



Washington State Obedience Training Club

THE CANINE POST

April 2023

An AKC Member Club

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www.wsotc.org

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PREZ'S MESSAGE

We've had a busy start to 2023 and we are through the first quarter already. The Spring trial was a busy one with great entries. Congratulations to Terri Kaluza for winning the Blanche Saunders/Alice Trincherro Memorial Award that goes to the highest scoring WSOTC member in a regular class in either of the Spring trials.

We are in the process of electing officers and board members. Our May meeting is important as nominations can be accepted from the floor. If you would like to be considered for an officer or board position, a full member must nominate you. If you are not present at the meeting your consent must be presented to the secretary. The board meets at least 8 times/ year. Currently we are meeting via zoom. Thank you to the nominating committee for your service to the Club.

I would like to briefly address a problem that has been brought to my attention recently. This is not a problem specific to WSOTC but to the dog community as a whole. A Facebook acquaintance who is traveling with dogs recently posted that they were reported



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CLUB UPDATES

to the police for 'having dogs in their vehicle'. The couple were visiting a relative, the back of the car was open, the dogs were crated, walked often, had water available and were quite comfortable. Neighbors apparently thought having dogs in a car was abusive and the owners should be ashamed. Interestingly the person calling the police rescues dogs from other countries.

The couple in question were able to show the police that the dogs were well cared for and not abused. However, I was shocked by the number of responses from people who said the same thing had happened to them. One person even said she was in her car with her dogs and the AC running when a woman knocked on her window saying she was calling the police because she had dogs in the car on a hot day. Those of us who travel with our dogs to shows or field events or just for fun may have to face a public do-gooder who believes they are justified in reporting us as animal abusers.

Recently, the Washington State legislature has been considering legislation that addresses abuse that includes the wording that our animals can be taken away and we may not get them back even if we are proven innocent. Outrageous...Self righteous...Ignorant...all of these are valid reactions to someone who takes it upon themselves to decide the definition of abuse. I wonder if we should react differently. What if we addressed these individuals with understanding that they are attempting to protect the dogs we love. I wonder what would happen if we told them we appreciated their efforts. Told them our dogs enjoy road trips. Gave them the percentage of fat and protein in the food we feed. Praised their knowledge of canine behavior by saying we know they understand how safe dogs feel in their crates as they are den animals and perhaps tap into their knowledge of their home grounds by asking the best place to take dogs for exercise in the area. My mother always referred to this approach to an offense as "killing them with kindness". Play to their ego, diffuse the situation and give them reason to doubt their assessment but keep their pride intact. I don't know but I would be interested in your thoughts on the subject. I am hoping that our demonstration at the Seattle Kennel Club June 24th event in Magnuson Park will help show the public that those of us who show, train and love our dogs are also great caretakers. That dogs love the attention they get, having jobs and that their safety and well being are our primary concerns.

Terrie

CLUB COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

Agility: Linda Shea

Audit/Budget: TBD

Awards: Nancy Light

Hearts & Flowers: Gloria Newby

Insurance: Sue Cox

Membership: Cathy Soule

Newsletter: Elizabeth Soule

'C' Match: Terrie Sato

Programs: vacant

Property & Inventory:

Don Rennick

Obedience and Rally Trial

Spring: Amanda Buse

August: Debby Warden

Tracking: Marta Brock

Website: Ane Brusendorff

AKC Delegate

Jack Cadalso

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CLUB UPDATES

UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS

Board Meeting May 17 at 7pm on Zoom

General Membership Meeting May 24 at 7pm on Zoom

Summer Obedience and Rally Trials

The 2023 Summer trials are **August 12-13** in Enumclaw

The WSOTC summer obedience and rally trials will be held at the Enumclaw Expo center in conjunction with the Sammamish Kennel Club breed show. Our Trial Chair for this event is Debby Warden.

Debby is still looking for several volunteers to fill out the trial committee.

- ★ A Chief Ring Steward to recruit and schedule ring stewards
- ★ A hospitality chair to coordinate judge and volunteer snacks and lunches
- ★ A decorations chair to decorate the ringside tables and club tables
- ★ An awards coordinator on the days of the trials to ensure that awards are at the right ring at the right time. Jane Pitts is taking care of purchasing the awards.

If you can help out with any of these roles, please reach out to Debby at debbywarden@gmail.com. Thank you!

WSOTC Agility Trial

July 15-16 at Fun Fur Paws in Mt. Vernon

Linda Shea is the chair for our summer agility trial. Volunteers are still needed, so please let her know if you can help out!



CLUB UPDATES

Spring Obedience and Rally Trial Report

Stupendous, is how I like to sum up this year's trials. From the judges to our trophy sponsors, Friends of Obedience donors, the exhibitors, our venue hosts, the show superintendent, and most of all to our many, many volunteers, stewards, and Trial Committee members, who made this a fabulous trial weekend.

After chairing these trials for several years, one gets used to the bumps along the way, but this year the trials were coming together nicely. In fact, too smoothly. Come closing, we were informed that one of our Judges was going to be well over the AKC maximum judging hours, so a fourth judge was needed. Don Rennick and I started to come up with judges we could reach out to and in the end, Don was gracious enough to step into the ring for Saturday. This came with the tradeoff that he would not be available for the remainder of the trial. I must admit, my nervousness was increasing as I now had new roles that needed to be filled. Thankfully, many individuals stepped in and up to assist with all that needed to be done. I cannot begin to thank everyone enough, but without many hands, these trials would not have been as stupendous!

All trophies and awards were sponsored by both members and non-members. We received more than \$1,200.00 in Friends of Obedience donations! Which contributed to our nice profit this year.

I would like to take this moment to publicly thank those that assisted in making these trials a great success. First and foremost, every member of our Trial Committee did another outstanding job. Betty Winthers did a great job rounding up both members, prospective members, and non-members to fill in the many stewarding assignments. She did a nice job at finding additional stewards for the last-minute ring addition. Jane Pitts returned to oversee Trophies and Awards, as well as judges' gifts. Jane does a fantastic job at finding not only fun and practical items, but attractive pieces, for some of our larger awards. The hospitality team of JoAnne Mulligan and Susan Mulligan did it again. They not only made sure our judges were fed starting with Friday night's dinner, but also with breakfasts, lunches, and an additional dinner. They made several main course items and with assistance from the members who donated additional food, we always have plenty to feed everyone needing some sustenance. Jody Woodruff assisted with decorations and demonstrated her green thumb by bringing some pretty flowers with attractive flowerpots to each table. She had some sweets to keep a little energy going for everyone working at the rings. Finally, Don Rennick has been our judges' liaison for many years. He works hard at finding the judges, sending out contracts, and finalizing ring assignments. This year he had to hand off many of the other duties he executes, but as previously noted, it was to give back to the trials as our last-minute 4th judge. Thank you again to our wonderful trial committee.

On the next page is the list of the many members and non-members who helped to contribute to these trials. Apologies in advance for anyone I may have forgotten.

Amanda Buse, Trial Chair

CLUB UPDATES

Thank you to the 2023 Spring Obedience and Rally trial volunteers and donors!

2023 Trial Committee

Betty Winthers, Chief Ring Steward	JoAnne Mulligan, Hospitality
Jane Pitts, Trophy & Awards Chair	Susan Mulligan, Hospitality
Don Rennick, Judges & Grounds	Jody Woodruff, Decorations

Trophy & Awards Donors

Saturday

Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Obedience Class, offered by Pat & Don Rennick
Highest Combined Score in Obedience Open B and Utility B, offered by Sharon Colvin
Highest Scoring Dog in Obedience Preferred Classes, offered by Terrie Sato
Highest Combined Score in Preferred Open & Utility, offered by Terrie Sato
Highest Triple Score in Rally, offered by Karen Snee
Highest Combined Score in Rally Advanced B and Excellent B, offered by Neil Evans
Obedience Novice A – First Place, offered by Jody Woodruff
Obedience Novice A – Second to Fourth Place, offered by Alyce Owen
Rally Novice A – First Place, offered by Karen Snee
Rally Novice A – Second to Fourth Place, offered by Anonymous
Highest Scoring Dog from the “A” Classes (Novice, Open, Utility), offered by Jill Petersen & Holly Krohn

Sunday

Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Obedience Class, offered by Amanda Buse
Highest Combined Score in Obedience Open B and Utility B, offered by John & Sue Cox
Highest Scoring Dog in Obedience Preferred Classes, offered by Betty Winthers
Highest Combined Score in Preferred Open & Utility, offered by Betty Winthers
Highest Triple Score in Rally, offered by Karen Snee
Highest Combined Score in Rally Advanced B and Excellent B, offered by Neil & Allison Hall
Obedience Novice A – First Place, offered by Lee Boelter
Obedience Novice A – Second and Third Place, offered by Jody Woodruff
Obedience Novice A – Fourth Place, offered by Anonymous
Rally Novice A – First Place, offered by Karen Snee
Rally Novice A – Second to Fourth Place, offered by Elizabeth Soule
Highest Scoring Dog from the “A” Classes (Novice, Open, Utility), offered by Jill Petersen & Holly Krohn

CLUB UPDATES

Thank you to the 2023 Spring Obedience and Rally trial volunteers and donors!

Friends of Obedience Donors

Allison Clemons
Kathy Teufel
Amanda Buse
Lee Boelter
Arlette Davison
Linda Hall
Betty Winthers
Linda Shea
Beverly May
Lorri Kraft

Cathy Soule
Lynn Knapp
Christine Swinehart
Marilyn Ashby
Dalene McIntire
Michelle Fuqua
Darlene Brown
Nancy Brodie
Debbie Addicoat
Neil Evans

Debbie Fagala
Reggie Gausman
Elizabeth Soule
Rhonda Forman
Jane Pitts
Dr. Ronnie Sue Leith
Jody Woodruff
Sandy Burr
Judith Peterson
Sue Cox

Stewards (Members)

Cats Bailey, Nancy Harney, Christine Swinehart, Reggie Gausman, Debbie Fagala, Rhonda Forman, Holly Krohn, Ronnie Sue Leith MD, Jayne Walker, Sarah Kahn, Lee Ann Mc Neil, Sharon Colvin, Nancy Light

Stewards (Non-Members)

Brad Fagala, Charlie Clarke, Laura Cronin, Martha Roberson, Penny Broomer, Tina Pope, Walter Roberson

Judges' Transportation

Brad & Debbie Fagala, John & Sue Cox

Post Show Grounds Clean Up

Nancy Light, Neil Hall (non-member), Rhonda Forman, Susan Ronken (non-member), Terrie Sato

Photographer

Cynthia Kelly of Campfire Photography
<https://www.campfirephotography.com/>

Again, thank you to all for your support off these trials and making them great. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

Respectfully submitted by Amanda Buse, Trial Chair

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order over Zoom at 7:01 by President Terrie Sato

Minutes: Board minutes from 2/15/23 as printed in the Canine Post were approved.

Report of the President: The Janice Gunn seminar was well attended despite threatening weather. Terrie proposed that WSOTC contribute some of the net gain to the Golden Retriever Foundation cancer research project that Janice supported as seminar presenter. Terrie thanked Nancy Light, Sandy Burr and Rhonda Forman for their indispensable and reliable help during the seminar. Terrie also thanked Sil Sanders for the use of his PA system.

Report of the Secretary: Rhonda Forman – correspondence from AKC was received indicating that the August obedience trial dates and judges panel was not submitted. Terrie followed up with Debbie Warden and both have been submitted.

Report of the Treasurer: Sue - An updated report was presented. See website under “members only” for more detail.

Committee Reports

a. **Spring Obedience/Rally Trial** – Amanda – no report

b. **Membership** - Cathy Soule – There will be 1, possibly 2 second readings and possibly 4 first readings at the next General Meeting on March 15th.

c. **Awards**- Nancy – Nancy is preparing the awards catalog for the General Meeting on March 15th.

d. **Hearts and Flowers** - Gloria Newby - cards have been sent to Marilyn Ashby and Sandy Burr.

e. **Janice Gunn seminar** – financials – Janice’s fee was donated to the Golden Retriever Foundation for lymphoma research. The Board approved a motion to contribute an additional 20 percent of the net proceeds to the Golden Retriever cancer research fund. This will be discussed and require a motion to approve at the next General Meeting on March 15th.

f. **Agility** – Nancy – no report

g. **August Obedience Trial** -Debbie Warden – Event and judges panel has been sent to AKC. Debbie is still looking for someone to do the awards on site.

h. **Steward Training Day** Mar. 18 - Terrie - So far 18 people have contacted Terrie. Sue has agreed to help with the training, and she believes that Debbie Addicoat and Betty Winthers will also attend. Terrie plans to set up rings and run a few dogs through giving the stewards hands on experience setting jumps, placing gloves and articles, checking people in etc.



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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 8, 2023

Old Business

1. Approved judges list - Laurie Rubin from Vancouver, WA is now provisional for Open and looking for assignments. She is fully approved for Novice.

New Business

Website – we need to recruit someone to take over the WSOTC website responsibilities. Need to appoint a nominating committee. Several members names were recommended and they will be contacted to see if they are willing to serve.

Next General Meeting is 3/15/23

Next Board Meeting is 4/12/23

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:25

Submitted by Rhonda Forman, Secretary

UPCOMING WASHINGTON EVENTS

Dalmatian Club of America (Agility) 5/3-4 at Cowlitz County Event Center, Longview, WA
Sno-King Agility Club (Agility) 5/5-7 at Fun Fur Paws, Mt. Vernon, WA
Spokane Dog Training Club (Tracking TDX) 5/7 at Miller Ranch, Sprague, WA
Chuckanut Dog Training Association (Agility) 5/12-14 at Fun Fur Paws
German Shepherd Dog Club of Washington State (Obed, Rally) 5/12-14 at Carco Park, Renton, WA
German Shepherd Dog Club of Oregon (Agility) 5/12-14 at Clark County Fairgrounds
Spokane Dog Training Club (Agility) 5/12-14 at Sontag Park, Nine Mile Falls, WA
Bell Vernon Kennel Club and Mt Baker Kennel Club (Obed, Rally) 5/19-22 at Northwest WA Fairgrounds, Lynden, WA - Two trials per day on Saturday and Sunday
Seattle Kennel Club (Agility) 5/19-21 at Argus Ranch
Spokane Dog Training Club (Obed, Rally) 5/20-21 at Spokane, WA
Spokane Kennel Club (Obedience, Rally) 5/26-28 at Spokane, WA
German Shepherd Dog Club of Oregon (Agility) 6/2-4 at Clark County Fairgrounds
Hurricane Ridge Kennel Club of Washington (Agility, Obed, Rally) 6/2-6/4 at Carrie Blake Park in Sequim, WA
Greater Spokane Shetland Sheepdog Club (Agility) 6/2-6/4 at Spokane County Fair and Expo Center
Columbia River Agility Club (Agility) 6/9-11 at Clark County Fairgrounds
Samoyed Club of Washington State (Agility) 6/9-6/11 at Fun Fur Paws
St. Bernard Club of Puget Sound (Obed, Rally) 6/10-11 at Clarks Creek Park, Puyallup, WA
Boston Terrier Club of Western Washington (Agility) 6/16-18 at Argus Ranch
Mt Rainier Sporting Spaniel Association (Obed, Rally) 6/17 at Country Classic Kennels, Arlington, WA
Mount Hood Doberman Pinscher Club (Obed, Rally) 6/17-18 at Olympia, WA
Evergreen Shetland Sheepdog Club (Obed, Rally) 6/18 at Country Classic Kennels, Arlington, WA
Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Association (Agility) 6/23-25 at Fun Fur Paws
Seattle Kennel Club (Rally) 6/24 at Magnuson Park, Seattle, WA

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 15, 2023

The meeting was called to order over Zoom at 7:01 by President Terrie Sato.

Terrie welcomed our guests attending the meeting tonight and had them introduce themselves. In attendance: Terrie Sato, Nancy Light, Sue Cox, Rhonda Forman, Neil Evans, Karen Snee, Arlette Davison, Cathy Soule, Reggie Gausman, Stella Rowlett, Sarah Kahn, Amanda Buse, Nancy Harney, Kelli Armstrong, Holly Krohn, Dix Dixon, Jill Petersen, Jayne Walker, LeeAnn McNeil, Elizabeth Soule, Sandy Burr, Pat Lindquist; Guests: Teresa Hunt, Adena Ray, Shea Hughes-Gorman, Lucie Harpster, Kristina Daudistel-Pieters, Debbie Bohn, Kathryn Wigner

2. Minutes were approved from the Jan. 18th meeting.

3. **Report of the Board** : WSOTC has had a busy start to the year. January had the match and the membership meeting with guest speaker, Jessica Clough explaining NASDA canine sports. February saw the AKC official approval of our updated by laws and the Janice Gunn seminar. March will have the steward training workshop and at this meeting we will be celebrating the 2022 accomplishments of our members. There's lots more to come in the months ahead. For now, the Board congratulates all of those who achieved their goals in 2022!

4. **Report of the President:** Terrie acknowledged all of those who helped with the Janice Gunn seminar and especially recognized Sandy Burr, Nancy Light, Rhonda Forman and Sil Sanders for their contributions to the seminar's success. She also thanked Sharon Colvin for the use of her building in the upcoming steward training workshop.

5. **Report of the Secretary:** Rhonda – We received confirmation from AKC for the upcoming August trial and judges panel for Obedience and Rally that the applications have been received and are being reviewed.

6. **Report of the Treasurer:** Sue – An updated report was presented. See the website under "members only" for more detail.

7. Committee reports

Membership - Cathy Soule – There were 4 first readings for Kathryn Wigner, Penelope Broomer, Debbie Bohn and Catherine Shaffer. There were 2 second readings for Tain Rose and Shea Hughes-Gorman who were both voted on and approved.

Spring Trial 4/1 & 2- Amanda - Food donations of salads and desserts for the judges and workers lunch would be welcome. Three stalls have been reserved for workers bringing their dogs. We are very much in need of stewards so please contact Betty Winthers and volunteer for steward duty. Cleanup is needed for Sunday afternoon and this needs to include checking the grounds and stalls for garbage etc. Transportation is also needed for the judges to the airports.

Hearts and Flowers - Gloria - cards have been sent to Marilyn Ashby for the loss of husband, Dick Ashby (note that a \$100 donation was made to Old Dog Haven in Dick's memory as he was a long-time member of WSOTC). A get well card was sent to Sue Cox. A sympathy card was sent to Sandy Burr. Please note the sad passing of Clare Lovett. Though not a club member she was known to many involved with Shelties and agility.



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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 15, 2023

Janice Gunn seminar wrap up - Terrie - The seminar was successfully attended with 20 working spots filled and approximately 30 auditors. A donation of Janice's fee was sent to the Golden Retriever Foundation for lymphoma research as requested by Janice. \$1260 in refunds were returned to those who could not attend due to weather or health issues. The board has suggested that WSOTC contribute an extra \$750 to the Zeke Golden Retriever Foundation cancer research fund in support of Janice's charity. There was discussion, a motion and approval by the membership to make this additional donation. A financial report of the seminar is available in the "members only" section of the website.

Donation committee - Sue – No report

August 12-13 Obedience Trial - Debby Warden – Debbie is seeking a committee. She needs an on-site awards person, hospitality, and chief ring steward.

Steward Training Day - Terrie - About 15 people have signed up. An explanation of steward duties will be presented by Sue Cox. John Cox and Debbie Addicoat will also be there. A ring will be set up and stewards will be able to walk through their duties in Novice, Open, Utility and Rally. Funds up to \$50 were approved to use for refreshments at the training session.

8. Unfinished Business

Cheddar Up - Elizabeth – The Cheddar Up application is working and will be available to use on our website soon. One person has successfully completed the new membership form.

Approved Judges List – Elizabeth will update the list.

9. New Business

Nominating Committee - Karen - a nominating committee is being formed. If you are contacted by a member of this committee and asked to serve as either an officer or board member, please seriously consider contributing to the club with this service. If you would like to serve as an officer or board member, please let a nominating committee member know.

AKC sends out email updates that may have bearing on obedience, rally, tracking or agility. How would the membership like to be made aware of these updates? It was decided that topics will be listed in a section of the Canine Post.

Website - our webmaster would like to pass the job on. We are looking for someone willing to update the website as needed. If you have the skill to maintain our website, please consider volunteering. If anyone would like to take this on, contact Nancy Light for additional information on how the site is currently maintained. Elizabeth Soule has indicated that she would be interested in this position if someone were willing to take on the editor position for the Canine Post.

Obedience demonstration opportunity - Seattle Kennel Club is holding a small show on June 24th in Magnuson Park's hanger 30. They will hold a Rally trial, junior showmanship as well as some conformation classes. They are proposing giving WSOTC a ring and 2 hour time-slot to showcase obedience. The public is invited and will be encouraged to attend. Other vendors will be present. This is a good opportunity to reintroduce dog training and AKC obedience to the general



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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 15, 2023

public. This was voted on and approved. Kelli Armstrong, Karen Snee, Jill Petersen and Shea Hughes-Gorman volunteered to help coordinate this event with SKC and organize the demonstrations of different levels of obedience.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:26 to be followed by the Awards Presentations.

Submitted by Rhonda Forman, Secretary

BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 12, 2023

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Terrie Sato at 7:04 p.m. Board members present: Terrie Sato, Nancy Light, Neil Evans, Sue Cox. Absent: Rhonda Forman and Karen Snee.

The minutes of the March 8, 2023 board meeting were approved as published.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: We will be discussing the problem of getting stewards for our trials. I would like to acknowledge Sue Cox, Debbie Addicoat and Sharon Colvin as well as John Cox for their help on the steward training day. I would also like to acknowledge the Spring Trial committee: Amanda Buse, Betty Winthers, Nancy Light, Jane Pitts, Jody Woodruff and Susan and Joanne Mulligan for their time and the hard work that went into making the trials a success. The committee received a nice thank you letter from Linda Hause.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: There was no report as Rhonda Forman is out of town. Sue will take the minutes tonight.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: A very detailed financial report was submitted and will be posted to the web site. There were thank you notes from Old Dog Haven for the donation in memory of Dick Ashby and one from the Golden Retriever Foundation acknowledging our \$750 donation. A motion carried to pay the one bill submitted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership, Cathy Soule: Nothing to report.

Spring Trial Wrap up, Amanda Buse: A preliminary financial report (showing a nice gain) had been prepared and submitted. The hospitality figures were not a part of the report as those bills have not yet been submitted for payment. There was considerable discussion on the topic of paying ring stewards, something WSOTC has never done since our trials have always lost money. This topic will receive further attention at a future meeting, and membership input will be sought.

Agility, report by Nancy Light for Linda Shea, Chair: Nancy had hoped to submit the budget for this event, but didn't have the figures from Linda; we should have the budget at the next board meeting



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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 12, 2023

in May. There will be a slight increase in entry fees. They also plan to purchase materials to make a MACH bar to present to a possible winner.

Donations, Sue Cox: No final decisions have been made by the committee, but they're working on recommendations.

Hearts & Flowers, Gloria Newby: Gloria is out of town and there was no report.

Nominating Committee, Sarah Kahn: No report was submitted, but Nancy was under the impression the current officers and board members were willing to continue to serve. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the May 24th General Membership meeting.

August 2023 Trials, Debby Warden: Debby had submitted her budget for approval but Terrie overlooked putting it on the agenda so it had not been sent to board members. Terrie will rectify that and email the budget to the board so it can receive membership approval on May 24th. Debbie did report that AKC has approved the dates.

Connie Cleveland-Nolan Seminar, Terrie Sato: She's already receiving inquiries to register for working spots for the seminar planned for February 2024. She won't have the registration information available for another few months.

OLD BUSINESS:

Confirm chairpersons for 2023-2024: Amanda has agreed to serve as Trial Chair for the 2024 Spring Trials. It looks like Ane Brusendorff may continue to oversee our website, which means Elizabeth Soule will continue as newsletter editor.

Steward Training Day wrap up: Terrie reported it was a successful endeavor. Sue mentioned that AKC presently has a conformation steward training program on the Canine College website and that training to steward in obedience and rally will be forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board discussed a few candidates for the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award (a medal provided by AKC) and a recipient was selected. This will be presented at the Annual Meeting in June.

Sarah Kahn was elected to chair WSOTC's involvement in the Seattle KC June 24th event at Magnusson Park.

The next board meeting will be on May 17; the next membership meeting will be on May 24th. Both will be Zoom meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Sue Cox, Acting Secretary

Alex Robinson Returns

Advanced Competition Obedience Training

Five Days of Fun & Learning: Saturday, May 20 – Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Location: Donida Farm, 16600 SE 376th, Auburn, WA

Unique Opportunity to Learn from Alex

Working spots are reserved for handlers who had working spots when Alex presented his seminars in 2019 and/or 2022. If working spots are available after April 15, we will offer them to previous seminar attendees.

Auditing spots are open to anyone who would like to learn from this amazing instructor from New Zealand. Auditors may bring their dogs and work them during breaks on their own. (If you're not familiar with Alex, his dogs, background, and accomplishments, visit this link: <https://www.kathylangcaninecoaching.com/seminars>)

Seminar Topics by Day

Saturday: Review of foundation skills, including engagement, mechanics and heeling from 2019 and 2022 workshops.

Sunday: Problem solving with each worker choosing exercises or concepts they would like to work on with Alex. Alex will help participants understand his approach to diagnosing issues and coming up with solutions. After each person has their individual floor time, the rest of the working teams will have the opportunity to try the techniques as a group.

Monday: Heeling, fronts and finishes from beginning to advanced skills. Alex will share his techniques, concepts and games to train and maintain animated and precise heeling, fronts and finishes in the ring.

Tuesday: Signals and drop on recall during the first half of the day, followed by trial prep, ring entrances and engagement between exercises.

Wednesday: Retrieve, scent discrimination, go-outs and jumping during the first half of the day, followed by tricks and games to keep training fresh, build confident and increase drive.

Video Pre-Seminar Homework: Workers and auditors will receive an invitation to join private Facebook groups that include videos and written homework material. Workers will be expected to refresh their skills.



This seminar is brought to you by Kathy Lang & Gwen Blake

Seminar Details

Working teams are limited to 15 and must have attended (in a working spot) one or both of Alex's previous workshops. If all 15 working spots are not filled by April 15 we will offer them to people who previously audited Alex's previous seminars. Working teams may bring a maximum of two dogs and choose which dog to work during each session. No aggressive, reactive or noisy dogs. The cost for working teams registering for Saturday, Sunday and Monday is \$365. Each additional day will be \$110. Attend all five days for \$545.

Auditors are limited to 20. Auditors are permitted to bring one dog and crate inside the facility, provided the dog is not aggressive, reactive or noisy. Auditors may work their dogs during breaks (in a small section of the arena), but not during the actual workshop or when working teams are on the floor. Alex will not be able to provide feedback to auditors regarding their dogs as that would not be fair to the teams who paid for working spots. The cost for auditors is \$75 for one day, \$150 for two days, \$200 for three days, \$250 for four days and \$300 for all five days.

Each day's seminar will begin at 9:30 am and end at 5:00 pm, with morning and afternoon breaks. The building will open at 8:30 am each day. Coffee, tea, water, soda and snacks will be available all day. Lunch will be provided. Saturday evening we will grill hamburgers and enjoy a casual potluck dinner with Alex at Donida. Other dinners will be on your own, although we may also have a couple of no-host dinners at local restaurants.

The seminar will be held in the arena at Donida (where we held the November 2022 seminar), which includes a packed dirt floor. The footing will be specifically rolled for the seminar. Alex will have access to a professional PA system and headset so everyone can easily hear him. This arena has "real" bathrooms and a lounge where refreshments and lunch will be served. The arena is heated with portable propane heaters. Bring your own comfortable chair and dress in layers. Parking is very close to the arena on gravel.

The Farm is approximately 40 minutes from SeaTac Airport. Donida Farm & Equestrian Center, 16600 SE 376th, Auburn WA 98092 Driving directions are available at: <https://www.donidafarm.com/>

On-site RV parking without hook-ups is available at no cost. There are showers available. Electricity is \$10 cash, payable on arrival to Donida. Contact Gwen at go410s@aol.com to make a reservation.

Motels (and a casino) are located within a 15-minute drive. Contact Kathy at AskKathyLang@aol.com if you need a list of nearby motels.

No audio or video recording is allowed, with the exception of your one-on-one time with Alex during the problem solving day.

No refunds unless we have a waiting list and we can fill your spot; however, you may sell your spot to a friend provided they are qualified (working spot qualifications, if applicable) and you give us written confirmation.

Registrations and payments

Deposits: A deposit of one-half of your total registration cost is required to hold your spot. Requests for refunds of deposits must be received in writing by April 30, 2023. \$50.00 will be withheld for administrative fees.

The remaining balance must be received by May 1, 2023. No refunds whatsoever after May 1, 2023; however, if you are unable to attend and can sell your spot to your friend, you may do so, provided the friend is qualified to attend (working spot), and you notify us in writing.

For more information and to register, visit:
<https://www.kathylangcaninecoaching.com/seminars>

Celebrations!



Jayne Walker + Ryker

Sevaul's True Colors V Aaron, BCAT, (aka Ryker) received his Rally Novice Title on April 1 under judge Linda Hause!

Celebrations!



Linda Hall + Monty

Monty earned his **AKC Time 2 Beat** title at the Western Washington Weimaraner Club agility trial!