

DOG SPORTS & TRAINING

PCOTC

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



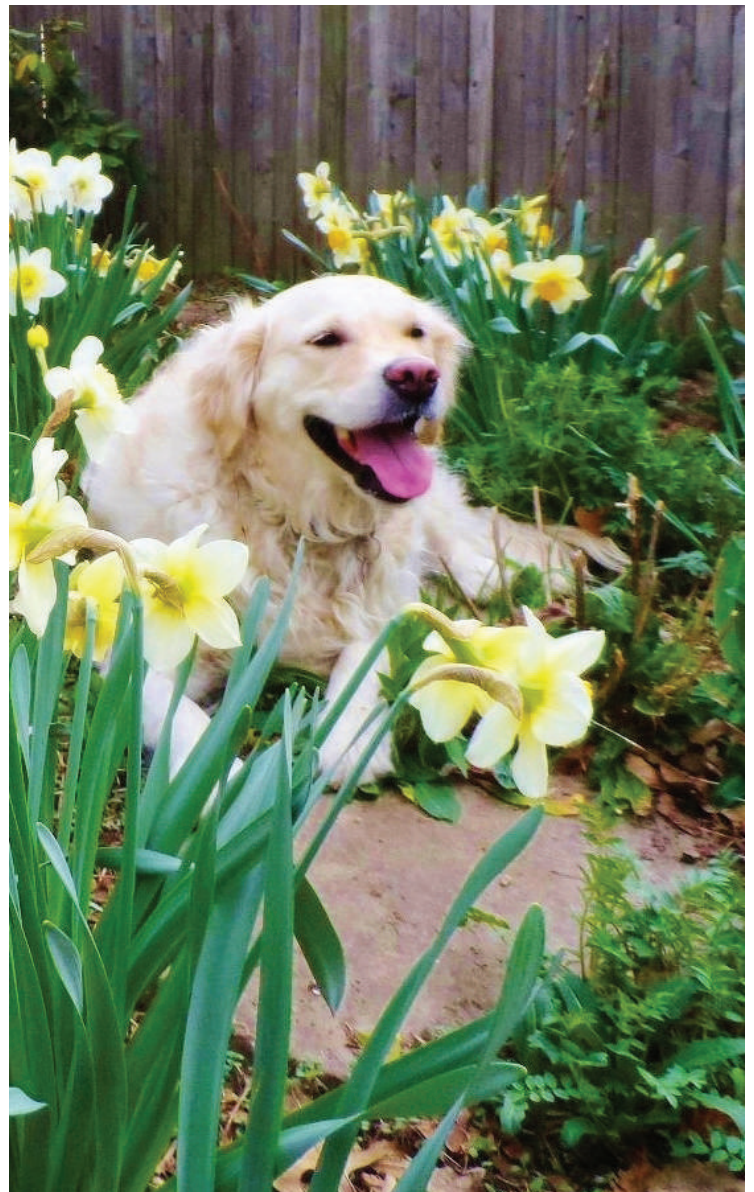
Sit 'n Stay

Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Spring 2019

Calendar of Events

Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted

Mar 2	AKC Rally Trials
Mar 3	AKC Obedience Trials
Mar 6	Class Session 2 Begins
Mar 8-10	Kerry Smith Agility Seminars
Mar 24	Agility Run-Thru & Fundraiser
Mar 29	Kamal Fernandez Seminars & Privates
-Apr 1	
Apr 14	Club Meeting/Spring Cleanup
Apr 28	White Plains Weekends: Obedience & Rally Runthrus
April 30	Board Nominations due to members
May 4	PCOTC at SPCA Dog Walk & Pet Fair
May 8	Class Session 3 Begins
May 10-12	3 days of Agility Trials at FDR Park
May 15	Board Write-in Nominations due
May 19	WPW Obedience & Rally Runthrus
Jun 11	Annual Club Meeting, Elections
Jun 23	WPW Obedience & Rally Runthrus
Jul 9	Class Session 4 Begins
Jul 21	WPW Obedience & Rally Runthrus
Aug 29	Club Meeting
Sep 4	Class Session 5 Begins
Oct 10	Halloween Party & Club Meeting
Nov 6	Class Session 6 Begins
Dec 19	Holiday Party & Club Meeting



"Blake" in the Springtime, with Daffodils © Morgaana Photography

Port Chester Obedience Training Club

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB
220 Ferris Avenue, White Plains, NY
Est. 1940 www.PCOTC.org
Phone: 914-269-8550

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Corr. Sec., Olga Kornienko,
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SIT 'N STAY

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

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Sit 'n Stay is produced for online delivery.

President's Message

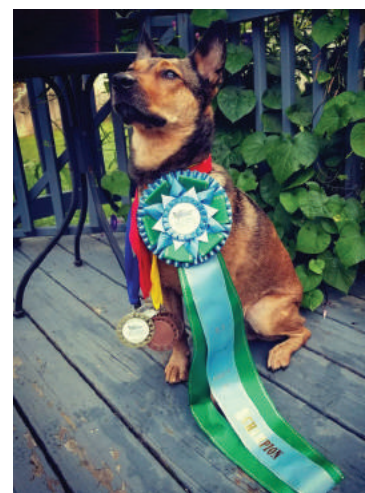
As my term as President of this amazing club approaches its end, I'm grateful to think back about all that I've learned and the wonderful people I've been able to meet. To think that this club was started in 1940 and is still going strong! We have members who have been part of this club since I was still in diapers. It's truly amazing.

I've spent my term as President being open to new opportunities and doing my best to encourage growth at the club. I got to be here as the club held its first AKC Scent Work trial, its first AKC ACT trial and even got a chance to branch out into ratty by hosting a Happy Ratters trial! The Rally Run Thrus returned to the White Plains Weekends. We've held some AKC Trick Dog titling events for all the amazingly talented dogs that make up our club. And seminars have been on the rise as club members work to bring in great people to inspire our membership.

And that's just a small taste of what has been going on at the club. We, of course, have our Obedience, Rally and Agility trials that are a long-standing tradition at the club and that are run so beautifully by so many club members. The work people put into hosting those events are mind-boggling. I'll never attend another trial without appreciating the hard work the host club puts into making it such a wonderful experience for so many competitors.

I hope everybody reading this message looks around at this club and finds one thing that they feel they can do to make it the kind of place that will allow it to continue to inspire new trainers and encourage the bond that we all have with our canine companions. After all, we've got our 100th year anniversary to look forward to in 2040, so let's make each year leading up to that better than the last!

— Sara Gagnon, president@pcotc.org



Cas with his disc medals

Welcome New Members

Amy Bedford, American Staffordshire Terrier, Mixed Breed
Lyn Bianchi, Norfolk Terrier
Victoria A Burke, Whippet
Noel Dennis, Whippet
Suzanne Lawson, American Staffordshire Terrier, Mixed Breed
Christopher Luther, Belgian Tervuren
Nancy Luther, Belgian Tervuren
Jerrilyn Walter, Boston Terrier

Save the Dates: Club Meetings in 2019

- Sunday, April 14th - Spring Clean Up and Club Meeting
- Tuesday, June 11th - Annual Club Meeting
- Thursday, August 29th - Club Meeting
- Wednesday, October 30th - Halloween Party & Club Meeting
- Thursday, December 19th - Holiday Party & Club Meeting

Club Doings

Volunteer Members

Volunteers. On this page is a list of all volunteer members in the club. These are members who have worked 18 or more hours in the prior club year (18 months, the special club “year” from June 2017 through December 2018) and are therefore entitled to the benefits of volunteer membership—including discounts on classes and the ability to rent the facility for private practice sessions.

Supervolunteers. A red dot before a volunteer name designates a “super volunteer.” Special recognition is owed to these very special

members who go well above and beyond for the club, volunteering for 45 hours and up—way up, in some cases—for the club, during the special “club year” from June 2017 through December 2018.

Not on the list? If your name is not on this list and you think it should be, contact Jeanne Meldrim at jeannemeldrim@gmail.com

Note: Board Members are not eligible for designation as Super Volunteers. They are marked with a green dot on this list.

Alemani, Joseph	Fay, Marie	• Lewis, Marci	• Poe, Debbie	Silvera-Quezada, Kim
Ambani, Anita	Feldman, Leonore	Lynch, Elizabeth	Rahner, Priscilla	• Skirchak, Mary
Amen, Bob	Field, Nancy	Macy, Taylor	• Rauch, Marcy	• Simpson, Mary
Anderson, Diane	Frantzeskarou, Elpida	• Mandlebaum, Ann	Reilly, Karen	-Elizabeth
Armisto, Ruth	Frumin, Betsey	• Margulis, Keith	Rescigno, Keri	Shubinski, Barbara
• Baltz, Barbara	• Gagnon, Sara	Marlow, Beth	Ripps, Carolyn	Soccodato, Jacqueline
Berenson, Ken	Gankiewicz, Cecilia	McCarthy, Lisa	Ripps, Sharon	Sroka, Barbara
Berger, George	Granata, Andrea	McKay, Jamie	• Rogers, Karen	Stein, Lauren
Bordins, Maureen	Green, Lauren	• McKay, Stephen	Rocco, Dana	Sweet, Leslie
Brewer, Adrienne	Greenberger, Wendy	• Meldrim, Jeanne	Romania, Bill	Torres, Sharon
• Cardone, Michele	• Gregory, Kathy	• Menzel, Morgaána	Rosen, Barry	• Trummer, Michelle
Carter, Alice	Grumieux, Ebba	Metzger, Janet	• Rubin, Cindy	Tucker, Margaret
Chen, Patricia	Gumina, Rachel	Mischel, Susan	Rubinstein, Helene	• Turschman, Jeanne
Clinchy, Kelly	Haas, Rickie	Moskovitz, June	Ryan, Jessica	Vicari, Kathy Scott
Collins, Ellen	Hagan, Virginia	Murawski, Krystina	Sabin, Phyllis	Walter, Jerrilyn
Cooke, Ashlin	Halperin, Ellen	Napoli, Barbara	Scott, Bonnie	• Wheeler, Jane
Coronetz, Melanie	Halpern, Jonathan	Nardi, Gale	Scott, Kay	Wise, Heidi
Costanza, Mindy	Halpern, Lynn	Nardi, Tom	Shanley, Marianne	• Woods, Audrey
Cox, Patti	Hanes, Yukiko	Nendza, Goretta	Shaw, Scott	Woods, Megan
• Defonce, Margaret	• Heck, Grace	• Nurena, Kathleen	• Sheffler, Bruce	• Wrey, Karen
• DeGregorio, Anthony	Jochen, Kathie	Oestreicher, Nancy	Sheffler-Carney,	Yaciuk, Debbie
DeGregorio, Marylyn	Johnson, Celeste	Ouchterloney, Joanne	Elizabeth	Zhou, Robin
Del Rowe, Barbara	• Johnson, Sarah	Paese, Pat	Sheffler, Joanne	
Verdi	• Jones, Mike	Persico, Anne	Sherman, Helen	
DeSarno, Demetria	• Kalmanash, Andrew	Pisa, Marianne	Siegel, Barbara	
• DeVito, Denise	• Kalmanash, Angela			
• Domenicali, Dena	• Kaufman, Joan			
(Deedie)	Kelly, Lawrence			
Dwyer, Celecia “CC”	Kelly, Shannon			
Dwyer, Darrell	Knapp Cook, Susan			
Ebenstein, Peter	Koren, Mary Jane			
Ehrlich, Evelyn	• Kornienko, Olga			
Emert, Ellen Gaw	Laken, Lorraine			
Emmel, Heather	Lashley, Bruce			
Fanok, Donna	Lashley, Elaine			

Volunteer Hours 2019

As of January 1, 2019, the club has changed its financial “year” to a calendar year. The last six months of volunteer hours were added to the June 1, 2017 – May 30, 2018 club year totals to facilitate the changeover.

As of 1/1, we entered a new club and calendar year, and the current hour minimums will change back to the usual 12 hours for reduced class fees, and 30 to qualify as a Super Volunteer and to be honored at our Annual Meeting.

Club Doings

Apr. 14 Cleanup & Club Meeting

Our Spring Cleaning and Club Meeting on April 14 will begin in the afternoon with cleanup: cleaning crates, organizing and repairing equipment, organizing closets, tidying the potty area, and more!

After cleanup, the club will provide dinner for those who've worked during the afternoon. The club meeting will begin around 6 pm. Definite start times will be provided soon.

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!

Annual Club Meeting June 11:

Nomination Process for Board Elections

Each year, half of the seats (four) on the PCOTC Board are up for nominations and a vote.

For 2019, the PCOTC Board has chosen Mary Skirchak to act as Committee Chair for the Nominating Committee for the June Board elections, at PCOTC's Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee for 2019 has been selected:

- Mary Skirchak: Committee Chair
- Lauren Green: Committee Member
- Keith Margulis: Committee Member
- Marianne Pisa: Alternate
- Nancy Oestreicher: Alternate

Before April 30, members will be notified of the candidates nominated for the Board by the Nominating Committee. Other nominations may be made by petition prior to May 15. All such petitions must be signed by five eligible members and accompanied by the written acceptance of the additional nominee. Such petitions should be sent to the Recording Secretary.

Each candidate for office will furnish a biography/statement and picture of her/himself to be provided to the membership. This information will be sent to the membership before April 30.

If there are no nominees in addition to the Nominating Committee slate, the Recording Secretary will cast one vote at the Annual Meeting to elect the slate. If there are any contested seats, the membership will vote on them, in person, at the Annual Meeting.

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.



Agility

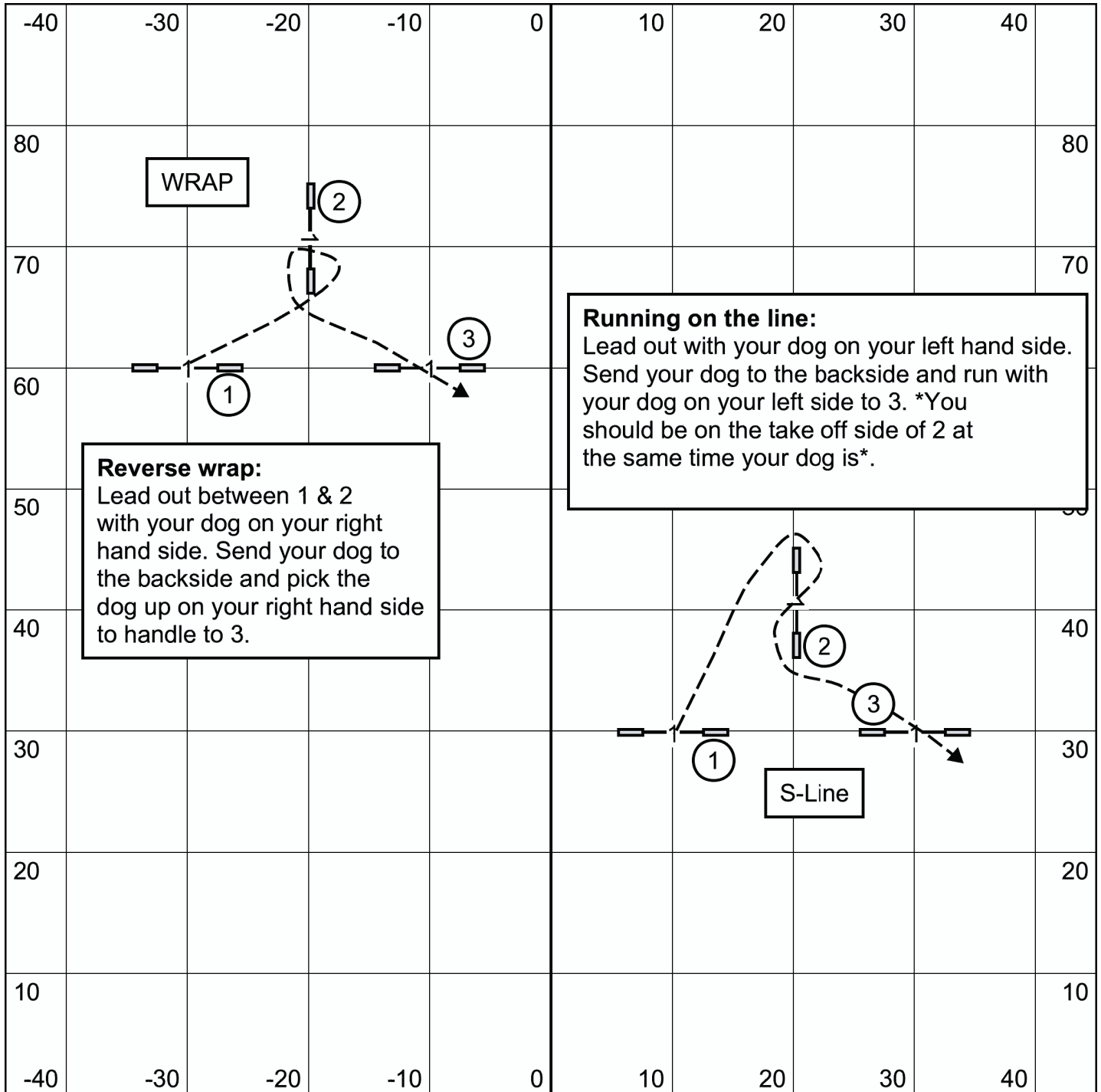
Agility Tip: Training in a Tight Space

by Stefanie Rainer, Agility Training Director, OMD Assistant Coach

Tight on time and space this winter? Here is one of my favorite setups to use in a tight space. It lends itself to train many handling skills. Here are two examples of how to handle this particular se-

quence. It allows you to train two different handling skills and two different lines for the dog.

Happy training!



Agility

May 10 - 12 PCOTC Agility Trials

This year's May trial will be held outdoors at FDR Park on Friday 5/10 - Sunday 5/12. Judges Oksana Syrkin and Tracy Hanna will grace us with fun and challenging courses in Jumpers, Standard, Premiere, Time 2 Beat, and FAST.

The premium for the trial will be available on <http://www.fasttimesagility.com/> and entries open March 26, 2019.

We are actively seeking volunteers to help with setup of the trial site on Thursday 5/9, take down on Sunday 5/12, and to help the event run smoothly throughout 5/10 - 5/12.

There will be an e-blast soliciting volunteers, but in the meantime, please email Grace Heck (gah210@gmail.com) to express your interest.



Photo: From last year's agility trials, © Barry Rosen, www.barryrosen.com

Obedience

Obedience Tip: You Get What You Reinforce

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



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I have become very sensitive about my placement of reinforcement this past year because of all the work I am doing with Heeling. My Border Collie, Disco, finds heeling to be particularly challenging because he loves to forge, and lives in extension! I never realized that I was creating some of this problem. I thought I was being so careful! Then it was pointed out to me that whenever I played with him I presented the toy in front on heel position. This created a dog that loved to come in front of me, thus creating a forging position. I have also observed many of my students creating similar problems with their own dogs.

Tips For reinforcement:

- Find the correct Heel position for your dog in terms of his body type and size. Ask your instructor or a knowledgeable friend

to assist you if you are not sure.

- Sit your dog in Heel position and check yourself in a mirror. Practice sliding your hand down the seam of your pants as you give the dog his reinforcement.
- When using a toy as a reward, try holding the toy in your right hand behind your back. When you release your dog to “get it,” your dog will come behind you. Bring them to play tug on your right side.
- Allow your dog to see you place a toy or bait bag on the floor. Set him up for heeling and go forward a few steps. When you want to reward him, release him to the toy behind you.

There are many ways to reinforce your dog for heel work. Just be conscious of how and where you are delivering your reward.

Obedience

Rally Tip: Trials—The Day After *by Ann Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA, © Morgaana Photography*

You and your dog were trialing over the weekend. Congratulations if you Q'ed — awesome if you earned a new title! In any case—like they say—you came home with the best dog in the trial.

Whatever your weekend was like, now is the time to cash in on the investment all that preparation and those entry fees represent. How can you augment your training plan going forward in light of your experiences at the trial?

For example: what was your dog's attitude going into the venue? Did he take it all in stride or did it range from over-stimulated to fearful to too interested in other people and dogs or to completely shut down? How did your dog warm up before going into the ring? And did you do your usual routine or did you try something else —perhaps practicing a particular exercise that you were not sure of—and did that help? Was your dog focused and attentive in the ring or distracted by what was happening outside the ring gates—or by the judge? Could you get him back easily once he was distracted?

How about you? When you walked into the ring, do you think you were the same handler you are in daily practice sessions? If you were nervous, do you honestly think your feelings could have affected your dog's

behavior? Were there any incidents before your class, perhaps when you were first setting up, perhaps when you were leaving the ring or at any other time, between your dog and a person or another dog, that you wish hadn't occurred? Were you happy about where you set up—in terms of traffic, ease of access to the ring or the outside door or anything else?

I think by now you may have a clue as to the point of this exercise. Try to go over ev-

ery detail of the whole day—not only with regret (“oh if only I had done...”) nor smug satisfaction (“I sure nailed...”). Rather try to find the spots you can manage better next time to protect you both from uncomfortable situations and, even more importantly, work to deepen his commitment to you and his trust that the object of this trial game is this—the more distractions he can resist the better the reward will be at the end! Isn't that the best skill you can teach your dog?



Kamal Fernandez Obedience Seminars & Privates

On March 30 and 31, Kamal Fernandez returns to PCOTC to offer two obedience seminars: “Heeling, Beginning to Advanced,” on March 30 with 14 working spots, and “Handler’s Choice,” on March 31 with 10 working spots. On March 29 and April 1, Kamal will offer one-hour private lessons.

Based on a combination of science and hands-on experience, Kamal has established a reputation for positive training and has championed the use of reward-based methods all over the world.



“Heeling, Beginning to Advanced” requires a strong knowledge of AKC, CDPS, or UKC Obedience. For “Handler’s Choice,” students who have worked with Kamal in the past will have priority. As of now, all working spots and private lessons are spoken for. However, you may still sign up to audit either or both seminars at \$90 for one day, \$170 for two days. Contact Rick Pisani at luv2heel@me.com

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 remaining dates for Winter/Spring 2019:

- April 28
- May 19
- June 23
- July 21

White Plains Weekends:

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

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

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

This year, again, all registration will be done through www.dogmatchshows.com. Each obedience run is \$10 for Novice, Open, and/or Utility, plus a \$2 handling fee. The major advantage is the ability to choose your time slot. In the event that you cannot make your scheduled entry, please send a friend. There will be no refunds or carrying over to the next match.

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

Rally Run-Thrus:

Registration will be handled via Jotform 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, at pcotc.runthrus@gmail.com

Family Manners

Family Manners Tip: Impulse Control *by Cindy Rubin, CPDT-KA*

Most of the people starting out on the journey of training their dogs have the same concerns: how to train their dogs not to pull on the leash, not to jump on people, not to chase squirrels or cars. Notice a pattern? What is missing from their dog's behavior is self-control.

Impulse control is the dog's ability to resist sudden urges. The dog wants something and doesn't know how to wait for it or how to leave it. As responsible pet owners and trainers we must help the dogs to control themselves.

Dogs have physical, mental and social needs. If these needs aren't met, it will

be much harder for the dog to focus and control itself. Have a daily exercise routine for your dog, long walks, training sessions, playing tug or fetch can all tire your dog physically and mentally. If your dog is still “hyper” by the end of the day it could be that his routine is not enough. Fun classes like Nose Work and Tricks can also give your dog added stimulation.

Teaching your dog to focus on you is the number one step in training and helping to improve impulse control. Start by reinforcing the behavior you want. Every time your dog gives you eye contact mark this behavior with your clicker or your marker word, give a treat, and wait. If your dog

looks away, wait and see if he looks back at you. A perfect opportunity to mark and reward! In the beginning, you may need to prompt eye contact with a sound or slight movement, but once he learns that eye contact gets him a cookie and praise it will be offered. Remember, reward a calm dog that is sitting or standing. Build focus up to 5-10 seconds. Once your dog can focus on you, you can start to work on manners training. Have your dog sit and wait for his leash, the door to open, leaving his crate, and for dinner to be served.

There are other ways to build impulse control such as “Leave It,” “Settle,” and “Go To Mat.” All are helpful with early training.

Family Manners

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

Courtesy ©Morgaána Photography

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

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

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

- Puppy Pre-K (4 week class) For puppies age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class. Learn about socialization and safe handling.
- AKC STAR Puppy For puppies age 10 weeks to 5 months at the start of class. Learn basic manners, clicker training, attention, socialization & safe handling.
- Family Manners Foundation For dogs 5 months and older.
- Already taken Family Manner Foundations? Then continue to advance in Family Manner Skills.
- PCOTC offers \$50 class credit, after the first set of classes, for a dog adopted from a shelter or rescue facility in the last 12 months.

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



Best of Breed Handling

by Fran Hellman

Breed Handling Class Notice

The Owner Handler Association of America

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

Showing dogs is one of very few sports where amateurs and professionals can compete for the same prize. The Professional Handlers Association (PHA) has represented professional handlers since 1926. It wasn't until 1967 when a group of dog fanciers recognizing the need for an organization formed the Owner Handler Association (OHA). The OHA is the voice of owner-handlers.

OHA is a national association dedicated to the sport of purebred dogs and devoted to the education of the owner handler. Its members span across the U.S and Canada.

The objectives of the OHA are:

- To encourage and promote the sport of owner handling and training of purebred dogs.
- To encourage and promote sportsman-

ship among purebred dog fanciers.

- To communicate with and educate purebred fanciers.

The OHA and the PHA are the only emblems that the American Kennel Club allows exhibitors to wear in the ring.

OHA publishes a newsletter, *The Advocate*, which covers what is going on in the organization and prints articles of general interest to the fancy.

Each year OHA offers three \$1000.00 scholarships.

For more information on OHA:

www.petcha.com/the-owner-handler-association-of-america

Arlene Grant, OHA Membership Chair,
ricairns@aol.com

OHA Facebook page, Owner Handler Association



And More!

SPCA Dog Walk and Pet Fair in May

On Saturday, May 4, PCOTC will join other local groups at the SPCA of Westchester's annual fund-raising event, the SPCA Dog Walk and Pet Fair 2019. PCOTC will need volunteers who can

- bring our booth and equipment to and from the event,
- staff our booth and explain our training program to visitors,
- demo agility with their dogs.

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



AKC Delegate's Report

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

The AKC has announced several brand new, exciting programs that are worth looking into in the New Year:

Free Webinar Series

First, there is a free webinar series on a variety of topics of interest to all dog lovers and competition enthusiasts. It's the *AKC Education Webinar Series* and will usually be held on the last Wednesday of every month, but sometimes more frequently. To find upcoming topics go to the AKC website, AKC.ORG. On the top banner select Expert Advice, then scroll down to AKC Public Education Webinar Series. You can ask questions and participate in open discussions. There is no limit to how many club members can join in on the site.

Some of the topics are/were

- The Evolution of Dog Sports (Held on 10/29)
- Show Secretary's Responsibilities
- Website Best Practices
- Using the Online Event Management System
- Misconduct
- Government relations
- Archiving

This is a wonderful opportunity to sit at home in your bunny slippers and participate in interesting discussions on topics you might otherwise always wonder about. Upcoming topics also include how to use social media to get the word out about club events. It's free, so give it a try!

Fit Dog Program

The AKC has also launched a *FIT DOG* program for dog owners who reach a specified fitness goal. Now don't turn off—it's easy to qualify! The AKC and the American Heart Association have joined together to offer a really cute, free magnet for those who exercise regularly by walking with their dogs! The American Heart Association recommends 30-40 minutes of walking per day or 150 minutes per week

and what better way is there to fulfill this recommendation and stay healthy than to walk your dog?

You can order your free magnet when you and your dog have met one of these fitness goals:

1. Walked at least 30 minutes 5 times per week for a total of at least 150 minutes per week for at least 3 months. *For dogs and people in good shape.*
2. Walked at least 15 minutes per session at least 10 times per week (e.g., two 15-min walks per day) for at least 3 months. *For dogs or people who would benefit from a walk that is a shorter duration, e.g., senior dogs.*

How to Get Your Magnet

1. Complete your walks. Keep a record so you will know when you've met your goal.
2. Go to the AKC website and search for the Fit Dog Program
3. Complete the Magnet Order Form. It's that simple!
4. Note: *If you are already taking your dog on regular walks, you may count those.*

Remember that before starting an exercise program for your dog, it is a good idea to consult with your veterinarian.

Detection Dog Program

There was an update on the proposed detection dog program. It was reiterated that the AKC will not be involved in the program unless arrangements are made for lifetime veterinary care of dogs in the program. The four breeds involved at this point are Labs, GSPs, Vizslas and GWPs. The program is moving forward and a specific genome has been identified as being necessary in breeding detection dogs. Sporting dogs are most in demand. This is a very serious effort of the part of many experts in the AKC to work with law enforcement and Homeland Security to fill the great demand for domestically bred

detection dogs. I am proud of the AKC for making this demand and always keeping the health of the dogs first.

"Low Entry" Breeds

Addressing another area of concern, Dr. Carmen Battaglia, AKC Board Liaison, presented an up-dated analysis of "low-entry" breeds and their gradual disappearance from conformation events between 2010 and 2017. He stated that 2017 represented the 15th consecutive year of decline in conformation entries. Eighty per cent of the 3,500 conformation shows last year had fewer than 1,000 entries. There are approximately 1,400 conformation events/year in the U.S., with an average entry of 852. Each of the new breeds added to the AKC studbooks during the last 10 years demonstrates a decline in numbers of dogs and of litters registered. Limited registrations, which began in 1998 with 275 litters, reached an all-time high in 2017 with 122,500 limited registrations. Dr. Battaglia referenced Dr. Jerold Bell's contention that a breed had to grow and expand to remain healthy.

Canine Insurance

The Delegate's Education portion of our September meeting involved experts from two insurance companies that specialize in insurance for the equine and canine industry. Equisure and McGriff Insurance companies sent representatives to discuss the value of insuring our clubs and businesses against the financial hardship that can be caused by even a small, frivolous claim. They also spoke about a rising concern for clubs, Cyber liability, stemming from the possibility of hackers getting into a club's membership information and using private data for nefarious purposes.

I look forward to continuing to serve the best interests of the club in all our areas of interest, for all breeds and allbreeds!

Respectfully submitted
Kathy Gregory

Winter Events

Dec. 9: First Happy Ratters Trials at PCOTC

by Jeanne Meldrim, © Morgaána Photography



PCOTC hosted our first Happy Ratters trials and seminar on December 9. Happy Ratters is similar to Barn Hunt, but in an urban-type setting with trash bags, boxes, barrels and other items possibly found in a city alley. The Happy Ratters 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, and placing a high priority on safety!”

We had an excellent turnout for the seminar and introduced the sport to some en-

thusiastic newcomers. Jean Mackenzie, the founder of Happy Ratters, gave everyone the basics to be able to trial in Happy Ratters that same day. Following the seminar, each participant was able to take a practice run in the ring.

After the seminar we had two trials with a total of 44 runs. Lots of ribbons were awarded at the end of the trials.

We will be hosting another trial and will send out an e-blast as soon as the date is confirmed.



Winter Events

Jan. 19: AKC ACT Trial

by Grace Heck, © Morgaína Photography

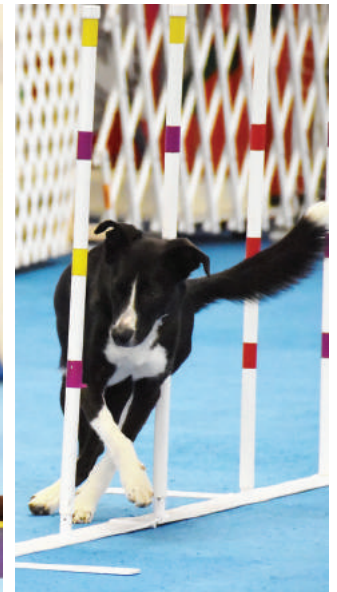
On Saturday, January 19, PCOTC hosted its first ever ACT trial and the largest ACT trial held yet, with a total of 84 entries. Exhibitors attended a one-hour pre-trial seminar presented by ACT Evaluator Grace Heck, which covered a variety of topics from how to read a Premium and enter a trial, to how to walk a course and obtain your results. Twenty-eight exhibitors then competed in up to two rounds of the ACT1, which includes 9-12 obstacles such as jumps, tunnels, table, and A-frame.

Following the ACT1, there was an additional one-hour seminar covering helpful

tips and tricks collected from a range of current Agility competitors. This seminar included information such as how to find out about trials, where to keep your dog on trial day, things to bring, and tracking your results for the long term. All seminar information was provided in a helpful packet so that participants could continue to reference it in the future. The seminar was fun and interactive, with current Agility competitors chiming in with information they wished they had known when starting out. Fifteen exhibitors then competed in up to two rounds of the ACT2 which included 9-12 obstacles such as jumps, tunnels,

table, A-frame, teeter, and 6 weave poles. There were 40 Q's over the course of all four rounds, with 12 competitors earning new titles.

Congratulations to all competitors, and thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped this event run smoothly. A very special thank you to Anita Ambani, our fearless trial secretary, and evaluator Grace Heck. We are actively seeking volunteers for Trial Secretary for future ACT events. Please email Grace Heck at gah210@gmail.com if interested (no experience necessary).



Winter Events

Jan. 27: “Entering for the First Time” *by Rick Pisani*

On January 27, 2019 I did a workshop called “First Time in the Ring.” My goal was to educate the Novice or first time handler on the proper ring procedures, rules and tips for a successful trial experience. My only regret is that it was poorly attended. But those who did attend walked away with a whole new perspective on how to trial their dogs. I truly enjoyed the workshop and sharing my experiences with others. Having been in the ring hundreds of times in the past 30 years teaches you more than the rules and any lesson or class. I hope to do the workshop again and perhaps more will attend.

Some of the highlights were:

- Where to get information about trials
- How to fill out an entry form
- Rules for Beginner Novice and Novice
- What to bring
- How to handle yourself and your dog at the trial
- 1. Setting up your space
- 2. Check in, how and where to do so
- 3. To video or not?
- 4. Ring pattern
- 5. Ring entrance

- 6. Ring exit
- 7. Runoffs

Here’s what some of the attendees said:

“The best part of the seminar was....your love and enthusiasm of dog training! I think we all feel that it is contagious and enjoy our time with our dogs! Thanks for all the tips! The one that I found most helpful was the set up for the entry by circling to the start.”

—Elaine Lashley

“Once again Rick Pisani has demonstrated his ability to educate handlers and their dogs how to navigate the area of competition in the Obedience ring. I recently attended his First Time Entering the Ring workshop and came away with a better understanding of the rules of the ring as well as a renewed sense of confidence in myself. The workshop was both lecture and in ring hands-on experience. Rick explained simple little tricks that might effect the result of a higher or lower score. He addressed everything from filling out initial entry forms to protocol in the ring as well as entering and leaving the ring. He also

discussed when to know if your dog is ring ready and in which level the dog should be entered. I am so glad I decided to attend and would urge others to do so if they have the opportunity in the future.

Kudos, Rick.”

—Rosemary Zuckerman

“I found the workshop very helpful. Although I’ve been entering trials for over 10 years I learned, among other things, how to improve my movements entering and moving between exercises in the ring. It gives me a more confident look and feeling as I move with my dog.”

—Rikki Haas

“What excited me was the intensity of the relation your system helped me create between Georgie and myself—securing intense attention before entering the ring and then maintaining it between the different events by planning how to move from one event to another but again, Doxies can be challenging ... I think it’s essential for those who hope to enter matches and trials.”

—Carroll Rosenberg-Smith

Feb. 3: Agility Fundraiser



At the PCOTC Agility Run-Thru & Fundraiser on Feb. 3, one Standard Course and one Jumpers Course were offered nested to include both novice and open/excellent options. There was a Special Pre-Event prior

to the run-thrus: “Talk Through the Walk Through” where participants joined two-time World Team Member and PCOTC Instructor Lisa Topol to walk through the course, talk strategy, and answer any trialing questions.



What a wonderful way to support your Club and bond with your teammate. Thank you to all who participated!

Photos © Morgaána Photography

Winter Events

Feb. 16-17: S. Rainer & G. Heck Agility Seminars

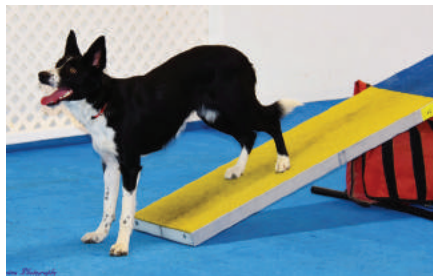
Photos © Morgaána Photography

Feb. 16-17 at PCOTC was a great success! Saturday offered Masters Coursework with Stefanie Rainer. Working Teams spent the day training with Stefanie on masters to international level courses. In this seminar she focused on analyzing dogs lines and finding the most efficient route on course. Stefanie helped teams determine which handling techniques were best suited for individual teams that helped achieve optimal results.

Saturday also offered Handling Techniques with Grace Heck as teams learned the more advanced handling techniques you might need to navigate International style courses, including how to handle wraps, slices, threadles, and backsides. Grace broke down each technique into its individual components, then use them in sequences. She discussed when and where to use each technique, as well as considerations for individual teams.

Sunday, Novice/Young Dog Sequencing Teams spent the day training with Stefanie on short sequences. Only jumps and tunnels were used in this seminar. The focus was on analyzing dogs lines and finding the most efficient route on course. Teams learned when, why, and how to incorporate particular handling techniques into a sequence and practiced multiple handling techniques throughout the day.

Also on Sunday, Handling in Tight Spaces with Grace Heck Teams spent the day training with Grace on short sequences that challenged participating teams discrimination skills and emphasized precision in cueing their handling plan. Grace discussed how to keep dogs moving and engaged as teams navigated tight courses. Thank you Stefanie & Grace for a wonderful weekend of Learning!



Winter Events

Feb. 9: Meet The Breeds *by Jane Wheeler*

Meet & Compete was sponsored by the AKC (“Meet the Breeds”) and the Westminster Kennel Club (“Masters Agility Championship”) on Saturday, February 9, at Piers 92 and 94 in Manhattan.

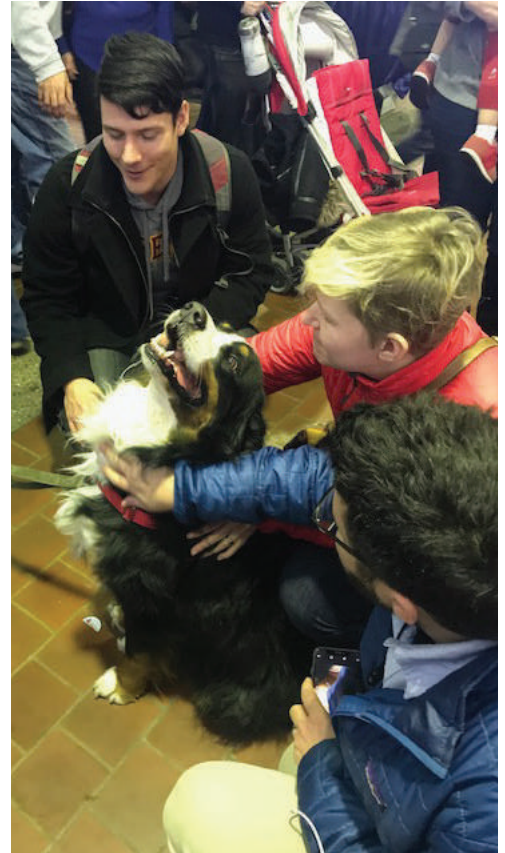
Most booths at “Meet the Breeds” are presented by breed clubs, and those staffing the booth introduce their particular breed: its look, its temperament, what it’s really good at/what it’s known for, what kinds of homes might best suit the breed, and so on. PCOTC’s booth, instead, focuses on dog training and sports for any breed.

Our human staffers consisted of Jane Wheeler and John Potter, Darrell and CeCe Dwyer, Scott Shaw and Kelly Cornish, Janis Mandrus, and Mary Skirchak. Our dog staffers included Omar (Dwyer), an Austra-

lian Cattle Dog, Fin and Daisy (Shaw/Cornish), Bernese Mountain Dogs, and Daisy, parentage unknown (Skirchak). The dog/handler teams stood in front of PCOTC’s booth and demoed dog training with their handlers, nearly without a break.

Other PCOTC staffers discussed our training program and specific classes with visitors to the booth. We offered a postcard that provides thumbnail information about our club, and a March-April class schedule, along with some yummy dog treats.

This year, Meet and Compete visitors seemed to hit an all-time high, though the weather was extremely cold. There seemed to be more children than usual—perhaps Meet the Breeds provided a great cold-day activity for parents and children!



Clockwise from top right: Two admirers with Bernese Shepherd, child with Daisy, child with Omar, PCOTC table top with information about the club and its activities, child petting Daisy. Photos: Mary Skirchak

Winter Events

PCOTC Agility Competitors at Westminster

A number of PCOTC members competed in Westminster's agility trial at Manhattan's Pier 94 on February 9:

- Most notably, Lisa Topol won top All-American dog with 12" Plop!
- Joanne Ouchterloney and her daughter competed with Macaroni (retirement run) and Winky (now a social media star).
- Jane Mcloughlin competed with Cadence.
- Grace Heck competed with Riley.
- Sarah Johnson competed with Sassasfras.
- Jackie Soccodato competed with Buster.
- PCOTC Instructor Stefanie Rainer competed with Nike and Quizz.

PCOTC students also came out to support the event, and the fabulous Morgaana Menzel was on hand in the press booth taking beautiful pictures.



This Photo courtesy of Noah K Murray / AP. Congratulations to PCOTC Agility Instructor Lisa Topol and Westminster Champion Highest Scoring All-American Dog of 2019, Plop! Way to go, Team! Want to hear what genetic testing said about Lisa's mixed-breed dogs? Click below:

https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/dog-dna-testing-takes-generates-debaten970086?fbclid=IwAR0_G9_0a5vviC5f88Ob2iNBE3G7vy8t7imSYonznxOXqTCHgVD8YEDnCSA

Winky: Another Westminster Star!



Winky stops at the top of the A-frame and receives applause and verbal appreciation from the crowd.

Joanne Ouchterloney's Bichon Frise "Winky" stole the show at Westminster! His agility performance was discussed in newspapers, magazines, and blogs: Huffington Post, Elle, USA Today, Newsfeed, NY Post, NBC News, and more—many more. Winky took the agility trial at a leisurely pace, stopping as here to wait for applause from the crowd. See coverage at:

[Click red text for each article](#)

- Time <http://time.com/5528443/winky-dog-westminster/?iid=sr-link1>
- Elle <https://www.elle.com/culture/a26322782/winky-bichon-frise-westminster-dog-show-agility/>
- Simplemost <https://www.simplemost.com/westminster-dog-shows-star-was-this-plodding-pup/>

The links on this page may not work on some devices. If they do not work on yours, copy the URLs and paste the URL into your browser.

Winter Events

March 2: Rally Trials at PCOTC

by Ann Mandelbaum, Photos © Morgaána Photography

On Saturday, March 2, PCOTC held two AKC Rally Trials. We were looking forward to hosting 50 entries in each trial (our advertised limit) but Friday evening's weather forecast changed the plans for many of our exhibitors who, though disappointed, decided not to try to drive to White Plains with heavy snow falling—in March!

Those who did come enjoyed a great day with intense competition, many Q's and some really brilliant performances. Judge Lori Moffa provided courses that were "tough but ran fluently" according to many and it was fun watching handler and dog teams working through them.

Morgaana Menzel brought together a great team of stewards to help keep things running smoothly. As Karen Wrey says "It takes a village to run a good Rally Trial."

Linda Seaver made sure we were provided with good food for breakfast and lunch (and in-betweens) to keep us going throughout the two-trial day. Many thanks to those who donated to the tempting buffet as well as to Linda and the volunteers who kept everything organized and eventually cleaned up and put away for Sunday's trials.

Meg Tucker headed the gang who set the scene Friday night so that we could walk into a venue all ready for our Trials, with baby gates, tables, mirrors screened and all in place - including touches like the treat

stash bucket handy on a chair by the out gate.

The top awards for the day went to:

Trial #1 - Laurie Strimavvicius and her Labrador Retriever, Southpaw's It's All About M.E. who earned both High Combined Advanced B and Excellent B with a score of 199 and the "Triple"—Advanced B, Excellent B and Master with a combined score of 297.

#2 -Debbie Ciuffo and her Standard Schnauzer, Sketchbook Treasure Seeker PCDX BNGO RAE RM2 CAA TKA CGC. This amazing team earned both HIT and the Triple with perfect scores for all three classes, Advanced B, Excellent B and Master to earn scores of 200 and 300 respectively.

PCOTC members did well—as usual:

- Maureen Bordins took time off from her "day job" as trial secretary to take her Sheltie Rosemoor Lucas Mein Liebschen CGCA TKN, into the Novice ring to earn their Novice title with a second place and later in Trial #2 to again place 2nd in Intermediate.
- Ellen Emert and her Golden Sunfire's Amazing Grace earned the Intermediate title in the morning with a 4th place ribbon and picked up a bumper leg in the afternoon.
- Rickie Haas, whose Golden Nautilus

He Has a Nose For Trouble just earned the Novice title last week, stepped up to Advanced B and earned their first two legs toward their new goal.

- Morgaana Menzel had to put her camera away for a few minutes so she and her Boxer Sirocco's Song of the Sea BN, RN, CGC, TKA could earn their Intermediate title (2nd place in Trial #1, 3rd place in Trial #2).
- Meg Tucker and Lab mix Sashi of Waverly RN also earned the Intermediate title with a 3rd place in Trial #1 and a 4th in Trial #2.
- Heidi Wise had a good day with her Pomeranians, both of whom were shown in Novice B. Twinkle Twinkle Little Star RN was 4th in Trial #1 and 3rd in Trial #2. Heidi's Showins Wolf Delicious Queen RN came 3rd in trial #1 and won her class in Trial #2 with a perfect score of 100.

• We missed having Linda Seavers wonderful Bernese Mountain Dog Tschuggen's Rhapsody In Blue RD, FDC, CGC (Xodi) at Saturday's trials. Watching him work his happy, lightfooted way through a course in close harmony with Linda is a treat. We hope to see him again in class and wish him comfort.

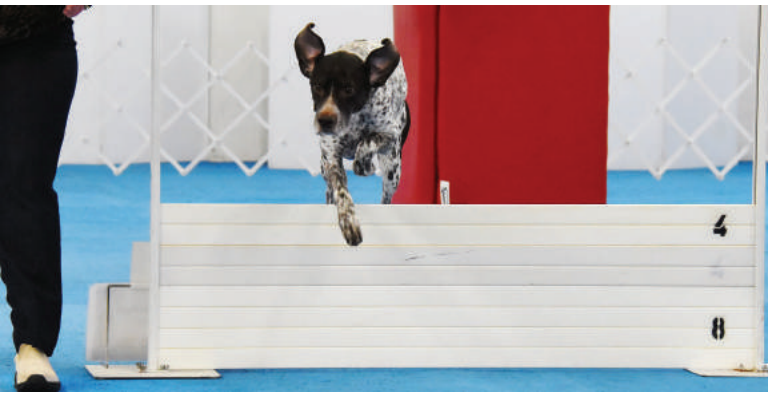
Many thanks to all who helped to make our Rally Trials a success. Workers, exhibitors, dogs—it is an unbeatable mix. Hope to see you all again.



Winter Events

Mar. 2: Rally Trials at PCOTC

© Morgaána Photography



Winter Events

Mar. 3: Obedience Trial at PCOTC

by Karen Wrey © Morgána Photography

What a pleasure to have been a part of yet another successful AKC Obedience Trial on Sunday, March 3. As an old time member of nearly two decades, participating in events like this reminds me of why I stay a member. The commitment from our volunteer members, who work so well together, makes for a day well spent! When all is said and done, we may leave exhausted but having had a lot of fun.

A very special thank you must first go to Bruce Sheffler, who takes on the lions' share by spearheading our trials. Hours of pre-trial, as well as "day of" work, go into being the Chairperson. We owe Bruce our gratitude for doing it.

Trials also cannot happen without folks to carry the load. Morgana Menzel did a stellar job of recruiting and organizing our crew of ring stewards (Mike Jones, Cindy Rubin, Amy Elizabeth Bedford, Suzanne Bedford, Molly Marion, Sue Bakers and

myself). Because of good stewards, the day ran without a hitch.

Morgana was also responsible for garnering help with both pre-trial set up and post-trial break down in addition to being is our roaming photographer. Thank you, Morgana!

The best part of the day, however, was spending time with fellow club members who came to compete. We ran two concurrent trials with Judge Lynda Moore in Ring one/Trial One and Judge Lorraine Moffa in Ring two/Trial Two. Instructors Cindy Rubin, Rick Pisani and Nancy Fields were there to support and cheer everyone on.

We had some exciting moments as Club members Ruth Armisto, Denise DeVito, Bob Amen, Joanne Sheffler, Morgana Menzel, Mindy Costanza, and Rick Pisani received qualifying scores and subsequent "legs".

Fellow club member and former Obedience class assistant, Rick Ritacco, made us all very proud with a score of 199, coming in second place to Petra Ford who inched ahead with a 199.5 in Utility B.

In Trial One, Ms Ford also received the High in Trial honor with a perfect score of 200 from the Open B class. Such high scores are truly unique and very special to witness. Excitement was in the air.

High Combined in Trial Two went to Sue Levine. Although Sue is not a club member, she is a frequent participant in our monthly White Plains Week-end Obedience run-thrus. We do draw participants from all around us due to our reputation as a very welcoming place.

Congratulations to all!

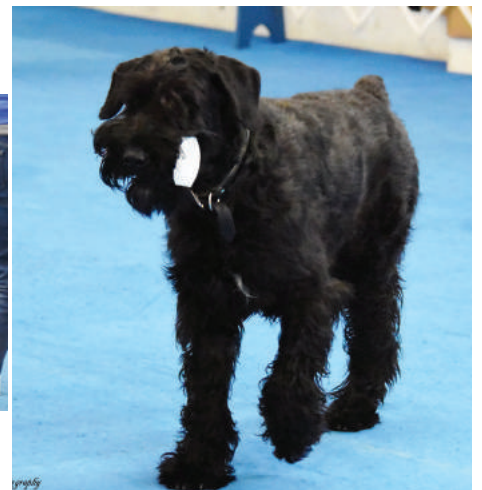
Watch for upcoming information on the July Trial. We hope to see YOU there... be it as a volunteer, competitor or spectator!



© Morgána Photography

Winter Events

Mar. 3: **Obedience Trial at PCOTC** © Morgaána Photography



Glad Tales



Lucas Earns RN Title at PCOTC

My dog Rosmoor Lucas Mein Liebchen (Lucas) and I earned our Rally Novice title at PCOTC's March 2 Rally Trials!

— *Maureen Bordins*



AVA Attains Championship

My Scottish Terrier, Ava, attained her conformation championship title at the tender age of 1-1/2 years. She is now known as CH Mc-Murphy One Touch of Venus.

— *Lenore Feldman*

Rhoswyn: Rally RI Title, 2nd CD Leg with 1st Place

What a weekend of AKC Trials! Rhoswyn earned her RI Obedience Title! Could not be more proud of my baby girl. She also got her 2nd Leg towards her CD with a 1st Place Finish!

Thank you Judge Laraine Moffa.

— *Morgaana Menzel*



Glad Tales

Poms Chantilly & Cupid at NJ Rally Trial

My Pomerian Chantilly placed first in Rally Novice at the Verona, NJ Rally Trial on January 13 with a perfect score of 100 (plus another first at PCOTC's rally trial, also with a perfect score). My Pom Cupid (pictured) got a 98 in Rally Novice, and his title!

— Heidi Wise, © Morgaána Photography



Sad Tales

"EMMA" 07/22/07-03/10/19

Reinwood Hearts Delight CD, RN, BN, FDC, CGC, CGCU



A sweet, gentle, lovable old soul left my life too soon. Emma was born in my house. When Emma was three weeks old Tasha, the day before she passed away, told me that this gorgeous black bundle of fur was the one to keep. Little did I know the heartbreak of loosing Tasha would be filled with wonderful adventures that would open a new chapter in my life. Emma was my go to girl for everything from doing PCOTC Demos at events such as Bark In The park, Javits Center, Adopt A Dog, as well as demos at my Monday night classes. She loved everyone...dogs, people, children as well as horses! She was my co-pilot, kayak companion, bed buddy (sleeping over my head) as well as my sidekick out and about. A very photogenic girl, her smile was always so radiant. We competed in Obedience, Rally-O and titled. Achieved the Canine Good Citizen and Urban. She helped me get through the rough times. Truly a once in a life time girl. Emma is what I call the cherry on top to all the dogs who are with me today. Run Free my girl, good bye does not mean forever....just till we meet again.

— Mary-Elizabeth Simpson

"CORN" 9/20/03 - 12/4/18

MACH 16 Corn Cocker Cornelius CDX MXS5 MJC5 FTC1 MFB2 TQX T2B9 TKN

It breaks my heart to report that Corn crossed the Rainbow Bridge on December 4, 2018 at the age of 15. We shared so many memorable years of trialing in agility and obedience together. I would often feel his thoughts through some sort of telepathy and he could read my mind. It made obtaining so many titles come so easy.

When I brought his ashes home, hundreds of Purple Martin birds circled over the house and agility field and left as quickly as they came. These birds only arrive in Florida mid February. Then the next day, while walking our three other dogs, there appeared a huge white cloud over our house. It was in the shape of Corn jumping, legs extended and curled, ears flying and just an expression of happiness.

I knew exactly what he was telling me.

— Michelle Trummer



Our Stars

New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 2/15/19

OBEDIENCE

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Beginner Novice (BN)

12/8/18 Kathleen Foley, Destiny & Fireheart's Celtic Magic BN RN SCN BCAT TKN CGC, "Lorna," Scottish Terrier

Companion Dog Excellent (CDX)

11/10/18 Janet York, GCH Piccadil's When You're A Jet, CD AX AXJ, "Jet," Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

AGILITY

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Agility Course Test 1 (ACT 1)

1/19/19 Maureen Bordin, Rosmoor Lucas Mein Liebchin, "Lucas," Sheltie

Agility Course Test II (ACT II)

1/19/19 Maureen Bordin, Rosmoor Lucas Mein Liebchin, "Lucas," Sheltie

1/19/19 Phyllis Sabin, Mount Bethal Dolly II, "Dolly," Standard Poodle

Novice Agility Jumpers (NAJ)

12/8/18 Stephen McKay, Hob Nob Hang On Tight, "Grip," Border Collie

Open Standard (OA)

2/2/19 Michelle Trummer, Win Winter Solstice, CD BN RI OA OAJ OF TKN, "Winter," Shetland Sheepdog

Open Jumpers (OAJ)

12/9/18 Jamie McKay, Bare Cove Hair Force One, "Tease," Shetland Sheepdog

Agility Excellent (AX)

11/16/18 Janet York, CH Piccadil's Once In A Lifetime, CD RE OA AXJ, "Bravo," Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Master Agility Jumper (MAJ)

1/19/19 Janet Metzger, Safranne's Rascal of Redding, "Rascal," Miniature Poodle

Open Standard (OA)

10/13/18 Jamie McKay, Bare Cove Hair Force One, "Tease," Shetland Sheepdog

USDAA

Preferred Snooker (PS)

7/8/18 Barbara Siegel, Springhill Sir Wilfred of Ivanhoe, "Ivan," Mudi

SCENT WORK

American Kennel Club (AKC)

Scent Work Interiors Novice (SIN)

11/11/18 Megan Woods, Britannia Listen To Your Heart BN CD RE NJP FDC TKN RATN SCN SIN, "George," Bearded Collie

11/11/18 Audrey Woods, GCH CH Britannia Live Long and Prosper BN RE HT TKN CGC, "PJ," Bearded Collie

Scent Work Containers Novice (SCN)

11/11/18 Audrey Woods, GCH CH Britannia Live Long and Prosper BN RE HT TKN CGC, "PJ," Bearded Collie

Scent Work Containers Novice (SCN)

11/11/18 Audrey Woods, GCH CH Britannia Live Long and Prosper BN RE HT TKN CGC, "PJ," Bearded Collie

NOSEWORK

National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW)

Nosework Level 1 (NW1)

3/31/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Sacha," Saint Bernard

Nosework Level 2 (NW2)

6/30/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Hank," Boxer

9/22/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Sacha," Saint Bernard

Nosework Level 2 Exteriors (L2E)

10/28/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Bo," Saint Bernard

Nosework Level 3 (NW3)

11/11/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Hank," Boxer

Nosework Level 3 Elite (NW3 Elite)

12/9/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Hank," Boxer

DETECTION DOG TITLES

USCSS

Detection Dog Classic Novice (DDCN)

4/15/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Hank," Boxer

5/20/18 Ashlin Cooke, "Sacha," Saint Bernard

BARN HUNT ASSOCIATION (BHA)

Crazy 8s Platinum 2

2/9/19 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

FARM DOG CERTIFIED (FDC)

American Kennel Club

11/11/18 Audrey Woods, GCH CH Britannia Live Long and Prosper BN RE HT TKN CGC, "PJ," Bearded Collie

HAPPY RATTERS

Ratter

12/9/18 Kathleen Foley, Cesare's Rome 'N The Gloamin' CD RAE ACP AJP CAA BCAT SE RATS RATTER, "Brian," West Highland Terrier

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 trumpetvine55@yahoo.com or to Michelle Trummer.

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

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

Volunteering Explained

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

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

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

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

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

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

Change in the Fiscal Year

Note: Due to a Bylaws change, our fiscal and club years are now Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Volunteer hours in one calendar year are used to retain volunteer status in the following calendar year.

HELP WANTED

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

SPCA DOG WALK & PET FAIR, 5/4

On Saturday, May 4, PCOTC will join other local groups at the SPCA of Westchester's annual fund-raising event, the SPCA Dog Walk and Pet Fair 2019. PCOTC will need volunteers who can

- bring our booth and equipment to and from the event,
- staff our booth and explain our training program to visitors,
- demo agility with their dogs.

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

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



PARKING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

1. It seems that the work being conducted on the tracks by the club has left some students blocked in. Please note, that while track work is being conducted, it is best to avoid parking in the downstairs lot, because track workers have been known to bring trucks in, block our cars and leave. Building management says that they have the right of way.
2. 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.

Kerry Smith Agility Seminars

As we go to press, PCOTC instructor Kerry Smith has just finished three days of agility seminars, which we will cover in the next issue of *Sit 'n Stay*.

March 8: Essential Skills and Problem Solving: Questions About a specific skill or issue? Here's a chance to work on problem-solving those issues and developing a plan to fix them.

March 9: Work Smarter, not Harder: This session will cover reading lines, using motion, and developing skills to improve distance and gain advantage on course, improve the timing of your cues.

Mar. 10: Read Between the Lines (Course Analysis): This session will focus on course analysis and lines to find the clearest and fastest path for your dog. This is critical since understanding your dog's line determines what crises and techniques to use. We will cover how to choose techniques that will bring out the most speed from your dog.

PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

12/12/2018

Present from Board: S. Gagnon, J. Meldrim, M. Skirchak, M. Menzel

President's Report: AKC ACT trial coming up in January. Anita will be hosting.

Elections will be coming up soon.

Treasurer: Statement of financial position were distributed.

Committees:

Registration: 438 versus 414 last December. We've transferred to the new credit card processor mentioned in the last meeting, expect to see the savings in 2019.

Registration year to date: 2332 in 2018 and 2300 in 2017 so registration is holding fairly steady.

Membership: Currently at 236 members. Online renewal is up for this year.

New Facility Task Force – Read report from Stephen McKay – report included below.

Unfinished Business

Flooring: Flooring will be ordered, blue Agiliflex, and should arrive by Spring.

New Business. None

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is Sunday, April 14th, Spring Cleaning and Club Meeting.

New Facility Task Force Report

The committee members found and looked at a brand new building in Patterson NY. (Pics were sent via FB messenger). The approximate building area was 12K sq ft. Landlord was interested in a single occupant although he planned to subdivide the area into approximately 8K sq ft and 4K sq ft. Bathrooms were being constructed and were in working area. Landlord indicated he would relocate the bathrooms to our liking. Parking and potty areas were decent and weekend parking was ample. Cost was less than what we currently pay at club and lease was triple net.

I approached landlord's maintenance man and discussed possibility of seeing other

Beneroff properties that had clear span. Looked at a building 2-3 doors down from us. Was clear span, but about 55' X 90' so a little narrow. Also, no parking lot. Cost per sq ft unknown. Asked about other potential properties but Wes has not gotten back to me. I'll follow up with him.

Saw building over near Stew Leonards and contacted realtor. Was already leased.

Called on two potential locations in Tarrytown, both adjacent to train station. Ideal locations but \$22 sq ft.

Brought Joe Alemani on board who contacted commercial realtor and met with us at club to see current set-up and discuss needs. She hasn't found anything and contacted me to state she had some documents for me to sign. I'm NOT signing anything

Drove by building in Stamford, in an industrial park and within a mile of Bandilane's old site. Kinda buried in that park and not an ideal location IMO.

The committee's search continues. Respectfully submitted.

Stephen McKay, CPDT-KSA
goweave@optonline.net

Board Minutes

1/17/19

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

Corresponding Secretary – Several e-blasts have gone out to the membership over the last month.

Treasurer – Mary Skirchak showed a statement of activity for this year versus last year and a statement of financial position. We are basically even with the previous year.

Committees:

Registration: 410 versus 422 last January. There is a need for more instructors on the schedule and more offerings particularly Family Manner foundation classes.

Mileage: Reimbursement for mileage has been stopped since this is a deductible business expense.

Membership – Several new members were voted in: Jerrilyn Walter, Christopher and Nancy Luther, Victoria Burke and Noel Dennis, Lyn Bianchi, Amy Redford and Suzanne Lason.

Unfinished Business

Rally: Ann Mandelbaum is teaching Fridays only so there is openings on the schedule for Monday for another Rally instructor.

Membership renewal is proceeding. Another reminder went out to members who have not renewed their memberships.

New emails have been officially launched. In addition to routing to proper person, volunteer slips will be online.

New Business

AKC events – There is a new online upload system for premiums to be used by the chairs of these events.

Nominating committee – Board liaison will be Mary Skirchak.

Club Parties – Will look for ways to make coming to club meetings more appealing. Perhaps with speakers, etc. The board will look for an "event person" to seek out interesting topics and speakers.

Sit N Stay – There will be a transition to an online version more like a blog. It was suggested that it occur monthly rather than quarterly.

AKC Legislative Liaison – Looking for a person to stay abreast of upcoming legislation, propositions etc. and inform the board so that the membership can take appropriate action.

Class Assistant Program – It was determined that a coordinator is not needed. Instructors know their students and are better at finding someone to fill the assistant roles.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is Monday, March 4.