



# Canine Chronicle

The Official  
Publication of The  
Canine Agility  
Training Society, Inc.  
Established June, 1989

**CATS Club Meetings**  
2nd Wednesday  
of the month 7 p.m.  
MHS Community  
Room

**Newsletter  
Submissions – including  
BRAGS to:**  
Amee Abel  
aabel98@hotmail.com  
Send submissions by the 22nd  
of the month.  
Photos encouraged!

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January 2012

Volume 22, Number 1

## First Kitty Arsenault Spirit of Agility Award—CATS Annual Meeting 2012

Lisa Barrett was selected to be the FIRST recipient of the *Kitty Arsenault Spirit of Agility Award*.

The award depicts a dog emerging from a collapsed chute. The casting was done for us by Mark Wirant. As background, the recipient shall be chosen for exhibiting the following traits:

- Being kind and positive in their dog training and handling
- Putting the safety, health and happiness of the dog above the performance
- Loving the sport of dog agility and the teamwork exhibited by dog & handler
- Giving back to the agility community



Lisa Barrett receives the 2012 Kitty Arsenault Spirit of Agility Award

It was especially nice that Kitty's two children, Drew and Carrie, were able to attend the presentation. Lisa shared some of her early memories of Kitty (and CATS) with the audience which definitely set all us to giggling.

I wasn't aware that the first agility event Lisa attended was *our* CATS event in 1994 at Carpenter Street field in Keene. Driving 2.5 hours, Lisa came as a spectator; she did NOT compete with a dog. Now that was curiosity! The judge was Darlene Woz, one of CATS personal

favorites. Lisa and I remembered that show because Paul Stolzenburg somersaulted over Betts as she unexpectedly cut in front of him. We even have that infamous move on video!

But back to the real story! From the northern regions of Vermont, Lisa has done so much to promote positive dog training and the sport of agility on a nationwide scale.

After the CATS Annual Meeting, Lisa wrote to me. She said she was **THRILLED** to be selected for this honor. "Kitty was always such an inspiration to me."



—submitted by Leslie Vassall

# CATS 2012 Annual Report

[Click here for info on Memorial Bench Ceremony, February 11](#)

Welcome to the Canine Agility Training Society's 2011 Annual Meeting, where we sit in the company of our agility friends and our guests and very publicly celebrate our agility titles from all the venues, welcome the new dogs, remember those dogs who left us in 2011, and acknowledge the Club's accomplishments. Thank you all for being here to celebrate this club we call CATS.

***"In 2011 new people rose to the challenge of doing jobs they'd not done before [for CATS.]"***

## Members

We closed out 2011 with 42 members of CATS.

Please welcome our New CATS Members as they are presented with their member pin and leash

- Dana Chenier
- Maureen Kavanaugh

Returned to CATS

- Nancy Lobacki
- Kim (formerly Farley) Kennely

Let us acknowledge the longevity of our members as we present the 5, 10, and 15 year member pins.

- 5-years..... Ray Spring
- 10-years..... Mary Wakeman
- 15-years..... Carol Stephens

## The Worker Bees

In 2011 new people rose to the challenge of doing jobs they'd not done before while others took on leadership roles. For some their volunteer work moved them out of their comfort zone, they gained confidence along the way, and shone. Others comfortably performed regular, monthly jobs without a break or complaint. As a Club we benefited from their special efforts. Some continued doing jobs they've done for years and while they'd like to "retire", did it one more time for CATS. And then there are the members who are always there when the call goes out for help. Thank you!

Please join me in recognizing these individuals and see if you can guess which of the descriptions I just gave define their 2011 contributions to CATS.

- Cindy Stewart
- Pat Grace
- Tammy Lenski
- Anee Abel
- Dayle Zeismer
- Donna Allen

[Click here for info on CATS Members-only Agility seminar on March 17-18](#)

(Continued from page 2)

- Judy Davis
- Leslie Vassall
- Paul Gibbons
- Alex Kalish
- Donna Proudfoot
- Noel Aderer

### Special Thanks

Since 1989, Gaale Klein has been updating and adding new pages for years. This year she retired as our webmaster and placed the site in the capable hands of Tammy Lenski with assistance from Dana Chenier. Let's take a moment to honor Gaale for her work on our website. She took the little website that Kim's son, Nick Farley birthed and molded our club's identity online. THANK YOU, Gaale!

I'd also like to thank Sid Davis for stepping up to help CATS develop its plans for the future storage of our equipment. Sid did the research on the shipping containers we are planning to purchase. He's not even a member. Thank you very much, Sid!

### New Equipment

CATS sports an abundance of top-notch equipment and this year saw some wonderful additions to our collection: an Atomic Dogwalk with rubber skins and (2) sets of ramps one for USDAA and the other set for CPE & NADAC, 24" channel weave poles for training purposes as well as 24" 2x2 weave poles.

Further, we rubberized so much of our contact equipment. Let's give a very big thank you to Paul Gibbons, Alex Kalish, Josh Morin, Leslie Vassall and Donna Proudfoot for hours of time spent on the rubber project. And to Donna Allen & Diane Gibbons for the morale boosting, bringing snacks to the workers.

### Significant Accomplishments and/or Changes

After a bylaw amendment this was the first year that we had the opportunity to nominate up to two individuals for CATS office. Is anyone surprised that the distinction of being a CATS officer isn't one members are fighting over? Instead we're fortunate to have at least one person nominated for each of the positions.

In 2011 CATS hosted a Seminar with Anne Andrie as a gift to our members and affordably priced it at \$25 per working session. Mark your calendars now for the 2012 CATS Seminar March 17 & 18 with Terri Cesarek at the same low price.

### Trials

CATS held two trials in 2011, a CPE and an USDAA under the combined leadership of Judy Davis, Cindy Stewart, Pat Grace and myself. We had the co-chairman titles but couldn't have done it without Leslie Vassall's equipment and set-up.

One-thousand-three-hundred-forty-four times 151 people and their dogs went to the start line at the CATS September trial. The Club was conscious of creating a hospitable, friendly trial boasting special touches not always found at trials. At our Club's June USDAA trial one-thousand-fourteen times 129 people and their dogs ran the courses at Wheelock Park. We braved torrential rain and a hurricane watch and still

***“Thank you,  
Sid Davis, for  
researching  
our future  
equipment  
storage...”***

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

managed to keep smiling and have a good time.

We were able to put \$8,045 in the bank as a result of our two trials and that's our financial security. Those of you who helped load or unload equipment, set up the rings, were a dedicated worker during the trial, or did the planning and organizing of the trial...please stand up. Take a good look. These are the folks that earned that \$8,045 and are giving us the March seminar. Thank you!

***“We were able to put \$8,045 in the bank, as a result of our two trials.”***

#### Show N Go

CATS hosted a lovely, informal, friendly Show 'N Go to help ease people into competition and give teams more confidence in the ring. CATS members along with a few newbies and folks from outside the area enjoyed 80 runs with their dogs before rain put an end to the fun. Thank you to Donna Allen for heading up that effort.

#### Good Deeds

In 2011 CATS supported the MHS Walk for Animals with \$725 of individual donations from members and their friends which the Club then matched, up to \$500. Thank you to Tammy Lenski for organizing our fundraising efforts. As a result \$1,225 was presented to MHS. Noel Aderer organized and CATS members participated in an agility demo at the Walk.

Our Annual Meeting Raffle will benefit the Rabies Fund Challenge and CATS is matching the money we spend buying raffle tickets, up to \$500. So buy those raffle tickets. This is a good cause

#### Rainbow Bridge

To quote from Mary Wakeman's tribute to Willow.... All that lies between is a lifetime of stories of endearing moments to fill a heart of with love, laughter, tears,

(Continued on page 5)

## Mary's Pet Services

Puppy Nanny, Senior dog care, Pet Sitting  
Dog Walking, Dog Massage, Pet transportation  
and cats too.

Experienced  
Affordable  
Home Setting

[www.dogsit.webs.com](http://www.dogsit.webs.com)

Mary Wakeman  
Hancock, NH  
603-831-0915



*The End*

Don't let this be the end  
of your CATS Fun!

**Renew your membership**  
**TODAY**

Print out and mail in the mem-  
bership form on pages 6-7

(Continued from page 4)

sadness, joy, laughter, adventures of sport and wonder.

Let's take the time to quietly reflect on the joy the dogs who have gone over the rainbow bridge this year brought to, not only their owners, but all the people who loved them

- Cindy Stewart's *Simon*
- Janet Langdon's *Liesl*
- Ray Spring's *Quigley*
- Kitty Arsenault's *Browser*
- Judy Davis's *Putter*
- Mary Wakeman's *Willow*
- Anee Abel's *Batman*
- Maggie Sergeant's *Sam*
- Jo-Ann Gerde's *Alice*

Kim Kennely's *Lucky*

On Saturday, February 11 at 2pm, we'll have a memorial bench ceremony and memorialize these beloved canine companions.

And sadly this year CATS lost a good member, a great instructor, and an even better friend when Kitty Arsenault died in August. CATS memorialized Kitty with a paw on the MHS Community Room wall alongside our Club's paw. Additionally Kitty's legacy will live on when, later in the meeting, we present the first annual Kitty Arsenault Spirit of Agility Award. Let's now have a moment of silence to remember Kitty. Thank you.

New Dogs



(Continued on page 8)



Online Registration is available at

[www.monadpets.org](http://www.monadpets.org)

or you may contact

Alice at MHS 603-352-9011 x112 to register over the phone.

## AGILITY @MHS Training Center

**Tuesday—2/21-3/27 —Drop-ins available**

Intermediate Agility 5:30-6:30— Diane Gibbons

Advanced Agility 7-8:15— Diane Gibbons

**WEDNESDAY 3/28, 4/25**

**AGILITY RUNTHROUGHS 6:30-8:30** —Diane Gibbons

Nested courses. Limited Runs available-**Pre-registration highly advised!**

**Friday —3/23**

**AGILITY RUNTHROUGH 6-8** —Diane Gibbons

Nested courses. Limited Runs available-**Pre-registration highly advised!**



# CATS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2012

     \$30 Member (please print this page and the next,  
and return with your payment before January 17, 2012.)

Handler's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that my dog(s) are current on their rabies vaccinations.

(Please list all dogs that may participate in CATS' activities and are current on rabies vaccinations.)

*Please answer the following questions:*

If you can be on a committee, which one would you like (see list below)?

What would you like to do for CATS in 2012? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send Renewal Membership Form, the Member Waiver/Disclaimer Form on page four and your membership fee February 1, 2012 to:*

**Judy Davis, 128 Chesham Rd., Harrisville, NH 03450**

**CATS' Committees:** Newsletter / Librarian / Historian / Webmaster / NADAC Liaison / USDAA Liaison / CPE Liaison / DOCNA Liaison / Audit / Membership / Event / Social / Publicity / Equipment / Logo Sportswear / Show & Go / Demo / Finance / Nominating (appointed by the Board, indicates interest to serve only) / Seminar

Founding Members (exempt from paying dues): Judy Davis, Chris Frado, Linda Guinane, Rob Phillips, Sheila Phillips, and Leslie Vassall. Thank you, Founders!

Revised: December 23, 2011

**Please sign and return with your payment and initial/annual membership registration. In consideration of the acceptance of this application, I/we agree to the following:**

1. I, the club member/handler/participant, agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Canine Agility Training Society (CATS) and any other corresponding rules and regulations and procedures for any class, event, activity or meeting.
2. I hereby certify that my dog(s) (or other dog(s) brought by me to a CATS function) is not a hazard to persons, other animals, or property and that the dog's rabies and other vaccinations will be kept current in accordance with the requirements(s) of the state in which the dog resides.
3. I acknowledge all hazards presented by events, classes, activities, meetings and corresponding event premises, including, but not limited to, the condition of the flooring, footing, stairways, walks, halls, lighting, security measures or lack thereof, electrical appliances, fitting(s), show rings, parking areas, and the presence of unfamiliar animals and people; the participant and owner assume the entire risk of any harm arising from these.
4. I hereby release CATS (including officers, directors, employees and members thereof) and that of any sites, training centers and other sites used for CATS club activities and hold them harmless from all present and future loss, injury, damage, claims, demands and liabilities involving the dog, event, or event premises. I hereby specifically assume sole responsibility for, and agree to all expenses (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law on any of the aforementioned parties for damages because my/our participation in CATS activities, events or meetings, howsoever such injury, or death may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees or agents or any other persons.

Furthermore, as a CATS' member: I agree to work with my dog in agility training in a manner that never threatens his/her safety or well-being. I recognize that it is important that a dog not lose confidence or be physically harmed as a part of his/her participation in the sport of agility and will do all I can to keep training and practice safe and fun. In keeping with the club's philosophy, I further agree to train my dog using positive, reward-based methods that are advocated by CATS as well as the national agility sanctioning organizations of this country.

Further, in respect for the Club concern that member conduct be "in the best interest of the Club. . . . .  
 . . . . . ." (CATS By-Laws, Article VIII, "Discipline"), by submission of this membership application, I/we agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

1. Treat others with dignity and respect, as beings inherently worthy of esteem, honor, and high regard, irrespective of our many differences.
2. In our words and actions, strive to create and maintain a positive and harmonious atmosphere at the club, one that will enhance the bond we seek to develop with our dogs as we train them, and that will promote fellowship and goodwill toward each other.
3. In our interactions with each other, practice personal integrity, accept responsibility for our actions, and when we disagree, communicate with courtesy, act ethically, and above all, strive to seek and tolerate a constructive outcome.

I have read and understand the CATS' By-Laws, membership requirements and benefits and agree to abide by them. I have read, understand, and acknowledge the above Agreement.

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*Signature of Member/Participant/Owner    Date*

*Or: Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian of Minor (if member/participant is under 18 years of age)*

(Continued from page 5)

As difficult as losing one's pet is, there is the unbridled joy of bringing a new dog into our household. In 2011 our members welcomed

- Louise Shaw † German Shorthaired Pointer, *Hawk*
- Donna Proudfoot † Golden Retriever, *Emma*
- Diane Gibbons † Mini Aussie, *Dash*
- Mary Wakeman's Yellow Labs, *Pearl* † *Nash* had a litter together of pups identified by colored collars

and Dayle Ziesmer welcomed another litter of Cairn Terriers from her breeding ... little pups that I get to temperament test in a couple months

And not to be outdone by dogs, Judy Davis let us share in her joy as a grandmother welcoming the people-puppy Charlotte Cahill born January 20, 2011. We shared more joy when Maggie Sergeant gave birth on June 23, 2011 to Zachery. We enjoyed celebrating the people-puppies.

### Significant Titles

In 2011 a number of significant championship titles were earned by our members and their dogs. Please congratulate

- Leslie Vassall † Mimi USDAA Performance Dog Champion
- Donna Allen † Mariah NADAC NATCH 5
- Karen Mockler † Darby CPE C-ATCH 3
- Judy Davis † Hazard CPE C-ATCH 5
- Carol Stephens † Lizzie CPE C-ATCH 2

Our members and their dogs compete at the nationals of several organizations. In 2011

- Leslie Vassall † Mimi competed at the CPE Nationals
- Cindy Stewart † Lacey competed at the CPE Nationals
- Heidi Konesko † Penney competed at the NADAC Nationals

Lynn Smitley † Mia competed at the NADAC Nationals

And now let's applaud for each other as we present the 2011 title certificates.

### Party Thank Yous

Thank you to those who planned and organized this annual celebration of our CATS club. They

- took the reservations and made the arrangements with the restaurant
- organized the raffle
- sold the raffle tickets † counted the money

made the title certificates and made sure you all got your titles reported

Cindy Stewart, Dayle Zeisner, Pat Grace, Leslie Vassall, Karen Mockler and Tammy Lenski

Housekeeping Note: If you have dogs on the rosettes that are no longer with us and you'd like to take them home to hang on your Christmas tree next year, please do.

### On a Personal Note

Thank you for your confidence in me as your president. Thank you for your advice † continual help. Thank you for your contributions to the Club, your energy, your opinions, your honesty, your hugs, your smiles, and your friendship.

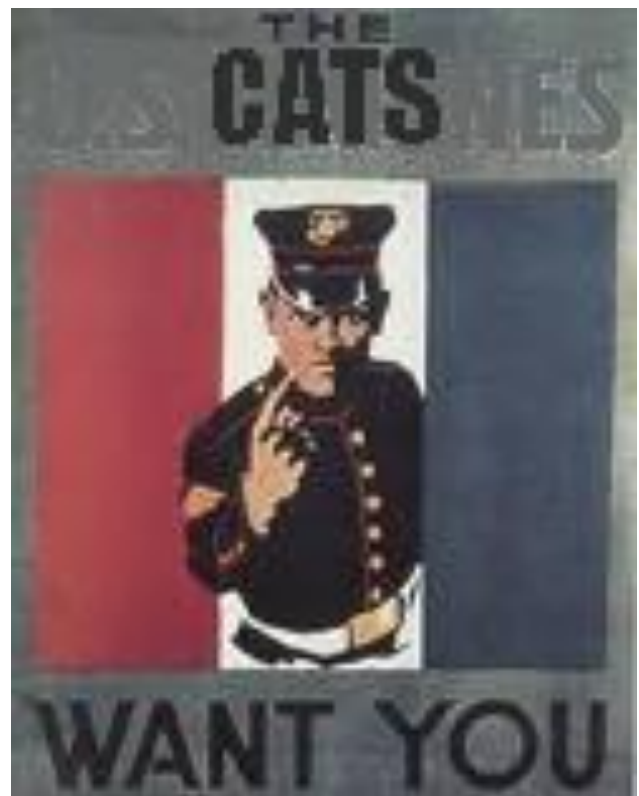
-Chris Frado

**“Thank you for  
your  
contributions  
to the club!”**

**Need 2 or 3 volunteers for the annual audit of the 2011 finances.** Audit can generally done in a few hours.

The financial records are with Judy Davis and arrangements can be made with Judy to conduct the audit. Dayle Z. and Jackie S. have conducted the audit for the last couple of years. It would be **good** to have a new set of eyes look over the records.

Contact [Judy Davis](#) to volunteer! No experience required.  
Thank you!



# Memorial and Welcome Ceremony: Saturday, February 11

*Saturday,  
February 11  
@ 2:30 p.m.  
Memorial Bench  
Ceremony*

To celebrate the lives we share with our beloved dogs, CATS members will come together on February 11 to spend an afternoon remembering the dogs who crossed the rainbow bridge in 2011 and playing with the dogs who grace our lives in 2012. While it will be a remembrance of things past, this will also be a day to make new beginnings, so we will take time to welcome our newest members, as well.

- 1:45pm committee set-up at MHS
- 2:30pm Paul will start the actual ceremony and it will go "as long as it takes" as members remember their beloved companions
- Heidi will offer the "sparkling cider" toast to close the ceremony



- Members are asked to bring "finger foods" (snacks, veggie/fruit plates, sandwiches, desserts) to be placed on a table for munching during entire afternoon/evening
- Diane will set-up nested "run-thrus" to follow ceremony ... we have the 2 rooms for the whole afternoon/evening

All members welcome ... please come to honor and celebrate our team-mates that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge

## **Saturdays at MHS**

Remember, Saturday from 4:00p.m. on is CATS time at Monadnock Humane Society. Enjoy your member's benefit and practice Agility indoors.

## BRAGS From the CATS Website:

NADAC Title: Jasper & Donna Allen -Elite Chances

ASCA Title: Pearl & Dana Chenier -Elite Jumpers (JS-E)

USDAA Titles: Pearl & Dana Chenier -Starters  
Standard Agility, Agility Dog, Advanced Snooker



## CATS Members-Only Agility Seminar

Expect to learn lots and laugh lots as you spend the weekend at an unbelievably affordable CATS member benefit Agility Seminar with Terri Cesarek.

Similar sessions with Terri typically cost almost \$100 a day—as a CATS member, you will pay \$25 per working slot/\$10 per audit slot to attend, while our club will pick up the rest of the cost of bringing Terri here to work with us.

So, who is Terri? She has been playing Agility with her dogs since 1993, when she first became involved in the sport as a way to help her dog gain confidence. Since then she and her dogs have earned numerous honors.

Terri is constantly studying dogs, people and agility thereby honing her keen observation skills even more. She says, "I enjoy my dogs, they are my best friends. I do agility for fun and to be

with my dogs. I am serious about this sport and love the competition, but no matter what, I try to leave the ring with a smile. We always have fun! It is the fun and enjoyment of working with dogs that I wish to pass onto my students."

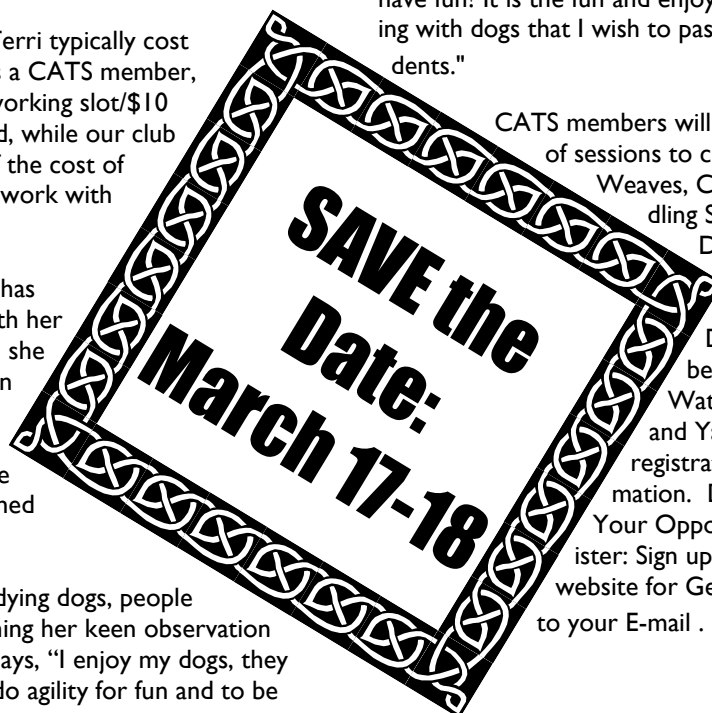
CATS members will have a variety of sessions to choose from:

Weaves, Contacts, Handling Skills, Puppy Development and perhaps one other.

Details are still being finalized.

Watch the website and Yahoo group for registration information. **DON'T MISS**

Your Opportunity to register: Sign up at the CATS website for Get CATS News to your E-mail .



# CATS 2011 membership list



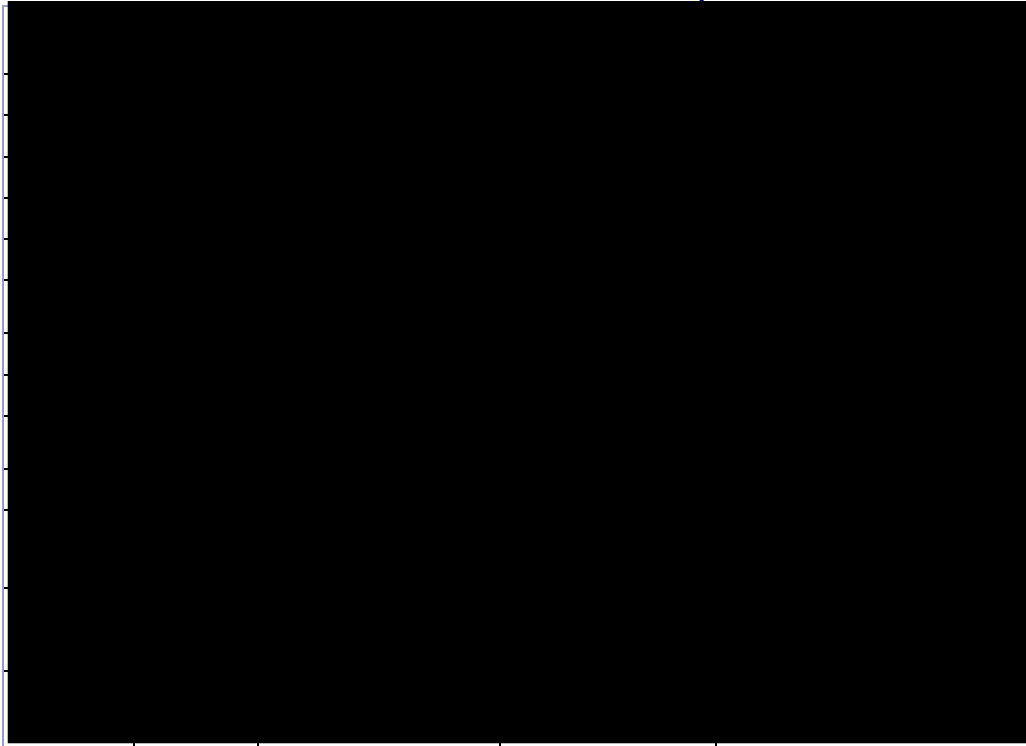
This is your speedy “instant” directory to your fellow club members.

This list includes all memberships received as of 09/01/2011.

Please let us know if there are corrections needed for your contact information.

Print this List to have a handy directory of your agility friends.

## CATS 2011 membership list (continued)



This is your speedy "instant" list to your club members. .

Please let us know if there are corrections needed for your contact information.

# CATS Membership Benefits — 2012



### MEMBER requirements

- Fill out & sign membership form
- Pay annual membership dues - \$30 for 2012
- Must be at least 16 years of age

### Benefits:

- Attend meetings, vote on club business, be a Board member and if at least 18 years of age be an Officer
- Pay reduced fee for CATS classes and seminars
- Attend social functions
- Receive "Canine Chronicle"
- Wear CATS logo

- Use CATS training equipment (requires member be identified as, or be supervised by, an Advanced Handler\*)
- Pay discounted fees for MHS Agility classes as allowed in the current CATS/MHS contract
- Receive CATS discounted entry for CATS-sponsored trials in exchange for trial work.
- Attend member-only Training Seminars

*\*CATS Advanced Handler is determined by the Training Committee*



**CATS -- CANINE  
AGILITY TRAINING  
SOCIETY**

**CATS Board of  
Directors**

*President*  
Chris Frado—2012  
ccsaa@xcski.org

*Vice President*  
Cindy Stewart—2012  
csb2@starz.mv.com

*Secretary*  
Dayle Ziesmer—2012  
cairnz@myfairpoint.net

*Treasurer*  
Judy Davis—2013

*Board of Directors*  
Pat Grace—2013  
Amee Abel—2013  
Dana Chenier—2014

**Click here for more  
info**

**We're on the web at  
www.canineagility.org**

**CATS 2011 COMMITTEES**

**Training Committee**

Donna Allen  
Diane Gibbons  
Heidi Konesko  
Lynn Smitley

**Social/Membership Committee**

Carol Stephens  
Cindy Stewart  
Gayle Treat

**Equipment Committee**

Paul Gibbons  
Alex Kalish  
Donna Proudfoot

**CPE Liaison**

Judy Davis

**USDAA Liaison**

Chris Frado

**NADAC Liaison**

Lynn Smitley

**Audit Committee**

Jackie Smith  
Dayle Zeismer

**Monthly Meeting Speaker  
Coordinator**

Noel Aderer

**Trial Committee – USDAA**

Chris Frado, Chairperson  
Judy Davis  
Holly Morin  
Leslie Vassall

**Trial Committee – CPE**

Pat Grace, Co-Chairperson  
Cindy Stewart, Chairperson  
Judy Davis  
Diane Gibbons  
Carol Stephens

**Show 'n' Go Committee**

Donna Allen, Chairperson

**Memorial Bench Committee**

Heidi Konesko  
Donna Proudfoot

**Keene Parks &  
Recreation  
Liaison**

Holly  
Morin

**CATS Librarian**

Heidi Konesko

**CATS Web Site**

Tammy Lenski  
Dana Chenier  
Gaale Klein (emeritus)

**Canine Chronicle Editor**

Amee Abel

**Nominating Committee**

TBA  
(appointed by Board of Direc-  
tors)



**Upcoming CATS**

**Events 2012—Save these Dates**

**Memorial Bench**

**Celebration:**

February 11 @ 2pm

**CATS Seminar**

**Weekend:**

March 17-18

**USDAA Trial:**

June 8-10

**CPE Trial:**

September 2012



**Info on  
Other  
Upcoming  
Agility  
Trials**

Go to these web-  
sites if you want  
information on  
upcoming trials.

USDAA [www.usdaa.com](http://www.usdaa.com)  
CPE [www.k9cpe.com](http://www.k9cpe.com)  
NADAC [www.nadac.com](http://www.nadac.com)  
AKC [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)