

Tennessee Australian Shepherd Club (TnASC)

Knoxville, TN Chapter

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Happy 2024 from the members of TnASC! Our core group of members, along with various other volunteers, put together another great year of events for dog lovers here in beautiful East Tennessee.

We had a full slate of agility trials in the past year. We hosted two separate trials at the Play Dog Excellent facility in Chattanooga, TN, one in November and one in March. We also hosted a great agility trial event at a new facility for us, I Spy in Maryville. We had great feedback from attendees of all of our trials, as dogs and their owners had fun, got some exercise, and just spent time with each other and with many friends while earning some agility legs and titles.

Our continuing education event last year was attending the Smokey Mountain Australian Shepherd Club Dock Jumping event at Smokey Mountain K9 Sports in Morristown, TN, in August. There were several exhibitors who demonstrated dock jumping, and one of our club members, Nan Payne, participated with her dog, Drifter, and then gave a brief seminar on dock jumping.

We have already had our continuing education event for this year. It was a very informative and interesting seminar and demonstration on search and rescue given by a husband-and-wife team who are members of TnASC, Cindy and Bob Boddy. They have several Australian Shepherds that have gone through the intensive training required to be search and rescue dogs. They are trained for specific types of search and rescue, including Area Search (live find) and Human Remains Detection (recovery). They and their dogs have to be on call and ready to go at a moment's notice to wherever needed in order to help their fellow man. Their work is truly impressive and inspiring.

In December, Susan Little opened her home to our members for a wonderful holiday celebration. We all ate too much, of course, and had a great time just fellowshiping as well as exchanging gifts. Everyone went home richer in spirit than when they came.

We are, of course, already planning our fall agility trials in Chattanooga, TN, in November, and our spring agility trials for the coming year. Watch for details for all of these events so you can plan to visit us here in East Tennessee for some Aussie fun!

Have a fantastic rest of 2024 and we hope to see you in the East Tennessee area soon!

For more information about our upcoming events, please visit our website (www.tennesseeaustralianshepherdclub.org). You can also "Like" us and follow our activities and events on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tnasc. We look forward to seeing many of you at our events in the coming year.