



PUPPY PATTER

Altoona Area Kennel Association, Inc.

January-March 2024

Amy Sheehan	President
Nancy Porta	Vice-President
Darlene Ormsby	Secretary
Kathie Crist	Treasurer
Ashley Cambridge	Board Member
Phoebe DeGol Cohen	Board Member
Gary Creamer	Board Member
Tamsen Nuss	Board Member
Tammy Perkins	Board Member



Items for publication in Puppy Patter, including articles, show wins, club news, etc., must be submitted in writing by the END of the month.

Editor: Jenn Monroe, 914 2nd Ave, Altoona, PA 16602

E-mail: jennsnnyder64@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS Monthly general membership meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at the AAKA club building, 200 Basal Lane, Duncansville, PA, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!!

Contact List

Membership List

Tammy Perkins.

For additions or corrections to the membership list, or for a copy, please contact

Tammy via email at tammyp935@gmail.com or call 814-935-0537.

Building Rental

Kathy Pike.

To rent the building for \$5 (member) or \$10 (non-member accompanying a member)

an hour, contact Kathy at Kap1967@hotmail.com or call 814-330-5652, Darlene at

dormsby2@atlanticbb.net or call 814-932-5650, or Tammy at tammyp935@gmail.com

or call 814-935-0537.

Breed Referral

Kathy Pike or Larry Wilson.

For a breed referral, email Kathy at Kap1967@hotmail.com or call 814-330-5652; or

email Larry at larryelmer@gmail.com or call 814-224-2803.

Sunshine Person

Connie Wilson

If you know someone in the club who has had a death in the family, sickness, or is having a rough time, please email Connie at larryelmer@gmail.com so she can send them a card from the club.

AAKA Web Page: www.aakainc.com.

To have news, events, or notices posted to the club's website, contact: Darlene

Ormsby, dormsby2@atlanticbb.net.

Inside This Issue:

- 1 Contact List
- 2 Class Schedule
- 2 New Members
- 3 Building Guidelines
- 3 Junior Puppy
- 4 Calendar and Awards
- 5 Scentwork & Sniff N G
- 6 First Scentwork Trial
- 7 Upcoming Trials
- 7 Therapy Dog
- 8-9 Brags
- 10 Awards Form

Building Reminder

If you are on the building premises or coming to the building for any activity involving the club or building – your dog must be on lead. NO EXCEPTIONS!

No flexi leads on the club premises

IDEAS OR QUESTIONS

The AAKA Officers and Board of Directors welcome any AAKA member to address the board with any ideas or questions. Any member may meet with the board or submit their ideas or questions in writing to the board to be discussed. If you would like to meet with the board, all you need to do is contact any board member to be put on the agenda. You will then be given a time to meet with the board prior to the start of the regular monthly meeting held on the third Tuesday of the month at the AAKA club building. If you prefer to submit something in writing to be discussed, you may give it to any board member or put it in the payment box at the top of the stairs. Again, the board welcomes any AAKA member to address the board with any ideas or questions.

AAKA Class Schedule

AAKA club classes, which are scheduled for 55 minutes, are ongoing; and costs \$42 for members and \$60 for non-members for a six-week session. Drop-ins are welcome at classes, but individuals need to contact the instructor prior to attending the class to check on room availability. **If you sign up for a class and cannot attend, you need to let the instructor know.** Also, if you decide to withdraw from a class, you need to inform the teachers so that others on the wait list can participate in the class.

Class Schedule: Always check club calendar on www.aakainc.com!

- **Puppy K**, Monday, 6 p.m. – Kelly Corl, 814-207-1635. Now taking signups for May Class!
- **Social Obedience Skills**, Monday, 7:15 p.m.– Kathy Pike, 814-330-5652.
- **Obedience**, Tuesday, 4 & 5 p.m.– Marty Strawmier, 814-944-1927.
- **Pre-Agility**, Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.– Nancy Porta, 814-224-0295.
- **Handling**, Thursday, 6 p.m.– Kathie Crist, 814-623-8680.
- **Junior Puppy**, Friday, 6 p.m. – Trinda Roberts, 814-215-9462.
- **Agility**, Saturday, 8, 9, 10 & 11 a.m. - Nancy Porta, 814-224-0295.
- **Alliance Therapy Dog**, by appointment, Jim Underwood, 814-943-3511.

Note about Pre-Agility Class!

Our club offers a Pre-Agility class annually. The start date is usually in November. This is an ongoing class after the initial 6-week session. Dog/handler teams are limited. This class fills QUICKLY -- many times before the class is announced. If you wish to attend this class, notify Nancy Porta **IN WRITING**: Nporta9730@atlanticbb.net Your name will be added to the sign-up roster when Nancy gets your email. It is advised to keep in touch with Nancy every month or so to validate continued interest. Dogs need basic obedience skills and a reliable 'sit/stay.' Contact

New Members:

Drusilla Kuhn-Dell and Nevin Dell Jr
Rottweiler and Pit Bull

Betsy Rodgers
Golden Retriever

Supplies Needed

The club is always in need of paper towels, toilet tissue, garbage bags, cleaning supplies, Odor Ban, etc. Please add the club to your next shopping list.

AAKA Club Building Guidelines:

The AAKA club building is open following current building occupancy guidelines.

In an effort to keep everyone safe, we continue to revise the building guidelines for everyone to safely enter the club building. These guidelines are a zero percent policy to continue to use the club building until further notice. We ask that you please bear with us as we continue to make adjustments as needed. You can find the revised guidelines and waiver on the club's website: www.aakainc.com.

Prior to your initial return to the building, you can email your signed waiver to Tammy Perkins at tammyp935@gmail.com, leave it in the basket inside the door of the club building, or snail mail it to Tammy at 2517 Third Street, Altoona, PA 16601. You cannot enter the building before signing and submitting this waiver.

---Nancy Porta, Building Manager, has requested that you report any problem at the building to her as soon as possible at Nporta9730@atlanticbb.net or call 814-329-2993 (cell); 814-224-0295 (home). If the septic tank alert sounds off, you can silence it, but please notify Nancy immediately so the tank can be pumped.

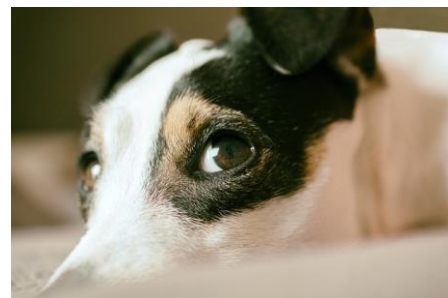
---Kathy Pike, Rental Coordinator, has requested that you contact her to reserve the building at kap1967@hotmail.com or call/text 814-330-5652. For reference in scheduling, rentals will appear on the website calendar; Use the tab "Club Events" and "Calendar": <http://aakainc.com/club-events/calendar/>. To better utilize the club building for all members, anyone who uses the building and decides not to come to the building during their reserved time slot (whether it be for classes or for training) must contact Kathy as soon as possible so that the rental can be removed from the website and others can take advantage of using the building. It is preferred that individual rentals do not reserve for more than two consecutive weeks at a time unless no one else wants that particular time slot. As in the past, club classes/events take precedence in building use. Instructors will post class dates on the website calendar so others know when the building is available for use.

---Darlene Ormsby, Credits Coordinator, has requested that you complete the credit form and put it in the credit box inside the entrance door at the building as soon as credits are used or earned. Feel free to contact her with any credit question at dormsby2@atlanticbb.net or text 814-932-5650.

---Tammy Perkins, Building Key and New Member Coordinator, has requested that you contact her if you would like to become a member or obtain a key to the building. Feel free to contact her with any membership or building key questions at tammyp935@gmail.com or call 814-935-0537.

Junior Puppy:

New to the AAKA class line up is the Friday night class, Junior Puppy! This class is available to puppies 8 months and older. Puppies and handlers will learn marker and release words, stays, heeling, sits, recalls, manners, and so much more. This class is taught by Trinda Roberts, a pet care professional, groomer, and rescue foster. Contact Trinda Roberts at 814-215-9462 for more information on this opportunity!



Calendar:

General Membership Meeting, 7 pm	March 26
AKC Buried Scent Trial, Duncansville, PA	April 14
AKC Agility Trial, Latrobe, PA	April 27-28
AKC Fast Cat Trial, Latrobe, PA	July 6-7
AKC Agility Trial, Latrobe, PA	July 26-28
OFA Eye Clinic with Dr. Ronald Riis	August 3
AKC Fast Cat Trial, Latrobe, PA	August 10-11
AKC Fast Cat Trial, Latrobe, PA	October 12-13

Thank you, **Angie Bertram**, on the wonderful presentation on Canine First Aid at the January membership meeting! We learned a lot about addressing first aid needs for our dogs and what we should always have in our first aid kits!

Thank you, **Tamsen Nuss**, on the very fun Trivia night! We learned a lot of fun facts!

Join us at the March membership meeting for a **“Who We Are, What We Do”** program, learning what the Altoona Area Kennel Association is all about.

Awards

2023 Plaques and Awards: At the end of the newsletter is the form (**Page 10**) to order your AKC Title Plaques and Attachments to be presented at the July picnic. Only AKC Titles earned in 2023 are eligible. **Deadline to order an award is March 29, 2024.** Award form goes to Amy Sheehan. Please see the form for contact information and more details. The form is also available on the AAKA website. If you do not want your awards (plaques/attachments), you can always just have them announced and published at the Award's Presentation. Just check the “Publish Only” box near the bottom of the form. Remember, all outstanding bills to the Club must be paid in full to receive AWARDS!! To be eligible for 2023 Plaques and Attachments (titles earned last year), you must have worked at least two AKC/AAKA club sponsored events (e.g. Agility Trials) and be a club member in good standing. Please be sure to check in with your Chair Person at events so you are recorded as working. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

Scent Work

The sport of Scent Work is based on the work of professional detection dogs. The dogs must find cotton swabs that have been saturated with the essential oils of Birch, Anise, Clove, or Cypress. The saturated swabs are then hidden out of sight in a pre-determined search area, and then the dog must find them. When the dog finds the scent, it communicates the find to its handler, who then calls it out to the judge. There are two divisions: Odor Search Division and Handler Discrimination Division. Each division has four difficulty levels: Novice, Advanced, Excellent, and Master. Novice searches are for Birch only, Advanced searches are for Birch and/or Anise, Excellent searches are for Birch and/or Anise and/or Clove, and Master searches are for Birch and/or Anise and/or Clove and/or Cypress.

Sniff N Go

Pictured below is Deb Dively and Abby at the Sniff N Go this past February, at the club's training building, doing an Excellent Container search. There's 20 containers and two distractions. Three of the containers have scents in them, birch, anise, and clove. We also offered Novice, Advanced, and Excellent Buried; Novice, Advanced, and Excellent Interior; and Advanced Exterior. We had a great turn out and good practice for the upcoming AKC Buried Scent Trial



Deb Dively and Abby

AAKA First Scentwork Trial

AAKA Scent Trial on April 14, 2024?? No, it's a maiden voyage, started many years ago from a brief introduction to scent from Lisa Davis and Linda Dobbie to a few club members. From there, it became a dream come true for Deb Dively, inquiring many times, "Can we do a scent trial? Come on, can we do a scent trial? No, really..., can we do a scent trial?" Then, several club members attended a Buried Only Scent Trial and on the way home, thought... yes, we can do this and started brainstorming. Long story short, Deb Dively, Nancy Porta, and Darlene Ormsby put the wheels in motion to get approval from AKC for the club to host this maiden voyage, an AKC Scent Trial with Deb Dively and Lisa Davis as Co-Chairs, all levels-Novice through Masters of the Buried Element offered, and AKC Judge Megan Lloyd-Thompson. We are excited to hear from Trial Secretary, Cyndi Kepner, that our maiden voyage is nine entries away from being 100% full. Yes, definitely a dream come true, thanks to Deb Dively!

Upcoming AAKA Trials and Premiums

AKC Buried Scent Trial, All Levels Premium – Click Here	April 14, 2024
AKC Agility Trial Premium – Click Here	April 27-28, 2024
AKC Fast Cat Trial Premium – Click Here	July 6-7, 2024
AKC Agility Trial Premium Coming Soon	July 26-28, 2024
AKC Fast Cat Trial Premium – Click Here	August 10-11, 2024
AKC Fast Cat Trial Premium – Click Here	October 12-13, 2024

Therapy Dog

Therapy dogs are the dogs that go into nursing homes, schools, hospitals, and other locations with the purpose of providing therapy to individuals at those locations. We have an excellent group of therapy dogs within our club that has gone to local schools and nursing homes, providing many smiles to the area’s children and elderly.

If anyone in the club is interested in having your dog certified with Alliance of Therapy Dogs you can contact Marycarole @ 814-674-8197 or 814-502-2702.

Also, Jim Underwood and Dani Rosenberry @ 814-330-3494

Any of us will be happy to guide you in the right direction to get your dog certified.



Marycarole, with Banner, and Deb Dively providing therapy dog sessions.

Newsletter Brags and Pictures:

Brag wanted! When sending your brags to the newsletter editor **please put “Brag” in the subject line.**

Pictures are welcome but the editor reserves the right to modify the picture to an appropriate size that works in the newsletter. Due to the limited space in newsletter the editor also reserves the right to hold a picture for a future newsletter.

Scentwork

Darlene Ormsby: Thanks to Westmoreland County Obedience Training Club for a one in a million Scent Work Weekend, February 10-11, 2024. So proud of the Ormsby boys for hitting 4 for 4 scent hides. “Chilly” titled in Novice Buried/3rd place and Novice Exterior to finish the Scent Work Novice title (SWN) and nabbed an Advanced Container leg and an Advanced Interior leg/4th place. “Riley” placed first in Master Containers and Excellent Buried, titled in Excellent Interior, and had two seconds to spare in his first Excellent Exterior search. Just love these little Sniffers.



Chilly



Riley

Lure Coursing

Robin Quist: Hawke earned his last point and one to spare for his LCX3 on November 11, as a veteran at the IWAGS lure coursing trial in New Jersey. Hawke is now MBIF DC Diamond's Hawke Soaring Thru The Triple R MC LCX3 LCM VFCH AX AXJ XF CA BCAT TKI CGC ATT VCX. This is Hawke's 31st Title. Onward to his new job as a Therapy Dog!

Therapy Dog

Marycarole Brannigan: Banner a smooth collie owned by Marycarole Brannigan recently earned his Therapy Dog certification with Alliance of Therapy Dogs.



CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!



**ALTOONA AREA KENNEL ASSOCIATION, INC.
AKC AWARD PLAQUES/ATTACHMENTS FOR THE 2023 YEAR**

ONLY AKC TITLES ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE SUBMITTED

CLICK THE LINK FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF AKC TITLES AND ABBREVIATIONS:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/titles-and-abbreviations/>

- If you don't want the awards ordered, but want them published, check the "**Publish Only**" box below
- AAKA Members are eligible for a Plaque and/or Attachments for their 2023 AKC Titles, paid by AAKA by meeting the following guidelines:
 - Members must work at a minimum of two AKC/AAKA sponsored events on two different days during the calendar year
 - Keyholders must clean the building at least one month during the calendar year
 - If you had to submit your own paperwork to receive your title, you must provide a copy of the "AKC Certificate" when submitting this form
 - First owner only on dog is eligible for the award
 - Members may purchase additional Plaques/Attachments for co-owners
 - If anyone did not meet the guidelines, they may purchase the awards
 - Cost is \$42 (plaque) and \$17 (attachment) -- payable to AAKA when submitting your awards
 - All awards must be submitted on this form by the deadline: March 29, 2024
- If this is your first AKC title, you have the choice of having all of the titles engraved on one Plaque **OR** you may have one title engraved on the Plaque and the other title(s) on the attachments. If you already have a Plaque and earned an additional title(s), you are eligible for engraved attachment(s) only. Pending room, you can also have several titles listed on one attachment for 2023.
- **USE ONE FORM PER DOG!** Send form to Amy Sheehan, 240 N. Gail Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, postdated by March 29, 2024. If you have questions regarding the plaques or attachments, please call Amy Sheehan at 814-695-1309. **(Open in Word to type on form)**

Dog's Name (without titles): _____			Dog's AKC #: _____	
Member's Name _____			Phone #: _____	
Title Earned: _____	Abbrev. For Title: _____	Date: _____	Cert. <input type="checkbox"/>	Please check the Club Events Below that you worked in 2023: Agility Trials: Apr 28 <input type="checkbox"/> Apr 29 <input type="checkbox"/> Apr 30 <input type="checkbox"/> July 27 <input type="checkbox"/> July 28 <input type="checkbox"/> July 29 <input type="checkbox"/> July 30 <input type="checkbox"/> All Breed Show: May 20 <input type="checkbox"/> May 25 <input type="checkbox"/> May 26 <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Cat: July 8 <input type="checkbox"/> July 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Oct. 16 <input type="checkbox"/> Keyholder Cleaned Building: <input type="checkbox"/>
Add'l Title: _____	Abbrev. For Title: _____	Date: _____	Cert. <input type="checkbox"/>	
Add'l Title: _____	Abbrev. For Title: _____	Date: _____	Cert. <input type="checkbox"/>	
Add'l Title: _____	Abbrev. For Title: _____	Date: _____	Cert. <input type="checkbox"/>	
Has this dog earned a Plaque before? YES _____ NO _____ (Check one)			Publish Only <input type="checkbox"/>	
If you have more than one title, do you prefer all the titles be engraved on one plaque, on one attachment, on separate attachments, or one plaque with additional attachments (first time titles only)? (Check one) All on one _____ Plaque with attachment _____ Each on separate Attachment _____ Additional plaque/co-owner _____				