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# The **CAT**alyst

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## 2007 Board of Directors

**President: Marilyn Watson**  
marilynwat@verizon.net  
**Vice President: Jaimie Winthrop**  
TreyWinthrop@hotmail.com  
**Treasurer: Judy Bluett**  
jbluett@comcast.net  
**Secretary: Kim Boothe**  
kdbdvm@comcast.net

**Training Director: Barb Stone**  
flyingdustmop@yahoo.com

**Members at Large:**  
**Lori Sage**, lksage@aol.com  
**M'Lou Thompson**, wthomp2@comcast.net  
**Barb Persson**, barbara@barjor.net  
**Dwight Cash**, PDCash@TheCashes.com

### Barn Managers

**Larsen Barn, Wilsonville:**

**Erik Gordon**, ekatm@verizon.net

**Van Dyke Barn, Forest Grove:**

**Susan Woodson**, 503-640.0584

### Equipment Manager

**Kyle Watson**, zootfish@aol.com

### Membership Coordinator:

**Pat Weinkauff**, homekeepers@aol.com

**Membership and Mailing Lists**  
**Tanya Sacks**, jfc2001@copper.net

### Library

**Tara Choate**, agilityteam@juno.com

### CAT Webmaster

**Dick Watson**, catdogs@columbiaagility.org

### Catalyst Editor

**M'Lou Thompson**, wthomp2@comcast.net

## 2008 Trial Chairs:

February 08: NADAC Trial: Karin McAlister  
April 08: CPE: Pamela Brown & Julie Jone  
June 08: USDAA Trial: Barbara Persson  
August 08: CPE: Cheryl Huffman  
September 08: NADAC: Barbara Stone  
October 08: USDAA: Tara Choate

### Notes from AKC AGility Invitational and USDAA National

Kim James wrote:

We had a blast. Looking forward to next year. Thank you!  
USDAA

Venita Quella: Dam team was 39th out of 206 teams.  
Venita and Keeper, Wade Robertson and Tess and Evelyn  
Robertson and Ren.

Cheri Kanaan, dog Harvey: Team ended up in the middle  
of the pack. (102) Harvey made the grand prix semi finals.  
On the Dam team with Harvey was Nessa, with handler  
Meagan Johnson and Emma with Barb Persson.

Meagan Johnson and Nessa go two gold medals in  
Intermediate Junior Handling and were in the Junior  
Handling Spotlight.

From Rebecca Johnston, dog Zhen: 49th Pairs team out  
of 115 teams.

Susan Leitner writes: Callie got into the PNS  
semi finals and ran clean. She also ran clean  
in all her versatility pairs events.

### USDAA Agility Trial Announced ( Pending Approval)

**Red Hot Rovers, January 26-27, 2008**  
**Argus Ranch**

**Judges: Tim Laubach and Merlene Stiles**  
**Titling Classes all levels**  
**plus extra Gamble for Master/PIII**

**2008 qualifiers for:**

**Gran Prix/Performance National Standard**  
**Steeplechase/Performance Speed Jumping**  
**Questions: Contact Jill Crawford at**  
**my3sams@comcast.net**

## News and Views from the President

Congratulations to the members honored for their work and accomplishments this past year. They were recognized at the Holiday Party on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Trudy Mischler Award – Judy Bluett  
Top Cat Award – Barbara Persson and Emma  
Top Kitten Award – Mike Chapman and Mystique  
Sportsmanship Award – Cherri Kanaan  
Member of the Year – Kitty Ware and Jim Hibbard

Following the General Meeting in November, the Board addressed the members' request for improving the equipment in our practice barns. Some new equipment has been ordered and will be in the barns in the next few months. The Board voted to make a one-time year-end donation of \$5,000 to the top 5 organizations determined by the membership attending the Annual Meeting. Members will vote for their top pick among many suggestions made by members. **The Annual Meeting will be held January 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an important meeting since we will be electing the 2008 Board members as well as selecting the recipients of the Club's Year End donation.**

**Candidates: Tanya Sacks, President; Trey Winthrop, VP; Kim Boothe, Sec'y; Judy Bluett, Treas.; Mike Chapman, Board; Karla Forte, Board; Julie Jones, Board**

### New CAT Membership Requirements

As a reminder to all who have friends asking about joining CAT, please agree to sponsor your friend or student. The sponsor should be mentoring the new member for the first few months. Helping with questions regarding all aspects of agility from the first trial experience, volunteering, being available to answer questions and generally encouraging the new member during the first few months.

Please bring your new member friend to a general meeting and introduce them. Also, attending a board meeting does not qualify as one of the meetings needed for new membership.

Beginning in 2008 all applicants for new membership must have a sponsor listed on their application form. We want all new members to feel welcome. Who better to introduce them to the sport than a friend or instructor.

### News from NADAC

The new lightweight matted NADAC equipment has been ordered and should be here before Christmas. We look forward to introducing the dog walks and a-frames at the Canby Trial.

From Sharon Nelson: At NADAC trials Times will increase 1 to 1 1/2 seconds for all 4", 8", 12" and 16" dogs... the times for the 20 and 20+ dogs will remain the same for all classes except Touch N Go and Weavers, where the times will increase 3/4 to 1 1/2 seconds for all dogs. This will be in effect after January 1, 2008.

### WAG Trial

The premium for Willamette Agility Group's USDAA dog agility trial on March 7-9, 2008, in Corvallis, OR, is now available on the WAG website at [www.wagagility.org](http://www.wagagility.org) **Entries must be received by Friday, February 1, 2008** If you need a copy of the premium mailed to you, please contact me at [atcherylhenning@juno.com](mailto:atcherylhenning@juno.com) Cheryl Henning, Trial Sec'y, WAG AGility Group

### Elections are January 13, 2008

#### Some of the candidates have comments:

Pam Brown:

I have been competing in agility for about 2 years now with Blossom. We started agility at Happy Go Lucky then moved to All American Agility. We have been with All American since then and are doing great. Blossom is moving up very quickly and loves the sport, as many of you know her bark at the staging area.

We both love the sport of agility and only compete for the fun of it. We have met and become very good friends with the great people who do agility. We intend on being active in the sport for many years to come.

#### Tanya Sacks for President:

I started taking agility lessons with our dog Jake in 2002 at Mary Crittendon's. I was quickly hooked and we entered our first trial in January of 2003. My husband, Joe Camp, and I joined CAT in April of 2003 and have been quite involved ever since then. I served on the Board in 2005 as a Member at Large, have acted as the equipment purchasing agent and membership renewal coordinator of the last 2 years, and have also chaired the Finance Committee.

In 2004, Indy, our border collie, joined our family. We actively participate in NADAC & USDAA and also do some AKC with Indy. I look forward to the upcoming year filled with more agility fun with Jake and Indy and continued support to the ongoing success of the Club.

**Carol and Jim Hibbard made a special trip in the fall to visit Norway and attend the World Agility Championships. Here's her report on a wonderful experience. Agility details, she apologizes, are largely on the large dogs...they run Kelpies, after all!**

FCI Agility World Championships

On September 19<sup>th</sup> of this year, Jim and I took off for the trip I have always wanted to take. Since I am a photographer, I have always wanted to go to Norway and see the Fjords. Well, since it turned out that the "World Championships" were also in Norway this year, it seemed like a perfect "excuse" to go!

From Newark, we flew to Oslo where we stayed in a very nice hotel, close to the harbor, and the downtown area.

Jim and I had signed up for a 5 day tour of the fjords, so we didn't stay in Oslo very long.

Our adventure started with a train ride from Oslo to Myrdal, across some beautiful scenery. As we went from the east coast to the top of the plateau that runs through the middle of the country, we even ran into a blizzard! From here, we caught another train to Flan, the *Flamsbana*. What an amazing ride . . . not only was it very scenic, but the engineering of the railway was hard to believe. We arrived in Flan where we stayed at a very nice hotel, and I ate my first reindeer meat! It was very much like beef.

Our hotel in Bergen was right on the water in the harbor. The weather was very much like here . . . rain and wind! We walked around the area by our hotel, and down to the fish market, but due to the weather, not much was going on. Then we took a ride on the "funicular" which is a cable railway up a very steep slope. At the top, we took photos of the harbor, down below, and did some shopping.

The next day we took the train back toward Oslo, and the Bristol Hotel. Chris and Bob Vaught, some old agility friends (Chris was a CAT member until she and Bob moved to Nevada) met us there, with their rented car.

The next day we figured out what luggage we were going to take with us, (we checked the rest at the hotel) and we loaded up the car and took off to Hamar, to watch the World Championships. We stayed in a nice hotel across the lake from Hamar, in a small town, but it was only about a 30 min. drive to the agility venue

We arrived in time to watch the US large dogs practice (Thursday). Since they were using a new table, one that had a mat on it that monitored when the dog got on and off, by "beeping," they let all the dogs give it a try. It didn't seem to bother very many of them.

Each country had a seating section, and most of them were decorated with banners and flags. Most people wore shirts proclaiming their country. The Swiss had their cow-bells and others had cheering sections and on the last day, there was lots of trading, or selling of shirts

On Friday the agility started "for real". The first event

was the **Jumping** Individual Large Dogs. It was fun to see how they built the course. Then they let all the handlers walk it, in 4 different groups. They were very strict about the time for the walk throughs . . . when a group's time was up (8 mins/group), a "line" of people in green shirts, linked hands and walked from one end of the course to the other, forcing everyone off, and then the next group would walk, and so on.

*\*I have to confess, that we really only concentrated on the Large dogs. I'm sure that you can find the TOTAL results on the web: [www.lhbsystems.nl/wc2007/](http://www.lhbsystems.nl/wc2007/). It was an all day thing, and sitting for hours, taking notes, was very stressful as things happened so fast! We needed to take bathroom breaks, lunch, and shopping breaks, so I'm afraid that we "sacrificed" the Med. and Small dogs.*

It was interesting to watch not only the US handlers (Ann Braue, Carrie Jones, Linda Mecklenburg, and our "own" Daisy Peel) but see how each of them planned to run the first course, and to watch each of the other countries and how they planned to do it. Some of them had some very *interesting* handling techniques! It was also fun to watch how some of them "planned" to do it, and how they "actually" did it!!

The event started with a gal from Switzerland and her BC. (out of 143 dogs, only 29 were NOT BC's!) The first US competitor was Carrie J. She ran clean with a very fast time and ended up in 6<sup>th</sup> over-all (with her combined score of agility and jumping) Number 76 was Daisy, and she ran clean, but not fast enough to place. The third US member was Ann B. running 88<sup>th</sup>. She ran clean with a pretty good time, and the last member was Linda M. running 132<sup>nd</sup>. She ran clean with a good time. In the first round the low 30.'s were good times, but no one got into the 20's.

After the Large Jumping was through, they completely cleaned off the course, and re-built it for the Med. Dogs. They usually left in one challenge that was the same as the Large Dogs, just changed the spacing a bit.

The last event of Friday was the Large Team Agility (Standard). The US Team consisted of, Ann Braue, Linda Mecklinburg, and Carrie Jones. They ran 7<sup>th</sup>, and the team all ran one after another, so you could watch the whole team with out interruptions. Everyone ran very well, and no "E's".

Saturday started with the Agility Team – small, and then medium. Then the Jumping Team – small, and then medium. The Jumping Team – large, was the last of the day, with Carrie Jones placing 14<sup>th</sup>, Linda Mecklenburg, 18<sup>th</sup> and Ann Braue, 20<sup>th</sup> ALL with clean runs, for an amazing **2<sup>nd</sup> place** finish!!! What a celebration . . . the whole US team and many of the spectators ran down on the floor and did a Celebration Dance! It was such fun to be part of something like that!

Sunday was the last day and it started out the the Agility individual medium and then the individual small, and finally the Individual large. Carrie and Jive placed 14<sup>th</sup>, Linda and Steller placed 18<sup>th</sup>, Ann and Spree placed 20<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, Daisy and Jester had an off-course, but ran a beautiful, smooth course otherwise.

There was a wonderful closing ceremony with all the teams marching around the arena, some Norwegian folk music, and lots of happy people.



Candidates continued:

Patricia Weinkauff, Board:

I have been a member of CAT for 9 years, serving as hospitality chairperson for one year and as Co-Chair of the Columbia Cup last year and have worked at nearly all of the CAT trials even when not entered to run. Currently I am serving as new member coordinator and will continue through 2008. I am running for Member At Large to better facilitate communications between club members and the CAT board. I hope that any CAT member who has a question regarding board decisions or any other question about club policies will feel free to contact me. I feel that open communication is vital for any club to run smoothly. It is important to me that all CAT members feel that their input is being heard and considered in the club's decision making processes.

I live in Vancouver with hubby Bob and our five rescued or rehomed dogs. One of my greatest joys is rehabilitating and training dogs to come play with me in the fun filled sport of agility. My favorite agility saying is: "My dog is not a tool for me to use to excel in agility—agility is a tool for me to use to excel in my dog"....

**M'Lou Thompson for Board:** I was on the board this past year and this is my third attempt at a Catalyst for CAT members. I own four Tervs. Two have been running for a couple of years and one youngster who is about to start training. I'm only sorry I came to agility and its friendships so late.

Mike Chapman, Board: I have been a CAT member for approximately three years. I live in Cornelius (OR) with my wife Chris and daughter Heather, and I work for Clean Water Services (the sanitary & storm water utility in Washington Co.) as an engineering/environmental technician. I enjoy woodworking, home remodeling (most of the time) building figure models, and of course agility. I

have a Belgian Malinois, Mystique, that I try to keep up with in agility. We have taken agility classes offered by CAT at the Forest Grove barn and we are currently training with Venita Quella at the Cash's barn in Sherwood. I run agility with Mysti more as a something for the two of us to enjoy rather than as serious competitors (I attend the more local trials). We have attained a couple of CPE Level 1 titles. I have definitely made my share of mistakes during our agility time but with help of Venita, other CAT members, and the various trials and winter league, I think Mysti and I are continuing to improve and have fun (after all that's what it is all about, right!).

Judy Bluett for Treasurer: I've been a self employed bookkeeper for over 30 years. I was your treasurer last year and love volunteering for the club in this manner. I look forward to being the treasurer again in 2008.

Kim Boothe for Secretary: I have served as CAT's Secretary for the last year and would like to contribute one more year in this position to the club. Zibbit and I have come a long way in the last year and I have learned a lot serving on the CAT Board of Directors. As I am unable to commit to Saturday events, the secretary position allows me to give back to the club in a way that fits my schedule.

Julie Jones Board: along with Toshi, my 2-1/2 year old Shiba Inu, I have been involved in agility for about two years. Toshi & I have a great time training and competing, mostly in CPE, Teacup & ASCA events. Toshi can be (is) very challenging, so I truly cherish each and every one of our successes! I enjoy the many friends I have made through my association and volunteering with CAT, by participating in league and at various agility events. I live in Beaverton with my husband, Chris, daughter, Whitney, another Shiba, Mika and our cat, Bailey. I work fulltime as a project manager in the light rail construction industry.

**IF YOU NEED TO RECEIVE THE  
CATALYST BY MAIL (NO WEB ACCESS) PLEASE  
CALL M'LOU THOMPSON AT  
503-246-3054. LEAVE A MESSAGE WITH YOUR  
NAME AND PHONE NUMBER IF I'M NOT IN.**

## **CATBucks Redemption Policy Approved: May, 2007**

Columbia Agility Team (CAT) policy for issuing and redeeming CAT Bucks: The following guidelines were reviewed and approved during the Board of Director's May meeting. No monetary change may be given when using a CAT Buck coupon.

CAT Bucks of \$2.50 may be redeemed towards a lunch meal or Raffle at a CAT Agility Trial, or used for up to 10% for a CAT sponsored Agility Trial entry, a CAT sponsored Agility Seminar or CAT Barn Time. Unless authorized by the Board of Directors, the CAT Treasurer is the only person authorized to print CAT Bucks. CAT Bucks are good for up to four years after the date of printing and CAT Bucks over \$2.50 must be signed by issuer.

CAT Bucks of large denominations can be used as in the past. CAT reserves the right to declare CAT Bucks non-redeemable at any time. A Board approved form will be used for CAT Bucks.

### **The objectives of the Columbia Agility Team:**

- A. Support the sport of dog agility.
- B. Educate the members and the public about the sport of dog agility.
- C. Conduct training classes and informal and formal events associated with dog agility.
- D. Protect and advance the interests of dog agility by encouraging sportsmanlike competition and responsible dog ownership.