

Hungarian Pumi Club of America

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President's Message



There is a feeling in the air!!! No – wait – it is a 'First in Flight' Pumi in the air!!!! The logo is absolutely one of the best Pumifest logos we've had to date. Along with the cool logo – we have also had tremendous response to our Pumifest Trophy Fund FUNraiser!!! To keep everyone up to date – HPCA members have purchased cards of a deck that will have a photo of their pumi(k) along with the Pumifest 2021 logo on the back. This deck of cards will be available for purchase at the Pumifest 2021 in Sanford, NC. There is a survey on US Pumi lovers asking who would like to purchase a deck so that we make plenty for everyone to have as many decks as they wish. They can be purchased for \$20 on-site -or- \$25 if shipping and handling is required.

All of that said – we have learned a lot with this fundraiser – since we had never done anything like this before – we thought it may be difficult to get all 54 cards (includes 2 jokers) sold in time to make the deck... Boy – were we wrong – the response was overwhelming! Thank you so much for your enthusiasm and support – in a matter of a few hours – they were gone. Now – for the lessons learned:

- Announce the fun-raiser well in advance to all club members prior to selling them so that they can be ready to participate.
- Be clear on when the selling will start.
- Consider limiting the number of cards one member may purchase so that more members can participate.

We apologize if you were not able to participate. We will do better next year.

Speaking of Pumifest2021 – It is just around the corner – look for the registration form to be posted in July. So much fun is being planned for all Pumi owners – competitions, learning, socializing, herding, and meeting new friends – saying hello to the old friends. If you have any questions at all – please first go to the pumiclub.org website and if you can't find your answer – ask on Facebook and if you are a Facebook fan – send us an email or call anyone on the board. We are here to help you in any way we can. There are many new members who may not know how cool the HPCA National Pumifest is so we expect all kinds of questions and hope if you are curious – you will ask!!

I want to personally thank Debbie Miyashita for all her hard work she does on each of these newsletters and also thank all of you that contribute articles to make it so worthwhile to read! Our club is 100% volunteer and we are looking for others to volunteer with the Pumifest. Please let us know if you can spare some time before and/or during the Pumifest so we can make this the best ever.

Upcoming HPCA Events

Conformation

Date	Event	Location
June 5, 2021	Designated Specialty & Sweepstakes (Magnolia Pumi Club)	Concord, NC
June 6, 2021	Designated Specialty & Sweepstakes (Magnolia Pumi Club)	Concord, NC
October 1, 2021	2020 National Specialty Show & Sweepstakes (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC
October 2, 2021	2021 National Specialty Show & Sweepstakes (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC
October 6, 2021	Supported Entry & Sweepstakes at Morris & Essex	Somerset, NJ
December 16, 2021	HPCA Designated Specialty with Central FL KC	Orlando, FL
December 17, 2021	Supported Entry with Sunshine State Herding Group Show	Orlando, FL
December 19, 2021	Supported Entry with AKC National Championship Show	Orlando, FL

Agility

Date	Event	Location
September 29, 2021	Pumi-only Agility Trial (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC
September 29, 2021	Pumi-only Agility Trial (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC

Obedience

Date	Event	Location
September 30, 2021	Pumi-only Obedience Trial (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC
September 30, 2021	Pumi-only Obedience Trial (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC
September 30, 2021	Pumi-only Rally Trial (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC
September 30, 2021	Pumi-only Rally Trial (Pumifest)	Sanford, NC

Herding

Date	Event	Location
October 3, 2021	Herding Trial & Test (Pumifest) All Hungarian herding breeds	Burlington, NC
October 3, 2021	Herding Trial & Test (Pumifest) All Hungarian herding breeds	Burlington, NC



"They're bred to stare all day."

TOP DOGS FROM 2019! (Correction)

Terrie Cowan, Awards Chair

The #1 PACH Pumi had the wrong dog in the photo. Here's Cricket.



#1 PACH Pumi


MACH5 PACH3
Vidam Kertesz Kicsi
Tucok MXS2 MJS2
MXP8 MXPG MJP9
MJPG PAX3 MXF TQX
T2B8
AKA "Cricket"

Owned by Shirley Russell



2022 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST!

Want your Pumi in the 2022 calendar?
Have a good shot, iPhone quality or better?
Start gathering your best action, posed, puppy or fun shots! **Details in July newsletter!**

AGILITY NOTE:  We have a judge for Agility at Pumifest...
Greg Fontaine from NC

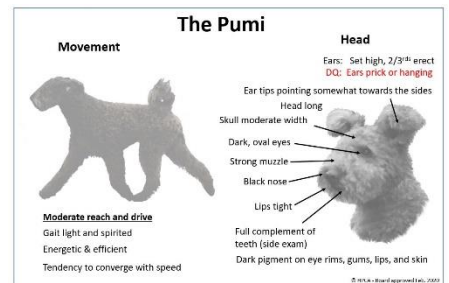
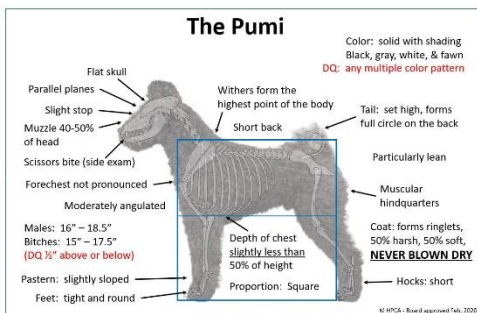
Don't forget to pay your HPCA dues!

The time has come to get your HPCA membership renewed! Dues are due **May 1st**. Regular memberships are \$25 (\$26.50 using PayPal) and household memberships are \$35 (\$36.50 using PayPal).

Judges Quick Reference Guide

By Chris Levy, Judges Education Chair

We've developed a new *Quick Reference Guide* on the Pumi for judges of the breed who might want a quick look and review of the breed prior to judging them. The Board approved the Guide and to mail it to all Pumi judges (256) along with all the judges who judge Best in Show (406) and who might get a Pumi in their lineup for Best. This is on a half page and has been laminated so they can carry it around with them without getting damaged.



If you'd like a copy, the full size version is included this newsletter and you can make your own. Just print and fold in half!

Dark pigment on eye rims, gums, lips, and skin

Full complement of teeth (side exam)

Lips tight

Black nose

Strong muzzle

Dark, oval eyes

Skull moderate width

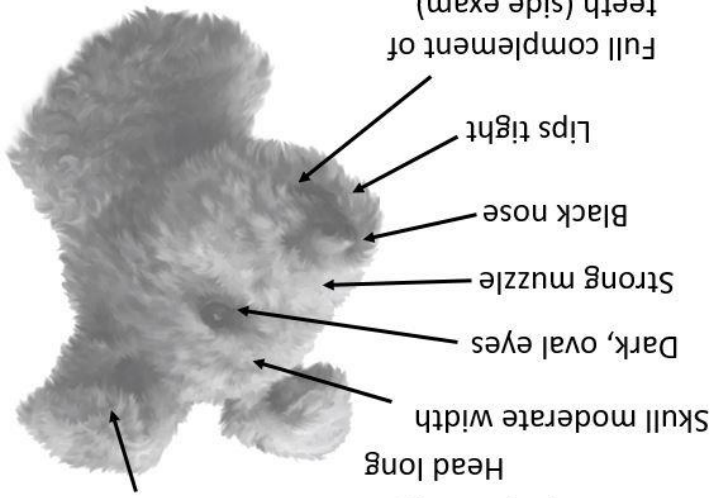
Head long

Ear tips pointing somewhat towards the sides

DQ: Ears prick or hanging

Ears: Set high, 2/3rds erect

Head



Tendency to converge with speed

Energetic & efficient

Gait light and spirited

Moderate reach and drive



Movement

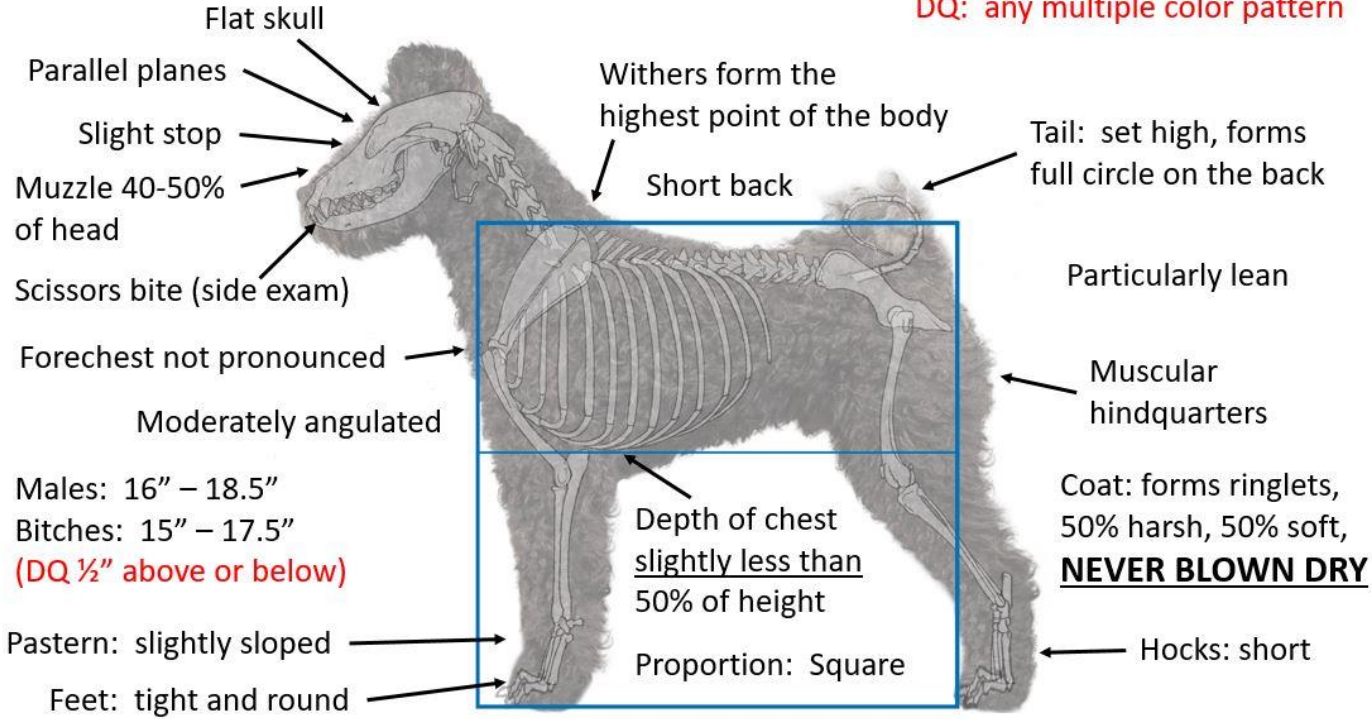
The Pumi!

The Pumi

Color: solid with shading

Black, gray, white, & fawn

DQ: any multiple color pattern



Flat skull

Parallel planes

Slight stop

Muzzle 40-50% of head

Scissors bite (side exam)

Forechest not pronounced

Moderately angulated

Males: 16" - 18.5"

Bitches: 15" - 17.5"

(DQ 1/2" above or below)

Pastern: slightly sloped

Feet: tight and round

Withers form the highest point of the body

Short back

Tail: set high, forms full circle on the back

Particularly lean

Muscular hindquarters

Coat: forms ringlets, 50% harsh, 50% soft, **NEVER BLOWN DRY**

Hocks: short

Depth of chest slightly less than 50% of height

Proportion: Square

Venue Ideas for Pumifest

Pick your perfect place to play with your Pumi

Have you shown your Pumi at a venue you thought would be a great place to host Pumifest? The venue does not be a grand castle as Pumifest is a Pumi-only event so we don't need an exceptional amount of space.

The HPCA Board is looking to have a collection of suitable sites to have the option to host Pumifest in the three areas of the U.S., central, eastern and western. You could suggest a venue for a future Pumifest so you could have the event in your own backyard, so to speak. The real kicker is just because you suggest the site does not mean you would have to serve as host or do the planning, but we'd love it if you volunteered!

Please send your venue ideas to Dennis Craig at breckbouvier@comcast.net.

Site requirements are as follows:

- ✓ Be reasonably priced (\$300 - \$700 / day)
- ✓ Be able to book 1 – 3 years ahead
- ✓ Be able to accommodate us from late September to the end of October

Should be able to accommodate as many of our events as possible, or within a short drive. Preferably only one event would be offsite.

- ✓ Agility
- ✓ Rally
- ✓ Obedience
- ✓ Conformation
- ✓ Herding



Plenty of room to potty your dog, but this venue might not be appropriate.

A hotel/motel with about 30 rooms is needed nearby with a room for a banquet or a restaurant nearby that we can use for the banquet.

With more and more members driving RVs to the event, a place to accommodate RVs (including hookups) should be onsite or nearby.

For greater detail on requirements, you can:

Go to the [HPCA website](#) > Sign In > Find Members Only (top menu bar) > Go to Policies and Procedures (left menu) > Scroll down to Requirements for Hosting a Pumifest.

Hosting Pumifest can be fun and rewarding—and you can get lots of help from members who have hosting knowledge and experience. If you would like to host Pumifest, please submit a proposal to Chris Levy at chris@abiquadogs.com. The HPCA website is a great place to find a fountain of information.

Hey, All You Outside-The-Box Thinkers

Here is your chance to shine. Like all parent clubs, we need money to get things done. Relying on dues cannot cover all the things the club must do to support the Pumi breed and its members.

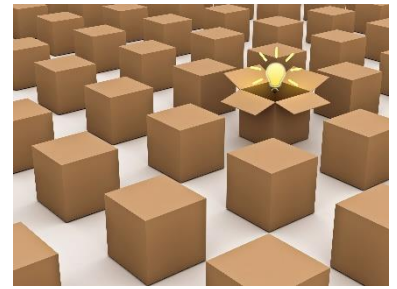
HPCA sponsors Pumifest, several specialties, and Meet the Breeds. We have to pay for insurance and other items to support our mission:

- Pedigree database
- Donating to the AKC Museum of the Dog
- Pumi Quick Reference Guide reproduction and mailing
- Membership pins

Fundraising can be especially fun when the members come up with new and original ways to raise money.

So please send us all your great ideas to bleuzzie@netscape.net.

By the way, if your club or any other group you know has had success with their fundraising, pass it on. That would be thinking inside the box, and we don't mind at all.



Zsa Zsa's Musings

By Zsa Zsa and her assistant, Nancy Nelson

Dear Friends,

I hope you are all well and have been taking care of yourselves. I have been busy with caring for my human. What do I mean? My silly human hurt herself and had to have surgery and then had to mend before we could go walking and to do activities (granted most things have been cancelled...but). I have been thinking about what we Pumik could do to make sure that our humans can keep up.

I think we need to make sure they warm up. Personally, I am always in a rush to get to the



car and go somewhere. This is especially true if it involves shopping, but you already know that the mall is my favorite place on earth. I think we need to slow down a bit. Yes, be excited, but wait until they move a bit. Stop make them stretch, shift their weight foot to foot.

Think about when we go to agility trials, my human makes sure I am warmed up. I appreciate this more and more as I get older, I am not a puppy anymore you know! They make us spin and twirl – I can't tell the difference: one is one direction and the one the other way...but spin and twirl. The move us around, take us to the practice jump. What they do? Maybe a quick stretch but not much. This is just important at a lesson. They sit and watch the others and then it is our turn and BAM they get hurt (this is what Mom did). You need to make them do things like quad stretches and hamstring stretches. Shift their weight side to side and twist! They need to stretch all four paws too. Arms need to go up, out and in circles. And let's talk necks. You need to keep them in shape because too many chins make it hard to tell where they are looking in agility. You also need them to have them turn their heads. They need to move it.

I find I need to extend my efforts getting Mom to move outside of my activities. I have found she likes to dance to old music – her term, not mine. If she starts to move to what she calls an oldie, I help by getting up and running around her (and barking). This is part of our responsibility. If the weather is nice, I play in and out. Wait until they sit down, go to the door ask to go out , wait until they sit again and ask to come in. Repeat, Repeat, REPEAT.

One other important thing that I need to discuss. Fashion. I have been studying all the fashion magazines and online shows from Paris and Milan. Some of the things are HORRENDOUS! I am not sure that anyplace is appropriate to wear them. But you can't wear leggings and tights everywhere! I know no one needs any clothes (unless there is a pandemic weight issue and nothing fits) but I do think we could all use a quick POP of color. I suggest one new thing in a bright color. They are showing a LOT of bright yellow (not neon) but its not a color that works for everyone. The color I see trending is teal, not dark – but not light either. I am seeing it everywhere from shoes to clothing. I like it and feel like it looks good on most humans. Treat yourself! Not big, just a bit!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone soon, Mom says there are some events coming up and I hope to be able to visit.



Pumifest 2021!

By Chris Levy



I feel like it's been **forever** since I've been able to get together with all our Pumi friends! Pumifest is the perfect place to spend 5 days celebrating the best breed in the world!

Pumifest is informal and we have a great time together. Most everyone comes for the entire 5 days if they can, and we either compete or cheer on our friends and fellow Pumi lovers.

It's five days of celebrating the Pumi!

We'll have welcome bags, a welcome potluck, a BBQ and **auction** of awesome Pumi things and other goodies, a banquet to recognize the top dogs and new titleholders, and herding instinct testing for any Pumi – no experience required! It's so fun to see the "light go on" when they realize they can "chase" and corral the

sheep! We'll have **seminars** on grooming, herding, and learning more about the Pumi.

We'll have lot of items for sale with the **2021 logo** on them that you can order online prior to Pumifest.

Trophies! We'll have beautiful trophies for all events.....and you can help if you donate to our trophy fund online at <https://pumiclub.org/events/pumifest/trophy-drive/> or send to Jo Ann Gast, HPCA Treasurer, 5615 N 78th Ave, Omaha, NE 68134. (You can donate at the same time you're paying your dues.)

Registration: Around July you'll be able to register for Pumifest and all the non-AKC events like seminars, (box) lunches, and dinners. Stay tuned!

AKC Events: Entry deadline is September 8 with our show superintendent, CAPER LLC from Wisconsin. The premium list for all events will be coming out in July.

There's lots more info on the website including hotel and RV info. All the latest info will be there, too.

Send any questions my way to chris@abiquadogs.com.

September 29 – October 3

Sanford, NC

2 agility trials • 2 obedience trials • 2 rally trials
2 4-6 puppy competitions • 2 puppy sweepstakes
2 national specialty shows (2020 & 2021)
2 herding trials • 2 herding instinct tests

Seminars!

Combing and Coat Maintenance
Pumi Conformation and Breed Type
and more!

<https://pumiclub.org/events/pumifest/>

Goody Bags For Pumifest!

Goodies Welcomed!

Each year participants receive a Welcome bag of useful goodies when signing in at Pumifest. Please be a part of this tradition by donating some of your favorite things !

Suggested or Requested items:

- ❖ Samples of your Pumi's favorite cookies
- ❖ Chew sticks
- ❖ Rolls of poop bags
- ❖ Small hand sanitizer bottle or wipes
- ❖ Balls
- ❖ Squeaky toys
- ❖ Tug toys
- ❖ (Pumik like toys!)
- ❖ (Human) snacks or treats
- ❖ Clicker training clickers
- ❖ Dog food can lids
- ❖ Crate tags



We will gladly take other items you find to be must-haves when you and your Pumi go on the road. (Purina provided packets of FortiFlora last year - one of my must-haves)

We need 50 of each item. Perhaps contact the manufacturer of your favorites and ask for some donations; we can include reorder info in the bag.

To sign up for a donation item so we ensure a nice variety of goodies, please contact Lindy Miller at Tuelz_Lindy@aol.com or 484-678-8514.

Items should be shipped to Lindy no later than Sept 1:

Lindy Miller
182 Dilworthtown Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Pumifest Catalog Advertising

Deadline for submission: **August 15, 2021**

Celebrate your Pumi(k)'s accomplishments, an upcoming litter, thank your breeder, send well wishes to exhibitors, etc.

Catalog advertising is open to all Pumik lovers: HPCA members and non-members.

Inside Front or Back Cover B/W with photo(s) (4.5" X 7.5")	\$75
Full page B/W with photo(s) (4.5" X 7.5")	\$50
½ page B/W with photo(s) (4.5" X 3.5")	\$35
¼ page B/W with no photo (4.5" X 1.75")	\$20
Well Wisher – 2 lines text	\$10

Ads in the catalog will all be black & white.

Please submit print ready ads:

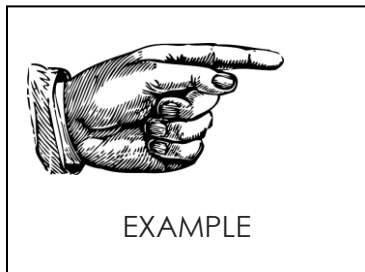
Correct Size and either a High Resolution (at least 300 dpi) PDF or jpg.

If you do not have a print ready ad, Marilyn Piusz volunteered to help design one for you. Contact her mpiusz@nycap.rr.com • 518-883-5806 to check on her deadline.

Make checks payable to HPCA and send your print ready ads to

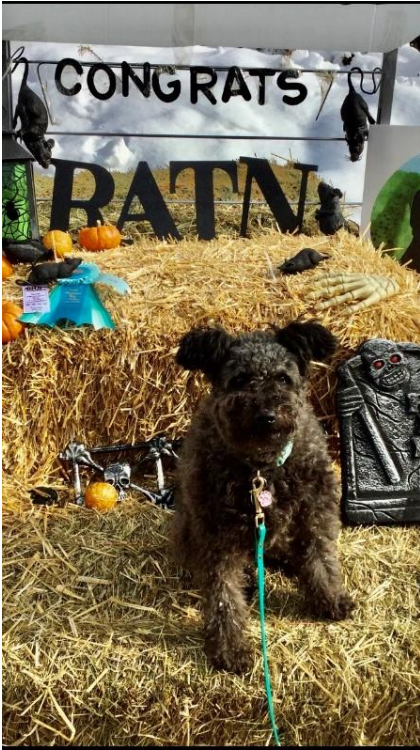
Lindy Miller
182 Dilworthtown Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Or email ads to Tuelz_Lindy@aol.com



More Announcements...

Lynne Johaneson from Vernon, B.C., Canada tells us that the Barn Hunt Association has listed fast dogs by breed who achieved titles in 2020. **Team Dexi is number 1 Pumi in Novice Barn Hunt North America!**



The Nose Knows

By Becky Heiner

Did you know Pumi are awesome at scentwork sports? Of course you did, Pumi excel at just about everything! If you haven't tried this sport yet, both dogs and handlers really love it. All dogs have the natural ability to track down and hunt for food. Sniffing is a calming activity and can help anxious dogs become calmer. That's why scatter techniques work so well in behavior modification work or even helping to de-stress an anxious dog on a trip to the vet or at a trial. Working dogs are used to sniff out narcotics, cadavers, explosives, lost humans, endangered species and even bedbugs! But most commonly, dogs are trained for fun to find specific essential oils in scentwork competitions. Although finding these scents may seem easy, our canines are challenged with how odor acts due to air currents, temperature and humidity. All of these affect how quickly the dog can locate the odor source. They also must be able to distinguish the original source such as drop of essential oil on a cotton swab, and residual odor, which is where the scented cotton swab touched the floor, or a chair, or whatever object it came in contact with. Much like the difference between locating a live rat (odor) and used rat bedding (residual) in Barn Hunt.

The National Association of Canine Scent Work, or NACSW was the first organization to develop a curriculum for training and organized the first trials for competition. The three founders Ron Gaunt, Amy Herot and Jill Marie O'Brien were training police scent detection dogs and thought nosework would catch on with dog owners as a fun, new sport. Soon AKC, UKC (United Kennel Club) and others were also developing their own rulebooks and trials. Each organization differs in the types of search requirements, odor concentration and even the number of different odors used, but they all require at least three main scents; birch, anise and clove. NACSW sticks to those three but adds vehicle searches to the mix. AKC adds cypress odor and UKC requires even more odors. There are other differences, so it's best to read each rule book before you train and compete.

A cautionary tale, though. If you ever plan to use your Pumi in Search and Rescue (SAR) they must never be trained on anything else. I've been doing nose work with five different dogs for 13 years and just found this out when I wanted to train my Pumi in SAR. The reason is, if your dog is ever involved in a case that goes to court and the defense finds out your dog has Novice titles in AKC scentwork, he will argue and win, that your dog was hitting on birch odor and not a body in the trunk. Who could prove him wrong?

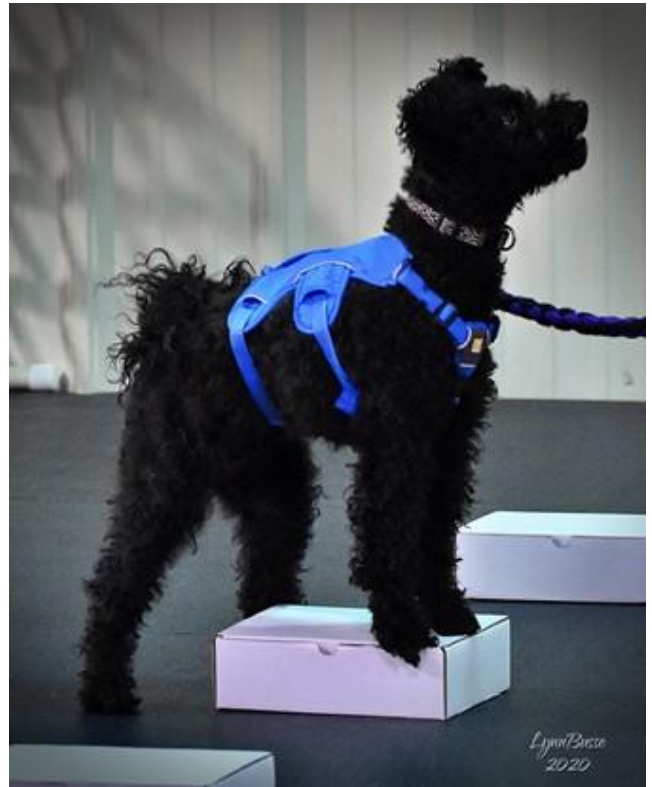
To get started, search the websites of the different venues and find a local class in your area. Fenzi Sports Academy offers online courses in scentwork. NACSW is the only organization currently certifying instructors in a specific, step by step curriculum. Search for nosework workshops, camps and classes in your area.

My three-year-old Pumi, Klipsan Ticket To Ride, aka Tessa is turning out to be my best nosework dog and I've trained two of the best breeds for this work next to GSDs. Of course, she does everything faster, she's a Pumi. She entered her first AKC trial last November, was entered in two Container classes and placed in both!



I know it's here somewhere!

Trials have been limited due to COVID, but we are entered in another trial in May and hope to earn the AKC all around Novice title this year. Three qualifying scores are required in Containers (pictured above), Interiors, Exteriors and the Buried class in order to earn the Scentwork Novice (SWN) title. In April, we will also give NACSW a try by hopefully passing the Odor Recognition Test (ORT). A dog must pass a container test in all three odors; birch, anise and clove before they can enter an NACSW trial. This is the only organization requiring an ORT to even start trialing in the venue. If we miss an odor, no big deal, we just have to wait for another ORT and pass the odor we missed. I'll keep you posted on our journey. Usually, the dog finds the hide, the handler is the one who messes up! I find the advice of the late Ron Gaunt, one of the founders of the NACSW and one of the best dog trainers I have ever met, to be some of the best advice I've ever heard, "trust your dog".



Found it!

This article is just a very short primer on the wonderful world of scentwork. Please see the websites below for more detailed information.

In closing, I started my high drive agility Pumi, (did I mention she is also the best agility dog I've ever trained? Love this breed), in nosework because it is a calming sport and a great compliment to the high drive, high arousal sport of agility. It has saved my sanity during long, cold Wisconsin winters when the dogs don't get to run outside much. Scentwork helps to mentally tire them out. Many times, a tired Pumi is a good Pumi.

Resources

[NACSW | NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE SCENT WORK](#)

[Nosework Forms and Rules | United Kennel Club \(UKC\) \(ukcdogs.com\)](#)

[AKC Scent Work – American Kennel Club](#)

Nosework – Is It A Good Activity For The Pumi?

By Lynne Johaneson

Nosework – or Scentwork, Scent Detection – different organizations call it different names has become a popular sport in the last decade. There are at least eight organizations offering trials across the US and Canada. So why is it so popular..... and Is it a good sport for our Pumi?

Yes! It is a natural and fun, engaging activity that gives the dog the opportunity to use its strongest sense, smell, to find a 'target' odour. Target odour is just an odour we have taught the dog to find and indicate that find to us. The sport was developed as a pet and sport dog activity. It mimics the real work done by Search and Rescue and Military canines. It requires teamwork between us, so it builds the relationship and trust between Pumi and its handler. Any dog can do this sport. The dog's olfactory system is so well developed that the dog can find anything we ask it to find...and many things we didn't ask it to find:-) The trick comes once they find it. Telling us where it is so we can reward their find. That is the piece we humans have to learn to understand when we play this intriguing game.

Why is the Pumi so right for this sport? After seeing many different breeds and mixed breeds, and humans with them, play this game, I can safely say the Pumi is perfect for Nosework. The Pumi comes with a desire to work, a desire to be active, a desire to learn, a desire to be rewarded, and a desire to be with their handler. The Pumi comes with a desire to sniff too!

What if your Pumi is a crazy teenager, who needs a lot of physical activity! Isn't Nosework a sedentary sport? Here is the thing. Most of the physical activities we do such as ball throwing, agility, running and walking, all build arousal. If you want them to calm down, you need a calmer activity. Nosework will be a calming activity because it uses the brain. It will also tire the dog at least as much as a good run will. It's a great activity for balancing the energy of our dogs....and ourselves.

What if your Pumi is reticent, reactive, aggressive, sensitive etc. One of the many unique things about Nosework is that this sport was developed FOR these types of dogs. Studies show that dogs in shelters benefit from learning Nosework. They become more adoptable because of the training they get in a non-compulsory way. In a trial situation the hosts and observers keep their distance, and never allow contact among dogs. In fact, at most competitions, it is a rule that we wait in our vehicles with our dogs unless we are pottying or getting ready for our turn. This takes the pressure off our dogs, making the environment safe, easier to work in, compared with other types of trials.

It doesn't seem to matter if the dog is not "perfect". We begin with a strong positive foundation based on our dog's desire to eat. If we have a solid foundation, the thing we build will last forever. So we don't skimp or jump ahead to the walls of the building until the cement floor is dry. This is the analogy we can use for all our dog sports from Trick Training to Obedience, to Agility, even to a great Recall.

What if your Pumi shuts down or won't work when the reinforcers diminish or stop while in a competition? No problem! In Nosework the paycheck never stops! The dog gets paid for the job whether it's for doing it at home, or in the highest level of competition. The expectation of a paycheck is what keeps most of us working. It's the same with our dog.

How do we teach our Pumi to play this game? There are several ways to teach it....online instruction, in-class, watching others, watching YouTube videos. One way to start any dog at any stage in its life is to begin using high value treats, or toy for our dog. Hide it, simply, at first, right in plain sight. Let them find it and eat or play with it. Stay at this level of easy finds until we see our dog run out to find it happily, trusting that we have put food out there and they can find it. Praise lavishly, and reward with more food or toy play for finding it. Progress to hiding the food or toy somewhere a bit more challenging. You can take it to different rooms in the house or outside, any place your Pumi will feel safe and will be able to focus on the game. Pretty soon, weeks, usually, you will see your dog get really excited at the prospect of playing the Search Game. Now we are building the strong foundation! What age is best to start this game? Any age, from 8 weeks, to 5, 10 years and beyond. The very first sense to develop, and the last sense to be lost, is the dog's sense of smell. It's a great game for a rehabbing dog, great for puppies, and awesome for senior dogs.

What about all this sniffing? Won't it make my dog sniffy in the agility or obedience ring? Not if we teach it apart from any other training. We use very few verbals. We use different cues, such as the harness and lead, which are used only for the searching game. How much does it cost? Nosework doesn't cost much, or need much equipment or much space. You will need a PULL harness. We want the dog to pull, as in tracking. A long line – and lots of great reinforcers. You will need to purchase vials of target pure essential oils, depending on the organizations you think you might compete in. They all have different rules. Competing isn't really necessary either. It is fun to have a guest hide your target vessel and show off your dog's amazing trick! Space – we can start this in the bathroom! After we use our house, we can take it outside where it is more challenging: to stores which allow dogs, to playgrounds, anywhere really that is safe. Just go have fun with your Pumi!

If you want to know more about this exciting sport for your Pumi check out these and many more websites:

<https://www.nacsw.net> – this site gives you a ton of information with links to the rules, instructors and workshops, and is a trialing association in the US

<https://www.fenzidogsportsacademy> Offers lessons online with awesome instructors.

AKC The American Kennel Club and CKC the Canadian Kennel Club and UKC United Kennel Club all sanction Nosework and have their rules and trial information on their websites. C-WAGS – Canine Work and Games <https://c-wags.org> is a great way for us to get started. It serves all of North America and its trials allow more leniency for beginning competitors.



The Pedigree Corner

By Chris Levy

The pedigree database now has over 13,000 Pumi in it! I've tried very hard to add as many dogs from the US as possible using show catalogs, AKC title reports, AKC Stud Book reports, and other AKC reports, plus of course asking breeders and owners to add and update their own dogs.

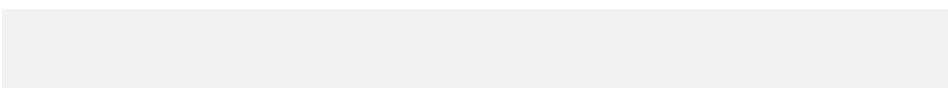
We're still recruiting pedigree enthusiasts from other countries. Helena Mattila (Karvavorvan) has agreed to be the point of contact for Finland, and Krisztina Menyhart (Kondacsipkedő) will do the same for Hungary. Fortunately, Sweden, Finland, France, Norway, Estonia, and Italy have their own online database of all registered dog available to the public, so we've been using those to add dogs from those countries and now have most of the leading kennels' dogs in there. Aurora Lovison (Italianstyle) from Italy is adding and updating all her dogs.

Recently an HPCA member asked me how many Pumi were in the US and I wondered how close we were to being able to get that figure from the Pumi Pedigree Database. I found out we are pretty close! At current count, there are 782 Pumi that have a Country of Origin or Resident County as the "United States". According to AKC's statistics, as of the end of July 2020 there were 674 registered with AKC. So I think we're pretty close.

I was also curious how many imports we had in this country. The AKC stats only record imported dogs from the time we received full status July 1, 2016 so that was no help (although there have been 68 recorded by them since that date). The Pumi Pedigree Database has 117 dogs broken down by the following countries from which they came:

Country	#	Country	#
Hungary	78	Croatia	1
Sweden	9	Estonia	1
United Kingdom	6	Slovenia	1
Finland	6	France	1
Italy	5	Netherlands	1
Germany	2	Norway	1
Slovakia	2	Romania	1
Czech Republic	2	Grand Total	117

This is important to know because those dogs are the foundation for the US breeding program. What's not counted here would be other lines that have come in through semen importation, and I'm aware of several breeders who have done this with dogs from Hungary, Sweden, Finland, and the UK.




In later articles I'll talk more about the **Advanced Search** function that allowed me to extract this information. A Bit about Data Privacy

This application is hosted in The Netherlands. The European Union of which they are a part, has a *General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*. What it means for us is that no one's name can be listed as owner or breeder without their permission. A kennel name is OK – it's the personal information like name, address, phone, etc. that is protected by the GDPR.


If you want anyone using the system to be able to see that you are the owner and/or breeder of a dog, you must agree to have your information “public”. On your account into, click the “I want a public page” checkbox. This allows you to add your name to the dog as breeder and/or owner and have it display for others' view. When a user sees your name (or kennel name) on the dog, they can click your name and it will bring up another screen with additional information about you (like country). If you would like people to be able to contact you, click the checkbox for “a contact form so people can send me an email” on your account information. Your email address is never displayed on this application to prevent unwanted bots from obtaining your email address.

Barnum, Maria

Photo gallery



Owned animals (1) ^

CH Catskill Furge Falat Frankie *BN RE MX MXJ NF DCAT CGC TKA* ♂ 

DN49866702, 04/04/2017, Black

Contact

contact name : Maria Barnum
address : United States
website :

Send a message

Name:

Email:

Message:

I'm not a robot

Bred animals (0) ^

Helpful Hints

1. **Resident Country:** When you're updating your dogs, the Country of Origin is assumed to be the Resident Country unless that dog has changed countries. If it has changed countries, the current valid Registration Number should be the one from the Resident Country and if known,

the original registration number should go in the Other Registration Number field. For example, if a dog was imported from Hungary:

Reg. No.: DN12345678

Other Registration No.: 1234/19

Resident Country: United States

Country of Origin: Hungary

- Hungarian registration numbers** all begin with "MET.Pm." and for simplicity's sake, we are leaving off that portion. If the dog is Hungarian, the Reg. No. would just be the 4 numbers, slash, 2-digit year of birth (e.g. 1234/19). That is not true of other countries however. Most have a very short letter prefix to tell you in which country they are registered.
- Stud Dog List:** if you want to have your dog listed in the Stud Dog List, you need to 1) be listed as the owner of the dog, and 2) set the BreedDog field to "Active". This will automatically add your dog to the list of stud dogs. If you have frozen semen available for him, check the Frozen Semen Available checkbox.
- Breeder List:** On your account information, check the box for "Add my name to the breeders list." As you can see this is the same screen as for Owners, just with more information. Putting yourself on the Breeders List will add you to the list of breeders on the website. Please be sure to add a photo for your listing.

breeders

search


Name

country:

Region


random results

Ederra Pumi




United States, CA
We are a small, family and home based breeding program dedicated to perfecting the qualities and traits of the Pumi breed. We do complete health testing above and beyond the minimal recommendations. Our puppies are hand raised in our home and many of our Pumi have grown up to be successful in many capacities

Kondacsipkedő Pumik



Hungary, Pest

Serteperti



Hungary, Hungary

If they click on your listing they will get this screen:

Serteperti
Add information

health tests summary

Photo gallery

Contact
kennel/owner : Serteperti
contact name : Gabriella Kassai
address : Széchenyi utca 22/A
2118
Dány
Hungary
Hungary
phone : +36204795643
website : www.serteperti.hu

Send a message
Name:
Email:
Message:
 I'm not a robot
Send

Litters (1)

Mariell de Marque Loremo Av Fylgia x Cuidado Xquisite Xotic
02/01/2019, 5 male(s), 1 female(s)

Male breeding animals (3)

HJCH HGH HSCH HGCH MPKCH Árkosligeteki Kócos Degesz ♂
6866/13, 06/10/2013

Inflame's Sampo ♂
589/H/16, 05/25/2016, Black

HJCH Napos Hüvelyk Matyi ♂
FI45943/18, 08/08/2016, Gray

Female breeding animals (4)

HJCH HGH HSCH HGCH Cuidado Xquisite Xotic ♀²
422/16, 01/20/2016, Black


HJCH HGH Ludas Matyi Lonci ♀
749/R/17, 07/19/2017

More on this screen in later newsletter issues.

Other Health Info Field

The *Other Health Info* field is for anything additional you want to add about the dog's health. For those who are doing the Optimal Selection or Embark DNA tests, there is a gene for an eye problem that a few Pumi have shown to be carriers of. The mutation is called **Cone-Rod Dystrophy, (cord1-PRA/crds4)**. If your Pumi has this gene, please put that exact wording in the *Other Health Info* field so that we can track it's distribution in the Pumi.

Account Information

When you chose to get a login, you filled out some fields and clicked "Submit". You can go back and change those fields as needed by clicking the person icon  in the upper right-hand corner of the screen and choose "edit my account". Some of the information in this article will be associated with the fields and checkboxes on that screen.

As always, I am available to help or answer questions. Just email me at chris@abiquadogs.com.

New Title Holders (November 2020 – February 2021)

Agility

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Agility Excellent	Abiqua Riana CD BN RI AX OAJ OF BCAT CGC TKA	2/28/2021	Shirley Reid
Agility FAST Novice	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest NA NAJ NF ACT1	11/8/2020	Ronda Clark D.V.M.
Agility FAST Novice	Giddy-Up-Go Alpine Big Bend Brewery NA NF ACT2 DS DJ	11/8/2020	Mrs. Cathy Simon
Agility FAST Open	Abiqua Riana CD BN RI OA OAJ OF BCAT CGC TKA	2/26/2021	Shirley Reid
Agility FAST Open	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest NA NAJ OF ACT1	12/4/2020	Ronda Clark D.V.M.
Excellent Agility Jumper	Abiqua Rozsi At Mayalu NA AXJ TKN	12/11/2020	Ms. Karen Beattie Massey & Charlene Hoch
Excellent Agility Jumper	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest OA AXJ OF ACT1	1/30/2021	Ronda Clark D.V.M.
Excellent Agility Jumper	Cypress Bay Sweet Pepper OA AXJ BCAT	2/5/2021	J.R. Emmanuelli & Donna Pizzulli
Master Agility Excellent	Cypress Bay's Csaba MX AXJ CGC TKP	11/22/2020	George Abell & Rosemary Abell
Master Excellent Jumper Preferred 3	Blueridge Vista Derus MXP MJP3 MJPB NFP CA BCAT CGC TKN	11/15/2020	Rena Barnett
Master Gold Jumper 2	MACH4 Abiqua Hetyke CM RN MXS2 MJG2 MFS TQX T2B6 CGC TKA	11/28/2020	Kathie Ogden
Master Silver Jumper	Mayalu's Charbono BN RE MX MXB MXJ MJS MFG T2B4 CA FCAT	11/28/2020	Marla Marlow & Karen Beattie Massey
Novice Agility	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest NA NAJ ACT1	11/7/2020	Ronda Clark D.V.M.
Novice Agility	Giddy-Up-Go Alpine Big Bend Brewery NA NF ACT2 DS DJ	11/8/2020	Mrs. Cathy Simon
Novice Agility Jumper	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest NA NAJ ACT1	11/7/2020	Ronda Clark D.V.M.
Novice Agility Jumper	Buttermilk Crik's Tejano Alice NAJ	11/14/2020	Maria Yolanda McElyea
Open Agility	Abiqua Riana CD BN RI OA NAJ NF BCAT CGC TKA	11/13/2020	Shirley Reid
Open Agility	Buttermilk Crik's Amarillo By Morning OA OAJ OF	12/19/2020	ANNA MARIE BURKE
Open Agility	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest OA OAJ OF ACT1	12/6/2020	Ronda Clark D.V.M.
Open Agility Jumper	Abiqua Riana CD BN RI OA OAJ OF BCAT CGC TKA	2/26/2021	Shirley Reid
Open Agility Jumper	Buttermilk Crik's Amarillo By Morning OA OAJ OF	12/19/2020	ANNA MARIE BURKE
Open Agility Jumper	Buttermilk Crik's It's A Long Way To Buda-Pest NA OAJ OF ACT1	12/5/2020	Ronda Clark D.V.M.

Canine Good Citizen

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Canine Good Citizen	Karizma's Bruni The Fire Spirit CGC	11/2/2020	Sylvia Oglesby & John Oglesby
Canine Good Citizen	Schnaubern Alshain Star FDC CGC TKA	12/7/2020	Heather Phillips & Levia Grase Phillips
Canine Good Citizen	Trisong's Lotti Da Di We Like To Party CGC	1/5/2021	Mrs. Alexis Ross Dwyer & Mr. Robert Gordon Dwyer & Mrs. Carla Quigg Ross
Canine Good Citizen	Waiting For The Link CGC	2/29/2020	Morgan Motreneec

Conformation

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Champion	CH Abiqua Vagyon TKI	1/14/2021	Susan Harris
Champion	CH Abiqua Vezer CA BCAT	2/26/2021	Kimberly Thomas
Champion	CH Csunyatelepi Csuda	1/30/2021	Cindy Cassidy
Champion	CH Ederra's Lovely To Look At	12/6/2020	Dianne Halper
Champion	CH Ego Dog's Gossip Made Me Famous	11/28/2020	Ginger Butler
Champion	CH Karizma's Felicity Shagwell	11/30/2020	Marilyn Funke
Champion	CH Nixie Phantasia	12/9/2020	Ms. Margretta Lundquist & Mrs. Cynthia Moore & Mr. Keith Moore
Champion	CH Pumiden Not Going Out	1/9/2021	Susan V Claggett & Ashlee Claggett & Charles B Claggett
Champion	CH Riptide's Han Solo BN RN CGC	12/5/2020	Judy Piros
Champion	CH Silhouette N' Northwoods Raisin' Kane	12/11/2020	Phillip Warren & Heidi Warren
Champion	CH Trisong Southern Girl At Caprock	2/25/2021	David and Jennifer Harper & Dr. Susan Schultz
Grand Champion	GCH CH Aprodombi Meresz Maszat Marci	1/15/2021	Cindy Cassidy
Grand Champion	GCH CH Ederra's Meant To Be	12/11/2020	Terrie Cowan & Maria Arechaederra & Ed Cowan
Grand Champion	GCH CH Trisong's To Infinity And Beyond	2/5/2021	Ms. Debra Greene & Alyson D Casper
Grand Champion Bronze	GCHB CH Aprodombi Meresz Maszat Marci	2/25/2021	Cindy Cassidy
Grand Champion Bronze	GCHB CH Blacksheepleaderof The Squadron	11/13/2020	Connie Drake & Beth Launder
Grand Champion Gold	GCHG CH Catskill Apacatancos Anka CM2 PT OA OAJ CA BCAT	12/8/2020	Ildiko Repasi & Laszlo Sulyok
Grand Champion Silver	GCHS CH Aprodombi Meresz Mocsok	11/24/2020	Cindy Cassidy

Coursing

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
BCAT	Abiqua Vezer BCAT	12/5/2020	Kimberly Thomas
BCAT	Buttermilk Crik's Boogie Back To Bastrop BCAT	11/14/2020	Linda Barrett
BCAT	CH Midnight Lady's Alomarcu Lany CA BCAT	11/8/2020	Theresa Weber & Debra Thornton
Coursing Ability	CH Abiqua Vezer CA BCAT	2/26/2021	Kimberly Thomas
DCAT	Buttermilk Crik's Boogie Back To Bastrop DCAT	2/13/2021	Linda Barrett
DCAT	Catskill Csipos Csuzli AX AXJ MXF DCAT CGC TKN	1/8/2021	Pat Wright
DCAT	Catskill Moka Miki Ponca CA DCAT DS DJ CGC	11/14/2020	Ms. Valeri Maisch
DCAT	CH Mayalu's Bartek NAJ NF DCAT	11/15/2020	Linda Barrett & Karen Beattie Massey
DCAT	Karizma N Wright's Lucio Runs with Rhythm NA NAJ OAP OF DCAT	11/1/2020	Mrs. Pat Wright
FCAT	CH Mayalu's Bartek NAJ NF FCAT	2/28/2021	Linda Barrett & Karen Beattie Massey

Dock Diving

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Dock Junior	Waiting For The Link DJ CGC	9/11/2020	Morgan Motrenec
Dock Novice	Onyxbay's Naughty In Napa With Neet BCAT DSA DJ CGCA TKN	10/9/2020	Cynthia Neet & John Neet & Sarah Hughes
Dock Senior	Waiting For The Link DS DJ CGC	9/12/2020	Morgan Motrenec
Dock Senior	Giddy-Up-Go Alpine Big Bend Brewery ACT2 DS DJ	10/2/2020	Mrs. Cathy Simon
Dock Senior Excellent	Onyxbay's Naughty In Napa With Neet BCAT DSX DJ CGCA TKN	10/11/2020	Cynthia Neet & John Neet & Sarah Hughes

Farm Dog

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Farm Dog Certified	Catskill Fenyas Filler Rubik HT FDC	10/11/2020	Ms. Jo Anne Molnar-Kiefer
Farm Dog Certified	CH Blacksheep Candy Man FDC FCAT3 CGCA CGCU TKA ATT	11/14/2020	Ms. Carol L Ray

Obedience

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Obedience Master 6	Abiqua Lanyka UDX3 OM6 RE CGC	12/9/2020	Bruce Coffman & Sandra Coffman

Rally

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Rally Advanced Excellent	CH Ederra's Sabbia Bianca CD BN RAE NA NAJ NF BCAT SWN SHDN CGC TKN	12/10/2020	Diane Elizabeth Fletcher
Rally Intermediate	Blueridge Vista Huba RI	11/27/2020	Ms. J Nover-Horn
Rally Novice	Far East Silverado RN	11/1/2020	Bruce C Coffman & Sandra S Coffman
Rally Novice	Mayalu's Ever RN AX AXJ	12/18/2020	Karen Beattie Massey

Scent Work

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Scent Work Buried Novice	Blacksheep Cornus Powder Keg RA NA NAJ NF BCAT SWN DJ CGC TKN	1/2/2021	Corrine Dreyfus & Frank Dreyfus
Scent Work Container Excellent	CH Abiqua Odavisz CA SWA SCE SBE TKA	12/5/2020	Josephine A Gast & Rebecca Gast
Scent Work Container Novice	Amerikai Fast Gin Fizz SCN SIN	11/29/2020	Ms. Paula Stevens
Scent Work Novice	Blacksheep Cornus Powder Keg RA NA NAJ NF BCAT SWN DJ CGC TKN	1/2/2021	Corrine Dreyfus & Frank Dreyfus

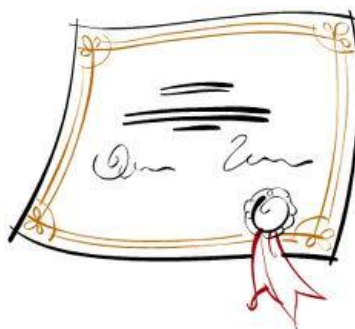
Temperament Test

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
AKC Temperament Test	Waiting For The Link DS DJ CGC ATT	2/1/2021	Morgan Motre nec

Trick Dog

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Trick Dog Advanced	Catskill Moka Miki Ponca CA DCAT DS DJ CGC TKA	2/23/2021	Ms. Valeri Maisch
Trick Dog Advanced	Copper's Dream Oliver Ashby-Bowman TKA	1/22/2021	Heather Stimson & Shirley Ashby
Trick Dog Advanced	Mayalu's Fiadh TKA	2/8/2021	Yuanshuo Alice Wang
Trick Dog Intermediate	Catskill Moka Miki Ponca CA DCAT DS DJ CGC TKI	2/22/2021	Ms. Valeri Maisch
Trick Dog Intermediate	CH Ederra's Sabbia Bianca CD BN RAE NA NAJ NF BCAT SWN SHDN CGC TKI	12/28/2020	DIANE ELIZABETH FLETCHER
Trick Dog Intermediate	Copper's Dream Oliver Ashby-Bowman TKI	11/11/2020	Heather Stimson & Shirley Ashby
Trick Dog Intermediate	Mayalu's Fiadh TKI	1/27/2021	Yuanshuo Alice Wang
Trick Dog Intermediate	Mayalu's Fianna TKI	1/11/2021	Denise Visco & Karen Beattie Massey

Title	Dog Name	Date	Owner(s)
Trick Dog Novice	Catskill Moka Miki Ponca CA DCAT DS DJ CGC TKN	2/21/2021	Ms. Valeri Maisch
Trick Dog Novice	Mayalu's Fiadh TKN	1/26/2021	Yuanshuo Alice Wang
Trick Dog Novice	Mayalu's Fianna TKN	1/10/2021	Denise Visco & Karen Beattie Massey



2021 Year-to-Date Ranking Pumik in AKC Events

AGILITY

TOP PUMIK IN AGILITY MACH COMPETITION

Limited to Events Processed Through Friday, March 5, 2021

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	Dbl Q's	Score
1	MACH4 Abiqua Hetyke CM RN MXS2 MJG2 MFS TQX T2B6 CGC TKA	B	132	3	162
2	Abiqua Pompas MX AXJ XF ACT2 TKN	B	109	2	129
3	Amerikai Jar Jar Binks Senator Of Naboo AX MXJ XF	D	100	2	120
4	Mayalu's Carmenere MX MXB MXJ MJB MFB	B	82	2	102
5	CH Catskill Furge Falat Frankie BN RE MX MXJ MJB NF DCAT CGC TKA	D	44	2	64
6	Amerikai Lila Hercegno RN MX MXJ MJB MFB T2B	B	42	0	42
7	Mayalu's Charbono BN RE MX MXB MXJ MJS MFG T2B4 CA FCAT	D	32	0	32
8	Klipsan Nagano MX MXJ	B	26	0	26
9	Mayalu's Ever RN AX AXJ	D	21	0	21
10	Mayalu's Daeira AX AXJ XF	B	20	0	20

TOP PUMIK IN AGILITY PACH COMPETITION

Limited To Events Processed Through March 5, 2021

Rank	Name	Sex	Points	Dbl Q's	Score
1	Catskill Dongo Darazs Dzsessz Dallam RM MXP MJP MFP TKP	D	90	2	110
2	Mayalu Apollo's Race To The Stars AX MXJ OF	D	19	0	19



CONFORMATION

ALL BREED RANKING 01/01/2021 THRU 03/09/2021

Rank	Name	Sex	BIS	Group Placements				BOB/V	Defeated
				I	II	III	IV		
1	GCHB CH Aprodombi Meresz Maszat Marci	D	0	0	2	2	3	27	1,401
2	CH Riptide's Han Solo BN RN CGC	D	0	0	0	0	1	2	111
3	GCH CH Trisong's To Infinity And Beyond	D	0	0	0	0	0	3	17
4	CH Nixie Phantasia	D	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
5	Calypso Davy Jones	D	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
6	CH Trisong Southern Girl At Caprock	B	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
6	Trisong's Lotti Da Di We Like To Party CGC TKN	D	0	0	0	0	1	3	5

BREED TOTALS 01/01/2021 THRU 03/09/2021

Rank	Name	Sex	BOB/V	Defeated
1	GCHB CH Aprodombi Meresz Maszat Marci	D	27	115
2	GCH CH Trisong's To Infinity And Beyond	D	3	17
3	CH Nixie Phantasia	D	1	7
4	Calypso Davy Jones	D	1	6
5	CH Trisong Southern Girl At Caprock	B	1	5
5	Trisong's Lotti Da Di We Like To Party CGC TKN	B	1	5
7	CH Riptide's Han Solo BN RN CGC	D	2	2

OBEDIENCE

01/01/2021 THRU 03/09/2021

Rank	Name	Sex	PTS
No dogs in competition			

RALLY

01/01/2021 THRU 03/09/2021

Rank	Name	Sex	PTS	TRIPL Q's
No dogs in competition				

NATIONAL OWNER-HANDLED SERIES (NOHS)

NOHS RANKING 10/08/2020 THRU 03/09/2021

Rank	Name	Sex	NOHS Pts.
1	CH Karizma's Felicity Shagwell	B	95
2	CH Abiqua Vezer CA BCAT	D	55
3	GCHS CH Abiqua Opal CA BCAT SWN	B	45
3	Copper's Carolina To Texas	B	45
5	Far East Blazing Saddles	D	40
6	Karizma's Elfin Magic	D	25
7	GCH CH Trisong's To Infinity And Beyond	D	20
8	Pattogo Parazs Hedi	B	15
8	CH Riptide's Han Solo BN RN CGC	D	15
10	Blacksheep Cornus Powder Keg RA NA NAJ NF BCAT SWN DJ CGC TKN	B	10
10	GCH CH Ederra's Meant To Be	B	10
10	CH Ego Dog's Gossip Made Me Famous	B	10

FAST CAT

As of March 22, 2021.

Rank	Dog Name	Sex	MPH
1	CH Abiqua Vezer CA BCAT	Dog	27.56
2	Karizma N Wright's Lucio Runs with Rhythm NA NAJ OAP OF DCAT	Dog	26.99
3	CH Mayalu's Bartek NAJ NF FCAT	Dog	26.20
4	Catskill Csipos Csuzli AX AXJ MXF DCAT CGC TKN	Dog	25.52
5	GCH CH Trisong's To Infinity And Beyond	Dog	25.30
6	Buttermilk Crik's Boogie Back To Bastrop DCAT	Bitch	24.40
7	Post Jurgen	Dog	15.45

Kids Corner...

G-MAN ANTICS

By Shirley Reed Russell Illustration by Debby Warden.

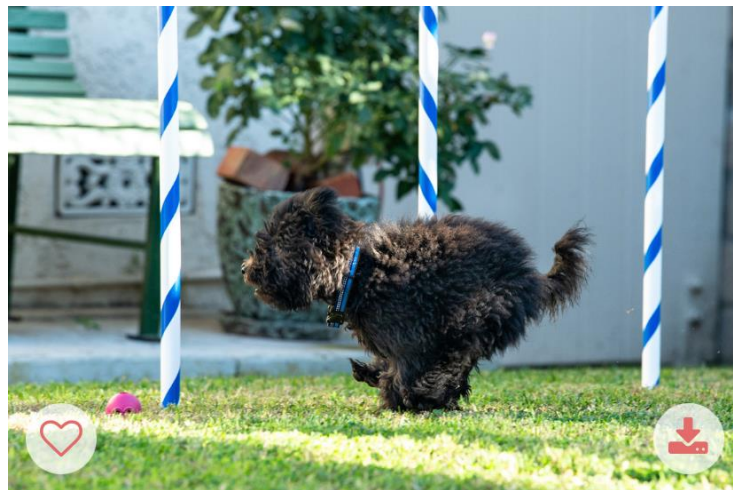
G was in danger this morning. He was very brave. I am very proud of him for keeping us safe.

A black bag flew into the backyard. It started chasing G. G fought back and chased it. It had motions that G hadn't seen. It flew over his head. Flew across the driveway with G giving chase.

Finally, the bag decided it had met its match and flew over the fence. G gave a few more strong barks. "And don't come back!" Gadzooks explained to G that it was only a black poop bag. G didn't care. I told G he was very brave and thanked him for protecting us. Everyone got delicious treats!



The real "G" →





A reminder about the Pumi Versatility Award Program

HPCA established the Pumi Versatility Award Program in October 2015, which recognizes the inherent versatility of the Pumi. The award recognizes dogs that participate and achieve certificates/titles in various types of competitions, including conformation, herding, obedience, agility, tracking, and other dog sports and activities in a total of 17 different categories. Non-AKC certificates/titles can count towards this HPCA title.

The program is open to Hungarian Pumi Club of America members in good standing.

There are 4 levels of versatility awards:

VP1 (Versatile Pumi Level 1)

VP2 (Versatile Pumi Level 2)

VP3 (Versatile Pumi Level 3)

VP Gold (Versatile Pumi Gold)

Information about the Versatility Program can be found on the HPCA web page

<https://pumiclub.org/club-info-2/hall-of-fame/hpca-versatility-awards/> .

The Versatility Award Application form can be downloaded from: <https://pumiclub.org/members-only/member-forms/>

We'd like to see more applications for the Versatility Awards!

Please contact Meir Ben-Dror, Versatility Chair, at meir@pumi.dog or Facebook PM if you have any questions.



Team Asztro's Journey into the Herding World

By Meir Ben-Dror

On February 7, 2009, a nice sunny Saturday we took our no-call-name-yet little fur ball of a 4 month Pumi puppy (Bohemia Vivace Ash) who arrived to us by himself on a flight from Prague 6 days before, to a sheep farm in the area to a herding clinic to see his reaction to sheep. When our turn came to go in the enclosure with the livestock, he showed surprising eagerness to move the little flock and showed incredible power for his size. He was not quite sure yet whether he was supposed to do this, and every few minutes he ran to me to seek encouragement, which he got, recharging his confidence level. We were impressed, the farm owner was impressed and was willing to schedule lessons for us starting in a couple of months. At the same time, we also had hopes he'd grow up a good if not great agility and obedience dog, as well as his conformation will be good for physical activities and shows.

For several months Asztro was getting socialized in puppy classes, while getting both basic obedience and puppy agility instruction – we're practitioners of clicker training.

Since I'm fluent in Hungarian, I read all I could find about the 3 Hungarian herding breeds' training for work and watching video clips, I started to form a picture how the Pumi, Puli and the Mudi work. I bought several books about herding and read them from cover to cover. The majority of books available in the US about training herding dogs mainly deal with Border Collies, so already being aware of the differences between herding styles, namely of "eye" dogs like the Border Collie, and the "loose eye, upright" herding dogs, such as the traditional continental European herding dogs – the Pumi among them, I could selectively apply parts of these books. I started to work with Asztro on basic herding related exercises, such as flanking directions, "stop" and "look back" as part of obedience training and even during play.

Until Asztro was 6 months old, he got a few more sessions with sheep, a few minutes each time, just to keep up his interest, because herding for a puppy is more fatiguing mentally than physically.

Training for agility and formal obedience was done by Nancy, always according to his age physically, but he showed more focus than we expected from a puppy his age. Naturally he was very playful, but when he was being trained in any discipline, he was always very business-like.

At 6 months, herding training started in earnest. The first lesson was an attempt by the instructor to make Asztro behave like a Border Collie. He expected the dog to lie down at every stop, wanted the dog far from the sheep. My explanation how these dogs work didn't leave any impression on the instructor. I never scheduled a lesson again at that place. In the meantime, looking for anything on Facebook about herding with Pumik in Hungary, I found the website of Krisztina Menyhart, a respected Pumi breeder and herding instructor in Hungary, whose home-bred bitch was a Hungarian national herding champion. Her website has the only written method for training a Pumi (and the other Hungarian herding breeds) she authored. I got in touch with her and explained my predicament. Krisztina was eager to help and became my long-distance mentor.

At that point I found another herding facility, where they were somewhat more open to accept that there are dogs out there who don't work like BC's. Training, though, was done with only 3-4 sheep as

the customary practice with Border Collies. For a few months, we had a big problem: Asztro would run full steam into the 3 sheep, who will promptly scatter, then the merry chase started with Asztro trying to round them up, and the sheep doing their best not to let the pesky dog near them. I kept begging for more sheep, as I was trying to explain that Pumi are naturally large flock herders, and 3 sheep seems to them as strays from the flock.

Beginner Pumi don't realize that the 3 are the flock and there is no large flock the strays must be chased back to. Hungarians start a beginner dog on a "small flock of 30 to 50 head" as they say. This size flock is more cohesive, which makes it impossible for the dog to scatter them unintentionally, and makes the dog go around them and not through when flanking. Flanking in herding is the dog going left or right of the livestock to the point where the dog's pressure will push the flock in the required direction or prevent them from turning. The outrun to fetch the flock at this point didn't help the sheep stay together and proceed calmly at the direction Asztro was trying to push them: it was a full cavalry charge towards the sheep, as if he wanted them for lamb chop dinner. Hungarian herding dogs (and other smaller herding dogs) who work with large flocks, are wired to do the outrun at full speed, as if they're attacking the flock. A large flock won't budge if a medium/small dog creeps towards them – some aggressive sheep breeds may even attack such dog they perceive as a predator stalking them. The sheep react to the "attacking" dog by moving away from it, at which point the experienced dog slows down, takes the best distance to keep the flock moving at the speed required by the shepherd.

Amid the struggle to make proper outruns and flanks, we got word of the 2009 World Dog Show being held in Bratislava, Slovakia. We decided to go, enter Asztro in all the shows in Hungary before the WDS, and then drive over to Bratislava to the WDS. Asztro turned a year old just before the trip. We also entered the Slovak Kennel Club show after the WDS. This was when we decided to bring home a Pumi bitch to start a breeding program. We found a female from the Cseri-Subas kennel, 2 months Asztro's junior.



Krisztina arranged two herding days for us. She bribed a shepherd (one of his dogs was a Pumi) in the area to let us use his flock of over 100 head out in their regular grazing area, among fields still not cleared from crops. That was the best thing to get Asztro understand how to work a real flock. He started to flank properly, regulated his speed and distance to move the flock relatively calmly, he even showed initiative when several sheep tried to stray into the cornfield next to the pasture, and without any prompting he took off and chased them back

to the flock. The biggest compliment we got was that the shepherd told us that he would take Asztro in a minute to work for him. We had a great time at the shows, Asztro did well, we met other Pumi and their owners from all over Europe and the US. It was nice to meet Facebook acquaintances in person.

Armed with photos and videos from Hungary, I convinced my instructor that it's better to work with more sheep and increasing the number to 8-12 head, with Asztro utilizing his experience in Hungary, the training became smoother and we were advancing at a faster pace. My instructor, a Border Collie

owner/competitor, got a Beauceron and started to train in the Continental style, so we both learned from each other. Since then she made her fame by working with many different breeds very successfully.

Besides herding, Asztro was continued advancing in his agility and obedience training, competing, and titling, and at the age of 3 and 4 he was invited to the AKC Agility Invitational in Orlando.



We also reached the point that Asztro was ready to start trialing in herding. We started with the AKC A course and it took several trials and more training until he didn't blow apart the set-out sheep at the outrun, being overenthusiastic. At the time, AKC trials didn't see many different breeds, and many judges took off points if the dog didn't work like a Border Collie. Finally, we became more consistent and got the first trial title.

Then my instructor made me aware the American Herding Breed Association (AHBA). The organization started before AKC had herding trials, and the courses, especially the ranch courses are more reflective of real work, rather than the more choreographed movements favored by the AKC point system in judging their trials. The AHBA Ranch Large Flock trials are very similar to the FCI herding trials, which are also based on real ranch work.

We started to train for the AHBA arena courses, and practiced some farm chores with the flock as the ranch trials are not on a set course, but based on compulsory obstacles/chores set up and sequenced according to the terrain and the trial grounds' features.

After trialing and titling on 3 types of AHBA courses at level 1 (novice), we traveled to Hungary in 2013 to the World Dog Show in Budapest. The Hungarian Kennel Club held a special show and event for all the Hungarian herding and Livestock Guardian breeds where Asztro did the FCI Working Herding Test. The test was easy because of Asztro's experience trialing; the test course reminded me of a mix of an AHBA arena course and a simplified ranch course. In FCI dogs can't start trialing in herding unless they have the HWT certificate. A few days earlier we went to a herding workshop that was organized by Krisztina Menyhart at the Opusztaszer National Historical Park (a museum of Hungarian farm life heritage), using a flock of native Racka sheep kept there under the care of a volunteer group of herding enthusiasts. After the workshop I was invited with Asztro to return with the group during Pentecost, which is a national holiday in Hungary, to do herding demonstrations for the visitors at the park. I considered this a great honor, since Asztro handled the Racka from the first encounter as if he grew up with them. They're difficult sheep to handle and breeds other than the Hungarian herding breeds usually have a difficult time trying to work with them. There were Pulik, Pumik and Mudik there, taking turns with the flock. We had a great time! When I was up with Asztro, the spectators were probably wondering why that guy is giving commands in English to his Pumi. When I started Asztro's training, I was considering teaching him the herding commands in Hungarian. Then I reconsidered,

figuring that at clinics English all around, I'd using the traditional commands.

I also started to train who had the ability to consistently and potential for trialing, the training time and he was the most that point.



and trials, hearing better just work English herding

our younger dogs focus at the job showed good but gave most of effort to Asztro, as advanced at

In June 2016, during an extremely hot weekend we trialed on a French Regulation Course, according to the French Herding Association rules (the FCI herding trials are broadly based on that), counting as AHBA Ranch Large Flock trial. In France, competitors can enter these trials starting at novice level, only after receiving a certificate of apprenticeship from a professional shepherd. At the end of the trial, like in France, besides placement according to the score, each qualifying competitor gets a certificate of classification. Both Asztro and Zenta got "Excellent", Asztro at Intermediate level and Zenta at Novice level.



We started to train on ducks 5 years ago, when my instructor just set up her farm with livestock, including ducks. Working with ducks refines the dog's work with sheep, as the courses are much smaller, the ducks move much slower and require a fraction of the pressure sheep do. Knowing that not every herding dog will want to work with ducks, I took all our Pumik to see who is a good candidate to train on them. Duna, who already had herding titles was not interested at all, while she's all business with sheep. Zenta, Csoban and Buda, having titles on sheep were interested in ducks, as well as Asztro. It took a year before we trialed on ducks and got the first title in two trials. One of the trials offered a turkey class and I entered to try it. I had no opportunity to practice on turkeys beforehand, but my instructor gave me a few pointers how to handle them. At the trial Asztro didn't hesitate and started to work as I asked him to, as I was trying my best to "read" the stock. We qualified and got third place. We finished the level 1 arena title and went on to a Ranch Large Flock (25 head) trial with turkeys, and eventually titled in that course. Then while we were practicing with sheep preparing for level III – the highest level, we trialed on ducks at level II. We finished the Herding Trial Arena Dog (HTAD) level III in

September 2018. Now we could start working towards the herding championship, by earning 10 championship points. Each score of 80% and up at any Level III trial counts as one championship point. At the next trial we finished the two other Level III titles: Ranch Large Flock (RLF) and Herding Ranch Dog (HRD), as well as HTAD level II ducks. At that trial we earned 3 championship points. Trialing for championship points felt a little strange: No matter what placement the score brought me, even if it was first, getting less than 80 points was a letdown, and felt almost like an NQ, although the upside was that I also considered each trial as a realistic training session, and Team Asztro gaining more experience.

In April 2019 we entered an arena trial on goats. We managed to practice on goats only twice before the trial and finished the level I title at the following trial. Asztro is simply brilliant as he learns to read different species of livestock and works with them accordingly.

At this point we needed 3 more championship points to finish. We entered and drove almost 9 hours to a trial around Memphis, TN for the first time there, as we were expecting a litter before the next trial in NC a week later. The weekend went well, Asztro was great and we finished with the last 3 points there on May 12, 2019. According to the AHBA statistics, Asztro became the first and so far, only Pumi earning that title in the US and Europe (AHBA runs trials in several European countries, besides the US). There are herding champion Pumi in Hungary, earning the titles in traditional Hungarian style herding trials, which are unique, and not associated with FCI or AHBA.

That summer Asztro finished his level III arena duck, and level II arena goat titles at the same weekend.

I was surprised by the ducks at that trial: they were Peking Ducks, which are very rarely used for herding due to their nasty and uncooperative disposition, and they don't flock well. If pushed, they can turn on the dog like geese, or they play dead. They just plop down, pretend they're dead, unless the dog is far away.

Our first run was not good, our score was below the qualifying level, but at least we learned the behavior of these guys. The next day I had a different strategy and made Asztro take one step at a time and pause on command to reduce pressure. It seemed like eternity to finish the course and pen the ducks. I was sure that we'd be disqualified for exceeding the allowed course time. I thanked the judge that she let us finish the course as training, without whistling to dismiss us. She informed me that I still had a minute and a half left and congratulated me for the first place in my class and high in trial score!

In November 2019 Asztro finished the level I arena title on geese. We worked with geese for the first time a few weeks before the trial, when we had two short practice sessions on my instructor's newly acquired geese.

Last year, due to the epidemic, we didn't have any training for 8 months, and until just recently, training was very sporadic for the remainder of the year. Trials started up only in November. We need to catch up with the lost time before resuming trialing, and our younger dogs will be ready for trialing as well.

Asztro always had the temperament of a traditional working herding dog. We trialed in thunderstorms around, pouring rain that we could barely see the course, on flooded courses, in water up to his hocks,

and on frost covered fields in temperatures in the teens. He never hesitated and was always eager to work. Once we were at a trial near an active gun range, where the gun shots freaked out a lot of dogs. Asztro never flinched since we live in a rural area where neighbors hunt and do target practice on their properties and he's used to it. At a ranch trial in VA, we had to drive the sheep to a designated grazing area and recall the dog when the flock was immobile and relaxed, before sending the dog out again to fetch them. Just as I was recalling Asztro, a very loud gunshot rang out from the neighboring property. Asztro went into his protective mode, and instead of running back to me, he started to circle around the flock, pushing the sheep tighter together, while he was looking around to see where the perceived danger is coming from. Only then he relaxed and came back to me. I was told the neighbor hunts on that property.

Asztro is used to traveling and loves spending time with me away from home. He is completely at ease going to motels and makes himself comfortable in the room. He always finds the room we're staying in when we come back to the motel after a trial.

At trials he always stays by my feet while we're waiting our turn and watching the other competitors. When I go to the judge's briefing before my class and walk the course, he stays sitting on my chair, watching over our things. He'd never budge from there even if I disappear from sight. He is very protective of my car when he is in it. He barks at anybody approaching, and even my instructor whom he's known for over 11 years and loves can't be near the car as she gets the same treatment.

On a hot summer day, we were at a herding clinic at the sheep farm when we took a lunch break. I left Asztro in the car with open doors under a shady tree, in his crate and took a ride with several other participants to the local restaurant. When we got back after an hour, I noticed that I forgot to close his crate – he was sitting in it, facing the wide-open door, waiting for me.

The funniest episode happened at a Ranch Large Flock trial. On the course we had to take the flock through an open gate, on the path leading to a footbridge over a creek, on the way to several other obstacles. Just as we got to the bridge, I noticed that 4 sheep stayed behind by the gate and were eating from a bucket. It was a tricky situation, because most of the flock was on the bridge already and going back to get the stragglers could cause the rest of the flock just wander away and get off course. I sent Asztro to go back and get the strays. They didn't even pick up their heads from the bucket when Asztro barked at them (one of the few times ever that he used his voice on livestock). He then went over the bucket, lifted his leg, and peed right in there. The sheep picked up their heads and scooted away, Asztro rounded them up quickly and brought them back to the flock. The other competitors who were watching the course noticed it too and were laughing and applauding. They were all sorry that they didn't have time to take a video of what happened. We finished the course, got first place for a real nice run, beating a Border Collie for High In Trial.

I could write a whole book about Asztro and the rest of our Pumi family, our daily life together (which Pumi owner doesn't have stories to fill up a book?) when not training and trialing, but I felt that this aspect of our lives deserved sharing as well.