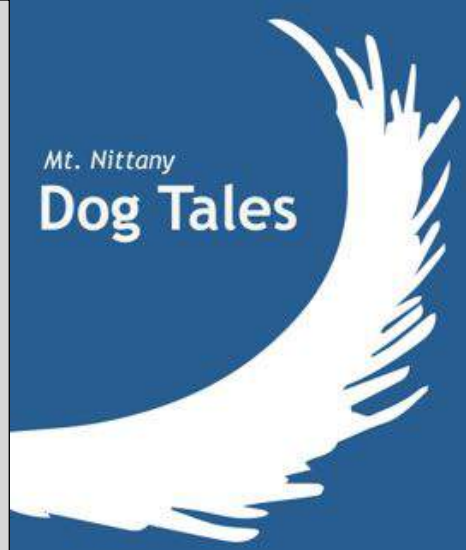




Karen Keller coaxing "Jimmy" under a bar at the Conditioning Seminar led by Maureen Burke from High Octane Agility in July. See more photos on pages 3 and 4.

Mt. Nittany  
**Dog Tales**



September 2018



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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](mailto:news@mndtc.org). The newsletter is published every other month, before the general meeting.

**Newsletter Staff:**

- Christie Black
- Marliene Froke
- Heidi Miller
- Brenda Palmgren
- Cynthia Rabbers

# From the President

## MNDTC Board of Directors

As stated in the July issue of Tales, the new election schedule for the MNDTC Board of Directors will begin with a presentation of the slate for new officers and board members at the general meeting on Sept. 11, 2018.

The nominating committee has submitted the following slate for new officers and board members:

- President—Janet Lewis
- Vice President—Donna McGrath
- Secretary—Heidi Miller
- Treasurer—Sandy Roth
- Board—Jeni Mellinger
- Board—Sue Williams



Additionally, a MNDTC member can make nominations from the floor, provided the nominee accepts the nomination in person or in writing. All candidates must be nominated by the nominating committee or from the floor at the September meeting.

Election will be held at the November 13 meeting.

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**September General Membership Meeting**  
 Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at 7 p.m.  
 St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pine Grove Mills

## Reminders

### Reminder: Upcoming Obedience Seminar

As a reminder, there are spots available for the upcoming **Matthew Twitty Seminar on October 6-7, 2018**

at the Penn State Ag Choice Building, Pennsylvania Furnace; Saturday's session will focus on heeling work and Sunday will focus on proofing.



### Thank you from *Pets Come First* Donation Response

Many club members responded to our request for *Pets Come First* donations at the MNDTC July picnic and membership meeting. Thank you very much for the opportunity to collect supplies for our local animal shelter.

- 44 Toys
- 1 Large Plastic Storage Box
- 19 Rolls Paper Towels
- 1 Package Copy Paper (750 Sheets)
- 12 Cans Dog Food
- 45 Plastic Trash Bags
- 1.5 Gallons Bleach
- 20 Lbs. Scoopable Cat Litter
- 53.5 Lbs. Dry Dog Food
- 12 Lbs. Dry Cat Food
- 3 Bags (6.3 Oz. Each) Cat Treats

Additionally there were monetary donations totaling \$100.00.

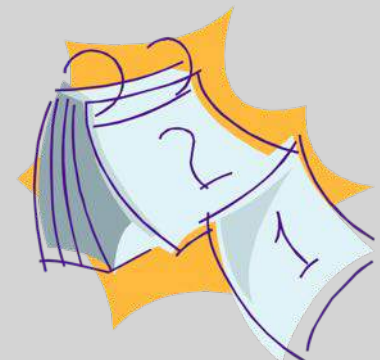
Roxanne Rishel,  
coordinator



## Event Calendar

- **Sept. 11, 2018:** General membership Meeting, 7 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran, Pine Grove Mills
- **Sept. 22-23, 2018:** MNDTC AKC Agility Trial, Penn State Ag Choice Building, Pennsylvania Furnace
- **Oct. 6-7:** Matthew Twitty Obedience Seminar, Penn State Ag Choice Building, Pennsylvania Furnace
- **Oct. 21, 2018:** Tracking Test Excellent, Special Events Building, Pennsylvania Furnace
- **Nov. 4, 2018:** AKC ACT, Penn State Ag Choice Building, Pennsylvania Furnace

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](http://www.mndtc.org). Trial Premiums can also be found on the events page as they become available.





## Conditioning Seminar

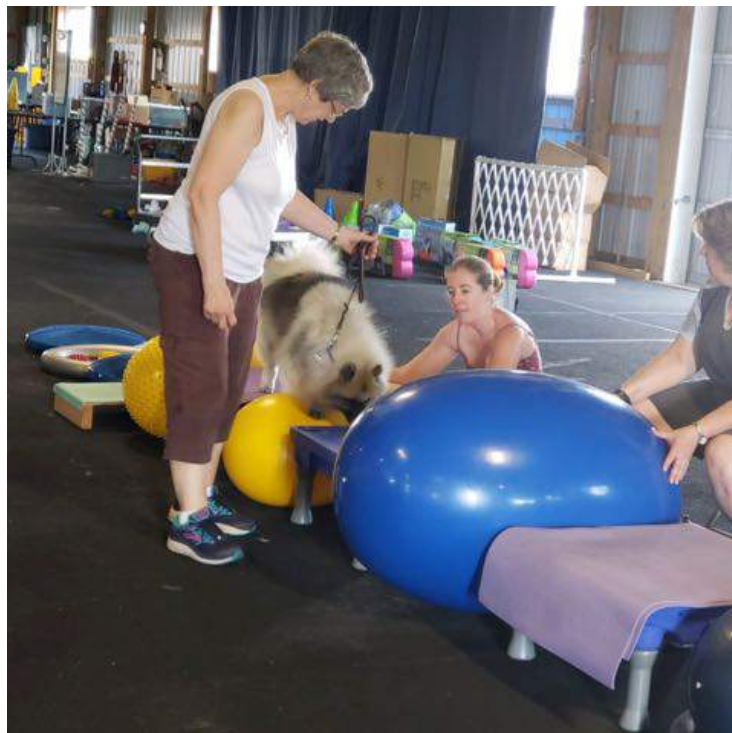
MNDTC held a Conditioning Seminar at the Ag Choice Building in July. The following are some of the takeaways from attendees:

Slow changes in position can have positive impact on your dog's conditioning. A dog with enough training can do a fast change of positions, but a fast change of positions does not affect conditioning and in some cases can hurt the dog.

Another significant point discussed is the importance of a proper warm-up and cool down for any dog activity and what should be included. Time your warm-ups so that your dog's muscles are still warm when you go into the ring. For example, if you warm up for ten minutes your dog's muscles will stay warm for ten minutes. The most important part of the warm up is a working trot, simply trotting your dog around in circles in both directions. It is important that this be a working trot and that you do not break out of the trot to a faster gait.

Attendees also learned a series of stretching exercises to work through the warm-up or cool down. It is important to remember to warm-up toes, ankles and wrists prior to higher level activities. After that, a number of other activities were introduced as part of the proper warm-up and cool down. To be sure that you cover everything—it is best to utilize the same order every time and then reverse that order for the cool down. This helps you get into a habit, so the exercises become routine.

Many thanks to Mel Eng and Alicia Alwine for keeping everyone well fed!



Lois Albright and "Cory" on the obstacle course. Cynthia Rabbers helping; instructor Maureen looking



"Azure" Balancing for Linda Arble





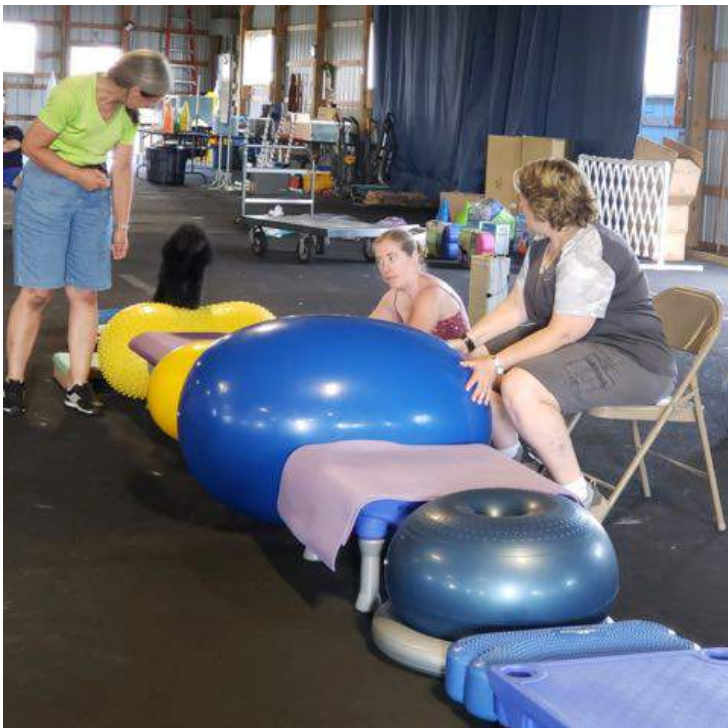
Lois Albright and "Cory" working the poles



Cindy Tier, watched by Linda Arble and instructor Maureen Burke



Mardi Hockenberry working with her dog



Anne Marie Raup working with "Vivian";  
Cynthia Rabbers and Maureen Burke helping.



Lois Albright and "Cory" under the bars

# MNDTC's AKC Agility Course Test

## Are You and Your Dog Ready for Agility 'ACTion'?

MNDTC's AKC Agility Course Test (ACT) allows beginning dogs and handlers to test the agility skills they have been learning in class...and maybe earn some ribbons! Our next ACT is on Sunday, November 4, in our training building at Ag Progress, with two ACT 1 and two ACT 2 events.

ACT 1 is the entry-level test. Each team has 60 seconds to complete a designated course of 10 to 12 obstacles, including an A-frame, table, tunnel, and bar jumps; the course might include a tire and/or panel jump.

ACT 2 is a little more challenging. Each team has 70 seconds to complete a course of 11 to 13 obstacles, including an a-frame, table, tunnel, bar jumps and tire, PLUS a seesaw and six weave poles. The course might also include a panel jump and a double jump, triple jump or broad jump.

Several features make the ACT a wonderful entry-level program:

- Refusals and run-outs are not judged.
- A dog can be entered at any jump height, no matter how tall the dog is. Dogs do not have to be measured.
- The A-frame is set at 5 feet (the normal height for 4- and 8-inch dogs) for all heights.
- The next dog does not enter the ring until the previous dog has left the ring with its handler and the exit gate is closed.
- MNDTC limits entries to 60 runs for the day, so the event day is shorter and distractions are fewer than at most regular agility trials.



Both ACT 1 and ACT 2 are open to all dogs age 15 months and older that have not already earned a traditional AKC agility title. A dog that has earned an ACT 1 title cannot be entered in ACT 1, but a dog that holds an ACT 2 title can still run in ACT 2. A dog does not have to earn an ACT 1 title to run in ACT 2.

A dog can run in ACT and earn ribbons without being AKC registered. A dog DOES need to be AKC registered if the handler would like to have ACT titles added to the dog's record. MNDTC offers ribbons to each team that qualifies in an ACT event and that earns an ACT title at our events. A team needs two qualifying runs to earn an ACT 1 or an ACT 2 title.

Watch for MNDTC's ACT premium on the club website's events page. If you have questions about the November event, email evaluators [Sharon Hagerty](#) or [Tracey Doms](#). [Learn more about AKC's ACT program.](#)

**ACT 1 and ACT 2 events**

**November 4, 2018**

**Penn State Ag Choice Building,  
Pennsylvania Furnace**



# The New Game in Town

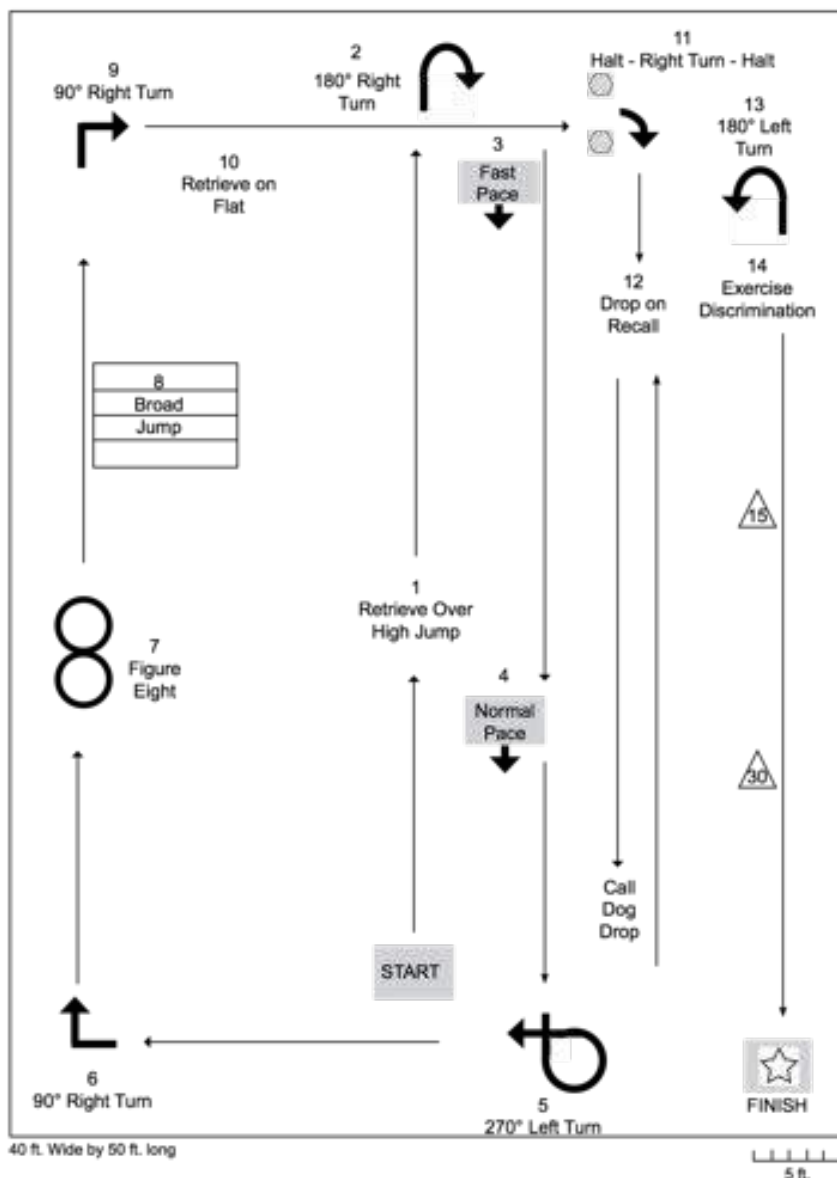
Here is a new spin on combining rally with the kind of obedience that is really fun for your dog. After all, jumping and retrieving is much more fun than just heeling, no matter how you mix them up.

Here is a course that combines some of the traditional and more straightforward Rally exercises with the exercises in the Open Obedience class. The rally exercises are those that enable the handler to move from one Open exercise to the next. They are designed for the team to move

swiftly and smoothly between those exercises instead of having the uneven “stop and start” (“halt and forward”) process of the obedience ring.

I hope handler and dog will incorporate the fun of rally with the fun of obedience in one smooth course. Try it and enjoy!

~ Janet Lewis



## Heeling and Retrieving Open Exercise Drill

Station Number	Sign #	Sign Description
1		Retrieve Over High Jump
2	162	180° Right Turn
3	154	Fast Pace
4	150	Normal Pace
5	168	270° Left Turn
6	158	90° Right Turn
7	187	Figure 8
8		Broad Jump
9	158	90° Right Turn
10		Retrieve on Flat
11	108	Halt, Turn Right, Halt
12		Drop on Recall
13	164	180° Left Turn
14		Exercise Discrimination

Rally Course Designer From SinisterLabs.com

# FOR SALE

**Used M.A.D. Agility Contact trainer** (steel frame with wood & sand surface)

Great for training stopped contacts in a small area (1/2 dog walk and 1/2 a-frame all in one).

Can meet at a dog show or will deliver to home (within reason: Centre / Blair / Mifflin counties, etc.).

Sells for \$400.00 new. Asking \$100.00.

[http://madagility.com/Our\\_Products/Contact\\_trainer/index.html](http://madagility.com/Our_Products/Contact_trainer/index.html)

Contact: Laura Kuterbach at [novicedog@gmail.com](mailto:novicedog@gmail.com)



## Sporty Dog Daycare equipment sale:

Mid-west Life stages wire crates:

- 24L x 18W x 21H: \$20.00
- 30L x 21W x 24H: \$25.00
- 36L x 24W x 27H: \$30.00
- 42L x 28W x 31H: \$35.00
- 48L x 30W x 33H: \$40.00

Vari-Kennels

- 1 40L x 27W x 30H: \$50.00
- 3 30L x 25W x 27H: \$40.00

Ex-Pens

- 1 36in Gold walk thru ex-pen: \$20
- 1 42in Gold Walk thru door ex-pen: \$25

6 uprights and 4 ring gates \$10 piece

Metal and Leather Scent articles Large Labrador retriever size. \$40.00

Please e-mail [Juliemikesell@hotmail.com](mailto:Juliemikesell@hotmail.com) to discuss payment and pick up times.



## Congratulations!

**Beacon**, aka *Tango's Candle On The Water*, just started his agility career on July 20.

This was his booty his first weekend in Open!

~Jeni Mellinger



**Ninja** qualified in all three of his runs (with a blue ribbon each time!) at the Cuyahoga Valley Golden Retriever Club August 11-12 and earned his first two agility titles: **Novice FAST** and **Novice JWW**.

~Tracey Doms



## Congratulations!

I'm so, so proud of my guy, **Teddy**, for earning his Novice Trick Dog title! He earned it on April 28 at the Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club where they had Trick Dog Testing during their agility trial. It took so much effort on his part to do his tricks in front of someone he didn't know. He is very cautious and suspicious of just about everyone. But when he warms up to someone....look out!

He has taught me so much about love and trust. (Teddy was a rescue from an amish puppy mill 8 years ago.) Just like his Brothers, he now has letters after his name. Introducing: ***It's Five O'Clock Somewhere in Waz-Land, Teddy TKN!*** ♥

~Kay Waslohn

My Bernese Mountain Dog, **Riker**, received his AKC BCAT title in Fast CAT on June 23 and is currently one of only six Berners in the country to have this title. He is currently ranked the #2 Berner in AKC Fast CAT rankings for 2018!

Riker also received his AKC rally intermediate title on July 29 making him now ***GCH Classique's Number One RI BCAT CGC***

~Sue Houser

***Monarchs Aragon Dream Girl Piper***, aka **Piper**, earned two legs toward her Novice title at the MNDTC obedience show and her third leg and title at the Bloomsburg show.

***MAJA Kaleef Renegades Isabella Roo***, aka **Izzy**, earned two legs of her Beginner Novice at the MNDTC show for her title.

~Pam Bilger

