



Obichaff

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc.



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If there are no dogs in heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went.

— Will Rogers

**EVERY WORKPLACE SHOULD
HAVE AN EMERGENCY PUPPY**



JUST IN CASE YOU'RE HAVING A BAD DAY.

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**New Membership
Information**

[Shirley Blakely](#)



In this issue we celebrate the life of Charma Le Edmonds. Charma was a long time member of CDTC. I knew Charma as a dog trainer and instructor. Only after she passed did I learn that she was also a very talented artist. Pictured above is one of her paintings. I think I speak for the whole CDTC community when I say that Charma will be missed.

In this issue I write about my visit to the AKC Museum of the Dog. Located in midtown Manhattan the Museum of the Dog should be on every dog lover's list of places to visit. It is the perfect combination of a serious art museum and family friendly entertainment. There is something for every dog fancier.

Scroll down and you will find a brief writeup and pictures of the Connie Cleveland Seminar. If you have not done so, consider taking her seminar next time she comes back to CDTC. You will have fun, learn a great deal and become a better trainer.



Some please call the Dogtor

Charma Le Edmonds Memories

By Martha L. Perkins



Talented, funny, kind, compassionate, giving, generous in spirit and time—these are some of the characteristics that defined our dear friend, Charma. I was fortunate to both take CDTC classes with Charma (and her beloved Odgee) and assist with her Beginner Agility class. She was a wonderful and patient instructor, enjoying the successes, however small, of each team.

When we club members all received the terrible news of Charma's death on June 9, 2021, there was an immediate email outpouring of shock,

sense of loss, and love for Charma. Below are some of those comments, which bespeak of her well-loved and well-respected status at the club.

- ♥ To know Charma Le was to love her.
- ♥ I am stunned and in tears and holding everyone in my thoughts because, "yes," to know Charma was a gift and a joy and indeed to know her was to love her.
- ♥ We have all lost a lovely, kind, wonderful person; and we are poorer for that loss. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know her and share our love of and joy in our dogs.
- ♥ Always sweet, always kind, and always helpful, dear Charma will be greatly missed. Prayers for her husband and family. This is a tremendous loss.
- ♥ Oh, no! She was a very sweet person who was loved by so many.
- ♥ This is such sad news. She was so motivated to learn about her breed and new puppy [Odgee].
- ♥ Charma's kind and gentle presence reflected the beauty of her spirit.
- ♥ Stunned by this news. I've known Charma since I first started bringing my dog to agility class just over a decade ago. She was an extremely generous and caring person who would always do whatever she could to help out. She will be greatly missed around the clubhouse.
- ♥ No words, just copious tears.
- ♥ Charma was a wonderful person. When I demonstrated agility in my Family Dog 2 class, she always came and helped set up a course and run the dogs. She will be missed.
- ♥ Oh, what a loss! Charma always had a smile or a kind word for everyone. Damn.
- ♥ Charma was a student in my Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 class and was working hard with her Frenchie. I also want to recognize her for the contributions she made to the club over the years, including helping with obedience run throughs and with the agility program and with the agility demonstrations she put on for Family Dog 2 classes. She will be missed.
- ♥ Whenever she could, she volunteered as head steward at our Run Thru's, for which I will always be grateful. I truly couldn't have done them without her. She will be missed.
- ♥ Charma was one of those people that, when we would talk about wanting to do something, she was already figuring out how to get it done. I was reminded today that I had made a statement that, with anything I was asked to do, I would need Charma on my team. She would be one of the first to arrive, and one of the last to leave, any club event that she was involved in. She was instrumental in any club trial that I was involved with. When it was demonstrated one time, at a board meeting, that our club banner, was felt and

“doggie urine yellow and poo brown.” It wasn’t long before she had a new logo, and our colors were changed to red, white, and blue. After repeated comments that entering our clubhouse was not “warm,” but just a plain white warehouse, nothing “welcoming,, she created the huge banner “Welcoming you into Capital Dog Training Club.” When we wanted to have a place for members/others to sign up for our activities, she created the “Volunteer Sign-Up” banner/wall. She had us in one afternoon, photographing our dogs, as a part of an effort that she had in mind, to display pictures of member dogs. (That effort would have required more wall space than we had, so it was scrapped.) All that knew her were touched, and today is a great loss. Those of us that knew her well will NEVER forget what she did for our club. Rest in peace, our friend.

♥ Dear CDTC members, I agree with all of the wonderful thoughts that you shared about Charma. I would like to add that it was not only how helpful to us she was and how creative and efficient she was, but also how good-natured she was. Always pleasant, always helpful, always a kind word . . . she was so good natured. It’s clear by all of your tributes to Charma how much we appreciated her. I hope she knew that.

♥ I was always in awe of Charma’s uncanny ability to help out, mentor, step up, step in and do it all with grace and excellence. I observed over the years how deeply she cared for the well being of our club, its members and their dogs. What really struck me was how she did all this with eagerness and a smile. She was at the head of the line when it came to volunteering—showing up early, staying late and working behind the scenes to make sure our clubhouse looked its best. She worked her magic for our annual events, trials, board meetings, seminars and classes. All on her own, Charma figured out ways to simply make things better. I taught agility with Charma, Ernie and Pie for years and I can honestly say she was my most diligent and respectful student. She made it easy to teach her and while I was thrilled to see her earn Q’s at our big agility trial, I was not surprised—because Charma was simply an accomplished person. And Charma made it easy to call her my friend. I will always miss her.

Thank you, dear Charma, for so enriching our lives and the life of our club.



A visit to the AKC Museum of the Dog

After spending 30 years
in St. Louis, the AKC
Museum of the Dog
returned to New York,



just in time for the Covid shutdown. Covid has kept my wife and me from visiting New York, but on our first trip back to the city we wanted to visit the ACK Museum of the Dog. The museum is a curious mix of fine art and interactive displays. The museum has an exhibit, *Find Your Match* which takes an

image of you and through facial recognition scrolls through all 195 AKC recognized breeds to find which breed you most resemble. This exhibit is geared toward a younger audience, still my wife and I enjoyed being matched to the breeds we most resemble. I am sorry to report that I look more like a cocker spaniel than a Weimaraner. I am seriously considering plastic surgery to remedy this situation.

Perhaps the most popular display is the 7-foot-high video screen where you can train a virtual Lab puppy named Molly. Using motion capture technology, the AKC filmed a real Lab. The virtual Lab, Molly, responds to your verbal and hand commands on screen. This display too is geared toward a younger audience, still my wife and spent a fair amount of time training Molly.

The museum has two *Meet the Breeds* touch screen tables. Each features a cavalcade of all the AKC breeds scrolling across the table. The visitor can then pull their favorite into the doghouse and learn about the breed.

The museum has a fine collection of dog themed paintings and photographs. In January of 2020, the museum received a gift of Abraham Hondius' *Amsterdam Dog Market* c. 1677. The impressive Old Master canvas displays over 50 dogs with several handlers and customers as well as an array of collars.



The museum also has a changing group of exhibitions. For example, last year the museum presented, *Women and Dogs in Art in the Early 20th Century*, and *Mush: A Tribute to Sled Dogs from Arctic Exploration to the Iditarod*. Currently, the exhibition on display is *Top Dogs*, which highlights the top ten most popular breeds in the United States.

There is also a spacious library and activity center. Here, visitors can peruse over 4000 volumes. The activity center hosts lectures, films, Meet the Breeds days as well as popular children's programming such as "Paws to Read."

A visit to the Museum of the Dog would not be complete without spending time and money in the gift shop. You are sure to find something for yourself or the dog lover in your life.

The AKC Museum of the dog is a pleasant mix of fun activities and serious exhibits dedicated to all things having to do with dogs. The museum is in the heart of mid-town Manhattan just a few blocks from Grand Central Terminal, the New York Public Library, and an easy walk to Times Square in one direction or the Empire State Building in the other. For more information visit their [website](#).

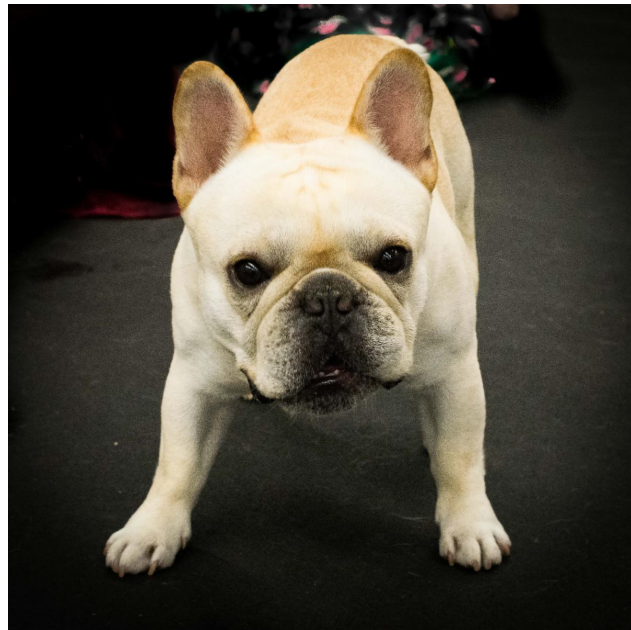


Charma Le Edmonds Memorial Service



On July 17, The CDTC community gathered to celebrate the life of Charma Le Edmonds. Members took turns remembering Charms. Some stories brought tears, because Charma was gone, but most stories made people smile or even laugh as memories of their lives with Charma were recalled. Light refreshments were served as people gather in small groups to talk and remember.

Charma Le Edmonds was an accomplished artist. She was a graduate of the Corcoran School of Art. Charma founded Shelter Studios, Inc., with her husband, Scott, in 1999. They provided design services to many local area restaurants. She worked as a muralist and decorative painter. Among Charma's many, many artistic accomplishments, she designed the CDTC logo.





Bragg

Jennie Larking reports Hermes had his first full weekend of conformation shows at the Independence Cluster at Howard County Fairgrounds. Since he is still a puppy, he was entered in the 9-12 month dog class. He did wonderfully! Friday there were no finished champions competing, so he won Winners Dog, Best of Winners, and best of Breed and Owner-Handler Best of Breed. So instead of being home by 11AM, I stayed all day for both Groups. He showed great in the Groups (amazing, since this was his second show ever!), and earned a Owner-Handler Group 3!

Saturday he showed nicely and got Winners dog (but no points), then on Sunday I asked a friend who is a handler to handle him. He once again took Best of winners and earned his first Major!, and also earned best Puppy, so again we stayed for the Groups. He earned Best Toy Puppy, then competed in Best Puppy IN Show ring! He again showed beautifully, but best puppy in show went to a lovely cocker spaniel.

So -- 5 times in the conformation ring, Hermes has earned points 4 of those

times and already has two group placements and a major! Many many thanks to Janice Kopp and the CDTC Conformation Program!



Janice Kopp writes: It is rare when a young puppy impresses me. When Kimani walked into Capital with his owner, Nicole Davis, I was immediately taken with his presence. Although he was only four months old, he had an air of confidence and command. He was not impressive in stature, but he was balanced. When I took the lead from Nicole to move Kimani, I was amazed how quickly he caught on to my signals. He moved effortlessly as if he had been doing it for years. He did not hesitate nor look back to Nicole; he just moved with me as a team.

Those in the class who witnessed this were incredulous; they had not seen a four-month-old move as he did. Nicole continued to come to class, and I watched Kimani mature. He liked to play and act up at times, but he would settle down when asked. I could sense that he genuinely loved showing.

When it came time for him to show, I alerted others in the fancy to watch for him. All were impressed, even ridgeback owners. Judges would tell me that he was a Best in Show dog, a rarity.

The last time I saw Kimani was in Philadelphia two years ago. He was now recognized in the fancy without heavy promotion and advertising. Nicole and the co-owners decided to send him to a well-known handler in the South, Frank Murphy. Although I was disappointed that Nicole would no longer show him, I knew this was the best move for his show career.

Last weekend Kimani and Frank were at Howard County. I briefly spoke to

Frank where he told me that Kimani is the number one ridgeback in the country with multiple best in shows in his resume. What a thrill it is to find such a dog.



Janice Kopp writes: I knew that Israel had a national dog, the Canaan dog, but I had never seen one until Avi came to class. Only recently did the AKC recognize this breed. Originally these dogs were feral in Israel much like the Australian dingo. A few dog fanciers in Israel saw the potential of these dogs and developed a program to domesticate them and to develop a breeding program. David and Cynthia brought Avi to the beginning handling group. I admit he did not immediately impress me; he was a playful black and white puppy. However, he responded well to training. David, who had never shown a dog, had to learn handling skills and train the dog at the same time. This is not easy. Avi was very fond of me or what was in my pocket, rib-eye steak. Eventually David and Avi were a team. At shows they often were the only Canaan dog in breed, therefore, they went to group regularly. David and Cynthia recognized the potential in this dog and felt that it would be better for Avi's show career to be shown by a handler, Brittany Cipriotti, who has been showing Avi for over three years. They have earned multiple BOB and group placements. Avi and Brittany won the Canaan national, a coveted award. Recently, Avi went Reserve BIS with Brittany.

To this day I hide from Avi when he is being shown. When he sees me, he loses his concentration. This is because of the steak he thinks I have in my pockets.



Pam Coblyn's border collie Fenway earned his Novice Detective Dog title on June 20 in Westfield, MA by the US Canine Scent Sports (USCSS).

Learning nosework was our pandemic project and by the time this trial came around Fenway was more than ready. He brought home his new title with blue ribbons and had a perfect day. He even earned HIT-C (High In Trial-Champion) for the most points and fastest time of all AKC Champion dogs competing in all levels that day. Unfortunately, we couldn't stick around for the awards ceremony at the end of the day because we had to catch a ferry back to the Vineyard!

Fenways was phenomenal—efficient, fast and a happy working dog. Nosework is his 8th titled venue and I'm so proud of my nearly 14 year old "baby boy"!



Pam Coblyn's Fenway earned his peaceful sleep after a successful day working his nose. He was 4/5 at a Performance Scent Dogs trial in Raynham, MA with an outstanding search in Speed & Distance that earned high praise from the judge. I sacrificed his blue ribbon by taking up time to properly reward & reinforce his nose-on-source behavior.

No regrets because Fennie is still a green dog and deserves my praise over a blue satin rosette!



Emily Grundy writes: "On July 27, 2021 Fornoir Enchanted Black Tie and Tails, AKA Ben de Bremond, CGCA TKN FCAT handled by Emily Grundy, got their first Q' in AKC Novice Standard Agility at the Hyattsville Dog Training Club Agility trial!"



In Memoriam Zed

Aspire God of Zardoz CD MX MXJ MJB MXF T2B

1/29/16 – 6/27/21



Julie Pavlin
commented on an
article in last

month's *Obichaff*, "Saying Goodbye to Your Best Friend," "I especially was comforted by the sentence that said better a week too early than a day too late. We opted for home euthanasia, to make it more peaceful for him. He was only 5 years old, looked fantastic, and still got around. However, the lymphoma had spread to his bone marrow, the chemo no longer worked, and about 10 days before his appetite decreased and he started breathing rapidly even while he was sleeping. Eventually he would only eat treats (and this from a dog whose favorite thing in the world was eating), and the last 2 days, he ate nothing at all. We took him on a short walk that morning, and he walked okay, but did not sniff or show any interest in his surroundings. But he would still wag his tail when you sat down next to him for a pet, and when the vet came to the house, he jumped up at the knock and ran to the door, barking and wagging his tail. I could see the look on her face that she tried to hide because in that instant he looked ok. His oncologist said it was a reasonable thing to do, which made me think that there were some better alternatives. So afterwards, I kept second guessing myself, even though I know he had such a limited time left no matter what, and that he wasn't enjoying life, and that I hadn't slept for 2 nights, listening to him breathe and hoping that he didn't have a seizure or a tumor didn't rupture and we'd have to run to the vet with him in distress in the middle of the night. I'm so glad we gave him a quiet, gentle passing at home.

Zed was diagnosed with cancer when he was 4 years old, went through

4 different protocols of chemo - in remission for a few months here and there, but ultimately succumbed to the cancer. He still competed in agility throughout - even earning some double Qs and MACH points! A month before he passed, even though outwardly he looked great and did fine at home and in class, he started refusing occasional obstacles in the ring. The day before that picture was taken, we went in the ring and he told me he was done - must have known he didn't have it in him. So that was our last trial, but the great team at CDTC surprised us the next night with a big spread of food for him (and for us) and he gobbled down so many treats (and cupcakes!), I thought he'd get sick. But his stomach stayed resilient to the end!"



This picture was taken at the last competition agility class for the most recent 8 week session. The students had a little party for the many titles received over the past 18 months and to celebrate Zed.

Front row left to right Julie Rovner, Janine Castorina, Shannon Hall, Carie Wohl

Back row is Brian Rosen, Rob and Katie Sutton, Benita Bottom, Brianne Studer.

Mark Your Calendars!

Annual Awards and Instructor Appreciation Picnic

Who: All CDTC Members, Family, Friends, and Guests

What: Annual Awards and Instructor Appreciation Picnic

When: Saturday, September 11, 2021 (1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.)

Where: Seneca Creek State Park
“Buck” Picnic Pavilion
11950 Clopper Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Amy Scheiner will send out directions and a park map prior to this event!

How: RSVP to Amy Scheiner via email (preferred) at scheiner99@aol.com or phone at (301) 466-7493 before September 4 so Amy knows how many lunches to order.

The Club will be providing box lunches and non-alcoholic beverages. We do have an alcohol permit (alcohol must be consumed under the covered portion of the picnic shelter), so BYO if you would like.

Note: There is a \$3.00 park entry fee for each Maryland resident and a \$5.00 per person fee for non-residents. Persons 62 years of age and older can apply for a Golden Age pass for \$10 which allows lifetime free entry to Maryland state parks. This pass may take several weeks to receive and must be presented at the park entry gate. The link for applying for a Golden Age pass is:

<https://www.shopdnr.com/marylandstateparkpassports.aspx>.

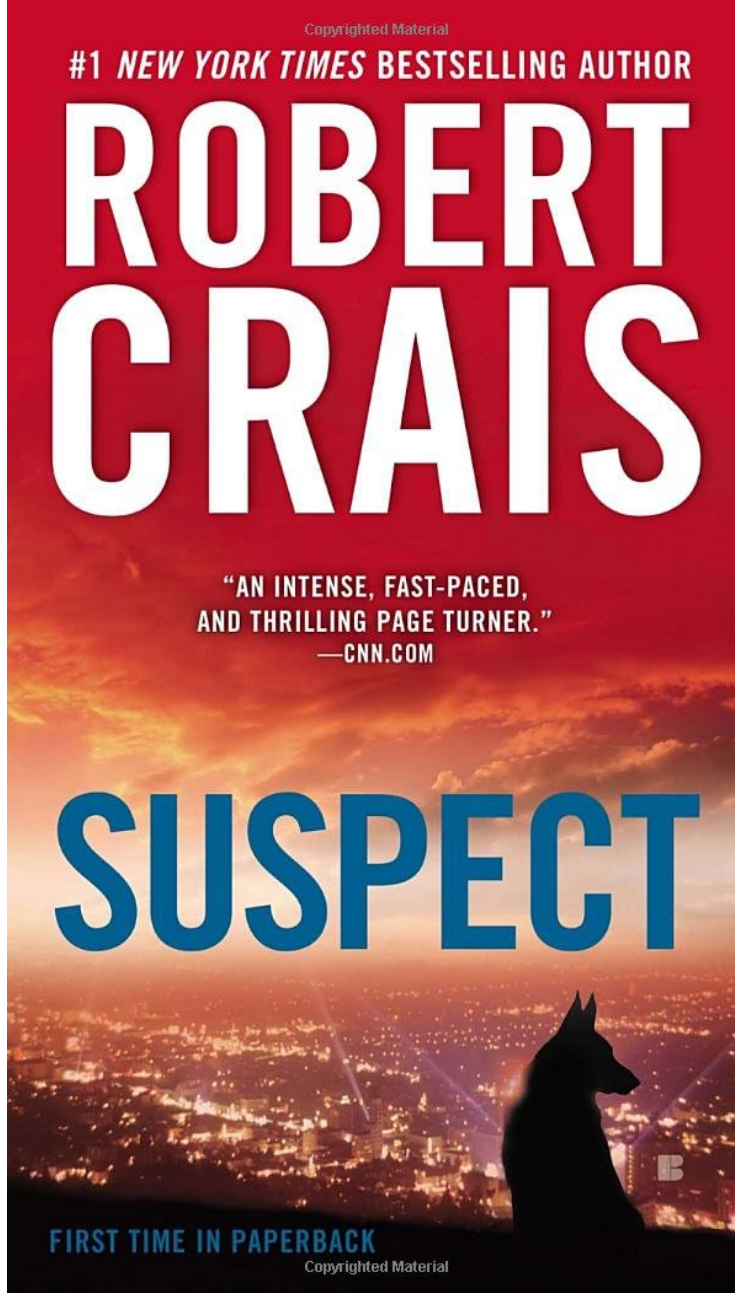
Your dogs are welcome to attend this event!

Book Review

Suspect

by Milly Welsh

Many years ago a good friend taught me the joy of listening to books. My style is books on CDs from my local library. I recently listened to the very best dog story I've ever “read.” It's *Suspect* by Robert Crais (2013). It's a story about a



German Shepherd named Maggie. She was injured in Afghanistan and was later given to the LAPD. The story unfolds around the bonding of Maggie and her novice policeman handler, who was the partner of the victim of a violent murder. Although Maggie must be trained to work in a civilian setting, her earlier military training becomes central to solving the mystery. Much of the story is told from Maggie's perspective. She was originally trained to sniff explosives, and much of the book details her identification of various scents and her reactions to them.

Currently I am struggling to teach


my Labrador, Dotty, scent articles, having little success. Perhaps she should read the book!

All of Maryland's libraries have an inter-library lending system, so I'm sure your local library can get it for you. It would be worth the effort either to read or to listen.

Canine Communication Study Recruiting Participants

Courtney Sexton for CDTC's *Obichaff*

Dogs' ability to communicate so well with another species (humans!) is a standout feature of their unique evolutionary history. That is one of the reasons I am hoping to find out more about how dogs communicate without words, and what that means for both of our species. As a doctoral candidate at The George Washington University, I am currently investigating the relationship between dogs' facial features (markings, coloration, pigmentation) and the expressions they produce. I would love for CDTC



members to sign up! We have already had more than 100 dogs (and their people) participate in the general study evaluating all breeds. We still need more dogs of all breeds for the general study, as well as English cocker spaniels for the breed-specific phase. Participation involves a consent form, filling out a 5-minute survey about your dog, and recording a total of two minutes' worth of videos of your dog.


More information about the study and how to participate can be found at howdogstalk.org, or by emailing dogfacestudy@gmail.com. For fun, you can also follow along as participant videos are shared on social media: Twitter [@HowDogsTalk](https://twitter.com/HowDogsTalk) or Instagram [@How_Dogs_Talk](https://www.instagram.com/How_Dogs_Talk).

As working dog companions, we're no strangers to the myriad ways our dogs communicate every day. As a hound-lover, I can confidently attest to dogs' vocal repertoire, for one. Of course, they also use tail wags, body gestures, and facial expressions, to name a few other modes. We know that dogs can [understand and respond](#) appropriately to words in the human language, and I'm sure you are familiar with and have maybe even tried the [language buttons and boards](#) that gained popularity among humans at home with their pups during the Covid-19 shutdown. Dogs use many communicative tools intentionally, while others, like raised hackles for example, happen "naturally" as a byproduct of social context.

Over the past two decades, dogs' significant communicative and other cognitive abilities have inspired more and more scientists and researchers to dig deeper into how those abilities arose. The invigorated field of canine science now approaches behavioral studies less from a traditional ethology perspective and more with an understanding of the "whole dog." Geneticists, behaviorists, evolutionary biologists, linguists, and neuroanatomists alike appreciate the dog as both a uniquely marvelous species on its own accord, and one that can shed light on our own human history.

Across human cultures and populations, a mechanism for establishing the connections necessary for social learning—and, arguably, survival—comes in the form of a "universal" language grounded in visual cues that are especially [reliant on the face](#). Faces can provide objective information about individuals, but are also key to understanding, analyzing and modifying behavior in response to the perceived thoughts and feelings of others and others' intentions.

In a perhaps subconscious effort to connect deeper with dogs, our 20,000+ year [partners in evolution](#), we have unwittingly shaped their communication mode preferences to be compatible with our own. It is clear that canine adaptations that have allowed them to interpret vocal, verbal, visual and gestural cues from humans have defined both species. In terms of faces, dogs are remarkably adept at [recognizing](#) not just other dogs' expressions, but human emotional cues displayed in the face. And not only have dogs evolved to process human facial cues, they have developed a propensity for [responding](#) in kind. For example, dogs, unlike most other animals, purposefully [seek and match](#) the gaze of humans—which few, if any, other animals, including wolves, willingly and regularly do. This is because we are dogs' primary social partners, the ones with whom they most need to communicate.



In short, dogs have done a pretty great job of figuring humans out over the years, now it's our turn to learn about them! Help me discover more about this unique relationship so that we can be even better companions to our canine friends.

Want to Make a Donation for Hungry Dogs? It's Easy!

The food pantry is now accepting unopened containers of dog food. Cleverdog is accepting dog food donations in their front vestibule and then delivering them to the food pantry. Feel good by dropping off doggie food donations on your way to CDTC. It takes less than a minute and does so much good.

CDTC Inaugural Fast Cat Trial By Jennie Larkin



Capital held its inaugural Fast CAT (fast coursing ability test). Fast CAT is a timed, 100 yard straight sprint (basically drag racing of the dog world).

The club lucked out with simply fantastic weather July 2 - 4. The days immediately before and after were scorches, with temperatures in the 90s and high humidity, but the three days of our Fast

CAT were idyllically good, with temperatures in the 60s and 70s when the dogs were running.

Because of our many volunteers (both from the Club and the larger community), the trail ran very efficiently, and finished up well before noon every day. Our club volunteers especially deserve a shout out, because they woke up SUPER early to get out to White Post by 7AM (we started extra early and ran worker dogs first, to avoid the heat of the day). Several of our club member dogs had never done Fast CAT before, but rapidly got the hang of it! In fact, Terri Marvel's scotty Roddy earned his BCAT title on Sunday! And Cynthia Dodson and David Golden's younger Canaan Dog Kari not only earned her DCAT title, but was also the fastest Herding Group dog two of the days!

Trial participants commented multiple times on how quickly and smoothly the trial ran (shout out to both our hunt master Ching Yu and our fabulous volunteers!), and they

loved the ribbons and the photo set up (thank you Trophy Chair Amy Scheiner!). Many people also really liked the special ribbons we awarded for fastest dog in each AKC Group (and also for fastest all-american).

A big thank you also goes to the wonderful people at CleverDog, who lent us one of their shade canopies, when we realized the Capital's canopy frames did not have canopies! And also super thanks to Donna Cleverdon for special ordering a new canopy cover and Jodie Jeweler for picking it up and bringing it to the trial!



Fun and Training at the Connie Cleveland Seminar

Connie Cleveland was back to CDTC for a two day seminar in June. Connie is passionate about the sport of obedience. Achievements with her own dogs include: 11 Obedience Trial Champions, two Field Championships, five Amateur Field Championships, a UDT on a Maltese and a CDX on a Shih-Tzu.

For more than 30 years, she taught obedience. At the CDTC seminar, Connie worked with 25 teams, 20 working and 5 auditing the seminar. Every working team had chance to work with Connie and she took time to demonstrate training techniques. Working with Connie is truly an experience. No doubt, each team left the seminar armed with new skills and training techniques.

Participants were treated to a catered lunch each day along with a small breakfast and coffee. A big thank you to Sue Faber for putting the seminar together and the volunteers who brought the coffee, set up the tables, and helped clean up. These volunteers were: Sandi Atkinson, Cindy Sanders, Amy Cook and Jennifer Posner. Also, to the volunteers who helped put away all the jumps and tables a big shout out to you!

Below are a just few photos from the seminar.

Photo credits: Thomas Tatham and Lily Bruch















Hero Dogs of the Not Rich or Famous



Each month I do a brief writeup about a famous person and their dog. This month I am writing about people who should be famous but are, by and large, unknown. The handlers and dogs that went to Surfside, Florida to search through the rubble of the partially collapsed 12-story condominium. They are mostly anonymous, yet deserve the accolades and praise of a grateful community. Footage from the site of the destruction shows various breeds on the scene, including greyhounds, Labrador retrievers and German shepherds. The dogs worked long hours in dangerous conditions. Their pay? Dog toys and the praise of their handlers. I don't know your names, but you are deserving of high praise - and cookies, lots, and lots of cookies.



Available Classes

[Class List and Registration](#)

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

[Conformation \(Beginner, Jrs., Training Group\)](#) - Registration still available.

[Puppy Kindergarten/S.T.A.R. Puppy - puppies born AFTER 4/27/2021](#) (Tuesdays 9/14)

[Family Dog 1 \(Tuesdays 7PM\), Family Dog 1 \(Tuesdays 8PM\)](#) - if classes are full, add your name to the update list [HERE](#) for early announcements

Family Dog 2 -no new classes listed until September newsletter, add your name to the [Update List HERE](#) for early announcements
(if you are a CDTC FD1 Grad and need a FD2 class, email [Karen](#))

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 - New session to be announced in the fall - email [Tom](#)

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 2 - email [Tom](#)

[Novice & Open classes on Monday nights are taking new students](#)

[Rally Competition Class](#) - for those ready to or already competing
(Atkinson, Thursdays @ 11AM, ongoing)

Click [here](#) to go straight to registration. Email [Karen](#) for questions.

[FLYBALL](#) has space for new participants, tell your friends!

Fill out the [Agility Waitlist Application/Questionnaire](#) to get on the wait list for the next available class.

Click [here](#) for more class information on the CDTC website.

Members use your discount codes to register. Email [Karen](#) for questions.

NEW CLASSES!

Intro Obedience Skills for Rally Novice: This class provides a quick introduction to several obedience skills that are necessary for participating in Rally. Skills taught include heeling, fronts and finishes. At the end of the class students should be ready to enroll in Rally Novice. Students who are primarily interested in competition obedience are advised to instead enroll in Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1. This is a 4-week class. We recommend enrolling for Rally Novice (offered consecutively) as well.

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 (FCO1): This class slowly and systematically teaches heeling with sustained attention. Dogs will also be taught to stand, sit and down quickly and without moving out of position. Fast, straight fronts and sits will be taught. Ring entry and sustained connection between dog and handler will also be emphasized. Students enrolling in this class should have a strong commitment to excelling and will be expected to practice between classes. Permission of the Instructor is required. Email [Tom](#)

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 2 (FCO2): This class teaches foundation skills necessary for competing in Open and Utility. It is not necessary to have earned a novice title before taking this class, but all dogs must have excellent heeling (on and off leash), and straight fronts and finishes that are performed promptly. Students will have typically completed Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 prior to enrolling. Foundation skills that will be taught include: retrieving, go-outs, directed jumping, pivots and scent discrimination. The emphasis will be on providing a firm

foundation in these skills and providing a roadmap for training the actual competition skills. Less emphasis will be placed on training these skills to the point of being competition-ready. Instead, students will be prepared to perfect these skills in open and utility classes. Ideally, this class will be taken upon completion of Fundamentals of Competition Obedience. Permission of the Instructor is required. Email [Tom](#)

Training Groups:

Conformation Group meets 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm. Non-members pre-register and pay for dates you plan to attend [HERE](#).

FCO Training Group meets some Saturdays at 1pm. Contact [Tom](#).

Thursday Open/Utility Training Group (Goldstein@ 12:30pm) has resumed. Contact [Karen](#).

Rally Training Group meets some 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 1pm. Contact [Sue](#).

Thinking of joining CDTC as a Member?

Active membership in the Capital Dog Training Club (CDTC) is available to an individual who:

- has completed no less than three (3) months as a training member paying the prescribed fees/dues, and
- whose dog has passed a Proficiency Test as prescribed by the Club with a dog that she or he has trained **or** has obtained a qualifying score toward an AKC title in any "dog companion sport" trial.

Active membership includes the right to attend meetings, vote, access to the Members Only section of CDTC's website, access to seminars, events, announcements of the Club, the right to hold an elective office in the Club, and all other privileges and benefits of the Club (including 2 free classes per quarter). Contact [Karen](#).

Delegate's Corner

By Joyce Dandridge

The following are some information updates:

- RACH Title Cannot be Earned in Virtual Rally- A dog can earn some points toward the RACH title in virtual events, but it cannot earn the RACH title. After dog achieves the Rally Excellent title, they may earn RACH points from

Advanced and Excellent classes at in person or virtual events when they earn scores of 91 or higher. The RACH title requires a total of 300 points, with a minimum of 150 points from the Master class. The Master class is not offered virtually. In addition to the RACH, dogs must earn 20 triple Qs (qualifying scores from the Advanced B, Excellent B and Master classes on the same day at the same trial). Dogs cannot earn triple Qs in virtual events.

- Obedience Fix 'n Go Pilot Program- This option allows obedience exhibitors to use the "Fix 'n Go" option while performing in the ring at obedience trials when a dog's performance does not meet their expectation. The "FNG" concept allows the team to declare to the judge they wish to reattempt one individual exercise, and then immediately leave the ring with an NQ score. The "FNG" will be offered on a one-year pilot basis, expiring in March 2022. All judges were sent the regulations and scoring requirements on March 18, 2021.
- Virtual Scent Work Test- AKC staff will be recommending a Virtual Scent Work program as I mentioned in my last column. It will be structured similar to the Agility ACT program, providing a beginning level of activity below Novice.
- The next Delegates meeting will be an in person meeting in Newark, NJ on the weekend of September 11. This will be the first in person meeting since March 2020.
- AKC has also decided to have its Orlando shows and other events in December. This includes the December Delegates meeting.

CDTC Swag

Do you love CDTC? If so, you can purchase CDTC logo items at [Cafepress](#). Order now and get your stuff for the holidays. Capital gets a portion of the proceeds. There's a great selection from sweatshirts, to mugs to magnets.

CDTC Groups.io

CDTC members, if you have not done so already, please join <mailto:cdtc@groups.io>. It is a great way to keep up with the day-to-day activities of our club. To sign up, go to <https://groups.io/g/cdtc> and click "Apply for Membership."

Next General Membership Meeting

August 10, 2021 at 8:00pm



Visit our website

