

Published for DSA's responsible dog-loving members and for the friends of dogs everywhere

2016 Fall Jamboree

Elizabeth designed the logo for the event



This year's Fall Jamboree took place October 21 -23 and was wildly successful due to the efforts of Elizabeth Najduch. As one of the members of last year's winning team, Elizabeth earned the opportunity to plan this year's event and she did an awesome job!

The event started on Friday evening with a ghoulish feast and games. We stuck our hands in bags to identify the food item inside, like dried apricots standing in for ears, almond slivers for

finger nails and popcorn kernels for teeth. I have to admit there was some squealing when people put their hands in the bag and unexpectedly came in contact with peanut butter! We also moved paper pumpkins across the room on our noses, or in some cases on our dogs' noses. This resulted in a lot of laughter and that continued throughout the weekend.

On Saturday morning we started the competition in earnest, based on the popular reality television show 'The Amazing Race'. All of Elizabeth's

planning and preparation really showed as we started the morning session with tasks like looking at a series of images and trying to find the match with one of the 40 very similar ones posted in another location. On completing the required task, we had to get our dogs' passports stamped before getting our next clue and moving on. We also had a hotdog eating task (dogs not humans!), a challenge requiring us to move water from one place to another, and of course there was a dance challenge. Once all tasks were complete we had to 'check in' at the mat for both the

Deadline for the next newsletter is January 15th Please e-mail your news, articles, and pictures to thescoop@dogscouts.org Inside this issue: Notes from 1-5 National • Fall Jamboree • Attitude of Gratitude Scrabooking/Crafting Weekend Rainbow Bridge Badge Bulletin & 6 Title Tales Scout Scoop & 7-33 Troop Talk Contacts 34

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morning and afternoon sessions.

On Sunday we continued the competition with tasks that required us to be creative in taking selfies at a specified location and photos with props. We followed a path through the woods and counted the number of signs and our dogs had to use their noses to find leather and cinnamon hidden in paper bags. Sounds easy but many of our dogs were distracted by the hotdogs hidden in the decoy bags! We made dog toys that were later donated to the Oakland County Ani-



Selfie taken by Sally Hoyle with Katie in the required location showing the DSA sign

mal Control & Adoption. And finally, we completed a quiz based on everything that had taken place over the past 3 days.

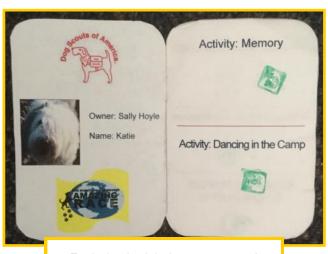
The competition was very tight at the end but team Michelle Neu with Sassy and Julie Benson with Shelby hit the check in mat in 1st place. They were followed just moments later by team Diane Baughman with Lizzy and Sally Hoyle with Katie for 2nd place. All of the winners from both teams were from Troop 217 so it looks like that troop will be the hosts for next year's event.



The winning team (and next year's hosts), Julie Benson with Shelby and Michelle Neu with Sassy



A well-travelled passport



Each dog had their own passport!



The photo judged by Elizabeth to be the most creative. Diane Baughman and Lizzy.

The entire weekend was well thought out and no detail was overlooked from the backpacks full of items needed for our journey, to the individual passports for our dogs, to the awards for both canine and human teams. We all had a truly AMAZING weekend and owe a debt of gratitude to Elizabeth and her dog Emma! It will be very hard to even come close to the job that Elizabeth did on this event, but I hear that there is guite a bit of talk already about next year. Given the competitive nature of the players involved, I'm sure you won't want to miss it!

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

To Elizabeth Najduch for

the incredible work she did on this year's Fall Jamboree. The event was so well planned and carried out down to the last detail and everyone attending had so much fun!

To **all** of the **Troop leaders** who put a tremendous effort into activities and events for troop members throughout the year. Feedback continues to come in from across the country about the great job you are doing. Your work is greatly appreciated.

To the many **volunteers** who keep DSA functioning through the year. From **membership, to troops, badge program and evaluators, trails titles, web site management and maintenance, camp and mini camp directors and staff, and the Board of Directors**, this organization would not continue to exist without the very generous gift of your time.

And to **Shirley Conley**, our newsletter editor, thank you for reminding us and following up to make sure that our newsletter is something we all want to read. It's not an easy job but you always do it with a virtual smile. Thank you!

Happy Holidays to everyone!

Twinkle, Twinkle, Dog Scout Lodge

Second Annual Scrap'n Craft Weekend Goal: Restore Lodge Twinkle Lights

Scrap'n Craft fun

The mid-October weekend was a great time to enjoy Dog Scout Camp in the fall. Maple Valley was in full autumn splendor. A little rain fell, but no one really minded much. New and old friendships were shared as we worked on our crafts, but of course the focus was on our dogs. Potluck meals, hiking and an evening movie accompanied a variety of projects: scrapbooking, quilting, crocheting, painting gnomes and gourds, and fall luminaries. Dogs played, hiked and shared the weekend with campers or relaxed in their accommodations.

Restoring the twinkle

Recently, the DSA Lodge has sparkled less—since the lights that outline the exterior of the log-style lodge have deteriorated. Dog Scouts Vice President Sally Hoyle thought of a plan to replace the failing lights, and enlisted weekend crafters to fund the project. She researched best prices and found that we could not only replace, but improve the lights with solar-powered twinkle lights. The goal was met and exceeded by donations and projects that were earmarked for the Twinkler Fund.

Working together and having fun

Amy Schupska brought Starbucks travel cups to customize with a "Dog Scout Mom" decal. The group paid \$4 each and we decided this was a good place to start the Twinkler Fund. Goldy Reid dropped a generous check in the bucket, costs for projects were rounded up and the contributions poured in. Everyone was determined to get the job done. We could all imagine the lodge lit up again. We love how the lodge looks at night; it's the center of our camp.



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Twinkle, Twinkle, Dog Scout Lodge (cont.)

The results: \$508 in donations

How was it raised? From the make-and-take projects, donations for table space and the Lodge Garage Swap 'n Sale. The amount needed for the lights was exceeded. The surplus after the old twinkle lights are replaced can go toward future wish list items for camp. New oilcloth tablecloths for lodge tables have already been purchased. A system to aerate and maintain the level of Splash Pond is needed, among other worthy projects.

The Twinklers

Our thanks for fulfilling this wish go to the generous Twinkler Funders: Deb Eagle, Barb Foy, Sally Hoyle, Melissa Matteson, Lonnie Olson, Fay Reid, Amy Schupska, Martha Thierry and Joanne Weber.

Maia Thierry earns Honor Scout title

Martha and Maia Thierry realized the results of their dream as Maia earned her Honor Scout badge. It was a proud moment that will be treasured always by the happy Dog Scout and her Mom.

Enjoying the fall

Although camp will soon be quiet as the season winds down, the full moon lit up the sky and we enjoyed the best of the fall in the company of our dogs where we all feel welcome.



The Dog Scout Scoop

Memorial to Junior Haverland DSA, TT

November 1, 2004 to October 13, 2016



Shetland Sheepdog, Junior, passed away in his sleep on October 13, 2016 just a few weeks short of his 12th birthday. His AKC registered name was "June's Ray of Sunshine", and Junior was certainly true to his name.

Following a few months as a Cadet Scout, Junior was awarded the title as Dog Scout of America in 2009. Junior earned many badges including his badge for: Tricks, Sign Language, Hiking for DSA (within a month of time Junior walked 70 miles and raised greater than \$300 for DSA), Manners, Retrieve, Art of Shaping, and also his Temperament Test badge (awarded by the American Temperament Testing Society, Inc. on his first attempt in 2014).

Junior was featured on local television in the Cincinnati, Ohio area several times, including being a featured dog on *Paw Pals* in 2008 and "inspiring" a featured show about DSA/Troop 107 on KET (Kentucky Educational Television), an educational channel in the Tri-State in 2009 (the *Kentucky Life* show #1507).

Junior was by far the very best dog in the world. He was loving and kind and a friend to all. He had abounding confidence in himself and he was proud of his accomplishments and capabilities. Junior loved to play, retrieve his toys by name, "carry the basket through the tunnel," and play Treibball with his 8 playground "Spidey-Balls".

Junior's arthritis prompted us to participate in therapeutic swimming. He swam once a week and he LOVED his swimming time—it was his special time to "do his thing". During his 30 minute swim session he would look over at me as if to say, "Mom, Are you watching me . . . I am so happy . . . I know you're proud of me!!!!"

Junior will be greatly missed. He was TRULY the VERY BEST and LOVING dog in the world.

Rest in Peace My Little Son.

June Haverland DSA Troop 107



Badge Bulletin & Title Tales

Source: scoutingmagazine.org/2016/02/how-to-build-the-best-campfire/

One of the trails badges available is **Overnight Camping**, with one of the criteria for this badge being to "**demonstrate how to build a fire from scratch with one standard match**." Fire building seems easy, but there is an art to it. If you're not familiar with how the "pros" manage to make it look easy, the March-April 2016 issue of Scouting magazine published an article by Cliff Jacobson on "How to Build the Best Campfire," that gives some tips.

TOOLS

Besides a sturdy knife and matches you'll need to collect the following: **Tinder:** Thin, dry material that ignites instantly with a match. It's the basis of every fire. Examples include dead, dry grasses; the shredded inner bark of cedar trees; thin shavings cut from a stick; or birch bark (collected from the ground, not the living trees). Tinder that is available in one region might be unavailable in another. But all will work if you follow this rule: Tinder must be bone-dry and no thicker than a wooden match. Gather a handful of tinder for each fire you make.

Kindling: Burns fast and creates a bright, smoke-free flame. These bone-dry sticks should range from pencil-thin to no larger than your thumb. Bark (with some exceptions) does not burn well. Split kindling burns best. You'll need an armload of kindling for each fire you build.

Fuel: Wood is needed to keep your fire going. Split logs burn best. Some wood burns better than others, but few campers can tell species apart. Gather dead, dry wood from a wide area of land away from camp.

BEFORE YOU TRY

Consider these rules:

1. The thinner the wood, the faster and more smoke-free it will burn. Piling on wood that's too thick too soon is one of the major reasons fires fail.

2. Smoke tells you that the fire needs more oxygen. You should see "light" between every stick/log you place on the fire. If you see smoke between two sticks, move them farther apart.

3. Wood burns better when organized in roughly parallel layers. This creates a "chimney effect," which produces a better draw and hotter flame.

4. Don't overload the fire base with kindling or fuel. Instead, insert a few sticks at a time into the developing flame. Every stick/log you add draws heat from the young blaze. Add too much wood at the start, and your fire might cool and go out.

FIRE LAYS

There are dozens of fire lays. The teepee, lean-to, and log-cabin are most popular. Each has its advantages:

Teepee: Ball up a handful of tinder and set it on the ground. Arrange pencil-thin kindling sticks around the tinder, teepee style. Do not add fuel until the fire is burning brightly. The teepee and the lean-to work well in areas where thin, dry branches are readily available.

Lean-to: On soft ground, poke a dry stick into the soil at a 45-degree angle. Set a handful of tinder beneath the stick. On hard ground, lean the master stick against a rock or log, with tinder below. Set dry kindling sticks teepee-fashion (roughly parallel) on each side of the master stick. Point the high end toward the wind.

Log-cabin: Set two wrist-thick sticks parallel on the ground, about 3 inches apart. Place a few pencil-thin kindling sticks across the wrist-thick sticks. Stack long, thin shavings or other tinder on top. Keep the tinderbox small — about the size of a tin-can lid. Bridge the kindling over tinder in a log-cabin style. Build up several layers of kindling. Light from below. The raised platform that supports the tinder will produce a smokefree, bright flame — ideal if the wood is damp or the ground is wet.

Every fire should abide by these Leave No Trace practices:

• Build a fire only in areas where wood is abundant. The fire should cause no further negative impact on land.

• The best place to build a fire is within an existing fire ring. The use of a fire pan is also a good alternative.

• Keep the fire small and burning only for the amount of time you are using it.

• The fire should not degrade the surrounding area as a result of the concentrated trampling of people who are cooking and socializing.

• After fully extinguishing a campfire with water (not dirt), grind small coals to ash between your gloved hands. Thoroughly soak the ashes with water and scatter the cold ashes over a wide area of plant-covered ground away from camp. Leave the fire site in the same condition in which you found it.

You can read more about minimizing campfire impacts on land at *LNT.org/learn/principle-5*.

Scout Scoop & Troop Talk Salv Cookie Davi



Amy Schupska and Sally have been bringing smiles to patients at Community Mental Health of Ingham County (CMH) for the last three years. Initially, the team was assigned to visit the Crisis Step-Down (Transition) unit at CMH, but over the years, have had so many special requests for visits from "Sally Cookie" that they go an hour early! Many staff members and patients report feeling so much better after seeing Sally. She is even invited in to staff meetings at CMH to help release tension of the employees. The staff reminds one another, "It's Wednesday, Sally Cookie Day!" Sally is very at-

tentive to what the patients and staff need: a kiss, a calm presence sitting by them or to hold her paw. She always waits to leave their side until she knows that individual is feeling better.

Sally, a 6-year-old golden retriever is a career-changed Leader Dog for the Blind raised by Amy. Sally has now earned her TDIAOV which stands for Therapy Dogs International Active Outstanding Volunteer, earned by documenting 150 visits. This honor was commemorated with a certificate and lapel pin.

Sally is a Dog Scout along with her h<mark>ousemates Louie, Ellie and</mark> Betty. She has attended the June camp since 2013.





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Troop 119—TX Cindy Ratliff—Troop Leader

In September and October, we introduced a couple of badges in troop meetings that would be offered at minicamp. In September, Melissa Alpha introduced the PhoDO-Graphy badge then worked with troop members and dogs on their stays and targeting.

In October, Becky Paxson introduced Sign Language. All the humans got to learn the various signs for the badge and then got to work on teaching them to their dogs.

In November, we had the 13th annual Texas Mini-Camp! We had four awesome days of learning, fun & bonding with our dogs. This year's camp broke all kinds of records. We had 61 humans and 67 dogs – a larger group than we've ever had before! The weather was gorgeous and the campers & dogs were great!

The dogs got to try their hands (...paws...) at things like lure coursing, drill team, carting, barn hunt, puissance, agility, triathadog, K-9 fitness and many, many others.





















Troop 119—TX (cont.)





They also got to learn a great deal in classes like impulse control, foundations, modifying cues and shaping games to learn skills they can apply to lots of different activities, sports and life!

In addition to all the fun and learning going on, we had an incredible auction. We had more items donated to the auction than ever before and we managed to raise a whopping **\$6,274 for Dog Scouts of America!!** We certainly thank all the very generous campers for raising such an incredible amount, as well as donating so many cool things to bid on!

We are already looking forward to Texas Mini-Camp 2017!



















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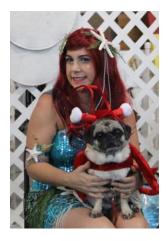
Troop 157—FL

Terri Cannici





Troop 157, located in Hollywood, Florida, organized a fundraiser for the Puppy Up Walk with Painting With a Twist in Coral Springs, Florida. Fifty percent of the money collected for our exclusive painting party was donated back to the Puppy Up Foundation in the amount of \$ 315.00.

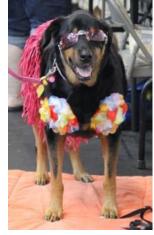








Our troop held a Halloween costume party on October 23. Dog scouts and their humans came dressed in their favorite Halloween costumes where contestants were judged on the scariest, the cutest, and the most original costume. Food and treats were served for both dogs and humans—a great time was had by all. Thank you Neely Bryanne for the party photos.







Troop 177—IN

Robyn Porter

Indy Dog Scouts Troop 177 members have been busy with outdoor adventures this summer and fall. On August 5, Anita Dudley & Sophie, Amy Heard with Star & Piper, Shawn Robinson & Kya, Emily George & Lucy and Robyn Porter & Hallie took a canoe trip on the White River—north of Indianapo-



lis. We had beautiful weather and a great time observing wild life as well as golfers on a course beside the river. Although we knew we were near civilization the tree-lined river bank made it feel like we





were very remote. That was the case until golfers walked right up to river's edge, clubs in hand, to have a little chat about dogs in canoes!









On September 23 and 24, the troop camped out at beautiful Brown County state park. While many people think Indiana is as flat as a pancake, southern Indiana has hills that were formed as the glaciers receded. The weather and hiking trails were beautiful and everyone had a great time. An 8.5 mile hike was accomplished on Friday, followed by a 5 mile hike on Saturday!

Troop 177 ventured into the corn on October 8, making their way through a complicated corn maze! On a beautiful Sunday they relaxed afterwards with a hayride.



Troop 183—FL

Shirley Conley—Troop Leader



In October we'd planned to participate in Barn Hunt fun-runs offered by a local dog training facility. Unfortunately Hurricane Matthew postponed the activity until the following weekend, which meant most of us

were unable to attend. Our new member, Amy, was able to attend one of the associated workshops and her dog. Dottie, had fun search

her dog, Dottie, had fun searching for rats. In November we arranged a get together and practiced some polite pooch manners and then walked one of the paths at the park.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, the troop was asked to send some brags of their dog's achievements this year and or some of the things they appreciated about their dog(s).

"Linc earned the following AKC titles this year: Canine Good Citizen, Rally Advanced Excellent, Graduate Novice, Preferred Companion Dog Excellent and his Companion Dog Excellent."





Merrilyn

"Dottie and I managed to raise a puppy into a handsome boy who is a sweetheart. Marvin comes when called about 90% of the time. He is also learning how to sit and stay for longer amounts of time with distracting border collie buddies around. He jumps over jumps on command from a sit stay and then returns to his platform. He plays with and then kills spiders for me. He barks only when it is necessary. Marvin has attended a Swim, Stretch & Balance class where he's learned to swim instead of be a submarine, he's picked up some crate manners along the way, and no longer pees on people when he greets them!"



Amy

"Casey enjoys her therapy visits to a local hospital and is very close to reaching her 50th therapy visit. We are working on field training—preparing for the JH, WC and WCX tests. We attend weekly obedience and agility training classes—we finished our Open Fast agility tile this year and are hoping to finish our Open Jumpers with Weaves title before the year's. We're preparing to compete in the Open ring for a Companion Dog Excellent title next year. We will be

participating in the AKC National Championship "Meet the Breed" Flat-Coated Retriever booth in Orlando again this year.

Jurnee also enjoys her therapy work and meeting new people, particularly working with childrenand is also close to her 50th therapy visit. Jurnee is training in the field preparing for the JH, WC & WCX tests. She loves to swim! She earned her Dock Diving Junior title this year and I'm hoping she'll qualify for the NADD finals at the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin in Orlando, Florida in December. She will be following Casey in the obedience and agility venues next year. Jurnee also likes to get all pretty for Conformation—she only needs a few more points for her Grand Champion title." Cvndi



"Bling got his Utility Dog Excellent and his Advanced Rally titles. He also got two Dog Scout badges—Retrieving and Naked Obedience. He is willing to work for anyone. He loves to perform and is quite the clown in the ring. Bling has his Advanced Trick title, he also has his Versatility title, **Troop 183—FL (cont.)** and his TT (temperament tested) and his CGC, he also was tested on sheep and passed. He is willing to try anything.

I can't remember what LeeRoy did but he has his Canine Good Citizen certification, his Companion Dog, Rally Novice, Beginner Novice titles, two qualifying legs on his Rally Advanced title and a couple of Trick Dog Titles since I've had him. He also went from a people-aggressive to a peopleloving dog. When I got him I didn't think he couldn't be a therapy dog; now that he's settled and happy, I think he would make a perfect therapy dog. He learned to retrieve and he learned to not go potty in the house or on the couch (he used to be nicknamed PeeRoy)! He has made so much progress since I got him at around six years old. Who says an old dog can't learn new things? I'm very proud of LeeRoy from going from a nasty little dog, to a love muffin. LeeRoy is a little fluffy dog who was in rescue twice. I didn't want another dog, but I can't imagine life

without LeeRoy now. He has brought much joy to my life.

I love both these guys and am grateful that they get along so well despite the difference in size and the fact they don't have much use for other dogs. I was afraid with both having the personalities they have that they would not get along, but they accepted each other from the get go. Both enjoy Dog Scouts and the opportunity to get out and interact with the public. They are both well-mannered people dogs. I'm sure Bling and LeeRoy could earn many Dog Scout Badges but I live alone and it is hard to figure out the process of applying for badges and filming and directing at the same time. So mostly we just go to events that our troop provides. Thank you Shirley for all your hard work."

Mary Ann



"My 'youngest', Tachi, got to experience dock diving with troop member Cyndi this year, and I'm hoping that I'll be able to get some video next year to submit after he earns his Dog Scout title. My Dog Scout, Nim, earned the Beginner Treibball 1 badge recently. After my heart dog, Blade DSA, died unexpectedly 3 years ago it's been difficult keeping enthusiastic about training, but trying new activities through DSA has helped me stay motivated and keeps me working with Nim. Since

Tachi joined my family l've had to keep his little border collie

brain busy, so under the guidance of good mentors (who are continuing to learn new ways to apply positive reinforcement and indirect access methods) it's become enjoyable again to get back into obedience training and venture into agility with both dogs, for which I'm thankful." Shirley



"Kingston continues to be a good sport by letting the kids at school pet and hug on him. He continues to stay next to the kids as their reading therapy dog as they practice reading. He is always a good sport and dresses up for school parties for the kids to enjoy. He provides comfort to

my students with autism when they are upset. I have learned a lot about dog training and dog behavior with Kingston that I can apply to children as well. I love Kingston and I'm so glad he came into my life even though he doesn't always listen, but learning never stops. I learn something new everyday."

Carol





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Troop 188—CT

Julianne Grove—Assistant Troop Leader

Troop 188 has been super active these last few months and we have lots of holiday fun planned for December as well. At the end of September, Troop 188 participated in the Chester Dog Fair, which was created by troop member Belinda Ahern, to raise awareness of local and regional services as a means to raise funds for Homeward Bound CT 501c3. Troop members Belinda and Susan organized and set up the event. Troop 188 had a booth at the pet fair to promote responsible pet parenting thru dog scouts.





Other members of 188, Linda and Julianne, evaluated for AKC's CGC and DMWYD trick titles. Several of our dogs tried out the Doggy Fun Zone agilure course. Troop 188 also donated a pet oxygen mask breathing kit to the event to be presented to Chester Fire Department. We are looking forward to participating again next year.

We also attended Ledyard Farmer's Market Community Day. We were able to talk to a few market shoppers about Dog Scouts, but we ended up getting rained out.





Our local troop celebrity Phantom the Bernese mountain dog was hired to do a photo shoot for DXL men's apparel. He's a model now!

Just a week after Chester Dog Fair, Troop 188 hosted our annual fall vaccination clinic. We host two clinics a year, one at the beginning of summer and one in autumn. Lots of volunteers make these clinics run very smoothly.

Troop 188—CT (cont.)

One of our favorite fall activities is taking our pups in their Halloween costumes over to parade for our friends in senior housing. This year we marched with 11 dogs and 8 humans. We had everything from a shark, lion, and tiny bugs to "Rocket dog" and "the head-less horse[man]poodle." The seniors loved it. We promised to come back with the dogs in their holiday garb for Christmas caroling.

On Veteran's day, we gathered at the local Submarine Vet Memorial at sunset for a quiet walk around the memorial to honor all veterans.

Members of Troop 188 also participated in the 2016 Shoreline Puppy Up! Walk to raise funding and awareness for canine cancer and discovering the causes of cancers and their common link in both pets and people.



In addition to these big events we've also had several doggy play times, letter boxing outings, skills practice sessions and weekend hikes.



Coming up next month we will be running a photos with Santa event, marching in a winter light parade, and attending a Luminaria as well as all the fun holiday social activities we have planned. See everyone next year!!

Troop 198—CA (together with Troop 233 and Pre-Troops SF Peninsula and SF East Bay

Leah Lane—Event Coordinator

HUGE NEWS! The San Francisco East Bay Pre-Troop just found out that Kobi has passed his Dog Scout Test. Kobi joins Maurice, (Kristie's Chihuahua) another member of the SF East Bay Pre Troop in becoming a Dog Scout. We are all so excited for them and now they can apply for their own troop number!!! CONGRATULATIONS Kobi, Mike & Ruth, Great Job!



Troop 198, Troop 233, the San Francisco Peninsula Pre-Troop and the new San Francisco East Bay Pre-Troop just

love finding ways to spend time with our dogs, learning new things and showing the world around us how great Dog Scouts are!



On September 30, the San Francisco Peninsula Troop held a talk on Truffle Hunting with your dog at the Burlingame Humane Society. Troop member Michele Muller, with truffle detective extraordinaire Harley Handsome at her side, talked about hunting and finding buried truffle treasure. After the talk some of the troop members, Co-Leader Natalie with Standard Poodle Gigi; Erez with his handsome and

sweet Husky Obi; and William with happy Shepherd mix Luna wondered if a Buried Treasure Hunting badge might be something to add to the DS Nosework badge collection. Luna is smil-

ing for Jan Gordan, the Troop Co-Leader as she takes the picture.

Currently 5 members of the San Francisco East Bay Pre Troop are enrolled in a Nose Work course and 5 or 6 others have ex-



pressed interest in scheduling another introductory course. WE LOVE LEARNING NEW THINGS!



For our San Francisco East Bay Pre-Troop,October 1 was devoted to a Sue Sternberg video and discussions about identifying and avoiding potentially vicious dogs before they bite. Cash and Shelby got pets while Kobi smiled at the camera.

On October 8, with the combined efforts of our troops we raised \$150 and dropped it off at the Alicia Ann Rach Burn Foundation Pancake Fundraiser in Sunnyvale and then high tailed it over to Cupertino for the Canine Companions For Independence Dog Fest Walk N Roll Fund Raiser where our team raised and donated \$200.00. Here we posed with a BIG Canine Companion with our DSA Wagon before the walk





Then we gathered for a group photo with all the supporters for this wonderful cause which trains and provides Working Canine Companions free of charge for people with disabilities.







and Paw Painting.



And then we were off!! Strutting our stuff and pulling our DSA wagon and handing out DSA flyers. Leah with Wyatt & Duncan and Lynn with Cloudy in the lead.





Stephanie and Miles with Ellie and Ruth and Mike with Kobi pose at the Fairgrounds' entrance.



Pat and Cooper (one of our scouts, who is also an amazing Therapy Pet) with Ruth & Kobi getting ready to watch to the dock diving event.



Melissa & Clewie checking things out up close and personal.

On October 15, the SanFrancisco East Bay Pre Troop was at the Marin Center Fairgrounds for the largest pet fair and adoption event in California.



Cindy proudly watches an amazing performance by her Suzie Q at the Dock Diving Event



On October 22, we had our annual Halloween Party. This year it was held at Pet Food Express in Campbell. We had refreshments for two and four legged guests, a raffle, a costume contest, party favors and we played games. As guests arrived at the area they were greeted by our Halloween Mascots, who let them know the Dog Scout bond is forever.



Lynn & Joe with Laurel, Bob and Debee with Dayton and Maxwell and Judy with Luca listening as we hand out certificates of recognition and achievement for the last year.



Jackie with Venus, Leah with Wyatt & Duncan, Bob with Dayton and Maxwell and Judy with Luca waiting to start the games!



Judy with Luca and Susan with Wyatt are our newest members.



Venus won the costume contest dressed as Venus Williams the tennis star.







And then the competition began with several spirited games of Tic Tac Dog



On October 29, two of our members, Leah & Jackie took their dogs Tacoma, Wyatt & Duncan to participate in the ATTS tests put on by the Northern California Working Group Association in Dixon California. All three dogs passed and when they get their certificates, they will apply for their DSA Temperament Test Badges.

On November 6, Troop 198 had their Santana Row Mall Walk About. We invite the public and walk about the mall going up and down stairs and elevators, walking over grates and through crowds teaching our dogs to be relaxed and well behaved in the city environment.





Rusty, Venus, Spike, Wyatt & Duncan posing for a shot practicing their "Stays with distractions".

> On November 6, the SF Peninsula Pre Troop invited the public and had a beach walk at Crissy Field in San Francisco and enjoyed some doggie play time on the beach.

November 13, Troop 198 had their Training Class at the Humane Society of Silicon Valley in Milpitas, where three members took and passed their evaluations to become Love On A Leash Pet Therapy Members.



Wyatt, Dayton and Maxwell who just passed their LOAL Evaluations posing with Patty holding Mokey the Cat, (who received a certificate from Troop 198 as an honorary Dog Scout Cadet for being one of our practice "Leave It Critters"), Little Hana, and Wyatt & Duncan who are also both Dog Scouts and Love On A Leash Therapy Pets.

Troop 217—The Motor City K9s—MI

Sally Hoyle—Troop Leader with an assist from Katie and Sam



Hard to believe we are well into fall! It's been a busy one for our troop so far. October started out with a Bark for Life event in Livonia. We love participating in these events to support the American Cancer Society and the organizers of this one did a really nice job. We talked to many people about DSA and the dogs loved showing off their tricks. We even got a nice amount of time with the microphone so I was able to talk to the crowd and tell them all about DSA and our mission.







Sassy was very proud of the pig she won in the dunking for hotdogs contest!

The emcee was very interested in the badges on our dogs' uniforms and asked a number of questions. This really put our dogs' accomplishments on display! Our participants included Brenda Kieswetter and Merlin, Betsy Conway and Burt, Michelle Neu and Sassy, Elizabeth Najduch and Emma, and me and Katie. Several of our dogs did very well in the contests and Sassy carried her prize around for quite awhile.

Scrapbooking/Crafting Weekend

Next up for our troop were several events at camp. First came the scrapbooking/crafting weekend that three of our troop members attended. It was the first time Katie and I attended and though we had to leave Sam at home so that he could do his therapy work, we had a great time! I spent time sewing and working on hiking sticks and really enjoyed taking Katie out to run on the trails in the beautiful fall weather. Martha Thierry and Amy Schupska attended with their dogs and we all enjoyed spending time together while working our various crafts. To top it all off, we were there during peak leaf color. It was gorgeous!

Fall Jamboree

The following weekend was the annual Fall Jamboree and it was one for the record books! Our own Elizabeth Najduch planned, organized and executed an AMAZING weekend that was non-stop action starting Friday night with games and ending Sunday afternoon with awards. Katie and I were there (actually we stayed all week!) along with Julie Benson and Shelby, Michelle Neu and Sassy, Vickie Lomas and Shadow, and Diane Baughman and Lizzy. The theme of the event was 'The Amazing Race' and our troop had both the 1st and 2nd place teams!

Troop 217-MI (cont.)

Wellness Fair

Two of our troop members represented us well at the recent University of Detroit Mercy wellness fair. This event was set up to spread awareness of all of the different programs available to the students. Flu shots were offered and information was available on things like chiropractic treatment and behavioral health, but of course our dogs really drew a crowd! Brenda and Merlin and Betsy and Burt attended as therapy dog teams, proudly wearing their Dog Scout uniforms and talking about DSA. The dogs were such a big hit and have been invited to return during exam time in December.









The annual Novi Pet Expo is an event that many troop members look forward to each year. Although it is cost prohibitive for our troop to have a booth at this event, we find ways to participate with other groups and still spread the word about Dog Scouts. This year Diane Schuler and Odie and Michelle and Sassy participated with The Fur Angels, a therapy organization where the dogs gave kisses and raked in donations. They also showed off skills learned as Dog Scouts, like playing musical instruments, which gave them the opportunity to talk about DSA. Katie and I were there with The Rock 'n' Roll K9 Performance Team, where I used the meet and greet time after our shows to talk to people about positive training methods and Dog Scouts. We also spent time walking around between shows and talking to people about dog behavior. Other troop members attended the event to shop and see the many dog activity demos and dog groups with booths, and they found ways to talk about DSA because their dogs' excellent behavior at a very crowded event was complemented by others so often

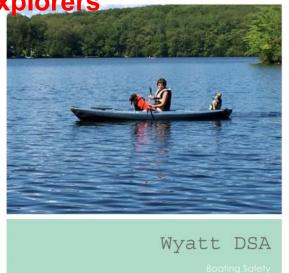
As of now, we are already participating in our holiday activities and have already begun bell ringing and participating in parades. We are once again collecting items for veterans and will be putting together gift bags that we'll deliver to patients at the local VA Hospital Christmas week. We are also working to get activities on the calendar for early 2017 and have a lot of interest in CPR. We're planning to work on some winter letterboxing and geocaching as well.

Troop 219—CT—New England Explorers

Kelly Ford—Troop Leader, CRN Secretary and Trails Titling Program Coordinator

Wyatt DSA successfully earned his Boating Safety badge via video after all his hard work over the summer.

Congratulations Wyatt!





Danica Joy DSA participated in her first Lure Course trial at the end of October. She completed four successful runs and earned her Coursing Ability (CA) Title. Congratulations Danica Joy!

Fall in New England has been very warm and very busy. In September Troop 219 attended the Chester Dog Fair. We had a booth at the fair and shared our adventures in Dog Scouts.

Our scouts were able to demonstrate playing their pianos and painting. We were really excited to watch the Freestyle demonstrations.



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Troop 219—CT (cont.)



During the Fair, Wyatt DSA, Danica Joy DSA, and Zora DSA tested for and earned their Novice Trick Dog titles. This was immense fun and a great learning experience to see what our little Scouts could do with no planning.

At the end of September, Troop 219 teamed up with our friends and coworkers at Electric Boat to form Team Waterfront for the Annual American Heart Association Walk. Team Waterfront collectively raised \$6,120 for the American Heart Association.

We also participated in the 3-mile run/ walk at Mohegan Sun.





Danica Joy DSA, Wyatt DSA, and Zora DSA spent a day letterboxing at Bluff Point state park with Lori White and Kelly Ford. Working as a team they found eight letterboxes, completing one series and almost finishing a second. The day was warm and sunny, almost summer-like. Danica practiced stays while bicyclists rode by.

We have more adventures planned for winter, including Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army.

Troop 220—NV

Terry Cuyler—Troop Leader













Dog Scouts met in October in Hope Valley, CA just 25 minutes away from our Nevada home.



Several members and their dogs met in a big grassy field to let the dogs run and play together in the cool, crisp fall air. Canines and humans had a blast playing in the West Fork of the Carson River as well as chasing frisbees and balls and each other.

At the end of the month two Scouts represented the Troop at the annual Nevada Day parade to celebrate statehood for Nevada. A pre-parade race/walk is a fundraiser for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Jobie is a career-changed Guide Dog turned therapy dog and Brindy is a Scout and service dog for Linda Hibbard. Here we are in front of a fountain in down town Carson City. Said fountain was paid for by the Hermon Lee Ensign National Humane Alliance. The fountain was dedicated on Labor Day, 1909. The polished granite fountain weighs tons and is one of the only fountains still functioning. It was refurbished in time for Nevada Day, but unfortunately wasn't running when we posed.



Next month we are planning to help the Salvation Army with their bell ringing plus schedule another play day socialization out in BLM land.

Troop 229—CA—Dogaholics Anonymutts

Mary Blackstone—Troop Leader

We spent the last day of September getting our equipment ready for our big OcToBarkFest event October 9^{th..}

October 2nd our troop went to Redding to a haystack hunt put on by Shasta Dogs. It was the first time for everyone but iZAR, who has been to one once before. The dogs all had a blast, and thought that was about the most fun they'd had in a LONG time! They all asked for a rat for Xmas.







The next day was our last meeting/practice day before our big event. The temperature had



dropped and it was pretty chilly. Karla had Kip (in orange) model a coat she got at the Haystack Hunt, and I brought a coat I had to put on iZAR (in blue). He's usually too warm wear a heavy coat (as he usually has his own heavy coat), but he didn't seem to mind wearing it that day.

I've always been disappointed because we haven't been able to make it to any of the camps or mini-camps. :(So I got to thinking....(that usually gets me into trouble), we need a mini-camp on the west coast! I've actually been working on this idea since last year.

Originally I had hoped to do some kind of a mini mini-camp. Since we don't have enough dog scouts to make it happen, I wanted to try a something to get some public involvement and exposure, and had an idea for a dog event geared toward the backyard dog. Since I am only human (I have come to this disturbing conclusion just recently), I decided to try something on a little smaller scale and hopefully show the public that there are MANY things you can do with your dog, even if it isn't 'trained', based not on competition, but doing activities that are fun, and something both human and dog would enjoy.

I was hoping the local newspaper columnist would come and do a story, but she wasn't able to make it (and bring her dog). The newspaper DID run my "thank yous" in the 'letters to the editor' page.

So that's the birth of the OcToBarkFest! Which we'll probably be changing the name of next year, to something easier to say (contest for new name to follow!).

After planning this since Spring, the event finally happened October 9th. My biggest fear was that NO ONE from the public would show up. My second biggest fear was that a HUNDRED people would show up! Originally I had planned to have a head counter at the entrance gate, but just didn't have enough volunteers, and as I wanted to make sure we dog scouts could participate too, I decided to forgo the counters, along with the poop-bag police, RallyO course & Obstacle course helpers! So the only counts I got were from the game sign-up sheets (20), the head count I did while at the 'First Aid for Dogs Seminar' by our local vet(26), and a friend that did attempt a head count around 1pm (37).

Our first activity of the day was the First Aid for Dogs Seminar, put on by our local vet, Dr. Nickerson, who not only generously gave his time, but provided a bag of first aid supplies and handouts! He does a great job and even does demos with



dogs from the audience. Here he was showing how to make an emergency muzzle from a leash.

I was surprised at how many people entered the 'Jumpiest Dog' game! That game had a course of about 11 different jumps, you had 1.5 minutes to jump as many as you could, and the dog that jumped the most jumps (correctly) in that time won! The rules were VERY relaxed.... you could get the dog to jump any way you wanted, including jumping with the dog, but the dog couldn't step on or knock down the jump.



Our very own DS "Kip" and her mom Karla won! This is really special, because Kip is almost "LAZY " and usually doesn't like to do things for very long OR put out anymore energy than necessary. (I swear, she has an energy gauge and she checks it regularly to see how empty it's getting). But she was a jumping fool that day. She did all the jumps correctly, never slowed down and did 30 jumps in that 1.5 minutes!

MY favorite jumper was another DS, 'Lucky'. You could see that he was having so much fun going over those jumps! He is only about 10" tall, and didn't like to do ANYTHING until he joined dog scouts. He LOVES Dog Scouts and obstacles are one of his favorite things. He does the weave poles the BEST of anyone in the troop (which means he does them at a fast toddle, without much direction and one treat at the end ;).



But it was pretty awesome, people who were sitting in the bleachers with their dogs watching, decided to give it a try and signed up for it! Which made way more entries than I expected, and made us late for the next event. But we got caught up in the next hour and no one seemed to mind.









One of the games we did was Musical Cones. Originally I had planned to do Musical Chairs, but when I saw that another troop did it with cones, I thought that was an EXCELLENT idea! I figured that was a great way to avoid fights and even problems with the dogs. ;)



We did a Recall w/distractions, a ball catch & a stay contest.





of Lilura's tricks (I was the judge, and too busy counting!), but I got Kip on her

of Lilura's tricks (I was the judge, and too skateboard & Mic jumping thru' hoops.

We had a Baked Goods Auction and raised over a hundred dollars for our troop, which we're hoping to use for another group lesson/workshop of some topic we haven't decided on yet.





IZAR & I did a Treibball demo, and we won the Dog Show 'Showmanship'





The "Truth or Lie" contest was where you had to tell a story about your dog, and the audience had to guess if it was the truth or a lie. I was the only one that tricked them! Everyone else told stories, sometimes wild, but true.

iZAR *almost* won the costume contest. No one else entered, so I grabbed a mask and put it on him, but then Superdogboy & Superdoggirl showed up and took the prize.

We had a CGC tester there. 3 of our Dog Scouts, 1 cadet and 2-3 public people showed up to take it.



Karla & her husband made a really cute Kissing Booth, and Jeanne surprised us with her artistic talents when she made the 'Lady & the Tramp' & 'Nightmare Before Xmas' Photo boards! iZAR did close his mouth before he gave me a kiss!

People came from all around, not just locals. One lady was visiting from Oregon and saw it advertised and brought her little dog to participate! Some people drove 2 hours to come. There were a few people there that didn't have a dog, but they seemed to be enjoying



watching the games and stuff. I saw families with their dogs sitting on the lawn just hanging out. A few people asked me if we were do-



ing it again next year. I saw lots of smiling faces, and the people looked happy too!

Our dogs had a great time, which is, of course, the MAIN reason we did this ;) They sure slept well that night. Wouldn't even get up to pose for a picture!





Our troop took a well-earned break after that, and with no troop activities, iZAR and I did some hiking while looking for geocaches or just to get out and stretch our legs. iZAR's always on the lookout for recyclables to earn money

for our troop. It's SO great that I can send him away to grab them and bring them to me!

One of the most exciting geocaching adventures we've had was at Clear Creek. We were hiking along, nose to GPS, when I felt we must be a getting close. I looked up and saw a trip wire hanging

from a tree and across the trail! I stopped dead in my tracks, stopped iZAR, and eye-balled the wire to the tree, looking for a gun barrel or something poking out of the leaves. Then I saw a green box hanging from the "wire" on the side of the tree! OMG! My heart stopped and my brain said BOMB! Good thing I came to my senses quickly, and realized it was the geocache we were looking for! HAHAAHAAHA.



iZAR earned his Scent Discrimination Badge, iZAR & Kip earned their Puppy Paddler badges & Obstacle 2 badges. We also videoed Lilura's Puppy Paddler and Obstacle 2, but she hasn't sent them in for evaluation yet.



During our first meeting of November, Mic passed his Dog Scout test (YAAA!), and we videoed Kip & Lilura's Obstacle 3 test. Then the dogs got to play fetch. I think Mic & Lilura would still be running if we let them!

iZAR & Lilura

joined some 4-H kids on a hike around the Kok-Chee-Shuh-Chee trail at Natural Bridge, exploring caves and enjoying the woods. iZAR even made his back available to the toddler and helped him over some uneven ground. This little boy can be a little rough and 'grabby', and iZAR doesn't like that and usually avoids him, but I guess he



thought the kid needed some help. Love the expression on his face! He earned a treat for that act of kindness :) Lilura had never seen a yo-yo before. I think she was hoping it was a ball of some kind. It was hard to say if the kids or the dogs had the most fun.



Dog scouts joined the 4-H kids at Indian Valley for some outdoor fun & learning about tents & campfires. The dogs had fun playing in the creek (that water was COLD!) helping us on the treasure hunt and exploring. A while ago, I taught iZAR to 'pose' for pictures, it comes in handy when geocaching. Well, Kip has gone geocaching with us and now when ever she sees me with a camera, she comes and 'poses' for me (they get a treat

when I'm done). I didn't teach her, she learned by observation!





Jeanne makes the best dog treats, and she





always bring enough to share. IZAR & his baby sister Kip, are both VERY food motivated and have learned the pose that works to get another handout from Jeanne!



Well, looks like Lilura has some moves of her own.



We are sure enjoying these nice, last days of autumn. :)

Cow dog games.

This week our monthly hike took us to Hall City Cave to find some geocaches and see if we can get into the cave. Jeanne didn't forget the home-made treats!





We hiked up above the parking lot after a geocache, and found an old

after a geocache, and found an old abandoned mine tunnel. Geesh, iZAR headed right up to it and was sniffing around. When I read the sign, I about freaked! But he didn't pass out, so I guess it was OK.

Then back to the cars to grab our gear for the hike up to the small, Hall City Cave. Karla & Jeanne looked for the geocache, while Dennis, another 4Her, and I climbed down the ladder into the cave. I didn't know they BOTH were claustrophobic! iZAR wasn't too happy about not getting to follow me. The last time I did this, was about 10+ years ago, I remember it being a LOT easier. :(



We found a lone bat (I thought that was odd) and the geocache! The cache was NOT where it belonged. Karla was still looking for the geocache when we got out of the cave. She was sure glad we found it! So were Kip & iZAR. Because that meant they got to pose for a picture and get a treat. :) We re-hid the cache where the hint and co-ordinates said, covered it so it wasn't visible, and headed back to the parking lot.



And that about wraps up November!

Troop 230—TX—Pineywood Paws

Kristen Keeling—Troop Leader

We have been having a great time in East Texas! August's meeting was about Travel Safety led by our very own Barbara Bowles. Barbara was on her way to a Dog Scout meeting in later 2015 with her dog Bandit when she was involved in a multiple car accident. Had Bandit not been properly restrained in his car seat, he would not have made it through the crash. Barbara led the troop through different examples of proper car restraint and the items that should be carried with you at all times when you travel with your dog.



After paying close attention, the dogs were rewarded with FREE yummy "pup cones" at Andy's Frozen Custard.





September opened with a new opportunity for our troop members to earn a Troop participation

patch. We formed a Pokemon Go Gang to hike the parks, search for and capture lurking Pokemon hiding in our midst. Minnie and Gracie are expected to be the first to earn their patch by completing their 5th hunt on November 6th. We meet two times a month in addition to our monthly meeting to go "hunting" so subscribe to our events on Facebook so you can join in! With the simple addition



can join in! With the simple addition of a loaded up back pack the dogs can also work on their backpacking badge!



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Troop 230—TX (cont.)

October has been an awesome month for our troop. We have had 5 new mem-

bers join, 3 dogs pass their Dog Scout badge test (more on this below) and have had 2 of our largest group turn-outs since we started our troop! We provided general dog scout orientation and criteria at our monthly meeting and then we met up again the night before Halloween for a Howl-o-ween Dinner with the Dogs. During this time the dogs dressed up and we had a costume contest. We even made the news!



















Also in the month of October, we were invited by our local Petco to be honorary judges of their Halloween costume contests held 2 Saturdays in a row. At both, we were able to address the contestants and shoppers and tell them about Dog Scouts, our mission and some of the fun things we do. At one point our crazy leader acted out the role of a dog while another member taught her to dance.



We still have lots of things lined up for November and December including the first presentations of our Pokemon Go patch, a Christmas parade, a Christmas Pawty and possibly a campout if the warm weather holds. We will be starting up Geocaching as well now that it is starting to cool off. One thing that we are looking forward to is our first PAINT YOUR PET at 4pm on December 11th. We have a dog loving artist coming down from the Dallas/Ft Worth area to lead us in a "Paint your Pet". A sketched canvas and the supplies will be provided. Please message us for more information at: EastTexasDSA@yahoo.com.

Troop 230—TX (cont.)

Congratulations New Dog Scouts



Beth Anne Geesing's





Sarah Geesing's





Beth Head's

Contact Dog Scouts of America

Learning new things that we may be more helpful

Website: Dogscouts.org Facebook: facebook.com/DogScouts Yahoo Discussion List: pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/DSA_TalkList Dog Scouts of America (DSA) was established in 1995. It is a non-profit organization with people dedicated to enriching their dog's lives and the lives of others with dogs. Founder Lonnie Olson has made it her life's ambition to experience as many dog sports and skills as possible with her dogs.

If you believe that dogs really enjoy learning new things and spending time with their owners, you're our kind of dog person. Dogs were not meant to be "furniture." Working dogs want to work. Without having an acceptable activity in which to use up all of the energy that comes "built-in" with a dog, our canine companions often get into trouble.

By better understanding how your dog thinks, how he learns, and what drives his behavior, and by participating in a variety of dog sports and activities, you will become a more responsible dog owner.

We hope to prevent misunderstandings, communication failures, and behavioral problems which often lead to dogs being given up as a "lost cause."

President: Lonnie Olson — DogScoutCamp@gmail.com (Also for Dog Scout Calendar, Sparky's Camp Store, Dog Scout Camp (MI), Camp Scholarships)

Mini-Camp Mentor: Sally Hoyle — sally.hoyle@yahoo.com

Dog Scout Obituaries: **Chris Kloski** — ChrisBill1966@gmail.com (Memorial recognition and engraving)

Membership: Julie Benson — bensonjulie@earthlink.net

Troop Administration: Brenda Katz — dogs2katz@yahoo.com (Starting a troop/Troop Leader Tests)

Treasurer/Donations: Barb Whiting — bwhitingdsa@comcast.net

MERIT BADGE RECOGNITION PROGRAM Program Coordinator: Heddie Leger pawzone@yahoo.com Recording Secretary: Julie Benson — bensonjulie@earthlink.net Evaluator Certification: Chris Kloski — ChrisBill1966@gmail.com

TITLES/COMPETITIONS Hosting/Competing: Ann Withun — Ann@Withun.com Trail Dog Titles: Kelly Ford — DSA.Troop219@yahoo.com (Also for competition registration numbers)

Newsletter: Shirley Conley (Editor) — thescoop@dogscouts.org

Website/Communications: Sonja Klattenberg — webadmin1@dogscouts.org (Also for newsletter distribution)