

NOVEMBER 2009

TATTLE TAILS



club newsletter

www.NapaDogTraining.org

DOGS GONE WILD!

November 9th

At November's General Meeting, you all are invited to bring your favorite pooch and participate in a program we call "Dogs Gone Wild!"

This consists of a series of competitive timed events in which your dog will compete against other dogs mainly for bragging rights; however, we will also have some neat prizes and ribbons. The events are a **Rally Uh**

Oh! Course in which you will proceed stopping at each sign and doing the exercises written there. Next is **Agility Facility** which tests your dog's nerve and grace. Next is a **Recall through the Perilous Path of Precarious Pitfalls**. All of these events are timed.

The **Great American Weenie Race** will be run in two stakes (divided by height): **Weighty Wieners** and **Wee Wieners**. No, dogs do not have to fetch wieners and keep them in one piece (although that is an interesting idea for a future contest). They will have to cross a line, run to a small pool of shallow water in which there are a fixed number of floating

(or sunken) wiener slices. Your dog will gobble them up as fast as possible then you call him/her over the line to stop the clock. Think you can do it?

Finally there is **Hoedown Throwdown Dancing** which consists of you and your dog tripping the light fantastic. All of this is to be followed by a **Special Event**.

Be There!

BASIC RULES ARE:

1. One dog per handler (dog should be able to withstand close quarters with strangers and strange dogs).
2. All dogs must be kept on leash at all times unless "in competition" or crated.
3. Have fun! Other rules we will make up as we need.



Happy Thanksgiving!

Napa Valley Dog Training Club
(707) 253-8666
Clubhouse: 68 Coombs St., Bldg N
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4097, Napa CA

Officers

President: Laura Ecklin
Vice President: Joy Wood
Treasurer: Lynda Rhyno
Secretary: Sue Osborn
Past President: Linda Luchsinger

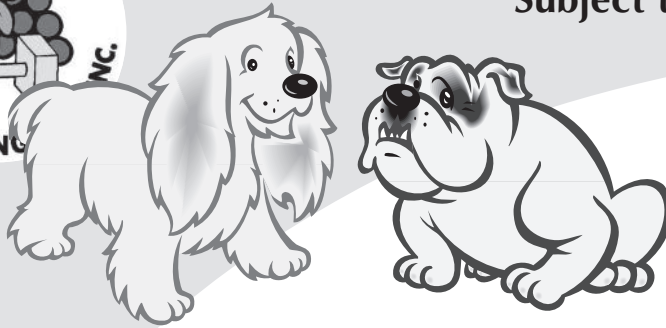
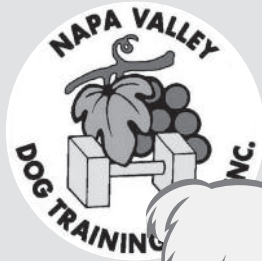
Board Members

Sandy Bonifield
Janet Davis
Marlene Soldavini
Gary Walker

Monthly membership meetings are the second Monday of the month at the clubhouse.

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.





TRAINING SESSIONS

Subject to Change

TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2010

Session 1: January 4 — February 19, 2010
 Session 2: March 1 — April 16, 2010
 Session 3: April 26 — June 11, 2010
 Session 4: June 28 — August 13, 2010
 Session 5: August 23 — October 8, 2010
 Session 6: October 18 — December 10, 2010

Session 6 ~ 2009

Oct. 5, 2009 through Nov 20, 2009

Week off between sessions 5 & 6: Sept. 28-Oct 2

Monday

6:00 p.m.	Competition Obed	Teresa
7:00 p.m.	Clicker	Kelly

Tuesday

11:00 p.m.	Puppy	Mary
5:00 p.m.	Good Manners I	Kelly/Mary*
6:00 p.m.	Puppy	Kelly/Laura*
7:00 p.m.	Good Manners I	Linda/Teresa*
8:00 p.m.	Good Manners II	Teresa

Wednesday

9:00 a.m.	Canine Good Citizen	Marlene
10:00 a.m.	Good Manners I	Marlene
11:00 a.m.	Good Manners II	Marlene
6:00 p.m.	Agility Advanced	Katherine
7:00 p.m.	Agility Jumpers III	Joy
8:00 p.m.	Agility Intermediate	LeAnn

Thursday

10:00 a.m.	Rally	Mary
11:00 a.m.	Rally	Mary
5:00 p.m.	Rally	Mary
6:00 p.m.	Rally	Mary
7:00 p.m.	Rally	Mary
8:00 p.m.	Rally	Mary

Friday

5:30 p.m.	Good Manners I	Lea
6:30 p.m.	Puppy	Lea
7:30 p.m.	Canine Good Citizen	Teresa

*Alternate

Session 1 ~ 2010

Jan. 4, 2010 through Feb. 19, 2010

Week off between sessions 1 & 2: Feb. 22-26

Monday

6:00 p.m.	Competition Obed	Teresa
7:00 p.m.	Clicker	Kelly

Tuesday

TBA	Puppy	Mary
5:00 p.m.	Good Manners I	Lea
6:00 p.m.	Puppy	Lea
7:00 p.m.	Good Manners I	TBA
8:00 p.m.	Good Manners II	TBA

Wednesday

9:00 a.m.	Canine Good Citizen	Sandy
10:00 a.m.	Good Manners I	Sandy
11:00 a.m.	Good Manners II	Sandy
6:00 p.m.	Agility Advanced	Katherine
7:00 p.m.	Agility Beginning	Joy
8:00 p.m.	Agility Intermediate	LeAnn

Thursday

10:00 a.m.	Rally Novice	Mary
11:00 a.m.	Rally Novice	Mary
5:00 p.m.	Rally Excellent	Mary
6:00 p.m.	Rally Advanced	Mary
7:00 p.m.	Rally Novice	Mary
8:00 p.m.	Rally	Mary

Friday

5:30 p.m.	Canine Good Citizen	TBA
6:30 p.m.	Good Manners 1	Kelly
7:30 p.m.	Puppy	Kelly

**Class Fees
 (7-weeks):
 Members* &
 Non-Members
 \$115**

**Senior/Jr/Rescue:
 \$100**

All sessions run
 7 weeks,
 one time per week
 at the day &
 time shown
 for 50 minutes.

Please call
 the club at

707-253-8666

to check class
 availability
 and to register.

*Members have the
 opportunity to earn
 vouchers to offset
 cost of classes.

Moscow's stray dogs adapt to changing times

MOSCOW—Like human commuters, this city's stray dogs can often be spotted traveling on the subway, waiting patiently for a train to pull in and its doors to slide open.

In Soviet times, dogs were barred from Moscow's metro. Today, however, they are so common there—curling up on empty seats, nuzzling their neighbors, lounging in stations—that there is even a Web site devoted to them: www.metrodog.ru/.

A tiny group of zoologists study Moscow's stray dogs and how they're adapting to a rapidly changing city. Among them is Alexei Vereshchagin. He set out to study wolves—"such a romantic creature," he says—but as science funding crumbled with the Soviet government, he couldn't.

So the 31-year-old Vereshchagin started studying strays instead, and loved it. "The behavior of stray dogs is like theater," he says.

As the number of cars in Moscow has exploded, and their speed increased from the days of Soviet clunkers, strays have learned to cross the street with pedestrians. They can also be seen occasionally waiting for a green light. (Dogs are color-blind, so researchers theorize they recognize the shape or position of the walking-man signal.)

Back in the lean Soviet era, restaurants and the now-ubiquitous fast-food kiosks were scarce, so dogs were less likely to beg and more likely to forage through garbage, the zoologists say. Foraging dogs prospered best in the vast industrial zones of Moscow, where they lived a semiferrous existence. Because they mainly relied on people to throw out food, and less on handouts, they kept their distance from humans.

Now, old factories are being transformed into shopping centers and

apartment blocks, so strays have become more avid and skillful beggars. They have developed innovative strategies, zoologists say, such as a come-from-behind ambush technique: A big dog pads up silently behind a man eating on the street and barks. The startled man drops his food. The dog eats it.

Key is the ability to determine which humans are most likely to be startled enough to drop their food. Strays have become master psychologists, says Andrei Poyarkov, 54, the dean of Moscow's stray-dog researchers. "The dogs know Muscovites better than Muscovites know the dogs."

Perhaps the biggest change, according to Vereshchagin, a protégé of Poyarkov, is that strays today hardly need to do anything to get food. One of their chief tactics, made possible by their increasing comfort in crowds, is simply to lie in a busy subway passage, where thousands of people pass by, and wait for someone to toss them something. The dogs get fed without even having to go to the trouble of nuzzling a leg.

Moscow today provides an environment of "unlimited resources," says Vereshchagin.

Vereshchagin strolls through a market area near a metro station, pointing out that even though there are now more strays than ever in Moscow, the dogs don't have a lean and hungry look. The leader of this area's dog pack, whose coat is dirty-white with black patches, rises from a nap, stretches lazily, and lopes off to a butcher shop. He stands outside for just a few seconds before a meaty bone is tossed at his feet. He carries it off, but just nibbles at it.

In fact, many dogs ignore discarded morsels, because the animals are so sated



they can afford to be finicky, says Vereshchagin.

Unlike the strays he studies, Vereshchagin can't be so picky. The city has provided funding only for sporadic dog censuses, the last one in 2006, which estimated the population of stray dogs at about 26,000. So Vereshchagin, who has yet to finish his thesis, makes ends meet by training people's pets and working as a part-time paramedic.

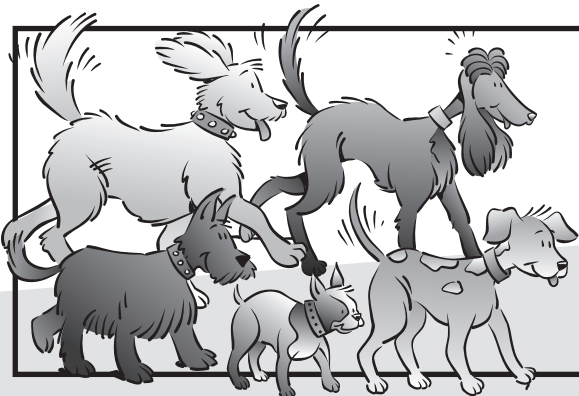
Many Muscovites appear to enjoy, or at least tolerate, the dog population. The vast majority of homeless dogs go out of their way to avoid antagonizing people, says Vereshchagin. Even pooping in the metro is rare, he says.

And many Muscovites feed the strays and build simple winter shelters for them. Older people particularly seek companionship in Russia's new capitalist economy, which can be ruthlessly dog-eat-dog.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL—May 21, 2008

Mixed Breeds Welcome!

AKC's new program for mixed-breed dogs, AKC Canine Partners, is now open for business. If you have a mixed-breed dog you'd like to enroll in this program—giving him the chance to compete in stand-alone obedience, rally, and agility events—go to akccaninepartners.org! In addition to event eligibility, owners enrolling in AKC Canine Partners will receive lifetime enrollment in the AKC CAR Lost and Found recovery service, a one-year subscription to AKC FAMILY DOG, an AKC Canine Partners decal and a frameable certificate of recognition! Go to akccaninepartners.org to sign up today!



NVDTTC General Membership October 12, 2009 Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Laura Ecklin, President, called meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
- B. Board Members present: Sandra Bonifield, Janet Davis, Laura Ecklin, Linda Luchsinger, Sue Osborn, Lynda Rhyno, Marlene Soldavini, and Gary Walker. Absent: Joy Wood.

II. MINUTES—M/S/C to accept minutes from the September 14, 2009 general meeting as published in the October newsletter.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Banner completed and put on display for all to see.
- B. Bylaws will go in effect January of 2010.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT, Lynda Rhyno

- A. Checking: \$10,739
- B. Money Market: \$8,943
- C. CD: \$11,486
- D. There are three outstanding deposits totaling \$14,388.
- E. People come to first class expecting to use charge card or debit card and end paying at second class. Recommendation is to remind people on callbacks to bring money.

V. BUILDING, Gary Walker

- A. Gary will check gap on roll-down door seal before permanently fastening down.
- B. Jim Spiva volunteered to take fan home to fix.

VI. TRAINING, Joy Wood, Marlene Soldavini

- A. NVDTTC received a request from Vallejo to teach classes in their Park/Rec Dept. Request was opened up to trainers since it is not something the club itself can do.
- B. A set of dog body language posters has been ordered to display at clubhouse.
- C. Most classes are small—Joy Wood ran an ad in the NV Register.
- D. M/S/C to approve no more than \$200 for purchase of high jump by Mary Ash.

VII. OFFICE/CASHIERS, Sandy Bonifield

- A. Need to start lining people up for January.
- B. Since Kelly has a class starting Oct 19 later sign-ups can be directed to her class. A script for office help needs to be written about Kelly's 6-week clicker classes.

VIII. NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE, Sue Osborn

Newsletter sent out late due to copy machine breakdown at printer's.

IX. SUNSHINE, Mary Joy Davis

Sunshine to Jean Macdonald, Marilane Bergfelt, Deassa Binstock, and a thank you to Mrs. Rose Riley for her donation of a crate.

X. HOSPITALITY

- A. Thank you to Laura Ecklin and Joy Wood for tonight's goodies!
- B. Vange Leonis, Teresa Russell, Lori Jackson and Karen Jackson will

provide goodies for the November 9th meeting.

- C. There is a potluck & gift exchange for the December meeting.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

A. DOGS GONE WILD FUN DAY

1. Event to be held after next general meeting on November 9.
2. Possible activities: Rally Oh, Oh, Agility Facility, Perilous Pitfalls, Hoedown Throwdown (freestyle), and Great American Wienie Race with a special event at end of planned program.
3. M/S/C for a budget of \$150 to purchase supplies, prizes, etc.

B. OFFICERS AND BOARD ELECTION

1. Slate of officers presented by Janet Davis: President: Mary Ash; Vice President: Sandy Bonifield; Secretary: Sue Osborn; Treasurer: Lori Jackson; Past President: Laura Ecklin; Board Members: Janet Davis, Mary Joy Davis, Teresa Russell and Gary Walker

2. Nominations from the floor: Lynda Rhyno for a board position—M/S/C.

C. BYLAWS

1. Board reviewed most of the bylaws. Main focus: two members in good standing are required to sponsor new members.
2. Other items include secret ballots, taking minutes diligently, holding meetings and documentation.
3. Bylaws go into effect January 1, 2010.

D. MEMBERSHIP SIGN-UP FORMS

Newly revised 2010 forms are now available in the office.

E. YEAR END BANQUET, Laura Ecklin, Joy Wood

1. Committee is looking for a casual venue.
2. Possibilities: Compadres, Golf Club, Old River City, Buckhorn, Yountville Golf Club—Other suggestions (best with a separate room) are welcome, give Laura and Joy your ideas.
3. Awards: Form in the October newsletter was shown with incorrect award completion date of December 31, 2010. Date should have been December 31, 2009. Forward your award forms to Linda Luchsinger as soon as you can!

XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. JUDIE HOWARD OBEDIENCE SEMINAR, January 23 & 24, 2010

1. Judie, a local trainer, is offering seminar for \$165 for both days; \$95 to audit the two days. Lunch is included.
2. Front and Finish ad has been sent in for this event.
3. Limit is about 40 working teams. Auditors are unlimited.

B. CALIFORNIA COLLIE FANCIER WORKSHOP

1. January 16, 2010
2. Fee not known yet; depends on if it will be for just club members or open to the public.
 - a. \$200 a day if for profit, less if not.
 - b. If equipment is used there is an additional cost.
 - c. Cleaning deposit and insurance writer required.
2. Request for use of building is approved as long as there is no other event going that day—M/S/C.

C. MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB REQUEST

1. Use of building on May 1st requested by Sandy Bonifield



2. M/S/C for Schnauzer club to use building for \$100 charge.
 3. Schnauzer Club has insurance writer.
- D. HALLOWEEN AIDS WALK, October 31, 2009
1. Begins at 10 a.m. at Lincoln Theater in Yountville, includes refreshments and treats.
 2. Proceeds to promote Queen of the Valley Medical Center's CARE Network.
 3. Mary Ash will chair committee to organize a group to participate in walk. Those interested were requested to stay after tonight's meeting to decide on level of participation; costuming, etc.
- E. REQUEST FROM BAD RAP (Bay Area Doglovers Responsible About Pit bulls)
1. Deassa Binstock requested possible use of clubhouse for follow up classes by rescue group.
 2. Further details to be worked out with BAD RAP organization regarding building use charges and utilities.

XIII. BRAGS:

Teresa Russell, Christy Rose, Linda Wargo, Karen Jackson, and Frances Harvey.

IXV. MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:25 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Sue Osborn, Secretary

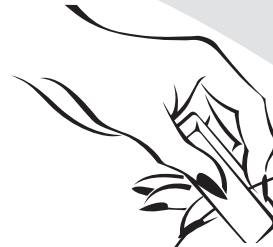


Scheduling of Meetings

Board meetings are scheduled monthly or bi-monthly depending on club activities. Board meetings are open to all interested members. Call 253-8666 to verify both date and location of meeting. General meetings for members and guests are at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month.

When a dog wags her tail and barks at the same time, how do you know which end to believe?

~ Anonymous



CORRECTION:

Awards form in the October newsletter was shown with incorrect award completion date of December 31, 2010. Date should have been December 31, 2009.

CGC PASSES:



Teresa Russell had a great Canine Good Citizen (CGC) class in Session 5. The evaluation was held on Friday October 2, 2009 and we had a good time. There were six students that took the test and we had four passes. Way to go! I want to thank the Evaluators again for a job well done.

Marlene Soldavini, CGC Coordinator

Canine Freestyle Federation Titling Event

Saturday December 5, 2008
10:00 a.m.
and
Sunday December 6, 2008
10:00 a.m.



Napa Valley Dog Training Club.

The Gold Coast Freestyle Guild is sponsoring a
Canine Freestyle Federation back to back titling event.

Although you might not be planning on competing at this
year's event—
coming to see those who are competing can be GREAT FUN.

If you are willing to help at upcoming event or are looking
for more information contact Judy Gamet at:
judy@dogscandance.com



Election of 2010 Officers & Board Members

Election of NVDTTC officers and board members for 2010 will take place
at the November general membership meeting! Slate is shown below.

Note: Mary Joy Davis has withdrawn her nomination for board member.

President: Mary Ash

Vice President: Sandy Bonifield

Treasurer: Lori Jackson

Secretary: Sue Osborn

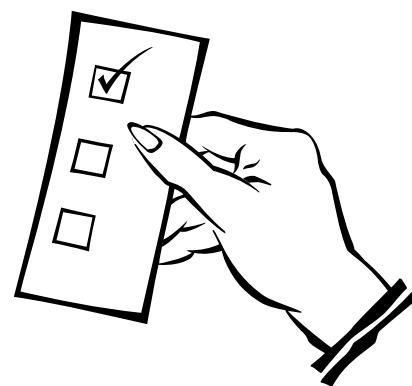
Board Member: Janet Davis

Board Member: Lynda Rhyno

Board Member: Teresa Russell

Board Member: Gary Walker

Past President: Laura Ecklin



How do you calculate dog years?

By Christopher Bearm, LATE ARTICLES MADE NEW



Was the world's oldest dog really 147 when she died?

The world's oldest dog, a dachshund named Chanel, died of natural causes recently at the reported age of 147 dog years. On the occasion of her 21st birthday (in human years), Christopher Bearm wrote the following "Explainer" column on the proper way to calculate a dog's age.

The oldest dog in the world, a dachshund from Long Island named Chanel, turned 21. Some news reports listed her age as 120 in "dog years." Others said she was 147. Which is it?

Chanel is about 113 dog years old. A "dog year" is a measurement that puts the age of a dog in the context of a human lifespan—in other words, if Chanel were a person, how old would she be? Most people think of one "human year" as equivalent to seven "dog years." But that's a bad predictor of longevity. The official formula, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association, equates the first year of a medium-sized dog's life to 15 years of a human's. The dog's second year equals nine years for a human. And after that, every year feels like five for a dog. (Calculate your pet's age in dog years here.)

This formula, however, varies depending on the dog's weight. Bigger dogs tend to have shorter lives, and thus age faster in dog years, while smaller dogs live longer, and thus age slower in dog years. (This discrepancy is due in part to the fact that big dogs are more likely to have debilitating arthritis and stomach problems.) The life expectancy of a Great Dane, for example, is just eight years, so a 4-year-old Great Dane is already a whopping 35. That said, calculating dog years is far from an exact science, as evidenced by the fact that the AVMA's calculator lumps all dogs more than 90 pounds—including 200-pound St. Bernards—into one category.

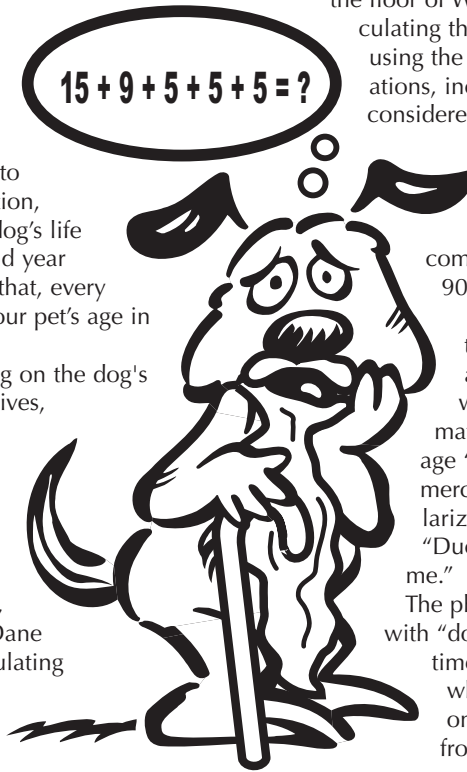
The formula has also changed over time, along with human and doggie life spans. Life expectancy for humans born in 1901 was 49 years. Now it's 77. Dogs also live longer than they used

to. In 1987, 32 percent of dogs lived past six years. Now about 44 percent do.

Researchers have long been intrigued by the ratio between human and canine life spans. In 1268, an inscription was etched into the floor of Westminster Abbey calculating the date of Judgment Day using the life spans of God's creations, including the dog's, which was considered to be nine years, and a person's, which they said was 81 years. Eighteenth-century naturalist Georges Buffon noted that dogs lived roughly 10 to 12 years, compared with the human life span of 90 to 100 years.

It wasn't until the 20th century that the phrase "dog years" started to appear. It's unclear who coined it, but it was current by the 1960s, when some math textbooks had students calculate their age "in dog years." In the 1970s, Alpo commercials featuring actor Lorne Green popularized the seven-to-one conversion: "Duchess is 13. That's like 91 to you and me."

The phrase "dog years" should not be confused with "dog days," which originated in ancient times as a reference to the period in summer when the star Sirius—or the "Dog Star"—once rose with the sun. It is also distinct from the phrase "a dog's years," which means a very long time.



Explainer thanks Bonnie Beaver of Texas A&M, Sharon Granskog of the American Veterinary Medical Association, and Lisa Peterson of the American Kennel Club.

Rule Change for AKC Events — Effective January 1, 2010

All dogs must be individually registered with either the AKC or a foreign registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration in order to participate in any AKC Conformation, Performance, or Companion event.

See the full text of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows at: <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RREGS3.pdf>.

If you have further questions please contact the Event Plans Department at eventplans@akc.org or (919) 816-3579.



*Next General Meeting at the Club:
Monday, November 9, 2009*

6:30 p.m.

*Followed by **DOGS GONE WILD!***

See front page.



It's time to renew your membership!

Don't lose your voting privilege and ability to earn vouchers. Renew by January 1, 2010.
Use the form included in this newsletter or pick one up at the club.

If you have articles, stories or events to share in the NVDC
Newsletter, please contact Sue Osborn:
NewsletterEditor@napadogtraining.org

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.

Napa Valley Dog Training Club
P.O. Box 4097
Napa, CA 94558

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Agility Trial Chair: Mary Ash

Obedience Trial Chair: Mary Ash

Tracking: Debbie Crain

AOCNC: Gerry Glantz

Training: Joy Wood

Training Assistant: Marlene Soldavini

Building: Gary Walker

Office: Sandy Bonifield

Sunshine: Mary Joy Davis

Newsletter/Website: Sue Osborn

Membership: Linda Luchsinger

Publicity: Janet Davis

CGC: Marlene Soldavini

This newsletter is also available online at napadogtraining.org