



The MESSENGER an Official Publication of BVKA

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NEXT MEETING DATE

**** MEETING LOCATION CHANGE FOR OCTOBER ****

Please join us at our next meeting on **Thursday, October 8, 2026, in the community room at Haggen's, located at 757 Haggen Drive in Burlington.** Unfortunately the library was not available this day but with Diana's help, we were able to secure the community room for our next meeting. We'll gather at Haggen's at 6 p.m. for our social/dinner half hour followed by the business meeting at 6:30 p.m. The September meeting is cancelled because we'll all be busy helping to put on the second most popular agility trial of the year at Fun Fur Paws, September 11-13.

UPCOMING BVKA EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- *FALL AGILITY TRIALS:* September 11-13, Fun Fur Paws, Mount Vernon
(*NO BVKA GENERAL MEETING: September 10th (Due to Fall Agility Trials)*)
- *SCENT WORK WORKSHOP:* October 17, Fredonia Grange, Mount Vernon
(*BVKA EVENT FOR MEMBERS ONLY - WORKING TEAMS AND AUDITORS*)
- *OBEDIENCE/RALLY TRIAL January 16-17, 2027, Fun Fur Paws, Mount Vernon*
- *AWARDS/RECOGNITION DINNER January 30, 2027 (Location TBD)*

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AND THE WINNER IS ... !

Huge congratulations to Christina, the lucky winner of our August drawing ... and the proud new owner of the coveted Bell Vernon hat. From the looks of it, the hat fit perfectly and was incredibly flattering. Clearly, it found the right head. If you missed out getting your name in the basket this month, come to the meeting in October and give it another try. You could be our next lucky winner!



THE NOSE KNOWS!!

BVKA SCENT WORK WORKSHOPS

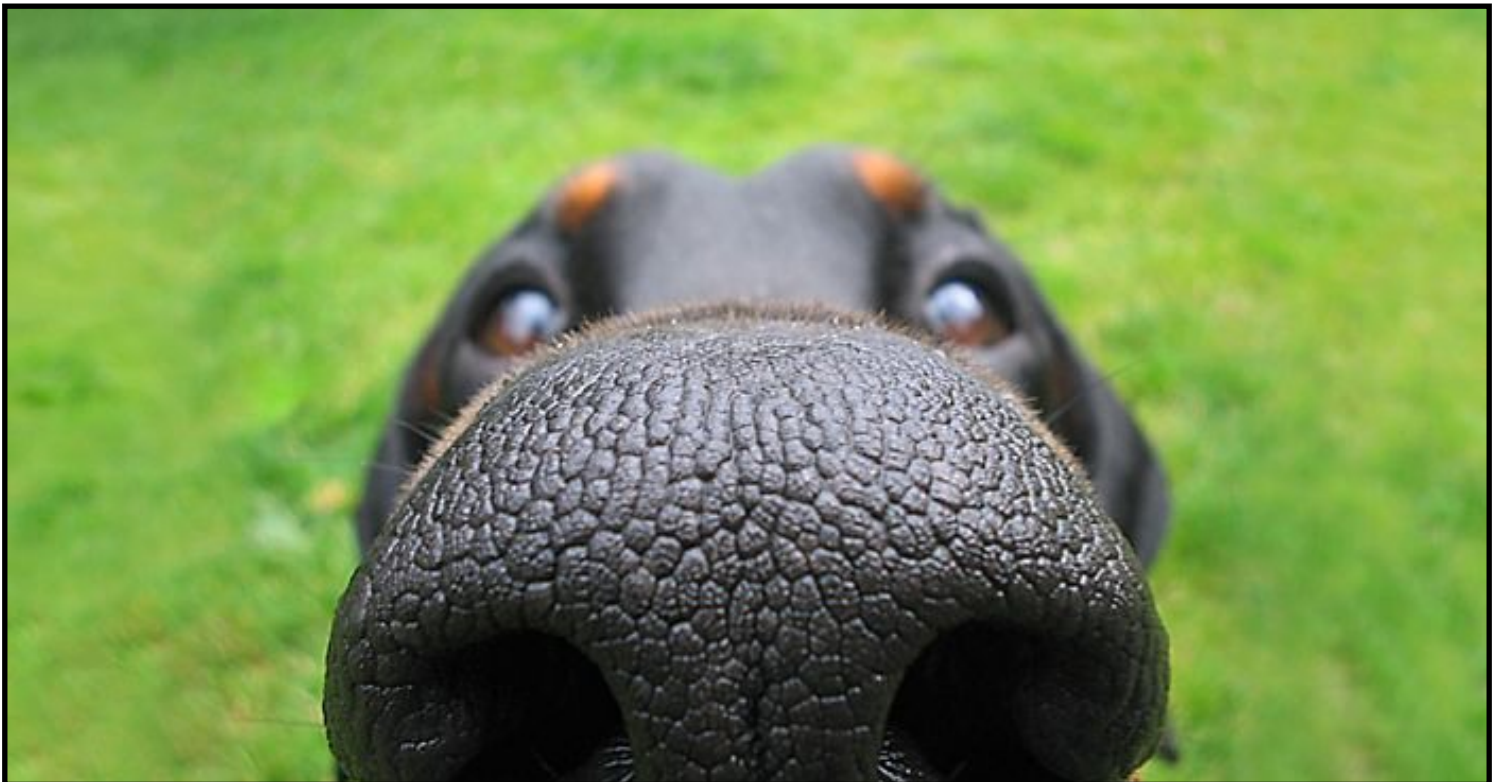
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

FREDONIA GRANGE - 14245 McFARLAND RD MT VERNON

Let's get ready for some scent work fun with two separate workshops! Both workshops will have openings for dog/handler teams as well as auditors. Working spots are \$20, auditing is free.

The morning workshop will focus on competition at all levels, while the afternoon workshop will be more of an introduction to the sport, perfect for those who are new to scent work and want to give it a try.

Marilyn will be emailing the entry form to all of us next week, so be sure to watch for it! We hope you'll come join us for a fun-filled day of sniffing, learning, and building that special teamwork with our dogs. Thank you, Marilyn, for working to make this happen for us. We are excited!



WELCOME NEW LITTLE MEMBER!



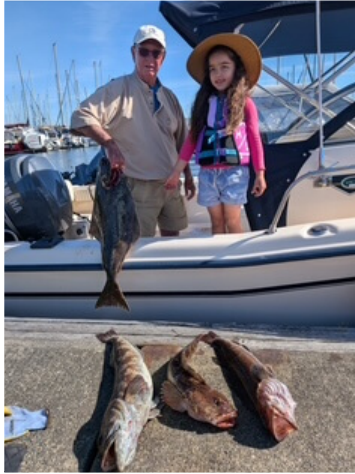
Best friends ever, drove round trip to Virginia and back home. There were lots of laughs and pretty scenery. And to top it all off, we came home with "Parker." She was a shockingly good traveler. Her registered name is Keepsake TOBy's Road Trip, TOB standing for "three old broads." Can't wait for you all to meet her!



LINDA! SO HAPPY ABOUT THE NEW FURRY
ADDITION TO YOUR FAMILY!!

BRAGS AND WAGS!

Superman (Manny) and Star Heart each earned their Rally Intermediate Titles! We've been having so much fun with Rally, far more than we ever expected. What a fun summer it has been!



CONGRATULATIONS JEAN, MANNY, AND STAR
AND THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR
SUMMER WITH US!

BRAGS AND WAGS!

WE DID IT!!! At the WSOTC trial at Country Classic Kennels August 8, Stevie finished his Rally Champion (RACH) title with a score of 99 in Master (2nd place)!!! His official AKC name/title is now:

RACH Shalamar American Graffiti CDX BN RM3 RAE2 RC3 PT MX MXJ MJB MXP MJP2 OF T2B2 CGC TKN

Thanks to all of the people who have encouraged us and helped us become a successful team! In particular, I have to do a shout out to our good friends and mentors Linda Shea, Debbie Addicoat, and Julie Germano! I also have to give a big thanks to my wife Gloria, for all of her help and support!



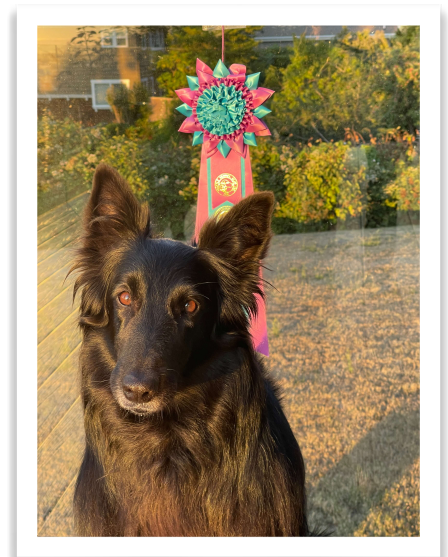
HUGE HUGE HUGE CONGRATULATIONS
LARRY AND STEVIE!

BRAGS AND WAGS!

Taz earned a High Triple in rally obedience at the WSOTC trial on Sunday, August 9, with a score of 286/300. He also earned his RAE title. This is his third time trialing in rally after I benched him three years ago for giving me the furry finger in the ring, twice. I really think agility has helped build the bond to stay focused through a course of “boring” exercises that don’t involve running and leaping. Good boy Taz!



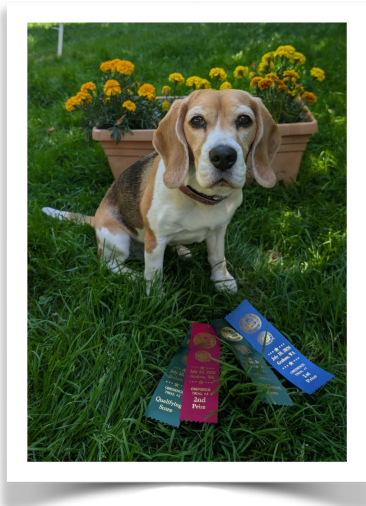
Karma earned her PAX3 title at the SKC agility trial on July 12.



HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTINA,
TAZ, AND KARMA! GREAT JOB!!
No more furry finger, Taz 😂

BRAGS AND WAGS!

At the Tacoma Kennel Club show, Midge and Presto were entered in two shows. They both braved the heat to have great days in the Obedience ring.



Midge finished her CDX, with a first place. She earned a backup 4th leg in the afternoon trial, with second place.

Presto was entered in Novice Obedience for the first time. He went High in Trial at both shows, earning a score of 198-1/2 and 198, respectively, for the first two legs of his CD. He was entered in Novice Obedience at WSOTC's trial at Country Classic Kennels where he finished his CD with another HIT score, this time 199. Presto was entered in 4 Novice trials and he was HIT in all 4, with the last score being 198. What a great way to earn his CD.



YOU MAKE IT LOOK SO EASY! CHEERS TO YOU,
LINDA, AND TO MIDGE AND PRESTO!

THE TAIL END

NATIONAL DOG MONTH



During the month of August, National Dog Month celebrates our loveable canine pals smack in the middle of the dog days of summer. Whether your dog burrows under the blankets with you at night, plays in the sprinkler, or alerts you to a health need, we know they are constantly improving our lives and making them more fun.

Dogs are the #1 most commonly owned pets on the planet, and with good reason. Did you know that scientific studies prove our pawsome companions make us happier, less stressed, and more optimistic? The list of benefits to spending time with a dog goes on and on, but it all proves one thing—that a month-long celebration of our furry best friends has been a long time coming.

Not only that, but the companionship and affection we share with them make their lives better, too. Dog lovers know a life without dogs is a life missing something special, and that's a fact worth celebrating.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalDogMonth

This is the easy part. Celebrate with your best pal. Take an extra-long walk. Play fetch or spare an extra Milk-Bone treat. Get your dog the toy he's been wanting or visit the dog park. Speaking of visits, make your next veterinarian appointment to ensure your pet stays healthy and strong. Donate to your local shelter or to a larger dog nonprofit. You can also volunteer your services. Not only will the dogs appreciate the support, but so will their future human companions. However you celebrate, be sure to use #NationalDogMonth to post on social media.

NATIONAL DOG MONTH HISTORY

Milk-Bone brand (The J.M. Smucker Company) founded National Dog Month in 2020 to recognize all the ways dogs make our lives better. The Registrar at National Day proclaimed National Dog Month to be observed each year in August.



Be careful out there on the roads, as they will be busy with girls and boys heading back to school to brush up on the important stuff: sit, stay, and don't eat the homework. Where did our summer go?!

