



BARKS & BYTES NEWSLETTER



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Welcome to the ADTC **SEPTEMBER** issue of Barks & Bytes

Finally, the month we have all been waiting for after the last two hot, hot months is **finally September!!** Wonderful September when we can finally go inside after being outside for July and August. There will be changes being made so be sure to read the newsletter when it comes out and do not wait to enter the classes that you want.

The opening date for our Fall Obedience and Rally show is September 15th.

Again, do not wait to enter our Fall show as it will fill fairly fast. We will also have match shows along with the point show, one for our members only and one which will be public, which I believe has almost filled. Be sure to mark your calendars as the last week of October is a very important and busy week. **We will need a lot of members to volunteer** as shows do not run by themselves. And if my memory serves me right, one of our participants earned her OTCH (Obedience Trial Championship) at our trial. How exciting was that!!

We hope (even though we did not have a full schedule of classes for the last two months) that you continued training at home and in the various parks. There are so many things you can do in your house that do not take up a lot of room.

- Good fronts are so important and so are good finishes.
- Even short recalls can be done and making sure your dog has a good front and a good finish.
- Pivots are good and even short heeling sessions in whatever room you have.

In the August newsletter, we included information where you can get aids to help with some of the things we train for. They are well worth the small amount of money. I have some from my first competition dog, Emmett. I am still using it through all my other dogs. I even use them on my puppy, Tucker. They are extremely helpful for straight fronts and finishes... among other things.

Remember that our full schedule for the Fall is starting September 17 and 18.

We hope that you entered the classes that you wanted and did not hesitate. Our classes fill quite quickly.

– all the best, Jacqui

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2025 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The general meeting was SEPTEMBER 3rd.

The 2025 board of directors and officers are listed below.

President:	Gail James	Board Members:	Debbie Achenzie
Vice President:	Chuck Achenzie		Edie Rysdyk
Recording Secretary:	Amanda Greene		Steve Markowitz
Treasurer:	Linda Eldon		Sherry Hanley
Correspondence Secretary:	Katie Dyer		Lilliann Sanderlin
Training Director	Terry Papineau		

ADTC committee chairs

Publicity	Jennifer Weidman
Website:	Steve Markowitz
Librarian:	Edie Rysdyk
Membership:	Debbie Achenzie
Donations:	Chris Courduff
Newsletter editor:	Jacqui Hartranft
Newsletter co-editor:	Stacey Nash
Sunshine coordinator:	Sherry Hanley



NOTE: Our general membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB GROUP EMAIL

The group email is: ADTC-MembershipGroup@groups.io



TRAINING

We hope that everyone has received and read the new schedule. Some changes have been made for beginning members and their dogs. Please remember we only have the building on Wednesday and Thursday. There are a lot of classes to get in. It is a good idea to check emails regularly, so you are updated on weather related cancellations and any needed scheduling updates.

<u>WEDNESDAYS starting September 17, 2025</u>	<u>THURSDAYS starting September 18, 2025</u>
12:00 noon rental available.	9:00 to 10:30 Open/Utility (Terry)
2:30 to 3:30 Novice Tricks (Judy)	10:30 to 11:30 Teaching Utility (Terry)
3:30 to 4:30 Novice/Advanced Rally (Dusty)	11:30 to 12:30 Novice (Debbie)
4:45 to 6:00 Utility (Phyllis)	12:30 to 1:30 Open (Dusty)
6:00 to 7:15 Open (Phyllis)	2:00 to 3:00 Nosework
7:30 to 8:30 Rally (various levels) (Carol)	3:00 to 4:00 Excellent/Masters Rally (Linda E)
	5:00 to 6:00 Puppy (Maryanne B)
	6:00 to 7:00 Beginner (Maryanne B)
	*7:00 to 7:30 Attention and handling (Terry) <i>followed by</i>
	*7:30 to 8:30 Beginner Novice/Novice (Terry & Gail)

**The attention class is part of the beginner novice/novice class. It must be taken together so this a 90 minute class. No exceptions.*



MEMBERSHIP

Debbie Ackenzie asked us to welcome

Betsy Champagne
2406 Cross Creek Road
Macungie, PA 18062
Golden Retriever
610-737-7914
chamhall@aol.com

Sandy Brinckman
6560 Crown Lane
Zionsville, PA 18092
Bernese Mountain Dog
610-216-9244
Sandybrinkman@gmail.com

Carolyn Zimmerman VMD
1135 Mrytle Road
Walnutport, PA 18088
Aussie
484-264-0880
vanzimmxx@gmail.com



Welcome
Glad you're here!

WEBSITE

Steve Markowitz has pictures from the picnic on the website. Steve Markowitz is always looking for members to send him pictures for the website. Do check it out as there is a special section for members' pictures along with interesting videos. **If you have any questions give him an email or call.**

Steve can be reached at: smarko1@rcn.com

PUBLICITY

Jennifer Weidman does not have anything to report right now.

ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB FALL OBEDIENCE/RALLY TRIALS AND MATCHES

Help is always needed at the upcoming September trials at the Blue Mountain Cluster in Macungie. This is fast approaching.

- Gail James is looking for stewards for the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club for Rally and Obedience.
- I believe Phyllis has enough for the Pocono trial as she always helps them by asking ADTC to provide stewards.
- Pocono is a very small club, and we all want them to keep offering obedience/rally.

Do not forget our own show the end of October into November. Our matches have filled very fast, and we are expecting our trials to do also. We will also need stewards and helpers for those too! We want to keep this good sportsmanship going! So please volunteer when asked.

We will have:

- in-house rally match on Wednesday,
- two rally trials on Thursday October 30
- in-house obedience match on Friday October 31
- public match on Saturday, November 1 (which may be almost filled.)
- the point trial on November 2.

All this will need lots of volunteers! We are asking now so you can put it on your calendar! I will stress this again for new members, **volunteering is a great way to learn how a dog rally/obedience trial works.**

WE ♥ VOLUNTEERS!



PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH TERRY OR GAIL TO VOLUNTEER.

SUNSHINE

Please contact Sherry her email address is: fuzzybadge38@msn.com or 610 767-4537 (H) or 484-347-6116.

if you know of someone who needs a card or word or sympathy form ADTC. Lately we have had quite a few members in need of that. And many thanks to Sherry for doing this important job.

2025 RALLY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AT PURINA FARMS IN MISSOURI

Last month Judy Skorup offered to write about her and Great Pyrenees, Homer's, experience at the 2025 Rally National Championship. This was not the first time she has participated in it when it was in Ohio. She and Great Pyrenees Emma went several times, and she wrote about her adventures there and we hope everyone enjoyed reading about it. Since Emma retired she and Homer went to Purina Farms this year to participate. So, if you have not yet read it, just check it out in the August newsletter.

Since Judy has gone several times, I thought it would be interesting to see how a less experienced person and first-time participant viewed the Rally National. When I found out that Lisa Cronk and her Malinois Bauer had gone, I asked her if she would write about her experience through her eyes, as a newer person. So here is what Lisa wrote about her and Bauer's adventures at the Rally National.

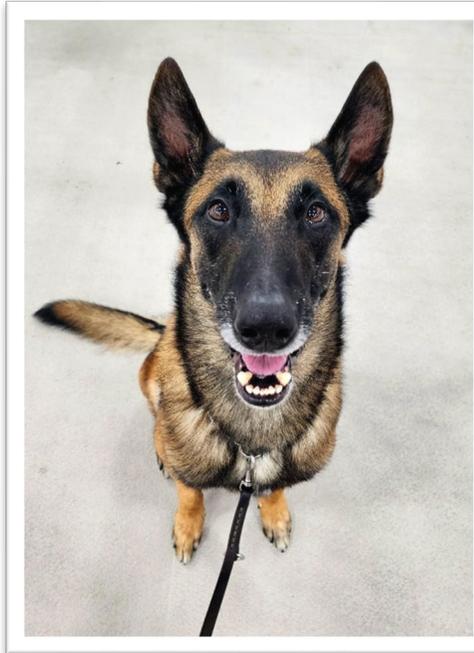
Many, many thanks to Lisa for doing this and I hope that after reading Lisa's article some members will be encouraged to go next year. I am sure she will love to talk to you about it and answer any questions you might have.

Here is what Lisa wrote and some pictures that she took.

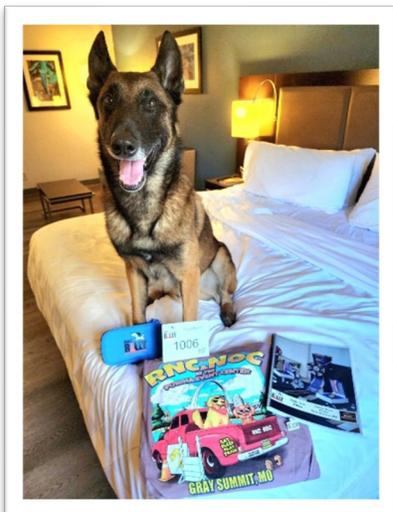
Enjoy reading about it. Big Congratulations to Lisa and Bauer for being accepted and making the two-day drive to Purina Farms to participate.

LISA CRONK & BAUER When I first got Bauer, my Belgian Malinois, I knew that I wanted to try everything I could with him! As this is my first AKC registered dog and I am new to the AKC competition world, I never even heard of "Rally" until I took a short course on it with Bauer's breeder. Our first two titles were done virtually, so in early 2024, we joined Allentown Dog Training Club and started with actual in-person trainings and trials and I fell head-over-heels for this sport! I love the challenge of having to know the signs and to learn different courses and I love being able to talk and have fun with your dog during your run. As we continued on with trialing, I was informed that there was such a thing as the Rally National Championship and it was open by invite only, so with a new goal in mind, we trialed our hearts out and did end up getting an official invitation to compete at the Excellent level at the 2025 Rally National Championships. Bauer and I arrived at the Purina Events Center in Missouri on Thursday, July 3rd where I checked in and was given a packet with the three course maps that I would have to learn. I was a bit surprised as I had thought we would be running three courses each day for two days but as it turned

out, it was three courses total over a two-day period (1 course on the first day and 2 courses on the second day for me). I set my crate up in my assigned crating area and walked around with Bauer and practiced a bit so he could get used to the building. The size of the Purina Event Center is impressive, with large banners of dogs around the entire inside perimeter; it really gave me goosebumps to look around in amazement for being at that location and to think about the time and effort that went into getting this invite. Day 1, we had to be there at 7:30 am for our 10-minute walk-through with judging beginning promptly at 8:15. Luckily, I was the 5th dog to go into the ring, so I didn't have to sit around and wait too long and let my nerves get the best of me! We were competing against 116 other dogs in our excellent class, and I walked into that first ring knowing full-well that we weren't going to place. At this point, I was proud to be here and wanted to have fun with my first ever competition dog! For our first run, Bauer sat down to scratch at his



collar twice and then on the 9th sign (#208) he took a couple steps forward before sitting then jumped up on me after a "call front." His nerves were showing, but he did keep pace with me and seemed upbeat. We earned an 83 for our first run and then we were done for the day by 8:40 am. I also discovered on this day that of the six rings, only two were being broadcasted on AKC TV so I had to notify our "fan club members" watching back home that they didn't miss my run, it just wasn't being recorded and unfortunately the two rings that I was scheduled for the next day would also not be recorded. Day 2, our first walk-through began at 7:40 am to walk our third course and then another at 7:50 to walk our second course and yes, I know this is confusing but AKC broke each of the classes into groups and each group had a schedule for their ring times so you had to keep track of your group time and the dogs in line. I had our second run around 10:50 am so for the two hours leading up to our turn, I watched others in the ring, which really helped to learn the course even more. For our second run, we got an 87 out of 100. I know



that Bauer was a bit out of position for some sits but even watching the playback of the run, I am not sure where we lost so many points and the judge was so busy, I really didn't see a time when I could ask a judge about scores, which is the one thing that I wasn't pleased with. I also noted that there wasn't much consistency in the judging, but with that being said, I understand each judge is allowed their own opinions! For our final run, we got another score of 83, he was very laggy, had crooked sits and seemed distracted. I know we could have done better, and I truthfully expected a bit more with all of the work that I put into training, but the important facts are as follows:

- 1) We actually were invited and then competed at the 2025 Rally National Championships
- 2) My dog loves me wholeheartedly and he has created so many new opportunities for me and
- 3) We enjoyed our time together and frankly, that is all that matters! By Lisa Cronk

ACHIEVEMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Now for the fun of announcing what members have accomplished since our September newsletter.

Jacqui Hartranft announced that Abbey, just celebrated her 11th Birthday!!



We hope for many many more for my little girl. She further celebrated by earning Two HIGH IN TWO TRIALS IN THE COMPANION DOG SPORTS PROGRAM SHOW at Golden Rule on August 17 with great scores of 199 ½ and 199. Then a few weeks later she did it again on August 24 with two more high scores of 199 in two CDSP trials also at Golden Rule. She was again looking at High In Trials but there were runoffs which unfortunately she lost. She is working on her second CDSP Obedience Trial Championship.

Not to be left out..... and I know Debbie Achenzie would not want me to do this but

BIG CONGRATUALIONS TO HER AND FREDDIE FOR EARNING THEIR FIRST UTILITY LEG.

Debbie told me that this was the first time she has ever earned a Utility leg. We are sure that there will be more to come for this team. It was earned at the York show in August.

The Utility title is the hardest title to earn.

Ashlyn is 14 weeks post surgery and doing really well.

Doing Water Therapy at Country Doctor but she also took to swimming in my nephews pool. She shows the same drive in swimming as she did in obedience. I have a swimming Shepherd go figure. Thanks Mary



2025 SPECIAL DAYS

Month-Long Observances

- National Responsible Dog Ownership Month.
- National Service Dog Month.
- Pet Memorial Month.
- Pet Sitter Education Month.

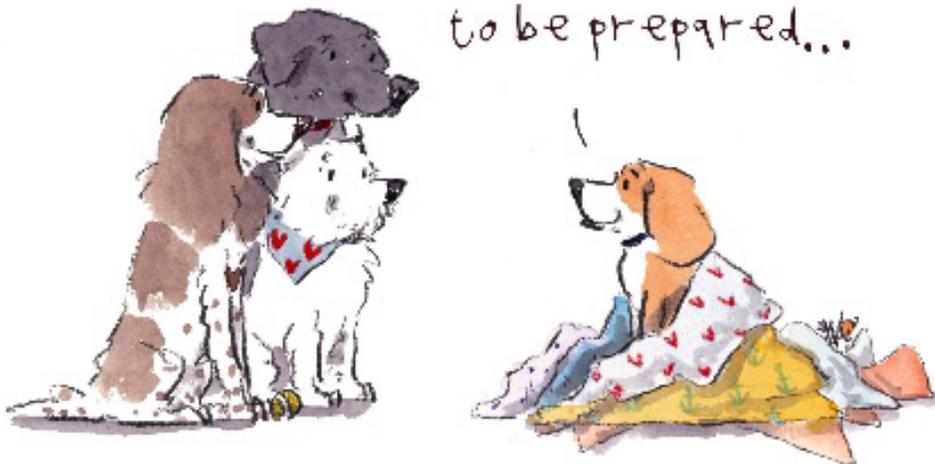
Week-Long Observances

- Sept. 15-21, 2024: Adopt a Less Adoptable Pet Week (3rd Week in September).
- Sept. 22-28: Deaf Dog Awareness Week. Last full week in September.
- Sept. 22-28: National Dog Week. Last full week in September.

One-Day Holidays

- Sept. 8: National Dog Walker Appreciation Day.
- Sept. 8, 2024: National Pet Memorial Day. (second Sunday in September)
- Sept. 8: National Hug Your Hound Day.
- Sept. 21: Responsible Dog Ownership Day. (3rd Saturday in September)
- Sept. 21: Puppy Mill Awareness Day. (3rd Saturday in September)
- Sept. 22: National Walk 'n' Roll Dog Day.
- Sept. 23: Adopted Dog Day.
- Sept. 24: National Deaf Dogs Rock Day.
- Sept. 30: National Puppy Mill Survivor Day.

...it is nearly
cosy blanket
season and I want
to be prepared...





All orders
To Go!

...invite you to
attend their...

"PAW-STA" DINNER FUNDRAISER Drive-Thru

(Must pre-order by 22 Oct 2025)

(All proceeds to benefit Therapy Dogs)

WHEN: Saturday Nov 1, 2025

WHERE: Lehigh Lodge
2120 Rt 100

Macungie PA 18062

TIME: 4:00pm to 7:00pm

DONATION: \$10

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

610.428.4213





Annual "Paw-sta" Dinner

Sat Nov 1, 2025



Lehigh Lodge, 2120 Rt 100 Macungie PA

Support your local Lehigh Valley Therapy Dogs by picking up a tasty \$10 meal. All orders will be "TO GO" ie "DOGGIE BAGS".

- Orders must be received by Oct 22, 2025
- Email order form to lvtd@lvtherapydogs.org or
- Mail to 4027 W Chew St Allentown PA 18104 or *
- Return completed order form to LVTD member
- Pay by check (LVTD) or cash in advance or at pickup
- Select pick up time below and enter time on forms

(circle your pickup time so you remember)

4:00 4:15 4:30 4:45 5:00 5:15 5:30 5:45
 6:00 6:15 6:30 6:45 7:00

Name _____

Phone _____

Pick Up Time

Pasta with sauce
or

Pasta no sauce

Meatballs
or

No meatballs

Salad

Italian

or

Ranch

or

No dressing

Choc Chip Cookies

or

Brownie

or

Oatmeal Cookies

Name _____

Phone _____

Pick Up Time

Pasta with sauce
or

Pasta no sauce

Meatballs
or

No meatballs

Salad

Italian

or

Ranch

or

No dressing

Choc Chip Cookies

or

Brownie

or

Oatmeal Cookies

Name _____

Phone _____

Pick Up Time

Pasta with sauce
or

Pasta no sauce

Meatballs
or

No meatballs

Salad

Italian

or

Ranch

or

No dressing

Choc Chip Cookies

or

Brownie

or

Oatmeal Cookies

Name _____

Phone _____

Pick Up Time

Pasta with sauce
or

Pasta no sauce

Meatballs
or

No meatballs

Salad

Italian

or

Ranch

or

No dressing

Choc Chip Cookies

or

Brownie

or

Oatmeal Cookies