



# BARKS & BYTES NEWSLETTER



Newsletter editor: Jacqui Hartranft | Email: [japhart@ptd.net](mailto:japhart@ptd.net)

Newsletter co-editor: Stacey Nash | Email: [staceyhayesnash@gmail.com](mailto:staceyhayesnash@gmail.com)

## Welcome to the ADTC **APRIL** issue of the Barks & Bytes

**Welcome to the Allentown Dog Training Club April newsletter, BARKS & BYTES.** Hopefully Spring is now on the way after this very cold and snowy winter. I am starting to see GREEN when looking out my kitchen window (while doing the dishes). It certainly took forever for the ice to melt from our pond. The dogs, mainly Abbey and Tucker, have already tried out the water. Cooper is smart enough to know that it is too cold!! Abbey and Tucker only go in up to their bellies but once the weather gets warmer, I am sure they will be swimming and (hopefully) keeping the geese away!

The opening date for our Spring point show in Barto, Orchard Hill Training Center, was April 1. We hope that those of you (especially Rally people) have entered and not waited. Last year those who waited found themselves on a wait list. ADTC is recognized for hosting excellent Obedience and Rally point shows. As always, we need help to put on this large obedience/rally trial. ... When Gail James, asks, please offer to help.

### **REMEMBER MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK FOR ALL!!!**

If you had a chance to read the March newsletter, you would find some great pictures sent by Lynn Birney. She is the lady who comes to class with her wonderful Newfoundland, Nigel. Did you know that she has another Newfoundland, Percy? Both of them are training for water rescue. They do their training in the warmer weather Beltsville State Park. Lynn has graciously written a wonderful article about Newfoundlands and water rescue but it was a little too lengthy for the newsletter. However she did cut it down a bit and it is here in the April newsletter! Sometime will will share the longer story since it tells all about Newfoundlands and water rescue. Both of her dogs are rescued Newfoundlands. So look for her article in this newsletter!

**So, enjoy the BARKS & BYTES.**

– all the best, *Jacqui*



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## 2025 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Here is the slate of officers we elected for 2026.

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

### ADTC committee chairs

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



## PET FOOD DRIVE

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**Our pet food drive for the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley is ongoing.** Joanne Summers has offered to continue collecting pet food and items and then when there is enough, she will take our donations to the Animal Food Bank. They are so appreciative of what we have donated to them. The need is always great and as a bonus it keeps pets in their homes and out of shelters!!

## ALLENTOWN DOG TRAINING CLUB GROUP EMAIL

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The group email is: [ADTC-MembershipGroup@groups.io](mailto:ADTC-MembershipGroup@groups.io)

## TRAINING

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**The new six-week training session has started on April 15<sup>th</sup>.** Terry Papineau, our training director, sends out the class schedule in plenty of time for members to send in for their classes. We hope that everyone was able to get in the classes that they wanted. Some classes will take drop-ins so check with the instructor before coming to be sure that there is room. Terry tries very hard to schedule as many classes as she has requests for in the limited time we have the building. And we would like to add many thanks to Terry and all our instructors for all their hard work in teaching Competitive Obedience and Rally to our members.

But remember, most classes are around an hour or so each week. It is up to you, the student, to work with your dog on the things you have learned in class at home. With the weather getting a bit warmer there are many things you can do outside (as well as inside). A little time spent doing a few things like doodling, straight fronts and finishes and recalls are just a few of the things that come to mind. Also for those thinking they might like to learn about Open, this is a good time to introduce your dog to holding a dumbbell.

In looking for places to train, there are parking lots at various places, like schools, businesses, churches among other places which are not used on weekends. The Park here in Macungie is very dog friendly. Get together with several friends and start training at different places. Tennis courts are good IF they allow dogs. If someone has jumps or a few gates so much the better. Here is hoping the now warmer weather is on the way.

# MEMBERSHIP

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Debbie Achenzie has announced the following new members to ADTC. Please be sure to welcome them when you see them in class.

**Maggi Daly, Maggi has a border collie**

and

**Allyson Oliveria**

WELCOME  
to the club

\*Additionally, Deb has asked to step down as Membership Chair; she has been thinking about it for a few years. Right now is a slow time for membership, and Deb would be able to work with you to get you ready for the renewal season, which begins in October. Deb will help as long as necessary. \*

Please reach out to Gail if you are willing to accept this position.



obedience

fancy dress

oldest

best trick

naughtiest

# SPRING SHOW

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As was announced by Gail James, many times, our show which will be held on May 16 opened on April 1. It is held at Orchard Hill Training Center in Barto where it has been for many years. You must enter by going to <https://ShowEntries.info>.

ShowEntries has been our Superintendent for many years. If you have entered through them before, you are already on their list, so all you have to do is to follow the directions listed when you type into their website. If you are new to them, you will have to register and get your name and your dog's name and AKC number on their list. Be sure to follow the directions. It is not difficult and once you are registered, you never have to do it again. After April 1, either on or after that date, preferably on, do not wait to enter especially for Rally, as you could be wait listed as it has been filling fast. There is plenty of parking and crating and great food being served by the local Boy Scout Troop.



We also want to make everyone aware that the Berks Dog Training Club will also be holding their annual Obedience and Rally Trial the day after our trial, Sunday, May 17. Their trial also opens on April 1 and you also enter using ShowEntries so you can enter both at the same time. It is a joint effort by both Clubs to get everything together like gates, jumps, etc put up on Friday before the shows and then taken down on Sunday after their show. Needless to say, it is a great way to get points and finish titles at the same place for two days!!!

## ....and remember!

**We will need help setting up and tearing down & Members to serve as stewards.**

**So please help when Gail asks.**



## ADTC AWARDS PROGRAM

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Judy Lasso and Pat Gombocz are busy at work checking the information you sent to them. They make sure the information is correct and then order the plaques and certificates—again making sure that spelling, etc is correct.

Our annual awards will be held on June 6 in the Lions Pavilion. We will have a great picnic with lots of wonderful food and fellowship. This gives members a great time to get together and catch up especially with those who do not get to meetings. And then later on the awards will be announced and plaques, plates and certificates will be awarded.

Also on display with all the present awards are the plaques and plates listing all the previous award winners from way back!! Since I was lucky enough to have a Labrador Retriever, named Emmett, who started me on the wonderful journey, I always look for his name under Utility Dog title holders. And now in addition to Emmett, I now, also, have Abbey and Cooper with their plates listed under Utility Dog title holders

The Allentown Dog Training Club hopes and everyone who is training their dogs, strive for one or more of these awards. What a wonderful feeling to be recognized by our fellow members. So mark your calendars with the June 6 date. More information will be coming.

## NATIONAL OBEDIENCE AND RALLY CHAMPIONSHIPS

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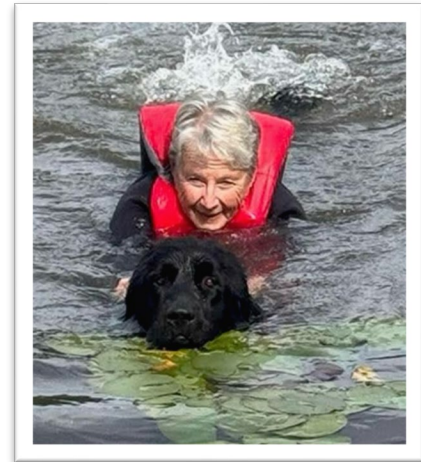
These prestigious events will be held in Ohio on July 16 and 17 for Obedience and July 18 and 19 for Rally. Last year one of our own, Lisa Cronk and her Malinois, Bauer, made the trip to Purina Farms to participate in the Rally National Championship. Lisa wrote a wonderful article on her experience there for BARKS & BYTES and it is in the September 2025 newsletter. Look it up if you had not read it before. Judy Skorup has also gone several times with Great Pyrenes Emma and also wrote about her experience in previous newsletters. If anyone is considering going, please let Stacey and I know. We would love to hear from you.

Both the Obedience and Rally National Championships are on video the whole time it is going on. You can find past videos from last year and beyond as well. So be sure to check them out by going on the AKC TV website.

## MEMBER OF THE MONTH

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This month we would like to feature Lynn Birney and her two Newfoundland dogs, Percy and Nigel. When Lynn sent us some pictures of she and Percy with the water rescue team at Beltsville State Park, we asked her if she would write an article on her and Percy's water rescue work. The pictures are in the March newsletter but I hope we can get them again in this month's newsletter. Nigel, most of you who do obedience and rally may know as he and Lynn come to ADTC classes. Nigel is working in draft and therapy. So Lynn will be a very busy person practicing water rescue with Percy and obedience/rally with Nigel.



Originally Lynn had sent me a great article on the history of Newfoundlands and water rescue. I was afraid it was too long for the newsletter so she sent me the version that is below. However, I would like to see if Stacey and I can cut the original and send it in the newsletter over a period of several months as it is so interesting and so informative. I would like to add that Newfoundlands are not the only breeds involved in water rescue. There are other breeds involved on her team including shepherds, doodles, All Americans and a Cane Corso. She says any dog with a strong love of swimming and solid obedience skills can participate in training. So enjoy what Lynn wrote. And if you think you have a dog who might be interested in doing this, be sure to talk to Lynn about where and how to get started. There are so many things out there we can do with our dogs and really great doing things they were originally bred to do.



## WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

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Send brags and photos to Steve Markowitz and Amanda Greene to put on our website and/or Facebook.

## PICTURES ARE ALWAYS THE BEST!

Steve can be reached at: [smarko1@rcn.com](mailto:smarko1@rcn.com) Amanda can be reached at: [amandamarieregnee@icloud.com](mailto:amandamarieregnee@icloud.com)

## SUNSHINE

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Everyone is happy and healthy to start the spring season!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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After having no ACHIEVEMENTS listed last month, we do not have any this month either. It can be anything, no matter how large or small. Any ACHIEVEMENT you have accomplished with your dog is noteworthy. Hopefully after our show in May and the German Shepherd Club show Easter weekend, we will have some to announce! And pictures are always welcome but not required.

**WE hope that you all had a wonderful and joyful Easter.**

**Enjoy our wonderful Spring weather!**



# THE FOUR QUADRANTS

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## **THE FOUR QUADRANTS OF DOG TRAINING:**

**POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT**  
**NEGATIVE REINFORCEMENT**  
**POSITIVE PUNISHMENT**  
**NEGATIVE PUNISHMENT**

THE FOUR QUADRANTS SIMPLY DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENS AFTER BEHAVIOUR,  
THEY ARE NOT A TRAINING METHOD.

DOGS DON'T ANALYSE TRAINING TECHNIQUES, THEY JUST EXPERIENCE  
OUTCOMES AND ADJUST BEHAVIOUR.

BEHAVIOUR THAT WORKS FOR THE DOG INCREASES.  
BEHAVIOUR THAT DOESN'T PAYOFF DECREASES.

DOGS ARE ALWAYS LEARNING, EVEN WHEN WE THINK WE ARE NOT TRAINING.

IN REAL LIFE TRAINING, MULTIPLE QUADRANTS OFTEN APPEAR IN THE SAME SITUATION.

CLEAR, CONSISTANT CONSEQUENCES MAKE LEARNING FASTER AND LESS CONFUSING FOR THE DOG.  
TIMING MATTERS, THE CONSEQUENCES MUST FOLLOW THE BEHAVIOUR QUICKLY FOR LEARNING TO OCCUR.  
GOOD TRAINERS FOCUS ON THE DOG INFRONT OF THEM, NOT RIGID TRAINING IDEOLOGY.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT MOTIVATES YOUR DOG (FOOD, PLAY MOVEMENT, ATTENTION) SPEEDS UP  
LEARNING.

STRUCTURE AND PREDICTABLE RULES HELP DOGS RELAX AND FEEL SECURE.  
THE REAL GOAL OF TRAINING IS CLARITY AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN DOG AND HANDLER.

## **SIMPLE TRUTH:**

**BEHAVIOUR -> CONSEQUENCES -> BEHAVIOUR CHANGES**

THAT'S HOW EVERY ANIMAL ON THE PLANET LEARNS.