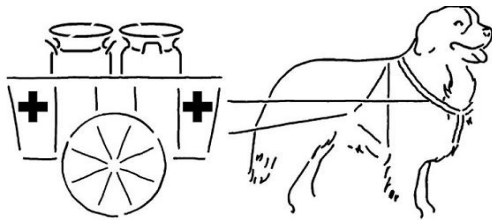


## INTRODUCTION

WRITTEN BY: MARY MALIARIK, DRAFT COMMITTEE CHAIR



PUT YOUR ♥ INTO IT!

To start this year, I thought I would recap last year's events hosted by Draft Committee members. Last year (2005) was busy for our Draft Committee. April was our West Side Draft Clinic, run by Denise Vickers. It was a beautiful day at a beautiful site. There were several members in attendance, along with a number of other breeds. Last year, we switched seasons for the WSDC and ESDC, so it was the first time in spring for the West Side. In September, we held the East Side Draft clinic the day after the

Fall Fun Match. Brian and Kelly Smigielski organized the clinic which was again held at Sandy Simmon's lovely horse farm. There were almost 30 attendees, including a Chow Chow, who came from Illinois to practice. It was a very successful clinic and thanks to all who helped and attended.

On October 15, 2005, we held the 6th Annual HMBMDC Draft Test. Thanks to the members of the Draft Test Committee for another successful test. The weather cooperated and gave us a beautiful day for a test. Our judges were Peggy Granger from Wisconsin and our very own Sherrie Start, who filled in at the last minute when Barb Gibson could not make it due to a dog emergency. There were two novice brace entries and ten novice draft dog entries. When the day ended there were four new novice draft dogs: Kaibab's Blue Skies the Limit CD TD RN NA owned by Bev Jurinek; Ch Swissmyth's Diplomat, TD CGC owned by Lois Leidahl-Marsh; Ch Shepherdspatch Hercules TD owned by Carl and Andrew Eschweiler; U-CD Bobsi of Red Oaks Corner DD WRD (English Springer Spaniel) owned by Barbara Lukacs Grob. Both Swissmyth's Diplomat and Shepherdspatch Hercules also earned their Versatility Dog titles that day.

Having an experienced and enthusiastic team made putting on this Test look easy. Thanks to Gary Galunas with the huge job of Test secretary; Nancy Galunas who helped out and ran the Ways and Means table; Nancy and Bob Torstenson, who helped set up, made cookies for dogs/people and stewarded; Denise and Paul Vickers, who provided the ring décor and signs and setup; Fred and Cindy Stauch, Brian and Kelly Smilgielski, Frank Bohanon, Mark Zelenka, Edie Paglia who provided ring help and hospitality. Lots of planning went into this event and I appreciate everyone's contribution. Finally, we had a diverse and wonderful group of spectators, which made everything more fun. Thank you for your support!

Finally on November 25th was the Howell Festival of Lights Parade, organized by Cindy and Fred Stauch. Though the entry was small this year, it was impressive and received the Best Animal Entry Award again!

So you see, we are busy bees! Please join us in 2006 - help out, or come and see what we do this year!