



Waggin' Tales

Fox Valley Dog Training Club

Volume XV

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August 2006

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A well-trained dog is a happy dog!

Yes Rover, you can teach an old handler new tricks

Sandi Stephenson, Director of Training

I would encourage anyone who is training a dog, and especially anyone who trains dogs for other people, to attend as many seminars as possible. They are one of the best educational tools available. You can find a list of area seminars in the AKC Gazette, and on the website, and a few others are listed in this issue of Waggin' Tales. With this issue, WT will begin publishing such events as a regular feature.

On August 26th and 27th, obedience judge Bernie Brown will offer a seminar in New Lenox, IL. Bernie was a well-known top competitor in this area in years past, and he is the author of the "NO-FORCE" book series. Check the Stone City Kennel Club website for more up-to-date info.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend Cesar Milan's (The Dog Whisperer) seminar in June. While not a true dog trainer or behaviorist, Cesar uses common sense and an ability to read dogs' body language to solve problems. His latest book has been on the top ten best seller's list for some time, and I would recommend it to anyone, especially new dog owners. I'll write more about this seminar next month.

The Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) is hosting its 13th annual educational [conference](#) and trade show September 13th through 17th in Kansas City, Missouri. They promise you'll, "Meet a wonderful array of 'Dog Wizards' who will bring you the latest in behav-



ior studies, training methods, health, nutrition, and first aid."

I was lucky enough to attend a five-day APDT conference in 2002, and based on that experience can highly recommend the conference. The wealth of dog information was absolutely awesome. At some point I'll get out my notes and share some of the things I learned from the experts. Meanwhile, I highly encourage everyone, especially if you are a trainer, to try your best to attend. It's last minute notice for this

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Training Continued from page 1

year, but think about it for next year too. You'll be amazed, I promise! Details are available at www.apdt.com, or at 866-570-9967.

If you hear of any seminars that will be held in the area, please let our editor or myself know about them so they can be published in Waggin' Tales.

Try to stay cool or warm or dry or whatever it takes as we move from through final days of summer and into fall.

Sandi Stephenson, Match Chair

We are looking forward to having rally run-throughs on match dates. Entries will be limited, and we'll have only novice and advance to start.

Also in match news, we are now combining the Novice A and B class, due to very low entries. This will be on a trial basis, so if entries do pick up we'll go back to two rings again.

In September we are also conducting the CGC/TDI tests, so volunteers are in even greater demand.

Braggs & Bravos



Congratulations to Holly (and owner Sandy Davis) who won a bronze medallion and an honorable mention from the American Kennel Club's ACE Awards in the Law Enforcement category.

The ACE awards commemorate loyal, hard-working dogs that have made significant contributions to their community.

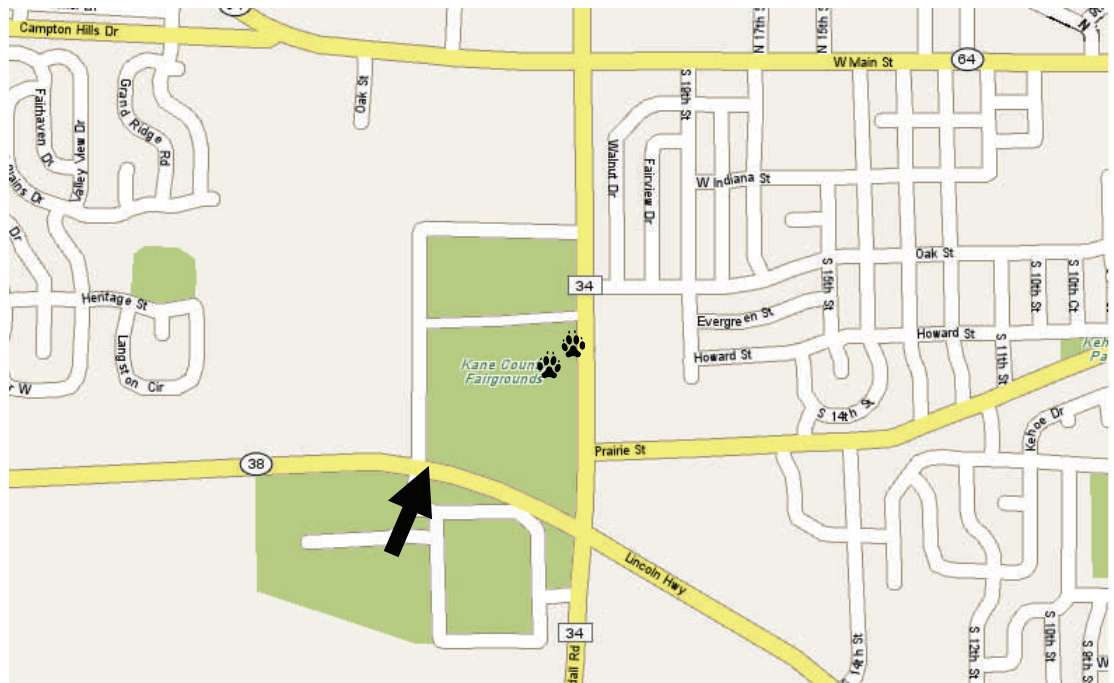
Holly is an invaluable assistant to the Geneva Fire Department and has taught many a child the art of "drop and roll."

Construction woes make Fox Valley look to its back door

It is possible that the ongoing Randall Road Construction project, will require the temporary closing of the main entrance (i.e. the one we all use) to the Kane County Fairgrounds. The Board has yet to be told, however, when or even if this will happen and how it will impact our training nights. Nonetheless, we might as well all be prepared. So...**If you show up some night for training**

and discover that the main entrance is closed for construction—do not despair! Just turn around, head a little further south on Randall Road to 38; go west on 38 for a short bit and then you'll see another entrance road into the Fairgrounds. From that entrance you should be able to access our usual parking lot in front of the training building.

The Board appreciates your patience!



“Ad” your mark to the Fall Trial Catalog

Fox Valley Dog Training Club's Annual Obedience Trial is just around the corner and, as usual, we'll be recruiting Catalog ads to help raise money for our club. While we've been collecting catalog ads from local businesses, did you also stop to think that catalog ads can be taken out by club members too? Just think of the many ways you could use that ad space...

- For a special memory with a special dog that you'd like to share;
- For honoring a special dog that has crossed over the rainbow bridge;
- To wish success to someone in the Club that will be competing in our trial?
- To honor the accomplishments of your dog(s);
- To thank someone who has really mentored you in the sport

Taffy Willie is assembling our catalog this year and asks that each ad be created in Microsoft Word or similar format so that it can be easily inserted into the catalog format.

The deadline for catalog ads is Friday, September 29, 2006. You can either email your catalog ad to Taffy at my2blondedogs@aol.com (an invoice will be generated for payment) or send your ad (on a 3 1/2 floppy or CD) and payment to: Taffy Wille, 640 Maple Court, Elburn, IL 60119.

Advertising Specs & Cost:

Full Page: 5 "W x 8 "L \$50

Half Page: 5 "W x 3.75" L \$25

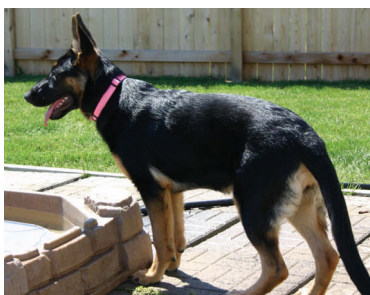
Quarter Page: 5 "W x 1.75" L \$15

Dog. A kind of additional or subsidiary Deity designed to catch the overflow and surplus of the world's worship.

- Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914) American newspaperman and short-story writer.

Welcome New Members

Pattie Imburgia
678 Graham Road
North Aurora, IL 60542
630-844-0227
kulestmom@yahoo.com
German Shepherd & Golden Retriever
Completed Beginners Class



Wendy Mueller
648 Chesterfield Lane
North Aurora, IL 60542
630-264-2416
muellerwendy@comcast.net
German Shepherd & German Wire Haired Pointer
Completed Beginners Class

Beverly Timm
622 Chester Avenue
Elgin, IL 60120
847-742-1827
bevtimm2@aol.com
Lab/ Doberman mix
Completed Beginners Class



Is your dog a Canine Good Citizen yet?

As my sister, Margi, and I are making vacation plans and looking for hotel rooms that will welcome our dogs, we're again reminded how great it is to be able to tell the reservation desks (right after they ask if our Aussies are under 25lbs), "well no, but they have earned their Canine Good Citzen-ships." Has your dog taken the test yet? If not, the next one is scheduled for September 14th.—A. Stuessy

Will 2006 be the year without Awards?

It's a sad reality that there may not be an awards dinner this year, because as of August 4, the Club was still without a committee to plan, organize and put on that event. What does that mean for the awards themselves? Well, unless someone volunteers soon to coordinate that portion of the committee's work (receiving applications, checking that requirements were met, ordering, etc.) then awards won't be given out this year.

If you want to see the awards happen this year, then talk to any board member about volunteering to make it happen.

Ancient breed finally eligible for AKC registration

The **Tibetan Mastiff** becomes eligible for American Kennel Club® registration on September 1, 2006 and will compete in the Working Group as of January 1, 2007. One of the oldest breeds in existence, the Tibetan Mastiff is considered by many to be the stock from which most modern large working breeds developed.



According to AKC, there is little recorded about the genetic heritage of the breed and much of their history is described only in legend. It's believed that these dogs remained isolated on the high plateaus and valleys of the Himalayas, developing into the magnificent animal that has been highly prized by the people of Tibet throughout history and today.

With a powerful, muscled body and solemn yet kindly appearance, this dog is both regal and imposing. He is aloof, watchful of strangers and protective of its people and property.

Plott moves to Hound Group

On January 1, the distinctive and rare **Plott**, which currently competes in the Miscellaneous class, will begin competing in the Hound Group. The **Plott** is unique among Coonhounds because it descends from Germanic stock rather than English foxhounds. The history of the Plott began when a young German immigrant, Johannes



Plott, landed in the United States with five hunting dogs. His son later made a conscientious effort to establish a big-game dog and eventually developed a pack of 'mountain' dogs,

raised and trained to hunt such animals as bear and wild boar. The breed is intelligent, alert and confident, and an excellent hunter, capable of traversing diverse terrain in all seasons.

June Board of Directors Highlights

Meeting brought to order at 7:40 p.m., June 9, 2006.

Carolyn Pearson, Secretary. The April meeting minutes were approved as published.

Ed Herdes, First Vice-President, reported that all ring gates have been repainted. Ed agreed to set out the extra ring gates to block the building doors that are open during warmer weather. Ed also requested that a small committee of board members determine what equipment in the shed should be kept or not.

Dale Swanson, Treasurer, distributed the year-to-date financial statement.

Sandi Stephenson, Director of Training, will ask the primary instructors of the Puppy and Beginner classes to provide to her the names of their assistant instructors. Sandi also stated that FVDTC instructors should not feel obligated to dog owners that seek specialized help outside of the group classes.

Sandi reported that **Nancy Pederson's** idea to stagger the starting dates for the Puppy classes would be implemented as of the third session of classes. It was suggested that the Board and Nancy meet to discuss the initiative, either at a regularly scheduled Board meeting or a special meeting.

It was suggested that local seminars be published in Waggin' Tales and on the Club's website. Sandi stated that we should seek a volunteer to keep track of local seminars and keep the club members informed.

Ingrid Hamburger, Tracking Test Chairperson, presented a budget for the 2006 Tracking Test. During the discussion, Ingrid stated that approximately 15 entries were returned for the eight TD and TDX tests. Helen Castellano made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Terri Byerly seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following results: all approved, none opposed and no abstentions.

Nadine Conner, Public Education Coordinator, reported that the Girls Scouts in Elburn raised \$120 for the Paws With A Cause organization from their May 7th first (annual) pet parade. Nadine stated that **Helen** and **Samantha Castellano** attended with her and it was extremely hot, but fun.

Helen Castellano, Agility Trial Chairperson, stated that the last volunteer she needs for the September Agility Trials is the Hospitality Chair. The hospitality job at the Agility trials is a lot of work and would be best handled by a committee. Anyone who would like to volunteer for Hospitality Chair should contact her at agility@fvdtc.org. Others who wish to volunteer to work at the trial should contact Vera Nyberg or Cathy Fleury.

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Product Sweetener Xylitol Can Be Toxic To Dogs

The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center is warning that the sweetener xylitol, found in some sugar-free candies, baked goods and other products, can potentially cause serious and even life-threatening problems for pets.

According to Dr. Eric Dunayer, veterinarian and toxicologist for the Poison Control Center, a dog that ingests a significant amount of a product sweetened with xylitol could develop a fairly sudden drop in blood sugar, resulting in depression, loss of coordination and seizures. "These signs can develop quite rapidly, at times less than 30 minutes after ingestion of the product. Therefore, it is crucial that pet owners seek veterinary treatment immediately." He also said there appears to be a strong link between xylitol and the development of liver failure in dogs.

While it was previously thought that only

large concentrations of xylitol could result in problems, this no longer appears to be true. "We seem to be learning new information with each subsequent case we manage," says Dr. Dunayer. "...we have begun to see problems developing from ingestions of products with lesser amounts of this sweetener." He also says that with smaller concentrations of xylitol, the onset of clinical signs could be delayed as much as 12 hours after ingestion. "Therefore, it is important to keep in mind that even if your pet does not develop signs right away, it does not mean that problems won't develop later on."

As with any potentially toxic substance, should accidental exposures occur, it is important to contact your local veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center for immediate assistance.

Skip these treats

According to the ASPCA, in addition to the sweetener Xylitol, keep your dogs away from:

- Alcohol
- Chocolate (baker's, semi-sweet, milk chocolate)
- Coffee (ground, beans, chocolate-covered espresso beans)
- Moldy or spoiled foods
- Onions & onion powder
- Garlic & garlic powder
- Salt
- Yeast dough
- Macadamia nuts
- Raisins and grapes
- Avocado
- Hops (used in home brewing)

Upcoming Seminars & Conferences

Vaccination, Immunization and the Immune System

Take a guided tour through the immune system, the vaccination and immunization process, recommended vaccine protocols, and many other topics.

Presenter: Ronald D. Schultz, PhD
Chair of Pathobiological Sciences
University of Wisconsin

When: Sunday, September 10th
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Dundee Senior Center
665 Barrington Ave., Carpentersville, IL
60110 (Located at Routes 25 and 72)

For more information about Dr. Schultz and his work, check out ivis.org. For information on the course or to register, contact: Beth Taylor at 847-533-6309 or bat31@earthlink.net, or Barb Scalise at 630-289-9596.

Pet Dog Training

According to the website, this seminar is for "trainers who are on a quest for the easiest, most effective, most enjoyable, and most expedient ways to produce equipment-and-gizmo-free, reliable, off-leash distance control for dogs."

Presenter: Veterinarian, animal behaviorist, dog trainer and writer Dr. Ian Dunbar

When: November 2nd through 5th

Where: Orlando, Florida, Grosvenor Resort in the Walt Disney World Resort (1850 Hotel Plaza Blvd)

Cost: Depends on the [classes](#) you choose.

Visit www.jamesandkenneth.com for more information, or call 510-845-8503.



- Kitchen volunteers are needed to make yum-mies and/or serve them (in three-hour shifts) for the Fall Trial. If you can help, please call Nadine Conner.

June BOD minutes *continued* from page 4

Old Business

Streamlining Board Meetings

Dave Lewis reminded everybody that providing reports via e-mail prior to each Board meeting, and limiting agenda items to those things that need discussion, will make meetings briefer and more efficient.

AKC Companion Animal Recovery (CAR)

Helen stated that she found the following information on the AKC CAR website.

AKC CAR was founded in 1995 to help reunite lost pets with their owners. With this goal in mind, AKC CAR provides 24-hour recovery services for pets that are identified with a microchip, tattoo, or AKC CAR collar tag. AKC CAR, located in Raleigh, NC, is an affiliate of the American Kennel Club and is the nation's largest non-profit recovery service provider.

*As a demonstration of our ongoing commitment to the companion animal community, AKC CAR is offering a rebate for every enrollment received. Additionally, we will continue to offer our **half price \$6.25 enrollment fee** for non-profits.*

A motion was made and seconded on-line to participate in this program. During the discussion at the meeting, Helen stated that she would attempt to determine whether FVDTC qualifies as a non-profit organization for the purpose of the CAR program. The motion was approved by all, without any opposed or abstentions. Helen volunteered to register the club for the program.

4H Instructor Credit

Terri Byerly's request for clarification of the work credits for the Instructors was addressed in the on-line Board forum.

Waggin' Tales Censoring Issue

Terri Byerly presented a concern to the Board about the Waggin' Tales Editor rejecting an article. After examination of the article, explanation and a very lengthy discussion, the Board reached a consensus that the Editor was correct in all her actions and had the full support of the Board for her decision.

New Business

2006 Obedience Trial Trophy Report

Peggy Sue Seehafer, Obedience Trial Trophy Chair, attended the meeting to present the following information for Board consideration and approval. Peggy Sue requested that the Board review and approve the following awards for the 2006 Obedience Trial.

2006 Fall Obedience Trial	
Award	Award Value
High in Trial (HIT)	\$75
High Combined (HC)	\$50*
Second High in Trial	\$50
3 First Place awards	\$30 each
4 Second Place awards	\$25 each
3 Third Place awards	\$20 each
4 Fourth Place awards	\$15 each
Total	\$485
*See motion below raising HC to \$75	

Taffy Wille made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Helen Castellano seconded the motion. During the discussion, Sandi suggested that we increase the HIT award value to \$100, the HC award value to \$75 and decrease the Second HIT award value to \$25. Helen stated that to achieve the HC award generally required more effort on the part of the handler. Taffy agreed with that assessment and suggested that we leave the HIT award value as \$75 and increase the HC award value to \$75 and leave the Second HIT award value as \$50. This would acknowledge the effort required to achieve the HC award.

The scenario of the same dog and handler earning both the HIT and the HC awards would only be eligible to receive the higher valued award. Taffy withdrew her motion to accept the budget as presented following the discussion. Helen made a motion that the dog and handler who earns the HIT award would not be eligible to earn the HC award at the 2006 Obedience Trial. Taffy seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all, without any opposed or abstentions.

Sandi Stephenson made a motion to offer an award value of \$100 for the HIT, an award value of \$75 for the HC award and an award value of \$25 for the Second HIT award. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Helen made a motion to offer an award value of \$75 for the HIT, an award value of \$75 for the HC award and an award value of \$50 for the Second HIT award. Nadine Conner seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all, without any opposed or abstentions.

Helen made a motion to offer a rosette for the Second HIT which would

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be comparable to the rosettes offer for the HIT and the HC awards. Sandi Stephenson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following results.

Approved—6; Opposed—1; Abstained—2

Sandi Stephenson stated that she will verify with Ronnie Bizer whether we could change the name from Second High in Trial to Reserve High in Trial.

Everyone agreed that Peggy Sue Seehafer has done a fabulous job thus far and we were confident that she would continue to do so.

General Reminders

The following items were brought to the Board, and will be provided as reminders to the instructors and general membership. Terri Byerly volunteered to write a short article for Waggin' Tales.

Name Tags

Instructor/Board name tags are of great help to our guests, students and members. PLEASE wear yours. Be a go-to person! There is a Ziploc bag at the front table with many nametags. If there is not a name tag with your name, please let Terri know and she will be happy to make you one. The "I keep losing it" excuse is silly! Just leave it in your car!

Front Table Announcements

Please do NOT change the times or anything else on the sign up sheet for front table help. Changes to the printed items should only be done by Terri Byerly or Sandi Stephenson. The pre-printed dates and times have been discussed and decided upon by the people in charge of those activities. So please resist the temptation to make any changes to the chart.

Awards and Annual Dinner for 2006

Just a reminder: if we do not have a volunteer for the Award Chair and Annual Dinner Chair by the August 4 board meeting, we will not have awards or a dinner next year.

AKC Canine Ambassador

After being approved by the board, Terri Byerly has started working in the capacity of AKC Canine Ambassador representing Fox Valley Dog Training Club and the AKC in teaching children (schools, libraries etc...) about "The world of purebred dogs, including safety and responsibility."

Equipment Sale

Helen made a motion to determine the number of mats in the storage shed that we could sell at a silent auction on training night. The motion failed for lack of a second. Ed suggested that the Board members inventory the equipment in the shed and determine what should be kept or can be sold.

Rally Run-Throughs

Sandi Stephenson suggested that we add Rally Run-Through on the same nights as the obedience correction clinics starting at the September 14th Correction Clinic. It was agreed that we could start offering the rally run-throughs to determine the interest level. **The Rally Run-throughs will require the following additional volunteers: Timer; Table Steward; Judge; Honor dog.**

St. Charles in 2007

Peggy Sue Seehafer announced that she is currently working with the City of St. Charles regarding a new program for June 2007 Pause/Paws.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

REMINDER:

It's nearly time for the
FVDIC Pup & People Pool
Party

When: Saturday, September 9th
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Where: Prairie Oaks Family
Aquatics Center at Reed-Keppler
Park in West Chicago

Don't forget to bring:

- Toys that can go in the water
- Towels for you and your dogs
- Plastic bags for poop-patrol



If you haven't signed up and paid your \$10 per dog, call Peggy Sue Seehafer or Carolyn Pearson to see if there is still a chance to join us!

August Board of Directors Highlights

The meeting was brought to order at 7:48 p.m.

Carolyn Pearson, Secretary. The June Meeting minutes could be not reviewed or approved as they had not yet been distributed. One item of correspondence was read.

Ed Herdes, First Vice-President, reported that the inventory of the equipment in the shed still needed to be done. Ed said that he would bring in a couple of extra gates to block the open overhead doors during the warmer weather.

Terri Byerly, Second Vice-President, was not in attendance but sent the following report via e-mail which was read by Dave Lewis.

It has been brought to Terri's attention that the Club members (despite the Board's best efforts) are getting mixed signals and information about the possibility that the Club will not have awards this year. According to the announcement made at the June 9th Board meeting, if we do not have a volunteer for the Award Chair and Annual Dinner Chair by the August 4 Board meeting, we will not have awards or a dinner next year. The work involved will not 'magically' get done without volunteers to do it.

Terri asked that the Club's bulletin board get hung by the door and not rested on a table. It is much more noticeable when it is hanging. She also reported that the hooks she provided to hang the board must be replaced each week.

Terri reminded Sandi Stephenson or Loretta Lazzara to send her the wording for the Rally run-through bulletin board sign.

Sandi Stephenson, Director of Training, reported on the following items.

Training Issues

Sandi stated that things are going pretty well at training, though two incidents recently occurred with minor injuries to one person and one puppy. Sandi stated that she believes both incidents could have been avoided if the owners had

just a little more "education" on dogs and dog behavior.

1. The puppy incident occurred when the owner brought the puppy for socialization, and then let him wander all around other dogs and their crates. He was severely "scolded" when he wandered into the crate of the wrong dog.

Possible Solutions:

- No longer allow socialization for untrained dogs/ untrained owners? (This owner honestly believed she and her pup did nothing wrong.)
 - The person at the table must explain all do's and don'ts to new people? (Obvious why this would seldom work).
 - Yet one more sign at the sign-up table, explaining "rules"? Discuss just what the sign would need to say.
 - Yet one more sign insisting that all dogs be kept on a very short leash?
2. The second incident happened in Carolyn's class between two Bernese Mountain Dogs and their owners. One handler offered to hold the leash of another handler's dog for a recall, while still holding her own dog's leash. The 'held' dog broke and bounded to the other dog and handler. The dogs did not connect, however the 'held' dog's tooth punctured the calf of the handler. Big thanks to Sandy Davis and her medical skills for all her help. Carolyn has instituted the necessary steps to avoid more situations.

Volunteer Issues

On a happier note, Sandi reported that with the exception of the 9 p.m. Beginner's Class, there are enough assistant instructors. Please keep looking for a warm and kind-hearted body for Ed!

The lack of a regular Information Table volunteer still plagues us, though Cheryl Hettinger has been great about stepping in. Thanks, Cheryl!

Correction Clinics

Sandi said that she and Loretta would like to start offering Rally Run-Through on the same nights as the obedience correction clinics starting as early as the September 14th Correction Clinic, as there is extra ring space. This would be contingent on getting enough stewards and judges. Sandi asked Terri to make (yet another!) sign to announce these. Additionally, there needs to be a method to have the following additional volunteers to sign-up to work:

- **Timer**
- **Table Steward**
- **Judge**
- **Honor dog**

Staggered Puppy Classes

The puppy class change in schedule has worked out very well so far. In fact, the next puppy class filled weeks ago, though the beginner classes are not filling as rapidly. Perhaps we should add another puppy class? Sandi asked whether anyone (while looking directly at Taffy) would be able to volunteer to teach a one-time puppy class as we have so many who are

August BOD minutes *continued* from page 8

waiting. Taffy said that she could not instruct until October.

Instructors

Sandi stated that she would like to get some background information from primary and assistant instructors, such as the following.

- A brief history of their dog training experience, whether they have canine behavioral background
- Attendance at seminars, such as seminars presented by Patricia McConnell or Ian Dunbar.
- A history of titles, if any, earned on their dogs.

It was suggested that this information could be obtained by completing a survey form developed by Sandi.

Sandi asked whether an instructor's meeting should be scheduled for the near future and asked for ideas on potential topics. Taffy and Carolyn recommended holding a hands-on discussion regarding reading "canine body language" with actual dogs. Carolyn said that while she learned things during the Becky Jankowski discussion during a meeting program, she found it difficult to look at a drawing of a dog face, rather than an actual photograph or the real thing. Taffy and Carolyn both recommended Ronnie Bizer as an individual who is very experienced in reading canine body language. It was suggested that at least a month's notice should be given for the next instructors' meeting to allow individuals ample to time incorporate it within their schedule.

Ronnie Bizer, Obedience Trial Chairperson, reported on the following items.

Ring Layout

Roni presented and received approval for a modified ring layout for the 2006 Obedience Trial from the Trial Committee chairs. She also received support from Jean Munger, Trial Chair for Car-Dun-AI, for a modified ring layout. This modification was designed to alleviate ring gate congestion and received Board approval. The

crating area will be identified by placing tape on the floor and will be done during Car-Dun-AI's Friday night set-up.

Trial Judges

Ronnie announced that written confirmation has been received by the Judges Panel for the 2007 Obedience Trial. Once the 2006 trial event has concluded, contracts will be sent to all judges on the panel. The premium list was currently being proofread. Taffy stated that she would need assistance getting the premium list mailed once they were printed.

AKC News

Although AKC has announced changes effective September 1st, Ronnie stated that she is unaware of any impacts to Obedience or Agility rules.

Ingrid Hamburger, Tracking Test Chairperson, was not in attendance but sent the following report via e-mail:

Volunteers

It appears that she has enough tracklayer volunteers for the September 10th Tracking Test (hallelujah!). Additionally, it appears that she has a number of cross-tracklayers, a chief tracklayer (the person who gets the tracklayers into the field on time, and acts as the go-between the tracklayers and the judges, etc.), hospitality, drivers, and mules to carry the flags for the teams during the Saturday set-up. Ingrid reported that additional help is needed to prepare or donate munchies and food for the two days.

Entries Received

The first two entries for TDs have been received. So let's hope all continues to go well! During the next two weeks Ingrid will be out of town, so Francene and Carolyn will be handling requests for premium lists and other tracking test inquiries. The closing date is August 23rd.

Helen Castellano, Agility Trial Chairperson, reported on the following items:

Fall 2006 Trials

We are currently experiencing lower than normal entries, with approximately 250 dogs entered per day as of now. She believes that inaccurate information about the physical loca-



Thank you to the contributors to this month's Waggin' Tales: Bill Clarke, Carolyn Pearson, Sue MacPherson, Sandi Stephenson, Taffy Willie. Thank you as well to Peggy Sue Seehafer whose photos I love and use again and again, and to Margi Stuessy for editing the editor.

Waggin' Tales is published monthly for members of Fox Valley Dog Training Club. Please send any comments, suggestions and articles for consideration to:
Anne Stuessy
Waggin' Tales editor
waggintales@fvdtc.org or
annestuessy@sbcglobal.net

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tion of the trial at the fairgrounds has been circulating among the agility circuit. She re-iterated that the trial will be INSIDE the fairgrounds fence and NOT where the Elgin Kennel Club hosts their trials. Taffy suggested that Helen send a reminder that closing is coming and also provide a description of the physical location. Helen also stated that exhibitors are generally uncertain about entering outdoor trials due to the weather. Helen reported that the committee is considering moving the Fall trials to an indoor location. She is checking into the rental of SportsPlex for future Fall trials. It is hoped that the scheduled fairgrounds construction will not impact the physical location of the Fall 2006 trials.

Trial Judges

Helen stated that the following are the judges for future Spring trials.

2007

Annette Narel and Deb Riche (under contract)

2008

Lavonda Herring and Jean Munger

Helen said that the following are the judges for future Fall trials.

2007

Kera Holm and Jane Mohr

2008

Sally Gichner

2007 Spring Trial

Helen also reported that she has a contract for rental of the SportsPlex for the 2007 Spring trial.

Old Business

Novice A Goodie Bags

Based on the discussion at the Obedience Trial Committee's July 14th meeting, Ronnie Bizer made a motion that we provide a gift bag to all Novice A exhibitors. The maximum amount spent would be a total of \$150.00 for approximately 50 bags. Any items not used at the 2006 trial can be kept for the 2007 trial or used in some other event. The exterior of the gift bag would be decorated with the FVDTC logo and possibly the exhibitors' name, and would tentatively contain the following items.

- an AKC rulebook
- a bottle of water



Photo by Peggy Sue Seehafer

- a "candy" bar
- a squeakless dog toy
- a dog treat

Taffy Wille seconded the motion. During the discussion, Nadine stated that she had a selection of small stuffed animals that could be used, which would eliminate the expense of buying the dog toys. The motion passed with the following results: all approved, none opposed and no abstentions.

Instructor Shirts

The existing supply of instructors' t-shirts has been depleted. During discussions of instructor recognition, it was suggested that instructors be provided a FVDTC logo embroidered polo shirt. The shirt would also be embroidered with the word "Instructor" and perhaps also the instructor's first name. Carolyn stated that when the original instructors t-shirts were purchased, the color was deliberately chosen to differentiate them from the shirts purchased by club members (i.e. not red or black). When the last order of t-shirts were done, the word "Instructor" was placed in larger letters on the back of the shirt, to allow for easy identification. Nadine coordinated that purchase through her contacts. Nadine agreed to ask her contacts if they were still involved in the t-shirt silk-screening business and if so, what would the price be for a regular t-shirt similar to that previous order.

Carolyn also stated that as an instructor, she personally would be proud to wear an embroidered polo shirt, but it would probably never be worn while teaching due to the inherent messiness of training dogs and teaching classes. She felt that the gray t-shirts are much more appropriate for instructing. It was suggested that instructors be offered a choice of which shirt type they would like at this time.

During the discussion, it was asked whether both the Primary Instructors and the Assistant Instructor would be offered the choice of shirts. Dave read the following message from Terri Byerly regarding that question. "I was an assistant before I was a

August BOD minutes *continued from page 10*

primary AND I could not have physically done this past session without Dale as my loyal and dedicated assistant. Kudos to the many GREAT assistants we DO have. However, the number of unreliable assistants is right up there with the reliable ones, and YES, we've had a lot of VERY reliable assistants, but I don't want to reward the ones who show up when they feel like it, now and again. We need to find another way to reward the assistants, and I would happily support a different idea or manner of doing so. Work credits and membership discounts that can be kept track of, or something along those lines."

Ronnie made a motion to create a committee of Sandi, Helen, Loretta and Nadine to obtain instructor shirts for Primary Instructors with a budget of \$500. Sandi seconded the motion. The Primary Instructors would be asked to select which type of shirt they would like. The motion passed with the following results: all approved, none opposed and no abstentions.

2006 Obedience Trial Trophy Follow-up

Taffy reported that, according to her conversation with AKC regarding the recommendation from the June Board meeting regarding High in Trial and High Combined awards, the High Combined Trophy MUST go to the dog/handler who earns it - even if they also got High in Trial. The High Combined winner is an award that AKC keeps track of and therefore we cannot modify who actually receives it.

New Business

Ed Herdes stated that he would contact the fairgrounds about possible dates to clean the Club's training mats. He will have a date prior to the September 6th Membership meeting.

Ed Herdes reported that he was informed by the fairgrounds that it is possible, that at some time in the future, the entrance regularly used on training nights might be closed due to the Randall Road construction project. However, a specific date was not known much less if it would occur on one of the training nights. Carolyn Pearson said she would create a flyer for the instructors to pass out to students, to post on the club's website and to send to Suzan Scott for distribution to her correction clinic e-mail group.

Fun & Games

There are several versions of "Hide & Seek" that are fun to play with your dog. One, is to just play with your dog and a blanket. Throw it over the dog and make all sorts of happy sounds as he wiggles about and you "help him" find his way out. Then turn the tables and let him dig you out. This game made my dog fearless when he encountered his first agility chute. It has also, however, made it difficult to ever fold a blanket without finding a dog in the middle of it.—A. Stuessy

Rules for puppies

Don't jump up when I'm under the coffee table.

Shake the rain out of my fur **before** I coming into the house.

Don't eat the cats' food, before they eat it or after they throw it up.



Don't pick out a new piece of carpet every time I throw up.

Same with pee, if I can't hold it. Which, I've got to remember to do, until I'm outside.

Rolling on dead birds, fish, rodents, etc. is some how tied to baths. Weigh the cost benefit.

Don't eat the "kitty box crunchies." Or at least, don't lick mom's face right away or I'll get caught.

I can burrow under the covers when I sleep, but I should not wake Mom or Dad by nosing their bare bottoms. They prefer to have their noses nibbled.

Toothbrushes aren't toys.

Neither are crayons or pens, especially not the red ones, or my people will think I am hemorrhaging.

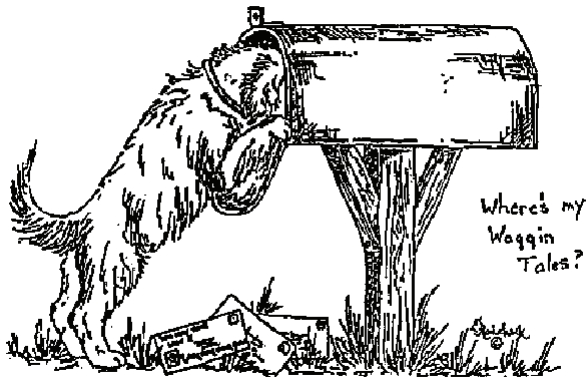
My folks ears are good enough to hear the doorbell and I should stay quiet. This is a silly rule. It could be someone who wants to break in with packages or stuff. For their own good, I'm ignoring it.

In the car, I should not insist on steering.

Mom's underwear isn't a toy I can dance with around the back yard.

The sofa is not a face towel.

A. Stuessy
 Waggin' Tales Editor
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2006 Calendar of Events

September

6	Wednesday	Membership Meeting
7	Thursday	Regular Training
9	Saturday	Tracking Test Set-up Pool Party
10	Sunday	Tracking Test Waggin' Tales Deadline
14	Thursday	CGC Test Correction Clinic
15	Friday	Fall Agility Trial Set-up
16-17	Sat-Sunday	Fall Agility Trial
19	Tuesday	Regular Training
12 28	Thursday	Regular Training

October

4	Wednesday	Membership Meeting
5	Thursday	Training
8	Sunday	Waggin' Tales Deadline
10	Tuesday	Regular Training Graduation Session 4 Puppy & Beginner
19	Thursday	Correction Clinic
26	Thursday	Regular Training Start Session 5 Puppy & Beginner