



THE HAPPY HEELER

February 2024



DEADLINE FOR MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER IS MARCH 15, 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the club begins its 75th Anniversary year we are off to a great start. For the scent work trial held on February 10th & 11th, We sold out the trial entries within 2 days and the trial went really well with happy judges, volunteers and, most importantly, happy exhibitors. The obedience and rally trial is happening on February 23, 2024 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds and we have a robust entry. We hope to see you there trialing at this very special event. Exceptionally beautiful rosettes will be awarded for qualifying scores and titles at this 75th anniversary trial.

My message for this month is about volunteering for the club. Last year there were a few that were shy of earning enough points for title plaques. It is so amazing how fast a year passes. So plan early. Volunteers are still needed for Thursday February 22nd and Sunday February 25th to bring in the equipment from the storage and bring it back to the storage unit. It might be time to plan to volunteer, to earn the necessary vouchers in order to have enough for all those plaques for those titles you'll be earning this year. Our next one day scent work trials will be in July, August, September and October. .

Other volunteer opportunities will be available as the year progresses. Please plan to sign up early so you can obtain the vouchers needed to cover the plaques for all your titles you intend to earn..

Look into chairing events coming up. The June with Joan annual event needs a chair and a couple committee members. We are planning a Fit Dog event culminating into a club potluck at Mission Bay. A great time for those who want to have a wonderful walk around Fiesta Island and meet other members for food and fun with tired, well behaved dogs. We will need a chair plus committee members to arrange the Fit Dog event and another person plus a couple committee members to arrange the Potluck.

Plan to grab your volunteer opportunities early so you're not scrambling at the end of year.

Our members engaging with Club activities is why we work so hard with meetings, classes, trials and events. This Club is a social club with members that share common interests. I mean who else wants to hear all your dog stories than others who have similar stories. Where else can you find folks that are so willing to give advice for some troubling behavioral issues that might arise. We want you to feel welcome to participate and develop friendships amongst kindred spirits.

To volunteer at our trial set up and breakdown, contact me, Linda Greco at lindasfgreco@gmail.com

To volunteer at the OCSDC informational booth at Del Mar, contact Lauren Haskin at

1doglady@gmail.com

Club Calendar for February

We have developed a club calendar of events for the year 2024 so you will know at a glance which classes and events are coming up. You will be able to find the entire calendar on-line at our website, <https://ocsdc.org/>. Check our website on a regular basis for updates or any changes.

FEBRUARY 2024						
CHECK WITH CLASS TRAINERS IF CLASSES ARE RESCHEDULED DUE TO WEATHER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Beg. Rally Signs Class 6:30p Int/Adv Rally Signs/Courses Beg. Obedience 7:30pm	2	3
4	5	6 Beg. Obed. Class Int. Obed. Class (Members only) DROP IN Conformation 7PM RAINED OUT	7 Beg. Obed. Class 6:30p Rally Trial Ready Rained Out	8 Beg. Rally Signs Class 6:30p Int/Adv Rally Signs/Courses Beg. Obedience 7:30pm (Members only) DROP IN OBEDIENCE 7PM	9	10 Scentwork Jamul-Dulzura VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
11 Scentwork Jamul – Dulzura VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	12 Board Meeting	13 Beg. Obed. Class Int. Obed. Class CGCA 6:30p (Members only) DROP IN Conformation 7PM	14 Beg. Obed. Class 6:30p Rally Trial Ready	15 Beg. Rally Signs Class 6:30p Int/Adv Rally Signs/Courses Beg. Obedience 7:30pm	16	17
18	19	20 Beg. Obed. Class Int. Obed. Class (Members only) DROP IN Conformation 7PM	21 Beg. Obed. Class 6:30p Rally Trial Ready	22 Beg. Rally Signs Class 6:30p Int/Adv Rally Signs/Courses Beg. Obedience 7:30pm (Members only) DROP IN OBEDIENCE 7PM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	23 Obedience /Rally Del Mar Fairgrounds	24 Silver Bay VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
25 Silver Bay VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	26 General Meeting	27 Beg. Obed. Class Int. Obed. Class (Members only) DROP IN Conformation 7PM	28 Beg. Obed. Class 6:30p	29 Beg. Rally Signs Class 6:30p Int/Adv Rally Signs/Courses Beg. Obedience 7:30pm		



The Obedience Club of San Diego County Inc.

General Meeting

Wednesday December 6, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Linda Greco at 7:06PM. Linda called for a motion to dispense with the General Meeting and continue on with the Awards Banquet Festivities. Motion by Nancy Asbury to dispense with the meeting. Seconded by Lauren Haskin. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:07PM.

Scent Work Trial Report



From Bobbie Sevier, Scent Work Show Chairman

The Obedience Club of San Diego hosted a Scent Work test Feb. 10-11, 2024. It was happily two days of sunshine after several days/weeks of rain! We were all so delighted to be able to volunteer and for some to compete with our canine partners.

Many club members helped to make this a very successful event by volunteering, for some it was a first time event, and they handled their positions beautifully. For others it was a return, as they had also volunteered for our club last December. These labor intensive events can only happen if we have volunteers, so we are very thankful to those who came out and helped!!

OCSDC received many compliments from competitors who came from near and far to test their dogs skills in the Scent Work competition.

Here is an example of items that can be used in exterior searches.



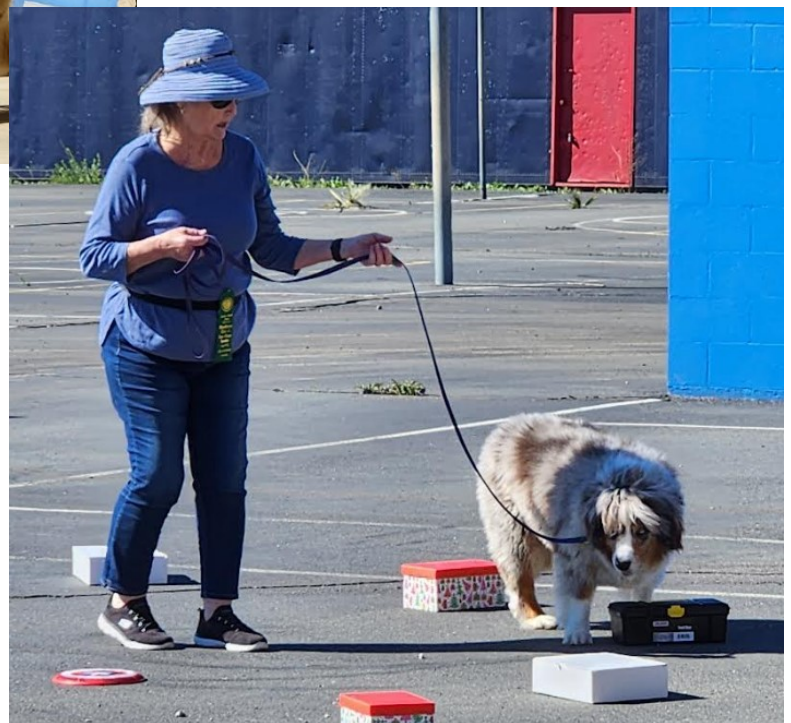
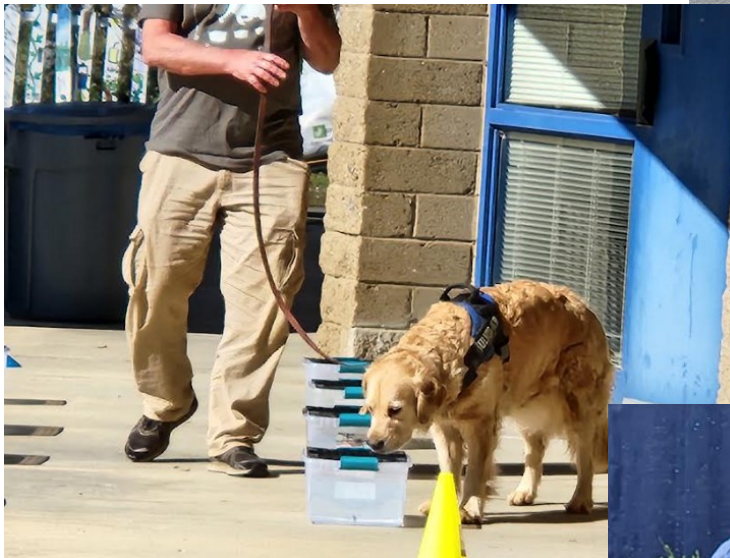
Scent Work continued...

Container search



Scent Work

Area to be searched for interior



Dog Bites

A record number of Californians are visiting emergency rooms for dog bites.

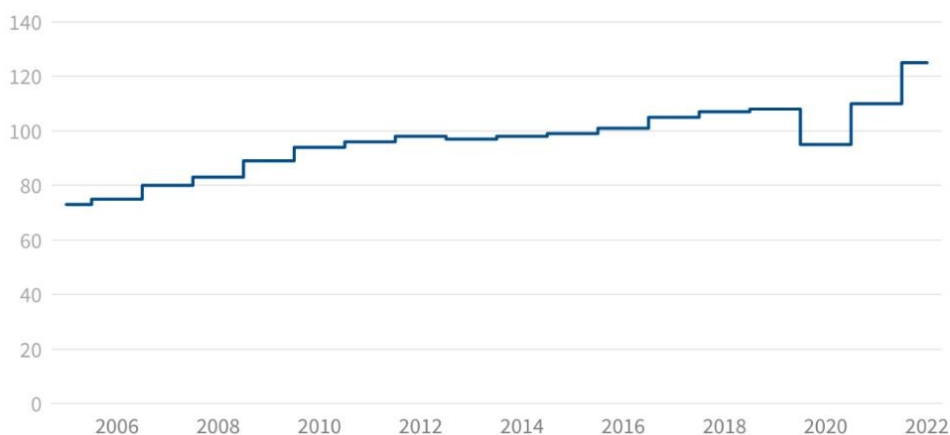
Those pandemic puppies are growing up to be a public health concern. The latest California data shows increased rates of emergency room visits, hospitalizations and death from dog bites, with new records set after COVID-19 lockdowns.

In 2022, there were 48,596 ER visits for dog bites in California, or 125 visits per 100,000 residents, a 70% increase in the rate of visits from 2005, according to the state Department of Health Care Access and Information.

Dog Bites Are Sending More Californians to Emergency Rooms

Dog bites led to about 48,600 California emergency room visits in 2022, the highest in at least 18 years. There were about 125 ER visits for dog bites per 100,000 California residents in 2022, about 70% higher than 2005.

ER visits for dog bites per 100,000 California residents:



Note: Data for 2005 to early 2015 based on ICD-9 external injury code 906.0. Data for late 2015 to 2022 based on ICD-10 external injury code W54.0XXA.

Source: California Department of Health Care Access and Information

Credit: Phillip Reese for KFF Health News

The rate of hospitalizations roughly doubled from 2006 through 2022. And although deaths from dog bites are extremely rare, the death rate in California rose about 70% during roughly the same period, with 28 deaths in the state from 2018 through 2022. Even before the pandemic, more Americans were welcoming dogs into their homes. Americans owned about 86 million dogs, up from 62 million in 2001. The pandemic accelerated that trend.

Lockdowns kept puppies from being socialized. For healthy development, puppies need to learn acceptable behavior between their first three weeks and 16 weeks of life. Puppies should be socialized to new kinds of people, new kinds of animals, new kinds of places. People were not able to do that during the pandemic.

Un-socialized puppies turned into adults and bites accelerated. From 2021 to 2022, ER visits for dog bites grew 12%, marking the highest yearly total to date for California.

Dog bites continued...

Animal shelters are under increasing pressure to euthanize fewer dogs, meaning people wind up adopting more aggressive dogs without knowing it. The number of “no-kill” animal shelters has increased sharply in the last several years, according to Best Friends Animal Society. However, even kill shelters may euthanize aggressive dogs that cannot be safely adopted. A 2019 California law (AB588) now requires animal shelters and rescue groups to disclose a dog’s bite history to anyone adopting it.

Recent Winners



VDS Never Ending Remembrance of Lucene
“Birdy”

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