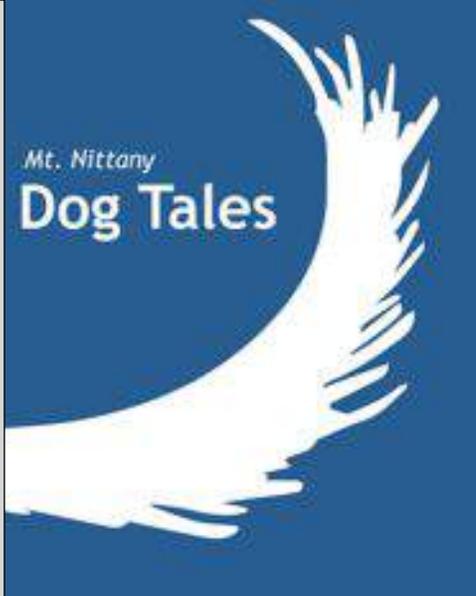




Happy Halloween from "Asher" and Susanna Hummer from the Penn State Center for Counseling and Psychological Services who hosted Caring Canines, October 26.

See article on page 5

Photo by Trina Bauer



November 2017



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Send Us Your News!
Do you have news for the Mt. Nittany Dog Tales newsletter? Send it to news@mndtc.org. The newsletter is published every other month, before the general meeting.

- Newsletter Staff:**
- Christie Black
- Marliene Froke
- Janet Lewis
- Heidi Miller
- Brenda Palmgren
- Cynthia Rabbers

From the President

Our MNDTC general membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14. Several very important issues will be discussed at that meeting. Please plan to attend.

- 1) The By Laws Committee has been working on revisions of our By Laws. The final version was emailed a couple of weeks ago to every MNDTC member. After a discussion of the changes, we will vote on acceptance of these changes.
- 2 The date and location of the annual banquet will also be discussed.

The MNDTC Board and I wish to thank the By Laws Committee members for their work on revising the By Laws. They worked on this task for over a year!

I hope to see all of you on Tuesday, November 14!

~ Howard Etzel

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November General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, Nov 14, at 7 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pine Grove Mills

Club Happenings

From the MNDTC Education Committee - Survey Results

The Education Committee conducted a poll of MNDTC members in order to evaluate how to best align activities with membership interests. Ann Marie Raup led this effort, with support from Cynthia Rabbers. Fifty-five members participated; the survey questions, results and committee conclusions are below.

Do you think hosting specialized training and seminars is an important part of the club?

Result: 95% checked yes, 0% checked no, and 5% checked not sure.

Committee Conclusion: continue organizing seminars.

What is the most you would be willing to spend for training or a seminar?

Mark ALL that apply: Half Day <\$50, \$50-80, \$80-120, >\$120.

Result: There was a wide spread of answers. The results were inconsistent and indicated different interpretations of the question. Some people checked one price range for half day and one price range for a full day, while other members checked each price range up to the maximum they were willing to pay.

Committee Conclusion: endeavor to pursue best value when planning seminars.

Rate your interest in the following topics: Low, Medium or High.

Result ranked by interest: agility, fitness and conditioning, obedience, health and nutrition, nose work, tracking, rally, barn hunt, search and rescue and fly ball.

Members added the following topics: herding, hunting for sport, freestyle/trick, dock diving, non-AKC venues (CPE, CDSP and WCRL) and Confidence building.

Committee Conclusion: continuing organizing agility and obedience seminars and explore fitness and conditioning.

Event Calendar

- **Nov. 14:** General Meeting 7:00 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pine Grove Mills
- **February 16-18, 2018:** MNDTC AKC Agility Trial, Snyder Agricultural Arena, Penn State University Park campus; Registration will open December 1, 2017

For more information on events, and dates of up-coming run-thrus, go to the MNDTC events and run-thru pages at www.mndtc.org. Trial Premiums can also be found on the events page as they become available.



Welcome New Members!

At the September meeting **Leigh-Anne Congdon** was introduced as a new provisional member. Welcome!

...continued on page 3

Survey continued...

How many days a year could you see yourself attending special training /seminars?

Result: 40% > 4, 38% 2-4, 22% 1-2, 0% 0

Committee Conclusion: continue organizing seminars.

How much do you value having speakers and presentations at meetings?

Result: Would like to see something at nearly every meeting 11%; Would like to see something a few times a year. 74%; Not interested, keep meetings for club business. 15%

Committee Conclusion: Continue to organize a few presentations at general meetings per year.

*Heidi Miller
Education Committee*

AKC Novice Trick Dog Class

The MNDTC is offering a new class for handlers and dogs who want to earn an AKC Trick Dog title. Participating dogs are required to have passed Beginning Obedience or KPT Puppy.

There are four possible titles:

1. Novice Trick Dog (TKN)
2. Intermediate Trick Dog (TKI)
3. Advanced Trick Dog (TKA)
4. Trick Dog Performer (TKP)

An AKC Canine Good Citizen evaluator can judge dogs for Novice, Intermediate and Advanced titles.

To earn a Performer title, handlers must submit a video to the AKC.

In the class, handlers and dogs are learning 20 tricks that are required for the Novice title, plus an additional seven handler-option tricks. Students are enthusiastic about the new



things they are learning and dogs are having a blast. Graduation will consist of an official evaluation of the tricks learned, with titles earned by successful teams.

Because of its great success, this class will be offered again in the spring, with the possibility of expanding evaluations to the Intermediate and Advanced trick dog levels.

*Andrea Minasian,
Instructor*



Additional information on the trick dog program can be found at: <http://www.akc.org/trick-dog/>

September AKC Agility Trial

Photos by John Lamancusa and Emilee Spokus

The MNDTC AKC Agility Trial held on Sept. 23–24, 2017 in the Ag Choice Building, Rock Springs, was a success thanks to the many, many club members who came out to help from beginning to end. I was more than pleased with the entries we drew for a first date event weekend: 171 entries on Saturday, with 159 competitors and 179 entries on Sunday, with 166 competitors. My personal start competing in agility began in the fall many years ago, when most of the trials were outside. I remember the crisp air, brilliant autumn colors and the often-challenging conditions: dew-laden grass and dogs having to find weave pole entries while looking directly into the rising sun. Although the air was a bit warmer this time around and we escaped some of the outdoor elements because we were running inside—for me, it still sparked memories of days gone by.

I extend much appreciation to all who made the trials a success.

Please save Sept. 22-23, 2018 for next year's trial!

Mel Eng, Trial Chair

Andrea Miniasia's Tanka is riding high at MNDTC's September agility trial.



Alicia Alwine's Blixen



Bonnie Jacobs' Rilla



Linda Arble's Alibi



Patty Horne's Pip

Caring Canine Day at Penn State

Photos by Trina Bauer

October means fall, pumpkins and Halloween. But it also means it's time for the MNDTC to bring our dogs to Penn State to spend an afternoon with students de-stressing in between classes and exams. This year's visit to campus was on Wednesday, Oct. 26 and while it was later in the month, the weather held out and we had a beautiful autumn day. Some of the dogs took Halloween seriously and showed up in costumes, drawing even more attention from the students. With smiles galore, it's hard to know for sure who has more fun---the dogs or the students---but there's no doubt, this is a happy day for everyone involved. Selfies and cell phone photos were posted all over social media, making our dogs a huge hit even with students who couldn't come over and say hi. It's nice to hear some of them remembering the dogs from previous events. It's especially rewarding to know we are making a difference to many of them who truly miss their own pooches back home.

-Trina Bauer



Trina Bauer's Izzy, dressed for Halloween.



Maureen Romij's Ralph giving kisses to a new friend.



Emillee Spokus' Brody



Roberta Horner with Via.

Congratulations!

Kiak earned his Coursing Ability title at the Norfolk Terrier Club's CAT on October 4. He loves this sport more than all the rest. The following day he earned a High in Class for his Open Barn Hunt run.

~ *Cynthia Rabbers*



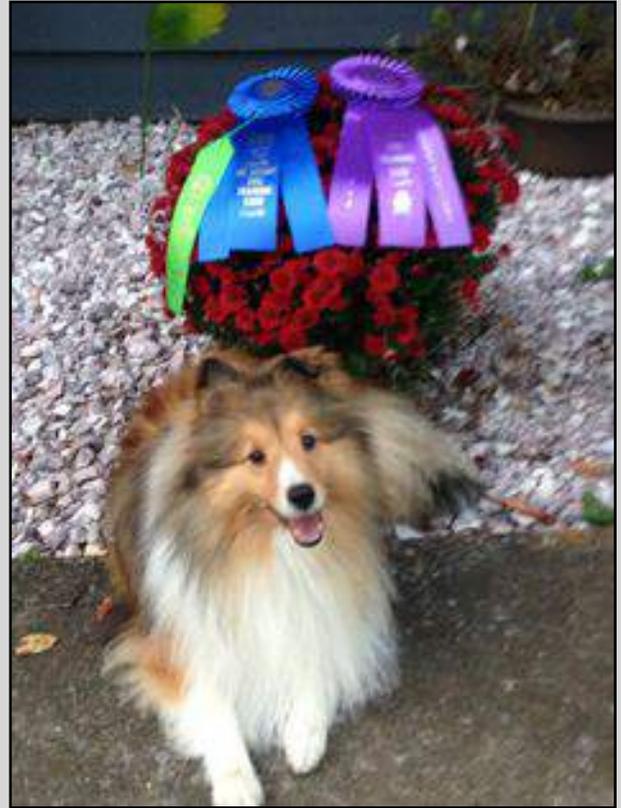
Sailor retired from active competition by finishing his RE at Labrador Retriever Club Nationals in Brooklyn, CT on Monday, November 10. He is now *UCDX Tango's Celestial Navigator CDX CDX-C BN PCDX RE AX AXJ OF*. We plan to get his CGC and some trick titles as they are not as physical as other sports are.

~ *Jeni Mellinger*

Congratulations!

Nissa got her AXJ title
at the MNDTC trial
September 24, 2017.

~ Janny Olsen



Skittles received his AKC
Plaque for earning his Agility
Grand Championship!

~ Laura Kuterbach

Congratulations!

Introducing MACH5 Tango's Mover And Shaker
CDX BN RE MXB2 MJG2 MXF TQX

~ Julie Mikesell



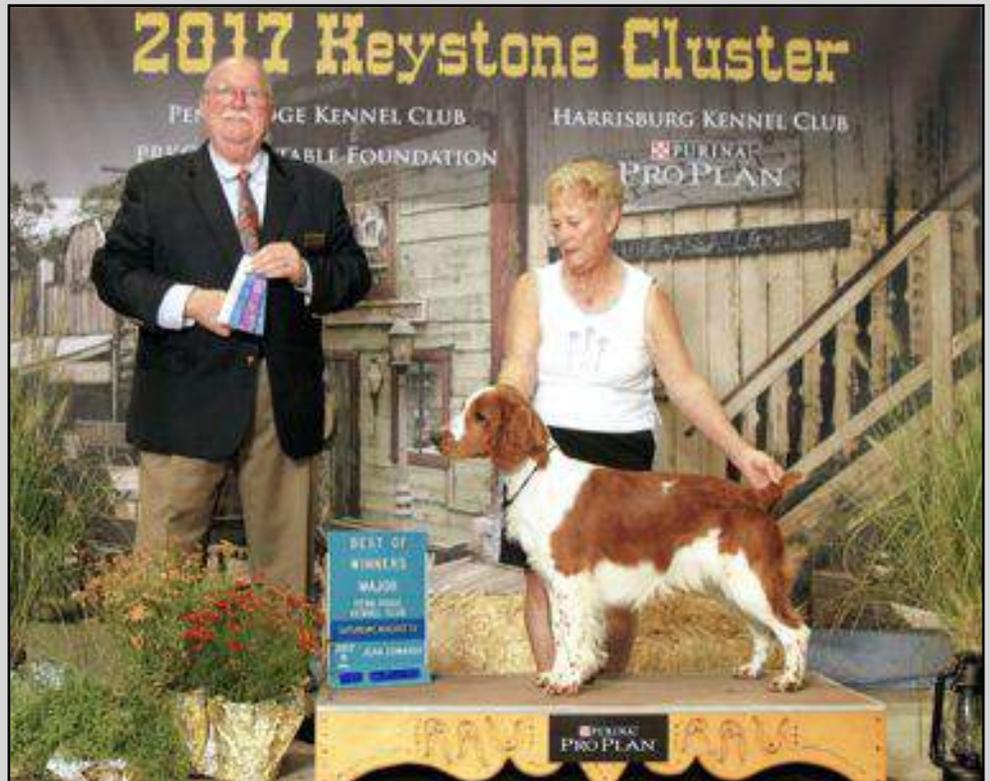
Introducing MACH2 Tango's
Cantina N Presque Isle CD BN
RE MXG MJG MXF

~ Julie Mikesell

Congratulations!

Coach - *Fanfare's Take your Mark CGC*, Welsh Springer Spaniel, had all major wins at breed shows for his championship. In May, he was reserve winners dog at the WSSCA national specialty from the 9 to 12 month class for 3 points; best of winners in July at Lackawanna for 4 points; best of winners from the bred by exhibitor class at Penn Treaty in August for 5 points and he topped it off by taking best of breed over 5 specials at Back Mountain in November for another 5 points.

~ *Sandy Roth bred, owns and shows Coach.*



Glory – One week, two titles! Glory, *GCH Aurora's Yankee Clipper Keepsake RN OA NAJ*, Welsh Springer Spaniel, earned her Grand Champion title on Sunday October 1 at the Old Dominion Kennel Club show in Millwood, VA. The following Sunday she was entered at the Williamsport Agility Trial and earned her Open Agility title. She has been retired from the breed ring but will compete in agility and other performance sports.

Glory's daughter, 11 month old **Bella**, began her career with a 5 point major best of opposite at Back Mountain KC show in Bloomsburg November 5th, sharing the stage with Coach.



~ *Brenda Palmgren*

New Kids on the Block

Meet **Quinn**, Katie Kennedy's new Kelpie puppy.



Meet my new addition: *Living Waters Hat in the Ring (Stetson)*. He's "Giant Smooth Coated Black n' Tan Cavalier" (just kidding; he is actually a Working Kelpie). He was also the Valedictorian of his AKC S.T.A.R. puppy class!

~ Laura Kuterbach

New Kids on the Block

Introducing my newest family member, *Poeta Sugar Pi*, aka **Brûlée**. She was born on March 14, hence the Pi. Brûlée is super sweet, just as her name implies.

~ Heidi Miller



Rainbow Bridge

TAFFY **November 2004-May 2017**

Taffy was a one-of-a-kind dog who will always hold a special place in our hearts. She was our first dog to participate in agility, first with NADAC and then AKC when mixed-breed dogs were able to enter, fly ball, and rally. Her favorite activities were chasing squirrels, catching Frisbees, eating and stealing socks, flip-flops and anything else she found on the floor that she could trade in for a treat. She was always at our side and provided us with many happy memories. We will miss her tremendously.

~ Florence, Jim & Mark Milutinovic

