



Muncie Obedience Training Club

## CLUBHOUSE GROUNDS GET A MAKEOVER

MOTC member Karen Scantland took on the good stewardship challenge and gave the clubhouse grounds a makeover. Sometimes with help, sometimes alone, Karen trimmed up the shrubbery, planted flowers, cleaned up the potty area, cleared the fence row, and added a flag to our vacant flagpole. Before Karen started on the landscaping, member Gabrielle Fluhler fixed the twisted guttering at the front. Thank you, Karen and Gabrielle!



### Special Points of Interest:

- [\*Darby Obituary\*](#)
- [\*Member Spotlight\*](#)
- [\*Training Logs\*](#)



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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

JEANN CROWCROFT



Hi MOTC

This summer is upon us. MOTC has helped our 4H kids. The kids and their dogs were able to train in our air conditioned building this year as they have previous years. These were the first workshops in over a year because of Covid. We had a very fluid group as most of these kids were involved in additional projects. The minis trained from 5:30 to 6:00 and the older kids trained from 6:15 to 6:45. We had 7 kids who showed at the Fair.

The board has entered into an agreement with the Cross Fit Gym next door. They are renting the 10 spaces that are marked off with the cones. The rent for these spaces is \$250.00 per month. These spaces are to be accessed from their parking lot and not coming through ours. When we have our trials these spaces will be available to our exhibitors. As you have probably noticed our landscape looks great; Karen Scantland has taken on this responsibility. She has also purchased our flag.

By the time you are reading this newsletter our August Scent Trial will be in the books. These scent work trials are profitable for our club. Garnet and I have been scouting places closer to Muncie. We visited Sutton elementary school on east Memorial. It is a Ball State property that is being used as a warehouse for their excess materials. This looks like this could be a good location for a trial. We have not been able to get an answer from them. We also visited the Inspire Academy on 16<sup>th</sup> street. We were not allowed in the building as it is in session. We talked with one of the staff he said he would talk with the director but we haven't heard from them. We went to the Boy Scout camp out by the reservoir but it was locked. They have a web page but we haven't received any communication from them. Our final visit was to the old Moose Lodge on Riffin Road. This appears to be an abandoned structure again it looks like it would be an excellent site. Please keep your eyes open if you see any structure that would work for a scent work trial let us know.

We have purchased a drop box that is located in the office. Any money or checks should be deposited in there. There is a white board on the wall in the office if there is something that needs to be purchased please let me know. This will work better if you notice we are low on certain items rather than "oh no there is no toilet paper". I will check that board each week.

This year we have three more events. In October we have a Rally and Obedience Trial and a Fast Cat trial. In November we have a Rally and Obedience Trial. At all three events we must have volunteers. The chief ring stewards will be requesting your assistance. We have another position that needs to be filled. There is a need for a ribbon chairperson. This would entail checking with the trial chairpersons to determine what ribbons need to be ordered and then making the ribbons available at the trials. I promise this is my last plea for volunteer; we need a person to be responsible for recording the volunteer hours.

Yours for continuing fun with your dog(s)

Jeann

## EDITORIAL

### SOME THINGS MATTER

BK GRICE

Muncie Obedience Training Club, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit membership organization that teaches people how to be responsible dog owners and canine companion sports participants. It values good sportsmanship, good stewardship, and having fun with your dog. It makes a difference in the world. It matters.

We hold classes that teach people how to train basic obedience skills and be good dog owners to help dogs stay in good homes and protect the privilege of dog ownership. We hold classes that teach people out to train for and participate in canine companion sports to allow people to have fun with their dogs and preserve the sports for future participants. We teach and practice good sportsmanship. We teach and practice taking care of our facility, sports, dog training, and dog ownership to preserve and pass them on to those we may never see. We received them from people who came before us for 75 years, and we will pass it on because it matters.

Sometimes we take too lightly things that we do not have to work hard for, such as club membership. To be a member of Muncie Obedience Training Club is not just to have a place to train your dog, although that is often why we join; it is also to actively pass on that which we have with others. We do that by teaching or assisting with classes that teach pet owners how to train their dogs or prepare them to participate in sports. We do that by helping out at Obedience, Rally, Scent Work, and FastCAT trials. We do that by keeping the training grounds nice looking, the building clean, and the equipment in good working order. We do that by signing people up for classes, supervising open training times, and helping new members get involved. We do these things because Muncie Obedience Training Club makes a difference in the world. It matters.



## XYLITOL

Xylitol is a sweetener found in many fruits and vegetables and may be extracted from birch wood. It is sometimes called Birch Sugar, E967, Pentane, Sucre de Bouleau, Xylo-pentane, or pentol. It is used as a sugar substitute in foods, toothpaste, gum, and medicines. When ingested by dogs it can cause increased insulin release resulting in death. Symptoms of xylitol poisoning include vomiting, decreased activity, weakness, staggering, lack of coordination, collapse, and seizures. If you suspect your dog has eaten xylitol contact your vet or emergency vet immediately.

Please be sure that gum is discarded in a trash container rather than just spitting it out on the ground. Read labels before giving any food to your dog. Use only pet toothpaste for brushing your dog's teeth. Share this information with others, even non-dog owners, to prevent accidental xylitol poisoning of unsupervised pets.



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### HANNA KADINGER

We are fairly new to MOTC. We joined within the last year after falling in love with scent work with our Brittany!

I love being a member of MOTC for the quality instruction we get in the scent work class. We are grateful to have a perfect space to train in and an instructor that has helped us train our pup to her full potential! I also love seeing our scent work people in class each week to catch up and celebrate successes together!

We have a Brittany (Luna - 1 y/o) and a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever (Obie - 7 months). We love our sporting dogs and plan to add more to the family one day!

The Brittany is one of the most versatile dogs in my opinion. They can truly do it all. They are bred to be in the field but can compete in almost all venues of dog sports and activities; all while being a snuggle bug at home. What I dislike about Brittannies is also what I love. They have such a strong drive to hunt, please, and work so while this allows them to excel in many things, it requires daily enrichment and engagement. This keeps me pretty busy!

What I love about Tollers are their adventurous spirit and dedication to their family or handler. They can often be described as aloof but I love that I have a loyal dog that will always look to me for guidance, praise, and love. What I dislike about Tollers is their stubbornness. Mine tends to work and train when he decides it's time. He does everything on his own terms. This gives him a little spunk and gives me more to work on!

We are involved in a variety of sports and activities. Our Brittany, Luna, does scent work, agility, dock diving, FastCAT, coursing ability tests, and is preparing for her first hunt test! She also has several trick dog titles. Our Toller, Obie, has started in conformation and is working towards his first retriever hunt test and Toller test! He also has his Canine Good Citizen! Above all, our favorite activity is going to my grandma's farm and letting the dogs swim and retrieve in the pond and romp in the fields!

We chose these activities because each one truly makes my dogs happy. We chose sports based on their interests and drive and never looked back! Our Brittany led us to scent work, a sport we had no interest in, but is now trialing at the Master and Excellent levels at 1 year old! She showed interest in swimming and now loves to make a splash at dock diving events. We're new to agility but she's loving it so far and she always loves a good bunny chase in FastCAT and CAT! Obie has dabbled in the 4-6 month puppy class and also completed his CGC because he's a good, good boy.

We aren't a hunting family but with two gun dogs, we decided to explore the world of hunt tests. We are members of the Greater Indy Brittany Club and the Ohio River Hunting Retriever Club (Continued pg. 5)



(continued from pg. 4) and can't wait to one day trial both dogs in their respective fields! We've met some amazing people through training for hunt tests and look forward to seeing our dogs do what they were bred to do!

Besides dogs, we are a tennis family. My fiancé is the tennis director at a facility in Pendleton and taught me how to play when we met. We enjoy playing in leagues together and doing fun tournaments!

I have volunteered at the obedience trial and would love to help with upcoming scent work classes and trials! I would love to be able to bring more people to the world of scent work and get more people involved in the sport we love! I would also love to help with creating more social events for the club for members to get to know each other outside of class and training!

If I could have a super power, it would be to talk to my dogs and have a conversation. I joke that my Brittany and I are the same person and I think we would have some great conversations - haha

## BOOK REVIEW

### Meet Your Dog by Kim Brophey, CDBD, CPDT-KA

Forward by Raymond Coppinger; Total page count 256 pages.

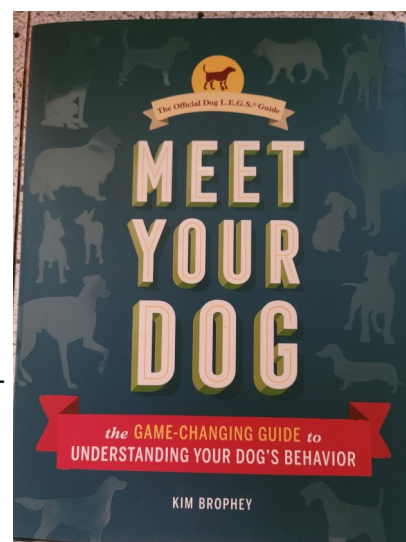
#### COURTNEY RAINES

Kim Brophey is a dog behaviorist and ethologist. She developed a system called L.E.G.S. to help dog owners understand the large range of factors that affect our dogs' behaviors.

This book is all about L.E.G.S., which stand for: Learning-your dog's experiences and education; Environment-the many aspects of your dog's external world; Genetics-the DNA that designed your dog inside and out; Self-the unique interior world of your dog: health, development, age, sex, and individuality.

It is well written and packed with useful information. The book is broken down by each branch of the L.E.G.S. categories, but the major focus is on genetics. For the genetics section, she has further broken it down to devote time to each breed group. It is fascinating, and I learned a lot from it. Each group has a listing of common reasons you might have behavior issues and what those issues might be. She has also provided a score for each breed group in: Home, Life, Public Life, and Personal Life. There is also some nice historical information provided.

I read the book in the Kindle version but enjoyed and found it so useful that I decided to buy the physical book as well. That way I could keep it as a reference and add notes as I re-read it. I recommend it to all dog lovers, dog owners, and dog geeks.



## KEEPING YOUR TRAINING ON TRACK: TRAINING LOGS

### BK GRICE

A useful tool for your training bag is a training log or training journal. It can help keep your training on track, provide data for problem solving, and objectively witness to you and your dog's progress. A good log is portable so that you can take it to different training locations. It may be a spiral notebook, a clipboard, a loose leaf binder, a day planner, or an app on your phone or tablet. At a minimum your log records when you trained, what you worked on, and how it went. Depending on your needs and tastes you may track how long your session lasted, notes for future sessions, weather conditions, distractions present, what time you trained, different things you tried, etc. You may have a separate section to track your trial performance. Your log provides you with data so that months from now you can look back and see what worked, what didn't, and whatever else you decide to track.

What do training log entries look like? Here are a few models you may want to try:

#1 Basic Log—this style is a basic log written in a notebook or note app. This one notes the date and location, what was worked on, and what the trainer thought about the session.

5/10/21 MOTC Training Building

Drop on recall—drop not fast enough, too much travel after drop cue

Scent discrimination, 4 leather articles—found article quickly, add additional articles, metal?

Heel free figure 8—still wide on outside turn

#2 Charted Log—this style uses a chart drawn in a notebook, in a spreadsheet, or preprinted and put on a clipboard. This one notes the date and location and notes that there was a thunderstorm outside. The trainer has recorded what was worked on, observations of how it went, and notes on what to try at the next training session.

5/10/21 MOTC Training Building Thunderstorm outside

Heel free, figure 8	Wide on outside turn	Circle cone a few times
Go out 15 ft.	Looks good	Increase distance
Position changes	Moves forward, drop to sit	Put barrier in front

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(Continued from pg. 6)

#3 Chart w/Percentages—this style also uses a chart. This one notes the date, day, location, and that it was thundering. The trainer has recorded what was worked on, how many good repetitions were performed, how many bad repetitions were performed, the percentage of good repetitions from total repetitions, and notes for future sessions.

5/10/21      Sunday      MOTC Training Building      Thundering outside

Worked on	Good Reps	Bad Reps	% Good	Notes
Heel free, figure 8	8	2	80	Good, just keep in practice
Drop on Recall	6	4	60	Need faster drop response
Sit stay, get your leash	10	0	100	Just occasional practice

#4 Reps & Percentages—this style uses a chart. Too and is more detailed. This one notes the date and location. The trainer has recorded what was worked on, when training began and ended for that skill, how many good repetitions out of 10 were performed, for each of 3 sets of 10, the percentage of good repetitions that occurred between the 3 sets,, and notes for future sessions.

5/10/21      Building

Start	End	Worked on	Rep	Rep	Rep	%	Notes
8:08	8:13	Come to front 30 ft, straight front	8	9	9	85	Increase distance
8:15	8:19	Figure 8 w/halt	6	7	8	70	Sit at halt angled, work to straighten
8:21	8:27	Go out 15 ft.	10	9	9	90	Good! Increase distance

A training log can help you stay on track, solve training problems, and remind you of how far you've come on those days when nothing seems to go right. It can be tailor made to suit your training style and needs. It can be old school in a notebook or on a clipboard or electronically on your phone, tablet, or laptop. No matter how you choose to create your log it can be a valuable tool for your training.





## DARBY

SEPTEMBER 12, 2010-JULY 15, 2021

MY ONCE IN A LIFETIME

RICK DALESSANDRO

Wow, how does one pay tribute to your best friend and constant companion of ten and a half years in just a few short paragraphs. I know it's not going to be easy. For those of you who don't know I lost Darby on the morning of July 15 and for those of you who are new to the Club and never had the pleasure of meeting such an amazing girl, let me fill you in.

I picked Darby up when she was 7 weeks old. It was not exactly love at first sight, in fact, she really didn't want to have much to do with me at first. After about ten days and I called her breeder because I was considering returning her. By chance the breeder was going to be in Dayton, Ohio later that day and she said I could meet her and return her in just a few hours. I asked for a couple more hours to think about it and during that time I called a trusted friend and dog trainer in my area and asked her to evaluate Darby and tell me what she thought I should do. Her advice was, I had a really good dog and that I should give her a little more time. Boy was she right. The next day everything changed and we began to bond and develop an incredible relationship. And yes, I did have a really good dog. As Susan Naffziger has often told me (and I didn't really believe her at the time) Darby was my once in a life time dog. And Darby was always easy. I think she was house broken in less than two weeks after I got her. During her whole life the extent of the damages she caused was chewing up a shoe string. After ten years she still had all the toys I had ever given her, except for the ones Callie destroyed (and that was quite a few).

Darby was with me 24/7. She was one smart little girl and picked up just about anything I tried to teach her in no time. And that is saying something since she was the first dog I ever trained and I didn't have a clue what I was doing. In spite of me, we breezed through the lower level obedience titles and with a little more effort she had her UDX at four years of age. She went on to earn a UDX2 and an OM1 and eleven OTCH points. She even won High Combined honors once.

She was also proficient in Rally and had a Rally Master Title and several High in Trials. I think over her life time she earned 25 different titles in Obedience, Rally, Barn Hunt, Fast CAT, Scent, Dock Diving and an Advanced Trick title.

She was quite the little show off and loved doing tricks, from something as simple as shaking hands or sitting up to bouncing around me backwards or rolling herself up in a blanket. However, her prize trick was to open the door at the bank or post office using the handicapped button and proceeding to either take the mail into the post office and give it to the post master or better yet, go into the bank, wait in line till a teller was available, give the teller my banking, and wait for the receipt all while I was off to the side sitting in a chair. Last but certainly not least she was a therapy dog and brought smiles to countless people in nursing homes and schools with her antics.

She was special to many others also. I recall being at TSC once, when someone new was working at the reg-





ister. Darby walked in with me off leash as usual and the person at the register told me my dog needed to be on a leash. I proceeded to put her lease on her and continued on to the back of the store where I ran into the manager. She asked why Darby was on a leash. I told her the person at the register had instructed me to put her on a leash. The manager immediately called the person at the register and told her, "Darby does not need to be on a leash! She is special and the leash rule does not apply to her."



She also served as an example of what could be accomplished for MOTC classes. When I would assist with Puppy Classes, I would put Darby in a down stay in the middle of the room and she would stay there the entire hour. On occasion I would also arrive early before classes started and leave her in the car with all the doors open, demonstrating that she would not exit the car until told to do so.

She was a big help around the house too. If I dropped something she was always there to pick it up for me. Once Brian was washing his car at the barn and needed a brush I gave Darby a brush and told her to take it to him. She proceeded to take the brush to Brian. On several occasions I would give her a bag of hamburgers in the garage and tell her to take them to Brian in the other end of the house. They always arrived unscathed. Then she would sit there and beg.

She was also incredibly kind. She didn't have a mean bone in her body. I remember my cat finding a baby rabbit small enough to fit in the palm of my hand. He set it down before killing it and Darby picked it up and brought it to me without hurting it in the least. We then returned the little bunny to its nest.

However, her most important accomplishment was being my best friend for which I will always be in her debt. She was always happy and her happiness was contagious. I wonder how many time she made me smile.

Darby's death was completely unexpected. I mean as much as it could be. She was approaching eleven years old and for a lab that is getting up there so losing her was something that would creep into my mind every once in a while. I got home from the race track about 1:00 AM on Thursday July 15 and she and Callie met me at the door just like every other night. We went upstairs to bed and I gave them each a little treat and kissed Darby on the nose and told her I loved her. She went under the bed like usual (she no longer liked climbing the stairs to get in bed) and I got in bed and went to sleep. When I woke around 7:00 AM Darby was weak and semi-conscious. I got her downstairs and laid her in her dog bed. I then began to get ready to take her somewhere but she was gone in just a few minutes. She even made her death as easy on me as possible, only making me deal with her actual dying for a few agonizing minutes.

RIP Sweetheart,

Rick



## UPCOMING DATES

August 22 5 pm, Board of Directors Meeting, Clubhouse  
September 19 10 am-2 pm, Member training, Clubhouse  
September 19 5 pm, Board of Directors Meeting, Clubhouse  
September 19 6 pm, Members' Meeting, Clubhouse  
October 1, MOTC AKC Rally trials, Clubhouse  
October 2-3, MOTC AKC Obedience trials, Clubhouse  
October 10 2 pm, MOTC Scentwork Sniff & Go, Clubhouse  
October 17 10 am-2 pm, Member training, Clubhouse  
October 17 5 pm, Board of Directors meeting, Clubhouse  
October 29-31, MOTC FastCAT trials, Brookville OH  
October 31, Submissions deadline for November newsletter  
November 12-13, MOTC AKC Obedience trials, Clubhouse  
November 14, MOTC AKC Rally trials, Clubhouse  
November 21 5 pm, Board of Directors Meeting, Clubhouse  
December 5 2 pm, Members Meeting, Clubhouse  
December 12 10 am-2 pm, Member training, Clubhouse



### FRIDAY NIGHT TRAINING AT MOTC

Half hour training slots are available most Friday nights to MOTC members and non-Members by reservation on a first-come, first-served basis two weeks out. Open slots can be found at [muncieobediencetrainingclub.blogspot.com](http://muncieobediencetrainingclub.blogspot.com).

To reserve a slot, email [tincricket@gmail.com](mailto:tincricket@gmail.com) by Thursday midnight. Slot includes time to set up equipment, train, and put away equipment; if the person following you will be using the same equipment you may leave it up. Non-members pay \$10/slot, must sign facility & COVID waivers, and present proof dog is current on shots; paperwork is kept on file for 1 year. MOTC members train free but must reserve a slot.

At this point in time there will be NO Friday night training on August 20, October 1, November 26, December 24, or December 31.

## BRAGS & WAGS

Sara Beaver's Velocity Crew of Weimaraners tried their hand at FastCAT and Dock Diving.

SR's Betwixed, Twix, ran her first FastCAT and got points toward her BCAT.

SR's Long Strange Trip, Tour, ran his first FastCAT and after he figured out what it was all about got points toward his BCAT.

Silvershot's Wild Velocity JH TKN PKD-T, Howl, has decided FastCAT is his game and got points toward his BCAT.

SR's After Hours CA BCAT DM DSA TKN, Fizz, earned her Advanced Dock Diving title, several legs toward her Dock Master Advanced title, an invite to the Regionals and got a personal best on her 40th NADD jump!

SR's Flirting with Velocity DN, Tease, was recently returned to Sara and at 12 years old decided she loves Dock Diving! Tease earned her Dock Novice title and a few legs toward her Dock Novice Advanced title.

Carol Sorg's Ziva, U-CH U-CD AKC CH Lyndobe's Classic Charm UDX2 OM3 BN CGC ROM went to the National Obedience Championships on June 11 in Wilmington Ohio getting 3rd in Working group and overall 61 out of teams. She did lose 30 points by missing an article which knocked her out of the top 50. Ziva had TPLO surgery on her knee in January 2020 and Carol did not think she would be able to jump again. "It was an honor to compete in the tournament."

BISS Al'Cher TMAC Witching Hour v Gentry CGCA CGCU TIKI, Risa, On July 4th at the Doberman Pinscher Club of Dayton OH she took BOW BOB out of the open bitch class for her first 2 points under judge Brian Meyer. On July 9th at the Doberman Pinscher Club of Michigan she took BOW and a 5 point major under breeder/judge E.A. (Skip) Thielen. She won BOW and a 4 point major under breeder/judge Faye Strauss on July 10th at the Ann Arbor Kennel Club show.



Risa after her BOW and BOB winning her first 2 points on July 4th



Risa after her Bow and 5 point major on July 9th



Risa after her BOW and 4 point major on July 10



Carol Sorg and Ziva showing off their souvenirs from the National Obedience Championship in Wilmington OH





Muncie Obedience Training Club has been part of the Muncie community since 1946.

We teach people to be responsible dog owners and canine companion sports participants, and hold events that celebrate dog training.

We have fun with our dogs.

We are good sportsmen.

We practice good stewardship.



These provisional members will be presented at the September Members' Meeting to be voted in as full members:

Angie Boyle

Chris Ashmore-Good



### Who to Contact

Jeann Crowcroft, [gjcrowcroft@aol.com](mailto:gjcrowcroft@aol.com): club president, supply steward

Jason Ludwick, [jasonwludwick@me.com](mailto:jasonwludwick@me.com): club vice president, chief trial steward Oct Obed & Rally trials

Rick Dalessandro, [ardalessandro@aol.com](mailto:ardalessandro@aol.com): club treasurer

Garnet Meyer, [gking101@comcast.net](mailto:gking101@comcast.net): recording secretary, chief trial steward Scent work August

Brenda Grice, [Brenda\\_Grice@comcast.net](mailto:Brenda_Grice@comcast.net): corresponding secretary, newsletter editor

Jim Hase, [jimhase@aol.com](mailto:jimhase@aol.com) keeper of volunteer hours

Friday Night Training reservations and questions: [tincricket@gmail.com](mailto:tincricket@gmail.com)

Newsletter submissions: [motcyq@gmail.com](mailto:motcyq@gmail.com)