RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB

# GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958 JANUARY 2025

## Old English Sheepdog 'Wallace' Wins ACE Therapy Dog Award for Canine Excellence

*By Elaine Waldorf Gewirtz*

When "Wallace," a 100-pound Old English Sheepdog, peeks at you from behind his shaggy dog haircut, prepare for a super-duper snuggle. The 4-year-old therapy dog from San Antonio, Texas, possesses a unique sixth sense about who could use help, usually before they even realize it. His owner, Allison Redgrave LaField, rescued Wallace (Wallace Le Roi De L'Amour Sauve' THDN, THD, THDA, THDX, THDD, CGCA, CGCU) from the Homeward Bound/San Antonio Great Dane Rescue after fostering the 8-week-old puppy. His name translates to "King of Love Rescued."

LaField could never have predicted that Wallace's intuition would save her from nearly drowning in her pool just four months after adoption or that he would alert her to her oncoming seizures without any training. Recognizing that her dog had an innate ability to help others, they joined the therapy dog program, visiting disabled veterans at the Brooke Army Medical Center. But their journey took a significant turn when their team was the first one called to comfort the family members of the 19 students, two teachers, and 17 injured in the tragic mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. Here, Wallace's therapy dog work took on a new dimension.

Wallace and LaField followed up their therapy visits by working in multiple programs, including supporting active and retired military veterans and visitors, enlistees and hospital staff, disabled children and adults, and hospice patients. His versatility and caring spirit earned him the 2024 Award for Canine Excellence in the Therapy Dog category. Each year, the AKC Humane Fund awards five dogs who do extraordinary things in the service of humankind in different categories: Service Dog, Search and Rescue Dog, Uniformed Service K-9s, Exemplary Companions, and Therapy Dogs, like Wallace. Dogs in this category are certified therapy dogs working in hospitals, schools, disaster sites, war zones, and wherever else the affection of a loyal dog can provide comfort.

From Second to Best Choice Dog

When a group of puppies, including three OES, a Great Pyrenees, and a Great Dane, were brought to the Homeward Bound Rescue, where LaField volunteered, she offered to foster Wallace's brother because he was the smallest puppy. Sadly, the brother died, so she took Wallace on May 1, 2020. This second-choice dog turned out to be a lifesaver.

Wallace loved swimming in her pool and spent hours jumping in. His passion for water and ability to sense danger came together three months later when LaField decided to remove the pool sweep from the water. As she leaned over the pool, she suffered

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# President's Message

*Gerrie Oliver*

An interesting program was held at the November meeting by Spiritual Intuitive and Animal Communicator Specialist, Pamela Miller. She provided an amazing story of her discovery of this special gift from when she was a very young child. She made a strong connection with her dog and thought that everyone could recognize and understand what animals were saying. As the story goes, her devoted pet knew she was hungry and immediately secured her a sandwich stolen from a worker at a nearby construction site. Her mother could not believe it!

Pam went on to share additional insights, but the fascinating part began when she connected with Tammy Deller and her "very furry" dog—long before Tammy had the Leuenberger's. Although this was well past Halloween it was still a little "spooky". She identified particulars that Tammy confirmed about her beautiful dog that passed.

Pam also picked up on a very special dog in Elaine Barone's past and shared details that continued to amaze us.

I confess I began listening to the program with skepticism but left that evening with a new appreciation of the possibilities. If you missed the meeting, you could still contact Pamela at 201-394-2532 to schedule a private session. She even offered a special 10% discount to Ramapo Kennel Club members, which is good until 12/31/25. Please let me know if you want a coupon.

The next regular meeting is on January 8th, 2025, at 8:00 PM via ZOOM.

Best wishes to you and your families, four-legged included, for a very Happy & Healthy New Year!

Stay well and safe,
*Gerrie*

## Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

**President - 2024-2026**
Gerrie Oliver
olivergerrie@gmail.com

**Vice President - 2023-2025**
Jeffrey David Ball

**Treasurer - 2024-2026**
Ruth Henningsen

**Recording Secretary - 2023-2025**
Sue Chandler

**Corresponding Secretary - 2024-2026**
Tilly Grassa
tgcreative@aol.com

**Board of Directors 2024-2026**
Elaine Barone
Tim Dewar

**2024-2026**
Cindy Pierson
Krisitin Pierson

**AKC Delegate - 2023-2026**
Jeffrey David Ball

# Minutes

## Ramapo KC General Meeting (11/13/2024)

**Call to Order**
The Board meeting of Ramapo Kennel Club was held on Wednesday, November 13 at the American Legion in Pequannock, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 9:06 PM after a presentation by Animal Spirit Intuitive Communicator Pamela Miller. The meeting was presided over by the President.

**Attendees**
Gerrie Oliver, Sue Chandler, Elaine Barone, Ruth Henningsen, Jeffrey Ball, Tilly Grassa, Lisa Brooks, Patricia Swaney, Tammy Deller, Karen Stickel, Denise Semashko (guest), Armand Aguirre (guest)

**Approval of Minutes**
Minutes of last meeting were published in the Growl. Motion to accept by Jeffrey Ball, seconded by Ruth Henningsen.

**Officers' Reports**
*Corresponding Secretary:* closing notices received for our point show. Notice from the AKC about a bad breeder law under consideration.
*Treasurer:* Checking account $25,909.75 (includes money market fund).

**Committee Reports**
*Membership:* Writeups published in the Growl for Denise Semashko and Jack Grassa. A vote was taken by the membership and Denise Semashko (Armand Aguirre, family member) and Jack Grassa were accepted as members.
*Show handling class:* Attendance has improved (8-10 dogs in last classes). Last session for the year will be November 19.
*Obedience/KPT classes:* Classes went very well and are completed for 2024. Next session will begin January 15th. Some puppy kindergarten students have already signed up for the Beginner class.
*Awards Committee:* Form will be simplified and will be published in the Growl. An early reminder that all 2024 awards should be submitted by March 15, 2025.
*Program Committee:* Animal Reiki specialist program will be considered in 2025.
*Sunshine Committee:* Nothing to report
*Point Show Committee:* Final numbers not available as bills still need to be paid. Show Chair Jeffrey Ball thanked members for their help, especially working to bring costs down. However, the show operated at a loss due to low entry.
*NJFDC:* In person meeting to take place December 2 at the Hampton Inn in Bridgewater.

**Old Business**
RKC Jacket order is in and members can take their jackets or hoodies after payment.

**New Business**
*Annual Holiday Party:* It was decided that we hold the event on Wednesday, December 11th. The dinner will be held at the VFW in Butler and will be catered. There will be a Yankee Gift Exchange (value:$20). Cost will be approximately $32 to be paid in advance. Cindy Pierson will provide the menu and final costs; Tilly Grassa will send information to membership. Dinner will be at 6:30 and will be BYO. Volunteers for desserts would be appreciated.

Jeffrey Ball will be attending the Orlando AKC Delegates meeting. He hopes to talk to other member clubs to gather various ideas for holding point shows that will not operate at a loss for the club (eg, holding 2 shows a day, partnering with other clubs, extending length of cluster).

Communication received from Mountain Laurel Cluster to share a show weekend in 2025. Proposal looks interesting but will respectfully decline at this time as the shows are held in Bloomsburg, PA (about 3 hrs. from Northern NJ).

**Adjournment**
Motion made by Lisa Brooks, seconded by Elaine Barone. End time 9:51 PM.

*Submitted by Sue Chandler*

# A Truly Heartwarming Story

This past August Barbara Guile, my mom who is also Gerrie Oliver's sister, passed away. Her elderly Shih-Tzu Max now needed a home.

*Max the hero dog.*

Fortunately, through our wonderful dog friend connections, we found a great new home for Max with a woman named Chris from Tarrytown NY.

*Chris with Max.*

A few weeks ago, Max became a Hero! He woke Chris from a sound sleep because he smelled smoke coming from the adjacent condominium and sensed the danger. Max woke Chris who in turn woke others who made it to safety. Sadly, five homes were destroyed and unfortunately, the woman who lived next door to Chris was not so fortunate and died in the fire.

Through my mother's death two lives were saved though her dog.

*Submitted bu Kim Luikert*

# ACE Award, *continued from page 1*

a seizure, hitting her head and hip on the edge, and tumbled into the water.

"I sank to the bottom and felt too confused to get air," says LaField, a former competitive swimmer. When she looked up, she saw Wallace's giant, thick paws and bubbles and knew it was a sign to swim toward the bubbles and Wallace at the surface.

"I grabbed onto his coat as he paddled to the shallow end," LaField says. "I had a near-death experience, and if it weren't for Wallace, I wouldn't have survived."

LaField knew this was the reason for keeping him forever. "He was there for me, and I was determined to always be there for him," LaField says. She researched Old English Sheepdogs, also known as the "Bobtail," since Wallace was the first OES she had ever known. "I wasn't sure if the heat and all his hair in the Texas arid and humid weather range would go together, but I was committed to making it work," LaField says. "Since this breed is rare here, people would have paid a lot for him, and part of me felt bad for taking that money away from rescue, but after what he had done for me, I couldn't part with him."

**Surprise Service Dog**

LaField never intended to get a service dog, but after the pool incident, Wallace alerted her that she was about to suffer a seizure and qualified for the job. "He gets in my face and huffs, then raises and lowers his big paw like he's saluting me," LaField says. "When I fall, he stands like a statue and lets me lean on him, so I can pull myself off the floor."

She knew Wallace would benefit from training classes and quickly realized he was a fast learner. LaField enrolled Wallace in pet manners, pet shaping, scent work, search work, and therapy dog. As a herding breed, this gentle giant's instinct was to control the movement of other animals, or in this case, his owner, so he stayed close to LaField and always within sight.

The classes helped Wallace to accept other people to pet him and to feel comfortable with people coming at him from different directions, going places, and resisting the urge to jump at people. "In scent classes, he's like the big full-bodied Muppet, 'Mr. Snuffleupagus' on Sesame Street, because he's never in a hurry and takes his time lumbering from place to place, but he never missed a find," LaField says.

*Continued next page*

# ACE Award, *continued*

It wasn't a stretch when Wallace tested for his therapy certification through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs in Cheyenne, Wyoming, an international registry of certified therapy dog teams. He passed with flying colors, prompting a referral to their first therapy dog assignment at the Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) in Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Working four-to-six-hour shifts interspersed with 30-minute breaks, Wallace and LaField comforted patients on the mental health floor. With many military enlisted patients who had come a long way from home to wait for pre-anesthesia, an emergency room exam, or surgery, the team provided reassurance that everything would be okay. "Wallace especially loved seeing men in uniform but offered everyone solace. A few girls even offered to braid his hair," LaField says. "If someone once had an OES and heard that an OES therapy dog was here, they would run from the other side of the building to see him."

Wallace achieved rock star status in no time. "Everyone at Brooke knew his name, and when he characteristically ambled down the hall, you couldn't help feel good," LaField says.

**Canine Swim Clinic Counselor**

As a former competitive swimmer, LaField coaches a one-hour clinic for amputees and brain-injured veteran athletes training for Paralympic swimming and the Invictus Games at the Alamo Heights Natatorium in San Antonio. While his owner coaches, Wallace hangs out on the pool deck.

While the dog may seem as if he's off duty, his senses always activate when someone's in trouble. When a man was experiencing breathing difficulties in the pool, Wallace immediately knew something was wrong and went to the pool's edge. The swimmer went to the side and reached up to pet Wallace. Another time, a woman in the water felt dizzy. When Wallace went to the side, LaField knew to call for the lifeguard. "Wallace wouldn't return to rest on the deck until the woman was taken care of," LaField recalls. "He naturally checks on people."

On Wednesday afternoons, the team visits the Harbour Hospice in San Antonio, Texas. "When a young woman who was a victim of a shooting saw Wallace for the first time, she cried and stroked his ears," LaField recalls. "When he gave her all the time she needed, I couldn't have been prouder of this perfect dog."

**Offering Comfort to Uvalde Families**

The day following the mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas, BAMC called LaField's therapy dog team first to report to the scene. "Driving there, I realized that Wallace and I had never received any crisis training, but when we arrived, an officer in uniform said how glad he was to see Wallace."

The team was assigned to visit with law enforcement, who sorely needed comfort. "I had never realized how stressful law enforcement personnel would be in a situation like this, but Wallace seemed to understand the assignment," LaField says.

While everyone thinks their dog is the best on the planet, it's hard not to acknowledge the many gifts this Old English Sheepdog has offered so many people in such a short time.

"I feel blessed to have this sensitive, intelligent big floof of an animal in my life," LaField says. "He makes me feel safe and brings smiles to everyone. If Wallace could speak, I suspect he would roll his eyes under all that hair, shake his head, and mutter, 'Hey, it's no big deal. It's just what I do, so let's go do it and make every day count.'

# AKC NEWS

• *Eligibility of Championship Points for a Class Animal Awarded Reserve Best in Show*. The Delegate body at the Delegates meeting held on Friday, December 13, 2024, in Orlando, FL. has approved changes to Chapter 16, Section 2 of the AKC Rules Applying to Dog Shows which inserts verbiage to award championship points to a class dog awarded Reserve Best in Show. Points earned would be based on the highest number of points awarded in any breed from all groups excluding that from which Best in Show advanced. This will be effective for events occurring on or after July 2, 2025.

• *Limited Breed Clubs (Groups) Events*. Limited-breed clubs have the option to hold up to four shows on no more than three days in a calendar year. Limited-breeds clubs holding four shows may do so provided at least two shows qualify for the two in one day option.

• December 20, 2024, following 40 minutes of floor debate, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Beagle Brigade Act (S. 759) to support U.S. detection dogs. The Senate passed this measure in November. The bill now goes to the President for his signature.
AKC has been pleased to advocate over several years for passage of this measure to provide permanent funding to support the training of U.S. agricultural detection dogs.
The Beagle Brigade Act provides statutory funding authority for the National Detector Dog Training Center operated by U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS). The center, located in Newnan, Georgia, trains dogs to inspect passenger baggage, cargo, mailed packages, and vehicles to detect foreign pests and diseases that threaten domestic agriculture and natural resources. The USDA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection use approximately 120 detector dogs throughout the country. The majority of the USDA's specially trained dogs who train at the Newnan facility and go on to work at airports and other ports of entry are Beagles, thus the name "Beagle Brigade".
AKC thanks Congressmen Sanford Bishop and Senate sponsors Warnock, Ernst and Crapo for their leadership on advancing this important measure.
To learn more about the Beagle Brigade, visit *https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/news/meet-the-beagle-brigade/*.

The AKC Event Operations team maintains a blog that contains these, as well as other, updates to clubs. The blog is a useful resource of information and can be found at ***https://akceventoperations.wordpress.com***

# Meet the Danish-Swedish Farmdog, AKC's Newest Recognized Dog Breed

*By Elaine Waldorf Gewirtz*

AKC

**Moving to Recognition**

While the Danish-Swedish Farmdog is joining the ranks of breeds recognized by the AKC, it isn't a new breed. As old as the Vikings, skeletons of similar Farmdog types have been found in Viking burial sites dating back 1,000 to 1,200 years. "Today, the breed is called 'Farmdogs' or 'DSF' in the U.S., and 'Dansk Svensk Gardshund' or 'Danski' in Europe," says Kincaid. "It's popular in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands; you see people walking them everywhere."

Once seen on small farms in Denmark and Sweden, the Farmdog nearly became extinct when the Industrial Revolution came and farms were sold. But the Danish and Swedish kennel clubs worked together to save them. When officially naming the breed, Denmark and Sweden held the dog in such high esteem that neither country wanted to relinquish ownership. Hence, the breed carries both country names.

While Farmdogs likely accompanied their families to the U.S. from Scandinavia for many years, Melody Farquhar-Chang of California imported "Agerhonen's Flora" from a breeder in Norway in 1998. Two DSFs from other breeders followed when Helene Riisgaard-Pedersen of Wyoming imported "Javika's Prinsesse Madeleine" from Denmark in 1999, and Brita Lemmon of California imported "Gonzo's Folmer (Vago) from Denmark in 2000.

Farquhar-Chang, Riisgaard-Pedersen, and Lemmon organized a Danish-Swedish Farmdog club in 2003. Farquhar-Chang helped guide the breed's entry into the AKC Foundation Stock Service (FSS) program in 2011, the first step toward AKC recognition.

**Building Breed Knowledge**

Receiving full AKC recognition means letting the public know there's a new breed in town. When people in the U.S. see Danish-Swedish Farmdogs for the first time, they don't know what breed they are, but they'll likely play a guessing game with the owners. "People on the street or even at a dog show will stop and ask me if my DSF is a Beagle or a Jack Russell," Kincaid says. "If they know a Jack Russell, they'll guess Jack Russell, and if they know a Beagle, they'll guess Beagle."

After a man insisted a club member's dog was a purebred "South Carolina Squirrel Dog," club members printed t-shirts with a saying, "No, it's not a Jack Russell, Beagle, or a South Carolina Squirrel Dog. It's a Danish-Swedish Farmdog." "It's our favorite t-shirt, and we wear it when we're out with our dogs," Kincaid says.

To educate people about their breed, club members designed a strategic plan that included taking their dogs on public outings, printing pamphlets, attending judges' seminars, and decorating a booth at AKC Meet the Breed events. "We want people to know as much as possible about them," Kincaid says. "When we sell a dog, we mentor new owners."

**Small Breed in a Do-it-All Package**

This cheerful, friendly, outgoing companion dog, was once known as a Danish Pinscher. "We want people to know it's not a Terrier, but a Pinscher-type dog most likely descended from Pinscher-Fox Terrier crosses," Kincaid says.

More rectangular than a terrier, DSFs are 12 to 15 inches and weigh 15 to 20 pounds. Single and smooth-coated, in patches of different colors, sizes, and combinations of black, brown, yellow, all shades of tan, and fawn, the breed helped to bring in cows, but its specialty was its agility and speed in vermin control. "A multipurpose barnyard dog, DSFs live to hunt vermin, but at home, they're one of the easiest dogs to live with," Kincaid says. "The Farmdog's biggest attribute is its health," Kincaid says. "The typical life span is 16 to 18 years, and the oldest in California was healthy until he died at age 20."

If you see a dog on the street that looks like a cuddler, a charmer, and a willing worker, know that it's not a South Carolina Squirrel Dog but a Danish-Swedish Farmdog.

# RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARD APPLICATION

## CALENDAR YEAR JAN. 1, 2024 THROUGH DEC. 31, 2024

Reg. name of dog with titles_____

Call name_____ Dog_____ Bitch _____

AKC#_____Breed/Variety_____

Owner(s)_____

Address_____

_____email_____

Breeder_____

Owned by member(s) _____ Bred by Member(s)_____

Handled by Member(s)++++++++++++++++_____

**Indicate name of RKC Member who is to receive the award*

Please check if this is the first time submitting awards._____

## CATEGORY

**HIGHEST AKC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

BIS All Breed or Specialty Show _____ Date _____

High in Trial Obedience Show _____Date_____ _____

Best in Field Trial _____ Date_____

High in Trial Rally RA/RE combined_____Date_____

High In Trial Rally Triple Score:_____ Date_____

CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD

Conformation Champion Show _____ Date _____

Grand Champion Show _____ Date_____

Bronze,Silver,Gold Gr CH Show_____ Date_____

Obedience Trial Champion Show _____ Date _____

Field Trial Champion Show _____ Date _____

Rally Champion Show_____Date_____

Agility Champion Show_____Date_____

**OBEDIENCE & RALLY TITLE AWARDS** (AKC, UKC, WCS CDSP will be recognized )

**TITLE**

_____ Show _____ Date__ _____

_____ Show _____ Date___ _____

_____ Show _____Date___ _____

**OTHER AKC TITLES** (Herding, Field, Agility, Barn Hun,t Scent work etc.)

_____Show _____ Date _____Country

_____Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

Show _____ Date _____ Country

**********

**Photocopies of all Titles must be sent with application. No awards will be given without photocopies. NO EXCEPTIONS!! Non-regular Titles will only count towards the breeders' award and certificates of achievement. Temperament testing is a Non-AKC Title.**

## RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION, continued

### Non-Regular Awards or Achievements and Requirements

Additional Awards (STAR, CGC, CGCA, THERAPY DOG,CAT, TT, or parent club titles etc. (applicable for Certificate of Achievement only)

_____Show _____ Date _____ Country_____
_____Show _____ Date _____ Country_____
_____Show _____ Date _____ Country_____
_____Show _____ Date _____ Country_____
_____Show _____ Date _____ Country_____

**AENNCHEN ANTONELLI / GILMA BLAUVELT - MOSS BREEDERS AWARD**

1. Presented to a club member who is the breeder of record of dogs winning the most titles in each calendar year. Dogs do not need to be owned by the club member. It is the total number of titles won which determines the winner, not the number of individual dogs.
2. Any recognized titles shall be included, ie Champion, Obedience, Field, Working Dog, etc.
3. Titles may be won in any country of the world.

**LEE ABRAHAM AWARD FOR BREEDER OF THE YEAR**

Presented to the owner of the bitch who:

1. Produced the most champions (bred by owner from one bitch only) during the calendar year.
2. Only American Kennel Club Championships to count.

**MILLIE MC CABE AWARD FOR STUD DOG OF THE YEAR**

Presented to the owner of the Stud Dog who:

1. Produced the most "Champions" during the calendar year.
2. Only American Kennel Club Championships to count.

**WILLIAM AND RUBY KLEINMANNS MEMORIAL AWARD**

This Award is figured from January 1, 2024 thru December 31, 2024. This award will be based on the greatest number of dogs defeated in breed competition (up to and including Best in Show) by a single dog **handled by its Owner.** Dogs owned or co-owned by a Professional handler are excluded. If the dog is owned and handled by more than one member (neither of which is a Professional handler), both members will share the award equally.

**LESLEE VALENTE MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE IN OBEDIENCE**

This award is given to a member who handled the dog with the highest average scores in AKC Novice A or B from January 1, 2024, thru December 31, 2024. Minimum of three scores required. Shows and scores must be provided. Winner is to retain custody of the award for the year.

**RALLY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

This award is presented to the RKC member who has achieved the AKC Rally Advanced/Excellent title. To earn this title, the dog must have completed the requirements for the Rally Excellent title and received qualifying scores in both Rally Advanced B and Rally Excellent B at 10 separate trials. 1/1/24-12/31/24

**PATRICIA A. SCULLY MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE IN OPEN OBEDIENCE**

This award is given to a member who handled the dog with the highest average scores to obtain the title of CDX in AKC Open A or B from January 1, 2024, thru December 31, 2024. Minimum of three scores required. Shows and scores must be provided. Winner is to retain custody of the award for the year.

## RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION, continued

**RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

The following rules govern the choice of the recipient of this award each year.

1. This award is presented to the RKC member who has provided dedicated service to the club and the sport of purebred dogs.
2. Award is given to a club member who has received the most letters of recommendation by the membership.
3. In the event of a tie the recipient shall be chosen by the Board of Directors from those individuals recommended by letters from the membership.
4. To be presented at the June Awards Dinner. Recipient only may be told to insure their being present.

**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB OUTSTANDING SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

1. This award celebrates those individuals who deserve special recognition for having made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embody the AKC code of sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club. The award is given to a club member who has been nominated and approved by the majority of the board of directors and officers **PRIOR** to the May meeting and shall be presented at the June awards dinner. The awards chair will be notified by March 31st. The recipient only may be notified by the awards chair to insure their being present.

**Eligibility for Ramapo Kennel Club Awards**

In order to apply and receive any Achievement Awards MEMBERS must fulfill at least two of the following during the calendar year January 1, 2024thru December 31, 2024:

1. Work the Point Show.
2. Work the Match Show.
3. Attend two (2) Club Meetings
4. Work at Obedience and/or Show Handling Classes
5. Work on a Club Committee.
6. Participate in a Public Education Demonstration through the Club
7. Participate in a Pet Therapy Session through the Club.

(Life Members or members living more than 60 miles from show functions are exempt)
**In addition,** to give recognition to a greater number of members, Achievement Awards will be limited to three (3) consecutive wins by a member.

**All award entries must be received by March 31, 2025 with photocopies of Wins and Titles to :**

**ELAINE BARONE**
**10 BIRCH ROAD**
**KINNELON, NJ 07405-2505**
**E-mail elaineb.bowow@juno.com**

YOU MAY E-MAIL YOUR LETTERS FOR THE "GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD"
Feel free to e-mail me your awards ONLY if you can scan the forms and certificates required.
Thank you and I look forward to hearing from all of you. *Elaine Barone*

# CONFORMATION HANDLING CLASS

Ramapo Kennel Club show handling classes,
VFW Post #8096,
69 Carey Ave., Butler, NJ.
Conformation Drop-in classes: $18.00 per dog,
RKC members: $15.00 per dog
Six-class package: $98 (saving of $8)

Show handling classes are on Tuesdays at 7PM at the VFW, 69 Carey Ave., Butler, NJ

**1/14, 1/28**

**2/4, 2/18**

**FMI:**
Kristin Pierson: *piersonkn@hotmail.com*

# OBEDIENCE TRAINING CLASSES

Ramapo Kennel Club obedience classes, are on Wednesdays at the VFW Post #8096, 69 Carey Ave., Butler, NJ.

Obedience, KPT and Beginner: $180.00
Shelter/Rescue dog (with proof): $170.00
RKC members: $140.00

**PUPPY KINDERGARTEN - 6:30**
**BEGINNER OBEDIENCE - 7:30**

**Jan 15, 22, 29**

**Feb 5, 19, 26**

**FOR CLASS INFORMATION CONTACT:**
Ruth Hennigsen 973-697-9456
*snodogruth@gmail.com*
Elaine Barone 973-492-1876
*elaineb.bowow@juno.com*

JACK GRASSA

# Dates to remember:

**All membership meetings are held at**
**American Legion Post 450**
**11 Oak Ave.**
**Pequannock, NJ 07440 at 8:00 PM**
**(unless otherwise noted)**

**January 8** — **RKC Member Meeting** via Zoom at 8PM, board meeting at 7:15PM.

**February 12** — **RKC Member Meeting** 8PM, board meeting at 7:15, American Legion Hall, Pequannock, NJ

# Brags, etc.

*A brag from Mary Gallagher: -*

*Alicia Keys earned her first UDX leg at K-9 OTC trial this past December.*

## Got Stuff?

Send your stories, news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, *tgcreative@aol.com*. Remember the *Growl* comes out about a week before each monthly meeting. Submissions are due two weeks before the meeting. The *Growl* is by and for the members so I need your help to make it interesting.

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GROWL

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Designer/Editor/Photographer:
Tilly Grassa/TGCreative Services
tgcreative@aol.com
973-650-6556