

BETTY SMITH



Betty has been a member of LTDTTC for 40 years and an instructor for about 30 years. Before agility existed she taught Novice, Open, and Utility obedience classes. In agility, she has taught all levels – including competition level.

The curriculum for the club's Agility Foundations 1 and 2 classes for dogs

that are just beginning in agility was developed by Betty. She is currently teaching the Foundations 1 & 2 and Agility 1 sequences.

Betty is an honored Lifetime Member of LTDTTC.

She tells us, "I got involved in dog training because of my parents. I grew up with Dalmatians and had a Labrador Retriever. My parents began training and showing our family's Dalmatians when I was a child. I trained and showed one of them to a CDX as a teenager. When my husband and I got our first dog, I enrolled him in training classes as a puppy and have been training and showing dogs ever since then. I have had Golden Retrievers for many years."

Betty belongs to Glenbard All Breed Dog Training Club, the Golden Retriever Club of Illinois, and the Golden Retriever Club of America. I currently train and trial my two Goldens in both obedience and agility.

Over the years, Betty has achieved the following titles: Canine Good Citizen (CGC) on 3 dogs, Therapy Dog (TDI) on 2 dogs, CDX on 1 Dalmatian and 9 Golden Retrievers – including 6 CDXs and 4 UD, Rally Novice (RN) titles on 3 Golden Retrievers, Agility titles on 6 Golden Retrievers – several with Master Agility Standard (MX) and Master Agility Jumps with Weaves (MXJ) and 1 Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX), Tracking title (TD) on 1 Golden Retriever.

The advice Betty gives her students is to remember that in training your dog to work with you in most dog sports, he or she is doing what YOU want, not what the dog would choose to do (except to please you). Be positive and acknowledge the little and big strides. Reward behavior you want and (as much as possible) ignore what you don't want.