

NEWSLETTER



NORTH SAANICH Dog Obedience Training Club

TRAINING DOGS IN SIDNEY AND NORTH SAANICH, B.C. FOR OVER 50 YEARS

October, 2009

President's Message

This fall session at NOSA seems to be going quickly and I hope the classes and training are progressing well.

The new rental contract with the Mary Winspear Centre is still being worked on, it has been a long process but we are almost done. It will be nice to have it finalized. I hope many club members will come to the General Meeting Nov 26 to hear all about it. Also remember there will be elections at that meeting. All members are welcome to volunteer to help in some way, big or small. It is fun and always a learning experience. New ideas and faces on the executive, or a committee, are a good thing!

Keep your training fun and don't forget the praise!!

Anne Morrison

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, November 26, 2009

Mary Winspear Centre

Room 2 at 7:30 P.M.

Other dates to remember:

Oct 29 Registration for NOSA Members (for Jan classes)
Nov 5 Registration Open to All
Nov 12 Grad/ Mat Cleaning
Nov 19 Mock Trial
Dec 5 Christmas Party
Jan 14, 2010, Classes begin

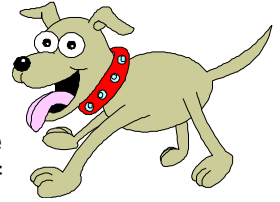
2009 Executive

President	<i>Anne Morrison</i>
Vice-President	<i>Heather Alexander</i>
Secretary	<i>Gloria MacLucas</i>
Treasurer	<i>Liz Hayes</i>
Training Chair	<i>Irene Copus</i>
CKC Trials Chair	<i>Alix Day</i>
AIOC Trials Chair	<i>Sandi Lovas</i>
AIOC Representative	<i>Bill Blair</i>
Publicity Chair	<i>Lee Pears</i>

Can You Teach an Old '---' Any New '-----'?

Submitted by Werner Liedtke

I was able to attend a two day seminar about training dogs with Patty Wiggins.



The experience was somewhat unusual since I was the only male in the group, everyone in the group was younger than I was, and my dog Oscar was the youngest of all of the dogs that were there. (The setting reminded me a little of what happened to one of our friends. At the end of a party she gave, a nine-year-old, who was the only boy at the party, thanked her for inviting him and then told her, "I would have stayed longer if you had invited more interesting friends." I shared that story with the instructor.)

The seminar offered many general as well as owner specific training suggestions (requests were submitted on the enrolment forms) for every level of obedience training. There were too many ideas for this old – sorry, I should say 'experientially enriched' – mind to remember. I would like to take this opportunity to share just a few general ideas that were new to me – along with my interpretations.

If there was one major theme for the sessions, it was '*Have fun with your dog.*' This having fun was referred to as '*having a party.*' Anyone having a '*party*' that lacked enthusiasm was greeted with comments like, "*I am not coming to your party.*" or, "*I don't want to be part of your party.*"

After new ideas and skills were illustrated and discussed, owners and their dogs were requested to take the floor, to have a '*party*' and to integrate the new ideas and skills into the *party time play*. Initially the *parties* lasted for two or three minutes.

Near the end of the seminar the time for the *party* was extended to five minutes. During this high energy *play* time owners were asked not to pause and to integrate: sit, down, stand, heel, finish, stand and touch into the *party play*. The comment was made that, '*If you are not panting and if you are not perspiring, you are not having a party.*' One would have to be in shape to survive that ordeal! (Telling myself that 'round is a shape' did not help me! Luckily, owners could continue while sitting or lying on the floor! – I did!)

I was surprised to hear that someone begins training dogs to heel 'off-leash.' For me that was a completely new experience. It was a challenge to try and a few new moves had to be tried. During this training time the focus is solely on heeling rather than on stopping and turning.

I have always been tempted to look at my dog during heeling exercises. (My laid back Otis may have had something to do with teaching me this.) I was introduced to a new way of using my eyes: looking three feet (sorry, non-metric) ahead to the ground while heeling; six feet for 'going fast'; and at the feet for 'going slow'. For turns, right or left, the head is to be turned first and then the body follows – this should result in appropriate footwork that is almost automatic. A look past the dog's left ear is to be taken after the command 'Halt.'

There was a lot of emphasis on using food as rewards for the dogs – foods that are special or very attractive. Challenging responses were elicited with liverwurst! (Hey! – A little liverwurst and a lot of an appropriate drink and I might even do some extra chores around the house!)

What is the answer to the question in the title? You can show an 'experientially enriched' man new ideas or tricks, but some old habits are not easily put aside, but I will give it a try to keep on learning!

AIOC Dates to Remember

Oct 31 Cowichan Club Trial -
Cobble Hill Community Hall

Nov 8 Nanaimo Club Trials
(2) - Nanaimo Beban Park

Nov 14 & 15 Nanaimo CKC
Obedience Trials (4) - Nanaimo
Beban Park

Nov 21 & 22 Forbidden Plateau
CKC Rally Trials (4) – Courtenay

Mar 27 NOSA/Greater Vic
Club Trials (2) - Saanich Fairgrounds
RCMP Building

Apr 17 & 18 NOSA CKC Trials (4)
– Saanich Fairgrounds RCMP
Building

Submitted by Bill Blair

Our last AIOC Trial of the year was held October 10, 2009.

Without the faithful volunteers showing up, we would not have such a successful trial. I would sincerely like to thank Alex Day and Hew for their wonderful Ring Stewarding and their extra efforts in helping me start the trials and present the Ribbons and Trophies. I would also like to Thank Duncan Morrison for coming over early to help me with the set up of tables and such. Also John Dejong tried his hand at being our runner for the day.

Two volunteers that have been with me for the past year or so aren't even club members. Shay Lockhart and Veronica Anthony both come out faithfully to support the Sport. Thanks so much to both of them.

Out of 26 entries we had 18 qualifying scores. There were no entries for Utility this trial but our entries of 21 Novice A/B more than made up for the lack of Utility competitors.

From the Novice B class came our High in Trial / High in Class winner, with a lovely score of 197.5. Gillian Anglin and Raffy the Standard Poodle

HIC Nov. A turned out to be a run-off between Bev Vaux and Polly and a newcomer to our sport Kristen Ficke. With lovely scores of 189.5.

HIC Open A was Myra Cox with a score of 188

The sun and warm weather made for a wonderful day all around. Thanks again for everyone who volunteered and who came out to Trial.

Submitted by Sandi Lovas

From the Editor:

The NOSA Newsletter is published three times per year (October, February & April). I'm always looking for contributions (happenings since the last newsletter; triumphs [or tragedies] of our members and their dogs; interesting articles; future events; etc.) for the next issues. My thanks to those who have contributed to this edition and I hope this interest will continue for future publications. Please send comments, questions and **articles** to me by e-mail at john.maclucas@telus.net and I will do my best to fit everything in. *Thankyou*

John MacLucas, Editor



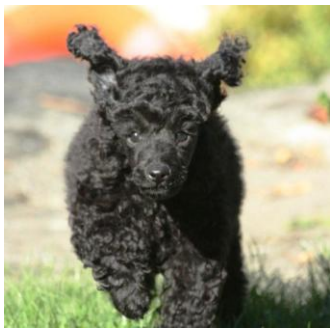
NEW ARRIVALS

My name is Little Miss Beatrix, however my friends and family call me Trixie. I am a four and a half month old Chocolate Lab. My two legged family are Steve and Elaine Hobday, and they say I have really changed things since I came into their life! They had forgotten what it was like to have a puppy in the house, so I am retraining them!!

I am now in Karen's puppy class and I drag my Mum into the hall on Thursday nights - she is so slow! and I can't wait to get in and see all my friends.

It is a great learning experience for all of us!

Elaine Hobday



Let me introduce "Mata Hari" a new sister for Drago & Stitch - both of whom feel she is a total menace to be avoided at all costs. She was born July 21st in Bend, Oregon. I went to that kennel because they produce nice, sound dogs that are capable of anything you are willing to teach them. I hope to do obedience and agility with her and lots of cuddling - when we get over the "piranha" stage - vbg!

Liz Hayes



"It's that time of year again.....CHRISTMAS!!!"

NOSA's annual Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 5, 2009. It will be at Holy Trinity Church at the corner of Mills Road and West Saanich Road.

Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at Sanscha Hall. NOSA supplies the turkey, the ham and a punch.....you bring a dish for the table (enough to serve about 10 people). Options are appetizer, salad, side dishes, main course (i.e. fish, meatballs, etc.), or dessert.

After dinner there will be an auction.....bring along ONE item to donate for the auction. It can be something good or something funny. The proceeds from the auction will be donated to the Sidney Lions Food Bank. Over the years, we have donated about \$7,000 to this worthwhile cause.



The Christmas party is always a lot of fun.....hope to see you there this year. If you have any questions, please contact me - Alix Day, 250-656-6471."



Late Bulletin:

Any NOSA member who has earned a CKC obedience title needs to let me know ASAP so I can get their name engraved on the plaque. I need to know the title, dog's registered name and call name, breed and owner's name. Thank you.

Heather Alexander



**Click to
Train**

www.nosa.ca

NOSA has been online since June 2004. With the exception of a 30-day absence earlier this year when our former Internet service provider did a bunk leaving us high and dry, the site gets a steady stream of traffic, building over the past 5 years.

Most popular pages: classes, schedule, registration info, key dates, club contacts.

Sept. 10 was the busiest day recently -- not surprisingly, that was the first day of our fall session.

Easy to track traffic patterns: during registration period and just before the start of classes, those pages get the heaviest use.

Other times, people download club newsletters and surf the site looking at club history and our life memberships page, read about our successful Celebrating Dogs event from last fall, and discover the role NOSA plays in the community, including the Sidney Days photo galleries.

Comments and suggestions welcome. E-mail nosa.website@shaw.ca

Submitted by Rod Deacon

BRAGGING!

October 10/09 my two American Cockers were entered in the AIOC Rally Novice B class---two victories

Jesse was awarded first place with a score of 100 out of 100 & a time of 1:04.88 while Erin placed second with a score of 100 out of 100 and a time of 1:33.29.



Lee Pears & THE BLACK WAGTAILS

Also, at the Vic City Rally Obedience on August 7th, Erin placed first in the Rally Advanced B with a score of 99 out of 100. She received a huge rosette ribbon, a prize and a cheque for \$25.00. That was one of the final legs for her CKC Rally Advanced title.



Rod Deacon and his Flat-coated Retriever, Lindy, are in the 8 o'clock Intermediate/Open trialing class taught by Karen Blair and Liz Hayes, beginning their training for the CKC's Open title. Lindy completed her Club CD degree at the NOSA/Greater Vic AIOC trials Thanksgiving

weekend.

Since the May newsletter, Lindy has a new field title, earning her CKC Working Certificate Intermediate in July. At the Nanaimo Kennel Club show in June, she completed her CKC Advanced degree in Rally-O.

Over the past while, she competed at the Intermediate or Advanced level in a few CKC and Agility Ass'n of Canada trials, earning her AAC title of Agility Dog of Canada earlier this month. Lindy and Rod were also presented with the Flat-coated Retriever Society of Canada's Versatility Dog Award during the Society's National Specialty in Nanaimo this past June. This award recognizes those owners and dogs that compete in three or more disciplines -- Conformation, Obedience, Field (Working Certificate or Hunt Test) , Tracking, Agility, Flyball or Scent Hurdling, and Drafting Best of all, though, is just wiggling, kissing, loving and being loved.

Rod Deacon



Stitch is now a CKC Agility Champion.

His initials in CKC are now: AGMCh Allwins Etched in Time, C.D.X., AGMXJ2

AGMCH - Agility Master Champion (Received BOTH the Agility Master Excellent AND Agility Master Excellent Jumper Titles.

AGMX - Agility Master Excellent (Earned 10 perfect scores of 100 in the Agility Excellent B Class)

AGMXJ2 - Agility Master Excellent Jumper 2 (20 perfect scores)



Liz Hayes



At the Victoria City Kennel Club Show in August under Judge Bruce Fraser "Joey" and I passed our 1st CKC leg in Novice A Obedience and awarded Highest Nosa Qualifier in Class. At the same show we passed our 1st CKC leg in Novice A Rally Obedience with a tie for highest score in class - but ended up 2nd

due to our time.

In the Hudson Memorial AIOC Trial in October we passed our 1st leg in Novice A Rally Obedience with a 3rd place finish under Judge Terry Gains. At the same trial we passed our 3rd leg in the Novice A Obedience under Judge Betty Ruff giving us our AIOC Novice ACD.

Charleen DeLong

The standard “back-to-school” essay - What we did for our Summer Vacation.

Our summer started the end of June with Zephyr earning his **V.Ch.** (Versatility Championship) from the American Working Collie Association. July found us on the road for the entire month starting with our annual herding camp at beautiful DownRiver Farm in Hope followed by a 2-day ASCA (Australian Shepherd Club of America) herding trial, which did not go as we'd hoped – there is always next year so I'm told. From there we headed to High River Alberta for the Rottweiler Club of Canada's 2 days of CKC All-breed Stockdog herding trials. The first day our sheep were so panicked from their previous run that we could not get within 1/3 of the field to even set up – all Zeph had to do was shift and they were at the other end of the field and at one point I thought I was going to be run down by 30 stampeding sheep! I should have gotten extra points for getting



out of the way just in time. Once we got into the arena, all was fine, but we NQ'ed. The next day the competitor who had the sheep prior to us, retired before the stock went into panic mode, so our run went well enough for a Q and a nice 2nd in class. The next day the Canadian National Australian Shepherd Associations held 2 CKC all-breed Stockdog trials on the same site with Zephyr qualifying in both trials with a Combined High In Trial to complete his SDI (Stockdog Intermediate) title. The following day they hosted 2 AHBA (American Herding Breed Association) Arena trials and we Q'ed both earning Zephyr's HTADI (Herding Trial Arena Dog level 1) title with a Combined Reserve High In Trial. We had a week of vacation (in record high temps) and then headed south to Fido's Farm at Olympia, WA for a 1-week herding camp. The record high temps (106°-108°F) meant we could not work stock from noon until 8:30 pm or later so that was disappointing but camp, as usual, was fabulous and we were able to work ducks as well as sheep. Gig Harbour was on our way home and it just so happened there were 2 days of AKC agility trials, which we couldn't pass by, so we stopped and completed Zephyr's AKC NA (Novice Agility) and NAJ (Novice Agility Jumper) titles in more record high temps. We got home in time for Vic City's CKC Rally trials and completed Zephyr's RE (Rally Excellent) title and then we ran 2 days of CKC agility, followed by a weekend of NADAC (North American Dog Agility Council) trials. A weekend off and we were on the road again to the Collie Club of America Western Regional Herding trials in southern Washington where we Q'ed in AKC Started A Course sheep both days for High In Trial Sunday and a Reserve High In Trial Saturday. Zephyr is now *V.Ch & BISS Can./Am. Ch. Signet's "Way To Go!" Woodruff, Can. (CDX, DD, HI, SDI, AgX, AgXJ, RE), Am.(CDX, PT, RA, NA, NAJ), RX-MCL, STDs, HRDI, RLFi, HTADI, MADC, MGDC, MJDC, AGDC, EAC, TN-E, TG-O, OCC, NJC, HP-N, CGC, CRTX, VA, AOM* and glad to be back to class for some R&R.

For those of you unfamiliar with herding, CKC Arena trials are precision work – it's about straight lines and getting the stock (usually 3-5 head) through a pre-determined course in a timely and exact manner. CKC Stockdog trials are an approximation of farm chores. What is important is the controlled and calm movement of stock (usually 15-30 head) through a course that consists of large field(s), arena(s), small pens, alleyways, sorting chutes and stock trailers. AKC A course is a set Arena course (i.e. it is the same every time), whereas CKC Arena courses differ at every trial (i.e. the course director and judge determine the course - what obstacle will be used and where and how they will be used). AHBA is always about the stock – if the stock is moving calmly, in a controlled manner, and in the direction of the course, the dog is considered to be in the correct place and doing his job. In ASCA, it's all about the dog - the amount of focus on the stock and the amount of drive the dog has - and the judging is, in my opinion, more subjective and variable than in AHBA, CKC or AKC – ASCA trials are always “interesting”. I've come out feeling like a run was our best ever, only to NQ and come out shaking my head, sure we'd NQ, only to discover we not only qualified, but placed! Every breed has a different purpose when it comes to herding. Border Collies, with all their “eye” and slinky posture are fabulous in huge open field work, but have a lot of problems in the pens, trailers and other small areas. Whereas the up-right, loose-eye breeds, like the Rough or Smooth Collies (Zephyr) for example struggle in the large field, but are amazing in the take-pens, trailers alley ways and other tight spaces. I've seen Rough & Smooth Collies (of course), Bearded Collies, Old English Sheepdogs, Shelties, Rottweilers, Boxers, Cardigan and Pembroke Welsh Corgis, German Shepherds, Puli, Bouviers, Portuguese Water Dogs, Belgian Shepherds, Briard, Giant Schnauzer, Mudi, Swedish Vallhund, Norwegian Buhund, Bernese Mountain Dogs, and Samoyeds, as well as Australian Cattle Dogs, Australia Shepherds, Kelpies, Australian Stumpy tailed Cattle dog, and Border Collies herding and each breed has different strengths and weaknesses. Some are better on cattle or ducks than sheep; some instinctively fetch – others default to driving. Each breed was raised for a different purpose and CKC and AKC trials were developed to showcase as many different herding breeds and styles as possible.

Submitted by Marilyn Clayton