

THE LOST COAST HOWLER



EDITOR - LAUREN WENDT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Has it really been a whole month already? Argh — it feels like I just sat in on our May meeting and then got home from Nationals in Missouri! I love going to the Purina Farms facility. I want one here. Who's with me?

This year, I was deeply involved in two National events. I helped judge two days of UpDog and, on the third day, a FETCH trial. Plus, I assisted with the Obedience trial for two days. Thus began my view from the “other” side of a dog show. Garbo was entered in everything but Conformation, so I was peering at this big show from both sides of the lens — as a competitor and as an official.

They are not the same. My competitor self focuses on when my next run is happening, prepping Garbo, and soaking up the fun. My official self focuses on making sure every entry is supported, equipped, and ready to enjoy the experience they came for.

As a competitor, there are great rewards — and sometimes notso great challenges — when the thinking being that is my partner makes certain choices. As a judge and official, I try to give everyone the best experience possible. The reward is onesided: competitors come and go quickly, on to the next event. Some say thank you; some look right through you. I've developed a pretty thick skin and can forge on without needing a “cookie” for my right behaviors.

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!
JUNE 16, 2026
MEMBER MEETING 7:00PM
HELD VIA ZOOM

That brings me to our July show cluster. Many hands make light work. Organizers and officials can't be everywhere. Lend a hand. Step forward. Don't wait to be asked. We're not mind readers. So often I hear, "You should have asked," or "I didn't know you needed help." Keep offering. When you lend a hand, you're taking a load off someone whose hands are already full. Keep asking. Don't give up on those officials. Look around. Practice situational awareness.

And for those in official capacities — don't carry it all. Give five things away for someone else to handle. Let them do it. Don't micromanage. We don't do this for praise, believe me. The real reward comes from seeing you compete and have fun.

I'm proud of the percentage of club members who show up and help even when they don't have "a dog in that race." Lost Coast Kennel Club runs a fantastic series of intricate events in a profoundly professional manner. See you around the show rings this July. Say hello to your fellow club members — especially if they've got that look about them.

Hugs,

Deb Lake President, Lost Coast Kennel Club



Letter from The Editor

Hello from Conboy Lake National Wildlife refuge in Glenwood, Washington. This is where I and 3 of my of my dogs will be spending the summer.

It has been a bit of a whorlwind this past month. Getting my dogs trained for this project, then being told the federal funding fell through and scrambling to try to get some classes and workshops going to then being told the funding got reapproved!

I am very happy to be back in the field with my conservation detection dogs. This is quite a unique project. As humans often do, we make decisions without thinking of long term consequences, especially when it comes to conservation and our environment. My dogs are searching for invasive



bullfrog eggs because this non-native species was intentionally introduced and then quickly began preying on the native Oregon Spotted Frog, which then became endangered. For the past few years there has been an intense effort to remove as many bull frogs (and their eggs) as possible on the refuge and surrounding properties by various methods.

And these efforts are working! The invasive bullfrog population is dramatically down and the native Oregon spotted frog population is considerably up. But the area is huge! So the dogs are a force multiplier in finding the egg masses in the dense cattails and bullrush patches in the wetland areas that us humans aren't so good at.

And the unique challenge is the dogs are searching from a paddle board...which I am pushing. So basically I am their legs! Meaning I have to be incredibly good at reading their body language, making sure I get them into the areas they are significantly interested in. For you scent work folks, this is the importance of being able to read your dog's change of behavior!



Dogs are incredible aren't they!

I want to wish everyone a safe and happy summer season. And I echo Deb Lake, show up and make our July shows great, whether you have a dog entered or not!

-Lauren Wendt
LCKC Newsletter Editor



NEXT GENERAL MEMBER MEETING TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2026

General member 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!

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.

A list of dog-related sports organizations and trainers in Humboldt County can be found [HERE](#).

A list of dog related public events in Humboldt County can be found [HERE](#).

Thanks to Kurt Pires for these wonderful resources!

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 .

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



HUMBOLDT DISC DOG 2026* PRACTICE AND TRIAL DATES

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

- 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

ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR OUR JULY ALL BREED SHOWS AND EVENTS!

Our All Breed Shows, Obedience, Rally, and Fast CATs at Humboldt County Fairgrounds are coming up fast. Event dates are July 3-5, 2026. SET UP day is Thursday July 2nd. We need all the help we can get.

There will be jobs for all abilities, so please join us even if you can't stay all day. Our midway rings will be simpler to set up this year. We can't get the show set up without lots of help!

Lunch will be provided for all helpers. There will be some heavy lifting first thing in the morning on Thursday. We want to get going by 9AM. We are working on getting CCC or other "young" helpers. We also need a few helpers available during the show each day.

We could also use a few helpers on Wednesday 7/1 also to help prep the parking lot area that we will be using for obedience and rally (carnival lot is not usable this year). Please contact Michelle Dostal or Tina Moulton to find out more about what we need on Wednesday 7/1. We will need lots of help with breakdown on Sunday afternoon as well. We know everyone is tired by then, but the task will go faster if we have more help.

Show Chair: Tina Moulton
Assistant Show Chairs: Cathy Wright and Kurt Pires
Open Show Chair: Jill Otto
Obedience and Rally Chair: Michelle Dostal
Fast CAT Chairs: Debbie Tull & Dan Wake
RV Parking: Nick and Patty Mendes
Day Parking: Soroptimists – contact Laurie Garrison
Grounds: Mike Lake
Vendor Chair: Griffin Mancuso
Safety Officer: Jill Otto
Raffle: Sara Borok
Trophies: Cathy Wright & Barbara Domanchuk
Hospitality: Irina Marsant, Emily Dalton, Sherry Pavlich
Chief Ring Steward: Dolores Morris (6 stewards)
Official Photographers: Warren and Vicky Cook
Ringside Photographer: Brianna Montague
National Anthem: Phil Sams

Then we get to rest and do it all over again 2 weeks later for the Agility/Performance Cluster!

Lost Coast Kennel Club will once again be hosting a 'Dog Shows for Kids' education program at our dog show on July 4th. Please put the word out to any local families you know with kids between ages of six and 16.

We will be showing kids and their parents around the shows, trials, and FastCAT. We will provide instruction about greeting dogs safely and etiquette at dog shows. As part of our presentation the kids can participate in a AKC. Patch Program Scavenger Hunt with their family. If they return with a completed scavenger hunt, they will earn a special AKC Patch and a dog toy. More information about specific time and place to meet will be forthcoming.

What is the AKC Patch Program?



The AKC Patch Program is a "scavenger hunt" hosted by clubs at a dog show. Youth groups and children are invited to attend a club's show to complete the Patch program to learn about purebred dogs, AKC dog sports, and responsible dog ownership.

Why is this a benefit to my club?

- Encourages young people and their families to learn about dog sports.
- Makes lasting connections with youth in the community.
- Introduces potential new people to participate in dog sports and Juniors.
- Counts toward a Public Ed. Outreach activity for the Public Education Award



Mariah had a fun and successful day at Humboldt Disc Dogs' first trial of the year, May 30. The wind was definitely a factor, but we had some good runs. Thanks to Jim Marlatt for the awesome action photos! -Submitted by Suzi Martin



Cathy Wright and Fada are newly qualified AKC Canine Ambassadors. We are looking forward to doing some presentations at local school classrooms - especially those schools who have provided Scent Work venues for our club.



Canine Ambassador Program

The Canine Ambassador program works to help teach the community about the importance of the human-canine bond. Through their immeasurable knowledge and expertise, they can teach the public about dog sports, safety around dogs, and/or responsible dog ownership.

Canine Ambassadors are qualified individuals. They must submit recommendation letters, proof of accompanying dogs' Canine Good Citizenship status, and complete valuable training.



Doonahshee Zip A Dee Doo Dah OA NAJ NF CAA FCAT SIN CGC FITG



ZIP

11/22/2010 – 05/20/2026

Zip discovered her favorite activity was chasing the trash bunny due to her adopted Uncle Terry. Terry Burchett conducted lure coursing fun runs at the Lost Coast Kennel Club All Breed Shows every year.

For Zip, this activity surpassed all others. At the sound of the winding of the machine, all focus went to the bag and the chase. Everyone loved to watch her run and she often got “extra laps.” In 2018, Zip finished 20th in the nation for Fast CAT All American Dogs. Pretty good for a dog adopted from Miranda’s Rescue in 2011.

To quote a member of the Lost Coast Kennel Club, “It’s amazing how one dog can influence so many lives.” Due to Zip’s love of lure coursing, Debbie and I pursued the possibility of bringing it to LCKC. We researched and reached out to other interested members of the club. We submitted an application to host Fast Coursing Ability Tests to AKC, citing Kris and Bayard Smith’s experience in lure coursing. It was accepted and we held our first Fast CAT Tests in July 2019 with Terry as our lure operator. It didn’t take long for us to get others hooked as well. As always, LCKC excels at hosting all our activities and has an outstanding reputation among Fast CAT fans. Thank you LCKC. Thank you Kris and Bayard. Thank you Terry. Thank you Zip.



Forever in our hearts. Beth and Debbie

Happy Gotcha Day # 4 Brasa

June 6th

Doonahshee Brasa De Encanta FCAT2 ATT FITG



Happy 13th Birthday Abby

June 7th, 2013

Doonahshee Espiritu Valiente FDC DCAT FITS



Jadzia got her first tracking title (Fpr1, Equivalent to the IGP1 tracking just that it's tracking only) in mid May (and a BH in February so she can do everything else). We also just got sworn in to Del Norte County SAR and she did her first search right then and there as they had a call out when we got to Crescent City and asked me to come to the scene for swear in and if we could help search. Jadzia von Rabenhimmel is a German Shepherd Dog. We plan on trying conformation this summer at the show and eventually maybe scent work and take a look at fast cat.

-Submitted by Natalie Herman



I just got word that My Zuzu (St.Rock's Vive A'Gata SWM, AXJ, OA , XF, RATN, NW3.) finished her championship with a 5 point Major at Woofstock today!!! I don't have a picture yet. To follow when it comes. I'm so excited!!!

-Submitted by Deb St.Myers

Ruby was flying high, (or is it long lol?) at her first dock diving event of the season at Brown Dog University in Gig Harbor, WA early May. She hit her personal best of 17' 2"! She loves the pool so much and the announcer said, "she is the cutest jumper ever!" and we agree. Looking forward to more pool days! At the May 30 th and 31 st Humboldt Disc Dog event, Lola and Ruby brought home a combination of 1 High in Trial, 3 first places, 4 second places and 1 third place. There were some tense moments when Ruby and I were in a tie breaker with Lola and Matt for the game 4-way play. The wind was howling, the spectators were full of anticipation and the tensions were high. Ultimately Matt and Lola emerged the victorious (I blame the wind lol).



Boy, did we have a memorable Memorial Day weekend. On Sunday, May 24 at the TRACS agility trial, Pictsie finally earned her PACH. This agility championship has been TEN YEARS in the making and at age 12 I really didn't think it would ever happen. In my 30 years of agility competition, she is the best agility dog I've ever trained and the one I've had the least success with in competition. But she really pulled out all the stops recently and made it happen. She means the world to me and this was just icing on the cake.

On the very next day, May 25, at age 8 Hooligan earned his MACH 10. He is my steady Eddie and his nickname is Mr. Consistent. While Pictsie surprises me when she qualifies, Hooligan surprises me when he doesn't. I think he's has several more championships in his future! And I think he waited till the day Pictsie's feat so I was not to steal her thunder.

-Submitted by Beverly Morgan Lewis



This meeting is being recorded by Fathom.

The Board meeting was called to order by President Debra Lake at 7:12 p.m.

Present:

Board members: Debra Lake, Patty Mendes, Jill Otto, Kurt Pires, Kris Smith, Debbie Tull.

Non-Board members: Sara Borok, Tina Moulton, Sherry Pavlich, Beth Rogers, Deb St Myers, Cathy Wright.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes from the April 14, 2026, Board meeting were approved as published. (Jill/Debbie T)

Report of the Treasurer: Jill reported on the attached financial reports from Andrea. The money fraudulently withdrawn from the Chase accounts has been returned. There is a recurring X-Box payment that Jill and a bank official are trying to get stopped, and another claim has been filed to try to get back the money already withdrawn. Jill's club credit card had to be cancelled again. (Tina will need the new one to arrange for Bear River accommodation for judges.) Jill has called Recology multiple times for an explanation of a \$1800 refund that we don't know what it's for. She still needs to confirm that the 2025 raffle report is in so the 2026 raffle can be registered. The final Scent Work trial numbers show that it brought in slightly more than \$1000. The Treasurer's Report was accepted (Patty/Kurt)

Unfinished Business

· Condition of Fairgrounds for All Breed show – Tina is very concerned that the damaged lawns will not be fixed in time for the shows. The Fairgrounds have been told that if the AKC sees the grounds, they won't let us have a show there. Moira (Fair manager) says repair will happen in June. Tina and a few other club members checked out all possible locations; none of the grassy areas are safe to use. Fire officials have OKed the pavement between the midway lawns and the grandstands. There is no way the carnival lot will do for obedience/rally unless it's tilled and rolled. Nick said a lane has to stay open on the grandstand side of the midway lawns for the big handler RVs to get through, and using the pavement would mean a loss of 6-11 large RV spots.

Discussion of other possible ring locations while looking at a screen shared map with Kurt superimposing squares on locations. Maybe two more rings in Hindley Hall and/or Belotti, but we don't have matting. No matter what we do we should put out a notice saying that ring locations will be different. We will have complaints regardless. Ideas – talk to Rex Bohn to apply pressure on the Fairgrounds to fix the lawns? Discussion of lawns at Bear River Casino. We may have to arrange for fixing the lawns ourselves. Patty knows a contractor who can place dirt where we need it and we would have to spread it. Contact the Logging Conference and see if they plan to do more repairs? Tina, Kurt, and Cathy will visit the Fairgrounds Friday morning and ask to mow the lawns to assess how bad it is, and measure alternate locations. Tina will contact Sue H to talk to Rex Bohn, and will call the Logging Conference.

- Ring gating/fencing – Alternative to the heavy lattice fencing that takes a long time to assemble: Tina has set up a sample ring in her back yard made of PVC pipes with x-pen stakes running through them and into the ground 10 inches, with plastic chain. For 4 rings, materials would be about \$500. Could put the pipes on a solid base (plaster of Paris?) for use on pavement. MSAC (Kurt/Jill) to approve spending up to \$750 to buy PVC pipe, plastic chain, and other materials for ring gating as proposed by Tina. Sara said she will provide wind resistant weighted rally signs that have been approved by the judge.
- Agility trailer storage at Nilsen's – Nothing new. "Stampede" is taking all the Fairground office time and we are not getting responses regarding a parking spot. We need to find out the "drop dead" date to get out of Nilsen's. Kurt will contact a possibility again from the Ferndale C of C meeting.
- School programs – Deferred until after the July shows.
- File retention policy – Policy was established at the last Board meeting.
- Bayshore Mall possible winter event location – Deferred until new ownership is established.
- Develop policy for loaning LCKC equipment. A draft was presented at the General meeting and sent back for revisions. Kris has sent the new revision to the Board – deferred until the next meeting due to time constraint.

New Business: None

Announcements:

- The next Board meeting will be June 9, 2026.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.
Respectively submitted by Kris Smith, LCKC Secretary

Minutes of the LCKC Regular Monthly Meeting
May 19, 2026 (held via zoom)

The meeting was called to order by President Debra Lake at 7:02 pm.
This meeting is being recorded by Fathom.

Present: Jeremy Clements, Michelle Dostal, Debra Lake, Mike Lake, Beverly Morgan Lewis, Amber McCleary, Patty Mendes, Tina Moulton, Jill Otto, Bobbie Pires, Kurt Pires, Beth Rogers, Kris Smith, Deb St Myers, Tom Levy, Debbie Tull, Dan Wake, Lauren Wendt, Cathy Wright.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes from the April 21, 2026, Regular meeting were approved as published. (Jill/Tom).

Report of the President: Deb Lake joined from Missouri, where she is at her national specialty. She said she is highly concerned about the club's liability during the shows

regarding the possibly dangerous condition of the fairgrounds, and looks forward to hearing about options.

Report of the Secretary: Kris said she has received no pertinent mail.

Report of the Treasurer: Jill presented the financial reports from Andrea, discussed at the Board meeting. The fraudulent withdrawal from the club's Chase savings account has been returned. The final income from the spring Scent Work trial was just over \$1000. She is still working on getting the 2026 raffle registered. Andrea discovered that the state received the 2025 raffle report in plenty of time, but for some reason it is still "in review". We have an unidentified refund of \$1800 from Recology, and Jill hasn't been able to reach "Karen" who can tell her what it is for. She wants to make sure she doesn't cancel something that someone else has ordered for our events. Mike will go by next week to order the dumpsters for the shows.

Report of Committees:

PRACTICES

There was a very windy practice day on May 17, Fast CAT, and then some conformation and SW. Enough dogs came for Joan Carpenter to practice judging for an upcoming Rhodesian Ridgeback specialty. Kris said if it hadn't been for that, probably no dogs would have come for conformation. Hopefully, that will pick up in June. The next tentative practice is June 7, but we don't have a venue and some members will be at Woofstock, so we will skip that one. The next one will be June 14. Debbie said it is the final Fast CAT practice, for dogs and volunteers. She also wanted to thank Dr Schroer for her Canine CPR presentation. Scent Work folks are doing most of their practices outside the club. Barn Hunt practices continue at the Hutchison's, and outside the club at the Lake's.

B-OB SHOWS/RALLY/Fast CAT 2026:

Shows: Tina said she is feeling more positive about the condition of the grounds. She, Kurt, Cathy, and Sara inspected the grounds met with Moira, who was not happy that Tina had asked the Redwood Logging Conference if they were going to do any more to fix the damage on the lawns (they paid the Fair to fix the damage and were no longer involved). The Carnival lot is not usable except for parking so the only other place that works for obedience/rally is in the parking lot on the other side of the fence. The midway lawns will be worked on starting in June, they will level it with sand, water and mow regularly, and should be usable. We always get complaints about footing. Discussion about parking, where handicapped parking can go, volunteer (all day) parking can be where old ob/rally rings were. Will need traffic control. Ob/rally will use the same gating, may need weights. Show rings will not be using the lattice – new fencing with plastic chain. Tom may have some PVC uprights to hold the chain. Tina will check progress on the lawns weekly. On the chance the lawns can't be used, there are other possibilities. Up to two could go in Hindley if enough mats could be borrowed from HumDOG with grooming on the sides, or rings against the wall with two rows of grooming that can be reached by the power drops. We could use our 10x20 canopies on the lawns for grooming,

with power from the RV hook-ups. Hopefully, hospitality can be in Belotti Hall. Moira asked for our dates for the next three years, and is not allowing fireworks on the fourth, so they want us to stay. For the next few years we will not be on the weekend of the Fourth. Cathy said it's probably good that Tina talked to the Logging Conference because it made Moira more responsive to us. Tina wonders how much of the money paid to the fairgrounds by the LG for damage is actually going to be used for that. We can flag problem spots in the lawns. Rings have to be 50 feet away from vehicle traffic, so the main parking lot will have to be designed to include the rings and the buffer zone, handicapped parking, and pick-up and drop-off. Need to visit the grounds again to map it all out. The Soroptimists might need to help with parking there as well as regular parking. The lattice fencing that isn't being used for the show rings might make a good barrier around the buffer zone around the rings. If any rings have to be moved inside, a notice will go out just before entries because the premium list says all but the small breeds will be outside. Tina shared a video of one of the Group trophies, hand made custom porcelain water bowls. Cathy said she has ordered ice cream from Jersey Scoops for Saturday. Everyone thanked Tina for her work in pulling this together.

Rally/Obedience: Nothing new.

Fast CAT: Nothing new.

SCENT WORK TRIALS 2026

Spring (May 2-3) – Cathy said she thinks everything went well and people were happy. She thanked everyone who helped.

Fall (Sep 4-6) – Jill reported for Susan, who encourages everyone to get their entries in early. Entries open June 3 – put them in the mail June 1. There will be a meeting coming up.

MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION PICNIC 2026 (Sept 27, Rohner Park, Fortuna) Nothing new.

FIT DOG – Deb L said she and Kim have been talking about a joint Fit Dog/CGCU walk, a mile long walk in town that would include elevators, stairs, and other things necessary for the CGCU qualification. Next August/September/October. Question about whether the CGCU qualification could happen without walking a mile – will depend on how close elements are to each other.

NEWSLETTER: Lauren said she appreciates member submissions. Tina will submit a volunteer wishlist for the shows.

WEBSITE: Nothing new.

IO CHAT GROUP: Nothing new.

MEMBERSHIP: Nothing new.

BYLAWS: Nothing new.

AGILITY, BARN HUNT, fast CAT 2026

Agility: Beverly ML asked if anyone can do the touch-up mowing of the rings after the fairgrounds mows. She will talk to Berti and Randy. She asked about hired help – CCC (might have to go to a fire), Teen Challenge (can't work on Sunday), Humboldt Rowers?

Cathy will send contact info for Humboldt Rowers. Beverly said to set aside some donations for the volunteer drawings. She asked for a volunteer to co-ordinate the take-down process. Barn Hunt: Mike said the information is posted, but they need to add the judges. When that's done, Kurt will put up a link on the website.

Fast CAT: Nothing new.

Election of New Members: Jessica and Mathew Butterick of Fortuna, sponsored by Lauren, were elected to a family membership. An application was received without a sponsor – Kris will follow through.

Unfinished business

- Shed clean-up and reorganization – Needs to happen soon, as it is difficult to get in. Need a dry warm day. The fairgrounds are not having a volunteer work-day this year; maybe we can do some clean up ourselves. If we do that, Moira will come to help (not with the shed).
- Agility Trailer Relocation – No movement. Tina will ask Moira again about parking it on the fairgrounds.
- New information packet. Tabled.
- Policy on Loaning LCKC equipment. Tabled.

New Business: None

Announcements:

- Kurt pointed out that there are several entry dates open now and coming up for our events and encourages everyone to enter early. Mail Fall SW entries June 1.
- Next meetings will be June 16 (Regular) and June 9 (Board).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Smith, LCKC Secretary