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

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P3-30



REMINDER!

Early Bird registration is still available for the July 16-21 Dog Scout Camp in Michigan. Check out the website dogscouts.org for more information on registering for the June and/or July 2018 camps.

Deadline: for the next newsletter is

May 15th

Badge Bulletin & Title Tales

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

This winter we expanded the TrailDog Guidebook to include more titles!

Do you love to hike with your dog? Do you hike every day? Now you can get titles for hiking over ONE THOUSAND miles. There is a new Utility title for every thousand miles that you hike. Two enthusiastic hikers have already earned these new titles. Kiyomi and Toka Almann hike with their mom nearly every day.

If you love letterboxing and geocaching, there are titles for you too. The first letterbox title, Letterbox Dog (LBD) requires 100 finds and 15 plants. After you earn the first LB and GEO titles, keep searching and never give up.



Download the new TrailDog Guidebook (<u>dogscouts.org/base/dsa-titles/trail-dog-titles</u>) and start your new adventure today.

Happy Trails!

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

Pack Dog (PD)

Maggie Lakey Cowgirl Stillman Noel Miller Donavan Hinchman Tango Hinchman

Pack Dog Excellent (PDX)

Cowgirl Stillman Noel Miller Westen Tucker

Utility Pack Dog (UP)

Noel Miller Jib Almann

Utility PackDog 500 (UP500)

Noel Miller Jib Almann Kitara Appel

Utility PackDog 750 (UP750)

Noel Miller Jib Almann Taika Almann Kitara Appel

Utility PackDog 1000 (UP1000)

Jib Almann Taika Almann

Utility PackDog 2000 (UP2000)

Kiyomi Almann (Pictured) Toka Almann (Pictured)

Utility PackDog 3000 (UP3000)

Kiyomi Almann

TrailDog (TD)

Cowgirl Stillman Lacey Callahan Flynn Hinchman Donavan Hinchman Tango Hinchman

TrailDog Excellent (TDX)

Lacey Callahan

Utility TrailDog 750 (UT750)

Utility TrailDog 1000 (UT1000)

Utility TrailDog 2000 (UT2000)

Kiyomi Almann Toka Almann Monroe Kelly

Utility TrailDog 3000 (UT3000)

Kiyomi Almann

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Scout Scoop & Troop Tales

Troop 101—MI

Fay Reid on behalf of Goldy

Hi, I'm Goldy from Troop 101.

Us dogs got together and decided to light a spark and get our moms & dads together this past Fall at the Michigan DSA camp. We played on the agility equipment then packed it away for the winter.

In November, we met at the Thompson's house for holiday picture taking. I must say that it was hilarious watching the Mom's try to dress us up and arrange us around the trees, snow and sled. They finally listened to us about placement and some awesome pictures came out of it.

January, we had a gift exchange with some fun games. It was then I thought I could show my new friends all about scent work, so we spent the next couple of meetings learning the basics. All breeds big or small can do it. To all the Moms & Dads out there, you need to let us try new thing just like our motto says: "Learning new things that we may be more helpful". Just like I'm always helping Mom to find her phone. If you haven't tried scent work all you need to start is a scent (two pieces – can use scent on cotton ball or Q-tips, pieces of leather, etc.), a small box, lots of treats, flat collar or harness, and a 6' leash. Start with showing the scent and rewarding for acknowledging it. Remember dogs have better noses so they don't need a lot of time to take a good whiff of the scent. Next, place the scent along with the treat in the open box. Mom uses the other piece to tell me to take scent, then find scent, once I find the hidden scent she jackpots me with my favorite treats. Jackpot means I get lots of individual treats one at a time. Once you are getting the idea, they try to make it harder by putting the lid on slightly, then they add more boxes so you have to find the right one, then putting it in other places, but she always starts and ends with the first one. Hope you have fun trying this out, pretty soon you will be finding your Mom or Dad's phones and keys like me. Our troop is really excited about having some new dog scouts this Spring. While we wait for the rest of our troop to return from the southern states we are working on different requirements of the DSA badge each meeting. That's it for now. Happy sniffing.





Troop 119—TX

Cindy Ratliff—Troop Leader







Troop 119 had a great troop hike in January to start off the new year! We met at one of our favorite parks and did about a 3-mile nature hike together. We had great weather and great company and it was a great way to kick off 2018—our troop's 16th year!







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In February we had one of our favorite and most anticipated events – Doggie Winter Olympics! Troop members convened in a location that was not South Korea and competed in events likened to the Olympic events that actually were going on in South Korea. We had an extra special new event this year. For the very first time, Doggie Winter Olympics included curling! We must confess, that even though the human USA team won gold in curling this year, we would argue that the Doggie Olympics version was even more exciting! All teams won either the gold, silver or bronze medals after all the events. It was a great time and we will be eagerly anticipating the Summer Games in 2020!





















ICE HOCKEY





SKI JUMPING









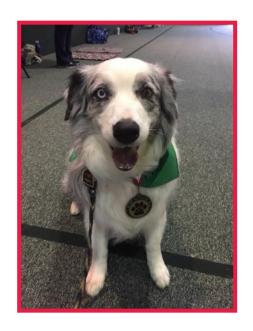


SPEED SKATING









MEDAL CEREMONY







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Troop 177—IN

Robin Porter—Newshound

Indianapolis Troop 177 practiced various skills at our February and March Troop meetings. In February we practiced Put and Take skills. Each team started by working with a sheet of paper, wadded up, and a bucket or bowl.





Sharon encourages Zena to get the wadded up paper

Penny received a reward from Peggy while Casey observes

In March we practiced skills required in the Dog Scout test. Greetings, Heel, Sit, Down, Stay, Come and Leave Its were the order of the day! Robyn provided many enticing items for the Leave it and the dogs all performed well.



Patty performs a sit for Candy



Penny approaches Peggy during a recall

Troop 183—FL

Shirley Conley—Troop Leader

In January we got together for lunch to discuss our activity options for the year. A couple of members brought their dogs with them. They were well behaved, and enjoyed the goodies our waiter provided for them. Dottie brought smiles to the passers-by as she watched the goings on below.











In February we had the opportunity to hunt for rats. Our thanks to Betty Ann who once again made herself and her rats available. The dogs had a lot of opportunities to hunt for multiple rats.











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

Leah Lane—Event Coordinator

The California San Francisco Bay Area Troops are embracing 2018 with lots of activities.

We started out with a Pack Walk at Pt. Pinole in Richmond lead by Troop 237.

Gathering before the hike from left to right is Poppy with Mom, Connie, behind them is Kim with Ruby, then in front is Stephanie with Ellie and Ruth behind, then moving to the right we have Katherine with Charlie and Carol and Sadie behind them, to the far right is Lennie with Sadie and Kristie with little Maurice in front.





Off came the leashes and we headed down the trail.





Along the trail we passed some folks riding horses with their dog. Like good scouts we secured our dogs until the horses passed.





At the water stop, the rules are all dogs must be on leash, so we leashed up to water our dogs. Getting a drink from left to right we have Katherine with Charlie and then Ruth with Kobi, behind them we have Tom with Cash and Carol with Sadie.



After the water break, most of us gathered for a group shot before the second half of the hike, from left to right is Kobi with Ruth, Kim with Ruby, Susan with Cowgirl, Lennie with Sadie, Copper with Pat, (behind them is Katherine with Charlie, then Stephanie with Ellie looking back at her mom, then Kristie with Maurice, Leah with Wyatt and Duncan and then Jackie with Rebel, Palo, Dino, Tacoma, Venus, Rusty and June.

The trail ended back at the parking lot where we began our hike. It was a beautiful winter day with great hiking company, both human and canine. Looking forward to the next one!



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On Feb 3rd, Troop 237 gathered at MetroDog in Richmond to start working on the Art of Shaping (Painting) badge. The session begins with the group listening about training for step one, lifting the paw on command.



Maurice is front and center ready to show the other dogs how to do this as mom, Kristie and troop leader Ruth prepare the equipment.



A successful end to the lesson as one student demonstrates how to lift a paw on command.



On Feb 4th Troop 198 had their monthly mall walk-about-training at Santana Row in San Jose. From left to right we have Denise with Kokoro, Anna with Ellie, Rod with Stretch, Duncan, Wyatt, Comet, Susan and Halley.



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On Feb 17th, Troop 198 and Troop 233 joined together to put on a demonstration at the Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club All Breed Dog Show at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. We entered the ring and demonstrated the different skills required to earn the Dog Scout badge.



Here we show the sit and down. Left to right is Patty with Crystal, Susan with Cowgirl, Carlotta with Bailey, Kate with Cora, Lennie with Sadie and Leah with Duncan and Wyatt,



and here is the stay.



Here are Wyatt & Duncan doing a recall.



Here is the heel demonstration done by (from far to near) Lennie with Sadie, Kate with Cora & Susan with Cowgirl.

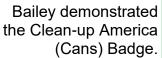
Duncan demonstrated the Leave It with Food and the Retrieve.



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Susan and Cowgirl demonstrated the hiking and backpacking badges and how to properly pick up poop using wrapped Tootsie Rolls as props.

The clean-up demo received a big round of applause.





Crystal did a demonstration for the scent badges.



Kate and Cora demonstrated The Pet Therapy Badges.



Lennie and Sadie did a PhoDography Demonstration.





and Troop 198 Leader, Donna did an incredible job as Master of Ceremonies explaining to the audience what we were doing and what Dog Scouts is all about.

Judy and Ruby put on an exciting FlyBall Demo,





We made a lot of friends,



had a lot of fun,

and for two days spread the word about Dog Scouts from our booth at this important California dog show.



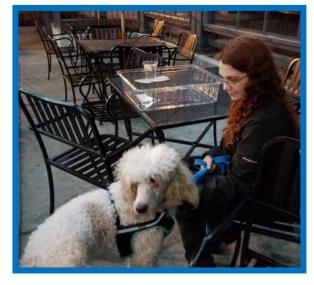
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On Feb 27th Troops 198 & 233 gathered for a monthly meeting at Armadillo Willies in Santa Clara and celebrated Bailey's Mom, Carlotta's birthday, Bob on the left is talking to his dog Dayton under the table.



Bailey's Dad, Scott, pulled off the surprise for his wife and in the background Donna with Spike and Patty enjoy some great food at the gathering.





New member Ellie with her Mom Anna also attended. Anna also manned the Dog Scout booth at the SCVKC Dog Show when the rest of us were in the ring doing the Dog Scout Demo – Thank you Anna!



On March 3rd, Troop 237 gathered for lesson two of the Art of Shaping (Painting) badge, paws-on-canvas and to also work on the introduction of musical instruments for the next meeting. Painting begins with Roxy, in the middle with Kaiwe and Dolores, demonstrating proper technique. Kristie, with her back to the camera, and Chriss assist the painters' handlers.

Ruby raises her paw and puts it to canvas to begin painting with Kim. Success!

Kim shows off Ruby's artwork as puppy Star checks it out.







Poppy shows off her good technique with paw-on-canvas with Connie doing the holding.



Carol holds up Sadie's masterpiece.

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Tykie earns a treat from Nancy after observing the painting exhibition.





Ruth and Stephanie with Elie prepare the musical "instruments" for the dogs to learn as new member Christy observes with her light-footed puppy Pearl.

Sadie checks out the keyboard as Carol shows her how to make the music.





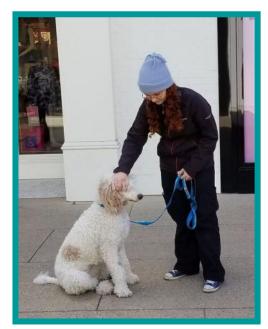
Ruby demonstrates canine musical technique with her proud mom, Kim.



On March 4th, Troop 198 lead a mall walk-about-training at Stanford Shopping Center in Palo Alto where they practiced sit/stays with distractions, riding in an elevator, taking the stairs and walking politely through a crowd. Left to right is Odin, Wyatt, Duncan, Bailey and Nessa, a guide dog puppy in training.



Here we practiced the same only with a fire feature in the back ground. From left to right are Christy with Pearl, Odin, Wyatt and Duncan.



Here new member Ellie gets a love pat from mom Anna for doing so well at her first time here.



After the training Jackie enjoys some refreshment while holding Tacoma, with Rebel to her right and Dino in front.

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On March 11th Troop 198 and Troop 233 got together to do training and video for the Dog Scout test and after all that hard work we set up photo shoots for St. Patrick's Day and Easter. Here are Cora and Odin sporting the green,

and Wyatt and Duncan posing with the Easter Bunnies.





Then we started lining everyone up for an Easter Ear Group shot.

Here Odin watches as Kate sets Cora up for the shot and down the line is Duncan, Wyatt, Crystal and Spike.



At the end of the setup we had left to right, Sadie, Cowgirl, Cora, Duncan, Wyatt, Crystal and Spike



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We ended the day with a hunt for Easter Eggs filled with bacon flavored treats.

From left to right are Kate with Cora and Odin, Susan with Cowgirl, Donna with Spike, Lennie with Sadie and Patty with Crystal.



Wyatt and Duncan in the foreground put their noses to work looking for the Easter Eggs.



Susan with Cowgirl and Lennie with Sadie headed back to group with bags filled with doggie Easter treats.

Lots more activities planned for the rest of 2018 for our troops, we look forward to sharing and teaching the others in our community how great it is to be a Dog Scout!

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Troop 217—MI ~ Motor City K9's

Sally Hoyle—Troop Leader

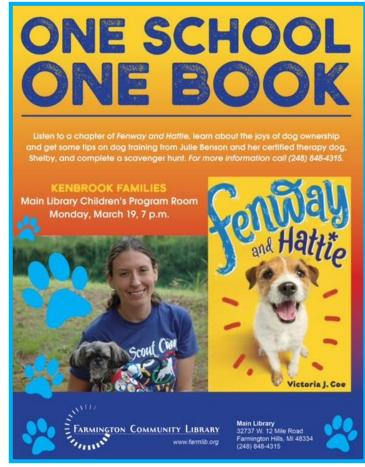
It may seem like we complain about the weather a lot here in Michigan. We do, but we don't let the winter weather keep us indoors. We put this to the test recently on a letterboxing hike. It was a beautiful sunny, but cold afternoon and we set out to find a series of letterboxes that had proven difficult to find during the spring and summer because they were planted in the winter. We didn't count on the more than a foot of snow remaining on the trails and would have done much better with skis or snowshoes. As we followed the well written and very accurate clues we realized that vegetation growth later in the year would likely make getting to these boxes quite difficult. While the clues were accurate the description of the "easy, one mile" hike was not. We trudged 3.5 miles on a very hilly cross-country ski trail but we didn't give up! We even found a Geocache in the same area but will have to



Julie with Sam and Katie on a blustery afternoon in the park.

go back and log it later. Though we pinpointed the location in a rather beautiful hollowed out log it was buried under a foot or so of heavy, compacted snow. We're guessing that one wasn't hidden in the winter. Though the humans found the day to be challenging, our dogs Darby, Sam and Katie had a great time in all the snow.

We headed out a few weeks later to enjoy some fun and games in another one of our beautiful parks. The day was sunny and bright and there was certainly a lot less snow on the ground and trails, but the sun was deceiving and the wind made the cold quite bitter. We couldn't handle more than a short walk but the dogs liked romping around even for a brief time.



Shelby and Julie's recent One School One Book event.

We have fared much better with our indoor activities and our dogs have been very focused on their work within our communities. Many of our dogs are involved in therapy work and/or other community activities and we really enjoy doing these kinds of activities with them.

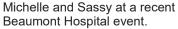
Shelby and her mom Julie Benson have been very busy recently with a special program for the Farmington schools for their "One School One Book" program. They spoke with students and parents from Forest, Beechview, and Kenbrook Elementary schools about Shelby's therapy work, their training journey, and Dog Scouts. Shelby has done quite a bit of therapy work throughout

the years and though she has retired from some of her assignments now that she's older, she continues to be very involved in school and library reading programs.



Shelby ready to head out to her event.







Sassy at a school reading event with a very large copy of her buddy Sam's favorite book



Sassy at the Freedom Center at Detroit Metro Airport.



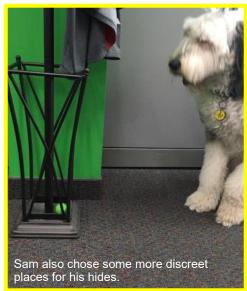
Sassy wearing her Dog Scout uniform and showing off her piano playing skills while collecting money for the Knights of Columbus tootsie roll event.

Sassy is very active in many different kinds of therapy work with her mom Michelle Neu. This winter she spent her time visiting Beaumont Hospitals in Dearborn and Wayne, Henry Ford Hospital, the Penrickton Center for Blind Children, and Heartland Nursing and Rehab. Sassy has continued her participation in reading programs like the one at the West Bloomfield Library and has provided much needed stress relief during exam periods at local colleges and universities. One of Sassy's most important jobs is at the Freedom Center at DetroitMetro Airport where she welcomes home and provides comfort to active military personnel.

Like Sassy, Darby does therapy work at Beaumont Hospital and has recently started participating in a number of library reading programs. Darby and her mom Carrie Joes recently got together with our troop's own CGC evaluator, Diane Schuler and her therapy dog Odie where Darby passed her CGCU test. Darby is the 10th dog in our troop to pass this test.

Throughout the winter Sam has continued to do the work he loves with the veterans at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor and recently was asked to do a very special job and provide some fun for the employees at the corporate office of Pet Supplies Plus in Livonia. Sam is a regular in the office and is there most every Friday where his favorite things to do are welcoming potential franchises and going to meetings. But his recent assignment was done





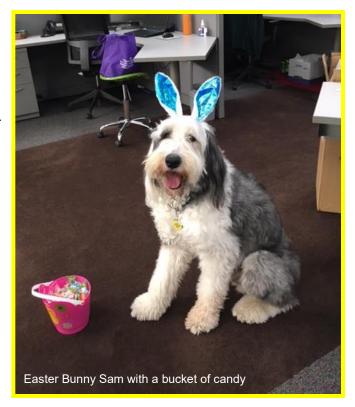
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Troop 217—MI (cont.)

in secret where he played the role of Easter Bunny and hid plastic eggs for the employees to find. He also helped to create candy buckets to put in various locations in the office. Employees were surprised when they came in on a Monday morning to discover what Sam had been up to over the weekend. We think he made a very cute bunny!



Katie and I traveled to Chicago for three days of fun at the Chicagoland Pet Expo over the St. Patrick's Day weekend with the Rock 'N' Roll K9s. We really love these kinds of events because not only does she get to show off her talents during our shows but she also acts as an ambassador for her breed and we get to talk to people about how Dog Scouts has helped us to accomplish all of the things that she is able to do. She has her own Dog Scout business cards that we handed out as we walked around the event venue so that people can contact us or go to the web site for more information about our troop and the organization.





Our troop has many community events coming up and we will be planning and preparing for both letterboxing and geocaching events. We are also looking forward to many more outdoor events as warmer weather comes to Michigan.

Troop 230—TX

Kristen Keeling—Troop Leader

January is usually our month to gather and reflect on our goals for the year. During this time we had our first planning meeting of 2018. Wow, our troop members are creative and brought to the table some unique ideas which we can't wait to showcase in future newsletters.

February 19th we held our 3rd annual Sweetheart Supper with Your Pooch. This time of year it is easy to remember your human loves, but who takes the time to give their loyal four-legged love some much needed attention? We do! Even with a last minute change of date due to some severe weather that dropped in, we still had a great time and our pups enjoyed their

special Valentines treats.













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Troop 230—TX (cont.)

March 3rd several of us gathered to explore Geocaching for our monthly meeting. Troop leader Kristen Keeling led us through the mechanics of Geocaching and then we were on the hunt. Geocaching is a fun and unique activity to do with your dogs. We had several good laughs as we expanding on our compass skills. Many thanks for member Rick Schmitt who offered his knowledge base to the team. We are looking forward to going again!

























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Troop 230—TX (cont.)

March 17th we had a huge turnout for our 3rd Annual Doggy Easter Egg Hunt. This even grows every year. Last year we had close to 350 eggs; this year we had right at 1,000 eggs "hidden" in the park for the pups to find. We need to take the time to say thank you to

Beth Ann Geesing and Beth Head for securing treat donations from Petco:

Kristen Keeling for the freeze dried liver, chicken and salmon treats to further stink up the eggs;

and probably most importantly to

the wonderful **Pat Keeling** who took the time to stuff all 1,000 eggs on her own. Of course, she couldn't have done it without the faithful companionship and sampling of treats by her little Zana.

As always, it was very interesting to watch the dogs as they picked up their new skill. Often they would pick a favorite smell and will step right over eggs with alternate smells just to be rewarded with that new favorite treat! We had to watch the excited two legged kids to make sure they didn't

find a new favorite treat as well. However the Petco animal cookies were enjoyed by animals and their humans alike.

This year the news station heard about our event and came out to film us which made the 10 p.m. newscast. We were so excited that we had the chance to spread the word about Dog Scouts.

























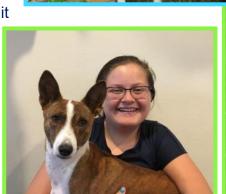


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Troop 230—TX (cont.)

After the Easter Egg Hunt, we all had the pleasure of watching our youngest member, Aspen get checked off for her Junior Scout badge. Apsen (a girl scout) and her parents have consistently come to our events over the last 2+ years. We have watched her mature and the dogs excel with their training. While she will be the first to admit they still have a ways to go, we are excited as a Troop to stand behind her in her journey. Big congratulations to Aspen and Nala.

Next Aspen will be working with Lana to achieve her Junior Scout badge, but she is still a little young while Nala is more settled.





We have two really fun events coming up in April:

Arts and Crafts: the Snuffle Mat. Our April meeting will be a creative one as our members join together to create unique snuffle mats for their dogs. We welcome anyone interested to come join us as we walk through the process step by step. For additional information visit: https://www.facebook.com/events/591360707877245

Paint your Pet will be held on April 28th at Kawa's Hibachi Grill & Lounge. Paint your Pet is our annual fundraiser for troop funds. We hire an artist to sketch your pet (doesn't have to be a dog) on a canvas. Then he comes and leads our group through painting our masterpiece. No, you do NOT need artistic talent. (Lord knows I don't have any!) It is an awesome experience. Pictures from the last party can be found at:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/ETxDSATroop230/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1330157417_029655. Cost is \$52. Fee includes the artist's sketch of your picture on a canvas, the supply of paint, brushes and artistic coaching. For optional fun, many members will be having lunch together afterward. For additional information visit:

https://www.facebook.com/events/1644753822278556/

May's monthly meeting will be held at the lake so that everyone can work on their water safety skills. We will also be holding another planning meeting to work on the calendar for the next couple of months.

In June, we are officially rolling Troop 230 into another city: Longview, Texas. We are so excited to be joined by some amazing ladies in Longview who wish to bring the wonderful world of Dog Scouts into their community. Further, we will be participating in the City of Longview's 4th of July celebration.

For information about Troop 230 or any of our activities, please reach out to Kristen Keeling at easttexasdsa@yahoo.com.



The challenge is taking place in a private Facebook group where we check in, post pics of our pups and walking locations. By using an app to log our miles some of us are EARNING MONEY for Dog Scouts - just by walking our dogs!

The challenge can be an incentive for geocache excursions, logged as a K-9 Fitness activity, or (if you take the required trail items along) the miles will count for the Backpacking or Hiking titles. If you're on Facebook and missed this challenge keep an eye out for the next one . . . Walk-walk, WIN-WIN!

Tachi (183)

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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: 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

Video Evaluation: DSAVideoEval@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Julie Benson — bensonjulie@earthlink.net Evaluator Certification: Chris Kloski — ChrisBill1966@gmail.com

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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

(Also for newsletter distribution)