

If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then give him only two of them.

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New Membership Information

[Shirley Blakely](#)

From the Editor

My grand-niece, Charlie has inherited the animal loving gene and has been doting on Dizzy, her family's Bernese Mountain Dog and the new kitten, Yuki. If I could only get them to move back to the DC area from Montana, I am sure I could sign them up for membership in CDTC.

With this issue I finish my second year as editor of the *Obichaff*. It has been a great experience, I have meet some wonder people, who have been blessed with the animal loving gene. I have delighted in all your accomplishments in the various dog sports. In the new year, I wish you all the best and may all your OTCH dreams come true. We will be back in February with the next edition of the *Obichaff*. Happy Holidays to all.

President's Message

Dear Friends,

We close out another year at Capital in good financial shape. The club has resumed most of our usual activities and even added a few new things to the calendar.

The club held successful agility, rally, and obedience trials in 2021. We also hosted our first FastCat trial. The success of all this is attributed to all of us working together, not just to organize the events, but to conduct them safely within the strictures imposed by the pandemic and with courtesy and consideration for all those who came. A particular "Thank You" is due to all our instructors who soldiered on wearing masks all year!

We have added new equipment for obedience and for agility. If we are going to have a top-rate training program, we need top-rate equipment. And thanks to those of you (you know who you are!) who help maintain that equipment, fixing gates and keeping things clean and tidy.

Yes, there have been some hiccups. Our club house is somewhat in disarray although we expect to have most of that cleared up by year's end. Your patience and forbearance has been much appreciated.

I'd like to pass on a bit of information about the heating system now that we are at the beginning of cold weather. Since we operate in a warehouse, *the systems for heating and cooling are completely separate*. The heating is operated by four individual thermostats, one for each gas-fired furnace mounted on the ceiling in the middle of the space, two on either side. If you want to heat up the space, you must adjust each one separately. We like to keep the thermostats set at 68 degrees when no one is present. If you move to a setting higher for the duration of your training session, please remember to put it back to 68 as you are leaving. The last person to leave in the evening - please remember to do this. This saves us a lot of money!

As we enter another year of activities, I look forward to training together, hoping for better times to come post-pandemic, when we can enjoy the camaraderie we have with our dogs and colleagues in a more relaxed atmosphere.

All I want for Christmas...

Perfect Gifts for the Dogs in Your Life

It's the Holidays and whether it is a Hanukkah gift for your granddog, or a special something for the doggie next door, we at *Obichaff* completely understand and we are here to help you find the perfect Holiday gift for all the dogs in your life.

You can give your dog a big bite of festive fun with the ultra-tough Jumbo Plaid Candy Cane Dog Toy. This 24" plaid bone dog toy is reinforced with two laminated layers of chew-resistant fabric under the soft corduroy. This toy features an invincible squeaker that keeps squeaking even when punctured. Available at [Orvis](#).

Treat yourself and your pup to this beautiful advent calendar for dogs, filled with your dog's favorite delicious cookies. This boutique box with magnetic closure and copper foil is custom-illustrated and beautiful enough to leave out as part of your holiday décor. Behind each window is a delicious bone-shaped cookie in one of three colors, making the countdown to Christmas Eve full of happy moments of anticipation and fun for you and your dog. On December 24, the last window holds a larger paw cookie to celebrate the arrival of the big day! The Advent Cookie Calendar contains treats made with human-grade, locally sourced ingredients. Order yours at [Wufers](#).

What would the Holidays be without an ugly sweater. You have one and your dog should have one too. Your dog will probably hate you for dressing him up, but you can make it up to him by getting him a candy cane chew toy, which, by the way, will go great with the sweater. There are plenty of ugly holiday sweaters to choose from, you can search online for "ugly holiday sweater for dogs."

The Holidays are time for you to enjoy festive treats. Your dog should too. The [Dog Bakery](#) has a wide variety of seasonal, handmade treats covered in delicious yogurt, carob and/or peanut toppings. You're not going to say no are you?

YOUR SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR THE CDTC 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Capital Dog Training Club Bylaws state that we have our Annual Meeting in January at which time we hold the election for that year's

Board of Directors. Candidates for the Board of Directors have submitted their biographical notes below. Please have a look.

President: Donna Cleverdon

I joined the club about 25 years ago, and have served on the Board several times, as Vice President, and twice as Obichaff Editor. I have been President for the past four years. I have trained three Standard poodles to Utility titles, and one Border terrier. I used to have Siberian huskies, three of which earned their C.D. I also had a greyhound with a C.D. I bred a couple of litters but decided breeding wasn't for me. I had a couple of whippets, a Doberman and briefly a Tervuren as well. I have taught obedience classes at every level. Professionally, I used to own and operate a grooming salon, and in the dim past was a shelter manager. I have two grown sons, and two grandchildren. While training has been an enduring interest since that first husky forty years ago, I also enjoy gardening, travel, reading, and music lessons. I try to do the Sunday crossword, with varying success. I am happy to assist the club because we are amazingly lucky to have this resource in our midst. Capital is an important reservoir of knowledge and talent for our community. We are here not only to train our own dogs, but to teach others to train.

Vice President:

Marsha Iyomasa

As a club member of 16 years, I have had the honor and privilege to serve most recently as a competition Novice instructor since 2018, working as an assistant to a number of top instructors since 2006. What I most appreciate about Capital is the member team support in significant ways, such as preparing and coaching me for breed, regional, and national competitions. Additionally, I have stewarded alongside members at club trials in obedience, rally and agility. As I believe cross-training a value-added experience, I have also served as Trial Co-Chair, Obedience and Rally Chair, and Chief and Judges Steward at other shows. Other sports for which I have been involved include NoseWork and Scent Work, Freestyle, Agility, Conformation, and TDI Pet Therapy with seniors and autistic children. In my household, no creature is ever left behind and have relocated extensively throughout North America for work assignments with my black labxhusky, cat, and parrot, before settling down in the Washington, DC-metro area. As preparation for these life adventures, I was certified as an Animal Health Technician in California to care for my multi-animal household, and trained my black labxhusky to become a diplomatic dog. My current breed is the noble Bullmastiff, and other cherished canine companions besides the black labxhusky, included a GSD, and smooth and wire fox terriers."

Secretary:

Martha Perkins

I've been Secretary of CDTC for the past two years, and I have had the privilege of serving on the Board with talented, dedicated, and passionate dog-training devotees. I currently have two male Welsh Springer Spaniels, Zander (five years old) (on the left) and Moose (just under two years old) (on the right). We participate in agility, obedience, scent work, and conformation. I would like to participate in other activities, but time constraints preclude it. My retirement in the near future will take care of that impediment. Learning to work/play with my dogs, as a team, is one of the great joys of my life, and I am so grateful for the vast handling knowledge and experience that my friends at CDTC have shared with me.

Treasurer: Pam Ayres

I would be honored to continue serving as Treasurer of CDTC. I have been a financial officer of many organizations, have an MBA and an active CPA license, and currently work for the National Museum of Women in the Arts. I've been coming to the club for about 8 years. Between Suki, my Japanese Chin, and Babu, my Tibetan Spaniel, we've done obedience, rally, freestyle, therapy work and agility. I've finally converted my husband to the dog side, and Joel and his Havanese puppy, Cosmo, have joined CDTC.

Training Director:

Carla LaFleur

Carla LaFleur is the nominee for CDTC's Training Director position in 2022. She has been a member of the club since 2019, and has brought her Golden Retriever, Calvin, to earn his CD, Intermediate Tricks and IGP BH titles. She has taught or assisted with CGC, Basic, and Puppy Kindergarten classes, and now has her own training business, which she just brought full time in March 2021. She recently graduated the NePoPo Silver School and plans to attend the Gold school with Bart and Michael Bellon in 2022. As Training Director she looks forward to supporting the instructors at CDTC with any questions or issues, while making sure the class schedule runs smoothly.

Assistant Training

Director:

Janine Castorina

I have been a CDTC member for several years and have been training dogs for over 10 years. I got my start at CDTC when a close friend suggested that I take my hyper husky-cattle dog to agility class. I began with Introduction to Agility with Hermes and have never looked back. In addition to agility classes, my dogs have taken obedience and rally, though agility is my first love. I began assistant teaching the

Introduction to Agility class with April a few years ago and find teaching agility to be a uniquely rewarding experience. The students and the dogs are great and watching them progress in the sport and grow as a team is so rewarding. Over the years CDTC has grown the agility program into an enviable and admired program. I look forward to continuing my tenure as Assistant Training Director and the great progress those before me began.

In addition to volunteering for the club, I volunteer for a few dog rescues, where I advocate for positive reinforcement training and other measures that are important in the rescue movement.

Duties: *The duties of this position will be to oversee the agility program assist and substitute for the Training Director as needed.*

Training Secretary: Roxane Bouten

I have been a member of CDTC for several years and have trained all of my dogs at the club starting with my first, an All-American dog, in 1988. Ivy and Frankie, both English Springers, are numbers five and six to train at CDTC and are having a great time with Obedience, Agility, Rally, and Scent Work. I have enjoyed the volunteer opportunities at trials and at the club and look forward to contributing more in the future.

Trial Chair: Benita Bottom

Nearly 17 years ago I was blessed with my first PWD “Siena” who earned titles Conformation, Obedience, Rally, and Agility. With Siena I became a member of CDTC nearly 16 years ago.

Giving back to the sport of dogs, I have served nationally and regionally in multiple roles for my breed club as a past Secretary and Director for the PWDCA. I have served as National Specialty Obedience and Rally Chair. I am an active member of the National Capital Kennel Club an all breed club, where I serve as Secretary and the Obedience and Rally Trial Chair. In addition I have served in multiple roles for CDTC Board and as Trial Chair in 2021.

Living in Kensington, MD I have been in the DC area for over 25 years, I grew up in TN. When not training or playing with my PWDs, I am a Business Development Director for a Federal Health IT contractor. Like my dogs, I love to have fun, train and eat treats. I am grateful for the opportunity to teach and train at CDTC.

Trophy

Chair: Amy Scheiner

I’ve been a member of Capital for about 30 years (yikes!) and served as Trophy Chair once before about 15 years ago. I’ve owned and

trained Shelties since I was a child, and I took my first puppy to a Capital PK class (at B-CC High School) taught by Wendy Volhard in the early 1970s. I was hooked for sure, and obedience (and later agility) became lifelong passions. I currently have two Shelties, Teagan and Devyn, but am about to branch out and for the first time in my life will be adding another breed-- an Icelandic sheepdog puppy--to my household in mid-December. When I'm not working—I'm a small animal veterinarian—or training dogs, I enjoy riding my horse, traveling to remote places (Mongolia and Kenya were favorites), and reading. I am happy and honored to be nominated to serve the Club in the capacity of Trophy Chair for 2022.

AKC Delegare: Joyce Dandridge

Since the Delegates position is a two-year term with CDTC, I will be serving in my second year and thus not on a ballot. I look forward to working with the elected officers in my continued role. Thanks to the members again for being so supportive to me in this office and I will continue to serve you as best I can. If you have any AKC questions, feel free to contact me. Having been in this position for awhile now, I do know where or who to find for answers in a timely manner.

Obichaff

Editor: Arthur Belendiuk

I am please to be returning to the CDTC board and my role as the editor of the Obichaff. Currently, the Obichaff is sent each month to approximately 1,500 reads. At the rate we are adding subscribers, I expect the readership will increase to 2,000 by the end of next year.

I have two Weimaraners, Milo who is 10 and retired from active training and Magic who is 2 and who I train in obedience, agility, and nose work. In addition, Magic is excelling at counter surfing, a sport in which she is entirely self-taught.

Member at Large:

Julia Rovner

I am a health policy journalist who currently owns and trains two Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Wallace and Aspen, in obedience, rally, and agility. I have been a member of the board since 2018.

Member at Large: Luann Korona

I'm pleased to be nominated to serve as a Member-at-Large on our Board for another year, and I look forward to being a part of the leadership that continues to move our club forward. Currently, I have one dog, a tri, smooth collie, Bodhi. We enjoy scent work and have

recently started freestyle. I found Capital (at the Kensington Armory) when I first moved to the area more than 30 years ago and was looking for a place to train my German Shepherd. I've owned and trained a number of different dogs since then and all have gotten off to a good start at CDTC. I have met so many great people and gifted trainers at Capital, and I am happy to be able to give back to a club that has given me so much.

Member at Large:

Shirley Blakely

Shirley Blakely has been a member of CDTC for over 16 years and a Board member for 3 years. She is a nutrition scientist, retired, who enjoys interacting with her dogs, Gigi, 9 yrs old and Coco, 8 months old. Both are poodle mixed breeds, Gigi is a standard poodle-Australian Shepherd mix and Coco is a miniature poodle-golden retriever mix. A certified therapy dog, Gigi and Shirley have also teamed up in visits with the sick and Canine Freestyle competitions. Gigi has achieved certification at the "Expert" level as a tricks dog. While therapy-dog visitations have discontinued during the pandemic, attending classes for Open A obedience and Canine Freestyle have continued. Coco, Gigi's little sister, has learned many of Gigi's games and tricks. She is currently in a Family Dog2 class. Coco and Gigi enjoy chasing and playing tag with each other.

Shirley enjoys serving on CDTC Board and learning the business side of running an organization under AKC rules. She is enjoying interacting with and getting to know other Board members who have interesting ways of training and interacting with their dogs.

Dogs of the Rich and Famous

Sir Patrick Stewart

Sir Patrick Stewart, of Star Trek and X-Men fame, has long been an advocate for pit bulls. As a result of Stewart's advocacy, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) has awarded him their 2021 Pit Bull Advocate & Protector Award, for his deep commitment to improving the public's perception of pit bulls and protecting them from cruelty. Patrick was the face of the ASPCA's National Dogfighting Awareness Day campaigns in 2017 and 2018. In that role, he enthusiastically participated in a moving anti-dogfighting

video, toured ASPCA animal care facilities, and advocated for pit bull awareness on his social media channels and in television.

In receiving the award Sir Patrick Stewart said: “This is a most extraordinary honor, which gives Sunny and me much pleasure, even though the privilege of helping to protect and celebrate pit bulls is all we need.”

In 2017, Patrick and his wife Sunny fostered a pit bull named Ginger, an act documented in a popular video that helped people understand the valuable love and companionship pit bulls can offer families. Since then, Patrick and Sunny have fostered several more pit bulls in their home, and Patrick insisted on featuring a pit bull on his hit show *Star Trek: Picard*.



Bark Social: Yea or Nay?

By Carla LaFleur

Bark Social is a private dog park/beer garden in Rockville that has become wildly popular. As a dog owner who doesn't have a yard, I can see the appeal of a fenced in, supervised area where dogs can play.

Some of our CDTC members have even had very positive experiences there.

However, I would never take my dog, even though he is a social, easygoing Golden Retriever. Why? Just take a look at this recent inquiry I had for a training client. Unfortunately, just about every week, I get inquiries from people whose dogs have become fearful after a dog park fight, but this was extreme.

I don't share this to shame the owner, dog owners who enjoy Bark Social, or the business itself--merely to share my belief that a dangerous interaction at a dog park is a matter of WHEN, not IF. It's a roll of the dice. And most owners are not aware of the [subtle signals](#) dogs give when trouble is brewing.

Having visited K9 Lifeline's facility in Draper, Utah, I saw and felt firsthand a well-run dog social group. It feels peaceful, even though many of the dogs have serious behavior issues and have bitten people or dogs. In their socials, the dogs are happy but CALM, moseying along with loose body language, rather than running around like maniacs. The vibe is "cocktail party" as opposed to "mosh pit".

The attendants in a structured dog park are able to control space--advocating for timid dogs by moving other dogs away from them, and helping pushy dogs learn how to engage and disengage appropriately (rather than escalating from "Hi! Want to be friends?" to "I'M GOING TO JUMP ON YOUR HEAD NOW!", which most dogs do not appreciate!). Some dogs are on muzzle for safety, since it is not worth that 1% chance of harm to someone else's pet.

Granted, I have never visited Bark Social and I welcome a response from those who have! But in the many times I've visited Pike & Rose (I have a bit of a Jinya ramen addiction...) I always make it a point to look at the dog yard when I park in the garage next door. I have never seen a dog on muzzle, and I don't like the high energy level. When dogs first meet, I prefer it to be a boring "non-event", just existing near each other peacefully, or going on a parallel walk together. Remember, socialization is about teaching your dog how to behave in social situations...not meeting every single person and dog.

Given the high property prices in our area, it's not possible for every dog owner to have a yard. So what are yard-less dog owners to do before their dogs are reliable off leash? Well, there's always the tried-and-true long line, or a challenging training session to mentally exhaust them. But if you really want your dog to run around outside, I would recommend [SniffSpot](#) as an alternative to dog parks. SniffSpot is the "AirBnB" of the dog world. For \$5-10 an hour, you can rent

someone's yard for your dog (and maybe a few other doggy playmates you know are stable and appropriate).

I'm not a gambler...for my money, that's a much better investment in my dog's enrichment.

Bragg

Carla LaFleur writes: Calvin earned his IGP BH on October 30 at the Lehigh Valley Performance K9s club trial. The IGP Beaglethund or "Companion Dog" test is similar to the AKC CD title, and is a prerequisite for any obedience, tracking or protection titles in IGP. Calvin and I won't be doing protection work, but he does enjoy tracking and I wanted to see if IGP was something I would want to pursue with a future dog. The club was incredibly welcoming and the judge, Deb Krsnich, was friendly to newbies like myself. She gave a play-by-play of what went wrong and right after each dog's performance, explaining which areas need more training. I definitely made some mistakes due to nervousness and inexperience so it was nice to have a judge who didn't make me feel worse about it! You can watch our obedience routine on Youtube.



One of my recent Puppy Kindergarten class students with a Great Dane enjoyed PK so much she went out and got another puppy. She

downsized to an Old English bulldog...named Tank. They are currently in my class and do outstanding work!

You are always invited to observe my PK held on Sunday mornings from 9:00 AM until 9:50 AM.

Eileen Freedman

Jennie Larkin's Tip and Tali are ready for the Holidays.

Dianne Harab writes: Willy (GCH Liz Ann's Golden Ticket BN CD RE CGCA CGCU TKN) earned his GN at the Greater Washington Bouvier des Flandres Club Specialty Show November 13, 2021.

Moose, whose proud owner is Martha Perkins, finished his Championship in Doswell on November 7!

Hermes had a fantastic fall in the conformation ring. He won Best Of Winners at the prestigious Morris & Essex show, won Best of Winners at several more shows (OK, every time he went into the ring the last month or two) including two Best of Breed Owner Handler. In fact, he accumulated so many points that I stopped showing (he only needed a major to finish and there were no major entries around).

So he went on a road trip to Tucson with his Canaan Dog peeps (who were going there for the National Specialty) and where there was a weekend full of majors in papillons!

Hermes finished his championship on Sunday (Nov 14) with a 5 point major, then went Select Dog on Monday, for a 5 point GCH major! I will special him some, once he matures and grows his ear fringe and coat out a bit more. But this means we are now free to focus on performance events! Super thanks to Janice Kopp and CDTC's conformation classes who made this all possible!

CH Patuxent Fuligin Winged Messenger TKN VHMP

Roxane Boutenwrites: Here are two photos of Ivy and Frankie in their christmas sweaters. One highlights the sweaters (the one in which they are apparently fighting over the presents), one highlights the (well behaved) dogs. You choose. [Editors note: why choose both are great!]

Brag: Ivy got the first leg in Novice agility this month in our first ever agility trial. I was very happy. She couldn't have cared less. She has two legs toward Rally Novice. She also has Trick Dog Intermediate, but that's only for fun.

Sabato bred, owned and trained by Benita Bottom earned his CDX on his 11th birthday, October 24. He is now CH Tagalong's Roman Holiday CDX BN RE OA OAJ OF CGC WWD GROM.

Thanks to all our trainers and CDTC friends supporting us on our journey.

Maja Maric writes: On Friday, October 29, Standard Schnauzer Cori participated in two Rally trials organized by Mount Vernon Dog Training Club at Catoctin Kennel Club Training Facility, Point of Rocks, MD, and earned her Rally Novice Title with improved scores of 84 (Third place) and 91 (First place). Cori thanks Sue Farber for teaching her Rally skills, and plans to participate in more trials.

Book Review: A Dog's World

What would happen to dogs if humans simply disappeared? Would dogs be able to survive on their own without us? *A Dog's World* imagines a posthuman future for dogs, revealing how dogs would survive-and possibly even thrive-and explaining how this new and revolutionary perspective can guide how we interact with dogs now.

Drawing on biology, ecology, and the latest findings on the lives and behavior of dogs and their wild relatives, Jessica Pierce and Marc Bekoff-two of today's most innovative thinkers about dogs-explore who dogs might become without direct human intervention into breeding, arranged playdates at the dog park, regular feedings, and veterinary care. Pierce and Bekoff show how dogs are quick learners who are highly adaptable and opportunistic, and they offer

compelling evidence that dogs already do survive on their own-and could do so in a world without us.

Challenging the notion that dogs would be helpless without their human counterparts, *A Dog's World* enables us to understand these independent and remarkably intelligent animals on their own terms.

While a dog's world asks the question what would dogs be like without us, perhaps the more interesting question is what would we be like without dogs?

How to Read a Dog Food Label

By Jan Reisen

From AKC.org with permission

We all want the best for our dogs, including nutrition. And anyone who has shopped for dog food knows, there are virtually unlimited options: Hundreds of brands with innumerable ingredients; wet, dry, and raw food; age-specific food; restricted diets, along with all sorts of advertising and marketing claims to decipher. The label is the best tool to use when you make a choice, but can often be hard to understand.

Dog Food Label Format

All pet food labels follow roughly the same format:

- Product and brand name or unique identifier.
- Quantity in terms of product weight, liquid measure, or count.
- Guaranteed analysis, which specifies the amount of specific nutrients.
- Ingredients, which must be listed in descending order by weight.
- Nutritional adequacy statement, which must be backed up by testing that proves the food provides a certain level of nutrients.
- Feeding directions.
- Manufacturer's name and address
- Calorie statement

What does it all mean? Let's take them one at a time.

Product Name

Quick Tip: It's all in the wording.

There's more to the product name than clever marketing. The name will give you your first clue about the ingredients. Because so many pet owners base their buying decision on a specific ingredient, brands will try to highlight that ingredient in the product name. The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) has four rules:

- **The 95 Percent Rule:** At least 95 percent of the product must be the named ingredient, for example, "Chicken for Dogs," must include at least 95 percent of chicken.

- **The 25 Percent Rule:** When you see products named “Beef Dinner for Dogs,” “Chicken and Sweet Potato Entrée,” or “Lamb Platter,” for example, this is the 25 percent rule in action. If the named ingredients comprise at least 25 percent of the product (not counting the water for processing), but less than 95 percent, the product name must include a qualifying term, such as dinner, entrée, or platter.
- **The “With” Rule:** When you see a dog food label, such as “Doggie Dinner With Beef,” the “With . . .” ingredient need only be at least 3 percent of the product. Just the addition of that one word — “with” — dramatically changes the percentage requirement of the ingredient in the food and is a good reason to pay attention to the product name.
- **The Flavor Rule:** According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), if the label says “Beef Flavor Dog Food,” then “a specific percentage (of the beef) is not required, but a product must contain an amount sufficient to be able to be detected.”

Guaranteed Analysis

Quick Tip: Look at the basic four: protein, fat, fiber, and water.

Many states have regulations requiring the minimum amount of nutrients a pet food must contain, as well as the maximum amount of moisture and crude fiber. Dog food labels must display the percentage of crude protein, crude fat, crude fiber, and water.

Ingredients

Quick Tip: Ingredients are listed in order by weight.

According to Dr. Jerry Klein, the AKC’s chief veterinary officer, the ingredients section is the most important part of the label to read. Ingredients must be listed in descending order by weight.

A word about byproducts: While we may not want to eat them, byproducts are not necessarily a bad addition in dog food. They include parts such as the liver, which is rich in vitamin A. Other byproducts include blood, brains, bone, stomach, and cleaned intestines. Meat meal may also contain ingredients we consider byproducts. It sounds gross, but your dog might not agree.

Nutritional Adequacy Statement

Quick Tip: Look for the fine print on the side or back of the package.

Many dog foods claim to be “complete and balanced” or “100 percent nutritious.” These aren’t just marketing terms. Dr. Klein says, “The phrase means that the food has met specific government standards and provides complete and balanced nutrition for all life stages of adult dogs.” The food has to contain the proper amount and ratio of essential nutrients for the needs of a healthy dog.

Often the nutritional adequacy statement identifies the life stage the food is appropriate for. AAFCO recognizes these stages:

- Gestation/lactation
- Growth
- Maintenance
- All life stages

Some products are labeled for a more specific use or life stage, such as “senior” or for a specific size or breed. The [FDA says](#), “There is little information as to the true dietary needs of these more specific uses, and no rules governing these types of statements have been established. Thus, a “senior” diet must meet the requirements for adult maintenance, but no more.”

The nutritional adequacy statement must be in a standardized format, which makes it easy to compare products.

Feeding Directions

Quick Tip: Feeding directions are guidelines, not regulations.

This is pretty straightforward — the label tells you how much you should feed your dog. However, as the FDA says, breed, temperament, environment, and many other factors can influence food intake. According to Dr. Klein, it’s also important to note the “sell-by” or “best-used-by” statement. He says, “Due to the nature of the ingredients used in all dog foods, including fats and proteins, the food can go rancid. Expired dog food offers less nutritional value and can grow harmful bacteria or mold that can sicken your dog.”

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.

Available Classes

Class List and Registration

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

[Conformation \(Beginner, Jrs., Puppies, Training Group\)](#) - Use link to register.
Training group is ongoing. Contact [Janice](#) for help choosing a class.

Puppy Kindergarten - sorry, no new classes listed until January 2022 newsletter, add your name to the update list [HERE](#) for new class schedule announcements

[Intro Obedience for Rally and Novice Rally \(available\)](#)

Family Dog 1&2 - sorry, no new classes listed until January 2022 newsletter,
add your name to the update list [HERE](#) for new class schedule
announcements
(if you are a CDTC FD1 Grad and need a FD2 class, email [Training Secretary](#))

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1,2, &3 - 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 [Training Secretary](#) 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 [Training
Secretary](#) 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). Contact [Burton](#).

NEW! Friday Utility Training Group (Cleverdon @ 1:00pm). Contact [Donna](#).

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 next Delegates meeting will be held in Orlando, FL in December during the week of the AKC Royal Canin Championship Show. If anyone is exhibiting in any of the Companion Events or Conformation, please let me know and I will try to come and watch.

The following is an Outlook by Sport- Number of Events as of September 2:

First Quarter 2021	2 nd Quarter 2021	Sport	2019	2021
161%	188%	Fast CAT	364	698
37%	915%	Specialty Show	753	972
107%	140%	Scent Work	316	387
62%	82%	Rally	733	818
89%	88%	Hunting Tests	319	351
76%	99%	Agility	1088	1156
52%	78%	Obedience	752	770
36%	79%	All Breed/Group Show	514	518
114%	117%	Herding Trials	257	259
87%	96%	Field Trials	556	546
18%	117%	Earthdog	62	60
70%	95%	CAT	143	120
100%	79%	Lure Coursing	153	127
77%	89%	Tracking	99	80
68%	98%	Total of Above	6109	6862

The above chart displays what was done in the sport during some of the COVID period although there were cancellations this year. It is very encouraging to know how much people wanted to do something with their dogs during this period.

Wishing Everyone A Safe Holiday Season! Joyce

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/cdte> and click "Apply for Membership."

Next General Membership Meeting December 12, 2021 at 8:00pm



Visit our website

Capital Dog Training Club | 2758 Garfield Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

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