



# **RAT TALES**

## **Newsletter of the Puget Sound Earthdog Club**

### **Winter 2017**

*Editor Melissa Knapp melissa.s.knapp@gmail.com*

#### **PSEC Spring Earthdog Test Weekend - May 20-21**

Our Spring 2017 test weekend will be May 20-21 at Emerald Meadows Farm in Bellingham, WA. There will be two tests on Saturday and one on Sunday. Our judges will be Lia Bijsterveld, Kathi Ogawa, and (hopefully) Marian Shaw. Test co-chairs are Betsy Fortman and Regina Delacourt with Anne Sanders as trial secretary.

**Afternoon practice sessions will be held for both above and underground work on Friday and Saturday (May 19 & 20)**

As always, volunteers will be needed on the day of the tests. There are plenty of opportunities to help (e.g. den set up, gate steward, judge steward, secretary table, hospitality, raffle). No previous experience required! Each volunteer receives a ticket for the Volunteers Raffle each time they help out. A drawing will be held at the end of each test, and the winner will receive a free entry in any of the club's upcoming tests.

Please bring something for the potluck lunch each day! Drinks will be provided. And be sure to bring your dog's beads!

Overnight parking and camping (no hook ups) are available but MUST be reserved in advance. Contact Betsy Fortman to sign up: *Bfortman@frontier.com*

Everyone is invited to join us for dinner with the judges Saturday evening at a local restaurant. Sign-ups will be taken Saturday morning.

**A copy of the premium list will available on the PSEC website:  
<https://psec-earthdog.org/Events.htm>**

## **Fall 2016 Earthdog Tests?????**

In case you were wondering, the PSEC tests that had been set for last October were cancelled when a powerful windstorm came through the area. (You know it's windy when the porta-potty blows over!) We weren't able to reschedule the event but are looking forward to seeing everyone at the tests in May.

## **PSEC Summer 2017 Earthdog Tests**

PSEC's Summer Earthdog Test weekend will be held July 15-16 at the Whall's in Kent, WA. More details to come so watch for postings on the club website, Facebook page, and on the PSEC Yahoo groups:

For club members, please subscribe to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PSEC>

For non-members, you can subscribe to the site:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PSEC-Info>

## **PSEC on Facebook!**

"Puget Sound Earthdog Club" has a group on Facebook. Join to see recent posting of pictures from the January practice/meeting at the Whall's in Kent last month. Check out the articles and pictures with ideas for practicing for earthdog at home.

## 2016 New Title Awards

### Canadian Master Earthdog:

- **Noodle** Doxikota Uno Noodle MW CDX BN RAE TD AM/CAN ME Dachshund – Betsy Fortman

### Senior Earthdog:

- **Twizzle** GChB Camcrest-Rime Twizzle on ICE RN TDX TDU NJPNFP SE RATCH – Westie - William & Anne Sanders & Sandy Campbell
- **Fonzie** The Fonz of Wyndox ML UD BN RA TDX SE - Dachshund – Betsy Fortman
- **Gino** GCH Dar-LU Giovanni CD RA SE RATO - Smooth Fox Terrier – Michele Luther & Susan Altmeyer
- **Rebel** Regina's Rebel SE - Yorkshire Terrier – Regina Delahunt

### Junior Earthdog:

- **Rebel** Regina's Rebel SE - Yorkshire Terrier – Regina Delahunt



**November Meeting Highlights**  
**November 27, 2016 Stanwood, WA**

Members Present: Michele Luther, Jeff Dairiki, Sue Murray, Joyce Whall, Sill Sanders, Anne Sanders, Pattie Moon, Melissa Knap, Sandy Campbell

Guests Present: Sandra Distefano, Darlene Ulish

New Business: Spring 2017 PSEC tests will be held May 20 and 21<sup>st</sup> at Emerald Meadows Farm in Bellingham. Recent modifications to AKC Earthdog test rules permit clubs to hold practice sessions in the same dens as tests being held on the same weekend. It was decided that PSEC will offer organized practice session(s) at the test site. Days and times to be announced in the premium list. Members will need to volunteer to be on hand to help conduct the practice.

The club membership applications will be modified to include the wording: "Applicants accepted into the club after September 1 in the year applied are considered paid in full for the following year."

Nominations:

Nominating committee (Nancy Field, chair, Jack Laney, Michele Luther) submitted the following slate for 2017:

President: Melissa Knapp  
Vice President: Michele Luther  
Secretary: Betsy Fortman  
Treasurer: Joyce Whall  
Board Members: Jill Petersen, Geoffrey Dairiki

Elections will be held at annual meeting date to be determined in January 2017

Awards: Reminder by Melissa Knapp that members whose dogs earned Earthdog titles in 2016 must submit that information to her prior to the Annual meeting in January when the awards will be announced and presented.

Membership Applications:

Second reading for Associate membership for Barbara Johnson. Application was approved by the board.

Second reading for Regular membership for Sandra Distefano was made. Members present unanimously approved membership.

**January Meeting Highlights**  
**January 28, 2017 Kent, WA**

Members Present: Betsy Fortman, Joyce Whall, Sil Sanders, Melissa Knapp, Regina Delahunt, Barbara Johnson, Nancy Field

Guests: Casey Young, Heidi Ekreet, Laura Bolin

Club Website:

Jeff Dairiki has requested photos for the website. Send to: [dairiki@diariki.org](mailto:dairiki@diariki.org)

Summer Earthdog Tests

The original test weekend dates were July 8-9 but we will request a change from AKC to July 15-16 to avoid conflicting with the dog shows on July 7-10 in Puyallup (previously held in June). The tests will be held at the Whall's in Kent with one test each day and practices that weekend on Friday and Saturday afternoons. Michele Luther and Melissa Knapp will co-chair.

Fall Earthdog Tests

The PSEC Fall Earthdog three-test weekend will be October 21-22 at Emerald Meadows Farm in Bellingham, WA. Barnhunt Academy will be hosting barnhunt trials at that location as well.

**About Our Club**

PSEC meets at least four times a year for club meetings and practices. We host Earthdog test weekends in May, July, and October for a total of eight tests each year.

**Club Objectives**

- to promote the natural and trained hunting and working abilities of small Terriers and Dachshunds when exposed to hunting situations
- to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of all breeds eligible for AKC earthdog tests and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at earthdog tests
- to conduct sanctioned earthdog tests and licensed earthdog tests under the rules of The American Kennel Club.

**2017 Club Officers and Board Members**

President	Melissa Knapp melissa.s.knapp@comcast.net
Vice president	Michele Luther darlufox@frontier.com
Secretary	Betsy Fortman bfortman@frontier.com
Treasurer	Joyce Whall Joyce.whall@gmail.com
Board members	Jill Petersen Dchipster1@Yahoo.com
	Jeff Dairiki dairiki@dairiki.org