

From the President's Desk – This is an exciting year coming up at K-9. We celebrate 60 years! We'll be having a Birthday Party in February taking you back to 1951 when it all started. Mark your datebooks for February 19th. A lot of other exciting ideas for throughout the year are in the works, so plan on spending the year having some fun. (A "presidential" dunking booth is one idea being kicked around.) I'm calling on everyone to submit your ideas on how we can celebrate this milestone. We've even dressed up our club logo to recognize our 60th. I'm hoping Ginny can find a home for it in the Tails this year.

I'd like to thank Ginny Ruskuski for the phenomenal job she does as our Tails editor. Having done the job myself in the past, I know just how much work the job entails. From the input and editing to the monthly publishing, printing and mailing, she does the job with a cheerfulness that epitomizes what it means to be part of a purely volunteer organization like ours. Her patience with me and getting my monthly message is not lost and I've made yet another resolution to do better next year☺. Thanks Ginny for all your work on the tails.

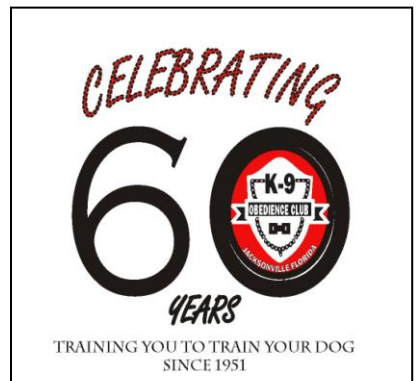
The Christmas party was its usual rousing success!! Members provided a feast for us to enjoy, the gift exchange proved to be another hysterical round of great gifts to battle over. Lots of dog supplies, and many other goodies were received. If you couldn't make it this year, you REALLY missed a fun evening!

Annual club dues were due by the end of the year. Get those to **Connie Carstens**. We don't want to lose you!

Get your new titles and accomplishments earned in 2010 to **Anita Gard** by Jan 31st to be included in this year's awards to be given out at the February meeting. Deadline is firm as it takes time to get the awards ready. Don't be left out!

I hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday and a safe New Years. Thanks to all of you who have worked so very hard this year so that K-9 may continue to be a successful club. A special thanks goes to all the instructors, who once again, "kept the lights on" this year. Our new members have gotten into the swing of things, and I hope they feel like they have found their place in our "family". While K-9 is a part of our lives, more importantly to remember is, that for a time, we are also a part of K-9's life. The club has been around since before many of us were born and it's out responsibility to see that it's here long after we're gone so that others may come to know just what a great organization it is!

Have a safe season and see ya'll at the January general meeting on the 20th, where a fun new monthly activity will be introduced. What is it, you ask? You'll just have to come and see for yourself. - Laurie



Meetings

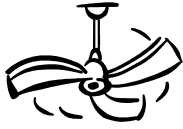
Board Meeting - January 13 (7:00 PM)

General Meeting – January 20 (7:30 PM)

There will be no training allowed on the grounds during the General Meeting. Thank you.

Welcome New Members!

Sorry, new member information not available at this time.



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Classes & Events for January & February

- 01/03 -- Agility, 7:30 PM, Cohen
01/13 -- Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
01/10 -- Utility Intro, 6:30 PM, Shepherd
01/10 -- Pet Therpy, 7:00 PM, Ennis
01/11 -- Basic Obed/CGC, 7:00 PM, Billinge
01/11 -- Advanced Obed/CGC, 8:00 PM, Carstens
01/15 -- Puppy K & 1, 9:30, Whalen
01/18 -- Clicker Foundations, 6:30 PM, Rogers
01/20 -- General Meeting, 7:30 PM
01/23 -- Obed. & Rally Show-n-Gos! 3 to 6 PM, \$5 per dog,
per run
01/28 -- Puppy K & 1, 6:30 PM, Satur
- 02/07 -- Basic Obed/CGC, 7:00 PM, Gard
02/19 -- Puppy K & 1, Mornings, Satur
02/23 -- Puppy K & 1, 6:30 PM, Whalen
02/28 -- Rally All Levels, 7:00 PM, Whalen

Classes Already in Progress

Mondays

- 7:00 Rally, Whalen
7:30 Agility, Cohen

Tuesdays

- 6:30 Clicker/Marker Advanced Foundations, Rogers
7:00 Open Ring Ready, Cohen

Wednesdays

- 6:30 Clicker/Marker Foundations, Rogers
6:30 Puppy K & 1, Whalen
7:30 Conformation, J.Mello, call 614-9282
7:45 Novice Foundations, Ruskuski

Fridays

- 7:00 Puppy K & 1, Whalen

Saturday Mornings

- 10:00 Puppy K & 1, Whalen
10:45 Puppy K & 1, Satur
10:00 Freestyle Group, 3rd week only
11:15 Rally, Whalen

Congratulations!



Margaret Hines and Puffy

Novice B, 1st leg (10/2009)
2nd leg (6/2010)
3rd leg (10/2010), 4th Place – New Title!
4th leg (10/2010), 3rd Place
*(Special congratulations – Puffy is a 12 year old
Chinese Crested, not an easy breed and not a
young dog, either!)*

Margaret Hines and Emma

cgc earned 9/25/2010

Iron Dog (Ocala) Dec 5th (Schutzhund)

Anita Gard and Parek

AWD (American Working Dog) 1

Anita Gard and Zeli

TR (Tracking Dog) 1

Mary Graham and Luger

Luger certified in cadaver with the North American
Police Working Dog Association last week. He is
now a nationally certified Cadaver Dog!

Claudette Barker and Diggity

USDAA MAD Title – New title!

(Please don't forget to send me your brags!

ruskuski5030@comcast.net

Thanks!)



*Left – Emmie and Beau Schmidt celebrate the New Year.
Thank you, Beth!*

Personal Notes:

Phyllis Vandavelde needs a January Hostess! Please call her at 387-6038.

Need a good laugh? "If Agility Dogs Could Speak," <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2MBo6GX8ro>

We received an email greeting from Gail Larson – "Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We celebrated with the rest of the field trialers at the Shoney's in Dublin GA. :) We continue to be gone every week-end trialing.

Hank went back to Bird Dog College in GA two weeks ago and we will get him back and send Nate off for Puppy Bird Dog School the week-end before Christmas. Nate had a big win last week-end, taking first place in a 16 dog 3 point puppy stake so we were very happy. (You need 10 points for a Field Championship and the FC in front of your name).

I miss training with you guys and I want to get Hank back into the ring in February, so the plan is to get back to working obedience with him when he returns from GA. Keep me in the loop if you all are training at K9 any night during the week. Happy Holidays to all." We miss Gail and hope to see more of her (and Rick!) soon

New Classes in the wind! **Diane Cohen** has started an introduction to Agility class on Monday nights. **Shannon Shepherd** will be starting a Utility class in January. It's very exciting to have two such experienced exhibitors teaching at K-9.

As my email stated, the **Blessing** was cancelled this year. We've had a Blessing of the Animals on New Years Day for as long as I can remember and it was sad to see it cancelled. Unfortunately, nobody was willing to step up to the plate and take charge of this event. Of all the functions held at K-9 the Blessing is one of the easiest. All that's required is lining up a preacher of some variety (and this year Diane had one ready to Bless at a moment's notice), remind members there will be a blessing, encourage members to bring food, unlock the gate and line up chairs, asking members who come to help bring out a couple of tables. A real over-achiever might even empty the trash afterward. That's pretty much all there is to it, yet nobody was willing to do this. As for myself, I think I've got enough on my plate with the newsletter, classes, and being Trophy Chair. I'm sure that Laurie, Colleen, Diane, Anita, Jennifer, Phyllis, and other members who do their share (and more!) felt the same way. The point is that we stood back and waited to see if anybody else would take on a small job at the club. It's your turn.

Laurie mentioned a match/anniversary event in February and that a Blessing might work into this celebration. I hope EVERYBODY will volunteer in some capacity to make this event successful.

Since this is a slow month for news, I'd like to outline some of the jobs that need to be done around the club and hope that some of our new (and old) members might be willing to do them.

Setting up for a Trial – Show up the Thursday evening before the trial, carry equipment from the shed to the rings.
(Difficulty rating – Easy. VERY EASY if lots of people show up, so bring a friend.)

Ring Stewarding – just commit to show up at the trial(s) for whatever amount of time you're willing to give. The judge will show you exactly what's expected. (Difficulty rating – Easy)

Table Steward – Somewhat more difficult, requires organizational skills and good grasp of addition & subtraction.

Taking judges to airport after a trial. Must have decent car or van.
(Difficulty rating – Easy if you know how to get to the airport)

Host or Hostess a General Meeting
– Come to the General Meeting a few minutes early and set up some refreshments.
Most meetings only require a 2-liter bottle of Coke and Diet Coke, some cookies and/or a veggie & dip tray. Take out trash after meeting. Ask Phyllis (387-6038) for food ideas and to set a date. Difficulty rating – Easy)

Suggesting a Program for the General Meeting – If you know of

anyone who could educate/entertain members at a General meeting on some dog-related topic for 20 minutes. Get in touch with Elizabeth Adams domino15@bellsouth.net who coordinates programs. (Difficulty rating – Easy *if you know interesting people*)

Taking out the trash – Just go to the training shed, get some can liners, take the trash to the dumpster and replace the liner. (Difficulty rating – Easy *if you don't have a bad back or shoulder problems*. Poop bag replacement is also Easy, although repulsive.)

Class Instructor – If you have an idea for a class that you feel confident teaching please contact Colleen Whalen to set up dates and time. Required: Patience with dogs and people, success at chosen subject. Must be reliable and punctual. (Difficulty rating – Difficult)

Match/Show and Go Coordinator – Find an available date, handle advertising event (usually just notifying the newsletter editor), arrive early to set rings, line up judges. Take money, list exhibitors. Must feel comfortable insisting that exhibitors get off their rear ends to steward or judge if needed. Must be tactful but firm with whiny exhibitors who want to show their one dog 3 times before other exhibitors have shown their dog even once. Must be able to intimidate people into helping with any clean up if necessary. (Difficulty rating – difficult but not that bad)

Board Member – The main requirement for this job is showing up at the Board meetings every month (or at least most months). The Board members set policy and oversee the general operation of the club. Main requirement is that Board member must put aside personal objectives and do what they feel is best for the club as a whole. Some Board positions require special obligations:

1st Vice President – Trial Chairman/oversees all aspects of trials (Difficulty rating – VERY difficult)

2nd Vice President – Chief Ring Steward/schedules all stewards for trials - (Difficulty rating –Awful)

Other positions: Trial Secretary – (Difficulty rating – from 1 to 10 it's a 15)



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