

THE LOST COAST HOWLER



EDITOR - LAUREN WENDT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have been quietly assisting in co-chairing the Spring Scent Work Trial. By quietly, I mean I have been primarily observing and understanding the intricacies of organizing a facility for a scent work trial. There are many layers of planning that I was previously unaware of. Jill and Cathy are skillfully unraveling the strategic layers to ensure our Spring Trial is enjoyable.

If you want to participate, now is the time to submit your entries to the secretary. Entries open March 10. The idea for this trial was conceived by Kim Roper Gradin. She envisioned that some members of our community might not be able or willing to travel far, and she wanted us to benefit from this event. She took the initiative and has been a driving force of inspiration to make this happen. It will be a small trial with only 110 entries per day. It won't take much to fill the trial. I have 3 dogs entered, totaling 7 entries out of the 110. That leaves 103 spots remaining.

The judges remarked after receiving the maps, "This is going to be fun." Shall we name it the Fun Spring Run? That's not up to me. I just think up stuff.

That reminds me of what's in a name. "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." It means the names of things do not affect what they really are. So true. I spent a wonderful 6 hours at HUM Dog Expo listening to lovely event goers gush over our cute "Mini Aussies".

It is fun to teach people by saying, "Wow. You are so close. Good eye. These are Miniature American Shepherds."

"Never heard of them. But they sure are pretty and good-looking dogs" they said.

Board of Director Officers

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Jill Otto
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Michelle Dostal
Dedra Tull
Kurt Pires

JOINS US!

MARCH 18, 2025
BOARD MEETING 6:30PM
REGULAR MEETING 7:00PM
HELD VIA ZOOM
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

President's message continued

The same goes for Lost Coast Kennel Club. We are so amazing as a group. We are dazzling in our efforts to provide two Scent Trials, All Breed Show, Rally/Obedience, Two Fast CAT, AKC Temperament Testing, Fetch, Barn Hunt and Agility.

If we want to continue with our programs at our present level, we need two new chairpersons to gently pull on those huge shoes worn by Tina Moulton and Beverly Morgan Lewis. They are experts willing to give tutoring to their replacements. Both our amazing show and agility chairs are going to retire soon. LCKC has someone among us that can and will carry those torches forward. Now is the time. The time is now. Come forward. I guarantee a huge round of applause.

With that I wish all a Happy Daylight Savings Time! (Leave it DST all year, please).

Deb Lake

President LCKC



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I bet we could all use a little more play in our lives – and your dog probably could too!

Dr. Jaak Panksepp, an affective neuroscientist, dedicated much of his research to uncovering the incredible benefits of play. If you're curious, I encourage you to explore his fascinating work. In short, he discovered that play is essential for developing social skills and building pro-social brains, teaching individuals how to interact positively with others. And what could be better than that?!



Play is natural in mammals (and many other beings) and is often vital for survival. Without play, we risk shutting down emotionally and becoming withdrawn. For our dogs, this is no different.

As a K9 trainer, when handlers approach me about "problems" their dogs are having, one of the first things I evaluate is how they engage in play – how often, what type, and how the dog responds. Play can reveal so much about a dog's well-being and the relationship they share with their person.

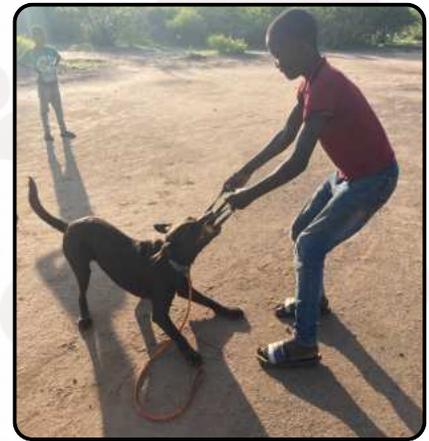
So, what exactly is play? Drawing from the work of Dr. Brené Brown and Dr. Stuart Brown (no relation), here are some key elements of play:

- **Purposelessness:** inherently without a specific goal or outcome. Play for the sake of play.
- **Voluntary:** chosen, not an obligation.
- **Inherent Attraction:** enjoyable and engaging.
- **Freedom from Time:** You lose track of time, experiencing a state of flow.

- **Diminished Self-Consciousness:** Less concerned with what others think and more focused on the activity itself.
- **Continuation Desire:** You want to keep playing, experiencing the activity as a source of joy and rejuvenation.
- **Improvisational Potential:** allows for creativity and exploration, with no rigid rules or expectations.
- **Importance of Play:** Crucial for health, creativity, and ability to navigate complex social situations.
- **Play and Creativity:** play is at the core of creativity and innovation, fostering a space where ideas can emerge.

Play isn't just fun – it's crucial for mental well-being, social skills, and even creativity. For our dogs, play fosters confidence, resilience, and optimism. It's through play that we build stronger bonds, deeper trust, and a positive emotional connection with our dogs.

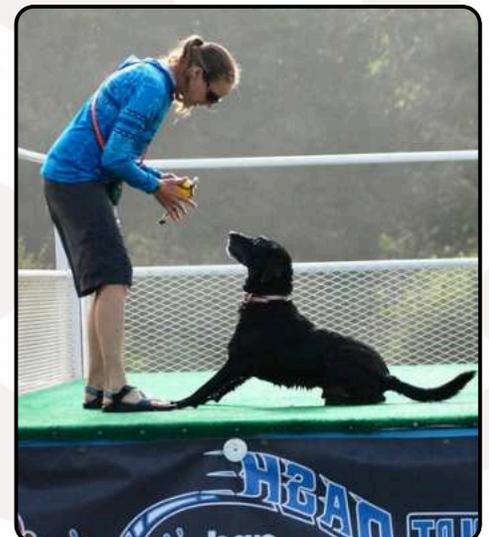
For those of us involved in dog sports and training, we often spend countless hours training behaviors. I believe that from your dog's perspective, the more that training feels like play – or leads to play – the better. A dog that feels empowered, motivated, and happy during your training sessions is a dog that thrives and wants to keep learning WITH you.



So as the days grow longer (and hopefully warmer), take a little extra time to get outside and just play with your dog. The joy you create together will strengthen your bond and bring out the best in both of you!

Lauren Wendt

LCKC Newsletter Editor



NEXT BOARD & GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY MARCH 18, 2025

Board meeting will begin at 6:30pm
General meeting will begin at 7:00pm
Meeting will be held via zoom.
Link will be sent out via the io group.
All members are welcome and encouraged to join!



Happy Spring!

Spring Scent Work Trial: May 3-4, 2025

LCKC is holding a Spring Scent Work Trial.
Location: **Ridgewood Elementary, Eureka**
This trial includes ALL ELEMENTS & ALL LEVELS including Detective, both days!
Entries ARE OPEN, get them in ASAP!
 [AKC EVENT LINK](#) 



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Contact Kimber Gradin kimbersk9s@gmail.com to help out!
It is a great way to learn about the sport and support fellow club members.

ACK TEMPERAMENT TEST - AT THE ALL BREED SHOW IN JULY

The LCKC highly encourages everyone to attempt the ATT.
The ATT tests how a dog reacts to a variety of stimuli.
Desirable traits are that the dog will be emotionally stable, inquisitive, cooperative, appropriately social for its breed, biddable and demonstrates the ability to recover from a startling situation in a reasonable amount of time. Here is a LINK to the score sheet to get a better idea of what to prepare for. For all the details about the ATT please visit <https://www.akc.org/akctemptest/> and for a score sheet please [CLICK HERE](#).



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TROPHY SPONSORSHIPS !!!

A huge appreciation to those of you who have stepped up and are generously sponsoring trophies for the LCKC Show in July.

There are a few trophies left that need sponsorship, so if you know of a local business or individual please contact Cathy Wright.

cathlynwright@hotmail.com - 707.498.0706



Interested in FastCAT or Coursing?

To stay in the loop, please join the group in the Telegram App
<https://t.me/+S4zC8lABOV5lNmNh>



By joining the telegram group you are agreeing to volunteer/help at Fast CAT events in July



Date change!

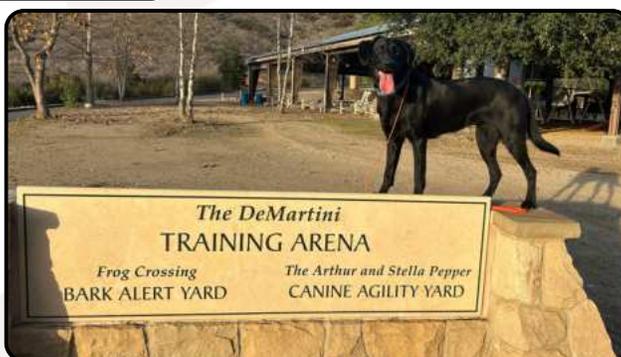
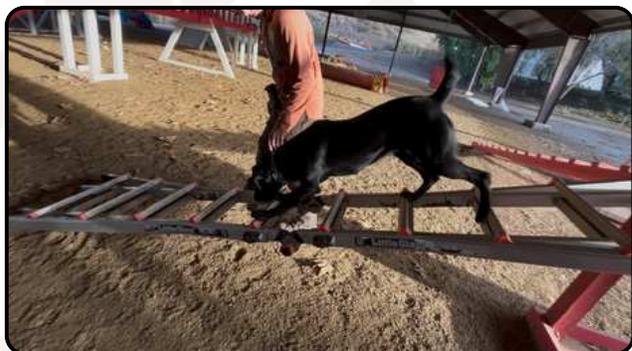
The Membership Appreciation Picnic will be held on

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

at Rohner Park, Bartow field in Fortuna



Lauren Wendt attended the Noses for Nature Conference in Santa Paula, CA. This conference brought together leading practitioners, experts and researchers from across the world to share knowledge about conservation detection dogs. Lauren gave 2 presentations (puppy development and practical field obedience) and Wren had a lot of fun getting to play on all the challenging disaster search and rescue agility equipment.



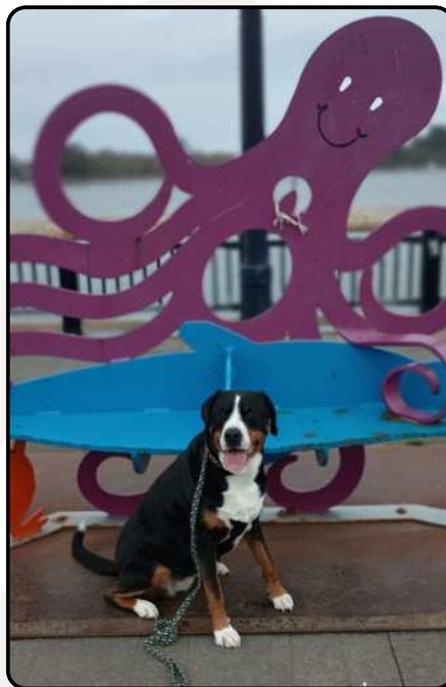
Mike Lake and Sparky practicing their scent work skills on March 9th at the group practice in Fortuna.



Jill Otto and her dogs Kelson and Tori brought home some scent work titles and ribbons. Tori earned 2 novice titles plus several placements and Kelson earned his excellent in buried.



Fit Dog Walk on February 22



Janeann Erickson and her boarder collie Jesse have been busy over the past month racking up the Q's! Their first trail was in March and have already earned their overall Novice Scent Work Title. Congratulations!!!

Many LCKC members participated in or attended HumDOG's Dog Expo!



Team Garbo had a very productive and successful AKC Ambassador event at HumDog Expo. We visited with well over 100 people with children. Our main goal was to promote well-bred purebred dogs that have good health and temperament and teach safe approaches to stranger dogs by children. We handed out our AKC Ambassador trading cards and copies of the brochures on approaching dogs in both English and Spanish. Pictured L-R: Garbo (AKC Ambassador), Deb and Libby, Garbo's daughter and future AKC Ambassador.

These are the tentative dates for planned practices, but there may be changes. Please so pay attention to the notices that come out before each practice day. Note that the times are not always the same.



Date	Location	Time	Activity
April			
13	Ferndale Fairgrounds, midway lawn	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
27	Ferndale Fairgrounds, track	10 am (set up)	Fast CAT
	Ferndale Fairgrounds, midway lawn	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
May			
11	Ferndale Fairgrounds, track	9 am (set up)	Fast CAT
		10 am	Fast CAT runs start
	Fairgrounds infield	Following Fast CAT	CAT course set up and runs
	Fairgrounds midway lawn	2 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
18	Ferndale Fairgrounds, track	10 am (set up)	Fast CAT
		11 am	Fast CAT runs start
	Fairgrounds midway lawn	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
June			
1	Ferndale Fairgrounds, track	10 am (set up)	Fast CAT
		11 am	Fast CAT runs start
	Fairgrounds midway lawn	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
8	Ridgeway School	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
15	Ferndale Fairgrounds, midway lawn	11 am	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
22	Ferndale Fairgrounds, track	10 am (set up)	Fast CAT
		11 am	Fast CAT runs start
	Fairgrounds midway lawn	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
August			
9	Ridgewood School	Time TBA	Mock Scent Work Trial
24	Ridgewood School	Time TBA	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work
October			
5	Ferndale Fairgrounds, track	10 am (set up)	Fast CAT
		11 am	Fast CAT runs start
	Fairgrounds midway lawn	1 pm	Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work