



**2023 Board Members**  
**PRESIDENT** Deb Hardman  
**1st VP** Alison Nelson  
**2nd VP** Debbie Gilman  
**SECRETARY** Sam Giacalone  
**TREASURER** Robin Wallen  
**BOARD** Sheila Garbecki  
**BOARD** Juli Wilkison  
**BOARD** Colleen Whalen  
**BOARD** Christine Peterson  
**PAST PRES** – Ginny Ruskuski  
**Email Distribut** - Judith Solano  
**Facebook** – Juli Wilkison,  
Janice Butler, Deb Hardman  
**Membership** - Colleen Whalen  
**K9 Website** - Alison Nelson  
**K9 Web Calendar** – C. Whalen



#### **Full Members**

Terry Martin, Elizabeth  
Watson, Lisa Wilford, Cindy  
Chambers

#### **New Provisional Members**

Linda Mikolay, Jennifer  
Rootham, Stacy Payne, Tess  
Schneider, Haley Rothweiler

#### **President's Letter January 2024**

Happy New Year to our K9 members! 2023 was a great year for us. We had two really successful trials in Daytona, Rachel Flatley taught several seminars, Alison offered several 4 1-hour trainings for all the membership at no charge, and we have lots of new instructors and assistants and therefore are offering lots of classes. We had a fun Christmas party on December 21st with a covered dish dinner and a secret Santa gift exchange. Two lovely quilts were won by very lucky members, Alison Nelson and Cindy Iken.

Our new classes will begin January 6th., and classes should be listed by the first week of January. Alison will be offering trainings for our ring stewards so that we are ready for our May trial in Daytona. And we will have a Show-n-Go January 21st.

We will be making some necessary repairs to our facility in January. We are having some major tree work done, repairing the roofs on several of the sheds, replacing some rotten flooring, and repairing a fan and a light. The estimated cost for this work is \$6,700. K9 always appreciates any contributions large or small to help with the ongoing costs of maintaining our property.

K9 is planning a rummage sale fund raiser for our February general meeting. We are asking everyone to bring to the club any gently used dog equipment and supplies. You can leave it at the club house. So, clean out your closets and garages and help us have a BIG sale. **Deb Hardman**, President

## January Training Director's Report

Training at K-9 is about to resume with January 2024 class offerings. If you haven't been to the website to see what is offered, don't wait! Classes fill quickly and you must enroll to hold your spot. Some highlights of the schedule are that Samantha Giacalone will be stepping in as Rally instructor on Wednesday evenings, Benn Bond will continue as Agility Foundations instructor and Erika Wilson has expanded the nosework offerings and is also pursuing her certification in nosework. These are in addition to the basic obedience and puppy classes that Alaina George and Amy Trelford have built up that continue to draw people from all over Jacksonville. In all, there are 19 classes offered, but there's still plenty of opportunity for those members who like to train in open floor time. Training while a class is going on can be a good thing and present some distractions! So, get your training bag ready and head out to K-9!

If you would like to assist with a class, let me know ASAP. We can always use members to help out. You will earn provisional requirements for your membership and members can earn their volunteer hours. It's a good way to really learn about a sport or training techniques to help our dedicated K-9 instructors.

Do you have a baby puppy or young dog 2 yr old or younger? If so, and if you are interested in training for future sport competitions, email me to be invited to the next Competition Puppy workshop which is a free training session I am hosting at K-9. This training goes beyond the basic puppy skills and CGC. Focus is on the training that gets a team ready to compete in AKC Obedience, Rally and/or Agility. It is an exciting way to train, but obviously not for everyone.

Last year, I offered free member workshops on "Choose to Heel" and "Get to Heel & Accurate Marking". This year I will continue to offer free workshops to members starting with "Loose Leash Walking" and the date will be announced later this month so be watching the website seminar/workshop page for that announcement.

Mark your calendar---K-9 Spring 2024 trials will be held in Daytona Beach May 4 & 5 at the Training Center. Cheryl Loze is the person to contact if you want to steward. Angela Maddux is chairperson for hospitality and welcomes your help. You can contact them by email if you would like to volunteer.

That's all for now! As you can see, K-9 is thriving and you are a part of the community! I hope your training goals are set for 2024 and that you enjoy the journey as much as the destination.

Happy Training, Alison Nelson

## GENERAL MEETING/POTLUCK /GIFT EXCHANGE/ VOLUNTEER PRIZE DRAWING

It's was the time of year again when we had our January Pot Luck and fun evening. We had a several tables filled with food; everything from soups to nuts. As always no one left hungry and recipes were traded throughout the evening.



Despite the low temperature we had a full house of members. First we had the last general meeting of the year before the festivities began.



**Ginny Ruskuski** started off by calling the numbers for the gift Exchange with **Jean Coker** waiting her turn



**Linda Mikolay** checks out her chosen bag of goodies while **Cindy Chambers** looks on

The most traded gifts of the evening were those that contained an Igloo water containers. You never knew when or where one would show up but each time it did it was traded to the maximum times allowed.

It was so much fun to watch!





**Lisa Wilford** carefully chooses a gift bag that was reaching out to her



**Alison Nelson** made several trips to the table, she was good at picking bags with those sought after gifts.



Poor **Olivia Sayer** also had several gift bags snatched but she was a good sport every time

The last item of the meeting was the Volunteer quilt and Afghan drawings.



**Alison Nelson** won the afghan made by **Olivia Sayer**



**Cindy Iken** won quilt made by **Debbie Gilman**.

Congratulations to both members! The only sad part is that it will take another year before we have another holiday evening of fun.



## K9 Obedience January Rachel Flatley Seminar

Once again Rachel Flatley came to K9 to give a seminar; this time the topic was Attention, Engagement and Focus. We had a full class of students with their canine companions.



Despite the cool and somewhat rainy weather, Rachel had all the students engaged in her lecture, as always.



**Alison Nelson & Rex**



**Sheila Garbecki and Josie**



**Michael Fitzsimmons &  
Reagan**





**Robin Wallen & Jasper**



**Terry Martin & Kai**



**Deb Hardman & Cody**



**Jamie Simpson & Everest**



**Rachel Flatley & Hitch**



**Cheryl Loze & Ella**



Carol Fitzsimmons & Grace



Deb Hardman, Rachel Flatley Terry Martin, Robin Wallen, Sheila Garbecki, Cheryl Loze, Carol and Mike Fitzsimmons, and Alison Nelson (front)

As always Rachel provides her students with more tools for their toolboxes.

Be on the lookout for future seminars by Rachel.





## With Sympathy

For those that may not have heard, **Judy Fortner** lost her beloved Sophie this past month



01/26/2007-12/04/2023  
Sophia Loren (aka Sophie)  
CGCA, RATCH, CD, RE, ACT I & II







CONGRATULATIONS

## “Barks and Brags”



Mystic Oak Farms in Citra, FL on  
November 8, 2023

Pending AKC approval, **Judy Fortner's**  
Ani earned her Farm Dog title.



### NACSW November 2023 Tucker GA

**Debbie Gilman** and Tugg attended their first  
Nosework 1 trial and titled with a score of 100.



## “Barks and Brags” cont’d



Daytona Beach January 2023

**Janice Butler** & Bella had a great January! We earned our CGCA and Intermediate Trick titles on January 2nd. In Daytona Beach on January 8th, we made our Rally debut, qualifying in both runs and earning Third Place in our second run! Thanks to **Sheila Garbecki** & all of our Rally class for encouragement in this new adventure!



**Obedience Club of Daytona, Daytona Beach, January 2023**

**Alison Nelson** and Coco – this team was awarded Rally High Triple and High Combined for trial 2.

## “Barks and Brags” cont’d



### Obedience Club of Daytona January 2023

**Sheila Garbecki's** Miss Josie earned her very first ever title in Novice Rally, and she earned a score of 100 under Judge Ted McCall and took 4th place, then she earned an extra leg under Judge Dr Noreen Noonan, and received a score of 94 with a 1st place. So proud of this little girl



### Obedience Club at Daytona Beach Dec 9<sup>th</sup>

**Michael Fitzsimmons** and Reagan placed first in Obedience Beginner Novice

When submitting a brag please add “**Brag**” to the email subject line. Thanks



## UPCOMING FLORIDA TRIALS

January 2024					
Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
11	ORLY	Hernando Cty Kennel Club	Brooksville	Dec 27	C Melt-Trumbly, L Rixham, P
13-14	O	Obedience Training Club of Palm Bch Cty	Lake Park	Dec 27	NJ Watson, PPP
13	RLY,O	Pasco Florida Kennel Club	Brooksville	Dec 27	M Becker, O Chever Jr
19-21	O	Marion Alachua Dog Train	Ocala	Jan 03	DP Neufeld, K Kincaid
21	RLY,O	Manatee Kennel Club	Brooksville	Jan 03	M Becker, CA Klein
27-28	O,RLY	Five Flags Dog Training Club	Pensacola	Jan 10	J Kern, ENA, L Pinnell
27-28	RLY,O	Greater Gainesville Dog Fanciers Assoc	Ocala	Jan 10	B Hornfisher, R Hornfisher

February					
Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
16-18	O, Rly	Lakeland Winter Haven	Lakeland	Jan 31	CA Klein, L Currey, O Chever, Jr, M Becker
18	RLY,O	Tallahassee Dog Obed Club	Tallahassee	Jan 31	R Hornfisher, B Hornfisher, MC Burford
19	RLY,O	Ochlockonee River Kennel Club	Tallahassee	Jan 31	MC Burford, R Hornfisher, B Hornfisher
20	O,RLY	Okaloosa Kennel Club	Tallahassee	Jan 31	R Hornfisher, MC Burford, B Hornfisher
24-25	O,	Indian River Dog Training Club	Palm Bay	Feb 07	DE Tessmann-Van Leaven, L Pinnell
24-25	O	Dog Training Club of Tampa	Tampa	Feb-09	PPP
24-25	RLY	Dog Training Club of St Petersburg	St. Petersburg	Feb 16	N Heidt, W O'Brien

March 2024					
Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
01-03	RLY,O	Pensacola Dog Fanciers Assoc	Pensacola	Feb 14	R Hornfisher, B Hornfisher
08-10	RLY	Sarasota Obed Training	Myakka City	Mar 01	J Rogers, J Valentovich (p)
16-17	O	Jupiter-Tequesta Dog Club	Jupiter	Feb 29	CA Klein
23-24	O	Cent FL Obed Dog Club	Orlando	Mar 06	CA Boyle, CA Klein, CA Mett-Trumbly
30-31	O	Orlando Dog Training Club	Orlando	Mar 13	ENA

RLY (Rally), O (Obedience), PO (preferred Obedience), NA (Not yet Approved), TBA (To Be Announced) ENA (event not approved), P (pended), PJA (pending judge approval), PPP (Pending Panel Processing)

## K9 Club Events Calendar for January

<b>Monday</b> 6:00pm 7:15pm	Advanced Puppy Advanced Puppy II	<b>Friday</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> 6:00pm 6:00pm 7:15 pm 7:15pm	Advanced Puppy Agility Foundations Family Dog Advanced Puppy II	<b>Saturday:</b> 9:30am 11:00am 2:00p	Family dog Family dog Novice Obedience
<b>Wednesday</b> 8-10am 9:30am  11:00am 12:15pm 6:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Obedience folks train together Advanced Rally Basic Obedience Intermediate Obedience Intermediate Obedience STAR Puppy Advanced Rally Conformation Drop In's	<b>Sunday</b> 8-10am 10 am 11:30am 1:00pm	Obedience folks meet to train Intro to Odor I/Birch Intro to Odor II Intro to Nose work
<b>Thursday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	K9 Board of Governors Meeting		

Please check the K-9 web calendar for any last-minute updates



### Dates to Remember at the K9 Club

Jan 1 Happy New Year

Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day

Jan 11 Board of Governor's Meeting –





## K9 Webpage

For questions or comments related to the K9 Web pages please contact **Alison Nelson** at [anelsonphs@yahoo.com](mailto:anelsonphs@yahoo.com). Thanks to Alison for updating the website.

## Membership Committee

Any membership questions can be sent to **Coleen Whalen** ([K9Whalen@comcast.net](mailto:K9Whalen@comcast.net))

## Sunshine Committee

**Sheila Garbecki** oversees the "Sunshine Committee". If you know of a member in need of "cheering up" or "well wishes" from the club, please contact Sheila at [sbgarb1@yahoo.com](mailto:sbgarb1@yahoo.com).

## Building and Grounds

If you see something that needs cleaning or repairing, please let **Debbie Gilman** know about it by text [610-597-5454](tel:610-597-5454) or email [debgilman10@gmail.com](mailto:debgilman10@gmail.com)

## Facebook Page

**Janice Butler, Deb Hardman and Juli Wilkison** administrate the Facebook Page. For issues or additions related to the Facebook please email Janice, Deb or Juli

## K9 Website Calendar

**Colleen Whalen** updates the Calendar on the K9 Website. For issues or additions related to the calendar please contact Colleen at [K9Whalen@comcast.net](mailto:K9Whalen@comcast.net).



## Nature's Miracle

## Program Committee

**Colleen Whalen** and **Deb hardman** are out program committee. If you have suggestions for speakers contact with Colleen contact **Colleen Whalen** ([K9Whalen@comcast.net](mailto:K9Whalen@comcast.net)) or **Deb Hardman** ([debhardman1@comcast.net](mailto:debhardman1@comcast.net)) with suggestions.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please email any material you would like included in the Newsletter to [peteronchris7@hotmail.com](mailto:peteronchris7@hotmail.com). If not received by the 25th of this month it will be included in the next issue.