



BARKS & BYTES NEWSLETTER



Newsletter editor: Jacqui Hartranft | Email: japhart@ptd.net
Newsletter co-editor: Stacey Nash | Email: staceyhayesnash@gmail.com

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

This newsletter is arriving later than usual, but it may be exactly when it's needed.



Charles "Chuck" J. Achenzie, Jr., 73, of Bethlehem, PA, died Friday, March 13, 2026 in his home surrounded by the love of his family. He was the husband of Debbie Achenzie, ADTC membership secretary and board member.

Chuck spent the past 14 years since retirement spending time as President of Allentown Dog Training Club. Chuck has been a staple at all the ADTC events.

Contributions: In lieu of flowers memorials may be made in Charles's memory to Allentown Dog Training Club, 68 Bull Rd., Barto, PA 19504 or the Bethlehem Fraternal Order of Police Star Lodge #20, P.O. Box 1387, Bethlehem, PA 18016-1387.

He will be greatly missed.

Our spring trials will be named in his honor.

Welcome everyone to March 2026 BARKS & BYTES

Both January and February have been filled with snow and cold that seemed to go on and on forever, and as I write this, it is still quite cold!! But March can be a month of both nasty weather and beautiful spring days. So, let's hope that the ground hog was wrong!!

WE HELD OUR FIRST HYBRID GENERAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 AT 7:00PM. It was a success!

Fortunately, we were able to get the December minutes passed in January as well as the changes to our constitution thanks to Amanda Greene's help. Thank you to all who took the time to ZOOM in!!

Dog Matches are on and show is show season!

- Char Will German Shepherd had matches and is a great place to practice working in the 'ring' the matches benefit the German Shepherd Rescue.
- Suburban Dog Training Club is getting their new location up and running, they will be having match shows. It is a less than hour drive from Macungie, located on County Line Road. I was at their February match, and I was told that they would be moving into their new facility on March 17. It will be nice to have another training club running match shows.
- Top Dog in Flanders, NJ, about an hour and fifteen minutes from Macungie, has monthly match shows through April.
 - More can be found on www.dogmatchshows.com

Between our point show in May and more match shows coming up not to mention the warmer weather approaching, we will soon be able to do more training outside. Places to try are parking lots and tennis courts. Do check to make sure dogs are allowed. And be sure to clean up after your dogs.

So, enjoy the BARKS & BYTES.

– all the best, *Jacqui*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome to the ADTC March issue of the Barks & Bytes..... 1

2025 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS 3

PET FOOD DRIVE 4

A SPECIAL BIG THANK YOU!!! 4

ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB GROUP EMAIL..... 4

TRAINING 5

MEMBERSHIP 5

SPRING SHOW 5

WHAT IS A POINT SHOW 6

SPECIAL NEWS FROM AKC..... 6

BIG HINT..... 6

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK 7

SUNSHINE 7

FUN PHOTOS OF LYNN BIRNY & PERCY (more next month) 8

UPCOMING EVENTS 9

HOW TO GET YOUR DOG TO LISTEN 10

INTERESTING WEBSITES 11

ATTACHMENTS (at the end): Farm Dog Poster & Country K-9 poster

2025 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Here is the slate of officers we elected for 2026.

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



PET FOOD DRIVE

Joanne Summers has offered to continue to collect pet food and supplies. When she has collected enough items she will take them to the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley. There is a container near the bathroom where you can deposit your donations. We thanked everyone for their donations in the February newsletter but did not list the totals collected. Joanne sent us a great picture of all the items and thank you so much for everything. Here is what was collected which we did not have listed. 26 bags of dog food; 11 cases of dog food; 6 cases of cat food; 1 large box of large milk bones; 1 bag of dental treats; 6 bags of treats; 1 pet sweater; 2 leashes; 3 collars; 3 harnesses; 1 small dalmatian stuffed toy.



Thank you so much everyone. Joanne said the people who help there were so appreciative of our donations. I cannot imagine having to give up my dogs because I do not have the money to feed them. And this also helps keep pets out of shelters. THE NEED IS UNENDING!! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!!

A SPECIAL BIG THANK YOU!!!

MANY THANKS TO BOB TREXLER FOR MAKING US TWO OAK LEASH HOLDERS FOR OUR TRIALS IN RALLY AND OBEDIENCE.

HERE IS THE PICTURE OF THESE WONDERFUL HOLDERS.

Bob we cannot thank you enough for doing this. Makes our shows so much nicer having leash holders and with ADTC on them. So lucky to have such talented people in our club who see a need and come up with a solution.

We will be the envy of all other clubs.



ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB GROUP EMAIL

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

TRAINING

The new training session will start this month. We hope that everyone got into the classes that they wanted. Some fill quickly so it is important to send in your form and checks as soon as you learn of the opening. Terry has worked very hard schedule as many classes as she can. Remember, we only have the building for a day and a half. Many thanks to Terry and our instructors for all their hard work

MEMBERSHIP

At this time Debbie Achenzie reported she does not have any new members to announce. We hope that everyone sent in their membership dues so you can continue to train with us and receive this newsletter. For those who did not wish to continue their membership, we are sorry to see them leave us but they are welcome to come back when they are ready



SPRING SHOW

Our spring point show will be held on Saturday May 16 at Orchard Hill Training Center in Barto, PA. The Berks County Dog Training Club will hold their show the next day on May 17. Gail James is our chairperson, and she reported that it will open on April 1 and close on April 29.

Please do not hesitate to enter! Last year it filled quickly, especially the Rally entries and we know that last year there were some members who were wait-listed. The Superintendent is showentries.info . This is a great way to get points and qualifications at two trials at the same place and at the weekend.

DO NOT WAIT TO ENTER!!! REMEMBER OPENING DATE IS APRIL 1 AND THE CLOSING DATE IS APRIL 30.

Even if you feel you and your dog are not yet ready to enter a trial, in either Rally or Obedience, it is a good idea to come and watch. , There is so much you can learn by watching great handlers and dogs. There are many people around who will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

We will need lots of volunteers to steward and help with various tasks as well as setting up the gates, jumps, etc. on Friday before the show plus then tearing down on Sunday night after the Berks show. So please mark the date on your calendars.

WHAT IS A POINT SHOW

With that announced some of our newer members may ask what is a point show?

ADTC is an AKC affiliated club. That means our members are recognized by the parent club, American Kennel Club and are eligible for title recognition by AKC.

In obedience, once a member has achieved their Novice, Open and Utility dog titles, they can work on higher titles on up to an Obedience Master title, a Utility Dog Excellent or hardest of all an OTCH by earning points.

In Rally once you earn your Rally Excellent title you can go on the earn a RAE and RACH.

You need to earn 3 qualifications with scores of 170 plus in obedience and 70 plus in Rally. Check out the rulebook to see what is required to earn various titles. And again, you need to earn points in order to achieve some of the higher titles in both obedience and rally.

SPECIAL NEWS FROM AKC

The Lehigh Valley Kennel Club has decided to finally accept All American Dogs into their obedience and rally trials. This is great news because ever since AKC made the decision to accept All American Dogs into their all their events other than conformation, LVKC had refused to accept All Americans into their trials.

SO NOW, ALL AMERICAN HANDLERS, YOU CAN ENTER THEIR SEPTEMBER TRIALS IN SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER!! YOU NOW HAVE SEVERAL MORE GREAT TRIALS TO ENTER AND CLOSE TO HOME!!

BIG HINT

The Delaware Valley German Shepherd Club is holding their annual Obedience trials in Barto (where our show will be held in May) on April 4 and 5. There is no Rally offered but there is conformation.

HOWEVER, FOR ANY OF YOU NEWER MEMBERS WHO ARE ASKING ABOUT OBEDIENCE OR RALLY TRIALS, HERE IS A GREAT TIME TO GO TO VISIT THIS TWO DAY OBEDIENCE TRIAL AND LEARN WHAT GOES ON AT A TRIAL.

The Delaware Valley German Shepherd Dog Club has asked our club for stewards. Their show will be the weekend of April 4th at Orchard Hills Training Center, Barto PA. Please contact Sue Sacco if you can help, she said it will probably not be a long day but they need help.



WEBSITE & FACEBOOK



Send brags and photos to Steve Markowitz and Amanda Greene to put on our website and/or Facebook. They would love to have them and make our website much more interesting. You can also list some great things under ACHIEVEMENTS for this newsletter

PICTURES ARE ALWAYS THE BEST!!!

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

SUNSHINE

I'm saddened to let you all know that Chuck passed away. Final arrangements are still being arranged and will send an update when I get one. Please keep Debbie in your prayers.

This was the announcement from Jeff Achenzie:

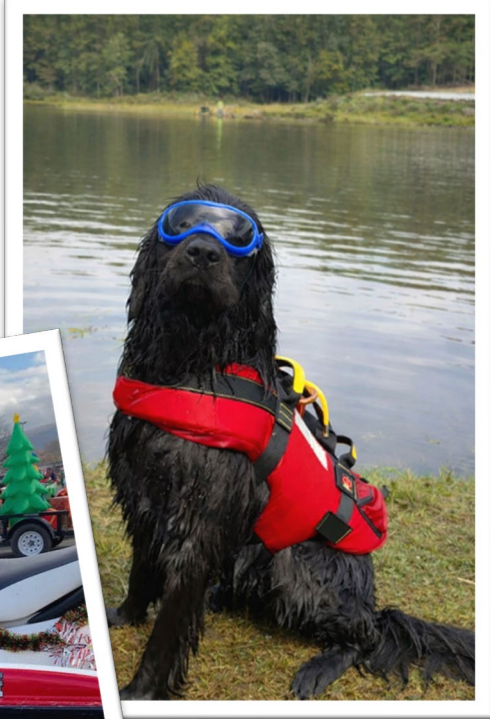
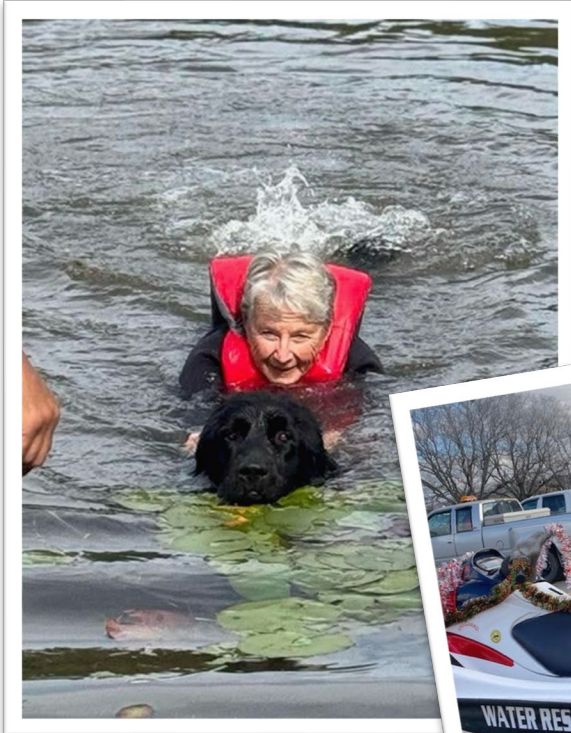
It is with the heaviest of hearts that we share the news of my dad's passing. He peacefully took his final breaths at home with my mom, Jen, and me this morning. He enjoyed his final days at home surrounded by loving family and friends. He definitely laughed, cried, and shared. Dad always wanted the best for everyone else, so please know he appreciated every thought and every prayers. He wanted this fight to go on, but this opponent was one we couldn't beat.

Cards and notes of sympathy can be sent to Debbie at:

Debbie Achenzie
1935 Kensington Road
Bethlehem, Pa 18018

<https://www.cantelmifuneralhome.com/obituaries/Charles-J-Achenzie-Jr?obId=47707925&source=EmSh>

FUN PHOTOS OF LYNN BIRNY & PERCY (more next month)



UPCOMING EVENTS

As mentioned earlier there are several match shows scheduled for the next several months.

- CharWill German Shepherd Rescue has listings in April and May.
- Dauphin DTC has match shows but usually they fill quickly.
- Top Dog in Flanders, New Jersey also has match shows through April and May.
- Once Suburban DTC is settled in their new place, we are hoping they will schedule match shows each month.
- So do check DogMatchShows.com every so often as they often fill quickly especially the Utility and Open Slots.

The Keystone Labrador Retriever Club is holding a FARM DOG TITLING EVENT on Saturday May 16, 2026.

- This is an AKC titling event and it is pass or fail. I believe you only must pass one time to earn the title but do check the rules.
- It is a fun title like the FETCH title to get more people into doing fun things with their dogs and earn titles in the process. See the flyer below. It is held at 8120 Dietz Lane, Coopersburg, PA 18036.

(SEE FARM POSTER AT THE END)

ASK THE JUDGE.

- How many times have you wondered where I lost points and what did I or my dog (mainly the human) do wrong. Well, Country K9 in Albrightsville is holding such an event with Judge Nancy Withers. Many of us know who Nancy is and she is always one of our favorite judges. She will be telling us what she is looking for and how you can lose points. See the flyer below for more information.

It will be well worth your time to attend and learn more!!



ASK THE JUDGE
* See the ring through a judge's eyes *

FEATURING: AKC & Rally Obedience Judge
Nancy Withers

WHAT THIS IS:

- Run a Rally course with a judge's perspective
- Learn what scores—and why
- Q&A with an AKC Rally Judge

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: New or experienced handlers ready to improve their Rally game!

DATE & TIME: May 30, 2026
10:00 AM — 2:00 PM

CONTACT / REGISTRATION:
✉ countryk9club@gmail.com
Spots are limited — Message to register!

CLUB MEMBERS \$50
NON MEMBERS \$65

ChatGPT

HOW TO GET YOUR DOG TO LISTEN

10 WAYS TO GET YOUR DOG TO LISTEN. (WITHOUT LOSING YOUR VOICE OR YOUR SANITY)

IF YOUR DOG “DOESN’T LISTEN” THEY ARE NOT BEING STUBBORN.THEY ARE RESPONDING PERFECTLY TO WHAT’S WORKING FOR THEM.HERE’S HOW TO TIP THE BALANCE BACK IN YOUR FAVOR.

1. TALK LESS.

REPEATING CUES TURNS THEM INTO BACKGROUND NOISE. SAY IT ONCE. MEAN IT.

2. BE WORTH LISTENING TO.

IF THE ENVIROMENT IS MORE REWARDING THAN YOU ARE YOUR DOG WILL CHOOSE IT. EVERY TIME.

3. STOP NAGGING.

LOUDER IS NOT CLEARER. DIAGNOSE WHY THE CUE FAILED, INSTEAD OF REPEATING IT.

4. DROP THE GRUMP.

DOG’S DO NOT FOLLOW MISERABLE LEADERS. CLARIETY BEATS CRANKINESS.

5. REWARD THE ALMOST.

SMALL CHOICES BUILD BIG BEHAVIOUR. REINFORCE PROGRESS, NOT JUST PERFECTION.

6. MANAGE FIRST.

NO RECALL? NO OFF-LEAD. TRAINING WITHOUT MANAGEMENT JUST REHEARSES FAILURE.

7. TONE MATTERS:

DOGS HEAR EMMOTION, NOT VOCABULARY. KEEP CUES CONSISTENT IN SOUND AND INTENT.

8. PROOF PROPELY.

IF IT ONLY WORKS AT HOME, IT DOESN’T WORK. BUILD SKILLS GRADUALLY.

9. USE REAL REINFORCEMENT.

A REWARD ISN’T A REINFORCER UNLESS THE DOG WOULD WORK FOR IT AGAIN.

10. FULFILL THE DOG.

MEET THEIR BIOLOGICAL NEEDS AND LISTENING STOPS BEING A BATTLE.

FINAL THOUGHT:

DOGS LISTEN TO WHAT WORKS, WHAT PAYS, AND WHAT MAKES SENSE IN THEIR WORLD. FIX THE SYSTEM, AND THE BEHAVIOR FOLLOWS.

THIS ARTICLE COMES FROM <https://www.facebook.com/K9ManhuntScentworkScotland>
WRITTEN BY SIMON CHAPMAN

**THE POWER OF FOCUS IN DOG TRAINING. THIS IS WHERE MOST PEOPLE GO WRONG.
THEY TRY TO FIX EVERYTHING AT ONCE.**

- LOOSE LEAD WALKING, RECALL, SIT, DOWN, STOP BARKING, DON'T PULL, COME BACK.

ALL IN THE SAME SESSION. AND THEN THEY WONDER WHY BOTH THEY AND THE DOG FEEL FRAZZLED.
TRAINING IS NOT ABOUT DOING MORE.

IT'S ABOUT DOING ONE THING PROPERLY. YES, ALL SKILLS ARE CONNECTED.

- RECALL INVOLVES ENGAGEMENT.
- HEEL INVOLVES IMPULSE CONTROL.
- REACTIVITY INVOLVES EMOTIONAL REGULATION.

**BUT YOUR DOG CAN ONLY LEARN ONE CLEAR LESSON AT A TIME.
WHEN YOU FOCUS ON A SINGLE GOAL PER SESSION:**

- COMMUNICATION BECOMES CLEARER.
 - CONFIDENCE BUILDS FASTER.
 - FRUSTRATION DROPS.
 - PROGRESS SPEEDS UP.

YOUR KNOWLEDGE SHOULD BE BROAD.

YOUR SESSIONS SHOULD BE NARROW.

PICK ONE OBJECTIVE.

APPLY ALL YOUR SKILLS TO THAT ONE THING.

FINISH ON A WIN.

LAYER BEHAVIOURS OVER TIME INSTEAD OF JUGGLING THEM ALL AT ONCE.

CLARITY ISN'T BORING. CLARITY IS POWERFUL.

TRAIN ONE THING WELL TODAY, AND WATCH EVERYTHING ELSE IMPROVE TOMORROW.

<https://www.facebook.com/K9ManhuntScentworkScotland>

INTERESTING WEBSITES

<https://k9manhuntscotland.co.uk/>

<https://the-gsd-hub-club.mn.co/>

Premium List



**Farm Dog Certification Test
2 Trials A and B**

Event # 2026697901

Event # 2026697903

(Trials will run concurrently)

Saturday, May 16, 2026 8:00 a.m.

8120 Dietz Lane, Coopersburg, PA 18036

**Officers of the
Keystone Labrador Retriever Club at the time the premium is distributed.**

President.....Karen Vare
Vice President..... Mickie Kelly
Recording Secretary Jody Parisi
Treasurer.....Ann Tyler

Board of Directors
Gail Scatton, Shirley Spinelli, Carol Fiorito,
Nancy Guerrini

Judges
Karen Vare, Jody Parisi

PLEASE NOTE:

Bitches in season will not be allowed on the grounds.

Dogs to be shown on flat buckle collars.

Flat Qualifying Ribbons will be awarded to those who pass and Rosettes to those who obtain a New Title.

Entry Fees:

Mail Entries with Fees: Payable in U.S. Funds to K.L.R.C

Pre-registered	\$35.00	Day of Test (walk-up) (if space available)	\$40.00
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Dogs must be 9 months of age to participate.

Entries close on May 1, 2026 or when the limit is reached of 30 dogs at 6:00 pm at the Test Secretary's address. The Test Secretary will do the drawing for running order at this time. **Walk-up entries will be accepted up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the test if space available.**

8:00 – 8:45A Check-In. Walk Through
8:45A – Test Dog
Judging Begins 9:00A

LAND USE COURTESY: The clubs asking **ALL** exhibitors & spectators to be courteous while at the site. We should **NOT** drive or park in any fields, block the roadways, or litter. Remember to clean up after yourself and your dogs! Thank you.

THERE WILL BE LUNCH available at the Test Site.
Please bring water for your dogs.

PLEASE SIGN THE WAIVER ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE PREMIUM

Please complete entry both forms and mail along with your entry fee (checks payable in US funds) to **K.L.R.C.**

Mail to:

Shirley Spinelli, Test Secretary
8120 Dietz Lane
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Phone: (610) 965-3950
e-mail: blkoaklabs@ptd.net

Directions to Test Site

From Philadelphia:

Route 76 to King of Prussia. Take PA Turnpike (Route 276) East to Mid-County Exit towards Allentown North. Take Route 476 North to Exit 44. Exit turnpike and turn left onto John Fries Hwy (Route 663) for 1.2 miles. At traffic light turn left onto Allentown Rd for 2.6 miles. Turn left onto Limeport Rd for 0.3 mile. Turn left onto Urffers Rd for 0.5 mile. At stop sign turn right onto Dietz Lane. Destination is gray house on the corner.

From South New Jersey:

Take New Jersey Turnpike north to Exit 6 for PA Turnpike East to Mid-County Exit (Route 476 North). Follow Philadelphia directions above.

From New York & Northern New Jersey:

Get on Route 78 East into Pennsylvania. Follow to Exit 60A. Depart 60A on ramp (north) for 0.2 miles towards PA-309S/Quakertown. Stay on PA 309 for 0.6 mile. Keep right onto ramp for 0.2 mile towards Center Valley Parkway/W Saucon Valley Rd. Turn right onto W Saucon Valley Rd for 0.6 mile. Turn left onto Limeport Pike for 4.6 miles. Turn left onto Leh St for 0.3 mile. Keep straight onto Bellgate Rd for 0.7 mile. Turn right onto Dietz Lane for 0.2 mile. Destination is on right (Gray house on the corner).

Keystone Labrador Retriever Club

Farm Dog Certification Test

EVENT #2026697901

Saturday, May 16, 2026

A TEST

Pre-Entr: \$35.00 _____ Day of Test or Late Entries: \$40.00

(please print clearly)

Breed: _____ Sex: _____

Dogs Name: _____

Call Name: _____

Registration No: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Breeder: _____

Sire: _____

Dam: _____

Actual
Owner: _____ Handler: _____

Owners Address: _____

Signature: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Club/Judges' Use

Judges Signatures

Dog No: _____ Judge: _____

Pass/Fail: _____ Judge: _____

Keystone Labrador Retriever Club

Farm Dog Certification Test

EVENT #2026697903

Saturday, May 16, 2026

B TEST

Pre-Entry: \$35.00 _____ Day of Test or Late Entries: \$40.00
(please print clearly)

Breed: _____ Sex: _____

Dogs Name: _____

Call Name: _____

Registration No: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Breeder: _____

Sire: _____

Dam: _____

Actual Owner: _____ Handler: _____

Owners Address: _____

Signature: _____

Phone:(_____) _____ Email: _____

Club/Judges' Use

Judges Signatures

Dog No: _____ Judge: _____

Pass/Fail: _____ Judge: _____

Waiver of Liability

I HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE THE KEYSTONE LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB, its members, any owners and lessees of premises used to conduct the ACTIVITY(IES) and any others who may give recommendations, directions or instructions or engage in risk evaluation or loss control activities regarding the premises or ACTIVITY(IES), and each of them, their directors, officers, agents, and employees (all referred to herein as "Releasees"), FROM ALL LIABILITY TO THE UNDERSIGNED, his or her personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin FOR ANY AND ALL LOSS OR DAMAGE, AND ANY CLAIM OR DEMANDS THEREOF ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY TO THE PERSON OR PROPERTY OR RESULTING IN DEATH OF THE UNDERSIGNED ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE ACTIVITY(IES), WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE.

In signing this Release I fully recognize that if I am hurt or my property is damaged arising out of or related to the ACTIVITY(IES), I will have no right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against the Releasees, even if they or any of them caused my injury or damage.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please complete entry and mail along with your entry fee (checks payable in US funds) to **K.L.R.C.** Mail to:

Shirley Spinelli, Test Secretary
8120 Dietz Lane
Coopersburg, PA 18036

ASK THE JUDGE

** See the ring through a judge's eyes **

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