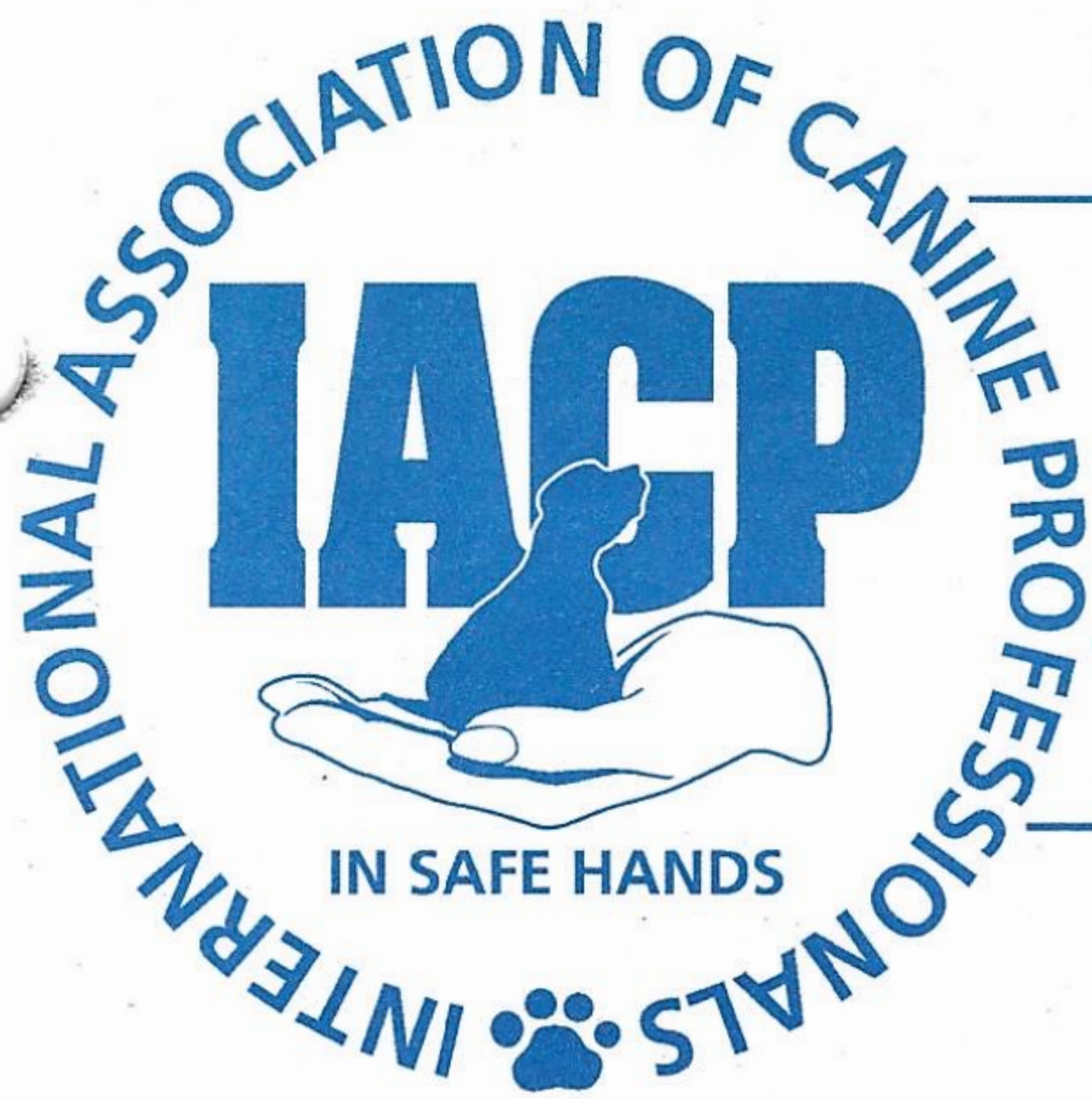




NEWSLETTER

THE SAFE HANDS PROFESSIONALS

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 1, 2000

From The President

by Rocky Boatman

Hello and welcome to IACP. Many, many months ago, several professional trainers became interested in developing an organization which would best represent all canine professions. Through the hard work and dedication of these professionals, the International Association of Canine Professionals was born. You can now be a major part of an organization which represents your interests. Although IACP is young, the leadership has many years of experience running such organizations. We are blessed with members from many different areas of training. We will work hard to organize and produce an organization that all will be proud to belong to.

For many of us, this organization is a dream come true. IACP is here for you. IACP will work hard to educate, inform, and work toward a central goal of ensuring all professionals are represented. IACP is different in the fact that we recognize and invite other canine professionals to join our ranks. We encourage everyone to share their knowledge and experiences with those in other canine fields.

(Continued on Page 5, Column 1)

How It All Began The Professionals Association

by Martin Deeley

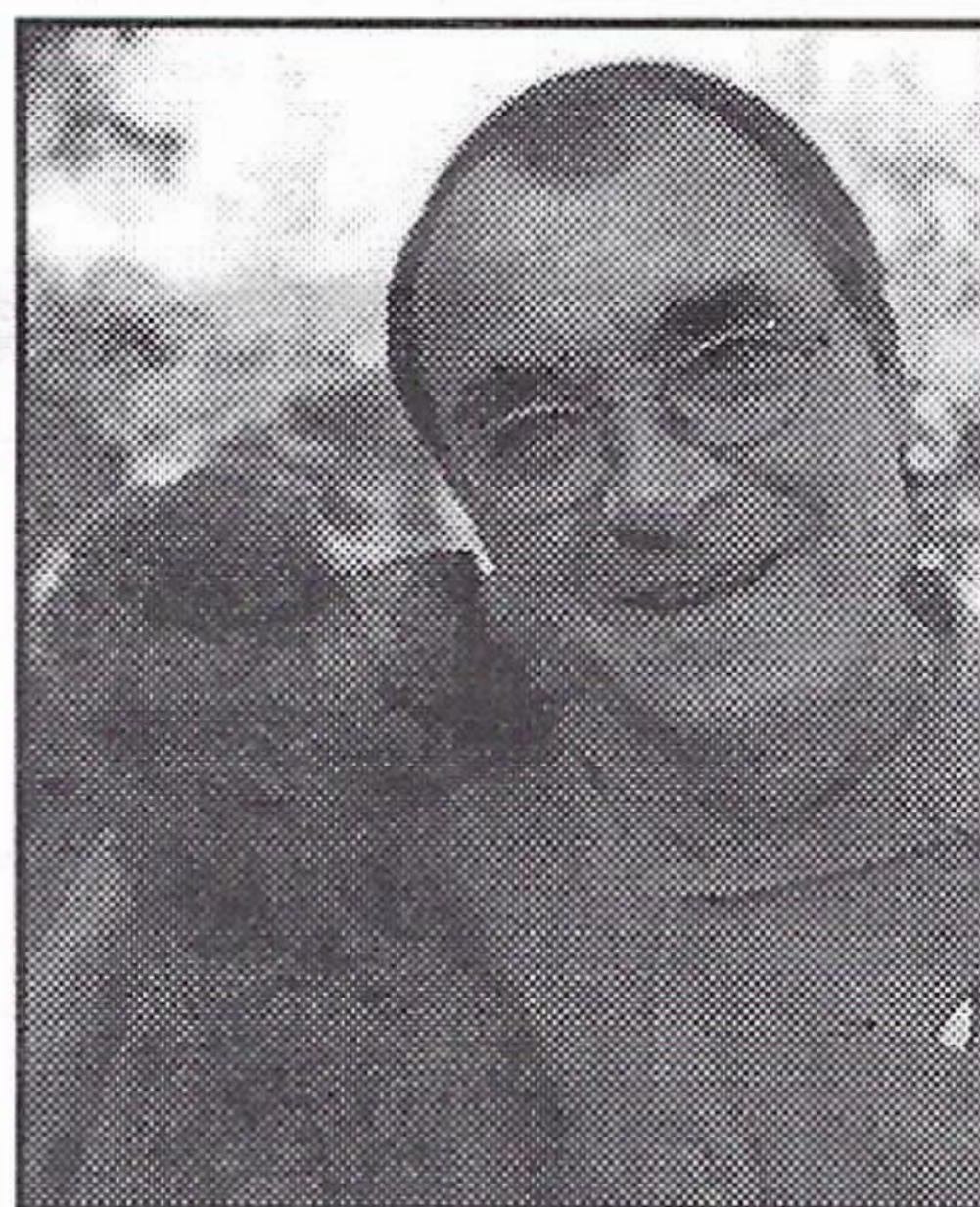
Are you like me and ever puzzled over whether it was dog that discovered man or man who discovered dog? Whichever it was, there is no doubt that our lives have become entwined so much so that dogs, for many of us, are a necessity. To be without a dog is to feel like a part of yourself is missing. Likewise, for a dog without work to do and a caring human partner to enjoy, life is merely an existence.

Dogs form working partnerships with us while providing the companionship

we seek from an animal/human relationship. A dog's devotion to humans and the role they play, whether herding, hunting, protecting, guiding, serving or entertaining is unquestionable. In return we owe them our devotion to help guide them toward good citizenship as they become effective working partners doing the jobs they find enjoyable and fulfilling.

In the dog world, dedicated people continually seek to improve the welfare of the dog through knowledgeable breeding, training, nutrition, health and caring

(Continued on Page 5, Column 2)



Martin Deeley getting some professional advice from Garth

Testing Rover

by Gary Wilkes

To test your dog's intelligence, here are several easy behaviors that can accurately rate Rover's performance:

Clap your hands twice and then say "sit." Give Rover a treat if he sits.

Repeat this behavior ten times. Now clap your hands twice and see what happens. If Rover picks up the idea that clapping twice is the same as the word "sit," in only 10 repetitions, he is very bright indeed. If clapping twice does not cause him to sit, try another set of ten repetitions. If he learns the association in under 50 repetitions, his brain is working perfectly.

Hold your fist in front of Rover's face. Quickly open and close your hand

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IACP Newsletter

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Ethics That Work!

by Sharon Benter

Welcome to one of the most exciting endeavors for the Canine Professional in recent years.

First, here's a short introduction about myself and what this column will present in each IACP newsletter

I began training dogs and owners in 1977, after completing a trainers' course taught by Steven Cobb in Long Beach, California. It was one of very few schools for would-be instructors that dealt with canine behavior modification and problem solving.

After graduation, I began to find out early just how important ethics and professionalism are to a successful business. I was a new mother, young, and excited about having my own business where I was able to "call the shots," so to speak.

I quickly learned that owning my own business meant I would be responsible for maintaining a much higher standard than I ever imagined if I wanted a good reputation within my community. Optimistic, I started out trying to please everyone.

Because of personal circumstances, I tried different fields of business, not always pertaining to dogs. I worked in real estate, both in sales and behind the scenes in escrow. I also worked for a short period at the Disneyland Hotel, of all places! Working at the front desk right next door to the "happiest place on earth" gave me a real education when it came to dealing with the public.



Sharon Benter and Lacy

Many dogs and years later, I've learned it is not always about making everyone happy. Sometimes you have to make unpopular decisions.

Sometimes you find yourself torn by what you think is "right," and what someone is asking you to do.

Fortunately, for those of us dealing with dogs and pets of all kinds, the true dilemmas are few. But they happen to all of us, and that is what this section of the newsletter is all about.

It's about ethics, professionalism and individual integrity. In each newsletter, I hope to share with you some thought-provoking ideas and concepts that pertain to our unique profession. I might focus on an individual that is exemplary

in their profession.

I also hope to receive correspondence from those who have questions regarding what they may be facing, or have experienced in the past, with regard to ethics or professional conduct.

So on behalf of myself and all who have joined together to make IACP the best forum for Canine Professionals, once again I say, "Welcome!"

I look forward to hearing from you and being a part of what makes our chosen careers so special.

Sharon Benter has been a respected dog trainer for 22 years. Her reputation for integrity and honesty is well known.

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To Serve and Protect Guard Dog Misconceptions

by Joel M. McMains

The man sitting on the frayed couch in my office absently petting Marty, my German Shepherd, wanted information about protection training. He'd seen guard dogs he felt were unsafe, and was concerned the training would make his dog "mean." The man handed me a photograph of his dog. I nodded, and said, "Good looking animal."

Marty, noticing the petting had stopped, rooted her muzzle under the visitor's hand for more. The man smiled, obliged her, and then said, "Can I see one of your guard dogs?"

Sometimes it's hard to keep a straight face.

"Sure," I said, standing. I popped a cassette into the VCR and switched on the set. An image formed, a long shot of a Doberman heeling with me along one sideline of a deserted football field.

Presently an old codger talking gruffly to himself strode past us, unaware of our presence, in a world of his own. The dog paid him little mind, as he did moments later when a frantic woman rushed up to us seeking directions. After I gave them to her and she went skittering away, several children approached, asking to pet the Dobe.

"Notice," I said, pausing the tape, "in each instance the dog showed no hostility, just curiosity, like you'd expect from a sound dog."

My visitor seemed confused, but chuckled. "He nearly licked that giggling little girl's nose off. But what's your point?"

I grinned and resumed the tape. The Doberman and I continued our walk.

Until a madman waving a tire iron came shrieking at us and the dog flattened him.

"Gawd!" My visitor leaned forward. His eyes had gone wide.

Another command and the Doberman raced to my side.

"Gawd!" The petting had quit. Marty jump-started the hand again.

My next command had the Dobe barking furiously at the attacker, who hopped up and fled as though possessed. I told the dog to quiet, his rumbles faded to distant thunder, and I patted his neck as we heeled back the way we'd come.

"Great Gawd A'mighty!"

I stopped, the Dobe sat, and the camera came in tight for a head study. The dog's name flashed on the screen: NICK. After a few seconds the image faded to sparkles, then to the football field. Different dog, same events, similar results.

Still absently petting Marty, the man said, "That second dog seemed more intense, seemed to charge harder. Barked nastier, too."

I nodded and glanced at my visitor as the camera focused for the head shot. In dawning recognition his breathing caught. Then it quit altogether. The name had hit the screen: MARTY.

"All this time I've been petting a trained guard dog." Spoken slowly, in tones of awe, as though Marty had just popped in from Mars. She eased onto the couch, got the petting restarted, rested her head against the man's leg and closed her eyes.

"Uh-huh," I said, "and you see how downright vicious she is."

Message: Sound training applied to stable canine genetics creates nothing--it only enhances what is already there. (c)

Joel M. McMains is a world renowned and highly respected author of a number of dog training books. Three of his many sought-after titles are "Manstopper," "Dog Logic," and his Dog Writers' Award winning book, "Kennels and Kenneling."

"A madman waving a tire iron came shrieking at us and the dog flattened him."



How to Join IACP

PROFESSIONAL MEMBER (PM-IACP)
At least 5 years experience as a canine professional.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (AM-IACP)
Less than 5 years experience as a canine professional but practicing as a professional.

AFFILIATE MEMBER (AF-IACP)
An active interest in a career as a canine professional but lacking the experience to be an Associate or Professional Member, i.e., apprentices, student, trainees, part-time, and devotees of canine-related occupations.

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Affiliate \$35.00

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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS can vote on IACP issues and use the IACP name and logo on business materials. They also can participate in the Registered Trainers' database on our web site.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS can use the IACP name and logo on business materials.

AFFILIATE MEMBERS receive benefits but cannot use the IACP name or logo for business purposes.

Other Benefits:

All IACP members receive our newsletter and have access to our email list, seminars, educational materials, business support materials, events and activities calendars, regional-group participation, and our Certification Program for Dog Trainers. Discounts for all services are available to all members.

To Apply:

Contact the IACP through our web site, email, address or phone to request an application, our Mission Statement and our Code of Conduct. Addresses/phone number on Page 2.



Attention Everyone!

by Mary Mazzeri

Dogs learn through the five senses. For learning to occur, a dog's mind must be accessed through one of these sensory channels. A "key element" of successful obedience training is linking a dog's mind to the owner/trainer through the eye gate. Teaching a pup the "attention habit" makes it easier for the puppy to process input from the trainer. It unlocks its mind to learning.

Jack Godsil used to say "Attention is everything." An easy way to condition a young pup to acquire the attention habit is to use every opportunity to reward friendly eye contact. The same techniques and principles work to some degree with older dogs but good attention habits are best started early. Know what is rewarding to a particular puppy. A reward can be anything that the pup enjoys and that can be quickly and easily provided. It can take the form of praise, petting, a treat, (or praise and treat, or click and treat), a favorite toy or a moment of play or pleasant interaction. Learning often occurs during unplanned moments. These opportunities occur when a puppy volunteers eye contact and is given immediate praise "just for looking." It's important that praise occurs only during the time the pup is actually making direct eye contact and is "mentally engaged" with the trainer.

Attention may also be "staged" as an exercise. To encourage a pup to make eye contact the trainer can cluck, chirp, whine, make sniffing sounds etc. Find a "tune" the pup responds to. A toy may be hidden in a shirt pocket or tucked in the shirt collar and squeaked.

(Continued on Page 5, Column 1)

Kindergarten Korner

VET VIEWS

by Ray Caughman D.V.M.

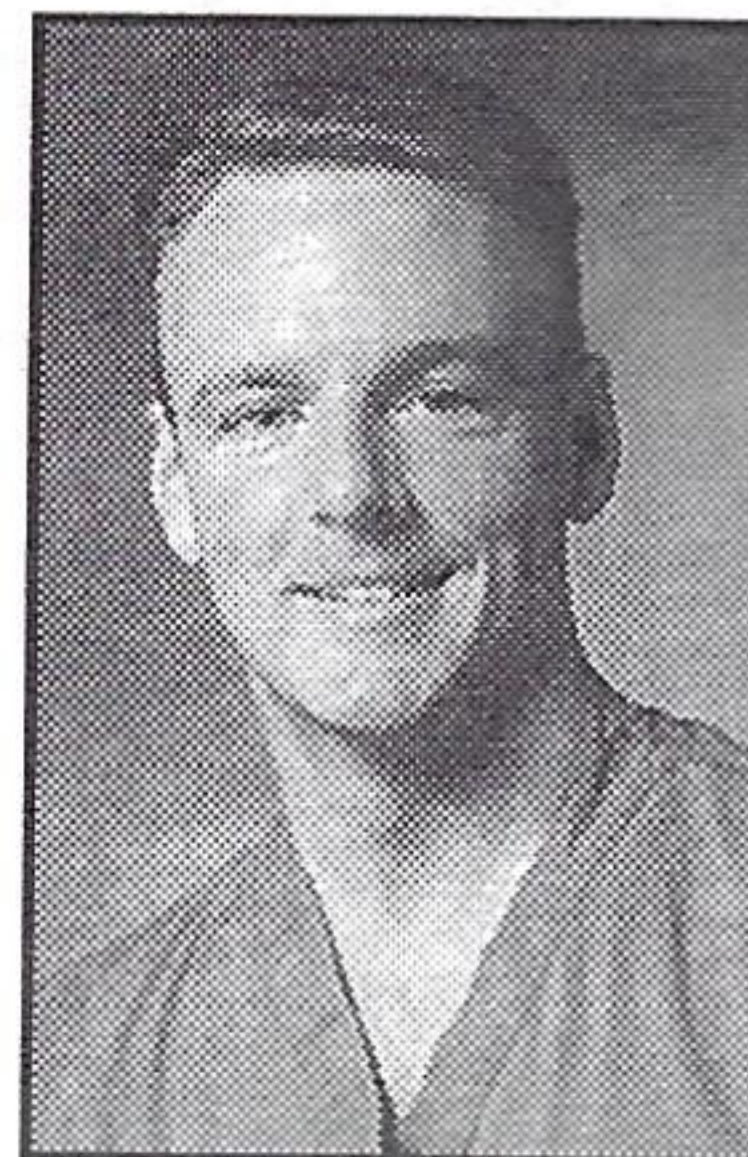
"How many shots does my puppy need?" and "When does my puppy need his first shots?" are two questions that are frequently asked by dog owners. These questions have also been a topic of debate in the veterinary community over the past few years. With vaccine companies making their vaccines better, the protocol for when to start and at what age to stop vaccinating puppies has changed somewhat.

What hasn't changed is how the puppies are protected in the first 12 weeks of their life. Puppies ingest colostrum (i.e. first milk) from their mothers in the first 24 hours of life. This milk is rich in antibodies, which are absorbed into the puppy's bloodstream. These antibodies last anywhere from 6 to 12 weeks. It is these antibodies which protect the puppy from very harmful and potentially deadly diseases such as Parvo, Distemper, Hepatitis, and Rabies. Therefore, it is very important that the bitch be properly immunized before the birth of her offspring so that they have every chance of optimal protection. However, many other factors have to be figured into how much protection each puppy has. Some pups may not get as much colostrum as others. Some of the antibodies will wane before others, making the pup susceptible to disease.

Their susceptibility to disease is the reason we vaccinate against these viruses. But when are these puppies susceptible? When during this 6-12 week period will the maternal protection go away?

If a puppy has maternal antibody protection, and we vaccinate it with a standard Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, and Parvo virus vaccine, those maternal antibodies will recognize that vaccine as the disease and fight it off, thereby rendering that vaccine useless. The question, then, is when does the maternal antibody wear off so that the vaccine will work? Many variables come into play for answering this question, such as vaccine status of the

bitch, immune function of the pup, environmental factors, etc. Many of these factors can't be known when you acquire a pup. Therefore, practitioners usually advise their clients to vaccinate starting at 6-8 weeks of age and vaccinate every 2-4 weeks (depending on the type of vaccine used, prevalent diseases in their area and individual environment of the puppy) until the puppy is 16-20 weeks of age.



Ray Caughman
D.V.M.

Some of the newer "hi-titer" vaccines actually bypass the interference of the maternal antibody so that you do get protection at an earlier age. These have especially been tested with Rottweilers and Parvovirus. Studies have shown that vaccinating these pups at 6, 9, and 12 weeks of age with the "hi-titer" vaccine did protect these pups against Parvovirus. Consult your veterinarian to find out what type vaccine they use and their recommended protocol for the initial series of vaccines. Remember that no vaccine is 100% effective. By taking measures to decrease the possible exposure of the puppy to diseases, you can further reduce the risk of contracting disease. Keeping the puppy at home and not taking him to the park or any other area where a lot of dogs come together (dog shows, kennels, pet-superstores) will decrease the risk of exposure to these diseases.

If you **MUST** show your new one off, as so many of us do and should want to, then at least make sure that they have 2 vaccinations in them before showing him off to family and friends or starting puppy obedience training. Again, check with your veterinarian for advice on when to start your vaccine schedule and what should be included in the protocol. (c)

Dr. Ray Caughman D.V.M. is a 1991 graduate of the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine and owner of Dogwood Animal Hospital in Lawrenceville, GA. Visit them at: www.dogwoodanimalhospital.com



From The President

(Continued from Page 1)

Our educational goals are to become one within the dog world. Together, we can help each other and grow.

I do want to inform all our members of my open door policy. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments concerning IACP, please feel free to contact IACP through our email address or me directly at dog@primenet.com.

We encourage participation in the operation of IACP.

So, sit back and enjoy these wonderful articles in this first and historic issue.

Sincerely,
Rocky Boatman
President, IACP

Rocky Boatman has been training for 29 years, belongs to NADOI and APDT and owns Arizona Canine Academy. He is also the Regional Representative for PAWS With A Cause.

Attention Everyone!

(Continued from Page 4)

At the first moment of response, praise ("Good watch") must be quickly followed with the reward (while the pup is still holding eye contact). It's important the pup knows when it's "released" from looking. Only a few seconds should elapse at first before "dismissing" the pup with a verbal marker, (i.e. "Free," "Go play," "Alright," "OK," etc.) and breaking off the eye contact. Gradually the gaze can be held for longer periods of time before rewarding the puppy. When a good attention habit is developed early in a young puppy, the trainer possesses an important key that unlocks a door to learning. (c)

Mary Mazzeri has been training dogs in the Chicago area for over 25 years and breeds Irish Wolfhounds.

How It All Began

(Continued from Page 1)

programs. In doing so they strengthen the dog/human bond. Their efforts often go unrecognized but these professionals provide the much needed expertise to support and maintain the special relationship that exists between humans and dogs. Through their services to dogs and owners they provide an essential service to all society.

But many dog professionals today are isolated--rarely communicating, learning, understanding and sharing knowledge with each other. Often this deficiency in the professions leads to misunderstandings that create even larger communication barriers. However, by adopting a mature, professional outlook and a belief that true professionals are concerned with the best interests of the dog and their owners, disagreements disappear and compassion emerges. Ways of understanding and learning from each other begin to grow.

With these concepts in mind, members of a professional dog trainers networking list I administrated have encouraged the establishment of an association representing and uniting all canine professionals. This would foster open discussion, debate, education, learning and understanding about the wide range of interests and vocations relating to dogs. List members from all over the world emphasised that if we wanted to learn, gain support, develop effective and successful businesses and--most important--provide services which would enhance the lives of dogs and their owners, we had to work and act professionally with respect for each other and each others' opinions.

Recognising how all involved would benefit from closer associations, fifteen leading professionals from all over America have formed The International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP). Its mission is to maintain the highest standards of professional and business practices

while providing support and representation for all occupations involved with any aspect of canine management, health, training and husbandry. The IACP encourages diversity of thought and exchange of ideas about care, training and management while helping members be successful in their chosen vocation.

For trainers, veterinarians, groomers, kennel owners, breeders, pet shop owners --or any business associated with dogs-- only the IACP brings all dog professionals together under one roof.

The Association is dedicated to assisting members improve their business, their livelihood, and their knowledge. By uniting and working together, IACP members can improve the lives and welfare of our canine friends while assisting owners to establish loving and caring two-way relationships.

IACP Membership is for anyone who is involved in dog-related activities, whether as a vocation or through business and who not only expects but demands the highest standards from the profession.

I welcome you to the IACP where you can be proud, respected and valued for the services you provide for dogs, their owners and society.

The IACP and the canine profession is what we all make it, and I hope that you will invite your fellow professionals to join us. Together we can all benefit and succeed. (c)

Martin Deeley has been training pet dogs and hunting dogs for over 25 years. He has written three books on gun dog training, writes for British, American, Dutch and Danish magazines, and has produced nine training videos. He is a leading commentator at gun dog events and for videos of the British, Danish and Irish Spaniel and Retriever Championships. He has run workshops and seminars in Europe and America and is the only journalist ever allowed a private interview with Her Majesty the Queen, of England.

Martin is on www.citydawgs.com

Retrieves That Click

How to get it right

by Vivian Bregman

Three years ago I experimented with clicker-retrieving. Goniff, a seven-week-old Border Collie, was my fifth BC and my eighth competition dog, but she was the first who wasn't interested in a ball. Clicker time!

I rolled a tennis ball and Goniff said, "Yea! A ball! So what!" I rolled it again and she looked at it--c/t (click-and-treat). I'd already taught her a click meant a treat so when she heard it she came to me for the goodie. At that point I was clicking instantly several times whenever she glanced at the ball.

Then I rolled the toy but didn't click when she looked at it. She stepped toward it--c/t. Four repeats and I stopped c/t for just a single step: now she had to take several. A few more times and she walked all the way to the ball. C/t.

Next I didn't c/t when she almost touched it--so she touched it--c/t! I rolled the ball again. She ran to it, nosed it--c/t--she ran to me for the treat. We were flying! After five times she picked up the ball. Jackpot! Many treats! I took the ball and we ended the session. Total time: about ten minutes. Goniff wanted to continue but I wanted to stop, to end on a high note.

The next evening I'd planned on starting from scratch but when I rolled the ball Goniff ran and picked it up and I clicked and she came for the treat. Then she picked up the ball and immediately dropped it. I did nothing. Puppy-outrage! She grabbed the ball again and immediately dropped it. I did nothing. She ran to me. Again, nothing. She looked at me and then at the ball, then ran to it, picked it up and stepped toward me. C/t! I played with getting her to bring the ball ever closer until she finally brought it to me. I stopped the session again.

The next evening I rolled a dumb bell three feet. Goniff ran to it, picked it up by a bell and brought it back. C/t! After four repeats I started asking her to pick it up by the bar. That took a bit,

because when she brought it by the bell, I didn't c/t but merely threw it again. She was very happy with this. It was hardly a punishment; it was what she wanted me to do.

During the next ten months we worked on bringing the dumbbell by the bar and sitting front with it, which caused real problems: She'd either bring it to me and stand, or she'd sit and drop it. So I quit rethrowing the dumbbell.

When Goniff brought it, dropped it and sat, I turned my back, walked two feet away and faced her. Again she grabbed the dumbbell, brought it, dropped it and sat. Again I walked away. Suddenly she squealed and grabbed the dumbbell by the bar and brought it to me and sat front, still holding it. I threw it again. Now certain, Goniff came front and sat with it. Bingo!

She's never refused to retrieve, though it's often to heel or a crooked front. In Open, I have to restrain her from chasing other dogs' dumbbells. Once she chased and brought back somebody else's--a big one, too. I didn't fuss: I should have held her tighter. I wouldn't punish her for retrieving.

I'm unconvinced that dogs can be trained using only a clicker, but it does seem to clarify things for them. It's sound is sharper, and while my timing is good, I couldn't have said "Good" fast enough. I was astonished that in three nights Goniff went from indifference to "Here's a toy--please throw it for me!" Today she's as much of a nuisance asking me to throw toys as any of my naturally compulsive retrievers.

Goniff now has her UKC/AKC CDXs and is still crazy for the dumbbell. So far I couldn't be more pleased with clicker-trained retrieving. (c)

Vivian Bregman has been training, showing and teaching others how since 1965. She has put 33 AKC, UKC and CKC titles on her own eight dogs.



A Rescue's Christmas Poem

From the Internet

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

'Tis the night before Christmas and all through the town,
every shelter is full--we are lost but not found.
Our numbers are hung on our kennels so bare,
we hope every minute that someone will care.

They'll come to adopt us and give us the call,
Come here, Max and Sparkie--come fetch your new ball!!
But now we sit here and think of the days..
we were treated so fondly--we had cute, baby ways.

Once we were little, then we grew and we grew --
now we're no longer young and we're no longer new.
So out the back door we were thrown like the trash,
they reacted so quickly--why were they so rash?

We "jump on the children:, don't come when they call,"
we "bark when they leave us, climb over the wall."
We should have been neutered, should have been spayed,
we suffer the consequence of errors THEY made.

If only they'd trained us, if only we knew . . . we'd
have done what they asked us and worshiped them, too.
We were left in the backyard, or worse--let to roam,
now we're tired and lonely and out of a home.

They dropped us off here and they kissed us good-bye
"Maybe someone else will give you a try."
So now here we are, all confused and alone,
in a shelter with others who long for a home.

The kind workers come through with a meal and a pat,
with so many to care for, they can't stay to chat.
They move to the next kennel, giving each of us cheer,
we know that they wonder how long we'll be here.

We lay down to sleep and sweet dreams fill our heads
of a home filled with love and our own cozy beds.
Then we wake to see sad eyes, brimming with tears,
our friends filled with emptiness, worry, and fear.

If you can't adopt us and there's no room at the Inn,
could you help with the bills and fill our food bin?
We count on your kindness each day of the year--
can you give more than hope to everyone here?

Please make a donation to pay for the heat
and help get us something special to eat.
The shelter that cares for us wants us to live,
and more of us will, if more people will give.

More Kindergarten Korner

Chewing and Mouthing Inappropriate Objects

By Leah Spitzer

Chewing is natural for any dog, and such behavior is acceptable in the wild. But your pet shares our world, and among your many jobs is teaching him what he may and may not chew. Without your help he won't grow out of chewing--you have to teach him.

You must also protect him, and chewing some objects can kill. Pups will try almost anything: Electrical cords, chicken bones, glass, remote controls, socks, soda cans--the list is long. The following training method works with my students' dogs, and is offered to keep your pet safe.

When puppy mouths something that's on your "forbidden" list, don't chase or reprimand him. That not only teaches him to run away, it teaches him to avoid coming to you. Worst, he might chomp down harder as he runs! You want your dog to trust you, to bring you whatever he picks up, and you must be able to take anything out of his mouth. Once he learns that it's to his advantage to show you everything he grabs, your shoes will be delivered to you, not destroyed. By ten months of age, he'll no longer mouth what isn't his.

My first Golden Retriever, Gabriel, picked up everything. Everything. So I did what the books said. I shouted "No," chased him down and punished him harshly. Of course, Gabriel learned to grab and run. He destroyed stuffed animals, shoes and clothing. By ten months I'd halted his destructive ways, but it then took a long time to re-teach him to come to me and to surrender whatever he had picked up. There had to be a better way.

I raised my next Golden quite differently. First I bought lots of toys and hid them around the house, under couch cushions, on shelves, wherever I could. Then, whenever Arrow grabbed something he shouldn't have, I said in my best puppy voice, "Arrow, what do you have?" He would dance about with his treasure. "Arrow, let me seeee!" He'd bring his prize to show me. I thanked

him profusely, reached for a hidden toy, and traded. Arrow took to the game with vigor, though he did go a little overboard: He not only brought me anything he could, to see what I would trade for it, he once brought me the cat-food dish with the food still in it!

By ten months Arrow had grown out of chewing. I didn't lose a single shoe, stuffed toy or pillow, and Arrow stayed safe. When I bought my first German Shepherd puppy, I hoped my method would work on a non-retrieving breed. It did. And it paid dividends--one day Lacey brought me a lightbulb she had pulled from the wastebasket. If she had run away and clamped down . . . well, I don't want to think about that.

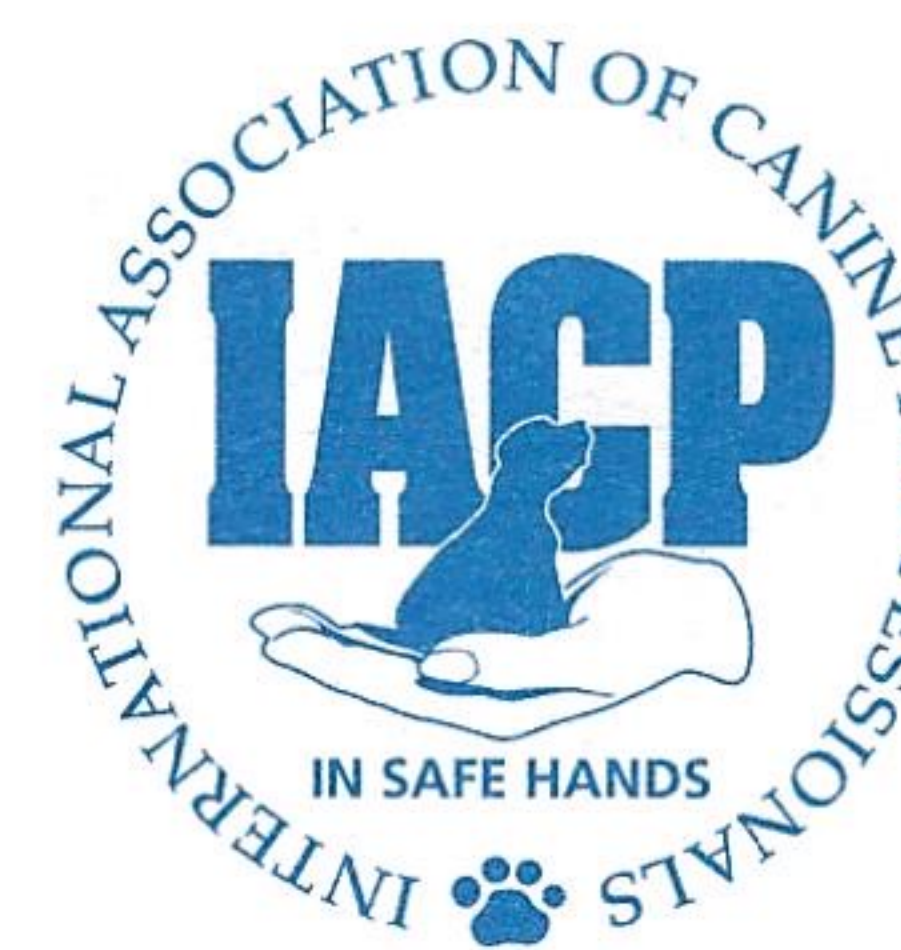
If your pup won't bring something to you, grab a hidden toy, walk gently to him, and play the trade game.

Immovable objects: Bitter Apple is still my first choice. I treat all electrical cords, table legs, etc. with it, but it evaporates and must be re-applied daily. If your puppy still insists on chewing an immovable object, gently approach him and trade out.

If your pet chews when you aren't looking, hit yourself on the head with a rolled newspaper while repeating, "I forgot to watch my dog." You'd never leave a two-year-old child unattended--don't leave a puppy unattended! When you can't watch a toddler, you put him in his playpen. When you can't watch your puppy, put him in his crate.

Don't respond aggressively. It might be your favorite pair of shoes but teaching your puppy safety is more important. Teaching him to run away in fear of punishment isn't just frustrating, it's dangerous. Personally, I would rather risk my shoes than my puppy. (c)

Leah Spitzer has been training and teaching for 20 plus years. She specializes in puppy training, home manners, behavioral problems and obedience competition.



Testing Rover

(Continued from Page 1)

and then say "sit." See how long it takes for Rover to develop an association to a visual signal.

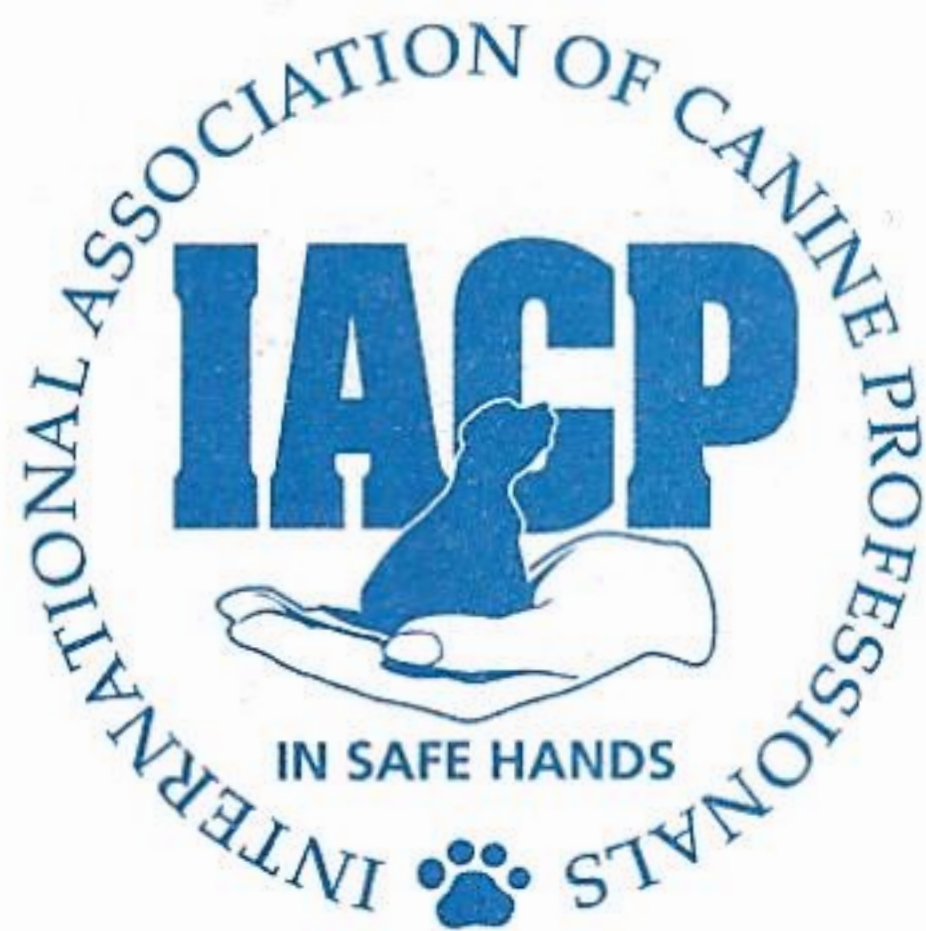
Dip a cotton swab in some vanilla extract. Wave the swab in front of Rover's nose and then say "down." Repeat this sequence exactly as you did with "sit." After Rover seems to be getting the hang of this, wave a clean swab in front of his nose. If Rover lies down, say "Wrong" in a neutral tone of voice and walk away from him. This process tests Rover's ability to discriminate one scent from another and to associate a particular behavior to a particular "scent command."

If your dog does not do well on these exercises, do not despair. These little tests are just as arbitrary and just as inaccurate as anything you will find in the popular media. Dogs come in hundreds of basic types and millions of individual personalities. There is no basic test that can fairly rate the intelligence of dogs. The fact is that the average Afghan hound gets fed, bathed, brushed, walked on a leash and pampered without having to lift a paw.

By contrast, the border collie has to chase sheep all day, skip meals and live outdoors in driving rain or scorching heat. It appears that like beauty, intelligence is in the eye of the beholder. (c)

Gary Wilkes is an internationally acclaimed behaviorist, trainer, columnist and lecturer. He has more than 20 years experience working with dogs and created the practical foundation for clicker training. His web address is

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In This Issue . . . on Page 1 *How It All Began* by Martin Deeley

Puppy For Sale

From the Internet

A man was putting up a sign that read, "Puppies for sale," and before he had driven in the last nail, there was a small boy at his side--that kind of sign seems to attract small boys.

The youngster wanted to know how much the puppies were going to cost. The man told him they were very good dogs and that he did not expect to let any of them go for less than \$40. There was a look of disappointment and then a question. "I've got \$2.37, could I look at them?" The man whistled and called, "Lady," and out of the kennel and down the lane came Lady, followed by four or five little balls of fur, with one lagging behind. The boy asked what was wrong with the last puppy and was told that the puppy's leg wasn't formed right and

he'd always be lame.

The boy's immediate reply was, "That's the dog I want to buy. I'll give you \$2.37 and 50 cents a month till I get him paid for." The man smiled and shook his head. "That's not the dog you want. That dog will never be able to run and jump and play with you."

The boy very matter-of-factly pulled up his trouser leg and revealed a brace running down both sides of his badly twisted right leg and under the foot, with a leather cap over the knee. "I don't run so well myself," he said, "and he'll need somebody who understands him."

Complimentary copy courtesy of your local IACP member