



The Coton Malgache

Volume 15 Issue 4 Winter 2015 - 2016



Puppies!

Wouldn't the world be a wonderful place if we could all be as content as this with; food in our belly, a roof over our head, a nice warm bed and a snuggle with our family.

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President's Message

Linda Brookes

Hello all CCTC Members,

I hope this newsletter arrives in your homes that have happily settled back into routine after a safe holiday season.

The Canadian winter proves to be a challenge in many ways for us Coton owners. The extreme cold makes walking uncomfortable for our dogs, salt on sidewalks causes intense pain for their feet, and packing snow ends up in massive balls over the legs and bellies of them.

Do you have tips that make your time outside in the winter with your Coton easier to deal with? We would love to hear about it! How about sharing your ideas on FaceBook on the Coton Cafe site?

My best tip is for the snowballs. Put your dog into the tub and use warm water with a detachable shower head to melt them off. Then towel dry and, if you aren't in a rush on your way to work when this happens, a blow dry to finish it off. The dogs will warm up quicker and your floors won't suffer from puddles as it melts.

The CCTC Annual Specialty Show is in the planning stages and will be held in April this year at the All-Breed Dog Show in Bible Hill/Truro, Nova Scotia. The show is under the show regulations of the Canine Federation of Canada (CFC) which allow our Cotons to earn CFC championship titles. The CFC shows are run much like FCI shows in Europe. Judges provide a written critique of each dog shown in addition to placing them in their classes and groups. This written critique is like gold for breeders who are looking for information to use in their breeding program decisions. If you are not able to join us at the show but know someone who wants to show their Coton, please share the information with them. We are hoping for a great turn out this year at the specialty.

Until next time, stay warm and enjoy your fluffs!

Linda Brookes



Canadian Coton de Tulear National Specialty



Will be held in conjunction with the
Canine Association of Nova Scotia (CANS)
4 All-Breed Championship Shows;
Saturday April 16, 2016 ~ Show #2

Please join us in beautiful Nova Scotia, Canada
for our National Specialty!

We are very excited to announce that our specialty will be judged by the well-known and respected, French judge, Sylvie Desserne. Ms. Desserne is very experienced with the Coton de Tulear and will provide a written critique of your dog as per the CFC/FCC rules.

The 4- show weekend provides an opportunity to receive a Canadian CFC/FCC Championship! Our venue is close to the Halifax international airport and a nice, reasonably priced, dog friendly hotel.

We hope fellow breeders, potential breeders, handlers and owners from Canada and around the world will join us for this wonderful dog show!

Email all questions: mf.prayal@eastlink.ca

Link to: [Premium List](#)

Many Memories... by Marie-France Prayal

BISS, CAN and AM CH. Polana Doman, Norm, to his close friends

I wrote this article in 2002. Norm was healthy until the very end. I never had to go to the vet with him for any problem. He had many great achievements and contributed to good genetic lines! I had many healthy puppies from him. He is the great grand father of my little Jade who started her show life a few months ago.

Doman, alias Norm was born March 11, 1999, one day before his best friend, Misha the PON. His mother is Scarlett, his dad, ET.

Norm and his sisters, brothers



He has 2 brothers, Willie and Chewie, and 2 sisters, Joie de Vivre and Trelum. Why did I keep him??? Well, he was the best male in the litter and being so very close to me, he stole my heart! I also wanted to keep Misha, and he being the best friend, gave me another very good reason to keep him.

Norm, with his best friend, Misha the PON



Norm, summer 1999



And what about all those trips and memories! I decided to show Misha and Norm as soon as possible. Their first show, Woodstock, July 1999.

First memories : I forgot Norm's shampoo and I remember waking up in the middle of the night, trying to remember if I had brought it along. I decided to use my own shampoo. Lesson number one; don't use human shampoo on your dogs. The results are not great. It was also during this first show that Misha escaped from her crate! Looking to find Norm and I, I remember seeing this white and black ball of fur and legs running after us.

So, we started to travel a lot, Norm, Misha and I. It was now a routine, to prepare the luggage. Norm really likes his Sherpa Bag. He can stay in it for hours. I will tell you more about that later. Fly to the town or city, rent a car, find the hotel, last grooming, play in the room, the little boots to keep his feet clean and dry and oh the camaraderie between us!

And more memories. Early on , Norm didn't want to stray too far from me during a show. As soon as I was out of sight, he would bark and bark and bark ... so much so that he earned his nickname "Noisy Norm". But,

Many Memories continued...

after a few shows, he was better. He would stay on his table, rolled up in a ball, snoozing, waiting for show time. People often asked me which end of the dog was his head. December 1999 saw Norm, Misha, my daughter Sophie and I at the Skydome in Toronto. I was probably tired because I lost my way in Toronto, lost my way in the Skydome, got lost in the Skydome parking lot! Not a great start. I didn't lose my way any more during this weekend and Norm decided to be very nice for me. He won his first championship Sunday afternoon! I was very proud of him! So much so, that I decided to seriously show him and also really do something about that coat of his!

Norm, on the table, waiting to go in the ring



Before speaking about grooming, I definitely want to thank my groomer, Barbara, who has taught me a lot. She is the one who groomed Misha and Norm before we left for the shows. She is the one who taught me to be very thorough, consistent and persistent. As a result, kudos to her, I am able to groom and do everything myself (except the paws...) Thanks Barb!. I started to groom Norm everyday. Very often, it was the first thing I would do in the morning, at 7:00 with my coffee. He was always looking top notch. But, I was so afraid to take too much

hair with the brush, and I was afraid to see him dirty. Life as a show dog is not always easy for the dog or his Master. I had nightmares about fur. One night, during a weekend show, I dreamed I was looking for Norm just as I was ready to go to the ring. No Norm. After a long search, I found him, in the water, hairless and a big smile on his face yes Cotons can smile!. I will not describe my feelings at that moment; but, I think, I learned something from this dream. A show dog has the right to have a happy and active life. It is more important than a perfect coat. So, I decided to walk him and Misha more often. Even if his paws would become a little dirty; he was more happy and I was happy!

We had a very busy show time, Norm and I. He participated in at least 16 weekends, more than 70 different shows, here in Canada and in USA. He had a lot of success.

One of his many Best in Shows in Ontario



Many Memories continued...

Another nice win, in USA



Oh, I forgot to mention this memory. Because he was doing so well in USA, I decided to go to an important ARBA championship show, in December 2000. It was in Indianapolis. To get there, 3 planes; Halifax-Toronto, Toronto-Detroit, Detroit-Indianapolis. I missed the plane in Toronto and had to stay overnight. The next day in Detroit, I discovered the second plane had technical problems. With all these problems, I was going to miss this important show. Norm was in his Sherpa-Bag at 5:00 in the morning and it was 1:00 in the afternoon! I was totally desperate. I decided to go home! I think I made the right decision. Norm stayed in his Sherpa-Bag for another 8 hours without a sound. I remember feeding him with chicken in Toronto, his nose coming out from the bag, very happy to have something to eat. Another important lesson I learned at this time. If you go to a very important show far away, take at least 2 days to travel. During all these trips, he was always with me. I never left him by himself in a room or in a car; he would not let me do it, anyway. He would hop in the bag and away we would

go to the restaurant to order some food. He never complained and nobody knew I had a dog with me. It was our little secret escape between travelling companions. So, we did well, him and I. I was very proud of our efforts: Norm was number one Top Dog, all breeds, for 2000 with the Rare Breed Club of South Western Ontario!!!!!! After this big award, I continued to show him. I don't know if it was me or him or both, but the sparkle was not there anymore. I decided it was time to think about retirement. Last July, he went for his last show at Woodstock. He received his big award and finished his last show with a Reserve Best in Show. I have to tell you, it was hard, very hard. We were really a team, we enjoyed

The TEAM!



Many Memories continued...

going together, him in his bag, on my knees when I was driving, on the bed at the hotel waiting to play with me. A lot of memories.

But, I think, it was the right decision. Now, I don't worry about his coat and I still groom him regularly, every two days. I think, he enjoys retirement. He plays more, he walks more, he has a real doggy life.

Have a happy life, my dog, you really deserve it!!! We are all very proud of you!!!! From me, Lary my husband and my children who helped us when we were away, from Misha your best friend forever, from all your 4 pawed furry friends... Happy Retirement, CHAMP!

One of his last pictures...



Marie-France and Lary let Norm go October 18, 2015.



Thank you Marie-France for submitting this article and memories of Norm .

This magazine is your opportunity to share your stories. I will print all submissions.



CCTC Executive

President: Linda Brookes

Email: shoes.and.dogs@hotmail.com

Vice-President: Sonja Femia

Email: femias@sympatico.ca

Secretary: Paula Campbell

Email: paula@chapalabaycotons.com

Treasurer: Marie-France Prayal

Email: polana@ns.sympatico.ca

Director: Corinna Yannouloupoulos

Email: demcor@sympatico.ca

Director: Margaret Stagg

Email: mstagg1@cogeco.ca

Director: Ed Cooper

Email: ejcooper@bellaliant.net

Director: Linda Stevens

Email: hawks_n_hooves@yourlink.ca

Website Liaison : Marie-France Prayal

Email: polana@ns.sympatico.ca

Newsletter Editor: Linda Stevens

Email: hawks_n_hooves@yourlink.ca

About Us....

Denis Carriere founded the Coton Malgache Publication in 1994 so that breed fanciers might share their mutual interest. The club's aim is to support, educate and advise owners, members and prospective owners about the Coton de Tulear.

All members of the CCTC will abide by a code of ethics that will govern the breeding and prosperity of these lovely animals, protecting and preserving the qualities of the Coton de Tulear, and striving for its betterment.

CCTC publishes the Coton Malgache quarterly in March, June, September and December. **We encourage your submissions!** Please send photos of, and articles about your Cotons. Photos will be returned upon request if you include a S.A.S.E.

**Deadline for the March 2016
Coton Malgache is March 15, 2016.**

**Please send all submissions for the Coton Malgache to:
Email: hawks_n_hooves@yourlink.ca**

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Contact Marie-France Prayal

polana@ns.sympatico.ca Tel. 902-757-0826