

# KeesTales



2010 NATIONAL EDITION

AUGUST 2010

SANDALFOOT  
KEESHOND  
CLUB OF  
CENTRAL  
FLORIDA

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## Diamonds in the Ruff

The 2010 KCA National Specialty was held May 25—30 in Oconomowoc, WI.

The hosting hotel was the Olympia Resort. This hotel started hosting specialties about a year ago and the staff was amazing to the dogs and handlers too. Everyone there was very patient with us and all of the fur which made the stay a more enjoyable experience.



75th Anniversary  
Keeshond Club of  
America National Specialty

The average high tempera-

ture in Oconomowoc, WI that time of year is 72 degrees. However, the actual high that week was 94 degrees. It was hot and humid...just like home, but everyone still had a lot of fun.

Three club members attended and all came home with many stories to tell and many prizes to show. They all had fun, got to see old friends, and made some new ones as well.



## Nationals Haiku

By Jen Rother

joyful, fuzzy grins  
busy playing having fun  
old friends, new friends meet



# My 2010 Nationals Experience

By Karen D. Staats



Dancer jumping

We decided to go to Nationals.  
It was a long trip.  
Did I think we would win?  
Please! Get a grip.

We decided to go and have us some fun.  
We entered agility so the kids could run.

And ran they did even though it was hot.  
Wisconsin's always cool, right? NOT!!!

Dancer made me proud taking 2nd in FAST.  
The other runs were NQs, but we still had a blast.

A quick shower later, formal dress, and quick groom.  
Sebastian and I headed for the veterans room.

All the dogs in the ring were ages 8 to 10.  
They were all so composed, like little old men.

Then there was Sebastian so happy he was wiggling.  
The spectators watching were pointing and giggling.

He showed really well and we were so pumped.  
But that didn't matter.  
We still got dumped.

Next came Sierra in Rally Advanced A.  
I tried really hard to keep my nerves at bay.

Sierra and I entered the ring.  
I handed over the leash and boy did that sting.

But she did great, far better than expected.  
While we were in the ring, we really connected.

I was surprised when she took first place.  
I smiled really big and accepted the trophy with grace.

Next came brace and it was quite funny.  
I'd never seen it before but still sent in my money.

I showed the two boys at the same time.  
That's all I can say so this is the rhyme.

Seriously though they did quite well.  
I didn't do bad either, from what I could tell.

The rest of the week is still quite a blur.  
There were ribbons, diamonds, and quite a bit of fur!

My mom would talk to anyone with ease.  
But you better be careful, 'cause she could and would tease.

Harry hobbled around taking pictures of us.  
He never complained.  
He never did fuss.

Virginia was brave and sang karaoke.  
The bar was packed and getting quite smoky.

And Jen even learned the bartender's name.  
When she would call "Ryan", he always came.

Friends new and old could make quite a ripple.  
Cathy, Carole, and Tracy, and Jocelyn Tipple.

By the end of the week, we were quite tired.  
And surprised by all the prizes we acquired.

Where would we put them when it was time to pack?  
Would we be able to get them all back?

We opened the car and we huffed and we puffed  
We got out our luggage and we stuffed and we stuffed.

*"Then there was Sebastian so happy he was wiggling. The spectators watching were pointing and giggling."*

We looked at the car  
and the very large load.  
Then shut it up tight  
and hit the road.

Then we drove and we drove  
and we drove some more.  
Until we were finally home  
and I opened my door.

What I really needed  
was that tiny little fairy  
to wave her magic wand  
to get me to Lake Mary.

Once everything was unpacked,  
the laundry in a heap,  
I really didn't care  
because I went to sleep.

But she never came,  
though it would've been neat.  
So instead we settled  
into the car seat.

Next year is Ohio  
and I can't explain  
Why I really can't wait  
to do it all again!



Orlando here we  
come...Almost  
home!

## Mark Your Calendars!!

Take a Ride on the Wild  
Side!!

Mark your calendars for  
the 2011 National Special-  
ty in Mason, OH. This  
specialty will be hosted by  
the Buckeye Keeshond  
Club.

For more information on  
the hotel, events, etc.,  
please visit their website  
at: [http://  
www.buckeyekees.com/  
national/national2011.html](http://www.buckeyekees.com/national/national2011.html)

*2011 National Specialty*

*May 16 – May 21*



**Kings  
Island  
Resort  
Mason, OH**

*A rollercoaster adventure  
at King's Island – where else?*

# 2010 Keeshond Club of America's 75th Anniversary Show

By Sherri Kovach



(photo by Thomas Photography)

"Berlyn" K-Central's  
One S'More  
2nd in 6-9 month Puppy  
Sweepstakes

*"We had crates triple stacked and could only set up two tables very tightly...it made grooming rather intimate."*

I had to go through a lot of obstacles and jump over many hurdles to make plans for attending this show but I wasn't going to miss this event for anything! In the end everything came together and all the parts for our trip to Oconomowoc, Wisconsin fell into place and we were on the road!

It was me, Mike, four Keeshonden and one Papillon in my van. To keep

this 3,310 mile trip more comfortable, we decided to pull my little trailer which carried all of our stuff. We were able to drive almost straight through on the way up with two drivers switching off. Of course it wouldn't be exciting without something happening...before we got out of Florida we found that our radiator was leaking! I was so glad Mike was with me as he calmed my nerves, put 'stop leak' in the radiator and kept an eye on the situation which never really gave us a major problem.

We arrived at the Olympia

Resort Wednesday afternoon right before the Veteran Sweeps started. I really wanted to watch but by the time we got set up in the grooming area, the dogs settled and I got a much needed shower...the sweeps were pretty much over.

I would say the hot Florida weather followed us up but it was already 94 degrees and stifling when we arrived. That was the only bad part of our time in Wisconsin...it was extremely hot the entire time we were there. This also put a glitch in our best laid plans as far as grooming set up went. I had reserved two spaces to share with Terri VanSchyndel (Wund R Y Kees). Well since it was so hot, Terri could not leave some of her dogs in her van as planned so we had to make space for 18 dogs! We could only have 6 in the hotel room so that left us having to fit 12 dogs in the grooming area. We had crates triple stacked and could only set up two tables very tightly...it made grooming rather intimate to say the least! We also had to abort decorating our grooming space which was a big disappointment. Fortunately

ly Janice Graves graciously gave us her grooming space on Friday as she had to leave. That took quite a load off and gave us some breathing room.

As far as actual showing went...it was a blur!! I showed my girl Berlyn in the 6-9 month class at the Regional and in the Sweepstakes. She did very well making the cut in the Regional and winning second place in Sweepstakes. Then she aged up for the National and was shown in the 9-12 month class where she won fourth place and an absolutely gorgeous cut glass diamond paper weight! I am very proud of her and maybe one day she will learn to walk on lead in the ring! I also showed my new boy Dupree in the 6-9 month classes at the Regional, National and Sweepstakes. He showed very well considering that he is out of a litter Terri and I co-bred and this was the first time we met. He was in a very gawky stage and did not win anything but he had fun. I also helped Terri show her dogs...we had entries in stud dog,

brood bitch, veterans, generations, litter, and whatever else there was! There were two days when we had 11 dogs to show! It was fun but at the end of the day we were exhausted. One morning while Terri and I were in the ring showing in the brood bitch class, we realized that the 6-9 month puppy class was starting about 5 minutes after the brood bitch class and both of our puppy dogs were still in the room!! I was showing Tess and she won third place so I had to stay in the ring while Terri sprinted to the room to get the boys. Fortunately the boys were in that nappy Velcro coat and only needed a quick brushing. But were we rushed! Then we pretty much had one or two in each class after that so it was a wild day! I recall having two or three days like that.

We did find time to socialize and meet up with old friends. Terri and I had dinner at Chili's with Heather Myers (Cara), Phyllis Noonan (Sherwood) and Mark & Kim Wallace-Schall (KiMar). Seated at the table on one side of us were Mae Evans (Rutkay) and her group. Seated at the table on the other side were Karen & Steve Evasuik (Twintrees) and the group of Kees folks from Australia. It was a lot of fun!

We also found our way, the long way (what's a trip out of your state without getting lost?) to a super Mexican restaurant where we dined with Kristen Dowd (KJ'S) and her mom Eleanor Jackson (Kinjack Rotties), Wade Koinsten, Terri Wasser and Katrina Santos (from Australia). The food and margaritas were fabulous and the conversation was great. Katrina told us about some of the shows in Australia...boy do they party down there! Katrina is the Purina Representative for the entire country.

After the Mexican dinner we returned to the resort's bar for some wild karaoke. Here we ran into the Florida Kees girls, Karen Staats and Jen Rother who retired to their rooms way too early! We ended up closing down the bar but what fun!

One of the highlights for me was watching Terri and Seeker (BIS CH Wund R Y's Best Kept Secret) win the Top Keeshond Event. It was a black tie affair and was very exciting.

Since it had been six years since I was able to attend a KCA National, I was excited to watch best of breed for the Regional and the National and I forgot how much energy is in the air during this judging. I thought that the regional differences in breed type were very pronounced, most likely due to our current economic

state, but I still think as a whole quality was still apparent.

Okay now for my pet peeves...of which I only have two! J

STOP THE TRIMMING!! I saw many dogs that were so trimmed it was downright ridiculous! Of course, in my opinion, if the coats were proper ...the trimming would not be required.

And second...where did the aggression come from? I saw more dogs than I thought I should have being aggressive towards other dogs, and mostly unwarranted. I know it was close quarters and it was warm at times but please... pay more attention to your temperaments!

Our trip home was very, very long but uneventful. I returned home with Mike, four Keeshonden (although different ones!) and one Papillon! It was a great time and I am already looking forward to next year in Ohio.

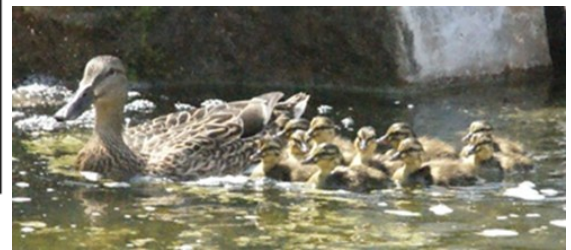
*"Since it had been six years since I was able to attend a KCA National, I was excited to watch best of breed for the Regional and the National and I forgot how much energy is in the air during this judging."*



(photo by Thomas Photography)

**"Berlyn" K-Central's One S'More 4th in 9-12 month Puppy Class**

# 2010 Nationals Puzzle



**ACROSS**

- 1 City of 2010 Nationals
- 3 Judged event
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Sweepstakes
- 6 City of 2011 Nationals
- 7 Anniversary of KCA Nationals
- 9 Group of dogs 8 years old or older
- 10 Person who watches the dogs carefully from inside the ring

**DOWN**

- 2 2010 Nationals Hotel
- 3 Diamonds in the \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Person who watches from outside the ring
- 8 Best of \_\_\_\_\_

# The Trophy Juju

By Karen D. Staats

As I was standing in the Best of Breed ring the last day of the Nationals in Oconomowoc, WI, I was talking to the handlers and spectators around me. One of the people sitting ringside, Cathy Bosnic, who is also the trophy chair-person for the Nationals, asked the group of handlers standing in front of her if we would sponsor a trophy for next years nationals. I laughed since she had already hit me up for a donation earlier in the week. Other handlers couldn't believe she was asking for donations since they just paid for the trophies they sponsored this year. Her response "It's good juju to sponsor trophies." Later, I started thinking about Cathy's response and decided she may be right.

First, let's look at the definition of juju. According to [dictionary.com](http://dictionary.com), the definition closest to what we are looking for would be "a charm or amulet with magical powers". OK, so the act of sponsoring a trophy could act as the charm that uses it's magical powers to help you to also win trophies.

Now, let's look at how it worked out for 5 exhibitors at the Nationals:

1. I spent a lot of money donating trophies and came home with a 1st place, a 2nd place, 3 - 4th places, another qualifying rosette, and a Veterans rosette and prizes. I'd say I got my monies worth.

2. One of my friends from NC, who will remain nameless because I couldn't get in touch with her before submitting this article, sponsored a couple of trophies. She won a 2nd place and a 1st place. (She may have won more, but those are the wins I could remember.)

3. Fellow Sandalfoot club members, Jen Rother and Sherri Kovach, won 3 trophies. While they didn't sponsor any this year, the club did. The club sponsored 3. Therefore, I feel their wins could be tied to the club's juju.

4. A person I know from Kentucky, I won't mention her name because I don't want to embarrass her, didn't sponsor any trophies. Nor did she win any trophies.

Based on the research I did

above, I believe there is some truth to the trophy juju. So make sure you sign up to sponsor trophies to get the juju needed to win! In the end, if you sponsor but don't win anything, at least you will feel

good knowing your money helped the club(s) out and your sponsorship will make the trophy recipient appreciative of your efforts as well. And who knows maybe the trophy juju has plans to work for future shows and/or trials.



Ribbons from the Nationals—Prizes not shown.

Karen and Sierra taking 1st in Rally Advanced A



# The Top 7.5 Things I Learned at KCA's 75th Anniversary National Specialty Show

By Jen Rother

As most of you know, the KCA Nationals in Wisconsin were the first Nationals that I have ever attended. Here are the top 7.5 things that I learned from my experiences there:



Jen and Mayhem competing for Best of Breed

*"Having only one dog is an anomaly.."*

1. Keeshonden are happy dogs. The part of the Nationals that takes the most getting used to is seeing Keeshonden every where you go. Since the only Kees I typically see are ones that I know, it was amazing to see that many fuzzy dogs in one place. And what struck me was how happy of a breed these dogs are -- no matter how happy, stressed, or tired the person at the end of the leash might have been, each keeshond would always say hi and was happy to see you.

2. Whatever happens, you're in good company. You're at a KCA National and these are Keeshond people. No matter

what your dog decides to do while in the ring, it has happened to everyone watching before – and likely even worse. They know that no matter how much you may or may not have trained, Kees are independent spirits and make their own choices on how your day is going to go.

3. Judges are people too. It is an honor to be selected to judge at the National Specialty and the judges are happy to be there. They realize that this is a special occasion and want people to do well. I was particularly impressed with the judges we had for rally and agility. They seemed to enjoy the craziness that you'd expect to accompany all Keeshonden events and definitely gave you the benefit of the doubt – or as one judge explained she always gave the dog the benefit of the doubt. It's a great environment to compete in something new.

4.. Pace yourself. It's a long

week. The only potential drawback to doing all of the fun stuff at the Nationals is that it's tiring. Mayhem and I had a blast competing in agility, rally, and conformation but by the end of the week we were both exhausted. He was so tired that he actually fell asleep in the ring during the National Best of Breed Judging. I am still trying to figure out how we can add obedience for next year (in the spirit of trying new things at Nationals).

5. Having only one dog is an anomaly. There were some people with only one dog, but us single dog folk were definitely in the minority. In light of the lesson above, I simply am not sure how the people with more than 1 dog made it through. (And I'm not sure what to make of the fact that Mayhem had a 4 people to 1 dog ratio.)

6. Old dogs get cool prizes.

Some of my favorite events to watch were the Veterans conformation and obedience, reserved for dogs older than 8 and 7 respectively. The dogs were incredibly sweet and seemed thrilled to be back in the action. (Some, like Sebastian, were so excited that they acted more like puppies than veterans) And just for participating, all of dogs received a really good ribbon. I've already started the countdown for Mayhem to get a cool ribbon.... only another 5 years to go.

7. It's not about winning, it's about having fun and meeting

people. Despite my Veterans ribbon envy, the prizes are not what the Nationals are all about. It really is all about the experience. I'm already looking forward to the Keeshond Club of America's 76th Anniversary National Specialty Show in Ohio.

And what about number 7.5? You may be wondering about the half. Well, the half is for something that I already knew before but had it confirmed at Nationals -- that Karen is a fun person to spend time with. Add in her mother and you're set some a really fun time with lots of laughter. Perfect com-

pany for a Nationals first-timer to help keep the whole experience in perspective.



Mayhem napping.

## Whiner's Column

### EDNA CORNEY—

#1 -- Even though I didn't get to the nationals this year, I was there last year with 3 dogs. Last year we came home with one first place two second places and one fourth place. My whine is that I bought the pictures, sent them to the Kees Tale editor with an article about our experiences and there wasn't another Kees Tales after that so they *never got published*.

#2 -- I **WANTED TO GO!!!** I found that I was not able to go this year, so DD and I whined to each other the whole time everyone was gone! We had a difficult time finding out what was going on during the days. You will note however that DD and I only **WHINED** but never got to the **WINED** stage.

#3 -- I **MISSED SEEING** all my friends and acquaintances from all over the country. And talking to breeders about years gone by! (Notice the older I get the more I talk about years gone by!!) I did not miss the long drive, flat tires or car trouble!!!

DD had a few dogs there but we also had a conformation puppy who turned out to be fifth in his class of 22 this was his first time in the ring and we **WEREN'T THERE** to see it!!!

Congratulations to all the winners this year – I can't wait to hear the stories and see your goodies.



# Whiner's Column (cont.)

**DD HOUCHINS—**

I know you ALL have heard me *whining and whining* for months about not being able to go to the nationals!! Well, here I go... *WHINING* again!!!

Here are my *whines!*

#1—I am *whining* because I wasn't there to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of KCA.

#2—I am *whining* because I wasn't there to see Sierra, Mayhem, Sebastian and Dancer compete in agility, rally and conformation events!

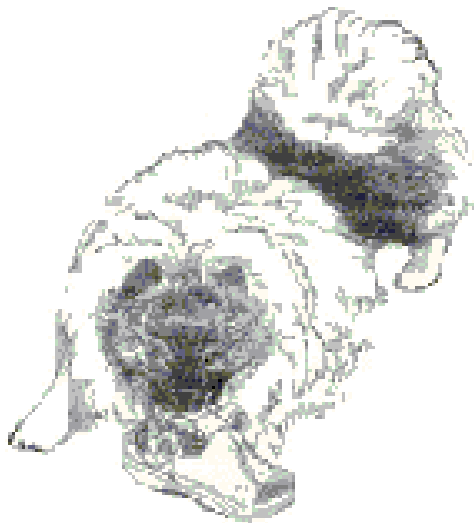
#3—I am *whining* because I wasn't there to see Jen and Karen compete with the kids and cheer them on!

#4—I am *whining* because I wasn't there to see old friends and meet new ones!

#5—I am *whining* because I wasn't there to watch Jen's face when she saw all of those keeshonds in one place!

#6—AND I am *whining* because I wasn't there to laugh at all of the drama and poke fun at the people who take this show stuff way too seriously!!

I am sure you all are so tired of hearing me *whine!!* So this will be absolutely the last time I *whine* about not being there!!!

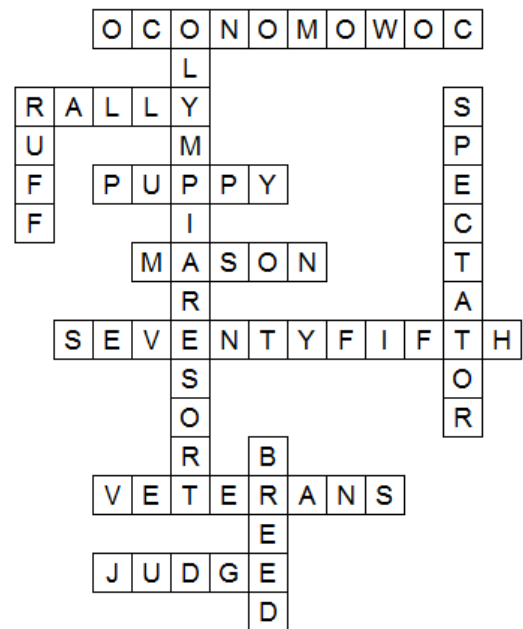


**Sandalfoot Keeshond Club  
of Central Florida**

<http://www.sandalfootkeeshondclub.com>

# Crossword Solution

## 2010 Nationals Puzzle



The Sandalfoot Keeshond Club of Central Florida consists of keeshond enthusiasts who are dedicated to the promotion of the breed.

The purpose of our club is to:

- A. encourage the responsible selective breeding of purebred Keeshonden toward excellence in the individual specimen and the advancement of the breed as a whole;
- B. to urge members and breeders to do all possible to bring the breed's natural qualities to perfection in accordance with the Standard of the Breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Keeshonden shall be judged;
- C. to conduct specialty shows under the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at all dog shows;
- D. to do all in its power to protect and advance the welfare and interests of the breed in accord with the Club's Breeder's Code of Ethics
- E. to urge and assist members to educate the public in the objectives of the sport of purebred dogs in general and the care, protection, and advancement of Keeshonden in particular.