

HERDING GROUP

a smaller dog. Confidence—that “big dog” attitude—is a corgi’s most important tool, because his bossiness helps keep him safe. The moment a corgi loses his confidence, sheep can follow a mild threat (staring or dipping his head) with stronger moves (stomping or trying to butt). An intimidated dog appears “weaker.” In an instant, that corgi’s interest can be extinguished. A good instructor will keep the dog from being intimidated. While I prefer sheep for instinct testing because of their sturdiness, others use ducks with great success.

While many dogs show instinct when tested, even those who “fail” their instinct test, may go on to herd if given more opportunities. I know of very talented dogs who did not turn on immediately. One dog—who now has High in Trial awards—needed multiple exposures to stock and no small amount of cheerleading before his considerable talent surfaced. Whether it is due to having learned nice house manners (no chasing of cats or vacuums) or simply being overwhelmed by unfamiliar sights and sounds, some dogs ignore the sheep during an instinct test. Dogs with instinct and drive may turn on if given further opportunities. Encouragement might reassure that corgi that you really do want him to herd, and that, yes, you too think it is fun.

While never easy, if you really want to herd with your corgi, you’ll find a way to make it

happen. Just remember to preserve your dog’s confidence and that patience always pays off. We too wondered if our dogs would herd, and we took them to sheep.

Herding is a great sport, and I invite you attend the Pembroke-only herding trials at our national specialty, where each of us started the same way as you! —V.N.

Thank you, Vicki!

—Lynda McKee,

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[Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)

Pulik

DISASTER PREP AND HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF FOR PETS

As I write this, Hurricane Harvey has just left in its wake a path of destruction throughout south Texas and Louisiana, and in particular, extensive flooding of my hometown, Houston. It is staggering how many people have lost their homes and their pets. Many pets were displaced and lost as a result of the storm and its aftermath, and the total number of affected pets likely will never be known.

Two AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailers were deployed, in Dallas and Fort Worth, to help evacuees from the storm, and AKC Reunite is helping shelters caring for pets displaced by

the storm. The deployment of these trailers allows people to safely evacuate with their pets instead of risking their lives because they do not have a safe, pet-friendly place to go. Quite recently, in addition to a monetary donation to the city of Houston, the AKC Humane Fund donated an AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer to the city of Houston. (Can you believe that the fourth-largest city in the nation didn’t have its own trailer prior to this event?) Efforts currently are underway by Texas dog clubs to pay for an additional trailer to service the Houston/Galveston area, as well as have other pet disaster-relief trailers in Texas.

Many lessons were learned post-Hurricane Katrina (2005). The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS) was a bipartisan initiative in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2006 to require states seeking Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance to accommodate pets and service animals in their plans for evacuating residents facing disasters. Many shelters in the Houston area accepted pets when their evacuated owners had them in crates close by. Most hotels, I believe, also loosened or waived pet policies to accommodate evacuees.

Sadly, there is still at least one significant flaw relating to the lack of strategies and precise plans to find animals separated from their owners. Specifically, there is no unified track-

ing system. The lack of a centralized database for pets who are lost and found during Harvey and its aftermath makes it extremely challenging to reconnect animals to their rightful owners, most notably when they are not microchipped. At this writing, there are dozens of Facebook pages and websites attempting to do just this, but with no centralization. It cannot be emphasized enough to keep ID on your pets. Have your dog microchipped for more reliable identification should you become separated from each other (AKC Reunite is a great program).

Disaster preparedness

This is a good time to consider the preparation of a disaster survival kit for all of your pets, especially if you live in an area affected by tropical storm activity. The kit for dogs should include:

- a crate for each dog;
- collars (with ID and rabies tags) and leashes;
- medical records (including vaccination history and microchip information);
- a two-week supply of food, water, treats, and medication;
- food/water dishes;
- poop bags;
- grooming supplies;
- toys;

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• and a first aid kit geared toward dogs. Also, set aside some good photos of your dog, showing your pet with simple, uncluttered backgrounds, that you can use if you need to make “lost pet” posters. Put this material with the rest of your important papers in a place safe from fire or flood.

How to Help

To learn more about how to get involved in AKC Pet Disaster Relief, visit [AKC Reunite](#), and to donate securely online, go to [AKC Reunite: Donate](#). To donate to the AKC Humane Fund’s Sandy Fund or any other programs, visit the [AKC Humane Fund](#).

The Houston Kennel Club and other local area kennel clubs are advocating for monetary donations to be made to AKC Reunite when asked for where to send money to help our canine friends. The Puli Club of America Board voted to donate \$1,000 to the AKC Reunite Program after Hurricane Harvey, and this donation was matched by Barbara and Bob Amen from the Greater St. Louis Training Club, and also WalMart, to become a \$3,000 donation.

I’m happy to report that, as far as I’m aware, all Pulik and their people in this region are safe after the storm, though some are still having difficulty in making their way back home. We now wait to hear about our Puli and

human friends in Florida and other areas in the path of Hurricane Irma.

—Dagmar Fertl,
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Pyrenean Shepherds

This month’s column was written by Karen Majka (AgilityCairn@aol.com).

2017 KENTUCKIANA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

The Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America (PSCA) held their national specialty in Louisville, Kentucky, on March 18. This was the club’s first time to be part of the huge four-day Kentuckiana cluster, which had a variety of events for both dogs and handlers to participate in.

The club events began Thursday night with a welcome party. The Test de Comportment (TCQ), which is a breed-specific temperament test, was also conducted. This test is only available at the national specialty. When done, six Pyrenean Shepherds had passed.

The PSCA invited Mr. Salvatore Giannone, a well-known and respected herding judge from France, to judge this year’s national specialty. There were 41 Pyrenean Shepherds entered. When the judging was done, Best of

Breed was awarded to the beautiful bitch GCh. Isaby de Terra-Blue, ME-E. Best of Opposite Sex was Ch. Madcap Starstruck Adventure, RA, CGC.

Mr. Giannone commented on the Pyrenean Shepherds that he had judged:

“Dogs that were presented to me were of good quality, and some of them could claim a place on the podium at the French Nationale d’Elevage. Thank you for having welcomed me. Well done to all of you for your fair play. Your professionalism has amazed me.”

Ms. Joni Monney-McKeown judged the Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes in the morning. Best Puppy in Sweeps was awarded to Mystic du Pic d’Espade (bitch), with Best Opposite Sex in Puppy Sweeps going to Nivose Marcel Louis de La Brise.

Saturday night was the club’s award dinner at the show site. There was a silent auction, with at least two-dozen fabulous items to bid on before and during dinner.

After dinner, awards were presented to the top performance Pyrenean Shepherds of the weekend. High in Trial Performance Pyrenean Shepherd was GCh./MACH Burgerhaus Grand Prix, VCD2, RE, MJB, OF, T2B, CA, RATN, HIC, CGC, TCQ, PSCA, VP4, owned by Sue Snyder. The Chica Memorial Obedience Trophy and HIT Obedience were earned by La Brise Northern

Spy, owned by Denise Bond. HIT Rally was earned with a perfect score of 100 by Next Chapter de La Brise, RN, MX, MXB, MXJ, MJS, OF, T2B, owned by Kathy Tomlinson. HIT Agility was awarded to Cyclonne de La Brise, MX, MXB, MXJ, MJB, owned by Marilyn Wilson.

On Sunday, Mr. Giannone conducted Merit Evaluations for PSCA members’ dogs. This is another test that is only available at the national specialty each year. A big thank-you to Anik McGrory, who translated for Mr. Giannone. Eleven dogs were marked as “Excellent” and can add “ME-E” to their suffix titles.

On Monday several PSCA members attended a herding event in southern Kentucky. Two Herding Instinct tests were offered, and 14 Pyrenean Shepherds earned their HIC titles that day. Several dogs were clearly naturals at herding, while others caught on quickly with some guidance from the two herding judges.

Thanks to the show committee—Karen Majka (chair), Melanie Hatton, Diane Overstreet, Stephanie and Donald Schneider, and Jason and Kathy Tomlinson—for all of their hard work to make this a successful weekend! —K.M.

Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America
<http://www.pyrshepclub.org>