



# AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, DC, Inc. *Newsletter*

[www.airedales-dc.org](http://www.airedales-dc.org)

February 2020



The ATCMW's visit to the Historic Congressional Cemetery in November.

### Club Officers

President	Corally Burmaster
Vice President	Mary Morningstar
Corresponding Secretary	Elaine LaMontagne
Recording Secretary	Elaine LaMontagne
Treasurer	Jeanne Esmond

### Directors

Pam McKusick  
Nancy Nykamp  
Wilder Leavitt  
Jackie Peebles  
Karl Broom

### Committee Chairs/Coordinators

Airedale Rescue	Pamela McKusick
Breeder Referral	Pamela McKusick
Newsletter	Jessica Rabin
Scottish Parade	Wilder Leavitt
Specialty Show	Corally Burmaster
Trophies	Deb Todhunter
Website	Karl Broom

**Website:** [www.airedales-dc.org](http://www.airedales-dc.org)

### The Club Objectives

- (a) To encourage those who breed Airedale Terriers to do so responsibly and with the welfare and improvement of the breed having highest priority.
- (b) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of perfection by which Airedale Terriers shall be judged.
- (c) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials.
- (d) To conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- (d) To institute and maintain programs which promote the welfare of individual Airedale Terriers through rescue and education, and through any other means which the Club considers helpful.

### Newsletter Disclaimer:

Newsletter articles are the views and opinions of the authors and are not official Club policy. Club policy is made only by motions passed by the board or by the voting membership.

## From the Editor...

Jessica Rabin

I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and is keeping warm and dry. I expect many of our dogs are sporting that woolly teddy bear look that is so endearing.

This issue features photos from our most recent club events, the dog-themed tour of Historic Congressional Cemetery in November and the Scottish Walk in December. We also learn about Nosework, a natural fit for terriers. In addition, the issue includes a reprinted article originally published by the Anne Arundel Community College student newspaper, the *Campus Current*, about how the campus police helped a colleague and myself prepare our Service Dogs in Training for going through a security screening process. And as always, we are pleased to congratulate club members on their successes in conformation and performance events.

It is never too early to start thinking about submissions for the next newsletter. You can send in your articles, announcements, training questions, or photos at any time (text to Jessica at [jgrabin@aacc.edu](mailto:jgrabin@aacc.edu) and photos to Corally at [clickertrain@verizon.net](mailto:clickertrain@verizon.net)). The newsletter's purpose is to be informational and educational, but all club members are encouraged to post anecdotes, photos, and videos to the club's Facebook page.

Hope to see you and your Airedale(s) at our Specialty Show in April!



## Historic Congressional Cemetery tour:

On November 9, under fittingly overcast skies, approximately 20 ATCMW members and 15 Airedales took part in a dog-themed tour of Historic Congressional Cemetery, "Where the Bones are Buried: HCC and Man's Best Friend." For those who missed it, docent Dr. Susan Kilgard is happy to arrange an encore excursion.



## New Titles

Hugh Garner (son of member Nancy Nykamp) showed his Airedale, CH Joval Sweet Strawberry Shortcake (Berry), to her Champion title on September 2, 2019, going Best of Breed at the Schooley Mountain Kennel Club All Breed Show in Morristown, NJ. Hugh, then 11 years old, exclusively handled Berry to her Championship. This significant accomplishment was made ever so meaningful when Judge Sue Goldberg shared with Hugh that she had been friends with his grandparents, the late Dr Hugo and Joanne Nykamp.



Coldstream Take it to the Limit (Caleb), partnered with Jessica Rabin, earned his Canine Good Citizen and Trick Dog Novice titles on November 5, 2019.



Coldstream North by Northwest (Alex), owned by Bill and Lynn Nelson, earned his Agility Excellent title on October 26, 2019 and his Agility FAST Open title on December 6, 2019. Alex also completed his Fast CAT title on November 29, 2019.







Coldstream Peacemaker (Leo), owned by Lynda and Rob Tison, earned his Canine Good Citizen title on February 25, 2020.

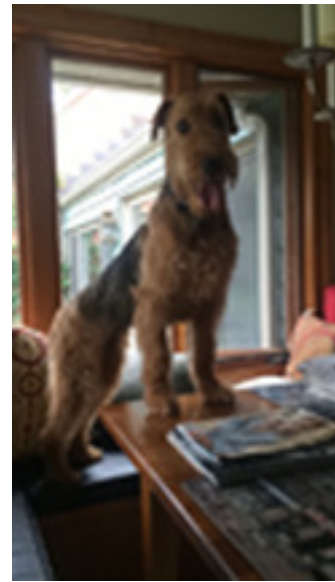


Table manners: Jack Abiuso's Annie

## Airedale Activities



Ann Riley's Gibson enjoying Canadian snow.



Hugh Nykamp and friend visiting Santa.



Sydney Luber and Champ



Jessica Rabin and Caleb at the Air and Space Museum

# Introduction to Nosework

Editor's Note: Having discovered that club member Franchesca Rodgers has been taking her Airedale Coldstream Talk of the Town (Gus) to Nosework classes, I asked her to share some information about the experience. Her responses to my questions are below.

Q: What is Nosework?

A: Nosework is the foundation of many dog sports and jobs: TSA bomb-sniffing dogs, police drug-sniffing dogs and certain medical alert service dogs all are trained in specific types of Nosework. At its core, NW is training your dog to find a specific scent and then rewarding him for his find.

Q: Why did you decide to get Gus involved?

A: I quickly came to realize that Gus needs a job to be calm and happy. While most sports require physical maturity (like agility) or a high level of obedience (like rally), Nosework requires zero obedience or physical skill. It's a great sport for beginners or anyone who may feel intimidated by more strict sports. It's also a popular sport for reactive dogs that tend to struggle in a typical class setting. In most NW classes, the dogs are separated for the entire class so they never see each other, and the sniffing itself is said to be great for the dog's brain and emotional state.

Q: What is a typical class like?

A: At the beginner level the dogs walk around a room filled with random objects like suitcases, a mop bucket, a table, etc. trying to find food hidden throughout the course. When they find the food, they eat it! The dogs work one at a time, off-leash. As you advance in training, you take the classes outside, put the find on a cue, and move off the food onto a scent. Most of the time it's birch.



Gus checking a box for scent.

Q: Are there competitions?

A: Yes there are! Nosework competitions—often called Scent Work—happen all over the country.

Barn Hunt is another common NW sport where dogs search in a barn for live rats that are contained. Terriers are known to be good competitors in Barn Hunt. It's in their DNA!

Q: What are the challenges and advantages of doing Nosework with an Airedale?

A: Given the Airedale's gift for hunting (and in my experience the inability to lift their nose off the ground) the find is the easy part. The dogs in Gus' classes tend to be about 75% terriers! Where Gus and I struggled was convincing him that the hot dogs and cheese-whiz were more exciting than the instructor. He's truly a people-person so he's happy just to have attention. Gus decided on his own pace when he was done clowning around for attention and wanted to find some snacks.

Q: What advice would you give to someone who is considering getting involved?

A: It's a great sport to try out! All you need to try it yourself at home are some cardboard



boxes and smelly foods. In my experience the classes are low-stress and the other students are supportive. After our first class, I was amazed how tired and calm Gus was. A relaxed and zen 10-month old Airedale was certainly worth the cost of the class! Who knew letting your dog sniff could be so rewarding?

## Dogs Learn to Fly

By Amber Nathan

(Originally published November 1, 2019 in the Anne Arundel Community College independent student newspaper, the *Campus Current*. Reprinted here by permission.)

AACC Public Safety officers in October helped two faculty members with disabilities train their service dogs to go through airport security.

English professor Jessica Rabin and psychology instructor Denise Portis are both raising and training their own service dogs, and because they plan to travel in the future, they wanted their puppies, Caleb and Finn, to feel prepared.

"We both fly occasionally," Portis said, "but the last thing you want to do to a puppy is put them in a situation ... that is so different from normal life. You want some experience ahead of time."

Caleb is a 10-month-old Airedale terrier, and Rabin has had him since he was eight weeks old. Finn is a 14-month-old golden retriever, and Portis has had him for one year.

Police Maj. Cleveland Smith and Police First Class Janene Kerpelman helped train Caleb and Finn.



Jessica Rabin and Caleb

"It's a familiarization for the animal so that the animal will get used to seeing someone in uniform," Smith said about the training.

Rabin said the training could translate to other situations, such as going through security screenings at museums, courthouses and the U.S. Naval Academy.

"Because they are puppies, we want to give them an opportunity to learn how to [go through security screenings] in a ... welcoming environment," Rabin said.

"When you fly, you tend to be a little ... anxious, a little stressed," Rabin added. "And you're surrounded by other people who are stressed and anxious. And that filters down to the dogs."



Rabin trained Caleb to help her wake up in the morning and alert her to sounds occurring around her because she has hearing loss.

Portis also suffers hearing loss, so Finn has some of the same duties as Caleb. But he also helps with Portis's balance disorder and neuropathy, a disease that affects her nerves and causes her to drop things.

Caleb and Finn learned how to sit still during airport security

checks and started getting used to workers wearing unfamiliar uniforms.

The group and the dogs met in the Central Services Building for the informal training, which they did with makeshift tools. For example, Kerpelman used a radio as a pretend scanner to wave over the puppies' vests.

Editor's Note: Most people know that the Americans with Disabilities Act guarantees access to public accommodations for Service Dogs who perform skilled tasks to mitigate their partner's disability. However, the ADA does not cover Service Dogs in Training (SDiT's). Access for SDiT's is determined at the state level; fortunately for Caleb and me, Maryland, DC, and Virginia all have provisions for SDiT teams. Flying with a SD, however, adds one more wrinkle: commercial airlines are not subject to the ADA or state laws. Instead, the Air Carrier Access Act sets out rules for flying with Service Dogs, and it does not require airlines to accept SDiT's. This stipulation, along with the inability to practice the screening process in a post-9/11 airport setting, makes it a challenge to prepare a young dog for his first flight. Thanks to the patience of Major Smith and Officer Kerpelman, and the ongoing support of the AACC Police Department, Caleb navigated the TSA screening process like a pro on his flights between BWI and Ft. Myers this winter.



# Scottish Walk

Thanks to Wilder Leavitt and Mary Morningstar for organizing our part of the parade this year, and to Jeanne Esmond for the colorful ruffs the dogs sported! Wilder reported over 29 people and 23 dogs marched behind our banner: a great turnout!!



## Upcoming Events

### Save the Dates

**April 17, 2020**

#### The ATCMW Specialty Show

Held every year in conjunction with the Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland, this is the first show of a 3 day weekend, and it features terrier breeds only. It's a wonderful place to meet other Airedale people, see really well groomed dogs, and visit with friends at the hospitality table. It's also a great place to support the ATCMW's Rescue effort. Rescue Chair, Pam McKusick, will have Airedale items and memorabilia for sale!

*Where we need help...both the hospitality table and the Rescue table will need people to help set up, "man" during the day, and help clean up in the afternoon. If you are available, please email Corally at [clickertrain@verizon.net](mailto:clickertrain@verizon.net)!*

**June 6, 2020**

#### The Spring Picnic

Once again we have a picnic shelter reserved at Cabin John Park! Bring your dogs and join us for lunch and a program (TBD). More information later.

**September 19, 2020**

#### The Fall Picnic

Our annual Fall picnic at Frying Pan Park. Again, more information later!

**December 5, 2020**

#### The Scottish Walk in Alexandria, VA

If you haven't been to this event before, you can find out more about the parade at <https://www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend>