

# 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 22 Issue 1 January/February 2019



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Deadline: for the next newsletter is  
**March 15th**

Please e-mail your news, articles, and pictures to [thescoop@dogscouts.org](mailto:thescoop@dogscouts.org)

## Can you help us make T-shirts?

Can you help DSA produce t-shirt transfer shirts for the DSA camp store, and for the auction winners of the shirt that says "My dog scout and I can earn 30 merit badges before breakfast... What can you do?"



The job would involve:

1. Procuring shirts (I get them at a local shop that prints t-shirts, or order them online through Amazon)
2. Procuring t-shirt transfers (a reliable kind that makes work easy)
3. Having access to a t-shirt transfer press, or owning an iron, tin foil, and a Teflon sheet, to facilitate ironing them on by hand
4. Printing the transfers with a high-quality photo print setting, and making sure there are no stray black ink marks on the edges
5. Ironing on the transfers so that they are centered onto the shirt (Lonnie can give additional instructions, if needed)
6. Mailing the shirts out priority mail flat rate envelope to the recipient of the auction item
7. Mailing or delivering batches of shirts for the camp store to the Michigan camp
8. Sending supplies receipts to DSA for reimbursement

Anyone can volunteer for this unpaid position; if you've not done T-shirt transfers before, you'll need to know there are some fumes given off by the melting transfer material and of course you'll have to be careful working with hot surfaces.

Please contact Lonnie Olson, President, if you can help us make T-shirts,  
[dogscoutcamp@gmail.com](mailto:dogscoutcamp@gmail.com).

## Or can you develop, implement and monitor fundraising opportunities as our Fundraising Coordinator?

We're looking for a person who will devise fundraisers that we can hold on a regular basis to keep money flowing in to DSA.

These could be a T-spring tee shirt campaign, the Hikathon, the Frost-a-thon, a fun run, golf outing, or some other fundraiser that you come up with. You can hold the key positions for these fundraisers, or designate someone else to run them; you would then oversee the various fundraisers, keeping the person in charge of the individual fundraisers on track. You can also regularly contribute to the newsletter with ideas about fun things that the troops can do to raise money for DSA, like hosting a haunted house, offering agility, barn hunt, lure coursing or other try-its at local doggie expos, having a dog wash or car wash, etc.

If you have some ideas of how DSA can raise more funds, this may be the volunteer position for you. Please contact Lonnie at [dogscoutcamp@gmail.com](mailto:dogscoutcamp@gmail.com).

## Leadership Retreat – Save the Date!

The 2019 Leadership Retreat will be held May 17-19 at the Michigan camp. The format for the Retreat is all new, with fun activities for you and your dog throughout the weekend. The Retreat is open to all troop leaders or anyone who wants to become more active in DSA leadership. We believe that everyone has something to offer! We think you'll be excited about the changes to the Retreat and would love for you to join us! Please email Barrie Lynn Wood at [barrielynnwood@gmail.com](mailto:barrielynnwood@gmail.com) for more information.

# Member Reminders for the New Year

*Did you know that your Troop Leader is expected to send in a Troop Report at the end of each year as part of the Troop Recognition Program? Perhaps your troop can earn more points and recognition for the services and activities you're participating in as a DSA representative.*

## Here's a review of the activities you can report to your troop leader

- ⇒ If your dog gets a Dog Scout title or any badges during the year (or a pack dog title)
- ⇒ If the troop has helped you make significant training progress with an issue your dog has/had
- ⇒ Any troop activity in which troop members are helping to raise funds for a non-profit should have (at minimum): what the activity was/charity that benefits, the date it occurred, hours each person participated, and how much (total) was raised. Note also the amount that goes to DSA (if any).
- ⇒ Booth Events: Need date, activity, and number of hours each troop member helped in the booth.
- ⇒ If you offer free instruction at a training seminar (or class) that is dog related and uses positive training techniques, need: date, seminar title/subject, # of hours you instructed. Your session needs to be offered free of charge as a community service.
- ⇒ If you share knowledge with your fellow troop members that you gained from a seminar, DVD, or other dog training source make sure it is noted on the record keeping form. You can share in person at a scheduled time, at a meeting or through a detailed email
- ⇒ If you attend a DSA camp or mini-camp or the Leadership retreat
- ⇒ Community Service WITH your dog, need: Date, activity and the names of all DSA members that participated (& especially how many hours each worked.) To qualify, you need to be acting as a representative of DSA or the troop, or be wearing DSA logo shirt or hat and/or at some point talk to someone there about DSA or the troop.
- ⇒ Community service without your dog, need: Date, activity and the names of all DSA members that participated (& especially how many hours each worked.) To qualify, you need to be acting as a representative of DSA or the troop, or be wearing DSA logo shirt or hat and/or at some point talk to someone there about DSA or the troop.
- ⇒ Clean-up of dog waste that has been abandoned in public and would not otherwise be cleaned up: Need: # of piles you picked up and disposed of properly. If you are working on the Clean-up America badge, you'll need photo proof of the piles you clean up (photos of bags.)

*Perhaps you can e-mail your updates to your Troop Leader after the activity/event is completed or at the end of each month, then it won't be a chore at the end of the year trying to remember all the great things you've accomplished. Many of the above activities make great updates to post on your Troop's website and/or Facebook page and for sharing in future newsletters.*

## Membership Renewal Clarification

When a lapsed membership is renewed, the payment applies to 1 year from the original expiration date. In turn, if a member renews early, their dues still do not expire until a year after the original expiration date.

**Special consideration for our members on active service:** If your duties preclude your participation in local Troop activities, please e-mail [membership@dogscouts.org](mailto:membership@dogscouts.org) and request a freeze on your membership until you notify us of your safe return home or you may request a transfer of your membership to your dog's temporary guardian (provide their name and e-mail address so we can update our database and notify your Troop Leader to extend an invitation to troop activities).

# Troop Administration Update

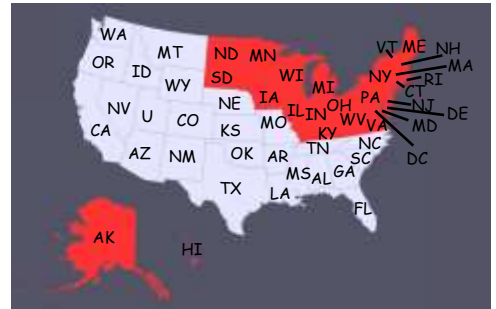
**Good news!** We're making some changes in our Troop Administration to better serve our existing and future troops.

## Regional Coordinators

Firstly we have divided the country into 2 regions—based on the location of our existing troops — and appointed a Troop Coordinator over each region. Our hope is that this will allow Troop Leaders and future Troop Leaders a more local point of contact to get feedback on issues they're dealing with and obtain official answers to questions they may have.

### Region 1—Barrie Lynn Wood (Michigan)

Barrie Lynn will be over-seeing the process of troops obtaining and keeping their non-profit sub-group status, and planning the Leadership Retreat . She will also oversee troops in Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin



## Region 2—Cindi Stone (Louisiana)

In addition to handling the Troop Recognition program, Cindi will oversee troops in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and international troops.

We appreciate Barrie Lynn and Cindi stepping into these volunteer position in an effort to help us better serve our troops and particularly to provide Troop Leaders and future Troop Leaders with any support and assistance to make their troop successful and productive. Both coordinators may be reached by e-mailing: [troops@dogscouts.org](mailto:troops@dogscouts.org).

## End of Year Reports

Secondly, we are pleased to introduce an online form to submit your troop's year-end report. Please go to <https://form.jotform.com/83548046776166> to complete the form for 2018 (due to the delay in implementing the form, our deadline for turning in troop reports has been extended to February 28, 2019—we will also accept scanned copies of your 2018 form if you've already completed it. Just e-mail it to [troops@dogscouts.org](mailto:troops@dogscouts.org)). Cyndi will tabulate the submissions and provide our webmaster with an update for the website as to which troops have achieved Top Dogs Troop status and which have achieved the Torch troop and the Treasure troop status. We'll also acknowledge our top troops in the next newsletter. We have plans to review the annual report this year in an effort to improve our Troop Recognition program in the future.

## Leader Communication

Thirdly, we wanted to remind you that we have two forums for Troop Leaders where you can ask questions, bounce ideas and get input. We have a **yahoo group** which requires a yahoo account to set up, but will forward activity from the group to your specified e-mail and a closed **Facebook group**. Links to these groups are available from your Troop Coordinator.



## Troop Promotion

Fourthly, we're discussing options for increasing awareness of our troops through social media. If you have any thoughts or ideas that may help springboard a campaign, please contact our Troop Coordinators or our Newsletter Editor. We're also looking at highlight best practices for maintaining and growing a troop; we'll be reaching out through the Yahoo and Facebook groups for input.

# Feet on The Ground

By Dr. Karen Gellman, DVM, PhD and Dr. Judith M. Shoemaker, DVM

Originally published on 07/01/2012. Reprinted with permission from AKC Canine Health Foundation ([www.akcchf.org](http://www.akcchf.org))

## Feet on the ground

For all terrestrial animals, essential information about their environment is transmitted by their feet. Think of your own experiences... Did you like to go barefoot when you were a kid? Remember the feeling of lush green lawn underfoot, of hot sidewalk, of ouchy pebbles, or a trail in the woods? Your feet told your brain the texture, temperature and firmness of the ground beneath you in an instant. Now think of wearing unfamiliar shoes, maybe even high heels if you are unaccustomed to them. What if you want to dance, or run for your life? How confident would you be? Now imagine having a pebble in your shoe. All you can think about is how quickly can you sit down, take that shoe off and get rid of it.

## Ground surface

Our brains, and those of our highly intelligent companion animals, are hard wired to interpret critical information through the soles of our feet, and the sensory nerves in our leg joints, tendons and muscles. They tell us where the ground is, how hard is it, and whether it supports our bodies. One of the mechanisms we use is a skin surface “map” on the bottom of our feet (or paws) that registers body weight and sudden changes in weight bearing. For instance, if your dog is running in a field and puts a foot into a hole, perceiving changes in the angle of the leg and pressure on the foot will trigger a fast withdrawal of that leg and shift of body weight, preventing a serious accident.

Unfortunately, our modern, man-made environments tend to alter the sensitivity of this feedback loop. Our dogs spend much of their time on slippery floors, abrasive concrete or pile carpet-- all pretty unnatural surfaces! But dogs, as domestic animals, are highly adaptable. Most dogs with an intact nervous system can program a neural response to deal with these environmental changes.



Figure 1: Normal toenails - toes well above ground

But when a dog has neurologic challenges--like advanced age, hind end weakness, spinal disease-- we have to carefully consider whether the information they are getting from their feet is helping or hindering their locomotion. Even in a healthy dog, the “domesticated lifestyle” -- artificial surfaces and limited exercise-- can interfere with their foot-brain connection.

## When did you last get a pedicure?

One of the most common foot issues among canine companions is long toe nails. In wild canids, miles traveled daily over rough surfaces to “make a living” result in appropriately short nails. What is an appropriately short nail? One that does not touch the ground when standing on a firm level surface, but will give useful traction when climbing a hill or digging. (See Figure 1: Normal foot) So the only time a normal dog’s nail should contact the ground is when it is climbing a hill. In a dog with overgrown nails, the neurologic signal from a long toenail contacting the ground is interpreted by the brain as an inclined ground surface. (See Figure 2, long nail, abnormal posture) This abnormal compensatory posture results in too much weight carried by the hind legs, thus overloading those joints. Many animals who seem to be lame or weak behind can be helped enormously with just an effective nail trim that changes this posture.



Figure 2: Grossly abnormal toenails resulting in abnormal posture - cramped in behind, base narrow in front, twisted toes, hyperextended

## Feet on The Ground (continued)

Show dogs are groomed and clipped regularly for aesthetic reasons, but reap enormous musculoskeletal benefits from this beauty regime.

The average pet dog gets its nails clipped a couple of times a year, if it is lucky! Several factors conspire to make nail cutting a dreaded activity. With such infrequency, the dog may not be inclined to cooperate, making nail clipping into a wrestling match. The constant painful stimulus from the long toe nails hitting the ground sensitizes the nail bed, making it very uncomfortable for the dog to have its feet handled. Indeed, when the toes are pushed up or twisted by long nails, the toe joints can become arthritic and painful as well.

### How to clip with confidence

We don't often appreciate how much dog toenails are like our own! If you look at your fingertip, you will see the hard, insensitive nail laid on top of the living finger. If, for instance, you filed the top of the "living" portion, it would not hurt, because there is a layer of *keratin*-- a hard, horn like substance-- that protects the nail bed. A dog's nails are actually pretty similar. The tip of their finger is "the quick", which has sensitive nerves and blood vessels. When you "quick" a dog, making it bleed, you have essentially nipped off the end of their finger. No wonder they don't like it! But no dog ever died from a quicked toenail, so it is not the end of the world. With good technique, you can shorten even ghastly long toenails without ever making them bleed.



Figure 3: Abnormal toenails - claws below weight-bearing pads, pushing nail bed

When toenail length is excessive, the quick grows longer, protected by the long nail. (See Figure 3, abnormal foot) The goal of therapeutic podiatry is to remove the protective long nail so that the quick will recede. The easiest way to do this is to use **shallow** cuts with a sharp, small, scissor type nail clipper, cutting away the top of the nail. The cuts should be parallel to the quick, not across it. Whether the nail is dark or light, it is easy to distinguish between the insensitive nail and the sensitive finger tip. There is a white and chalky line around the quick-- even easier to see on a dark nail than on a white one.



Figure 4: Close-up view of intact quick exposed by shallow nail cutting technique



Figure 5: View of dark nails - chalky insensitive nail, dark, shiny quick

(Figures 4 & 5) The quick is shiny and moist-- it looks like living tissue. In most dogs, there is a clear demarcation between them. It is possible to significantly shorten the toenails, and get an immediate postural response in a single session. Nails need to be cut every other week to maintain their length. To shorten the quick, one must cut once a week. Some dogs tolerate a rotary grinder, like Pedi-Paws, Oster Gentle Paws, or a dremel better than clippers.

Without the interference of erroneous information from toenails, a dog can fully rely upon its feet on the ground to stand straight and move with confidence.

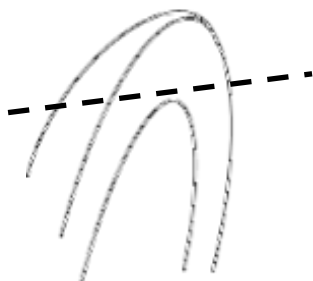


# Nails Clipping *courtesy of Best Paw Forward Dog Club, Osteen, FL*



Be sure to do your foundation work and get your dog used to foot handling. Be sure when you handle the foot you don't twist the carpus/hock joints (equivalent to the wrist/ankle). If you squeeze the foot, the dog's automatic response is to pull away, so hold firmly but don't squeeze. Start with dog lying on his back or side (it's easier to clip with a view of the underside of the nail). Hold the dog's foot gently in one hand, the nail clippers in the other. Using the hand with the clipper, touch your dog's nails, mark and reward. Always practice with clippers in hand so your dog doesn't associate them just with nail clipping. Progress to squeezing the nail then mark and reward.

If you're not sure where the quick is, gently push your nail into the center the quick will be softer and give slightly.



Once you've placed your nail cutters in the right place – just above the soft fleshy part of the underside of the nail, angle the top back slightly towards the dog's foot before you cut; this will expose more of the quick and encourage it to recede.



Now angle your nail cutter to trim the 2 hard corners that remain on either side of your first cut. Again, angle the nail cutters back towards the dog's foot to expose more of the quick and encourage it to recede.



Or you can use a nail file (either metal or one for acrylic nails) to smooth any sharp edges.



Don't forget the dewclaws if your dog has them.



If your dog moves and you cut the quick, don't make a fuss (the more fuss you make, your dog will think it must be a big deal!). Take a pinch of styptic powder and press it onto the nail. Then move on to clipping or handling another nail, mark and reward.



# Trails Bulletin

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

## DSA Pack Dog & Trail Dog ~ Required Items

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The questions we get most often are “My dog is too small to carry all of that” and “How do I fit all of that in my small dog’s pack?” Here are some suggestions for all dogs to keep their packs light and keep hiking fun.

### Required Survival Items:

- 👍 Flashlight – a mini light will meet this requirement
- 👍 First Aid Kit – a few Band-Aids or vet wrap is light weight and small for tiny dogs. Carry the full kit in your own pack.
- 👍 Matches – 2/3 matches will work. You can get a 3-in-1 whistle/compass/matches
- 👍 ID (Identification) – a business card with your ID or a dog tag with your ID attached to the pack, not their collar.
- 👍 Compass – can be “mini” or “button”.
- 👍 Knife – Moose (*pictured above*) carries a tiny box cutter from a key chain in her pack.
- 👍 Signaling Device – A whistle!

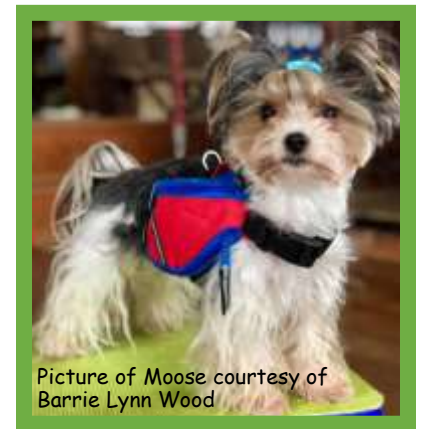
### Required Items for the Dog:

- 👍 Water & Bowl – A silicone cupcake dish makes a good lightweight bowl.
- 👍 Spare Leash & Collar – A slip leash will cover this requirement
- 👍 3 poop bags

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Track your miles and check our TrailDog and PackDog Titles on our website.

<http://dogscouts.org/base/dsa-titles/trail-dog-titles/>



Required Items for Trail Dog and Pack Dog

# Rainbow Bridge



## Reggie Stone, Troop 239 (and 157) 4/7/2007 - 12/13/18

You read these words frequently but until you have to write them, you really can't understand their depth... This is without a doubt one of the hardest pieces I have ever had to write. Sir Reginald of Stoneybrooke, aka Reggie, crossed the Rainbow Bridge on December 23, 2018 at the age of 11 years and 8 months. Reggie was our miracle dog, as in we were amazed at the number of times he fought his way back. When we got him as a puppy he came with a severe case of kennel cough that required living in a treatment tent for 8 hours a day for a week. He decided to escape from his dad at the tender age of 1 and was run over by a car. The vet was amazed that he came out of this with only some road rash on his inner leg. At the age of 3 he developed pancreatitis, which became chronic. He lost over half his body weight in less than 2 months. It took him almost a year to gain weight to an acceptable level as the chronic pancreatitis left him with an essentially non-producing pancreas; hence man made enzymes had to be added to his meals every day until his death. At age 5 he was attacked in the face by another dog. At age 10 he developed MVD and at age 11.5 he had to have emergency surgery from an aggressive bacteria that

attacked his eye. Literally one month after the surgery he was diagnosed with an aggressive lymphoma and 2 months after his diagnosis we had to say good-bye. In spite of all this Reggie had an overwhelming love for life and people. Dogs he could really care less about, but people...he loved to be with and doing activities with people. After recovering his weight from the pancreatitis he went on to become titled excellent in Agility and only stopped there because of his MVD diagnosis. He also titled in Rally and was an animal actor, working both in commercial video and print ads. He loved working on all his badges but he took his love for the Art of Shaping to the next level, working with his sister and brother to raise money for various shelters and rescues with his painting. His next favorite badges were the Backpacking and Hiking...and any badge that let him use those skills. Everyone who knew Reggie said the same thing, 'he was such a happy boy, always smiling'. And he was just that—a happy boy. Heaven has gained a smiling angel. His family is still struggling with his loss.

## In Memoriam - Reggie Stone From Troop 157

Even though he became a member of Troop 239 in Louisiana, we still wanted to celebrate his life here in South Florida. Reggie was one of the original members of Troop 157 when it formed in 2009. Reggie was many wonderful things, but his smiling face at our safety presentations, and happily painting for the kids, is a memory we will never forget. He is met on the other side of the Rainbow Bridge by fellow troop members Lola, Bryant, Buddy, Champ, Homer & Brad, amongst others. We have lost a piece of our heart.



## Riley Harrington 2008—2019

*A tribute from owner Patricia in her own words*

Riley was adopted on August 8, 2008. We quickly found out that he loved to splash. While attending a doggy water park, we saw someone wearing a dog scout shirt. As we were Girl Scouts, we asked where to get the shirt. That's when we found out it was a real organization. We quickly joined Troop 157, Paw Patrol.

Riley loved other dogs, however he was very shy around people. With guidance and support from troop leaders and members, Riley came out of his shell. He earned the Dog Scout badge as well as the Art of Shaping. He completed activities for many other badges as well.

Riley participated in many community events, such as booths at dog events and dining out with troop members at many of the local restaurants with patios. Riley enjoyed the troop camping trip and several kayak trips. Troop activities taught us how to safely travel, as Riley went on trips to Orlando, St. Augustine, Pensacola, Washington, D.C., Baton Rouge, and New Orleans, as well as many excursions around south Florida.

In May of 2018, Riley developed a mast cell tumor. He was successfully treated; however he developed a melanoma in November. Despite treatment, both cancers were very aggressive, and returned. The tumors were in his throat, thus impacting his ability to breathe. This happened quite suddenly, so we had to quickly make the decision to help Riley cross the bridge on January 5, 2019.



## Rainbow Bridge (continued)

**Troop 230 lost four family members in 2018.**

*Ida Claire*



Ida Claire, loved by Beth Head, left us before her first birthday.

*Lillie*



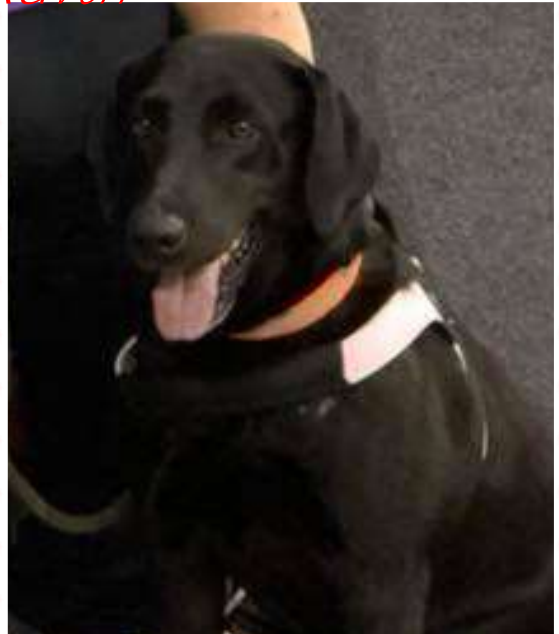
Lillie, treasured by Marsha Hayes, and Molly, cherished by Rick and Claudia Schmitt both lived long lives knowing love every day.

Raven left us and her human Paula Shamburger way too early in life. She is greatly missed.

*Molly*



*Raven*



## Rainbow Bridge (continued)



### **Lizzy Baughman 2006—2018**



It is with a heavy heart that I share with you that Lizzy has crossed over the rainbow bridge. Lizzy lost her battle with degenerative myelopathy on Dec 29, 2018. She loved life until the very end, especially if food was involved! She missed not being mobile enough during her last year to be with her Dog Scout friends. Lizzy was almost 13 years old and was diagnosed with degenerative myelopathy for almost two years. Most dogs are given a life expectancy of 6 months to a year once diagnosed so she truly was quite the fighter. During her active years she enjoyed agility, canoeing and long walks in the park. She will also be missed by the nurses and staff on the oncology floor at Toledo Hospital where she was a therapy dog for several years. There is peace in believing that Lizzy is now able to run again and eat from the never ending bag of treats for truly all dogs do go to heaven.

Diane Baughman - Troop 217



# Scout Scoop & Troop Tales

## Troop 119—TX

Cindy Ratliff

The fall was very busy for our troop, as always! We had an awesome Texas Mini-Camp (our 15<sup>th</sup> year!), which we have reported on already.

A couple of weeks after mini-camp wrapped up, we got together for our annual Meals On Wheels for Pets Event! We have been creating doggie gift bags for the clients of Meals On Wheels of Tarrant County for about 14 years now.

We collected close to 1500 lbs of dog food (as well as canned and dry cat food), 600 toys, numerous treats, dental chews, bowls, poop bags, Christmas bandanas for all the dogs, miscellaneous blankets, coats, harnesses, collars and



leashes. We also collected almost \$1,000 in cash donations which helped pay for a lot of the food & treats. We had our annual “baggin’ party” then where we decorated the bags, filled them up and loaded up the Meals On Wheels van!

15-year-old Jasper, DSA, was on hand as this year’s representative of the troop dogs and was a good treat inspector.

We filled 125 bags for the Meals On Wheels clients’ dogs and sent along some goodies for the cats as well. The staff, volunteers and clients are always so very appreciative of this annual gift and we certainly love doing it! A huge thanks to all of our troop members and contributors who made it a great success!!

The troop took the month of December off to enjoy time with family and friends and food!

We look forward to another great year for the troop in 2019!



Some bag decorations  
are extra special



## Troop 119—TX (cont.)

### Meals On Wheels Gift Bags

Decorating the goody bags



Filling  
the  
goody  
bags



Loading  
the van



### Austin's Adventures

(Cheryl Bales Muppet, ISMA Mascot, and Member of Dog Scouts Troop 119 )

Austin's photo (on our cover) was selected to be in the 2019 Doo the Right Thing calendar! He is Mr. August. If you would like to view or print a copy of the calendar, you can do so by [clicking here](#). Thank you for all your support and to all who voted for him. Next year, the cover. :-)

# Troop 157—FL ~ Broward Paw Patrol

Teresa Irvine

## Sparky's Turkey Trot 2019

This year we had more troop member's register and participate in the 5K DSA Sparky's Turkey Trot. Like last year we scheduled the walk on the day after Thanksgiving to burn off some of those extra calories. For those who were not able to make this date they completed their walk virtually at other locations.

We also incorporated some "Letter Boxing" in as we walked the park and Chaos one of our newest members found his first one. It was such a beautiful day to just get out and walk with our pups while enjoying conversations with our fellow troop members.

Everyone who participated had a great time and enjoyed supporting an event sponsored by the Dog Scouts of America.

We had Peanut, Freckles, Ripley, Rocky, Jessie, Clover, Jolie, Falice, Chaos, Oreo, Lucy, Penny and Jessie.



## Troop 157—FL (cont.)



### Community Event – Pet Safety Presentation

Our troop was asked to participate in a “Pet Safety – How to Meet and Greet a Dog Safely” event to local minors at the local Broward Sheriff’s Office. We had a great turn out and were able to share tips on how to approach a dog and greet them to insure safety for both dog and person. Our troop leader, Christine (Clover) led the discussion while Linda (Jessie) and Kim (Jasmine) assisted. We also appreciated Cynthia helping as a spotter to make sure our Dog Scouts were not overwhelmed by too many children petting them at one time.



### Chewy “How to Throw the Ultimate Puppy Bowl Party

Our very own DSA Troop 157 dogs Winston & Amo spent some time over the holidays shooting a video and having lots of photos taken for an ad campaign to promote “How To Throw the Ultimate Puppy Bowl Party” at Chewy headquarters. Both dogs had to perform basic obedience skills, practice good manners on the set with other dogs and interact politely with human actors. Our troop meetings allow dogs to learn how to interact in a variety of settings so they are good members of society when they are out in public (click on this link to view). We appreciate both Suzanne (Amo) and Kim (Winston) for representing our troop so well!

[https://www.chewy.com/petcentral/how-to-throw-a-puppy-bowl-party/?fbclid=IwAR0mpKd6bwlogLaWfcYy9BVuCX752PX7uLsTy1w35JDASnavx1YKY\\_46-r4](https://www.chewy.com/petcentral/how-to-throw-a-puppy-bowl-party/?fbclid=IwAR0mpKd6bwlogLaWfcYy9BVuCX752PX7uLsTy1w35JDASnavx1YKY_46-r4)



## Troop 157—FL (cont.)

### Aston Gardens Halloween Parade

Aston Gardens residents were greeted by our Dog Scouts dressed in their holiday finest for our annual visit. We paraded around the facility so all could admire the cute outfits. This was followed by a meet n' greet where the residents got to spend some quality time with our dogs. We culminated the event with a sing along of all the songs of the season. After leaving the facility we headed to a neighborhood restaurant that welcomed our dogs to eat some lunch on the patio area. We always look forward to these special get togethers. Happy New Year! Thanks to all (Judy & Hunter, Lisa & Lily, Jim & Shelby, Linda & Jessie, Grace & Dunkan, Teresa & Ripley) who participated and made for a successful visit.



## Troop 157—FL (cont.)

### 2019 Holiday Party – End of Year

We celebrated our 2018 Holiday Party at a local park after the craziness of the Holiday season to celebrate our accomplishments as a troop throughout the year. We had a great turn out with everyone bringing something for a pot luck feast for humans and canines. Plus there was “Secret Santa” for our canines too. Everyone enjoyed visiting with each other, reminiscing about the activities from the year past, grateful to have new members join and planned more events for 2019. This year we are focused on studying for the DSA Written Test and plan to have more study groups that will be designed to assist our new troop members and refresh members who have passed it already.



Our troop is very excited about what 2019 will bring and what new training opportunities will present themselves. We appreciate getting together and helping/supporting one another on learning new things and sharing ideas to continue to learn. We lost several of our Dog Scouts this past year and miss them very much as they were a part of our troop Family. Each and every one of them brought so much to our troop over the years. It is a reminder of what a short lifespan our canines have on this earth and reinforces The Dog Scout Law #10 “I will strive to live by the Dog Scout Parent’s motto: “Our dog’s lives are much shorter than our own, let’s help them enjoy their time with us as much as we can.” I will help my dog uphold the Dog Scout motto: “Let us learn all that we can, so that we may become more helpful.”

“Nobody can fully understand the meaning of love unless he’s owned a dog. A dog can show you more honest affection with a flick of his tail than a man can gather through a lifetime of handshakes.” – Gene Hill



## DSA TROOP 157



## Highlights from our Holiday Party

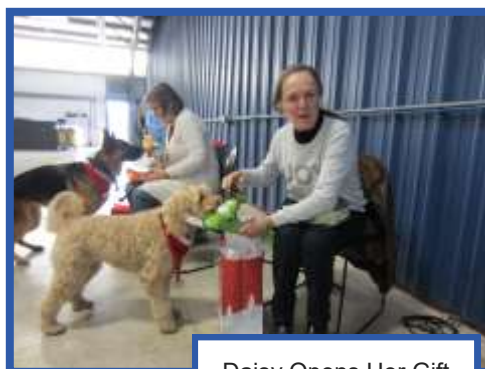


#dogscoutsofamerica  
#troop157  
#browardcountypawpatrol

# Troop 177—IN

*Robin Porter*

In addition to our Soldier's Angel donation to American K9s and handlers stationed in the Middle East, Troop #177 donated wish list items to Southside Animal Rescue in Indianapolis. The donations were much appreciated! At our December meeting the dogs enjoyed a gift exchange.



Daisy Opens Her Gift



Southside Animal Rescue



Daisy Helps Zena



Lucy Finds It!

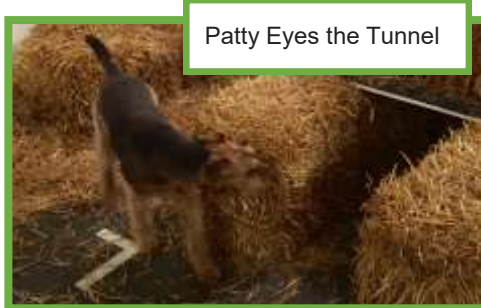


Penny Waits Her Turn

Troop #177 members began attending Barn Hunt sessions at S.E. Indiana Rats and Dogs. Most of the dogs have attended multiple sessions and it's fun to see their enthusiasm and skills grow. Some have an approach of slow and steady searching with a consistent tail wag, some rush about looking for the rat. At any rate, they all have fun!



Star Seeking the Barn Hunt



Patty Eyes the Tunnel



Zena Climbs Straw Bales

Robyn Porter, her niece Kaitlyn and Hallie earned \$212 by ringing bells for the Salvation Army on Christmas Eve. Years ago Kaitlyn and Hallie earned the Junior Scout badge at camp and they still like to volunteer together.



Kaitlyn and Hallie on warm Christmas Eve afternoon

# Troop 183—FL

Shirley Conley—Troop Leader

## December

At the beginning of the month, Troop 183 rang bells and did tricks for donations for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive on Saturday December 8th.

Thanks to Mary Ann & Fran w/Bling (Border Collie) & LeeRoy (Miniature American Shepherd) who did tricks from 10 a.m. until noon, Marilyn w/Alli (Border Collie mix) and Marsha w/Betsie (Labrador mix) who retrieved donations from noon til 4 p.m. (thank you for taking on the extra shift), Cyndi w/Jurnee (Flat Coated Retriever) who rang from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Shirley w/Tachi (Border Collie) who rang from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. We appreciate the generous donations of the Publix customers - our day's total was \$720.24. Thanks also to our family members (Steve, Jim, Jason and Bryan) for joining us.



During the holiday break, Troop Leaders Shirley (183) and Christine (157) met up at Jonathan Dickenson State Park. We thoroughly enjoyed spending time working with our dogs, Tachi and Clover. A number of short beginning tracks were completed in one of the parking lots using the HITT method. Then Shirley pulled out the containers filled with dirt and Clover was introduced to the Novice Buried element of AKC Scent Work. Clover already has titles in some of the other elements, but this was a new challenge for her. We finished up with a hike and made a loop of just under 2 miles before the rain clouds set in and we called it a day. It was a great afternoon, and depending on our schedules for 2019, we might consider the Park for a future inter-troop camping activity.

On the last Sunday of the year we met for a lunch meeting to plan our 2019 activities. We were pleased to meet a couple of guests at this meeting and we hope they'll become DSA members and join us for future activities.

Afterwards a couple of us took advantage of the glorious weather in the late afternoon and went for a walk and ice-cream on the way home.

Tachi added a couple more miles towards his backpacking title while Marvin checked out some environmental features

for future parkour hikes, and wanted to know why his favorite store was closed!



# Troops 198, 233 & 237—CA

*Leah Lane—Event Coordinator*

San Francisco Bay Area Troops 198, 233 and 237 closed out 2018 with a party and started 2019 strong with training.

On 11/27/2018 Troop 198 tried out a new meeting place at Sports Basement in Campbell. They graciously let us use their store for our November Meeting and it worked great! They provided tables and chairs and a great place to get out of the rain. Here is Donna enjoying a snack. Cora is making sure nothing that might get dropped gets left behind with Patty and Crystal behind her just coming back from shopping before the meeting started.



Here Bob and Debee enjoy a little snack at the table as Maxwell looks towards the doggie shopping section in Sports Basement and Dayton is giving Cora a doggie Howdy, Do!



Cora is glad that Sadie's reindeer antlers are too small to fit her.



Crystal watches as Wyatt and Duncan enjoy a little fun after the meeting with a Kong filled with treats.

## Troop 198—CA (cont.)



After the Kong, Wyatt gets a drink, next to the Splash Down Noodle display. You can see through the window it is pouring, we are so grateful for Sports Basement Campbell letting us stay warm and dry in their great store for our meeting!

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, Troop 233 Hosted Let's Run Away And Join The Circus! Award winning dog trainer, and founder of the Canine Circus School in Oakland, Francis Metcalf gave a wonderful presentation for the East Bay Troop at MetroDog in Richmond.



Francis explained that Canine Circus School isn't just about teaching your dog a few fancy tricks, they combine the rigor of obedience school with the creativity and fun of the big top, this "art school for dogs" aims to go beyond churning out "well-trained pets." We want to turn every dog into an artist." Here is Mona posing for her graduation from Circus 1 class.

And here is Toby demonstrating one of his new circus class skills



## Troop 198—CA (cont.)

For the fourth year in a row the San Francisco Bay Area Troops joined together to march in the Morgan Hill Holiday of Lights Parade put on by the Kiwanis. We had our biggest turn out ever with 19 people and 14 dogs marching in the parade. We were in good company marching with local troops of Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts and Brownies. We had our huge banner, decorated wagon, a decorated holiday cart, a decorated sulky and a Santa sleigh with our DSA sign in it. We did Dog Scouts Proud!

We met in the parking garage. Here is Sadie sporting an awesome holiday outfit complete with socks and antlers next to mom, Lennie, in an awesome hat and holiday kitty sweater? Off to the side Blake is trying to get the lights fixed on Tribble's lead. Nice reindeer outfit Tribble!

With lead untangled, Blake poses with Yeti and Tribble. Christina and Crystal are watching from behind. Nice matching Santa hats Blake and Yeti!



Everyone is getting excited. Here are Wyatt & Duncan posing with their friend Charlotte who is sporting some cool antlers and a great light bulb necklace.



Out on the street at the staging area Yeti and Tribble have joined Cora. Cora pulled the decorated wagon with one of the DSA signs. Go Cora!

## Troop 198—CA (cont.)



It is starting to get dark and here is Lilly waiting with her human friend Shelby, they are tired of waiting and want to start now!



Everyone is doing last minute touches. Kokoro holds steady as mom Denise fixes her lights. Nice elf ears there Denise!



Here are Bailey and Crystal dressed in red holiday finery with human sister Christina and mom Carlotta. Bailey patiently waits to show off his skill at pulling this festive holiday cart, beautiful job decorating you guys!



Cowgirl is decked out in her pack loaded with lights and ready to go. Mom Susan uses her phone to let others know it is almost time, while Denise in those awesome ears does a last-minute adjustment to Kokoro's lights.

Judy's grandson, Jackson is in the DSA sleigh and all lighted up, he just needs Dog Scout Wyatt to get hitched up to the sleigh and they will be off!



Crystal dressed in her velvet holiday dress looks fabulous and looks to mom Patty to lead the way. Is it time yet?

## Troop 198—CA (cont.)

OK, we are all lined up and ready! Here is mom Anna ready to lead Roxy, (of course wearing reindeer antlers), to pull the beautifully decorated sulky that her nephew is riding in, it is almost our turn!



Finally, here we go! Holding our Dog Scout banner is Donna on the left walking with her faithful companion Spike and on the right is our Dog Scout friend Vanessa, with the troops lined up behind!



And we are off! In front is Denise with those great ears, and behind her follows Kate with Cora pulling our decorated wagon with the DSA sign. To the left march Sadie with mom Lennie in that crazy hat and a cat sweater? Behind them are Judy with her dog Lilly and you can't really see it well, but there is Leah in a St. Bernard suit leading Wyatt who is pulling the DSA sleigh with baby Jackson riding inside!

Here is another shot of Sadie leading Mom Lennie and Leah walking with Wyatt as he pulls the DSA sleigh. This is the fourth year Wyatt has pulled this sleigh in this parade!



After the parade some of the holiday fairies couldn't resist enjoying some pets with Crystal dressed in her velvet holiday dress. Crystal in addition to being a member of Dog Scouts is also a certified therapy dog as are many of the dogs that marched in the parade.

## Troop 198—CA (cont.)



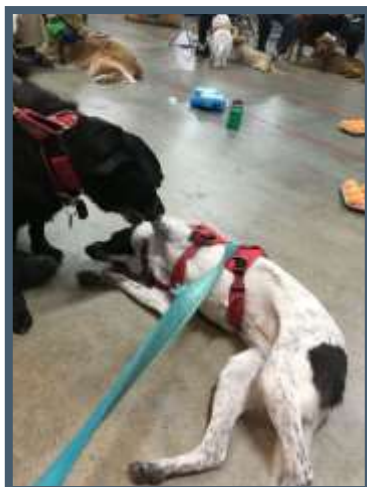
Here are Duncan & Wyatt, two of Santa's helpers.

Of course, with the holidays, many of our members made sure to get pictures made with Santa.

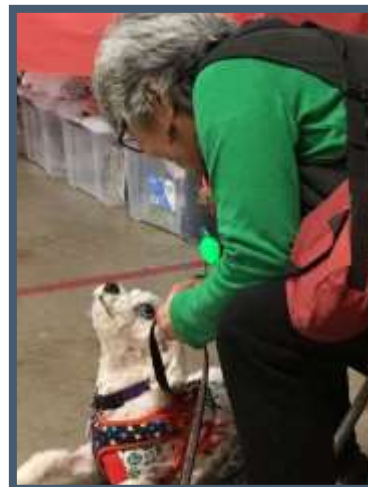


And Bailey and Crystal stopped in for a fun visit and a photo with Santa too!

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, we all got together for a holiday gathering and again, Sports Basement in Campbell allowed us to use their store as a location to have our party. We took the time to enjoy each other's company and have some fun during the busy holiday season.



Here are Duncan and Cowgirl enjoying a little wrestle. In the background is a blue bone treat puzzle, solo cups with treats hidden underneath and muffin tins with treats hidden under tennis balls, such fun!



And here Denise and Kokoro take a special moment together.



Wyatt tries to get his buddies Dayton and Maxwell to join him in doggie style Christmas Carols.



Bailey & Crystal's mom, Carlotta, is not impressed with Wyatt's singing.

## Troop 198—CA (cont.)



After the singing, it was time for some fun games. Here are Kate and Cora, (who is dressed to party), playing a puzzle game that is loaded with treats. YUM!

In addition to puzzle games, we had some activities to burn off some energy too, like going through the tunnel. Here Leah is holding the tunnel and grabbing the leash as Sadie's mom Sharon, goes to the other side to encourage Sadie to "run the tunnel"



Susan explains to Little Wyatt that his turn is next to run the tunnel.

Bailey says I love this tunnel!



Bailey sits in Dad's lap next to mom, Sandra; Dayton sits in front of Mom, Debee and Bob is holding Wyatt and Maxwell as they listen to the rules of the next game which is Tic Tac Dog. Maxwell looks at Bob asking if he can go first, Oh Boy!

Lilly crawls up in Judy's lap and says I don't want to play Tic Tac Dog, I just want to give you kisses.



## Troop 198—CA (cont.)



Game one of Tic Tac Dog begins. From left to right starting in the front row we have Cora, Wyatt, and Kozmo, then Little Wyatt, Scout and Dayton, and in the last row we have Sadie, Bailey and Kokoro, Good job guys, all the squares were filled, and the game ended in a tie!



Game two, left to right, front to back we have Kozmo, Dayton, and Kokoro, then big Wyatt, Scout and Bailey and in the last row, Kora, Little Wyatt and Sadie. Another tie, what great competitors!



Last game of the night, left to right, front to back we have Kozmo, Wyatt and Kokoro, then Cowgirl, Duncan and Bailey, last row is Kora, Dayton and Maxwell. Another tie, seems like the perfect way to end the party. Thank you, Sports Basement, for letting us use your store to have a great time bonding with our dogs and with each other!



To start the New Year off, we gathered in the rain and had our first Mall Walk About training at Stanford Shopping Mall in Palo Alto.

We challenged our dogs by having them come to us by going under a sculpture.



## Troop 198—CA (cont.)

And we had them go up the elevator in the parking garage, down the stairs, walk over grates that had warm air rushing out and we posed for a group shot on the outdoor fire place.

From right to left we have Bailey, Crystal, Duncan, Wyatt, Sadie, Cowgirl, Odin, Taz, Kokoro, Spike, and around the corner out of site is Stretch.



Here is a better shot of the other end, from left to right is Stretch, Spike, Kokoro, Taz and Cowgirl.

And on January 13<sup>th</sup> we had our first monthly training of the year.



Here are Donna and Spike and Susan and Cowgirl practicing Leave It With Food.



Here are Jamie and Taz on the left and Denise and Kokoro on the right working on sit.



From left to right, Sondra with Kozmo and Christina with Wyatt & Duncan watch as Carlotta works with Bailey on his sit stay.

## Troop 198—CA (cont.)



Sadie nudges Mom Lennie for a pet as she waits for her turn at the tunnel.



Kokoro looks back and says 2018 was a great year for the San Francisco Bay Area troops full of fun activities and new friends.

And Bailey looks ahead to all the wonderful adventures he will have with Dog Scouts in 2019, as do we all!

New friends and more fun.

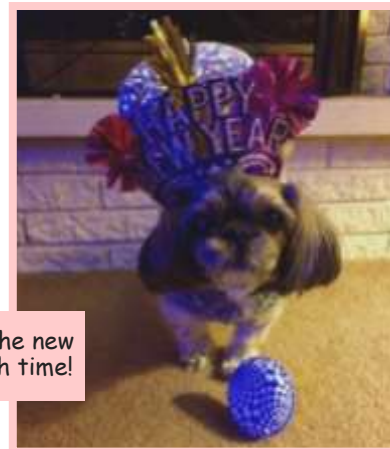
Welcome 2019!



# Troop 217—MI ~ Motor City K9's

Sally Hoyle—Troop Leader

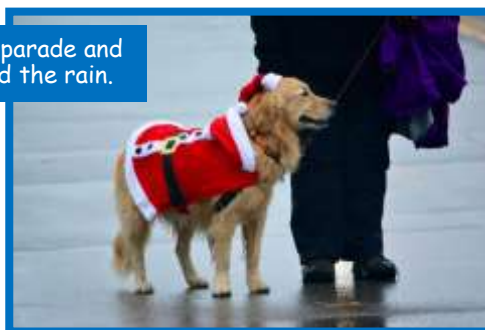
Shelby Benson and Troop 217 would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! Shelby partied the night away (at least until naptime) as she rang in her 16<sup>th</sup> new year.



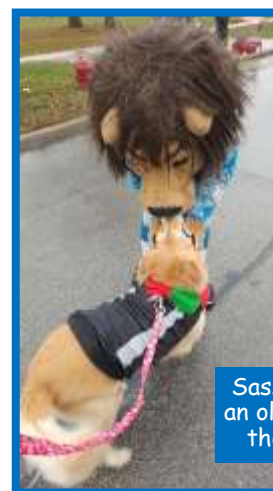
Shelby rings in the new year for the 16th time!

The holiday season was a busy one for Troop 217 with members taking part in many of our traditional activities and a few new ones as well. We participated in two parades and had a blast despite cold and rainy weather for both. We love the parades and really enjoy talking with other groups that participate in these parades and seeing old friends year after year.

Darby enjoyed the parade and didn't seem to mind the rain.



Sassy ran into an old friend at the parade.



Maia showed everyone where to put their donations.

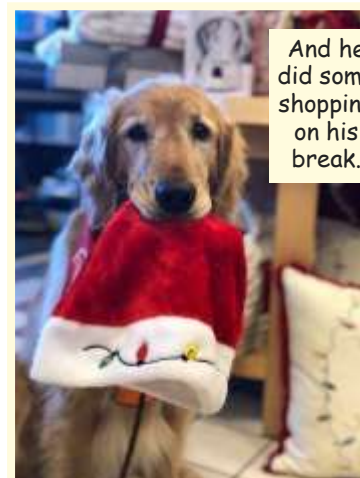
Also in December, we wrapped packages for the public at a local Barnes & Noble store in exchange for donations to DSA. The store provided all of the supplies and we just had to show up with our dogs, wrap gifts and walk about the store talking about Dog Scouts. The biggest challenge was keeping the tape out of the dogs' fur! Many thanks to Michelle and Sassy, Julie and Sam, Martha and Maia, Barrie Lynn and Sunny, Sue and Ember and Elizabeth Nadjuch for talking part of their day to wrap gifts and spread the word about Dog Scouts. Special thanks to Fay and Goldy from Troop 101 for joining us and to Barrie Lynn for organizing the event in my absence. The group had so much fun that we plan to make gift wrapping an annual event.



Sunny, Sassy, Maia and Goldy enjoyed helping to wrap gifts at Barnes & Noble.



Sunny was careful not to run with the scissors.



And he did some shopping on his break.

## Troop 217—MI (cont.)



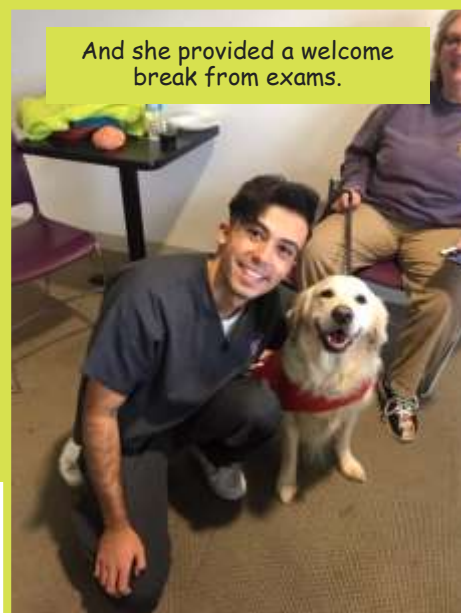
Sam really enjoyed helping students de-stress during exam week.

Many of our dogs are Therapy Dogs and the holidays provide these dogs with a number of unique opportunities to provide comfort to others or to serve as ambassadors for their favorite organizations. Sam was in his element when he went to the Hillel Jewish Student Organization at the University of Michigan to help the students relieve stress during exam week. As you can see from the photo he only wished he was bigger so that more students could pet him all at the same time. The students expressed their gratitude to Sam and Julie by giving them gifts. Sam received a very special U of M blanket and Julie got a mug.

Ember and her mom Sue attended the Puppies and Popcorn event at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. This event takes place during their exam week and provides the students with a chance to take a break and de-stress with dogs and snacks. Ember thought this was a great thing to do on a Thursday afternoon and really enjoyed her very first therapy event!



Ember was thrilled to go to the Puppies & Popcorn event.



And she provided a welcome break from exams.

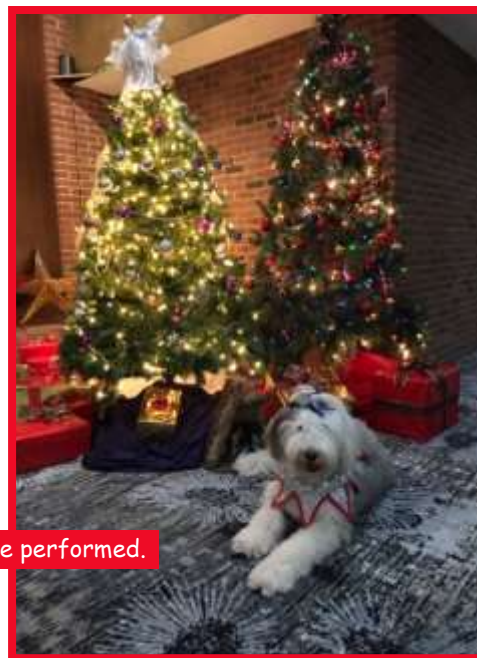


Sassy and her mom Michelle attended the Festival of Trees, a holiday fundraiser for the Children's Hospital where Sassy regularly visits. Sassy was a very special guest at this event and was able to see all the gorgeous trees and have her picture taken. She looked quite festive in her holiday attire!

Sassy has a ball at the Festival of Trees.

## Troop 217—MI (cont.)

Katie performed with the Rock 'n' Roll K9s at their very first theater show as a part of the holiday celebrations for the city of Port Huron, MI. Though this group has performed in many different places, we have never been on a stage. The dogs really enjoyed the environment and the crowds were great.



And Katie found the perfect place for a photo op at the theater where she performed.



A couple of our dogs achieved milestones in the past few months. Sassy attended the Pet Expo where she was able to earn both her Novice and Intermediate Trick Dog titles. The Pet Expo is a huge event in Michigan and many of our troop members attend. The Pet Expo offers opportunities for dogs to take part in many different activities, meet celebrities and shop. Of course we also take advantage of interacting with the public at this event and talk about Dog Scouts.

Sassy earned her novice and intermediate Trick Dog titles!

Ember was named an Achiever Dog!



Sue Szermet was excited when her dog Ember got mail from the AKC. She was quite surprised and thrilled when she opened it to find an Achiever Dog Certificate for Ember! AKC sends an Achiever Dog certificate to recognize teamwork and encourage people to continue to try different activities with their dogs. Ember earned this certificate for her achievements in Confirmation, Canine Good Citizen, Trick Dog and Farm Dog.

## Troop 217—MI (cont.)



Shelby and Julie with Hero from America's Got Talent.

Katie enjoyed her Florida vacation but was happy to be reunited with her brother and sister once she returned home. Mackenzie thought it was fun to visit Santa for the very first time and was glad that Sam was with her to show her the ropes.



Sam and Mackenzie with Santa. Santa volunteers with the local Greyhound rescue organization and we are happy to support them each year.



Lizzy was very special and we will all miss her.

Our troop was very sad to lose one of our long time Dog Scouts recently. Lizzy was a very special dog, always happy and very spunky. We all have our own favorite memories of Lizzy. I will never forget watching Lizzy calmly riding in a canoe with a complete stranger at a water safety event we did at a community pool. Mom Diane was positive that she would remain calmly in the boat and let her go out with her uniform on. I guess mom knows best because Lizzy did just as she expected though I anticipated disaster at any moment. Lizzy will be missed by us all.

# Troop 229—CA ~ Dogaholics Anonymutts

Mary Blackstone—Troop Leader

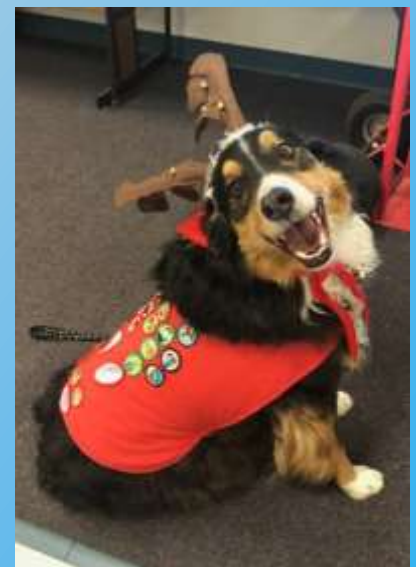
In 2018 we gained another troop member.

October we held our BarkFest, iZAR & I won the wheelchair race in our age division.



## Troop 229—CA (cont.)

In December we held our Sit With Santa Pictures & games and delivered treats for dogs & cats to a local Senior Center.



## Troop 229—CA (cont.)

iZAR & I have been geocaching, Letterboxing and hiking, with and without our 4H kids.



## Troop 230—TX

Kristen Keeling—Troop Leader

Although we have been silent in the newsletter, we have stayed very busy in the troop.

In May our troop gathered together to learn how to make snuffle mats. This was an easy project as well as fun human socialization that took extra time but our pups said it was well worth the effort.



In June, we officially rolled out 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. We also participated in the City of Longview's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and were able to add several new members.



In July two of our members, Beth Head and Beth Ann Geesing organized an amazing fun match. This consisted of Intro to Rally, Beginner Rally, Obstacles and Confirmation. This was the first exposure of these sports to many of our members. Other members in our group jumped in and helped teach the sports. This was definitely a wonderful team effort.



## Troop 230—TX (cont.)



In August we had two activities. First, due to the increased interest in Dog Scouts we had a general information session. This was basically the Dog Scout class for our newest members. Later in the month we had a fun fundraiser where we gathered together to paint a common picture – dog related of course.

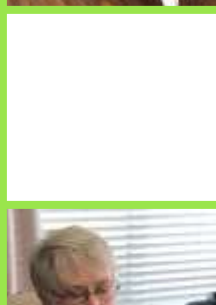
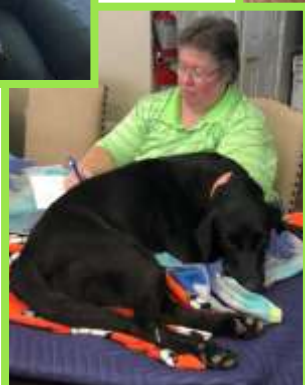


## Troop 230—TX (cont.)



In September, Dog Scout mom Gina Smith came to Tyler to teach our troop Canine Massage. We had several earn their badge!

Our members liked this class because they felt it was a way to give back to their dogs.



Our Service Project for the year was having our pups sign several Christmas cards for the Wounded Warriors at Walter Reid Hospital.



The dogs weren't sure at first but they were great troops. It turned out to be a really fun project and we received great feedback.



Troop 230—TX (cont.)



In December we had our traditional Christmas Pawty.



## Troop 230—TX (cont.)



We enjoyed some home cooking, fellowship, acknowledgement of accomplishments and a gift exchange. We had several visitors that later became members. Word must be getting out about our fun parties as this was our largest pawty yet!



## Troop 230—TX (cont.)

During the last week of December, we had a special Dog Scout Class and testing. This two-part class left us with SIX (6) new Scouts! Please join us in congratulating our 2019 Scouts:



Caleb  
(Daryl Hall)



Daisy Dew  
(Jeanne Crane)



Lizzie  
(Claudia and Rick Schmitt)



PeeWee  
(Nancy Porche)



Raven  
(Jeanne Crotty)



Twig  
(Jim Hall)

2018 was an excellent year with new beginnings. We can't wait to see what 2019 brings.

For information about Troop 230 or any of our activities, please reach out to Kristen Keeling at [easttexasdsa@yahoo.com](mailto:easttexasdsa@yahoo.com).

# Goals for 2019

What are some of our DSA members  
planning to achieve this year?





Alex: Alex wants to continue her agility training this year, complete the requirements for the Parkour and Copy Cat badges and start working on her Trail Dog title  
(Mart & Cindy Ratliff - 119)



Andy: Help Andy become more confident around strangers and create opportunities to get out and hike in nature  
(Tammy Doak - 119)



Banksy: Banksy's goal for the year is to become a Dog Scout and get a solid recall  
(Gina Garner - 119)



Biscuit: Remain healthy, finish the Pho-dog-raphy and sign language badges, hike 200-250 miles, attend another mini camp and advance our shaping skills  
(Cheryl Nava - 119)



Blitzen: We're waiting to take the Dog Scout test to become an official Scout. We are taking rally/obedience and agility lessons. Blitzen loves swimming and hiking. Once he has his DSA, he will work on the Puppy Paddler, Backpacking & Clean Up America 2 badge  
(Kathy Tucker - 119)



Chance: Work on doorbell manners and polite visitor greeting; improve our recall from good to "rock solid"; introduce Nosework  
(Karen & Dennis Phillips - 119)



Bolt: Achieve the Lure Courser Excellent 4 (LCX 4) which will qualify him for the highest level versatility award of Versatile Basenji Elite (VBE) from the breed club; Achieve Lure Courser of Merit (LCM) from ASFA; complete the requirements for AKC Therapy Dog Advanced; Work on DSA badges in Carting, Rally and Tricks; compete in AKC Rally trials  
(Joe & Lisa Stewart – 149)



Charlie: Our goal for this year (hopefully within the next few months) will be for Charlie to earn his DSA title. Overnight camping will be the next one we tackle together. Any excuse to go camping is welcome in our family :-)  
(Maegan Clark - 119)



Cutter: We are still working on the Hiking badge & Trail Dog title; continue our agility classes and enter a few trials. I want to practice rally moves and perhaps enter a C-Wags Rally Trial. We might continue working on dock diving too  
(Becky Roberts - 119)



Darra: Darra will be working on Trail Dog and continue working toward a Carting Badge  
(MarSue Freeman - 119)



Gracie: Earn the Intermediate Trick title, the Pho-dog-raphy, Sign language and geocaching 2 badges and the Trail Dog title

Gretel: Earn the Dog Scout, Trail Dog Titles and the Novice trick title  
(Kristen Keeling - 230)



Diva: more dock diving so she can continue to make a splash!  
(Gina Smith – 230)

Jasper: I want to go hiking so I can finish up the Utility Trail Dog Title, go to camp and take lots of long naps. I'm going to use positive training to get Mom to give me more treats . . . she doesn't give me enough treats!  
(Maureen Callahan - 119)



Jet: Resume agility classes, get out for regular walks at new places, make progress on socialization/ increase confidence, acclimate to the backpack and earn the Backpacking badge, earn the puppy paddlers badge and resume Nosework in some form  
(Victoria Severns - 119)

The corgis: At least one dog will finish the Clean-up America 2 (poop) badge and Justin will earn the backpacking badge  
(Marcia Odal - 119)



Kay-cee: Soon to be 16-years-old, Kay-cee still loves walking & swimming. We will do whatever she desires. Her nose is still sharp so I'd like to work on scents with her. Although retired from agility trials, she will still come to classes with her siblings & continue to do a few tunnels for fun. Got to keep her moving!  
(Kathy Tucker - 119)



Katie wants to continue working on tricks in 2019 and earn her remaining Trick Dog titles and the Animal Actor merit badge. She loves learning new things and this is a good way to keep her active as she continues to lose her sight. She did a great job on her 2018 goals and is really happy to finally have gotten a new baby sister!

(Sally Hoyle - 217)



Keenan: Enjoy every day together; begin using his rear legs for locomotion, take regular walks at new places using my wheels, Resume Nosework in some capacity

(Victoria Severns - 119)



Kira Kitsune: Kira's goal for 2019 is for her to become a dog scout and earn her Canine Good Citizen and Urban Canine Good Citizen titles!

(Leah Franczek - 119)



Lacey: Finish the last requirement for the Copy Cat badge and work on more Treibball and Rally badges. Continue working on Carting and Retrieve. Also go on hikes to earn the Utility Trail Dog title. I got Mom a full wetsuit so we can go swimming in the lakes all year. I'm hoping that will help her get in the water so I can earn the Puppy Paddler badge . . . it's her fault I haven't earned it yet!

Go to camp. Snuggle a lot with Mom  
(Maureen Callahan - 119)

Mackenzie: Now 10 months old, Mackenzie was very proud to become a Dog Scout last year and earn her Novice Trick Dog tilte. She has lots of goals for 2019—including earning the Manners and Animal Actor badges and more Trick Dog titles. She wants to do a lot of hiking, spend time with her mama and learn to not be afraid of her groomer.  
(Sally Hoyle - 217)



Malu: Pass the Manners Badge  
(Pam Barnum - 119)



Marshal: Earn Obstacle 1 and 2  
& Backpacking badges  
(Susan & Tom Waits - 119)



Mercy June: Become a Dog Scout  
(Susan & Tom Waits - 119)



Millie: We will work on the Hiking badge & Backpacking Title. Millie will continue her agility lessons & enter a few trials. She is feeling more comfortable competing at trials. We will try for the Agility Course Test 2 since her weaves have improved. I might have her work on Trick titles (Kathy Tucker - 119)



Moose: Focus on engagement around distractions, DMWYD Expert Trick Dog Title, learn more agility and parkour behaviors (Barrie-Lynn Wood - 217)



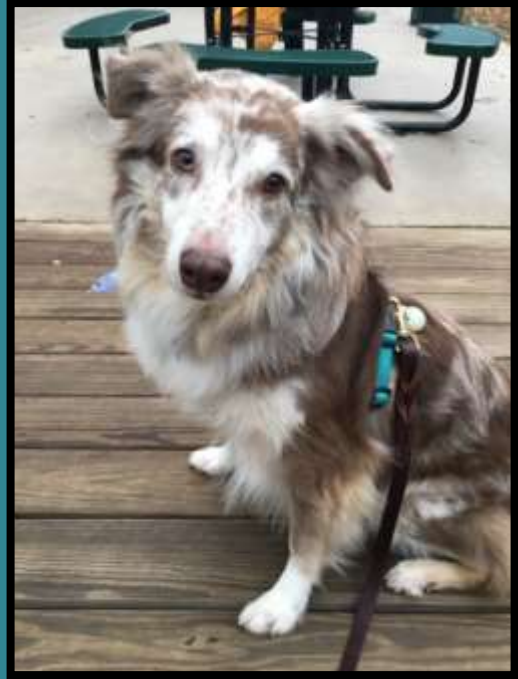
Nim: Looking forward to earning the DSA Backpacking badge and title, and explore the requirements for the Doga and K-9 fitness merit badges. Finish the AKC Scent Work Novice, Handler Discrimination Novice titles along with the Senior Barn Hunt title. Get back into Parkour after we've finished our backpacking requirements (Shirley Conley - 183)



Reba: Earn the Dog Manners, Kayaking, Letterboxing merit badges and help my brother get his hiking and back packing while I work on my trail badges (Cynthia Stone – 239)



Reggie: Pass the AKC Canine Good Citizen Test, become an official Dog Scout. Take an agility class, Learn lots of new tricks, Break the attention barking habit! (Bethany Krusi)



Remi: Submit Remi's information so he can get his therapy dog badge. Continue to work on Remi's confidence (Robin Ashman-Terrell - 119)



Rika: Exercise more and to visit more dog friendly places! (Leah Franczek - 119)



Roo: Start walking at least 3 times a week and work up to daily. Also to work with Roo on his downs so he can become a Scout (Jill Spencer - 119)



Rouen: Our goals for this year are to work on completing the few badges we have started so we can focus on learning new ones (Debbie Baker - 119)



Roxus: Art of Shaping, Hiking, Backpacking, Parkour, Agility, Manners, Puppy Paddler, Kayaking and hopefully camp with mom this year (Cynthia Stone – 239)



Sage: Finish our 200 miles of trails and the last requirement for the Parkour badge (Nita Lanter - 119)



Sam really enjoys his therapy work and looks forward to spending more time with veterans and with his new student friends. He is working on achieving a couple of new titles this year, TDI Exceptional Volunteer Achievement (TDIEVA) and AKC Therapy Dog Distinguished. He will also work on tricks this year and will earn his remaining Trick Dog titles. He wasn't sure about having a baby sister at first but now he thinks she's pretty cool! (Sally Hoyle – 217)



Sebastian: Work on doorbell manners and polite visitor greeting; improve recall from good to "rock solid"; intro to nosework; attend 2019 mini camp  
(Karen & Dennis Phillips - 119)



Solace: Finish the poop pick up badge, hike the 2 trails at Tyler State park we still need to do to officially complete the 4 petals of the rose, Obtain the AKC Canine Good Citizen and Community Canine titles; find somewhere to hide the 2 geocaches to complete our Geocache 2 badge, complete the Letterbox 2 badge, continue working on our Trail Dog and Pack Dog Titles (reach the 1,000 mile on both) , continue working on the trick dog levels and finally finish working on the PurpleSol Facebook page for the crafts I make so can hopefully sell more so we can pay for all this and continue to support our Troop 230 by donating 10% of what we make from craft sales and taking cans for scrap metal  
(Nicola Street - 230)

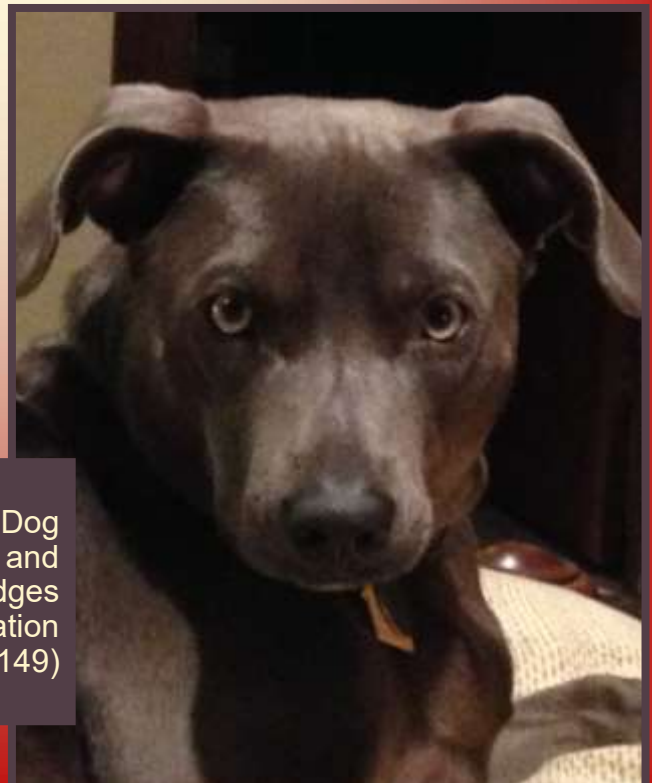


Stevie Ray: Earn his Art of Shaping badge (still!), work on his Trail Dog title and do lots more snuggling with his mama!  
(Mart & Cindy Ratliff - 119)

Sunny Bear: DMWYD Champion Trick Dog and Stunt Dog Titles. Carting with the goal of taking it to Hospitals and parades (Barrie-Lynn Wood - 217)



Tachi: Work towards DSA: Pack Dog and Trail Dog titles, Rally 1, Agility 1, Dock Diving, Retrieve, Naked Obedience; AKC: Scent Work Advanced, Rally Novice, Novice Agility Preferred and/or Novice Jumpers With Weaves Preferred. Get back into Parkour after we've finished our backpacking requirements (Shirley Conley - 183)



Tempest: Earn DMWYD and AKC Trick Dog Advanced and Expert titles; Earn LCM2 and LCX2 in lure coursing; Work on DSA badges for Manners and Scent Discrimination (Joe & Lisa Stewart - 149)

Texie: Complete her  
Dog Scout certification  
(Mark Nelson - 119)



Westen: We continue training and competing in ASCA rally at Masters level. Agility training & competing will continue this year. We are still working on our UP Packdog title since I was sidetracked with an injury this year. Since he loves the water we may try some more dock diving training. The Pho-Dog-raphy badge is still on my list to complete. We will see what else piques our interest.  
(Kathy Tucker - 119)



Zana: DSA Manners  
badge, AKC Canine Good  
Citizen title and go to  
DSA Mini-Camp again  
(Pat Keeling - 230)

# Contact Dog Scouts of America

Learning new things that we may be more helpful

Website: [dogscouts.org](http://dogscouts.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/DogScouts](https://facebook.com/DogScouts)  
Yahoo Discussion List:  
[https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/DSA\\_TalkList/info](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/DSA_TalkList/info)

**Annual Troop Report  
Submission deadline has been  
extended to February 28, 2019.  
Troop Leaders may now submit the  
online form**

**<https://form.jotform.com/83548046776166>  
or e-mail your form to  
[troops@dogscouts.org](mailto:troops@dogscouts.org)**

**President: Lonnie Olson** — [DogScoutCamp@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:sally.hoyle@yahoo.com)

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

**Membership: Shirley Conley** — [membership@dogscouts.org](mailto:membership@dogscouts.org)

**Troop Administration:**  
**Barrie Lynn Wood and Cyndi Stone** — [troops@dogscouts.org](mailto:troops@dogscouts.org)  
(Starting a troop/Troop Leader Tests)

**Treasurer/Donations: Barb Whiting** — [bwhitingdsa@comcast.net](mailto:bwhitingdsa@comcast.net)

## MERIT BADGE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

**Video Evaluation:** [DSAVideoEval@gmail.com](mailto:DSAVideoEval@gmail.com)  
**Recording Secretary: Julie Benson** — [bensonjulie@earthlink.net](mailto:bensonjulie@earthlink.net)  
**Evaluator Certification: Chris Kloski** — [ChrisBill1966@gmail.com](mailto:ChrisBill1966@gmail.com)

## TITLES/COMPETITIONS

**Hosting/Competing: Sally Hoyle** — [sally.hoyle@yahoo.com](mailto:sally.hoyle@yahoo.com)  
**Trail Dog Titles: Kelly Ford** — [DSA.Troop219@yahoo.com](mailto:DSA.Troop219@yahoo.com)  
(Also for competition registration numbers)

**Newsletter: Shirley Conley (Editor)** — [thescoop@dogscouts.org](mailto:thescoop@dogscouts.org)

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

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."