



July
2026

The Poodle Press

Specialty Edition for the
Bluebonnet Poodle Club
of Houston



Electronic
Issue
#4

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Agility is the largest fund raiser that our club has. It allows us to make charitable donations and helps pay for trophies, parties, etc. Volunteers are desperately needed for full or half days. Please contact Patty Felli at poodlesmama@gmail.com

if you can participate as a volunteer. The next agility trial is
August 7-9, 2026. The address is:

Dog Gone Fun
26310 Dobbins-Huffsmith Rd.
Magnolia, TX 77354



See the Calendar of Events for future Agility Trial dates.

Calendar of Events 2026

- August 7-9 Agility trials
- August 11 Meeting via google meet
- September- Saturday in person meeting TBD
- October- Meeting via google meet
- November 6-8 Agility trials
- December-Christmas Party TBD



Worth the Read:

Tragic Events Prompted Change:

This year, the AKC was compelled to address several recent tragedies. One incident in Oklahoma resulted in the deaths of six Kuvasz. In New Jersey, a Doberman died after being left in a hot car by her handler. At the World Dog Show, three dogs also died after being left in vehicles. There is no need to list them all. These heartbreaking events led to the new AKC policy below.



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

Memorandum

Subject: New AKC Policy and Disciplinary Updates Focus on Dog Safety

Date: July 16, 2026

At its July 2026 meeting, the AKC Board of Directors approved a new policy and related disciplinary changes to strengthen protections for dogs at AKC events.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of dogs are at the heart of everything AKC does. In recent months, several incidents involving dogs left unattended in vehicles have resulted in dangerous situations and, in some cases, tragic outcomes. As temperatures rise and these risks increase, the Board determined that additional safeguards are necessary to help prevent future incidents and reinforce the shared responsibility of exhibitors, handlers, and owners to ensure every dog's safety.

Effective immediately, AKC's new **Unattended Dogs in Vehicles Policy** prohibits leaving dogs unattended in vehicles that are fully enclosed or do not have adequate ventilation and airflow. Simply having fans, air conditioning, temperature monitors, remote alerts, or other electronic devices does not, by themselves, make a vehicle safe for an unattended dog. Owners and handlers are responsible for ensuring dogs are kept in conditions that protect them from heat-related illness, distress, injury, or death.

Violating this policy is considered conduct prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, the sport of purebred dogs, and the American Kennel Club and may result in disciplinary action under the AKC Charter and Bylaws.

The Board also approved two related changes to support the new policy. Effective July 29, 2026, the **Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events** guidelines will **require** an Event Committee hearing whenever a dog is seriously injured or dies in connection with an AKC event, not just when a vehicle is involved. This process allows the committee to review sworn testimony, determine the facts, and ensure these incidents are handled fairly and consistently at events across the country.

The **AKC Discipline Guidelines** have also been updated to include a new disciplinary offense and penalty structure for violations of the Unattended Dogs in Vehicles Policy. Depending on the severity of the violation and the circumstances involved, penalties may range from a one-year suspension and monetary fines to a lifetime suspension and fines of up to \$10,000.

These changes reinforce AKC's commitment to providing a safe environment for dogs and promoting responsible stewardship at every AKC event.

For more information on this policy contact: Compliancediv@akc.org

This new policy left a lot of questions unanswered by many in the sport of dogs which led to a social media frenzy! Below AKC clarified some of those concerns.

AKC Board Communications Committee Clarification- Regarding Unattended Dogs in Vehicles Policy & Discipline Guidelines

Dear Delegates and all interested parties,

The AKC Board of Director's Communications Committee has compiled a set of bullet points that you may share with your Club Members and those concerned about the recent policy directive.

With the approval of the AKC Board of Directors we submit the following bullet points.

- This policy exists for one reason: to prevent dogs from dying or suffering heat-related injury while left in vehicles.
- This is a dog welfare policy - not a technology policy.
- The policy is not a ban on leaving dogs in vehicles. If you must leave your dogs in your vehicle, make sure your vehicle is properly ventilated and your dogs are checked on frequently.
- The policy is not a ban on air-conditioned vehicles, generators, fans, temperature monitors, or remote alert systems.
- Most exhibitors who responsibly use these systems will see no change in how they care for their dogs.
- Technology can reduce risk, but it cannot eliminate it. Equipment can fail without warning due to mechanical problems, power loss, software issues, fuel depletion, weather conditions, or loss of cellular service.

Dogs should not be left in vehicles without adequate ventilation and without adequate supervision.

- Every year, dogs die after cooling or monitoring systems unexpectedly fail. The consequences can be catastrophic within minutes. All recent dog deaths occurred in enclosed, unattended and unventilated vehicles where the air-conditioning failed.
- The policy makes clear that the responsibility for a dog's safety always rests with the person caring for that dog - not with the equipment.
- AKC's goal is prevention, education, and accountability - not punishment.
- Responsible exhibitors who take reasonable precautions have nothing to fear from this policy.
- The policy gives AKC the ability to address situations where dogs are placed in obvious danger and to hold individuals accountable when preventable harm and death results.
- Protecting dogs protects the future of our sport and reinforces AKC's commitment to responsible dog ownership.

Thank You,

AKC Board of Director's Communications Committee

Ms. Sally Fineburg

Mr. Jason Hoke

Mr. Dominic Palleschi Carota



Two Solid Long Days of Poodling Around for the Bluebonnet Poodle Club of Houston and our Club was well represented! The competition came from all over the globe to attend and compete in our Specialties. The lineups were extremely competitive with many top winning poodles in contention.

Let's acknowledge some folks that made it all happen!

SHOW COMMITTEE

Lisha Salathiel - Trophy

Mission City Stewards - Chief Ring Steward

Mary Cooper - Show Chair: Wednesday

Cathy Garcia - Show Chair: Friday

OFFICERS

Kay Langdon - President

Dawn Zack- 1st Vice President

Mary Cooper - 2nd Vice President

Cathy Garcia- Corresponding Secretary

Jim Huggler - Treasurer



Kudos to Lisha and Meagan for your hard work on the trophies and getting the club fed!





**Specialty winner: Reserve
Winners Bitch**

July 15, 2026

Breeder: Ann Elizabeth Wheeler

**Owners: April Distler, Pam
Spurling, Ann Wheeler and Jacob
Rob**

Nipigon Zoelle Velvet Reign



“Velvet”





Zoelle Ironman

Specialty winner: Reserve Winners Dog
July 17, 2026

Breeder: Pam Spurling and April Distler

Owner: Heather Stinson, Pam Spurling and April Distler

Both wins beautifully handled by April

[Zoelle Poodles.com](http://ZoellePoodles.com)

April Distler and Pam Spurling

Ch Winstar Touche “Touche”



Owner/Handler:
Gabriela Duran

Breeders: Martha Carroll-Talley,
Ginny Fetro and Kay Langdon

Proudly owned by: Gabriela
Duran, Carlos A. Gomez, Ginny
Fetro and Martha Carroll-Talley



Pittie's Love Ringo

Specialty winner: Toy
Winners Dog and BOW

July 15, 2026



“Harry”

Breeder:
Elena Maria Ottaviani

Owners:
Gabiela Duran, Elena Marie Ottaviani and
Beto Reyes

Handled by co-owner:
Beto Reyes

Ch. Pitties Love Nutella



Specialty winner: Toy
BOV Owner Handled
BOB Owner Handled
July 15, 2026

Nutella was
expertly handled by co-owner
Beto Reyes

Breeder:
Jose Luis Mato

Owners:
Gabriela Duran, Elena Ontaviani,
and Beto Reyes

“Nutella”



Newsflash!! Winner: Toy
Owner Handled Variety Group
Fourth Place
July 19, 2026
Handled by co-owner Gabriela



Donnchada's Uptown Girl



“Lizza Marie”

Specialty winner:
Puppy Bitches 9-12 mos



Newsflash!

Lizza Marie won a 4 point major on
July 18, 2026

Breeders: Betty Brown and
Letitia Sue Talkington

Owners: Nancy Gilbertson, D. Dutch
and Betty Brown

Handled by Betty



Northstar Standard Poodles

Ch. Northstar Poetry in Motion



“Zoey”



Newsflash!

Zoey won BOS twice in San Antonio and Select Bitch once. She needs one more point for her Grand Championship

Breeder/Owner: Bonny Hinz

Zoey was beautifully presented by Betty Brown.



GCH CH Mia He Stole My Heart JH SH WCX



“Romeo”

**Specialty Winner-
Hunting Dog both
days!**



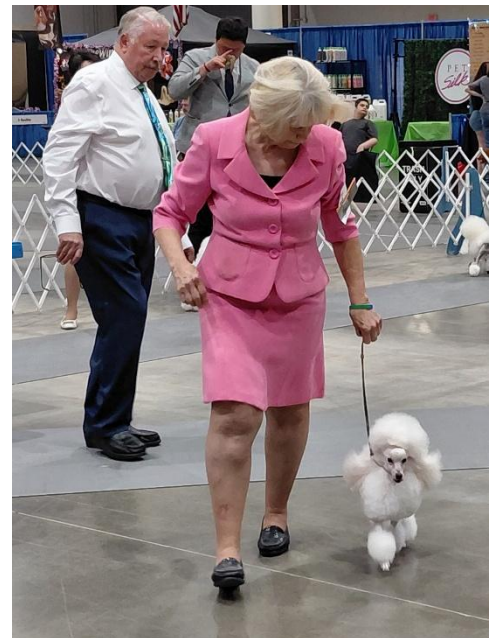
Breeder:
Bambi Kaminski and Sheree Stone

Owner/Handler:
Bambi Kaminski

GCHS Pasionaria Suits Me Just Fine “Harvey”



Breeder/Owner: Kay Langdon
Harvey was professionally handled by Betty Brown winning **Best of Opposite Sex** at both specialties. He is currently the #3 toy poodle in the country. Way to go Harvey and Betty!



Kay Langdon
www.pasionariapoodle.com

Introducing
Pasionaria Pick Your Poison



“Ivy”

Ivy made her ring debut resulting
in a cuteness overload!

Breeders/Owners:
Kay Langdon and Marsha Carroll-Talley
Presented by Kay Langdon

Looking forward to seeing more of this
rising star!

Click [here](#) to see her in the ring



Kay Langdon
www.pasionariapoodle.com

Harwood Standard Poodles



Harwood Hello Darlin

Breeder/Owner/Handler:

Guinnette Peeples

Specialty winner:

Winners Bitch and Best of
Winners on July 17, 2026



 *Harwood*
STANDARD POODLES
www.harwoodpoodles.com

CH LAKERIDGE ICON



“Indie”

Specialty winner: BOV

July 15, 2026

Breeder: Debra Ferguson-Jones

Owner: Rachael and Samuel Rivera

Handler: Rachael Rivera



ICON'S ADORATION

**Specialty winner:
Best Bred-By-Exhibitor**

July 17, 2026

**Breeder/Owner: Rachael and Samuel
Rivera**

Handler: Rachael Rivera

“Addy”



Newsflash!!

Addy wins her first points under
renowned Judge James Moses



Simply Southern's Long Live The Queen, RN BCAT



“Reign”

Specialty winner:
Bred-By-Exhibitor Bitch
July 15, 2026

Breeder/Owner/Handler
Amy Sterner



Amy Sterner
[Simply Southern Retrievers](#)

CH Simply Southern's Set The Stage, JHU BCAT



“Josie”

Specialty winner:
Hunting Bitches
Both days!

Breeder/Owner/Handler:
Amy Dittus Sterner



Amy Sterner
Simply Southern Retrievers

Simply Southern's Lady Luck



“Lottie”

Breeder/Owner/Handler
Amy Sterner



Icon's Secret Romance



“Fabio”

Specialty winner of the Puppy
Dog
6-9 months class

Breeder:
Rachael and Samuel Rivera

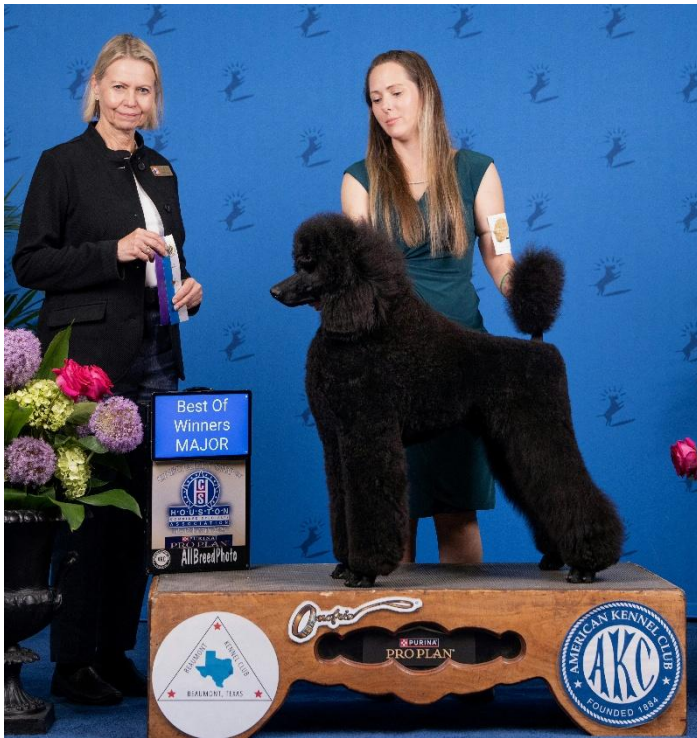
Owner:
Danielle St.Romain and Rachael
Rivera

Handled by Danielle



Danielle St.Romain
www.lingopoodles.com
Danielle@lingopoodles.com

Lingo's Read All About It



**Specialty winner:
Reserve Winners Bitch from the Bred-
By-Exhibitor Class!
July 17, 2026**



“Xtra”



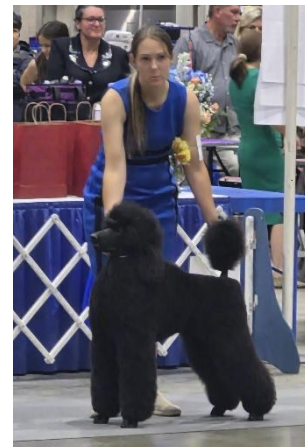
Newsflash!

Xtra won 2 points on Friday under Judge Jay Richardson followed by going BOW for a 5-point major on Sunday under Judge Patricia Sosa!

**Breeder/Owner/Handler:
Danielle St.Romain**



Danielle StRomain
www.lingopoodles.com
Danielle@lingopoodles.com



Calliope N' Logos Ode To Catherine



Breeder/Owner: Dawn Zack
Shown by Dawn in the Bred-By-
Exhibitor Puppy Bitch class.

Winstar Kid Rock

Breeder: Ginny Fetro and Karen Lockett
Owners: Ginny Fetro and Dawn Zack
Exceptionally handled by Dawn Zack

Specialty winner: Best Toy Puppy!



Dawn Zack
zcrew6@yahoo.com
www.calliopepoodles.com
www.bluebonnetpoodleclub.org

Calliope Poodles





Standard BOV July 15. 2026



Standard BOV July 17, 2026

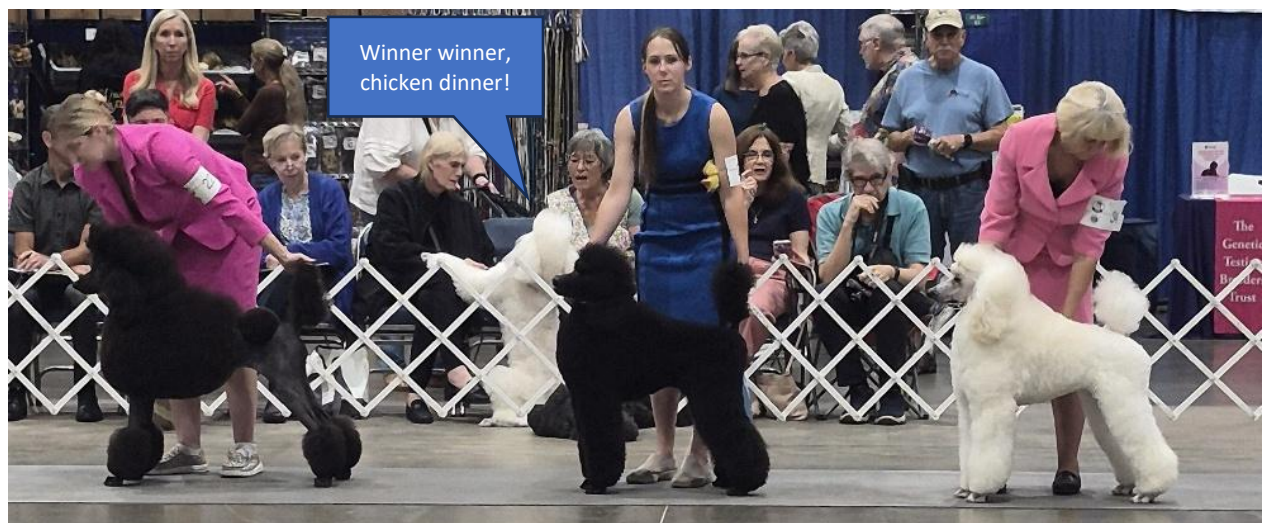


Mini BOV both days



Toy BOV/BOB both days

Candid Shots





Poodle stylists





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