

Failure Leads to Learning

From Barb McColgan Pastore and Maddie (Kaibab's Free Spirit, CD, TD, RA, Bernese Mountain Dog)

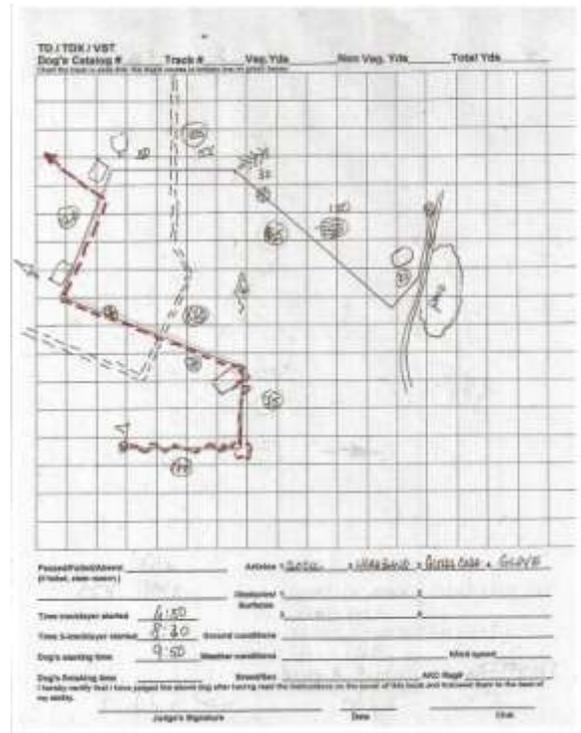
Well, we didn't pass our TDX test at Fort Lewis on Sunday, April 22, but we didn't exactly fail either.

We arrived at the Little Park Restaurant early enough to have breakfast and I waited for the draw well-rested, fed and relaxed. We drew the ideal number—track 2 of 6—not the first one of the day so that you'd feel rushed, but you don't have to hang around and wait through the heat of the day either. And, after the rain earlier in the week, Sunday was hot. We ran at about 10:00 a.m. and it was already over 70 degrees in brilliant sunshine. By the time the last dog finished at 2 p.m. it was past 80 degrees.

Sil Sander's official judge's map shows the total track length was about 805 yards. Maddie did outstandingly for the first 460 yards or so, correctly indicating the start article (a sock) and the second article (a headband). And she had no trouble ignoring the first human cross-track and staying on the designated track, and she solved the first three corners. I was watching her head, shoulders and tail intently and I had utterly no clue where we were.

The rectangular patches shown on the map provided an interesting change of cover during the track. They're about 20' x 40' of scrubby dirt and strung with wires on the ground between rows of what look like yellow squib covers. In cooler retrospect I suppose they are prepared areas for landing zone lights. But at the time all I could think of was that they might be practice mine detection areas and I think I ought to get extra credit for trusting Maddie to lead me through safely. The second corner was actually in one of those patches. (Yes, the thought did actually cross my mind...the tracklayer must have crossed here safely, and if Maddie is following her exactly...let's all tiptoe quickly...)

Instead of trotting full out as she sometimes does, Maddie worked at a steady but slightly slower pace. I think it was really hard to detect that three hour old scent and she had to work very deliberately. As you can see from the map, she did weave a bit at the first leg. Part of that was settling down and part was because the tracklayer apparently walked over the Scotch broom clumps and Maddie zigzagged around them.



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Contacts

WSOTC Officers

President: Nancy Light – 425.354.3609

kylahgold@aol.com

Vice President: John Heinrich – 206.241.2507

bjreed-jhrich@juno.com

Secretary: Janice Bergman – 425.672.4971

hobosmom@verizon.net

Treasurer: Wanda Diemert – 206.440.9948

wediemert@yahoo.com

Board Members

Dee Carlson – 425.861.9030

avalonp1@frontier.com

Claudia Hegdahl – 206.322.0446

claudia@oz.net

Jean Rassbach – 206.284.6371

jvedog@comcast.net

Donald Rennick – 425.220.3097

RennRotts@aol.com

Karen Snee – 206.325.6590

lolamom95@hotmail.com

AKC Delegate

James W. Smith – 800.448.1222, 8:30 a.m. to

4:30 p.m. EST and 716.208.9788 other times

daldel@hotmail.com

Canine Post

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Editor Nova Berkshires welcomes submissions by WSOTC members and nonmembers. Send all submissions, comments, or requests to Nova Berkshires at novaberkshires@comcast.net.

The views expressed in the *Canine Post* reflect those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of WSOTC, its board of directors or officers. Articles in the *Canine Post* may be reprinted provided credit is given to both the author and the *Canine Post*.

Committee Chairs

Agility Trials 2012 – Dee Carlson

Awards – Karen Snee

Audit/Budget – (chair needed)

CGC – Shari Wright

Training Chair – (chair needed)

Class Chair – Wanda Diemert

Hearts & Flowers – Nancy Light

Historian – (chair needed)

Insurance – Sue Cox

Legislation – Ron Perry

Membership – James Wilkinson

Newsletter – Nova Berkshires

Obedience Trials 2012 – Nancy Light

Obedience Trials 2013 – Claudia Hegdahl

Printing/Mailing – Jean Rassbach

Programs – (chair needed)

Property/Inventory – John Heinrich

Public Education – (chair needed)

Publicity – (chair needed)

Phone – Wanda Diemert

Sanctioned Match – (as needed)

Tracking Committee – Jackie Lovette

TDX – Fall 2012 – (chair needed)

TD – Fall 2012 – Karen Snee

TDX – Spring 2012 – John Heinrich

Web Site – Kathy Weaver

Yahoo Page – Wanda Diemert

June Post Deadline

Please send your articles, comments, announcements, brags, editorials, events, reports, or anything else for the June 2012 issue of the *Canine Post*, by

Monday, May 21, 2012.

Send your submissions to Nova Berkshires at novaberkshires@comcast.net

Thanks!

WSOTC Board Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2012

via Phone Conference (InstantConference)

WSOTC President Nancy Light called the board meeting to order via phone conference on April 18, 2012, at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Nancy Light, Janice Bergman, Wanda Diemert, Jean Rassbach, Claudia Hegdahl and Don Rennick

Absent: Dee Carlson, Karen Snee, and John Heinrich

Minutes

Minutes from the March 15, 2012, board meeting as printed in the *Canine Post*: APPROVED.

President's Report

Welcome to the first phone conference board meeting. Thank you to the obedience trial committee for a wonderful trial. (See Canine Post for details). Thank you to Wanda for your work organizing classes. Sue Cox has resigned from all positions except for insurance adviser.

Items for discussion:

1. Magnuson Renovations – Hanger 30 will be closed from October 2012 thru June 2013,
2. Whether we should call full members who cannot attend meetings and encourage them to switch to associate membership,
3. Replacement of missing plaques.

President has sent in our membership roster to the AKC, per their request, but doesn't know if format is acceptable. If not, it may have to be retyped.

Secretary's Report

No correspondence

Treasurer's Report

Balances were read.

Committee Reports

Agility 2012

Dee will send out hospitality letters soon. The Snohomish County D.O.G.S. 4H Club has volunteered to assist at the Trial (grounds and ring stewards) as their July community service project.

Awards

John has found some more achievement plaques in storage (OTCH, UDX, RAE), but others are still missing – MACH, MX, MXJ, CT, TDX. Discussion on combining higher level awards into one award, for example, one tracking plaque for TDX, CT, VST; one agility plaque.

Wanda checked with Scott's Trophies to see if there are any plaques that were never picked up, (as was thought), but they have only the Club Achievement Award for engraving.

John will be asked to bring any plaques found to the May meeting, so we can see what they look like and then make a final decision on the replacements. Karen is not at tonight's meeting, so we still need to find out what has been ordered for HS Club member at trial.

Audit

Discussion on having two separate meetings or one meeting for audit and budget. Will discuss at May board meeting.

Classes

We have two classes at Magnuson and two at Lake City. All seems to be going well.

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April Board Meeting Minutes

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Hearts & Flowers

Cards sent to Betty Winthers and Evie Boyton.

Membership

James will be printing the membership roster and mailing to those not on e-mail. Printed copies of the roster will be available at the May meeting. We need to get from James the information from the renewal forms on the things members expressed interest in volunteering for.

Newsletter

Jean reported that 23 people are having the Post mailed to them, the rest are being e-mailed. The costs have not amounted to enough money to warrant charging people for mailed newsletters. Nova reported that changing to one column format on some pages did not make the pagination any easier. She is expecting that Kathy Lang will be able to help her with layout of the May newsletter.

Obedience Trials 2012

Trial was a great success, with a large entry, a new location that exhibitors seemed to like, and vendors, which we usually don't have. While there are still some outstanding bills (from the fairgrounds staff) and checks (from trophy donations), the preliminary financial report shows a lower than expected loss.

Obedience Trials 2013

Arena is not available, so we will continue in the event center. Will not be doing two trials in one day as had been contemplated. Cost and time make impractical.

Using e-mail, we will ask for suggestions from members for judges with possible vote at the May member meeting.

Programs

At the May member meeting at the Meadowbrook Community Center, Dr Rosenthal will give a presentation on canine cancer. (John will pick up a projector and screen from Sil Sanders at the TDX test on April 22).

Locations to be announced for the following meetings:

- ❖ June Annual Meeting
- ❖ July WSOTC Picnic
- ❖ August member meeting

(Note: Janice was at the meeting on her lunch break so had to leave. Remainder of minutes by Nancy.)

Property

Don has delivered the trailer to John.

Tracking

TDX Spring 2012 -- The test is full with eight alternates. Thanks to Jackie for rounding up tracklayers.

TD Fall 2012. Karen is still looking for a secretary for the test.

Training Committee

Sue has turned in the training class materials to Wanda and Nancy via e-mail.

Web Site

Nancy reported that Kathy will make a few updates before she leaves town and will have more time to work on the more substantive changes like adding the members only section when she returns from out of town.

Unfinished Business**Manuals for Agility, Tracking and Obedience**

Nancy and Claudia will be working on a list of tasks to be done with dates and other information for the

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April Board Meeting Minutes

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obedience trials. The notebooks for 2011 and 2012 are complete with correspondence, AKC paperwork, financial information, contracts, etc. Dee has this for agility, not sure what is in tracking notebooks.

New Business

1. The Board will take up the decision of buying new Achievement trophies after it has viewed the ones that were in storage, and decide whether to consolidate some. Trophies will all have name of dog and year earned. Standing Rules will be addressed at that time.
2. The Board decided it was unnecessary to request people to change their type of membership. A quorum is only five, so business should be able to be conducted with this quorum.
3. No decision made on classes for fall when we will lose Magnuson. We will likely just be able to continue at LCCC with whatever classes we can do and go back to Magnuson after the remodel.
4. WSOTC is now on Facebook. Members encouraged to go on their page and 'like'.
5. Discussion of renewal of DexOnline ad for \$51.10. MOTION: To drop the DexOnline ad. APPROVED. Wanda will cancel.
6. James Smith has been approved by AKC to be our Delegate. The next meeting is in June in Raleigh. Nancy will write him and ask which meetings he wishes that we will reimburse him for.
7. MOTION: to send an email to exhibitors from the Obedience Trial to thank them for coming, invite to next year's trial, and give them the URL for the newsletter from the web site (which has the trial report). Nancy will do this. Sheila has sent her emails of exhibitors.
8. The Board expressed approval for the phone meeting and wishes to continue. The next meeting will be on May 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Janice Bergman and Nancy Light 🐾

The May 17 canine cancer program is cancelled because Dr. Rosenthal died. At the meeting, nominations from the floor for board and officer positions will be accepted.

Next WSOTC Board and Member Meetings
Board meets on Thursday, May 10, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. via phone conference
Members meet at on Thursday, May 17, 2012, at 7:30 p.m.
Meadowbrook Community Center, 10517 35th Ave NE in Seattle

Canine Good Citizen Test Winter Session

By CGC Chair Shari Wright

On March 13, 2012, WSOTC held the Canine Good Citizen test at the Lake City Community Center. It was a huge success! One hundred percent of the ten purebreds and three mixed breeds passed. It was fun to watch the enthusiasm of the handlers, not only with their own dogs, but how they cheered fellow handlers on with their dogs.

We express our gratitude to all of these dedicated evaluators: Kristin Adix and her Black Lab, Fleetwood, for their excellent "Meet & Greet" job. Thanks Janice Bergman for a bang-up job of setting up the room. Wanda Diemert smoothly manned the registration desk. Bruce Crawford, Jeremy Slocomb and James Wilkinson participated in fulfilling test requirements.

All parts of the test ran smoothly and the appropriate reports were submitted to the AKC. The following capable handlers and their dogs earned the CGC title:

Handler	Dog	Pure	Mix	Handler	Dog	Pure	Mix
Kate Harris	Jack Holmes	X		Janice Bergman	Willow		X
Jennifer Mahauier	Deoghi	X		George Joyner	Snowbounds	X	
Linda Owens	Navana	X		Nancy Field	Eddie	X	
Kristin Smith	Noodles	X		Dorcas Chow	Teddy	X	
Van Bobbitt	Gibson	X		Diana Chow	Jack	X	
Paddy Shaper	Oliver & Kaiya		X	Kathleen Lange	Toby	X	

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So, things were going well. And then for some reason—I don't know why—Maddie stopped just before what I later learned was the fourth corner. She indicated (to my eye) that she had run out of scent and started casting about but with only a step or two either side and only briefly. She turned left and with full commitment, even pulling right down in the harness, she headed off on her new course. I swung behind her and looked up and we were headed right for a road crossing. "Aha", I thought, "one of our required track obstacles!" Alas, whether she was following a rabbit or the Phantom of the Opera, it wasn't Joan our tracklayer and the whistle blew.

After brief condolences from judges Sil Sanders and Stephanie Gonyeau I let Maddie re-start from her known track and she carried me around the rest of the way with no further difficulties. We found the third article, a glasses case, and headed on, up and over a ridge—with Sil's cry of "Follow your dog, lady!" floating behind us—and around a tree and then...in the hollow...there was the pond. Did I mention it was hot for my little girl with the heavy black coat? Although the track didn't go through the pond, Maddie did. When I got her to get out of the water she happily went back to the track, recommitted to it, trotted down it and pounced on the glove, to wild praise and pets.

While of course I'm disappointed not to have passed the TDX, the good things I'm taking away from this are: Maddie really CAN track a three hour old track laid by someone else, and about which I have no clue, despite unfamiliar terrain and obstacles. And Maddie knows what her job is—and enjoys it. We just have to work on proofing and steadying her focus.

As for Maddie, she had a blast (well, she did miss finding the hot dogs on the track, and the jackpots under the articles, but it was made up to her as soon as we got back to the car, believe me). She loves road trips, sleeping on motel beds and sharing take-out Italian dinners. She had a great time running about in the wild outdoors of the Lewis ranges, and being the full-time center of her Mommy's attention. In fact, she had so much fun she's ready to go do it again. So I submitted our entry to the Spokane Dog Training Club's TDX test in Sprague and we're the first alternate.

My thanks to everyone who made this test happen—and it surely takes the efforts of a whole host of committed and generous people. We had a wonderful day, reconnecting with so many good friends (and their dogs) we have made at tracking trials and seminars over the years, and meeting new ones. Barbara Reed-Stamps, once again, handled all the paperwork involved with being a test superintendent. And Jackie Lovette was both tireless and organized, getting tracklayers where they ought to be, when they needed to be. And to all the tracklayers: thank you! I've seen you all at so many tests—you made this event possible! And I promise that once Maddie passes her TDX, I'll pay my debt to the sport and join you! We'll see you in the field. Best to all, both two- and four-footed. 🐾

Opportunities to Serve

The WSOTC Agility Trials at Argus Ranch on July 13, 14 and 15 are held outside on grass but can be moved inside if the weather refuses to cooperate. AKC requires WSOTC to create an Event Committee for the Trials in case an Event Hearing (also known as a Bench Hearing) needs to take place. The event committee is usually made up of the officers and board members of the club but can include any designated club member.

The members of the event committee are required to be on the grounds at all times during the hours of the trials. Please let me know if you would like to be a member of the event committee. If enough people volunteer, not everyone will need to be on the grounds all three days of the trials. People who are running in the trials may also serve on the event committee. Without an event committee the trials cannot be held.

We are also looking for people who will volunteer to assist with the trials during setup on Friday, July 13, and tear down on Sunday, July 15, ring stewarding, course building and other assistance as needed. People who assist with the trials will receive lunch at no cost and the pleasure of watching some really nice agility runs by some of the top competing teams in the Pacific Northwest. If you show in agility, we may be able to give you some of your runs at no cost to you (depending on what you volunteer to do and for how long). We already have several volunteers from other clubs; it would be great to have people from WSOTC step up and support our own trials. Please contact me by e-mail, at my home number, 425.861.9030, or by cell phone, 425.922.7220. Thank you!

WSOTC Agility Trial Chair Dee Carlson, avalonp1@frontier.com

Contact Claudia Hegdahl at claudia@oz.net about opportunities to help with WSOTC's 2013 obedience and rally trials. She'll have sign-up sheets at the May 17 member meeting.

2013 WSOTC Obedience Trial Judges List

Claudia Hegdahl, WSOTC's 2013 obedience and rally trials chair, submitted the following list of judges' names. At the May 17, 2012, meeting club members will vote to approve judges for the 2013 trials. The meeting at the Meadowbrook Community, 10517 35th Ave NE, Seattle, begins at 7:30 p.m.

Debbi Addicoat, WA, rally

Dianne Allen, IL, all obedience and rally

C.Z. Pat Alvarez, CA, all obedience and rally

Susan (Suzi) Bluford, CA, all obedience and rally

Betty Brask, HI, all obedience and rally

Carol Callahan, WA, all obedience

Terri Clingerman, NY, all obedience

Chris Cornell, WA, all obedience and rally

Sue Cox, WA, all obedience and rally

John Cox, WA, all obedience

Nancy Craig, CA, all obedience and rally

Marcia Dandridge, OR, all obedience and rally

Loretta Delinger, CA, all obedience and rally

Harold Doan, FL, all obedience and rally

Rose Doan, FL, all obedience and rally

Lynn Eggers, TX, all obedience and rally

Alvin Eng, CA, all obedience and rally

Greg Feathers, FL, all obedience and rally

Sharon Fulkerson, OR, all obedience

Pat Gannon, TX, all obedience

Edward Haas, IL, all obedience and rally

Sharon Hodgens-Wood, WI, all obedience and rally

Michele Illes, CA, all obedience and rally

Jerry Iermiero, FL, all obedience and rally

Joanne Johnson, SD, all obedience and provisional rally

Pat Kasten, MO, all obedience

Pat Knepley, WA, rally

Richard Lewis, WA, all obedience, provisional rally, utility

Linda MacDonald, OH, all obedience and rally

Tom Masterson, OH, all obedience

JoAnn Mather, WA, all obedience and rally

Pam Murphy, CA, all obedience and rally

Deb Neufeld, FL, novice, open and all rally

Susan Oviatt-Harris, CO, all obedience

Mike Piefer, WI, all obedience

Chris Primmer, WA, all obedience and rally

Cynthia Rustad, MN, all obedience and rally

Phil Rustad, MN, all obedience and rally

Mary Jane Shervais, WA, all obedience and rally

Robert Squires, NY, all obedience

Teresa Temple, OR, all obedience and rally

Larry Tanner, ID, all obedience and rally

Earl Vaughan, WA, all obedience and rally

Minta (Mike) Williquette, SC, all obedience and rally

Betty Winthers, WA, all obedience and rally

Richard Wood, WI, all obedience and rally 🐾

Real Solutions for Canine Behavior Problems

Saturday, June 9, 2012 – Dogs Will Be Dogs: Problem Behaviors Other Than Aggression (PNOTA)

Sunday, June 10, 2012 – Reality Bites: Canine Aggression

Both seminars presented by Pat Miller, past president of APDT and author of her new book: *Do Over Dogs – Give Your Dog a Second Chance for a First Class Life*.

Presented by Puppyworks and co-hosted by Let's Talk Dogs at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia, WA. For registration and more information go to www.puppyworks.com or call 917.699.6440.

Upcoming Events

Retrieving Workshops with Cindy Leung

Saturday, June 9, 2012 – Beginner and Remedial Retrieving Skills

Sunday, June 10, 2012 – Advanced Retrieving Audit and working spots available. Both workshops in Cornelius, OR

For more information send e-mail to tqtemple@comcast.net or call 503-807-9321.

WSOTC Agility Trials

July 13 – 15, 2012 -- Argus Ranch, Auburn, WA.

For more information contact Dee Carlson at avalonp1@frontier.com

Canine Good Citizen Test

November 20, 2012 -- Lake City Community Center, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., \$5.00 at door or Free for current WSOTC class members.

May 2012 Brags

My Border Terrier, JD, went to the Poodle Agility Trial and left me home to recover from the unpleasant effects of radiation. He spent the weekend in Tacoma with my daughter, Diana, son-in-law, John, and granddaughter, Katie. They drove him to Argus Ranch to deliver him to Cheryl Sackmann, who runs him. He enjoyed his slumber party so much that on Sunday he got his first double Q in Excellent Preferred with two first places.

Jean Rassbach

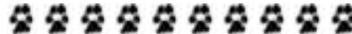
I entered Koki and Tiki in Nose Work 1 at the trials in Fife, WA, on April 14 - 15. On Saturday, when Koki was entered, there were 22 passes out of 32, of which she was one. She did well and would have been 7th overall except that we had a "fault", because I dropped a piece of food. You are allowed to reward after each find, but you get faulted if you stupidly drop a piece of food as you are rewarding. Lesson learned. I was extremely careful after that! The overall is for all four "elements" to the test: container search, interior search, vehicle search and exterior search. They also have placements for lowest time for each element. She is now: UH,HRCH, U-UD,URO1, Can OTCH AERO-JETTS KOKOPELLI DREAM UDX, TDX, MH, WCX, AX, AXJ, NF,OAP, OJP, RE, TN-O, TG-O, OJC, OAC, NAC,NCC,WV-N, NW1, Can SH,TDX, WCX

Tiki was entered on Sunday and not only got her title, but she also went "High in Trial" meaning she had the lowest overall time for all the elements. That was pretty exciting. There were only 11 of 32 dogs that passed all four elements that day, and she also had the lowest time for the exterior search. For the interior and exterior searches we were given a "pronounced" designation, which is supposed to be an acknowledgement of exceptional teamwork, speed, efficiency, accuracy, enthusiasm, clarity of alert, etc. She is now: HR, URO1, U-CD ADIRONDAC'S KOURA TIKI, UD, BN, GN,GO, VER, TDX, AX, OAJ, NF, RE, SH, WCX, VCX, CCA, NAC, NWI Can CD, TDX, WC

Nancy Light

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<http://www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateObedienceTrainingClub>



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Nova Berkshires
6718 Beatty Ct SW
Olympia, WA 98512-2011

