

From the President's Desk –

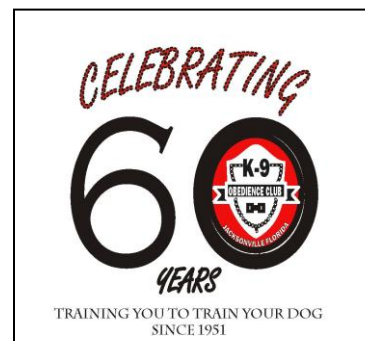
Thanks to the hard work of those that showed up for the clean up day, our grounds are looking wonderful. Everybody put on their work duds, grabbed a rake or shovel and went to work. Shrubbery was trimmed, leaves (many, many leaves) were raked and disposed of. Signs were put up and the inside of the clubhouse got a much needed clearing out of the accumulated clutter and other unwanted stuff that gets left behind. In addition **John Wernert** and **Susan Howard** spent a few more days blowing everything off, weeding, mulching and replanting the flower beds. Some beautiful roses and begonias have been added to the beds and as they mature will be a colorful "Welcome" to our guests. When our lawn man failed to show up, John brought his push mower over and cut the entire grounds himself! Thanks to everyone for giving our club grounds a wonderful spruce up. Let's all respect their hard work and pick up any trash or fallen limbs we may see.

The April trials were their usual success!! The weather was beautiful and the food delicious!! **Connie Carstens** took care of feeding everyone and no one went away hungry! Thanks to all who stepped up to help steward, set-up, clean-up etc. There's no way I can mention everyone by name, but your hard work and team spirit did not go unnoticed. Without you things just wouldn't have gone so smoothly. While turnout for the judge's dinner was disappointing, the few that showed up enjoyed a great meal. Congrats to all of you who earned legs and titles. Also, thanks to all who contributed to this trial's trophy fund. And thanks to **Ginny Ruskuski** for serving as trophy chairperson. It's not an easy job, even though she makes it look that way. One of our repeat exhibitors summed it up the best with "Your club not only puts on great trials, but turn them into a party; we never want to miss K-9's trials!" I get many compliments on the warmth and friendliness our club members extend to our guests. The winners also seemed pleased with the gifts given for their success in the ring. Special thanks go to **Pat Zaborowski** who served as catalogue advertising chair. Her hard work actually helped us make about \$200 profit from catalogues alone! (This is something that never happens, except when Pat steps up to do this job. Thanks again Pat!)

The basket raffles were again a success. So many wonderful baskets and items were donated and the winners seemed very pleased and happy to support the raffle.

The nominating committee has completed their work and a new board has been proposed for next year. Thanks to all of you who will serve.

The next General meeting is on the 19th. Hope to see everyone there. **-Laurie**



From the Nominating Committee

The Proposed slate of Officers for 2011-2012:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| President | Laurie Billinge |
| 1st Vice President | John Wernert |
| 2nd Vice President | Gary Jarrett |
| Recording Secretary | Barbara Elrod |
| Corresponding Secretary | Ann Lentz |
| Treasurer | Beth Berry |
| 1-Year Board Member | Ken Stevens |
| 1-Year Board Member | Emily Foster |
| 2-Year Board Member | Colleen Whalen |
| 2-Year Carry-over | Connie Carstens |



Welcome New Members!

Wendy Montroy with Lemmy and Namp (Whippets) and Zoey (Greyhound)

Judith Zoller with Pete (Blue Heeler), Cody (Golden Mix) and Holly (Lab Mix)

Congratulations to our newest Full Member, Stephanie Elderkin

Meetings

Board Meeting - May 12 (7:00 PM)

General Meeting – May 19 (7:30 PM)

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



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Classes & Events for May & June

05/02 -- Open & Utility, 6:30 PM, Shepherd
05/03 -- Intro to Agility, 8:00 PM, Cohen
05/03 -- CGC Test 7:30 PM, \$10 cash
05/04 -- Beginner Novice Foundations, 7:00 PM, Ruskuski
05/04 -- Intermediate Foundations, 7:45 PM, Ruskuski
05/10 -- Basic Obedience/CGC, 7:00 PM, Billinge & Carstens
05/10 -- Advanced Obedience, 8:00 PM, Carstens
05/12 -- Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
TBA -- Clicker Foundations, Marge Rogers, 287-0030
05/18 -- Puppy K & 1, 6:30 PM, Whalen
05/19 -- General Meeting, 7:30 PM
05/21 -- Freestyle Group meets at 10 AM
05/22 -- Show 'N Go, 4:00
05/28 -- Puppy K & 1, 9:30 AM, Whalen

New!! Evening Freestyle Classes in June TBA, Smith-Nabors

TBA -- Clicker Foundations, Marge Rogers, 287-0030
06/01 -- Shaping Obedience & Drive, 7:15 PM, Gard
06/06 -- Basic Obedience PLUS, 7:15pm. GARD
06/10 -- Puppy K & 1, 6:30 PM, Satur
06/13 -- STAR Puppy, 6:30 PM, Whalen
06/17 -- Rally Novice for Beginners, 6:30 PM, Whalen
06/25 -- Puppy K & 1, 9:30 AM, Satur
06/28 -- CGC Test 7:30 PM, \$10 cash

Weekly Classes for May & June

Mondays

6:00 Basic Obedience PLUS, Gard
6:30 Puppy K & 1, Whalen
6:30 Proofing & Troubleshooting for Open & Utility, Shepherd
7:15 Basic Obedience PLUS, Gard
7:45 Foundations for Competition, Shepherd

Tuesdays

6:30 Clicker Foundations, Rogers
7:00 Open Ring Ready, Cohen
7:00 Basic Obedience/CGC, Billinge & Carstens
7:45 Clicker Foundations, Rogers
8:00 Advanced Obedience, Carstens
8:00 Intro to Agility, Cohen

Wednesdays

6:30 Puppy K & 1, Whalen
7:00 Beginners Novice Foundations, Ruskuski
7:15 Shaping Obedience & Drive, Gard
7:30 Conformation, J.Mello, call 614-9282
7:45 Intermediate Novice Foundations, Ruskuski

Fridays

6:30 Puppy K & 1, Satur

Saturday Mornings

9:30 Puppy K & 1, Whalen
9:30 Puppy K & 1, Satur
10:45 Puppy K & 1, Whalen
10:45 Puppy K & 1, Satur
10:00 Freestyle Group, 3rd week only

Congratulations!

Susan Howard & Kona

Eustis - 18th & 19th March
Rally Advanced - 1st leg - 2nd place
Rally Advanced - 2nd leg - 1st place



K9 - 23rd & 24th April

Rally Advance - 3rd leg - 2nd place - New Title
Rally Excellent - 1st leg - 3rd place
Novice Obedience - 3rd leg - 3rd place - New Title

Sandi Mercier & Cami

3rd leg Rally Excellent, 2nd Place – New Title!

CFF (Freestyle) – Chatanooga

Beth Berry & Emma

CFF Level 3 – New Title!

Elaine Smith-Nabors & Rhyme

Level 4 – First Place, High Artistic

New Title! – CFF Champion

Kathy Chapaman & Dasher

3rd leg Novice, 4th Place – New Title!

Kathy Chapman & Blitzen

2 RAE legs, (Sun) 3rd Place Rally Exc.

(Perry, April 15)

RAE leg, 4th Place Rally Exc.

Shannon Shepherd & Zita

(Sun.) HIT! HC! (So nice to see this won by a one of our own!)

Jane Vittitoe and Eli

Open, 3rd leg, - New Title!

(Where are the rest of the brags from AKC trials? Please send your accomplishments to me! -Thanks, Ginny)



First Coast (UKC) Trial Results

High in Trial - Obedience Sat: Irma & Splash
High Combined - Obedience Sat - Irma & Splash
High in Rally - Ginny & Ricky
High in Trial Obedience - Sunday - Peg Armbruster & Sierra
High in Trial Rally - Irma & Splash

Legs and titles - Obedience

Diane Cohen & Taxi - Novice Title
Jane Vittitoe & Eli - Novice Title and Open leg
Peg Armbruster & Sierra - 2 Novice legs (title?)
Lisa Mallory & Kelly - 2 Novice legs (title?)
Margaret Taylor & B.C. - Novice title
Irma Schwartz & Splash – 1st Place Utility (Sat.) OTCH Points and a Double Q

Rally titles and legs

Gail Larson & Hank 2 RO3 legs
Irma Schwartz & Splash 2 RO3 & title
Kathy Chapman & Dasher and Blitzer RO3 titles
Ginny Ruskuski & Ricky - RO3, 1st leg
Lisa Mallory & Kelly - 2 RO3 leg (title?)
Penny Martin & Bekka - RO3 leg
Diane Cohen & Taxi RO2 leg, RA Title!
Peg Armbruster & Sierra 2 R02 legs and new title
Gail Larson & Nate 2 RO1 legs
(Thank you for this First Coast information, Gail.)

Personal Notes:

Our trials were marred by tragedy. After winning their Rally class Sunday with her lovely Flatcoat, **Worf, Susan Schultz** discovered that evening that her husband, **Michael**, had died in a horrible accident on their property in Bradford County.

Most of us know Susan and Michael from Agility where both were involved in the heavy lifting work of Paws and Pals (literally – Michael and Susan packed the equipment to take to trial sites as well as taking on Board positions, etc.). Although I did not know Michael, Susan is one of the most cheerful, upbeat people I've ever met. That this sort of tragedy should happen to them is unthinkable. Our thoughts and prayers are with her.

My daughter, Theresa, reports that **FCNMHP** is repeating their “**Fix the Kitty Litter**” event. They will fix an entire litter of up to 4 kittens (2 to 4 mos. old) for \$50.00, with additional kittens from the same litter an extra \$10.00 each.

They are also doing **FREE** spay/neuter on Pit Bulls for ALL Duval residents as well as **FREE** spay/neuters for all dogs, pet *and* feral cats, from **zip code 32210**. (As you may have surmised, there's a big problem in that area.) **Pass the word to your friends and neighbors with sexually active, unsupervised/unrestrained animals.**

FCNMHP recently won the “2010 Balls and Nuts Award” for doing the most spay/neuters in one year in the country – 24,111. (They actually have a trophy that's a pyramid of gold-colored testicles in varying sizes. Really – I'm *not* making this up! How could I?)

More thanks... **Anita Gard** wrote me, “**John [Wernert]** frequently blows the leaves and cleans up the place, often without any recognition or help from anyone else. In this case, however, I happen to know it was **Lisa Mallory** who sneaked in there Monday morning [in late March] and gave us all the benefit of her obsessive compulsive disorder.”

Last month I forgot to report the gift K-9 received from **Betty Jean Shuman**. Although Betty Jean lived very modestly and appeared to have few resources, she left a respectable estate and a bequest to K-9 of \$5,000.00. I believe the current plans are to fix the clubhouse porch which is rotting and badly needs repair. Thank you, Betty Jean.



L to R – Rally Judge Ron Robers, Cami, and Sandi Mercier celebrate the moment with a photo.

♪ CFF Canine Freestyle Classes ♪

What we will be working on: This class is intended for dog and handler teams that are interested in a deeper relationship with their dog through movement and music. Federation freestyle has a way of creating more willing, enthusiastic working dogs that are often more successful in all dog sports. We will be exploring the use of space, creating movement phrases (which are the building blocks of choreography), the use of technical skills that you and your dog may already have as well as those you still need to learn, around a creative concept, finding your dog's natural rhythm, learning to enhance the dog and let him be the focus and much, much more. Please note that this class is focused on the dog and not the handler.

Prerequisite: Since this class is based on movement, it is important that the teams interested are comfortable working together in heel and that the dog has some basic Rally skills. A Rally title is not required, but a foundation in learning and working together is essential. The class requires a good deal of discussion and exploration and so it important that those attending are willing to share. Any age and breed of dog may attend the class, though dogs that are at least 2 years old or nearing 2 will have a better chance of having the maturity to handle the curriculum. If you have a dog that is younger than 2 and you are interested in attending the class, prior instructor approval can be obtained. Contact Elaine Nabors at 904-562-9412. Many of the things that we cover will be new to your dog, please bring a **hungry** dog with you to class.

Equipment: Please bring a notebook and pencils, water and bowl, many soft, small treats that are exciting to your dog, your dog's favorite toys, A HUNGRY DOG, a 4 to 6 foot leash, a buckle collar, and a flexi leash. It will be **HOT** so be sure to bring cool water for both of you. Wear comfortable shoes that you can move in!!!

When: Mid June after June 10th on Thursday nights from 7-8:30. Your instructor is traveling to North Carolina to give two seminars this summer. One of those seminars will be on June 18th and 19th and the other will be July 30th and 31st.

Arrangements will be made during the first class to set up make-up dates for any classes missed. **Please note, no class the 3rd Thursday of each month which is when our club holds its general membership meetings.**

Cost: K-9 Members-35.00 Non-K-9 Members- 60.00 **Make checks payable to K-9 Obedience Club**

Class Size is Limited! To reserve your spot, contact Elaine Nabors at 904-562-9412 or itchingtoogo@yahoo.com

Instructor: Elaine Smith-Nabors

Current Freestyle Partners: CH Starbright Once Upon a Time, Belgian Terv- CFF Level 4 title, CFF Champion,
Smith's Itching to Go- CFF Level 4 title and Inducted into CFF Hall of Fame

Elaine is a CFF instructor, K-9 member, obedience competitor and a CFF judge.

From Diane Cohen: “THANKS! THANKS! THANKS!

This trial could not have been done were it not for each of you & your efforts. Some of you ring stewarded while others tore down and set up rings, stanchions, agility equipment, jumps, and rally equipment. Thanks for being club contributors who really make a difference in the club and the trials we present! Our ring stewards were:

Barbara Elrod
Elizabeth Adams
Ron Cohen
Colleen Whalen
Lisa Mallory
Anita Thor
Dayna Sweders

Regina Brenan
Melissa Myers
Pat Ennis
Janice Hoffenberg
Gary Jarrett
Marnie White
Mary Graham

Colleen Whalen
Jennifer Satur
Ken Stevens
Melissa Meyers
Beth Stoltz-Potter

Those who helped set up or tear down: Beth Schmidt, Steve Picciuolo, John Alexander, Colleen Whalen, Ed Buck, Emily Foster, Ginny Ruskuski, John Wernert, Alana Lowry, Marnie White.”

Additional thanks from Ginny Ruskuski: Many thanks to Shannon Shepherd, Anita Gard, Steve Picciuolo and Lisa Mallory who worked the Show ‘N Go the Friday evening before the trials. From what I understand a LOT of people pitched in to make it happen – even exhibitors from other clubs.

Thanks to Lyn DeLoach who emptied the poop bag (a nasty job) and trash cans throughout the weekend. Pat Ennis helped take trash from the house to the dumpster, and Phyllis Vandavelde, Beth Berry and Elaine Smith-Nabors who worked the raffle table and helped me clean up my mess from the Trophy table.

Thank you, Tom Bradley, who humored an exhibitor’s ridiculous request to move the dog walk. (Next time tell her to wait while you get a committee together.) Thank you to John Alexander for blowing off the rings both days at 7:00 AM. John was all over the place pitching in to help. Special thanks to Kathy Chapman for her trophy donation that wound up in the wrong pile of mail at my house and was therefore not listed in the catalog. The trophy donations help offset the expenses from the trials and we’re grateful to ALL of you who contributed.

I’m sure there are probably more members who helped make these trials a success by contributing their time and effort. If you weren’t listed you have my sincere apologies. Nine days after the event it’s hard to remember every person I saw pitching in. Thank you ALL! Let’s do this again sometime, say, in about six months, shall we?

CELEBRATING
60
YEARS
TRAINING YOU TO TRAIN YOUR DOG SINCE 1951

K-9 TRAINING CLUB

Ginny Ruskuski
5030 Azure St.
Jacksonville, Fl.
32258
ruskuski5030@comcast.net

I'm trying to read! Shouldn't you be in a class of some kind?

K-9 TAILS