* - February 23rd is Full! Time slots are still available for March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Open to beginners and advanced herding students. If you are new to herding and would like to try your sheltie on ducks or sheep in a casual, supportive atmosphere this is the event

for you! Or, if you are more advanced and would like to work in a trial-like setting this is a great opportunity.

We'll have a campfire and roast marshmallows to keep the cold away! FMI or to get a flyer please write Cathy Caruso at [peachmor@earthlink.net](mailto:peachmor@earthlink.net)



## Ellen Reichart @ Westminster

Ellen recently had an experience with her Flat Coated Retriever at the Westminster Dog Show which she thought we might enjoy reading.....

Because my liver flat coat Flick finished his championship last year, I decided to enter him at the Westminster Kennel Club show. I had a field spaniel that was shown there years ago, but I had a handler. Because so many members of the Mid Atlantic flat coated retriever club live close to New York, many of the members go in year after year to support the entry and show their dogs, even though they know that they are not competitive with the top dogs in the breed. To insure that you get parking at a convenient garage, you have to be there early even if you are showing later. Dogs must be on the bench at 11:30 and are not released until 8:00 pm. In the benching area, there is no place for the owners to sit, no chairs are allowed in the benching aisles. People sit on the floor, which I think would be even more of a hazard in a fire. The bench space is smaller than a standard crate-23" wide for a medium size dog, most modern crates are 24" wide. This is also true for other breeds, for instance, Shelties get the same 18" space that the toy breeds get. My friend Noreen, who I traveled with to the show was benched next to me. We found this out when we got our entries. We never thought to ask to be benched together, so it was just luck that it happened. To accommodate my larger crate, we took the divider down between our bench spaces and she used a 21 inch wide crate for her much smaller female and I used a 23.25 inch crate. Anything smaller that would fit would be a 21 inch wide crate and would have been hard on my 25" 81 pound dog. Two flat coat owners/breeders/judges from England were staying with a breeder who lives near me in Hunterdon County. This breeder has bred flat coats for a long time and has imported dogs from England. These women

could not believe the conditions for the exhibitors-they said that exhibitors in England would never put up with the lack of seating, and that Cruft's is far more exhibitor friendly.

In addition to the Best of Breed and Best of Opposite sex awards there were three awards of merit to be given out. Awards of merit are often given out at specialty shows and are based upon the size of the entry. 28 flat coats were entered this year. The steward apparently misinformed the judge and told him that there were only two awards, so the third one wasn't given out. We thought it was on purpose, because judges can withhold an award of merit, but the owner of one of the more competitive dogs benched close to us said that he was up by the table and overheard the judge tell the steward to go get a dog, which he identified by number, back in the ring so he could give the award. The steward told the judge to forget about it. The majority of the ring stewards at Westminster are AKC licensed conformation judges.

Flick was the undisputed hit of the benching area. First, because he is a liver dog the vast majority are black. Liver champions are rare. Second, because he is over the top as an outgoing dog. He probably had his picture taken 50 times by all kinds of people. He wanted to be out of his crate greeting people all day. He was hugged, kissed and petted by so many people. He loved every minute of it. I kept putting him back in the crate to rest. He didn't really lie down until almost 2 pm and we got there just after 7 am. At around 6 pm, he finally put his head down and napped for a while. He was very good-he has never been anywhere like the streets of NY and we had to walk 2 blocks from the parking garage. He was completely unfazed by the freight elevator, crowds, lighting, and clapping and screaming by the people in the stands. Some dogs are unable to withstand the commotion and freeze or show poorly even though they have been shown as a Best of Breed special at other shows many times before. The dogs also have to be exercised indoors in cedar shavings. Flick did not think very highly of this. The look he gave me was "I'm supposed to go where?!" But he accepted that as well.

As I said to people who asked, we just went because we could-living in NJ doesn't really involve that much expense, just time. The entry is \$75-and you get tickets for admission to both days. General admission for spectators is \$50, so the entry fee is a bargain. Parking is expensive.

Our judge may have been from Australia and last judged flat coats in the US in 1999, but he knew the top dogs. There is virtually no chance of an unknown, unadvertised, non-professionally handled dog winning the Breed. The top dogs all have expensive ads in publications such as Canine Chronicles and are pictured with their handlers. When we were released we had to push the crate dolly two blocks back to the garage in the snow/slush. That was an adventure in itself. I left my house at 5 am and didn't get home until almost 12 am. It is truly an amazing feeling just to stand out on the floor of Madison Square Garden and show your dog. For me, (and Flick) though, I think showing there once will be enough. Despite the fact that the day requires endurance on the part of both dog and owner, we had a great experience and a very nice time.



### **Time for Annual Dues**

If you haven't sent in your dues for 2008, it's not too late. Send your membership renewals to Helen Ackley.

### **Welcome New Members**

At the February meeting of MetroSSC, the following folks were welcomed into our club:

**Kristan Scapicchio-Bippus**  
and  
**Fran Skwarka**



### **The Rainbow Bridge**

We would like to recognize our good friends and companions who have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. Please send your contributions to Karen Newquist ([newquick@verizon.net](mailto:newquick@verizon.net)). Include your dog's registered name, all titles, a bio and a picture if available. All contributions will be placed on our website and will be accessible from the main menu.

### **Eye / Microchip Clinic**

It's time again for the CSCNJ Annual Eye/Microchip Clinic!

Please mark your calendar for the all-breed Eye / Microchip Clinic sponsored by the Cocker Spaniel club of NJ on Sat April 5 from 10:00 am - 3:30

pm at the Midland Park Firehouse, Witte Drive, Midland Park, NJ.

Prices remain the same as last year - \$25 for eye exam without CERF paperwork and \$28 with CERF paperwork (this does not include the fee for filing with CERF, if you so choose) by Dr. Gus Aguirre of University of Pennsylvania. Microchipping with Dr. Susan Cropper, DVM of Wyckoff, NJ will be \$35 and DOES include filing fee with the AKC.

For more information email [Bonbritany@aol.com](mailto:Bonbritany@aol.com) or call 609-303-0282



## New Jersey Federation of Dog Clubs

### **ACTION ALERT on Bill 1591:**

### **Let's work to stop this legislation BEFORE it moves forward.**

Last year's Assembly Bill 3401 has been introduced this year as Assembly Bill 1591.

This bill impacts many areas. You are deemed a breeder if you produce more than 5 dogs or cats per year.

As a breeder you must pay to register yourself, you are faced with restrictions that seem commercial in nature and stiff fines for any violations.

Aside from fines, the breeder who violates these regulations may lose their right to breed for five years or a combination of both of these. Bill 1591 provides for a maximum of 25 dogs or cats being bred by a breeder in any year and provides financial rewards for those who turn in any breeders violating these laws. There is more so you need to read the bill.

The bill (two computer formats of the bill listed here):

[http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A2000/1591\\_I1.HTM](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A2000/1591_I1.HTM)

or

[http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A2000/1591\\_I1.PDF](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A2000/1591_I1.PDF)

The NJFDC is issuing a letter to the legislators on this.

Read AKC's information on this bill: [http://www.akc.org:80/news/index.cfm?article\\_id=3411](http://www.akc.org:80/news/index.cfm?article_id=3411)

For more information, the NAIA Trust has also set up talking points at [http://capwiz.com/naia/trust/issues/alert/?alert\\_id=10819191&type=ST](http://capwiz.com/naia/trust/issues/alert/?alert_id=10819191&type=ST)

We urge all responsible dog owners to contact the two assemblymen who have sponsored this bill and ask them to withdraw the bill.

They are:

**Assm. Neil Cohen** [asmcohen@njleg.org](mailto:asmcohen@njleg.org)  
985 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, NJ 07083 (908)-624-0880

**Assw. Joan Voss** [aswvoss@njleg.org](mailto:aswvoss@njleg.org)  
520 Main Street, Fort Lee, NJ 07024 (201)-346-6400

Read this bill so you are able to discuss it.

We encourage everyone to e-mail the legislators involved and say the bill should be withdrawn.

If they represent your district, you represent the power of a vote for them so it is very important for you to:

- Be polite in any contact with your legislator
- Call them tell them they represent you.
- Write them (use letterhead paper if you have it)
- Ask to meet with them!
- Tell them to withdraw the bill.

Right now, the bill is in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee who will be the first to hear it and express an opinion. Although the bill is dormant for the moment, **we must make an impact on the committee and better yet get this bill withdrawn.**

Everyone should contact the following Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Members and urge them to oppose Bill 1591.

Their e-mail addies are embedded in the web pages that follows each of their names below.

Fisher, Douglas H. - Chair

<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=199>

14 East Commerce St.  
3rd Floor

Bridgeton, NJ 08302  
(856) 455-1011

Albano, Nelson T. - Vice-Chair  
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=199>  
 21 North Main St.  
 Cape May Court House, NH 08210  
 (609) 465-0700

Amodeo, John F. (represents District 2 which is Northfield area)  
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=267>  
 No office location listed use e-mail embedded in the web site listed above

Conaway, Herb  
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=186>  
 Delran Professional Center  
 Suite 125  
 8008 Route 130 North  
 Delran, NJ 08075  
 (856) 461-3997

Karrow, Marcia A.  
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=255>  
 1 Maple Avenue  
 Flemington, NJ 08822  
 (908) 782-5127

Next step is to contact your own assemblyperson and your senator and ask them to voice their opposition to this. You can find the names of your legislators by going to  
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/districts/municipalities.asp>

YOUR ACTIONS COUNT!

**NEXT MEETING (NJFDC):**

The next delegates meeting of the NJ Federation of Dog Clubs will be held April 7, 2008 at 8 PM. The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 195 Davidson Ave, Somerset, NJ (732-356-1700). All Metro members are encouraged to attend. Discussions will be centered around pending dog legislation in the state and education programs.

FMI contact  
<http://www.njfederationofdogclubs.org/meetingnotice.htm> or Cathy Caruso  
[peachmor@earthlink.net](mailto:peachmor@earthlink.net)

**All Star Performance Dog Association**

The premium list for the 2008 All Star tournament is now available! It can be found on the All Star web site. <http://www.allstardogs.org/> All Star is becoming a bi-annual event and the next tournament won't be until 2010, so I hope to see some of you this year. Qualifying requirements are noted in the premium list. Eleanor Campbell has volunteered to answer any questions.

**YAHOO List Updates**

Our Yahoo membership list is not complete. Not all of our current Metro members participate in our Yahoo List. If you are not a member of this list and a member of Metro SSC, please join the list when you receive your invitation.

Please note that in the future our Board and Committee members will rely on the list to manage club matters such as keep members informed, conduct polls, send out meeting notices, etc.

**Metro Officers & Board Members.....  
 We want to hear from you!**

<b>Board Members</b>		
<b>President</b>	John Caruso	<a href="mailto:icaruso@psqus.ini.com">icaruso@psqus.ini.com</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Bonnie Ovnicek	<a href="mailto:bonnie_ovnicek@ml.com">bonnie_ovnicek@ml.com</a>
<b>Rec Scrtry</b>	Cathy Caruso	<a href="mailto:peachmor@earthlink.net">peachmor@earthlink.net</a>
<b>Corr Scrtry</b>	Karen Newquist	<a href="mailto:newquick@verizon.net">newquick@verizon.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Helen Ackley	<a href="mailto:hackley@Princeton.EDU">hackley@Princeton.EDU</a>
<b>Member</b>	Abbey Culp	<a href="mailto:engrider18@aol.com">engrider18@aol.com</a>
<b>Member</b>	Linda Savino	<a href="mailto:savino@verizon.net">savino@verizon.net</a>
<b>Member</b>	Laurence Gesquire	<a href="mailto:lgesquie@Princeton.EDU">lgesquie@Princeton.EDU</a>
<b>Member</b>	Marie Colasanti	<a href="mailto:mcolasanti@comcast.net">mcolasanti@comcast.net</a>
<b>Committee Chairs</b>		
<b>Membership</b>	Linda Savino	
<b>Sunshine</b>	Eleanor Campbell	
<b>Yahoo List</b>	Abbey Culp Laura Galbo Eleanor Campbell	
<b>Newsletter, Web Site, Historian</b>	Karen Newquist	



