



# Admiral Perry Obedience Training Club, Inc.

## NEWSLETTER

October 2010

APOTC website [www.apotc.org](http://www.apotc.org).

Regular club meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at the Shriners Hospital, 1645 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, PA

### Club Officers:

President:	Lee Ann Czytuck
Vice-President:	Marilyn Flower
Treasurer:	Ann Gehrlein
Recording Secretary:	Amy Barney
Corresponding Secretary:	Kathy Croft
Board of Directors:	Trish Clark
	Melanie Shufan
	Jim Kwiatkowski
	Betsy Olson
	Sally Shilling
	Janet Norman

### *Club News*

The next meeting will be October 12, 2010 at the Shriners Hospital. We will have a special presentation about herding at this meeting. Our presenter will be Jean Barrett, who operates a small herding training facility in Eden, NY. The presentation will start at 7 PM followed by our monthly club meeting.

Club membership dues (individual \$10 and family \$15) are payable by October 31, 2010. Please check in with Ann Gehrlein, Treasurer, to square away your dues.

An updated membership list has been completed and copies are available from Secretary, Amy Barney at the monthly meetings.

As the year ends, please remember to fill out a form for titles you and your dog/dogs have earned this year. See Mary Alice Piotrowski for the titles form and complete and return it by 12/15/10.

The upcoming obedience classes will be as follows:

Fall session: September 16, 23, 30, October 7, 14, 21, 28, November 4, 11, 2010

Winter session: January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011

Spring session: March 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2011

### *Upcoming Events*

The American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Walk will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010 in Erie. Come out and walk with your dog on the APOTC team. Visit [www.cancer.org/stridesonline](http://www.cancer.org/stridesonline) to sign up to walk with the APOTC team.

Mark your calendar for the APOTC Agility Trials which are scheduled for November 12, 13, and 14, 2010 and January 21, 22, and 23, 2011 at Countryside Agility in Edinboro, PA.

2010 Run-thru Schedule from August to December held by the All Breed Training Club of Akron is available on line at [www.abtca.org](http://www.abtca.org) . Obedience, rally, agility and conformation are offered. Questions call 330-630-0418 or email [info@abtca.org](mailto:info@abtca.org). ABTCA's building is located on the Summit County Fairgrounds property in Tallmadge, OH.

The Dog Obedience Training Club of Rochester, NY will hold a "hands and paws" on seminar, "Competition Obedience: A Balancing Act" presented by Adele Yunck on November 13 and 14, 2010 at the DOTCRNY training center. For more information call 585-251-1784 or [jekerry@hotmail.com](mailto:jekerry@hotmail.com).

### ***Points of Interest***

The following was sent in by Barb Cole...Thank you Barb

#### **PUPPY SIGHS**

"Sierra keeps repeating it over and over again. We've been back to this animal shelter at least five times. It has been weeks now since we started all of this," the mother told the volunteer." What is it she keeps asking for?" the volunteer asked." Puppy size!" replied the mother." Well, we have plenty of puppies, if that's what she's looking for." I know...we have seen most of them," the mom said in frustration...Just then Sierra came walking into the office "Well, did you find one?" asked her mom. "No, not this time," Sierra said with sadness in her voice. "Can we come back on the weekend?" The two women looked at each other, shook their heads and laughed "You never know when we will get more dogs. Unfortunately, there's always a supply," the volunteer said. Sierra took her mother by the hand and headed to the door. "Don't worry, I'll find one this weekend," she said. Over the next few days both mom and dad had long conversations with her. They both felt she was being too particular. "It's this weekend or we're not looking any more," Dad finally said in frustration." We don't want to hear anything more about puppy size either," Mom added. Sure enough, they were the first ones in the shelter on Saturday morning. By now Sierra knew her way around, so she ran right for the section that housed the smaller dogs. Tired of the routine, mom sat in the small waiting room at the end of the first row of cages. There was an observation window so you could see the animals during times when visitors weren't permitted. Sierra walked slowly from cage to cage, kneeling periodically to take a closer look. One by one the dogs were brought out and she held each one. One by one she said, "Sorry, you're not the one." It was the last cage on this last day in search of the perfect pup. The volunteer opened the cage door and the child carefully picked up the dog and held it closely. This time she took a little longer." Mom, that's it! I found the right puppy! He's the one! I know it!" she screamed with joy. "It's the puppy size!" But it's the same size as all the other puppies you held over the last few weeks," Mom said." No not size ---- the sighs. When I held him in my arms, he sighed," Sierra said." Don't you remember? When I asked you one day what love is, you told me love depends on the sighs of your heart. The more you love, the bigger the sigh!" The two women looked at each other for a moment. Mom didn't know whether to laugh or cry. As she stooped down to hug the child, she did a little of both." Mom, every time you hold me, I sigh. When you and Daddy come home from work and hug each other, you both sigh. I knew I would find the right puppy if it sighed when I held it in my arms," she said. Then holding the puppy up close to her face she said, "Mom, he loves me. I heard the sighs of his heart!" Close your eyes for a moment and think about the love that makes you sigh. I not only find it in the arms of my loved ones, but in the caress of a sunset, the kiss of the moonlight and the gentle brush of cool air on a hot day. They are the sighs of God. Take the time to stop and listen; you will be surprised at what you hear. "Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

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