

DOG SPORTS & TRAINING

PCOTC

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



Sit 'n Stay

Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Summer 2019

Calendar of Events

Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted

- Jun 11 Annual Club Meeting, Elections
- Jun 23 WPW Obedience & Rally Runthrus
- Jul 5-6 Tucci/Seiter Agility Seminars
- Jul 7 NACSW ORT
- Jul 9 Class Session 4 Begins
- Jul 14 WPW Obedience & Rally Runthrus
- Jul 27 AKC Rally Trials
- Jul 28 AKC Obedience Trials
- Aug 29 Club Meeting
- Sep 4 Class Session 5 Begins
- Sep 14-5 Deb Jones Seminar
- Sep 29 WPW Obedience & Rally Runthrus
- Sep 29 PCOTC at Adopt-a-Dog Event
- Oct 10 Halloween Party & Club Meeting
- Oct. 27 WPW Obedience & Rally Run-thrus
- Nov. 3 Class Session 6 Begins
- Nov 3 AKC Obedience Trial
- Nov. 17 WPW Obedience & Rally Run-thrus
- Dec 1 WPW Obedience & Rally Run-thrus
- Dec 19 Holiday Party & Club Meeting



Marcy Rauch and her dog Hex at PCOTC's March 9-11 agility trials, enjoying a tug game between runs. Photo © Lois Fricke

New PCOTC Give-Away: Doggie Pen

This little dog, a stretched-out Dachshund by the looks of it, is also a pen! Best way to use it as a pen: after removing the rear end (which hides the pen), turn the dog upside down for easiest writing.

Or just keep the doggie pen as an adorable "pet"! Get yours at PCOTC's Annual Meeting.



Port Chester Obedience Training Club

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB
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Est. 1940 www.PCOTC.org
Phone: 914-269-8550

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SIT 'N STAY

Is a quarterly publication of Port Chester Obedience Training Club. Articles of interest to the membership are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit all material in the interest of space constraints and appropriateness.

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Sit 'n Stay is produced for online delivery.

A Time of Transitions

As the Nominating Committee's nominees for office are unopposed, we are updating the masthead to include the four new members of the Board who will take office on June 11 at our Annual Meeting. The four new members of the Board will be:

- President, Barbara Napoli
- 2nd VP, Margaret Defonce
- Recording Secretary, Donna Fanok
- Director, Deedie Domenicali (renominated for another term)

Please note that the email address president@pcotc.org will shift to Barbara Napoli on June 11.

PCOTC expresses its gratitude to our four retiring club officers:

- President Sara Gagnon
- Second Vice President Grace Heck
- Recording Secretary Audrey Woods
- Director Deedie Domenicali

And many thanks to this year's Nominating Committee:

- Mary Skirchak, Committee Chair
- Lauren Green, Committee Member
- Keith Margulis, Committee Member
- Marianne Pisa, Alternate
- Nancy Oestricher, Alternate

Biographies and photos of each nominee are included in this newsletter. As there are no nominees in addition to the Nominating Committee slate, the Recording Secretary will cast one vote at the Annual meeting to elect the slate.

Welcome New Members

Susan Baker

Adrienne V. Hajdu, Puli

Pamela Mannes, Boston, Frenchie

Molly Marion, Standard Poodle

Leslie Moscatello, German Shepherd Dog

Andres Swenson, Boxer

John Taddei, Shetland Sheepdog

Susan Tedesco, Mini Labradoodle

Save the Dates: Club Meetings in 2019

- Tuesday, June 11th - Annual Club Meeting
- Thursday, August 29th - Club Meeting
- Wednesday, October 30th - Halloween Party & Club Meeting
- Thursday, December 19th - Holiday Party & Club Meeting

Club Doings

New Board Members

President: Barbara Napoli

Barbara is a retired NYS fiscal officer. She has a BA in Public Accounting, and an MBA with a concentration in International Business. From her earlier experience in a CPA firm, she has focused much of her professional career as a not-for-profit accounting specialist. She has both reported to and served on many boards. Her past experiences include receiver of taxes and later treasurer of the Village of Sleepy Hollow, business manager for a religious institution, finance director for a multi-jurisdictional municipal water utility system, and Controller for The Child Care Council of Westchester. She also volunteered her time on two non-profit boards as treasurer.

Barbara began her second career over 15 years ago when she became the sole proprietor for Critter Comfort pet sitting, allowing her to turn her lifelong love of and commitment to animals into a full time job. Barbara has been coming to Port Chester Obedience Training Club for over 10 years. Her primary focus at the club has been on K9 Scent Work, and she has handled three Rhodesian Ridgebacks in PCOTC classes and in NACSW trials leading to NW3 titles. She also attends NACSW lectures to expand her knowledge of the sport. She has taken two of her Chihuahua mixes, Robbie and Penelope, to Nosework classes at PCOTC, and watched them transform from timid and unsure in their classes to trotting around their search areas with confidence. Her Shar Pei mix, Ben, also takes Family Manners and Nose Work classes at PCOTC with Barbara and her daughter.



Barbara is grateful to be a member of such a unique organization as PCOTC, with its many different classes covering such a variety of disciplines. She is excited for the opportunity to become more involved in the inner workings of the club as a board member, and will draw on her years of professional experience and love of dog sports to contribute to the club's future.



2nd Vice President: Margaret DeFonce

Margaret DeFonce has over 30 years experience in the financial industry and is currently an Administrative Manager for a private equity firm in Greenwich, CT. One of Margaret's responsibilities is the preparation of the quarterly corporate board meetings for the 18 manufacturing firms owned by her employer; meeting minutes, corporate records, etc. She also is the firm's Event Planner, organizing the firm's annual Investor Conference, which involves 500 attendees and the scheduling of all meetings, meals, team-building functions, and coordinating with the guest speakers.

Margaret is the former president of the Co-op Board of White Plains Manor. She served for 10 years and implemented financial reporting processes and reporting, which included budgets, cash flow analysis, income statements and balance sheets.

A long-time member of PCOTC, and a Super Star Volunteer, Margaret shares her life with Italian Greyhounds and borrows Dachshunds from her Mom. Currently, you will find her taking Nosework classes at PCOTC, but in the past she has participated in Rally and Agility, while also volunteering with Good Dog Foundation, with pet therapy IG's, Liam (at the Bridge) and Owen (now retired).

Club Doings

New Board Members *(continued)*

Recording Secretary: Donna Fanok

Donna is a licensed US Custom House Broker by profession and has worked for years at JFK. But her true passion throughout her life has been with dogs.

She started taking classes at PCOTC and became a member in 2000. Throughout that time she has continued taking classes and has been actively competing in Agility, Nosework and Conformation. She bred her first litter this past year.

She has taught classes at both PCOTC and Skyline Agility Club. She has also served for two years on the board at Skyline as secretary.



Director: Deedee Domencali

Deedee Domencali became an interim Director of the PCOTC Board last year upon the early resignation of another Director. She is now being considered for a full term. Deedee worked for 35 years in Marketing at American Express, Chase Manhattan and Time Inc. She has a B.A. in History from Barnard College and an M.B.A. from Columbia University School of Business. When she retired, she and her family moved out of the city to Armonk, bringing her rescue dog, Sally, with them. They subsequently adopted a second dog from the Yonkers Shelter. When both dogs died after 14 happy years together, she adopted a black pit bull from a high kill shelter in Athens, Georgia, and another pit from Yonkers (a male named Ricky). It quickly became apparent that Lucy is a very high energy dog (Ricky is more of a lover and snuggler) and so out of desperation trying to tire Lucy out, Deedee turned to Agility. She and Lucy have been taking Agility classes for six years now and Ricky has taken some Scentwork classes. Lucy is still not tired.

Deedee served as the Treasurer for her Quaker Meeting for many years and also served as Chair of the Board for the Meeting's school. She volunteered at Bedford Hills prison and is currently a mentor at SCORE, an organization that provides free business counseling for small business owners. She served as Co-Chair and Treasurer of her SCORE chapter for several years.

Agility

Agility Tip: Trial Etiquette

by Stefanie Rainer, Agility Training Director, OMD Assistant Coach

Agility trials can provide a fun weekend for you and your dog. Much like any sport, there is a social and competitive nature to the environment. It is a chance for you to connect with friends and others with a similar passion for dogs, but also a time for you to test the skills that you have worked hard to learn and perfect in training. Since there is no rule book on trial etiquette, I thought I would share a few friendly tips to help you navigate the waters at your next agility competition.

The first tip and most important (for safety reasons) is to watch your dog! When you are walking about from your crate to the ring and everywhere in between, it is easy to get distracted by a conversation or your friend running in the ring whose run you wish to watch. If you have your dog with you on lead, you want to always pay close attention to him. Don't get lost in a conversation and have your dog sniffing about on a loose lead. While your dog may be friendly, someone else's dog may not be. Better safe than sorry is what I always say.

The second tip is to not judge a book by its cover. When it comes to competition and stress, be mindful that we all deal with these emotions in different ways. If someone looks lost in deep thought or ignores you when you try to talk to them, consider the circum-

stances. Chances are they are not being rude, but rather trying to mentally warm up or cool down from a run. For example, for myself, I have about a 10-dog window before and after I run my own dog that I prefer to be left alone. I'm not being rude, it is just my window of time that I personally need to get mentally prepared for my run and connected to my dog. After a run I like to process on my own and celebrate with my dog. These are strategies I have come to find work best for me. However, everyone is different. Some people do better by chatting it up with others to relax and get ready for their runs. When in doubt, just ask and be mindful of your fellow competitors and their needs.

Lastly, have fun and cheer for all! You don't know everyone's personal goals or journey. Your goal may be to go out and run clean. For someone else their goal may be to succeed at the one skill they have been spending months trying to perfect in training, and while the rest of the run may not have been great, mastering that one skill was a huge accomplishment for them. So be supportive of everyone. It will only help make the trial environment that much more fun, supportive, and safe for everyone.

Have fun and happy training!

News: Tucci/Seiter Agility Workshops

It sounds like an old movie line: "Newsflash: Just as we go to press, a NEW SET of seminars has been announced." But it's true. Just added to the schedule: Chris Tucci and Kris Seiter are offering agility workshops at PCOTC on Friday and Saturday, July 5-6.

Friday, Chris Tucci:

- Morning: Front Cross and Rear Cross
- Afternoon: International Coursework

Saturday, Kris Seiter:

- Morning: Blind crosses
- Afternoon: International Skills for the Intermediate Dog

Costs: Each 1/2-day workshop, \$115 working spot, \$50 auditors. Maximum 8 working spots per session.

For more information, see the [flyer](#). To register, click [HERE](#).



Chris Tucci

Kris Seiter



Obedience

Obedience Tip: Zen Logic & Let's Get Focused! Seminars

by Rick Pisani, Competitive Obedience & Rally Training Director, CPDT-KA

PCOTC will host two seminars given by Deb Jones PhD on September 14 & 15. Deb is a psychologist who specializes in learning theory and social behavior. She has taught a variety of psychology courses at Kent State University for the past 20 years. Deb is also an instructor with the Fenzi Academy and co-author of the series of four books "Dog Sport Skills" with Denise Fenzi.

In addition to teaching, Deb has been training dogs for performance events for the past 25 years and was an early innovator in the use of clicker training techniques in dog training. She has owned and worked with a variety of breeds and has earned top-level titles in agility (MACH), rally (RAE), and obedience (UD) competitions.



AKC Rally & Obedience Trials at PCOTC July 27-28

On July 27, PCOTC will run two AKC rally trials consecutively. Entries close at 5 pm on July 10. Trial judge is Anita Eisthen. Trial Chair is Ann Mandelbaum and Event Secretary is Lori Carver. Classes Offered: Rally Novice A, Rally Novice B, Rally Intermediate, Rally Advanced A, Rally Advanced B, Rally Master. Click here for the [Rally Premium List](#).

On July 28, PCOTC will offer two obedience trials, running concurrently. Each will include Beginner Novice A and B, Novice A and B, Open A and B, and Utility A and B. Entries close at 5 pm, July 10. Trial Judges are Ms. Anita Eisthen, OH, and Ms. Elizabeth Chase, MA. Click for the [Obedience Premium List](#).

Saturday: ZEN LOGIC: Making Sense of Self-Control

This day will be devoted to exploring the concept of control and how it applies to living with and training our dogs. How do we gain and maintain control yet still allow our dogs freedom and choice without undue pressure or coercion? How can we help our dogs understand that waiting for permission to get or take what they want is the better choice than just grabbing it? Deb will talk about the concept of control and using a positive reinforcement-based approach to teach it. We will introduce and practice a variety of control exercises using either food or toys (depending on your dog). All exercises are built around the zen concept that "to get what you want you must give up what you want". However, we are careful to avoid conflict and frustration throughout the process. These exercises are important for dogs of all ages, types, and personalities.

Sunday: Let's Get FOCUSED!

Get Focused! is one of Deb's most popular courses at Fenzi Dog Sports Academy. Everyone wants focus, but do you really understand what it is and how to get it? It's more complicated than most people think! It's a struggle to train a dog who does not have focus. You are often fighting with competing environmental distractions. If your dog is unfocused, we will work to identify the reasons why your dog is not engaged with you. Unfocused dogs may suffer from a lack of clarity, a lack of enthusiasm, a lack of control, a lack of confidence, a lack of foundation work, or some combination of those variables. Come join us in learning why dogs do not have focus, and to tailor a plan for each individual team to develop an engaged and focused dog. Deb will present and lead you through a series of simple, yet highly effective, focus exercises throughout the day. All dogs at all levels of training can benefit from dedicated focus work.

There are 12 working spots open for each day and plenty of room for auditors. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or, better yet, register and *come to the seminars!*

The hours will be 9-4 with a lunch break. Lunch will not be provided but there will be morning snacks and coffee.

Working spots cost \$190/day, or \$340 for both days. Cost for auditors is \$75/day. Registration will open soon.

Obedience

Rally Tip: **Click!** *by Ann Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA*

If you subscribe to the idea that rally (and obedience and freestyle too, for that matter) are games people invented and love to play—not that dogs actually signed up for, and that therefore there is an ethical as well as a scientific reason to use purely positive training methods, then you will easily accept this basic idea: Training can be based on the fact that behaviors that are rewarding are more often repeated. But from this flows the next idea that when trying to influence behavior it is impossible to administer a reward at the exact moment when a desired behavior is occurring. This problem is resolved by connecting a distinctive sound with a consistent, following reward. Once this relationship is established the sound (click or a distinctive vocal equivalent) can be used exactly as the behavior occurs and we have a way of positively communicating with our dogs and shaping behaviors in ways that suit our purposes.

Such a simple, elegant way to to achieve buy-in from the essential partners in the games we have concocted! But it's just not that simple. Once you get into the actual practice there are so many situations that come up that don't go according to plan; what if, at some point, your dog stops working happily toward your goal and simply looks at you blankly? or seems to have learned something completely different than what you were planning to teach? or

seemed to have learned a behavior perfectly but refuses to perform it under a new circumstance?

Turns out (not surprisingly) that it isn't simple at all. Some trainers throw up their hands and say "I give up. It doesn't work!" That's a big mistake!

First of all, they're wrong. It definitely does work as proven by the many handlers/dog trainers who have succeeded spectacularly using the mark and reward principles. But more important, solving the puzzles, finding ways to make it work for you and your dog is endlessly interesting—and rewarding.

Kamal Fernandez (one of the very successful competitors and teachers using this purely positive approach in his work with dogs) recently gave a seminar here at PCOTC and he said something that just about blew my mind. He was talking about teaching (shaping) new behaviors and said that he never clicked until the dog was performing the actual finished behavior!

Now the traditional way to shape a behavior is to click and reward anything the dog offers that can possibly lead in the direction of the behavior you have in mind and then click progressively better approximations until the dog achieves the final desired behavior. But as I stopped sputtering and began to consider Kamal's idea seriously, his variation began to make a lot of sense.

First of all, Kamal is a very encouraging, positive trainer. He rewards generously (although never without a reason) and is always upbeat and cheerful in his relationships with the dogs he is working with.

Second, while it is an absolute that you must always reward following a click (otherwise you diminish the value of the click and eventually your dog's trust in you) there is no rule that you must always click before you reward!

So what he does is to praise and treat or use some other reward for approximations which progress his goal, which encourages further trials with less stress and then clicks the final behavior with a big reward. He feels that this gives much "cleaner" information to the dog than saying in effect "Yes, you're right" when the dog puts one foot on the perch and repeating the click for the same behavior several times and then withholding it and waiting for a closer approximation while the dog tries a variety of moves until he happens on two feet on and gets a click ("Yes, you're right") again.

It's an interesting concept. The dogs seem happy with it. I can see many problems with its application — but there are always problems. That's the whole point. New solutions bring new problems, we always need to think about new ways to look at what is working and what could be working better and so it will never be boring!



Food and Toys—but no clicker in use yet. Kamal Fernandez

Obedience

Obedience & Rally Run-Thrus

“White Plains Weekends” (Obedience Match Shows) and Rally Run-Thrus are scheduled on Sundays, on the same dates. Our Obedience Match Shows run from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. Rally Run-thrus are held in the afternoons from 2 to 5 pm. Both obedience and rally match shows are held indoors, with AC/heat, on Sundays.

Here are our dates for Summer 2019:

- June 23
- July 14

White Plains Weekends:

We will offer Novice, Open, and Utility timed entries of 10 minutes each.

It's a good idea to plan to enter the run-thrus before the trials.

Our run-thrus only work if we have the support of volunteers joining us to steward and judge. Anyone can volunteer and we can teach you how to steward! Volunteer hours and one free run-thru are offered to our volunteers. It is an excellent opportunity to watch training teams up close, both the beginners and those competing on the higher levels of competition. Six volunteers are needed for each match. Contact Karen Wrey at kayray@optonline.net.

This year, again, all registration for obedience run-thrus will be done through www.dogmatchshows.com. Each obedience run is

\$10 for Novice, Open, and/or Utility, plus a \$2 handling fee. The major advantage is the ability to choose your time slot. In the event that you cannot make your scheduled entry, please send a friend. There will be no refunds or carrying over to the next match.

Any questions? Contact Karen Wrey at kayray@optonline.net.

Rally Run-Thrus:

Registration for rally run-thrus will be handled via Jotform.com at \$10 per run, and one free run will be available to volunteers.

Time allotted for run-thrus is depending on the class:

- 5 minutes per run for Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced.
- 7 minutes for Master and Excellent.

There will be a two-ring setup, with Novice through Advanced in one ring and Master-Excellent in the second ring.

Four to six volunteers are needed to run each rally run-thru date. If you'd like to volunteer and earn some hours, please sign up at the Rally Run-Thru Volunteer Sign Up. In addition to credited hours, volunteers may have one free run-thru.

Any questions? Contact the Rally Run-Thru Coordinator, Meg Tucker, at megnmac@gmail.com

Club Doings

Club Reminders

DOGS IN CLASS: Unless instructed otherwise by the class instructor, students should crate their dogs when not working, or have them on leash in close proximity.

PARKING: Students/Renters are not permitted to park in the lot behind PCOTC during weekday hours. You may park in the lot after 5:00 p.m. weekdays, and on weekends. If parking in the lot, your car must be in a designated space; you may not park next to the ramp. Please be aware that illegally parked cars are subject to towing.

CLEANUP: Please be aware of where your dog's nose is (if they are looking at it, they are thinking about it) when entering and exiting the facility, as well as what his/her rear end is doing!

For those dogs in season, please make sure panties are worn when inside the facility. Please clean up any bodily fluids thoroughly with the appropriate agents and if they eliminate on the outside stairs/deck, please rinse it off. Thank you for your help in keeping PCOTC clean!

8 • SIT 'N STAY, SUMMER 2019

Keeping in Touch with PCOTC

PCOTC's Web Site: Go to www.pcotc.org for class registration and information about our classes, special events, facility, instructors, and membership.

Members Only Facebook Group Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pcotc>

MailChimp Mailing List: You can subscribe to this e-mail list via our web site, or go directly to <http://eepurl.com/bwbO5f>. You do not have to be a member or have taken classes yet. Mailings are sent out several times a month with news and information about upcoming training session registration, new events and classes added to our calendar, reminders of opening and closing dates, and club meetings, etc.

Having trouble receiving e-blasts from PCOTC through MailChimp? Be sure to enter info@pcotc.org into your computer's address book or list, or messages from PCOTC may end up in your spam filter.

Family Manners

Family Manners Tip: Rainy Day Fun *by Cindy Rubin, CPDT-KA*

There are many things to do on a rainy day with your dog that will enhance his training. If you are just starting out you can work on the basics. Does your dog have name recognition as a skill? When you say his name, does he turn and check in? Practice this with your clicker or with a verbal marker (Yes! or Good!) make it fun and exciting.

Once your dog has name recognition, you can work on better focus. Train this with hand feeding or your clicker. Sit on a chair or on the floor opposite your dog. When eye contact is made, reward with praise and a treat or click/treat. Try not to show him the food or say his name at this time. When he is consistently looking at you for one second, start to build his duration to five seconds before your reward. A verbal cue can be put on this behavior when it is well established (Look or Watch me).

A hallway in your home is a good place to practice your **Stand** position. The wall will prevent the dog from swinging out to the side when he gets up. Remember, you want

the dog to stand at your side, not in front of you.

The hallway is also a good place to practice your **sit stays** and **down stays**. Work on leash so you have control of your dog's position. If he gets up, calmly put him back in the original position and try the exercise for a shorter period of time so you are successful.

The AKC has implemented Trick Dog titles. The list of appropriate tricks for each level (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Performer and Elite Performer) is on their website. These behaviors are fun to teach and many of the Novice tricks are taught through basic training classes and CGC classes (Canine Good Citizenship)

Here are a couple you can work on at home:

Find It

This is performed by a dog finding a treat or scent item (for a dog trained in Nose Work) under a cup. Rainy day fun would

be to take a high value treat and hide it under a cup or in a box and have the dog find it among 3-4 cups or boxes. Make sure you use the same box or cup for the hide and change its position amongst the grouping.

Get In

This is a fun trick where the dog puts all 4 feet in a box. It is best trained with a clicker, but you can use your verbal marker as well. Start by reinforcing any behavior the dog has with the box—sniffing, pushing, pawing etc. Eventually he will paw the box and put the paw in the box. Mark it and reward and you are on your way! It shouldn't take very long before his feet are in the box.

Paws Up

Get a stool or a small step and build this trick off of the Get In trick. Reward for one foot on the stool, then two—then mission accomplished!

Remember, every time you are with your dog it is a training opportunity. Happy training!



These dogs are showing, on the left, Down Stay, and Sit. On the right, the dog is offering Attention.

Photos © Morgaana Menzel.

Family Manners

S.T.A.R. Puppy & Family Manners Foundation Graduates

Courtesy ©Morgaána, Photography© Morgaána Photography

Congratulations! What a great group of talented puppies and handlers this past session at PCOTC! We could not be more proud of our Graduates!

Come join the fun and all the learning. Have you (or a human friend) welcomed a new furry friend into your home and aren't sure where to start? PCOTC recommends all dogs begin their training journey at our club by attending Family Manners Foundation.

If your dog is too young for Foundations, check out our offerings for puppies:

- Puppy Pre-K (4 week class) For puppies age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class. Learn about socialization and safe handling.
- AKC STAR Puppy For puppies age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class. Learn basic manners, clicker training, attention, socialization & safe handling.
- Family Manners Foundation For dogs 5

months and older.

- Already taken Family Manner Foundations? Then continue to advance in Family Manner Skills.
- PCOTC offers \$50 class credit, after the first set of classes, for a dog adopted from a shelter or rescue facility in the last 12 months.

See Class Fees & Discounts for complete information. Go to <http://www.pcotc.org/> to register.



Best of Breed Handling

by Fran Hellman, CPD

So much to do! Too little time!

These days we have a plethora of competitive canine activities available to us. That's a great thing, but how do we find the time to fit it all in? Most people simply cannot attend dog shows every weekend throughout the year. So how can a handler get multiple titles or advance toward titles at one dog show?

You might be asking yourself some of these questions:

How does a dog that has just sat several times in the obedience or rally ring want to stand in the conformation ring? Or, how can a dog that was just reinforced for standing in the conformation ring want to sit in the performance ring?

Will my dog get confused?

How can I fit in a tricks or a CGC evaluation?

What if there is a time conflict with the rings that I need to be in?

How do I dress for conformation and performance on the same day?

Is it really possible to do all that in one day?

Yes, it is definitely doable! Here are some tips that can help you.

Let's say, for example, that you want to show in conformation, perform in obedience and get evaluated for a tricks title, all at the same show. Preparation for that starts well in advance of the show day. A good foundation of obedience skills is paramount for all of what you will be doing with your dog. Dogs need to have a clear understanding of how and when to sit, stand and stay. They need to be able to execute these behaviors when verbally cued and/or with body language cues. Movement must also be trained. Dogs need to learn how to move in heel position when cued to do so and to move out while looking straight, for the show ring.

When you are training your dog, only train one of these disciplines at a time. Use the same equipment that you would use at the show. When you are training obedience, don't ask your dog to stand out in front

of you as you would for the show ring. When practicing for the show ring, don't ask your dog to "heel" for movement; give that a different cue, such as "Let's go" or "Strut." When you are getting ready to train your dog, i.e. for rally, you can communicate this by saying, "Want to do Rally? Let's do Rally!" while getting out his collar and leash. Then at the show, say and do the same thing. Don't use the same food rewards for conformation as you would for performance. For example, you may want to bait your dog with baked liver in the conformation ring and use string cheese for your performance warm up and for tricks rewards.

You may train all three in one day but separate the training sessions with plenty of time in between so your dog has time to process what was previously learned. The main objective is to train each one of the disciplines very well and separately, then be able to switch from one to another by clearly communicating to your dog what you want him to do. Using different verbal cues for conformation and obedience will be very helpful to your dog.

The day before the show

Before leaving for the show be sure to take a look at the judging program. Make a schedule of the discipline, ring number and time. If there are ring conflicts you will need to let the stewards know about them well in advance of the start of your ring time. Make a list of what you will need to bring for each discipline and pack your car. Practicing the day before the show is handler's preference.

What to wear?

Men and women can wear the same clothes in the obedience ring as they would in the conformation ring. Women might want to change into their sneakers for obedience. If you usually wear jeans and a sweatshirt when showing in obedience, you will need to change into something more business-like before showing in the conformation ring. Since time usually doesn't allow, it would be best to be prepared.

At the show

Look at your schedule. Inform the stewards

of any conflicts. Get your armbands.

Let's say you will be showing in conformation first, then going to the obedience ring and then getting evaluated for tricks. Groom your dog and warm up for the breed ring. Don't mix in any obedience. When you're finished in the breed ring, potty your dog, give him water and put him in his crate. Go over to the obedience ring, and watch the ring pattern. Go back to your dog, and start your obedience warm up. After your obedience run, potty dog, give water, treats, etc. and let him rest until its time to do the tricks evaluation. Then go to the tricks evaluation with your props and treats.

The all-important warm up

Let your dog know what you want. As stated earlier, before your warm up for a particular discipline i.e. Rally, say "Want to do Rally? Let's do Rally!" Same thing applies to the others. "Want to be a Show dog? Go be a Show dog!"

Put their appropriate equipment on and start warming up. Be sure to watch the ring in advance so you will know the important things to warm up for. For the show ring, you may ask your dog to stand on a damp towel out in front of you at ringside while you bait him for focus and expression. When you are warming up for moving in the show ring, say your move out cue as you hold the show lead away from your body, and look straight ahead as you move.

Realistically, at a show, you may need to run from one ring to another, but no worries—take a deep breath, mentally switch gears and sneak in some practice before the steward calls your number. While in the conformation ring, you may brush or comb your dog while the judge is busy judging another dog. Doing this will help to communicate to your dog that he is showing in conformation.

In summary, your verbal cues, body language, equipment and rewards are key to helping your dog differentiate between disciplines.

Best of luck at the shows and may you attain many titles!!

And More!

Breed Handling Class Notice

Breed handling classes are now offered every Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. in the upper level of our club. Drop-in only; registration is not required. These classes are for adult and junior handlers, and dogs of all ages.

See our club website for a description of the classes. The fee is \$20.00 per class. FMI contact Fran Hellman at sunjaysgrs@aol.com or 845-234-1645. New handlers, please contact Fran before attending class.



Therapy Dog Training Continues in September

For the past three years, in three of our six sessions, PCOTC has offered a therapy dog certification preparation class; this will continue in September.

In order to register for the class, candidates must pass a pre-screening, an approximately 20-minute test that focuses on temperament as well as quality of communication between handler and dog. Minimum age for dogs is 18 months.

The class includes six, one-hour sessions. At its conclusion, teams are evaluated (tested) according to standards set forth by Intermountain Therapy Animals, a national/international certification organization renowned for its uncompromising training and operating principles.

Pre-screening dates for the September/October class are still to be determined, but will be during the last two weeks in August. Watch the PCOTC website for specifics.

George Berger, Therapy Dog class instructor, welcomes any questions you might have. E-mail him at gpb37@aol.com

NACSW Odor Recognition Test

PCOTC will be holding an Odor Recognition Test (ORT) on Sunday, July 7, 2019. The ORT will include all three odors: Birch, Anise and Clove. NACSW requires that all dogs wishing to participate in any NACWS trial complete the ORT for that level first.

Entries are now open and will close on Friday, June 28 at 5:00 pm or when entry limits have been met (100 tests).

Kathy Gregory is Trial Chair. Mary Skirchak is Test Secretary.

Click [here](#) for the ORT Premium.



And Even More!!

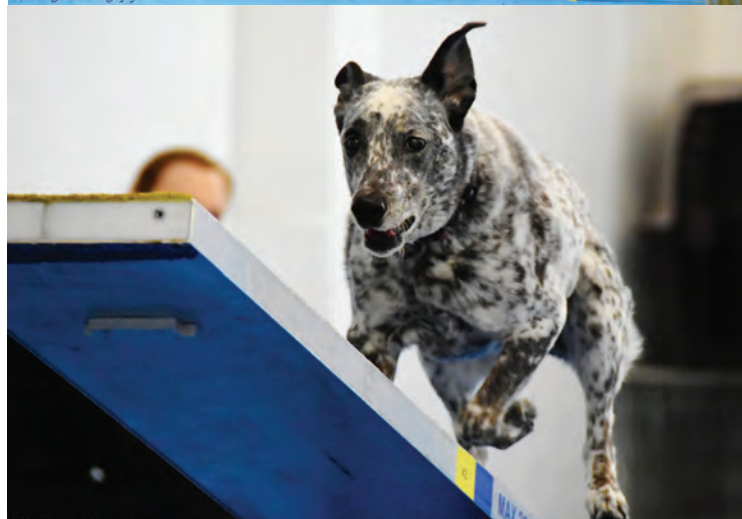
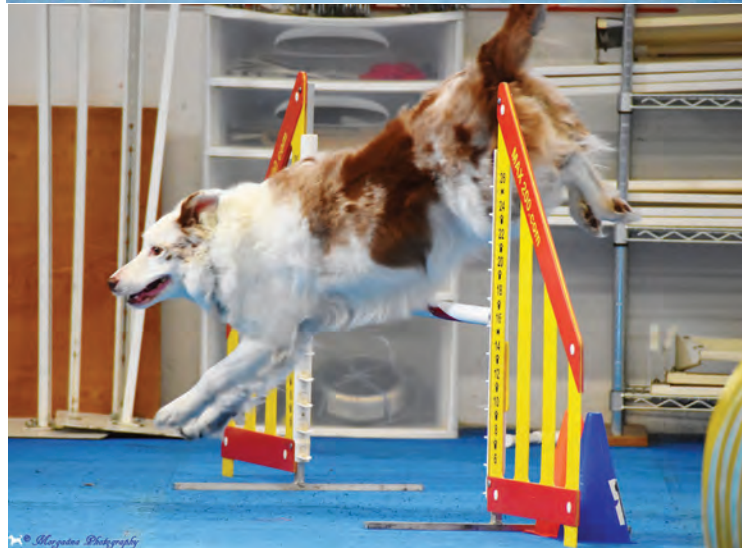
Agility Fundraiser Success!

In March and April, we held agility run-thru fundraisers to get a new Clip and Go Dogwalk, and the results exceeded all expectations. Thanks to our incredible agility community, the run-thrus not only raised enough to get the dogwalk, but we raised enough to truly modernize our agility equipment across the board. Based on participants' votes and club needs (and an additional 1K donation from Lisa Topol for her Westminster win!) we used the additional funds to purchase:

- Clip and Go A-Frame with Built-in Wheels
- Anti-Slip HCV tunnel and 15 Anti-Slip Jenny Bags
- Official AKC Approved Measuring Wicket
- Set of 24 Solid Color Weave Poles

Equipment is expected to make its way here over the next several weeks. A big thank you to Lisa Topol, Debbie Poe and Jackie Soccodato for organizing these events (and Marcy Rauch for helping with the flyers!) And huge thank you to everyone who participated. What a great (and safer) boost to our agility program!

Images, ORT & Agility Fundraiser,
© Morgaana Photography



Volunteers for Adopt-a-Dog, 9/29

On Saturday, Sept. 29, PCOTC will join other local groups at Adopt-a-Dog's annual event, Puttin' on The Dog, in Greenwich, CT. PCOTC will need volunteers who can

- bring our booth and equipment to and from the event,
- staff our booth and explain our training program to visitors,
- offer "My Dog Can Do That!" or an agility demo to event-goers.

To volunteer, or to find out more, contact Jane Wheeler at jane Wheeler@optimum.net

Animal-Assisted Therapy Conference at Green Chimneys

IAHIAO Conference in Brewster by *Elizabeth Lynch*

The IAHIAO Conference in Brewster, NY, captivated its audience with numerous topics related to the human-animal bond. Dozens of scientific papers and posters were presented about the positive physiological effects of animals in therapeutic interventions. We all suspected that petting friendly dogs was good for us. Scientists have been busy churning out papers that measure cortisol and oxytocin in people who have benefited from that therapeutic interaction, in order to prove the point. But more was in store. Anyone who is involved with dog training or animal assisted therapy would have found something to ponder long after they drove home that weekend.

For me, two topics stood out: The importance of consent in animal-assisted-interventions, and how we relate to our animal partner during the therapy. The latter is especially important in trauma informed care. (Please note that, throughout the conference, no speaker said, “We use animals in our therapy”. The animal’s consent in the process was always respected.

Line Sandstedt, Dir. Of the Norwegian Center of Anthrozoology, gave a break-out session discussing the methods employed in her center to train therapy dogs. (In Norway, it’s a professional occupation and handlers are paid to bring their dogs to facilities for animal assisted activities and therapy.) She asserts that it is absolutely essential that the dog looks to its handler for help when it is feeling uncomfortable with the visiting situation. She is adamant that the handler must respond to help the animal, or else the foundation of trust is damaged. She trains the therapy dogs to do a specific behavior as their signal that they need a break. For example, if the dog is lying on a hospital bed with a client, the dog must be on a barrier blanket to keep the bed clean. Her dogs know to touch the blanket with their nose if they want to leave the client. The dog’s request is honored 100% of the time. Standstedt’s point is that the dog/handler team is a partnership, and that partnership is based on trust and co-operation, which means both parties have the ability to make choices. And we must honor the dog’s choices!

Demonstrating that you are thinking about the feelings and desires of your canine partner and honoring those choices, shows that you are trustworthy. Nancy Pariss-Plass of the University of Haifa, Israel, says this is one reason for inviting animals into therapy sessions. If the dog looks to the therapist to meet its needs and keep it safe, then the client observes that the therapist is a safe person to be trusted. The therapist is able to quickly develop rapport with the client, which accelerates the therapeutic process considerably.

This ability to trust is diminished in trauma cases. Sexually or physically abused children and victims of domestic violence have been traumatized by the very people they were supposed to rely on; usually a parent, spouse or friend. It is understandable that these victims would be reluctant to trust a stranger. A dog can facilitate the formation of a patient/therapist relationship if the dog/handler relationship is strong.

Sarah Schlote, therapist, from The Refuge: Center for Healing and Recovery in Guelph, Canada, cautions, “Be careful how you treat an animal in the presence of a victim of abuse.” Do you drag your dog by his leash, use your body to block him from leaving an uncomfortable situation, force him into a sit position or hold his muzzle while someone pets him, forcing him to endure? Imagine what the abuser has done to his victim! This is not the way to demonstrate that you are trustworthy and safe. Be trauma-informed when you interact with your therapy dog, or else you risk re-awakening that trauma in the mind of your client. It’s good advice to always respect your dog’s feelings in therapy work, or whatever sport you and your partner do together. Let’s face it—the dog didn’t drive himself to the school or hospital. Let’s be kind to our partners, and give them a choice in how they want to participate.



One of the animals at the conference.
© Kathy Nurena

Animal-Assisted Therapy Conference at Green Chimneys

Beyond the Training Floor *by Kathie Nurena*

Sometimes we find our friends, even our training philosophy, extends beyond the training floor.

In April, the 15th Triennial IAHAIO (International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations) conference was held at Green Chimneys in Brewster, NY. I went, not really sure I belonged there. They were talking about international Animal Assisted Intervention (AAI) programs. While I find the topic interesting, I am not preparing my dogs to be therapy animals. If, however, you are interested, PCOTC has a class for that.

The welcoming committee made you feel welcomed regardless of your motivation for

being there. Something about a cow, a camel or a canine that can make you glad you came. Then I found a PCOTC classmate among the attendees, Elizabeth Lynch. We would run into each other over the course of the three-day conference and talk about the different presentations we attended. Speakers talked about Pets, AAI and Mental Health; about Human-Animal Interaction and Humane Education in Mainland China. The speakers were impressive and inspiring.

I particularly enjoyed the opening keynote by James Serpell BSc, Ph.D. on “One Welfare; Healthy Environments for Both Human and Non-Human Animals.” I knew

of One Health from the CDC website. The “One Health concept recognizes that the health of people is connected to the health of animals and the environment.” The CDC is working with physicians, veterinarians, ecologists and others to monitor and control public health threats. The conference emphasized an evolution of that concept, “One Welfare.” An emphasis was placed on the well-being of those taking part in animal assisted interventions—both humans and non-humans. I am so glad I went to the conference and got to hear it straight from the horses’ mouth, so to speak.



Some of the animals at the conference ©Kathie Nurena



Museum of the Dog *by Kathy Gregory*

I have been to this museum twice now and all I can say is, if you haven't been there yourself, you are missing a real treat!

Knowing that the museum had been in St. Louis for years, I tried unsuccessfully to swing by there on my many trips around the country. St. Louis was never an easy city to "swing by," so I never did get there. Now that it is located just two blocks south of Grand Central Station on Park Avenue, it has been a real pleasure to walk that short distance and see some of the treasures that the museum holds. The first time I was there was during a Delegate tour as a side trip from my last meeting in March. The entire museum had been closed to allow the 200+ Delegates who opted to make the trip the chance to wander through it with ease. We also indulged in wine and appetizers as we strolled through the exhibits. The second time I visited was with a dear friend who, due to advanced age, is no longer able to share all the dog show trips we once enjoyed. When I was trying to think of an activity we could still do together, I thought this would be just the ticket! Happily, the entire Museum is handicapped accessible and we had no problem getting into, moving through, or seeing everything.

I first heard of this Museum relocation a year and a half ago. Construction took a year and a tremendous amount of thought was put into every aspect of its design. It is bright and modern, and the focus is totally on the wonderful paintings, ceramics and bronze works of art that are really the

reason for the interest. Membership to the Museum is modest, \$60 for an Individual and \$95 for a Family.

All memberships are based on an annual gift and include:

- Unlimited Museum admission
- A subscription to the quarterly newsletter and AKC Family Dog
- 15% discount at the Museum store
- Priority registration for Museum events
- Admission to special Members Only events
- Recognition in our annual report and on the website
- An AKC Museum of the Dog branded gift

Of course, there are options for more generous donations, as well.

The newly designed space at 101 Park Ave., which is where the American Kennel Club has its headquarters, displays art (paintings, figurines, sculptures and rare pieces) from famous dog artists, including Sir Edwin Landseer (Queen Victoria's favorite painter), Maud Earl and others, across two floors. I have to say that I was awe-struck at being able to stand inches from some of Maud Earl's magnificent paintings, all of which I had previously seen only in books.

Of course, paintings are not the only attraction here! There is a lovely library on the second floor, complete with crayons and coloring pages for the little ones. All

are welcome to sit and look through breed books and pamphlets of interest for various dog sports. The eventual aim of the museum is to have their entire library digitalized so you can see it all online and, presumably, be able to request a private peek at rare and exclusive items by appointment.

There are also several interactive displays: a pool table size display of all the AKC recognized breeds where you can point and drag a dog of interest into a "dog house" where interesting facts about that breed are revealed. There is another where you place your face within a frame on a wall mounted digital camera and the display compares you to all of the recognized breeds and tells you what breed you most resemble! Then, it can send your doggy image to your email address! There is also a game where you can teach a digital Lab named Molly how to speak, fetch and retrieve. What fun!

AKC TV also has a studio on site and they plan to broadcast shows of interest to the fancy in the future.

Finally, they have a wonderful gift shop where you can buy books, tee shirts, jewelry, stuffed animals and accessories. I would like them to expand this section!

I would say that viewing the whole museum will take about two hours. When you are finished, you can enjoy one of the many places to eat within a two-block area.

I hope you will all become members and support this worthwhile museum, and that you will visit soon!



More works of art from the Museum of the Dog on p. 22

Kathy Gregory Receives AKC Visionary Award

The following appeared in the January 2019 issue of the *AKC Gazette*, by Dennis Sprung:

“The AKC Visionary Awards, given for the first time three years ago...celebrate individuals amongst us of vision, whose contributions have brought forward momentum to our mission. These efforts have protected our right to own and breed dogs, shared AKC’s dedication and love of dogs with the public and educated the public about responsible ownership. This year, we recognize four Delegates for Leadership in our community.... [among them is] Kathy Gregory.

“Kathy is the Delegate for Port Chester Obedience Training Club. She has extensive experience with the sport of Nose Work and has taught classes for many years. Learning that AKC was considering launching its own scent work sport, she readily stepped forward to volunteer her knowledge. As the Staff worked to develop regulations governing the sport, Kathy was always available. She has written several Perspectives articles to help educate our Delegate body. After one year, AKC Scent Work has proven to be very, very popular, attracting over 60,000 entries, and bringing new people and new families into our sport. We thank you, Kathy.”

There were four Visionary Awards given that day.

Kathy sent a note to *Sit ‘n Stay* about her initial reaction to the announcement of her award while she sat among the AKC delegates:

“I was awarded the AKC Visionary Award at the December Delegates meeting in Orlando, Florida. It was completely unexpected and I was totally surprised. The meeting is held in a large auditorium and they have two large screens to allow everyone to see what is going on, no matter where you are sitting. They were going through the meeting, and all of a sudden the name KATHLEEN GREGORY appeared on the screen as Dennis Sprung, Chairman of the AKC, announced my name. I was so

surprised that I actually sat there looking at my name, thinking “That’s funny. Who else in the Delegate body has the same name as me?”

“Well, Dennis continued on and all my

friends started clapping and said to me, “It’s you! It’s you!”. By the time I actually started to stand up, Dennis had gone on to something else, so he was kind enough to take my picture afterwards. What an honor!”



Dennis Sprung, President and CEO of the American Kennel Club, with Kathy Gregory and her Visionary Award.

AKC Delegate's Report

Quarter One, 2019— by Kathy Gregory, PCOTC Delegate to AKC

The Delegates were back in New Jersey for this, the first meeting of 2019.

The Delegate Meeting

We voted for the candidates for the AKC Board of Directors for the Class of 2023. Thankfully, one woman, one veteran Delegate and one bright new candidate were elected for these vacancies. There was some discussion by the Delegate Body about the amount of time taken at every fourth meeting to discuss, question and vote for these candidates. It's never ending. There is usually an extensive biographical listing in the Delegate's publication about each candidate, a long question and answer period in one of the Delegate's meetings and many personal emails and letters from the candidates touting their accomplishments. Many of the Delegates feel that this is overkill and that this process takes away from other business we must make decisions on in a timely manner. I agree. Hopefully, in the future, we can streamline this process and get on with other business.

Achiever Awards. This is a new group of awards that the AKC has put in place to reward teams for building their canine/human relationship. They are not difficult to win and are really meant as an encouragement to continued participation in AKC sports for the fun of doing an activity with your canine pal. The problem is that people are getting these awards in the mail and have no idea why they are getting them. So, the AKC needs to publicize these awards more effectively. Clubs should also acknowledge these awards at annual meetings and in their publications.

2018 numbers. Litters were up 5% to 251,000. Event entries were up by \$100,000. Dogs registered were up 4% to 581,000. Unaudited financials for 2018 showed revenue of \$76,845,000. Expenses were \$72,618,000. Operating income was \$4,227,000. There were 22,000 licensed events and 3,200 entries, up 3% over the prior year. Registrations accounted for 52% of AKC revenue, \$3,900,000.

Pedigrees 400,000

Good Dog 210,000

Sports 1,360,000

CGC 400,000

Companion Events Committee: Some discussion occurred regarding Obedience rules and the lack of recent competitors' compliance with them, specifically, in the Beginner Novice Sit, Stay, Walk around the Ring class. It was suggested that the rules be changed, yet again, and several Obedience competitors mentioned that, while they are not opposed to restating current rules in a more understandable way, they were opposed to changing the rules yet again, as this was just done recently and confusion may result.

There is discussion about an AKC temperament test for all breeds.

There has been a 31% increase in the use of the new AKC website.

Herding Earthdog Coursing Committee

There was voting to fill two unexpected vacancies on this Committee.

The following statistics were recorded:

Herding 21,598 entries in 2018, up 13% over 2017

Lure Coursing 10,449 entries, up 6%

CAT 17,545 entries, minus 17%

Fast CAT 41,236 entries, up 113% (yes, that's correct!)

Earthdog 5,574 entries, down 5%

Scent Work 79,390 entries

Total Performance Events up 29.7%

Fast Cat - 2 modifications: Time will start with the arm drop. Every Premium must show whether the course is fenced or not.

The Fast CAT Subcommittee has researched the point system. The fastest dog included in the current statistics is at 108 mph, an Australian Terrier. The committee is trying to set a range for breed handicaps.

Herding Course D – Ranch Course: This

sport was established in July of 2018. There were 458 entries in the first year.

Lure Coursing: Scratching on the Line – Dogs scratched on the line will no longer be included in the total number of dogs defeated. In other words, "A dog that scratches on the starting line has not competed and shall not count as a starter when determining championship points.

AKC FIT DOG Clubs. The new recognition of FIT DOGs has been expanded to include FIT CLUBS. Each club can decide to acknowledge the importance of physical fitness in their members and their dogs by applying to become a FIT CLUB. They must hold 4 group fitness walks each year or hold regularly scheduled fitness classes for teams. This can be a new way to attract new members to your club. 31 clubs have applied for this designation since its inception in February.

Earthdog Subcommittee: There is a need to update the Earthdog section of the AKC website because it is not informative or inviting.

The award title "Intro to Quarry" should be changed to "Novice".

Scent Work

In April the AKC Board of Directors voted to approve several changes to the AKC Scent Work Regulations. These will be effective for trials held on or after July 1, 2019. The biggest changes were:

1. The Buried element has been reorganized. Water hides have been substituted for outdoor buried hides at the higher levels of competition.
2. The daily judge limit has been changed from 125 runs to 8 hours
3. Minimum standards for trial administration have been established
4. Measures to increase consistency between trials have been imposed

Additional information is available at the AKC website under Scent Work Regulations.

Spring Events

Mar. 8-10: Kerry Smith Agility Seminars

© Morgaína Photography

On Friday - Sunday, March 8-10, PCOTC hosted another amazing weekend of seminars, this set offered by the entertaining and knowledgeable Kerry Smith.

• Friday: Essential Skills & Problem Solving:

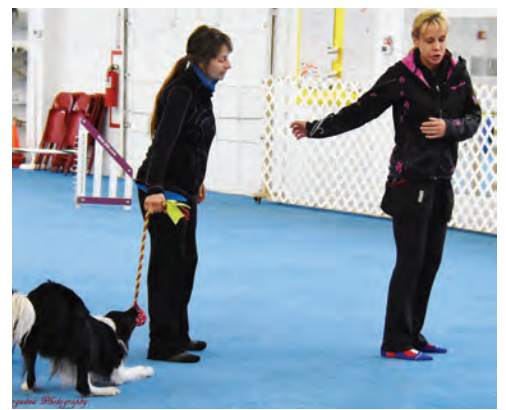
Teams had a chance to work on problem issues and develop a plan to fix them. Kerry helped teams with anything from how to handle common lines (serpentines, threadles, backsides, etc.), to teaching rock solid obstacle performance (contacts, weaves, jumping skills, etc.), to building motivation, focus, and drive, as well as verbal skills and tight turns.

• Saturday: Work Smarter, Not Harder:

This session covered reading lines, using motion, and developing skills to improve distance and gain advantage on course whether you are handling ahead, laterally or behind. Teams learned how to improve the timing of their cues and use 3D visualization skills to get more speed out of their dogs and build distance into their handling. Teams also focused on mental aspects of agility, handler body awareness, and how to judge where you are on course so you are able to stay connected with your dog.

• Sunday: Read Between the Lines

(Course Analysis): This session focused on course analysis and lines to find the clearest and fastest path for your dog. This is critical since understanding your dog's line determines what crosses and techniques to use. Beyond that, Teams learned how to choose techniques that brought out the most speed from their dogs. For example, forced front crosses and German turns can create the same path, but one will be faster for some dogs and vice versa. Thank you, Kerry Smith, for sharing your passion and knowledge with us!



Spring Events

Mar 30-31: Kamal Fernandez Seminars

© Morgaána Photography

On March 30-31, PCOTC welcomed back the fantastic Kamal Fernandez for two obedience seminars. The spotlight on March 30 was Heeling, beginning to advanced, and on March 31, Handler's Choice.

Kamal is the head trainer and owner of East London Dog Training. He has over 20 years experience training dogs of all types. He currently owns two Belgian Malinois, two Border Collies, a German Spitz and a Boxer. An internationally renowned seminar instructor, Kamal's other career highlights include being a Championship Obedience judge and Crufts competitor. Based on a combination of science and hands-on experience, Kamal has established a reputation for positive training and has championed the use of reward-based methods all over the world.

"Kamal ... has developed a method of training that is underpinned by scientific assessment (of popular methods) and pro-active innovation and implementation of new techniques. He promotes positive reinforcement via a systematic program that is designed to establish the relationship between the handler and dog....Kamal's training philosophy is influenced by his love for dogs. Watch him train his dogs. He has designed a training method that achieves a specific objective by creating harmony and synergy between dog and handler. The outcome is an experience that the dog enjoys and the experience commands the dog's undivided attention whether it involves working on the hallowed green at Crufts or simply crossing the road." Thank you, Kamal. We look forward to your next visit!



Spring Events

May 4: SPCA Walkathon & Pet Fair

Photos © Morgaana Photography



Clockwise from top right:

- Morgaana and Rhoswyn demo agility,
- Conversation at the PCOTC booth,
- The walkathon,
- PCOTC tabletop showing PCOTC's new doggie pens and AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy flyers,
- Dana Rocco narrating agility demo while Marcy Rauch runs her dog,
- Marcy Rauch narrates PCOTC's agility demo,



Spring Events

May 9-11: Agility Trials

Sadly, we were not able to (1) sort through the 4,000+ photos taken by our very talented agility trial photographer Barry Rosen, (2) choose the relatively few photos that we have room for in our newsletter, and (3) write up the trial events in time for this issue of *Sit n' Stay*. The agility trials will be featured in the next issue.

As a consolation prize, we are including one photo by Barry Rosen, of Morgaana Menzel and Rhoswyn competing at one of the three trials.

Both Morgaana and Rhoswyn Fae are smiling!



MUSEUM OF THE DOG. More photos of works of art from the Museum of the Dog. All photos © Kathy Gregory (cont. from p. 16)

Glad Tales

Sassafras Earns PAX

Sassafras finally earned her PAX (Excellent Preferred Agility) title, getting her 20th QQ on April 20, 2019. It was a long and fun journey and I will continue running with her as long as she is able. Love this girl!!

— Sarah Johnson



Rumor Passes CGC

Rumor passed her Canine Good Citizenship evaluation on April 30, 2019. Jamie McKay was our evaluator. Rumor is now CH Sunjays Rumor Has It RN TKN CGC.

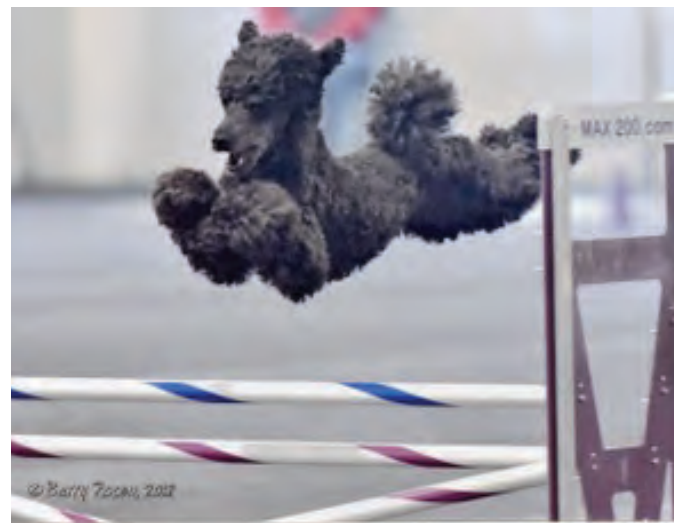
— Fran Hellman



Ani Earns BISOH

Mary Elizabeth Simpson's Corgi Ani, "Ch. Reinwood One With The Force" received her BISOH at the Plainfield Dog Show over Memorial weekend under Judge Geir Flyckt Pederson. Congratulations!

— Mary-Elizabeth Simpson



Songbird King of Hearts AX AXJ TKN

"Kip" earned his C-ATCH on May 5, 2019

— Susan Mischel

Glad Tales

Brag & Family Addition

Ben (on the left) has earned his AKC Trick Dog Novice title. He has had so much fun taking classes at PCOTC for two years and this is his first title. We would also like to introduce an addition to our family. Sheldon is a 3-month-old hound mix from the SPCA in Briarcliff.

— *Barbara Napoli & Lauren Green*



“Winter” Wins 12X!

Winter earned 12 titles in 2018! This picture shows him having a great time at Tailwaggers CPE Agility Trial in Wellington, FL on March 30, 2019.

— *Michelle Trummer*

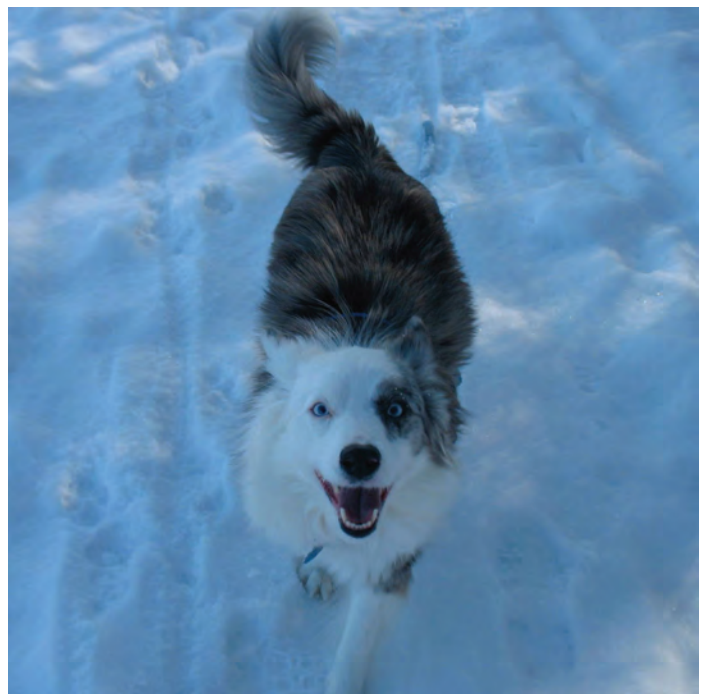
Sad Tales

Daisy Furball

Daisy Furball BN RE NJP NFP RL1X, RL2, RL3, ARCH
7/4/08-4/4/19

We had to say our goodbyes to our beloved Daisy Furball in April after she bravely fought cancer for many months. Daisy was my first dog for doing any kind of official dog sport. Mary Horne talked me into entering our first show and for that I thank you, Mary! We had many great runs and many great learning opportunities with all the wonderful instructors at PCOTC. Daisy was smart and funny and had a lot of heart. She is very missed in our house.

— *Sara Johnson & Family*



Our Stars

New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 5/20/19

RALLY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Rally Novice (RN)

13/10/19 Fran Hellman, CH Sunjays Rumor Has It, RN TKN, "Rumor," Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Rally Advanced (RA)

14/29/19 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, CD BN RA OA AXJ OF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

AGILITY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Novice Agility Jumpers (NAJ)

3/2/19 Kathleen Foley, Destiny & Fireheart's Celtic Magic BN RN SCN NAJ, "Lorna," Scottish Terrier

Agility Excellent Jumpers (AXJ)

4/7/19 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, CD BN RI OA AXJ OF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

Time 2 Beat 3 (T2B3)

9/3/17 Deborah Salerno, Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, "Kyan," Border Collie

Time 2 Beat Preferred (T2BP)

3/30/19 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," "Imposter Plott"

Excellent Fast Preferred (XFP)

5/12/19 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," "Imposter Plott"

Excellent Preferred Agility (PAX)

4/20/19 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," "Imposter Plott"

Masters Preferred Jumpers 3 (MJP3)

4/20/19 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," "Imposter Plott"

Master Preferred Agility 3 (MXP3)

11/4/18 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," "Imposter Plott"

Master Bronze Jumpers (MJB)

5/11/17 Deborah Salerno, Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, "Kyan," Border Collie

United States Dog Agility Association

Jumpers Master (JM)

4/20/18 Deborah Salerno, Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, RA MX MXB MXJ MXB T2B3 CGC TKI, "Kyan," Border Collie

Snooker Master (SM)

10/26/18 Deborah Salerno, ADCH Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, RA, MX, MXB, MXJ, MXB, T2B3, CGC, TKI, "Kyan," Border Collie

Gambler's Master (GM)

12/31/17 Deborah Salerno, Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, "Kyan," Border Collie

Relay Champion

12/31/17 Deborah Salerno, Hidden Valley Bleu Moon Dancer, "Kyan," Border Collie

Agility Dog Champion (ADCH)

10/26/18 Deborah Salerno, "Kyan," Border Collie

UK Agility International (UKI)

9/18/18 Deborah Salerno, "ADCH Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, "Kyan," Border Collie

Canine Performance Events (CPE)

Standard Level 3 (CL3-R)

3/30/19 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

Jackpot Level 3 (CL3-S)

3/30/19 Michelle Trummer, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

C-ATCH

5/5/19 Susan Mischel, Songbird King of Hearts AX AXJ TKN, "Kip," Standard Poodle

SCENT WORK

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Scent Work Novice (SWN)

2/2/19 Ruth Armisto, Caramists Dangerous Curves On The Autobahn CDX SWN, "Sanora," German Shepherd Dog

NOSEWORK

National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW)

NW L2E

5/18/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW L2C

5/19/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3-I

4/21/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3

4/21/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3 3d Place Overall

4/21/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3-C

4/28/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3-E

4/28/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3-V

4/28/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3 Title (2nd Title)

4/28/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

NW3 3rd Place Overall

4/28/19 Demetria DeSarno, "Uma," Pit Bull

TRICK TITLES DOG TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Trick Title Novice (TKN)

4/30/19 Lauren Green, "Ben," Shar-Pei/Bulldog

3/2/18 Deborah Salerno, Dallas' Bleu Spur of the Moment, "Spur," Australian Shepherd

3/2/18 Deborah Salerno, Golden Flyer's Bleu Running Brooke, "Brooke," Border Collie

Trick Dog Intermediate (TKI)

3/2/18 Deborah Salerno, Hidden Valley's Bleu Moon Dancer, "Kyan," Border Collie

VERSATILITY TITLE (VT)

Association of Working Shetland Sheepdogs

4/24/19 Jamie McKay, Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog

BARN HUNT ASSOCIATION (BHA)

RATN

9/16/17 Deborah Salerno, Golden Flyer's Bleu Running Brooke, "Brooke," Border Collie

Rat Champion 6 (RATCHX 6)

5/5/19 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

Our Stars: Reporting Titles

To submit your dog's new titles/awards for publication in the "Our Stars" column in our newsletter, fill out the Our Stars form on our web site at www.pcotc.org/membership. If you do not have web access, you may report your new titles by mail (or e-mail), to trumpetvine55@yahoo.com or to Michelle Trummer.

Summer home: 11 Lakeview Rd., North Salem, NY 10560.

Winter Home: 11988 61st Street North, West Palm Beach, FL 33412.

Volunteering Explained

Volunteers run all PCOTC activities except dog training, for which we pay qualified instructors. We ask each club member to volunteer a minimum of 12 hours during each club year (January 1 to December 31). Those who complete the minimum of 12 hours receive special Member Volunteer rates that provide year-round savings on all group classes.

In order to receive the special volunteer rates for a club year, members must complete their volunteer hours prior to the beginning of that club year.

Volunteer hours do not "carry over" from year to year. Each member in a family membership needs credit for 12 volunteer hours, but family members may credit hours to another person in the membership.

New club members must complete 6 volunteer hours prior to submitting their application for membership, and are eligible for the Volunteer Member privileges immediately upon admission to the club. They then must complete an additional 6 hours prior to the end of the club year to receive Volunteer Member status for the next year.

You can find volunteer opportunities in the Help Wanted column in *Sit 'n Stay*, on the PCOTC Events bulletin board at the facility or by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator at pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com.

It is your responsibility to report your volunteer hours via a PCOTC Volunteer Reporting Form, kept in stock at the facili-

HELP WANTED

OBEDIENCE RUN-THRUS, June 23 & July 14. Our run-thrus only work if we have the support of volunteers joining us to steward and judge. Anyone can volunteer and we can teach you how to steward! Volunteer hours and one free run-thru are offered to our volunteers. Six volunteers are needed for each match. Contact Karen Wrey at kayray@optonline.net.

RALLY RUN-THRUS, June 23 & July 14. Four to six volunteers are needed to run each rally run-thru date. If you'd like to volunteer and earn some hours, please sign up at the Rally Run-Thru Volunteer Sign Up (there's a link on the entry form). Or email pcotc.runthrus@gmail.com. In addition to credited hours, volunteers may have one free run-thru.

Any questions? Contact the Rally Run-Thru Coordinator, Meg Tucker, at megnmac@gmail.com

AKC RALLY TRIALS, July 27, & AKC OBEDIENCE TRIALS, July 28. Calling all Stewards! Steward for your club and get those volunteer hours in. Enjoy the real thrill of seeing competitors, our



ty. The form is also available for download from the Membership page of our web site, <http://www.pcotc.org/membership>

Volunteer members who log in 30+ hours

PARKING ANNOUNCEMENT

We would like to bring a parking related item to everyone's attention:

Please do your best to avoid parking by the White Plains Auto Clinic. The owner of that business prefers that dogs stay away from his property, so we ask everyone to respect that.

club members among them, come out and exhibit all their wonderful handling skills. No experience necessary, we teach you on the spot. If interested, please contact Chief Steward Morgaana Menzel at MorgaanaMenzel@gmail.com ASAP.

ADOPT-A-DOG, 9/29. PCOTC will participate in Adopt-a-Dog's annual fund-raising event in Greenwich, CT. PCOTC will need volunteers who can

- bring our booth and equipment to and from the event,
- staff our booth and explain our training program to visitors,
- offer "My Dog Can Do That!" or an agility demo to event-goers.

To volunteer, or to find out more, contact Jane Wheeler at jane Wheeler@optimum.net

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES arise from time to time. Contact Marianne Shanley, Volunteer Coordinator at: volunteer@pcotc.org

Volunteer stewards at a trial

in a club/fiscal year are considered "Super Volunteers" who will be honored at the annual club meeting and given a Certificate of Appreciation.

PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

4/16/2019

Present: 8 club members including S. Gagnon, O. Kornienko, and M. Menzel

Recording Secretary – Waived reading of last meeting's minutes

President Report –

- Encouraged members to attend AKC Agility Cup – the AKC provided free tickets to the event to any interested members
- Announced totals for dogwalk fundraiser – the effort raised \$5248 with an additional \$1000 donated from Lisa's Westminster winnings.
- Reminded members of the upcoming FDR agility trial on May 10-12th, the ORT on July 7th (Kathy Gregory chairing), and the Obedience and Rally trials on July 27/28th.

Corresponding Secretary – No announcements

Treasurer – Was not present.

Membership – Currently at 207 members

Registration: 2018 Mar/Apr session had 458 enrollments, 2019 Mar/Apr had 432 enrollments. Agility enrollments are up while Nosework enrollments are down. Nosework decrease is due to a fewer classes since Jessica broke her wrist.

Unfinished Business – Announced Michele Cardone as the new House Manager and Sandra Shivers as the new Volunteer Coordinator. Informed members new website will go up in September and asked members to send any pictures they would like included on it.

New Business – Announced nominating committee picks for the upcoming elections.

- President: Barbara Napoli
- 2nd VP: Margaret Defonce
- Recording Secretary: Donna Fanok
- Director: Dena Domenicali

Interested candidates have until May 15th to submit petition to run in the elections to be held on June 11th.

Two members requested we look into getting curtains for the lower level windows due to afternoon sunshine causing visibility issues in the late afternoon class.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting Date – June 11th – Annual Club Meeting

Board Minutes 3/4/19

Present: S. Gagnon, J. Meldrim, M. Skirchak, A. Woods. On the phone; G. Heck

Treasurer: In contact with the accountant – need an extension. All 1099s are out. Mary will have an end of year report shortly.

Registration: ended with 428 versus 458 last year. Switched back to old website for registration which gave more flexibility in registering. Now that registration has closed, have switched back to new website.

Membership: The following were accepted by unanimous vote as members;

Molly Marion, Andrea Swinson, Susan Tedesco, John Taddei, Susan Baker.

Unfinished Business –

- New floor coming April/May. Will call for volunteers to help install floor.
- Nominating committee has been selected and will have a slate by the end of March.
- Class pricing – will table since Deedie was not present to speak about the research she did.

New Business –

- Discussed complaint from a student about another student.
- Policy and Procedures Manual – needs to be updated. Will revise and send to the board members. Also need to make it easier to find on the website.

- Discussed 90 minute agility classes particularly in sequencing. This give more floor time to the students and allows for more students to sign up for classes.

- Discussed candidates for the AKC Sportsmanship Award.

Adjourn.

Club Meeting – April 14, 2019

Board Meeting - May 2, 2019

Board Minutes 5/2/19

Present: S. Gagnon, G. Heck, M. Skirchak, M. Menzel, O. Kornienko. On the phone; J. Meldrim

Treasurer: Total profit for the year is at \$133,402. Expenses are at \$149,520. Current net revenue is \$-16,075.12. Credit cards fee are \$4328.66.

Registration: Ended May/June 2019 with 357 versus 423 last year. FM registration is still ongoing.

2019 totals vs 2018 totals vs 2017 totals for each discipline. NW is still down due to fewer classes being offered.

AGIL – 146 vs 122 vs 130

FM – 104 vs 171 vs 148

NW – 47 vs 66 vs 62

OBED – 60 vs 64 vs 59

Result from survey looking into what members would like to see on the schedule.

40 responses. Class votes below.

- Agil – 19, FM – 9, NW – 5, Rally – 9, Obed – 6, Rally Freestyle – 1, Something New – 2 (Flyball, disc, new sport, canine fitness)

- Evening rally class suggested as well as evening agility classes. No instructors were provided for the class.

Membership: The following were accepted by unanimous vote as members;

Adrienne Hajdu, Leslie Moscatello, and Pamela Mannes.

Board Minutes

5/2/19

Unfinished Business –

- New floor coming May. Will call for volunteers to help install floor.
- Dogwalk fundraiser funds will be used to purchase: dogwalk, a frame, wicket, tunnel, tunnel bags, and new weave poles. Contact obstacles have a 12-week lead time. Should arrive in late July.
- Plans were made to auction off old contact obstacles once the new ones arrive. A price will be set on the equipment and we will collect names to choose who will get the equipment at the price set on them.

New Business –

- Mice issues – the building is addressing. They have sent their exterminator to investigate. Stephen McKay has set traps (by the dogwalk, in the electric room, by the boiler room door). Traps were also set in back upper level closet.
- Olga discussed looking into arranged a pottery making class for club members. As well as doing a cross promotion with the Clay Art Center to celebrate Year of the Animal. Perhaps we could arrange a discounted rate for members.
- Discussed attempting to host a summer picnic event at K9 Aqua Sports in Miller-ton, NY to introduce people to dock diving.
- Jeanne is handling annual awards for the meeting in June 11th.
- Mary plans to hold a practice ORT on June 14th.
- Nominated Susan Knapp-Cook for AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award
- Selected nominees for AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards:
 - Conformation: Francine Hellman
 - Companion Events: Jonathan Halpern
 - Performance: Kathy Gregory

Adjourn.

Club Meeting – June 11, 2019

Board Meeting - To be selected by new board



Finished with your meetings?

THEN LET'S DIVE IN!

Joy, a one-year-old Sheltie, is poolside celebrating Summer.

– Michelle Trummer