



# Bucks Barker

Newsletter of The Lower Bucks Dog Training Club, Inc.

April 2024

## LBDC Board of Directors

President: Liz Turner

Vice President:  
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Florence Brems

Training Director:  
Judy Matlack

Training Administrators:  
Carol McKinney & Robin Kinley

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Levittown, PA 19054  
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## Next Meeting

**Monday**  
**April 1, 2024**  
**7:30 PM**

**LBDC Training Site**  
**8746 New Falls Road**  
**Levittown, PA 19054**

## Congratulations!

Roz Rosenblatt says - Bette qualified and titled in Advanced Exteriors with a 2nd place on her last Q. She had 3:30 seconds to find the hide and she found it in 23 seconds. Way to go, Bette!



## New Flooring at LBDC Training Site

New Flooring Installed

With the assistance of a number of club members and

having to work around an emergency lockdown of the neighborhood on St. Patrick's Day weekend, the old foam tiles were removed, and the new EVA Foam Interlocking Dog Agility Tiles were installed.

As many of you may recall, when this project was presented to the club at the March meeting, we were expecting the tiles to be back ordered. The "Luck of the Irish" must have been shining upon the club as when Doug Lehnen spoke with the company, we were advised they had just enough of the green tiles in stock to fulfill our order and it would be shipped out promptly. The order arrived at the training site on the 13<sup>th</sup>, moved into the training site and stored until our last class on the 16<sup>th</sup>. This allowed us to plan the installation for the week between training sessions, WHAT LUCK!

This project had various stages that had to be completed and repeated in order for it to be accomplished. Equipment on both levels of the club had to be moved to one side of each room, old tiles taken up, the exposed floors swept, with a sweeping compound to reduce dust and the new tiles put down and custom cut as needed. After finishing the first half, the process had to be done again on the second half of each floor. In between the moving of the equipment, the old tiles

needed to be removed from the building.

The decision was made to rent a dumpster for the disposal of the old tiles as there were too many for club members to take home for residential trash removal. Here again, LUCK was with the project, as a local provider was able to deliver a dumpster the first scheduled day of the project and they even delivered a larger dumpster than we ordered at no additional cost. LUCKY again!

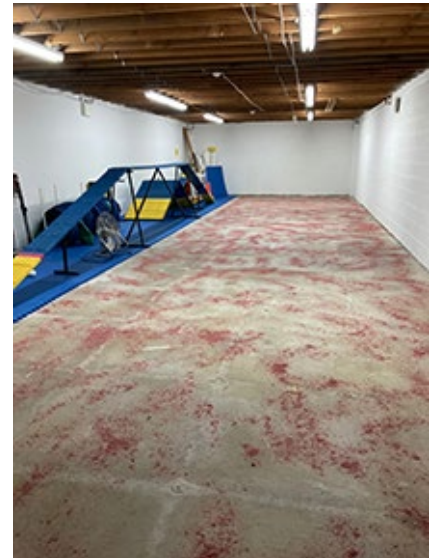
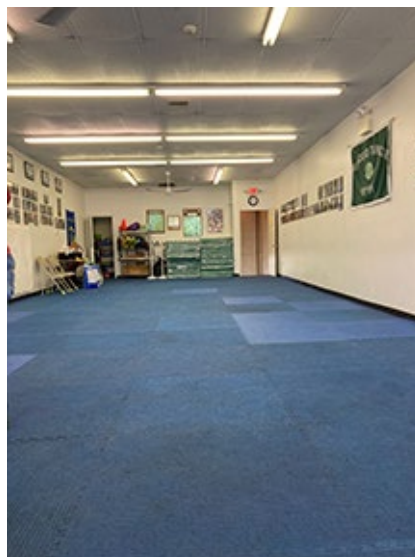
The project was scheduled to begin on Saturday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, after the Bucks County St. Patrick's Day Parade was to conclude its route at the Thorndale Shopping Center. This is when some of our LUCK ran out! Prior to the beginning of the project, the police issued a community lockdown due to an incident across New Falls Road from the club. Out of a modicum of precaution, the decision was made to cancel that day of the project. Thank you to those who volunteered to work that day, but could not due to the cancellation.

The project started up again on Monday, the 18<sup>th</sup> and was completed on the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup>. Enough was accomplished each day so that we did not need the evening work hours that had been anticipated.

Major Thank You to Mary Ann McArdle, Carol and Ken McKinney, Judy Matlack, Donna Czekner and her daughter Tara and Peggy and Doug Lehnen for physically helping with the project. Kudos to Liz Turner, Mary Brooks, Kris King, Helen Shaup and Judi Youngken for their scheduling to assist even though we

worked around a lockdown and cancelled evening hours.

Doug Lehnen



## AKC Legislation Update

Hello LBDC members,

Lois and Judi requested our members receive the AKC update. Below.

Ken McKinney



## AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program

Lower Bucks Dog Training congratulates these puppies who completed the program exhibit Socialization, Training, Activity and Responsibility

Tuesday Class  
Photos from Ken McKinney



Thursday Class  
Photos by Ken McKinney



## Pennsylvania Dog Legislation

Hello LBDTTC members,  
Judi Youngken requested this message be forwarded to you.

Ken McKinney

<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/pennsylvania-committee-amends-bill-regarding-hunting-dogs/>

March 21, 2024

At its recent Committee meeting, the Pennsylvania Senate Game and Fisheries Committee amended a bill that would have had serious implications for those who hunt with dogs. The proposed legislation makes changes to the laws related to trespassing on private property while hunting.

As originally propose, Senate Bill 1087 would have made changes to the laws related to trespassing on private property while hunting. Even if unarmed, a hunter would have not only been trespassing if they went on posted property to retrieve a dog but would also be charged with trespassing if their dog strayed onto posted property. See previous alert.

In the Committee meeting, the bill was amended to remove the language related to dogs entering posted property and reinstated the exemption in current law that allows for an unarmed hunter to retrieve their dog.

AKC would like to thank all those who contacted the

members of the Senate Game and Fisheries Committee regarding the legislation and encourages you to contact the Committee members and share your appreciation of their support.

The bill now moves to the full Senate for consideration. Should you like to share comments with members of the full Senate, you may do so by clicking here.

AKC Government Relations will continue to closely monitor this bill and communicate with the General Assembly. For more information, contact [doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org).

## Master Agility Champion

Congratulations to Mary Pat Esso & Scotty on their 2023 MACH!



## Pet Food Drive

PET FOOD DRIVE -- we are scheduling our next Pet Food Drive to be held in early June, 2024. Details will soon follow once the date and location is confirmed.

Thank you!  
Johanna Molitano, Chair  
Community Service Committee  
Pet Food Drive



## **LBDTC Obedience/ Rally Trials April 20 & 21, 2024**

**LBDTC Obedience Trial  
Saturday, April 20, 2024**

**LBDTC Rally Trial  
Sunday, April 21, 2024**

Up Front Dog Training Center  
128 Arneystown-Hornerstown  
Road  
Allentown, NJ 08501

[Premium List](#)

## **LBDTC Agility Trial May 19, 2024**

**Agility Trial  
Sunday, May 19, 2024**

United Dog  
1957 Pioneer Road, Unit B-6  
Huntingdon Valley, PA, 19006

Entries Open: April 2, 2024,  
8:00am  
Entries Close: April 30, 2024,  
6:00pm



## **LBDTC Agility Trials June 7, 8 & 9, 2024**

**Agility Trials  
Friday, June 7, 2024  
Saturday, June 8, 2024  
Sunday, June 9, 2024**

United Dog  
1957 Pioneer Road, Unit B-6  
Huntingdon Valley, PA, 19006

Entries Open: April 23, 2024,  
8:00am  
Entries Close: May 21, 2024,  
6:00pm

## **LBDTC Obedience/ Rally Trials July 6 & 7, 2024**

**LBDTC Obedience Trial  
Saturday, July 6, 2024**

**LBDTC Rally Trial  
Sunday, July 7, 2024**

Up Front Dog Training Center  
128 Arneystown-Hornerstown  
Road  
Allentown, NJ 08501

Pending

## **LBDTC Agility Trials August 24 & 25, 2024**

**Lower Bucks Dog Training  
Club, Inc. Agility Trials**

Saturday & Sunday  
August 24 & 25 2024

**Y2K9s Dog Sports Club**  
601 Davisville Rd, Suite 150  
Willow Grove, PA 19090

Entries Open: July 9, 2024,  
8:00am  
Entries Close: August 6, 2024,  
6:00pm

## **LBDTC Obedience January 1, 2025**

**LBDTC Obedience Trial  
Wednesday, January 1, 2025**

Up Front Dog Training Center  
128 Arneystown-Hornerstown  
Road  
Allentown, NJ 08501

Pending

## **LBDTC ISC Agility Trial February 20, 2025**

**LBDTC ISC Agility Trial  
Thursday, February 20, 2025**

Gloucester County Dream Park  
400 Rt.130 South  
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

Pending

## **Happy Birthday**

The Lower Bucks Dog Training  
Club, Inc, would like to wish the  
following members a Happy  
Birthday!

**April**  
Lloyd King  
Doug Lehnen



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# AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

March 25, 2024

<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/us-senate-goldies-act-allows-seizure-dogs-undefined-psychological-harm-oppose-now/>

*Dear Club Officers, Legislative Liaisons and Delegates, please share this alert immediately with club members and other dog enthusiasts.*

Late last week, Goldie's Act (HR 1788/S 4033), was introduced in the U.S. Senate. This harmful bill:

- Redefines "violations" of the federal Animal Welfare Act;
- Allows for immediate seizure or euthanasia of animals suffering from "psychological harm", a term it does not define;
- Removes distinctions between minor non-compliances such as paperwork errors and animal care violations. AWA enforcement emphasis should be on the health and welfare of animals;
- Requires posting of images of violations on a publicly accessible database; and
- Undermines the property rights of responsible breeders.

*Scroll down for more details and talking points.*

### PLEASE ACT TODAY!

**Call, email, or write to your member of Congress and U.S. Senators today.** Visit AKC's Legislative Action Center legislator contact page at <https://akcgr.org/officials> and type in your address to find the names and contact information for your Member of Congress and U.S. Senators.

Respectfully Tell them:

1. Please **oppose Goldie's Act**. This is a "feel good" proposal that is being promoted as improving Animal Welfare Act enforcement, but will actually do the opposite by creating confusion and mistrust, and reducing emphasis on education and proper care for dogs.
2. Explain you are a constituent. Respectfully share your experience and concerns as a dog owner/breeder/expert. For example, what criteria would an inspector use to determine "psychological harm", which is not defined?
3. Despite claims being made by AR groups, these bills do impact responsible small breeders.
4. Dog owners should not have to fear arbitrary seizure or euthanasia of their animals based on vague allegations of "psychological harm", a term that the bill is not defined.
5. *Ask them to instead support additional financial resources for USDA educational and enforcement programs so they can appropriately educate licensees and enforce existing requirements.*
6. If you can, let the AKC Government Relations (AKC GR) team ([doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org)) know you contacted your lawmakers and if you received any response.

## MORE INFO

### Summary of “Goldie’s Act” (H.R. 1788/ S. 4033)

Goldie’s Act (HR 1788) establishes government mandates that:

- **Redefine AWA violations and undermine priority for the care and wellbeing of animals.** Proponents claim that the bill is designed to crack down on violators of the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA), but in fact it will do the opposite. By removing the distinction between care and welfare (direct) violations and paperwork/non-welfare related (indirect) violations the measure will make enforcement of animal care violations more difficult. While zero violations of any rules or laws should be the goal, the care and wellbeing of animals must always be a priority. Reporting paperwork errors in the same manner as care violations also creates a misleading perception about breeder licensees and creates a new target for animal extremists who use those public databases to identify breeders.
- **Require inspectors to destroy or remove an animal if they believe it is experiencing physical or “psychological harm”.** The bill does not define or determine how “psychological harm” would be determined, or by whom. This creates an environment for abuse and unnecessary euthanasia of animals.
- State the intent to expand enforcement of federal breeder licensing requirements, but *in fact it throws out recent enforcement enhancements currently undergoing a 3-year implementation process, scheduled for completion in October 2024.* Instead of improving enforcement of the AWA, it creates confusing and onerous new mandates, and undermines recently established enforcement efforts. Constantly changing arbitrary rules create a confusing, expensive, and potentially harmful environment for animal care in which neither licensees nor regulators may be certain of requirements.

#### Who This Applies To:

*Anyone subject to USDA breeder/dealer licensing.* Breeders are subject to USDA licensing if they maintain more than 4 “breeding females” (a term that is undefined but is generally considered to mean an intact female) and transfer even one of the offspring “sight unseen”. “Breeding females” include *any combination of cats, dogs, or other small pet mammals such as hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.*

For questions or more information, contact [doglaw@akc.org](mailto:doglaw@akc.org), visit AKC’s Legislative Action Center [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org) or contact 919-816-3720.

**Thank you for your action to protect the future of our breeds and the integrity of responsible, expert breeders. Your voice does make a difference!**