

DOTC Winter 2012

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www.dotc.org

Important Dates

- Jan 9**
Basic and Puppy Orientation
- Feb 20**
General Meeting
- Mar 6**
Basic and Puppy Orientation
- Mar 17**
DOTC Obedience and Rally Trials
- Apr 24**
General Meeting
- May 8**
Fun Match
- May 15**
Fun Match
- Jun 2**
DOTC Picnic

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Official Club Business

2013 DOTC Show

The DOTC 76th Obedience and 9th Rally Trials will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013 at the CTA facilities in Beltsville, MD.

Show premiums are expected to be available in January. See treasurer Judi Ruff for questions on the mailing.

See training director Adam Willie to volunteer for the show. Maps and details will be available at school and at www.dotc.org as the date draws near.

FAQ for St. Patrick's Day Shows

- Q. Does my dog need to wear green?
A. No.
- Q. Will prizes include a pot of gold?



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- A. No.
- Q. Will leprechauns be involved in the judging?
A. Possibly.

Rally Classes 2013

A new Rally Novice training class will be offered this session. Classes are planned for every three weeks and be held in the Beginner Novice ring.

Look for a sign up sheet at the registration table in early January. See

Joy White at school with any questions.

Rally course run-throughs will also be offered during the winter/spring sessions. Check at the registration table for more information.

Eye Certification Registry Clinic

[OFA Eye Certification](#) examinations are screening exams performed by board certified veterinary ophthalmologists.

Bring your dog's information to the exam so the exam form may be completed properly. Required information includes: registration number, owner's name and contact information, dog's registered name, date of birth, sex, breed/variety, and if applicable, permanent identification (via microchip or tattoo).

The exam is performed 30 to 40 minutes after pupil-dilating drops are placed in the eyes. The Eye Certification exam consists of indirect ophthalmoscopy and slit lamp biomicroscopy. It is not a comprehensive ocular

health examination, but rather an eye screening exam.

The following Maryland location will be offering the clinic:

Date: Tuesday, January 8, 2013

Time: 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist:

Jennifer Hyman, VMD, MA, DACVO

Location:

Eye Care for Animals Annapolis
808 Bestgate Road
Annapolis, MD 21401

Call 410.224.4470 for an appointment.

AKC Training Tip — Teach a Trick!

Trick training is a wonderful way to enhance the bond between you and your dog, especially with the inclement weather coming.

Sessions should be kept short and absolutely positive and up-beat. The more enthusiasm you have the more inclined the dog is going to want to participate.

Rewards can be either food, a favorite toy, a game of tug or merely just your enthusiasm : whatever motivation works for your dog.

A few things to keep in mind when teaching your dog tricks:

- Don't train after a meal
- Keep sessions short
- "Jackpot" the behavior you are looking for (several small treats dispensed one at a time)
- Break down the tricks in steps

[AKC Partners News](#) offers instructions on how to teach your dog to skateboard. If you and/or your furry friend are not quite ready to "hang ten" consider training your special pup-a-doo to tidy up his or her toys.

The newsletter recommends breaking this down into several behaviors to produce the desired results, such as teaching a hold, a retrieve, walking while holding an object and releasing an object at a specific location. Piece of cake for DOTC dogs!

Once you've mastered the trick, show us in class or snap a picture and send it in for the newsletter. Seeing is believing!



tricks www.fotosearch.com

Holiday Party 2012

The DOTC Holiday Party was a smashing success! Thanks to everyone who participated and especially to the folks who helped to make it possible!

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. 'Nuff said!



**Dog Owners' Training Club
of MD, Inc.**

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AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence

Meet "Joy," an Akita owned by Priscilla and Terry Sharpe of Klamath, Oregon who is the recipient of the 2012 AKC ACE in the Exemplary Companion category.

The Sharpes were head-over-heels in love with their fluffy new Akita puppy. They expected Joy to be beautiful, loving, and adorable—and they weren't disappointed. But they had no idea Joy would reveal a mysterious life-saving ability that modern science still can't fully explain.



At 7 months old, Joy began reacting oddly to Terry—whining, pacing, circling, pressing her nose hard against his lap and all the while losing her appetite and showing signs of de-

pression. Terry visited a doctor and returned home with terrible news: advanced prostate cancer. Shortly after Terry underwent successful radiation treatment, Joy's behavior returned to normal.

Months later Joy again began alerting, this time on Priscilla. Priscilla went straight to the doctor, and yes, Joy had again alerted on otherwise undetected cancer. There were cancerous polyps on Priscilla's colon, which were successfully removed. Last year, Joy began alerting on Priscilla again.

"I soon learned that it meant 'Sit down before you pass out from low blood sugar!' You see, I'm diabetic," Priscilla explains. "I don't know how she senses these things, but we listen to her warnings without question now.

For more info on the other honorees, visit www.akc.org/news/ace/2012/honorees.cfm.