

Upcoming Events:

LVDICE Member Meetings

Jun 11
Jul 9
Aug 13

Office of Robert Lynn Horne MD
3025 W Sahara, Suite 200
Las Vegas, NV 89102

CPE AKC Agility Trial LVDICE

July 20-21, 2013 Closes July 10
Smartypaws Canine Coaching
Las Vegas, NV
Judges: TBA
Steve Herwig - Trial Secretary
(702) 997-5689
pawzkeeper@embarqmail.com

AKC Obedience & Rally Trial Gamblers

Sept. 13-15, 2013 Closes: Aug 28
Smartypaws Canine Coaching
Las Vegas, NV
Judges: TBA
TBA - Trial Secretary

USDAA Agility Trial LVDICE

Oct 12-13, 2013 Closes: Sept 26
Veterans Memorial Park
Boulder City, NV
Steve Herwig - Trial Secretary
(702) 997-5689
pawzkeeper@embarqmail.com

AKC Agility Trial

Shetland Sheepdog Club of So. Nv
Oct 25-27, 2013 Closes: Oct 9
Veterans Memorial Park
Boulder City, NV
Zee Marie - Trial Secretary
(702) 795-7300
secretary@mydogevents.com

AKC Agility, Obedience & Rally Trial

Poode Club of Las Vegas
Nov 8-10, 2013 Closes: Oct 23
Veterans Memorial Park
Boulder City, NV
Zee Marie - Trial Secretary
(702) 795-7300
secretary@mydogevents.com



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www.lvdice.org

THE Latest Scoop

MAY 2013 - Vol 4

LVDICE Member eNewsletter

In the Incredible Spotlight!

By Norah Strebel

On March 1-2, 2013, a few members of our agility community got the opportunity of a lifetime! Purina® Pro Plan® Incredible Dog Challenge® (IDC) was held at the Rio Hotel. Kimmy Ackers with Patron and Keith Highley with Cisco were amongst the lucky ones competing for top honors and bragging rights!

The Purina® Pro Plan® Incredible Dog Challenge® features great dogs competing in agility, disc, racing, and diving events.

Keith and Cisco WOWED the crowd when they won the 30-Weave Up-and-Back Challenge against none other than Kim Terrill with Steeple, 2009 AKC National Agility Champion. I caught up with Keith and Kimmy to ask them about their experiences at IDC.

What prompted you to enter?

KH: I saw my friend Gosia Skowron run in last year's finals and thought what a wonderful opportunity it would be. I was more interested in the standard agility aspect.

KA: It is an amazing event to be part of and have always wanted to compete in it so when I had the opportunity I went for it!

What did you do at IDC?

KA & KH: We competed in the agility runs & 30-Weave Up-and-Back Challenge!

Speaking about training, did you feel prepared and what was your plan to get ready for the event?

KH: I don't train weaves to excess. I'd only sent Cisco through 30 poles one time. I had no idea we'd use a 'flyball

Continued to next page...



"I feel like Las Vegas is such a great agility community. You have all been so supportive of my photography and now my little journey with Cisco." - Keith Highley

"Every run you have with your best friend, should be a cherished memory!" - Kimmy Ackers

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famistler@cox.net

Member Recognition

Nominate fellow members for displays of good sportsmanship, participation at club activities, excellence in competition or for any reason you feel that a member should receive special recognition. Submit your nomination, with supporting reasons, to any Board Member. The Board will choose a deserving member each meeting to reward with a LVDICE leash.

RECENT AWARDEES

KIMM BONECUTTER keeping notes on all of us!

STEWART VANDERLINDEN for his ability to fix anything!

KARIN FASTOW because she knows exactly how much money we have to the penny!

New LVDICE Members

Welcome New Members!

We are so glad you joined our club. May you have many clean runs and lots of fun with your dogs.

Lori Lewis

Thomas Frei

Stephen Frei

Brenda Pesek

In the Incredible Spotlight! continued from front page...

start' until we actually did it. I still can't believe how well that start worked. KA: I felt prepared competing with my dog because we have a great connection. We trained like we normally do and a few days prior we practiced 30 weave poles.

How do you think your dog responded to the experience?

KH: I'm sure he loved EVERYTHING about it. The side-by-side racing, the atmosphere. Getting all pumped up. I have never seen Cisco so focused.

KA: Patron was excellent! He did everything I asked of him and with great enthusiasm! It was a big event with lots of media and people coming up to us a lot and being in his space but he took it like a champ and loved all the attention! Especially the swimming in between.

What was your lowest moment and what was your highest? What was the best thing your dog did that day?

KH: The low: Cisco blowing his start-line in round 1 of agility. I wanted to crawl into a hole. Thankfully he held his start the second time and we had a decent run. I believe we would've placed had we hit our dogwalk. The high: that finals run with Steeple. I'm proud of him, period, for working so hard but perhaps most proud of that finals run; I could tell he was tired. Somehow he held on.

KA: To be honest the whole event was great! We didn't have any lows. The highs of the event I would say was competing against some amazing dogs and having fun with everything we did!

Would you do it again?

KH: Absolutely! We get to go to Purina Farms in October for the finals. It was EASILY the high-point of our young partnership. I doubt anything will ever come close.

KA: I would love to do it again! Maybe when patron is a little older and has some more miles in his career, but overall it was an amazing experience, once in a lifetime!

For Sale

LIGHTLY USED DOG WORKS COMPETITION CART ONLY \$200!

Cart weighs about 44 lbs (capacity 600 lbs). Red sides. Cart has 2 position bed-height allowing comfortable fit for dogs from about 22" and up. Call Susan 365-8064 or email csbarrow@cox.net

Braggs

We want to give a shout out to some highly talented Members and Friends out there! Keep those titles coming!

Chris Card and MACH2 Nash
Jen Yates and MACH Zephyr
Cristi Tombari and MACH2 Simone
Cheryl Alfred and MACH3 Harley
Zoe Beatty and MACH Dexter

Rebecca Christensen and Cassie earned their PAX Title.
Frances Mistler and Gracie earned their PAX3 Title.

Helen Zamba and Roxie scored 148th out of 409 20" dogs at AKC National Agility Championships during their first time at Nationals. Of note, only 62 dogs in the top 150 were NOT Border Collies! The two want to go to Reno in 2015 to run in the Preferred category. They are working on completing her MACH this year. Way to go, Rox-Star!

Cheri & Ziva "made the night glow" pink at the AKC Night Trial, May 3-4.



Smell that! Part 2

By Paula Herwig

Part two of a two-part tracking article covering the basics of this unique sport in the canine performance world.

Once the dog has passed the Tracking Dog (TD) test, he can move on to either the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX), or the Variable Surface Tracking (VST) test. A dog can enter both, should the handler desire. Typically a team will work toward one test or the other and not move on until they have titled in the category they are working.

There are additional challenges in the TDX test that were not faced in the TD. These challenges are often roads, gullies, streams, wooded areas, hills, logs or fallen trees and other obstacles. The ground covers are also not necessarily uniform. One field can have tall and short grass or be void of grass in areas. If in a desert area, it can have a mixture of a lot and/or little shrubs and brush.

Unique to the TDX is intentional two crosstracks on a leg other than the first and not both crosstracks on the same leg.

TDX (and VST) tracks are aged 3 - 5 hours for a test. The age of the scent is one of the challenges of tracking. Additionally, the dog will need to find two intermediate articles on the track. Therefore, including the scent article and final article, these articles will be four dissimilar personal items of similar size. The handler must pick up the articles mid-track which the dog will have indicated and should wave it back at the judges. The handler will then secure the article on their person and must produce it at the end of the track, for the judges' inspection, to be successful. In VST the glove will not necessarily be the final article and in fact, you may have a piece of leather not necessarily a glove. In a VST test the articles are leather, cloth, plastic, and metal.

In each of these tests, there will be a start flag which will have the scent article next to it.

As an additional challenge there will be no second, 30 yard, flag as was in the TD test. You are shown the flag from a distance and you are sent to walk to it. The track may go straight forward or off

at an angle not greater than 180 degrees. A TDX test is between 800 and 1000 yards in length; a VST is between 600 and 800 yards. In the TDX, like the TD, the handler must be behind the dog 20 feet when the dog is tracking; in VST the distance is 10 feet. A TDX can have as many as seven turns. A VST has between 4 and 8 turns, three of which must be 90 degree turns and one Moment of Truth turn.

The Moment of Truth turn is unique to the VST test. It is a turn on cement or asphalt in an area which is void of vegetation 30 yards around itself. It shows the dog's ability to follow scent in an extremely difficult situation. Also unique to the VST is that the team may encounter stairs. VST tracks may be laid along the sides of buildings and fences, through buildings with two or more openings or open-sided structures such as breeze ways, shelters, or roofed parking garages. Tracks may not enter a building with closed doors and sides.

The biggest and hardest thing about tracking is to trust your dog. He has the far superior nose and the ability to follow the scent. You are sorely ill-equipped compared to your canine partner. If you choose to take that leap of faith into your canine partner, you will not be sorry for the adventure.



TRACKING
Lingo

Crosstracks

90 minutes after the track is laid, two persons go out to a specifically marked area and walk side by side to another specific area crossing the dog's path twice.

Geocaching, For You and Dog

By Julie Stayton, Co-owner of Nature's Pet Market Las Vegas

Remember ever finding a treasure map? Whether we were the pirate chasing the booty or the explorer who found it, treasure hunting is fun. "Raiders of the Lost Ark" gave us a taste of treasure hunting for a whole generation of movie goers bitten by the treasure-bug.

Today, with the advent of technology, treasure hunting has gone to a whole new level, now known as geocaching. (pronounced jee-oh-cash-ing). This treasure hunt doesn't lead you to riches; the thrill of the hunt is the reward.

Whether you're an expert or novice, geocaching can be a great way to commune with nature, as well as your fellow man, woman...or canine. Dogs love to go on hikes and taking our furry friends with us can bond a dog and owner in ways not possible in a busy urban life. They will explore their surroundings using those super special sniffing powers while you enjoy the sights that nature has to offer.

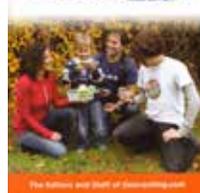
To better plan your geocaching adventure with your dog, a rating system has been established by one of the most popular geocaching websites: www.geocaching.com.

This five-star rating of difficulties is given for over one million geocaches that have been established.

Consider your fitness level and your dog's, before setting out on that five star hike. I recommend the book "Complete Idiot's Guide to Geocaching" to get you fully versed in the ways of the hunt.



Geocaching



Instead of maps, geocaching uses a GPS device to guide you on your travels. One example of an

inexpensive entry level device is the Geomate Jr. Geocaching GPS (\$70).

Your search will end with the discovery of a treasure trove of trinkets in a waterproof cache. You never know what your cache container might look like. From fake logs to plastic storage bins to empty ammo cans, if it can be stuffed with things, it could be a cache.



Inside the cache is a log book for hunters to sign their name and leave an artifact. Etiquette says that you should leave something if you take something, so remember to bring a trinket or two if you're interested in keeping a piece of history from your hike. Maybe something dog-related could signify who your hiking partner was on this particular trip?

Bottom line, enjoy your hike. Start small and local. Stop and smell the roses with your best friend. It will be an experience that neither one of you will ever forget.

Understand the basics of geocaching etiquette: How to Geocache by REI Stores: www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/gps-geocaching



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Myth: "Shaving a long-coated dog keeps it cooler in the summer".

A dog's undercoat will insulate from heat and cold. Shaved coats expose the skin directly to sun, making the dog more likely to suffer the heat. Also, dogs sweat only between their toes, so exposing more skin won't keep them cooler.

Myth: "Scent hounds smell bad because they are dirty dogs".

The loose folds of skin of most scent hounds can become infected from constant moisture. Also, scent hound coats are very oily to protect them from the elements while working. Regular bathing can keep these issues in check.

Myth: "Hot Spots" develop because it's hot outside"

Hot spots are caused when the skin become inflamed and the hair follicles die, creating a open weeping sore called Acute Moist Dermatitis. This has nothing to do with the temperature outside.



Tues-Fri 10am-7pm,
Sat-Sun 9am-6pm

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