



Newsette



WWW.VHOC.ORG

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It is time to renew your membership to VHOC
The Renewal form is on page 3

All Renewal's are Due by January 1st 2023

You only have a couple of weeks, Please send them in.

REMINDER

Remember to check the website
<http://www.vhoc.org>
for announcements, cancelled classes,
upcoming events and other important club information.

If you know of a member who would appreciate receiving correspondence, such as a get-well card, sympathy card, etc., please email our Corresponding Secretary, Carole Hills, at
chills37@aol.com

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Nancy Giltner

Banquet
Ann Hills
Allison Pobirs
Jennifer Voogt

Seminar Coordinator
VACANT

Food & Hospitality
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Deborah Lang
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Deborah Lang

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Got News?

*Do you have a brag? Did you get a new puppy? Is your dog celebrating a birthday?
Do you have other dog-related news, photos, articles, humor or upcoming events you'd like to share?*

*Do you have a canine product or service you'd like to promote?
Ads are only \$10.00 a month, or \$50.00 for an entire year.*

Email me for more information, or just send your stuff to:

Debbie Lang at
djang@sbcglobal.net

Submission deadline is the 8th of each month

This is YOUR Newsette...make it great!

Valley Hills Obedience Club 2023 Membership Renewal

Dues must be received by January 1, 2023

Please complete the form below with your changes to the 2023 Membership Roster and return it with your 2023 membership dues (\$25 single and \$35 family).

Return to: **Valley Hills Obedience Club
13689 De Garmo Avenue
Sylmar, CA 91342**

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, St., Zip: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Dog (breeds): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Check this box to opt out of Electronic Communication:

"Membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid thirty (30) days after the first day of the fiscal year"

The MDR1 gene encodes P-glycoprotein, a drug transport pump that plays an important role in limiting drug absorption and distribution (particularly to the brain), as well as enhancing the excretion of many drugs used in dogs. Some dogs, particularly herding breeds, have a mutation in the MDR1 gene, leaving them defective in their ability to limit drug absorption and distribution. These dogs also have delayed excretion of drugs that are normally transported by P-glycoprotein.

MDR1 gene

Problem Drugs

- ANTIPARASITIC**
 - Ivermectin, Albendazole (toxic in doses > 300-600 micrograms per kilogram)
 - Selamectin, Milbemycin, Moxidectin (toxic in doses 10-20 times higher than preventative canine doses)
- EMODEPSIDE**
 - Metronidazole, Flagyl (may cause a reaction in higher doses)
- PRE-ANESTHETIC/ANAGESICS**
 - Acepromazine (recommend reducing the dose by 30-50% for MDR1 M/M)
 - Butorphanol (recommend reducing the dose by 30-50% for MDR1 M/M)
 - Morphine, Buprenorphine, Fentanyl
- ANTIDIARRHEAL**
 - Loperamide
- ANTIBACTERIAL**
 - Doxycycline (may cause a reaction in higher doses)
- STEROID**
 - Estradiol
- CHEMOTHERAPY AGENTS**
 - Vincristine, Vinblastine, Doxorubicin
- IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE AGENT**
 - Cyclosporin
- CARDIAC AGENT**
 - Digoxin
- MISC**
 - Erythromycin
 - Domperidone
 - Etoposide
 - Mitoxantrone

*Breeds affected by the MDR1 mutation (frequency %)

Design: By Alice Australian Shepherds

Submitted by Allison Pobirs

MDR1 (Multi-Drug Resistance) Gene Mutation



Information taken from:

https://www.mspca.org/angell_services/mdr1-multi-drug-resistance-gene-mutation/

By Kate O'Hara, DVM

More pet owners are becoming aware of a genetic predisposition in some dogs for adverse reactions and sensitivities to several different drug classes. This predisposition is particularly strong in the herding-breed group of dogs and is caused by a mutation at the MDR1 (Multi-Drug Resistance) gene. It is important for both pet owners and veterinarians to be aware of this condition as the associated adverse drug reactions it can lead to can sometimes be severe and potentially fatal.

The MDR1 gene encodes for p-glycoprotein which is an important component of certain cell membranes and which acts as a pump to help clear possible toxins from the cells. P-glycoprotein plays a particularly important role in the cells of the blood-brain barrier where it helps to keep drugs and other chemicals from entering the brain. It also acts in the biliary system, intestine, and kidney to promote drug excretion into bile and urine and out of the body. Mutation of the MDR1 gene results in production of an abnormally short and ineffective p-glycoprotein. The defective p-glycoprotein allows a higher level of drugs to enter the brain leading to an increased sensitivity to certain drugs and increasing the toxic neurologic side effects of some medications.



MDR1 (Multi-Drug Resistance) Gene Mutation—Continued

The MDR1 gene mutation is hereditary and is passed from parents to offspring. Each dog inherits 2 copies of the MDR1 gene—1 copy from each parent. Animals that inherit 2 abnormal copies (homozygous) will produce no normal p-glycoprotein and will be most strongly affected. These homozygous dogs will also always pass the gene on to their offspring. Dogs that inherit only one abnormal copy of the MDR1 gene (heterozygous) can show some effects though they will be less severely impacted because some normal p-glycoprotein will still be produced. These heterozygous dogs will have a 50% chance of passing on the defective gene.

As previously mentioned, dogs of herding breed ancestry are most commonly affected. In fact, all dogs affected by the MDR1 mutation are thought to be descendants of a single dog that lived in Great Britain before breed isolation. Approximately 70% of collies carry the MDR1 gene mutation. Other affected breeds include long-haired whippets, Australian shepherds, silken windhounds, McNab shepherds, English shepherds, Shetland sheepdogs, German shepherds, and old English sheepdogs. However, because dogs can be at risk with only 1 copy of the mutation, many mixed breed dogs also can be affected, including dogs that may not necessarily “look” like they have herding dog ancestry.

It is important to have dogs tested for the MDR1 gene mutation, especially at-risk breeds. This information is important not only for making medical management decisions for the dog, but also for identifying dogs that could potentially pass this mutation on to offspring. In the past, testing for the MDR1 gene mutation was primarily done through the Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology Laboratory (VCPL) at Washington State University—the laboratory that first discovered the mutation. There are now a number of laboratories that offer the test. Testing can be performed either on a cheek swab or a blood test, and owners can order a test kit directly from the laboratory or have it submitted through their veterinarian.

In animals with decreased p-glycoprotein function, certain drugs should be avoided altogether or used at a reduced dosing. The most serious adverse drug reactions that have been noted involve several antiparasitic agents (including the macrocyclic lactones), several cancer drugs, and certain gastrointestinal medications (including the antidiarrheal agent loperamide [Imodium]). Reactions have also been reported with specific sedatives, pre-anesthetic medications, and some antibiotics. Macrocyclic lactones are an important group of antiparasitic drugs in veterinary medicine. This group (including such drugs as ivermectin, milbemycin, moxidectin, and selamectin) is commonly used for the prevention of Heartworm disease in dogs. It is important to note that all of the FDA-approved heartworm preventatives licensed in the US are considered safe for dogs with MDR1 gene mutation when used according to the labeled doses. However, higher doses of these medications used to treat other parasitic conditions may be toxic in dogs with the MDR1 gene mutation.

Not all drugs must be avoided in animals with defective p-glycoprotein, and many drugs can be used safely with no need to alter dosing. These drugs often have characteristics such as a wide therapeutic dose range, minimal neurologic toxicity, or an alternate drug clearance mechanism from the body which make them better tolerated in dogs with p-glycoprotein dysfunction. Despite this, many owners may be nervous about using any medications in dogs with the MDR1 mutation. This apprehension may be reinforced by misinformation on some websites. It is important for pet owners and veterinarians to know which drugs are safe and which will need to be avoided or dose-reduced in these animals so that medical care is not mistakenly withheld. VCPL at Washington State University continues to research which drugs should be avoided in MDR1 gene mutation dogs and their website includes many good resources for pet owners and veterinarians.

Finally, it is important to note, that while this article focuses on the inherited MDR1 gene mutation in dogs, a similar but distinct mutation has also been reported in cats. Additionally, there are also some drugs which can interfere with p-glycoprotein function in normal dogs and can mimic the effects caused by the MDR1 mutation. To avoid causing p-glycoprotein-associated drug reactions, it is important for veterinarians to consider both causes for p-glycoprotein dysfunction.

VHOC's Annual Agility Trial



The back field's at Stone Pony—great mix of sand and dirt surface.

We had a successful VHOC agility trial out at Stone Pony.

Friday was cold, but no rain. We had a few bumps working out the two judges so we didn't overlap jump heights too much. Our club members were out there running leashes, setting jumps, gating, scribing, timing. We had members doing every job out there.

A special thank you to Sharon Kilhara and Kathy Kogen who were there all three days and with the exception of a couple of classes they were doing both timing and scoring in their rings. Sharon had the Jumpers/T2B ring and Kathy had the FAST/STD ring.

Saturday we had sprinkles and a very short light rain. We improved our running time with the split walk-thru in Excellent/Master. Then Saturday night into Sunday morning it was forecast to pour. On Saturday the decision was made to delay the Sunday trial start time to 11 AM, and we would let everyone know if the trial was a go or not by 9 AM.

Saturday into Sunday it poured so much the grass fields were not safe for people or dogs. But the back fields were still in good shape. There were club members out early Sunday helping set up the rings in the back fields. The footing was great, and the back fields worked out great for Sunday's trial. Postponing the start time to 11 AM helped immensely and the rest of the day had plenty of sunshine.

Thank you to our judges—Jan Skurzynski and Dale Mahoney

Thank you to all the VHOC members and 4-H'ers who volunteered without you this would not have worked.

Progress Continues in the Development of a New Treatment for Canine Bone Cancer

11/14/2022

Author: Sharon M. Albright, DVM, CCRT

Osteosarcoma is the most common primary bone cancer diagnosed in dogs, usually affecting the limbs of large and giant-breed dogs and mixed breeds. Unfortunately, cancer spread to the lungs (metastasis) is common with this disease. Recommended treatment involves removing the tumor by amputating the affected limb or use of limb-sparing surgical techniques followed by chemotherapy. These procedures do have high complication rates and surgery may not be an option for dogs with additional health problems.

Histotripsy appears to be a well-tolerated and effective treatment for canine bone cancer.

With funding from the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF), investigators at Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine are studying a new, non-surgical treatment option for canine osteosarcoma known as histotripsy. This treatment uses ultrasound waves to break-up tumor tissue in a precise location without heating up the tissues or causing harm to surrounding normal structures like skin, muscle, or nerves. Progress continues in developing this promising new treatment.

After designing and constructing a custom histotripsy treatment system for dogs, investigators tested it on bone tumor samples removed from client-owned dogs. Treatment in this study successfully disintegrated the tumor tissue without damaging surrounding skin or muscle.

Next, they completed a clinical trial performing histotripsy on 5 client-owned dogs with suspected osteosarcoma. Participants received the experimental treatment followed by standard limb amputation. Real-time monitoring and post-operative microscopic examination of the tissues showed that histotripsy again destroyed the target tissue without affecting surrounding tissues. Participating dogs had no significant adverse effects during or after histotripsy.

One promising finding from these studies is that histotripsy can destroy tumor tissues of varied composition. Even though bone tumors are made of differing amounts of mineralized and softer tissues, histotripsy appears able to adequately destroy the tumor.

There are still many questions to answer about histotripsy: Which imaging techniques work best for real-time treatment monitoring and assessing the response to treatment? What is the optimal histotripsy dose? What is the long-term safety and efficacy of this treatment? And finally, how does the immune system respond to tumor destruction by histotripsy – is it primed to fight cancer cells that have spread elsewhere in the body? CHF and its donors remain committed to answering these questions to develop a non-invasive treatment option for canine bone cancer. Thus far, histotripsy appears to be a well-tolerated and effective treatment for canine osteosarcoma.

Learn more about CHF-funded canine bone cancer research at [akcCHF.org/osteosarcomaRPA](https://www.akcCHF.org/osteosarcomaRPA).

Information taken from AKC Canine Health Foundation Page:

https://www.akcCHF.org/educational-resources/library/articles/progress-continues-in-the.html?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221213_chf_newsletter&utm_term=20221018-chf-news-sendlist

Hope for the Diet-Related Dilated Cardiomyopathy Dilemma

06/01/2022

For several years, scientists have been investigating the increase in reported cases of dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) in dog breeds without a genetic predisposition to this disease. Other factors such as toxin exposure, infectious agents, and/or nutrition could contribute to disease development in these dogs, but diet has received the most attention.

What is Dilated Cardiomyopathy?

Dilated cardiomyopathy, or DCM, is a disease where the heart becomes enlarged and the muscle cannot contract or pump adequately to provide normal blood flow throughout the body. Clinical signs in dogs include increased heart rate, coughing, difficulty breathing, weakness, and fainting. Arrhythmias, congestive heart failure, or sudden death are also possible. Treatment involves the use of medications to support heart function and remove excess fluid from the lungs. Unfortunately, the disease is rarely reversible except in a small number of cases that respond to supplementation with the amino acid taurine.

With funding from the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) [Grant 02661: Investigation into Diet-Associated Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Dogs](#), a team of investigators at several US veterinary colleges screened apparently healthy dogs eating various diet types to better understand the extent of the problem and look for potential causes. They found higher levels of troponin in dogs eating diets that were grain-free or had peas, lentils, and potatoes as main ingredients.¹ Troponin is a protein found only inside heart muscle cells. It leaks into the blood stream when heart muscle cells are damaged, making it a good biomarker or indicator of heart damage. Investigators hypothesized that these increased troponin levels indicated low-level heart muscle cell damage in these otherwise healthy dogs.

While the investigation into diet-related DCM continues, CHF awarded a Summer Veterinary Student Educational Grant to Dana Haimovitz, a veterinary student at the University of Florida, to assist Principal Investigator Dr. Darcy Adin with data collection and analysis. Ms. Haimovitz (class of 2023) analyzed data on 20 dogs eating grain-free diets with subclinical heart damage from the original study. Physical exams, blood tests, and echocardiograms were performed on these dogs every three months for one year to see if their subclinical heart damage would improve after a diet change. In fact, troponin levels and left ventricular internal systolic diameter (a measure of heart contraction or function) decreased after one year of eating a diet containing grains. These results were presented during a poster session at the 2021 AKC Canine Health Foundation National Parent Club Canine Health Conference and were recently published in the *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*.²



Dana Haimovitz

Additional study is ongoing to explore exactly how grain-free diets or those with peas, lentils, and potatoes as main ingredients contribute to subclinical heart damage and DCM in dogs. However, these latest findings offer hope. Results show that heart muscle cells can recover, and that subclinical damage appears to be reversible.

CHF and its donors remain committed to studying diet-related DCM and other types of canine heart disease. Learn more about this research at akcchf.org/cardiologyRPA. Working together, we can help all dogs live longer, healthier lives.

Hope for the Diet-Related Dilated Cardiomyopathy Dilemma—Continued

References:

- Adin, D, Freeman, L, Stepien, R, et al. Effect of type of diet on blood and plasma taurine concentrations, cardiac biomarkers, and echocardiograms in 4 dog breeds. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2021; 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jvim.16075>
- Haimovitz, D., Vereb, M., Freeman, L., Goldberg, R., Lessard, D., Rush, J., & Adin, D. (2022). Effect of diet change in healthy dogs with subclinical cardiac biomarker or echocardiographic abnormalities. *J Vet Intern Med.* <https://doi.org/10.1111/jvim.1641>

Related Articles

[Investigating Diet-Related Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Dogs – It’s Complicated](#) (04/09/2021)
[Prognostic Value of Quantifying Right Heart Echocardiographic Values in Dogs With Pulmonary Hypertension](#) (07/10/2020)

[Diet-Related Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Dogs](#) (01/15/2020)

Taken from AKC Canine Health Foundation—

<https://www.akcchf.org/educational-resources/library/articles/hope-for-the-diet-related.html>



Please Contact Me With All
Your Real Estate Needs Or Questions!




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Your Best Friend in Real Estate

Common Christmas Pet Dangers | An Ultimate Guide for Pet Owners (Section 1 only)

1. HOLIDAY DÉCOR

PLANTS

There are many types of plants that are toxic to pets. Lilies, yew, holly, mistletoe, and amaryllis are the most common toxic holiday plants. Learn more about each of these plants [here](#). Always check with the **ASPCA Toxic & Non-Toxic Plant Guide** before bringing any plant into your home!

CHRISTMAS TREES

If you have a real **Christmas tree**, keep your pets away from the tree’s water! This water can be toxic as it can contain bacteria, pesticides, and mold. Invest in a tight-fitting tree skirt to prevent your pets from drinking the water.

PINE NEEDLES

Promptly clean up any fallen pine needles from a tree, wreath, or other decoration. If swallowed by your pet, the pine needles can cause intestinal obstructions.

RIBBONS, TINSEL, AND STRING

Cats who play with ribbon, tinsel, and string are more likely to accidentally swallow these items. When this happens, they can get stuck underneath your cat’s tongue or in the stomach which causes an intestinal obstruction that requires emergency surgery.

SALT DOUGH ORNAMENTS

Homemade salt dough ornaments require a large amount of salt, which is toxic to pets. If eaten in high enough quantities, salt can cause vomiting, weakness, diarrhea, muscle tremors, and seizures.



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 our Indoor Training Facility!

J9sK9s is located in the west San Fernando Valley near Sherman Way and Topanga Canyon Boulevard.

Boasting “Agiliflex” rubber flooring, our 1600+ square feet of space and 35 feet of mirror are waiting for you and your canine pal to come train in!

We have obedience jumps, baby gates, crates and some agility equipment too.
Available to rent to individuals for just \$20 an hour.

Also available for pre-approved events and small groups at an additional cost.

Call 818-832-9906 for more information
www.j9sk9s.com

Common Christmas Pet Dangers | An Ultimate Guide for Pet Owners

SNOW GLOBES

Snow globes are toxic if they break open. The liquid inside a snow globe often contains ethylene glycol which is the same toxin found in **antifreeze**. Concentration levels vary so it's always best to keep pets away from any spills until the glass and liquid are completely cleaned up.

CANDLES

Any open flames can become dangerous to pets. Curious pets may burn their paws or tails. Pets might also knock over a candle and cause a **house fire**. Instead of using open flamed candles, we recommend battery-operated candles.

POTPOURRI

Liquid potpourri has chemicals called cationic detergents. This is especially dangerous for cats! If eaten, it can cause severe chemical burns in the mouth, as well as fever, difficulty breathing, and tremors. Solid potpourri can also be toxic and cause an intestinal blockage if eaten.

ORNAMENTS

Ornaments easily shatter and can cause serious cuts and life-threatening internal injuries if eaten. Wood, fabric, and plastic ornaments are safer but it's important to note that they can still cause a choking hazard or an intestinal blockage.

ELECTRICAL CORDS

If your pet tends to chew on cords, your Christmas tree lights and other plug-in decorations can become an immediate hazard. Pets may experience burns or can even be electrocuted from any frayed wires. We recommend using short extension cords and taping them down to the floor and wall. Also, always turn off the power to your tree when you are not able to supervise your pet around the tree.

Article URL:

<https://aercomn.com/common-christmas-pet-dangers/>

This is the first section of the article. The rest can be found at the above URL link.





Deanna Smith’s Brag—Adrian and Star

Star and Adrian ventured into nosework / scentwork during the pandemic to keep themselves busy. She's pretty good at it. Today they entered the first NACSW NW1 trial. To pass and obtain the NW1 title, you need to pass in all 4 elements (interior, exterior, vehicle and container hides) at one trial. Star not only obtained the **NW1 title**, but she came 3rd overall out of 49 dogs. I'm so very proud of the team work. Rigel's Wish Upon A Star NW1 RN HSAs HSDs SIN SEN SBN CGC

Laurie Burnam and Tesla

VHOC 's Annual Agility Trial. Stone Pony Ranch. Moorpark. Dec 10, 2022

Open Standard 95 Q 1st place 1st leg.



Monica Nolan and Augie

Augie’s been hard at work at agility this past month. His Qs:

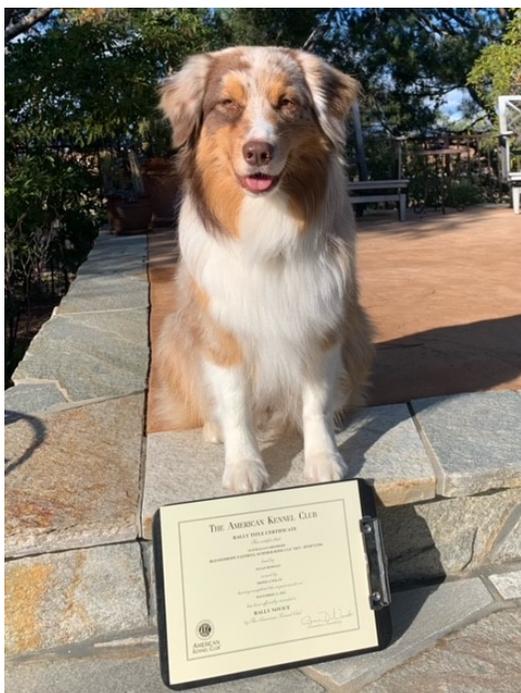
- 11/11 - HDOC AKC - Master JWW
- 11/12 - Manzanita ASCA - Elite Gamblers - 3rd and Elite Jumpers - 2nd
- 12/3 - Manzanita ASCA - Elite Gamblers - 2nd and Elite Jumpers - 1st
- 12/10 - VHOC AKC - Master JWW - 4th
- 12/11 - VHOC AKC - Master FAST - 1st





Robyn Zeldon and Luca
 Luca did great at her first NASDA trial on December 10, 2022! She Q'ed in Shed, urban locating and trailing locating (rats)

Robyn Zeldon and Lyric
 So proud of this puppy! Her first NASDA trial on December 10, 2022 and Lyric Q'ed in Shed, lost item (she found 1 out of 3, the leaves and sticks were more exciting then the item) urban locating and trailing locating (rats)



Monica Nolan and Rosie
 Rosie earned her AKC Rally Novice title this month with a score of 99 on her third Q!
New RN Title





Cynthia Casby and Gryff

At the Poodle Club trial at Stone Pony on Thursday (12/8) Gryff earned his 3rd leg and title in **Novice JWW Preferred** with a 1st place at 20”P.



Debbie Lang with Panda and Max

Tri-County Working Australian Shepherd Association—ASCA November 18 Farm Dog Trial and November 19 and 20 Stock Dog Trial



Panda

Nov 18—Farm Trial Mixed Stock 1st Leg

Nov 19—Qualifying in Open Sheep AM and PM both 2nd place—**OTDs Title**

Nov 20—Qualifying in Open Sheep AM and PM 2nd place and 1st place.

Max

Nov 19—Qualifying in Started Sheep AM and PM—**STDs Title**

-Qualifying in Started Geese AM and PM 3rd place both times **STDD Title**

Nov 20—Qualifying in Started Sheep AM and PM

-Qualifying in Started Cattle AM 1st Place



Ladd and Allison (Pobirs) enjoyed NADAC Agility in 2022

And as it happens they collected a bit of bling along the way to commemorate the great times they shared!



Ladd NADAC Titles 2022

07/20 **NATCH 6** 200 pts Regular, 100 pts each Chances and Jumpers

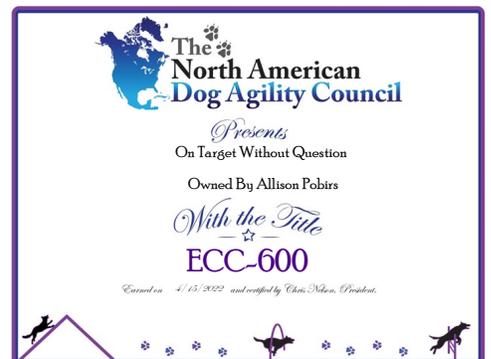
04/15 **ECC-500** 500 points Elite Chances

06/24 **WVE-500** 500 points Elite Weavers

06/25 **TGE-500** 500 points Elite Touch n Go

07/20 **EAC-1200** 1200 points Elite Agility (Regular)

07/25 **TNE-500** 500 points Tunnelers





Debbie Lang and Panda

11/11/22—ASCA Manzanita Agility Club. Juniper Hills

6 Qualifying Runs, 3 Jumpers Qs and 3 Gambler Qs

Elite Jumpers—Outstanding Title

11/25-27 Buenaventura DTC, Stone Pony, Moorpark

7 Qualifying runs over the weekend including

2 Premier Preferred JWW Qs and Double Q#16

12/9 VHOC Annual Agility Trial, Stone Pony, Moorpark

Double Q #17

(Photo by Pamela Ann Marks)



Wishing all Happy Holidays
Claire, Ladd and Allison too!



Newsette

P.O. BOX 10132
CANOGA PARK CA 91309

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:

It is time to renew your membership to VHOC
The Renewal form is on page 3

All Renewal's are Due by January 1st 2023

You only have a couple of weeks, Please send them in.



**Happy Holidays
to Everyone**