

OCTOBER  
2011



# VHOC Newsette

Volume 57 Issue 10



Official Newsletter of Valley Hills Obedience Club, Inc.  
P. O. Box 10132, Canoga Park, CA 91309  
VHOC Website: [www.vhoc.org](http://www.vhoc.org)

**Submission deadline is the 8th of each month**

**Membership renewal time! See Page 12 for Renewal Form.**

## VHOC RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED!

It's that time of year again and we are preparing for our upcoming trial in December. We are collecting raffle donations of cash and/or (dog or non-dog) items. We have all received items that aren't right for our dog but may be perfect for someone else. We also need baskets. You can bring your donations to the CPLS training site Tuesday or Thursday night or make arrangements for us to pick up the items at a show or meeting. Please contact Cindi Malchose at [cindi4pets@aol.com](mailto:cindi4pets@aol.com) ahead of time to be sure someone will be there to receive your donations. **We also welcome monetary donations which will be used to purchase larger items as well. You can bring checks to Cindi at the school or mail them to:**



C. Hills, VHOC Treasurer  
10944 Rathburn Avenue  
Northridge, CA 91326

All donations are welcome and needed in order for our raffle to be a success.

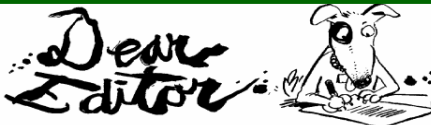
**Thank you,  
Cindi Malchose, Allison Pobirs, Jan Racey and Christy Tattersall — VHOC Raffle Committee**

## VHOC 2011 TRIAL AWARDS FUND DONATIONS NEEDED

Thank you to all who have contributed to the awards fund. If you have not yet pledged sponsorship for a class or made a donation to the General Awards Fund, there's still time to do so. Donors will be acknowledged in our Trial Catalog.

We are requesting a contribution of \$25.00 for each class you choose to sponsor. Class sponsorship will cover first place trophies and rosettes through 4th place. Please help support your Club! For a donation to the General Fund, no amount is too small!

Contact Ann Hills at [tonkanuki@aol.com](mailto:tonkanuki@aol.com)  
for more information or to make a pledge!



Please send brags, photos, announcements, articles, and other information to Carole Hills at: [cahills1@verizon.net](mailto:cahills1@verizon.net)  
**on or before the 8th of each month.**

### Inside this issue

Special Announcements . . . . .	1	Top 10 Pet-Owner Mistakes . . . . .	6-7
Agility Brags, Scores, Photos . . . . .	2	Board Meeting Minutes/Board Members . . . . .	8-9
Obedience Brags, Scores, Photos . . . . .	3	Member News . . . . .	10
Glendale K9 Police Team-Gen. Meeting . . . . .	4	HDLRC Flyer . . . . .	11
Trick-o'-Treat, Stephanie. Colman . . . . .	5	2012 Membership Renewal . . . . .	12

## BRAGS & SCORES

### AGILITY

**Laurie Burnam & Scout:** *September 10-11, 2011, West Coast Cocker Spaniel Club, Industry, CA:*  
Exc JWW, 100 Q, 6 MACH pts; Exc Std, 100 Q, 10 MACH pts, Exc JWW, 100 Q, 5 MACH pts.  
**Double Q #15, 577 points to date.**

**Laurie Burnam & Scout:** *September 24-25, 2011, S. California Collie Club, Van Nuys, CA*  
Exc JWW, 100 Q, 6 MACH pts, Exc Std, 100 Q, 18 MACH pts, Exc JWW, 100 Q, 7 MACH pts.  
**Double Q #16, 605 MACH points to date.**

**Laurie Burnam & Scout:** *October 1-2, 2011, Hollywood Dog OC, Camarillo, CA:*  
Exc B Std, 100 Q, 14 MACH pts, Exc B Std, 100 Q, 15 MACH pts, Exc B JWW, 100 Q, 5 MACH pts.  
**Double Q #17, 639 points to date.** 3 QQs still needed and 111 points, so close I can taste it...

**Laurie Burnam & Scout:** *October 8-9, 2011, Simi Valley KC, Van Nuys, CA:*  
Exc B JWW, 100, 6 MACH pts; Exc B JWW, 100, 7 MACH pts—just need 98 points and 3 QQs.

**“Many dogs are invited to the AKC National Agility Championships each year, some from our own club, and this weekend Scout achieved the requirements of 6 double Q’s and 400 points between Dec 1, 2010 and Nov 30, 2011 and is included in that list. I am so excited to be part of such a prestigious event to be held next March in Reno”.**

**Janelle Farkas & Taxi:** ASCA Agility Finals, Wisconsin:

**Sharon writes:** “Janelle and Taxi competed in Wisconsin in their last ASCA Agility Finals as a Junior. Janelle and Taxi took First Place and are the ASCA Overall Junior Agility Champions for 2011! This is the second time they have won this award. Taxi was spectacular this year at Nationals and Finals and has already qualified to compete at next year’s finals in Bakersfield”.

**Ann Hills & Trace:** *September 24-25, 2011, NADAC, Manzanita Agility Club, Lakeview Terrace, CA:*

Elite Chances, 10-Q, 1st Leg; Elite Tunnelers, 2nd Place, 2nd Leg, Elite Hoopers, 10-Q, 4th Place, 3rd Leg—**HP-E Title!**

**Ann Hills & Trace:** *October 1, 2011, HDOC, Camarillo, CA:*  
Open Standard, 100 Q, 2nd Place—**OA Title!**

**Carole Hills & Tucker:** *September 24-25, 2011, NADAC, Manzanita Agility Club, Lakeview Terrace, CA:*

Elite Tunnelers, 9th Leg, Elite Touch N Go—**TG-E Title! Elite Versatility NATCH!!**

**Carole Hills & Tucker:** *October 1, 2011, Hollywood Dog OC, Camarillo, CA:*  
Exc-P JWW, 100, 2nd Place—**AJP Title!**

**Debbie Lang & Quila:** *September 10-11, 2011, WC Cocker Spaniel Club, City of Industry, CA:*  
**Double Q #17 and 18, 28 MACH points for the weekend.**

**Debbie Lang & Quila:** *September 23-25, 2011, So. California Collie Club, Van Nuys, CA:*  
T2B—Qs #9 and 10, **Double Q #19, 16 MACH points for the weekend.**

**Debbie Lang & Quila:** *October 1-2, 2011, Hollywood Dog Obedience Club, Camarillo, CA:*  
T2B—Qs #11 and 12.

**Debbie Lang & Quila:** *October 8, 2011, Simi Valley KC, Van Nuys, CA:*  
T2B—Q #13, up to 65 points of the 100 needed.



### CGC TEST & RALLY

**Debbie Lang & Fable:** *September 18, 2011, Antelope Valley KC Sanctioned Match, Quartz Hill, CA:*

**Fable, the Norwegian Elkhound, passed her CGC test on her first try, and she was entered at the match in AKC Novice Rally for the first time and had a qualifying score of 88. That was even with her staring at the Sheriff’s car that was parked about 40 feet from the ring on the grass.**

## BRAGS & SCORES

### OBEDIENCE

**Laurie Burnam & Scout:** *September 13-14, 2011, ASCA West Coast Australian Shepherd Club, CA:*  
Advanced B 200 1st place 1st leg **HIT**, Advanced B 199 1st place 2nd leg, Advanced B 200 1st place 3rd leg missed HIT by 1 point—**RAX Title!** This gives Scout her 52nd title overall in agility, obedience and rally. A golden moment and a goal of mine. But we hope more are still to come.

**Dawn Esposito and Luna:** *September 10, 2011, ASCA, San Diego ASC of San Diego Co., San Diego, CA:*



"Luna and I competed in both trials. This was our first obedience event (competing in the Novice A group). Even though I was the only Novice A competitor, I was proud of our qualifying scores (189 in AM show under Barbara Nowak and 188.5 in PM show under Lynn Hamon) and receiving 1st place. The biggest thrill though was receiving HIT Aussie for both trials! I had to look at my arm band to check my number because I thought the judge must be making a mistake as she walked toward me with the rosette! It was a great day spending time with fun people and my precious girl, Luna! Now, back to training!"



**Allison Pobirs and Quinn:** *September 10, 2011, ASCA, San Diego ASC of San Diego Co., San Diego, CA:*



"Quinn was the first dog in the ring - Utility B working for his titling leg. He had moments of brilliance but, alas, did not qualify in the morning trial. In the second trial we completed our ASCA UD with a 196.5+ out of Utility B *and* participated in a run off for HIT overall and HIT Other Breed! Quinn was first dog in Utility B and the trial itself in the first trial; he worked *really* nicely but had NQs in two exercises, easy to do in Utility. Still we had compliments and I was happy with him. There was a 30-minute break between trials. Small trial blessed with pleasant weather and the incredible companionship of the other competitors. Quinn was lively, happy and enthusiastic. When his confidence faded he worked right thru it. The entire day was done at 2:30 PM. So pleased with my partner!!"



**2011 has been a very exciting year with Quinn, a Novice A dog....AKC and ASCA UDs!**

**Flo Walberg & Tailor:** *September 17-18, 2011, Santa Maria, CA:*

Utility B 197, 1st Place, Utility B, 196, 2nd Place, Open B, 198.5, 1st Place—**High in Trial!**



## OBEDIENCE TRAINING EQUIPMENT

Flo Walberg has armbands, attention belts and armband sticks for sale.

Call Flo at (818) 341-6739 or email [OTCHFLO3@aol.com](mailto:OTCHFLO3@aol.com)

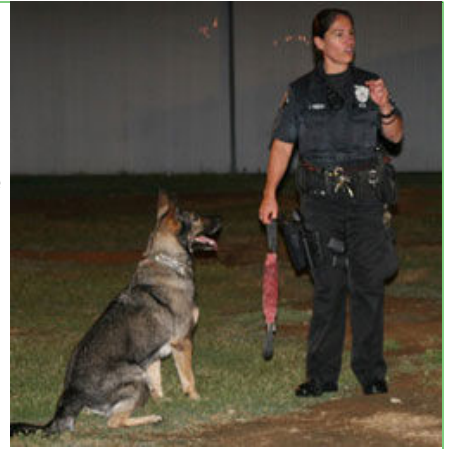
## October 7 General Meeting—Glendale Police K9 Team

By Stephanie Colman

On Friday, Oct. 7, VHOC members were treated to an up close and personal demonstration of Police K9 work by Glendale PD K9 team Ofc. Maribel Feeley and “Yudy.” Feeley and Yudy are presently the only working K9 team at GPD, due to the recent retirement of other dogs. As such, our demo nearly didn’t happen thanks to an emergency call about a man wielding a knife and threatening to kill someone, which sent Feeley and Yudy into action. Fortunately the incident was resolved quickly and Ofc. Feeley was kind enough to race across town in order to keep her demo commitment. (Thanks again to the patient members who were willing to wait for her arrival.)

Ofc. Feeley and Yudy wasted no time getting down to business. She shared a bit of Yudy’s training history. Yudy, born in Germany, came to the United States in 2005 at 17 months old to continue her training in police work. Once paired with Feeley, they spent four weeks attending patrol school, followed by cross training to become certified in apprehending fleeing suspects and lost individuals, narcotics detection and hard-surface tracking. When not working, Yudy goes home with Ofc. Feeley. When the time comes for her to retire, she’ll transition from the role of Feeley’s partner to her pet.

Throughout the presentation, Yudy remained alert and focused on her handler. When left in a down-stay so Ofc. Feeley could get something from her car, Yudy crept just far enough to keep Feeley under her watchful eye. After six years of working together, it’s clear that some degree of “intelligent disobedience” is allowable when it comes to keeping an eye out for your partner.



The highlight of the evening (at least for me!) came when Yudy demonstrated her suspect apprehension bite-work. I willingly donned the training sleeve and subjected myself to Yudy’s alligator grip. I’m not sure who was having more fun, me or Yudy! Biting the sleeve is a great game to police dogs, and it was interesting to see that portrayed in her energy during the pre-bite bark-and-hold. Having professionally been on the receiving end of truly aggressive dogs with a willness to do harm, this definitely had a different energy. (Not that it wouldn’t scare the bejeebers out of a bad guy, especially in the context of a true apprehension situation.) Yudy and I wrestled on the sleeve for a bit and on Ofc. Feeley’s cue as I stopped resisting, Yudy released the sleeve and downed, keeping a very close eye on me, ready to pounce if given the chance. And boy was she ready! Ofc. Feeley conducted a faux suspect pat-down and suggested I make a move for her. BAM! Yudy was there, nearly knocking me off my feet. Those dogs hit with power – I have the bruises to prove it. Later, Ofc. Feeley and I discussed the art of “muzzle fighting” which is how they teach the dogs

to hit with great force. Apprehension sessions are often trained with the dogs fully muzzled. When unable to use their teeth, they have to rely on body strength in order overpower and help subdue a suspect.

Later, we watched as Yudy performed an article search, looking for Ofc. Feeley’s keys that she’d gone and dropped somewhere in the field. Yudy used her powerful nose to detect fresh human scent and downed as an indication that she’d found an article.

Yudy was regularly rewarded between exercises with the chance to tug on a toy. Glendale PD uses a mix of compulsion (excluding the use of e-collars) and positive reinforcement in training. (See “Positive Protection” for a look at how some agencies are transitioning to **primarily** positive reinforcement methods.) Often, as Ofc. Feeley spoke to the group, Yudy cruised around amongst us, seemingly taunting us with her toy; she’d get just close enough to reach for but not quite get it. While friendly and considered “safe” out in public, she clearly is a one-officer dog.

As a token of appreciation for their time, VHOC made a \$100 donation to the Glendale Police K9 Foundation. A little-known fact is that K9 units are historically under-funded by government money. The police department generally pays the officers’ salaries but anything else (cost of obtaining dogs, training, protective gear, etc.) must be funded by donations. This feels especially crazy when you realize that statistically, K9 handlers are involved in more gun battles than any other officer due to their work with the dogs who are often sent in first to apprehend dangerous suspects. Support your local Police K9 agency...they need it!

For a chance to see Ofc. Feeley and Yudy in action (without having to break a law in Glendale!), check out the annual Glendale K9’s in the Park on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Verdugo Park. Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome. For more info, visit: <http://www.glendalek9.com/default.asp>.



(The article “Positive Protection” originally appeared in Whole Dog Journal and is attached with permission)

## Handling Your Dog when Trick o' Treaters Visit

Stephanie Colman, Caninestein Dog Training

It's that time of year again. The days are getting shorter, the weather should soon be getting cooler, and before you know it, hoards of costume-clad trick-o'-treaters will be trekking their way around San Fernando Valley neighborhoods collecting a sugary stash.

For the proactive dog owner, Halloween presents a number of wonderful training opportunities. If you plan to stay home and pass out candy on Halloween, consider this easy-to-implement training exercise, recommended by the training team at J9's K9s Dog Training.

### Train My Dog for Treats:

As darkness falls, set up a pressure-mounted baby-gate in your front doorway. (You'll need to prop your screen door all the way open, if you have one.) You can find baby gates for approximately \$20 in the baby section of discount stores. A 32" gate is recommended. You'll be leaving your front door open with the gate in place throughout the evening. Grab a chair for yourself and a spot for the dog. This will be your "post" for the night. If you're concerned that your dog might try and jump over or plow through the baby gate, attach his leash to use as an emergency handle. Do not leave your dog unattended near the gate while the front door is open.

Place a bowl of tasty dog treats on your porch, on the opposite side of the gate from you and your dog. Soft treats, such as Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Dog Food Roll, work best. If you have a lot of trick-or-treaters, your dog will be eating a lot of treats, so be sure to use something you can cut into small pieces. Do not feed your dog dinner on Halloween – he'll be working for it – and we don't want to overfeed him. If your dog has a sensitive stomach or cannot tolerate lots of treats, consider using his regular kibble as a treat. If your dog is not food-motivated, but really likes to play with and retrieve toys, keep a basket of his toys on your porch to use instead. Keep your Halloween candy inside with you, but make sure it's out of your dog's reach.

As the trick-or-treaters approach and ask for candy, ask that each child first pick up a dog treat or toy. Instruct them to hold it high above your dog's head and ask him to "sit". Be prepared to help out as needed because this will be exciting for everyone! Once the dog sits, ask the child to either toss your dog the treat or toy, or if your dog likes children and can take treats with a soft mouth, the child can hand him the treat. If your dog has trouble taking treats gently, children can also hand **you** a treat to give to your dog when he sits. Dole out a piece of candy and repeat with the next visiting ghost or goblin.

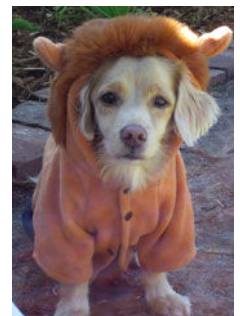
The rewards of this program are many: It's wonderful socialization for your dog to interact with ghosts, goblins and superheroes in a positive manner. The costume-clad "little people" aren't so scary when they're bringing your dog his dinner! Not only that, your dog is getting a LOT of practice with "sit" around many exciting distractions. Additionally, by keeping the front door open and watching for trick-or-treaters, you're preventing the seemingly endless ringing of your doorbell – and the associated barking of your dog that frequently accompanies it.

Keep in mind that not every dog makes an appropriate candidate for this training exercise. If your dog has a known aggression problem, it's best to keep him confined in a crate or another room of your home. Make sure to give him something wonderful to do, like work to extract his dinner out of a KONG® toy.

If your plans include escorting a group of trick-or-treaters on their candy-collecting journey, take your dog with you. Work on polite leash walking as you traverse the neighborhood and ask for short sit or down-stays while you wait with your dog as the kids go to each door. Be sure to take dog treats with you for rewarding *spook-tacularly* good behavior! Don't forget the poop baggies.

If your Halloween plans do not include your dog, be sure to leave him indoors rather than alone outside in the yard. You don't want your beloved canine companion to fall victim to a Halloween prank. Even if your dog is not physically injured, the experience can frighten and traumatize him. Leave your dog in a confined, "dog-proofed" area (for example, in a crate or baby-gated in your kitchen or laundry room) away from front-facing windows to prevent possible arousal from watching the hoards of people that will pass by your house. Check to make sure that any candle-lit pumpkins are completely out of reach, along with the Halloween candy. Turn off your porch light if nobody will be home to hand out candy and put a heavy duty piece of tape over your doorbell to prevent children from ringing it all night, which can be very arousing for your dog inside. Consider leaving a bowl of candy outside on your porch with a note inviting children to take a piece, to further prevent unnecessary doorbell ringing.

In training dogs, the best results are seen from training a little and often and by incorporating training exercises into your everyday activities. With a little pre-planning, the holidays are no exception and a howling good time can be had by all.



# The Top 10 Pet-Owner Mistakes

By Megan Kaplan

Submitted by Linda Brooks via [SCDOC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SCDOC@yahoogroups.com)

**Avoid common errors, and keep your four-legged pal healthy and well-behaved.**

## Mistake 1: Buying a Pet Spontaneously

**Why this is a mistake:** That doggie in the window may be darling, but he might not be the right fit for your family or lifestyle.

**How to avoid it:** Fully inform yourself before you bring home a pet. Every dog or cat has its own needs, some of which are specific to the breed. Terriers tend to dig; Abyssinians explore and climb. If there's a breed that interests you, read up on it (try the website of the American Kennel Club, at [akc.org](http://akc.org), or the Cat Fanciers Association, at [cfainc.org](http://cfainc.org)), talk to owners, and get to know someone else's Border collie or Persian. That said, not every dog or cat is typical of its breed, so ask about the pet's history, health, and temperament. When dealing with a breeder, you should be shown where the pet was raised and meet his parents.

## Mistake 2: Skipping Obedience Training

**Why this is a mistake:** Bad habits can be difficult to train out of a pet. So unless you have the know-how to school an animal, you need the help of a pro.

**How to avoid it:** Even before a puppy starts formal training, teach him simple commands, such as sit and stay. A puppy can begin formal training at eight weeks and ideally before 12 weeks, after he has had his shots.

"Between the ages of 8 and 16 weeks, puppies readily absorb information about the world around them," says Andrea Arden, author of *Dog-Friendly Training*. To help a dog stick with good behaviors, every few years take him for a refresher course



## Mistake 3: Being Inconsistent With the Rules

**Why this is a mistake:** If one child lets Fifi on the bed and another punishes her for it, the animal will be confused. Bad behavior is inevitable.

**How to avoid it:** Make sure everyone in your household knows—and follows—the rules, says Arden. "You want your dog to sit before eating a treat? You don't want your kitten to pounce on your hands? Then figure out a system that will help your pet succeed." Pets thrive with a sense of order, so discuss with your family when yours should be fed, exercised, and even given a treat.

## Mistake 4: Dispensing Too Many Free Treats

**Why this is a mistake:** Treats lose their training value if your pet gets them for no reason.

**How to avoid it:** "Think of treats as currency given to a pet to reward good behavior," says Marty Becker, a veterinarian and a coeditor of [Petconnection.com](http://Petconnection.com).

Assign each type of treat a value, and pay according to how well your pet behaves. Kibble is worth a dollar; a chicken strip, five; bologna, 10. "But it's important to not pay off the good behavior all the time," Becker says. "That way, your dog will always hope he might get that piece of bologna, and he'll eventually perform without seeing a treat."



## Mistake 5: Neglecting to Socialize Your Pet

**Why this is a mistake:** Pets that aren't exposed to a variety of animals and people at a very young age can develop fears and aggressive behavior.

**How to avoid it:** Introduce your pet to adults, kids, animals, and environments so he'll take every novelty in stride. It's optimal for a pet to start the process before you bring him home, since the critical socialization period is early in life. "For a dog, it's between the ages of 3 and 12 weeks. For cats, it's between 2 and 8 weeks," says Nicholas Dodman, director of the Animal Behavior Clinic at the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, in North Grafton, Massachusetts. The breeder or the shelter's adoption counselor can tell you how much socialization the animal has had.

## Mistake 6: Skipping on Exercise

**Why this is a mistake:** Pets have pent-up energy that needs to be unleashed through physical activity. Otherwise it will be channeled into barking, jumping, or even hostile behavior.

**How to avoid it:** "Walk your dog at least twice a day for a minimum of 30 minutes each time" says Pamela Reid, vice president of the ASPCA's Animal-Behavior Center in Urbana, Illinois. "To your dog, that's a primal activity—birds fly, fish swim, and dogs walk." Pamela Reid recommends that dogs get at least 40 minutes of aerobic exercise daily. "Dogs need more exercise than people do," says Reid. Try running or biking with your dog or playing fetch or Frisbee. With a cat, "you can't take her jogging, but before and after work, give her 10 to 20 minutes of playtime," says Reid.

(continued on Page 7)

Photos by Nancy Newberry

### **Mistake 7: Neglecting to Keep Your Pet Mentally Active**

**Why this is a mistake:** Bored pets are more likely to get into trouble.

**How to avoid it:** Give your pets something to do. For a dog, that can mean having him hunt for food. Place a meal or treats in spots around the house for him to sniff out, or "feed him out of a food-dispensing puzzle toy instead of his bowl," says Andrea Arden. Keep a cat engaged with simple amusements, like a toy mouse dangling from a string. "You can stimulate your cat visually by placing a bird feeder outside a window, or setting a lava lamp on a shelf," says Arden Moore, author of *The Cat Behavior Answer Book*.

### **Mistake 8: Leaving a Pet Alone for Too Long**

**Why this is a mistake:** A lack of proper companionship can lead to separation anxiety and destructive behaviors.

**How to avoid it:** "Don't leave a puppy alone for eight hours," says Reid. Hire someone to watch him or drop him off at a doggie day-care center. Your puppy will need to learn how to be alone for a few hours each day, however, so "teach him to self-pacify almost immediately," says Andrea Arden. Put him in a crate (or leash him to a stable object) a foot or two away from you, then gradually increase the distance over the course of a week. Then make sure that he spends escalating amounts of time alone in his crate or confined to a room. Break up the day for dogs of any age with a visit from a dog walker or a neighbor, and give your pet access to toys and visual stimuli. Unlike puppies, kittens can be left alone, but they should have access to toys and visual stimuli.

### **Mistake 9: Failing to Make Your Home Pet-Friendly**

**Why this is a mistake:** A cat without a proper litter box will just use the carpet. A dog without a cozy bed will end up on the couch.

**How to avoid it:** Location is key with a litter box. "A cat doesn't want to travel a long way to go to the bathroom any more than you do," says Mieshelle Nagelschneider, a feline behaviorist and a consultant at the Cat Behavior Clinic, near Portland, Oregon. Place litter boxes (one per cat, if you own a few, plus one box they can share, says Moore) in quiet areas throughout your home. Plug in a night-light beside each one so your cat can find it in the dark. Cats dislike strong odors (even air freshener), so use uncovered boxes and unscented litter and scoop out each box every day. Dogs are far less persnickety about where they relieve themselves, but do them the favor of regularly picking up the poop in the backyard. Cats and dogs also need spots where they can cuddle up and feel safe. "A dog needs a crate like a teenager needs a room," says Dodman. Provide a crate or a cozy bed, and make it taboo for your family to pester the dog while he's in it. Cats naturally want to climb to an optimal vantage point, so set up a place where yours can look out a window.



Photo by Nancy Newberry

### **Mistake 10: Punishing Your Pet**

**Why this is a mistake:** You might think Chewie knows you're screaming at him because he ate the loaf of bread on the counter, but he won't connect your behavior with his action.

**How to avoid it:** Never physically punish your pet; he'll just learn to fear you. It's OK to startle a pet out of a behavior, but only if you catch him in the act. Command him with a firm "No!" or "Down!" and he'll connect the reaction with what he's doing and learn that it's not OK. Otherwise, the punishment should come from the environment. Teach a cat or a dog to stay off the counter, say, by arranging sheet pans in a pile that will clatter to the floor if he jumps up. The counter, not you, will become the thing to fear.



Tired of training outside? Preparing for that big, noisy, indoor show? Need to do some fine tuning in front of a big mirror? Come enjoy climate controlled comfort at the J9'sK9s Training Facility! Located in the west San Fernando Valley, at 21720 Sherman Way in Canoga Park, California. It's 1/2 block west of Owensmouth Street, upstairs from "C & C Pet Food". Our immaculate, carpeted facility with over 1600 square feet and a 35 feet of mirror is available for rent to individuals and their canine partners for \$10 an hour. We have competitive obedience equipment, baby gates, crates and some agility equipment too, just waiting for you and your dog to come and play with! Also available for pre-approved events and small groups at an additional cost. Call (818) 832-9906 for more information.

## Valley Hills Obedience Club Board Meeting Minutes

Dawn Esposito, Recording Secretary

September 18, 2011

**In Attendance:** Laurie Burnam, Stephanie Colman, Dawn Esposito, Nancy Giltner, Ann Hills, Carole Hills, Jennifer Voogt and Sandy Walton.

**V.P.** (Carole Raschella): Nothing to report.

**Treasurer** (Carole Hills): **Beginning Balance:** \$6,875.47      **Ending Balance:** \$8,042.92

**Recording Secretary** (Dawn Esposito): August 14, 2011 were read and approved (via email).

**Corresponding Secretary** (Ann Hills): Incoming inquiries regarding our classes and membership levels. It was suggested to define the family membership on our membership form.

**Membership** (Cindi Malchose): New member applications, reported and approved via email: Lesley St. Pierre & Doberman named Lucy. Interested in variety of dog sports, sponsored by Moira Cornell; Jennifer Waagenaar & Dalmatians, Chloe, Dallas and Luna. Interested in variety of dog sports, sponsored by Laurie Burnam.

**Publicity** (Christy Tattersall): Nothing to report.

**Training—30 days Advanced Notice from trainers is needed when classes will be canceled.**

Nancy Giltner will follow up with trainers to explain in detail.

**Competitive Obedience** (Moira Cornell): Nothing to report.

**Beginning Obedience/Rally** (Laurie Burnam): Beginning OB: full. Rally is full.

**Agility** (Kim Simons): Reported via email: Agility classes are currently on hiatus. Classes will resume Wednesday, October 5. An email has been sent to all class attendees to help us restructure the class rosters since I will no longer be teaching on Thursday nights. We have sent this in an effort to make the classes manageable for Terry and make sure the classes still work for the students. Amanda will still be teaching with Terry on Wednesday nights.

**General Meeting** (Stephanie Colman/Ann Hills): August meeting went very well. Thank you to those who participated and helped set-up/tear down. Upcoming October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting – Glendale Police K9s presentation!

**Newssette** (Carole Hills): Member contributions to the Newssette are encouraged and welcomed.

**Seminars** (Nancy Giltner): Catherine Zinsky seminar confirmed for March 10-11, 2012. Jennifer Voogt will create flyer.

**Website** (Jennifer Voogt): Memorial photo page will be added to website. Send pics to Jennifer. Class curriculum, days and hours must be kept current and updated. Our website is a great information tool for members and the public. Trainers are reminded to provide Jennifer Voogt [jennifervoogt@gmail.com](mailto:jennifervoogt@gmail.com) with updates in a timely fashion.

**Yahoo Group** (Allison Pobirs): Updated membership roster was added to the files section of the VHOC Yahoo Group.

**Council** (Ann Hills): **Top Dog Team** finalized. Lindia Brown and Joyce Davis are ordering judges' lunches and our team lunches. Members can bring breakfast and complementing snacks to share.

### Novice

Gwen Lucoff - Pasta  
Ann Hills - Trooper  
Alt - Debbie Lang - Quila

### Open

Patti Rovtar - Chili  
Jody Dushkes - Dickens  
Alt - Evie Johnston - Eddie

### Utility

Stephanie Colman - Quiz  
Sharon Clarke - Pepper  
Alt - Allison Pobirs - Quinn

**Trial / Match:** It was announced per Laurie Burnam "that the in-flight field (across the street on Woodley where model planes are allowed) could be a possible location for trial overflow parking. Permit is required. The regular overflow is the lot next to the Woodley office/golf course and is not an option for our trials. The corn maze field will not be allowed for parking." Vendors are permitted. Fee is \$100 for club members, \$150 for non-club members.

### Committees:

**Obedience** (Laurie Burnam/Gwen Lucoff): Obedience jumps still need some repair/painting. Rally equipment is set.

**Agility** (Kim Simons): Reported via email: All is on track for the agility trial. The agility premium has been completed.

**Agility Workers Coordinator** (Kim & Terry Simons): Nothing to report.

**Catalog** (Carole Raschella): Nothing to report.

(continued on Page 9)

## Valley Hills Obedience Club Board Meeting Minutes

*Dawn Esposito, Recording Secretary*

September 18, 2011

(continued)

### Trial/Match Committees:

*Food/Hospitality (Nancy Giltner):* Nothing to report.

*Judges Hospitality (Maira Cornell):* Nothing to report.

*Raffle (Cindi Malchose/Allison Pobirs/Jan Racey/Christy Tattersall):* Reported by Carole Hills – California requires that non-profit clubs obtain approval prior to holding a raffle and submit a report on raffle profits annually. Carole is working on applications and will report back.

*Match/Show-N-Go (Sandy Walton):* All judges confirmed. Need two more ring stewards.

*Trophies (Caroline van der Wyk/Ann Hills):* Motion by Ann Hills to eliminate High Scoring Miscellaneous Class Dog Award and Highest Two Day Combined Score was passed unanimously. Ann will send a list via email to the general membership of what awards still need to be sponsored.

**Old Business:** Stephanie has ordered sample vests from clothing vendor ([www.queensboro.com](http://www.queensboro.com)) to be presented at next board meeting.

Jennifer Voogt will follow up with CPLS (Dave Dennis) regarding when an additional breaker will be added on the training grounds (near fountain).

The purchase of two new open tunnels for agility class was approved via email. Total cost will be \$600 - \$800.

**New Business:** Discussion regarding streamlining positions on the board. Possible VHOC "Mixer" to take place at Nancy Giltner's home open to general membership. Purpose is to better understand board positions and get more people involved. Tentative date is November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Laurie Burnam met with a rep from DWP, Scott James. DWP can add another light. They will install it for free and maintenance is free. It will be on city power and no additional taxes incurred. Either the club or the church would be on the contract, which has to be a yearly agreement. Laurie will work with DWP and report what light/s were added and where. Options are: 200 watt at \$16.00 per month, 400 watt at \$20.75 per month (current light), and 1000 watt at \$34.00 per month to be paid by the club.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:00 pm

#### Next Board Meeting

**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2011

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Location:** Nancy Giltner's home


#### Next General Meeting

**Date:** Friday, October 7, 2011

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** CPLS



 VHOC BOARD OF DIRECTORS	VHOC STANDING COMMITTEES
<i>President</i> .....Nancy Giltner	<i>Agility Trial Volunteer Workers</i> .....Kim & Terry Simons
<i>Vice President</i> .....Carole Raschella	<i>Banquet</i> ..... Laurie Burnam, Stephanie Colman, Ann Hills
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i> .....Ann Hills	<i>Catalog</i> .....Carole Raschella
<i>Recording Secretary</i> .....Dawn Esposito	<i>Food &amp; Hospitality</i> .....Nancy Giltner
<i>Treasurer</i> .....Carole Hills	<i>General Meetings</i> .....Stephanie Colman & Ann Hills
<i>Membership</i> .....Cindi Malchose	<i>Newsette</i> .....Carole Hills
<i>Publicity</i> .....Christy Tattersall	<i>Raffle</i> .....C.Malchose, A.Pobirs, J.Racey, C.Tattersall
<i>Agility Trial</i> .....Kim Simons	<i>Seminar Coordinator</i> .....Nancy Giltner
<i>Obedience Trial</i> .....Laurie Burnam & Gwen Lucoff	<i>Show-N-Go</i> .....Sandy Walton
<i>Training</i> .....L. Burnam, M. Cornell, K. Simons	<i>Trophies</i> .....Caroline van der Wyk
	<i>Website Administrator</i> .....Jennifer Voogt
	<i>Yahoo Group</i> .....Allison Pobirs

# Member News

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS

Lesley St. Pierre and her Doberman, Lucy

Jennifer Waagenaar and her Dalmations, Chloe, Dallas and Luna

*Applicants need to attend only one general meeting or volunteer to help at a VHOC event to activate their membership.*



We welcome and encourage members to submit articles, brags, scores and photos to publish in the VHOC Newsette. Submissions may be edited for clarity and brevity.

Send to Carole Hills, Editor, at [cahills1@verizon.net](mailto:cahills1@verizon.net).

If you know of a member who would appreciate receiving correspondence, such as a get-well card, sympathy card, etc., please email Ann Hills, VHOC Corresponding Secretary, at [tonkanuki@aol.com](mailto:tonkanuki@aol.com).

## Obedience & Rally Matches

**2nd Saturday of each month**

Monthly obedience/rally matches held at Louise Park, Van Nuys, S/E corner of Louise Ave./ Sherman Way, west of Balboa. Nested courses: novice, advanced, excellent. \$5.00 per run or 3 runs for \$12.00. Entries at 9:00 a.m. Judging at 10 a.m.

## Dog Training Equipment for Sale

Laurie offers a variety of training equipment: Handmade leashes, armband holders, PVC training boxes, ring posts, canine T-shirts and more!

Call Laurie at (818) 784-8440 or email [bellaluna@pacbell.net](mailto:bellaluna@pacbell.net)

[www.poochabilitydogtraining.com](http://www.poochabilitydogtraining.com)



# High Desert Labrador Retriever Club



## 11th and 12th Back to Back Specialties

*Dedicated to Winnie Limbourne  
founding member of HDLRC and beloved friend*

### **Saturday, November 12**

*Barbara Nowak (Broyhill)  
Conformation*

*Leslie Plank (Forestwood)  
Sweepstakes*

### **Sunday, November 13**

*Clare Senfield (Allegheny)  
Conformation*

*Lisa Cruanas (Laurglen)  
Sweepstakes and Junior Showmanship*

*Linda Hause  
All Breed Obedience and Rally*

Thousand Trails Soledad Canyon Resort  
Acton, CA

*For information and a premium go to*

<http://www.hdlrc.com>

**Valley Hills Obedience Club  
2012 Membership Renewal**

**Dues are due by December 31, 2011**

It's membership renewal time again! Please complete the form below with the information that you would like included on the membership roster and return it with your 2012 membership dues (\$25 single, \$35 family, \$10 junior handler) payable to VHOC to:

**Cindi Malchose  
9763 Mason Ave.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311**

If you submitted your membership application during the last quarter of the current year, you only need to pay one-half (1/2) of the annual dues (i.e., \$12.50, \$17.50 or \$5.00).

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dog (breeds):** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

We appreciate your willingness to receive the Newsette via e-mail, as it saves the club a tremendous amount of money in copying and postage fees over the year. However, if you do not have access to e-mail, please let us know and we will be happy to mail you a copy.

\_\_\_ I am unable to access e-mail and ask that a hard copy of the Newsette be sent to my mailing address.

[www.vhoc.org](http://www.vhoc.org)

# VHOC Newsette

Valley Hills Obedience Club, Inc.  
P. O. Box 10132  
Canoga Park, CA 91309



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

TO: