

## From WSOTC President

Nancy Light

In July, the Board sent a letter to all members of WSOTC outlining problems with the club and laying out the possibility of actually dissolving. Seven people responded with very thoughtful suggestions, and I confess we have not really done much with implementing some of those. (A couple responded to me privately, and a few members have also spoken to me privately.) As Tracy Thorleifson suggested often happens, the Board gets so caught up in the immediate events and issues, we don't set aside enough time for thoughtful planning and reflection.

No one who responded or spoke to me thought we should end. Glen Ferguson suggested having a meeting to discuss the future of WSOTC (and even

*Continued on page 8.*

## DOES WSOTC HAVE A FUTURE?

**Please attend the October member meeting Thursday, October 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Meadowbrook Community Center and assist in answering this question.**

## WSOTC July 2012 Agility Trials Report

As the trial chair for the WSOTC 2012 Agility Trials held July 13, 14 and 15 at Argus Ranch in Auburn, WA, I want to thank everyone who entered the agility trials and more especially those members who assisted with the all of the work that is required to make the agility trials run smoothly and successfully. A huge thank you to WSOTC members Nancy Light, Wanda Diemert, Dick Ashby and Marilyn Ashby for all of the jobs that you performed all three days of the trials; everything from bar setting, chute fluffing (a thankless job, at best!), course building, moving equipment, check writing, question answering, ribbons, and running the drawings, to tear down on Sunday evening. A special thank you to WSOTC members Kathy Weaver and Nova Berkshires: They did not run their dogs but were there only to support the trials in so many ways. You are all much appreciated!



WSOTC Agility Trials, 7/14/12  
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4707c

Dee Carlson's Zoom knows agility ins and outs and ups and downs.

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## Contacts

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### 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

### 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 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 – cancelled  
 TD – Fall 2012 – Karen Snee  
 TD – Fall 2013 -- Nova Berkshires  
 TDX – Spring 2013 – (chair needed)  
 Web Site – Kathy Weaver  
 Yahoo Page – Wanda Diemert WSOTC

### Canine Post

*Canine Post* is published ten times a year by the Washington State Obedience Training Club (WSOTC), an AKC member club. Subscription to the *Canine Post* is free for all WSOTC members. For more information about WSOTC and becoming a member, visit [www.wsotc.org](http://www.wsotc.org).

Editor Nova Berkshires welcomes submissions by WSOTC members and nonmembers. Send all submissions, comments, or requests to Nova Berkshires at [novaberkshires@comcast.net](mailto: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. Minutes are published as written by the secretary or other board member. Articles in the *Canine Post* may be reprinted provided credit is given to both the author and the *Canine Post*.

### October Post Deadline

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

**Monday, September 24, 2012**

Send your submissions to Nova Berkshires at [novaberkshires@comcast.net](mailto:novaberkshires@comcast.net)

*Thanks!*

## WSOTC Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2012

Submitted by WSOTC President Nancy Light

via Phone Conference (InstantConference)

WSOTC President Nancy Light called the board meeting to order via phone conference on July 16, 2012, at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Nancy Light, Wanda Diemert, Dee Carlson, James Wilkinson, Claudia Hegdahl

Absent: Janice Bergman, John Heinrich, Don Rennick, Karen Snee

### Minutes

Minutes from the June WSOTC Board meeting as sent via email. APPROVED.

### President's Report

Thanks to Dee for a most successful July 2012 WSOTC Agility Trial. Need to appoint audit/budget committee. I will not be present at the picnic, but meeting needs to be held as we are expecting a guest who would like to be a member.

### Secretary's Report

None

### Treasurer's Report

Amounts were read.

### Committee Reports

#### *Agility 2012*

Dee reported the trial was successful and had good help from WSOTC members. She will send report to *Canine Post*.

#### *Agility 2013*

Dee- further reported that things are in process for getting the approval in place for the new (one time) location change to Skyhomish River Park in Monroe. She is working on judges.

#### *Awards*

Board set November 1, 2012, as the deadline for those wanting names engraved on the Honor Plaques.

#### *Audit/Budget*

MOTION: To make the following changes to the WSOTC Standing Rules:

“AUDIT/BUDGET COMMITTEE: In July of each year, the board shall appoint an Audit/Budget Committee. Membership shall consist of at least one Board member and no less than **two** other Club members, not to include the immediate past Treasurer.” This changes the number from three to two. APPROVED

MOTION: To appoint James Wilkinson, Nancy Light and Jean Rassbach to the budget/audit committee. APPROVED

#### *Classes*

Wanda reported on the tentative class schedule for fall: Tuesday, Lake City Community Center, 6:15 p.m.; CGC, Shari Wright, 7:15 p.m.; Basic Obedience either Kathy Weaver or Shari or James. Assistants: Jean Rassbach/Janice/James. Will finalize next month. Wednesday, Dee Carlson will teach Novice at 6:30 p.m. and Advanced Competition at 7:45 p.m. at Sharon Colvin's training building in Maltby.

#### *Hearts & Flowers*

Jean Rassbach is recovering from surgery, but feeling better and hopeful to assist in classes in fall.

*Continued on next page*

**WSOTC July 16 Board Meeting Minutes**

*Continued from previous page.*

**Membership**

James passed out information on member volunteer interests taken from the membership renewal forms.

**Newsletter**

Nancy – Deadline for August newsletter 7/23. Hope to publish August 2.

**Obedience Trials 2013**

Claudia reported that contracts are in process. When complete she will send applications.

**Programs**

- ❖ July – Picnic at Sharon Colvin's place in Maltby
- ❖ August – No meeting
- ❖ September – Senior Celebration at Sharon Colvin's place in Maltby
- ❖ October – Silent auction, maybe at Meadowbrook
- ❖ November – Dr. Lisa Parshley, veterinary oncologist, at Kathy Lang's training building in Kent: The building will be open at 6:30 p.m. for training.

**TDX Spring 2013**

Chair still needed. Board discussed need to make personal contact, not just put out call for some one.

**TDX Spring 2012**

Test went smoothly, no passes.

**TD Fall 2012**

Karen – no report.

**Training Committee**

We still have no training committee chair, but board is handling primary job of getting instructors for classes.

**Web Site**

Kathy will be able to make some updates to the Web site as she can fit them in her schedule. Dee will try to send photos for the agility section. Wanda will send her the information on the classes. James will send the roster for the member's only section and Nancy will send the other documents for that, i.e., by-laws, standing rules, check request form.

**Yahoo**

Wanda reported the items in the files section of Yahoo can be shut down when they are on the WSOTC Web site. Still have no training committee chair.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

Board discussed brochures. James will call Kathy Weaver to see if she has this document on her computer so it can be updated and brought to shows. The board also discussed changing the Standing Rules to allow the letter openers given to Novice A exhibitors at some show to include Beginners Novice A, but will wait till next meeting to do the changes. As it was getting late, board will continue discussion of the future of WSOTC at next board meeting.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. 🐾

**September board meeting not yet scheduled at time of Post publication.**

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## WSOTC General Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2012

*Submitted by Janice Bergman, secretary*

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm on July 19th by Vice President, John Heinrich at Sharon Colvin's training Building in Maltby. Quorum was in attendance. Guests, Sharon Colvin, Laura Burns

John welcomed everyone who attended the picnic and brought the good food

### *Membership*

John did a first reading for Laura Burns who has an English Springer Spaniel, an Irish Water Spaniel, and a Gordon Setter. John Heinrich and Dee Carlson are her sponsors.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm



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## WSOTC Board Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2012

At the home of Karen Snee

President Nancy Light called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. on June 11, 2012.

Present: Nancy Light, Janice Bergman, Wanda Diemert, Karen Snee, John Heinrich, Dee Carlson. Guest: James Wilkinson

Absent: Don Rennick, Jean Rassbach

### **Minutes**

Minutes from May 10 board meeting as printed in the *Canine Post*. APPROVED.

### **President's Report**

Main topics for tonight is discussion included the future of WSOTC, issues of survival, particularly classes.

### **Secretary's Report**

AKC has no record of receiving requested information about by-laws changes (from last November). Secretary will re-send.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Amounts were read.

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Agility 2012*

Dee reported that Holly from Argus Ranch contacted her about erroneously reserving the dates for WSOTC's 2013 agility trials for a breed specialty. Dee has contacted Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Department to inquire about reserving Skykomish River Park in Monroe.

MOTION: Appoint Dee as chair for WSOTC 2013 Agility Trial. APPROVED

#### *Awards*

Karen reported that the Louis Prince Award has been engraved and delivered to Jean Rassbach.

#### *Audit/Budget*

Committee will be appointed in July. It needs one board member and three others.

#### *Classes*

Training class chair needed. Wanda agreed to stay on through the fall classes, will need to appoint another class chair for winter, 2013. Board discussed locations to hold classes (to replace Magnuson), start date of classes for fall and change in days to hold classes. It is possible Dee will hold her classes on Wednesdays at Sharon Colvin's building. Dee will talk to Sharon to discuss details. Board discussed possible meeting of instructors and assistants.

*Continued on next page*

**WSOTC June 11, 2012, Board Meeting Minutes**

*Continued from previous page*

*Hearts and Flowers*

None

*Membership*

James passed out information on member volunteer interests taken from the membership renewal forms.

*Newsletter*

Nancy::There will be no July newsletter.

*Obedience Trial 2012*

Trial notebook is almost ready to pass on to Claudia for the 2013 trial.

*Obedience Trial 2013*

Claudia has gotten responses back from some of the judges she contacted.

*Programs*

- ❖ July: Picnic at Sharon Colvin's in Maltby
- ❖ August: No meeting
- ❖ September: Senior Celebration at Sharon Colvin's in Maltby
- ❖ October: Silent Auction
- ❖ November: Cancer vet at Kathy Lang's

*Tracking*

- ❖ MOTION: approve Nova Berkshires as chair of fall TD, 2013. APPROVED. Karen and John will mentor.
- ❖ *TDX Spring 2013* - John reported we have been offered a five-year-lease on Ft Lewis for \$1,500. We haven't had a lease with them for five years.
- ❖ *TD Fall, 2012* - Karen. Everything going Okay.

*Training Committee*

We still have no training committee chair.

*Web Site*

Kathy Weaver has made some updates to the Web site. She needs information on events and classes whenever it becomes available. Nancy will speak with her about a members only section.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m. 

**Next WSOTC Member Meeting**

**Important: Discuss WSOTC's Future**

**October 18, 2012, 7:30 p.m.**

**Meadowbrook Community Center, 10517 35th Ave NE, Seattle**

## WSOTC General Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2012

Submitted by Janice Bergman, secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:40pm on June 21st, 2012 by President Nancy Light at the Meadowbrook Community Center. Quorum was present.

Members approved minutes from the last general meeting on May 17, as printed in the June 2012 *Canine Post*.

### President's Report

- ❖ The Club is at a crossroads. The board will be sending out a letter about the problems facing the club to the membership requesting ideas on what to do to improve things or where the membership wants the Club to head in the future.
- ❖ Kathy Weaver is working on the members only section of the website for documents like by-laws, standing rules, roster, financial reports, etc. It will be available by password only
- ❖ Thank you to Shari for chairing the CGC test on May 29.

### Report of the Board

The Board expressed concern about the future of the Club with meeting attendance being little more than the Board. Classes have been challenged with the loss of instructors and the loss of the Magnuson location. Appointed Nova as chair of 2013 TD test and Dee Carlson as Agility chair for 2013.

### Secretary's Report

From AKC: Request for the results of the election tonight

### Treasurer's Report

Amounts were read.

### Committee Reports

#### *Agility 2012*

Dee. Everything is ready for the trial.

#### *Agility 2013*

We have lost Argus for 2013 due to Holly mistakenly contracting with another club for that date.

A new (temporary) location for Skykomish River Park in Monroe has still not been confirmed by the Snohomish Parks Department.

#### *Awards*

Karen. The engraved Louis Prince award has been delivered to Jean. Karen will purchase new 9 X 12 plaques to replace missing Tracking and Agility plaques. We will be combining titles on plaques—Tracking (TD, TDX, VST and CT) and Agility (MX, MXJ, and MACH) to one plaque each. We need to incorporate these changes in the Standing Rules (IV A 6). Members can send Karen the information to Karen for dogs earning these titles. Include name of dog, handler, and year. This information must be sent by September 1. Last dates on the old honor plaques for UD are 2006, for UDX 1998, and OTCH 1990. Please submit to Karen your name, name of dog and year earned for titles after those years.

#### *Audit/budget*

Board will appoint in July.

#### *Classes*

Tentative schedule includes Shari teaching CGC on Tuesday, LCCC. Dee will speak to Sharon Colvin about a contract for use of her training building for fall classes. Classes will start about the first week in October. Wanda has agreed to be class chair thru the fall session.



**WSOTC June 21, 2012, Member Meeting Minutes**

*Continued from previous page.*

**Newletter**

No July Post.

**Obedience trials 2012**

Financial report is complete. Nancy turned over notebooks to Claudia.

**Obedience trials 2013**

Claudia announced judges for 2013 trial, pending AKC approval. Contracts in process.

**Programs**

June Annual Meeting. July picnic at Sharon Colvin's. August no meeting. September – Senior night at Sharon's. October silent auction. November Lisa Parshley, DVM, on canine cancer at Kathy Lang's training building, Open at 6:00 for people to train.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

The membership elected the following officers and board:

President-Nancy Light

Vice President-John Heinrich

Secretary-Janice Bergman

Treasurer-Wanda Diemert

Board-Dee Carlson, Claudia Hegdahl, Donald Rennick, Karen Snee, James Wilkinson

AKC Delegate- James Smith


Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. 

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**From WSOTC President**

*Continued from page one.*

volunteered to make calls to get people to attend.) Too many meetings have had only the Board there so we have a hard time gauging how the membership is really feeling about things, and whether or not there truly is enough interest in keeping WSOTC going. We will devote the October meeting to discuss these issues, the strengths and weaknesses of our organization, what kind of planning can we do, what resources do we have? That was originally supposed to be the Silent Auction meeting and we may need to delay that.

To summarize our status, our finances are actually in fairly good shape: We have chairs for tracking (fall of this year and likely two tests in 2013), and obedience and agility trials in process for 2013. We have a pretty full slate of classes for the fall. But it's still a struggle to get those chairs, and I am not even sure we will be able to have a full Board for next year. We need some direction from the membership. Dissolution is still a possibility. Please try to clear your schedules for October 18 at the Meadowbrook Community Center. We'll have more on this in the next newsletter. And make sure you have Doggie Game night also on your schedule for September 20, 2012, at Sharon Colvin's. 

## Response to President's Letter About WSOTC's Future

Hello Nancy, the board, and all:

I switched to associate membership and have not been participating much the past few years because of other obligations and the commute. However, I do value my membership in WSOTC. So even if it's a little presumptuous given my recent lack of participation, you said that silence would speak loudly, and since I AM still interested, here goes.

I would suggest setting a "re-boot" agenda for a general meeting for the purpose of determining the future of the WSOTC or, if there seems no future, to discuss starting to wind it down. Of course, we would need as many members as possible to attend for it to be productive. However, just putting out the word is not enough. In my experience people do not respond as well to general pleas or announcements as they do to specific personal invitations. Accordingly, if we go that route I would volunteer to take a part of the phone list, to help call and talk directly to club members and invite them to the meeting and get a "yes," "no," or "maybe" about attending. A re-boot meeting should include discussion of:

1. What is the purpose of the club?

2. What positions are necessary to fulfill that purpose?
3. Do we have personnel qualified and willing to fill those positions?
4. What is the minimum number of active members necessary for WSOTC to remain viable to fulfill its purposes?
5. Will members actually commit to take on a necessary position, and/or attend meetings to ensure a quorum at every meeting?

It is not even necessary for folks to commit to attend every meeting. If we had members just commit to attend a certain number of meetings a year we could probably have a quorum at most meetings. Similarly, it is not necessary to volunteer to do a lot of things. If folks will commit to taking on just one thing or position, or even agree to share responsibility for one thing or position, that would immediately boost participation.

Anyway, those are my thoughts, for what they are worth. I know I would be willing to take on a little bit, and come to some meetings, if it would contribute to an active and vibrant WSOTC.

*Glen Ferguson  
Sammamish, WA*

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### Agility Trials Report

*Continued from page one.*

The words thank you don't seem to be enough for our Course Builders Stephanie Rainwater, Donna Sand, Teresa Brown (who also brought Starbucks coffee for everyone each morning) and Chief Course Builder Extraordinaire Duane Timmons all from Sno-King Agility Club.

With the more than able assistance of Kathy Weaver, Wanda Diemert and Nancy Light, all courses were up and ready for the judges on time each morning and throughout all of the course changes each of the three days. Our chief ring stewards, also from Sno-King Agility Club, Shannon (I keep forgetting her last name) and Shari Banks, did a great job of keeping the rings staffed and running on time, even at the end of each day when staffing the Novice and T2B classes is always very difficult. Without the members from Sno-King Agility Club who volunteered to support the WSOTC trials, we could not have run these trials.

The weather held fairly well for all three trial days. Though cloudy each morning, it did not rain on us any of the three days (thank you to those who dutifully performed the dance for the sun god!) and was quite humid in the afternoons. Joan Cook again provided food for all three days and everyone enjoyed it, as usual. Donations for food were up this year and we were under budget for this service.

The judges, Megan Schafer from Casper, Wyoming, and Paula Ratoza from Portland, Oregon, presented pleasantly challenging courses that were nicely wheeled for both small and large dogs. The Argus grass was green and lovely to run on for both people and dogs, and DRY (no injuries to either dogs or runners at these trials!).

For those who are wondering – Megan thankfully did make her flight at SeaTac early Sunday evening and the connection in Denver. She was home in Casper by 11:00 p.m. and happy to be there.

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### Agility Trials Report

*Continued from previous page.*

I am also the chair for the WSOTC July 2013 Agility Trials which we have been working on for the last month. Due to an over booking at Argus we will move the club's 2013 agility trials to Skykomish River Park in Monroe. This move will only be for July 2013.

If you saw any problems with the July 2012 trials, please let me know so that we don't repeat them next year. *Continued from previous page.*

If you can think of any way to improve our trials for next year, please also let me know. All suggestions are more than welcome and will be seriously considered! Of course, if you would like to volunteer to assist with next year's trials, you are also more than welcome and should contact me. If anyone has a favorite judge you would like to see at the 2013 trials let me know as soon as possible so that I can contact him or her.

Thank you everyone who was involved with these trials in any manner!

#### WSOTC Agility Run Stats

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Excellent Standard	132		
Excellent Jumpers With Weaves	136		
Excellent Time to Beat	60		
<b>Total Runs</b>	<b>328</b>		
Novice Standard		42	38
Open Standard		29	31
Excellent Standard		194	179
Novice JWW		36	35
Open JWW		45	42
Excellent JWW		192	183
Time to Beat		77	49
<b>Total Runs</b>		<b>615</b>	<b>557</b>



## AKC News

### Revisions to the Obedience Regulations

Effective July 1, 2012

This insert is issued as a supplement to the Obedience Regulations Amended January 1, 2012, Chapter 1-General Regulations, Section 16a. Transfers (formerly Move-ups).

- The club will clearly state in its premium list whether transfers will or will not be allowed. If no statement is provided in the premium list the default is to allow transfers.

- After a dog earns a title, it may be transferred to another class in a future trial, even though the closing date for the trial has passed, provided the club offers transfers.

- A transfer (i.e., from an obedience class to an obedience class; or a rally class to a rally class) may be requested if, according to the owner's records the handler and dog are eligible and the dog has completed the requirements for the title after the closing date of the trial in which the advanced entry is to be made.

- The request for a transfer must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial.

- Transfers may be approved provided the class and judge are available, and the class has not reached its limit.

- Movement between an "A" and "B" class at the same level is not considered a transfer – refer to Chapter 1, Section 16b.

### New AKC Family Dog Program

The Board reviewed a new initiative designed for pet dog owners that will encourage training and the testing for basic skills that make dogs enjoyable family companions and friendly community members.

*Continued on next page.*

## New AKC Family Dog Program

*Continued from previous page.*


Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Powers, Ms. Scully, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Amen, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Smith, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Feeney, Dr. Newman, Mr. Arnold; opposed: Dr. Garvin) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the usual prior notice requirement.

Following a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (unanimously) to adopt the following AKC Staff recommendations, effective January 1, 2013.

(1) Initiate a new program in the Companion/Performance Events Department called the Family Dog program. The purpose of the Family Dog program is to encourage the training and testing for basic skills that make dogs enjoyable family companions and friendly community members. The program offers a conceptual break-through for the AKC in that it focuses on activities desired by the average pet dog owner. Activities in the Family Dog program can be characterized as noncompetitive, enjoyable, furthering the bond between dog and family, open to both purebreds and mixed breeds and readily available in the community. The value of providing this type of activity was recognized when the AKC Therapy Dog program was launched in 2011. The AKC Therapy Dog title can appropriately be considered the first title in the Family Dog program.

(2) For the next Family Dog title, award the suffix title "CGC" to dogs that pass the Canine Good Citizen® test. The CGC program provides an activity that is desired by the dog owning public which the Family Dog program targets. They are proud of their CGC dogs and many owners desire to have this accomplishment officially recorded by the AKC. There will be a \$12.00 fee to do this in addition to the \$8.00 now charged for a CGC certificate. Moving forward, the CGC test will be held to a higher standard by requiring the signature of an observer on the evaluation form and by requiring both new evaluators and experienced evaluators at the time they re-apply to view a video of a passing CGC performance and attest that they will strive to achieve this quality of testing. Dogs must be registered or listed with the AKC to receive the title. Owners whose dogs have passed the CGC test since January 1, 2001 may apply to have the title added to their dog's record. A nominal processing fee will apply. (Note: The CGC has \*not\* been a title up to this point, just an award. -- Sue)

### Triathlon (Versatility) Title

Based on a request from the Board, Staff researched the potential of a triathlon title. The concept was evaluated based on the parameters that a dog would earn this title by placing in a variety of events. Staff outlined the issues that were identified with moving forward with this concept. Staff was directed to look into a titling program to recognize dogs that had received titles in three different types of AKC events. The three titles would have to be in different types of activities and not just different levels within the same activity. 

## 2013 AKC OBEDIENCE CLASSIC WELCOMES ADDITIONAL COMPETITORS WITH NEW MASTERS CLASS

### *Eligibility Criteria Also Updated*

New York, NY —A new Masters Class added to the inaugural AKC Obedience Classic slated for December 2013 in Orlando, Florida, as well as revised eligibility for the Novice, Open and Utility classes, will give more Obedience exhibitors a chance to compete, the American Kennel Club® announced today.

"With the eligibility criteria as it was originally established, we determined that there would be a large group of Obedience Trial Champions that would not be eligible to enter the 2013 Obedience Classic, and also would not be ranked high enough within their breed to be invited to the 2013 National Obedience Championship," said Pamela Manaton, Director of Obedience, Rally and Tracking. "As a result, we created a new Masters class that will allow OTCH titled dogs to enter and compete if they meet the eligibility."

The inaugural 2013 AKC Obedience Classic will take place December 14-15, 2013 in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the 2013 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship and the 2013 AKC Agility Invitational. It will offer four class levels: Novice, Open, Utility and Masters, open to all dogs who meet the qualification criteria in the qualifying period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

The 2013 event eligibility requirements are as follows:

#### I. Novice Class Eligibility

*Continued on next page.*

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**New AKC Masters Class**

*Continued from previous page.*

- a. Must have earned a CD title during the qualifying period.
- b. After earning the CD title, a dog must earn three (3) more qualifying scores in the Novice class (A and/or B), or one (1) HIT award, during the qualifying period.
- II. Open Class Eligibility
  - a. Must have earned a CDX title during the qualifying period.
  - b. After earning the CDX title, a dog must earn three (3) more qualifying scores in the Open class (A and/or B), or one HIT award, during the qualifying period.
- III. Utility Class Eligibility
  - a. Must have earned a minimum of the UD title.
  - b. A dog must earn six (6) qualifying scores in the Utility class (A and/or B) during the qualifying period.
  - c. OTCH titled dogs may not enter this class.
- IV. Masters Class Eligibility (Open and Utility)
  - a. Must have earned a minimum of the UD title.
  - b. A dog must earn six (6) qualifying scores of 193 or better in Open B during the qualifying period; and
  - c. A dog must earn six (6) qualifying scores of 193 or better in Utility B during the qualifying period.
  - d. OTCH titled dogs may enter this class.

For ongoing Obedience updates, bookmark <http://www.akc.org/events/obedience/>

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*Submitted by Sue Cox*

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## **Rally Freestyle Elements Workshop**

### **A new dog sport**

*By Kathy Weaver*

Rally Freestyle Elements is a new dog sport that looks like it'll be a lot of fun . . . sort of a "creative" way to do rally.

Ready for new challenges in rally? Rally Freestyle Elements (Rally-FrEe) combines the traditional rally format with canine musical freestyle tricks and behaviors. In two upcoming workshops Julie Flanery, CPDT-KA will present Rally-FrEe rules and guidelines, explain and demonstrate Novice and Intermediate Level signs and work with attendees using her progressive training methods to train tricks and novel behaviors for competition. Working teams will practice a novice level course.

Julie has titled dogs in obedience, rally-obedience, agility and musical freestyle. Her freestyle wins include over 30 first place medals, multiple high technical and high artistic merit awards, championships in both Musical Freestyle and Heelwork-to-Music. She has been named the World Canine Freestyle Organization's (WCFO) "Trainer of the Year" and is a freestyle judge. "Her energy and enthusiasm are un-matched! Her workshops are fun and informative and she'll leave you wanting more."

Introducing Rally Freestyle Elements Workshop: November 3 & 4, 2012 at It's a Dog's World. Visit [www.goodtimecanines.com](http://www.goodtimecanines.com) for more workshop details, online registration form and video of Rally-FrEe in action. Questions? Email [info@goodtimecanines.com](mailto:info@goodtimecanines.com). This workshop is hosted by Good Time Canines, Seattle, WA.

Get ready for upcoming Rally-FrEe fun matches and competitions! Rules, guidelines, member registration form, signs and more at [www.rallyfree.com](http://www.rallyfree.com)

### Summer 2012 Brags

At the Rose City Lab Club's Hunt Test in Oregon, Tiki picked up her fifth pass at the Master level to complete her Master Hunter, a pretty prestigious title. She also added her HRCH from UKC's Hunt Test program, picking up her final Finished legs at Whistling Wings as well as her third Upland Hunter leg.

And continuing to shine in field, she got her first two Master legs in Canada at the Golden Retriever Club of BC tests in September as well as her WCI in Canada in July.

We now have 4 UDX legs in Obedience and her first double Q toward her MACH--and 102 MACH points. Keeping busy, we also added her next level Rally title in UKC-U-R02.

She is now: HRCH, URO2, U-CD ADIRONDAC'S KOURA TIKI, UD, BN,GN,GO,VER, TDX, AX, OAJ,OF, RE, MH, WCX,VCX,CCA,NAC, NWI Can CD, TDX, WCI

And not to be outdone in the title department, Koki, who just turned 11, finished her AJP at the EGRC Agility trials in June and has two legs toward her AXP and also added her UKC U-RO2 She is now:

UH,HRCH, U-UD,URO2, Can OTCH AERO-JETTS KOKOPELLI DREAM UDX, TDX, MH, WCX, AX, AXJ,NF,OAP, AJP, RE, TN-O, TG-O,OJC, OAC, NAC,NCC,WV-N, NW1, Can SH,TDX, WCX *Nancy Light*

Little Border Terrier, Gracie, earned two titles at the Puyallup cluster June 9/10. Saturday she completed her RE and Sunday her BN. Some of you may remember Gracie was the little girl who was lost for 8 days in 2006. Whatever happened during that time, she became nervous and especially alert and barky when she saw a big black dog at a distance (not to meet though - close ups are good). We were very pleased that Gracie didn't have any reason to be frightened this weekend. She is now Ch Frontier Rose's Amazing Grace RE BN CGC (pending AKC records). *Kathy Teufel*



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