



Keystone Canine Training Club

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November 2013

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**Content of this Newsletter
has been proof read and approved
by selected Board Members.*



From the President

As Thanksgiving approaches, I would like to give thanks to a lot of people:

- To all our instructors, who freely donate their time to teach our students and their dogs.
- To everyone who volunteered to work at one of our trials this year.
- To everyone who volunteered to be on a committee to help the club.
- To our Board of Directors, whose work behind the scenes keeps our club moving in the right direction.

And I would also like to extend a special thanks to Lucy McCloskey, our Training Director. I don't think some of our members realize how much time and effort Lucy puts into the club. In addition to establishing our class schedules and calendar, she is always looking forward and

being proactive to think of things to improve or benefit the club. This includes new classes, seminars, and recruiting new instructors and assistants. I can truly say that Lucy is key to the success of our club. Thank you Lucy!

I hope to see everyone at our November 17 membership meeting and cookie tasting, and at our Holiday Party on December 2.

**Remember,
have fun with your dogs!**

Dan Goldberg, President



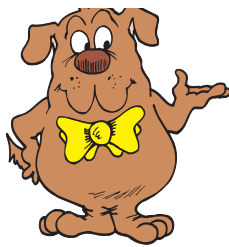
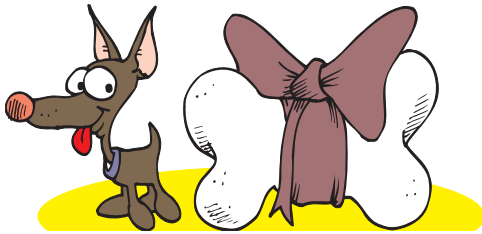
Cookie Tasting

We have decided to change the cookie exchange to just a cookie tasting for the November 17 Membership Meeting.

Instead of baking dozens of cookies to exchange, please just bring a plate of cookies, either homemade or store bought, for everyone to enjoy.

Then you can fill your plate with whatever variety of cookies that may be left to take home and enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Membership Meeting.



Winter K-9er Demos

Tuesday, November 12 @ Bethel Park Community Center for the Stroke Victims Group with performance time 11:45 AM.

The CUB SCOUTS that meet at St. Louise's Catholic Church requested a demo for Thursday, November 21 with performance time at 7:00 PM.

The K-9ers performed 4 Halloween demos during the month of October. They were on October 19, 23, 24, and 26. They were a "HOOT".

The K-9ers are taking a Christmas break starting Sunday, December 8 until January 2014.

The K-9ers performed approximately 23 times in the last eleven months.

Thank you,
Caroline

Pet Safety During the Holidays

During the holidays, especially on Thanksgiving, which is food-focused, keep in mind that although canines and humans are both omnivores, their digestions and dietary requirements are very different. Those roasted pearl onions you love can make your dog anemic. Your favorite chocolate cream pie will make her very sick. And cooked poultry bones can splinter and cause abdominal perforations.

Canines do have something in common with sharks, however. Most dogs will eat pretty much anything. My sister has found everything from wine corks to rubber bands to Legos in her Chesapeake Bay Retriever's poop. When the dog ate a bunch of grapes and half an onion left on the counter, the vet had to induce vomiting. If your dog is a land shark like this, you must be extra vigilant at Thanksgiving if you want to avoid spending the day at the emergency vet clinic. Here are some tips to keep her safe:

- Make sure your kitchen garbage container has a tight-filling lid. There are plenty of tempting morsels being thrown away this time of year—yummy stuff like turkey bones and skin that your dog would love to get at.
- Carefully dispose of all the plastic bags, clips, and ties that the turkey came in; they smell of meat and are very appealing to dogs.
- Don't put appetizers on low coffee tables. A dining table, counter or something of similar height should be safe, unless you own a large dog. In any case, don't leave food unattended.
- Exercise and feed your dog on her normal schedule. Take a long walk before guests arrive so she's tired out and not too active.
- Buy her a new and interesting toy—perhaps one you can fill with treats—to keep her happy while you eat your Thanksgiving feast.
- When guests are coming and going, be sure your dog can't run out the door.
- Put her bed in a quiet room where she can retreat if the party gets to be too much for her.
- Ask your guests not to feed your dog human food, no matter how adorable she is when she begs. Provide safe treats that guests can give her.
- Put leftovers away in the fridge promptly. If you're in a postprandial stupor, you might not pay attention to what your dog is scavenging off the table.
- Keep decorations out of your dog's reach. Wreaths, bunting, scented candles, decorative gourds and small pumpkins are all tempting to a curious dog.
- Many types of flowers are poisonous to dogs. Keep arrangements well out of reach.

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Holiday Party Time!

If you haven't already done so please mail your response for the holiday party by November 18th

to

Joanne Kerfonta

at the address listed on the attached invitation.

The party is the Monday after Thanksgiving!

If you need directions email Joanne: jkerfonta@verizon.net.

The Beach Room is located 1/4 mile past Trax farms going South on RT88 and sits in the parking lot of Mineral Beach.

P.S. remember to send a photo of your dog to Virginia Weida: vweida@comcast.net

Pet Safety Continued

Here are some holiday no-nos that are either toxic, too fatty or otherwise dangerous to your dog:

- Xylitol or other artificial sweeteners
- Chocolate
- Onions, garlic, shallots, or other members of the allium family
- Butter, turkey skin, or other fats
- Raw turkey
- Cooked poultry bones
- Uncooked bread dough
- Raw fish
- Raw eggs
- Foods with lots of herbs
- Gravy
- Corn on the cob
- Marshmallows
- Grapes and raisins
- All alcoholic beverages
- Coffee, tea or anything else with caffeine in it

Your dog can have a few treats on the big day. It's OK for her to have small amounts of these foods:

- Turkey meat
- Plain mashed white potatoes
- Plain sweet potatoes
- Plain green beans
- Plain carrots
- Plain loose corn
- Cranberry sauce (if it's not too sweet)
- Pumpkin pie (hold the whipped cream)

If you want to give her a bit of turkey, put a few pieces of well-cooked skinless, boneless white meat on top of her regular food. Do the same with small amounts of the other allowed foods. Whatever you do, don't feed her from the table. That'll encourage her to beg at dinner every night.

Congratulations **MACH Gen. Stonewall Jackson of Buddington**. Jackson got his MACH on November 10th at the Admiral Perry Agility Trial in Edinboro, PA. And it happened to be his mom's birthday! - Deb Aheimer



Missy completed her Intermediate Level in her Tricks Class and will be receiving her Intermediate Trick Dog Title. We are having so much fun learning so many tricks. Thanks Diana for having such a fantastic Tricks Class. Diane Valley

George (an English Springer Spaniel) qualified for the third time in a Novice A Obedience trial on October 12, 2013 earning the Companion Dog (CD) title. In the process, he was disqualified twice for lying down during the "Long Sit", finished second once and finished first twice. Thank you KCTC class instructors Rod Sabatini and Betty Camus. Stan Stephenson



Rocky passed his (TDI) Therapy Dog International test at Westminster Presbyterian Church today. Looking forward to taking my little guy to visit over the upcoming

holidays! - Joanne Kerfonta

Ears flying! He's up and a way. Mary Phifer's dog, **Simon**, at the Teacup Agility class held Monday's at 2:00.

(photo by Kitty Lagorio)



Jackson and Blaze participated in their first Teacup Petite Prix in October. Jackson was a finalist, finishing lucky #13 of the top 25. Blaze along with his secret partner got first place in the last of the Mohicans game by not getting scalped! Blaze also earned his AKC Master Jumper Bronze title in Edinboro in November. - Deb Aheimer

KCTC Accomplishments



DeClan earned his WCR RLP Title (Rally Level Puppy) at the Splash N Dash Rally Trial. He also placed first! Congratulations on the first title of many more to come!
Lynda Kuzbel

Lexi earned her Teacup Master Agility Games 6 (TMAG 6) at the TDAA Petit Prix National Championship held at B&D Creekside October 25th through the 27th. She also placed 12th overall in the 8" class and finished in the Top 25 out the 115 dogs in the competition. Congratulations to Barb and Lexi on their accomplishment!



In Emil's absence, Barb also got to run Sadie at the Petit Prix. **Sadie** finished 23rd in the 8" class and earned her Teacup Agility Champion 2 (TACH 2). For everyone that knows Sadie, it has to be noted that one of the events in the Prix was "Dare to Double" and the qualifying score needed was 150 points in under 60 seconds. To put Sadie's run in perspective, Lexi did excellent and qualified with 196 points. Sadie blew away the field with 1823 points. Barb needed a rest after that run! Congratulations to Barb and Sadie!
Emil and Barb Pohodich



The Canada Goose is a magnificent bird, a pleasure to see on the wing in their signature V formation and a delight to young and old to observe as they raise their brood and cruise on our local ponds, lakes and rivers. Unfortunately, the resident Canada Goose population has exploded and has become a nuisance, fouling beaches, golf courses and other public places to the tune of many thousands of dollars which have to be spent in recreational area clean up, caused cancellation of outdoor events, closed swimming areas and has become an unattractive health hazard.

Beaver County DNR in partnership with the local Sportsman's Club has taken a pro-active stance by providing an opportunity for local youth to take part in a controlled hunt at Brady's Run Park. Under close supervision of adult mentors and overseen by Fish and Game Officers, local youth were provided a one day opportunity to bag a goose. Hunting is a sport of responsibilities, not the least of which is to retrieve the game which is shot. It was the job of Ed Hanke and his retriever SHR Sarah aka "wiggle butt" to bring the goose to hand once shot in blind No. 1. Sarah did just fine in her retrieve even though the geese were as big as she was. Her obedience training kept her quiet, still and in control in the blind as we waited for the morning flight. When the time came for her to perform, she did the job she has been trained to do by bringing in her first ever goose from some 40 - 50 yards out in the lake.

Lest anyone be concerned that we were decimating the flock, let me assure you we made hardly a dent. The four blinds with two gunners per blind were able to bag only two geese from the more than 100 in the flock. As no bird bands were produced, the chances are that the two geese were more than likely resident and not migratory ducks. The kids learned some very important lessons about conservation and game management and Ms Sarah got to show off her stuff. There was no ribbon or rosette but the smile on Devan's face was worth the wait in the cold and damp as he hoisted his first goose as well. Ed Hanke

Winter Fun for Dogs

Winter is nearly upon us and for many that means making adjustments in order to keep our pets safe and warm during the colder winter months. Here are several indoor activities that can help keep cabin fever at bay.

Teach Dogs New Tricks

Winter is a great time to hone your training skills. Not only does training provide mental stimulation for your pets, it helps cement the bond with your dog and gives you both something to focus on besides going outside. If you've thought about implementing clicker training, this is a great time to start.

Puzzle Toys for Pups

Puzzle toys are a fantastic way to keep a dog's mind engaged, which tires them out more quickly. These types of toys also encourage sedentary dogs to become more active, even when left alone. Interactive toys range from squirrel trees to puzzle boxes, and the rewards can vary from plush toys to pet treats (be sure to use a low-cal treat). There is really a toy for every activity level, so do a search—you might be surprised by what you find.

Make Feeding Time Fun

Make feeding time more interesting with an interactive pet feeder. These feeders engage pets' primal instincts by allowing them to "hunt" for their food. Interactive feeders, such as those available from Nina Ottoson, or Aikiou, keep dogs interested during mealtime while decreasing their eating rate—something that is physically and emotionally important.

Treadmills for Pets

You may not think of your dog as the "running" type, but she may just surprise you. Winter provides a great opportunity for implementing interval training into your dog's workout. Dog Tread carries a wide selection of treadmills designed especially for pets. If you're in an area where rain and snow prevail, this is probably the system for you. To step up the power level, try adding a K9 FIT Vest™, which comes with various sized weights that you add or decrease as your dog gets in shape.

Building up Balance for the Pet's Body & Mind

The best way to tire out your dog is to engage her mentally and physically. Balance balls can do the trick. Sometimes referred to

thera-balls, exercise balls, fitness balls, gymnastics balls or Swiss balls; these are a great tool for working on balance, core strengthening and endurance. If you have an agility dog, this is going to be an especially valuable activity for your pet. Best of all; it can all be done indoors (under proper supervision, of course). Dog Tread carries a wonderful line of balance toys for pets, as does Fit Paws USA, and there are other companies that offer innovative balance equipment for pets.

Experiment in the Kitchen

If you're as bored as your dog during the cold and dark winter months, consider experimenting with some new recipes. There are many great ways to integrate leftover holiday food (such as pumpkin puree or turkey) into recipes that are healthy and easy to make. Scavenger Hunts for Dogs Scavenger hunts can be entertaining for you and your human kids, as well as your pets. This is very easy game to set up. Simply put your dog outside or in another room while you "hide" the treats around the house. Start out with easy hides (such as in the corner of a room), then move into the "high value" hides (under a box or the couch). Be careful you don't inadvertently enforce bad habits while playing. Hide treats and toys only in areas where your dog is allowed.

Doga (Dog Yoga)

There is nothing more relaxing in winter than a morning yoga session. You can integrate your dog into this healthy routine by simply encouraging her to participate. Practice simple stretches together and when your pet lies down for a rest, use the time to interact with her—it will help make your own morning yoga that much more valuable as petting animals has been shown to lower blood pressure and decrease stress.

Grooming the Pet

A grooming session can do wonders for your pet when the cold, dry air of winter is taking its toll on her skin. Consider purchasing some pet-friendly Bath Salts from DERMagic for a gentle exfoliating scrub that will remove dandruff and help loosen dry skin, preparing it for an invigorating shampoo. This is not only great for your pets, but will help keep you warm and relaxed during the cold winter days.

KCTC December Short Session

We are almost done with the last full session for 2013. I have been asked by many of you to not have a four or five week break before we start our next session. Thus our Short Session was born. I have asked our instructors to think outside the box and offer some new and different mini classes. The response to this was great. We will be offering two or three week classes that we haven't tried before. Look at the schedule and feel free to sign up for one, two or three weeks of the class that you would like to try. At the end of this short session let me know what you liked and if you would like to have it become a part of our regular class schedule.

For our agility fans, we will offer Teacup Run Thrus, Teacup Games, Alphabet Drills, Handling Techniques, and Agility Games.

For the obedience fans will be offering, Novice Run Thrus and Open Run Thrus. We will be introducing a preview to our newest obedience class, Family Manners III and we will also be offering WCR (APDT) Rally Mock Trials. The Rally Mock Trial Schedule is: Week one - Level 1, Week two - Level 2, Week three -Level 3.

For those that really want to do something new and different, you can try Intro to Tricks, Intro to Scent Work, Intro to Rally Free (rally and freestyle moves combined into one rally course), and Obedience Games.

The cost for these classes is \$5.00 for Members and \$15.00 for Non-Members per dog, per week. The Monday night Intro to Family Manners III class is free to Members only. To sign up, either send an email to officemanager@keystonecanine.com or place your enrollment in the Keystone office mailbox. If you send an email ***you must include:*** your name, phone #, dog's name, and class(es) you would like to enroll in.

Come and have fun with your dog and take a break from all the holiday chores.

Lucy McCloskey, Training Director

Time/Date	Dec 9 and 16	Dec. 3, 10 and 17	Dec. 4, 11 and 18	Dec. 12 and 19	Dec. 6, 13 and 20	Dec. 7
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Back Room	Back Room	Back Room	Back Room	Back Room	
2:00 PM	Teacup Runthrus 12/9 only					
Instructor	Tom & Phyllis					
7:00 PM	Intro to Family Manners III	AKC Novice Run Thrus	Teacup Games	AKC Open Run Thrus	Obedience Games	
Instructor	Toni	Linette/Betty C.	Amy S.	Phyllis H.	Lucy & Stephanie & Rod	
8:00 PM	Intro to Dog Tricks					
Instructor	Diana					
	Front Room	Front Room	Front Room	Front Room	Front Room	Front Room
5:00 PM						BB Agility
Instructor						Lucy
7:00 PM	Intro to Rally Free	Intro to Nose Work	Agility Alphabet Games	Agility Turning Skills	Agility Mixer	
Instructor	Paula & Lucy & Lynda	Amy	Fiona/Lucy/Pam	Dan &	Joanne/Janine	Lucy
8:15 PM	WCR Rally Mock Trial			Agility Handling Skills	Janine/Joanne	WCR Rally
Instructor	Lucy			Lucy & Pam		Lucy