



Yips & Quips

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2023

Muncie Obedience Training Club

AKC PILOT PROGRAM OPENS OBEDIENCE AND RALLY TO TRIPOD DOGS

The American Kennel Club is allowing tripod dogs to compete in non-jumping Obedience and Rally as part of a pilot programming that started in July. Beginning July 1 and running through December 31, 2024 tripod dogs disfigured from an accident, injury, or illness can compete as long as their disfigurement does not interfere with its functional movement or appear to cause discomfort.

Previously an injury or illness resulting in an amputation ended a dog's competition career. Some dogs after amputation can still perform heeling exercises, sit or stand for exams, recalls, finishes, and stay exercises just fine. Judges must excuse any dog that seems to be ill or shows discomfort or pain while performing the exercises. The regulations for Obedience and Rally Chapter 1 Section 17 has been amended at least for the duration of the pilot program.

Inside this issue:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday Morning Obedience Classes 11/8-12/20
(No class 11/22. Happy Thanksgiving!)

Friday Night Training November 17

CGC & Trick Dog testing Nov 16th 7:30 pm

MOTC Member meeting December 10 3:30 pm

Friday Night Training December 1 & 15

Wednesday Morning Obedience Classes 1/10-2/28

President's Letter	2
Editorial	3
Rear End Awareness	4
Braggs & Wags	5

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

MARY-KAY SCHROEDER

Well Halloween is over and it now feels like winter. Classes are still going on, but it won't be long and we will be breaking for the holidays. Please remember to take some pictures of your dogs and send them to Brenda for the newsletter. I must admit I have been negligent about sending anything to Brenda, but I plan to try and change that.

I went to a very interesting meeting this past weekend that I want to tell you a little about. It was put on by AKC and the IPDA (Indiana Purebred Dog Alliance). This is a group that watches what the government does with laws and legislation pertaining to dogs and the breeders of purebred dogs. In the past I have never paid attention when I have received an email about a bill or laws on dogs. I guess I have always thought it didn't affect me. I WAS WRONG.

Now a days our rights as dog owners and breeders are threatened by unjust limit laws, breeding specific bills and restrictions. This group monitors more than 1,000 local, state and national bills to protect the rights of dogs and their owners. AKC has a lot of information on this and I do believe that our club may need to get more acquainted with this group. I will try to keep the club notified of any future meetings and any bills that are in our state.

I also want to mention that we really do need you to volunteer to help at trials. Even though we are an Obedience club, we hold several other venues and they actually earn more money and help keep this club going. We have one venue that helps us pay the bills that we really have trouble getting members to come work. FCAT!!!!

I know it is located farther away and requires a long drive but it is only once a year and it does help us financially. I am asking you now to please put this weekend on your calendar and come work one day. It is not hard work, it is fun and your dog can run the course while you are there. It is not hard work and we REALLY do need you. Mark your calendar for May ??? (Brenda can you check the dates please)

Hope to see many of you at our trials November 10,11,& 12.

Mary-Kay
President MOTC

Remember that Friday Nights are Rent-a-Ring nights at MOTC!

Reserve a 30 min. slot in Ring 1 South (that's the ring directly in front of the entrance) or Ring 2 North (the ring to the right of the entrance) by emailing tincricket@gmail.com (this is BK's "dog" email by Thursday midnight to reserve a slot. Non-MOTC members pay \$10/ slot, MOTC members pay nothing. What times are available? Go to muncieobediencetrainingclub.blogspot.com which is updated daily. Got questions? Email tincricket@gmail.com .



EDITORIAL

DOG SHOW MANNERS

BK GRICE

This past weekend has been the first time in several years that I was not running back and forth from ring to crate to get to three different Rally classes in two trials. My younger Sheltie, Perry, debuted in Rally Novice and Obedience Beginner Novice so I had more time to observe what was happening outside the rings. I saw some behaviors that concerned me as someone who enjoys Obedience and Rally and wants to see others get into these sports. If you instruct, coach, or mentor a person new to these sports, please be sure they are aware of ring etiquette. If you have been showing for awhile, please take these as a reminder.

1. In every beginner obedience class I've been in or taught, it was emphasized that you were responsible for your dog's behavior. The saying we use in 4-H is that you should always know where your dog's head is. Heel position is a basic position that keeps your dog at your side, out of your way, and out of the way of others. It's not just for in the ring, it's useful for anytime and anyplace you are out with your dog. Sometimes, such as walking on a trail, it may be fine for your dog to be at the end of its leash 6' or more away, but in a public area around other people and dogs things are much easier and safer all around if your dog is at heel position if it's with you.
2. Dogs are animals and they need space. Keep the entrances and exits of rings clear so that entering and exiting teams can do so safely. No team should need to run a gauntlet just to get into or out of a ring. If people are blocking your way to your ring, politely ask them to move so you can get there. If you're asked to let someone pass to get to the ring, MOVE! If you're not the next dog in, stay away from the gate. If you're the next dog in, stay back until the exiting team leaves before you approach the entrance. Rally exhibitors: I know that scores are usually posted just outside the ring, but your dog does not need to be with you to check them. Exit the ring, take your dog to decompress, put your dog in its crate, and then go check your score. Scores are seldom posted 2 seconds after you exit and they won't change before you get back.
3. Bring a crate for your dog or have a plan, do not depend on the kindness of strangers who may have their own dogs to deal with or jobs to do. Many venues do not allow dogs in restrooms. Dogs cannot go with you for walkthroughs in Rally of Beginner Novice. Crates keep your dog safe and allow down time between classes. If you plan to have someone hold your dog, be sure that you provide that person and instruct them to keep your dog with them and to know where the dog's head is. Dogs at a show do not need to, nor should they, attempt to interact with another dog even in a friendly way.
4. Good sportsmanship is not only in the ring but outside the ring. When classes are called in for awards all talking outside the ring should stop or be muted. This applies no matter which class it is or how many qualifiers there are. They worked hard and trained long hours for this moment and they deserve your attention and recognition or at least your courtesy. This is especially true of Novice A people in any sport and even more so if they complete their first title! I have heard judge's remind spectators to quiet down only to have the noise get louder. I've shushed people and heard other experienced exhibitors shush people so judges could give out Novice awards. Sorry, that's just plain rude! The same goes for High in Trial, High Combined, and High Triple Q. These are not to be sneezed at and the teams that win them deserve to be treated with respect!

I love showing in the companion sports and want more people to join in, but if they do not see us treating each other with consideration and respect, if we do not treat new exhibitors with respect, why on earth would they join us?

REAR END AWARENESS

BK GRICE

Does your dog know where his rear feet are? It may sound odd but often dogs aren't really aware of what their rear feet are doing. Being aware of its rear feet can help a dog that's ticking jumps, has sloppier left turn than you'd like. So what can you do about it? Here's a few things:

1. Set up a cavaletti. Cavalettis are used with horses to teach them to pick up their feet. They have the same problems that dogs have. You can use a rung ladder lying on the ground or You can lay jump bars, broom handles, mop handles, horizontally as if they were rungs in a ladder. Guide the dog to walk over the rungs. Some dogs will walk it if you are next to them, some need to be guided by treat or target stick. Don't work at this more than about 5 min. at a time.
2. Get a raised object large enough for your dog to put both front paws on but small enough that your dog can inch his way around it with his back feet. A small stool, a cinder block, a thick book, an upside down bowl, all work well. Get your dog to put its front feet on the object and reward a few times. Stand in front of your dog and give a treat just a bit to one side and watch its rear feet for any movement, give a treat. Slowly see if you can get your dog to move around the object with its feet on top of it like an elephant in a circus. Try one side for awhile and then the other. Work on this for just 5 minutes at a time. This exercise helps to isolate the rear feet.
3. Teach your dog to back up. Stand in front of your dog and move toward it. Reward for any weight shift to the rear at first, and then for taking a step back. Gradually increase the number of steps. See if you can get the same motion with your dog in heel position or at your right side.
4. Another way to teach a back up is to shape from a mat or small platform using a verbal marker or clicker. Begin with your dog standing with its rear feet on the mat, mark and reward a few times. Mark for the dog standing with rear feet on the mat, then give a treat just a little out of reach so your dog must stretch forward to get it. When your dog relaxes back, mark, then deliver a treat a little further. Mark for backing up to the mat and gradually have your dog come a bit further away to get the treat. Again, work on this for just 5 min. at a time.

Once your dog has a better idea of where its rear feet are you may see better jumping habits and nicer left turns. Your dog may come in straighter on fronts. Rally dogs may have a better side step. Your dog's left pivots may improve. You may notice that your dog heels better even if you can't walk a straight line. It's amazing the differences you may see once your dog is aware of his rear feet.

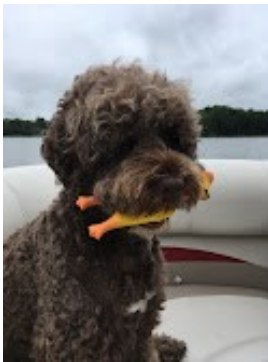


BRAGS & WAGS

Hanna Kadinger Brewer's Luna, Brittany, earned Scent work Detective legs 20 & 21 to finish her second AKC Detective title. Brooks, Brittany, went Best of Breed in Monroe Michigan for his first Grand Champion major.

Karen Scantland's Meeka, Standard Schnauzer finished her Scent work Master Buried and Exterior Excellent titles at our Aug trials w/several placements. She also finished her Scent work Excellent title. Reggie, Standard Schnauzer, attended her first MOTC Scent work trial and got his Scent work Container Novice title w/ placements. He also got his CGC certificate, BCA, and Trick Dog Novice titles.

Mary Kay Schroeder's Twister (Baywater's Eye of the Storm), Portuguese Water Dog, got her Graduate Open title. Meme (Ch Baywater's It wasn't Me), Portuguese Water Dog got her CDX at Paw Power Blues in October. MK says this was a thrill.



Twister prefers her chicken to her GO title



Brooks and Gabby show off his BOB ribbon



Luna with her 2nd Detective title ribbon



Meeka and her Scent Work ribbons



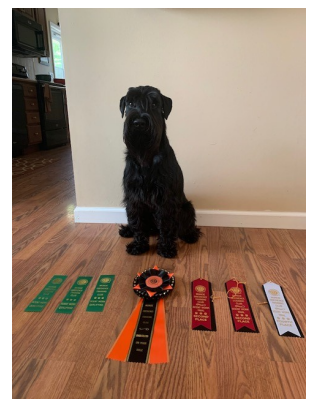
Mary Kay & Meme getting their CDX title



Lumi and her SBN title ribbon



Perry: "Mom, I passed my CGC!"



Reggie with his first Scent Work ribbons



Muncie Obedience Training Club is a 501c3 non-profit organization that has been part of the Muncie, Indiana community since 1946.

Our mission is to teach people to be responsible dog owners and canine companion sport participants and to hold events that demonstrate the benefits of dog training.

We do this by holding classes, seminars, Canine Good Citizen tests, and amateur dog trials in sports like Obedience, Rally, and Scent Work.