

THE SCOOPER



IT'S A WRAP

MOC concluded its 2014/15 agility trial season with the March 4 - 8 Agility Trial held at the Tropical Park Equestrian Center. Our exhibitors were treated to some wonderful courses designed by judges Cindy Elliot and Sheyla Gutierrez and to delicious food served by our food vendor, Joshua's Joint.



A Special Thanks goes out to this year's Trial Chairs Carol Clark, Mike Lieb, Patti Lieb and Lynn Proe. The Trial Chairs work countless hours to plan our trials and to keep them running smoothly.

At the March trial, we initiated the practice of having one judge rotating between two rings on the first day of the trial. We will be taking a survey of the exhibitors to see how they liked it.

The March trial was our third trial of the season, following trials on October 16 - 19, 2014 and January 22 - 25, 2015. This was our first full season in our new home in Ring 2 with the new agility trailer and equipment. Over the course of these three trials we have been breaking in the trailer and equipment and getting to know our new ring better.

In addition, MOC provided support to Greater Miami's 2-day December trial in Miami and to OTCPB's 3-day February trial in Fort Pierce. Overall, this has been a very successful trialing season for MOC.

The next stop is Arcadia to support the OTCPB trials in June and August.

OBEDIENCE AND RALLY TRIALS ON THE HORIZON

MOC's annual obedience and rally trials are getting closer. The trials will be held on Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24 in the indoor air conditioned comfort of the Miami-Dade County Fair Expo Center. Entries close on Wednesday, May 6 2015 at 12 PM. This is a great opportunity to test your dog's skills. All MOC Members are encouraged to attend even if you aren't entering your dog.

In addition to the formal trials, there will be C Match run throughs at the trial site on Friday, May 22, from 5 to 8 pm. This is the perfect training opportunity. Registration deadline for the C Match is May 19.

Trial Chair Jill Sidran reports that she has a wonderful group of Members who have volunteered to chair the Trial committees. Cecilia Armesto and Mylene Arza are in charge of the C Match and would welcome any helpers. Trina Chicvara is handling the trophies and toys and could use donations of new toys so that all novice participants can get a toy.



Debra Willey would welcome money donations for class winners. Deborah Russell is the chief ring steward and needs volunteer stewards. Ginny Guin is hosting the judges' breakfasts and lunches and would like any donations, whether purchased or home - made. Janet Perales is putting together an amazing raffle. Raffle donations would be greatly appreciated.

For more information regarding the trials, visit our web site at:

www.miamiobedienceclub.org



SOMETHING YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT....

JANE DAVIDSON

The MOC Holiday gift exchange is an interesting process. People are given the opportunity to steal gifts from one another. The most popular gifts have a tendency of moving around the room from one person to another until they find their final resting spots at the end of the night. Sometimes you go home with the gift you really wanted and sometimes you don't. Jane Davidson has found a way to truly keep the spirit of the Holidays in the Holiday gift exchange. When she ends up with a gift that she doesn't really need, she quietly finds someone else who really does want that gift and she gives it to them, no strings attached. She did this last December. We know this only

because we were the recipient of her generosity. We later found out that she has done the same thing for others at past exchanges. Moreover, the gifts that she freely gave away were very desirable gifts. Jane's acts of kindness serve as an inspiration to us that we will not forget. When we asked Jane for permission to include this in The Scooper, at first she did not remember what she had done. Then she was very reluctant to let us tell others about it. She only agreed when we convinced her that her acts would serve as an inspiration for others. That's the kind of person that Jane Davidson is. Thank you Jane.

MOC's Members come from many different backgrounds. They have a variety of interests and a wealth of experiences. In other words, they are downright interesting. If you are an MOC Member and would like to share something about yourself that is not widely known, or if you know something about another MOC Member that you think ought to be shared, please let The Scooper know by contacting us at mocscooper@aol.com. Don't worry. Nothing will be published in this column without the permission of the person who is being written about.

BEHIND THE SCENES:

We exhibitors have all made that happy journey. After confirming that we earned a new leg or a new Q, perhaps even a new title, the next stop is the awards table to pick up the ribbon. For the beginning handler, every new ribbon is a treasure. For even the most experienced and successful of handlers, there are certain ribbons that won't be passed up. Those ribbons don't grow on trees and lay themselves out on the awards table. They are the responsibility of the Awards Chair.

Trina Chicvara has been an MOC Member since 1994 and has held countless positions over the years. For the past 3 years, she has served as our Awards Chair. Her job as Awards Chair begins long before the trial takes place. She starts with an inventory of ribbons on hand. Then she estimates the number of ribbons that will be needed in the future and places the order for those new ribbons. When the ribbons are delivered and accounted for, Trina organizes them so they will be available to the exhibitors. On the day before the trial, Trina is on hand to set up the awards table. Then, throughout the trial Trina stays at her post at the awards table to make sure that everything goes smoothly. When the trial is over, she packs things away. She then starts the process again for the next trial.

AWARDS CHAIR



In addition to the ribbons, the Awards Chair is responsible for the exhibitors' gifts. Trina maintains a treasure chest of toys, treats and other special finds that are available to trial exhibitors. She goes to great lengths to make sure that exhibitors are provided with quality choices. There is no online ordering for Trina when it comes to these goodies. She shops at a number of different stores throughout the year to make sure that exhibitors are offered the best selection and that MOC gets the best deals. Besides the toys, Trina has found, among other items, top notch treat training bags,
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BEHIND THE SCENES

(continued from page 4)

and those wonderful KONG bones. All the edible treats that Trina buys are made right here in the U.S.

The Awards Chair has yet another responsibility. At its May meeting, MOC awards AKC Title Plaques to eligible Members at a special Awards Banquet. Trina is responsible for all the logistics behind ordering and obtaining the plaques.

When you put it all together, it takes a lot of time and effort to carry out the responsibilities of the Awards Chair. Trina takes her responsibilities very seriously and does so many things that go above and beyond what is required. MOC is very fortunate to have Trina Chicvara as our Awards Chair.

Tally of Ribbons Claimed at March 2015 Agility Trial

Qualifying Ribbons	403
Place Ribbons	260
New Title Ribbons	37
MACH Ribbons	2
PACH Ribbons	1

TITLE PLAQUE DEADLINE IS APRIL 1

The 2015 Annual Awards Banquet and Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 6. The location will be decided at the April Meeting and posted on MOC's web site.

If you wish to apply for an MOC AKC Title Plaque, the application form and the instructions can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Deadline is APRIL 1 which happens to be the date of the April MOC Meeting!

EVIE WAITS FOR HOME COURT TO MACH



Sheyla Gutierrez, Peter Liu, Evie, Cindy Elliot

Peter Liu's dog, Evie, has been close to earning a MACH for a while. She decided to wait until MOC's March trial to get her final two double Q's. She apparently wanted to earn her MACH title on her home turf before a home crowd. Congratulations to Peter and Evie!

MOC GIVES BACK

MOC's Members have approved several charitable donations so far this year, including a recent donation to the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. Our Members, exhibitors and training participants can feel good knowing that a portion of our proceeds is being given back to the community.

WE REMEMBER

RYDER

MACH Shoshannah's Never Say Never Again

2/05/2010 - 02-19-2015



“This is one of my favorite pictures of Ryder. Not because of his MACH, but because it is ‘classic Ryder.’ Ryder loved everyone he met. He was my social butterfly and felt it was his mission in life to make friends with everyone. My gentle ‘old soul’, he was a once in a lifetime dog. Taken from us way too soon, but he will be with us forever.” Patti Lieb



BIRTHDAY WISHES

Happy Birthday to Members born in April:

Nancy Bloom

Debra Willey



MOC Welcomes New Members

Carol Graham

Denise Thompson

MOC RECYCLES

THANKS TO ALL WHO PITCHED IN

During the March Agility Trial three
containers were designated for
RECYCLES.

This picture represents one day's collection!



CRUMBS IN MY POCKET



by Mike Smith

I realized one day that I had crossed a line when I reached into my pockets to get some change and all I could find were dog treats. This wasn't something that happened all of a sudden. I had been noticing dog treats in my pockets in the strangest of places: grocery stores, restaurants, the movie theatre. I had even put dog treats into one of those plastic bins at the airport in order to get through the security line. At first it seemed, well, rather weird. But as time went on it became more and more normal. You see, there were training opportunities popping up all the time for my dog and me. I would be taking my dog for a walk and she would sit when we stopped at the street curb. Time for a treat. I would walk into the house and my dog stopped jumping and licking and actually composed herself. Jackpot. She picked the newspaper up in the morning and brought it into the house. Payola time. We would start an impromptu obedience training session. I didn't want to get caught short. On and on and on. You get the picture. I simply got into the habit of continuously reloading my supply of treats.

This wasn't without its complications. When I took my pants off at night I sometimes spilled treats onto the floor. My dog enjoyed this but my spouse did not. New house rules were imposed concerning the proper method for emptying the crumbs in my pockets before committing my pants to the washing machine. Like my dog, it took me a while before I was sufficiently trained. My training did not necessarily involve positive reinforcement!

In any event, I have reached the point where I always have dog treats in my pockets. With those dog treats come crumbs. So it goes. There are now literally three times when my pockets are empty. When I go through airport security. When I go into the ring. And when my pants go into the wash. Actually, now that I think about it, when I go through airport security and into the ring there are still crumbs in my pockets. Please don't tell Homeland Security or the trial judges. And every once in a while there may still be crumbs in my pocket when they go into the wash. Please, please, please don't tell my spouse!

MOC MEETING

The next MOC Meeting is on Wednesday, April 1 at 7:30 pm at Denny's Restaurant, 8503 SW 40 Street (Bird Road) in Miami.

Stop by if you haven't been to a meeting for a while. There is always something of interest.

A WORD ABOUT THE SCOOPER

Thanks to Phil Sidran for making certain photographs available for use. Thanks also to those who have provided support and words of encouragement. You know who you are.

The Scooper is back in town after a lengthy vacation. Yes, things have changed. Please feel free to contact The Scooper with any comments or suggestions. If you have anything that you would like to include in a future edition, please let The Scooper know. You need not do the writing yourself. Just send in the information and The Scooper will take it from there.

The Scooper can be reached by e-mail at mocscoper@aol.com

Please include your name and contact information.

Thank you for reading The Scooper.

Miami Obedience Club, Inc.
Application for MOC's AKC Title Plaque

To be presented at the 2015 Annual Awards Banquet

MAY 6, 2015

(Note: one form per dog. If you wish to apply on behalf of more than one dog, please copy this application and send materials in separate envelopes.)

HURRY! Deadline is Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at the MOC Monthly Membership Meeting

Owner's Name: _____

Owner's Address:

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Owner's Phone Number: _____

Dog's Call Name: _____

Dog's Registered Name: _____

Title(s) earned during calendar year 2014 with date each title was officially recorded. (Do not include CGC title)

Title: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Is this a new plaque? Yes ___ No ___

(If No, please remember to return current plaque to Trina before the deadline for engraving)

Owner's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Return application PLUS copies of AKC title certificates and existing plaque (if applicable) either person or mail to :

Trina Chicvara

MOC Annual Awards Banquet Chairperson

15290 SW 104 St. #418

MIAMI, FL 33196

Send it Now! **Deadline in APRIL 1, 2015.** Verification and engraving take time. No extensions can be allowed. Plaques are for AKC titles ONLY. Plaque recipients **MUST be members in good standing and MUST have attended a minimum of FOUR membership meetings during the year.**