

Washington State Obedience Training Club

THE CANINE POST

February 2024

An AKC Member Club

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The beginning of a year always seems like a fresh start, a time of opportunity and potential. Last year at this time I talked about setting goals for the new year. Do you set goals every new year? I've tried and find them frustrating. Stuff gets in the way. This year I have become aware of a slightly different strategy when thinking about what I hope to accomplish in 2024. It is referred to as "the aggregation of marginal gains". To learn more about the strategy of aggregate gains read Atomic Habits by James Clear.

The strategy is to look for tiny increments of something you might change to improve a situation, or in our case improve training and/or trialing a dog. Over time the tiny changes add up to a big improvement. For example, you might feel awkward in the ring while heeling and you would like to feel smooth and in rhythm with your dog. Perhaps heeling with a pair of good supportive shoes would help you feel more confident in your stride. A small one



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CLUB OFFICERS

President Terrie Sato

Vice President Nancy Light

> Treasurer 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

Canine Post is published ten times a year by the Washington State Obedience Training Club (WSOTC), an AKC member club. Subscription to the Canine Post is free for all WSOTC members. For more information about WSOTC and becoming a member, visit www.wsotc.org.

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www.wsotc.org

CLUB UPDATES

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percent change could add up to a big difference in your performance. What if you wrote on a calendar the days you can train and the days you will be too busy to train. This is something I will be doing to keep frustration at bay. What if you are stuck in the house on a training day... you might try doing scent articles in a different room in the house every day the weather or the car in the shop keeps you at home. A small commitment can lead to a big payoff. You get the idea.

I hope you look at your relationship with WSOTC and determine to make a small one percent change to increase your personal benefit from the club. Note general membership meeting days and times and determine which to attend. Plan to steward for a day at one of our trials. Write an article for the newsletter so we can all benefit from an experience in the dog world you are willing to share. Share your favorite homemade dog treat recipe. Come up with one thing you can do to increase your participation in the club. A number of you do lot for our club, but just think what could happen if every member participated just a small amount more. The aggregation of marginal gains in club participation would result in a big payoff for WSOTC in 2024!

Terrie

UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS

- Board Meeting, February 7 at 7pm on Zoom
- General Meeting, February 28 at 7pm on Zoom
- Annual Awards Dinner (and short membership meeting), Sunday March 17 at Spiros Pizza and Pasta in Shoreline from 4pm to 6pm. A private room has been booked. Spouses and guests are welcome, separate checks. Join us for dinner and to celebrate the success of our members in 2023!

CLUB COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

Agility: Linda Shea Audit/Budget: Don Rennick Awards: Nancy Light Hearts & Flowers: Gloria Newby Obedience and Rally Trial Insurance: Sue Cox Membership: Cathy Soule **Newsletter:** Elizabeth Soule 'C' Match: Terrie Sato

Programs: vacant Property & Inventory: **Don Rennick** 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



Welcome to our new members!

- Laura Day is from Seattle and has Pembroke Welsh Corgis
- Lynn Brimmer is from Monroe and has Bouvier Des Flandres

HEARTS AND FLOWERS



Gloria Newby, chair

Since my last report we sent a sympathy card to Linda Shea for the loss of her dog, a sympathy card to Terrie Sato for the loss of her dog, a get well card to Pat Rennick, a get well card to Karen Snee, and a sympathy card to Tain Rose for the loss of her dog.

Volunteer Opportunity: Information for New Exhibitors

At recent club meetings we have discussed ways we could help new exhibitors prepare for their first obedience or rally trial. Elizabeth Soule is leading an effort to create resources that answer common new exhibitor questions. Topics covered might include things like how to find shows, fill out an entry form, when to arrive, crate setup, check in and armbands, trial etiquette, etc.

To start, we will be coming up with a list of topics and building a Frequently Asked Question list. If you would like to help out please let Elizabeth know at souleea@gmail.com. If you are new to Obedience and Rally we would especially love to hear from you! Even if you don't have time to participate in creating the resources we want to hear what information you would have found useful before your first trial.

Donation Committee

The WSOTC donation committee is accepting nominations for dog-related charities to donate to in 2024. Please send ideas for charities along with your reasons for nominating them to Sue Cox no later than February 28. The donation committee this year is made up of Karen Snee, Neil Evans, Nancy Harney, and Sue Cox.

CLUB UPDATES

Spring Obedience and Rally Trial

The 2023 Spring trials are March 30 and 31 at Fun Fur Paws

Judges: Nancy Grimm, Gina Grissom, Laurie Rubin, Earl Vaughn

Call for Ring Stewards

We needs lots of ring stewards to help make the trial a success! Stewarding is a great way to learn and gives you a front row seat. Haven't stewarded before? Give it a try! Your fellow stewards and the judges will help you out. Exhibitors can steward if they arrange their schedule with the Chief Ring Steward.

If you can help, reach out to our Chief Ring Steward, Betty Winthers at winthers.betty@gmail.com.

Judge Pick Up and Drop Off

The judges will arrive at SeaTac Airport or Paine Field (in Everett) on Friday March 29, and will need to return to the airport on Sunday, March 31. If you can help with transporting judges please let Amanda Buse know.

After Trial Clean Up

We need a dedicated crew to stay until the end of the trial on Sunday to help with clean up. Contact Amanda Buse if you are available to assist.

Stall Rentals for Crating

All stall rental inquiries and issues need to be sent to Fun Fur Paws event management, melissa@funfurpaws.com or 360-840-6362.

Amanda Buse, Trial Chair

WSOTC PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes outstanding membership and service within the club the people who make WSOTC possible! Nominations for this year were should be sent to the board, who will make the selection at their February meeting. Previous recipients of the award are:

Glenn Ellen Sickles Alice Trinchero Harley Craig **Rozanne Pitzer** Janice R. Thomas **Betty Winthers** Josephine Sullivan Floyd Cottrell Carole DeLand Irene Sorlev Anna Cottrell Chuck & Lois Kletch Ron & Pat Isham Frank Jones & Marilyn Jones (Ashby) Jerry Foley Edel Price **Eileen Childress** Jean Rassbach Suzanne MacDonald (Cox) **Richard Ashby** Fred Marsh Robin Munson Gene Manfredi Mary Stech Laurie Snell (Weaver) Marion Rivers Jo Ann Mather Carole Hapke

Becky Johnson Nancy Phillips Nancy Kaiser Pat Shuler Valerie Robbins Janet Germeau Nancy Griffin Nancy Light Lori Davis Lisa Baldwin Ron Perry Walter Kilmer Lee Boelter John Heinrich Jackie Lovette Mary Schurr **Janice Bergman** Jean Rassbach Wanda Diemert Kathy Lang **Jill Petersen** Ingrida Robinson Amy Reagan Don Rennick Sil Sanders **Terrie Sato** Elizabeth Soule



WSOTC Key Events for the Year 6 General Membership Meetings required/year

JULY

<u>Board</u>: Appoint Audit Committee (one Board, two non Board) who will audit the books and prepare and submit the yearly budget to be presented in August or September <u>General Membership Meeting</u>: online or in person

present the AKC Good Sportsmanship Award Events: Agility Trial

AUGUST

Board: Review tracking budget Appoint agility chair for following year Appoint tracking chair for following year Appoint awards chair Review financials from the agility trial <u>General Membership Meeting</u>: Approve tracking budget Present Past President Plaque if appropriate Events: Fall Trial

SEPTEMBER

<u>Board</u>: Review audit report Review annual budget Review Fall Trial financials Appoint Fall Trial chair

<u>General Membership Meeting</u>: Approve annual budget Appoint donation committee if recommended by the budget committee Events: none

OCTOBER

<u>Board</u>: Review Spring Trial Budget Update membership renewal forms <u>General Membership Meeting</u>: (optional) <u>Events</u>: none

NOVEMBER

Board: Review donation committee recommendations Place renewal and award applications in the Canine Post Budget for Jan. Fun Match <u>General Membership Meeting</u>: Remind GM to turn in awards Remind GM to renew membership Approve Spring Trial Budget Approve Match Budget

DECEMBER

Board: no meeting unless needed General Membership: No meeting **Event: Tracking Test**

JANUARY

Board: Review tracking test financials General Membership Meeting: Approve tracking judges Remind members to nominate for the Club Personal Achievement Award Solicit stewards for the Spring Trial review and approve donations

Event: Fun Match

FEBRUARY

Board: Elect recipient of Club's Personal Achievement Award (vote in executive session) Appoint nominating committee General Membership Meeting: Awards meeting Event: none

MARCH

Board: review Agility Trial budget General Membership Meeting: Approve Agility Trial Budget Other: Nominating committee meets Event: Spring Trial

APRIL

Board: Appoint Spring Trial chair Review Nominating committee report (include AKC delegate) and send to the Canine

Post

General Membership Meeting: Event: Spring Trial if not held in March

MAY

Board: Send approved judges list to the Canine Post **Review Spring Trial financials** General Membership Meeting: Accept nominations from the floor Ask for additions or suggested changes in the approved judges list

JUNE

Board: AKC Good Sportsmanship Award recipient chosen General Membership Meeting: Annual meeting with election of Officers, Board of Directors and **AKC** Delegate Event: none

BOARD MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 10, 2024

Via Zoom 7pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Terrie Sato. Attendees: Terrie Sato, Nancy Light, Sue Cox, Rhonda Forman, Neil Evans and Karen Snee

2. Board minutes were approved from the 11/15/23 meeting.

3. Report of the President: The January match went very smoothly. Terrie thanked Rhonda for chairing and Nancy Harney for helping with the scheduling. Betty Winthers has given Terrie information on AKC Junior Showcase Events. This coming year should be a busy one for our club.

4. Report of the Secretary: Rhonda – AKC notification that results from the December tracking test have been recorded.

5. Report of the Treasurer: Sue presented an updated report. It will be posted on the "members only" section on the website.

6. Committee Reports

A. Membership: Cathy - There are second readings coming for Laura Day and Lynn Brimmer and a first reading for Tara Wheat.

B. Spring Trial: Amanda - Need to line up stewards and a clean up crew. Terrie is starting to get requests to be on the list for run throughs Saturday after the trial. The plan is to start run throughs 30 minutes after the end of the trial in three rings. No food in the two rings being used for the trial. Both Melissa and BaRay have OK'd the run throughs as long as we end by 9pm. The plan is to shut it down no later than 8:00.

C. Donations: Sue -The committee is continuing to collect recommendations.

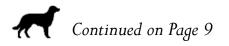
D. Jan. Match Financials: Rhonda – financials are still being reconciled.

E. Hearts and Flowers: Gloria - cards to Linda Shea and Terrie Sato for loss of dogs

F. Awards: Nancy/ Neil – Award requests are coming in slowly. Neil or Nancy will ask Elizabeth to send out a reminder to club members. Perpetual awards need to be returned and we need to solicit nominations for the club achievement award. The awards meeting will likely take place in late March.

G. Tracking Test financials: Marta – to be completed soon.

H. August Trials: Debby Warden - nothing new to report



BOARD MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 10, 2024

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I. Connie Cleveland Seminar: Terrie - So far we have 20 working spot attendees and 19 auditors. Final payments for working spots are due on Jan. 15. We will do a potluck on Saturday for lunch and purchase pizza and salads on Sunday. Terrie will do an addendum to the budget to cover the food for Sunday.

7. Old Business

A. Raffle: Holly- at the match enough raffle tickets were sold to cover the \$200 Visa gift card, tickets and mailing the card. The tickets will be offered at the Connie Cleveland Seminar as well as the Spring trial. There were many positive comments about a \$200 visa card as raffle prize.

B. Novice information presentation: This is in the works.

8. New Business

A. Junior Showcase: It was suggested that the August trial was the perfect place to showcase juniors. 4-H kids have shown their dogs at the local fairs and their dogs will be ready to show. It is still summer vacation. Terrie has contacted Debby Warden (trial event chair) to let her know about this.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 Submitted by Rhonda Forman, Secretary

Next meetings: General meeting: January 17 at 7:00 Board meeting: February 7 at 7:00 General meeting: February 28 at 7:00

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 17, 2024

7pm via Zoom

1. The meeting was called to order by President Terrie Sato at 7:01. Attendees: Terrie Sato, Nancy Light, Sue Cox, Rhonda Forman, Neil Evans, Karen Snee, Betty Winthers, Debby Warden, Lee Ann McNeil, Lisa Witte, Shea Hughes-Gorman, Cathy Soule, Elizabeth Soule, Sandy Burr, Penelope Broomer, Tain Rose, Kelli Armstrong, Dix Dixon, Melissa Knapp, Jill Petersen, Holly Krohn, Sarah Kahn, Debbie Bohn, Arlette Davison, Stella Rowlett, Pat Lindquist, Ronnie Sue Leith; Guests: Gail McMonagle, Tara Wheat

2. Report of the Board: The board met on January 10 and reviewed a lengthy treasurer's report. There are a few financials to be cleared up from the tracking test and the match but both events were successfully completed thanks to the many volunteers. The match went well and was smoothly run by chair, Rhonda Forman. Terrie thanked all the club members who volunteered as stewards and judges. Terrie also thanked Marta Brock and Melissa Knapp who were chair and secretary of the tracking test as well as Sil Sanders, who hosted the judges, and Sarah Kahn, Laura Burns and Nancy Light for their contributions to the success of the tracking test. She also thanked Lynn Brimmer who volunteered at the test. The board is soliciting suggestions for the Personal Achievement Trophy.

3. Report of the President: At the beginning of the calendar year, Terrie hopes members will all take note of WSOTC's key events and plan to participate in as many as possible. If anyone has not renewed their membership, please do so. You are valued members of WSOTC!

4. Report of the Secretary: Rhonda – No report.

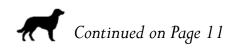
5. Report of the Treasurer: Sue presented an updated report which can be found with additional details on the "members only" section of the website. Sue reported that most everyone has renewed their membership apart from just a few.

6. Committee Reports:

A. Membership: Cathy - Second readings followed by voting for Laura Day and Lynn Brimmer and a first reading for Tara Wheat. The full members voted and approved and welcomed new members Laura Day and Lynn Brimmer.

B. Spring Trial 2024: Amanda - There is a need for stewards (volunteer by contacting Betty Winthers) as well as a clean-up crew (volunteer by contacting Amanda). Sunday's trial will be Easter Sunday so a dedicated clean-up crew will be needed. There is still the opportunity to sponsor a few trophies. Shea offered to sponsor the remaining trophies. Terrie thanked Shea. If anyone wants to reserve a stall, they will need to contact Melissa Burton at Fun Fur Paws. There is a fee for the use of the stalls and they are on a first come, first serve basis.

C. Hearts and Flowers: Gloria - cards have been sent to Linda Shea, Terrie Sato, Pat Rennick and Karen Snee.



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 17, 2024

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D. Donations Committee: Sue has received a few recommendations. Please send ideas for charitable donations to Sue Cox no later than February 28th. Karen Snee, Neil Evans and Nancy Harney along with Sue comprise the committee.

E. Awards: Nancy requested that award applications be sent to her as soon as possible. There was a discussion about the plaques and titles which will be discussed further at the next Board meeting. Nancy also asked that perpetual awards be turned in to Rhonda Forman as soon as possible.

F. Connie Cleveland-Nolan Seminar: Connie will be here Feb. 10 & 11. Terrie is still accepting auditor registrations. Parking will be tight so carpooling is advised if possible. Currently 39 people are attending. Terrie requested an addition to the budget, as \$50 was budgeted for hospitality. She is requesting a total of \$250 for hospitality to provide pizza and salad for lunch on Sunday. This request was voted on and approved. There has been a request for dinner with Connie Saturday evening and Terrie is looking for a place to reserve for dinner in the Arlington, Marysville or Monroe area. Melissa Knapp and Nancy Light are assisting locating a suitable restaurant.

G. Agility – Nancy is awaiting a contract for the venue.

H. August Trial: Debby Warden - Junior showcase/recognition will be added to this trial. Debby will arrange with the awards person to have ribbons for the juniors. Shea and Sue volunteered to serve as chief ring steward (possibly together or just one of them); Lisa Witte offered to do hospitality. The dates for the trial are August 10-11.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Run throughs at the Spring Trial - these have been approved by both Melissa Burton and BaRay. They will begin 30 minutes after the last class finishes Saturday evening and finish by 8pm. Information is in the premium. Terrie is taking names of those wanting a run through. There has been a good response so far.

B. Introduction to Obedience power point presentation – Terrie continues to collect information for the presentation. She and others will focus more on this in late February.

C. Raffle - Holly Krohn - Holly will be selling raffle tickets at the Connie Cleveland Seminar as well as the spring trial. She sold enough tickets to cover expenses while at the match. The raffle prize is a \$200 Visa card.

7. New Business - none

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05. Submitted by Rhonda Forman, Secretary

Proposed Agility Changes

Jack Cadalso

The following list of possible Agility changes has been brought forward by staff. They will be discussed at the March Companion Events Committee, and will be discussed at the April Board Meeting. If the membership has any thoughts or concerns, please pass them along to me. Thanks, Jack

Agility Updates January 2024

The Board reviewed several recommended changes to the Agility Regulations that are meant to expand opportunities for exhibitors, make an event run more efficiently, and update technical equipment requirements for safety and to reflect current course designs.

The recommendations cover the following topics:

- Allow For Exhibition Only (FEO) in all classes. •
- Reduce wheeling of Open courses to one time. •
- Increase the course yardage allowed for 8- & 12-inch heights (and corresponding Preferred heights) for the Excellent and Master levels.
- No longer require the Pause Table in the Excellent and Master Standard classes. •
- No longer require a "Bar" jump in any courses.
- Only allow one time use of the tire obstacle in a course.
- Allow the use of a Wall Jump in Excellent and Master classes to add obstacle variety.
- Increase course yardage allowed in Jumpers with Weaves at the Excellent and Master levels for all heights (and corresponding Preferred heights). This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Displaceable High Jump - Obedience and Rally

from the AKC Companion Events Department

The Board VOTED to modify the Obedience Regulations Chapter 1, Section 34 and the Rally Regulations Chapter 1, Section 36 to change the design and construction of the high jump to allow displaceable panels. In order to not cause an undue burden on event giving clubs, this transition must be completed by July 1, 2025. Clubs may use a high jump with displaceable panels before then, if they should choose to do so.

The revised regulation language is below, inserts will be provided once published.

Obedience Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 34. Jumps, Equipment, and Judge's Report. The superintendent and the officials of the club holding the obedience trial are responsible for providing rings and equipment that meet the requirements of these regulations. The club will provide jumps that are 5 feet wide. The judge must check both the ring and equipment before starting to judge.

For the safety and welfare of the dogs and exhibitors, the AKC is transitioning to high jump panels that are displaceable. To not cause an undue burden on event giving clubs, this transition must be completed by July 2025.



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High Jump: The high jump will be <u>designed</u> and built <u>so that the panels may be displaced without</u> <u>affecting the uprights.</u> The jump will be 5 feet wide and <u>constructed</u> to be set at a height of 4 inches and adjustable at 2-inch increments from 8 inches to 36 inches. The uprights of the high jump will be 4 feet high. The jump will include four 8-inch <u>panels</u>, one 4-inch <u>panel</u> and one 2-inch <u>panel</u>. The jump will be a flat white. The height of each panel will be indicated in black 2-inch numbers.

Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 36. Rally Signs, Equipment, and Jumps. Any jump, or combination of jumps (broad, high or bar) may be used, the jumps may be 4 to 5 feet wide. Various colors and decorations are allowed on the uprights; however, nothing may be hanging from the jumps or interfere with the jumping of the dog.

For the safety and welfare of the dogs and exhibitors, the AKC is transitioning to high jump panels that are displaceable. In order to not cause an undue burden on event giving clubs, this transition must be completed by July 2025.

High Jump: The high jump will be designed and built so that the panels may be displaced without affecting the uprights. The jump will be 4 to 5 feet wide and constructed to be set at a height of 4 inches. The uprights of the high jump will be 4 feet high. The jump will include two 8-inch <u>panels</u>, one 4-inch <u>panel</u>. The height of each panel will be indicated in black 2-inch numbers.

UPCOMING WASHINGTON EVENTS

Portland Dog Obedience Club (Tracking TD, TDX) 2/11 at Johnston Dairy in Camas, WA Evergreen Afghan Hound Club (Agility) 2/16-18 at Fun Fur Paws Spokane Dog Training Club (Rally) 2/16 at Spokane Dog Training Club Spokane Dog Training Club (Obed) 2/17-18 at Spokane Dog Training Club Evergreen Belgian Tervuren Club (Agility) 2/23-25 at Fun Fur Paws Ephrata-Moses Lake Kennel Club (Agility) 3/1-3 at Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, WA Evergreen State Shetland Sheepdog Club (Agility) 3/1-3 at Argus Ranch Longview-Kelso Kennel Club (Obedience, Rally) 3/2-3/3 at Ridgefield Event Center Chuckanut Dog Training Association (Tracking VST and TDU) 3/3 at Bow and Burlington, WA Seattle Kennel Club (Agility) 3/8-10 at Fun Fur Paws Columbia Basin Dog Training Club (Obedience and Rally) 3/15-17 at 4 Paws DogWorks in Richland, WA Portland Agility Club (Agility) 3/15-17 at Clark County Fairgrounds Old English Sheepdog Club of Greater Seattle (Obedience, Rally) 3/16 at French Creek Pet Resort in Snohomish, WA (2 trials obedience and 2 trials rally) Wenatchee Kennel Club (Tracking TD and TDX) 3/17 at KV Ranch, Palisades, WA Washington State Cocker Spaniel Club (Obed and Rally) 3/22 at Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton, WA Boston Terrier Club of Western Washington (Agility) 3/22-24 at Argus Ranch Peninsula Dog Fanciers Club (Obed and Rally) 3/23-24 at Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton, WA Washington State Obedience Training Club (Obed and Rally) 3/30-31 at Fun Fur Paws



My young Papillon girls and I had a fun holiday time at the Greater Clark County Performance games December 9th and 10th in Ridgefield.



Arlette Davison + Aubrey

Aubrey earned her Rally Novice title and her Beginner Novice B title.

Aubrielle Giselle Fleur Royale BN RN CGCA TKN



Arlette Davison + Maddy

Maddy earned CGC and TKN titles to add to her BCAT title.

Madeleine Margaux Fleur Royale BCAT CGC TKN







Arlette Davison + Aubrey + Breya

Aubrey, Breya and I had a fantastic start to 2024!! At the WWW Cluster in January, Aubrey earned her Conformation Champion title. Two days later, she earned her 1st Rally Intermediate leg with a 96, and mom Breya earned a Rally Advanced leg with a 94. The following weekend, in Portland, Aubrey earned her RI with scores of 98 & 96, and Breya finished her RA with scores of 97 & 97!