

## Breed First - Utility Dog Excellent (UDX)



### Nerthus Chrissys Alpen Joy CD, CDX, UD, UDX

Norb & Chris Kowal

#### By Joy Kowal

Hi! My name is Joy, and I would like to tell you about the trials and tribulations involved with the Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) title. Since I always thought it was fun, I felt the best way to cover the story is to report on how my handler reacted. He had the problems!

One of the most interesting events was the SBC of America's National Obedience Trial. Utility was first and I thought it was great that there were other Saints. I had never competed with other Bernard's and was looking around; I guess my handler thought that I should have stayed a little closer. When the scent articles were laid out, the Judge kept a close watch on them; when he stepped back a little, I went to work. What fun--I knew what article right away, but it was great circling the pile, looking at all the people. The reaction on my owner's face as I stopped, looked, walked around, went back to sniff, stopped, etc., was unforgettable. I was having fun, but to prevent his having a coronary, I took one more sniff around, picked up the article and returned.

At other trials, the Long Sits and Long Downs in Open were always interesting. I remember once right after my owner left, a real nice Siberian come over and started to sniff and play kissy-face. The next thing I know he's trying to mount (don't know why, I wasn't in season). Anyway, the steward came over and took him away. When my owner came back the steward told him that he had a very stable bitch. It made him wonder for awhile until someone explained what happened. It's all so very interesting if you shift from one hip to another while your handler is gone out of sight. They always wonder if you got up, circled and laid back down, shifted but had daylight show as you made the move, or if you were subtle and did it without daylight or excess moving.

Another neat trick is to make-believe you're sleeping, then really perk up just as your handler approaches and make it look like you're going to stand. The panic it causes is almost beyond comic.

The Directed Jumping exercises are great fun. My handler sends me out. He's hoping for a straight line out, a little move right then a zig left always makes it more interesting. I'm always wondering if he's to call me to a turn and sit before I reach the end of the ring. After I turn and sit, it is time for him to make up his mind, I'm looking at the bar and he decides the High Jump. Oh well, we just have to humor him and go where he is directing (where's all this self-determination, people keep talking about).

It's always fun during the Signal exercise in Utility to not immediately look at your handler, if you don't see the signal you can't do the exercise. I try to keep it short, but sometimes there are really great people watching and you have to acknowledge their presence.

It was fun becoming the **FIRST** Saint Bernard to earn the **Utility Dog Excellent** title.

**Nerthus Chrissys Alpen Joy**  
**CD, CDX, UD, UDX**

**Norb & Chris Kowal**



**First Saint Bernard to Earn a  
Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) Title**

**September 26, 1999**

# First Saint Bernard To Earn The Utility Dog Excellent Title (UDX)

## *Saint Bernard National Archive's AKC Obedience/Performance Record For:*

### **Nerthus Chrissys Alpen Joy UDX**

**Norb & Chris Kowal**

CH	Titles	Date	Trial or Test	Track	NA	NB	OA	OB	UA	UB	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	UDX	HIT	A	N	S	#	M F	
		November 23, 1997	Springfield KC, MA			189.00																
		November 24, 1997	Holyoke KC, MA			186.00																
		December 06, 1997	New England DTC, MA			194.00																
CD		June 05, 1998	Toconic Hills KC, NY				192.00				2										1	
CD		June 07, 1998	Longshore Southport KC, NY				181.00							4							2	
CDX		July 05, 1998	Wallkill KC, NY				182.00				2										3	
CDX		October 10, 1998	Palisades KC, NJ						178.50		2										4	
CDX		October 11, 1998	Ramapo KC, NJ						172.00					4							5	
CDX		October 25, 1998	Bronx County KC, NY						185.50		1										6	
UD		March 06, 1999	Monticello New York KC, NY				189.00							4	1						7	
UD		March 06, 1999	Monticello New York KC, NY							185.00					1						8	
UD		March 13, 1999	Rockland County KC, NY				193.00								2						9	
UD		March 13, 1999	Rockland County KC, NY							191.00					2						10	
UD		March 21, 1999	1st DTC of N. New Jersey, NJ				194.50								3						11	
UD		March 21, 1999	1st DTC of N. New Jersey, NJ							182.00					3						12	
UD		April 02, 1999	Onondaga KA, NY				187.00								4						13	
UD		April 02, 1999	Onondaga KA, NY							182.00					4						14	
UD		April 04, 1999	Kanadasaga KC, NY				189.50								5						15	
UD		April 04, 1999	Kanadasaga KC, NY							186.50					5						16	
UD		May 07, 1999	SBC of America #25 PA				196.00				1				6						17	
UD		May 07, 1999	SBC of America #25 PA							193.50	1				6						18	
UD		May 10, 1999	Delaware Water Gap KC, NJ				188.50								7						19	
UD		May 10, 1999	Delaware Water Gap KC, NJ							176.50					7						20	
UD		May 30, 1999	Plainfield KC, NJ							181.50											21	
UD		June 26, 1999	Mid Hudson KA, NY							170.00				4							22	
UD		July 11, 1999	Wallkill KC, NY				188.00							4	8						23	
UD		July 11, 1999	Wallkill KC, NY							176.50		2			8						24	
UD		September 05, 1999	Morris Hills DTC, NJ				190.50								9						25	
UD		September 05, 1999	Morris Hills DTC, NJ							191.00				4	9						26	
UDX		September 26, 1999	Northwestern Connecticut DC, CT				191.00								10						27	
UDX		September 26, 1999	Northwestern Connecticut DC, CT							186.00					10						28	
<b>Class score averages and placement totals:</b>						ERR	189.67	185.00	190.70	178.67	183.46	3	4	0	6	10	0	0	0	0	28	
<b>Qualifying Scores:</b>				31	0	0	3	3	10	3	12											

\*Code\* A = All Breed Trial; N = SBC of America's Trial; S = Saint Bernard Independent Specialty  
 # = Number of Qualifying Scores in the Classes of Open and/or Utility