

Happy Tails News

May 2008

Upper Snake River Valley Dog Training Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 1611

Idaho Falls ID 83403

www.usrvdtc.org



2008 OFFICERS

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Cheryl Loomis
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Deadline:
24th Of Each Month



The Agility Trials were great. There were many members who showed up and helped where ever they could, making for light work for every one. A big thanks to those members who did a great job, Teresa Mathis as worker coordinator, Kerwin Hassing and Bill Grof as course builders, Barbara Friedrich timing the fast classes and too many others to name. Also a big thank you to Margi Vanover for getting the word out about the trials. We had all three networks and the Post Register there reporting. The newscast from Channel 3 made it to the Boise market.

EVENT CENTER MEETING

Judy Grof has arranged a meeting with Mr. Rob Childs, president of the Chamber of Commerce. The meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2008 at 7:00 pm. It will be held at the Chamber of Commerce Office located at 630 W Broadway, Idaho Falls. Everyone is encouraged to attend and present their ideas for possible uses for the event center or at least lend their support.





USRVDTC REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the USRVDTC was called to order by President, Suzanne Belger, on Thursday, April 17, 2008, at 7:33 p.m., at the Five & Diner in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Members Present: Rosha Adams, Suzanne Belger, Shyne Brothers, Carl Friedrich, Bill Grof, Jane Guidinger, Maurice Guidinger, George Haller, Glenda Haller, Cathy Hjelm, Sara Kroupa, Cheryl Loomis, Duane Loomis, Theresa Mathis, Mary Lee Moore, Lois Olson, Steven Olson, Karen Setter, Lisa Jensen Smith, Rainy Smith, Margi Vanover, and Abbie Zaladonis. Guests present: Holly Frazier.

Glenda Haller motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as they were published in the newsletter. Mary Lee Moore seconded the motion. PASSED.

Report of the President: Suzanne Belger reported on a letter she had received from AKC. She also thanked everyone who helped at the recent agility trial. In addition, Mary Lee Moore reported on the great news coverage we got at the trial and thanked Margi Vanover for her efforts to have the trials covered. Carl Friedrich thanked all who helped with organizing and loading the trailers for the trial. Theresa Mathis also thanked all those who stewarded and particularly thanked Lori Keele for covering for her when she became ill.

Report of Vice-President: Bill Grof reported for Judy Grof that we will have a speaker at the May meeting who will give a presentation on canine CPR.

Report of Secretary: None.

Report of Treasurer: Glenda Haller read the regular monthly financial report. She also read the agility trial report. The club made a net profit of \$2,137.34 from the trial.

Report of Committees:

Agility Training Director: Suzanne Belger reported for Linda Reimann that the agility classes are going well. She also reported that there will be an agility practice from 1 -3 p.m. on Sunday, April 20th, at Tautphaus Park.

Equipment Manager: Carl Friedrich reported that all of the damaged equipment from the agility trial has been repaired.

CGC Chairperson: Bill Grof reported that 14 dogs took the recent CGC test and all 14 passed. He thanked all those club members who helped with the test.

Obedience Training Director: Suzanne reported for Kelly P'Pool that she has already received a lot of sign-ups for the summer obedience classes. Suzanne also asked members to pass along their condolences to David and Kelly in their loss of Reddi.

Newsletter: Duane Loomis reported for Cheryl that the deadline for brags, etc, is the 24th. He also reported that there will be an OB/Rally practice on Sunday, April 27th from 5-7 p.m. at Reinhart Park. She also said that Cheryl wanted to recommend that the club purchase an "E" book (an instructor's handbook). Duane did not have a lot of information concerning the book and Cheryl was asked to provide more information.

Membership Application Reading: A membership application was read for Dave and Christine Nelson for a family membership. They will be voted on at the May 2008 regular meeting.

Membership Application Voting: Club members voted on the membership of Jeff and Holly Frazier and they were welcomed to the club.

Unfinished Business: Margi Vanover reported that she has posters for the upcoming Rabies Clinic. Glenda also passed around a volunteer sheet for the clinic which will be held on May 6th at the City Activity Center. Shyne Brothers passed around a list asking for trophy donations for the August OB/Rally trials.

New Business: None.

Glenda Haller motioned for adjournment. Lois Olson seconded the motion. PASSED. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary,
Rosha Adams

Rabies Clinic

May 6 from 1 – 7 pm

Contact:

Glenda Haller at 523-3374

if you can help

Margi Vanover thanks everyone who passed out flyers and posters

“Braggs”

REMEMBER that brags and other newsletter information is due to the newsletter editor by the 24th of each month. We accept late brags! You can email your info setnsun@cableone.net. It is preferred that you email your brags to the editor.

It's great to see such wonderful achievements from our club members.

"Once again Libby had a very good weekend at Upper Snake River Valley DTC's agility trials in Rigby. She had 2 double Q's and earned 33 MACH points. She now has 33 double Q's and 599 points towards her MACH 2. She liked the cool weather!"

Finally, "Drift" Loomis earned his first agility leg in Novice Standard with a first place at USRV DTC trials in March

Maurice and Jane Guidinger

GSDOC Trials in Farmington, Utah
March 23,24

Chance Guidinger earned RAE legs 8 and 9, and had a beautiful birdy performance in the Open A ring, pointing some pigeons outside the ring. WE were excused!

Kilo Guidinger earned her RE, beating her brother and placing 3rd.

Captain Guidinger made his debut in obedience and rally earning two RN legs with 1st and 2nd places and two CD legs with a 4th place.

We then went on a 2700 mile loop to the Irish National in Scottsdale and the Sheltie National in Greeley.

ISCA National

Chance earned his 1st Open FAST leg and won 1st place, earning a photo in the ISCA Memo. He also won 2nd in the Advanced Rally class, but blew his excellent leg.

Kilo qualified in Excellent Rally

The two stupid redheads place 4th in the Brace class and 2nd in an all Irish team.

Then on to the ASSA National:

Captain finished his RN with a 99 and 2nd place. He finished his CD with 1901/2 and 4th place, and after a disasterous jumpers run, finished his NAP with a 1st place. He is Quite The Captain!

From the Borzoi National

Saber, Duncan and Diana Robinson had a great time at the Borzoi National Specialty and felt good about all the placements they received with all the really great competition.

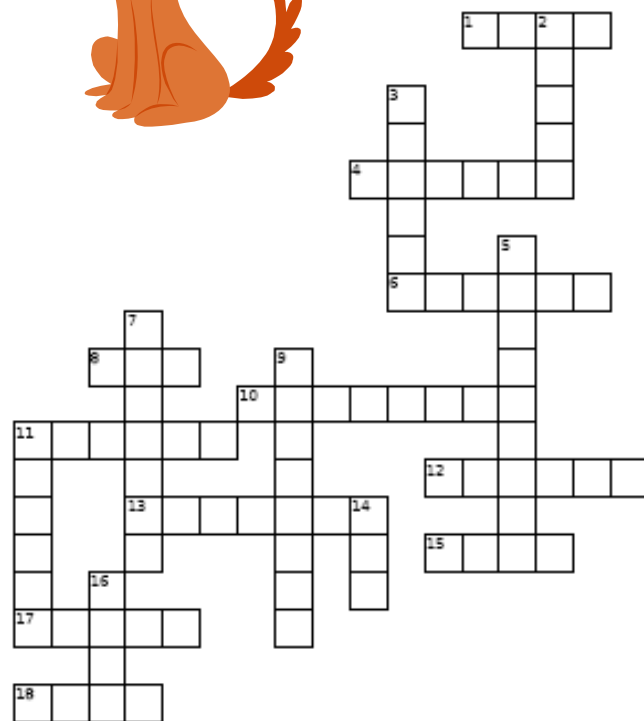
Saber was "High in Trial" with a 1st place in Novice B.

Duncan earned his 1st leg in Rally Novice B with a 2nd place and got 2nd place in Pre-novice.

In the breed competition, Duncan placed 2nd in Puppy 9 – 12 mo. and 2nd in the 9-12 mo. Puppy Sweeps. Saber and Duncan placed 4th in Brace.

At the Northern California Borzoi Specialty, Saber placed 1st in American Bred, Duncan placed 1st in the 9-12 mo. Puppy Sweeps and 3rd in the 9-12 mo. Puppy class.

Saber and Duncan placed 2nd in Brace.



Across

- 1 three make a title
- 4 points awarded
- 6 provides shade
- 8 what we have with our dogs
- 10 more makes perfect
- 11 dogs earn these
- 12 special training
- 13 fellow club members
- 15 month of the year
- 17 needed at dog shows
- 18 normal Idaho weather

Down

- 2 simon says
- 3 club get together
- 5 trials
- 7 170 and over
- 9 needed for obedience
- 11 used for training
- 14 needed for tanning
- 16 wet weather

PRACTICES

Obedience and Rally practices

Sunday May 11 from 5 – 7 pm
at Freeman Park

Sunday May 25 from 5 – 7 pm
at Lincoln Park

If you are unsure if there will be a practice,
please contact me at 745-9486 by 3:30 on the
day of the scheduled practice.

Agility Practice

Sunday, May 11 at 2:00 pm
at Tautphaus Park

Sunday, May 18 at 2:00 pm
at Tautphaus Park

Up-Coming Events

For information on Trials check www.akc.org/events/search/

- May 1 & 2 – Obedience & Rally
Utah Valley Kennel Club
- May 2 – 4 – Agility
Intermountain Kennel Club
- May 3 & 4 – Obedience & Rally
Intermountain Kennel Club
- May 11 -TRACKING
GSLDTC
- May 24 – 26 – Agility
Group IV Terrier Club of Salt Lake
- May 24 & 25, 2008 - Hunting Test
Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club (MT)
- June 4 – USRVDTTC Obedience Classes
- Jun 5 & 7, 2008 - Hunting Test
Western Montana Retriever Club
- June 6 – 8 – Agility
Gallatin Dog Club
- June 6 & 7 – Obedience & Rally
Gallatin Dog Club
- June 6 – 8 – Agility
GSLDTC
- June 6 – 8 – Obedience & Rally
GSLDTC
- June 10 & 11 – Obedience & Rally
Snake River Canyon Kennel Club
- June 12 & 13 – Agility
Pocatello Kennel Club
- June 12 & 13 – Obedience & Rally
Pocatello Kennel Club
- June 14 & 15 – Agility
Eagle Rock Kennel Club
- June 14 & 15 – Obedience & Rally
Eagle Rock Kennel Club
- Jun 14, 2008 - Hunting Test
Treasure State Retriever Club, MT
- June 20 & 21 – Obedience
Electric City Kennel Club
- June 22 – 24 – Obedience & Rally
Five Valley Kennel Club

Obedience Classes

Wednesday June 4, 2008 - July 23, 2008

We are offering:

Rally at 5:30 and 6:30 pm

Basic Obedience at 6:30 and 7:30 pm

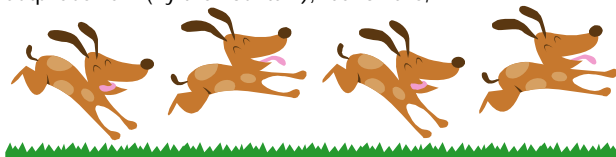
Intermediate Obedience at 7:30 pm

Classes are 8 weeks and limited to space available

Please bring your dog the first night of class.

You must pre-register for the Obedience classes.

The Obedience classes for June 2008 will be held at:
Tautphaus Park (By the Fountain), Idaho Falls, ID



- H** = Have a PLAN before you begin to teach your dog something!
- A** = Always expect the same behavior-ie..sit always means sit!
- V** = vary your training sessions and keep them short! (5- 10 minutes)
- E** = expect to experience the behavior you reward!

- F** = follow thru with each command-never give a command you cannot reinforce!
- A** = allow no gray into your relationship with your dog!
Black & white!
- I** = ignore the negative----reward the positive!

- T** = the more consistent you are-the more consistent your dog will be!
- H** = hyper dogs are harder to teach---go for a walk!

- I** = it is never too late to teach your dog something!

- N** = "NO" is not your dog's first name!

- Y** = you determine how your dog will behave!

- O** = opportunities to train your dog are limited by your imagination!
- U** = use your dog's name only if you need to get their attention!

- R** = "release" words end a behavior! ie..."OK", "FREE"

- D** = dog's come from the womb needing a leader!

- O** = our job is to be the leader!

- G** = god made them to love you unconditionally- love them back the same way



TRAINING TIP OF THE MONTH

The Distraction Plan of Action : Proofing Your Pet

If you're like most of my clients, you'll probably think I'm crazy when I tell you to intentionally cause your dog to make mistakes while training. When you introduce distractions on purpose to cause your dog to goof up, it's called proofing. Proofing your dog means teaching him under what circumstances you expect him to obey; of course, that's all circumstances. Training is not a one-time event. If your dog doesn't get used to compliance in unpredictable, high-pressure situations, his training could fail him when it matters most -- in speeding traffic, for instance.

Let's say your dog is a genius at obeying the sit command --- when you're alone with him, in your living room. You both feel pretty good about his proficiency -- until you go outside and he sees a squirrel. You say, "Sit!" and he says, "See ya!" If you're lucky, you'll have him on leash and will be able to correct him for not sitting. You may think you've just discovered the limits of his sitting genius, but really you've only exposed the limits of what he's been taught. So far, he's learned that sitting is something to be done in your quiet living room. The next step is to expand his idea of sit to the point where he reliably performs what's asked, no matter what's going on around him.

Here's some good news: With each subsequent command you teach, this expansion phase will require less work. Once the dog understands how to work through distractions, he'll learn to factor them out more quickly when learning any new behavior.

PICK YOUR TRICKS

I know you don't want Snookums to think you're some trickster leading him down the road to perdition when all he wants is to please you. Don't worry: He'll learn only that your commands take precedence over his drives and desires. Remember: Consistently obeying you could save his life! When you teach the come command so well that your dog will come to you even as a cat races ahead of him into the road, you won't regret some minor underhandedness during training.

Distractions should be very slight at the beginning and gradually increase in degree of challenge. As with training motivators, the nature of distractions should depend on the individual dog. In fact, even things you normally use as motivators or rewards can serve as distracters. If Snookums will do anything for a bite of hot dog, dropping a little bit of frankfurter on the floor might make a good distraction. But the dog's enthusiasm for the reward/distraction must be kept within bounds. The whole point of proofing is to train you dog not to give in to his impulses. So if that treat proves

irresistible, it might be better to choose a less- challenging distracter at first.

Also keep in mind that something that's difficult -- perhaps impossible! -- for a food-driven dog to ignore (that piece of hot dog, for instance) may pose no challenge at all for a dog who's into toys. Of course, your dog should never be purposely distracted by anything that's potentially harmful. You may trick him for his own good, but letting anything bad happen to him is not only unethical but destructive of the relationship you've built on trust.

THE THREE DISTRACTER FACTORS

1. External Stimulus: The doorbell ringing, kids running around, the surprise appearance of a motivator (e.g. a piece of food dropping on the floor), a chipmunk running across your yard, and so on.

2. Range: How far you are from the dog. He's probably accustomed to training up close and personal, but he needs to be reliable up to 100 yards away.

3. Duration: How long the dog can obey before succumbing to distraction. Initially duration is counted in seconds, and eventually can go up to 20 minutes. (If you need your dog to stay any longer, you really should consider crating or confining him.)

Take care to increase the degree of the various factors gradually. Build distraction resistance one factor at a time in the early training stages, as your dog gets better at ignoring temptation, he'll be ready for multivariable distractions.

Here's an example: Spicy is a mildly food motivated dog with average-to-high toy drive. The external stimulus will be a flying tennis ball at close range (in the kitchen) for a short time.

Owner holds subject Spicy on leash. She throws the ball and, as Spicy follows the trajectory, commands, Spicy, sit! Spicy ignores the command and goes off to investigate the toy. Is Spicy bad? No! Stupid? Hardly! Spicy is simply wrong. This is not an occasion for anger, just gentle correction. The owner is not after a pound of flesh, but an ounce of prevention.

Owner calmly walks over, gently takes Spicy by the collar, leads her back to the spot where she ignored the sit command, and firmly (but not roughly) re-sits the dog. The usual praise (Yes!) and release (OK) follow.

Owner repeats same distraction with ball, and guess what? Spicy goes off to investigate again. This time the owner is better prepared, with less slack on the leash so Spicy can't flee the sit spot, despite her obvious intent to do so. Since the first correction wasn't effective, the owner gives a mild tug on the leash as she re-sits the dog. Praise and release follow.

If Spicy had not responded to the tug, a gradual escalation would have been indicated. But first a question: Is the chosen distraction simply too stimulating for the dog? In the case of a suspected super-stimulus, it's better to back up and proceed more slowly. For instance, if Spicy hadn't responded to leash tugs, and her owner got the sense that the tennis ball was driving her wild, the owner could have tried placing the ball on the floor instead of throwing it. This could make the exercise easier for Spicy to handle. One can always build up the degree of difficulty gradually.

Fortunately, Spicy master the flying-ball distraction. Next, her owner must try her in different locations to be sure she understands that sit means sit wherever a tennis ball may appear -- not just in the kitchen, not just in the house, not just in the yard, but anywhere. After that, the owner will move on to other distracters and more locations, until Spicy has seen it all and will sit on command -- no matter what!

ATTENTION MUST BE PAID

Below are some sample distracter factors you may want to try. Begin with these, and add your own as you discover the things most likely to lead your dog to stray. Remember: Distracters should reflect your lifestyle -- if you live on a dairy farm, it may be useful to practice the sit command near the pasture fence. City dwellers will probably prefer to perfect the sit in the presence of buses and trucks.

Location, location, location: upstairs, downstairs, inside, outside.

Common neighborhood stimuli: strangers in the night, a neighbor's barbecue, kids on bikes, a UFO (or at least a Frisbee).

All-terrain canine: Change the sit surface -- grass, tile, pavement, gravel, wet grass. No dog will be equally delighted to plant himself on all of these.

Temptation afoot: Place a toy or a piece of food on the ground.

Backseat driver: The dog holds the sit while a second person talks to him. (Build up to the other person petting the dog.)

Animals on parade: Other dogs (on leash!) in the same room or area.

Once you've attempted some individual distracters, experiment with multivariable distractions, working with combinations of external variables: kids riding past on bikes while a car horn blasts, airplane flyovers above the hot-dog vendor, and so on.

How much distraction should your dog learn to endure? As much as he's likely to encounter in the sort of world you inhabit -- and then some. Although he doesn't need to be ready for combat, like a good soldier he should be equal to the toughest conditions he might encounter. Provide him a margin of error.

Individual dogs vary as to their strengths and weaknesses, so train at the pace your dog can handle. Your patience will be rewarded. One fine day, you'll throw that ball as you give the sit command and your dog will look at you impassively as if to say, "Nice try!"

The preceding article was taken from AKC's Family Dog January/February 2008 publication. It was written by Kathy Santo, who has trained dogs for home and competition at her obedience school in New Jersey. She is the author of Kathy Santo's Dog Sense, and a regular guest on The Martha Stewart Show.



DID YOU KNOW?

USRVDTTC has a video library for member use. To check out a video contact Mary Lee Moore by phone 522-7866 or email maryleemoore@cablone.net to arrange a loan from the library. Below is a list of some of the video's the club has in the library:

AKC

- Jump Into Agility
- Observing Dog in Motion
- Reaching Out
- To Be The Best
- The Day In The Life of a Ring Steward
- A Beginner's Guide to Dog Shows
- Breed Identification Series,
 - #1 - Sporting Group
 - #2 - Hound Group
 - #3 - Working Group
 - #4 - Terrier Group
 - #5 - Toy Group
 - #6 - Non-Sporting Group
 - #7 - Herding Group

TERRI ARNOLD

Attention and Handling - The Birth of Teamwork

BERNIE BROWN

The No Force Method of Dog Training

SUZANNE CLOTHIER

Your Athletic Dog

JIM CRAWFORD

Who's in Charge - Behavioral Solutions

BARBARA CECIL AND GERIANNE DARNELL

Small Dog Fun

SANDRA DAVIS - Dancing With Your Dog

- Tape 1 - Getting Started
- Tape 2 - Getting the Rhythm

JANICE DEMELLO

- Are You Really Ready
- Awaken the Handler Within
- Cruise Control for Power Heeling

SANDY GANZ - Tracking Fundamentals

DAVID DIKEMAN

Command Performance

ED FRAWLEY

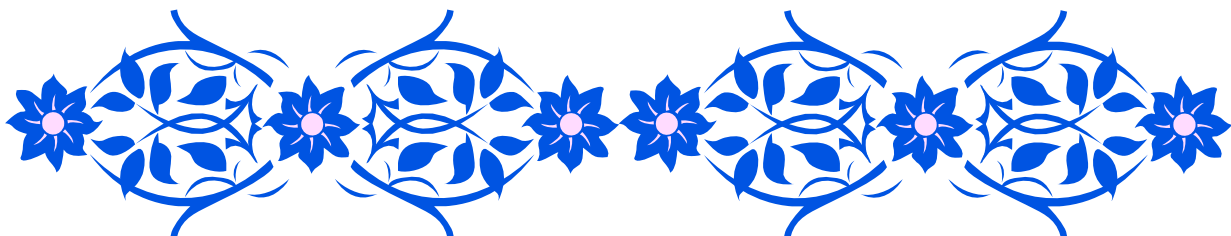
Training the Agility Dog



MAY 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Beehive Cluster	2 "Kayne" Vance Beehive Cluster	3 Beehive Cluster
4 Beehive Cluster	5 "Merlin" Moore Cheryl Loomis	6 Rabies Clinic 1 pm -7 pm	7 AGILITY CLASS WEEK 6	8	9	10
11 Mothers Day "Dizzie" Ovard GSLDTC Tracking Test Agility Practice Obedience & Rally Practice	12	13 Rainy Smith	14 "Miya" Olson "Harlee" Robinson AGILITY CLASS WEEK 7	15 Club Meeting	16 Margi Vanover "Abby" Nielson	17
18 Agility Practice	19	20	21 AGILITY CLASS WEEK 8	22	23 Group IV Terrier Club of Salt Lake Agility Trial	24 "Elle" Adams Group IV Terrier Club of Salt Lake Agility Trial
25 Jay Robinson Group IV Terrier Club of Salt Lake Agility Trial Obedience & Rally Practice	26	27 "Ish" Keele	28	29	30	31 "Tycho" Rasmussen



AKC LURE COURSING SEMINAR – POCATELLO, ID.
Sponsored by: Pocatello Kennel Club, Inc.

Submitted by: Fred & Joyce Hughes and Christine Nelson

Saturday May 10, 2008 – Classroom (Bannock County Fairgrounds, Building ‘B’)

Sunday May 11, 2008 – Field/AKC Sanctioned Match, pending AKC approval (OK Ward Park)

The Pocatello Kennel Club, Inc. has applied for permission to establish lure coursing as part of the club's AKC Event Activities. For AKC recognized sighthound owners, or individuals who are interested, this seminar provides rules, procedures, safety and setting up the course in the field. This is a great way to get introduced to lure coursing your dog or for individuals who just want to gain a better knowledge of coursing and volunteering for the many positions necessary for running a successful field trial. The seminar consists of one day classroom and one day on the field. For those interested in becoming an AKC Lure Coursing Judge, this is a required course. Cost of the seminar is \$25.00 per individual. PKC set these two dates in attempt to avoid conflict with conformation shows and agility trials in our region. Additional information will be released upon notification from AKC. Bob Mason, AKC Lure Coursing Field Rep. will be conducting the seminar. Those interested in attending need to contact Fred or Joyce Hughes at: 208-233-9323 – curlytails@q.com or Christine Nelson at: 208-528-6548 – rndrylines@yahoo.com.

Pre-Registration \$25.00

Registration will be taken at the door, however, a head count is required. Please notify Fred, Joyce or Christine if you plan to attend.

Make checks payable to: PKC (Pocatello Kennel Club, Inc.). Joyce Hughes, Treasurer - 2185 Ardella Drive, Pocatello, ID. 83201-2626

Name of attendee(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

Breed of Dog (s) _____

Check # _____ Amount: \$ _____ Date Received: _____

Tally-Ho!