

Calendar of Events

- Jan 14 **Judy Reilly Agility Seminars**
- Feb 11 **Monique Plinck Agility Seminars**
- Feb 17 - 18 **Sarah Stoodley Disc & Freestyle Seminars**
- Feb 18 **PCOTC Club Meeting**
5:30 - 6:30PM
- Mar 3 **NACSW Odor Recognition Test (ORT)**
- Mar 10 **Obedience Run-thru (WP Weekend)**
- Mar 17 **Judy Reilly Agility Seminars**
- Mar 22 - 24 **Kamal Fernandez Seminars**



LuLu Del Rowe hunting for gophers in the last weeks of Fall

President's Message

Hi Folks,

Happy New Year! As I write, Belle is lying by my side. I look down at her and think about what we can accomplish in this new year. Yes, it's time to think about our goals for 2024.

Belle was two years old last August. She has evolved with all of her obedience training into a splendid pet. I am becoming successful in reining in her phrenetic outbursts of energy, commonly called the "zoomies," and, we will continue to practice in classes with Cindy and Rick for competition obedience so that we can earn her titles in the near future.

Belle has just completed Introduction to Nose Work 2 with Jessica Dinowitz. Along with her classmates, Belle progressed through the introductory courses thoroughly engaged in the work. In fact, all of us enjoyed it so much that we have registered for Introduction to Odor with Jessica.

(continued on page 2)

Port Chester Obedience Training Club

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB

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Sit 'n Stay

Is a quarterly publication of PCOTC. Articles of interest to the membership are welcomed and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit all material in the interest of space constraints and appropriateness. Sit 'n Stay is produced for online delivery.

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

A few weeks ago, I stopped in to visit the PCOTC Agility League. All of a sudden, my agility juices started to flow. While I walked a course and set a few bars, I remembered the greatest thrills that I ever had in dog sports. Could I at age 78 make a comeback with an energetic standard poodle? Marcy, Sharon, Stephen, and other PCOTC members have encouraged me to do so. Consequently, Belle and I are registered in Kate Cameron's Agility Foundation Essentials.

The more I do with Belle in this great club, the stronger our bond becomes. I'll be looking forward to the PCOTC Disc Dog Seminar coming up soon. Please let me encourage all of our members to keep volunteering and earning discounts on your classes so that you can try at least one new sport in 2024.

On behalf of Barb S., Morgaana, Sharon, Deedie, Bruce, Jeanne and Barb DR; I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year in which to have fun with your loving dogs.

Ken Berenson, PCOTC Board President



Ken and Belle

Club Doings

Club Meeting of October 22, 2023

Honoring Karen Reilly, CPDT-KSA, CNWI

At the Club Meeting of October 22nd, the Board was pleased to honor Karen Reilly, CPDT-KSA, CNWI upon her retirement from teaching at PCOTC. Ken Berenson, PCOTC Board President presented Karen with a commemorative trophy in acknowledgment of her service to the club.

Karen has been an instructor at PCOTC since 2003. Originally, Karen taught in the Basic Manners Program and then helped to develop the Family Manners program for which served as the program's training director. Karen also served as training director for Nose Work and has been a popular Nose Work instructor since 2010.

As a longtime volunteer club member, Karen has devoted her time to various club activities including chairing multiple NACSW Odor Recognition Tests and coordinating club seminars.

In addition to her work at PCOTC, since 2001 Karen has been a volunteer dog trainer for the SPCA of Westchester and is the founder of the SPCA's Lead The Way program which teaches the public to walk, socialize and teach basic behaviors to shelter dogs to increase their adopt-ability.

Karen has shared her passion for and expertise in nose work with volunteers at the SPCA in order to promote nose work as an activity for shelter dogs that relieves the stress of confinement, and provides mental enrichment and the opportunity for the dog to use its innate scenting abilities.

Karen's expertise, involvement, and support over the years has helped to make PCOTC a premier dog training facility. Although we're saddened that Karen will no longer be teaching, we are pleased to know that she will be on hand to offer support and advice.

THANK YOU, KAREN!



Photos L to R: Karen and Yukon doing what they love best (nose work!) at a mock trial where they came in 3rd place out of a field of 50 dogs; Karen with her celebratory cake; Karen receiving her award from club president, Ken Berenson.

Agility

PCOTC's November 11-12 Agility Trials

A Note of Thanks

by Jamie McKay, CPDT-KSA

Port Chester Obedience Club's trial committee would like to thank everyone who attended the club's AKC agility trial on November 11th and 12th, 2023 at Dream Dogs in Saugerties, NY. We had a weekend of beautiful autumn weather for the 284 entries on Saturday and 295 on Sunday. Special thanks to our wonderful hardworking judge Samantha Hoffman. Her courses were challenging, fun, and nested to allow for easy transitions resulting in fast course changes!

We can't forget to mention Rob Thompson Ph.D. of Fast Times agility for his support and hard work. He made sure that results were provided and posted in a timely fashion.

Special appreciation is in order to our dedicated hardworking trial committee Barbara Siegel, Alisa Greenwald, Susan Knapp Cooke and Deedie Domenicali. They were present the entire trial and worked multiple classes both days. Not to mention their pretrial and post trial work! Due to the well nested courses and hard work of our chief course builder Stephen McKay and volunteers, we finished on or before schedule both days!

Thank you to our club members who volunteered, especially Mitch and Joanna Bernstein, Tamara Lazarus, Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Ellen Halperin, Sarah Johnson and Renee Ehle. Some of these volunteers worked multiple classes in between running multiple dogs! Special appreciation to Bob Siegel for transporting

ribbons and supplies to and from PCOTC. We are appreciative of the volunteer efforts from the many nonmembers as well. A trial cannot be successful without volunteers. Apologies to anyone I left out.

“Mahalo” to everyone who donated to support the Maui Humane Society still recovering months after the devastating fires on Lahaina. The raffled charm donated by Jamie McKay was won by Barbara Baltz.

Thank you Barbara Siegel, Sarah Johnson, Ellen Emert, the McKays, Cheryl Thomson and our vendor Nancy Sconza for their contributions to our worker raffles and the Novice A welcome swag bags. We had five Novice A (AP) teams entered.

Grateful as always to the experienced competitors who stepped up to support the Novice A exhibitors.

Cheers to PCOTC's very own Novice A competitors, Elpida Frantzeskarou with her Border Collie, Jules and Susan Bresler with her Bearded Collie, Callie on their awesome runs. Special congratulations to Vanessa Manzi Cantwell and her miniature pinscher, Indie for earning their MACH 4 and Nicola J. Gosselin and her Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Ziggy for earning their MACH1.

Kudos to everyone who stepped up to the start line with their cherished teammates. Last but not least, thanks to our dogs for the tail wags, kisses and for playing this game with us.

Agility

PCOTC's November 11-12 Agility Trials



Photos L to R, T to B: Eloise & Sassy Lazarus posing after qualifying runs; Alisa Greenwald and Zoe pre-run cuddle; Jerrilyn Walter and Bravo pre-run cuddle; Callie Bresler resting after her 1st place qualifying run; Ivan Siegel post-run pose; Sue Knapp Cook and Twist go to get a cookie after another great run; Elpida Frantzeskarou and Jules pose with their first qualifying ribbons; Stephen MckY and Tease discuss whether or not a startline stay is optional. Photos courtesy of Jamie McKay.

Obedience

Obedience Trials November 5, 2023

by Bruce Sheffler

On November 5, 2023 PCOTC held two obedience trials in our White Plains facility. Both trials had good participation with 35 dogs and 43 entries in each. Our judges, Esther Zimmerman and Bill Craig had judged for PCOTC before and both did a wonderful job again. A special thanks to Bill for pitching in at the very last minute to take the assignment of our contracted judge who had to cancel due to illness.

Rick Pisani did well once again with Tommy, his youngest border collie. They finished third and fourth in two very competitive Utility B classes. Only three points out of a possible 200 separated first from fourth. Petra Ford finished first in both trials. Similarly, Rick won third in both Open B classes, with Petra finishing first in both. The competitors in the B classes are so good and the competition was so great that only 2 points out of 200 separated first place from fourth in one trial.

The competition in the B classes is primarily driven by the pursuit of the elusive Obedience Trial Championship, or OTCH. To be awarded an OTCH, a team has to win

first place in an Open B and a Utility B class and also another first in either. They also have to achieve 100 points, which are determined by placement and number of other teams competing. Points are hard to come by. For example, one of the Open B classes had ten dogs competing but first place awarded only 4 points, with second through fourth getting just 1 point.

Getting an OTCH is truly a great accomplishment. We have been waiting to award an OTCH at one of our trials since at least 2017, without any qualifiers. Nevertheless, we have current members who have achieved OTCHS including Bob Amen, Mindy Costanza, Rena Dershowitz, Rick Pisani, and Rick Ritacco. Congratulations to all of them.

Thanks to all who helped with the trials including Chief Steward, Cindy Rubin, trial committee members, Mindy Costanza, Denise DeVito, Ken Berenson, Hospitality Joanne Sheffler and all the many PCOTC member volunteers who helped to steward, set up and clean up.

Nose Work / Scent Work

AKC Scent Work Trial - October 8, 2023

by Kathy Gregory, CNWI

What a surprise! When we arrived at the club Saturday evening to begin setting up for the next day's trial, we found the parking lot behind the club flooded, from the far corner to the lower end of the wrought iron ramp handrail, in about 4 inches of water. Fortunately, by

Sunday morning, the water had largely receded, allowing us to have our exterior search area where we had originally planned. To our great relief, the interior of the club was dry!

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This one-day trial accommodated 123 runs for 26 handlers and 31 dogs. A total of 75 dogs received qualifying scores that day: 16 in Container, 19 in Interior, 24 in Exterior, 11 in Buried and 5 in Handler Discrimination. This is PCOTC's fourth Scent Work trial and, once we got started, the flow of traffic in and out of the lower level area went very smoothly.

I would like to thank all our volunteers who worked so hard to see that everything went smoothly and that

competitors were warmly and happily assisted in anything they needed, particularly Linda Kaplan, Chairwoman; Taylor Lewis, Volunteer Coordinator; Nancy Oestreicher, Judge's Steward; and Kathy Jochen and Michelle Jones, Co-Secretaries. Everyone pitched in to help with whatever needed to be done and many came both Saturday evening and all-day Sunday.

Our next Scent Work Trial will be in April, and we hope to see you all then!



AKC Scent Work Exterior, Interior, and Container searches. *Photos courtesy of Taylor Lewis.*

Nose Work / Scent Work

EXPLAINER: **NACSW Trials**

by Barb Del Rowe, CTC, CPDT-KA, CSAT, CNWI

To compete in NACSW (National Association of Canine Scent Work) trials the handler and each dog must be registered with the NACSW.

Odor Recognition Test (ORT) Dogs must pre qualify to enter their first trial by demonstrating that they can successfully identify all three odors - anise, birch, and clove. The ORT is earned by successfully passing all three odor recognition tests. There is one target odor per test. The test is conducted on leash and consists of 12 closed cardboard boxes in a line pattern with a time limit of 3 minutes per search. The dog needs to identify the box with the odor. After passing the ORT, teams are eligible to compete at an NACSW trial at the Nose Work 1 (NW1) level.

NACSW Trials

For all NACSW trial levels, size of search area and time limit for each search is up to the trial's Certifying Official and will vary. Search area size and time limit is determined by size, weather, complexity, distractors and title level. Each search area may contain the target odors, birch, and/or anise, and/or clove or a combination odor of any of the three odors or multiples of the same odor. Teams move up in level of difficulty as they earn titles. Factors such as the size of the search area, the number of hides, whether the number of hides is known or unknown to the handler, and the maximum height of the hides will change with the difficulty level.

Basic Trial Levels At the [NW1](#) level, teams must demonstrate that the dog can locate the exact source of the odor; that the handler can identify the dog's communication that he/she has found the source; that the dog can maintain focus in order to search all four elements in one day, and that the dog is able to locate target odor regardless of any unintentional distractions in the environment.

At the [NW2](#) level, teams must demonstrate that the dog can find multiple hides in one environment, that the team can work through more challenging and less accessible hides; that the dog can overcome intentional food and toy distractions and alert only to the target odor; and that the dog can work in a larger search area for a longer time.

At the [NW3](#) level, teams must demonstrate that the dog can find an unknown number of hides in a search environment; that the handler can recognize the search behavior in a dog when no odor is present (if there is a blank area); that the team can work through even more challenging, less accessible hides with varying heights and containment; that the dog can overcome food and toy distractions in any environment and alert only to odor; and that the dog can manage working for a longer period of time in even larger search areas.

Elite Division and Summit League Trials NACSW holds advanced titling competitions at Elite Division and Summit League trials. Elite titles ([ELT](#)) are earned by accumulating points at Elite Division trials, while the ultimate Summit League Title ([SMT](#)) is earned in competition with other teams by placing in the top 20% overall.

Elite Division Trials are not broken out by element. Trials may contain any combination of interior, exterior, vehicle, and/or container searches. For example, a trial may have an exterior search area that also includes vehicles, or it might consist of all interior searches.

Summit League trials are two-day trials. The number of searches is typically 3-5 per day for a total of 6-10 searches over the complete two-day trial. Summit

League trials may contain any combination of interior, exterior, vehicle, and/or container searches.

Elite Select (ELT-S) These trials and titles are separate from the Elite Division titling and trial options. Elite Select Trial skills will correspond to Elite Division Trials as far as training skills required to be successful. However, titles are earned separately.

Element Specialty Trials are shorter trials focusing on specific search elements. Titles may also be earned for each of the four elements. The team must qualify in all

the searches at the same trial or earn a qualifying score with no more than 3 faults at two separate trials for the same level/element.

Skills Achievement Challenge The NACSW offers a virtual titling option through the Skills Achievement Challenge. Each Skills Achievement title is achieved by earning the designated minimum number of points for a given Skills Achievement Challenge and by completing all skills at a minimum of Level 1.

For video examples of NACSW searches visit <https://nacsww.net/video-examples-nacsww-trial-searches-at-the-nacsww-website> <https://nacsww.net/>

NACSW Trial Levels Comparison

| | Score | Time | Searches / Hides | Alert / Finish | Hgt. | Blank | Accessible / Inaccessible | Container | Exterior | Interior | Vehicle |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-------|-------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| NW3/L 1 | 100 | about 3 mins /search, may vary | 4 searches / 1 per element L1: 4 search areas | Alert | 4 ft. | None | Accessible | On leash No distractions Boxes- cardboard, plastic shoe boxes | On leash Building, grassy area, parking lot, courtyard Any weather | On or off leash One search area (kitchen, bathroom, conference room, office, warehouse, cafeteria, etc.) | On leash Up to 3 vehicles |
| NW2/L 2 | 100 | about 3 mins /search, may vary | 5 searches / 1-3 in ea. search area / known number (15 possible) L2: 4 search areas | Alert > Finish | 4 ft. | None | Inaccessible possible | On leash Multiple distractors Boxes - cardboard triangle or rectangle mailing tubes; plastic: tool boxes, shoe boxes, plastic storage containers, buckets, jugs, gallon paint can; metal metal gallon paint can, lunch box, cookie tin | On leash Building, grassy area, parking lot, courtyard Any weather | On or off leash One search area (kitchen, bathroom, conference room, office, warehouse, cafeteria, etc.) | On leash Up to 4 vehicles There may be more than one hide on any vehicle |
| NW3/L 3 | 100 OR 2 qualifying scores | varies | 6 searches / 1-3 in ea. search area / unknown number (18 possible) L3: 4 search areas | Alert > Finish | 6 ft. | One or none | Inaccessible possible | On leash Multiple distractors Boxes - cardboard triangle or rectangle mailing tubes; plastic: tool boxes, shoe boxes, plastic storage containers, buckets, jugs, gallon paint can; metal metal gallon paint can, lunch box, cookie tin | On leash Building, grassy area, parking lot, courtyard Any weather | On or off leash One search area (kitchen, bathroom, conference room, office, warehouse, cafeteria, etc.) | On leash Up to 5 vehicles There may be more than one hide on any vehicle |
| Elite and Summit | In Elite and Summit trials, search areas are not broken out by element. Trials may contain any combination of interior, exterior, vehicle and/or container searches, e.g., a trial may have an exterior search area that also includes vehicles. There is an unlimited number of hides in each search area and the number of hides may be known, unknown, or competitors may be given a range. There is no height restriction. Some search areas may be blank. | | | | | | | | | | |

Source: NACSW Rule Book, 12.1, December 27, 2023

Fall Event

Cooperative Care Seminar

On November 19, the club was fortunate to have Bridget Stewart Beardsley and Alena Heyer, both trainers at Penn Vet Working Dog Center present a seminar on Cooperative Care. Alena's Malinois, XoXo served as the demo dog. The seminar focused on teaching attendees how to create a more relaxed and cooperative experience while caring for their dog's physical needs using positive reward-based techniques.

The presentation included an acknowledgment of the late Dr. Sophia Yin who first brought her techniques for reducing stress in dogs during husbandry and veterinary procedures to the attention of dog trainers and dog

owners. Included in the presentation were the types of body signals to watch for that indicate that the dog is feeling stressed while being handled. Alena and XoXo demonstrated various techniques and attendees then practiced with their own dogs. The techniques covered were types of body restraint, lateral recumbency, chin rest, paw handling, introducing clippers and nailboard, handling for medicating eyes and ears, and practice with grooming equipment.

Bridget and Alena were generous with their time afterwards and each attendee received a handout with reminders of the steps for each technique. The seminar was well received!



Photos L to R, T to B: Alena and XoXo forward luring for chin rest; paw handling; conditioning nail clippers; nail board; lateral recumbency; Bridget and Alena with XoXo chin rest for body exam; full body restraint.

Of Interest . . .

CANINE SCIENCE: **Homing in Hunting Dogs:**

Do dogs sense magnetic fields?

by Kathleen Engelmann, PhD

A synopsis of [Kateřina Benediktová, Jana Adámková, et al., \(2020\) Magnetic alignment enhances homing efficiency of hunting dogs eLife 9:e55080](#)

Hunting dogs, scent hounds in particular, have been selected over generations to pursue game and return to their owners, often over distances of hundreds or thousands of meters through dense vegetation.

Benediktová and her colleagues at the Czech University of Life Sciences wanted to better understand how this happens.

When returning to their owners, dogs can find their way by ‘tracking’, that is, following their own scent trail, or they can perform true navigation. True navigation, referred to as ‘scouting’ in this paper, requires the dog to have a mental map of an area, often over long distances, without relying on route-based landmarks. Scouting allows the dogs to return quickly by taking shortcuts but runs a higher risk of the dog ending up in the wrong place if they fail to navigate correctly.

To determine whether dogs were relying on tracking or scouting, they equipped 27 hunting dogs with GPS collars and action cams, let them freely roam in forested areas, and analyzed components of homing in over 600 trials. The trials took place at 62 locations in forested hunting grounds in the Czech Republic from 2014 through 2017. They noted that the dense forest vegetation at these sites would make it difficult, if not impossible, for the dogs to find their owners by site. In 399 cases (59.4 %), dogs homed by following their outbound track (tracking strategy), and in 223 cases

(33.2 %), dogs homed using novel route (scouting strategy). In 50 cases (8.0 %), dogs combined both strategies during a single return. As predicted, scouting dogs were faster than tracking ones, and they were able to show this was due to a shorter return path and not the shoulder height of the dogs. They found that neither sex nor breed affected tracking versus scouting.

They were also able to show that scouting dogs will perform something they called a ‘compass run’ before returning to their owners at the starting point of the excursion. The scouting dogs consistently aligned the start of their return along the north-south magnetic axis. In tracking dogs, the returns started in random directions. This ‘compass run’ along the north-south magnetic axis did not depend on the location of the start point relative to where the dogs were when they decided to return, nor did it depend on the relative direction of the owner. They also tested for possible effects of wind direction, position of the sun, or prior experience at the site on the direction of the compass run, but none of these proved to be well correlated.

Based on these results and other studies showing that dogs are sensitive to magnetic cues, they concluded that dogs, like many species of birds, insects, and other mammals, are capable of using the Earth’s magnetic fields for navigation.



Of Interest . . .

CANINE SCIENCE: **The Origins of Large Dog Breeds**

by Kathleen Engelmann, PhD

A synopsis of [Martin H. Welker, et al., A wolf in sheep's clothing: The development of livestock guarding dogs in the Adriatic region of Croatia, Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports, Volume 42, 2022,103380, ISSN 2352-409X](#)

Most modern dog breeds were first recognized in the Victorian Era, but the selective breeding of dogs for specific roles is known to have begun much earlier. Dr. Martin Welker and his team, assembled from five different institutions across the US and Croatia, set out to understand if Bronze-Iron Age dogs were bred for large size to aid in protecting livestock.

They studied Canid bone fragments and teeth from four Neolithic sites, more than 22,000 years old, on the Dalmatian coastal plain and five Bronze-Iron Age sites, ranging from 2,000-4,500 years old, in Lika, Croatia. They found that neolithic dogs were anywhere from 10 to 50 pounds, with an average weight of about 30 pounds. However, Bronze-Iron Age dogs were notably larger, ranging from about 22-60 pounds with an average of 40 pounds. Other sites in Europe produced similar patterns.

They were also able to analyze the abundances of naturally occurring radioisotopes of carbon and nitrogen found in these artifacts to make inferences about the diets of these dogs. The Neolithic dogs had variable diets compared to modern foxes, suggesting domesticated dogs were given access to a wider variety of food sources than their wild counterparts. These diets were higher in carbon suggesting more plant-based nutrients and that they were consuming undesirable byproducts of human food, similar to domesticated pigs. By the Bronze-Iron Age, however, dogs' diets were nearly identical to humans, suggesting they were being fed largely from table scraps.

In some of the Neolithic samples, they noted occasional evidence of butchery or burning, suggesting that there may have been low level consumption of dogs as a food source. However, in the Bronze-Iron ages sample, they found no such evidence, implying a strengthening of the bond between humans and dogs.

Taken together, these data suggest that there was a major change in the role of dogs in human settlements during this time period. In Croatia at this time, humans developed what is known as transhumant pastoralism, the practice of moving large flocks to different pasture sites as the seasons changed.

They argue that the large size of livestock guarding breeds resulted from the selective pressures of transhumant pastoralism, as opposed to surviving conflict with wild predators. This suggests that dogs may have been involved in guarding livestock during the Neolithic period, long before they began to get larger, a trend that continues through the Roman period when dogs, seen in artwork of the time guarding livestock, become as large as 66-121 pounds. The authors note that training dogs to guard flocks or herds, and not to stalk and kill livestock, can be readily accomplished by exposing dogs to livestock within the first few weeks of their lives.

Between increasing dog size and changes in dog diet and treatment in Croatia from the Neolithic to the Iron Age, they conclude that dog size here and in other parts of Europe across this period may reflect selection for large dogs capable of guarding livestock kept further from human settlements.



Of Interest . . .

Dog Anatomy Quiz

by Ken Berenson

Fill in the blanks with the correct corresponding number from the diagram. (Answers and Definitions on pages 14-15.)

___ BACK / TOPLINE

___ BRISKET

___ CHEEK

___ CREST OF NECK

___ CROUP OR RUMP

___ DEWLAP

___ ELBOW

___ FLANK

___ FLEWS

___ FOREARM

___ FORECHEST

___ HOCK JOINT

___ LEG (LOWER THIGH)

___ LIPS

___ LOINS

___ LOWER JAW

___ MUZZLE

___ NAIL

___ NECK

___ NOSE

___ OCCIPUT

___ PAD

___ PASTERN

___ PAW

___ POINT OF RUMP

___ POINT OF SHOULDER

___ RIBS

___ SHOULDER

___ SKULL

___ STIFLE

___ STOP

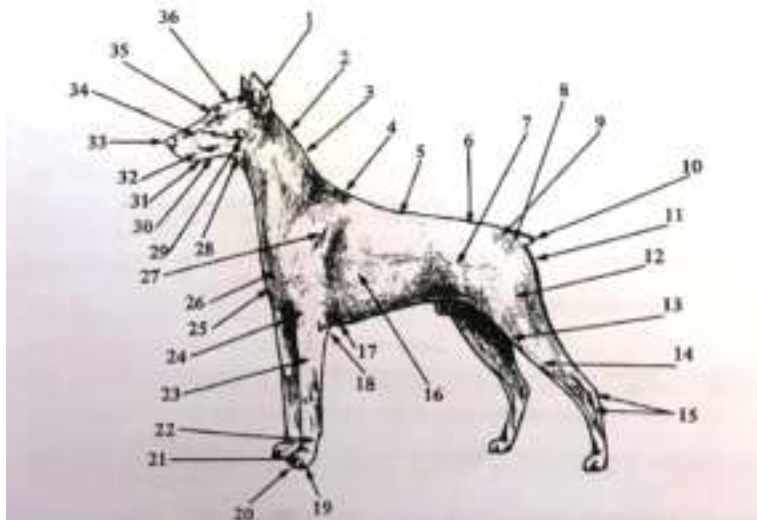
___ TAIL

___ TAIL SET

___ THIGH (UPPER THIGH)

___ UPPER ARM

___ WITHERS



Of Interest . . .

Dog Anatomy Quiz - Answers

by Ken Berenson

5 BACK / TOPLINE

17 BRISKET

29 CHEEK

2 CREST OF NECK

9 CROUP OR RUMP

28 DEWLAP

18 ELBOW

7 FLANK

30 FLEWS

23 FOREARM

25 FORECHEST

15 HOCK JOINT

14 LEG (LOWER THIGH)

32 LIPS

6 LOINS

31 LOWER JAW

34 MUZZLE

20 NAIL

3 NECK

33 NOSE

1 OCCIPUT

19 PAD

22 PASTERNS

21 PAW

11 POINT OF RUMP

26 POINT OF SHOULDER

16 RIBS

27 SHOULDER

36 SKULL

13 STIFLE

35 STOP

10 TAIL

8 TAIL SET

12 THIGH (UPPER THIGH)

24 UPPER ARM

4 WITHERS

Dog Anatomy Definitions

BACK (5) the portion of the dog's body that lies between the withers and the tail set along the dorsal vertebrae

BRISKET (17) the forepart of the body closest to the ribs and between the forelegs

CHEEK (29) the portion on each side of the head that lies below the eyes, above and in back of the mouth

CREST OF NECK (2) the upper arched portion of the neck

CROUP/RUMP (9) the portion of the back that is in front of the tail set, above the hind legs and the pelvis; the rear part of the back and extends from the crests of the ilis (sacrum) to the tail

DEWLAP (28) the loose skin in the area of the throat and under the chin

ELBOW (18) the joint that connects the forearm and the upper arm

FLANK (7) the portion on each side of the body that is between the last rib and the hip

FLEWS (30) the upper lips; they are pendulous (depending upon the breed) particularly at the inner corners

FOREARM (23) consists of the bones (radius and ulna) of each foreleg that lie between and articulate with the elbow and the pastern

FORECHEST (25) the most forward part of the chest (which is the part of the body or trunk that is between the shoulder blades and enclosed by the rib cage)

HOCK JOINT (15) is the collection of bones of the hind leg forming the joint that connects the lower thigh (second thigh) with the metatarsus. it is also called the *tarsus* and is the dog's true heel

LEG (14) the portion of each hindquarter that extends from the stifle to the hock; corresponds to the human shin and calf

LIPS (32) the fleshy folds that surround the mouth

LOINS (6) the portion of the body on either side of the spinal column that is between the hindquarters and the last pair of ribs

LOWER JAW (31) contains 22 strongly developed and correctly placed white teeth; the lower incisors are upright and touching the inside of the upper incisors in a true scissors bite

MUZZLE (34) the portion of the head that is in front of the eyes; it includes the nasal bone, nostrils, foreface and jaws

NAIL (20) a horny extension of the dog's toe

NECK (3) the area that lies between the head and the withers; contains the first seven vertebrae of the spine

NOSE (33) the dog's organ of smell; it enables the animal to detect by means of scent

OCCIPUT (1) the upper back point of the skull

PAD (19) the sole of the foot and its projections function as shock absorbers

PASTERN (22) the portion of the foreleg that lies between the carpus (wrist) and the digits (toes)

PAW (21) the foot

POINT OF SHOULDER (26) the shoulder joint; the point at which the humerus articulates with the scapula

POINT OF RUMP (11) the rear projection of the upper thigh

RIBS (16) the bones that enclose the chest cavity and protect the organs that lie within it; these bones form a cage that consists of thirteen pairs of ribs (nine pairs of true ribs, three pairs of false ribs and one pair of floating ribs)

SHOULDER (27) the portion of each forequarter that extends from the withers down to the upper arm (humerus); the scapula (shoulder blade) and its related muscles

SKULL (36) consists of the bones that form the framework of the head

STIFLE (13) the joint in the hindquarter that connects the upper thigh with the lower thigh (second thigh); the dog's knee joint

STOP (35) the indentation between the eyes where the skull and the nasal bone meet

TAIL (10) a continuation of the spine and is carried only slightly above the horizontal when the dog is alert (cropped in the diagram)

TAIL SET (8) that portion of the body where the tail is set-on or rooted

THIGH (12) the portion of each hindquarter that lies between the hip and the stifle; the femur is the bone that lies between and articulates with the hip joint and the stifle joint

UPPER ARM (24) the bone of the foreleg that articulates with and also lies between the shoulder blade and the forearm; also called the *humerus*

WITHERS (4) the highest point of the shoulders; located right behind the neck at the peak of the first dorsal vertebra; the highest point on the dog's body