

Paws to Dance



The Newsletter of the Canine Freestyle Federation, Inc.
November 2011

New Dog in the CFF Hall of Fame

**HTCH, UCDX Lacy's Yahtzee, CDX, HXAs, HIBs, HRD 3, HTD 3, HTAD 3, OTD, CH
CFF IV**

Each Hall of Fame dog has brought something unique to the sport of Canine Freestyle Yahtzee is no exception. However, he is different. How different I will leave for each of you to decide. He is, in my opinion, exceptional in many ways. For one thing he is a man of very few words; most of the dogs in freestyle talk quite a bit. They have opinions of phrases, choreography and music. They are serious about their work and the creativity of freestyle as a means of communicating intents.

Before I can talk about Yahtzee I have to talk about his predecessor, Gromet. I need you to think about each of Betty's dogs because each promised me something different. Gromet told me to be patient. He would bring Betty out from under her cloak of invisibility if I would just

trust him and to give him sufficient time. I've known Yahtzee since he was a puppy. The first time I met him, he jumped into my lap, looked at



me and announced he was different but he knew his task. At the time I thought I had misunderstood but Yahtzee is a man of few words and he only shares with me what he deems important relative to freestyle. Freestyle is not his favorite activity but he likes the creativity even if it does drive him a bit "nuts". Yahtzee challenged all of CFF artistically and creatively. But most of all he challenged Betty to be more creative in her approach to freestyle. In a way his entering the freestyle picture when he did challenged all of us to improve our training skills, our artistic ex-

pression and for me to not rest on previous experiences but to step out once again and take that Leap of Faith into unknown training territories. Remember the Mother Goose poem about the little girl with the curl in the middle of her forehead. And when she was good she was very, very good and when she was bad she was horrid. Well you can't see his curl but I honestly believe it is there! You just have to look real hard. When Zee is good he is quite good but when he is the opposite he is equally you-know-what. Until I viewed Cameron's compilation of Zee's performances I just didn't get it. Zee has been pushing Betty and all of the participants of Canine Freestyle to stretch creatively and artistically. Because Zee is who he is, he inspired us to look, as Elaine would say for "new layers". To be inventive and imaginative in our training to enable each team to transcend the virtuosity of technical skill and to perform with artistic expression by using movement as a language and a medium for creativity choreographically. Personally I need to say "Thank you, Zee" for changing our complacency relative to our definition of this amazing discipline. When I experienced the choreography and performances through Cameron's eyes and his collaboration with our performances through the medium of the DVD from Level II B to Chattanooga I finally understood thanks too to Cameron. Yes, perceptions are amazing and truly we have a freestyle training discipline and it works. Our titling events have a creative and artistic relationship as defined in the definition. Thanks to Zee we have found the next layer of development. So it is my pleasure and honor to present to you our new Hall of fame member HTCH, UCDX Lacy's Yahtzee, CDX, HXAs, HIBs, HRD 3, HTD 3, HTAD 3, OTD, CH CFF IV



Up-coming Canine Freestyle Federation Events

Workshop **December 4, 2011** Napa CA *Gold Coast Freestyle Guild* Presents
The Freestyle Journey-To Grow is to Train
With Kristen Sicotte and Elaine Smith-Nabors

CFF Retreat April 19 – 22, 2012 East Ridge, TN The Potpourri of Freestyle

The freedom of Canine Freestyle is in the choices; how we artistically express intent or creatively craft movement to show inspiration and purpose through performance. Each performance is an expression of the oneness of purpose and is perceived as a shared moment in time by the team and spectators. As the presentation draws to a close spectator and the team comprehend the uniqueness and fragility of that moment. When everything is "right" there is a connection and everyone is surrounded and encased in a bubble; a pink bubble perceived and experienced as a beautiful and unforgettable memory. Retreat participants we are both presenters and spectators. More information and an application for the retreat are at www.canine-freestyle.org.

Retreat Scholarship deadline for submission November 30, 2011.

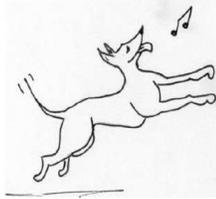
The Canine Freestyle Federation Board of Directors is offering a scholarship for full retreat tuition. To apply for the scholarship submit a response to the question: How will you use what you learn at attending the CFF 2012 Retreat to help promote and strengthen CFF in the future? Send your submission to Renee Filep, 507 Tinsley Drive, Radiant, VA 22732 or email luvmyzap@yahoo.com

DVDs of the recent shows in South Dakota, Virginia and the one yet to come in California, may be ordered by contacting Carl Tennille 14430 Overlook Ridge Lane, Beaverdam, VA 23015.

Guild News—Staccato Notes

Canis Major Guild

By Julia Gregory



Oh, my goodness! How things can change in a mere three months! I've just looked back over my last report and I'm amazed by how all our plans seemed to fly apart.

The demo season went well. Physically, it took its toll, but we enjoyed showing freestyle to all those people. We intended to have several teams participate in the celebration in Stafford. No one went. How disappointing! One person ran out of dog. Another person ran out of choreography. Our multiple dog team developed a canine personality conflict. Pooh! So we're setting our sights on April and hope to see many of you at Retreat.

Misha Guild Dogs (left to right)
Luke, Jordy, Kaydee, Charlie, Jasper and Kayli on top.



Misha Guild, Utah

By Susan Colledge

Editor's Note: I have to tell a tale on Susan. Almost every time I send a reminder email to provide a guild report, she replies with an email that inevitably begins, "There's not much going on with our little group here ..." And then she tells me or sends me something absolutely wonderful, like the photos below. Don't they look like a million bucks? Julia Gregory

I DID enjoy judging in South Dakota. And Kayli got her title in IIB. It was a fun weekend. Congrats to both the South Dakota and Minnesota groups for a great show.



Misha Guild (left to right)
Caroline and Jasper / Sharon and Luke / A.J. and Jordy / Joan and Charlie (on the rock) and Kaydee (in front). In the swing are Susan and Buddy and Kayli and Susan are standing next to her.

Guild News More Staccato Notes



By Eugenie & Kasie
Podojil

The North Coast Canine Freestylers though small in number are mighty in their commitment to freestyle -- and many of the Guild members and their canine partners rarely miss a Friday night session! These sessions have evolved into a two-fold format. First is an "educational" sharing in which we explore a new choreographic concept. We practice on the floor for a brief time in which we tweak the concept and challenge ourselves to "make it our own." Then each of the teams presents their creation to the audience of our fellow members. It is amazing to see how unique and creative each team's phrase has become. As a result new phrases may well become part of newly developing routines!

One evening while working with the concept of incorporating "opposites" in our phrases, one participant, in using "forward" and "backward" got too much momentum going and fell backwards with a resounding thud of her head. Luckily no harm was done except for the embarrassment! The laugh of the evening came as someone offered the "opposites" being demonstrated -- "vertical and horizontal!"

At our Guild sessions, after our concept/phrase creations sharing period, we work together on finding music for the routines in process of creation, and the "polishing" of our established routines. We cherish the camaraderie and positive support of each participant.

Class sessions for introducing freestyle continue and we are busy brainstorming new ideas for making freestyle known in our area.

On November 13th the training facility where we meet, Canine Affair Center, held an Open House, and North Coast Canine Freestylers were pleased to perform their routines for the community.

An added exciting note from our Guild is that four of our members have new pups! North Coast Canine Freestylers now have an upcoming corps of young dancing canines!

By Pat Rapaport



Things are quiet right now. We had a meeting/training session in mid-October. We are waiting for the results from the trials co-sponsored by the Carolina Canine Freestyle Guild and the Sirius Guild held in Virginia mid-November. Some of our members participated in the event. We also have elections in November and results will be announced at the end of November. Our next report will be more detailed.

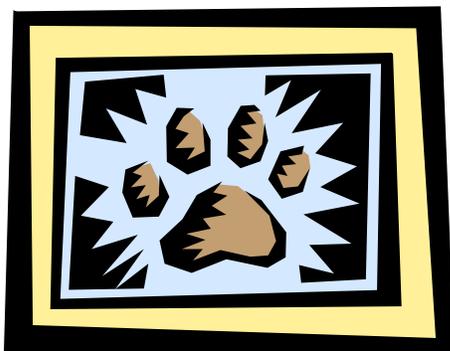


LOOK WHO HAS NEW LOGOS!



by Dawn Madge

Greetings from cowboy country! We had a successful show. Many thanks go to Gaea, Susan and Kristin for coming out to judge. We really enjoyed them. Thanks also for the support from Kristin and the North Star Notes Guild, Dances With Woofs Guild members for all their hard work and all the Rapid City people who so graciously gave up their time to help. The weather held and we did not roll out the "white carpet." We have had requests to do some holiday shows at nursing homes/retirement centers. Best wishes for a wonderful, magical, blessed holiday season to all!!



by Elaine Smith Nabors

Did you notice something new and spectacular about the FFF Guild? Yep, that is right we have our own new and fancy logo!!

One of our talented freestylers in south Florida used her talents and came

up with the design. FFF had lots of wonderful designs submitted and this is the one that everyone agreed we liked the best!! Thank you everyone for the great ideas, time and effort! We have been very busy as usual. We just finished our basket raffle fund raiser and thanks to members' contributions, and Beth Berry's creative talents and support from so many folks from many, many places, it was a HUGE SUCCESS!! Ann Holder and her students put on a demo in some very challenging conditions and lived to tell about it!! Great job ladies, you made us all proud! Guild meeting had several new folks in attendance. We welcomed Janice and Kerrie! Both ladies had lots to contribute and they were rearing to go for sure! We worked on true enhancement and the guild members helped teams to understand the importance of working CFF freestyle with others to help you. New and veteran teams all walked away with a new appreciation for what they are communicating to their dogs through their bodies. Our guild has dogs of all shapes and sizes from Ann's Toy Poodle, Adian to Gaea's Rottie pup, Lyra!! We are also lucky to have many ages within the group. Lyra is the youngest at three months and Itchi comes in at 15 years old! We are all working hard teaching classes, judging events and getting ready for the much awaited Retreat!! We hope to see you at the performance event and the Retreat in April!



By Marcia Barkley

Cavorting Canines Captivate Colonial!

Submitted by Renee Filep

Hello Fellow Freestylers! Sorry for the overdone alliterations, but I've just arrived home from our titling event sponsored with our wonderful neighbors, the Carolina Canine Freestyle Guild. And what an event it was!

First time competitor Gloria Faley and Teddy set the stage with a strong showing in Level I. Joan Tennille was indeed inspired when she designed our format to progress through the levels- the evolution of dog work, training, choreography and artistry was breath-taking and apparent. I believe we had seven first time competitors (all from North Carolina!), and they will be teams to watch. This was a very strong group of Level II competitors, with versatile dogs ranging from a majestic Doberman, Wendy Ely's young Ter-vuren, through Cavaliers, a Bassett Hound, Cocker Spaniel, Toy Poodle and Maltese. Freestyle truly is "all about the dog", and obviously for any dog too!

Level III continued to impress with Janet McBrien's athletic Welsh Terrier Millie and Sarah Jinnah's graceful Cavalier.

Level IV was an emotional roller coaster for me. Kathy Noble and Rosie wowed as first timers to the level, while Sally Kirschenman and Annie retired with bittersweet flair and an obvious passion for each other. Janet McBrien performed again, this time with a comedic Nicholas that had the audience giggling with their antics. Betty Swenson and Yahtzee then provided us with our sport's ultimate honor, an amazing performance followed by Yahtzee's induction to the Hall of Fame.

Thanks to all the wonderful people who shared their fine canines with us this weekend, and con-

The biggest focus Out West at the moment is preparing for our December 3rd titling event. It will be a small show this year, but we look forward to that handful no less than if there were 50 teams participating. Kristin Sicotte and Elaine Nabors-Smith will be our judges, and they have graciously agreed to stay over to present a workshop the next day. The workshop is being designed to give us a better idea of how to use the CFF teaching methodology in sharing this with others; however, even for those of us who don't teach and never will teach formally, this is guaranteed to strengthen our knowledge and understanding of some key concepts.

Part of our preparation for December 3rd was a "show & go" recently at the facility where we're competing – complete with "judges' table" and flower pots to mark the perimeter of the space. December 3rd promises to show us some innovative and challenging choreography (and I mean that in a good way!).

gratulations to all our new title recipients. Thanks also to Susan Colledge, Marge Hetrick, Cathy Nirenburg and Elaine Smith-Nabors for serving as our judges. They truly are "guardians" of our sport. Thanks also to all the people who gave their time and energy to making this trial a great success. We couldn't have done it without all our talented volunteers.

After a well-deserved rest, the Sirius Guild will be meeting at Joan and Carl Tennille's for a holiday celebration and games on Sunday, Dec. 4. Please watch for more information on the forum.

Bewildered by Guilds?

By Renee Filep

As your representative on the Board of Directors overseeing Guilds, I'd like to share some thoughts, if I may, on the role of Guilds and how they are an integral part of our freestyle federation.

Our co-founder, Joan Tennille, developed the concept of guilds to

“1- Maintain and spread interest in the Federation’s goals and to further our training discipline and our mission on a local and/or regional level.

2- Develop and manage Federation shows and/or titling events.

3- Educate others in the discipline or canine freestyle by producing demos and educational workshops.

4- Share and create choreography for presentations and to develop a place teams can work and train together to develop movement vocabularies unique to each team.”

So how do these objectives apply to the average CFFer?

The first objective is all about **COMMUNITY**. Although technology is decreasing geographic isolation, we and our dogs are social creatures. Guilds allow for regional freestyle communities to form. One person, no matter how passionate, may not make much of an impression. But a group of passionate people, all sharing the same message, is quite impressive. Like any “club”, the fun comes by way of sharing common interests and helping others achieve their goals. Don't forget that the federation is here to help the local guilds, with everything from insurance for events, to education, protocols, well-trained judges, workshops, the forum and PAWS, or even event medallions, pins and certificates and record-keeping.

Consider the second and third objectives. Demos, workshops, run-thrus and titling events are work-intensive undertakings. Without knowledgeable volunteers, these would be nearly impossible. Momma was right when she said, “Many hands make light the work.” Not only can others help with events, but they may also have excellent ideas, insights or solutions. I am always impressed with the wealth of knowledge and experience my guild members possess. So Daddy was right too when he said “Two heads are better than one.”



The fourth objective is about **COMMUNICATION**. Our sport is unique in that to be successful, it must at some point, be shared with an audience. It's hard to “see” the picture when you're in it. Here's where trust and open communication are vital. We need fellow freestylers to honestly help assess what we are doing and how well we are portraying our movements and phrases or conveying our motivation. Having someone to share your “what-ifs” and improvisations with is so rewarding. I travel with my best friend to classes, demos, etc. and our discussions while traveling may range from the more “mundane” like socks and shoes or canine bowel movements to deeper things like the meaning of concepts and definitions. Although sometimes heated but more often hysterical, this exchange of ideas always enhance my learning and growing.

What is a “guild”?

So why was the word GUILD chosen? The answer is right in the very definition of the word. According to my worn and reliable Funk and Wagnalls (doesn't the name just conjure so much more than Webster's?), a **GUILD** is... drum roll please...

“an association of artisans or craftsmen formed for mutual aid and fellowship”.

Whoa... could better word have been chosen?!?

Remember...

“Guilds should invite all CFF members within a reasonable area to be members and to participate in guild activities. A CFF member may choose to join and participate in the guild or not.” Or not? Why the heck wouldn't you?

**Canine Freestyle Federation Titling Event
Sponsored by the Dances with Woofs Guild
Saturday November 5, 2011**

Level I

First Place Dawn Madge's Dachshund Ch LK's Let Freedom Ring **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Peggy Behren's Dachshund Simon

Third Place Deb Davenport's Spinone Italiano Ch Couchfields Here for the Party

Fourth Place TIE Barb Olson's Toy Poodle Petersen's Sam

Mary Walker's Miniature Schnauzer
Baroness Gretchen Edelweiss

Level II

First Place Kate Hunter's All American Sir Anselot **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Jodi Silvernail's Pembroke Welsh Corgi Sundance's Boss Hoss

Third Place Sara Reusche's Minnesota White toed Chipmunk Dog Lessons from Layla

Level IIB

First Place Susan Colledge's Yorkshire Terrier Jo-Nel's Dancing with the Stars **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Dawn Madge's Dachshund Ch Galewinns Kaycees Yankee UP **NEW TITLE**

Level III

First Place Peggy Behren's Mixed Breed Kayla **NEW TITLE**

Highest Artistic Score

Susan Colledge's Yorkshire Terrier Jo-Nel's Dancing with the Stars

**Canine Freestyle Federation Titling Event
Sponsored by the North Star Notes
Provisional Guild
Sunday November 6, 2011**

Level I

First Place Dawn Madge's Dachshund Ch LK's Let Freedom Ring

Second Place Mary Walker's Miniature Schnauzer Baroness Gretchen Edelweiss

Third Place Barb Olson's Toy Poodle Petersen's Sam

Fourth Place Peggy Behren's Dachshund Simon

Level II

First Place Kate Hunter's All American Sir Anselot **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Sara Reusche's Minnesota White toed Chipmunk Dog Lessons from Layla

Third Place Jodi Silvernail's Pembroke Welsh Corgi Sundance's Boss Hoss

Level IIB

First Place Susan Colledge's Yorkshire Terrier Jo-Nel's Dancing with the Stars

Second Place Dawn Madge's Dachshund Ch Galewinns Kaycees Yankee UP

Level III

First Place Peggy Behren's Mixed Breed Kayla

Highest Artistic Score

Susan Colledge's Yorkshire Terrier Jo-Nel's Dancing with the Stars

Both events were held at Happy Tails Dog Training Center in Rapid City, SD. Many thanks to the judges; Susan Colledge, Gaea Mitchel and Kristen Sicotte. A big thank you also to the Dances with Woofs Guild and the North Star Notes Provisional Guild for hosting such a fine set of events.

**CFF Performance Learning Center
Renewal**

If you subscribed to the CFF Performance Learning Center before October 1, 2011 you need to renew your subscription before it expires on December 31, 2011. Renewal rates are:

CFF members \$ 35 / APDT members \$ 50

This renews your subscription through December 31, 2012.

You may renew by using the shopping cart on the CFF web site canine-freestyle.org or by mailing a check payable to CFF and mailing it along with your name, address and email to:

CFF
14430 Overlook Ridge Lane
Beaverdam, VA 23015

**Canine Freestyle Federation Titling Event
Sponsored by the Sirius Guild
Saturday November 12, 2011**

Level I

First Place Gloria Faley 's Mixed Breed Teddy

Level II

First Place Diane Holleman's Mini Poodle Mademoiselle Kiwi

Second Place Patricia Koontz's Doberman Pinscher Botrina's Zen on the Rocks

Third Place Dee Wallis' Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Ch Roi'l C'est L Vie

Fourth Place Robin Setzer's Cocker Spaniel Charlie Brown

Level IIB

First Place Wendy Ely's Belgian Tervuren Ch Chateau Blanc More Coyote Music **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Brandy Clymire's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Wystar Wise Guy **NEW TITLE**

Level III

First Place Janet McBrien's Welsh Terrier Brightluck's Fame & Glory **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Sarah Jinnah's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Caroway Prince Harry at Tanbrit

Level IV

First Place Betty Swenson's Border Collie Lacy's Yahtzee

Second Place Janet McBrien's Welsh Terrier Datawelsh Everlasting Cash

Third Place Sally Kirschenman's Old English Sheepdog Ch Seathwaite's Calamity Jane

Fourth Place Kathy Noble's Golden Retriever Lycinan's Noble Yellow Rose **NEW TITLE**

Highest Artistic Score

Betty Swenson's Border Collie Lacy's Yahtzee

The Josie Award for Highest Scoring First Time Competitor

Diane Holleman's Mini Poodle Mademoiselle Kiwi

Highest Scoring First Time Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Dee Wallis' Cavalie King Charles Spaniel Ch Roi'l C'est L Vie

**Canine Freestyle Federation Titling Event
Sponsored by the Carolina Canine Freestyle Guild
Sunday November 13, 2011**

Level I

First Place Gloria Faley 's Mixed Breed Teddy

Level II

First Place Diane Holleman's Mini Poodle Mademoiselle Kiwi **NEW TITLE**

Second Place Robin Setzer's Cocker Spaniel Charlie Brown **NEW TITLE**

Third Place Dee Wallis' Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Ch Roi'l C'est L Vie **NEW TITLE**

Fourth Place Lynn Berry's Maltese CT Jordan's Shooting Star

Level IIB

First Place Brandy Clymire's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Wystar Wise Guy

Second Place Wendy Ely's Belgian Tervuren Ch Chateau Blanc More Coyote Music

Level III

First Place Janet McBrien's Welsh Terrier Brightluck's Fame & Glory

Second Place Sarah Jinnah's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Caroway Prince Harry at Tanbrit **NEW TITLE**

Level IV

First Place Janet McBrien's Welsh Terrier Datawelsh Everlasting Cash

Second Place Sally Kirschenman's Old English Sheepdog Ch Seathwaite's Calamity Jane

Third Place Kathy Noble's Golden Retriever Lycinan's Noble Yellow Rose

Highest Artistic Score

Janet McBrien's Welsh Terrier Datawelsh Everlasting Cash

Carolina Canine Freestyle Guild Award for Highest Scoring First Time Competitor

Diane Holleman's Mini Poodle Mademoiselle Kiwi

Highest Scoring Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Brandy Clymire's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Wystar Wise Guy

Both events were held at Colonial K 9 in Stafford, VA. Many thanks to the judges; Susan Colledge, Marge Hetrick, Elaine Smith-Nabors and Cathy Nirenberg. A big thank you also to the Sirius Guild and the Carolina Canine Freestyle Guild for hosting such a fine set of events.

Unbaked Yeast Rolls

Editor's Note: The source of this story is unclear. It arrived without a claim to authorship in Carl Tennille's email inbox. Should the author ever come forward, we would love to give credit. On the other hand, perhaps not a word of this is true, but it's a darned good story.

We have a fox terrier by the name of Jasper. He came to us in the summer of 2001 from the fox terrier rescue program. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this type of adoption, imagine taking in a 10 year old child about whom you know nothing and committing to doing your best to be a good parent.

Like a child, the dog came with his own idiosyncrasies. He will only sleep on the bed, on top of the covers, nuzzled as close to my face as he can get without actually performing a French kiss on me.

Lest you think this is a bad case of 'no discipline,' I should tell you that Perry and I tried every means to break him of this habit, including locking him in a separate bedroom for several nights. The new door cost over \$200. But I digress.

Five weeks ago we began remodeling our house. Although the cost of the project is downright obnoxious, it was 20 years overdue AND it got me out of cooking Thanksgiving for family, extended family, and a lot of friends that I like more than family most of the time.

I was assigned the task of preparing 124 of my famous yeast dinner rolls for the two Thanksgiving feasts we did attend.

I am still cursing the electrician for getting the new oven hooked up so quickly. It was the only appliance in the whole darn house that worked, thus the assignment.

I made the decision to cook the rolls on Wednesday evening to reheat Thursday morning. Since the kitchen was freshly painted, you can imagine the odor. Not wanting the rolls to smell like Sherwin Williams #586, I put the rolls on baking sheets and set them in the living room to rise for a few hours. Perry and I decided to go out to eat, returning in about an hour. The rolls were ready to go in the oven.

It was 8:30 PM. When I went to the living room to retrieve the pans, much to my shock, one whole pan of 12 rolls was empty. I called out to Jasper and my worst nightmare became a reality. He literally wobbled over to me. He looked like a combination of the Pillsbury dough boy and the Michelin Tire man wrapped up in fur. He groaned when he walked. I swear even his cheeks were bloated.

I ran to the phone and called our vet. After a few seconds of uproarious laughter, he told me the dog would probably be okay; however, I needed to give him Pepto Bismol every 2 hours for the rest of the night. God only knows why I thought a dog would like Pepto Bismol any more than my kids did when they were sick. Suffice it to say that by the time we went to bed the dog was black, white and pink. He was so bloated we had to lift him onto the bed for the night.

We arose at 7:30 and as we always do first thing, put the dog out to relieve himself. Well, the dog was as drunk as a sailor on his first leave. He was running into walls, falling flat on his butt and most of the time when he was walking, his front half was going one direction and the other half was either dragging the grass or headed 90 degrees in another direction.

He couldn't lift his leg to pee, so he would just walk and pee at the same time. When he ran down the small incline in our back yard he couldn't stop himself and nearly ended up running into the fence.

His pupils were dilated and he was as dizzy as a loon. I endured another few seconds of laughter from the vet (second call within 12 hours) before he explained that the yeast had fermented in his belly and that he was indeed drunk.

He assured me that, not unlike most binges we humans go through, it would wear off after about 4 or 5 hours, and to keep giving him Pepto Bismol.

Afraid to leave him by himself in the house, Perry and I loaded him up and took him with us to my sister's house for the first Thanksgiving meal of the day.

My sister lives outside of Muskogee on a ranch, (10 to 15 minute drive). Rolls firmly secured in the trunk (124 less 12) and drunk dog leaning from the back seat onto the console of the car between Perry and me, we took off.

Now I know you probably don't believe that dogs burp, but believe me when I say that after eating a tray of risen unbaked yeast rolls, DOGS WILL BURP. These burps were pure Old Charter. They would have matched or beat any smell in a drunk tank at the police station. But that's not the worst of it.

Now he was beginning to fart and they smelled like baked rolls. God strike me dead if I am not telling the truth! We endured this for the entire trip to Karen's, thankful she didn't live any further away than she did.

Once Jasper was firmly placed in my sister's garage with the door locked, we finally sat down to enjoy our first Thanksgiving meal of the day. The dog was the topic of conversation all morning long and everyone made trips to the garage to witness my drunken dog, each returning with a tale of Jasper's latest endeavor to walk without running into something. Of course, as the old adage goes, 'what goes in must come out' and Jasper was no exception.

Granted if it had been me that had eaten 12 risen, unbaked yeast rolls, you might as well have put a concrete block up my behind, but alas a dog's digestive system is quite different from yours or mine. I discovered this was a mixed blessing when we prepared to leave Karen's house. Having discovered his 'packages' on the garage floor, we loaded him up in the car so we could hose down the floor.

This was another naive decision on our part. The blast of water from the hose hit the poop on the floor and the poop on the floor withstood the blast from the hose. It was like Portland cement beginning to set up and cure.

We finally tried to remove it with a shovel. I (obviously no one else was going to offer their services) had to get on my hands and knees with a coarse brush to get the remnants off of the floor. And as if this wasn't degrading enough, the darn dog in his drunken state had walked through the poop and left paw prints all over the garage floor that had to be brushed too.

Well, by this time the dog was sobering up nicely so we took him home and dropped him off before we left for our second Thanksgiving dinner at Perry's sister's house.

I am happy to report that as of today (Monday) the dog is back to normal both in size and temperament. He has had a bath and is no longer tricolor. None the worse for wear I presume. I am also happy to report that just this evening I found 2 risen unbaked yeast rolls hidden inside my closet door.

It appears he must have come to his senses after eating 10 of them but decided hiding 2 of them for later would not be a bad idea. Now, I'm doing research on the computer as to: 'How to clean unbaked dough from the carpet.' And how was your day?

CFF, Inc.
c/o Julia M. Gregory
222 Parks Road
McDonald, TN 37353

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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