



BARKS & BYTES NEWSLETTER

JANUARY



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Welcome to the ADTC January issue of the Barks & Bytes

Welcome to the first BARKS & BYTES NEWSLETTER of the New Year 2026!!

We hope that we all had a great Christmas and New Year celebration and that includes our wonderful dogs. We have so much to be grateful for not only for our dogs but having ADTC Board and Members who work so hard so we can have a great place to train—MACUNGIE PARK. Many of our newer members may not be aware of how much the park director, Amy Hillegass does for us. Not only do we make use of the building and park throughout the year but for those who attended our annual Christmas Party, saw Amy and her husband Barry and their gang cooking our great Christmas Party dinner. When you see her and Norm at the Park be sure to say Hi and thank them for all they do to allow us to use the building and the park.

So many Clubs do not have such a nice place to train. Yes, we wish we could have more time, but we are grateful for the time that we have. And thanks to Terry and Gail, we now have a Fall Obedience and Rally trial there in “our” building. And it was successful and FILLED.

- The new schedule has come out so do not wait to enter the classes you would like.
- The list of officers for 2026 was read at the Christmas Party in December but they will be listed below.
- DO NOT FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL BEFORE JANUARY 15
- SEND JUDY LASSO YOUR NEW AKC TITLES THAT YOU AND YOUR DOG HAVE EARNED IN 2025. Please remember we can only accept AKC titles because we are an AKC affiliated club we can only honor AKC titles. But ALL titles can be acknowledged under ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE NEWSLETTER.

And finally both Stacey and I wish everyone a HEALTHY HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HOPE THAT EACH AND EVERYONE HAD A GREAT CHRISTMAS.

So, enjoy the BARKS & BYTES. – all the best, *Jacqui*

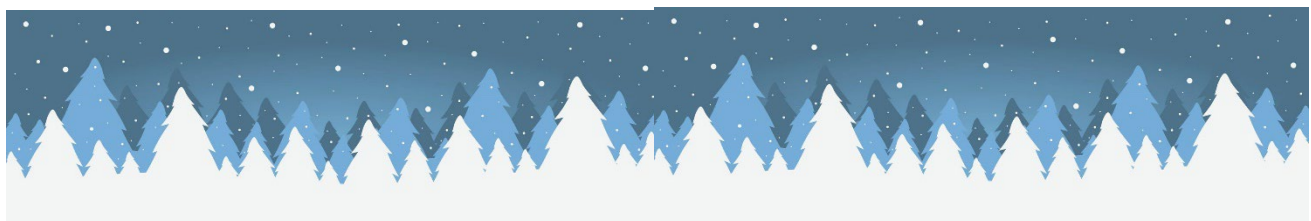


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ATTACHMENTS (at the end): MEMBERSHIPS FORM

2026 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Here is the slate of officers we are electing for 2026. Please be sure to attend and VOTE!! This is your club and we love to hear your input. And your attendance supports our board members who have volunteered to serve.

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

ADTC committee chairs

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



Many Many Thanks to these members who have agreed to serve on the 2026 Board.

Most importantly, many thanks to outgoing vice president Chuck Achnezie. He has served Allentown Dog Training Club for many years in many different roles from president (for many many years) to vice president, to heading our annual picnic. This picnic is now combined with our yearly awards program honoring members who have earned tiles in the previous year. Chuck We cannot thank you enough for all that you have done for ADTC! We know that you will still be around helping whenever possible. We all look forward to seeing you in 2026.

**....So when you see Chuck at any of our events be sure to thank him
for all he has done for Allentown Dog Training Club!!**

UPCOMING SPRING SHOW

Cris Courduff is still looking for sponsors for our prizes and rosette awards. The list of what you can sponsor is on the website so please take the time to read it. By sponsoring some of the rosettes and ribbons you save ADTC money which can be used to give out cash prizes. Nice rosettes and cash prizes do attract great competitive dogs and handlers to our trials. Please contact Cris if you have any questions. We believe she may need this by the end of January so it can be sent to the Superintendent for the show.

NOTES OF THANKS

Gail James also thanks everyone to stewarded at the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club Obedience/Rally trials in December. It is always nice to steward for them as they give you a very nice lunch. This year they even had a huge tray of kiffels on Wednesday!! No obedience and rally trials if we do not have stewards. In case you did not read the November newsletter there is an article in it on what a steward does. One of our members who stewarded for the first time mentioned that she learned so much by doing it. And that is so true!! And we always get a nice check from the Kennel Club for doing this. If we do not supply stewards, we are sure they will not offer obedience/rally to their shows since it is a breed conformation club.

Joanne Summers would like to thank everyone who brought dog food over the last two months or more to give to those who are having problems getting food for their pets. She will have a report next month and a picture of some of the donated food. She will decide if she will continue accepting dog food donations. This is not just a holiday thing, but the need is great all year round. My husband drives for Meals on Wheels and usually will take some dog food along for clients. It is important that people can feed their pets and keep them in their homes. How sad is that to have to give up your pets because there is no money for food.

ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB GROUP EMAIL

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

TRAINING

Because of the LV Kennel Club dog show in December, Thanksgiving and then the Christmas and New Years Holiday, this training session seems to have gone on a long time. But it was the way the calendar fell this year. The new session will be starting soon and once the notices go out for members to apply for classes, do not hesitate to enter them as they usually fill quickly.

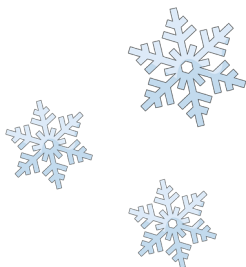
Terry has gotten the new schedule out so do not wait to enter whatever classes you are interested in. If you have any questions, please get in touch with her or your instructor.



MEMBERSHIP

Please remember that you have until January 15 to get your renewal for 2026. Prior years Debbie gave you until the end of January. This year it will be a little earlier. If you allow your membership to lapse, you can no longer train with the Club after that date. Should you change your mind, you will have to rejoin as a new member which would include paying more fees and perhaps not getting in a class you want. Bottom line it is worth it to pay the \$35 membership fee just in case you decide that you should have renewed your membership.

Let us welcome the following new members!



Jenny Pacanowski
Bullmastiff

jennywarrior2277@gmail.com

570-269 7528

Andrea Kiely
Bullmastiff

bansheebullmastiffs@gmail.com

908-625 2005

ADTC AWARDS PROGRAM

Judy Lasso and Pat Gombocz will be accepting information from those who have earned AKC titles in 2025 until January 15. You need to fill out the form which you can do online, make a copy of it and send it to Judy. You need to INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR AKC TITLE. The form and information can be found on our website, and you can even fill out the form from the website. But it will have to be mailed to Judy. She can only accept titles from AKC events. If you have any questions, please get in touch with either Judy or Pat. The awards will be presented at our picnic in June or July.

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Steve Markowitz is always looking for pictures and information to put on the website. There should be some great Christmas photos to send to him.

Amanda Greene our Secretary and in charge of Facebook is also looking for the same. And anything you would like to write about to promote ADTC would be great!!

Amanda also has us listed on Instagram: Any questions please get in touch with Amanda and Steve. Anything members can do to promote ADTC is appreciated.

AND PICTURES ARE ALWAYS THE BEST!!!

Steve can be reached at: smarko1@rcn.com Amanda can be reached at: amandamariagreene@icloud.com

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Many thanks to Chuck Achenzie and Bill Springer and of course in the background Dusty and Debbie helping. Amy and Barry and their gang cooked up a great meal for us and then of course members brought in wonderful desserts and all low calories for sure!!! The highlights are the Guess the Number of Biscuits and Edie's great Chinese auction where you can bid on great items—some found nowhere else. For the second year, Judy Lasso's table had plenty of great dog items no longer needed from collars to leashes and more!! Anything you might need was there for training, along with beautiful collars. All the extra things were donated to rescues and another rescue of Judy's choice. Joanne Summers also had her dog food collection can there for the dog food bank.

Many thanks to all for your generosity and for all your help and making this a great success



ACHIEVEMENTS

BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO SHERRY HANLEY AND LEGEND. Legend celebrated his 7th birthday at the Winter Blast at Oaks in December. He earned his CD there with two first places!! How great is that. We will let you read what Sherry wrote. We bet Legend got some special Christmas treats!!

From Sherry Hanley & Legend

December 5th Legend turned 7 years old and celebrated his Birthday at the Winter Blast Dog Show held in Oaks. We were entered in Novice B Friday and Saturday in hopes of completing the two legs he needed for his CD title. He not only Qualified but placed 1st both days. He also competed in the Raritan Belgian Sheepdog Club Specialties and was awarded Select Dog from the Veteran

Class both days. We were busy going back and forth from Obedience to Conformation rings, but we did it. It was a great Birthday weekend, and Legend is now:

CH Celebre Legendary Frozen J CD BN RA CGC TKN



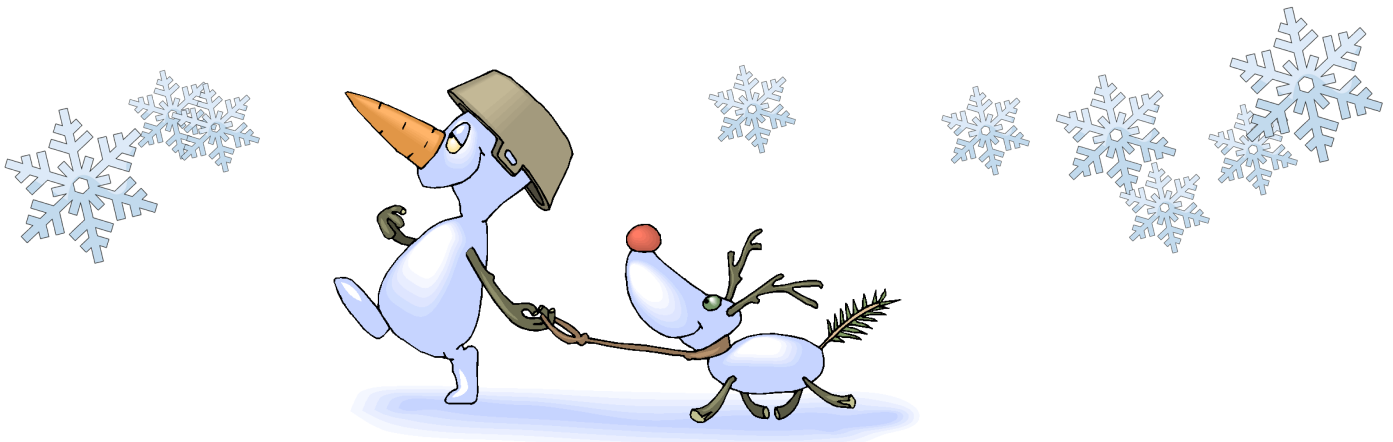
SUNSHINE



Debbie Knappenberger is home recovering from a trip and fall in her kitchen. Unfortunately, she broke her right wrist in two spots which needed to be repaired by surgery which she had the day after Christmas. She also broke her arm bone near the socket but did not need surgery for that. She would appreciate cards and get well wishes as it will be a long recuperation. Cards can be sent to 726 East Main St., Macungie 18062 or tobychasevern@yahoo.com.

Please contact Sherry her email is:

fuzzybadge38@msn.com or 610 767-4537 (H) or 484-347-6116.



**AND FINALLY, STACEY AND JACQUI WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SENT US
THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, PICTURES & ARTICLES IN 2024.**

We love hearing from some of our newer members in MEMBER OF THE MONTH as well as when they and their dogs do well in a trial.

Have a wonderful 2026 and enjoy everything you and your dog are learning together.

HAVE A HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL 2026!



ADTC MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your Allentown Dog Training Club dues are due by **January 15, 2026**. Payment of your membership dues by this date allows you to vote at the January meeting, be eligible for awards and continue to train with the club.

Dues received after January 15th will cause your membership to lapse. Please note that no grace period or extensions will be granted. You will have to go through the process to rejoin. Paying \$175.00 for a class of your choice and \$35.00 for dues to re-join the club.

All meeting minutes and membership lists will be posted on the ADTC website.
<https://www.allentowndogtrainingclub.com/>

Complete the form below and **sign the WAIVER** on next page.

1. Make checks payable to **ADTC, Inc.**

2. Return Form to:

ADTC, Inc. c/o Debbie Achenzie
1935 Kensington Road
Bethlehem, PA 18018

- SINGLE MEMBERSHIP **\$35.00**
- EACH ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBER **\$15.00** (include all names)
- LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP **MUST SIGN THE WAIVER on next page.**
- MARK BOX IF ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION HAS CHANGED
- ADDITIONAL DONATION FOR THE 2026 TRIAL GENERAL TROPHY FUND.
If you wish to donate to a specific class or prize, use the Trophy Pledge form in the Members area of the website.

Name: _____
(including additional household members)

Street: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

E-mail Address: _____

Breed/Breeds of dogs you own: _____

Please read and sign the WAIVER, RELEASE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ASSUMPTION OF RISK and AUTHORIZATION on next page.

ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB, INC.
WAIVER, RELEASE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ASSUMPTION OF RISK
AND
AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF PHOTOS & EMAIL NOTIFICATION

I understand that my attendance and participation in any Allentown Dog Training Club, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "ADTC") class or activity, including but not limited to, obedience and rally training, is not without risk to myself, my dog(s) or any family member or guest who might be present at such function. Some dogs to which I might be exposed may be difficult to control and/or aggressive towards other canines and people and may be a cause of injury even when handled with care. I expressly assume the risk of such damage or injury while attending any training class or other activity of ADTC or while on the ADTC facilities.

In consideration of the enrollment for training, and as an inducement to my participation in ADTC classes or activities, I hereby waive, release, discharge, and covenant not to sue ADTC, its officers, members and/or agents from any and all liability of any nature, for injury or damage which I, my dog, or any family member may sustain, including specifically, but without limitation, any injury or damage caused by the action of another dog or by participation in the foregoing activities.

In consideration of the enrollment for training and as an inducement to my participation in ADTC classes or activities, I additionally hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the ADTC, its officers, members and agents, of and from any and all claims, causes of action, losses, damages, judgments, costs, or expenses, including attorneys' fees, which in any way arise from my or my family members or guests' acts, omissions and/or negligence, irrespective of whether the acts, omissions and/or negligence of the ADTC, its officers, members and agents, or any third party contributed to the loss.

I hereby certify that I am over the 18 years of age and I have read this paper and am fully aware that this contract constitutes a waiver and release of any and all liabilities because of injury to me, my dog, dogs or other property.

I hereby grant the Allentown Dog Training Club, Inc., including its officers, directors and members (hereafter collectively the "Club") permission to use my likeness in photographs, images and/or videos in any and all of its publications, including web space (internet site) and Facebook, and in any and all other media, whether now know or hereafter existing, controlled by the Club, in perpetuity, and for other use by the Club.

I acknowledge my participation with the Club is voluntary and I will receive no financial compensation, and I will make no monetary claim, or any other claim against the Club for the use of the photographs and/or video.

I hereby hold harmless, release and forever discharge the Club and its members, officers and directors from and against any and all actions, claims, demands, complaints, lawsuits and any other forms of liability that shall arise out of or by reason of, or be caused by the use of any such photographs and/or video.

I Authorize Allentown Dog Training Club, Inc., to send me notifications by use of email.

Signature of

Owner/Member/Participant and Parent _____
(If member is under the age of 18)

Additional Household Member _____

Date _____