



PARADE OF VETERANS 2022

Celebrating the lives and accomplishments of our older partners and friends!

2022 Parade

Hamelot's Odin the White Knight "Odin"

Bichon Frise - Age 9
Handled by: Wendi Holz, Mandan, ND



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

You're an amazing little dog who has captured my heart and have taken me places I didn't think would ever be possible.

I cherish every time we get to walk to the line together and enjoy seeing how much you love running agility as a team. I look forward to continuing this journey together.

Love you Odes!

Breed Club

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Minnesota Mixed

2022 Parade

Sleepyhollow's The Truth Is Out There "Special Agent Scully"

Brussels Griffon - Age 9.5
Handled by: Kelly McFaul-Solem, Duluth, MN



Photo by Sarah Kurtz

This is Scully's first year as an MMBC POV participant! Where has the time gone?

I had always wanted a little monkey dog and was so happy to find that this little nugget needed a home! She is a quirky little red-head and I love her for it!

Hoping for many more POV years!

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2022 Parade

Hangtimes Bandit Walking The Plank "Plank"

Australian Shepherd - Age 10
Handled by: JoAnne Schwietz, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Where have the last 10 years gone? It seems just yesterday you were a little puppy that I couldn't decide if I wanted or not. Well, you made the decision that you wanted me so our journey began! You haven't been the easiest dog, but you have become the partner that I wanted and the powerful dog that I dreamed of.

Through injuries, first yours and then mine we lost 14 months of having fun... we won't even mention the pandemic which was also a year lost! Through everything, we have finally started to work together as a team again. You have decided that start lines and stuck contacts are optional now, but I guess you have earned the ODP card. May our journey continue for a few more years to come.

Thank you Plank for picking me! I sure am glad that you did.

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Uproar Cody's Appaoosa Kid "Colt"

Australian Shepherd - Age 10
Handled by: Jan Poole, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

They say red Aussies are a breed of their own... be careful with reds.

Well, Colt is my first red Aussie, a beautiful red merle with 1 blue and 1 brown eye. He is happy from the time he gets up, each morning, until he goes to bed each night. Although not a speed demon on the agility course, he has been so consistent during his career and rarely has an off course.

He runs with joy and does agility the Colty way. Who could argue with that, always happy and plenty of ribbons to show his friends.

Thanks Colt, for 10 years of fun and frolics!

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2022 Parade

Wish

Border Collie - Age 10.5
Handled by: Jess Thell, New Richmond, WI



Photo by Jess Thell

Us Two (First Stanza)
A.A. Milne

Wherever I am, there's always Pooh
There's always Pooh and Me.
Whatever I do, he wants to do,
"Where are you going today?" says Pooh:
"Well, that's very odd 'cos I was too.
Let's go together. "says Pooh, says he.
"Let's go together," says Pooh.

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Piper

Mixed Breed - Age 11

Handled by: Natalie Stanton, Bloomington, MN



Photo by Melissa Pochlman

Piper came into my life named 'Mercedes' from a border collie rescue at exactly 8 weeks old. I loved her from the get go. She is a mix of border collie & smooth coat collie. She was a very feisty pup that wanted nothing to do with obedience training. Once we tried agility, she found what she loved!

She made me kick start my brain to rethink everything I thought I knew about dogs and then some.

She is now 11 years old and slowing down a bit. Due to her coming into my life I've met some of the best people out there. Thank you to the agility community for helping us through this adventure and always cheering us on!

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Kinnic Hypolyte "Hip"

Border Collie - Age 11

Handled by: Lisa Bisson-Schafer, LeSuer, MN



Photo by Mark Herreid (Herreid Photography)

Hypolyte was purchased from the Kinnic Kennels in River Falls WI. Dr. Barbara Johnson, Phd is the breeder of these amazing working border collies. Her family has been breeding/trialing the working border collies for over 100 years.

I began trialing Hip as a 2 year old and he's never let me down. Hypolyte has been a fun agility partner. He's a loving, loyal dog, a traveling buddy and good sport. Hip and I have put on many miles playing this agility game. Hip has achieved numerous N-atch's along with the Elite All Around Title. I couldn't be prouder of him.

Hip truly loves the agility game even though I've yet to get a "stay" with him....we can live with that considering the success Hip has achieved in the agility ring! His working border collie breeding lines have made him a great competitor!

My heart swells with love for our herd of border collies. Every day of my life I'm forever grateful for these amazing border collies!

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Mystic Cavalry to the Rescue "Scout"

Border Collie - Age 11
Handled by: Lily Bores & Shelly Russ, Hugo, MN



Photo by Shelly Russ

Scout is 11 1/2 years old and is still as sassy as ever. Scout enjoys agility as much as ever and is very close to earning her NACTH 5! Scout has been busy teaching her little brother, Jax, the fine art of twirling and spinning and playing chase, and how to race through tunnels while carrying a tennis ball.

Scout has also been busy practice agility with her favorite girl, Lily. They make an adorable team, as you can see today. Scout likes to spend her free time on guard in the back yard, chasing and catching mice and voles.

Scout has also been trying to teach Jax how to behave in public so she can once again enjoy patio life in the many restaurants in our area.

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Minikota's Sweet Music Man "Quincy"

Swedish Vallhund - Age 12
Handled by: Renee Foster, Shorewood, MN



Photo by Duane Laurila

Quincy is now 12 years young.

What a wonderful journey we have had together. And although his life changed after his TPLO surgery (no more lure coursing) he was still able to earn his TACH1 and his ATCH2 agility championships and just recently he earned his RATSX in barn hunt. Quincy deserves to just sit back and celebrate his many achievements.

As I face new health concerns with Quincy, I am learning to embrace the now. I enjoy his companionship everyday - (I just don't know how many more of those days I may have.)

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Duchess of the Silent World “Duchess”

Dalmatian - Age 12
Handled by: Karen Magee, Rochester, MN



Photo by Karen Magee

Duchess came into our family through a friend that realized that the rescue she was in didn't know how to deal with deaf dogs....and when you have one Dalmatian, people think you need 100 more. :-)

Although deaf, we've never treated her differently than our other dogs - she just uses hand signals. Like the rest of our pack, we swear she can hear a cheese wrapper or chip bag open at 1/2 mile :-)
She had an amazing agility career getting many titles and surprising me at every turn with her abilities. She was an amazing Chances dog, better than most of my hearing dogs. She taught me more than I ever taught her. While a back injury has ended her agility career, she now spends her time on walks and being the resident “fun police”. She keeps the boy dogs in line - it's tough and full-time job!

I do miss the silent dance we had in the Jumpers ring, but I'm pretty sure she's OK being the “fun police”. I think I need to get her a cap

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Black Pearl Spider Monkey “Pearl”

Mixed Breed - Age 12.5
Handled by: Karen Magee, Rochester, MN



Photo by Karen Magee

Pearl came to us as a “kit dog” (some assembly required). She'd been run over by an ATV (back leg) and brought to our vet to be euthanized. Instead, our vet took her in and fixed her up. She was a black dog, and puppy... You all know how Karen can't refuse a black dog in need, much less a 6mo old puppy! :-)... So she became ours. First 15 minutes in the house she was - running around and over the chairs, back of the couch- nothing but net - all with her cast on. The MONKEY PUPPY was born

We worked Pearl through a long rehab, and she's been healthy and happy ever since. My heart and soul has achieved so much in the agility ring - 20 NADAC NATCHS -10,000 NADAC points- 6 UKC UGRACHS ... and more single titles than I can count. The years have moved on as they do for all of us - and cancer has shortened her career - BUT, she's still here and happy, now spending her time with shorter walks and smaller fetch sessions, but here is always joy in what she does.

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Noah's New Beginning "Abbey"

Border Collie - Age 12.5
Handled by: Gina Pizzo, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

Abbey is a rescued Border Collie that will be 13 years old in November. I'm not sure where the last 12 years went but I'm sure it was a blur of activity.

Abbey came into my life at about 7 months of age and we have navigated many activities together over the years. She has been involved in herding, flyball, agility and barn hunt. She is now retired from herding and flyball, still does some agility (now definitely her own way) and is really enjoying the semi-retirement activity of barn hunt.

This last year has seen her slow down which makes me very sad. In 2020 she had a TPLO and she returned healthy and more than ready to play more agility. In February of this year she had to have the plate removed due to infection and is now struggling with kidney disease and that boring old kidney diet! We both think getting old is for the birds.

She still enjoys tattling on any of her dog mates and buddies when they are doing something wrong and still runs down the stairs every morning but the corners are a little out of control these days! You better have that door open to the backyard or she's going to go right thru it! Enjoy each run with your canine companion no matter what their age because you never know when this fantastic ride will end.

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Jake

Australian Shepherd - Age 13
Handled by: Kelly Dittmar, Maple Grove, MN



Photo by Kelly Dittmar

With his naughty spots, shaggy ears, and big eyes, I knew Jake was my dog from the moment I saw him.

I've never met a dog who is more skilled at working a room - especially while I'm asking him to leave people alone! This little imp brings so much joy with his little wiggly flag, his big smile, and his amazingly soulful eyes. I am so grateful that he belongs with me.

No matter what the eyes say - I can assure you he has enjoyed millions of treats in his lifetime! It won't stop him from begging for more, but do not fall for his lies!

Many thanks to his friends and Favorite Aunties for the cookies and the pets and the hugs over the years! Pretty sure he knows every sucker at this event. Have no fear - he'll be making the rounds shortly to ensure there is no cookie left behind!

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High Plains Drifter "Trek"

Border Collie - Age 13
Handled by: Jim Nally, Maplewood, MN



Photo by Jim Nally

As a precocious 1-year old, this now 13-year old Border Collie was found roaming the plains of North Dakota. Saddled with the very un-Border Collie-like name of 'Herbie' by his rescuers, upon adoption his meandering ways earned him both his registered name ('High Plains Drifter') and his call name ('Trek').

Trek has been active in agility and flyball, and he even tried herding (which didn't go all that well, though no animals were injured during that experiment). Other favorite activities include riding in the car (any destination is fine), swimming ("Water! Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy!"), retrieving tennis balls (though giving them back is an entirely different matter), swimming to retrieve tennis balls ("Words fail me! Oh...wait...that's right! I'm a dog!"), visiting Dr. Julia ("She's the best!"), and playing with stuffed toys ("Let's rrrrrrip the stuffing out and kill that squeaker!").

Trek has continued the wandering ways of his wayward youth, having visited 18 US States and one Canadian Province (we're looking at you, Ontario!). He has also participated in the NADAC Championships once (which went about as well as the herding experiment). Trek probably would have qualified for more Champs if it hadn't been for his infamous, multi-year "I can't weave in public" phase, so we've largely settled on just having a whole lot of fun, which has pretty much been the story of his life.

So, thank you, NoDak. Your loss has definitely been our gain.

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Koster's Shootin' For The Stars "Gunner"

Border Collie - Age 13.5
Handled by: Denise Koster, Rochester, MN



Photo by Amy Johnson (Great Dane Photos)

It's hard to believe Gunner will be 14 years old in November.

We had some great years running agility together. My favorite memory is still NADAC Champs in Gillette, WY in 2018. We only did Pre-trial but it was such a fun trip.

He is enjoying his retirement and loves being in the yard with Jade and Ozzie. He even enjoys a few disc tosses every now and then.

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Avatar's Ryder on the Storm Bayshore "Ryder"

Border Collie - Age 14
Handled by: Shirley Wallace, Wrenshall, MN



Photo by Shelly Russ

Ryder has been the best agility partner I could ask for. He gives it his all and always does exactly what I ask him to, even though my directions are not always clear.

He finished his Versatility NATCH 9 this past March at 13.5 years old, which put him in the NADAC Hall of Fame 20 NATCH club. He will be 14 years old on September 4th, which is tomorrow.

In as much as he has been a great agility partner, he is an even greater friend and companion. I will be forever grateful he came into our lives!

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Bailey Benson Jacques "Bailey"

Bichon Frise - Age 15
Handled by: Wendi Holz, Mandan, ND



Photo by Wendi Holz

You have always been our special little boy and always wanted to do things your way and on your own terms. When playing agility, you taught me so much about persistence and being a better handler.

Now that you are enjoying retirement, you continue to bring joy and happiness to our lives.

Love you Babes!

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Bella

Border Collie - Age 16.5
Handled by: Jess Thell, New Richmond, WI



Photo by Jess Thell

Us Two (Last Stanza)
A.A. Milne

So wherever I am, there's always pooh,
There's always Pooh and Me.
"What would I do?" I said to Pooh,
"If it wasn't for you," and Pooh said: "True,
It isn't much fun for One, but two,
Can stick together, says Pooh, says he. "That's
how it is" says Pooh

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Sam

Mixed Breed - Age 17.5
Handled by: Kelly Dittmar, Maple Grove, MN



Photo by Kelly Dittmar

My dearest Sam,

You have been a gift beyond measure.

Thank you for sharing this grand adventure with me! We have had so many wonderful experiences and happy memories. Like the beautiful fall day when we played hooky from work and went hiking instead.

It's been my privilege to care for you for so long. Wish we could do it all over again!

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Siren

Mixed Breed - Age 17.5
Handled by: Kelly McFaul-Solem, Duluth, MN



Photo by Kelly McFaul-Solem

My Sweet Siren Song,
Grateful for each Adventure.
Love you Forever...

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Thank You!

Nothing makes you reflect quite like starting a new journey while watching the sun set on one that has brought you more joy than you ever expected.

I try to always remember what my Sam has taught me:

- Love the dog first, and the sport second.
- Rejoice in the small wins.
- Treasure the Es! While they can be tough in the moment, they also make for some of the most memorable runs.
- Reward every run with gusto and gratitude.
- If you aren't willing to put in the time to train the skill, don't get mad when that skill is tested and your team doesn't get lucky.
- Don't compare your team to another team, rather rejoice in your unique skills and experiences. Always remember that comparison is the thief of joy.

No matter how hard you wish for them, you'll never get these days back. I hope you find a way to enjoy each and every one of them.

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