



Obichaff

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



December 2024

Volume 81 - Issue 11

*"Dogs should be allowed as much liberty as they can responsibly handle.
The greatest gift of training is that it increases the dog's ability to
handle liberty." - Chad Mackin*

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From the Editor



Happy December, everybody! Welcome to our

Obichaff Editor

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**New Membership
Information**

[Shirley Blakely](#)

**Historian (not a
board member)**

[Joan Adler](#)

last Obichaff for 2024. Historically, there is no January issue, which works well for me because I will be moving across the country the first week of January! That's right, the February 2025 issue will be coming at you live from the Mile High City of Denver.

In the meantime, we spent Thanksgiving at home this year getting some packing done. Hadley loved having extra leftovers to herself. We, of course, watched the National Dog Show - as any good dog person does! It was a great start to our holiday season.

Happy Holidays to all - I hope to see everyone at our Howliday Party on December 10th at 7pm in the Clubroom!

A Historic Win: Vito the Pug takes Top Dog

f_webp image

Move over, football! Thanksgiving Day brings a much more exciting sports-viewing experience with it - the National Dog Show. Each year in November, the Philadelphia Kennel Club hosts the National Dog Show, where the top conformation dogs from 205 breeds compete for the coveted title of Best in Show.

This year was a big one, every single one of the seven group winners would have been the first in their breed to win Best in Show. The herding group was represented by Rupert the [Berger Picard](#). A dog with a name somehow more unique than its appearance, The Zit, an [Ibizan Hound](#), won the Hound Group. The Non-Sporting group sent forth one of their tiniest members, JJ the [Lhasa Apso](#). The Sporting Group winner was Houston the [Clumber Spaniel](#) - a rarer breed, but shout out to some of our very own club clumbers Percy, Winston, and Charlie! Monty the [Giant Schnauzer](#) showed off for the Sporting Group. The Reserve Best in Show was an adorable [Welsh Terrier](#) named Verde. And coming out on top of the Toy Group claiming the first ever Best in Show win for the [Pug](#) was Vito!

Vito is a two year old 18-pound pug from North Carolina. Pugs are described by the AKC as charming, loving, and mischievous - three great qualities to have in a dog. These pint sized pups are well-loved

by many and are known for being a sturdy option for those looking for a smaller dog. The breed standard weight is between 13-18 pounds, making the pug a portable option for those looking for a travel companion. Bred for companionship, these dark-muzzled cuties have a pleading expression that can even win over a non-dog lover. Thinking a pug might be the fit for you? Learn more about them [here](#)!

To win Best in Show, Vito beat over 1900 dogs! Conformation is a highly competitive dog sport, with seasoned handlers, dedicated breeders, and meticulous owners. It takes a ton of behind-the-scenes work to prepare these show dogs for their big moment. Each team spends time grooming, training, and even preparing for the next generation of show dogs. Are you taking a look at the dog next to you and thinking "hey, maybe you could be a show dog!?" Get started by reading [here](#), and then check out our conformation classes below!



Howliday Preparations



As family and friends travel to our homes for the holiday season, we are often reminded of something: not everyone makes a great houseguest! While it isn't easy to train your chatty uncle to behave in the house, it can be much easier to train your pup.

Preparation is key when it comes to keeping the holidays cheerful for our canine companions. The first step is to take a moment and think about your dog's personality and temperament. Is your dog a social butterfly who has never known a stranger and enjoys all interactions? Or maybe you have a wallflower who prefers to observe from a distance as they decide if a person is friend or foe? Perhaps somewhere in between? It is important to consider what your dog can handle and what expectations are fair for them, don't force

interactions if your dog's motto is "no new friends".

Next, make sure you are geared up and ready for the busier days. Just because it is cold outside doesn't mean you can't still get out there and enjoy! Getting outside for a brisk walk or a hike is a great bonding opportunity and a great way to tire your pup out so they are cool, calm, and collected around dinner guests. Bundle up and get out there!

Now that you've committed to some extra exercise, solidify the whole routine with some downtime after. Make a routine of a big walk followed by a big nap in a safe and cozy space that can be closed off. That can be a bedroom, crate, mudroom - whatever works. By patterning this now, your dog will know the drill and be ready to go while you head out to the holiday happy hour for work. This also allows you to manage the situation if guests come to you. You can't control your cousin's rowdy kids, but you can make a back room off limits for your dog to snooze safely. Start now and your dog will be a pro within weeks!

While you brush up on your training and make your routine rock solid, make sure you pick up something special for your pup! I suggest a long-lasting chew to keep your pup entertained and fulfilled in their crate during a holiday gathering. Everyone loves a tasty gift!

Quigley the Rising Star!

Submitted by Jodie Jeweler



The commercial for Maryland lottery that Quigley is in aired on NBC right after the dog show! It should air frequently on MD channels. It starts with a woman in a gas station store, and "Cute Santa" buying lots of scratchers. Cuts to Quigley waiting in Santa's car at the pump. And it aired 1st on his birthday!!

Upcoming: Connie Cleveland Seminar

CAPITAL DOG TRAINING CLUB PRESENTS

Connie Cleveland-Nolan Obedience Seminar

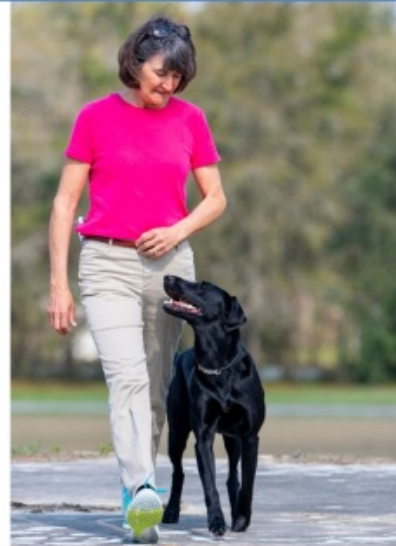
Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13, 2025

CONNIE CLEVELAND-NOLAN is an internationally recognized dog trainer who has been teaching and coaching dog obedience students for over 3 decades.

In 2019, Connie launched *The Obedience Road*, a complete online resource for obedience competitors. Utilizing written and video content, monthly webinars, community forums and personalized video review, Connie coaches obedience newcomers and experienced competitors alike.

Connie competes in both Obedience and Retriever Field Trials, having finished 12 Obedience Trial Champions (OTCH), 2 Field Champions (FC), 5 Amateur Field Champions (AFC), a UDT Maltese and a CDX Shih-Tzu.

(For more information, visit www.ObedienceRoad.com)



SEMINAR LOCATION: 2758 Garfield Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910

TIME: 8:30am – 4:30pm

SEMINAR SPECIFICS: Working spots capped at 20, unlimited audit space

LUNCH: CDTC will provide lunch and snacks included in seminar fee

FEE: Working spot \$300 for both days
Auditors \$150 for both days

SIGN UP: See form below

DEADLINE: Cancellations with full refund accepted by March 15, 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Donna Cleverdon – 301-785-5203
clvrddog@verizon.net



For more information, please reach out to [Donna Cleverdon](#).

To sign up, please utilize the form below, which can also be accessed as a PDF [here](#).

SIGN-UP FORM FOR

Connie Cleveland-Nolan

Obedience Seminar

Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13, 2025

☐ WORKING SPOT☐ AUDIT

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

DOG BREED: _____

DOG'S AGE: _____

CALL NAME: _____

CURRENT TRAINING LEVEL: _____

(MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CDTCT)

MAIL THIS FORM WITH CHECK TO: Donna Cleverdon
8913 Walden Road,
Silver Spring, MD 20901

A black dog is captured in mid-air, jumping over a white hurdle. The dog is wearing a pink collar and has a white bone in its mouth. The background is a green grassy field. The hurdle is white with a blue base.

Braggs



Jennie Larkin shares:

Nikko finished all three Novice agility titles in one day at the Norwegian Elkhound. Club's trial on November 17 at Oriole DTC.

he was super — making up for my bad ankle (which flared up and made me unable to run or even walk for more than a month!).

Nikko says special thanks to Auntie Shannon for stepping in to run him when I was completely lame!

On to open and getting more confident in doing those pesky weaves in public!

Nikko: ITS Fuligin's Winged Monkey CA FCAT NA NAJ NF CGC















Marnie McCown just wrapped up the latest Tricks class with title testing. She was delighted to test dogs who can communicate with buttons, turn on lamps, spin, balance and even dance! Congratulations to the following good (and talented) doggos!!

Morgan (Schipperke)

Lilo (Mini Schnauzer)

Frida (GSD/Mal)

Annie (Corgi)

Stax (GSP)

Andrei (PB)

Serious (Doberman)

Submit yours to CDTCObichaff@gmail.com

Delegate's Corner

By: Joyce Dandridge

Check back in the New Year!

Available Classes

[Class List and Registration](#)

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

Classes

Register for all classes [here](#).

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:
Our Annual Howliday Party!
December 10th, at 7:00pm in the Clubroom

Do you have an idea for an article? Perhaps a message for dog-people is taking up space in your brain and you need to put pen to paper? Submit your articles for the Obichaff [here](#)!



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Capital Dog Training Club | 2758 Garfield Avenue | Silver Spring, MD 20910 US

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