



Come and Sit. Stay and Play.™

THE DUMBBELL

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ORIOLE DOG TRAINING CLUB

9 Azar Court • Halethorpe, MD 21667

www.oriolodogclub.org

Happenings

August 2026

1-2: NAFA Flyball Tournament – Scallywags, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD.

8: Obedience Show N Go – Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD.

9: CDSP Obedience Trial– Oriole K9 Lodge, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD.

15-16: CPE Agility Trial – Artful Dodgers CPE Agility Trial, Oriole Training Building

21-23: AKC Rally and Obedience – Oriole Dog Training Club Rally and Obedience Trial, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD.

29-30: Agility Seminar with Christine Tschech, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD.

September 2026

5-6: NAFA Flyball Tournament – Scallywags, Oriole Training Building.

12-13: Agility Seminar with Sheila Gutierrez, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD

19-20: USDA Agility – Mid-Atlantic MADness, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD.

25-27: AKC Fast CAT – Hog Dog Productions, Millersville, MD.

25-27: BHA Barn Hunt Trial – Branchwater Farm, Reisterstown, MD.

26-27: Obedience Seminar with Marion Crane – Oriole Dog Training Club Agility Trial, Oriole Training Building, Halethorpe, MD

Seminars/Clinics Coming in 2026:

Future Agility Seminars:

Christine Tschech ♦ 8/29/26 – 8/30/2026

Sheyla Gutierrez ♦ 9/12/26 – 9/13/2026

Annette Alfonso ♦ 10/10/26 – 10/11/2026

Dudley Shumate ♦ 11/7/26 – 11/8/2026

Judy Kolva ♦ 11/14/26

Nancy Schilling ♦ 11/15/26

Nose work/Scent Seminars

Nose Work ORT – Nov. 22

Jacy Kelley (Nose Work) – Nov. 28 & 29

Seminar Obedience Seminars

Marion Crane ♦ 9/26/26 - 9/27/26

Health Clinics

Canine CPR - 10/11/26 ♦♦Canine Eye Clinic - 10/17/26

ODTC Photo Contest!
Share Your Dog. Celebrate Every Month!

Open to Everyone!
You do not need to be an ODT member to participate.

5 MONTHS OF FUN!
August – December 2026
New theme each month!

EASY TO ENTER!
Post your dog's photo in the official contest post during each month's entry period.

VOTING IS EASY!
Each Facebook reaction (Like, Love, Care, Wow, etc.) counts as one vote!

DON'T FORGET!
Top 3 photos each month will be included in the 2027 ODT Calendar!

2026 MONTHLY THEMES

AUG.	Summertime Fun Dogs just want to have sun!
SEPT.	Training in Action Show us your dog working and learning!
OCT.	Autumn Adventures Let's explore the beauty of fall together!
NOV.	Holiday Favorites Celebrate with your dog in festive style!
DEC.	The Look They Give You Those eyes, that expression... we know you get it!

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THE 26TH OF EACH MONTH!

MONTHLY PRIZES

1ST PLACE • Full-page photo featured in the 2027 ODT Calendar • Featured in the ODT Dumbbell newsletter • Complimentary 2027 ODT Calendar when available	2ND PLACE • Half-page photo in the 2027 ODT Calendar • Featured in the ODT Dumbbell newsletter	3RD PLACE • Quarter-page photo in the 2027 ODT Calendar • Featured in the ODT Dumbbell newsletter
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Let's celebrate the amazing dogs in our lives! ❤️
GET THE DETAILS, RULES, AND ENTRY DATES ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: **ORIOLE DOG TRAINING CLUB**

We can't wait to see your photos!



Announcements

Board of Directors & GM Meeting Minutes (Members Only – login required).

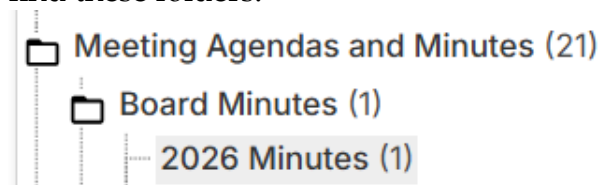
Upcoming Meetings:

Quarterly General Membership Meetings
(7:30pm): Sunday, October 18, 2026

Board of Directors Meeting (7:30pm):

- Sunday, August 16, 2026
- Sunday, September 20, 2026
- Sunday, December, 20, 2026

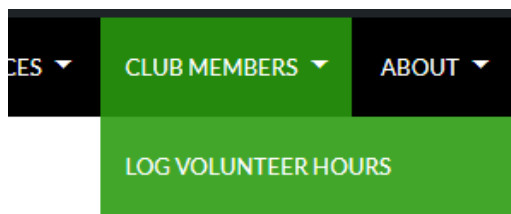
Meeting Minutes: www.orioledogclub.org then select Club Members/Club Documents (Login Required)/Other Documents, where you will find these folders:



*Note: Oriole members may attend board meetings (although they may be asked to leave temporarily during Executive Session). If you are interested in attending, please contact a board member for information and/or check for Zoom meeting information sent via the Oriole club mailing list. * Meetings are subject to change*

Logging Volunteer Hours

Go to www.orioledogclub.org then select Club Members/Log Volunteer Hours. Complete the form.



Academic Calendar

August 6, 2026	Preregistration (graduating student preference qualified classes only)
August 10, 2026	Registration opens for Contributing Members (CM) at (6 am)
August 12, 2026	Registration opens for Training Members (TM) & Contributing Members (CM) (6 am)
August 14, 2026	Registration opens for Non-Members (NM), Provisional Members (PM), Training Members (TM) & Contributing Member (CM) (6am)
August 21, 2026	Primary registration closes for all classes and electives. Registrations remain open for those classes which are not yet full; however, classes that do not meet minimum attendance requirements by this deadline may be cancelled.
August 22, 2026	Late Registration (postmarked on or after this date) - Member discounts no longer applicable & no placement priority
See course Description	Most classes begin the week of September 14, 2026. Note: start date may vary
See course Description	Most classes end the week of November 16, 2026 Note: end date may vary

Celebrating America's 250th



K9 Heroes

Sergeant Stubby (World War I)

- A stray bull terrier-type dog who became the mascot of the 102nd Infantry Regiment.
- Warned soldiers of incoming gas attacks.
- Located wounded soldiers.
- Allegedly helped capture a German soldier.
- Became America's most famous war dog and met several U.S. presidents.



Chips (World War II)

- German Shepherd/Husky/Collie mix.
- Served with the U.S. Army in Italy.
- Charged an enemy machine-gun nest and helped force the surrender of several Italian soldiers.
- Initially received medals, which were later revoked because Army regulations prohibited decorations for animals.



Congratulations

★ **Linda Hulbert** - Porsche was entered in Central New Jersey Bull Terrier Club's AKC Scent Trials on Thursday (7/2/2026) and in Delaware Valley Bullmastiff Club's AKC Scent trials today (7/3/2026). Yesterday she got a 3rd in trial 1 Novice Interior to finish her SINE (Scent Work Interior Novice Elite) title. She also Q'd in trial 2 Novice Interior. Today She got 1st in Novice Exterior. I am so proud of my little girl.



★ **Linda Hulbert** - Rain was entered in Central New Jersey Bull Terrier Club's AKC Scent Trials on Thursday (7/2/2026) and in Delaware Valley Bullmastiff Club's AKC Scent Trials today (7/3/2026). Yesterday he Q'd in Exterior Master and placed 3rd in Container Master. Today he placed 1st in Container Master. Proud of my little boy.



★ **Sheila Saville** – Pearl earned her Teacup Agility Games I title at the Brevard Dog Training Club in Cocoa, FL.



★ **Chelsy Thompson** - Maverick earned his first



title (Intro Jumpers) at the July 11-12 USDAA trial.



★ **Judy Whitbred** - Look what Grand Oakes Lemon Luna "FLASH" got!!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

August 2026

Sat./Sun. Aug. 1-2: NAFA Flyball Tournament – Scallywags, Oriole Training Building. Contact: Carle Lee Detweiler (cldetweiler1@yahoo.com)

Sat. Aug. 8: Obedience Show N Go – Oriole Training Building. Contact: Tamalee Kramp odtcobedience@gmail.com

Sun. Aug. 9: CDSP Obedience Trial– Oriole K9 Lodge, Oriole Training Building. Contact: Debra Kaminski (dekamin@aol.com).

Fri. Aug. 14 CPE Trial Setup. Contact: Nancy Morris (meurig@qis.net) & Sherry Merschoff (badcpe@gmail.com)

Sat./Sun. Aug. 15-16: CPE Agility Trial – Artful Dodgers CPE Agility Trial, Oriole Training Contact: Nancy Morris (meurig@qis.net) & Sherry Merschoff (badcpe@gmail.com)

Sun. Aug. 16 CPE Trial Tear-down. Contact: Nancy Morris, meurig@qis.net

Fri.-Sun. Aug. 21-23: AKC Rally and Obedience – Oriole Dog Training Club Rally and Obedience Trial. **Contact:** Deb Jackson at dobegirl@comcast.net

-Fri., Aug. 21 - Ring setup starting around 2:30pm. Moving the agility equipment and setting up the obedience rings and tables.

-Sun., Aug. 23 – Help with re-setting up the agility equipment after the trial.

Experience is not necessary. We are eager to train anyone who would like to volunteer. You may work a half day, if you wish. We will have lunch around 12:00 noon and snacks/water available throughout the event. If you choose to only work the afternoon, come early and have lunch before you work.

September 2026

Fri.-Sun. Sept. 25 – 27 AKC Fast CAT - Help is needed in the mornings during the set-up and when we run the volunteer dogs. We could use help in creating a photo area. Set-up and clean-up tasks do not require heavy lifting, but include a moderate amount of walking/standing, carrying light weight items, and bringing dogs of your fellow volunteers to the start line. Trial times are finalized after the event closing date, but set-up could be at 7:30am on Friday and 8am both Saturday and Sunday. End of day is generally 1pm Friday and 3pm Saturday and Sunday.

News & Special Recognition

BEHIND THE SCENES

What It Takes to Run an AKC Obedience Trial

By: Debbie Kaminski

A look at the volunteers whose hard work makes every trial possible.

If you've ever competed or volunteered at an AKC Obedience Trial, you've seen everything that happens on the trial day. But have you ever stopped to think about how much planning and preparation take place behind the scenes to make an event run smoothly?

In this article, I'd like to take you behind the scenes and highlight the important roles of the Trial Chair, Trial Secretary, and stewards. Their teamwork and organizational skills are what make every successful trial possible.



The Trial Chair

The Trial Chair is considered the "host" of the trial weekend. From securing judges (which is no small feat!) to recruiting stewards and other volunteers, organizing the steward schedule, and making sure judges and volunteers are well fed with snacks and lunch, the Trial Chair helps ensure everything runs smoothly both in and out of the ring. The Trial Chair is also responsible for ordering the rosettes and ribbons.



The Trial Secretary

The Trial Secretary is responsible for all of the administrative tasks involved in conducting a trial. These duties include submitting the AKC

event application, sending contracts to judges, preparing the premium list, processing entries, responding to exhibitor questions, creating the judging schedule and catalog, and preparing armbands and judges' books. During the trial, the secretary reviews and records scores, processes eligible move-ups, and ensures the official records remain accurate. Following the trial, the secretary submits the official results and required paperwork to the AKC within seven days.



Ring Stewards

Whether you are new to obedience trials or are a seasoned competitor, ring stewarding can be a great learning experience. Depending on the judge's needs and the class you are working (Novice, Open, Utility, etc.), the duties of each steward are somewhat varied. Below is a brief description of each type of steward:

Table Steward

The Table Steward plays an important role in keeping the ring running smoothly and efficiently. Responsibilities include organizing the judges' books and paperwork, notifying the judge of any absentees or conflicts, and ensuring the paperwork is complete before it is sent to the Trial Secretary.

Gate Steward

The Gate Steward is responsible for managing the flow of exhibitors into and out of the ring to help keep the trial running on schedule. Duties include calling the next dog-and-handler teams to the ring in the correct order, confirming armband numbers, notifying exhibitors when they are on deck, and communicating with the Table Steward or judge regarding absentees or delays.

Ring Stewards

In most classes, two Ring Stewards are needed to assist the judge in setting up and maintaining the ring.

Duties include arranging and resetting jumps between exercises and ensuring the ring is properly prepared for each class. Ring stewards are also responsible for taking and returning the exhibitors' leashes and setting out gloves and scent articles in the Utility class.

Volunteers Needed!

Our next **Rally & Obedience Trials** will be held:

 **August 21–23**

Friday Evening • Saturday • Sunday

- ✓ Work a half day or full day
- ✓ Great way to fulfill volunteer requirements
- ✓ Learn more about how obedience trials operate

Interested?

Contact **Deb Jackson**

 dobegirl@comcast.net

Elevate Your Obedience Training: An Obedience Seminar for all levels

By: Deb Jackson

Who benefits from Obedience Seminars? Everyone – regardless of your goals

Did you happen to watch the National Obedience Championships on July 16 and 17? If so, you saw Marion Crain compete with both her Border Collie and her Keeshond. After the first day of competition, she was 5th with Cord (BC). The following day she was 1st after the top 50 competition, moving on to the top 20 finishing 10th overall. (FYI, for each stage of the competition the teams start with a clean slate, not cumulative scores). This level of accomplishment comes from building teamwork and consistency in training which carries over into the trial environment.

We are fortunate to be able to offer a seminar with Marion at the end of September. I know what some will say: I am not pursuing an OTCH nor a UDX; my

goal is to Q, I'm not concerned with perfect fronts. I would argue that this seminar is well worth your time. What Marion teaches is engagement with your dog, proven techniques to train skills and proof exercises to get more consistent results at a trial. Her methods will help you and your dog become more successful in whatever your goals may be.

What other benefits does one get from attending an obedience seminar?

- **Network with fellow competitors.** Connect with other handlers, exchange ideas, find training partners, build relationships with other obedience fanatics.
- **Solve training plateaus.** You can gain fresh ideas and training plans tailored to overcoming specific challenges, have an "aha" moment, a tidbit that can help work through a training issue. An experienced trainer can spot something subtle in handling that can impact the success of the exercise
- **Increase confidence.** Practicing in a seminar environment helps both handler and dog become more comfortable working around distractions and unfamiliar settings.

Even the most experienced competitors will attend seminars to get a different eye, a different take to improve their training sessions and trial results.

And as a personal testament, I've attended a Marion Crain seminar. She clearly explains and demonstrates her methods for training and proofing skills and exercises. All teams get plenty of floor time and I can say I came away with a lot of great information to improve my training.

For more information on Marion's background and training, take a look at this article published by AKC.

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/sports/university-law-professor-balances-passion-dog-obedience/>

More information on the seminar can be found at:

<https://orioledogclub.org/obedience-seminars-workshops/>

Oriole Dog Training Club
MARION CRAIN
Obedience Seminar
September 26-27, 2026

Making the Connection
Build a powerful working relationship that seamlessly transitions from practice to competition. In this seminar, Marion teaches you how to cultivate clarity, reliability, and sustained motivation in your dog. Learn to read your dog's learning process and prioritize a deep connection so that precision naturally follows. If you want a more animated performance and a genuine ring partnership, this seminar is a must-attend!

Registration is OPEN!!!

Photo credit: The American Kennel Club, Inc.
Come and sit. Stay and play.

Human CPR/AED and First Aid Training
Free for ODTM Members
(Bring a non-member for \$85)

First Aid
AED
cpr training

"Saving A Life is as easy as A-E-D"

Saturday, November 7, 2026

New Puppies or New to You

If you have a new puppy (or new to you dog) submit pictures so that others may enjoy!

Sharon Martinez welcomes her latest addition, Dodger. He is an 8 wk old Entlebucher Mountain Dog. He's not afraid of my big dogs at all and chases them all around the yard.



Thinking of You

If you know of a club member's loss or illness, please contact the Sunshine Coordinator, Sharon Spies at spies14632@aol.com or Dumbbell Editor so that we may share with our fellow members and acknowledge the member.

Our sympathy to Linda Hulbert on the loss of Porsche
- Cameo Siloet's Porsche of Domlin 4/16/2012 -
7/13/2026.



Follow Us on Facebook!
Oriole Dog Training Club



Looking for a fun activity to do with your dog??

Want to see how fast your dog can run? Come try a 100-yd straight lure course.



AKC Fast CAT
25-27 September 2026

Hog Dog Productions
Millersville, MD

Photo by Dean Lake Photography

Thank you for reading this edition of *The Dumbbell!* Editor: Sheila Saville
Submit your brags/accomplishments or new puppy info to Dumbbell@Orioledogclub.club for inclusion in the next issue.

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