

"Life is what happens to you when you're making other plans"

John Lennon

Hi Everybody!

On September 23 & 24 will be the Dog Agility Competition of Florida (DACOF) The usual date for this competition is the last weekend of June, but because of the canine flu epidemic, the decision was made to change the date for this year, rather than cancel it outright. We had already sent the entries and payments for our 2 teams and preparations were well under way.

However, the new date conflicted with other commitments for some of us (NADAC Championships in Ohio). So, Don White saved the day and took charge of the teams! He and Jackie Royce have some great plans for the teams. There is always a crating area decorations competition and this year our theme is Course Busters (Ghost Busters theme). As always, Don and Jackie will outdo themselves with the spirit and fun of the competition.

We will have two teams as usual, but the number of people is fewer because some of us can't go. Each team has a responsibility to provide workers for the event. An agility competition depends on its volunteers!

Don sent me this message: "**Need desperately:** Folks to volunteer to work rings. Several of us are running multiple dogs. This will take them out of the rotation for working. THAT'S BAD! We are looking for folks that will come and enjoy the event but work our rotations as much as possible. We will be slotted as working the event as if we are 18-members deep...even if we are only 14. I am greatly concerned about this...it could delay the runs...or even penalize our scores."

The competition will take place on Sep. 23 & 24 at the Silver Spurs Arena in Kissimmee Florida. It starts at 8AM both days. It is really a great event to watch if you want to do agility with your dogs, and admission is free! If you can help as a volunteer, please contact Don atlwhite@aol.com and he can give you more details.

Our teams:

Cool Team Excellent: Alice (Malinois) and Anita Shwarts, Trixie (Australian Terrier) and Kim Floyd, Ladybug (Sheltie) and Kelly Randall

Open: Appletini (Boston Terrier) and Jackie Royce, Max (Boxer) & Brad Crowson, Tivo (Australian Terrier) and Kim Floyd

Novice: Brogan (Sheltie) and Adrienne Swisher, Bullet (Boxer) and Don White, Abby (Greater Swiss Mountain Dog) and Kim Floyd

Critter Team: Excellent: Oliver (Boxer) and Don White, Open: Lily (English Cocker and Carol Happel Novice: Raisin (Boxer) and Donna Butler, Dixie (Papillon) and Donetta Myers, Kaze (Sheltie) and Kelly Randall

No Classes

We will have no classes on Monday, Sept. 6...Labor Day

Got Rats?

I have been fighting rats and critters putting holes in my roof and getting into my attic for years. Two roofing companies had sealed those holes, and the critters would still get in. The last hole looked big enough for a raccoon! I finally called **Phoenix Pest Management and Wildlife Control** (I liked the name). They came, got the critters out, sealed all the holes, and sanitized the attic to kill all the germs and bacteria that the critters leave behind. If you need to get rid of rats and any other pests, I highly recommend them: www.phoenixpestpros.com

Dog Class Schedule

Monday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (**Next class starting Sept. 18, 2017**)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (**Next class starting Sept. 11, 2017**)

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility

10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

6:00 Weaving Proficiency (**Next class starting October 17, 2017**)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Distance Class

Wednesday:

10:00 to 11:00AM - All levels Rally Obedience

11AM - Community Canine class - CGCA

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (**New class starting October 18, 2017**)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate / Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (**Next class starting Sep. 21, 2017**)

8:00 to 9:00 PM - Rally Obedience

Friday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility

10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

Congratulation to Our Latest Graduates!

STAR Puppy:

Carole & Erin Hogue with Toby Ray (Golden doodle)

Shellie Smith & Apollo (German shepherd)

Tiffany Paul & Hai-Ping (Portuguese Waterdog)

Whitney Bladen & Koba (Standard Poodle)

Joe Hollub & Loki (Standard Poodle)

Debra Smith & Maycee (Shep/Lab Mix)

Linda Edler & Macho (Boxer)

Kevin & Sheryl Taylor with Kampar (Great Dane Mix)

Tina Ortega & Grace (Pitbull)

JoElla Young & Cailin (English Cocker)

Diane Boyer & Gabie (Springer Spaniel)

Kelli Carter & Sam (Aussie)

Growing Old with Dogs

When I am old...

I will wear soft gray sweatshirts...

and a bandana over my silver hair.....

and I will spend my social security checks on wine and my dogs.

I will sit in my house on my well-worn chair

and listen to my dogs' breathing.

I will sneak out in the middle of a warm summer night

and take my dogs for a run, if my old bones will allow...

When people come to call, I will smile

and nod as I show them my dogs...

and talk of them and about them...

...the ones so beloved of the past

and the ones so beloved of today....

I will still work hard cleaning after them,

mopping and feeding them and

whispering their names in a soft loving way.

I will wear the gleaming sweat on my throat,
like a jewel and I will be an embarrassment to all...
especially my family...
who have not yet found the peace in being free
to have dogs as your best friends....

These friends who always wait, at any hour, for your footfall...
and eagerly jump to their feet out of a sound sleep,
to greet you as if you are a God.

With warm eyes full of adoring love and hope
that you will always stay,
I'll hug their big strong necks...
I'll kiss their dear sweet heads...
and whisper in their very special company....
I look in the Mirror...and see I am getting old....
this is the kind of person I am...and have always been.
Loving dogs is easy,
they are part of me.

Please accept me for who I am.
My dogs appreciate my presence in their lives...
they love my presence in their lives.....
When I am old this will be important to me...
you will understand when you are old....
if you have dogs to love too.

Author Unknown

...and now, time for a paws...

Ileana