



**Wenatchee
Kennel Club**
P. O. Box 805
Wenatchee, WA 98807
886-DOGS (3647)
wenatcheekennelclub.com

THE PAWPRINT

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wenatchee Kennel Club

The Wenatchee Kennel Club (WKC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Its purpose is to further the advancement of all breeds of purebred dogs and provide education for their responsible breeding; conduct events under the rules of the American Kennel Club and to hold other events as approved by the Wenatchee Kennel Club; and provide education, training, and information regarding the responsible ownership, care and exhibiting of all dogs. Those interested in becoming members are invited to contact WKC at (509) 886-DOGS (3647).

**February
2021**

President: Louise Day
Vice-President: Marshall Brown
Treasurer: Willard Fields
Secretary: Jan Barclay

Directors: Chuck St. John,
Mike Barclay, John Njus,
Carla Duncan

Upcoming Events

Scent Work Seminar
February 27 & 28
WKC Training Center

WKC Agility Trial
March 5, 6, & 7
Grant County Fairgrounds
Moses Lake, WA

WKC Tracking Test
March 21
Palisades, WA

WKC Scent Work Trial
March 26, 27 & 28



Spring Is Just Around the Corner!

It's time to shift gears at WKC from winter vacation to all the activities and events that we have planned in the New Year. Exciting times for those, but we can't forget we're not finished with the outdoor areas of our property.

Generous donors over the winter have ensured we can continue the progress we had last fall in finishing our outdoor training areas. It's exciting to see the potential for what we will have upon completion...but we have LOTS of work to do before our landscape contractor can begin. We plan to have a number of work parties over the next several weeks and months and will communicate the particulars about those needs via email or the WKC Facebook page as the weather allows work opportunities.

(continued on next page)

Spring is Just Around the Corner (continued)

Here is a general list of what sorts of things we need to accomplish (in no particular order of significance or timing):

- Winter/early spring pruning and clean-up of planting beds
- De-rock the east/upper area in preparation of receiving upwards of 200 yards of topsoil
- Place existing larger rocks in planting beds to enhance visual appeal
- De-rock the detention pond, north side of the detention pond, back of the building
- Remove the BIG pile of rocks
- Plant additional plants along the fence on McGee St.
- Install landscape fabric along McGee St. outside the fence
- Install landscape fabric in plantings along McGee St.
- Finish the front potty area and landscaped area for sod
- Finish drainage along east side of the building from gutters
- Finish leveling along the south and west sides of the building
- Install gravel and/or pavers along west side of building
- Finish leveling/planting along the trees by the detention pond
- Final leveling and grading in planting beds along McGee St.
- Finish planting beds at each end of the parking lot
- Install irrigation along west side of property
- Finalize grade, add topsoil and plant drainage swale at west side of property
- Install scent work “walls” for outdoor searches
- Start mowing the new grass on the west side

In the near future, when the ground has thawed and dried some, the Building Committee will meet to finalize our plan for the outside, followed by a couple of “tours” for members to get a feel for the final project. Then we get to *dig in* and *get back to work!*

We couldn't have gotten where we are without the continuing financial and physical support of all our club members! We're just about there, but we still need your participation in our work parties this early spring to get everything done before the landscapers arrive for top soil leveling, irrigation installation and sod laying. We also need continued financial support to complete Phase I of the Wenatchee Kennel Club Training Center and keep the club on solid financial footing.

And please give a HUGE Thank You to Jack & Lynda Pheasant for generously allowing us to use their tractor/loader. That machine has been an invaluable resource for us to use! Thanks!

If you have questions, please contact:

Chuck St. John 509-421-8585 wincareco@genext.net or John Njus 509-630-5057 jnjus@nwi.net





Louise's Corner

Winter has come and settled in Wenatchee for a while again. This does not mean we can sit around though. Our club is starting to plan and do events for the 2021 season. So, it is time for me to remind all of you that this is your club. What makes it a great club is its members! We will be doing the following events:

- ❖ 2 Scent Work Trials - one in March and one in September
- ❖ 4 Hunt Tests in May
- ❖ 2 Agility Trials - one in March and one in October
- ❖ 3 Dog Shows and Obedience and Rally Trials in October, and we also do Fast Cat and Weight Pulling at the shows
- ❖ 2 days for a Tracking Test in March

If you want to help on:

Scent work - contact Jan Barclay

Hunt Tests - contact Louise Day

Agility trials in March - contact Jan Flatten

Agility trials in October - contact Betsy Metcalf

Dog Show conformation - contact Louise Day conformation.

Dog Show obedience and rally - contact Suzanne Metcalf

Tracking - contact Betsy Metcalf

Our club is also active in the community and we are exploring several other ways to help and train people and their dogs in Central Washington. We have an agreement with the community of Bridgeport to test Pit Bull dogs in their town so the citizens can have them. The town has not allowed them for several years. When the Governor ruled they could not exclude a breed of dog the city council contacted us about putting them through a test so they would know the dog was able to be a valued member of the community.

I really missed not having the annual dinner this year and seeing all of you in one room. It is fun to work together at our events and get to find out what you have been doing with your dogs.

A reminder we will not be meeting at Dog Wise as we usually do in February but will do it later when we can meet again.

Louise





AKC Virtual Obedience Titles Soon!

Want to work in AKC Obedience with your dog? Do you want to trial away from the travel and hullabaloo of a dog show? Then AKC's new Virtual Obedience might be for you!

A few months ago AKC came out with a draft copy of what the Virtual Obedience Rules might look like. Titles available will be Beginner Novice (BN) and Novice Obedience (CD). As usual, you will need three passing scores in whichever title you want to earn. When you earn your title, it will be designated as a "virtual" title, and it will not entitle you to enter your next obedience trial at the Open level. In order to move up to Open, you will still need to earn your regular CD, live, in front of a judge.

However, that said, lots of people just want the CD for their dog and don't intend to go on. Others may see this as a nice stepping stone for their young or shy dog and for nervous handlers. If you earn the virtual title, you will have increased confidence to go in front of a live judge because you know that you have done all these exercises before successfully.

AKC says that more information about the virtual titles will come out this month. They are set to go ahead with virtual titling in March!

If you are interested in earning these virtual titles, DO google AKC Virtual Obedience Titles as February progresses (nothing is up yet, but soon). Print off the rule book so you can easily refer to it. There are some definite differences from live trialing and you need to know what they are. You need to be very familiar with the rules so you don't waste money doing exercises the wrong way.

Watch the WKC Facebook page. As we move into spring, we will reserve the training center to video each other for these virtual titles.

Happy training!



2020 Awards?



Normally this month's PawPrint would feature all the awards celebrated in January at the WKC Annual Meeting.

We will celebrate 2020 accomplishments, but we just don't know when.

We do know that 122 bars, 8 Apple plaques, and 45 certificates were earned. Congratulations to all! We look forward to learning who will be named WKC Outstanding Club Member 2020 and celebrating other WKC accomplishments in person.



TRAINING CENTER PHASE I DONORS

CAMPAIGN LEADERS \$10,000+	DONOR RECOGNITION \$1,000 to \$2,499	DONOR RECOGNITION \$250 to \$999
Jan & Doug Merriman	Thrivent Financial	Becky & Jim Smith
Jan & Brad Flatten	Lynne & Randy Benton	Sue Edick
Sue & Gene Severson	Elaine Virnig	Mike Barclay Family
Suzanne Metcalf & Betsy Metcalf	Janice Davis-Morgan	Margie Clark
Walt & Marilyn Gearhart	Janice Fahl	Tracy Lloyd
Willard Fields & Eileen Pearl	Pat & Ollie Click	Frank & Adele Fuhrer-Juvet
DONOR RECOGNITION \$5,000 to \$9,999	Chuck St. John	Carla & Ron Slabaugh
Jack & Lynda Pheasant	Sara & Paul Wickline	Ernestine Pieper
John & Helen Njus	Louise & Norm Day	Jean Inman
Ephrata Moses Lake Kennel Club	Ollie Vetter	Northwest Farm Credit Services
DONOR RECOGNITION \$2,500 to \$4,999	Tara Barrett	Rita Keller
Fuller Investments	Hiro & Kumiko Harui	Maggy Susman & Dale Huber
Judy Johnson & Susan Summers	Shirley Ross	Sandy Gardner & Jim Kastel
Marshall Brown & Pat Vetter	Judy Lindahl & Cheryle Whisenhunt	Vicky Anderson
Ernie & Vicki Hobbs	Katie Hamilton	Ellie Russell
	Carol Sunada	Kroger
	Charlene & Larry Woodward	Alan & Pamela Sage
	Elizabeth Noneman	Pam & Steve Pettit
	Linda Harbury	Janice Mausser
	Marti Darling	Teresa Thomas
	CANINE CHAMPION TRIBUTES	Donna Brown
	Awesome Annie (Pheasant)	Susan Ellestad
	Miss Idgie (Fuhrer-Juvet)	Tom & Mary Orcutt
	Cody Bear (Flatten)	Wanda Cottam
	Astrid (S. Metcalf)	

The Wenatchee Kennel Club Training Center has become a reality because of vision, planning and cooperation and could not have been accomplished without strong financial supporters. WKC plans to recognize these heroes with a plaque when Phase I of the Training Center is closer to completion.

The grand total raised through December 2020 is \$816,899. \$14,195 of the total was donation amounts of \$5 to \$249 from 150 donors and miscellaneous sources. 61 donors provided \$802,704 of the total.

The *Do Fence Me In* fundraiser now totals \$18,339 which will be recognized with plaques on the fence. Contact Judy Johnson (206-364-9368) for further information about *Do Fence Me In* plaques.

Please review the Donor Recognition list both just because you may find it interesting, and to check your listing so that any errors or omissions can be eliminated. Please contact Helen Njus (509-630-8530) or Chuck St. John (509-421-8585) with any suggestions or concerns.



JAX



German Shepherd

Per Jax:

"Hi every one! AND LET IT SNOW - LET IT SNOW. I am just loving it. However, I am finding my toys are stuck to some ice under the snow and I can't find them. Now, what am I supposed to do. Mom loves to play with me but we have to find the toys first. Oh yes, and I still have birds in my bushes who just love to torment me as they chirp and I am climbing all over the drain pipes from the roof trying to locate them in my bushes. The birds are after all that tasty bread that Mom put out for them, and they are fast because this feast is a first come, first served and they are not going to be left out. I have certainly been busy these days. Until next time!

JAX's Mom, Carol

MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Carol Sunada, Membership Chairman (509) 665-9987

Several people have expressed an interest in joining our club and have been given applications, however we have not received any applications back as yet. This is a great time to come and volunteer in our upcoming events, such as our Agility Trials being held in Moses Lake in March. Our Scent Work Trials are also coming up and both events need a lot of volunteers. This is a great way to meet our members and for them to get to know you. If people are interested in joining our Club, they can join under Option B (working two 4 hour shifts at events scheduled by our Club). Please call me and I will explain this application process to you. As you know, we love new members. If you have a friend or family member who is interested in joining or learning more about our Club, please call Carol at (509) 665-9987 for more information.



AG DOGS

A new "scent" is on the horizon at WKC! In scent work classes, dogs have learned to find birch, anise, clove, cypress and handler provided articles. Their noses can detect a scent hidden in containers (boxes), interior rooms, outdoor settings, buried under 6" of sand, or submerged in 4" of water. Soon our local dogs (and handlers) may also learn techniques for agricultural detection work.

In preliminary studies, the USDA found that dogs trained at the National Detection Dog Center in Florida could achieve 99% accuracy in identifying specific citrus diseases in California and Florida orange groves. Virginia Tech is developing a program to train community dogs and handlers to detect agricultural insect pests.

Partnering with the USDA and the Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (TRFEC) in Wenatchee, WKC members are exploring the feasibility of training dogs to search orchards for cherry trees infected with Little Cherry Disease (LCD) and Western X—diseases causing serious economic impact to the tree fruit industry of Washington State. The Chelan-Douglas Farm Bureau is also supporting this exploratory effort.

WKC plans to offer a pilot “Ag Dog” class for advanced scent work dogs this March-April session. Registration will require instructor approval (contact Mike or Jan Barclay).



Wenatchee Kennel Club Conformation Drop-In Practice

Show Handling – The art and science of conformation training, ring handling and show dog preparation.

Showing a dog in conformation requires preparation and training as in other dog sports. Drop-In Practice is designed for graduates of the Show Handling Class. Conformation Drop-In is an opportunity for handlers and their dogs to have a simulated ring experience. It is expected that the handler and dog already know the basics of Conformation.

It is a fun, affordable and convenient way to maintain and polish what has been learned so far. It is a practice for the handler to **fine tune** the skills necessary for Conformation events at dog shows using positive reinforcement training methods. "Drop-In" means you can show up whenever you want...every week or once a month.

“Conformation” is the official name for “dog shows”. While they may seem glamorous, the true purpose of conformation showing is to evaluate breeding stock. It is an indication of the dog’s ability to produce quality purebred puppies, (Purpose bred) and that is what is being judged in the ring.

Because the time in the Conformation Ring is far less than that in other dog sports, both the handler and dog have less time to impress the judge. Conformation is not a highly structured ring event thus the handler has to be very alert to today’s ring procedure and the needs of today’s judge. The dog must be ready to respond right now to whatever the handler wants in order to present the dog to his/her best based on the handler’s interpretation of the judge.

The conformation classes and practice help the dog learn to gait and stack and to be examined. What is taught is the philosophy for creating winning performances. The instructor is constantly observing and determining what it takes to draw out the best qualities in each dog and make them shine in the ring through positive training techniques. This process starts with the dog/handler bond and extends to all elements of ring performance. It is also about having fun and developing a community of students who encourage and support each other in and out of the ring.

If the Show Handling Class was grammar school, then this is high school and college. Handler and dog will work on ring craft, practicing every skill needed to present the dog (and handler) to the best advantage in the breed and group ring.

Skills to be Polished -

Gaiting

- Tight or loose lead
- Gaiting patterns
 - Around the ring
 - Down and back (smooth turn)
 - Stopping at the right spot (front or side view)
- Pacing
- Speed appropriate for the breed

Presentation to the judge – Appropriate for the breed.

- Proper stance
- Expression,
- Ear
- Head
- Tail carriage
- Table presentation
- Using Bait

Exam

- Table
- Floor
- Ramp

Free stacking – (TaDa)

Hand stacking

Show photo

Work **groups** of dogs indoors as well as outside.

Each dog/handler team will receive **individual** attention as well as being able to work in a group with other breeds.

The goal is to have a good time, which will create a perfect picture for judges to see, giving the dog/handler the slight edge needed to come home with that winning ribbon



WKC Members' News and Brags

Jan Flatten and her puppies continue having fun with virtual NADAC runs. This past month Aspen was the star with new titles in Open Jumpers, Open Agility, Novice Barrelers and Novice Hoopers (it will be interesting to see if these virtual runs can translate into a more stressful environment for her at Moses Lake since she is environmentally sensitive). Brandi earned her Novice Weavers, Novice Barrelers and Novice Hoopers titles this past month. Ginger outdid herself and earned her Outstanding Elite Jumpers title! We are looking forward to Moses Lake!





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Wenatchee, WA 98807

Mailing Label

CALENDAR

- Scent Work Seminar, February 27 & 28, WKC Training Center
- WKC Agility Trial, March 5, 6, & 7, Grant County Fairgrounds, Moses Lake, WA
- WKC Tracking Test, March 21, Palisades, WA
- WKC Scent Work Trial, March 26, 27, & 28
- Board Meeting, First Monday of each month at 7 PM
- No general membership meetings due to COVID-19
- Current class schedules and more info at www.wenatcheekennelclub.com.

DISCLAIMER: *The PawPrint* may include articles submitted by others that may or may not reflect the views or position of the Wenatchee Kennel Club's Board of Directors or membership as a whole. These articles are intended to stimulate discussion and further research by our readers to better understand the breadth and complexity of information about our dogs. We encourage input from our readers and members to help us all become well-informed. If you have questions or comments about the newsletter or content, feel free to contact the newsletter editor or one of the WKC officers or board members. **The PawPrint** is sent to WKC members, prospective members, and Wenatchee-area veterinarians. We also exchange newsletters with other dog clubs. Contact Tara Barrett, the newsletter editor for more information at TaraAndOtter@gmail.com. **Advertising:** **The PawPrint** does not accept advertising.