# 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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## **Notes from National**

Mark Your Calendars! P2 Welcome, Madam President! P3 Attitude of Gratitude P3-4 New Item in the Camp Store P5-6 Pet Friendly Hotel Chains P7-8 Troop Recognition P8 #dogscoutsofamerica P9-10 Badge Bulletin & Title Tales P11-13

Rainbow Bridge P14

Scout Scoop & Troop Talk P15-42

**Deadline:** for the next newsletter is **September 15th** Please e-mail your news, articles, and pictures to thescoop@dogscouts.org

## Mark your (Dog Scout) calendars!

Sally Hoyle—President

#### Photo submissions for the 2020 CALENDAR are due by August 31.

This includes any photos you would like us to consider for the calendar as well as photos for any special 'Dog Days' you'd like to recognize. We like photos that show dogs participating in some kind of activity rather than beauty shots for the calendar pages. Dog Days photos should be head and shoulders shots. Please remember that there is a cost of \$5.00 for each Dog Day. The cost for calendars will be published later and will reflect our current cost of printing. Photos and any questions should be sent to Sally Hoyle at sally.hoyle@yahoo.com

#### **CRAFTING WEEKEND** at the Michigan camp will be held September 13-15.

This weekend is open to anyone who likes to do crafting. This is an unstructured weekend where people work on whatever types of crafts interest them. Participants bring their own crafting materials and work in the lodge alongside other crafty types. We have had people do scrapbooking, sewing and quilting, fairy house building, rock painting, leash making and just about any other type of crafting you can think of. There is also plenty of time for fun with our dogs. Cost for the weekend include table rental (\$25 for an 8 foot table and \$20 for a 6 foot), and lodging. We share in the responsibility for planning and cooking meals. We usually have a couple of "make and take" crafts that we do together and those do have costs to cover materials. Since we can only get so many tables in the lodge space is limited. Reserve your space today!

Contact Lonnie at <u>dogscoutcamp@gmail.com</u>.

#### The annual FALL JAMBOREE will be Oct 4-6, also at Michigan Camp.

This is a fun filled weekend designed to enjoy with your dog with games and activities. This year's theme is a "tailgate party", though no actual knowledge of sports is required. Welcome to attend. Costs include lodging and a contribution to meals for the weekend. Again, space is limited so please reserve your space today by contacting Lonnie at <u>dogscoutcamp@gmail.com</u>.



## Welcome, Madam President!

Lonnie Olson—Founder

Dog Scouts of America has a new President! Please help me welcome Sally Hoyle as the new President of Dog Scouts of America. Sally has served as Vice President for the past 6 years, taking on many duties of the President as I traveled or was otherwise in need of assistance. She has done such a great job that it almost seems as though she has already been running DSA for the past few years.

Before she accepted the office, she wanted to make sure that the Board created a "Founder's Seat," to protect the original mission of DSA. With the Founder always in the background to remind everyone of our purpose and goals, we will always keep the best interests of DSA at heart. With this seat in place, Sally officially accepted the position of President of DSA on July 28, 2019.

Sally comes with a background in Business with 26 years of experience working in the Corporate Environment, primarily human resources, organizational development and training. She has many great skills that will be very useful as President of Dog Scouts, as well as a deep love for our organization. Says Sally, "DSA is in my soul."



## Attitude of Gratitude

Lonnie Olson—Founder



• Bob and Cheryl Ashford for their very generous donation to Dog Scouts. As new members, we truly appreciate your giving spirit and generosity towards DSA.

 Joanne Weber for her very generous donation to Dog Scouts. As always, your continuing support of DSA is so greatly appreciated.

• Fay Reid for her very generous donation to Dog Scouts. You've been a staunch supporter of DSA for a very long time.

Kat Vogtman for the donation of several items to the Michigan Dog Scout Camp: Agility PVC weave poles and fences, PVC jumps, A nice wagon with sides and outfitted to be used in dog carting with a harness, traces and shafts, a snow sled, items for the auction, two large dog crates, and other various items. Thanks for thinking of us, Kat, as you pare down your possessions to take your RV on the road!

#### Attitude of Gratitude (cont.)

- Sally Hoyle for all that she has donated this year to Dog Scout Camp: Leader Retreat crafts, kitchen items, the new LED lights that go all the way around the eaves of the Lodge, and the new remotely controlled LED lights above the auction table in the lodge, and the time she spent taking down the old lights and hanging the new ones, coming early to the camps and helping with cleaning and set-up, staying after camp and helping with shut-down and clean up. What would I do without you?
- Julie Lawler-Hoyle for handling the administrative duties at both camps, and providing many of your own materials, like reams of paper, inkjet refills, and page protectors. You're the best!
- Kim Farlin and Denise Durrell for the kind donation of a new water barrel for our craft area at the Michigan camp. No more leaky barrel! Thanks for seeing the need and taking action.
- Elizabeth Najduch and Martha Thierry, who planned fun activities for us to do during the tab check-outs. The dog actor I.D. and character from movies I.D. were fun, and went along perfectly with our theme of the Canine Film Festival.
- Martha, for staying after camp and sorting out the recyclables mess for me. You're always there, willing to lend a hand.
- Barrie Lynn Wood for getting together goodie bags with some donated items for camp 2. The bug repellent spray by the exit of the lodge was appreciated, and will be appreciated by all in the future, too!
- Chris Kloski for donating the welcome mats that say "This is my Happy Place!" for the lodge at Michigan camp. We liked it so much that we're making this our theme for next year's camps and shirt design.

There are just so many people to thank this time around that with my old brain, I'm afraid I forgot someone. Please know that any contribution you have made to DSA or the camps is appreciated by all.



## New Item in the Camp Store!

Sparky's Boutique is pleased to announce the arrival of a great new item. It's a Sunshield!

Not sure what a Sunshield is? Also known as a neck gaiter, neck

warmer, or by the brand name Buff, a sunshield is a multi-functional headwear product made of a tube of lightweight, stretchy material that has so many uses it's hard to describe them all.

It can keep the sun off your neck, dust out of your mouth, and hair out of your eyes. It doesn't have a seam so can comfortably line a hat or helmet. It can help keep you cool when dipped in water or warm when pulled over your mouth. This time of year a Sunshield is awesome at keeping those pesky mosquitoes away from your head and ears. See the next page for another use that Lonnie, found for them.

A Sunshield/neck gaiter is such a useful item that many of us don't leave home without at least one!

Our Sunshield is custom designed and includes the words "Dog Scouts of America" throughout the design, woven in among paw prints. Best of all, our Sunshield is just \$10! This is a fantastic price on an extremely useful item.

Order your Sunshield today by contacting Lonnie at

dogscoutcamp@gmail.com



#### New Item in the Camp Store! (cont.)

"I have a 'Buff' with me all the time and I never know when I'm going to need it or what I'm going to need it for. But I always seem to need it!

I was recently on a 2-day kayaking trip and got sunburned on the first day, but didn't have any long pants or towel to protect my leg the second day. I did however have two Sunshields with me and I pulled them both over my leg so that my sunburn did not get worse. It saved me a lot of agony."

DO RAG

HAIRTIE

HOOD

NECKERCHIEF

HAIRBAND

SAHARIANE

WRISTBAND

Lonnie, DSA Founder

CAL

FOULARD

NECK GAITOR

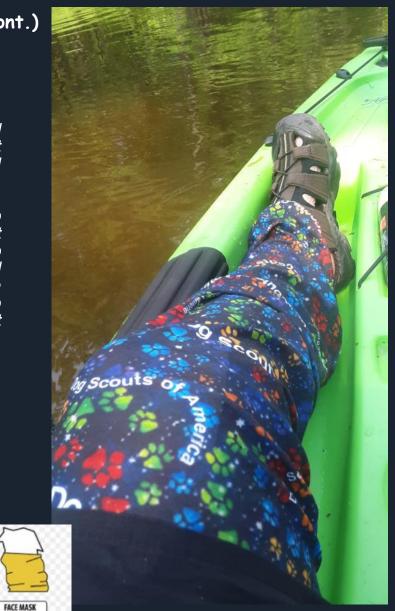
SUN GUARD

BALACLAVA

PIRATE

HAT LINER

HEADBAND



You can order your Sunshield(s) by contacting Lonnie at

dogscoutcamp@gmail.com



Not sure how the Sunshield becomes a cap or saharaine? Click on the image to link to a how-to video.

## Pet Friendly Hotel Chains Where Pets Stay Free

Amy Burkert / Pet Travel Resources / Feb 12th, 2019

With pet travel on the rise, many pet friendly hotels are rolling out the red carpet for our four-legged companions. While some accommodations impose exorbitant fees for bringing your pet along, others have taken a truly pet-friendly approach. Today we're celebrating the pet friendly hotel chains were pets are welcome to **stay for free**.

#### **Aloft Hotels**

Aloft hotels are part of the Starwood Hotels & Resorts family, and 104 of their 169 North American properties are pet friendly. Through their "arf" program, Aloft provide canine guests with treats and a special bed, bowls, and toys for use during their stay.

**Aloft Hotels Pet Policy:** 104 pet friendly properties in major cities across North America. Policies vary slightly by location, so contact the hotel before booking. Most allow two dogs per room at no additional cost, with a 40 pound weight restriction. Guests with larger dogs and other types of pets are encouraged to contact the hotel directly for a waiver.

#### **Kimpton Hotels**

The Kimpton Hotel chain is part of the InterContinental Hotels Group, and is known for its animal attraction. Every one of their 67 hotels across the United States welcomes furry, feathery, and scaly family members. Kimpton goes the extra mile to be sure pet guests enjoy their stay with special amenities like comfy pet beds, bowls, treats at check in, and pet friendly yappy hour wine receptions in the evening. Some locations even have a Directors of Pet Relations on staff to give you and your travel buddy a tail-wagging welcome!

**Kimpton Hotel Pet Policy:** 67 properties in 37 cities across the country, with more coming soon. No additional fees and no restrictions on the number, size, breed, or weight of the pet. View the Kimpton Pet Policy.

#### La Quinta Hotels

With nearly 900 hotels flying the La Quinta flag across North America, you're never far from a pet friendly place to stay. Located along major highways and in towns and cities, this chain provides moderately priced, consistently pleasant accommodations.

While most La Quintas welcome cats and dogs, there are some La Quinta hotels that do not allow pets:

Brooklyn Downtown, NY Central Park, NY Dallas – Richardson, TX Florence, KY Inglewood, CA Los Angeles LAX Airport, CA New York City Central Park, NY Plano-Legacy-Frisco, TX Queens, NY San Antonio Medical Center, TX White Plains – Elmsford, NY

La Quinta Pet Policy: 870 properties along major highways and in cities and towns across North America. Two pets (cats and dogs) are welcome per room. *Beginning January 1, 2019, some La Quinta hotels have instituted a pet fee of \$20 for a one-night stay and \$40 for a stay of two nights or more.* Because the policy is so new, the number of properties now charging pet fees is not available. Please call to verify pet policies before making your reservation. View La Quinta's Pet Policy.

#### Motel 6

Motel 6 is the largest owned and operated motel chain, with approximately 1,200 properties throughout the US and Canada. Their rooms are some of the most affordable you'll find, and every location is pet friendly. The rooms tend to be basic, but the price is right!

#### Pet Friendly Hotel Chains Where Pets Stay Free (cont.) Motel 6

**Motel 6 Pet Policy**: 1,200 properties across the US and Canada. Motel 6 allows two per room with no restrictions on size of pets and does not charge additional fees. (The Studio 6 branded hotels charge a \$10 per night pet fee, up to \$75.) View the Motel 6 Pet Policy.

#### **Red Roof Inns**

Red Roof Inns take pet-friendly travel to a new level – not only do they not charge additional pet fees – they'll give you a 10% discount when you bring your pet along! Their more than 500 locations provide economical accommodations across the U.S., and most\* welcome one dog or cat is welcome per room.

\*Due to specific circumstances, the Oxon Hill, MD and Queensboro, NY locations cannot accept pets.

**Red Roof Inns Pet Policy:** More than 500 properties in 36 states. One cat or dog weighing 80 pounds or less is welcome per room with no additional fees. Tell them your pet will be joining you and receive a discount on your stay! View the Red Roof Inn Pet Policy.

#### Virgin Hotels

New on the scene, the Virgin Hotel currently has locations in Chicago and San Francisco, with more on the way! The staff at pet friendly hotels are self-professed fans of fuzz, and canine guests will find the accommodations every bit as welcoming as their humans. Dogs are provided a bed, food and water bowls, treats, and a stylish bandana. Keep your nose to the ground, because they're expanding to Nashville, New York, Dallas, Palm Springs, Silicon Valley, New Orleans, Washington, D.C. and Las Vegas soon.

**Virgin Hotels Pet Policy:** 2 properties with 8 additional locations coming soon. Dog and cats are welcome, with no breed or weight restrictions, no size limits, and no additional fees. View the Virgin Hotel Pet Policy.

All that's left to do now is pack and hit the road! Waggin' trails!!

https://blog.gopetfriendly.com/the-6-pet-friendly-hotel-chains-where-pets-stay-free/ accessed 7/19/19

Amy also wrote a post on "<u>Dog Barking In Hotel Rooms: Tips For A Quiet Stay</u>" which might be worth a read.



### **Troop Recognition Program**

Shout out to <u>Troop 119</u> in Texas who were not mentioned in the last newsletter but who also accumulated enough points to be earn the blue ribbon status.

Pictured are members of Troop 119 at one of their Meals on Wheels community service activities.



The Dog Scout Scoop



#### What the #!

Back in the day when people read books, an index would list the topics covered in the book with all the page numbers where that topic was referenced. Hashtags are social media's equivalent of that index – it ties a post to other internet posts for the same category. The practice started on Twitter but is now being used on other social media platforms. A hashtag is a word or phrase (with no spaces between the words) with a "#" in front of it. As mentioned, adding a hashtag allows your post to be categorized with other posts of the same content.

#### How to use the #

Hashtags, then, can be used to introduce our content to a people who are interested in the same subject. When using hashtags, 1-3 are appropriate, but some say up to 5 is acceptable. **However**, be sure a post doesn't just contain a string of hashtags—people expect a pertinent comment to give context to what they're looking at. You can incorporate the hashtag as part of your comment (#activedogs getting video during our #dogscoutsofamerica activity for our #lurecoursing merit badge) or list them after (learning when to add a new cue #dogscoutsofamerica #positivedogtraining #funwithdogs) If you can add a business or town as a location, that'll save a hashtag for another category and pin your activity to the area you're serving or looking for new members in (#ohiodogs #dogsofcolumbus).

#### **Targeting a Wider Audience**

If you're posting pictures to social media and you're willing to make those posts "public", we hope you'll start adding **#dogscoutsofamerica**. This hashtag on its own though won't be enough to raise awareness of DSA, you'll want to hashtag something related to the activity you're doing that others doing the same thing might be following. You could hashtag the rescue group you adopted your dog from (#seminolecountyanimalservices) or the breed group you are part of (#smoothcolliesofinstagram) as a means of inspiring others; the activity (#hikingdogs, #travelwithdogs) or the sport (#rallyobedience #barnhunt) you are participating in etc. On Instagram once you start typing in the # you'll have some options pop up and also a note on how many other posts are under that hashtag, pick a couple that have generated a lot of posts for greater publicity.

For example if someone was interested in standup paddleboarding with their dog, they may look for #supdogs for posts of others who have done this activity. If you #supdogs and #dogscoutsofamerica, and #(the lake you're boarding on), when the picture of you and your dog pops up, you've smoothly introduced Dog Scouts of America to someone who likes spending time being active with their dog and who could potentially make a wonderful member to your troop or one in their area.

If you're attending a local event, look for or ask about the official hashtag for the event, you might take a picture of your dog or troop training/practicing or packing for the event and post it in the week or two preceding the event to garner some interest from those who are considering attending and encourage more people to stop by and meet your dog scouts. If you've got a hashtag to spare, hashtag the city or area your troop meets (#orlandodogs #easttexaslife), often those locations have a hashtag set up ending in "dog" or "dogs" for a more targeted marketing to increase awareness of your troop's activities.

#### #dogscoutsofamerica (cont.)

There is also #dogscouts that you can include, but if you've got multiple hashtags that you want to use for a wider audience then please give #dogscoutsofamerica priority out of the two. Some of our troops have a hashtag for their troop which they consistently use, and they can then direct potential members to that hashtag to view posts about previous activities and future activities. This is useful if your troop's website is a basic landing page that is not updated regularly or you post activity notices on sites such as <u>meet-up</u>.

#### Share!

Make the effort to share your posts with the official event organizer's page on Facebook either by directly sharing to their page or tagging them e.g. when bell ringing for the Salvation Army tag your local area command center as well as the location you're volunteering at, e.g. Publix Super Market at \_\_\_\_\_\_. If you're setting up a table at a local event or attending an activity as a group, post a picture on their page that "Troop \_\_\_\_\_ is looking forward to . . ." All businesses want positive publicity, so it's a win-win if you're meeting at a restaurant and pin them as your event location.

#### **Efficient Posting**

If your troop wants to be active on multiple social media platforms be sure to link them so when you post in one platform e.g. Instagram, you have the option of sharing to others, e.g. Facebook —how cool is that to be able to post one time but reach more users on all your selected platforms!

#### \*\*Photos Needed\*\*

Dog Scouts of America now has an Instagram account which we'd like to use to promote responsible dog ownership and the wonderful things you're doing with your dogs, to inspire and encourage others. If you have a photo you'd like to share of camp or troop activities, hiking, geocaching, swimming, massage, first aid, travel safety, clean-up America, etc. send it our way: thescoop@dogscouts.org – put "Instagram" as the subject so it doesn't get mixed in with the newsletter submissions. We understand it's difficult to get action shots when you're working your dog and don't have a training buddy, so if you've earned a badge and want to pose your dog next to some of the equipment you used for the badge, those pictures are welcome also. Include your dog's name, troop # if applicable, and the activity in the e-mail. Or you might check out one of the awareness calendars and take a picture of your dog promoting a <u>Pet Health Awareness</u> <u>Event</u>, a <u>Pet Holiday</u> or another <u>awareness event</u>. These awareness calendars can give troops some interesting starting points for troop activities that benefit the local community or spark ideas for training opportunities and new ways to apply existing badge skills.

\*\*Allowing us to share your photos is also a great option if you don't want to publish publicly from a personal social media account :-)

Happy Hashtaging!







## Badge Bulletin & Title Tales

Kelly Ford—CRN Secretary and Trails Titling Program Coordinator

Detailed information for the Trail Titles can be found in the Trail Dog Guidebook on the DSA website. <u>http://dogscouts.org/base/dsa-titles/trail-dog-titles/</u>

#### Competition Registration Number (CRN)

All dogs submitting for any DSA Trails titles will need to **register** with DSA before a title can be submitted and recorded, this is separate from DSA membership which is not a requirement for earning titles, but a discount is available for DSA members registering for titles. Each dog needs only one CRN to compete in any and all DSA competitions. You do not need to wait until a CRN is obtained to start logging miles! You will need all of the required items with you on each and every hike as described in the Guidebook.

DSA CRN Registration	\$35.00
Responsible Owner Discount (see the Trail Dog Guidebook for this information)	-\$10.00
If this is the 3rd (or greater) dog being registered in this household DSA Member Discount	-\$5.00 -\$5.00

DSA CRN Registration could be as low as \$15.00, if all discounts are applied.

#### Trail, Pack, Geocache & Letterbox Titles



Each title has a \$25.00 recording fee. You and your dog will receive a certificate for each title that is successfully completed. A title patch will be awarded for the first level title earned in each category. Extra patches cost \$3.

Pack Dog and Trail Dog titles have similar requirements to the Backpacking and Hiking badges. Both badges necessitate that the required items to be brought on each hike.

### Hiking Badge/Title Comparison

Badge/Title	Required Survival Items	Required Miles	Check Out Hike
Backpacking Badge	Carried by Dog	6	3-mile Hike
Pack Dog Title (PD)	Carried by Dog	50	5-mile Hike
Hiking Badge	Carried by Dog or Handler	6	3-mile Hike
Trail Dog Title (TD)	Carried by Dog or Handler	50	TWO 5-mile Hikes

## Merit Badges - A Chance to Try Something New!

Sally Hoyle-President



You can click on the badge icons for more information on how to earn them

As we are at the mid-point of the year's we thought it would be good to review the process for earning Merit Badges outside of camps. This information has not changed since we sent it to everyone in January 2018. As always, you can find current process and other information on our web site

We know that many of you are taking advantage of beautiful weather to get outside and work on Merit Badges. If you're not working on any badges currently we encourage you to get out there and get busy. Working on skills required for our Merit Badges helps to strengthen the bond between you and your dog and you'll have a great sense of accomplishment!

There are many ways to earn badges outside of a camp environment.

- If you belong to a troop your Troop Leader may set up training days to work on skills for a specific badge (be sure to let your Troop Leader know what badges you're interested in pursuing so that training days can be scheduled if they're not already on the Troop calendar). If you have an <u>evaluator</u> for the badge in the troop or fairly close by then the badge can be evaluated and signed off on in person.
- Some badges, such as <u>Community Service</u>, <u>Backpacking</u> and <u>Letterboxing</u> require a log. Though there are other requirements for this type of badge they can all be easily evaluated through the process outlined on the following page.
- You can also complete badge work and submit videos for evaluation. This is really a fairly simple process. If you've had experience with this in the past where you had to send a flash drive or burn a CD, then you'll be in for a pleasant surprise!
- If you compete in <u>agility</u>, <u>barn hunt</u>, <u>nose work</u>, <u>dock diving</u>, <u>lure coursing/CAT</u> etc. you may get someone to video you at a trial. Just be sure all of the requirements for the badge are covered in the video or additional video will be required. Please note we do not accept title certificates from any other organization for any dog sport you may be involved in as a substitute for demonstrating our badge requirements.
- If you don't have a troop find a buddy to work on a specific badge with you. This will help to set you up for success much like having a "diet buddy" when you are trying to lose weight. You might even find someone to recruit! (You can also put the word out on our Facebook "<u>Dog Scouts</u> <u>of America—ALL TROOP Training Group</u>" or our <u>Yahoo discussion group</u> for an online training buddy.)

It's quite possible that you are working on badges using all of these methods simultaneously. You don't need to wait for a Troop Leader to introduce a badge to begin to work on it. We have 125 badges so there's sure to be something for everyone. You can check out all of the badges we offer by choosing '<u>Master Badge List</u>' from the drop down menu on the Merit Badges tab on our website. Just make sure you are choosing to work on badges that are suitable for your dog.

Please remember... although you MAY work on criteria for any badges you wish at any time, you will NOT be able to actually receive official recognition for those badges until after you have successfully earned the <u>Dog Scout Title</u> on your dog.



#### So get out there, try something new and have fun with your dog!

## **Merit Badge Submission Process**

#### For all questions about merit badges—

Please contact Julie Benson, our Merit Badge Recording Secretary at **bensonjulie@earthlink.net** and/or Sally Hoyle, Badge Program Administrator at **sally.hoyle@yahoo.com**. Your question will be answered as soon as possible, recognizing that some question require research or consultation with others before a complete response can be given.



#### For badge forms signed in person by an evaluator—

Submit badge forms and payment to **Julie Benson at 30911 Jasper Ridge**, **Novi, Mi 48377**. Julie will process the badge form and mail out your patch. Badges may be paid for by credit card online using the <u>form</u> located on the merit badge <u>landing page</u>. If you pay this way be sure to forward the receipt you receive via email to Julie.

#### For badges requiring a log—

This includes badges such as Community Service, Letterboxing, <u>Clean up America</u>, etc. Please send these badge forms to Julie along with a copy of your log and payment for the badge. She will review your log and process the badge form once she determines that the badge requirements have been met.

#### For badge forms NOT signed by an in person evaluator (video evaluation)—

For video evaluations send a video link to **DSAVideoEval@gmail.com**. You must send your badge form to Julie at the same time you send your video link. Julie will manage the process of getting the form signed for you. Your email submission will be forwarded to the appropriate Distance Evaluator who will review the video and determine if the requirements for the badge have been met. The evaluator will contact you if additional video is needed and will explain the reason it is needed. Once the evaluator determines that the badge requirements have been met she will sign the form and forward it on for processing. Please do not contact a Distance Evaluator directly and request that they do an evaluation for you. If it is absolutely impossible for you to submit these forms electronically please send an email and we will advise you.

#### For questions about becoming an Badge Evaluator-

Please direct questions about becoming an evaluator for any badge to Chris Kloski at **chrisbill1966@gmail.com**. Chris will go over the criteria for becoming a badge evaluator and will advise you on the process.

#### For questions about becoming a Distance Evaluator—

Please contact Sally Hoyle at **sally.hoyle@yahoo.com** if you are interested in becoming a Distance Evaluator for badges you are already qualified to evaluate.

#### For all other questions-

Please contact Sally Hoyle at the email address provided above.

*P.S. Did you know that near the bottom of our <u>Specialty Merit Badges</u> page is a link to a spreadsheet which lists each Dog Scout and the merit badges they have earned?* 



## **Rainbow Bridge**

Amber Glow Eldecar, TD, TKN, NTD, PD, DSA





November 9, 2004 - June 14, 2019

Flynn was born in my first litter. I hadn't planned on keeping him since I wanted to breed one of the females. But when people came to look at the last 3 puppies, I couldn't let him go. You see he had such an



adorable, quirky way about him. He would hide his ball in one of the brush piles (we were trimming trees) then take it and hide it in another pile. He would play by himself with the big indestructible ball and when playing fetch he would take the toy to the wading pool each time before bringing back to me. He also loved to swim and would race his mom, dad and siblings to the pool when I opened the gate.

He was always very healthy and his coat was so lovely, soft and shiny. He smelled like fresh air, like sheets just off the line. I know it sounds strange but it's true! He would jump into my lap and I would bury my nose in his coat because he smelled so good.

14-1/2 wonderful years ended suddenly.

I mourn the loss of this beautiful boy but memories of his antics bring laughter, too.

He earned his DSA at a leadership retreat.

Mary J Hinchman





## Scout Scoop & Troop Tales

Troop # heading now links to the Troop's Facebook page, website or e-mail address

## Troop 101—MI~Northern Michigan Trailblazers

Troop 101 has been working on helping new scouts earn their DSA titles. This year's new scouts are shown below. In conjunction with that we are also working on our Manners badge. We have also been putting our noses to the ground and working on the Tracking badge. Several members attended either the June or July Michigan camp where we are getting serious about having "Fun" earning the FUNdraising badges. Several of our members have been working on the Canine Actor badge and like my Mom, Fay, just waiting for her to finish producing my Movie.

-- Submitted by "Goldy" Reid

Several of our members have achieved the Dog Scout title on their dogs this year.



Lonnie Olson's new pup, Kismet (Boston Terrier) certified at the Mommy-Puppy weekend here at the Michigan camp in May.

Jean Thompson's new pup, Taavi (Kromfohrlander) certified at Troop 217's Spring Fling in Goodrich in May. He is the first Kromfohrlander Dog Scout!



Joanne Weber's new pup, Walden (Golden Retriever) certified at the June Camp in Michigan.



Barb Foy's new pup, Honey Blossom (Tibetian Spaniel) certified at the July Camp in Michigan.



Laurie Keel's dog, Booker (Border Collie) passed the dog behaviors at the Spring Fling, and Laurie finished her "smart end of the leash" training at DSA class to certify at the June camp in Michigan.

Troop 101 is planning to enter (en masse) the Dirty Dog Fun Run later in August, in Midland, Michigan.

- Submitted by Lonnie Olson for Troop Leader, Fay Reid



#### Cindy Ratliff—Troop Leader

Troop 119 has had a busy summer! Troop members were actually so busy with area events and other activities that we passed on a May meeting. June was a great month, though! We had a meeting to do a Dog Scout class, work on check-offs for the merit badge and have another one of our troop members work toward becoming a Scoutmaster!



As a result of the meeting, we now have 3 new Dog Scouts in the troop and several more that are just within passing a behavior or two to become a Scout!



We are currently preparing for a great July event, a Christmas in July party! It will be loads of fun but it's not until the end of the month so you'll all have to wait until the next newsletter to check out all the Christmas fun!

## Troop 157—FL

Teresa Irvine

#### **Confidence Building Training**

Our Troop member and professional dog trainer Monica Pajuelo held a fun DSA Class, which focus was on the importance of building confidence in our dogs, since it helps them know they can conquer the "scary" world on their own. Plus, a confident dog will be acclimated to new and strange environments better too. She further



explained there are many ways you can help your dog with items around the house. Monica came prepared with a yoga ball, stool, cart, skateboard, umbrella, bubble wrap, and small fencing for our canines to try their confidence out on. By the end of the class all our pups had more confidence and were ready for a group hike on the trail.



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#### Troop 157-FL (cont.)



#### How to Meet and Greet a Dog Safely Training

Several of our DSA Troop members Christine Geschwill (Grace), Linda Berindei (Jessie), Maria (Jolie) and Teresa Irvine (Ripley) teamed up to present "How to Meet and Greet a Dog Safely and <u>How To Be A Tree</u>" at a local corporations Bring Your Son/Daughter To Work Day event. There were over 30 children of all ages, plus employees and several parents who attended. We used an interactive presentation, so the audience was able to join in and participate. Everyone loved our presentation and we received a lot of positive feedback from everyone. We also walked through all the departments letting folks pet our canines if they wanted, providing a little canine therapy and bringing about smiles.







#### Troop 157—FL (cont.)

#### Hurricane/Disaster Preparedness Training

When you live in Florida it is important to review how prepared you are for a Hurricane/Disaster. Thanks to our Troop Leader Christine Geschwill who has a lot of experience kindly offered





one. Christine focused on what we should have in our homes and what specific supplies we should include in our Hurricane Kit. Plus, knowing which Hotels and Shelters allows pets if you need to evacuate or you are not comfortable in your own home during the storm or aftermath. We also shared with each other ideas or situations encountered with past hurricanes as means to knowledge share for the next one even though we hope another one doesn't come our way. There is always so much to consider so it is always great to get together each year to remind ourselves what is needed and what to expect.

#### Troop Meeting "<u>Copy Cat</u>" Badge – Reviewed Skills

We had a whole lot of fun at our June Troop Meeting with one of our very own Troop Member and professional dog trainer Dawn Hanna who did an awesome job reviewing the skills needed to earn the "Copy Cat" Badge. Dawn came prepared with everything needed to demonstrate with her canine River, so everyone could visually see how the process works. Dawn reminded us dogs seem to work well with luring and shaping. Humans seem to learn by imitating behaviors. After the demonstration and explanation of each step, Dawn then helped all of us explore having our dogs learn by imitating our behaviors. This was a lot of fun and Dawn was so patient with all of us who gave it a try. Dawn had previously attended a Pat Miller workshop as an observer. In her own word "I was floored with the amazing thinking and problem solving skills of the canine participants. Of course, not everyone was successful, but those that were had us observers shocked.

<u>Click here</u> for the link to the entire exercise. Here are some video links. <u>Video 1</u> <u>Video 2</u>

















#### Troop 157—FL (cont.)



#### Aston Gardens – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pet Parade

Our annual 4th of July Parade at Aston Gardens Assisted Living Facility was a big hit with the residents thanks to our Troop member Linda Berindei who organized it. This year Linda invited Canine Assisted Therapy Group, which was great since more dogs were able to attend. Most of the Dog Scouts are certified under Canine Assisted Therapy, so it was great to partner with them. It turned out to be such a special treat for the residents to see all the dogs dressed up in their red, white and blue along with their owners looking very patriotic ready for a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. In addition the residents were thrilled to see the dogs perform some tricks and just being able to pet the dogs to have the sweet moments of interaction.



We had a great June afternoon at Central Florida Dog Sports in Deland. Four of our troop dogs and two guest dogs enjoyed the splash zone either <u>swimming</u> or <u>dock diving</u> depending upon their ability and confidence level.



Coach Roberts gently guided the dogs that were not as confident to enter the water and feel secure leaving the ramp to jump into the water. He also gave the handlers tips for better throwing to improve the dogs' jumping style and distance.

Flat-coated Retriever, Rucker, one of our guest dogs had not dock dived previously, so we got to see the steps Coach Roberts takes to introduce a water confident dog to dock diving. Rucker was quickly jumping off the dock like a pro.

Australian Shepherd, Annie, often goes to hydrotherapy, but this was a new location and she wasn't sure about the set-up. However, once she realized she just had to swim like she does in the other pool, she took off.



Boxer mix, Marvin, hadn't been swimming in a while, but he was brave and jumped off the ramp into the water to swim to his mom.

It had been a while since Flat-coated Retriever, Jurnee, had dock-dived, so to get her started we had Border Collie, Tachi, join her on the dock and lead the way off the end of the dock. Not wanting him to get the bumper, she jumped in after him!

### Troop 198—CA (together with Troop 233, and 237)

Leah Lane—Event Coordinator

We had two VERY exciting events happen for the San Francisco Bay Area Troops. First, we are extremely proud of our Troop 198 Leader, Donna Johns, and her beloved Spike for earning their Dog Scout Title! Donna is always putting the wants and needs of our troop members ahead of her own, but somehow, she made the time for her and Spike to earn their Dog Scout Title, as is the Dog Scout Way, Donna leads by example. Congratulations Donna and Spike, you are an inspiration to all!





The second exciting event was Pup Scout Crystal Gumbin from our South Bay Troop was chosen to be the "Poster Dog" for the website for the SPCA of Monterey County Wag n' Walk 2020 next year.

Over \$117,000.00 was raised this May and we were proud to represent Dog Scouts this year and look forward to participating next year, especially with one of our own adorning the banner!



On June 2<sup>nd</sup> we had our monthly Mall Walk training at Santana Row in San Jose. We practiced our sit/stays for a photo op. Here from left to right is Shiloh, Wyatt, Duncan, Asia, Rebel, Zen, Odin & Kokoro.



We also stopped to play and take pictures at the big chess board. In front, left to right, Molly, Zen, Wyatt, Duncan, Odin, Kokoro, behind is Shiloh, Rebel & Asia with Jackie.



Faun & Shiloh practice walking between the chess pieces.



Denise & Kokoro show they can do it too while Kate & Odin wait their turn.



Good job Odin!



Zen says, "I like the piece shaped like a horsey"!



"Is it over already"? ask June & Rusty



Tacoma says, "Too bad it's over, that was fun!"



Donna keeps us in line as Leah heads out with Wyatt & Duncan and Kate & Odin follow behind, so much fun to get out and about and train this way and by the end of the walk, three more dogs earned their CGC advanced titles!



On June 8<sup>th</sup> we joined the Santa Clara County Park Rangers at Hellyer Park to take our BARK RANGER OATH. We raised our hands and paws and promised to always bag and properly dispose of our poop, always respect others, always remain on leash and always know where we could visit inside the Santa Clara County Parks.



After taking our oath, there was so many fun things to do and see, there was an agility course, a puppy pool, treats, shower misters, a place to dip our paws in paint and create artwork and an artist drawing caricatures of our dogs. Here is one of Yeti & Tribble.



There was also a backdrop and Park Ranger prop hats for a photo op., here is Blake (who is also a Santa Clara Park Ranger, but off duty today), with Yeti & Tribble, you can see Yeti & Tribble look just like the artist drawing!



Of course, we all had to take pictures in the Park Ranger hats, here is Sadie posing pretty.



And here is Sondra with Kozmo sporting a smart looking cowboy hat.



And then we have Wyatt & Duncan playing the role of Park Rangers as well.



We also got to meet Sargent Monroe and K-9 Officer Niner who sometimes patrol the parks to help keep us all safe!



To finish off the afternoon activities, Ranger Lisa led the group on a hike through beautiful Hellyer park.



We all felt very proud to earn our BARK RANGER TAGS.

After the hike, the festivities weren't over yet, we were treated to an "In The Park After Dark Movie", and they couldn't have picked a better one for a brand-new group of BARK RANGERS, 101 Dalmatians!





We spread out our blankets and laid out our picnic dinners and got ready for the movie, here is Dave & Patty with Crystal and Sprocket settling in to enjoy the movie with refreshments in hand.

Tribble & Yeti settled in to enjoy the movie too.





Leah, Wyatt & Duncan and Lennie & Sadie laid out on their blankets and got ready for the show.

Sprocket & Crystal just can't wait to watch dogs on the big screen, maybe they could become doggie actors too! What a wonderful way to end a terrific day at the park.



Our next activity was on June 15<sup>th</sup> at Coyote Lake Harvey Bear Ranch County Park in Gilroy, "The Bear Necessities Dog Walk" and it was led by Ranger Blake, (on duty this time and leading the activities). Ranger Blake started off the hike with some training and games.





Here is Ranger Blake with her dog Yeti with her phone playing music for a game she calls "Doggie Play Musical Sit", Lennie with Sadie are having fun playing the game.



Then they moved on to some tunnel fun. Here is Susan with Cowgirl giving it a try. You can see off to the side, Ranger Blake's table used to lay out different wildlife items found in the park.

Sadie is having fun running the tunnel!



Ranger Blake's dog, Yeti, gets to enjoy the fun too, what a good dog!



The Dog Scout Scoop



For the months of June and July, Vasona County Park hosts a free concert series on Saturdays to raise funds for Second Harvest Food Bank and our troop members attend as many times as possible. Great music, a great time and a great way to help feed the hungry in our area. Here are some pictures from the concert on June 22<sup>nd</sup> featuring Grammy nominated Andre Thierry who rocked the park with his Zydeco Magic.

Before the concert started some of the Dog Scouts rode the Billy Jones Wildcat Railroad through the park, here are Wyatt & Duncan waiting for the engineer to start the train rolling!

It is a fun ride through a beautiful park.

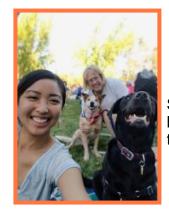




But after hiking and riding through the park, it was time to settle under the shade of the trees to spread out our picnic dinners and enjoy some great music. Here Comet is digging the tunes!

> And Madison is snuggling up with a friend ready to enjoy the music jam!





Susan and Little Wyatt photo bombed Nicole and Zen in this picture.



In between sets, Lennie and Sadie enjoy a bite of dinner and pose for a quick birthday picture. Happy Birthday Lennie!



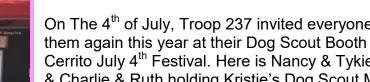
Susan, Steve and Little Wyatt pose for a family photo.

Steve and Wyatt show it's cool to help feed the hungry in our neighborhood!

> On The 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Troop 237 invited everyone to join them again this year at their Dog Scout Booth at the El Cerrito July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival. Here is Nancy & Tykie, Katheryn & Charlie & Ruth holding Kristie's Dog Scout Maurice in front of the booth.

Present and accounted for to spread the Dog Scout word at the booth are Chriss & Toby, Ruth & Kobi, Teresa & Lulu and Kim & Ruby, such a strong team of Dog Scouts!

A young festival goer and his mom greet Sadie in front of the booth.

















Two sweet brothers enjoy getting to know Kobi & Ruth.



Such a good time for kids to learn about friendly dogs and Pet Therapy.



Jackie poses with Tacoma in her arms, and fluffy June and sleek Rebel at her side, a great picture of the diversity of the types of dogs who can be Dog Scouts and Therapy Pets.

We have found our monthly mall walks to be a great forum to introduce people to Dog Scouts. A fun and friendly way to learn about the Dog Scout philosophy and training techniques. We post our walks on our Meet-Up page and we always get repeat attendees as well as new comers that are curious. We try and cover different Dog Scout material in a brief talk before each walk. It offers a way for them to "dip their toe in the water" without having to make a commitment to completely jump in if they are not ready. It also offers an easy way for people to reconnect that may have attended our events in the past but have lost touch or for those that are not in a place to make a full commitment; to learn more about the Dog Scout way in small exposures, of course we are always thrilled if it leads to full time members. No matter the outcome, we believe it to be a great way to spread the word by example and all those that attend have a fun experience with their dogs that we hope they will repeat, either with us or on their own.

On our July 7<sup>th</sup> mall walk. Donna, the leader of Troop 198, starts out with going over some of the basic DSA training techniques, here you see Donna talking with Angela and Ava sitting in front, Janet with Molly the Corgie, and Dave with Stretch the Corgie listening to the lesson.





Here is Donna demonstrating with JJ, (a first-time attendee) how to train a "come" using positive reinforcement. To the left is Angela with Ava, and in the wagon is Spike, Donna's dog, along with all of Donna's teaching material and in the very back is Rod with Stretch.



Here we have Angela with Ava on the right, to the left we have David and Amy with Finley, and in the background is Jackie with Rebel listening to Donna's teaching instructions.



Here is a shot of Denise with Kokoro and Spike sitting in his wagon as mom Donna teaches the lesson.



Sandy and JJ listen with interest, this is their first ever Dog Scout activity.



Dude and Cowgirl take a moment to practice a sit/ stay on a rock and to pose for mom Susan to take their picture before the walk starts.

We did one of our favorites, the sit/ stay line up for pictures, here we have from left to right, Angela with Ava, then Stretch, Scout, JJ, Hiro, Finley, Rebel, Asia & Kokoro.





Here is a great shot of the group practicing walking nicely through the mall with distractions. We also use the mall elevators and stairs to practice and build confidence in both dogs and people.



Here Donna has everyone stop and practice a stay and gives a short lesson on how to get your dog to focus on you. Closest in the foreground we have Jackie on the left with Rebel and Asia, and on the right we have Amy with Finley.



Here is a shot from the other end, we have Angela with Ava and Michelle with Hiro

At the end of the walk, we all gather for some refreshment and for the people to socialize, and their dogs to practice good manners in an outdoor food



service environment. Here is Palo being greeted by a little girl, Tacoma is checking out Spike's wagon, and Spike is resting in his wagon as Donna chats with Susan



June and Rusty say that was fun, can we do it again?



On July 13<sup>th</sup>, there was another concert at Vasona County Park to help raise funds for Second Harvest Food Bank hosted by the county park rangers.



Again, great music, great people, a great cause and Dog Scouts were there!



And some more exciting news! After we finished training, we worked on some video for Donna, leader of Troop 198 for her Scout Master Title! Woo Hoo! Yea Donna! It will be so wonderful to be able to have a Scout Master in the San Francisco Bay Area that can teach and administer the Dog Scout Test, show us the way Donna and Spike!

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, we had our monthly training in the park, lots of fun and lots of practice, here is GiGi with Jimmy working the cones.



What's next? San Francisco Bay Area Dog Scout Camp up on Mt. Madonna on Labor Day Weekend, so much fun dog stuff! Have a great summer everyone!

### Troop 217—MI ~ Motor City K9's

Sally Hoyle—President & Troop Leader

Our troop recently participated in the Bark in the Park, Toledo, an event that supports the Humane Society. This was a great event for us as we were able to talk to a number of people in the community and made connections that will likely lead to new troop members, all while supporting a worthy cause. There was a 5k run, a 1-mile walk, characters to meet, a raffle and so much more! Sam, Katie and Jackson all had a great time interacting with the very busy crowd. New member Ken Cook came to do the run and spent some time at the booth with us. It was a beautiful day and a pretty awesome event, one that we'll look forward to doing again in the future.



Ken and Tula at the Bark in the Park Toledo event.



Julie with Sam and Katie at our booth.



Baby Jaxson never seems to have problems making friends.



Katie had a great time but was a little tired by tear down time.

This event was a great compliment to our bi-weekly walks that take place in Toledo as our Tuesday's in Toledo outreach program. We are using the Meet-up app and have not limited the hikes to just current Dog Scout members. This has allowed us to build our membership in the most southern part of our very geographically diverse troop. And we have two opportunities each month to have a somewhat "captive" group to talk with about Dog Scouts! My thanks to Diane Baughman and her most adorable Corgi puppy Jaxson for running this meet-up group.

#### Troop 217-MI (cont.)

Though we love doing community events there is one thing that our troop really looks forward to doing each year. That's our annual potluck at my house at the lake. We had a record number of people come this year, including some members brand new to our troop. Despite a few showers it was a very fun afternoon with lots of good food, great company and time to play in the lake. Some decided to try their hand at kayaking, others tried the paddle board and many dogs just enjoyed playing and swimming in the lake; some dogs even swam for the very first time! There was a ton of wildlife on display including swans, geese, ducks, muskrats, turtles and frogs so there were ample opportunities to work on 'leave its' as well.

Sam loves company so he was happy to welcome everyone to our home.



#### Barrie Lynn and Moose.



Our newest troop member Rachel Siporin gave kayaking a try with her dog Leah.



Diane and Cecil Baughman and Jaxson were all smiles despite the rain showers.



Julie greets Jaxson at our annual potluck, while Moose looks on from her mom's lap.



Julie and Shelby, and Elizabeth at the lake. This is always such a great time to catch up.



Michelle Cook and Tula.



And I would be remiss in closing this out without mentioning that a number of troop members attended MI camp in June. One of the highlights of camp was the work that many of us did on the Canine Actor badge. This is a pretty advanced badge with many components, not the least of which is learning to shoot, edit and produce a video. We're not Oscarworthy yet but we sure are having fun putting the finishing touches on our films. We had a great time on Friday evening with our Canine Film Festival, where we showed the work that each handler had done throughout the week as their homework assignments.

Me and my girls, Mackenzie and Katie at June camp.



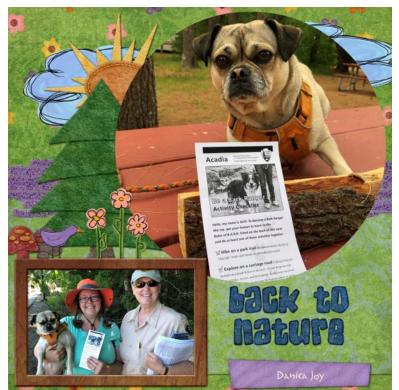
### <u>Troop 219—CT ~ The New England Explorers</u> How I became a Bark Ranger at Acadia National Park

By Danica Joy DSA Submitted by Kelly Ford—Troop Leader

My Mom and Dad took me on an amazing adventure. They said I was going to become a Bark Ranger. I didn't know what that was, but I was excited. They packed my Shark suit and all my favorite toys and treats. This was going to be fun.

It was a long boring drive to Maine. I don't know where that is, but it was long and my shark suit was packed. The campground was fun, there were lots of squirrels to watch. The next morning I got to ride on a BUS! It was big and so much fun. Mom and Dad sat in the back with me instead of driving and I got all the snuggles. I love buses. I like to watch out the big windows, there was so much to see.





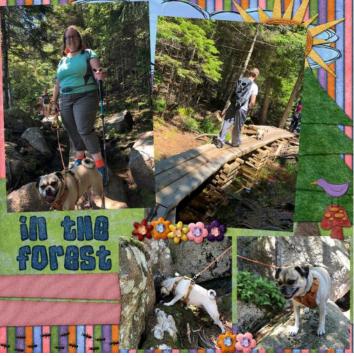
To become a BARK Ranger, I had to make sure my Mom and Dad learned the rules of BARK and that we did at least one of the activities together. We also had to get sworn in by a Park Ranger. I liked meeting the Park Ranger, she was really nice, but didn't have treats in her pockets. Here I am with the Park Ranger and showing Mom the list of rules on my official BARK Ranger card. The Park Ranger signed my card.

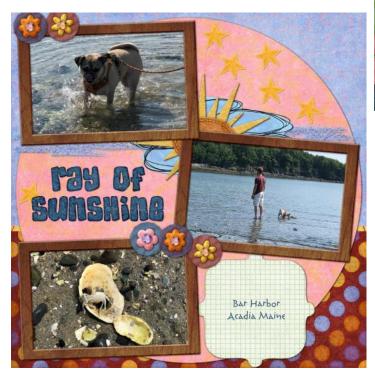
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#### Troop 219-CT (cont.)



The first activity we did was to hike a park trail, Mom chose the Jordan Pond trail. I loved hiking this trail with Dad, he made sure we followed all the rules. We are supposed to move out of the way to let other people and groups pass. Sometimes the walkway was really high and I had to jump to get off to let people pass.

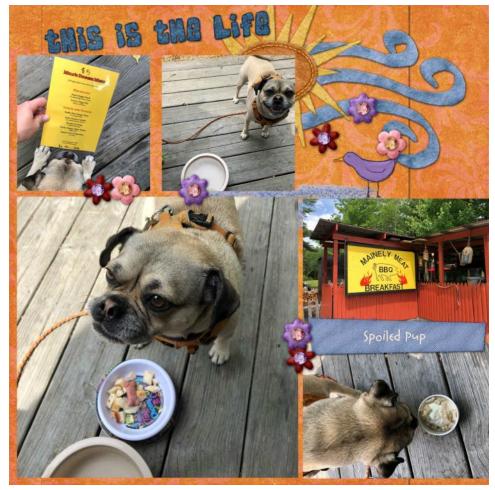


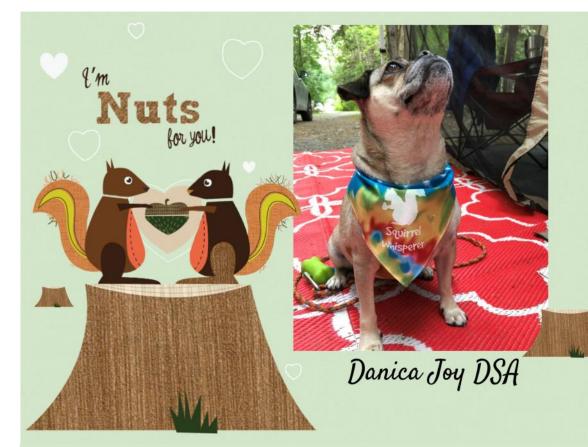


We explored several other trails and areas of Acadia Park during our stay. I found so many new things to smell! I really loved walking the beach at low tide. Dad let me follow my nose and sniff EVERYTHING! I found seaweed and shells and crabs and birds. It was the best!

#### Troop 219—CT (cont.)

Mom and Dad took me to dinner with them. I've never been to a restaurant before. They had a special menu just for me! Mom said it had breakfast, lunch and dinner selections. I got the chicken. I love chicken. They even brought me my own bowl of cold water. I had so much fun hanging out with Mom and Dad at dinner. Dad even ordered me the ice cream, but I was too full to eat it.





Mom got me a new bandanna because I was being so good. Don't I look special?

Every puppy should go to Acadia, Maine.

### Troop 229—CA ~ Dogaholics Anonymutts

Mary Blackstone—Troop Leader

On July 4th, Troop 229 hiked 3 miles at Philpot Campground with iZAR & Mackie, Mindy, Brooklyn & K9















The Dog Scout Scoop

### Troop 240—NE ~ Moose Troop

Kristin Sandstede—Troop Leader

Last month Moose Troop supported the local ballpark & participated in Weenie Wednesday/Bark at the Park we even made the big screen during the 7th Inning stretch singing "Take me out to the Ball Game!"





As many know, Nebraska & Iowa suffered HEAVY flooding in March. Our original biking plans were underwater along with Fremont State Lakes so we switched gears and instead made tug toys with 100% of the proceeds going to

> Surefire Gun Dog Training: the only hunt dog trainer in Nebraska who trains SHOCK COLLAR FREE & whose board and train kennel was underwater & dogs had to be boated out.

We're looking forward to our August Stand up Paddleboarding activity!



Page 40





Malu

Troop 119







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## **Contact Dog Scouts of America**

Website: Dogscouts.org Facebook: facebook.com/DogScouts Yahoo Discussion List: pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/DSA\_TalkList



Learning new things that we may be more helpful

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: Sally Hoyle — sally.hoyle@yahoo.com (Also Mini-Camp Mentor, Merit Badge Submission Process)

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

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

Membership: Shirley Conley — membership@dogscouts.org

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

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

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