



NORTH SAANICH

Dog Obedience Training Club

December 1, 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bill Blair

The North Saanich Dog Obedience Training Club welcomes you and your dog.

This newsletter gives you a brief introduction to the club, class information, key dates, contact information and training tips.

You can learn more about the club and our classes by going to our website at www.nosa.ca

We have reached the end of another year at NOSA and on December 1st will elect a new executive team to lead us into 2006. Hopefully, this will engender a renewal of enthusiasm and energy amongst our members.

The sport of obedience is languishing as evidenced by the entries at recent AIOC and CKC trials. At our last NOSA club trial, we had more people working than trialing. At the last CKC trials in Nanaimo we had as many competitors in Utility as we had in Novice. This is not just a NOSA problem - it is evident across the Island. And once those of us floundering in Utility finally finish, or give up, who will be coming up to replace us given the small number currently at the Novice level?

All NOSA members should feel free to step up and offer their ideas, their enthusiasm and their energy to take NOSA back to where it once was - a healthy, vibrant and competitive organization. You don't have to hold an elected office to get involved. There is room for all and the more the merrier.

I will not be standing for re-election this year as I believe it's time for a change. We have a strong executive now but some of us have been doing this for too many years. I would like to thank Gloria, Jeanine, Sharon, Irene, Joy, Sandi, Marilyn and Lee for all their hard work during this past year. How many of those will stand for re-election I don't know at the current time but I offer my best wishes to those who form our 2006 executive group.

Bill Blair
President

Inside this issue:

Important Dates	1
Tribute to Dawn Bell	2
NOSA Quiz	4
More Titles Earned	4
Quiz Answers	5
Obedience Trial Dates	6
Obedience/CKC Titles	6
Trainer's Tips	7
NOSA Library	8

IMPORTANT DATES

- Jan. 5 Classes start.
 - Feb. 23 Last regular obedience class. Registration night for March-May session.
 - Last handling class
 - March 2 Beginner's graduation and mat cleaning.
 - March 9 Correction and Rally-O matches.
 - March 11 AIOC trial with Greater Victoria Dog Obedience Training Club.
 - March 16 NOSA Trainers' Night at Bodine Family Hall.
 - March 23 NOSA general meeting.
 - March 30 March-May session starts. Classes run until May
- NOSA Christmas Party Dec 10 at Holy Trinity Church 6:30 for 7:30 dinner

Find us on the web at www.nosa.ca

TRIBUTE TO DAWN BELL

On May 17, 2005 NOSA Life Member Dawn Bell lost her 9 year battle with cancer. She was 58 years old.

Dawn was an active working member of NOSA from the day she joined in 1983. She was an instructor for almost 20 years and also served on the Executive.

Dawn could be counted on ring steward, host meetings and designed all the great NOSA Christmas ornaments.

Memories of Dawn – by Judi Birmingham

Although Dawn has been gone for almost six months, she is discussed in our household often, especially at this time of year. I am thrilled to be able to share some of our memories of Dawn with everybody.

Where do I start? I still remember when I first met Dawn. She had come back to NOSA after her first round of treatments and that is when I found out that she was practically my neighbour. We became fast friends and spoke almost daily from the time we met until her passing (nobody else was awake to take my 7:00 am phone calls). She was my mentor in dogs, a special friend, and a “grandmother-figure” to our kids.

I credit Dawn with our family involvement in dogs that we have today. Years ago, an unfortunate experience left me wanting to quit dog activities completely. Dawn, of course, wouldn't let me. She supported (or rather pushed) me through it and I couldn't be more thankful. If I had quit dogs, as I wanted, our family involvement in dogs would never have come to be... Besides obedience, Dawn taught me about the conformation world – complete with the politics. She encouraged me, along with Marlene Collins, to involve the kids in Junior Handling and she came to see as many of the shows as she was able to. I remember her and Phil driving all the way to Courtney one Saturday just to watch the kids do juniors. Another time, she got up at 4:00 am and drove with me to Comox just to support the kids. Dawn waited for my call at 1:00 pm every day of juniors, regardless of where we were, just to get the low-down on how the kids had done – win or lose.

Dawn encouraged me to do my first breeding and was there every step of the way. She came to our house at 2:00 am just to whelp the litter – even though she was already dealing with another round of cancer. She answered my countless questions and was there for dew claws, puppy evaluations, first shows for the puppies etc. As our most recent litter was just born, the kids all agreed that it was not the same without her. Dawn and the kids always enjoyed coming up with litter themes and puppy names together.

Besides our yearly fall litter that Dawn has now missed, Halloween has passed. The corn maze was skipped this year - an activity generally done with Dawn. Trick or treating always began with a trip up to Dawn's for a “special treat” bag. Last year, when Dawn wasn't feeling well, the treat bag became cash – the other way to a child's heart! Dawn's house, not being the first stop, certainly left a cloud over the kids' evening this year.

Now, we have to face our first Christmas without Dawn. Although she had her own family for Christmas Day, Dawn always set aside a day prior to Christmas to do a Christmas Craft and / or activity with the kids... She felt that “time” was the best gift that she could give to the kids and she couldn't be more right. The kids have special memories of the Twelve Days of Christmas at Butchart Gardens with Dawn. They have made ornaments and gingerbread houses. The tradition eventually became a family affair and Lorne and myself, as well as Phil, and even Derek got involved. The kids have beautiful homemade Christmas trees in their rooms that were made with Dawn. Last year was homemade chocolates... This important tradition will be so missed this year.

Dawn was a very important person in our lives and although gone, she will never be forgotten in our household!!!!!!!

Judi

Memories of Dawn – by Phil Griffith

I was asked to write my favorite memory – where do I start??? There are too many memories to list – each and every memory of Dawn is special to me... From the daily phone calls to the tournaments that lasted the weekend – they are all very important to me...

Dawn and I always had good times together no matter what we did. Some of the outings included the Birmingham kids – Christmas at Butchart Gardens and the maze at the Corn Field. I don't know who had more fun – the kids or us! Another special memory is a day trip that Dawn and I took to Vancouver to see the Mamma Mia Concert. We never had so much fun!!! Most importantly though, were the countless holiday dinners that Dawn included me in. She always made me feel like I was part of the family!

Dawn was my very Best Friend and she will always be in my heart.

Dawn – by Irene Copus

How to begin....

I first met Dawn at Greater Victoria Dog Training in the early '70's. She was training a German Shepherd. From then until Dawn's death we were always friends. Over the years we showed dogs together and even competed against each other.

Her first Standard Poodle was a black male who used to drag his feet around the ring. He thought obedience training was for the birds. Dawn also went on to breed Standard Poodles.

We taught classes together at GVDOTC. In one class Dawn was pulled aside and told she must not chew gum. Dawn told me about this episode, so I said next week I am going to make a point of chewing gum, which I did. Nothing was ever said.

It wasn't too long after this that I asked Dawn to come and teach at NOSA. She accepted and we welcomed her with open arms. She was always an enthusiastic trainer and helped in all aspects of the club. Dawn was always available to give advice on all sorts of doggie issues not just obedience. She was always ready to jump in and give a helping hand to anyone (which she did for me on many occasions).

We were both keen on arts and crafts. Dawn was honest enough to show me a drawer full of unfinished projects; while I just told her of my unfinished works.

We went to Edmonton to a grooming seminar in the 90's and enjoyed every minute of it. From the mad bus driver who picked us up at the airport and gave us the scariest drive of our lives and dropped us at the wrong hotel, to the getting stuck in the elevator doors. We spent time righting the wrongs of the world.

Dawn was a generous, loyal, creative, fun loving, enthusiastic and strong to the end. It was a privilege to have known her and to have been a friend. Dawn will be sorely missed not only by me but everyone who knew her.

Dawn, they broke the mold when they made you!

Because of Dawn's long fight with cancer and her dedicated involvement with NOSA and NOSA's Christmas parties, half of all monies raised from this year's Christmas party auction will be donated in Dawn's name to cancer research. The other half will go to the Sidney Food Bank as is the NOSA custom.

If you are unable to attend the NOSA Christmas party Dec 10th but would like to donate to cancer research in Dawn's name or to the Sidney Food Bank, please forward your cheque, made out to NOSA, to Treasurer Sharon Sundher with a note specifying where you would like the money to go.

Thinking of Dawn – by Karen Blair

When I look back and think of Dawn, I am reminded of a gem. There were many facets to Dawn's personality. Some I knew, some I didn't. I believe each of her friends knew a different side of Dawn. Dawn was colorful in more than just her choice of clothing colors. She had a great range of friends and experiences, so always had many great stories to tell. These she delivered with that great smile of hers.

There was depth to Dawn. We spent many a Tuesday morning philosophizing about life, with all of its ups and downs, while we groomed dogs. She in her shop and I at home. We yakked about many other things. Some days we were amazed at how we had digressed from our original topic.

Dawn had great strength. Without it, she would not have been able to fight her long and hard battle with cancer. She was valiant in her struggles. She was not without her flaws. Some of her flaws were also her strengths. Stubborn comes to mind. She would not quit or give in.

Dawn's family was very important to her. She loved to plan and prepare for all of the holiday and birthday celebrations. It was the rare occasion when she wasn't in charge of the family gatherings. Everything had to be just right. She was a great entertainer.

Having had a handicapped brother, Dawn had a special place in her heart for those who were less fortunate. She was always so proud of NOSA and its members for the generosity they showed at our Christmas auction. The proceeds went to the Sidney Food Bank. Whenever Dawn bid on something she considered it as her donation to a great cause. There were times that she wondered what she was going to do with what she bought. Sometimes it was re-donated the next year and brought in more money. I remember the year that we were bidding against each other on some silver stuffing spoons. She was determined to have them. I believe we drove the price up to \$35.00. She won.

Dawn was a great friend to and we miss her dearly.

Find us on the web at www.nosa.ca

NOSA “The Past 50 Years” TRIVIA QUIZ

(data valid through the end of 2004)

1. How many club legs have been earned under NOSA in the last 50 years?
2. How many club titles have been earned under NOSA in the past 50 years?
3. How many different breeds have earned club legs through NOSA?
4. How many breeds have earned club CD titles through NOSA ?
5. How many breeds have earned club CDX titles through NOSA ?
6. How many breeds have earned club UD titles through NOSA?
7. Which NOSA members earned the 1st & 2nd club CD titles?
8. Which NOSA members earned the 1st & 2nd club CDX titles?
9. Which NOSA members earned the 1st & 2nd club UD titles?
10. Which NOSA members completed their club CD, CDX & UD titles the quickest?
11. What breed has earned the most club legs through NOSA?
12. Which 2 NOSA members earned the highest scores at a club trial?
13. What are the highest scores earned by NOSA members in Utility?
14. What are the highest scores earned by NOSA members in Open?
15. Which 2 NOSA members earned legs on the MOST number of dogs?
16. Which NOSA members earned the most club legs?
17. Since 1974 (past 30 years) how many ‘High In Class’ awards have been earned by NOSA members?
18. Since 1974 (past 30 years) how many ‘High In Trial’ awards have been earned by NOSA members?
19. Since 1974 (past 30 years), which NOSA members earned the greatest number of ‘High In Trials’?
20. Since 1974 (past 30 years), which NOSA members earned the greatest number of ‘High In Classes’?

Answers can be found on page 5



NOSA Quiz Answers

1. 1,348
2. 381 club titles (295 CDs; 65 CDXs; 21 UDs)
3. 71 breeds have earned club legs through NOSA
4. 52 breeds have earned club CDs.
5. 20 breeds have earned club CDXs.
6. 12 breeds have earned club UDs.
7. The 1st CD was earned by Major Smart & 'Della', a Standard Poodle in 1959.
The 2nd CD was earned by J.C. Anderson & "Corrie", a Kerry Blue, in 1961.
8. 1st CDX title was earned by Cdr. Craven with 'Betsey', a Lab, in 1963.
2nd CDX title was earned by Susan Thuillier with 'Fay', a Sheltie, in 1965.
9. The 1st UD was earned by Jane Schmidt & 'Angus' (Black Lab) in 1981.
2nd UD was earned by Nona Butts & 'Taunya' (Springer Spaniel) in 1983.
10. Marjorie Shanks & 'Chase' (German Shepherd) were quickest, taking 10 months (2002/03).
Jane Schmidt & 'China' (Black Lab) were the 2nd fastest, taking 12 months (1983/84).
11. 146 legs were earned by 40 Shetland Sheepdogs.
107 legs were earned by 28 German Shepherd Dogs
12. Miss Delbouck earned a 199.0 in Novice with her Sheltie 'Bonnie' in 1966.
- Lorne Landry earned a 199.0 in Novice with his Sheltie 'Dusty' in 1975. Lorne also earned a perfect 200 score with 'Dusty' at a CKC trial in Novice.
13. 197.0 by Jim Cumming & Penny, a Golden, in 1988.
196.0 by Carol Rae & HiTech, a Sheltie, in 1996.
14. 198.0 by Marjorie Shanks & Chase (German Shepherd) in 2002.
197.5 by Lorne Landry & Dusty (Sheltie) in 1975.
15. Karen Rae earned legs on 9 Siberian Huskies.
Nona Butts earned legs on 9 Springer Spaniels (under NOSA).
16. Nona Butts earned 41 club legs on 9 dogs under NOSA.
2nd is Marilyn Clayton with 33 club legs on 6 dogs.
17. 226
18. 74 club HIT's were earned by 41 members on 50 dogs (20 from Nov. A; 29 from Nov. B; 6 from Open A; 11 from Open B; and 8 from Utility).
19. Jane Schmidt earned 10 HITs with her black Labs 'Angus' and 'China'.
2nd were Lorne Landry with his Sheltie 'Dusty' and Martha McHardy with her Border Collies 'Kelly' and 'Rogue' both Lorne & Martha earning 4 HITs each.
20. Jane Schmidt earned 15 HIC's with her black Labs 'Angus' and 'China'.
2nd is Jim Cumming with 13 HIC with his Golden 'Penny', 'Haley', 'Honey' & 'Lilah'.

OTHER TITLES EARNED BY NOSA MEMBERS

NOSA Members compete in many different canine disciplines. Some of the titles earned this past year include:

AKC Rally Obedience:

RN Alison Gunn & Forest (Weimeraner) July 17
RN Alison Gunn & Cristal (Weimeraner) July 18
RN Di Wilman & Gracie—(Newfoundland) Sept 24
RN Angela James and Sophie (Lab) March
RA Angela James & Sophie (Lab) September
RE Angela James & Sophie (Lab) Nov 6

CKC/AKC Canine Good Neighbour/Citizen Titles:

CGC - Marilyn Clayton & Zephyr (Smooth Collie) – July 3
 – Mt. Vernon, WA

NADAC - North American Dog Agility Council:

Marilyn Clayton & Zephyr (Smooth Collie) – Feb. 19
TG-N (Touch & Go Novice)

Liz Hayes and Stitch (Min. Poodle):

NAC - Novice Agility Certificate
NGC - Novice Gamblers Certificate
NJC - Novice Jumpers Certificate
TN-N - Novice Tunnelers Certificate
OAC - Open Agility Certificate

AAC - Agility Association of Canada:

Liz Hayes and Stitch (Min. Poodle):

AADC - Advanced Agility Dog of Canada - May 05
MJDC - Masters Jumpers Dog of Canada - Aug 05
MADC - Masters Agility Dog of Canada - Sept 05

CKC OBEDIENCE TRIALS

Are you thinking of trialing this year? Here are the currently listed CKC trial dates for Vancouver Island.

- April 16, 2006 Island Pacific Lab Club
 April 22, 2006 NOSA
 May 6, 2006 Greater Victoria Kennel Club

For more info see www.ckc.ca

AIOC TRIALS

NOSA is also a member of the Association of Island Obedience Clubs (AIOC) – an alliance of 15 dog obedience clubs on Vancouver Island, from Victoria to Campbell River.

NOSA hosts three AIOC, or club, trials a year – in March, April and October. These trials are held in conjunction with two other area clubs. The trials give competitors the opportunity to earn 2 passes in a single day.

Some of the 2006 AIOC trial dates are:

- March 5 AIOC Team Challenge
 March 11 GVIC/NOSA
 March 26 FPO & TC
 April 2 IPLRC/CLDT/NKC Correction
 April 23 Tyee Sanction
 April 29 NOSA/GVIC

Other CKC Titles Earned by NOSA Members

CKC Agility

- AgN - Rod Deacon & Maggie (Flat-Coated Retriever) May 13
 AgN - Liz Hayes & Stitch (Min. Poodle) – May 14
 AgN - Marilyn Clayton & Zephyr (Smooth Collie) – May 14
 AgI - Rod Deacon & Maggie (Flat-Coated Retriever) – July 23
 AgI - Helen Moulden & Dante (Briard) - May 15

CKC: Conformation

- Ch - Helen Moulden & Dante (Briard) – Oct. 29
 Ch - Sandi Lovas & Lola (Rangorgia's Predominant Fantasy RNCL, CD,HIC) - (Bouvier des Flandres) - Oct. 16

NOSA - CKC Titles

Companion Dog (CD)
 Sandi Lovas & Lola - Bouvier

Alison Gunn & Crytal (Can/Int'l Ch. Minalt Porsche NRD FDJ) - Weimeraner

Utility Dog (UD)
 Karen Blair & Tanner - Am. Cocker -

NOSA AIOC High Scores in 2005

Novice A
 Sandi Lovas & Lola 185

Novice B
 Annette Braun & Abbey 179

Utility
 Karen Blair & Tanner 188.5

Retriever/Field Titles

WCI - Rod Deacon & Maggie (Flat-Coat)

JH -- Rod Deacon & Maggie (Flat-Coat)

Draft Titles

DD - Marilyn Clayton & Zephyr – 1st Smooth Collie to earn DD – October 1

Other Titles &/or Certificates

VC (Versatility Companion) – Marilyn Clayton & Zephyr (Smooth Collie) – June 26 –Am Working Collie Assoc

Herding Titles

HIC: Herding Instinct Certificate

- Gloria Graham & Pearl (Cardigan Welsh Corgi) June 18
 Gloria Graham & Cleo (Cardigan Welsh Corgi) June 18
 Sandi Lovas & Lola (Bouvier des Flandres) Sept 18

If you and your dog earned titles this past year, let us know and we will include it in the NOSA newsletter.

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TRAINER'S TIPS—by Liz Hayes

Clicker training is a science based way to communicate with your pet. You can clicker train any kind of animal, of any age. There is a very famous clicker camp every year using only chickens.

Start by “priming” your clicker. Take 10 treats (very small, soft & tasty) and sit by your dog and click & treat. Do not ask for any behavior, this simply lets your dog know that the “click” means a treat will follow.

Click during the desired behavior, not after the behavior is completed. The timing of the click is crucial. Don't worry if the dog stops the behavior when it hears the click. The click ends the behavior. The timing of the treat is not critical. The dog must receive a treat for each click, even if you make a mistake and click at the wrong time.

Click only once! If you want to express special enthusiasm, increase the number of treats (jackpot) - not the number of clicks.

Novice clicker trainers often feel a need to click and treat at the same time. This makes the dog more interested in the hand with the treat, rather than hearing or thinking about the click. Click, pause and then give the treat. Or, have your treats in a small dish on the counter or chair, click, then give a treat from the dish to the dog.

You may coax or lure the dog into a movement or position, but don't push, pull, or hold your dog. Try not to lure more than 3 times in a row. Let the dog discover how to do the behavior on

its own.

Don't wait for perfect behavior. Click and treat for small movements in the right direction. As my instructor (Kim Collins) would say “ be a splitter not a lumper”!! Break each behavior down into small workable pieces for your dog. Train each piece to perfection before you go on to the next piece. Do not name the behavior until you are absolutely thrilled with the final performance of the behavior. “Naming and rewarding mediocrity gets you mediocrity in your final behaviors.”

When your dog has learned to do something for clicks, it will begin offering you the behavior, trying to get you to click. Now is the time to begin offering a cue, such as a word or hand signal. Start clicking that behavior if it happens during or after the cue. Start ignoring that behavior when the cue wasn't given.

If your dog does not respond to the cue, it is not disobeying, it just hasn't learned the cue completely. Back up a little, or perhaps try a quieter, less distracting environment.

Keep raising your goal. As soon as you have a good response – start asking for more. Wait a few beats, until the dog stays down a little longer, sits a little faster, holds the dumbbell a little longer, etc. – then click. This is called “shaping” a behavior.

Keep practice sessions short. More is learned in 3 sessions of 5 minutes each, than in 15 minutes of boring repetition. Leave the dog wanting to

do more.

If you are not making progress with a particular behavior, you are probably clicking too late. Accurate timing is critical. Get someone to watch you, or even to click for you.

Carry a clicker with you and “catch” cute behaviors like cocking the head, or holding up one foot. You can click for many different behaviors without confusing your dog.

If you get frustrated or angry, put the clicker away. Clicker training is fun and rewarding to the dog, scolding or leash jerking will confuse the dog and make him lose confidence in the clicker and you.

Pat Miller's six steps for teaching a new behavior:*

- 1 - Get the behavior
- 2 - Mark the behavior (with a click)
- 3 - Reward the behavior (with a treat)
- 4 - Repeat the behavior (until it happens easily at least 90% of the time)
- 5 - Add the verbal cue (As the dog does the behavior, to associate the word with the appropriate response)
- 6 - Use the verbal cue to elicit the behavior

Excerpts taken from:

- *Pat Miller: The Power of Positive Dog Training
- ** Kim Collins, Pawsitive Steps Canine Sports

Tuna Brownies

Mix together with fork:

1 can tuna (juice & all)

1 egg

1 tbsp minced garlic (real - optional)

1 cup flour

(you can use rice or corn flour if your dog is allergic to wheat)

Bake 250 oven for 30 (+ or -) minutes

- barely cook them - don't let them dry out

I make a batch of 3 recipes - then it fills one cookie sheet

I also use flaked tuna - comes on sale regularly

I roll it out in the cookie sheet (sprinkle lightly with flour if needed) and cut it into squares in the sheet before baking, then throw most of it in the freezer. Take out a couple of days worth and keep in fridge. I then cut the squares into little tidbits for training.

They are easy to eat - not crunchy - natural and much cheaper than other bought treats full of preservatives that last for years & years on your shelf - and the dogs love them!!



NOSA EXECUTIVE 2005

President	Bill Blair
Vice-President	Gloria Graham
Secretary	Jeanine Stannard
Treasurer	Sharon Sundher
Training Chair	Irene Copus 656-1938
CKC Trials Chair	Joy Beaulieu
AIOC Trials Chair	Sandi Lovas
AIOC Representative	Marilyn Clayton
Publicity Chair	Lee Pears
Newsletter	Dorothy Liedtke, Rod Deacon, Marilyn Clayton, Jeanine Stannard

THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Train at NOSA at the higher levels (i.e. above Novice Practice)
 Trial at AIOC (Association of Island Obedience Clubs) club trials.
 Vote at Club meetings, hold Executive office, and/or serve on standing
 and/or ad hoc committees.
 7% discount at the *Sidney Feed Barn*.
 10% off all services at *Dog Lovers Pet Grooming*
 Borrow books and obedience video tapes from the NOSA library.
 Receive the *NOSA Newsletter*.
 First opportunity to get into NOSA sponsored seminars.
 Join NOSA's social activities, such as the annual Christmas party, summer
 meeting BBQ, July 1st Parade and BBQ, etc.

Membership cost is \$10. This cost is not included in your class fees.
 Application forms are available from Sharon Sundher.

NOSA LIBRARY

Did you know that NOSA has a library? Here are a few of the titles in the collection. Library books may be signed out by NOSA members from Lee Pears.

GENERAL INTEREST

The Complete Dog Book -- AKC
 The Treasury of Dogs -- Boorer, W. etc.
 The International Encyclopedia of Dogs -- Dangerfield, S. & Howell, E.
 Standards of the Breeds (1975) -- CKC
 The Dog for You -- (2 copies) - Bartos, B.

TRAINING

The Complete Utility Obedience (with Tracking) -- Saunders, B.
 Dogs Self-Trained (Advanced) -- Self, R.T.
 Jumping from A to Z -- Zink, C. + Daniels, J.
 The No-Force Method of Dog Training -- Book One NOVICE -- Brown, B.
 Dogs Self-Trained - A Training Manual -- Self, R.
 A Workbook of Dog Obedience Lesson Plans for Open + Utility -- Carson, J.A., etc.
 The Blanche Saunders Obedience Training Courses -- Novice, Open, Utility (with
 Tracking) -- Saunders, Blanche
 Training Your Dog to Win Obedience Titles -- Morsell, C.
 The Koehler Method of Dog Training -- Koehler, W.
 Tracking Dog (Theory + Methods) -- Johnson, G.R.
 Underdog (Training the Mutt, Mongrel + Mixed Breed at Home)
 -- Siegal, M. + Margolis, M.
 Beyond Basic Dog Training -- Bauman, D.L.
 The Persall Guide to Successful Dog Training -- Persall, M.
 Obedience Class Instruction for Dogs (The Trainers Manual) -- Strickland, W.

Find us on the web at www.nosa.ca

Find important dates by: Use one or more filters to search for current entries. Use the date range slide tool to search for older entries or entries in the future. Note that entries for future terms (next summer, fall, winter) are considered tentative; dates and details of future entries will be confirmed over the current fall and early winter. If the date range is not used the default search will be the current academic year. Term. - Any - Fall Summer Winter. *Entries tagged by term were implemented for the 2013-14 academic year. The following important dates and deadlines apply to the entire student population. Consult the calendars below to find out more about their important dates and deadlines.Â There are two Convocation periods each academic year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Topic. Dates. Last day to register for a degree for Spring 2020 Convocation. April 4, 2020.