

Fox Valley Dog Training Club

Feb/Mar 2010 Vol XIX Issue 2

David Lewis, Editor

www.fvdtc.org



Waggin' Tales

AKC SEEKING RALLY INPUT

As some of you are aware, the Companion Events Department actively seeks input from the sport fancy for each of our sports every four years; 2010 is the year for Rally. The information received during this solicitation will be combined with other ideas and suggestions received over time for improvements to the sport and its regulations and presented to the Rally Advisory Committee. The committee will review the information and format the collected data into recommendations to promote and help improve the sport.

The last Rally Advisory Committee met in 2006, just one year after the sport of rally became a titling event for the American Kennel Club. The 2006 committee met to discuss and offer changes to the regulations and the sport in an effort to assist with and overcome some of the sport issues that had already developed. Additional concepts and ideas were discussed, with some being added to test the direction and needs of the sport.

Four years have elapsed since the Rally Advisory Committee met to review the sport and its regulations. We are now asking you for input on how to further develop and improve upon AKC Rally. Here are just a few questions to stir your thoughts:

1. Which, if any, of our current regulations do we need to review, change or further define?
2. What new aspects of our sport can we bring forward: new classes, changes to classes, etc?
3. Are there new exercises and stations that we can bring into the sport to further test our dogs in each of the classes?
4. What can we do to bring more junior competitors into the sport of Rally?

Your input need not be limited to just these questions – any and all suggestions regarding Rally will be welcomed.

In an effort to make the collection of suggestions a smoother process, we are implementing a new system

this year. This process automates the collection and filing process for each of your suggestions. It also enables the review of your explanation and/or reasoning for the change suggested on a suggestion-by-suggestion basis.

To submit suggestions for the Rally Advisory Committee, please go to this page:

<http://www.tfaforms.com/134727>

Once the link is open, you will need to choose the publication you are referring to, i.e. Rally Regulations, Rally Judges' Guidelines, etc., the chapter and section you are referring to, your email address and finally your suggestion. Once you hit submit, you will receive an online message that your suggestion has been submitted. An email outlining your submission will also be generated to the email address provided.

This process does sound difficult, but we feel it will assist the Committee in receiving your recommendations word for word.

Please note that if you would like to submit multiple suggestions, you must first CLOSE your web browser and then reopen the Rally Advisory Suggestions web form link. DO NOT use the back arrow button to return to the form – it will not function properly.

We need your help and advice for the future of our sport and thank you in advance for your support and suggestions.

Recommendations will be accepted through Tuesday, April 20, 2010.

Sincerely,
Curt Curtis, AVP Companion Events
And the Field Staff ... Roger Ayres, Bill Thayne, Larry Warsoff, Diane Schultz, and Betty Winthers



IT'S A CELEBRATION
of
ACCOMPLISHMENT AND COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP

The Secret is out

So hurry and join the party

Reserve your seats early as seating is limited to 50 guests

When: April 17, 2010

Where: Old Towne Pub and Eatery

40W290 La Fox Road, Wasco, IL

Time: Social Hour 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. (Cash Bar)

Buffet Dinner 7:00 p.m.

RSVP no later than April 1, 2010 - Limited seating of 50 guests

YES, I (we) will attend. Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (\$15.00 per person) for reservations for the following people: (Please **print** names of those attending.)

(first name)	(last name)	(first name)	(last name)
(first name)	(last name)	(first name)	(last name)

**Mail to: Connie Crawford
1201 Averill Drive
Batavia, IL 60510**

**1-630-879-3570
dinner@fvdtc.org**

IT'S BONER AWARD TIME

I recall it all in my head the times of errors and blunders.

How high did that dumbbell go to hit that light?

How much money did they spend on those birds for training that flew out of the truck when they opened the door? Oh, and how lucky not to be arrested! When trying to gather the wayward winged creatures, the Ranger showed up and noted that if those birds entered the forest preserve they were protected! Can't you just picture grown men chasing those birds trying to catch them?

One can't forget and again smile remembering the time dogs were piled into the vehicle and taken home after training. Then, the inevitable phone call asking the trainer if something had been left behind. Oh, you remember that one, too? Yes, one more dog was still at the training center! That one still tickles me. See what happens when your pack is a bunch of look-alikes?

How about the handler who threw the toll money into the garbage can instead of the toll bin on the way back from a training session? Makes you wonder how many more people have done that over the years, doesn't it?

And let us not forget the numerous times a judge tells a handler to do one thing and either the handler or the dog does something entirely different. Very entertaining to see especially since all of us probably had something similar happen to us at one time or another. Somehow it makes us feel part of an elite group of people and not alone.

Has any of this reminiscing triggered your own recollection of seeing yourself or other members doing something humorous or unplanned? If so, share it with us for competition toward the Boner Award.

The Boner Award is a real award given out at the FVDTC Annual Dinner. It is done all in good fun and camaraderie.

If you have something you would like to share, please send it to:

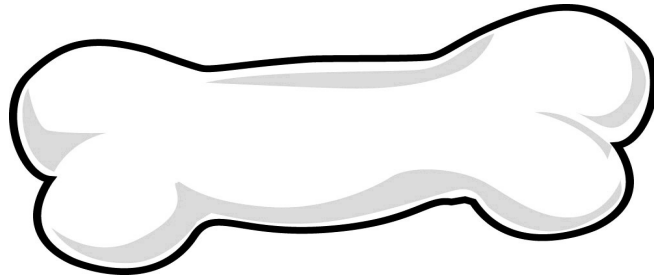
**Francene Andresen
5N240 Foxmoor Drive
St. Charles, IL 60175**

**(630) 365-0905
rescents@yahoo.com**

or

place in the box labeled "Boner Award" at the front table

FVDTC BONER NOMINEE



**Do you know something silly or embarrassing
that would make one of your friends
eligible to win a boner award?**

**If so, send your nomination via email to
dinner@fvdtc.org or snail mail to:**

Cheryl Hettinger, 46W615 Locust Street, Elburn, IL 60119

Nominee: _____

Reason: _____

E-COLLAR REMINDER:

Just a reminder to all trainers at FVDTC: Electronic collars of any type are prohibited at any event that FVDTC hosts. This includes classes, clinics and trials. Thank you for your cooperation. Any questions can be directed to the Board of Directors.

**BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

February 05, 2010

Meeting brought to order at 7:45 p.m.

Carolyn Pearson (Secretary). The August Meeting minutes were approved as published. An item of correspondence was read.

Ed Herdes (First Vice-President) stated the annual mat cleaning is confirmed for Saturday, September 25. Volunteers with and without cleaning equipment are needed. Details will be published as they become finalized.

Jill Hansrote (Second Vice-President) reported that she is trying to schedule a canine massage therapist or groomer for March 24th Membership meeting. She announced she is scheduling Mike Mifflin, certified in the Amichien Bonding Technique, for the May 5th Membership meeting. She is also discussing the possibility of having individuals come to the club on training nights to clip nails, with a portion of the fees donated back to the club.

Dana Weller (Treasurer) reported that she is waiting to receive some tax documents to present to Ingrid Weihe to allow Ingrid to prepare and file the club's taxes.

Joan Mazat (Director of Training) reported that Will Short had volunteered to be an ADOT in order to provide DOT coverage when Joan is not present at training. Joan stated that she will remind him that if the DOT or ADOT are not present at training, any issue will be addressed by a current Board member. She also stated that although it has not yet been ratified by the members, she has asked Sandi Stephenson to be the ADOT.

Cathy Fleury (Agility Trial Chairperson) stated that plans for the Spring Agility Trial is going well.

Old Business

None

New Business**Future Board Meeting Dates**

Dana asked whether it would be possible to move the Board meetings back to Wednesdays. Carolyn stated that when she checked the room availability with the Kane County Extension Center, the following dates were available.

Current Date	Possible Date	Current Date	Possible Date
April 2	April 7 - Available	August 6	August 4 - Available
June 4	June 2 - Available	December 3	December 1 - Available
July 2	July 7 - NOT Available		

During the discussion, the following Board members were unable to meet on Wednesdays: Barb Runkle, Joan Mazat, Terri Byerly, Cathy Fleury, Barb Moore and Jill Hansrote. The following members preferred Wednesdays: Sue MacPherson and Dana Weller. The following members did not have a preference: Ed Herdes, Dave Lewis and Carolyn Pearson. As result of the poll, the meetings will remain on Friday nights.

Judges Payment at Sanctioned Match

The club will again host a sanctioned match to provide local AKC judge applicants the opportunity to meet the requirement of judging at AKC Sanctioned Matches. Currently, judges earn a monetary stipend AND one work credit for their time. However, because sanctioned matches typically have a significant reduction in entrants, Joan Mazat made a motion to eliminate the monetary payment to judges at the sanctioned match, but still award the judges, when a club member, one work credit. Carolyn Pearson seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote.

Worker Payment

Cathy Fleury asked the Board to consider a new program which would pay workers at the trials based on the time worked and the job performed. Cathy stated that she will prepare a written proposal to describe the details. Her goal is to have a program in place in time for the Fall Agility Trial.

AKC Legislative Liaison

Terri stated that one of the duties described for the Public Education Coordinator (PEC) position is the following and reporting of state and local level dog related legislation. However when actual time spent on those duties is considered, the time commitment is significant. The AKC is encouraging clubs to appoint an "AKC Legislative Liaison". The club should consider forming a committee for this position. It does not currently appear that there are any type of sign up fees, material costs or anything else. The position will be supported by AKC with free brochures, information packets, newsletters and assistance in contacting other liaisons to keep current with each others state and local legislation. This is a topic that requires further investigation.

Add Titers Testing Proof to Health Forms

Terri stated that Class Registrar, Nancy Pederson, has been asked by a potential student whether the results for the titer testing would suffice for the health certificates. After much discussion, it was decided that more information must be obtained about the information that a titer test actually provides. Terri stated that she will contact Nancy for this potential student's request.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

CALENDAR UPDATE

There has been a significant change to the calendar for the fall. The St. Peter's Barn Sale will NOT be held at the fairgrounds this year, so the week in September that we originally were not scheduled to train – is back 'on'. The other impact is the week before the obedience trial is now only a correction clinic – we will not be training on Tuesday of that week like we did last year. This change does impact the ending date of Session 4's and the starting date of Session 5's Beginners class and the 7:00 p.m. Puppy class

Hard copies of the updated calendars will be available at training.

MICHAEL VICK RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR SPORTSMANSHIP & COURAGE

Who is Michael Vick?

You are probably familiar with the name Michael Vick. Not so very long ago, Vick was the highest paid player in football. In 2007 a raid was conducted at Vick's property in Virginia. The evidence found of dog fighting (and drug trafficking) was overwhelming. Vick pled "not guilty" to animal cruelty charges (those charges were dropped in a plea bargain). Vick was convicted of conspiracy and bankrolling a multi state dog fighting ring. He was sentenced to federal prison for 23 months (served 18 months) and was suspended by the NFL. Shockingly, after Vick's release, NFL Commissioner Goodell lifted Vick's suspension and he was then signed with the Philadelphia Eagles.

A Clean Slate?

Before you say that Vick has paid his debt to society, have you ever watched clips of Michael Vick addressing the issue of (what he calls) his "misfortunes?" Yes, he referred to the whole situation as his "misfortune." In watching him speak about his involvement in dog fighting and his subsequent arrest, did you see any remorse in his body language, his tone or even his words? Did it leave you with a feeling that he was just speaking memorized words in order to fulfill a legal or PR commitment? He admitted to "allowing it to happen". Remorse? I haven't seen it. Working with the Humane Society? Do you believe he is doing that voluntarily? I've seen him speak under HSUS's blanket of warm fuzzy lies and found not one word he spoke to be believable.

The descriptions of the conditions of the dogs found at Vick's kennel in Virginia, "Bad Newz Kennels" were so heinous that most were only made public in detail by those people involved in the rescue of the dogs found still (barely) alive there. In a recent interview with the Associated Press, Vick blames the cultural influences of his youth for his actions.

When I've seen him in televised clips, I haven't believed a word he's said. However it appears that he has his new teammates on NFL's Philadelphia Eagles buffaloed.

Awarded to Michael Vick

The Eagles announced Dec. 23 that Vick was the unanimous choice of his teammates for the Ed Block Courage Award, given annually to the player on each NFL team who exemplifies "commitment to the principles of sportsmanship and courage." He will be honored in March, along with winners from the 31 other teams, at a dinner in Baltimore. The award's namesake, Ed Block, was an advocate for children who were victims of abuse.

AKC Speaks Out

AKC Chairman of the Board Ron Menaker and President Dennis Sprung, have written a letter to Jeffrey Lurie, owner

opinion submitted by Terri Byerly

and director of Philadelphia Eagles asking him to withdraw Michael Vick as the team's recipient of the Ed Block Courage Award. Letters were also sent to directors of the Ed Block Foundation.

In the letter, the AKC writes: "We understand that his teammates selected Mr. Vick for this honor, but in doing so they are demonstrating a lack of understanding about the nature of both animal and child abuse, and are trivializing Mr. Vick's heinous actions. Michael Vick horrified the world, and especially those of us who devote our lives to promoting the health and welfare of dogs, with his engagement in dogfighting. In addition to the bloody fighting contests, reports indicate that many dogs were electrocuted, drowned or hung for underperformance. "A man who has been convicted of these atrocities should not be held up as a role model of sportsmanship and courage. Further, Ed Block, the award's namesake, dedicated his life to ending the vicious cycle of pain and despair suffered by children at the hands of their abusers. It is unconscionable that a man who tortured and abused helpless animals be honored by an organization dedicated to ending abuse."

Vick Today

Vick's contract with the Eagles paid \$1.6 million for this past season, with an option for a second year at \$5.2 million and \$3 million available in incentives. Tampa Bay is now courting Vick since his position as a backup quarterback for Philly remains in limbo depending on whether current quarterback McNabb returns. Either way, Commissioner Goodell's decision to reinstate Vick will keep him rolling in dough.

What You Can Do

If you'd like to voice your dismay over this travesty, below is contact information.

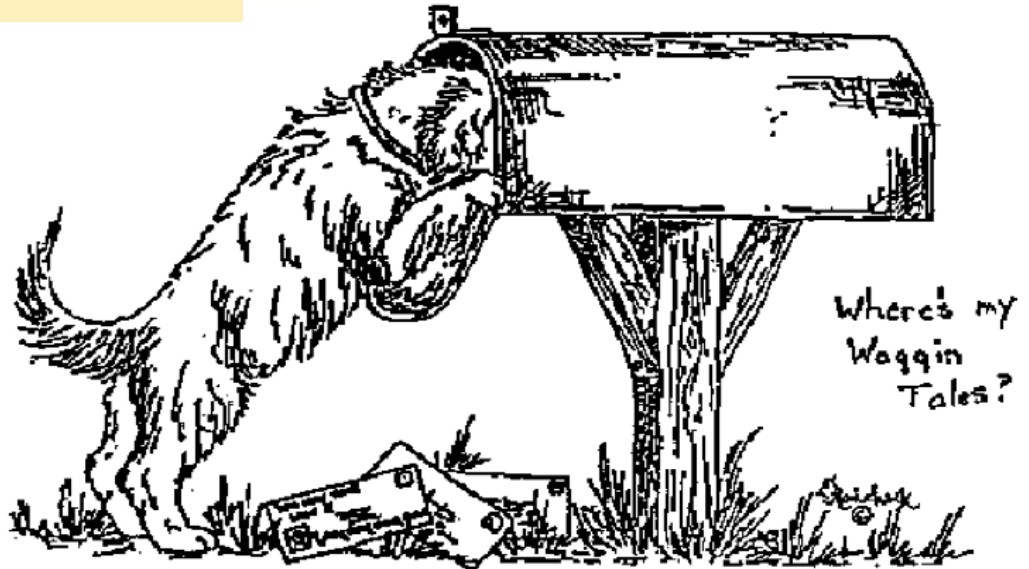
Ed Block Courage Award Foundation

<http://www.edblock.org/content/contact-us>
Sam Lamantia Jr, CEO/Chairman of the Board
Dave Copenhaver, General Manager (dave@edblock.org)
8808 Orchard Tree Lane
Towson, MD 21286
fax: (410) 821-6240

Philadelphia Eagles
NovaCare Complex
One NovaCare Way
Philadelphia, PA 19145
fax: (215) 339-5464

<http://www.philadelphiaeagles.com/fanzone/ContactUs.asp>
Jeff Laurie, Chairman/CEO
Joe Banner, President
Pamela Browner Crawley, Sr. VP/Public Affairs
Julie Hirshey, Community Relations Manager

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



March 2010

- 4 Thursday Regular Training
- 7 Sunday Waggin' Tales Deadline
- 11 Thursday Regular Training
- 18 Thursday CGC Test
- 24 Wednesday Membership Meeting ***
- 25 Thursday Regular Training

* Please note the date for the March membership meeting

April 2010

- 1 Thursday Regular Training
- 2 Friday Board Meeting
- 3 Saturday Spring Agility Set-up
- 4 Sunday Spring Agility Trial
- 4 Sunday Spring Agility Trial
- 4 Sunday Waggin' Tales Deadline
- 8 Thursday Regular Training
- 15 Thursday Correction Clinic
- 17 Saturday Annual Dinner
- 22 Thursday Regular Training
- 29 Thursday Regular Training

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