



2014 EXECUTIVE

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Marilyn Clayton

Publicity Chair

Charleen DeLong

Appointed Positions

Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Clayton

Education Chair

Jane Morrison

Entertainment Chair

Karen Rae

Website

Rod Deacon

To keep up-to-date on NOSA activities, check our **Website** at www.nosa.ca

President's Message – Rod Deacon

Happy 60th anniversary!

- Did You Know? 60 years = 11.75 in dog years. But it's 253 years for a dog.

Sixty years ago, NOSA offered its first dog obedience training classes to the public. For the first four years, classes took place in a variety of locations around the peninsula. In 1958, our club moved to its new home at SANSCHA Hall, itself newly built with a whole lot of volunteer labour and donated materials.

Ha! Little did we know the building at the top of Beacon Avenue in Sidney would be NOSA's home over the next 56 years.

At our annual general meeting last November, members agreed to do something to mark our 60th year – to thank the individuals, organizations, businesses, community leaders who have shown their support of our club over the years with their patronage, helping out at raffle time and turning out for community events. Looking forward to working with members of the club to put together some programming for the whole community this anniversary year.

I'd like to add my thanks to those of Karen Blair (separate article) to those who turned out for a Christmas dinner and charity auction at the beginning of December. It was nice to see some new faces alongside some of our long-time members. We raised \$754 in our auction and, with matching funds from the club, NOSA donated \$1,508 to the Sidney Lions Food Bank. We welcome long-time club member Karen Rae to the NOSA's executive. She replaces Heather Alexander as our vice-president. Our thanks to Heather for doing such a fine job the past number of years. Same goes for John MacLucas who's retired after six years as our newsletter editor. Marilyn Clayton has volunteered to look after this important job. Did you know she edited the newsletter back in the early-'80s?

Editor's Note – Marilyn Clayton

I would like to thank John MacLucas for the great job he did editing the NOSA Newsletter for the past 6 years. It is a huge job. Thank you John!

As you know, the content of club newsletters is dependent upon member submissions. So please submit articles, brags (not just obedience and Rally brags) but all brags, interesting tidbits, reports, anything you think might interest fellow members. I'd want to make this newsletter "Yours".

NOSA Christmas Party

As in past years, NOSA's Christmas Party was held at the Holy Trinity Church Hall and the food was outstanding (as usual). There was a good turnout of long-time and new members. As in previous years, members brought items for the auction with all proceeds going directly to the Sidney Lions Food Bank. The auction was once again a success raising \$754, which was matched by NOSA for a total donation of \$1,508.



NOSA Treasurer, Elaine Hobday (along with Charleen DeLong's "Joey" and Elaine's "Trixie"), presenting a cheque for \$1,508 to Sidney Lions Food Bank Administrator Bev Elder.

Christmas Party Co-ordinator

Karen Blair

Thanks to the following people for all of their help putting on the annual Nosa Christmas Party. It wouldn't have happened without you.

Helen Moulden, Charleen DeLong, Elaine Hobday, Judy Wallace and Gloria Maclucas and their handy glue guns prepared the crafts that decorated our table.

Bill Blair cut out the forms that were the basis for our always popular Doggie Christmas wreaths. Dave and Judy Wallace, Steve and Elaine Hobday, Charleen DeLong, Helen Moulden, Duncan Morrison and Lee Pears came out early Saturday morning to set up the tables and chairs, set the tables and make the hall festive for the occasion. Everything was beautiful. They later helped to organize the delicious food prepared by our members. I can't forget to thank Elaine and Charleen for cooking the ham and turkey. NOSA has always been known for its good cooks. Our Auctioneer and Assistant for the evening entertainment were Helen Moulden and Judy Wallace. Helen as always does a wonderful job

auctioning off our donated items. All proceeds from the auction go to the local food bank. Thanks should also be extended to our members for continuing to support the food bank by donating to the auction. And last but not least, thanks to those who stayed after the party and helped put away tables, chairs, sweep floors, etc. It was much appreciated.

Karen



←
Christmas Party Auctioneer Helen Moulden (right) & her assistant Judy Wallace.



←. *Curtis Wilander with the "little bunny" Christmas present he bought at the auction for "Ice", his and Susan's Siberian Husky*

Thank you Charleen DeLong, Rod Deacon and Liz Hayes for the photographs.

Meet your Instructors & Assistants

NOSA's Training Committee brings over 300 years of experience to its students. Over the next 2 newsletters we will introduce them to you. In no particular order, may I introduce:

Duncan Morrison: Anne and I have been



breeding Labrador Retrievers since 1981. Initially, dogs were trained for field work. I became a member of NOSA in the late '80s training Jordy, who earned a CD. Since then, my dogs have earned four CDs, two CDXs, two RNs and an RAE. I was invited to join the training committee about 2000. I assisted Alix Day in beginners for several sessions, then assisted in open, and now instruct open. We still train for field; three dogs have earned working certificates. *[Ed. Note: This session Duncan is teaching Intermediate/Open.]*

Elaine Hobday: I started training at NOSA in 1975 with Whiskey an Airedale/Corgi cross. We rescued him from the end of a rope tied to a pole in a backyard of a Burnside Road home.



bounced like a jack-in-the-box, he didn't know how to run.

There was also a St. Bernard tied to the same post and we think he must have jumped on Whiskey as he had an injured back. (The Vet thought he had been hit by a car.) Whiskey was about 6 months old when we got him and he

I started him in beginners in September 1975 and as he bounced instead of walking, the instructor took him (to show me how to walk him) and he just bounced higher as she was taller! It was really quite funny! He did eventually learn to run and play, he was a delightful character and he got his CD and CDX before I decided that jumping was too much for him and we didn't go on with our Utility training.

I can't remember just when I was asked if I would be a "helper," probably around the time Whiskey got his CD. I helped for several years before I got too busy with two young children and their sports and schooling and had to give it up.

I returned to NOSA in January 1996 with Sophie, a Black Lab. She got her CD, CDX, and her Utility. Shortly after I returned, I was asked to be an "Assistant" and have been an Assistant or Trainer ever since.

I now have a Chocolate Lab, Trixie, who has her CD and is presently training in Open. *[Ed. Note: this session Elaine is teaching a Novice Practice class.]*

Charleen DeLong: In 1990 I purchased my first purebred Labrador Retriever. My first two Labradors grew up with my boys and in 1998



when my sons were older and I had time to myself I began training my Labs with the Island

and Pacific Labrador Retriever Club (IPLRC). I have to thank the wonderful breeders, trainers and judges at the IPLRC, who mentored me to appreciate the breed and the activities.

I will always be involved with obedience training & trialing. I continue to be a member of the IPLRC and currently teach the Novice Rally Class.

I became a member of NOSA in 2002; I trialed in Rally when the trials were first offered at NOSA through CARO; and again I met and trained with many wonderful experienced trainers. Over the years being a member and training I was given the opportunity to assist in a number of classes and I was invited to join NOSA's Training Committee in 2012. I started teaching the Novice

Trials Practice. I have volunteered for both AIOC and CKC Trials. This session at NOSA I am assisting in the Canine Good Neighbour class and I look forward to understanding all that is involved with training for a CGN. Joe and I earned our CGN at GVDOTC last year despite not really knowing what the exercises were. We passed because Joe is a solid, confident worker with a wonderful temperament.

Awards, ribbons and titles seem to elude me. My third Labrador, Amber (now 12 years old), refused the jumps when we were trialing in Open. At 4 years old she was diagnosed with a torn cruciate that started years of rehabilitation with the inevitable CLR surgery that ended her obedience career. In 2007 I chose to purchase a boy. I told my breeder "I need a boy that can do it all!" Joe and I passed our CD and RN in 2010, and I handled him to his Canadian Championship. I continue to trial in CDX and train in Utility, however my focus over the last 4 years has been mainly on Search & Rescue work.

In the fall of 2009, I was asked to attend a Search & Rescue seminar. Joe and I joined the Canadian Search and Disaster Dog Association (CASDDA). Joe certified for Disaster (Rubble) with CASDDA (2010). In 2011, we certified for Rubble Search with the International Rescue Dog Organization (IRO) (UN Deployment to Int'l Disasters).

[Ed. Note: This session Charleen is teaching Trials Practice and assisting in the CGN class.]

Marilyn Clayton: I joined NOSA with my first (sweet but timid) Rough Collie ("Ceilidh") in 1980 and was invited to join the Training Committee in the fall of 1981. I have taught all levels of obedience from Puppy to Utility, as well as CGN. In Obedience & Rally I've trained 3 Collies to their OTCh; 4 to CDX; 1 was trained through utility but only titled to CD due to medical issues and 1 to RAE, Am.RE & CARO RX-MCL. I'm active in obedience, herding, rally, agility, nose work, tracking, conformation and carting having titled in all except nose work as we've only been training nose work for a year. I compete on both sides of the border and my collies have ranked nationally for their breed in



herding, obedience, rally, agility and conformation. My now-retired male Smooth Collie, Zephyr (10+ yrs old) is an Obedience, Agility, Herding, Grand Versatility, American and BISS Duel Canadian Champion. My new girl, Smoochie (2 yrs), is just starting her career. Over the years I've attended many clinics, seminars and workshops on obedience, canine behaviour, and other types of dog training and evaluation. I've been a positive reinforcement trainer since the mid-1980's and have written articles for various canine magazines and newsletters. I love that my dogs enjoy working with me (as opposed to "for" me) and more gratifying to me than the High In Trial awards are compliments from fellow competitors and on-lookers on how much they enjoy watching the enthusiasm of my collies or how well we work together as a team. I'm willing to sacrifice precision for happiness but try for both. It is that balance between a dog's enthusiasm and team precision that I like to impart to my students. *This term I am teaching the Advanced Practice class.*

Norah Shandley: I was a confirmed cat person until I brought home my first collie on a 'trial basis' in 1997. He was a patient soul and taught me so many things - the power of positive training, patience and to always keep food off the counter! My next collie was a high energy bundle of neuroses, who **really** taught me about patience – and keeping your sense of humour! I was an active member of collie rescue and the Okanagan Valley Obedience Training Club until we relocated back to the Island in 2003. Dog activities were sidelined for a few years, to focus on training a couple of two-legged children instead. I joined NOSA in 2009, after circumstances brought me Clancy, my funny little 'mini-collie' ...er...I mean, sheltie! Currently we are working towards his CDX in Obedience and his Masters titles in Agility. In 2012, I was asked to assist with training and love being able to help out and learn all at the same time! [Ed. Note: This session Norah is assisting/fill-in teaching the Advanced Practice class]



Cherry Condrey: I have always had dogs in my life. The first was an English Cocker Spaniel, who belonged to my parents, when we lived in England.

I purchased my first Shetland Sheepdog puppy in 1970. Funnily enough I went to look at a litter of Jack Russell puppies but noticed a singleton



sheltie puppy in the field on its own and I looked no further. I brought Lassie home and that was the beginning

of my love for this breed. I had 2 young children at home at the time and soon after a family friend introduced me to obedience classes. As it turned out, this little girl won 1st place in her class. I was hooked and trained her to win her first Beginner Class at a trial. I recall travelling a couple of hours to my first show. At that time I did not drive so getting around was challenging. I had to rely on my husband or my friend to drive.

My family and I then moved to Victoria in 1977. We brought our 2 shelties with us. Lassie at that time was 8 and Lainie was 3. Once my family had settled in to our new life in Canada, I wanted to get involved with training again and did really well with these 2 shelties.

Lainie and Kayla were my 2 obedience champions in the 1980's. Since then I have had all my shelties involved in obedience, rally and Canine Good Citizen. I have had several litters along the way and have also been involved in conformation. Lacey (BIS CH Gallantry Summer Lace CDX) was my first conformation Champion and she achieved one Best in Show (BIS) in her show career. I have always shown my own dogs to all their wins. At the time she was just confirmed pregnant. I was thrilled!

I have dealt with several health issues in my dogs over the past few years and have learned to be humble but I would not change anything. I believe my dogs are teaching me constantly and I love the challenge!

I originally trained with NOSA from 1982-3 and then came back again in 1990. My 2 daughters were older and I felt I could devote more time to

training. I have been instructing since that time teaching most levels.

I look forward to many more years training my dogs and being part of NOSA. Happy trialing, Cherry Condrey

Judy Wallace: I started dog obedience with Greater Vic at the Prospect Lake Hall in 1985 with a Border Collie pup – Ceilidh – taking a couple years on 'hold' as my father wasn't well. We finished Ceilidh's UD in 1993 in the "Barn." We rescued a Border Collie in 1993 – Lady; achieving her CD (with difficulty) in 1995; she had no desire



to do more training so we stopped. Dave gave me Cariad, yet another Border Collie, at 6 weeks old, for Christmas in 2002 and we joined Lakewood in puppy class. She earned her CD in 2004, CDX in 2005; achieving Utility in 2011 (she loves school!!!) We all have been members of PATS since its beginning receiving our 25-year pin. Have tried agility and flyball. Enjoy my dogs and they go everywhere with us. They are wonderful companions and friends! Sharon Sundher suggested my name for helping with classes a couple of years ago. I find it very interesting and find it's a learning curve being in the different classes for me. We have had the good fortune, both dogs and I, to know and work with great people in NOSA!! Thank you. [Ed. Note: This session Judy is assisting in both the Utility and Intermediate/Open classes.]

Karen Blair: I started training with NOSA in either the fall of 1985 or spring of 1986 with Jonathan, a black and tan American Cocker. I trained him through to Utility but only completed his Open CKC and AIOC degrees in 1988. In 1986 Megan came into our home. She received her championship in 1987. Bill worked her in

Obedience. Megan gave us sisters Marnie and Gypsy in 1988. Marnie started her trialing career in 1990 and finished her Utility degree in 1993. She also had her American CD. At the same time I was training Marnie in Obedience, I was working on achieving a Championship on her sister Gypsy. She was awarded her title in 1989. Gypsy was a show girl. She received her CD but wasn't interested in Obedience.

As our dogs aged and passed on, they were followed by Tanner and Jordan. I trained Tanner to Utility. Bill trained Jordan. Tanner received his Utility degrees (CKC and AIOC) as well as his Championship.

I started on the Training Committee in 1986. Puppy Class was the first class that I taught. I loved teaching puppies then and still do. I have taught all levels of classes from Beginners on up to Utility and Rally. Presently I am teaching Puppy and Utility classes and helping in Trials Practice. I am also secretary for the Rally portion of the CKC trials and am helping to organize our first CGN tests in June. I am part of the committee that puts on the annual Christmas party in December.

Bill Blair: I first started in obedience in Regina with a Miniature Poodle who earned his CDX degree in 1977. After moving to Saanichton,



Karen and I gravitated to American Cockers and became members of NOSA in the mid-80's. Since that time I have held many NOSA executive

positions including President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Training Chair, CKC Trials Chair, Training Chair, AIOC Rep as well as CKC Trials Secretary. I first began assisting with training classes in 1988 and have taught or assisted in beginners, novice, open, utility and rally classes. I have trained two dogs, Jolly and Megan, to their CDX degrees and one, Jordan, to the UD or OTCh (Obedience Trial Champion) level. Jordan also has his CKC and CARO RN degrees. In addition to teaching classes, I am approved to judge obedience at all levels for the CKC and AIOC and to judge rally obedience at all levels for

the CKC and CARO. *[Ed. Note: This session Bill is assisting in both Beginners and Novice Practice classes.]*

Sharon Sundher: In 1973, my Border Collie, Rob, earned his Club CD. I then trained Murphy, a Border Collie, through to a Club Utility title and I'm now training Maddie, another Border Collie, in Open as well as herding. I started on the training Committee as an assistant in 2004 and have been instructing Novice and Canine Good Neighbour for about 5 years. *[Ed. Note: This session Sharon is teaching the Canine Good Neighbour class.]*

Shay Lockhart: I am originally from the Okanagan but I moved to Victoria in 1996. I began training with NOSA in 2007 with my dog Lola, a Standard Manchester Terrier. My previous dog breeds include a Belgian Terv, a Border Collie, and an American Cocker. I show in



conformation, obedience and rally. I am currently teaching Rally at NOSA as well as being the AIOC trials chair. I am greatly enjoying teaching Rally and love to see the progress that my students make from week to week. Lola has attained rally titles from the CKC, AKC and AIOC but we are currently working on getting her Open title in Obedience. Currently I am a stay-at-home Mom but previous to that I worked in middle

management. I originally came to Victoria to attend the University of Victoria and graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce. I liked it so much here that I decided to stay. I hope that anyone training with NOSA that has been thinking about trying out Rally will give it a go, it is lots of fun! *[Ed. Note: This session Shay is instructing the Beginners Rally class.]*

Annual Awards

Every year at our Annual General Meeting, NOSA recognizes its competing members. Plaques are presented to all dog-handler teams who complete Club (AIOC) obedience titles. The names of member dog-handler teams earning CKC obedience titles are added to our perpetual plaques. Club Rally titles are acknowledged with certificates and perpetual trophies are awarded to member dog-handler teams with the highest score in each of the levels (Novice, Open and Utility). NOSA also presents "special something" to any member-handler team that trained and completed their Novice, Open and Utility titles totally under NOSA. The following are the recipients for 2013 as presented by Vice-President **Heather Alexander**. Congratulations to all of you!

Club CD & Sidney Recreation Committee Cup

winner for
Highest Single Score in Novice
is
Sharon Sundher and



her Border Collie "**Maddie**" from Novice B. Sharon and "Maddie" are also NOSA's nominee for the AIOC Hudson Memorial Trophy.

UD & Black Angus Annual Award

winner for
Highest Single Utility Score is:
Rod Deacon and his Flat-Coated



Retriever, "**Lindy**". Rod received a framed print of "Lindy" for training and trialing Novice, Open and Utility solely with NOSA.

New CKC Titles



Werner Lietke and his Labrador Retriever, "**Oscar**" earned their **CKC CDX**
Rod Deacon and his Flat-Coated Retriever, **Lindy** earned their **CKC OTCh (UD)**

New Club Rally Titles



Duncan Morrison (shown) and his Labrador Retriever, "**Teija**" earned Club Rally Novice title. **David Clouston** and his Portuguese Water Dog, "**Gilly**" also earned their Club Rally Novice title.

Beaulieu Perpetual Trophy winner for

the **Highest Single Score** earned by an "**A**" dog-handler team is **Jane Morrison** and her Labrador Retriever, **Sheena** from Novice A.



Important Notice for Spring Session at the Saanich Fairgrounds

Our spring session (April 2 - May 28) at the Saanich Fairgrounds will be different this time around. The management at the North and South Saanich Agricultural Society (a.k.a. the Fairgrounds) decided to lease the RCMP Barn on their property to a TV production company in town now until June shooting 'Gracepoint,' the U.S. remake of the popular BBC teledrama, 'Broadchurch,' starring English actor David Tennant and Breaking Bad actor, Anna Gunn. The TV folks wanted the Barn to store their equipment during their stint in Greater Victoria. The Fairgrounds management cut a deal with them, bumping out their regular clients from January 20 - May 31.

As a work-around, NOSA, the Island and Pacific Labrador Retriever Club and Greater Victoria Dog Obedience Training Club were offered the use, free of charge, of the reception hall in the main building for their classes. The room fits two CKC-sized Obedience rings and the Juniper Room, just down the hallway, is just big enough for another training ring. The Fairgrounds bought rubber mats and provided space for equipment and ring gate storage.

The NOSA training committee will be meeting shortly to work out room allocations and class assignments. Where we did 3 hours of classes in 4 rings at the Winspear Centre in Sidney, at the Fairgrounds this spring, we only have three rings to work with at a time so we may need to go to 4 hours of training per night. (6:15 - 10 pm). Unfortunately for both NOSA and Greater Vic, this situation at the Fairgrounds immediately changed plans to hold our spring trials in the RCMP Barn. After a number of site visits by members of the three dog training clubs affected by all this, the following changes have been made to our spring trials.

1. Our March 29 AIOC Obedience and Rally trials with Greater Vic will be held at the Fairgrounds in the Agriplex (the large horse barn directly behind the RCMP Barn). The local agility clubs have been using this venue for years for their trials. The Fairgrounds management have assured both dog clubs they will pack down the dirt floor as best they can for our Obedience and Rally trials. Again, they've waived the usual rental fee due to the disruption.

2. NOSA's CKC trial April 19-20 (Easter weekend) will be held in the Saanich Fairgrounds main building, in the reception hall (same place we'll be holding our classes next term). There is space in the reception for two CKC regulation-size Obedience rings, but we cannot fit in a full-size Obedience ring and a regulation Rally ring in that same room. (Rally rings are larger than Obedience rings.)

The Juniper room is much too small to hold CKC Rally. Our CKC trials committee regrettably reached the conclusion in late January that we need to cancel the Rally portion of our April CKC trial offerings for this year only. The good news is we have the use of the Fairgrounds main building's ground-floor kitchen, its washrooms and the Juniper room for crating.

3. All is not lost, however. for Rally competitors: Greater Vic will be holding its 4 CKC Obedience and 4 Rally trials May 24-25 in the Agriplex; the Tye Kennel Club is offering 2 Rally trials at its CKC event May 9-11 at the Cowichan Exhibition Grounds, north of Duncan; and the Nanaimo Kennel Club is putting on 4 CKC Rally trials June 12-15.

Believe me, we did consider (and looked at and even measured) other places around the CRD but they were either already booked, no longer allowing dog events on the premises, were not suitable for other reasons or were simply too small for our space requirements.

Getting bumped from the RCMP Barn is far from ideal, but there wasn't any choice in this matter. The North and South Saanich Agricultural Society needs the funds to pay for badly needed repairs to their main building. This TV production rental request was too good to pass up. They have been very accommodating and understanding of the requirements of all the dog clubs who rent the RCMP Barn on their property.

NOSA will have three weeks of classes in the reception hall in the main building before our CKC trial in April and Greater Vic has been getting used to the main building on the Fairgrounds since their classes moved there Jan. 28.

Keep an eye on the nosa.ca website and our Facebook page for updates on these matters. Thanks for your understanding.

Submitted by Rod Deacon - NOSA President

Nov. 4 Executive Meeting Highlights

NOSA's 60th Anniversary - There was much discussion on how to promote NOSA for the 60th Anniversary. It was finally decided that a display in the Lobby of the MWC and another display at the Library along with small lectures/seminars on dogs – training etc. would be an interesting & excellent way to showcase NOSA. It was suggested that an announcement or advertisement be placed in the local paper advertising these seminars and include a note of thanks to those who have supported NOSA over the past years.

Club 'Transition Class' titles. It was decided that NOSA would issue certificates at the AGM to formally recognize its students earning titles in AIOC 'Transition Classes'.

AIOC Club Trial Report. On Oct 20th NOSA co-hosted its fall AIOC trial with GVDOTC. There were two obedience trials with Bill Blair judging for GVDOTC and Leslie Gardiner judging for NOSA and two rally trials with David Denis judging both trials. Our obedience trial had 22 entries, down from 35 in March. Our rally trial had 22 entries as well. Our HIT was Sandi Lovas and her Standard Poodle Marshall with a score of 194 from the Open A class. She was also High Visitor. Jane Morrison and her Lab Sheena were high Novice and High NOSA with a score of 188 from the Novice A class and Rod Deacon and his Flat-Coat Lindy were high Utility with a score of 187.

November 20 AGM Highlights

New Executive were elected and **Appointed positions** appointed - (see front page)

Annual Awards were presented – see elsewhere in this issue.

Class and Membership fees remain uncharged.

Annual Donations to the Pacific Assistance Dogs, the University of Saskatchewan Veterinary School and BC Guide Dogs were increased from \$150 each to \$250 each for 2014.

To keep up-to-date on NOSA activities,
check the **NOSA Website** at
www.nosa.ca

Volunteers needed for NOSA's CKC Trials April 19-20

NOSA hosts 4 great CKC (Canadian Kennel Club sanctioned) obedience trials every year. And this year, the facility we have has heat, washrooms and a great kitchen area – Hurray!!!

Many volunteers are required to make these trials a success and NOSA relies on its members, students and friends to make this happen.

I am looking for people willing to donate a ½ day or more to ring steward for 1 or more of these trials. This is a great way to learn about trialing, trial procedure and to see some top-notch dog/handler teams as well as all levels of competition.

Experience is not a must as we will put an experienced ring steward with a new steward to help guide and teach them. We also provide brief training before the event so new stewards know what to expect and what is expected of them. If you are willing to help (please, please do), PLEASE contact me as soon as possible at trainingmydog@shaw.ca.

Many thanks!
Marilyn Clayton (Chief Ring Steward - Obedience)

2014 Team Challenge will be held May 4th in Nanaimo. This is a fun event, designed to build camaraderie between members of the various Island obedience clubs. Representative teams from the various AIOC clubs compete in this one-day event. There are three separate categories:

- **3- member teams** – with 1 dog at each level (novice, open & utility)
- **2- member teams** – dogs at two different levels (novice, open or utility)
- **2- member teams** – both dogs at the same level (novice, open or utility)

Dogs compete at their respective level and the score for each of the team member is added together to determine the teams total score. Even if you NQ an exercise, you still retain the overall score you made.

If you are willing to come out and have some fun in this year's Team Challenge, please see Marilyn Clayton.

TRAINING the LEFT TURN in RALLY by Shay Lockhart

Obedience and rally have many aspects in common but one area where they differ somewhat is the treatment of the left turn. In obedience the left turn is only seen in the heeling exercises as a



Fig. 1

90 degree turn and during the figure 8 exercise if the team elect to perform the exercise to the left. In rally the left turn is seen in a variety of exercises and comes in 90 degree, 180 degree, 270 degree, 360 degree and weaving turns. In addition the exercises can be executed as

stationary or moving which adds a further element of variability. As the left turn is so prevalent in rally, proper and consistent execution is key if high scores are the goal. In my rally classes I begin teaching the left turn almost immediately with Novice students. It can take a great deal of practice to perform the left turn skilfully enough to avoid points off so I find it beneficial to begin training the left turn early. This article will illustrate the technique that I teach my students and hopefully it will be of assistance to anyone who is just beginning Rally or to those already competing but wish to improve their left turns.



Fig. 2

For this exercise you will need; a training collar, leash, treats. Begin with the dog sitting in heel position. The dog should be wearing their normal training collar and be leashed. If using a slip/ choke chain collar, ensure the leash is attached to the dead-ring. A shorter leash is easier to use but any

leash will work. Run the leash behind you so that it is level with the collar. With a Standard Manchester I find that this means the leash will be roughly behind my knees. The leash should be

tight but not pulling the dog. Place your right hand flush to your right leg, holding the leash (see photo 1 for illustration). It is important that the amount of leash between your hand and the dog be as short as possible. You may even find it beneficial to move your hand behind your legs.

In your left hand have a treat ready. Gently pull on the leash with your right hand so that the leash remains parallel to the ground while at the same time taking your left hand and using the treat to lure the dog's head to the left. This takes a bit of coordination but with a little practice is easy to do (see photo 2 for illustration). Unless your dog is quite tall you will find yourself bent over to maintain the leash level with the ground.

Eventually the combination of the pressure on the neck from pulling on the leash and the turning of the dog's head to follow the treat should rotate the dog's rear to its right. When the dog begins to move the handler should also begin to rotate in the same direction. Ideally the handler should try and rotate on the spot. I tell my students to imagine that they are standing on a plate and that they cannot move off the plate. (see photo 3 for illustration) I recommend that students combine this rotation with a word so that eventually when they are in the ring without food they can use the verbal command. I personally use "back" but I have heard "circle", "left" and "swing" and really any word will work as long as it is used consistently. It is important that the tension on the leash be maintained throughout the exercise. It is the dog pressing its head toward the treat in a left-hand arc but being held back by the leash that will encourage the rear to turn to the right. The mistake that I see most often is having too much



Fig. 3

leash between the collar and the right hand. When the rotation begins if there is too much leash the handler will find it difficult to maintain the tension on the leash. Once the dog has successfully rotated its rear give it the treat and lots of verbal praise and/or petting. Even a small rotation should be treated at the beginning. Once the dog has mastered

a small rotation try for greater amounts until you are at a 90 degree turn. Train in small amounts

and do not try to push the dog to bigger turns until you are certain the dog understands the initial exercise. The dog does not need to sit at the end of the rotation. Sits are only required on some of the left turn stations and the dog should not become accustomed to sitting every time. On those stations where a sit is required, the sit command should be given separately from left turn command.

The team should begin with a 90 degree turn. Once the 90 degree can be executed well the team can then move on to 180, 270 and 360 degree turns. One of the nice things about treating with the left hand is that the motion of luring the dog's head around can be easily translated into a hand command to bolster the verbal command or in lieu of the verbal command. The holding of the treat in the fingers gives way to a "wiping" motion with the hand that is easy for the dog to follow. When ideally executed the left-hand turn should find the handler essentially staying in place (remember the standing on a plate idea from earlier in the article) and the dog backing up around the handlers legs as both rotate at the same time. Left turns are found at all three levels of Rally and are therefore done both on and off leash. Do not move the dog to off-leash until the dog is consistently executing all of the left turn combinations correctly.

Hopefully with practice you and you dog will be pulling off beautiful, fault-free left turns!

Help Support BC Guide Dogs Save Metal Pull Tabs & Stamps

Support BC Guide Dog Services and Autism Support Dogs by collecting used stamps (just tear off the

envelope leaving a small paper border) and metal tabs from cans (pop cans, tuna tins, etc.). It may seem like a small



thing, but every contribution helps to graduate another special dog to be teamed with a sight impaired person or an autistic child, creating a life-changing miracle.

Bring your contributions of used stamps or can tabs to NOSA training classes and they will be

delivered to the BC Guide Dog Services. Thank you for supporting BCGDS and Autism Support Dogs.

Visit their website at <http://www.bcguidedog.com/> to read heart-warming stories about these dogs and their humans. You may wish to support BCGDS by sponsoring a puppy or even raising a puppy! [Ed. Note: give your contributions to either Elizabeth Skaggs (with the Black Lab, Juno) or Anne Morrison (Beginners instructor)]

Submitted by Elizabeth Skaggs

Good Dogs Don't Just Happen

Dogs can learn and understand verbal commands, hand signals, clicker sounds, whistle noises, various scents to track, your mood from the tone of your voice, when you are afraid, when you are sad, when you are playful, how to navigate an obstacle course, when to allow a stranger into the house and when to question their entry, human words like "cookie", "walkies", "I'm leaving for a second and leaving my steak unattended" and "don't touch". Dogs can be taught to jump through hoops, run an agility course, retrieve items you can't reach, detect seizures, lead a blind person safely through a crowded street, track criminals, roll over, play dead, find someone buried under the snow, alert to deceased persons in rubble, find lost children, be used in therapy for kids, special needs patients and the elderly. Everyone thinks of these dogs as Good Dogs. However, good dogs don't just happen. At one point even Lassie was a goofy pup, running around without a care in the world – and that included whether Timmy was in a well or not. But with training Lassie became the icon of what a Good Dog should be. She (actually he but we'll leave that for another time) was loyal and protective and affectionate and not only could she listen and understand the various words and commands her owner was saying to her, she could get her point across to the humans when the need arose! So, in real life, if all the above is true – dogs can be trained to do so many things and if Lassie, for example, was just so darn smart – why are there so many dogs all over North America, sitting in shelters, pounds, humane societies and rescue groups that have been surrendered by owners who tell us their dog does things that are unacceptable or "bad" behaviour? Why exactly is Spot chewing the baseboards off the walls anyhow? Why is Rover over there jumping up on company and knocking Grandma over every time she visits? Why does Fluffy pee on the carpet *right beside the patio door* every morning? Why?

Because good dogs don't just happen. Lassie needed a trainer to be something more than just a good looking dog. Lassie wasn't born knowing how to Sit, Stay, Roll Over and Save Timmy. She *learned* all of that and more and your dog can too.

It's *not* just a weird cosmic coincidence that fly-ball competing dogs, drug sniffing dogs, therapy dogs and even that well-behaved mixed breed dog over at the leash-free park all have owners who spent many, many hours training with them, exercising them and learning to work with the dog in ways that benefit both the human and the dog.

So, first off, a good dog is a tired dog. Exercise, exercise, exercise! You know from experience that when you've done something very physical that once you wind down, you're pooped! Dogs are the same! Keeping your dog active and exercised will help him be calmer, more relaxed and less likely to get himself in trouble by finding his own activities to keep himself occupied. You would be surprised at the number of "bad" behaviours that can be corrected by just exercising your dog more often.

Secondly, try training your dog yourself at home or find yourself a good trainer. Most people are qualified to teach their dog to "sit" but, surprisingly, too many people don't actually have a dog that does it on any kind of a consistent basis when asked to do it. "He's stubborn", "he has no attention span", "he only listens to my husband", "he's so cute, no one cares if he jumps up on them". Yes, yes they do care. No one likes to be jumped on by a strange dog, even a friendly dog just trying to say, Hi!

Working with a trainer *is* work – you might even get homework! With consistency, patience and dedication and using the tips from a qualified trainer, you will be amazed at the difference in behaviour your dog exhibits. Will he ever be Lassie? He just might! Believe it or not, most of the best behaved dogs you see out there have less to do with the dog themselves and more to do with their human companions! People who are consistent and dedicated with what they expect from their dogs, in return get a dog who acts consistently and is dedicated to his person. Knowing what is expected of him is half the battle and too many dog owners are not consistent with what is or is not allowable. You don't need to be a Drill Sergeant – your dog will respond to firm but kind leadership but there is always time for fun and play too. He is a dog after all! Play ball, play

chase, play whatever the two of you decide is fun and goofy and exhausting together. Have fun and while you're having fun, *still be consistent with the rules*. Don't not allow the dog on the couch 90% of the time but give in 10%. If you've decided the couch is off-limits then the couch is off-limits - 100% of the time. Or maybe you are fine with Fluffy snoozing on the couch, curling up for a cuddle while you watch TV together, and that is fine too. Just be consistent.

So, exercise, be consistent, set rules.....what else? What about dogs with more severe issues? Dog aggression? Nipping the kids? Something else? Try a qualified behaviourist. Seek the advice of someone who knows dogs and knows what they're talking about. Get references! There are a variety of techniques that both trainers and behaviourists use so make sure that you are comfortable with the methods being used by the person you choose. Also ensure they are willing and able to help you find solutions that work for both you and your dog. Something many people forget is that some behavioural issues can be solved or at least helped with a visit to your veterinarian. Hormonal imbalances, thyroid problems and even some cancers can cause odd behaviour changes in dogs. Always include a vet visit to ensure something medical is not being labelled as bad behaviour and being left untreated.

In the end, keep trying. It may sound like a lot of work and this is real life – you have a job, kids that need to get to soccer practice, band practice, boy scouts, judo.....and most mornings it's a miracle if you remember to brush everyone's hair before they all pile into the car to be dropped off at six different places before 8 am, let alone do the homework from the dog trainer – but please understand that a little work now (or even a lot of work now) will actually help reduce your stress levels in the long run.

Imagine not worrying if Rover is going to charge out the door and take off while you're wrestling Suzie into her winter coat, not listening to Spot spin ever louder barking circles while you try to answer the phone and not having to break up today's instalment of Ranger vs. The Kitten: The Death Match.

Continued on page 13

NOSA HISTORY

Over the next few newsletters I will be lightly editing articles pertaining to NOSA's history as published in the 1982-1985 newsletters with permission from the editor (me). I feel it is important for members to know where our club came from and how it got to be where it is now. Some of the articles were written by members; others were written by me as extracted from the clubs minutes. So here goes ...

NOSA HISTORY 1947 to 1958

Taken from an article by the late Jean Reed published in the April 1982 NOSA Newsletter

The origin of NOSA started in 1947 when the late Elsie Hammond and Mr. Hunter Smith, who had a breeding and boarding kennel in Cobble Hill, came in contact with Blanche Saunders and were enthused with the idea of starting some form of dog obedience locally.

They contacted Mrs. Agnes Wilkie and the late Ken Rickman, who at that time had a breeding and boarding kennel in the Blenkinsop area. They became interested and it was at their kennel that the whole thing started. Mrs. C.L. Lambert and Mrs. Walker Taylor took part in these gatherings and with the help of Mrs. Molly Hudson, who, with her husband, had formed the Greater Victoria Club several years earlier, had regular meetings.

Soon after, the Wilkie-Rickman kennel was sold and they retired to Madrona Drive. Elsie Hammond and Mr. Hunter Smith thought it a good idea to have a gathering in North Saanich and nobly came over by ferry [from Cobble Hill] to help. These gatherings were held at various locations. Mrs Hilton Smith was interested and had meetings in her home on Ardmore. The Legion was used and the old Pat Bay School. Also meetings were held at St. Andrews. Mrs. Lambert and Mrs. Walker Taylor were always present and were Life Members.

In 1952 it was still a private club with eleven or twelve interested people attending training evenings.

It was decided that there should be a name for the club and NOSA was selected. At that time definite classes were being held privately.

In June 1954 the club started taking dogs in to train. Mr. Kimmerly was President; Mrs. Lambert Treasurer; Mrs Walker Taylor Secretary, as she permanently was until we all retired and turned the club over to younger people.

The training was still held at different places and in 1955 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hudson came out from

Victoria to give classes. The club still did not have a home. The Recreation Commission was helpful and they met at several school grounds. In 1958 the Sanscha Hall was built and I think NOSA was the first real association to rent Sanscha Hall and the first to open sessions to the public. [to be continued next issue.]

Ed. Note: Jean Reed is one of NOSA's Life Members and had been with the club since 1963 when she moved to Sidney from England. She had been involved with Shelties since 1948 and her kennel, Bluecairn was named after her hometown in the North of Scotland. Jean had also bred Pekingese, Pugs and (according to her) the "true Scotch Collie". In 1982 she was still an active member of NOSA and could be found behind a receipt book on registration nights or helping in the Thursday evening Beginner or Practice classes. Jean was Vice-President in 1966 & 1969; Training Chair in 1968, publicity in 1967 and AIOC Rep from 1969 to 1973. I don't remember what year she passed away.

“Like”
NOSA's Facebook page

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**Keep up-to-date on club matters on NOSA's Website**  
[www.nosa.ca](http://www.nosa.ca)

### *Good Dogs Don't Just Happen*

*continued from page 12*

Like anything in life that's truly worth it – a little work, dedication, patience and love go a long, long way. You *can* do this. You really can. Your dog trusts you with his life. You at least need to try. Because good dogs don't just happen.

Collie Rescue Network October, 2009 Newsletter  
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*Ed. Note: Jen wrote this article after a particularly tough day of rescue work.*

## Member Accomplishments

**Jody Waldie** and **Mystique**. This photo is of my Sheltie *Mystique* (Ch. *Cincerlee's Sortilege Mystique* CGM) and I at the Nanaimo Kennel Club's CKC trials in November. She, of course, was most interested in the two stuffies that she won....I liked the wine glasses that



came from NOSA (not in photo)! This was the first obedience trial for both *Mystique* and I. I was super proud of her earning two qualifying scores with highest qualifying scores in our Novice A classes. She is teaching me lots!

**Marilyn Clayton** and her Smooth Collies, *Zephyr* (10 ½ yrs) & *Smoochie* (2 yrs) were busy over the summer/fall.



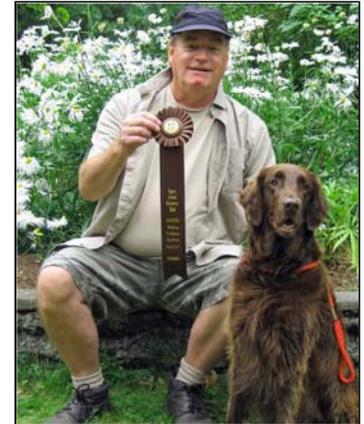
**Zephyr** earned his *Outstanding Elite Tunnelers* (O-TN-E), *Elite Chances* (ECC); and *Open Hoopers* (HP-O) titles in NADAC agility in August. He also earned 2 AKC Started Duck herding legs in September at the Collie Club of America (CCA) Western Regional Championships.



**Smoochie** had a busy fall earning her *Am. PT* (Pre-Trial) herding title at the CCA Western Regional in Washington in September; her CGM and her NADAC *Novice Agility Certificate* (NAC) in

October; and her *Agility Dog Canada* (ADC) title in November.

**Rod Deacon** and his Flat-Coated Retriever **Lindy**, spent a wonderful summer and fall together training and trialing. In the obedience ring, they earned two legs toward their AIOC Utility Dog title and are looking forward to more club trials this spring.



They earned their CKC Working Certificate Excellent retriever title and earned their first leg toward their CKC Senior Hunter title. They also completed their United Kennel Club 'Hunting Retriever' title in August.

Lindy also completed her Bronze Award of Merit this past fall with the Agility Association of Canada.

## 2014 Calendar of Events

### March

- 2 FPOTC AIOC Obedience Trials
- 15/16 FPOTC Field Tracking Test
- 22 AIOC Meeting, Nanaimo
- 29 GVDOTC/NOSA AIOC Obedience & Rally**

### April

- 5-6 FPOTC Kelty Lang Obed. Seminar
- 12 COWN AIOC Obedience
- 19-20 FPOTC Urban Tracking Seminar
- 19-20 NOSA CKC Trials**

### May

- 4 AIOC Team Challenge, Nanaimo
- 24-25 GVDOTC CKC Trials

### June

### July

- 6 or 13 AVKC AIOC Obedience/Rally trials

### August

- 2-4 CRDFS CKC Dog Show & Rally O Trial

### September

- 6-7 FPOTC 4 CKC Obedience Trials
- 20-21 NKC CARO/AIOC Rally

### October

- 4 AIOC Meeting, Nanaimo
- 18 COWN AIOC Obedience
- 19 GVDOTC/NOSA AIOC Obedience & Rally**

### November

- 2 NKC AIOC Obedience
- 15-16 NKC CKC Obedience