

FALL AND WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER

CAIRN TERRIER CLUB OF DENVER

CTCD



**What's inside
this issue:**

**NEW MEMBERS
PLAQUES, BARS &
CERTIFICATES
BRAGS
ARTICLE: ROAD TO
BECOMING A
THERAPY DOG
FAST CAT RECAP
AKC FIT DOG TITLE**

Fall and Winter were an especially busy time for the members of the Cairn Terrier club. We had members entered in shows from Texas to South Dakota along with running a Fast CAT event up in Wyoming. It was great seeing so many club members volunteering to help at the Fast CAT event and many thanks to Jack and Kari Loken who ran the event.

There definitely was some holiday magic in the air as we were able to have an in-person holiday lunch at Pino's Italian Kitchen and Bar. Please enjoy this edition of the newsletter and please continue to send your pictures and submissions via the JotForm on the CTCD webpage for the next issue.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ivy Cohen resides on Long Island. She has owned cairns since 1995 and currently participates in many performance sports with her boy, Goalie (Agility, Obedience, Fast CAT, Rally, and more!). Last summer, she added a new little one to her family. Deke will follow in his older "brother's" footsteps and do performance sports, as well as conformation.

Kathi Dunbar lives in the great state of Texas. After playing in the sporting breed world (English Setters) for many years, she downsized and now shows and breeds cairns. She loves the size and temperament of our little buddies. In addition to conformation, Kathi enjoys conformation as well as Earth Dog, Agility, and FastCAT. The Cairn Club of Denver has enjoyed seeing Kathi at the last two specialties in Greeley!

Jessica Glenn lives in Utah. She's a professional pet groomer. She has a cairn she's learning to show in conformation while learning show grooming. Members of the Cairn Club of Denver enjoyed meeting Jessica at this year's specialty in Greeley and we look forward to learning from her as well!

John and Karen Kormos of Lafayette, Colorado, have had rescue cairns and recently got a new puppy. They enjoy Barn Hunt and Earth Dog and are interested in learning how to hand strip their new little guy.

Suzi and Brian Scherzer from Aurora, Colorado, are returning members. They owned cairns on and off for many years and have participated in conformation and agility. They're also interested in nose work and earth dog. While they are currently cairnless, they would love to find a local male puppy. We hope that will happen soon for them!

Julia Thomas lives in Utah. She's a long-time cairn breeder and shows in conformation, having shown 8 cairns to their Championship. She loves helping people learn how to handle and groom.

Gail Tranoy from Long Island has owned three cairns. She participates in many sports, including Agility, Obedience, Fast CAT, Rally, Earth Dog, Barn Hunt, and Dock Diving. She is venturing into the world of conformation with her girl, Tink.



CTCD Plaques, Bars and Certificates

Tracy Roach
CH Connemara's Bonny Lass
2022

Angie Chiquette
CH Cairnloch's Warrior of Skye
8/22/21

Jan & Fred Owen
CH McConville's Eight Days A Week

Lynda Gilley
CH Cairncroft Chasing Dreams and Rambling Ripples
Sept. 17, 2021

Lainee & David Munhollon
CH FOM'S Small Caliber Pistol
May 14, 2022

Chris Gray
CH Marquee Miles and Miles to Cairncroft
10/16/21

Chris Gray
CH Cairncroft My Oh Maya BCAT
8/19/22



CTCD Plaques, Bars and Certificates

**Tracy Roach
BCAT
9/6/21**

**Sandra Trzos
Rally Intermediate (RI)
Oct. 15, 2021**

**Suzanne Trzos
Coursing FASTCAT "F" (FCAT)
May 7, 2022**

**Suzanne Trzos
Junior Earthdog (JE)
November 6, 2021**

**Robin Bovard
BCAT**

**Jan & Fred Owen (3 bars)
AX
FCAT
NF**

**Jan & Fred Owen (2 bars)
CGCA
TKI**

**Lynda Gilley (2 bars)
BCAT Sept. 19, 2021
GCH April 24, 2022**



CTCD Plaques, Bars and Certificates

Kari & Jack Loken

GCH Crofters Dream We Shall Be Free @Harmony TKN DN DJ

CA DCAT RATO

August 2021-May 2022

Jack & Kari Loken

CH Harmony's Cherbo Humble & Kind

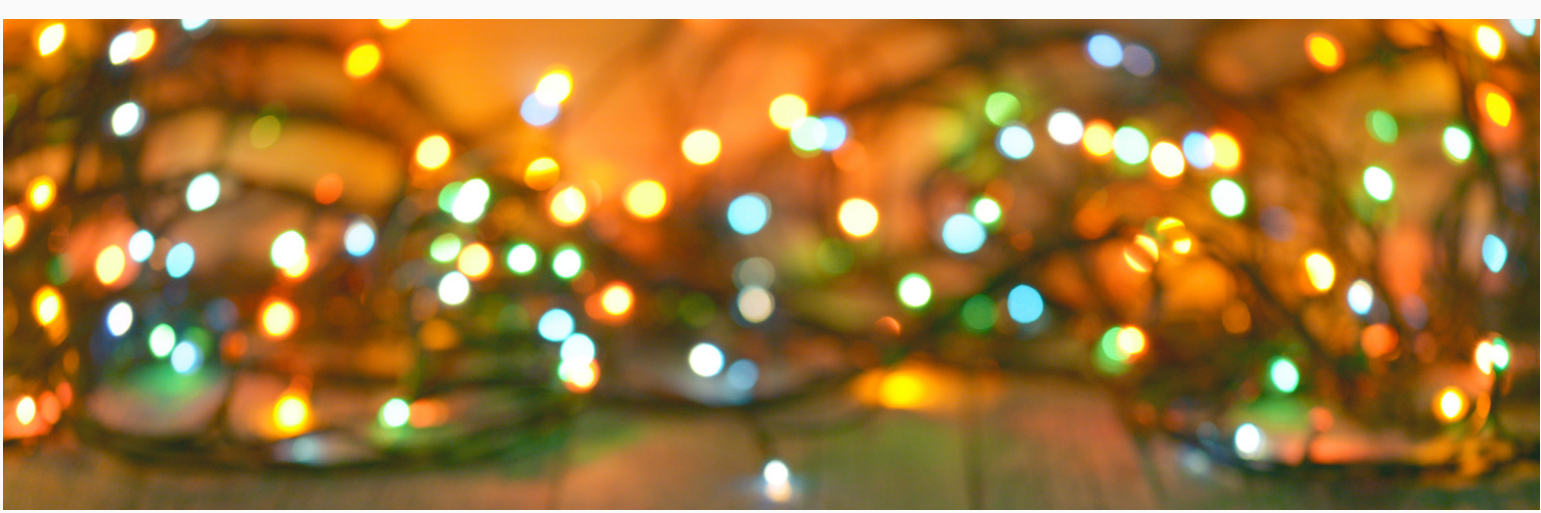
15-May-22

Joyce Orr

Rheny's Colonel Sanders RATN Barn Hunt Novice

1/6/22



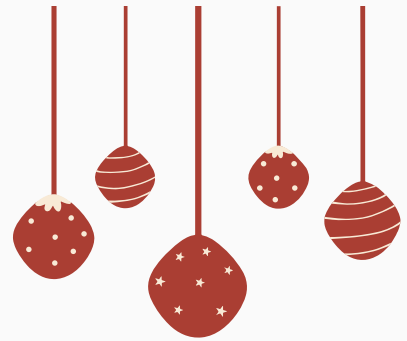


Braggs

Owners Name: Kathi Dunbar

Dogs Name: Lilly (Sunsett's Lilly of t he Valley

Brag: Specialty #2 Lilly won Best Bred By and Reserve Winners Bitch
Greeley Kennel Club on Saturday Lilly won Winners Bitch for her second major





Braggs

We would like to introduce our newest family member, Murray. Murray is 16 weeks old and is quickly becoming a beloved part of our family who has greatly missed our two previous Cairn Terriers, Angus and Yoda. Murray is a very quick learner. So far, at 16 weeks, he can "sit" on command, lay "down" and does pretty well leash walking even with his short attention span (with the help of a clicker and a bag of chicken breast.). Murray is catching on with the potty training, and came to us "litter box trained." While convenient in those earlier weeks, we are striving for outdoor potty and have introduced a service bell. That seems to me a sketchy proposition to allow a Cairn to have a service bell!!! I am reading "When Pigs Fly" and hoping some of that information will give us a head start as we begin classes at Boulder Humane Society on Life Skills. Wish us luck!

Karen and John Kormos
Dasher (Yorkie) and Murray of Atholl, AKA Murray!





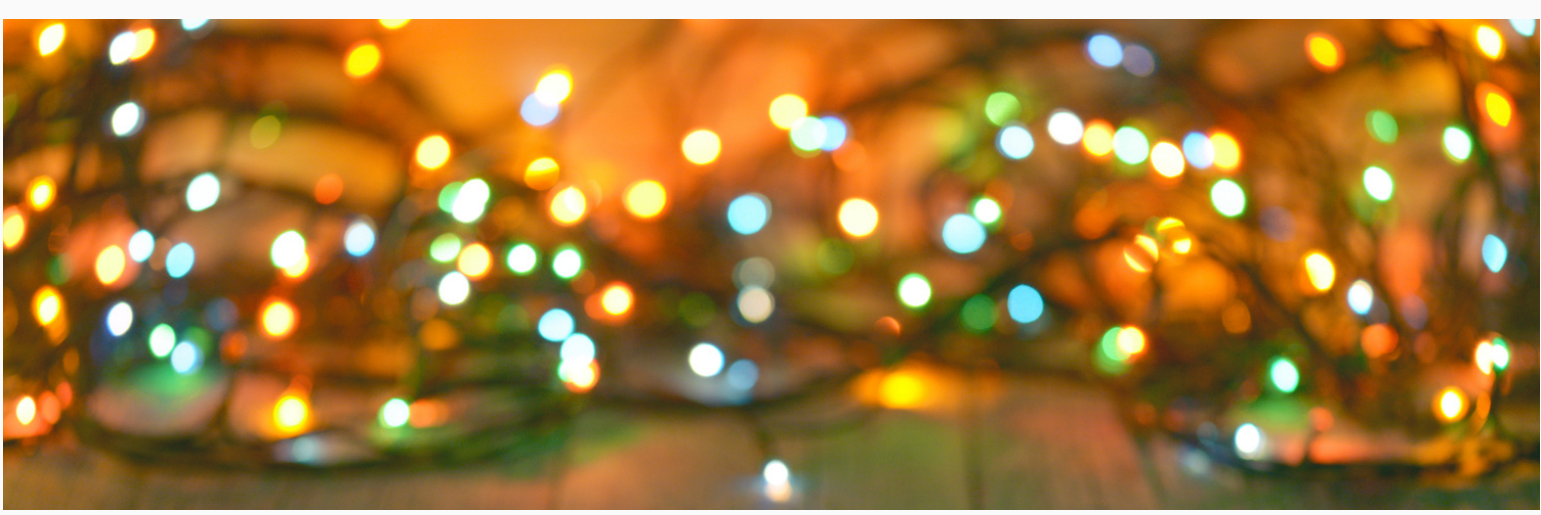
Brag

Owners Name: Robin Bovard and Christopher Gray

Dog's Name: CH Cairncroft My Miss Bonnie A Wee Lass DCAT

Brag: Bonnie was awarded Select Bitch at both Buckhorn Kennel Club shows in a class of wonderful Cairns. We are so proud of what our sweet girl has accomplished this summer and fall!





Brag's

Owners Name: Gail Tranoy

Dog's Name: Tink

Brag: Tink earned her EE (Endurance Earthdog) this October in Massachusetts under judge Judy Todd





Brag's

Owners Name: Janny Kay McKenzie

Dog's Name: McKenzie's Laird Hamish BCAT

Brag: Hamish and I discovered the joys of FastCAT this summer. We had lots of fun playing with our Cairn family humans and their dogs. Thanks to all of you who encouraged, supported, and put up with us getting in your way at times. Hami won his BCAT on Labor Day weekend in Cheyenne, but we really received it and had the MOST fun at the CTCD sponsored event in October. He loved running with his brother Knox and I enjoyed releasing Knox♥





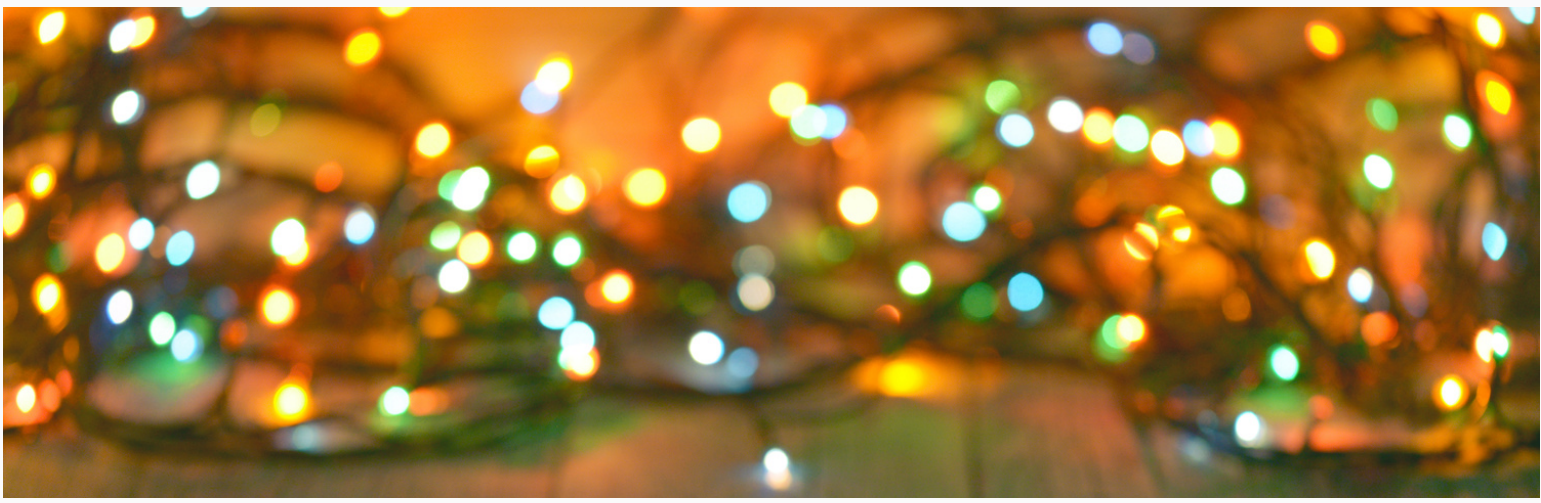
Brag's

Owners Name: Kathy Knepp

Dog's Name: Stonehavens Rocky Mountain Skye, DCAT RATI (Jasper)

Brag: Jasper was lucky enough to earn his DCAT during the FAST Cat event in Wyoming put on by the CTCD!





Brag's

Owners Name: Rebecca White

Dog's Name: Whiteoak's Tea Tree of Wolfpit (Teasa)

Brag: Teasa with Scarlett (Jessica Glenn's daughter) getting her first point! Scarlett is 8years old
!





Brag

Owners Name: Janny Kay McKenzie

Dog's Name: McKenzie's Laird Hamish BCAT

Brag: Hamish and I discovered the joys of FastCAT this summer. We had lots of fun playing with our Cairn family humans and their dogs. Thanks to all of you who encouraged, supported, and put up with us getting in your way at times. Hami won his BCAT on Labor Day weekend in Cheyenne, but we really received it and had the MOST fun at the CTCD sponsored event in October. He loved running with his brother Knox and I enjoyed releasing Knox♥



© Runner Photography



Brag's

Owners Name: Jack and Kari Loken

Dog's Name: GCH CroftersDream We Shall Be Free @Harmony CA FCAT2 RATO DJX DN TKN, "g"

Brag: "g" earned his FCAT2 hosted by the CTCD in conjunction with Buckhorn KC





The Road to Becoming a Therapy Team

By Cathy Cardon

On a warm spring afternoon, Lucy and I stand in front of a tall stockade gate in suburban Fort Collins, Colorado. On the other side of the gate is a panel of 3 judges who will observe Lucy and I perform all the tasks required to become a therapy team. They will then dismiss me and run Lucy through a behavioral evaluation. We have prepared for this moment, but I still feel nervous and unsure. I look down at Lucy. Her only concern is when can she get those treats that she knows are in my pocket. It is then I realize that we are a team...that she will do what she is asked to do, with certainty and joy. And I will support her with clear direction and encouragement. That knowledge fills me with confidence. I take a deep breath and push through the gate.

How did we get here?

When Lucy came into my life as a young adult dog, I knew almost immediately that her smart, sweet, and engaging personality were gifts I wanted to share with others. She is eager to learn, learns quickly, and loves having a job.

What were the first steps?

The road leading to this moment is one that has been made longer by the pandemic. I began researching what it would take to become a therapy team. Several articles recommended starting out by obtaining a Canine Good Citizen title, so I signed up at a local training facility. When we completed that course and obtained the title, I contacted the therapy organization I wanted to become a part of and found out they would not be holding any in person training classes for a while due to the pandemic. So, Lucy and I took some additional classes, adding the Novice Trick dog title to her accomplishments.



What paperwork was required?

After over a year of taking local dog training classes, I received the good news that therapy dog training with HABIC (Human-Animal Bond in Colorado) would begin holding training sessions via teleconference in January of 2021. Before starting class, we were required to fill out a membership application form (providing 2 references), a dog behavioral form (several pages of questions about your dog and her behavior), and a medical evaluation form for your veterinarian to fill out health history, perform an annual exam and fecal test, and answer behavioral questions about your dog. As the handler, I was also required to pass a professional background check.

What were the training classes like?

Training sessions were held once a week for an hour and spanned 12 weeks. During the training sessions we watched videos, after which the trainer would ask us to perform the training with our dogs and she would provide



feedback and answer questions. We had access to Google classroom where we could watch the videos on our own and see all the topics and training that would be covered during the course, plus all of the exercises we would be required to successfully complete in order to become a certified therapy team.

What did we have to do for final evaluation?

Here are the skills we needed to complete during our final evaluation:

Walking at heel: the dog remains at the handler's left side while walking and executing left and right turns, and the dog sits in heel position on the handler's left side whenever the handler stops walking.

Sit, down, stand: dog sits, lays down, and stands when cued by the handler.

Treat delivery: evaluator places a treat on a flat hand in front of the dog's nose...the dog cannot take the treat until given permission to do so.

Go say hi: handler directs dog to leave them and go to another person for petting/attention.

Leave it: dog is walked past kibble that is placed on the ground and is told to "leave it".

Recall and finish: dog remains in a "wait" until handler is 20 feet away. Handler calls the dog; dog comes and sits directly in front of the handler. Dog must be able to "finish left" (come to the handler's left side, turn to face forward and sit) and "finish right" (dog goes to handler's right side, circles behind the handler until in heel position on the left, and sits down), whichever is cued.

Stay (sit or down): handler places dog in sit or down, asks dog to stay, and moves 20 feet away from the dog. Dog and handler remain in position for 1 minute, then handler returns to the dog, walking behind the dog and moving to the dog's left side. Dog is then released from the stay.

Stay (sit or down) with distraction: dog sits next to handler in heel position and is asked to stay while an evaluator walks within 5 feet of the dog and drops kibble. Dog must also stay while evaluator passes by within 5 feet using a walker.

Sit for pets: dog remains sitting next to handler while evaluator comes over and pets the dog.

Stand for pets: dog stands next to seated evaluator to receive pets.

Walk through crowd: dog walks past several people and remains in heel position with the handler.



Walk through dogs: dog is walked past multiple dogs and remains in heel position with the handler.

Lucy was also required to learn 3 “fun” skills that can be used while working in a therapy session. We chose running through an agility tunnel, jumping over an agility jump, and finding treats under tennis balls placed in a muffin tin.





What behaviors will disqualify a dog?

Dogs will not be certified if they exhibit any of the following behaviors:

Any form of aggression toward a person.

Excessive barking or whining.

Excessively licking a person.

Jumping on or pawing at a person.

Urinating or defecating indoors.

So how did Lucy and I approach this journey?

In between sessions, Lucy and I would practice all the skills every day for 5 to 10 minutes. I kept the sessions short and fun, using treats and praise. Lucy soon learned that when I put on her collar it would mean work had begun, and she was so excited and would leap about in anticipation of practice. It was easy to stay motivated!

Challenges

Ideally training should take place in a variety of situations with distractions, but this was not feasible due to the pandemic. For instance, we didn't practice walking by multiple dogs or through crowds. We saw both of these exercises for the first time at final evaluation, but thankfully Lucy took them in stride and passed them both.

How did we do?

Lucy scored "meets expectations" for 3 exercises, and "exceeds expectations" for the other 9 exercises plus her 3 fun activities! She also passed her behavioral, and we became a certified therapy team.

If your dog enjoys learning and being with people, I highly recommend becoming a therapy team. It takes commitment, consistent work, and practice, but we have both learned so much...it has strengthened the bond we have, and we both enjoy working together and bringing Lucy's joyful spirit to others.



Lucy (Cairncroft Laughing Out Loud, breeders Christopher Gray and Nancy McNair) is owned and loved by and partnered with Cathy Cardon.

Founded in 1993, Human-Animal Bond in Colorado (HABIC) is a center in the School of Social Work, part of CSU's College of Health and Human Sciences. HABIC'S mission is to improve the quality of life for people of all ages through the therapeutic use of companion animals, with particular focus in the areas of community outreach, teaching, and research.



Fast CAT

The CTCD hosted its first ever Fast CAT event at the Buckhorn Kennel Club show located at the Archer Event Center in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Many thanks to Jack and Kari Loken who volunteered to not only get certified to run the lure but organized all aspects of the event. It was very successful, and we had many same day entries because of the entry forms dropped off near the show area and the great feedback we were receiving and that was being said about our club. Of course, this event would not have happened without the many volunteers that were there and forgive me if I failed to mention you

- Cathy Cardon
- Debra Turner-Kelly
- Janey McKenzie
- Kathy Knepp
- Laine Munhollon
- Linda Gilley
- Nancy McNair
- Patti and Chuck McCully
- Robin Bovard
- Ron and Kathy Knepp
- Tracy Roach
- Tony, Miranda and Kaylee Wagoner





AKC FIT DOG Titles

Check out the AKC site for a new title you and your dog can earn – the AKC Fit Dog title! Here is a brief summary but the website goes into more detail and has the self-reporting form.

Welcome to AKC FIT DOG Titles!

The American Kennel Club is committed to improving and maintaining the fitness and health of all dogs and their owners.

AKC FIT DOG titles were designed to provide a structured, individualized fitness plan that you and your dog can do together.

There are 3 levels of AKC fitness titles—Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Each title requires a specific number of activity points to be completed, which varies based on title level.

Bronze – 5 Points Silver – 10 Points Gold – 20 Points

Within each level, there are 6 categories of activities to choose from to earn your points. Detail for each category appear in the Participant Guide.

AKC Fitness Title Categories:

AKC FIT DOG Course

Runs (community runs such as a Turkey Trot, Spring Scurry, etc.)

Walks and hikes (Independent or Group)

Unique to You and Your Dog (e.g., swimming, Parkour)

AKC title that is fitness related (e.g., FAST CAT, agility)

AKC Parent Club Performance Titles (e.g., pack dog, sledding)

For each of the 3 levels of titles, a minimum number of points must be earned in at least 2 categories for the title to be awarded.

AKC FIT DOG titles are noncompetitive, and dog owners may choose different activities to earn titles. Titles will officially launch in January 2023, but we invite you to start participating and recording your activities now to be able to submit your documentation as soon as they launch!

How to Get Started:

Begin by reviewing the AKC FIT DOG Checklists. Each variation of checklists (Gold, Silver, Bronze) requires various levels of commitment, so it is important to evaluate which level is best suited for you and your dog's activity level.

Next, with the checklist in hand, take a look at the Participant Guide and review the program's rules

After reviewing the participant guide and checklist. You must now decide which activities you and your dog would like to complete to earn your title. (I.e., FIT DOG Course, Walks, Swimming, etc.)

Once you have completed your specific activities you can fill out the title forms.

Submit the 1) Title application, Checklist, and required documentation to

<https://www.apps.akc.org/title-application-portal/>

