

The Lead
Dog Owners Training Club of Lynchburg, Inc.
JULY 2009

Editor: Judy Smotrel, 2575 Hawkins Mill Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503, (434) 384-3177
e-mail jsmotrel@jetbroadband.com DOTC Web Site: WWW.DOTCLynchburg.org

Annual Picnic and Dog Games Party - Sunday, August 9 – rain or shine

for members, invited guests and their well behaved dogs

at the Boonsboro Ruritan Club building (regular training location) at 1499 Coffee Road, Lynchburg VA 24503. **Come around 4 pm for games with your dog, played inside. We will have dinner around 6 pm followed by a brief business meeting.** There are plenty of folding chairs in the building, but you could bring your softer chairs, a crate or leash for your dog and two dishes (vegetable, salad, dessert, snacks). The club will furnish roasted and fried chicken, plates, napkins, cups, utensils, sodas and ice.

Call Patty Ferington at 434-385-6457 or email patty.ferington@verizon.net to tell her what items you will bring and how many people (and dogs) from your family will attend. This is a regular Open Meeting. If you know of someone who wants to apply for membership, please invite them to the meeting.

DIRECTIONS: see map at WWW.DOTCLynchburg.org (upper right corner of main web page)

COMING EVENTS:

Please mark your calendar or save this information!

We do need your help to run these competitions. Remember to record your hours worked in the DOTC Worker's Book. It's a black notebook that is out at all events. This is especially important since you can reduce your obedience training fee for next year! Remember that no experience is necessary to work. We will train you! Call Judy at 384-3177 to volunteer to work at any event or to request a premium list.

Aug 9	Doggie Picnic at Boonsboro Ruritan Club
Sept 8	Start of Fall obedience classes (must preregister for classes through our web site)
Sept 9	DOTC Board Meeting
Sept 12 – 13	DOTC's AKC Obedience and Rally trials at Boonsboro Ruritan Club (BRC)
Oct 14	DOTC Open Meeting
Oct 17-18	DOTC's AKC Herding Tests and Trials at Roy Johnson's farm in Gladys VA
Oct 31 – Nov 1	DOTC's UKC* Agility Trials at BRC (Judge Rae Tanner)
Nov 10	CGC/TDI test – contact Judy to preregister
Nov 11	DOTC Board Meeting
Nov 30	Deadline to get title info (titles completed in 2009) to Judy for the new dog crate tags
Dec 12 (tentative date)	DOTC Christmas Party at Smotrel's home

*All dogs (mixed or pure bred) can be registered with UKC. Print the forms from www.ukcdogs.com
Register your dog now so that they can be entered in this event!

The AKC will soon be allowing mixed breed dogs to compete at some stand-alone obedience and rally and agility trials – like our own DOTC trials! Here's the word from www.akc.org:

“The mixed breeds program will be implemented in three phases. As of October 1, 2009 owners can begin enrolling their pets and receive an AKC ID number. Then beginning April 1, 2010 enrolled dogs will be eligible to compete in mixed breed classes at stand-alone AKC Agility, Obedience and Rally events.”

So your mixed breed dogs will be eligible to compete in DOTC's AKC agility trials on May 1-2 and July 2-3-4 in 2010 and our AKC obedience and rally trials on Sept 18-19, 2010. You can register your dog after Oct 1, 2009. See www.akc.org

The premium list with entry forms for the fall events can be printed from the DOTC website at www.DOTCLynchburg.org
The Premium List for the AKC obedience/rally trials is on our web site, and the premium lists for herding and UKC agility will be available soon.

Election of Officers:

At our June Open Meeting, officers for 2009-2010 were elected.

President Allen Armistead

Vice President Patty Ferington

Treasurer Judy Smotrel

Secretary Meg McMichael

Board of Directors: Clair Malinowski, Candy Lawhorne, Jim Smotrel, Christina Ingram, Donna Hammond

In addition, our VFDC&B Delegate will be Vinessa Alones.

Our Obedience Training Directors are Patty Ferington and Candy Lawhorne.

SCHEDULE for OBEDIENCE CLASSES - You must preregister for classes.

Let Patty know what classes you would like for your dog(s) in the fall session!

To enroll: go to www.dotclynchburg.org and click on either the beginning or advanced classes tab. The beginning class form needs to be sent to Patty by snail mail, **along with a copy of your dogs shot records**. The advanced class enrollment is online, **but if you haven't done so in the last year or are taking a different dog through advanced classes, print out a release form (follow the directions on the website) and send it along with a copy of your dogs shot records** to Patty prior to start of class. Questions can be sent to patty.ferington@verizon.net

7 PM: Level 1 (big dogs – Candy and Clair)
Open class (Dot)

Level 1 (Small dogs – Meg & Melanie)
Free ring – available to training members

8 PM: Level 2 (Jim & Christina)
CGC/TDI test class (Judy)

Level 3 (Patty)
Free ring – available to training members

Current Balance in Checking Account: \$7,668.28 on July 24, 2009.

Welcome to New Members who have been voted in since our last newsletter –

Connie Blackwell with her Beagle/Coonhound mix, Ryleigh

Sariah Richardson with her Collie, Merlin

Greg and Wendy Yates with their Golden Retrievers, Chip and Lizzy

A complete roster can be printed from the DOTC web site: www.DOTCLynchburg.org/member For your protection, there is not a direct link to the roster from the web site. You need to remember this location to get the roster.

Annual recognition of dogs completing titles in 2009

To recognize new titles at the end of the year, any member who completes a title on their dog during the year may request a personalized crate tag with the complete dog's name with current list of titles engraved on it. These crate tags are presented at the annual Holiday Party. The deadline to get the title info to Judy is Monday, Nov 30.

Also, at the end of each year, DOTC will purchase a full page ad (\$850) in Clean Run magazine with a listing of all new agility title holders, with new titles highlighted in their name. DOTC will also purchase a full page ad in Front and Finish magazine (\$405) to recognize all new Obedience and Rally titles earned on DOTC dogs. Those dogs earning MACH's or OTCH's will have their picture included in the respective ads. In this way we hope to recognize all of the DOTC dogs earning titles instead of a select few.

Congratulations to DOTC's 2 new MACH's!

Jim Smotrel and his rough collie, Slater, became the 19th collie in the US to earn a Master Agility Championship on May 2, at not quite 4 years old. He's already making good progress on MACH2!



John Novak and his Havanese, Joli, completed her MACH on June 21. I believe that she may be the 8th Havanese MACH.



If you are interested in how many MACH's there are of your breed, you might want to look at this file of MACHs by breed. http://www.harbornet.com/folks/rellis/Sorted_MACH_List

Advantages of Club Membership

1. Members may train at very inexpensive rates in an indoor facility on mats during the months of September through May. These conditions are very similar to those encountered during indoor obedience competitions, and training under similar conditions can give your dog an advantage.
2. A training member may take dogs through Level 1 class at the reduced fee of \$35.
3. As a voting member of the club, you will have a voice in decisions made in the open meetings and in the election of officers of the club.
4. You will have access to the club's equipment such as library books, video tapes, portable jumps, agility obstacles, etc. You will receive discounts on your purchases of collars and leashes.
5. You will receive a copy of the club's newsletter, The Lead, keeping you informed of any changes within the club. Upcoming events of interest and club news will be included.
6. Many members form close friendships with other people they have met during training classes. You will find that other club members are people who love and respect their dogs and who understand the problems and the joys you are having with the training of your own dog. You will have a "support group" as you train and as you go out to compete at American Kennel Club trials, United Kennel Club trials or fun matches.
7. Many people feel that it is extremely valuable to socialize their dog weekly by bringing them to a different location with different people and many other dogs. The dogs love it!
8. Club members have the opportunity for public service through their dogs. You may volunteer your time and energy when the club sponsors its trials or seminars. You may want to join the affiliated chapter of Therapy Dogs International and go with other club members and their dogs to visit nursing homes, hospitals, schools, etc. You may want to become a volunteer instructor yourself by serving for one session as an Apprentice and then two sessions as Assistant Instructor.
9. In December, club members are awarded a personalized crate tag in recognition of titles completed by their dog(s) during that calendar year.
10. DOTC members will be eligible for reduced rates in agility classes after they have been members of DOTC for at least one year.

Benefits to Volunteer Instructors

(An active instructor is one who is teaching at least two classes for the club during the fiscal year.)

1. Training fee is waived. An instructor pays only \$15 dues.
2. One free DOTC item of clothing is provided each year.
3. May train one dog per year in Level 1 Class at no charge.
4. May select a dog-related magazine subscription or book each year (not to exceed \$50).
5. Receives financial assistance for registration at seminars (currently \$100 per year or one DOTC weekend seminar at no cost).

Current Instructors in obedience and/or agility are:

Judy Smotrel (obedience and agility)
Meg McMichael (obedience)
Candy Lawhorne (obedience)
Dot Romano (obedience)
Annabel Maley (agility)
Lisa Gross (obedience)

Jim Smotrel (obedience and agility)
Clair Malinowski (obedience and agility)
Patty Ferington (obedience)
Christina Ingram (obedience)
Vicki King (agility)
Melanie Mahone (Obedience)

Annual Dues Statement is enclosed. Dues are now payable, and must be paid before October 1. See below.

This is from our club statement about Policies and Procedures

A complete copy of this document can be printed from the DOTC web site. Click the Members button.

"Annual Individual Membership dues are \$15 and apply to the fiscal year July 1 - June 30. A family/household membership is available for \$20 per year. This includes all people living at one address and receiving only one newsletter. A membership will be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 90 days after the first day of the fiscal year (unpaid by the 1st day of October). No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. A new roster of those members who have paid their dues will be mailed (or emailed) to all members in the fall of each year."

"Annual Training Fees for club members will be set annually by the Board of Directors (includes 3 obedience training sessions at the appropriate advanced level). The current Training Fee is \$100 per year. **A member may receive a training fee credit of up to \$70, to be applied to the \$100 Training Fee, based on credit of \$2.50 for each hour worked at DOTC events during the previous year.** A record of those who support DOTC by working at such events will be maintained in the DOTC Workers Notebook which is available at all events, and the Treasurer will maintain a record of each person's participation during the year from July 1 to June 30. **(NOTE: For 2008-2009, we counted your hours through the agility trials held June 26-27-28, 2009)** Whenever you work at a DOTC events, be sure to record your hours on your sign up sheet in the notebook." ***We need your help to keep good records again this year. At each event, there will be a worker sign-in notebook. If you don't see it, ask someone! It is your responsibility to sign in and out if you wish to get credit for your hours worked. If you think that your statement of hours worked this year is incorrect, please contact Judy Smotrel at 384-3177 with information about your hours worked. Thanks!***

ANNUAL REQUEST FOR TROPHY DONATIONS

Due to ample funds in our checking account, we will not be asking you for donations to the General Trophy Fund this year.

If you want to offer special trophies or breed specific trophies at our AKC obedience trial in September, you may contact the Trophy Chairman, Judy Smotrel, to discuss your trophy ideas and to discover if the breed specific award you would like to give is still available for sponsorship. You may donate a special item or you may donate money designated to be spent for a suitable trophy for a special award of your choice such as Highest Scoring Collie in Trial, Highest Scoring Collie in Novice, or Highest Scoring Dog Shown by Senior Handler, HS Dog with Herding Title, HS Champion, etc.

Please mail the bottom of this form (with money donations payable to DOTC) to Judy Smotrel, 2575 Hawkins Mill Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503-4968

I plan to donate a special trophy for the following event:

AKC Obedience Trial - September 12-13 : DEADLINE Sept 1 (2 trials)

(1) Special Award is for: _____

Award is to be given: Saturday Sunday both days

Item donated is _____

or money amount _____ circle one : pledged or prepaid

Donor info in catalog listing should read:

(2) Special Award is for: _____

Award is to be given: Saturday Sunday both days

Item donated is _____

or money amount _____ circle one : pledged or prepaid

Donor info in catalog listing should read:

TO: Dog Owners Training Club members
 FROM: Judy Smotrel, Treasurer
 SUBJECT: 2009-2010 Membership Dues

The 2009-2010 annual membership dues and training fees are now due and payable. Please **complete and return this form** and send your check (payable to DOTC) as soon as possible to the Treasurer

Judy Smotrel, 2575 Hawkins Mill Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503-4968

1. **Dues** are to be paid by training and non-training members and instructors. Please check one. (Dues will not be charged for the coming year if you joined DOTC and paid dues in April, May or June 2009.)

___ No longer interested

___ \$15 Individual Membership
 Name: _____

___ \$20 Family/Household Membership (includes all living at same address - one newsletter)
 List members of the household who are or want to become members of DOTC

2. An additional **annual training fee of \$100** is required for **each member** who wishes to participate in the weekly training classes held from September 2009 through May 2010. This fee is waived for instructors who teach 2 sessions during the year. **A member may receive a training fee credit of up to \$70, to be applied to the \$100 Training Fee, based on hours worked at DOTC events during the current year, 2008-2009.** Contact Judy Smotrel at 384-3177 if you have any questions or if you think there is an error in the credit you have.

Please list all training members from your household and the dogs that they will train. In addition to the above dues (paid by all members), remember to pay the listed training fee for each training member. It reflects the credit earned based on the number of hours worked at DOTC events. (Rate of \$2.50 credit per hour worked, for a maximum credit of \$70)

Hours Worked	Credit earned	Training Fee due	Handler	Dog name	Training Class needed 9/2009 (must preregister)	Dog's Birth Date

3. **PLEASE BE SURE TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS THIS YEAR.**

Check your mailing label for the current address we have on file for you.

Street address: _____

City, State, Zip+4: _____

Home phone: _____ Fax : _____

For each handler, provide the following information:

Name: _____ Work Phone: _____

Name: _____ Work Phone: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

We need your current email address. Some announcements and reminders will be send out by email only (to those with active email accounts). Those members without email will receive a postcard.

Do you wish to receive newsletters and announcements by email _____ or by mail _____