



Linda Luchsinger, President  
Sandy Bonifield, Vice President  
D Marlowe, Treasurer  
Linda Luchsinger, Secretary  
Joy Wood, Past President

**At Large Board Members:**

Carol Coawette, Kim Leslie,  
Stefanie Meinhardt

**TRAINING CLASS COORDINATOR:**

Marilane Bergfelt

**OFFICE STAFF COORDINATOR:**

Vange Leonis

**AOCNC REPS:**

Gerry Glantz, Sue Osborn

**NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE:** Sue Osborn

**TRACKING CHAIR:** Sue Osborn



January-February 2017

# TATTLE TAILS

## NVDTC Newsletter

Napa Valley Dog Training Club • (707) 253-8666 • Clubhouse: 68 Coombs St., Bldg N  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4097, Napa CA • [www.napadogtraining.org](http://www.napadogtraining.org)

### **Our Annual Holiday Potluck** by Marilane Bergfelt

Nothing says the holidays like good food and fun friends, right? Well, this year we took that idea and turned it up a notch.

On December 12, 2016, the room was decorated complete with a Christmas tree and table decorations; holiday music was playing; and everyone brought delicious food to share.

After dinner, we held our first ever Ugly Sweater Contest. (Who knew there were so many ugly holiday things for people to wear? And who knew they would actually wear them in public?)

The attendees voted on their favorites and the winners were:

- Most Original Sweater – Mellene Miller
- Best Animal Theme Sweater – Linda Wargo
- Glitziest Sweater – Sandy Bonfield

Additional prizes went to: Vange Leonis (Most Dog Stuff), D Marlowe (Just Darn Cute) and Lea Ronald (for best impression of Cindy Lou Who).

Thanks to the committee, Sandy Bonifield, Mellene Miller and D Marlowe for making decorations, creating prize baskets and giving the event a new focus.

And a HUGE THANKS to everyone who came out on a cold night to share in the fun!



### **SAVE THE DATE!**

## **Year End Banquet** **February 4, 2017**

### **COMPADRES**

505 Lincoln Avenue  
Napa, California

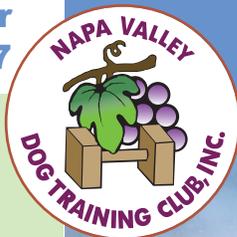
**Dinner is \$30.00 per person but the club will pay \$10.00 towards one person from each family.**

*More information and sign-up sheet to follow after the first of the year.*

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## Thank you to Outgoing 2016 Board of Directors

I want to take this opportunity to extend a special thank you to the 2016 Napa Valley Dog Training Club's outgoing officers and board members; Gerry Glantz, Mary Ash, Lori Jackson, Frances Anamosa, Donna Golemon, Karen Jackson, Kim Leslie, and Roxann Gracia.

These individuals shared a vision and passion for the dog club. They believed in the mission of the organization, and tried to motivate, affect change and improve our club. So on behalf of the entire dog training club membership, I personally thank you for your dedication and commitment.

Joy Wood, 2016 President



## ♥ Presents for PAWS ♥

by Marilane Bergfelt

This year our club organized a donation run for the Napa County Animal Shelter and Adoption Center. Club members, family, friends and students came through in a big way. In only a few short weeks the NVDTC collected and delivered over \$100 in monetary donations and 140 items!

Donated materials included leashes, collars, harnesses, bowls, blankets, beds, towels, laundry soap, pet shampoo, dry food, treats and lots-n-lots of toys. In the end we made four runs to the shelter, filling my car each time. And the event did not end there, many are sending their donations directly to the shelter— making it a very, very successful event.

Thank you to everyone who supported this effort. You not only helped make the shelter pets a little happier, but you also made everyone at the local shelter feel appreciated.

## ♥ Special Thanks To:

- D Marlowe and Mellene Miller for presenting the idea.
- Sue Osborn for creating our fundraising flier and sharing it on our club's website.
- Frances Anamosa for posting the activity on the club's facebook page.
- Sandy Bonifield for cleaning donated items before delivery, AND
- The club instructors and assistants who spread the word at our weekly classes.

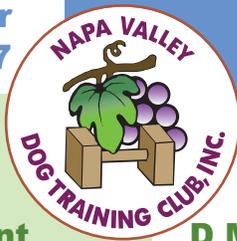
*Thanks for helping make the  
Holidays a little Brighter!*



By English: Linda Hosek [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

## 7 THINGS YOU SHOULD NEVER APOLOGIZE FOR:

- Saying how much you love your dog.
- Always putting your dog first.
- Allowing your dog on your furniture.
- Referring to yourself as a parent to your dog.
- Having dog toys all over your house.
- Staying in with your dog rather than going out.
- Calling your dog family.



## OFFICERS, DIRECTORS

### Linda Luchsinger, 2017 President



As a member of the NVDC for 28 years, I have seen our club grow from a handful of people into the group we have today. I have had many hats, from President, Board Member, Trainer, etc. Our club has grown from training classes once a week at the fairgrounds to classes almost every night in our own building. As a group of trainers, we have changed with the times of a

kinder, gentler method of training dogs. I think the dedicated people we have in our club is why we have thrived over the years.

Cocker spaniels are my favorite breed but I have had a Golden and a Border Collie as well as a few mutts. I joined NVDC because of what I had in common with other people who loved to train their dogs. I love watching dogs learn and seeing when the light bulb goes on.

My other job is accounting and income tax preparation, which I have been doing since I was 15 years old. I do the club books and prepare the non-profit Corporation Income tax return.

I am looking forward to a fresh year and seeing what new things we can accomplish.

### Sandy Bonifield, 2017 Vice President



I have been a member of Napa Valley Dog Training Club since 1991. I had a Miniature Schnauzer puppy and was looking for a place to train her to be a good companion, walk nicely on a leash and come when called. I found Napa Valley Dog Training Club and knew this was the right place.

In 1992 I became a Board Member, since then I have held almost every Board position.

In 1992 I also became a Trainer. I had lots of help from a lot of good people and found I really enjoy helping others train their dogs to be good companions and even go into the show ring and win awards.

My breed of choice is Miniature Schnauzers. I am a breeder and show my dogs in the Conformation and Obedience ring. I have several titles on my dogs.

## & COORDINATORS FOR 2017

### D Marlowe, Treasurer

"But now," says the Once-leter, "now that you're here, the word of the Lorax seems perfectly clear, UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."—Dr. Seuss, The Lorax

It took over 40 years of passively sitting on the sidelines and the devotion of Ms. Belly Button (my rescue) to finally understand the philosophy of the "Once-leter." Belly Button came to me severely underweight, covered in fleas, dirty, and eyes almost matted shut. I had no intention of getting a rescue, but I realized looking into her eyes that I could no longer passively sit on the sidelines. She came home with me and I discovered she was not potty trained nor crate trained and barely socialized. Just when I was at a breaking point and I thought I would have to give her up and take her to a rescue group, I found the Napa Valley Dog Training Club. Vange, a mighty might herself, showed me Ms. Belly Button was worth the extra effort and time. She saved Belly from a cycle of foster homes or shelters. It is then I knew that I could give back to the Club, that I do care a whole awful lot. I will definitely be a cheer leader for rescue groups and building a bridge to the Napa Valley Dog Training Club for the training of these rescues in order to end the cycle. I don't have a lot of experience with the club, having only been a member for a year, but I will bring enthusiasm, positive energy and optimism as a Board Member.

### Carol Coawette, 2017 Director



My experience training dogs began at age 8 when my first puppy (Boston Terrier) picked me. He learned every trick I can think of. It was so much fun.

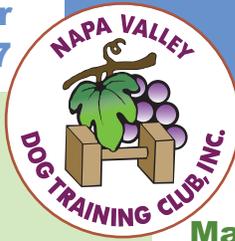
Over the years I had experience with three St. Bernards; Pomeranians; Toy "teacup" Poodle and also rescued another Boston Terrier. After he died I went 8 years without a dog.

So I then got a puppy, (first puppy in over 20 yrs.). A red Standard Poodle. He is now 4 1/2 and has been in school at our club without a break. Going through the CGC course (he passed at 2) I became more interested and was encouraged by one of our examiners to become a CGC Examiner; which I did.

I have been an assistant instructor at our club for several years now; have been on the Board in the past and am again in 2017. It has been a pleasure volunteering at our club events and doing what I can to assist in our club's success.

The dog owners in our Community can really benefit from the experience of our great instructors and trainers. I am proud to be a part of it.

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## OFFICERS, DIRECTORS

### Kim Leslie, 2017 Director



I love teaching owners about their dogs and being able to teach owners how to have fun when training; that success sometimes comes in small steps, getting owners to try new things and think outside of the box!

I have been training dogs for over 35 years. I have done some obedience competition with my previous Mixed Breeds (put titles on them). I am currently learning about conformation with my newest dog Zazzy a Beger Picard (Because of Winn Dixie). I have had Labs and Lab mixes for over 30 years.

I am new to NVDTTC, joined a year and a half ago. I look forward to meeting you!

### Stephanie Meinhardt, 2017 Director



### The 2017 Dog Show Calendar now available for purchase.

Don't miss out!

You can pick up yours at the NVDTTC office.

This calendar shows upcoming trials, matches, and other dog events scheduled throughout the next year in California, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, and Oregon.

Cost: \$8 each while quantities last.

## & COORDINATORS FOR 2017

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### Marilane Bergfelt, 2017 Training Class Coordinator



I joined the dog club after moving to Napa in 1999. At the time I had two trained dogs and I was looking for something 'fun' to do with them. Many years (and training classes later) I now have two different dogs, Comet (a 14-year-old Labrazelle) and Trooper (a 9-years-old Keeshond). I have been training dogs for over 25

years and teaching with our club for the last 10 years.

My focus is on pet owners and their dogs, with a passion for animals who work with the public. I came to Napa with several years of therapy dog experience and national certifications. At a club meeting I met Carolyn Lenzi and together we created Loving Animals Providing Smiles (LAPS) in 2001. LAPS is a genuine animal-assisted therapy organization that trains dog, cat and miniature horse teams. I'm inspired by the magic a trained animal can bring to someone's life and it's that thrill that keeps me going.

Like so many other dog club members I have served in a variety of positions over the years. Most recently I was the training chair in 2014 & 2015, and will be resuming some of that responsibility this year. I hope to bring additional creative classes, activities and events to our club and appreciate everyone who can help make that happen.

Happy New Year!

### Vange Leonis, 2017 Office Staff Coordinator



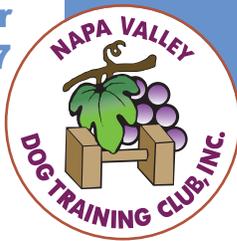
I'm a trainer for obedience and specialty classes.

My two corgis are Sadie and Radar both senior dogs. I will be helping Sandy in the "club's" office for 2017. The new addition to our family are the cigar smoking English Bulldog slippers. Obviously, my husband doesn't shop at Jared. But he does have a sense of humor.



# TATTLE TAILS

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## SESSION 1 JAN 9 - FEB 17, 2017 Week Off: Feb 20 to Feb 24

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.  
CHECK NVDTC.ORG FOR UPDATES.

## CALL TODAY (253-8666) TO SIGN UP FOR NVDTC'S SPECIAL CLASSES IN SESSION 1 & 2:

### SESSION 1

Tuesday, 4:30pm - Foundations of Freestyle

Freestyle is all about fun, movement, teamwork and a great way to build a strong relationship with your dog. Successful completion of Adolescent Dog or Good Manners 1 required.

#### Tuesday, 5:30pm - Step by Step (Beyond Treats)

This class focuses on breaking down moves through body awareness; methods for removing food while increasing your dog's ability to earn that reward; back-chaining and more. This is an intermediate level class with experience in rally, freestyle or obedience preferred.

#### Wednesday, 11:00am - Intro to Rally

This is the perfect place to find out how much fun rally can be. Handlers will learn about the sport, how to read signs and have fun moving through the stations with their dogs. This is an intermediate level class with obedience skills required.

#### Friday, 6:00pm - Crate Games (Crates & Choices)

This 4-WEEK CLASS will help your dog learn to love their crate while developing skills that encourage correct choices & understanding rules. Open to dogs of all ages and skill level

### SESSION 2 (February 27 to April 7)

#### Tuesday, 12/noon - Mighty Might

Good Manners 1 Class for Small Dogs (under 20 pounds). Class will cover all the same skills as our traditional class but add some techniques that benefit the small dog owner. Dogs ages 6 months and older are welcome, no prerequisites.

#### Tuesday, 7:30pm - Sampler Class

Looking for something new? Then, how about trying 2 sports instead of one? Have fun with 3-weeks of Freestyle and 3-weeks of Nose Work. Successful completion of Adolescent Dog or Good Manners 1 required.

#### Wednesday, 11:00am - Advanced Obedience

This class is specifically designed for handlers who want to train their dogs toward off leash obedience work. Improving your dog's attention, proofing skills, and learning ways to motivate your dog are part of the fun. This is an intermediate level class.

#### Thursday, 7:00pm - 4 Legs a Body (Body Awareness)

This 4-WEEK CLASS will focus on helping build your dog's balance and body awareness. Successful completion of Adolescent Dog or Good Manners 1 suggested.

Visit [nvdtc.org](http://nvdtc.org) for flyers  
on all these special classes.

Flyers can be downloaded to promote our club training opportunities. Formats are available for sharing electronically, through social media, and for printing.

Let the community know what our club offers  
—send & hand out NVDTC's flyers!

### Tuesdays - 1st class Jan 10

10:00 AM	Adolescent Dog	Kim
<b>TUE ADO &amp; PUPPY ORIENTATION: Jan 10 at 10 AM**</b>		
11:00 AM	Puppy	Kim
<b>TUE ADO &amp; PUPPY ORIENTATION: Jan 10 at 10 AM**</b>		
12 Noon	Puppy Overflow	Kim
4:30 PM	Foundations of Freestyle (Begining)	Judy
5:30 PM	Step by Step (Beyond Treats!)	Judy
6:30 PM	Musical Dynamic Rally Challenge	Judy
7:30 PM	Good Manners 1	Mary

### Wednesdays - 1st class Jan 11

9:00 AM	Good Manners 1	Kim
<b>WED AM GOOD MANNERS 1 ORIENTATION: Jan 11 at 9:00 AM**</b>		
10:00 AM	Good Manners 2	Kim
11:00 AM	Intro to Rally	Marlene
<b>Intro to Rally is a RETURNING class</b>		
5:00 PM	Adolescent Dog Overflow	Donna
6:00 PM	Puppy	Donna
<b>WED NITE PUPPY ORIENTATION: Jan 11 at 6 PM**</b>		
7:00 PM	Adolescent Dog	Donna/Lea
<b>WED NITE ADOLESCENT ORIENTATION: Jan 11 at 7 PM**</b>		
8:00 PM	Puppy Overflow	Lea

### Thursdays - 1st class Jan 12 (unless noted otherwise)

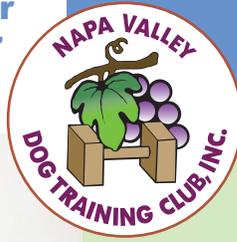
10 AM - 1 PM	Capital Canines	Pat White
Meets every other week — First class: January 12		
10:00 AM	Rally-All Levels*	Mary
Meets every other week — First class: January 19		
6:00 PM	Rally-All Levels*	Mary
7:00 PM	Good Manners 2	Mary

### Fridays - NOTE: class dates 1/13, 1/20, 2/3 & 2/10

6:00 PM	Crate Training (4 week class)	Donna
<b>Crate Training is a RETURNING class</b>		

\*CONTINUED CLASS

**\*\*DO NOT BRING DOGS TO ORIENTATION**



The December 12, 2016 Meeting

## MINUTES

will be presented and read at the  
January 9, 2017 meeting for approval.

Past minutes are online at:  
[napadogtraining.org/meeting/](http://napadogtraining.org/meeting/)



[www.nvdtc.org/meeting](http://www.nvdtc.org/meeting)

### Thought for the day:

You never know if someone  
can run with the ball if you never  
hand it to them.



By Mdk572 (Own work) [CC BY 3.0 (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0)], via Wikimedia Commons

## Napa Valley Dog Training 2016 Club Service Award:

Thanks to the work of devoted members our club has remained strong since 1970. In 2001, the NVDTC Service Award was created to recognize those who have made significant contributions. This award will be presented at the Annual Awards Dinner in February, 2017.

Return completed form by  
**January 16, 2017** to Linda Wargo,  
230 James Road, American Canyon, CA 94503  
or leave in club office in envelope with Linda Wargo's name.

### Nominations:

Any member is welcome to make a nomination, and a member may nominate multiple people each year. Nominations must be given in writing and must include the contributions of the nominee.

### Criteria for the NVDTC's Service Award:

- 1) Nominee must be a current club member and in good standing.
- 2) Nominee must follow and uphold NVDTC's bylaws and rules.
- 3) Nominee has contributed to the overall well-being and growth of the club.
- 4) Nominee represents the club in a professional and positive way.

### Voting:

The Selection Committee is made up of past Service Award Recipients:

Linda Wargo, Deassa Binstock, Jim Spiva, Karen Jackson, and Lori Jackson.  
Please note: As committee members—none of these individuals are eligible to receive the award.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Contributions include but are not limited to: Office(s) held; Board/Chair position(s) held; committee(s) worked on; projects for the club; help at the clubhouse/classes/events, etc.*



# TATTLE TAILS

NVDTTC Newsletter

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## Misplaced, Lost, or Missed eMails from NVDTTC?

Misplaced your email from NVDTTC via MailChimp with link to newsletters? Missed that announcement about rattlesnake aversion or an upcoming presentation or workshop?

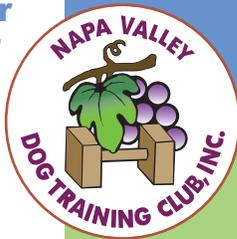
You can access past emails sent out from NVDTTC via MailChimp by [CLICKING HERE](#) or by scanning the QR code below.



Submission deadline for the  
MARCH/APRIL 2017 newsletter  
is February 20, 2017.

Send to: [news@napadogtraining.org](mailto:news@napadogtraining.org)

**Scheduling of Board Meetings:**  
Board meetings are open to all members and are scheduled on the *FOURTH* Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m except for the month of December.  
Call 253-8666 to verify both date and location of meeting. Minutes from board meetings are available at the club.



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**Next Meeting:  
January 9, 2017  
6:30 PM**

*Leave YOUR dog at home.*

Do you have a special or cute dog picture you'd like to share? If you send a photo of YOUR dog (& name) to the newsletter editor, he or she could appear in a future newsletter edition!

email to: [news@napadogtraining.org](mailto:news@napadogtraining.org)



Visit NVDTTC on the web for  
the latest news & photos:  
[www.napadogtraining.org](http://www.napadogtraining.org)

