



The Happy Heeler

April 2022

A Publication of the Obedience Club of San Diego, Inc

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Del Sur Kennel Club Trial: Obedience and Rally at Bates Nut Farm, April 29, 30, May 1. Entry Forms by mail, email, and FAX no later than April 13.

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Hidden Valley Obedience Club Obedience and Rally Trials: HVOC Training Facility, Escondido. June 11 and 12. Hvoc.org

Board of Directors and Officers Update: VP John Schwartz takes over as Board President after Alyson Deines steps down from board.

Conformation Classes move to Tuesday at 6:30 as of April 5: Introduction to Conformation Handling continues to meet at 6:30, followed by drop-in conformation at 7.



Canine Good Citizen Urban Class began at the fountain in Balboa Park. Debbie Vachal, instructor. Image: Danielle Richards

Rally Drop-in moves to Tuesdays: Practice novice, intermediate, advanced, and master signs on a real course with jumps too. [Drop In Classes \(ocsd.org\)](https://www.ocsd.org)

Club Helps Local People and Pets with Donation: OCSDC is proud to donate to Face Foundation, one of the top local animal charities in San Diego

Ways to Help Pets in Ukraine: Scroll down for information and links to charities that support animal rescues in Ukraine and anyone crossing the border with pets

Braggs: OCSDC members earn legs and titles in Agility and Tracking.

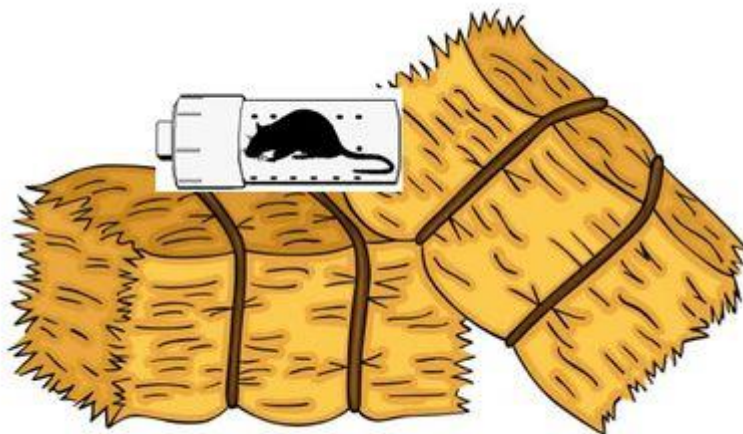
June with Joan: The annual club event is confirmed for June 15. Mark your calendar.



Del Sur Kennel Club Trial: Obedience and Rally trials, Conformation, CGC, and more held April 29, 30, May 1, at Bates Nut Farm, 15954 Woods Valley Road, Valley Center, CA 92082. Entry Forms by mail, email, and FAX no later than April 13. [2022 DSKC Premium List - Final.pdf \(wsimg.com\)](#)



Any breed or mix of dog 6 months of age or older who can fit through an 18" wide by 22" tunnel constructed of straw/hay bales is eligible to enter Barn Hunt.



Barn Hunt:

Introduction to Barn Hunt w/ Paula Cingota, hosted by The Obedience Club of San Diego. Dates: April 9, 2022, and May 7, 2022. Location: Jamul, CA.

Does your dog like to hunt for critters? Come join us to learn all about Barn Hunt! This is a fun sport that tests your dog's hunting abilities. Rats are safely placed in a PVC tube and hidden amongst straw bales, and it's your dog's job is to find that rat!

We have two dates for you to join us in learning more about this sport. Space is limited to 10 dogs per date. \$25.00 per dog, OCSDC members only, please (1 dog per household), unless the workshops don't fill. Click here to register [Events \(ocsdc.org\)](https://ocsdc.org)

Hidden Valley Obedience Club Scent Trial: HVOC Training Facility, Escondido. May 14-15. All levels of container, exterior, and buried. Novice and Excellent HD. Entry limit 300 per trial. [Microsoft Word - HVOC May 2022 Premium \(wsimg.com\)](https://www.wsimg.com)

Hidden Valley Obedience Club Obedience and Rally Trials: HVOC Training Facility, Escondido. June 11 and 12.

Board of Directors and Officers Update: At the board meeting on March 14, Alyson Deines resigned from the board. Vice President John Schwartz is now Board President. Bobbi Prilaman, corresponding secretary, has also resigned. The board thanks them for their leadership and dedication to the club. Ms. Deines will continue to be a trainer and club supporter. The next board meeting is set for April 11.

The Obedience Club of San Diego County, Inc. was founded in 1948 by a responsible and insightful group of dog fanciers whose goal was to share their knowledge and expertise with the dog-owning community. The Club's mission is to provide high quality instruction for both pet and competitive dog owners.

Conformation Classes move to Tuesday at 6:30 as of April 5: Introduction to Conformation Handling continues to meet at 6:30, followed by drop-in conformation at 7.



Rally Drop-in moves to Tuesdays, 7 to 8pm: The rally drop-in class is for members who have some experience in rally. A practice course includes all levels of signs, Novice through Master. A leash is required. Join the Club's group page on Facebook and reply to the Drop-in Rally poll.

All classes are held in the San Diego Zoo Parking Lot.

Please review the [Dog Handling Policy | Obedience Club of San Diego County \(ocsd.org\)](https://www.ocsd.org/dog-handling-policy)



Club Helps Local People and Pets with Donation: Financial hardships can make it difficult for pet owners to find critical medical care for their dogs, cats, and other companion animals. OCSDC is proud to donate \$1500 to Face Foundation, one of the top animal charities in San Diego.

FACE Foundation provides financial support to low-income families, senior citizens, veterans, military families, people experiencing homelessness, students, disabled individuals, and hard-working families who have exhausted all other options and are at risk of losing their beloved pet.

The charity collaborates with veterinary hospitals and medical providers of all sizes throughout the county to provide life-saving care for pets at risk of economic euthanasia. More information here: [FACE Foundation for Animals | Best Animal Charity \(face4pets.org\)](https://face4pets.org)




Ways to Help Pets in Ukraine: Many charities support animal rescues in Ukraine and those crossing the border with pets.

The AKC and AKC Reunite have donated \$25,000 to Equiwent, a German organization with operations in Poland and Romania. <https://www.equiwent.org/>

The AKC Store sold “Peace for Ukraine” apparel with all proceeds going to Casa lui Patrocle animal rescue, located 25 miles outside Ukraine, offering shelter, veterinary care, and emergency assistance to anyone crossing the border with pets. [An Update on AKC and the Crisis in Ukraine – American Kennel Club](#)

Helen Woodward in San Diego is donating funds to UAnimals. [Donate to Ukrainian Pets in Crisis \(animalcenter.org\)](#)

[Ukraine animal charities: 5 verified nonprofits to help refugees' pets \(today.com\)](#)

Braggs: OCSDC members earned more legs and titles in Agility and Tracking. Submit yours here: [Member Brags! \(ocsdc.org\)](http://ocsdc.org) 



**CH Larcan's Head In The Clouds RN FDC BCAT SWN RATN DJ CGCA
CGCU TKA ATT**

Rumble earned his **Trick Dog Advanced** title in March. He had a great time learning the tricks needed to earn this title, and with this title he also qualified for the **Versatility Certificate (VC)** from the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America. The LRCA versatility awards program is designed to recognize Lagotti that have distinguished themselves in the breed ring and in recognized performance events. These dogs possess the conformation, temperament, intelligence, scenting and working capabilities which represent the essential characteristics of the breed. There are three levels of LRCA versatility awards: Versatility Certificate (VC), Versatility Excellent (VX) award, and Versatility Champion (VCH) award. These versatility awards are based on a point system which is used to weight each title based on its difficulty. Versatility points are awarded for the achievements in each of the categories. The dog must earn 1 point in at least 5 of the categories to qualify for a Versatility award (VC or VCX). To earn a VCH award at least 2 points must be earned in the Scent Skills category. A total of 30 points for a Versatility Certificate (VC). The Versatility Excellent Certificate (VCX) requires a total of 40 points. The Versatility Champion Certificate (VCH) requires a total of 50 points.

He decided to be an overachiever and has 6 categories of titles. ☺

- 1) Conformation CH: CH
- 2) Dock Diving: DJ
- 3) Rally: RN
- 4) CGC/Trick Dog: CGC, CGCA, CGCU, ATT, TKN, TKI, TKA
- 5) Coursing: BCAT
- 6) Scent Skills: SWN, RATN

--Debbie Redondo

Download pdf: [OCSDC Newsletter_Rumble_TKA.pdf](#)

Tracking Champion!

CT PCK Worth Her Weight in Gold RAE VST FDC BCAT SWN SCA SEA SBA
RATO DS DJ CGCA CGCU TKA ATT

“Lira”



This girl continues to blow me away. We started our tracking training late in 2016, but then had to step away from it because life and work got in the way. When we picked it back up in 2021 it was like riding a bike for Lira...she remembered everything, including how much she enjoyed it. We passed our Tracking Dog (TD) test in December, our Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) test in February and now in March Lira has passed her **Variable Surface Tracking** (VST) test. All three were passed on our first try!

Our track layer was Bob Long and our VST test was held at Southwestern College. It was a challenging track, with a lot of the course on asphalt. At one point, when I knew we had to be relatively close to the end...Lira seemed to get lost on the track (or maybe I missed her signals!) and we spent about 15 minutes trying to retrace our steps and get back on track. After a lot of patience and encouragement, she did it and then was quickly able to lead me right to the last article.

A huge thanks to Judge Sally and Judge Stuart, and of course our trainers Kay and Aly for all of the practice tracks they laid down for us!

Passing the VST earns Lira her very first prefix title of **Champion Tracker (CT)** and I also learned she is only the 3rd Lagotto to earn this title. I am so proud of my girl!

Debbie

--Debbie Redondo



Congratulations Debbie Vachal and Full Moon's Jackson for earning your first AKC Agility Leg.



Spica, Talisman Speed on to Spica, passed his VST on March 20. Congratulations Spica and Alyson Deines (on lower left).

VST stands for Variable Surface Tracking Title. The track is 600 to 800 yards long with four to eight turns, is aged three to five hours, and covers three different ground surfaces, mimicking an urban environment. Read more about Tracking here: [tracking_w/cover.qk \(akc.org\)](https://tracking_w/cover.qk.akc.org)



June with Joan: Joan Embery is a well-known champion of environment, conservation, and preservation issues around the world, most notably as spokeswoman for the Zoological Society of San Diego.

The club's annual event is historically held on the third Wednesday in June, and this year it's confirmed for June 15, at 6 pm. **June with Joan** is held at her exquisite Pillsbury Ranch in Lakeside.

During this exclusive event, Joan and her staff will present an educational program with various animals they keep on the ranch, and they will share stories of her lifetime commitment to wildlife conservation. For more insight and images visit [Joan Embery - Home](#).

Our club's June with Joan volunteers are already planning the event and will send out reservation notices. Watch for club emails and special notices in this newsletter.



TRAINERS AND DIRECTORS

Training Director: Nancy Asbury, nasbury@cox.net

Rally Trainers:

- Shelley Bakalis
- Randi Boysen-Carl
- Debbie Redondo
- John Schwartz
- Debbie Vachal
- Rita Wolkiewicz - posthumous

Obedience Trainers:

- Nancy Asbury
- Randi Boysen-Carl
- Catherine Cornell
- Alyson Deines-Schartz
- Kris Eitland
- Jane Glickman
- Kathy Marmack
- John Schwartz
- Rita Wolkiewicz - posthumous

Scent Work Trainers:

- Alyson Deines-Schartz
- Karen Hagler
- Kayelene Hawthorne
- Cathy Modica
- Debbie Redondo

Conformation Drop In Trainers:

- Jennifer Ellis
- Erin Mathews
- Michelle Mixon
- Julie Borst Reed
- Margaret Williamson

Obedience Drop In Trainers:

- Shelley Bakalis
- Sandy Gonzales
- Betty Ribble

Rally Drop In Trainers:

- Tom Bedford

CGC Coordinator & Instructor:

- Debbie Vachal

Board of Directors:

President:

- John Schwartz

Vice-President:

- Vacant

Recording Secretary:

- Connie Chovan

Corresponding Secretary:

- Vacant

Treasurer:

- Ron Asbury

Training Director:

- Nancy Asbury

Directors:

- Kris Eitland
- Sandra Gonzales
- Kay Hawthorne
- Kathy Marmack
- Mechelle Stall

•Debbie Vachal

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Deadline for May newsletter submissions is April 29, 2022.

Website: <https://ocsdc.org>