A Note from Wendy

Hello All!

It's been a busy month with many fun events at the club and beyond. First we had our annual Spring agility trials. I would like to give a big thanks to Cathy Fleury and all who helped during this weekend to make these events such a success! We also had another successful Canine Good Citizen Test. We had 10 handlers and their dogs take the test, one of which was a junior handler. I'm very happy to say that all 10 handlers and their dogs passed the test, congratulations to all! Our own Terri Vaira was the evaluator, thanks Terri. I would also like to thank Cris Ballenger for all her hard work in putting this test together! In addition, we had our monthly correction clinic with the new rally ring setup and all went very well, but we need more people to enter each month to make sure we can keep this class going each month. So, don't forget to send in your entries for this fun class. Also, a big thanks to all who came out and either judged or helped steward. There are too many to list but we couldn't do these clinics without all your help!

We held our Annual Dinner on April 9 at the Geneva Historical Society. We owe a huge thanks to Candy Ellis and her hardworking group of Pat Senne, Vera Nyberg and Sharon Shimko, plus Carolyn Pearson who proofread the program. What a fantastic job you all did to make this a wonderful and memorable event. It was a lot of hard work and you all did a great job, thanks so much for all your efforts! The room was nicely decorated with the help of the beautiful floral center pieces that Pat Senne created for each of the tables. We had some really great raffle prizes, too. Thanks to the Dinner

Committee. I have to say, I was really amazed to see so many members standing when the names of the volunteers who had helped the club this past year were called. It was a great thing to see and it reminded me of how wonderful this club really is. I also loved the slide show of the dogs that was shown while the awards were being presented. We had lots of members who earned lots of titles on their dogs last year. In fact, there were so many titles earned in so many different venues that most didn't know what all those acronyms meant! A big congratulations to all who earned titles on their dogs last year! Speaking of the awards, I want to give a huge thank you to Donna Bihner and Nancy Pederson for their outstanding job of organizing all the awards. I know it was a difficult and time-consuming task. They had many vendors to work with to ensure that everyone got such nice awards with all the correct information on them. Hats off to you both! Please, when you see any of the Dinner or Awards committee make sure you give them your thanks for a job well done.

One last thing, don't forget to think of how you might like to volunteer at the club. Not only to earn your work credits for yearly dues reduction but also to earn the fabulous awards that are presented at the Annual Dinner each year, either by earning enough credits for a volunteer award or earning titles on your dog/dogs. Please feel free to ask any Committee chair how you can help.

Thanks everyone and see you at training!

Wendy Waddick President

Lost & Found

Lost something? We may have found it. Let us know at the front table or lostandfound@fvdtc.org



More lost and found:



Membership Report

Tammie Witte Geneva, IL 60134 Bouvier de Flandres Gayle Wede Elgin, IL 60124 Australian Shepherd

Calendar

May			May		
05	Thu	Regular Training Puppy Begins (8:00pm)	05 12	Thu Thu	Regular Training Regular Training
12	Thu	Regular Training	18	Wed	Membership Meeting
18	Wed	Membership Meeting	19	Thu	Sanctioned Match
19	Thu	Sanctioned Match			Correction Clinic
		Correction Clinic	26	Thu	Regular Training
26	Thu	Regular Training			Beginner Ends (7:00, 8:00, 9:00pm)
		Beginner Ends (7:00, 8:00, 9:00pm)			Puppy Ends (7:00pm)
		Puppy Ends (7:00pm) Advanced Puppy Ends (8:00pm)			Advanced Puppy Ends (8:00pm)

Board Meeting Highlights (April 20)

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

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

Dave Lewis (Second Vice-President) offered to assist Wendy with getting the video that she took during her recent trip to the Crufts Dog Show in England off of her iPad and prepared to present as a program for one of our upcoming membership meetings.

Phil Nuger (Treasurer) distributed the financial reports as of 4/20/2016. He pointed out that our venues have requested an increase in our liability insurance limits. This translated into a small increase in our insurance premium. Phil also stated that he has sent our financial information to Ingrid Weihe to do our taxes.

Sue MacPherson (Membership Chairperson) stated that she has sent a reminder e-mail to the approximately 30 members who had not renewed their memberships. She received

responses from five of them, who stated that it was their decision not renew. Sue reported that she still needs to contact the members who applied for membership in November or December and were not voted in until the January Membership meeting, about renewing their membership for 2016.

Pat Senne (Obedience Trial Chairperson) addressed the following topics during the meeting.

- Purchasing an OTCH Ribbon in the event that an individual achieves their OTCH during one of our obedience trials. It was agreed that we should offer the ribbon and we would spend a maximum of \$120.00 for the ribbon. Wendy stated that she will work with Trial Awards Chair, Holly Cass, about the style and wording to put on the ribbon.
- Selfie backdrop and theme it was suggested that we offer a both the Fall-themed backdrop and a Christmas backdrop, in the event that individuals wanted to use their pictures on their holiday cards. Donna stated that she could set them up back-to-back.
- It was agreed that based on the success of the match offered after the trial on Saturday, we should offer it again in 2016. Pat stated that she will seek volunteers to help with coordinating the match.
- Offering food for purchase to exhibitors Following a brief discussion, it was decided
 that it would be nice to provide food for our exhibitors (especially those staying to
 participate at the match). It was agreed that we will offer food for sale, but ONLY on
 Saturday. The details will need to be determined.
- Raffle Barb Runkle stated that when she coordinated the raffle at the Agility trials, she received several hundred dollars even with a handful of baskets offered. It was agreed that we do not have to offer a lot of items to have a nice raffle.
- Vendors It was agreed that we should attempt to get vendors, since we will be
 offering food and the selfie station. Pat Senne stated that she will seek a Chair. Will
 Short said that we can generally fit ten vendors in the kitchen area, with tables, chairs
 and the selfie station.
- We will not offer the Preferred classes at the trial.

Ingrid Hamburger (Tracking Test Chairperson) reported that the test dates have finally been corrected on the AKC website. Originally, the closing date was different for the TD test and the TDX.

Donna Bihner (Director at Large) reported that she and Nancy Pederson are reviewing the awards process.

Old Business

- Expense Reimbursement Request Form Carolyn reported that she has not worked on the revisions for the Reimbursement Request form as of today. Following her revisions, she will work with the committee chairs to identify the appropriate subcategories for each committee.
- **Trick Class** Will Short reminded everyone that the price for the Trick class is \$20.00 for members and \$60.00 non-members.
- Accepting Credit Card Payments on the Website Dave Lewis distributed several options of online applications that would enable the club to accept credit card payments for various activities or expenses, such as correction clinic entries, membership dues, class fees, etc. At this time, it agreed that we would not offer the service for our trials. Additionally, it was agreed that the users would be asked to pay a "convenience fee" to help make up for the credit card processing costs. Dave explained how the different options worked and the consensus was to use the easiest method for user without having a huge outlay of our expenses.

Donna Bihner made a motion to move forward with the ability to accept credit card payments on the website, which will include a convenience fee. Barb Runkle seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all members present, with no one opposed or abstaining. Dave stated that putting the functionality in the correction clinic entries would probably be the simplest to do. Dave stated that he will also incorporate the online payment process in the new class registration functionality that he is designing/creating for the club's website.

Accounting Application - Phil reported that based on his investigation into the functionality of on-line accounting applications. He reviewed QuickBooks (~13.00/month) and Zoho (~10.00/month). According to Phil's review, there would be some work to convert the club's Quicken based files to QuickBooks however, it is not considered prohibitive. Dave suggested that Phil contact the QuickBooks technical support to determine if there is an easier way to convert our files. Donna Bihner made a motion to sign-up to use QuickBooks on-line for the club's accounting. Will Short seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all members present, with no one opposed or abstaining. Phil stated that he will implement the new software shortly.

New Business

Web Site Update Status

Dave announced that per the recent email motion approval process, he has renewed the fvdtc.org domain for 5 years. Additionally, we own the fvdtc.com domain that is up for renewal in several months. Although we do not currently use it, it does provide an alternative entry point to the fvdtc.org domain, for those website users who automatically assume ".com". He made a motion to renew the fvdtc.com domain address for 5 years, Donna Bihner seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all members present, with no one opposed or abstaining.

Dave discussed the design issues for the next website changes to enable users to register for puppy/beginner classes. Those design issues include the following items.

- how to log in by a non-member
- how to handle the registration by a non-member
- how to "move" the information in the event that a student becomes a member, so all that information doesn't have to be re-typed
- how to make the registration and payment process as simple as possible

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Fox Valley Dog Training Club, Inc. PO Box 992

PO Box 992 St. Charles, IL 60174 www.fvdtc.org

