



PUPPY TALES

News & Views From
Erie Kennel Club



President's Message~

This week is one of the most important of the year as we prepare to host another successful show. I'm saying successful because our entries are actually a little better than last year and vendors are so anxious to attend the show that some have to be turned away. I'm sure we'll hear good comments from judges, exhibitors and the public as we have in past years. So an early "congratulations" to all those who help put on a great event!

Another very important week comes up in September when elections will be held. I can't emphasize enough how vital it is for more members to become involved in the club. Other than officers and board members there are few who attend enough membership meetings to be eligible for office when recruiting nominees. It's hard to visualize how the club will continue when so few have such little interest. This year there will be nominations for president and treasurer plus 2 board members. Although eligible to seek another two year term I think it's time for someone else to take a leadership role and let me mow grass and relax. Janet has been treasurer for more years than I can remember and that job has grown exponentially in the past few years. Needless to say she'd like time to enjoy her dogs, enter more trials, and not have to prepare reports and keep the checkbook balanced. I always thought that if someone enters dog shows they should spend some time participating in a club. If it weren't for clubs there would be no shows. Shows can't survive without clubs. Clubs (or any other organization) can't survive without leadership and active members. I encourage everyone to attend meetings, learn the workings of the club and volunteer for a board or officer position. This club does so many things so well—just think of the possibilities if we had enough members to actually compete with each other for leadership positions. So spread the word that the Erie Kennel Club is looking for a few good women and men to keep the club vibrant and successful.

Lou



Cabin Fever Awards Dinner

Our Annual Awards Dinner will be at the Venango Valley Inn on Sunday, February 21, 2016. Join us at 1:30 pm-the club will buy your first drink. We will dine at 2:30 pm with awards to follow.

All members are invited.

RSVP to Andrea 814-431-0073 (call or text) by 5pm
Wednesday February 10, 2016

Absolutely **NO ADDITIONS** after deadline date
Contact Andrea if you have special dietary needs.

Make sure you send your AKC titles earned in 2015 to
Roberta Cutshall poltergeistsamoyeds@gmail.com



CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Your club needs your help for the EKC All Breed Show & Obedience/Rally Trial January 29, 30, 31, 2016!

Setup is Friday, January 29th. Starting at 8:30AM, we will move vendors into their spots, lay plastic to cover carpet in grooming areas, unload the EKC trailer, and set up public X-Pens. Starting at 3PM, we will assist exhibitors move into their grooming spots. Many exhibitors & some vendors will be entering via the front doors. Handlers with multiple dogs will be entering through the loading docks. Maps will be available to help you guide the exhibitors to their locations. Some exhibitors arrive on Saturday and will need help locating their grooming areas.

If you are unable to help those 2 days, maybe you will help on Sunday for tear-down. Come to the BCC around 3pm and we will put you to work!!! We will need people to help vendors move out, pull up carpet plastic in several rooms, pack up equipment and load the EKC trailer.

A few of us work three 12-hour days at this event and we will greatly appreciate any help you can offer.

No meeting in February
Next membership meeting
7:30pm, March 16, 2016
9457 Wattsburg Rd, Erie Pa 16509

Upcoming Events:

- **ALL-Breed Shows and Obedience & Rally Trials**~January 30-31, 2016 at Bayfront Convention Center
- **Canine Reproduction Seminar by Dr. Greenfield**~January 29, 6pm at Bayfront Convention Center
- **Spring Eye Clinic**~ February 27, 2016 at Camboro Veterinary Hospital. Contact Esther Kostelnik for appointments at telme@verizon.net or 814-398-8853
- **Cabin Fever Awards Dinner**~ February 21, 2016 at Venango Valley Inn
- **EKC Agility Trial**~April 15-16-17, 2016 at Countryside



Sunshine Notes:

A speedy recovery to Sue Cardman who is recuperating from hip surgery.
Condolences to Betsy Olson, whose father passed away Friday, January 22, 2016.



ACT—a new beginning agility program from AKC

The AKC Agility Department is excited to announce the launch of a new, beginning level agility program called ACT (Agility Course Test). The ACT program officially launches on March 1, 2016.

This program is designed to introduce

beginning dogs and handlers to the sport of agility. There are two classes – ACT 1 and ACT2. Clubs and trainers can adopt the ACT classes as the graduation exercise for their training classes to be held at their facility thus providing their students a familiar and comfortable setting. The ring size requirements are small enough that ACT classes can be held in many training facilities across the country. In addition to preparing for these introductory classes, exhibitors will learn to do things such as to enter an AKC event, check-in at the ring, prepare for their run, and handle their dog while under judgment.

This program is for dogs that do not have an AKC Agility title at the Novice level or higher. In ACT 1 the dog-walk, teeter, weave poles, spreads, and chute are not allowed. In ACT 2, the dogwalk, chute, and spreads are allowed and weaves (6) and teeter are required. See Section 15 of the Regulations for all obstacle requirements for both classes.

For details and regulations go to:

<http://www.akc.org/events/agility/act-program/>



Lou Norman, President • Andrea Bubna, Vice president • Carol Maxwell, Rec Secretary • Kathy Croft, Cor. Secretary • Janet Norman, Treasurer
Board members: Marilyn Flower • Anthony Stefanelli, • Jeanne Stiner • Dennis von Hof
Breed Referral: Cindy Stubenhofer • Training & Education Coordinator: Janet Norman • Sunshine: Jane Edel • Newsletter Editor: Carol Maxwell