

DOG SPORTS & TRAINING

PCOTC

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



# Sit 'n Stay

Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Fall 2019

## Calendar of Events

*Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted*

- Sep 8 Class Session 5 Begins
- Sep 14-15 Deb Jones Seminar
- Sep 29 Obedience Run-thrus 8:30 am
- Sep 29 Rally Run-Thrus 2 pm
- Oct 6 AKC Scent Work Trial
- Oct 27 Obedience Run-thrus 8:30 am
- Oct 27 Rally Run-Thrus 2 pm
- Oct 30 Halloween Party & Club Mtg
- Nov 3 AKC Obedience Trials
- Nov 6 Class Session 6 Begins
- Nov 17 Obedience Run-thrus 8:30 am
- Nov 17 Rally Run-Thrus 2 pm
- Dec 8 Obedience Run-thrus 8:30 am
- Dec 8 Rally Run-Thrus 2 pm
- Dec 19 Holiday Party & Club Meeting



This issue of *Sit 'n Stay* includes three and one-half wonderful pages of Barry Rosen's photos from PCOTC's May 10-12 PCOTC agility trials at FDR Park. And here, on the cover page, we celebrate one aspect of those trials: RAIN! When

it happened, humans put on various types of rain gear; dogs just kept going. Neither people nor dogs seemed to find heavy rain a reason to stop a fun event! Shown in this close-up is Stephen McKay, an agility instructor at PCOTC. He is running with his dog "Scorch."

# Port Chester Obedience Training Club

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB  
220 Ferris Avenue, White Plains, NY  
Est. 1940 [www.PCOTC.org](http://www.PCOTC.org)  
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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

I am honored to be writing my first President's Message to such a great organization of passionate dog lovers! I hope you all had a great summer and enjoyed lots of outdoor fun with your dogs.

The PCOTC Board of Directors has been hard at work discussing our upcoming lease renewal while keeping in touch with our Relocation Committee to ensure that we evaluate all our options. Our goal is to maintain a facility that equally meets the needs of all the training disciplines at the club. We will keep you apprised of this topic.

PCOTC is everyone's club: non-competitors enjoying our fun classes and dog sport competitors preparing for trialing, old and new members alike! I want to encourage anyone who has an idea for the club to reach out to me with your constructive suggestions. Have you heard of a speaker or specific event that you think would be a good fit for the club? Do you have a special talent you want to share with your fellow members? Is there a topic or activity that you think would make our club meetings more entertaining? Please let me know!

I would like to say a big "thank you" to all the Members and Instructors who go above and beyond in giving of their time and talents. As a club operated solely by volunteers, we are very fortunate to have these dedicated people, who address the ongoing club needs and keep the club progressing forward. I hope everyone takes a moment to view the *Volunteer Opportunities* section of our website ([www.pcotc.org](http://www.pcotc.org)) for more information.

— *Barbara Napoli, president@pcotc.org*

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## Welcome New Members

Keri Nugent, Hovawart

Rita Berardino, one Cocker Spaniel and one Border Collie

Kathy Piercara, two All-Americans

Olivia Bespolka and Rosamond Kinzler, Pit Bull-Rat Terrier mix

Betsy Schwartz, two Old English Sheepdogs

Renee Mininni, Chihuahua

Michael Kellick, two Golden Retrievers

Alisa Greenwald, Mini-Golden Doodle

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## Save the Dates: Club Meetings in 2019

- Wednesday, October 30th - Howl-o-ween Party & Club Meeting
- Thursday, December 19th - Holiday Party & Club Meeting

## Howl-o-ween!

Don't miss our Howl-o-ween Party & Club Meeting on Friday, Oct. 30. Be ready for some *frightfully* good refreshments and great games!

There will be a costume contest for canine participants. Humans may also wear costumes, but only the dogs will have a chance at winning a prize!

# Club Doings

## Annual Club Meeting: Awards & Honors

After a short session devoted to club business, the rest of our June 11 meeting consisted of annual awards and honors.

### Plaques and Plaque Tags

First, special plaques and plaque tags were given to members who asked for them to commemorate their achievements with their dogs.

### AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

Next, the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award was given to **Susan Knapp-Cook**.

### PCOTC Training Directors Awards

Family Manners Director Cindy Rubin chose **Alice Reo** for the Family Manners Training Director Award.

Obedience Training Director Rick Pisani selected **Joanne Sheffler** for Obedience.

Agility Training Director Stefanie Rainer gave the nod to **Marcy Rauch**.

Nose Work Training Director Kathe Baxter chose **Heather Emmel**.

### Super Volunteers

Members who devoted 45 volunteer hours and above to the club during the last club year were honored.

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Anthony DeGregorio | Stephen McKay    |
| Ebba Grumieux      | Cindy Rubin      |
| Sarah Johnson      | Bruce Sheffler   |
| Andrew Kalmanash   | Barbara Siegel   |
| Angela Kalmanash   | Michelle Trummer |
| Joan Kaufman       | Jane Wheeler     |
| Ann Mandelbaum     | Karen Wrey       |

\* Do you think you should be on this list, but aren't? The most likely cause is that you have not turned in Volunteer Forms for all your hours. For more information, go to [www.pcotc.org/volunteering](http://www.pcotc.org/volunteering). We will update the Super Volunteers list in the December issue of *Sit 'n Stay*.

### President's Award

**Meika Mustrangi** was honored with the President's Award.

### AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award: Susan Knapp-Cook

**AKC text defining the award:**  
"In the American Kennel Club's ongoing efforts to recognize and celebrate its volunteer club members, the AKC's Outstanding Sportsmanship Award program was established to provide each member club with an AKC Medallion to award to one of its own on a yearly basis.

"The award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied in the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of the AKC member club."



### Family Manners Training Director's Award: Alice Reo

This Year's Family Manners Training Director's Award goes to Alice Reo.

Alice first came to PCOTC with her cockapoo pup, Odie, last year. She started in Virginia Dare's Puppy Pre-K, followed by STAR Puppy and FM Foundation with Jenn Michaelis. She caught the "training bug," joined the club, and has taken several additional FM classes with Jenn, Betsy, and me, plus Agility Foundation with Misa. She got interested in Rally after volunteering at a rally trial, and she & Odie are now making great progress in my "Fun with Rally Signs" class. She is also volunteering as Betsy's class assistant in her Puppy, Foundation and Jump Start for Foundation classes.

Alice has been a lovely, engaged student from the beginning, great to have in class, and always offering to help out with set up and clean up even before she became a member. And now she's become interested in learning more than just how to train her dog— she wants to dive deeper and learn the "why" behind the "how." Alice is a wonderful addition to the club and a great supporter of the Family Manners program.

— *Cindy Rubin (read in Cindy's absence by Nancy Field)*



# Club Doings

## Awards & Honors

### Obedience Training Director's Award: Joanne Sheffler

In the years I have known Joanne Sheffler, I have always found her to have a willingness to learn and try new techniques. Joanne doesn't have the easiest dogs to train. They are a varied group with different drive levels and personalities yet she moves forward and does the best she can. She continues to improve her obedience work and relationship with her dogs so they can truly be the best they can be. For all of Joanne's hard work and dedication to her dogs and the club, it's my honor to award Joanne this year's training director's award of recognition.

— Rick Pisani CPDT-KA



### Agility Training Director's Award: Marcy Rauch

This year the agility director's award is being given to Marcy Rauch. Marcy is passionate about agility and continuing her education to become the best possible handler for her dogs. She has worked hard and has shown a tremendous amount of growth as a handler and trainer over the last few years. In addition, she works hard for the club to make sure that agility is a fun, safe, and positive environment for all.

— Stefanie Rainer



Annual Meeting 2019

# Club Doings

## Awards & Honors

### Nose/Scent Work Training Director's Award: Heather Emmel

Heather Emmel is the recipient of the PCOTC Annual Nose /Scent Work Training Director's Award for 2019. Heather was unanimously chosen for the award by the Nose Work instructors. She has touched each and every one of us, and her fellow students, with her genuinely supportive manner providing reassurance, encouragement and inspiration.

Heather started Nose Work in 2011 when she signed up her 12 year-old Rhodesian Ridgeback, Nala, for the Introduction to Nose Work class. Given Heather's work schedule during the day, Barbara Napoli handled Nala during class. When it came time for the Odor Recognition Test for Nala, Heather was reticent about handling Nala herself. But we all knew what the outcome would be: Nala passed with flying colors!

In time, Heather's other dogs, Asha and Xola, joined the Nose Work journey. Heather took the leap and became the primary handler for Asha, her environmentally sensitive dog, while Barbara trialed with Xola and now Naya.

Heather's determination and resolve have resulted in her becoming to be an outstanding handler. She and her dogs have achieved Elite and NW3 titles. She attends Nose Work camp yearly in Pennsylvania as well as seminars and workshops throughout the tri-state area. She regularly attends trials as a volunteer and champion.

Heather is most deserving of the Nose Work Training Director's award!

— *Kathe Baxter, Nose/Scent Work Training Director*

### President's Award: Meika Mustrangi

Meika has been a instrumental part of the registration team over this past year. Not only has she stepped up to every task asked of her, she does it with humor and a great attitude. Even when the instructions were more than a little vague, she stepped in a made everything better and more efficient. It has been a pleasure working on registration with her. She has helped make my job as president a million times easier, and I only wish we could clone her a million times over. Thanks, Meika and I hope that you'll find even more things to devote your time to at the club.

— *Sara Gagnon, former President of PCOTC*



# Agility Tip

## Agility Tip: Setting Up Our New Equipment

by Stefanie Rainer, Agility Training Director, OMD Assistant Coach. Photography ©Morgaána Photography

Thank you to all that came out to the fundraiser and made it possible for PCOTC to acquire a brand new Dog Walk and A-frame! This equipment is absolutely top of the line and we are lucky to have it at the club. It also can be fragile and we want to make sure it is well taken care of. So following are step-by-step instructions for how to properly use the equipment so we can all work hard to make sure it is well maintained.

### The Dog Walk

When being stored and used, make sure the wheels are locked (the locks are pushed down (vertical) on all four wheels). The ramps should also be resting on the ground and the cross bars should be up with the s-ring attached to the pocket underneath the center ramp of the dog walk. To move the dog walk, lower the cross bars so they are resting on the supports. Raise the ramps one at a time, slowly, until you hear a click. This means the up ramp is locked in place. Unlock the wheels and move with caution. When in place,

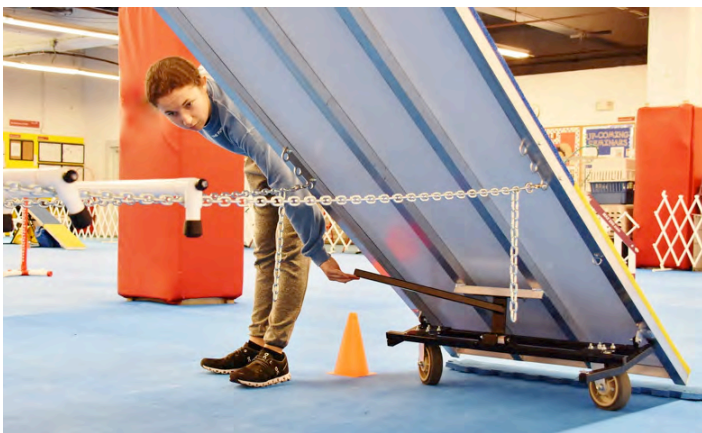
lock all four wheels and lower the ramps. To do so, lift up gently until you hear a click and lower slowly. Then raise the cross bar back up and set the s ring on the pocket underneath the middle ramp.

Do not put your hands/fingers anywhere near the hinge of the down ramps.

### The A-frame

The A-frame can be stored on its wheels or not. To move the A-frame, push down on the longest lever underneath the A-frame. This will raise it onto its wheels. Repeat on the other side. Again, move with caution. To lower off of the wheels, simply lift the small lever up on both sides.

Thank you again to all who made it possible for the club to make these upgrades. We hope you and your pups enjoy the new equipment. Please handle with care and happy training!



To secure the wheels on the Aframe for use, simply lift the long lever on each side of the Aframe.

Wheels are unlocked and ready to move.



Wheels are locked and ready for use.



# Agility Tip

## Agility Tip: Setting Up Our New Equipment



To raise or lower the dog walk, slowly lift the plank up or down. You will hear a click when the plank is secure.



LEFT: The rod should rest as shown when raising and lowering the board.

RIGHT: The rod should be secured as shown when the dog walk is in use.

# Obedience

## Obedience Tip: Help. Volunteer.

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

The best way to learn about the sport you are in is to be a volunteer. There are many opportunities to learn about Rally and Obedience. PCOTC hosts a number of sanctioned trials and matches. We are always in need of members who can help out on the day of these events. You don't need any experience because the experienced people or judges will help you learn the ropes of being a "Ring Steward." You will be able to observe up close and personal the individual runs the show and match participants. You can see some of the experienced exhibitors as well as those just starting out. How they enter the ring and

set up for each exercise. Observe the connection between the best teams and those who seem to be having a little difficulty. You can even ask the judges or other Ring Stewards questions that will help you learn the rules. All of this can be done before you make your own ring debut. Know the rules and experience how a trial is run without your dog.

Our match coordinator is Joanne Sheffler. Our trial steward coordinator is Morgaana Menzel. They will be sending email notices through the Club's web site announcing when to sign up for stewarding posts. We also will need volunteers to perform other

tasks for trials like hospitality, set up and clean up. The trial chairperson will be soliciting volunteers for these and other positions close to the trial dates (in the beginning of November, March and end of July). The obedience committee is always happy to get new and experienced members to help grow our obedience program and help with our events. Without volunteers we can't continue to provide a good practice and trial setting for our future and seasoned competitors. If you need more information or want to get involved, ask your current or past instructor. They will help point you in the right direction.



Above, photos of PCOTC members volunteering at various club events. ©Morgaána Photography

## New Obedience Committee Chair

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Mindy Costanza has agreed to take over as Chairperson of the Obedience Committee. I think Mindy will do a fantastic job: she is devoted to obedience, has lots of experience and ability, great energy and good ideas to grow our Obedience program. I am sure that we are all grateful that she has agreed to take the job.

You can reach Mindy at [mindykos19@gmail.com](mailto:mindykos19@gmail.com)

— Bruce Sheffler

## AKC Rally & Obedience Trials at PCOTC in November

On Nov. 2, PCOTC will run two AKC rally trials consecutively. Entries close at 5 pm on Oct. 16. Trial judge is Michael P Mooney. Trial Chair is Ann Mandelbaum and Event Secretary is Lori Carver. Classes Offered: Novice A, Novice B, Intermediate, Advanced A, Advanced B, and Master Classes. The premium list will be available soon on our Events List at [www.pcotc.org/events](http://www.pcotc.org/events)

On Nov. 3, PCOTC will offer two obedience trials, running concurrently. Each will include Beginner Novice A and B, Novice A and B, Open A and B, and Utility A and B. Entries close at 5 pm, Oct 16. Trial Judges are Mr. Michael P. Mooney and Ms. Teresa Walker, NJ. Go to our Events List at [www.pcotc.org/events](http://www.pcotc.org/events), scroll to Nov. 3, and click for the premium.



# Obedience

## Rally Tip: Changing Behavior *by Ann Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA*

I've written more columns for *Sit 'N Stay* than I care to remember, so please excuse me if I return to a subject that I have covered before. This time I will come at it from a somewhat different direction that will make a light bulb go on for someone who was previously unimpressed. Luring — leading a dog literally by his nose into performing a behavior you want him to learn — is often a quick, convenient way to jump-start that new behavior. But for many handlers it is so seductively easy to produce the desired result that it is very hard to forswear that tasty little treat in your hand.

It would have been better not to have fallen into this trap in the first place, but if you find yourself ensnared, what to do next?

First, make up your mind you will take control of the situation.

Now, choose a behavior to start working on. Let's arbitrarily choose perch work, a very useful exercise for Rally with all its tight turns in heel position, and one in which I've often observed people luring well after they should have stopped! (If this is not where you have encountered this problem, transfer the method to whatever behavior you prefer.)

Your dog pivots beautifully in front, clockwise or counterclockwise, understanding that he should maintain a perpendicular orientation in front of you. He loves

perching! As long as you hold a cookie in your hands in front of you showing him where his nose should be. The minute the lure goes away he loses interest, doesn't respond, never quite reaches perpendicular, whatever.

Clearly, this is a dog who sees the cookie as an integral part of the behavior, so how to change his mind?

Set up: Toss a treat or do whatever you do to begin the behavior. Observe yourself very carefully. Do one full turn in whatever direction is easiest for your dog and reset.

Repeat.

Again, observe yourself. Be sure you know exactly what you do as you begin, circle and return to the spot you started from with a perfect front. Now reset and do exactly the same thing you did the last two times, but with no lure in your hands. Every move you make must be exactly the same, your voice must not change, you should reach for the lure but just not take it. Nothing changes except there is no lure!

Now it is crucial that you watch your dog closely. If you are lucky, he will perform the whole behavior, in which case when you complete your circle with a perfect front, you will click and deliver a huge jackpot, play a bit and repeat.

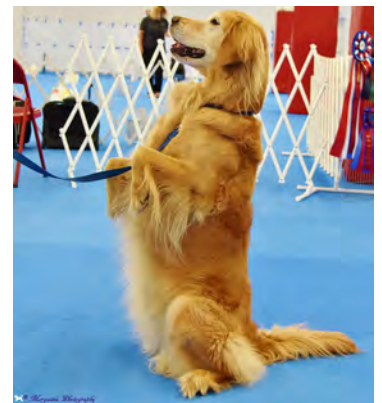
If you are even luckier, at some point, perhaps even at the very beginning, he will

become unsure, hesitant. The good thing about this is that you know he realizes there is no treat, so you can get right into helping him get over his dependence on it. You must be observant and ready to reward and encourage any move in the right direction no matter how small. Don't think to yourself "that really didn't mean anything" or "he really didn't do that on purpose." Just reward/encourage anything. There is a fine line here. You must refrain from trying to put pressure on your dog to continue while rewarding and praising any move he offers in the right direction. In other words, you have switched from luring to shaping.

Since your dog does understand the behavior itself, as he is rewarded for approximations in the desired direction he may move quickly to finding the behavior again. Then again, if he has become really invested in those cookies as an integral part of the process, it may be hard for him to let them go. Only careful observation and leadership over time will finally work. But once he really is convinced that he doesn't have to see the reward to be sure he will get the reward, he will be able to generalize and you will not have to go through such an elaborate procedure many times.

Just hold your ground, don't ever resort to bringing out a treat to encourage a known behavior again. But do be willing to nudge any behavior back into confident performance with shaping techniques. And have fun!

July AKC Rally Trial Photos ©Morgaána Photography



# Obedience

## Obedience & Rally Run-Thrus

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

Here are our dates for Fall 2019:

- September 29
- October 27
- November 17
- December 8

### White Plains Weekends:

We will offer Novice, Open, and Utility timed entries of 10 minutes each. It's a good idea to plan to enter the run-thrus before the trials.

Our run-thrus only work if we have the support of volunteers joining us to steward and judge. Anyone can volunteer and we can teach you how to steward! Volunteer hours and one free run-thru are offered to our volunteers. It is an excellent opportunity to watch training teams up close, both the beginners and those competing on the higher levels of competition. Six volunteers are needed for each match. Contact Joanne Sheffler at [brilligs@aol.com](mailto:brilligs@aol.com)

This year, again, all registration for obedience run-thrus will be done through [www.dogmatchshows.com](http://www.dogmatchshows.com). Each obedience run is

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

Any questions? Contact Joanne Sheffler at [brilligs@aol.com](mailto:brilligs@aol.com)

### Rally Run-Thrus:

Registration for rally run-thrus will be handled via Jotform at [www.Jotform.com](http://www.Jotform.com) at \$10 per run, and one free run will be available to volunteers.

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

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

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

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

Any questions? Contact the Rally Run-Thru Coordinator, Meg Tucker, at [megnmac@gmail.com](mailto:megnmac@gmail.com)

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# Club Doings

## Keeping in Touch with PCOTC

**PCOTC's Web Site:** Go to [www.pcotc.org](http://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](mailto: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 [www.facebook.com/pcotc](http://www.facebook.com/pcotc) or search for “Port Chester Obedience Training Club” to bring up our page.

## 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 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!

# Family Manners

## Family Manners Tip: Where to Go? *by Cindy Rubin, CPDT-KA*

At the beginning of a Foundations course there are usually the same questions on the owners' minds. How do I get my dog to walk on a leash, not jump up, come when called, not bark in his crate. By the end of the session, these questions should have been tackled. Notice I didn't say answered! Every dog is different and every dog will respond to training methods in different ways. What works for one team may not work for another in the same way.

Every team will progress at its own rate and will have particular strengths and weaknesses. That is why it is so important to continue on with FM Skills. Besides introducing new skills, it is a great course for strengthening the behaviors and learning theory introduced in Foundations. The behaviors are practiced with distractions and with greater duration. For example: your dog can sit, but can it stay? Will it come to you when there are other dogs in the room? These issues are answered in Skills.

In the latter classes of a Skills course, dog sports that will be open to teams are introduced.

- There are courses offered by Family Man-

ners such as "Ricochet Recalls," and "Off Leash Walking."

- A logical step from Skills is the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) course. The joy in passing your first "test" is amazing! There are pamphlets at the facility that describe the CGC requirements, and courses are offered throughout the year.

- The Tricks class is always fun. Dogs like tricks – it's a game! Your instructor can help you with training trick behaviors. There is now Trick Dog titling. There are suggested tricks for your dog to perform or make up your own!

PCOTC offers training in many dog sports.

- Obedience is definitely one path to take if you truly love that feeling of oneness with your dog. New behaviors are taught and ways of perfecting known behaviors are explored. There are many levels of training in obedience, all leading to a great partnership with your dog.

- One offshoot of obedience is Rally. This combines the skills of obedience – heeling, turns, the ability to hold a position, and

jumping with the challenge of ever-changing courses.

- Agility! This dog sport is all about athleticism, for the dog and the handler. Young dogs, while not jumping their full jump height, can participate in Foundation classes where the basics are taught. There are classes that follow that concentrate on jumping and contact equipment training, still at an introductory level. Even if you don't want to compete (your mind could change), these classes give a very energetic dog a place to learn and focus. Our agility team offers classes for beginner and competitor alike.

- Nosework. For those of you unfamiliar with this sport, it's all about your dog's ability to "find" scented objects. This is great for dogs that are independent thinkers and for dogs that need to gain more independence. It's fun and fast paced. Starting off with building your dog's hunting ability, the classes soon teach them to identify certain odors in new situations.

Always be open to new avenues of training with your dogs. Happy training!



Photos clockwise from top left: Nose Work, Tricks (©Morgaána Photography), Agility (@AKC), Obedience, Rally (@Morgaána Photography)

# Family Manners

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

Courtesy © Morgaána Photography

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

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

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

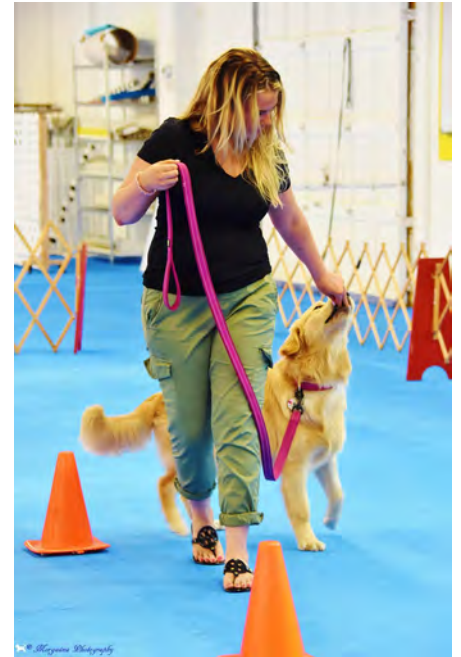
- Puppy Pre-K (4 week class) For puppies age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class. Learn about socialization and safe handling.
- AKC STAR Puppy For puppies age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class. Learn basic manners, clicker training, attention, socialization & safe handling.
- Family Manners Foundation For dogs 5 months and older.
- Already taken Family Manner Foundations? Then continue to advance in Family Manner Skills.

- Family Manners Fun with Rally Signs on Fridays at 12:45pm with Nancy Field.

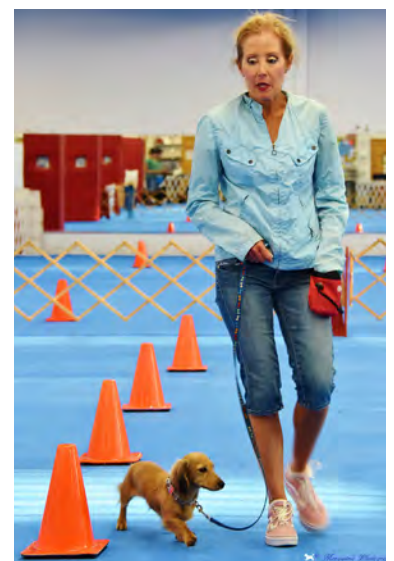
- Have kids who love dogs? We have a class for you. Camp Kids and Dogs on Tuesdays at 1pm with Jamie McKay.

- PCOTC offers \$50 class credit, after the first set of classes, for a dog adopted from a shelter or rescue facility in the last 12 months.

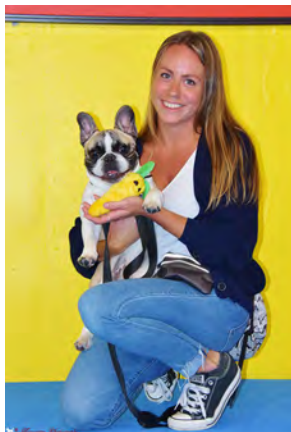
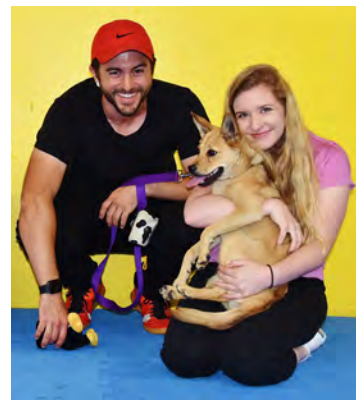
See Class Fees & Discounts for complete information. Go to <http://www.pcotc.org/> to register.



# Family Manners



# Family Manners



# Family Manners

## 1,000,000 Dogs Have Passed the Canine Good Citizen Test — You Can Prepare For and Pass the Test at PCOTC

Has your dog prepared for a CGC, via the AKC's Canine Good Citizen Test, at PCOTC? As of this year, one million dogs have received a CGC designation by passing the AKC's Canine Good Citizen Test. Mary Burch, Director of the Canine Good Citizen Program, says "Many of these dogs go on for additional training to make a difference in the lives of others."

The CGC program was started in 1988. The 10-step test consists of basic commands and actions like accepting a friendly stranger, sitting, staying, coming when called,

walking through a crowd, and behaving politely around other dogs, among others.

The Canine Good Citizen Program has been adopted and utilized for many activities that require basic good citizen behavior. CGC training and titles are used as a prerequisite by some therapy dog groups. Many service dog organizations start their dogs with CGC training, and shelter organizations are utilizing the "CGC Ready" program to demonstrate that their rescue dogs are good citizens.

Currently, PCOTC offers classes for the CGC, as well as for Community Canine Prep (CGCA) and Urban Canine Good Citizen Prep (CGCU). I remember taking my first CGC test years ago at PCOTC, shortly after the program began. Passing the CGC helped me decide to train some of my dogs for therapy dog work.

More information about the AKC Canine Good Citizen Program can be found at: <https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/>

— Jane Wheeler

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## CGC Test Items

**Test 1: Accepting a friendly stranger**

**Test 2: Sitting politely for petting**

**Test 3: Appearance and grooming**

**Test 4: Out for a walk (walking on a loose lead)**

**Test 5: Walking through a crowd**

**Test 6: Sit and down on command and Staying in Place**

**Test 7: Coming when called**

**Test 8: Reaction to another dog**

**Test 9: Reaction to distraction**

**Test 10: Supervised separation**

# Best of Breed Handling

## Talking Hands *by Fran Hellman, CPDT-KA*

How and where you place your hands on your dog says a lot to the judge. Here are some tips on how you can non-verbally communicate to the judge while you are exhibiting your dog in the show ring.

### Do's:

- Show your dog as though he is your prized possession.
- Exude confidence and your dog will, too.
- Hold the lead properly.
- Properly position the collar of the show lead.
- Place your dog on the examination table as though you are setting down a fine piece of china.
- Use "soft" hands.
- Use a minimum of hand motions.
- Control your dog by gently controlling his head.
- Be deliberate but gentle while hand stacking your dog.
- Hold the collar of the show lead carefully while hand stacking and baiting.
- Use subtle hand movements to draw attention to your dog's virtues, such as,

stroking his fabulous topline (only a few times and when the judge is looking, but you are not looking at the judge!).

- Train your dog to know a verbal cue for showing the teeth (the bite) to the judge. You might say "teeth," before you reach to show his teeth carefully and properly to the judge.
- Move your dog around the ring so he is able to gait freely. If he is being unruly, stay calm, get through it and then go home and do some more training.

### Don'ts:

- Don't disconnect with your dog. Remember that he is your teammate.
- Don't fuss over your dog's faults; it will only draw attention to them.
- Don't show that you're nervous by setting up your dog in a frenzy.
- Don't move the collar of the show lead every which way when you are setting up your dog.
- Don't take out your frustrations on your dog.
- Don't grab, yank, pull, or yell at your dog.

- Don't plop your dog on the examination table.
- Don't reach over your dog with your right hand to set any leg other than his front right.
- Don't catch your dog off guard by abruptly reaching over his muzzle to show the judge his bite.
- Don't give unnecessary lead corrections.

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## Breed Handling Classes

Breed handling classes are now offered every Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. in the upper level of our club. Drop-in only—Registration is not required. These classes are for adult and junior handlers, and dogs of all ages. See our club website for a description of the classes. The fee is \$20.00 per class. FMI contact Fran Hellman at [sunjaysgrs@aol.com](mailto:sunjaysgrs@aol.com) or 845-234-1645.

New handlers, please contact Fran before attending class.



Fran Hellmen handling Rumor at a breed show



# Nose & Scent Work

## Big Changes to AKC Scent Work Rules for Competitors

By Kathy Gregory, PCOTC Delegate to AKC

You just get all those rules committed to memory and what happens? They change them! So, you are therefore obliged to adjust your expectations about training and trialing, also. What else can we do?

There will be some big changes to Scent Work trial rules coming to us as of October 1, and I, for one, welcome them. Scent Work is still a very new sport and, as a result of competitor and host input, the AKC is responding by making some well-thought-out changes.

### **Buried Class**

All levels will use tubs and substrate. (Excellent and Master will no longer be outside, buried in the ground.)

The odor in all classes will be buried four inches deep.

Novice – Six tubs of play sand with one hide

Advanced – Eight tubs of water with two hides

Excellent – Twelve tubs: six with play sand and six with water

Master - Sixteen tubs: eight play sand and eight water (1-4 hides)

### **Increase Consistency**

There will be required separation between active search areas.

Any physical barrier must be at least six feet tall and reaching all the way to the ground.

There must be a physical barrier between crating and searching areas.

No more than seven hides can be in the search area in a set of trials.

Nesting searches will not be allowed.

Prohibits using an area that has been used with odor from being used as a blank area during a set of trials.

Items placed in “rows” must be parallel straight lines.

### **Restructure High in Trial**

Handler Discrimination classes are not included in High in Trial calculations.

If HIT is offered, clubs must also offer High Combined Division, which includes all odor classes plus Handler Discrimination.

### **Volunteers**

Guaranteed entry for show workers is only allowed with the Random Draw method. Maximum of 15% of the total entry may be guaranteed. Guaranteed entries must be read at the draw.

### **No Special Accommodations for “Reactive” Dogs**

Clubs may dictate lining up and staging of

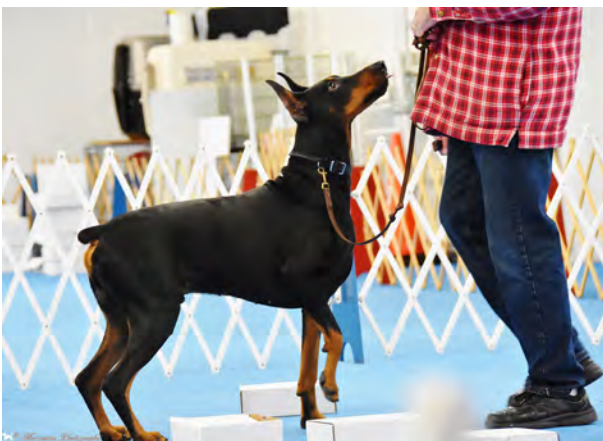
competitors as they see fit, but it must be the same for all dogs.

No blanket rules that dogs are not allowed to interact, except in staging areas or warm-up areas.

My students have been practicing these changes for the past few months and we have found that using sand instead of soil works just fine. The introduction of water hides is *amazing!* All the dogs seem to master this medium easily and handlers enjoy it, too! You just have to be careful about spilling the water. The fact that our canine companions can actually source out odor under water just blows people away. This really gives the dogs a chance to show off!

Regarding the trialing of reactive dogs. You really must use your common sense. If your dog simply cannot be within several feet of any other dog without lunging, barking or reacting in general, an active trialing situation where people are not paying attention to their dogs is probably not the best environment for your team. This activity is supposed to be fun, and if your hyper-vigilance is required every minute and your dog is exhibiting extreme symptoms of stress, it can't be fun for either of you. Which brings me to several rules for handling your dog outside of the search area: Keep your dog on a short leash. Please do not walk your dog aimlessly around the trial area. Your dog should remain safely restrained in your car unless he is either going to or from the potty area or walking to or from the search area. It's not what your dog will do as much as what the other dog, whose owner's eyes wander for just a second, will do. No one at the trial wants anything bad to happen to your team, so please be your dog's best advocate and make their safety your primary concern that day.

Go online and download a copy of the new rules in the pretty yellow cover. Be sure you know all the changes, so you can add them to your training routines. Good luck, and I hope to see you at a trial soon!



© Morgaána Photography

# Nose & Scent Work

## AKC Scent Work Trial at PCOTC in October

By Kathy Gregory

Port Chester Obedience Training Club will be holding its third annual Scent Work Trials on October 6, indoors at the club. The elements to be tested are: Handler Discrimination, Novice and Advanced and Containers, Excellent and Master. There will be two trials held on the same day for these elements and levels.

Entries are open now and close on September 20 at noon.

Registrations will be accepted on a first-received basis.

This is a great opportunity for Obedience competitors to expand their dog's ability to find handler odor into another sport. Classes are being held at the club now to refine these skills on Thursday evenings.

To locate the related Premiums and entry forms go to:

- AKC, Event Search, put in the parameters and hit the button. You will find both the Premium and entry form.

Or

- Go to the PCOTC Calendar and scroll down to October events.



## NACSW Odor Recognition Test in July

By Kathy Gregory, CNWI

PCOTC held its latest ORT event on July 7. Fifty-nine teams came out to test their recognition of Birch, Anise and Clove in the lower level of the club. Certifying Official Carol Noriega and Judge Andy Sperber had a great time setting up these challenges and judging the teams.

An extra special THANK YOU goes out to all the wonderful Volunteers who helped in cleaning the facility the evening before and those who helped the day of the event. As ever, Volunteer Coordinator Extraordinaire, Ashlin Cook, managed 21 PCOTC members and students who showed up to help. What a Volunteer turnout!! Because

of their expertise the whole event wrapped up at 11:30 in the morning and we had the chance to clean up at a leisurely pace.

A big THANK YOU to all!

We are planning to hold two ORTs in 2020, the first in the first quarter of the year. Now that the recognition of all three NACSW odors is required to participate in any of the NACSW Trials, we anticipate large registrations leading up to and beyond the rules change this coming January. If you are interested in trialing in this sport, please make it a priority to register for these ORTs as soon as you notice the announcements, no matter when the tests are being held.



# Summer Events

## May 10–12: AKC Agility Trials

© Barry Rosen Photography

For three days in May, with varying weather, PCOTC put on three AKC agility trials at FDR Park in Yorktown Heights. These photos from trial photographer Barry Rosen show the variety of dogs, the different types of equipment involved, and in some cases, the handlers who worked with their dogs.

We begin with **Day 1** (May 10):



Thank you to PCOTC Member Deborah Salerno for stepping up as Trial Chair for our Annual Three-Day Agility Trial 2020! With many hands we pull together and make our Club the best it can be!

Members interested in being part of the organization of this trial on Mothers Day Weekend in May 2020, please contact Chief Ring Steward [MorgaanaMenzel@gmail.com](mailto:MorgaanaMenzel@gmail.com)

**USE OF THESE PHOTOS:** These images were created by Barry Rosen, our Agility Trial photographer. If you want to use the photos in this article, or other photos from his web site, contact him via [www.barryrosen.com](http://www.barryrosen.com) to get permission and pay the outlined fees at

[www.barryrosen.com/How-to-Order](http://www.barryrosen.com/How-to-Order)



continued next page

# Summer Events

## May 10–12: AKC Agility Trials

© Barry Rosen Photography



# Summer Events

## May 10–12: AKC Agility Trials

© Barry Rosen Photography



Day 3:



continued next page

# Summer Events

## May 9–11: AKC Agility Trials

© Barry Rosen Photography



# Summer Events

## July 5–6: Seiter–Tucci Agility Seminars

by Alice Wang

Longtime PCOTC favorites Kris Seiter and Chris Tucci returned on July 5 and 6 to share their agility knowledge over four seminars that covered everything from international coursework to young dog skills! The seminars were presented in half-day sessions, which were highly beneficial to dogs that cannot tolerate working for the whole day, and also gave handlers more chances to digest the knowledge they gained during each session.

Kris and Chris showed that they are not just incredible agility competitors, but also phenomenal dog trainers as well. From teasing apart handling mechanics to helping reactive dogs feel more comfortable during their turn on the floor, Kris and Chris generated many light bulb moments for both dogs and handlers alike. Everyone loved the fun and challenging sequences they set up and we can't wait to have these amazing instructors back for more seminars in the future!

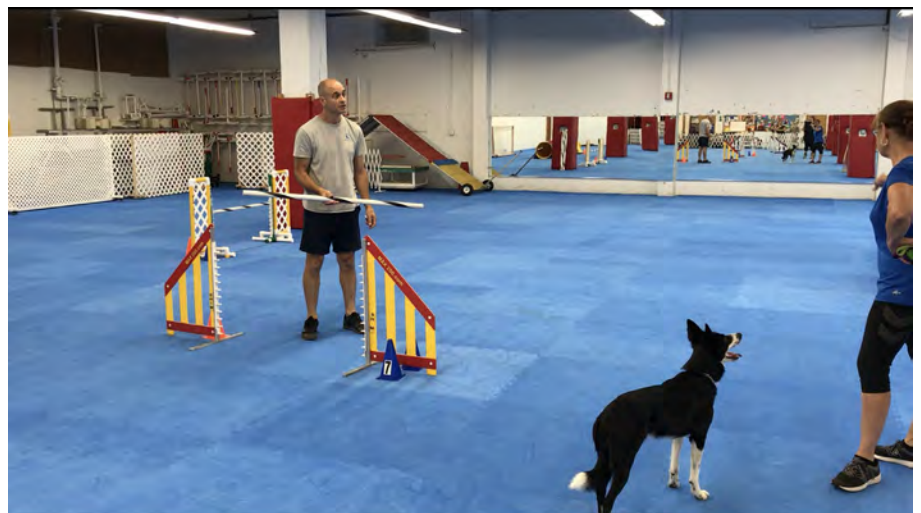
The seminars included:

- Friday morning, Chris Tucci: Front Cross and Rear Cross
- Friday afternoon, Chris Tucci: International Coursework, for dogs competing at masters/excellent level
- Saturday morning, Kris Seiter: Blind Crosses
- Saturday afternoon, Kris Seiter: International Skills for the Intermediate Dog



Kris...

and Chris!



Photos courtesy Marcy Rauch

# Summer Events

## July 27: AKC Rally Trials

by Ann Mandelbaum © Morgaána Photography

I'm happy to report that PCOTC's AKC Rally Trials on July 27 ran successfully. To be sure, the entry ran below last spring's when we very nearly reached our limit. Unfortunately, our current July dates conflict with some other trials in our vicinity. However, many of those who chose to enter went out of their way to comment on how much they enjoyed trialing at PCOTC, the friendly atmosphere, the buffet, the helpfulness of stewards and officials.

It is truly amazing how many members step up to make this event a success. From Karen Wrey, who brought us an experienced judge with well-designed courses and who tabled both trials efficiently, thank you. And to Morgaana Menzel, who collected a great team of stewards—some experienced, some newbies, all of whom arrived ready to work and (in the case of those who knew nothing about Rally) to learn. Thanks to Meg Tucker for organizing and planning ahead to make sure the room was ready for us Saturday morning at 8:00 am, and to Linda Seaver who provided breakfast and lunch and, with Meg, made sure there were

people to keep an eye on the table during the day and put away food etc. to make way for Sunday's Obedience Trials.

A special thank you to Maureen Bordins who acted as Trial Secretary on the day, keeping running records as the trials progressed, noting absentees, move-ups, scores to determine High Combined and triple awards so that records would be complete and ready for submission to AKC at Trial's end.

Morgaana Menzel's great photos will give some sense of how the trial went!

Here's a list of the accomplishments of PCOTC members and their dogs:

- Maureen Bordins and Sheltie, Rosmoor Lucas Mein Liebchen

CGCA TKN RN: Intermediate 1st & 3rd, finished Intermediate title

- John Chambers and Belgian†Malinois, GCHS Bord du Lac's Romantica's Luciano CGCA TKP Novice A 4th & 1st (perfect score), Finished Novice title

- Marie Cole and All-American Watch Me Trot: Intermediate 2nd & 4th

- Janet Helen Day and Sheltie, Sugar & Spice Cookie: Intermediate, 2nd

- Kathleen Foley and West Highland Terrier, Spirit's Changing of the Guard: Novice B, 4th

- Rickie Haas and Golden Retriever, Nautilus He Has a Nose for Trouble: Excellent B 4th, moved up to Master

- Morgaana Menzel and Boxer, Sirrocco's Song of the Sea: Advanced A1st, 1st

- Barbara Newman and Standard Poodle, Parishill Velvet Visionary: Novice A 2nd

- Meg Tucker and Labrador Retriever, Startops Superfecta: Master, Q

- Heidi Wise and Pomeranian, Wise's Coco Chanel: Novice A 1st (Perfect Score)

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# Summer Events

## July 27: AKC Rally Trials

© Morgiaána Photography



# Summer Events

## July 28: AKC Obedience Trials

© Morgaána 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 humankind. Each level of obedience competition – Novice, Open, and Utility – requires mastering a specific skill set, which increase in difficulty, before advancing to the next level. The Novice class demonstrates good

canine companion skills such as heeling, both with and without a leash, coming when called, standing for a simple physical examination, and staying in both a sit and a down position with a group of dogs. The Open class is more challenging as more exercises are done off leash and retrieving and jumping challenges are added. The Utility class, which includes scent discrimina-

tion, directed retrieves, jumping and silent signal exercises, is the most challenging class. Photographs Courtesy of ©Morgaána Photography. All images are the intellectual property of ©Morgaána Photography. Not for public sale or copying or altering in any form without consent.



# Summer Events

## July 28: AKC Obedience Trials

© Morgaána Photography



# Glad Tales

## Jerrilyn Walter & “Boogie Shoes” Win at ESPN Dog Day

On August 24, PCOTC member Jerrilyn Walter and her dog “Boogie Shoes on Broadway” won the 12” height division in the 2019 AKC Agility Premier Cup, shown live during ESPN’s “ESPN Dog Day.” (Jerrilyn and Boogie Shoes are on the right of this picture.) The AKC participated in the ESPN event for the first time. Sixty dogs competed in the agility event.

Keep boogying, Jerrilyn and Boogie Shoes!



## Rumor & Grandma Peaches Win BIS & BVIS

Rumor (closest to the judge) and her grandmother Peaches, along with their very proud breeder/handler, Fran Hellman, had a very special day on June 7. Rumor won Best In Show and Peaches won Best Veteran In Show at the Cavaliers of The Northeast Specialty Show. Rumor’s kennel name and titles are: AKC CH/ CKCSC-USA CH Sunjays Rumor Has It RN, C-RN, TKI, C-TKI, CGCA and Peaches’ kennel name and title is AKC CH Sunjays Georgia Peach.

— Fran Hellman

## Rhoswyn Earns CD Title

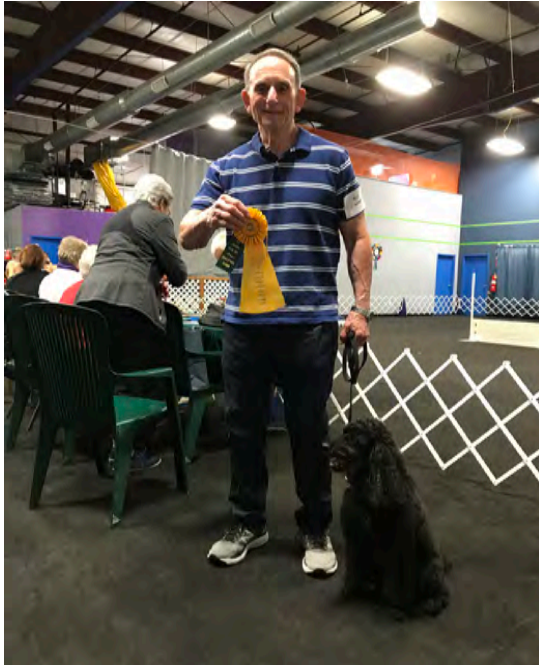
Feeling very grateful for our accomplishments at the AKC Rally and the AKC Obedience Trials hosted by PCOTC on July 27th and July 28th. Rhoswyn earned 2 legs towards her Rally Advanced Title with two 1st place finishes yesterday and today we got our CD TITLE with 2 first place finishes!

Thank you Judge Ms. Anita Eisthen and Judge Ms. Elizabeth Chase.

— Morgaana Menzel



# Glad Tales



## Bear Earns CDX Title

Eaglehill's Sugarbear CDX ("Bear") is owned by Ken & Judy Berenson. Bear earned his CDX title at PCOTC on 7/28 and at SICDTC on 8/10 & 8/11.

Bear has begun to train for Utility. He will be 13 in December.

— *Ken Berenson*

## Moxie Earns OTCH-C, is 7th Maltese to Earn AKC UDX Title

On 4/27/19, OTCH-C Chrisman's Sir Mucho Moxie UDX UDX-C OM2 RA BN CGC "Moxie" earned two perfect scores of 200 and won his CDSP OTCH-C.

On 5/19/2019, Moxie became the seventh Maltese to earn the AKC UDX title.

— *Leslie Sweet*



## Rhoswyn Demos!

On this Thankful Thursday I was very grateful that I have a teammate that can demo her skills for PCOTC and stay focused in the zone in front of a big crowd when there is no Cordova Orange Safety Fencing to protect her from the energetic children, other curious dogs, close peepers, spilled ice cream on side lines and flying hot-dogs!

— *Morgaana Menzel*



# Glad Tales & Additions

## Glad Tale & An Addition

We are so proud of how far Ben (center) has come at PCOTC, as he earned his Intermediate Trick Dog Title in June and passed his Birch ORT in July. He managed to do all this while expanding his big brother duties! Ben & Sheldon (right) are excited to announce the addition of their little sister Katherine, a rescue originally from Tennessee.

— *Barbara Napoli & Lauren Green*



## Welcome, Hazel!

Welcome Hazel! Hazel came from Georgia as a mystery pup and we are excited to be beginning our journey together. She is now about 6 months old and has been loving the AKC Star Puppy class and looks forward to many more classes and events. She even manages to get along with her brother Meko which is no mean feat. Yay for Hazel!!

— *Sarah Johnson and Family*

## Sparkle

Announcing my new Love and Competition Obedience partner plus whatever else:

Papillon, Ms. bundle of energy: born 1/14/19: Jemesa's Diamonds Are a Girls Best Friend ("Sparkle").

Sparkle has already started competing in conformation at Springfield, MA and Bloomsburg, PA! She won AKC: 4-6 Puppy Class Winner and AKC: 6-9 Puppy Class Reserve.

— *Leslie Sweet*



# Our Stars

## New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 8/24/19

### OBEDIENCE TITLES

#### American Kennel Club (AKC)

##### **Beginner Novice (BN)**

7/28/19 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," Imposter Plott

##### Companion Dog (CD)

07/28/19 Morgaana Menzel, Sirrocco's Song Of The Sea  
WCPE, CGC, BN, RN, RI, CA, TKN, TKI, TKA,  
"Rhoswyn Fae," Boxer

### AGILITY TITLES

#### American Kennel Club (AKC)

##### **Novice Agility Standard (NA)**

5/25/19 Stephen McKay, Hob Nob Hang On Tight,  
"Grip," Border Collie

##### **Novice Agility FAST (NF)**

6/14/19 Deborah Salerno, Dallas' Bleu Spur of the Mo-  
ment, "Spur," Australian Shepherd

8/24/19 Stephen McKay, Hob Nob Hang on Tight,  
"Grip," Border Collie

##### **Open Agility Fast (OF)**

5/25/19 Jamie McKay, Bare Cove Hair Force One,  
"Tease," Shetland Sheepdog

##### **Agility Excellent FAST (XF)**

8/17/19 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, CD BN  
RI OA AXJ XF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheep-  
dog

##### **Master Standard Agility (MX)**

8/24/19 Janet Metzger, Safranne's Rascal of Redding  
MX, MXJ, "Rascal," Miniature Poodle

##### **Masters Preferred Standard (MXP)**

7/20/19 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch,"  
Border Collie

##### **Masters Preferred Jumpers (MJP)**

8/4/19 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch,"  
Border Collie

##### **Master Agility Excellent Preferred 4 (MXP4)**

7/20/19 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," Imposter Plott

##### **Time 2 Beat 4 (T2B4)**

6/13/19 Deborah Salerno, ADCH Hidden Valley Bleu  
Moon Dancer, RA MX MXS MXJ MJB MFB  
T2B4 CGC TKI, "Kyan," Border Collie

##### **Master Silver Standard (MSS)**

6/14/19 Deborah Salerno, ADCH Hidden Valley Bleu  
Moon Dancer, RA MX MXS MXJ MJB MFB T2B4  
CGC TKI, "Kyan," Border Collie

#### Canine Performance Events (CPE)

##### **Strategy Games Title Level 1 (Snooker & Jackpot)**

7/7/19 Michelle Trummer, Jump For Joy, "Joy," Shet-  
land Sheepdog

##### **Handler Games Title Level 3 (Colors & Wildcard)**

7/5/19 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, "Winter,"  
Shetland Sheepdog

### BCAT TITLES

#### American Kennel Club (AKC)

6/8/19 Jeanne Meldrim, Hop River's Lucifer's Seraphi-  
na, Dutch Shepherd

6/15/19 Jeanne Meldrim, Hop River's Napalm, "Napalm,"  
Dutch Shepherd

### BARN HUNT

#### Barn Hunt Association (BHA)

##### **Crazy 8s Platinum Bronze 2 (CZ8PB2)**

6/30/19 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero,  
"Axe," Belgian Malinois

### CONFORMATION TITLES

#### CKCSC-USA

##### **Best in Show**

6/7/19 Fran Hellman, AKC CH / CKCSC-USA CH  
Sunjays Rumor Has It, RN TKN CGC, "Rumor,"  
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

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## 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](http://www.pcotc.org/membership)

If you do not have web access, you may report your new titles by e-mail to [trumpetvine55@yahoo.com](mailto:trumpetvine55@yahoo.com)

# Volunteering Explained

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

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

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

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

You can find volunteer opportunities in the Help Wanted column in *Sit 'n Stay*, on the PCOTC Events bulletin board at the facility or by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator at [pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto: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/fiscal year are considered “Super Volunteers” who will be honored at the annual club meeting and given a Certificate of Appreciation.

# HELP WANTED

## HOUSE DIRECTOR POSITION

We are looking for someone to assume responsibility for the coordination and oversight of house maintenance and supply inventory for PCOTC. This includes ensuring that ongoing maintenance occurs, such as the housekeeping service, A/C maintenance, minor repairs within our space, and putting in requests when household goods and cleaning supplies need to be ordered. Anyone interested, please contact Barbara Napoli at [president@pcotc.org](mailto:president@pcotc.org) for more information.

## OBEDIENCE RUN-THRUS

Our run-thrus only work if we have the support of volunteers joining us to steward and judge. Anyone can volunteer and we can teach you how to steward! Volunteer hours and one free run-thru are offered to our volunteers. Six volunteers are needed for each match. Contact Joanne Sheffler at [brilligs@aol.com](mailto:brilligs@aol.com)

**OTHER OPPORTUNITIES** arise from time to time. Contact Sandra Shivers, Volunteer Coordinator at: [pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com)

## DO YOU NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR A PCOTC EVENT?

Besides emails, notices at the club, and so on, consider asking for volunteers in *Sit 'n Stay*, if the quarterly distribution works for your event's timing. Issues come out at the beginning of March, June, September, and December of each year. Send a notice to [janewheeler@optimum.net](mailto:janewheeler@optimum.net)

# Changes in Newsletter Production

By Jane Wheeler

We've had some problems getting our newsletter, *Sit 'n Stay*, ready for members in a timely fashion. Here are some changes we intend to implement to fix those problems:

- The due date for articles will be the first of the month prior to the month in which the newsletter is scheduled to go out—with exceptions for events that take place during that month.
- Who will be responsible for writing up various club activities needs to be made clear, in advance, so a list of articles will have a specific author for each article.
- We need to have a group of dedicated final proofers, rather than grabbing Board members and others for this last-minute task.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you think of other suggestions that may allow us to get *Sit 'n Stay* available to members in a timely fashion, please email me at [janewheeler@optimum.net](mailto:janewheeler@optimum.net)

And, while we're talking about the newsletter, many thanks to those who have long been a part of putting together *Sit 'n Stay*: **George Berger, Morgaana Menzel, and Marcy Rauch!**

Couldn't have a better team!

## PARKING ANNOUNCEMENT

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

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



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# PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

## Opening

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm on June 11, 2019 in the lower level of Port Chester Obedience Training Club by Sara Gagnon

Present

- Sara Gagnon, President
- Jeanne Meldrim, 1st Vice President
- Dena Domenicali, Director
- Morganna Menzel, Director
- Mary Skirchak, Treasurer
- Olga Kornienko, Corresponding Secretary
- 23 club members including Barbara Napoli and Donna Fanok

## Absent

Grace Heck, 2nd Vice President  
Audrey Woods, Recording Secretary

## Minutes of Last Meeting

The president asked to waive the reading of the minutes from the last club meeting. A motion was made from the floor and seconded. All were in favor.

### Report of President

Thanked the club for an interesting 2 years as president and welcomed the new incoming board.

### Report of Recording Secretary

Nothing to report

### Report of Corresponding Secretary

Nothing to report

### Reports of Committees

**Registration** – Enrollment is at 423/session for May/June session up from 399 last year. Agility is up 35, Nosework is down 22, and Family Manners is down 14.

**Membership** – 209 members. Membership renewals will be due by the end of December.

**Seminars** – Upcoming seminars/events include: ORT in July, Kerry Smith coming in Sept, Seiter/Tucci on July 5-6th and Deb Jones on Sept 14-15.

**AKC Delegate Report** –

## Unfinished Business

New floors have arrived and were successfully installed thanks to the help of many wonderful members.

Items from the Dog Walk fundraiser are arriving. New wicket will be arriving tomorrow, tunnel and bags at the end of June and contacts should arrive in July.

## Election of Officers and Board

Since there was no opposing slate of candidates, the slate was as presented:

- Barbara Napoli replacing Sara Gagnon as President
- Margaret DeFonce replacing Grace Heck as Second Vice President
- Donna Fanok replacing Audrey Woods as Recording Secretary
- Dena Domenicali retaining her role as Director

Slate was voted in by the corresponding secretary who cast one vote.

## New Business

No new business was addressed

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm by Barbara Napoli, followed by presentation of annual club awards. The next club meeting is scheduled for August 29, 2019 at 7:30 pm in the lower level of Port Chester Obedience Training Club.

Minutes submitted by: Sara Gagnon

# Board Minutes

## 7/11/19

A Meeting of the Board of Managers of Port Chester Obedience Training Club (“Club” or “PCOTC”) was held at 7:30 P.M. EDT on July 11, 2019 in a meeting room of Port Chester Obedience Training Club, 220 Ferris Ave, White Plains, NY 10603

Present at the meeting were the following Managers and Directors:

- \* Barbara Napoli, President
- \* Jeanne Meldrim, 1st Vice President
- \* Margaret DeFonce, 2nd Vice President
- \* Donna Fanok, Recording Secretary
- \* Olga Kornienko, Corresponding Secretary
- \* Mary Skirchak, Treasurer
- \* Deedie Domenicali, Director
- \* Morgaána Menzel, Director

## President’s Report

To be sure to do our due diligence in finding the best prices for any purchases made

for the club.

To create a manual of all positions held and have a detailed list of the responsibilities of each.

## Report of the Committees

Is evaluating the club’s current pricing and will continue to try to ensure equal fairness among all disciplines while maintaining the ability to meet all the club’s expenses.

Discussed were different ideas on how to raise more revenue so as not to place the burden of rising prices solely on classes.

## Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Discussed trying to come up with an idea on how to handle the tremendous influx of emails so that notifications for eblasts can be processed more efficiently.

## Report of the Treasurer

Mary has directed that ASAP create a report. Meantime discussions have been started about a replacement and we will be looking into the strengths and weaknesses of different programs.

## Membership:

Several new members have been approved for membership.

### New member, Dog Name, Breed

- Renee Mininni, Milo, Chihuahua
- Kerri Nugent, Annika, Hovawart
- Rita Bernadino, Lorde, Cocker Spaniel; Pippa, Border Collie
- Olivia Bespolka, Zoe, Pit Bull Mix
- Betsy Schwartz, Rigby & Ellie, Old English Sheepdogs

## New Business

### Agility Instructor

We will continue with our efforts to find a new agility instructor to replace Grace Heck.

*continued*

# *Board Minutes*

*7/11/19*

## House Director

Due to injury will need to find a new House Director who can provide oversight and organize our team of volunteers to help with maintenance and upkeep of our facility.

## Lease

We will be putting together a committee which will include legal counsel to help with the negotiations of a new lease.

## Red Book

The Red Book is currently being updated and will be distributed to the membership shortly.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, on motion duly made and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M. EDT

Barbara Napoli, President  
Donna Fanok, Recording Secretary