CEBA TEMPERAMENT 2011
The grassy field at the south corner of the Legacy Center, Farmington, UT was the site for the third annual CEBA Temperament Evaluation. The course was flat and wide-open with one large tree. The twelve-owner/dog teams participating seemed oblivious to the gusting winds that were brewing that morning. The wind was so strong that the CEBA crew had to tie the pop-up tent to the adjoining cyclone fence! Rubber bands came in handy keeping evaluation sheets from flying off clipboards.
This year we had the honor of securing two great evaluators, Donna Eliason and Martine Savageau. Donna is the Director of training at the Willow Creek Dog Training School in Salt Lake City, UT, and Martine is Donna’s associate trainer.
Two additional components to the success of the evaluations are the CEBA field coordinators and friendly strangers. Becky Christiansen and Leelee Stefanki planned the course, executed the exercises and assisted the participants. This year Joyce MacKay and Patricia Aldrich joined Becky’s crew as field coordinators, which was greatly appreciated. In addition a big thank you goes to our friendly strangers who assisted us by strolling around, clapping and acting as a crowd through the entire CEBA evaluation. They are Patrick MacKay, Mark Jensen, Martine’s 3 students, and Madalynn Lilliedoll and her friend Emile Nolan.
Sue Thom generously spent her time on Friday and Saturday taking photos of our CEBA participants. We apologize that we were not able to publish her photos along with this article. Please look for them in the next issue of The Entlebook.
COMMENTS ABOUT CEBA TEMPERAMENT 2011
CEBA Evaluator, Donna Eliason - Director of Willow Creek Dog Training School

“I was pleased to be an evaluator on September 9 at the Entlebucher National. I have been heavily involved with dogs, training and of course the behavior issues that create the need for training, for twenty-five years. I was not aware of this wonderful breed until receiving a phone call from Leelee. Hence a new learning journey, which I enjoyed.

Reading the material Leelee sent and watching the DVD of the test in Switzerland was very informative. Here is a breed that is striving to maintain a high standard of stability in the temperament as well as working ability and conformation. Not an easy task!

I have participated in the Doberman WAC and the AKC TT and felt the CEBA Temperament Evaluation was more extensive and required more of the dogs. It was amazing to watch the twelve teams we evaluated work through the exercises with very few problems. No one had a dramatic reaction to anything. There wasn’t a dog I considered unstable. Most sailed through like it was a walk in the park. All had great attitudes and good relationships with their handlers. One outstanding nine-month-old puppy really impressed me with a confident attitude, outgoing, happy little ideal dog!
I enjoyed the exposure to this breed and was impressed with the breeders’ desire to evaluate their breeding stock to see what they are really made of. Their versatile and adaptable personalities certainly make them exceptional family members.

The CEBA Temperament Evaluation was well organized and ran smoothly. It was obvious lots of hard work thought and preparation went into it. Thanks for the experience!”

CEBA Evaluator, Martine Savageau – Trainer, Willow Creek Dog Training School

“Thank you for inviting Donna and me to judge the CEBA Temperament Evaluation. I was honored to work with such wonderful dogs and owners. It was obvious the sense of pride everyone has in this lovely breed.

We evaluated twelve teams and found all the dogs to be quite nice. True to the standard the dogs were active, self-assured and loyal. They seemed happy to work and to play. I enjoyed watching the part of the evaluation where the owner hid from the dog behind the tree. It demonstrated the dog’s loyalty, determination and tenacity. Few dogs took a bit longer to find their owners, but they never quit looking for them. That is impressive. There are many breeds of dogs that would not have looked at all. I did see in the Entlebucher a sense of reservation with strangers, as your breed standard noted. As a group the Entlebuchers seem to stay more focused on their owners and less focused on others, a very nice characteristic of a working dog. Best to listen and focus on your owner and your job. It is clear that the breeders have bred the dogs to the standards of your breed and should be commended for doing so.

Once again, thank you for the honor of judging the CEBA Temperament Evaluation. I enjoyed the time spent with you.”

CEBA CONFORMATION

The CEBA Conformation Evaluation was held Saturday afternoon, indoors in Building 2, following the AKC Conformation Show. Thanks to CKC Judge, David Denis, the CEBA Conformation Evaluation was set up directly next to the Obedience and Rally ring. It was great to be inside, out of the wind and the sun.

Two judging panels of three judges each was our original plan, but due to a cancellation and some scheduling overruns, the Conformation Evaluations were divided between five judges.

David Denis and Hildegarde Morgan (there for the Judge’s Education) were Panel One. Hildegarde stepped up to help us out since Mike Van Tallen (Fun Match Judge) had to cancel. The Fun Match that was scheduled for the morning got pushed to after lunch. Don Willett judged the Fun Match for Mike Van Tallen, which left Marcia Bittner, Denise Dean and Bill Edwards for Panel Two.
At the completion of the Fun Match, Don joined Panel Two for the last two dogs. We thank our judges for being so accommodating.

COMMENTS ABOUT CEBA CONFORMATION 2011
CEBA AKC Judge, Marcia Bittner

“I am so impressed with the overall progress in your breed. In just two short years since I last spent time with your breed, there are two things that seemed to stand out most to me: (1) There is more consistency in the overall quality and type of the breed and (2) there is definite improvement in temperaments, in general. Your breeders are to be commended.

Since all judges are human, there is always the possibility of individuals interpreting the standards and, thereby, judging differently. So, when you have a variety of people evaluating the dogs it gives the owners/handlers an opportunity to hear a variety of comments about their dog, in particular. They need to know that judges, being people, will see the dogs differently. This comes not only from the backgrounds and breeds of those judges, but also what those judges deem problems or pet peeves they are currently experiencing in their breeds or breeding programs.

They (the participants) also need to KNOW and UNDERSTAND what is most important to them in, not only their dog, but in what they want in the future if they consider breeding or buying a new dog.”

CEBA AKC Judge, Denise Dean

“Thanks so much for having me Judge at your Entlefest. The CEBA Conformation Evaluation was very well run and interesting. It is a great way for people and the judges to learn more about your breed. We did have some dogs rated excellent and if that is published be sure you get a chance to see these dogs as the overall rating is far more important than the individual notes.

I did suggest some changes to the form that would take into account more of the overall balance of the dog as when you take all the parts it does make you tend to fault judge and miss the truly good dogs that may have a glaring fault. Most really great dogs do and this kind of judging does tend to favor the middle of the road dogs that do not have any glaring faults but often do not have any great quality either. If you are going to use it as a learning tool, it would be good to invite some of the winners from the show so you get a chance to see the best in your breed.

Thanks to everyone that brought out their dogs to be evaluated. We had several really nice dogs and bitches to go over. It was a good learning experience for me.”

CEBA CKC Judge, David Denis

“Thank you for asking me to be one of the CEBA conformation evaluators. I found this time that the males improved from what we saw in Lake Tahoe.
There were more males close to the standard than there were females. This does not mean that the females have deteriorated and the males suddenly jumped to near perfection but is only an indication of the dogs brought to Utah. Most of the dogs stood patiently while we went over them with only a couple shying away.

I think that the CEBA evaluation is a valuable teaching tool for those that wish to add the Entle to their judging list and I hope the Club continues to have these evaluations at future Entlefests. The format is well laid out the way it is.”

CEBA Scribe, Debra Midgley

“When presented with the opportunity to scribe for the judging panel and develop an understanding of the CEBA evaluations I had feelings of excitement and anxiety.

I knew that my frame of reference and knowledge base was in puppy and adult health and development. To be able to observe, work and interact with the professionalism of the judges and CEBA team was incredible! I learned an immense amount about structure, movement and temperament differences that I was unable to put to the correct terminology prior to assisting in the CEBA opportunities at Entlefest.

The most important thing that I learned is how crucial it is to have our Entles CEBA evaluated to learn our own individual dogs strengths and weaknesses. As with any of us, human or canine, our traits define who we are and help us better understand why we behave the way we do. I am appreciative and thankful. If the opportunity presents itself to you (scribe, observe or participate).... Take the chance it is well worth it!”

LAST BUT NOT LEAST, COMMENTS FROM THE 2011 CEBA PARTICIPANTS

“The quality of the evaluators for both the CEBA temperament and structure were very good. I like having the individual discussion with the judges to go over the results, but I wish there was more time to talk about a general recap of the whole perspective from all the judges to the entire group.

The CEBA conformation judges really took the time to answer any of my questions. We didn't seem rushed through just to get the form finished and that it felt like just an enjoyable discussion. I would encourage anyone to re-take both evaluations throughout the years of your dog's life just for your own personal interest and comparison as they age. I also encourage others that are not breeders to do the conformation and temperament evaluation so that they can give feedback to their dog's breeder to know what they have been producing.”

“...The best part of the conformation evaluation was being able to have direct interaction with the judges. At AKC shows you never really know why the judge makes the placements they do. Having a panel was great, and although they
“The CEBA evaluations were most beneficial to me. My dog has her Canadian Championship, and although I received many favorable comments from judges, it was mostly in the context of very feminine; nice gate; beautiful coat; etc. However, getting the overall evaluations confirmed for me that conformation and temperament are of a high standard and worth the risk of having her bred.”

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“CEBA was one of the best things I've done with my dog; it was worth the drive to SLC. Everyone--pet owners as well as breeders should be encouraged to do it--it's informative and rewarding. It's not a test--no one passes or fails--it's like a thermometer reading of one's relationship to their dog. It's given me lots of ideas for training, activities and rewards.

The temperament evaluators were generous with their time and sharing insights into our relationships with our dogs. Martine Savageau, who owns the Berners, was particularly good, maybe because she saw the similarities and differences between the Berners and Entles. The conformation judge, Denise Dean was also very informative. The fact that all the evaluators took so much time with each dog was impressive.

It would be really good if CEBA had a special time slot at Entlefest where it was not run simultaneously with other events. I feel having it scheduled against other events so that breeders/pet owners have to choose one event over another demeans its value. The information is too valuable--KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!”

2011 CEBA PARTICIPANTS

Moratel Westriver Santé – Jane Haley (T & C)
Kipp of Wildhorn – Anna Wallace (T & C)
Moses of Surfside Entlebuchers – Bettina Waldraff (T & C)
AppleCreek’s Sigmund – Alena Sumner (T)
AppleCreek’s Sigmund – David Sumner (C)
AppleCreek’s Sonja “Emi” – Elaine Fohr (T & C)
Great Earl of Duke v. Adhem – Jennifer Shaul (T & C)
Superstar Kai v. Adhem - Joyce MacKay (C)
Katydid of Applecreek – Becky Christiansen (T & C)
Applecreek’s Quest Rex – Ursula Cabalzar & Michael Reyer (C)
Ice Princess Inga v. Eagleheart – Kari Gilje (T)
Applecreek’s Royal Elsa – Josette Kimes (T – Off Leash & C)
Applecreek’s Royal Polly – Josette Kimes (T & C)
Agatha of Matrix “Heidi” – Bettina Waldraff (T)
Norman from Balihara Ranch – Jo Young (T – Off Leash & C)

SUMMARY

From the feedback we’ve received, we feel that overwhelmingly CEBA is an important tool in helping our NEMDA members learn more about their dogs and their dogs' abilities and attributes. It’s fun and informative, even to those who thought they knew everything about
their dog, to learn from a panel of judges and evaluators.

Overlapping of scheduled events during CEBA time was the major complaint from participants. In the future the CEBA Committee will work hard to ensure there are no overlaps with lunch and multiple events. We thank all who participated for entrusting their dogs to the CEBA program and commend their patience in rearranging their CEBA time slots to accommodate the Fun Match, Rally, and Obedience.