

Durham Kennel Club Member Meeting
Monday Jan. 19, 2015
Durham Kennel Club Building, Durham, NC

Program

Cat Warren on her recent book, What the Dog Knows.

Cat Warren is a university professor and a former journalist who also has an admittedly odd hobby: she works with cadaver dogs: dogs trained to find the missing and dead. What started as a way to harness her new German shepherd pup's unruly energy and enthusiasm soon became a calling that introduced her to the hidden and fascinating universe of working dogs, their handlers, and their trainers.

Meeting

Dee Wallis called the meeting to order at 8:15 PM on Monday January 19, 2015.

There were 47 full members present at the meeting (a quorum)

Approve the minutes as published on the website

The November, 2014 minutes, as written and presented on the website, were approved.

President's Report

At our last Board meeting we began a process of reviewing the progress of the last year and a half to fine tune our plans for this spring. You who have been here at the building have seen the big changes we made in upgrading maintenance in front of the building, including repairing the front porch, and in getting the new Sports field fenced, grassed, with new access stairs and landscaping. The changes on the interior have also been substantial, but not as easily noticed, wiring has been repaired and upgraded in many places to make the water heater supply hot water, prevent the kitchen circuits from flipping out and to make the lights and electrical sockets work properly. The septic tank and the storage closet have both been cleaned out. We are looking a lot sharper and we are a lot safer. But some of the less visible planning is even more important. We have been working to improve our financial planning and our responsiveness to the members' needs and goals – communication and access. We have an efficient newsletter that keeps members informed and our web site is gradually undergoing upgrades – the calendar, the news page are new and we now have on-line payment capabilities, so far for classes and for membership renewals. We worked for many months to arrange a sale of the Harris Road property, and that money is invested, giving us more options and choices regarding our capital expense needs. There is still a lot of work to do to get our finances in order. The Board needs to work closely with our Committees to identify what is important and successful and what is not.

In the course of beginning financial review to present a budget, I looked at history and realized that the Club had not made a donation to the Vet School to fund our endowment for the last two years. In the plan we created with the Vet School in 2012, we agreed to raise \$25,000 by 2017 to have a permanent endowment in the name of DKC. At that time the Board voted to contribute \$2,000 toward that total each year for the five years. To date, only the donation for the first year has been paid. A few Board members believed that the membership had overridden the Board's decision to make those donations. I do not remember that vote, and have been working with the Endowment Committee to raise the additional funds necessary to meet our deadline of June 2017. Without the annual donation from the Club, we cannot meet that deadline. The members will get the budget to review, edit and approve in April and ultimately that donation,

now and in the future, will be a membership decision. But, for now, the Endowment Committee, is considering whether we want to continue fundraising for an impossible goal. I welcome your input and suggestions on that point.

One big technical project that is underway this winter is sending out requests for proposals to security companies for a new access system to the building. It will be expensive and it will take time, but the Board has concluded that it is time to try a keying system that will give everyone equal access to use the building. We have created a draft of the necessary elements and welcome hearing from anyone who knows of a company that might bid on providing this system.

I hope you will take some time to notice the work that has been done, and will resolve to join in continuing the efforts to improve our financial reporting, and to continue to upgrade our physical plant.

Treasurer's Report: Available upon request

Recording Secretary's Report: No report

Corresponding Secretary's Report: No report

AKC Delegate: Obedience changes have been sent back to the committee. Look for "obedience committee proposals" on the AKC site.

Committee Reports

Membership (Terri Toohill): she says the new PayPal account is working well for renewals of membership.

Nominations for the May election of officers

President: Ann Carter

Vice President: Nancy Akers

Treasurer: Linda Wozniak

Board Members: Thomas Givens and Jodi LaBombard

Cathy Rubens moved that we request a brief bio/background/vision statement from the candidates. Seconded. Approved. A picture would be nice to have, if possible. (Note that this motion will apply to future elections. The Nominations Committee will be contacted this year to see if the candidates would be willing to provide the information)

Conformation Show (Spring) (Linda Wozniak): Friday, March 20 at the Fairgrounds in Raleigh.

Conformation Show (Fall) (Cathy Rubens): Saturday, Sept. 5, 2015. We need to have someone volunteer to chair the clinics. Mentors are available. We also need someone to organize the "front door" welcome, collect \$\$.

Education (Sally Ridge):

There will be a training session for workers at the upcoming Show 'n Go.

DKC postcards and information cards are in the foyer for us to distribute.

Freestyle (Dee Wallis) practice sessions are held from noon-2, one Saturday a month. There is a possibility that we could put on a Freestyle demonstration during lunchtime at the DKC show in Raleigh.

“Tailwagers” (Steve Wallis) The Federation has re-hired the lobbyist for this session of the legislature. They thought it would be incumbent on us to be represented, as we expect HSUS and ASPCA to be active.

Obedience (Sharon Pitz): The first week of classes had to be postponed because of the weather. The class will be made up at the end. Classes are pretty much full, there are several more daytime classes. The Committee will be meeting soon, to plan the next sessions.

Obedience Trials (Nancy Akers/Kim Tyndall/Linda Wozniak):
Seminars/Clinics (Teddi Hendrickson):

We are finalizing plans to bring in Gayle Echevarria to present an Obedience Seminar on August 8 & 9, 2015 with individual lessons on Monday the 10th.

We are talking with Durham native Ms. Patricia Tirrell, CPDT-KA. Ms Tirrell is a Tellington TTouch Companion Animal Practitioner and a Pet Partners National Program Educator and Team Evaluator. Ms Tirrell would present a 1-day workshop at the DKC.

The workshop would cover Body Language in the morning and an Intro to TTouch in the afternoon. The idea is to acquaint the attendees with what TTouch is, the history of TTouch, how it can be applied, benefits and successes. It is NOT a venue on HOW to learn to TTouch or become a practitioner.

We are discussing an agreeable fee structure for the workshop. Possible dates considered are June 27 or 28, July 25 or 26, Sept 12,13,19 or 20 and Oct 11, 12, 17, 18, 24 or 25.

The Seminar Committee is appreciative of the Board's approval to go ahead with Barn Hunt trials and subsequent purchase of the BH software. As such, we will hold the BH events at Middle Tree Farms in Pittsboro owned and operated by Caroline Betts. Caroline has expressed a desire to work with the DKC to hold regularly scheduled Barn Hunt events.

Respectfully submitted,

Teddi Hendrickson

Yard Sale (Sharon Pitz): the date is on the calendar – May 16. Setup will be the day before.

Awards Banquet: Feb. 28 is the banquet. The Board will subsidize 50% of the cost. The caterer is Hope Vally Caterers (formerly Rick's)

Old Business

There was a discussion about the Endowment Fund for the Vet School, whether we want to have a \$25,000 endowment in the name of the DKC.

Web page: George is working on the new one, but it isn't active yet. He will send a new link once it is available for viewing. He is looking for people to contribute articles and pictures of general interest.

Status of the Library: Carolyn is still working on it. The hope is to have the titles listed online.

New Business

Motion (Linda Wozniak): Use the money donated in memory of Bonnie Nichols (\$676.00) to purchase an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) (up to \$1,500). Seconded. Motion carried. Further donations will be gratefully accepted.

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 PM**Respectfully submitted,***Lois Schultz*