

April 2019  
Student Newsletter

Welcome to our Keegan's Magic student newsletter! Each month, we will share training tips, training philosophies, student achievements, general announcements, and other great information. We hope you enjoy!

### ***Why are You in Class?***

Are you “playing it safe” in classes? Are you running as if you were at a trial and working for a Q or are you trying new things that take you out of your comfort zone? Everyone who attends a class has an objective in mind, whether they are aware of it or not.

For example, Student A might use his or her class time doing practice runs and reinforcing techniques they are already comfortable using. Student A often leaves class feeling confident with themselves and their dog. Student B may spend his or her class time trying new techniques or choosing a strategy they wouldn’t normally try in a trial. Hopefully, Student B is also successful and leaves class with improved confidence in their handling abilities.

Both students might benefit from occasionally switching their roles. Personally, when I am having a stressful day, I tend to fall into a Student A role when I am in class. When I’ve had a challenging agility trial with some unsuccessful handling on my part, I usually opt for a Student B role so that I can have more tools in my toolbox for the next event.



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What happens when you don’t get to choose your role in class? What happens if you attend class and your instructor has challenging sequences set up that push you out of your comfort zone and you don’t feel ready to handle them? How you choose to react, take instruction, and handle your dog determines how successful you are in your class.

For example, maybe you don’t think your dog can enter the weaves at the angle they are sitting. Don’t skip that part of the course. Instead, make it easier by placing your dog closer to the weaves, using guidewires, rewarding a successful entry, or making the angle a little easier. You are in class to learn something new. Use your time wisely.

Your instructor has your best interests in mind. When you are in the Student B role, take chances and let your instructor guide you to becoming a better team. Use the other students’ runs and your instructor to your advantage. Ask questions and watch the other teams, then give it your best effort to handle the tougher sequences. Hopefully, you’ll be pleasantly surprised at your success.

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## Class Schedule

The next 4-week session started the week of March 18. Class dates may be adjusted due to unforeseen circumstances. Unless otherwise stated, classes are \$75 for each 4-week session or \$25 for each drop-in.

- **Advanced Agility:** Tuesdays 8:00-9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays 7:45-9:15 p.m.
- **Intermediate Agility:** Tuesdays 6:00-7:30 p.m., Wednesdays 6:00-7:30 p.m., Thursdays 9:45-11:15 a.m., 6:00-7:30 p.m., and 7:45-9:15 p.m.
- **OneMind Dogs Inspired Handling:** Thursdays 8:00-9:30 a.m.
- **OneMind Dogs Foundation:** Tuesdays 7:45-9:00 p.m. (\$136/8-week session, no drop-ins)

**Important:** Keegan's Magic will be closed (NO classes, lessons, or ring rentals) from March 27 through April 4.

Private lessons available on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Ring rentals are also available for students. Please contact Maren directly for scheduling and availability.

## **Accomplishments & Brags**

This is YOUR section of the newsletter – where our students can share accomplishments with their dogs, including titles, placements, training breakthroughs, etc. Please [contact us](#) if you have a brag to include in the newsletter. We love celebrating achievements with all our students!

**Please note:** As of 2019, brags must be sent directly to Maren Baldwin or the newsletter editor to be included.

Congratulations to the following:

- **New Champion!** Carolyn Rothfusz's Jax (pictured below left) earned his C-ATCH at the Sonlight CPE trial.
- **New Champion!** Elaine Rinicker's Jaxs (pictured below right) had three perfect days at the AKC trial in Palmetto, earning the last 78 points he needed toward his PACH.
- Diane Gailit's Skylar earned 9 out of 10 Qs at the Sonlight CPE trial and 3 out of 5 Qs at the AKC trial in Palmetto.
- Barbara Layton's Josi earned her AKC Rally Novice title with a score of 98. She also earned her first leg in Intermediate Rally with a 1st place.
- MaryAnn Campbell's Summer and Duncan both earned their AKC Farm Dog Certifications.
- Lisa Schmeling became a TDAA judge.



## *Over the Rainbow Bridge*

Everyone at Keegan's Magic extends our deepest sympathies on the loss of two great dogs – Sally Treat's Tex and MaryAnn Campbell's Normie.

*Nothing loved is ever lost...*

"Tex"  
Blueskies Rodeo Clown  
June 15, 2007 – March 31, 2019

"Normie"  
Mac's Rescued Gem  
Passed March 25, 2019

## *Training Tip*

When you are waiting to run at a trial, don't change the plan you walked just because teams running before you have different plans from yours. You know your team better than anyone else. Trust in your team and run the lines you intended. If your strategy doesn't work, set up the sequence at home and try practicing some of the techniques the other handlers used. See what works best so you have it in your toolbox for the next time you meet a similar sequence.

*Do you have an article suggestion for our newsletter? Please [send us your suggestion](#) and we might include it in a future newsletter.*