

Saccarappa Yapper



In this issue:

- ◆ Next Meeting Announcement
- ◆ November Board Meeting Minutes
- ◆ November Members Meeting Minutes
- ◆ Brags
- ◆ A very special article from AKC
- ◆ Title Sheet
- ◆ Zoom information

The next meeting will be:

*Wednesday,
At 7:00 PM on 12/16/2020*

*See last page for Zoom
information*

MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

The November Board meeting of Saccarappa Obedience Club was held on 11/11/2020 by ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by President Sandy Cloutier.

The Treasurer reported a net loss for the month.

The Corresponding Secretary said that we have not heard back from AKC yet, even though they have had a meeting. She also received the forms needed for after the election. At the next meeting we take nominations from the floor, and we vote in December.

Sandy reported the list of new officers recommended by the Nominating Committee.

(Continued on page 2)

Unfinished Business:

Sandy told us she only bought one license for ZOOM due to the difficulty with club ownership, and because we may not need the second one now. We will try it and if we find we need a second one, then we can purchase it.

The trial went well and we were able to maintain State requirements for Covid 19.

Dues will be due by the end of December and will be \$20.00, and Sandy suggested that checks be sent to the new Treasurer, MJ McCormack.

Drema requested that the Standing Rules committee start up again, and hopefully we can get them done by Spring.

New Business:

Deb Mazjanis asked when the award applications are due. We believe the deadline is December 31.

She also wondered if we should change the meeting requirements as we changed the number of yearly meetings to six. Sandy said that we hope to continue meeting monthly, and the By-law change was just for special circumstances.

Deb has had experience with ZOOM meetings and said there are some difficulties with large groups. She suggested, and volunteered, to set up some protocols for teamwork in a larger meeting. Sandy will call the next meeting to order, and then Deb will present a "how to" session for all of us. We will need to be comfortable with it as we all need to get used to it. It seems that Covid precautions will be around for a while.

We will be using the same link for each meeting on ZOOM.

There is no Board meeting in December. The next club meeting will be November 18, and then December 16. A reminder will come out before the meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28.

Respectfully submitted,

Drema Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes from November MEMBER's Meeting

The regular meeting of Saccarappa Obedience Club was held by ZOOM on November 18, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Sandy Cloutier. The roll was called, with 19 members, and one guest (Naomi Smith) in attendance.

Deb Mazjanis gave us a tour of a ZOOM screen, but we found out that our screens are different. She gave us some protocols to follow, including how to shut off our video, how to mute and unmute, how to raise a hand to speak, and how to applaud or give a thumbs up. Members present on a phone call may just speak up as needed. A star (*) - 6 will un-mute a phone.

The Secretary's report was accepted as it appeared in the Yapper.

The Treasure reported a net minus for this month, but the Scent trial made over \$1,000, and the obedience trial also came out in the positive.

The Corresponding Secretary has spoken to her AKC contact who told her that the group met, but it can be two weeks before the minutes are published, so we are still waiting!

Committee reports:

The training committee. Sandy asked Brenda how we plan to proceed with Covid. New classes are scheduled to start in January (Puppy and Beginner), but we have no way of knowing how the pandemic situation will be then. We will need to play it by ear. We have no plans for any seminars at this time, until we know what's happening. Rebecca told

On November 9, 2020, Merrillynn Hill gave a wonderful seminar for us at Happy Tails. It was four hours of engagement for us and for our dogs. The seminar was Novice based, and covered, in detail: Motivational games, Set-ups for the ring, Fronts (with games), Loose leash walking, and Footwork with turns. We did an uncoordinated conga line without the dogs to practice, once again proving that handlers are harder to teach than dogs! Thank you, Merrillynn!

told Brenda that the facility has had two cases of kennel cough, and it is kennel cough season. Just something else to be aware of...

Barbara Belicose reported that the trial went well. We made money despite the last minute need to hire a judge causing extra expenses. Hopefully, Nanci will be able to judge for us at a trial in the future. The trial was easy to manage because of the low numbers. Because of our success, we will plan to proceed with plans for a trial in the spring, maybe at the end of April or the beginning of May. The weather inside and out is good that time of year. We will probably use the same format as we did for our recent trial. Lois will check on our supply of ribbons. Brenda heard from exhibitors who appreciated the trial and want to come again. We discussed whether we could have more entries, but even with some no-shows, the trial went until 4 PM. The application for another trial needs to go in soon, so we will keep the same numbers.

A new scent trial is scheduled for 3/27/2021. We will have a limit of 75. This trial will be held at the Windham Veterans Center, and will include interiors, containers, and buried, for Novice and Advanced. . Ginny will be our judge. Brenda has spoken to the lady at Cumberland Fair Grounds and we are waiting for their board to meet. Brenda would like to have another scent trial there on the first weekend of June. That would be a two day trial. The Scent work trial committee includes: Brenda, Barbara, Deb M., Chris Dostie, Pat, Lois, Deb L., Bob Cuzner, and Jerry will be trial secretary.

The Nominations are set. There were no nominations from the floor. Elections are next month.

Unfinished Business

Annual dues are coming up, and due by the end of the year (with a grace period). Dues are \$20 each. Please send checks to our Treasurer-elect-to-be, MaryJo McCormack. MJ and Mary will coordinate.

New Business

The awards banquet will be a regular meeting this year, with recognitions of titles earned, etc. Please send Joey Shayour title sheets by the end of the year.

Naomi Smith was welcomed to her first meeting.

Brenda told us that the lady from Florida has asked about joining the club and has offered to help out or teach a class. She came to our scent trial. Her name is Lynn Weaver. Brenda will keep her up to date and inform her of upcoming ZOOM meetings.

Tina mentioned how much she like the seminar by Merrillynn.

The next meeting will be December 16 at 7 PM, by ZOOM. The information will be sent out by Sandy. Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully submitted, Drema Shaw, Recording Secretary

BRAGS

*Happy 14th Birthday to
Benny!*

*Congratulations to Seasea
on earning her
Rally Intermediate title!*



Happy Holidays



Five Heroic Dogs Honored with 2020 AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE)

By [Samantha Seymour](#)

The AKC® Humane Fund is proud to announce the winners of the 21st annual *AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE)*. These awards celebrate five loyal, hard-working dogs that have significantly improved the lives of their owners and communities. The five winners were carefully chosen from a pool of more than 800 impressive nominations. The winners and finalists were featured on an [AKC.tv](#) special, which aired November 30th-December 4th. All five episodes are now available on demand on [AKC.tv](#).

One award is presented in each of the following five categories: **Uniformed Service K-9, Therapy, Service, Search and Rescue and Exemplary Companion dog**. This year's winners range from a Flat-Coated Retriever that excels at dock diving despite missing a paw, to a search and rescue dog who sniffed out human remains dating back to 670 A.D.

“The impact that dogs have on our lives every day is immeasurable, and with so many amazing nominations, it was not easy to select only one in each category,” said Doug Ljungren, President of the AKC Humane Fund. “These five dogs have made substantial differences in the lives of their owners and communities, touching countless hearts along the way. We are honored to be able to recognize their achievements with the ACE awards.”

The 2020 AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence are proudly sponsored by Eukanuba™. Each ACE recipient will receive \$1,000 to be awarded to a pet-related charity of their choice, a one-year supply of Eukanuba premium dog nutrition, and an engraved sterling silver medallion.

“The heroic canines who are receiving the ACE awards this year have gone above and beyond the call of duty: comforting the ill, providing therapeutic support to those in need and reminding us of the powerful bond between animals and dogs,” said Jason Taylor, National PRO Sales Director for Eukanuba. “As a brand truly passionate about supporting extraordinary dogs, Eukanuba is honored to recognize these heroic dogs and provide premium nutrition to help fuel them in their continued service to others.”

This year's ACE winners are:

Uniformed Service K-9: "Stella," a Bloodhound handled by Paul Coley of Tallahassee, Florida

"K-9 Stella" is a three-year-old Bloodhound working for the Tallahassee Police Department Special Victims Unit as a Scent Evidence K-9 with her handler, Paul Coley, CEO of Scent Evidence K-9 and former FBI Forensic Canine Operations Specialist. Stella and Coley have been working cases for their department as well as several federal, state, and local agencies for the past two years.

Along with her handler, Stella has worked multiple missing persons cases involving people affected with Alzheimer's or Dementia wandering off. Stella has an impressive record of confirmed trails leading to the recovery of missing persons in the Florida panhandle. In addition to her work bringing missing persons home, Stella is an essential resource for the Tallahassee Police Department Special Victims Unit, assisting with several criminal apprehensions and is even credited with the apprehension of two double homicide suspects.

When Stella is not busy reuniting missing persons with their families, she is often alongside Coley, traveling throughout Florida to educate communities on how her nose can help responders locate people, should they go missing. They discuss how to protect people with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) who are at high risk of wandering. Stella also recently participated in Coley's "On the Trail for the Cure" fundraiser campaign for the Alzheimer's Association's *The Longest Day* event.

Stella is an important resource for her Police department and her community and will continue her mission to create safer communities as part of the *Bringing The Lost Home Project*, a bill that was recently passed by Florida legislators to enhance missing person response capabilities in law enforcement, particularly with Florida's large elderly population with Alzheimer's.

Therapy Dog: “Monson,” a Dalmatian owned by Melissa MacWilliams of Buxton, Maine

“Monson,” officially known as CH Yankee Sebago & Patch Mt Miles To Go Monson CGCU, BN, RA, TDIAOV, THDX, TKP, OAP, OJP, NFP, CC, RD is a nine-year-old Dalmatian owned by Melissa MacWilliams of Buxton, ME. Monson has competed in various AKC sports, including Conformation, Agility, Rally, and Obedience, but his work as a therapy dog is where he truly stands out.

As part of his extensive list of therapy work, Monson visits a teen shelter to provide love and comfort to homeless adolescents struggling with mental illness, abuse, addiction, PTSD, and gender identity. Monson also provides comfort at an organization for adults who are transitioning from homelessness and struggling with alcoholism, drug addiction and mental health issues.

Additionally, Monson and Melissa visit a local nursing home every week and provide comfort at local schools. The therapy team visits Universities to offer stress relief for students during exam weeks, participates in a reading program at a middle school and visits a high school to provide a welcome break for students who are stressed or upset. When the COVID-19 pandemic halted his in-person visits, Monson and his owner created videos to stay connected and donated essentials to the school to assist students in need. Monson has become such a staple at the local high school, he was listed as a staff member in the 2020 yearbook.



**Monson enjoyed a little celebratory cake with blue frosting after getting word of his selection. Nice blue lips Monson!
Great job Melissa and Monson!**

Service Dog: “Luke,” a Labrador Retriever owned by Ryan Garrison of Beaver-creek, Ohio

“Luke,” a six-year-old Labrador Retriever, serves as a mobility service dog for his owner, Ryan Garrison of Beavercreek, OH. Garrison enlisted in the U.S. Air Force immediately following the September 11th attacks on the twin towers and was severely injured while deployed in Iraq in 2006. His injuries included fractured and torn disks in his back, which have resulted in numerous surgeries, chronic pain and anxiety.

Luke was paired with Ryan as his mobility service dog in 2016 through the nonprofit organization, Warrior Canine Connection (WCC). Luke not only helps Garrison with his mobility and everyday tasks, but since being paired with him, Garrison has been able to better control his anxiety and has even decreased his need for medication. Even more importantly, Ryan credits Luke with shifting his entire perspective on life – bringing him out of a dark place and giving him a new sense of positivity and happiness.

In January 2020 Ryan and his son were involved in a rollover vehicle crash, which triggered flashbacks of his incident in Iraq. Luke gently nudged and pawed at Ryan to pull him out of his anxiety attack. Once they were pulled to safety, Luke calmly walked over to him and took the comfort command position that he was taught at WCC. Even during such a traumatic incident, Luke followed his training and put comforting his owner ahead of anything else.

The experience with the incident earlier this year has inspired Ryan’s next challenge, *Valor Therapeutics*, a nonprofit he and his wife are launching to serve active duty Veterans and first responders in Dayton, OH and the surrounding area. They plan to provide alternative forms of therapy to individuals who’ve seen and experienced traumatic life events.

Search and Rescue Dog: “Shiraz,” a Belgian Malinois owned and handled by Susan Goodhope of Havana, Florida

“Shiraz,” officially known as CH Bord du Lac Shiraz CDX ROM1, is a 12-year-old Belgian Malinois, certified as a Human Remains Detection Dog by the National Network of Canine Detection Services. She is a highly acclaimed search and rescue dog working with her owner and handler, Susan Goodhope of Havana, FL.

In her storied career spanning over a decade, Shiraz has taken part in over seventy searches throughout the southeast, including forensic, archaeological, and historic searches. In 2013, Shiraz was tasked with locating a Native American burial mound that was referenced in a publication after Archaeologists were unable to locate it for eight years. After searching for an hour in an overgrown, wooded area, Shiraz gave the indication that she detected human remains. A meter underground from where she indicated, a human toe bone was discovered, and radiocarbon dated all the way back to 670 A.D.

Along with her handler, Shiraz has also assisted in locating unmarked graves for communities, churches and families as well as those of slaves, who were buried in poorly marked areas on plantations. She assisted in the location of 900 graves in the Flipper Cemetery in Thomasville, Georgia, which has since been marked and restored. Over time, as records are lost and simple wooden markers decay, memories fade, but Shiraz' work in locating these final resting places has given the respect due to those individuals and has brought closure to the families.

The search and rescue work that Shiraz has accomplished has not gone unnoticed – she has been commended by the *US Department of the Interior*, given a Distinguished Achievement Award by the *Florida Bar* and a Registry of Merit from the *ABMC*. She has also been featured in countless newspapers, including the *New York Times*.

Exemplary Companion Dog: “Tara,” a Flat-Coated Retriever owned by Mary Pat Corrigan of Flint Hill, Virginia

“Tara,” is a four-year-old Flat-Coated Retriever owned by Mary Pat Corrigan of Flint Hill, VA. Born into an elite family, Tara's mother won her breed at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the AKC National Championship and the Flat-Coated Retriever National Specialty. But, when Tara was born with a short right front leg and no paw, she was not expected to survive.

Tara not only survived, but persevered, becoming a superior athlete in dock diving. Currently, she is nationally ranked as the #3 Flat-Coated Retriever in Air Retrieve and #6 in her breed in Distance. She has also already qualified for Distance at the North American Diving Dogs (NADD) Nationals this year.

In 2019, Tara became an honorary Adaptive Athlete member of a cycling team, *Pedallers for the Wounded*, hosted by the nonprofit, *World T.E.A.M. Sports*. This team, along with over 400 other cyclists, participate in a 2-day, 112-mile cycling challenge. The challenge benefits the *Wounded Warrior Project*, and Tara was the #3 fundraiser in last year's event. When Tara is competing, she is an intense competitor, often moving onlookers to tears, but off the dock, she is sweet-tempered, playful and happy.

MEDIA NOTE: ACE Winners are available for interviews. Please contact Samantha Seymour at 212-696-8343 or sns@akc.org to schedule an interview or request photos.



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®

SACCARAPPA OBEDIENCE AWARDS **ONE SHEET PER DOG/PER TITLE Please!**

PLEASE PRINT AND **FILL IN ALL INFORMATION ASKED FOR.**

Check what applies:

- I have a plaque for this dog and will only need the title hanger
- I will need a PLAQUE and TITLE HANGER for this dog
- I have submitted for more than one title for this dog *this year*
- I would like my achievement recognized at the banquet with no physical award

Owners Name: _____

Dogs Registered Name: _____

Dogs Call Name: _____

NEW AKC OBEDIENCE TITLE: (CHECK **ONE**)

- CD RN BN
- CDX RA GN
- UD RE GO
- UDX RAE
- OTCh Other OB: _____

NEW CKC OBEDIENCE TITLE: (CHECK **ONE**)

- CD RN
- CDX RA
- UD RE
- UDX RAE
- OTCh Other OB: _____

List all 3 shows that title legs were earned at:

Show Name: _____ Class: _____ Score: _____ Date: _____

Show Name: _____ Class: _____ Score: _____ Date: _____

Show Name: _____ Class: _____ Score: _____ Date: _____

Was this title earned in your **FIRST 3 OBEDIENCE** shows? **YES** **NO**



Highest OBEDIENCE Score in AKC Novice, Open or Utility for the year for this dog:

Show Name: _____ Class: _____ Score: _____ Date: _____



Other AKC Title (herding, tracking, agility etc.) Please write out full title on the back of this page =>

SPORT: _____ TITLE: _____



NON AKC Title (Flyball, Disc Dog, CDSP, UKC Etc...) **FOR A CERTIFICATE**

Please write out full title on the back of this page =>

SPORT: _____ Governing BODY: _____ TITLE: _____

Zoom Information

Below is a recurring link for our meetings (next 12 months). I am not sending out individual invites so I would suggest you copy and paste the information into your calendar of choice and it will be posted in the Yapper.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Sandra Cloutier is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

SOC Membership Meeting

Every month on the Fourth Wed, 12 occurrence(s)

Dec 16, 2020 07:00 PM

Jan 27, 2021 07:00 PM

Feb 24, 2021 07:00 PM

Mar 24, 2021 07:00 PM

Apr 28, 2021 07:00 PM

May 26, 2021 07:00 PM

Jun 23, 2021 07:00 PM

Jul 28, 2021 07:00 PM

Aug 25, 2021 07:00 PM

Sep 22, 2021 07:00 PM

Oct 27, 2021 07:00 PM

Nov 17, 2021 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82876459499?pwd=QkZqUXQ2UklJRXPVTlJKRmxVZ2xadz09>

Meeting ID: 828 7645 9499

Passcode: 314137

Or Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 828 7645 9499

Passcode: 314137