



# Bucks Barker

Newsletter of The Lower Bucks Dog Training Club, Inc.

February 2025

## LBDC Board of Directors

President: Liz Turner

Vice President:  
Helen Shaup

Recording Secretary:  
Ken McKinney

Corresponding Secretary:  
To be announced.

Treasurer: Kris King

Board Members -  
Nancy Andreas  
Claire Amy Roberts

Past President  
Florence Brems

Training Director"  
Training Administrators:  
Robin Kinley and Carol  
McKinney

LBDC  
P.O. Box 476  
Langhorne, PA 19047  
(215) 493-1201

LBDC Training Site  
8746 New Falls Road  
Levittown, PA 19054  
<http://lbdtc.org/>

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## Next Meeting

**Monday  
February 3, 2025  
7:30 PM**

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

## Congratulations!

Peg Lehnen says - Claire is now registered with the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Here she is at her biweekly visit to my chiropractor. She always comes with me when I go and makes people smile.



Photo from Peg Lehnen

## John Hoffman

Hello LBDC Members,

It is with respect and sadness that I forward information to you that informs us that Mr. John Hoffman, a co-founder of LBDC, has passed away. Lois DiMarzio was kind enough to forward this information to us:

As per his wife, Joan's, Facebook page John passed 1/26 after a long battle with Parkinson's and cancer. He is survived by wife and fur kids.

Lois will try to gather additional information. Many of our current members are not familiar with Mr. Hoffman and his accomplishments regarding LBDC.

Sincerely,  
Ken McKinney

## LBDC New Members 2024

Lower Bucks Dog Training Club welcomed many new members in 2024. We thank them for joining our Club.

Mary Brooks  
Alan Gurvitz  
Brian & Mahria Morris  
Kristine Hornyak  
Sherry Savar

Linda & Peter Lederer  
Khai Marshall  
Sharon Edwards

LBDTC thanks existing members for rejoining and hopes to welcome more new members in 2025.



[Image Freeimages.com](https://www.freemove.com)

## Training Committee

I believe I can speak for the entire training committee when I say that the recent passing of Judy and Diane will have an immense impact on all trainers and assistants, and clients. We will all miss them personally and miss the guidance they always gave to us unselfishly.

On to business: Our winter classes are off to a good start despite the ultra- freezing weather we endured our first week! Hopefully temperatures will become a bit more reasonable.

Our next session in the spring will be:  
March 24th - May 17th  
Registration: February 20th - March 20th

Our committee meeting in January took off with a great start. Unfortunately, due to the news of Judy's passing, the meeting came to an abrupt

stop. However, I believe it was a bit of a comfort for all of us to be together at that sad time.

We will continue the training committee meeting most likely on Saturday, March 15th. I will send out more information closer to that date.

Thanks to the instructors and assistants for a good start to the winter session.

Carol and Robin



[Image Freeimages.com](https://www.freemove.com)

## Dog Quotation

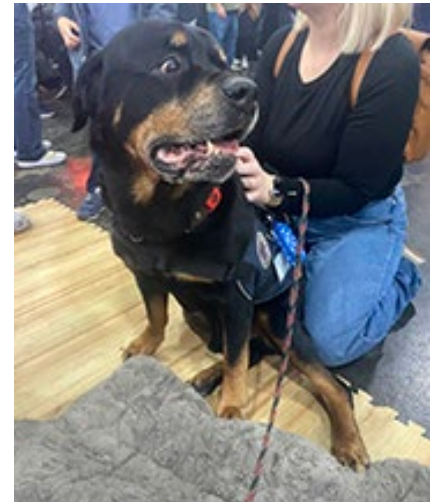
"You can say any fool thing to a dog and the dog will just give you this look that says, 'My GOSH, you're RIGHT! I NEVER would've thought of that!'"  
— Dave Barry

## AKC Meet the Breeds

2025 Meet the Breeds in NYC is in the books. Maverick, Memphis, River and Samwell had a blast with their Rottie friends Remy, Jimmy, Hoppy and Noodles as well as their Golden friends Captain, Alistair, Griswold, Nikki and a few other Golden. To say how proud we are is an understatement. The boys met thousands of people, adults, kids and even some in wheelchairs and ROCK it. Up at

3 and back home each night at 7, 8 hours each day of greeting friendly faces, 23,000+ steps, hundreds of puppy bones, but so worth it to teach the public about our special breeds

Donna Worthington



Harry and Florence were at the Silky Terrier Booth. Harry reveled in all the attention, but all the activity tired him out.

Florence Brems



## Community Service Committee

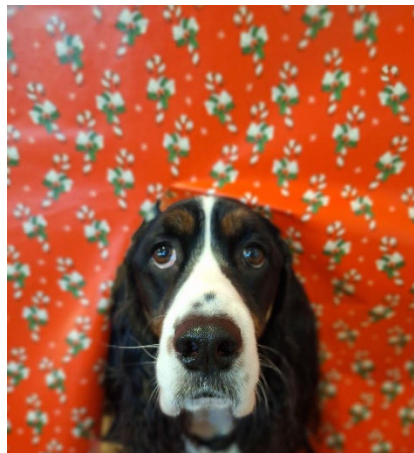
The Directors of two of the local Bucks County Pantries we support, The Emergency Relief Association and the Salvation Army of Levittown, called me to let me know that they were very low on pet food, close to only about 10 pounds each for dog and cat food. I contacted

Chewy on January 10th and ordered about 250 pounds of pet food to be delivered to each pantry. Chewy's Customer Support manager also arranged for additional discounts on the invoice as he understood the orders were going to food pantries. The third pantry we support (FSABC) told me that they were well stocked with pet food at about 155 pounds of each for dogs and cats. ERA and SA received their shipments from Chewy within 3 days of LBDC order being placed. This will help their members keep their pets fed and comfortable for the coming winter months. Invoice totals will be deducted from the cash donations made at LBDC's November 9, 2024 Pet Food Drive at ShopRite in Fairless Hills.

Sincerely,  
Johanna Molitano,  
Chair  
Community Support Committee

## Happy New Year!

Gibson wishes everyone a wonderful 2025!



Kim Anderson

## LBDC Obedience Trial January 1, 2025

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

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

The January 1st Obedience Trial was a huge success. This event featured the most registrations ever for obedience at Up Front, a large luncheon buffet, and a New Years photography session for anyone interested in a photo shoot for their dog.

A big shout out to Terri Kerr & Tammy Gibson and the crew at Up Front, which include new members of the club, Kristine Hornyak, Sherry Savar and almost new member, Jean Gould.

Also, to Jan Garbutt and Ken McKinney for being there and doing everything that was needed. Congratulations to those who showed their dogs, Kris, Jean, Terri, Jan and Diane Stout.

The day was a little cold and windy but all in all a great success. Good feedback, lots to eat and fun things to keep the day going. Thank you all for making this happen.

Sincerely,  
Kris King

## LBDC ISC Agility Trial February 20, 2025

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

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

Opening Date – January 07,  
2025 at 8:00am  
Closing Date – February 04,  
2025 at 6:00pm

**LBDDTC  
Obedience Trials  
April 18 & 19, 2025**

**LBDDTC Obedience Trial  
Friday, April 18, 2025**

**LBDDTC Obedience Trial  
Saturday, April 19, 2025**

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

**PREMIUM**

**LBDDTC Obedience  
and Rally Trials  
May 10 & 11, 2025**

**LBDDTC Obedience Trial  
Saturday, May 10, 2025**  
Pending

**LBDDTC Rally Trial  
Sunday, May 11, 2025**  
Approved

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

Opening Date – February 05,  
2025 at 8:00am  
Closing Date – April 23, 2025 at  
6:00pm

**LBDDTC Agility Trial  
May 18, 2025**

**Agility Trial  
Sunday, May 18, 2025**

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

Pending

**LBDDTC  
Agility Trials  
June 6, 7 & 8 2025**

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

Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
June 6, 7 & 8, 2025

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

Pending

**LBDDTC Obedience  
and Rally Trials  
July 5 & 6 2025**

**LBDDTC Obedience Trial  
Saturday, July 5, 2025**

**LBDDTC Rally Trial  
Sunday, July 6, 2025**

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

Opening Date – April 23, 2025  
at 8:00am  
Closing Date – June 18, 2025  
at 6:00pm

**LBDDTC Agility Trials  
August 23 & 24 2025**

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

Saturday & Sunday  
August 23 and 24, 2025

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

Pending

**LBDDTC Obedience  
Trial  
December 31, 2025**

**LBDDTC Obedience Trial  
Wednesday, December 31,  
2025**

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

Pending

**Happy Birthday**

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

**January**

Linda Lederer  
Ron Matlack  
Helen Shaup

**February**

Peggy Lehnen  
Taylor Matlack  
Carol McKinney  
Lauren Morell  
Esin Ozden

# LBDTC

Lower Bucks Dog Training Club has recently suffered the loss of two beloved members.

In Loving Memory, LBDTC members are sharing remembrances and photographs of our departed friends.

## **Judy Matlack**

### Obituary

Judith Matlack, 80, of Bristol, PA, passed away peacefully at her home on January 4, 2025. Born on March 14, 1944, she lived a life full of love for her family, dogs, and her deep dedication to them. Judith was known for her unwavering kindness, generosity, and a heart that always sought to make the world a better place.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 62 years, Ron Matlack; their children, Randy Matlack and Kimberly Benton, and her son-in-law, Brian Benton; grandchildren, Taylor Matlack and Kylie Benton; sister, Mary Jane Johnson; brother, Peter Johnson; nephews, Roy, Eric, and Christopher Johnson; and his wife, Erin Johnson.

Judith is preceded in death by her beloved daughter, Donna Marie Brown, and her parents, Wanda and Peter Vattimo.

Her dedication and love for her dogs was at the heart of her life. Judith was a passionate dog trainer and volunteer at the Lower Bucks Dog Training Academy, where she helped both dogs and their owners develop a special bond.

Judith's legacy of compassion, service, and love will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.



Photo from Judy Matlack's Family

## **Remembrances by Linda Morrin**

Being LBDTC Training Administrator and Judy Training Director for many years we were a very successful working team. We had many good times and good stories as well as great dogs!!!

I was saddened to hear of Judy's passing from Cindy early that Saturday morning. I knew it was too soon to call anyone so I just started taking down Christmas Decorations while thinking of those times.

Judy Matlack and I first met at Madison Square Garden when Diane Stout organized the show of support for Judy showing her dog Gage (actually she was in the crate with him.)

Shortly thereafter we started training in obedience, my dog Joy and her Gage with Diane Stout most of the time in Diane's garage or Diane's backyard with her able dog Ruby as her assistant. Through the years we shared many laughs as well as tears. and many good times at trials, training at LBDTC and the first ever Pet Food Drive in a raging snowstorm!

Things started to turn bad, and no one was showing up at the training site.

Because our husbands had individually dropped us off and would return to get us. We told the volunteers to go home.

Carole Cunliffe, Judy and I stayed, and the word *Believe* was on our lips Then all of a sudden the people came in carloads and we had more pet food than we anticipated. It was amazing.

When she got Bubba and I got Ruby, we traveled to Anne Paul for training as well as Suburban Dog Training club. There were many traveling and training stories that still make me laugh out loud .

One particular night driving home after a terrible rain storm, (which happened while we were in training, ) Rainbows followed us home from the training center out on 309 all the way over the PA Turnpike To the Neshaminy Mall .Judy broke out in “ Somewhere Over the Rainbow “ for my Ruby slippers

She will be missed terribly by her Ronnie and all of her family and friends.

The next time you see a Rainbow, I hope you think of her laughing and singing “Somewhere Over the Rainbow”.

Rest well Judy  
Linda Morrin

### **Remembrances by Roz Rozenblatt**

It saddens me to think that Judy Matlack is no longer with us. Our first encounter was doing stays in Diane Stout’s back yard, I, with my Westies, and Judy with her Rotties. I used to see her at shows when I, too, was entered. She was always so friendly and happy to see me. I admired Judy’s upbeat personality, her sense of humor and her strong devotion to family. Years back, I had the honor to help Judy with one of her training classes. I was impressed with the kind and caring way she handled the puppies in her watch and their owners. I always looked forward to seeing Judy at our membership meetings and reading her Face Book posts. She would often email me privately and had only the kindest words to say. Judy was one neat lady, and I will miss her dearly.

Roz Rosenblatt



**Photo from Ken McKinney**

## **Diane Stout**

### Obituary

Elizabeth Diane Stout, affectionately known as "Diane," 76, of Langhorne, PA, passed away on January 22, 2025, at St. Mary Medical Center. Diane was born in Langhorne on August 31, 1948. She graduated from Neshaminy High School in 1966 and attended Bucks County Community College before her employment at Verizon, where she retired after 35 years. She was devoted to all of her poodles, including Austin, Karli, Bebop, and Alecia. She was president of the Poodle Obedience Training Club, Corresponding secretary to Lower Bucks Dog Training Club, Rally Obedience Judge, and Rally Obedience Instructor. She won many awards with her obedience and rally training, including an OTCH and a RACH. She also received the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Diane is survived by her brothers, William Stout (Jackie) of Langhorne and Robert Stout (Madeleine) of Winnipeg, Canada; Sister-in-law, Eileen Stout of Warminster, many nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Frances Stout of Langhorne, brother Ernest Stout of Florida, and sister, Janet McFarlane (Ken) of Florida.



Photo from Ken McKinney

### **Remembrance by Mary Pat Ezzo**

I met Diane 40 yrs ago when we were in an obedience class at Canine Academy. She had Winston, a Yorkie. She then got a Papillon named Henry. She started competing with these two and was very successful then. When I saw her with a Standard Poodle, I asked her why the "big" dog and she said she didn't want to bend over as far anymore!

Mary Pat Ezzo

### **Remembrances by Linda Morrin**

I rescued my dog Goodie from my first chocolate lab in 1996. I reached out to Lower Bucks dog training club and because I was too late to enter classes they sent me Chuck Kerr to my house and he helped during the first few weeks.

I was able to get into classes, I met Diane. who was in class with her dog Clancy. I continued training constantly and at one point the training administrator said you need to go into another class. I can't write your name again in level two. At that point I decided that Goodie was not going to do obedience competition and there was no rally at the time so I started doing therapy work.

I got involved with the group Paws in The Lower Bucks Dog Training Club and my dog Goodie and I were very successful. I eventually became a tester observer. All the while, Diane Stout was involved in therapy work with her dogs Ruby and Felicia. The obedience people (at that time) did not think an obedience dog should do therapy work claiming it was a conflict of interest. Diane always got her back up and fought for the right for the dogs to do anything and everything they could and she was right! Slowly those folks became therapy dog teams.

When I got my dog, Joy, our president, Connie Schofield, told Diane to observe us in class. Connie was convinced that I had potential with my dog and I would have success with Diane. She was right! Diane trained me all the way through our utility title, something I never aspired to. I didn't know anything about dog competition and Diane taught me everything through the years and through all my dogs Joy, Merriweather Ruby, and Emily. Through the years Diane encouraged me to go to other trainers, but Diane was always my go to when I had issues.

We shared funny episodes while serving on the board of LBDTC.

When we first got the training site Diane and I rented a floor scrubber from Home Depot. We took my puppy Joy with us and then proceeded to go to the training site. Joy was in a puppy crate sitting on top of the window shelf. While trying to use the scrubber we realized it was bigger than both of us. I offered to go back to my house and get scrubbers and vacuums and things easier to use. Diane said leave the puppy with me. When I got back, Diane was full of gray muck. She had tried to use the floor scrubber while I was gone and she slipped and fell on the floor. I said I trusted you to take care of my puppy and just sit here till I returned. She said don't worry about it. The puppy was in the window!!

Stories like that were part of our relationship. I could go on and on, but they're my stories and I will keep them close to my heart.

Thank you Diane for all you did for Me and my dogs. Especially sitting with Dan and I waiting on Merryweather's mangio carcinoma diagnosis. And the decision we had to make.

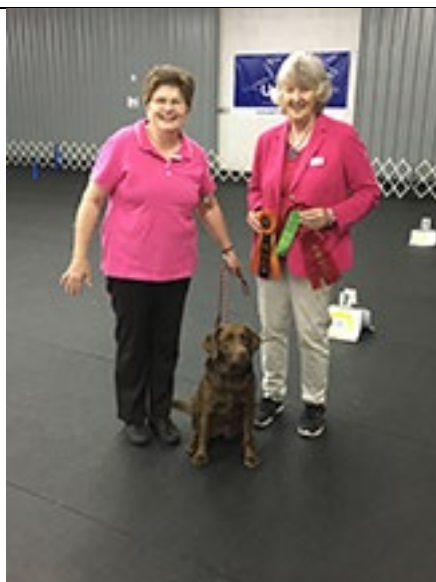
I will miss Diane terribly and I feel sorry for all the pain that she has gone through the past few years.

We worked well together on all the trials as well as me following her as Training Director when she became President. Teaching me and trusting that I always did the right thing for the club. She even loaned me her whip while saying use it with kid gloves!!! On the handlers never a dog.

I will miss you my friend and all of the input in my life.

Rest in Peace

Linda Morrin



Linda and Ruby Morrin with  
Judge Diane Stout



Ruby Morrin meets Ruby Stout

### Remembrances by Roz Rozenblatt

I remember the first time I met Diane. It was in her driveway in the late '90's. Skipper and I went for our first Obedience lesson in Diane's backyard. It was an instant love affair, Skipper loved Diane, and she loved him. In fact, all my Westies loved Diane, and she worked with all of them. Westies aren't the best breed for Obedience and Rally but under Diane's direction we went far. She would come with me to the trials and insist on driving so I could relax in the car. When she couldn't go with me, she was always my first call on the way home. One trial I entered comes to mind.



We were headed to an Obedience trial in Howard County Fair Grounds in Maryland. Diane was my driver. She insisted on coming with me because it was only my 2<sup>nd</sup> time in an Obedience ring, and I was quite nervous. The trial was the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We drove there that morning, and it was pouring. As you can expect, traffic was awful, and our trip took hours longer than it should have. Diane's dogs were at home with a pet sitter. Skipper earned his 2<sup>nd</sup> Novice Obedience leg that day, and I was happy to have company.

Diane lived by helping others, whenever she could and as much as she could. You couldn't ask for a better friend, mentor and cheering squad. She cared about us, and I and my Westies knew it.

Diane helped me make good connections. She introduced me to Lois so I would have company when doing the show circuit away from home. She introduced me to Andie so we could do some training together. Diane also introduced my husband to Mike Malloy, and they became fishing buddies.

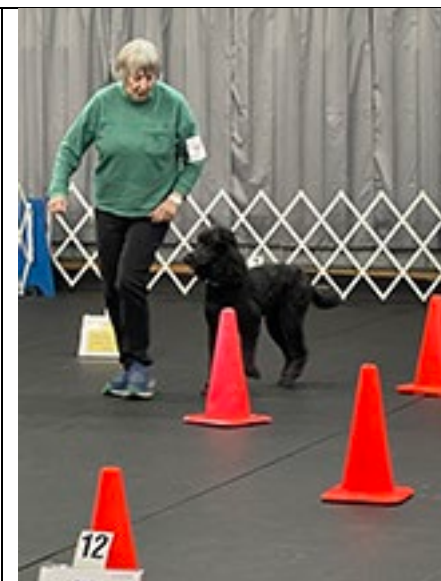
When I first started tracking, Diane and I trained together. We used to drive to the Poconos for our lessons and had lots to say on the way up, not to mention a good lunch on the way home. When Clancy, Diane's tracking dog could no longer track due to an injury, Diane continued to track with me. She laid many tracks for us at Tyler and Core Creek Park to help prepare us for an upcoming test, and she came to the test to cheer for us when we passed.

Diane introduced me to Lower Bucks. She had me stewarding even before I became a member. She introduced me to Terri and Tammy at Up Front Farm and they, too, had a big influence on our Obedience and Rally years. When I was recovering from a concussion from a hard hit to my head, Diane drove me to my lessons at Up Front until I was ready to drive again. Her motto was always, "How can I help you?"

Diane's birthday and mine are a day apart, and we always celebrated together with lunch at the Café in Langhorne. Birthdays for me, from now on, will never be the same.

I learned a lot from Diane. She was one very smart lady, not to mention a devoted friend and mentor. Diane had good common sense. Whenever in doubt, I would call for her take on the situation because I valued it. I will miss our routine phone calls and visits on her back porch over a glass of iced tea. Diane was definitely a big influence on making my world a better place, and I cherish the time we spent together.

Roz Rosenblatt



Photos from Ken McKinney