

LEAD



LINES

OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2026

OFFICERS

President Betty Gansky
Vice President
Treasurer Fran Smith
Recording Secretary Jim Purko

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Scott T Adams, Sr , Tracey Guziejka , June Feigenblatt

COORDINATORS

Obedience Coordinator.....June Feigenblatt
Rally Coordinator Lodge Weber
Agility Coordinator.....Leslie Granville-Smith
Tracking Coordinator Jane Craig
Nose Work Coordinator Judy McPartland

CONTACT INFO

LeadLines

Celeste Platte— Leadlineseditor@gmail.com

Volunteer Hours

Judy McPartland
otcvolunteerhours@gmail.com

Facebook Admin

Kelly McDonough
Kellmcd222@gmail.com

Obedience Show & Go

Sunday, March 8th starting at 9 AM. Register online at website.

<https://otcpbc.org/obedience-events/>

**General Membership Meeting –
Monday April 13 @ 7:00 PM**

**Board of Directors Meeting –
Monday April 13 @ 6:00 PM**

FETCH NEWS

Hello Fellow OTC Members

If you braved the weather this weekend and joined us at the Agility and Fetch events, you saw remarkable volunteers in action, and the results of the quiet work of those behind the scenes. Huge thanks go out to all the volunteers as putting on these events is impossible without our village.

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Fetch Writeup - Continued:

On Friday, we set up in a new location, fenced in horse pen to the west side of the Adams Arena. David and Lindsay Smith and Celeste Platte did a fantastic job and were very creative setting up the temporary fencing. As we had never used this location, we discovered that a layer of sand covered a very hard packed material that no amount of pushing or hammering was going to pound the fence stakes into the ground. David ingeniously pulls a drill from his car and hand drilled all the fence stakes in so they could stand up to the bad weather we knew was coming. I am not sure what we would have done if he had not been so smart! Celeste is the zip tie queen. With Lindsey's help, they secured the mesh to the horse fencing resulting in a fantastic job that held up to the strong winds that blew in.

Saturday morning set up was thanks to Scott Adams, Karen Ladd, and Carol Ann Blackert. Scott had to hand drill the placement of the three blinds, and double checked the measurements of the field. Karen and Carol Ann superbly handled all the paperwork seamlessly, and ensured the judges had everything they needed, almost always anticipating needs before being asked for anything. This is a huge task with day of entries which we did accept. Scott manned the field almost single handedly with a bit of help from Karen when she had a break in entries and ensuring participants knew their place in the running order, and juggling conflicts with agility runs. Scott ensured the judges could continue to judge while running balls and bumpers for bad throws back to the handler, and setting up the field for the next class. And then the rain came, and the temperature dropped. And these volunteers kept a smile on their faces while making sure that things continued to run smoothly, and tried their best to keep the paperwork from becoming soggy!

Sunday dawned, and we had to set up everything except the temporary fencing again while our fingers were so numb we could barely bend our hands. Who knew we would be running the event in below freezing weather in strong bitter winds for several hours. But we were dry as the rain had stopped. Karen and Carol Ann got all the paperwork in order for the day. Scott set up the field to the judges' preferences, and testing again went smoothly. Karen jumped into action when she had a lull in the paperwork, filling in everywhere. When it was all over and done, we had many, many compliments from the participants and judges about how great the events were. The participants liked the location, even though we could not offer the Retriever class due to field size limitations. When it was time to tear down, everyone pitched in, even our judges, and Celeste Platte and Angel Andrews. The extra help made the tear down happen much faster and I am so thankful to everyone who helped. Thank you, Scott, for hauling the temporary fencing and posts back to OTCPBC.

Our judges were fantastic! We had Tricia Boychuk and Jane Craig on Saturday, and Trisha Boychuk and Norine Noonan on Sunday. All three not only were friendly and professional, they also provided valuable feedback to participants, and answered questions. It is getting harder and harder to find good judges who are not already committed to another event, so we were very lucky to have these three lovely ladies.

Thanks also to Judy McPartland for ensuring the online registration worked like a charm, and data collected provided important information to the Trial Secretary. If I forgot anyone, I am truly sorry. I appreciate all the behind-the-scenes folks who make OTCPBC a success.

Emily Mardis, OTCPBC FETCH Coordinator

AGILITY NEWS

A VERY BIG THANK YOU!

A VERY BIG THANKS to all who helped last weekend at our 3-day Agility trial in Ft. Pierce. They not only helped but had to do so while dealing with frigid temperatures.

I can't thank all of you enough especially on Sunday when the wind chill as 19 degrees, we had no lighting in the Arena until 9 AM (by generator at that time on) with no lights in the bathrooms until power was finally restored at 1 PM. There was also an issue that the maintenance man turned off the water to all the nearby bathrooms without the manager's approval on Sunday morning for fear the pipes would freeze! The manager got right on it & had the water back-on!

It will always be a trial that was memorable by all who attended!

A very special thanks to "Young Guns Venture Group": Without their help bringing the truck, setting-up/tearing down as well as working the trials this event would not have been possible!

I'd like to thank our terrific Judges: Oksana Syrkin & Victorie MacVicar. Outstanding work as well as GREAT personalities. It's always my pleasure to work with the two of you.

To our Trial Secretaries: Eric Reese & Tracy Hanna. You did a GREAT job making things work, power or not in frigid conditions.

To our Chief Course Builders: Bill Becker, Barb Bodnar & Kim Levee. Bill for I believe the 1st time ever I saw you wearing long pants & not shorts! LOL!

To our Volunteer Coordinators: Chelsey Conklin, Rachel Summerlin & Barbara Barker

To our Trial Committee: Jeff Gansky, Rachel Summerlin, Chelsey Conklin & Kim Levee

Another VERY SPECIAL thanks to new OTC member Rich Nagel who brought-up the equipment from the clubhouse, helped set-up, worked the trial, tore down & brought the equipment back to the OTC clubhouse!

To all of the OTCPCB members who worked the trials: Rose Siebeneck, Michelle Trummer, Susan Minix, Linda Morgan, Rande Keenan, Lynn Brady, Janet Brav, Janet Jenkins & Kathy May.

As always "it takes a village" & once again "the village" stepped-up!

I couldn't do it without all of your help!

If by chance I omitted anyone it was not done on purpose!

Betty Gansky

President/Trial Chair

OTCPBC

Thank YOU for wrangling “The Village” together so we can continue to have agility trials on the East Coast of Florida.

As President of DACOF, I truly know how much goes into bringing everyone - and everything - together to make an event successful.

We greatly appreciate you - and all you do - to keep the OTCPBC event in Ft. Pierce, and for making it such a fun and successful experience for everyone involved.

Thanks for all you do!



Bill (Becker)

OTCPBC HOLIDAY PARTY

This might be late but as the saying goes, "it's never too late"!

The Holiday party held at the clubhouse Sunday night December was a HUGE success! The camaraderie, the food couldn't have been any better. Everyone was laughing & had smile on their face.

It was so nice to see everyone having a good time!

A BIG thanks to our "Master of Ceremonies" Lodge Weber who did a terrific job handing the gift exchange.

Elves assisting setup

Kelly McDonogh

Lucy Carr

Cindy Ponga

Scott Adams

Tracey, Ron, Erika & Rebecca Guziejka

Nan Johnson

Jeff Gansky

Lodge helped with set-up as well

Betty Gansky



Hi everyone,

I wanted to share a quick reminder in the spirit of “if you see something, say something.”

I know we are all familiar with the expectations for keeping the space clean, so this is simply a gentle nudge in case something is being overlooked. **As a reminder, please be sure to empty the vacuum after use when it becomes full.** Taking care of these small tasks helps ensure the ring is pleasant and ready for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you for your attention and for continuing to do your part to keep the building and ring in good condition.

Regards,

Scott T. Adams, Sr.

OTCPBC Board Member



FREE OBEDIENCE EQUIPMENT

I have some obedience practice equipment I no longer need and would like to give to someone still actively training. I have a set of pvc jumps, they are not full size but are suitable for practice with a smaller breed; a couple pvc and wooden gates that I used to set up some boundaries for outside training; some pylons that are good for heeling practice, and have bars that can be inserted and used as low jumps. I also have some fence stakes that I used for weave practice for agility. PM me or email if interested and we can arrange for pickup.

Bobbie Blythe (561)309-6548. Blythespirits@bellsouth.net

BRAGS



Janet Jenkins & Rose – MACH 3

Rosie earned MACH 3

OTCPBC Agility Trial in Ft Pierce on February 1.

Title earned: MACH 3

Dog-Scraps A Whole Lotta Rosie

Call Name- Rosie

Age-6

Breed: Australian Shepherd

Rosie had a First place in both Standard and Jumpers for the QQ needed to complete this title.

(This may be irrelevant)

Also, we stuck it out through the cold weather of 26 degrees in the morning and 15 mph wind. I will always remember this as the coldest title I've ever earned! LOL.

Janet Jenkins



We had a great weekend at the Jupiter Tequesta Dog Club Obedience trials 10/18-10/19.

Fate won HIT on Saturday. She also earned her OM4 (Obedience Master's) title that day.

On Sunday Fate won H/C & HIT with a total score of 393 out of 400. She was her awesome little self.

Aura won the Novice B class on Saturday earning her 1st leg toward her Novice title. On Sunday she was distracted by others on the outside of the ring & I had to call her twice on the recall. She remains a "work in progress"!

Betty Gansky



January scent work trial, Willow earned her Advanced Buried Title and her Excellent Interior title and a High in Trial Placement too.

Terri Cannici



Fate earned her PACH (Preferred Agility Champion) title on August 30, 2025. When it happened, I thought she was 1 point under. To my surprise she was actually 1 point over!

I want to thank my good friend June Feigenblatt for getting me such a beautiful ribbon! It not only has her PACH title on it but also has all of her other Agility titles on one side streamer & all of her Obedience titles on the other side streamer.

We FINALLY had our picture taken in OTC's field on February 15th during the Show & Go! As you can see it was a very windy day!

Betty Gansky



Forest moved from Rally Novice to Masters in just four show weekends. My crazy boy learned how to focus and earned a score of 99 and 100 in Masters at our last show. And Willy has finally earned a cd in obedience and moved up on, plus he is very happy to be a working Therapy Dog!

Susan Minix



Fiona earned her Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Title at the Tracking Club of Central Florida tracking test on October 12th.

Angel Andrews



Jolene earned her Novice Fetch (FTN) title at the FETCH test in Palm Bay on November 29th!

Angel Andrews



Fiona earned her BCAT on Saturday, December 27th at the Tailwaggers Agility Club of South Florida. She earned it with only 4 runs!!!

Angel Andrews



Cooper Dog earned 2 more legs in his quest for his RAE, out of 4 trials (2 Excellent & 2 Advanced) he earned 3 first places, 1 second place and 2 High Combined all while competing in UpDog, he was very tired,

Scott, Maya Dog RAE (Ret) and Cooper Dog RE





This pretty little girl is Erie, Cooper's new younger sister, we got her from The Farm Dog Rescue, she is 14 months old. *Scott, Maya Dog RAE (Ret) and*



Gunner Beagle followed in his big brother's Weimaraner pawprints and earned his AKC Fetch Advanced title. He loves retrieving and is happy to be the honorary retriever breed at the Hunt Club.

The big news is that he finished his AKC Scent Work Master titles to earn the overall SWM, with two High in Trial ribbons and several first places.

He even earned his first two Detective legs with great searches at the Brevard Sports Complex. Searching a stadium with sooo many seats, the public bathrooms, commercial kitchen and dorm rooms was incredible fun.

Jane Craig



Old Astro the Weimaraner is happy to report that he finished his AKC Fetch Retriever title, the highest level in Fetch. He says it's not quite as much fun as retrieving ducks in the field, but he loved being invited to a retrieving party.

Jane Craig



Monte completed the requirements for the SW Exterior Advanced title. Additionally, Monte earned the SW Interior Advanced Elite Title at the OTCPCB in November. It was discovered not all venues provide SW Elite ribbons, which is unfortunate considering the substantial effort required to earn the Elite title (10 qualifying runs) is not only time consuming but a considerable financial commitment. Despite the absence of a Scent Work Elite ribbon, Monte's accomplishments remain remarkable and deeply meaningful.

In January Monte earned the SW Interior Advanced, completing the SW Advanced title.

Looking ahead, Monte and Brian are excited to continue their Scent Work journey and explore new challenges in the obedience ring in 2026.

Monte is learning to tolerate his nephew Arlo...

Brian DeCarlo



Once again, we got to play in one of our favorite dog sports, Scent work, at Obedience Training Club of Palm Beach County this November 22-23.

I am so incredibly proud of both my dogs! They gave me their all and I couldn't ask for anything more!! Aries qualified 7 out of 8 runs placing in 6 of them! She earned a High in Trial and a new Advance containers title!

Kai was right on her trail trying to show her up! He qualified 7 out of 8 and placed in 4 of them earning 2 High in Trials!

Thank you to EVERYONE, and I mean EVERYONE, who made this weekend a fun event, once again!

Storey Wenger

Aries





Kai

We had a big title weekend at January's OTCPCBC scent work trial.

Aries qualified 8/8 runs placing in a few earning a High in Trial on Sunday.

Titles earned: Advance Buried, Excellent Interiors and her over all advance title SWA

Kai qualified 8/8 runs placing in a few.

Titles earned: Novice Containers, Novice Buried, Advance Interiors and his overall Novice title SWN.

It was fun to compete alongside friends and friendly faces! Thank you to all the judges and volunteers, who without you, I wouldn't be able to make these memories with my furry duo!



Storey Wenger



Kai ran his very first Fast CAT at the DOCOH Canine Cluster event in Davie. His first run was messy, but quickly got into it, grabbed the “bunny” and outran his sister at 22.45 MPH. Special thanks to Agnes for braving it and releasing Kai.

Storey Wenger



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Kai qualified 8/8 runs placing in a few.

Titles earned: Novice Containers, Novice Buried, Advance Interiors and his overall Novice title SWN.

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Storey Wenger







On Sunday November 9th Aura earned her CD title with a 2nd place in Novice. The same day Fate earned another HIT.

This past Sunday on November 16th Aura earned her RN title with a perfect score of 100. The judge suggested that I put her on the floor & put her blue ribbon on her collar like they do with big dogs. I think it really turned-out cute!

Betty



Fate did a really good job at the Obedience Training Club's Obedience trials held on January 11th & 12th. She was in a run-off for 2nd place out of the Open B class on Saturday. She lost the run-off & earned 3rd place with a really nice score of 197 1/2.

On Sunday she won 1st place & HIT out of the Open B class with a whopping score of 198 1/2. Fate also earned the non-OTCH dog/Non OTCH handler award on Sunday which was a cash prize of \$50.00!

She never ceases to amaze me! She's my "once in a lifetime dog!"

Betty





**OTCPBC Volunteer Hours Report as of 2/12/2026 Includes
Hours Earned between 2/1/2025 and 2/12/2026**

Last Name	First Name	Member Type	Earliest Service Date	Most Recent Service Date	Total Hours
Andrews	Angel	Regular	2/2/2025	2/1/2026	81.75
Armfield	Patricia	Associate	4/13/2025	11/16/2025	24.25
Baker	Karen	Regular	7/20/2025	7/20/2025	8.75
Bales	William	household	11/3/2025	1/11/2026	4.75
Barbato	Christine	Household	11/3/2025	1/25/2026	18.25
Becker	Robert	Regular	2/1/2025	1/25/2026	41
Bellavia	Marni	Regular	4/6/2025	11/2/2025	22
Blackert	Carol	Regular	1/4/2026	2/1/2026	26.75
Bowes	Lynda	Regular	4/27/2025	11/23/2025	103.75
Boychuk	Tricia	Regular	2/2/2025	2/1/2026	95.25
Brav	Janet	Regular	2/2/2025	2/1/2026	6.75
Butcher	Marjorie	Silver	4/25/2025	1/11/2026	19
Cane	Katie	Regular	9/8/2025	1/22/2026	32
Cannici	Terri	Regular	11/2/2025	11/16/2025	16.5
Carr	Lucy	Household	4/25/2025	12/7/2025	28.5
Cash	Beverly	Regular	1/11/2026	1/11/2026	8
Craig	Jane	Silver	2/16/2025	1/25/2026	86.5
Czermann	Charlotte	Silver	4/25/2025	1/11/2026	24
Davis	Marge	Silver	4/27/2025	4/27/2025	5
DeCarlo	Brian	Household	2/1/2025	1/25/2026	161.95
DeMinico	Peggy	Gold	4/27/2025	1/25/2026	91
DuMont	Jean	Regular	10/12/2025	1/25/2026	12.5
Forgach	Marie	Regular	11/23/2025	1/25/2026	20.75
French	Steven	household	9/20/2025	9/20/2025	6.5
Granville-Smith	Leslie	Regular	12/31/2025	12/31/2025	47

Hamzy	Joe	Household	2/9/2025	12/7/2025	32.75
Hamzy	Mary Ann	Household	2/9/2025	1/25/2026	22.75
Hohmann-Probst	Marti	Regular	2/1/2025	2/1/2025	15.5
Honchar	Nancy	Regular	2/16/2025	1/25/2026	48.5
Jenkins	Janet	Regular	4/21/2025	2/1/2026	34
Johnson	Nan	Regular	4/13/2025	12/14/2025	45
Johnson-Ford	Diana	Regular	4/20/2025	4/20/2025	22.5
Jones	Karen	Regular	6/8/2025	11/23/2025	41
Katzman	Andi	Regular	4/27/2025	5/16/2025	7
Keenan	Rande	Regular	2/2/2025	2/1/2026	47.25
Kelly	Michelle	Regular	9/20/2025	11/16/2025	28.5
Kelsheimer	Jasen	Household	9/8/2025	11/23/2025	13.35
Klein	Carol Ann	Regular	6/8/2025	1/11/2026	57
Kornmeyer	Donna	Household	2/16/2025	11/23/2025	49
Ladd	Karen	Regular	7/7/2025	2/1/2026	57

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Hours Earned between 2/1/2025 and 2/12/2026**

Last Name	First Name	Member Type	Earliest Service Date	Most Recent Service Date	Total Hours
Landen	Robin	Regular	4/27/2025	1/11/2026	57
Lehnertz	Margi	Silver	2/9/2025	12/6/2025	93
Lobree	H. Baird	Household	1/11/2026	1/11/2026	27.75
Macchia	Mary	Regular	2/1/2025	1/11/2026	48
Maio	Lenore	Regular	7/20/2025	11/16/2025	35
Mardis	Emily	Regular	2/1/2025	2/1/2026	113.25
May	Kathy	Regular	2/28/2025	12/31/2025	20
McDermott	Judith	Regular	9/8/2025	1/25/2026	33.75
McKenna	David	Regular	2/16/2025	1/4/2026	47
McPartland	Judith	Regular	2/5/2025	1/31/2026	334.5
Meishel	Alexis	Household	9/8/2025	11/23/2025	9.55
Minix	Susan	Regular	2/2/2025	1/11/2026	314.5
Morgan	Linda	Regular	2/16/2025	1/4/2026	40

Nagel	Richard	Regular	9/3/2025	2/1/2026	31
Nettles	Bobbi	Regular	5/16/2025	9/6/2025	14
Patti	Jennifer	Household	2/2/2025	2/2/2025	20
Patti	Mary Lou	Household	2/2/2025	2/2/2025	20
Pirko	Jim	Regular	2/16/2025	1/11/2026	25
Platte	Celeste	Silver	6/29/2025	2/1/2026	21
Ponga	Cindylou	Regular	11/23/2025	1/25/2026	30.5
Porter	Cynthia	Regular	2/9/2025	1/25/2026	39.25
Rivera	Jessica	Regular	7/7/2025	1/25/2026	35
Sedberry	Diane	Regular	2/1/2025	1/4/2026	159.35
Sedlacek	Chris	Household	5/17/2025	11/23/2025	24.5
Sedlacek	Linda	Household	4/27/2025	4/27/2025	21
Seeley	Luci	Household	4/20/2025	8/24/2025	43.75
Seeley	Ron	Household	4/20/2025	1/25/2026	42.75
Siebeneck	Rosemarie	Silver	2/2/2025	2/1/2026	182.5
Smith	Lindsey	Regular	2/1/2025	2/1/2026	21.5
Strumwasser	Steve	Regular	12/9/2025	1/25/2026	8
Trummer	Michelle	Regular	2/2/2025	2/1/2026	38.5
Vasiliou	Libby	Regular	4/16/2025	1/25/2026	35
Vence	Robert	Regular	2/2/2025	1/11/2026	159.5
Walsh	Lauren	Regular	2/16/2025	4/27/2025	41.5
Weiss	Derek	Regular	7/7/2025	1/25/2026	51.75
Wenger	Storey	Regular	2/1/2025	1/25/2026	143.5
Wetzel	Judy	Regular	5/16/2025	1/25/2026	71.25
Wilpon	Judy	Regular	1/11/2026	1/25/2026	23.25
Wright	Mary	Regular	2/2/2025	1/31/2026	165
Total	79				4155.2

OTCPBC Volunteer Hours Report as of 2/12/2026 Includes Hours Earned between 2/1/2025 and 2/12/2026

Last Name	First Name	Member Type	Earliest Service Date	Most Recent Service Date	Total Hours
				Average	52.60
	Number of members with Greater Than 20 hrs.				60

	Number of members with Greater Than 30 hrs.	44
	Number of members with Greater Than 50 hrs.	20

Hours for new members will appear on this report once the new members have
Volunteer hours earned are kept on a running basis and expire after 12 months.

Eligibility for the Member discount and Access Card require a balance of 20

Volunteer Hour Recording: otcvolunteerhours@gmail.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

General Membership Meetings

All meetings are held via Zoom at 7:00 PM unless otherwise notified.

Monday, 4/13/26

Monday, 6/29/2026

Monday, 9/14/26

Monday, 11/2/26

Party is on the calendar for Sunday, 12/6/26 with set-up Saturday 12/5/26.

I'm happy to announce that Jim Pirko has agreed to come on-board as the club Secretary. Jim has handled our Show & Go entries for quite awhile. He is computer savvy. Celeste has volunteered to help him get started! His info is listed below:

Jim Pirko

6191 Grand Cypress Circle

Lake Worth, FL 33463

561-317-8910

jpirko@bellsouth.net

Thank you Jim for stepping up!

Betty Gansky

January Meeting Minutes for OTCPBC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (01/05/2026)

Zoom meeting only.

Attended:

President: Betty Gansky, Vice-President: Lodge Weber, Secretary: Kelly McDonough,
Treasurer: Fran Smith, Board Members: Scott Adams, June Feigenblatt & Tracey Guziejka.
53 in attendance total via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Summary

Zoom Name Updates and Attendance

Kelly reminded participants to update their names in Zoom to avoid being removed from the meeting. Several participants, including Jasen, Cindy, and Margi, confirmed their names. The meeting was delayed as they waited for more participants to join, with Betty noting they needed 21 people present.

New Year Meeting Updates

The meeting opened with the approval of the November 3rd general membership meeting minutes. Kelly warned members about identifying themselves to avoid removal from the meeting. Betty as president, wished everyone a happy new year and mentioned plans to discuss old and new business.

Volunteer Recognition and Financial Update

Lodge recognized 10 members who contributed over 100 volunteer hours in the past year, with Judy McCartland leading at 343 hours. Fran presented a financial report showing a loss for the year, attributing it to unusual expenses including air conditioners, website updates, and early payments for agility expenses. The club's financial journey was traced back 20 years, showing a beginning of \$64,000 in assets in 2006, though, the current balance was listed as \$762,864

Financial Growth and Property Investment

The group discussed financial trends, with Frans presenting a balance sheet showing steady growth in their bank balance from 64,000 in 2006 to over 762864 in 2026, including a \$4,000

income from a CD. Discussion noted that the building was probably worth more than listed on the property appraiser's site. Betty noted that while they had spent \$11,000 on trials in 2026, they had not yet received the corresponding revenue, and classes were delayed due to a computer update until December 29th. Lodge inquired about a \$600,000 influx from 2008-2009, which Frans clarified was not spent until 2012 when they purchased the property, with the group moving in during 2013.

Club Finances and Enrollment Update

The board discussed the club's financial situation, with Fran confirming they have approximately \$300,000 in savings and checking accounts. June reported strong enrollment in obedience classes, including two novice classes that are full, while also announcing new website features allowing PayPal and credit card payments for registrations. Celeste provided an update on donations, including \$820 in trophy donations and \$25 cash prizes for first-place finishes in regular classes, while noting that approximately 101 members have renewed their memberships.

Club Activities and Trial Updates

The meeting covered updates on various club activities, including rally and agility trials. Lodge reported on the rally coordinator's successful year with upcoming trials in April, July, and November. Betty provided an agility update, mentioning that deposits for trials in May, June, and August have been paid, and entries for the Fort Pierce trial were unexpectedly low. He expressed concern about the financial viability of future trials at Fort Pierce due to low entries and competing events. The group also discussed new agility equipment, the planning of an ACT test on February 22nd, and a change in venue fees at the fairgrounds.

Record Season for Tracking Tests

Jane Craig, the tracking coordinator, reported that the club is holding a record five tracking tests this season, with two in February and one in March. She mentioned that the next Introduction to Tracking class will likely be held in late March. The club is seeking 50-100 acres of land for advanced tracking tests, as it's difficult to find suitable locations due to development. The club's tracking program is well-known in Florida, with half of the state's tracking judges as members.

Operational and Facility Updates

The board discussed several operational updates, including the installation of a new storage box with drawers by Tracy, which will be organized by Scott with labels, and Jeff's installation of a lockbox in the supply closet with a shared combination among Tracy, Scott, June, and Jeff. They addressed financial decisions, noting no additional donations were made to charities due to 2025 expenses, and Jeff ordered new table handles with Scott's assistance. The board also discussed facility maintenance, including a toilet flapper replacement and changes to the agility field combo, which was updated by Jeff and communicated to members by Diane Sedbury.

New Member Voting and Applications

The meeting focused on voting in new members, with Michael Shrank being successfully voted into the membership. Betty and Kelly discussed the status of Wendy Winfield and Lou Richards, who had not returned for a second reading after their initial reading in January. Kelly agreed to send a letter to inform them that their application was being returned and their check would be shredded since they had not completed the required steps for membership.

Honorary Members and Officer Elections

The meeting focused on voting in honorary members and officers for the upcoming year. The honorary members were approved, including several individuals who have contributed significantly to the agility events. The slate of officers for 2026 was also confirmed, with all candidates running unopposed.

A motion was made by Angel Andrews and Storey Wenger to amend the Constitution to implement a four-year term limit for officers and board members, starting in 2027. The motion will be formally written up and sent to the membership for consideration at a future meeting.

January Meeting Minutes for OTCPC BOARD MEETING (01/05/2026)

Zoom meeting only.

Attended:

President: Betty Gansky, Vice-President: Lodge Weber, Secretary: Kelly McDonough, Treasurer: Fran Smith, Board Members: Scott Adams, June Feigenblatt & Tracey Guziejka.
13 in attendance total via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

Summary

Storage and Maintenance Updates

The meeting began with a discussion about a box of collars that needed to be stored properly, with instructions on how to use the lock. The group discussed the upcoming trial and agreed to meet the following week to go over the box's usage. They also touched on the maintenance of a fence, which had been sprayed by Jeff, and the cost of maintenance.

Cost-Cutting Measures for Obedience Trials

Betty presented a report as president, highlighting the need to cut back on expenses due to rising costs. She proposed discontinuing the use of treats and toys at obedience rally trials, while maintaining the use of rosettes for high placements. The board approved these changes, with Betty noting that she had enough treats to last until January.

Club Awards and Water Policy

The club agreed to continue using existing rosettes and trophies for 2026, with Betty offering to provide additional prizes from her collection. They decided to pause purchasing new awards when current supplies run out. The group also approved removing free water from the refrigerator, requiring payment of \$1 per bottle going forward.

Operational and Financial Policy Updates

The board discussed several operational issues. They agreed to be more vigilant about water usage in the refrigerator, with June making a motion to enforce a \$1 charge for water. The board voted to scale back the amount of commercial snacks provided at trials, leaving it up to the hospitality chair to manage within a budget. For judges, they agreed to give first consideration to Florida-based judges but allow out-of-state judges if costs remain fiscally responsible. The board also reviewed financial matters, noting significant expenses for 2026 trials that were paid in 2025, with Fran confirming they were still in a deficit for 2025 despite these payments.

Board Operations and Staffing Updates

The board discussed several operational matters, including the need to hire a company to manage weed control in flower beds, as Jeff has been handling this manually. They agreed to allow Anne-Marie to park her motorhome in the parking lot for an upcoming workshop on a case-by-case basis, provided no generator is used. The board also decided to dissolve the lead lines newsletter, with Fran taking responsibility for discussing this transition with Lauren, the current editor. Additionally, there was discussion about Judy's car situation and the need to find someone to learn the website management skills currently held by Judy.