



Obichaff

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



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

August 2024

Volume 81 - Issue 7

"My dogs have made my life better significantly. They have made me happy when I'm at my low and even whenever I'm at my highs, they make it feel higher." - Simone Biles

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From the Editor



We have been packing in as much fun as we

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Information**[Shirley Blakely](#)**Historian (not a
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can this summer! We've turned some work trips into weekend getaways and are getting in trips to the beach whenever possible.

As much as I love to sleep in a bit while on vacation, my family and I got up early to get all the dogs out on the beach at sunrise. It was totally worth it! There's nothing quite like watching well-trained dogs enjoy the freedom that comes along with reliable recall. Little Miley (black dog) is just over a year old, Bodie (golden) was rescued at just under a year, and Hadley is also a rescue. These three are living their best beach life!

A Howlin' Good Time in Harper's Ferry



In July, we took our first trip out to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Despite being only an hour away from the DMV area, we had never ventured out there. I was stunned by how beautiful it was, and how dog-friendly! We hiked, we ate, we read all of the signs explaining the history of each location we came across.



We kicked off the weekend by hiking the [Harper's Ferry Lower Town Trail Loop](#). You can start this trail right from the visitor's center parking lot, which has a \$20 entrance fee good for 3 days. Luckily, this also allows you to park in the lot in town, so it's absolutely worth paying for. If you have a National Park's Pass, you'll be able to use that to park. The initial decline is steep, though well groomed. It is a little tricky to navigate with a dog, though as long as they are responsive to commands it is doable. Once you make it down, you're walking along the road for some time. I found this part to be a bit boring, though once you get about a mile in there is more to see and read about. You can deviate off the trail and onto [Virginus Island](#), which had even more to see.



It was hot, which added a layer of difficulty to the hike that wouldn't otherwise exist. Luckily, once you get down into town, there are tons of access points for the water. Hadley flopped right on in and soaked in the water to cool herself down. There were tons of people in rafts and on floats enjoying the swift moving and cool water. The levels were relatively low, so it was easy to wade around. We then took ourselves over to Shepherdstown, WV. This is another super cute historical town. We grabbed dinner at [Lilah Restaurant](#), which is dog-friendly inside and out! It was a fun experience to eat inside with Hadley. They even have a dog menu!



The next day, we enjoyed some more time wandering around and wading in the river. We then ate at [The Rabbit Hole](#), which has a dog-friendly patio. The food was really great and the service was fantastic. Even if you sit outside, I recommend at least popping inside to check it out. A natural spring runs through the restaurant! It's a super cool thing to see - the restaurant has placed some crystals in there and it feels mystical and special!



We ended our trip with some ice cream before heading home. It was a perfect weekend getaway. I highly recommend for anyone who enjoys travelling with their canine companion!

Facility Update

Submitted by: Shannon Hall



It's been a while since I've done a facility update, but we have some news:

For folks not on the groups.io email list (and by the way, if you are a member you really ought to be on it!), our 30 year old A/C system failed during one of this summer's horrid heat waves. Our HVAC contractor was able to get it up and limping along, but it was clearly time for a replacement. There is no such thing as a cheap industrial A/C system, but we can afford it, and we now have one on order. Once it arrives we will notify members with building access of the install date. This is a good time to remind members that the HVAC crew services our systems regularly; if they come while you are in the building, please let them do their work! The better maintained our systems are, the longer they work.

In other news, the old small trash can was replaced some time ago with a set of waste and recycling bins. If you are at the club on a day before your own recycling is going out, maybe take a bag of the club recycling home with you to put out? That would be super helpful! Replacement bags are in the tall white cabinet in the foyer right next to the bins.

The lost and found is getting chock full - if you are missing anything, please take a look. It is in the tall white cabinet in the foyer. There are at least a couple of dumbbells in there.

While vacuuming before the seminar, I noted a couple of spots that needed to be cleaned with our handheld carpet cleaning machine (on the pillar nearest the entrance). I did want to remind everyone of the existence of the little machine as it is excellent and easy to use - plus much less nasty than cleaning up a truly icky mess on your knees with paper towels.

Finally, we have noted the burdock in the potty area and a club member (thank you Lily!) kindly agreed to tackle it.

A Kind Offer from Joan Adler

Are you an avid scrapbooker, or interested in becoming one? Do you want to add some tools to your hobby or try some new techniques?

Scrapbooking and stamping supplies are now lying idle at my house and it would be a good thing to have these supplies be used by someone who would appreciate them. Some of them are Creative Memories, and Stampin' Up and others are Sizzix and from scrapbook conventions.

Everything is in either good or new condition.

Contact Joan Adler at obediencewithaplan@icloud.com for more information.

Braggs

Submit yours to CDTCObichaff@gmail.com

Delegate's Corner

By: Joyce Dandridge

The following is the latest status report by sport with number of entries as of May 7, 2024:

- Agility up 1.8%; Obedience up 6%; Rally up 15%; Tracking up 0.3%; Scent Work up 30%; Conformation up 2.4%
- Field Trials down 3.3%; CAT up 37%; Herding down 3.7%; Lure Coursing up 56%
- AKC Temperament Test up 13%; Earthdog up 112%; Fast Cat up 19%
- Total Entries all AKC Events up 5%; Total number of all AKC Events up 14%

2025 Agility Nationals- March 13-15, 2025- Tulsa. OK
2024 Agility ISC (International Sweepstakes Class) Nationals-
October 12-13, 2024- Raleigh, NC

December 12 & 13, 2024- Orlando, FL-RACH Invitational- This event will be for RACH titled dogs only. The dogs must have earned a title on or before July 30, 2024. The top six dogs in each breed will be invited based on the number of triple qualifying scores earned during the qualifying period.

Obedience Judge Minimum Requirement to Apply- The Companion Events Department has created a Prospective Judgeship Mentoring program for anyone who intends to apply to judge obedience and/or rally classes within 6 months. The form Request for Prospective Judgeship Mentoring is on the AKC website, judging resources.

Available Classes

[Class List and Registration](#)

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

Classes

Register for all classes [here](#).

Puppy Kindergarten classes begin
April 7 and April 21

Family Dog 1 classes
start May 8 and May 14

Family Dog 2 class
starts May 7

Beginner Novice Obedience
starts April 24

Beginning Conformation
Starts April 27

Continuing Scent Work
starts April 8

Rally Competition Class has space available.
Contact [Training Secretary](#)

Permission is required to register for Beginner Novice, Novice, Open, and Utility Obedience classes
Contact [Training Secretary](#)

Fill out the [Agility Waitlist Questionnaire](#) to get on the wait list for the next available classes.

Email the [Agility Director](#) with all agility related questions.

Email [Training Secretary](#) with all other questions.

Training Groups

Rally Training Group

meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month 1 - 2:30 pm.

Obedience Training Group

meets the 1st Saturday of the month

Conformation Group

meets Saturdays. Contact [Janice](#) with questions. Non-members pre-register and pay for dates you plan to attend [here](#).

Thursday Open/Utility Training Group

(Goldstein @ 12:30pm). Contact [Burton](#).

Friday Utility Training Group (Cleverdon @ 1:00pm). Contact [Donna](#).

For information about **Freestyle Training Group**

Contact [Training Secretary](#)

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 (Obedience, Agility, or Rally).

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). Visit cdtc.org/membership.

Email [Training Secretary](#) with questions.

Next Membership Meeting

August 13th, at 8:00pm



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