

# Checkerboard Times

Wednesday, April 3rd 2024



**“We’ll be Friends Forever, won’t we, Pooh?” asked Piglet.**

**“Even longer,” Pooh answered.**

## Happy Wednesday, Friends!

Most of the RV Peeps were dragging a bit yesterday after the big storm/evacuation middle-of-the-night misadventure — and we say “most” because a certain draft judge slept through the entire thing. Sirens, loudspeaker, door banging — nope, he just kept on sleeping while the rest of us huddled with our dogs in the Event Center. Thank goodness he was not carried off to Oz with Toto!!

Despite sleep deprivation, Tuesday was not fun deprived. Draft Test #2 was a thing of organizational beauty and ended before the wind and cold really settled in. Great job, everyone! The Scentwork trial ran smoothly and lots of folks were waving ribbons from the trial at friends today. Congratulations to all! Puppy Sweeps happened — and what a beautiful group of puppies. You can find results [HERE](#).

Studs and Suds took over the Event Center in the evening and interestingly, there also seemed to be some kind of cookie contest. Since this is a rated G for General Audiences newsletter, we will leave the cookie designs to your imagination and tell you that the prize for Most \_\_\_\_\_ (we are not sure what to call it) Cookies goes to Coleen Carroll. Just ask her.

Gina Craig, Queen of All Things Draft, gets to take the day off since there is no draft test today. Obedience is the performance event du jour and the entry is huge! Good luck, Obedience Friends.

The conformation ring will also be busy. The puppies will be back in action first thing in the morning with Futurity. The Versatility Showcase happens at midday and that is followed by Veteran Sweeps. The Health Auction happens this evening at the Holiday Inn Ballroom. You can learn more about that event [HERE](#).

Please support all our excellent photographers, including Longshots. We are so lucky to have them here to help us capture these special moments with our beloved dogs.

Please have a fantastic day making memories and lots of new friends!

## Wednesday Happenings

Futurity at 8 am in Ring 1

Obedience at 8 am in Rings 2 & 3

Versatility Showcase at 12:15 in Ring 1

Veterans Sweeps at 2:30 in Ring 1

Team Obedience no earlier than 5 pm in Ring 1

Health Auction in the evening at the Holiday Inn

**You can access an interactive daily schedule by clicking [THIS](#) link.**



**Specialty Medical  
(Human) Response Person  
Tami Winner  
714-813-9211**

**Don't forget to get your raffle tickets! You can buy them anytime conformation is happening.**

Are you staying at the Holiday Inn and finding your room a bit crowded? Contact the Front Desk to have the table and chairs removed from your room to create more space for crates!



Mascot Archie was helping Keith Waltersdorf sell some amazing items at the 2024 Ways & Means table! Make sure to head on over to check out all the great merchandise.

## DRAFT TEST #2



Sixteen of the 23 teams passed the test today – wowza! The weather cooperated, the judges were awesome, and teams were well-prepared. Congratulations to all – and thanks to all the volunteers.

Results can be found [HERE](#).

## SCENTWORK



The Scentwork Trial was a big success. Thanks to everyone who made the trial possible and congratulations to all the qualifiers!

Novice High in Trial: Chili and Susan Novak (below)



Advanced High in Trial: August and Heather Berg (below)



Oldest Qualifier: Tag and Tina Tenbus (Tag is 10 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> years young!)

Results can be found [HERE](#).

## Photos!

All photos from Agility, Scentwork, Obedience, and Rally will be found [HERE](#).

If you enter your email address on the prereleased albums, it will send you an email when the photographer uploads the photos.

Our Show Superintendent, BaRay, is awesome about posting quick results. Click [HERE](#) to be taken to conformation results.

## Remembering April Rifenburg

As we head into obedience today, I invite you to rest your hearts and minds on long time Berner person, April Rifenburg, who died in late February.

April earned High in Trial with her Berner, Heid, in 1980, 1983 and 1986 and also 1982 with Nitro. The Heidi 's Legacy Trophy, which is given each year to the team that is High in Trial at the BMDCA National Specialty, was named for April's dog and she donated that trophy to the BMDCA.



April was still earning titles with her dogs as recently as October 2023. She lived a kind, wonderful, and well-loved life and will be deeply missed.

You can find her obituary [HERE](#).

In honor of April, please enjoy the gift of your time in the obedience ring today.

The Newsletter Team welcomes photos, announcements, suggestions, etc.

Send to Mary-Ann Sontag at [Sontag.ma@gmail.com](mailto:Sontag.ma@gmail.com) or text to 406-369-5293.