

THE LOST COAST HOWLER



EDITOR - LAUREN WENDT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

🍁 *From the Disc Fields of Canada to the Heart of Humboldt*

Happy October, LCKC friends!

I just returned from an unforgettable trip to the Pacific Northwest International Disc Dog Championships in Canada. The event was spectacular—easily the largest disc dog gathering I've ever seen. The journey had its hiccups (our phones stopped working the moment we crossed the border—surprise!), but a kind UBER driver came to the rescue. I snapped screenshots of his turn-by-turn directions, and we were only eight miles off course. Not bad for a border-blind adventure!

All three dogs had a blast.

- **Libby** hit a personal best in 4 Way Play.
- **Sparky** delivered Mike's disc twelve times in a row like a champ.
- **Garbo** celebrated every throw with joyful shouts that turned heads and warmed hearts.

The drive home was a leisurely three-day meander through Snoqualmie Falls and along the beaches of Highway 101. Gorgeous views, salty air, and a soft landing back in Humboldt.

Board of Director Officers

Deb Lake
President

Patty Mendes
Vice President

Kris Smith
Secretary

Jill Otto
Treasurer

Members of the Board

Michelle Dostal
Debbie Tull
Kurt Pires

JOINS US!
OCTOBER 21, 2025
BOARD MEETING 6:30PM
REGULAR MEETING 7:00PM
HELD VIA ZOOM

🐾 On to more dog-world goodness... I recently attended the AKC Public Education Programs and Resources seminar, invited through my involvement in the AKC Canine Ambassador program. I'm a big believer in this initiative—it aligns beautifully with LCKC's mission to educate the public about purebred dogs, conformation, and dog sports.

The Canine Ambassador program is especially impactful for teaching children and families about dog safety and responsible ownership. If you love sharing your passion for dogs with the community, I highly recommend attending the next webinar on **Tuesday, November 11, 2025, from 2:30–3:30 PM PST**. I'll share the sign-up link in our IO group.

Fun fact: Garbo is currently the only AKC Canine Ambassador on the North Coast! But I know we have a strong pool of potential Ambassadors among our therapy dog teams—and beyond. You don't need to be a therapy team to qualify. Here's what it takes:

🐾 How to Become a Canine Ambassador

1. **Eligibility:** Be a member in good standing of an AKC-affiliated club.
2. **Application:** Complete the online sign-up form and get a recommendation from a club officer.
3. **Training:** Some training and quizzes may be required.
4. **Directory:** Once approved, you'll be listed in the state directory of Ambassadors to help connect with schools and community groups.

💡 Bonus Opportunity: In addition to the Ambassador program, AKC offers a chance for clubs to compete nationally by showcasing their public service efforts. The hosts of the webinar mentioned that very few clubs apply for the \$500 prize, which makes this a wide-open opportunity for LCKC. All it takes is an application detailing our public events and their impact. With our strong history of outreach and education, I think we'd be a great contender!

Let's keep sharing the joy of dogs—one tail wag at a time.

Warmly,

Deb Lake

President, Lost Coast Kennel Club



Pupdate! Archie is now 14 weeks old, and I'm really enjoying her.

Okay, maybe not so much in those moments when she's sprinting past me with a stolen sock or turning bedtime into chaos—but that's part of the magic, isn't it? That's what makes her a puppy.

Maybe the best thing about raising a puppy is that it gives us a chance to go back to the beginning again—to become students of our puppy and of ourselves. Motivation, engagement, reinforcement, timing, and criteria are all skills we can always improve. As Epictetus said, "It is impossible to learn what you think you already know."

Archie is the 7th puppy I've raised over the last nine years, and each one has made me a better trainer and human. Every puppy is an experiment—in the best way possible. I get to refine my techniques, test new ideas, and learn through observation and adjustment. Archie, being my first spaniel puppy, has added a whole new layer to that learning curve. Her breed traits are stretching me as a trainer in new ways—and I love it.

My long-term goal for Archie is professional-level detection work, but right now my focus is on the foundations: resilience, confidence, determination, joy in training, trust in our relationship, and an optimistic view of our sometimes chaotic human world.

Someone recently asked me how my approach to raising puppies has evolved over the years. My answer? I worry much less about getting "control" and "obedience" early on. When you focus first on those foundational skills, control and obedience tend to emerge naturally—almost effortlessly—once the puppy is mentally and emotionally ready. That doesn't mean we don't train skills; it just means the joy of the journey takes precedence over the race to the destination.

So far, Archie has been a wonderful teacher—and yes, it helps that she's irresistibly cute.

If you're planning for a future puppy, I'd encourage you to think not just about what you'll teach them, but about what they'll teach you. Consider the foundations that both of you will need to grow into the best possible team. And perhaps most importantly—stay curious. Keep looking for ways to learn, to experiment, to improve. Because when you grow and improve, your puppy will too.

Lauren Wendt
LCKC Newsletter Editor



**NEXT BOARD & GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY OCTOBER 21, 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!



\$15 individual and \$25 household/family

Checks can be mailed to:

Lost Coast Kennel Club
PO Box 6808
Eureka CA 95502

ANNUAL CLUB DUES

Check it off you to do list now before the busy holiday season!

Details and payments <https://lostcoastkc.org/members-only.html>



SAVE THE DATE

- Friday: Intro to NASDA Workshop
- 3 Trials Saturday
- 3 Trials Sunday
- Urban Locating
- Shed Dog
- Lost Item Recovery
- Trailing & Locating



**NOVEMBER
28, 29, 30TH**

Location TBA
Follow My Nosey K9 on Facebook for Updates

Contact Us:
707-845-3790
noseyk9@gmail.com



2025 LCKC Membership Appreciation Picnic

The 2025 LCKC Picnic was held on September 28th, at Rohner Park in Fortuna. It was a beautiful, sunny day in the high 70s; perfect conditions. There were around 48 people in attendance with approximately 50 canine companions.

Everyone received a goodie bag and the dogs each got a toy. There was a terrific BBQ lunch cooked by Mike and Deb Lake. Members also brought side dishes and desserts to share. Each dog activity coordinator had the opportunity to thank our outstanding volunteers during the meal. After lunch, there was organized mayhem as everyone gathered for the group photo. A marvelous drawing was organized by Beverly Chang and Sara Borok. Members also had the opportunity to practice Scent Work and Rally Obedience thanks to Marilyn and Sara.

For the first time, the Team Challenge had 3 teams competing: blue, yellow, and red. The yellow team scored a respectable 198 points in 21:16. The blue team was the fastest team, 16:27, and consequently earned the time bonus of 7 points for a total of 222 points. The red team won the challenge with a time of 18:37 and a total of 230 points.

The Achievement Circle was the concluding activity. It was fun to hear everyone's accomplishments and fun facts about their dogs. Thank you Cathy for organizing it.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce the picnic. The canopy crew, the welcome table crew, the food crew, the drawing crew, the activities crew, and the Team Challenge crew. Jamye for documenting the picnic in photos.

On a personal note, I want to say that I think of LCKC a part of my adopted family and it is a joy to organize and design the team challenge and picnic every year. I hope you have as much fun as I do. Cheers until next year. Beth

Fastest Team



Winning Team





Cider has earned his third Treibball title: Balls N Order! He's going to learn one more game then we're going to switch from games to Urban Herding. For a fun, low impact dog sport, check out NATE's facebook page (National Association of Treibball Enthusiasts).



At our LCKC Fall Scent work trials Solveig earned her Breed Versatility Title by adding an Advanced Interior Scentwork Element Title to her list of titles. She also qualified in Advanced Containers and Advanced Exteriors now having 2 legs in each. She is now known as:



CH Timber Ridge's Solveig the Enchanted CD RM FDC DCAT SWN SIA NDD RATN CGCA CGCU TKA ATT FITG FTN VGS

Submitted by Kim Gradin

LCKC TRIES A CAT COURSE

On the October practice day, the stars (and weather, timing, and calendar) aligned and we were able to try out something we've been talking about for awhile – a Coursing Ability Test (CAT) course. We used the outfield of the baseball field at the Humboldt county Fairgrounds, which is also the infield of the horse racetrack, so it was a tight fit. It was a successful trial run, in that we got it set up and ran some dogs, plus we learned about quite a few things we need to work on before next time. Thanks to those who waited for the course to be set; hope your dogs enjoyed the runs as much as the dogs pictured here. If you're interested in coming out the next time we try this, here's a little background:

The American Kennel Club sanctions CAT (Coursing Ability Tests). With the growing popularity of lure coursing for sighthounds, people wanted to run other breeds, and the Coursing Ability Test was born. Per the AKC rules, "The purpose of the CAT (and Fast CAT) sports is to offer an outdoor coursing type activity that is fun and enjoyable for all dogs and owners." Dogs run individually, chasing an artificial lure attached to a string around a course designed to make the lure move like prey. Large dogs (over 12 inches) run a 600 yard course in less than two minutes, while small dogs run 300 yards, and must finish within a minute and a half. The course is timed, but judging is just pass/fail, leading to the CA, CAA, CAX, and CAX2 titles. Dogs are not required to qualify to run a CAT, and any dog twelve months or older with an AKC number may enter. Start and finish are close enough that only one handler is required. For more information on the CAT visit <https://www.akc.org/sports/coursing/coursing-ability-test/>



Submitted by Kris Smith

BOARD MEETING

The Board meeting was called to order by Vice-President Patty Mendes at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Board members: Michelle Dostal, Patty Mendes, Jill Otto, Kurt Pires, Kris Smith, Debbie Tull.

Non-Board members: Tina Moulton, Beth Rogers, Deb St Myers.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes from the August 16, 2025, Board meeting were approved as published. (Jill/Michelle)

Report of the Treasurer: Jill and the event chairs have conferred with Andrea but she has not yet sent the full Treasurer's Report. Several chairs have not turned in their expense/income charts and Andrea needs them to finish the event reports. Notice of meetings will be sent to Andrea to encourage her to attend. The Scent Work trials made money but Jill doesn't know how much yet. Andrea did send reports to individual event chairs, but they will need some corrections.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Holiday Party - Jill said last January we chose December 13 for this year's Holiday Party. We usually do it at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, but HumDOG has already booked it. Berti needs to make reservations because members get a price break (will cost \$200 - \$300). Discussion of venues - Granges are expensive and not good parking. Eureka Women's Club - small room; Tina will check dates and capacity. Need to move on this.
- Nominating committee - It's time to name a Nominating Committee for 2026 Officers and Board Members. Current members were asked if they were interested in continuing. Jill will need to step down from Treasurer eventually, and wants to talk to the Committee. Debbie Tull said she is willing to stay on but would make room for a new Board member. Kurt suggested asking at the picnic.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING:

The Regular meeting was called to order by Vice-President Patty Mendes at 7:02 pm.

Present: All of the above plus Jane Burns, Marilyn Cottrell, Janeann Erickson, Kim Gradin, Susan Hutchison, Beverly Morgan Lewis, Berti Welty, Lauren Wendt, Virginia Wood, Cathy Wright.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes from the August 16, 2025, Regular meeting were approved as published (Jill/Kris).

Report of the President: Deb Lake was not present (in Canada competing). Vice-President Patty Mendes encouraged members to think about who to appoint for the Nominating Committee, ask for volunteers. Need 2-3 people.

Report of the Secretary: Kris had no correspondence to report. Jill said she picked up the Board insurance renewal in the mail. Explanation of an incident in the parking lot after the SW trial when a member's RV clipped a basketball backboard and bent it. Our insurance doesn't cover it, but the school maintenance man fixed it.

Report of the Treasurer: Jill said we don't have a complete report from Andrea yet (see Board minutes), but she has approximate event reports, pending some changes. Show (includes ATT and \$1945 from raffle) +\$7673. Barn Hunt +\$657. Agility +\$4292. Fast CAT (both) +\$12,769. Patty encouraged chairs to get their financial charts to Andrea; that's how she gets accurate information.

Report of Committees:

PRACTICES

Kris said the only upcoming practices are October 12 – Coursing Ability Test in the morning and other practices in the afternoon. It will be the weekend before the Harvest Moon cluster in Santa Rosa.

B-OB SHOWS/RALLY/Fast CAT/ATT 2026:

Shows: Tina reported that we will have two shows on the Friday of the show weekend. The AKC says we can have 4 shows in 3 days, but not 4 shows in 4 days – 2 shows on one day is OK. She will have to reapply to change Puppy and Open from Friday to Sunday (Saturday stays as is), and apply for the second show on Friday. Obedience and rally will also have two shows on Friday, and will need more judges, as will the second Friday show. This first year Owner Handled will be offered for the second Friday show only. Will put a 6th ring in the vendor lot, could use plastic chain. Vendors could be on the far side of that lot and on street. Keeping the 6th ring running on S&S will help move the things along. Scheduling will be tight. Need the trophy team to get going on trophies for the fourth show. Tina will talk to Anita. Patty reported that the Board met on September 3 to discuss and approve having a second show on Friday.

Rally/Obedience: Michelle said Friday will be a long day for rally/obedience, and we will need lots of volunteers. They will work the first show, then the second right away. MB-F will try to schedule so the judges won't go over time. She has one judge (the second dropped out), and is looking now for more. Discussion of provisional judge payment. Suggestions of possible judges.

Fast CAT: Nothing new.

ATT Tests: Not next year. The Board decided not to offer anything extra in 2026 while we see how the scheduling goes for Friday.

AGILITY, BARN HUNT, Fast CAT 2026:

Agility: Beverly ML said there is nothing new.

Fast CAT: Nothing new.

Barn Hunt: Mike not present.

SCENT WORK TRIALS 2025

Labor Day Trials, August 30 – Sep 1 – Susan said the trials were successful, lots of people got Qs and titles. Thanks to lots of volunteers. Made about \$5500. Thanks to Marilyn for organizing volunteers. Thanks to Kurt for training people on Agility Gate. One RV person wanted to leave (requiring driving through the trial area) but was not allowed. She saw that 2 judges were let out, but that was not an option for exhibitors. Many school supplies were collected, plus money, for Cutten school. Had to buy more boxes and containers, but will have enough for the Spring trials. Monterey KC is having trials the same weekend next year, but the committee decided to keep our date anyway. Marilyn said the hard part will be finding a Secretary because our current one is doing the Monterey trials. Committee meeting will be on October 3. Jill said we gave out over 90 New Title ribbons. Will probably be back at Cutten School next year.

Spring 2026 Trials – May 2 & 3 – Cathy said the Committee had a Zoom meeting. They have a Secretary and one Judge. They need confirmation from Ridgewood School before they can apply to AKC. The point of these trials is providing an opportunity for locals, so we need to get the word out so local people get their entries in early. Can add a few more entries. Marilyn encouraged using Agility Gate.

MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION PICNIC: September 28, 2025, Rohner Park, Bartow Field, Fortuna. Beth said everything is progressing nicely. So far, 43 RSVPs, thanks to Kurt for making the online RSVP form. There is still room for more help. Bring your own cutlery and plates, and get extra drawing tickets. Handicapped parking will be inside the gate. So far, 23 have signed up for the Achievement Circle. All members got separate email invitations in addition to the one that went to the group. RSVPs close on Monday.

FIT DOG – Kimber said there is nothing planned at this time. Maybe with Bark in the Park?

NEWSLETTER: Lauren was thanked for another great newsletter. Send news to lckcnews75@gmail.com.

WEBSITE: Tina said Kurt will be taking over the website. Thank you!

CHAT GROUP: Tina and Beth will be talking about changing over administration of the group. That might be the place to list members and information about them and their dogs. We should have a Zoom training for how to use the group.

MEMBERSHIP: Beth said the new list has been corrected.

BYLAWS: Kris said there is nothing new, but it's time to get back to work on it.

Election of New Members: No new applications.

Unfinished Business:

- iPads for Agility Gate – Marilyn said one has been donated. Purchase of a refurbished one has been approved. Patty will order it after Marilyn sends the link. Kurt will store it. Get one that is cell capable.

New Business:

- Addition of a 2nd show to AB July 2026 – Tina said the Board has approved adding a second show to Friday of the show weekend, making a total of 4 shows in 3 days. She is working out details. For more, see show report. Minutes from the Board meeting are available.
- Fair contract meeting – Kris said that Moira knows we want to meet about our contracts, and she prefers November over October. She is supposed to get back about a date.
- 2025 Holiday Party – In January, we picked December 13, but didn't make reservations at the UUF Hall. It's booked now. For details see Board minutes. Berti will try for December 20th.
- Nominating Committee – We need 2-3 members to find nominees for Officer and Board of Director positions for 2026. The committee will bring that slate to the October meeting. Other nominations will be accepted at that time. Election will be at the November meeting. Poll of current Board members: Deb not here; Patty, yes; Kris, yes; Jill maybe, Debbie will continue but would prefer to be replaced; Marilyn, yes; Kurt, yes; Michelle, yes. Discussion of 2 year terms, and maybe adding 2 non-officer board positions.

Announcements:

- At the October 21 meeting we decide what our yearly charitable donations will be. Come prepared to discuss.
- Marilyn said that Lauren (Momentum K9) will be doing an entry level Scent Work foundation series, starting Sept 28.
- Marilyn said that Sara Lindgren Akana is working on offering NASDA training – trailing, locating, sheds, finding lost items.
- Kurt reminds everyone to RSVP to the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic by Monday.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Smith, LCKC Secretary