

THE LOST COAST HOWLER



EDITOR - LAUREN WENDT



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

🥂 A New Year's Toast from the Lost Coast Kennel Club President

To a fresh year on the North Coast, where the fog rolls in, the trails stay muddy, and the dogs stay happy.

To the four-legged partners who bring us together – the athletes, the couch cuddlers, the seniors with wise eyes, and the puppies who remind us not to take life too seriously.

To every handler who shows up with patience, humor, and a pocket full of treats.

To the friendships forged ringside, the triumphs we celebrate, and the lessons our dogs teach us whether we asked for them or not. To the dogs we cherish, the dogs we remember, and the dogs who will join our community in the year ahead.

May 2026 be filled with teamwork, laughter, wagging tails, and the kind of joy only a dog club can create.

Cheers to the Lost Coast Kennel Club – and to the wonderful dogs who make our world brighter every single day.

-Deb Lake
Lost Coast Kennel Club President



Board of Director Officers

Deb Lake
President

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Vice President

Kris Smith
Secretary

Jill Otto
Treasurer

Members of the Board

Michelle Dostal
Debbie Tull
Kurt Pires

JOINS US!
JANUARY 20, 2026
MEMBER MEETING 7:00PM
HELD VIA ZOOM

“It is good to have an end to journey toward; but in the end, it is the journey that matters.”

— Ernest Hemingway

I came across this quote recently and it got me thinking.

I've never really been someone who has been interested in titles for my dogs (nothing at all against those of you who do!), and maybe part of that is because when you achieve a title, a journey (or at least part of it) ends. I've always been more process-focused. Of course, it's important to have something to work toward, but every time I get close, I find myself wanting to move the finish line just a little farther so I can keep learning and growing.

I was a multi-sport athlete as a kid, I played year-round. Some seasons, losing was the norm. I've been on teams that have gone entire seasons without a single win. But I kept showing up anyway because of the process: being better than we were yesterday, supporting teammates, and simply getting to play the game.

That same mindset is what I've fallen in love with in dog training. The partnership we build, the problem-solving, and celebrating the small wins that come from consistent work together. 3 more steps of perfect heeling, a straighter front, a faster recall, a more precise alert. And, most rewarding of all for me, preparing for and then working with my dogs in real-world operational settings.

Then, when we fall short (it's inevitable) or something doesn't go as planned (it won't), we get to go back to the drawing board, tweak the smallest details, get creative together and try again.

Recently, I was doing some obedience work with my 9 year old Labrador, Finn, when someone nearby was watching us intently. When we stopped for a break, they apologized for staring and said how pretty it looked. I thanked them and reminded them (and myself a bit too) that the two minutes they saw is a culmination of nearly 9 years of diligent work. Work that I truly love and cherish, and that I believe my dogs feel as well.

Each of my dogs teaches me something different. I (hopefully) learn from the mistakes I make with one and try to carry those lessons forward with the others. That ongoing learning is what keeps the journey interesting.

This year, I'm planning to trial a couple of my dogs in disciplines that are outside my usual wheelhouse. Not necessarily for the Q or title (if we even get it), but for the experience and what it might add to our journey and growth as a team.

So here's to enjoying the process, staying curious, and maybe pushing ourselves just a bit further in 2026.

—Lauren Wendt
LCKC Newsletter Editor



General member meeting will begin at 7:00pm

**NEXT GENERAL MEMBER MEETING
TUESDAY JANUARY 20, 2026**

Meeting will be held via zoom.
Link will be sent out via the io group.

All members are welcome and encouraged to join!

Board Meetings are now being held the second Tuesday of the Month at 7pm.
All members are welcome to attend but only board members can vote.



\$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>



HUMBOLDT DISC DOG

2026* PRACTICE AND TRIAL DATES

Rio Dell Fire Department, 50 W Center St,
Rio Dell CA 95562

- April 25 practice
- May 9 practice
- May 30-31 trial
- June 13 practice
- June 27-28 trial Crossover Crown
- August 15 practice
- August 29-30 trial
- September 19-20 Triple Crown
- October 3 practice
- October 10-11 trial - Monster Mash

*Upon approval of Rio Dell Fire BOD

World Galgo Day and Fit Dog Walk Sunday February 1st, Arcata Marsh



Sunday, February 1st (weather dependent) walk at the Arcata Marsh to end the worldwide abuse of the Galgo Espanol and all hunting breeds. **Meet 11:15am in G St. Parking Lot for a longer walk.** Or **meet in Klopp Lake Parking Lot at 11:30 for the picture and a shorter walk** on pavement. A picture will be taken at Klopp Lake which will be posted around the world on social media. This walk can also be used as a group FIT Dog Walk. Kim will be there to sign paperwork. Good exercise!

Here is the story of the galgo:

<https://www.galgorescue.org/spanish-galgo>

Tell the Spanish Government to continue to enforce animal cruelty regulations which include galgos, podencos and other hunting breeds. Also to enact breeding laws to regulate over-breeding. An estimated 100,000 hunting dogs are disposed of every year, some in the cruelest way imaginable.

First Humboldt County, CA, USA Galgo Walk at Arcata Marsh in 2022. 8 dogs, 6 people
This will be the 4th year that members of Lost Coast Kennel Club, along with other community members, will participate in World Galgo Day, which is commemorated every year on February 1st.

February 1st is the end of the hunting season in Spain.

We missed 2025 walk due to adverse weather.

2024 walk. 31 dogs, 27 people. Can we set a new record?!

Lunch at El Chipotle, 12:30. 850 Crescent Way. Off Bayside Rd and Samoa.

Please RSVP for lunch; fcad.lckc@gmail.com

PRACTICE DATES 2026 – TENTATIVE*

Held at Humboldt County Fairgrounds in Ferndale

Practices are open to non-members, there is no official fee. Donations are accepted, suggestion is \$5 per dog which that covers everything the dog practices that day. Participants must sign a yearly liability waiver, and sign in on the daily sign-in sheet .

April 12, 1pm Midway Lawn –Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work

April 26, 11am Track – Fast CAT*

April 26, 1pm Midway Lawn – Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work

May 10, 1pm (Mother’s Day) Midway Lawn – Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work
Alternate if FCAT gets rained out on Apr 26.

May 17, 11am Track – Fast CAT

May 17, 1pm Midway Lawn – Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work

(May 24 – could be alternate for May 10 to avoid Mother’s Day)

June 7 – Practices TBA (Woofstock weekend)

June 14 11am Track – FCAT

June 14, 1pm Midway Lawn – Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work

June 21, 1pm (Father’s Day) Midway Lawn – Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work

CAT – TBA

*Needs to be approved by the Fairgrounds

This avoids May 31 – Memorial Day weekend

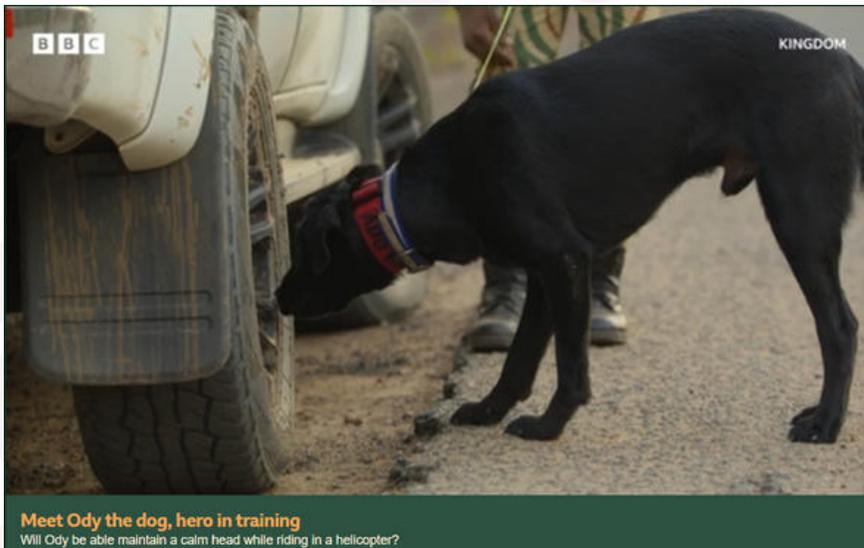
There are only three weekends in June this year

Updates will be made monthly as needed. Please check to group for additional updates.



Bayley Cottrell earned titles in NASDA Urban Locator 1, Trailing and Locating 1, and Lost Item Recovery 1 at the first ever Humboldt County NASDA trial. The trial was organized, and hosted, by Sarah Lindgren Akana/My Nosey K9. It was held in November 2025. Bayley completed many additional points in these 3 NASDA events. She is half way to completion of the Level 2 title in Lost Item Recovery. It was super fun! In all she qualified in 18 out of 18 runs during this 2 day event and had quite a few placements.

Bayley also finished her 2nd year as a Therapy Dog at Providence St Joseph Hospital. It has been a very rewarding experience for both Bayley and me and plus after 2 more visits she will be eligible for the AKC Therapy Dog title. - Submitted by Marilyn Cottrell

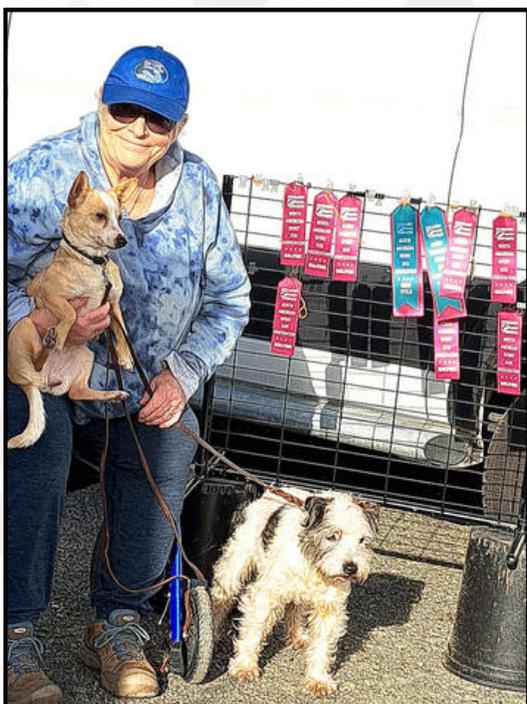


I recently learned that a dog I raised a few years ago from a pup and trained for an anti- poaching unit in Zambia is featured in episode 6 of BBC's newest series *Kingdom*, narrated by Sir. David Attenborough! The series premieres in the US on January 24th and can be viewed on AMC+, Prime Video or BBC America. You can see a short highlight [HERE](#).

-Submitted by Lauren Wendt



Seika and Hutch earned titles and received their ribbons on Dec. 15, 2026 for their Intermediate Tricks Titles. I tried getting them to sit together for a group photo, but when one was good, the other was obnoxious. 🤦 oh siblings...lol - Submitted by Susan Hutchinson



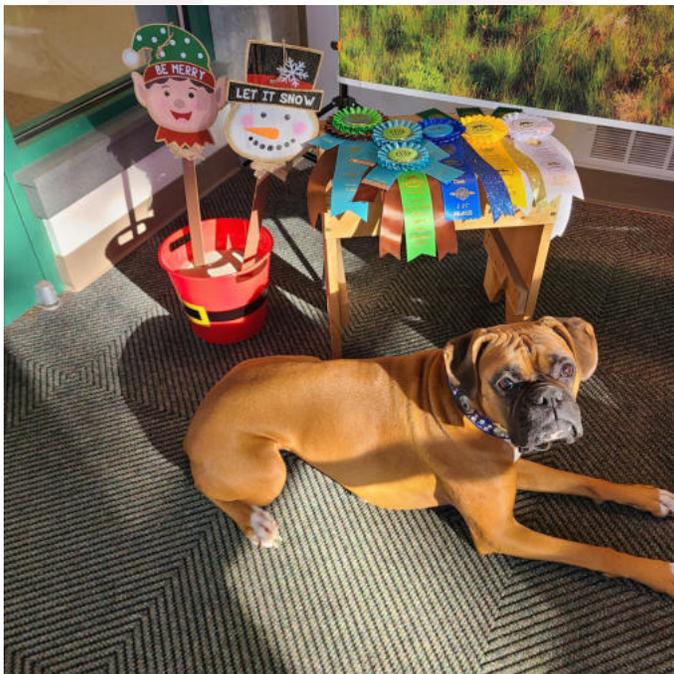
Fada and Bug had a fun rat hunting weekend, Nov 28-29. They both came home with a new NASDA Level 1 title. Bug - Urban Locating. Fada - Trailing & Locating.

Thanks to Sarah Lindgren-Akana and My Nosey K9 for bringing the NASDA (North American Sport Dog Association) events to Humboldt County!

Also, we won the raffle!
-Submitted by Cathy Wright



On December 12 and 13 my young Border Collie, Jesse, trialed at the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America's scent work trial in Marysville. We passed all 4 of our Novice classes and all 4 of all Advanced classes. - Submitted by Janeann Erickson



Copper competed in a scent work trial in Sunriver OR in Dec. It was a nice relaxed show and Copper did well. She Qd 7 of her 8 runs. She received her all elements title on Sat and on Sun went High in Trial for the Advanced level. She was the only adv dog that Q'd in all 4 elements. This was only her 2nd trial and I was so proud of her, especially since we didn't know anyone and were very unfamiliar with the area and all the environmental smells. I'm looking forward to coming down in May to compete at the LCKC trial - Submitted by Chris Irvin

Last year had my last litter of Rottweilers. One has received AKC Puppy Achievement Award before reaching 9mos, Mel-Mars Elite Force Recon, Forever Faithful CGCU TKN and 4pts towards his Championship. He is bred by Mel-Mar owned and loved by Sandy Bello. -Submitted by Maritta Christensen



Hooligan and I started the new year off with a bang. On January 3 at the San Francisco Bay Weimaraner Club agility trial in Rancho Murieta he earned his Master Agility Champion 9! The rosette he received dwarfed him by comparison. I've achieved more with Hooligan than any of the dogs I've championed in agility over the 30 years I've been doing the sport. And he just turned 8! He's so much fun to play with. - Submitted by Beverly Morgan Lewis



The club holiday party included wonderful food, getting to visit with fellow club members, some great games; building a tower out of cups and plates, human scent work, and bingo (thanks you Tina for adding images of breeds our club members have!). And the gift exchange. Thanks to all the dedicated club members who helped organize and put this event on!

