

DOG SPORTS & TRAINING

PCOTC

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



Sit 'n Stay

Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Summer 2018

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Calendar of Events

Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted



CJ in the Fall, aka SG PAM Brimwyll Calamity Jane IPO3 FH CDX OA NAJ CGC KKI

Photo © Louise Jollyman

- Sep 5 Session 5 begins
- Sep 15-16 Julie Flanery Seminar
- Sep 16 PCOTC at Puttin' on the Dog, Greenwich, CT
- Sep 23 White Plains Weekend (Obedience Match Show)
- Oct 7 AKC Scent Work Trial
- Oct 21 White Plains Weekends
- Oct 26 Club Meeting & Howl-o-ween Party
- Oct 27 Vicki Ronchette Breed Handling Seminars
- Oct. 29 Session 6 begins
- Nov 4 AKC Obedience Trial
- Nov 18 White Plains Weekends
- Dec 2 White Plains Weekends
- Dec 9 Happy Ratters Overview, Happy Ratters Trials
- Dec 12 Club Meeting & Holiday Party
- Jan 6 White Plains Weekends
- Feb 24 White Plains Weekends
- Mar 3 AKC Obedience Trial

Port Chester Obedience Training Club

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB
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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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Next deadline: November 15, 2018

Sit 'n Stay is produced for online delivery. If you need to receive the newsletter in print, please contact Jane Wheeler at 845-227-5116.

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President's Message

These last few months have been filled with many changes. Our Family Manners Training Director went off to pursue exciting new opportunities on the west coast and the Board of Directors selected Cindy Rubin to step into the role. I look forward to seeing what she will do in the position.

We had a long-time board member, Megan Woods, step down at the annual elections to be replaced with Mary Skirchak. I'm so very grateful to the years of work Megan put into the club and wish her the very best in her future endeavors. Mary has been doing an amazing job as she learns the ropes and I can't wait to see all the great things she will do for the club.

Our newest director, Deedee Domenicali, has taken on the task of looking into our registration system to maximize its usefulness and in the process, within her first month on the board, dramatically decreased our credit card processing fees.

And perhaps to me, the most exciting news is the actions of some amazing volunteers who have stepped up to lead programs and events that they want to see at the club. Alice Wang was the lead person in getting Kerry Smith to come for a weekend of amazing agility seminars. Anita Ambani felt the club was lacking in Rally run-thrus and, (even though she only just joined the club!), has been spearheading their addition to the club's list of events. She's also started the leg work to hold PCOTC's first agility ACT trial, which is just amazing!

We have many amazing and wonderful members who have been working hard for the club for many, many years but it brings me great joy to see the influx of new blood coming out of the woodwork to be a vital part of the future of the club. Truly, thank you to all the volunteers who devote so much time and effort! You are all the life blood of this club.

— Sara Gagnon, president@pcotc.org



Don't miss our
Howl-o-ween
Party & Club Meet-
ing on
Friday, Oct. 26. We'll
have **frightfully**
good refreshments
and great games!

Welcome New Members

- Mindy Costanza, Australian Shepherd
- Zachary Trunkely & Jaime Rufo, Rough Collie
- Heidi Wise, Pomerian
- Robin Zhou, Pembroke Welsh Corgi

Save the Dates: Club Meetings in 2018

- Friday, Oct. 26, Howl-o-ween Party & Club Meeting
- Wednesday, Dec. 12, Holiday Party & Club Meeting

Club Doings

Annual Meeting June 27

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

Next came the announcement and presentation of the AKC's Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship. Training Director Awards were presented in the fields of Obedience and Rally, Agility, Family Manners, and Canine Nose/Scent Work. Capping the awards presentations was the annual President's Award. The award winners and spoken tributes to them are covered on this and the following pages.

The club's officers and directors presented yearly reports. There were no challengers to the proposed nominees for the Board.

One-half of the eight Board positions are up for a vote each year. This year's nominating committee proposed the following slate, and these four people were elected to office by vote of the Recording Secretary, Audrey Woods

- First Vice President: Jeanne Meldrim
- Treasurer: Mary Skirchak (new to the Board)
- Corresponding Secretary: Olga Kornienko
- Director: Morgaana Menzel

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

Membership Renewal. When you last renewed your membership, the fee covered the period from June, 2017 through

December, 2018, to help us transfer to a calendar year (versus our previous June through May club year.) Therefore, no renewals are due at this time. Memberships will be renewed during December 2018.

Volunteer Hours. Because of our extra-long "year," volunteer hours will be reckoned at the end of December 2018. On December 31, 18 volunteer hours are required for a volunteer's class discount. Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded to all members who reported 45 or more volunteer hours during this special club "year."

A list of member hours is available [here](#) and will be updated periodically until the end of December 2018 so you can make sure you complete your desired hours.

Annual Awards 2018



2018 President's Award: Marcy Rauch

I'd like to express my heartfelt appreciation for Marcy Rauch's crucial help and advice over this past year. She's been "on call" whenever it was necessary—such as an emergency lifting and cleaning of mats due to a flood, or taking responsibility for a public event at the last minute, or digging into facts about flooring for dog training.

And also, Marcy's new puppy Annika is *adorable!*

— *Sara Gagnon, PCOTC President*

Photo © Morgaana Photography

Annual Awards 2018

Photography © Morgaana Photography

Nose/Scent Work TD Award: Jessica Ryan

Jessica Ryan took Jackie, her Pembroke Welch Corgi, to their first nose work class back in 2010, when the program had just begun at PCOTC. The two had been a successful Rally team and earned their ARCH title when Jackie began to become sound sensitive and was not comfortable working in the ring or at competitions. Jessica was looking for something to do with Jackie that would engage her and challenge her.

At the first nose work class, Jess was a little worried that Jackie wouldn't search. What if Jackie worried about boxes tipping over or gates moving—but lo and behold—Jackie only cared about solving odor problems—and searching for hot dogs! A Nose Work rock star was born!

Jessica spent the following years helping Jackie work through sound sensitivity and develop into an incredibly confident and independent search dog. Jess is an

incredibly intuitive handler and always knew when her dog needed her support. She never let Jackie struggle unnecessarily and she was always there to cheer her on. As time went on, Jackie didn't care about trains rushing by outside the club, or random objects suddenly moving or dropping. Jackie just wanted to search and her enthusiasm and energy was infectious. If any of you ever get a chance to watch one of Jessica's corgis work, take it. I promise you that you will smile for hours afterward.

Jackie earned her NW2 title and Jessica has trained with Jackie at the Elite level. She is now working with another of her corgis, Ukee at the same advanced level.

The support Jessica gives to her dogs is the same kind of support she lends to her colleagues. Jessica treats every dog at our Thursday night as though they were hers. She cheers everyone on and is always there to help whenever somebody needs it. She notices subtleties in how the dogs work and is fast to articulate it. Plus, Jessica has a wicked sense of humor and she manages

to crack everyone up. And she knows the lyrics to every Disney song ever.

Jess is currently working with her youngest Corgi, Hope, and we can't wait to see what the future holds for them.

We are proud to give Jessica Ryan this acknowledgment of her sportsmanship, support, and dedication to her dogs. She most definitely embodies the spirit of what K9 Nose Work is all about.

— Jessica Schulte

Agility TD Award: Joan Kaufman

Joan is an incredibly dedicated student. She strives to be the best possible handler for her dog. She is so open to the learning process and wants nothing more than to have fun with her dog. She is deserving of this award.

— Stefanie Rainer

2018 AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award: Bruce Sheffler

The description of this award on the AKC website reads, "In the American Kennel Club's ongoing efforts to recognize and celebrate its volunteer club members, The AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award program was established in 2006 to provide each member club with an AKC Medallion to award to one of its own on a yearly basis. This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club."



Left: Bruce Sheffler receiving AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award.

Above: Patricia Chen goes over the results of a member survey about PCOTC's facility.

Annual Awards 2018

Photography © Morgaana Photography

Family Manners TD Award: Lauren Green

Lauren Green takes Family Manners classes with her dog Ben, a Shar-Pei and English Bulldog cross. They've been coming to class consistently for a full year, starting with Family Manners Foundation in May of 2017. They took Recalls & LLW, Eager Greeters, and FM Skills. Since then Lauren has re-registered continuously every session. They just completed their fifth session of FM Skills.

Ben is a challenging dog. He's not aggressive, but he's a bit uncomfortable around dogs he doesn't know, and he stresses and shuts down easily. He's been known to freeze & stare at new dogs in class, and totally lose his focus if any of the other

dogs bark. Sometimes he feels like working, sometimes he doesn't. Sometimes he works well for a few minutes & then zones out, lies down & won't move. In FM Foundation, he was so distracted and stressed by the other dogs that he had to stay behind a visual barrier. Ever since then, we've been working on getting him out to work while seeing the other dogs. Success depends in large part on the behavior of the other dogs—if they ignore him, he's learning to ignore them.

Through all of this, Lauren always handles him with good humor, encouragement, persistence, and endless patience. Each session, they do a little better. They are finally getting to where they can often do a whole segment of class without a glitch. We're so proud of both of them!

— Jenn Michaelis, FM TD

Obedience & Rally TD Award: Alice Carter

I would like to recognize Alice Carter for the training directors award. During the past two years Alice has served as my class assistant in the bridging the gap class. She's been successful in assisting students with new exercises, helping to organize the class and keep things running smoothly. Through out this year Alice has also grown as a trainer. She established better training practices with her own dogs. I have seen the change with her methodology, and training has become more thoughtful and successful. I have experienced Alice now able to see the issues or challenges her dogs are facing and is now breaking them down into little steps to help her dogs succeed. Please join me in congratulating Alice Carter as recipient of the training directors award.

— Rick Pisani



Top: Jenn says goodbye.

Bottom: Crowd scene

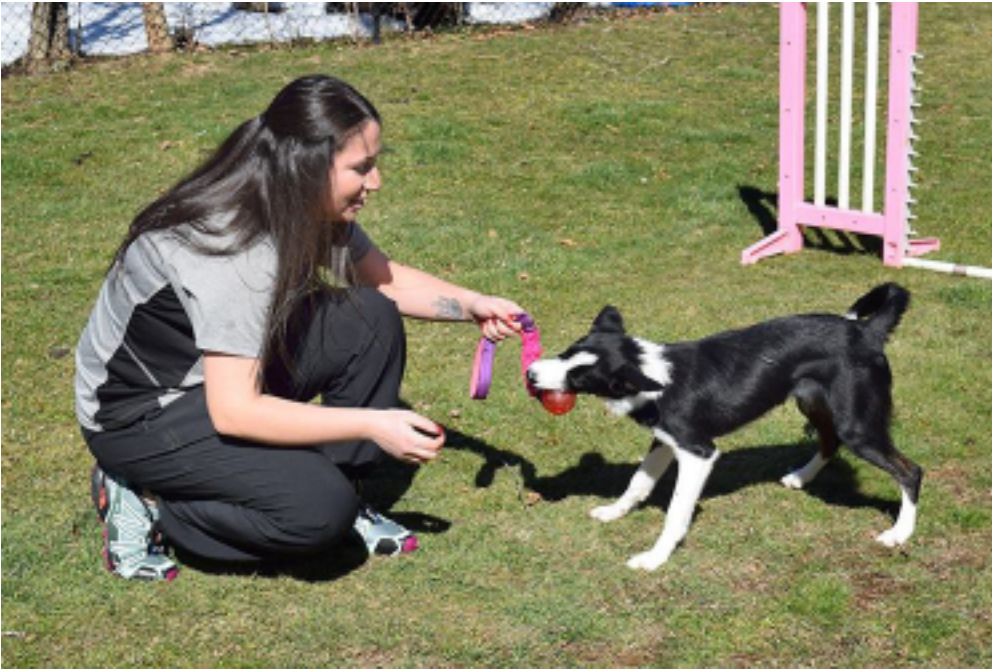
Right: Alice Carter receives the Obedience/Rally TD Award



Agility

Agility Tip: Starting Off on the Right Paw

by Stefanie Rainer, Agility Training Director, OMD Assistant Coach



I get asked this question all the time: “Is my puppy too young to start in agility training?” My answer: while it is never too young to start training, you want to be cautious about how much stress you put on your puppy’s young growing body. So while you don’t want to do much jumping or tight turning, the early months are critical for setting your pup up for success. Here are three things

I would do right off the bat with my new agility hopeful.

1. Expose your puppy to lots of different surfaces: You can set up a whole obstacle course for them of planks on the ground, garbage bags to walk over, pillow cases, blankets. Introducing your puppy to different surfaces will assure that they won’t be hesi-

tant to hop on the contact equipment when it comes time to teach the big stuff.

2. Play and engagement: It is important to discover how your pup likes to play and what sorts of toys/ food they will want to work for. This will help make each and every training session as fun and rewarding for your pup, as it will be for you to watch them learn and grow.

3. Balance: Like humans, dogs favor their right or left lead (paw) or turn better in one direction versus the other. Make sure you work your pup an equal amount on both your right and left side to help him/her become comfortable working on both sides of your body. This will keep your pup balanced and assure that they can comfortably and confidently turn both to their right and left.

Finally, make sure to not rush your puppy’s training and allow them time to grow physically and mentally. Enjoy this time because it goes way too fast!

Happy Ratters Comes to PCOTC Dec. 9

Happy Ratters is a new urban vermin hunting sport. No rats are harmed, they are safe inside PVC tubes. The Happy Ratter’s Philosophy: “The goal is for the dog and owner to have a fun, positive and successful experience while enhancing the bond between dog and owner!”

- Fun, trusting environment for dogs and their handlers to hunt vermin (rats) in “urban” settings.
- A titling program that allows all dogs to compete toward different level titles.

- A program that encourages camaraderie and support between competitors.

Save the date! On December 9, 2018, We will be having a two-hour overview of Happy Ratters followed by two trials.

If you would like to be on the trial committee, please contact Jeanne Meldrim at JeanneMeldrim@gmail.com. We will need someone to take trial entries (you can do this at home.), someone to do the trial scoring, a head steward, and volunteers on the day of the trial to keep everything running smoothly.



Obedience

Obedience Tip: Auditing

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

At PCOTC we host a variety of seminars. Obtaining a working spot is not always easy because they are limited and can be expensive. Many people pass up attending a seminar because they did not get a working spot. I hope you will reconsider and give those auditing spots a try! There are many people who feel they are kinesthetic type learners. They feel they can only learn if they are able to apply the technique directly in the moment of learning. The benefits of being an auditor include observing and watching each team. Some teams will have a dog just like yours and others will have a completely different type of dog. You

will be able to ask questions more freely because you don't have the added challenge of worrying about your dog. I find many working students only participate when it is their turn and miss out on a wealth of information that is being delivered. Auditing spots are also less expensive than working spots.

On September 15 and 16 we will be hosting Julie Flanery. (See below.) Julie is the owner of Wonder Dogs and Creative Canine in Oregon. Julie has titles in Obedience, Freestyle, Rally-Obedience, Rally FrEe, Agility, and Trick Dog. Julie is a renowned seminar presenter both nationally and internation-

ally. She is also an instructor at the Fenzi Dog Sports Academy.

This workshop is geared toward those either currently working in or working toward performance sports, though it would be beneficial to the motivated pet owner as well. All working spots are currently filled, but I hope you will consider joining us for one or both days in September. You can view the whole flyer on the club's website or register online by visiting dog.class.register@gmail.com or contact me for more information.

I hope to see you there!

Julie Flanery Seminar Sept. 15-16

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

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

Two-day registration only for working spots on September 15 and 16.. Auditors may attend either or both days.

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

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

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

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

Maximum 12 working spots. (Now filled)

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

Both days run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Working teams



must attend both days. \$380 total for both days. Auditors, \$90 per day for either day. If you need help with online registration, please contact dog.class.register@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

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

Obedience

Rally Tip: “Put a Cookie on It”

by Ann Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA

A great trainer had a favorite saying: “Got a problem? Put a cookie on it.”

So simple: be cheerful, be generous, love your dog, go forward.

Put a cookie on it.

But it does get complicated, doesn't it? You can't take cookies into the AKC ring and, although you can bring treats into the WCRL ring, you are only allowed to use them in very specific ways—not necessarily at the moment your dog actually needs them.

So what to do? Of course it's no problem if your chosen dog sport is something your partner finds self rewarding, like herding, or hunting, or tracking, or fly ball, or agility. But rally (or obedience for that matter)

doesn't fall naturally into that niche, so it's up to us to make our chosen dog sport worth our partners' time.

We can foster delayed gratification or even with some dogs a sense of satisfaction in a job well done. This process takes patience, I know, you've heard that before...

To begin with, you've got to know your dog. How does he play? What does he love to do more than anything else in the world? Does he put his nose down and sniff his way through life? Does he chase every ball—or better yet, every squirrel? Does he stick close to you or tend to wander, cuddle or roughhouse?

Next, you need to play with your dog. Play

the way he likes to play, tug, ball throwing, hide and seek, chase (he chases you, mostly—not the other way around!), walking in the woods with lots of recalls. Gradually introduce tricks (including obedience behaviors.)

Now is when it is important to know what kind of dog you have. If your dog is really “biddable,” loves to practice fronts, heads up heeling, perfect finishes, all with sustained attention and only occasional rewards, then thank your lucky stars, but if you are like the rest of us, you will need to keep the games going. Be mindful of your dog's perspective and adjust your training techniques to include an understanding of what is worthwhile working for (including, but not limited to, cookies).

White Plains Weekends: Obedience Run-Thrus



28, May 19, June 23, July 21

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

Please note that PCOTC's Obedience trials will be on November 4 and March 3. It's a good idea to plan to enter the run-thrus before the trials.

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

“White Plains Weekends” are Obedience Match Shows at Port Chester Obedience Training Club. Our matches will run from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm on indoors, with AC/heat, Sundays. Here are our dates for Fall 2018 and Winter/Spring 2019::

- **2018:** Sept.23, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec.2
- **2019:** Jan. 6, Feb. 24, March 31 (pending), April

This year, again, all registration will be done through Dogmatchshows.com. Each obedience run is \$10 for Novice, Open, and/or Utility. The major advantage is the ability to choose your time slot. In the event that you cannot make your scheduled entry, please send a friend. There will be no refunds or carrying over to the next match.

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

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

Obedience

Nov. 4 Obedience Trial

On November 4, Port Chester Obedience Training Club will host its 114th and 115th obedience trials!

Trial hours are 9 am to 5 pm; the facility opens at 8 am. Entries close at 5 pm on Oct. 17 or when numerical limits have been reached.

The Trial Committee includes Obedience Chair Bruce Sheffler, Event Secretary Lori Carver, Chief Steward Morgaana Menzel, Hospitality Chair Joanne Sheffler, and Grounds, Bruce Sheffler.

Trial Judges are Mrs. Sandra Walker, Trial #1, and Ms. Jeanne M. Charest, Trial #2. Classes offered at both trials include Beginner Novice A and B, Novice A and B, Open A and B, and Utility A and B. The trials will run concurrently and will both start at 9 am. This allows us to offer two runs without going into the evening. All classes will run in catalog order.

Accommodations that allow dogs are included in the premium—but be sure to check when you make your reservation, because hotels sometimes change their practices. Directions to the club are also provided in the premium.

Click for the [online premium](#) and [entry form](#).



Images from June 29 obedience trials at PCOTC
© Morgaana Photography



Nose & Scent Work

AKC Scent Work Trials Oct. 7

PCOTC's 3rd and 4th Annual AKC Scent Work Trials are now open. Both trials begin at 9:00 am and run until 4:00 pm on Sunday, October 7.

Both trials will include:

- Novice A/B Containers
- Advanced Containers
- Novice A/B Buried
- Advanced Buried

The premium list is available [here](#) and the Entry Form is found [here](#). Entries close on Sept. 17 or when the numerical limits have been reached, after which time entries cannot be accepted.

The Trial Chair is Kathy Gregory, gregdobes@aol.com and the Judge is Ms. Gale Meadow. For any questions, please contact the Trial Secretary, David Eisenbacher, at david.eisenbacher@gmail.com



Photo: A dog working at PCOTC's first-ever AKC Scent Work trial last year.

© Morgaana Photography

Family Manners

Taking It on the Road: The Vet's Office

by *Cindy Rubin, CPDT-KA*

Your dog's training takes a road trip every time you leave the house together. One of the most important trips you take is the annual veterinary exam.

A well-socialized puppy/dog has been exposed to many different people and places. Even though your puppy goes for scheduled visits between 8-16 weeks, you should make plans to socialize your puppy at the vet's office. Be sure to call ahead and tell the staff you'd like to come for a visit and you'll get a quiet time when there is staff available for cuddles and treats. Bring plenty of high value treats. Hopefully your puppy doesn't get carsick. If she does practice short, frequent car rides on an empty stomach.

Let's think about the three positions that we teach our dogs: sit, down and stand. Each one of these is critical at the vet's office. After your puppy/dog is comfortable at the vet's office, you can do some training there as well as socialization. A well-trained dog can perform his behaviors in many different situations.



How do you utilize the sit at the vet's office? Train your dog/ puppy to sit before entering the doorway, making sure the way is clear. Never allow your dog to charge into any area; there could be dogs or people exiting and you don't want a confrontation. Your dog should sit quietly at your side while you check in. Reward your dog for

sitting in these situations—use your voice or clicker. If he is too stressed to sit, click/treat for eye contact then try again.

I prefer to have my dogs in a down position while waiting for their appointment. If your dog knows how to settle, this is a good opportunity to practice it. Keep your dog's attention on you, not other dogs or people in the waiting area. Remind him he is doing a down and click/treat for each successful down.

The most impressive and helpful exercise your dog can execute at the vet's office is the stand. Most veterinarians are both pleased and impressed by patients that can stand on command and hold it. This makes the exam so much easier. Even if your dog is not totally trained in the stand, you can ask for the stand, lure him into it with one of your treats, and help him keep the stand while being examined.

Be sure to praise your dog for all these behaviors and have a calm attitude yourself.

Cindy Rubin is New Family Manners Training Director



Jenn Michaelis, PCOTC's previous Family Manners Training Director, moved from the East Coast to the West late this summer. Though we will miss her, we're happy that Jenn, her dogs, horse, and husband are all looking forward to life in Oregon.

The Board appointed Cindy Rubin as the PCOTC's FM Training Director. Cindy Rubin has been part of the PCOTC faculty for over 15 years. She has spent those years teaching competition obedience. Many of her students have achieved titles in obedience and rally.

Cindy has put obedience, rally, agility, and barn hunt titles on her four Border Collies.

She is thrilled to join the Family Manners team and share her years of experience as an instructor of group classes and private in-home consultations.

"I'm looking forward to helping new dog and handler teams master the skills that insure a happy home life," says Cindy.

Best of Breed Handling

Dressed for Success!

by Fran Hellman CPDT-KA

So you're all set! You've gone to breed handling classes, you've groomed and conditioned your dog, and you've made your entries—but what will you wear? Here are some things to consider: Your dog's breed, its color, the weather, and will you also be showing in performance, i.e. obedience or rally? Is it an indoor or outdoor venue? What will the footing be like?

First rule of thumb is to dress business-like. If you want to be taken seriously by the judge and the other exhibitors then you must dress the part. If you are new to showing you may want to attend a dog show and observe how the professional handlers dress. Men should wear a sports jacket, collared shirt, tie, and dress pants. Suits are also good. If it's a very hot day then it is OK to wear a golf shirt with dress pants. Women should wear a skirt suit, or a dress with a blazer. Pantsuits are acceptable. It is best to dress conservatively. No bright or bold patterns. You don't want to steal the show away from your dog but instead

to set an appropriate backdrop for him. You can select colors that are neutral, light or pastels. Select colors that compliment and contrast with your dog. You wouldn't want to wear a black skirt or pants if you are showing a black dog. Factoring in your dog's breed will help you decide on your outfit. For example, if you are showing a Scottie, you may want to wear plaid. Avoid wearing dangling necklaces, bangle bracelets and large hoop earrings, and no plunging necklines for the ladies.

Pockets! Pockets! Pockets! Did someone say pockets? OK, not totally necessary. You can stick the bait in your mouth or your bra, but that's a handler's preference. Some exhibitors use a bait bag but it should be mostly concealed and not flopping around or spilling out treats everywhere. Therefore, when shopping for show clothing you will need to consider where you will put the bait.

When selecting shoes to wear, choose

closed backed shoes that are clean, comfortable and provide good footing. Rubber soled shoes with a low heel are advisable. Rain boots can be worn if needed.

Also consider how you will wear your hair. Long hair should be tied back or up. It should not be falling onto your dog or interfering with your or your dog's performance.

Sunglasses are acceptable to wear on very sunny days. You may want to take your cue from the judge. If the judge is wearing sunglasses then it's probably OK for you as well. Some things to consider about wearing sunglasses: your glasses may fall off when you are gaiting your dog or, since your dog cannot see your eyes, there can be a breakdown in communication with him.

Lastly, if it is a rainy day it is acceptable to wear a nice raincoat when handling your dog in the ring but remember to remove it when you are taking your win photos.

Happy shopping!

Examples of dressing for success in dog shows:



Breed Handling

Vicki Ronchette Seminars: Back by Popular Demand!

October 27 – 28, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday: From Shy to Showy

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

Sunday: Polishing Your Performance

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

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

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

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



FROM SHY TO SHOWY

Help for your shy show dog



VICKI RONCHETTE, CPDT

AKC Delegate's Report

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

Michael Houchard gave a report from the sub-committee addressing Ribbons and Rosettes. Cathy Rubens, also on the sub-committee, left the meeting to give a similar report to the Dog Show Rules committee. The goal of the proposal is to offer clubs an option for saving money on one show expense by ordering ribbons and rosettes in bulk. It would also give uniformity across all AKC events that award ribbons and/or rosettes. There are two proposed options for change to Chapter 5, Sect. 2 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows. Option 1: the year, date of show, and name of city or town where show is given must appear on the face, back tab or on a label attached to the award. Clubs which elect to move from the front of the award the year, date of show, and name of city or town are responsible for ensuring that this information is on a back tab or label on the award. Option 2: Alternatively, for awards below Group level, clubs may elect to eliminate from the front and place on the back tab or label of the award the numerals of year, date of show, and name of city or town where show is given. Clubs which elect to move from the front of the award the year, date of show, and name of city or town are responsible for ensuring that this information is on back tab or label on the award. The All-Breed Clubs committee voted in favor of recommending Option 1.

There was continued discussion regarding the lack of "purpose bred" dogs to participate in the defense of our country. These dogs would serve our country as bomb and drug detection, protection and agricultural first alert dogs. This is a crisis that the AKC is putting much weight behind and is in the forefront of organizing discussion groups to understand the problem and provide realistic solutions. The AKC wants to establish a program between government agencies who need quality working dogs and breeders who can provide them. Toward that end, the AKC and end users have set some standards of the dogs eligible for these programs. The dogs must be

"Purpose Bred" Breed specific candidates bred for characteristics earmarked as valuable for the job.

"Purpose Raised" Socialized and acclimated to situations typical for their ultimate job.

"Purpose Trained" Given preliminary training useful for their ultimate job.

Given these guidelines, it is currently thought that breeds in the Sporting Group would be the most desirable for success in these lines of work. There are now approximately 16,000 dogs working in an American military or para-military capacity and it is estimated that an additional 5-10,000 additional dogs are needed.

The Herding Earthdog and Coursing Committee has recommended the allowing of the use of Haltis to LEAD A DOG TO THE START LINE of Lure Coursing and Fast CAT events. At the start line, the Haltis must be removed from the dog. This change will not allow any dog to run and compete in a Halti. It is hoped that this change will enable handlers of excited dogs of all sizes to safely move their dogs to the start line. If this change is successful, it is hoped that it will be applied to other AKC sports, as well.

The AKC has instituted another new titled certification: Urban Canine Good Citizen Certification! This certification testifies to a dog's ability to move safely and obediently thru typical urban situations. Some of the elements are:

- The dog must have his/her CGC certification first
- The test is performed on leash
- The test is given in an urban setting
- There is no age limit of the dog taking the test
- Only buckle collars or harnesses are used during the test
- No food rewards can be used during the test, but the handler may speak encouragement to the dog.

Here are some of the environments the dog must successfully negotiate with their handler:

AKC Urban CGC Test Items

1. Exit/enter doorway with no pulling in dog-friendly buildings.
2. Walk through a crowd on a busy urban sidewalk
3. Appropriate reaction to city distractions. This includes movement, noises, and walking on a variety of surfaces.
4. Crossing street under control.
5. Ignore food on sidewalk.
6. Person walks up and pets the dog. May be carrying an item such as a small dog in a bag, a computer bag, etc.
7. Public Building (that is dog friendly). Walks under control in building (slick surface, carpeted floor). Down stay (3 min) in lobby or outdoor area, or waits while owner has a meal or snack.
8. Stairs, steps, or elevator under control.
 - Steps
 - Elevator
9. Housetrained for apartment, condo, city living. Owner may verify this item. Evaluator may also observe in public buildings, or have observed in training classes.
10. Transportation. Owner's choice depending on transportation needs.
 - Car. Enters/exits, remains under control during the ride. (Crate? Seatbelt?)
 - Subway. Small dog in bag for ride. (large dogs are not always permitted; know and abide by the Transit Policies in your area).
 - Dog friendly (enters/exits or allows to be put in/taken out) under control.To successfully pass the CGCU test, dogs must pass all 10 items of the test.

Acquiring the Urban CGC certification does not mean that your dog is a "therapy" dog, but I have heard recently that airlines are considering requiring this certification as one criterion for allowing "therapy" dogs into the passenger sections of planes. Stay tuned for updates to that information.

continued

AKC Delegate's Report p. 2

Sports and events is a mission-driven activity for the AKC and no one does it bigger than they do. They have 25 different sports that AKC manages itself, 20,000 events a year. Every weekend, on average, there are 400 AKC events going on around the country, 3.1 million entries in total in a year. This is obviously a concern. In 2004 conformation events lost entries for the first time and they have lost entries every year since. So, for 14 straight years conformation has been shrinking. The number one observation is this is not a short-term phenomenon, and, number two, there was a big dip in 2008 where the sport lost an unimaginable 120,000 entries in one year. Dog sports are not recession proof. When push comes to shove, this activity is something that a person can stop doing if they are short on resources. In 2016 the AKC came the closest that they have been since 2004 to breaking even. The AKC was very hopeful that 2017 would push us across the line and we would actually see some growth. However, just about a year ago, the canine influenza virus hit the sports particularly in some regions of the country and really hurt entries. They lost about 24,000 entries, due to people staying away from dog shows and trials out of concern about the virus. May year-to-date entry numbers are down 0.6 percent in entries for conformation. So, we are getting close. Last year, in total, the sport was down 2 percent. We are moving in the right direction, but we are not above water yet.

Obedience has been going down pretty steadily for five straight years, about a 3 percent decline a year, or 4,000 to 5,000 entries a year. Last year this sport went through a very major issue that it tackled, and that was the changes in the group exercises. If you are familiar with the sport, you know the debate was quite intense last summer and early fall. A lot of well-intentioned people had quite a difference of opinion on what to do with the group exercises. In the end, the decision was made to change the group exercises, not an easy decision for the sport. Those new group exercises went into effect May 1st. **HANG ON!**

The CGC program has been very successful over a long period of time. When CGC

was made a title in 2013 that really boosted growth. It has been in an upward trend ever since. 2017 experienced a 10 percent growth. This summer the 1 millionth dog will have passed the CGC test, a real landmark for this activity.

Then there are field trials, hunting tests, earthdog, lure coursing and herding events. They have been on a downward trend of about 0.6 per year over the last decade. All these events are held outside and therefore are subject to the weather. That's why their attendance is erratic. Modern performance events are CAT, fast CAT and scent work. They are growing very rapidly and this year that number will be about 100,000 entries. And, finally, our title recognition program. The major ones you have all heard of are barn hunt, dock diving and therapy dogs. They have been growing. The one activity that would blow up any graph, is the trick dog program which was launched on May 1st. The AKC awarded 18,000 titles in the trick dog program. This program is extremely popular and shows no signs of slowing up.

The AKC has three major sports and events goals, the first one is to support breeding for type and function by providing evaluation in purposeful sporting events. That is the traditional basis of AKC sports, and many of our sports accomplish that very well. Our second goal is to promote purebred dogs as family companions, responsible dog ownership, and encourage involvement with AKC by providing activities that appeal to the interests, lifestyle and resources of all dog owners. That's where we are trying to expand our reach to people who perhaps don't have interest in our traditional sport, get them involved with AKC. Once they are involved, hopefully they will look around and see some of the other activities and understand the great things we do and will migrate to other sports. And, finally, our third goal is to retain participants by providing a lifetime of rewarding activities for dogs and their families. We have been adding novice-level activities at the lower end, more advanced titles at the upper end, so once you get locked in to whatever you love to do, you can do that from puppyhood to veteran dogs. We hope that these changes to traditional sports and the introduction of new

ways to compete with and have fun with your dog will engage a new generation of dog fanciers who will participate in working with and having fun with their dogs in many ways.

The AKC is doing a considerable amount of advertising for funding for the new Museum of the Dog. A special program for AKC clubs has been set up so that all clubs may be able to buy a plaque with their club name on it to support the huge undertaking that planning, constructing and moving into this museum represents. Recently, PCOTC sent out a member survey asking your opinion about if and how the club should participate in this effort. As your club Delegate, I would urge every member to vote to participate in this effort. Port Chester Obedience Training Club is among the oldest AKC member clubs and the establishment of this museum in New York City represents a huge opportunity for our love of our dogs to be proudly displayed in the greatest city in the world. PCOTC's name should be proudly displayed in this museum as a testimony to all our member's advocacy for the love of dogs and the importance they have in our lives. I urge you all to vote for our club's participation in this once in a lifetime statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Gregory



Michele Cardone's Puppy Zack in the Fall

AKC on the Move



Dennis B. Sprung, the AKC's President and CEO, sent out a letter on August 31 announcing that the American Kennel Club is moving to its new home at 101 Park Avenue, New York City, on Sept. 14, 2018. The new quarters will open on Sept. 17, which is the date of the founding of the American Kennel Club in 1884.

The AKC Museum of the Dog, currently located in St. Louis, Missouri, will move to the same building in New York, opening in January 2019. The AKC Museum of the Dog is one of the largest repositories of canine-related art in the world.

The AKC is honoring AKC clubs with an exclusive recognition opportunity in the new building called "The AKC Clubs Wall of Fame." One of three different-sized panels may be purchased by AKC clubs and inscribed with the club's name. PCOTC's Board surveyed club members as to whether we should purchase a panel, and if so, what size/price. A majority of PCOTC's members voted "yes" and chose a third-tier panel at \$2,500 (the least expensive).



"Willpower," by Charles van den Eycken, 1891

Fall Public Event: Puttin' on the Dog

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

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

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

To volunteer for this event, please contact Sharon Ripps at sharonfaith.ripps@gmail.com

Photography from a previous Puttin' on the Dog © Bill Romania



Summer Events

June 28: Rally Trial

by Ann Mandelbaum, © Morgaana Photography

PCOTC held back-to-back AKC Rally Trials on July 28th at the Training Center, followed on Sunday by two AKC Obedience Trials on July 29th.

It takes a lot of coordinated planning and work by many members to hold a well-run and successful trial. I want to thank those who made these trials possible. Meg Tucker set up the trial site Friday night with the help of Morgaana Menzel, Linda Seaver, Scott Shaw, Bruce Scheffler and Joanne Scheffler so that when we came in on Saturday morning everything looked clean, ready to go and inviting. Patty Meyer made sure that morning coffee and breakfast snacks and an assortment of refreshments were available throughout the day as well as bringing a delicious deli lunch order for officials and volunteers at the lunch break.

Our Judge for both trials, Dr Karen Tucker, provided interesting nested courses. Going by the many comments I heard, both inexperienced teams and old hands enjoyed the day.

Chief Steward, Morgaana Menzel gathered a group of competent Stewards, some of whom had no previous experience, but she and our table steward, Karen Wrey, herself an experienced Rally Judge, kept everything running smoothly through both trials and the Trial Secretary, Maureen Bordins, prepared the records for AKC perfectly.

It was a long day but a happy and successful one for several of our club members Morgaana Menzel with Rhoswyn Fae and Meg Tucker with Sashi each earned a perfect score in Novice B (good thing we had 2 trials!). Ramona Johnson was the only Junior Exhibitor to earn a leg with Sassafra. Also, Meg Tucker and Wager, Linda Seaver and Xodi and Barbara Siegel and Ivan all earned New Titles!

We Congratulate them all!



Summer Events

June 29: Obedience Trials

Photography © Morgaana Photography

Obedience Trials demonstrate the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the obedience ring and emphasize the usefulness of the dog as a companion to human-kind. Each level of obedience competition – Novice, Open, and Utility – requires mastering a specific skill set, which in-

crease 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 discrimination, directed retrieves, jumping and silent signal exercises, is the most challenging class.



Glad Tales



Plop on 2019 IFCS Agility World Team

Plop and I went to Tennessee and won a spot on the 2019 IFCS agility world team. We will represent the USA (and rescue dogs!) in the Netherlands in April!!

— *Lisa Topol*

Left: Lisa and Plop from group shot
Right: Plop at Tryouts



Kate Earns GCH

I'm proud to announce that my home bred girl "Kate" attained her AKC Grand Championship on June 16, 2018. She is now sporting a new title: GCH Sunjays Kiss Me Kate.

— *Fran Hellman*



Sanora Titles in Obedience and Scent Work

Sanora and I have been very busy this summer! Sanora earned her CDX in three straight shows, all first placements.

We also competed in AKC Scent Work, completing our Scent Work Inter- or Novice (SIN) title and Scent Work Container Novice (SCN) title. We also participated in a NACSW ORT (Odor Recognition Test) for Anise and pass! So proud of her!

— *Ruth Armisto*

Glad Tales



Rhoswyn Fae

What a lovely weekend of trailing with the many talented exhibitors competing at PCOTC in rally obedience. Rhoswyn got a respectable score of 95 with a third-place finish in the first Trial and in the next Trial, we got a Perfect Score of 100 with a first place finish! So proud of my baby girl.

Thank you Judge Dr. Karen Westerfield Tucker!

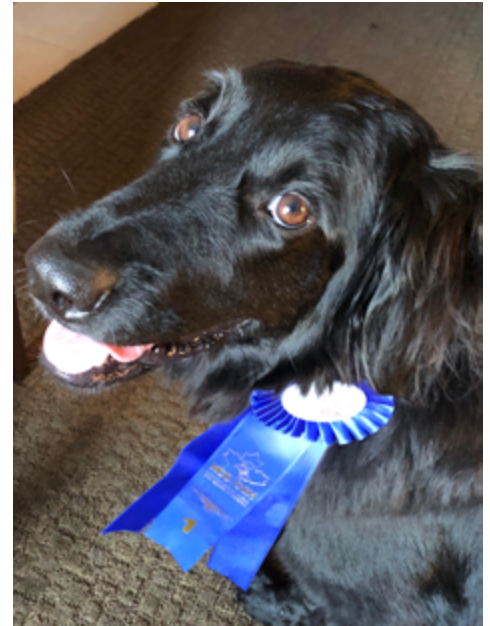
— *Morgaana Menzel*

Dahra at Hovawart Breed Special

I'm a fifteen-month-old Hovawart who just went to the Canadian Hovawart Breed Special in Mont Tremblant, Quebec, where I received scores of Excellent in both the Conformation and the Temperament Test. Yay!

A big Hovi hug to Fran Hellman, without whose wise instruction we would never have done so well at this, our very first show!

— *Ebba Grumieaux*



Alex Adds a CD to his RN

Our younger dog, Alex, (Overlook's Ode to Alexander's Wag Time Band) just added his CD to his RN.

— *Jonathon & Lynn Halpern*

Grace Heck and Riley

Earn Third Place Finish at New England Regionals (USDAA)



Sad Tales & Additions



Farewell to **Top Rail's Keeper of the Stars** "Echo" - 11/30/00 - 5/12/18

You will forever be a part of me, in my heart and in my soul.

Echo was one awesome aussie. She was "too much" in her previous home and came to me as a rehome at 18 months old...flew in from Texas during massive storms and tornadoes, came out of her crate with a look that said "are you my new mom?" We drove home and she got to meet Bandit. It was true love! They ran and did zoomies around the yard and were inseparable.

Echo started agility at 20 months of age...taught herself to weave by following Bandit through them in the backyard and had all her novice titles in AKC, NADAC and USDAA by her second birthday. In addition to all the titles, she was invited to ASCA Nationals agility finals numerous times. By the time she retired, she was MACH ADCH-Bronze PDCH ATCH4 NATCH Echo MXB MXJS (to name just a few). But her best title was "Best Friend."

What can I say about the gift I had having Echo as a partner? There aren't enough words to convey what she means and meant to me. Those who knew her know what a gentle and kind soul she was. She was a PCOTC super-volunteer, demoing more times than I can count, helping out people trying to figure out handling maneuvers they were struggling with by running with them, and even helping fearful and reactive dogs acclimate to other dogs with her Zen demeanor. Echo also loved working sheep and was a natural, and a frisbee fiend as well. She also had a wild child tendency and was a consummate problem solver (took louvers out of my door to get to the cat food in the next room, taught herself to open the fridge, scale wall units, and so on). She made me a better trainer and a better human.

Echo crossed the last day of the PCOTC agility trial in May which was somehow fitting. Broke my heart, but she was a few weeks from 17-1/2, and I couldn't have asked for more. I will always miss that girl...she was beautiful inside and out. Till we meet again my girl.

— *Marcy Rauch*

Introducing Jumpin W Annika

I had been looking for the *right puppy* for many months, but for one reason or another, nothing panned out till I heard about this amazing working-bred litter in Washington state. I knew the second I saw this pup's photo and videos that she had already had my heart and was meant to come here. Annika (aka: Ahni) flew in last spring at 8 weeks, is a total joy, and emanates happiness and joy at all times. She's smart, funny, kind and fast as Hex already...YIKES!

Annika and Hex adore each other, and now that she's a bit older, my big aussie Rocky loves to play with her as well. They are a great trio!

Ahni's a sponge, trying to soak up anything and everything I show her. She's very much a thinker vs. a doer, so it will take a bit of getting used to since Hex is very much a doer, but it will be a fun ride with her...already is. She completes us!

— *Marcy Rauch*



Photos: Top left, Echo, ©Deb Poe

Top Right, Annika, ©Morgaana Photography

Bottom, Annika meets Echo, ©Marcy Rauch

Our Stars

New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 8/31/18

OBEDIENCE

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Companion Dog (CD)

6/8/18 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice CD BN RA NA
OAJ OF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

RALLY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Rally Novice (RN)

6/8/18 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, CD BN RA
NA OAJ OF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

Rally Intermediate (RI)

7/20/18 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, CD BN RI NA
OAJ OF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

AGILITY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Master Standard Preferred 2 (MXP2)

3/9/18 Sarah Johnson, Sassafras, All American

AKC Master Standard Preferred Bronze (MXPB)

7/29/18 Sarah Johnson, Sassafras, All American

AKC Master Jumper Preferred 2 (MJP2)

7/29/18 Sarah Johnson, Sassafras, All American

Agility Excellent Jumpers (AXJ)

6/30/18 Janet Metzger, Safranne's Rascal of Redding, "Rascal," Miniature Poodle

Agility Excellent (AX)

7/1/18 Janet Metzger, Safranne's Rascal of Redding, "Rascal," Miniature Poodle

Masters Jumpers Preferred 2 (MJP2)

7/29/18 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," All American Plottx

Master Agility Bronze (MXB)

7/21/18 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

Master Fast Bronze (MFB)

6/30/18 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch," Border Collie

Master Bronze Agility Preferred (MXPB)

7/29/18 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," All American Plottx

Canine Performance Event (CPE)

Agility Level 2 Fun (CL2-F)

6/9/18 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

Agility Trial Champion 2 (C-ATCH2)

7/8/18 Kathleen Foley, "Brian," West Highland Terrier

CPE Enthusiast Agility Trial Champion (CT-ATCH)

4/6/18 Debbie Poe, Neginho Maluco, "Jethro," Pomeranian

USDAA

Agility Dog Champion (ADCH)

6/3/18 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch," Border Collie

Snooker Master (SM)

6/3/18 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch," Border Collie

ACHIEVER DOG

American Kennel Club (AKC)

4/7/18 Kathleen Foley, Destiny & Fireheart's Celtic Magic RN
RATO CGC, "Lorna," Scottish Terrier

4/7/18 Kathleen Foley, CH Finishline's Dressed to Kilt, "Daniel Patrick," West Highland Terrier

5/22/18 Jamie McKay Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog

12/1/17 Sarah Johnson, Daisy Furball, All American

12/1/17 Sarah Johnson, Sassafras, All American

7/28/18 Morgaana Menzel, Sirrocco's Song Of The Sea, Boxer

BARN HUNT

Barn Hunt Association (BHA)

BCAT

4/21/18 Kathleen Foley, Cesare's Rome N The Gloamin' CD
RE AXP AJP CAX SE RATS BCAT, "Brian," West Highland Terrier

6/8/18 Kathleen Foley, Destiny & Fireheart's Celtic Magic RN
RATO BCAT CGC, "Lorna," Scottish Terrier

Crazy 8s Platinum (CZ8P)

5/6/18 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

Crazy 8s Platinum Bronze (CZ8PB)

7/4/18 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

NOSE & SCENT WORK

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Interior Novice (SIN)

7/29/18 Kathleen Foley, CH Fireheart's Wild Irish Rose, "Kelly," Scottish Terrier

National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW)

Nosework Level 1 Vehicle (L1V)

6/2/18 Cynthia Grohoski, Aneleh Marshwiggle Oceana, "Blossom," English Springer Spaniel

CONFORMATION TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Champion

8/26/18 Janet York, Piccadil's Six Pack Guinness Blonde, "Blonde," CKCS

Our Stars: Reporting Titles

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

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

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

Club Reminders

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

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

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

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

Keeping in Touch with PCOTC

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

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

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

Facebook Page: Go to [facebook.com/pcotc](https://www.facebook.com/pcotc) or search for "Port Chester Obedience Training Club" to bring up our page.



This is my dog, Tater Tot (Pembroke Welsh Corgi) in the Fall — Robin Zhou

Volunteering Explained

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

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

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

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

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

It is your responsibility to report your volunteer hours via a PCOTC Volunteer Reporting Form, kept in stock at the facility. The form is also available for download from the Membership page of our web site, <http://www.pcotc.org/membership>.

Volunteer members who log in 30+ hours in a club year are considered “Super Volunteers” who will be honored at the annual club meeting and given a Certificate of Appreciation.

Change in the Fiscal Year

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

HELP WANTED

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

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

To volunteer, please Sharon Ripps at sharonfaith.ripps@gmail.com

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

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

CLASS SCHEDULE COORDINATOR

The Class Schedule Coordinator is responsible for soliciting, compiling, reviewing, and posting the class schedule each session. Additionally, they respond to any follow up questions, or schedule changes as the session progresses.

Must Have: Strong communication, organization skills and self motivation. Must be comfortable working in excel, google docs, posting to square space, and communicating via email.

Time Commitment: Responsibilities for this position ebb and flow, but generally there is 6-8 hr / week time commitment for about 3 weeks leading up to registration opening.

Benefits: 1 free class per session.

Contact Grace Heck at gah210@gmail.com for additional information.

CLASS ASSISTANTS, Sep-Oct. Session:

This volunteer opportunity is for members of PCOTC that have a strong training background and plenty of experience in the relevant discipline.

The assistant’s role will be to help set up and

take down any equipment or ring gates, help direct flow of students in between classes, relay student questions to the instructor, and other duties requested by the instructor. It is important to note that assistants should not be instructing students, however with the instructor’s permission, they may offer feedback on the specific task being worked on.

Written guidelines will be provided prior to the class. Assistants must commit to attend all classes for the session. In return, the assistant receives volunteer hours and the opportunity to learn.

If you are interested in being considered for this role or have further questions, please send an email to Class Assistant Coordinator Fran Hellman at sunjaysgrs@aol.com by September 3 with the following information:

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

The relevant instructor and coordinator will review applications, as we try to pair you with an instructor.

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



PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

4/28/18

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

Board Members Present: Sara Gagnon and Deedie Domenicali

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

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

Kathy Gregory provided her AKC Delegate

report.

Report of Committees:

Membership

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

Old Business

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

New Business

- Marcy Rauch suggested holding an

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

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

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

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

Adjournment

6/27/18

President

Patty Chen and Stephen McKay will be the team who looks at the possibility of a new facility.

We are launching a new email account for President, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary. These account addresses will stay as people come and go on the board.

Corresponding Secretary

Olga is still getting mail at her house but has been on the phone with the AKC about it and they will straighten it out.

Treasurer

No new business. Still working to turn over the books to the new treasurer.

AKC Delegate

Foreign born dogs have been used successfully as bomb sniffing dogs. The AKC is now going to be using American bred dogs for government use. They have 15,000 and need 10,000 more.

Events such as Herding, Lure Coursing are looking to allow dogs to come to the start line with halti collars.

Airlines are considering the urban CGC dog title to allow dogs on planes in the passenger cabin.

Sports/Events

3.1 million entries/year. Conformation is decreasing. Hopeful that 2017 would pick up but the canine flu kept people home.

Flooring – a new survey will go out regarding choices

St. Christopher's Partnership – showed a slide presentation of the work that is ongoing at St. Christopher's

Secretary – Cast a ballot to accept the slate of candidates for the new board.

- Treasurer – Mary Skirchak
- Corresponding Secretary – Olga Kornienko
- 1st VP – Jeanne Meldrim
- Director – Morgaana Menzel

Meeting adjourned and awards proceeded.



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PCOTC Board Meeting Minutes

6/5/2018

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

Corresponding Secretary: AKC keeps posting Olga's home address as the location address of the club. This will be changed.

Treasurer:

- When submitted trial applications, the clubs credit card can be used.
- Megan is working with DeeDee and is setting up a meeting with Mary.
- The accountant filed an extension for June to December to catch up.
- Rent went up from \$16,305/month to \$16,835/month
- Agility trial – for now put FDR as venue but may need another one. Need to look at the trial overall.
- Registration – May/June enrollment up 20. Seminars are filling and doing well.
- Training Director Guidelines – went over,

the roll out will be by meeting to get all together. In order to be eligible for TD position the candidate should be an instructor at PCOTC.

New Business -

- Rick Pisani would like to teach from Family Manners classes.
- There was a recommendation to bring Marie Fay back to teach Family Manners.
- The board will be looking for and asking for a Family Manners TD to bridge the gap towards Rally and Obedience now that Jenn will be leaving.
- Jenn Michaelis has resigned.

Additional reports

- Going forward there needs to be a budget for revenue and expenses and looked at quarterly against the budget and last year.
- An asset sheet will determine what financial stability the club has. This needs to be published in January with the "Red Book".- Would like to get to determining profitability by discipline at least 2 times per year.
- Also need to look at price increase, dis-

counts, etc.

- Retention of students through the disciplines.

Awards – Switched to Crown Trophy in Yonkers who will be working on the plaques.

AKC Sportsmanship and AKC Lifetime Achievement Award nominations are due by June 30th.

Barn Hunt There is an alternative to the current Barn Hunt Association. There is no hay used. A trial will be given in Hamden CT in July.

Shelter Dog Program—People interested must be registered before they can take classes that haven't filled.

New Facility Task Force

New facility task force is Stephen McKay and Patty Chen. The board will be setting up a survey for the members to see what and how they feel about staying, going etc. The task force will work with a real estate agent and report on progress at club meetings.

Next meeting: July 24, Tuesday 7:30 PM

7/26/2018

Jenn Michealis attended the first part of the meeting and discussed improvements to Family Manners in relation to Obedience. The primary goal is to get FM students excited about training. After FM Skills there needs to be something the enable the transition of FM students to other training opportunities. The biggest problem is that people want to bypass the essentials. Ideas were bounced around and Jenn will put some suggestions in writing to the Board.

Treasurer – There is \$33,000 in the checking account. All bank reconciliations are up to date. The accountant said he was ready for the short year. Mary will be changing the chart of accounts.

Report of Committees –

Registration has been good this year. New class schedules will be coming out for the next session. The Board is looking for a class scheduler and has received a few names of members willing to take on this task.

Membership 4 new members were voted on and accepted. They are Mindy Costanza, Jaime Rufo/Zack Trunkely, Robin Zhou, Heidi Wise.

Unfinished Business -

TD Guidelines will be presented to the TDs in a meeting. Then the guidelines will be presented to the instructors.

Transfer from ASAP to Connexpoint This move will save the club \$2500/year

FM Training Director – Cindy Rubin The Board voted, all in favor of Cindy as the new Training Director for Family Manners.

New Business –

Act Trial – The club will be hosting an ACT trial. And voted in favor of spending \$35 for Grace Heck to become an evaluator.

Stephanie Rainer – would like more time on the schedule on Thursdays. The Board will work it out.

FM Instructor Resumes – The Board received two candidates resumes and discussed in light of time slots being tight.

Plaque for AKC Club Wall of Fame – smallest plaque costs \$2500. A survey will go out to the membership to determine if there is interest in spending this money.

Responsible Dog Ownership –

We will look into hosting an event in the Fall pending ability to find volunteer to organize.

Forming specific committees – for each of the disciplines: agility, obedience, scent work, family manners. These committees will work with their respective Training Director to determine seminars, events, etc. that will be presented to the Board. They will also act as a liaison to tell the Training Directors what club members want.

Agility Trial Looking into changing the location of the May trials to an indoor space in

Clifton NJ . Grace is talking to the owner and trying to pin down the dates.

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting is August 30, 2018 which is also a club meeting.