



# Newsletter

July 2026

## Philadelphia Dog Training Club

### A Word from the President

Summer is upon us and it has been so hot that I personally have been a little lax in the dog training department. This is a picture of Darby taken in the Poconos hopefully thinking obedient thoughts!

We held our Obedience trial in May and as always, it was a wonderful event. Thanks to everyone who volunteered, especially Liz Alakszay trial chair, Sue Anderson trial secretary and Liz Rogan chief steward.

We will hold our 2 Rally trials at Dog Training of Chester County in Exton on October 31, 2026. There will be opportunities for volunteering-look for those emails in the fall.

Big news: Our spring Obedience trial will have a new location: Suburban Dog Training Club in Huntington Valley on May 15th , 2027. Our judges will be Larry Wilson and



Joe Caputa. Details to come in the spring.

If you get a chance, please thank our instructors and assistants for their work-we are very lucky to have such an accomplished set of individuals to help us train! -Brenda

# Welcome New Members

Hi! We're Brent and Eva Frissora, the proud owners of Mochi and Ninja. Mochi is a 4-year-old fluffy white Samoyed with a naturally pink tail (just kidding!). Ninja is an 8-month-old black long-haired German Shepherd who is definitely in his rowdy, mischievous phase. Since we brought Ninja home in February, he's grown from a tiny puppy into a 60+ pound boy who's now bigger than Mochi. The transformation has been incredible! We live in Haverford, Pennsylvania, and love taking advantage of the beautiful trails at Haverford College and letting the dogs run at Haverford Reserve's dog park. We're excited to be part of the Philadelphia Dog Training Club community and look forward to learning, training, and having fun with our pups!



## News from our Members

### Anne Blythe

Maddie celebrated her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday by earning her Graduate Novice title and trying for a 3<sup>rd</sup> leg of Rally Masters. Go Maddie. I'm so proud.



# News from our Members

## Frank Nelson

Windhaven's Uptown Funk Bruno Mars, earned his CD at the Colonial Rottweiler Specialty.

May 5, first place Novice B and High in Trial

May 6, first place Novice B and High in Trial

May 7, second place Novice B

He also passed his therapy dog test.

Bruno came to me a little over a year ago as a rehomed dog.



## Vader's Summer Update

Vader has been keeping busy this summer and is always excited for dog class each week. He loves seeing all his dog friends and working on his obedience skills. We've been continuing to train in Advanced, Open, and Utility, and it's been fun watching him make progress while enjoying time with everyone at the club.

This weekend, Vader is especially looking forward to Beach & Brunch with his friends—he never turns down a chance to spend time with other dogs (or maybe sneak a few treats!). We hope everyone is having a great summer, and we'll see you all in class each week! — Brittany & Vader



# News from our Members

## Liz Alakszay

It was a rather memorable Memorial Day Weekend! I don't recall it ever being that cold and rainy for the ENTIRE weekend. Bad hair days for the dogs BUT the dogs and I did 2 CDSP Obedience trials in Harrisburg. They earned their Companion Dog Excellent Titles with our first try at this level and me juggling the handling of 2 dogs in the same trial!! They really like CDSP's relaxed and smaller format for trials. There were quite a variety of people and dogs from all over (Like VA MD NY). Lily took first place in all her runs (191, 197, 198/200). Great performance from a senior dog and the judge was just thrilled to see her do so well.



## News from our Members

### Liz Alakszay

Pansy took 2nd in all her runs( 190, 195, 197/200). She did give me a few moments of concern on the last leg when she had to jump over the high jump to retrieve the dumbbell that I threw. (you know how good I throw stuff,) so dumbbell wasn't exactly straight ahead but off to one side. The idea is that the dog jumps over and comes back over carrying it. Now Pansy being a smart dog, knows that the fastest way to get to me is a straight line and this location would mean more work on her part. So off she went and stopped looked at the dumbbell, gave me a look like 'you are making me do extra stuff' and paused for what felt like hours... Then she did a quick turn, grabbed the dumbbell and came straight over the jump and sat straight in front of me. She had a mischievous glint in her eyes ... I could see the judge grinning too.



### Carley Bates

On May 10<sup>th</sup> Joe, Kae and I went down to Kingsport TN for the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America's National Specialty. This was Kae's first dog show, so she was somewhat overwhelmed. As a result, Kae didn't do well in her Sweepstakes Class two days after we arrived. However, she shined in the nine to 12 puppy bitch class winning 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 6 entries!



## Carley Bates

With over 225 Cardigans in attendance and many girls in various stages of being in season, Joe's mind was elsewhere in his Open B Class. The CWCA has a special competition called the Megan. This is in honor of the first American Cardigan Champion. There are three breeder judges, each goes over the dogs, they collaborate and choose the winner and runner up in each color group. The winners go back in the ring for Best in the Megan. Joe was runner up in the blue merle boys over 4 other dogs! This was a huge win, because Joe is larger than the AKC standard, he is structurally well put together, balanced and has incredible movement. These three breeder judges saw Joe's great qualities and didn't fault him for his size. That's why this is such a huge win, because too many judges see his size and don't look any further. We came home after eight days, well satisfied with our successes.



## Liz Rogan



Happy Summer '26 everyone! Hopefully you've all found cool and safe places to enjoy these climate change heatwaves and downpours. In between the challenging weather conditions Xena (& me, too) have been working on qualifying for an Open title. Consistency has not been one of our strong suits, but we've gotten one of the 3 required legs. Now I completely understand why it can take a while to move up the Obedience Trial ladder! We've also started working on Utility level skills, which are so different (and more fun!) from Novice and Open tasks. Finding the right article out of a pile of like articles is almost magical. Dogs' noses are remarkable! Hopefully by later this fall we'll be able to report that we've successfully achieved our Open title, so... stay tuned!

### **Debbie DeSantis**

Sheltie Kevin passed his Advanced Canine Good Citizen test (CGCA) at our club. He's very sweet and playful and loves to learn. He's now taking Advanced and Novice classes.



### **Debbie DeSantis**

My golden retriever Riley is now at the Rainbow Bridge. He was a rescue who had been in four placements before I got him. He was in a home in WVA, then a shelter there, then a rescue group in PA, then was adopted out and returned to that group before I adopted him in July 2014 at about six months old. He had some issues such as resource guarding but just needed some direction and enough mental and physical exercise. He was such a handful, some called him "the Wild Child." The rescue made his birthday on January 1, 2014.

Riley had many health problems in the first few years such as seizures, a lump in his throat, and many other things. However, with great vet care, including many specialists, he was healthy for years but really slowed down during the last year or so.

Throughout his life, Riley always wanted to play ball until the last year. Of course, he never met a person he didn't love. Everyone was his friend. He loved playing with sheltie Gracie and shih tzu Gina, with whom he was very gentle.

From a dog who was thrown away, he showed that he was very special. He looked forward to going to training class and to pet stores. He loved learning.

In addition to becoming the perfect canine companion, Riley achieved many obedience titles: CGC, CGCA, TKN, TKI, TKA, RN, BN, CD, P-CDX. He knew exercises through Utility, but when the COVID pandemic came, I no longer showed him. However, he still loved practicing, and training formed part of our bond. We were a team in life. He had many placements—usually first (with scores in the upper 190s out of 200)—even in large shows such as Oaks. He was invited to the AKC Invitational in Novice, but we didn't go.

## News from our Members



On January 28, 2026, he had an episode where he experienced extreme difficulty walking. Again, with great vet care including specialists, he recovered and walked again and had a great quality of life. He still walked around the yard, solicited affection and treats, and was still the happy dog we had come to know.

However, during the morning of May 22, 2026, he could no longer walk. We knew that this day would come. I could see that this was the end. We had some time with him, then his life ended at home with dignity and a vet. Although I knew this day would come, I am still extremely sad. Even with the other dogs, the house feels empty. Gina seems to be searching for him. Although such losses are hard to take, I don't regret adopting the "Wild Child." He enriched our lives for many years. I hope that he enjoyed his life as much as I enjoyed being with him.

### **Darrell E Swank**

Zerk was High Combined and High Triple Q at the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America Regional Specialty in Hampton VA May 16<sup>th</sup>. Here he is swimming with Eleanor, just two short weeks later, only days before his mean old humans sold the pool, and the house that went with it.



# CLASSIFIEDS

Opening date for entries is September 14th

Event #: 2026037702 and Event #: 2026037703

Entries are limited to 60 dogs per Trial

ENTRIES OPEN: MONDAY, September 14, 2026, 8:00 A.M.

ENTRIES CLOSE: WEDNESDAY, October 14, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

after which time entries cannot be accepted, cancelled, or substituted except as provided for in Chapter 11, Section 6 of the Dog Show Rules.

## PREMIUM LIST Saturday, October 31, 2026 Two Rally Trials

**PHILADELPHIA DOG TRAINING CLUB, INC.**

(Indoors)



(Member of the American Kennel Club)

**Dog Training Club of Chester County (DTCCC)**

880 Springdale Dr.  
Exton, PA 19341-2849

DOORS OPEN: 7:00 A.M.

SHOW HOURS: 8:30 A.M. UNTIL ½ hour after trial ends.

Entries are open to All-American dogs listed in the AKC Canine Partners program.

Free Parking – No Admission Fee

No Overnight Parking

Entry fees:

\$40 for the first entry of each dog

\$35 for each additional entry of the same dog

Fees include all AKC event service and recording fees

**REFUND POLICY:** Full refunds prior to closing.

After closing, refunds (when permitted) will be issued less a \$5 administrative fee per entry

Enter online with no surcharge at <https://showentries.info/>

Junior Handler Entry Fee \$5. Enroll at <https://www.akc.org/cdnmedia/USDA/USDA.pdf>



# PHILADELPHIA DOG TRAINING CLUB

LEADER IN SUCCESSFUL DOG TRAINING SINCE 1938

## K-9 CONFLICT SOLUTION *Class*

A GROUP CLASS FOR REACTIVE DOGS

Learn proven, positive techniques to help your dog feel calm and confident in challenging situations.



MANAGE  
REACTIVITY



BUILD FOCUS  
& CONFIDENCE



PROVEN,  
POSITIVE  
TECHNIQUES



BETTER WALKS.  
BETTER LIFE.  
STRONGER BOND.

  
**ALL BREEDS  
& AGES**  
*Welcome!*



### 6 WEEK CLASS

Small group setting with personalized guidance



### BEGINNER TO ADVANCED

We'll meet you where you are!



Training in a safe, supportive environment.

*Class taught by* **Loretta Rocco, CPDT & Dawn Collette**



**REGISTER TODAY!**

*Spaces are limited.*

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[philadelphiadogtraining.org](http://philadelphiadogtraining.org)



ALL BREEDS & AGES WELCOME



BEGINNER TO ADVANCED

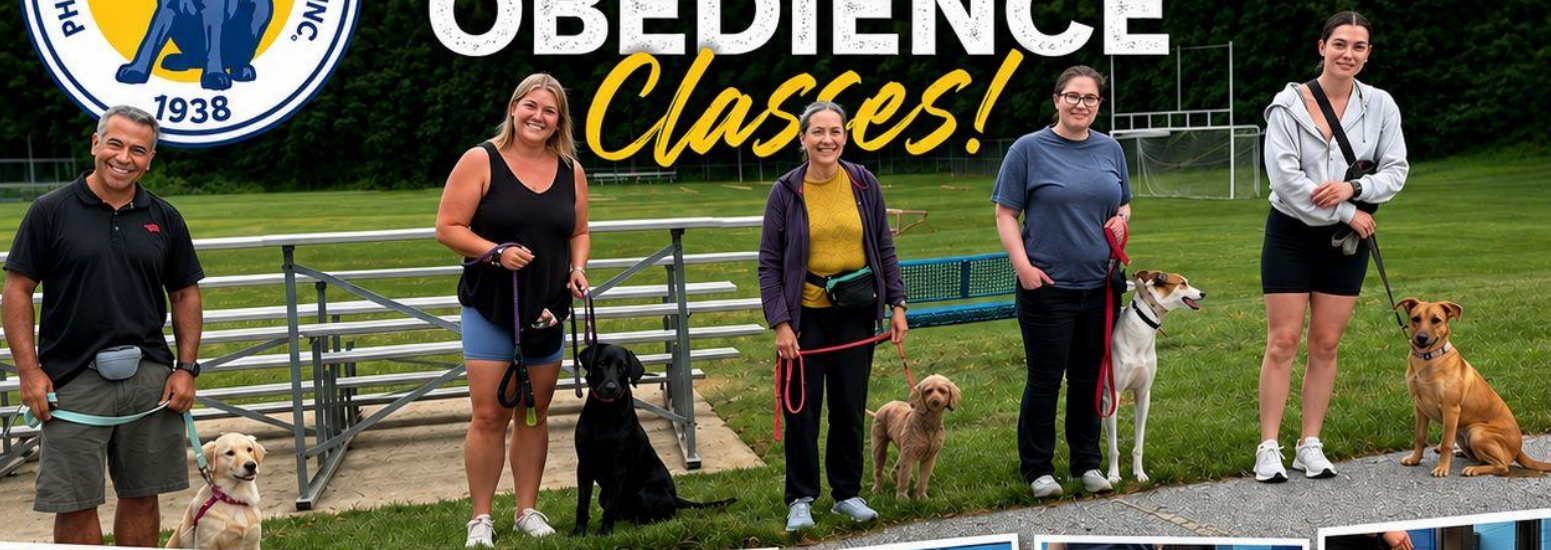


# CLASSIFIEDS



# Beginner OBEDIENCE Classes!

TRAINING DOGS  
AND THEIR PEOPLE  
*SINCE 1938.*





## NEXT 6-WEEK SESSION

 **MONDAY • JULY 20**  
 **5:30 PM**

 **TUESDAY • JULY 21**  
 **6:30 PM**

*Build a strong foundation together!*

- 🐾 Attention & focus
- 🐾 Sit, down, stay & recall
- 🐾 Loose-leash walking
- 🐾 Good manners around people & dogs
- 🐾 Confidence for both you and your dog

 **GO TO WEBSITE TO REGISTER!** 

<https://philadelphiadogtraining.org>

🐾 **ALL BREEDS. ALL AGES. ALL WELCOME.** 🐾 **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY JUST BRING YOUR DOG & WE'LL DO THE REST!**

PleasePleasePleasePleasePleasePleasePleasePlease  
Share the stories and pictures of the fun things you do with you dog(s). The deadline for the next issue is October 10<sup>th</sup> 2026. Send in your news and pictures (jpg format) to [ellsworthdogs@gmail.com](mailto:ellsworthdogs@gmail.com)  
Speaking of October. Remembering of our Rally Trial October 31<sup>st</sup>, there just might be some interesting Rally information in the October issue. Keep an eye out at your favorite news stand (or computer email in box).

