



Obichaff

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



March 2021

Volume 77 - Issue 2

“A well trained dog will make no attempt to share your lunch. He will just make you feel so guilty that you cannot enjoy it.”

— Helen Thomson



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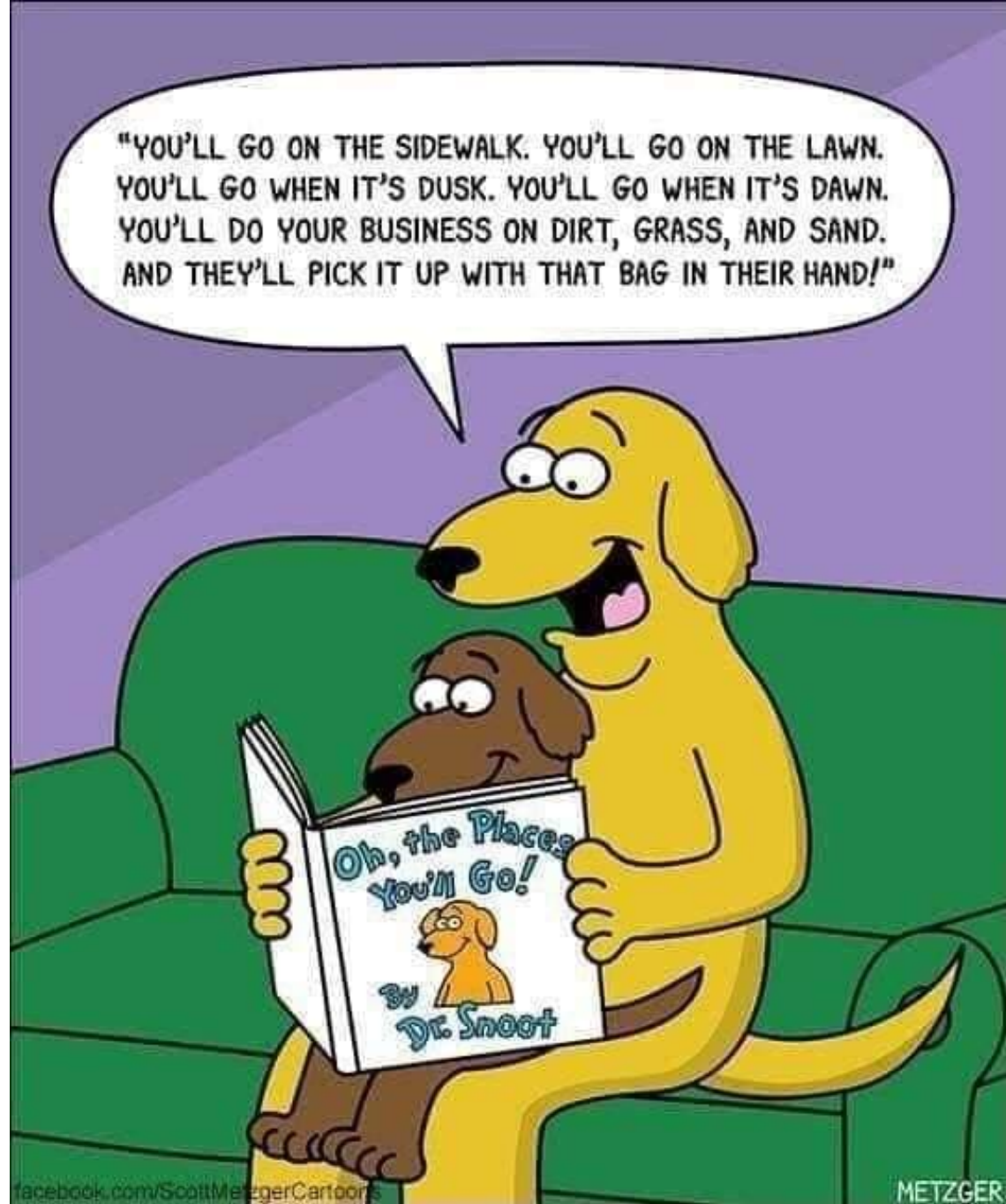
[Shirley Blakely](#)

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



In this issue, Martha Perkins, friend, CDTC board member and all round good egg has written an article about her favorite books and films celebrating dogs. Recently, I was browsing through Hulu and found Charlie Chaplin's 1918 film, A Dog's Life. Call me prejudice, but the little dog steals the show. As long as I was in the classic movie section, I watch The Thin Man, a campy but delightful murder mystery played for laughs, which has as its costar a Jack Russell Terrier called Asta. Don't you agree, movies are just better with dogs in them?

This raises an interesting question, what about movies that are about dogs, but do not have dogs in them? In this issue, I review Call of the Wild, a movie about a dog named Buck, but Buck's character is entirely computer generated. In my mind the jury is still out on computer generated dogs. They are great for dangerous scenes, but I like my dogs to be dogs, not some human interpretation of a dog. Let's see what Hollywood comes up with next. As I write this, Magic is curled up in my lap. Let's see a computer do that.



CDTC AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

Years ago the AKC started giving all affiliated clubs the opportunity to present annually to a member an award of "outstanding sportsmanship". The following are criteria for which this award recipient at CDTC will be chosen:

1. The recipient will be **an Active Member in good standing** for at least five continuous years. The recipient will have contributed time and effort in support of club activities, for example classes, matches and trials.
2. The recipient shall have made a difference to the sport of performance dogs, for instance encouraging newcomers, promoting participation in club activities among members and furthering the knowledge and practice of dog training.
3. The recipient will have shown examples of sportsmanship in the following ways:
 - Refusing to compromise his/her commitment to the sport of performance dogs or the reputation of the club by injecting personal advantage or

consideration into his/her decisions or behavior.

- Spurning any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed.
- Making always his/her chief responsibility the welfare of his or her dogs.
- Refusing to embarrass the sport, himself/herself, or CDTC while taking part in activities.

The Selection Process:

1. Nominations from the membership will take the form of written supporting informative statements of 500 words or less, sent by mail or email to the AKC Delegate, Joyce Dandridge, no later than April 15th of the current year.
2. The nominations and supporting information will be published in the June Obichaff so members may vote.
3. Members will vote by written ballot at the general meeting in June. The CDTC President will select tellers to count the votes and the membership's choice will be announced at the meeting.
4. The presentation of the AKC medallion will take place at the Annual Awards Dinner in July.
5. Nominees must approve of their nomination.

If you are nominating someone, please check with them to see if they qualify and will accept the award.

President's Message:

I hope you are all staying well, and still training. The good news is that our club is doing better than could have been expected, given the constraints under which we have been forced to operate this past year. This is to the credit of many club members who continue to contribute to the work of the club. Your hard working officers' stewardship has been exemplary. We can also thank the instructors, some of whom teach multiple classes at some risk to themselves.

Treasurer Pam Ayres has kept meticulous track of incomings (meager) and out-goings (not so meager). Records show that, absent the ability to hold as many paying classes as we did formerly, and lacking the ability to hold our obedience and agility trials in 2020, our financial bottom line has suffered.

We can remedy this in several ways. The obvious quick fix is to limit as much as possible our expenses. We have indeed done this. However, you must remember that as we must keep training in the club house, our equipment suffers wear and tear and needs to be fixed or replaced. Agility equipment in particular must be maintained in condition that will assure the safety of the humans and canines that use it. Agility equipment is expensive. We are also eagerly anticipating increased use of obedience equipment this year, as things improve with more people receiving vaccinations. This means cash outlay for new equipment for both activities. We are also paying to build a new and improved web site. In addition, some time in the near future, certainly before next fall, we need to replace the oldest of the four heaters. That heater has been disabled for safety reasons. Our rent goes up every year, as do our utility costs.

The most obvious way to cover increased costs of operations, and one that we

haven't done in eight years, is to increase the yearly dues. A modest dues increase would go some of the way to paying for these improvements and maintenance.

As you can see, this is not a simple issue. It never is, but it is further complicated by current circumstances. You are all charged with putting your thinking caps on.

Movie Review

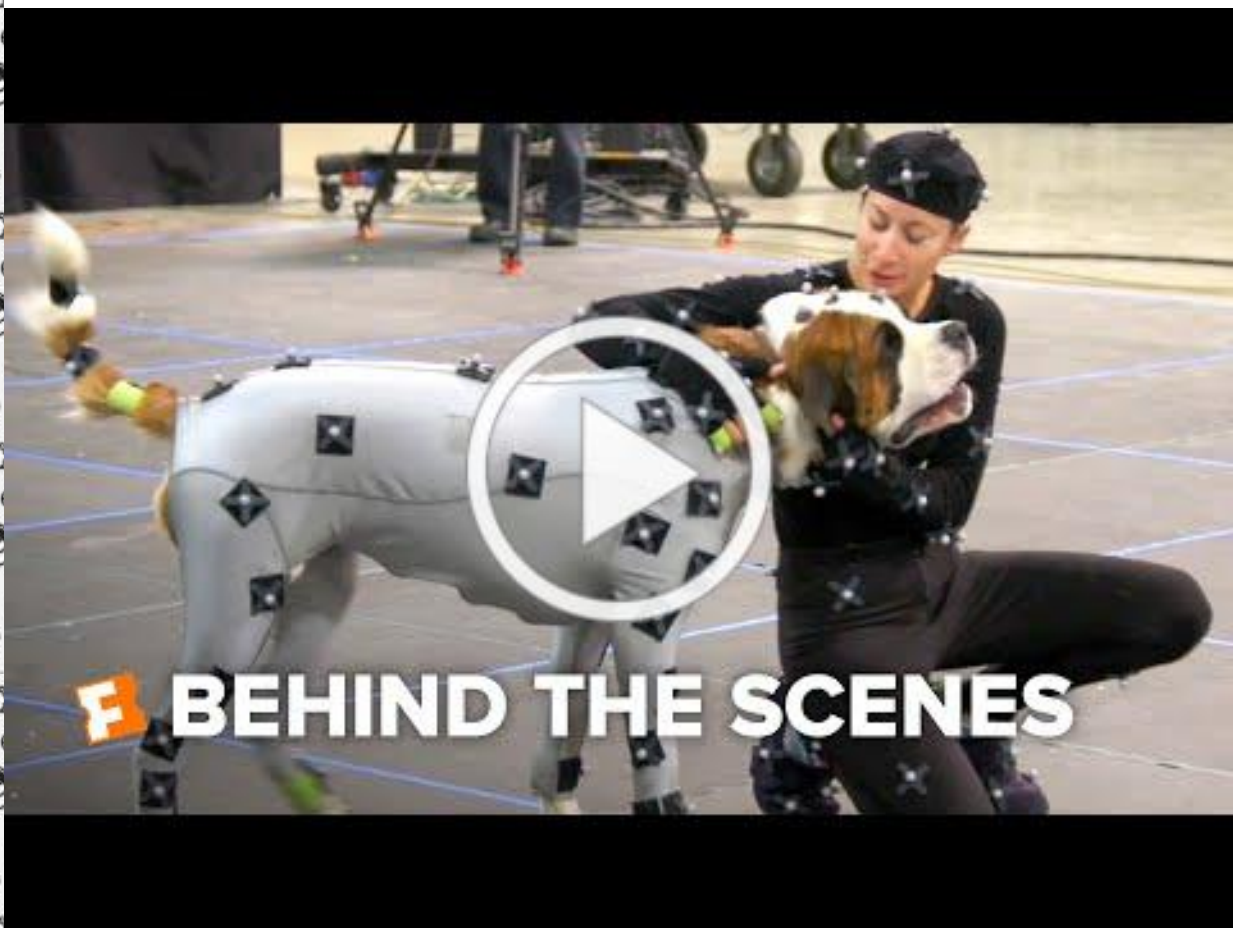
The Call of the Wild



Call of the Wild, the movie starring Harrison Ford, is based on Jack London's 1903 novel about a Saint Bernard-Scotch collie mix, called Buck, who's abducted from his home in California and sold in Alaska to be a sled dog. The movie is rated PG and is designed to be kid friendly. Still there is a fair amount of animal cruelty and abuse portrayed in this film and I am not sure I would let an 8-year-old child watch this film.

The filmmakers can honestly say, "No

dogs were harmed during the making of this movie,” because no dogs were involved in the making of this movie. Buck is completely computer generated. It almost works, but at times Buck does look a little like a creepy robot. The filmmakers also anthropomorphize Buck’s character. As a dog lover, I found Buck to be a bit too human. Despite its drawbacks, Call of the Wild is a good story well told. I could not help but root for Buck as he experiences his various adventures and trials.



So You Want To Get A Dog?

I am a dog guy, so friends,



family and casual acquaintances often ask me about getting a dog. If you are reading this, chances are you already have a dog. But if you are like me, others will ask you what they need to consider before getting a dog. Here is some advice for that heart-to-heart you are about to have with a friend or family

member.

Dogs are for Life. D.C. Area Weimaraner Rescue is the rescue organization I am most familiar with. Too often, dogs are put in shelters for all the wrong reasons. For example, the dog sheds too much, it chewed something, the owner is moving and does not want to take the dog with him, the owner thinks the dog is aggressive (it's not), the owner claims the dog barks too much (it doesn't), and the one that angers me the most, the dog is old. Worse yet, the owner is getting a puppy and is giving away the old dog to make room for the puppy. As this is a family publication, so I cannot give full voice to my feelings toward people who leave a dog in a shelter just because it has grown old.

If you are thinking about getting a dog, remember that the average lifespan of a dog is 13 years. Whether you plan to adopt rescue or get dog from a breeder, the dog will be with you for a long time. Make sure you are ready to make the commitment.

Be realistic about your lifestyle and energy level. If you're a couch potato, don't adopt a dog who needs lots of exercise. Adopt a dog with the same or lower energy level as you.

If you work long hours or travel frequently, don't adopt a puppy. They need lots of training and attention. Adopt a laid-back dog instead.

Dogs are Time-consuming. A dog needs your time and attention, this is especially true if you are getting a puppy. Dogs have a lot of energy and need daily exercise. This means taking your dog for walks or engaging in some fun activity.

As a dog owner, you can't just up and leave for a fun weekend with friends at the last minute. You have to take the time to plan who is going to feed, walk, and watch over your dog in your absence.

Be Mindful of Others. Who else lives in your home? Do you have young children or other pets? It's important to adopt a dog that will fit in safely and happily with all the members of your household. If you're new to dog parenthood, have small children at home, and a demanding job, getting a high-maintenance dog might not be a good idea. You would probably do better with a chill, older dog who doesn't need to be as much time and training.

Pet-proofing your



home. Your home will be changed forever once you bring a dog into your life. You will need to “pet-proof” your home in order to keep your dog and your furniture safe. Make sure any toxic foods for your dog are out of their reach, and that things such as hanging cords and vertical blinds are tidied away to avoid any accidents. Despite your best efforts your dog will chew and destroy your things. Dogs have nothing better to do than

watch for the weaknesses in your defense. Sooner or later, they will get past you.

Dog training. Your new dog will need training. Training will not solve all problems, but a well-mannered dog that walks next to you on a leash and sits politely when told to, will take the edge off of most dog behavior problems.

Dogs are Messy. As puppies they have accidents. At all ages they get sick and vomit (usually from eating something gross). They get themselves covered in mud and worse. Often they bring things into the house that are better left outside.


Dogs are Expensive. Dogs are expensive, so ensure you have the funds to take care of them from the time they are puppies to when they are old. Dogs need to go to the vet, have plenty of food and water, a bed, collar, lead and other accessories to keep your pet happy and safe.

Dogs are Fun. I love everything I do with my dogs. If societal norms permitted it, I would take my dogs everywhere I go. I love taking my dogs to the park, shopping at Home Depot, or out to dinner. I have friends that when they invite me to their house, also invite my dogs. I just want to be with them and they with me. But most of all, my dogs are members of my family. I am thrilled that they are a part of my life. Except maybe when they roll in deer poop. On second thought, even then.

A Passion for Literature and Films Celebrating Dogs

By Martha Perkins

When Maddy, the large yellow lab next door, moved away with her owners in January, I was very sad to lose my sweet, athletic buddy. She eagerly joined in




wine/playdates with her owner and me—and, of course, my dogs, Zander and Moose. Every day she would stand at the fence between our homes and bark for me to toss treats to her, which she gracefully caught. Zander had a huge crush on her, and he was constantly standing on the ledge to look over the fence and moon over Maddy. As a thoughtful parting gift, Maddy's owner, good friend Mary, gave me a book, *Flush: A Biography* by Virginia Woolf. While I was unfamiliar with this book, I was nonetheless thrilled; the book combined two of my favorite passions: literature and dogs, especially literature featuring dogs. Which led to a third passion: films, especially films featuring dogs.

I already knew about the historical figure of Flush, Elizabeth Barrett Browning's red cocker spaniel, from the 1934 movie, *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, based on the successful 1930 play by Rudolf Besier. *The Barretts of Wimpole Street* is a film directed by Sidney Franklin depicting the romance of poets Elizabeth Barrett (Norma Shearer) and Robert Browning (Fredric March), despite the opposition of her abusive father, Edward Moulton-Barrett (Charles Laughton). It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture and Best Actress in 1935. I have seen the black-and-white movie several times. I probably watched it the first time because one of the stars is Charles Laughton, one of my favorite actors. While Laughton's performance did not disappoint, I came back to it several more times because of the performance of Flush, Elizabeth Barrett Browning's beloved cocker spaniel.

As an aside, I should add that Franklin also directed a 1957 color remake of *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, starring Jennifer Jones as Elizabeth Barrett, Bill Travers as Robert Browning, and John Gielgud as Mr. Moulton-Barrett. I cannot vouch for this version, as I have not seen it; but Gielgud is always a genius—and there is a cocker spaniel in it.

We are all attuned right now to animal films based on literature through the new PBS series *All Creatures Great and Small*, based on the charming series of books by the Yorkshire veterinarian, James Herriot. The original version of the series aired on BBC in 1978; and it was as stunning as the latter adaptation. I have enjoyed watching it several times since its debut. As a young adult, I devoured, repeatedly, all the books Herriott wrote about his veterinary practice in the Yorkshire Dales from the 1930s to the 1950s. The books include bovines, felines, canines, and equines, among others. Who could ever forget Mrs. Pumphrey and her well-loved, well-pampered, and well-fed Pekingese, Tricki Woo, who lives on Beef Wellington and Plum Duff Pudding. In her last role, Dame Diana Rigg plays Mrs. Pumphrey, to perfection, in the new series. The part of Tricki Woo was played by canine actor Derek.

For the sheer joy and zest of it and in the hopes that you will see, if you have already not, each of these films, I offer you an idiosyncratic list of a few of my favorite films featuring and celebrating dogs. I add, as a disclaimer, that I am sure I am leaving out at least one or two (or more) of your favorite dog films; I apologize in advance. I could not include all the ones I love. And perhaps I have just not seen one of your favorites. Many of these films were based on and adapted from books, which are eminently worth reading. Others are based on true stories. Some are outstanding movies on their own, and some are outstanding movies because of the admirable qualities of the dogs in them. Some are paeans to the romping, exuberant, joyous, “funness” of dogs;



but most have been in common that virtue that is the embodiment of dogs—loyalty, often combined with courage. In no particular order, as I treasure them all, for various reasons:

1. *The Barretts of Wimpole Street* (1933 version)—Red cocker spaniel Flush is a sweetly devoted companion of her mistress and tells the story of the real-life romance between poets Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Robert Browning. (See above for more.)
2. *All Creatures Great and Small* (1978 and 2021 version)—This is a series rather than, strictly speaking, a film; but it is included anyway, on the theory of the more animals, the better. In addition, it does not feature just dogs but many animals; but we can all agree that Tricky Woo is an important character.
3. *Greyfriars Bobby* (1961)—This sweet Disney movie is based on a 1912 book of the same name by Eleanor Atkinson and is based on a true story. It features an appealing and loyal Skye Terrier.
4. *Eight Below* (2006)—This moving movie of courage, endurance, and devotion features eight huskies and is based on a true story of love, endurance, and devotion.
5. *Peter Pan* (1953)—This animated Disney movie is based on J.M. Barrie's play *Peter Pan* and features Nana, a nursemaid Landseer Newfoundland. Nana is often depicted as a St. Bernard, but Barrie specified in the original script that she was a Newfie. In fact, at the time he wrote the play, Barrie owned a Landseer Newfoundland.
6. *Lady and the Tramp* (1955)—Disney hit the jackpot with this loving animated film, featuring Scottish Terrier Jock, Bloodhound Trusty, Pekingese Peg, Bulldog Bull, American Cocker Spaniel Lady, and All-American Dog Tramp.
7. *The Thin Man* (1934)—This big film hit was based on the book with the same name by Dash Hammett. There were three stars in the movie: Myrna Loy as Nora Charles; William Powell, as Nick Charles, and Skippy, a Wirehaired Fox Terrier, as Asta. The movie and its sequels are elegant, witty, and amusing. Skippy also starred in two enormously popular screwball comedies—*The Awful Truth* (1937) and *Bringing Up Baby* (1938). Skippy was the most popular American movie dog until he was supplanted in 1943 by Lassie.
8. *Lassie Come Home* (1943)—Based on the 1940 book by Eric Knight, *Lassie Come-Home*, this movie starred Roddy McDowell, Donald Crisp, and Pal, a male collie who played Lassie. In this, her second movie role, Elizabeth Taylor had a small part. By journeying many difficult miles to be reunited with the young boy she loves, Lassie exemplifies a dog's loyalty, courage, and devotion. This movie and its successors made "Lassie" a household name; my elderly neighbor (on the other side) had her many grandchildren (now grown) call her "Grand Lassie," in honor of her love of all things canine.

While some of the films listed above are tearjerkers, the following are my personal top dog film tearjerkers. You are so warned:

1. *Hachi: A Dog's Tale* (2009)—This movie is an American adaptation of a Japanese true story of a legendarily loyal Akita, starring Richard Gere, Joan Allen, and three Akitas, Leyla, Chico, and Forrest, who all played Hachi (as did several puppies). Please have tissues in hand.
2. *Old Yeller* (1957)—This timeless Disney classic was adapted from the children's book by the same name by Fred Gipson. The book received a Newbury Honor in 1957. This movie is the standard for loyalty and one of the most heart-wrenching dog stories ever confected. The titular role was played

by Spike, a Mastiff/Labrador mix. The book and the movie have haunted me since I was a child; I sometimes wish that I had never read or seen *Old Yeller*.
3. *The Art of Racing in the Rain* (2019)—This movie is based on the 2008 best-selling book about love and resilience by Garth Stein. I read the book soon after it was published and vowed to never see the movie (which I knew would eventually be forthcoming), for the same reason I often wished that I had never seen *Old Yeller*. I have kept that vow, so my mention of this movie is admittedly quite flawed. The poignant, loving, and funny story of a race car driver and his family is told from the perspective of witty and philosophical Enzo, a golden retriever, who tells a story of what it means to be human. Don't say I didn't warn you.

But getting back to Woolf's imaginative biography of Flush. The romance of Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Robert Browning is told from the perspective of Barrett Browning's dog. It is an imaginative reconstruction, but it is closely based on a reading of the numerous love letters between the two poets. Woolf's use of reality as a basis for fantasy and whimsy is both interesting and provocative. This biography of Flush blends both fiction and non-fiction, using her distinctive stream-of-consciousness style. Flush is given to Elizabeth Barrett (called "Ba" by her family) to keep her from being lonely, as she is essentially confined to her room by a mysterious illness. Flush becomes her true and loyal companion, always with Ba. (Indeed, Elizabeth Barrett wrote two marvelous poems about her beloved and loyal Flush, "Flush or Faunus" and "To Flush, My Dog.") Despite her father's objections, Ba and Browning carry on a legendary courtship, which, as we know, ends in their marriage. Flush jealously reports that his mistress spends too much time waiting for the mail (letters from Mr. Browning). Indeed, Flush further reports that he bit Robert Browning twice in a rage of jealousy. But Flush relents, and eventually he and Browning become big buddies. When the poets elope to Italy, Flush accompanies them and has many adventure stories, told through his own eyes, ears, and nose.

Why was Woolf attracted to write a delightful story about a cocker spaniel, even if one owned by a famous poet? There are likely many literary reasons, but I am sure that one reason is that she thoroughly enjoyed the companionship of her own black Cocker Spaniel, Pinka. Pinka was given to Woolf by a friend in 1926, and she became the much loved companion of Woolf, until Pinka's death. Woolf mentions her again and again as a loyal companion in her diaries and letters. Woolf apparently drew on her memory and observations of Pinka to create Flush. Flush and Pinka have a twice-enriched claim to fame: they moved in distinguished literary circles, belonging to extraordinarily talented writers, and they had a book written about them.

And why was Ba's dog named "Flush"? I am not aware of any explanation for the dog's name, but I do know that the real Flush spent his first few months out in the country, running through fields and meadows. I like to think he was so named because he was a flushing spaniel, as are my well-loved Welsh Springer Spaniels, formerly known as Welsh Cockers.

Braggs

Lionel, Laura, and Lena Lourenco are trilled that Elvis passed his AKC CGC

test. "He's wonderful, and we are so proud of him. We would like to give our sincerest thanks to the CDTC volunteers who have very kindly helped us ever since Puppy Kindergarten. We have learned so much from you, and we have benefited greatly from your generosity. Thank you all very much!" Way to go Elvis, now on to bigger and better things.



Megan Hemmer writes: "On January 26, Nani & Kai BOTH earned their NTD-M , novice trick dog masters. They are such good boys!"

Regular novice (NTD) requires 15 tricks & Masters requires 30 tricks (must be from novice list not higher)."



Janine Castorina writes: "Odin the All Father of Fuzz (or just Odin lol) got his CGC, and Tricks Novice and Intermediate this month. :-)."

We at CDTC expect to see great things from Odin.



Family Dog 2 graduated a new class of Canine Good Citizens. Congratulations to Marisa James-Le and Mae, Courtney Sexton and Sonder, Laura Stefani and Hazel, Kristen Teo, Sylvain Delalay and Astor, Jennifer Laufer and Modi, Maja Maric and Cori, Anne Tully and Tui, Bonnie Hochhalter, Neil Skidmore and Ziva, and Marisa Bellack and Waffles. Special thank to Louis Kietur who assisted Art Belendiuk as well as Tom Tatham who was the CGC evaluator. Congratulations to our new Canine Good Citizens. Pictured below, Ziva not eating her Canine Good Citizen ribbon.





Study Finds That Parasites are Common in Dog Parks

I never take my dogs to a dog park. Dog parks lead to dog aggression and fights. They are also places where diseases are



spread. Many viruses and parasites that affect dogs and humans can be picked up at dog parks. These diseases can be found in the soil, water and even the air. Dogs that visit dog parks are more likely to have parasites. Dr. Susan E.

Little, who is a parasitology professor in the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine, conducted a survey of dogs in dog parks. What Dr. Little's study identified parasites in feces collected from 85% of the parks visited across the U.S. Researchers collected fecal samples from 3,000 dogs over six weeks in July and August 2019 at 288 dog parks across the U.S. Prevalence of common parasites in dogs attending dog parks is presented in the following table:

Parasites found	Canine prevalence	Park prevalence
All	20.7%	85.1%
<i>Giardia</i>	13.0%	74.0%
Hookworms	7.1%	43.4%
Whipworms	1.9%	18.1%

These results confirm that parasites are present at the vast majority of dog parks.

Capital Agility Trial

By Benita Bottom

The Capital Dog Training Club annual Agility trial is scheduled for April 9-11 at the Frederick Indoor Sports Center (FISC) in Frederick, MD. This year's trial will be held in one ring, with a limit of 350 entries. Our judge is Patricia Dunseith from Reisterstown, MD and we are looking forward to some fun and challenging courses. **The closing date for the trial is Closing on April 2.** The Trial Secretary is Rhonda Toren, and you can find the premium by clicking [here](#).



Because of Covid, we will be follow social distancing protocols. There will be

no indoor crating or spectators allowed. Exhibitors will check in with the Agility Gate app. Course walks will be scheduled to limit the number of handlers walking at any one time. There will be no paper course maps, but they will be displayed in several places, and the Trial Secretary will email/post them to a website early each day.

Thanks to Janine Castorina our Assistant Training Director and our dedicated instructors we have a growing and dynamic Agility program. If you are thinking about entering your first trial, you might consider entering a Novice class this year. Presently AKC allows Fix and Go On (FNG) for exhibitors to immediately reattempt an obstacle at any time while on a course, and then finish the course or leave the ring on a positive note. For Exhibition Only (FEO) is allowed in FAST. Participation in FEO is non-qualifying, but gives you ring experience. FEO does not need to be noted on the entry form; the handler will declare the day of the show. **Dogs may be entered in any jump height for FEO runs so if you have an older dog and want to let them have the thrill of a run you can do FEO.** If entered in an ineligible jump height, the team is committed to FEO for that run and must declare FEO on the start line, or declare FEO in the ring prior to leading out. In FEO toys are allowed in the ring and must be non-audible. Toys may not leave the handler's hand. Food/treats are never allowed in the ring.

FISC has a new onsite restaurant with healthy fare available, but also plan to also bring some energy snacks for you and your four-legged friends. With COVID, ribbons and rosettes will be self-serve, and our Trophy Chair Amy Scheiner is making sure they are plentiful. There will be a worker's raffle and Mary Rice will be the Chief Ring Steward signing up Gate Stewards, Timers, Scorers, Score Runners and Ring Crew for each class. We will have a sign-up board for volunteers so you can work in between runs. This is a great way to observe the course and watch the handling teams. If you would like to come up and volunteer let us know via [email](#). And as always remember to have fun with your dog!

Dogs of the Rich and Famous

Harrison Ford the star of *Star Wars* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and most recently, *The Call of the Wild* has had dogs all his life. "I've got all kinds and sizes right now; we have three dogs in our family, very small dogs and, yes, they do sleep on the bed! ... " Ford and his wife live on an 800-acre ranch in Jackson, Wyoming, so there is plenty of room for the dogs to run.



Available Classes

[Class List and Registration](#)

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

[Beginning Conformation - March 6](#)

[Beginning Conformation \(Juniors U18 Only!\) - April 30](#)

[Puppy Kindergarten \(born after 12/1/2020\) - April 18](#)

[Family Dog 1](#) - email [me](#) for class schedule notifications

[Family Dog 2](#) - email [me](#) for class schedule notifications

CGC Prep Class - None Scheduled (see Family Dog 2)

NEW! Intro Obedience Skills for Rally - email [me](#) for waitlist

Rally Novice - email [me](#) for waitlist

Intro to Scent Work (Finding Hidden Odor) - next class ~ June

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 - next class ~ June

NEW! Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 2 - next class ~ June

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

Facility use remains at 25% capacity with masks required.

Click [here](#) to go straight to registration. Email [Karen](#) for enrollment reminder emails for a particular class.

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

Agility will start in April. Email [AGILITY](#) to get on the wait list for Spring.

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 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 cdtcclases@gmail.com

ON-GOING CLASSES

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 cdtcclases@gmail.com

Training Groups:

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

Conformation Training Group will meet Friday evenings. Contact [Janice](#).

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](#).

CDTC's 2021 AGILITY TRIAL

Capital Dog Training Club's annual **Agility Trial** at [FISC](#) is the weekend of April 9-11, 2021
The Premium is [HERE](#).

Delegate's Corner

By Joyce Dandridge

- AKC Board of Director Candidates- The bios and Q & A of the six candidates were emailed to the CDTC members. Please review and if there is someone you would like for me to support, please contact me. The Delegates will vote on these candidates the first week in March.
- The AKC Board has voted on a pilot program to allow juniors to show mixed breed dogs in Conformation Junior Showmanship. This 18-month pilot will start Jan.1, 2022. Due to the controversy that has occurred over the use of mixed breeds and the meaning of conformation in specific breeds, the board added to its decision recently to make this program optional for all breed kennel club shows. When judging Juniors, their dogs are not judged. It is the handling that is judged.
- This is the time of year when we ask you to nominate a CDTC member to receive the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. I'll be accepting nomination from February 15- April 15. Please refer to the rules printed in this edition of the newsletter. AKC developed this award to recognize those individuals in clubs that are tireless in their efforts to support club initiatives.

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/cdte> and click "Apply for Membership."



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