



Waggin' Tales

FOX VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB
www.fvdtc.org



Volume XIV, Issue IV
April, 2005

Looking for Tracking Volunteers

We're on the scent of tracking volunteers who wish to help with this year's tracking trial. We are lining up a date for a "tracking/scenting" get-together for the volunteers. As listed in the report to the Board of Directors, the goals are multiple but mostly to have an opportunity to answer questions and establish a working plan for the Trial Weekend. We need volunteers for one or two days (pre-trial day set up and trial day activities). This is a fun weekend and you have a chance to meet some great folks and see dogs working at what they do best - find the prize using their noses. It's one of the few times that only the dogs really know where they are going and the handlers are along for the ride and to give encouragement.

Our Fall Tracking Trial is for September 25, 2005. Our judges are Donna Kircher and Pam German.

If you are interested please drop a line via e-mail or call. Even if you have already told me you are wanting to help, I would appreciate hearing again from you. This will help me to update my list and get your e-mail addresses (if you have them) so we can communicate more efficiently.

Happy tracks,
Francene Andresen, Tracking Chairperson

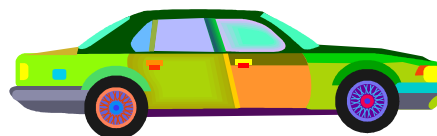
Prohibited Parking at Fairground

Please remember that when arriving at the fairgrounds for training, parking is prohibited along the west side of the building. Fairground Officials have posted "No Parking" signs the west side of the building.

Fire Department connectors for the building are located around the outside of the building. By parking alongside the building, you may block in one of these connectors. In addition, by parking alongside the building, we are reducing the width space allocated for both fire engines and ambulances. An emergency call to our facility during training night will yield at least 2 engines, 1 ambulance and 1 administrative vehicle (i.e. fire chief).

We have enough spaces available for everyone to park in the parking lot. Handicapped parking areas are also designated within the lot. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sandy Davis or me.

Dave Lewis



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Special points of interest:

- Correction Clinic April 21
- CGC Test May 12
- Correction Clinic May 12

Board Meeting Highlights

April 6, 2005

Meeting brought to order at 7:40 p.m. Joe and Kathy Busch, Fundraising Chairs, attended the Board meeting. Kathy reported that she would like to make arrangements to have a Tastefully Simple representative present at training with products for sale. Any products sold at training will net the club 15% of the sale. Kathy also stated that she is investigating the possibility of having a Candlelight Bowl at the Wheaton Bowl for a fundraising event. The event would be a night of Pizza and Bowling. The cost to the club would be \$12.95 per person. Kathy suggested that we charge a fee of \$40.00 per couple. Another idea presented was the sale of clothing with sayings such as “My dog trains at FVDTC”.

Peggy Sue Seehafer also mentioned that she is involved with fundraising projects for St. Charles, which includes snow globe sales and a raffle for vacation trips. Peggy offered to help Joe and Kathy get ideas for ways to have fundraising events. Additionally, Joe and Kathy reported that they will need help with coordinating events. Peggy stated that we need to be careful about how we go about fundraising, as the government may require the club to collect sales taxes. Taffy offered to help complete the tax forms, should we be required to submit them.

Dave also announced that Joe and Kathy were creating the job description for the Fundraising Chairs.

Cheryl Hettinger (Annual Dinner Co-Chair) reported that although 70 surveys were sent out to the individuals who attended this year’s dinner, only a very small percentage of responses were returned. Cheryl stated that one of the biggest concerns that she had heard from past dinners was the length of time for the evening’s events. With that in mind, Cheryl stated that they planned that the MC’s would announce the handler’s name and the dog’s name, but not the dog’s titles. Cheryl stated that she received many positive reactions on the night of the dinner and felt really well about it. However, she was extremely disappointed with the tone of the comments that were returned on the surveys. Although she realized that people are typically more willing to offer negative comments on a written survey, she felt that some of the comments bordered on personal attacks. One comment that was particularly hurtful and not necessarily constructive stated that the Annual Dinner Committee went out of their way to downplay the titles earned by club members. Other surveys mentioned that the main focus did not appear to be the awards given for the titles earned.

Cheryl stated that her goal was to make the dinner fun, to get club members to talk to each other, and to make everyone feel welcome. One of the committee’s goals was to have one dinner to help minimize the divisiveness that the club is currently experiencing. Cheryl stated that she also tried to acknowledge all the volunteers who keep the club’s activities functioning. Barb also stated that the committee welcomed the surveys that provided constructive criticism, but some of the comments were downright mean. Dean stated that the individuals, who provided the negative feedback, probably have not given it a second thought, and do not realize the impact they had on the committee members. He also said that it is impossible to please everyone, no matter how hard you try. Cheryl agreed that it is hard to satisfy the individual needs of the over 150 club members, although the committee tried their best.

Peggy Sue said that she thought that the committee did an outstanding job. Peggy Sue also stated that although constructive criticism is useful, too much negative feedback is destructive and can cause volunteers to quit working. She also apologized to Cheryl and the rest of the committee for the hurtful comments. Cindy Pakenas felt that the awards presentation should not have been so “flip” and casual but she thought that Priscilla’s presentation of the Paws in Community award to Tom Stephenson was appropriate.

Taffy stated that perhaps the dinner’s evolution over the past few years was perceived as a downplaying of the awards significance to the event.

During the discussion of things to do differently for next year’s dinner, the following ideas were shared.

Include on the award’s application a location to add information whether the title was “special” in anyway. For example, this was the first XYZ title earned by a Basenji in AKC history.

Read the title earned for each dog. Perhaps include the explanations of each title on a laminated table tent card.

Cheryl announced that she is unsure at this time whether she would volunteer to be the Annual Dinner’s Chair for next year’s dinner. She will let the Board know by the May Membership meeting.

Carolyn Pearson (Secretary). The February Meeting Minutes were approved with the following correction.

Original statement. “Taffy stated that when she was the

(Continued on page 10)

Judges Needed

I am looking for judges for the Fox Valley match on April 21. Please consider helping the club. If you are able, please call me at 630-231-8828.

Thank you,
Sandi Stephenson

E-mail Change

Tracy McMahon's new e-mail address is tracy@meiki.com

Obedience Trial Help Needed

I am seeking volunteers for the following for the November Obedience Trial: Catalog Ad Person, and Raffle Person(s). I already have a great potential volunteer for the raffle, but this is a position that requires at least two people. If you are interested and can volunteer, please email me at RiverofTime01@gmail.com

Thank you.
William Short
Obedience Trial Chrmn.

New Arrival



Priscilla (7PM Beginners Instructor) would like to announce the birth of her 6th grandchild, Breanna Rose Roberts born March 8, 2005 weight 6lbs 12oz and 19 inches long.

Thanks.....

A special "thank you" goes out to Suzan Scott for the generous donations of many books and videos for our club's library collection.

Georgia Schwender



Club Member Notices

Thanks.....

I would like to thank the Members and the Board of Directors of FVDTC for the honor bestowed on me to be the recipient of the 2004 "Sally Compton Outstanding Service Award".

Sincerely, Ingrid Hamburger

Come over, Red Rover

FVDTC will be making an appearance at the Rover Rescue Pet Dog Show on Saturday, May 14th at the Aurora Turners Club (1335 Mitchell Rd. Aurora, IL-Mitchell Road just north of Indian Trail). We have a booth reserved for this event that runs from 10AM -2PM. While I'm quite comfortable talking about training at Fox Valley, the CGC Test, and getting one's ILP, I would really appreciate the help of members who can give tips on how to move ahead in obedience, agility and tracking. If I can get 4 people each willing to do 1 hour, we'll be set and this event will earn you work credits. Call me, Barb Misch, at 630-761-0823 or email education@fvdtc.org.

It's CGC Test Time Again!

Come one, come all to the Canine Good Citizen Test on Thursday, May 12th during the correction clinic! Sign up sheets are available in this issue of Waggin' Tales, and at training! Don't delay, sign up today!

Congratulations!

Word has come to Waggin' Tales that FVDTC member Bridget Carlsen along with her Golden Retriever "Soupy", OTCH High Times Belvedere's Duck Soup UDX8 MH, recently took an Individual 4th place at the AKC Obedience World Cup at Crufts in Birmingham, England on March 13, 2005. Along with her teammates representing the United States, they rallied to a 4th place finish out of 9 countries.

Individual		Team	
1 st	Jane Moran – Wales	1 st	England - score 80
2 nd	Herbie Watson – England	2 nd	Northern Ireland - score 63
3 rd	Kim Innes – England	3 rd	Holland - score 61
4 th	Bridget Carlsen – USA	4 th	USA - score 55

To read further and to see photos taken at the event, please go to http://www.akc.org/events/obedience/crufts/2005/crufts_results.cfm

New Members.....

Angela Thompson-Glidewell
34W775 South James Dr. St. Charles, IL 60174
(847)695-4611
Basset Hound & Dachshund mix
e-mail: glidewlla@aol.com

Jackie & Rick Coleman
39W036 Seavey Rd. Batavia, IL 60510
(630)879-3202
Rottweiler
e-mail: rcoleman98@netscape.net

Tony & Becky DeSilva
425 Illinois Ave Batavia, IL 60510
(630)406-5997
Flat Coated Retriever

Whitney Edwards & Grant Rupp
1455 Hartsburg Ln North Aurora, IL 60542
(847)340-8388
Labrador Retriever
e-mail: stigirl@comcast.net

June Case
1147 Sawmill Ln Algonquin, IL 60102
(847)854-0681
Giant Schnauzer
e-mail: junecase@earthlink.net

Ann & Andrew Thompson Jr
42W691 Route 64 St. Charles, IL 60175
(630)365-9675
Bernese Mountain Dog & Golden Retriever
e-mail: akuna_mattata@earthlink.net

Jan & Bill Davie
4N967 Redwood Ln St. Charles, IL 60175
(630)513-7214
Collies & Golden Retriever
e-mail: jansbirds@juno.com

Sherri Walker
531 S. Pierce Wheaton, IL 60187
(630)513-0577
Labrador Retrievers

Shirley & Duane Welte
337 Lawndale Ave. Aurora, IL 60506
(630)892-5416
Kerry Blue Terrier
e-mail: sdwelte@sbcglobal.net

Ed & Dolores Close
1212 Center St. Geneva, IL 60134
(630)232-4869
Golden Retriever

Open class: 8-9 p.m.
Current Instructor: Rick Cox

Open class is intended for dogs and handlers that plan to enter AKC, UKC, and/or CKC open obedience trials. In order to be eligible for this class the dog and handler must either have earned their CD (Companion Dog) title or be actively pursuing that title. Handlers must have good control of their dogs as all exercises in the Open ring are accomplished without the use of a lead. Dogs must be in good physical condition, as they will be jumping obstacles during training and exhibition.

The goal of this class is that the dog and handler earn a CDX (Companion Dog Excellent) title. In doing so they must be able to successfully complete the following exercises:

- Heel off lead
- Drop on recall
- Retrieve over high jump
- 3 minute out-of-sight sit
- Figure eight exercise off lead
- Retrieve on flat
- Broad jump
- 5 minute out-of-sight down

Individual elements of each exercise is taught and perfected until they can be combined to earn the CDX title. Individual and group instruction is required to teach all of the exercises. We use positive reinforcement teaching the exercises including the use of food and toys. Some elements of Open can be intimidating to the dog so we also spend time working to keep a positive attitude with the dog.

Open class is ongoing; students enter when they are qualified and finish when they earn their title. Registration is completed by consulting with the instructor.

Are you interested in going further with your training—maybe gaining a title for your dog? Check out our Open Class.





Photos from our
Appreciation
Dinner



Hosts for the evening John Semenek and Nadine Connor



Kathy and Chris Hubbard



Ingrid Hamburger is presented the Sally Compton Award

- Boner Award - Cathy Fleury
- Debbie Orr - Cathy Fleury
- Dorothy Dimond - Brenda Rivera
- Ed Kneip - Brenda Rivera
- Founder's - Brenda Rivera
- Heather Memorial - Sue MacPherson
- High Novice A - Sue MacPherson (180.5)
- High Novice B -
- High Open - Brenda Rivera (196.3)
- High Utility - Brenda Rivera (196.12)
- Kanosak - Sandi Stephenson
- Sally Compton - Ingrid Hamburger



Nadine & her granddaughter Marie



Priscilla Pisarski & Anne Stuessy



Barb Misch

Karen Moran wears her boner with pride.



Cathy Fleury



Terri Byerly

Brenda Rivera





Saving Dogs from High Kill Shelters You can make a difference!

The Humane Society of the U.S. says that 3 to 4 million (yes, million) shelter dogs are euthanized each year. Every 9 seconds another dog is put down. Staggering numbers. (Every Nine Seconds is also the name of a campaign the Humane Society runs, www.hsus.org) Bringing a dog into foster care, providing proper health care, rehabilitation when needed and the love every dog deserves is a tall order. But the rewards are well worth the efforts. When we look into the eyes of these abandoned and abused animals, it is often very difficult to understand how they could have been neglected and unloved. But it happens every day.

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP? There are several quality local rescue organizations, but today I'd like to introduce you to Rover Rescue. The success rate of Rover's foster program has been phenomenal. Since September of 2003, Rover Rescue, (www.roverrescue.org) a 501-C3 nonprofit rescue organization has saved 608 dogs from being euthanized. 597 of those 608 have been adopted and are now living the good life with loving families. The rest are currently in quality foster homes. 99% of those sweet pooches have come from high-kill shelters and the others were owner surrenders.

There are many different ways that you can help Rover Rescue continue it's noble work of placing neglected, abused and abandoned dogs with loving adoptive homes.

- ◆ **Foster Care:** Fostering even one dog can make a big difference. Many people say, "oh it would break my heart to see them go", or "I'd get too attached", but the truth of the matter is that when you see a dog who comes to your home frightened and confused and then watch him blossom under your shower of affection and go to a new home with people who love him, and will care for him properly you will realize that you have had one of the most truly rewarding experiences of your life. Foster homes provide the love, Rover Rescue provides vet care, donated food and supplies. (Vet care includes, vaccinations, worming, spay/neuter...)
- ◆ **Transport:** Animal transport is a critical piece of the puzzle. Dogs are picked up mostly from high kill Indiana shelters (listed at www.sisaveapet.com) and brought back locally to be vet checked and then taken into foster care. Health certificates are provided for each dog.
- ◆ **Donations:** Monetary donations, food, toys, collars, leashes are all welcome and greatly appreciated.
- ◆ **Pet Dog Show:** Come have some fun with us and participate in Rover Rescue's pet dog show on May 14th. There are many fun and silly categories available. More info at Rover's website or talk to me at training. It'll be FUN and great support for Rover Rescue.

Please take a few moments to consider what you can do to save the life of a dog who needs our help. You can be a part of something wonderful and rewarding. **You CAN make a difference!**

You can find more information about Rover Rescue at www.roverrescue.org or you can talk to me on any FVDT training night. I am at training from approximately 5:30 until around 9:15 or so.

Thank you!

Terri Byerly

(630) 553-2363 email: terribyerly@aol.com

Do you have room in your home and heart for another 4-legged friend? In addition to Rover Rescue, here's a list of some local rescue groups. Or, if you have access to the internet and want to check out the many other rescue groups throughout Illinois, visit www.petfinder.com. See who's available and looking for a new home.

Aurora Animal Control
630-897-5695

H.E.L.P. (St. Charles)
630-879-8500

TAILS Humane Society (DeKalb)
815-758-2457

4 Paws u 4 Ever (West Chicago)
630-258-9219

DuPage Animal Control (Wheaton)
630-407-2800

Anderson Animal Shelter (South Elgin)
847-697-5880

Kendall Co Animal Control (Yorkville)
630-553-9256

Naperville Humane Society
630-420-8989

DeKalb Animal Control
815-784-5924

Dalmatian Rescue (DeKalb)
815-758-3955

Labrador Education & Rescue Network
847-289-7387

Illinois Bird Dog Rescue
630-694-1359

Gordon Highlander Rescue (DeKalb)
815-758-0243

American Brittany Rescue
1-866-274-8911





Bill and Debbie at PETCO on March 19, 2005

Ever wonder what our club members do when they are not at Fox Valley training or teaching class?

Not only does Bill Clarke volunteer his time and dogs for pet therapy, but once a month you'll find Bill along with either Britt or Debbie (his Brittanys) at Geneva's PETCO for American Brittany Rescue.

Bill coordinates the groups appearance times at PETCO (which consists of 3 other members including FVDTC member Sandy Davis and Holly). He also handles the donations made to the group while at PETCO and gathers handouts, flyers and other ABR items for the group to hand out.

Do you and your four-legged friend do something out of the ordinary like Bill Clarke? Let Waggin' Tales know! And, if you have a photo, please include it!

BRAGS... I just can't keep quiet another minute, and therefore, although very few of our members are active in tracking, I want to share my great news. On March 20, 2005, the Medallion Rottweiler Club hosted its spring Variable Surface Tracking Test. Fortunately for me, after all the Rotties who wanted to run had been drawn, there was room for ONE non-Rot. Reggie, my Rottie colored Collie (Black, Tan and Sable) made the draw and ran at the DuPage County Police Center. Happily, Reggie passed a difficult VST track, running it in a comfortable twenty-five minutes, to be the only Collie who has succeeded up to this time. For those of you not familiar with tracking, the VST is THE ultimate level tracking event. In order to be considered a Champion Tracker, dogs must have earned the TD, and TDX titles previously. They are required to work surfaces devoid of vegetation for at least 1/2 the track. These tracks go between buildings, over parking lots, and in between rows of parked vehicles. Length of the three hour minimum track is between 600 and 800 yards, and four dissimilar articles, plastic, leather, metal and fabric must be presented to the judges at the completion of the run. REGGIE did this, with me along for the ride.

I still can't believe all that work finally paid off.— Sylvia Schultz

Work Credits Effective April 1, 2005

To receive a club award, you must be listed as a Regular or Lifetime Training Member in the roster **AND** have a total of 10 work credits for the year

Each available "job" in the club has been assigned the following work credits:

ONE Credit:

- Attend a Membership Meeting (to a maximum of 3 meetings for the year)
- Steward or Judge one Correction Clinic
- Steward or Judge one CGC Test
- Judge one Graduation night
- Work the Information Table/Front Desk for one night
- Serve on a Committee for one year
- Work 1/2 day at the Obedience Trial
- Work 1/2 day at the Agility Trial
- "Substitute" as an Instructor or an Assistant for 4 night

TWO Credits:

- Serve as Chairperson on a Committee for one year
- Assistant Instructor for Puppy or Beginner Class for one session
- Assistant Instructor for Advanced classes for one quarter
- Serve as a Board Member for one year
- Work One day at the Tracking Test
- Work Full day at the Obedience Trial
- Work Full day at the Agility Trial

THREE credits:

- Primary Instructor for Puppy or Beginner class for one session
- Primary Instructor for Advanced classes for one quarter
- Primary Instructor for Conformation classes for one quarter
- Serve as the Puppy/Beginner Class Coordinator for one year

Work credits for other services to the club may be awarded by the Board on a per-event basis.



AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN PROGRAM: ENTRY FORM
ONE DOG PER ENTRY FORM - PLEASE PRINT



Test Date: Thursday, May 12th, 2005.
Test Times: 6:00PM & 8:00PM
Form Due May 10th, 2005

Yes / No Is your dog spayed/neutered?
Yes / No Does your dog have an AKC or ILP Number?
If "YES" write your dog's AKC or ILP Number here:
If you answered "YES" above, this number must be filled in for AKC tracking purposes.

Owner's Name: () Mr. () Mrs. () Ms.
First Middle Last

Parent/Guardian Name if under 18:
() Mr. () Mrs. () Ms.
First Middle Last

Complete Address:
City State Zip

Phone w/ Area Code: () E-mail:

Dog's Name:
(As you would like it to appear on certificate-registered names appear for registered dogs)

Dog's Call Name: Dog's Age:

Dog's Breed

As the owner of this dog, I state that to my knowledge it has not bitten or shown aggression with people. I do not know this dog to be dog-aggressive. I will assume full legal and financial responsibility should a bite or injury occur to another person or dog while on the test site. I also understand that bites will be reported to Kane County Animal Control as required by local dog ordinances. I understand that if my evaluator sees my dog behaving in a non-CGC manner, the AKC will be notified, and CGC status may be removed.

Owner Signature: Date:

This page is yours to keep, and to help you prepare for the test!

AKC Canine Good Citizen Test Items:

1. Accepting a friendly stranger: Evaluator greets Handler.
2. Sitting politely for petting: Evaluator pets dog, dog must show no signs of shyness or resentment.
3. Appearance & grooming: Evaluator inspects dog, combs or brushes lightly, examines ears and each front foot.
4. Out for a walk: Handler takes dog for a short walk including right turn, left turn, about turn and stop.
5. Walking through a crowd: dog and Handler walk close to several people; dog may show casual interest but not jump up.
6. Sit & down on command/Staying in place: Handler shows dog can do a sit and a down, then chooses either position, leaves dog and goes to the end of a 20 ft. line and returns immediately.
7. Coming when called: with dog still on 20 ft. line, handler walks out 10 ft. and calls the dog.
8. Reaction to another dog: two handlers and dogs approach, shake hands, exchange pleasantries, move on; dogs can show casual interest to either the Handler or the other dog.
9. Reaction to distractions: distractions are presented; dog may not panic or show aggression.
10. Supervised Separation: Handler goes out of sight for 3 minutes. Dog is held on 6ft. lead by Evaluator's assistant. The dog may not display any signs of stress.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. **Treats and toys are not allowed**, but verbal praise and petting is encouraged.
2. Acceptable Collars for the test: leather buckle, nylon buckle, slip chain, or martingale (**pinch/prong, head halters and Gentle Leader are unacceptable**)
3. Acceptable Leads: leather or nylon, up to 6 feet (**flexi, chain and any line longer than 6 feet is not allowed**).
4. You may wish to bring your dog's own brush to the evaluation. You are also allowed to lift your dog's paws for the evaluator in item 3—simply tell them you'd like to do so.
5. Exercise your dog just prior to the test and between exercises if necessary. **A dog that eliminates during the test is dismissed.**

As the handler, you can really only test one dog at a time. If you want to test more than one dog, please sign up for more than one testing time/date.

No dog ever “fails” this test, however some items may require further training.

A dog that shows signs of aggression may be dismissed at the Evaluator's discretion. For further information about the Canine Good Citizen Test, visit www.AKC.org.

Please show up 10-15 minutes prior to your testing time, as the test will begin promptly. You must be ready to go at your indicated time! If for some reason you find you are unable to attend your confirmed test time, please contact Barb Misch at 630-761-0823 early as possible. It is very likely that others would like to take your place.

(Continued from page 2)

Membership chairperson, she received a lot of negative comments from lifetime members regarding that requirement.”

Corrected statement. Taffy stated that when she was the Membership chairperson, she received comments from lifetime members but not about requiring lifetime members to submit a membership application, because it was not a requirement.

Correspondence items were read. Dave announced that the AKC Annual Report is available for review.

Cindy Pakenas (Director of Training) extended gratitude to Peggy Sue Seehafer for staffing the front table for the first and second weeks of session 2. These are very important weeks to demonstrate to the public that the club is organized and are there to meet their needs. Help to staff the front table is needed for the remaining weeks of session 2.

Cindy also reported that four beginner classes were filled for the second session and some applicants had to wait for session 3. Although the puppy classes filled slowly, they were filled just prior to the start of the class. Cindy also extended gratitude to Barb and John, for all their hard work. Especially since another 15 handler/dog teams were added! And finally thanks to all the members working on the instructional staff for session 2 and for 4-H. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated!

Although Sandy Davis (Waggin' Tales Editor) was not present, she sent the following report: The next deadline is Sunday, April 10th. She also sent reminder encouraging any groups and committees needing help or volunteers to utilize the newsletter. Additionally any committees, such as the Correction Clinic committee, are encouraged to use the newsletter as a means of letting membership know which classes are available. She noted that with recent changes in committee chairs there has been a drop of information being put into the newsletter.

Taffy Wille (Obedience Trial Secretary) reported that approval for the obedience trial has been received. Taffy stated that the next step would be to mail premium lists, probably in the beginning of August. Taffy also stated that she is still looking for someone who wants to learn the trial secretary job.

Francene Andresen (Tracking Test Chairperson) reported that the Tracking test is approved for September 25th. Paul German and Donna Kircher are the judges. Plan are being formulated to meet with the volunteers with the following goals.

- To introduce newcomers to the tracking event and to each other.

- To establish areas of interest within the group to divide the workload.
- To clearly identify individual's roles and answer any questions regarding those roles.
- To set goals for specific tasks required for the tracking weekend.
- To plan for several fundraisers specific to tracking to try to offset expenses for the test, if possible.

Additionally, the committee will be securing experienced tracklayers in the next few months.

Barb Misch (Public Education Coordinator) stated that the next CGC Test is scheduled for Thursday, May 12th. The 6:00 p.m. evaluator is 99% certain to be Sandi Stephenson. Barb also stated that she is still searching for an 8:00 p.m. Evaluator. If one cannot be found, only one group will be done. Sign up information will be included in the next Waggin' Tales and will be posted at the club as soon as the evaluators are confirmed. Barb also reported that she will need a volunteer to assist her during the evening to check in the participants, to provide the group distractions and to help with the supervised separation exercise.

Barb also reported that the club would participate in the Rover Rescue Pet Dog Show on Saturday, May 14th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., at the Turner's Club in Aurora. The show provides one table and two chairs and Barb will bring the red tablecloth. Barb also asked whether we have a sign to use at the show. Barb will also bring the literature from the AKC, the club brochures and the club calendars. She plans to explain the classes we conduct and the CGC Test. However, she would like to get one or more volunteers to discuss Rally, Obedience, Agility and Tracking to join her at the event. She would like to have one extra person each hour, for a total of four volunteers.

Helen Castellano (Agility Trial Chairperson) reported that the September 17th and 18th Agility Trials have received AKC approval. The trials will be held outdoors at Creekwood Meadows in Plano. The opening date is July 13, 2005 with a closing date of August 24, 2005. The entry fee is \$20.00 for the first dog and \$10.00 for the second entry of the same dog. The judges are Karen Winter and Kurt Matushek. The entry limit is 450 runs per day.

Peggy Sue Seehafer (Director at Large) reported that the Animal Shelter would not be built at the Peck and Keslinger site. The county is putting the shelter in Sugar Grove. The training classes, we had hoped to provide there, will not happen.

Old Business

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Parking Lot Main Light

Carolyn stated that following the December Board meeting; she contacted Denny at the fairgrounds. The fuse on the main light was fixed and the light has been working since then.

Welcome Wagon Brochures

Priscilla shared the information regarding her discussion with Marci Dillon from the Welcome Wagon. Marci verified with her supervisor that if we provide club brochures, she would include them with the Welcome Wagon packets at no additional cost to us, other than the cost to copy the brochures. It is our hope to take advantage of the busy Welcome Wagon schedule to increase the number of students for our classes to increase the amount of money we are able to put away for the possible purchase of our own training building.

Priscilla will share this information with Margi Stuessy, Publicity Chairperson, so she can contact Marci Dillon from Welcome Wagon.

Policy About Non-Members Being Instructors or Assistant Instructors

During the February 2, 2005 Board meeting, Cindy Pakenas addressed the lack of a policy about allowing non-members to assist in teaching classes. The situation has occurred in the past and was dealt with on an individual basis. However, she would like to have a club policy set up to address the issue. Amy Ford discovered that according to our insurance agent, there is no problem by allowing non-members to be instructors, unless we pay them. If non-club members are paid to instruct, the purchase of a Workers Compensation Policy should be considered. This policy is approximately between \$800.00 and \$900.00 annually. Taffy stated that if we paid anyone to instruct, those individuals would be considered independent contractors. However the Board's consensus was that the club would not pay instructors.

Cindy asked the Board members to provide her any suggestions for the policy. Cindy reported that to be a certified APDT Pet Dog Trainer, at a minimum, an individual must instruct a class, take a certification test and pay a fee of approximately \$300.00. It was suggested that if a non-club member were interested in assisting, that his or her name be placed on a call list to be contacted when needed. Taffy reminded the Board that Assistant Instructors do have some authority and are still representatives of our club.

Additionally, Cindy stated that she would like input from instructors about this policy. Francene recommended, and Cindy agreed, that Cindy would provide a starting point for this policy to be presented at a future Board meeting.

Dean Connolly made a motion that primary and assistant instructors must be club members. Priscilla Pisarski seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by all Board members present.

Paws in Community Award

Barb Misch made a motion to table the discussion of this agenda item until the June Board Meeting. Peggy Sue Seehafer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all Board members present.

Trial Budgets

During the February 2, 2005 Board meeting, Helen Castellano made a motion that each Trial Chairperson, Agility, Tracking and Obedience, prepare a budget for this year's trials to be submitted at the April Board meeting for approval by the Board.

The following chairs provided budgets for the 2005 events.

Helen Castellano (Agility Trial Chairperson) provided a budget for the Board members to review. Helen proposed a budget with an estimated revenue of \$12,000.00, and estimated expense of \$6,970.00, for a net profit of \$5,030.00. Helen responded that we would not be renting the electronic timers when Cindy posed the question. Helen also stated that last year's Hospitality expenses were too high, and would be lowered this year. Barb Misch made a motion to accept the Agility Trial budget as presented. Francene Andresen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all Board members present.

Francene Andresen (Tracking Test Chairperson) provided a budget for the Board members to review. Francene proposed a budget with an estimated revenue of \$610.00, and estimated expense of \$576.00, for a net profit of \$44.00. Dave stated that the profit shown on the Tracking budget, should be \$34.00 not \$44.00 as shown. It was also agreed that the \$50.00 amount for fundraising revenue could be increased. Helen Castellano made a motion to accept the Tracking Test budget as amended. Peggy Sue Seehafer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all Board members present.

Although Will Short (Obedience Trial Chairperson) was not in attendance, he had provided a budget to Dave following the February Board meeting, that Dave provided for the Board members. Will proposed a budget with an estimated revenue of \$7,540.00, and estimated expense of \$8,075.00, for a net loss of \$535.00. Several Board members expressed concern that the budget included an expense of \$700.00 to collect an estimated revenue of \$600.00. Barb Misch suggested that Will

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recommend to the committee that collections/requests for donations should begin at this time. Helen also reminded the Board that we must be careful about how we handle raffles and the income earned, relative to any laws that St. Charles may have regarding raffles. Cindy stated that she knows that other clubs buy raffle items. It was also suggested that the Raffle committee also accept cash to purchase additional items for the raffle. Additionally, the Raffle committee should be told that they have to right to reject items that are not in excellent condition, such as used chew toys. Following the discussion, it was requested that the expense to purchase items to raffle be removed from the proposed budget.

Taffy suggested, because four of the five judges are incurring more substantial travel expenses, that the judges' expenses be increased from \$1600.00 to \$2000.00.

During the discussion of the Awards/Trophies expenses and revenues, Helen explained that the past Trophy committee eliminated the option of offering trophies purchased by the committee, when a club member donated cash, the trophy winner now gets the donated cash. Brenda Rivera, Trophy Committee Co-Chair and Board meeting guest stated that the 2005 Trophy Committee wants to offer cash instead of trophies. Brenda stated that the committee wants to try something different this year because they believe that a lot of people competing in advanced classes would rather receive money than trophies. Brenda also stated that she was not aware that the club had purchased the items last year from Peggy Sue Seehafer to use at last year's trial and for future trials. However, Brenda stated that even with the new knowledge of the existence of the trophies, she does not believe that the committee will change their plans. Taffy believes that the trophies should be used as originally proposed last year.

Peggy Sue Seehafer thought that the proposed budget should account for the possibility that the fairground's rent would increase by 10%. Taffy stated that last year's catalog sales were minimal. Taffy also stated that Will's other expenses shown on the budget seemed reasonable in her opinion.

Taffy made a motion that we return the budget to Will with the board's suggested changes, that Will make appropriate adjustments and that he resubmit it to the Board for approval immediately following the May Membership meeting. Barb Misch seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion passed with ten votes for approval and one vote against and no abstentions.

Lifetime Members and Membership Renewal Forms

During the February 2, 2005 Board meeting, Sue MacPherson asked the Board to consider whether the club should require all lifetime members to submit membership renewal applications

every year. After much discussion on this topic, Dean Connolly made a motion to table the discussion of the non-compliance until next Board meeting. Will Short seconded the motion. All Board members approved the motion. All members present agreed that this item should remain tabled.

6:00 pm Beginner Class Follow-Up

Following Cindy Pakenas's announcement that a 6:00 pm Beginner class would be held during the 2nd and 3rd session, several members requested that the board reconsider hosting a class in that timeslot. During the March Membership meeting, Dave asked that all comments regarding the classes be sent to him for review by the Board at the April meeting.

E-mail messages were received from five club members asking the Board to reconsider hosting a 6:00 p.m. Beginner's class. Additionally one club member stated that according to her observations, with the exception of the 7:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m. timeframe, there was always one available practice ring between 6:00 pm. and 9:00 p.m., for two separate training nights. However, Cindy stated that this observation was inaccurate because she needed to ask a person using the utility ring to defer the ring usage to Cindy.

Cindy Pakenas read a petition brought to the Board meeting by Brenda Rivera. The entire petition was several pages long, however the main statement was "We the undersigned members of Fox Valley Dog Training Club respectfully request that the board and officers of Fox Valley DTC uphold the club's bylaws and AKC's club guidelines by maintaining no fewer than 2 "free-training" novice rings, in addition to the open ring and two utility rings, between the hours of 5:30 and 7 p.m. on training nights".

In addition to Brenda, Colleen Kent, Loretta Lazarra, Marian Lazarra, Cris Mazza, Jan Schomer, and Suzan Scott were guests at the Board meeting. Cindy stated that she supports the petition because she feels very strongly that the needs of the members must also be recognized. She stated that the club needs to discuss their goals and where the future will lead us. Peggy Sue requested clarification from Cindy about the fact that Cindy originally had requested the ring space for the additional 6:00 p.m. class, and now she supports the requests as presented in the petition. Cindy stated that she supports the request that the club will not host additional classes during the 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. timeframe. Cindy also stated that she could see potential problems occurring if we progress to more than just one extra Beginner's class. The petition is asking for a moratorium on adding any more classes. Cindy reported that the 4-H classes are considering going to an earlier time next year, perhaps starting classes at 5:15 p.m.

Brenda confirmed that the current 6:00 p.m. Beginner's class was ok, but that no additional classes should be added during

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that timeframe. Brenda responded that there were no additional items to be addressed from the petition, when asked by Taffy. Jan Schomer stated that as a titling club member, she is being pushed aside by the needs of the Puppy and Beginner's class students. She also stated that since she does not belittle the club members who do not seek titles, she should receive the same courtesy from those club members. She does not see any reason why both the competitive trainers and the recreational trainers cannot happily co-exist in the same training building.

Carolyn reminded those present that the 6:00 p.m. class was introduced with a trial period set of two sessions. Peggy stated that the Board members were considering other options to raise revenue to try to achieve the goal of attaining our own training building. Brenda suggested that perhaps decisions such as adding classes, therefore reducing practice ring space, should have been addressed to the membership prior to their introduction. Taffy stated that she always encourages the students in her Puppy classes to come and observe the activities at the correction clinics, to learn some of the goals that any dog owner can achieve.

Brenda also addressed the recent situation of an instructor that was overheard making disparaging comments about those people and dogs who compete in the conformation and the obedience rings. Brenda stated that unfortunately, that was not the only time that similar comments were made by the instructor. It was suggested that the person hearing that type of comment should address the issue immediately. However, Brenda stated that she did not feel that it was her responsibility to police other club members.

Dave stated that this divisiveness will cause, or already has caused, good people to get frustrated and either stop volunteering or to leave the club entirely. Although he would like to solve the problems by sending the "naughty children" to their rooms, unfortunately he cannot, because we are all adults. As adults, we should know that EVERY club member contributes to the club in some way – either by volunteering to work, actively competing with their dog in obedience, actively competing in the conformation ring, or actively working on building a better relationship with the canine community members in our houses. We should all actively work on supporting each other's decisions, regardless of what they are.

Dave then stated that he would like to halt the present discussion so that the remaining items on the agenda could be addressed without staying till late in the night. He also thanked the guests present for their written and verbal comments.

New Business

Work Credit Description

Dave submitted a proposal for the rewording of the work credit descriptions to match the way credits are actually awarded.

Dave stated that Jan Schomer has reviewed and approved these suggested changes. Helen suggested that "1/2 day" be replaced with "Work 1/2 day" and "full day" be replaced with "work full day" in each case where the text occurs. The proposed changes were approved by the Board as amended.

Pup & People Pool Party

Carolyn asked for the opinion of the Board members regarding the possibility of renting the West Chicago outdoor pool on September 10th for a pup/people picnic. The Board approved this event.

No Parking Signs

Barb Misch and Cheryl Hettinger have agreed to create signs reminding anyone using the training building not to park in the Fire Lane. When we have two lines of cars on either side of the driveway, it would be impossible for a fire truck to pull in, and get set-up should we ever have a situation that requires emergency assistance.

Instructor Comments

Dean asked to return to the conversation earlier about the negative comments made by an instructor. He indicated that we must be proactive in preventing this from recurring or continuing. He suggested that the Board might consider censuring the instructor. The Board members agreed that the DOT has the right to remove instructors that are not representing the club well.

Helen reported that she was in the ring when the instructor made the comments. Helen stated that the instructor started the conversation by encouraging people to go work at a large show because it is fun. However, the comments that followed were less than complimentary about conformation competitors and their dogs. Helen stated that she left the ring at that time, because she wished to continue working her dog, and the class had ceased to meet those needs at that time.

Taffy reminded everyone that we do have a process in place to help deal with type of situation, however the process cannot be initiated based on hearsay. Dave suggested that Cindy, as DOT, consider a formal evaluation of the advanced level instructors' performances, perhaps by observing the classes from outside the ring. Cindy stated that she would not feel comfortable doing that, but still would like to distribute to the students, a survey designed specifically for the advanced classes.

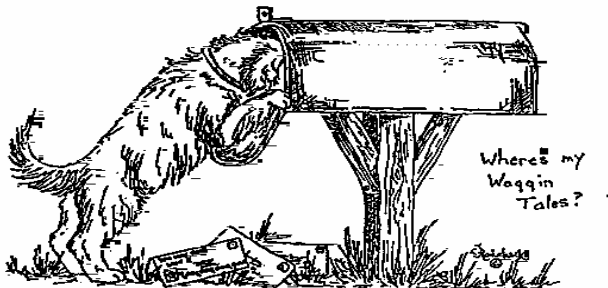
A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 p.m.



**FOX VALLEY DOG
TRAINING CLUB**

www.fvdtc.org

Sandy Davis
2159 Vanderbilt Drive
Geneva, IL 60134



April 2005

5	Tuesday	Regular Training Wellness Clinic
6	Wednesday	Board Meeting
10	Sunday	Waggin Tales Deadline
14	Thursday	Regular Training
21	Thursday	Correction Clinic
28	Thursday	Regular Training

May 2005

4	Wednesday	Membership Meeting
5	Thursday	Regular Training
8	Sunday	Waggin Tales Deadline
12	Thursday	Correction Clinic CGC Test
17	Tuesday	Regular Training
24	Tuesday	Regular Training