

SPDTC

From The President

KARL BLAKELY

Well it has been an uneventful summer, and in many ways that can be a good thing. We just recently had our August agility trial, and thanks to our excellent volunteers everything went well, and we also turned a nice profit. However, one item of note is the show did not fill. The landscape of agility trials in our area is in transition. Today, there are many more trials, and new venues competing for the agility dollar. While this is good news for the agility competitor it presents new challenges for the local clubs. Fortunately, we are in good position as our expenses are for the most part fixed and we have a nice facility, equipment, and quite frankly, we put on a good show. It also is a big plus that we don't need to fill to make ends meet. That being said, the income from our trials is vital to keeping our club financially healthy. We will need to continually improve our equipment and facility to keep it fresh and inviting. To do that, we depend on our club members for help. Just recently we had a jump building night and I would like to thank the club members who donated their time to help out. It is these types of improvements that will make a difference in keeping our club a desirable place to show. In the near future, we have many more projects on our wish list. We will be looking for more volunteers when the time comes so watch for emails and our web site for more opportunities to help out. Often, we try to organize some our larger projects during midsummer when things slow down or the holiday break between Christmas and New Years when our classes are not in session.



I hope to see some of you at our upcoming fall events. The October Obedience trial and November Agility trial are just around the corner. Also, SPDTC is sponsoring an obedience seminar with Laura Romanik in November. If you are currently an obedience student, this is a fantastic learning opportunity.

Finally, with winter's fast approach, remember our class cancellation policy. Should there be any question if classes are being held, please call the club and listen to any announcements from the obedience/agility directors. This is the best way to ensure you have the most up to date information.

Did you know?

St. Paul Dog Training Club was established in 1953 and is licensed by the [American Kennel Club](#).



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From The Training Director

GREG KIRMEIER

Obedience

The Saint Paul Dog Training Club Obedience Program continues to run in greased grooves. Ron Halling and his staff of Instructors were hard at it all summer.

Upcoming Seminar

The Obedience folks will host a seminar with Laura Romanik on the weekend of November 16-18. If you haven't signed up, or have questions talk to Dick Woods or Camay Blakely. Laura's last visit to SPDTC got rave reviews from participants, and we are delighted to have her back.

Sad note

Long-time friend of SPDTC, respected Obedience Judge, and remarkable competitor Joanne Johnson passed away at the end of July. Many of us had the chance to know and learn from Joanne, and we will miss her.

Agility

The Agility was on its normal summer reduced schedule through the current session. *This will change in the next block, and we will be back to the normal Wednesday schedule.*

Camay tells me the Beginner and Intermediate classes look to be full in the next block. As always, we will give preference to current SPDTC members. Please help us out by letting Camay know your intentions for registration earlier rather than later.



Seminar

The Agility Program hosted 2 days with Barb Davis, on September 7-8. Barb (a multiple NAC winner and 7-time World Team member) shared her insights with both beginner and advanced students. Many thanks to Ginny Hayes for all the hard work that went into making this event possible.

New Jumps

We replaced all the wingless jumps at SPDTC with snazzy new ones! Thanks to all the volunteer effort that went into this effort. We also purchased a new double jump. As is our practice, the old equipment was made available for purchase by SPDTC students.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Annual Food Drive

Starting November 1st, please help out the community. Please drop off your items starting November 1st in bins provided by Neighbor Inc.

Thank you

Banquet Information

New Date for the St Paul Dog Training Club Banquet will be **February 1, 2014**. The date was change due to an added agility trial for our club which will be on the last Saturday of February. We will still be at Joseph's Grill in St Paul and more information will be provided in the next newsletter. Just a heads up, we are looking for new or slightly used items for our banquet as door prizes, if you wish to donate please email me at cmehlhaff@gmail.com or bring into the office at the club. We appreciate your generosity.

Thank you,

St Paul Dog Training Club.

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St. Paul Dog Training Club Proudly Presents (3) Days with

***Laura Romanik
November 16, 17 & 18 – Mark Your
Calendars Now!***



Bridging the Gap Between Training & Competition

St. Paul Dog Training Club is delighted to have an encore seminar presentation from Laura Romanik in November. What is unique about Laura's style is she provides an approach to Obedience training designed to produce a happy upbeat, performance both in training and in the obedience competition ring. Laura has a knack for breaking exercises down and explaining her techniques and principles in a straightforward way that others can understand. Laura loves working with obedience enthusiasts at all levels, no matter your experience, breed of dog, or training philosophy - she will help you improve your training and show results.

For those of us that attended her seminar last year we were amazed how her approach was simple to grasp yet produced significant impact on results. Additionally, she focused on individual questions and concerns and allowed plenty of time to use her ideas.

Laura Romanik has excelled in competitive obedience, earning numerous High in Trial and High Combined awards, national all-breed rankings, tournament placements and finishing Obedience Trial Championships on three dogs: two Shelties and the FIRST Beagle to be awarded an OTCH. Her Sheltie, Bright is the number three Sheltie with 2,385 lifetime OTCH points. Laura and her current partner, Flare, went from CD to OTCH in just 11 months. This achievement occurred before Flare was three years old!

Laura uses a balanced training approach built on scientifically recognized behavioral principals. She excels at teaching reliable responses to commands, while motivating dogs to understand and enjoy the training process. Laura enjoys working with obedience enthusiasts at all levels. No matter what your experience, breed of dog, goals or training philosophies, she will work with you to improve your training and results.

Watch our Club Bulletin Boards for More Details and Registration!

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Who are all the new faces?

RON HALLING

We have a few changes and new faces on Obedience night. One is Joanne Dalby joined our dog family as a third instructor working with the 6 pm Beginner's class. Joanne has been a successful dog handler in a variety of venues and brings with her a vast knowledge of experience in training methods. Joanne has been an owner of golden retrievers for almost twenty five years, actively training and competing for the last decade. She has put titles on dogs in obedience, field, agility, tracking and conformation. Her Novice A dog in obedience came close to finishing an OTCH when she had to retire him for health reasons. Along the way, she earned 45 UDX legs, multiple HITs, HC, multiple Front and Finish Platinum awards (the old Dog World award equivalent). She put Senior Hunter titles on the same dog, and field titles on two others, put tracking titles on two dogs, and agility titles on three. She is currently competing in the Master classes in agility, attained eight titles in the areas field, agility, obedience, and conformation with her youngest 3 year old female. She recently certified this dog in tracking as well.

Joanne says, "Dog training is a wonderful way to experience a beautiful partnership between dogs and humans. It is such a joy to see a team come together and work as one. Success comes from a willingness to be flexible and adapt to the needs of both members of the team. I enjoy the opportunity to facilitate that possibility while being part of a larger team at SPDTC."

Joanne has proven to be a very nice addition to our staff and will move to work with additional classes as she settles in. She currently works with Karen and Amber in the 6 pm Beginners class furthering student's ability to be successful through her one on one mentoring.



Leroy Pilarski decided to retire from his Intermediate class at 7 pm and his Beginners class on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. If you weren't on hand his last night of his session he went out with his usual flair. Many of his past students showed up for one more cadence of commands as one of his favorite students sang songs and played the accordion. I asked Leroy and his wife how many years he had been teaching at SPDTC but they ran out of fingers to count on and gave up adding it up. We'll all miss hearing his booming voice and the smiles he put on our faces as he taught his classes with style.

Replacing Leroy is our own Jon Pidde. Jon will continue to help Karen at the 8 pm Beginners class but took over the 7pm Intermediate and Wednesday morning Beginners class. Jon brings a desire to compliment this class with his own ideas of teaching with the goal of student's success as his primary target.



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Because of the success of SPDTC's "move up" program another Intermediate class was added at 5 pm. Phil Rustad has been impressing students with his teaching style and the guidance with tips dealing with how to show their dogs when they feel ready. Both Intermediate classes have been holding student's interest as they learn a wide variety of new exercises and have the opportunity of switching back and forth from one offering to another to accommodate their schedules and desires to learn more. While some students have the desire to show in the ring both of these instructors are showing everyday pet owners just what possibilities they have with an advanced connection through further obedience training.



Victoria Varhalla is offering a non-traditional approach to advanced training through alternative bonding techniques. Instead of working on training methods normally associated with heeling around the ring, students find themselves immersed in new ways to gain attention by your dog. By doing so the students and their dogs further their communication skill levels between each other to levels they never knew existed. Students of her 6-7 pm Fun with Fundamentals class have enjoyed her lesson plans so well that they have been re-signing again for another ten weeks when the session has ended. Along with new students moving up from Intermediate classes she is also accepting puppy graduates of our Einstein program.



Need more information about the club? Phone: 651-455-2431

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Mailing Address: P.O.Box 2443

Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota 55076

<http://www.spdtp.com>

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Amber Eisfeld entered our group as part of our intern program. Amber has been so successful learning and in turn sharing her knowledge that she quickly became one of our staff instructors. Amber can be seen in the 6 pm Beginner class constantly working with students one on one as she walks around the ring coaching the class. With her determination students find themselves performing exercises with ease that used to be intimidating.

When not helping others, Amber brings her own dogs to various classes furthering her knowledge base as she accepts roles in many aspects of our obedience world. Her dog Biggie is currently in Phil's Intermediate class and is proving to be a quick learner. She has completed Beginners and Intermediate classes with her dog Faith and is currently in Pat's Novice class. Amber claims, "This class has really helped me have more confidence and believing in my dog as well as myself".

Amber is a working testimonial to our intern program. "I couldn't have found a more perfect opportunity at the St. Paul Dog Training Club to fulfill my passion with teaching others as well as training my own dogs".

These additional changes have added depth to an already highly successful program that attracts most students through word of mouth and the value offered for professional lessons at a reasonable rate for everyone.

