



# MASSFED NEWS

Spring 2009

[www.massfeddogs.org](http://www.massfeddogs.org)

This Federation...

- Promotes and protects the interests of responsible dog owners.
- Actively assists and participates in local, state and national legislation concerning dogs and dog owners.
- Brings such legislation to the attention of the membership and the general public.
- Promotes responsible dog ownership.
- Uses all legal means to promote the general welfare of dogs and dog owners.
- Disseminates information and knowledge regarding dogs.

## LOBBY DAY at the STATE HOUSE

MassFed's 5th Annual Lobby Day was held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 in Nurses Hall at the State House. We had an impressive attendance of legislators and their staff members who joined us for a continental breakfast and some lively chat about dogs and legislation. Rep. Brad Hill played tour guide for the second year as he gave some of our group a personal guided tour of the State House.

We want to thank Senator Jamie Eldridge for his continuing sponsorship of our event and thank all the legislators and their staff members who took time out of their busy day to attend.

We also want to thank all those who came to represent MassFed: Annie Baker, Mayflower Pembroke Welch Corgi Club; Pam Beale, Ladies' Dog Club; Mitzi Beals, North Shore KC; Karen Billings, New England Rottweiler Club, Hockamock KC; Peggy Blaine, Scottish Terrier Club of N.E.; Anne Bowes, Ladies' Dog Club; Kathi Brown, Ladies' Dog Club & Scottish Terrier Club of N.E.; Dianne Daley, South Shore KC; Cindy Ellis, North Shore KC; Kerry Fogler, Scottish Terrier Club of

N.E.; Nancy Gauthier, North Shore KC; Stacey Gavin, Baystate Bullmastiff Club; Suzanne Gray, Ladies' Dog Club; Chris Harris, Portuguese Water Dog Club of America; Alanna Kelly, Colonial Shetland Sheepdog Club; Susan Kenney, Scottish Terrier Club of N.E.; Donna Kiuru, Wachusett KC; Charlotte McGowan, Ladies' Dog Club; Virginia McEvoy O'Connell, Greater Lowell KC, Sally Miller, Mayflower Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club; Kaleigh Ross, North Shore KC; Sandra Ross, North Shore KC; Scott Rutherford, Scottish Terrier Club of N.E.; Terry Sadler, Wachusett KC; John Seeley, Wachusett KC, Poodle Club of MA; Penny Shultz, Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston, Charles River DTC & New England DTC; Joy Stevens, North Shore KC; Liz Sullivan, Wachusett KC & New England Dog Training Club; Mary Barbara Walsh, Ladies' Dog Club; Joel Wolff, Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston, Charles River DTC & New England DTC; Gale Young, Ladies' Dog Club; MassFed Officers/Board Members - Virginia Rowland, Ladies' Dog Club, Wachusett KC & MassFed President, Nancy Fisk, Hockamock KC, MassFed Vice President; Judith Erlanger, Yankee Golden Retriever Club & MassFed

Recording Secretary, Julie Rembrandt Seeley, Wachusett KC, Ladies' Dog Club, & MassFed Corresponding Secretary; Rebecca Leonard, Charles River DTC & MassFed Treasurer; John Kenney, Yankee Siberian Husky Club & MassFed Board member; Holly Stump, North Shore KC & MassFed Board Member.



## MassFed Participation Around the State

### Meeting with Sen. Creem

On April 28, Virginia Rowland, MassFed President, and Charlotte McGowan, Patriot Papillon MassFed Club Delegate, had the opportunity to meet with Senator Cynthia Stone Creem, who is Senate Chair of the Judiciary Committee. The Senate was in session but she was kind enough to give us ten minutes of her time to discuss dog bills that would be heard by this committee, in particular HB344 Prohibiting the Devocalization of Dogs and Cats. She said she had received a lot of correspondence about this bill - pro and con. She urged us to attend the hearing on the bills (which has not been scheduled so far) and make our opinions known. She listened carefully to what we said but did not indicate how she would vote.

### Pitbull family moves to Cape

MASHPEE — If Brendan Lopes and Tiffany Mendes are granted a personal kennel permit to keep their six pit bulls at their new home on Ashumet Road, it will come with a long list of conditions. Lopes and Mendes were back before the design and plan review committee to pleading their position that they should be allowed to house six pit bulls in a kennel on their property when they move in next month. Their new neighbors were also at the hearing, hoping to persuade committee members to deny the family a kennel permit. The neighbors presented a petition signed by more than 150 supporters who also oppose the pit bull move. Both parties brought their attorneys. The Hearing scheduled for May 14 was postponed. MassFed is working the Lopes/Mendes family and the town on this issue.

### Rochester, MA Votes on New Kennel License & Dog Regulations at May 18 Town Meeting

You can read the 5/15/09 New Bedford Standard Times article at [http://bulletin.aarp.org/states/ma/2009/19/articles/rochester\\_voters\\_tackle\\_16\\_million\\_budget.html](http://bulletin.aarp.org/states/ma/2009/19/articles/rochester_voters_tackle_16_million_budget.html) and download the warrant article from the "Local" page of the MassFed website.

### Cape Cod KC features MassFed at 5/4 Meeting

John Kenney served as guest speaker at the Cape Cod Kennel Club meeting providing them with an overview of MassFed's work, Lobby Day, and Bills to Watch in 2009.

### Belchertown Dog Law Update

Belchertown unanimously passed an updated version of their dog law at the May town meeting. The new dog law was the result of more than a year of hard work by a committee appointed by the Belchertown Selectmen. The Committee worked in conjunction with MassFed to arrive at the end result that was presented for vote. The adopted legislation was based on model language provided to the committee by MassFed. At the request of the committee chair, Nancy Fisk and Herb Everett attended the Town meeting, representing MassFed. MassFed received a letter of gratitude from the committee chair for its assistance and support during the year long effort.

### Worcester County KC 5/17/09 Match Hosts MassFed

Julie Rembrandt Seeley, MassFed Corresponding Secretary and Nancy Fisk, MassFed Vice President did a song and dance along with the MassFed Lobby Day slideshow at the conclusion of the Worcester County KC match on Sunday afternoon, 5/17/09.

### Yankee Golden Retriever Club 5/19/09 Meeting Hosts MassFed

Judith Erlanger, MassFed Recording Secretary attended the 5/19 Yankee Golden Retriever Club and presented our Lobby Day slideshow. The group was quite animated and snapped up literature and website link info. Hopefully we will need more than one group photo at Lobby Day next year.

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## Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners

**President** Virginia Rowland, P.O. Box 300, Templeton, MA 01468-0300; 978-939-5300; Blackslate@aol.com  
**Vice President** Nancy Fisk, 235 Maple St., Bellingham, MA 02019; 508-966-4564; akikoakitas@aol.com  
**Corresponding Secretary** Julie Rembrandt Seeley, P.O. Box 295, Harvard, MA 01451-0295; 978-456-8644; JRembrandtSeeley@aol.com  
**Recording Secretary** Judith Erlanger, 28 Piper Road, Acton, MA 01720; 978-263-7301; JudithPER@aol.com  
**Treasurer** Rebecca Leonard, 50 Rice Road, Wayland, MA 01778; 508-653-6139; rebeccaleonard@verizon.net

### Directors

Herb Everett, P.O. Box 552, Granby, MA 01033; 413-467-2913; herbeverett@siriuscenter.com  
 Darlene Flood, Box 403, Sandwich, MA 02563 ; 508-888-6786; dflood@capcod.net  
 John Kenney, 53 Beechwood Street, Cohasset, MA 02025; 781-383-0504; musherjohn@verizon.net  
 Cynthia Stark, 245 Parker Ave., Holden, MA 01520; 508-852-2483; stbernhospice@juno.com  
 Holly Stump, 263 Topsfield Road, Ipswich, MA 01938; hollystump@hickoryhillkennel.com

**Meeting Minutes  
March 25, 2009**

The General Meeting of the Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners was called to order by President Virginia Rowland at 8:15 pm on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at the North Community Hall, Old Main Street, Marshfield, MA following the South Shore Kennel Club membership meeting.

Present were: President Virginia Rowland (Ladies' Dog Club); Vice President Nancy Fisk (Hockamock KC); Corresponding Secretary Julie Rembrandt Seeley (Wachusett KC); Recording Secretary Judith Erlanger (Yankee Golden Retriever Club); Board Member John Kenney (Yankee Siberian Husky Club); Board Member Darlene Flood (South Shore KC); Kerry Fogler, Scottish Terrier Club of NE Delegate; Patricia A. Lydon, SSKC, WDTC, SSDTC; Jeanne Steward, SSKC, SSDTC; Maxine Cluvson, SSKC; Virginia O'Connell, SSKC; Diane Daley, SSKC; Ron F. Carty, SSKC; Joan M. Chrusciel, SSKC, WDTC, SSDTC; Kathleen Grim, NCNE; William Holmes, SSKC; Paul Hayes, SSKC; Mary Lynn Troy, SSKC; Jim MacWalter, SSKC, SSDTC, TGSC; Sue Davis Shaw, SSKC, GDCNE; Joan Kenney, YSHC; Mary Harrigan, HKC, TCTDC.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the Fall newsletter.

**Committee Reports:** Committee Reports were postponed until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm followed by the MassFed presentation with slide show entitled "Lobby Day - What It Is, Where It Is, Why We Do It & How We Do It!"

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Rembrandt Seeley  
Corresponding Secretary



**Remember: Responsible dog owners  
ALWAYS clean up after their dogs.**

**MassFed Participation  
Around the State**

Continued from page 2

**Alaska comes to the Butler Elementary**

Sat May 23, 2009, Belmont, Mass. - One of the many things the class curriculum at Butler Elementary School focused on this year was the Iditarod Race and life in Alaska.

John Kenney, a local "musher" came in with his lead dog "Blue" and his sled set up to show the kids what it's like for a musher in the Iditarod race. John actually races his sled dog team here in Massachusetts. He explained how it was a dog driven sled race from Anchorage to Nome, a 1,150 mile race that can take up to 17 days, racing in freezing temperatures. He explained how the sled is constructed, how the race is held, and how the dogs are hooked up into their harnesses. He even hooked up kids in a 16 sled dog set up!

Read the entire article at <http://www.wickedlocal.com/belmont/news/education/x862899892/Alaska-comes-to-the-Butler>.

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**Legislative Tracking Service**

MassFed subscribes to a legislative tracking service (InstaTrac) which alerts us on a daily basis to activities at the State House such as hearings scheduled, new bills filed, and progress on bills we are tracking. We are fundraising on a continuing basis to cover the cost of this service.

**MassFed Website**

Please visit our website frequently. The "News" page will include late breaking news about upcoming hearings and other events. Links from previous events and hearings will remain available for several weeks.

The "Membership" page includes links to member club website and links to Delegate emails. Upcoming meeting information is also posted on this page.

The new "Position Papers" page lists the same legislation as the "Bills to Watch" list but includes links to downloadable position papers and full bill text.

We have a new page entitled "Member Club Events" which includes notices of matches, microchip clinics, eye clinics, etc. sponsored by MassFed Member Clubs. Check it out!

Please email website or newsletter information to [jrembrandtseeley@aol.com](mailto:jrembrandtseeley@aol.com).

## 2009-2010 Legislative Session - BILLS TO WATCH

The list of bills that MassFed is tracking for the next legislative session will be available for downloading on the Statewide page of the website. This is a four page document listing approximately 48 bills that are being tracked on a daily basis by our legislative tracking service.

We have a new page on the website called Position Papers. This page contains the same list of bills as the downloadable "Bills To Watch" document but it also has links to the full bill text and MassFed position papers. The Bills To Watch list and Position Papers will be updated daily as events occur.

### MassFed Current Proactive Bills

<i>Bill #</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Name/Description</i>	<i>Position</i>
SB406	Sen. Jehlen	Updating the Animal Control Laws Of Mass.	Support
HB913	Rep. Gobi	Concerning the Use of Certain Insurance Underwriting Guidelines	Support
HB1977	Rep. Hill	Relative to at Risk Dogs (HD2710)	Support
HB3704	Rep. Khan	Regulation of Animal Shelters	Support
SB1578	Sen. Brewer	Relative to Dog Training Areas in the Commonwealth (SD243) Same text as HB1401	Support
HB1401	Rep. Gobi	Relative to Dog Training Areas in the Commonwealth (HD962) Same text as SB1578	Support

### MassFed Strong Opposition

HB344	Rep. Harkins	Prohibiting Devocalization of Dogs & Cats (HD653)	Oppose
HB1997	Rep. Pedone	An Act Relative to Animals (HD3393) (refile of 2007-2008 HB1948/HB5092)	Oppose
HB3943	Rep. Callahan	Providing for a Tax on Sale of Non-Food Animals (Requiring seller's permit/license to sell pets disguised as sales tax bill) Hearing 5/6/09	Oppose
SB774	Sen. Hedlund	Relative to Puppy Mills (SD1448)	Oppose
SB186	Sen. Tisei	Licensing & Regulation of Pet Groomers (SD1369) Hearing scheduled 5/19/09 - see website for report	Oppose

This is the beginning of the two-year Legislative Session. Bills are now starting to be scheduled for hearings. Please check the MassFed website for daily updates. Alerts will be sent to all MassFed members via email as soon as we are informed that hearings are scheduled.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome to our newest associate members: Mary Harrigan of Franklin, MA; Leslie Lichtenstein of N. Falmouth, Ann Marie Reed of Halifax, Christine Carilli of Somerville, Kathleen Grim of Westboro, and Anne Bowes of Duxbury. We look forward to their active participation.

We'd also like to welcome new member club: Baystate Bullmastiff Club with Stacey Gavin as their Delegate.

We are always recruiting! Club and Associate Membership applications can be downloaded from the website — [www.massfeddogs.org](http://www.massfeddogs.org).

***If you become aware of any impending legislation in your town please contact a MassFed Board Member immediately so that we may start the process of investigation and take appropriate action! Board Member contact information is on the "Member" page of our website.***

**WEBSITES OF INTEREST**

- American Dog Owners Association  
<http://www.adoa.org>
- American Kennel Club  
<http://www.akc.org>
- Center For Consumer Freedom  
<http://www.consumerfreedom.com/>
- Contacting Congress  
<http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/committees.html>
- Lawmaking in Massachusetts  
<http://www.state.ma.us/legis/lawmaking.htm>
- Mass. General Court  
<http://www.state.ma.us/legis/legis.htm>
- National Animal Interest Alliance  
[www.naiaonline.org](http://www.naiaonline.org)
- Project Smart Vote  
<http://www.vote-smart.org/>
- Thomas - U.S. Congress on the Internet  
<http://thomas.loc.gov/>
- U.S. Department of Agriculture  
<http://www.usda.org>

**2009 Meeting Dates**

Check our website ([www.massfeddogs.org](http://www.massfeddogs.org)) for updated meeting info and reservation forms.

- **June, 15 (Mon)** - In conjunction with Pioneer Valley KC (see website for flyer)
- **September 18 (Wed)** - Responsible Dog Ownership Proclamation at the State House
- **October** - Annual Meeting - date, location & speaker to be announced

**THANK YOU!**

We would like to thank the following clubs for their donations: Yankee Siberian Husky Club - \$100; New England Rottweiler Fanciers - all earmarked to help defray the cost of our legislative tracking service.

We would also like to thank the following clubs for their donations: Cape Cod Kennel Club - \$100, Southern Berkshire Golden Retriever Club - \$215.

Club and individual donations make our ongoing education process possible

**PLANNING FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES & SPEAKERS?**

If your club needs a meeting program, our MassFed Board Members will be happy to provide speakers to discuss Legislation and upcoming events. Don't miss an opportunity to educate your club members about legislation and lawmaking. Contact any MassFed Board member about scheduling a meeting speaker.

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**MEMBER CLUBS**

<b>Airedale Terrier Club of New England</b> Delegate Sybil Kevy barbate@gis.net	508-358-2097	<b>Mayflower Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club</b> Delegate Annie Baker heartwoodcorgis@aol.com	508-833-4350
<b>Bay Colony Tibetan Terrier Club</b> Delegate Caryl Crouse lyractt@yahoo.com	508-625-8410	<b>Minuteman Boston Terrier Club</b> Delegate Nanete Prideaux nprideaux@mindspring.com	508-347-96774
<b>Baystate Bullmastiff Club</b> Delegate Stacey Gavin stacgavin@aol.com	508-277-5904	<b>Minuteman Samoyed Club, Inc.</b> Delegate David Harsch drharsch@comcast.net	508-539-2328
<b>Bulldog Club of New England</b> Delegate Tom Rattigan trat56@verizon.net	508-435-5276	<b>Nashoba Valley Hunt Club</b> Delegate Daphne Taylor raheenbarney@cs.com	978-345-5391
<b>Cape Cod Kennel Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Cheryl Malone dogwench@comcast.net	508-385-2808	<b>New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club</b> Delegate Jean Gamble jean.gamble@comcast.net	978-779-6112
<b>Central New England Brittany Club</b> Delegate Dorothy Boyatzi flashfirebrittanys@verizon.net	978-249-2699	<b>New England Sporting Group Assn.</b> Delegate Jane Folkman JaneTolls@aol.com	508-339-6916
<b>Charles River Dog Training Club</b> Delegate Rebecca Leonard rebeccacleonard@verizon.net	508-653-6139	<b>North Shore Kennel Club</b> Delegate Holly Stump hollystump@hickoryhillkennel.com	978-356-1644
<b>Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Mass.</b> Delegate Thomas Baldwin tomonlyone@aol.com	413-583-3128	<b>Patriot Papillon Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Charlotte McGowan cmcgowan2@comcast.net	617-527-3450
<b>Cocker Spaniel Breeders Club of N.E.</b> Delegate Paula Emerick applhl@aol.com	508-759-3895	<b>Pioneer Valley Kennel Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Nanette Prideaux nprideaux@mindspring.com	508-347-9674
<b>Collie Club of New England</b> Delegate Annette Rawlings sealorecollies@comcast.net	508-273-7111	<b>Poodle Club of Massachusetts</b> Delegate John W. Seeley acjohn@aol.com	978-456-8644
<b>Colonial Shetland Sheepdog Club</b> Delegate Bonnie Chandler jbchandler@verizon.net	978-456-3169	<b>Scottish Terrier Club of New England</b> Delegate Kerry Fogler kcfogler@aol.com	978-371-0882
<b>Concord Dog Training Club</b> Delegate Anne Testoni atbasset@rcn.com	978-779-6154	<b>South Shore Kennel Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Darlene Flood dflood@capecod.net	508-888-6786
<b>Framingham District Kennel Club</b> Delegate Phyllis Wright pwright6131@earthlink.net	978-343-6131	<b>Southern Berkshire Golden Retriever Club</b> Delegate Carol Ingher cingher@taconic.net	413-528-4135
<b>German Shepherd Dog Club of Central Mass.</b> Delegate Sally Priest e-mail n/a	978-562-5455	<b>Springfield Kennel Club</b> Delegate Herb Everett dogtrainer4u@siriuscenter.com	413-467-9785
<b>Hockamock Kennel Club</b> Delegate Nancy Fisk akikoakitas@aol.com	508-966-4564	<b>Town &amp; Country Toy Dog Club of Eastern MA</b> Delegate Barbara Krzewicki ursa_minor_poms@yahoo.com	617-852-1447
<b>Holyoke Kennel Club</b> Delegate Len Abraham lgakms@cs.com	413-323-0272	<b>Wachusett Kennel Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Julie Rembrandt Seeley jrembrandtseeley@aol.com	978-456-8644
<b>Irish Wolfhound Association. of N.E.</b> Delegate Colleen Brown jcbrown09@aol.com	508-672-1516	<b>Wampanoag Kennel Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Naida Parker grdane@yahoo.com	508-763-8959
<b>Labrador Retriever Club of Greater Boston</b> Secretary Beth Teixeira macgregorlabs@cox.net	401-440-3387	<b>Worcester County Kennel Club</b> Delegate Cynthia Stark stbernhospice@juno.com	508-852-2483
<b>Labrador Retriever Club of the Pioneer Valley</b> Delegate Gretchen Boss cgnbboss@yahoo.com	413-736-5606	<b>Yankee Golden Retriever Club</b> Delegate Judith Erlanger judithper@aol.com	978-263-7301
<b>Ladies' Dog Club, Inc.</b> Delegate Virginia Rowland blackslate@aol.com	978-939-5300	<b>Yankee Siberian Husky Club</b> Delegate John Kenney musherjohn@verizon.net	781-383-0504
<b>Mayflower German Shorthaired Pointer Club</b> Delegate Bill Felins bfelins@verizon.net	617-470-6757		