



# Indy Dog & Disc Club Newsletter

Where having FUN is more important than winning!

April, 2013, Vol. 1

[www.indydoganddisc.com](http://www.indydoganddisc.com)

Check out IDDC's new website!

[indydoganddisc.com](http://indydoganddisc.com)

Thanks, Robin Herman, for getting this up and running. She did an awesome job! Please share the website with others who want to know more about our club. Lots of info can be found on it so check back often as it is being updated frequently.

#### 2013 IDDC Board

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2012 Indy Area discdoggers... *Where* **Having Fun!**

Chattanooga, TN Delphi, IN Dublin, OH Fishers, IN Kokomo, IN Louisville, KY Millrod, OH New Castle, IN Shelbyville, KY Versailles, KY West Chester, OH

Photo collage by Marshall Smith

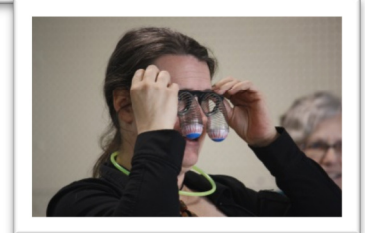
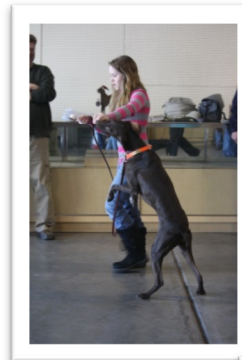
**What does good food plus good dogs plus crazy dog people equal???**

**You got it – a HOWLIDAY PARTY!**

On January 26 we got together at the Marion County Fairgrounds to enjoy each other's company, as well as compare our physical prowess in games NOT requiring a Frisbee, such as hawk-like vision for Marshall's game of Dingo (i.e. refer to the picture collage on the first page and see if you can quickly find the black & white dog catching the hot-pink disk) or extreme equilibrium which would allow you to simultaneously balance an egg (thankfully boiled) on a spoon and walk a dog with its leash wrapped around the same egg-balancing wrist. Bailey Hartsock aced that one, although perhaps more from ingenuity than stability as she had the forethought to hold a treat to Ryder's nose while walking him, thus making him the best leash-mannered dog at the party. The 2012 year end awards were announced while we all helped ourselves to seconds and thirds of the party-fare, including Chip Hershey's amazing pumpkin roll for which he will not share the recipe despite frequent badgering.

**2012 YEAR END AWARDS**

- Best Freestyle Team* ..... Nate Bednar & Rizzo
- Best New Freestyle Team* ..... Tim Hartock
- Most Improved Freestyle Team*..... Julie Rhea & Daisy
- Best Toss & Fetch Team* ..... Scott Jones & Rodeo
- Best New Toss & Fetch Team* ..... Margaret Rhea & Daisy
- Most Improved T & F Team*..... Julie Rhea & Daisy
- Best Overall Team* ..... Nate Bednar & Rizzo
- Best Overall Canine* ..... Rizzo
- Junior Handler of the Year*..... Bailey Hartsock
- Best New Move* ..... Stacy Simison for her double  
disk catch with Jetta
- Most Entertaining Team* ..... Deneane Hart & Ayres
- Keeping it Fun Award* ..... Doug Levy
- Most Embarrassing Moment* ..... Bailey Hartsock when Lucy ran off  
the field to visit the spectators
- Best Mental Attitude*..... Chip Hershey
- Best IDDC Event*..... Indiana Disc Dog Classic
- Distinguished Service Award* ..... Pat & Curt Daugherty
- Distinguished Service Award* ..... Sharon Galema
- Volunteer of the Year* ..... Sheridan Gilchrist



Top left – Bailey Hartsock & Ryder  
Top right – Marshall Smith & his  
new cooler/photo seat!  
Bottom – Amy King & x-ray glasses!  
*Photos by Julie Rhea*



## PUPSICLE HELD AT A NEW LOCATION!

Pupsicle took place at Alpha K9 University in Fishers this year on February 17. Primarily a dock-diving facility, Alpha K9 also has a large training area with a padded artificial turf that works well for an indoor disc competition when the snow and ice is raging outside. Over 164 rounds of competition were run with competitors from four states. For individual statistics, see the new web site [www.indydoganddisk.com](http://www.indydoganddisk.com) and click the "RESULTS" tab. The Pro Overall Champion team was Matt Bilderback and Bazooka, Intermediate Overall was Julie Rhea and Daisy, and the Novice Overall was Jill Best and Logan. Doug Levy's Santa costume and Yate's glowing Rudolph nose and accompanying Christmas music for their freestyle routine entertained us all and earned them the "Keeping it Fun" Award. Jill Best and Logan debuted their first freestyle routine and wowed everyone for a first-timer. She received the "Judges Choice" Award, and the "Crowd Pleaser" Award went to Greg Million and his new dog Rudy. Rudy and Greg are veterans in this sport, but Rudy was only recently adopted by Greg and we all loved seeing this new team hit it off so well. Chip Hershey played with his new dog, Trixie, and Rick Kimball played with baby Reggie. Although they are still pups, a lot of promise was seen and we can expect great things from these furry new comers in the future!



Clockwise from upper left: Matt Bilderback, Jill Best, Doug Levy, Jen Smith, & Stacy Simison.

*Photos by Marshall Smith*

## Mark your calendars for upcoming events:

Event	Location	2013 Dates	Format
Gretchen Invitational	Kokomo, IN	May 18-19th	Quadruped / UFO
Indiana Disc Dog Classic	Fishers, IN	June 29-30th	UFO Major / AWI
Skyhoundz NC Regional	New Castle, IN	July 20-21st	Skyhoundz NC Regional

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## Join us for play dates!

About once a month we get together to work on our skills. It's a great way to connect with other team members and for newbies to get some help from those more experienced in the sport. They're free, just bring proof of your dog's vaccinations if required by the hosting facility.

Upcoming Dates - Times are 3:00-6:00 for both days.

**April 28th** at Alpha K9 University, 10201 Hague Rd, Fishers. Indoors – come rain or shine!

**June 3rd** at Pierson Bark Park, 11787 E. 131st St, Fishers. Held outdoors in the small dog area.

Both these facilities require proof of vaccinations including Rabies, Bordetella, Distemper, and Parvo. In addition, Alpha K9 requires a yearly fecal test. Both events are free, however, if you want access to other areas besides the small dog area at Pierson's, you will need to purchase a daily pass for \$6.

**Meet Tim Hartsock!** Tim joined the club in 2012, so he is a relatively new face to IDDC, but a veteran in the dog training world, and has been around dogs literally all of his life. He grew up with hunting beagles, and became a professional hunting dog trainer about fifteen years ago, and a Search & Rescue (SAR) professional about seven years ago. When Tim was four years old he followed his father's hunting beagle into the woods and ended up getting lost for over 12 hours. That frightening experience at such a young age left him with a desire to help find people who are lost as he knows first-hand how scary that situation can be. Tim trained with law enforcement and homeland security, and is certified in both. Tim's current SAR dog is a five-year old beagle named Sam who has been certified since the age of one.



So how did Tim cross over to the dark side of disc dogging, you ask? Well, Tim's daughter Bailey wanted to train her dog Lucy in Frisbee, and the dad/trainer side of him found it hard to keep his mouth shut when she was learning and taking classes. He found it

easier to take his own dog to the classes so he could focus on him instead of bugging Bailey, but Sam's talent lies in his nose and not in catching Frisbees. It just so happened that Christina Curtis had an extra rescue dog with a lot of drive that needed a home, and she suggested Tim try her out for the weekend. Jewels came home with Tim, and Tim said he knew right away she'd be staying. The rest is history – you will see Tim and Jewels trying out their new routine this summer on the fields. And we're grateful to have Tim on the IDDC board as the demo / show director. He continues to train others in SAR and sport dog areas, such as conditioning and tracking. For more information, check out *Best Performance Dog* on facebook for training opportunities with Tim.



*Top photo is Tim and Jewels, and bottom photo is Christina Curtis and Sam. Sam is showing off his tracking prowess for the audiences at the Indianapolis Zoo this summer in "JUMP! The Ultimate Dog Show," along with Christina's dogs who are doing all sorts of Frisbee and agility tricks. IDDC member (and Tim's daughter) Bailey Hartsock is also assisting. Make sure to catch the show with your family!*

## In Memoriam

Given that IDDC was founded in 2000, we are sadly having to say goodbye to some of the dogs who got this club off and running (and jumping and catching!) These dogs were more than pets – they were our family members, our confidants. It is only fitting that we give them a proper goodbye. The following are tributes for three members we recently lost. RIP sweet furry souls – we will look for you over the Rainbow Bridge.

### Chaos (10/22/98 – 2/27/2013) by Amy King

It was a cold February morning much like today. I had just dropped off Ron at school and I was heading to Ellenberger Park. She was not yet four months old, but on the day she turned 12 weeks she had already grabbed a disc out of the air as it passed her heading for another. We walked down to the snow patched football field and I threw her the disc as far as my beginner skill could, and she ran as fast as her puppy legs would run. We did this until we could play no more, and then we left for home knowing we would be back the next day. Within a few months she had begun to learn so many tricks. She would even emulate the older dog's flips without taking her feet off the ground. We entered our first competition. We entered novice and stepped up for our first throw. We connected on a 20 yard catch! Wow, our best ever! We did our little pup freestyle routine next and then the obstacle course. It was hard, but short throws were our thing! We did fine. In the end we came in second! In our first competition! Now, if you know anything about the NCAC, you know there was a big party after. We met some great people as well as dogs. Then somewhere mid party the event organizers showed up and told us that there had been a mistake, Chaos was FIRST not second! We switched awards with the very gracious and future dear friend Ellen and Skylar. We had the bug bad now! Can you imagine? Me, the girl who could play no sports, inspired to take on a sport with a passion like I never had for anything before. My relationship with Chaos brought me to many places and has given me some of the most wonderful friends I have ever known. If you ever saw her on the field, you know the love she had for disc, and how beautiful she was flying through the air. What you might not have known is how she loved her family. On the field she was my dog, but at home it was all Ron. She stayed by his feet constantly, never asking for affection just closeness. With the children she was gentle and patient. She never snipped at them or complained, even if they accidentally hurt her. Although through her life Chaos was an inspiration for me to take on new challenges, it was the end of her life that may be the most inspirational. Her desire to live was so strong that she fought through sickness for months to stay close to her family. She lived each day as if she was not ill at all. Last week when she was very weak, we slipped out in the yard and I threw her a few discs. I watched her daily and saw that her desire to be with us and live was stronger than the illness. She would never have given up on her own, she repeatedly tried to eat and drink and carried her weak body up and down the steps to go outside. But a couple of days ago her body lost the fight. It started rejecting the food and water even though she tried to fight it. Her spirit kept fighting and holding onto life. Early yesterday morning, she attempted to drink again and her body rejected it. I moved her over by me and she stayed there touching me, very calm. Suddenly her breathing changed as I had seen before in loved ones, I pulled her close to me and told her it was okay to let go and I heard her last breath. She was so thin I could feel her heart beat many times after breathing had ceased before finally giving up. Chaos showed through her life (and I guess to the very end) what it means to "Have Heart!" I love you, Chaos, thank you for leaving the world a better place by being a wonderful family dog, an avid competitor, a loving companion, and for inspiring me to change myself and bring disc dogging to Indy.



Shelby (1999-January 29, 2013) & Lizzy  
(1999-Dec. 10, 2012) by Greg Million as told  
to Julie Rhea

Shelby was one of the founding dogs at IDDC. She was an incredible jumper – she could jump four to five feet in the air – all day long! My yard is fenced, but if someone threw a Frisbee over the fence, she'd easily clear the fence to grab the Frisbee and bring it back. I clearly remember the time I was putting a roof on the shed in the yard. Two houses down a neighbor's dog was

playing with a toy. Shelby spotted it and took off after it, clearing multiple fences along the way. The owner of the other dog came storming back (while I was still stuck on the roof) and I had to apologize for my energetic, fence-clearing thief! Shelby absolutely loved kids – it was her strongest asset. When we did events at schools, the kids would all crowd around her to pet her, and Shelby was in her element. If we were at a park and a family would come by that had kids, Shelby would look pleadingly at me to give the "ok." After getting my permission, she would grab the Frisbee, run over to the kids and drop it on their feet, begging them to throw it to her. She would much rather catch a Frisbee from a child than me! When we would practice at Holland Park, the kids began to expect Shelby, and would pour off the playground as soon as we arrived, lining up to take their turns at throwing for Shelby. I often practiced at Holland Park, and it was there that we participated in our first competition which was taking place at the Freedom Festival. I had seen a Skyhounds qualifier earlier that spring and after seeing the set-up for the Freedom Festival (and at my daughter's insistent urging,) I thought I might mosey on over to the park and try my hand at it. I took Shelby on her lead, a cooler, and a disc I bought at a pet store – you know, the kind you're not supposed to use! Ron King gave me my first "real" Frisbee and Marshall Smith offered me a seat in the shade. Shelby did well, at one point jumping and turning 360 degrees mid-air to catch the disc behind her. She liked to work the crowd – if she knew someone was watching her, especially kids, she'd throw in flourishes with every catch, her front paws arching behind her back paws in scissor-like fashion. She had her own video library - her favorite show was White Fang. If she watched a Frisbee show on the TV and the Frisbee went off the screen, she'd run around the T.V. trying to catch it. Shelby was born on a farm in Hicksville, OH, to a border collie mom and cattle dog dad. My daughter brought her home at five weeks old in the spring of '99 after I lost my couch potato basset hound. In December 2001, I got a call from the farmer who still had her littermate, Lizzy, who was being kept outside in a kennel and standing in her own waste, starving, with the farmer threatening to shoot her. I drove to get her on December 10, and she almost didn't make it home. Lizzy was severely HW positive and had a seizure on the way home. Thanks to a vet student who happened to be nearby when the seizure started, we kept her safe, got her home and into an aggressive heart worm treatment. Both dogs were loved and spoiled throughout their entire lives. Lizzy died last December 10 due to heart failure, exactly 11 years after I first met her. Shelby died on January 29. The x-ray taken after our car accident showed a large tumor and I didn't want her to suffer so she was put to sleep. Both dogs are missed terribly.



## Murphy Brown (2000-2012) by Mary Jo Corso

### **“Every once in a while a dog enters your life and changes everything”**

Murphy Brown was my once in a lifetime dog. I was a volunteer at the Tippecanoe County Humane Society when I saw this brown ball of fur with blue eyes. I took her into the play room, rolled up the leash into a ball and gave it a toss. She ran to the makeshift ball, brought it back to my hand and looked at me as if to say, “Throw it again.” That’s when we knew it was love at first sight.

Murphy was the start of our family disc dogging, the original Runamuk. While she had taken us all over the Midwest, she was most comfortable at home. She was the enforcer of rules and a calm presence in a storm. We had a special bond. She would do anything I would ask of her and she could trust me to stop when she’d had enough of play time. Murphy retired from disc playing at age nine and became the team cheerleader, traveling and making her appearances from the side lines.

In October of 2012, Murphy was performing at a church event to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis with a blessing of the pets. There I noticed her lymph nodes were enlarged. Knowing what I know, I knew this wasn’t good. After the pastor blessed her she followed him with her eyes, seeking him out. She knew what I knew; this was her farewell tour.

She said her good-byes the same way she came into our lives; happy, bouncing and ever willing to please. One night in early December, Murphy told me she was tired so with heavy heart I let her go. It was the hardest thing I have ever had to do.

I trust that when she arrived at the pearly gates, St. Peter threw a halo to her and of course she caught it, brought it back to his hand and looked at him as if to say, “Throw it again.”



### Letter from Daisy

*My mom is driving me nuts – last week she wouldn’t play Frisbee with me ‘cause there was a foot of snow outside, and these past three days she’s been stuck at her computer. But it looks like she’s about done now – finally! I can’t wait to get her back to myself!! She said to tell you that if there is anything you want to add to the next newsletter, be sure to email her at [divamom\\_rhea@yahoo.com](mailto:divamom_rhea@yahoo.com). And while you’re at it, tell her to buy Tulip and me those yummy soft bacon*

*treats! Hope you had a great Easter. I look forward to seeing you all at the Gretchen Invitational! Till then – remember – having FUN is more important than winning! (And so are belly scratches!)*

