

The Scooper

November
2010

Official Publication of the Miami Obedience Club, Inc.



Next MOC Membership Meeting

HOLIDAY PARTY AND GIFT EXCHANGE

December 1st (Wednesday)

<<Party Starts @ 7:00pm >>

Carraba's Italian Grill

5829 SW 73rd Street
South Miami, FL
(305) 661-2426

The Miami Obedience Club, Inc.

Officers:

President: Pat Kopco

Vice President: Linda Greenfield

Recording Secretary: Lynn Proe

Corresponding Secretary: Cori Gacusana

Treasurer: Nancy Atkins

Board of Directors:

Carol Ann Klein, Jackie Kurzban, David Proe,
Trina Chicvara

Training Directors:

Obedience Cecilia Armesto, Carol Ann Klein,
Laurie Zisman

Committees:

Agility Trial: Mike Orloff, Cori Gacusana

Canine Good Citizen: Cori Gacusana

Club Phone Representative: Gina Reed (305) 681-
5246

Education: Jacqueline Kurzban

Library: Trina Chicvara

Membership: Wien Yu

Obedience Trial: Jill Sidran

Sunshine: Debra Willey

Canine Comments

Carol Clark

This month's AKC Syndicate article is about traveling with your dogs. I would like to add some advice that was given to me by the late and great Randy Reed, and that is to have your dog's collar, or at least a tag on him or her with your cell phone number on it. If your dog escapes for some reason, and is found by a stranger, you can be immediately notified. This is good advice any time, not just while traveling, in my opinion.

It just may save the trouble of making and posting hundreds of "lost dog" signs, and hoping the person who finds your dog happens to see your signs.

A great source for personalized collars is Kim McElwee, a fellow agility competitor. Her Website is www.sewtropical.com, and her email is agilehuntlab@yahoo.com.

Carol



Minutes of the General Meeting

November 3, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:44 PM by President Pat Kopco at Denny's Restaurant located at 5825 NW 36th Street, Miami, FL 33166. Cori called roll and brags were shared. **Carol Ann motioned to approve the minutes of the October 2010 meeting as read.**

Mylene seconded. Motion passes.

Committees:

Correspondence- Cori received correspondence concerning the May 2011 obedience and rally trials.

Treasurer – The treasurer reported the current checking account balance. The membership requested that future treasury reports include a beginning balance, all monthly revenue, all monthly expenses and an ending balance.

Obedience Trial – The trials have been approved by the AKC. The trial dates are May 27th, 28th and 29th. There will be a match on Friday evening. Suzanne Ellis has agreed to be the trial secretary. The trials will be dedicated in memory of Randy Reed. Jill reported that due to an AKC rule change, only two judges are required in order to earn a title. Jill requested volunteers to help with the trials.

Agility Trials – Cori presented the agility trial report. There was a profit of \$4,348. Cori thanked the membership for all their help. The trial ran very smoothly.

Obedience Training – Obedience classes are scheduled through to the end of the year. The class schedule has been updated for next year. Utility classes will be scheduled as needed. Instructors scheduled through June 2011.

Agility Training – Advanced agility run-throughs will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:30PM. Active member agility run-throughs continue to be hosted on Wednesday evenings at 7:30PM. All run-throughs have been moved to the boxing center until the end of the Santa's Enchanted Forest attraction. Jackie reported that if there is enough interest in beginning agility training, she will attempt to schedule the first class for February after the agility trials.

CGC – The next test will be scheduled for sometime in January. A CGC test will be scheduled every other month thereafter. The exact dates for testing will be posted on the club web-site.

DACOF- No Report

DOCOF –No Report

Membership – The membership will vote on three new applications, Mike Lieb, Patti Lieb and Sylvia Arrango tonight.

Sunshine – no report

Education – no report

Library – Trina reported that several books are due to be returned. The members in possession of the overdue books have been notified.

Scooper – No report

Web-site – Laurie has added the newly earned titles that she has received from members to the web-site as well as a link to the AKC to view the results from our October agility trials. Laurie requested that the membership continue to send new titles, brags, etc.

Equipment – Keith reported that several new pieces of equipment are needed before our January agility trials such as tunnel holders, a new double wing jump, 5 foot jump bars, more wings and table bases. Cori added that the club's 6 foot wood tables that are currently used in trials for trophies, hospitality, etc are falling apart and should be replaced with plastic tables. Keith will research prices of the equipment and compose a list of items to estimate the expense. The membership was asked to notify Keith of any other items that are needed for the January trials.

Old Business – Nancy priced a 10 foot X10 foot storage space at a facility near to Tropical Park at \$150 a month. The club needs to decide what size space would be appropriate and a list of items that would be stored there. Dave volunteered to research the price of PODS and the competing similar storage services. PODS are climate controlled and would be appropriate as a storage place for the rubber mats. The mats are currently stored in the obedience trailer. The PODS storage and would protect the mats from the intense heat that they are currently exposed to. PODS are delivered upon request to the site and then transported back to the climate controlled facility where they are stored. When the mats are needed, they would be delivered to the trial site. Trina advised the membership that several other storage facilities are located on and near the Bird Road area. Lynn volunteered to compare prices and sizes that are available in the alternate sites. Nancy has not received all of the rabies certificates from the club members. Cecilia asked for opinions from the membership on how she should proceed in informing obedience students to provide rabies certificates. Her questions included whether money would be refunded if a student does not comply after two classes. There was a discussion whether the rules on the back of the training application should be updated with this information or whether an additional form should be created for this purpose. Wien suggested that the white vaccination slip that we currently distribute to each student that enrolls in a class be modified to include instructions to present a copy of their dog's rabies certificate. If the certificate is not provided by the second class, their classes may be forfeited.

(Minutes continued on page 3)

(Minutes continued from page 2)

Vicki suggested an alternate membership meeting location at Havana Miami which has a private dining room. A decision and further discussion regarding having our meetings at Havana Miami will be made at the next club meeting. The club's holiday party will be held on December 1st at Carrabba's Italian Grill located at 5829 SW 73rd St, Miami, FL 33143.

New Business – Vicki read an e-mail that she had written to the board on October 19th concerning how the club's annual election is not following the rules stated in the constitution. Sally withdrew from accepting a nomination for Vice President during the October general meeting and then accepted a nomination for Recording Secretary. Erin withdrew from her nomination for Recording Secretary via letter that she sent to Cori, the club's Corresponding Secretary. The club's constitution states that nominees must notify the Corresponding Secretary regarding their desire to withdraw from the election within ten days of the nomination. **Lucille motioned those who wish to withdraw from their nomination or to change the position that they were nominated for be allowed to do so and that the membership should go forward with election with the understanding that the constitution must be followed in next November's election without further discussion of the current issues at hand. Gina seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passes.** Nancy moved that the membership accept Pat's interpretation of the constitution pertaining to elections and the ballot stands as is. Gina seconded. Discussion followed. Jill made a point of order that a motion to overturn the motion made by Lucille can only be made at this time by someone who voted against Lucille's motion. The motion was determined to be invalid and was not acted upon. **Mylene moved that the club should not go forward with the current election and seek outside non partial assistance. Debbie R. seconded. Motion passes. Jill motioned that the will club hire a parliamentarian to provide analysis on the constitutionality of the procedures in question. Ginny seconded. Motion passes.**

Meeting Adjourned – The motion to adjourn was made at 9:54 PM by Carol Ann. The motion was seconded by Jane.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Proe, Recording Secretary

****MINUTES NOT APPROVED UNTIL NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING****



Minutes of the Board Meeting

November 3, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 PM by acting President Linda Greenfield at Denny's Restaurant located at 5825 NW 36th Street, Miami, FL 33166. In attendance were Carol Ann, Dave, Lynn, Trina, Linda and Jackie.

Linda asked the board if there is any new board business to discuss. Dave addressed the board regarding the issues concerning Carol and that she has followed all of the directives of the board and that she should be reinstated for full training privileges. **Dave motioned that Carol and Boo be reinstated to all training privileges. Discussion followed. Motion passes.** Furthermore the board will not require Carol to use steel crates as there has been no reports presented to the board of soft crates not being adequate for containment of her dogs. Dave also reminded Carol to be proactive and to keep her dog out of trouble.

Jackie reminded the board that there is still a bite on human situation and that Carol should continue to follow the board's directives, be vigilant and proactive to protect her dog from any future incidents to safeguard her dog and the club. The board agreed that the club should review our liability insurance policy.

Carol Ann moved to adjourn the board meeting, Dave seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:14pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Proe, Recording Secretary

Editor's note:

As an attempt to protect the club from a libel situation, it should be noted the above mentioned dog and handler were accused and assumed guilty without trial or constitutional procedure, and does not reflect the opinion of all club members. The following is the conclusion of a thorough assessment by a specialist in dog behavior issues.

"In conclusion Boo is not an aggressive dog. He is a normal, highly functioning, adult male dog with appropriate canine social skills. Any aggressive response is likely due to a specific trigger outside of Boo's control. It is appropriate for any dog, when uncomfortable or fearful, to provide warnings to other dogs who should then immediately take a submissive role to such warning displays. Such ritualized aggressive displays are a normal part of canine social interaction and should not be interpreted as severe behavior problems".



Membership Report



November 2010

New Members

Welcome the following members to MOC!

- Sylvia Arango
- Mike Lieb
- Patti Lieb

Guests

- Marie Rushing

Note from Membership Chair

In order to have correct information of our members, please forward your new address, new phone number, and/or new email address to Wien Yu (wyu@miami.edu) as soon as you know about it. **THANKS!**

Submitted by Wien Yu
MOC Membership Chair



This year's MOC Holiday Party is set for Wednesday, December 1st, 2010 at Carraba's Italian Grill, located at 5829 SW 73rd Street, South Miami.

We will be choosing from the menu:

<http://www.carrabbas.com/restaurant/locations/FL/Miami/South-Miami/>

If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, please bring something you would like to receive, minimum value of \$15, wrapped.

If you have not already done so, please RSVP to Nancy Bloom at nsbloom@bellsouth.net, or (305) 891-8391.

Sunshine Corner

Debbie Willey

Sunshine Chair

Sending sunshine to Gina, who had to say goodbye to her rescue Weim, Gracie. We are thinking of you.



To the membership from our acting president, Linda Greenfield

Monday, November 15, 2010

Dear fellow MOC members:

After an evening of much heated debate, the November General Membership meeting ended with a motion that was passed to suspend the November annual elections while a parliamentarian is consulted on the constitutionality of how two of the withdrawals from the nominations were handled and whether the ballots were valid. As Acting President I have followed up with Julie Palm, a Professional Registered Parliamentarian, who agreed to review our election proceedings and give her written opinion on our situation. I will have the Parliamentarian's opinion for the December General Membership meeting so that the membership can resolve the November 2010 election issue.

Meanwhile, the usual club's activities are proceeding as normal. Monday night obedience classes continue as scheduled. Tuesday and Wednesday night club member agility practices meet. Nancy Bloom is finishing arrangements with Carrabba's Italian Grill for our at the December general membership meeting and holiday dinner on Wednesday, December 1, 2010.

MOC has had a tendency to utilize an informal approach to parliamentary procedure. Informality works well in smaller gatherings with members that employ self control and tact. For larger assemblages, formally following the guidelines of parliamentary rules can help to ensure the democratic rights and duties of all membership while providing an orderly manner for the discussion of controversial matters. Discussion is more purposeful when arguments are presented thoughtfully and opposed civilly at meetings instead of gossiped about in parking lots after the meetings have adjourned. The MOC's Constitution provides that we follow to Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

These are some of the basic rights and duties of membership that I will insist upon at our meetings:

- 1) a member must be recognized by the presiding officer in order to speak from the floor for motions or requests
- 2) a member should stand when speaking from the floor
- 3) a member must yield to calls of order
- 4) a member must be courteous at all times and to expect to be treated courteously
- 5) a member never interrupts another member that has the floor
- 6) a member may bring up matters of club business by offering a motion or request at the appropriate time

The presiding officer can:

- 1) rule members out of order
- 2) choose the order of recognition of members to speak from the floor
- 3) refuse to recognize members who abuse their right to speak
- 4) suggest a motion of recess if a situation appears to be getting out of control
- 5) suggest a motion of eviction of anyone at a meeting that refuses to cooperate (by majority vote)

With the New Year approaching, I ask for all MOC members to commit to the following resolution to be individually accountable and courteous for their own behavior and verbalizations while at club activities. The success of any volunteer organization is based on the mutual support and activity of its membership. By focusing on the highest good of this organization as well as the joys of dog sport training that brought us all together, we can choose to move forward into 2011.

May you have a meaningful Thanksgiving with the people and doggies that you value,

Linda Greenfield, 2010 Vice President/ Current Acting President

Helpful Tips

Have Dog Will Travel: The American Kennel Club Offers Hotel Courtesy Tips for Pet Owners
From weekend excursions to family vacations, more people are traveling with their pets than ever before. As a result, an increasing number of hotels are allowing owners to travel as a pack with their dogs. The American Kennel Club offers the following canine courtesy tips to ensure that you and your pooch will be able to find a home away from home on your next trip.

- Book your reservations at a pet-friendly hotel. Few things are more stressful on a trip than trying to sneak a dog in and out of the hotel.
- Familiarize yourself with the hotel's policies before you arrive. Typically, hotels that require a deposit will refund your money at check-out after a room inspection. Deposits and fees can vary by number or size of the dogs. Some hotels have size restrictions so be sure to ask before you book your room.
- At check-in, ask where you should walk your dog, and make sure you clean up after him. Carry plenty of baggies with you – you don't want to be caught without one! Don't allow male dogs to lift their legs on trash cans or other items on hotel property.
- Dogs should be confined in a crate when you are not in the room. If housekeepers stop by to drop off extra towels or to turn down the bed, they won't be expecting a dog and could potentially allow your pooch to escape. Hang the "Do Not Disturb" sign on your door to ensure that no one enters your room.
- Do not allow your pet on the beds or couches unless they are covered by a blanket. Bring your own blankets and towels – don't use the hotel's supply on your dogs. And remember, hotel bathtubs are for humans only!
- A noisy or destructive dog should not be left unattended in your hotel room. It's common courtesy to keep your pet as quiet as possible and not disturb any of the other guests. Try leaving on the television or radio. Not only are they good "company" for your dog, the noise will also muffle the sounds of people in other rooms or walking down the hallway that may put a barker on the alert.
- Set a good example before leaving, and clean up any stray hair and spritz the room with air freshener. Your actions will reflect positively and help protect the rights of all dog owners.

Additional tips on responsible dog ownership can be found on the AKC Website at www.akc.org.

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Braggs



Congratulations to Mickey DiPerna, MOC's first AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy graduate!

Mickey also participated in the Children's Miracle Network Miami Torch Relay. He walked the entire 3 miles (5K) and raised almost \$300! Way to go, little Mickey!



At the MOC October Agility Trials Hops finished his Novice Jumpers with Weaves title with four 1st placements of perfect scores.
CH Pendragon Guinness NA NAJ



Jackie and Dali at USDAA trial. Dali got his second leg in Standard and Relay P1 with first places! Atta boy, Dali!