GWBdFC 2020 Board

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Club correspondence should be directed to the board at board@dcbouvier.org

Or to the Secretary:
Joan Faltot
8217 Grainfield RD Severn, MD 21144

In This Issue

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Welcome New Members!

Carol Walker

&

Iris von Palubitzki

Contacting Your Club

Board: board@dcbouvier.org

Secretary: secretary@dcbouvier.org

Rescue: rescue@dcbouvier.org

Newsletter: newsletter@dcbouvier.org

BRAG BOARD

Westfall's Miss Jaheira Jakar Donlee is ranked #2 Dog in ALL of AKC Rally!

Owned by Becky Wolfer

There have been many more achievements made by club members and their Bouviers, to share. Please bare with us while we catch up!
Frog Hollow dogs had a blast in GA!
Yeti had a blast with FastCat. Earning both Fastest Herding Titled, and on day three the coveted Turtle Award! Yes we have a sense of humor.
Joie took 2nd in her conformation class of beautiful girls.
But mostly they spent a week spreading.

Jaheira continues to do well. At the recent national specialty, she was quite busy getting 6 new titles. She achieved RACH 3 in rally and is one of the first dogs in the AKC to achieve the Rally Champion title three times. We decided to go back to the regular obedience ring and in 3 straight attempts got per Preferred novice title (PCD). She also tried her hand at FASTCAT and was awarded her BCAT title. She had never seen the sport before and thought chasing the bag was the greatest thing in the world. We also tried out hand in herding and got her farm dog certification (FDC). We also tried our hand at trick dog and were awarded her trick dog novice (TKN). Lastly we tested for canine good citizen advanced and passed. Since then we entered rally a few times and have new RAE and RM titles.

Now she is RACH 3 Westfall’s Miss Jaheira Jakar Donlee BN CD PCD RAE 11 RM 9 BCAT FDC TKN CGCA.

She has most rally titles of any bouvier ever. In the AKC rankings of top rally dogs, she is #1 bouvier, #1 herding group, and #3 all-breed. People ask when I will retire her. I say when she no longer wants to do it. She loves rally, but it may be that she loves going to hotels and hanging out in the lobby greeting people. We are close to RACH 4 at this point, as well as more titles at RAE level and in rally masters class.

Not to be outdone her “little sister” Arya has achieved her CD (finally) as well as her RI titles. We are now going on to open obedience and rally advanced. As she is my only bouvier to ever enjoy playing fetch and who retrieve a dumbbell I hope we can get a CDX title (at least a GN).

She is now Westfall’s Arya of Winterfell BN CD RI.

Cinder, owned by Nancy Swenson, had a great weekend last weekend. She got two Open queues to finish her CDX and her 6th RAE legs. Onward to Utility.
AKC Temperament Testing

I’m very proud to have been part of the brand new AKC Temperament Test held at the Dude Ranch. Both Ch Frog Hollows Yatahey HSAds, BN, RE and Bluegrass Joie de Vivre at Frog Hollow earned their first of 2 needed legs to achieve the new title!! What a wonderful way to test your dog’s willingness to be in different situations and respond appropriately.

It was very interesting watching the reactions from each dog that tested. Watch or newsletters and website for upcoming dates of AKC Temperament Test!! - Midge Tressler

Upcoming Club Events

GOLDCUP PERFORMANCE EVENT
AKC ALL BREED
OBEDIENCE & RALLY TRIALS
SPECIAL: NOVICE-ONLY FRIDAY!
FAST CAT TRIALS
All at the SAME SITE!
3 DAYS! 3 SPORTS!
NOV 6, 7, 8th 2020 - Greater Richmond, VA
CLOSES OCTOBER 21st, 2020!
Save the Date!

AKC SCENT WORK EVENT
AKC ALL BREED
AKC SCENT WORK EVENT - WORKSHOP - TRIALS
Our NEXT EVENT is Pending!
Check Back Often!

AKC TEMPERAMENT TESTS
TWO DAYS - ALL BREEDS WELCOME
EARN THE NEWEST AKC TITLE!
DATE PENDING!!! CHECK BACK!

TRIPLE CROWN SPECIALTY
AKC Specialty 2021!
More Info Coming Soon!

VIRGINIA SPRING PERFORMANCE EVENT 2021!
AKC ALL BREED
> FAST CAT TRIALS<
OBEDIENCE & RALLY TRIALS!
MORE INFO COMING SOON!
We’d love to share your stories and see your pictures!!! Please send yours to:

newsletter@dcbouvier.org

**What Can We Do Better?**

Do you have ideas or suggestions of what we could do better as a club? What would you like to see more or less of? This is a perfect time to talk and plan for new things! Especially in these strange and new times. We would love to hear from you!

Email us at

board@dcbouvier.org

**Rescue News**

Please check the websites listed below regularly if you or someone you know is looking to rescue a Bouvier in need. Please contact us if you know of a Bouvier in need of help.

[www.abrl.org](http://www.abrl.org)

[www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com)

Need help? Contact:

rescue@dcbouvier.org

**We Need Gift Basket Donations, Please!**

Do you have an item you could donate for a gift basket? Know of a local business willing to donate items or a gift card? If so, please contact Midge Tressler at

tatonka17236@comcast.net

THANK YOU!
National Combined Specialties Week
Conyers, Georgia

What a week it was! We lucked out with good weather most of the time. We were a bit short staffed, but we made it work. We got to meet lots of new friends, lots of beautiful Bouviers, and have a lot of fun!

HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who came down to help out. Overall it was a successful event. Thanks to the American Bouvier des Flandres Club for including us!

Here are a few pictures taken throughout the week. Enjoy!
COVID-19 & YOUR PETS

Based on new data from the CDC, it is suggested that COVID-19 can spread from people to animals, although it is extremely unlikely. Based on limited information available of these rare cases, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered very low. We are still learning about the virus, and know that it is primarily spread from person to person, but there have been a limited number of instances which the virus has spread to an animal after contact with a person infected with COVID-19. Most notably, a tiger in NY contracted the virus after contact with a zoo employee who had COVID-19 (see article here: https://www.rutgers.edu/news/how-did-bronx-zoo-tiger-contract-covid-19). Companion animals are not considered to be a source of infection to humans, but it is always a good idea to exercise caution and continue practicing healthy habits around pets and other animals. For more up to date information, please visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html

By, Sara Willet
With the pandemic and quarantines, many may find themselves doing yard-work or gardening. However, there are many hidden dangers for your dogs and other pets! Walking through, rubbing themselves on and even sniffing grass can expose your pet to pesticides, insecticides and herbicides. These chemicals are toxic to your dog and cause intestinal upset, lethargy, skin irritation and without treatment, even death. Avoiding use of these items on your lawn (or informing your lawn care provider that you have a pet and to limit and label areas that they have applied these products) can help to keep you and your pet safe this spring season! Some signs of exposure and ingestion of pesticides, insecticides and herbicides that you may notice in your dog is:

- Fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Seizures
- Muscle tremors
- Hypersalivation
- Constricted pupils
- Increased heart rate
- Lack of coordination
- Respiratory failure

If you notice any of these signs or symptoms, be sure to get your dog to a vet ASAP! You can limit the effects of these products on your pet by washing your dog’s feet after exposure or avoiding treated areas altogether. If you cannot avoid applying pesticides, look for more natural alternatives.

By, Sara Willet
**FAQ**

1. **What is AKC Scent Work? Is it the same as NWI Nose Work?**
   
   AKC Scent Work was developed by the AKC Performance Sport Department. Through careful coordination and review with top Military Canine Scent Work Officers, along with Police Dog trainers, the new program was put together. It is different from NWI Nose Work in many ways. AKC Scent Work has multiple levels, multiple channels, multiple titling opportunities, and direct competition. NWI Nose Work requires a preliminary set of tests before actual titling can be attempted, has far fewer levels and/or accomplishments to reach; with each taking far more times and attempts to reach ends. AKC Scent Work offers Indoor, Outdoor, Buried, Container and more as channels. Running from Novice all the way up through Master, the opportunities and challenges within AKC Scent Work is broad.

2. **How long has AKC Scent Work been around? Is GWBdFC licensed to offer Scent Work trials?**
   
   AKC first released the AKC Scent Work program at the end of 2017. As the program was completely new to AKC, the event department first reached out the AKC Delegate body for comments at the September Delegates' meeting, looking for reaction and input and to seek clubs interested in developing the sport. Upon hearing of the new sport, and recognizing the possibilities, the GWBdFC made application to the AKC, citing our experience not only in holding Conformation shows, but also our experience in years of Rally, Obedience, CGC, training classes and more. Our club should be proud, that we were one of the VERY FIRST BREED CLUBS to be FULLY APPROVED to hold ALL BREED SCENTWORK TRIALS by the AKC.

   Within 1 week of this new contact, GWBdFC sought to put on the first public-invited seminar on Scent Work in the region. We decided to do both a TRAINING SEMINAR on one day, followed by a TRIAL on the second day. A weekend in August was selected and ensued. The Training Seminar was taught by the AKC Rep, Ms. Lisa Russel noted above. Attendees included members of GWBdFC as well as outside folks too.

   The Seminar took place down at the Dude Ranch. It was reviewed with attendees stating that the conference was “...one of the best ever attended...” and “...Lisa was fabulous...” The Trial took place on the following day. Toshiko Blausten was the Trial Secretary, and Ms. Lisa Russel was the judge! We had a full trial, lasting to the 8 hour maximum limit. **We had 128 entries for the one day!!**

   What became clear when a review of the trial’s results and success was that GWBdFC should pursue doing more Scent Work Trials; especially with Ms. Lisa Russel, going forward.

3. **Were we invited to do these Trials at the National? Were there any other Trials?**
   
   When GWBdFC stepped up to be the ‘other club’ for the Bouvier Nationals in Conyers, GA (2019), discussions ensued with the National Chairman (Ms. N. Valske) about GWBdFC doing Scent Work trials during the National Week. We went and checked-in with the AKC Rep & Judge Ms. Lisa Russel. She responded that she would love to work with GWBdFC providing direction at the AKC Rep level. Coordination began.
We learned that another Bouvier club, the Bouvier Club of Southeastern Michigan (BdFCSEM), was going to offer Scent Work trials on the prior day. President-to-President (Mike to Bill) communications ensued.

4. Did we use a special facility for the Trials?

Scent Work requires a variety of areas and test places. While it can be done in just one ring (a single type of Scent Work trialing), a full Trial, offering a great variety of testing and titling opportunities necessitates a wide selection of rooms, areas and types of areas to enable it to occur.

Our President, together with the author, scheduled time with the National Chairman to coordinate a site visit down in Conyers, GA. This gave us an opportunity to look at the actual venue and make plans for the trials’ execution. One of the results of the site visit, was the creation of actual maps and charts showing where the GWBdFC events and trials would take place, and how the different components would come into play. Copies of the plans were distributed to Lisa Russel, our Board, as well as Ms. Valase.

The resultant plans determined that TWO trials on the same day could be held, and further that time and physical space would allow for Two Trials – with Two Judges each!

5. What about the Scent Work Judges – where did they come from?

With the guidance of Ms. Russel, we reached out to a local judge in Georgia to seek her participation as a 2nd judge along with Ms. Russel as the first. Actually, the 2nd judge, recommended by Ms. Russel, was a provisional judge in some of the areas of Scent Work. The distribution of entries, as originally done, had Ms. Russel taking the more advanced areas for judging.

6. What about the Trial Secretary? Did we hire someone or do it ourselves?

With the excitement and potential for Scent Work and GWBdFC, we reached out to the company that AKC had worked with to develop AKC approved Scent Work Trial secretarial software: “RyKris” and MySWT. GWBdFC procured a license for MySWT, and Toshiko, Edmond and Michael all proceeded to learn the software. While Michael, as President of GWBdFC was listed as Event Chair for ALL GWBdFC events held in Conyers, Toshiko took on the role of Trials’ Secretary for the two Scent Work trials.

Premium sheets were posted on the internet in various locations (including the AKC Event Search pages) and they were also mailed out to more than 50 clubs.

Entries began to roll in quite quickly. By just two weeks before the two Trials our entries were coming in 5-10 entries per envelope!

7. There was some issue regarding our Judges. What was it?

A major problem occurred....

On Friday, just one business day before our trials in Georgia, we received a panic phone call from Lisa Russel. It seems that ‘something’ had occurred and she would NOT be able to Judge (no supervise) at our Trials! We had lost our Mentor, lost our primary Judge, and, we lost all of the equipment that Ms. Russel had agreed to bring! We essentially were out of business.

The first step was to immediately reach out to the AKC and get approval for a last-minute judge replacement...and then to find one. When I first called AKC that day, the individual asked why we needed to change. While I knew Ms. Russel had said she couldn’t do it... I hadn't drilled down further.

I reached back out to Ms. Russel to address our three concerns... clarification on why she couldn’t judge for us, our now needing a new judge, and needing the equipment we were expecting from her.

Ms. Russel was great; coming up with a judge that would do well for us. She then provided me with a contact number within the AKC to quickly get things approved. While not publicly known at that time (it was announced a week later!) it seems that a major TURN OVER at the AKC had just taken place! The person who was the then-executive in charge of AKC Scent Work was NO LONGER WITH THE AKC!

How this impacted Ms. Russel joining us? AKC had just hired/promoted Ms. Russel to be the new executive-in-charge of AKC Scent Work! Lisa Russel was now the #1 in AKC for the program! She was told she had to report to AKC (North Carolina) on Monday morning to ‘grab the reins’....

Good news – we had picked a great knowledgeable powerful person. Bad new – the AKC was taking her away....

Lisa Russel was amazingly flexible (especially for someone running to a new job!). After coordinating the new judge, re-aligning the entries across the two judges, and ensuring our approvals at the AKC, Ms. Russel then coordinated a free loan of ALL of the equipment we needed for the trials in Georgia! Edmond, on Sunday night, drove out to a parking lot in greater Atlanta to meet Ms. Russel, who was driving through the area en-route to AKC in North Carolina for Monday morning! Edmond and Lisa met, equipment was moved to his car. Edmond returned to the
Conyers venue with the equipment for the two trials while Ms. Russel continued on her way to NC and her new position leading AKC Scent Work.

As for our emergency replacement Judge, with the promotion of Ms. Russel within the AKC, an alternative judge, also from the region, was identified and approved to judge. This logistically necessitated a realignment and reassignment of the judging across these two approved judges.

8. Were our trials filled – and have a waiting list?

Let’s address the second part first; a waiting list. AKC Scent Work is different from many other AKC activities, in that it is permissible to enter a scent work trial, the SAME DAY as when the trial is being held! This would open up the number of competitors quite significantly, especially with GWBdFC’s offering of the DAY OF TRIAL entries! As such, no waiting lists!

Simply, our entries were HUGE. So much so, in accordance with AKC Scent Work regulations, we actually rebalanced and reassigned exhibitors on the day of the trials! Our 1st judge had 137 entries. Our 2nd judge had 144 entries. That gave us a **TOTAL NUMBER OF ENTRIES FOR THE ONE DAY OF 281**!

9. What issues did we face, and how did we resolve them?

Clearly, there was no way to predict that turn-over at the AKC resulting in our Judge/Mentor/Rep, Ms. Lisa Russel, from being unceremoniously yanked from our programs to enable the further success of AKC. However, out side of that issue, we also had an issue regarding the venue and multi-club activities.

With the BdFCSEM having trials on Monday, without their club having visited the site nor creating specific maps for where/how their trials were to take place, resulted in a problem. GWBdFC, coming in for our trialing on Tuesday found that the BdFCSEM had moved from their original stated locations, and utilized many of the locations then-to-fore earmarked for GWBdFC’s use! As such, our two newly assigned judges, who had only learned of their final details within 24 hours of our events, had to scramble with the show secretary to find, secure, establish and setup alternatives trialing locations.

A special thanks goes out to our board for having legally licensed the software for GWBdFC to use for the trial. It appeared that other club(s) have been using software that was NOT licensed to their clubs, resulting in RyKris filing legal suits. Whew! We’re not part of that set!

10. All this is nice, but what was the bottom line for the club? Should we do this again?

Bottom line? **We had 281 entries for just one day of trialing!!**

That’s more than DOUBLE that of the other club’s numbers... and a HUGE IMPACT on our efforts, image and profitability! Just think how WONDERFUL the number would be if we hadn’t had to scramble and ‘fix things’ at the last moment!

All in all – a 100% successful event due to a whole lot of effort by a few people. For a one-day event in a physical location far far from home, to have grossed $1,000's MORE THAN OTHER EVENTS THAT WEEK is fantastic!

So should we do it again?? To me – a no brainer... HECK YEAH!!

**Edmond J. Blausten, VP GWBdFC**
Gold Cup Obedience & Rally Weekend 2019

Once again we had our semi-annual Gold Cup All Breed event. While entries have been dwindling over the past few events, it was still a fun weekend and we enjoyed seeing the bouviers! (and the other breeds too) Master Chef Jesse grilled up some juicy burgers and hotdogs complete with all the fixins’ for the exhibitors and volunteers. Several people won new titles complete with beautiful rosettes and it was a good weekend all around.

Have you been to our Gold Cup & or Virginia Derby Obedience & Rally Trilas? If so we’d love to hear what you think. What can we improve on, what can we bring/do to draw more people in? Please email us at...
Did You Know We Have A Facebook Page?

Stay connected! Have quick & easy access to club event info & photo's. Share your achievements or questions!

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Want to advertise your business in our newsletter? Please send a copy of your business card and for a small donation, we will display it in our newsletter :)

From the AKC...

Check out the link for FREE online Conformation for Beginners classes from the AKC Canine College!

Would you like to see your bouv in the newsletter? Do you and your bouv do something special you would like to share? We would like to showcase a different member and their Bouviers in each newsletter with a photo and short story. Please send us what you want to share, and include dog’s and owners names, photo (s) and short description of your photo (s) for captioning! In addition, if you have a memorial, birthday, or other mention to share please send us what you would like to say with or without photo to: