



# **Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club Newsletter for August 2011**

## **President**

**Frank Mason  
208-524-5284**

## **Vice President**

**Abbie Zaladonis  
208-524-1799**

## **Treasurer**

**Glenda Haller  
208-523-3374**

## **Secretary**

**Kathe LaRosa  
208-881-4550**

## **Board**

**Steven Olson (3 yr)  
208-524-2958**

**Theresa Mathis (2 yr)  
208-403-3855**

**Suzanne Belger (1 yr)  
208-542-6552**



**Newsletter submissions:  
Email your trial results,  
stories, photos, or items  
for the newsletter  
to the editor at  
guardyan@ida.net**



**Photos provided by George & Glenda Haller and Rosha Adams**

## **Next Club Meeting**

**August 18, 2011**

**Board meeting & regular meeting  
to follow setup for the obedience trial.**

**Setup will begin at 6:30 p.m.  
at Lilac Circle in Tautphaus Park.**

# Meeting Minutes

## I. Call to order

Frank M. called to order the **Board Meeting/General Meeting** of the Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club at 7:00 p.m. on July 14, 2011 at Tautphaus Park, our Annual Club Picnic.

Members Present:

Steve Olson  
Frank Mason

Glenda Haller  
Abbie Zaladonis

Kathe LaRosa  
Theresa Mathis

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting Glenda H. made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes from June's meeting, the minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter. Steve O., seconded, motion approved.

## III. Report From the Board

*President*, Frank M. Nothing at this time.

*Vice President*, Abbie Z. Welcome to all the picnickers!

The following is a tentative schedule for USRVDTTC meetings.

- \*August 18, 2011, Setup for Obedience Trial, Tautphaus Park
- \*September 15, 2011, Stockman's Restaurant
- \*October 20, 2011, up for suggestions, the group liked Pachangas
- \*November 17, 2011, Godfather's Pizza
- \* December, CHRISTMAS PARTY to be determined

*Secretary*, Kathe L., Nothing at this time.

*Treasurer*, Glenda H., Reviewed the balance sheet from the period of June 10, 2011 through July 14, 2011. Glenda also reviewed expenditures for the above period.

## IV. Committee Reports

Agility – The club approved Suzanne's request to borrow the ring gates.

For the March 2012 agility trial, the following are tentative judges: Jan Skurzynski and Dale Mahoney (possibly a provisional judge).

Obedience – The closing date for the August obedience trial is August 3, 2011. Please get your entries in ASAP. A food vendor is needed for the trial, Gator Joe's was a suggestion. If anyone knows of a vendor please let Theresa M. know.

## V. New Business

A donation of \$150.00 was presented to Erin, the new Executive Director for the Snake River Animal Shelter. AKC approved Sharon Sakson as the USRVDTTC's delegate.

A refund will be requested for the club's AKC Gazette subscription balance. The Gazette will be offered online, available to anyone, at no charge to the reader. Visit AKC's website for more information.

## VI. Unfinished Business

Nothing at this time.

VII. Motion to Adjourn Motion to adjourn general meeting was made by Rosha A., Frank M., seconded, meeting adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING – OBEDIENCE TRIAL SET-UP, TAUTPHAUS PARK, AUGUST 18, 2011.**

## ***Give Buddy a Break: More Isn't Better for Training Your Dog*** ***By Danielle Venton***

Dog owners teaching their pooches to sit, come when called, and stop the shoe-chewing are better off giving their dogs breaks, rather than daily drills.

Beagles trained once or twice a week for a short period learn more between sessions than those taught every day in long lessons. The results are partly based on the brain's need to consolidate and cement what it learns during sleep, says animal behavior researcher Helle Demant of the University of Copenhagen.

"It's an important study for setting the right expectations for owners and some trainers," said James Ha, a certified applied animal behaviorist in Seattle, not associated with the research team. "This is a very clear example that learning takes time. The brain needs to process what it has received."

The pathways of neurons that fire when an animal learns a task, are re-fired during deep (slow-wave) sleep. Prior studies show human learning benefits from breaks, in particular short rests for simple tasks and long rests for complex ones. Likewise, ponies learn to clear hurdles or move backwards in fewer sessions if they are trained weekly, instead of everyday. And rats trained to navigate a water maze perform better if they are trained once a day over eight days, instead of eight times in a row.



To find the sweet spot in dog training, Demant's team divided 44 laboratory-raised beagles into four training groups. Training involved tasks like jumping into a basket, sitting down, and staying put while the trainer moved away and came back.

By the end of the experiment, each dog had the same total number of training sessions, but those taught once or twice a week for a short period performed much better by the final session, than those trained several times a week for a short time, or those trained one to two times per week for a long time. The dogs coached daily in long training sessions fared the worst, the scientists reported June 15th in Applied Animal Behavior Science.

All dogs were taught by the same person, ate the same things, and had roughly similar motivation levels, to make the experiment as uniform as possible. Dogs too lazy or nervous to take an offered treat, for example, were left out. Though this study looked only at beagles, the same study done with other breeds would likely give the same results, Demant wrote in an email.

"This study builds on and confirms earlier work," said Ha. "But it does it in a very clean, very elegant way. We can be really confident in these results."

Despite the near-ubiquity of dogs in our daily life, their behavior isn't as well studied in the lab as other animals, such as rats. And in some circles, said Ha, trainers base their work on poor and out-dated science.

Even though spaced training clearly helped dogs learn, it was no help in long-term retention. Each beagle, regardless of how it was trained, performed essentially as well at the last training sessions as they did four weeks later. However trained, what your dog knows, it knows.

Citation: "[The effect of frequency and duration of training sessions on acquisition and long-term memory in dogs](#)," By Helle Demant, Jan Ladewig, Thorsten J.S. Balsby and Torben Dabelsteen. Applied Animal Behavior Science, June 15, 2011.

*Article reprinted with permission of the author.*

## **Brag & Pix!**

### **From LaDawn Moad:**

*Shelby and Gibb had a great time in Billings. They qualified in Jumpers with Weaves Excellent B Class for their 2nd Leg and 15 points towards a MACH. They also qualified twice in Standard Excellent A with two 1st places. Only one more leg in Standard to go. Way to Go Shelby and Gibb!*

### **From Diana Robinson:**

*GCH BUCKSILVERS GOLDEN "SABER" CD RE completed his GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP title in Filer and is invited to compete in the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship.*

### **From Colette Wright:**

*Jamr can turn the TV on and change the channels as well. He loves to be read to out of books. When I read to him he lays on the floor, closes his eyes and falls asleep.*

### **From Jane Guidinger:**

*Captain Guidinger had a perfect weekend in Farmington at the GSDOC agility trials. He earned 3 DQs and a leg in T2B. Tennille Guidinger only ran on Friday earning her second novice standard and jumpers legs. She also passed her Delta evaluation and will begin doing AAA visits soon.*

### **From Shyne Brothers:**

*Just wanted to share happy news about our old girl, Mercy. Thanks to Gavin and Helki, Mercy was the #2 ATAA dam in the 2010 German Shepherd Dog Club of America standings.*



## **Volunteers Needed**

*Volunteers are needed for the club's obedience and rally trials on August 19th, 20th & 21st. Please contact Dan or Joann at 208-569-2357 if you are able to help out at the trials. Thank you!!!*

## **Upcoming Practices**

*There will be an agility & obedience practice on Saturday, August 13th at Tautphaus Park from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.*

*Thank you Juley for setting this up!*

## ***Don't Overheat Your Hound*** ***American Kennel Club® Offers Tips to Keep Your Canine Cool***

Summer is a time for both you and your pet to enjoy the great outdoors. However, responsible dog owners need to take some precautions to keep their canine safe during the dog days of summer. As we head into the warmest months of the year, the American Kennel Club® (AKC®) offers the following tips for keeping canines cool.

### **When Out and About:**

- Make sure your dog has access to plenty of fresh water. Bring a collapsible bowl that you can refill at water fountains. Freeze a bottle of water or bring ice cubes in a Tupperware container on long outings.
- Walk your dog on the grass or dirt where it is cooler. Asphalt can quickly get hot enough to burn the pads of dogs' paws.
- Never leave your dog in a vehicle. When it's only 80 degrees outside, a car can heat up to over 120 degrees in just minutes and leaving your windows open does little to prevent heat build-up.
- Never tie a dog outside a store while you run errands. If you can't bring your dog inside the store, it's best to leave him home.
- Avoid strenuous exercise on extremely hot days. Take walks in the early mornings or evenings, when heat and humidity are less intense.



### **Cool Canine Ideas:**

- Check out the latest canine gear. There are many products on the market designed to give your dog relief from the heat including cooling vests, fans that clip onto your dog's crate and mats that cool to 20 degrees below room temperature, among others.
- Create your own chill zone. Keep your dog cool by placing a wet towel on a concrete or tile floor in front of a fan or air conditioner.
- Don't trim or shave your dog's fur. A dog's coat helps regulate body temperature and protects from sunburn.

### **Heat Exhaustion 101:**

- Symptoms of heat exhaustion or stroke include: excessive panting, disorientation and obvious paleness or graying to the gums due to a lack of oxygen. If you feel your dog is suffering from heat exhaustion or heat stroke, act immediately by submerging her in cool water (not ice cold) or by placing ice packs on her neck. Once the dog has been stabilized get her to a vet.

*Reprinted courtesy of the AKC Syndicate.*

Our hearts go out to Dan and Theresa for the loss of their beloved Major.

We are so sorry for your loss . . .

# August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<sup>1</sup> "Duke" Croft  Mary Kauffman	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>4</sup> "Bo" Haller  "Ivy" Haller	<sup>5</sup> Diane Orr	<sup>6</sup> "Millie" Mathis
<sup>7</sup> LaLeene Ricks	<sup>8</sup>	<sup>9</sup> "Libby" Friedrich	<sup>10</sup>	<sup>11</sup> Duane Loomis	<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup> <b>Agility &amp; Obedience Practice</b>
<sup>14</sup>	<sup>15</sup> "Heyburn" Whitham	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup> "Seeker" Orr	<sup>18</sup> "Sagan" Rasmussen  Jesse Bennett	<sup>19</sup>	<sup>20</sup>
<sup>21</sup>	<sup>22</sup>	<sup>23</sup>	<sup>24</sup>	<sup>25</sup> "Trinity" McKee	<sup>26</sup> "Gannett" McKee	<sup>27</sup>
<sup>28</sup>	<sup>29</sup> "Freddy" Stewart	<sup>30</sup>	<sup>31</sup> Jane Guidinger			



## Upcoming Events

August 5th - 7th  
Agility Trials in Lolo, Montana

August 7th  
Conformation & Obedience Match in Idaho Falls, Idaho

August 19th - 21st  
Obedience Trials in Idaho Falls, Idaho