

LEAD AND COLLAR



December/January 23-2024

Club Officers		
President	Gerianne Darnell	712-526-2252
Vice-President	Erin Embrey	402-672-2741
Secretary	Rhonda Pratt	818-268-2300
Treasurer	Joanne Swenson	402-660-6669
Board Members		
	Dee Nelson	712-322-1103
	Devetta Hill	801-580-1991
	Kris Woodke	402-393-4870
	Teresa Carlile	402-990-6673
Other Contacts		
Sunshine Person	Kim Embrey	402-291-3275
Web Coordinator	Jim Hogsett	
Club Web Site	www.bellevuedogobedienceclub.com	
BDOC Vouchers	George Embrey	402-672-2741
Club Newsletter	Sherry Rife	712-370-2935
Editor Email	greydog@myfmc.com	

BDOC's Annual Holiday Party & Gift exchange! Saturday December 2nd, 2023

Gift Exchange limit \$20

Location:

Caroline Rice's home
18202 Nicholas Road
Plattsmouth NE 68048

Time: 5 p.m. arrival eat around 5:30 p.m. with brief meeting to follow. Please bring a dessert to share.

Google directions:

From the NORTH: Head south on HWY 75, take the exit toward Plattsmouth/Historic Downtown go .2 miles. Turn RIGHT on to Bay Road/Webster Blvd go .1 miles. Turn LEFT on to 6th Street and drive .7 miles. Turn LEFT on to School Road and go 300 feet. Turn RIGHT onto Nicholas Road and go .3 miles and turn RIGHT for 200 feet to 18202 Nicholas Road.

What is AKC Fetch?

Rhonda Pratt

Welcome to AKC Fetch! When dog owners are asked about activities they like to do with their dogs, the most common responses are to take their dog for a walk, and to play ball (fetch) with the dog.

AKC Fetch titles were created as another activity in which owners could have fun with their dogs in the AKC Family Dog program. Earning AKC Fetch titles provides opportunities for both physical and mental exercise. While some dogs are natural retrievers, AKC Fetch, especially at the advanced levels, will involve teaching new skills such as retrieving.

AKC Fetch is designed for all breeds.

AKC Fetch is a pass-fail noncompetitive test. The four levels of titles (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Retriever) assess the ability of the dog to retrieve. In the Advanced and Retriever levels, the dog must respond correctly to signals. There is also a memory component in Advanced and Retriever because a retrieving bumper or ball is dropped (or thrown) behind a blind where it cannot be seen.

For each of the four titles, the dog must pass the test twice under two different approved AKC Fetch judges.

Dogs who are at least 6 months of age are eligible to take the AKC Fetch test as long as they are registered or enrolled with AKC and have an AKC, PAL or AKC Canine Partners number.

Why Participate in AKC Fetch?

AKC Fetch provides a form of exercise for dogs and their owners. Dogs learn new skills and many handlers will learn to teach a skill (i.e., retrieving) they have not previously taught.

AKC Fetch titles are fun to earn, and they can be used as a required AKC title for earning the Gold level of AKC FIT DOG. For info on AKC FIT DOG, see: <https://www.akc.org/sports/akc-family-dog-program/akc-fit-dog/>

**BDOC AKC Herding Report,
September 22-24, 2023**
Gerianne and Erin, co-chairs

BDOC held our fall herding trial September 22-24, 2023. Those who helped tarp before the event were Erin, Gerianne, Jim, Shelly, and non-member Lisa Daughtrey. Many thanks to that small but efficient crew! The weekend started with a well-attended ranch trial on Friday afternoon. Jim and Gus did setout down in the field, and Erin and Gerianne manned (womaned?) the holding pens. On Saturday and Sunday, we had our "older" group of setout dogs, Cap and Huck, with their humans Jean Moline and Jamie Evans, along with Jim and Gus for exhaust. We celebrated Huck's retirement as a wonderful setout dog, and Jamie started the next generation of setout dogs with Vivian, who did a fabulous job. Also filling in at set out over the weekend was new Herding Champion Rex and Lisa Daughtrey. Members who helped with setout, exhaust, scribing, timing, putting up the HT fencing, picking up lunch and running sheets up to our wonderful and ever-efficient secretary Norine were Darrell, Jim, Gerianne, Erin, Shari, Mary, Kim, and Rhonda. Thanks also to Scott for setting up the B course and Sharon for bringing over and picking up ribbons and to Joanne for writing checks. Our judges were Lisa Pruca from Rockton, Illinois and John Holman from Clay Center, Nebraska. We enjoyed decent weather this fall, not too hot/cold and not too rainy. The herding trial showed a small profit this fall! A wonderful time was certainly had by all of those participating.

**Bellevue Dog Obedience Club of NE
Board Meeting October 3, 2023**

This meeting was held Via Zoom call in attendance were Gerianne, Erin, Joanne, Kris, Rhonda, and Caroline

Call meeting to order: at 6:31 p.m.

The reading of the last board meeting on August 2, were waived as they were published in the newsletter, moved by Erin second by Kris, all approved.

The treasurer's report: was presented by **Joanne**. A discussion was given on the club's balances for the year. There was a discussion on the anticipated profit for the end of year. It was moved to accept the treasure's report as given by Caroline and second by Rhonda, all approved.

Presidents Report: Appreciated the turn out for Bert's Celebration of Life. She also acknowledged that the July general meeting was canceled due to lack of interest.

Report of Committees:

AKC Obedience/Rally, October 28-29, Gerianne and Erin chairs, volunteer coordinator Rhonda Pratt, Caroline will provide lunch.

AKC Scent Work, November 3-5, Teresa/Gerianne chairs, Erin coordinator

Old Business: Still need volunteer coordinators for AKC Scent Work Augst 16-18 and November 1-3. Also need CPE Scent Sports June 22-23.

New Business:

Framing the sign from the 2023 NTI for the track that BDOC sponsored. Caroline made a motion for approval Joanne second with all approved. Rhonda and Linda to head the nominating committee for 2 board positions.

Next board meeting: Zoom 11/27/2023 6:30 p.m.

Next general meeting: Holiday Party December 2, 2023.

Place: Caroline's house 5:00 Pizza supplied by club Bring Desert.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 7:14 p.m. by Rhonda and second by Erin, all approved.

Rhonda Pratt
Secretary BDOC

Obedience Trials Report

Gerianne Darnell

BDOC finished our trial-giving year with a bang, holding two awesome events back-to-back, AKC Obedience/Rally on October 28-29 at Companion and AKC Scent Work November 3-5 at Sunshine. We had a great entry for both events.

The two obedience trials in one day on Saturday makes for a long day for dogs, judges, and volunteers, but people really like that format as they can earn legs and titles in two days rather than three. I'm glad we only do that once a year! The weather was cold for the obedience event, and we were lucky that this particular event was inside with morning temps in the low 20's! Our awesome chief ring steward Rhonda Pratt rounded up some great help. Thanks to the large number of club members who helped set up, steward, and clean up: Erin, Kim, Gerianne, Polly, Shelly, Ron, Shari, Sandy C., Rhonda, and Mary. A big shout out to our ribbon people Linda and Dee who spent MANY hours getting the ribbons and toys ready, and then tabulated all of the awards throughout the two days and counted the ribbons afterwards. Also, thanks to

Caroline Rice for the wonderful food for both days, which she donated, thank you so much, Caroline. And as always, we couldn't do any of our events without our wonderful organized Trial Secretary, Norine. Erin and Gerianne co-chaired this event. Thank you, all!

Scent Work Trials Report

The turnaround to the next event was only three days! Once again Sharon Dowell was invaluable helping to figure out the different search areas, and then she, Teresa, Erin, Jim, and Gerianne set up all of the areas on Wednesday afternoon instead of the usual Thursday, so Erin and Gerianne could make their annual pilgrimage to the Craft Fair in Ralston. □ □ Once again, we were lucky with the weather, as it was much warmer than the previous weekend! Our new format for the Scent Work Trials has been very well received this year (three judges with three Detective trials and all of the elements offered over the three days). Many thanks to Erin for being the Volunteer Coordinator and to co-chairs Teresa and Gerianne. Club members who helped set up, clean up, and/or steward were Erin, Sharon, Teresa, Gerianne, Kim, Ron, Shelly, and Sue. Caroline Rice again provided us with three wonderful lunches. Special thanks to Sharon for bringing over all of the containers, steward kits, and ribbons and then hauling it all back home again, and once again thanks to Norine for managing all of the things that were going on at once!

These two successful and profitable events allowed the club to end the year in the black! After losing money last year, the Board instituted some successful cost saving measures throughout this year. We continue to offer many terrific events to the local dog community through the year.

POEM OF A DOG I'm the one who's always waiting for you. Your car has a special sound that I have imprinted on my senses, I can recognize it in a thousand. Your steps have a magic bell. Your voice is music to my ears. If I see your joy, it makes me happy!. Your scent is the best. Your presence moves my senses. Your waking up wakes me up I contemplate you sleeping and for me you are my God, I am happy watching your sleep. Your look is a ray of light. Your hands upon me, hold the lightness of peace and the sublime display of infinite love. When you leave, I feel a huge void in my heart. I keep waiting for you again and again. I am the one who will wait for you all your life today, tomorrow and forever: I am your dog.

If I Die Before My Dog

"If I die before my dog, let him see my body. He understands death, if he feels my death, he can cry for me.

If he doesn't see me again, he will think I abandoned him and he will continue waiting for my return.

If I die before my companion, let him say goodbye to me.

"Dogs are an endless friendship, a loyal friend, a part of life and a reason to exist!" 🐾❤️

What Is FCE (Fibrocartilaginous Embolism) In Dogs?

Just like people, dogs have discs between their vertebrae that act as a cushion and allow for the back to be flexible. These discs are called intervertebral discs. The center of each disc is made of fibrocartilage, which is a dense connective tissue. Sometimes, although rare, a piece of fibrocartilage from within a disc can migrate into the bloodstream and lodge within a spinal artery, preventing blood flow to a section of the spinal cord. This is called a fibrocartilaginous embolism (FCE), also referred to as a spinal stroke.

Fibrocartilaginous embolism or FCE in dogs occurs suddenly either when a dog is playing, or simply walking. A dog with FCE will cry out in pain briefly and then show neurologic signs, which may include acute weakness, incoordination when walking, and paralysis.

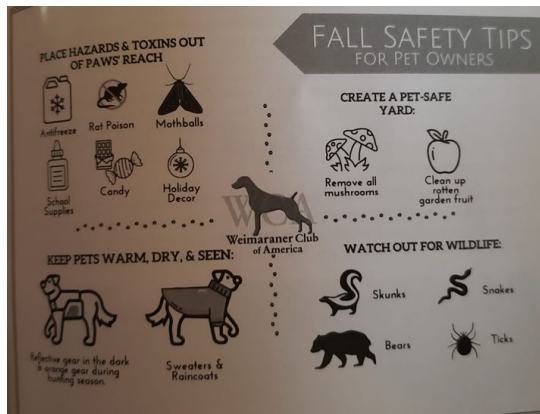
While the pain usually subsides within minutes, the neurologic symptoms may or may not resolve. An FCE can occur anywhere along the spine and affect one or both sides of the body. If the FCE is in the cervical (neck) area, then all four legs may be affected, making the dog have severe difficulty moving around or lose the ability to walk. If the FCE is in the lumbar (back) region, then only one or both hind limbs will be affected.

FCE is a rare condition and is considered an emergency due to the immediate onset and severity of symptoms.

▪ Symptoms of FCE (Fibrocartilaginous Embolism) In Dogs

As mentioned, a dog that experiences FCE is often walking or playing normally and then suddenly cries out and has symptoms of FCE. Symptoms may include:

- Vocalization due to acute pain that subsides quickly (usually within minutes)
- Collapse
- Weakness (paresis) of one or more limbs
- Lameness
- Knuckling of one or more paws
- Dragging of one or more legs due to the inability to feel and move the leg(s) (paralysis)
- Inability to urinate (occasionally)
- Fecal incontinence (occasionally)



Mushroom Awareness:

Fall marks the season for mushrooms. While the majority of mushrooms are harmless, a small percentage can be highly toxic and pose a serious threat to pets if ingested. Since distinguishing toxic from non-toxic mushrooms can be challenging, it's safest to keep your pets away from areas where mushrooms are growing. For more information, refer to resources on poisonous plants.

These safety tips aim to raise awareness and provide practical guidance to pet owners for protecting their beloved companions from the unique hazards of the fall season. Being proactive and taking appropriate precautions will ensure that your pets enjoy a safe and healthy autumn.

My Dogs Are Not my Children

My dog is not my child.

My dog is not my fur baby.

I am not his mother; I am his trainer. The word trainer is not a bad word, it means leader, supporter, disciplinary, and friend.

My dog is my friend. He is my partner and my companion. To treat him like a child, to infantilize him and make it seem as though he needs my constant coddling or protection, would be unfair to him.

He is an adult carnivore that I have brought into my human world. Because of that it is my responsibility as his owner:

- 1) To communicate with him in a way he can understand.
- 2) To provide leadership, discipline and mutual respect.
- 3) To understand his instincts and needs, and provide appropriate outlets for them.
- 4) To train him and provide him the skills to function effectively in our human world, including acceptable manners and behaviors including the veterinarian.

Our dogs deserve to be given responsibility and allowed to be adult creatures, not perpetual babies. Please, don't try to make them tiny humans, they aren't and they don't want to be. Dogs are wonderful because they are dogs. Let them be dogs.

Teach them to be good ones.

I couldn't live a day without them.

It's Thanksgiving and announcing the third annual AKC FIT DOG Turkey Trot.

The AKC FIT DOG Turkey Trot is a virtual 5K (3.1 miles) that people do with their dogs. This non-competitive 5K Turkey Trot can be done all at one time, or in smaller segments on multiple days so that everyone (people and dogs) can participate at their own pace. This can be a walk or run activity.

This year, Turkey Trot proceeds will be used to support programs for [AKC Juniors](#). Juniors participate in multiple AKC events, and they can earn scholarships for their education.

- Between **September 1, 2023, and December 15, 2023**, you and your dog can walk/run your 5K.
- The 5K (3.1 miles) can be walked/run all at once for people and dogs who are fit, or you may break your 5K into as many days/sessions as you need to keep you and your dog safe.
- You and your dog can do the Turkey Trot on your own, with a group of friends and their dogs, or with your AKC FIT DOG club.
- This Turkey Trot can be done anywhere that you and your dog are welcome to walk/run – in a local park, on a trail, or in your neighborhood.
- We are keeping the Turkey Trot open past Thanksgiving for those who are running/walking in segments.
 - ♦ **Registration Fee**
 - \$20 donation, includes the [3" Turkey Trot medal](#) with a ribbon.
 - ♦ **How It Works**
 - Between September 1, 2023, and December 12, 2023, complete the 5K (3.1 miles) with your dog. This can be all at once, or in as many days/sessions as you need.
 - Document your distances and times on a smartphone, smartwatch (or similar device), or on a written log.
 - Order your attractive AKC FIT DOG Turkey Trot medal.

The AKC FIT DOG Turkey Trot is done on an honor system. We are allowing medals to be ordered now so that AKC FIT DOG clubs and participants have them in time for Thanksgiving Turkey Trot photos.

The Turkey Trot counts toward [AKC FIT DOG title points!](#)

LIMITED SUPPLIES – ORDER YOUR MEDAL SOON!

Interesting Facts

The holiday season is full of traditions, some shared and some unique. For many, Christmas requires a tree, greeting cards, parties, food and the sharing of gifts and fellowship. The history of how Americans

celebrate the holidays is as diverse and fascinating as the population.

Here are interesting facts that you probably didn't know. 3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S. each year.

1. Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since 1850.
2. It takes about 15 years to grow the average Christmas tree.
3. Alabama was the first state to officially recognize Christmas in 1836. Oklahoma was the last, in 1907.
4. Santa Claus is based on a real person: St. Nikolas of Myra. He is the patron saint of banking, pawn broking, sailing, orphans and New York City.
5. President Teddy Roosevelt, an environmentalist, banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901.
6. Approximately 35 million living Christmas trees are sold each year in the U.S.; more than 45 million are planted.
7. Holiday purchases account for one sixth of all yearly retail sales in the U.S.
8. "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin is the best-selling single record of all time, with over 100 million sales, worldwide.
9. All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts.

The first recorded Christmas celebration was in Rome on **December 25, AD 336.**

- **Hundreds of dogs in the US have been sickened by a mysterious, potentially fatal illness. Here's what we know:**

Veterinary laboratories in several states including Illinois are investigating an unusual respiratory illness in dogs, and encouraging people to take basic precautions to keep their pets healthy as veterinarians try to pin down what's making the animals sick.

Oregon, Colorado and New Hampshire are also among the states that have seen cases of the illness, which has caused lasting respiratory disease and pneumonia and does not respond to antibiotics. Symptoms of respiratory illness in dogs include coughing, sneezing, nasal or eye discharge and lethargy. Some cases of the pneumonia progress quickly, making dogs very sick within 24 to 36 hours.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture has documented more than 200 cases of the disease since mid-August. It has encouraged pet owners to contact their vet if their dog is sick and told state veterinarians to report cases as soon as possible.

The agency is working with state researchers and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory to find out what is causing the illnesses.

Dogs have died, said Kurt Williams, director of the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Oregon State University. But without a clear way to define the disease or test for it, he said it's hard to put a number on how many died from a severe form of the infection.

[According to NBC News](#), researchers at the University of New Hampshire's Veterinary Diagnosis Laboratory and the Hubbard Center for Genome Studies have identified a pathogen that might be what's making pets sick.

Researchers told NBC News that a previously unidentified germ was detected in a genetic sequencing of samples from 30 dogs from New Hampshire who were infected last year and 40 dogs from Rhode Island and Massachusetts who were infected this year.

"It's smaller than a normal bacterium in its size and in the size of its genome. Long story short, it's a weird bacterium that can be tough to find and sequence," said Dr. David Needle, pathology section chief at the [College of Life Sciences and Agriculture at the University of New Hampshire](#)

Bellevue Dog Obedience Club of Nebraska 2023 Awards

Dear Club Members:

It's time to submit your titles for 2023. In order to receive an award, a member must be "active". You are an active member if you have given six hours of service to the club in 2023, which could include attending the general meetings, participating on a committee, helping with trials, etc. Please indicate on the form what six hours you have contributed to the club. BDOC currently offers a plaque for each dog with a "bar" for each title earned. Each year you will add new title bars to your plaque for your dog. There is also an award for "Competition Dog of The Year" which recognizes the top six scores earned in AKC obedience competition from the regular or preferred classes. We will also be awarding the "Jackie Griffith Memorial Award", given to the Highest Scoring Active Member's dog in the regular or preferred classes at the 2023 BDOC obedience trials in March/April, August, or October, along with the "Beginner Novice" award for our BDOC trials in March/April, August, or October. If you showed in Beginner Novice or the regular/preferred classes at any of the 2023 BDOC obedience trials, please submit those scores below. There will also be a bar awarded for Farm Dog, Trick Dog (any level), CGC, CGCA, and CGCU titles earned by club members in 2023. Another special award is the Carol Wilson/Marge Danielson Memorial Award for the highest score earned in Novice A, Open A, or Utility A at any obedience trial (not just BDOC trials) during 2023.

Please return the following information to **Gerianne Darnell, 11092 240th Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503** by **January 15, 2024**. If you have any questions, call Gerianne (712-526-2252) or Linda Puckett (402-593-0703) or e-mail Gerianne at geriannedarnell@aol.com. Please copy this form if you have earned a title on more than one dog. Please send the form via U.S. mail rather than an e-mail so I don't have to print out so many pages. Please indicate on the form if this is your dog's first title and you need a plaque for your dog. thanks, Gerianne.

Please send the following to Gerianne, one form for each dog:

BDOC 2023 AWARDS

Member's name: _____

Dog's breed, registered name including titles, and call name: _____

Does this dog need a plaque? _____

Telephone Number and e-mail address: _____

Title(s) earned, please separate by venue, attach separate sheet if necessary: _____

If applicable, list your top six AKC **regular or preferred class** obedience scores (**not** rally, beginner novice, grad novice, or grad open, JUST Novice, Open, or Utility, preferred or regular) for 2023. You can list a fewer number of scores if you don't have six (date, show & score): _____

What was your highest score and class at any 2023 BDOC obedience trial (March/April, August, and October)? (include beginner novice but not rally, JUST the regular or preferred classes plus beginner novice): _____

Highest Score in Novice A, Open A, or Utility A in 2023 at any AKC obedience trial, (not just BDOC's trials): _____

Indicate what six hours of service you gave to BDOC in 2023.

: _____
