



May-June 2020

SPECIAL EDITION

For Members
AND
Students



Photo by Dominic Buccilli from Pexels

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Mary Ash, Sue Osborn

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Sue Osborn

nvdtc.org/buildingcalendar.htm

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



Letter from the Editor

As a Napa Valley non-profit business, our primary focus is our dog owner community to whom we provide top notch dog classes taught by qualified trainers.

While we are in a "Shelter in Place" situation, providing in-person classes and trainers for students is not yet an option.

So what are we doing to keep in touch?

First, this issue of our newsletter is going out not only to members who enjoy their bi-monthly subscription as a perk of membership but to all of our current and past students who have opted to be on our mailing list for NVDTC notifications of events, meetings, and upcoming classes. This issue includes articles and ideas related to what we are all going through. One of our trainers has even shared how she is handling being sheltered at home (see page 5).

If you would like to become a member of NVDTC, we invite you to attend one of our general meetings to fill out an application and be voted in. You can check our website (nvdtc.org) for the

date of our next general meeting (which of course will depend on when COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted).

Second, we are providing fun things for you to do with your dog (and tips to read) on our website. This page is regularly updated by our trainers. Go to nvdtc.org/dogfun/ to check it out.

Third, trainers and assistants put together a special video/slideshow to let our students know they are thinking about and care for them. To view, go to link shown at right.

Fourth, we are keeping a list of anyone who is interested in knowing when classes will start back up. You can request to be added to this list by sending an email to notifyme@nvdtc.org.

Fifth, we are having a photo contest (see page 3 for details). Show us photos of how you are having fun with your dog or dogs now that the weather has warmed up!

You can also keep up with Napa Valley Dog Training Club by visiting our facebook page and our website. Questions can be addressed to info@nvdtc.org.

We will continue to come up with other ways to reach out to both our students and members as the pandemic unfolds and look forward to the day we can again say hello to you and your dogs!

Sue Osborn,
Newsletter Editor

A Virtual Message from trainers and assistants to our students

Below are just a few images from a video/slideshow trainers and assistants provided to create a virtual message to touch base with students during this challenging time. To view more images, hear, and read their special messages (and meet some of their dogs), go to:

<https://youtu.be/Yizvc1kHrGM>



Thank you to Carol Coawette, Kim Leslie, Linda Wargo, Lea Ronald, Marlene Soldavini, Judy Gamet, Debbie Crain, Linda Luchsinger, Chris Mayer, Maria Gaccio, Donna Golemon, Marilane Bergfelt, De Brilz, and all their dogs for making this happen!



It All Started With a LEO

by De Brilz

We first heard about Leonbergers (LEOs for short) from the internet, when we were contemplating getting another dog. I looked up the exact phrase "gentle giant dogs." I've always had a soft spot for the fluffier versions of dogs, like I had when I was a child (Collie's/Shelties). I also love, love, love larger breeds, I really can't tell you why, I just do, but had never had one yet.

What appeared between Great Danes and Newfoundlands was a Leonberger. Oooh! that is just what I wanted, my husband was unsure, at the time.

Our first in-person introduction to the breed was at a dog show in Roseville, we just "happened" to be driving by that very weekend.

We met Murphy.

I have to admit both my husband and I couldn't have spent enough time with him that very day. We were in LOVE within seconds. His double coated, lion-like appearance and of course, gentle nature (priority number one, for us) was all wrapped up in a 180# perfect fluffy package. This breed was going to be our next dog!

We started on our journey, only slightly deterred by a 2-3 yearlong waiting list by most breeders here in the US. We decided we would move forward with contacting with many breeders of this magnificent breed, and hopefully, getting on a waiting list from a respected breeder.

Then it happened.

Way before we anticipated getting our third dog, a precious puppy became available. Upon looking at pictures of our future little cherub, my husband, the softy (not usually), says, "I think we should get her!" So we did! Only 3 months from the time we found out they even existed, we got our first Leo!

She nonchalantly arrived at her new home at 10 weeks old in the middle of November. An uncoordinated, pudgy 30 pound "baby-berger" stole my whole heart that day! I knew I would need a little help, after all, it had been about 9 years since we had raised a puppy. I knew her powerful body would grow up so fast and I wanted to start her off the correct way, the positive way. I wanted to be the best puppy parent I could be. That's when I joined the NVDTC. My list of friends and mentors immediately grew! My support, my new community and many new options of what we can learn together, were now endless!

Leobergers, as a side note, are sort of like cousins to the Newfoundland (they were one of the breeds that helped develop the Leonberger. yes, there is a history lesson there, but another time). So we joined the Northern California Newfoundland Club. They



Lookdown Letter From Your Dog

Dear hoomans

I have noticed over the past few weeks you have been staying in my home for extended periods of time. It is lovely having you here but I feel I should set a few ground rules. I would appreciate it if you would follow the rules whilst you are staying with me.

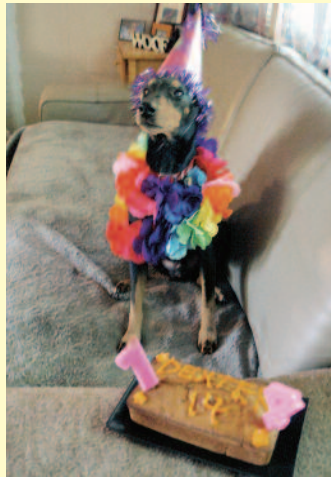
1. When you do pop out you will need to take me with you.
2. You seem to be eating lots of nice goodies whilst lazing about the house. I am entitled to a share of these. I won't make a fuss, I will just sit in front of you and quietly stare at you until I get my quota.
3. Don't call me for another bath, I am clean now. Just because you are bored doesn't mean I need a wash or haircut. I suggest you go clean the metal box on wheels outside again. Daddy human has done that a few times now even though it hasn't moved in weeks.
4. As you are here constantly at the moment, it is your duty to let me out as often as I require. That means that even if I have just come in and want to go out again you should let me. Sometimes I miss a spot whilst sniffing about and I need to recheck.
5. When I am asleep, leave me sleeping, this isn't a cue for the little humans to play with me. I can also sleep where I like, I don't expect to be woken so you can move me.
6. Do not shhhh me when I am barking. As you are here more, my job of protecting you has increased. I have to listen out for every little noise and inform you of it in case it's a threat.
7. Don't leave a room without me, I know how sneaky you guys can be. Just the other day I am sure I heard a crisp packet being opened upstairs and no one called me to share. So from now on I will be following you about.
8. This is a very important rule. If it lands on the floor it's MINE, if it's in my mouth it's MINE.
9. You will never pee alone again, you watch me pee so I do not understand why you shut me out and close the door when you pee.
10. If you do not follow these rules I will use SAD PUPPY DOG EYES TO GET WHAT I WANT !



Celebrating Dexter!

by Stefanie Meinhardt

My Manchester Terrier, Dexter, just celebrated his 14th birthday on 4/19/20. He sure turned out to be the perfect little guy that I had hoped he would. I met him at the International Dog Show in Antioch in Sept 2006, when he was 5.5 mos old, and I was sort of on the lookout for another little dog as my Italian Greyhound was getting older. I also wanted another smaller companion to my Vizslas. He was brought to the show by his foster mom, and his breeder was there too. He had been returned because his family had a 2-year-old kid, and raising a spunky little terrier was a bit much. Also, his original name was Niño, so he had no idea that the word "No" meant anything other than his name! We had to do quite a bit of training for him to learn the rules, and the new meaning of "No." I figured Dexter was about as different from Niño as you could get.



I wanted to have another small dog to run agility, and Dexter did not disappoint—we went on to become the third agility team to earn their MACH (master agility champion) in the town of Napa. He is officially known as MACH Toria's Dextrouse Laddie TD MXB MJS NF T2B TKN—this alphabet soup includes his master agility bronze, master jumpers silver, novice FAST, and time 2 beat agility titles, as well as trick dog novice and tracking dog. The latter will likely be his last title; he earned it in 2019, just before he turned 13. We have learned a lot from each other over the years, and it hasn't always been easy. If you want to become a better dog trainer, definitely get a terrier ;-)

Happy #14 little Dexter dawg!



PHOTO CONTEST!

With warmer weather arriving, it feels like summer so why not have a photo contest and title it:

"Summertime and Your Dog?"

Prizes will be awarded for the following categories:

- Happiest Dog
- Dog Having the Most Fun
- Most Unusual Dog Activity
- Most Creative Photo.

Email a photo of your dog or dogs involved in some kind of summer-time activity along with your name, email, and phone number to: myphoto@nvdtc.org

Winners will be announced at our next general meeting. You can check our website (nvdtc.org) for the date of our next general meeting (which of course will depend on when restrictions have been lifted).

Please note that by submitting a photo to Napa Valley Dog Training Club's "Summertime and Your Dog" photo contest, you are agreeing to allow your dog or dog's submitted photo to be used in promotions by Napa Valley Dog Training Club.

Deadline to submit is Sunday, May 31, 2020.



Image by sevenpixx from Pixabay



Emergency Pet Care Authorization Form

If you are living alone with pets please consider filling out an Emergency Pet Care Authorization Form. COVID-19 has resulted in expedited and unexpected emergency hospitalization for some individuals.

This has resulted in animals being abandoned at home unbeknownst to first responders. In some circumstances, a warrant may be needed to re-enter a home to search for an animal.

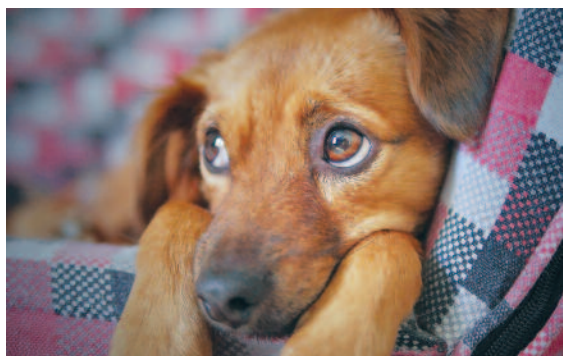


Image by Moshe Harosh from Pixabay

Having this form filled out helps EMS, Law Enforcement and Humane Societies get care for these animals.

Having an Emergency Contact listed, such as a local friend or family member, who already has a relationship with your pet can prevent your pet from having to stay at the animal shelter.

You can download emergency pet care authorization forms from

nvdttc.org/pdfs/PetCareForm.pdf



Image by Amit Karkare from Pixabay

AKC Rally Novice Virtual Pilot Program

During this time of necessary social distancing, AKC wants to give their beginner AKC Rally® exhibitors a reason to continue training their dogs and to stay engaged with the sport of Rally. The AKC Rally Novice Virtual pilot program will provide these exhibitors an opportunity to stay-at-home and enter an AKC Rally® event.

The pilot program is designed to have a Rally Novice competitor set up a pre-designed AKC Rally® course in the safety of their own yard, record the performance and submit it to AKC. In turn, AKC will assign a pre-selected AKC Rally Judge to virtually review and score the team's Rally performance.

AKC will have five pre-designed official rally courses published on the AKC website for the exhibitor to choose from. The exhibitor will follow the setup instructions provided, video the performance, upload the video to YouTube, set the required YouTube viewing options, and submit the video link with the entry form and fee to AKC.

Once the required information is received, and the dog's records are verified for class eligibility, the video link will be assigned to a judge for review. The judge will score the team's performance and will provide a report to AKC. All qualifying scores will be recorded on the dog's AKC record and applied toward the Rally Novice title requirements. AKC will notify exhibitors of the results of their submission.

This pilot program will end at midnight December 31, 2020 and all video submissions must be received by that date and time. We are excited to offer this virtual option to our Rally Novice exhibitors!

If you have questions after reviewing the information, please write to Rally@akc.org.

Sincerely,
AKC Companion Events Team

Pilot ends at Midnight, December 31, 2020

NOTE: You can download AKC's PDFs of courses, virtual instructions and fillable entry form from the NVDTTC website at the following link: nvdttc.org/novice-pilot



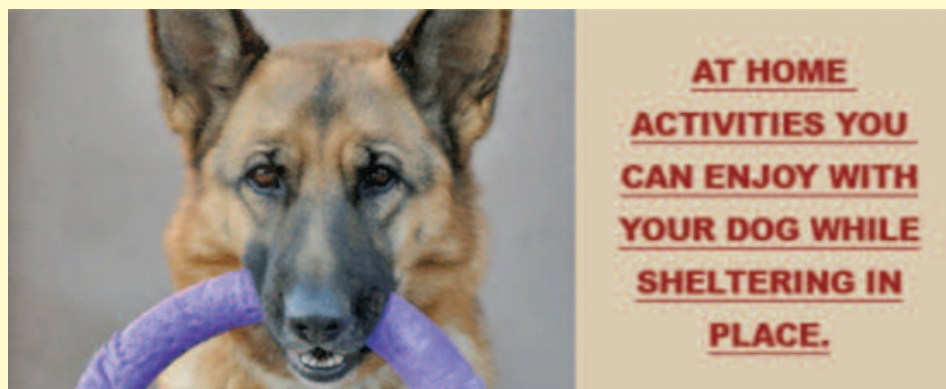


Check out our recently launched “DOG FUN” WEBSITE PAGE!

Our trainers are putting together fun stuff for you to do with your dog or dogs while sheltering at home. Look for the graphic shown below on our website's home page to link you to our dog fun page! You will find activities as well as tips and other good dog related information here.

Or you can click on the image below to go directly to the page or type in nvdtc.org/dogfun/.

Keep checking back as new stuff is always being added!



It's a Dog's Life

E	I	T	T	I	U	S	G	A	W	L	I	A	T
L	C	O	L	L	A	R	W	T	L	I	C	K	S
S	R	E	T	H	G	U	A	L	V	R	E	A	A
V	C	L	A	S	S	W	L	N	I	A	R	T	R
G	F	E	N	A	L	C	L	L	U	G	G	S	C
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V	R	L	D	E	A	P	A	O	G	R	D	T	P
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I	F	E	G	I	E	O	E	R	C	A	L	L	W
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CHASE
CHEW
NVDTTC
LOVES
FUN
FOREVER
RCALL
LICKS
VET
LAUGHTER
DOG
FUR
WALK
TRAIN
COLLAR
TAIL WAGS
LEASH
TREATS
CLASS
CLEANUP

Word puzzle created by Donna Golemon

What have you been doing during the coronavirus pandemic?

Here is what one of our trainers had to say when asked the question:

Hi, I'm Sandy, one of the trainers at the dog club. My 4 mini schnauzers (Taz, Bliss, Suzie and Ink) and I have had a lot of down time, naps, playing in the back yard, snacking and practicing what we learned in class.

I decided to do some painting during this time and so far my living room, the hallway, the kitchen and the dining room are all done. I am now working on the 2 bathrooms. Have the 3 bedrooms to go!

I haven't tried any new recipes yet but I found a few that are simple and look tasty, so we'll see if I get around to fixing one of them.

Hope all of you are Healthy and Happy!

Stay Safe!

Sandy Bonifield



Share your stories by emailing to mystory@nvdtc.org

Best submitted story will receive a special prize at our next general meeting (watch our website for date and time). Must be present to win.



BRAGS



Brigette Gheno:
January 2020

Charlotte 1st place obedience 197.5 out of 200.

Maggie 2nd place rally, First day: 100 out of 100, beat by a faster dog. Second day: perfect score again, but 1st place.



Carol Coawette:
February 2020
AKC Scent Work Trial

Pierre qualified in:
Buried- 1st place
Containers-1st place
Exterior-3rd place
Interior-2nd place

Jacques qualified in:
Handler Scent -Novice 5th place
Advanced Containers -4th place
Exterior-3rd Place
Interior-3rd place

GOT BRAG?

Although dog shows are currently on hold, you can still brag about any new behaviors or tricks you have taught your dog during social distancing. Tell us, along with photos and/or video (if you have either or both), by emailing to mysmartdog@nvdttc.org to be posted on NVDTTC's facebook page!

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LEO Continued from page 2

actively participate in, and train for, many sports like water work and drafting, some things I couldn't wait to explore. They openly accepted us into their club and once again, our friend and mentor community expanded.

I have learned, because of Mina (the Leo), that dogs love to learn (training time is time with us) and I very much enjoy learning how to teach them new things. I have learned we CAN include them in most things we do. They can go places with us, they can learn to be patient, they can learn to sit still or fetch things. We have learned how important recalls are. For instance when practicing water work, I suddenly become non-existent. Mina, instead of coming back to me, much prefers to chase the geese while swimming in the water, where I am not. This means, with a *groan,* I have to dive in and swim my hardest after her, to persuade her to come back...yeah, recalls with distractions are pretty important!

All of this starts with the basics from the first moment you get your puppy or newly adopted full grown pooch. Anytime is a good time to start with the basics! Or even to review the basics (I go back to basics all the time!)

I think if I had to sum up the most important thing I have learned from and with my furkids, is the knowledge of how much they love to be included with us and how much they love to learn! If you make it fun, it's fun (and funny) for both of you. I try to remember to think of HOW they can be included in what we do.

So, Mina, can bring me my tennis shoes when we go for our walks and she LOOOOOOOOOVVVES doing that, because she thinks the walk will happen faster ("take it" and "carry" are also commands we use for water work).

My Lab (Changa) has learned that if he brings me BOTH of my slippers (not one tennis shoe and one slipper) after I get out of the shower, he gets his favorite thing ever = food! You can almost see his brain fall out of his body when there might be a treat involved! (Fetching and retrieving are so

natural for him, those things can also be used for fun stuff! (Not bringing me my 10# kettle bell, though, is best for everyone's toes!)

Our German Shorthaired Pointer (Chance) is a big-hearted comedian, who just wants to be with us. So we try to take him out and about whenever possible! (Not near enough, if you ask him, and we are also working on a few tricks, too!) I believe scent work or tracking may also be in his future.



I believe a sense of humor is key, things don't usually go as you had planned! Roll with it! Laugh at yourselves! Try again.

And last but not least, a trait which does not come naturally to me is patience. I am working on this and with their help, I'm sure someday I will master it! After all, they give me much to practice being patient about i.e., the swimming pool sized mudhole in my new lawn!

In the end, the more I train with them, as imperfect as we are, the deeper our bond gets. I knew I loved them, I didn't know just how strong that bond could be.

Until next time, be brave and love!

Your input is needed regarding the future of AOCNC's Winter Workshop!

I need suggestions from all members of all clubs in AOCNC on where and how to move forward with the Winter Workshop.

The increased rental cost of the Cow Palace where our Winter Workshop has been held for years and the declining attendance make the use of the Cow Palace unsustainable. If the Cow Palace cannot accommodate AOCNC any longer, would you have any other suggested indoor locations with at least 21,000 square feet and a reasonable price between \$1,000 - \$1,500. At our recent AOCNC budget board meeting, several possible locations were discussed such as a

covered horse arena, an airport hanger, warehouse, or a fairgrounds building. Also, how far would it be suitable for exhibitors to drive? Is Pleasanton or Sacramento too far to travel?

If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Any suggestions you have will help the AOCNC Board decide the future of the Winter Workshop.

Gratefully, Karen Jackson
AOCNC Winter Workshop Chairperson
ctsesdmtbjbapj@hotmail.com / (707) 644-8530

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Misplaced, Lost, or Missed eMails from NVDTC?

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

Missed that announcement about classes, an
upcoming presentation or workshop?

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



Submission deadline for the
JULY/AUGUST 2020 newsletter
is June 20, 2020.

Send to: sueann@napadogtraining.org

Visit NVDTC on the web for
the latest news & photos:
www.napadogtraining.org



*Due to the COVID-19
Pandemic, the May 11, 2020
general meeting is cancelled.*

*Watch our website for date and
time for our next meeting.*

Our day will come.

