

The Newsletter of the Rand Park Dog Training Club Inc.

Paw Prints

March-April 2025

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"May we be as good as noble and as deserving as our dogs think we are."

Celebrating our Trials Issue:

Event Date:	April 26 & 27 - 9 to 5 pm
Compete:	Mail your entry by April 9
Volunteer to help:	Contact Jackie Montero, jackie.em@outlook.com
Where:	WAG Training Center

More information inside!



From the President

Greetings One and All!

Spring is around the corner, as is our 90th & 91st Obedience Trials, along with our 33rd & 34th Rally Trials. I am excited that our trials are up and running again.

Barb Krynski took the reins and has done a fabulous job making sure everything is getting done on time.

We've had several members step up to head the committees for the trial. Jackie (chief ring steward), Wilson & Al (equipment), Lisa & Erin (ribbons & awards) and of course, Paul (hospitality) will be keeping us well fed with some delicious lunches and snacks.

We still need several people to volunteer (Jackie will be signing people up at class) to steward at the obedience rings and no pre-

vious experience is needed to do the job!. We and the judge will instruct you on your duties in the ring. So mark your calendars for April 26th & 27th and join us for a fun day of obedience and rally!

Happy Spring!

Birgit



Upcoming Trial News

Hello, all.

I'm Barb Krynski, the Obedience/Rally trial chair for 2025. I've been a member of Rand Park since 1988 and have trained dogs in obedience, rally, agility, and nose work, and have also participated in FCAT and CAT trials.

For our trial, we need YOU! The trials are April 26 and 27 and will be held at WAG in Spring Grove, IL. No experience is necessary, and we're happy to teach you everything you need to know. It's a great opportunity to see dogs competing at the highest levels of obedience and rally, with some of the best handlers in the area participating.

Please contact Jackie Montero at Jackie.em@outlook.com. She is the Chief Ring Steward for the trial and will get you set up! It's a lot of fun, and lunch is provided for all volunteers each day.

I hope to see you ALL there!

Barb Krynski 2025 Obedience Trial Chair



OBEDIENCE AND RALLY TRIAL JOB DESCRIPTIONS

One of the best things about volunteering at an obedience trial is that they are almost always held indoors and air-conditioned. The dogs and handlers are usually well-behaved, at least, we always hope so. Jobs are easy and on-the-job training is abundant. The best and easiest place to start is as a ring steward. You can even request to work in a specific ring so that you can learn as you work.

Here is a little more about each of the jobs that typically need to be filled at an obedience trial:

RING STEWARD: This job varies depending on the ring you are working in, and it may vary slightly with each judge overseeing each class. You may be asked to be ready to take the handler's leash when an off-leash exercise is about to begin and then return the leash to the handler when they are finished. You may be asked to help set up the signs for Beginner Novice, set up or adjust jumps, set out the articles and/or gloves for Utility, and help the judge hand out ribbons.

TABLE STEWARD: The Table Steward oversees a ring, ensuring everything is in order and running smoothly. They handle any conflicts and communication with the judge. Before each class, armbands are given to handlers as they check-in. Stewards sit at a table by each ring and may hand score sheets to the judge as each dog enters the ring. The judge records each dog's scores while the dog and handler complete the exercises. When the judge hands the score sheet back to the table steward, they add up any faults and calculate the scores. Some judges prefer to handle their own score sheets and add up the scores themselves. They will let each table steward know how they would like everything handled. This job has slightly more responsibility than the other jobs.

GATE STEWARD: The Gate Steward checks dogs in before their class begins. They make sure that the next 3-4 dogs are near, in order, and ready to go as it's important to keep things moving. The gate steward will cue each handler when they can enter the ring and cross off their number on the board as they begin. If there is a group sit and down the gate, the steward makes sure the dogs are lined up in order before going into the ring. Gate stewards also assist with handing out the trophies when each class finishes. This is not a difficult job in an obedience trial.

HOSPITALITY: If you are helping with hospitality, you may be the one to set lunch up in the kitchen area when it's time for lunch. You may have brought food in and check with the table steward to see when lunch should occur.

RAFFLE COORDINATOR: The Raffle Coordinator is in charge of selling raffle tickets and keeps an eye on the raffle table to make sure that everything is kept in order.

While in a competition ring, here are a few important things to remember:

- Be sure you do not have any food in your pockets or spilled on your clothes.
- Never touch a dog that is in the ring unless told to do so by the judge.
- If you are unsure of your duties, just ask the judge or table steward. They are both grateful for your help.

New Members

Meet our newest members to join the Rand Park team! Congratulations to:



Danielle & Jaxon



Marie & Gűs



Ken & Millie

January Membership Meeting Minutes

Rand Park Dog Training Club

Des Plaines Leisure Center Membership Meeting Minutes

01/28/2025

Meeting called to order: 7:35 p.m.

Minutes Approval: Gloria moved to accept the minutes, Jill Spooner seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Board members in attendance: Kathy Baureis, Maria Divane, Todd Doerpinghaus, Vickie Henderson, Lois Mayer Yep, Lisa Merlin, Birgit Mantilla, Martha Nelson, Kari Sheridan, Jill Spooner, Paul Straka

Board members absent: Teena Horne, Mary Laurie, Jackie Montero, Candido Martinez, **Members and trainers in attendance:** Bill Urquardt, Gloria Urquardt, Bradley McGinnis, Jake Simmons, Ann Mednick, Laura Winbels, Tom Merlin, Ashley Taras, Susan Luebker, Debbie Egan-Boton, Audrey Drechsler, Erin Straka, Margaret Henning, Kathleen Henning,

ADVISOR: Mary Laurie – absent **CHAIRMAN:** Paul Straka – no report

PRESIDENT: Birgit Mantilla-

We've accomplished a lot, and we'll hear more detailed reports later in this meeting. The owner of the most recent building we looked at rejected our bid because he didn't want dogs. We are open to ideas from members about locations and classes.

VICE PRESIDENT: Kathy Baureis no report

SECRETARY: Martha Nelson Dues continue to come in.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Jill Spooner

No report

TREASURER & INSURANCE: Candido Martinez

Financials will be given at the membership meeting. We will no longer post financials publicly.

Storage issue: Many years ago, five Club members rented a storage unit and listed their contact information on the lease. Most of those members have since retired from the club, yet their names were still on the contact sheet. Sometime in 2019, we assume the storage company sent out rent increase notifications, but the first four members didn't pass along that information. Every month, we paid the rent at a deficit. Finally, the company contacted Bill Urquadt, and he notified the Board that we were behind in the rent.

Our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer figured out what needed to be done: They paid our back rent, starting with increases in 2019, and penalties of about \$1,500 to continue accessing our items. The board thanked Todd and Bill for their quick action in saving our items from going to auction. We also thank Candido for paying the bill.

Tom Merlin suggested a cc of the bills go to the Secretary, too.

Please note: the Board's goal is for all correspondence to go to the Club's mailbox or one or more RPDTC email address(s) to avoid this type of problem in the future.

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Todd Doerpinghaus - no report DIRECTOR: Maria Divane – no report DIRECTOR: Vickie Henderson – no report DIRECTOR: Teena Horne – absent, no report DIRECTOR: Lisa Merlin – no report DIRECTOR: Kari Sheridan – no report DIRECTOR: Lois Mayer Yep – no report

COMMITTEES 2024

DIRECTOR OF TRAINING: Jackie Montero -

Congratulations to the students who trialed at the Janesville-Beloit club in Forest City this weekend. Audrey got her BN title; Jill Q got 2nd place; Brad got 4th; Don also qualified. Tom Merlin got 2nd, and 3rd.

Tom shared the judge's comments that this was the best group she'd worked with in a long time. Fun trial for the students who competed!

We'll try another trial at the end of March in Rockford. Our trial is in April.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TRAINING Kathy Baureis – no report AUDIT AND FINANCE: Martha Nelson, Deborah Egan Bolton, Jill Spooner – No Report BANQUET: Annice Coughlin, Wendy Mejia

BYLAWS AND POLICIES:

Will note Tom's recommendation for grammar and punctuation.

DEMONSTRATIONS: Barb Pische – report by Kathy

Nursing home visits on the second Saturday of the month, from 10 to 11:45 am. February 8, Meet at Nazareth Nursing Home in the parking lot. Watch for any updates on our Facebook page.

EQUIPMENT: Geraldo Mejia, Al Baureis – absent, no report Safe in storage!

FACEBOOK: Birgit Mantilla, Maria Divane Please send in all brags to be posted.

FIT DOG CLUB: Teena Horne, Vickie Henderson 3 showed up at Wood Oaks. Cold weather but beautiful. The next meeting will be in April.

FUN MATCH: We will resume fun matches when we have a building. **IMPROVEMENT:** Wilson Mantilla, Paul Straka – no report Recommendation: search for a building owned privately, not by a corporation.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON: Birgit Mantilla - no report

LIAISON TO PARK DISTRICT: Kathy Baureis no report

MARKETING AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: on hold

NEW MEMBER PACKETS: Martha Nelson – sending them out as we get new members.

OBEDIENCE TRIAL: Barb Krynski, Vickie Henderson -

Preparing for the April 26 & 27, 2025 trial. Jackie is seeking volunteers to be stewards and help move jumps (on wheels, not very heavy). It's an excellent way for a new person to see how a trial works. The trial is at WAGS in Spring Grove.

PARLIAMENTARIAN - Tom Merlin

no report

PAW PRINTS: Vickie Henderson -

The January newsletter was sent to members and trainers Please send in your stories and photos to <u>rpdtc.pawprints@gmail.com</u> Thanks!

REGISTRATION: Birgit Mantilla

Three friends want to register together to be in the same class.

TRAINING COMMITTEE: Jackie Montero, Birgit Mantilla, Kathy Baureis Going well.

TRIAL, SPECIAL AND ANNUAL AWARDS: Lisa Merlin and Erin Straka – We will set up the ribbons and awards in advance of the trial. Pizza party at Birgits!

http://www.randparkdtc.org Rand Park Dog Training Club Page | 8

WEB SITE: Teena Horne, Todd Doerpinghause - no report

Todd removed the cookies alert, and he will add the last few months of Newsletters and the 2025 class schedule.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Lisa Merlin presented the slate as created by the Nominating Committee. We took nominations from the floor. No one asked to be nominated; therefore, the nominated slate will become the next Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm. Bill U made the motion to adjourn, and Canido seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Nelson



Building Update

As many of you know, Rand Park Dog Training is actively looking for our own premises. We have certainly outgrown the Leisure Center!

Today, we rent the gym from the Des Plaines Park District. We use about 4,500 square feet for training and 100 square feet of storage for our equipment.

Our Ideal building goals:

- 6,000 8,000 square feet
- Stand-alone building with at least 25 dedicated parking spots, with additional on-street parking
- Easy access to an expressway or tollway.
- Ground-level training no stairs
- Two sets of doors
- Heating and air conditioning
- Two bathrooms
- Outside "potty" area of about 100 square feet or more.
- In a safe neighborhood
- Adequate electricity for lighting and alarms

Things that aren't important:

- Built out office space
- Fancy flooring because we will lay down matting for training.

How you can help:

Finding commercial property is different from finding residential property. We've used Loopnet.com to identify new listings, but we've also found more listings by just driving around.

If you see a "For Lease" sign in the window that looks about the same size as the gym, take a photo of it, and email it to dtcrandpark@gmail.com. You can also share it with your instructor at a Tuesday class.

Senior Visitation Hours

To participate:

- 2nd Saturday of the month April 12, May 10.
- Dogs must be comfortable around other dogs in tight spaces
- Dogs must be comfortable being petted by several people
- The residents must not feed dogs at any time
- You must be a member or a current student and your dog must be well behaved and non-reactive to participate in <u>Demonstrations</u>

Ascension Living Nazarethville Place 300 N River Rd Des Plaines IL 60016

If interested before attendance, contact Barb Pische at 872-276-3331 or <u>remi2332@sbcglobal.net</u>

Does your dog like to be petted? Come join us! Each dog will receive at least a hundred pets and cuddles.

From the March visit:







Lucky like a four-leaf clover!

















One of the joys of having a trained dog is being able to share them with others. On Saturday, the dogs spent part of their morning with a wonderful group of seniors at the nursing home. The dogs received so much love and cuddles! In return, the dogs delighted this group with their amazing obedience and nosework skills.

Terms and Definitions

In our second in a series of articles about dog training terms, we'll examine different leashes. Ask your instructor or the Director of Training if you have questions about what is best for you and your dog. One size does not fit all!

The leash is the trainer's direct connection to their dog after collars. All components must be solid enough to withstand years of use in all types of training circumstances. (Lead vs. Leash; the two terms are interchangeable in the US.)

Parts of the leash

- **Snap**—A good brass snap on a swivel bolt allows the dog to spin without the leash getting tangled. A high-quality snap will hold against a determined dog's pull.
- materials of a leash leather, nylon, Biothane
- Length of the leash 6' and 20' for obedience training
- Width of the leash most common is ³/₄" wide for any dog

6' snap leather lead

Riveted swivel bolt brass snap,3/4" wide



One loop for the trainer's hand; no extra loops or poop-bag rings.

Quality leather improves with age; use leather conditioner to keep it water-resistant and supple.



Riveted swivel bolt brass snap,³/₄" wide, 20 feet long

Biothane is a trademarked name. It is a polyester webbing with a TPU or PVC coating. It floats in water, and mud is easily wiped off.

A 20-foot-long leash for recalls and water retrieves (swimming!)



The swivel bolt is the same as the 6' leash, but the leash part is only 6 inches. It is used for off-leash advanced training.

Brags





Birgit & Noah earned a 1st and 2nd place at the two trials held at the German Shepherd Club of Chicago.

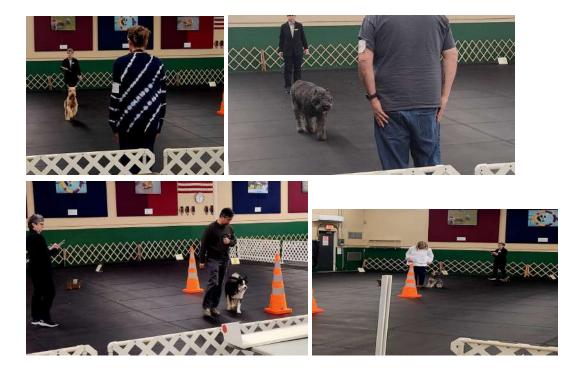
They are working towards their OTCH title, which is a combination of Open and Utility wins:

"Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH) – Dogs with UD titles must win 100 points and a first-place in Utility B and Open B, plus a third first-place win in either class, under three different judges." - AKC website

With these wins, they have 8 more points to go.

The Open B class requires Command Discrimination (from 30 feet away!), drop on recall, and a retrieve over the jump.

The Utility class is challenging and includes scent discrimination, directed retrieves, jumping, and silent signal exercises.





Our students did an outstanding job at their very first obedience trial at the Forest City Dog Training Club. Congratulations on your placements in the Beginner Novice A Class: Audrey & Mochi-1st place, Julie & Hazel-2nd place, Tom & Tucker-3rd place and Don & Yoshi-4th place. Well done! A few months back Birgit asked a few of us to go to a trial at the end of January. Now it is Birgit, so asking might be a bit weak. It was "you will do this." I am glad she did the experience, and the higher level of training was work, but it also was a lot of fun.

First off, we did it as a group, which really was the right way to go. There was lots of moral and actual support.

We, as a group, focused for a little over a month on learning the ways of the competition ring. Not just what our dogs needed to do, but what we as handlers needed to focus on. We practiced much harder and made our dogs do their thing much longer, so that on competition day everything went smoothly. For instance, on the long sit where you walk around the ring, at practice we did three full turns. At the competition, it is only once around. When practicing we just used commands without the dog's name, but in the ring, we added the name, So FRONT became TUCKERFRONT. Which adds emphasis to the call.

Ok now for some thoughts and pointers on the actual competition.

What to bring, a crate or a mat, water bowl and water, treats, poop bags and a chair for you. If your trial is 3/4 hours or more after your dog would normally eat, feed them a light breakfast. If they offer a fun match the night before; GO - The dogs from our group that went to the fun match did much better the second time around. If they do not offer it, get there early, at least 90 minutes. It really is an unfamiliar environment for your dog and helps them get ready to perform, in the ring. Walk around with your dog before your trial. Do not be afraid to ask questions, everyone there wants to help. Support each other, talk, do what it takes to relax. I know we lost points in our first round because of the things I did, as a handler.

The judges make every effort to put you at ease before the actual trial. They know for most of you it is your first or second time. The judges we had, would answer questions both before and after your run. After your group is finished, ask the secretary if you can take a photo of your score sheet. Look at where you lost points so you can develop a plan for the next run. In my case I did a slight head movement on the recall so .5 off. Next round, no head movement and no points off. Another thing to keep in mind is even if you or your dog makes a minor error don't react! So, what if you lose a point, the goal is to qualify! At this level qualifying is not that hard. Yes, there are a few things that are an automatic NQ, but if you do not NQ you should qualify. It takes three qualifying runs to earn that First Beginner Novice Title.

On to Novice! Tom & Tucker



The comradery between our students at the Forest City Obedience Trial was amazing! It was heartwarming to see their support for each other.



Congratulations to Team Rand Park for their placements in trial 2 (Beginner Novice A) at Forest City DTC under Judge Cindy Pischke. Audrey & Mochi 1st place 198, Jill & Lacy 2nd place 194.5, Don & Yoshi 3rd place 193, 4th place Brad & Barley 179



Strategy session!



Day 2 -Trial 3

The Rand Park students had a superb weekend at the Forest City DTC trials. The judge gave our students a wonderful compliment! She said they were the best group of Beginner Novice A dogs she had judged in a long time. We are so proud of them for giving 100% and placing in every trial. Audrey & Mochi-1st place 197.5, Tom & Tucker-2nd place 193, Julie & Hazel 3rd place 191.5. Bravo!!



Congratulations to Audrey and Mochi! With a score of 197.5 and a 1st place, Mochi earned his Beginner Novice title under Judge Brenda Reimer at the Forest City Dog Training Club.



Patti & Charlie Charlie earned his interior, container, and vehicle titles at the CPE nosework trial.



Congratulations Tom & Tucker! Tucker earned his Beginner Novice title with a 195.5 and 1st place under Judge Jim Comunale at the Shetland Sheepdog/Herding Group Obedience Trial.

CGC

The Canine Good Citizenship test will be given at the end of the current session. Congratulations to our recent CGC graduates!



Contact Vice President Kathy Baureis for further information @ <u>rpdtc.VP@gmail.com</u>

Susan and Sacchi



Phil and Murphy

Introducing AKC Therapy Dogs

The moment a volunteer with a therapy dog walks into a room, you can instantly feel a change in mood. All eyes focus on them, as smiles spread across everyone's faces. Therapy dogs are NOT service dogs. Service dogs are dogs who are specifically trained to perform a task or tasks to assist a person with a disability or impairment. A service dog must be with their person at all times and has special access privileges in public places.

Therapy Dog is an AKC program which recognizes the necessary therapy work performed by dogs through accepted organizations based on the number of visits. Therapy work involves volunteers who schedule visits to various facilities and locations such a nursing homes, classrooms, libraries, assisted living centers, hospices, funeral homes, schools, shelters even courtrooms.

Whether they're working with a child who is learning to read, visiting a patient in a hospital or a senior in assisted living, therapy dogs and their owners work together as a team to improve the lives of other people. A dog can provide a valuable sense of reassurance, joy, or calmness to people experiencing stressful, lonely or depressing situations or general times in their life.

https://www.akc.org/sports/title-recognition-program/therapy-dog-program/



Birgit's dogs: Rex, Hercules and Olive volunteering their time as therapy dogs.

From the K-9 Kitchen



New studies show **blueberries** can slow down the aging process in several species by repairing DNA damage & modifying genes associated with aging, which produces significantly **longer life spans**!

Researchers have also found **pterostilbene** & **anthocyanins** found in **blueberries** reduce the risk of cells becoming *cancerous* while the **polyphenols** aid in the prevention of *cognitive decline* in aging dogs.



Upcoming AKC shows: Obedience, Rally, Fast Cat and Scent work

Mark your calendars!

Rand Park Dog Training Club's Obedience Events are on Saturday, April 26, and Sunday, April 27, 2025. <u>https://randparkdtc.org/trials-and-fun-matches</u>

CLUB LOCATION **EVENT DATE** CLOSING Kennel Club of Yorkville, Illinois Dekalb, IL Apr 05 & 06 Mar 18, 2025 Happy Tails Ranch Working Island Lake, IL Apr 13, 2025 Apr 01, 2025 Group Club of Island Lake, IL Greater DeKalb Kennel Club Maple Park, IL Apr 19 & 20 Apr 02, 2025 <mark>Apr 26 & 27</mark> Apr 09, 2025 **Rand Park Dog Training Club** Spring Grove, IL

OBEDIENCE

RALLY

CLUB	LOCATION	EVENT DATE	CLOSING
Forest City Dog Training Club	Loves Park, IL	28-Mar-25	12-Mar-2025
Happy Tails Ranch Working Group Club of Island Lake, IL	Island Lake, IL	Apr 11 & 12	01-Apr-2025
Cudahy Kennel Club	St. Francis, WI	Apr 12 & 13	26-Mar-2025
Rand Park Dog Training Club	Spring Grove, IL	<mark>Apr 26 & 27</mark>	<mark>Apr 09, 2025</mark>

FAST CAT

CLUB	LOCATION	EVENT DATE	CLOSING
K-9 Obedience Training Club of Menomonee Falls	Germantown, WI	April 11 - 13	02-Apr-2025
Janesville-Beloit Kennel Club	Roscoe, IL	April 26 - 27	20-Apr-2025
Manitowoc County Kennel Club, Inc.	Valders, WI	May 2 - 4	21-Apr-2025
Packerland Kennel Club, Inc.	Manitowoc, WI	June 5 - 8	28-May-2025

AKC SCENTWORK

CLUB	LOCATION	EVENT DA	TE	CLOSING
Greater Chicago Area Scent Work Association	Elmhurst, IL	Mar 29 & 30	First Received - No Hand Deliveries	19-Mar-2025
Fox River Field Spaniel Club	Ixonia, WI	Apr 12 & 13	First Received	04-Apr-2025

Want to plan more dates? Looking for a premium? Search here!

https://webapps.akc.org/event-search/#/search

\$50 for Seniors

AKC's new sponsor, Grouper, provides benefits to AKC constituents aged 65 and older for staying active in their AKC communities. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, staying socially active in group activities -- like dog shows, handling classes or agility and obedience training -- has proven health benefits.

You can use the Grouper benefit to help cover the cost of any group activities that keep you socially connected and healthy. If you're 65 or older, you may qualify for the Grouper benefit in your current health plan. Here's how it works:

- Check eligibility online in seconds
- \$50 upfront just for having an eligible plan
- \$20 every 3 months by letting Grouper know you were active

Why you should enroll:

For U.S. based members only.



Research shows that joining groups improves our physical and cognitive health. It's called "Social Fitness," and it's connecting with others while spreading positivity into your community.



We are here to support your passion for group activities. If you're eligible, we will help you stay active.



We are not a health insurance company, and we do not sell health insurance to members. Rather, members may be eligible for Grouper™ through their health plan coverage.

Please carefully review this AKC-affiliated offer at: https://app.hellogrouper.com/p/akc

Humor



Thanks to our contributors

Recipes and Humor: Vickie Henderson Nursing home visits: Barb Pische From the President: Birgit Mantilla From our Secretary: Martha Nelson

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2024 Board of Directors - Thank you for everything you do!

The next submission deadline is May 5 for the May 15th issue.

Notice of training cancellation will also be posted on:

- The club's website http://www.randparkdtc.org
- our Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/RandParkDTC</u>