THREE HIGH-IN-TRIALS IN ONE WEEKEND!

Laurie Sasaki and her Aussie, Sassy, delivered a perfect 200 and High In Trial from the Novice B class at the Santa Cruz Kennel Club show in San Mateo on Wednesday, December 29, 2010.

The next day Lizanne Kaiser and Dante, her German Shepherd Dog, scored 199 from Novice B at the Kennel Club of Salinas trials. This great performance earned the team High in Trial.

On Friday, at the same venue for the San Mateo Kennel Club trial, Hazel Olbrich with Sam, her St. Bernard, scored 198.5, also from Novice B. They won the resulting run-off to take the club’s third HIT in three days - Happy New Year!!

Photo by Jack Hill
PRESIDENT’S CORNER
by Jack McCredie, ODTC President

Our club is having another great year - wonderful classes, fun events, great matches and trials, and fantastic success in regional competitions! Financially we have never been stronger and our new Jacuzzi Street lease gives us a solid base through December 2013.

We have invested time and money in upgrading our training facility - for example, new mirrors and door, new signage, patched walls with new trim for mounting bulletin boards and decorative items, drainage repairs, and a complete spring clean up. And the board is considering additional improvements such as new floor covering.

Our financial reserves (almost $50,000) are sufficient. They should continue to grow at a rate of about $10,000 per year if we continue our current successful programs and if the economy does not completely tank. As a result, I have asked for suggestions about how we might invest a portion of our yearly net revenues in a worthy cause or two in the Bay Area that would benefit the broader environment we all share with our dogs.

The board has received a few good suggestions, and also the concern that we should not spend any of our hard won reserves outside of ODTC. These differing investment philosophies are certainly both valid and worthy of discussion in the coming months as we prepare for our annual June meeting and election of officers. In the coming weeks, I propose to send a small questionnaire to members to try to get a sense of your feelings about the opportunity we have to make a small, but meaningful, impact on the broader Bay Area dog loving community.

TRAINING NEWS
by Hazel Olbrich, On behalf of the Training Committee

Drop-In Rally Class

The drop-in Rally class every Tuesday evening at 7:30 continues to be a successful contributor to our curriculum. The class is taught by club-member volunteers, which allows the students to benefit from a broad range of experience and perspective in Rally obedience. The volunteer instructors for the this quarter are:

April: Patricia Minger and Zanna Knight (co-teach)
May: Harriet Tucker
June: Susan Dickerson and Susanna Repo (alternate weeks)

I will soon be asking for instructors for the second half of 2011. If you are interested, please let me know H_olbrich@sbcglobal.net or 510-531-2476.

New Classes

We are offering Off-Leash Control at a new time with a new-to-us instructor, Helen-Marie Capps. She comes to us with years of training experience from Vallejo DTC and her private business. The class starts on April 11, Mondays from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. Enrollment is limited, and we will evaluate the interest to determine when future sessions of the class may be presented.

I also am considering a class in which I will teach the Foundation Skills for Utility, Wednesdays from 7 to 7:45. It is likely that I will teach it in two parts, one in May and a second part in June. The class will be pre-enrolled. If you are interested, please contact me so that I can assess the level of interest.

Thank you!

Photo by Jack McCredie

Lora Cox’s Tuesday morning class.
TRACKING TEST - April 17, 2011
by Hazel Olbrich
ODTC Tracking Test Chair (now former)

Oakland's DTC is the last (field) tracking test of the year in Northern California. Our site is Morgan Territory, a glorious open space (see our website, oaklanddogtraining.org for photos) that provides hills, dales, woods, ravines, hikers on foot and horse, and cattle. Although a bull gave one of our tracklayers pause on the day of the test, the cattle did not appear to be factor in any of the tracks while they were being run. This year’s late rains and the cool weather produced good tracking conditions for us. A gusty wind did cause problems for some dogs. Our judges were Kaye Hall and Anne Hershey.

Both of our two TD entries experienced success, although only one earned its TD. The first dog run, a GSD, made it all the way to the last turn and then was stymied by the wind (most of its track was sheltered). His owner was thrilled with the tracking work and left a happy camper. I aspire to follow her example. Our second TD entrant, a beagle, came to track and did a great job according to reports.

Our first TDX, a GSD, came to grief on an open hillside with gusty winds. Our second entrant, an Aussie (club member Laurie Sasaki’s Sassy!), passed, conquering the distraction provided by a large group of people and dogs that crossed her track on one of the fire roads. Our third TDX dog, a young Terv bitch, had trouble with her first turn. Our fourth TDX entrant, a Boxer bitch, had not come to play that day. She was just coming into heat and also had been directly driven the 400 miles to the test site through the night. I wonder if one of those conditions affected her will to work. Our alternate track was run by a GSD male whose work I had admired just the week before. I don’t know what happened but I gather the whistle was blown fairly early on in the track.

It doesn’t take a village to run a tracking test, it takes a small city. One of our tracklayers did not show up on plotting day, which caused a bit of scrambling. Luckily our talent pool is deep and flexible; one of our crosstrack layers took on a track, and one of our primary crosstrack layers took on another track. It did require that I take on the role of escort to our tracking starts (we cannot drive all the way to our starts) which added an exercise element to my day – but then I did get to see some tracking for a change! On tracking day all the tracks and crosstracks were laid on course and on schedule.

The club was supported by the efforts of the many people, some of whom are not even club members. We should always be mindful that being able to rent one of the areas loveliest locations for a tracking test is a privilege and we thank East Bay Regional Park District for allowing us to use Morgan Territory. Lora Cox did the heaviest lifting (chief tracklayer), Colton Meyer drove and laid a TDX track, Patricia Minger provided Saturday’s lunch, Wendy Lee provided Sunday’s lunch, Marion McNiven provided the cookies that power the activity, and Jack Hill recorded the event. Our spectacular catalog (there will be a copy at the hall) was the work of three people: Jack Hill (photographer), Joyce Gross (cover layout and printing), and Debi Best (contents). Tracklayers were Colton Meyer, Barbara Henry, Debi Best, Donna Highstreet, Lora Cox, Suzanne Bria, Kamrin Macknight, and Dave Signorotti. Primary crosstracks were laid by John Paul Galloway and Glen Meek, and our secondary crosstrack layers Jean Marie Hill, Susan Dickerson, and Hilary Ellis.

I have now been tracking test chair/secretary for four years (breaking my policy of three years and out). I have passed the rubber mallet on to Barbara Henry. Thank you Barbara!
TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Banjo - Harriet Tucker
At the San Mateo Kennel Club show in December, my Brittany, Banjo (Gerstdale's Frito Bandito CD, RN, CGC) gave me a wonderful New Year's gift. He earned his third Novice leg, thus completing his title and earning his CD in three trials. We showed under Carolyn Wray, and his score was 194.5 out of 200.

He earned his first two Novice legs at the Napa Valley DTC trials on November 6, 2010. In the morning trial, we showed under Loretta Delinger and earned a score of 192, which gave us third place. In the afternoon, we showed under Ken Blanchard and earned a score of 196, which gave us first place! I'm a very proud Mom!

Benson - Susan Dickerson
Benson earned his UD title at the Sun-Maid KC trial on 2/5/11 with a first place and score of 194.5. It was his third time in the Utility ring after placing 1st at the San Mateo KC trial on 12/31/10 with a score of 192.5 and 1st at the Santa Clara DTC on 1/16/11 with a score of 197. He was also high-scoring non-sporting dog at the Santa Clara trial. Since last November, we went back into Rally for some fun and picked up 6 legs toward his RAE2 title.

Breeze - Linda Wilford
Breeze (Toastin's Playful Breeze, CD, RE, OAP, AJP, NFP), made me very happy by finishing her CD in San Jose 1/15/11 under Alvin Eng. I was afraid that if we didn't get this last leg during the winter indoor shows we would have to wait till next Fall, since Breeze's urge to sniff and look around is amplified outdoors. Open should be more fun for her. She also finished her agility Novice Fast Preferred title.

Dante - Lizanne Kaiser
On December 29-31 Dante earned his CD in 3 straight shows with a 198, 199 (also winning HIT), and 194.5. Atta boy!

Diva - Debbi Hankins
We did it! Diva finished her CDX April 17 at Sacramento KC under Judge Cathy Dutra with a tie for first place & help from a cheering section of well wishers.

For her 3 legs she had 194 (tied for first-lost runoff), 191 (first place) and 191.5 (tied for first-lost runoff). Many thanks to all her training buddies and instructors for great support on her journey, we will show in Open A for 60 days and then spend a year proofing for utility!

Lili - Lynn Kosmakos
My German Shepherd Dog, Lili, earned her 1st CD leg, with a Nov. B 1st place score of 190 at the Diablo Valley GSD Specialty.

Phoenix - Lori Drouin
Phoenix finished his UD on Feb. 13 at Linn County KC. He came home from the four day cluster with 2 UDX legs.

Sam - Hazel Olbrich
Sam earned two TDs in sequential weekends in February. On February 19 she earned an ASCA TD at the PASA tracking test at a spectacular site at Fort Ord. On February 27 she earned her AKC TD at the Sacramento DTC tracking test at Mather Regional Park in Rancho Cordova. Good girl!

Secret - Sue Harvey
At the Santa Cruz Kennel Club trial on March 24, a very stormy and noisy day in Vallejo, Secret earned her UD with a second place in Utility A. In her previous two Utility legs she captured two first place ribbons. If there were a trophy for most enthusiastic competitor she would certainly be in the running!

(Continued on page 5)
Sassy - Laurie Sasaki
Sassy passed her TDX at the ODTC tracking test at Morgan Territory on April 17.

Shanti - Sue Stauffer
Little Shanti earned a 199 in Utility B at Santa Clara under Stephanie Gomez. And we earned 14 OTCH points! We went on to win a runoff for HIT and the award for that was a check for $75! The first place in Utility's award was $20. I immediately went out and spent our earnings on a couple of new dog beds.

Thank you to Barbara Henry and Laurie Sasaki for all of their help!

Spencer - Zanna Knight
Spencer (Laughing Knight Luna D'Estate) earned a first place in Rally Novice B his first time out.

As I went through the course, I found myself welling up with emotion thinking about the late sainted Oliver and all the fun I had with him in the ring. Spencer did not disappoint, he was darling to work with.

MEMBER MEETING - MARCH 12
Cal State University East Bay
Called to order at 11:05AM by Jack McCredie. (18 members present, quorum met)
Approval of minutes for 12/10/10 meeting – with corrections
Membership report, Jack McCredie: 88 paid members, 110 on roster, will be sending 2nd invoices to those who have not paid dues yet.
Financial report, Jack McCredie: we are in good shape, expenses down, income also down a little but does not include $2500 for match fees, which was included in last years to-date numbers.

Training Committee, Lizzanne Kaiser, Hazel Olbrich:
• 2010 met 118% of revenue goal and 111% of attendance goal. Similar goals for this year.
• New trainer on Monday evenings for an off-leash control class starting April 11th, Helen Marie Caps. Call Sue Harvey to sign up.

Nominating Committee, Beth Sampson (Chair):
Committee consisted of Beth, Hazel Olbrich and Barbara Henry.
Slate of nominees:
President: Jack McCredie
VP: Beth Sampson
Treasurer: Debbi Hankins
Secretary: Patricia Minger
Membership: Susan Dickerson
Director: Anne Collins
Director: Carol Wallace
Director: Meigs Mattheson
Sr Trustee: Anne Patterson-Hines
Jr Trustee: Sharon Vannucchi

No nominations from the floor. It was moved and seconded that nominations be closed. Vote passed Election will be at June 4th member meeting.

Competition Events Updates:
• Match on 3/20 is sold out, need a couple of volunteers to help mark rings on Saturday afternoon and also need stewards. Contact Sharon Vannucchi if you can help.
• Tracking test is in good order, come early (before 8am) if you want to ‘watch’
• Obedience and Rally trials, premium is out, deadline for entries is 5/4, trial date is 5/22.
Thanks to trophy chair Marti Nickoli for collecting over $2,000 for some juicy cash prizes.
Raffle prizes - please solicit donations from pet businesses nearby. Steward chair is Sharon Vannucchi, please contact if you can help.
• Agility trial on Sept 2 & 3, everything is in place except a trial chair. Easiest job on the list, just show up at the actual trial. Contact Jack if you are interested.

Marketing committee, Beth Sampson and Jack McCredie; Some recurring opportunities, Solano

(Continued on page 6)
Stroll, Puppy Palooza at Alameda County Fair. New Facebook page, please vote on Baylist top 5, CGC testing was discussed with regards to AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day; new trainer Helen Marie Caps for Monday evening class. House Committee, Jack McCredie; New mirrors are in! Door has been fixed! More suggestions welcome, new floor was brought up as one potential project.

Investment opportunities, Jack McCredie; we have a large surplus of cash, and should explore ways to help more dogs with it. Suggestions were made for supporting a K-9 police unit, exploring local rescue groups, finding programs that can help children become comfortable with dogs. We cannot give money to political causes because it would change our non-profit tax status. Please brainstorm for more suggestions.

AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship award; The previous winners (Sue Harvey, Debbie Hankins, Hazel Olbrich and Lizanne Kaiser) were appointed a committee to make recommendations for the next winner, to be awarded in June.

Meeting adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Minger, Secretary

SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MATCH
March 20, 2011

March 19, 2011 was a wild weather day in the Bay Area. Torrential rains and winds, a waterspout near Ocean Beach, lightning and thunder, and a tornado in Santo Rosa the previous day had your match committee anxiously studying weather forecasts and watching the storm clouds closely.

On Saturday the grounds crew sorted the equipment, loaded the rental van and marked all 12 rings and noted that the lawns at CSUEB were in pretty good shape. That evening winds piped up, sometimes to 50 mph in gusts. But Sunday morning brought calm winds and scattered showers, so the match went on as planned.

Although many exhibitors elected to stay home and remain dry, all 12 rings had plenty of customers and there was a great spirit among all attendees. This was a good warm-up and test drive of our procedures for the ODTC 61st Obedience Trial and Seventh Rally Trial on Sunday, May 22. However, we do need to work a little more on arranging great weather. Financially the match was also a big success clearing just over $3,000.

Thanks to everyone for making this a great event despite a very blustery first day of spring!

Well prepared, but damp, workers and exhibitors enjoy refreshments at the invitational match at Cal State University East Bay on March 20.

The utility rings were great fun!

Photos by Jack McCredie
UC Davis Veterinary Medicine
(530-752-1393)

by Melanie Groth, Guest contributor
Portuguese Water Dog Club Northern California

The University of California’s Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital is a good resource to know about, both for routine care as well as for specialty and emergency care. More than 100 residents and 80 faculty members are part of the staff at this hospital. Preventive care is available as is complex medical care for injured or ill pets.

If your dog has an emergency or urgent situation, you can use the number above to call in advance of going there, if the situation permits you the time to safely do so. If you need to go directly, you can call when you get to the parking area and staff will come to your car with a gurney to get your dog and assist you inside. If you have made a preliminary phone call, you will speak directly to a vet who will triage and assess the situation with you. If the vet directs you to the emergency clinic, the receptionist will have started your record before you arrive. The registration process is only completed after your dog has been assessed for stability. If it is felt that your dog can wait through that process, you will check in. There is an initial deposit for emergencies of $185. The waiting area is not very large, but animals are moved very quickly into treatment areas. In fact, there is a sign at registration advising you to notify them if you are waiting over 15 minutes. (MD’s should take note!)

Unless the situation is imminently life threatening, your dog will initially be seen by a vet student. The student performs a thorough history and physical. They are interested in the present problem, but also information like the entire history of your dog’s vaccinations, the current food and history of foods you have fed to your dog, including when changes were made and why. All past medical history is collected as well. The student will provide an opinion, but then gets the vet. The vet is aware of the history, but goes over specifics. Another complete exam is performed and then the vet sits and discusses the findings with you. If there are diagnostics recommended, they are explained including which tests would have priority, what the costs are and how long it should take. When you have decided the course of action that you agree to, your dog is taken for the procedure (or testing) and you go and settle the new portion of the bill. My prices were comparable to those I pay at my regular veterinarian.

Then there is the waiting time. You will be there at least two hours for a non-routine visit. What the vets do during that time, is to come and provide updates on the status of the testing and offer an idea of how much longer the waiting will be. You see lots of sick dogs during this time – dogs with multiple IV’s being taken for a walk, dogs with dressings over their bodies visiting with their owners and healthy dogs getting their heartworm medications. It is an efficient and smooth operation and one that instills a lot of confidence in the care your dog is getting.

If a recommendation is made to admit the dog to the hospital, that is discussed in detail. If the dog is released, written instructions are provided with a thorough verbal review. Checkout is a simple process.

One reason several people come to know this treatment center is when their dog has cancer. There are traditional and innovative approaches to treatment, including chemotherapy, radiation therapy and surgical intervention. There are coordinated care approaches available with other vet departments. For example, if a dog requires 20 radiation treatments that would be 5 days per week for 4 weeks, the dog might need to use the hospital at night before radiation in the daytime. This is because radiation requires the dog to be sedated and then aftercare may be required. Most people are not able to drive their dog there daily, waiting for treatment and pick up with return. But, as an alternative to hospitalization, there are some dedicated vet tech staff who will take dogs home with them at night so the dog can stay in a home (with the owner’s consent) instead of in the hospital. Care management changes during this situation from an oncologist to a radiologist and then back when treatment is completed. It is a compassionate amazing program.

Other specialties available include behavior, cardiology, dentistry, dermatology, renal, internal medicine, neurosurgery, nutrition, ophthalmology, reproduction and surgery. Your vet can refer you to one of the specialties if appropriate and needed by your dog or you can go directly.

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OAKLAND DOG TRAINING CLUB

UC Davis Veterinary Medicine  (continued from page 7)

The William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital is a good resource to be aware of and not afraid of. The students and vets are very skilled at taking care of the dogs and the owners. They also make an aftercare call to home to assess how the treatment plan is going, to answer questions or offer advice. While we hope no dog needs to go there, it's great to know it is available to us. While it is not published, it can apparently needs to go there, it's great to know it is available.

Here's to healthy dogs!!

Editor's note: Melanie Groth is the chair of the Health and Education Committee of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California. If you have questions, you may send her email at:

Melanie Groth <vindouropwds@comcast.net>

ODTC 61st Obedience Trial
Seventh Annual Rally Trial
May 22 - CSU East Bay
Stewards and volunteers needed.
Sharon: lilchuckiesmom@aol.com

ODTC Officers and Committee Chairs - 2010/2011

President          Jack McCredie      510-749-9957      mccredie@berkeley.edu
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Obedience & Rally Trial Lizanne Kaiser    510-233-7376      mrfiacra@yahoo.com
Agility/Trial      TBD
Hall Rental        Amy Cook           510-601-6122      amy@palisandra.com
AOCNC Reps         Amy Kitay          925-560-1124      tavchon@earthlink.net
                    Harriet Tucker      415-664-7880      hafpas@comcast.net
                    Jann Hayes         650-712-1622      cooperbigdogmom1@yahoo.com
Title Awards       Julie Rose          415 333-1941      rose.julianne@att.net
Course Registrar   Sue Harvey         510-339-3276
Visit ODTC on Facebook:  http://www.facebook.com/pages/Oakland-Dog-Training-Club/204480549564912

ODTC ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Noon, Saturday June 4
Home of Yvonne and Jack McCredie

APRIL 2011  PAGE 8
FUN STUFF!

POET’S CORNER - DOG HAIKU

Big dogs. Kind hearts.
Gentle, loving, strong
Roll over. Pls scratch my tummy.
For Hazel’s Saint Bernards by Zanna Knight

Splendid aroma!
A delicate whiff of cheese;
May I have some please?
by Mr. Giles, dog poet
(aka Patricia Minger)

Luxurious ears
Luminous eyes
Soft and silky coats
Feed me please.
For Cavalier King Charles Spaniels by Zanna Knight

Another wonderful holiday party and member meeting - thank you Sue and Scott Harvey!!

Photos by Jack McCredie.

Teaching Bingo to pick up those yucky metal articles

Celebrating Lori’s birthday at her annual ODTC training seminars - an educational and fun event not to be missed.
ODTC Wins Team Obedience Competition at Chief Solano Trial

by Zanna Knight and Hazel Olbrich

Dateline: Vallejo, CA, April 23, 2011

The Chief Solano KC show on April 23 offered team obedience competition. The Oakland DTC team prevailed over the team fielded by San Joaquin DTC (which had the best costume!). Judging at the end of a long day were Lora Cox and Mary Lou Just.

Oakland was excellently represented by Hazel Olbrich and Saint Bernard Sam, Suzanna Repo and Dutch Spaniel Charlie, Barbara Henry and Irish Terrier Bonnie Bee, and Lizzanne Kaiser with German Shepherd Dog Dante.

Team obedience has four teams of handlers and dogs that perform mostly novice exercises plus a drop on recall as a group. They heel together in a line. In the stand for exam, the handlers all stand their dogs in a line and then leave their dogs. The judge examines each dog and handlers then return to their dogs. There is also heeling off leash, figure 8s, sits and downs, and the most exciting exercise of all, the group drop on recall.

This is one of the most difficult exercises as it requires much discrimination and patience on the part of the dogs. All dogs are lined up in a row. The judge starts at one end and asks the handler to call and drop their dog. When all dogs have been called and dropped, all are called in to their handlers as a group. It is a supremely challenging exercise. First, getting the dogs to understand they must wait until their handlers call them can be quite a learning process and is most unusual for most dogs. Next, they must drop and stay until all the other dogs have been dropped. Then we switch gears and they must all come in a group. Any one of these elements can puzzle a dog, but it is quite thrilling.

Costumes are not scored but are very much part of the team competition.