

Muncie Obedience Training Club

MOTC HALLOWEEN PARTY



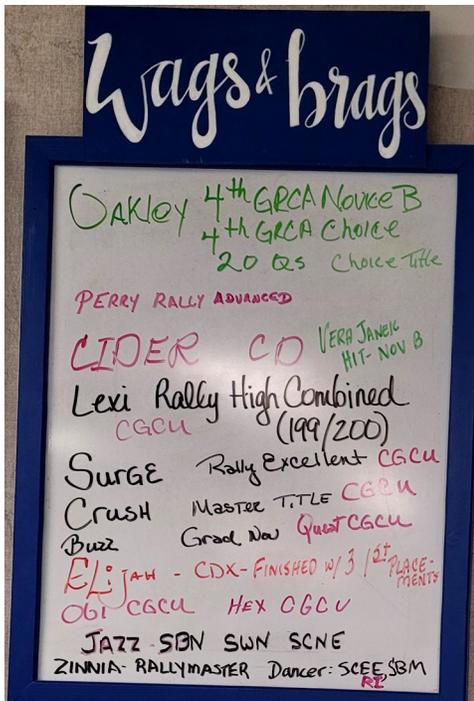
Some MOTC members got together October 28th for little Halloween bash. Costumes, mostly for the dogs, were the dress for the occasion.

Gayle Fahl, Chris Ashmore-Good, Mary Janek, Bobbi Siccardi, Kendra Ervin, Ann Wiggin, and BK Grice show off their dogs in Halloween attire.

THE BRAG BOARD

For those who may be new to the club we'd like to introduce the brag board. Any MOTC member whose dog has gotten a significant achievement

may write their dog's name and achievement on the brag board with an erasable marker: titles, legs, HIT, HC, HTQ, etc. The board is periodically erased and we start over.



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THE AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN TEST

BK GRICE, 29 YEAR AKC CGC EVALUATOR

Since 1989 the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen test has served as a standard for well-behaved dogs, both purebred and mixed breed, around the world. The test can only be given by an AKC approved Canine Good Citizen evaluator. Dogs must wear a regular buckle collar, martingale or slip collar, or non-restrictive walking harness attached to a leather, fabric, or biothane non-retractable leash. Handlers may not have food or clickers in the ring, but they may talk casually to the dog or give extra signals or commands. The test includes basic obedience skills in everyday situations and is completely pass/fail. Dogs that pass earn the CGC designation which may be registered as a title if the dog is registered with one of AKC's registries.

AKC Canine Good Citizen Test

1. **Accepting a Friendly Stranger.** The dog allows a friendly stranger to approach it and its handler as the stranger greets the handler and shakes or pretends to shake their hand. The dog is calm, does not jump or rush up to the stranger, does not bark or growl at them, nor shy away from them.
2. **Sitting Politely for Petting.** A friendly stranger asks the handler if they may pet the dog that is sitting at their side. The stranger pets the dog on its head and body. The dog does not show shyness or resentment, does not struggle to avoid being petted, nor does it lunge at the stranger to be petted.
3. **Appearance and Grooming.** The dog allows a stranger to comb or brush it with its usual comb or brush, examine its ears, and pick up each front foot. The handler may be asked to pick up the front feet for the evaluator and to steady the dog's head as ears are examined. The dog does not struggle to avoid being examined or be so excited that the stranger cannot examine it.
4. **Out for a Walk (Walking on a Loose Leash).** The dog walks with its handler on a loose leash as they walk a path that includes a right turn, left turn, about turn, a stop in the middle, and a stop at the end. The dog may walk on either side of the handler and need not be exactly at the handler's side nor need the dog sit when the handler stops. The handler is allowed to talk to the dog as they walk.
5. **Walking Through a Crowd.** The dog walks with its handler on a loose leash through a crowd of at least three people with at least some of them moving. The dog can be interested in the people of the crowd but should continue on with its handler without being overly excited, showing shyness or resentment, or jumping up on the crowd members.
6. **Sit and Down on Command/Staying in Place.** The dog sits on cue from its handler, then lies down when cued by its handler. With a 20 ft. line attached to its collar, the dog stays in either a sit or down as its handler walks 20 ft. away and returns to the dog. The dog need not hold the sit or down but must stay in place.
7. **Coming When Called.** With a 20 ft. line attached to its collar, the dog stays in place or is distracted by the evaluator as the handler walks 10 ft away and calls the dog to come. The dog comes directly to the handler but does not need to sit in front.
8. **Reaction to Another Dog.** The dog and its handler walk toward another dog and handler team walking toward them from about 15 ft. When the teams meet, the handlers greet each other and shake hands then move on. The dog does not try to get to the other dog or attempt to follow the other team as they walk on.
9. **Reaction to Distractions.** The dog with its handler are exposed to two distracters specified by AKC: person using crutches of a wheelchair 5 ft. away, sudden opening or closing of a door, dropping an object such as a folded chair or pan no closer than 5 ft. from the dog, a jogger running in

front of the dog, a person pushing a cart or crate doll no closer than 5 ft. away, a bike rider no closer than 10 ft. away. The dog may show casual interest or be startled but should not panic, pull away, lunge at the distracter, or bark at the distracter. The handler may talk to the dog and give extra commands.

10. Supervised Separation. The dog with its leash attached remains with the evaluator as the handler goes out of the dog's sight for 3 min. The dog is calm, does not whine or bark continually, struggle to get away from the evaluator, or try to climb into the evaluator's lap. The dog need not hold a particular position.



Looking for a fun way to earn some volunteer hours? Volunteer to help out with our STAR Puppy and Basic Obedience classes! Classes are held on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings, and you don't need any training experience. If you've trained your own dogs, you can do this! You'll always be working with a Lead Trainer. Providing public classes is one of MOTC's requirements to keep our 501(c) non-profit status. If you're interested or want to know more, contact Kendra Ervin, Director of Family Pet Training 765-744-2161.

HOW TO CONTACT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
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| ◆ Jeann Crowcroft, president | gjcrowcroft@aol.com |
| ◆ Jo Grieger, vice president | kagandjag@gmail.com |
| ◆ Brenda Grice, recording secretary | tincricket@gmail.com |
| ◆ Mike Wiggin, corresponding secretary | charliescoasters@gmail.com |
| ◆ Rick Dalessandro, treasurer | ardalessandro@aol.com |

EDITORIAL

ENDING 2025, BEGINNING 2026

BK GRICE

This is the final issue of Yips & Quips for 2025. Classes and training are winding down for the year and 2026 beckons. In September 2026 Muncie Obedience Training Club will turn 80. A lot has changed since 1946 in dog training, communication, dog sports, and society in general. MOTC has weathered all of these, but we don't always keep up well. We finally have our website, wi-fi in the building, online class registration options, and the ability to take credit and debit card payments. It would be nice to have a desktop computer in the office that stayed put, where a member database and class schedules could be maintained and user log-ins could be created for those who needed to access these. We've talked about Zoom as a possibility for members to attend meetings when travel during Hoosier winters and early spring can be hard for members who live an hour or more away. Would make up classes be an option online? Just some thoughts.



MOTC CALENDAR

- November 21—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- November 23—Board meeting 10:30 am
- December 5—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- December 6—Members' meeting 1 pm
- December 12—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- December 19—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- January 9—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- January 16—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- February 6—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm
- February 13—Friday Night Training 6:30-9 pm

Friday Night Training slots are available most Friday nights 6:30-9 pm by reservation. Slots are 30 min. and free for MOTC members. Request a slot by emailing tincricket@gmail.com by Thursday midnight.

To see openings, visit muncieobediencetrainingclub.blogspot.com



Welcome to our newest MOTC member

John Herig

John has Golden Retrievers and wants to help out at trials.

CHANGES IN SCENT WORK

Some changes began in Scent Work this fall. Dogs can now have coat coloring if it covers no more than a third of the dogs coat, is in good taste, does not contain profanity, and doesn't conflict with the trial sponsor. The trial chairman will have the final say if it's acceptable. The hides in buried water containers will no longer be in tubing attached to the bottom of the box. Instead, the scented cotton swab will be allowed to since to the bottom of the box. Buried sand container hides will be 1-2 in. diameter round stainless steel tea balls or infusers and will be covered by at least 1 in. of sand with boxes containing 2-3 in. of sand.

CHANGES IN FASTCAT

As of October 1 FastCAT run times will be posted publicly and must be the same as those reported to AKC and printed on the back of ribbons.

The heat has been turned on at the training building and is programmed to heat to 70 F thirty min. before morning classes and evening classes and to cool down to 65 F fifteen-thirty minutes after class ends. If you need to adjust the temperature for comfort please remember to press where it says "Run scheduled program" before you leave. This will help keep our heating bills under control this winter.

WHAT DO YOU WANT IN YOUR NEWSLETTER?

I had occasion the other day to read some newsletters from other training clubs. It's interesting to see what other clubs are doing and what they include in their newsletters. Like this one they seem to be largely editor written sometimes with specialty columns from members. So, tell what you'd like to see in your quarterly newsletter. Yips & Quips comes out the 15th of February, May, August, and November. Regular features are the President's letter, Editorial, and Brags & Wags. What would you like to see in your quarterly newsletter? I have some suggestions below, but I need to know what MOTC members would like to see! Email me at Brenda_grice@comcast.net.

1. Announcements of new members
2. Volunteer opportunities
3. AKC updates
4. Article on a different breed each issue
5. Article on training
6. Book review
7. Product review
8. Upcoming classes
9. Contact information for Directors of Training (Obedience/Rally, Scent Work, Family Pet)
10. Dog health articles
11. Columns for Obedience, Rally, Scent Work, and Family Pet training
12. Recipes (dogs or people)
13. Sympathy announcements when members' dogs pass
14. Congratulation announcements when members' get new dogs in the household
15. Schedule of club events
16. Member Spotlight
17. Previous Members' Meeting minutes
18. Family Pet class graduates (or other class graduates)
19. Traveling tips
20. Other

BRAGS & WAGS

Rick Dalessandro’s Cider, Labrador Retriever, finished her Companion Dog title at Dayton Dog Training Club’s trial; her first 2 legs were won at MOTC’s October trials. She also finished her Rally Novice title at our November trials. “She now has her S.T.A.R. Puppy, CGC, SWN, CD, and RN all before she is one year old.”

Rick’s Callie, Labrador Retriever, finished her Rally Master title at our October trials.

BK Grice’s Perry, Shetland Sheepdog, finished his Rally Intermediate title with a 1st and 4th place. He also got his first two Rally Advanced legs with 2 first places at our October trials.

Chris Ashmore-Good’s Lexi, Great Dane, finished her Rally Advanced Excellent title at Queen City’s August trials under Fred Buroff. She also took High Combined (qualifying scores in Advanced and Excellent) and just missed taking High Triple (combined Advanced, Excellent, & Master) on time. She’s on her way to RACH.



Chris & Lexi with High Combined



Chris & Lexi celebrate RAE



Perry shows off his bling



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 responsible dog ownership, encourage participation in amateur canine companion sports, and encourage humane treatment of animals.

We do this by holding classes, seminars, and amateur dog sports trials in Obedience, Rally, Scent Work, and FastCAT through the volunteer efforts of our members.

