

Celebrating 75 Years

PCOTC

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



Sit 'n Stay

Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Summer 2016

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Calendar of Events

Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted

Jun 5	PCOTC Picnic at FDR Park	Sep 25	Nose Work ORT — S.N.I.F.F.
Jun 12	WPW Obedience run-thrus	Oct 9	PCOTC at Hounds on the Sound, Mamaroneck
Jun 16	Annual Club Meeting	Oct 26	Howl-o-Ween Party & Club Meeting
Jun 18-19	Chris Tucci/Kris Seiter Agility Workshops	Oct 30	WCRL Rally Trials — PCRE
Jul 17	WPW Obedience run-thrus	Nov 6	AKC Obedience Trial
Jul 30	AKC Rally Trials	Nov 12-13	Bobbie Lyons Canine Conditioning Workshops
Jul 31	AKC Obedience Trials	Dec 4	WCRL Rally Trial — PCRE
Aug 7	Mary Champagne agility seminar	Dec 10-11	Mike Muir Disc Dog Workshop
Aug 21	Mary Champagne agility seminar	Dec 12	Holiday Party & Club Meeting
Aug 31	Club Meeting		
Sep 18	PCOTC at Puttin' on the Dog, Greenwich		



"At the Beach" © Michele Cardone

Port Chester Obedience Training Club

AN AKC MEMBER CLUB
220 Ferris Avenue, White Plains, NY
Est. 1940 www.PCOTC.org

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SIT 'N STAY

Is a quarterly publication of Port Chester Obedience Training Club. Articles of interest to the membership are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit all material in the interest of space constraints and appropriateness.

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Sit 'n' Stay is produced for online delivery. However, if you need to receive the newsletter in print, please contact Jane Wheeler at 845-227-5116.

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PCOTC
Cordially Invites You and Your Dog to Our

75th Anniversary Picnic

FDR Park
2957 Crompond Rd
Yorktown Heights, NY

Sunday, June 5, 2016
12 – 4 PM

**Come and enjoy a day of fun and friends.
Bring a side dish to share!**

Club Picnic June 5

PCOTC cordially invites you and your dog to our 75th Anniversary Picnic on Sunday, June 5 from 12 – 4 pm at FDR Park, 2957 Crompond Road, Yorktown Heights, NY. Come and enjoy a day of fun and friends. Bring a side dish to share!

RSVPS were due by May 28, but if you forgot to reply and you ask nicely, Megan Woods may invite you to come anyway! Also, contact Megan at hollywoods118@aim.com if you'd like to volunteer to help.

In the event of bad weather, the picnic will be switched to the club facility's lower level. A decision to change the locale will be published on our website home page (www.pcotc.org) and via Facebook by 6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Save the Dates: 2016 Club Meetings

2016 Club meetings are scheduled for

- Sunday, June 5 (Club Picnic)
- Thursday, June 16 (Annual Meeting)
- Wednesday, August 31
- Wednesday, October 26 (Howl-o-ween meeting)
- Monday, December 12 (Holiday Party & Club Meeting)

Club Doings

Annual Club Meeting & Awards Night

Please plan to attend PCOTC's Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The evening will feature the presentation of members' title plaques and tags, including a slide show featuring accomplishments of our dog/handler teams during the club year. Next will be the announcement and presentation of the AKC's Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship. Training Director Awards will be presented in the fields of Obedience and Rally, Agility, Family Manners, and K9 Nose Work. Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded to all members who reported 30 or more volun-

teer hours during the 2015/2016 club year. Capping the awards presentations will be the annual President's Award.

There will be yearly reports by the club's officers and directors, and we will vote in Board members. This year's nominating committee—Megan Woods, Nancy Nelson, and Peggy Young, with alternates David Lebedin and Bruce Sheffler—has presented the following slate:

- 1st Vice President: Jeanne Meldrim
- Treasurer: Nancy Nelson

• Corresponding Secretary: Olga Kornienko

• Director: Morgaana Menzel

• Director: Jane Wheeler

The Nominating Committee slate is unopposed, as no additional nominations were received by May 15.

Very importantly, at this—and all Club Meetings—members are provided a forum to discuss current matters, and to make suggestions for the future.

Note:
PCOTC's new phone number is
914-269-8550

Welcome New Members!

The following members joined PCOTC in our Spring quarter:

Heidi Bonorato and Golden Retrievers "Irvine" and "Roge" and Labrador Retriever "Boyvyn"

Ellen Collins and a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and a Papillon

Kelly DeSimone and German Shepherd "Max"

Dena (Deedie) Domenicali and mixed breeds "Lucy" and "Ricky"

Susan Mischel and Miniature Poodle "Kip"

Katherine O'Donnell and Golden Retriever "Shiloh"

Marianne Pisa and German Shepherd "Sadie"

Gail Rothschild and Golden Retriever "Petra"

Kim Silvera-Quezada and her mixed breeds "Jill" and "Jackie"

Yuanshuo Alice Wang and Toy Poodle "Willow"

Rosanne Wellmaker and her Akita "Roxanne" and her Bloodhound "Cyrano"



There's nothing like a summer swim! © Priscilla Rahner

Club Doings

Did You Renew?

Membership renewals and club dues for the 2016-17 club year were due by May 31, as the new club year begins on June 1, 2016.

If you missed the deadline, you can still renew now! Go to

<https://form.jotform.com/60687871928170> for PCOTC's Online Membership Renewal Form for the club year June 2016–May 2017. Note that this form is for renewing members only; potential new members should use the Membership Application available from our website's membership page, <http://www.pcotc.org/membership>

If you cannot renew online, you may print out a renewal form in PDF format, which is available from the Membership page of our web site.



Continuing our dogs, summer and water theme: Michele Cardone's Zack in the pool

Volunteer Hours

Please be sure to report your volunteer hours for the club year June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016 as soon as possible so that your volunteer status can be confirmed for the June 2016 – May 2017 club year. Please mail completed slips to Angela Kalmanash, 1 Windward Lane, Stamford, CT 06903.

Volunteer reporting slips can be found at the club facility, or via the membership page of our web site at <http://www.pcotc.org/documents/PCOTCVolunteerReport7-10.pdf>

Celebrate PCOTC With a 75th Anniversary T-Shirt!

Celebrate Port Chester Obedience Training Club by proudly wearing a PCOTC 75th anniversary logo T-shirt!

Members: Have you picked up your free PCOTC T-shirt? Get your choice of women's or unisex cut, in different sizes, at club meetings and events. And you can buy more T-shirts at \$20 each for family members, friends, and fellow trialers.

Anyone can purchase the handsome black T-shirts with red and gold logo via our registration site. Go to <http://register.asapconnected.com/Default.aspx?org=22> and click "T-Shirts" on the left-hand side of the page to bring up choices of shirt style and size.



Club Reminders

DOGS IN CLASS: Unless instructed otherwise by the class instructor, students should crate their dogs when not working, or have them on leash in close proximity.

PARKING: Students/Renters are not permitted to park in the lot behind PCOTC during weekday hours. You may park in the lot after 5:00 p.m. weekdays, and on

weekends. If parking in the lot, your car must be in a designated space; you may not park next to the ramp. Please be aware that illegally parked cars are subject to towing.

CLEANUP: Please be aware of where your dog's nose is (if they are looking at it, they are thinking about it) when entering and exiting the facility, as well as what his/her

rear end is doing!

For those dogs in season, please make sure panties are worn when inside the facility. Please clean up any bodily fluids thoroughly with the appropriate agents and if they eliminate on the outside stairs/deck, please rinse it off. Thank you for your help in keeping PCOTC clean!

Agility

Chris Tucci/Kris Seiter June Workshops

On the weekend of June 18-19, Chris Tucci and Kris Seiter will offer four half-day agility workshops at PCOTC.

The weekend starts off on Saturday, 9 am – 1 pm, with “Green Dogs & Puppies” with Kris Seiter. This workshop for puppies and young dogs over five months consists of floor work and short sequences to help build confidence, commitment and speed in younger dogs.

That day, Chris Tucci offers “Precision, Precision, Precision” from 2 – 6 pm. Details like foot placement or shoulder position can make all the difference between a Q and an NQ. This seminar will break down challenging sequences, hone in on what information the dog really reads, and help make those “little details” second nature to the handler.

On Sunday morning, Kris Seiter presents “Which Skill Works Best?” Most sequences can be run several different ways, but what works best for one team may not work best for another. In this seminar, participants will run challenging sequences in several different ways, time them, and really discover what works best (and why) for their teams.

“Contacts: Before and After,” with Chris Tucci on Sunday afternoon, wraps up the

weekend. When it comes to contacts, we all spend a lot of time on the contact behavior itself (whether 2o/2o or a running contact), but the truth is that one of the biggest keys to success isn't the contact itself, but what comes before and after. This workshop will focus on contact behavior in that context and improve entry/exit position and skills.

Each half-day workshop costs \$100 per working spot, \$50 for an auditor spot. To register, go to www.pcotc.org/calendar, find the Chris Tucci/Kris Seiter workshops by date, and click the registration link. As we go to press, all Saturday working spots are taken, but there is one working spot available on Sunday morning (“Which Skill Works Best?”) and three working spots available on Sunday afternoon (“Contacts: Before and After”). If you want a working spot in any of the workshops, but find your choice full, you may waitlist for it by emailing pcotc.seminars@gmail.com.

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS

Chris Tucci and Kris Seiter co-own Sun Coast Agility in Naples, FL, where they specialize in elite level agility.

CHRIS TUCCI was the 2014 US Open Games Gold Medalist, 2015 US Open Master Series Gold Medalist, and 2015 European USA Team. With Bratska, he

was named to the 2016 USA Team for the World Agility Open in May 2016, the 2016 IFCSA World Agility Championships in the Netherlands, and the 2016 European Open USA Team with Bratska and Jungle as first alternate to be held in July 2016 in France. He is a UKI and USDAA judge and is studying to be an AKC judge. His love of agility, dogs and teaching shows in his attention to each student. He maximizes his handling skills with clear handling cues that the dog easily understands.

KRIS SEITER

Kris was once Agility Training Director at PCOTC. She is a National and International Level competitor and has appeared in the final events of the 2005 and 2007 through 2011 World Games with her Border Collies Lochlan and War. She earned 10 individual medals from the Cynosport World Games and 19 individual agility championships from three different venues, as well as eight Lifetime Achievement Awards from USDAA. To date, Kris has earned titles and championships on 16 of her dogs. Her foundation training builds confidence and motivation through relationship. She sees each dog as an individual and therefore applies different training techniques for all dogs.



Kris Seiter (left) and Chris Tucci (right)

Agility

Agility Tip: Contact Training

by Kim Seiter, Agility Training Director

Running or Stopped Contacts?

Dog agility is really a game of speed, so having a fast contact performance is essential. When you first start training contacts how do you decide what end behavior to train? Running contacts versus stopped contacts? Ultimately, these decisions are made based on a variety of factors: the dog's size, structure, and temperament. You have to decide how often you will be able to train as some methods take more time than others, and you will need access to equipment to train on. Your instructor should be able to give you a guideline as to what would be best for you and your dog as a team. And they should be able to give you a few varieties of methods that may suit you and your dog.

Dog training is not a one-size-fits-all

activity, so if one method doesn't work, you will have to try another. Most of the time there will have to be additional training done outside of class with any method you choose. The biggest mistake that most people make is that they don't finalize their contact training before they go into competition, resulting in an undesired behavior in the contact performance. Then this behavior is associated with competition and it is much harder to change it later on. Make sure you have done your training before stepping foot into the ring.



Ellen Halperin and Drew using a 2-on 2-off stopped contact. Photo © Morgaana Photography

Mary Champagne Agility Workshops



Mary Champagne, PCOTC agility instructor, will present two full-day Sunday agility workshops at PCOTC, on August 7 and 21.

- Mary will offer "Techniques in Sequence" on August 7.

One Mind Dog inspired Techniques will be used in this seminar. Learn where and why to use the different handling techniques in

sequences. Basic and some advanced handling techniques will be applied.

- "Coursework with International Flair" will be offered on August 21.

One Mind Dog inspired course work.

More information and registration will be available soon.

About Mary

Mary Champagne first got involved in agility in 1994 because she thought it "looked fun" and has since trained a variety of dogs of all sizes, breeds and mixes thereof. She now runs her own training school, The Agility Facility, in Southeastern Connecticut. Mary's dogs have competed extensively in the Northeast earning the sport's top titles, and have also been semi-finalists at

multiple championship events and ranked in the Agility Top Ten national standings. An advocate of strong foundation training for agility and not rushing her dogs, Mary believes that "it is a journey from the time dogs begin their puppy fundamentals until they retire." Mary is a fun, knowledgeable, experienced and very approachable instructor. She says she enjoys teaching new teams and loves the diversity of breeds of dogs. She loves seeing teams come together and being able to share in their journeys.

Tracy Sklenar Workshops Cancelled

Tracey Sklenar agility workshops at PCOTC on June 25-26 have been cancelled.

Agility

American Kennel Club Announces ACT Program

The AKC introduced the ACT (Agility Course Test) Program in its AKCommunicates Weekly Newsletter, saying, “We’re pleased to announce the introduction of two new entry-level agility classes, ACT1 and ACT 2 (Agility Course Test). The classes provide shorter courses with basic obstacles that are appropriate for dogs beginning in the sport. Clubs/trainers may start holding ACT classes immediately.”

Details of the ACT Program can be found at <http://www.akc.org/events/agility/act-program/>

The Agility Course Test (ACT) is an entry-level agility event designed to introduce and welcome beginning dogs and their handlers to the AKC sport of agility.

There are two levels of ACT events—ACT1

and ACT2. ACT1 is designed for the beginning level dog to show beginning sequencing and performance skills. ACT2 requires an increased skill level shown by the additional obstacles to be performed.

In addition to showing their dog’s entry level skills, exhibitors will learn to fill out an AKC entry form, check-in at the ring, take their dogs in and out of ring, handle their dogs while being judged, and other information that will help them when they move on to AKC agility trials with their dogs. Dogs must be 15 months old to enter these events. They do not have to be AKC registered at the time of entry.

[Click here](#) for a detailed PDF presentation about AKC’s new ACT program.

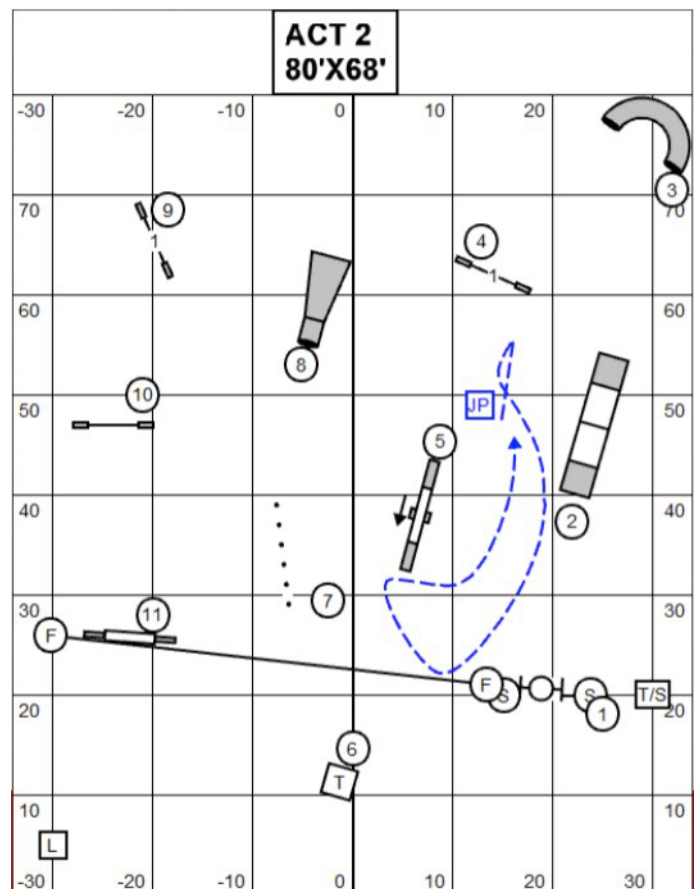
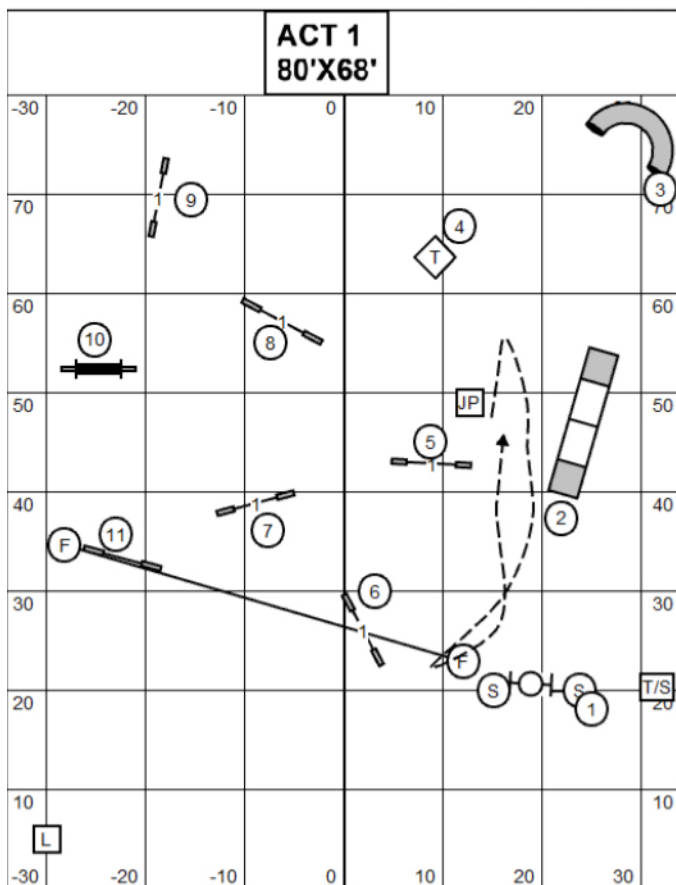
Sample courses are shown below. An

ACT1 course includes 10-12 obstacles and includes an A-frame (5’), table, jumps (no spreads), and open tunnels. To qualify you must complete the entire course in 60 seconds with a score of 85.

An ACT2 course includes 11-13 obstacles, including an A-frame (5’), teeter, dog walk (allowed), table, jumps, spread (1), open tunnels, closed tunnel, and weaves. To qualify you must complete the course in 70 seconds with a score of 85.

For both ACT1 and ACT2, you must complete the course with no dropped bars, no missed contacts, no more than 3 attempts to complete any obstacle, and no more than 3 wrong courses.

Two qualifying legs are required to earn an ACT1 or ACT2 title and certificate.



Obedience & Rally

AKC Rally & Obedience Trials in July

On Saturday, July 30, from 9 am to 4 pm, PCOTC will host two AKC rally trials. Trial Chair is Audrey Woods; Megan Woods is Trial Secretary. Nancy Nelson is in charge of hospitality, and Morgaana Menzel will be Chief Ring Steward. Rally Trial Judges are Ms. Dawn Martin and Mr. Arthur Cartwright.

The Rally Trial premium is available at

<http://www.pcotc.org/documents/2016/PCOTCrallytrial7-30-16Premium.pdf>

PCOTC's 103rd and 104th AKC obedience trials are scheduled for Sunday, July 31, from 9 am to 5 pm. Bruce Sheffler is the Trial Chair and Lori Carver is the Event Secretary. Cindy Rubin is Chief Steward, and Joanne Sheffler is Hospitality Chair. Obedience Trial Judges are Ms. Esther Zimmerman and Ms.

Lynda Moore.

The Obedience Trial premium is available at <http://www.pcotc.org/documents/2016/PCOTCobedtrial7-31-16Premium.pdf>

Entries for both rally and obedience close on July 13, or when numerical limits are reached, so be sure to get your entries in!

AKC Obedience Trials in November

November 6, 2016: Hold that date for AKC obedience trials at PCOTC! More information and the premium will follow.

White Plains Weekends

Upcoming White Plains Weekends (obedience run-thrus) are scheduled for:

- June 12
- July 17

Pre-entry is required. Registration is available through www.dogmatchshows.com. Runs are \$10, with a \$2 convenience fee. Prior to each run-thru, a volunteer signup sheet will be posted.

WCRL Trials in 2016

Upcoming World Cynosport Rally trials are scheduled for Oct. 30 and Dec. 4.

WCRL events at PCOTC are hosted by PCRE. For more information, contact Audrey Woods at ajwx3@aol.com, or www.sites.google.com/site/pcrtrials/home

Obedience Tip: Venue Size to Suit Your Dog

by Rick Pisani CPDT-KA, Competition Obedience & Rally Training Director

There are many obedience clubs hosting trials at their facilities rather than renting a larger building or outdoor field. There are pros and cons to competing at these diverse venues that exhibitors should consider when trialing their dogs.

Pros:

- Convenient location
- Predictable temperature
- Predictable environment such as flooring and equipment
- Smaller number of entries
- Scheduling is easier due to limited entry or space
- Trial where you train

- Smaller site can be good for a dog that gets overwhelmed by a larger environment
- Possibly easier to get needed first place-ments for OTCH

Cons:

- Small site can cause "Sudden Environmental Change," meaning a small sound can become a very dramatic event to the dog
- Little to no warm up space
- Limited or no ability for the dog to acclimate to the environment
- Limited crating in facility
- Limited parking
- Same environment the dog trains in now looks and feels very different to the dog

- Fewer OTCH points due to limited entry

Be sure to consider all of these points when entering your dog. Perhaps a match given at the site would be a great way to test how your dog responds to the various environmental stimuli. I knew this when I entered my dog, Disco, for his novice title and didn't think that some of the elements would have affected him the way they did. I will know for the future that some of these sites may not suit his temperament. Some may say it is a matter of training and proofing, but I would disagree. It is important to know your dog's strengths and weaknesses and to choose his/her trial venues wisely.

Happy Training!

Obedience & Rally

Rally Tip: A Suzanne Clothier Suggestion

by Anne Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA

A few weeks ago, Suzanne Clothier presented a two-day seminar at PCOTC and I was once again so glad to have the opportunity to watch and learn from a great teacher and dog person. Throughout the weekend, she returned to the theme of careful and respectful observation of the dogs that she was working with, handling each situation with unbiased, individualized attention. It was lovely to watch. There were many lessons to be learned, but one thing she said was simple and so apropos for many of us as we train our dogs that I decided to pass it on in this column.

Her reminder to us all as trainers: teach the behavior before you start practicing the behavior.

So when you choose to add a new behavior to your dog's repertoire, teach it carefully and completely so that your dog owns it. So often we introduce something new and, after a few minutes, we see that our dog "gets it" and we immediately start using this new behavior as part of the routine work we are doing with him. The result is that this particular move continues to be shaky at unexpected times (or more likely under stressful conditions). For instance, there are a variety of times where your dog is asked to sit still for a moment or two as you move away and then move up into heel position—on the AKC "halt, one step right, call dog to heel, sit" or "halt, leave dog, take two steps, call dog to heel" or the

WCR "halt, leave dog, run forward, call dog front, finish right or left." Often we see handlers fudge the move away from their dogs, obviously hoping the dog will hold the sit; many times the handlers' hopes are dashed!

How much better it would be if we took the time to really work on giving our dogs a clear understanding of that sit followed very shortly by an animated move forward in a variety of moves, under a variety of conditions. Then we can practice the Rally stations that call for this skill until our dogs are confident and can join in the game and perform whatever station is called for with mastery and joy.

Family Manners

Dogs & Young Handlers Club

by Misa Martin & Morgaana Menzel Photos © Morgaana Photography



The Dogs & Young Handlers Club, with instructor Misa Martin on the left.
Photo © Morgaana Photography

The Dogs & Young Handlers Club meets at PCOTC on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 pm with instructor Misa Martin and assistant Morgaana Menzel.

The Winter class of the Young Handlers Club spent their time together learning new skills and refreshing things they had already learned. Our students were interested in activities that would be fun for dogs and humans alike, so that's what we did!

We practiced skills that could be broken down into easy steps, such as Go Outs around jump wings, Recall to Side, and the first parts of more complicated tricks such as Say Your

continued on next page

Family Manners

Dogs & Young Handlers Club *continued*

Prayers, Close the Door, Skateboarding Dog, and Ring Toss!

Students were encouraged to practice safe handling and to understand what kinds of treats and play motivated their dogs. We played training games with human volunteers so that students learned how to use clickers effectively.

We had an Arts & Crafts Day—and the dogs got to play, too!

Foundation Agility was a big part of the Dogs & Young Handlers Club. By the last week of class, we were sending our dogs over jumps and through tunnels.

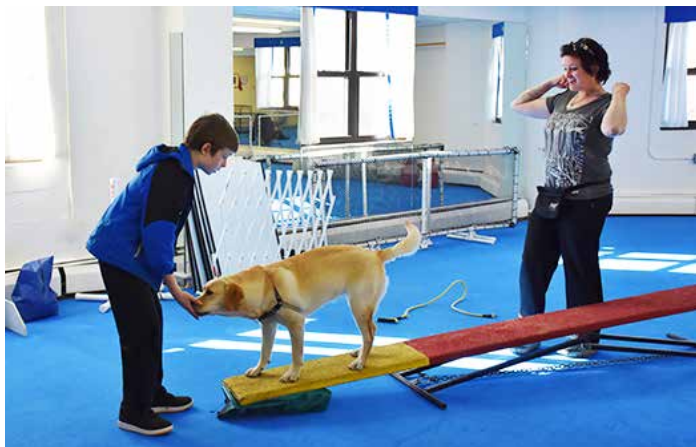
We even had Special Guest Star: Jenn Michaelis and Chinese Crested Ringo came to show us how to Dance With Our Dogs!

The atmosphere of the Dogs and Young Handlers Club is like summer camp, with a strong concentration on building bonds be-

tween kids and the dogs that love them. We encourage our young handlers to try new things and develop a greater understanding of training, handling skills, and bonding with their canine partner.

More importantly, the class emphasizes that no matter what you decide to do with your dog, you can get there using positive reinforcement.

Class participants ages 9 and up are welcome, at the instructor's discretion.



Nose Work

Dogs & Young Handlers Club *continued*



The Dog & Young Handlers Club includes “Easter Egg Treasure Hunts” (scenting for a reward) in its activities.



September ORTs

SNiFF (Start Nosing For Fun) is holding an Odor Recognition Tests (ORT), sanctioned by the National Association of Canine Scent Work, at PCOTC on September 25. The ORT demonstrates a dog's ability to recognize the target odors that will be present during NACSW K9 Nose Work trials. Prior to entering a trial, a dog must have successfully passed the corresponding ORT for trial eligibility.

There are three levels of NACSW trials with each level requiring the dog to be proficient in a different odor. For level 1, the odor is Sweet Birch, for level 2, Anise seed, and for level 3, Clove bud. All odors will be offered at the September ORT.

More information and the event premium can be found at

www.startnosingforfun.com

New Nose Work Instructor Cynthia Grohoski

PCOTC member Cynthia Grohoski will be joining the Nose Work instructor team as a new instructor. Cynthia is enrolled in NACSW's Certified Nose Work Instructor (CNWI™) training program and earned Associate Nose Work Instructor (ANWI™) status in 2015. She has completed hundreds of hours of additional education and training via participation, with two dogs, in three years of K9 Nose Work® classes at PCOTC, camp, workshops and seminars taught by K9 detection professionals on topics such as scent theory, K9 olfaction and dog handling methods. She has been a class assistant for PCOTC K9 Nose Work classes, and was previously lead instructor for CGC/TDI test prep classes as well as Intro to K9 Nose Work classes in Stamford.

During the past several years, Cynthia has held various Nose Work roles such as volunteer coordinator, judge's steward, timer and videographer that support the NACSW-sanctioned K9 Nose Work Odor Recognition Tests held at PCOTC and NACSW trials hosted at various locations in the Northeast.

Cynthia's “Blossom” has completed NW1, NW2, NW3, and NW3 Elite titles. The team has also achieved all four NW3 Element titles, NW3-C, NW3-I, NW3-E, and NW3-V, as well as Element Specialty Titles L1-C, L1-I, and L1-E. Cynthia's Emma has achieved NW1, NW2, and NW3 titles, as well as all four NW3 Element titles and the Element Specialty titles L1-C, L1-I, and L1-E.

In other fields, Blossom and Emma have earned more than 30 titles in CPE agility trials and have earned Novice Trick Dog titles from the Do More With Your Dog organization. Emma has achieved her AKC Canine Good Citizen certification.

In her professional life—that is, when she is not focused on working with dogs—Cynthia is a project, content and operations manager with organizational experience spanning multiple industries, including information technology, financial services, demographic marketing and non-profit/retail.

Welcome to the Nose Work Team!



Cynthia and Emma share a “winning” moment.

More Seminars!

Bobbie Lyons K9 Conditioning in November



Bobbie Lyons is returning to PCOTC on November 12-13, 2016, for seminars and private lessons on canine conditioning. Bobbie last visited PCOTC in August, 2016; seminar participants were very enthusiastic about her training and wanted her to return.

Bobbie Lyons, Certificate Canine Fitness and FitPAWS Master Trainer Course Instructor, has been training and competing in agility with her dogs for over 10 years. She also participates in herding.

Bobbie teaches private lessons, online classes, and workshops across the country,

educating others on how to condition their dogs to prepare for and improve performance and prevent injuries. She started teaching in the Daisy Peel Classroom in January of 2012. Bobbie has also co-taught classes with Dr. Debbie Gross Saunders of Wizard of Paws.

Bobbie is a columnist for *Clean Run* magazine, writing on canine conditioning and injury prevention.

More information and registration to follow.

Mark Muir Disc Dog Seminars in December

We are scheduling Mark Muir Disc Dog seminars at PCOTC for December 11 and 12, 2016.

Mark Muir of Georgia Irish Disc Dogs has earned seven world championships, was 14 times runners-up at World Championships, and has been all over the world competing, doing shows, judging and teaching seminars.

While you are waiting for more information and for registration to open, enjoy some Mark Muir videos:

- Mark and Rocket at 2011 USDDN Disc Dog Southern Nationals

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zV6GpqsWCA>

- How I Got Started in Disc Dogging by Mark Muir

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcxflM04_Q



Fall Public Events

This Fall, we have two major public events scheduled.

On Sunday, September 18, we will need booth staff and agility demo-ers for "Puttin' on the Dog," an annual benefit for Adopt-a-Dog in Greenwich, CT. The event includes demonstrations, competitions,

displays, and fun activities for children and the entire family. PCOTC will provide an agility demo or a "My Dog Can Do That!" for agility. To volunteer, please contact Gigi Squillante-Rego at fashionbiz@me.com

On Sunday, Oct. 9, we will staff a booth and offer an agility "My Dog Can Do That!" at "Hounds on the Sound" at Harbor Island

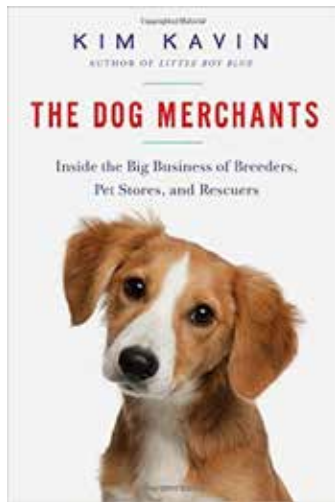
Park in Mamaroneck. This event is a benefit for the New Rochelle Humane Society and Pet Rescue. To volunteer, contact Jane Wheeler at janewheeler@optimum.net

Volunteers are needed for both events. To participate, your dog (and you!) should be people-friendly and civil to other dogs.

Book Reviews

by Joanne Sheffler

After a long drought, two non-fiction dog books were released the first week of May.



The Dog Merchant: Inside the Big Business of Breeders, Pet Stores, and Rescuers, written by Kim Kavin, is a rational, well-balanced, yet passionate exploration of the dog as a commodity. No one likes to think of Fluffy as a dollar sign in the economic scheme of things, but Kavin contends that from the Westminster Kennel Club show to rescue groups to puppy mills and everything in between, the dog industry is an \$11 billion dollar a year business and that dog owners should know where their dogs come from.

From movies featuring dogs, as *101 Dalmatians* or *Marley*, to the televised Best of Breed class of Westminster, Kavin believes the consumer is primed to want-that-breed. I see the connection with the films, but I'd have to leave it to the experience of shelters and rescue groups to recognize an increase in surrendered breeds representing the big show winners. Kavin takes it a step further, viewing the breed show as intentionally promoting a market for a particular breed, directly encouraging puppy mills and puppy brokers to fill this market demand. She asserts the AKC promotes the inclusion of AKC designation in the pet shop and puppy broker ads to increase their sales, which in turn increases AKC revenue through registration. Quoting from a trade magazine for selling pups, you can't quite dismiss a connection, but I leave it to your interpretation for motive.

Kavin takes us on a behind-the-doors tour of the Hunte facility in Missouri. The

Hunte family have been puppy brokers since the 1980s, supplying pet shops. They don't breed the dogs themselves. Instead, Hunte has an extensive network of US-DA-regulated commercial breeders who must maintain high standards of care set by Hunte, or the corporation won't buy the puppies. Supposedly, Hunte works with the breeders to correct unacceptable conditions to keep them in the game. It's interesting to note that the Tyson chicken company is about an hour away from the Hunte facility. Neither does Tyson raise its own chickens; instead it gets them from private chicken farms, also determining the conditions under which the fowl are raised. Livestock. Commodities. The facility sounds state of the art: 100,000 square feet of antiseptic climate-controlled quarters overseen by veterinarians, nutritionists, puppy caregivers. I think what might stick in the craw is the idea not so much the facility, but the constant breeding of pups—dare I say exploitation of the breeding canines?—and handing them over to a middle man with no regard to where the pups end up. But that's not a merchandising perspective.

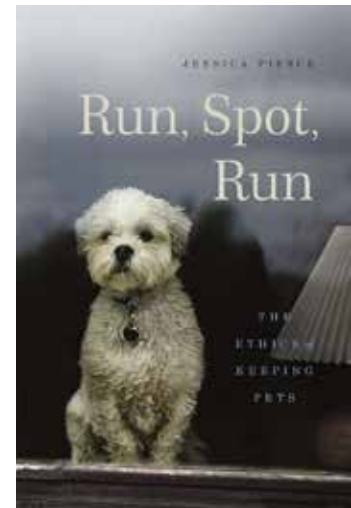
Kavin visits puppy auctions where local breeders auction off their livestock, going to the highest bidders, be they breeders themselves, puppy brokers, or rescue groups. She visits the small breeders who run the gamut of concern for the pups, first to the ones concerned with profits. Rescue groups also come under her scrutiny. Even the enduring notions about dogs and other animals rooted in religious traditions are explored. Yes, this book is a controversy that walks on four feet. No group is safe from exposure.

That's the beauty of this book: bringing the reader to places perhaps never directly visited but not immune to preconceived notions, and leaving the reader with topics to deeply reconsider. Check out the webpage www.dogmerchants.com for Kavin's blog, updated information, and an opportunity to add your experiences.

Run, Spot, Run: The Ethics of Keeping Pets by Jessica Pierce explores whether we should keep pets. Covering animals from cats and dogs, to birds, to small pocket pets (hamsters, gerbils, hermit crabs, turtles, etc.), fish, exotics such as elephants, wolves,

tigers—Pierce asks are they happy? Are they bored? Are they sufficiently cared for with proper nutrition, habitat, medical care, etc.?

It's a blog with scattered musings, reminiscing about her kids' pocket pets, and her growing ethical dilemma of owning and caring for these animals. It's commendable to finally be concerned about the welfare of the least of these creatures, for the conditions under which they are



bred or captured, contained, shipped, and never properly cared for by the consumer are truly appalling. There are 48 chapters in approximately 200 pages of actual text (the last 60 pages or so are dedicated to bibliography, footnotes, index). You can't really get too deeply into the problem, the circumstances, the solution or suggestion of a solution in the average four pages per chapter. The Hunte Corporation is covered in one single paragraph. The chapters have catchy titles. One, "Cat Scratch Fever," deals with zoonotic diseases, never once mentioning cat scratch fever, instead dwelling on rabies (three paragraphs) even though the ordinary person is much more likely to encounter cat scratch fever than rabies. But, of course, how much can you cover in two and a half pages?

I avoid reviewing a book I don't like. I read it and shelf it, and search for something more positive. In this case, I've made an exception. It is a promising premise and some will find it entertaining. Others may find it informative. I found it insubstantial and disappointing.

AKC Delegate's Report

by Kathy Gregory, PCOTC's AKC Delegate

At the most recent Delegates meeting of the AKC, several new Board members were elected after a prolonged campaign. Three hundred and seventy-two Delegates cast their votes for three members who will serve on the 2020 Board of Directors. The long campaign did, however, give the Delegates several opportunities to hear from the candidates, themselves, about their positions on various topics of interest to the voting body, such as support for reliable health testing for all breeds, IT changes to the infrastructure of the AKC's recording and reporting capabilities, upgrades to the AKC website and their administrative and managerial capabilities. Formal presentations were given followed by question and answer periods. The three new Board members are Pat Cruz, William Feeney and Karolynne McAteer.

Dr. Jerry Klein was appointed to the post of AKC Veterinarian. His many years of medical experience and involvement in the AKC will help him in his new post as spokesperson on all matters relating to the health of

our canine companions.

The final results of a Junior Handling Survey compiled in 2014 were released. It was noted that 85% of Juniors are girls and 15% are boys. As to why the participation of girls far outweighs that of boys, factors such as patience (girls of that age seem to have more of it than boys do!), drive to win (same) and peer pressure to participate in a physical sport such as soccer or baseball rather than dog showing all have a hand in making the difference in their percentages of participation. It was also noted that the support of family and friends to drive the Juniors to and from practice and events also plays a big part in their ability to continue in this activity.

The AKC has announced a new award, The Paws of Courage Award, which will show appreciation for the many sacrifices that working dogs make while serving and protecting this country. This award is reserved for those who have been severely wounded or killed.

From the Companion Events Committee, I can report that two new entry level Agility classes have been approved by the AKC, ACT1 (Agility Course Test) and ACT2. These two classes provide support for newcomers to the sport by offering easier classes emphasizing fun and encouragement.

Finally, the AKC is encouraging everyone to make a donation to the AKC PAC (Political Action Committee). Legislative challenges to the serious breeder, amateur sportsman and family companion owner are occurring more and more frequently and the AKC's ability to fight for the rights of dog fanciers everywhere is vastly impacted by their ability to buy advertising, travel to Washington, support governmental representatives who espouse our beliefs and help them to be elected. If every member of our club could simply donate the cost of one entry to their favorite dog show or trial, that would make a big difference. Donations can be made through the AKC website under the Government Relations tab.



Images from our PCNUT AKC agility trials, May 12 – 15. See page 16 for more!

Photos © Morgaana Photography

Spring Events

Suzanne Clothier on “What’s the Problem?”

by Jane Wheeler Photos © Morgaana Menzel



World-renowned author, breeder and trainer Suzanne Clothier provided a new, two-day seminar for dog owners/handlers at PCOTC on April 16-17: “What’s the Problem? Unraveling the Puzzle of Behavior, Training and Performance.” Sixty par-

ticipants learned a practical and powerful approach to identifying the areas that need attention, recognizing training methods that are effective, and understanding their dog as a physical, emotional and mental being. Suzanne is well-respected for her

holistic “Relationship Centered Training™” approach to dogs and the people who love them. Suzanne’s broad knowledge, common sense and humor were in evidence throughout at the seminar!



Spring Events

PCNUT Agility Trials

by Debbie Poe, Trial Chair Photos © Morgaana Photography

A **big** Thank You to all of the volunteers who helped to make the PCNUT AKC Agility Trials a tremendous success May 12–15 at FDR State Park in Yorktown Heights, NY!

Thank you to Morgaana Menzel for capturing the photos of both dogs and handlers as the weekend progressed. [Click here](#) for a link to our Facebook album.

Congratulations to our members, students, and friends of PCOTC who earned titles this past weekend:

Shannon Kelly & Bonita (Border Collie), NAJ

Shannon Kelly & Bonita, NF

Dawn Kubichko & Sequel (Border Collie), OA

Grace Heck & Riley (All-American), NF

Grace Heck & Riley, NA

Mary Jane Koren & Topsy (Flat Coat Retriever), NA

David Lebedin & Casey (Border Collie), OF

Debbie Poe & Jethro (Pomeranian), MXP

Debbie Poe & Maybelle (All-American), MX

Samantha Saldana & Sadie (Labrador Retriever), MJPS

Rena Dershowitz & Star (Poodle), QQ #11

Melanie Behrens & Elf (Border Collie), MACH

Melanie Behrens & Zim (Border Collie), AXJ

David Lebedin & Beau (Border Collie), NF

Deborah Salerno & Kyan (Border Collie), MFB

Deborah Salerno & Kyan, T2B2

Kathy Marble-Brown & Flash (Rat Terrier), MXF

These are the titles we know of but if we missed anyone, please let us know so that your title/accomplishment can be acknowledged.



Spring Events

Agility Trials



Spring Events

March Obedience Trials

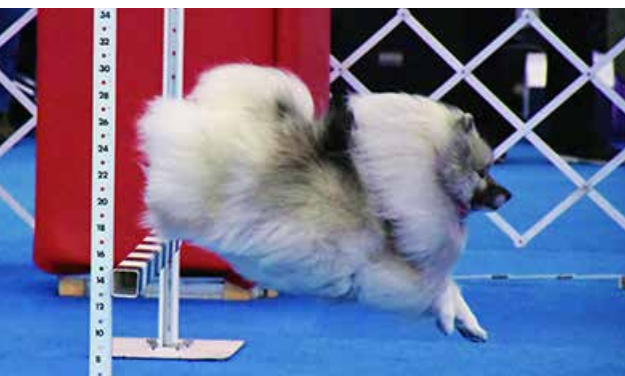
by Bruce Sheffler, Trial Chair Photos © Morgaana Photography

On March 6, PCOTC held its 101st and 102nd Obedience trials. Both trials, while filled to capacity, ran smoothly and without incident in large part because of our judges Bob Amen and Sara Steele. In addition to his usual skillful, professional and efficient judging performance, Bob provided guidance about setting up and running the trial and he donated all of his time and work to the Club.

I also want to thank our stewards who were ably organized, taught and supervised by our chief steward, Cindy Rubin, who tirelessly worked both trials and helped break down afterwards. Audrey and

Megan Woods deserve special thanks for setting up the entire trial site the night before. Thanks also to Jonathan and Lynn Halpern who took charge of getting our trophies and sponsors, to our show secretary Adrian Brewer, and to June Moskowitz and Pat Paese for breaking down and cleaning up the facility.

The trials would not have been possible without the pre-trial efforts of my co-chair, Joanne Sheffler, who also took charge of hospitality and did anything and everything that needed to be done. Thank you.



Spring Events

March Obedience Trials



Spring Events

March Rally Trials

Photos © Morgaana Photography

Congratulations to the members, students and competitors!

Thank you to Morgaana Menzel for capturing these shots!



Spring Events

Bark for Life

by Jane Wheeler Photos © Morgaana Photography

For the 2016 Bark for Life event in Tarrytown on April 10, a benefit for the American Cancer Society, PCOTC expanded its “My Dog Can Do That!” program to include a ring each for rally obedience and for nose work, as well as the agility ring we’ve provided in the past. Participants who came to our booth could sign up for all three rings at once, and sample them at their leisure. The reaction was enthusiastic, and introduced dog owners to several options for working with their dogs.

Jane Wheeler coordinated and organized PCOTC’s booth and “My Dog Can Do That!” program. The agility MDCDT! was staffed by Eve Ehrlich, Mike Jones, Deedie Domenicali, and Joelle White.

Nose Work enthusiasts Barbara Verdi del Rowe and Elizabeth Lynch ran the nose work MDCDT! ring, and Rally MDCDT! was staffed by Morgaana Menzel and Barbara Sroka. Booth and backup personnel included Andrea Granata, June Moskovitz, Carolyn Ripps, Jane Wheeler. Scott Shaw and John Potter aided in transport and setup.

Georjean (Gigi) Squillante-Rego, a PCOTC member, served as the chief organizer for the event on the American Cancer Society’s behalf. PCOTC member Mike Jones’ Golden Retriever, Abbie Einstein, served as Grand Marshall for the Bark for Life walk.



Left, top to bottom:

- PCOTC booth
- Gigi Squillante-Rego, Bark for Life Organizer

Right, top to bottom:

- Agility “My Dog Can Do That!” ring
- Rally MDCDT ring
- Nose Work MDCDT ring

Spring Events

SPCA of Westchester Walkathon & Pet Fair



Rain threatened but did not fall on attendees at the SPCA of Westchester's Walkathon and Pet Fair on May 7! PCOTC had a booth at the event and provided two agility demos. Marcy Rauch coordinated the PCOTC crew, which included demoers Marcy, Mike Jones, and Sarah Sluyter. The booth and transport staff included Celia Aguirre, Candy Lai, Bob O'Donnell, Joanne Ouchterloney, Carolyn Ripps, Carrie Stewart, and Scott Shaw.



Photos top and middle right © Liza Wallis Margulies
Other photos © Bob O'Donnell

Glad Tales

Bob Amen and “Cola”

Cola (Golden Retriever Tanbarks Cola Saranade BN CDX) completed her CDX at the First Dog Training Club of Northern N.J. show, at Westwood NJ on March 20, 2016. Cola is shown here High in Trial at the Troy KC show in West Springfield, MA on April 9, 2015.

— *Bob Amen*



Rhoswyn

Morgaana Menzel welcomed a brand new shiny 8- week-old white boxer puppy to her family. Rhoswyn is home at last to see the sunset in the garden with her very own Uncle Phouka.

Phouka wants to name her “Rhoswyn Fae” meaning White Rose (Gaelic) Blessed Rose Fair (Welsh).

Registered Name: “Sirrocco’s Song of the Sea”

Dam: GCH CH Sirrocco’s Private Love Songs “DIVA”

Sire: Dizara’s Wicked Game “DIVO” CDX,BN,RA,BH,ZTP,AD,IPO1

— *Morgaana Menzel*

Meko

We are happy to bring Meko into our home. Meko is an Indian Pariah Dog mix and is 6 months old. Ramona is excited to be helping to train him. Welcome Meko!

— *Sarah Johnson*

Rory

We got Rory this past December from IG Rescue in CT—he was 13 months old when we got him “to foster briefly.” Well, one look at those ears and I was a foster-failure: how could anyone resist them!?

He is already taking advanced beginner agility with Kim Seiter and has just gotten his Canine Good Citizen designation! I’m looking forward to ultimately competing in agility with him because he is both toy- and food-driven and is as smart as a whip! I may also try frisbee with him as he loves to run, jump and catch toys and balls.

— *Cynthia Catts & Margaret DeFonce*



Family Additions

Our Stars

New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 5/26/15

OBEDIENCE TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Companion Dog (CD)

- 3/31/16 Janet York, GCH Piccadil's Dream A Little Dream of Me, BN RN RA RE CGC, "Catcher," Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- 3/31/16 Janet York, CH Piccadil's When Your A Jet, "Jet," Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- 4/16/16 Janet York, CH Piccadil's Once In A Lifetime BN CD RN RA RE CGC "Bravo," Cavalier

AKC Companion Dog Excellent (CDX)

- 3/6/16 June Moskovitz, CH Ashbrook Flyin' First Class CDX RA NA NAJ TDI, "Lindy," English Cocker Spaniel
- 3/20/16 Bob Amen, Tanbarks Cola Saranade BN CDX, "Cola," Golden Retriever

RALLY TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Rally Excellent (RE)

- 4/30/16 Lynn & Jonathan Halpern, Overlook's Sutton Downpour CD RE CGC, "William," Golden Retriever

World Cynosport Rally (WCR)

WCR Rally Level 1 Championship (RL1X)

- 10/25/15 Morgaana Menzel, Sirrocco's Private Party CGC RN RL1 RL1X RL2 RATI RATN CA, "Phouka," Boxer Dog

AGILITY TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Novice Standard (NA)

- 8/11/15 Judy Ness, Bellatak McKeefer CGC, "Keefer," Havanese
- 1/25/16 Louise Jollyman, SG Brimwyllf Calamity Jane IPO3 AD CD NA KKI, "CJ," German Shepherd
- 4/23/16 Janet York, CH Piccadil's When Your A Jet CD NA NAJ, "Jet," Cavalier
- 5/1/16 Janet York, CH Piccadil's Once In A Lifetime, BN CD RN RA RE CGC, "Bravo," Cavalier

AKC Novice Jumpers (NAJ)

- 9/19/15 Judy Ness, Bellatak McKeefer CGC, "Keefer," Havanese
- 4/10/16 Janet York, CH Piccadil's When Your A Jet, "Jet," Cavalier
- 5/1/16 Janet York, CH Piccadil's Once In A Lifetime, BN CD RN RA R CGC, "Bravo," Cavalier

AKC Open Fast (OF)

- 5/12/16 Karen Shinoda, "Orangie," Westie

AKC Open Fast Preferred (OFF)

- 5/7/16 Karen Shinoda, "Callie," Westie

AKC Excellent Standard Preferred (AXP)

- 4/23/16 Sarah Johnson, "Sassafras," Plott Hound

AKC Master Agility Excellent (MX)

- 2/27/16 Jacqueline Soccodato, Soccodato's Buster, "Buster," All American

- 5/15/16 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All American

AKC Master Agility Excellent Preferred (MXP)

- 5/14/16 Debbie Poe, Neguinho Maluco, "Jethro," Pomeranian

AKC Masters Jumpers (MXJ)

- 4/24/16 Jacqueline Soccodato, Soccodato's Buster, "Buster," All American

AKC Master Agility Jumpers Preferred 3 (MJP3)

- 4/24/16 Debbie Poe, Neguinho Maluco, "Jethro," Pomeranian

AKC Time 2 Beat 8 (T2B8)

- 2/14/16 Michelle Trummer, MACH 15 Corn Cockle Cornelius CDX MXB5 MJS5 FTC1 MFB2 TQX T2B8, "Corn," Shetland Sheepdog

AKC Master Bronze Jumper 4 (MBJ4)

- 4/8/16 Michelle Trummer, MACH 8 Rockwoods Zig Zag Zoe MXG3 MJC3 MXF T2B7, "Zoe," Shetland Sheepdog

AKC Master Gold Jumper 5 (MJG5)

- 3/18/16 Michelle Trummer, "Corn," Shetland Sheepdog

AKC Master Agility Champion 4 (MACH 4)

- 2/28/16 Stephen McKay, Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog

United States Dog Agility Association (USDAA)

USDAA Starters Performance Standard I (SPSI)

- 4/15/16 Michelle Trummer, "Corn," Shetland Sheepdog

USDAA Starters Performance Jumper II (SPJII)

- 4/15/16 Michelle Trummer, "Corn," Shetland Sheepdog

USDAA TM Tournament Master

- 4/17/16 Stephen McKay, Holther's Well Done, "Scorch," BC

Canine Performance Events (CPE)

CPE CL3-R CPE Level 3 Standard

- 4/30/16 Debbie Poe, Neguinho Maluco, "Jethro," Pomeranian

CPE CL3-H Handler Level 3

- 5/14/16 Ann Ouchterloney, Mercury's Top Gun, "Maverick," Shetland Sheepdog

CPE Standard Level 4, CL4-R

- 2/27/16 Debbie Poe, "Maybelle," All-American

CPE ChST Champion Standard

- 12/26/15 Ann Ouchterloney, Mercury's Next Edition, "Indy," Shetland Sheepdog

CPE ChCL Champion Colors

- 4/20/16 Ann Ouchterloney, "Indy," Shetland Sheepdog

BARN HUNT

Barn Hunt Association (BHA)

BHA Novice Barn Hunt (RATN)

- 5/15/16 Morgaana Menzel, "Phouka," Boxer Dog

LURE COURSING

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Coursing Ability Title (CA)

- 11/14/15 Morgaana Menzel, "Phouka," Boxer Dog

OTHER

Do More With Your Dog!

Novice Trick Dog (NTD)

- 2/15/16 Cynthia Grohoski, Aneleh Marshwiggle Oceana, "Blossom," English Springer Spaniel

- 2/15/16 Cynthia Grohoski, Marshwiggle's Merriment, "Emma," English Springer Spaniel

CONFORMATION TITLES

American Kennel Club (AKC)

AKC Grand Champion (GCH)

- 6/7/15 Olga Kornienko, Lacey's Ain't No Sour Grapes, "Pinot," PBGV

HELP WANTED

PCOTC at PUBLIC EVENTS:

Volunteers needed for public demos, ring guides, booth duty, transport and setup. See article on page 12.

- Puttin' on the Dog, Sept. 18, Greenwich CT. To volunteer, contact Gigi Squillante-Rego at fashionbiz@me.com
- Hounds on the Sound, Oct. 9, Mamaroneck, NY. To volunteer, contact Jane Wheeler at janewheeler@optimum.net.

WHITE PLAINS WEEKENDS, June 12, July 17. Volunteer signup instructions will be posted prior to each weekend.

AKC RALLY TRIALS, July 30. Contact Audrey Woods at ajwx3@aol.com or Megan Woods at hollywoods118@aim.com

AKC OBEDIENCE TRIALS, July 31
Stewards needed. No experience necessary! Contact Cindy Rubin, chief steward, at rosiesmom@doglover.com. Other obedience volunteers should contact Bruce Sheffler at brilligs2@optonline.net

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

...to volunteer come up periodically. Check with Deborah Silver (volunteer coordinator) at pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com

Volunteering Explained

Volunteers run all PCOTC activities except dog training, for which we pay qualified instructors. We ask each club member to volunteer a minimum of 12 hours during each club year (June 1 to May 31). Those who complete the minimum of 12 hours receive special Member Volunteer rates that provide year-round savings on all group classes.

In order to receive the special volunteer rates for a club year, members must complete their volunteer hours prior to the beginning of that club year.

Volunteer hours do not "carry over" from year to year. Each member in a family membership needs credit for 12 volunteer hours, but family members may credit hours to another person in the membership.

New club members must complete 6 volunteer hours prior to submitting their application for membership, and are eligible for the Volunteer Member privileges immediately upon admission to the club. They then must complete an additional 6 hours prior to the end of the club year to receive Volunteer Member status for the next year.

You can find volunteer opportunities in the Help Wanted column and on the PCOTC Events bulletin board at the facility or by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator. You may also join the PCOTC group E-mail list to receive periodic requests for volunteers when they are needed.

It is your responsibility to report your volunteer hours via a PCOTC Volunteer Reporting Form, kept in stock at the facility. The form is also available for download from the Membership page of our web site.

Volunteer members who log in 30+ hours in a club year will be considered "Super Volunteers" who will be honored at the annual club meeting and given a Certificate of Appreciation.

Keeping in Touch with PCOTC

PCOTC's Web Site: Go to www.TeachRover.com or www.pcotc.org for class registration and information about our classes, special events, facility, instructors, and membership.

MailChimp Mailing List: You can subscribe to this e-mail list via our web site, or go to <http://eepurl.com/bwbO5f>. You do not have to be a member or have taken classes yet. Mailings are sent out several times a month with news and information about upcoming training session registration, new events and classes added to our calendar, reminders of opening and closing dates, and club meetings, etc.

Having trouble receiving e-blasts from PCOTC through MailChimp? Missing out on club information? Be sure to enter teachrover@verizon.net into your computer's address book or list, or messages from PCOTC may end up in your spam filter.

PCOTC's Yahoo Group E-mail List: This e-mail list is by subscription only and for members only. If you want to hear about volunteer opportunities as they come up, be sure you are subscribed to this list. Subscribe via

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pcotc> or pcotc-subscribe@yahogroups.com

Facebook Page: Go to [facebook.com/pcotc](https://www.facebook.com/pcotc) or search for "Port Chester Obedience Training Club" to bring up our page.

Twitter: You can follow PCOTC on Twitter: [@TeachRover](https://twitter.com/TeachRover), for news such as class cancellations, opening or closing dates for trials and seminars, etc.

Our Stars: Reporting Titles

To submit your dog's new titles/awards for publication in the "Our Stars" column in this newsletter, please fill out the Our Stars form found on our web site (www.pcotc.org/membership).

New titles and awards will be posted periodically at the facility, and will be included in yearly ads that congratulate our members on titles earned.

If you do not have web access, you may report your new titles by mail (or e-mail), to trummerrmt@yahoo.com or to Michelle Trummer. Summer home: 11 Lakeview Rd., North Salem, NY 10560. Winter Home: 11988 61st Street North, West Palm Beach, FL 33412.

PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

4/26/16

Present: L. Lucas, G. Berger, C. Fessler, J. Turschmann, A. Woods, M. Woods, M. Menzel, O. Kornienko

Minutes from the last meeting was distributed by e-blast.

President

There have been so many accomplishments since last meeting including; the financial audit, progress of constitution and by-law updates, several public outreaches, Suzanne Clothier Workshop, Young Handlers class, monthly WPW, Agility run-throughs with online registration and a SNIFF ORT trial. There have also been improvements to the outside lighting, addition of surveillance cameras, and new phone system using Google voice which will save about \$2,000 annually.

Membership renewal is open and online and class registration for the next session closes Friday.

Corresponding Secretary

Using MailChimp for e-blasts. Rentals have a 24 hour turnaround time.

Treasurer

The audit was done to ensure that the accounts were in good standing. Dinowitz and Bove are currently cleaning up the chart of accounts and applying revenue into the correct categories. Once this is done, we are hoping that the new year can begin with a budget.

- Looked into 3 versus 4 students will run classes with 3 with no reduction in hourly instructors' pay for the next session.
- Starting the next financial year, 1/2 room rentals will be eliminated and room rental rates will be reviewed.

Membership

There are 307 members.

- Online dues renewal has been slow but it is early. Deadline is May 31.

Constitution and By Laws Committee

Need to review their draft based on AKC club guidelines for Bylaws from the board. The bylaws will be restricted from a technological standpoint from the AKC. The AKC must approve before presenting to the membership.

House

Stairs and ramp will be sanded and repainted. Clean up has been scheduled for June.

Public Relations

Walkathon on May 7 needs a coordinator. Agility demos needed. New website so far on schedule to be ready by summer.

New Business

Class Surveys

Jeanne went over the information garnered from the class survey results.

FDR Picnic

In the planning stages. Flyer will go out this week. Need a committee. June 5 FDR 12-4 PM

- Megan Woods was waiting to hear back from a couple of people she asked to be on the Nominating committee. She will have the names of the committee shortly.

- A new protocol for minutes was established.

New Business

Lisa McCarthy, Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee presented the Bylaw changes and edits to the board.

Report of the President

Class Assistants

-Fran Hellman with supervision from Carol Fessler will now be coordinating CAs

Improved Lighting & Security Cameras
-Installation complete

Registration

-On-line registration opened. Closes; Mar 3 at 11:59pm

-Debbie stepped down from Registration Team and has been replaced by Olga Kornienko

Report of the Treasurer/Finance Committee

Debbie has begun work on matching up deposits through Elavon from ASAP and QuickBooks. For now the registration team will continue to reconcile ASAP.

D&B might be used to clean up the chart of accounts and put things in the proper categories since they have done the audit. This would give the board time to find a local bookkeeper. Debbie will investigate how long it will take D&B to do this.

Motion made, seconded and approved to use D&B for 2 months while the board looks for a local bookkeeper.

The Finance Committee met and spoke about goals and creating budget for next year as well as a variety of items including the appropriate amount for a reserve fund, major expenditures that would be coming up, substitute teacher pricing, bookkeeping services, pricing for classes, what to do when the lease is up, 3 vs. 4 students, etc. The priority is to get the category of accounts in order to create a budget for the coming year.

Board Meetings 2/28/16

Present: George Berger, Carol Fessler, Lynn Lucas, Debbie Poe, Jeanne Turschmann, Jane Wheeler, Audrey Woods, Megan Woods

Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting

Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the special meeting of January 29, 2016.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the special meeting with changes of February 18, 2016.

Unfinished business

- The open treasurer position was filled by Debbie Poe. A motion was made, seconded and all were in favor.

- The open director positions were filled by Morgaana Menzel and Olga Kornienko. A motion was made, seconded and all were in favor.

PCOTC Board Meeting Minutes

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Turned off our Facebook ad on 1/17/16.
Jeanne wanted to see how much interaction we would have on our page without the ad.
Our ad cost approximately \$150/month.
Details are included in her report.

Report of Special Groups

Publicity

- Website group are progressing.
- Meet the Breeds – more space, not as crowded, went well.
- *Sit n Stay* deadline is March 10, 2016
- Bark for Life is April 10 – proposing 2 rings for not just agility but FM, rally, nosework
- Suzanne Clothier – April 16-17 has 50 participants so far
- SPCA Walkathon and Pet Fair May 7
- Tracy Sklenar – June 25 -26

Membership

- no new members this month

House

- vacuum is being fixed and will be available next week

Registration

- ongoing

Corresponding Secretary Report

Eblasts

MailChimp Allotment (as of 2/22/2016):

- Unlimited emails per month
- 2,742 subscribers

(see details on p. 29-30)

Facebook Ad (as of 2/22/16)

Suspended ad on 1/17/16.

Last 28 days (1/25-2/21/16):

- Number of posts: 13
- People reached: 674 (-45%)
- Post Engagement: 1,173 (+81%)
- Page Likes: 18 (-53%)

Survey Monkey

Request for data collection for Jan/Feb class

session will be emailed to students on/about 2/26.

3/31/16

In attendance: C. Fessler, L. Lucas, M. Menzel, D. Poe, J. Turschmann, J. Wheeler, A. Woods, M. Woods

Unfinished Business

Constitution and Bylaws: Jeanne was in contact with AKC to determine what we can and cannot do because of the type of club we are. The committee will meet again and send the revisions to the AKC to vet.

Nominating Committee: Met and have a nomination for all open positions except one but are waiting to hear back from the candidate.

New Business

Instructor pay 3 students vs. 4 students:

A motion was made and seconded to pay at regular rate, classes with 3 students. This will be reviewed in September after a couple of sessions. All in favor, one recused, Audrey

Telephone Account: There are currently 3 phone lines. The suggestion was to cancel these lines and use Google voice. This will give the club a net savings of \$2,000/year. A motion was made and seconded. All were in favor.

Lynn will talk to the telephone answering volunteers and the registration people and explain the new procedure.

Room Rental: Based on current expenses a motion was made and seconded to no longer offer 1/2 room rentals for the lower half. Six were in favor and one abstained.

Also discussed was the fact that room rental fee has not changed since 2007. As we develop a budget for the coming year we will discuss this in the summer.

Meeting Date: A motion was made and seconded to move the annual meeting date to June 16. All were in favor.

FDR Picnic: Megan and Morgaana are working on the details and will be putting together a committee.

ORT: Approved for September 18, 2016

President Report / TD Liaison / Registration

Schedule for May-June session currently being compiled Registration to open: Monday April 18

Treasurer's Report

A profit comparison of running a class w/ 3 students and paying instructors their full rate v. the current \$10 per class penalty was presented along with the proposal to switch the current Verizon phone plan to internet only and replace the current 3 phone lines with 1 google voice line.

A statement of accounts was presented and is being categorized by Dinowitz & Bove.

Corresponding Secretary

- Survey Monkey – surveys sent out to Jan/Feb students requesting feedback on 2/27
- Mail Chimp (2/23-3/30) sent 25 e-blasts
- Facebook (2/23-3/30) continuing to monitor; 13 posts
- According to PCOTC C&B, nominations are due on/before 3/31; must notify membership of nominated candidates before 4/30.

Special Groups:

Public Relations:

Bark For Life coming up April 10. Will have Agility and Rally demos.

Suzanne Clothier – 56 have signed up for the seminar so far.

Membership

5 people have submitted applications to join the club: Heidi Bonorato, Ellen Collins, Katherine O'Donnell, Kim Silveira-Quezada and Rosanne Wellmaker. A motion was made and seconded to accept these new members. All in favor.

With these additions the club has a total of 306 members in good standing.

Online renewals have been slow with approximately 30 received to date.

House

Nothing to report

continued next page

PCOTC Board Meeting Minutes

5/19/16

Unfinished Business

1. FDR Park – Another flyer will go out by e-blast with RSVP to get head count for picnic and food. Given the small area will plan a ring type event.
2. Constitution and By-Laws – the Constitution and By-Laws Committee will meet again now that the agility trial is over and ready the document for the AKC.
3. AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award – a candidate was selected.

New Business

1. Shelter Refunds – The board of PCOTC made a change in policy as follows. After taking a class with a shelter dog a \$50 credit will be issued towards the next class. This is a one time credit and will be good for 6 months. A motion was made for this change, seconded and all were in favor. This will begin next session.
2. Substitute Teacher Pay – Substitutes will be paid by the club but the instructor will find a sub for their class(es). Substitutes will invoice the club. This practice was vetted through the attorney who drafted the wording for the policy. It will be given to the training directors so that they can share it with the instructors.
3. Public Demo Partnering With “Pilots to the Rescue” – The probable date for demonstration is May 21, 2017. It was suggested that Lynn get back to the organizer of the demonstrations with questions. This would be great exposure for the club.

President

1. No opposing slate came forward this year. Lynn will be meeting as soon as possible with nominated candidates.
2. Planning for Jul-Aug schedule underway.
3. New phone system up and running. Jeanne Turschmann will check transcribed voice messages and triage to appropriate people/team. We have existing members of the phone team —Ann Ouchterloney, Beth Marlow, Keri Rescigno, Lilly Cavallero and Fran Erixon—that will work with Jeanne to

help individuals calling in. Jeanne will be their contact person.

Treasurer

- ½ room rental on Lower Level will be phased out starting 6/1/16
- Will use new budget for 2016-2017 club year to determine raise in rental rates – rates have not changed since at least 2006.
- On-line payment for room rentals will be available; link will be sent to volunteer members once rental is confirmed.
- Motion was made to implement a 24 hour cancellation policy for room rentals; otherwise the renter will be responsible for paying the room rental fee. All in favor.

Corresponding Secretary

- Nominating Slate & Annual Meeting Postcard mailed to Membership on 4/20/16

- MailChimp (3/31-5/18)-- sent 36 eblasts

- SurveyMonkey- sent surveys to March/April students requesting feedback on 4/24; shared data collected from Jan/Feb 2016 classes at April Club Meeting with members

Membership

- Motion was made to accept the applications of 6 potential members – Kelly DeSimone, Dena Domenicali, Susan Mischel, Marianne Pisa, Gail Rothschild, and Yuanshuo Alice Wang. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned.



Continuing our dogs, summer and water theme... © Michele Cardone

Mail Chimp Details (as of 2/22/2016 from 2/28/16 Board Meetings:

Title	Send Date	Total Recipients	Successful Deliveries	Unique Opens	Open Rate	Total Opens	Unique Clicks	Click Rate	Total Clicks
Members: Class Assistants	2/20/2016 19:28	254	254	145	57.09%	277	0	0.00%	0
UPDATE - Online Registration for March/April	2/17/2016 14:05	2738	2735	701	25.63%	1335	109	3.99%	160
Club News! Security Upgrades	2/17/2016 12:42	2742	2739	779	28.44%	1019	5	0.18%	5
Registration- Technical Difficulties	2/17/2016 9:23	254	254	142	55.91%	225	1	0.39%	2
Volunteers: Needed: AKC Obedience Trials-Sun3/6	2/16/2016 23:12	2741	2740	588	21.46%	861	1	0.04%	2
March/April Online Class Registration Opens Wednesday Feb 17	2/13/2016 9:12	2738	2737	669	24.44%	1729	242	8.84%	441
Premium Closing & Volunteers Needed: PCOTC AKC Rally Trials Sun 3/5	2/12/2016 19:00	2739	2738	672	24.54%	970	22	0.80%	30
Looking for Something to to Do This Week?	2/12/2016 6:23	2739	2737	672	24.55%	1032	3	0.11%	4
Volunteers Needed: CGC Testing Thurs 2/25	2/11/2016 6:00	2743	2742	561	20.46%	828	0	0.00%	0
Club News!	2/10/2016 17:12	2743	2742	869	31.69%	1374	114	4.16%	136
Volunteers Needed: WPW Sunday 2/21	2/8/2016 16:42	2741	2741	612	22.33%	945	60	2.19%	76
Volunteers Needed: WCR Rally Trial 2/14	2/4/2016 22:05	2737	2736	640	23.39%	877	2	0.07%	2
Westminster 2016	2/1/2016 6:00	255	255	166	65.10%	278	1	0.39%	1
Suzanne Clothier 4/16-17 Early Bird Registration About to End!	1/31/2016 20:06	2727	2727	816	29.92%	1366	53	1.94%	69
Volunteers Needed: Therapy Dog Evaluations	1/30/2016 16:00	2725	2725	729	26.75%	1291	1	0.04%	1

Mail Chimp Details (as of 2/22/2016 from 2/28/16 Board Meetings:

Title	Send Date	Total Recipients	Successful Deliveries	Unique Opens	Open Rate	Total Opens	Unique Clicks	Click Rate	Total Clicks
Three Outstanding PCOTC Teams!	1/28/2016 22:34	2724	2723	781	28.68%	1187	54	1.98%	69
Volunteers Needed: Agility RunThrus Jan 31	1/26/2016 7:45	2722	2721	588	21.61%	933	67	2.46%	90
MEMBERS: Obedience Trial Trophy Fund-Thank You!	1/25/2016 21:02	255	255	108	42.35%	146	0	0.00%	0
2016 Nose Work Survey	1/24/2016 21:00	2725	2722	741	27.22%	1158	99	3.64%	129
MEMBERS: BOD Meeting Minutes 1/11/16	1/24/2016 18:22	255	254	159	62.60%	380	98	38.58%	125
MEMBERS: March 2016 Obedience Trials Trophy Fund	1/22/2016 20:37	250	250	130	52.00%	214	0	0.00%	0
Winter Weather: Class Cancellation Info	1/21/2016 20:55	2724	2722	831	30.53%	1224	7	0.26%	8
Attention: Members & Students	1/19/2016 18:13	2728	2728	922	33.80%	1330	3	0.11%	3
MEMBERS: Change in Payment Policy for Room Rentals & Class Drop-ins	1/15/2016 7:30	250	250	171	68.40%	260	0	0.00%	0
Members: WPW Feb. 21, 2016	1/14/2016 12:00	250	250	145	58.00%	301	35	14.00%	43
Suzanne Clothier: April 16-17, 2016	1/14/2016 6:11	2731	2729	796	29.17%	2125	92	3.37%	177
PCOTC MEMBERS: Announcement (Director Position)	1/13/2016 23:30	250	250	172	68.80%	319	1	0.40%	1
Volunteer Needed: Speaker Coordinator for Club Meetings	1/11/2016 17:19	2731	2730	657	24.07%	988	3	0.11%	3
Classes Available: Late January & February	1/10/2016 9:14	2738	2735	647	23.66%	1017	17	0.62%	28
MEMBERS: Agility Run-Thrus - Jan. 31	1/9/2016 8:32	250	250	118	47.20%	289	34	13.60%	67
Volunteers Needed-Sunday 1/10	1/6/2016 22:32	2742	2741	695	25.36%	1045	16	0.58%	29