



Linda Luchsinger, President
Adrienne Amdahl, Vice President
Vange Leonis, Interim Treasurer
Adrienne Amdahl, Interim Secretary
Linda Wargo, Past President

At Large Board Members:

Sandy Bonifield
Debbie Hilton
Vange Leonis

OFFICE: Sandy Bonifield

BUILDING: Debbie Hilton

PUBLICITY: Vange Leonis

MEMBERSHIP: Adrienne Amdahl

COUPONS/VOUCHERS:

Adrienne Amdahl

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE: Sue Osborn

BUILDING USE:

Groups: Sue Osborn

Members: Donna Golemon

SUNSHINE: Debbie Hilton

*See last page for contact
information for above members*

Past newsletters:

nvdtc.org/club_newsletter



May-June 2025

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TATTLE TAILS

NVDTC Newsletter

Napa Valley Dog Training Club • (707) 253-8666 • Clubhouse: 68 Coombs St., Bldg N
Mailing Address: 68 Coombs Street #7, Napa CA 94559 • www.napadogtraining.org

It's a "Bring Your Dog to the Meeting" Night!

MAY MADNESS

at Napa Valley DTC

Monday, May 12TH – 6:30 PM

Treats & Drinks for Attendees.

PLUS Toys and Treats for dogs!

No competition. Just a night of fun!

**DOGS MUST BE
NON-REACTIVE,
PEOPLE &
DOG FRIENDLY.**

**EXCEPT
FOR OFF LEASH
ACTIVITIES, DOGS
MUST BE ON
LEASH AT
ALL TIMES.**

Organized by Karen Jackson



**All NVDTC
Members and Upper Class students
are invited to join in our
people/dog games:**

- **AGILITY FACILITY**
- **HOT DOG & DELIVER**
- **PERILOUS PATH RECALL**
- **RALLY UH OH**
- **SCENTS & SENIBILITY**

Every dog who comes to play gets to take a toy home.



The Napa Valley Dog Training Club NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for volunteers to help out at our **scent work trials, to be held **Saturday, May 31st and Sunday, June 1st at Napa Valley College.****

This event is sponsored by the National Association of Canine Scent Works (NACSW) and hosted by Napa Valley Dog Training Club.

What is scent work?

Scent work is a popular dog sport inspired by the training methodology of canine detection. You may have heard it called nose work, scent work, or search work. In this sport, dogs and their handlers compete against the clock to find "hides," tiny amounts of scent hidden in defined search areas indoors, outdoors, in containers and even buried.

Napa Valley Dog Training Club holds scent work classes on Mondays. Many club members and their pups have high-level and elite titles from the NACSW and AKC.



Volunteers are needed for all kinds of roles, including grounds, parking, check-in, gate stewards, timers, judge's stewards, hospitality and more. The weather should be great, so come join the fun.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Go online to

<https://forms.gle/wyYPnTxmwNQKYs729>

and fill out the volunteer form. Or, send an email to our Volunteer Coordinator, Sharon Leos, at

sleos@rocketmail.com

Thanks for supporting this important club fundraiser!

BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING

Learn by Watching:

- Volunteering gives you a front-row seat to how a trial runs — you'll see handling techniques, dog behavior, and judge expectations up close.

Make Connections:

- Meet judges, experienced handlers, and other club members.
- Networking at trials can lead to new training tips, friendships, and even trialing opportunities.

Improve Your Own Skills:

- By seeing what works (and what doesn't) at a trial, you'll pick up strategies for keeping dogs focused.
- You'll better understand things and what to expect in a real trial setting.

Be Part of a Team:

- Trials run on teamwork — there's a real sense of accomplishment in making an event successful.
- Plus, it's fun to be behind the scenes and part of a successful event!

Boost Your Confidence:

- Seeing how things operate can make your first (or next) time trialing much less intimidating.





Dena Parrish — Recipient of the 2024 Gerry Glantz Award!



Tzoey

At Napa Valley Dog Training Club's Annual Banquet, Dena Parrish, who has been an active, positive-voiced member since joining the club just a few years ago, was presented with the Gerry Glantz Memorial Service Award for 2024.

Her valued opinions are well expressed at our general and committee meetings.

She frequently is willing to contribute her time whenever and wherever she can, all the while training and trialing her dog with much success. She has helped set up major events, such as our Christmas party and Spring Awards Banquet (where she also partnered with shopping, assembling and embellishing gift basket prizes). In addition, she, on many occasions, has volunteered to supply treats for our hospitality table where she goes the extra mile in her kitchen with a creative, fun theme for the enjoyment of members and guests at our meetings.

Regarding her professional manner, she volunteered early to be an assistant, working alongside several different instructors, helping immensely in various

classes. Most recently, she has been promoted to the role of instructor where she has done a great job mentoring various levels of students and sharing tips she has picked up at multiple rally trials.

Dena exemplifies all of the above, is a great representative of the Napa Valley Dog Training Club, and is well qualified to receive the 2024 Gerry Glantz Memorial Service Award. Thank you Dena and CONGRATULATIONS!



Join us at our General meeting on June 9th for a presentation by Suzie Yokomizo on Behavioral Modification

Suzie started her journey working with fear-based and reactive dogs because the dogs in her life exhibited these characteristics. After hiring several trainers who did not provide her with the skills needed to help her dogs, Suzie attended the Canine Consultant/Instructor Training Academy (aka Canine Behavior Academy) at the Marin Humane Society.

After attending the academy, Suzie gained the skills she needed to work with her dogs and wanted to share her skills to help others. She started off by volunteering at the Marin Humane Society working with the dogs in their care and within months was asked to join the training and behavior staff. There, she taught basic training classes,

Difficult Dog classes and provided consultation services to clients in need of assistance with their dogs.

Suzie continued her education attending seminars presented by industry leaders including Steve White, Ken Ramirez,

Kay Laurence and Bob Bailey. Her time with Bob

helped her to develop a great appreciation for the skills required to break behaviors down to small components that allow the animal to succeed before stepping up the next component to achieve success. By applying these skills, she was able to help a greater number of dogs achieve success resulting in improved relationships with their guardians and a reduction in dogs returned to shelters.





NVDTTC's ANNUAL BANQUET

Napa Valley Dog Training Club's annual luncheon banquet was held on April 19th at La Strada in American Canyon with a nice turnout, all of whom gathered to enjoy lunch, camaraderie, games, and special awards to recognize members and their dogs who competed and earned titles in a variety of dog venues in 2024.

Congratulations to Dena Parrish who received the Gerry Glantz Memorial Service Award for 2024! Thank you to Awards Chair, Linda Wargo, for all her work and contributions!

Sue Osborn
Banquet Chair



**Five of the AKC Groups represented. 12 different breeds.
A total of 92 titles!**

Breeds:

All American: 1

Sporting:

2 German Shorthaired Pointers

4 Vizslas

1 Labrador

1 Golden Retriever

1 Cocker Spaniel

Toy:

1 Yorkshire Terrier

Hound:

1 Miniature Dachshund

2 Portuguese Podengo Pequenos

Herding:

2 Australian Shepherds

2 Border Collies

Non-Sporting:

2 Standard Poodles

Titles by Sport:

1 Title:

FASTCAT

2 Titles:

Rally, NASDA, Barn Hunt,
Conformation, Musical
Freestyle

4 Titles:

Agility, Temperament Test

5 Titles:

Trick Dog

8 Titles:

CGC/CGCA/CGCU

60 Titles:

Scentwork/Nosework



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!





PART 1

Bringing Joy into Training by Judy Gamet



Videotaping to Enhance Your Training

The thought of bringing a video camera to my training sessions terrified me. I really didn't want to see the truth. I felt I was the least proficient team in our training group. Many of the group encouraged me to give up. But that is not who I am. My dog deserved better when it came to my belief in our team.



Whether you are a team that dabbles or competes in the sport of freestyle, rally, obedience, or agility, videotaping can become your best friend.

Did I mention I was terrified to see myself and my dog on video? I had to put my pride aside and choose to learn to become the best handler I could be, for the sake of my dog and my team.

Reluctantly, I decided to take my video camera to the training field. It turned out to be the best move I could have

made. That evening, I dared myself to watch my training session from that day. I actually saw one thing that was executed really well. It was a picture-perfect recall! Wow, we could actually do one skill well. Maybe, just maybe, I could raise up another skill to an acceptable level. I told myself, "Just choose one skill and dedicate time to improving." Remember the saying "that which you apply your attention to, improves."

First, I had to be able to visualize in my mind, my dog and myself performing the new skill correctly. How did I want it to look? Some skills were easier to imagine than others. Those skills that I couldn't picture in my mind, I turned to the internet to watch teams that had mastered that skill. What qualities stood out as I watched them perform. Was it the handler's gait? The air of confidence? The approach to the skill? What stood out as I watched masters perform that skill? Can I duplicate that in my own mind and body? This was the turning point for my team.

Once you can imagine it, you can start to shape it into reality. Look for those moments when an aspect of that skill or element actually happens. Watch for it! Believe in that vision!

How does this story end? Well, for me it's a continual learning challenge. For my rottweiler, Luc, his story was a success. One of the teams from my club had to enter the titling event that we were sponsoring. We went from the least prepared (remember, they told me to quit), to the team most prepared. So Luc and I were the team who represented our club in this trial.

We did put in many, many hours per week of training, but the biggest break through was being brave enough to watch that video of our training and notice that one skill that looked really good. Yes, it's possible!

This month, take one skill and dedicate your time to it. Picture it perfectly in your mind, as unrealistic as that may seem. Watch videos of others who have mastered that skill. Then watch your team emerge!

Judy Gamet, CPDT-KA Member: IACP, PPG
Judy@DogsCanDance.com





PART 2

Bringing Joy into Training by Judy Gamet



Celebrating Freestyle "Golden Moments"

The Golden Retriever Drill Team is on the move! The drill team exploded this session from 4 teams to 7, all very special dogs. They are recreating a past fun routine set to Michael Jackson music and are more impressive than ever. The NVDTC building is filled with golden joy as they learn and rehearse their new routine.

"Small Dogs Can Dance" class is also growing. The current class is learning a tango routine using heeling, right work, center work, spins, and weaves. They might be small in stature, but they have big hearts filled with joy.

Congratulations to Sue Osborn and her team of dogs, Brooklyn and Dakota, who earned beautiful scores and earned their division levels in the Dogs Can Dance Challenge Worldwide Dance into Spring Titling Event. Sue, you represented your team and NVDTC well!

Both classes "Tricks for Titling" and "Creating Your Routine" are well on their way to showcasing their talents and earning titles as well. All of these handlers have the right to be proud of their teams.

If you love training and music, consider Canine Musical Freestyle. Bring back the joy in training. Contact Judy@DogsCanDance.com for upcoming classes.

Judy Gamet, CPDT-KA Member: IACP, PPG
Judy@DogsCanDance.com



NOTE: Dogs wearing logo shirts from their owners for attention only. Our Bonfire.com shirts are designed to fit humans not pets.



LOOK! LOGO WEAR!

Logo shirts now available from **Bonfire.com** for members to wear in the community to showcase our club!

Lots of styles with NVDTC logo in various positions to choose from. The club will profit \$7 to \$9 for each shirt ordered.

Go online to view, select your style and order:

www.bonfire.com/store/napa-valley-dog-training-club

FREE

LARGE VARI KENNEL & DOG BEDS



ACTUAL KENNEL MAY NOT LOOK SAME AS PICTURED.

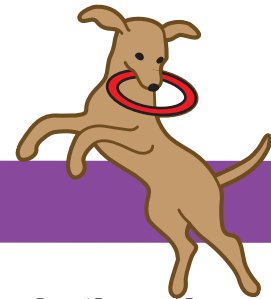
If interested,
contact Debbie at 707-224-9170 to
leave a message or send an email to
26crain@gmail.com



Napa Valley Dog Training Club

68 Coombs St. Bldg. N • Napa, CA

707-253-8666 • nvdtc.org



2025 Training Session 4

June 9th through July 19th, 2025

NVDTTC Classes run for 5 weeks for \$125.00 unless noted otherwise.

No classes July 2nd-5th • Class payment & shot records due June 2nd.

Except for continuing classes, go to nvdtc.org/registering-for-classes

or scan code at right to sign up for classes. Registration for 2025 Session 4 classes is **ONLY** accepted between **May 5th & May 26th.**



Monday

All Scent Work classes run for six weeks and are continuing classes

9:00 am*

Scent Work

Linda W.

10:00 am*

Scent Work

Linda W.

11:00 am*

Scent Work

Linda W.

12:00 pm*

Scent Work

Linda W.

1:00 pm*

Scent Work

Linda W.

5:00 pm*

Scent Work

Linda W.

5 Weeks of Classes:

\$125

\$50 max in coupons

*6 Weeks of Classes:

\$150

\$60 max in coupons

Tuesday

All Tuesday classes run for six weeks.

11:00 am*

Good Manners 2

Mary

12:00 Noon*

Advanced Obedience

Mary

7 pm*

Good Manners 2

Carol

Schedule subject to change.

Scan QR code for most current digital version of this schedule.



Puppy:
12 weeks to 5 1/2 months

Adolescent:
6 months to 1 year

Good Manners:
1 year+

Wednesday

9:00 am

Overflow

Carol

10:00 am

Good Manners 1

Carol

11:00 am

Adolescent

Carol

1:30 pm

Strengthening the Basics

Vange

2:30 pm

Delightful

Distractions

Vange

5 pm

Puppy

Carol

6 pm

Adolescent

Carol

7 pm

Good Manners 1

Carol

MEMBERS RECEIVE
ONE \$10 DISCOUNT
PER CLASS

Thursday

10:15 am

Rally

Dena

11:30 am

Rally

Dena

5:00 pm

Rally

Mary

6:00 pm

Rally

Mary

Friday

6:00 pm

Overflow

Linda L.

7:00 pm

Overflow

Linda L.

Saturday

10:00 am

Strengthening the

Basics

Vange

11:00 am

Mighty Might's (GM1)

Vange

12 NOON

Delightful

Distractions

Vange

For all **Dogs Can Dance (Freestyle)** Tuesday classes,
register with Judy: judy@dogscandance.com • (707) 449-1715



BRAGS

Carol Coawette, Louie, & Pierre

Louie's Scent Work Achievements in February & March 2025:

AKC Advanced Elite Exterior leg

AKC Advanced Container leg

AKC Novice Elite Buried leg & 4th Place

AKC Novice Elite Container TITLE & 3rd Place

AKC Novice Elite Exterior TITLE & 2nd Place

NACSW ORT TITLE

Pierre's Scent Work Achievements in February & March 2025:

AKC Master Elite Interior leg

AKC Excellent Elite Buried TITLE

AKC EXCELLENT ELITE TITLE

AKC Advanced Elite Exterior leg & 3rd Place

AKC Advanced Elite Buried leg

NACSW NW1 TITLE

Sue Osborn, Brooklyn, & Dakota

Team Osborn Tänzerinna (Brooklyn, Morgan, Dakota, & myself) earned two division levels in the Dogs Can Dance "Dance into Spring Titling Event" held in March. Dakota (2007—2019) and I had a routine videotaped in 2018 which I was able to submit to earn the first of three levels in the Classical Freestyle Division scoring 135 points! And Brooklyn completed the first level, the Opening Act, in the Entertainment Division also scoring 135 points!

Sharon Leos & Thingamajig:

Thingamajig and I went to our first AKC Scent Work Master Trial in March. It was an extremely windy day in Fairfield! The Judge's score sheets were trying to fly out of her hands and some of the containers were blowing out of the search area. Master level searches are a brand new experience for us and Thing Qualified in Containers in fourth place! Thank you to fellow NVDTC Member Toni Belt and Bebe for bringing our placement ribbon home!



Louie



Pierre



Brooklyn



Thingamajig



Dakota

Got Brags?
Email to
[editor@nvdtc.org/.](mailto:editor@nvdtc.org/)

Brags continued on page 9



BRAGS continued

February 28th



Chriss Bradley & Toby

February 28th

On February 28, 2025, Toby qualified for the L1 Container Title at the NACSW Element Specialty Trial in San Rafael, hosted by the Marin Humane Society. Toby was very proud of his ribbon that day!

March 1st

Toby started March off right qualifying for a Utility Locating II trial on the 1st! The trial was held by the North American Sport Dog Association (NASDA) in Woodland, CA. Way to go, Toby!

March 23rd

On March 23, 2025, in Loomis, CA, Toby qualified for five out of six NASDA trials (hunting rats in cages!). He earned two QQ's, three 2nd places, and one 3rd place! Good Boy, Toby!

March 29th

Toby had to have a bath and then a nap after qualifying for an AKC Master Exterior Elite leg in Sunol, CA, on March 29. Then he had a Winner's Chicken Dinner!

April 6th

Toby had another successful day at Nelsons Grove in Woodland on April 6 qualifying in three out of four trials. He also scored a Double Q! Not bad for an 11-year old! Toby says age is just a number

March 29th



March 29th



April 6th



TATTLE TAILS

NVDTTC Newsletter

May-June 2025



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April 14, 2025 General Meeting

MINUTES (unapproved)

Past and present minutes are available online at:
napadogtraining.org/meeting/.



www.nvdtc.org/meeting



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Board Members in attendance: Officers – Adrienne Amdahl – Vice President Members at Large – Sandy Bonifield, Debbie Hilton, Vange Leonis, Donna Golemon Past President – Linda Wargo. A List of the General Members in attendance is available in the Club office.

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Linda Wargo (sitting in for President, Linda Luchsinger)

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2025 General Membership Meeting. Motion seconded. Aye 20, No 0, Ab 1 – motion passed

Treasurer's Report – Vange Leonis

Checking: \$18,974.46 @ 3/31/25

Savings: \$22,369.88

CD: \$21,578.73

March P&L currently unavailable

Vice President – Adrienne Amdahl

The Club currently has 48 registered members

Office – Sandy Bonifield

Classes for Session 3 start next Monday April 21st. Registration for Session 4 opens May 5th.

Training – Donna Golemon

Donna welcomed our two new assistant trainers – Jennifer Vaughn and David Else.

The next training committee meeting is tomorrow.

Publicity – Vange Leonis

We are still looking for ideas for guest speakers. Please give Vange any ideas for speaker or topics.

Community bulletin board posters are still available. If you know of locations that you can post our information, please see Vange.

Building – Debbie Hilton

We have seen some pests and Debbie will talk to our pest control company. Rat droppings were seen in the electrical closet at the last pest control visit and a deterrent was put in place.

Newsletter/Website – Sue Osborn

The deadline for submissions for the May/June newsletter is April 22nd.

Sunshine – Debbie Hilton

Mary Ash was welcomed back after her recent hospitalization and gave thanks to the club for the flowers and food and visits she received while recuperating.

Debbie noted that the club received a nice letter from Napa County Search and Rescue for the donation the Club made in memory of Kaye Hall. The letter will be posted in the Club

next to Kaye's picture.

Old Business

NACSW Trial – presented by Anne Stanley.

NVDTCT will be holding the scent work trial on May 31st – June 1st at Napa Valley College.

Volunteers are needed. There are full and half day opportunities to volunteer.

Registration for the trial opened today. We expect each day to fill and have a waitlist.

Marilane Bergfelt asked about a projected budget for the event. Anne noted that once they know the results of the draw and number of entries, they'll be able to present budget numbers.

Annual Banquet – Sue Osborn

17 people are attending the banquet this year at La Strada. Sue is working on games for the event. She has plenty of volunteers for set-up at this time.

New Business

The membership was poled to see the desire to hold our May Madness event at next month's meeting. The Board decided to bring this decision to the membership based on the low turn out at the Luck of the Irish event at March's meeting. Discussion occurred about the event and the idea of inviting students in upper-level classes (GM1, GM2, Rally and Scent Work) who are not members to join us at the event was brought up.

Roxann Gracia motioned that we hold May Madness and we invite upper-level dog club students, who are not members, to attend. Mary Ash seconded. Aye 18, No 0, Ab 3 – motion passed.

Karen Jackson will be doing hospitality for the event.

Braggs

Roxann Gracia – Snickle, in several trials in his last AKC he got 1 first, 1 second, 1 third and 2 fourths. He earned his 1st Advanced Title. Tanner – Competed in NASDA trial and earned his Trailing Locating title level 2.

Anne Stanley – Fig qualified getting 2 legs in scent work.

Linda Wargo – Zip qualified getting 2 legs in scent work. Sonny finished his novice scent work title and Happy got his Master Bury.

Marilane Bergfelt – her son, Nathan, and daughter in law, Sarah purchased their first home.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Adrienne Amdahl

TATTLE TAILS

NVDTTC Newsletter

May-June 2025

Misplaced, Lost, or Missed eMails from NVDTTC?

Misplaced your email from NVDTTC via MailChimp with link to newsletters?

Missed that announcement about an upcoming presentation or workshop?

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



Submission deadline for the
JULY/AUGUST 2025 newsletter
is JUNE 22, 2025.

Send submissions to: editor@nvdtc.org

Board Meetings

Board meetings are open to all members.

*Call 253-8666 to verify both date
and location of meeting.*

*Minutes from board
meetings are available online & at the club.*

Key Contact Information

PRESIDENT:

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FACEBOOK:

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SUNSHINE

Debbie Hilton | mhphelps@sbcglobal.net | 510-847-2620

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Carol Coawette | clc222@comcast.net | 707-479-0222

Donna Golemon | nvdtcdonna@gmail.com | 707-738-6163

Vange Leonis | yourgreatsmile@comcast.net | 415-209-3599

Dena Parrish | eddena@sbcglobal.net | 707-975-7453

DOGS CAN DANCE®

Judy Gamet | judy@dogscandance.com | 707-449-1715

See membership Roster for additional contact information.

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Next Meeting:

May 12, 2025

6:30 PM at Clubhouse

*It's a "Bring Your Dog to the Meeting" night.
Join us for some "May Madness" fun!*



If you send a
photo of YOUR dog (&
name) to the newsletter
editor, he or she could
appear in a future
newsletter! Email to:

editor@nvdtc.org



Visit NVDTTC on the web for
current info & photos at
www.nvdtc.org and on
Facebook at

www.facebook.com/NVDTTC/.