

Fox Valley Dog Training Club

February 2013 Vol XXII Issue 2

David Thornell, Editor

www.fvdtc.org



Waggin' Tales

NEW CLASS STARTS MARCH 14

We have gotten a lot of feedback from folks who have experienced a feeling of "where do I go from here" after taking their first class with us. To be realistic there is only so much we can teach them in 8 weeks of their first Beginners class. A lot of time in Beginners is spent addressing behavior issues and developing basic foundation exercises. Consequently the jump from Beginners to Advanced Beginners is frequently too great for the student. So, a bridge between the two seemed to be the logical answer. We wanted a way to introduce students to the joys of training with a goal of competing in AKC events.

So we are very pleased to announce that starting on March 14th, we will introduce a new class.

Beginners 2 "Where Do I Go From Here".

The focus will be to introduce the student to and prepare them for showing. Here we will show you exactly how much FUN working towards a title can be! While this class will enhance foundation obedience, it is specific in its direction of heading the student towards the show ring.

One of the mainstays will be focus, attention and attitude (for both the dog and the handler)! The instructor will help you break down exercises and share theory about how and why things work (or don't work). Students will learn how to implement their exercises into Rally and Beginner Novice showing.

Beginner 2 will be an eight week session class with FVDTC's very own Loretta Lazzara at the helm. We will encourage students to move into Beginner 2 when they have completed their Beginners class. The cost will be reduced to \$50 for non-members as we test the waters with this new class. \$20.00 for current members (as with our other session classes).

The registration form will be available on FVDTC's website and/or from registrar Nancy Pederson.

As always, if you have any questions, complaints or compliments, please feel free to drop us a line!

Terri Byerly, Director of Training

Loretta Lazzara, Assistant Director Of Training

FVDTC WORKSHOPS

Teaching Is Not the Same As Training

Presented by Terri Byerly

Sunday April 14th, 2:00 pm

Univ Of Illinois Extension Center, Randall Rd, St. Charles

Training your own dog is very different from teaching someone else to train their dog. Whether you are a seasoned instructor or interested in becoming one, we all get stumped now and then, which is where extra tips and ideas will come in handy. Dynamics in a group of students are always different, sometimes complicated and frequently entertaining. Being able to share your knowledge with a group of people all of who have vastly different personalities can be a daunting task.

Just a few points we'll cover:

- Making the student comfortable
- What turns them OFF
- Respecting other theories and methods
- Dealing with the difficult student
- How to encourage the discouraged

The junior handler and their parents

This workshop will help you to reach all of your students in a personal and effective way!

Please RSVP with Terri at dot@fvdtc.org

Aggressive Dog!

When a dog growls would you understand why? Would you know what to do?

When we have a nervous and/or fearful dog displaying aggression in our classes, we all need to know how to interpret this behavior and address it.

Join us on March 20th, 7:00 pm at the U of I Extension Center, just before our membership meeting.

FVDTC's own Sandi Stephenson will help you decipher this type of behavior.

Everyone is welcome to attend; we strongly encourage all instructors and assistants to attend!

FROM THE DOT

Friends,

I'm trying to compile a list of behaviorists that we can refer students to when needed. It will not be intended as an endorsement for one over the other, but rather as a list of reference.

If you know of a canine behaviorist whose work you like or have heard good things about, please send me their info at dot@fvdtc.org

Instructors' Meeting

Sunday March 17th 4:00 pm

Univ Of Illinois Extension Center, Randall Rd, St. Charles

New rules and guidelines will be discussed. This meeting will be both informative and helpful to all current instructors and assistants plus anyone who thinks they might be interested in teaching or assisting.

Work Credit for Attending!

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone! As I write this my mind is whirling over puppy plans as we have a new Golden (Parker) moving in on Sunday. We are so excited but at the same time hoping for an early spring to make potty trips easier! So look for the two of us in the 8:00pm Puppy class starting on February 14th!

The New Year is starting out with a bang of club activities. Willie Santiago is organizing our first CGC test in quite some time, Sandi Stephenson and Terri Byerly have an "Aggressive Dog" talk planned for the membership meeting in March, and Jan Winters is pulling together information on TDI testing that will happen sometime after the CGC test. Terri and Loretta Lazzara are also hard at work discussing how to make training nights better.

The Award Dinner team (Cheryl Hettinger, Barb Runkle, Carol Nightingale, Ingrid Hamburger, Candy Ellis and Francene Andresen) is hard at work planning a fun evening out. (Have you signed up yet to go to the dinner?? Forms can be found at the information table or on the web site). Carol Nightingale and Nancy Einwich have put in a huge effort to get the awards ready. I'm very excited to see the presentation of the new Volunteer award to our deserving members.

Nancy Pederson, Carolyn Pearson and I have been revising the club brochure as it is out of date with our membership year change. As we work on this I wonder if there is a club member

that is computer savvy and likes to be creative that might be willing to lend a hand? If there is someone that could help polish things like a brochure to make it more effective please reach out to me! I really don't expect that there is a huge amount of work but it would be nice to have someone to call on as the need arises.

Finally, at the end of 2012 I started to see all the work that goes into getting the club ready for a new year. Setting the dates with the Fairgrounds, setting up vet clinics, establishing correction clinic dates, etc. Much of this work falls on our secretary Carolyn Pearson and I want to make sure she knows how much we appreciate that effort! In addition, thanks to Dave Lewis for all the work it takes to get the web site ready for the new year.

As you can see it takes a village to run our club and we can always use a little more help. Don't forget to check out the help wanted section of the newsletter. I know Ingrid could definitely use more stewards for the correction clinics.

I'm trying to reach out to members I don't know but don't hesitate to do the same back to me. Look for me in that puppy class!

Donna Bihner

P.S. Don't forget to sign up for the Vet Clinics coming in March!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Pat & Dick Sanderson

40W943 Lenz Rd
Elgin, IL 60124
847-464-0711
Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Australian
Shepherds
corgimom42@comcast.net

Linda Brannon

71 Amesbury Rd
Montgomery, IL 60538
630-479-7444
Australian Shepherds
lindaebrannon@hotmail.com

Paulius Kruzinauskas

893 Nelli Ct, Apt 201
Naperville, IL 60563
224-627-5868
Amer. Staffordshire Terrier
spiritpk@yahoo.com

SALLY COMPTON AWARD BALLOT

This award began in 1995, to acknowledge Sally Compton and her many, many years of service to the club which epitomized the true spirit of volunteerism. When voting for one of the following members for the Sally Compton Award, please remember you are voting for the member who consistently contributes to the club. It should be any member who frequently goes above and beyond the call of duty. As Sally herself said in her thank-you note, "I hope that the future recipients of this award will feel honored to be noticed not only for the duties required but those 'extra' that make newcomers welcome and that are necessary for the well-being of the club."

In order to have your vote counted, you MUST sign your name on this ballot and only place a mark in **one** box.

Signature: _____

Please return to Cheryl Hettinger at the Front Table on Training Nights, or mailing to:

Carol Nightingale
41W240 Oak Bluff Drive
Elgin, IL 60124

Ballots are due by: April 1, 2013

Your Vote	NOMINATIONS AS SUBMITTED
	<p>Donna Bihner</p> <p>She started having mini seminars before classes and helped to re-design the website. I know she did more, but I can't recall at this time.</p>
	<p>Terri Byerly</p> <p>Terri Byerly has been with FVDTC since June of 2003; she has been vice president, president, and a damn good instructor for most of those years. She held the position of president for 5 of those years, doing her best at keeping the lines of communication open between board and membership. Terri is a great instructor and has encouraged many novice handlers to show their dogs and earn a title or two doing it. Being the superintendent of the 4H has also brought this club great rewards. 4-H is very beneficial to the FVDTC because it allows us to use the extension building for our meetings and keeps us in good standing with the fairgrounds. These kids are FVDTC's future, so with Terri's guidance and the other 4-H instructors, these kids will one day join our club and help promote good dog awareness to the community. Terri is a great leader and teacher who is very dedicated to the club and its members. That is why I think Terry Byerly should be considered for the Sally Compton Award.</p> <p>Terri Byerly</p> <p>Terri Byerly has served as President of FVDTC since 2008. She has taught a Beginner Class at FVDTC for many years. Because of her contact with new students, we have taken in many new members. She encourages her students to continue their dogs' education, and she has gotten a large number of her students to head in the direction of showing in Rally and/or Obedience. Terri is also the coordinator for the Kane County 4-H Dog Program. She shows a great interest in trying to help young handlers form a bond with their dogs. Terri feels that the "dog sport" that we all enjoy will need these young handlers/trainers to continue to grow and prosper. She had dedicated a great deal of her time and effort supporting FVDTC. I feel that Terri Byerly is deserving of the Sally Compton Service Award.</p>
	<p>Cheryl Hettinger</p> <p>Going above and beyond continually to make our awards banquet and event each year with themes each year. Works at the front table, etc., etc. She is someone to be rewarded for everything she contributes.</p>
	<p>Nancy Pederson</p> <p>When John and I first joined the club, we joined her Ring Ready 7 pm class. We immediately felt welcome and we felt she was encouraging us to continue on in our goals with our dogs. She communicates with us by e-mail and in person. She always promotes the activities of the club – if it wasn't for her, we would not be as involved.</p>
	<p>Pat and John Senne</p> <p>Both Pat and John have become quite involved in FVDTC since they joined. They are both helping as teaching assistants, managing the sign-in table on match nights. John has been helping with the set-up of the club's new website, sending out notifications/blasts to the members. Both are helping with stewarding if we need extra help. Pat is active on the Match Committee. Pat and John are always willing to help when asked.</p>

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD BALLOT

This award began in 2012 to honor individuals who have been a club member for three years or less and have shown outstanding service and contributions to the club. When voting for one of the following members for the Rookie of the Year Award, please remember you are voting for the member who consistently contributes to the club. It should be a member who frequently goes above and beyond the call of duty.

In order to have your vote counted, you MUST sign your name on this ballot and only place a mark in one box.

Signature: _____

Please return to Cheryl Hettinger at the Front Table on Training Nights, or mailing to:

Carol Nightingale
41W240 Oak Bluff Drive
Elgin, IL 60124

Ballots are due by: April 1, 2013

Your Vote	NOMINATIONS AS SUBMITTED
	<p>Donna Bihner Donna Bihner joined FVDTC about two years ago as a Novice A handler. Since that time, she has earned titles in Obedience, Rally and Agility. She soon became very involved in our club. For 2012, she was elected Vice President 2 in charge of programs. During her 2012 tenure in this position, she scheduled and organized the following: 1) Mini workshops offered to members (held from 6-7 pm on training nights) covering: the new Rally exercises, Beginner Novice/Novice Obedience, and Graduate Novice/Open Obedience. All three of these workshops were well attended. 2) Three educational programs held prior to the Membership Meeting: Chiropractic treatment for our dogs, setting up a trust fund to ensure your dog will be taken care of if you are no longer able to do so, and a presentation on how to analyze and decide what you should be feeding your dog. 3) Helped to put into place a "New Member Liaison" who will help new members with information when they join. This person will be a contact if anything is needed within their first year of membership. Donna saw a need for this because she was recently a newbie to this "dog world."</p> <p>In addition to those items listed above, Donna has been very instrumental with a number of other projects throughout the year: 1) updated and clarified the awards sheet record sheet. 2) Posts a new grid containing upcoming Work Credit options in each Waggin' Tales. 3) Updated content covering Class Descriptions, etc. on the original web site. 4) Spearheaded the new FVDTC website committee. Donna kept us moving forward during the process – phase I is now up and running. The next phase is in the works. 5) Initiated using "Constant Contact" as a means of communicating frequently with the membership. New classes, upcoming events, links, general announcements, etc. 6) Updated the Puppy and Beginner application and Letter of Information.</p> <p>Donna is a real "Go-Getter" who sees that something needs to be done, starts the project, and sees it through to the end. She is a very valuable asset to Fox Valley Dog Training Club and a role model for new members to see that there are many ways to become involved in our club. For all of the above reasons, I feel that Donna Bihner should receive our first Rookie of the Year award.</p> <p>Donna Bihner I can't imagine anyone who has done more for FVDTC and done it as quickly after joining than Donna. She gives 100 percent in all that she does.</p> <p>Donna Bihner Donna has involved herself in furthering/improving Club activities with new, fresh ideas since she joined. She set up demonstrations of Obedience and Rally exercises, became the Club's 2nd VP and now our new President.</p> <p>Donna Bihner Donna jumped in with both feet. The tasks she took on are too numerous to even list!</p> <p>Donna Bihner Involved as Agility Committee member; took on the new Constant Contact website; Obedience Trial; New President of club</p> <p>Donna Bihner Oh, hell, I suck at this; Donna Bihner has done so much for the club in the short 3 years that she has been a member. 1) She joined the club November 2010 and has made some very good and very much needed changes. 2) Helped and worked on updating the FVDTC website to be more user-friendly and informational for all members (and still working on these improvements) 3) Helped bring FVDTC into the 21st century with modern technology</p>

	<p>like face book and blasts, so members can keep abreast with changes, updates, and congratulations on new titles, new pups, and/or new news. Most of all, she believes in Team Work. Donna is a smart woman with great ideas and good skills that will help make FVDTC a bigger and better club. This is why I think Donna should be Rookie of the Year.</p>
	<p>John Senne</p> <p>John loves being involved with the club. We are new members – and primarily it was me that was getting involved – and then he started volunteering for things. He always goes above and beyond – 1) he is doing the Constant Contact; 2) he did the mat cleaning; 3) he worked in the kitchen at the trial; 4) he helped at the Chicago Animal Show; 5) he helps me with match activities; 6) he jumps in as steward whenever needed; 7) He puts tables down and up. There is nothing he isn't willing to do to be a part of the club and make it the best it can.</p>
	<p>Pat and John Senne</p> <p>They took over as match coordinators and table at match. Redid the folders and the sign for the tables. They make sure all Rally equipment is present and accounted for.</p>
	<p>David Thornell</p> <p>It's inspiring to watch David's advancement with FVDTC. He arrived with a dog often negatively type-cast and handled him just the way each of us would hope: with kindness, patience, and love. Since then, he's moved into competition and has really seen some success! He leapt right up to serve as a scholarship evaluator and was clearly excited to do so, taking great care in the job. Now, I look across the building and see him assisting Dale Swanson in Beginning Obedience, and I think to myself, "What we need is an army of Davids." When you see how he's embraced the opportunities presented, you feel like maybe we're on the right track. Who knows what David will be doing in the coming years, but I know we'll be better for it.</p>

Help Wanted!

No Experience Required, (in most cases)

Earn your Work Credits....Socialize....Get involved....Learn...Support your Club!

Date	Event	Location	Further Information	Work Credit
Thursdays	Training Night	Kane County Fairgrounds	Fill in at the front table on nights Cheryl is absent. Assist folks as they come into the building. Cheryl will train you! Contact Cheryl Hettinger	1
03/29/13	Agility Trial Setup	SportsPlex on Dean St. in St. Charles	Evening setup work. Contact Cathy Fleury	1
03/30/13	Agility Trial	SportsPlex on Dean St. in St. Charles	Multiple jobs - contact Cathy Fleury	1-2
03/31/13	Agility Trial	SportsPlex on Dean St. in St. Charles	Multiple jobs - contact Cathy Fleury	1-2
03/28/13	Correction Clinic	Kane County Fairgrounds	Stewards: contact Ingrid Hamburger Judges (experience required): contact Sandi Stephenson. Free run-thru for Volunteers!	1
4/4 – 6/26	Assist 4H Classes	Kane County Fairgrounds	Hooray for Jr. Handlers! Contact Terri at DOT@fvdtc.org	2
04/18/13	Correction Clinic	Kane County Fairgrounds	Stewards: contact Ingrid Hamburger Judges (experience required): contact Sandi Stephenson. Free run-thru for Volunteers!	1

If you want to list a volunteer opportunity send an email to Donna Bihner at president@fvdtc.org

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – FEBRUARY 20, 2013

Meeting brought to order at 7:36 p.m.

Carolyn Pearson (Secretary). The December 18, 2012 Meeting minutes were approved as published.

Ed Herdes (First Vice-President) reported that once the weather gets nicer the external shed needs to be reorganized and inventoried. Ed stated that he may do the finish painting of the repairs made by Brian Ruppert last fall. Additionally, Terri will contact Brian to provide his bill to the club for the work.

Wendy Waddick (Second Vice-President) reported that club member, Sandi Stephenson, will discuss Aggressive Dog

Behavior at Training, at 7:00 p.m. on March 20th, prior to the membership meeting. Sandi will inform attendees how to understand and deal with aggressive dog behaviors.

Wendy stated that she and Donna, former Second Vice-President, discussed the following possible programs for membership meetings and other training night workshops.

- Therapy Dog Information - Lisa Smith, a Pet Partner (formerly Delta Society) Evaluator is willing to discuss

what it takes to get your dog registered with Pet Partners as therapy dog. Lisa Smith would also be able to do Pet Partner evaluations at FVDTTC. Additionally, Wendy will attempt to locate a Therapy Dog International representative to speak. During the discussion, Terri also suggested that Wendy contact club member, Jan Winters, as she is also working on a possible therapy dog testing program

- Pet First Aid - Another possible program for a membership meeting would be a presentation by an Emergency Vet. Loretta Lazzara is looking into an individual who would be able to provide this type of presentation. Additionally, Terri suggested contacting club member, Christy Cohen.
- Ask a Judge - The concept would be to have judges representing the various performance events (Obedience, Confirmation, Rally and Agility) available to answer club members questions.
- Dremel Tool Demonstration - This would be presented as a training night workshop to demonstrate using the Dremel tool to trim nails. During the discussion of this topic, it was ultimately decided that having someone come in once a month to do nails would be too disruptive during class nights, especially if the dogs were not 'happy' to have their nails trimmed.
- Introduction to Rally Signs - This training night workshop would demonstrate the activity indicated by each sign, especially the new signs.

Wendy also stated that she welcomes other suggestions for other program/workshop ideas. She can be contacted via e-mail at vp2@fvdtc.org.

Dana Weller (Treasurer) stated that this weekend she will provide the year-end financial reports to Ingrid Weihe, to allow Ingrid to prepare the club's tax forms.

Terri Byerly (Director of Training) provided the following report.

- Weather Related Class Cancellation Process - Terri reported that the instructors will now be responsible to determine whether their class will be cancelled or not, due to weather. Terri said that the weather she experiences at her house in Yorkville is generally NOT the same as the weather in St. Charles, especially on winter days. Terri provided the following guidelines for the instructors on questionable winter weather days.
 - ALL Primary Instructors must determine no later than 5:00 p.m. on training nights, whether the class will be conducted either by themselves or the Assistant Instructor.
 - ALL Primary Instructors must contact Terri Byerly (DOT), Dave Lewis (Webmaster) and Barb Misch (Woof-line). Additionally, Facebook users can post that information on the club's Facebook page.
 - Session Primary Instructors (e.g. Puppy and Beginner's classes) must also contact each student listed on the class roster.
 - Drop-In Instructors should attempt to obtain a substitute. Terri said that she will have a list of club members willing and capable of substitute instructing.
- Air Conditioning Usage Policy - There will be no change to the current policy which states: When the temperature on the day of training is 85 degrees or

more at Noon in St. Charles, the President and/or DOT would contact the Kane County Fairgrounds to turn on the air-conditioning.

- Substitute Instructors - Terri is in the process of creating a list of instructors who are willing to substitute and for WHICH classes. Terry said that her goal is to have a list of "who to call, if you are going to be absent" in the members area of the web-site. However prior to that functionality of the web site being available, she will provide a paper list.

Terri stated that almost everyone she polled said that they "would like advance notice". However, she reminded everyone that there WILL be times when someone calls on Thursday afternoon saying that "my car is dead", "I am sick", "my dog is sick". So advance notice is not always possible.

- Instructors' Meeting - Terri reported that she is currently planning an instructors' meeting with a very large agenda. The scheduling is determined by the feedback she received from current instructors. In response to her query, she verified that the extension offices are available on the following Saturdays in March: 2nd, 16th and 30th (although this date is our agility trial). She would like to offer one work credit for attending the meeting.
- Workshops - Terri strongly encouraged all instructors and assistants to attend the Aggressive Dog Behavior at Training, presentation by Sandi Stephenson, on March 20. Dana suggested that information for these presentations be included on the website to encourage club members.

Additionally, Terri will present a workshop named "Teaching is not the Same as Training", with the date and time to be announced. The presentation is designed to assist current and potential instructors and assistants to connect with their two-legged students.

- Instructor Recognition at Awards Banquet - Due to the new Volunteers' Awards, there are no current plans for any additional recognition for last year's instructors. Terri stated that she and Loretta Lazzara, ADOT, feel strongly that all the instructors and assistants should get a special moment and a token of our appreciation (other than their own chosen award) and would be willing to do so for last year's instructors and assistants. She stated that a proposal and request for payment will be presented to the Board within a few days.
- No Sniff Bandanas - Barb Misch is making a new batch of the no-sniff bandanas, to replace the depleted supply.
- New Class to be Offered - Terri stated that she and Loretta reviewed the current classes, their attendance and value. As result of that review, a new class will be offered at 7:00 p.m. which will be considered as a bridge between the beginners and advance beginners classes. One of the goals of the class is to encourage everyone who is unsure about competing in the obedience ring that it IS FUN and rewarding to earn titles.

The ring space utilized for this new class will be one of the Utility rings. The ring utilization review determined

that the highest usage of the utility rings is between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., however neither Utility ring is heavily used the entire time. The new class schedule will be as follows.

- The one Utility ring will be available the entire night for run-throughs, class and/or practice.
- The other Utility ring will be available for run-throughs and/or practice from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and then again after 8:00 p.m.

The new "Graduate Beginners" class will cater to the inexperienced handler in beginner novice and rally novice. The class will be offered as a session class with the same start and end dates as the Beginner classes. The first session will be offered starting on March 14th and will be instructed by Loretta Lazzara. After some discussion, it was decided that the class will be a flat-fee class (like the Puppy and Beginner's classes). As this is the pilot session of the class, it was decided that the fee will be \$50.00 for non-club members and \$20.00 for club members.

Terri asked for club members' patience and understanding during this time of transition and change. Terri also stated that she was recently told at Glenbard that the "FVDTC club members do not realize how lucky they are to have so many rings and time available for Open and Utility".

- Sharing Time in Rings - Terri stated that there is a huge problem with the use of rings for which they are intended. Terri reported that she will again institute the use of the dry erase board sign-up to use the ring. In response to her statement that we might need more white boards, Carolyn stated that there are more than enough, between what is in the inside cabinet and the outside shed.

There will be one dry erase board outside of each of the Utility Rings. Terri hopes that by re-instituting the sign-up, the problem will be reduced. Additionally, there will be one board set up to sign up at ringside for the 7:00 p.m. Open run-throughs for people who are getting ready to show. It is not a class for inexperienced open dogs. Additionally, even though the Open ring may be empty during the hour, please do not assume that the ring is available for individual practice. Often, they are between dogs, or the instructor has completed all the run-throughs and is preparing for their own dog for a run-through. It is always best to ask the instructor FIRST if the ring is truly available for practice.

- Keeping Track of Instructors - Terri reported that starting shortly, she will implement a sign-in sheet for all instructors (primary and assistants) to use each Regular Training night. Although Terri acknowledged that this is going to "be bogus", she stated that she needs to know who is doing what, when and where. In the past, there have been club members who do not show up for the job that they volunteered to do, and she feels that this is the best way to know when that occurs. Club members are getting credit for assisting for a session when they are not there for even half of it.

Terri said that she will remain as vigilant as possible about reminding everyone to take five seconds to stop at the front table and sign in. She stated she is not "asking for blood here" and with enough diligence it will become habit for instructors and assistants to sign in. Additionally, please do not ask Cheryl to sign you in. Carolyn suggested that Terri create a sign-in sheet that allows the instructors to simply sign their initials, next to their name, to alleviate the congestion of having primary instructors and assistant instructors AND all the others who stop by the information table.

- Instructor's Dogs - Terri also stated that, except for time spent doing a demonstration, instructor's dogs MUST not be in the ring while instructors are teaching. She stated that no one can safely and efficiently teach if they have their own dog in tow and has tried to enforce this rule via reminders over and over for a long time now. Terri agreed that instructor's may use their own dogs to demo with, but do the demonstration and then put the dog away outside of the ring, either in your car (depending on weather), have a friend hold your dog outside the ring, or put your dog in a crate.
- Instructors Not Following Club Policies
Terri said that the problem was determining how to reprimand instructors who are volunteering their time, but do not follow club policies. Terri said that no instructor, regardless of who they are, are worth risking the safety of our students' and their dogs and no one is indispensable. Terri stated that she and Loretta determined the following plan.
 - For the first violation, the instructor would receive a warning.
 - For the second violation, the instructor would lose their work credits for that session.
 - For the third, the instructor would be excused from their post. Terri and Loretta would find someone willing to follow the rules which are put in place for their own safety.
- Instructor Gift - Terri reported that since it has been several years since the instructors have received new instructor shirts, they are planning to do it again.
- Class Evaluation Sheet - The Class Survey will be brought back to use and also be used to help evaluate the advanced level drop-in classes.
- Crate Guarding and Barking - Terri reported that she has recently received "LOTS of complaints" from members, instructors, and students about incessant barking and crate guarding.
 - Regarding crate guarding - Terri stated that she believes that dogs should not be allowed to resource or crate guard without ramifications - as if teaches the dog that "he's allowed to be a jerk".
 - Regarding barking - Terri stated that she believes that dogs should not be allowed to bark incessantly, regardless of whether they are in a crate or on leash. Dogs that bark incessantly are disruptive and rude! Terri will address the issue with a brief article in the next WT.
- Seminars - Terri reminded instructors that they can be reimbursed for 50% cost of a seminar up to \$100

annually.

- Guest Trainers Who Do Not Pay - Terri reported that there has been some concern about drop-in trainers who are not paying during the 6:00 p.m. hour. Terri stated that although she knows most of the trainers there and can find them in the roster, but certainly not all of them. She stated that she and Loretta felt it was important to have someone at the information table starting at 6:00 p.m., we are a business and we should stop providing free training. She said that she would ask Cheryl if she would be interested in doing that. Sue also stated that if Cheryl is not interested, she would consider doing that on a regular basis.

Barb Runkle (Public Education Coordinator) Barb reported that she ordered Public Education supplies from AKC for the Agility trials and to be available in the Red Box at training. She will update the Red Box with any new information.

Additionally, Barb is hoping to have a raffle at the Agility Trail as a fundraiser for the Tracking Test.

Will Short (Obedience Trial Chairperson) reported that he has signed contracts for the 2014 and 2015 Obedience/Rally Trials. He stated that he is awaiting a response from Car-Dun-AI regarding the sharing of any of the judges we have contracts for the 2013, 2014 and 2015 trials.

Ingrid Hamburger (Tracking Test Chairperson) was not in attendance, but sent her report that she has sent in the AKC paperwork for the September Tracking Test.

Dave Lewis (Director at Large) was not in attendance, but sent the following report regarding the club's website usage.

- In the last month:
There were 922 visits, totaling 4723 page views. Just over half are new people, just under are returning. About 20% are mobile, mostly iPad / iPhone. People on mobile are consistently on the site for less time.
- How people are finding us:
 - 50% are direct, defined as people who just type in the address or have it bookmarked. 25% come from a Google search. Approximately 12.5% come from agilityevents.net, the rest come from AKC, Bing and other sites. However, there is very little Facebook contact.
 - Search terms they use:
Variations on "fox valley dog training", "fvdtc", "dog training st. charles il", "fox valley kennel club" and "kane county dog training". Most people are looking specifically for us, which means they are getting the name somewhere else.
- Once they are on the site:
35% of views are of the home page. The Events page has 10% of the views. The Classes has 9% and the Calendar page is 4.5%.

- Dave has identified the following items for his to-do list.
 - On days where the weather is questionable, a "Yes, we're having class" note will be put on the home page. For example, on February 7, there was a spike in visits presumably do to the individuals seeking confirmation of whether classes would be held that night.
 - Add a redirect from the old site urls to the home page so individuals get someplace useful on their first try.

Old Business

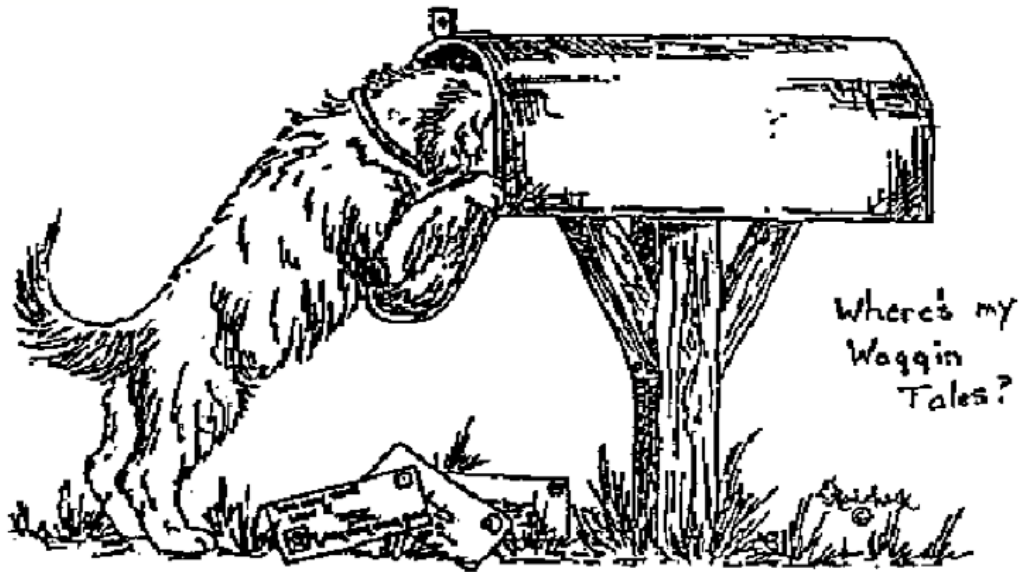
- Handicap Parking Signs - Terri stated that just as our members were getting good about respecting the signs, the fairgrounds — unfortunately — got worse about having them available. Terri stated that she is unable to move them due to the fact that the signs are sunk in cement and are too heavy. However, Barb Misch has suggested that we put our own signs on the red barriers which appear to be a permanent feature to divide the driveway from the lawn area. The signs would be placed on and removed from the dividers each week. It was suggested that we use Velcro strips to attach the signs to the barriers, to eliminate any permanent damage to the barriers. Ed stated that he will speak to our fairgrounds contacts regarding getting the signs out to be used each week.

New Business

- Dinner Raffle Item Donation - Cheryl Hettinger has asked the club to donate a t-shirt and a work credit for the raffle to be held at the annual dinner. The Board members agreed with donation of a t-shirt, however not the work credit.
- Increase Board Member Visibility - Donna Bihner stated that she had been approached by a club member who felt that Board Members should consider posting their pictures on the club's website, or on the information board in the training building, or introduce themselves at training. The introduction should also include a brief bio with such information as "teaches the 8:00 p.m. Open class". It was agreed that it was a good suggestion to be included on the Waggin' Tales and on the website. However, the logistics of having all Board members introduce themselves during class time, would be difficult.
- E-mail Voting Guidelines - The Board members agreed that would be helpful to have some guidelines created to assist when addressing issues via e-mail. Donna and Carolyn will put together something that can be used as a template.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Fox Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.
 Sue MacPherson, Membership Chair
 4N971 Chaffield Dr.
 St. Charles, IL 60175
 www.fvdtc.org



March 2013

- | | | |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07 | Thursday | Regular Training
Health Clinic |
| 14 | Thursday | Regular Training
Beginner Class Session Starts
7:00pm Puppy Class Starts |
| 19 | Tuesday | Regular Training
Health Clinic |
| 20 | Wednesday | Membership Meeting
Aggressive Dog Seminar |
| 24 | Sunday | Waggin' Tales Deadline |
| 28 | Thursday | Correction Clinic |
| 29 | Friday | Agility Trial Setup |
| 30 | Saturday | Agility Trial |
| 31 | Sunday | Agility Trial |

April 2013

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|----|-----------|---------------------------------------------|
| 04 | Thursday | Regular Training
4-H Starts |
| 11 | Thursday | Regular Training
Chiropractic |
| 13 | Saturday | Annual Dinner |
| 17 | Wednesday | Board Meeting |
| 18 | Thursday | Correction Clinic |
| 25 | Thursday | Regular Training
8:00pm Puppy Class Ends |

INSIDE WAGGIN' TALES

New Class Starts, March 14	1
FVDTC Workshops	1
From the DOT	2
From the President	2
Membership Report	2
Sally Compton Award Ballot	3
Rookie of the Year Award Ballot ..	4
Help Wanted	6
Board Meeting Highlights	6
Calendar	10