

Woofs and Waggers

(Newsletter of the Oakland Dog Training Club)
March/April 2016

Class and General Information – 510-339-3276

Website: <http://oaklanddogtraining.org>

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

Officers and Committee Chairs – 2015/2016

President	Jack McCredie	510-749-9957	mccredie@berkeley.edu
Vice-Pres	Lora Cox	408-387-4093	lora@rosscox.com
Treasurer	Debbi Hankins	925-335-9610	deborah_hankins@comcast.net
Secretary	Diane Aven	510-799-0171	dianeaven@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Sharon Vannucchi	925-356-5631	lilchuckiesmom@aol.com
Director	Lynn Kosmakos	925-297-9149	javagsd@yahoo.com
Director	Meigs Mathesen	510-333-5773	mooncats7@aol.com
Director	Mary Lemon	925-820-8620	yukonmary@comcast.net
Sr. Trustee	Joyce Brown	510-653-0696	joyce_brown@yahoo.com
Jr. Trustee	Elaine Gray	650-960-0655	elainecagray@gmail.com
Committees			
Tracking Test '16	NO TEST THIS YEAR		
Obedience Trial '16 (May 22)	Debbi Hankins		deborah_hankins@comcast.net
Agility Trial '16			
Newsletter Editor	Hazel Olbrich		h_olbrich@sbcglobal.net
Training Committee	Hazel Olbrich		h_olbrich@sbcglobal.net
Hall Rent to Members	Amy Cook		amy@palisandra.com
Webmaster	Joyce Gross		joyceg@berkeley.edu
Class Registrar	Sue Harvey		510-339-3276
Legislative Reporter	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>		
AOCNC Reps	Harriet Tucker Debra Dove Amy Kitay		hafpas@comcast.net albanyclan@comcast.net tavchon@earthlink.net

Club Calendar

April 30 (Saturday)	Members' Match	Cal State EB, Hayward 9 AM
May 21 (Saturday)	Members' Match	Cal State EB, Hayward 9 AM
May 22 (Sunday)	Obedience Trial	Cal State EB, Hayward
June 5 ((Sunday)	Meeting, Awards, Elections	McCredie home, Alameda, Noon
June 19 (Sunday)	Members' Match	Cal State EB, Hayward, 9 AM
July 31 (Sunday)	AOCNC Workshop	Cal State EB, Hayward

President's Message – Jack McCredie

Highlights of March 20 Member Meeting

After the March 20 practice match, ODTC members gathered for the first quarterly meeting of 2016. The club's bylaws (<http://tinyurl.com/ODTCbylaws>) specify that at the March meeting the members are to nominate officers and directors of the organization for the next fiscal year. The responsibilities of each of these officers are described in the bylaws. The nominating committee, chaired by Lynn Kosmakos, nominated the following individuals to serve from June 2016 to June 2017:

President	Jack McCredie	Vice President	Lora Cox
Treasurer	Debbi Hankins	Secretary	Christa Sapita
Membership	Jasen Duncan	Director	Mary Lemon
Director	Meigs Matheson	Director	Lynn Kosmakos
Sr. Trustee	Elaine Gray	Jr. Trustee	Joyce Brown

The members present, being a quorum, approved the recommendations of the nominating committee by acclamation. Their election will take place at the club's annual meeting in June.

Debbie Hankins, treasurer, discussed the financial report that was distributed with the meeting agenda. It shows that revenues exceeded normal operating expenses for the first quarter of the fiscal year. In addition we have made a 50% deposit of slightly more than \$10,000 for the new matting project for the training hall, which should be completed over the summer, probably in late July.

Reminder of Online Club Information

The club maintains an informative online presence, managed by club member Joyce Gross (joyceg@berkeley.edu) at the URL: <http://oaklanddogtraining.org>

Examples of the resources available at the site include training class schedules, event notices, membership renewal and application forms, past copies of the newsletter and meeting minutes, lists of titles won by ODTC teams in past years, officer contact information, and a collection of older photographs of member teams. We have not refreshed these photos in awhile so if you have a favorite picture, feel free to send a jpeg image to Joyce and she will include it in this collection.

In addition to the "official" club mailing list, there is a Yahoo Group used for more informal communications such as training questions, updates about matches and trials sponsored by other clubs, and other training related topics. If you would like to join this group, just send me an email at (mccredie@berkeley.edu) and I will forward instructions.

A very useful addition to our online presence is the training hall scheduling calendar where ODTC members may reserve time at Jacuzzi Street and check when classes have reserved time. If you have misplaced the login information for this resource, or are new to ODTC, just send me an email. (*ed Note: I also have them if you wish to unload our President a bit ☺*).
The URL for this resource is:

<http://tinyurl.com/ODTCcalendar1>

A New Companion in our Home

In the last newsletter I reported the sad news that Bingo, our wonderful Portuguese Water Dog, passed away in early January. Yvonne and I thank all of you for your understanding and support. We have very happy news to report this month. Although we were not looking to bring another companion into our home at this time, a completely unplanned event happened at the 25th anniversary luncheon of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Norther California on February 28th.

We have been joined by a wonderful 14 month old Portie (Uno) who arrived in a most unexpected way. Often the best things in life are serendipitous and this story is certainly a long tale (no pun intended) and



too complicated to relate here. We were not looking, we were grieving, we were very busy with other things, but then Uno joined us and he is wonderful. We know we cannot replace Bingo, but as has happened with all the dogs we have lost, they pave the way for additional adventures and newfound love with new companions. Meet CH Uno (nicknamed Houdini for his ability to escape from his crate).

**Save the Date: Sunday, June 5, for the Annual Meeting,
Elections and Awards!**

Editor's Notes – Hazel Olbrich

The spring show season is getting underway. I'd like to encourage our club members to support of sister dog training clubs with entries. We want people to enter our trial, and we should reciprocate that support whenever we can. All but Truckee Meadows are outdoors (including our own): Here's a chance to expand your trialing chops(if you have confined yourself to indoors) to try an outdoor trial or two or three. If an outdoor trial shouldn't be in your near future, how about mailing in a trophy donation instead of an entry? Here is a list of the upcoming trials (I believe they all include Rally as well as Obedience).

Mt Diablo DTC	5/1
Davis DTC	5/7
Santa Clara DTC	5/14
San Mateo DTC	5/15
Oakland DTC	5/22
Napa Valley DTC (2 Trials)	6/25
Deep Peninsula DTC	6/26
Truckee Meadows DTC	7/22-24
County Wide DTC (2 Trials)	7/23

Some of you may already be familiar with the "Tidbit" articles that AKC judge (and Saint Fancier!) John Cox has put together about obedience. He has written recently about the changes in the regulations as well as some commentaries about what we can do to strengthen our sport. It's good reading!

<http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/Tidbit%20Index.pdf>

As you may know, I have participated in drafting (carting) with my Saints for many years. It is an activity that many dogs take to very well. Recently Peg Hickox has started training her Saco, and here is a photo she sent to me of Saco pulling a training cart. Good boy Saco!



Lora Cox was raving about a great book she was reading. Here's the name of the book and a few words that she wrote about the book to the author, Catherine Zinsky.



Attitude + Attention = Teamwork! Seven Steps to Success"

Available thru www.gettoready.net

Got home from the match and your book had arrived. I am already on page 38. I can't wait to tell my students about your book. May be they will pay attention to you when you say "say it once".

Membership Report

(Ed Note: No official report, but I noticed we had a least six new members at our club meeting on March 20th. Welcome!)

Highlights from the Web – Lori Drouin

(Ed Note: Lori has agreed to share her finds on the web.. Thank you, Lori!)

Highlights From The Web

Here's a concise article about the basic process of error recognition and how to be ready to deal with it. Shannon is a person with a strong artistic eye, so she knows what a front looks like...not just the straight sit, but the approach and alignment BEFORE the sit. That's just an example of the level of awareness that really successful trainers have of the details needed for excellence. If you can spot the very first drop in effort or the first dropped detail before a huge final error, then you can deal with the real issue effectively. If you're always chasing errors after the fact, you will be frustrated on the same plateaus for a long time.

<http://blueribbonsandnqs.com/2015/12/09/effort/>

For people who are still a little concerned about just how some of the new regulations will play out, Anita Eisen has put together a video seminar covering the new stuff. If you have questions about eligibility for certain classes, or how certain handler errors will be scored (especially in Utility with the complications of the scent article judging), this could really help you understand the changes. It is not a free video. It's \$25.00. But considering the cost of entry fees these days, if you can find a couple of points that would prevent you from committing an error worthy of an NQ, it could be a good investment.

<https://checkout.newkajabi.com/offers/NjztuGVT/>

(Yeah, it looks kinda odd for a title for dog training, but Anita is also an accountant, so she set up the web access through her business.) Be aware that this is NOT official, and there are some variations on some of the topics out there.

For a voice of experience at teaching dogs and teaching people to live well with dogs, I recommend this site: <http://www.canine-behavior-associates.com/our-blogs/>. This is by Trish King, a long-respected behavior problem solver, and one of our own club members, Tricia Breen. Both women present good perspectives on observing and understanding what makes some dogs tick, some insight into human errors that commonly contribute to problems and problem solving, and practical views on the emotionally-charged and philosophically complicated world of animal welfare.

Business Plan Update – Lizanne Kaiser

This report is prepared twice a year in June and December. This is a placeholder in my newsletter template.

Training Tools – Topics/Schedule 2016

Instructors: Barbara Henry & Lizanne Kaiser

Description/Schedule: In 2016, Oakland Dog Training Club will continue to offer our **Training Tools** classes—a series of monthly classes addressing various dog training skills. The four-week sessions are held in the even months (February, April, June, August, October, December) on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (occasional conflicts may require slight schedule adjustments). The 2016 topics and start dates are:

- **April 5 – Halt! Cure the ‘No Sit’ Blues.** This session will help the handler teach a dog to sit promptly and accurately and show handlers how to develop and deliver consistent cues and footwork so the dog knows when to sit. *Class if full.*
- **June 7 – Retrieves: Here, There, Everywhere.** This session will work on *proofing* the dog’s dumbbell retrieve skill progressions—hold, pickup, carry—using distractions of many kinds, in order to strengthen the dog’s understanding and performance of the retrieve task. The class requires enrollees’ dogs to have a solid retrieve off the floor. **The class is not designed to teach a dog how to retrieve.** *Class is full.*
- **August 9 (note, NOT the first Tuesday)– Heeling: Anything But Straight.** This session will use heeling in giant Figure 8’s, circles of all sizes, serpentines and pivots to refine the dog’s ability to perform left/right/about turns and Figure 8’s by making appropriate adjustments to its drive, body curvature and balance in response to the handler’s changes of speed and direction.
- **October 4 – Attention: Surprise! You Better Watch Me.** This session offers ways to improve the dog’s ability to actively focus on the handler both when the handler is walking away from the dog (e.g., recall, drop on recall, signals) and when the handler is standing stationary at a distance from the dog (e.g., signal and directed jumping exercises). This session will focus on attention at a distance; it will not cover close-up attention (in Heel or Front position).
- **December 6 – Signals: Why Are You Waving at Me?** This session will show the handler how to install quick, reliable responses to the hand signals used in Utility Signals (stand, down, sit, come) and avoid some of the pitfalls encountered as distance is added to this exercise.

Cost: \$80 pre-paid for 4-week session; **class size limited**

Requirements: Dogs must have completed a beginning pet or novice obedience class and must be able to work in a group setting without disrupting other dogs. For the Heeling classes, the work will be done on-leash, but it would be useful for the dog to have a meaningful knowledge of heel position and attention; the classes will not teach a dog how to heel. For the Retrieve class, dogs must have a solid retrieve off the floor—the class is not intended to teach a dog how to retrieve. The classes are designed to build new skills as well as polish existing ones and will be of use to both novice and advanced handlers.

Class size is limited—enroll early. To enroll, please call ODTTC at 510-339-3276 to confirm that there is an opening in the class; if there is, send a check to ODTTC to hold the space. Questions about the classes? E-mail either of the instructors--BLGKatie@sbcglobal.net (Barbara Henry) or mrfiacra@yahoo.com (Lizanne Kaiser).

Raffle Time! Raffle Time! Caryl Hodges

Our Raffle at ODTTC Obedience and Rally Trial on May 22 is quickly approaching. I have opened up space in my spare room and am ready for a deluge of raffle items from club members. Please begin to fill the Raffle Box which will be out in the hall beginning Saturday, April 2. If you have large items that won't fit in the box – please call and I will arrange a pick-up. Anything and everything does well but things that do **really** well – in terms of number of tickets placed in the bag:

- Crates
- Dog beds and blankets
- Training equipment – especially jumps
- Grooming items
- All kinds of dog treats and dog food
- Totes, Backpacks, Baskets, and Bags either already filled with toys and treats for both dogs and people or ones we can fill
- Gift cards for pet stores, coffee, etc.
- T-shirts and jackets – primarily for people but for dogs too.
- Last year we had some wine which seemed to be a hit too!

If you have questions or need to get in touch with me, please call my cell phone: 415-518-5541 or email (work: chodges@ndnu.edu or home: carylhodges14@gmail.com) This is my busiest time of year with end of the semester and graduation but will try to check the Raffle Box at least once a week. Thanks for your help!

GUIDELINES FOR TRAINING HALL USE

ODTTC's training hall is a wonderful resource available for use by all Club members. Keeping the hall tidy is a responsibility that should be shared by every person who uses it. When using the hall for practice sessions, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

1. **Put things back in the same place you found them.** If you take ring tape out of the tape box, put it back. If you use plastic targets, put them back in the target box. If you use the ring rope holders, put them back against the wall. You get the idea.
2. **Be sure the feet are on the plastic baby gates** when you store them.
3. **Place all unused food/drink/training treats in the garbage.** The hall had a serious mouse problem several years ago because of food/treats being left around the hall. A mouse has been spotted recently—please, seal and dispose of leftover food in the garbage can outside the hall's front door.
4. **If you empty a water jug on top of the refrigerator, fill it up.**
5. **If you remove a garbage bag, please place a fresh bag in the garbage can.** Bags can be found on a shelf in the storage room.

6. **If liquid is spilled on the mats, clean it up thoroughly.** Don't just dab with a paper towel. If you empty the spray bottle of Nature's Miracle, refill the bottle from the supply in the storage room. Same goes for the water spray bottle—you empty it, you fill it up.
7. **Don't "donate" stuff to the training hall** without prior approval. If you have extra obedience equipment or a training tool that you believe would be useful to other people in training their dogs, please email Hazel Olbrich (head of Training Committee) or Barbara Henry (Hall Custodian) and run it by them. Don't simply leave items at the hall. While we appreciate that certain items would be useful, unfortunately the hall has a finite amount of space and it simply cannot accommodate everyone's extras and castoffs.
8. **If you notice that something is broken or not working at the hall, contact Barbara Henry or Hazel Olbrich.** If there is an emergency at Jacuzzi Center or the training hall, contact phone numbers for the property managers are posted on the bulletin board by the refrigerator.

Your assistance in keeping the training hall tidy and clean will make everyone's hall experience better. Thank you so much.

What the dogs have taught us –

(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.)

Meet the Members Nan Daly and Jasmine

Jasmine was abandoned at our house 3 years ago on Easter week when she was about a year old. I was asked by a friend of my daughters to watch her for the day, and the person never came back to pick her up. He later said he didn't want her. She had never been out of her backyard in East Palo Alto, not even for a walk.

I took her to dog training classes to make her more adoptable, as I didn't want another dog and certainly not a Pit Bull! My goal was a CGC, and then to hopefully find someone who would take her. I discovered an honest and willing dog that became great friends with our Miniature Pinscher, cat and horse.

She came at the perfect time in my life and rescued me. I had just lost my Mom, we had to sell our dream retirement ranch, my husband was diagnosed with Melanoma, and our daughter hit bottom and had entered rehab.

3 years later, Kevin is cancer free, and our daughter is nearing 3 years clean and sober and Jasmine made the top 50 dogs at the NOC!

The NOC was as exciting as it was exhausting. We were at the showgrounds from 7 am to 7 pm. All the judges and participants were very supportive, friendly and encouraging. I didn't even dream of making it to the second day, and booked a return flight home on Sunday.

We hope to earn enough OTCH points to go to Perry, GA, next year and show what a nice dog a Rescue dog can be.

On a funny note, I bought bottled water for Jasmine while in Tulsa. We checked into our room, I poured a big bowl of bottled water for her and she goes into the bathroom and drinks out of the toilet! She didn't get sick, thank goodness!



Oops!

No goofs to apologize for this month!

Pre-Apology: I'm juggling several different computers and email inboxes at this moment, not as well as I might wish to. Something may have fallen through the cracks—please let me know if I have omitted something you expected to see in the newsletter. Please be assured that it wasn't intentional.

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.)

At the Golden Gate KC shows this past weekend, Banjo competed in Rally both days. On Saturday he took 4th place in Rally Advanced with a 97. On Sunday, he got 96 in both Excellent and Advanced. In Excellent it earned him 2nd place, and in Advanced it was 3d place. My 14-month-old pup, Tully, competed in Conformation both days. He got Winners Dog on Saturday and Best of Winners on Sunday, but there were not enough Brittanys for him to earn any points. Good experience, though!—Harriet Tucker

Fame earned his Rally Novice B & Beginner Novice Obedience B at the San Mateo show on 3/25/16 so, he is now

INT' CH, Nat' INT Ba CH, AKC CH Rockville's SF Giants Hall of Fame RN, BN, CGCA, CGCU, RATI. --Taria Sarkisian

Congratulations to Kathy Miller for qualifying and attending the NOC in Tulsa. She wrote “The screen shot in this message shows us in the very first ring, about to start the very first exercise - with our favorite judge, Carolyn Wray. I love this one - Quimby is right there for me! I couldn't have asked for a more perfect way to begin!”—Submitted by Hazel Olbrich

