



Washington State Obedience Training Club

# THE CANINE POST

September 2023

An AKC Member Club

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Terrie Sato

**Vice President**  
Nancy Light

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Sue Cox

**Secretary**  
Rhonda Forman

**Board Members**  
Karen Snee  
Neil Evans

**Newsletter Editor**  
Elizabeth Soule

**General Club Information**  
Info@wsotc.org

**Membership Information**  
Membership@wsotc.org

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[www.wsotc.org](http://www.wsotc.org)

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## PREZ'S MESSAGE

There was some good discussion at our last General Membership meeting. A hot topic was the discussion about possible changes to the Novice obedience class in hopes of encouraging more exhibitors to enjoy obedience. It certainly seems that the AKC Events Committee is considering changes so if you have opinions or strong feelings about the Novice class you can send a message to our AKC delegate, Jack Cadalso, at [ntmntm@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ntmntm@nycap.rr.com). Be sure to include that you are a member of WSOTC and want to share your thoughts on the Novice class.

Another topic that was just barely addressed was that of challenges facing our club. I would very much like to hear what challenges you feel are the most important facing our club to date. Any possible solutions are also welcome.

Once again I want to thank Debby Warden and her show committee as well as all of the stewards that helped with our August trials in Enumclaw. From all reports it was a very nice trial! Thank you to the audit/budget committee for



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# CLUB UPDATES

meeting and going through the books. It is so important to have full disclosure of our accounts. The report can be found in this newsletter.

One more important item that was voted on at our General membership meeting was the emergency donation of \$500 to the Maui Humane Society to aid in dealing with the recent fire disaster. Even people not affected directly by the fire have been having difficulty getting food for their dogs. I am so glad our Club has the funds to help in such tragic situations.

As we head into Fall stay safe and good luck in your training and trialing!

*Terrie*

## UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS

- **Board Meeting**, September 6 at 7pm on Zoom
- **General Meeting**, September 27 at 7pm on Zoom

## Volunteer Opportunity: Junior Coordinator

WSOTC is looking for someone to volunteer as a junior coordinator. Since we don't have any juniors in our club currently, the person in this role could think creatively about how we could connect with youth. This could include things like awards for juniors at our trials, supporting juniors who may attend club events, or connecting with local 4-H clubs. If this interests you, please reach out to a board member!

## CLUB COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

**Agility:** Linda Shea

**Audit/Budget:** Don Rennick

**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**

59 Clinton Ave

Albany, NY 12210-2756

(518) 462-2504

ntmntm@nycap.rr.com

# CLUB UPDATES

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## 2023 Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee, comprised of Karen Snee, Jody Woodruff, Kelli Armstrong, and Don Rennick (Chair), met on Aug. 9th 2023. Treasurer Sue Cox was present.

1) Receipt Book: We verified that monies received, including cash, were posted to the ledger.

2) Checkbook: We verified that it is balanced monthly.

3) Ledger: We spot-checked for accuracy in charging expenses and crediting monies received to the appropriate committee, and checked for documentation on checks issued. We also confirmed that bank deposits.

4) Check request file: We confirmed that the payments were supported with appropriate documentation.

5) Financial Reports: We confirmed that timely and accurate financial reports were prepared for club events. The 12-month financial report was reviewed, it was verified that the books balance, and areas of income and disbursements were reported.

6) Tax forms and payments: We verified that the State of Washington taxes, completed at the end of the calendar year, were filed and paid in a timely manner. We verified the filing of IRS-990N.

Overall, we found the books to be in order.

Chair Don Rennick

### **WSOTC Presents Connie Cleveland-Nolan**

We are delighted to welcome Connie Cleveland-Nolan back to the Northwest for a two day theory/problem solving seminar February 10-11, 2024 at Country Classic Kennels in Arlington, WA. Working spots are now full, please reach out to Terrie Sato for information on joining the waitlist. There are lots of audit spots available for both club members and non-club members!

For more information and to access the paper or online registration form, visit the home page of the WSOTC website [www.wsotc.org](http://www.wsotc.org).

# CLUB UPDATES

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## WSOTC Spring Trial Awards

WSOTC Members,

I am the trophy and awards chairperson for the WSOTC Obedience and Rally Spring Trials, March 30-31, 2024. We have some special trophy items and would like to give you the opportunity to sponsor them. The items will again be handmade pottery from Stone Pony Pottery, beautiful and functional.

<https://stoneponypottery.com/dog-shows/>

Each piece will have the club logo on it.

The selection is as follows for SATURDAY:

Obedience High Score Regular Classes - \$80

Obedience High Combined from Open B and Utility - \$50

Obedience High Score Preferred Classes - \$50

Obedience High Combined Preferred Open and Utility - \$50

Rally High Combined Triple Qualifier - \$80

Rally High Combined Exc B and Adv B - \$50

Awards for SUNDAY will be CASH in the amounts above for each class.

Multiple sponsors for one award is another way to pool resources and contribute. If you or your breed club would like to support a trophy or entries not listed here, please let me know. There are many options to choose from the Stone Pottery collection.

There are special awards for Obedience and Rally Novice A:

Saturday First Prize: To be decided \$20

Sunday First Prize: To be decided \$20

Awards for 2nd through 4th placements Saturday and Sunday \$15 - awards to be decided.

Even though the trial is several months away there are many moving parts to be coordinated. Donating early will help it all come together more smoothly.

Please send donations in a check made out to WSOTC and mail to:

Jane Pitts  
3028 W Blaine St  
Seattle, WA 98199

Thank you for supporting the club and the trial!

Jane Pitts  
Trophy and Awards Chairperson  
WSOTC Spring Trials 2024

# CLUB UPDATES

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## Summer Obedience and Rally Trial Report

This was the second year of partnering with Sammamish Kennel Club for our fall trial, my first time as show chair. Thank you Kathy Lang and Ingrida Robertson for helping through the whole process of creating a successful trial.

Big thanks to Kathy Lang, Ingrida Robertson, Vicki Hutchinson Niederkorn and Lori Stock for being there for me the whole weekend from setting up the ring gates, tables chairs and putting up decorations and taking everything down on Saturday. Your help and support during the trial you were all there whenever I needed anything!

Thank you to our esteemed judges, Margaret Chandler, Richard Lewis and Earl Vaughan. The rings were run professionally, efficiently and right on schedule. The judges were encouraging to new exhibitors and it's easy to see how much all three enjoy judging and supporting exhibitors. Margaret Chandler sent me a nice compliment about the show: "Hi Debby, I hope by now you have recovered from the Enumclaw trial weekend. I just wanted to thank you so much for all your hard work this past weekend plus all the help you gave me as well. It was a REAL pleasure working with you. Thank you for the lovely posters which you made for the walls of the trial. What a lot of thought and talent went into them. I feel privileged that you let me take some. I also found the jump chart you gave me, I already put the lunch kit to good use on the way home. It is very well made and worked wonderfully. What a great idea for a judges gift! I also discovered the little surprise tucked inside... very much appreciated. I judged a trial this spring. I was so disillusioned and exhausted by the way they were run, that I was considering not judging anymore. Your Enumclaw trials totally restored my spirits. Everyone was so incredibly helpful, happy and positive, that it was a delight to work with all of you. I had fun!!! I wish all trials were run that way."

Thank you Jane Pitts and Catherine Shaffer for ordering ribbons and rosettes, the sherpa blankets were wonderful awards. It was Catherine's first time of compiling the HIT/HC, HIT/HC in preferred and HC/HQQQ in rally. She did a great job!

The Judges gifts were lunch box kits with ice packs and \$25.00 gift cards.

Lunches for the judges, stewards and committee members were in the same hospitality area used by Sammamish KC, they also provided coffee for all.

Thank you Sue Cox for being our chief ring steward; she was able to have enough stewards to cover our rings and help them run smoothly. Thank you to all our stewards: Lee Ann McNeil, Jill Peterson, Shea Gorman, April Caron, Michele Fugua, Karen Snee, Penny Broomer, Peggy Caldwell, Reggie Gusman, Karen Parkey, Neil Evans, Laura Jean Cronin, Judy Peterson, Chris Swinehart and Sandy Burr.

Thank you Sue for acting as Treasurer Extraordinaire, bringing the checkbook and paying our bills on Sunday afternoon.



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# CLUB UPDATES

## Summer Obedience and Rally Trial Report

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Thanks to Sheila Raymond for helping a newbie on how to navigate a trial and Becky Summer for being our on site coordinator. Baray is the best and we really appreciate them.

My goal for the trial was to make them wonderful for the exhibitors. We provided gift bags to each exhibitor with items that had inspirational sayings (thank you Kathy). There was a three foot cushion between exhibitors and the rings. Sammamish provided two large tents with plenty of room for crating outside no one felt cramped and there was plenty of air flow.

On Saturday we had 104 dogs with 147 entries in obedience and obedience, Sunday 110 dogs and 154 entries. Lots of photos can be on the WSOTC Facebook page (thank you Ingrida) and results can be found on the Baray website.

I truly appreciate everyone's words, notes and message of "thanks."

Respectfully submitted,

*Debby Warden, Trial Chairman*



*Photo courtesy Kathy Lang, originally posted on Facebook*



## CLUB UPDATES

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### Thank you WSOTC August Trial Ring Stewards!

Well-run rings are so dependent on ring stewards and we had top-notch individuals filling in the role of ring stewards at our August 2023 trials. All arrived on time, stayed focus on their required tasks, and were prepared to help the judges do a good job of judging. The judges each expressed their appreciation for their fine ring stewards!

We are very grateful to these individuals, most of them WSOTC members, for volunteering to work at our summer trials at the Enumclaw Expo Center:

Stella Rowlett (2 days)  
April Caron  
Michelle Fuqua  
Lee Ann McNeil  
Jill Petersen  
Laura Jean Cronin  
Reggie Gausman  
Judy Peterson

Peggy Caldwell  
Shea Gorman (2 days)  
Karen Snee (2 days)  
Penny Broomer  
Chris Swinehart  
Sandy Burr  
Neil Evans

It should be noted that all were quick and eager to volunteer, which made my job a real pleasure. Again, thank you to these individuals! You were very much appreciated for your contribution to the success of these obedience and rally trials!

- Sue Cox, Chief Ring Steward

# REGIONAL NEWS

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Portland Dog Obedience Club, Inc. presents:

## Track Laying Seminar Saturday, October 21st, 2023

Presented by judges: Lisa Klein and Cheryl Bavister

9:00am – 1:00pm at Frenchman's Bar Park, Vancouver, WA  
\$25.00 per person

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS FUTURE TRACKING TESTS HOSTED BY  
PORTLAND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.

If you are interested in Tracking, this seminar will teach you multiple skills for laying AKC regulation tracks in the field or urban environments. Volunteers are essential to help Tracking teams pass their test. This seminar will teach you valuable tracklayer skills towards this goal. Having good track laying skills can also help you to be a successful tracking trainer.

Topics will include:

- What directions to expect from judges Using sight markers effectively
- How to walk and turn steps into yards Map making
- How articles are used
- What to do if a mistake is made

To sign up or ask questions, please contact Lisa Klein at [Bignlildogs@gmail.com](mailto:Bignlildogs@gmail.com)

Note: this seminar is for learning track laying, not for training a dog to track.



# AKC UPDATES

The **September AKC Gazette** features an article called “The Chess of Dog Sports” highlighting some top dogs and handlers from the 1950s - 60s. It includes some great pictures, including one of former WSOTC member Kathleen Prince with her Norwegian Elkhound jumping over her arms. If you don't receive the AKC Gazette by email, you can access it here:

[AKC Gazette September 2023](#)

The obedience article is pages 32-36

## Information for the Companion Events Delegates Committee

September 2023

### Status by Sport - Number of Entries

As of Monday, August 21

|                                                           | Jan - July: 2023 vs 2022 |               |                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|
|                                                           | 2023                     | Change from   | % change         |
|                                                           | <u>Entries</u>           | <u>2022</u>   | <u>from 2022</u> |
| Conformation*                                             | 898,451                  | 15,359        | 1.7%             |
| Agility                                                   | 696,491                  | 3,360         | 0.5%             |
| Fast CAT                                                  | 134,854                  | 27,681        | 25.8%            |
| Scent Work                                                | 128,134                  | 17,486        | 15.8%            |
| Rally                                                     | 79,326                   | 9,183         | 13.1%            |
| Field Trials                                              | 68,628                   | 2,365         | 3.6%             |
| Obedience                                                 | 62,791                   | 1,534         | 2.5%             |
| Hunting Tests                                             | 40,322                   | 1,049         | 2.7%             |
| Herding                                                   | 12,219                   | 223           | 1.9%             |
| Coursing Ability Test (CAT)                               | 8,333                    | -126          | -1.5%            |
| Lure Coursing                                             | 5,086                    | 410           | 8.8%             |
| Earthdog                                                  | 3,072                    | 537           | 21.2%            |
| AKC Temperament Test                                      | 2,751                    | 80            | 3.0%             |
| Tracking                                                  | 739                      | -6            | -0.8%            |
| All Other Events                                          | 1,032                    | 280           |                  |
| <b>Total Entries - all AKC Events</b>                     | <b>2,142,238</b>         | <b>79,403</b> | <b>3.8%</b>      |
| <b>Total Number of Events</b>                             | <b>15,167</b>            | <b>877</b>    | <b>6.1%</b>      |
| * Includes AB, LB, Specialties, BPUP & Open Shows         |                          |               |                  |
| Note - 2022 was a record for participation in AKC sports. |                          |               |                  |

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# AKC UPDATES

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## Information for the Companion Events Delegates Committee

September 2023

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### 2024 Agility Nationals

Dates: March 14-17, 2024

Location: Perry, GA

### 2024 Rally National Championship and National Obedience Championship

Dates: RNC July 18 & 19, NOC July 20 & 21, 2020

Location: Wilmington, OH

Rally Choice Class. For the month of July = 381. Seven dogs have earned the RC title as of July 28, 2023.

### Judges Education

The Obedience Judge's Seminar, Novice - Course 4 - final review is taking place, should be published by the end of October. Open to follow shortly thereafter as well as Utility. Judges will receive notifications as soon as each new course is added.

Filming for the Rally Judge's Seminar is taking place in NH mid-September.

Obedience Stewarding Video. This was published in June. Link – <https://vimeo.com/833364633?share=copy>.

Displaceable High Jump. We have received a prototype cost estimate from one of the dog equipment suppliers of \$450 for a complete displaceable high jump.

Agility ISC classes - Effective August 1, 2023 – There are three levels of ISC Classes. The addition of two new levels will encourage those of all skill level to enter ISC classes. Est entries in August = 1,100.

The Agility Department will hold a New Judges Certification in Littleton, CO, September 15-17, 2023.

Gently talking to your dog in Obedience BN and Novice classes. Staff has received feedback regarding the participant friendly attitude that exists at Companion Dog Sports obedience events. A review of the CDS website shows their tagline is – “.....where obedience showing is fun again....”. At CDS events, participants are allowed to calmly and quietly praise and encourage their dogs. New participants have said they particularly appreciate this. What are your thoughts about the AKC allowing this in the Obedience Beginner Novice and Novice A classes?

Consistent Recording/Service fee per entry across all sports – Staff has recommended that the recording/service fee across all sports be made consistent at \$3.50 per entry. All sports except conformation, obedience, rally, and agility are already at \$3.50. The current \$3.50/\$3.00 fees for obedience were implemented January 1, 2008.

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# AKC UPDATES

## Information for the Companion Events Delegates Committee

September 2023

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Obedience Catalog Class Order - Staff has recommended that the Regular and Preferred Open and Utility class entries may be listed together in the catalog, the same as they are in the judging program and judge's book.

Allowing Agility Trials to be Held More Than 125 Miles from the Club's Territory – As more agility trials desire to be held indoors, some club's that hold agility find themselves with very few choices for event facilities that are within 125 miles of their club territory (125 miles is an AKC policy). In some cases, clubs struggle to justify the cost (small trial – expensive facility). In some cases, clubs are limited to small facilities when their event commonly has a waiting list. In order to provide clubs an added degree of flexibility to right-size their event facility, staff is discussing a recommendation to allow clubs to go beyond 125 miles if a club provides compelling reasons. This would be handled on an exception basis. If a pattern develops, a millage change would be considered. What are the Committee's thoughts on this issue?

## UPCOMING WASHINGTON EVENTS

**United States Australian Shepherd Association** (Agility) 9/8-9/10 at Fun Fur Paws in Mt. Vernon

**Columbia Basin Dog Training Club** (Agility) 9/8-9/10 at Horn Rapids County Park in Benton City

**Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club** (Rally) 9/9 at Olympia Hotel at Capitol Lake

**Timberland Valley Dog Fanciers** (Obedience, Rally) 9/15-16 at Southwest Washington Fairgrounds in Chehalis

**Bell Vernon Kennel Association** (Agility) 9/15-17 at Fun Fur Paws in Mt. Vernon

**Portland Agility Club** (Agility) 9/22-24 at Clark County Fairgrounds in Ridgefield

**Spokane Agility Club** (Agility) 9/22-24 at Twin Willows Farm in Deerpark

**Walla Walla Kennel Club** (Rally) 9/28 at Columbia Park in Kennewick

**Evergreen Afghan Hound Club** (Agility) 9/29-10/1 at Fun Fur Paws in Mt. Vernon

**Columbia Basin Dog Training Club** (Obedience, Rally) 9/29-10/1 at 4 Paws Dog Works in Richland

**Mount Hood Doberman Pinscher Club** (Agility) 10/6-8 at Clark County Fairgrounds in Ridgefield

**Spokane Dog Training Club** (Obedience, Rally) 10/7-8 at Spokane Dog Training Club

**Wenatchee Kennel Club** (Agility) 10/13-15 at Wenatchee Confluence State Park

**Wenatchee Kennel Club** (Obedience) 10/20-22 at Chelan County Expo Center in Cashmere

**Wenatchee Kennel Club** (Rally) 10/21-22 at Chelan County Expo Center in Cashmere

**Pacific Northwest Shetland Sheepdog Club** (Agility) 10/20-22 at Clark County Fairgrounds in Ridgefield

**Spokane Agility Club** (Agility) 10/20-22 at Twin Willows Farm in Deer Park

**Puget Sound Poodle Club** (Agility - ISC only) 10/27-29 at Run Wild Dog Sports in Auburn (*pending*)

**Evergreen Afghan Hound Club** (Agility) 10/27-29 at Fun Fur Paws in Mount Vernon

**Greater Spokane Shetland Sheepdog Club** (Agility) 10/27-29 at Spokane County Fair & Expo Center

**Vancouver Kennel Club** (Obedience, Rally) 10/28-29 at Clark County Fairgrounds in Ridgefield

**Spokane Dog Training Club** (Tracking TD, TDX) 10/29 at Miller Ranch in Sprague

# Celebrations!



Reggie Gausman + Giselle

GCH Wanderpond Giselle earned her RN title she also got her GCH!



# Mastering Your Ring Performance

*Presented by Lara Avery of Star Power Dog Training*

**October 28 & 29, 2023: Two-Day Competition Obedience Seminar**

**October 31, 2023: Private Lessons**

**Donida Farm / Auburn, WA / 40 minutes SE of Sea-Tac Airport**

***Sponsored by Kathy Lang Canine Coaching***

[www.kathylangcaninecoaching.com](http://www.kathylangcaninecoaching.com)



## **About Lara:**

As a dog trainer, Lara Avery has had a successful career competing nationally over the past 20 years. She has achieved numerous titles in conformation, herding and agility while earning numerous #1 national wins and rankings in Obedience. Other accomplishments include an OTCH10 as well as OTCH titles on 5 different dogs, multiple perfect 200's, High in Trials, and having the #1 ranked Border Collie and Herding Dog in the nation.

Lara is constantly pursuing the most positive and progressive way to train dogs for competition. Her current OTCH dog, Sailor, has been taught the hand touch heeling method without ever needing to use a leash or collar and is all reward based. This method has earned multiple 200's and an OTCH this past year. Competing in the horse world and winning at both the National and World level has also made her a more well-rounded competitor who can show you how to channel nerves into winning energy! Lara takes great pride in her students' successes, from their first title or to an OTCH. She has experience working with many different breeds. Lara consistently customizes her methods to bring the optimum out of each team.

Lara currently teaches classes and lessons at her facility in Somers, CT. Join [Star Power Dog Training](#) on Facebook for more information about Lara, her dogs and her students' accomplishments!

## **About the Seminar**

Transitioning from training to trialing is one of the most difficult aspects in competition obedience. Statements such as, "my dog has always nailed this exercise in training" and "my dog is so happy in training yet falls apart at trials" are heard all too often. During this two-day seminar, Lara will cover important topics and share her own training approach and strategies that will maximize your ring performance, including: how your training picture affects show ring performance, and how to merge those two pictures; tackling pressure and how to reduce it in the ring; proofing for confidence in the ring; how your energy can greatly affect your ring performance (and how to change your energy); why ring entrances and set ups matter, and how they can dictate your overall ring performance. Working teams will have ample floor time with Lara to learn new strategies and help problem solve issues relating to the subject matter.

### **Working Teams**

Working teams are limited to 15. Handlers must register for both days so the seminar maintains fluency from one day to the next. Each working handler may bring a maximum of two dogs and choose which dog to work during each session. Working teams will receive a questionnaire about two weeks prior to the seminar so Lara may have more background about each team their needs. No aggressive, reactive or noisy dogs, please. Throughout the seminar, working teams will rotate and work in small groups with Lara on exercises and/or issues they have in common. The cost for working teams is \$275.00. **EFFECTIVE AUGUST 10, 2023 ALL WORKING SPOTS ARE FILLED.** If you want to be on the waiting list for a working spot, we suggest you register for an auditor spot for both days. We will contact auditors in the order we received their registrations and offer them working spots if anyone is interested in selling their spot due to last-minute change of plans.

### **Auditors**

Auditors are limited to 30. Auditors who need to bring their dog(s) with them in order to attend the seminar may crate them in their vehicles in the parking lot that adjoins the facility, or in one of the horse stalls that adjoins the arena. The cost for auditors is \$85.00 per day or \$150.00 for both days.

### **Private Lessons**

Private lessons with Lara will be available on Monday, October 30. The cost for each 45-minute private lesson is \$100. When you register you'll be given a list of available times. Please note that we may need to make minor revisions to lesson start times, depending on enrollment.

### **Seminar Location, Motels, RV Parking & Other Details**

Seminar hours are 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The building will open at 8:00 am each day. Coffee, tea, water, soda and snacks will be available all day. Lunch (soup and salad) will be provided. On Saturday evening we will coordinate a no-host, group dinner with Lara at a nearby restaurant.

The seminar will be held in the arena at Donida (where we have held other seminars), with a packed dirt floor. The footing will be specifically rolled for the seminar. Lara will have access to a professional PA system and headset so everyone can easily hear her. This arena has "real" bathrooms and a lounge where refreshments and lunch will be served.

The arena is heated with portable propane heaters, as the weather requires. (You are also welcome to bring your own "Buddy" type propane heater to keep at your chair. No electric heaters, however.) 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. On-site RV parking is available. The cost for a spot without hook-ups is \$10/night and \$20/night if you would like power. RV reservations and payments should be made directly with Donida. Email Gwen Blake at [go410s@aol.com](mailto:go410s@aol.com) to reserve your space. Motels (and a casino) are located within a 15-minute drive. Contact Kathy at [AskKathyLang@aol.com](mailto:AskKathyLang@aol.com) if you need a list of nearby motels.

No audio or video recording is allowed, with the exception of private lessons, and those recordings may not be shared via email or social media.

### **Registration, Payments, Refunds, Etc.**

No refunds unless we have a waiting list and we can fill your spot; however, you may sell your spot to a friend provided you give us written confirmation (email is fine).

Online registration is preferred and may be done at <https://www.kathylangcaninecoaching.com/seminars>. We accept credit cards as well as PayPal, checks and cash. If you prefer to pay by check or cash, email [AskKathyLang@aol.com](mailto:AskKathyLang@aol.com) for instructions.