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- HOTC Scent Work Trials - October 7-8
- HOTC Monthly Meeting - October 10
- HOTC Agility Trials - October 27-29
- HOTC Fast CAT Trials - November 3-5

The Tail End is the official monthly publication of the Huntsville Obedience Training Club and can be viewed on the HOTC website in the Members Only section. To receive a copy if you do not have internet access, contact the Corresponding Secretary.
HOTC Monthly Meeting - October 10th

If you wish to request an excusal from the monthly meeting, you must send a request (i.e email subject entitled “HOTC Monthly Meeting Excuse”). For an extended excuse, you must send a request (i.e. email subject entitled “HOTC Extended Meeting Excuse”). Requests are sent to the Corresponding Secretary at attendance@hotc.org PRIOR TO the meeting so that you can be marked as excused.

The HOTC October Monthly meeting will be held in the Training Room, Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Members: It is not only important that you attend monthly general membership meetings, but that you remain in the meeting room until adjournment. A quorum of 25% of the total membership MUST be present for any motion to be made or vote to be taken. If members leave prior to the meeting’s end, we may not have a quorum when a motion, discussion and/or vote is called, therefore the motion/vote may not go forward. Plus, you may not be fully informed of what is being discussed/voted on. We want you to be a part of making Club history!

If you remain in the meeting area until adjournment it will also give Janet, Katelyn, and her team time to set up hospitality and allow all members to partake of the goodies.

I sincerely appreciate everyone that takes the time out of their busy lives to come to the General Membership Meetings, attend until adjournment, and participate in the lively discussions.

WE NEED YOU!

Terri Campbell, President Huntsville Obedience Training Club
From the Editors

We are looking for new, fun, and exciting ways to bring you the latest HOTC news. Please share your brags & stories and encourage your friends to do the same. Send us photos of you and your dog doing something fun! Did you achieve a new title? Try a new sport? Hike an amazing trail? We want to see it!

Event Organizers- Feel free to send us a list of Volunteer jobs and a short description of each in advance so that we can get the word out and find you some help. Additionally, please be thinking ahead of time about Recap articles and get those to us as soon as possible after an event has taken place so they can be included in the following issue of the Tail End!

Remember that the due date for submissions is the 20th of the month. After this cutoff, we cannot guarantee that your content will be included in the next issue. (For events occurring very near the cutoff date, we may be able to work with you but please be in contact with us beforehand to coordinate Recap articles and event photo collection.)

Finally, if you have suggestions for new articles, please share your ideas with us. We are here to make the Tail End for YOU. We want you to read it and to be excited for the next issue.

Send in your submissions to tailend@hotc.org.

-TE Team
HOTC President’s Corner

Like the leaves and the seasons, HOTC is entering a time of change. Much of the change has been brought on by new ideas and new awareness as Club Members.

Volunteerism has come to the forefront as a Club concern. Not-for-profit organizations such as HOTC cannot be successful without volunteers. We provide public and member classes in Obedience, Freestyle, Flyball, Scentwork and Agility. Our membership also participates in numerous other canine activities. We host approximately 25 days of organized events throughout the year, an annual holiday party, an annual membership banquet to celebrate our hardworking volunteers as well as member’s and their dog’s accomplishments.

It takes Club members to organize and support each one of these activities. We also have a facility and equipment to maintain. Most members also have full and part time jobs which make it tough to balance time between those jobs, family life and HOTC. It simply amazes me what we accomplish and yet I ask for more from its members. We are a great Club that does great things. Can we do more, give more? Only you can answer that.

I don’t know how many are familiar with conversational AI (artificial intelligence). I have spent many a waking hour thinking about how we can strike a fair level of volunteerism within HOTC. I decided to ask BARD (a google AI conversational experiment). You type in a question such as the one I did... as a not-for-profit organization how can we increase volunteerism in our organization? BARD gave me 3 drafts based on my area Huntsville, AL. Here is the first draft. Some ideas were relevant- some not so much. Some ideas are in the works or already in place.

From BARD
There are many ways that a nonprofit organization can increase volunteerism in its membership. Here are a few tips:

• Make it easy to volunteer. Have a clear and concise volunteer page on your website where people can easily learn about your volunteer opportunities and sign up. You can also post your volunteer opportunities on social media and online volunteer platforms.

• Offer flexible volunteer opportunities. People are busy, so it’s important to offer volunteer opportunities that fit their schedules. This could include one-time events, weekly shifts, or even virtual volunteering opportunities.

• Be specific about your volunteer needs. What skills and experience are you looking for in volunteers? What tasks will they be responsible for? The more specific you are, the easier it will be for people to find a volunteer opportunity that’s a good fit for them.

• Highlight the impact of volunteers. Let your members know how much their Volunteerism makes a difference. Share stories and photos of volunteers on your
website and social media pages. You can also host regular volunteer appreciation events.

• Make volunteering fun and rewarding. Create a positive and welcoming environment for your volunteers. Provide training and support, and give them opportunities to learn and grow. You can also offer incentives, such as free meals, t-shirts, or even paid time off from work.

Here are some additional tips that may be specifically helpful for increasing volunteerism among your members:

• Reach out to your members directly. Ask them what kind of volunteer opportunities they would be interested in. You can do this through surveys, email campaigns, or even in-person conversations.

• Create a volunteer committee. This group of volunteers can help you plan and implement volunteer events and activities. They can also help you recruit new volunteers and promote volunteerism within your membership.

• Partner with other organizations. There may be other nonprofits in your community that could benefit from your members’ volunteer skills. Partnering with these organizations can give your members more volunteer opportunities and help you reach a wider audience.

By following these tips, you can increase volunteerism in your membership and make a bigger difference in your community. End of BARD

We have 2 task groups that have formed to help with volunteerism. If you have some ideas or experience, please touch base with:

Committee on Volunteerism
Chair: Ken Loree-LoreeKH@aol.com

Committee on Event Worker Compensation
Chair: Kaison Dunkel dunkelduo@gmail.com

Thought for the month comes from Queen Elizabeth II.

“It is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change.”

-Terri Campbell
Honoring Exceptional Training

The Lobby is coming right along and looking great. Remember Crystal can only continue decorating if we submit our photos. Have you finished a Championship in Obedience, Rally or Tracking while being a member in good standing?

Contact Crystal Ferraiuolo: otchmachbroker@me.com

-Crystal Ferraiuolo
Fast CAT - November 3-5

The AKC FastCAT, which stands for American Kennel Club Fast Coursing Ability Test, is a thrilling and popular canine sport designed to showcase a dog's natural speed, agility, and engage their prey drive. In this timed competition, dogs run individually on a straight 100-yard course, chasing a lure that zips along the ground. The primary goal of FastCAT is to measure a dog's innate sprinting capabilities, simulating the excitement of a high-speed chase. Owners and spectators witness the sheer athleticism and enthusiasm of participating dogs as they dash towards the finish line, often reaching impressive speeds. AKC FastCAT offers an engaging and enjoyable outlet for dogs to demonstrate their quickness and running prowess. Although your dog should be conditioned for sprinting, it is a beginner-friendly sport. It is open to dogs 12 months old and older; Dogs under 12 months may participate in fun runs at half the field distance. AKC allows two tests (runs) per day/per dog.

- Tail End Team

Volunteer Jobs Needed for the Fast CAT trial

**Registration/Check-In** *(Coordinator-Pam Douglas)*
Check-in pre-registered handlers/dogs
Assist handlers with sign up if not pre-registered
Female dogs checked to see if they are in heat
All dogs checked for lameness

**Huntmaster**
Responsible for field safety and in charge of dogs and handlers on the field
Checks for proper collars
Gives signal for release

**Runner** - Takes ribbons/entry forms to and from secretary's tent
**Releaser** - Release dog at start line if requested
**Holder** - Holds dog in line so handler can go to catch area
**White Board** - List and manage order of dogs
**Catch Area** - Use walkie-talkie to communicate that the catcher is ready
**Floater** - Job assignments as needed
**Set Up** - Thursday November 2nd, 3:00PM
**Take Down** - Sunday November 5th, immediately following event

Volunteer sign up sheets will be available at the October Monthly meeting.

-Becky Reed, FastCAT Volunteer Coordinator
President
Terri Campbell convened the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Approval of Minutes
August minutes, as published in the Tail End, were approved.

Welcome New Members from last month:
Sheila Gravelin, sponsored by Sue Morgan and Noelle Jacoby, sponsored by Hayley Boyanton.

Unless they are service dogs, no uncrated dogs are allowed at the meeting. Please leave them at home or leave them in the available crates.

Sharon Casto and Beth Beck pulled the obedience class schedules together. We have some new schedulers and a new person for the liability/rabies. And we’re working on continuity between class registrations.

Randall Caruthers repaired the conference room door, making it better than before.

New LED lights have been installed on the North Agility field. A huge thanks for Tom Johns for leading the effort and to Sam Gregory for coming out to clean up limbs from the light installation.

The club has a new phone/internet system by Comcast/Xfinity. The User name is HOTC or HOTC-5. The password is hotcmember1.

A potential student of Tina McAdam’s class (Friddy Hoegener) cleaned the perimeter of the agility including vines on the shed.

Beth Beck has proposed a possible community service idea. We can train shelter dogs in Puppy or Manners 101 classes, making them more adoptable.
Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Karen Stewart)
Karen Stewart reported we are solvent.

Karen highlighted some areas of the monthly financial status report and informed the members that next fiscal year’s budget will be formally presented in the October Membership Meeting.

Karen stated that because trees were trimmed/removed due to storm damage, all charges were filed with Travelers Insurance. As a result, we received a check for $5200.

Lobby Pictures (Crystal Ferraiuolo)
Keep those photos coming.

Vice President (Ed Rymut)
N/A

Corresponding Secretary (Aundrea Blythe)
N/A

Software Committee (Aundrea Blythe)
The committee has developed a database which will be rolled out incrementally. The Board voted to accept the Beta website rollout (which will mirror the current website) and to also accept electronic tracking for attendance. Beginning in October, we will not have paper sign-in available.

Obedience Director (Edith Atchley)
Titles earned last month were announced. Those titles will be listed in the Tail End.

Agility Director (Ken Loree)
Two tunnels and the old dog walk were sold during the meeting, via silent auction. Tom Johns handled the auction.

An ACT1 test will be held at the club on Wednesday, October 4th, limited to members and those currently registered for agility classes. The October agility trial is October 27th-29th. Please let Kevin Bottoms (trial chair) know if you can help.

Ken presented pins for agility titles, which will be listed in the Tail End.
Flyball (Sharon Casto)
The group will be taking ten to the CanAm in Indiana. There was a tee shirt design contest for CanAm and our own Sheri Cowart won the contest. She also won it a few years ago.

Freestyle (Mariann Bosco)
Mariann presented a short video showcasing Martha Buck and Jody Cook and their dogs during dress rehearsal practice getting ready for an event in Peoria, IL. Both did well in Competition. A Freestyle seminar is in the works, and will be conducted by Julie Flannery.

Scent Work (Denise Edge)
There will be a scent work trial October 7th and 8th at the HOTC building. There are some spaces still available; it closes September 25th.

FAST CAT (Sue Morgan)
FAST CAT trials will be held November 3rd-5th in New Hope. Please let Becky Reed know if you can help. Setup will be on Thursday afternoon.

Trick Dog/CGC (Sue Morgan)
The date is not yet set, but will be during the December break. We can also do some trick dog testing after the CGC.

Tail End (Emily Lynn, Kaison Dunkel, and Allison Meier)
Please remember to send in material (brags, photos, articles of interest to other club members) by the 20th of the month to tailend@hotc.org. PLEASE READ IT! It contains the minutes from the previous month’s meeting and titles recently achieved, as well as other useful information about the Club. There will be helpful and fun articles included each month.

Library (Mary Gregory)
Mary has purchased many, many new books. Many are breed specific and several are on scent/nose work. The library has lots of great information available for checkout.

Pro Shop (Tina McAdam)
N/A

Hospitality (Janet Hill/Katelyn Hill)
If you want to stay and eat/socialize after the meeting, please help out by bringing something to eat. We shouldn’t rely on Janet and Katelyn to do it all.
Unfinished Business
After announcing that the mirrors in the training room will be replaced the first week of October, Susan Plaiss proposed postponing this until the Membership has an opportunity to vote on the budget at the October 10th meeting, as the funds for this improvement are not in the current year’s budget. It was seconded and the motion carried. The mirrors will “hopefully” be installed during the Thanksgiving break.

New Business
Volunteerism
Ken Loree is chairing a committee to develop a means to motivate members to volunteer and a method of tracking those volunteer hours. We require those becoming members to complete volunteer hours, but have nothing requiring volunteerism once you become a member. We have lots of members taking classes who aren’t volunteering. Please contact Ken (loreekh@aol.com) if you can serve on this committee.

HOTC Bucks/Certificates
After discussing the value of HOTC worker bucks and certificates that have been redeemed, there was much discussion regarding the value of certificates for each venue. Kaison Dunkel agreed to chair a group (hopefully with a representative from each venue) to review worker bucks and certificates and provide a recommendation on how to proceed with those at next month’s meeting. A motion was made to hold current certificates where they are (value of a single entry per day per venue, except for Agility which will be 2 entries per day) for each trial until this subject is revisited. The motion was seconded and carried with 21 Yea votes and 10 Nay votes.

Annual Banquet (Karen Stewart)
Mackenzie Ferguson has again graciously agreed to handle the on-line input of titles. But Karen needs help with other facets of the banquet—decorating, selection of awards, etc. Please let her know if you’d like to help.

Membership (Shirley Reid)
First Time Visitors:
Ellen Anderson, sponsor Janet Hill
Drew and Shannon Bagwell, sponsor Chrissy Barribeau
Angie Moon, sponsor Nikki Mosley
Second Time Visitors:
Friddy Hoegener, sponsor Tina McAdam
Sherry Hamilton, sponsor Katherine Pitts
Mitzi Adams, sponsor Kathy Prince
Matthew Spencer, sponsor Kathy Ezell

Third Time Visitors (all voted in):
Sarah Petty, sponsor Darlene Kerr
Hannah & Malcolm Watson, sponsor Pam Millin
Phillip Owens, sponsor Sue Morgan

Please remember that the New Member Orientation must be completed prior to being voted into membership. The sponsor and new member should both participate in this meeting. Contact Sue Morgan (saprsmom@gmail.com) to arrange this. Please note that you may only sponsor 2 new members in a one-year period. This is so you can devote the time needed to mentoring those new members for the Club.

Door Prizes
Several short leads and some treats were awarded at the end of the meeting.

Announcements
-Scent Work Trials, HOTC, October 7th-8th
-FAST CAT Trials, New Hope, November 3rd-5th

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sheila Norckauer, Recording Secretary
# Titles Recognized at Monthly Meeting

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<tr>
<td>Nancy Grimm</td>
<td>Chiseler</td>
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<td>Nancy Grimm</td>
<td>Gimlet</td>
<td>RA</td>
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<td>Kathy Ezell</td>
<td>Etta</td>
<td>CH</td>
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<td>Kathy Ezell</td>
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<td>RN</td>
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<td>Shirley Reid</td>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>RE</td>
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<td>Emily Lynn</td>
<td>Piotr</td>
<td>VSWB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mackenzie Ferguson</td>
<td>Json</td>
<td>ASFA Field Championship</td>
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<td>Adrienne Perry</td>
<td>Bernie</td>
<td>BN RI</td>
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<td>Kevin and Jamie Bottoms</td>
<td>Smidgeon</td>
<td>CH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jana Clark</td>
<td>Tux</td>
<td>ATT FDC and CA</td>
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-Edith Atchley

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<tr>
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<td>FCAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrienne Perry</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>CA (Coursing Ability)</td>
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<td>Kelly Hall</td>
<td>Dug</td>
<td>AXJ</td>
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<td>Barry Hall</td>
<td>Nimitz</td>
<td>NA/NAJ</td>
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<td>Terri Schmitt</td>
<td>Key</td>
<td>Master FAST</td>
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<td>Sheri Fastenrath</td>
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<td>Tina McAdam</td>
<td>Finn</td>
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<td>Tina McAdam</td>
<td>Argyll</td>
<td>MXP MJP</td>
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</table>

-Ken Loree

**REMEMBER:** Now you can report your new titles earned by sending an email to titles@hotc.org. This email address should be used for all titles for all sports and activities. Emails sent to this address are distributed to both the Obedience and Agility Directors.
Flyball - Exciting News!

Congratulations go to Sherry Cowart

Every year, the North American Flyball Association organizes a contest for shirt designs for their CanAm Flyball Championships, which take place at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis during October. Sherry Cowart, a proud member of the Rocket City Racers, eagerly submitted her design this year, aspiring to claim victory. We are thrilled to announce that Sherry's design has been chosen as the winning entry, and it will adorn all the championship apparel this year. This is an amazing feat to accomplish. Congrats Sherry!
Dog of the Month - “Roger”

When I first brought Roger home, I knew he was special Yorkie and a good show prospect. His tail never stopped wagging. He was just happy, happy, happy. As he grew, he lost what his breeder and I felt would make him a show dog. So, I cut him down (2X in fact) and focused on performance and fun titles. One day, his breeder and I were looking at him and said, “Wow, he’s looking pretty good.” So, I grew his coat back out. Not the most fun job in the world but got it done. So glad I did and most thankful to Ava Tyree (Roger’s breeder) who kept telling me to “get out there, he’ll finish” and we did! In addition to achieving Roger’s Championship, we finished his Grand Championship in August of this year. Nowadays, Roger and I are focusing on Agility (aka “the squirrel”) and Master’s title in Rally along with some Obedience.

In his down time, Roger is our great lizard hunter in the backyard (he’s never caught one) as well as a wannabe Chipmunk wrangler (never caught one of those either).

- Andrea Cobb
Trick or Treat: Candy Corn Kong Recipe

Spooky Season is upon us so it is time to whip up some tasty fall treats for our puppers! Candy corn is an icon of Halloween, but not the best treat for dogs. That is why this candy corn inspired Kong recipe is perfect. It is very quick to prep and a versatile recipe. You can mix the ingredients all together before stuffing the kong or load it in layers. You can also make ice cube treats.

**Ingredients**
1. Pumpkin Puree
2. Bananas (Sliced or Smashed)
3. Greek Yogurt

Optional: Kibble
NEW MEMBERS

Sarah Petty

Hannah & Malcolm Watson

Phillip Owens

Sponsored by Tina McAdam
Sponsored by Pam Millin
Sponsored by Sue Morgan
### Volunteer Contacts - October 2023

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Agility Director</td>
<td>Ken Loree</td>
<td><a href="mailto:loreekh@aol.com">loreekh@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>Agility Equipment</td>
<td>Penni Price</td>
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<td>Agility Field Schedule</td>
<td>Debbie Stewart</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sheltiesrock1@yahoo.com">sheltiesrock1@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Agility Class Scheduler</td>
<td>Martha Reichold</td>
<td><a href="mailto:agility@hotc.org">agility@hotc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Building/Facility/Urgent Issues Call 256-656-3732</td>
<td>Tom Johns</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tjohns@knology.net">tjohns@knology.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CGC</td>
<td>Mary Bankich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbankich@aol.com">jbankich@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>CGC &amp; Trick Dog</td>
<td>Sue Morgan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:saprsmom@gmail.com">saprsmom@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Discussion Groups (HOTCtalk)</td>
<td>Angela Raby</td>
<td><a href="mailto:akraby59@gmail.com">akraby59@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dog Fair</td>
<td>Sheila Norckauer</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:janethill13@icloud.com">janethill13@icloud.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:info@hotc.org">info@hotc.org</a> Responder</td>
<td>Linda Ogilvie</td>
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<td>Mary Gregory</td>
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<td>Shirley Reid</td>
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<td>Obedience Director</td>
<td>Edith Atchley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:esatchley8@gmail.com">esatchley8@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Supplies for Club</td>
<td>Norm Casto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:norman.casto@gmail.com">norman.casto@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail End Team- Emily Lynn, Kaison Dunkel, &amp; Allison Meier</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:tailend@hotc.org">tailend@hotc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Answering</td>
<td>Janet Hill</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janethill13@icloud.com">janethill13@icloud.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Room Schedule</td>
<td>Cathie Lang</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cathie.lang@gmail.com">cathie.lang@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Tom Hickerson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:twhbhp@mindspring.com">twhbhp@mindspring.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please notify the Tail End Team at tailend@hotc.org if updates to these tables are needed.
**REMINDERS**

**REMEMBER:** The application for HOTC membership along with instructions can be downloaded from the Club Documents page of the Members Area of the HOTC website. The completed application should be emailed to the Membership Chairman by the Visitor’s Sponsor.

**PLEASE** check your directory information and notify Shirley Reid (Membership Chairman) if corrections or updates are needed.

**Tail End** articles should be submitted to tailend@hotc.org by the **20th of each month** to appear in the following newsletter. **Please put a reminder on your calendar.**

**REMEMBER:** To remain a Member in Good Standing, you must contact the Corresponding Secretary (attendance@hotc.org) to be excused from a Monthly Meeting.

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The October 2023 Tail End was edited by Allison Meier, Emily Lynn, and Kaison Dunkel. Thank you to everyone who sent in content.