



Waggin' Tales

Fox Valley Dog Training Club

Volume XV

Issue 2

February 2006

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A well-trained dog is a happy dog!

Club raises some fees following market review

Dave Lewis, President

As you will read in the minutes of the February meeting, the board has decided to raise fees for puppy and beginner classes, and for drop-in training in the advanced classes. The board discussed how a change in prices will affect class size, retention from puppy to beginner classes, and how FVDTC compares to other training facilities in the area.

We discovered that our current fees are, by far, the lowest in the area. Concern was ex-

pressed that potential students would assume "you get what you pay for," and go elsewhere to get "better training."

We want to encourage people to start training early, so we kept puppy class prices lower than beginner classes. We also want to make it easy for a student to begin with puppy class and then attend beginner class. Our experience and expectation is that when students need to choose between puppy and beginner class, they tend to choose the beginner class, and then we lose that

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2006 Training Classes on Track

Sandi Stephenson, Director of Training

Thanks to our instructors and table workers, things seem to be going well and on the right track at training. We are busy, which is a good thing. Training carries a lot of responsibilities and I would like to offer a few suggestions and reminders:

- I think that the current situation of one class ending at the same time another class attempts to begin is unwieldy and perhaps even unsafe. I'd like to ask instructors to please end your classes a few minutes before the hour to allow for an easier transition of the next class into your ring. I'd also like to ask members how you feel about changing class time from one hour to 50 or 55 minutes?
- Please remember that the Utility rings have a 10 minute time limit.
- Please remember that our agreement with the Kane County Fairgrounds

states that we are not allowed into the building before 5:15 p.m.

Changes approved to Guest Training

After many years of offering drop-in classes at the same price, it has been decided to raise them to be more comparable with other clubs. We will also give non-members a sticker or some type of identifying mark to show instructors that they have indeed paid for the class. This is just one of the reasons it is so important to have people at the front table at all times on Thursdays. Thank you to Priscella, Helen and Francene for helping. Please, if you haven't volunteered for this job yet, do give it some thought. Even if you can help out for just an hour, it will be a huge help for our club. And for a new person, having a friendly member to help them with the whereis- whatis- and whois of a training night is a great gift, and it shows Fox Valley at its best.

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Director of Training, continued from page 1

Thanks to Terri Byerly for making signs that have also helped us become a more inviting and "user-friendly" club. We've handed out membership applications at a higher rate than ever lately. Great idea Terri, to simply have them out in the open where everyone can see them!

I don't know what we would have done without Terri B and Sandy Davis this past session. Does everyone know they co-taught BOTH Beginner Classes! This goes above and beyond duty, a simple thank you is hardly enough.....

Learn to and through teaching

We need more volunteers, especially assistants, for the next classes starting in March. Won't you consider helping to instruct? I know I have learned the most from teaching others..... Are you an instructor, or have you ever thought about becoming one? This

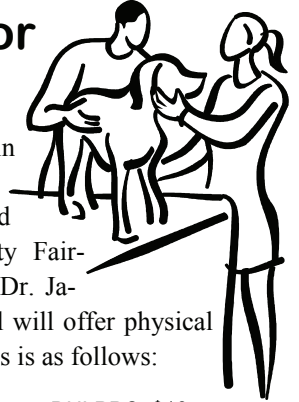
Are you an instructor, or have you ever thought about becoming one? This invitation is for YOU!

invitation is for YOU! On Tuesday, February 28, 7:30 p.m. at the Kane Co Extension building, there will be an Instructors' meeting. Hope to see everyone there. Please RSVP to me at 630-231-8828 or mydogs1st@hotmail.com.

Lastly, I sincerely want to thank all the members who have kindly shown support in electing me your Director of Training. My only promise is to do what I think is best for this fine club. I certainly need and will continue to need your help and ideas. Thanks so much to those who have already been invaluable to that end, especially Loretta Lazzarra, ADOT (hopefully that will soon be official) and Penny Birich, for her invaluable thoughts and helping me to see all sides of the coin.

Mostly, my good husband Tom, thank you, for your hard work and support at this time. There is no way I could do this job without you.

Wellness Clinic set for March 2nd



Fox Valley Dog Training Club will again sponsor a Wellness Clinic open to all members (and the general public). The clinic will be held on Thursday, March 2nd at the Kane County Fairgrounds from 6:30 to approximately 9:30 p.m. Dr. Jason Rudigier from Amber Leaf Animal Hospital will offer physical exams and vaccinations. The cost for vaccinations is as follows:

- Physical Exam \$17
- Heartworm test \$16
- Fecal \$9
- Bordetella \$11
- Rabies one-year \$16*
- Three-year \$30*
- *tag extra
- DHLPPC \$18
- No CORONA \$16
- Lyme \$18

In addition, Heartgard, Interceptor, Sentinel and Frontline will be available for purchase at discounted prices, however you **must** bring proof that your dog has had a recent heartworm test. We reserve the right to refuse to vaccinate ill dogs. For additional information or to schedule an appointment at the Wellness Clinic, contact Sue at (630) 584-1002.

Message from the President, Continued from page 1

critical early-training.

In addition, the board has raised the guest training fee that non-members, or non-training members pay when dropping into advanced classes. The current \$5.00 fee has been in effect for many years, and is the lowest in the area. We hope the increased guest fee will encourage people to become training members.

As always, we will watch attendance and membership to determine whether the change in fees is having an adverse affect, and we will re-evaluate the situation toward the end of the year. Puppy and beginner class changes go into effect at the beginning of the third session, on June 1, and guest training fee changes go into effect on March 1. As always, please contact me with questions, comments or suggestions.

| | Current Fee | New Fee | Current Member Fee | New Member Fee |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Puppy Class | \$65.00 | \$75.00 | \$15.00 | \$20.00 |
| Beginner Class | \$80.00 | \$90.00 | \$15.00 | \$20.00 |
| Drop-In | \$5.00 | \$8.00 | \$5.00 | \$8.00 |
| Social | \$2.00 | \$2.00 | \$2.00 | \$2.00 |

Guest speakers set for membership meetings

Membership meetings are always lively affairs worth attending, and now a new line up of guest speakers provides added incentive to set the following meeting dates aside on your calendar.

Wednesday March 1st

Sgt. Tom Shaw
St. Charles Police Dept.
And his *K9 Partner* Lars

Wednesday May 3rd

Canine Companions
For Independence

Wednesday September 6th

Kathy Drelicharz
Canine Massage Therapist

Membership meetings are held at 7:30 pm at the Kane County Extension Office. The building is directly to the south of the fairgrounds and the entrance is off of Randall Road.

From the Judges Match Chair:

Sandi Stephenson, Director of Training

Thank you to everyone who has been and is committed to judging our matches. We're all set for the next one on February 16, but I'm a little concerned for March 16, when many of us will be at the Louisville shows. We need judges for Open B, Utility A, and Utility B. If you can help, please sign up at training or email me at: my-dogs1st@hotmail.com. Thanks again.

Address Changes/Corrections

Judy Anderson
Correct email is:
foxvue1@sbcglobal.net

Anne Stuessy
Email is: dgsrgr8@sbcglobal.net

Welcome New Members:

Marilyn Clever
350 Lawndale Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506
630-896-6813

Rescue
dogs
Completed
Beginners class



Karen Ferraro
121 S. Harrison
Geneva, IL 60134
630-402-0006
denianshelties1@aol.com

Shetland
Sheepdog
Guest
Trained 5x



Shelly & Alyssa
Kellums
829 Chasewood Dr.
South Elgin, IL 60177
847-608-8549
srkellums@msn.com



Belgian
Tervuren &
Schipperke
Guest Trained
5x

Membership reinstatements:

Jackie & Jerry Parisek
41W384 Lenz Road
Elgin, IL 60123
847-464-5431
twogssheltie@yahoo.com

Shetland Sheepdog,
Whippet
Non-Training members

Pete Rademacher
30W185 Hahndorf Rd.
West Chicago, IL 60185
630-231-0799
dogpond@sbcglobal.net

Rottweiler
Training member

Eye Clinic scheduled for May 11th

FVDTC is working with Dr. Gerding to plan a CERF (Canine Eye Registration Foundation) Eye Clinic to check the health of our dogs' eyes. While some details are still to be determined, May 11th is the date to circle on your calendar. Additional details should be available soon. The Canine Eye Registration Foundation is a centralized, national registry of dogs that are certified free of heritable eye disease by members of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists.

From the Editor's End of the Couch

Anne Stuessy, Editor

With this issue, I fully assume the role of Waggin' Tales editor. I have to tell you, from where I sit, (usually on the couch, under one dog with another at my hip) it's an intimidating spot. Oh it's not the editing, I've been an editor in one capacity or another throughout my 25-year communications career.

What *is* daunting, is taking the reins from a passionate editor who delivered an informative must-read newsletter for two years. Sandy Davis has given so much time and energy to the Club, for which we should all be grateful, and she has been incredibly supportive during the handover, for which I am deeply grateful. Also to Dave Lewis, who stepped in to shoulder the editorship duties during the interim and on whom I continue to lean.

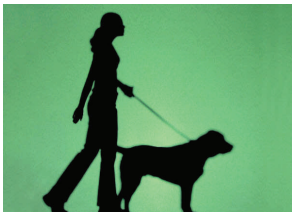
What is even more daunting than trying to follow Sandy's footsteps, is knowing that so many of you know so much more about dog training than I ever will.

I traveled too much in my work to have a dog until a few years ago, when 7-week-old Australian Shepherd, *Bay Creek Scout the Jour-*

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12th Annual Bark in the Park

Saturday, May 6th
9:00 a.m. - NOON

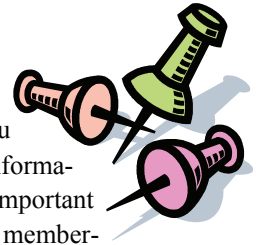


Thousands of Chicago-area dog lovers & their pups will be high-tailing it to the 12th Annual Bark in the Park. Held at Montrose Harbor, the event kicks off a fun-filled morning with a 5K walk. The \$25 advance registration fee includes an event shirt & goodie bag. Registration the day of the event is \$30. For more information, call (312) 329-8726 or drop an e-mail to: info@barkinthepark.org.

Dogs must be leashed and vaccinations must be current. No aggressive dogs or dogs in heat.

Club broadens communication

FVDTC has added an information bulletin board to its communication tools. It will be updated each week so be sure to check it out when you come for training. The bulletin board will feature information on upcoming events, help wanted and other important club topics. It joins the club website, newsletter and membership meetings as ways the board, committee chairs and general membership can communicate news relevant to FVDTC.



Control of Canine Influenza in Dogs

American Veterinary Medical Association: Questions, Answers and Interim Guidelines

The following information has been developed via consultation among the American Veterinary Medical Association, the University of Florida, Cornell University, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is advisory in nature. It is intended to answer common questions and to provide guidance on managing affected dogs and for persons working with or handling affected dogs. This document reflects what is known as of October 17, 2005, and was updated December 1, 2005.

Q: What is canine influenza?

A: Canine influenza is a highly contagious respiratory infection of dogs that is caused by a virus. The canine influenza virus is closely related to the virus that causes equine influenza and it is thought that the equine influenza virus mutated to produce the canine influenza virus.

Two clinical syndromes have been seen in dogs infected with the canine influenza virus—a mild form of the disease and a more severe form that is accompanied by pneumonia.

About the mild form—Dogs suffering with the mild form of canine influenza develop a soft, moist cough that persists for 10 to 30 days. Some dogs have a dry cough similar to the "kennel cough" caused by *Bordetella bronchiseptica*/parainfluenza virus complex. For this reason, canine influenza virus infections are frequently mistaken for "kennel cough." Dogs with the mild form of influenza may also have a thick nasal discharge, which is usually caused by a secondary bacterial infection.

About the severe form—Dogs with the severe form of canine influenza develop high fevers (104°F to 106°F) and have clinical signs of pneumonia, such as increased respiratory rates and effort. Pneumonia may be due to a secondary bacterial infection.

Because this is a newly emerging disease, almost all dogs, regardless of breed or age, are susceptible to infection and have no immunity. Virtually all dogs that are exposed to the virus become infected and nearly 80% show clinical signs of disease. Fortunately, most affected dogs have the mild form.

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February 4, 2006 Board Meeting Highlights

Meeting brought to order at 7:50 p.m.

Carolyn Pearson (Secretary). The December meeting minutes approved as published.

Ed Herdes (First Vice-President) reported that this Spring he plans to inventory the equipment stored in the outside shed.

Terri Byerly (Second Vice-President) said she was pleased to report our new bulletin board has been very helpful in providing easy access to membership applications. She reminded board members and committee chairs to let her know of any news that they would like posted for all to see on training nights. (No personal messages would be a good rule of thumb. Club info only).

She has arranged for a representative from Canine Companions for Independence to be a guest speaker at the May 03, 2006 Membership Meeting. She is waiting a response from the Illinois Wisconsin Search and Rescue Dogs as to their availability for a later date. She asked that any member contact her with any ideas for interesting guest speakers for membership meetings. She can be reached at vp2@fvdtc.org or (630) 553-2363.

Terri also reported that she is passing the baton to Colleen regarding the inclusion of TDI tests on CGC test nights, as Colleen is ready and willing. She extended kudos to Colleen for a superb job of organizing and working the last CGC test. Terri stated that Colleen made her job as the evaluator easy and fun. Great work Colleen!

In response to Terri's request for ideas about future guest speakers, Helen suggested that we ask pet massage therapists to provide a demonstration. Carolyn stated that the Kane County Extension Center must be contacted to confirm that we would be allowed to have a dog in the building for the demonstration.

(Secretary's Note: Terri reported on February 2, that Sergeant Tom Shaw, from the St. Charles Police Department's K-9 Unit, will be the guest speaker during the March 1st Membership Meeting.)

Dale Swanson (Treasurer). In response to Dale's question regarding whether the club had an existing policy to handle checks received for classes that were returned as 'NSF' by the bank, a policy was created stating that the Treasurer will contact the writer of the check. In response to Sandi's question about receiving a concise Treasurer's report, Dale stated that he would provide them at future meetings. Dale also asked what information should be provided on this report.

Sandi Stephenson (Director of Training) thanked those who have been volunteering to greet visitors at the information table. This is a very important job. The following ideas were suggested as to how to identify paid guest trainers:

- Give the guest trainers some type of sticker to wear.
- Stamp their hand. Dale will check for the paw stamp in the Treasurer's supplies.

Terri volunteered to create a tablecloth to help individuals locate the information table and where to pay. Sandi stated that she will also remind

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Canine Influenza, continued from page 4

Q: Do dogs die from canine influenza?

A: Fatal cases of pneumonia resulting from infection with canine influenza virus have been reported in dogs, but the fatality rate (5% to 8%) has been low so far.

Q: How widespread is the disease?

A: The first recognized outbreak of canine influenza in the world is believed to have occurred in racing greyhounds in January 2004 at a track in Florida. From June to August of 2004, outbreaks of respiratory disease were reported at 14 tracks in 6 states (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Texas, and West Virginia). Between January and May of 2005, outbreaks occurred at 20 tracks in 11 states (Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin). Infection has also been confirmed in pet dogs in California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington State, and Washington, DC. These cases occurred in animal shelters, humane societies, rescue groups, pet stores, boarding kennels, and veterinary clinics.

Q: How is a dog with canine influenza treated?

A: As with any disease caused by a virus, treatment is largely supportive. Good animal care practices and nutrition assist dogs in mounting an effective immune response. In the milder form of the disease, a thick green nasal discharge, which most likely represents a second

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Thank you to the contributors to this month's Waggin' Tales: Terri Byerly, Sandy Davis, Dave Lewis, Carolyn Pearson, Sue MacPherson and Sandi Stephenson

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Canine Influenza, continued from page 5

dary bacterial infection, usually resolves quickly after treatment with a broad-spectrum bactericidal antimicrobial. In the more severe form of the disease, pneumonia is thought to often be caused by bacterial superinfection, and responds best to hydration (sometimes via intravenous administration of fluids) and a broad-spectrum bactericidal antimicrobial.

Q: Is canine influenza virus transmissible from dogs to humans?

A: To date, there is no evidence of transmission of canine influenza virus from dogs to people.

Q: Do I need to be concerned about putting my dog in day care or boarding it at a kennel?

A: Dog owners should be aware that any situation that brings dogs together increases the risk of spread of communicable illnesses. Good infection control practices can reduce that risk, so dog owners involved in shows, sports or other activities with their dogs or who board their dogs at kennels should ask whether respiratory disease has been a problem there, and whether the facility has a plan for isolating dogs that develop respiratory disease and for notifying owners if their dogs have been exposed to dogs with respiratory disease.

As long as good infection control practices are in place, pet owners should not be overly concerned about putting dogs in training facilities, dog parks, kennels or other areas frequented by dogs.

Q: My dog has a cough...what should I do?

A: Schedule an appointment with your veterinarian so that he or she can examine and evaluate your dog and recommend an appropriate course of treatment. If canine influenza is suspected, treatment will usually focus on maximizing the ability of your dog's immune system to combat the virus. A typical approach might include administration of fluids if your dog is becoming dehydrated and prescribing an antimicrobial if a secondary bacterial infection is suspected.

Canine influenza virus can be spread via direct contact with respiratory secretions from infected dogs, and by contact with contaminated

inanimate objects. Therefore, dog owners whose dogs are coughing or exhibiting other signs of respiratory disease should not participate in activities or bring their dogs to facilities where other dogs can be exposed to them. Clothing, equipment, surfaces and hands should be cleaned and disinfected after exposure to dogs showing signs of respiratory disease to prevent transmission of infection to susceptible dogs. Clothing can be adequately cleaned by using a detergent at normal laundry temperatures.

Q: I manage a kennel/ veterinary clinic/ animal shelter/ dog day care center. How do I keep canine influenza out of my facility, and if it does enter my facility, what should I do?

A: Viral disease is usually best prevented through vaccination. Unfortunately, at this time no vaccine is available to protect dogs against canine influenza. Vaccination against other pathogens causing respiratory disease, however, may help prevent more common respiratory pathogens from becoming secondary infections in a respiratory tract already compromised by influenza infection.

In addition, knowing that dogs are vaccinated against these pathogens may help facility managers distinguish canine influenza from other respiratory diseases.

For these reasons, a veterinarian should determine which vaccinations are needed based on related risks and benefits and should administer these at least two weeks prior to planned visits to dog activity and care facilities (e.g., kennels, veterinary clinics, dog day care centers, training facilities, dog parks). Dogs admitted to shelters should be vaccinated on admission.

Routine infection control precautions are key to preventing spread of viral disease within facilities. The canine influenza virus appears to be easily killed by disinfectants (e.g., quaternary ammonium compounds and bleach solutions at a 1 to 30 dilution) in common use in veterinary clinics, boarding facilities and animal shelters. Protocols should be established for thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting cages, bowls and other surfaces between uses. Employees should wash their hands with soap and water (or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner if soap and water are unavailable) before and after handling each dog; after coming into contact with a dog's saliva, urine, feces or blood; after cleaning cages; and upon arriving at and before leaving the facility.

Animal care facility staff should be alerted to the possibility that a dog with a respiratory infection could be presented for care or boarding. If a dog with respiratory signs is presented, staff members should inquire whether the dog has recently been boarded or adopted from a shelter, has recently participated in dog-related group activities, or whether it has been exposed to other dogs known to have canine influenza or kennel cough. The dog should be brought directly into a separate examination/triage area that is reserved for dogs with respiratory signs and should not be allowed to

... dog owners whose dogs are coughing or exhibiting other signs of respiratory disease should not participate in activities or bring their dogs to facilities where other dogs can be exposed to them.

Canine Influenza, continued from page 6

enter the waiting room or other areas where susceptible dogs may be present.

Dogs with suspected canine influenza virus infection that is discovered after entry into the facility should be evaluated and treated by a veterinarian. Isolation protocols should be rigorously applied for dogs showing signs of respiratory disease, including the wearing of disposable gloves by persons handling infected dogs or cleaning contaminated cages. Respiratory disease beyond what is considered typical for a particular facility should be investigated, and the investigation should include submission of appropriate diagnostic samples.

Q: What diagnostic tests will tell me whether a dog has canine influenza? What samples do I send? Where do I send the samples? How do I distinguish between canine influenza and kennel cough?

A: There is no rapid test for diagnosis of acute canine influenza virus infection. Diagnosis may be confirmed through serologic testing. Antibodies to canine influenza virus may be detected as early as seven days after onset of clinical signs. Convalescent-phase samples should be collected at least two weeks after collection of the acute-phase sample. If an acute-phase sample is not available, testing a convalescent-phase sample can reveal whether a dog has been infected at some point in the past.

Other diagnostic options applicable to dogs that have died from pneumonia are viral culture and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) analysis, using fresh (not formalin-preserved or frozen) lung and tracheal tissues. Virus detection in respiratory secretion specimens from acutely ill animals using these methods is possible but generally unrewarding. The Cornell Animal Health Diagnostic Center is currently accepting samples for analysis.

Q: I work in a kennel/ animal care facility. What should I do to prevent transmission of influenza virus from infected dogs to susceptible dogs?

A: Canine influenza is not known to be transmissible from dogs to people. However, caretakers can inadvertently transmit canine influenza virus from infected dogs to susceptible dogs by not following good hygiene and infection control practices. To prevent spread of canine influenza virus, caretakers should take the following precautions:

1. Wash hands with soap and water (if soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand cleaner):
 - Before and after handling each animal
 - After coming into contact with animal saliva, urine, feces or blood
 - After cleaning cages
 - Before eating meals, taking breaks, smoking or leaving the facility
 - Before and after using the restroom
2. Wear a barrier gown over your clothes and wear gloves when handling sick animals or cleaning cages. Discard gown and gloves before working with other animals
3. Consider use of goggles or face protection if splashes from contaminated surfaces may occur
4. Bring a change of clothes to wear home at the end of the day.
5. Thoroughly clean clothes worn at the animal facility.

6. Do not allow animals to "kiss" you or lick your face.

7. Do not eat in the animal care area.

8. Separate newly arriving animals from animals that have been housed one week or longer.

9. Routinely monitor animals for signs of illness. Separate sick animals from healthy animals, especially animals with signs of respiratory disease.

There is no evidence of transmission of canine influenza virus from dogs to people. However, because of concerns about diseases that are transmissible from dogs to people in general, it may be prudent for young children, the elderly, pregnant women and immunocompromised people to limit or avoid contact with animals that are ill.

Q: Is canine influenza transmissible to from dogs to horses or other animal species?

A: At this time, there is no evidence of transmission of canine influenza from dogs to horses, cats, ferrets or other animal species. However, the infection control measures outlined in the section titled "I work in a kennel/animal care facility..." are recommended to prevent spread of the virus.

For additional information and updates, please visit these websites:

American Veterinary Medical Association - www.avma.org

University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine - www.vetmed.ufl.edu/pr

Cornell University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory - <http://www.diaglab.vet.cornell.edu/issues/civ.asp>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - www.cdc.gov/healthypets

Association of Shelter Veterinarians - www.sheltervet.org

BOD Minutes, continued from page 5

the advanced level instructors to verify that everyone had paid a guest training fee or is a member. Several other ideas were discussed to help guide the guest trainers to the information table.

Sandi made a motion to increase the Puppy Class fee for non-members from \$65.00 to \$75.00, and the Beginners Class fee for non-members from \$80.00 to \$90.00, and for members from \$15.00 to \$20.00, effective June 1, 2006. Nadine Conner seconded the motion. During the discussion, Nadine stated that when she recently researched many other locations for training classes, she discovered that our Puppy Class fees were much lower and the Beginners Class fees were about average. Taffy stated that we traditionally kept our Puppy Class fees a little lower to encourage puppy owners to start training early in the puppy's life, because it is easier to prevent a problem rather than correct an existing problem. Sue agreed that people with new puppies should be encouraged to bring them into classes as soon as possible. In response to Taffy's concerns about losing puppy students, it was agreed that we would re-address the issue if we see a decrease in the size of puppy classes. The motion to increase the class fees passed with the following results: all approved, none opposed and no abstentions.

Helen made a motion that we raise the guest training fee from \$5.00 per dog to \$8.00 for one dog, \$15.00 for two dogs, \$20.00 for three dogs; and the Conformation class fee from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per handler, effective March 1, 2006. Sue MacPherson seconded the motion. During the discussion, it was agreed to keep the socialization fee would remain unchanged at \$2.00. Carolyn will create a flyer to hand-out to guest trainers to announce this change. Additionally, it was decided that we would also create a log of the names of guest trainers and the classes in which they participated. Dave volunteered to create the form. The motion passed with the following results: all approved, none opposed and no abstentions.

Sandi also stated that she will ask the instructors to be considerate about starting classes on time and ending classes slightly before the hour to allow the students for the next class to enter the ring on time.

Ronnie Bizer (Obedience Trial Chairperson) was not in attendance, but sent the following report. As of today, she has the following volunteers for the fall trial.

- Kitchen - Nadine Conner
- Trophy - Peggy Sue Seehafer, Taffy Wille, Mary Bradley, Cheryl Lewis, Helen Castellano
- Vendors/Booths - Bev Nicholson
- Publicity - Kent Hildebrand
- Raffle - Joe and Kathy Busch
- Hospitality - Carolyn Pearson
- Scoring - Taffy Wille
- Ring Steward - Cathy Fleury
- Equipment Set Up and Tear-Down – Ed Herdes

She stated that she is waiting for responses from a couple people, but is still seeking volunteers for Grounds and Catalogs.

The following individuals comprise the Judges Selection Committee for

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ney, and I began our adventure together. I'll never forget our first week. For the first five days of our life together, every 40 minutes I dragged him out into the heaviest, most unremitting rains I'd ever seen. He still hates rain.

I've made my share of mistakes. Some I seem to get away with, others have their price. When he was little, for example, I could not look at him without scooping him up or getting down on my knees to play with him. Now, I live with the constant demand for games and attention that I taught him to expect. Duh!

Luckily, Scout's breeder started us on the obedience class path. When my sister, Margi, and I moved to Batavia a couple years ago, we found FVDTC. We joined, not just for the classes, but because the Club membership seemed packed with "dog smarts."



It's that knowledge base and those creative ideas that I hope to tap into for this newsletter. I hope to do that by adding periodic features on club members. Also, I'd like to begin taking brief "questions to the editor." I promise not to try to answer them myself, but to ask them of experienced member trainers. So, if you have questions on training or competitions or anything else related to FVDTC, send them my way at www.waggintales@fvdtc.org. Please put "Question to the WT Editor" in the subject line to ensure it isn't deleted with the daily spam.

In this column each month, you'll find my thoughts on club and dog matters, and my ongoing obedience adventures with Scout and his brother Ranger Bob. Both have proven to be amazing studies anytime treats are involved. In fact, look down the next time you're in the training building. If there's an Aussie sitting prettily in front of you with his sweet brown eyes fixed on your treat bag or pocket, it's Ranger Bob. If he's already in your pocket, well then, that's my Scout. We still have a little work to do...

BOD Minutes, continued from page 8

the 2007 Obedience Trial:

- Ronnie Bizer
- Lisa Humm
- Diane Ott
- Cathy Fleury
- Dave Lewis
- Taffy Wille

Additionally, although Jan Schomer declined being on the committee, she volunteered to supply a list of possible judges. Ronnie reported that the committee would meet soon to get a well-balanced judging panel put together.

Ronnie also reported that she is still awaiting a signed contract from Sue Maybourne. The contract for the fairgrounds is signed and awaits a club check for \$300.00 to reserve the building. Ronnie also stated that she is pleased with the positive response from club members. What a GREAT group of people!

Sue MacPherson (Membership Chairperson) reported that Margi Stuessy has a new e-mail address, mstuessy@sbcglobal.net.

Ingrid Hamburger (Tracking Test Chairperson) reported that the tracking event application has been sent to AKC, however it has not yet received approval. The tests should be approved shortly. She stated that the judges have been confirmed; the two regular judges are Donna Kircher and Pam German, and Donna Wielert is the provisional judge. The forest preserve location has also been confirmed. The dates for the tracking test are September 9th and 10th. The TD entry remains the same as last year at \$55.00. The TDX entry was raised from \$85.00 to \$90.00.

Nadine Conner (Public Education Coordinator) stated that she will be organizing demonstrations for the Dog Bite Prevention month in May. Nadine reported that 4-H starts on February 9 and culminates with a graduation at the end of June. Classes are held at 6:00 p.m. on regular training nights. As of today, there are 17 students in each class in two rings. The instructors are:

| | | |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Terri Byerly | Brad Griffin | Connie Stadleman |
| Bill Clark | Shasta Newton | Tom Stephenson |
| Nadine Conner | Alison Rubendall | |

Helen Castellano (Agility Trial Chairperson) reported that she still needs volunteers for the trial set-up on Friday, March 31. Entries for the April trial open on February 2nd. Committee members are all performing the necessary tasks. Plans are moving along for the September trial as well, including a deposit paid to the fairgrounds. Helen stated that she is meeting on February 2nd with a representative from SportsPlex and they will probably discuss events to be held in 2007.

Old Business

1. Dave stated that with the exception of the February meeting, due to the work schedule of several Board members, the board meetings will be held on the following dates: February 1, April 7, June 9, August 4 and December 1.

2. Terri Byerly stated that the remaining 2006 CGC tests would also include TDI testing. Contact Colleen for more information about the CGC or the TDI tests.

New Business

1. **Club Banner:** Terri Byerly stated that after the last meeting she did a quick search and found that it is possible to order a club banner from "AKC Customized Banners" (<http://www.abrothers.com/akcbanners/select.htm#>). There are a variety of sizes and prices for the blue and white banners. Terri also located another site to provide similar banners, but the AKC banners were less expensive. It was agreed that this item could be postponed until the April Board meeting.

2. **Trial Budgets:** Dave asked if we should ask for budgets for each of the trials. The consensus from all members present was yes.

3. **Club Budget:** Dave asked if we should create a budget. The consensus from all members present was that we were fiscally responsible and that the \$50.00 spending limit allowed us to continue to maintain control of the expenses, so no club budget is necessary.

4. **Membership Requirements:** This topic addresses the possible redefinition of membership fees and their relationship to actively working. It was agreed that this topic could potentially become a lengthy discussion and will be postponed to the April Board Meeting, and perhaps even a special Board meeting.

5. **Two Training Nights:** Helen Castellano offered a couple ideas on how to meet the request for more classes and practice ring space.

⇒ Change training to two nights per week at the fairgrounds. The fairgrounds originally stated that the lease for this arrangement would be the twice the current rent plus 10%. To be cost effective, this lease would require us to host a minimum of five classes each training day.

⇒ Ask the fairgrounds to change the lease to allow us to access the building prior to the current contract time of 5:15 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 p.m.

FOX VALLEY DOG TRAINING CLUB

Invites you to:

THE DINNER THAT ALMOST WASN'T

Annual Dinner & Awards Presentation

March 18, 2006

Lincoln Inn, Batavia

6:30 p.m. Cash Bar

7:30 p.m. Dinner

Dog Show Attire is appropriate

RSVP by March 10, 2006

**Francene Andresen
5N240 Foxmoor Drive
St. Charles, IL 60175
630-365-0905**

Please circle one:

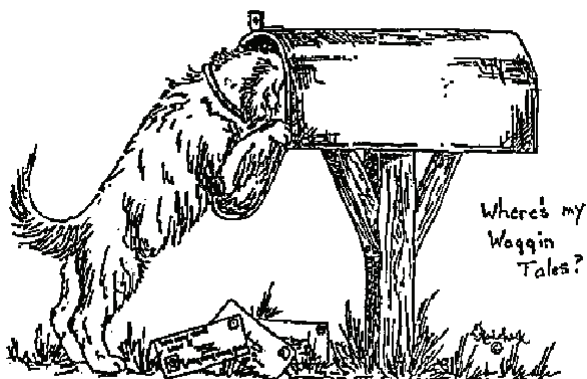
YES I will attend (\$27.00 per person)

NO I can not attend

Attending Guests: please PRINT your first and last name

Enclosed is my check made payable to FVDTC for \$ _____

A. Stuessy
 Waggin' Tales Editor
 2742 Andrews Avenue
 Batavia, IL 60510



Calendar of Events

March 2006

| | | |
|----|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Wednesday | Membership Meeting |
| 2 | Thursday | Regular Training Wellness Clinic |
| 5 | Sunday | Waggin' Tales Deadline |
| 7 | Tuesday | Regular Training (end Session 1) |
| 16 | Thursday | Correction Clinic |
| 18 | Saturday | Annual Banquet |
| 23 | Thursday | Regular Training (start Session 2) |
| 30 | Thursday | Regular Training |
| 31 | Friday | Agility Trial Set Up |

April 2006

| | | |
|-----|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1-2 | Sat/Sun | Spring Agility Trial |
| 4 | Tuesday | Regular Training Wellness Clinic |
| 7 | Friday | Board Meeting |
| 9 | Sunday | Waggin' Tales Deadline |
| 13 | Thursday | Regular Training |
| 20 | Thursday | Correction Clinic |
| 25 | Tuesday | Regular Training |