



# Keystone Canine Training Club

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March 2015

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### Director At Large

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



## March Membership Meeting Green Goodies

Sunday, March 15th @ 7:00 pm

KCTC Building

No Goodie eating Dogs Please

## From the President

Hopefully the weather will be warmer by the time you read this! Please continue to check the top of our website homepage for any weather cancellation notices.

Also please send your awards forms to Janine Smith for any titles your dog earned, in accordance with the instructions she recently sent out. Then stay tuned for an announcement about the date and location of the awards banquet.

As previously mentioned, our next Membership Meeting will be Sunday, March 15. To

celebrate St. Patrick's Day two days later, the theme will be Green Goodies. (Green means the color, not necessarily green veggies.) The Nominating Committee will present its slate during that meeting, and nominations from the floor (if any) will be taken.

Doggie quote for the month: "The more I see of men, the more I like dogs." -- Madame De Stael

Remember, have fun with your dogs!

Dan Goldberg, President

## Applying for Membership

Linda Cordle and Molly her Border Collie are applying for membership. She has taken Foundation agility several times. Linda is endorsed by Amy Wustin and Sharon Hareza.

## LARGE VEHICLE NEEDED

Joanne Schrieber is willing to donate some shelving units to the club, but needs a person or two and a large vehicle or truck to get them from Mt. Lebanon to the club. If you can help, please contact Dan Goldberg (samoyed4@verizon.net) and he will put you in touch with Joanne.



# K-9er Demos March

The theme for March is **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

1. **Saturday, March 7 @ 2:00 PM**, the K-9ers are performing for the residents of The Senior Plaza in McKeesport.
2. **Saturday, March 14 @ 10:00 AM** for the residents of Golden Living Center in Canonsburg.
3. **Saturday, March 21 @ 2:00 PM** for the residents of Mount Vernon of South Park. (The K-9ers had to re-schedule Mt. Vernon's Valentine demo due to bad weather.)

Thank you so much,  
**THINK SPRING!!!!**  
Caroline

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following nominations: for the Office of President, Dan Goldberg and Janine Smith. The Office of Treasurer, Pam Lewis and Joanne Kerfonta. The office of Director at Large, Emil Pohodich. The office of Office Manager, Debbie Aheimer. The office of Recording Secretary, Linette Evancic. Respectfully submitted, Debra Aheimer, Chairperson  
Laura Leonard  
Virginia Weida  
Nominating Committee



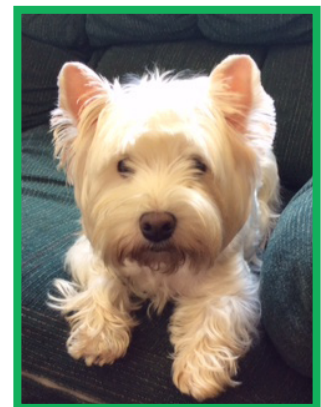
On February 1, 2015 **Lisa's Little Graceful Gracie (Gracie)** earned her companion dog title. This happened at Three Rivers Shetland Sheepdog Club Of Greater Pittsburgh.  
Lisa Paciorek

# Keystone Canine Accomplishments

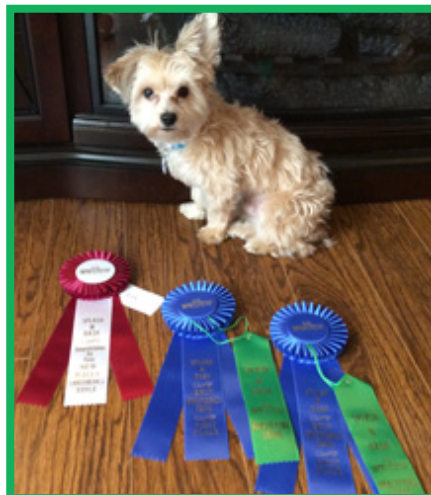
On February 28th and March 1st at Splash and Dash, **Glinda** placed once (fifth place pink rosette)/Q'd four times towards her WCRL Rally RL1X Individual Championship Title! One more Q to go! Thanks to SNDK9 Club for your warm hospitality despite brutal winter weather and fellow KCTC members for your support. Congratulations to all!

It's me, **Howie**. Pat took me to Splash n Dash this weekend for their WCRL Rally Trial! I only ever went to KCTC before, that was fun. We were entered in four trials and we Q'd four times. We had a really good time! Some of my best friends were there. The people from Splash n Dash were super nice. The judges were great. Pat brought Yummy treats for me and I was allowed to have a lot. Besides that, my little brother Tug was not allowed to come because he does not know how to be a good boy yet. So I got two days of one on one time. Love It!  
I can't wait for the KCTC Rally Trial in May. It could be very exciting for me!  
Pat Warnick

It was our first time competing at Splash n' Dash and we had so much fun!! Missy and I did not qualify in our first three runs... we were then presented with the "teacup". It brought us good luck and our next two runs were qualifying runs and she received her Teacup Games II (TG2, TDAA) Title on February 14th. So very proud of **Missy!** - Diane Valley



On February 28, 2015, **Comet** earned his RLPX (Rally Puppy Champion) title with two first place runs at Splash and Dash's WCRL Rally trial! I am so proud of him and how far my little imp has come at only ten months old! He tries so hard.  
Janine Smith



I would like to introduce the newest member of the Toni Yurkovic clan. 4-year-old West Highland White Terrier **Connie**. We got her from a breeder down in Virginia. She has her championship her name is Ch Ann's Van Rainbow Connection. I can't wait to do earth dog with her.  
Toni Yurkovic

The planets must have been aligned for B&D's January teacup trial. They had 2 games that didn't require the teeter for **Mimi**, and 2 games that didn't require jumping for **Addie**. I'm pleased to report that both girls Q'd on both of their runs. Mimi had a third-place Q. Addie had 2 second-place Q's and earned her TG1 title. Most importantly, we had a blast running together again.  
Laura M. Leonard

***MAY IS THE MONTH TO COME  
TO THE AID OF YOUR CLUB!***

May will be a busy month for the Club. With the *WCRL Rally Trial, Not Your Ordinary Garage & Bake Sale* and *TDAA Teacup Agility Trial*, we will need many hands and donations to make everything run smoothly.

When was the last time you volunteered at a club event?

I know that some of you answered, “The Holiday Party”, “The Rally Trial”, classes, “The Teacup Trials”, or “I made a cash or food donation”. Some of you may never have participated in the brainstorming, fun & camaraderie that occurs when we pull together and create the great events for which K.C.T.C. is known.

Now is your chance to get to know more club members while fulfilling the commitment you made when you joined the club. Volunteer for one, two or even all three events. There are a variety of tasks including, but not limited to, leash running, creating great food for & maintaining the buffet, timing, course building, being the raffle queen/king, setting up, pricing items, greeting, taking payments, offering your truck/van for the Garage Sale tear down, creative baking, etc..

While you are doing your spring cleaning, keep the *Not Your Ordinary Garage Sale* in mind. You know those things that you dust, rearrange and don't use or don't like. It's time to let them go to a home that will use and appreciate them. We will be offering items at a low price saving you the labor of pricing each one. If you donate something and want it back if it does not sell, place your name on it with masking tape. We will return it to you. We are accepting all Dog, Cat, Equestrian, Rabbit, Rodent & Aquarium items, as well as household ones which you may have sitting on a shelf, in the attic or garage. They can be new, used, or received as gifts that didn't fit your pet or your needs. Check your items and please wipe them off if needed. This will save us a great deal of time because we will have lots of items to prepare. What human or doggie treats could you make for the bake sale?

And on the subject of food . . . . Have *you* ever planned an anniversary or graduation party, or family reunion? If so, you may be one of the people we are looking for. We need two, three or four people [one or two for each event] to be “Buffet Managers or co-Manager[s]” for the *Rally & Teacup Trials*. Their task will be to co-ordinate the Buffet so that the trial chairpeople can focus on preparing for & running the trials. We have lists: of foods, drinks & dry goods, people willing to help in various ways, and the best places to purchase what is needed. If this job has your name written on it, please call Bonnie McKeown [WCRL 412-835-6692], Rosanne Minich [Teacup 412-512-5645] or Chris Labee [Teacup 412-508-6289].

And last of all, imagine glorious May weather for all three events!

## **MY CREDENTIALS FOR PRESIDENT – DAN GOLDBERG**

I running for re-election for President. My wife and I have been members of KCTC for about 20 years. Our dogs have taken classes in Obedience, Rally, Conformation, Agility, Tricks, Nosework, and Canine Conditioning. I currently teach the CGC/TDI class and the Teeters and Weaves agility class.

During my two-year tenure, our club has continued to be successful. We have had two well-attended Teacup and Rally trials each year, a well-attended Open House, and (most importantly) popular classes including the introduction of some new ones to provide something for everyone, from beginner to experienced. We also introduced on-line class enrollments. Our membership is at an all-time high, and our financial situation is good. I have spent a lot of time working behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly, and I have attempted to keep you informed of club activities and other club business via my monthly From the President column in the newsletter and by emails when appropriate. And I have a proven track record of getting things done.

I certainly do not take sole credit for the success of our club. We have many excellent instructors and volunteers, who are largely responsible for how well we are doing. I have attempted to keep everyone working well together as we all work toward the goals of the club. I am honored that you voted for me to be your leader for the past two years, and I would be glad to serve you again.

## **Candidate for President**

Hello, my name is Janine Smith, but some of you may know me as Diesel, Bullet or Comet's mom, and I am running for President. I have been coming to Keystone for nearly 5 years and this July I will have been a member for 4 years. While Diesel is my agility dog, I hope Bullet can become a therapy dog if we can learn to stop barking, and I have found a Rally dog in Comet,

Outside of Keystone I am an attorney, having worked as an Allegheny County criminal prosecutor for approximately 4 years before moving to civil litigation, where I now handle matters ranging from liability for injuries to products liability and unlawful discrimination. I believe my professional experience and skills would be valuable to fulfilling the duties of President. As an attorney, I am part problem solver, counselor/therapist, and mediator. These are skills that I believe are required of an effective President, a position that must be able to recognize issues, develop solutions, and work to bring people together to successfully resolve conflict. I also have experience managing organizations, having served on other Executive Boards, including the Executive Board of my homeowners association for the past 5 years.

Since joining, I have been an active member, volunteering whenever possible and as an assistant instructor and instructor. I have also been involved with numerous committees. Through my involvement over the past 4+ years, I have become very familiar with the issues Keystone faces as an organization and with the concerns of many of the members. I have also worked within my ability as a Member to raise issues that I believed needed to be addressed, such as the safety issue posed by the lack of a clearly identified and centrally located first aid station. Through the Bylaws Review Committee, I have been part of a comprehensive examination and overhaul of our Bylaws to address flaws discovered through past Club experiences, hopefully ensuring that future situations are handled more smoothly.

I believe that as President I would be able to continue to bring positive changes to Keystone. I would pursue greater Membership involvement in decision making, at a minimum through comment/discussion at membership meetings before the Board comes to a decision and by allowing the Membership to vote directly on matters where possible, ensuring that decisions reflect the will of the Membership. I also would like to begin a revamping of our website, which has become cluttered with sections that have gone without updates in 2 to 3 years, to allow it to better showcase what we have to offer and make it a more powerful tool in our operation and recruitment of new students and members.

I would like the opportunity to continue to express new ideas and advance our Club. I believe that, as President, I can aid Keystone as it continues to grow, ensuring that we have a clearly defined direction for the future and that we continue to have fun with our dogs. I would appreciate your vote, and I thank you for your consideration.

## **Pam Lewis- Candidate for Treasurer**

My name is Pam Lewis and I am running for re-election as KCTC's Treasurer. I have held this position for the past 7 years and have seen the club through several financial transitions. The most recent of which is establishing new bank accounts for our conversion to a 501(C)(7) organization. I have monitored our account balances as well as our bills to try and keep our expenses under control, so that we can continue to grow and offer new classes as well as buy new equipment when necessary. I use Quicken software to track expenses and income. This was very useful recently when I needed to track a Gift Certificate that had been lost that was issued about a year ago. The person who purchased it couldn't remember how much it was for and I was able to track the information so that it could be reissued.

I have been a member of Keystone for over 20 years and have trained our Samoyeds in a variety of classes. After some basic Obedience classes, our dogs have gone onto Agility, Rally, Tricks and Therapy Dog work. They have earned titles in a variety of venues and working with them has been very rewarding. I teach Agility classes and also have been the Trial Secretary at some of our Teacup Agility and Cynosport Rally trials. I am also an AKC Canine Good Citizen Evaluator and a Therapy Dog International Evaluator. I enjoy working with and teaching our students and their dogs, and enjoy being able to see the handler/dog bond get stronger.

From a professional standpoint, I am a pharmacist and have worked in retail pharmacy for over 30 years. Over 10 years of that time was as a manager. I have retired from that career but I know the work experience has taught me skills that I use in the treasurer's position.

I always strive to do the best I can for Keystone, from either a teaching perspective or the treasurer's position and would appreciate your vote for the upcoming term.

Thank you!

**Joanne Kerfonta****For position of Treasurer**

As many of you may know, I am an Agility Instructor for KCTC. What you may not know is that I started out as an obedience instructor's assistant. I assisted with various instructors for approximately two and a half years. However, during that time I fell in love with the sport of agility. My interest for that sport developed into assisting the agility instructors for approximately two years. After my apprenticeship, I operated as the lead instructor in Agility Games for approximately two years. Over the years, I observed that KCTC students needed additional instruction with agility handling skills. I then focused on the skills I felt were important for students to learn and created the Flat work agility handling classes I am currently teaching. In order for KCTC to grow and prosper, I have been instrumental in teaching new students to function as a future instructor. I believe that as we all become more knowledgeable and work together we will develop a first class unbeatable team at KCTC.

In addition to teaching, I have served on the following committees for the benefit of KCTC:

- 1.) Clean Up Committee - organized instructors from each venue to come to the club and sort through items that the club should retain and those that needed discarded. Created and posted an inventory list of where items were located throughout the club.
- 2.) Christmas Club Committee - organized for 2013
- 3.) Awards Committee - organized and restructured award items for 2013
- 4.) Apparel Committee - ordered embroidered KCTC items, picked up and distributed same.
- 5.) Volunteer worker at Teacup & Rally Trials

My community service duties on behalf of KCTC included the following:

- 1.) Bethel Park Community Days - set up booth, organized volunteers, and was active as an outreach person in the community to promote the club
- 2.) Bark for Life, cancer fund raiser - set up booth, organized volunteers, and participated in the fundraiser for the American Cancer Society for three years in a row.
- 3.) Certified my dog(s) through Therapy Dog International and volunteered in nursing homes and rehab centers with Corey for 5 years. When anyone asked I always replied "I train at Keystone Canine Training Club"

I intend to serve the members of KCTC not only as Treasurer but as a fair and impartial board member. I believe I have proven myself to be a person who is not only trustworthy but who also "gets things done"!

**Below are my qualifications for serving as Treasurer.**

**Education:****Equipment Leasing Association, Banking Institute of America, CCAC, CTA 1992-2013**

- Principles of Leasing, Internal Audit Levels I and II
- Financial Accounting, Principles of Banking, Law and Banking courses (3.625 GPA)
- Intro to Psychology, Psychology of Adjustment, English Composition I and II
- Certified Medical Assistant

**Employment:****Century Heritage Federal Credit Union – West Mifflin, PA May 2007-April 2012***Staff Accountant*

- Balanced subsystems including ATM's, Visa accounts, teller's drawers to general ledger at month's end
- Processed return checks
- Online administrator for FEDEX
- Online administrator for shared branching transactions

**CJ Systems Aviation Group Inc. – West Mifflin, PA September 2004-May 2007***Accounts Receivable and Payable Administrative Assistant*

- Processed accounts receivable, payable, and wired domestic and international transfers
- Invoiced hospital programs for medical domestic and international flights
- Issued Corporate aviation fuel cards to aircrafts
- Achieved an "Ace Award" for research and implementation of annual savings over \$10,000 throughout multiple accounts

**AmeriServ Leasing – Monroeville, PA September 1998-September 2002***Lease Documentation Coordinator*

- Monitored lease portfolio's by tracking major exposure, financial exception requirements, insurance requirements
- UCC filings, delinquencies, and end of lease terminations
- Handled FMV appraisals for previously leased equipment to be sold
- Prepared all documentation for lease transactions

**Three Rivers Bank and Trust Co. – Pittsburgh, PA July 1985-September 1998***Reconciliation Administrator/Internal Auditor*

- Edited and balanced general ledger as well as balance bank subsystems
- Conducted internal audit fieldwork in accordance to departmental standards and polices
- Monitored accounts for delinquencies, uncollected funds, kiting, and enforced tax levies
- Performed general office clerical functions and filing

**Emil Pohodich**  
**Running for Member at Large**

My name is Emil Pohodich and I am running for Member at Large. For those who know me and those who don't, let me tell you some things about myself. I have been married to my wife Barbara for 35 years. We have three dogs Sadie, Lexi and Gracie. All three dogs are Certified Therapy Dogs. Sadie and Lexi have both achieved the Therapy Dogs International "Gold" Award for over 500 therapy visits. Gracie is following in their footsteps but has a while to go. Sadie and Lexi have both competed in AKC and Teacup Agility and have many titles. While Lexi actually has more titles, Sadie is the one everyone knows and loves to watch because of her enthusiasm. Gracie is currently training in Scent Work and has passed her first odor recognition test. We have been members of Keystone Canine Training Club for eleven years dating back to when the Club was located in Bethel Park. I have been a member of the K-9ers, have taught Intermediate Standard Agility, Advanced Standard Agility, Beginners Teacup Agility, and Advanced Teacup Agility. In addition to teaching, I served on many committees, including the committee to get the Keystone sign located on the front of our building, represented Keystone on the Petit Prix (Teacup Nationals) Planning Committee, as well as volunteered at our own Teacup Agility trials. I have taken many other classes at Keystone and appreciate the fantastic, dedicated teachers at our Club. Over my years as a member of the Club, I have seen the good and the bad. The best thing I see is that we have grown as a club and continue to grow in a positive way because of the dedicated hard working volunteers in the Club. We are all in this together, and need to keep the Club going and growing in a positive direction so we continue to have a great place to train and have fun with our dogs. I would appreciate your vote and look forward to doing my best for Keystone Canine Training Club as Member at Large.