

# The Scooper

October  
2011



Official Publication of the Miami Obedience Club, Inc.



## ***The Miami Obedience Club, Inc.***

### **Officers:**

President: Mylene Arza  
Vice President: Linda Greenfield  
Recording Secretary: Jill Sidran  
Corresponding Secretary: Carol Clark  
Treasurer: Nancy Atkins

### **Board of Directors:**

Jackie Kurzban, Trina Chicvara, Wien Yu,  
Keith Staub

### **Training Directors:**

Obedience: Jane Davidson  
Assistants: Laurie Zisman, Jill Sidran, Carol Clark  
Agility: Cori Gacusana

### **Committees:**

Agility Trials: Mike Orloff, Cori Gacusana  
Canine Good Citizen: Cori Gacusana  
Club Phone Rep: Gina Reed (305) 681-5246  
Education: Jacqueline Kurzban  
Library: Trina Chicvara  
Membership: Wien Yu  
Obedience Trial: Jill Sidran  
Sunshine: Debra Willey  
Webmaster: Laurie Zisman

**Scooper Editor:** Carol Clark  
23901 SW 157 Ave, Redland, FL 33031  
E-mail: [Teach2Ride@aol.com](mailto:Teach2Ride@aol.com)



## **Next MOC Membership Meeting**

**November 2nd (Wednesday)**

**<<Meeting Starts @ 7:30pm >>**

**Denny's**

**5825 NW 36 Street  
Miami, FL 33166  
(305) 871-6964**

## **Canine Comments**

***Carol Clark***

As agility season is now in full swing, I want to remind everyone that the easy way to send in entries is through Oaklines.com. Go to Express Entries at the bottom of the page, fill in your info, and remember to update as you earn titles.

Everyone should receive their ballots (for the upcoming election) the week of October 9<sup>th</sup>. If you do not receive yours by Friday, October 14, please email me at [Teach2Ride@aol.com](mailto:Teach2Ride@aol.com) with your current address.

Good luck to everyone competing in our October Agility Trial!

Carol



***Minutes of the General Meeting  
October 5, 2011***

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. at Denny's Restaurant, 5825 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33166 by Vice President Linda Greenfield. Silent roll call sheet was passed around, and brags were shared. Carol Ann motioned, Jane seconded to waive the reading of the September Minutes and accept as written. Motion passed.

**Committees:**

**Correspondence** - Carol reported that the January agility trial was approved by the AKC. Approval was also received for the 4 obedience trials May 26 and 27, 2012.

**Treasurer** – Nancy led discussion about finances. Trina motioned and Nancy 2<sup>nd</sup> to move a fixed amount into the checking account. Motion passed. Sally motioned, Nancy 2<sup>nd</sup> to close the Merrill Lynch account and put the remaining funds into a no penalty CD for a 1 year or less term. Motion passed.

**Obedience Trial -**

**Obedience Training** – Jane gave brief account of the recent meeting and asked members to address the Director with any issues or questions about instructors.

**Agility Trial** – Cori gave report

**Agility Training** – The curriculum for the upcoming class was posted in the Minutes of the September 28, 2011 Trainer's Meeting and mailed to the membership.

**DACOF** – no report

**DOCOF** – no report

**Finance** - Sally motioned, Carol Ann seconded to ask Davie to email financial report to members.

**Membership** – no report

**Sunshine** – no report

**Education** - Jackie reported upcoming events.

**Library** – no report

**Scooper** – no report

**Website** – Linda will update Facebook

**CGC** – As per the training committee, Cori stated that CGC tests will be given as needed at the end of class sessions.

**Equipment** – Peter will tell Mike about AKC changes effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. The rubber skins for the pause tables have been purchased and will be applied by Keith.

**Old Business** - Trina asked for helpers for further work on Standing Rules. Carol Ann, Carol and Dave will help.

**New Business** – The floor was opened for nominations of Club Officers and Board of Directors.

President – Jill withdrew, declining to run for President.

Vice President – Carol Ann was nominated and accepted the nomination.

Recording Secretary – Sally was nominated and accepted. Jill was nominated and declined.

Board of Directors – Pat Kopco was nominated and accepted. Linda was nominated and declined. Sally was nominated and accepted.

(Minutes continued from page 3)

Nominations were closed. The final ballot:

President – Gina Reed

Vice President – Dave Proe and Carol Ann Klein

Treasurer – Nancy Atkins and Laurie Zisman

Corresponding Secretary – Carol Clark and Cori Gacusana

Recording Secretary - Lynn Proe and Sally Richardson

Board of Directors – Wien Yu, Keith Staub, Trina Chicvara, Nancy Bloom, Jill Sidran, Pat Kopco and Sally Richardson.

*Respectfully submitted, Claire Jill Sidran  
Recording Secretary*

*\*\*Minutes not approved until next membership meeting\*\**

### ***Minutes of the Board Meeting October 5 2011***

The BOD meeting was called to order at 9 pm by Linda. Mylene (in Tampa) and Keith were absent. Attending were Wien, Jill, Carol, Trina, Nancy and Jackie and Linda.

Wien made a correction to last month's BOD minutes, stating that she did attend the meeting.

Discussion was held about ballots, runoff in the case of a tie. Linda passed around a sample ballot.

Further discussion about closing bank account. Meeting adjourned at 9:27.

*Respectfully submitted by Claire Jill Sidran,  
Recording Secretary*

# Mickey's Tip of the month

## **19 Basic Skills from Morten Egsvedt, Canis, Norway, .....that my mom thinks I should know**

### **1. Focus ("watch me" - look at handler)**

Focus standing in front of handler

Focus while walking backwards

Focus sitting in initial/ heel position

With distractions/ while being distracted

### **2. Targeting**

Target stick with nose

Teaching the target stick

This really is a very valuable thing to teach the dog. When the dog has learnt to touch the target stick with its nose, you can suddenly direct your dog exactly where you want it to go. You can thereby use the target stick to train a whole lot of other fun exercises.

But first we need to teach the dog to touch the target stick. You can use any stick, a pen or just about anything as a target.

This is how you train the target behavior:

#### Step 1

Hold the target stick just in front of your dog's nose and wait! The first time the dog will probably smell it out of curiosity – click and treat.

#### Step 2

Repeat this many times. After a couple of tries, the dog might wait a little while before touching the stick and try to get the treats in other ways. Just be patient and be careful not to move the target stick to the dog's nose out of impatience. Your dog will not learn a thing from that. It is only when the dog himself makes an active move that you should click! Hold the end of the target stick right in front of the dog and click and treat when the dog makes a small movement towards the stick.

(continued on page 3)

(Mickey continued from page 3)

### Step 3

When you have clicked the dog a few times for touching the target stick with his nose, suddenly a light will dawn. "Aha, Mom clicks and treats when I touch that long thing!". From this point on the training will progress very quickly. It often only takes 4-5 repetitions with puppies to get to this point. You need to count on a bit more time with older dogs. Take a short break after a couple of minutes training so that the dog does not get tired of it. Most dogs catch on after 2-3 such short sessions. Just be patient in the beginning and let the dog figure out on its own how it can make you click. When he has figured that out, it will stick for the rest of his life!

### Step 4

As soon as the dog begins to get the point, it is important that we begin to vary things a bit. We need to teach the dog to follow the target stick when we move it up, down, to the side, while we stand still, walk or run. The target stick will become a goal (thus the word "target") that the dog will follow. In the beginning you will click and treat the dog for following the target stick for a second or two. You will then gradually increase the time so that the dog can follow the stick for at least 10 seconds without losing interest. You can then direct the dog exactly where you want it to go. You do not need to hold the target stick in your hand. You can for example stick it into the ground when you want to teach the dog directional work or moving away from you, etc.

### Step 5

As soon as the dog has learnt to target one object it is actually very easy to transfer this skill onto other targets. You can now teach your dog to use your index finger (or fist/palm) as a target by following the same training steps. A post-it note is also well suited to be used as a target for certain exercises.

2. Targeting Continued: Finger/ fist/ palm with nose  
Post-it with nose, Mouse pad with paw, Target transfer

### 3. Sit

Sit from standing in front of handler  
Sit from walking backwards  
Sit up (in front of handler)  
Sit up (in heeling position)

### 4. Hindquarters Control

walk backwards alongside wall  
Walk backwards at an angle to a wall  
Walk backwards at an angle to a low wall  
Walk backwards (without a wall)  
Walk backwards in a square

### 5. Initial/ heel position

Getting into position in front of handler  
Getting into position from the right, the left and from behind  
Turning/ spinning on-site  
To take a step or walk forward, backwards, left and right (on command)

### 6. Run to handler

Spontaneous/ voluntary run towards handler (while out walking etc...)  
Spontaneous/ voluntary run away from assistant (holding collar/ keeping dog in position) to handler  
Explosive launch/ take-off from sit  
Explosive launch/ take-off from down/ lay  
Explosive launch/ take-off from stand

### 7. Walk/ heel + look forward/ watch me/ (off leash)

Heel and look forward while handler and dog are walking backwards  
Heel and look forward while handler and dog are walking forward  
All angles and gaits  
Various surfaces etc..

### 8. Down

Down from standing/ sitting in front of handler  
Down from heel position  
Down at a distance  
Down from walking backwards  
Down on various surfaces

### 9. Stand

Stand in front of handler  
Stand when/ from/ while walking backwards  
Stand from sit  
Stand from down

### 10. Stay

Sit/stay  
Down/stay  
Stand/ stand  
In heeling position  
"Freeze" / hold paw on mouse pad  
"Freeze" / hold nose on target

To be continued... the remaining 9 basic skills will appear in the next issue of The Scooper. Stay tuned.

# Sunshine Corner

Healing wishes to Wien and Nancy A! We hope that your dog activities will resume very soon. It's amazing what some members will do to avoid carrying that heavy a-frame!! ← (joke)



Debbie Willey Sunshine Chair

## Happy Birthday!!!

The following MOC members will celebrate Birthday's in November:

- Elizabeth Arellano
- Trina Chicvara
- Jonathan Jans
- Hilda Wood



## Membership Report

October 2011

### New Members

There were no new members in October.

### Guesst

There were no guests at the October meeting.

### 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 Carol Clark ([Teach2Ride@aol.com](mailto:Teach2Ride@aol.com)) as soon as you know about it. **THANKS!**



## Keeping Your Dog Safe this Halloween

© 2007 The American Kennel Club, Inc.

Thinking about showing off your dog's "Howloween" spirit this year? The real trick is not to treat Halloween as just another day for your dog. The AKC reminds owners to follow certain guidelines for keeping pets safe during Halloween:

- If you choose to dress your pet up in a "doggie" costume, supervise him at all times. Make sure it fits properly and is not in the way of his breathing, eyesight or hearing. If your dog swallows any elastic or decorative items, it could cause intestinal obstructions or choking. For more tips on how to acclimate your dog to wearing a Halloween costume visit the [Ask AKC archive](#).
- 
- Chocolate and sweets can be dangerous for your dog. Make sure all "people treats" are out of harm's way.
- 
- Walk your dog early, while it is still light outside, so you can be aware of any candy, wrappers or broken eggs on lawns and streets and make sure these "tempting treats" stay out of reach.
- 
- When you answer the door for trick-or-treaters, make sure pets are in a safe and secure room to prevent them from running out, getting hurt and frightening your visitors. If you want your dog to greet the visiting ghouls and goblins, keep him on a leash.
- 
- Don't leave your dog unattended outside. Pranksters may target your dog with eggs, and passersby may be tempted to give your dog harmful treats and candy.
- 
- If you are having a Halloween party, consider confining your dog securely in one area of the house. Leave a radio or TV and lights on for the dog.
- 

Be careful about where you place candles and Jack-o-Lanterns. They can easily be knocked over by your dog's wagging tail and either burn your dog or start a fire.

# Braggs



Queenie MACH2