



Newsletter

Fall 2022

Philadelphia Dog Training Club

Reflections from the President

Happy end of the summer. I want to welcome all of you who are new members and welcome back all our old members, too.

For those of you who have not seen this newsletter before, it comes out on a sporadic basis, with news from myself and the Board as well as member news. I realized today that it has been seven months since the last newsletter — too long! Any help in editing future newsletters will be welcomed. It would be ideal to publish three to four times a year.

Also, the publication is only as good as the information that is supplied. In other words, next time feel free to send me any news about you and your dog(s). Everyone always enjoys a picture too. In the meanwhile, on with the show!

Annual meeting

The Annual meeting was held on April 20, 2022, via Zoom. We are in excellent financial health and were presented with the annual financial report.

The following people were elected:

- President: **Brenda Perkins**
- Vice President: Open
- Secretary: **Lisa Yoon**
- Treasurer: **Susan Anderson**

The new directors are

- **Charlie Armstrong** (2024)
- **Mary Beth Mills** and **Colleen Marsini** (2025)

They join **Dan Sundt**, **Liz Alakszay**, and **Carol Eisenlohr**.

Larry Wilson was reelected as our AKC rep. (From time to time, I will send you a report from Larry).

Annual awards

PDTC 2021 titles:

- **Liz Alakszay:** *Lily*, CD
- **Liz Alakszay:** *Pansy*, Trick Intermediate (5/3/2021)
- **Chris Allen:** *Frankie*, OTCH2, UDX7, OM6
- **Chris Allen:** *Bingo*, CDX, UD
- **Anne Blythe:** *Ellie*, RN (3/13/2021)
- **Anne Blythe:** *Maddie*, RI
- **Reg Speir:** *Wilson*, CDX, UD, VER, OM1

Kay Reeve Award:

Named for a founding member whose Breed Champions all earned UDTs, to a handler earning a CD for the first time with the three highest scores.

- **Liz Alakszay** and *Lily*

Hi Point Award:

For dog and handler earning the 3 highest scores (this is any three scores from multiple levels) at any level or levels of competition in regular (Novice, Open or Utility) classes in 2021

- **Reg Speir** and *Wilson* with an average score of 199.

Spring trial 2022

Our spring trial was held back indoors on May 14, 2022. On all accounts it was very successful. We had three judges, 107 dogs entered, and a total of 154 entries. Thank you to all who volunteered, particularly:

- **Chris Allen**, who served as both trial secretary and trial chair
- Chief Steward **Mary Beth Mills**
- Hospitality Chairs **Lisa Yoon** and **Liz Alakszay**
- Trophy Chair **Brenda Perkins**

We will be needing to fill the Trial Chair position along with some others for our next trial, which is Saturday, May 13, 2023. This is really the only time we ask members to step up and volunteer. Please contact Brenda for more information.

A Blast from the past

By Tim Showalter (cat owner, dog lover)



I've had this framed diploma in my classroom for about 15 years now. I teach high school English and creative writing in Baltimore County, Maryland. One of my students asked about it and we got to talking.

I bought it at a flea market a long time ago. I love that it's hand painted. Some of my colleagues hang their diplomas for clout and I always thought it seemed silly. When I saw this on a table, I knew it was going to be my clout. Don't get me wrong — I don't see my career as a dog trainer.

The club was founded in 1938 and is the second oldest obedience club in the country.

The date is November 20, 1968. The training director is Russell H. Klipple. The president is (Amos or Mrs. — I can't tell) Oliver James Hart Jr.

I've had this on the wall behind my desk for many years and have enjoyed. My students have gotten a kick out of it as well.

News from our Members

Liz Alakszay: *Lily* has been on break from Obedience and practicing skills by participating in Rally. (Mostly because dog Mom is preoccupied with work, life, and house renovations. Had a free weekend so *Lily* went to a rally trial in Wilmington in May — Got a perfect 100 score first place finish in the Novice B class with 10 other dogs entered. Another free weekend in June and we went off to the Berks Trial on a *really hot* day. Another large number of entries in Novice B class. *Lily* got another perfect score first place finish with the fastest time.

Pansy completed her Beginner Novice title after her AKC show debut at our trial with a 194 score and 4th place. She completed her title at Wilmington's two-day show in June with a 194 and 195 third place finishes. Not bad against a bunch of more seasoned handlers and high drive labs and GSDs in the Novice B class where people were whispering "Hey, there is an ENGLISH SETTER!" Yes, that would be correct — she is an English Setter that likes to sleep in late and get power naps in her crate at the show and carry her Pink Flamingo.

I entered both dogs in a Cynosport Rally Intro level

(similar to AKC Novice). First run: *Lily* took first with a perfect score and *Pansy* took fourth (this was *Pansy's* first time ever in a ring). Second time: *Pansy* took first with a 210 (perfect score is 200 and they have a 10-point bonus exercise) plus the judge awarded her the Spirt Dog award for best teamwork. *Lily* got a 209 for second. Perhaps it was crazy handling the logistics of entering two dogs in the same class, but fun to work on shifting strategy with very little prep in between. At least I had the right leash and collar on the right dog! So the dilemma: should we do this a third time for a Cynosport title?

We also had a fun, long, and wet weekend at the VFKC rally trial! *Pansy* did her first rally trial on Saturday. She took first place in Novice B with a 99 in a class of six dogs. On Sunday, she got another 99, but this time that was a second place. I'm super proud of her.

Lily was entered Sunday to get her last leg for Novice. She got a perfect score and her title. Very proud of her too! Three perfect scores in all of her legs!



Lily and Pansy

Laurie Leevy: We had our first Tail Waggin' Tutors program with *Lahdee*! It was such a fun and positive experience for the kids.



Lahdee

Anne Blythe: *Elly* finally completed her Beginner Novice title in June at Wilmington Kennel Club. It was some tough going over the last 2 COVID years, but she did it. *Bernie* has two legs of her Rally Novice title. I'm very proud of both girls.

Carly Bates: *Joe* finished his Rally Intermediate title with a great score of 98, and he made the first cut in Best of Breed! At the Twin Brooks Kennel Club shows, he was Select in Best of Breed both days. These wins gave him points toward his Grand Championship.



Joe at the CWCCA National Specialty
Photo credit: Phyllis Ensley

Priscilla Iacocca: On May 25, my first (older) puppy, *Loki* arrived and in July my second puppy came. Housebreaking has been a real challenge but they are well worth it.



Priscilla's new puppies

Frank Nelson: *Asgard's Penny* earned her CD on May 10 and May 11 at the Colonial Rottweiler Club specialty. She took three 2nd placements with the following scores: 195.5, 197 and 197.5.



Asgard's Penny

Darrell Swank: *Zerk* won the Graduate Open class at our PDTC annual trial this past May. It was his first leg with a score of 194. He finished his title at the LCCDTC trial on June 5.

Here is a picture of some of our pack vacationing in Maine. Lucky for us, they need us to drive them there or we would be stuck at home. They all train at PDTC except *Soleil*, she is nearly 15 years old, retired, living the good life.



From left to right: *Zerk's* uncle *Carlos*, *Zerk*, his grandmother *Soleil*, and his little brother of another mother *Tip*.

Reg Speir: *Wilson* has had some wonderful results since our last newsletter:

- first in Open B with a 199 at York
- third in Utility B and earned his UDX at Lower Camden
- third in Utility B at the Baltimore KC Trial
- second in Open B (198.5) at Lower Camden CDTC
- third in both Utility B & Open B (198 in each) at the PDTC Trial and earned High Combined for non-OTCH dogs
- second in Utility B (198) and third in Open B and won High Combined at the Bryn Mawr KC Trial
- first in Utility B at the Princeton DTC Trial



Reg Speir and Wilson

In memoriam



Bear

On May 11, 2022, we lost my heart dog, Bear to hemangiosarcoma. It was very sudden and a total shock. He was 9.5 years old and in apparently perfect health two weeks before at his annual checkup.

— Priscilla Iacocca



Pfeffer-Schloss Excalibur Von Pepper (Harry) RN 3/5/15 - 2/7/22

Loved by Frank. The dog that saw me through so much and was always there for me.

— Frank Nelson