

VOL. 76 NO. 51

JACKSON OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB NEWS

NEW 2026 JOTC OFFICERS

President: June Atwood

Vice President: Donna Webb

Secretary: Hannah Freeman

Treasurer: Frances Shaw

Board of Directors: Jamie Dowd,
Therese Hanna & Kaelin Saul

Newsletter: Jamie Dowd & Donna Webb

Training Directors: Jamie Dowd &
Donna Webb

JOTC Newsletter is electronically published monthly by JOTC via member emails. Content of articles submitted by individuals and published in the JOTC Newsletter may not reflect the views of all members of the Jackson Obedience Training Club.

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 *July 2026* 

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Why Dogs are Afraid of Fireworks

Things I Learned When I Was Stranded in
Chattanooga

JOTC Fall Class Flyer **(PLEASE SHARE)**

Brags; Star-Spangled Scurry; Dog-Gone Funny

JOTC Members Invited to National Competitions

June 2026 Update to Clubs & Calendar of Events

Club Members



**RAFFLE ITEMS
NEEDED**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



- **Friday Morning July 10th** - SET UP for our "BIG" show! If you can come, COME! We need all the help we can get with set up and **CLEAN UP SUNDAY!!!**
- **July 11 & 12, 2026** SHOW at Wahabi Temple on I-55 South will be our JOTC Obedience & Rally Trial!
- **SEE ARTICLE ENCLOSED FOR VOLUNTEER DETAILS!**

JOTC Monthly Meeting - Mon., July 13, 6:30 PM via Zoom



June 2026 General Meeting Minutes for JOTC

Meeting Type: Zoom

Meeting Date: June 8, 2026

Members in Attendance: Angel Casaus, Frances Shaw, Donna Webb, June Atwood, Hanna Freeman, Nancye McCowan, Zanna Benedetti, Jamie Dowd, Keith Dowd, Therese Hanna

Visitors: JC Terry (invited by Keith and Jamie Dowd)

Minutes from Last Meeting

- Hanna sent the meeting minutes from last month out to all members.

Report of the President

- June reviewed the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Report of the Secretary

- It's all in the minutes. Let me know if there need to be any changes.
- Jamie proposed a correction, stating that Becki Hart offered to be on the committee.?? Angel made the official motion for the correction, Keith seconded, and all approved.



Report of the Treasurer

- A Treasurer's report is on file with the Secretary.
- Overview:
 - Primary income is from the July trial entries
 - Primary Expenses: AKC fees for the October fun day, judges' expenses for the July show, and the trailer tag.
 - Therese moved to accept the treasurer's report; Nancye seconded, and all approved.

Committee Reports

- **Training Director:**
 - Star Puppy and Advanced Obedience class lesson plans will be updated over the summer. The main goal is to make the homework sheets more exciting and confirm that everyone agrees on the curriculum.
 - **September start date for classes: Tuesday, September 29 at Old Trace Park and Thursday, October 1 in Byram.**
 - It was discussed that Old Trace Park is really dark. Keith is going to make a call to a connection to see about getting more light.
 - Keith also mentioned that JOTC should reach out to local news outlets to advertise the Fast Cat and classes. Someone needs to follow up and reach out.
 - Hanna offered to hand out flyers at the local vet offices, animal shelters, and Angel's shop for both the Fast Cat and Fall classes. Jamie will create flyers for us this week. (Angel has to pick a Fast Cat theme first)
 - Therese Hanna mentioned we need to update the class information on the website, specifically the locations for each class. Frances said she will update it.
- **Show/Trials Committee:**
 - **July Trial Update:**
 - Entries are about even with last year's right now. Frances is hoping we will get a surge of last-minute entries to exceed last year. Entries are open for two more weeks.
 - We still have some big expenses for this trial, including the venue rental and AKC recording fees.
 - **Set-up is Friday, July 10, 2026, at 8:30 am. Match is offered Friday and Saturday nights. The show starts at 8:00 am on Saturday and Sunday.**
 - Angel will be posting on Facebook and trying to get the word out.
 - Frances will try to go see the new lights and hopefully get a picture or two to use to advertise on social media.
 - Fall Fast CAT Dates September 18-20, 2026
 - **Setup will be Thursday, September 17, 2026, around noon. Let June or Frances know if you can be there. .**

- We need all hands on deck as Angel and her crew will not be there to volunteer this time. Please email June if you're willing to volunteer.
- Potential Scentwork Trial.
 - See May's meeting minutes. Those who volunteered to help get a trial going will be contacted after the July show.
- Chief Steward:
 - July Trial Update: (June gave as Kaelin was out of town)
 - Volunteers for July Show:
 - Set Up on Friday, July 10, 2026, at 8:30 am:
 - Jo Beth, Doreen, Therese Hanna, June Atwood, Hanna Freeman, Donna Webb, Angel C., Frances Shaw, Nancye McCowan, Tim McCowan, and Jamie Dowd have offered to help set up.
 - Rally Stewards:
 - Diane Emfinger for Table
 - June/Hanna alternating between timing and gate
 - Donna for courses
 - Maria as an alternate
 - Obedience Stewards:
 - Utility: Diane Covington, Therese Hanna, and Becki Hart
 - Open Obedience: June has sent out a few emails, but we are still looking for help.
 - Volunteers who are not showing need to email Frances if they'd like to order lunch.
 - Volunteers also get free match time. Once you sign up to volunteer and are confirmed, you can email Frances to sign up.
 - Hospitality:
 - Doreen has offered to do it, but we do need someone to bring doughnuts on Sunday morning.
 - Matches
 - JB and Donna will work match Friday
 - Hanna and Kaelin will work match on Saturday.
- Social Chair:
 - No new business.

Old Business

- Hanna is confirming updates for the membership and emailing list. Please let her know if you need something updated.
- The scent work trial will be revisited after the July show.
- Farm Dog and ATT Event October 24 - 25, 2026:
 - We will schedule a day for everyone to come out and help set up for the trial.
 - We will host a fit dog walk at the event, run on the honor system.
 - Kimberly Poe with BARK is supposed to be getting her ATT, Fetch, and Farm Dog judging license so that she can assist with judging.

New Business

- None except trial updates.

Brags/Announcements

- Good luck to Angel and Kaelin at Rally Nationals in July!
- Keep Trisha and Dave Qualls in your thoughts as Dave is recovering from his procedure.

Adjournment

- June motioned to adjourn, Donna seconded, and all approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm



Upcoming JOTC July Trial at the Wahabi Temple in Jackson, MS July 11-12, 2026

Set up on Friday— As many people as possible. If you know of any guys that can do heavy lifting we need at least 3 for Friday morning about 8:30 to 12 noon, we pay well for the muscle! There is also plenty to do for us light weights too.

Matches on Friday and Saturday after the trial— These are covered as seen in minutes! Duties include: Calling people when their time is coming up, and running the timer for each teams time in the ring. Exhibitors know the drill so they are usually waiting for their time. Friday match will run from 1:00 pm until about 6:00 pm. Saturday match will run from about 4:00 pm until about 9:00 pm.

Ring Stewards—If you're willing to help or fill in as needed, please let June know ASAP at VersatilityRanch@aol.com! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED. Duties include: checking in exhibitors, assisting the judges, changing the jump height as needed, We need at least 3 people per ring each day. Let June know if you can work and when (ie 1 day, both days, etc). Working the rings is the best way to learn what is involved in each level of Obedience and Rally, and you get to meet lots of new people and see some really great dogs!

Hospitality Person is Doreen Hacker— Duties include, keeping the hospitality table stocked and looking presentable, keeping drinks in the ice chest. If you could pick up donuts or any item for the table area, please let Doreen know at doreentobiashacker@gmail.com!

Raffle Items NEEDED— Brenda Harrower is heading up the raffle. Big items get the most tickets, consider going together with someone for a bigger item. All items are appreciated. We need baskets of goodies, would like to concentrate on doggy things, like leashes, bowls, toys, crates, fans, cooling wraps, chairs, shampoo and rinses, beds, brushes, combs, treats, books, hats for doggy parents, gloves for the winter shows, goodies for them too. just think of what it is that you pack up and similar would be fantastic. Doesn't have to be new just something you'd like to win too!

Those leather collars were all really popular last year. We also need someone to help at the Raffle table. Please let Brenda know if you are donating items for the raffle at brharrower@hotmail.com.

Remember, the Raffle is pure profit for the club, so the more we donate, the more opportunities we have to sell and make money!

Trophies— JOTC gives cash prizes for the "big" winners of Highest Scoring Dogs. Please consider contributing cash to the club to help cover this \$580 expense. **You can donate via PayPal at payments@jotc.org, Venmo at 16072607368, or Cash App at 6012607368.**

Reminders: If you are showing, you can also, do any of the jobs listed above, someone will cover for you while you get ready and are in the ring. Club members who work the show get free match time. If you are working and enter online, do not enter the match online (unless you want to pay), **just send Frances an email of what time you want at shawfrances@bellsouth.net.**

Emergency Preparedness

printed with permission via email from Dr. Marty Goldstein

What I'm sharing today can be tough to talk about... That said, I hope this information will help you feel even more empowered and confident as your dog's caregiver. See, June was Pet Preparedness Month. AKA, a dedicated time to build (or re-hash) a plan for you and your pup during an emergency. So today, I'm re-sharing my 5 essential evacuation steps. That way, you can have a plan... feel ready for anything... and keep your dog as safe as possible.

Evacuation Step #1: Arrange pet-friendly lodging in advance

If something happens to your home, you and your pup will need a soft place to land. I recommend you create a lodging plan now — so you know where to go when the time comes. Check with friends and family to see if they can host you and your pup in an emergency. You can also research pet-friendly hotels and emergency shelters in your area. Remember — the more options you have, the better.

Evacuation Step #2: Display an “animals inside” sticker

If something happens and you're unable to reach your dog before evacuating — It's essential first responders know how many pets you have in the house. Place a visible “animals inside” sticker on your front door or window so first responders know to look for your pup. Be sure your sticker signals the total number and type(s) of pets you have.

Evacuation Step #3: Make sure your dog has proper ID

If you and your dog are separated during an emergency, it's crucial they have proper identification. I recommend your pup wear a collar with an ID tag, with your name and phone number clearly visible. Additionally, if your dog has a microchip, you'll want to make sure your contact info is up-to-date. Reach out to your microchip company before an emergency arises to make any updates. Note: If you plan to leave your dog's collar on when you're not around, be sure to use a breakaway collar that's designed to release easily. This can help prevent potential injury if your pup gets caught on something.

Evacuation Step #4: Prep your emergency kit

Keeping your emergency essentials all in one place can help you (and your pup) make a super quick getaway. Now, you might already have an emergency bag for yourself...But I strongly suggest you put together a small “go bag” for your dog as well. I recommend including the following essentials:

- > At least 5 days' worth of your dog's food
- > Fresh water and a travel bowl
- > A dog first-aid kit
- > Poop bags
- > Any walking supplies (I recommend dog shoes and a hands-free harness you can clip to your belt. You may need to use both your hands, and the ground may not be safe for your pup to walk on without protection.)
- > Any medications your dog takes
- > A copy of your pup's medical records
- > A comfort item that smells like home (e.g., a used toy or blanket)

Your pup's emergency bag should be tailored to their needs — So feel free to add anything else you think is important.

Evacuation Step #5: Teach your pup the plan!

Your pup trusts you...Which is why teaching your dog the plan can help them become an evacuation pro. So once you identify your evacuation route and put together your pup's “go bag” — Put your evacuation plan to the test! Grab your bag, leash up your pup, and rush out the door. There's a good chance the first time you do this, your dog will wonder, “what the heck is going on?” But the more “evacuation drills” you run, the more used to it they'll become. Which is why teaching your dog the plan can help keep you both calm in an actual emergency. Again, I hope you never need to use these tips. But I am confident this can give you the tools you need to help keep your pup safe...

Even in the toughest situations. ❤️

To you and your best friend,

Dr. Marty





AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

AKC ANNOUNCES CASES OF NEW WORLD SCREWORM

<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/emerging-issue-new-world-screwworm-impacts-on-health-interstate-travel-with-dogs-2/>

Updated: Wednesday, June 24, 2026

In early June 2026, cases of New World Screwworm (NWS, hereinafter screwworm) have been detected in southwest Texas and New Mexico. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and state departments of agriculture and health officials are working together to address the issue.

The American Kennel Club (AKC) recommends that all dog owners, or anyone who works with dogs, to learn about NWS and to stay updated on developments. Additionally, anyone potentially engaging in interstate transportation with dogs—owners, AKC event competitors, professional handlers, and interstate transporters, including those that are part of shelter and rescue operations—should become familiar with new health and animal movement requirements imposed to help prevent further spread of the pest.

About New World Screwworm

NWS is a parasitic fly whose larvae burrow into the living tissue of warm-blooded animals, typically through an open wound, causing painful wounds, serious infection, and sometimes death. It can affect livestock, wildlife, pets, and occasionally dogs, which may be at risk if they have open wounds or if they come into contact with infested animals or contaminated areas.

NWS was eradicated from the U.S. in 1966. However, 2023 and 2024 NWS detections in Central and North America led to forecasts that NWS would be detected again in the U.S. in 2025. This allowed USDA to invest in tools to address NWS, including expediting the targeted and aerial release of sterile screwworm flies, increased trapping for screwworm flies along the southern U.S. border and just outside of the area where sterile flies would be released, implementing NWS surveillance and management strategies in wildlife, and conducting outreach in local areas.

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) ensures that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe and properly labeled. Meat, fruit, vegetables, or other food sources are safe from screwworm.

2026 NWS Confirmed Cases

[Click here to view Confirmed Detections of New World Screwworm \(by USDA, updated in real time\).](#)

Federal and State Responses to NWS

Federal and state officials are responding to NWS by creating or maintaining 20-km Infested Zones around confirmed detections and imposing quarantines, movement controls, and heightened surveillance in those zones. Go to www.screwworm.gov for additional details on the federal government's response to NWS.

In addition to their regular animal movement requirements, states have created their own NWS-related rules, requirements, and movement restrictions for animals. Anyone who is planning for interstate travel with dogs is strongly urged to review and comply with requirements of their home state, any state they will travel through, and their destination, and for their return trip.

Please note that while every effort has been made to provide current information, laws, regulations, and emergency orders often change. AKC makes no warranties or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information below. Anyone planning for interstate travel with dogs should check official sources or contact the appropriate state agency for the most up-to-date information and requirements.

Steps Dog Owners Can Take to Prevent New World Screwworm Infestation

According to USDA, dog owners should take the following steps to help prevent the spread of NWS: Watch for signs of NWS, including irritated behavior, head shaking, smell of decay, and presence of fly larvae (maggots) in wounds. Seek immediate veterinary intervention if you suspect your dog is experiencing an NWS infestation.

Treat the umbilical cords of newborn animals, and all wounds immediately, with an approved insecticide. Protect dogs from other wound-causing parasites like ticks. Oral and topical flea and tick preventatives containing afoxolaner, lotilaner, or sarolaner actively prevent and treat NWS larval infestations in pets. Make sure pets traveling internationally are inspected for screwworm.

In addition to state-level general interstate dog movement regulations, comply with federal and state animal movement restrictions created to prevent the spread of screwworm (above).

To learn more, read *New World Screwworm: What Dog Owners Need to Know* (AKC Canine Health Foundation).

Future Updates on NWS

AKC will continue to provide updates on NWS cases and public health requirements as new information is released. Bookmark this page at <https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/> for quick access to this information.

For more information, go to www.screwworm.gov; or email AKC Government Relations at doglaw@akc.org.

How To Keep Your Dog Cool

<https://us.eukanuba.com/articles/dog-care/how-to-keep-your-dog-cool>

Exercising and physical recreation are the best ways to bond with your dog. I strongly encourage dog owners to get their dogs moving, because physical activity helps reduce stress, fights obesity and improves behavior problems.

However, when outside temperatures are warmer, you need to be aware of the limitations the heat places on your dog's ability to exercise safely and keep your dog cool.

HEAT STROKE IN DOGS CAN OCCUR QUICKLY: Your dog has many natural ways to avoid overheating, including panting, drinking water, seeking shade and even standing or rolling in a pool of water. However, if you don't pay attention to keeping your dog cool, your dog's innate mechanisms to cope with heat can be undermined when your friend is exercised or confined on a hot day.

Heat stroke can occur within minutes in certain conditions. Heat stress is more prevalent in brachycephalic breeds (or dogs with short noses), dogs that have recently been ill, dogs with underlying health problems or dogs taking certain medications. Obesity is also a predisposing factor for heat stroke.

KEEP YOUR DOG COOL DURING EXERCISE: Dogs that are not acclimated to warmer temperatures or physical exertion are more likely to suffer heat stroke. Environmental acclimatization takes time, so dogs moving to hotter climates need to be closely observed during play and exercise. Dogs starting a new exercise routine during the summer should be given rest periods when needed.

Plan workouts with your dog in the early morning hours or in the late afternoon when temperatures cool down. Bring along plenty of cold water and a collapsible water bowl suited for serving your dog.

In addition to heat stroke, other signs of heat exposure in dogs can include paw pad burns. Although a dog's foot pads are thick and durable, they can become burned and sensitive after being exposed to hot surfaces for a long period of time. Also, dogs with white coats can be prone to sunburn and skin cancers. Monitor your dog for all of these problems associated with heat and sun exposure.

SIGNS INCLUDE:

- * Continuous panting
- * Showing signs of anxiety
- * Whining
- * Pacing
- * Wanting to lie down
- * Slowing down or refusing to participate in an activity

DOG HEAT STROKE MAY FEATURE THE FOLLOWING SIGNS:

- * Depression
- * Staggering
- * Inability to rise and walk
- * Seizures
- * Mental dullness
- * Blindness
- * A bluish tint to gums and tongue
- * Unconsciousness
- * Unresponsiveness to voices

IF YOUR DOG OVERHEATS

If you're concerned that your dog is overheating, try these actions:

- First, get her out of the heat and offer her a drink of cool water.
- Place her in front of a fan, preferably an air conditioner.
- A fast drive with the windows down works if a fan is not available.
- Wet the fur and skin with tepid water to speed cooling.
- Do not use ice-cold water on your dog; this causes vasoconstriction in the skin and actually locks in the heat.

The actual core body temperature in a heat stroke victim does not directly correlate to the overall outcome, but the amount of time the temperature stays elevated does. If you believe your dog is suffering from a heat stroke, take her to a veterinarian immediately. Do not hesitate: Minutes spared could mean a life spared.





Why Are Dogs Scared of Fireworks?

By Purina Pet Expert Team Updated: 1/28/2026

<https://www.purina.com/articles/dog/behavior/understanding-dogs/why-are-dogs-scared-of-fireworks>

While the bright flashes and big booms from fireworks can be fun for people, for dogs they can be disorienting, confusing and even frightening. So, whether it's the Fourth of July, New Year's Eve or any other festive occasion where the loud booms and crackles of fireworks fill the air, it's important to be mindful of any dog scared of loud noises and keep an eye on how they're coping. Here are some of the reasons why dogs are afraid of fireworks and how you can help them cope.

Reasons Dogs Are Scared of Fireworks

- **Fireworks Are Loud** - Dogs have exceptional hearing. If a dog comes running to the sound of a crinkling food wrapper from a different part of the house, you can imagine how sensitive they are to firecrackers. Similar to thunder and lightning the noise that fireworks make is loud and unexpected and puts many dogs on edge.
- **They're Unpredictable** - Most of the time, people are expecting fireworks before they go off. If it's the Fourth of July, many people can't wait to either start lighting them or go to a fireworks show. But dogs have no frame of reference. To them, it's just another day and when the loud noises and flashing lights start, they have no idea what's happening or why. Plus, the loud noises and flashing lights sound and look different every time and come at seemingly random intervals, so dogs can't get used to them.
- **They're Threatening** - The noise and unpredictability of fireworks lead many dogs to perceive them as a threat. This triggers their fight-or-flight response. Your dog may bark at the noises or try to run away and hide. They may also show other signs of anxiety too, like restlessness, panting, pacing or whining.
- **Fireworks Can Make Dogs Feel Trapped** - On some holidays, fireworks are inescapable, depending on where you live. So, if the noises trigger your dog's flight response, they may try to run from the threat. In fact, more dogs run away on the Fourth of July than any other day of the year, but often dogs are indoors and have nowhere to escape the loud booms.

How to Keep Your Dog Safe & Calm

- **Keep Your Dog Inside**: Even if your dog spends most of their time outdoors, bring them inside during fireworks displays. This will prevent them from running away when they feel scared, which can put them in danger.
- **Create a Safe Space**: If your dog is crate-trained, make their crate available, as that's probably already a safe space for them. If not, put him in a bathroom or other small room with music or white noise to help drown out the boom of fireworks. Bringing their bed, blankets and toys into the room might also make them feel more comfortable.
- **Try a Calming Wrap**: Calming wraps, vests and shirts apply light, constant pressure. Many dogs find this soothing and calming.
- **Desensitize**: Try working with your dog well in advance of firework-heavy holidays to desensitize them to fireworks and other loud noises. You can start this process by playing fireworks sounds on a low level while playing with your dog and giving them treats. Over time, slowly increase the sound of the fireworks during these play sessions.
- **Make Sure They're Microchipped and Wearing a Collar**: It's critical to ensure people can identify your dog and contact you if they run off in fear. Getting them microchipped well in advance of such holidays is always a good decision. It's also a good idea to make sure they're wearing their collar and their ID tags are up to date.

Not all dogs are afraid of fireworks, but it's important to remember your dog will take cues from you. If you make a big deal out of them when your dog is otherwise calm, they may eventually develop anxiety about fireworks. So, try to keep your dog calm and remember to remain calm yourself.

When you understand why dogs are scared of fireworks, you can better address your dog's fears and help him stay calm. See our Pet Expertise page for more tips on safety, care and more.



Things I Learned When I was Stranded in Chattanooga

By: Kaelin Saul

My dogs and I traveled to Chattanooga, TN for an AKC Scent Work trial this month. In order to avoid taking an extra day off of work, I opted to travel up on Friday afternoon. Unfortunately, my “Check Engine” light came on about an hour and a half away from Chattanooga. I also forgot about time change so we didn’t check in until about midnight at the Airbnb.

As you all know, entry fees are expensive so I went to the Scent Work trial on Saturday and we received 4 qualifying runs! We were done around 1:30 pm, which allowed me just enough time to get over to the mechanic before they closed at 5 pm. They were able to diagnose the problem, but they wouldn’t be able to order the part until Monday morning! Thus, I was stranded in Chattanooga until at least Monday afternoon.

During my ordeal, I thought about some different tips for traveling to dog competitions to share with you all so that you can be better prepared than me in the future.

EXTRA DOG FOOD

For this trip, I only packed 1 extra bag of dog food per dog. One bag was not enough when you were stranded for an extra 2 days! I ended up having to go to Tractor Supply to pick up a bag of dog food and a bin so it was contained for the trip home.

- Always pack extra dog food for at least 2-3 days more than your expected trip.
- You can also just bring your dog food bin if you have enough space. The bin I bought in Chattanooga will now always be in my truck as a backup.

CLOTHES

The more experienced dog handlers probably already live by this tip, but for the newbies out there, this tip’s for you. I am a perpetual over-packer of clothes by nature so I was actually okay on clothes when we were stranded during this trip.

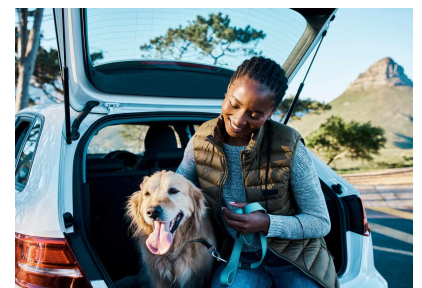
- Pack extra clothes, undergarments, and socks that you can wear if you unexpectedly have to stay a few extra days.
- Make sure you prepare for any conditions, especially if you are going to a show that will be outside. I didn’t bring my rain jacket and it was raining for the entire weekend at another trial. Also, pack shorts and pants because you just never know!

EXTRA SAVINGS

Luckily, I did not have to cover the car repairs. However, it would have been a pricey repair if I had to pay out-of-pocket. We know that dog competitions can be expensive, but try to make sure you have a savings buffer just in case.

- Make sure that you think about your emergency fund before you travel to a dog competition. You never know when you will have car troubles or your dog needs to go to the emergency vet.
- Be prepared if you need to spend a few extra nights in a hotel and pay for extra meals.

It’s also always great to travel with other JOTC friends so they can help you out if you get in a bind, but it might not always be possible. I hope these tips help you to be more proactive in your future travels. Enjoy the ride and spending time with your dog because that is what dog competitions are all about!





JACKSON OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLUB

Good Dogs Start Here!



Building better behaviors one paw at a time!

Classes Offered for 6 weeks each Spring/Fall

- AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy (3-6 months) - T
- Basic Obedience (6 months & up, plus by dog size if able) T/TH
- Advanced/CGC Obedience (requires Basic Obedience first) TH
- Rally (requires Basic Obedience first) T
- Each class is only \$125. There is a discount rate for rescue dog.



Classes Begin
Sept. 29 & Oct. 1,
2026

Class Locations & Times:

- Tuesday - Puppy & Basic Classes are offered at Old Trace Park. Instructors will specify the exact area at the park for class.
- Thursday - Basic & Advanced Classes are offered at Lakeshore Church; 6880 S. Siwell Rd.; Byram, MS 39272.

More Information



Register —>



Unleash your dog's potential!

What to bring:

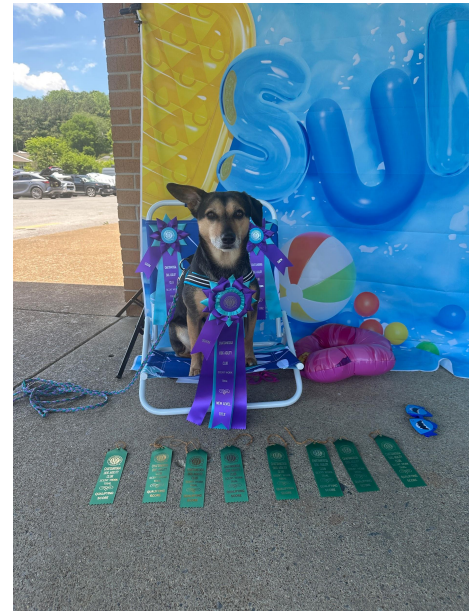
- 6ft. leash
- poo bags
- water & bowl
- soft dog treats
- wear tennis shoes

Come even if your dog cannot!





From Kaelin Saul:
CALLALOO AMORES RN
FCAT CGCA CGCU FITB (Lexi)
had a clean sweep for her
Scent Work trial in
Chattanooga, TN, which meant
she qualified in EVERY run for
ALL 4 elements in 2 trials! Lexi
officially earned her Scent
Work Novice (SWN) title! In
order to receive her SWN
title, we also participated in
Little Rock, AR and Carville,
LA. We will now be working
towards our Novice Elite title
(10 Q's per element).



From Jamie Dowd:

Cedar Ridge's Celestial Finley RN CA FCAT3 SWN
CGC TKN ATT FITB and I just enrolled in NACSW
(National Association of Canine Scent Work) in
June. Before dogs can truly compete, they must
pass the ORT (Odor Recognition Test) which earns
them a ORT title and ability to compete because it
shows they recognize the three scents used in all
competitions: Birch, Anise, and Clove. Finley had
only been introduced to Birch prior to our home
training the week before the ORT in Folsom, LA. If
you've ever seen Finley "search," she LOVES it more
than anything, well maybe not more than me, but
that's Pap love! Anyway, I was nervous but we took
our time and she was quick yet meticulous and
alerted to all three odors at the trial! Each odor
was staged in a test individually housed in an
unknown box. You enter with your dog and the
search begins once you cross a line and your dog
alerts to the odor out of the 12 boxes. You have
two & a half minutes to work your dog through the
search. The judge raved about her technique saying,
"She's a little star, definitely very motivated and
methodical!" No ribbons or points given for the
ORT, but it goes into the NACSW record and we'll
get to move forward to further levels of learning!
Extremely fun and exciting, and proud of my girl!





From Doreen Hacker:

Proud to announce Samy received her first title - FitDog Bronze!
She wasn't really impressed with me screaming of joy about it, she actually complaint AKC didn't send any treats with it 🐕



JOTC is planning to host a STAR-SPANGLED SCURRY 5K! If you are interested please goto the AKC website to learn about the scurry and get your medal (if interested in the bling)! You can always use the mileage toward the FitDog title program! Here is a link that Doreen sent to the club about the SCURRY and possible dates:

<https://forms.gledwnpag8TwxuTuXGXA>

off the mark.com

by Mark Parisi



DOG-GONE FUNNY



JOTC members INVITED TO NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

by Jamie Dowd

JOTC is honored to be represented at National AKC Competitions each year! We consistently strive to not only train the best obedient dogs but handlers and teamwork! It's this mindset that creates teams that consistently make National recognition and success. This year JOTC is proud to announce that Therese Hanna and Abbey; Kaelin Saul and Lexi; and Angel and E. Here are the brief highlights of their stories.

Therese Hanna and Abbey are no stranger to National Competitions. In the last year, Hanna's Iona "Abbey" was invited to and qualified for the following national competitions: National Agility Championship, AKC Agility Invitational, Fast CAT Invitational, and Westminster Master Agility Championship. You could say Abbey is a little professional national competitor! So far this year she has qualified for the Fast CAT Invitational in September 2026, AKC Agility Invitational in December 2026, and National Agility Championship in March 2027.



Abbey at the 2025 AKC Agility Nationals.

Kaelin Saul and CALLALOO AMORES RI FCAT SWN CGCA CGCU FITB (Lexi) are competing in the AKC Rally National Championship. It's amazing to see how far Lexi has come in such a short time but it's no wonder with such a gentle and consistent "pack" leader like Kaelin. These two make a great team and are headed to Rally Nationals July 18-19 in Wilmington, Ohio.

Angel Causus and her dog E are also competing in the AKC Rally National Competition. It seems like just yesterday, I remember Angel bringing E out to train E in Clinton with a bunch of that gather with Rally guru, Donna Webb. I believe it was E's first try and boy oh boy, he was great! It was amazing! It was no surprise to me because Angel is such an amazing trainer and pretty much a dog whisperer if there is such a thing! Anyway, she and E will be headed out to Ohio mid July!

JOTC members, let's be prayerful for the travel of these ladies and supportive of their efforts! We wish you three well and love you so! Go get get 'em, represent us well, and best wishes! 💙🐾



June 2026 Update to Clubs

Reminder – Event Service Fee Adjustment – Effective January 1, 2027 – As previously announced, the event service fee will increase by one dollar per entry for all sport types that currently incur a fee, effective January 1, 2027. Competitions that have not been subject to a fee, such as Junior Showmanship, Sweepstakes, and Obedience Non-Regular classes, will remain fee-free.

Screw Worm - Advise to Exhibitors – Exhibitors planning to travel across state lines with dogs to compete in AKC-sanctioned events are strongly encouraged to carefully check and follow New World Screwworm (NWS) rules for your home state, any states you will pass through, and your destination—and also for your return trip. You can find links to each state's requirements on GR's NWS webpage

(<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/emerging-issue-new-world-screwworm-impacts-on-health-interstate-travel-with-dogs/>)

What will be required depends on your specific situation. Requirements may include getting advance approval, having your dog examined by an accredited veterinarian and documented on a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), and giving parasite treatments. These rules may apply if you are traveling from or through areas with confirmed cases or higher risk—such as infested or surveillance zones, affected counties or neighboring countries, or states trying to prevent NWS from entering.

We would also recommend you check the GR's NWS screw worm alert information page, which is updated daily (or more often as needed).

(<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/emerging-issue-new-world-screwworm-impacts-on-health-interstate-travel-with-dogs-2/>)

UPCOMING EVENTS from JULY 11, 2026 - APRIL 18, 2027

AB=Conformation; AG=Agility; O=Obedience; JSHW=Jr Showmanship; RLY=Rally; BPUP=4-6 month Beg Puppy; SCWK=Scent Work, CABT = Coursing Ability; FCAT = Fast CAT, OPNC = FSS Open Conformation, FETC = Fetch (Within 350 miles of Jackson, MS for conformation)

Foy Trent Dog Shows ~ PO Box C Sturgeon, MO 65284-0397 ~ (573) 687-2101 ~ info@foytrentdogshows.com					
Onofrio Dog Shows ~ PO Box 25764 ~ Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0764 ~ (405) 427-8181 ~ Mail@Onofrio.Com					
Date	Club	Location	Event	Super	Closing
Jul 11 & 12	Jackson Obedience TC	Jackson, MS	O / RLY (2 each day)	Shaw	Jun 24
Frances Shaw 1402 Olivia Ln Terry, MS 39170 ~ (601) 260-7368 ~ shawfrances@bellsouth.net					
July 18 & 19	2026 AKC O & RLY Nationals	Wilmington, OH	Obedience & Rally Opens Apr 23		May 07
July 24 - 26	Longview KC Tyler Obedience TC	Longview, TX	AB/BPUP/JSHW O / RLY (2 each on each day)	Onofrio	Jul 08
Jul 24 - 26	LA Capital City OC	Carencro, LA	AG	Guthans	Jul 10
Nedra Guthans 10115 Tams Dr Baton Rouge, LA 70815-1533 ~ (225) 954-5208 ~ nedrahg@cox.net					
Jul 24 - 26	Murfreesboro OTC	Murfreesboro, TN	O (Sat & Sun) / RLY (2 on Fri only)	Tisdale	Jul 08
Cheryl Tisdale 3850 W. Trimble Road Milton, TN 37118 ~ (615) 653-5523 ~ trialsecretary4motc@gmail.com					
Jul 25 & 26	North Arkansas KC	Harrison, AR	Novice O / RLY (2 each Sat & Sun)	Gibbany	Jul 10
Sherry Gibbany 158 Bland St Cotter, AR 72626-9764 ~ (870) 416-7062 ~ sherrygibbany57@gmail.com					
Aug 07 - 09	Swamp Dog Agility C of GNO	Folsom, LA	O / RLY	Hill	Jul 22
Julie Hill 240 Sandra Lee Dr. Mandeville, LA 70448 ~ (985) 626-3556 ~ prankstr2@bellsouth.net					
Aug 20 - 23	NOLA Barn Hunt Friends	Kenner, LA	Barn Hunt (opens Jul 08)	Arceneu	Aug 08
Ashleigh Arceneaux ~ 985-232-8351 ~ Email: getdatrat@yahoo.com					
Aug 22 & 23	Memphis Kennel Club	Collierville, TN	2 O on Sat / 2 RLY on Sun	Nesbit	Aug 07
Nancy Nesbit 99 East Rd Ecu, MS 38841-8048 ~ (901) 240-7945 ~ nsebitm@bellsouth.net					
Sep 03 - 06	Singing River KC of MS	Mobile, AL	FCAT pending (2 tests per day)	Hill	
Debbie Hill 107 Mosby Ct. Shelbyville, TN 37160 ~ (931) 607-2242 ~ hyhounds@yahoo.com					
Sep 18 - 20	Jackson Obedience TC / BARK	Richland, MS	FCAT (2 each day)	Shaw	day of
Frances Shaw 1402 Olivia Ln Terry, MS 39170 ~ (601) 260-7368 ~ shawfrances@bellsouth.net					
Sep 19 - 20	White County KC Academy	McRae, AR	Barn Hunt (open Aug 07)	Gaffney	Sep 07
Mollie Gaffney ~ 501-658-8949 ~ Email: m_fiegel@hotmail.com					
Sep 25 - 27	LA Capital City OC	Carencro, LA	AG (limited to 330)	Guthans	Nov 20
Nedra Guthans 10115 Tams Dr Baton Rouge, LA 70815-1533 ~ (225) 954-5208 ~ nedrahg@cox.net					
Sep 26 & 27	Murfreesboro OTC	Murfreesboro, TN	SCWK (opens Jul 29) 2 trials per day	Underw	Sep 09
Shay Underwood 3850 W Trimble Rd Milton, TN 37118-4434 ~ (615) 653-5523 ~ trialsecretary4motc@gmail.com					

Date	Club	Location	Event	Super	Closing
Sep 26 & 27	Hot Springs Nat'l Park KC	Hot Springs, AR	AB / BPUP / JSHW / O / RLY	Onofrio	Sep 09
Oct 03 & 04	Memphis Kennel Club	Ecru, MS pended	SCWK (2 each day) (opens Sep 04)	Nesbit	Sep 18
Nancy Nesbit 99 East Rd Ecru, MS 38841 ~~~ nesbitm@bellsouth.net ~~~ 901-240-7945					
Oct 03 & 04	Deep South All Breed OTC	Kenner, LA	O - 2 trials each day pended	Hill	Sep 16
Julie Hill 240 Sandra Lee Dr. Mandeville, LA 70448 ~~~ (985) 626-3556 ~~~ prankstr2@bellsouth.net					
Oct 03 & 04	Southeast Missouri Herding C	McRae, AR	CABT (2 each day)	McGowa	Sep 04
Lisa McGowan PO Box 340 McRae, AZ 72102 ~~~ (501) 281-5214 ~~~ lisamcgowan33@yahoo.com					
Oct 03 & 04	Memphis Kennel Club	Ecru, MS	SCWK pended 2 trials each day	Nesbit	Sep 23
Nancy Nesbit 99 East Road Ecru, MS 38841 ~~~ (901) 240-7945 ~~~ nesbitm@bellsouth.net					
Oct 03 & 04	Five Flags DTC of Pensacola, FL	Pensacola, FL	O / RLY (2 each on Sat) pended	Grinstea	Sep 18
Tami Grinstead 5792 Pebble Ridge Dr Milton, FL 32583-2305 ~~~ (850) 501-5778 ~~~ tsyorkieland@aol.com					
Oct 09 - 11	Mobile Bay Dog TC	Vancleave, MS	AG	Leard	Sep 25
Winona Leard 4300 Hoffman Rd Mobile, AL 36619 ~~~ (251) 604-3100 ~~~ nonaleard@comcast.net					
Oct 17 & 18	Greater Birmingham AC pend	Westover, AL	AG	Crisman	Oct 03
Jennifer Crisman 1073 Rock School Rd Harpersville, AL 35078-4311 ~~~ (205) 233-7294 ~~~ jcrisman01@gmail.com					
Oct 17 & 18	Mid South Fox Terrier Club	Millington, TN	FCAT (2 each day)	Cummi	day of
Krista Cummings 385 Crooked Creek Oakland, TN 38060 ~~~ (901) 301-8111 ~~~ krista.cummings@comcast.net					
Oct 17 & 18	Greater Birmingham Agility	Westover, AL	AG pended	Crisman	Oct 03
Jennifer Crisman 1073 Rock School Rd Harpersville, AL 35078-4311 ~~~ (205) 233-7294 ~~~ jcrisman01@gmail.com					
Oct 22 - 25	Swamp Dog AC of GNO	Covington, LA	AG	Shoop	Oct 08
Rosalind Shoop 20461 Smith Road Covington, LA 70435 ~~~ (985) 201-4978 ~~~ rozyschoop@gmail.com					
Saturday Oct 24	Jackson Obedience TC	Pelehatchie, MS	Farm Dog, Fetch, Temperament Test, CGC, Trick Dog	Shaw	day of
Frances Shaw 1402 Olivia Ln Terry, MS 39170 ~~~ (601) 260-7368 ~~~ shawfrances@bellsouth.net					
Oct 24 & 25	LA Capital City OC	Baton Rouge, LA	SCWK (2 trials per day)	Odom	Oct 15
Polly Odom 10125 Tams Dr Baton Rouge, LA 70815-1533 ~~~ (225) 335-3445 ~~~ podom1@msn.com (Random draw)					
Oct 24 & 25	Montgomery AL DOC	Millbrook, AL	O (2 on Sat & 2 on Sun)	Harless	Oct 07
Beth Harless 6086 Deatsville Hwy Deatsville, AL 36022-5919 ~~~ (334) 354-2535 ~~~ beth.madoc@gmail.com					
Oct 31 - Nov 01	Paw Prints AC of Shreveport	Bossier City, LA	FCAT (2 each day)	Scorzelli	Oct 21
Elizabeth Scorzelli 333 Fontaine St Shreveport, LA 71105 ~~~ (318) 347-9359 ~~~ sawyer422@aol.com					
Oct 31 - Nov 01	Ragtime Ratters	Olive Branch, MS	Barn Hunt (2 each day)	Willis	day of
Kathryn Willis ~~~ 949-463-8112 ~~~ Email: kathrynwillis@gmail.com					
Nov 13 & 15 Nov 14 Nov 14	Tupelo Kennel Club Tupelo KC Memphis Kennel Club pended	Corinth, MS	AB / BPUP / JSHW / OPNC OPNC AB / BPUP / JSHW	Onofrio	Oct 28
Nov 14 & 15	Mobile Bay DTC pended	Vancleave, MS	O / RLY	Clement	Oct 28
Susan Clement 8555 Sterling Dr Mobile, AL 36695-3650 ~~~ (251) 767-7253 ~~~ fsuclem@bellsouth.net					
Nov 20 - 22	Montgomery KC	Wetumpka, AL	CABT / FCAT (2 each Fri - Sun)	Wren	day of
Jenni Wren P.O Box 356 Magnolia Springs, AL 36555 ~~~ (251) 752-1061 ~~~ saltydogscoursing@gmail.com					
Nov 27 - 29	Five Flags DTC of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL	AG pended		Nov 13
Tami Grinstead 5792 Pebble Ridge Drive Milton, FL 32583 ~~~ (850) 501-5778 ~~~ tsyorkieland@aol.com					
Dec 04 - 06	LA Capital City OC	Port Allen, LA	AG (opening Oct 5 / limited to 330)	Guthans	Nov 20
Nedra Guthans 10115 Tams Dr Baton Rouge, LA 70815-1533 ~~~ (225) 954-5208 ~~~ nedrahg@cox.net					
Dec 04 & 05	North Arkansas KC	Harrison, AR	2 O / 2 RLY per day	Gibbany	Nov 20
Sherry Gibbany 158 Bland St Cotter, AR 72626 ~~~ (870) 416-7062 ~~~ sherrygibbany57@gmail.com					
Dec 05 - 06	Paw Prints AG of Shreveport	Greenwood, LA	AG (opens Oct 14 / 350 limit)	Scorzelli	Nov 18
Elizabeth Scorzelli 333 Fontaine St Shreveport, LA 71105-4135 ~~~ (318) 347-9359 ~~~ sawyer422@aol.com					
Dec 28 - 31	Swamp Dog A C of GNO	Covington, LA	AG (opens Oct 12) pended	Shoop	Dec 14
Rosalind Shoop 20461 Smith Road Covington, LA 70435 ~~~ (985) 201-4978 ~~~ rozyschoop@gmail.com					
Dec 26 - 27	White County KC Academy	McRae, AR	Barn Hunt (open Aug 07)	Gaffney	Sep 07
Mollie Gaffney ~~~ 501-658-8949 ~~~ Email: m_fiegel@hotmail.com					
Jan 15 - 17, 2027	Golden Triangle KC of MS	Starkville, MS	AB / BPUP / JSHW pended 2 RLY on Sat / 2 O on Sun	Foy T	Dec 30
Jan 22 - 24, 2027	Mississippi State KC	Jackson, MS	AB / BPUP / JSHW / OPNC / O / RLY (2 rally on Fri / 2 obed on Sat)	Onofrio	Jan 06