

**RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.**  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 2, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at the club building on Tomlynn Street. President Patti Killcullen called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with 42 members present.

Arlene Dickson introduced our 6 guests: Dani Orender, Khilia Giacobone, Steve Shanks, Dana Grindstaff, Donna Miles, Abby Bowman

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The March 2024 minutes were approved as printed in the Pawprint per a motion by Kitty Johnson, 2<sup>d</sup> by Carol Maupin and unanimous verbal vote.

**Report of the President:** Patti Kilcullen offered a Quarterly report highlighting club accomplishments so far in 2024.

- The training program is booming after revamp of the puppy/pet/basic program
- Club has held 2 successful tracking tests
- Club has held a weekend of Rally and Obedience Trials
- A weekend of Agility Trials
- A weekend of FastCAT trials
- A successful first offering of Fit Dog program
- A successful trial run of Scent Work run-throughs
- Dave Frazier has worked tirelessly to straighten out and address so many issues with our building and grounds – this has not gone unnoticed and is much appreciated!

**Corresponding:** Marilyn Bergstresser reported that

- flowers were sent to Ruby diVittorio, as she was in the hospital
- a card was sent to Beth Baldwin and donation made in memory of her dog, Jake

**Treasurer's Report** Rocky Altimore reported March 2024:

Income	\$34,425.06
Expenses	\$26,208.33
Net income	\$ 8,216.73

Rocky noted that for April, the club is not expected to show a profit because of some quarterly bills due as well as taxes.

**Report of Committees**

**Buildings and Grounds:** Dave Frazier reported:

- A new contract with our existing cleaning/janitorial has been signed wherein cleaning personnel may not begin until after 9pm (Tuesday & Thursday nights) and must be gone by 11:00 am Wednesday & Friday mornings. (Tuesday night, the Annex has its most thorough cleaning and Thursday night is the Main Building).  
These times shall be blocked out on our class calendar/schedule.  
No janitorial personnel may come into the building outside of cleaning contract hours.

- There have been reports of an offensive rotten fish odor in the main building at random times, the source of which has not been located. Please alert Dave if you come in and are overwhelmed by a foul odor!
- Annex roof leak: PLEASE photograph/video AND report ANY leaks to Dave! Put a note on the door and CLOSE THE ANNEX/MAIN AS NECESSARY. The landlord has had work done more than once to remedy the leaking, but evidently, there are still problems.
- This Friday, April 5, both buildings will be closed for HVAC maintenance service from 8:00am to 12:00n. This note is posted on the website under the MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT megaphone.

#### **Demonstration:**

- Donna Crumpler confirms that for the May membership meeting, physical rehab veterinarian Katherine Burke will be coming to speak (Veterinary Rehabilitation Services of Virginia, 6506 W. Broad St, Richmond). Due to time constraints, no questions will be fielded from the floor; if there are questions, email [richmond@rehab.vet](mailto:richmond@rehab.vet) or see their website [www.rehab.vet](http://www.rehab.vet).

#### **Membership and Orientation:**

- Arlene needs a helper to communicate with potential members and applying new members. This person would primarily send email updates regarding class schedules and club events that applicants need in order to complete participation hours. Please contact Arlene Dickson if you can help.
- Potential event for participation hours: RedRidge is having their 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and will have space for various related businesses to set up a display/booth/table. RDOC will arrange a space to interface with dog owners that day and will need people to man our table. This event is scheduled for May 4, from 11:00am to 3:00pm at RedRidge Pet Market (2276 John Rolfe Parkway, Henrico) There's a fee for the space, but it's donated to an elder pet rescue... Contact Arlene Dickson.

#### **Trials and Events:**

- Arlene Dickson reports that the trials for June are done and that for the December trials (Obedience and Rally), Darlene Trace will work alongside her so that she will be able to chair the June 2025 trials. !!! Volunteers are always needed and welcome! If you want to help, please come to the meetings – don't worry that you will be asked to do a job that you're not comfortable doing! PLEASE JOIN THE TEAM TO HELP. Next meeting will be Saturday May 11, at 12 noon.
- Theresa Myers reported that March's FastCAT, Fits Dog and Scent Work run-throughs were very successful
- Theresa and Darlene Trace are looking into offering AKC FETCH DOG in the afternoon after the next FastCAT.
- Sarah Grindstaff is studying to be a FETCH judge and also a CGC judge
- There are still audit spots available for the April 13 Scent Work Seminar- sign up on RDOC website

**Training:**

- Gabby Hughes noted that Donna Crumpler is offering the next “Training the Trainer” session Tues 4/16 in the Annex. Two time slots are available; please sign up (sheet available at meeting or contact Donna) 1-3pm or 7-9pm.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Voting In New Members:** Lissy Bryan, Miriam D-Souza, Karen Wilson were all voted on by closed ballot and welcomed as new members!

**New Business:**

- Per Peter Lenk: Member Sandra White has not been locatable – word is that her house became uninhabitable and is condemned; possible that she fell and is in the hospital. If anyone knows how to reach her through any means, please check on her and advise. She was an active member with Tibetan Terriers; she taught classes and served on the Board.
- Gabby Hughes made a motion to change the monthly club meeting hostess allowance amount from \$40 to \$50. Rocky Altimore amended the motion to an amount of \$60, Claibourne Jackson 2<sup>d</sup> the motion and it was passed by verbal vote.
- Patty Kilcullen noted that the current discount on classes for members is costing the club quite a bit of income and the Board has requested a committee be formed to review and make recommendation for change. Currently, members pay only \$40 for an 8 week class, whereas non-members pay \$140. It was noted that our competitors are charging significantly higher prices for classes. Donna Crumpler volunteered to head the committee and members Davina Lancaster, Rocky Altimore, Claibourne Jackson, Gabby Hughes and Kitty Wells volunteered to fill out the committee roster. The committee is tasked to report at the June membership meeting. Donna asked everyone to please email their thoughts and suggestions.

**Brags:** Brags were offered in abundance by many members.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Dave Frazier, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Reade Johnson and subsequently passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claibourne Jackson, Recording Secretary