



Obichaff

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



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Ever consider what our dogs must think of us? I mean, here we come back from a grocery store with the most amazing haul, chicken, pork, half a cow. They must think we're the greatest hunters on earth!

— Anne Tyler

The emotional support dog after I
get done telling it my problems.



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**New Membership
Information**
[Shirley Blakely](#)

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member)**
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I am so proud of how far Magic has come in the last few months. Magic is a "soft dog;" she is both shy of people and new environments. This made training and showing her very difficult. Last year a friend I train with said to me that she would not have the patience to work with Magic. But Magic is my dog and I love her. I never gave up on her. I knew that there was more dog inside, I just had to coax it out. In the last six months she has really flowered. New locations do not bother her as much and she is more friendly with strangers. Magic will always be a soft dog and I will always have to work on building her confidence. However, patients and good training habits really do pay off.

If you are struggling with a particular training issue, whether it is aggression, shyness or your dog is just a jerk, be patient, don't give up. These things have a way of working themselves out. Keep training and don't forget to tell your dog just how amazing they really are, even if at the moment they are hiding behind you because they were scared by some random noise or "frightening" judge.



Asya Serpinska Risks Her Life To Protect the Lives of Hundreds of Animals



As Russian tanks neared Kyiv, the capital's suburbs were emptying. Asya Serpinska, however did not leave. The 77-year-old had spent two decades keeping her animal shelter going in Hostomel, a town northwest of Kyiv. With the threat of Russian occupation looming, she thought, there was no place in Ukraine that needed her more.

With all the shelling her animals were terrified. "I knew it was my responsibility to look after them," Serpinska told the Washington Post. With three colleagues, she kept most of the 700 dogs and 100 cats alive — and even rescued a lion — as Russian forces repeatedly entered the property and threatened their lives.

With Russian forces on all sides of Hostomel, Asya's husband, drove through the night and hostile checkpoints to bring her a generator that saved the shelter.

After retiring from the university 22 years ago, where she was a math professor, Asya founded her shelter. When the Russian invasion started Asya says, "The first thought that crossed my mind was that I had to run to the shelter," I was consciously going to war. My people were here, my dogs were here."


The video below is difficult to watch, but it is also deeply inspiring.



CDTC Members' Favorite Dog Friendly Beaches.

Capital members were asked what is their favorite dog friendly beach. Below, Capital's members share information and memories about their favorite beach.


"Quiet Waters Dog Beach in Annapolis. It's not super big but a fun place for doggies to get in the water." - Bonnie Hochhalter.

A decorative border on the left side of the page featuring a repeating pattern of black and white icons: dog bones, paw prints, and dog bowls. The icons are scattered across a light gray background.

"There are nice trails and a dogs only area. And there are places to wash your dog when you're done." -Janine Castorina

"Also Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis has a beach dog park area."
- Rick Blum

Quiet Waters Park is situated between the South River and Harness Creek. Visitors can enjoy trails, playground, or picnic among 340 acres of beautiful park land. Dogs within defined dog beaches need not be on leash.

A large, solid red rectangular area that occupies the lower half of the page, below the text. It is a uniform red color with no other features.



"Dewey Beach, DE dogs are allowed on the beach anytime from mid-September to mid-May and early morning (before 9:30 am) and after 5:30 pm during the summer." - Roxane Bouten

There's heaps of wide, open sand to explore for some beachcombing, or you and your dog can swim in the ocean. Before heading to the beach, you'll need to get a Dewey beach dog license, even if you are just visiting. A 3-day license will cost just \$5, while an 8-day license runs \$10. You can get a lifetime license for \$35, which can be purchased inside Town Hall. Most of the streets in town that run perpendicular

to the beach have beach access, from Chesapeake Street to Beach Avenue. Parking permits allow you to park in various areas, while the rest use parking meters. Bring all the essentials for a fun and safe day out, including clean-up bags and drinking water to share with your thirsty pup.



"If y'all are even in Hilton Head, SC, you can walk your dog on most beaches there before 10a.m. (on leash, of course!)." -Amy Huprich Cook

We love Matapeake Beach, just over the Bay Bridge. Only about 45 minutes- hour from the Bethesda/ Silver Spring area! It's not fenced in, but is the largest and cleanest we've found. -Lucas Verran



"We love Matapeake Beach, just on the other side of the bridge."

-Ed Read & Gigi



"Downes Park in Pasadena." Martha Perkins

I much prefer Downs Park dog beach. Quiet Waters is a little bigger but the dog beach at Downs is enclosed (you have to open a gate and go down a set of steps to the beach - behind the beach is a marsh that is fenced off and there are rocks on each side of the beach that help enclose it). Additionally, it usually has less seaweed than Quiet Waters. Here are two photos from Downs. - Mariah Stover



"Flag Ponds Nature Park, Lusby (Calvert Co.) One must pay to get in to it, but it is worth it." - Anne Williams

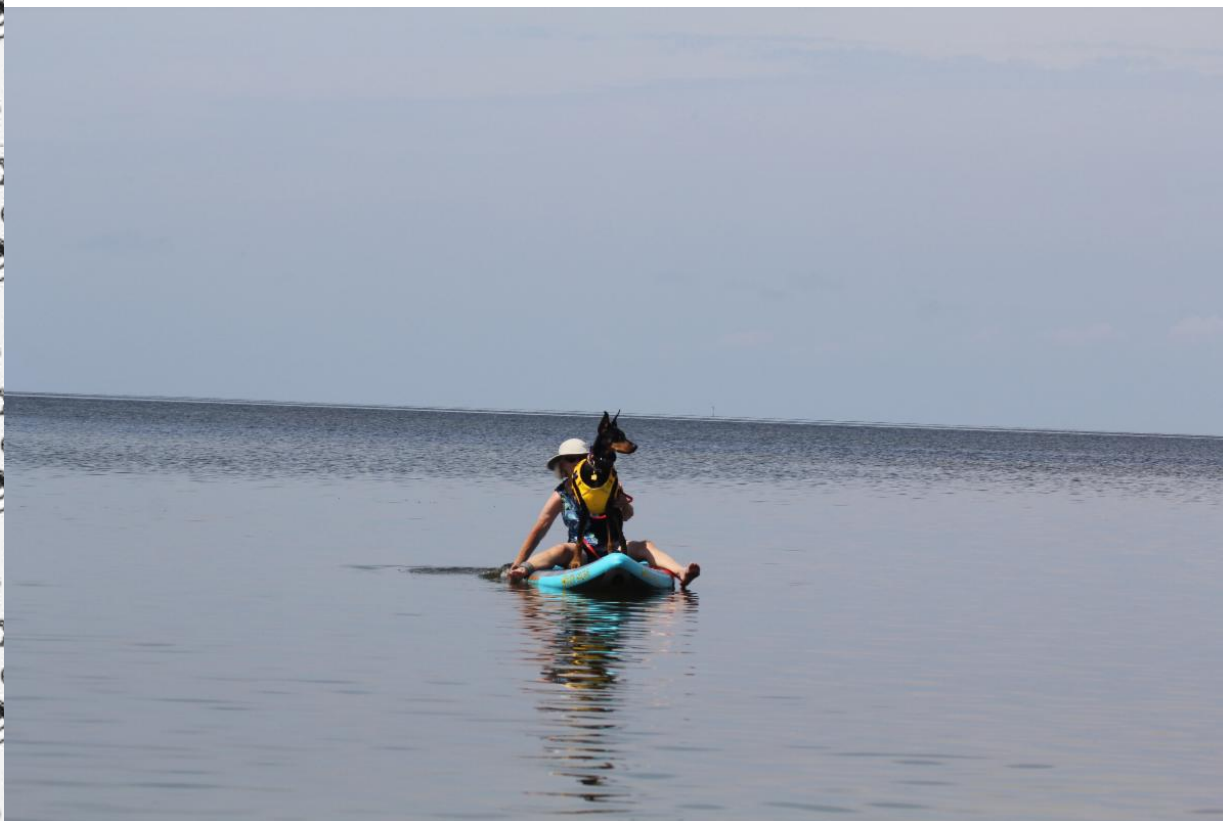
Ivy LOVES the beach. This is at Rehoboth. Off season dogs can go on the boardwalk and beach there. Gordon Pond and Cape Henlopen

parks are between Rehoboth and Lewes, and have miles of trails.
- Roxane Bouten



The pictures below are from Sandy Point. The dog with vest is Rumble learning to paddle board and the other ones are ZeZe who knows how to lay down or sit and enjoy the ride. Lots of fun.

-Shirley Harry





Pet Insurance: Yay/Nay

By Janice Kopp

I recently made the decision to change my pet insurance. For many years I was pleased with *Healthy Paws* although it was difficult to get in touch with them. They had a strong filtering screen. In the past two years my insurance rates with them have doubled and they decreased the coverage for two of my four insured dogs. They were charging me over \$500/month for four dogs. My 6-year-old coonhound's coverage was over \$139 a month which did not include wellness.

I then began comparison shopping for a new carrier. There are many rating scales out there. You must be careful who is sponsoring the survey. I decided to trust **Forbes**. I looked at Embrace, Lemonade (where did they get that name?), Pumpkin, Nationwide, etc. Nationwide looked good, but I was notified that they could not cover one of my coonhound's pre-existing condition, eating rocks (?).

I was able to reduce my monthly payments for all my dogs to \$250 per month with excellent coverage. I hope I do not need this insurance,

but I know it is there. I do not have to withhold treatment because of cost.

Ironically, when I did enroll in a new plan, the woman with whom I spoke is a dog show exhibitor. She used to have a treeing walker. Coonhound lover generates trust.

I would like to know if you have pet insurance
Please respond to the mini survey, and it will be posted the results in next month's newsletter.

1. Do you have pet insurance?
2. How many pets are covered?
3. What are some of the advantages of you provider?
4. Have you made a claim?
5. How did the provider respond to you claims?
6. Do you think pet insurance is valuable?
7. Have you changed providers? Why?
8. How satisfied are you?
9. Which provider do you endorse?
10. Would you share any experiences you have had with a company?

(Send me an email with your responses) janpoetica@earthlink.net
Thank you.

Minesweeping Dog Helps Clear Chernihiv of Russian Explosives

A Jack Russell, Patron, has been hard at work helping to remove explosive devices left behind by retreating Russian troops.

Patron is currently working in the Chernihiv region, north of Kyiv, and has so far helped to remove hundreds of devices.

Patron has been credited with helping minesweepers find more than 200 devices. He has also become something of a national hero, a symbol of Ukraine's resistance against Russia. Recently, he received an awarded from Ukrainian President Zelensky.

Patron has become a focal point of Ukrainian patriotism and regularly features in videos on official Ukrainian social media channels. He has inspired a number of artworks by fans across the country, ranging

from illustrations to knitted animal replicas.



**Feds Sue Operator of
Dog Breeding Facility,**

Seize Beagles

Federal officials have accused a company that runs a Virginia facility breeding dogs for research of violating animal welfare law and recently seized at least 145 beagles found to be in “acute distress,” according to a lawsuit.

The Envigo RMS facility in Cumberland County has been under increasing scrutiny for months, drawing concerns from animal rights groups, members of Congress and Virginia lawmakers, who passed animal welfare measures this year intended to tighten up the facility’s requirements and strengthen state oversight.

Repeated federal inspections since Envigo acquired the facility in 2019 have resulted in dozens of violations, including findings that dogs had received inadequate medical care and insufficient food, were housed in filthy conditions, and some had been euthanized without first receiving anesthesia. Hundreds of dogs have also been found dead at the facility, according to inspections.

“Despite being on notice since July 2021 that the conditions at its Cumberland facility fall far below the (Animal Welfare Act’s) minimum standards, Envigo has failed to take the necessary steps to ensure that all of the beagles at its facility are provided humane care and treatment and that the Cumberland facility is operating in compliance with the (act),” said the complaint filed in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

The government is requesting that a judge declare Envigo has repeatedly violated the Animal Welfare Act and restrain the company from further violations.

“Envigo is failing to meet the minimum standards for handling and housing the beagles, resulting in the unnecessary suffering and, at times, death of beagles at the Cumberland Facility,” the complaint said.

According to the complaint, the facility has housed up to 5,000 beagles since July 2021. It alleged staffing has been “paltry” and the attending veterinarian has failed to provide and oversee adequate care.

“Rather than spend the money to meet the minimum standards ... Envigo has employed a paltry number of employees and elected to euthanize beagles or allowed beagles to die from malnutrition, treatable and preventable conditions, and injuries resulting from beagles being housed in overcrowded and unsanitary enclosures or

enclosures that contain incompatible animals,” the complaint said. The complaint noted that inspectors have found unsanitary conditions, including an “extensive, widespread pest problem,” overcrowded enclosures and buildups of feces, urine and other waste.

In March, Virginia’s U.S. senators, Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, called for federal inspectors to strip the facility of its license. And a month earlier, U.S. Rep. Elaine Luria and six other representatives wrote to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, raising similar concerns about why Envigo’s license had not been suspended.

Brag

My Covid Dog by Milly Welsh

When the Covid lock-down arrived, Charlie had Dotty and I had Polly to train. We’d be OK; dogs save us from boredom and give us purpose. Then Polly ruptured her ACL, and I had no dog to train. Charlie offered to share his dog, Dotty, with me. Dotty’s primary job was as Charlie’s field trial dog, which means almost daily training at numerous locations; it’s a full-time job for a dog.

Suddenly Dotty had another job; she had just become my obedience dog. Her routine became field work in the morning, nap in the early afternoon, obedience in the late afternoon, dinner, bed. It was difficult for her to learn to heel with her head up in the air; she had been heeling quite nicely thank you looking where she was going. She considered front some kind of mistake when I simply couldn’t decide which side she should be on. We shared a year of obedience training at home. In order not to be too boring, I taught her open and utility exercises as well as novice ones.

Finally, a vaccine and dog shows. With Charlie’s permission to have her for the whole day, she earned her CD. Her scores were respectable. Next her CDX. Again, she had respectable scores. So, on to utility. Now she needed to go to other places to train, taking her away from job #1. Ultimately, she was ready to show in utility. Charlie was OK with it, because it only takes three qualifying scores. She failed. She failed again. Finally, her first qualifying score. Charlie was agreeable to more shows because she’d finish soon. She didn’t, but she did earn her second leg. Ultimately the Lab Specialty was on the calendar. We agreed that her “lease” would be over on the last day of the specialty. She did it! And she qualified two days in a row.

Dotty is back to having only one job. I am grateful to Charlie and to Dotty for saving my sanity in the time of Covid. The other good news is

that I now have my own young dog to train in obedience.



At the VERY windy Irish WoJlhound Club of America Rally trial, in Elkton MD, Quigley earned his 2nd RN leg, thanks to Jean Nocilly's generosity. The signs kept blowing away, hats blew through the ring, and the ring surface was weird and hot. But he worked hard and did it!

Jodi Jeweler.



Seven lovely teams met me over at the Rio Washingtonian Center to try for their urban CGC titles, and seven teams earned it easily. A drizzly grey morning, but honestly very pleasant to stroll around the lake with such nice dogs.

-Shannon Hall







Team ZeZe (Shirley Harry and ZeZe) got a NACSW L1E at the trial on Sunday, May 15th.



The papillon national specialty in Louisville had three days of papillon only agility trials (with about 90 papillons running!). Hermes finished his novice standard and jumpers titles (NA & NAJ), and on the third day he won a gorgeous High in Trial Novice rosette!

He is now CH Patuxent Fuligin Winged Messenger TKN VHMP NA NAJ DCAT.

Jennie Larkin

Louisville



KENTUCKY



PCA AGILITY NATIONAL

May 20-22 2022





Hermes earned two Rally Novice legs (with first and fourth places) and two Beginner Novice legs (with a Q and a 4th place) at the Regional Specialty on Tuesday May 22nd, as part of the Papillon National Specialty week.

-Jennie Larkin



Donna Cleverdon writes:: On Saturday, May 7 at Catoctin Kennel Club's trial, Arrow won Open B with 198.5, besting two other dogs with the same scores in a three-way run-off. That was also good for High in Trial, his second such award.



Friday, Burton and Shellie Goldstein, the Bear and Emma (aka "Team ShihTzu"), visited government offices in Virginia Beach, helping those that had been involved with the shootings that happened there, three years ago.

They then attended, and completed, two days of the International Critical Incident Stress program.


In the afternoons, they were allowed to have their dogs be around fires, car wrecks, fire hoses, and a rescue via helicopter.

Memorial Day weekend, they helped support the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, which will take over Crystal City, Virginia.

They then take off for more competitions, this time in St. Louis.



Did You Earn a Title in 2021?



Calling all CDTC members who earned titles with their dogs in 2021: please fill out the attached [Awards Application](#) and return it to me by July 1, 2022. Titles can be from any venue (obedience, agility, rally, conformation, scent work, tricks, etc.) and from any organization (AKC, UKC, NADAC, etc.) The Club will be holding its Annual Awards Dinner/Picnic and Instructor Recognition event later this year (location and date still to be determined), and we want to honor all your 2021 accomplishments.

We are tentatively planning another outdoor picnic-style celebration for this September or October. Hope to see all of you there!

-Amy Scheiner

In Memoriam





AFC Graden's J.P. McGregor, MH, CDX, RE – "Jodi"

May 27, 2011 - May 2, 2022

What's in a name? Jodi's registered name is Graden's J.P. McGregor; her call name is Jodi. We had owned an older half-sister named Bunny, and J.P. McGregor is a reference to Peter Rabbit; I could hardly name a bitch Peter! Her call name is Jodi, because she was named after a good friend who helped me pick her and raised her as a puppy: Jodi Telander. Her breeder, Doug Turner, has become one of

my closest friends. We also own two of Jodi's younger siblings: one a full sibling, the other a half sibling.

Jodi was easy to train. She loved to work and enjoyed all kinds of training whether it was field work, obedience, or simply stupid pet tricks.

Jodi competed in the Derby stakes at field trials in the fall of 2012 and spring of 2013; she was on The Derby List. The fall of 2013 added WC and WCX behind her name. The following year, 2014, she became Qualified All Age and passed the Conformation Certificate evaluation. In 2016 she earned her CD, with a HIT at her first show, and her RN and RA titles; the same fall she won her first Amateur stake. 2017 was a busy year for her; she earned her CDX, with a HIT at her first show; completed her Amateur Field Champion Title, with two more wins; completed her RE; completed her Master Hunter titles; she also won an Open stake. She continued to compete in field trials in 2018 and 2019. In the fall of 2019, she was diagnosed with partial tears in both cruciates and arthritis in both front shoulders; she had four flat tires and retired.

Retirement was not easy for Jodi. She resented being left at home when we went training, but she equally resented being taken along for the ride but not worked. She became the boss: hers was the first dinner served, anyplace on the sofa that she wanted was hers, ditto the bed, first choice of toys, first to drink when the water bucket was refilled, and first to bolt out of the door into the garage. Until... Sheila Dixon, the barn cat, decided that a great game was to leap and smack her. For the rest of her days Jodi had to peer out of the door to make sure the cat was elsewhere before she would come out, and that was the end of the door bolting.

We loved her, and she loved us. She was smart, loving, energetic. She was the perfect dog: a talented athlete as well as a wonderful pet dog.

Milly B Welsh and Charles Hayden
5/3/22

A good dog never dies, he always stays,
he walks besides you on crisp autumn days
when frost is on the fields and winter's drawing near,
his head within our hand in his old way.

Anonymous

Available Classes

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

Puppy Kindergarten begins Sunday, June 5
register [here](#)

We have a four-week retrieving class - **Motivational Retrieve**
beginning June 2, register [here](#)

Rally Competition Class - for those ready to or already competing
contact [Training Secretary](#)

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

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 and 2 - Please
request permission of instructor to enroll by emailing [Tom](#).

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

Beginning and Intermediate Flyball classes meet Saturday
evenings
contact [Dona Dwyer](#)

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

Click [here](#) to go straight to registration. Email [Training Secretary](#) with questions.

Training Groups:

Conformation Group meets 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm and
Thursdays at 8pm. Non-members pre-register and pay for dates you
plan to attend [HERE](#).

Thursday Open/Utility Training Group (Goldstein @ 12:30pm).

Contact [Burton](#).

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). Visit cdtc.org/membership.

Delegate's Corner

By Joyce Dandridge

The next Delegates Meeting will be in June. I have been asked again to chair the subcommittee on All Breed Clubs not offering Obedience/Rally at their events. We last worked on this issue in 2017 and found the following reasons why they did not or stopped offering the events: Declining entries, The number of stewards needed and their cost, Cost of venue, Cost of Judges, Members were not familiar with obedience/rally, Lack of space, Lack of help from Obedience clubs to run the trial for them. At that time the subcommittee made a report with suggestions which was presented to the Delegates and placed on AKC's website under Best Practices. The subcommittee met recently and decided this time to select the top 20 All Breed clubs with large entries not offering the events and do a personal interview with a Delegate or officer from the club. Upon my request as chair of the subcommittee, AKC sent me the information. Since several years have passed, it will be interesting to see if the same concerns or new ones now have surfaced.

Did you Know? AKC has many Public Education Outreach Programs which include the following:

- Active Canine Ambassador Program
- AKC Patch Program
- Host Responsible Dog Ownership Day Events
- Booths at local fairs
- Public library programs
- Support of an AKC Veterinary Outreach activity
- Holding classes
- Local Holiday Parades
- Public Education Programs at community functions or civic organizations

AKC can help clubs host an Art Contest at a club event. Also, there are K-12 Lesson Plans for teachers and many include Hands on activities, Book Studies and a Reading Pal Program. These help to introduce a new audience to the sport of purebred dogs

Membership Renewals Due in June

By Mary Carson



This message is for current Capital Dog Training Club members only. June is the month to renew your membership. Please gather up rabies certificates for each dog you bring to the clubhouse and digitize them if you have not already done so. This can be done by simply taking a photo of the certificate with your cell phone. These can be emailed directly to me (maryccarson at gmail dot com). It helps if the

file already has a name like HollyCarson2024 (dogname yoursurname vax exp year). Look for details on membership renewal in emails from me. Note: If you are not a current member and wish to join, please contact Shirley Blakely.

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

June 14, 2022 at 8:00pm



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