



NASHVILLE DOG TRAINING CLUB

DIXIE RECALL

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MAY 2009



2009 BOARD MEMBERS and SUPPORT STAFF

President
David Haddock
president@nashvilledog.org

Vice President
Bruce Oppenheimer
vp@nashvilledog.org

Membership
Kay Ford
membership@nashvilledog.org

Registrar
Claudia Dickerson
registrar@nashvilledog.org

Web site
Debbie Gordon
website@nashvilledog.org

Recall Editor
Connie McGhee
editor@nashvilledog.org

Building Rental
Bruce Oppenheimer
rental@nashvilledog.org

Check building availability by
using the Events Calendar at
www.nashvilledog.org.

Make ring reservations by
calling Bruce Oppenheimer at
322-6232 or email at
rental@nashvilledog.org.

NEXT MEMBER MEETING:

May 25

www.nashvilledog.org

INTRODUCING THE NEW LOOK AND FEATURES OF OUR WEB SITE

Lots of writing, coding, cropping has been going on for the last three months, and at last the new Web site was launched on May 4! You have no doubt noticed that the Recall is also sporting a new design - this design reflects the new look of our Web site. We are excited about visually unifying our two primary forms of communication and outreach.

Many grateful thanks go to Debbie Gordon, who has worked tirelessly on the development of the new site for the past few months. Thanks also to Connie McGhee for her contributions to the overall design.

One of the first things you will surely notice when you visit the site are the rotating pictures of your dogs at the top of the page. The large format photograph changes randomly each time you come back to the page. You can also change the picture by clicking on it.

Thanks to all of you who contributed photos! We think it will be inspiring for prospective students visiting the site for the first time to see the range of dogs and activities we are fortunate to enjoy at NDT. If you have not submitted a photo, but now that you've seen them feel that your dog must be famous as well, it's not too late to do so. Send your submissions in .jpg format to editor@nashvilledog.org. If you did submit a photo but don't see it on the site, please e-mail Connie and let her know.

We will try to have the current class schedule and the next future class session on the Web site at all times. The easy-to-read grid shows the usual class info, as well as instructor name and whether the class is open or closed (full). The word "open" is linked to the class registration form.

Another exciting development is that the new class registration form can be typed on! Just pop it open and place your cursor on one of the fields, then type your info, print it out, sign and mail, or bring to the club if you prefer. This is the first step towards the goal of online class registration. The membership application can be typed on, as well.

There is so much potential for our Web site to promote our training classes to dog owners in our area and to promote the sense of community among our members. We hope that the new site is just the first of many Web features to come.

GUIDELINES FOR PHOTO SUBMISSION:

- 1) Photos must be at least 640 dpi wide x 300 dpi tall, or around 1 mb or larger. Bigger would be better to allow for artistic cropping. Horizontal format is preferred.
- 2) Please send only the best one or two shots of each dog in your family. We are looking for shots that are in sharp focus, have nice color and have the dog very prominently featured.
- 3) We need photos of dogs performing, as well as just hangin out and being themselves.
- 4) Outdoor shots seem to work best. Indoor shots taken with a flash often feature doggie red-eye.
- 5) **Copyright. PLEASE READ, VERY IMPORTANT:** We welcome shots taken by professional photographers, but only if they have granted permission to use them on our Web site. They will receive photo credit embedded on the image. Photographers retain all rights to their photos, and it is very important to ask before using one of their images. Even if you paid for the photograph, the photographer must still grant permission for it to be used in a manner other than for what it was originally intended. NDT will not accept responsibility for any copyright infringement violations.

THE SCOOP ON DOGS

From AKC Syndicate at akc.org:

Dear Lisa: Is there any color reasons as to why a dog would have black spots on his tongue? Is this related to the black tongue in the Chow Chow? I've seen the spots in Malamutes and German Shepherd Dogs too.

– Spotting Black Spots

Dear Spotting: What you are describing is really two different things. The spots on the tongue are a result of heavy pigmentation. Pigmentation is the coloration found in plant and animal cells. In dogs, pigment can affect the “points” of a dog and is genetically determined. Points include lips, nose, eye rims, pads and even toenails.

The Chow and the Chinese Shar Pei that both require a blue-black tongue and mouth in their standard have been bred specifically to have the black tongue and mouth. The random spots on the tongue of other breeds is just a result of heavy pigmentation carrying over to the tongue from the black points.

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MEMBER Q! BRAGS

Marina Caro's Whippet, **Vesta**, earned her Oval Track Racing title in Atlanta GA on Sunday, April 12th. She is now known as **Aslan Artemis Harvest Moon SC, RA, FCh, OTR, CGC**. On Saturday, she earned five points towards her Companion Racer (CR) title with the Whippet Racing Association. She now has 11 points and only needs four more points for that racing title. I am very proud of my girl who runs with all her heart when chasing those plastic bunnies.

Sandra Edson's Standard Poodle, **Sancrest Georgina, CDX, RE, AXP, AJP, (Gina)**, earned her first RAE leg on April 25, 2009, at the Clarksville Kennel Club trial in Nashville, with a fourth place in Excellent B.

Sandra Edson's Standard Poodle, **Sancrest Davy Crockett, RN (Davy)**, earned his first two Novice B legs at the Clarksville Kennel Club trial in Nashville on April 25th and 26th, 2009, with a 3rd place on Sunday.

Cheryl Geer's two Papillons competed in the TDAA trial April 4-5 at NDTC. Both **Jackson** and **Felix** earned their TBAD titles (Teacup Beginner Agility Dog) with placements and they each earned one leg on their TG1 title (Teacup Games 1). Felix loved the small contacts and Cheryl is now looking for more TDAA trials!

Hunter Johnson's Shetland Sheepdog, **Redfield Flying Colors, CD, RN (Zip)**, scored 100 and second place in Rally Advanced B on Friday, March 27, 2009. On Saturday Zip earned his second leg with a score of 91.

Connie McGhee's boys said their farewells to Novice A at the Clarksville trial on April 25 and 26. **Angus** netted a first place on Saturday, and on Sunday Angus placed third and **Simon** fourth. Also worth noting is the ring debut of Connie's husband, **Kevin**, as additional handler for group exercises on Sunday. He did so well with Simon, even working through having to reposition him a bit. I was very proud of ALL my boys!

THANK YOU FROM MARINA

I want to thank the entire membership of NDTC for the lovely planter and chocolates I received the day after my eye surgery with Dr. Ming Wang. The planter has many beautiful green plants and my favorite Gerbera Daisy in it as well.

Many of you have supported me the past six years after my initial lasik surgery, and for that I will be forever grateful. Four surgeries after the initial surgery in April of 2003, I believe Dr. Wang will be able to help me stave off a corneal transplant in the very near future. I once thought it was only my left eye that would need a corneal transplant one day. Fifteen months ago, I was told that my right eye was developing Keratoconus. Dr. Wang operated on my right eye on April 16th and he said that once we addressed my right eye, he believes he will be able to “fix” my left eye as well. I am ecstatic to say the least.

I will continue to need your prayers and support through this. To say that there are days I am depressed and discouraged is putting it mildly. I do have hope now.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

– Marina Caro

AKC ACCEPTS MIXED BREEDS IN COMPETITION

http://www.akc.org/news/index.cfm?article_id=3810

House for sale next door to Mary Stevenson. Would be super if a dog person were interested.

\$156,500

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NEW CLASS FEE AND CLASS REGISTRATION FORM BE SURE TO REGISTER EARLY FOR JUNE CLASSES!

It has been quite a while since NDTC reviewed its rates or its class registration form. The current class fee of \$90 is much lower than the other schools in town. A recent sampling of other obedience classes showed the following rates:

Pupscouts: \$120 for 8 weeks

Petsmart: \$109 for 8 weeks

Dogs and Kat: \$75-80 for 4 weeks

Canine Behavior Specialists: \$125 for 6 weeks

The expenses of maintaining the Club facility have continued to grow over the years, and class revenue is the most important source of revenue for paying our rent, utilities, and other expenses. There is also a need to encourage students to register earlier for classes, since currently there is a mad rush of registrations received in the week before classes start. Not only does this unnecessarily complicate the Registrar's job, but it also makes it extremely difficult to recruit instructors and assistants needed to schedule any overflow classes. To address these needs, the Board has approved the following new rate schedule:

Standard rate for 8-week classes (Registration by noon Friday the week before the session start date) - \$150

Early-bird rate (Registration by noon Friday two weeks before the session start date) - \$120

Drop-in class fee (Conformation, Heeling, Open, and Utility) - \$10 (unchanged)

We will continue to offer the following discounts:

- Rescues from humane shelters and rescue organizations: One-time 50% discount upon presentation of adoption papers with registration form
- Club members who have completed at least 10 volunteer hours in the previous year: 50% discount
- Instructors and assistant instructors: One free 8-week class for each 8 weeks of teaching
- Instructors teaching two or more classes a year, trial chairs, and other year-round volunteers designated by the board: Unlimited free classes for a year

Please note that discounts and free classes, including the early-bird rate, the rescue discount, the club volunteer discount, and free classes for instructors and assistants, are available only if the registration is complete and received by noon Friday two weeks before the session start date. A registration is "complete" if the form is completely filled out and legible, if it is accompanied by proof of current rabies vaccination or this information is already in the registrar's database, and if the registration includes payment of the correct fee or references the teaching/volunteer credit.

This means that if you are an instructor or assistant, you should be sure to turn in your registration form and shot record by the early-bird deadline in order to qualify for the free class. Club members with 10 volunteer hours in the previous twelve months should also be sure their class registrations are received by the early-bird deadline in order to get half-price classes. You can still register after that deadline, but you would have to pay the full fee of \$150 for the class.

Claudia Dickerson will be posting on the office wall a list of all rabies information in the database (Name, dog's name and breed, date rabies vaccine expires). Once that is posted, please check to be sure that all of the dogs you bring to the Club are listed and the information is current. Only dogs with current information on the list can enter the building. You can add dogs to the database by leaving a copy of the rabies vaccination record in the Registrar's box in the office or by scanning and emailing it to registrar@nashvilledog.org.

The Board has also approved the use of a new class registration form for the session starting the week of June 21. This form has deleted information that has not been used historically, made it clear what information must be provided, and been reorganized to address places where recurring errors have been occurring.

Please note the following deadlines for the session starting the week of June 21:

Receipt of your complete registration (standard rate) - noon, Friday, June 19.

Receipt of your complete registration (free or discounted rates) - noon, Friday, June 5.

NDTC CLASSIFIEDS

EVENTS, SEMINARS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.NASHVILLEDOG.ORG

SHOWS IN MAY

May 9-10 Agility (Outdoors). Oak Ridge Kennel Club at East Tennessee Ag Expo Center in Harriman, TN. Show closes April 15.

May 16-17 Rally (Outdoors) and Obedience (Indoors/Outdoors). Greater Kingsport Kennel Club at Appalaichain Fairgrounds in Gray, TN. Show closes April 29.

May 23-24 Rally (Outdoors) and Obedience (Indoors/Outdoors). Oak Ridge Kennel Club at East Tennessee Ag Expo Center in Harriman, TN. Show closes May 6.

SHOWS IN JUNE

June 26-28 Agility (Indoors). Murfreesboro Obedience Training Club at Middle Tennessee State University Livestock Center in Murfreesboro, TN. Show closes June 3.

PUPPY CLASSES

We still have many openings for the year, but I would like to bring particular attention to the upcoming session which will begin later this month.

We are in serious need of assistants for Puppy K this session. I have had a few people speak to me that are interested, but as of yet have not gotten commitments to help.

Please consider whether you can fit Puppy K into your schedule. I guarantee it is the most fun you can have on a weeknight! The puppies are always delightful, and it's easy to do!

To assist you need only have a helpful, encouraging attitude and a love of puppies. To teach you must have assisted with NDTC Puppy K at least twice before.

Class times are from 7-8 PM, unless prior arrangements are made to change the time.

To sign on to this delightful task contact Carol Azmitia at lovemypets@comcast.net or by phone at (615) 952-4551.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Curt Brock available for private lessons. If you need some help working with your dog, e-mail Curt for lessons in his heated building. Contact cbrock@tnitech.edu for more information.

Sandra Edson offers private agility lessons For one-on-one instruction in agility, contact Sandra Edson at (615) 325-9765 or by e-mail at sancrestfarm@comcast.net

Pat Thorne available for private obedience lessons Pat has been training dogs for 25 years. She has put UDs on six of her dogs, and OTCH titles on two. Pat can be reached at (615) 274-2926.

HERDING CLINIC

There are two slots available for the Larry Painter herding clinic, May 9-11. Can sell as three day for \$230.00, or two day for \$160.00 (lunches are included in package price).

The clinic will take place at 8805 Brunswick Rd. Millington, TN 38053 (just north of Memphis).

Motel(s):

-Super 8 Motel, I-40 Exit 20, (901) 372-4575 (ask for special rate)

-Days Inn, I-40 Exit 20, (901) 388-7120

-KOA camping at Exit 20

Contact Melody Tillman at Tazman Kennel & Melody J Ranch for more information: tazmankennel@aol.com.

STUDY NEEDS CLEVER CANINE PARTICIPANTS

The University of Kentucky is looking for clever and outgoing dogs to participate in a research experiment. This experiment is designed to look at how inhibiting one's behavior effects energy levels. This research will be very relevant for those of you who train dogs for high-level competition dog events.

The requirements are as follows:

- The dog cannot guard food and toys from humans
- The dog must not be fed for four hours prior to testing
- The dog must have one week of experience playing with a mental enrichment toy that we will provide prior to testing
- The dog must be capable of a 2 minute out-of-sight sit/stay
- The owner must be willing to record how much their dogs like the toy
- The owner must be willing to practice out-of-sight sit/stays with their dog before testing
- The owner must be willing to bring their dogs to UKY for testing.

Having stated the requirements, let me outline the perks! First, your dog is enrolled in our Science Dog program. After participating in four experiments, we will post a photo of your dog on our Web site and you will be awarded a certificate for Freshman Science Dog.

Second, if you and your dogs enjoy the toy, you may keep it after we test your dogs.

Third, this is a great opportunity to practice sit/stays in a novel environment.

Fourth, we will be taking pictures of some of the dogs playing with the toy and the best picture taken will be included in our written article.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Holly C. Miller at mill1661@umn.edu.

SEMINARS

June 13-14 Obedience seminar with Lori Drouin. Topics include polishing handling skills, all Novice, Open and Utility exercises, and more!

Seminar will be held at 3850 W. Trimble Road in Milton, TN (15 minutes east of Murfreesboro off Route 96. \$175 for working teams for both days. Audit slots are \$70 per day or \$125 for the weekend. Drinks and lunch will be provided. Private lessons available at \$50 per hour. For more information, visit www.murfreesborodog-training.org, phone (615) 273-2929 or e-mail eqwynd@peoplepc.com.

Advertise in NDTC's Classifieds! There is no charge for ads, and they may pertain to any subject you think would be of interest to the members, from private lessons to events to birthdays. Place an ad in the Classifieds by emailing editor@nashville.org.