OCTOBER 2025

K-9 TAILS

K9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville Inc.

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2025 BOARD

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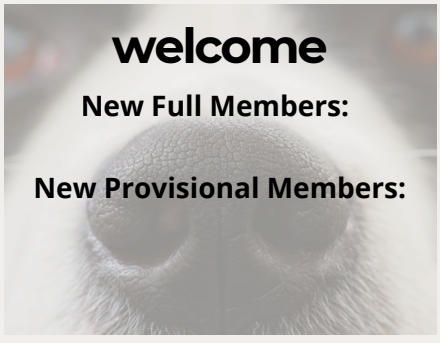
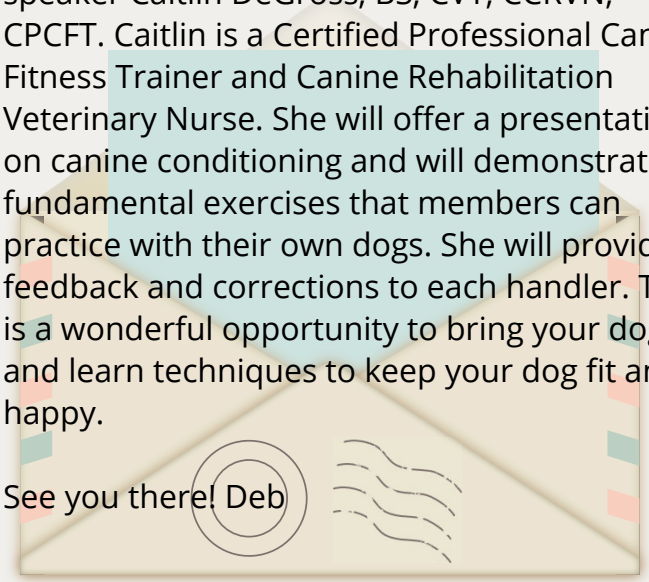


President's Letter

Our classes are up and running, and it is so great to see the club in full swing again.

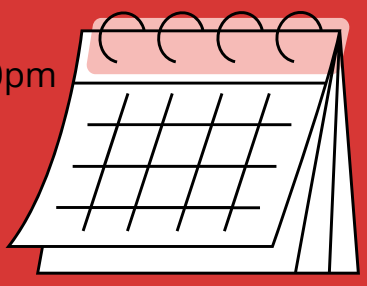
We have our trial in Daytona October 4th and 5th and our **Membership General Meeting October 16th**. I am really excited about our speaker Caitlin DeGross, BS, CVT, CCRVN, CPCFT. Caitlin is a Certified Professional Canine Fitness Trainer and Canine Rehabilitation Veterinary Nurse. She will offer a presentation on canine conditioning and will demonstrate fundamental exercises that members can practice with their own dogs. She will provide feedback and corrections to each handler. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring your dog and learn techniques to keep your dog fit and happy.

See you there! Deb



DON'T FORGET

10/4 & 10/5	K9 Trials
10/4, 17&19	FastCAT
10/11-10/12	DogFest
10/16	General Meeting 7-8pm
10/25	Newsletter deadline
10/26	Show n Go 10:30am-1:30pm



Training Director's Report

Fall classes have started and we are off to a strong start.
Thank you to all the instructors and assistants for making classes such an important part of K-9! We could not offer so many classes without you all.

I am still in need of a few volunteers in various areas, please email me if you need volunteer hours (whoanellietraining@gmail.com).

Class assisting:

- Family Dog: Saturdays 9-10am with Juli. Starts 9/27, end 11/15 (skip 10/4)
- NW level 1: Saturdays 2-3pm with Erika. Starts 9/27, ends 11/8
- NW level 2: Saturdays 330-430pm with Erika. Starts 9/27, ends 11/8

DogFest at Diamond D Ranch:

- Table talking: Saturday 10/11, 12pm-3pm
- Table talking: Sunday 10/12, 9am - 3pm*

*I will take half day volunteers too!

Enjoy your fall classes and happy training!

Trial Report

The October 4 & 5 Rally and Obedience trials in Daytona Beach are in full force! Bring your dog's cutest collar for a photo op set up. Watch the action as a steward by contacting Chief Steward Cheryl Loze to steward at cloze64@gmail.com Members will earn hours toward the 8 hour annual volunteer requirement. Those that volunteer for one full day of the trial have their choice of a coupon for $30.00 toward a K-9 class or trial entry fee, and members that volunteer for two full days of the trial have their choice of a coupon for $60.00 toward a K-9 class and/or trial entry. Any members at the Sunday trial are encouraged to stay and help with the clean up which usually takes 45 minutes.

Members who would like to donate a snack or beverage can contact Hospitality Chair Megan Richards at jukeboxratterriersfl@gmail,com
If you would like to donate supplies to the trial, we can use paper towels, toilet paper, garbage bags, and packs of bottled water.

As always, any member help and support for the trial is always welcome and if you want to help out, please let me know anelsonphs@yahoo.com

Membership News

Membership Renewals

Hello Members! Be sure to check your email inbox starting around **October 1st** for your membership renewal form! Planning to attend our October General Membership Meeting? We will be hosting a membership drive and one lucky member who renews at the meeting will have the chance to win a wonderful dog friendly prize! All you have to do is bring your checkbook or pay by Zelle or PayPal at the meeting and complete your renewal form for your chance to win.

Not attending the meeting? You can still complete your renewal with dues payment and mail or email your form and confirmation of payment via PayPal or Zelle as indicated on the renewal form. This year we will have two forms...one that can be printed and you can hand write in your information and a fillable form that can be completed on your computer then saved for emailing or printed to mail.

The dues are $40 for single membership and $50 for family membership. This increase of $5 is to help offset the increased costs of running our facility.
Please contact our Membership Chair, Stacy Payne, with any questions at k9spayne@gmail.com.

K-9 OBEDIENCE CLUB OF JACKSONVILLE, INC.

2026 Membership Renewal

Date Received:
Check #:
PayPal Zelle

Dear Fellow Member:

Annual dues are payable **on or before January 1st each year**. Please print application and print legibly OR complete this fillable form on your computer then print or save/email form. Dues are payable by check, PayPal or Zelle. If paying by PayPal or Zelle, the renewal form and confirmation of payment must be emailed to: k9obedienceclubjax@gmail.com.

Membership Type: ☐ **Single $40.00** ☐ **Family $50.00** ☐ **Life**

Mail the completed form & a check payable to:

K-9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville, Inc.
c/o Stacy Payne, Membership Chair
2638 Powers Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Circle payment type: Check, Zelle, PayPal

Dues $_____
Extra Gift to K9 $_____
Total Paid $_____

Member's name:	
Address:	
City, State & Zip Code:	
Email address:	
Phone number:	

Family Membership 2nd Member (must live in same household):

Member's name:	
Email address:	
Phone number:	

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ AND SIGN

I agree to abide by the Club's bylaws and constitution which is available on the Club's website. I assume the risk of any injury resulting to myself or my dog while on the property belonging to K-9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville, Inc. or property adjacent to the club. I hereby indemnify and agree to hold harmless the K-9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville, Inc. against any claims for liability for damage to persons or property of others by me or my dog while on the training area or parking area by said club or property adjacent thereto. I agree not to bring onto the K-9 property an overly disruptive dog, or a dog that poses a danger to other dogs or people, and will immediately remove such dog if asked to do so by a representative of K-9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville, Inc. I agree that K9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville may display photos or video of my dog and me. These images may be taken by K9 or submitted by me and be used in print publications, in television presentations or on the internet.

Member signature:		Date:	
2nd Member signature:		Date:	

Revised: 9/11/2025

Need volunteer hours? Check out the opportunities in this issue's training and trial reports!

Provisional Members: K-9 is sponsoring a number of events in the coming months and are excellent opportunities for obtaining your volunteer hours for full membership! Remember...the new requirements include a minimum of 8 volunteer hours and attendance to 2 general membership meetings! Please reach out to Stacy Payne, Membership Chair, with questions or for more information at k9spayne@gmail.com.

Barks & Brags

Cinge earned the High Triple Combined at the Dog Training Club of Tampa's Rally Trial on August 3 under judge Deborah Neufeld. Cinge earned his RM2 and RAE2 and his Fetch Novice (FTN) at the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America National Specialty at Purina Farms in Gray Summit, MO August 25-26. He is now CH Aegean Robel Firestorm CD PCD BN RM2 RAE2 FTN DCAT THD CGCA CGCU STR TKA ATT. Fingers crossed we will earn his RACH at our Rally trial in October!

Barks & Brags

Dannica finally earned her RACH Rally Championship. She was awesome and her handler did ok this time too. She received this BEAUTIFUL ribbon from MADTA in Ocala. So proud of the wonderful little American Cocker Spaniel

Coco Nelson (Alison) High Combined Score Rally Excellent & Advanced (199)
Indian River Dog Training Club September 7, 2025

JC got his Rally Master's title at MADTA on Sep 20.

Boo! Scaredy Dogs

In the spirit of “spooky season,” let’s talk about fear! Fear is a complicated emotional state with many considerations requiring more research to understand the mechanisms, causes, and potential treatments. However, we’ll scratch the surface of what we know and how we might use this information to help our dogs manage fear.

What’s happening in the brain?
When an animal detects a threat, this information goes directly to the amygdala which processes strong emotions like fear. Through a series of signal relaying between different parts of the brain, the sympathetic nervous system activates, releasing hormones generating what’s commonly known as the “fight or flight response.” This response may be better imagined as hyperarousal or self-preservation as reactions range wider than just fight or flight. During this process, emotions take over rational thought including training.

Memory consolidation:
Amygdala’s neighbor, hippocampus, processes the trigger response into short term memory and consolidates it into long term memory. If the memory gets reactivated in a stressful way, it can re-consolidate and strengthen the working threat memory. Structural changes and increased sensitivity across visual, auditory, and olfactory systems occur during fear memory formation.

Fear conditioning:
Fear conditioning is one modality to which animals learn to predict aversive events and exhibit fear responses to contexts that were previously neutral. This is similar to the classical conditioning that occurs when we train. For example when teaching a marker word, the word is a neutral stimulus that doesn’t mean anything to the dog until it’s paired with an unconditioned stimulus, food. Eventually the word becomes conditioned by the food. In fear conditioning, an unpleasant unconditioned stimulus that causes a response (fear), pairs with a neutral stimulus. Through associative learning, the dog responds fearfully to what was previously a neutral stimulus.

Inhibiting and extinguishing fear:
Relatively little is known about inhibiting fear, however it’s thought to be a learned phenomenon. In other words, we can’t forget or delete fear memories, but can create new structural changes through new learning and allow old conditions to weaken. This might be accomplished through systematic desensitization, exposure, preventing fear responses, counter conditioning, and training coping and relaxation strategies. Prior to tackling the trigger, we train responses to replace the fear response usually through relaxation and conditioning. Control Unleashed and pattern games are particularly popular protocols. Once strategies are in place, we can expose the dog to broken down versions of the trigger and combine it with the previously practiced incompatible response through counter conditioning. When counter conditioning, the stimulus happens before presenting treats (unconditioned stimulus) otherwise previous learning can interfere with conditioning and the dog might pair treats and your protocol as the predictor for the trigger. Just like transferring trained cues where the new cue precedes the old cue, the trigger is presented prior to food so that it can be a reliable predictor. If the dog reacts to the incremental trigger, stop and help your dog lower arousal. Once calm, you might present the last successful attempt and continue depending on the outcome. Using a shaping approach can be a powerful way to give the dog control on when to start, stop, and how far to go and in turn build confidence and resilience. Both in and out of training sessions, prevent the dog from practicing fear responses. An incremental active approach where the dog repeatedly confronts fears and retrieves their threat memory without adverse consequences combined with training protocols can help engage the fear extinction process.

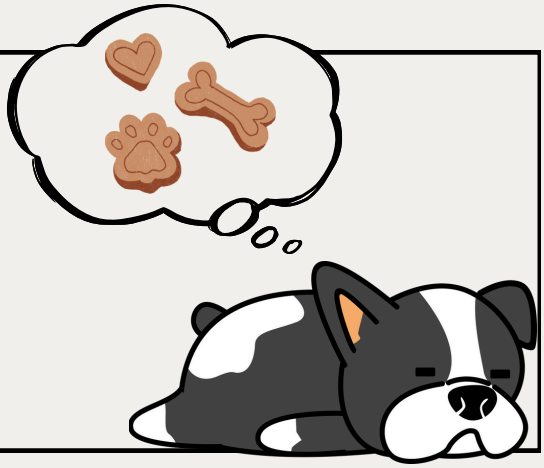
Final thoughts:
Remember that fear is a complicated process. There’s much we don’t know and much that couldn’t be covered in a brief article. It’s my hope that by shedding a little light on the topic we can be more empathetic and supportive when our dogs exhibit fear responses that may inconvenience us in the moment. Our dogs don’t ignore us when they’re afraid, their brain simply cannot process our cues thanks to the amygdala. If we decide to work through fears, hopefully with expert help, let us find patience in knowing it’ll be a slow process as we literally restructure our dogs’ brain and untangle the other mysteries behind fear that we do not understand. - Amy

K9 Class Calendar for October

Monday

5:00-6:00pm Tricks
6:15-7:15pm Advanced Puppy 1
6:15-7:15pm Beginner Rally
7:30-8:30pm Master Rally

Friday



Tuesday

6:00-7:00pm STAR Puppy
6:30-7:30pm Novice Obedience
7:15-8:15pm Advanced Rally

Saturday

9:00-10:00am Family Dog
10:30-11:30am Family Dog
9:00-10:00am Precision Heeling
12:00-1:00pm Engagement Games
2:00-3:00pm Intro to Nosework Level 1
3:30-4:30pm Intro to Nosework Level 2

Wednesday

10:00-11:00am Advanced Rally
6:00-7:00pm STAR Puppy
7:15-8:15pm Advanced Puppy 2
7:15-8:15pm Conformation Drop-in

Sunday

Thursday

6:00-7:0pm Continuing Nosework

Click to check the K9 web calendar for last minute updates

Upcoming Florida Trials

October 2025

Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
10/3-10/5	SCWK	Sarasota Obedience Club	Myakka City	9/19	N Duberow
10/4-10/5	RLY, O	K9 Obedience Club of Jacksonville	Daytona Beach	9/17	Nancy Heidt, L PInnell, BL Roland, NE Noonan
10/4-10/5	RLY	Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg	St. Petersburg	9/26	DM Chorney, M Simpson
10/10-10/12	SCWK	Dog-On-It Agility Club	Lady Lake	9/26	E Jernigan
10/11-10/12	RLY	Dog Obedience Club of Lee County	N Fort Myers	10/1	M Becker, N Heidt
10/17-10/19	SCWK	Scent Work Club of Brevard	Cocoa	10/3	JM Leitzsch, N Duberow, CE Happel
10/17-10/18	RLY	Sarasota Obedience Club	Myakka City	10/1	M Becker
10/18-10/19	O	Imperial Polk Obedience Club of Lakeland	Lakeland	10/1	RE Seeley, E Beasley, L Seeley
10/18-10/19	O	Jupiter-Tequesta Dog Club	Jupiter	10/1	O Chever Jr.
10/20	O	Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States	Ocala	9/10	NJ Watson, M Becker
10/22	O	American Chesapeake Club	Ocala	10/3	M Becker, NJ Watson
10/24-10/26	SCWK	Dog Obedience Club of Lee County	Fort Myers	10/10	WA Hudson
10/25-10/26	SCWK	Greater Panama City Dog Fanciers Association	Panama City	10/15	C Roberts, LM Bara-Weaver
10/25/10/26	RLY	Brevard County Dog Training	Orlando	10/8	K Kincaid, AP Kincaid
10/28-10/29	SCWK	Sonlight Agility Club of Brooksville	Brooksville	10/21	WA Hudson, T Johnson
10/31	O	Marion Alachua Dog Training	Ocala	10/15	NJ Watson

Upcoming Florida Trials

November 2025

Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
11/1-11/2	O	Marion Alachua Dog Training	Ocala	10/15	NJ Watson, DP Neufeld
11/7-11/9	SCWK	Greater Port Charlotte Agility Club	Punta Gorda	10/27	WA Hudson, JM Leitzsch
11/8-11/9	RLY	Indian River Dog Training Club	Palm Bay	10/22	CA Klein, N Heidt
11/10-11/12	SCWK	Doberman Pinscher Club of FL	Punta Gorda	10/27	WA Hudson, SJ Cowell
11/15-11/16	RLY	Obedience Training Club of Palm Beach County	Lake Park	10/29	BJ Crim Critelli, Dr. NE Noonan
11/15-11/16	RLY, O	Greater Ocala Dog Club Inc.	Ocala	10/29	NJ Watson, CA Knight
11/18-11/19	SCWK	Tampa Bay German Shepherd Dog Club	Brooksville	11/11	LM Rieves, T Johnson, WA Hudson
11/21-11/23	SCWK	Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg	St. Petersburg	11/7	WA Hudson, BC McDonald
11/22-11/23	SCWK	Obedience Training Club of Palm Beach County	Lake Park	11/5	M Hohmann, CE Happel, JK McPartland
11/22-11/23	RLY	Dog Training Club of Tampa	Tampa	11/7	J Rogers, Dr. NE Noonan

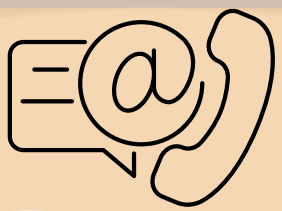
Upcoming Florida Trials

December 2025

Date	Event	Club	City	Closing	Judges
12/5-12/7	RLY, O	Obedience Club of Daytona	Daytona Beach	11/19	NJ Watson, Dr. NE Noonan, Dr. RH Knight, CA Knight
12/6-12/7	O	Dog Obedience Club of Lee County	N Fort Myers	11/25	L Seeley, RE Seeley
12/6-12/7	SCWK	Scent Work Club of Ocala	Groveland	11/19	JM Leitzsch, J Johnson, N Duberow
12/10-12/12	RLY, O	Orlando Dog Training Club	Orlando	11/12	S Schroeder, TG McCall, E Chase, CA Boyles
12/16-12/17	SCWK	Sonlight Agility Club of Brooksville	Brooksville	12/9	T Johnson, WA Hudson
12/27-12/28	SCWK	NorAust K9 Agility Club of Mid Florida	Lady Lake	12/15	WA Hudson

RLY (rally), O (obedience), SCWK (scentwork), 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)

Contact Us



K9 Webpage

For questions or comments related to the K9 web pages, please contact **Alison Nelson** at **anelsonphs@yahoo.com**

Membership

Any membership questions can be sent to **Stacy Payne** **k9spayne@gmail.com**

Sunshine

TBD oversees the "Sunshine Committee." If you know of a member in need of cheering up or well wishes from the club, email **TBD**

Building & Grounds

If you see something that needs cleaning or repairing, please email **Ben Bond** **benbbond@yahoo.com**

Facebook

Deb Hardman, and **Juli Wilkison** administrate the Facebook page. For issues or additions related to Facebook, email Deb or Juli

K9 Web Calendar

Megan Hoeppner updates the calendar on the K9 website. For issues or additions related to the calendar, please email **hoeppner.megan@gmail.com**

Wishlist

Program Committee

If you have suggestions for speakers, contact **Deb Hardman** at **debhardman1@comcast.net**

Newsletter

Email material to include in the newsletter to **amee763@hotmail.com** with the subject *"Newsletter"* by the *25th* of this month. If not received by the 25th, it'll be included in the next issue.