

# Pumi Perspectives

*Hungarian Pumi Club of America*

## HPCA

### 3 Pumik in AKC Agility Invitational

Three Pumik have been invited to the AKC Agility Invitational. The competition will be in Long Beach, CA in December 2010. The qualifying period ran from July 01, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

Our qualifiers are :

Abiqua Cicelle RN AX MXJ OF  
(Bella) handled by Karen Massey

Vidam Kertesz Kicsi Tucsok AX  
AXJ NF (Cricket) handled by Shirley Russell

Yippy-Yi-Yea Giddy-Up-Go MX MXJ  
NF (Chuy) handled by Stacy Lehman



Chuy speeds along the teeter-totter

### AKC Parent Club Conference

By Chris Levy

A parent club is the national club for a particular breed, like the HPCA is the parent club for the Pumi in the USA. AKC, along with AKC Companion Animal Recovery, and Eukanuba, has sponsored an AKC parent club conference several times over the last ten years or so, the previous one being in 2007, but never have the FSS breeds been invited to participate. I was really pleased to be able to represent the Hungarian Pumi Club of America this year (and of course answer lots of questions about what a Pumi was).

The event began on Friday afternoon with an optional tour of AKC's offices in Raleigh, NC. In my tour group were representatives from the Entlebucher Club and the Chinook Club, both FSS breeds, too. The AKC offices were not as large as I'd expected. Somehow with all of the paperwork they have to deal with, I'd pictured 100's of people just processing that paperwork (registrations, pedigrees, show applications, etc). The offices take up 3 floors of a nice building in an office park. All paper that comes to them is first scanned and then sent on its way - they don't do paper! There were only about 8 people who took care of all the registrations. We also saw the automated printing of registrations and pedigrees. It was all very efficient.

That evening was a Club Officers Forum. Each person introduced themselves, said what club they represented, the size of their club, and a particular issue that the

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#### Sharp Barks.....

- The HPCA membership approved the Club Breed standard on August 30. It has been submitted to the AKC for approval
- The club will host a booth at Responsible Dog Ownership Day/Meet the Breeds in Raleigh September 25
- Meet the Breeds NYC is coming up Oct 16-17. The club will support Volunteers to staff the booth are needed.
- Pumifest 2011 is in the planning stages for April in either Connecticut or South Carolina.
- Meir Ben-Dror has accepted the responsibility of Webmaster.
- Nancy Ben-Dror heads the Welcome Committee

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## AKC Parent Club Conference Continued

club was currently dealing with. The clubs ranged from over 1,000 people down to ours, which I think was the smallest (we have about 45 members). There was a person there who had Small Munsterlanders, and they have more dogs than we do in this country, but no club at all. There were many common issues such as how to get new members, how to get members to volunteer, how/what to do about the animal rights movement.

Saturday morning, the AKC staff introduced themselves to us, including President Dennis Sprung, John Lyons, Chief Operating Officer, Mike Liosis, Club Relations Director, and Robin Stansell, Event Operations Director (of all AKC events). Also on hand were Mari-Beth O'Neill, VP in charge of Special Services (including FSS), and Margaret Poindexter, AKC Legal Counsel. Probably the most interesting thing they talked about was the resources and information available for parent clubs on their website.

I attended one of the sessions on the financial aspects of running a parent club and the responsibilities of the Treasurer which were very helpful. AKC presented a session on "Online AKC", most of which is available to FSS breeds. One of the nice things they provide is to be able to see all your dogs and keep their records online. You can go to [https://www.akc.org/online\\_accounts/faqs/getting\\_started.cfm](https://www.akc.org/online_accounts/faqs/getting_started.cfm) for instructions on how to get started.

I also attended a session on Rescue by Parent Clubs. It was not as informative as I'd hoped, but one thing came through - that a rescue organization for a breed should be a different organization than the parent club itself, but affiliated with each other.

Of course the highlight of the conference was the evening meeting just for the FSS breeds with Mari-Beth O'Neill. A lot of breeds were represented and we got the perspective of some who are just ahead of us in the process. Mari-Beth said there had been a few changes to the process that they originally envisioned while we are in Miscellaneous Class.

*"They emphasized that we need to start preparing our educational materials for owners, breeders, exhibitors and judges."*

Originally they were going to let breeds use the FCI standard instead of developing their own, but they realized that each breed really needed a standard in AKC format. Fortunately, we already took care of that! The other thing that changed was that AKC would choose a single parent club (if there were more than one) to be the AKC club for the breed as they went into Miscellaneous. They had originally said they would wait, but of course that got too difficult when the club had to develop a breed standard and each club came up with a different one! Regardless, neither of these items really applies to the HCPA since we have a standard and only one club. They emphasized that we need to start preparing our educational materials for owners, breeders, exhibitors, and judges.

Sunday morning the emphasis was on dog legislation and the animal rights agenda that would prefer that no one own dogs. They emphasized our responsibility to promote purebred dogs and AKC registration whenever we can.

A person from the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) discussed their program which is jointly sponsored by the AKC/ Canine Health Foundation and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA). The CHIC, working with participating parent clubs, provides a resource for breeders and owners of purebred dogs to research and maintain information on the health issues prevalent in specific breeds.

The CHIC also has a DNA program where DNA is stored for healthy dogs and those affected with hereditary problems. This DNA will be provided to health researchers as requested, for use in their research. If the DNA is collected at a national specialty show, CHIC will underwrite half of the cost, or if a dog is affected with a hereditary disease, they will underwrite all of the cost. Fortunately, ours is a relatively healthy breed. You can find out more on the CHIC program at [www.caninehealthinfo.org](http://www.caninehealthinfo.org).

Both the AKC Companion Animal Recovery (CAR) and Eukanuba presented their programs to the attendees. AKC CAR is a non-profit organization separate from AKC. Since its founding in 2005, it has reunited over 380,000 pets with their owners. Some of those pets, in addition to dogs, are cats, horses, snakes, turtles, ferrets, and birds. They also sell microchips and scanners. You can register your microchipped Pumi with them online. For more information, go to [www.akccar.org](http://www.akccar.org).

Much information was shared at the lunch and dinner tables where we sat at 10 to a table and struck up conversations with others. All parent clubs share many common interests and frustrations, and it was a wonderful experience to discuss these things with other clubs.



## Training Your Agility Puppy

By Nancy Ben-Dror

OK, you just came home with your puppy. What are you going to do to turn this bundle of energy into an agility dog? It is impossible for me to describe how to train a dog in this short space. There are many books on the subject, all good. One in particular, that just came out this year, by two Swedish authors is called *Agility From the Start*. It is a large format paperback, costing about \$40 and can be purchased either from Clean Run publications or Dogwise.com. It is very comprehensive and well illustrated and there are even pictures of a Pumi throughout.

Everything in agility is natural to a dog, except weave poles, which is why this is the hardest obstacle to train. Training should be done in very short spurts ( five minutes) many times a day. I like to put my puppies in an X-pen or crate in the ring while I train my other dogs. This builds desire to investigate what the older ones are having so much fun doing and to want to be part of the action.

All dog training should be done with positive reinforcement, especially agility training. One negative correction can ruin an obstacle forever. Besides, this is a game that you are supposed to be doing to bond with your furry friend and have fun. When it isn't fun to train, you are not training correctly.

Dogs should perceive all of their training as tricks and fun time. Personally, I love clicker training. It's easy, accurate, fast and a language the dog understands. There are as many methods of training as there are instructors. You need to take from each what works with your dog. The Pumi, in particular, along with the Puli and Mudi, need to be taught somewhat differently than the rest of the herding breeds, due to their herding styles.

Puppies as early as 8 weeks are sponges and can start learning agility. You can teach them all jumping skills by using what are called "jump bumps," which are just 5' sections of 4" PVC pipe cut in half length wise. So you get two jumps bumps out of each 5' section, which is very inexpensive. You place the cut side down. Unlike using a bar on the ground, the jump bump won't roll if the puppy hits it, which can cause an injury.

"Jump heights can be raised gradually as the puppy grows to the height of its hocks, until growth plates have been closed around 14 months"

Jump heights can be raised gradually as the puppy grows to the height of its hocks, until growth plates have been closed around 14 months. At this point the dog can jump its show height which for the Pumi is usually 16" in AKC ( Preferred is 12" ) and 22" in USDAA ( Performance is 16"). A dog may not show in AKC until it is 15 months old and 18 months in USDAA. To be sure growth plates are closed, the dog can be X-rayed.

Another thing that should not be done with a performance dog until the growth plates are closed is neutering. Early neutering increases bone growth, which can interfere with leg stability in agility. There is so much ground work ( not actually jumping) called "*foundation work*" to occupy your dog's first year, there is no need to rush jump heights. Dogs can go to their regular height in a matter of weeks.

Puppies can work on puppy size obstacles which are easy to buy or make. Toys R Us sells a kids tunnel for about \$15. You can make a teeter by putting a small plank over a piece of PVC. A low dog walk can be made with planks on low saw horses and you can piano hinge two small boards ( with a chain inside) to



make an A-frame.

One thing you must do right away, is start to teach the puppy to enjoy all surfaces and wobbly things. My very high tech wobble board is a 4' square piece of plywood with a tennis ball in a sock, screwed onto the bottom of the board. The dog is encouraged to approach the board and eventually love to wobble around on it just to hear a click and get a treat! Equipment moves at shows. You don't want a dog to bail, when it suddenly feels the earth move beneath its feet!

I will discuss training some obstacles in a future article if there is interest, especially my own method of weave pole training, which is so easy and fast. You can



Photo: Phyllis Ensley

Twenty-three month old Asztró jumps 16" in a recent AKC Agility Trial.

make almost all needed equipment easily and inexpensively and

there are many books showing you how. I started to show my first agility dog with only going to class once a week and no equipment at home. However, it is a given that having the equipment in your backyard will speed up the learning process.

Go watch some agility classes, especially puppy classes. Pick a class where the puppies seem to be having a ball, and are in a safe environment on puppy sized equipment.

Puppy bodies are very vulnerable to long term damage. Weaving ( completely) before the age of one and racing down steep A-frames, will take its toll in neck, back and shoulder problems. AKC has changed the spacing from 20" to 24" between weaves to lesson these affects and lowered the A-frame for some dog heights.

Before entering your first show, take your dog to agility matches ( hard to find) and other training centers, so they get used to different equipment. AKC shows must have a 3 lb weight for the judge to test the teeter to make sure small dogs can tip it. If not the club must have weights to put on. Play a CD of agility sounds at home from the time you bring the pup home, starting low and gradually pump up the volume. You would be amazed at how loud the teeter sounds, even from up in the stands and all of the dogs barking, etc. Take your dog on an overnight, if you plan to show away from home, so the dog understands that it will go home again.

Nothing simulates an agility show except a show, so don't be surprised if your dog reacts a bit differently at a show. Except for the rare dog, they all get used to the chaos and as soon as they see you packing the car, they know they are in for a fun weekend with mom or dad!

Good luck!!

## Bringing Csini Home from Hungary

For 15 years, I'd wanted a Hungarian dog when I retired. Spring 2008, one year from retirement, I googled to find two medium sized dogs—the Mudi and the Pumi. One look at the Pumi's face, I knew I wanted the Pumi. So I studied and made sure it's personality and mine matched. I felt it was right.

I contacted HPCA and was told that if I were going to Hungary in July 2009, to get a Pumi from Hungary and bring it back.

Having read much on the Szurkebarat Kennel, I contacted them and was told a 3 month old female (my preference) puppy would be available for me July 2009.

Next I had to choose a name. My friend in Hungary, Beata and I tried many names before finally settling on "Csinibaba" (Pretty Baby).

February 2009, I was contacted that a Szurkebarat dog would sire a litter at another kennel. I would have the best female puppy! I agreed and wired 400 Euros (roughly \$500 US).

I waited. Until April 15, when Csini was born! I saw photos of the litter (7 puppies) and mother. Then came photos of Csini-- she was beautiful! Then she went to live with the Langers. They had an older Pumi who took Csini under her wing.

Finally I retired and two days later my partner, Rose, my sister, Joanne, and I were on a plane for Hungary. Waiting a few days for Csini, we spent the time visiting with my friends Beata and Erika exploring Budapest and Vac.

I was so nervous about getting a puppy—I'd never had a puppy before in my life! The Langers brought Csini, put her in my arms where she licked and licked my face! We instantly bonded.

I signed a Contract and Bill of Sales

I was given her MEOE (Hungarian Pumi Club) Certification, Microchip Barcode Number, and Health Passport

I paid the final 400 Euros (roughly \$560 US) in cash.

That night, on the balcony (it was painfully hot inside), Csini played with us until she tired and began running from the balcony to the room looking and crying for the Langers. I laid out her blanket where she fell soundly asleep. When we went to bed, she jumped on the end of my bed and slept there all night.

I looked at her papers and her name was wrong. She was supposed to be Hegyvidek-Eke Felho, but now it was Hegyvidek-Eke Facer. I am unclear what Facer means. When I asked the Langers about this, they said there was a mix-up in the naming, but Csini is Csini and "Facer Csinibaba" is a funny joke in Hungarian.

Friday we took a taxi to the airport. I'd chosen Lufthansa specifically because they allow pets in the cabin. There she was weighed on the baggage scale. Then we paid \$250 for her ticket.

We flew first to Munich then to Washington, DC. I put her in the seatback in front of me, occasionally giving her water. She was so quiet, I never heard a peep out of her. Joanne said that Csini threw a horrible fit when I once left to use the restroom. But I never heard a sound. I kept Csini in her Sherpa carrier going through US Customs, they never asked to see her Health Passport or any other documentation. We simply passed through Customs.

When we got outside, I put Csini on a piece of grass and she was so happy! For two weeks I gave Csini bottled water in order not to upset her tummy and slowly weaned her off it. Also, I was given her food which I fed her until I slowly weaned her off it too. Csini was instantly at home in our house and has been a happy Pumi ever since!



Betty June Farkas and 12 week old 'Pretty Baby' in Hungary



## Congratulations Cricket and Chuy!

Vidam Kertesz Tucsok AX AXJ NF (Cricket) is owned by Shirley Russell. In addition to her AKC titles, she has agility titles in CPE : CL2-H, CL2-F, CL2-S, CL1-R. She has USDAA titles too: Advanced Jumpers, Advanced Gamblers, Starters Snooker, Starters Standard and Starters Pairs. Cricket will be 3 years old next January 2.



Yippy-Yi-Yea Giddy-Up\_Go MX MXJ NF (Chuy) is owned by Stacy Lehman. He is half way to earning his MACH. He was the first Pumi to be invited to the AKC Agility Invitational when he competed last year. He has also earned the USDAA ADCH title.



Both Cricket (left) and Chuy (right) plan to compete in Long Beach CA in December

## Tipli: One of the first Agility Titlists

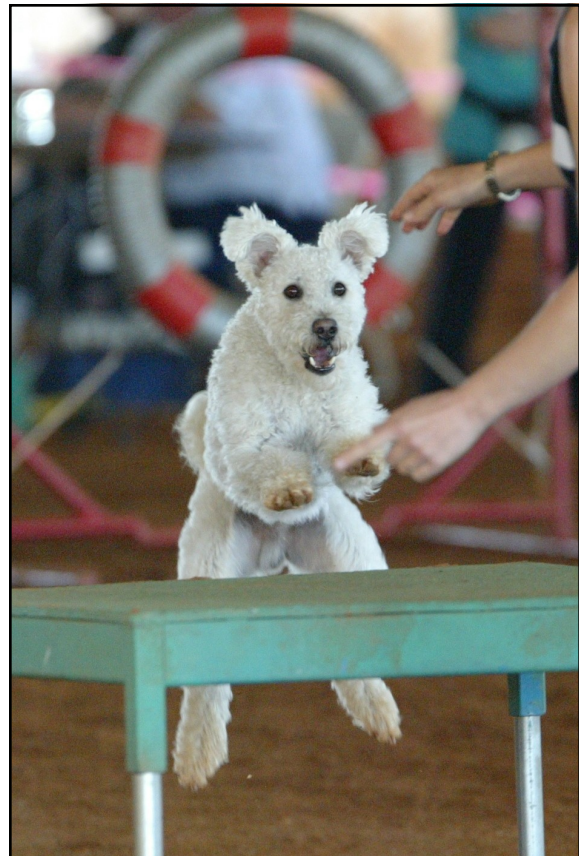
One of the earliest Pumik to compete in American agility competition was Pusztai Altatodal Bolondos (Tipli) owned by Taru Parvin. He earned his USDAA ADCH in 2004. Both Taru and Tipli have taken a break from Agility in recent years. Tipli is the sire of Chuy and the grandsire of Cricket, featured above.

This is Taru's criteria when selecting an agility puppy:

#1 Interest in toys. You get more speed if you can reward by tossing a toy.

#2 More shoulder layback. Although not good for showing purposes, laid back shoulders mean a longer stride which means more speed.

#3 Longer back. A longer back means a longer stride which means more speed, even if it is not good for showing purposes. Laid back shoulders usually come with a longer back.



*Send your title information to the Newsletter*

Photo: Sterling Photography

# HPCA

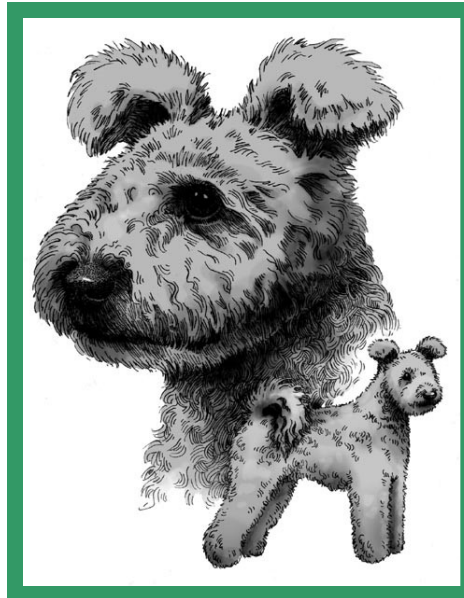
*Hungarian Pumi Club of America*

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 Treasurer: Tom Levy  
 Board Member 2011: Asa Anden  
 Board Member 2012: Ginger Butler  
 Board Member 2013: Meir Ben-Dror

[www.pumiclub.org](http://www.pumiclub.org)

Send information for the  
 newsletter to [pumiohio@fuse.net](mailto:pumiohio@fuse.net)

Contact any member of the HPCA for  
 more information



The objective of the HPCA is to encourage and promote quality in the breeding of pure-bred Pumi and do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection

The club members will do all in their power to protect and advance the of the breed and encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, companion events, performance events and other dog related activities where the Pumi is suitable to participate.

The club is not operated for profit.

## A message from the Editor.....

By Mary Reardon

The *Pumi Perspectives* is published quarterly under the authorization of the HPCA Board of Directors. The purpose of the publication is to share information and opinions among club members, inform the membership about issues specific to the Pumi breed or the state of the Pumi in America, and encourage the participation of members and their Pumi in a variety of activities.

The perspectives will be distributed by the HPCA secretary to all members via e-mail as a pdf attachment. Archive copies will also be available on the club Yahoo group site 'HPCA'. Anyone who is unable to read electronic distribution can request to be on the US mail distribution list. Members may pass along their copy or distribute a copy of *Pumi Perspectives* on a one to one basis to any one they think will find it interesting, but no large scale distribution should be made without the authorization of the Board.

We need articles! Articles will be published with a by-line. The author assumes responsibility for the content.....it is his/her personal perspective. Caution and good sense should apply when mentioning the names of persons not involved in the club.

# LOGO

Do you like the logo of Pumi head and body used above? Do you prefer the little dog with a flag?

If you can do better send us your ideas and original designs.

The design should be scalable and easy to reproduce. It should be easy to read in either color or black and white.

## Pumik who have earned AKC Titles:

From the AKC records as of September 20, 2010

Abiqua Abrand OA OAJ  
 Abiqua Akar Aloha NA NAJ  
 Abiqua Aliz AX AXJ  
 Abiqua Cicelle RN AX MXJ OF  
 Abiqua Dinamo NA AXJ NF  
 Abiqua Dogos Csupasz IT  
 Arkosligeti "Kocos" Gyopar OAP AJP NFP  
 Arkosligeti "Kocos" Gyuru AX OAJ NF  
 Bohemia Vivace Ash RN OA OAJ  
 Galla-Hegy Gomboc PT  
 Greenfarms Wright Stuff CDX  
 Moya's Rainbow Sprite CD RE NAJ  
 Moya's Splash A Water Dance NA NAJ  
 Vidam Kertesz Kicsi Tucsok AX AXJ NF  
 Vidam Kertesz Virag Herlegne NAJ  
 Yippy-Yi-Yea Giddy-Up-Go MX MXJ NF

Kathy Donovan  
 Alexa Maros  
 Asa Anden  
 Karen Beattie Massey  
 Christine Brew  
 Ildiko Repasi & Laszlo Sulyok  
 Sandy Lockwood  
 Sandy Lockwood  
 Meir & Nancy Ben-Dror  
 Tom & Chris Levy  
 Lucy Berninger  
 Delores Bleys  
 Delores Bleys  
 Shirley Russell  
 Greg Louganis  
 Stacy Lehman