

**Celebrating 75 Years**

**PCOTC**

PORT CHESTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB



# Sit 'n Stay

*Quarterly Newsletter of PCOTC • Winter 2016 –17*

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Dogs in Winter: Carol Fessler's Tori in the snow

## Calendar of Events

*Events are held at the PCOTC facility unless otherwise noted*

Dec 4	CDSP Obedience Trial — PCRE	Apr 29-30	Musical Freestyle— SassyT Academy
Dec 10-11	Mike Muir Disc Dog Workshops	May 11-14	PCNUT Agility Trials, FDR Park
Dec 12	Holiday Party & Club Meeting with speaker Virginia Dare	May 14	WCRL Rally Trials — PCRE
Dec 18	White Plains Weekend	Jun 12	Annual Club Meeting
Jan. 15	Rally Seminar	Jul 29	AKC Rally Trials
Jan 22	Agility Run-thrus	Jul 30	AKC Obedience Trials
Feb 12	WCR Rally Trials — PCRE	Aug 30	Club Meeting
Feb 19	Agility Run-thrus	Nov 4-5	AKC Obedience Trial
Mar 4	AKC Rally Trials	Oct 1	WCRL Rally Trials—PCRE
Mar 5	AKC Obedience Trials	Oct 26	Howl-o-ween Party & Club Meeting
Mar 11-12	Kamal Fernandez Obedience Seminars	Dec 3	WCRL Rally Trials—PCRE
Mar 19	Agility Run-thrus	Dec 5	Holiday Party & Club Meeting
Apr 26	Club Meeting		

## Port Chester Obedience Training Club

### AN AKC MEMBER CLUB

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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. If you need to receive the newsletter in print, please contact Jane Wheeler at 845-227-5116.

# President's Message

The club held two events this Fall that made me feel very proud to be a member of PCOTC. The first was the special meeting held on October 26 to discuss and vote on the revisions to the By-laws. Not only did it end well before midnight (!), but members had the chance to voice their opinions, discuss and then vote. With the help of several members, the meeting was thoughtful, organized and at times fun! We have just one more item to discuss and vote on so I am hopeful that the work on revising the By-laws will be finished soon.

The second event was the Open House on November 13. Instructors and members pulled together to welcome over 40 new dogs and families to the club. It was a delight to see the lower level filled with so many individuals chatting, trying out activities, asking questions, and generally having a great time. Hopefully, this will result in further growth in membership.

I am incredibly proud at how well all our members united on both these occasions showing PCOTC in such a positive light. And so as we go into this Holiday season I wish to thank you all for your hard work and commitment to the club that I know will continue in 2017.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

— Lynn Lucas, [lynnlucas@mac.com](mailto:lynnlucas@mac.com)



© Morgaana Photography

## Save the Dates: 2017 Club Meetings

2017 Club meetings & events are scheduled for

- Wednesday, April 26, Club Meeting
- Monday, June 12, Annual Meeting.
- Wednesday, August 30, Club Meeting
- Thursday, October 26, Howl-o-ween Party & Club Meeting
- Tuesday, December 5, Holiday Party & Club Meeting



# Club Doings

## Holiday Party & Club Meeting Dec. 12

### Holiday Party

The party will begin at 7:00 pm with holiday refreshments.

### Presentation

Virginia Dare will present "Dogs Doing Time" at 7:30 pm on Monday, December 12, prior to our club meeting. "Dogs Doing Time" provides an overview of pet/prison programs, based on a Virginia-based organization called Pixie's Pen Pals. Virginia Dare was head trainer for this program for eight years, meeting weekly with inmates at various prisons and guiding them in their work with these shelter dogs.

The inmates received a thorough education in positive reinforcement training, along with gentle techniques for behavior modification. Dogs remained in the inmates' care until a loving home was found.

The dogs' presence often had a transformational effect on the inmates, thanks to their nonjudgmental and loving presence. And the inmates did meaningful work in helping give these dogs a second chance at

a loving home, while also learning practical job skills. Of the varied work Virginia has done over the years in her training career, nothing, she says, has been more deeply meaningful to her than this pet/prison program.



Virginia Dare

Virginia Dare's training career began in 1981. In 2016, she joined The Good Dog Foundation, a Therapy Dog organization as executive trainer for the Fairfield/Northern Westchester region.

She is a nationally recognized positive reinforcement trainer and seminar presenter, and co-producer of clicker training DVDs that are sold worldwide through [www.takeabowwow.com](http://www.takeabowwow.com). She is a contributing writer for Karen Pryor's Academy of Animal Training & Behavior curriculum, and a Certified Training Partner (CTP). Her own dogs have been involved in animal acting, herding, agility, and pet therapy visits.

The free presentation will be followed by a short break, after which members will be invited to stay for the club meeting.

### Club Meeting

Our club meeting will begin at approximately 8:30 pm. The main item of business is approval/disapproval of a change to our bylaws revision, requested by the AKC, to make it easier for members to retain voting status.

## 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!

## Welcome New Members

The following member joined during our Fall quarter:

Nancy Ostreicher and her Italian Spinone, "Redd"



### Dogs in Winter

Penny in an MTA hoodie © Janis Mandrus

# Agility

## Agility Tip: Target Training

by Kim Seiter, Agility Training Director

Targeting in Agility can be used for many things like distance training, positional cues for the dog, handler focus, and obstacle focus. Targets can be anything - the trainer's hand, food dishes, toys.

The key to teaching a dog to target is marking and rewarding the focus (eye contact) or physical action of acknowledging the

target. This is critical. It is important to reward consistently on the seeing the desired behavior.

Dogs can "hand target," touching their nose to the trainer's hand for handler focus cues or "foot or nose target" a flat plate or food dish to send the dog away from the handler. Targeting can also be used to teach

dogs a focal point on a contact obstacle. For example, a stopped position on a dog-walk or a foot strike on a running contact. We can also teach dogs to target with their rear feet, or shoulders, to help with body awareness or handling cues. Targeting is a huge fundamental skill that can aid in all aspects of training the sport.

## Agility Run-Thrus/Trials Scheduled for 2017

At this time, agility run-thrus are scheduled for the following Sundays in 2017:

- January 22
- February 19
- March 19

More will be announced as they become firmly scheduled.

AKC agility trials ("PCNUT" trials) are scheduled for May 11-14 at FDR Park in Yorktown Heights.



## Barn Hunt at PCOTC

Several members of the Board have been approached by PCOTC members and students regarding holding a Barn Hunt at the club. Audrey Woods volunteered to look into it, to find out what would be involved and whether the idea was feasible. The main issue turned out to be hay!

We discovered that in order to hold any Barn Hunt event we would need a huge member involvement. A blast was sent seeking help with locating, storing and moving hay. Only one member responded. So at this time it was decided that Barn Hunt events at PCOTC would not be an option.



Top: Lisa McCarthy and Dobbie work on a turn during Kris Seiter's Young Dog Sequencing seminar. Bottom: Plop takes the tunnel. © Debbie Poe. More on page 10.



# Obedience

## Obedience: Save the Dates!

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

We have been busy in the Obedience department planning a few great learning experiences.

### Stewarding Seminar

On December 3, Cindy Rubin and I will be hosting a FREE Stewarding Seminar from 11:30–1:30. It will take place in the Lower Level. We encourage all members and students to attend. You will learn how to steward for all levels of AKC trials and White Plains Weekends.

These events cannot run efficiently without stewards. You will earn volunteer hours for attending the seminar.

Please plan on attending. Light refreshments will be provided. Contact Rick Pisani at [luv2heel@me.com](mailto:luv2heel@me.com) to reserve a spot.

### Rally Workshop

January 14, from 11:30–2:30 pm. AKC judge Lynn Curry will review and discuss the rules, regulations and judging guidelines for AKC and Cynosport Rally. This will be followed by a demonstration and Q & A from some exhibitors currently competing in Rally. They will share their experiences and review some difficult maneuvers. This will be a great opportunity for anyone considering getting involved in Rally Obedience. Students already involved in the sport will get to ask a judge important questions plus get the inside scoop on how judges are scoring and what is the important criteria. Details on how to register and specific information will soon be available.

### Kamal Fernandez Seminar

March 11–12, a two-day workshop with Fenzi Academy instructor and International Obedience exhibitor and judge Kamal Fernandez. Kamal has immersed himself in the world of animal training, led by some of the leading lights in the field such as Sylvia Bishop, Susan Garrett, Bob Bailey, Ian Dunbar and Karen Pryor. This thirst

for knowledge, combined with his job as a police officer, working with young offenders, and studying psychology has contributed to his dynamic and innovative teaching style and his ability to get the best from his pupils, whether human or canine!

With over 20 years of practical dog training experience, based on a combination of science and hands-on experience, Kamal has established a worldwide reputation for positive training, and has championed the use of reward-based methods.

Details on how to register and specific information will soon be available.

Kamal Fernandez



## Obedience & Rally Run-Thrus/ Trials Scheduled for 2017

### White Plains Weekends

WPWs—practice for obedience trialing—are scheduled for:

- December 18
- January 8
- February 26
- March 26
- April 23
- May 21

Registration is handled through [Dogmatchshows.com](http://Dogmatchshows.com). Day of entry slots can be purchased if any slots remain. Volunteers (who volunteer ahead of time) will receive a free run-thru with their dog.

Karen Wrey is the contact person for White Plains Weekends, at 845-592-1722 or [kayray@optonline.net](mailto:kayray@optonline.net). Reach her by phone (preferred) or email for questions or to volunteer; stewards and judges are needed for each WPW.

### AKC Obedience & Rally Trials

*AKC Rally:* AKC rally trials in 2017 are scheduled for:

- March 4
  - July 29
- AKC Obedience:* AKC obedience trials in 2017 are scheduled for:
- March 5
  - July 30
  - November 5

### WCR Rally Trials (sponsored by PCRE):

- February 12
- May 14
- October 1
- December 3

# Obedience

## Rally Tip: Rally Is Not An Intro to Obedience

by Ann Mandelbaum, CPDT-KA

I'm about to be politically incorrect. I'm fresh out of ideas for my Rally Tip just now so I was looking through previous issues of Sit 'N Stay for inspiration and came across a description of the differences between Rally and Obedience. This is something I feel strongly about and will reprint here with some embellishments

Rally is not an introduction to obedience. Although they share many skills, rally is a different game, requiring a different mindset and different training approaches.

Rally asks handler and dog to move together through a never-before practiced course consisting of signs chosen by the judge from a wide variety of available exercises and arranged in a sometimes challenging configuration. Although the pair should demonstrate teamwork and cooperation, a slight forge, a crooked sit or the need for encouragement to avoid a lag round a right hand turn are not penalized. Since time breaks all ties for placements, briskness is rewarded, implying that confidence and quick thinking are essential. Your challenge, should you accept it, is to maintain a smooth, working contact with your dog

between and through a series of exercises requiring different skills, performed as efficiently, accurately and completely together as possible.

Obedience, on the other hand, requires that dog and handler execute a series of set tasks with exquisite precision, every deviation from perfection being scored against the ideal picture of performance that the judge holds in his or her mind. Between exercises the team may relax (in whatever way the handler sees fit and is appropriate within the rules) as they move to the starting point for the next exercise and indicate to the judge that they are ready to begin. During each exercise communication is carefully prescribed and any extra signaling with voice, hand or body movement is grounds for a zero score. The dog is expected to respond briskly to a single cue from the handler.

So. The basic skills required for both rally and obedience are very similar—eventually more retrieving and jumping in obedience, more tight turns and other fancy footwork in rally. Fundamentally, both depend on the relationship between handler and

dog. Rally is interesting, full of variables and rewarding for both handler and dog. But for those who are fascinated by the challenge of precision heeling which is the foundation of competition obedience, I feel that rally is counterproductive during the learning stages. A finished obedience team is certainly capable of enjoying rally but for those beginning to develop their heeling skills the short distances constantly broken by halts, changes of pace, direction, etc. are an overwhelming challenge to accurate, rewarding heeling.

By all means get the basics started. Develop your relationship with your dog. Learn to work together with joy and confidence. Teach your dog to enjoy working at your side, to move next to you as you stop and start, turn, speed up and slow down, come to you, move from your front to your side. Teach targeting, perching, some jumping, some retrieving, some little games—spins, hand touches, etc. and then decide which fork of the road appeals to you. Both offer many rewards, but if the challenge of competition obedience really beckons, consider bypassing rally at least for the time being.

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## Family Manners

### Mark Muir Disc Dog Seminar 12/10-11

Don't miss Mark Muir's "A Positive Approach to Disc Dogging"—especially if you have a dog that loves throw-and-catch action!

Eleven years ago, Mark Muir was drawn into the sport of Disc Dogging by accident, and when he reached out for help he encountered some styles of teaching he was not fond of. He told himself if he ever achieved a level where he could give back to the sport, he would.

Now, Mark teaches Disc Dogging based on a positive approach, putting as much emphasis on mental training of human and

dog as on the physical training. Mark mostly self-taught himself everything in the sport and, so far, has earned 8-plus World Championship Titles and 15-time World Championships runners-up in different categories. He has recently retired as a career firefighter/medic and still managed to teach and judge over 40 international events in the past six years.

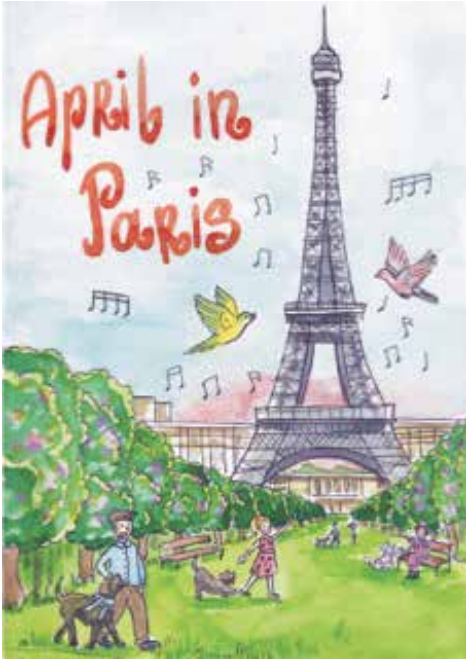
Mark limits the number of seminars he gives as he loves to compete himself. He has eight Border Collies in his house and he always feels the best comment he hears is that people cannot believe how well-be-

haved and happy his dogs are.

Day One of the seminar, "The Basics of Disc Dogging from A to Z," will briefly cover the history of the sport, and provide an understanding of the disc and why it does the things it does in flight. Next, expect many drills that involve throwing the disc, and drills to prepare your dog to be a better disc-catching dog. Mark will bring one of his pups to teach with, and will let you practice some skills with his dog. During the day, we will have several segments of at least five minutes with each team, in which you tell Mark something you want to learn, and Mark suggests and shares what he

# Family Manners

## Live Musical Freestyle Competition at PCOTC



We are happy to announce that on April 29–30, PCOTC will be the site of the first-ever live musical freestyle competition/titling event under Rally Freestyle Elements.

The event is hosted by SassyT Canine Academy at the PCOTC facility. Thank you to Jenn Michaelis, for setting this historic competition at PCOTC.

The event theme is April in Paris: “This is a feeling that no one can ever reprise.” The entry opening date is January 1, 2017; entries close on April 1, 2017.

For registration/more information please go to [www.rallyfree.com](http://www.rallyfree.com)

To the left is an image from the flyer for the event.

### Jenn Michaelis & Terra Earn First Grand Champion Musical Freestyle Title!

On November 5-6, Jenn Michael and Terra, her Cane Corso, earned a Grand Champion Musical Freestyle title— the FIRST ever awarded!

Read more in Jenn’s Glad Tale on page 12.



Jenn and Terra celebrate their Grand Champion Musical Freestyle title!



would do. These are great learning sessions for all to learn from.

Mark would prefer that, at the very least, your dog has some drive for toys, but if not, he will give it his best shot with your pup.

Day Two, “Take Your Disc Dogging to Another Level,” will start with more advanced throws, more advanced freestyle, competition readiness and anything else you wish. Be ready for lots of five-minute sessions in front of everyone, and for asking Mark about what you want to learn. In the afternoon, participants will engage in a super-relaxed fun disc competition, and Mark will give tips along the way.

The seminar runs from 9 am to 5 pm each day. Please be prompt in the morning! Coffee, water and snacks will be provided, along with a light lunch. There are still a few working spots left, so sign up soon!

### PCOTC Students’ Fall Freestyle Titles

The following teams earned their Rally-FrEe Novice title:

- Barbara Meberg and “Penny”
- Jessica Schulte and “Trix”

The following teams earned their Musical Freestyle Newcomer Title:

- Caitlin Doody and “Augustus”
- Kathleen Nurena and “Shakespeare”



# AKC Delegate's Report

*by Kathy Gregory, PCOTC's AKC Delegate*

The September Delegate's Meeting was business-as-usual, with much discussion, but little put forward for a vote. Of particular interest was:

Realignment of the Groups has again been brought to the fore, as, with the recent recognition of many new and Foundation breeds, the Groups, as they now stand, are very uneven. A preliminary survey indicating interest in discussing this topic was returned in September, with the majority of the Delegates indicating their willingness to participate.

Effective February 1, 2017, clubs will be able to offer separate events for Juniors. It is hoped that these "Juniors Only" events will save clubs some expense, as the venues where such events would be held could be smaller. Clubs offering Obedience, Rally and Agility events may soon hold such events.

Statistics were released for the first six months of 2016 as compared to the same time period in 2015:

Agility	717,330 entries	Increase 2.9%
Obedience	74,508 entries	Decrease 4.7%
Rally	45,324 entries	Increase 6.7%
Tracking	1,054 entries	Increase 2.5%

Agility rebounded due to the Premium Class.

The AKC is looking to increase registration of dogs, and in supporting activities in its member clubs by reviewing and improving the client experience each time they touch the AKC. One of the touches they are examining is the information provided to anyone who registers a new dog. To that end, the AKC is moving toward automatically providing a list of all-breed clubs in the geographic vicinity of the new registrant, along with Parent Clubs if the dog is purebred. It is hoped that this will provide an immediate resource for anyone looking to participate in any of the activities offered by Member Clubs.

## **Notes from subsequent updates:**

According to Ron Menaker's recent Chairman's Report, Conformation competitions, which are the flagship events and foundations of the AKC registry, are declining rapidly. These events are, at their heart, evaluations of future breeding stock and fundamental to the existence of the club for the last 142 years. As they say in the Sport, "Form follows function" and these events are vital to promoting the future sires and dams of your recognized breeds, enabling them to better perform the life function for which they were originally intended. All-Breed and Conformation entries have declined from 1.8 million in 2006 to 1.4 million in 2015. Even the introduction of the Grand Champion program has not done much to stem the tide. The number of Grand Championship has declined from 23 thousand in 2003 to 18 thousand on 2015. The reasons for this are echoes of what we have heard and noticed ourselves as a performance club: the overall greying of the fancy, concerns about judges and with overall professionalism and fairness in the sport, all of us having busier

lives and more choices of how we spend our leisure time. Cultural pressure and legislative action have also had an impact upon if and where we can feel comfortable holding canine events.

The public's perception of what they know as "dog shows" is generally what they see on television. The AKC has sought to combat that fact by boosting their efforts toward public education, adding staff leadership to create programs that will retain, if not attract, people in and to the sport. The AKC has also instituted the Grand Champion program, encouraging competitors to continue on in higher levels of accomplishment. There have been 45,000 Grand Champion titles awarded since the inception of this program. A new 4-6 month puppy class has been started and the National Owner Handler Series was instituted to support non-professionals looking to show and handle their own dogs in the highest levels of competition. In the world of Junior competition, there has been a new approach to ranking and new awards for Juniors participating in multiple venues.

An All-Breed Advisory Group has been created to aid all breed clubs to target areas of their operations to be improved. It is an opportunity for clubs to work with a panel of experienced peers to put needed change in place.

Finally, the AKC continues to work on updating their website and using it as a real tool for member clubs and the general public to discover more about the world of canine ownership. Recently, an "AKC Canine College" was started to extend learning and certification opportunities to individuals without geographical limitations. Dog breeders, judges, groomers, trainers and anyone interested in finding out more about the world of dogs can now access this site.

AKC Reunites celebrates its 50th Pet Disaster Relief Trailer donated! The program is only three years old! Since September of 2013, the AKC Pet Disaster Relief Fund has donated fully equipped trailers to pet shelters and communities for use in case of an emergency or disaster. These trailers hold many of the items necessary to help animals in distress including medical supplies, crates, bowls, leashes, cleaning supplies and generators. Immediately after Hurricane Matthew, seven trailers were dispatched to communities in Florida, Georgia and South and North Carolina.

The AKC and Royal Canine National show will be held in Orlando, Florida, on December 17th and 18th.

Meet the Breeds will be held in New York City at Piers 92 and 94 on Saturday, February 11, in conjunction with the annual Westminster Kennel Club Show. Felines will be returning to the show this year.

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month, please consider making a tax deductible donation to the AKC Humane Fund to help end domestic violence in pet owner's lives.

For all of you tech-forward members—the AKC is endorsing a brand new, stylish, light weight dog collar with GPS capabilities. It's called LINK, and can be connected to many GPS systems. This would be a perfect system to locate wandering dogs so they can be returned home. The collar can be purchased through Amazon and costs about \$179.00. For more information, please go to the Amazon or AKC website.



# Fall Events

## Puttin' On The Dog

by Georjean (Gigi) Squillante-Rego, Photos © Bill Romania

On Sunday, September 18, PCOTC was a sponsor for the 29th annual Puttin' on the Dog Festival of Fun in Greenwich, CT, which is a benefit for Adopt-a-Dog.

We could not have asked for a more enthusiastic team of PCOTC volunteers! Our My Dog Can Do That interactive demo was a huge hit with the crowd. PCOTC volunteer Mike Jones and his dog, Abbie Einstein, warmed up the crowd with an obedience demo, after which nearly 70 Puttin' on the Dog participants signed up to be lead through the MDCDT course by PCOTC volunteer guides Sharon Ripps, Helene Rubinstein, Jacqueline Soccodato, Deedie Domenicali, David Lebedin, Susan Mischel and Mike Jones.

We also asked the Adopt-A-Dog staff to bring dogs through our course and announced that their dogs were looking for forever homes.

The highlight of the day was when one of the Adopt-A-Dog handlers approached me and advised that one of the dogs was adopted by someone watching the dog go through our course...it just doesn't get much better than that!

Our booth was expertly manned by the whole crew of volunteers, which included Betsy Fruman, Sharon Ripps, Bill Romania, Helene Rubinstein, Ruth Sheppard, Jacqueline Soccodato, Deedie Domenicali, Virginia Hagan, David Lebedin, Susan Mischel, Jennifer Lau, June Moskovitz, Mike Jones and Gigi Squillante-Rego. Many questions were answered and club brochures and schedules were explained and handed out throughout the day. Our free pens were a big hit, too!

Special thanks goes out to Bill Romania for volunteering to be the event photographer.

He did an amazing job of capturing the excitement of all of the MDCDT participants.

Many thanks to Betsy Fruman, Bill Romania, Virginia Hagan and Gigi Squillante-Rego for loading equipment up the night before the event, as well as to David Lebedin and Gigi Squillante-Rego for returning the equipment to the club after the event. A very special thank you to Scott Shaw for picking up all of the equipment at the end of the day and getting it safely back to the club in his pick-up truck again this year.

Suffice it to say, a great time was had by all and the crowd thoroughly enjoyed our MDCDT agility course. As a matter of fact, the Adopt-A-Dog staff told me our demo was by far the highlight of the day and we have already been invited back for next year!!



Dogs at PCOTC's My Dog Can Do That! ring try, clockwise from top left: the wobble board, a chute barrel, weave poles, jumps, contact trainer, and teeter.





# Fall Events

## Seiter/Tucci Oct. 1-2 Agility Workshops

Photos © Debbie Poe



Clockwise from top left: (1) Arthur Stein and Chester do lots of running during the Masters/International Handling seminar led by Chris Tucci. (2) Chris Tucci gives pointers to Arthur Stein and Chester. (3) Kris Seiter discusses handling with Susan Mischel and Kip during the Young Dog

seminar. (4) Jethro works hard to top the teeter during the Masters/International Handling seminar taught by Chris Tucci. (5) Lynn Lucas and Twig at Kris Seiter's Young Dog Sequencing seminar. (6) Nancy Nelson and Zsa Zsa complete a sequence.



# Fall Events

## Hounds on the Sound

*Photos © Sharon Ripps*

Marcy Rauch headed a PCOTC team that staffed a booth and presented My Dog Can Do That! Agility at "Hounds on the Sound" on October 9. The team included Virginia Hagan, Ira Lewis, June Moscovitz, Nancy Oestreicher, Joanne Ouchterloney, Sharon Ripps, Bill Romania, Ruth Sheppard, and Mary-Elizabeth Simpson. The event was a fundraiser for the SPCA of Westchester.

Unfortunately, the weather for the event started out bad and turned worse, so much so that HOTS was rained out and closed before its stated end time. Photos of the event by Sharon Ripps show MDCDT! participants and PCOTC guides working in the rain, prior to the mid-event cancellation.

Thank you to our team for working in such inclement weather!

### Photos

Top row, from left:

- A dog about to enter the weave poles
- The dog successfully goes through two weave poles
- A dog steps on the wobble board

Bottom row, from left:

- Trying the Teeter
- A dog at the PCOTC table
- Another dog approaches the wobble board





# Fall Events

## Frankie Joiris "Total Team Tricks Seminar"

*By Jane Wheeler, Photos © Jane Wheeler*

On October 23, Frankie Joiris of Speedoggie Performance Dog Training offered a full-day seminar on trick training at PCOTC. She proved to the participants that "there is much more to trick training than roll over and shake hands!" Besides the fun, trick training can improve proprioception, core strength and flexibility, and help strengthen your bond with your dog.

Tricks that seminar participants worked on included ring toss, bowling, backup, go under (the legs of a human seated on the floor), bow down, find my stuff and put it in a box, and more. By the end of the seminar, the dogs were happy and tired.



### Photographs:

Top row, from left:

- Frankie Joiris demonstrates the ring toss.
- Peggy Young tries out the ring toss.
- Demonstration of "find my own stuff (collars and leashes) and put it away."

Middle row, from left:

- Demonstration of "bowling" trick.
- Elizabeth Lynch and Coconut work on a bow.

Bottom row, from left:

- Cindy Catts works on "push the ball," a part of bowling.
- Joiris demos teaching "crawl under" using her legs.





# Fall Events

## AKC Rally Trials Nov. 5

*Photos © Morgaana Photography*

AKC Rally® requires teamwork between dog and handler along with performance skills similar to obedience. Rally provides an excellent introduction to AKC events for new dogs and handlers,

and can provide a challenging opportunity for competitors in other events to strengthen their skills. All dogs are eligible to compete in rally. Photos Courtesy of ©Morgaana Photography



# Fall Events

## AKC November Obedience Trials *by Bruce Sheffler*

On November 6, two AKC licensed obedience trials were held concurrently at PCOTC. The first trial had a total entry of 51, the second had an entry of 48. All regular classes were offered in both trials.

Our judges were Charles Marcantonio and Phyllis Broderick. Karen Wrey was trial chairperson and was assisted by Joanne Sheffler, hospitality, Bruce Sheffler, grounds, and Cindy Rubin who acted as both Chief Steward and show secretary. Special thanks to all the Club members who volunteered as stewards and contributed to the smooth and efficient running of the two trials.

PCOTC members who placed in Trial 1:

- Novice:
    - Bruce Sheffler's Golden Flyers Zig Zag Zeke RA, 1st
    - Joanne Sheffler's Golden Flyers My Beamish Boy RE, 2nd
  - Open A: Marianne Huniyack's Abalee's You've Got Mail CD, 1st
  - Open B:
    - Robert Amen's Tanbark's Cola Serenade CDX,PCD, BN, 1st
    - Rick Ritacco's OTCH Abalee's Bea Bop A Lula UDX, OM3, RN, CGC, 4th
  - Utility B: Rick Ritacco's OTCH Abalee's Bea Bop A Lula UDX, OM3, RN, CGC, 3rd
- Robert Amen's Tanbark's Cola Serenade CDX, PCD, BN was the Highest Scoring Dog in Trial 1 (with a 199-1/2) and was the

highest scoring PCOTC member team in both trials.

PCOTC members who placed in Trial 2:

- Novice: Bruce Sheffler's Golden Flyers Zig Zag Zeke CD, RA, 3rd
- Open A: Joanne Sheffler's Golden Flyers Polly Pocket CD, RE, 3rd
- Open B: Robert Amen's Tanbark's Cola Serenade CDX,PCD, BN, 2nd
- Utility B: Rick Ritacco's OTCH Abalee's Bea Bop A Lula UDX, OM3, RN, CGC, 1st

Rick Ritacco's OTCH Abalee's Bea Bop A Lula UDX, OM3, RN, CGC was the Highest Scoring Dog in Open B and Utility Combined.



### Dogs in Winter

Clockwise from left:  
Blake © Morgaana  
Photography, Guinevere  
© Barbara Siegel,  
Zack © Michele  
Cardone, the late  
Jazymyn © Michelle  
Cardone





# Fall Events

## PCOTC Open House

*By Lynn Lucas, Photos © Chris Lucas*

Well, we did it again! PCOTC hosted its second Open House and once again it was a success.

The lower level was divided into four sections representing each discipline: Agility, Family Manners, Nose Work and Obedience/Rally. We were lucky to have several of our instructors represent their particular area: Marie Fay, Kathy Gregory, Ann Mandelbaum, Jenn Michaelis and Rick Pisani. The agility area was managed by well-sea-

soned agility club members: CeeCee Dwyer, Virginia Hagan, Yukiko Hanes and Alice Wang. Visitors were encouraged to try out activities as well as chat with these instructors and club members. We had over 40 new dogs and their owners visit the facility as well as many of our current students.

The lower level was a buzz of activity. It was nice to see the facility being used in such a way with instructors and club members

working together to 'show off their club.' Check out the activity here!

A huge thank you goes to all those helping in the rings as well as Barbara Baltz for meeting and greeting visitors as they arrived, plus Patty Chen, Rickie Haas and Mary Jane Koren for helping out wherever needed ... and as usual Jane Wheeler for being the driving force behind the scenes to make this happen.



Clockwise from top left: Obedience demo, rally ring with Ann Mandelbaum, nose work ring, agility ring, Family Manners ring with Jenn Michaelis.





# Fall Events

## Bobbie Lyons K9 Conditioning Workshops

By Jane Wheeler, Photos © Jane Wheeler

Bobbie Lyons, Certificate Canine Fitness and FitPAWS Master Trainer Course Instructor, offered two K9 conditioning workshops at PCOTC on November 19-20. According to Bobbie, "Strength training is the missing piece of the puzzle for many K9 athletes. More time and money is spent on fixing dogs' injuries than preventing them. We need to learn how to build core strength, improve balance, increase flexibility and range of motion, build confidence, increase hind-end awareness, reduce the risk of injury and improve our dog's overall performance."

On Saturday, Bobbie introduced participants to equipment, exercises and stretches designed to reduce the risk of injury and increase balance, core strength, body awareness and overall performance. Sunday's workshop focused on "fitness in small places" which concentrated on equipment combinations and how to design a program for your dog, pairing equipment in different ways and designing a mentally and physically challenging program that can be done in a small place. On both days, afternoons were reserved for private sessions.

This year, Bobbie introduced participants to equipment called "The Klimb," from <https://blue-9.com> and available from several vendors such as FitPAWS and Amazon. Klimbs can be connected with each other, and combined with other conditioning equipment, to make interesting courses for your dog. Though neither inexpensive nor lightweight, the Klimbs are ingenious: they connect quickly, have a soft-touch coating that improves footing, use recessed under-platform storage of legs for easy transport, and are waterproof and washable.



# Glad Tales



## Terra Earns FIRST EVER Grand Champion Musical Freestyle title

Terra and I danced our socks off at our freestyle competition in Syracuse on November 5 and 6. She earned her Grand Champion Musical Freestyle title on Saturday with a 95/100, did a fab encore presentation Sunday and earned a 97/100. Terra won awards for High Scoring InSync Division, High Scoring Musical Freestyle Division and High Combined scores for both divisions.

Here's a link to her performance on Sunday, hope you enjoy it! <https://youtu.be/Ab0NK-oU2ak>

— Jenn Michaelis

## Sir Duncan Earns ARCHMX, Camden Finishes his ARCHEX

My Golden Retriever Sir Duncan finished his WCR Master Rally Championship (ARCHMX) at Hudson Valley trials on Sept 16, 2016.

My Cardigan Welsh Corgi, Camden, finished his WCR ARCHEX at SCOR in Andover NJ on Oct 9, 2016, and got his AKC beginner novice title PCOTC on July 31, 2016,

— Beverly B Reid



July 31, 2016 Portchester Obedience Training Club



## Penny Plays Barn Hunt

Penny: A fun trial, but run just like a real trial!

— Elizabeth Brown



# Glad Tales

## Phouka and Rhoswyn at WCR Rally Trials

Sirrocco's Private Party "Phouka" and Sirrocco's Song of the Sea "Rhoswyn" had a successful time at World Cynosport Rally Trials hosted by PCRE on October 30. Phouka got 2 out of 2 Q's and 6-month-old Rhoswyn took first place in both trials in the Puppy Class. Thank you Judge R. Hall and Judge Sandi Ver Sprill.

— *Morgaana Menzel*



## Cola Earns UD

Cola finished her UD title at Saw Mill River Kennel Club on Oct. 14. She also won High Combined.

— *Bob Amen*

# Sad Tales

## FINN 2/14/03-11/15/16

Our sweet Finn (formerly Valentino), who is 13 years old, was just diagnosed Saturday with lung cancer and secondary bone cancer. We took him in for a heart x-ray, as he has a heart condition we were treating. Since he also had developed a limp 3 days ago, we had them do a leg x-ray also. Both x-rays showed significant cancer. We had to make the sad decision to help him to the Bridge last night, since he was having trouble breathing. He was a sweet, loving little dog and we miss him very much. I know he was met at the Bridge by Tucker, Tim & Oliver. Love you, Findala.

— *Cynthia Catts & Margaret DeFonce*



# Family Additions

## Phoebe

It's Phoebe ("I'll be there for you")! Fur sisters Penny and Lena welcome Phoebe who was recently adopted from the Humane Society of Westchester. Born June 1, 2016 with an unmistakable collie face, Phoebe can't wait to discover which K9 sport she likes best. Follow the adventures of Phoebe, Penny and Lena on instagram [@mixedbreedpuppy](#).

— Janis Mandrus



## Daisy

Daisy is a spayed female German Shepherd/Pit mix adopted from the Animal Adoption Center in Jackson WY. She loves playing with Coconut and is learning her family manners and nose work with a long-term goal of becoming a therapy dog.

— Elizabeth Lynch



## Louie

Louie is my new blue poodle boy. He and my Penny are excelling in Barn Hunt!

— Elizabeth Brown



# Our Stars

## New Titles & Honors Reported by Club Members As of 11/15/16

### RALLY TITLES

#### American Kennel Club (AKC)

##### **AKC Utility Dog (UD)**

10/14/16 Bob Amen, Tanbark's Cola Saramade, "Cola," Golden Retriever

### RALLY TITLES

#### American Kennel Club (AKC)

##### **AKC Rally Novice (RN)**

July 2016 Megan and Audrey Woods, Britannia Fuzzy Logic RN, "Izzy," Bearded Collie

##### **AKC Rally Advanced (RA)**

3/5/16 Junior Handler Ramona Ross (Sarah Johnson), "Sassafras," All American Plottx

7/30/16 Rachel Lane, Dustin Alexander Lane, "Dustin" Terrier Mix

8/17/16 Cindy Rubin, Golden Flyer's Blade Runner, "Blade," Border Collie

11/5/16 Sarah Johnson, Daisy Furball, "Daisy," All American Aussie

#### World Cynosport Rally (WCRL)

##### **WCRL Rally Level 1 (RL1)**

4/10/16 Rachel Lane, Dustin Alexander Lane, "Dustin," Terrier Mix

### AGILITY TITLES

#### American Kennel Club (AKC)

##### **AKC Novice Fast Preferred (NFP)**

10/21/16 Sarah Johnson, Daisy Furball, "Daisy," All American Aussie

##### **AKC Master Jumper Preferred 2 (MJP2)**

10/1/16 Stephen McKay, Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog

##### **AKC Master Jumpers Preferred 4 (MJP4)**

10/23/16 Debbie Poe, Neguinho Maluco, "Jethro," Pomeranian

##### **AKC Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX)**

10/16/16 Stephen McKay, Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog

##### **AKC Preferred Agility Champion (PACH)**

10/16/16 Stephen McKay, Brigadoon Have Tux Will Travel, "Derby," Shetland Sheepdog

### HERDING TITLES

#### **AKC Herding Tested (HT)**

10/15/16 Audrey and Megan Woods, CH Briannia Live Long and Prosper BN RA HT CGC, "PJ," Bearded Collie

### BARN HUNT

#### Barn Hunt Association (BHA)

##### **BHA Novice Barn Hunt (RATN)**

7/31/16 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

July 2016 Audrey and Megan Woods, Britannia Listen To Your Heart CD BN RE NJP RATN, "George," Bearded Collie

##### **BHA Open Barn Hunt (RATO)**

8/28/16 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

### BHA Senior Barn Hunt (RATS)

10/22/16 Jeanne Meldrim, D'Meldrim's Axe du Dantero, "Axe," Belgian Malinois

### NOSE WORK

#### National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW)

##### **NACSW Nose Work 3 (NW3)**

10/30/16 Jeanne & Michael Turschmann, Bonnie Blu Ode to Ulysses, "Dublin," Kerry Blue Terrier

##### **NACSW Level 1 Element Specialty: Exteriors (L1-E)**

9/18/16 Jenn Michaelis, Grizzly Mountain's Terremoto, "Terra," Cane Corso

##### **NACSW Level 2 Element Specialty: Containers (L2-C)**

11/5/16 Cynthia Grohoski, Aneleh Marshwiggle Oceana, "Blossom," English Springer Spaniel

### COURSING TITLES

#### **AKC Coursing Ability Advanced (CAA)**

10/9/16 Kathleen Foley, "Brian," Westie

10/9/16 Kathleen Foley, "Daniel Patrick," Westie

### FREESTYLE TITLES

#### Rally Freestyle Elements (RFE)

##### **Rally FrEe Novice (R-FE/N)**

8/21/16 Jenn Michaelis, CH Mystic Morning Shadow White, "Ringo," Chinese Crested

##### **In Sync Novice (InS/N)**

11/05/16 Jenn Michaelis, Grizzly Mountain's Terremoto, "Terra," Cane Corso

##### **Musical Freestyle Grand Champion (MF/GrCH)**

11/05/16 Jenn Michaelis, Grizzly Mountain's Terremoto, "Terra," Cane Corso

### AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN (CGC)

6/24/16 Rachel Lane, Dustin Alexander Lane, "Dustin," Terrier Mix

10/28/16 Megan and Audrey Woods, Britannia Fuzzy Logic RN, "Izzy," Bearded Collie

10/28/16 Jeanne & Michael Turschmann, Bonnie Blu Ode to Ulysses, "Dublin," Kerry Blue Terrier

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## 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](http://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 [trummermt@yahoo.com](mailto:trummermt@yahoo.com) or to Michelle Trummer. Summer home: 11 Lakeview Rd., North Salem, NY 10560. Winter Home: 11988 61<sup>st</sup> Street North, West Palm Beach, FL 33412.



# 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 in Sit ‘n Stay and on the PCOTC Events bulletin board at the facility or by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator at [pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:pcotcvolunteer@gmail.com).

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, <http://www.pcotc.org/membership>.

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.

# HELP WANTED

**THERAPY DOG PRE-SCREENING**, Tuesday, Dec. 13, 8:45 am until noon, or Saturday, Dec. 17, 3:15 to 8:00 pm. Please sign up to help with our Therapy Dog Pre-Screening

Sign up for either day or both. Earn volunteer hours. No experience required.

To sign up, please contact George Berger at [gpb37@aol.com](mailto:gpb37@aol.com)

**WHITE PLAINS WEEKENDS**, Dec. 18. Stewards and judges needed. Contact Karen Wrey to volunteer by phone (preferred) or email; [kayray@optonline.net](mailto:kayray@optonline.net), 845-592-1722 (home, preferred), or 914-494-6508 (cell).

**AGILITY RUN-THRUS**, Jan. 22, Feb. 19, Mar. 19, 2017. Volunteer signup instructions will be posted prior to each weekend.

**AKC RALLY TRIALS, Mar 4.** Contact Audrey Woods at [ajwx3@aol.com](mailto:ajwx3@aol.com) or Megan Woods at [hollywoods118@aim.com](mailto:hollywoods118@aim.com)

**AKC OBEDIENCE TRIALS, Mar. 5.** Stewards needed. No experience necessary! Contact Cindy Rubin, chief steward, at [rosiesmom@doglover.com](mailto:rosiesmom@doglover.com). Other obedience volunteers should contact Karen Wrey by phone (preferred) or email; 845-592-1722 (home, preferred), or 914-494-6508 (cell), or [kayray@optonline.net](mailto:kayray@optonline.net).

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

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

# Keeping in Touch with PCOTC

**PCOTC's Web Site:** Go to [www.TeachRover.com](http://www.TeachRover.com) or [www.pcotc.org](http://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 directly 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](mailto: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 Lists:** PCOTC's Yahoo Group lists (General, Agility, and Family Manners) are being closed down. Mail messages will go through our MailChimp mailing list, so make sure you are subscribed (see above).

**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.

## Dogs in Winter

Left, © Michele Cardone  
Right, © Carol Fessler



# PCOTC Club Meeting Minutes

## 10/26/16

### 8/31/16

**Present:** L. Lucas, J. Meldrim, O. Kornienko, N. Nelson, M. Woods, B. DelRowe, G. Berger, M. Menzel, A. Woods

#### President's Report

- 3 WPW are scheduled for the remainder of the year.
- In the process of updating the by-laws – received comments from the AKC in the past 24 hrs requiring further review by BoD. A special memberships meeting will be called to explain the changes and an additional one for voting.

#### Corresponding Secretary

- Keeping all abreast of happenings – 13-14 e-blasts have gone out.
- Class surveys have gone out
- Next meeting CS will be able to present data about class surveys

#### Treasurer

- The operating account has a balance of \$50,336.85
- Small business account has \$45,388.25
- Trophy fund has \$3,789.23
- Budget has been created for the next year

#### Membership

- 242 members currently which is down 30 members from last year
- Starting a membership committee to improve membership drive. An e-blast will go out.

#### House

- Big overhaul of the closets to get them in shape and get rid of outdated, unused, and broken items.
- Cleaned all equipment and crates
- Revitalizing the House Committee and assigning new tasks, etc.
- Selling old equipment to go back into agility/obedience funds.

#### Publicity

- *Sit 'n Stay* out next day or so

- Open House planned for November 13
- Kris Seiter/Chris Tucci workshops - Oct 1 & 2. Registration now open
- Many seminars planned through the end of the year

#### Registration

- August 17 registration opens, 360 enrolled; some classes will be cancelled.
- Will close next week

#### AKC Delegates Report

- Complete report published in *Sit 'n Stay*
- Deals with judges being covered by insurance
- How dogs will be reinstated

#### New Business

##### Budget

- Built off of revenue and expenses of last year.
- Ran the budget through the Training Directors, House and Seminars people.
- Reflects an increase in room rentals
- The problem with past categorization was that most postings were done "net" and it is difficult to get at the detail of the expenses related to the category.
- The budget is divided into operations, plant, public education, agility, agility trials, family manners, obedience, obedience trials, rally, rally trials, nosework.
- Rally and Obedience were combined so the budget is a guesstimate.
- Nosework the instructor: class cost is high due to having two instructors

##### Agility Trial Survey

- results presented (see attached)
- Deb Salerno will Chair the May trial at FDR Park in 2017 and will be forming a trial committee

Task Force will be formed to look at a future club facility. There is approx. 3 years left on the lease.

Motion to adjourn.

#### Bylaws Revision Vote

The meeting was called to order and roll call taken. There was quorum of 40 members presents.

The rules of order for speaking and making motions were discussed, as well as the fact that 2/3 of the quorum was needed to pass a motion.

The meeting began with a motion to approve the By-laws as revised. Each article and section was read and members had the opportunity to ask for clarification, make a motion to amend, discuss and express their opinion or move on.

The motions presented were:

Article 1 Section 4 (dealing with Members in Good Standing)

A motion was made to strike, i, ii, iii, and revert back to the original wording in the by-laws. Motion was seconded. There 6 votes for and 33 against. Motion did not carry.

Article II Section 2 and 3 (dealing with how members were to be notified of meetings) A motion was made to change the language of the revised section to read:

"Notice of each such meeting shall be sent by email (unless otherwise requested) by the corresponding secretary". Motion was seconded. There were 32 votes for the change and 4 against. 1 person abstained. Motion carried.

Article IV Section 2 ( dealing with term limits)

A motion was made to amend the revision and revert back to having term limits for the president of not more than 5 consecutive terms.

After some discussion, a motion was made to amend the amended motion and insert "not more than 4 consecutive terms for president."

After more discussion, a motion was made to amend, the amended motion and make a motion to include the first and second vice presidents for term limits not more than 4 consecutive terms. Motion was seconded. There were 28 votes for and 11 against.

A motion to accept the By-laws as amended was made, seconded and voted on. 37 vote yes, one no, one abstain.

Meeting adjourned.



# PCOTC Board Meeting Minutes

## 9/13/16

**Present:** G. Berger, B. Del Rowe, L. Lucas, J. Meldrim, M. Menzel, N. Nelson, J. Wheeler, A. Woods, M. Woods

### By-laws

The meeting centered primarily around the By-Laws

- Megan Woods explained what the AKC needs in terms of revisions.
- Discussed what can happen and what couldn't happen according to the AKC
- what belongs in the By-laws and what need to go into a policies and procedures manual.
- A discussion ensued about incorporating these revisions into the By-laws. Talked about the logistics of calling a Special Meeting to present to the membership and then a second meeting for the membership to vote on the By-Laws.

\* The wording was fleshed out for a definition of AKC Delegate as to AKC's recom-

mendation.

- Two dates were confirmed to present to the members; Wednesday, October 5 to present and Wednesday, October 26 to vote.

- Lynn will speak to the By-Laws Committee to determine how they feel it is best to present to the membership.

### New Business

#### **Floor**

- The floor is stained and buckling. Will ask Kim Seiter what floor she would recommend.
- The question was asked whether we should fundraise for a new floor.

#### **Policy re puppies**

- It is not our place to recommend vaccinations but rather to defer to the veterinarian's recommendation. However, NYS law requires rabies vaccination by 4 months of age and it is important that the club is compliant with this law.

### **2017 Calendar**

- Was presented for sessions, club meetings, etc. A motion was made to accept the calendar as written, it was seconded and the motion carried. All were in favor.

### **Class Schedules**

- A discussion was had regarding the efficacy of class offerings during certain time slots. The information needed will be pulled from ASAP.
- Future meeting will determine if there are "prime times" for certain venues in an effort to increase class participation. In addition there needs to be more disciplines promoting the venues offered and bridging classes.

### **Soda/Water Honor System**

There will be a sign for soda and water left in the refrigerator from venues and trials with the amount charged. There will be a cash box nearby.

Motion to adjourn



Holiday dogs  
from Morgaana Menzel!  
© Morgaana Photography