



# GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958

SEPTEMBER 2012

## RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB OBEDIENCE/RALLY CLASSES A SUPER SUCCESS STORY

The 2011/2012 obedience and rally classes were an astounding success. We can say without a doubt that we have the best instructors and the best classes in the area.

It is so much fun to watch the growth of puppies and their owners in our Puppy Kindergarten. They learn to work together, culminating in brand new AKC S.T.A.R. puppy recognition.

At the Beginner level new dogs and owners join KPT graduates, gaining knowledge and developing closer relationships with their dogs. It is gratifying to watch these students become happy, working teams,



instructors have earned their titles as a result of our classes. Through the dedication of our instructors, Joanne Silver, KPT; Ruth Henningsen, Beginner; Elaine Barone, Rally; Amy Starost, Rally; and Anne Hulsizer, Assistant Extraordinaire in all classes, RKC has, once again, made a significant contribution to educating the public on responsible dog ownership and qualifying their dogs as Canine Good Citizens.

We are extremely pleased to list the many titles earned this year:

Number of students	92
Number of STAR puppies	20
Number of CGC (tested/passed)	14
Number of Therapy Dogs	2
Number of Beg. Novice Titles (BN)	2
Number of Novice Titles(CD)	2
Number of Open Titles (CDX)	1
Number of Rally Novice (RN)	3
Number of Rally Advanced (RA)	2
Number of Rally Excellent (RE)	3
Number of Rally Advanced/Excellent (RAE)	1
Number of AKC Certified Therapy dogs (ThD)	3
Number of instructor hours ?????	WOW

We are also pleased to report that all the dedicated class hours resulted in a net profit for RKC of \$7038.63.

Positive feedback and new student referrals from satisfied students. . . PRICELESS

understanding how to communicate with their dogs on a positive level while having fun learning. Rally classes became so successful that we had to expand into two nights. We offered Rally Novice one night, with Rally Advanced and Excellent on another. Students are taught the significant new changes to the Rally rules and regulations to keep them up to date.

Many of our students and

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VISIT US ONLINE AT [WWW.RAMAPOKENNELCLUB.COM](http://WWW.RAMAPOKENNELCLUB.COM)

# President's Message



Sharon Fremer

Summer is almost over and it's time to look forward to a fall full of activity for Ramapo Kennel Club. In a few short weeks (Sunday and Monday, October 14th and 15th) our point shows will be held out in Augusta, NJ at the Sussex County Fairgrounds. We need more volunteers throughout those two days. We will need Obedience stewards, ring hospitality workers, people to man the trophy table and people to help with Meet the

Breeds on Sunday to name but a few. If you would like to help please get in touch with me (Show Chair) at [teneo@mac.com](mailto:teneo@mac.com) or Phyllis Rosinsky (Assistant Show Chair) at

[cantails@optonline.net](mailto:cantails@optonline.net) to let us know. We will be more than happy to help you find something you will enjoy.

The weekend following our shows, -Saturday and Sunday, October 20th and 21st - is the AKC Meet the Breeds at the Javits Center in New York City. Kim Luikert is leading the charge for this again in 2012. If you have a dog that would do well with a Meet & Greet and are willing to spend a few hours in our booth please get in touch with Kim to let her know. She can be reached at [kim.luikert@gmail.com](mailto:kim.luikert@gmail.com).

The AKC has launched a retooled website. The look and feel have changed considerably. They have tried to make navigation through the site easier and more intuitive, particularly for

people new to the dog fancy. It can be found at [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org). If you are more comfortable with the 'old' site it can still be accessed at [www.classic.akc.org](http://www.classic.akc.org), though I don't know how long that will be available.

Following on my summer President's Message, the AKC continues to encourage clubs to donate to the AKC Political Action Committee and to the AKC Canine Legislation Support Fund. Donations must be made through the club as opposed to directly from an individual. Ramapo will happily collect monies from interested members that will in turn be sent to either the AKC PAC or the AKC CLSF.

We continue to have positions open for several committees for the coming year. They are:

- Audit Committee
- Annual Awards Review Committee – Elaine received disappointingly few submissions for the annual awards this year. This new committee will review the awards process of past years and make recommendations for how it could be done differently to garner more interest going forward.

If you are interested in either of these please let me know at [teneo@mac.com](mailto:teneo@mac.com).

Do you have a great idea for a presentation at an upcoming meeting? If so, we'd love to hear about it! Please contact Phyllis Rosinsky at [cantails@optonline.net](mailto:cantails@optonline.net) or me at [teneo@mac.com](mailto:teneo@mac.com) to discuss it.

I hope everyone had a great summer and look forward to seeing you at our meeting on Wednesday, September 12th.

Sharon

## Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

### President

Sharon Fremer  
[teneo@mac.com](mailto:teneo@mac.com)

### Vice President

Arlene Stover

### Treasurer

Ruth Henningsen

### Recording Secretary

Kim Luikert

### Corresponding Secretary

Tilly Grassa  
[tcreative@aol.com](mailto:tcreative@aol.com)

### Board of Directors

#### 2013

Lorraine Fennemore  
Janis Hayes

#### 2014

Joanne Silver

#### 2015

Rose Radel  
Amy Starost

### AKC Delegate

Jeffrey David Ball

## RKC CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS TO BE VOTED UPON AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

To the membership of Ramapo Kennel Club,

On March 14, 2012 at a general membership meeting, revisions to the Ramapo Kennel Club constitution were presented to the membership. At that time the membership reviewed and recommended a few changes. The amended document was then forwarded to AKC for further review. Please refer to the constitution mailed to you in March.

The AKC has offered amendments to the document submitted to them at that time.

Following are the AKC recommendations:

Article III, Section 1- The wording in red highlighting in parentheses should be removed. The original proposed sentence read: (Term limits may be waived by the board of directors in the event the nominating committee fails to provide a candidate for a vacant position)

Per AKC--the following wording can be added to the end of the last sentence in the 1st paragraph of Sec. 2:

“The officers and directors shall serve no more than 2 consecutive terms in the same position **unless the nominating committee does not submit a candidate for a position scheduled to be voted on**”

Article V, Section 3 The wording in red highlighting should read: After **approval** by the Board, committee appointments by the President, Point Show Chairman and Board, -  
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The change here is the word “approval” not “conformation” as submitted.

The next step is to present the constitution with AKC suggested commentary to the membership. At the September meeting there will be a vote taken on the amended constitution and if approved by those members present, the document will be sent to the AKC for final review and approval.

*Respectfully submitted,  
The Constitution Committee:  
Elaine Barone  
Ruth Henningsen  
Rose Radel*

**To all RKC members:**

**Obedience stewards are needed for the upcoming point show,  
Sunday October 14 and Monday October 15.**

**Please contact Joanne Silver: [joannesilver1937@yahoo.com](mailto:joannesilver1937@yahoo.com)  
to volunteer. We need your help.**

## 2013 AKC OBEDIENCE CLASSIC WELCOMES ADDITIONAL COMPETITORS WITH NEW MASTERS CLASS

A new Masters Class added to the inaugural AKC Obedience Classic slated for December 2013 in Orlando, Florida, as well as revised eligibility for the Novice, Open and Utility classes, will give more Obedience exhibitors a chance to compete, the American Kennel Club® announced today.

“With the eligibility criteria as it was originally established, we determined that there would be a large group of Obedience Trial Champions that would not be eligible to enter the 2013 Obedience Classic, and also would not be ranked high enough within their breed to be invited to the 2013 National Obedience Championship,” said Pamela Manaton, Director of Obedience, Rally and Tracking. “As a result, we created a new Masters class that will allow OTCH titled dogs to enter and compete if they meet the eligibility.”

The inaugural 2013 AKC Obedience Classic will take place December 14-15, 2013 in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the 2013 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship and the 2013 AKC Agility Invitational. It will offer four class levels: Novice, Open, Utility and Masters, open to all dogs who meet the qualification criteria in the qualifying period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

The 2013 event eligibility requirements are as follows:

**I. Novice Class Eligibility** **a.** Must have earned a CD title during the qualifying period. **b.** After earning the CD title, a dog must earn three (3) more qualifying scores in the Novice class (A and/or B), or one (1) HIT award, during the qualifying period.

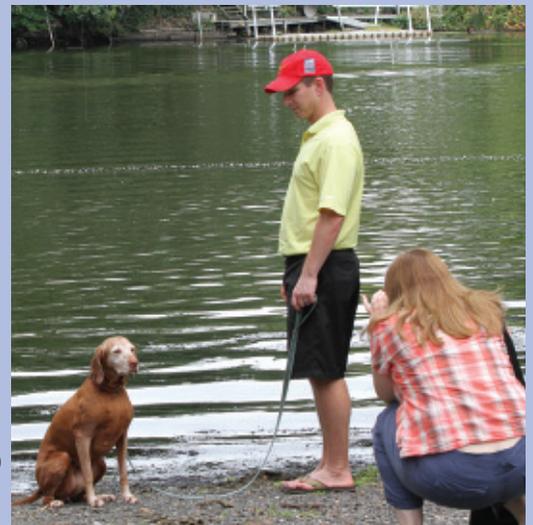
**II. Open Class Eligibility** **a.** Must have earned a CDX title during the qualifying period. **b.** After earning the CDX title, a dog must earn three (3) more qualifying scores in the Open class (A and/or B), or one HIT award, during the qualifying period.

**III. Utility Class Eligibility** **a.** Must have earned a minimum of the UD title. **b.** A dog must earn six (6) qualifying scores in the Utility class (A and/or B) during the qualifying period. **c.** OTCH titled dogs may not enter this class.

**IV. Masters Class Eligibility (Open and Utility)** **a.** Must have earned a minimum of the UD title. **b.** A dog must earn six (6) qualifying scores of 193 or better in Open B during the qualifying period; and **c.** A dog must earn six (6) qualifying scores of 193 or better in Utility B during the qualifying period. **d.** OTCH titled dogs may enter this class.

### PHOTO CONTEST: What I did on my summer vacation: a dog's perspective.

Send in photos of your dogs doing what they do best. From showing (breed, obedience, and all other events) to swimming, or relaxing by the pool. Whatever they were doing (even if they did nothing, sleeping dogs too). 1st through 4th place will be selected and published in the *Growl* and on the website. Deadline, November 2, 2012. Open to all RKC members and their families. No professional photographers. Email photos to [tgcreative@aol.com](mailto:tgcreative@aol.com).



# AKC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## "KEEP ON KEEPIN' ON"

In his insightful and highly acclaimed biography of Steve Jobs, Walter Isaacson chose to capture a defining characteristic of Jobs by giving him the last word on his own life. Jobs, who proved to be a good student of singer-songwriter Bob Dylan's philosophical insights, used a Dylan lyric to explain his belief in personal growth.

"You always have to keep pushing to innovate. Dylan could have sung protest songs forever and probably made a lot of money, but he didn't. The Beatles were the same way: They kept evolving, moving, refining their art. That's what I've always tried to do — keep moving. Otherwise, as Dylan says, *if you're not busy being born, you're busy dying.*"

That philosophy is one that most certainly drives our best breeders in their determined quest for constantly improving their lines, and subsequently, their breeds. Like those breeders, the American Kennel Club is on a determined quest to improve events, and subsequently, our sport.

The last two years have seen relentless positive action delivering new programs, new events, new outreach, and a new system to help clubs manage all the change, including:

- Grand Champion Program – a continuation of competition for champions of record with a new title, new achievement levels, and a new ranking system.
- National Owner-Handler Series – recognizing and showcasing the quality dogs being exhibited by owner-handlers and a venue for owner-handlers to compete against their peers.
- 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition – providing the opportunity for training, socialization, and competition leading to a Certificate of Merit suffix title.
- Open Shows – informal sanctioned conformation events at which dogs, exhibitors, stewards, judges, and clubs gain experience needed for licensed events. Certificate of Merit points are awarded.
- Junior Showmanship Master Class – a new class for the most competitive participants.
- First ever Junior competition at both the Obedience and Agility Invationals.
- Beginner Novice optional titling class – very popular combination of basic obedience and rally.
- Starting in 2013, "Companion Events Extravaganza," a multi -day event that will feature Championship

events for Obedience and Agility and a new national competition for AKC Rally.

- Time 2 Beat Agility Class – A unique, "hybrid" titling class.
- Coursing Ability Test – a fun and healthy event modeled after lure coursing that is open to all adult dogs.
- My Dog Can Do That! Experience – an exciting new outreach program for new owners and their dogs to try different companion events.
- Online Competition Management System – a new way for clubs to manage event details and judging assignments that provides simple, real-time management of the most complex events.

Each and every one of these innovative initiatives was borne out of an understanding of customer needs and desires. AKC Staff is focused on leveraging those insights about every aspect of our sport into desirable programs that engage, excite, and expand participation in the AKC world of dogs and sport.

As Jobs noted, "Some people say, 'Give the customers what they want.' But that's not my approach. Our job is to figure out what they want before they do." And that is exactly the approach we at AKC have used so successfully.

Our focus on "relentless positive action" continues daily. Will all the programs be as successful as these? Maybe not. But another Dylan lyric - "Keep on keepin' on" - guided Jobs in this exact challenge. Whether we have a success or a failure, we must keep moving forward – we are and we won't stop.

You can help, too. Since we all participate in our sport, we all have insights into our participants' needs and desires. A simple, yet powerful example is the insight that led to the Grand Champion program. By understanding the desire many exhibitors have to continue to compete in a meaningful way after achieving a conformation championship, we were able to develop a complete program that engaged and excited participants and expanded the timeframe for their competition, yielding increased entries.

We're always looking for a few more good insights that might lead to an innovation in our sport. If you have one, please send it to me at: [atk@akc.org](mailto:atk@akc.org).

For as the Beatles, another favorite music icon of Jobs, reminded us - "Tomorrow Never Knows."

*Sincerely,  
Alan Kalter Chairman*

## BLOOD TEST FOR CANINE CANCER

Hello everyone,  
When we first started the National Canine Cancer Foundation and wrote our mission statement to saving dogs lives by finding cures, better treatments and accurate, cost effective diagnostic methods in dealing with canine Cancer, it was my hope and belief that I would someday get to write to all dogs owners a letter like this.

It is with great pleasure that the National Canine Cancer Foundation can announce to all dog owners and veterinarians, the availability of a new tool to assist in the management of canine cancer. It is a blood test called VDI-TKcanine+.

VDI-TKcanine+ test is a very good adjunct to assess if cancer might be present in dogs where there are other signs of the disease. A positive test should always be followed by additional confirmatory tests, including imaging, biopsy, etc.

If you want to know more about if this test is the right tool for your dog, we encourage you to contact your Vet and discuss the all the options available to you and your dog.

*Best Regards*

*Gary D. Nice*

*President/CEO*

*National Canine Cancer Foundation, Inc.*

*1-866-262-0542*

*NCCF's Website [www.wearethecure.org](http://www.wearethecure.org)*

Below are some of the key informational points supplied to us by VDI Labs.

Q: What is this test?

A: VDI-TKcanine+ is a blood test for dogs, used to help aid diagnosis when cancer is suspected, and to monitor the course of treatment once the presence of cancer is confirmed. VDI-TKcanine+ is a test run by veterinarians and is made available to all veterinarians in the U.S.

Q: What does this test measure?

A: The principle element, or biomarker, that VDI -TKcanine+ measures in the dog's blood is an enzyme called thymidine kinase or TK for short. TK is released into the blood stream by cells that are undergoing unusually rapid cell division; a hallmark of cancer.

Q: How effective is this test?

A: VDI -TKcanine+ is very good at confirming the presence of cancer when the test returns a 'positive' result (a result above the range of normal). The test is also good, but not perfect, in confirming that cancer does not exist, when the result falls in the normal range. There is a possibility that certain types of cancer, or cancer in very early stage, might still result in a 'normal' result. No diagnostic test is perfect. Like most diagnostic tests, VDI-TKcanine+ is most effective when used in combination with the other established procedures veterinarians have available to them.

Q: How can this test be used on my dog?

A:VDI -TKcanine+ is used to help confirm a diagnosis of cancer, often in combination with a physical examination and other diagnostic procedures. The test is also used following the diagnosis of cancer, to help determine if the cancer has spread or returns, through periodic monitoring.

Q: What should I discuss with my Vet regarding this test?

A: Contact your veterinarian if you suspect your dog might have cancer. Discuss the reasons for your suspicions and ask whether the VDI -TKcanine+ blood test can assist in the diagnostic process. If your vet is not familiar with the test, they can obtain information by contacting the laboratory that provides the test, Veterinary Diagnostics Institute (VDI)..

## THIS IS WHAT THERAPY DOGS DO...

Valley Hospital  
223 North Van Dien Avenue  
Ridgewood NJ 07450

To Whom It May Concern:

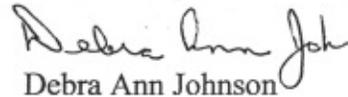
My brother has aphasia. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, I brought him to Valley's Wound Care Center then Kurth Cottage Gift Shop. We encountered Friday the therapy dog. I wish I had a camera to capture the ear to ear grin the dog brought to my brother's face. We spent several minutes watching Friday respond to the handler's commands.

Later that afternoon, I asked my brother to describe the encounter to other family members. I asked him what the dog did and he responded "everything". That is a new vocabulary word for him. He was able to gesture and articulate a few of the commands "sit", "right" and "left". He was absolutely grinning as he **tried** to speak.

The memory of that afternoon will always be with me. The simple presence of a therapy dog and the kindness of the handler made a difference to a family who cheers every new word my brother speaks. He was animated and determined to tell us about the dog. What a difference from his usually quiet and somewhat withdrawn demeanor.

I did not get the opportunity to properly thank Friday's handler and hope this letter reaches her.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

  
Debra Ann Johnson

*Submitted by Anne Hulsizer*

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## SHOW HANDLING CLASS SCHEDULE FOR 2012/2013

**TUESDAY EVENINGS, 6:45 - 7:30**  
**DROP IN CLASSES ONLY**  
**\$10.00 per dog**

Sept. 18, 25	Jan. 15, 29
Oct. 2, 16, 30	Feb. 5, 19
Nov. 6, 20	Mar. 5, 19
Dec. 4, 18	Apr. 2, 16, 30
	May 7, 21
	June 4

**FMI: LINDA HACHTEL**  
**973-697-4337**

# This election day your right to own and breed a dog ...



## ... could hang in the balance

Mandatory spay/neuter, laws that limit ownership, breed-specific laws and breeder restrictions can impact your right to own and breed dogs. Know your candidates' views on dog ownership and breeding before you vote.

*For more information about canine legislation and policy, contact AKC Government Relations at 919-816-3720 or [doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org).*



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## OBEDIENCE/RALLY CLASS SCHEDULE FOR 2012/2013

### Session One

Sept. 19, 26

Oct. 3,17,24,31

Nov. 7

### Session Two

Nov. 28

Dec. 5, 19

Jan. 2,16,23,30

### Session Three

Feb. 20, 27

Mar. 6,20, 27

Apr. 3, 17

### Session Four

Apr. 24

May 1,15,22,29

June 5, 19

Canine Good Citizen Test Feb. 6

Canine Good Citizen Test June 26

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

[ruthh.sno-dog@juno.com](mailto:ruthh.sno-dog@juno.com)

### New email address:

Vivian Bregman

[vbreg@optimum.net](mailto:vbreg@optimum.net)

### GOT STUFF?

Send your news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, [tgcreative@aol.com](mailto:tgcreative@aol.com).

Remember the *Growl* comes out about a week before each monthly meeting. Check the calendar on the last page for submission deadlines.

The *Growl* is by and for the members so I need your help to make it interesting.



# GROWL

Published by the Ramapo Kennel Club

11 Pershing Avenue

Ridgewood, NJ 07450

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973-633-5254

# Dates to remember:

All membership meetings are held at

**VFW HALL  
45 PLYMOUTH STREET  
FAIRFIELD, NJ AT 8:00 PM  
(unless otherwise noted)**

<b>WEDNESDAY, September 12</b>	Membership meeting. Program: AKC and 9/11 video
<b>WEDNESDAY, September 19</b>	First Session of RKC Obedience Class starts
<b>FRIDAY, September 28</b>	Deadline for October Growl
<b>WEDNESDAY, October 10</b>	Membership meeting. Program TBA
<b>Sunday &amp; Monday, October 14 &amp; 15</b>	RKC Dog Show, Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta, NJ
<b>Saturday &amp; Sunday, October 20 &amp; 21</b>	AKC Meet the Breeds, Javits Center, NYC
<b>WEDNESDAY, November 14</b>	Membership meeting. Program TBA



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Ridgewood, NJ 07450

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**