



# Obichaff

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

February 2013

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## A Capital Dream Come True!

By Amy Huprich Cook

**T**each an old dog new tricks? Sure! Why not! That's what I told myself as I entered through the door of Capital Dog Training Club in early autumn 2011. Andy, my Pembroke Welsh Corgi, was just about to turn 10, and here we were, all signed up for Joan Adler's sub-novice class on Thursday mornings. This was the beginning of a childhood dream come true for me. I had done junior conformation and obedience as a teenager with German Shepherds. Now, with my little Corgi, I wasn't sure how far we would make it as a team. But we sure were going to try.

Andy wasn't the only one challenged by circumstance. I, too, had physical limitations that I wasn't sure would put a damper on my training ambitions. Fibromyalgia, arthritis, and a persistent back problem had affected my mobility so severely lately that I had been looking at walkers. Not only that, I had just been diagnosed with a balance disorder which meant that I could barely walk a straight line without looking like a drunken sailor. How could I train on my feet for a straight hour and do all the precise movements required in novice obedience? Sure, Andy and I had participated in a therapy dog program and trained for fun in the past. He even

had his CGC. But competition obedience was challenge we had never before imagined.



*Amy and Andy—a true success story!*

Here is where Andy, despite his own arthritis, stepped in and showed me the way. It's as if he shouted loudly at me in his own "doggy" way, "Hey mom—we CAN do this! Plus we're having FUN!" So we started attending class week after week with Andy prancing proudly into the ring for every class. Joan, with her years of experience and knowledge, guided us through each step of novice obedience, including how to pace ourselves around a figure-eight, sharpen our corners, get a straight recall, and how to help Andy keep the stays. Before we knew it, we had taken the proficiency test and were headed to Brooke Holt's novice class. There, we joined a dedicated group that

supported one another and gained considerably by Brooke's stellar training career. At this point, I was beginning to think that "Team Andy" really could reach that childhood dream and earn that CD.

The real transformation for Andy and I was not only the strengthening of our relationship and bond, but a very real change in both of our physical and mental

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## From the Editor

Welcome to the first issue of *Obichaff* in 2013 and my first issue as the new editor. This is *your* newsletter and I look forward to receiving contributions from *all* members of CDTC. Whether you are a new member to the Club, or whether you have been a member for years, I want to hear from *you*.

Our club has a significant variety of venues and people who have become members for many different reasons. But, we all can agree that we love our dogs and love talking about them. Why not take it one step further and put it in writing? Your stories about training in obedience, rally, agility, freestyle, tracking, nosework and flyball are always welcome. Personally, I have become involved in “other” dog activities simply because they sounded interesting for me and fun for my dog. So, please share your stories and inspire the rest of us to try something new.

I would like to hear about what you have done or plan to do with your dog and how your particular breed responded to new challenges. From the family pet to therapy dog and dogs competing at national trials, all dogs matter! They are loved, bring joy and enrich our lives in unique ways.

I look forward to hearing from you over the next few months as CDTC embarks on what I hope will be another successful year for each of us.

**Pam Coblyn**

*Editor, Obichaff*

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## From the President

January 2013

**T**he beginning of the year is a time for reflection and resolution. As I reflect on the past year, 2012 was a *very* good year for our club. We welcomed many new members who have already made a positive contribution to our club through their volunteer efforts. Our classes were full of both new students as well as long standing members. We offered some new short courses in response to the survey results from 2011 that indicated a desire for such classes. We held two very successful trials,—our agility trial in April and our obedience/rally trial in October. Our CGC/TDI classes and test sessions were full with the majority of dog/handler teams successfully completing the requirements. And, CDTC members were trialing everywhere, earning many titles along the way. These are all accomplishments that we can be proud of.

In looking ahead for 2013, I would like to see us continue to build on these accomplishments and resolve to engage more of our members in our club activities. There is so much positive energy at our clubhouse, and always something new to learn. I challenge each of you to try some new things this year as members of our club by doing the following:

- **Attend a general membership meeting.** We will continue to offer interesting subject matter experts on various topics of interest to our members as an incentive to attend. We welcome your suggestions on topics that interest you—be creative and think outside the box!

- **Engage a new member to bring to a membership meeting with you so you can introduce them to other members.** This is a great way to make connections and help new members feel welcome.

- **Participate in our obedience run-thrus,** both as a volunteer and as a handler.

- **Volunteer to work at one of our trials.** The camaraderie is great and the events are always exciting to watch. I can guarantee you will learn something new from watching others in the ring.

- **If you have an interest in instructing, volunteer to teach a class or become an assistant instructor to test the waters and gain confidence.** This is how many of our instructors got their start and I can say from personal experience that it is very rewarding to help people learn how to train their dogs.

Remember, this is *your* club and we are an all-volunteer organization. We have a responsibility as members to volunteer and help make our club a warm and inviting place where great things happen. I look forward to seeing you all there!

**Carrie Solomon**  
*President, CDTC*



### Go Green—Obichaff Print Edition Opt-Out



Don't want to receive a copy of *Obichaff* in the mail? No problem. Just email Marian Hardy at [mhzoo@aol.com](mailto:mhzoo@aol.com) and ask to have your name removed from the Obichaff mailing list. All club members subscribed to the CDTC listserv will receive notification when the PDF of Obichaff is posted to the web site.

## *It's Been an Education—*

### Farewell from Outgoing Training Director, Lisa Daniel

**T**hank you for having me as your Training Director for the last three years.

It was my intention to write something for the December *Obichaff*, but life was a little too crazy in November. As many of you know, 2012 was a difficult year for me, and if I was sometimes (or frequently!) less than Grace Under Pressure, I do apologize.

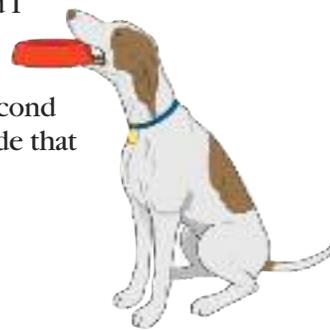
I was surprised and flattered a little over three years ago when Joan Adler approached me about the TD position. I felt vastly underqualified, especially in comparison with many long-time members who are widely experienced and hold many titles on many dogs. I still feel that way, and I'm immensely grateful for having had the opportunity despite occasionally feeling overwhelmed by the responsibility.

It's always easier to do something you feel passionately about, and I have come to feel passionate about our club. It started with a passion for dogs and a desire to see more dogs achieve more of their potential. The more I see of the many amazing things that dogs can do, the more I am saddened, not just by the outright neglect or abuse of dogs (which outrages me in many cases), but also just by the run-of-the-mill pet who gets no mental stimulation, little attention, and less exercise. Even if all they do is come to a Basic class, I like to think that the dogs and handlers who pass through our doors will have a better quality of life than those who never seek out any kind of training. So how much more delightful if we actually *hook* the owners: if they take more classes, and then find a dog sport that will enhance their dogs' and their lives for as long as they live?

So I am passionate about dog training, but I am also passionate about our club in particular. Why? Because of the people. Yes, it can be frustrating when it seems like it's the same people over and over again volunteering—especially if you are always one of them. But *THOSE* are the people I am passionate about and they are worth celebrating. We have a core of about 40 or 50 people who put in a tremendous amount of time and effort into helping dogs and people achieve great things. We have dedicated teachers, assistants, board members, people who run and volunteer at our trials & run-thrus, produce our newsletter, keep track of members, schedule classes, keep track of enrollment and Capital Points, deal with the general public, answer stu-

pid (and not-so-stupid) questions, keep our money straight, deal with building issues, and I'm sure I'm missing some things. With very little exception I have found these people to be competent, thoughtful, willing to help, kind, funny, and some are even good cooks! Yes, we could use more members. Yes, we could use more young people. Yes, it would be good to get some of the uninvolved members more involved. It would certainly be nice to consistently have a quorum at our General Meetings! But let's take a moment to celebrate what we have. I have been on a number of boards and involved with a number of nonprofits. This has been incomparably my best experience, and I have learned an incredible amount from all of you. I truly feel like Capital is a second home. And you all have made that happen. Thank you!

—Lisa Daniel



## **CDTC Members Making A Difference—**

### *Thank You's & Acknowledgements*

I truly appreciate the guidance Jake and I have received in Intro Agility from **April de Bremond** and her daughter, **Carie Wohl**. In fact, I might hire her to handle Jake in an agility trial if I continue walking like a crab, which seems to be my current default!

I am so happy to be a member of CDTC. The club has increased the depth of the bond I have with my very special sheltie, Jake. I look forward to exciting results as I begin to train and compete with his beguilingly wild 8 month old cousin. If you had asked me 15 years ago what I would be doing now, I would never have known that my interaction with shelties and the wonderful dog trainers at CDTC would give me such abiding satisfaction and happiness. Thanks a thousand-fold, April, for all your perceptive comments and help!

Sincerely,  
**Debbie Lauritzen**

## Training Question of the Month

### Help! Is My Dog Barking Mad?



Barking falls into 4 main categories:



1. **Alert barking** (*good*)
2. **Territorial barking** (*good or not so good, depending on situation*)
3. **Demand barking** (*bad and bratty*)

4. **Breed specific barking**, “*Help, I’m barking and I can’t shut up!*” (*annoying*)

**1. Alert barking** is a dog doing its job. Typical situation is someone at the door: “Hey, someone is approaching, take notice!” To both encourage and control this behavior, respond appropriately “Thanks Fido, good job” and walk them *AWAY* from the door to the back of the house for a treat. Remain calm, take charge and encourage the dog to move away (you can also toss a treat to the back of the house from the door, if you actually need to let someone in).

**2. Territorial barking** can be good! For example, you want your herding dog to guard his flock in the field. Not so good in suburbia! The most common situation is a dog barking in the back yard. Bring them in calmly as soon as they begin to bark—do **NOT** let them stay outside barking—even if you have to go get them. As they learn to come in promptly, *reward them for coming inside*—this will encourage them to come in right away when called, even when excited. If they are barking from inside the house at passing dogs, you can either block the view at dog height, or manage the barking when it occurs by telling them calmly “enough”. If they quiet down right away, re-

ward the new quiet behavior by calling them to get a treat “good quiet! Let’s get a treat.”. If they continue to bark, walk them away from the windows, ask for an alternate behavior (down, eye contact, something) and reward for that. We are creating an environment where Fido sees a dog, but only *good* things happen: a dog walking by is a good thing, no reason to be upset! This can take patience for dogs who have been doing it for a while. Again, blocking the view is an excellent management solution.

**3. Demand barking.** Is your dog attempting to boss you around? Do not give in! A typical situation is your dog wanting to play and barking up at your face for attention. Ignore this behavior. If you are willing to pay attention to the dog at this time, you need to still ignore the barking, wait for a moment of silence, and then as if it is totally *your* idea, ask for a behavior like sit, praise, and then play with or pet the dog as a reward.



**4. Breed specific.** Folks, some dogs are just born yappers—hot wired to annoy us! This type of barking can be mitigated with *patience* and *training*. Yelling at a barking dog simply will not fix the behavior long-term. You need to set up a dynamic that teaches the dog they will be rewarded for being quiet. Wait for the moment when they stop barking—“good quiet!” and give a treat. Hard-core barkers might need an added aversive as well to stop the barking for long enough to even be able to reward for quiet! Start with a small spray bottle and squirt the dog with some water to interrupt the barking long enough to say “good quiet!” and give a treat.

## Don’t Miss the 2013 Sylvia Bishop Training Seminar!

Presented by Melissa McMunn and Donna Cleverdon  
at M & B Training Center, Westminster, MD • March 28,29,30 , 2013  
Cost: \$475 - Working      \$225 - Auditor

Sylvia Bishop’s delightful presentation will demonstrate her highly motivational, common sense approach to training drive and attention. You can enhance your dog’s training using Sylvia’s unprecedented combination of fun and motivation using just a simple buckle collar and *YOU*.

If you are interested in a dynamic, thought-provoking seminar to stimulate your training program, don’t miss this chance to work with “The Bishop!”

Contact Donna ([clvrddog@verizon.net](mailto:clvrddog@verizon.net)) or Missy ([Landscreirish@comcast.net](mailto:Landscreirish@comcast.net))  
for more details and registration!

## Brags—CDTC Members A Howling Success!



**Tom and Susan Hertz's** 10-month-old Irish wolfhound, **Killian** (Quinlan's O'Cillian), handled by Susan, earned his Beginner's Novice title at the Catoctin Kennel Club obedience trial in Point of Rocks, MD, on December 2. Pictured above is Susan and three other CDTC Beginners Novice qualifiers,—**Donna Cleverdon** with proud **Zephyr**, **Ken Harringer** and sniffing **Bruno** and **Bob Reinhardt** with affable **Bob**. *Great job, group!*



Portuguese Water Dog **Sabato** earned his CH on Dec 2, 2012 at the Worcester County Kennel club in MA! Sabato also received his CGC title recognition. He is officially Ch TagAlong's Roman Holiday CGC in the AKC record books because CGC is now a title. He is owned, loved and bred by member **Benita Bottom-Svitchan**.

*Congratulations, Sabato—you are officially a beautiful good boy!*

**Susan Faber** with **Stevie Ray** (Faber's Pride and Joy) earned his CD title with a 3rd place finish. They also earned Rally Advanced leg #1 with a 1st place. *What an accomplishment!*



**Jodie Jeweler** and **Kelly** (As A Cheile O'Ros CGC RN) earned their 2nd Rally Advanced leg, and 3rd place in the class at the Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club trial under judge Anne Bright. *Kelly was one of 3 dogs out of the whole class who qualified!*



**Lisa Mulligan** and **Spot** (Roll-About Cyclone Action CD) earned their Rally Novice title this weekend at the Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club show. A mighty little force to contend with, Spot took first place on Sunday and second place on Saturday! *What a grand way to finish, Spotty!*



**Jo-Anne Riddle and Tosh** (Ch Merrie Munro's Golden Spike, RN,JE) earned his CD on January 12, 2013 under judge Debra Barrows. Jo-Anne is a new member of CDTC as of November. Tosh was also awarded the Versatility Award from the Scottish Terrier Club of Greater Washington, DC for being titled in three different AKC venues. By earning his CD, his fourth titled venue, Tosh will receive the AKC National Versatility Award. *Way to go, Jo-Anne and Tosh!*

**Xena** earned her RAE title (Rally Advanced Excellent) on November 17, 2012 after 10 consecutive and successful trials.

Along the way, she earned several placement titles, including first placements. Xena's **Josie McAuliffe** was most proud of her 9th RAE leg—Xena earned the honored “high combined” ribbon beating several other very competitive teams.

As you can tell by the photo, they both Xena and Josie very much enjoyed earning their RAE! *They are always seen smiling in the ring!*



Photo is by Dean Lake Photography

## From the Training Director

by Suzanne Miller

### **Communicating: Inter and Intra Species**

**D**id you know that over 40% of all people over the age of 50 have some hearing loss? And much of that loss begins in the 20s (oh, the price we pay for wonderfully loud rock music) unless it's congenital—then it can begin at any time.

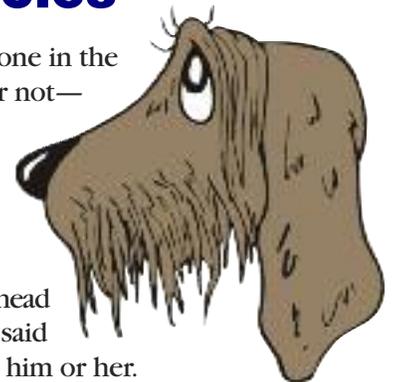


So what does this mean for us? It means that anyone in any class or meeting or run-thru with us may have more than the usual difficulties hearing us.

Ever notice how difficult it is to hear clearly when there are three rings going in the building? Compound that with hearing loss.

So what can we do? Well, for dog trainers, it's pretty simple. Do you give a command to your dog without first making certain you have the dog's attention? Do you ask the dog to perform a task without first saying the dog's name, getting a response, and then moving forward? Not me—I've got a dog who plays “Simon Says” very well.

Before addressing anyone in the building—hearing loss or not—make certain they know you're talking to them first. Face them or get them to face you. Don't assume the back you are addressing or the turned head has any clue what you've said or that it was directed to him or her.



And don't reach or move into a person's sphere of activity without making sure they know you are there. If they are looking down at their dog or, worse yet, working with their dog, and you move into that area without making sure they know, it can come as quite a surprise to them—and the dog!

Unfortunately, we've done pretty much all we can to dampen extraneous sounds in the building—now it's up to all of us to make sure we can all communicate with one another.

## ***One in A Million—***

# ***Lucky Daniel, CGC CDX, RE 2001 - 2013***



“Because I knew you...I have been changed for good.”  
—From the musical, *Wicked*

By the time you read this, Lucky, my heart dog, my beautiful, faithful, long-haired Pembroke Welsh Corgi, will have gone over the Rainbow Bridge after a 9 month struggle with Degenerative Myelopathy, a genetic disease that causes gradual paralysis. But it's not the last 9 months that I want to tell you about; rather the first eleven years. Lest you think as you read that I am bragging about my training ability, let me assure you Shannon was right in her early assessment. Almost six years ago, when Lucky and I came into her Novice class with a first leg under our belt, she told me, “Don't get excited about your training ability, he's just a great dog!”

Lucky literally changed my life. He is the reason I left Economics to become a professional dog trainer, the reason I got involved in competitive obedience and rally, and the reason I first came to Capital. It all started when he was about six months old: my cleaning lady scared him badly and he bit her! Long story short, I ended up hiring a professional trainer, Jean Pierson, to help me. Six years later I asked Jean to take me on as an apprentice so I, too, could become a dog trainer. She agreed, and suggested I get an obedience title on Lucky as a form of credential. Having taken no classes at this point, but with plenty of coaching from Jean, Lucky and I entered the Novice A ring in spring of 2007—I was shaking like a leaf, but Lucky was fine. It is worth noting

that Jean is very old school: the only treats Lucky had ever had in training up to that point were for recalls. We got 194, first place, and won a crystal bowl. I was hooked.

I'll spare you the long story of his elbow and shoulder surgery and the four-month rehab from hell. Suffice it to say that Lucky was a dog with such a sense of responsibility that my only consistent clue that something was physically wrong with him was that he kept lying down on the Open sit-stays. The vet couldn't find anything on exam, but I finally convinced her to take x-rays and he had bone chips as big as my front teeth in both elbows and a torn rotator cuff. Once fixed, he got his CDX and RE in short order. Because of his injury history, we did not try to pursue a UD.

Lucky was invaluable to me as my helper with client dogs, and as a demo-dog in virtually all the classes I've taught at Capital. He was a dog so solid that on more than one occasion I would be answering questions from students after class in the lobby area and the teacher with the next class coming into the ring would have to remind me, “Lisa, you forgot your dog”, because he would still be in his down-stay in the ring! He was the dog I could put behind a blind 100 feet from where I was bringing a reactive client's dog, and count on him to stay. I could then call him out from behind the blind and drop him, say 75 feet from me—and absolutely count on him to do it and to hold the stay even if it was a large dog (who, trust me, was also tethered on a long line—usually to my car) who was lunging and snarling at Lucky. I could bring him gradually closer to Mr. Snarler (but never within range of the long line!) and have the absolute confidence that Lucky would do it without question and without reacting back.

Lucky was the dog I trained to “putter.” Our neighborhood has no sidewalks for the most part. “Putter” meant he could run along through the front yards as I walked (usually with two or three other dogs on leashes) in the street, but he could not go in the street or cross a street without permission (“cross”). If someone unknown approached, I always dropped him so they could be comfortable he was under control. Lucky would down on command at a hundred yards. On more than one occasion I was walking and chatting with a friend, most often Melitta, and I'd forget to tell him to cross. A block or two away I'd remember and go back for him—he'd still be sitting at the curb waiting for permission to cross. On those occasions he would bark at me in a severe

tone. I am sure he was cursing me out for worrying him. (And really, who could blame him?!)

Lucky was the dog who would come to get my cleaning lady when she couldn't hear her baby cry over the vacuum cleaner. Lucky was the dog who came to get me in the middle of the night when my beagle, Sally, who was closed into my daughter's room, was having incontinence issues toward the end and was desperate to go out. The first time it happened, I assumed Lucky was the one who needed to go out. He gave me a quizzical look, pointed "Lassie-like" at the bedroom Sally was in (she made no sound that I could hear), and when I opened the door, Sally bolted for the way out. This scenario repeated itself maybe a dozen times during Sally's final months.

Lucky was also the dog who never liked Princess, my Chow mix, whom I adopted in 2006 at the age of eleven (well, she did try to kill him the first day...). The two of them just stayed out of one another's way for the three and half years I had Princess. But on the day Princess was scheduled to go over the rainbow (she had cancer) and I was having a last snuggle with her on the floor, Lucky came over and started licking her ear.

We got him at the age of eight weeks on Saint Patrick's Day, 2001. He looked like a guinea pig with fox ears. Not quite six months later was September 11. I'll never forget what a balm Lucky's perennially upbeat presence was during that time, and throughout the last 12 years. My pack has ebbed and flowed between two and four dogs in that time—including a couple of fosters. Lucky was always the leader (for a time he and Princess were like a alpha pair). He never started anything, but he had a certain gravitas and he didn't take any crap.

Cody and Joey seem a little like orphans without Lucky's steady presence. My husband and I will try to fill the hole, but it's a really big one. I like to think he's with Sally now, whom he dearly loved, running with glee on the grass with his young legs returned to him.



Jim Poor • [www.jimpoor.com](http://www.jimpoor.com)

## Rally Entry—Did You Know?

The CDTC Rally program is thriving and the same people are often involved in AKC Obedience.

Be forewarned if you are thinking of trialing in both venues! I unwisely made assumptions based on the class descriptions and title progression in AKC agility and obedience. In the nick of time, I happened to read over the Rally rule book and realized—to my horror—that I entered the wrong class for a much coveted trial entry.

Rally has a special rule: if you have any Obedience title on your dog, you must enter Rally B classes, even if you are a first time handler. So, make sure you enter the correct class!

Fortunately, my mistake could be corrected by the Trial Secretary. I was informed that as long as a request was made *in writing* (email works just fine!) *at least 30 minutes prior to the trial*, you can be moved to the correct class and not forfeit your entry.

### **The following is taken from the Rally Rule Book:**

**"The Rally Advanced A Class. To be eligible for this class, dogs shall have won the Rally Novice (RN) title but have not won the Rally Advanced (RA) title **or any AKC Obedience title prior to the close of entries.**"**

## ***CDTC 2013 Agility Trial Is Just Around the Corner!***

The premium list for the CDTC 2013 Agility Trial is posted on our website. Registration opened on January 6 and all of the information is included in that publication. ***Our trials typically fill, so enter as soon as possible!***

All Capital members are urged to come and help put on this event. You will find information on our website with a link to a Google Drive spreadsheet to sign yourself up for whatever tasks and whenever you want to volunteer. Set up, ring crew, bar setters, leash runners, chute fluffers, gate crew—all are needed. Plus, competitors need a cheering crowd!

Please come and support our club! Make new friends and see old friends. This is the largest event that our club hosts for the entire companion dog community. We want you to be a part of it! Come experience the excitement of an agility trial—high stakes, fast dogs, new competitors and lots of fun and good times.

Questions? Please ask **Burton Goldstein**, CDTC Trial Chair.

## *Soleil Shines At the 2012 AKC Agility Invationals*

**O**n December 17-18 in Orlando, Florida, hundreds of agility competitors from around the nation met for the prestigious AKC Agility Invitational. And one of the competitors was our very own Diane Sutton with her German Pinscher, Soleil!

The AKC Agility Invitational is different from most national and international agility events. Instead of requiring a certain number of qualifying scores, only the top five dogs in each AKC breed are invited to compete. In all, 119 breeds were represented and Soleil was the top German Pinscher at the event.

Diane and her beautiful dog have a unique history. Soleil was a re-home from her breeder and came to live with Diane in the fall of 2007 when she was a year old. She had little training and Diane patiently worked on basic obedience and people skills using clicker training. They progressed to conformation handling and Diane began showing her little beauty in April 2008. Less than a year later—in January 2009—Soleil finished her Championship. It was clear she loved to learn, work and had talent!

Team Soleil set their sights on the Rally ring in October 2008, but not before she collected her Obedience CD the following year. Soleil was such a reliable Rally dog that she earned her RAE in 2011 without ever NQ'ing until Diane missed a sign on her 33rd run. That same year, 2011, Soleil was named German Pinscher Club of America Rally Dog of the Year.

It was clear that Soleil was a multi-talented dog with the energy and intelligence to reign in whatever ring she was in—so in 2009,



Diane and Soleil began competing in agility. Along with her rally and obedience titles, Soleil added her PACH (USDAA) and TQXP (AKC) titles in 2011 and was named the German Pinscher Club of America Agility Dog of the Year. And, she qualified as one of the top five German Pinschers in the nation and was invited to compete in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Diane reports that going to the Invitational was a wonderful adventure. "My Mom, who is a great trooper, drove down to Orlando with me. We drove straight down and back about 13 hrs—left at the crack of dawn and stopped off every two hours to her get the kinks out.

We stayed at a very nice hotel within walking distance. It was kind of funny—they gave everyone a tarp, several heavy duty trash bags

and put plastic over the rugs in the halls. The hotel was fully prepared for lots of dogs!

The trial site was nice with 3 indoor grass rings which kept everything moving. Soleil qualified in Time2Beat on Friday with a second place finish. She ran well on Saturday qualifying in the first run and getting a time fault in the second round. Unfortunately she came into heat and had to withdraw for Sunday. But Soleil was the only dog in her breed present, so she got the top German Pinscher award!"

Soleil is well on her way to a MACH with 19 double Q's since moving up to 20 inches a year ago. When she earns that 20th QQ, Soleil will add that MACH title to her impressive list of top titles.

At 5 months, Soleil's daughter KT is already getting ready to follow in her mom's footsteps—she's mastered the weave poles and the teeter.

## A Capital Dream Come True!

—continued from page 1

condition. For Andy, the training sparked his “inner puppy.” His enthusiasm for the sport was clearly visible. For me, instead of thinking of myself as “disabled,” I began to gain confidence and strength in realizing that I could participate in my beloved training as a physically whole human being. Even my balance was improving with the mindful movements demanded of the novice ring.

By early summer 2012, Andy and I started doing run-throughs, matches and trials. Within a year of starting in

sub-novice, we had reached our goal. A week after Andy turned 11, we had earned our CD.

None of these wonderful changes and accomplishments would have happened without the help of the Capital community. Without the terrific guidance, mentoring, friendship and welcoming atmosphere at Capital, Andy and I would not have discovered that almost anything is possible in life, no matter how elusive the goal might seem.

## The New Guy in Town—

# Or, A Golden Opportunity

by Ken Harringer

Once our aging Golden Retriever, Otto, was nearing his end, we decided to get a puppy. For a short time, we had three dogs, 11, 6, and less than 1 year old. This gave Otto some time to imprint his wisdom and steadiness on the pup, who knew nothing at all. It was a treasured time, because the pup really did pick up some of Otto’s great qualities and learned some lessons from him, too. And, having the humorous pup around certainly softened the foreboding of what was to come.



After six months, we returned to a two-dog family. Puppy Bruno has come into his own, exhibiting his large personality, humor, and eagerness to participate in any endeavor. Simply put, I love him.

Otto has been gone for a year now. Recently, returning to my truck from a convenience store with a reduced price coffee refill, I could not see if Bruno was up and looking after me. Maybe he was snoozing. I thought to myself, “well, Otto certainly would have had his nose to the glass—watching and waiting for my return.” Otto was very loyal, a quality Bruno doesn’t express in the same way. I felt that I missed Otto, and that Bruno was

not Otto, and I felt sorry for myself. I didn’t like that Bruno was *not* Otto.

When I climbed into the truck, there was Bruno, front paws standing on the center console. He was indeed looking after me. Just not in a way I could see from outside. He gave me a kiss as I got into my seat. I realized then that Bruno can’t help that he’s not Otto. Bruno is Bruno. He’s cute, and hard-headed. I have every reason to appreciate his personality, intelligence, temperament, and spirit.

I miss my Novice A dog. We were a great team. I’m on a different team now, with Bruno at my side. I’m going to enjoy that, too.



## Howl-i-day Party A Howling Good Time

Capital's annual Howliday party on December 11 was a celebration filled with treats, games lots of fun for humans and their canine guests. Many thanks to Eileen Freedman for organizing this year's party, Lisa Daniel for emceeing our games and all the volunteers who decorated the clubhouse, set up the party and of course, the clean up crew.

Our members contributed to a splendid potluck dinner and outdid themselves with appetizers, main courses, salads, side dishes, wine and sodas and delicious desserts. It was a glorious display



and our members showed their friendship and regard for one another by bringing some *very* special dishes. Marsha Iyomasa's wonderful cake—an ode to obedience—deserves special mention. It was adorned with tiny jumps, gating and even a dumbbell! And, Abigail Carter made sure the dogs got their “just desserts” with a beautiful basket of homemade dog treats.

It was a great evening, capped off by riotous dog games. This year's Hot Dog Retrieve competition winner was none other than Tip, Jennie Larkin's mighty papillon who actually fetched it!





# CLASS SCHEDULES

| Day                       | Date     | Time             | Instructor     | Time                     | Class     | Instructor             | Ring                    |
|---------------------------|----------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>PUPPY KINDERGARTEN</b> |          |                  |                | <b>FREESTYLE</b>         |           |                        |                         |
| Tues                      | 1/15-3/5 | 6-6:50 pm        | Hathaway       | Fri                      | C         | 10:15-12:30            | Ely/Kirsch              |
| Sat                       | 2/2-3/23 | 9:00-9:50 am     | Solomon        | Sat                      | C         | 11:00-12:30            | Guzman                  |
| <b>BASIC</b>              |          |                  |                | <b>RALLY</b>             |           |                        |                         |
| Mon                       | 1/14-3/4 | 6-6:50 pm        | Crawford       | Thurs                    | C         | 11:00-12:20            | Daniel/Comp.            |
| Mon                       | 1/7-2/25 | 8:30-9:20 pm     | Hall           | Sat                      | TG        | 1:30-3:00              | McAuliffe/Lambert       |
| Tue                       | 1/8-3/5  | 7-7:50 pm        | Miller         | <b>TRICKS</b>            |           |                        |                         |
| Sat                       | 1/5-3/2  | 10-10:50 pm      | Daniel         | Mon                      |           | 12:00-1:30             | Rosen                   |
| <b>ADVANCED BASIC</b>     |          |                  |                | Sat                      |           | 7:30-8:30 am           | Melchior                |
| Tues                      | 1/5-3/5  | 7-7:50 pm        | Reinhardt      | <b>CONFORMATION</b>      |           |                        |                         |
| <b>SUB-NOVICE</b>         |          |                  |                | Sat                      |           | 10-10:45               | J. Harab/Beg.           |
| Mon                       | C        | 7:00-7:50 pm     | Adler/Dwyer    | <b>AGILITY</b>           |           |                        |                         |
| Thurs                     | C        | 9:30-10:20 am    | Adler          | Wed                      | Start 2/6 | 6:30-7:20 pm           | Coblyn                  |
| Thurs                     | C        | 7:00-7:50 pm     | Harringer      | Wed                      | Start 2/6 | 7:30-8:30 pm           | Briefel                 |
| <b>NOVICE</b>             |          |                  |                | Sun                      | Start 2/6 | 11:00-1:00 pm          | deBremond               |
| Mon                       | C        | 7:30-8:20 pm     | Daniel         | Sun                      | Start 2/6 | 5:00-6:15 pm           | Carter                  |
| Tues                      | C        | 7:00-7:50 pm     | Merchant       | Sun                      | Start 2/6 | 6:15-7:30 pm           | deBremond               |
| Thurs                     | C        | 9:30-10:20 am    | Holt           | Sun                      | Start 2/6 | 7:30-8:45 pm           | Hall                    |
| Thurs                     | C        | 6:00-6 s:50 pm   | Gurvin         | <b>TRAINING GROUPS</b>   |           |                        |                         |
| <b>HEELING</b>            |          |                  |                | Mon                      | C         | 10:00-12:00            | Ely                     |
| Sat                       | C        | 3-3:50 pm        | Larkin/Solomon | Wed                      | C         | 9:30-10:30 am          | McCown                  |
| <b>OPEN</b>               |          |                  |                | Wed                      | C         | 12:00-2:20 pm          | Spodak/Ob.Skills        |
| Mon                       | C        | 6-7:15 pm        | LaDieu         | Thurs                    | C         | 10:30-11:30 am         | Holt                    |
| Wed                       | C        | 5:30-6:20 pm     | Cleverdon      | Thurs                    | C         | 12:30-1:20 pm          | Goldstein               |
| Thurs                     | C        | 8-8:50 pm        | Harry          | Sat                      | C         | 1:00-3:00 pm           | McAuliffe, et.al.       |
| <b>UTILITY</b>            |          |                  |                | <b>FLYBALL</b>           |           |                        |                         |
| Mon                       | C        | 8:00-8:50 pm     | Adler          | Sat                      | C         | 6:30-9:30 pm           | Lindberg/Dwyer          |
| Thurs                     | C        | 6:00-7 pm (prep) | Harry          | <b>BUILDING CLEANING</b> |           |                        |                         |
| Thurs                     | C        | 7-&:50 pm        | Harry          | Tues                     | C         | Before 8 am and 1-4 pm | Montgomery Cleaning Co. |

**C = Continuing Class**

# CLASS SCHEDULES

| Time                       | Class                                 | Instructor  | Ring  | Time                               | Class                                     | Instructor  | Ring  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------------------------|---|-------------|-------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>              |                                       |             |       | <b>THURSDAY</b>                    |   |             |       |
| 10-12 am                   | Freestyle TG                          | Ely         | 1-2-3 | 9:30-10:20 am                      | Sub-Novice                                | Adler       | 1-2   |
| 12:00-1:30 pm              | Tricks                                | Rosen       | 1-2   | 9:30-10:20                         | Novice                                    | Holt        | 3     |
| 1:30-3:00                  | Jumping TG                            | Cleverdon   | 1-2-3 | 10:30-11:00                        | Rally set-up                              |             | 1-2-3 |
| 6-6:50                     | Basic, 1/14-3/4                       | Crawford    | 1     | 11:00-12:20                        | Competition Rally                         | Daniel      | 1-2-3 |
| 6-7:15                     | Open                                  | LaDieu      | 2-3   | 12:30-1:20 pm                      | Open/Utility TG                           | Goldstein   | 1-2-3 |
| 7:00-7:50                  | Sub-Novice                            | Adler/Dwyer | 1     | 6:00-6:50                          | Novice                                    | Gurvin      | 1-2   |
| 7:30-8:20                  | Novice                                | Daniel      | 2/3   | 6:00-6:50                          | Utility Prep                              | Harry       | 3     |
| 8:00-8:50                  | Utility                               | Adler       | 1-2   | 7:00-7:50                          | Sub-Novice                                | Harringer   | 1     |
| 8:30-9:20                  | Basic, 1/7-2/25                       | Hall        | 3     | 7:00-7:50                          | Utility                                   | Harry       | 2-3   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>             |                                       |             |       | <b>FRIDAY</b>                      |   |             |       |
| 1-3:30 pm                  | Building Cleaning                     |             |       | 10:15-12:30                        | Freestyle                                 | Ely/Kirsch. | 1-2-3 |
| 6-6:50                     | PuppyK, 1/15-3/5                      | Hathaway    | 3     | <b>SATURDAY</b>                    |   |             |       |
| 7-7:50                     | Basic, 1/8-3/5                        | Miller      | 3     | 7:30-8:30 am                       | Tricks                                    | Melchior    | 2-3   |
| 7-7:50                     | Adv.Basic, 1/15-3/5                   | Reinhardt   | 1     | 9:00-9:50                          | Puppy K, 2/2-3/23                         | Solomon     | 2-3   |
| 7-7:50                     | Novice                                | Merchant    | 2     | 10-10:45                           | Conformation TG                           | J. Harab    | 1     |
| 8-8:50 pm                  | 1st/3rd Beg. Open                     | Miller      | 3     | 10-10:50                           | Basic, 1/5-3/2                            | Miller      | 2-3   |
| 8-10:00                    | CDTC Meetings<br>2nd and 4th Tuesdays |             | Bldg. | 11:00-12:30                        | Freestyle                                 | Guzman      | 1-2-3 |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>           |                                       |             |       | <b>SUNDAY</b>                      |   |             |       |
| 9:30-10:30 am              | Novice TG                             | McCown      | 1-2   | Obedience Run-thrus Feb.2, March 3 |   |             | 1-2-3 |
| 12-2:20 pm                 | Ob. Skills TG                         | Spodak      | 1-2   | 11-1:00 pm                         | Agility Intro 2<br>(not on run-thru days) | deBremond   | 1-2-3 |
| 5:30-6:20                  | Open                                  | Cleverdon   | 1-2-3 | 5-6:15                             | Agility Handling A                        | Carter      | 1-2-3 |
| 6:30-7:20                  | Agility Handling                      | Coblyn      | 1-2-3 | 6:15-7:30                          | Agility—Intro                             | deBremond   | 1-2-3 |
| 7:30-9:00                  | Agility Comp.                         | Briefel     | 1-2-3 | 7:30-8:45                          | Agility—Beginner                          | Hall        | 1-2-3 |
| <b>TG = Training Group</b> |                                       |             |       |                                    |   |             |       |

## Special Presentation at February General Meeting!

Rhonda and Rachael Toren of **Clantyre Show Services** will give a presentation about how to enter a dog show. They will discuss how to find a show, how to properly fill out entry forms.

Clantyre is our region's entry resource for AKC Agility, Conformation Specialties, Obedience & Rally, Earthdog & Herding events. Paperwork is their specialty!

CDTC has so many members who are getting ready to trial!

Come and learn how, where and what you need to do to get into an event and properly fill out forms. A Q&A will follow. You may think you know everything, but the Toren's have seen it all!

**Clubhouse Phone:** (301) 589-2583

**Information phone for the public (refers people to**

**Capital's website):** (301) 587-K9K9

**Yahoo! Group:** groups.yahoo.com/group/cdte

**Website:** www.cdte.org

**Classes:** www.cdte.org/classes/classes.html

**Events:** www.cdte.org/events/events.html

**Facebook:** Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, DC

**Twitter:** @CapDTC

**Obichaff email:** pamcoblyn@comcast.net

**eCommerce Site:** www.CapitalDTC.blogspot.com

## Important Dates at Capital

**General Membership Meeting**

*Tuesday, February*

**Obedience Show N' Go**

*Sunday, February 3*

*Sunday, March 3*

**AKC Agility Trial**

*April 5 - 7*

*(Entries opened Jan. 4 and close March 22)*



## Obichaff

The Monthly Newsletter of  
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*Originators of AKC's Brace  
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