

DOG SPORTS & TRAINING

PCOTC

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



Sit 'n Stay

Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Summer 2018

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Calendar of Events

Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted



New PCOTC member Barb Shubinski's Bullmastiff puppy "Zusa" takes a break from the Conformation ring and enjoys a swim with Morgaana Menzel's Boxer "Rhoswyn."
Photo © Morgaana Photography

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|-------------|--|
| Jun 16 - 17 | Casey Coughlin Jones Seminars |
| Jun 27 | Annual Club Meeting |
| Jul 4 | Session 4 begins |
| Jun 24 | White Plains Weekend (Obedience) |
| Jul 22 | White Plains Weekend (Obedience) |
| Jul 28 | AKC Rally Trials |
| Jul 29 | AKC Obedience Trials |
| Aug 12 | White Plains Weekend (Obedience) |
| Aug 28 | Club Meeting |
| Sep 5 | Session 5 begins |
| Sep 15 | Julie Flanery Seminar |
| Sep 16 | PCOTC at Puttin' on the Dog
Greenwich, CT |
| Oct 26 | Club Meeting & Howl-o-ween Party |
| Oct 27 | Vicki Ronchette Breed Handling Seminars |
| Oct. 29 | Session 6 begins |
| Dec 12 | Club Meeting & Holiday Party |

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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President's Message

Summer is just around the corner and I'm already looking ahead to all the fun to be had outdoors with my dogs. With the warm weather come lots of events as everybody feels freed from the snow and cold of winter. I volunteered recently at two outreach events hosted by our club, the SPCA Walkathon and the PCOTC Open House, both wonderful events with lots of public outreach. I will freely admit that public outreach is not my specialty at all, but it was wonderful to see all the club members volunteering at these events, sharing their love and knowledge of dog training with anybody who expressed an interest. They take a huge amount of work to plan and involve many volunteers on the day of the events and all those hard-working volunteers have my deepest respect. You all make the club a place welcoming to all dog owners. Thank you!

— Sara Gagnon, sara.gagnon13@gmail.com

Oh — did Rhoswyn Fae attend the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex?

Well, no, but she's *so* excited about Summer dog fun that she's wearing a special hat, too!

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Welcome New Members

- Anita A. Ambani, Bolognese
- Diane Anderson
- Kelly Clinchy, Mixed Breed, Border Collie
- Patti Cox, Portuguese Water Dog
- Eckardt Johanning, German Shepherd Dog
- Elaine & Bruce Lashley, Toy Poodle
- Tamara Lazarus, Scottish Terrier
- Caitlin Leuschner, German Shepherd Dog
- Giulina Lonigro, Maltese
- Kay Scott & Barry Rosen, Golden Retriever, Australian Shepherd
- Phyllis Sabine, Standard Poodle
- Barbara Shubinski, Bullmastiff
- Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, Dachshund

Save the Dates: Club Meetings in 2018

- Wednesday, June 27, Annual Club Meeting
- Tuesday, August 28, Club Meeting
- Friday, Oct. 26, Howl-o-ween Party & Club Meeting
- Wednesday, Dec. 12, Holiday Party & Club Meeting

Club Doings

Annual Meeting June 27

Please plan to attend PCOTC's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 27, at 7:00 p.m. The evening will feature the presentation of members' title plaques and tags, including a slide show featuring accomplishments of our dog/handler teams during the club year.

Next will be the announcement and presentation of the AKC's Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship. Training Director Awards will be presented in the fields of Obedience and Rally, Agility, Family Manners, and Canine Nose/Scent Work. Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded to all members who reported 30 or more volunteer hours during the 2017/2018 club year. ?? Capping the awards presentations will be the annual President's Award.

There will be yearly reports by the club's officers and directors, and we will vote in Board members. One-half of the eight Board positions are up for a vote each year. This year's nominating committee—Grace Heck (chair), Barbara Seigel, and Virginia Hagan, with alternates Margaret Mintz and Larry Kelly—has presented the following slate:

- First Vice President: Jeanne Meldrim
- Treasurer: Mary Skirchak
- Corresponding Secretary: Olga Kornienko
- Director: Morgaana Menzel

The Nominating Committee slate is unopposed, as no additional nominations were received by May 15. Since there is no opposition to the nominating committee's slate,

we are jumping the gun a bit and including the new Board lineup under the masthead of this issue of *Sit 'n Stay*.

For info on each person selected this year, see Board biographies on our web site at <http://www.pcotc.org/boardcandidates>

At this—and all Club Meetings—members are provided a forum to discuss current matters, and to make suggestions for the future.

Membership Renewal. When you last renewed your membership, the fee covered the period from June, 2017 through December, 2018, to help us transfer to a calendar year (versus our previous June through May club year.) Therefore, no renewals are due at this time. Memberships will be renewed during December 2018.

New Volunteer Opportunity: Shelter Dog Program

PCOTC and the Humane Society of Westchester have begun a new program to help shelter dogs become more adoptable. Each session, when there are Family Manners Foundation classes that have not filled, PCOTC is offering those spaces to shelter dogs from the New Rochelle shelter. PCOTC volunteers will pick up the dogs at the shelter, take them to the class, then return them to the shelter. To be part of this program, PCOTC volunteers must be volunteers of the shelter as well.

If you are interested in helping these dogs, contact both Jeanne Meldrim, PCOTC, at jeannemeldrim@gmail.com and Dana Rocco at the Humane Society dana@humanesocietyofwestchester.org, for more information, including how to become a Humane Society volunteer.

There is still time to become a volunteer for the July/August session.



Phillip in a training class at PCOTC

PCOTC member Lauren Stein is now assigned a training partner named "Phillip" from the New Rochelle shelter. She says Phillip is a "spitfire," so his experience at PCOTC will be invaluable to his learning. Instructor Jamie McKay notes that "it really benefits the dogs when they get to work with an experienced handler."

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!

Agility

Agility Tip: Getting Warmed Up

by Stefanie Rainer, Agility Training Director, OMD Assistant Coach

Our dogs are athletes, and like any athlete, they need to warm up physically and mentally before beginning a training session or entering the ring for a competition run. The last thing you want to do is start working a dog that has come from sitting in a crate and hasn't had a chance to warm up.

Agility is a physically demanding sport, so to help prevent injury, it is important that you and your K9 athlete find the right warm up routine. For starters, a slow leash walk is a good way to get the body moving. This will give your dogs a chance to stretch their legs and get the blood flowing. I recommend anywhere from 5 to 10 minutes. For a dog that gets overly aroused quickly, keep your walk on the shorter

side to prevent him from burning out too quickly, whereas an older dog could take longer to get its muscles working. Just like in humans, the older the dog, the harder it is to get up and get moving quickly.

After a good walk, do some tricks to get the dog in the right mental state (working mode). Body awareness tricks are good because they get the dog thinking and help stretch his muscles at the same time. Some of my favorite tricks include backing up away from the handler, spin right and left, and a play bow. You can also do some stuff on one jump or at the practice jump ringside at a competition to rehearse a skill, but this is not necessary. Also, make sure you have walked your dog before you begin

jumping. The length of time you spend doing tricks will be dog specific. Play around with what works best for your dog.

Some dogs need more time to not only get moving physically, but some need time to acclimate to their new surroundings and do best when they can have time to de-stress and settle into a new environment. Some dogs may do better only being in the high-energy environment for just a few minutes because they can't settle well in a new space and it only stresses them more. Again, play around to find what routine works best for you and your dog. After that, have fun and enjoy the game! Happy training!

Casey Coughlin Jones Seminars

On June 16-17, Casey Coughlin Jones will return to PCOTC to offer seminars open to all dogs and all disciplines.

On Saturday, Casey will offer *Training to Trialing: Helping Young Dogs Prepare for Success* and *Seasoned Dogs Bridge Behavioral Gaps*. This seminar was originally set for February 25, but was rescheduled due to illness.

Participants will discuss and apply rituals and effective reinforcement strategies to prepare young dogs for the situations they will encounter when entering a trial environment. The seminar will start by touching upon quality training mechanics, toy skills, and relationship assessments and will progress through five additional areas of skills meant to prepare your dog to be successful in a highly charged environment, things that are often completely missed in the standard foundations class. Some topic examples include: calm containment, waiting frustrations, start line rituals, and effective cooling off strategies. This workshop is perfect for all young dogs, and for dogs struggling to perform in new environments. Each topic area will be taught with a

mixture of lecture, discussions, and hands-on applications. Dogs must be at least six months to participate.

Say Yes to the Vet: Cooperative Care Practices is set for Sunday.

Does your dog cower away when you pick up the nail clippers or ear cleaning solution? Are your dogs anxious at the vet or chiropractor? Are they too wiggly to allow for a thorough exam? Cooperative care practices have long been established and used on captive wildlife in zoos and aquariums all over the world. Learn some of these skills and more at *Say Yes to the Vet*. Participants will discuss and apply consensual behavior application so that your dog can volunteer for his routine exam, vaccinations, and general husbandry. The seminar will lay the framework of conversational training, discuss low-stress muzzling and restraining, and start to build positive correlations back into husbandry items that had once been poisoned. Take the fear and force out of your husbandry and veterinarian care.

Casey Jones has been working in the field of dog behavior since 2012, and more

recently, training and competing in Agility with her 2-year-old Border Collie, Onni.

Casey's mission is to enhance the bond between all dog and handler teams by ensuring consistent and clear communication throughout training and performance. Casey works with a variety of clients, from those with behavioral issues, to performance sport competitors.

Her strategies can be applied across a variety of disciplines, including Agility, Obedience, Rally, and Scent Work. Casey is an assistant coach at The Cognitive Canine, a member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers, a OneMind Dog Trainee, and a certified AKC Canine Good Citizen, S.T.A.R. Puppy and AKC Trick Title evaluator.

To register for working or auditing spots, or more information, email Grace Heck at gah210@gmail.com. There is a maximum of eight working spots each day. Fees are \$150 for a working spot, \$75 for an auditing spot, per day.

Obedience

Obedience Tip: Shaping Smarter

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

When Kamal Fernandez presented his seminar in March, he shared his training philosophy on shaping. Kamal explained that many trainers don't increase criteria quickly and incrementally enough when they are shaping. Kamal does not use a clicker to mark any behavior that does not look like the end result he is shaping toward. He does use a verbal marker for these incremental behaviors, but not the clicker. Many, if not most, trainers use a clicker to mark these initial step behaviors. Kamal believes many dogs get stuck at a particular point because of how the trainer is marking the behavior. Accordingly, the trainer is teaching the dog to perform an entirely different behavior than what they set out to shape. Kamal's "primary verbal" marker tells the dog "Yes! that was a great try. It is close to what I am looking for, but not quite there yet. Here's a treat and keep going." Kamal's "ultimate" click means "that is what I want and here is a treat for it".

I tried this method recently with my puppy, Tom. I wanted Tom to move toward a mat and ultimately lie down on the mat. On his first few attempts, Tom placed one to four feet on the mat. I marked this with "Good" and gave a lower value reward. I did this



Kamal Fernandez © Morgaana Photography

two times, and on the third try, Tom decided to go to the mat and lie down. I then gave my "ultimate click" which happens to be "Yip" followed by five high value rewards that I dispensed one after the other. I gave a re-set cookie toss to get him off the mat. He returned to the mat standing with all four feet. I gave my "primary verbal" followed by the low value reward. Tom looked at me and if he could talk he would ask "did you forget the good stuff?" I did another re-set cookie toss and he happily returned, but this time he ran to the mat and immediately laid down. I marked the behavior with my "Yip" and dispensed five high value rewards individually. I repeated the re-set and Tom immediately went into the down.

I have tried this technique while shaping Tom to offer several behaviors. He is only four months old and there are so many behaviors I want to shape. Each time, Kamal's technique has helped Tom to understand "exactly" what I wanted with clarity.

Give it a try! Shaping is a fun skill for trainers and their dogs. Keep your rate of reinforcement high and have fun!

Happy Training!

July AKC Obedience Trials

On Sunday, July 29, PCOTC will offer two concurrent AKC obedience trials at our training facility. Trial hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; all judging will be indoors. Classes offered are Rally Novice A, Rally Novice B, Rally Intermediate, Rally Advanced A, Rally Advanced B, Rally Excellent A, Rally Excellent B, and Rally Masters. Entries close at 5:00 p.m., July 11, or when numerical limits have been reached.

Trial judges are

- Mrs. Susan M King, Trial #1, Open A/B and Preferred Open, Utility A/B;
- Dr. Karen Westerfield Tucker, Trial #1 Nov-

ice A/B and Preferred Novice, Trial #2 Novice A/B and Preferred Novice;

- Mr. Ira Kaplan, DVM, Trial #2, Open A/B and Preferred Open; and

- Dr. Ellen J. Adomelis, Trials #2 Utility A/B.

Trial chair is Karen Wrey, 845-592-1722 or kayray@optonline.net. Event secretary is Lori Carver, seabreez13@hotmail.com, and Chief Steward is Morgaana Menzel at morgaanamenzel@gmail.com.

For exhibitor notices, accommodations, directions, and an official Entry Form, see the [Premium List](#).



Obedience

Rally Tip: How can I wean my dog off treats?

by Ann Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA

It's probably the most common problem among people getting more ambitious about training.

I'm willing to bet that while you thought you were training your puppy or new dog using the best positive methods, your sweet canine was quietly and efficiently training you. He quickly noticed that when you held a delicious cookie over his head he naturally sat, you were thrilled, and he got the cookie. It took him almost no time to realize that the chain that started with the cookie in your hand followed by the word "sit" then his actual sit ended with the cookie in his mouth.

And your dog may be perfectly happy to

transfer this pattern to other behaviors as long as they all start with the cookie in sight and end with the cookie in his mouth. He may also be willing to modify the game so far as to substitute a toy in your hand to begin with and a tug or a toss at the end, but that's probably as far as he will be willing to go.

Your job then is to teach your dog a whole new game with a new set of rules. It is important that you are as clear about the rules from the very beginning as your dog was with your first training games.

First teach your dog to believe a marker (clicker or a verbal marker) always guarantees a reward. Hear the sound, get a reward

(probably always food at first). Next you, the trainer, in a training situation, never hold treats and never give treats except following a marker (and always following a marker even if it was sounded mistakenly or inadvertently). Start this new game by teaching some new behaviors rather than trying to retrain old (incorrectly) established ones. Shaping behavior is a fun and exciting game for both learner and teacher, but there is a lot more to it than I can begin to explain here—such as adding the cue, variable reward schedules, duration, distraction, distance and so much more. But they are all built on the simplest of basic ideas. Mark and reward the behaviors you want your dog to perform for you!

July 28 AKC Rally Trials



ABOVE: Photo from July 2017 AKC Rally Trials at PCOTC

PCOTC will host back-to-back AKC Rally Trials on July 28.

For the first time, our Rally Trials will include the new Intermediate and Masters classes as well as Rally Novice A and B, Rally Advanced A and B and Rally Excellent A and B. Dr. Karen Westerfield Tucker will judge all classes in both trials.

Rosettes for first through fourth place in each class and high combined score in Advanced B and Excellent B will be awarded in each trial, as well as rosettes for new titles.

Volunteers Needed! We need your help to make these trials a success. Please consider volunteering—you will have a good time, as well as a chance to watch handler and dog teams playing the rally game!

To volunteer for:

- Hospitality, contact Patricia Meyer at pmeyer12@verizon.net
- Grounds, contact Meg Tucker at megnmac@gmail.com
- Stewarding, contact Morgaana Menzel at morganamenzel@gmail.com

We are also looking for someone willing to act as Secretary on the day. Please contact Ann Mandelbaum at amandier6@gmail.com to find out more about this job. Of course, volunteer hours are available for all of the above!

Entries close at 5:00 p.m., July 19, or when numerical limits have been reached. For exhibitor notices, accommodations, directions, and an official Entry Form, see the [Premium List](#).

Obedience

Julie Flanery Seminar in September



Wish your training had more bang for your buck? Sometimes feel like your dog will never “get it”? Spending too much time with too little result?

Learn to use tools and strategies that help you communicate more clearly to your dog, add value to your reinforcement, and create a thinking partner that chooses to engage in a way that enhances learning.

Two-day registration only for working spots. Auditors may attend either or both days.

Who should attend? Those who want to learn more about:

- Utilizing errorless learning
- Building value in heelwork and other behaviors
- Assessing reinforcement value
- Structured Shaping
- Reducing Reinforcement
- Effective cueing and cue transfer
- The importance of handler mechanics

Varied disciplines included: Obedience, Rally, and Rally-FrEe

The workshop is geared toward those either currently working in or working toward performance sports, though it would be beneficial to the motivated pet owner, as an auditor.

Maximum 12 working spots.

To register for a working spot, please [click here](#), fill out our questionnaire, and submit it by September 1. To register for an auditing spot, [click here](#).

Both days run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Working teams must attend both days. \$380 total for both days. Auditors, \$90 per day for either day. If you need help with online registration, please contact dog.class.register@gmail.com.

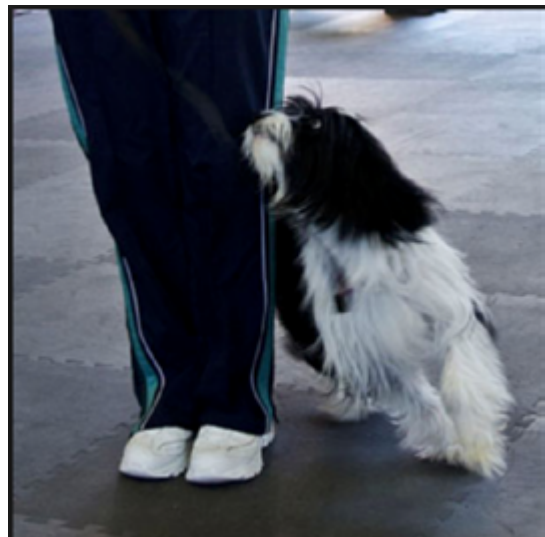
One-hour private lessons with Julie Flanery on Monday, Sept. 17, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Students who have worked with Julie in the past will have priority. Fee, \$150 per hour. Contact Rick Pisani for availability at luv2heel@me.com.

Julie Flanery, CPDT-KA, owner of Wonder Dogs and Creative Canine LLC, has been working professionally with dogs and their owners for over 20 years, focusing on forming strong relationships through clear communication and positive reinforcement strategies.

She has placed Obedience, Freestyle, Rally-Obedience, Rally-FrEe, Agility, Trick Dog and Parkour titles on her dogs and has earned Championships in Freestyle, Heelwork-to-Music and a Grand Championship MCL in Rally-FrEe. She has achieved both High Technical Merit and High Artistic Merit in both Freestyle and Heelwork to Music several times over, including three prestigious Attila Challenge awards. In 2012, she developed the sport of Rally FrEe, enjoyed by dog sport enthusiasts all over the world.

Julie has been an invited workshop and seminar presenter nationally and internationally, and is a highly sought-after instructor at the Fenzi Dog Sports Academy. She currently trains and competes with her Tibetan Terrier.



Obedience

Summer White Plains Weekends

“White Plains Weekends” are Obedience Match Shows at Port Chester Obedience Training Club. We have three WPWs scheduled for this summer:

- Sunday, June 24 – Close Date for Entries, 6/22/2018
- Sunday, July 22 – Close Date for Entries, 7/20/2018
- Sunday, August 12 – Close Date for Entries, 8/10/18

Each WPW runs from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, and is indoors with AC/Heat. These match shows are online, pre-entry only. To enter and choose your preferred time slot, go to

Dogmatchshows.com. Each obedience run is \$10 for Novice, Open, and/or Utility.

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.

Location: Port Chester Obedience Training Club (White Plains, NY) www.pcotc.org

[Click here](#) to ask the PCOTC WPW committee for more information.

Six volunteers are needed for each match. PCOTC members can volunteer and earn some hours, and may also have a free run-thru. Contact Karen Wrey at kayray@optonline.net.



Family Manners

The Keys to Successful Recalls

Is it an attention problem motivation problem?

by Jenn Michaelis, FM Training Director, BA, CPDT-KA, RFE-CI

Springtime is here and most of us respond to the warmer weather by taking our dogs out more often. If we are lucky, we get to take our dogs to places where they can run around off-leash and truly indulge in their ultimate dog-dom. Before summer hits full-swing, spring is a perfect time to spiff up your dog's ability to come when called. But what if he doesn't come? Do you have an attention problem or a motivation problem?

There are two main components of a successful recall: your ability to get your dog's attention and your dog's interest in returning to you. We often focus on one of these components and neglect the other. These are two sides of the same coin, and to truly have the best recall, we need to strengthen both independently.

If your dog doesn't even turn around to look you when they hear "Come!" you have an attention problem. If your dog turns to look at you, but doesn't move toward you, you have a motivation problem.

Attention

Name recognition is the first step to a solid recall. Obedience classes are full of attention exercises, only trained on a 6-foot leash, so many people think they have name recognition when they really don't. By practicing it daily, in varying situations, and always pairing with high-value rewards, you can truly build reliability and value in name recognition in ways that

will benefit a solid recall. This is important because almost all recalls happen when the dog is off-leash and more than 6 feet from you.

Ways to practice attention for recalls:

- Dog is stationary, 10 feet from you.
- Dog is stationary, 20-50 feet from you.
- Dog is stationary, 100 feet from you.
- Dog is stationary, and sniffing.
- Dog is facing away, moving slowly.
- Dog is facing away, moving quickly.
- Dog is running full speed.
- Dog is engaged in play/interaction.

These are often ways that we want to practice our recalls, but it's an important way to practice your dog's name recognition. Calling a dog can often put a dog into conflict, since we are calling them away from something they are interested in. Focusing on rewarding name recognition before calling the dog allows us to build value in turning to look at you for more information. This behavior will ultimately benefit our recalls, and it doesn't put the dog into conflict because you're not asking him to leave an interesting activity. In training terms, this is called splitting criteria. We are separating the goal behavior into small attainable pieces and training those pieces individually.

Motivation

So now that your dog is responding to his name in distracting situations, we need

him to come running at full speed when he hears "Come!" Resolving motivation issues can drastically improve recall issues, so it's important to know why you might have a motivation problem. Oftentimes students wait until their dog is at the dog run to practice their recalls, and this automatically puts the dog into conflict: Should I come to owner or play with friends? Starting with lots of practice in easy environments and high-value rewards will reap the most benefits, since it minimizes conflict. Also make sure to only furnish rewards after your dog has come to you, not showing them the treat or toy first. Think paycheck, not bribe. Plastic treat-baggie sounds and hands that hover near treat-pockets are bribes, and it will hurt your dog's recall reliability if they tune into it before actually coming to you.

Reasons your dog isn't motivated:

- Your rewards are low-value
- Not enough daily practice
- Over-use/desensitization of recall word
- Compliance leads to something dog dislikes (ie: leave dog park, come in house, give up sock)

Summary

Next time your dog doesn't come to you, diagnose the issue by deciding if your dog had trouble with attention or motivation. This will help you focus your next training session and you'll be well on your way to better recalls!

Left: Does your dog come running to you at full tilt?

Right: Can you get your dog's attention easily 50 feet from you?



Best of Breed Handling

The Mechanics of the Hand Stack

by Fran Hellman CPDT-KA

Whether you call it posing, setting up, hand stacking or hard stacking, stacking is the process of correctly presenting a show dog to its best advantage in the show ring. In order to know how your dog should be hand stacked, you will need to know its breed standard. Once you have that knowledge, you will have a mental picture of where to set the dogs legs. For most breeds, the front legs are set directly under the shoulders. If you take a plumb line from the top of the shoulders, also called withers, and drop it straight down to the surface that the dog is standing on, that is where the front legs should be. The rear legs are placed slightly wider apart than the front for better stability and with the rear pasterns being at a 90-degree angle to the surface.

Now for the mechanics: First, the dog has to be standing with his body in a straight line parallel to the handler's left side. The dog's head is facing forward. The handler must keep control of the dog's head throughout the hand stacking. This is done by holding the collar and/or the dog's head. Then set the front legs first. Ideally, you want to walk your dog into the stack so he's in a good position already, then set whichever leg has to be set; however, from

a teaching standpoint, we will go through the steps. The same applies to dogs that are hand stacked on examination tables and ramps. Always set the front legs first. Before lifting the front leg help your dog shift his weight off the leg you are going to lift by moving his head in the opposite direction. To set the front legs, gently grasp the dog's elbow and lift slightly up and into position. Another way is to cup your hand onto the dog's upper arm and position the leg. The opposite hand controls the dog's head. The rear leg is slightly lifted either by the hock joint or the stifle and placed gently down.

Up for debate: People differ in their methods of setting up all four legs. Some will say to set up the front left leg first, then the front right leg, then the left rear leg, and then the right rear leg. The reason for setting the front left leg first is because that is the judge's side; therefore, that is what the judge sees. This makes a lot of sense; however, for more efficiency of movement and time you would set the right front leg first since the left hand is already holding the lead. Then you would switch the collar into the right hand and set the other three legs. The left hand always sets three legs while the right hand only sets the front right leg. If you use the former method, you would

have to switch hands under the collar an extra time.

In reality: When your dog walks into the stand in preparation for being hand stacked, place the front leg that is farthest forward back to meet *the one under the body first, then position the left rear, then right rear.*

Whichever of these methods you choose, the most important thing to remember is to be methodical, deliberate and systematic. In so doing, both you and your dog will develop muscle memory, which will enable the hand stack to become automatic. This will convey good control, confidence and professionalism, which will give you the winning edge!

Resources:

New Secrets of Successful Show Dog Handling by Peter Green & Mario Migliorini

The Art of Handling Show Dogs by Frank Sabella with Shirlee Kalstone

Let's Make You A Winner by Pat Hastings and Erin Ann Rouse

Leading Edge Dog Show Academy – Alison Foley, Professional Handler

Positive Training for Show Dogs by Vicki Ronchette



(1) Fran setting Breezy's front left leg back to line up with her right front leg as Fran controls Breezy's head with her right hand.



(2) Fran placing Breezy's left rear leg by picking up her leg by the stifle as Fran's right hand controls her head.



(3) The finished picture of the hand stack

Breed Handling

Vicki Ronchette Seminars: Back by Popular Demand!

October 27 – 28, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday: *From Shy to Showy*

This one-day workshop is based on Vicki's book *From Shy to Showy: Help for your Shy Show Dog*. Vicki has worked extensively with shy, fearful or insecure dogs and has developed a solid plan to help these dogs learn to better enjoy the show ring. Owners will learn about reading canine body language, how to identify their dogs' triggers and how to use behavior modification to change their dogs' outlook of the show ring. This workshop is appropriate for shy or fearful dogs, but also for dogs who just don't seem to enjoy the show ring.

Sunday: *Polishing Your Performance*

Are you ready to step up your game? This workshop will offer many handling tips and tricks to help you make your dog shine. Vicki will look at each dog as an individual and help attendees put together a plan to get the most out of their dog. You will learn how to showcase your dog's virtues and how to train for reliability and a showy performance. Whether your seasoned champion needs a little something extra for the specials ring, or you are just starting with a young dog, Vicki will help you shape your dog into a competitive show dog and strengthen your relationship as a working team.

Vicki Ronchette is a certified professional dog trainer and behavior consultant. Her successful Northern California-based dog training company specializes in show dog training, ring handling, and behavior modification for show dogs. While Vicki has finished many of her own dogs, and dogs for other people, she considers herself a trainer, not a professional handler, which is why her knowledge and approach is unique.

Vicki is the author of *Positive Training for Show Dogs - Building a Relationship for Success*, *From Shy to Showy: Help for Your Shy Show Dog* and *Ready? Set. SHOW! A Handbook for Dog Shows*. She teaches classes, workshops, seminars and webinars on training and handling show dogs and is the founder of Show Dog Prep School. Many of Vicki's clients have gone on to great accomplishments including championships, grand championships, group placements, best in specialty wins, best in show as well as national breed and all breed rankings.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register. Working juniors, please contact sunjaygrs@aol.com for special rates.



FROM SHY TO SHOWY

Help for your shy show dog



VICKI RONCHETTE, CPDT

AKC Delegate's Report

Second Quarter 2018 — by Kathy Gregory, PCOTC Delegate to AKC

This last meeting of the AKC Delegates included so many interesting things to report that I could barely keep up with my note taking!

Voting for the candidates for the 2019 and 2022 Board of Directors took five ballots to fill the three available seats. This is unheard of in my experience and I attribute this lack of a strong majority opinion to the plain vanilla quality in the nominated pool of candidates. Despite there being term limits, the same names keep coming up for election year after year and I really think Delegates would like to see some new faces and new ideas coming forward to lead the AKC into the next decade. In case it is not obvious, most Board positions, no matter what the organization, are, in fact, appointed by the nominating committee. They present the names to be considered. While there is usually a mechanism for rogue nominations, these are rarely used, so the nominating committees usually pick the people whom they think they can get along with best—who won't rock the boat; hence the appearance of the same names time after time. Just my opinion!

Interesting financial information:

The AKC has distributed over \$40MM in grants, scholarships and awards that support all dogs.

Over \$26MM in contributions have been given to the AKC Health Foundation. Support for this Foundation has resulted in impactful achievements across the veterinary world.

In a direct link to their mission, they have donated to the Theriogenology Foundation with significant contributions over four years. Supporting reproduction is rightfully self-serving. Doing so will ultimately achieve our passion, improving each breed by generation. This research is so important because the results reveal information about where our breeds have come from as well as vital data for breeders moving into the future.

The AKC has contributed nearly \$7MM to disaster relief efforts through AKC Reunite.

Ten years ago, the AKC founded the AKC Humane Fund to sustain responsible ownership in forms that are highly relatable to the public. Since inception, over \$1MM has been distributed in grants to Parent Clubs' rescue and to domestic violence shelters that permit pets.

Recently, the AKC updated their website once again. With the last update, it was felt that it was too slanted towards the pet owner and not enough toward competitive dog show/trial participants and breeders. Feedback from the field was that it was much too difficult to get competition results and to find a dog's individual information. It is hoped that this new iteration will be more user friendly to those who need trial and show results, and more convenient to breeders who need to register litters and do canine administrative work.

The AKC Museum of the Dog was founded as an educational and fine art center. The AKC has contributed over \$3MM to the Museum and is delighted at its return to New York City. At our last meeting, Delegates were treated to a preview of the new Museum of the Dog and onsite AKC facilities that should be open to the public by next year. It is a truly amazing site, occupying the two lower floors of a beautiful commercial building two blocks south of Grand Central Station on Park Avenue. Among its many great features:

- A dedicated entrance, handicapped accessible
- A broadcast studio
- A dedicated lecture area
- Weekly spotlight on one dog breed
- Sculptures displays
- Flexibility of exhibits will be assured as there will be moveable art displays so all the treasures that are now in storage at the main AKC office can be displayed.
- An illuminated ribbon around the outside of the building, displaying silhouettes of various dog breeds galloping. Very eye-catching!

Herding, Earthdog, Coursing

After much deliberation, this Committee

has recommended a Coursing rule change in acknowledgement of the safety of the handlers wanting to participate in this sport. It is recommended that dogs participating in this sport be allowed to be walked to the start line with Halti on, enabling handlers to better control their dogs.

As with almost any other rule change, this recommendation has raised controversy on both sides. Some participants in the sport have applauded this change, seeing it as a safety item allowing handlers with excitable dogs to safely get their dogs to the start.

On the other side of the coin, there are participants who do not want this change, feeling that Haltis can physically damage the dog and should not be allowed.

The Committee is reviewing the language of its recommendation in light of some of the comments and will be sure that it is clear that the use of the Halti is only to control the dog before the run, not to be worn during the run, and any other ambiguous parts of the recommendation that could be interpreted incorrectly. As of this writing, the Committee is still behind their recommendation that the Halti can be used, at the handler's discretion, to walk their dog to the start of the run. The safety of the dog should always be the Handler's first concern and use of the Halti is purely discretionary.

The AKC has formed a "Club Development Department" to act as a free advisory group to help member clubs with challenging situations. Some of the things they have been developing include a "Best Practices Guide," a program to provide proactive assistance to any club experiencing event-related problems, develop materials providing guidance for event committees, help in adding special attractions to an event, help with finding show sites, and help with Code of Sportsmanship issues. All in all, a big assist for clubs!

As always, if you have any issue or question you would like me to bring forth to the AKC, or if I can help you with any question you have about the AKC, please feel free to ask or comment to me directly. My email is: gregdobes@aol.com

Fall Public Event: Puttin' on the Dog

On Sunday, Sept. 16, PCOTC will need booth staff and agility guide volunteers for "Puttin' on the Dog," an annual benefit for Adopt-a-Dog in Greenwich, CT. The event is open to the public from 10 am to 4:30 pm.

Puttin' on the Dog includes demonstrations, competitions, displays, and fun activities for the entire family.

PCOTC will staff a booth for the entire event, talking with eventgoers about our club and its training program. In addition, in the afternoon PCOTC will provide a "My Dog Can Do That!" ring for agility, offering dog /handler teams a taste of agility.

To volunteer, please contact Jane Wheeler at: jane Wheeler@optimum.net

Photography from last year's Puttin' on the Dog © Bill Romania



Spring Events

March 4: Obedience Trials

Text & Photography © Morgaana Photography

Obedience trials demonstrate the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the obedience ring and emphasize the usefulness of the dog as a companion to human-kind. The objective of obedience trials is to recognize dogs that have been trained to behave in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs in a manner that will reflect credit on the sport of obedience at all times and under all conditions.

Dog and handler teams are judged on how closely they match the judge's mental picture of a theoretically perfect performance as they execute a series of specified exercises.

Accuracy and precision is vital, but the natural movement of the handler and the willingness and enjoyment of the dog are essential for a winning performance.

Historical New York Fun Fact: Helen Whitehouse Walker devised the first obedience "test" in Mt. Kisco, New York in 1933 to show the intelligence of her poodles.

The first AKC licensed Obedience Trial was held in 1936. In this first year there were 18 trials with approximately 200 entries. The sport has grown tremendously since then. In 2017, 4075 dogs of various breeds earned AKC Obedience Titles.



Spring Events

March 4: Obedience Trials



Spring Events

March 10: Kamal Fernandez Obedience Seminars

Text & Photography © Morgaana Photography

PCOTC was happy to host seminars on March 10 - 11 with lead trainer and owner of East London Dog Training, Kamal Fernandez, who has over 20 years of experience training dogs from all walks of life. His current dogs include two Belgian Malinois, two Border Collies, a German Spitz and a Boxer.

Kamal is an internationally renowned seminar instructor; his other career highlights include being a Championship Obedience judge and a Crufts competitor.

On Saturday, Kamal focused on Building Motivation and Drive. We all want a willing and active partner excited to

participate in canine performance sports with us. Kamal guided us in building and improving our dog's drive with a variety of reinforcers. Each working team discovered and improved their dog's hidden drive and increased their motivation to work with their handlers.

On Sunday, Kamal focused on Fading Reinforcers and Ring Prep. Preparing your dog for the obedience ring requires careful planning and skill. The dog must be able to perform obedience exercises in the ring without reinforcement available. Kamal helped participants explore and develop a plan for their dog's ring experience.



Spring Events

March 24-25: Maureen Burke Canine Fitness Seminars

Text & Photography © Morgaana Photography

PCOTC was happy to welcome Maureen Burke (Certified Canine Fitness Trainer (CCFT)) on the weekend of March 24-25.

Saturday's filled seminar focused on "Intro to Conditioning" including warm ups, core work, strengthening, and balance work. Teams learned low-impact routines to warm up and cool down their dog at trials, in class, and before other dog sports. Teams worked on and sampled all the FitPAWS equipment to improve dog's core strength, balance, and overall performance.

Sunday Morning focused on "Advanced Conditioning." The workshop addressed

strengthening each of the three main parts of your dogs' body: core, shoulders, and rear. This seminar was for teams who already had taken an online class for fitness with their dog and know their way around some of the equipment, but who wanted to learn more challenging exercises.

Sunday Afternoon was "Building a Better Jumper." This taught teams how to move their body by engaging their front, core, and rear muscles while also moving in several planes of movement. Teams worked together to target specific muscles that are used for collecting, bending, extending, hip rotating, and weight shift.



Spring Events

April 7: Stephanie Rainer Agility Seminars

Text & Photography © Morgaana Photography

What a great learning experience all the participants had at PCOTC on April 7-8! The knowledgeable Stephanie Rainer reviewed the following topics:

On Saturday: Commitment

Getting to where you want on course is not about being a young, fast, and fit handler, but rather, having strong obstacle commitment, and the ability to recognize when your dog is committed.

With this skill, the handler can get anywhere they want on course. In this seminar, the concept of commitment was defined,

explained, and taught. Handlers learned how to train commitment to jumps, and how to recognize what commitment in their dogs looks like. These skills were then applied to a masters level course.

Sunday morning: Building Distance

Great distance skills aren't something you're born with, they happen through dedication and training. In this seminar, the participants focused on understanding how to build distance skills from the ground up. One-jump drills to learn how to teach dogs distance were used and then the skills were applied in short sequences.

Sunday Afternoon: Mental Management Games

Learning to master your mental game is a big component for success in Agility. In this workshop, handlers participated in training games designed to improve their mental game. The handlers learned tricks to increase their focus and to recover quickly when things didn't go as planned. This was challenging for the teams and so much fun!

Thank you Stephanie Rainer—a wonderful weekend of learning was had by all the Teams who participated.



Spring Events

April 30: Ferdie Yau on Eastern Coyotes

by Barbara del Rowe

As part of the PCOTC's new speakers' series, on April 30, Ferdie Yau came to speak on the topical subject of coyotes. Ferdie (CPDT-KA) is professional dog trainer with a background in wildlife biology (MA Conservation Biology). Ferdie uses his skills as a dog trainer, and experience as a biologist with the NYC Parks Department, to work with the Gotham Coyote Project in its efforts to study the Eastern coyote in NYC. His 10-year old terrier mix, Scout, is a trained coyote scat detection dog.

Eastern coyote. The northeastern coyote found in NYC is a descendant of coyotes that left the western U.S. around late 1800s. But, the coyote found in the northeast is a mutt — 60% western coyote, 30% wolf, and 10% dog represented in its genome. At some point, after several coyote generations, we might find that there are enough differences between western coyotes and northeastern coyotes to call them separate species. But for now, the coyote found in the northeast is properly referred to as the Eastern coyote.

Diet. Coyotes are omnivores. Their diet consists of “natural” food items found in parks, forests, and grasslands—small rodents, rabbits, and deer. Interestingly, anthropogenic foods (i.e., food associated with humans such as garbage), are not common in the coyote diet.

Habitat. Coyotes seek out woods and fields, areas with few humans and plenty of natural prey. The majority of coyotes in NYC can be found in the Bronx. This is be-



Two adult coyotes found in Riverdale Park in February 2016.



Top: Ferdie Yau at PCOTC.



Bottom: Ferdie Yau checking a camera trap in Riverside Park with a student from the WERM (Woodland Ecology Research Mentorship) program.

cause the Bronx is contiguous to suburban Westchester County to the north, making it easy for coyotes to travel south into the wooded parkland of the Bronx.

Expansion. Historically, coyotes called the deserts and prairies of the western U.S. home. But, in the last 100 to 150 years, coyotes have expanded their range. In the Northeast, their range expansion was in response to human disturbance—clearing forest for farmland, and eliminating cougars and wolves that would otherwise outcompete or prey upon coyotes. Coyotes responded by filling the vacuum created by other predators, and, in so doing, expanded their range and niche by colonizing farmland, forests, suburbs, and cities.

Co-existing. Coyotes are wary of people. Bold behavior is unusual and often a result of habituation due to intentional or unintentional feeding, the presence of a dog, or the coyote defending a den and young. The likelihood of being injured by a coyote is low (you are more likely to be hit by a subway, killed by a vending machine, or attacked by a dog). Simple steps can go a long way in avoiding interaction and conflict with coyotes and promoting coexistence with this resilient species in cities, suburbs, and all places in between.

For more information and safety tips, check out the resources at Project Coyote, projectcoyote.org

Spring Events

May 5: SPCA Dog Walk & Pet Fair



Scott Shaw, with “gentle giants” Bernese Mountain Dogs Fin and Daisy, providing background for a TV reporter at the event. Scott says he likes to go public events with PCOTC because “I like being around dog people and I like to show how people’s dogs can achieve their potential with proper training. There is nothing better than a well trained dog..”

Below: FDR Park, site of the annual SPCA Dog Walk & Pet Fair.



Each May, the SPCA of Westchester puts on the SPCA Dog Walk and Pet Fair, a benefit for the animals of the SPCA. The SPCA calls this a “fun-filled family event” to which family dogs are invited. The event includes a scenic 2.5 mile path which you take with your canine buddy, shopping in a vendor village, enjoying food and refreshments, a photo booth, puppy kissing booth, and so on.

PCOTC’s part in this event is (1) a booth where we discuss PCOTC’s training program and how it benefits both family and sports dogs, and (2) demos that feature our dogs and handlers enjoying the sport of agility.

The PCOTC team at this year’s SPCA’s Dog Walk included:

Agility Demoers:

Marcy Rauch
Sara Gagnon
Darrell Dwyer
Cc Dwyer
Donna Fanok

Booth Staff:

Scott Shaw
Kelly Shaw
Priscilla Rahner

Load/Unload/Setup

Marcy Rauch
Darrell Dwyer
Cc Dwyer

June Moskovitz
Scott Shaw
Kelly Shaw
Margaret Tucker
Darrell Dwyer
Cc Dwyer

Spring Events

May 10 - 12: Agility Trials

Photography © Barry Rosen www.barryrosen.com

Congratulations to all the PCOTC members and visiting exhibitors who competed in the Annual PCOTC Agility Trials on May 10 through 12. The Trial Committee consisted of Lisa McCarthy,

Trial Chair; Debbie Poe, Barbara Siegel, Tom Nardi, and Deborah Salerno. Here are some photographs of the competitors in action! Photographs © Barry Rosen



Spring Events

May 10 - 12: **Agility Trials**

Photography © Barry Rosen www.barryrosen.com



Spring Events

May 19: PCOTC Open House

Text & Photography © Morgaana Photography

We had a very nice turnout at the PCOTC Open House on Saturday, May 19. Participants got to try all disciplines—Agility, Nose/Scent Work, Obedience, Rally and Family Manners.

New handlers and their dogs were individ-

ually guided by some of PCOTC's certified trainers, with the aid of advanced students. In some areas, such as obedience and nose work, the trainers demonstrated various techniques in their disciplines.

Dedicated PCOTC members answered all

sorts of questions about what classes our club offers, class schedules, cost of classes, what class your dog should start with, when to register, etc. It was a fun-filled afternoon full of activities enjoyed by handlers, dogs and the whole family.



Glad Tales



PJ Earns Grand Champion Title

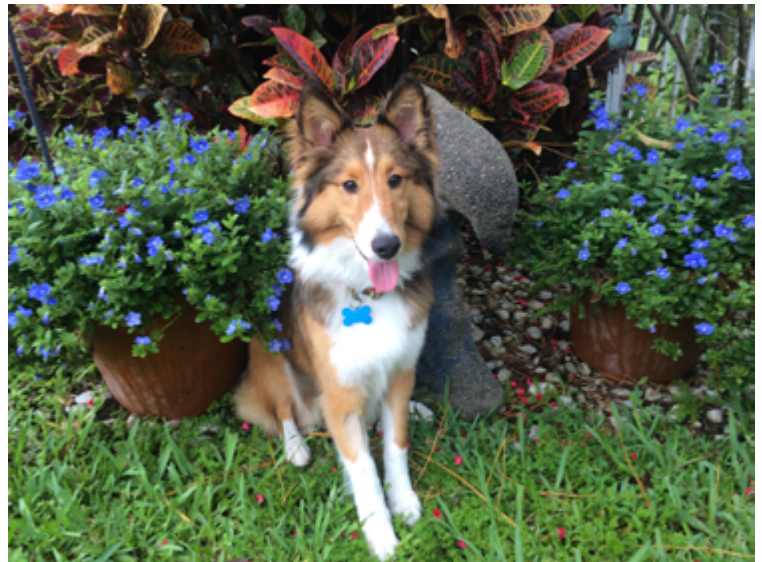
PJ, GCH CH Britannia Live Long and Prosper BN RE HT TKN CGC, earned his grand champion title on April 7 in West Springfield, Mass. PJ has been owner-handled from first point to Grand Champion.

— *Megan & Audrey Woods*

“Joy” Joins Trummer Family

Jump for Joy, “Joy” is a six-month-old Sheltie we adopted from the mid-Florida Sheltie Rescue. Looking forward to classes at PCOTC. She fits right in with Corn, Zoe and Winter.

— *Michelle Trummer*



Alex Earns RN title, Two Legs Toward CD

Our puppy, Alex, is now 22 months old. He just got his Rally Novice title (to be confirmed by the AKC) in three shows with one placement. He also earned his CD as *Sit 'n Stay* was going to “press.” So we have been busy down here, but we are looking forward to coming back up north at the end of May and starting classes again at PCOTC.

Alex is Overlook’s Ode to Alexander’s Wag Tme Band, and of course, he is a Golden Retriever.

— *Lynn & Jonathan Halpern*

Sad Tales

CH Finishline's Dressed To Kilt

CD RAE AXP NJP SE CAX RATS
Daniel Patrick 2/5/2005-5/8/2018

I am heart broken to report that Daniel Patrick has crossed the rainbow bridge. I'd like to honor his memory and share some of the things that made him so special.

Daniel Patrick was a beautiful dog both inside and out. He loved all people and had kisses for everyone (even the vet!). He was so easy going that my other dogs occasionally took advantage of his good nature but I believe they truly enjoyed being in his company. He loved his squeaky toys, rides in the car, treats and snuggling.

He was a natural in front of the camera and had a long and varied career as a model and actor. He enjoyed the attention and readily followed direction; no one was ever disappointed when they hired Daniel Patrick!

He was not a "soft" dog, though; he was a terrier through and through. He was a mighty vermin hunter, quite vocally assertive and, as the breed standard states, "possessed of no small amount of self esteem." A true all-around gentleman and a stellar ambassador for the breed. He was everything a Westie should be.

— *Sadly, Kathy Foley*



CH Tartan Bay Flew To Freedom

RN OA OAJ ROM
"Feisty"
07/18/2004-02/20/2018

Feisty was my once-in-a-lifetime Border Collie. After failed attempts with having a border collie puppy and one breeder ripping me off, I went to Carolyn Biondi in hopes of getting a puppy from her. I had *loved* Carolyn's girl, Devon, from the moment I laid eyes on her when she was five months old. Carolyn had no intentions of breeding Devon ever. But a few years later she let me know she had bred Devon and I immediately jumped at the opportunity. It was a *very* wet and rainy night that my neighbor and I went to pick up this girl. It was love at first sight! Over the years Feisty and I competed in agility and obedience. She gave me her all in every venue we did. She was my demo dog at events and even helped me demo any obedience or agility exercises at the school. Feisty loved *everyone*. At home she would be my guard dog and alarm clock, waking me up at six a.m. ...even up to the day she died. In her later years she did have some health issues but I was able to give her one last hug and kiss at 2 am, not knowing that it would be the last. She peacefully passed away at 6 am. I will always remember this ball of fire.

— *Mary Elizabeth Simpson*



Our Stars

New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 5/21/18

AKC GOOD CITIZEN

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Canine Good Citizen (CGC)

- 4/21/17 Alberto Ferrer, Addison Marie Ferrer, "Addie," Border Collie
8/18/17 Virginia Hagan, Cinder Glo You're the One, "Robbie," Shetland Sheepdog

Community Canine (CGCA)

- 8/25/17 Alberto Ferrer, Addison Marie Ferrer, "Addie," Border Collie
8/25/17 Virginia Hagan, Cinder Glo You're the One, "Robbie," Shetland Sheepdog

Urban Canine Good Citizen (CGCU)

- 5/12/17 Alberto Ferrer, Addison Marie Ferrer, "Addie," Border Collie

OBEDIENCE

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Companion Dog (CD)

- 5/26/18 Lynn and John Halpern, Overlook's Ode to Alexander's Wag Time Band, "Alex," Golden Retriever

RALLY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Rally Novice (RN)

- 4/29/18 Lynn and Jonathan Halpern, Overlook's Ode to Alexander's Wagtime Band, "Alex," Golden Retriever

RALLY FREESTYLE ELEMENTS

Skills Test Novice (R-FE/NS)

- 4/18/18 Jennifer Michaelis, Grizzly Mountain's Terremoto, "Terra," Cane Corso

Musical Freestyle Advanced Master (MF/M)

- 9/17/17 Jennifer Michaelis, Mystic Morning Shadow White, "Ringo," Chinese Crested

Rally Freestyle Champion (MF/CH)

- 4/17/18 Jennifer Michaelis, Mystic Morning Shadow White, "Ringo," Chinese Crested

AGILITY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Agility Course Test 1 (ACT 1)

- 7/22/17 Yukiko Hanes, Tokkyu Hiroto Fly Me to The Moon, "Ton Ton," All American

Novice Agility (NA)

- 4/21/18 Jamie McKay, Brigadoon Hair Force One, "Tease," Shetland Sheepdog

Novice FAST (NF)

- 4/21/18 Jamie McKay, "Tease," Shetland Sheepdog

Open Agility Preferred (OAP)

- 3/5/18 Grace Heck, "Riley," All American

Open Jumpers Preferred (OJP)

- 2/17/18 Grace Heck, "Riley," All American

Excellent Agility Jumpers Preferred (AJP)

- 3/11/18 Grace Heck, "Riley," All American

Excellent Agility Preferred (AXP)

- 5/10/18 Grace Heck, "Riley," All American

Canine Performance Event (CPE)

Agility Level 2 Strategy (CTL2-S)

- 3/25/18 Kathleen Foley, Ch Finishlines Dressed to Kilt, "Daniel Patrick," West Highland Terrier

Champion Wildcard (ChWC)

- 3/17/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Champion Jumpers (ChJU)

- 3/24/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Champion Full House (ChFH)

- 3/11/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Champion Snooker (ChSN)

- 3/11/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Champion Standard (ChST)

- 3/10/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Agility Trial Champion (C-ATCH2)

- 3/25/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Champion Standard (ChST)

- 3/10/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Agility Trial Champion (C-ATCH2)

- 3/25/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

COURSING ABILITY DOG

American Kennel Club (AKC)

- 5/6/17 Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Reinwood Christmas Serenade CA, "Taisha," Pembroke Welsh Corgi

BARN HUNT

Barn Hunt Association (BHA)

Crazy 8s Gold

- 2/25/18 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

Rat Champion 2 (RATCHX2)

- 3/17/18 Jeanne Meldrim, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

Barn Hunt Champion X3 RATCHX3

- 5/27/18 Jeanne Meldrim, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

NOSE/SCENT WORK

National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW)

Nosework 1

- 5/19/18 Caitlin Leuschner, "Otto," German Shepherd Dog

TRICK DOG

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Trick Dog Novice (TKN)

- 6/20/17 Alberto Ferrer, Addison Marie Ferrer, "Addie," Border Collie

- 11/14/17 Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Aujoy Causing Commotion CD PCD BN RN CGC, "Mason," All American

- 12/5/17 Virginia Hagan, Springtly Sweet Nightingale, "Aria," Shetland Sheepdog

- 12/5/17 Virginia Hagan, Heatherland's Catalina, "Birkie," Shetland Sheepdog

- 12/20/17 Virginia Hagan, Cinder Glo You're the One, "Robbie," Shetland Sheepdog

- 12/22/17 Krystina Murawski, Jaxston Gandalf, "Jax," Pomeranian

- 2/1/18 Elizabeth Lynch, Coconut, "Coco," All American

- 2/1/18 Mary Grace Lynch, "Jack," Papillion

Our Stars *cont.*

- 2/1/18 Yukiko Hanes, Tokkyuu Hiroto Fly Me to the Moon, "Ton," All American
- Trick Dog Intermediate (TKI)**
- 6/23/17 Alberto Ferrer, Addison Marie Ferrer, "Addie," Border Collie
- 11/15/17 Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Aujoy Causing Commotion CD PCD BN RN CGC TKN, "Mason," All American
- 2/2/18 Elizabeth Lynch, Coconut, "Coco," All American
- Trick Dog Performer (TKP)**
- 5/16/18 Jamie McKay, Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog
- Trick Dog Advanced (TKA)**
- 12/12/17 Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Aujoy Causing Commotion CD PCD BN RN CGC TKI, "Mason," All American
- 2/3/18 Elizabeth Lynch, Coconut, "Coco," All American
- 5/9/18 Jamie McKay, Bare Cove Hair Force One, "Tease," Shetland Sheepdog

THERAPY DOG

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Therapy Dog Novice (THDN)

- 12/15/17 Katherine Jochen, Shaggeybark I Am Not A Mini Cooper, "Cooper," Old English Sheepdog

VERSATILITY TITLES

Versatility (VER)

- 5/20/18 Denise DeVito, Kalora's A Bewitching Kiss CDX VER NW2, "Sabrina," Doberman

ACHIEVER DOG

American Kennel Club (AKC)

- 12/3/17 Alberto Ferrer, Addison Marie Ferrer, "Addie," Border Collie
- 12/5/17 Virginia Hagan, Sprightly Sweet Nightingale, "Aria," Shetland Sheepdog
- 1/28/18 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch," Border Collie
- 2/9/18 Kathleen Foley, Cesar's Rome N' The Goamin CD RE AXP AJP SE CAA, "Brian," West Highland Terrier

FARM DOG CERTIFIED

American Kennel Club (AKC)

- 11/12/17 Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Aujoy Causing Commotion CD PCD BN RN CGC TKN, "Mason," All American
- 11/12/17 Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Reinwood Hearts Delight CD BN RN CGCU, "Emma," Pembroke Welsh Corgi

THERAPY TITLES

The Good Dog Foundation

- 2/1/18 Elizabeth Lynch, "Daisy," All American

CONFORMATION TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Best in Sweepstakes

- 4/22/18 Megan Woods and Audrey Woods, Britannia Rings Around the Moon, "BG," Bearded Collie

Grand Champion (GCH)

- 4/7/17 Audrey Woods, GCH CH Britannia Live Long and Prosper BN RE HT TKN CGC, "PJ," Bearded Collie

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.

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 teachrover@verizon.net into your computer's address book or list, or messages from PCOTC may end up in your spam filter.

Facebook Page: Go to facebook.com/pcotc or search for "Port Chester Obedience Training Club" to bring up our page.



Our Stars: Reporting Titles

To submit your dog's new titles/awards for publication in the "Our Stars" column in this newsletter, please fill out the Our Stars form found 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 trummerrmt@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 (June 1 to May 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* and 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 facility. 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 in a club year are considered “Super Volunteers” who will be honored at the annual club meeting and given a Certificate of Appreciation.

Change in the Fiscal Year

Note: Due to a Bylaws change, our fiscal year has changed from June 1 through May 31, to Jan. 1 through Dec. 30. Our current fiscal “year” extends from June 1, 2017, through Dec. 30, 2018. For this fiscal “year,” volunteers must complete 18 volunteer hours to receive a volunteer discount in the following fiscal year, and super-volunteers, 45 hours.

HELP WANTED

HOUSE HELP. Are you handy? Can you build things? Are you good at organizing? Do like tidying things? Have you seen something around the club that you think you can improve? Then reach out to our House Manager, Michele Cardone at ma.cardone@verizon.net

FALL PUTTIN' ON THE DOG EVENT, September 16. PCOTC will need booth staff and agility guide volunteers for “Puttin’ on the Dog,” an annual benefit for Adopt-a-Dog in Greenwich, CT, 10 am to 4:30 pm.

PCOTC will staff a booth for the entire event, talking with eventgoers about our club and its training program. In addition, in the afternoon PCOTC will provide a “My Dog Can Do That!” ring for agility, offering dog /handler teams a taste of agility.

To volunteer, please contact Jane Wheeler at: jane.wheeler@optimum.net

WHITE PLAINS WEEKENDS COORDINATOR. Volunteer needed to schedule dates for obedience run-thrus, set up registration at www.dogmatchshows.com, request volunteers for the event as well as maintain a list of volunteers, and print the schedule for run-thrus.

Please contact Karen Wrey for more information at kayray@optonline.net

CLASS ASSISTANTS, July-Aug. Session: Would you like to volunteer as an instructional assistant in a PCOTC training class?

You must be a member of PCOTC, have a strong training background, plenty of experience in the relevant discipline, and be ready to work.

The assistant’s role will be to help set up and take down any equipment or ring gates, be a presence in the ring if the instructor needs to step away briefly, and to provide direct assistance to a working pair while the instructor is engaged with another student.

The assistant will be under the direct supervision of the instructor. Written guidelines will be provided prior to the class. Assistants must commit to attend all meetings of the class they are assisting. In return, the assistant receives volunteer hours and the opportunity to get some hands-on teaching experience.

If you are interested in being considered for this role or have further questions, please email to Class Assistant Coordinator Fran Hellman at sunjaysgrs@aol.com by the last day of class registration for July-August, with the following information:

- Your name and contact information
- The Discipline for which you wish to assist (Family Manners, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Nose Work)
- A particular instructor with whom you wish to work, if any
- Days/times available
- A brief statement of your interest and experience.

The appropriate Training Director and relevant instructor will review applications as we try to pair you with an instructor.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES arise from time to time. Contact Sandra Shivers, Volunteer Coordinator at: pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com



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PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

4/18/18

Roll Call – sign in sheet - 6 members present including board members

Board Members Present: Sara Gagnon and Deedie Domenicali

Reading of Last minutes: a motion was made to waive the reading of the last club meeting since they appeared in an issue of Sit 'N Stay. Motion was seconded and all were in favor.

Report of President: Welcomed Deedie Domenicali to the board and encouraged members to come see the talk by Ferdie Yau and to volunteer at the SPCA Walk-athon

Kathy Gregory provided her AKC Delegate report.

Reports of Committees:

Membership

- Currently 225 members
- Discussed the change in new membership applications – interested new members now need to have their 6 hours to even submit an application and will need to get their application signed by a current member.

Old Business

- Matting – Survey to select our new matting will go out in the next month or so.

New Business

- Marcy Rauch suggested holding an agility training day to teach people how to perform all the volunteer tasks at an agility trial to be followed by an agility run through so people can practice volunteering.

- New PCOTC.ORG branded emails will be launched soon. New email accounts will be made for: president, treasurer, corresponding secretary, registration, volunteer and info.

- Board will be looking into replaced keyed locks with an electronic lock so we can switch to access codes instead of keys.

Next Meeting Date – Wednesday June 28th
– Annual Awards and Elections

Adjournment

PCOTC Board Meeting Minutes

3/20/18

Present: S. Gagnon, J. Meldrim, G. Heck, A. Woods, M. Woods, O. Kornienko, M. Menzel

President –

- The email accounts are set up and ready to be used. The president, first VP and treasurer will have an account along with the registrar people.

Corresponding Secretary –

- Survey Monkey results are in were sent to the board members for review.

Treasurer –

- Kamal was paid using paypal account.

Membership – Sara presented new members Giuliana Lonigro and Patti Cox. A motion was made to accept their application, seconded and all were in favor.

Seminar Finances –

- Anna Eifert still made money and most seminars broke even. One seminar took a loss.
- Sundays have always been set aside for

seminars whereas Saturday must cancel classes. The question was raised as to whether prices should increase for a two day seminar to make up for the lost revenue in classes. One alternative is to run two-day seminars during the dark weeks or keep seminars to one day. Depending on the distance presenters travel we may need to keep 2 days. It was decided that no more than 2 Saturdays during an 8 week class session should be used for seminars.

Shelter Dog Program –

- Dana Rocco is excited about it. Members will bring dogs to Family Manners classes.

The volunteers would go through shelter training initially and Dana will select the dogs most likely to succeed in this program.

New Business –

- A vote was taken and Deedie Domenicali will be the new interim director on board-replacing Katherine O'Donnell.

- A discussion was had regarding keys and key deposit. It was determined that Grace would be looking into lock boxes. There would also be time set up to return deposits back and collect keys.

- New tunnels and bags – a motion was made, seconded and passed to purchase 2 new tunnels and bags.

- Instructor insurance – certificate of insurance MUST be up to date and on file for every instructor.

- Funding CGC certification – board voted no due to Independent Contractor status.

- Class Assistant program - volunteers should be members of the club.

- Kathy Gregory's Mentorship Program – more information is needed.

- Fundraising coordinator and budget for donations – the club gives services not money which would be in violation of not for profit status.

- Change in membership application requirement to join the club. Sara presented. A motion was made to accept the changes, seconded and all were in favor.

- New volunteer reporting form is online. A motion was made to accept, seconded and all were in favor.

- Door issues – the door once again is broken and will be looked into. Someone may

PCOTC Board Meeting Minutes

4/24/18

have removed a pin from the mechanism. Concurrently the ramp will be looked at for repair or replacement. But before any expenditures we need to look into getting a Commercial Real Estate agent to find possible places and compare the cost of moving versus staying. Olga has someone in mind for this.

- Kathy Gregory requested plastic accordion gates for upstairs which continue to disappear. The board said yes.

- Guest speakers at club – one possibility is Ferdie Yau and his work with Coyotes. He will give a talk on April 30.

Meeting was adjourned the next board meeting will take place on April 24. The next club meeting will be a clean up then meeting on April 28.

Present: S. Gagnon, G. Heck, J. Meldrim, M. Woods, A. Woods, O. Kornienko, M. Menzel, D. Domenicali .

President: Deedie joined the board. A blast will go out to the TDs and Instructors letting them know about the new email account.

Treasurer: Deedie and Megan are working together. In contact with the accountant about the taxes for the short year as well as previous year.

Deedie did an analysis of class income and processing fees and presented to the board. This requires more investigation as there are processors who charge less but do less and may not give us all that we require.

Also looking at revenue by discipline.

Agility request: There are currently 8 stu-

dents in agility foundations classes and 6 students in sequencing. A request was made that foundation classes only carry 6 students maximum. The board said yes for now with a but that they can revisit and change this.

Club Open House is scheduled for May 19. Grace is organizing it and 1-4 volunteers in each discipline are needed as well as greeters.

Annual Awards are scheduled for June 27 and a new trophy place is being looked into.

The board is looking for a Commercial Real Estate agent to help locate other possible sites as the lease comes due as well as looking into forming a committee to investigate new spaces.

Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is June 5 th at 7:30 PM

Things dogs do in the summer, in the city...



Garden...



Sunbathe...



Hydrate...

Above is Anita Ambani's "Zuri." Zuri and Anita are new PCOTC members, on adventure around the city!