

FVDTC

May, 2025



WAGGIN' TALES

David Lewis, Editor, waggintales@fvdtc.org

Est. 1948

Thank You Mat-Cleaners!

There is not enough thank you's that I can say about the group of 16 people that came out on May 24th to clean 87 mats. Not only did they bring their brawn, they also brought all the necessary equipment of power washers, leaf blowers, wet/dry vacuums, fans and many extension cords.

Our volunteers included the following club members:

Colette Ansley-Treonis	Hannah Jeleski
Bob Boeke	Joshua Lewis
Sally Boeke	Carolyn Pearson
Jackie Coleman	Holly Spzara
Tony DeSilva	Chris Weller
Cheryl Hettinger	



In addition to those volunteers, two volunteers were Laura Lager's kids, Erica and Jason. They worked even though their mom wasn't there! Not only did they volunteer, they bought three of their friends (Tom, Allison and Madeline). Another non-member volunteer was Bob and Sally's daughter, Katy. Their youth was GREATLY appreciated!

In addition to the 60 mats we use for training every week, we also cleaned the 27 mats that we use in the Rally ring for our November Obedience/Rally trial. Each mat was power washed (top and bottom) and dried with leaf blowers and wet/dry shop vacuums. The teamwork was amazing to watch! Cheryl brought breakfast treats for us; then she and Colette handmade custom sandwiches for each of us to enjoy! Cheryl even came prepared with an "order form" that Colette used to allow everyone to select exactly what they wanted on their sandwiches. Pretty impressive organizational planning! Thanks also to Mother Nature for providing an absolutely gorgeous day – not too hot, not too cool, not raining and not humid!

Carolyn Pearson

FVDTC Members: We Want You!

Missed the mat cleaning? You still have many opportunities to volunteer to help at a club event. The easiest is to go to the club volunteer page at <https://fvdtc.org/volunteer/>.

You can also check the calendar or events pages, and then contact the appropriate committee chair or board member.

If you want to be one of our invaluable instructors or assistants, contact Will Short, our Director of Training.

Remember, every time you volunteer, you earn work credits toward awards and membership discounts.

Next Up: The 4-H dog show is being held Wednesday, July 9 at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. We would love to have as many of our members as possible lend a hand.

Membership Report

Christina & Gene Stack

Batavia, IL

Bernadoodle

Completed Puppy class

Calendar

June 2025

05 Thu Regular Training
08 Sun Board Meeting (Zoom)
12 Thu Regular Training
19 Thu Fun Match
26 Thu Regular Training

July 2025

03 Thu Regular Training
08 Tue Regular Training
17 Thu *** No Training ***
23 Wed Membership Meeting (Zoom)
24 Thu Regular Training
31 Thu Regular Training
Puppy Ends (6:00pm)
Adv. Puppy Ends (6:00pm)
Beginner Ends (6:00, 7:00pm)

Get Ready for Tracking

FVDTC is pleased to announce the 2025 Fall Tracking Test to be held at Fitchie Park in Elgin, IL on September 7, 2025, offering both Tracking Dog (TD) and Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) titles. The drawing for TD tracks will take place promptly at 7:15am, followed by the drawing for TDX tracks at 9:15am. We invite all eligible handlers and their canine partners to participate in this exciting event and test their tracking skills.

The premium list is available on the club web site (<https://www.fvdtc.org>). Contact Kent Hildebrand (tracking@fvdtc.org) for more detail, or to volunteer to help at the test.

Board Meeting Minutes - April 13, 2025

Meeting brought to order at 7:00 p.m.

Carolyn Pearson (Secretary) The February Meeting minutes were approved as published.

Bob Boeke (First Vice-President) reported that the annual Mat Cleaning Date is set for May 24th. Carolyn stated that she will contact the organization at the Geneva High School that provides opportunities to students to earn time toward their service hours. She will communicate the details to seek volunteers to Constant Contact, Facebook, the club's website and Waggin' Tales.

Laura Lager (Second Vice-President) stated that she is attempting to schedule a presentation by the VIP service dog foundation for July 23rd. This date is pending availability of the Extension Center's meeting room.

Phil Nuger (Treasurer) distributed the financial reports. The additional income of the CGC class was included in the Beginner Class category, but will be separated out in future financial reports.

Will Short (Director of Training) stated that the CGC Class is going well. He also stated that although the Rally class online sign-up functionality has not been used recently, many individuals are doing run-throughs.

Carol Nightingale (Public Education Coordinator) reported that the online volunteer sign-up for the Tails on the Trails is available on the club's website. Carolyn Pearson will be there the entire day and Phil Nuger will be there from noon until the end. All other two-hour slots are available.

Taffy Wille (Obedience Trial Chairperson) reported that all events have been approved by AKC for the Fall Trials.

Cathy Fleury (Agility Trial Chairperson) stated that she is working on getting judges for future trials. Entries were down due to judge conflict.

Old Business

- none

New Business

- In response to an idea presented by Carolyn, Dave will investigate the possibility of advertising our training services on dog rescue sites and report back during the next board meeting. Carolyn provided this website from one of her students. <https://post.rescueme.org/25-03-07-00415> - They serve different areas around us. There is somebody advertising for training that began several months ago.
- Will Short asked that we change from using bleach for ring soiling clean up. The board's consensus was that we would use up the current supply of bleach and once depleted, we will re-address the issue.
- Will Short asked that we change the starting time of the membership meetings to 7:00pm, instead of 7:30 pm. He stated that he asked club members about starting the meeting at 7:00 pm or 7:30 pm; and the most responses were 7:00 pm. After much discussion, it was determined that due to timing issues of several Board members, the meeting start time would remain at 7:30 pm.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Membership Meeting Highlights - May 21, 2025

Meeting brought to order at 7:35 p.m.

Carolyn Pearson (Secretary) The March Meeting minutes were approved as published. Several items of correspondence were read.

In Bob Boeke's (First Vice-President) absence, Carolyn Pearson reported that Mat cleaning is this Saturday starting at 8:30 A.M..

Laura Lager (Second Vice-President) stated that she is currently working on several programs for future membership meetings. The Very Important Pooches (VIP) Service Dog Foundation will present a program. during the September 10th Membership meeting, starting at 7:00 p.m..

Will Short (Director of Training) had nothing to report. It was reported that for the class session starting on May 29th, Sally Boeke will teach the 6:00 p.m. Beginner class and Kelli Montgomery will teach the 6:00 p.m. Puppy class.

Barb Misch stated that she would appreciate two more volunteers to help with the STAR puppy class May 22nd evaluation from 7:00 p.m. until approximately 8:00 p.m. (probably not the whole hour). The volunteers are needed to ignore the dog while it is walked past them and to hold the leash while the handler walks away and immediately returns.

Barb reported the plans are being made for a 2-day Tracking workshop. The plan is to meet on two separate Mondays for approximately four hours each time. There would be several weeks between the two sessions.

Barb also reported that she is in communications with the Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club to perhaps offer classes for those interested in becoming a certified therapy dog in the Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club. There are options that are being explored regarding a testing site, class instructor for a pre-test class, time to offer a class, etc. Sally stated that they are having difficulty getting a location for the test.

Sue MacPherson (Membership Chairperson) read a list of 4 new applicants, who were published in the Waggin' Tales. Will Short made a motion to accept the list as published and read. Cheryl Hettinger seconded the motion. The list was approved by all members present, with no one opposed or abstaining. Welcome to all new members; none were present at the meeting.

While **Carol Nightingale (Public Education Coordinator)** is traipsing around Germany, Carolyn Pearson reported that the club was present all day at the recent Morton Arboretum hosted Tails on the Trails event on May 4th. The demonstrations that were performed by Carolyn and Phil were well attended and enjoyed by all.

Dave Lewis thanked **Candy Ellis (Annual Dinner Chairperson)** and her committee for hosting a wonderful dinner.

Sally Boeke (CGC Test Coordinator) stated that the next CGC Class will begin on August 7th.

Sandi Stephenson (Match Chair (Judges)) stated that the lightly attended May match was successful. As June is historically a light month, we may only need a skeleton crew of volunteers.

Sheryl Gallucci (Sunshine) stated that Sunshine has been busier than usual as club members Jeff Jones and Ronnie Bizer both had major surgeries.

Dave Lewis (Waggin' Tales Editor) reported the next deadline is Sunday, May 25th.

Nancy Pederson (Workshop Coordinator) reported that the next Rally Novice workshop will be taught by Pat Senne. The workshop starts August 7th. During that time, Mary Beth Seymour will teach the Advanced Puppy class.

Old Business

- Dave Lewis reported that he is investigating an alternative implementation of Pay Pal for accepting match payments.

New Business

- Cheryl Hettinger stated that she will need a substitute to sit at the Information Table for two weeks in August. Additionally, she will be seeking a volunteer to work with her at the Information table each week, as Jeff Jones will no longer be able to work with her. Dave asked Cheryl to provide a write up to be posted on the club's website for this volunteer opportunity.
- During a brief discussion of the awards offered and the general process, it was suggested that we request nominations for the Rookie of the Year and Sally Compton Outstanding Service Awards out in October of the year. Additionally, it was suggested that we include a photograph of the nominee on the ballot.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

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