



Admiral Perry Obedience Training Club, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

September 2010

APOTC website www.apotcerie.org.

Regular club meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at the Shriners Hospital, 1645 West 8th 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 September 14, 2010 at the Shriners Hospital.

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

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.

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. Obedience, rally, agility and conformation are offered. Questions call 330-630-0418 or email 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.

A Symposium on Rational Animal Control will be sponsored by the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs on September 15, 2010, from 5:30- 10:00PM, at the Inn at Towamencin in Kulpsville, PA. Admission is \$15. If interested in attending and for more information contact M. J. Stabinski-Heckman at redbrickbulldogs@comcast.net or Julian Prager at Pennfedlaw@verizon.net

A big THANK YOU from the President:

I want to say thanks to all of you that helped put on another great show this year. Both members and non members helped with set up that I think took place in record time. We seem to be getting better and better at this each and every year, and it helps a lot to have so many "seasoned veterans" and newcomers helping to set up the rings and do the cleaning.

As always, the stewards were exceptional all weekend and the judges remarked how much they enjoyed working with them and the fact that the stewards kept them on task and as much on time as possible (some hold-ups just can't be avoided). I think the stewarding at our show has always been one of our strong points. Thanks to all of you that volunteered and did such a fine job, and especially the new members who gave stewarding a try for the first time.

The food was wonderful as always, and it was great that it was ready to go early in case people had to get back to the ring to show or work. They even ran out of macaroni salad both days! Thanks so much for a terrific job in the kitchen. I know it's a lot of work, but we all truly appreciate the effort put in to feed everyone.

The raffle table again this year was packed with goodies. Thanks to all who contributed.

I heard a lots of compliments from exhibitors and only a few comments about the heat on Saturday, which seemed to be the worst of the two days. We do the best we can with our jumbo fans, but sometimes even that doesn't work. Mother Nature doesn't always smile on us!

Tear down went well and quickly as far as I could tell. That's always such a hard job rolling up the matting --- whew! Thanks to everyone who pitched in to sweep, roll, push, pull and load the trailer --- we appreciate everyone who came Sunday afternoon just for that.

I won't mention names because if I forget someone I'll feel terrible, so just a HUGE THANK YOU to all who volunteered! This show would never run as smoothly as it does without all of the volunteers, and we're successful because of that fact.

If you have any suggestions or comments on how we might be able to do some things differently, please bring them to the September meeting.

Again, thank you all so much for making the 2010 show a success.

Lee-Ann

Points of Interest

Rabies Prevention:

The annual dropping of the Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) will be occurring this month. The ORV baits are dropped by an airplane with the intent for wildlife to eat them as a means for rabies prevention. The baits are not for sale to the public or to veterinarians because they can cause skin lesions if the bait ruptures and enters wounds or cuts. You should not handle these baits if you find them. If you do handle one by accident, wash your hands immediately!

These ORV baits will not hurt your dog or other animals if they are consumed.

Please visit the website below for more information.

Here is the link to the National ORV Press Release regarding the ORV bait drop

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2010/08/oral_rabies_2010.shtml

Pennsylvania's First Human Case of West Nile Virus of 2010

The Department of Health reported this year's first human case of West Nile virus in Pennsylvania. The individual is a 69-year-old man from Philadelphia County.

West Nile virus is spread to people and animals by infected mosquitoes. Usually, the infection does not result in any illness. Older adults and persons with compromised immune systems are at greatest risk of becoming ill after a West Nile infection.

A severe West Nile infection can cause encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain. People with encephalitis may experience high fever, headache, neck stiffness, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, paralysis, and coma. Anyone with any of these symptoms should immediately contact their health care provider.

A milder form of infection is known as West Nile fever. In addition to fever, people with this form of the disease may also experience headache, body aches, skin rash, and swollen lymph glands.

There is no specific treatment for West Nile virus. For severe cases, hospitalization is needed and illness can be associated with long-term disabilities and death.

Since West Nile was first identified in Pennsylvania in 2000, the virus has been found in all areas of the state and has returned each summer.

The department recommended these simple precautions to prevent mosquito bites, particularly for those most at risk which include the elderly and those with compromised immune systems:

- Make sure screens fit tightly over doors and windows to keep mosquitoes out of your home;
- When possible, reduce outdoor exposure at dawn and dusk, the times of day when the mosquitoes that transmit West Nile virus are most active, during the warmer months of the year (usually April through October);
- Consider wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks when outdoors, particularly at dawn and dusk, or in areas known for having large numbers of mosquitoes;
- Use insect repellents according to the manufacturer's instructions. Effective repellents contain DEET. Consult a doctor if you have concerns about the use of repellent on young children, as repellent is not recommended for children under the age of two months. Two other insect repellants, Picaridin (KBR 3023)

and oil of lemon eucalyptus, a plant based repellent, were tested against mosquitoes and provided protection similar to repellents with low concentrations of DEET.

Pennsylvanians can also reduce the risk of West Nile virus by eliminating the places where mosquitoes breed. Here are some simple steps that can be taken around the house:

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots, discarded tires, or any object on your property that could collect standing water. Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers left outdoors;
- Have roof gutters cleaned every year, particularly if the leaves from nearby trees have a tendency to clog the drains;
- Turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use;
- Don't let water stagnate in birdbaths;
- Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with fish;
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools and remove standing water from pool covers;
- Use landscaping to eliminate standing water that collects on your property; and
- Standing water that cannot be eliminated should be treated with Bti products, which are sold at outdoor supply, home improvement, and other stores. Bti is a naturally occurring bacterium that kills mosquito larvae but is safe for people, pets, aquatic life and plants.

For more information about West Nile virus, including current test results for mosquitoes, birds and horses, visit www.westnile.state.pa.us or call the Department of Health at 1-877-PA HEALTH

