



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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Volume 21, number 10

October, 2011

Why CATS Works

Swanzy, NH—In a recent survey, CATS members were asked about when, whether, and why they participated in CATS events. From the outset, the results were revealing: Despite an inherent tendency to sleep in sunny windowsills, certain CATS members generally do show up to move equipment when asked. Here are the results of our survey. Read and discuss

CATS Equipment Moving Survey Results, September 2011

Prepared by Tammy Lenski

Total respondents: 26

1. When CATS has requested help moving equipment for one of our major agility trials:

- I've always or almost always helped – 15 (58%)
- I've helped on occasion – 11 (42%)
- I've never helped - 0

2. Please indicate up to THREE top reasons for not being able to help:

- I am unable to move equipment due to injury or illness – 5
- I can't help during the day on Fridays - 3
- I can't help on Thursday evenings - 2
- I can't help on weekends - 2
- I thought there were plenty of other volunteers - 2
- I prefer to help only for trials I'm running in or am affiliated with - 1

• I didn't receive enough advance notice to get it on my calendar - 0

• I've paid my dues to CATS by volunteering in other capacities - 0

- I just don't want to schlep equipment and no one's gonna make me! - 0
- Someone's asked for help moving equipment?!? - 0
- Other - 7 (unedited):

• I have difficulty working in the sun in hot weather. Also I live far away from Keene.

• I am involved in other training activities at this time. I feel badly that I am unable to

help. I probably will not renew my membership because I cannot commit to helping.

- It is still very confusing on what is where, what gets left out, and what gets stored for only show use.
 - Time of day is difficult for us to travel after work to get there in time to help load up.
 - Every time I've come to move it on the "front" side we've had more than enough help and vehicles. I can't move the heavy stuff but can help with the light stuff. My truck is always available one has but to ask:)
 - In the past I had always helped on Thursdays and Sundays and many Fridays on most trials.
 - Over the past year there have been a number of reasons why I have not. I am no longer actively participating in Agility for a variety of reasons.
 - Many times I'm busy with last minute details preparing for trials. I can't lift heavy objects, but I'm a firm believer that many hands make light work, so the more people the better!
 - 3. Is there anything CATS can do to get your help moving equipment for future agility trials? Please answer for yourself only. Creative ideas welcome!
- Quick analysis:
- Age/illness/injury – 42%
 - Other priorities/scheduling conflicts – 23%
 - I already do help – 15%
 - Make it more fun/reward people – 12%
 - Organize/schedule the equipment moving differently – 8%
- Raw results (unedited):
- Get me a younger back.
 - Not really. It depends on how I feel (energy level, strength) when it comes time to move equipment. Guess you have to chalk it up to the age thing. My intent it to be there, but sometimes the body says "no."

- "We haven't been able to participate in much due to having litters. The puppies are gone, but now Jackie is working in Boston on a fairly regular basis and I'm the sole caregiver for our 7 dogs. I just can't always get there when needed.
 - Perhaps if people could carpool to and from the site it would make it more fun and less work. If this would work.
 - I can move limited amounts of equipment over an extended period of time. I would also be more hindrance than help.
 - make it more social. provide some refreshments especially on the setup day
 - I do not Trial and my aging body is less able/willing to schlep the heavy equipment and deal with the heat after a long 2 day event ... the hiring of non-CATS "he-man" bodies to do that was a great idea ... with supervision of handling/stacking!
 - Not really, it is just this year I have been involved with so many activities outside of cats.
 - We are getting too old to move equipment. Now that the obstacles are rubberized, they are ridiculously heavy. We have to hire young people to move the stuff.
 - Given some equipment is for show use only, would it be possible to load a large percentage of equipment the weekend before and get it to the site in a storage trailer etc...
 - We already help load up or pack down for at least one trial a year. Chocolate?
 - I cannot help during Sept due to my work schedule. But I'm happy to help during the usdaa trial. If schedule permits in the future I will make myself available.
 - Canvass members to see if the Wednesday night before the trial works better for people's schedules. The equipment could be left in the truck until Friday morning, as usual. The extra cost of renting the truck one extra day might be worth it.
 - I will be helping all weekend
 - I have rehearsals Thursday evenings. I work during the day and I work weekends (either photography or music).
 - I have a permanent back problem. I accidently filled this survey out twice, I thought it

would go to the next section indicating the top three reasons as to why I'm unable to help after I clicked on the first section.

- I'm not supposed to be doing any heavy lifting, pushing, pulling, and I can't sit or stand for long periods of time due to a permanent back problem.
- I do help.
- I've been saying for years we need to recruit younger stronger less crippled members who we pay for their sweat with equity--free dogs, lessons, trial runs....etc. If we had a demo team we could go around to the schools and recruit them...alas..:(
- I find it physically too demanding, and also I'm usually away at NADAC trials the same weekends so I am often getting ready for those or not back yet. I did help with it Sunday afternoon at the USDAA trial this year.
- I LOVE IT that Amee's sons help out- we are all getting too old to move the heavy stuff!
- I have always helped w/ moving equipment for the CPE trials, usually set up and take down and put away. this year due to my job i can only help w/ take down and moving back equipment.
- Again, for a variety of reasons, CATS activity has taken a lower priority as I parse what little free time I have. Lastly, quite honestly, I have become disenchanted with the club and its issues with personal interrelationships among some members.
- Assure the older and/or challenged members that the heavy items will be lifted by younger stronger bodies. Assure all that the more people we have loading, the easier it is on everyone.
- I thought it was simply my duty--part of being a club member. Didn't know it was an option. :-)
- provide club-paid refreshments/dinner while we move on Thursday, provide club-paid lunch & beverages while we set up on the Friday, enter people into drawing for a free MHS classes or CATS trial entry, reimburse Cindy for donated massages

(continued next page)

Sam

July 4, 2000 – October 4, 2011

We put an offer in on a house and I called up the local humane society about a dog. Sure, I could have waited until we had the offer accepted, and we had moved into a house, but I had already ten years too many without a dog. Growing up and moving away from family to learn to fly solo is great, but learning how to live without a dog is not. I went to the shelter that night. “You’ll pick the first one you see” my husband said. I went anyways. I walked through the door and slowly toured the rooms looking in the eyes of each dog, asking the same question... “Are you my dog?” No one answered back. Tails wagged and damp wet noses pressed against my hand, but no one answered.

Surprisingly defeated, I turned and walked for the doorway. “Well at least I’ll prove my husband wrong.” As I reached for the steel push bar on the outside door, I heard a woof of desperation. Turning out of curiosity, and maybe some other factor, I turned and a black and tan dog was looking over its door looking at me. “I am your dog” he said, and he was. He had been out on a walk and I had almost missed him. I did miss him, he didn’t miss me though. I needed to wait the two weeks to take him home due to my not having a home yet, but I visited everyday for as long as I could, and we named him Samwise Gamgee after the *Lord of the Rings* for the best friend we could think of.

He’s a one man or woman dog. He walks by my side, always searches me out in a crowd, and is thrilled just to lie with me on the couch. We go to hospitals, nursing homes, a

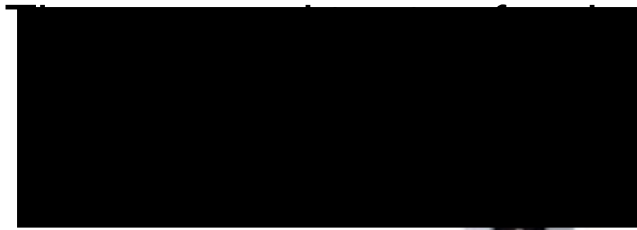
nunnery, and even school. He loves attention and will generously allow people to worship him, but if I move a foot, he spots it and watches until I stop moving. At school he unerringly finds the children who most need the attention and lavishes it upon them until first they giggle, then smile, outright laugh. No one feels alone when Sam is in the room, no one feels ignored.

I often describe Sam as a serious dog, and people will disagree because he makes them feel content and happy. He is serious though...cheering people up and being the very best companion that he can be is his job. He’s serious about playing, placing the ball exactly in between your two feet, he’s serious about role modeling, even teaching my younger dog not to throw up in the car, and he’s serious about being my canine partner. Often in agility, people will let others run their dogs, but it doesn’t work with Sam. He’s my dog, the dog I’ll measure all others against.

Run well on the Rainbow Bridge, Samwise.

—MS





Please make a note of it.



CATS will be recognizing Kitty Arsenault with a memorial Paw on the MHS Community room wall.

Batman, TDInc, RN, RL-1Aoe, CGC

March 1999–September 2011

Batman, 12, Keene, NH, Saturday, September 24, 2011, at home after a crisis exacerbated a period of failing health.

Born on March, 11, 1999 to registered AKC Collie parents, the details of his birth were lost when he was surrendered to Monadnock Humane Society at the age of 4. It was there that he met Amee and Clair Abel, and joined their household in the spring of 2003.

Batman successfully completed Good Manners, Focused Fido, and Reliable Rover at Monadnock Humane Society. He briefly considered a career in Agility, taking Beginner and Advanced Beginner Agility with Carol Stephens and Donna Allen of CATS. Although he was always willing to try whatever was asked of him, it was clear that his talents lay elsewhere. He was Amee's first Agility dog, and though he never competed in Agility, he certainly enjoyed taking classes.

Batman was a steady and fair companion whatever the outing. He learned to play Rally Obedience, and competed with good success to earn his AKC Rally Novice title and his APDT Rally Level I title with an Award of Excellence, before lower back pain ended his competition career.

Batman's passion was his work as a registered therapy dog. He loved people. He touched the lives of so many: he was a regular visitor at Crotched Mountain School, at Castle Adult Day Care Center, at Scott Farrar home in Peterborough, as well as being an ambassador for Monadnock Therapy Pets.

Batman's passing leaves a hole in our hearts.



Photo courtesy Jeff Woodward

—AA



Online Registration is available at www.monadpets.org or you may contact Alice at MHS 603-352-9011 x112 to register over the phone.

Drop-In Agility at MHS

Tuesdays

Instructor: Diane Gibbons
7-8:15PM Advanced Agility Handling & Skills (\$22/\$15 for CATS members)

Mondays

Instructor: Sharon Wirant
9:00AM Competition Agility Challenges (\$25/\$17 for CATS members)

Thursdays

Instructor: Sharon Wirant
5:30PM Beginning Competition Agility "Starters" (\$22/\$15 for CATS members)
6:45PM Competition Agility Challenges (\$25/\$17 for CATS members)

MHS Walk for
Animals
Sunday, Sept
25, 2011

Follow up to CATS CPE Agility Trial at Wheelock Park

CATS Sept 17-18

CPE

Final Fundraiser of
the Year

Our 2011 CPE CATS Agility Trial was a GREAT success, thanks to all of our dedicated members and friends. Thanks to Cindy Stewart for the MANY hours of her time (and patience) in coordinating this event.

We began the trial with a dedication in Memory to our Kitty Arsenault.

We want to say "Thank You" to all of our club members who worked on the 2011 CATS CPE Trial at Wheelock Park in Keene on September 17 and 18. We were blessed with GREAT weather for playing with out dogs.

Pat Grace, 2011 CPE Co-chair

Judy Davis shares this note she received from Bailey Whitney, a non-CATS competitor who came to our trial. Bailey writes:

"I just wanted to send a quick thank you to all the CATS members for putting on such a great CPE trial a couple weekends ago! I have been trialing for several years but this was my first ever CATS trial and I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. The trial site is nice and easy to get to. Everyone was friendly and helpful. The ribbons were pretty and I thought the cash raffle for the volunteers was a great idea! Keep up the good work. My dog and I had lots of fun! Looking forward to the next CATS CPE!"

Good Dogs & Happy Tales

Carol Stephen's writes:

Q's won by Lizzie and Carol at the really fun, well and smoothly run, friendly

CATS trial were:
Colors/ Level 5
Fullhouse/ Level 5
Jumpers / Level 5
Jackpot / Level 5

The jackpot run earned us our CATCH 2 with a beautiful CATS colors long, long, ribbon. We were so happy about it that I splurged on this great photo from Barry Rosen, photographer par excellence.



Carol & Lizzie

Gaale Klein writes:

Thanks to the generosity of CATS, Marcus and I got to play in all ten Level 5 classes!

Despite his feeling slightly off his prime (making his times slower than usual) we were able to Q 9 of the 10 runs. We sure had fun! Thank you everyone who helped make this such a grand trial and enabling us to so fully participate.

Maagie Sergeant sent these just after the Trial, commenting that this was the first time she'd trialed in 3 years!

Sam:
Fullhouse Level 5 1st and Q
Snooker Level 5 1st and Q



Sam

Orion: As Orion and I are just learning how to dance together, I was quite proud of his 63% Q rate this weekend!

Jackpot Level 2 3rd and Q
Fullhouse level 3 3rd and Q
Jackpot Level 2 Q
Colors Level 2 2nd and Q
Jumpers Level 1 1st and Q



Orion

Dana Chenier writes:

Pearl had her first ever perfect weekend at the Paws 4 Fun CPE trial on September 3-4;

10 of 10 Qs, 8 1sts and 2 2nds; zero faults all weekend. WOW! And she finished her CL4 title at the trial.



Pearl

Zig's first agility trial was our CATS trial! He went 5 of 6 for Qs, earned his CL I-R title and got a Q in Jackpot, Colors and Fullhouse, all with nice placements.



Zig

At CATS, Pearl enjoyed a fun weekend running all classes in Level 5 for the first time, with 7 of 10 Qs and all with nice placements.

Non-agility related brags :

Both Zig and Pearl earned their CDSP Novice Competition Obedience (CD-C) titles on September 18.

Zig earned his 2nd leg in AKC Novice Rally with a 2nd place in August, and on September 25 he earned 2 legs in APDT Rally Level 3, both with 1st place. Additionally, he completed his Level 1 championship.

Good Dogs ≠ Happy Tales

(continued)

K9Logix...USDAA
Greenfield, Mass.
Sept. 17 & 18

Chris Frado & Snoop Doggy
Performance Speed Jumping...Q
PIII Pairs...Q with Noah & MaryAnn
McGunigle

Chris Frado & Bingo
Performance Speed Jumping...Q
PIII Jumpers...2nd & Q

USDAA
Riverside K9, Nashua, NH
9/9 - 9/11

Chris Frado & Bingo
PIII Snooker...2nd & Super Q
PIII Pairs...1st & Q with Snoop Doggy
Performance Versatility Snooker...1st
& Q
PII Gamblers...1st & Q

Chris Frado & Snoop Doggy
PIII Pairs...1st & Q with "Bingo"
Frado (handler Val Duff)
PIII Gamblers...2nd & Q (handler
Mike Nilsson)

Janet Langdon reports her dog Arlo got
his Starters Pairs title at the K9 Logix
USDAA trial

USDAA

Judy Davis & Tee
Masters Snooker - Super Q and 2nd
place
Advanced Gamblers - Q & 1st place
Masters Gamblers - Q & 4th place
Advanced Standard - Q & 1st place
which earned her Advanced Agility Dog
title

Judy Davis & Hazard
PIII Snooker Q & 3rd

NADAC Northeast Agility Enthusiasts
Dummerston, VT, 13 August 2011

Tammy Lenski and Smudge (his
first agility trial)
- Novice Jumpers Q and 1st
- Novice Hoopers 1st

NADAC Northeast Agility Enthusiasts
Dummerston, VT, 10 September 2011

Tammy Lenski and Smudge
- Novice Tunnelers Q and 1st
- Novice Touch 'n' Go 2nd
- Novice Jumpers Q and 1st

Tammy Lenski and Missy (her
first agility trial)
- Novice Tunnelers Q and 1st
- Novice Touch 'n' Go Q and 1st
- Novice Jumpers Q and 1st



Missy (l) & Smudge (r)

NEWS You CAN USE

In Case you missed this:

Moving for Mowing

Sandbags....when moving equipment for mowing it isn't necessary to put the sandbags in the cabinet. They just get taken out the next day or so. Placing them along the fence line is sufficient..

Tunnels....there is no right or wrong way to leave the tunnels. They don't need to be face down at the ends. They can be left "open" or tipped face down, as you please.

Atomic dogwalk....after moving the dogwalk for mowing, it isn't necessary to place the wings/ramps in the down & locked position. The ramps can be left up until the next day when it's moved back to a working position.

A-frame....when moving for mowing, it can be left on the mover until it is moved into a working position

—Chris Frado

Fresh CATS!

Get the News as it happens, instead of waiting for the monthly newsletter.

Sign up, at our website, for News delivery to your email inbox.

Go to www.canineagility.org look on the right side of the page. Scroll down till you see the box that says "Get CATS News by email" and enter your email address in the box. Voila! All the news and none of the fuss of the Yahoo Group.

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Hancock, NH
603-831-0915



**Don't give away your
voice in CATS affairs!**

Attend the members' meeting.

Our next meeting:

7 p.m. Wednesday,

October 12

in the Community Room at Monadnock
Humane Society.

See you then!

Your CATS Calendar for October 2011



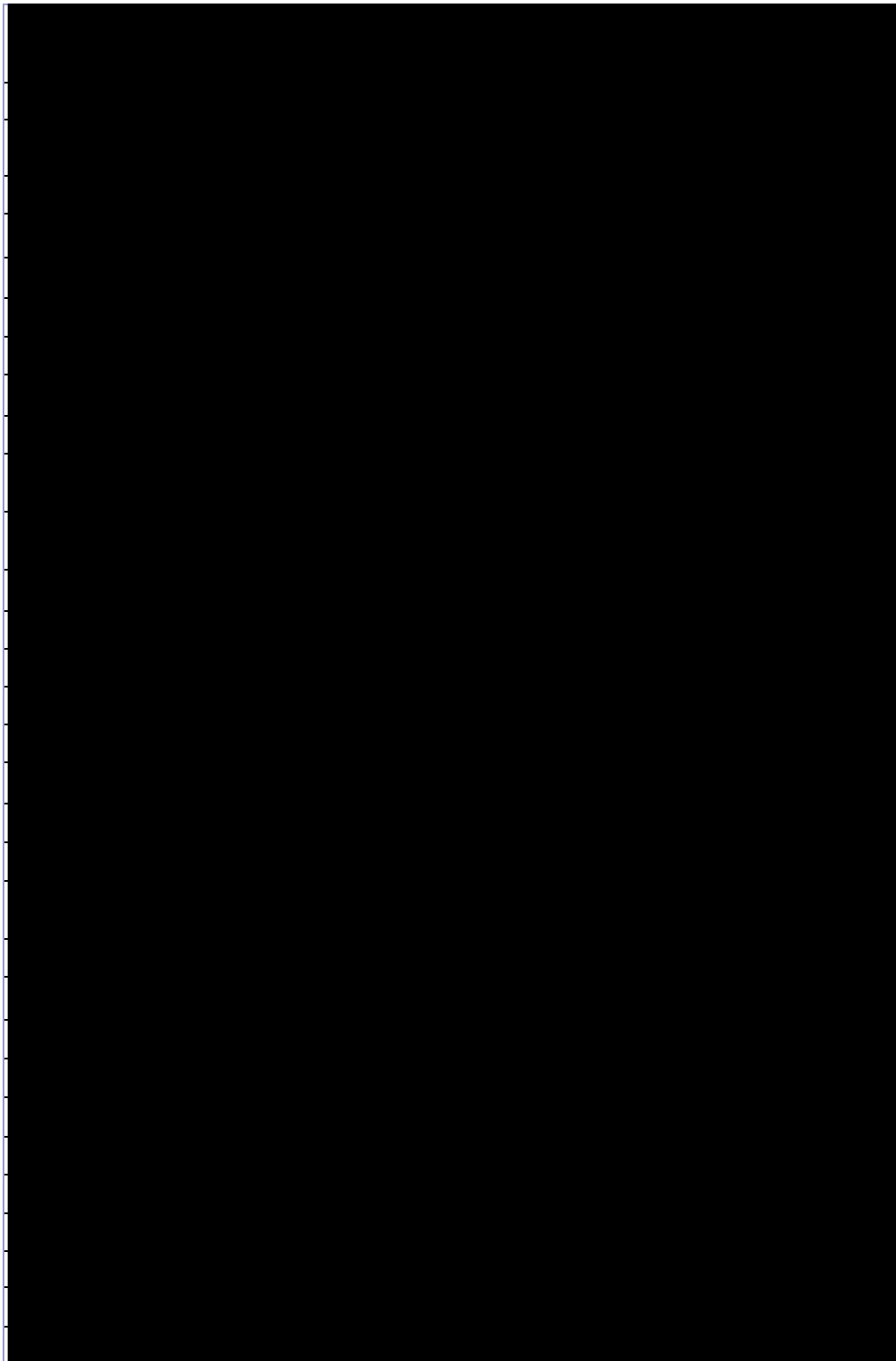
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | ¹² Member's meeting at MHS | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

Schedule of Events

- October 12—7 p.m. Member's Meeting!

CATS 2011 membership list



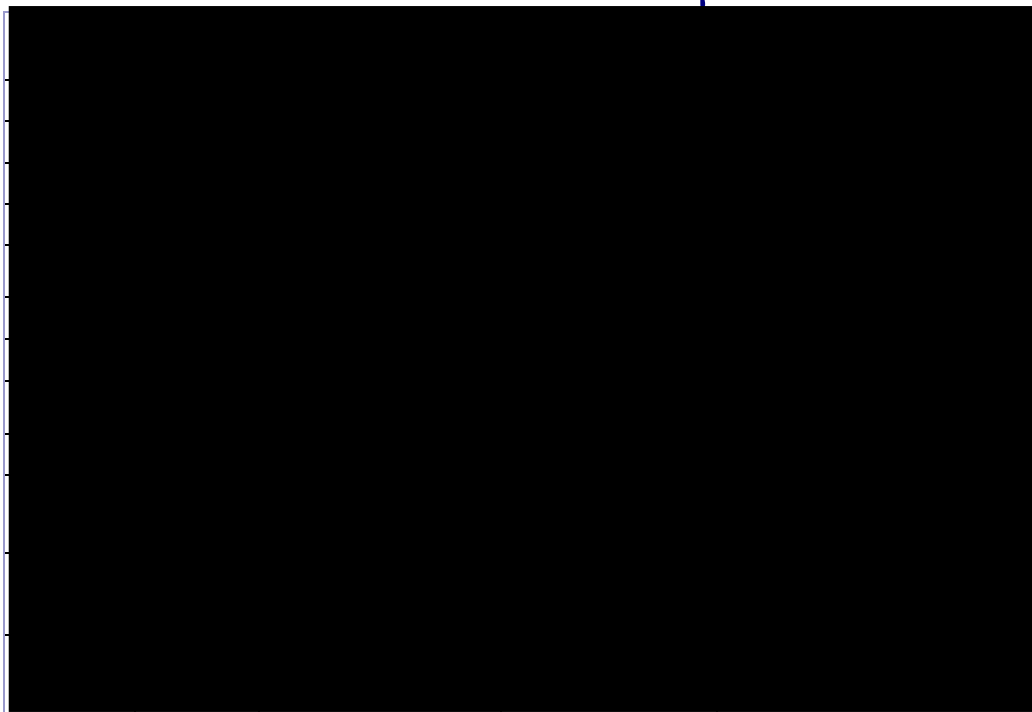
This is your speedy “instant” directory to your fellow club members.

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 — 2011



MEMBER requirements

- Fill out & sign membership form
- Pay annual membership dues - \$30 for 2011
- 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
Ray Spring—2011

Board of Directors
Pat Grace—2013
Karen Mockler—2011
Amee Abel—2013
Judy Davis—2013
Deb Coll - 2011

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

CATS 2011 COMMITTEES

Training Committee

Donna Allen
Kitty Arsenault
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

Gaale Klein (emeritus)
Tammy Lenski

Canine Chronicle Editor

Amee Abel

Nominating Committee

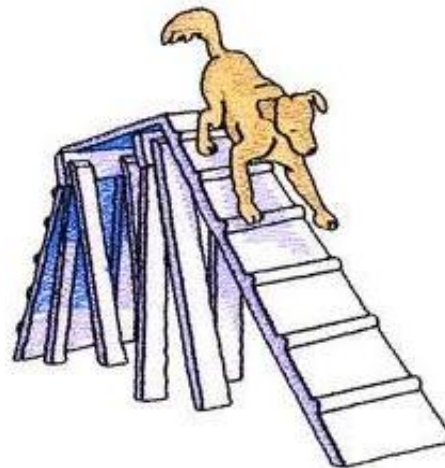
TBA
(appointed by Board of Directors)

Upcoming CATS Events 2011—Save these Dates

CPE:

September 17 & 18
Chair, Cindy Stewart
and Co-Chair, Pat

Grace
Secretary, Judy Davis,
Trial Secretary Services



Info on Other Upcoming Agility Trials

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

USDAA www.usdaa.com
CPE www.k9cpe.com
NADAC www.nadac.com
AKC www.akc.org