

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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Deadline: for the next newsletter is
January 15th

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

Scrapbooking Observations

by Lonnie Olson

I recently decided it was time to dig through all of my digital photos since about year 2000, and create scrapbooks for my dogs, whose photos have not been entered into one since everything went digital back then. I had about 15 years of camp photo disks/flash drives to look through, with several camps and/or mini camps, outings, retreats, or other doggie get-togethers in each year. That was a LOT of photos to go through! Here are some observations I thought I'd share with you.

It was like a walk down memory lane. I not only got to see and copy photos of my own dogs' escapades, but I enjoyed looking back over the years, and seeing all of the campers who have been at the Michigan, Texas, and Maryland Camps, or outings. Some of the photos were heartwarming, and sometimes, I was lucky enough to actually be there when the photographer took a certain photo of a dog's "breakthrough" moment, or success at something unexpected. These photos brought many smiles to my face, and I noticed several things that I may have been taking for granted. As Thanksgiving time grows near, I thought it was a good time to think about a few things that I am grateful for.

First, I'm grateful for our wonderful camp photographers. Without them, we wouldn't have these photos in the first place. Somehow, they are able to capture our precious moments perfectly, and preserve the memories that will bring those smiles to our faces. They work very hard, and always seem to capture that priceless shot. Where would we be without our photographer friends? It's so hard for us to get a picture of ourselves with our dogs, doing something amazing. But they're always there to get it for us. Praise be to the photographers!

Next, I noticed the smiling faces of all the campers. We've got campers who have been coming to camp for 23 years, and folks that have only come once, and we never saw again. But all of them seem to have one thing in common. They look like they're having the time of their lives. And what's more, their dogs look like they're having the time of their lives. It brings joy to my heart, and a smile to my face, to be able to witness the campers' triumphs, "ah-ha" moments, or even a quiet snuggle with their canine companions. The dogs always seem to have a look on their faces of, "I don't know what we're going to do next, but I know that it's going to be with my parent who loves me, and it's going to be fun!" Thanks be to all of the happy campers! The antics and hijinks captured in these photos have given me many a good laugh.

Another thing I noticed in the photos was the abundance of shots of the camp staff giving special help to campers. I saw lots of shots of staff with someone else's dog, when they were obviously lending a hand to a camper in need. I saw staff working with people at times that were not their scheduled class times. I saw staff helping dogs that needed to just complete one last thing to earn that badge. I always knew that I had a great staff (as do the other DSA camps), but this brought to my attention how very hard they work to make sure that the campers are having fun, and success at what they're doing. God bless the unsung heroes of the Dog Scout Camps: the wonderful staff. I am so thankful for their hard work.

Lastly, but probably most importantly, as I looked through all of these photos, it wasn't just my dogs' photos that I enjoyed seeing, but the many shots of the great friends I have made through the years, thanks to Dog Scouts. All of the close friends and people I value most in the world, are members of DSA. When I think of all the people that were just another face at camp in the beginning, but are now lifelong friends, it makes me very happy. And I'm not alone. I know many people who have become friends after meeting at camp, and maintain their friendships (some even long distance), still. Even the ones who have passed on... While I miss them, and they are gone from my sight, I cherish the memories that we had together, and am so glad to have known them. I am so thankful for the many lasting friendships that I have had the opportunity to make. I'm thankful to DSA for bringing us together.



Badge Bulletin and Title Tails

Requirements for the new Agility Partners merit badge:

Each of the required drills are described and illustrated in the Agility Partners Criteria and Course Designs document on the website. Be sure to familiarize yourself with this document before starting on the Check-off Sheet listed below.



Agility Partners Check Sheet:

All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward based methods. This is an advanced badge designed for dogs that understand course sequencing. Each of the courses must be completed exactly as designed. Because the intent of the badge is to improve teamwork, speed and handling skills each handler must complete the requirements with his or her own dog.

_____ **Prerequisite for this badge is Agility 1 and/or Agility 2**

_____ Dog must be able to successfully perform all obstacles included in the drills below including jumps of any type, tunnels and a minimum of 6 weave poles.

_____ **Handler must be able to demonstrate front, rear and blind crosses and a shoulder pull and describe specific course demands that require these moves.**

_____ **Handler and dog must complete both straight line course designs. Additionally, dog must complete a distance challenge of at least 2 jumps in this sequence, with the handler remaining behind the plane of the first jump and sending the dog out.**

_____ **Handler and dog must successfully complete the 4 leaf Clover/Stationary Handler Drill successfully and within the provided parameters.**

_____ **Handler and dog must successfully complete the Reverse Flow with Circle drill.**

_____ **Handler and dog must successfully complete the Offset Serpentine Drill. Handler must demonstrate efficiency of movement to drive the dog's path. Handler should be able to explain his/her choices for handler crosses, path, etc. with an understanding of how handler movement drives success for the dog.**

_____ **Handler and dog must successfully complete the 3 timed drills as follows:**

_____ **The Speed Circles drill must be completed in 25 seconds or less**

_____ **The Weave Entry Challenge must be completed in 15 seconds or less.**

_____ **The Speed Weaves drill must be completed in 25 seconds or less.**

_____ **Handler and dog must successfully complete the Backside Threadle w/Pull drill. Handler must be able to explain his/her movements in relationship to the dog's path.**

As a reminder, the text in bold are the skills/behaviors that must be demonstrated by video or for the badge evaluator.

Check out the website for information on how to earn the Parkour 1 and Agility Partners merit badges.

Trails Bulletin

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

Virtual Letterbox Event Report: Dog Scout Day

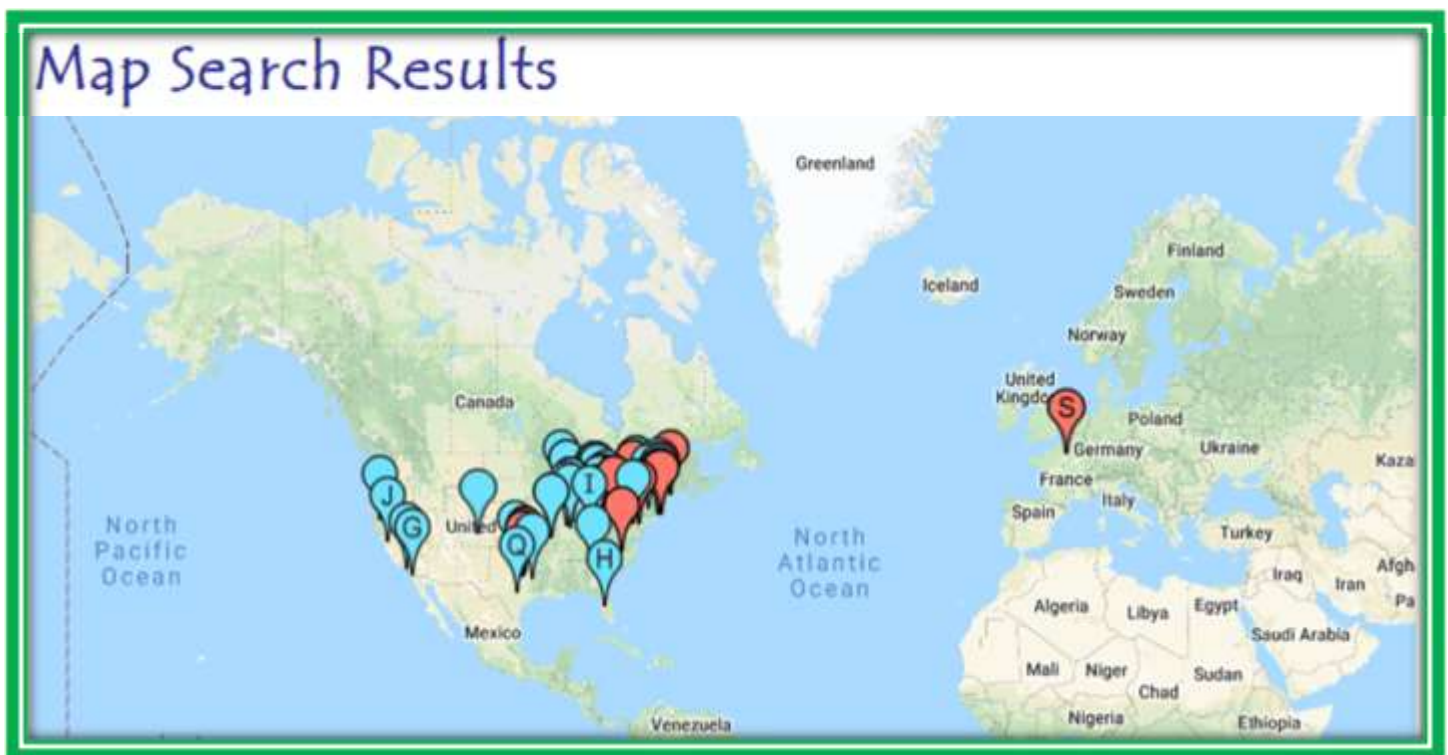
For 5 years Dog Scouts has run a Virtual Letterbox event to celebrate Dog Scouts. We have had letterboxes planted all over the USA from the East Coast to the West Coast. I was stunned to find that we even had one planted in FRANCE!!

Virtual Letterbox Events are special events posted on AtlasQuest usually to celebrate an event. Virtual events that will count for the title will be ones that require you to plant a new letterbox. Dog Scouts has organized 5 such events to celebrate Dog Scouts during September. The rules are simple, all you need to do is plant a box with the theme and box name described in the event listing in AtlasQuest.

The 2018 theme was “Lonnie’s Birthday”

The box name was “DOG SCOUT DAY 2018: ____”.

The boxes have to be planted as a traditional box, no event boxes or hitchhikers or personal travelers. And they have to be listed on AtlasQuest.com. These can be used as planted boxes for your LB badges or part of the requirements for your Letterboxing titles.



Trails Bulletin (cont.)

~~~~~ 2014 (22)

Dog Scout Day: DSA Honor Scout Stryker, sheltie  
Mt Gilead State Park, 4119 Ohio 95, Mt Gilead, OH

DOG SCOUT DAY: Spot-Dalmatian  
Planet Earth

Dog Scout Day: Zora Puggle and Her Bear  
Hazelnut Hill Rd, Groton, CT

Dog Scout Day: Zora Puggle  
Hazelnut Hill Rd, Groton, CT

Dog Scout Day: A tribute to Reilly-Westie  
Downingtown, PA

Dog Scout Day: Bogey, my Beagle  
Urbana, IL

Dog Scout Day: Ginger  
Mission Trails Regional Park, Santee, CA

Dog Scout Day: Duffy the Golden  
Lakeland Highlands Scrub Park, 6998 Lakeland Highlands Rd,  
Lakeland, FL

Dog scout Day: Charles  
1500 Woodside Dr, Florence, KY

Dog Scout Day: Scone the Golden Retriever  
Montgomery Hill Park, Approx 3266 Falls Creek Dr,  
San Jose, CA

Dog Scout Day: Tribute to Stuart  
Mansfield, TX

DOG SCOUT DAY: Lacey, Lexie and Pete; my two Boston  
Terriers and Plott hound  
Galion, OH

Dog Scout Day: Schnutz & Yeelof-Doxies (2)  
Jamesville, NY

Dog Scout Day: Dixie, Basset Hound  
Rose Hill Burial Park, 3653 W Market St, Akron, OH

DOG SCOUT DAY: Boo & Pumpkin, Marvelous Mutts (2)  
Boylston, MA

Dog Scout Day: In the Memory of Caesar DSA PDX  
Planet Earth

DOG SCOUT DAY: Steel awaiting a command  
Outback Steakhouse, 2402 N Prospect Ave, Champaign, IL

Dog Scout "Just Harry"  
West Thompson Dam, North Grosvenor Dale, CT

Dog Scout "Sachet"  
West Thompson Dam, North Grosvenor Dale, CT

Dog Scout Day: Spot-Dalmatian  
Durham, NC

Dog Scout Says "No Creepy Things Here" only a Bright Caterpillar  
N Central Expy & W Renner Rd, Richardson, TX

Dog Scout asks "Where did that Butterfly go?"  
N Central Expy & W Renner Rd, Richardson, TX

~~~~~ 2015 (11)

DOG SCOUT DAY 2015: Liberty My Basset Hound
St Joseph, IL

DOG SCOUT DAY 2015: Pluto / Bloodhound
Marne-la-Vallée, Île-de-France, France

Dog Scout Day 2015: Sassy- Golden Retriever
Lower Huron Metropark, E Huron River Dr & S Metro Parkway,
Belleville, MI

Dog Scout Day 2015: Drizzle, Siberian Husky □
Dexter-Huron Metropark, 6535 Huron River Drive, Dexter, MI

Dog Scout Day 2015: Tempest, Basenji
12140 Oak Ridge Dr, Rolla, MO

DOG SCOUT DAY 2015: Remi Pug
Mill St, Clinton, WI

DOG SCOUT DAY 2015: Cannon and Aggie, Corgis
Charro Ranch Park, FM 150, Dripping Springs, TX

DOG SCOUT DAY 2015- In loving memory of Buddy-Mutt
Butterfly Garden Of Hope, Onondaga Lake Pkwy, Liverpool, NY

DOG SCOUT DAY 2015 - Sleepy Puggle
Meridian St Ext, Groton, CT

Dog Scout Day 2015: Katie - Old English Sheepdog
Gallup Park, Ann Arbor, MI

Dog Scout Day 2015: Sam - Old English Sheepdog
Plymouth-Ann Arbor Rd, Ann Arbor, MI

REMINDER
Spaces are filling for the Michigan
June and July Summer Camps:

June 17-22, 2019
July 15-20, 2019

Go to
[http://dogscouts.org/base/camp-](http://dogscouts.org/base/camp-info/mi-dog-scout-camp/)
[info/mi-dog-scout-camp/](http://dogscouts.org/base/camp-info/mi-dog-scout-camp/)

to put your deposit down and
reserve your spot, now!

There's lots of information on the
linked page about camp rules, ex-
pectations and how you can prepare
your dog to have a wonderful time at
Camp.

Any questions, please e-mail
dogscoutcamp@gmail.com

Trails Bulletin (cont.)

~~~~~ 2016 (13)

Dog Scout Day 2016: Sassy at the Lake (2)
Clark Rd, New Boston, MI

Dog Scout Day 2016 - Argo
Lake Williams, Jacobus, PA

DOG SCOUT DAY 2016: Howling
Bud Kelley Park, 1605 Kelleytown Rd, McDonough, GA

DOG SCOUT DAY 2016: Swimming like a Duck
Bluff Point State Park, Groton, CT

DOG SCOUT DAY 2016: Dogs! Riding in canoes!
Scott Brook, Route 12, Fitzwilliam, NH

Dog Scout Day 2016: Sniffing
Moon Park, 1350 Joe DeNardo Way (Ewing Road),
Moon, PA

Dog Scout Day 2016 - Purrfect Painter
Westerly, RI

Dog Scout Days 2016: Fun at the Beach (3)
Dog Beach , Newport Beach, CA

Dog Scout Day 2016: Tempest and Bolt, Basenji
Blues Lake Pkwy, Rolla, MO

Dog Scout Day 2016: Hiking in the Garden
Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, 799 Pinkerton Run Rd, Oakdale, PA

Dog Scout Day 2016: Remi Pug II
w8450 Buckhorn Park Ave, Necedah, Village of, WI

DOG SCOUT DAY 2016: Run Roscoe Run
Riverside Park, Ypsilanti, MI

Dog Scout Day 2016: Ear Scratchin'
McKinney, TX

~~~~~ 2017 (6)

DOG SCOUT DAY 2017: Dog Gone Good
Poets Walk, 776 River Rd, Red Hook, NY

Dog Scout Day 2017: Belly Rubs
2807 Philo Rd, Urbana, IL

DOG SCOUT DAY 2017: Shake
Fletcher Park, 323 Fletcher Park Blvd, Mount Zion, IL

DOG SCOUT DAY 2017: Lure Coursing
Hamilton Park, Wichita Falls, TX

DOG SCOUT DAY 2017: FETCH!
1501 E Perkins Rd, Urbana, IL

DOG SCOUT DAY 2017: Hiking
Hogback Open Space, Washington St, Canon City, CO

~~~~~ 2018 (7)

Dog Scout Day 2018: Puppy Playtime
3393 W Grande Blvd, Tyler, TX

DOG SCOUT DAY 2018: Teckel
1701 Dewitt Ave, Mattoon, IL

Dog Scout Day 2018 - Christmas Birthday Boy
North Stonington, CT

Dog Scout Day 2018: Pug Life
5605 E Rockton Rd, Roscoe, IL

DOG SCOUT DAY 2018: Zuki
Ulysses, NY

Dog Scout Day 2018: The Rock Hound
230 Center St, Hayfork, CA

DOG SCOUT DAYS 2018: Harry
Brunswick, ME

Happy Trails!



TROOP LEADERS REMINDER—End of Year Reports will be due in January. We'll e-mail an update on the changes to Troop Administration as soon as they're finalized.

Rainbow Bridge

Peggy Zweber

12/31/1945 – 10/18/2018

I met Peggy Zweber in 2004, when she first attended Dog Scout Camp with her dogs, Charlie and Nikki. Soon afterward, Peggy volunteered to edit and publish the DSA Newsletter, which she did for many years. She also served on the Board of Directors for DSA, until her health precluded her from performing her duties, and she regrettably stepped down. The last few years of her life, she was unable to attend camp, which made her very sad. Her goal was to get well enough to eventually be able to return to camp.



When Peggy came to camp in 2010, Nikki's illness forced Peggy to take her to the vet. There was nothing they could do to help her sick and aged dog, so Nikki was put to sleep. Nikki was the first ever dog who died during a Dog Scout camp. We've had some pretty ancient dogs attend, and we thought we might lose them while they were at camp (what a way to go—doing your favorite thing!), but Nikki was the first. I couldn't imagine what Peggy must have been feeling. We'd lost a member of our DSA family... one of our own. So I put the flag at half mast for Nikki. When Peggy came back from the vet and saw this, she was so moved that we would lower the flag, as if Nikki were a person. Peggy decided to fund a memorial scholarship in Nikki's name, which Peggy funded in full, until she could no longer afford it, due to mounting medical bills, and having to have the dogs boarded while she was in the hospital or extended care facility.



Peggy was a staunch supporter of DSA. She would always donate to fundraisers when she was able to. She donated money for improvement of the pond area, and many other DSA projects.

Her dogs were always a source of joy and pleasure for her, and she competed with them in many sports, like dock diving, barn hunt, and agility. They really loved lure coursing, and she could barely get them out to the lure field without help, as they were straining for their turn to go. She enjoyed IMPROV with her dogs, and got them titled through DSA, and became a DSA IMPROV Obedience Judge.

Toward the end, her friends at the Peoria Obedience Training Club were there for her. Visiting her, seeing to her dogs' well-being, and talking on the phone.

Sadly, she passed in October. No more illness, no more hospitals. Her dogs have been adopted into loving homes. She is at peace. We will remember her in our hearts and minds as a kind and generous person.



Scout Scoop & Troop Tales

What Happens When it is Time to Retire from DSA Camp

By: Sassy Neu

It's hard for us dogs to admit, but there comes a point in our lives when we need to start slowing down and enjoy the simpler things in life. This is not easy, and it is especially difficult to give up some of our favorite things. This is exactly what happened to me this past summer. I have been attending DSA Camp in Michigan for the last eight years.

These were some of the best times of my life. I got to try new things, earn lots of merit badges, make new friends, but most importantly, I got to spend quality time with my mom (Michelle). This was the thing I enjoyed most. Unfortunately, this past summer, I slowly began to realize that I was slowing down and that camp was going to be too much for me. So, with a very heavy heart, I talked my mom into retiring us from DSA Camp.



I wasn't the only one who had to make this difficult decision. My best friend, and longtime fellow camper, Shelby Benson, made the same choice. Even though we both knew this was the right thing to do, it was still hard, and we found ourselves with a lot of extra time on our paws. What could we do to fill this time? What do others who have retired do with their time? Then it hit us; it's time to travel and see the sights. This seems to be what everyone else does when they retire, so why not us? So Shelby and I had a talk with our moms and it was decided we would pack the car and head down to Hocking Hills, Ohio to explore the caves.

This was exciting because neither of us had been on this long of trip with our moms before, and really who doesn't love a road trip. The thing with my mom is that she has not mastered the art of packing. Julie and Shelby really teased my mom about the amount of stuff she packed, but that's okay because we were prepared for anything. The trip started with a stop at Starbucks, Puppuccinos all around, then we were off. The ride wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. Mom stopped once so we could walk around, and once for lunch. This was perfect, and before we knew it, we were at the hotel. PARTY TIME!!!



We didn't waste any time. Once we checked in and unpacked the car, we were off to hit the trails. The first stop was Rock House. It was here I thought this trip may have been a bad idea. We made it down the trail to the steps. One look at those and I knew my arthritic back could not handle it. I did not want to spoil anyone else's fun, so my mom stayed with me and Julie and Shelby attempted the trail. When they returned, they told us it was a good thing we stayed behind. They had a hard time as well, and did not make it all the way

either. Shelby told me later how lucky I was to have stayed behind because the trail was scary and difficult. Sorry to say, that made me feel better. Regardless, it was just fun being out in the open air with my mom and best friends.

Dinner that night was at Millstone BBQ. This is a very yummy, very pet friendly restaurant right next to our hotel. They like to spoil dogs and I got my own bucket of Bud Light (it was really just water in a Bud Light bucket, but so what). Of course I would have shared with Shelby, but the bucket was a little too big for her. Our moms had a great meal. They even shared some of the corn muffins with us, then it was back to the hotel to rest up for the next day.



Camp Retirement (cont.)

Day two brought us to Old Man's Cave. I was nervous after the previous days adventure, but this hike was fun. There were interesting twists and turns; steep steps and long drops. I liked to make my mom nervous by walking on the edge of ledges, but I knew she would protect me. The rock formations and dark entryways made for an awesome time, but of course my favorite part was the water. When mom wasn't looking, I managed to take a quick dip. I figured I deserved it after all the pictures she took. Shelby had a great time too. She told me that her favorite part was going down the steps and into the dark cavern. She said it was scary at first, but once my mom pulled out the flashlight on her phone, it made everything better. This is an amazing place, and it was unfortunate we could not stay longer. Soon it was off to the winery so mom and Julie could relax too.



Day three was by far my favorite. First we went to Cedar Falls. This trail had 100 steps all the way down. Some were easy, but others posed a challenge. Despite that, we made it down, and finished the short walk to the falls (Of course our moms took about 100 pictures along the way). This was a beautiful spot and after another 100 pictures, mom let me go swimming. It felt so good. I could have stayed there forever. Even Shelby took a dip. I love it when she gets in the water with me. I was so proud of her. When it was time to say goodbye to this spot, mom said not to worry; our next spot had a swimming hole too. This made saying goodbye a little easier.

The final stop on the trip was Ash Cave. We saved this one for last because it has a handicap accessible trail. We knew it would be easier, and after two days of challenging walks, this was a blessing. Even Shelby was able to walk the whole trail and didn't have to rely on being carried in her basket. It was a short walk to the cave, where once again we saw some amazing rock formations and, of course, WATER!! After some more pictures, mom let me go swimming again - I had a blast. Shelby went in for a little bit too.



Later that day, we found a nice little spot at a beach on Lake Logan for us to go swimming some more. This was our last hoorah before heading back to the hotel to pack for our journey home the next day.

Of course the trip wasn't all just hikes, we made stops at two ice cream shops for afternoon treats and Mom and Julie enjoy some beer samplings at the local Brewery. Dogs were allowed in the building, and it was turning out to be a hot day, so Shelby and I appreciated the air conditioning!!

When the morning came to head home, it was really hard to say goodbye, but the trip couldn't last forever. The entire area was beautiful and super dog friendly. All of the dogs had really responsible owners, and everyone got along great!



Troop 119—TX

Cindy Ratliff

Troop 119 gathered in September for the Dog Scout class and work on check offs. We're happy to report we had two new troop Scouts at the end of the day as well as a couple more just a behavior or two away from passing. Congratulations to Stella Romano (proud parents are Mike & Connie Romano) and Sasha Blais (proud mom is Diana Blais).



Stella



Sasha

We had a new adventure in October! The water dogs of Troop 119 made a short trek to an area dock diving facility!

We got rain right up until the time of our reservation then the sun came out and we had a great day! A few of the dogs had tried it before but for most, it was a new experience.

The dogs and their humans had a great day and got a taste of a new sport.



Rouen



Boomer testing the water



Texie retrieves her stick



Alex' first dock dive



Sasha



Diva shows off her dock diving skills

Troop 119—TX (cont.)

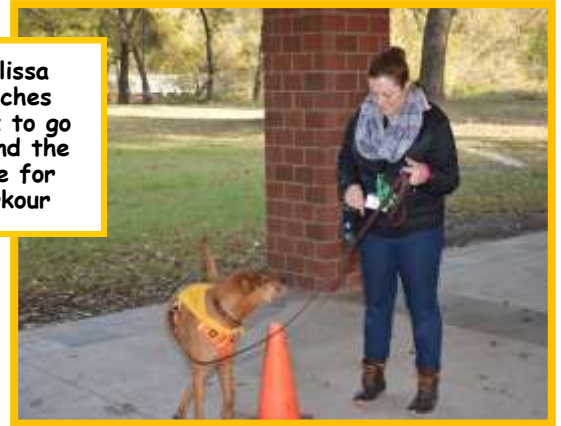
In November, we had our annual Texas Mini-Camp and this year celebrated our 15th year! We had a great group of campers, dogs and staff.

We had lots of favorite activities as well as our first introduction to badges like parkour, copy cat and scent hurdle racing.

**Cheryl & Biscuit
work it out in the
Copy Cat class**



**Melissa
teaches
Marz to go
around the
cone for
Parkour**



**Chance
practicing
for Scent
Hurdle
Racing**



**Sage
finds the
correct
dumbbell
during
Scent
Hurdle
Racing**



**Stevie Ray loves the
puzzle games class**



We also had lots of other great non-badge activity classes like puzzle games, dealing with distractions, location markers and making enrichment toys.

**Austin & Cheryl
discussing leave it**



**Leah & Kira
leaving the bird**





Geo enjoying water fun



Maureen introducing Lacey to the scooter



Senior camper dog, Jasper, (age 15) works on his Hiking badge



Casie & Geo on the hiking trails



Tammy & Andy enjoy backpacking



Abbie Liptak

proud parents are
Dennis & Susan



Andy Doak

proud mom is Tammy



Cinnamon Liptak

proud parents are
Dennis & Susan



Cosmo Blue

proud parents are
Jeff & Christina



Fancy Rasmussen

proud mom is Mette



Jet Severns

proud mom is Victoria



Joey Francis

proud mom is Donna



Marshal Waits

proud mom is Susan



We had another huge
auction and an over all
awesome camp.

We can't wait till next
year!!

Troop 157—FL ~ Broward Paw Patrol

Teresa Irvine

1. Jolie
2. Freckles
3. Falice
4. Lily
5. Sage
6. Rebel
7. Duncan
8. Lucy



Halloween Party and Contest

We had our Halloween meeting and party on October 27. Attendance wasn't huge but we had lots of fun and food for us and our pups.

We had a costume contest with 3 categories, the cutest, funniest and most original. With the small turnout everyone went home with a ribbon.

A great time was had by all and we also welcomed new troop member Grace and her pup Duncan.



Troop 157—FL (cont.)

Aston Gardens Halloween Parade

Halloween day at Aston Gardens was pawsitively spooktackular!

Troop 157 came parading through the assisted living facility dressed in their Halloween finest for their 3rd annual parade.

The costumes were amazing and the residents were delighted to see the large turnout of dogs! There were many varieties of outfits, from Diva dogs to witches, a prisoner and even a lion!

Diane Waring had Kanga and Roo handed out treats to all the residents.

Thanks to all who participated (pictured) and made this a successful visit:

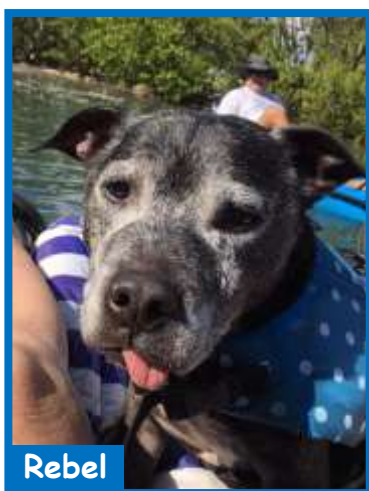
- ⇒ Christine & Clover (1, 7)
- ⇒ Lisa & Lily (4)
- ⇒ Jim & Shelby (3, 6)
- ⇒ Diane & Kanga & Roo (5)
- ⇒ Susan & Rocky (2, 6)
- ⇒ Linda & Jessie (1, 2, 6)



Troop 157—FL (cont.)



Freckles



Rebel



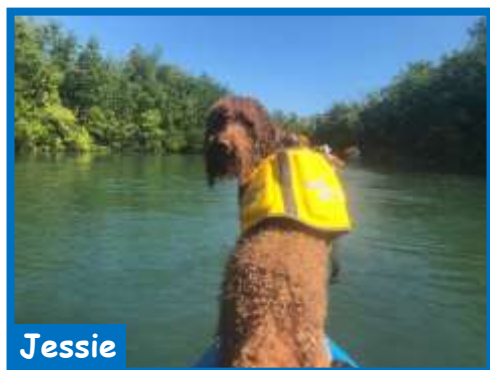
Jolie



Jessie



Grace



Jessie

A Day Out On The River Working On The Kayaking Badge

DSA Troop 157 spent their Saturday morning kayaking at Oleta State Park in North Miami Beach Florida.

Our troop leader, Christine, gave us guidance on how to keep our dogs calm and comfortable with positive reinforcements. As you can see, all our pups had a great relaxing time and the day couldn't have been better

Participants:
Lisa w/Marcel & Rebel
Maria & Jolie
Liz w/Ernie & Jessie
Patricia & Riley
Sura & Freckles



The Dog Scout Scoop

Canine Good Citizen Urban and Therapy Visits



On October 24th at Weston Town Center in Florida. Our scouts Jolie and Cody passed the CGCU test!!! We are very proud of these two pups. A great example of how hard work and dedication pay off. Great job Jolie and Cody! Additionally I would like to welcome Lisa and Cody as new troop members. It is great to have them apart of our troop.

Another shout out to Jasmine who visited the Broward Sheriff's Office, bringing about smiles while performing her tricks such as playing piano and painting for the kids. The kids love it and Jasmine does too. Kim has done a great job teaching Jasmine tricks leveraging all that she has learned through Dog Scouts. Great job Jasmine!



As we enter into the end of 2018 and look back it has been a fun year, full of learning and getting to know one another. Lastly, one of our end of year events we are looking forward to participating in is the virtual DSA Sparky's Turkey Trot. We had a great time last year meeting up the day after Thanksgiving, so we decided to schedule an event for the troop and participate again.



Happy Thanksgiving! :)

Troop 177—IN

Robin Porter

Troop members Anita Dudley & Darbey, Sharon Massey & Zena, Emily George & Lucy and Robyn Porter & Hallie went camping in Brown County, Indiana the fourth weekend in September. Brown County is in southern Indiana with rolling hills and beautiful trees. Sightseers flock here every fall to see the changing leaves.

A flattened rattlesnake on the paved road near our campsites reminded us we needed to exercise caution on the trail as well as around our sites. We had a wonderful, long hike in the woods and the light rain falling didn't bother us at all.



Bridge in the Woods
Sharon & Zena, Lucy,
Anita & Darbey and
Robyn & Hallie



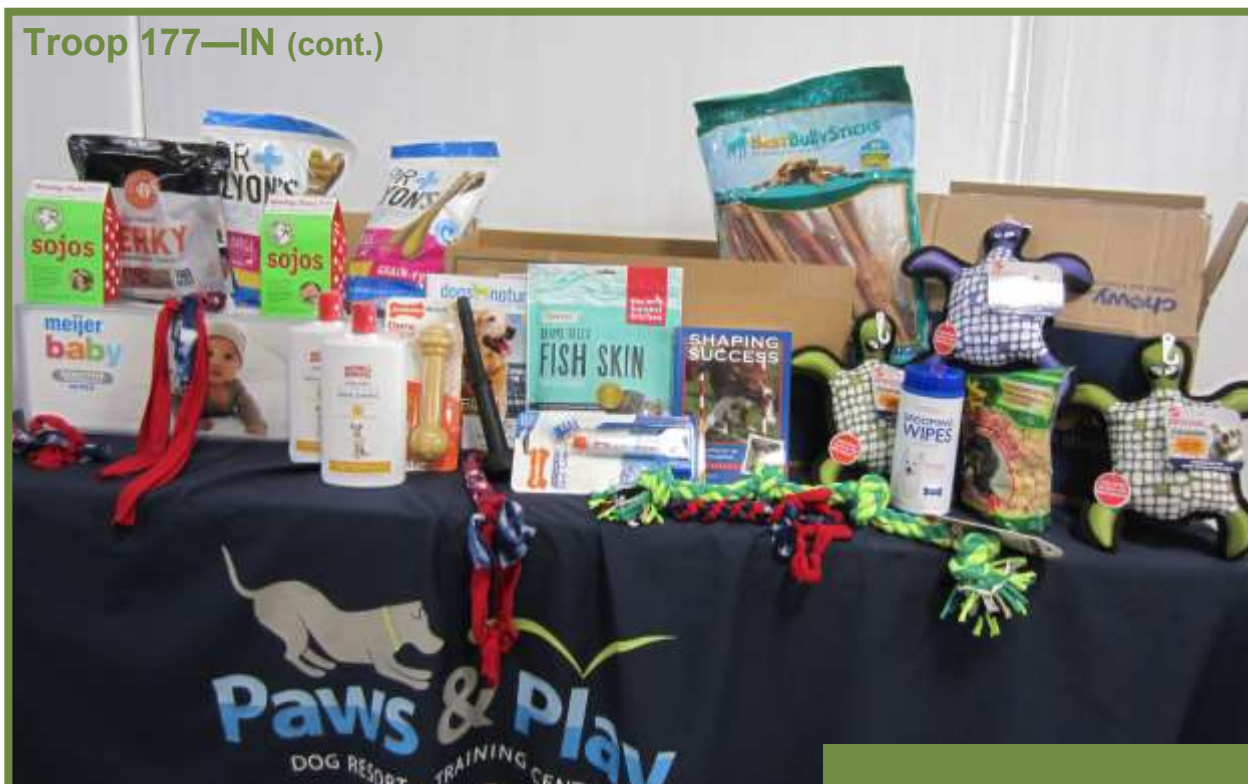
Park Bench in the Woods
Lucy, Darby, Zena &
Hallie

Greg & Gail Wiseman with Daisy, Emily George & Lucy and Sharon Massey with Zena are ready for the Ghost Tour!



In Indianapolis, the old Irvington neighborhood has winding streets, old houses and lots of history. Troop members joined the Ghost Tour on October 13. Tours are led by history buff and story teller extraordinaire Al Hunter. The tour is walking and stopping to listen to Al's stories in front of a house or location. So it's not an intense hike but a 1 ½ mile stroll. We were fascinated by history and ghost stories for a few hours on the clear, comfortable evening.

Troop 177—IN (cont.)



Troop 177's November 11 meeting was a busy one! Again this year we gathered items to donate to Sharon Massey's Soldier's Angel contact, a K9 handler stationed in the Middle East.

Troop members Peggy Kraus with Casey & Penny, Sharon Massey & Zena, Amy Heard & Star, Jayna with her children Carly and Jayden with Piper, Emily George & Lucy joined Robyn Porter with Hallie & Griffin for scent practice.



Zena is all about the search!



Casey completes his search



Emily praises Lucy!



Lucy's Party Pose



Hallie's 10th Birthday Party

After scent practice we celebrated Hallie Porter's 10th birthday!

There were doggie cookies made with organic ingredients in fun shapes including hearts, dog bones, poodles (of course) and little poop piles (gross!). Apple muffins with Greek yogurt and peanut butter icing were special treats. There was a photo backdrop for all the party dogs and everyone went home with a gift bag!



Hallie & Griffin wait for cupcakes

Happy Birthday Hallie!



Penny & Casey Pose



Zena Poses



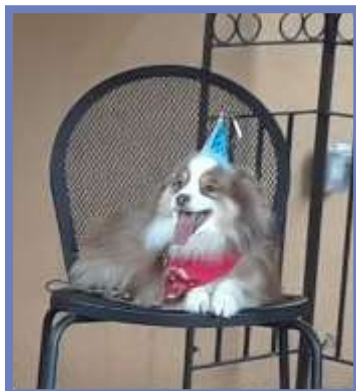
Piper & Star Pose

Troop 183—FL

Shirley Conley—Troop Leader

July

One Sunday afternoon in July we got together for lunch with our pups at Broadway Ristorante Pizzeria in Altamonte Springs. It turned out LeeRoy was celebrating his 10th birthday, so we took photos and the dogs got a celebratory cookie. LeeRoy's birthday basket came with a rainbow chicken that played the chicken dance . . . some of our dogs thought that chickens should not be dancing! Deb Wood joined us and gave us a little more information on the Community Canine and Urban Canine tests that are offered by AKC, which some of our members are interested in testing for. We enjoyed our food, and the dogs were well behaved.



August

In late August we got together at Argos Family Diner in Apopka, and had lunch on the patio. We chatted to some of the other guests at the restaurant about dogs, while ours relaxed by our chairs. We're very thankful for the Florida restaurants with patios that allow for us to share more time in public with our canine companions.

September

No organized activities this month, although a couple of us did get together for a walk along the boardwalk of Sunset Park in Mount Dora, then we went up the hill into down for an iced beverage on the balcony of One Flight Up, where dogs are allowed.

October

Troop members and guests gathered at Wilson's Landing in Sanford to do some tracking. Most members and guests do not track, so we started out laying hydration intensified tracks, then re-walking the track and dropping treats along our path. Once laid we let our dogs self-reinforce by eating the treats and associating them with having their nose on the track. We did short straight line tracks then moved to one and two turns. Some of our dogs used their eyes instead of their noses to find the article at the end of the track, so we tried different colored articles to make them less visible. Most of the dogs had successful tracks. We do need to be careful about ants when working on grass, so perhaps next time we do this we'll work at a vacant parking lot.



Troop 183—FL (cont.)

November

Busy troop members were unable to meet in November for the scheduled troop hike, so as representative for Troop 183, Tachi and I met up with Lonnie, Caper & Kozi, (Troop 101), Claudette, Delta and Yaegar (Troop 101) and Sally and Katie (Troop 217) for a day of letterboxing and Turkey Trotting in Crystal River. (See the group picture under Troop 217's updates).

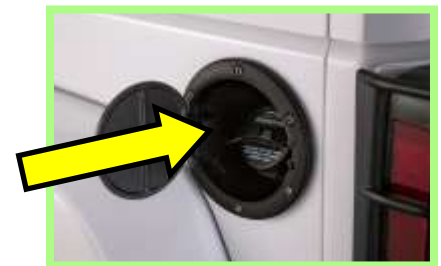


It seemed like no sooner had Lonnie, Sally, and Claudette hopped out of their vehicle and made their introductions, than they were presenting me with the Grace Stevens Excellence in Writing Award for 2017. It was a lovely surprise to receive the award in person.

Once we had harnesses, backpacks, walking sticks and leashes in order we followed the directions for our first letterbox.



The interesting thing about treasure hunts, which I'm sure the pirates of old found when following a map, topography Changes—updated trails, landmarks or landscaping, along with erosion, new soil deposits and weathering can sometimes make it difficult to find the exact location of the hide or cause you to second guess that you're going in the right direction! Little tips I learned during our hunt—when reading directions, a step is one step, a pace is 2 steps, walking sticks come in handy when rummaging around between rocks and vegetation, bring extra bags and supplies so that if you find a hide that is damaged, you can add a new temporary notepad and update the ziplock bags within the box. And maybe everyone else already knew this and I'm a little slow, but I also learned that if you have to pack out “doggie-bags” because there are no trash cans on the trail, put the bags in the space inside the gas door around gas cap so you're not gagging inside the vehicle on the way home . . . Genius!!



We found 1 out of the 3 letterboxes we went looking for, but the excuse to get out with my dog in perfect weather and get to know more about the people I've been in contact with on-line for a number of years far out-weighed any disappointment, plus the letter box we found was the third one we looked for, so we ended on a high note.

If you're looking for an excuse to get other family members out of the house and into some gentle exercise, playing up the treasure hunting aspect of letterboxing and geocaching might be the way to go. There are not many letterboxes close to where I live, but since for the letterboxing badge I will need to plant some, I'm already thinking about dog-friendly locations that will encourage other dog owners to get involved. Who knows, if I plant them perhaps they will come and in return plant their own letterboxes. Crystal River is a glorious location and there were many places that were dog friendly that could prompt a return trip with my family or other troop members.

Troop 188—CT/RI

Amanda Wacasey

Fall activities are the highlight of our year. So much to do before the holidays and colder temperatures.

New for Troop 188 was our Canine Activities Fair. We partnered with our local Vo-Ag school and held our first day long event offering a variety of events and vendors. The weather was challenging, but in true Farm Dog fashion, many of our Troop members and a few new friends earned their Farm Dog Certification and Community Canine (CGCA) Tiles.



FARM DOG CERTIFICATION TEST & CANINE ACTIVITIES FAIR

**10 AM TO 3 PM
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10TH**

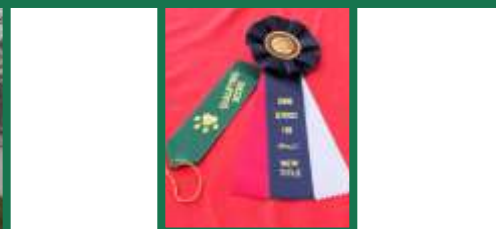
**@ Ledyard High School
24 Gallup Hill Road, Ledyard, CT**

Day of Entries Available for
AKC Farm Dog Certification Tests
Canine Good Citizen
Canine Good Citizen Advanced
Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dog
Trick Dog Titles

Stop by to learn more about the area's canine activities and services including:

| | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|
| Therapy Work | | Microchip Check |
| Scenting Sports | | Canine Communication |
| Obedience Training | | Rally-O |
| Canine Water Sports | | AKC Confirmation |

for more information
info@dsatroop188.com or DSATroop188.com
LEDYARD HIGH SCHOOL AGRI-SCIENCE & DOG SCOUT TROOP 188
All leashed dogs welcome / No Flexi-leashes allowed



Troops 198, 233 & 237—CA

Leah Lane—Event Coordinator

Fall has arrived, and the San Francisco Bay Area Troops are running through the leaves at full speed with all kinds of activities.

We are very proud to share the story of some true-life Dog Scout Super Heroes who jumped into action at our Dog Scout Howl-O-Ween Party.

Troop 198 had a different venue this year for our annual Howl-O-Ween Party. We were invited by the staff of Sunrise of Sunnyvale Senior Living to have our party at their facility. They provided the patio for our doggie games as well as hot dog bar, drinks and some tasty desserts for our tummies and they provided their lobby for our costume parade/contest. We made so many wonderful new friends. However, before the party could get started, one of the staff members came to us with a little lost poodle mix they found wandering in the parking lot on a very busy street. Three of our members sprang into action. Judy Rowley crated her dog Lilly and drove the lost dog to a nearby Petco and had the grooming department scan for a microchip, happily the dog had one. Judy called Bob and Debee Armstrong back at the party and relayed the microchip information. Bob and Debee who are very active in NorCal Golden Retriever Rescue, had access to a website to look up the owner information. They called the owner who was frantically putting up flyers for her lost dog, Betty. She had adopted Betty, the day before and just that morning had updated the microchip information. In the backyard, Betty climbed a trellis and escaped over the six-foot fence. Judy returned from Petco with Betty just before the owner showed up for their happy reunion. Since Judy was gone for most of the party performing her rescue duties, we did not get a picture of her and Lilly, but here is a shot of her and her beloved Luca at a troop training session.



Here is a shot of Bob and Debee with their Golden Retriever Max the pumpkin and Sharon with Scout the Ladybug and Sadie the Butterfly. Debee is on her phone with Judy at Petco obtaining the contact information on the owner of the lost dog, Betty.

While the rescuing of Betty was happening, the party did go on and we played games like Tic Tac Dog.

Here we have Wyatt as Superman, Duncan as Batman, Dayton as the cowardly lion, Spike, the naked Poodle mix, Maxwell the pumpkin, Scout the Ladybug and Rebel settling into the center square.



Troop 198—CA (cont.)



We also had a costume contest and parade through the facility, the contest was a tie between two families. Bailey and Crystal and their parents, Scott and Carlotta come dressed as hippies from the 60's sporting tie-dye shirts and leather vests.



The other dogs that tied for first place of the costume contest were Frodo dressed as a Taco and Crystal, pictured here as a hot dog. Their parents came in chef aprons and here is Patty serving up Crystal so one of the residents could easily pet her.



Here we have Lennie with Sadie dressed as Tigger enjoying a moment on the sunny patio during the party.



Here are Scout the Ladybug and Sadie the Butterfly with Mom Sharon showing off their costumes to the residents during the parade around the facility.



Wyatt as Superman and Duncan as Batman are enjoying some pets from the residents who are having a good time watching the dogs get their party on.



Here is a shot of Charlie the dog that lives at the facility. He joined in the party and was a very gracious host to all his guests.

Troop 198—CA (cont.)

The East Bay Troop 237 combined their meetings with training at Metro Dog in Richmond. First the meeting, Ruby and Poppy are taking it all in.



Then the Training.

Nancy and Tykie practice “leave it” with a tempting treat.



Katherine and Charlie practice some leave it critter training.



Poppy considers her options with that silly cat!

Troop 198—CA (cont.)



Troop 198 & Troop 233 had their meetings at Armadillo Willies in Santa Clara, where our pups practiced good restaurant manners. Here Bob is watching to make sure Max does nothing more than beg with his eyes from a distance.



Dayton is being very good just sitting under the table



Crystal and Frodo are the perfect doggie table guests



Crystal and Bailey are also minding their manners at table side with Carlotta as Kokoro enjoys sitting in Denise's lap after the meal.



Wyatt enjoys a cuddle from Debee after a great meal and a great meeting.



Here is Charlie and Kobi happily off leash.



Here are the Beach Boys, from left to right, Charlie, Maurice and Conner.



Conner is taking a break enjoying a beautiful day by the water.

Troop 198—CA (cont.)

Another event attend by Dog Scouts in our area was the Humane Society of Silicon Valley Fund Raiser, Tales & Ales. Here is a shot of some of our Dog Scouts posing with the HSSV mascot, Scamp. From Left to right you have Leah with Wyatt and Duncan, Lennie with Sadie, Scamp, Carlotta with Crystal and Scott with Bailey.



Bailey clearing the bars with great air.



Wyatt leaping the bars, not bad for an old man who turned 11 on Nov 14th.



Ruby gracefully flying over the bars on her very first try at this sport.



Sadie the pro, hurtling over the incline in pursuit of the lure.



Wyatt and Duncan says everyone had a great time and raised lots of money at the fund raiser and they can't wait to see what the next Dog Scout adventure will be.



The San Francisco Bay Area Troops can't wait to see what the holidays bring for them and for all the other troops across the country. We will be woofing at you all soon!

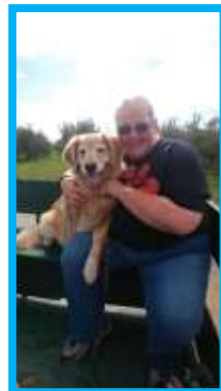
Troop 217—MI ~ Motor City K9's

Sally Hoyle—Troop Leader

We always look forward to our fall and winter activities and though we are barely into the holiday season we have already enjoyed many of our troop's annual traditions. We always have a lot of fun at a local corn maze. But although the rainy weather kept us from going through the maze, troop members still enjoyed gathering at the cider mill, taking a ride through the apple orchard and enjoying spending time hanging out and talking.



Julie Benson and Shelby enjoyed meeting the goats at the cider mill.



Michelle and Sassy enjoying a ride through the apple orchard.



Troop 217 members had a great time at the All-Troop Jamboree!

Troop members always enjoy attending the All-Troop Jamboree at Dog Scout Camp and this year was no exception. So many of us attended and truly had a wonderful time largely due to the hard work put into organizing the event by troop member Amy Schupska and her planning partner Lonnie Olson. Troop member Vickie Lomas and Shadow took 1st place for the weekend and the team of Sally Hoyle, Katie and Mackenzie came in 2nd. Many thanks to Amy and Lonnie for a very memorable weekend!



Shelby wore a hoodie to ward off the chill at Dog Scout Camp.



Sam and his sisters Mackenzie and Katie (rear) showed off their Octoberfest finery during the costume parade.



Sam and troop member Elizabeth Najduch found they had very similar outfits for the costume parade.

Troop 217—MI (cont.)

The Garden City Santaland Parade is a tradition that our troop looks forward to each year and despite the cold and rainy weather the troop had a great time. For the dogs, the activity in the staging area is as much fun as the parade itself. They always seem to enjoy all the different characters they get to interact with and other regular parade groups seem to remember and enjoy our dogs. Hearing someone say, "Hey it's Sam!" or "Sassy's here again!" never fails to bring a smile to our faces, and we have so many opportunities to talk with people about Dog Scouts prior to the parade. It was really nice this year to be joined by Fay Reid and Goldy from troop 101. Fay and Goldy walked with us last year too so we hope that they will make this one of their traditions.



Troop 217 in the Garden City Santaland Parade. Though Katie and Sally missed the parade this year due to their Florida trip, Sally was able to watch (and photograph) live via web link.



Sassy really loves all the characters she gets to see each year at the parade.



Sam didn't mind the cold and rainy parade day weather.

Troop 217—MI (cont.)

The troop is gearing up now for the South Lyon Cool Yule Parade. We did this parade for the first time last year and had a great time so we've decided to do it again this year. This parade takes place at night so it's always fun to find creative ways to light up ourselves and our dogs. The parade is followed by not one, but TWO community tree lighting ceremonies! Carrie Jones and Darby went down to check out the trees and marveled at one more than 60 feet tall! It will be pretty awesome for us to watch as these trees are lit for the season.

Carrie and Darby check out one of the South Lyon trees prior to parade day. This one is 60 feet tall!



Sally and Katie enjoyed Letterboxing in Florida while completing the Turkey Trot.

Katie and I are missing some of the holiday activities this year since we've been lucky enough to escape to sunny Florida for a few weeks. One of the activities that we really enjoy doing in Florida when we visit Lonnie Olson and Claudette Smith, both from Troop 101, is Letterboxing. This year we were able to coordinate an afternoon of hiking and Letterboxing with Shirley Conley, Troop Leader of Troop 183 and her dog Tachi. It was a lot of fun to meet Shirley since I've worked with her on a number of things over the years. All our dogs were able to complete the requirements for the Turkey Trot and we even attempted to get a photo of them all.

Katie, Yaegar, Delta, Caper, Kozi and Tachi all had a great time and I hope we are able to do this again in the future. When you have the opportunity to look up nearby troops when traveling or invite other troops to your events I highly recommend it. Including others only adds to the experience and multi-troop events are fun!



Troop 219—CT ~ The New England Explorers

Board of Directors Meeting November, 2018

Submitted by Matt Jorgenson, Chief Treat Dispenser

Meeting called to order at 1400 by President Zora. Present: Zora, Dani, Cody, Simon, Wyatt and a few treat dispensers and fur strokers.

Meet and greet completed

Discussion about ice cream and the lack of it

New England Explorer event discussed

Discussion about Wyatt's 35th letterbox was followed by treats

Wyatt made a motion (it was bagged and carried away by a treat dispenser)

Discussion about new trails, not enough squirrels

Discussion about more treats brought up again

Discussion about Pet Food Drive

Not enough time spent in large treat bin

Lots of random treat dispensers and fur strokers, need more fur stroking

Not being able to investigate good smells from other open door

Not enough grass to make motions on

Simon and Cody discussed what they like about other members

Discussion about spooky fun walk

Lots of good smells

Dani made a motion

Air was cool, good for lots of running

Cody discussed what he likes about the fellow members

Simon discussed the lack of swimming

Discussion about Puppy Up event

Lots of fur strokers

Lack of treat dispensers discussed

Lack of members discussed

Zora made a motion

Discussion about swimming and then ice cream

Lack of ready available swimming hole discussed again, tabled for spring meetings

Motion made by Wyatt to have more fur strokers at every event seconded by Zora, motion passed

Treats dispensed

Motion to adjourn made by Simon, Seconded by Wyatt

Meeting adjourned at 1600

Dog Scout Troop 219

New England Explorers



Wyatt showed us new trails today planted his 35th letterbox.



Thank you for supporting our 2018 Pet Food Drive!
Happy Trails from Dog Scout Troop 219



DSA Troop 219

Spooky Fun

Daria DSA and Cody DSA on the hunt for haunted geocaches this fall.



Puppy Up 2018

Dog Scout Troop 218



Novice Trick Dog

Fame & Simon

Do More With Your Dog!
Earning their Novice Trick Dog
titles on October 28, 2018

Troop 240—NE ~ Moose Troop

Kristin Sandstede

The Moose Troop has had an exiting year! Spreading the word about what fun Dog Scouts is as we are the only troop in Nebraska. We have a fun event every month & Monday we participated in the Sparky's Turkey Trot for the 2nd year in a row!

Our two most popular events have been Stand Up Paddleboarding with our dogs at Lake Cunningham, which we did in July.



And Dog Yoga (DoGa) in April for K9 Fitness month as well as in October for Senior Pet Month!



Looking forward to a fun filled 2019!



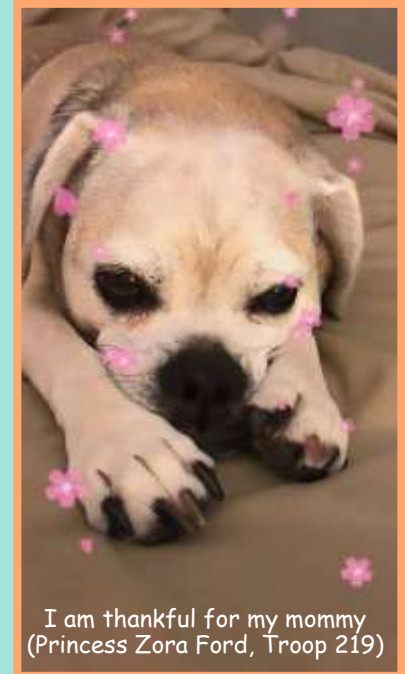
Sassy and I are thankful for each other and all the great adventures we have shared. Sassy is looking forward to lots of yummy treats and having mom home from work for two weeks at Christmas. (Michelle Neu)



I am thankful for belly rubs and I wish for a new puppy (Danica Joy aka Shark Dog)



Riley Thierry is thankful for a walk in the leaves.



I am thankful for my mommy (Princess Zora Ford, Troop 219)

Happy Thanksgiving




This year I'm thankful for Mackenzie, born 3/7/2018. It's been so wonderful to have a puppy in our home and I'm surprised and delighted each day as I have watched her learn and grow.

And I continue to be amazed by Sam and Katie who turned 8 in November. They have both embraced their baby sister and it's been pretty cool to watch each of them develop a relationship with her. Born on Thanksgiving Day in 2010, these two will always be my Thanksgiving babies. (Sally Hoyle)



Maia Thierry is thankful for having fun, success and new adventures.





Chaos Smets is thankful he gets to go on troop adventures with his mommy and daddy

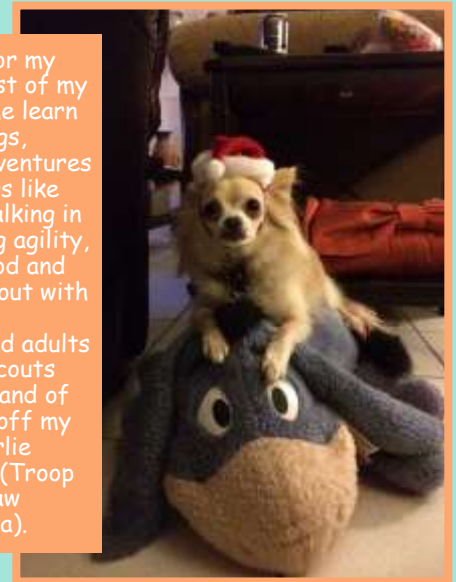


Nim Conley is thankful for a squishy mum who makes a good pillow and a dad who doesn't pay attention when mum is out with Tachi!



I am thankful for Adventures with my DSA friends, soft blankies and treats, and treats, and treats and more treats!! Oh yeah and thankful for my mom and dad too! - Peanut Skenandore, Dog Scout, (troop 157)

I am thankful for my mom and the rest of my family helping me learn all kinds of things, taking me on adventures to try new things like barn hunting, walking in the woods, doing agility, getting good food and treats, hanging out with my friends, and teaching kids and adults about the dog scouts and what we do and of course showing off my trick skills. Charlie Teichman DSA, (Troop 239 Who Dat Paw Patrol - Louisiana).



Thanksgiving



Lily Smets is thankful for games of Frisbee and swimming and her Xmas wish is to enjoy them all winter!



Pebbles is thankful for the Lure Course at the Chester Pet Fair



Mo and Joss are thankful for family



Daisy and Belle are thankful for everything



The hiking group is thankful for friends willing to wake up at the crack of dawn

What are Troop 188 Scouts thankful for?



Luna is thankful for chances to be helpful



Phantom is thankful for therapy visits with everyone



Breeze and Ella are thankful for new friends and experiences



Firefly, Pirate and Flynn are thankful for long hikes with great friends

And everyone is thankful for Dog Scouts and the opportunity to learn and grow.
Happy Holidays everyone!

Contact Dog Scouts of America

Learning new things that we may be more helpful

Website: dogscouts.org
Facebook: facebook.com/DogScouts
Yahoo Discussion List:
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/DSA_TalkList/info

For the next newsletter
share your dog's picture,
2018 goal achievements
and goals/plans for 2019

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: Shirley Conley — membership@dogscouts.org

Troop Administration: Pending
(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

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
(Also for newsletter distribution)