

Woofs and Waggers

(Newsletter of the Oakland Dog Training Club)
January/February 2015

Class and General Information – 510-339-3276

Website: <http://oaklanddogtraining.org>

Mailing Address: 6114 LaSalle #415, Oakland, CA 94611

Officers and Committee Chairs – 2013/2014

President	Jack McCredie	510-749-9957	mccredie@berkeley.edu
Vice-Pres	Jasen Duncan	510-886-6843	Jasen.duncan@mac.com
Treasurer	Debbi Hankins	925-335-9610	deborah_hankins@comcast.net
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Membership	Sharon Vannucchi	925-356-5631	springerfan2@gmail.com
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Director	Mary Lemon	925-820-8620	yukonmary@comcast.net
Sr. Trustee	Lynn Kosmakos	925-297-9149	javagsd@yahoo.com
Jr. Trustee	Joyce Brown		joyce_brown@yahoo.com
Committees			
Workshop '15 (March)	Sabbatical year ?		
Tracking Test '15 (April)	Jack McCredie		mccredie@berkeley.edu
Obedience Trial '15 (May 17)	Debbi Hankins		deborah_hankins@comcast.net
Agility Trial '14	Ann Collins		ahcollins5@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Hazel Olbrich		h_olbrich@sbcglobal.net
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Hall Rent to Members	Amy Cook		amy@palisandra.com
Webmaster	Joyce Gross		joyceg@berkeley.edu
Class Registrar	Sue Harvey		510-339-3276
Legislative Rep	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>		
AOCNC Reps	Harriet Tucker Debra Dove Amy Kitay		hafpas@comcast.net albanyclan@comcast.net tavchon@earthlink.net

Club Calendar

Feb 1 (Sun)	AOCNC Workshop	Cow Palace, Daly City
Feb 22 (Sun)	Members' Match	Cal State EB, Hayward – 9 AM Start
March 14 (Sat)	Members' Match and Club Meeting	Cal State EB, Hayward – 9 AM Start
April 12 (Sun)	Tracking Test	Morgan Territory, Livermore
May 17 (Sun)	Obedience and Rally Trial	Cal State EB, Hayward

ODTC President's Message – Jack McCredie

End of year update: Happy 2015 to all ODTC members. 2014 was another very good year for our club and all signs point to 2015 being even more successful for training, learning, competing, and enjoying the companionship of our dogs and the camaraderie of our members. At the semi-annual member meeting and holiday party at Sue Harvey's home in December, club treasurer Debbi Hankins reported that for fiscal 2014 we once again had a solid financial year with revenues exceeding expenses by \$2,103 after expenses of approximately \$7,100 for the window replacement project. In addition, membership increased to about 120 individuals. Club dues for 2015 are payable by February 1 and if you have misplaced the invoice I sent via email on December 21, you should download the renewal form at the first page of our Web site or by clicking on the following URL:

<http://oaklanddogtraining.org/ODTCmembership.pdf>

Training Hall: The replacement window project was completed in December with the trim painting of the outside wall and the fine tuning of the installation. Our neighbors on the west side of the parking lot, *A-Taylor Made Window*, did a fine job designing, planning, and implementing the project on time and within budget. Once again I would like to recognize and thank our ad hoc committee of Debbi Hankins, Barbara Henry, Hazel Olbrich, and Bill Wallace for making this project a success. Now that we have completed the major work on the west side of the training hall, we can turn our attention to evaluating the feasibility of installing much better floor matting in the hall. If you are interested in working on this project, PLEASE let me know!

Late Friday evening, January 9, burglars entered the gymnastics facility immediately to the north of our training hall and then broke through our common wall and climbed into our space. They ransacked the storage room, the desk and shelve areas, and stole the cash (but none of the checks) from the last few days of the week's training activities. We were back in operation Monday morning. We have changed the locks and some procedures, and we are now asking members to use checks whenever possible instead of cash.

Volunteers Needed! Mary Lemon is coordinating, with Lora Cox and one other member to be named shortly, this year's nominating committee for officers and board members. At our March 14th member meeting at CSU East Bay, this committee will present its nominations for the election that will take place at the club's annual meeting in June. If you would be **interested in serving on the board or as a trustee**, please contact Mary.

Marti Nickoli will be moving this spring and will no longer be able to chair our very successful raffle that takes place at the obedience/rally trials on May 17. The good news is that Caryl Hodges, who has worked on the activity for several years, will coordinate the project this year. However, she needs some volunteers to help, and most importantly **she needs space in someone's garage or basement** to store the donated items until May 17. In addition, we need everyone to consider donating to the raffle and/or contacting their favorite pet store to consider supporting the raffle. Contact Caryl at chodges@ndnu.edu.

New projects: Vern Miller has organized a training seminar/workshop to be presented by Sylvia Bishop on April 10, 11, and 12. The seminar is being sponsored jointly by ODTC and the Napa Valley Dog

Training Club and it will be held at their facility in Napa. If you have not yet obtained a copy of the flyer, please contact Vern. Lynn Kosmakos is in the early stages of organizing a “Nose Work” seminar by well-known trainer Andrew Ramsey. Although final details are not yet in place, the two-day seminar will probably be held early in May. If you would be interested in such an event, please contact Lynn or me by email.

In addition, we need a volunteer to coordinate the hospitality activities for the Tracking Tests on April 11 and 12. Wendy Lee has been in charge for the past several years and has developed a great summary of what is needed. Please contact me if you would be able to coordinate hospitality at this beautiful venue within the Morgan Territory Reserve.

Therapy Dogs: This fall our Portuguese Water Dog, Bingo, completed the requirements for the AKC title of *Therapy Dog (THD)*. A little over two years ago he qualified for therapy work through *TherapyPets*, an Oakland-based volunteer organization. After completing its training requirements, he made initial visits to hospitals, retirement facilities, and youth reading programs in public libraries. The program that best fit our schedules (and personalities) was the *Paws to Read* reading program in Alameda. It is great that AKC now recognizes therapy work by awarding official titles in this very rewarding activity. To earn the THD a team must complete 50 visits - there are higher levels of achievement for 100, 200, and 400 visits. Bingo has earned titles in rally, obedience, and agility, but therapy work may be the most rewarding of all! Please check the following URL's and/or contact me if you are interested in additional information.

https://www.akc.org/akctherapydog/earn_title.cfm

<http://www.therapypets.org>

Editor's Notes – Hazel Olbrich

Here's a way to expand our concept of what “dog” training can include:’

<http://www.seattledogshow.org/amy-trotter-is-beyond-just-cute-shes-become-arole-model-for-the-other-dogs-in-classes-so-far/>

I heard from former club member Cookie Murphy-Pettee (with Raylan). She is enjoying living in Gypsum, Colorado with her daughter and now pack of four dogs. She invites anyone who might be in the neighborhood to stop by to say hello.

Here's a short video link to a NY Times video that shows how dogs drink. Very interesting!

ScienceTake | How Dogs Drink

For those of you who have been admiring those neat baby gates installed at the hall, you have Barbara Henry (planner) and Bill Wallace (installer) to thank. Be sure to let them know how much you will appreciate them when summer comes.

Membership Report – Sharon Vannucchi

No news this month

Monthly Friday Drop-In Classes – Hazel Olbrich

As many of you know, Lori Drouin has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma (I have her permission to report this in the club newsletter). She will be taking a sabbatical that started in October from teaching her Friday drop-in group classes. Starting in January, I will be teaching classes once a month on Fridays to help support Lori's students in the interim until she returns.

Details are as follows:

- Classes are drop-in and available to all
- Fee will be \$20 per class (payable to Oakland DTC)
- Class content and times will be different (so pay attention!)
 - Combined Novice/Open from 11:00 – 12:15
 - Sits and Downs for all at about 12:15-12:30
 - Utility from 12:30 – 2:00
- If the attendance warrants it, I may split Novice and Open into separate classes.
- Once Lori is ready to teach on Fridays again, the instruction will revert back to her. It is anticipated that she will keep to the same dates as announced.

Dates for the year are as follows

Jan 9	May 8	Sept 18
Feb 20	June 12	Oct 23
Mar 13	July 24	Nov 13
April 17	Aug 14	Dec 11

New Monday Drop-In Classes for Pet Dog Training! --Hazel Olbrich

Looking for a way to make our training more available to the pet dog owner, we are trying out a drop-in format for people looking for more training but unable to commit to a prepaid class. Pre-requisite is the completion of the ODTC beginning class, or permission of the instructor, Lynn Kosmakos. The class is held on Mondays at 7:30: cost is \$15. This class can also have a place in the training of a competition obedience dog; I plan to take Titania there for exposure to new dogs in a training situation. Please get the word out.

Business Plan Update – Lizanne Kaiser

Please see the end of the newsletter for the business plan report.

Training Tools Classes in 2015 – Foundation Skills for Obedience and Rally

Barbara Henry and Lizanne Kaiser will continue teaching the Training Tools classes every-other month on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm. The first session will begin in February. Each month focuses on a different topic. Sessions are pre-enrolled and limited to 8 students. To reserve a slot, please contact the registrar, Sue Harvey, at 510-339-3276 and mail your check into the club (\$80 for 4 weeks).

Here is a preliminary list of monthly topics (subject to change). If there is a particular topic you're interested in that you would like to see added, please send your suggestions to the instructors, Barbara (blgkatie@sbcglobal.net) and Lizanne (mrfiacra@yahoo.com).

Monthly Sessions (tentative):

1. Trial Skills (Warm ups, Set ups, and Between Exercises)
2. Heeling - Turns (Left, Right, About)
3. Proofing (How to proof a particular exercise/skill you're working on with your dog -- including types of proofing, what's "fair," how to read dog's reaction, and what to do next)
4. Retrieve Skills (mostly dumbbell, but also possibly some work with gloves and/or articles)
5. Marking: Targets, Gloves & Go-outs
6. Jumping Skills (High, Bar, Broad)

Thank you for supporting Oakland Dog Training Club!

What the dogs have taught me – Kathy Miller

(Ed. Note: This is a regular series about training topics and our dogs. Contributions are always welcome! Contact me if you are interested in contributing.)

Cataloging Data Points and Remembering to Trust

When my cardigan welsh corgi puppy, Quimby, came home at ten weeks of age, I knew she was special. Destined to become a competitive obedience dog, Quimby has consistently surpassed my expectations and we've come a long way together.

Quimby is my "A" obedience dog. We've spent three years together, training just about every day. We've seen incredible progress, coupled with the regression that is part of the learning process. When you spend that much time together, assessing progress can sometimes be challenging. In focusing only upon what the dog needs to learn, you can lose touch with just how far your dog has come – an important data point to catalog!

Recently Quimby taught me two critical lessons: One in recognizing progress and another in trusting my dog.

In October 2014 Quimby got her Utility Dog title. As a transition, prior working on the UDX, we decided to compete in the Versatility class. This is a fun optional titling class comprised of six exercises, two from each of the regular classes, Novice, Open and Utility. The exercises are scrambled, so you don't know which exercises you'll be doing until the judge posts the selected order, 45 minutes prior to ring time.

In January we attended the Palm Springs Kennel Club trial, which is the state regional qualifier for the National Obedience Championships. This show was our first entrée to the "B" classes – and it was full of extremely experienced and talented handlers. We showed in Utility and in Open to gain experience, but didn't attempt a UDX leg. The goal for the weekend was to get the Versatility title.

On our first day we had a great showing in the morning in Open and I was surprised at how far Quimby had come. Some of our recent work on fronts and finishes paid off. But on the final exercise in the Versatility ring I made a handling error which led to an NQ. D'Oh!

You guessed it! I incorrectly assessed my dog's current level of ability and didn't catalog her progression. The final exercise was Directed Jumping. Quimby executed Part 1 nicely, taking the bar jump as directed. But on the second go-out she paused at the imaginary line of acceptable distance. At a previous point in her learning process this would have meant that she'd go no further. But now I know she's past that and will continue forward if I don't acknowledge the pause.

Yes I *knew* that, but in the moment I didn't honor it. The result was that Quimby ended up closer than she should have been, in a crooked sit that faced her directly at the bar jump she'd just taken. She was unable to correct and took the bar jump a second time instead of the high jump. (Time for another proofing exercise.)

In hindsight, there were many lessons that went with that blunder, but the most important one was I didn't give my dog credit for the progress she's made. I was thinking of her as a dog in the early phases of learning this exercise when she's now a dog in the proofing phases of the exercise at a more complex level.

So, where did this leave us on the first day of our three-day trial? Going in, we needed two legs for the Versatility title and had three opportunities. Now we needed to succeed in both of the remaining two attempts. No pressure!

This brings us to the second lesson: Trust.

Each day we had an 8:00AM ring time for Open or Utility, coupled with a 4:00PM showing in Versatility – the last class of the day. Not exactly an ideal schedule. On the second day Quimby delivered an incredible performance and finished in first place in Versatility with nice score. (Again, Directed Jumping was the final exercise!) I knew what an effort it had taken – we were the last people to leave the show as the light was fading. Being there all day is a lot for a dog to handle, but she didn't let me down!

Day Three. In the morning Utility class it was obvious that Quimby wasn't with the program. She moved slowly and was easily distracted. I let her rest all day, wondering what would happen in

Versatility and whether it was really fair to ask her for another performance when she'd already given me two days of nice work and I knew she was mentally done.

At 4:00PM, as the absolute last obedience competitor of the trial, we reported to the Versatility Ring. All of the Novice, and many Optional Titling classes, had previously shown in this ring. Throughout the day there had been an unusual number of "accidents", one right in the center of the ring, another on the track of the heeling pattern. Scents were rampant. Quimby was struggling to remain focused.

In a quirk of fate, Directed Jumping was (again) the final exercise in our judge-selected program. Quimby was moving like molasses. Nonetheless, on the first go-out she went straight, sat nicely, and executed the correct jump. One more to go for the title!

As I sent her out, she couldn't help but sniff in the middle of the ring. But she kept going, did her turn/sit. As she landed the correct jump, her nose when down and I watched her dog brain shift scenting to the primary position. When this happens she can completely forget where she is and what she's doing. Her movement slowed. I held my breath, hoping she'd remember to complete the journey to my feet.

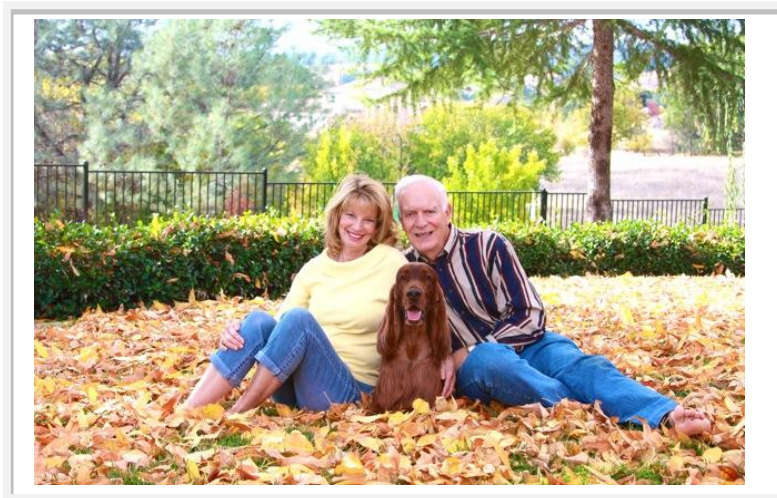
Sniffing all the way, she managed to return, remembered to sit, and performed a half-hearted finish. Upon hearing, "Exercise finished." I looked down to see my smiling girl asking, "Can we go play now?" Absolutely, and you get the lamb shank that I promised you for dinner!

Because Quimby is a soft dog I sometimes forget just how tenacious the corgi personality can be. These dogs were bred to herd cattle that weighs as much as my car. They're not wimps. When asked to deliver, they generally do. In this case Quimby certainly did!

Now I know that I can trust my dog to put forth an extra effort on those occasions when it's needed. And I love and respect her enough to make those requests judiciously.

Meet the Members - Ki Welch

(Ed Note: This section of the newsletter is devoted to dog life bios of club members. Contributions are always very welcome. I am personally very interested in learning about new club members, so please don't be shy!)



My name is Ki Welch and my husband is Mark Welch. We've been married for 41 years and have had 4 dogs during that time. Our first dog was a Golden Retriever/Irish Setter Cross. Our other three dogs have been Irish Setters. We currently have Connor aka GCH CH Shine-On Here's Looking At You Kid CGC CA THD. Connor is a 3 year old Irish Setter and is the love of our lives.

Up to this point we have always had girls but Connor's Breeder, Gina Hemphill had a litter of all boys except for one girl and encouraged us to think about a boy. We've never looked back. Debra Dove and Rich Masterson who own Kable, littermate and brother of Connor, are responsible for encouraging us to join ODTC. It has been fun taking the Tuesday pm Skill classes with Barbara Henry and Lizanne Kaiser as well as private lessons with Barbara on Mondays.

Connor's other activities include: Agility, Lure Coursing, Nose Work and Therapy Dog Work. We look forward to volunteering and helping out with club.

Oops!

No goofs to apologize for this month!

Congratulations!

(Brag and stories must be submitted in writing. I don't dare try to be responsible for remembering ones relayed to me orally. Email is preferred (h_olbrich@sbcglobal.net), because it is easy and accurate to transfer the brag directly from the message to the next issue, but any written format is just fine.)



videographer/photographer!--- Kathy Miller

Debra Dove is pleased to share that her Welsh Pembroke Corgi, "Gauge" earned his Versatility title at the Palm Springs Kennel Club show on January 4, 2015 - Ryan's Remington Reload VER UD RAE HT CGC

Debra is also pleased to share that her Irish Setter, "Kable", earned his Rally Advanced title at the Mission Bells Cluster show on January 18, 2015 - CH Shine On Look On The Bright Side, RA BN CGC.

On Sunday, January 4 at the Palm Spring Kennel Club trial, Quimby earned her Versatility title! She offered some really nice work this weekend and we had a wonderful time with our corgi friends, Debra & Gauge! Big thanks to Debra's husband, Rich, for being our official

On October 17, my Kuvasz, Attila (Int CH/Am GCH Double Ring Barbarian, CD, CGC, TT, ANDD, MDD, VPA) completed his Master Draft Dog title at a draft test hosted by the Sierra West Bernese Mountain Dog Club and judged by Nancy van Horne and Kathe Vasquez. Attila was the first Kuvasz in history to earn a draft title and now is the first to earn a Master Draft Dog title. --Steve Oppenheimer



Champy's Debut in Rally Novice Golden Gate KC with a Score of 100! --Nancy Berger

ODTC 2014 Training Business Plan & Attendance Stats – through end of 2014

Summary:

- This summary provides comparative data and 2014 targets and EOY results for revenue, net, attendance, class types, and number of sessions. Revenue targets are ‘break-even’ minimums needed to cover training-related expenses (trainer fees, rent, utilities; not major hall improvements or general club expenses). Previous year actuals are higher than current year targets, since we regularly exceed the break-even minimums. Targets are based on 3-year historical averages.
- As of Dec 31, 129% of revenue, 111% of net, and 102% of attendance targets for 2014 were achieved.
- The table below shows which classes are exceeding (green) or below (red) their targets for sessions and average attendance. Some Pre-paid sessions are cancelled if enrollments are not high enough. The charts further below show yearly trend lines in enrollments across Pre-paid and Drop-ins.
- Please continue to spread the word about ODTC – especially our pet classes.

Business Plan:

Class	Revenue				Net (less est. trainer costs only)			
	2013 Actual	2014 Target	2014 YTD	% to Target	2013 Actual	2014 Target	2014 YTD	% to Target
Pre-Paid	\$27,270	\$24,156	\$32,555	135%	\$18,058	\$22,932	\$22,888	100%
Drop-In	\$26,805	\$21,567	\$26,495	123%	\$17,690	\$13,646	\$17,555	129%
Total	\$54,075	\$45,723	\$59,050	129%	\$35,748	\$36,578	\$40,443	111%

Annual Attendance:

Class	Attendance (EOY Actual)			Attendance 2014		
	2011	2012	2013	Target EOY	Actual YTD	% to Target
Pre-Paid	1,593	1,540	1,444	1,753	1,720	98%
Drop-In	1,732	1,695	1,787	1,315	1,507	115%
Total	3,325	3,235	3,231	3,068	3,227	105%

Number of Sessions and Average Attendance per Class per Year:

Class	Sessions Offered / Year			Attendance Averages / Class		
	2013 Actual	2014 Target (per 3 yr avg)	2014 YTD	2013 Actual	2014 Target (per 3 yr avg)	2014 YTD
Pre-Paid						
M pm OLC (6 wk)	5	5	3	4.4	4.1	5.0
Tu am Beg (7 wk)	7	7	7	5.7	5.8	6.9
Tu am Interm (7 wk)	7	7	7	7.3	5.8	7.3
Tu pm Trng Tools (4wk)	n/a	6	6	n/a	8.0	8.2
W pm Proof/Skill (4 wk)	10	9	11	5.5	5.3	5.5
Th pm Puppy (7 wk)	4	5	6	4.3	4.5	3.3
Th pm Beg (7 wk)	6	7	6	6.8	7.5	6.8
Th pm Interm (7 wk)	2	5	3	3.5	4.4	3.3

Drop-In						
M am + pm Obed	50	47	48	19.2	12.0	16.2
Tu am Nov/Open	50	50	50	6.4	5.7	5.8
Tu am Util	50	50	50	3.5	4.1	2.8
Tu pm Rally	23	12	14	3.7	3.0	3.0
W pm Nov/Open	49	49	48	5.0	4.6	5.4