



Lead Lines

A Newsletter for Members

Obedience Training Club of Palm Beach County

March, 2016



There is NO General Meeting in April



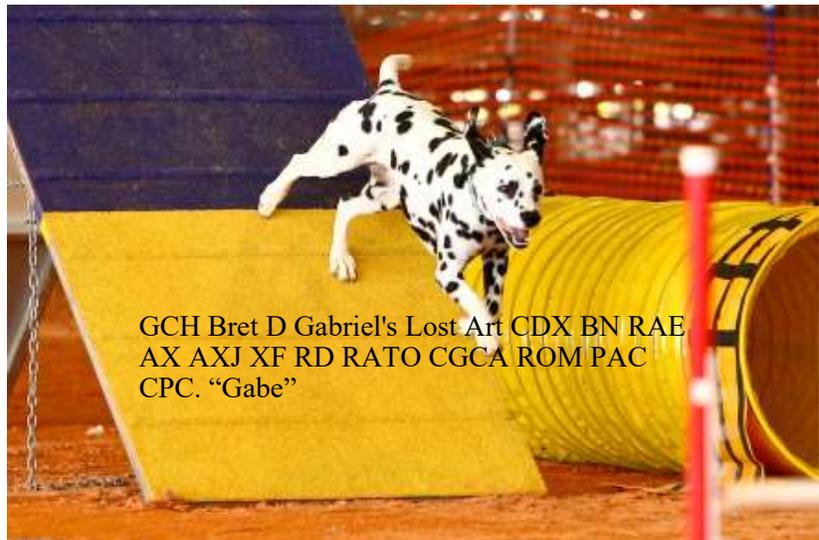
Pendleton, Cassidy, Chance, and Koi practice with their handlers Suzi, Kathleen, Barbara, and Lindsey



CH Fuzzy Farm Ragtime of Namaskar CDX RE



Donna & Aston



GCH Bret D Gabriel's Lost Art CDX BN RAE AX AXJ XF RD RATO CGCA ROM PAC CPC. "Gabe"

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Don't forget to check the Club website www.otcpbc.org For all club events



Volunteer Hours

SEND TO:
Bob Millar @

dogclubvolunteerhour@gmail.com
NOT his personal email

Building Cleaning Times

Monday 8 AM

Friday 8 AM - The floors will be washed every week on Friday. They are only dampened not soaked. On the 1st Friday of every month the disinfectant we purchased to kill dog germs/viruses will be misted on the floor before the cleaners leave.

I would recommend the following: Monday's no training until after 11 AM

Friday's no training until after 12 PM

On 1st Friday of month only no training until 3 PM

Thanks for your co-operation.

Betty

2016 Club Officers

- President - Betty Gansky
- Vice President - Steve Campbell
- Treasurer - Joan Bruno
- Recording Secretary - Kelly McDonough
- Board Members at Large: Diane Worlak, Angel Andrews, Spencer Botkin
- Obedience Director - Marti Hohmann
- Tracking Director - Fran Smith
- Agility Director - Kristin Spillane
- Lead Lines Editor - Celeste Platte -
- EMAIL ADDRESS for all things Lead Lines - OTCLeadlines@gmail.com

New Member

Marie Forgah
1426 Ocean Dunes Dr, Jupiter, FL 33477
Portuguese Water Dog
561-448-8317
Mafxxx@aol.com

Susan Minix
9435 El Paso Dr, Lake Worth, FL 33467
Collie
561-386-6006
slminix@comcast.net



The soda & water in the fridge **ARE NOT FREE!** Based on the Honor System, when you take a bottle or can, put a dollar (\$1) in the cup. If shortages keep coming up, we will loose this convenience.

ALSO, if you bring jumps outside of the ring, please return them back inside the ring gates when you are done or back against the wall.

The Miracle Method of Training

The “miracle method” is a popular method for trialing in a variety of sports. It has been seen frequently in agility, obedience, IPO, etc.

It begins when you enter a trial with a dog that has never successfully completed the required exercises for the class entered. In a mild case, the dog has performed successfully in familiar environments and with frequent support, as long as absolutely nothing goes wrong. In the most extreme cases, the dog has never succeeded, even at their most familiar training facility and with all props in full use.

Proponents of the miracle method are an odd combination of faith and irritability. They have faith that entering a trial will suddenly cause their struggling dog to be successful. The irritability shows as the trial weekend comes closer and it becomes more apparent that the dog has a snowball’s chance in hell of getting through the class.

I have been there. Most trainers I know have been there. What you do now, at this point when you’re looking at your canine snowball.....that is where things get interesting.

You made a bad decision when you entered your dog in the show. Too bad; it cost you \$60 in entry fees for a couple of classes.

On the bright side, those dollars probably caused you to train with more purpose and intensity, quite likely exposing even more weaknesses in your training. Good; now you can begin to systematically address them! I know people who don’t “get serious” about their training until they’ve written the check, and if that’s what it takes to motivate you.. fine with me.

On the dark side, some people compound their bad decision to enter the show with an even worse one; they compete with their dog, relying on the miracle method to get them through.

I’m not saying it never works. I’ve seen the miracle method work in person. Admittedly, I only saw it once, but still....that’s the nature of miracles. They are rare. Special. Not likely to be repeated. Worse yet, they give everyone who witnesses the event an unshakeable belief that it COULD happen again, if they just keep the faith.

The problem with the miracle method is two fold. First, it’s incredibly hard on your dog emotionally to be subjected to failure in the ring, where nothing can be done to make the situation better. Second, it prevents you from taking a proactive stance in solving your problems. When it comes to completion, prayer is great, but training is even better. And, anyway, they are not mutually exclusive!

Sadly, proponents of the miracle method tend to be the only ones who believe it might actually come together in the ring. Everyone else expects a train wreck. Yet, no one wants to speak up and just say it.....”your dog is not ready.” If you’re training partner or student has entered a show and is relying on the miracle method, SPEAK UP! It is possible to be honest and kind at the same time, over the long run, it’s a heck of a lot kinder to support someone’s desire to succeed than to abet their almost certain failure. What they do at that point is up to them, but at least you said your piece.

I know a team that will trial this weekend in Open. There’s a 50/50 chance that the dog will leave the ring in heeling. If he gets through that, then there’s a 50/50% that he’ll drop at his trainer’s feet on the drop on recall. There’s a 50/50% chance that he’ll retrieve the dumbbell on both the flat and over the high jump before he is sent. If he’s still in the ring at this point (not likely), then he may well complete the broad jump. And then there are out of sight stays. I have never seen him successfully negotiate the out of sight stays for the full duration under any circumstances, so I’d say, the odds of failing those exercises is about 98%.

Why? Why torture yourself and your dog? Why not start over and find the root cause of your failure, and be ready to go back to the most basic foundation skills. Maybe you’ll spend a full year retraining, and maybe then you’ll be ready.

You already made one bad decision by entering. Don’t make it worse by competing. And, if you go anyway, then my next best advice would be to start praying.

Submitted by Liese Hookey

My dog is gone and I want a do over.

I want to feed him one last ridiculous meal. I want to fill the trash can with cake and bell peppers and hamburgers and cookies and then accidentally leave the door open to the trash can room

I want to go for one more walk and watch him smell stuff.

I want to brush him and make him all handsome, he loved to have a bath and get brushed.

I want to wake up early and give him what's left in my cereal bowl again. Like we did every morning.

Because we loved those things, we did them a lot together. Well, maybe he loved eating out of the trashcan a little more then I loved him doing that. :-)

Most of all I want to go back to the day I met him and take a photo of him and I together everyday. Because I can't find any photos of us together. I never had any taken. I didn't pose with my dog. I didn't pose for photos with my little dog who loved me more then anything, more than eating out of trash cans or rolling in grass.

I have hundreds, actually probably thousands of photos of Woody. I don't have any pictures of Woody & I together. Because, because my hair wasn't brushed (it never is). Or my make up wasn't done. Or I didn't like my outfit. Because I don't like having my picture taken.

OTCPBC Board Meeting held February 29, 2016.

In Attendance:

Betty Gansky – President, Steve Campbell – Vice President, Joan Bruno – Treasurer, Kelly McDonough – Secretary, Angel Andrews – Board Member and Diane Wolak – Board Member. Guest: Marti Hohmann.

Absent: Spencer Botkin – Board Member

Board meeting called to order by Betty Gansky at 6:36pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on replacing the concrete sign – according to the City of Lake Park – the club must replace. Steve Campbell is working on this with Shellco; who has agreed to build a new one. Steve has contacted the city and left various messages – awaiting response.

We also need to work on the fence as that the screening is constantly being knocked down by the winds. We will contact Martin Fencing to obtain a quote etc. to replace the screen with slats similar to ones at Shellco.

Betty Gansky announced the net revenues from the February agility trial and show n go.

Maintenance of the building; new doors are ordered and Kelly McDonough is working with Strictly Doors to schedule the installation.

First Choice will begin cleaning the building on March 3rd.

Ribbon order received from Hodges for the 2016 shows.

Microphone is still needed for the building.

NEW BUSINESS:

Judge hired for October 1 & 2nd Obedience Trial: Bob Withers. Donna Kornmeyer Trial Chairperson, Diana Johnson Ford – Trial Secretary. We will not offer Rally at this trial.

Judge hired for the January 2017 trial: Nancy Watson. Joanna Broussel Trial Chairperson, Diana Johnson Ford – Trial Secretary. Need judge for Rally Trial on Friday.

Motion to keep Obedience/Rally trial entry fee the same by Kelly McDonough, seconded by Diane Wolak. Passed.

Agility Masters/Excellent class will be held in March on Tuesday with two back to back classes.

Agility June trial premium has been completed – entries open on 3/15.

Accounting for year end 2015 dropped off at John Pierce's office.

Need for hot water heater for kitchen

Angel Andrews will now handle the contracts for the club.

Steve Campbell is reviewing the insurance contracts for the club to avoid dupe coverage and make sure that we have the appropriate coverage.

Continued Next Page

Continued Board Meeting February 29, 2016.

Discussion with Marti Hohmann (Training Director) on membership levels – active vs. volunteer hours.
Discussion regarding reactive dogs; we have had various incidents with reactive dogs at the club. We need a policy to deal with this. Kelly McDonough to look into AKC and PB Animal Care and Control policies to create one for the club. Steve Campbell to assist.
Joan gave the board the banking account balances.
Motion to adjourn made by Kelly McDonough, seconded by Steve Campbell. Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly A McDonough
OTCPBC - Secretary

February General Membership Meeting Minutes – March 7, 2016

Total of 24 members, 2 honorary members and 3 guests in attendance.
President Betty Gansky called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Motion to accept the February General Membership Meeting minutes as printed in Lead Lines by Judy McPartland, seconded by Robert Vence. Motion passed.

Reports:

President, Betty Gansky announced the February Agility Trial net revenue. Premium for June trials are being updated to include new agility classes.

Treasurer, Joan Bruno announced the bank balances to the membership for checking and saving.

Secretary, Kelly McDonough reported various AKC Communications received: Trial results processed from January Obedience/Rally Trials and February Agility Trial. The 2016 OTCPBC Membership list has been sent to the AKC.

Obedience, Marti Hohmann reported that all of the classes and schedules are updated on the club website.

Tracking, Janet Moore reported that no passed at the latest TDX exam this passed weekend (March 5 & 6, 2016) and that 2 of Joe Hamzy’s dogs passed the TDU exam.

Agility – no report available.

Nosework, Judy McPartland reported on the achievements of various members at recent trials – please see the the January and February issues of Lead Lines for results.

Show N Go, Nancy Honchar reported the next one is April 17 and we are approximately three quarters full. If you wish to sign please do quickly. The event will start at 11am and go until everyone is finished approximately 4pm.

Rally Trials – April 30 & May 1 trials are open for entries – tend to receive entries the last 2 weeks of the trial. Marti reminded the membership that Rally Drop in restarted on Wednesday, March 1st at 7:30pm.

June Obedience Trial, Celeste Platte reported that she has received the premiums and has cash prizes to offer for the trials. The judge is Kenneth Kincaid. Premiums will be sent out to the membership.

September Obedience Trial, Betty Gansky reported that Donna Kornmeyer is the trial chairperson for the Oct 1 and 2 Obedience trial. Event has been approved by AKC and the judge is Bob Withers.

New Business:

Outdoor Sign – Steve Campbell is working with Shellco and the city of Lake Park to have our sign replaced.

Continued on next page

<i>Continued—General Meeting 3/7/16</i>

Door Replacement – the side door has been replaced with a solid metal door – it is an exit only door – no handle on the outside for entry. There are issues with the front door and we are working with Strictly Doors to have the correct doors installed. The front doors will be metal doors with 24” x 30” windows; both doors will be replaced. The rear door will not be replaced at this time.

The new cleaning company, First Choice started and has done a great job cleaning the building. We have a 1 year contract with a 30 day cancellation clause.

January Obedience Trail Joanna Broussel is the trial chair, the judge is Nancy Watson. Considering offering Rally on Friday – but will need a different judge.

Club Contracts – Angel Andrews will be taking these over

Insurance Policies – Steve Campbell will be managing these going forward.

Building improvements – looking to get new vertical blinds installed.

Joe Wolak explained to the membership about replacing the hot water heater. We already have a water heater with wiring and plumbing above the bathrooms. If we want an on demand system for the kitchen, we will need to hire an electrician to install the wiring etc and can be very costly.

Motion made to replace the 20 gallon hot water heater upstairs so that we have hot water in the kitchen and subsequently in the rest of the building (bathrooms) by Lucy Carr, seconded by Celeste Platte. Motion passed.

Fencing – we are researching replacing the fence screens with slats similar to what Shellco has. The fence screen is constantly being knocked down by the winds. We will look at quotes for the slats that will include installation.

New Membership:

2nd reading for Susan Minix, has a rough collie and is sponsored by Betty Gansky and Mary Macchia. Membership approved.

1st reading for Marie Forgach, has 2 Portugese Water Dogs and is interested in Obedience, Rally & Water sports and is sponsored by Lynn Halpern and Tracey Guziegka.

Please note that we will not have an April Meeting; our next meeting is May 2nd.

Hospitality, we no longer have a hospitably chair to coordinate the snacks/food for the membership meetings. Betty proposed having a 50/50 drawing to cover the costs for snacks at the following meeting. Judy McPartland brought about paying to do brags at the meeting to help cover the costs. The club will start having 50/50 drawings at the May general membership. Brags are kept current in the monthly editions of Lead Lines.

Please send photos of your dogs to Celeste for Lead Lines.

Betty thanked Joe Wolak for coming to the building on Sunday, March 5th and replacing a total of 12 lights.

Gift certificates will be available for purchase on the club website.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Celeste Platte, seconded by Kelly McDonough. Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly A McDonough
OTCPBC - Secretary

Braggs



Aston, CH. Buttonwood's Affair of the Heart, CD PCDX GN BN CGC, earned the second and third legs to finish his CDX title at the Indian River Dog Training Club's trial on Saturday, February 27th with two first placements of 195 and 196.5 under esteemed judges Jerry Iermiero and Carol Ann Klein. Aston earned the first leg of his CDX at OTC's January trial with a HIT of 198. WTG little man.
Donna Kornmeyer

Fizz got his CDX. All 3 dogs had qualifying runs of different types (containers, exteriors, interiors) at a Performance Scent Dog match in Ft Lauderdale.

Marti Hohmann

On Friday March 11, Joshua earned his third leg in Open, thus completing his Title. It took three years and help from many people to get through this.

On Sunday, March 13 at Jupiter Tequesta, Joshua earn his first leg in Utility A with a 192 score, and a first place.

Janet Moore



My little miniature poodle Bling got her first two CDX legs our of Open B at the Jupiter Tequesta Dog Club with Two first places ! I was so proud of her. Her first try and two legs !

Kathie Kryla

I think we dream
So we don't have to be apart for so long.
If we're in each other's dreams,
We can be together all the time.

A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh

We've had a wonderful winter season and would like to share a few of our most recent accomplishments with you:

Gabe completed his Open Obedience Title (CDX) on Saturday at the Indian River Dog Training Club's February Obedience Trial. Completing the CDX was almost like earning three titles in one because it also means that he qualifies for two different Versatility Awards (PAC and CPC) through our parent club, the Dalmatian Club of America.

Three weeks later, Gabe completed his Agility Excellent Standard Title (AX) and his Agility Excellent Fast Title (XF) at the Treasure Coast Kennel Club's March Agility Trials with First and Second Placements.

We recently learned that for 2015, Gabe made the list of Top Ten Agility Dalmatians as follows: #1 Excellent Jumpers, #1 Open Standard, #3 Open Jumpers, and #7 Novice Standard.

Gabe is now MBISS Platinum GCH Bret D Gabriel's Lost Art CDX BN RAE AX AXJ XF RD RATO CGCA ROM PAC CPC.

Reid completed his Bronze Grand Champion Title at the February Greater Fort Myers Dog Club Shows in Lakeland, FL going Best of Breed each of the days he was shown, then after finishing his Bronze, he went on to a Group Three that afternoon.

We also learned that Reid made the 2015 list of Top Ten Agility Dalmatians as: #1 Novice Jumpers and #10 Novice Standard.

Reid is now Bronze GCH Bret D Lost Art Acadia's WoodSong CD BN PCD RE NA NAJ NF CA THDN RATO CGC.

Nadia surprised us in December by receiving an invitation to the 3rd AKC Rally National Championships. She only competed in Rally Novice B four times, but apparently her scores of 99, 98, 98, and 96 were enough to qualify. We were not able to travel to Tulsa, OK to attend, but truly thrilled to receive this invite!

Now that Gabe is done with his Obedience work, Nadia is looking forward to us having that time to get back to her training so she can do more Rally and Obedience too!

Nadia is CH Royalty Nadia's Spirited Lost Art BN RN NA NAJ NF CA RD RATO.

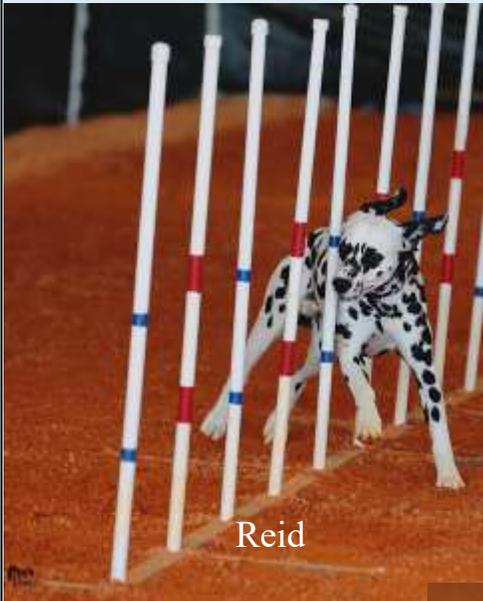
Thank you for reading!

Kim Carey

www.lostartdals.com



Braggs - continued



Reid



Gabe



Gabe



Reid



Gabe



Kim and Nadia



Reid



Gabe



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