

The Dog Scout Scoop

Official Newsletter ~ Dog Scouts of America

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

Volume 20 Issue 5 September/October 2017

Dog Scout Sally Nugent in Houston, TX, finally got to enjoy a dry back yard again on September 2nd!

Sending continued thoughts and well-wishes to all in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico affected by the recent hurricanes.



Photo: Wendy Nugent

FYI: Troop 219 is collecting donations for pet victims of Hurricane Harvey and Irma. Contact Kelly Ford if you'd like to donate: dsa.troop219@yahoo.com

**Rainbow
Bridge
P2**

**Teaching Trail
Etiquette to Dogs
P7-9**

**Attitude of
Gratitude
P40**

**Badge Bulletin
& Title Tales
P4-6**

**Scout Scoop
& Troop Talk
P10-39**

Deadline: for the next newsletter is
November 15th

Please e-mail your news, articles, and pictures to thescoop@dogscouts.org

GREAT HARVEST

GIVE THANKS

• FALL COLORS •



Sparky's Turkey Trot 2017



Announcing the third annual virtual race for Dog Scouts! Sparky's Turkey Trot can be done anywhere, at your own pace. This year's medal is better than ever!!

STAY TUNED . . . UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE AND E-MAILED TO THE YAHOO LISTS.

THE GREAT ESCAPE 2017 FALL JAMBOREE

You don't want to miss this one! The 2017 Jamboree will take place **October 20-22**. You don't need a team to join us, just a sense of humor, an active imagination and an expectation that you will have an unforgettable adventure as you work with others to ESCAPE!

The weekend will be packed with games and activities based on urban legends. Then, you'll take the clues you gathered during the weekend and work with others, applying the information you've gathered to the Sunday morning "lock in". Your clues will help you escape in the end!

The Jamboree is open to all DSA members. There is no charge for the weekend other than lodging and contributing to meal costs. Email Julie Benson at bensonjulie@earthlink.net to reserve your spot before the weekend fills up!

Rainbow Bridge

It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of one of troop 157's longest standing members. Bella, the beloved Sheltie of Alice Perez passed away after a 3-month battle with lung cancer. Bella was a sweet gentle soul. Bella has been a member of this troop since its inception in 2009, and earned her DSA Badge December 2009. She had just turned 10 in April. We extend our sincerest sympathies to Alice.



Please Help Us Help Others by Supporting The CROP Hunger Walk
Donate \$25 and get a **free signed copy** of Charlie's Training Book
Offer good until October 1, 2016 or until 30 books have been given away

Here's your chance to get a copy of Charlie's award-winning training book and support world hunger needs at the same time. Just register your \$25.00 gift to support the Dog Scouts in the CROP Hunger Walk and Charlie will sign a book for you!

www.crophungerwalk.org/howellmi/Team/View/46154/Dog-Scouts

MI CAMP REGISTRATION UPDATE

We've just updated the form on the website with the dates for the 2018 camp season! You may now go online and register for camp.

Here's where to go: dogscouts.org/base/camp-info/mi-dog-scout-camp/

By registering early, you have a better chance to get the housing you desire, and you will also qualify for the early bird discount if you get your deposit in by October 1st and pay your balance by April 1 (for June) or May 1 (for July).

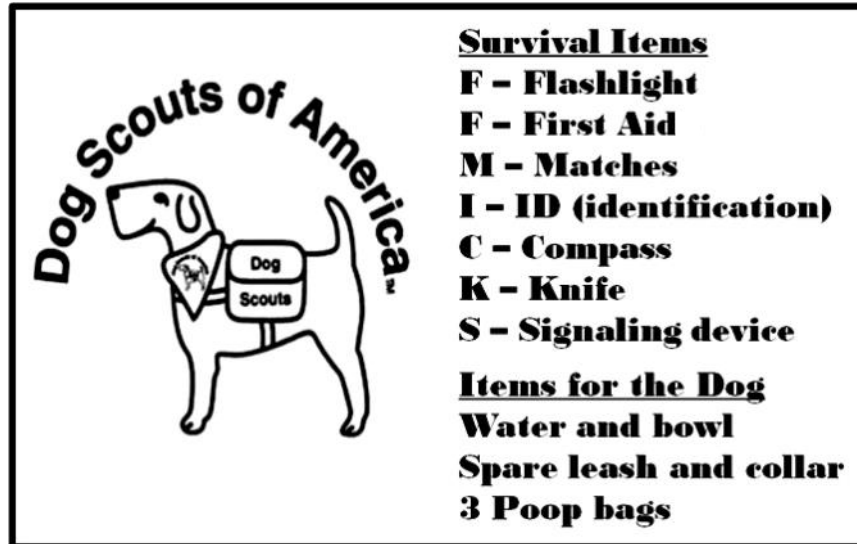
Badge Bulletin & Title Tales

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

Summer is over and the weather is cooling off. It's time to break out those backpacks and get hiking again. Are you and your dog ready to go backpacking?

Backpack & TrailDog Gear

The list of required items can be over whelming at first. You might think: "My dog has to carry all that?" "But my dog is so small!"



Let's look at something simple that we all use very day, such as a water bowl. Most dollar stores carry collapsible water bowls. They will work great for your dog's emergency water bowl in their pack, but these tend to be bulky thus may not be a good option for a small dog. I have found that silicone baking cups make great water bowls. They take up very little space and are perfect for our small dogs.

When packing your dog's backpack, think creatively, they don't need to carry bulky or heavy items. Some of our smallest dogs can't carry that much weight, but they can certainly do all the miles of our largest dogs.

Several companies make very small flashlights and combo items, such as a whistle (signaling device) that is also a flashlight. Here are all the items in my dog's backpack. The ID is in the first aid kit. Everything, including the pack weighs 15.3 ounces.

I weigh all of the items on a kitchen scale to ensure that they are evenly distributed and balanced in the backpack. When you only have a couple of ounces of gear, the balance of the back is very important.



Recognizing Poison Ivy

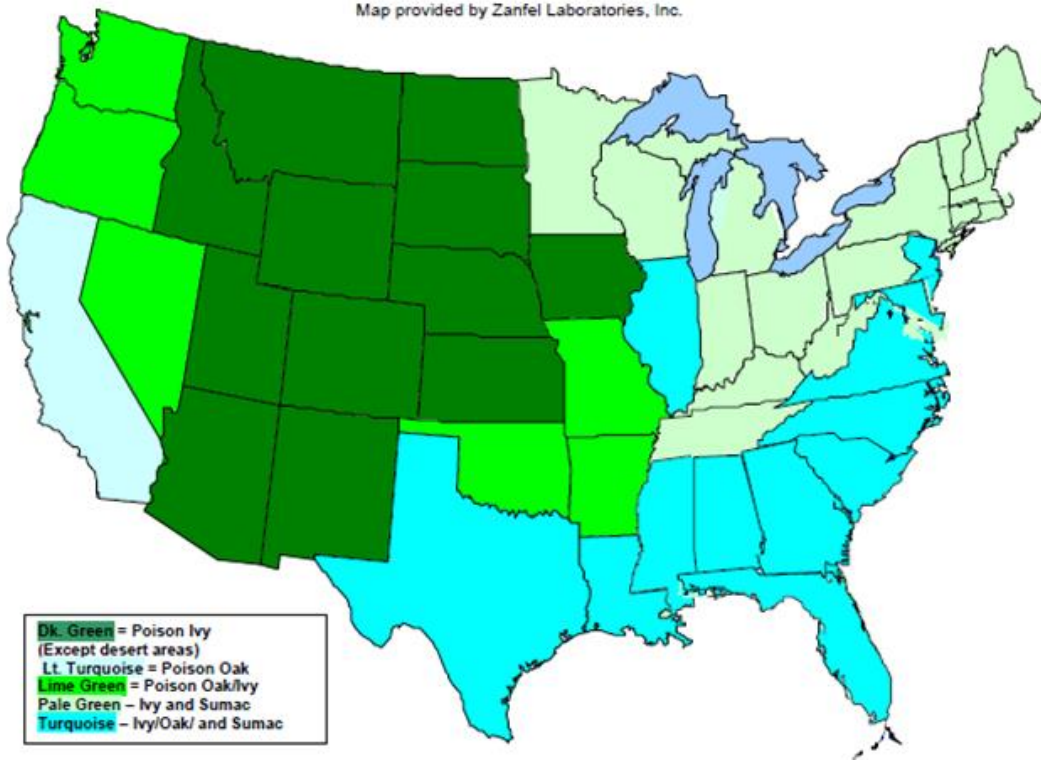
A requirement of the DSA Backpacking Badge is recognizing poison ivy.

Is there poison ivy in your area? This map of prevalence of poison plants gives a rough idea of where you might find poison ivy in the USA. According to the map, poison ivy is found everywhere except California. Troop 229 in Northern California has verified that they have never seen poison ivy in their area.

Here is a great quiz for recognizing poison ivy. It does not include other poison plants. Try it and see how well you do. <http://www.poison-ivy.org/poison-ivy-quiz>

U.S. Prevalence of Poison Ivy, Oak & Sumac

Map provided by Zanfel Laboratories, Inc.



Most people get a poison ivy rash from touching leaves, while gardening, hiking, or looking for a ball lost in the weeds. From a tool, from a pet, from clothing: from anything that has touched any of these plants. That's right; your dog can get poison ivy oils on their coat and pass those oils on to you.

If you think you or your dog got into poison ivy, wash everything! Wash your hands and exposed skin right away. Use cool water; hot water will make the rash spread. There are special soaps to break up poison ivy oils. You can buy them at camping stores and Amazon. Technu is highly recommended as a topical cleanser. Please consult your vet before using it on your dog.

Wash yourself and your dog with shampoo or dish soap that breaks up oil. Avoid hot water, as it will make the rash spread.

Put their harness, collar and leash in the laundry, with all of your cloths and wash everything with detergent. I recommend a second wash with detergent just to be safe.

If there is something that you can't put in the laundry, you can clean it with rubbing alcohol. Wear gloves when you do this. Walgreens and similar stores sell spray bottles of rubbing alcohol.

Happy Trails!



I would like to congratulate everyone who has earned a recent Trails Title.

PackDog (PD)

Monroe Kelly (pictured)

PackDog Excellent (PDX)

Monroe Kelly

Utility PackDog (UP)

Kitara Appel
Monroe Kelly

Utility PackDog 500 (UP500)

Monroe Kelly

Trail Dog (TD)

Dash Shumate

Utility TrailDog (UT)

Wyatt White

Utility TrailDog 500 (UT500)

Noel Miller
Kitara Appel
Rio Olawaski-Steiner

Utility TrailDog 750 (UT750)

Noel Miller
Monroe Kelly
Kitara Appel

Utility TrailDog 1000 (UT1000)

Monroe Kelly
Kitara Appel

LetterboxDog (LBD)

Danica Joy Ford
Wyatt White



Trail Dog and Pack Dog
Nakodo's Pin Up Girl
(Marilyn) Monroe

Teaching Trail Etiquette to Dogs

By Robin Bennett

My husband and I are currently living in our motorhome while we have a house built in Colorado Springs. One of our favorite past-times here in Colorado is taking advantage of many dog-friendly open spaces where we can hike. I've begun a series of training exercises on these hikes to help Ranger learn some trail etiquette. Here is a behind the scenes look at a recent hike to give you some ideas on teaching trail etiquette to dogs.



On a hike, I typically take both a standard 6' leash and a 16' flexi-leash. I know...I can see you rolling your eyes at the thought of the flexi-leash. Very few trainers like them. I agree that the flexi-leash does pose some problems depending on how it is being used. But I find there are some really good benefits to using one on a hike.

Editor's note: A cotton web long-line can be substituted for a flexi-leash, it just requires a quicker response to other trail users so you can gather the slack when your dog returns to you, and there's a little more time spent untangling snags on brush and watching that your dog doesn't get tangled in the slack. Notice that Ranger is wearing a collar for when Robin attaches his leash, but the flexi-leash is attached to a harness.

ATTENTION/CHECKING IN

If no one is around, a flexi leash gives me the chance to give Ranger some freedom to move ahead of me AND, I get the chance to reward him for checking in with me from a further distance.

If he makes the choice to turn and look at me, I will reward him with praise and encourage him to come to me for a treat. This reinforces his behavior of checking in and coming to me when asked.



My goal is always to "catch him" checking in with me. I will reward this excellent choice he is making to look at me!



If I can see we are alone on the trail, I allow Ranger to go ahead of me on a 16' line



Good boy... here is a liver brownie!

Teaching Trail Etiquette (cont.)

Ranger loves to swim and I love that it keeps him cool



COOLING OFF

In the summer, I typically only walk Ranger in places where I know he can cool off during the walk. That means we walk near water pretty frequently. The flexi-leash allows me to let Ranger get into a pool of water without taking him off leash.

WAIT/COME

Since Ranger is still a puppy, he is still learning how to walk nicely without pulling. When hiking areas include steep or rocky grades, the last thing I want is an exuberant puppy pulling me down the mountain. The flexi-leash gives me a safe way to work on “wait” and “come” without taking Ranger off leash. If I encounter a steep downhill slope, for instance, I can ask him to wait while I walk to the bottom of the hill and then call him to me. This keeps both of us safe and gives me a chance to reinforce some of his behaviors.



Ranger waits at the top of a steep hill. I walk to the bottom and then call him.



Good boy!

My use of the flexi-leash is restricted to areas of the open trails where I can see far enough ahead to recognize that no one is coming towards us or approaching from behind. If I see people, I switch Ranger to his 6' leash. I agree with trainers who say it's hard to manage a dog on a flexi-leash and I have much better control of Ranger when he is on his regular leash. So I use that one when people are nearby. When I'm hiking I always have my standard leash hanging around my neck so I can quickly change the leash when it is warranted.

My goal when I see people or dogs on a trail is to teach Ranger that he should be calm, walk closer to me, and ignore the other hikers and dogs. Given that Ranger is extremely social and LOVES dogs, this is no easy feat. But with planning and proactive work on my part, he has been doing really well with this part of his training.



Teaching Trail Etiquette (cont.)

PEOPLE

When people approach, I move to the outside of a trail and ask Ranger to walk close to my side. I will reward him heavily with really high value treats. (Typically on a walk I take liver brownies, steak, or chicken because those are treats Ranger rarely gets at other times so he is very willing to work for them on a hike. If your dog prefers toys you could use his favorite toy as a reward too). I start working with him long before the people are close enough to pet him. This helps me set him up for success!



Rewarding Ranger for staying by my side as a person approaches



Good attention! Good boy!

DOGS

My tactic is slightly different when dogs are approaching. Dogs are a much higher distraction for Ranger so my actions depend on how many dogs are approaching and what the approaching owner is doing. There are generally two scenarios: either the approaching dog seems well mannered and under control (meaning they are paying attention to their owner) or the approaching dogs are pulling to greet Ranger. For the former situation, I will treat it the same way as I did with people approaching mentioned above. But more often than not, dogs we encounter aren't under control or there are multiple dogs. In that situation, I will move completely off the trail, ask Ranger to sit, and reward him heavily for paying attention to me. If I still think there might be a chance he will pull to greet the other dogs, I will also position myself between him and the approaching dogs.



Off the trail, positioned where I will be in between Ranger and the other dogs when they get closer

Needless to say, with all this training going on during our hikes, we don't go very far! Typically we go only 1-3 miles at a time. I think this is a good distance for a young puppy (Ranger is currently 11 months) and provides plenty of opportunities for training along the way. Plus, it tires him out!

My wish is that everyone on the trail would work with their dog to teach trail etiquette. Hopefully this gives you some ideas!



Sleepy puppy

Scout Scoop & Troop Tales

Troop 119—TX

Cindy Ratliff—Troop Leader

Troop 119 continues to have a great summer series of troop meetings!

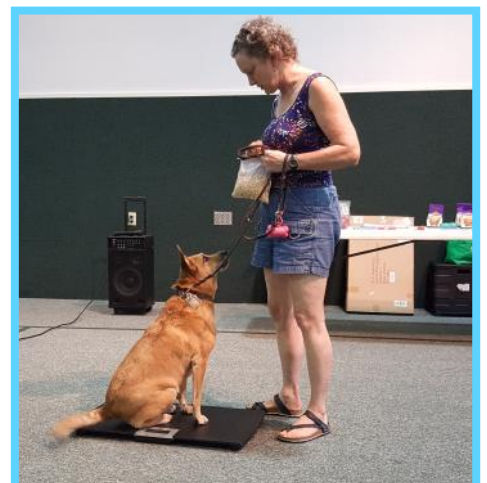
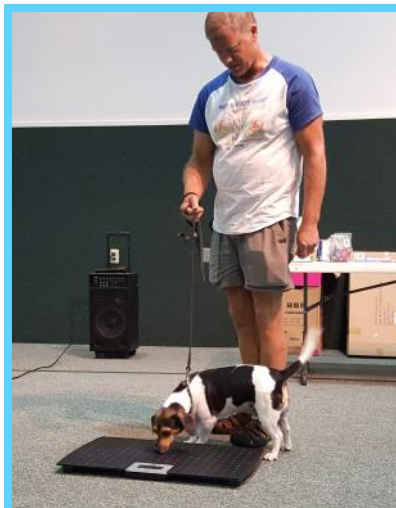


In July, Karen Deeds presented a mini-seminar, “Body Beware! Environmental awareness to set your dog up for success.” Besides being a long-time troop member, Karen is a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant through IAABC and is a much sought-after presenter who does seminars throughout the country. We always learn a lot from Karen’s presentations and are very thankful that she is always willing to share her knowledge with the troop.



In August, troop members Cheryl Woolnough & Nancy Strack presented the new K-9 Nutrition merit badge. We had a pet scale on hand so the dogs could check their weight and start working toward the goals outlined in the badge. Cheryl &

Nancy also had sample baggies of various dog foods so we could practice reading the labels and comparing ingredients. We appreciate so much that we have many troop members willing to share information with the troop!



Troop 119—TX (cont.)

In September we have many area swimming pools and water parks that devote a weekend to doggie swim parties before the summer ends. Several troop dogs took advantage of the great weather and great water to have some doggie fun!



We look forward to the fall for a couple of more great troop meetings before the 14th Annual Texas Mini-Camp!

Troop 157—FL

Terri Cannici

As summer nears, as does the rainy season for us in South Florida. We took advantage of being outdoors while weather permits. We have been fortunate enough to hold our monthly meetings at a local park, one of which ended with a 1.86 mile pack walk. The dogs loved being outdoors getting exercise while socializing with fellow dog scouts and it was a great bonding experience with our dogs.



As often as possible, we hold child/dog safety events to teach children how to safely greet and interact with a dog. A local bowling alley invited members of our troop to give a demonstration and spend some time with the children. It is such an important event for us to reach out to these children. Rosie, Lily, Bryant, Jolie and Jesse were more than willing participants. They were loving the attention from the children as much as the children loved interacting with them. This was a great opportunity for us to be out in the community not only educating the public on pet safety but also sharing what it is like to have a well-mannered dog and the joys of pet ownership.



Troop 157—FL (cont.)



Doggie Olympics is always a troop favorite. This is a fun, team building event where we challenge our athletes to compete for the coveted first, second and third place ribbons *hosted by our troop leader, Christine Geschwill*. There is never a dull moment filled with laughter and cheers.

Congratulations to all of our participants, this was a tough list of games and challenges.

Over/Under/Through Agility
Doggie Limbo
Red Light, Green Light
Leave It
Gossip
Kiss Off
Fido Says
Marathon Down
Musical Hoops
Spoon Race
Toilet Paper Decorating
Hot Dog Eating Contest



Bubbles and Monica took first place in their very creative toilet paper decorating challenge



Good job Jesse, showing off your winnings



Congratulations to Peanut for winning the most ribbons, way to go!



Oreo scores second place for the hot dog eating contest

Troop 157—FL (cont.)

Our troop participated in the annual Subaru adoption event where we met so many pet parents wanting information about Dog Scouts and what we stand for. Our group was happy to help!



Our troop leader, Christine Geschwill, gave tips on grooming and caring for your dogs during the hot summer months for a local radio broadcast.



at the waterside pose!



Troop 157—FL (cont.)



Several members entered the Disney Run virtual Summer Shorts 5K series as motivation to work on their K9 Fitness badge. We will be completing the series with troop walk/runs in July & August.



Congratulations to Peanut, Lily, Rebel, Jesse, Brandi and Amo for earning their AKC Novice Trick Titles.



Troop 177—IN

Robin Porter—Troop Leader

Indianapolis Troop #177 took a canoe trip on the White River north of Indianapolis on Saturday, August 5, 2017. Anita & Sophie, Gail & Daisy, Amy with Piper & Star, Sharon & Zena, Emily & Lucy and Robyn & Hallie launched from the White River Canoe Company. It was a perfectly beautiful day with mild temperatures. Dogs and humans had lots of fun on the water!



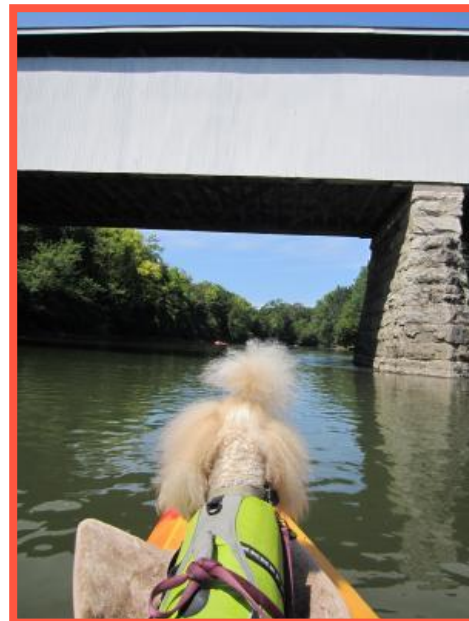
Sharon & Zena with Gail & Daisy



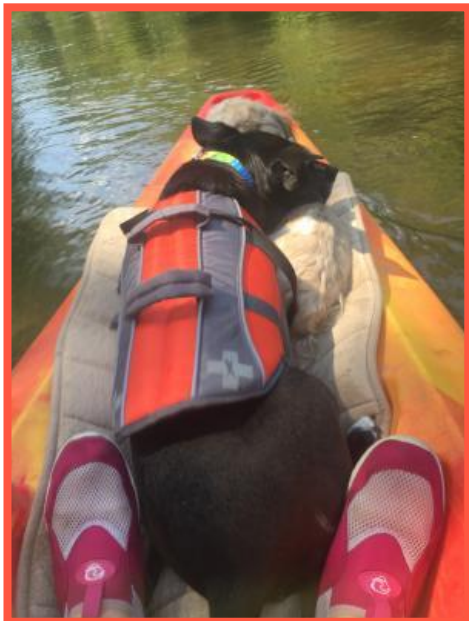
Emily & Lucy with Anita & Sophie leave the shore



Amy with Star & Piper



Hallie gazes downriver past the covered bridge



Star snuggles on Piper



Emily with Lucy onshore

“Teaching acceptance through respect, empathy, and kindness is the core message of disABILITY Awareness”

On September 19, Robyn and Hallie joined the Joseph Maley Foundation at a local school to present at the foundation’s disAbility Awareness event. Joseph Maley is an Indianapolis foundation established with the mission of serving children of all abilities (www.josephmaley.org). Robyn and Hallie were there to describe the difference between Therapy dogs and Service dogs to two classrooms of 1st graders. Hallie demonstrated basic skills and clicker training concepts as well. The children loved inspecting Hallie’s Dog Scout vest as well as her Therapy Dog vest!

Troop 183—FL

Shirley Conley—Troop Leader

August - Puppy Picasso



We revisited Art of Shaping in August. Our newest member, Amy with Marvin hadn't tried this before, so they had lots of fun spreading the paint around.

We started off with working on the painting behavior without paint, targeting a plate or board or baking tray on the ground then steadily raising the target, and getting our dogs comfortable on the floor covering which can be a bit slippery and cause dogs to feel uncomfortable on the strange surface.

We also worked on rewarding two or more paw strokes and getting our dogs comfortable with wearing the painting sock.

We took a break and pulled out some toys to practice "catch" as a beginning step for the Frisbee Throw/Catch badge - we'd planned to work on this during a previous activity but ran out of time. Some of our dogs will need a few more repetitions catching cookies before moving onto the next step, but we did move onto getting our dogs to open their mouths and take a toy. Some were nosing the toy while others were more prone to catch a gently tossed toy.

After our "catch" break we went back to Art of Shaping and added paint this time around and worked on our dogs artwork.

Once our dogs finished their piece of art we used their paws as a stamp to print paw prints onto a page and then created flowers, their pad impressions created petals and we added stems and stamens.

We were all very tired at the end of our session - and we had quite a few paw prints on the floor to clean up. Luckily we were working on a terrazzo floor and tempura paint comes off with a wet paper towel!

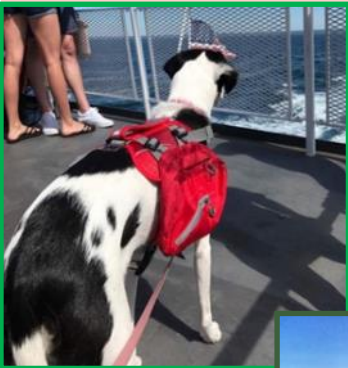
Hurricane Irma stormed through our September schedule; so we're working on re-scheduling our First Aid/CPR certification workshop with Pet Tech for October or November.

Troop 188—CT

Amanda Wacasey



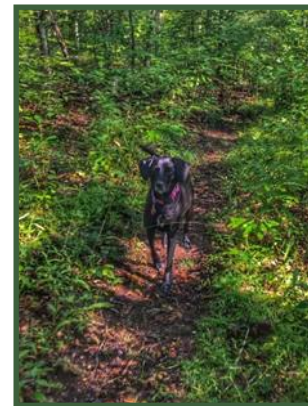
Summer was full of sun, fun and water sports. The June meeting highlighted how we can be safe while enjoying ourselves. Heat stroke, heat exhaustion, fish hooks and Leptospirosis were some of the topics of conversation. We also discussed the best solutions to many of summer's mishaps. But before summer started, we got a chance to do some after school visits.



Our hiking group is always ready to log more miles and this summer was no exception. Every Sunday is a new challenge with old and new friends.

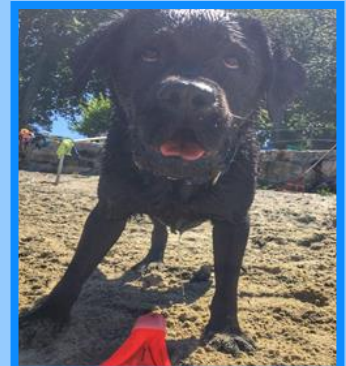


Block Island Ferry was a day long adventure!



Exploring local sites is fun too!

July always brings us "188 Day", our Troop anniversary. It's a day for everyone to get together, bring a dish to share and enjoy our beautiful shoreline.

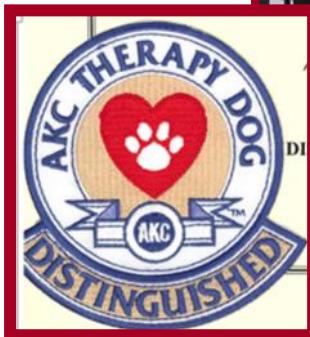


Troop 188—CT (cont.)

Sometimes our Scouts think they are fish!



We also have some dogs that would rather stay out of the sun. Congratulations to Phantom his goal of 400 Therapy Dog visits on June 29th. He now has the AKC Title of Distinguished Therapy Dog!



Troop 188—CT (cont.)

Summer Camp Visits too!

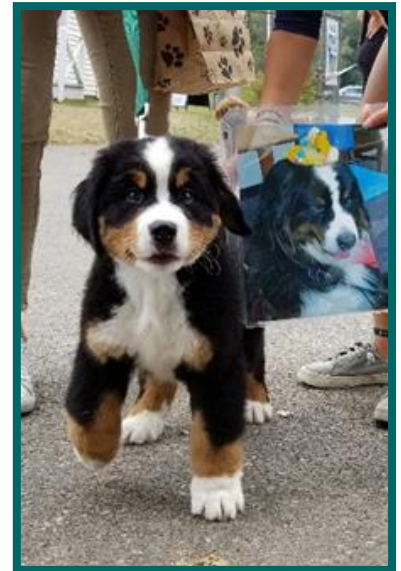


August may be the end of summer, but it brought a lot of new beginnings to our Troop. We are now frequent visitors to our local Masonic Care facility. We started our partnership with a great show by The Dynamo Dogs and their human Gail. The residents had a great time and so did we!



We will be continuing our partnership with monthly Yappy Hour visits. Some of the upcoming topics are: Costumes Training and Safety, Puzzles and Enrichment, Holiday Do's and Don'ts, and Cold Weather Gear and Safety.

Troop 188—CT (cont.)



Fall is Fair season and it's always great to join in the fun at the Chester Dog Fair. Both Scouts and visitors enjoy a day with plenty of chances to meet and greet new friends.

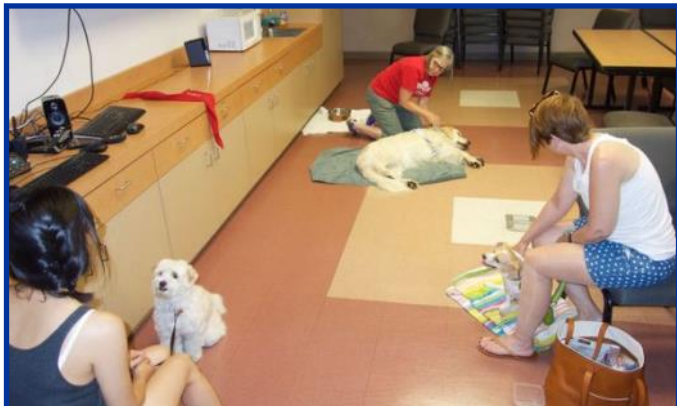


Lots of more Fall fun to come!

Troop 198—CA (together with Troop 233, 237, and Pre-Troops San Francisco Peninsula)

Leah Lane—Event Coordinator

The San Francisco Bay Area Troops have been going non-stop for the last three months we had twenty-four events posted on our calendar for the last two months. Lots of opportunities for everyone to get out there with their dogs to learn, train and have fun!



On 07/15/2017, The East Bay Troop 237 had their meeting at the Contra Costa County Animal Shelter and had a class on Dog Massage where Ruth began by demonstrating various massage techniques on her very willing retriever Kobi while Jean with Iz on the right and Cecilia with Baymax on the left watched and learned.



Julie practicing her technique on Harper.



On July 28th thru the 30th, the SF Bay Area Troops gathered for our 3rd annual Dog Scout Camp Out at Mt. Madonna County Park. Here is Charles with Spike at the entrance welcoming us into the park.

Over the three days we worked on the Dog Scout test skills, had group discussions covering the material on the written test, did group hikes, worked on the backpacking badge, had a class on scent training, played games, learned new training techniques and bonded with our furry loved ones as well as with each other. Everyone came away with new and polished skills, new knowledge and a very real sense of empowerment and accomplishment. One of the many activities planned was a three-mile hike. Here is Ranger Blake with her dog Yeti going over the route of the hike with the group with Nancy Beth and Briar Rose in the foreground ready to hit the trail!



Troop 198—CA (cont.)

On the hike we stopped at the amphitheater to take a water break and a group picture.



From left to right is Nancy Beth with Briar Rose, Denise with Kokoro, Patty with Crystal, Judy with Ruby, Ranger Blake with Yeti, Brenda with Guppy, Jackie with Palo, Wyatt & Duncan, (mom Leah is taking the picture) and Donna with Spike.



Guppy is rehydrated and ready to hit the trail again so she can earn her backpacking badge.

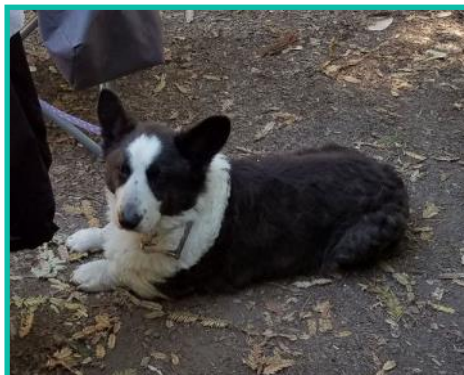


Mt. Madonna has lots of beautiful trails that the dogs loved to hike. Here are June, Rusty and Venus out on one of the many trails.



Here is Palo practicing his sit stay with Jackie during the water break.

Back at camp, Frodo takes a rest.



Carolyn brought her human daughter as well as her two fur kids, Rosie and Dakota to their very first camping trip.



Troop 198—CA (cont.)



Nancy Beth discusses the dinner menu with Judy and Ruby while Wyatt & Duncan in the X-pen think there is too much talking about dinner and not enough serving of dinner.



Patty and Debee enjoy a refreshment while Crystal is asking where is mine?

Maxwell sitting with his mom, Debee as she chats with Dave about the day's activities, in the background Buddy and Charles wage an epic battle with long poles.



Jackie holding Wyatt & Duncan and little Tacoma who is saying, "Hi" to Spike standing next to mom, Donna.



Here is Dino enjoying the morning sun while he waits for the next activity.

Donna with Spike and Denise with Kokoro getting ready to do the scent training activity.



Troop 198—CA (cont.)

And of course, we brought along our three little “Leave It” piggies, Honorary Dog Scout Cadets, Steve, Gus and Jeff. No Dog Scout Camp would be complete without “Leave It” critters to have for practice.



On August 4th, we met for movie night at Alviso Marina County Park to watch the movie INSIDE OUT. With record heat, it was a great place to get your dogs out and socialize them in the beautiful surroundings by the water, spend time with friends and enjoy a movie.



A quick down stay practice before the movie starts. From left to right is Denise, (standing), Bill sitting on the ground with Mandy, then Kokoro, Duncan, Wyatt & Bailey. Scott, Bailey’s dad is in the background sitting in the chair.

On August 5th, East Bay Troop 237 met at MetroDog in Richmond for a talk on Dog Good Citizenship, the Upsides and the Downsides”. Topics covered were what is a “good citizen” for a dog as well as laws and ordinances in our counties and states as well as Dog Scouts of America guidelines for both dog and dog parent. There were involved discussions on the pros and cons of intervening in conflict and how to deal with angry neighbors and many other topics.

Troop 198—CA (cont.)



Here Nancy and Stevie, Kaiwe and Roxie, Stephanie and Ellie, Ruth, Pat and Copper, and Amy and Simon are discussing what to do in case of a complaint about a barking dog.



Here are Cecilia and Greg with Baymax, Susan with Kobi, Nancy and Tykie, Connie and Poppy, Carol and Saidie discussing problems related to dealing with a dog bite incident.



On August 13th, Troop 198 had their monthly training at the Humane Society of Silicon Valley in Milpitas. Here we have Kate getting ready to do some dumbbell work and Wyatt & Duncan checking to see if they can get involved in the treat action.



Here are Kate & Denise talking about the training as Kokoro takes a rest on the agility equipment and Cora checks out a wayward tennis ball.



Here are Rusty, Palo and Wyatt practicing a sit stay.

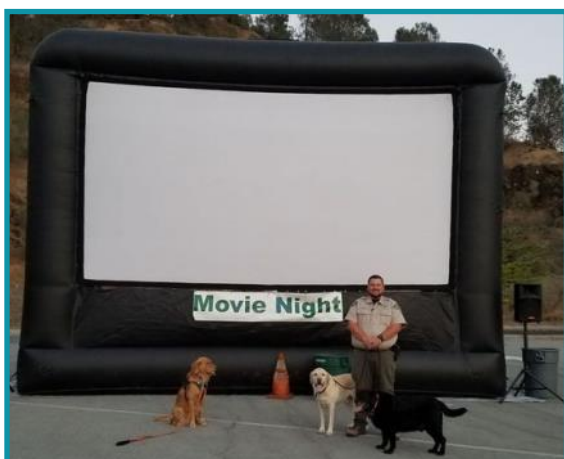
Troop 198—CA (cont.)



Here is Jackie with Tacoma and Dino resting in the shade of the crate.



And Duncan and June trying to beat the heat by staying in the shade during training.



On August 18th, trying to beat the record breaking heat, we headed up to Anderson Dam County Park for Movie Night at the Lake. As the sun went down and the temperatures dropped a little we settled in and enjoyed the movie SING, in the coolness of the evening. Here is left to right, Bailey, Wyatt, Ranger Matt and Duncan in front of the big screen with the beautiful hills behind.



Here is Carlotta and Scott showing a young movie goer how to have Bailey sit on command, while Duncan and Wyatt lounge on their movie blanket.

On August 19th, it was still too hot to venture out during the day, so when the sun went down we headed to Hellyer County Park in San Jose for the In The Park After Dark Movie Night presentation of FANTASTIC BEASTS. Before the movie, the Rangers put on a presentation showing the pelts of some of the different animals found in Hellyer Park.



Troop 198—CA (cont.)

It is almost movie time. Bailey with Carlotta and Scott in back with Denise and Kokoro on the right and a couple of kids have joined Wyatt and Duncan for a visit as we wait for the sun to go down and the movie to start.



On August 29th Troop 237 had a booth at the Kensington Animal Fair and Blessing of the Pets. Here Dog Scouts gather at the booth for the beginning of the fair. In the center of the picture is prospective member Kim holding Golden Retriever Ruby's leash.

Ellie, on the left, provides some therapy while Kristie watches Maurice with Poppy and Kobi nearby.



Here is Kristie with certified therapy pets, Ellie, Kobi and Maurice.



Here is Susan holding future Dog Scout and therapy pet (in training) Bennie, with Stephanie smiling her approval.



Here is Carol with Sadie as Ruth and Stephanie recruit Kim and Ruby.

Troop 198—CA (cont.)



And of course, the highlight of the day here is Tony Clark, M.Div. and D.V.M. delivering a group animal blessing to the large circle of pets at the Animal Fair.

On September 2nd with the valley temperatures hitting 113 we headed up to cooler temps to Mt. Madonna and attended Pawsitive Dog Hike with Ranger Blake at sunset. He she poses with Yeti, Bailey, Wyatt & Duncan before the hike.



Before the hike started, and sporting their Kool Coats, Duncan and Wyatt stop to watch some horses that have come in from the trails.

By the end of the hike it had cooled down to 88 and here is Yeti and Bailey sitting in back with Wyatt & Duncan laying in front and Carlotta to the right with a nice shot of a cloud covered moon overhead.

Troop 198—CA (cont.)



On September 6th still battling high temperatures, we continued to do night time activities, so we joined Ranger Matt for the Dog Nights of Summer Hike up at Anderson Dam in Morgan Hill at sunset. Here is a group shot before the hike started. From left to right, Tribble, Blake, Yeti, Cora, Kate, Joe, Ranger Matt, Wyatt, Duncan, Bailey, Carlotta, Scott, Sophie (in stroller), Joanne and Riley.

We stopped at the pond for a water break at dusk and before we started the last part of the hike which was a climb to the top.



After climbing to the top and viewing the twinkling lights of the city below, we started back down with a full moon to lead us home.



On September 8th we headed back up to Anderson Dam, this time to join Ranger Mike for the Howling At The Moon Hike where we carried flashlights covered with red cellophane so that we could discover and observe the sights and sounds of the creatures of the night that live in the county park.



On September 10th with temperatures still in the hundreds we continued to pursue cooler night time activities, this time at Martial Cottle Ranch Park in San Jose on the "A Dogs Life On The Farm Hike", led Ranger Lisa, at sunset. We learned about organic farming and the roles dogs played on the Cottle Ranch up until the time it was donated to become a county park. At the end of the hike, Ranger Lisa handed out a gift bag to all the dogs that contained treats and dog waste bags.

It was a hot and busy summer, we have no intention of slowing down, but we are looking forward to the cooler fall temperatures, as we continue to improve our skills, teach and empower each other and spread the word about the wonderful world of Dog Scouts.

Troop 217—MI ~ Motor City K9's

Sally Hoyle—Troop Leader

Our troop has been very busy throughout the summer with many members enjoying camp in June and July. Outside of camp we've hiked, biked, backpacked, swam, paddled and letterboxed through the beautiful Michigan summer and enjoyed each other's company.

We've been really bad at taking photos though so our news this month will be rather poorly illustrated. We apologize for that and will do our best to make sure we take photos during our event filled fall and winter.

As we have been gearing up for fall Shelby and Katie had the opportunity to work with their favorite Girl Scout troop, Cadette Troop 1042 and help them complete their Animal Husbandry badge. This was the first badge this group has earned as Cadette Scouts so it was really fun to be a part of. Katie and I taught them all about Service Dogs, including teaching them about the Americans with Disabilities Act, how these dogs are trained and what kinds of tasks they can do. Then Shelby and mom Julie talked about Therapy Dogs and why they provide such a valuable service in our communities. Finally we all discussed other types of working dogs like, K9 police officers, search and rescue dogs, military dogs, blood donors and dogs that work at airports and on farms. Shelby and Katie have grown up alongside these girls and have many special friends in the troop so this was really fun for us all.

So many of our troop members have been working on and earning badges and we have a lot of fun completing activities that are fun for our dogs and satisfy requirements for various badges. Some badges take quite a bit of work for the handler along with participation from the dog. Disaster Preparedness is one of those badges and Sassy, along with mom Michelle recently completed this badge. Michelle says that it was a ton of work for her but she feels great knowing that she and Sassy are prepared for the unknown. Sassy is the 3rd dog in our troop to earn this badge.

The new K9 Nutrition badge is another that takes time and requires quite a bit from both the handler and the dog and we are very proud that four of our dogs, Sassy, Shelby, Sam and Katie now sport this badge on their capes. Sunny and mom Barrie Lynn worked hard recently to earn the Dog Care and Canine CPR badges, demonstrating that they are prepared for first aid emergencies and understand all of the critical things necessary to make sure Sunny stays safe and healthy. We hope to spend time this winter focusing on more of these knowledge based badges.

Now we're moving on to some fall fun and are busy planning our holiday activities!



Troop 219—CT ~ The New England Explorers

Kelly Ford—Troop Leader

Danica Joy DSA had a wonderful week at Michigan Dog Scout camp. Congratulations to Danica Joy DSA for earning her Hiking, Obstacle 1, 2 & 3, Agility 1, Clean Up America 2, Puissance, Band, Tricks and Stand Up Paddle Board (SUP) badges!



Danica Joy DSA

Hiking, Obstacle 1, 2 & 3, Agility 1, Clean Up America 2, Puissance, Band, Tricks and Stand Up Paddle Board (SUP) badges!

Dog Scout Camp
July 2106



Zora DSA also had a wonderful week at Michigan Dog Scout camp. Congratulations to Zora DSA for earning her Manners and PhoDOgraphy badges!

**Troop 219—CT
(cont.)**

**Congratulations to
Wyatt DSA for
earning his Utility
Trail Dog Title!**



**Congratulations
to Cody DSA for
earning his Beach
Buddie, Boating
Safety and Stand
Up Paddleboard
(SUP) badges!**



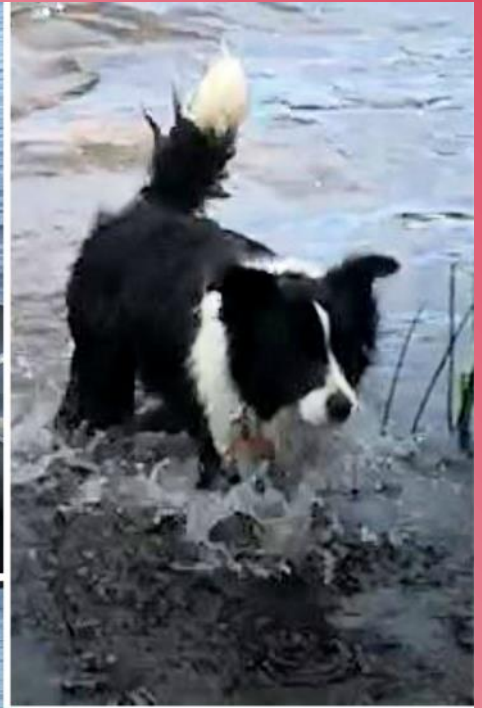
Beach Buddie, Boating Safety and Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)

Troop 219—CT (cont.)

Congratulations to Teagan DSA for earning her Obstacle 1, 2 & 3, Backpacking, Beach Buddies and Boating Safety badges!

We had some amazing adventures at Michigan DSA Camp this July. Zora earned her PhoDO-Graphy badge after several years of trying. She also got to show off her wonderful Manners this summer. We had a blast trying Rally Freestyle, Barb is the best instructor and explained the sport so well. Rally Freestyle is similar to Rally, but with elements of Freestyle dance. There is a course with signs, similar to Rally, but some of them are "Free Choice" where you do any trick or dance move with your dog. Zora came in first place in the dance portion of the talent show. Zora also loved seeing all of her camp friends.

Teagan DSA



We love spending time together, playing in the sand and sun.



life is one
beautiful
adventure

Zora DSA at
Dog Scout Camp July 2017

Troop 219—CT (cont.)

Danica did so many things it was hard to keep track of what she was doing next. One of the highlights was Puisseance. She loves to jump and this was the perfect activity for her. For this badge, the dog needs to jump twice their shoulder height, thus Danica needed to jump 24 inches. She sailed over the jump!

Danica also got to spend some time in the pond at camp. Her favorite thing! She is learning to retrieve water toys. Danica earned her SUP badge after acing balancing on the board.

We have continued our Summer Strolls every Tuesday. We've found a number of geocaches and lots of amazing things. We have explored some wonderful new places. We rescued a turtle one evening!

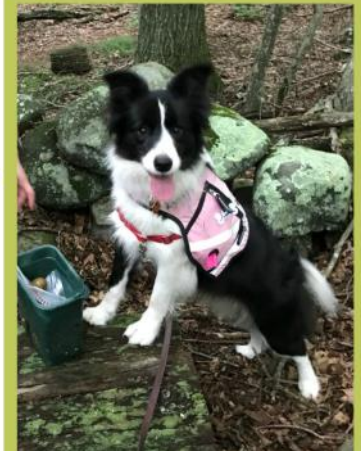


Danica Joy DSA at DSA Camp



summer STROLLS

EXPLORING NEW PLACES
FINDING GEOCACHES
SMELLING FLOWERS
AND RESCUING TURTLES
TOGETHER



Troop 219—CT (cont.)

The entire Troop got together to work on Beach Buddies and Boating Safety in the beginning of July. A big thanks to Chris Kloski for watching all of our videos. I am now an evaluator for both badges. Everyone worked together on each part of these badges. I am so proud of my Troop and how everyone helped each other out. All of the pups leaned to ride in the canoe. We did recalls and leave it so many times that I'm sure that our pups are experts.



Geocaching and letterboxing is a massive obsession in our area, so we had a beginner's class in August. We met to talk about the basics, carve stamps and have some pizza. Lori and I shared our adventures. I had all my logs books and some letterbox and geocache examples. We did some basic stamp carving.



In the middle of August we brought out the standup paddle board. Cody, who just learned to swim in June, became an instant expert at SUP. The lake had a good breeze and some motor boats, thus the water was not as calm as we would like for beginners, but Cody never fell off. Teagan also loved riding on the SUP. She seemed to think this was much more fun than the canoe.

Troop 219—CT (cont.)

We brought the kayak out this time as well. Everyone took a turn on the kayak. We all agreed that the kayak is much more stable than the canoe. We also had the canoe out again for more practice.

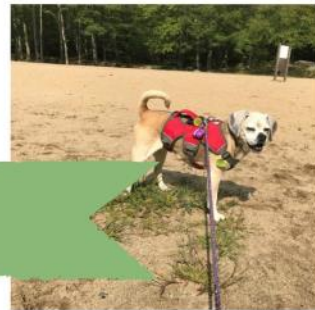
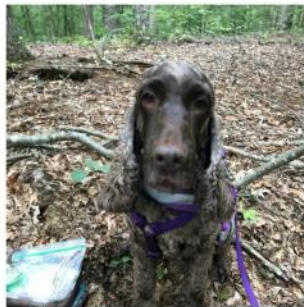


At the end of August we met for pizza so that Zora, Danica and I could present to the rest of the Troop "What We Learned at DSA Camp". We introduced Treibball and explained the requirements for the beginner badges. Danica demonstrated how to push round things that are not a ball for the Beginner 1 badge. We explained how to teach this skill using a pop-up hamper. We also talked about the Manners Badge, PhoDOGraphy, and Puissance. Then we talked about the new badges introduced at camp this year, especially the new Nutrition badge. Everyone brought their dog's dog food bag and we compared ingredients. We discussed ingredients, our dogs allergies and why we feed the food we do. We have the beginnings of plans for a healthy food drive.

In the beginning of September, we went letterboxing at the Sheep Farm in Groton CT. We followed the story of Little Bo Peep and her lost sheep as we hiked around the Sheep Farm. The stamps were adorable little sheep. Teagan DSA, Cody DSA, Danica DSA and Zora DSA helped find all the sheep.



Troop 219—CT (cont.)



Day Pond State Park

A day of letterboxing and geocaching fun with good friends.

We continued our lucky letterbox streak at Day Pond State park. We found a beautiful series of edible plant stamps. After our nice long hike, we rewarded the pups with a run on the beach. The beach was closed for the season, so they were able to enjoy the sand and get all dirty.

Troop 219 will be participating in the Annual Shoreline Puppy Up for Canine Cancer walk in October. <https://puppyupwalk.org/shoreline/canine-hero/>

For each PuppyUp Walk, the Event Manager and their Walk Team select both a Human Cancer Hero and a Canine Cancer Hero, to be honored during the Walk ceremonies. These Heroes are chosen because of their exemplary attitude towards their particular type of cancer, showing bravery and hopefulness in their fight against this terrible disease. The Canine Hero for the 2017 PuppyUp Shoreline Walk is Wyatt White. His story follows.



Troop 219—CT (cont.)

Wyatt is an 8-year old English Cocker Spaniel (DOB 12-26-08). He is a beloved member of Dog Scout Troop 219. Wyatt is owned and loved by Lori White.

Wyatt's symptoms were severe and sudden. An x-ray revealed a very large mass in the area of the cecum. A large ruptured tumor was removed and sent out for diagnosis. It tested malignant and they said it was either a Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor (malignant) or it was leiomyosarcoma.

Short story – stomach cancer. He underwent emergency surgery on April 12th and was hospitalized until April 15th.

Lori has sought no treatment other than the initial surgery because her veterinarians said with this type of cancer, chemo has a 20% chance of working, as by the time these tumors are discovered, the cancer is in an advanced stage. So, day by day. He is not showing any clear signs that a new tumor is growing.

Wyatt has been in good spirits since April. He loves to paint. Included is a picture of his recent masterpiece. Since April, Lori and Wyatt have been continuing their letterboxing and geocaching adventures. They have explored many new places together and nothing is going to stop them.



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

Attitude of Gratitude

Special thanks to the crafters who gathered at Dog Scout Camp for the annual Scrapbooking & Crafting weekend. This group raised \$779 in direct donations designated for improvements to Splash Pond.

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: Peggy Mooney — mmmooney65@gmail.com

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: Sally Hoyle — sally.hoyle@yahoo.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