

What's the difference between dogs and cats? Dogs say "These people feed me. They must be god!" Cats say, "These people feed me. I must be god."

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From the Editor

It has been a snowy winter. With the first snow this year, Magic was out in the backyard running and playing. Even my senior dog, Milo, got into the act, at least for a short while. Later the same day, I took Magic for a walk in the woods. I made snow balls and she chased them only to find they "magically" disappeared as soon as she got them in her mouth. It is times like these that I stop and reflect what a joy it is to have a dog by your side. A walk in the snowy woods is fun, but with a dog it becomes a special memory. To my readers, go and make your special dog memories.

In this issue I have written a story about what it would be like to run a team of sled dogs in Alaska. A few days after I finished the article, Donna Cleverdon sent me an email asking if I would be interested in a book review of *Winterdance*. The book is about a man who trains a team of dogs to run the Iditarod. Of course I would, and what a great fit!

I also edited a piece on how to avoid injuries in agility. Lo and behold, a few days later I get an email from Shannon Hall with an article about bring a dog

back to agility competition after an injury.

I just love it when an issue of the newsletter comes together so well. Please enjoy this issue of the *Obichaff*. If you feel you have something to add, please write it up and send it to me. Thank you, happy New Year and may all your OTCH dreams come true.

Editors Note: Milo passed away on January 28th. I will write more about Milo in the next issue.

President's Message

Dear Friends,

Here is some good news for a change.

Good news item #1: The AKC has approved our Bylaws revisions. Yippee! The revised Bylaws (2022) will be up on the CDTC web site soon. There were few changes in the previous version, the main one being that we are now officially allowed, in perpetuity, to conduct official business via electronic means, such as ZOOM. I do hope that we will some day have at least an occasional meeting in person in the club house, especially when we can have an educational speaker. I would dearly love to have our Howl-a-day Party together and have real training games as we used to do. For the past two years, we have held the Awards Dinner in person, on a date in September, outside at the lovely Seneca Creek State Park, a highly satisfactory alternative to an in-club-house July meeting. That venue and date has been so pleasant that you, the membership, may prefer to continue that outside picnic atmosphere even when we may return to indoors in July.

Good news item #2: In the near future we will be replacing the club house floor. The black rubber mats have become dangerously slippery. The Board of Directors has approved the purchase of artificial turf from the soon to be decommissioned FISC. Janine Castorina iced the deal to get us the turf at an extremely attractive price. I am sure we all anticipate gladly the installation. THAT project will require many helpers and several days of work. So be ready, when asked, to lend a hand!

One another note, while Omicron may currently be on the wane, I am counting on all members who use the club house to remain diligent and keep your masks on. Be careful as you go to trials and show this spring. We can, we will, beat this thing. But beating Covid-19 requires all of us to protect each other. Be considerate, be safe, be well.

Mushing in Alaska

What would it be like to run the Iditarod or the Yukon Quest? All you need is a sled, a team of dogs, hours of training time, snow, lots of snow, and the time to run a 1,000-mile race. I live in Maryland and lack the time and patience to train a team of dogs to mush through the wilds of Alaska. While I can't run the Iditarod, I can get a feel for what it is like to run a dog team through the Alaska wilderness. The [Last Frontier Mushing Coop](#) is a cooperative of kennels and competition sled dog racers located 150 miles below arctic circle. They offer a 3-hour mushing school where you can learn to drive your own team of huskies. You will cover 10 miles of terrain on the Yukon Quest trail. The Last Frontier Coop will provide the cold weather gear, hot beverages, and snacks. You will get a sense of what it is like to run a 1,000 mile race with a team of dogs. They also offer a 3-hour Aurora tour. This is how they describe it: "Enjoy a peaceful ride down the snow laden trails listening to the jingle of dog harnesses as we chase the elusive Aurora." It sounds wonderful. That and warming up in the Mongolian Yurt.

One thing that I really like about Last Frontier outfit is that the dogs are not owned by the company. All the dogs belong to the guides. The dogs used for the tours are retired from racing, but still active and willing to take tourist for an easy 3 hour ride through the Alaska woods. Driving a team of dogs in Alaska is on my bucket list. I wonder if they would let me take one or two dogs home with me.



Winterdance

Book Review

By Donna Cleverdon

I recently received as a gift a book I had read years ago. I decided to sit down and read it again. I'm so glad I did. It is Gary Paulsen's *Winterdance, the fine madness of running the Iditarod*. What a wonderful book! If you haven't read this, do yourself a favor and do so. It will feel especially appropriate while we have snow on the ground.

I had been familiar with Paulsen's writing before getting this book, as I had sons in my house who enjoyed his series of "coming-of-age" stories for young readers. *Winterdance* is a memoir of how the author began to run sled dogs and how he got the notion to run the big race, and goes on from there. But more than a mere travelog, it is a poignant example of what we dog trainers try to achieve - a closer bond with our dogs. Paulsen's bond with his dogs, especially with "Cookie" his leader, evolved from one that was close to one that

becomes complete, right down to sleeping with them, eating with them and ultimately surviving with them, or perhaps *because* of them.

Many of the episodes in the book are laugh-out-loud funny. His self-deprecating humor is exemplary. He is similarly generous in writing about his wife and her tolerance for the outlandish predicaments caused by his ignorance and misjudgments. An example: going out for a training run one night, the team jumps multiple skunks. One dog in particular, Devil, sees skunks as a desirable food source, so the team gets pulled into death battles with the critters. Paulsen tries to get the dogs off the skunks and one by one, each drenches him in the product of its anal sacs. The dogs of course are similarly doused, everybody arrives home reeking of SKUNK. Ruth Paulsen is awakened from sleep by the olfactory assault, gently evicts our hero from the house, whereupon he gets out the sleeping bag and sleeps next to Devil's kennel in the dog yard. Many other "training" adventures ensue.

When the preparation for the race reaches its culmination, the rattle-trap donated truck arrives in Alaska, and Paulsen is broke, but presses on, thanks to the largess of the man who gave him the truck and who had driven to Anchorage with him. Gary's neighbors and strangers and random citizens of his town in Minnesota had donated money and goods to get them there, so scratching seems ungrateful, so the author presses on.

The story takes an elegiac turn as soon as the team gets out into wild Alaskan interior. The writer's descriptions of the beauty of the terrain, and the terrors of the trail are breath-taking. His adoration of the dogs is complete. I can't begin to tell you about that, you just have to read the book.

At Skwentna, one of the volunteer checkers asked Paulsen. "How do you like the race so far?"

"I..."

Nothing came. She patted my arm and nodded. "I understand. It's so early in the race There'll be more later to talk about..."

And she left me before I could tell her that I thought my whole life had changed, that my basic understanding of values had changed, that I wasn't sure if I would ever recover, that I had seen god and he was a dog-man and that nothing, ever, would be the same for me again, and it was only the first true check point of the race.

I had come just one hundred miles.'

I should quickly add that the Iditarod race course is 1,180 miles from start to finish. Paulsen ran and finished the race twice.

This is a tale of dogs, canine-human bond, danger and survival, dogs, awesome natural beauty, dogs, and the love of dogs. Don't miss out, read this book

Agility Injuries and What You Can Do to Prevent Them.

Dog agility is one of the fastest growing dog sports and one of the most physically demanding. Consequently, it can lead to injuries.

A recent study by researchers at Ohio State University looked at the frequency and type of injury dogs competing and training in dog agility may experience. The study asked survey participants whether their dog had ever experienced an injury that kept them from participating in agility for longer than a week and the location of the injury. 4,701 dogs participated in the study, of which, 41.7% (1,958) reported experiencing an injury. The most common injury experienced by agility dogs in the study was injuries to the shoulder (30.1% of reported injuries) and the iliopsoas muscle (hip muscle) (19.4% of reported injuries). In a 2015 study, 32% of agility dogs suffered from some kind of orthopedic lameness during the course of their training. Of these dogs, 53% of the lameness's were caused by muscle or tendon injuries and further research has revealed that 32% of hind limb lameness involved the iliopsoas muscle group.

Factors contributing to injury are: 1) course design, 2) The age of the dog, 3) Experience level of both dog and handler, 4) Training, 5) Breed of the dog, 6) Known medical conditions 7) Previous injuries, 8) Weather conditions and surface conditions, and 9) Behavior of the dog (e.g., level of arousal).

The best thing you can do to prevent injuries is to have a well conditioned, physically fit dog. By improving your dog's physical condition through targeted and specific sport exercises you can a) improve the muscles ability to withstand load and b) minimize the fatigue response that occurs when muscles are deconditioned. When your dog's muscles fatigue, they can become clumsy and more apt to fall or stumble. This is not ideal for the agility dog and can increase their risk of injury. Canine conditioning also targets muscles that can be under-utilized in regular activities like walking, running and hiking (e.g. small stabilizer muscles). During these activities, large muscle groups tend to take over and the smaller muscles/stabilizers can get neglected. Without targeted conditioning exercises, this can lead to

undesirable compensation issues in your dog's body and various muscle imbalances.

Bringing a Dog Back to Competition After an Injury

By Shannon Hall

Bringing a dog back to competition after an injury can be hard. Last spring Connor slid out while flying around on wet grass in the yard. He has done this any number of times as he is a total spaz, but this time he pulled something in his right rear leg. This can be a hard injury for a pet owner to detect, as our quadrupeds are well versed in compensating for a single leg injury and rear leg strains often don't cause limping. In Connor's case, it took me a few weeks to even detect a problem, and a good month to realize that the usual approach of rest from activity and leash walks only wasn't going to fix him. Now we began the search for an appointment to get a diagnosis, and then the search for rehabilitation, and finally started that long process.

My vet diagnosed Connor's injury as a likely iliopsoas strain (think groin pull in a human), with a sartorius (muscle from hip to below knee) strain also likely and recommended physical therapy. Skylos was taking no new patients, so after a frantic request for recommendations, I ended up at Kentlands, who have a veterinary PT specialist on staff. The intake visit confirmed my vet's diagnosis and also numerous issues from Connor's long period of compensating for his injury. So here we were rehabbing not only the original groin and knee strain, but also the opposite leg and bicep, the low back, and dealing with spinal mis-adjustment problems to boot. Just like with us when we favor an injured foot or leg joint and mess up our hips and back as a result!

It took us a good five weeks of twice a week PT, with some additional massage and chiropractic sessions, to recover. At that point we were still nowhere near return to competition as Connor had lost a good few pounds of muscle from not only his leg, but also his top line, and still did not have his full, pre-injury, range of active motion. Return to full activity at a deficit like that will land you right back in rehab! We went through another five weeks of active rehab and water treadmill to build back strength, while I did my part at home with lots of small PT

sessions. At that point I was ready to start his return to competition, but I was nervous enough to ask to continue rehab at once per week so that the PT could monitor his progress and make sure I was not hurting him. The thought of messing up all our hard work was hanging like a dark cloud over my head during the next few weeks!

Our initial reentry was a little rough, as Connor clearly remembered hurting when jumping and came back very cautiously. As the runs went by without pain, he regained confidence and speed and in early December he finished his NADAC NATCH-3 and Versatility NATCH-3 at a local trial. A few weeks later he finished his last two AKC Master's agility titles to give us all three: MX, MXJ and MXF. We are dropping him four inches lower in jump height now to be cautious of over-stressing him, but Team Connor is back! Thanks to all the veterinary professionals who keep our pups healthy and take our activities seriously. We could not do these things without you.

Brag

Alyse Keller writes: A big thank you to Art and the Capitol Dog Training club! Ada and I began our nose work journey in spring 2021 with the intro class and fell in love with the game! After we graduated intro, we have been participating in the travel classes. These are so helpful as we've prepared for trial. Ada and I just achieved our NACSW Element Level 1 interior (L1I) and Level 1 exterior (L1E) titles! We can't wait to keep playing the game - I'm looking forward to more fun adventures and Ada can't wait to get paid in cheese!

Mimi Concannon and Payton Murphy's dog Hadley earned her CGC title. Mimi, Payton and Hadley are taking scent work classes at CDTC and we expect to see great things from them.

Janine Castorina writes: Horus received his novice fast agility title. Though he does not look too impressed! He's never been a fan of the forced pose for pictures.

Karen Wolf-Branigan writes: Miko earned her ACT1 and ACT1 Jumper titles thanks to teachers Julie Pavlin and April de Bremond in her Beginner Agility Class. She also obtained her DCAT at the Mount Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club Fast Cat event.

Martha Perkins writes that Moose celebrated his 2nd birthday. He and Zan enjoyed a 4-layer hamburger cake!

Julie Rovner and Wallace (Honeyfox Lover of Wensleydale) earned their UD title at Catoctin Kennel Club Dec. 4. Wallace won the class for each of his 3 legs. Wallace will now concentrate on agility for a while, while little sister Aspen prepares for her obedience debut sometime this spring.

Rachel Hutko, a junior member of CDTC, and Ciarra, a rough collie, placed first, second and third in beginning novice. Thus, receiving the beginner novice title in obedience last July. On their first trial they received a score of 196 1/2. On December 31, 2021 they achieved the novice title in obedience with second and 2 third places. Thanks Marsha for the wonderful instruction and support.

Hazel L. Troendle writes: Hellfire's Heartbreaker CAA DCAT SWA SCE RATS CZ8B DJ DS CGC TKI ORT ELT-1 NW3-C NW3-E NW3-I NW3-V L2C L2E L3I L2V

Dream had a fantastic day showing in NACSW Elite NoswWork at the Red Huskies's January 2022 Emmitsburg trial on the campus of Mount St Mary's college. Despite the cold, freezing rain and ice. Dream had a great day. We had four interior searches. My goal was no no's (any NACSW person knows what that means). We didn't get any no's. We completed Dream's Elite-2 title with the full 100 points as all 17 hides were found and correctly called, third in one of the four searches, first place overall and pronounced overall. We were one of two to find all the hides and finished 4:18.42 faster than the second place person.

Jennie Larking reports that Tali earned her FCAT4 at the Mason-Dixon KC Fast CAT event on January 22nd.

Marnie McCown writes that on December 22nd Beau earned his CGC title.

Jennie Larking reports Hermes earned his BCAT on January 2nd at the Mount Vernon Mini Schnauzer Club Fast CAT trial.

Jennie Larking writes: Tali was invited for a second year to the AKC Agility Invitational. She was the top Preferred Canaan Dog for the year and also earned a big medallion for the high scoring Canaan Dog at the event.

I am grateful to Tali for these achievements and what they mean about us as a team. It was a life goal to attend the event and represent the breed! It was a very busy and intense venue. She spent a lot of energy being a good girl in the very crowded, noisy setting, which meant that her runs were a bit slower than normal. But we were there together and she did everything I asked. These photos show that she was enjoying running with me. (And the poached chicken she got after each run!)

While we were there she also participated in a professional photo shoot sponsored AKC to help educate people about the breed. I saw some of those photos and they were gorgeous! I cannot wait to see the finished product.

Karma, a Shiloh shepherd, who lives in Colorado, thrives in the cold weather and just loves the snow.

CDTC Students Earn Agility Titles

By Julie Pavlin

For the last class of Beginner Agility on December 5th, the class held an Agility Course Test event. This is a new AKC program designed to introduce beginning teams to AKC agility trials and events. Exhibitors fill out entry forms, check-in, properly take their dog and in and out of the ring and handle them in the ring with all the same rules as a regular agility trial, but in a low pressure environment. Evaluators can include AKC agility judges, AKC agility field representatives or an ACT evaluator who has achieved an agility excellent title and passed an exam. CDTC now has two ACT Evaluators – Janine Castorina and Julie Pavlin. Julie served as the evaluator for this event.

There are two levels for both Standard and Jumpers – ACT1 and ACT2 and the Beginner class did the first level. You can design your own course and have it approved by AKC or they can send you a course that fits your training area. AKC designed the courses for this event. For ACT, two qualifying runs are required for an ACT title and we had 5 titles earned on December 5th!! Rick Blum and Ivy, Karen Wolf-Branigan and Miko, Maya and Cori, Jackie Ward and Suki and Pam

Ayres and Suki all earned their ACT1 Jumpers title (plus other qualifying runs achieved by these and additional students).

Janine Castorina and Horus also achieved their ACT1 Standard title that day! Janine then went on to host additional ACT1 and ACT2 events and Beginner class members Martha Perkins and Moose received both ACT1 Jumpers and Standard titles, and Karen and Miko and Rick and Ivy also qualified and received their ACT1 Standard titles.

Congratulations to all the teams!

Hero Dog Saves Her Human

Tinsley was in an accident with her human in rural Vermont. The car crashed and went off the highway. Tinsley managed to get out of the car and onto the highway. She got the attention of the police and lead them back to the crash site. The driver was unconscious and but for Tinsley's help may have died from hyperthermia. Whose a good girl? Tinsley!



Pet Population on the Rise.

According to a recent AVMA survey both dog and cat populations have increased in recent years, as well as the percentages of households owning dogs or cats. Animal shelters are a key source of new pet acquisition—accounting for 40% of cats and 38% of dogs in 2020.

In 2020, 45% of households owned dogs, up from 38% at year-end 2016. The population of pet dogs was estimated to be between 83.7 million and 88.9 million last year, up 9%-16% from year-end 2016. In 2020, 26% of households owned cats, up from 25% at year-end 2016, and the population of pet cats was estimated to be between 60 million and 61.9 million last year, compared with 58.4 million five years ago.

While more people owned pets in 2020, they were also more likely to own a smaller number of pets. For example, 65% of dog-owning households owned just one dog in 2020, while 60% did at year-end 2016. And 56% of cat-owning households in 2020 had just one cat, compared with 53% five years earlier.

While animal rescues and shelters are a key source of new pet acquisition, 42% of dog owners in 2020 said they got their dog from a store, as did 43% of cat owners. However, stores are increasingly providing pets from shelters and rescues, which explains why 24% of pet owners indicated they got a pet from both a store and a shelter.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were slightly evident in the results. People who work remotely were eight times as likely to get a new pet in 2020. Other people likely to get a new pet were homeowners with a household income over \$100,000, those who were financially the same or better off since the pandemic began, and those under 45 who were married with children.

Having more time was a reason that about two-thirds of married and never-married respondents cited for their new ownership of a pet, while companionship was a reason for 55% of respondents who were divorced, separated, or widowed.

Want to Make a Donation for Hungry Dogs? It's Easy!

The food pantry is now accepting unopened containers of dog food. Cleverdog is accepting dog food donations in their front vestibule and then delivering them to the food pantry. Feel good by dropping off doggie food donations on your way to CDTC. It takes less than a minute and does so much good.

Available Classes

[Class List and Registration](#)

Upcoming Classes/Tests/Trials

[Conformation \(Beginner, Jrs., Puppies, Training Group\)](#) - Use link to register. Training group is ongoing. Contact [Janice](#) for help choosing a class.

Puppy Kindergarten - we have a class starting in March. Register at cdtc.org/puppy-kindergarten. Add your name to the update list [HERE](#) for new class schedule announcements

Family Dog 1&2 - we have a Family Dog 2 class starting in February. Register at cdtc.org/family-dog-classes. Add your name to the update list [HERE](#) for new class schedule announcements

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1,2, &3 - email [Tom](#)

[Novice & Open](#) classes on Monday nights are taking new students

[Rally Competition Class](#) - for those ready to or already competing (Atkinson, Thursdays @ 11AM, ongoing)

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

Click [here](#) to go straight to registration. Email [Training Secretary](#) for questions.

Click [here](#) for more class information on the CDTC website.

NEW CLASSES!

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 (FCO1): This class slowly and systematically teaches heeling with sustained attention. Dogs will also be taught to stand, sit and down quickly and without moving out of position. Fast, straight fronts and sits will be taught. Ring entry and sustained connection between dog and handler will also be emphasized. Students enrolling in this class should have a strong commitment to excelling and will be expected to practice between classes. Permission of the Instructor is required. Email [Tom](#)

Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 2 (FCO2): This class teaches foundation skills necessary for competing in Open and Utility. It is not necessary to have earned a novice title before taking this class, but all dogs must have excellent heeling (on and off leash), and straight fronts and finishes that are performed promptly. Students will have typically completed Fundamentals of Competition Obedience 1 prior to enrolling. Foundation skills that will be taught include: retrieving, go-outs, directed jumping, pivots and scent discrimination. The emphasis will be on providing a firm foundation in these skills and providing a roadmap for training the actual competition skills. Less emphasis will be placed on training these skills to the point of being competition-ready. Instead, students will be prepared to perfect these skills in open and utility classes. Ideally, this class will be taken upon completion of Fundamentals of Competition Obedience. Permission of the Instructor is required. Email [Tom](#)

Training Groups:

Conformation Group meets 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm. Non-members pre-register and pay for dates you plan to attend [HERE](#).

FCO Training Group meets some Saturdays at 1pm. Contact [Tom](#).

Thursday Open/Utility Training Group (Goldstein @ 12:30pm). Contact [Burton](#).

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

Rally Training Group meets some 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 1pm. Contact [Sue](#).

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.

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.

Scent Work Travel Class

The CDTC Scent work travel class met over the Holidays to practice our skills at detecting hidden odor. I say our, because scent work is very much a team sport, the dog uses its incredible nose and the human its brain and together they work to find the hidden scent. Dogs love sent work because it combines three of their favorite activities, hunting, treats and being with their human.

To begin, a dog is taught that a particular odor, birch, anise, or clove will earn them a treat. After a time, the dog starts to signal that it has found the odor and wants its treat. In travel class we practice interior, exterior, container, and vehicle hides. Travel class meets irregularly and in different locations. It is not necessary to attend every travel class. We have used the CDTC clubhouse, a garage in Bethesda, my home, and the Woods Academy, just to mention a few locations. The point is to get your dog working confidently in different environments and under different conditions. If you are interested in joining the CDTC scent work travel class, please send me an [email](#).

Below are a few photos of dogs working scent during the Holiday travel class, which was held in CDTC's warm and comfy clubhouse.

CDTC Agility Trial

April 8, 9, & 10, 2022

Spring is just around the corner and so is the annual CDTC Agility Trial.

Dates: April 8, 9 & 10, 2022

Location: Carroll Indoor Sports Center
515 Old Westminster Pike, Westminster, MD 21157

[Premium Agility Trial](#)

We love volunteers and will gladly provide on the job training. So this is a great opportunity to learn more about agility trials if you are just starting agility or thinking about it. Please send our trial chair [Benita Bottom](#) an email if would like to volunteer or serve as the Chief Steward volunteer coordinator. Let us know what days and times you would like to volunteer. We to see you in April at the trial.

Delegate's Corner

By Joyce Dandridge

In the Companion Events Committee Meeting:

- The average entry per event- Rally in 2021 was 44.2 and up from 2019 of 42.5; Obedience was 43.2 and up from 42.3 in 2019; Agility was 272.7 in 2021 and down from 300.5 in 2019
- There is a nice article in the November edition of the Gazette on the National Tracking Invitational.
- The Distance which was revised during COVID between exhibitors in the Obedience Novice Group Exercises will expire on December 31, 2021 and return to six feet between dogs in the Novice Group Exercises.
- In the AKC Juniors Obedience Classics 13 juniors participated with 14 dogs and in Rally there were 14 juniors participating with 22dogs. The ages were from 9 to 18 and coming from 11 states. In the Junior Agility Competition there were 77 dogs entered.
- After having the pilot for Fix n' Go in 2021 and conducting a survey of all obedience judges who had judged during the program and exhibitors who used it, the staff is recommending to the AKC Board to make it a permanent enhancement to the sport of obedience. 90% of the exhibitors that used Fix n' Go said they believe being able to repeat a single individual exercise had improved their dog's performance at future trials. 95% of them feel the program should continue. 98% of the judges feel it is good for the dogs and it will have a positive impact.
- The balance of the meeting discussed the dog with three legs being able to compete in Obedience and Rally. Currently, the Obedience and Rally Regulations state- A dog that is lame in the ring at any Rally (Obedience) trial may not compete in that class. Lameness is defined as any irregularity of locomotion. Under this "irregularity of

locomotion” definition, the department has concluded that three legged dogs are not eligible to participate in Rally and Obedience. The staff is willing to modify this regulation and asked the CEC committee for input on possible change. From this a discussion occurred with some on the committee and in the audience stating concerns about dogs’ physical health. As I presented in our last meeting, some of the views are still being discussed on line. No decision has been made on the regulation. The CEC is seeking expert advice from veterinarians specifically working with physically challenged dogs. I understand veterinarians on the AKC CHF have also asked to give their thoughts. I will keep you posted as this continues to be quite an interesting topic.

In the General meeting:

- The candidates for the AKC Board were introduced and they gave a short bio of their experiences. The three are currently members of the Board and there were no new nominations. Thus, they will be reelected to serve another term. If you are interested in their bios, please email me or go on the AKC website where they are posted.
- A request was made to Clubs to send in the names of their Junior Coordinators. It was suggested that clubs have a Juniors Committee. The committee can choose club events for Junior participation. It was mentioned there is a resource page for Juniors on AKC’s website. I emailed to all CDTC members a video which gives information on AKC’s involvement in Juniors. If any one is interested in being Coordinator or being on the committee, please contact Donna

CDTC Swag

Do you love CDTC? If so, you can purchase CDTC logo items at [Cafepress](#). Order now and get your stuff for the holidays. Capital gets a portion of the proceeds. There’s a great selection from sweatshirts, to mugs to magnets.

CDTC Groups.io

CDTC members, if you have not done so already, please join <mailto:cdtc@groups.io>. It is a great way to keep up with the day-to-day activities of our club. To sign up, go to <https://groups.io/g/cdte> and click “Apply for Membership.”

Next General Membership Meeting
February 8, 2022 at 8:00pm



[Visit our website](#)

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