
SPDTC

Dog Obedience, Rally, Agility, CGC, Therapy Dog And Nose Work

President's Corner: Karl Blakely

Greetings everyone, well I am writing this newsletter article coming fresh off the annual St Paul Dog Training awards banquet. It is always a fun event, this year we changed to a new venue, the Southview Country Club, a great location, just down the road from the SPDTC, plenty of parking and room inside. It was a little more expensive than other venues we have used in the past, but the food and service was better so it was a good value and a good time was had by all. I would like to thank Carol and Heidi for all or their efforts in organizing this event, I know they value your feed back, so if you have any ideas for next years event or would like to help out, let us know.

Another important function of our annual banquet is the election of board members, first I would like thank retiring board members Ron Halling and Ginny Hayes for their service to the club.



I also would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new board members Heidi Fisk and Mike Teh, we look forward to their contributions to the board. Another thank you goes out to Judy Super and Paula Ellis for taking the reins of the Director of Obedience position.



<http://www.spdtdc.com>

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Established in 1953 and is
licensed by the American Kennel
Club.

Volunteers and new members
welcomed!

We are lucky to have such talented folks that can step up and help us out. Well we are in the middle of our busy show season, entries are down a bit in both the obedience and agility venues. This a phenomenon that is quite common across the country, I think the increased number of events and venues has made the difference. We depend on the revenue from our shows to help our bottom line, I believe we are still doing better than most clubs, but we may need get creative to help get our numbers up. On the other hand our training programs are doing very well, particularly the beginner programs, this is where many of our new dog show enthusiasts may come from. Well hope to see some of you down at the club, training or at one of our shows.



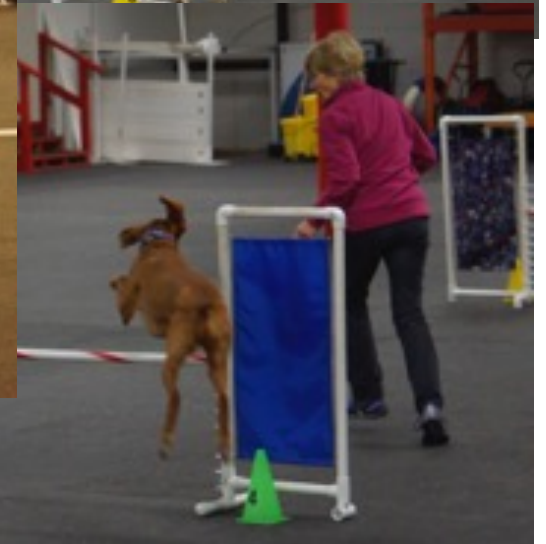
Director Of Training Report

Obedience

- The Obedience program continues to run smoothly. The big change of course is the retirement of Ron Halling from the Director of Obedience position. Ron did a wonderful job over the years, and the program has grown under his care – thank you Ron! We are very fortunate that 2 people have stepped forward to take on the responsibilities of Director of Obedience. Judy Super and Paula Ellis we take on administration of the program. Please take a moment to thank them for taking on these responsibilities, and take a moment to consider what you can do to help them in this new role.
- In December, I did a 1 day seminar on International Challenges on AKC courses. This workshop was offered to SPDTC members at minimal cost, and was my donation to the Club. I was very impressed by the positive attitude and willingness to try new things that all participants showed – a good time was had by all! We are looking into offering more mini-seminars or special focus training days. If you have ideas or suggestions for topics, please let us know.
- The sale of used equipment is completed, and we raised \$773.

Agility

- Camay Blakely and Mike Teh are developing a plan for a Junior Handlers Program, to be added to the SPDTC calendar on Sunday evenings. Specific details regarding registration will be coming out shortly, but if you know any Juniors who would be interested, please share this information and suggest they go ahead and contact Camay or Mike.
- We have ordered 2 new tunnels for SPDTC. The new tunnels will be 26” in diameter. This is allowable under AKC rules, and should prove to be easier on tall our very upright dogs.
- I am monitoring the proposed equipment changes for AKC that were made public last Summer. At this point no final decisions have been made.



OBEDIENCE TIP:

Plan Ahead!

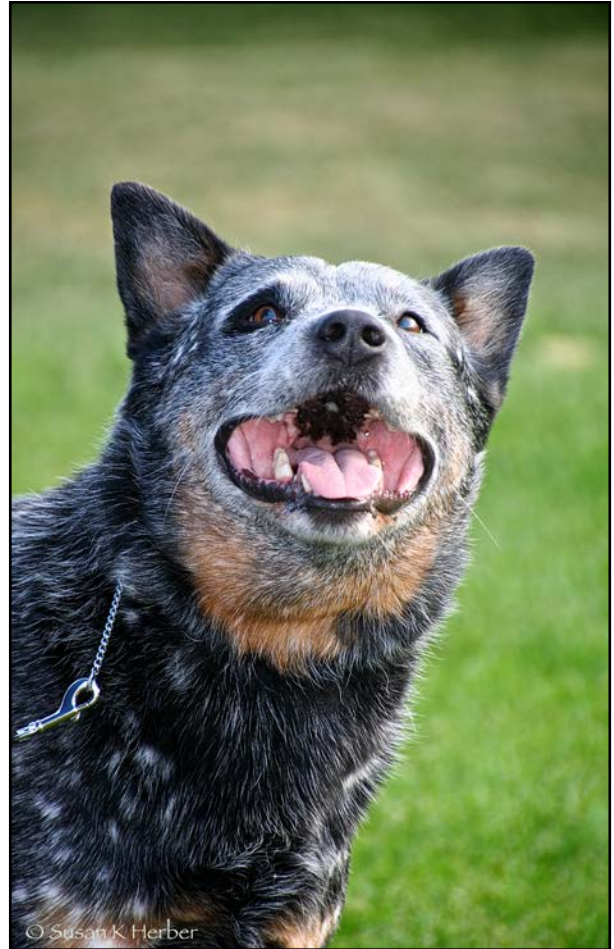
There are around 20 obedience exercises, many with various parts. Given the fact that most of us have limited training time, creating a plan can help make the best use of your time and focus your efforts on what matters most for success with your dog.

Before you pick up your leash, jot down the exercises on an index card you want to work on during that practice. Be sure you break down the whole exercise into its parts and also include those ever-present fronts and finishes. You'll be amazed at how referring to your plan will keep you on task, help you cover a lot of ground without time wasted wondering what to do next and keep more energy and flow in your practice session.

Creating a plan will also help you include exercises you may frequently skip and help you consider what the dog needs versus what you're comfortable doing. Check out your cards at the end of the week to see if there are gaps in what you've covered and plan accordingly for up-coming practice sessions.

Give it a try for a couple of weeks and let me know what you think.

Judy Super



Titles Earned by Club Members in 2015

Congratulations to the following club members on their new titles!

(Titles reported from January 1 - March 6, 2015.)

Owner's First Name	Owner's Last Name	Co-owner's First Name	Co-owner's Last Name	Dog's Call Name	Dog's Breed	Date this title was earned:	Performance Event	Venue	Title
Kristi	Portugue			Hydro	Portuguese Water Dog	1/3/2015	Agility	AKC	Novice Standard Agility (NA)
Helen	Fisk	David	Stright	Chelsea	Canaan Dog	1/4/2015	Agility	AKC	Novice Jumpers with Weaves (NAJ)
Heidi	Fisk			Libby	Shetland Sheepdog	1/4/2015	Agility	AKC	Master Standard Preferred 14 (MXP14)
Kristi	Portugue			Hydro	Portuguese Water Dog	1/4/2015	Agility	AKC	Novice Jumpers with Weaves (NAJ)
Heidi	Fisk			Libby	Shetland Sheepdog	1/18/2015	Agility	AKC	Master Jumper Preferred 17 (MJP17)
Heidi	Fisk			Libby	Shetland Sheepdog	1/31/2015	Agility	AKC	Master Standard Preferred Gold 2 (MJPG2)
Heidi	Fisk			Libby	Shetland Sheepdog	2/13/2015	Agility	AKC	Preferred Agility Excellent 7 (PAX7)
Heidi	Fisk			Libby	Shetland Sheepdog	2/15/2015	Agility	AKC	Master Jumper Preferred Silver 2 (MXPS2)
Heidi	Fisk			Libby	Shetland Sheepdog	2/15/2015	Agility	AKC	Master Standard Preferred 15 (MXP15)
Kelly	McDuff			Titan	Dachshund	2/22/2015	Obedience	AKC	Beginner Novice (BN)
Helen	Fisk	David	Stright	Chelsea	Canaan Dog	3/1/2015	Agility	AKC	Novice Standard Agility (NA)
Kristi	Portugue			Hydro	Portuguese Water Dog	3/1/2015	Agility	AKC	Open Agility Standard (OA)

If you and your dog have earned a new title in 2015, use the online form on the club website to enter your title information. You do NOT have to wait until the end of the year to submit your new titles. Also note that the old poster boards have been replaced with print out lists that are posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen.

New titles will also be listed in the newsletter and on the website. Titles are eligible for awards at the annual banquet. Information on how to submit new titles, the requirements for earning end-of-year awards, and volunteer opportunities will be posted on the website and in future newsletters.



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St Paul Dog Training Club Calendar

April 3, 2015	6:00 Obed Run-Throughs
April 10, 2015	No Obed Run Throughs
April 10, 2015	SPDTC Agility Trial
April 11, 2015	SPDTC Agility Trial
April 12, 2015	SPDTC Agility Trial
April 14, 2015	8:00 CGC Test
April 17, 2015	6:00 Obed Run-Throughs
April 18, 2015	10-1 PWD Club Seminar (Kitchen Room)
April 18,2015	9:00 Obedience Fun Match
April 19, 2015	8:00-4:00 PWD Club Seminar
April 24, 2015	SPDTC Obedience & Rally Trial
April 25, 2015	SPDTC Obedience & Rally Trial
April 26, 2015	SPDTC Obedience & Rally Trial
May1, 2015	6:00 Obed Run Throughs
May 8, 2015	6:00 Obed Run Throughs
May 15, 2015	6:00 Obed Run Throughs
May 29, 2015	6:00 Obed Run Throughs
June 5, 2015	6:00 Obed Run Throughs
June 12, 2015	6:00 Obed Run Throughs
June 15, 2015	NO Nose Work Classes
June 26, 2015	6:00 Obed Run-Throughs

2014 AKC/Eukanuba Obedience Classic - A Most Excellent Adventure By Camay Blakely

This past December in Orlando, Florida, the AKC/Eukanuba hosted the Obedience Classic in conjunction with the Conformation Show and the Agility Invitational. I was fortunate to qualify and participate in this terrific competition with my Shetland Sheepdog, Boom!. After two days of competing in the Novice Class we successfully achieved our goal of finishing in the top ten. The tournament is intense with three rounds of competition over two days.

The AKC Classic is a relatively new event started in 2013. Veteran obedience exhibitors compare it to the old Gaines Regional. The AKC has put a modern twist on the Classic to include divisions for dogs at all levels – Novice, Open, Utility, and Masters (which do both Open and Utility classes), Rally, and a Juniors tournament. I applaud the AKC for putting on this event. The venue was wonderful with lots of special touches such a walking in the Convention Center the first morning and each crate having a Eukanuba beach towel placed on it. The sea of pink and white colors were quite dramatic and welcoming. Additionally, the AKC had a hospitality room that welcomed each us with dinner and the opportunity to have a "meet and greet," with old friends and new. I was inspired by the support I received from fellow exhibitors in attendance from many different states. After two long days of competition they become fast friends.



Novice Class 10th Place, Jusdandy's Big Explosion Boom CD AX OAJ, Shetland Sheepdog, Karl Blakely & Camay Blakely, Lino Lakes, MN

Qualifying for the Classic was in my opinion the easiest part. Preparation for the event "took a village." Being I had no prior experience in what attending such a tournament means, I attended the event with the goal of wanting to complete each round with no major handling errors. Of course, the goal of finishing in the top ten became more of a wanting desire as the weekend continued with the taste of success in my performance. Each round is scored with 200 points and at the end of the weekend placements are made based on the cumulative totals.

My first round was strong with a score of 198. The judging is tight and heeling patterns can be somewhat unusual, such as having a fifteen foot "slow time."

One of the fun occurrences of the weekend was the camaraderie I shared with Laura Romanik. Laura has been to SPDTC several times as an obedience seminar presenter. Her training methods and approach to the sport have long inspired me. She was exhibitor number 457 and I, 458. We were able to offer each other support throughout the weekend. Just one of those situations that I will remember for a long time to come. Laura finished number one in our class.

This is an epoch in my life to be cherished. THANKS to each of you that supported me on "Camay and Boom's Obedience Classic Adventure.

