



Washington State Obedience Training Club

The Canine Post

September 2026

An AKC Member Club

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Melissa Knapp

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Nancy Light

Treasurer

Catherine Shaffer

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Rhonda Forman

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Terrie Sato

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Upcoming Club Events

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 9/7 | Board Meeting at 7:30pm on Zoom |
| 9/12-13 | Connie Cleveland-Nolan & Kelsey Wehr Seminar at Country Classic Kennels |
| 9/16 | General Membership Meeting at 7pm on Zoom |

Club Committee Chairs

Agility 2026

Linda Shea

Audit/Budget

Sue Cox

Awards

Nancy Light

Donations 2025-26

Nancy Harney

Hearts & Flowers

Karen Snee

Insurance

Sue Cox

Membership

Cathy Soule

Newsletter

Elizabeth Soule

January Fun Match

Terrie Sato

Property & Inventory

Don Rennick

Obedience and Rally Trial March 2026

Amanda Buse

August 2026

Melissa Knapp

Scent Work Trial 2026

Sarah Kahn

Tracking

Marta Brock

Website

Volunteer Needed!

Content Updates

Melissa Knapp

Volunteers make our club and sports possible! If you would like to help with an event or committee, reach out to the committee chair. Have an idea for something new? Contact a board member. You can find contact information for all club members in the roster in the Member's Only section of the website.

AKC Delegate

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President's Report

Melissa Knapp

The August obedience and rally trials are now in the books with results posted to BaRay Events website and to AKC. Thanks again to all who helped make the weekend a success! You made my job as Trial Chair an easy one. We reached our entry limit both days so our thanks go out to all the exhibitors as well.

It's time to name names! (My apologies if I missed anyone.)

Stewards

Laurie Southard
Peggy Downes
Erika French
Larry Newby
Tara Curtis
Cat Bailey
Denita McCloud
Michelle Fuqua
Debbie Jones
LeeAnn McNeil

Hospitality

April Caron
Pat Edwards
Kate Wigner
Kathy Teufel

Trial secretary

April Caron (for BaRay Events)

Judges chair

Penny Broomer

Chief ring steward

Jody Woodruff

Awards

Jane Pitts
Catherine Shaffer

Equipment

Don Rennick

Set-up and clean-up

Don Rennick
David Knapp
Scott Knapp

Rent-A-Ring (Friday)

Terrie Sato

General Meeting July 15, 2026

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by President Melissa Knapp. Attendees: Melissa Knapp, Nancy Light, Catherine Shaffer, Rhonda Forman, Nancy Harney, Neil Evans, Betty Winthers, Pat Edwards, Holly Krohn, Penny Broomer, Lee Anne McNeil, Joyce Brombaugh, Elizabeth Soule, Cathy Soule, Kathy Mead, Sarah Kahn, Bob Robinson, Pat Lindquist, Sue Cox, Laura Day, Amanda Buse, Ronnie Sue Leith, Lisa Stedman, April Caron, Sheila Leitch; Guest: Shelly Glise
2. The minutes from the 6/17/26 meeting were approved.
3. **Report of the President:** No report.
4. **Report of the Secretary:** No report.
5. **Report of the Treasurer:** Catherine presented an updated monthly report and the year-end report, both of which will be posted in the members only section of the website.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Membership – There was a first reading for Shelly Glise. Cathy explained that a prospective new member, Katy Perez works nights, so she cannot attend a meeting. Cathy will check with her to see if she can call in for just a few minutes. There was also discussion about the Board suggesting an update to the bylaws about excusing meeting attendance in extenuating situations for new members.
 - b. Newsletter – The deadline for the newsletter is July 26. Sue Cox recognized Elizabeth for the great job she does on the Canine Post.
 - c. Website - Melissa is keeping the website up to date. If new members (or anyone else) has difficulty accessing the members only section, contact Melissa. Additionally, Elizabeth will put the instructions, along with screen shots in the newsletter.
 - d. Hearts and Flowers – No report.
 - e. Budget/Audit – The committee, chaired by Sue Cox, along with members Don Rennick and Jodi Woodruff and treasurer, Catherine Shaffer will be meeting at Sue's house on August 6.
7. **Events:**
 - a. Matches and Rent-a Rings:
 - Rent-a Ring – There will be a rent-a-ring on Friday (8/7) before the summer obedience trial at Country Classic Kennels in Arlington. Sign up will be available on CheddarUp on the website. There will be 15-minute slots, \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members.
 - b. Scent Work – (6/20-21/2026, Monroe Christian School) – Sara Kahn reported on how well the trial went. Good judges, enough help, well organized, good venue. Next year, we will need to identify a new venue. Sarah asked for recommendations.

General Meeting July 15, 2026

- c. Agility (7/10-12, 2026, Fun Fur Paws) – Nancy Light reported that the judges and the courses were very good. Unfortunately, the event was not well attended and will sustain a loss. Linda Shea, Nancy Light and the Robins' will be looking at ways to save money for future trials. The financial report will be presented at a future meeting.
 - d. Summer Obedience and Rally trials (August 8-9, Country Classic Kennels) - entries close on 7/22. Volunteers should contact Melissa Knapp.
 - e. Seminars:
 - Connie Cleveland (9/12-13, 2026, Country Classic Kennels) – audit spots are still available.
 - Anita Sipes-Cook Agility Seminar (8/15-16, 2026, Lisa Witte's home, La Conner) – Catherine reported that there are still slots available.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03

Submitted by Rhonda Forman, Secretary

Next Meetings (on Zoom):

August Board and General Meetings are canceled

Board Meeting: 9/7/26 at 7:30

General Membership Meeting: 9/16/26 at 7:00

AKC Club Development Resources

The AKC Club Development team offers a variety of resources designed to help clubs strengthen their organizations, engage their members, and build for the future.

The [AKC Club Development YouTube Channel](#) serves as a central location for educational content and webinar recordings. Future Club Development webinars and presentations will be added to the channel, creating an on-demand resource that club leaders and members can access whenever it is convenient.

Clubs are also encouraged to join the [AKC Club Development Facebook Group](#), a collaborative community where members can exchange ideas, share successes, ask questions, and learn from one another's experiences. It is a valuable forum for discussing challenges, sharing best practices, and connecting with others from across the country.

In addition to the Facebook Group, Club Development maintains an active AKC Club Development Page as well as accounts on Instagram, X, and TikTok. These platforms are used to share events throughout the country, educational resources, webinar announcements, club success stories, timely reminders, and innovative ideas that may benefit clubs of all sizes and interests.

We encourage clubs to subscribe, follow, and engage with these resources to stay informed, connect with others in the club community, and access tools and ideas that support long-term club success.

For more information, please reach out to clubdevelopment@akc.org.

Celebrations!



Holly Krohn + Dash

Dash became Qualified All Age by winning a Qualifying Field Trial stake held by the Treasurer State Retriever Club in Butte, Montana. He is my first QAA dog.

He then followed that up by getting his final 2 legs in August to complete his Master Hunter title.

Glenbrier's Riverboat Gambler RN MH QAA WCX



Larry Newby + Stevie

New RACH

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 the WSOTC for putting on this trial and for the beautiful ribbon!!!

I would also like to thank 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!

Rally National Championship

On July 18th and 19th my Shelties and I competed at the 2026 Rally National Championship at the Roberts Center in Wilmington, Ohio.

Steve (Shalamar American Graffiti CDX BN RM3 RAE2 RC3 PT MX MXJ MJB MXP MJP2 OF T2B2 CGC TKN) was entered in the Championship division. There were 230 dogs entered in this division, and they were some of the most accomplished Rally dogs from across the country. Steve's combined score after 4 runs was 379 points (of a possible 400). I am very proud of this score, but the competition was amazing, and the top 8 dogs had perfect scores of 400! Steve came in 66th overall, so we were in the top 30%

Celebrations!



Joyce Brombaugh + Zelda + Link + Rox

Zelda, Link and Rox (left to right) got their
Rally Advanced, Advanced, and Novice title
at the last WSOTC trial.

Celebrations!



Laura Day + Mika

Mika (GCH CH Pemhill UH OH Spaghetto CGC, SWN, RM) co-owned and bred by Susan Townsend, had a great week! At the CPWCC, she was awarded 1st place both days and a 4th place in All-breed Rally. (In 94 degree weather) and earned Master points.

The following weekend at the Enumclaw show on Friday she was awarded 3rd place out of 16 dogs. And earned her Rally Master Title!

A huge thank you to judge Richard Lewis! On Sunday she ended her Rally career with a 2nd place out of 14 dogs.

A huge thank you to all the judges, stewards, co-owner Susan and friends, for supporting Mika in her success.

And a HUGE shout out and THANK YOU to Debbie Addicoat (Rally/Obedience judge extraordinaire) for all of her expert advice & coaching throughout the years!

Celebrations!



April Caron + Amicus

Meet Amicus!! He'll be Ami for short. He's home and adjusting to life in the NW.

Celebrations!



*Melissa Knapp + Cricket + Gunner +
Penny + Rosie*

Some of the happy campers at our house!