The Herding Champions......

Australian Cattle Dog
HC Kuawarri Munya Beron
DC Solo's Blue Banjo
DC Buzzards Bo Of Whiskey River
HC George
HC Home Grown Nikki CD TD
DC Rewuri Blue Bogong CD
DC Alaska Samson Tonowek Mist
DC Buzzards Rope To Catchem
HC Far Fetched So-Lo N' Sassy
DC Tenaja's Cattle Kate Osage
HC Second Hand Rose
HC Tag-Along
HC Kuawarri Budro
HC Far Fetched Hot Diggity Dogg
DC Hill St's Red Alert VCD2 AX
HC Hay Ewe CD TD
HC Ben-Mar's Bud
DC Thatldu's Boomerang Chance CD NA NAJ
DC Hobo Of Hesperia Ca
DC Kuawarri G'Bye Old Paint CD
HC Kuawarri Red Benowa
DC LNR Rig B's Rosette O'Wallaby CD OA NAJ
DC Kylie's Ericka Shurcan Shine UD NA NAP NAJ NJP
DC High Country Harvest Moon CD NA NAJ
DC So-Lo Easy One CD
HC Kuawarri Pick'n'th'devils Eye
HC Little Nickels Red Rocket
HC So-Lo Lassic Frills N Lace
HC Far Fetched Dance Or I Shoot
DC Kurpas' Redeemer For LNR
DC Buzzards Barbed Wire N Roses RE
DC Creekspirits True Grit Lnr
HC Duwest Wonderfull Wild Wicca CD
HC Owaossi Fire Dancer
Am/Can Dual CH DuWest Ride a Cowboy
HC Kuawarri Munya Beron
HCH George X CH Buzzards Katie May HS
Larry & Marilyn Painter
Kuawarri Kennels
kuawarri@fairpoint.net

Munya (deceased) was owned by Casey Painter of Cleveland, MO
Casey was 12 when he started trialing Munya
DC CH WTCH Solo's Blue Banjo, RD, HTDIII s.c
DOB: December 20, 1989
Sire: CH. Raykimatt Little Conrad
Dam: Kapelos Solo Miss
Bred by Alice Kapelos
Owned by Craig Watson

We got Banjo after our first cattle dog, Arlo, went missing. It took us several months before we gave up trying to find Arlo. Our Veterinarian knew of a breeder in Graham, Washington, Alice Kapelos, so we called Alice and made plans to go see her one remaining puppy from her last litter.

Alice made arrangements for a puppy from another breeder to be there so we would have a choice. After talking to Alice and playing with the puppies we decided on the more outgoing puppy of Alice’s. In truth he picked us. Alice called him Fritz. We paid the $200 pet price, the going rate for a pet in 1990, and took Fritz home.

As a kindergartener I rode the bus to school and the bus driver was from Australia. Our bus was named Matilda and we sang Waltzing Matilda everyday on the way to school. Waltzing Matilda was written by Andrew Barton "Banjo" Patterson, perhaps Australia’s favorite and most famous Bush poet. Banjo wrote about drovers, cattle men, sheep men, shearsers and life in the outback. We thought Banjo was a perfect name, and so Fritz became Banjo. His dam’s name was Solo, so he was registered as Solo’s Blue Banjo.
At the time Alice was married to Joe Kapelos and she suggested we bring Banjo over to see if he worked.

That first time was a bit rough, so I went out and found every book I could find about herding and I took bits and pieces from each as they applied to Banjo and our situation. I knew I didn’t know anything about herding but we had acreage so we could keep stock and I wanted to train and handle my own dog. About that time I found out about an AHBA test nearby my house hosted by the Collie Club and the tester was a guy named Rick Pinney. I entered the test and waited until it was our turn. Rick had this beautiful black and tan Kelpie that he was handling sheep with and I could tell this was someone that knew what he was doing. I entered the pen with Banjo and in my ignorance I did my best. Apparently Rick saw something far less disastrous than I did and he took me aside and told my fortune. He said, "People like you that get dogs like this go on and finish Working Trial Championships, Herding Championships, win a lot of trials, become a judge and help others learn to work their dogs". "This is a great dog, he is well worth working on. Keep learning and working on it." "You have a fetching dog, keep fetching. It’s easy to teach a heeler to drive, but the default is fetching. Think about it, if you are moving stock on horseback and get knocked out on a low hanging branch or fall off your horse, you want to wake up surrounded by your stock." Rick was one of the first people to enter my life at just the right time although he was not the last. I still have that AHBA test sheet.

Banjo and I did go on to do the things Rick foresaw. Banjo became the first ACD ASCA WTCH, the first ACD AKC Herding Champion, and because he finished his conformation Championship he was also the first ACD Dual Champion. He won 35 trials in his short 5 1/2 years, 18 trials in 1995 alone. His only trialing defeat in 1995 was to his daughter Sassy. He was Reserve High in Trial at his first specialty in Rapid City, SD and High in Trial the following year in Costa Mesa. He was the ACDCA High Point Herding Dog in 1994 and 1995. He was the sire of the most herding titled get in 1995, 1996 and 1997. He sired several truly great working dogs including DC CH HC HCH WTCH Tenaja’s Cattle Kate Osage "Kate", owned by Steve and Julie Waltenburg, and HC WTCH Far Fetched So-Lo N' Sassy owned by Alice Kapelos and myself. He reproduced himself, his abilities and his even temperament. He was a perfect breed.
representative. Banjo was a strong fetching dog, had moderately strong eye that got stronger as he developed. He was an awesome heeler and passed that trait on to his offspring and line. When people watched "Kate", "Sassy", Linda Jaquish’s "Sadie", and Waltenburg’s "Tap" heel, they were seeing Banjo’s genetic heritage. Some of Banjo’s pups went to a number of breeders and some of their pups were placed on ranches. Several ranchers later wrote to tell me stories of how their dogs naturally worked stock and were honest and kind to stock but didn’t want them to try to tell them how to do it. That was Banjo.

Banjo was my teacher and mentor and he taught me that I didn’t know as much as I thought and how to trust my dog.

Before we started showing in conformation we took Banjo to a local handler and judge for some lessons. My plan was that I was going to show him, but when we arrived, the handler, Rick Byrd (another Rick!) took Banjo and handed him to my daughter Elan, and said, no, she’s going to learn to show him. This was the start of Elan’s junior showmanship and later professional handling experience. Elan took Banjo on several show circuits with Melissa Braun and learned how to show professionally. She and Banjo qualified for Westminster two years, won Northwest Best Junior Handler and won Best Junior at several National Specialties. Banjo was really good at a lot of things. He loved to please us.

In 1995 things were going so well. Banjo was winning a lot of trials and Sassy had just started working on driving, so I only entered Banjo in the specialty trials in Sonora. He won the Calcutta but seemed to be tired. We had just finished a four day ASCA event the weekend before which was three days of ducks, sheep and cattle and a ranch course with a 450 yard outrun, so I though he might be a little tired, but in retrospect he was in top form and as hard as nails. As we started the next few days of sweeps and conformation he started to throw up and get really sick. We took him to the vet in Sonora and they couldn’t find anything but thought he might have an intestinal blockage. He stayed overnight on Tuesday night and they still couldn’t find anything. We brought him back to the hotel but took him back Thursday, where the vet thought he felt a mass in his stomach. We opted for exploratory surgery on Saturday thinking he would be alright and we could drive home the next day. We got the same room for another night and a few hours later the phone rang. The vet said Banjo had a sarcoma of the mesentery root and it involved the blood supply to the lower intestine and despite their best efforts, they couldn’t remove it. With our heads spin-
ning and our hearts broken we went to the vet and said our goodbyes. The drive home was the longest drive of my life.

I will never forget Banjo, those who magically showed up at just the right time and helped us, and the many letters, cards and flowers we received from our cattle dog friends. It was really wonderful how many people loved and appreciated Banjo.
Bo was our first registered cattle dog at the XP Ranch. We went to see Jim Buzzard in search of a good ranch dog. Kent was managing a registered cattle ranch in western Oklahoma at the time, and needed a “four-legged hot-shot”. (By the way, be careful what you ask for!) Jim had two litters running together at the time, and this big ole’ blue pup caught Kent’s eye. He was laying spread-eagle across the puppy food pan, hackles up and growling, keeping all his siblings and the older pups from eating even though he was already full as a tick himself and couldn’t possibly eat another bite. That confidence and attitude bought him an instant ticket home with us.

Bo taught us a lot and captured attention everywhere he went. Sometimes it was for his working ability, sometimes it was for his sense of humor. He loved working cattle, tolerated working sheep, and worked ducks with an amazing way of adjusting his power and presence. He adored people and puppies. Older dogs, not so much.

He was a tough dog, he lived through some pretty tough miles working on the ranch. Some of the wrecks were ones he caused, and some were ones he fixed. He gathered hundreds of head of cattle on the ranch, working alongside us on horseback. He competed at a lot of trials, in AKC, ASCA and in Border Collie trials where he was the only not-a-Border Collie. He had a lot of fans all over the country. At the State Fair each year, at least one person would ask, "Are you going to work sheep......with HIM?! We want to see that!"

Oh, he also showed in conformation early on, finishing his championship by 10 months. Good thing too, as he forgot to quit growing when he reached the top of the standard.

Bo had a little bit of a hearing problem, sometimes it was real and sometimes it was selective. Somehow he always knew when Kent was hooking up the gooseneck, even if he was in the house. It meant he was going to work and that was what he loved doing, even though he had to throw his own agenda in quite frequently which got him into trouble on more than one occasion.

Bo was a multiple High in Trial winner, and won HIT at Nationals twice.
A true working dog helps you wherever you need help. Bo and Kent work on the old '72 International ranch truck.
Blue dog is Bo, red dog is Ch. Buzzards Red Image HS. This cow belonged to the neighboring ranch, and they had not been able to catch her in somewhere between 5-8 years (brothers didn’t agree 😁). Kent roped her off horseback, and Bo and Image made sure she loaded.

Another shot of Bo and Image loading the rogue cow at the Oakes Ranch. She weighed about 1600 pounds.
HC George
CH Beronganella Dandy CDX X CH Rewuri Tuki CDX
4/8/1987

Larry & Marilyn Painter
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Photo by Lori Herbel
DC WTCH REWURI BLUE BOGONG VQW CD (Aust.)

Aust. CH Cherimoya Cattle Hobo X Rewuri Wi Bunyip CD
4/6/1993

Larry & Marilyn Painter
Kuawarri Kennels
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DC Alaska Samson Tonowek Mist
Sire: CH Raykimatt Little Conrad
Dam: Kapelos Solo Miss

DOB: July 13, 1990
Breeder Alice Kapelos
Owners: Craig Watson and Alice Kapelos

When we were showing Banjo there was a bit of a tug of war. Elan was showing in junior showmanship and I wanted to trial. Banjo finished his Championship but we knew where his strengths were...with livestock!

About this time the fisherman in Alaska that had purchased Samson had to move to Nome and he thought it might be too cold for a cattle dog, so he sent Samson back to Alice. She promised him to someone but when we saw him we called her and pleaded to get him. Alice relented and gave us Samson. She signed on as co-owner and off we went.

Samson was a bush dog and he had bush dog manners when we first got him. He was alright at home because Banjo kept him on a short lead, but at shows he always wanted to get in a fight with Ruthie Parris’s dog Travis or heel the dog in front of us in groups, especially if they had a lot of hair.

One time in particular stands out. There was a very large, tall woman named Nancy that exhibited Puli’s. Very nice Puli’s that she took very seriously. As we gaited around the ring the first time
Samson came very close to heeling her Puli and she threatened to beat me up! So from that day on we tried to stay in front of some of the hair dogs of comparable speed. He heeled Lester Parris’s Silver Sam once too. He was a bit of a handful at times but he was an ACDCA Top Ten special and he won countless best of breeds and a lot of group placements.

Samson was a really strong worker. As a handler you could feel the pressure through the stock and you could tell what they were feeling. He was very good at pacing himself and rating stock, but if there was a fight he was all in. He was very strong at the head and heel and he had excellent balance on stock. He adjusted himself and his position naturally. He was very powerful without force. In other words, he had a lot of presence. He was a great ram dog on the farm and if there were rams to move or they were causing trouble he was very good at handling them. We had a large 200 lbs ram that got the idea in it’s head that it should take on Samson one day. Samson met him half way at the nose and flipped that ram on his side. He was a very powerful and physically capable dog. He was the same with cattle that wanted to fight.

Samson was top ten ranked in the ACDCA conformation and herding standings concurrently for a few years. He won a lot of High in Trials but because we were showing him and trialing him and he was younger than Banjo he was usually ranked right behind Banjo the first couple of years. When Banjo died I counted more on Samson on the farm and started working more with Sassy, but he continued to be very competitive and top ten ranked. I’m very proud of his winning the ASC of Washington Gordy Loyer Award for high combined on all stock types at their Summer Spectacular twice. He was in top form.
It's funny how you forget certain things about some of your dogs. While gathering this information I was reminded of what a formidable presence Samson was and the great things he accomplished. He also sired some wonderful working dogs. I miss him and some of his antics. He was a lot of fun.
What a dog. Knowing what I know now about training dogs to work livestock I have often wondered how much more I could have gotten out of that dog. He was quite a dog. He would do things that Cattle dogs weren’t supposed to do.
HC WTCH Far Fetched So-Lo N’ Sassy HTDIII d,c
DOB: January 18, 1994
Sire: DC CH HC WTCH Solo’s Blue Banjo
Dam: CH Kapelos Blue Smoken Lady PT
Bred by Alice Kapelos
Owned by Craig Watson and Alice Kapelos

Sassy rescued me after Banjo unexpectedly passed away in 1995. She immediately made herself my best friend and partner. Wherever I went, Sassy went too. I was able to enter Sassy using Banjo’s entries in the ASCA trials that September and she won High in Trial on sheep and cattle and most promising started dog. She never looked back. Sassy was a very stylish cattle dog with a lot of eye and natural cast. Her eye enabled her to naturally rate stock and she had the ability to settle rank stock with her steady approach. She rarely needed to use force, but when she did she made it count. She loved to control stock.

She was the ACDCA High Point Herding Dog for 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2001. She had a litter in 1998 so she missed a few of that season’s trials, but she managed to finish 2nd in the ACDCA Herding Top Ten that year. She won over 50 High in Trials, several at the ACDCA Nationals.
and was a two time National specialty Herding Champion. She produced a number of really great working, agility and obedience dogs and was the ACDCA Dam of the most Agility title holders in 1999.
She died in December 2008 just short of her 15th birthday. I miss her very much. She is buried under a cherry tree in a spot I pass daily and I still stop and talk to her on occasion. Her tree is beautiful.
Kate's arrival in our lives was the portal through which we stepped into the world of herding and purebred dog sport. We have made many true friends and have had countless rewarding experiences in the dog world. For that and many other reasons we have in large part Kate to thank. So if you would indulge me some sentimentality, I would like to share Kate's story.

She was not our first ACD, but she was our first AKC registered dog. When we decided to buy a registered ACD we researched for many months. Our search finally narrowed to three imminent litters, all with due dates in the same week. All were well bred litters, but the decision from which to choose was clinched when Steve saw Kate's breeder, Jackie Juniker, work Kate's mama, Sage. We'd had an ACD who'd work livestock, but ever the competitor, Steve was intrigued by this herding trial business. Choosing the right pup from the litter was a painstaking endeavor for me. I spent countless hours “in the whelping box” applying this puppy aptitude test and that. For Steve the decision was easy. He swears that at age ten days Kate turned her head up to him and winked! No doubt that “wink” was just her eyes beginning to open, but no matter; Kate was his from that point on.
At eight weeks old Kate already displayed the confidence and hutzpah that would carry her through her trial career. On the same token that zest for life made puppy training a wee bit of a challenge. <grin> At puppy obedience class, halt at the heel meant turn and sit facing the pup in back of us (Who's that following me?!?!). A short time later in handling class, Kate made it clear that she had no patience for treats and stacking as she forged around the ring to meet the dog in front of her. The instructor’s pronouncement: “You simply must get a handle on her!”

At seven months old Kate was instinct tested by Terry Parrish, who would become Steve’s mentor. Terry was at the time primarily a BC trainer, but she saw in Kate what she later deemed “a one in a million dog and decided to take Steve and Kate as students. The trio clicked, and Kate was off and running! At eleven months old Kate earned her PT. Just two months later she made her National Specialty debut by going High in Trial on cattle. At age 18 months, she made her B Course debut from the Intermediate class and became the youngest ACD to go HIT on that course. Working in the open field became so natural for Kate that Steve began running her in USBCHA sheepdog trials. There was a fair amount of snickering when Steve first took Kate to the handler’s post, but the snickering soon stopped when Kate shot off a 275 yard outrun and brought her sheep to the post! At last, an outlet for all that puppy hutzpah! <g> However, in true ACD fashion, Kate’s first love was working cattle. She was agile and had a quick, low heel bite but would hit a nose just as sure! She could hold the pressure and never gave ground. She excelled at the “dance” of free penning, which helped her win an unrivaled total of four Nat’l Specialty calcuttas. I remember how she bounded up the bleachers after her 2004 run with a big, ol’ Cattledog grin that fairly shouted, “Howdja all like that?” Ever the ham…..

Kate’s indomitable spirit and natural ability garnered her many “firsts” and set many records including:

- Both the youngest and the oldest ACD to go HIT on cattle at a Nat’l Specialty, at age 13 months and age 12 years respectively
- The youngest ACD HIT – Course B
- The first ACD AKC Dual Champion bitch
- The first ACD quadruple champion (HC,HTCH,WTCH,CH)
- Most National Specialty Cattle Champion wins (four)
- Most National Specialty Cattle Calcutta wins
- First ACD quad-champion to produce a quad champion
Kate retired from trialing after her swan song at the 2006 National. Steve asked her for “just one more time”, and she gave it to him without blinking an eye or missing a step.

Kate remained Steve’s right hand man around the place after her retirement, but in 2008 at age fourteen, as she began to slow down, she took on another role. When Steve was diagnosed with a brain tumor she became his comforter, and he her’s, for that matter. It was as if they had a pact: “If you hold on, I’ll hold on.” The only problem with the pact was that a little ol’ blue bitch can only hold on for so long. In the end, it is not the accolades that are important. It’s what Kate added to our life: companionship, joy, a shared passion for a life style. From the brash, boldness of youth to the docile gentility as the still respected alpha senior, there will only be one Kate.

Kate’s final specialty win. Cattle HIT and FIFTH National Cattle Championship Age 12 years old

Australian Cattle Dog
Rose came into my life as a stray from the 29 Palms Marine base in September 1990. The owners had thrown her out of the car when they moved on to their new duty station. It took animal control a week to trap her and bring her in. When brought in our eyes met and I knew she was my dog. I vaccinated and wormed her then took her home for the required holding time before I could adopt her. She was about 4 months old at the time. Her whole life I was the only one she acknowledged. People would talk to her and she ignored them. If I left her home with Ray she wouldn't eat and if he talked to her she would turn her back on him. She loved to travel and we had many good times together. We don't get many soulmate dogs in our lifetime but I was lucky enough to get 2.

When I first came to southern CA I tried to find a place to work the dogs that had come with me. Since they were use to working cattle daily I needed something to keep them sane, but no deal since I had that “bite and chaser” breed. As Rose grew up I had no stock for her either. I knew she was special so I decided to get some ducks and train her on them. It was pretty exciting in the beginning but we worked through it. She had never been on sheep but at 4 years old I entered her in HT on sheep. I have to admit that she was very fast but she qualified. We had some NQs going up the levels because of disagreements between us. She was 7 before we came to a compromise between what she wanted to do and what I needed her to do at trials. Once that happened she was hard to beat.
I worked her a few times on cattle and ducks but her obsession was sheep. She finished her HC in 3 weekends trading days with Terry Kenney’s border collie. She was the first ILP dog of any breed to earn an HC and I was very proud of her.
HCH WITCH KUAWARRI BUDRO RTDCs HRD3s "Bud"

HCH George X Kattleroo Blue Bikkie Bin

Bud is owned and handled by J.D. Coonrod of Belton, MO
Diggity was our first Australian Cattle Dog. Originally acquired as a pet, she proved to be an enthusiastic herding prospect. Diggity earned her AKC Herding Championship, and her ASCA Working Trial Championship (WTCH).
Echo was the kind of special being that some of us are lucky enough to have come into our lives, rarely more than once. When Echo came into my life, she changed it forever. She opened a door that led me to my true passion, herding. Though Echo and I enjoyed many activities and challenges together, it was the herding that changed the direction of my life. Whether it was cows, sheep, or ducks, Echo would adjust her methods, but never her intensity or enthusiasm for working stock.

She would sleep in the co-pilot’s seat on the long trips to herding trials, but, if we were passing a field of cattle, she would catch their scent through the air flow, stand up looking for them, and then, upon spotting them, would wag her tail and let out a “woof”.

This sweet redhead was a loyal friend, and, like most ACDs, was borderline obsessive compulsive about all forms of the game of “fetch”. She had that way of conning you into throwing whatever object she presented you with.
Although she had only one litter in her life, Echo and three of her offspring earned enough titles to give her High Point ROM Bitch and High Point ROM overall. To my knowledge, she remains High Point Bitch to this day. Echo was also the first ACD to earn a Versatility Championship. However, Echo lives in my heart as my angel, and I believe she still watches over me.

Susan Crocker  
High Country Farm  
Langley, WA 98260
The dogs are from left to right, Little Nickle's Red Rocket, Little Nickle's Hay Ewe and Little Nickle's Tag Along.

They're all ILP. They worked cattle, sheep, ducks, geese, goats and turkeys.
Boomer was an incredible dog and I was lucky enough to have bred and own him. He was sired CH Redwing’s Take N Chance, PT, ROM and out of my foundation bitch CH Nip’n Heels Caoura Biala, HX,CDX,Can. CD, U-CD,OTD(d,s),ROM

Boomer was a multiple High In Trial winner in the US and Canada on both sheep and cattle including High Score ACD Cattle at the 1997 ACDCA National Specialty and High in Trial Cattle at the 2003 ACDCA National Specialty.

I sometimes stood in awe at the post watching him work and forgetting I was steering. His talent for reading stock and putting the work where it was needed without being told was awesome. He
had a heart as big as he was just like his mother.

Boomer also competed and finished titles in obedience and agility. He excelled and loved to do ranch courses. He was also a hard working dog out of the trial arena and he liked to work ewes with lambs. He would move a fighting ewe with only enough force that was needed to move her and then gently make sure her lambs were kept with her.

He wasn't much for people but those he liked were his life long friends and he always loved seeing them.

Boomer only had a few litters but has produced multiple Champions, a recent Grand Champion, obedience titled, herding titled and multiple High In Trial winners. He was 2007 ACDCA Sire of Most Herding Titlists. And his grand get are now also following in his footsteps.

We are looking forward to the hopefully near future of having more Boomer babies out there via frozen semen.
This is the story of our homebred boy, Pete—terrific ranch hand, pretty good ol’ trial dog, friend and protector, pushy and proud—all Cattle Dog! Sadly we lost Pete last October, just shy of his twelfth birthday. Thought to be short lived by some, rest assured that Pete lived his life with enough gusto to fill two lifetimes!

Pete returned to us from the original puppy placement at the notoriously challenging age of eight months. He was by then already ruggedly handsome with a strong head. Thank goodness for that strong head that supported those ample ears! His unique registered name can be attributed to a nativity on both our part as first time breeders and the buyers as first time registered dog owners. When it became clear that Pete would be staying on with us we came up with a call name that suited both him and Steve: Pete, plain and simple.

Pete fast became Steve’s "best boy". They clicked and soon embarked upon Pete’s herding training and trial career. Pete had some pretty big paw prints to fill: his dam and sire are both AKC Dual champions and then some! After a sluggish start due to the demands of Steve’s pesky day job Pete
hit his herding stride at around four or five years old. He had long since finished his conformation Championship and was earning championship points at a rapid pace in three herding programs. Along the way he garnered several high in trial and reserve high in trial placements on both cattle and sheep. He was the ACDCA High Point Herding Dog in 2004 and became the first second generation quadruple champion that same year. Ironically, Pete was awarded the ACDCA Sire of the Most New Agility Titlists in two different years, yet he never saw the likes of a teeter or a tunnel!

To add to his list of accolades are the get that he sired. There are five Champions of Record, several pointed dogs, one ROM, a wide range of performance dogs in an array of venues: herding, agility, obedience, tracking and even dock dogs! In 2007 our homebred Pete-son, Ruck, went High in Trial on cattle at the ACDCA National Specialty and earned the Most Promising Started Dog on Cattle award. When all is said and done all the awards and achievements of the story of that member about Pete isn’t arena but what he was to though he could be a times (there’s that old was the only dog on our could count on to take chore done. He did even an argument. He was will handed him. I felt safe patrol and on the flip side laughed at his gooberish ways when he let his tough guy bravado fall. To Steve Pete was the ultimate ranch dog. Need to load a tough trailer? Pete was there. Need to calmly move a flock of ewes with month old lambs? Pete was there. Wanna go for a ride in the truck or the side-by-side? Pete was really there! And that is how I will fondly remember our big galoot in his twilight days. No matter how badly Pete was feeling physically he’d ride shotgun with Steve in the side-by-side, stoically sitting up so straight and proud, overseeing his small patch of desert, his pack and his livestock. It was an honor to know you and our privilege to be owned by you.

Pete was owned, bred, trained, trialed and loved by Steve and Julie Waltenburg.
Paint was acquired with strictly a herding focus in mind, but turned out to be a beauty, so we took up showing with him as well. He is one of a very limited number of ACDs to earn a dual championship. He earned an award of merit in conformation at the ACD National Specialty in Frederick, Maryland, in 1999. He is also an ASCA WTCH.
HC Kuawarri Red Benowa

HCH CH Rewuri Blue Bogong  X  CH Beroganella Flame HS

Owned by Larry & Marilyn Painter
Rosie was the third ACD Bitch to become a dual champion in conformation and herding.

Adrian and Rosie not only competed in AKC herding events but also earned titles in other herding venues and attained some agility titles.

Rosie started her herding career and agility to give her more confidence. She had been bitten in the show ring and became reserved in the show ring. The herding not only gave her confidence but she excelled at herding.

Rosie earned her conformation title, while trialing and working on agility.

DC Creekspirit’s True Grit LnR HXAsc has continued in her footsteps.
Every now and then, we are blessed with the arrival of a special dog with which we have an incredible, instantaneous bond. Ericka was a ‘once in a lifetime’ dog. She was the quintessential cattle dog – quiet, confident, proud, talented, and versatile, a benevolent leader, and above all, an unfailing loyal companion.

Ericka’s roots were humble, being out of a ranch bred bitch, Plateau’s Foxy Roxy and by the Australian import Maryheather Blue Solar. She came into my life as simply a companion, of course she excelled at that becoming as the Aussies would say a “true mate”. At some point I realized she was a good looking, well built dog and decided to try out the conformation ring. She quickly finished her AKC breed championship, at one point going BOB over several top specials of the day under breeder judge Jamie Hansen. She also earned her International breed championship before quitting the breed ring for more exciting pursuits. Not just another pretty face, Ericka was a dog to be reckoned with in the performance arenas as well. Herding, Obedience, Agility…. she could do it all…and do it all well.
Ericka was the first dog I trained for competitive herding and as such she suffered the normal first dog pitfalls. This was made even worse by the fact that at the time there were no herding trainers in the area who understood and would work with an ACD. We hit walls and had to back up and start over again more than once. Through all of that she continued to work for me and try to figure out what it was that I wanted even when I wasn’t sure myself. Ericka lived to work, tried extremely hard to be “right” and was totally forgiving of my bumbling. Eventually we found the right path and she was able to really show what she was made of. At that point in our trialing it became a joy to walk to the post with Ericka. I always knew that I had the dog who could win as long as I did my part because there was no question that she was going to do hers.

In 2005, at the age of eleven, Ericka earned her AKC Herding Championship and Dual Championship, making her only the fourth ACD bitch to ever do so and the first ACD in the eastern US. That same year she won the Over-10 Veterans Bitch class at the ACDCA National Specialty in TN, and the very next day won the Advanced Sheep class and went High In Trial at the National Specialty herding trial. In December of that year she earned her Working Trial Championship through the ASCA herding association, qualifying in 9 out of 10 runs in one weekend. The following year she earned her Herding Trial Championship through the AHBA herding program.

During her herding trial career Ericka earned numerous High In Trial and Reserve High In Trial awards on all types of livestock and in all of the different herding venues. Ericka’s work ethic and talent allowed her to venture into the world of USBCHA open field trials where she competed and held her own in the Pro-Novice division.

Ericka took her work on stock very seriously and displayed an amazing ability to read and adjust to her livestock. She could be ever so gentle with lambs, patient with sheep and ducks and when needed tough on cattle. She was a hard biting dog when heeling cattle and fortunately always bit
extremely low. She also preferred a front foot bite when turning her cattle which was very effective and fun to watch.

Ericka’s work ethic was evident in the obedience and agility arenas as well. During her time competing at Utility level obedience she placed in the top three every time she qualified. Her agility runs also typically earned her top ribbons and she very much enjoyed the excitement and challenge of the agility courses.

Ericka was only bred once, producing 5 pups, 3 of which are still blessing their persons’ lives at the age of 14 1/2. Her get, grand get and great grand get have, and are, making their own mark in the ACD world. Some continuing Ericka’s winning ways in all venues of competition and some providing valuable assistance on ranches and hobby farms. These dogs that followed after Ericka have claimed countless herding HITs, a couple Veterans and Grand Veterans winners, multiple obedience HITs, including twice at the National Speciality, a National Speciality BOS winner and Stud Dog class winner. The following offspring and their progeny are carrying on Ericka’s legacy:

Ch. WTCH HTCH Kylie’s Solar Flare ROM HXAsd HSAc HRDIIIIs HTADIIIcsd ATDcsd RTDc CD CGC VQW (Flare)
Ch. Kylie’s Once in a Red Moon, UDX, HSAsd HTDIs, HRDIIIs, OM3, CGC (Luna)
Ch. WTCH Kylie’s Speaking In Tongues HXAcs ATDcsd HRDIIIIs (Jabber)
Ch. Kylie’s Torres Strait PT (Kubin)
Kylie’s My Shout Mate (Wedge)
Kylie’s Red Yulara (Nicki)
Kylie’s Goodonya Rowdy (Rowdy)
Ch. BOSS Stockhand’s Will Work For U (Stinger)
Cheyenne’s Kodiak Tonka Wakan (Grizz)
Cheyenne’s Future So Bright (Oakley)
Ch. Kylie’s Smacka Doodle Shine HSAs HRDIs STDs CD CGC VQW (Smack)
Kylie’s Presumed Innocent CD (Am/Can) HT JHD RN (Can) RA (US) NF NA ADC SGDC (Ajax)
Kylie’s Question Authority HSAc STDc (Grit)
    Ch. Kylie’s Torres Strait PT (Kubin)
    Kylie’s My Shout Mate (Wedge)
    Kylie’s Red Yulara (Nicki)
    Kylie’s Goodonya Rowdy (Rowdy)
Kylie’s Criminal Mischief (Mischief)
    Triple T Butch Cassidy (Butch)
        Triple T Belle Starr (Belle)
        Triple T Bat Masterson (Bat)
        Triple T Sundance Kid (Tripp)
    Triple T Johnny Ringo (Ringo)
    Triple T Doc Holliday (Doc)
Kylie’s Quid Pro Quo (Cobber)
Kylie’s Probable Cause (Cooper)
Kylie’s Moving Violation (Blue)

Kylie’s FireHand Chaps HSAs HRDIs STDs MX AXJ CD CGC VQW (Chaps)
Kylie’s Red Beans And Rice (Beans)
Kylie’s Icey Red (Ice)
We may not be together in the way we used to be, but we are still connected by a cord no eye can see.

- Author Unknown
Jeep is the son of VC DC Hill St’s Red Alert. He was always kind to his sheep, well, almost always, and loved doing farm work and ranch trials. He was not as thrilled with the micro-management required on AKC’s Course A. Therefore, I believe he attained his DC only because he wanted to please me. Getting that darn CD to complete the requirements for Echo’s ROM, was another hurdle for the two of us, but Jeep hung in there, and we finally got it.

Jeep, unlike his mother, doesn’t care for toys or fetch games. He prefers lying on the hill overlooking the farm, surveying his domain. He has always been a gentle soul, and I am sure that in his retirement, he is happy just to reminisce about his herding days.

Susan Crocker
High Country Farm
Nellie was my special girl from the moment of her birth. She was a singleton and grabbed my heart right away. She was the perfect puppy, never chewing up her toys or my shoes, or getting into trouble. She slept by my bed every night of her life.

Nellie was always willing to do anything I asked of her. She just loved to work, no matter what that was. She loved fetching the ball, showing off her tricks, herding, conformation showing, it didn’t matter as long as it was with me.

She read her stock very well and we achieved many High In Trials on all three types of livestock in AKC, ASCA, and AHBA. She was a better dog than I am a handler so I tried to not hinder her when she knew she was right. She loved working ducks best and sheep least but did all with great enthusiasm.
She shined in the conformation ring and won Awards of Merit in 2 ACDCA National Specialties. She also won the extended generations class at the 2007 ACDCA National, with her daughter Ch. Greystones So-Lo Fandango CD and her grandson Ch So-Lo N Greystones Rock HIAs.

So-Lo Easy One..........’Nellie’ ..........A once in a lifetime dog. Beautiful, intelligent, biddable. She gave me her all and I miss her terribly.
**HC Kuawarri Pick’n’th’devils Eye**
DC WTCH Kuawarri G’Bye Old Paint HXAcds, RTDcs, CD, VQW x Kuawarri Bushrider CD HSAcs HIAs HXAs
Sara Gahm

Boss is Paint’s son, and is following in his father’s footsteps in herding. He is a multi-high in trial winner, and was the ACDCA High Point Herding Dog for 2004 in AKC herding trials.

I wanted a Rufus daughter ever since I saw him at the So Dakota specialty. I had nothing to use on him so whined to Alice for several years about it. She offered to breed Nellie to Samson (Rufus son) for me. When the litter was 3 weeks old I was flying to Alaska to visit my son. I stopped in Seattle and Alice picked me up for the weekend to see the pups. Alice was sure I'd pick the plain faced girl since that is my preference but the arrogant little double masked girl picked me within 10 minutes of arriving. At 8 weeks old she was waiting for me to come and get her. Once there she never left my side and slept next to me that night. I knew then I had that second soulmate we almost never get.

She was ready to work the day I bought her home so I had to be careful she didn't manage to do just that and get hurt. By a year old she was ready to start test classes and by 11/2 years old she had been on cattle as well as sheep, goats and ducks so I started entering her in trials. Very rarely did she NQ but at times she could be fast and tight which isn't the best combination. Her favorite stock has always been birds. She has received 99 scores several times on ducks and geese with the error being mine each time. We finished the WTCH first then moved on to the HC. By the time she was ready for that we had a ton more Border Collies to beat in order to earn points. She did it in style at all breed trials like everything else she's done. When that was done we moved on to earn her HTCH. I've always been sorry I haven't had easier access to cattle since that is what I've grown up
working and the breed was bred to work.

I retired her this year at 11 years old with a final run in HRDIIIge. I knew she might get outrun by sheep in a large area so I entered her on her favorite stock. She went out in style with a RHIT just one point below the HIT dog.
When I picked up Tap at LAX from her breeders, Craig and Stephanie Watson, what I discovered was a happy, confident pup who popped out of her crate and said, “Glad to know you. Let’s go!” Tap carried this confidence throughout puppyhood and into her herding career. She was an eager to please student under Steve’s tutelage and very bold on cattle. She never met a cow whom she was afraid to heel or nose bite!

Tap came along in the world of competitive herding in the big shadow of her elder, Kate. In this shadow Tap’s triumphs were not always heralded as loudly as they should have been, because, in fact, Tap went High In Trial or Reserve High in Trial in all but one of the four ACDCA National Specialties in which she competed. She also earned the ACDCGLA Cattle Classic buckle in both 2007 and 2009. Her WTCH she finished handily and has earned points toward her AHBA Herding Trial Championship.

Not only was Tap a trial dog, she was also a good hand around our place. She was Steve’s go-to girl for several years whenever there was stubborn stock to move. Paired with her Border Collie counterpart, Tap dog broke many a calf at Trail’s End! I used to joke that the calves would stay well away when I took Tap with me to feed. Tap never put up with pushy calves!

Tap is now ten years old and retired from competition. She hangs out more with sheep than cattle at this point but is still game!

As ever, she is our Happy Tappy, her spirit indomitable, her light heartedness a joy!
Rev started his show career at three months old at the Mission Circuit where he took a group two in the puppy match. A year later he finished his championship at the Mission Circuit. He enjoyed showing and was easy to show.

He started his herding career at nine months of age stated with PT and worked his way up to HXA sheep, earning several titles, and became a dual champion in April 2008 at six years of age.

Rev is owned and handled by Larry Favreau.
DC Kurpas’ Redeemer For LNR

Australian Cattle Dog
Roanie has accomplished so much for me since I brought her home at 8 weeks old in December 2002. She was my very first ACD, as well as herding trial dog, and she suffered through all of my inexperience and uncertainty learning to train a dog for trialing. I didn't start out with the goal of Roanie earning a Herding Championship, nor a Dual Championship, just a conformation championship and hopefully a Herding Started title. We participated in clinics and lessons to learn to work stock together, in a somewhat controlled manner, with the thought of entering a trial in a few years. Well, herding training and trialing are addicting, one thing led to another, and suddenly we were hooked and too far gone to back out. Roanie works, trials and titles on all types of stock, including ducks, which really helped slow things down for me while I was trying to figure out where to be, what to do, how to stay out of Roanie’s way, and everything else the instructors attempt to teach you while you stand frozen, watching your dog race around the stock, undecided whether to duck, or run, as the stock barrels toward you at a very high rate of speed! Many people can’t fathom a Cattle Dog working ducks, or feel it is beneath the breed, stressing Cattle as their middle name, but Roanie will work anything, even though her preference IS working cattle!

Roanie finished her conformation championship at just under a year old in 2003. We started working on herding in the summer of 2004 and she earned her first herding trial level title in early 2005. She trials in AKC, ASCA and AHBA on cattle, sheep and ducks. As we worked the kinks and trial nerves out, we had more success and fewer blunder moments, but being a true cattle dog, she still enjoyed making life interesting on the trial field undoubtedly to make sure everyone was awake and paying attention to her. There was never a dull moment. Roanie earned her Advanced Herding title in AKC in June 2007. I wasn’t looking to pursue a herding championship with her, but we were already entered in an upcoming trial in Advanced Ducks, so instead of pulling Roanie’s entries, I decided to have fun trialing with no pressure. Well, there were 11 dogs entered in her Advanced class and 4 of them were Herding Champion Border Collies, plus many nice trialing dogs of several other breeds. I sat there watching the class, and the ducks were winning as the runs went on. For some reason the most of the dogs were timing out at the hold pen, the ducks were really testy and not cooperating and getting near the hold pen. It wasn’t looking good for us, from where I sat. Roanie was 3rd from the last dog to go, and nobody had qualified by the time our turn came. We were the
only ACD entered in the class and my friend, and mentor Joyce Norris yelled out for us to show
them how a Cattle Dog can do it, as we made our way to the arena gate. So much for a relaxing, no
pressure run, I was about to die and Roanie was revved up and ready to go. I won’t say it was a
beautiful run, but Roanie worked the ducks and before I knew it, she got them into the hold pen,
then once the hold was called we worked them out and made it to the exhaust, and got them put
away within time and without a Thank You from the judge! I was thrilled, but had no idea about
whether she qualified or not, I was just so happy she and I made the course. When we came out, we
saw the last two runs time out. One other run made the entire course, but lost a few too many
points, and Roanie qualified! I was in shock and one of the BC competitors running for championship
points told me she would go figure up the championship we just earned. Well, it ended up being a 4
point major win, Roanie’s first time out for CH points and RHIT! Yet again, there was no turning
back, lol. The next day, she qualified again for two more HC points. We continued entering and
working towards the HC and in July 2009, Roanie finished her Herding Championship and also be-
came a Dual Champion.

But, she wasn’t finished yet. She had earned some Open and Advanced titles in ASCA and I was
looking to try for her WTCH as well. We continued training and while I was waiting for the fall
ASCA trial in 2010, the AKC introduced the Grand Championship conformation title so I brought her
out of show ring retirement to go for it. My good friend , Robin Cannon, who handles my ACDs in
conformation, showed Roanie to her GCH in 4 weekends, taking a Group 4 her first weekend back
out, at just shy of 8 years old! I had her entered in the fall ASCA trial just two weeks after she
finished the GCH, and Roanie qualified 3 out of 3 runs to in Advanced Cattle and Sheep to finish her WTCH!! She also has championship points started in AHBA and is still game to work and trial, so we plan to continue and try for her HTCH. They say no rest for the wicked, and I believe that applies here.

We have had so many people help us along the way, it’s impossible to thank them all, but we both sincerely appreciate every bit of advice and guidance we have been given. Roanie has not only surpassed my original goals, but has passed on her working ability to her pups and grand pups, who have definitely benefited from the dues Roanie and I paid learning the ropes together. Along with Roanie’s first litter, Stock Options ACDs was born and I am enjoying continued success on the trial field with the next generations. Roanie is truly MY girl and has always been a champion in my eyes. She has given me so much more than I ever dreamed of, and she’s not through yet, so stay tuned.

Kim Broster. Stock Options ACD’s
Mr. T is a second generation dual champion earning his conformation championship first and then his herding championship with Adrian Lopez as his trainer and handler. Together, Adrian, Rosie and her son, T, were quite the team. T loves his cattle and can work both ends, driving from behind and, his specialty, covering heads. T has also competed in ASCA and AHBA and only needs one advanced duck run to earn his WTCH. He was the ACDCA High Point Herding Dog of the Year back to back for 2008 and 2009. T earned his AOM at the Belton, Texas 2009 Specialty coming from the Herding Titled Dog Class. We also competed in the Versatility competition winning the Versatility Dog class and placing 6th overall missing a qualifying score in agility by seconds. He combines power, athleticism and heart to make a great herding dog and an amazing companion. Those that know him understand that he picked me and he continually challenges me to be a better person and a better handler. He takes care of everyone in our household, has a great sense of humor laughing with my boys and is a very kind king with his pack.

Thank you, Mr. T, for being a winner and, most of all, for winning our hearts.

Darcia Stebbens
Herding Champions Mr. T Continued

Mr. T—Ventura Best of Breed
When I flew to Denver in January of 2000 I had no idea that there was a herding championship in my future. I was headed to DuWest Kennels to pick up my very first Cattle Dog. I thought that she was going to be my next obedience dog. Little did I know just how much that little, blue bitch was going to change my world! I named her Wicca and the name fit her from day one.

Several months after bringing her home, I noticed that Larry Painter was scheduled to hold a clinic in New Jersey. Wic would be about nine months old and even though I had never been to a clinic and had no idea what to expect, I decided that we just had to go to it. As soon as we stepped into that round pen, Wic took one look at the sheep and proclaimed that this was what she had been waiting for. One year and several hundred feet of fence later, I bought Wic five dog broke sheep and our journey began.
I quickly found herding to be the least intuitive dog sport that I had ever attempted. Instead of only having to understand myself and my dog, I was challenged to learn how to add what seemed to be an incredibly unpredictable third variable, the stock, into the mix. I soaked up every bit of knowledge I could find on sheep, herding, and Cattle Dogs. Every clinic I went to, I would position myself behind Larry to listen and learn. I’m sure I drove the poor man nuts with all my questions but he never lost patience and always found a way to help me understand the incredibly complex sport that I rapidly found myself obsessed with. It still wasn’t until Wicca and I completed our first advanced title that I began to think that a herding championship might actually be an obtainable goal with my first herding dog.

Just before she turned four years old, Wicca finished her started sheep title and also earned her obedience CD at the same time. At that point, I decided to breed her to a red DuWest dog. She had four puppies and I chose to keep a red half mask male that I named Siva. He showed the same enthusiasm for herding that his mother did and had such a loveable temperament that I just couldn’t let him go. While he did earn his conformation championship fairly quickly and became my first bred by dog, his real passion was herding so I introduced him to sheep at an early age and began training him alongside his mother.

Although Wicca loved working ducks and sheep, she was not as confident on cattle. Siva, on the other hand, proved to be much stronger on stock than his mother and I soon found that he had a talent for working all stock types. He was gentle enough to guide ducks around a course but still tough enough to hit either head or heels while moving cattle and versatile enough to do it all in the same day. His versatility is truly amazing and I believe that it is due in part to his biddable nature.
and handler sensitivity. I’ve often said that he felt his job was to keep me happy and he does an awesome job of it whether that means bullying cattle through the y-chute or shedding a particularly sticky group of ducks.

Wicca and I continued to train and learn and in 2009, after eight years of battling the beginners curve, we finished her herding championship at the National Specialty in Texas. One year later, in September of 2010, Siva finished his AHBA herding Championship and then his AKC Herding Championship in June of 2011.

Today, just because of one little blue bitch and her passion for doing what she was bred to do, I now have 44 sheep, a barn, several sheds, and a few acres of pasture all built by my very kind husband! I am now a herding judge for both AKC and AHBA, and I am absolutely addicted to the sport of herding....
AOM Am/Can Dual CH DuWest Ride a Cowboy

HXAsd, CKC HA, SDA, HRD III, HTAD III, HSAc, HTDII, RLF III, ATDsd, OTDc, CGN

(Ch. Duwest Stonewash Blues x Ch. SilverDust Crystal Image, PT)

Owned by Lynn Leach
Downriver Farms
Hope, BC
Canada

http://www.downriver.org/
Leroy was the First
dog in North America to have a
Dual Championship
in both USA & Canada!

And the FIRST COVER of the ACDSpotlight