



The Dog Scout Scoop

(little bits of news we've picked up)

November/December 2012

Volume 16, Issue 6

PUBLISHED FOR DSA'S RESPONSIBLE, DOG-LOVING MEMBERS AND FOR THE FRIENDS OF DOGS EVERYWHERE Dog Scouts of America PO Box 158, Harrison, OH 45030



2012 Winter Outing

The 2013 Winter Outing is the weekend of February 15-18, in Saint Helen, Michigan. This is President's Day weekend, so hopefully a few of us will have Monday off, to give us even more time for winter play. We will partake of the usual winter outing fun (weather permitting). We will have an auction, potluck, sledding, skijoring, snowshoeing, etc. Mark your calendar now, so you won't forget! The usual lodging fees apply, but there is no charge to attend this fun weekend (members only). Bundle up, pack all your snow toys and come join us! Contact Lonnie (dogscoutcamp@gmail.com or 989-389-2000) to make your reservation. Don't forget to reserve your lodging by making a deposit online. **Lonnie Olson**

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Please Respect Newsletter Deadlines!!!

Newsletter Submission - December 15th, 2012 for January/February 2013 Issue. Articles received after that date will go into the March/April 2013 issue. Please respect the deadlines. **Peggy Zweber, Editor**

DSA website is all new and improved!! Check it out! www.DogScouts.org

Is Your Membership Expired? If you don't know your DSA membership expiration date, please check item #5 on this page: <http://www.dogscouts.org/Membership.html>

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New Troops

Troop #:	222	Troop#:	223
State:	Wisconsin	State:	New York
Area Served:	Central Wisconsin	Area Served:	Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Ulster and Columbia Co.
Troop Name:	Not received at this time	Troop Name:	Hudson Valley Howlers
Troop Leader:	Chelsea Wood	Troop Leader:	Laura Betti
Email:	squirrel_872005@hotmail.com	Email:	laura@paper-clip.com
Co-Leader:	n/a	Co-Leader:	Mark Condon

Map is updated. Currently showing 45 Troops and Future Troops covering 26 states, two countries and a territory.

Mikey Diaries

Mikey has been coming along nicely, with the help of Patti and Joe. His ground-driving is going well, and we went as far as to have him drag a ground drag behind him, and was actually able to drag it all around here (not just in the round pen). We were going so well that we decided to introduce the cart. We had Joe pulling the horse cart around the round pen with Mikey being ground-driven by Patti alongside. He had a spooky moment, which just told us we shouldn't proceed. It was his last session before Patti had to leave, and we didn't want to screw it up. Soon, though, he will be able to be hooked up to the cart. I didn't get photos (it's on his progress chart, though), but Mikey did reach the point of being driven with the drag and just Patti behind him with the reins (ground driving). He's making such progress! In photos below: Mikey with the drag that Joe built attached; Patti leading Mikey with Joe applying tension to the drag and making sure the tire wouldn't hit him in the rear or legs if he turned suddenly; Patti and Mikey on the road (Nestel Road) with the drag (Joe still applying backward pressure)



Goal:	Begun	Acceptance	W/Movement	Bit	New Locations	Distractions	Completed
Bridge the click	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
Desensitize to ropes/reins	☺	☺	☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺	☺
Unwrap (spinout)	☺ to rt & lft	☺	☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺	☺
Meet the tack	☺	☺	☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺	☺
Wear the tack	☺	☺	☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺	☺
Ground Drive w/loose reins	☺	☺	w/helper ☺ w/o helper ☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺ next to cart	☺
Ground Drive reins through harness	☺	☺	w/helper ☺ w/o helper ☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺ through gate	☺
Drag a tire	☺	☺	w/helper ☺ w/o helper ☺	Without With ☺	☺	☺	☺
Poling	☺	☺		Without With			
Poling w/sack							
Me drag pole	☺	☺	On far side ☺ On near side	Without With		bumping	
Pole attached to harness	☺		On inside On outside	Without With			
Meet the cart	☺	☺	☺ trot along side cart	Without With ☺	☺ in round pen	☺ w/Joe pulling cart	
Touching cart				Without With			
Helper pulls cart near Mike	☺	☺	On left ☺ On right	Without With ☺			
Cart bumping				Without With			
Hitched with lead rope							
Hitched; Drive from behind							
Hitched; driver in cart; helper leads							
Hitched; drives w/o help							
Distraction desensitization	Umbrella ☺	Sacking ☺	Through water ☺				

The Story of "Reuben"



Dog Scout Camp has a lot of hair on its Ass! That is to say, we have a new baby Miniature Donkey (Ass), and he's very furry! First, Joe wanted to get chickens for the fresh eggs. This fit in with the board's coincidental decision to host a Terry Ryan Chicken Training Camp in 2013. I asked Terry what kind of chickens to buy, and soon we had 40 new laying hen chicks here. Watching them grow and develop has been a treat, but soon, they will have to move outside to a pen, and we worried about predation from Raccoons, Opossums, Coyotes, Foxes and Bobcats.



We were in the market for some "herd guarding" animal, like a mean goose, or a goat. I mentioned this to President, Chris Puls, and she

suggested a Donkey or a Llama. I thought, sure, but where are we going to get one of those? Then, my friend Joanne Weber needed to make an unplanned trip into town one weekend. While heading for Wal-Mart, we were discussing whether or not the Lutheran Church might be having their annual fall rummage sale this weekend. So, we decided to drive on past the store to go by the Church. Alas, it was not on the sign, so I drove a little farther to turn around and head back to Wal Mart. I said that I needed more alfalfa pellets for Mikey, so I would just dash into Tractor Supply, where I was planning to turn around.

In the parking lot, there were some easy-up canopies set up, and signage that said "Pet Adoption Day." I knew nothing about this event, but as we drove up, I spied the cutest little Miniature Donkey in a pen. I called Joe and asked what he thought, and I put a deposit on "Reuben," an 8-month-old Miniature Donkey. Of course, there will be a lot of "Ass" jokes around here. When we went back to pay for him and take him home, they told us to "Get our Ass out of here!" Of course, Ass is the proper term for a Donkey (*Equus Asinus*). The first night, we didn't want to leave our Ass out in the cold, so we built him a cushy little pen in the barn, next to the chickens he'll be guarding. We couldn't bear to just abandon him there, so all of us (dogs included) spent the night on a "campout" in the barn, sleeping with Reuben.

Reuben was the product of a rescue, where a family had to move and couldn't take any of the animals with them. He had been in rescue for 2 weeks. They also had his sire, but I don't know when Reuben last saw his mother. He's just such a little darling. He suffers from a lack of socialization. The rescuer said that he won't lead on a rope, and won't take anything from your hand. The rescuer picked him up like a pygmy goat, and just carried him to the back of Joe's Tahoe, where a Border Collie-sized crate was waiting for him. We started offering him horse cookies and alfalfa pellets. He took them from us tenuously.

When we got him home, we pulled up by the horse pen to let him meet Draco and Mikey. They stared into the back of the Tahoe with interest. Reuben stared back. I think they all knew that they were related in some way. Mikey was saying, "Hey, how come you don't ride me around in the back of the Tahoe like this?" Silly Mikey. So now, it's looking a lot like the "Musicians of Bremen" around here. I hope that Reuben will become a good guardian of the livestock. Of course, when we went to pick him up, we went into TSC and bought a book on "The Donkey." The very first page talked about "Why get a Donkey?" One of the reasons was that they are very good stock guards. The rescuer said that she has one Donkey that defends her ducks with his life. They'll attack interlopers regardless of size, and yet they are the most gentle and docile animals around. Hopefully, he will insure that we will have enough chickens around by next summer to supply the camp with plenty of organic eggs (no more egg wars), and chickens for the Chicken Training camp August 19-21, 2013 (mark your calendars).



Pictured left are: (left) Some of our 4-week old chicks; (right) Reuben and Panda in the donkey/chicken pen.

Update on donkeys and chickens(10-10-12) The chickens continue to grow and thrive. They've become quite accomplished flyers. We have introduced the dogs to them, but need to introduce the cats. The cats respect our house birds, but might think of the chickens as

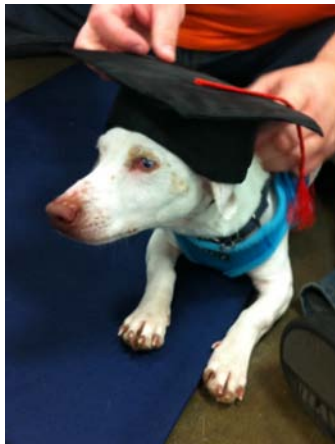
prey. Reuben has already started to show his chicken-guarding prowess, by going after the cat when she ventured into the back yard pen. Reuben began his clicker training today. He understands that the click means something good is going to happen (baby carrots), and he's already starting to target on a spatula. This reminds me of a funny story from chicken training camp years ago. Val Ellingson's chicken wasn't doing very well, and then suddenly the light bulb went on, and Val had her chicken doing all kinds of things. I said, "What do you think turned him around?" To which she replied, "We just showed him a spatula!" (as in a spatula to turn over the fried chicken...)

Living Light Out Loud
Adventures Training a Blind/Deaf Dog to be a Future Dog Scout
Part IV

August 2012

After such a great time at both camps this summer in Michigan, Lottie returned home with a disturbing problem: Night Terrors. She first experienced one at the camp in July. I heard her yelping in the middle of the night, and then she ran to the corner of our trailer and snapped and barked at . . . nothing. I got up and touched her, and she was so happy to see me. She crawled in bed with me and snuggled up tightly into my body, and remained there the rest of the night. Every once in a while, she would yelp and jump, sometimes snapping at the air, and when I would wake her, she would sigh with relief and go back to sleep, pressed tightly against me. This was a pattern that began in July and still continues today.

I've researched night terrors, and found conflicting information. Some sites say it can be from a trauma, other say it can be from lack of sleep. I used to have them as a child, and they started for me after a friend of mine died, and I always assumed mine were from the trauma. Lottie is such a joyful and happy dog while she's awake, but who knows what happened to her in the first 6 months of her life? She was found as a stray living under someone's house trailer, she certainly might have encountered many scary things prior to her rescue. I've started to keep a journal of what time she eats, how much rest and sleep she might get during each day, and whether she has night terrors that evening. She is currently having them 4 or 5 nights/week. I want to see if I can find a correlation, especially between amount of sleep and the incidents. More on that next issue!



It seems once you get involved with "lethal whites," you see them everywhere. I received a call one morning from my friend Victoria (who has Dahlia, the lethal white that started my journey with Lottie). Victoria was at a humane society, and saw an adorable lethal white (double dapple) mini dachshund. I immediately thought of my friend and Troop 207 leader, Andrea, who is owned by 2 mini dachshunds, and was fascinated with Lottie. I called her, and next thing I knew, Han So Low was adopted by Andrea and enrolled in my puppy class at Petsmart. **Photo Left: Han.** So Lottie has another lethal white friend to play with at Petsmart and Troop meetings. Lottie is the first lethal white Dog Scout, so I'm guessing Han will so become the second lethal white Dog Scout ☺ (To learn more about "lethal whites", check out www.lethalwhites.com)

September 2012

I was honored this month to be asked to speak at DSA Troop 107 in Cincinnati on Animal Communication. I presented my one hour workshop to a great group of people at Alice's Companion Dog Training. A special bonus was that a reporter and videographer from WLW-T Cincinnati was there for the meeting to film for an on-line article about Dog Scouts. (check it out: www.WLW-T.com and search for DOG SCOUTS). I brought Border collie Punch with me for the workshop, but Lottie also came and stayed in the car. After my talk, someone mentioned that I had the first blind/deaf Dog Scout, and everyone was interested in hearing about Lottie. So I brought her in and she got to demonstrate her Dog Scout skills for the Troop, and for the camera! She did great, and of course, had fun!



Photos left to right:
Lottie and Hope; Lottie and Hope meeting Hope's new family; and, Hope's family.

In late September, I received a call from a friend who runs a local shelter/rescue. She said there was a double merle Aussie at the county pound, which appeared to be deaf and might have vision issues, too. Could I take her? Of course I did. I named her Hope, and when she came to stay with us, Lottie was thrilled! She took to Hope right away, and they

became friends. Hope is about 2 or 3 years old, and the sweetest, most gentle dog I think I've met. She was the easiest foster I've ever had, that's for sure. Hope is completely deaf, but has pretty good vision. I had her spayed and vetted, and posted her on a couple of double merle and lethal white sites that I am a member of, and it wasn't long before Hope had a wonderful family that wanted to adopt her in Georgia. So I packed up Hope and Lottie, and we picked up my friend Victoria and her double merle Aussie, Dahlia, and we all drove to Lexington to meet Hope's new family. It was a great trip, driving with 3 deaf and mostly blind dogs!! We all had a great time, and so fun to see Hope take right to her new family. This adventure for me with these wonderful dogs is just beginning, I feel!

October 2012

A few weeks ago, I woke up in the middle of the night to see Lottie writhing and flailing around on the floor. It was a grand mal seizure, and it scared me silly. As I sat on the floor with my seizing puppy, I thought, "I never even got a picture of her in her Dog Scout vest, and now she's dying . . ." Funny how the mind works in times of stress! But luckily, my wonderful girl didn't die, she came out of it just fine, and hopefully we will have more answers next newsletter after we see the vet and do some more research. I don't know if it is related to any of her other crazy brain malfunctions, like her OCD behaviors, and her night terrors, but for now, I'm hoping and praying it never happens again.



Despite the scary seizure, Lottie continues on her merry way through life. Just this past week, Lottie has been able to lend a helping paw. A good friend of mine has an older sheltie named Lacey who has been losing her sight over that past few months. As this has happened, Lacey has become more shy and fearful in her home. Recently the vision loss has accelerated, and the past couple of weeks have found Lacey afraid to go outside at all, and certainly unwilling to go for her daily walk down the driveway to the mailbox. I realized that although dogs who are blind from birth seem to get on exceptionally well with limited or no vision, dogs who lose their sight seem to have an extremely difficult time making the adjustment. I had also noticed that these "lethal white" dogs like Lottie tend to have a special affinity for each other - it's like they can recognize the limited sight and hearing in each other, and choose to spend time with others more like themselves. I wondered if there would be a chance that Lottie could recognize the blindness in Lacey, and somehow be able to



help Lacey cope by demonstrating Lottie's own enthusiasm for life, despite the blindness. I wasn't exactly sure how I thought might happen, but it wouldn't hurt to try . . . so Lottie and I went for a walk with Lacey. **Photo left – Lottie and Lacey. Right – Lottie in driveway.**

Lacey seemed very interested in Lottie right away. So we leashed the dogs and headed down the driveway to the mailbox, a trip that Lacey had not been willing to make in several months. And Lottie worked her magic! Lacey followed us, and Lottie, all the way to the road! Later in the week I spoke to my friend, who told me the change in Lacey since Lottie's visit has been phenomenal. Lacey has not only been going for walks down the driveway again, but she's also been out sunning herself in her yard. This, too, is an improvement, since she has been afraid to leave the house or garage for quite a while, until now. So, mission accomplished.

I've always felt that Lottie was here to help others :-). Note: If you would like to follow Lottie Moon's progress in-between newsletters, you can follow her blog at <http://www.lottie-seeingintodarkness.blogspot.com>

Troop News
Troop #107 – Cincinnati, North Kentucky, Southeast Indiana

Dog Scout Troop 107 has had a great and successful year. We have been revitalizing our troop this past year after about a year of regrouping. Chris Puls, our previous troop leader took on the responsibilities as President of the National Dog Scouts of America. June Haverland has passed the Troop Leader Test and is officially the new Leader of DOG SCOUTS of AMERICA TROOP 107. Julie Murray has been helping June and the troop by keeping track of membership including membership dues. Julie has done a great job of supporting the troop this year. Julie has recently announced that she is no longer going to be able to continue her role of assisting with the troop leadership. Bonnie Cipollone has agreed to take on the role of helping June with troop leadership.

The troop presently has 8 official members. We welcome Bonnie Cipollone and her two dogs Francis and Poor Clare who are now official Cadet Scouts and working hard to become official Dog Scouts. Mary Ann Schlotman is also a new member. She is also working hard for her dog to become a dog scout. June reports that over this past year she has received about 10 inquiries from people who expressed interest in the Troop. According to the recent survey that June sent out to people who maintain interest in the troop, several of them are interested in their dog becoming an official dog scout.

WLW-T was present at our most recent meeting of September 16th to create a webcast about the troop. You can view the webcast at WLW-T.com web page and search for DOG SCOUTS. June Haverland's Sheltie, Junior, recently earned his Good Manners Badge. He proudly wears his cape donned with badges for Painting, Sign Language, Hike-a-thon, Tricks and his newest badge for Good Manners. The troop's upcoming meeting, scheduled for Sunday November 4, 2012, will have a speaker talking about grooming. Beth Ferralelli is a Master Groomer and owns PAWS PALACE in Silverton, Ohio. She will be speaking to the group regarding best practice guideline for grooming your dog.

Plans for 2013 are in the making and hope to include speakers including a Veterinarian as well as information about FIRST AID for dogs. If you are interested in finding out more information about DOG SCOUT TROOP 107, please email June at juke620@fuse.net.

Troop #119, North Texas

Troop 119 is enjoying winding down the summer and moving into fall activities including preparing for our upcoming mini-camp and our big Meals On Wheels for Pets project.

In September, we welcomed special guest, Paul West, and his dogs to do a presentation to the troop. Paul has 16 years of Freestyle Disc Dog experience which includes 11 trips to World Finals with 3 different dogs. Paul has also performed at halftime for Dallas Cowboys, Dallas Mavericks, Texas Rangers and many other sporting events all across the U.S. and appeared on America's Got Talent Television show in 2008.

Paul demonstrated freestyle disc with his dog Tucker (9 years old), and Tucker's offspring Radar (2 years old), Hottie (2 years old). He also taught us how to get our dogs started with a frisbee. We enjoyed the entertainment and learning how to introduce our dogs to a fun sport!



Photos above – Paul West and Tucker

In September, we were also invited to be on a Dallas-aired television show called, For the Love of Dogs. We did a 20-minute segment and were able to spread the word about Dog Scouts of America and talk about some of the cool things we do including donating animal oxygen masks to area fire departments, our troop's Meals On Wheels for Pets project and our work with Arlington Animal Services for the Arlington Youth Grooming Academy. Anybody who wants to check out the show can see it here: <http://youtu.be/MxuJbwO3TJ4>



Two of our troop members, Susie Betts & Michelle McClelland, participated in Extreme Mutt Makeover where volunteer trainers are teamed with a shelter dog for six weeks of intense training. On October 13, they all competed to show off their shelter dog's new talents. Best news of all is that both of their dogs were adopted that day! Susie & Michelle both worked hard and did a great job showing the potential in a couple of shelter mutts! Logan & Lilli have now gone on to

great forever homes! Photos above left – Susie and Logan; right – Michelle and Lilli.



Several troop members participated in Bark Avenue's Paws on the Avenue event to raise money for the Don't Forget To Feed Me pet food bank. Our troop had a booth at the event and several troop members participated in helping with the event which included a dog walk, dog wash & doggie games. Troop member, Lisa Hamilton, even dressed up like a dog and scooped poop for the event! Thanks to troop members, Tammy Malone & John Doak, for organizing the event that raised 5,000 lbs of dog food! **Mart and Cindy Ratliff, Troop 119, North Texas**

Troop #147 – Alabama

Dog Scout Troop 147/Alabama took the opportunity to join in on the Adopt-A-Friend event sponsored by AUM (Auburn University/Montgomery) September 29, 2012. There were shelters represented from all over the area there which gave us a great opportunity to spread the word about Dog Scouts beyond our normal reach. We are still making up funds for the Elmore County Humane Shelter with our Alabama/Auburn gift boxes which a drawing will be held for on November 17th before the biggest game for the State of Alabama. We were thrilled to see the number of dogs that went home with new family and took the time with those that came by our table to demonstrate clicker training and giving handouts. They had a great turnout and we hope there will be several that checkout the Dog Scout website and contact us.



Photos above, left to right - Troop member Karen Richards with Sage, DSA; Tink, the AUM organizer, and Sage; Co-leader Jamie Nance with Apollo, DSA, and myself, Leader Barbara Ferry, and Sage.



Left – Kitty holding Sage. **Barbara Ferry**

Troop 150 - Arkansas

Troop 150 has had a great year in 2012. We have welcomed several new troop members who are actively participating, even driving a couple of hours or more from Missouri and Tulsa, Oklahoma to meet with us. We are proud that Alice, Claire, Cricket, Do-G, Poppy, and Sampson have all earned their Dog Scout title this year, and Lilly, Micah and Romeo are working towards theirs. At our monthly troop meetings, we usually try to incorporate a Dog Scout skill, a learning game or training activity, and a closer look at a badge interest area. In

the early months of the year, we worked on basic Dog Scout skills and played learning games with our dogs (and ourselves - clicker training the trainers.)

Here Claire and Alice play a "think and solve it" game by locating treats hidden in muffin tin cups under various sizes and textures of balls. Creative treat removal techniques included Lick Under the Ball, Nudge the Ball Over, and Flip the Tin!



We also took a troop backpacking hike on a local art museum trail, where the dogs were un-impressed with the bear statues but felt the pig statue had too much direct eye contact and would benefit from Dog Scout manners training.



And we tried out some equipment for the Obstacles badges, with our dogs ranging from zero experience to titles in agility, so we had fun at all levels.



In May we took our first troop campout and worked on Overnight Camping, Backpacking, and Letterboxing. The hiking trail for



Backpacking was through typical Ozark Mountain rocky terrain and we felt that we really earned our mile! Another group camping in the area, observing us and our dogs packing our gear in and out, asked us if we were a rescue group – we weren't sure if they meant Search and Rescue, dog rescue, or that it looked as if the dogs had come to rescue us, but we took the opportunity to explain about Dog Scouts! Everyone completed the requirements for Overnight Camping, and Cricket, who had been working on Backpacking all spring, completed his miles for the Backpacking badge.



In the summer months, we shared teaching techniques learned at the 2011 Texas Mini-camp on the Scent Discrimination badge, and the dogs got a chance to work with detecting clove scent.



We practiced stamp carving for the letterboxing badge and also tried out a method for making a rubber stamp of our own dog's paw print – with limited success at the meeting, but it was fun to try and we think we can improve the method to create a workable stamp.



In August we met at a local river to work on Puppy Paddler. Lilly and Do-G both did some swimming retrieves, and Cricket did one lovely tail-wagging lap around his mom, but we think it's safe to say that none of our dogs secretly want to be Labrador Retrievers or Water Spaniels, and they are all glad there is no Synchronized Swimming badge.



This fall we have introduced the Art of Shaping badge techniques to our newer troop members, and we hope to get a look at Freestyle Dance before the year is through, since some of our members recently attended a freestyle dance training seminar and have some tips to share.

Our troop members are active with other dog groups including therapy (nursing homes, school reading programs) and dog rescue work, and have been able to present information about the Dog Scouts of America at other dog club meetings during the year. Our troop also tries to get the word out with an informational booth at local dog events, so here we are at a shelter fundraiser. We love to share our enthusiasm for Dog Scouts, and the Power of Positive Training!



Presenting new Dog Scouts in 2012: Alice, Claire, Cricket, Do-G, Poppy, Sampson



Troop #157- Broward County, Florida
Broward Paw Patrol

Troop 157 has been busy the last few months. Our troop has had several opportunities to demonstrate our Dog Scout behavior and activities for the press. We have had reporters and photographers at many of our classes and events which has been a great way to attract some new members and spread the word about positive, responsible dog ownership. The Sun Sentinel in Ft Lauderdale did front page story highlighting Dog Scouts on Sunday September 2nd and an online video <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/videogallery/72057314/Entertainment/Dog-Scouts-of-America> and local channel 10 aired this video <http://www.local10.com/thats-life/Dog-Scout-troops-pop-up-across-South-Florida/-/1716786/16915912/-/dwudvuz/-/index.html> on October 10th.

Now that the weather is cooling off our members have been doing more outside activities. We have been working on the Backpacking, Hiking, Letterboxing, Geocaching, Kayaking, and Puppy Paddler badges. Indoors we have also been working on the Art of Shaping badge and obstacles/agility. The drill team has been practicing weekly and has recently started to work on the All Dog Band badge. Our troop has also been involved in community events. On October 7th, a small group served as the color guard to kick off the "Moving Day" walk for the National Parkinson Foundation. It was an honor to do this and our dogs did so well in the rain, with a large crowd looking at them, in a new environment, we are very proud.

We are gearing up for the PuppyUp! Walk (2 Million Dogs Foundation). Our troop is hosting this event, we have been spending the past few months planning, gathering sponsors, finding volunteers, and fundraising. This organization supports comparative research for canine and human cancer. We will be honoring dogs and people who we have lost to cancer and survivors. This event takes place on November 4th. Our members will be participating in the walk and volunteering to help make the event go smoothly.

Finally for great news, Emilia Villati's golden retriever Romeo just earned his final check off to be a Dog Scout!



Left - Marcel and Lily DSA work on art of shaping badge

Right - Champ DSA working on art of shaping badge

Below - Left to right: Marce's Rebel, Christine and Kayla DSA (front), Cindi and Reggie DSA, Jan and Shammy DSA, Joan and Casey DSA, Tish and Skye DSA, and Christine and Grace DSA working on backpacking and hiking badges.



Right – Colorguard - Cindi and Reggie DSA, Tish and Skye DSA, Teresa and Ripley DSA, Christine and Grace DSA, and Patricia and Riley presenting the colors at the Moving Day Parkinson's Foundation walk.

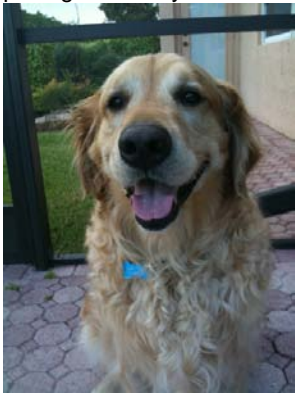




Left - Members of the Drill Team Teresa and Ripley DSA, Cindi and Reggie DSA, Jan and Shammy DSA, Christine and Grace DSA, and Sandy and Jake DSA practicing the drill routine.



Right - Romeo DSA, Reba DSA, Grace DSA, and Ripley DSA posing in the kayak after a morning of kayaking and swimming!



Left - Emilia's Romeo is our newest DSA!



Left - Cindi leads the orientation for new members



Right - Reggie DSA sporting his backpack on the cover of the Sun Sentinel newspaper



Left - Puppy Paddlers - Milda and Bella working on getting comfortable in the water



Left - News Paper Cover - Having fun practicing sit stays during a game of Tic Tac Toe at our member meeting.

Downeast Dog Scouts Troop #159- Mount Desert Island, Maine

Downeast Scenic Railroad

The Downeast Dog Scouts enjoyed beautiful New England fall foliage when they rode the Downeast Scenic Railroad, a ten mile **passenger train tour** on the historic Calais Branch Line from Ellsworth, Maine. The Scouts greeted passengers and crew on the ninety minute ride in an open air car on a beautiful September day. Once again the Dog Scout dogs were well received, as many passengers remarked about their wonderful dispositions and behavior on the train. Support dog-friendly railroads!



Photos above and left – Downeast Scenic Railroad, Ellsworth, Maine



Bark For Life Hancock County Cancelled This Year

The second annual Hancock County Maine Bark for Life event was cancelled due to heavy rain this year. As last year's top fundraiser, Dog Scout Jillian was ready to sport the Bark For Life coat



and lead the walk! Despite the rain, the Dog Scouts arrived prepared to set up the troop's information booth and completed the walking loop at Hadley Point Campground. The Downeast Dog Scouts team raised \$2,135 for the American Cancer Society. Right – Troop in the rain.



Paws on Parade – Photos above

On Saturday October 6th Downeast Dog Scouts Troop members joined Team Kindred Spirits for the Bangor Humane Society's Paws On Parade fundraiser in Bangor, Maine. Raya, Rebel and Cirra walked the one mile plus downtown route with hundreds of other great dogs on a fun fall day in Maine. Team Kindred Spirits was the top fundraising team for the Bangor Humane Society, raising \$8,900!



Left - Happy Birthday Rissa!! Dog Scout Rissa celebrates her fourteenth birthday on September 29th!!!

Children Reading to Dogs and Therapy Dogs

Fall reading programs have begun at the Blue Hill Library for Pier Carros and Gracie and at the Northeast Harbor Library for Robyn Douglas and Cirra. Information about Children Reading to Cirra programs has been updated on www.librarydogs.com. Pam Bourque, with Jillian, and Denise Houseknecht, with Cirra, continue to visit the residents at the Birch Bay Retirement Village in Bar Harbor.

Robyn Douglas, Downeast Dog Scouts Troop 159

Troop 177 – Indianapolis, Indiana

Troop #177 is happy to welcome new members Mandy Ritchhart and Amy Heard. Mandy and her husband Chris have 4 year old Sahara, a Weimaraner and 1 year old Marley, a Weim/Lab mix. They adopted Sahara one week before she produced 10 puppies! Marley is the pup they kept. Amy has Star, a mixed breed who appeared at Amy's door as a skinny and fearful dog on the same day Amy made the difficult decision to euthanize her 13 year old chocolate Labrador. Both Mandy and Amy discovered Dog Scouts Troop #177 at August booths held at Moochie's Rescue Rally and Carmel Dog Day Afternoon. Booths were staffed by Anita Dudley, Abbey Laken Candy Shoaf and Michelle Goldner.

Peggy Kraus & Casey and Robyn Porter & Hallie attended the August 2012 Blue Ridge Mini Camp in Maryland. They participated in freestyle, talent night, directional control, scent work and hikes. The 4-H grounds were beautiful and weather was great camping weather! Both brought home lots of new ideas for working with the dogs. On the way home they visited the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.



Casey & Peggy Directional Control



Right - Casey & Peggy pose



Casey & Hallie at IN Basketball Hall of Fame

Troop 177 went swimming on Saturday, September 8 at the Carmel Monon Waterpark Dog swim. The waterpark opens its doors to canines before closing for winter. Anita Dudley & Sophie, Peggy Kraus & Casey, Amy Heard & Star, Robyn Porter & Hallie, Abbey Laken & Jacks, Michelle Goldner with Lewis & Graci, Candy Shoaf & Boomer as well as Gail Wiseman & Zipper enjoyed a sunny afternoon at the pool. Dogs and owners had access to various pools at the annual event while listening to a live band!



Left -:Abbey with Jacks and Michelle with Lewis and Graci
Right – Gail Wiseman and Zipper



We explored a giant fall maze cut into a prairie at McCloud Nature Park west of Indianapolis on September 30. Most of the fall mazes in our area are cut into cornfields or built with bales of hay. We found a maze where the dogs could accompany us. It was in a prairie of natural plants, some were



2 feet high and some were shoulder high. As a result you could sometimes see other people in the field, but they may or may not be on the right path. The maze theme was an oft-feared denizen of darkness . . . the bat! Afterwards we hiked park trails. Anita Dudley & Sophie, Peggy Kraus & Casey, Robyn Porter & Hallie, Amy Heard & Star, Candy Shoaf & Boomer, and guest Jessica Gosline enjoyed the sunny afternoon.

Photo - McCloud Nature Park

This year's fall camping trip took place October 12-14 at beautiful Hickory Hills private campground in Spencer near McCormick's Creek State Park. Although not as cold as last year, it was still very chilly. Owners and dogs enjoyed a canoe trip on Friday. For a few of the dogs it was their first time in a canoe or kayak. Wildlife spotted along the river includes Bald Eagle, Blue Heron,

Deer, Coyote, and Turtles. On Saturday everyone hiked in McCormick's Creek State Park and visited the waterfalls. Gail Wiseman provided an overview of the Pho-dog-raphy badge requirements and provided everyone with a touch stick for training. Look for fabulous photos from our troop in the future! Anita guided campers as they made dog toys braided from t-shirts as well as two night hikes. Campers included Anita Dudley & Sophie, Amy Heard & Star, Robyn Porter & Hallie, Gail Wiseman & Zipper, Michelle Goldner with Lewis, Banjo, Koko & Graci as well as Abbey Laken and Adam Scott & Jacks. What a full weekend!



Beautiful Jacks

Right - Beautiful Sophie



Beautiful Star



Left - McCormick's Creek hikers

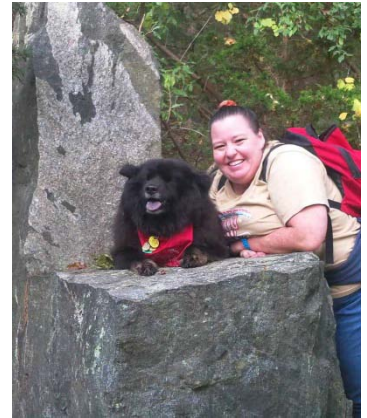
Robyn Porter, Troop #177, Indianapolis IN

Troop 188 - Connecticut and Rhode Island

Part of the Preston Clean up Crew



Wow! Fall is here and with it comes all the activities made more fun for scouts and parents by the very welcome cooler fall temperatures. Troop 188 followed an activity packed summer with a fun filled fall. A number of walks /hikes/letterboxing excursions found the troop out and about throughout the area. Troop 188 also held a couple of clean up days at local parks. Several new members joined the troop this fall as well. During the September meeting new policies were accepted as part of the troop structure. The October meeting has everyone excited for a special upcoming community service project and some additional nursing



home visitations. The culmination of a fundraising project saw Troop 188 donate 3 new animal stretchers to the Ledyard Animal Control to be placed in their new Animal Control van. Our fall fundraiser, Autumn's Festival, was a success despite the blustery wind and occasional raindrop. Autumn's Festival raised over \$300 to help with the care of local shelter pets. A costume contest held



talked, raised money, and demonstrated their skills. **Photo above right - Star, DSA and Emily pose at the Natural Throne in White Hall Park. Photo above left - New members Petey and Joan.**

Some 2012 Costume Contestants





Photos - Top- Walking the Walk; Top Right – Lucy Leads a weave during a lap of the walk; Bottom Right- Phantom shows his support for the Bark For Life.

In addition to Autumn's Festival, and Bark for Life Troop 188 had a booth at a couple of additional events including a local positive training center's client appreciation day. While there we talked to folks about the Dog Scout Way, responsible pet parenting, and helped with a scenting activity. Not to be outdone with outside activities Troop 188 also revamped our website <http://dogscouttroop188.shutterfly.com> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DogScoutTroop188> presence. Stop by and check them out and let us know what you think!

Respectfully submitted, **Julianne Grove / Troop 188**



Troop 199 – Positive Pups. (Western New York)



Wow, is summer really over? We had a busy, fun season. First, congratulations to our two new Dog Scouts. Baylor (mom Nancy Herdic) and Maia (mom Candy Karsten) passed the Dog Scout test in early August .(photo of Maia by Pam Knowlton)

Our weekly hikes remain popular. We have experienced flat paved bike paths, trails with boardwalks, and dirt logging roads. During these walks our dogs had opportunities to swim and play with each other while their parents viewed stunning vistas and some worked on their Clean up America badges.

Our annual campout at member Jeanine Jay's place was once more a successful combination of fun and learning. The dogs enjoyed dock diving, agility equipment, off leash play and walks. In the evening, we had a cookout and casual conversation. The next morning after breakfast we learned about the Travel Safety and First Aid badges while we assembled first aid kits for our cars. Four of us attended the mini-camp in Maryland this August. The experience was summarized by Troop leader Nicole Shiro :

Return from Mini-Camp

Tina, Candy, Cathi and myself have returned from the Blue Ridge Dog Scout Mini-Camp in Maryland. We had an awesome time and met some great new people and dogs. We also came back with 10 badges! Candy and Maia are our reigning champs with 4 badges - First Aid, Advanced First Aid/CPR, Puppy Paddler and Beach Buddies. Cathi and Barrett earned Puppy Paddler, Beach Buddies and Backpacking. Myself and Pawsom got Puppy Paddler, First Aid and Manners. Tina and Blaise

proved to be excellent helpers with helping us learn new skills so we could all pass for our badges. We look forward to Blaise becoming a Dog Scout in the very near future! Aside from badges, we brought back some exciting ideas for troop activities.

Troop 199 has been active in fundraising and contributing to several worthy causes. Positive Pups was well represented, manning our table at many local events. We raised awareness of Dog Scouts and the Dog Scout way as well as funds for our chosen charity "Animeals" bflocan.org/animeals.html. Troop member Jeanine Jay held a fundraiser at her place (Canine Sports Complex, Wilson, NY) for a local family who lost their house and a family member in an explosion. This September six members and their dogs participated in the yearly event "Paws in the Park", a fundraiser for the Erie County SPCA which included a two mile walk which generated money through pledges. Our team, proudly wearing our Dog Scout shirts walked amidst over 100 dogs and raised \$439(well over our stated goal.) After this busy day we all went to member Tina Evrard's place for a swimming party for the dogs, wine and cheese for the humans.



Plans for this fall include a party where we will make toys for a local shelter, some Rally fun, and the incorporation of Letterboxing into our walks.

Left - Troop199 (Positive Pups) assembled before the "Paws in the Park" walk. (not pictured:Tina Evrard and Blaise)

Left - Troop199 (Positive Pups) assembled before the "Paws in the Park" walk. (not pictured:Tina Evrard and Blaise)

Cathi McKelvey, Troop 199

Troop 213/Colorado

Troop 213 is very excited to announce their brand new meeting place.



Camp Bow Wow in Broomfield Colorado

Many thanks go out to Laura Roach and Julie Montilla-Goad for working on this new partnership! They will start meeting at Camp Bow Wow in September of 2012, and can't wait to see what great ideas their Troop Leader will come up for their meetings.

Troop 213 welcomes two new members Jen Bailey and her dog Sage and Carrie Bailey and her dog Maverick (not shown).



Pictured Jen Bailey and Sage

Congratulations to our newest Dog Scout! Sage! Sage is also our first Dog Scout to earn her Dog Scout Merit Badge by video submission. She is setting a fine example for a lot of our dogs currently working on the merit badge. We are very proud of her and Jen! Way to go guys!



Pictured: Sage

On August 21, 2012 we extended an invitation to Megan Donovan to come and check out our pups for some agility badges. We were very appreciative of her, as it was a very long drive for her. Marnie Johnson hosted us at the Zoom Room and opened it up to Megan and Tori for some warm-ups!



Pictured above: Megan Donovan with Tori



Pictured L to R: Alyna Waters with Isabelle, Jen Bailey with Misha, Laura Pescador and Megan Donovan, Laura Pescador with Misha



Pictured Left to Right: Jen Bailey with Sage, Ace with Julie Montilla Goad, Ace



Pictured above: Seven

Badges earned:



Jen and Sage OB1 OB2 OB3 AG1 AG2
 Laura and Misha OB1 OB2 OB3 AG1 AG2
 Alyna and Isabelle OB1 OB2 OB3 AG1 AG2 (after she earns her merit badge)
 Julie and Ace OB1 OB2 OB3 AG1 AG2
 Julie and Seven OB1 OB2

August 25, 2012 Meadowlark Trail

Todd Goad, Julie Montilla-Goad, Ace and Seven "scouted" the trail for the next day events.



Pictured Left to Right: Entrance to trail, Seven Montilla-Goad, Ace Montilla-Goad

Meadowlark Trail August 26, 2012

We headed out on the trail with James, Megan, Pirate, Fawkes, Laura, Misha, Alyna, Isabella, Julie, and Ace. It was a beautiful day with wonderful people and great dogs! We couldn't have asked for a more perfect day, the weather was great, and the hiking was awesome.



Pictured L to R: Alyna Waters and Isabelle, Laura Piscador, Alyna Waters and Isabelle, Megan Donovan, Fawkes and Pirate

Badges Earned:



Laura and Misha Backpacking and Alyna and Isabelle Backpacking (after they earn the Merit Badge)

Another Wonderful Day of Hiking with Alyna, Julie and Marnie in Beautiful Colorado!



Pictured L to R: Julie Montilla-Goad and Seven, Suki, Alyna Waters and Isabelle NCAR Trail

Our Dogs in Therapy Dog Class at Zoom Room – Longmont

They had many tasks from being around wheelchairs, clumsy petting, restraining hugs, angry yelling, being bumped from behind, leave it to their favorite toys, overall exam, and distractions. These three dogs excelled at every task, they were given! Kudos to them all!

Pictured Left to Right: Ace Montilla-Goad, Isabelle Waters, and Sage Bailey



“Leave It” Challenge

Troop 213 accepted the Facebook “Leave It” Challenge like true champs. They put their game faces on. See them with what challenges them most, be it food or toys!



September Dog Scout Meeting

Everyone pitched in to cut fleece for the kids to make Dog Tug Toys our Dog Scout Booth at the AKC Responsible Dog Owner Day. We also welcomed some potential new members Laura Capra and her daughter Emma. And Kelly brought her puppy Zoey for some fun!



L to R: Marnie, Jen with Kelly and Zoey, Alyna and Marnie



L to R: Carrie, Laura, Maverick (supervising)



L to R: Alyna, Alyna, Marnie and Kelly



L to R: Emma, Jen, Alyna and Julie

Field Clean Up 09/15/2012

Our Troop got together to clean up the field to prepare for Responsible Dog Owner Day.



Pictured above: (can't tell one hiney from another lol)

Left - The Girls and their pups



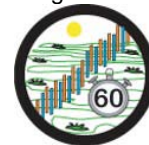
09/15/12 60 Weave Pole Challenge

Alyna, Julie and Jen got together with their dogs on a beautiful afternoon and organized this awesome event. 30 weave poles up and back for the dogs to complete a 60 weave challenge! For those that were able to witness this, it was incredible to see. The dogs were amazing. We will do it again for sure!



Julie Montilla-Goad and Ace

Badge Earned



Jen Bailey and Sage 60 Weave Pole Challenge

Marnie Johnson invited the Dog Scouts of America to have a booth at the AKC Responsible Dog Owner Day at the Zoom Room – Longmont. There was an Ask the Vet Session, an Agility Demo with Ace “the super dog” and Isabelle “the beauty”, a Puppies Demo, a Dog Scout Seminar and so many dog rescue booths. Marnie did a superb job organizing this event!



Pictured L to R: Julie worked the DSA Booth as Teagan made dog tug toys to be donated to the humane society



L to R: Margo Suzuki & Hailey won the Treat Catch Contest! Laura Capra



Julie Montilla-Goad and Ace Evaluated and Passed to become a registered Dog Team with Therapy Dogs International
 Jen Bailey and Sage Passed the test to become a registered Dog Team with Therapy Dogs Inc.
 Congratulations and Paws up to them all!

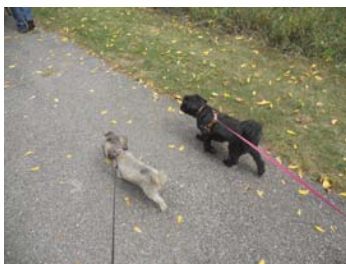


Jen Bailey and Sage also earned their Biking Badge and the Clean Up America II Badge



Submitted by **Julie Montilla-Goad - Troop 213/Colorado**

Troop 217 – Southeast Michigan

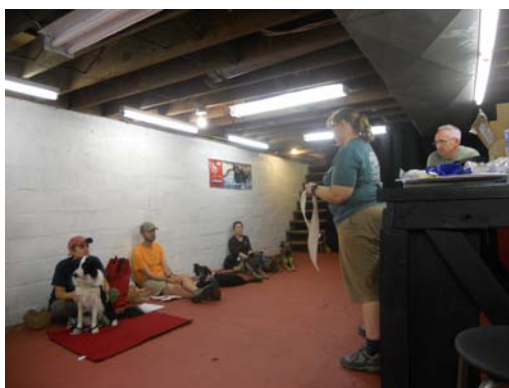


Troop 217 has been working hard teaching various Dog Scout related classes, hiking, and planning the upcoming Zombie All-Troop Retreat weekend the past few months. On September 2nd, we held a troop hike at Maybury State Park. It ended up being a perfect day and we hiked just under 2 miles with 9 troop members.

Two of Troop 217’s littlest members Shelby Benson and Winnie Behrmann

Immediately following the hike, we ventured over to Celebrity Pets Co., in downtown Northville, where Melissa Perez taught the First Aid class for troop members interested in learning more and also for those wanting to check off on the badge. Congratulations to Michelle and Sassy, Angela and Cadence, and Lowell and Maebe for earning the First Aid badge.

Photos below: Left - Melissa Perez teaching First Aid Class; Right - Sassy Neu trying out her make-shift bandage muzzle



On September 8th, we held our first ever DSA Class to help prepare those wanting to test their dogs in October for the DSA title. Melissa Perez and Julie Benson covered everything people would need to know to pass the DSA test and also were able to meet some brand new members of the troop who took away the information to help train their puppies or further their knowledge of positive training methods.

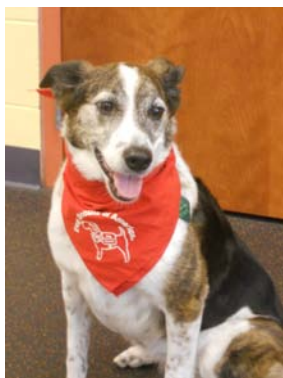
On September 16th, we met for an impromptu hike at West Bloomfield's Nature Preserve, a first visit to this beautiful park for most all troop members. We enjoyed a 2 mile hike while

taking in the sights of the park and looking at the changing colors starting in the trees.

On October 6th, Julie Benson hosted the troop's final Zombie Retreat planning meeting. With 32 attendees expected to attend, we discussed everything from the games, to the schedule, badge check offs, the craft, the night hike, and the final activity of the weekend – the Zombie Hunt! Everyone has done a wonderful job with the tasks they volunteered to organize. We are expecting troops from Ohio, Indiana, Virginia, and Michigan and those planning on attending are in for a very fun filled weekend of zombie fun! Pictures to follow in the next newsletter!

October 13th marked our second DSA testing day at the Michigan Humane Society shelter in Westland, MI. Melissa volunteers here so we are very fortunate to have access to using the center's multi-purpose room for class and testing days. Melissa Perez and Julie Benson tested four dogs throughout the day. Congratulations to Samantha Winslow and Ella and Pecas and Betsy Conway and Bert for passing the Dog Scout test. Troop 217 welcomes our newest Dog Scouts!

Dog Scout Pecas Winslow



Dog Scout Ella Winslow



Dog Scout Bert Conway

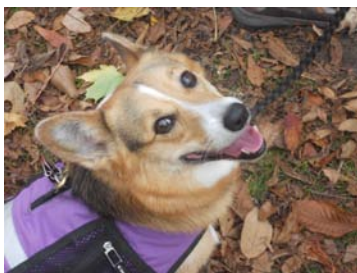


October 14th marked a very special day for our troop to remember Roberta Chapman, an active troop member we lost suddenly this past July. This time of year and geocaching were two of Roberta's favorite things so we decided what better way to remember her than to plant a geocache in her memory. Roberta was an active volunteer at Huron Valley Humane Society, which is just down the road from

Cherry Hill Nature Preserve, so we chose this location to plant our geocache. Roberta's best friend Dagmar joined us w/Roberta's dog Sprite who Dagmar has "adopted" since Roberta's passing. We all brought various tokens to put in the geocache that reminded us of our friend. Path Tags, Halloween trinkets, and dog related items were all included in our geocache "Remembering Roberta".



Angela and Lowell Schmorow-Zuckerman with Cadence and Tristan, Melissa and Matt Perez with Drizzle, Dagmar with Sprite (not pictured: Julie Benson w/Shelby)



Left - Dog Scout Sprite Chapman

For more information on any of our troop's events, contact Julie Benson at bensonjulie@earthlink.net or Angela Schmorow-Zuckerman at reddogblues@gmail.com. You can also check us out at our troop website: <http://dsatrop217.com>.

--Submitted by **Julie Benson, Troop Leader**

Dog Scout Troop 219
Southeastern Connecticut and Rhode Island

Dog Scout Camp

Zora DSA and I went to Dog Scout Camp in Michigan in July. Zora DSA earned her Freestyle, Search and Rescue, and Obstacle 3 badges. I'm sure no one will ever forget our theme song "Cheese" by Tim Minchin.

In August, Zora DSA and I went to Maryland to attend the Blue Ridge Mini Camp. Two Dog Scout Camps in one summer! What could be better than that? Zora DSA earned her Scent Discrimination, First Aide and Tricks badges. For the camp auction, I made a small letterbox, complete with a logbook, a hand-carved stamp that looked like a puggle, an ink pad and two DSA First Finder patches. I am still amazed that that little letterbox went for \$70! I hope it finds a great home and lots of people enjoy hunting for it.

Troop Hikes

Troop 219 went hiking at Bluff Point State Park with Troop 211 from Mass in August. We hiked all the way down to the point and stopped to let the dogs go swimming on the way back. The hike was a total of 5 miles and Zora DSA was able to complete the last requirement for her Pack Dog title.

Labor Day weekend, several troop members went hiking at Haley Farm State Park. Zora DSA and Sophie had a great time hiking together and meeting friends on the trail.

Photos below: Roxie from Troop 211 hiking with Addie from Troop 219; Zora DSA and Sophie posing at Haley Farm.



Pumpkins and Pooches

Dog Scout Troop 219 attended the Colchester Lions Club's Annual Pumpkins and Pooches event this year. Sophie and Zora had a great time meeting new people and playing pianos for the crowd. We were proud to display the fabulous banner that Angela made for the Troop for the first time.



Photos above: Zora DSA with her favorite piano; Zora DSA and Sophie ready to tell the world about Dog Scouts.

Sophie is starting to learn to play the piano.

Leave-It Challenge

Troop 219 issued a Leave-It Challenge to all of our Troop members and friends. The challenge was to spell your dog's name in treats (or toys) while they sat and watched. Of course, no harsh corrections were allowed. I was amazed at the responses that we received. Many members from our friends in Troop 211 met the challenge. The response from our Dog Scout friends all over the country was amazing. I also shared the challenged with my puggle friends online.

Photos below: Scrat (Troop 219) sat and watched his Dad write a long message in kibble. Indy's Mom ran out of treats, so she used real bacon. Bailey (Troop 211) was such a good boy for his Mom. The Crew (Troop 211) all have ham between their feet.



Kelly Ford, Dog Scout Troop 219 Leader

Troop 220 Nevada – Silver Paws



Here us a pic of new Nevada troop, Silver Paws 220 This is from our 4th meeting (September 20) but first outdoors. I think dogs and people had a ball. On Sunday, November 11, we met and worked on testing exercises for the DSA test and hopefully get more of you past at least some of the test items. We went over the Written Handler's test did some mock tests. It's a tuff one but there are do overs! Contact Terry Cuyler at cuykaylab@gmail.com

Troop #221- Wyoming Valley Squad

Wyoming Valley Dog Squad Troop #221 is off to a great start! Everyone in our troop is so excited to get things going. Phyllis Sinavage ,Troop Leader has been working hard with Nikki, DSA and honing her agility skills. She also has Pasha, DSA who has just earned her therapy dog specialty badge. Sheila, Cadet Scout is also Phyllis's dog working towards earning the DSA title, all three are Shelties.



Photos: Top, Left to Right – Roper and Valerie Boler (far right) at the Light the Night walk for Leukemia; Liza Roper with Sam (taken by Ben Roper); The dogs of Troop 221; Bottom, Left to Right – Troop members cleaning up America, Diana Cogingni; Mary Perrego, Phyllis Sinavage and Diana Cogingni; Mary Perrego; Phyllis Sinavage and Liza Roper.

Liza Roper, Co-Troop Leader has Sam, DSA who is a sheltie mix that just earned his Treibball 1 badge and Kirby, DSA , a Sheltie, just earned his therapy badge.

Mary Perrego has Bizkit, DSA who is a large mixed breed. She also has Angus who is a Cadet Scout. Mary is a dog trainer and worked hard helping us whenever we needed her, we owe a lot to her!

We had our first meeting on Sept 23, 2012 at Hollenback Dog Park, Wilke-Barre, PA. Phyllis talked about our first fundraiser for pet oxygen masks for fire departments in our area who do not currently have them. Mary talked about helping new members to work on the DSA title and Liza talked about the various badges that can be earned.

On October 6, Phyllis and Mary and new member Diana Cogingni attended our local SPCA walk for the animals. They set up a public education table and their reception was terrific!

Troop #221 Wyoming Valley Dog Squad is well on their way! Submitted by **Liz Roper**

Troop #222, Central Wisconsin

Hi, I am a new troop leader, and wrote an article to introduce our new troop (#222)... no name officially yet. Here is the article... Woof! Woof! Hello! We are Dog Scout Troop #222! My name is Chelsea and I am a new troop leader. Last year, I got my first dog (an adorable Australian Shepherd puppy named "Zima" that now completely controls my life and demands all my attention). I wanted to give her a chance to meet some puppy friends and learn everything she can, so naturally, I decided to start a Dog Scout troop.

Our troop currently has 7 members from the central Wisconsin area and we have done all sorts of activities already. We love holiday parties and have celebrated Valentine's Day and Easter with training games and treats galore! Coming soon will be our Halloween Party.



All the dogs in our troop are currently working on their Dog Scout title so we have training days and activities that promote socialization in public. One of our favorite troop activities is geocaching (many of our dogs have already hidden their first geocache!). We try to plan at least 2 activities a month, so if anybody has any suggestions, let me know!

Almost all of our communication between members is in our Facebook group and soon I hope to get a website up for us. So come check us out (Dog Scouts in Central Wisconsin).

Also, I attached the picture from our Easter Party last spring. I took the photo (Chelsea Wood) Back Row: Tracy (human) with Lt. (dog), Michelle (human) with Piper (dog), and Zima (dog) Front Row: Renea (human) with Ketut, Brandon, Krystal (human) with Schatze and Nyah (dogs), Connie (human) with Ruby and Sheila (dogs). My email is squirrel_872005@hotmail.com. Thanks, **Chelsea Wood, Troop Leader**

Attitude of Gratitude

DSA would like to thank Vicki Lomas for donating several boxes of hp printer paper to DSA through her employer's donation program.

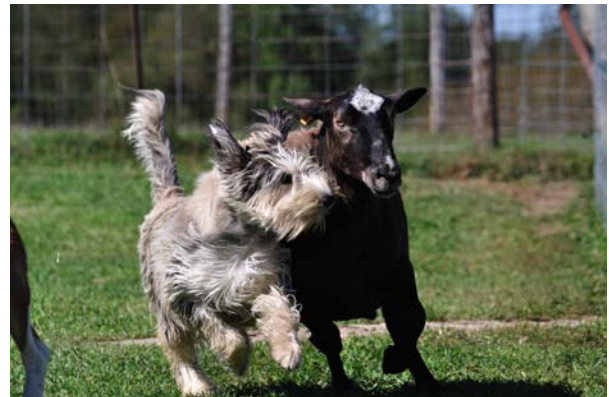
DSA would like to thank the following people for their contributions to the raffle baskets at the APDT conference on Oct. 17-21. Mart and Cindy Ratliff of Troop 119 - donation of \$100 and a treat bag (\$100 was used to buy lots of great stuff for the baskets!). Gloria Voss - lovely handmade leash; Kong company - lots of great goodies! Jeffers Pet Supply Company- lots of great goodies! And thank-you to the board members that helped work the booth: Ann Withun, Chris Puls, Doree Donovan and Jim Helems.

Rainbow Bridge
Heidi Lipford, 1/12/2000 – 8/13/12

Linda Lipford lost her German Shepherd Dog, Heidi, to complications from degenerative myleopathy on August 13th. I just found out about her loss in late September. Because I've owned a Shepherd, I know what sensitive, loyal and loving dogs they are. I'm sure our hearts and prayers go out to Linda. Take care Linda and remember the good times. **Peggy Zweber, Editor**

In Closing . . .Remembering the Year

Here it is November, soon the Holidays will be upon us. I gained another dog this year on the last day of February, a 4 month old Picard Shepherd, who I named Jean-Luc (after the Starship Captain) or Luke for short. My first experience with a herding breed and a whole new world. He is jaunty and outgoing and I think, knows he is cute. I taught him shaking hands and now he offers his paw to everyone he meets!!! He is fearless on agility equipment. He loves herding sheep and to my surprise, ducks!! In September, at 11 months, he earned his first herding title at an American Herding Breed Association trial in Aledo, IL, on a sheep ranch. His trainer handled him, thanks goodness, I looked at the muddy, uneven pasture and knew I would not be standing for long, had I tried. So, here is a photo of Luke, with one of his sheep, handled by Linda Johnson, gaining his HCT (Herding Capability Test) title. I have a good feeling about this one, he has magic in him.



Peggy Zweber, Editor