

Tails Up Agility Club

Bi-Monthly Newsletter Volume I, Number 3

Hi guys! Well, it's getting to be that time of the year again, namely HOT. Temps are going up and we are approaching the dog days of summer – no pun intended. Unfortunately, agility is can really be subject to the whims of the Mother Nature (like our Show'n-Go, read more about that later).

So please be careful with your canine buddies and take precautions to keep them safe in the heat. Remember that dogs have limited ability to cool themselves and be sure to give them plenty of breaks from strenuous activities. Other tips for keeping your dogs cool:

- Be sure they get plenty to drink. Dogs cool primarily through panting so make sure they have enough cool water to drink.

- Remember that temps in your car can quickly climb in just a few minutes so please don't leave your dog in the car while you make a quick trip into the store.
- Spraying your dog with a hose or having a dip in the pool is helpful because it wets their coat and will help keep your dog from getting too overheated.
- If your dog is already overheated, it very important that you act quickly to help them cool off. Dogs have limited ability to sweat so you have to help them gain the benefits of evaporative cooling – keep their mouths wet and try to wet their coat completely through so that hot air is not trapped under the wet outer coat.
- Try to get air flowing on your dog to speed the evaporation effect. Portable battery-powered fans are great—you can bungee to dog crates. I found some at Sports Authority for \$30 recently.
- IMPORTANT: if your dog is panting hard from strenuous activity, **don't** allow them to drink too much – just a few slurps to keep their mouths wet. If you allow your panting dog to gulp a lot of water very fast, there is a risk of bloat. Instead let them drink a little bit, then wait a bit while they cool, then a little more water, wait, and so on.

Have fun and stay cool – you and your dog! -SC

Doggie Doings

The June CPE Show'n-Go was a hot event. Unfortunately, it was so hot that nobody brought their dogs out to play! The weather refused to cooperate and although it was nice to sit around and chat, there wasn't much agility going on. Oh well, hopefully things will work out better next time.

Some people did stop by to learn more about agility and the club and hopefully we might have helped promote more interest in the sport. Thanks to Deborah, Chris, John, Rita, Brandy, Sherry, Scott & Diana for coming to help out.

At our Fall trial we will be offering competitors the capability to enter the trial on-line through our website. This will allow the club to have access to entry fees quicker, will increase the speed and accuracy of competitor data entry, and allow competitors to use credit cards to pay for their entries. Competitors will still be able to enter via the traditional mail-in method for those who are not computer-savvy.

Upcoming Club Meetings & Locations

July 12: Club summer picnic @ the Parsons'

August 12:

September 9:

TUAC Member Profile

Member Name: Deborah Lankford

Owned by (your dogs): Bonnie (Aussie, 7 years), Einstein (PWC, 4 years), and Stella (Papillon, 2 years)

Age: 63

Member Since: 2007

Occupation: retired (40 years!) English teacher

Other Dog Activities or Sports You Are Involved In: I use Bonnie as a pet therapy dog; I also enter her in any "pet tricks" contest that I come across (she's never lost...!)

Why Do You Play Agility? I am addicted. And it is the most wonderful way to enjoy a true partnership with your dog (s).

Where Do You Play Agility? (Training sites, trials you like, venues) I train with Laurene Galgano, and for trialing I go to Merrimac and Gloucester, of course. I also go up to Woodbridge (Cedar Run), since my sister lives near there. And my favorite place is Crown Sports Center, in Salisbury, although I like Sanford and Westminster as well. I should I say this?--tend to prefer AKC trials, so that's where I go.

What Do You Want to Accomplish in Agility? My goal is to get Bonnie's MX and MXJ...I'm only 5 Q's away from each of those titles! Actually, I am not so much into the titles as I am into just getting back to going to trials and having fun (after taking almost a year off). I also would love to get Einstein into Excellent Standard (he's already there in Jumpers), but that means I'll have to get him over his FOT ("fear of teeters"). And I would love to have Stella ready to start in the fall trials.

Weirdest/Coollest/Most Embarrassing Thing you've ever Done/Seen at an Agility Trial? The "coolest" thing has to be the clearing of the Gloucester site of all the snow (in April, a couple a years ago) so that the trial could still be held...!

Favorite Trial? Why? It's got to be the February 7 Merrimac trial this year. I had my hip replaced in December, but Bonnie and I entered Novice Preferred and had the most amazing round: I basically stood there, leaning on my cane, and she did such incredible layering and distances that we Q'd...and I then threw my cane down to hug her and then started out...but asked her to go get my cane for me. Which she did, to much applause.

Favorite Agility Game? Why? Tunnelers...because it goes so fast and the dogs seem to love it.

Best Agility Training Tip or Advice you've ever heard? Don't stop to talk to anyone, don't do anything at the end of a round except celebrate with your dog. After you get back to your crate (and your special celebratory jackpot!), THEN stop and talk!

Something funny or interesting about you that most members don't know about you: I spent most of the 1970's foxhunting (Princess Anne Hunt; secy/treas, etc.) and show jumping my wonderful horse Beckett. He colicked and died at 13; I then bought my second horse, Darcy, whom I had until he died at 26. I was into dressage by then, and I loved it. Dogs are MUCH easier to take to events, believe me, but I do miss riding (and the smell of tack shops and barns) to this day.

Calendar of Upcoming Agility Trials & Events

When putting together this calendar, I tried to use the following criteria.

- Events taking place during the next 3 months: NADAC and CPE trials in Virginia, North Carolina, and Maryland, AKC & UKC trials within 2 hours of Tidewater
- Agility events (like clinics, run throughs and seminars) also within 2 hours

You can also find out about other agility trials and download premiums at www.agilityevents.net. Let me know if there is anything you would like to be listed.

Date	Venue	Sponsoring Club	Location
7/24-25	NADAC	PAWZAZZ	Lothian, MD
7/24-25	CPE	Wiggle-Butts	Mebane, NC
8/14-15	CPE	Artful Dodgers	Westminster, MD
8/21-22	CPE	Teamworks	Youngsville, NC
8/21-23	AKC	Salisbury KC	Eden, MD
8/22-23	NADAC	Breakaway Action Dogs	Frederick, MD
8/28-30	NADAC	In the Zone Agility	W. Friendship, MD
9/5-6	UKC	Belroi Agility Club	Gloucester, VA
9/5-6	NADAC	All About Animals!	Townsend, DE
9/18-19	AKC	Shetland Sheepdog Club of Greater Baltimore (more than 2 hrs but it's an all-Sheltie trial)	Westminster, MD
9/18-19	NADAC	Teamworks	Youngsville, NC
9/19-20	NADAC	Periland Agility	Knoxville, MD
9/19-20	AKC	Richmond Dog Obedience Club	Gloucester, VA
9/23-27		NADAC Nationals	Shelbyville, TN
9/26-27	CPE	Periland Agility	Knoxville, MD

Bon-Clyde (Sanford, NC) is hosting World Team member Karen Holik to conduct agility seminars on August 8-9. More info can be found at www.bon-clyde.com.

Doggie Brags! Way To Go Everyone!!

Here are some recent achievements of club members and their dogs:

- Bob Parsons and *Bentley* won "Winners Dog/Best of Winners" for a 3-point Major championship at the Virginia Kennel Dogs Shows in Richmond on June 20-21 weekend. Not bad for a 9-month old puppy! Also that weekend, Lola earned two Novice legs in AKC Rally, including a perfect score 100 on Saturday.
- The club was represented by *Cali, Summer, Chelsea & Maggie* at the recent June Teamworks NADAC trial. Highlights include Chelsea earning her Novice Versatility Award (3 Qs in Regular, Chances, Jumpers, Touch-n-Go, Tunnelers, and Weavers), Novice Weavers and Outstanding Novice Regular titles, Maggie got Novice Regular and Weaver Qs, Cali got her Elite Hoopers title, and Summer got an Open Weavers title. We all had a lot of fun and look forward to doing more trials as a club!
- *Summer* also earned her Novice Triple Superior Award (20 Qs in Regular, 10Qs each in Chances & Jumpers) at the Raising K9 trial July 3-5 in Woodstown, NJ.

Hookups

Selling or looking for dog/agility stuff? Looking for someone to share a ride to or lodging at an upcoming agility event? List it here!

Scott & Diana will be at the following trials: PAWZAZZ's July NADAC trial, and probably Teamwork's August CPE trial.

The club recently purchased a fold up canopy from Rose's for \$50 so we aren't looking for one anymore. However, be on the lookout for two affordable easels to use for posting Gate Run Orders.

If you or someone you know are interested in being a vendor at our trial please let me know so that we can mention it in the premium and confirmation letters. We would be looking for vendors who offer food, dog products and services, animal rescues or welfare groups who sell products/services to support their efforts. Right now we have commitments from:

Photographer: Linda Anderson

Canine and Human Massage: Carrie Kinnear from Ocean Waves VA