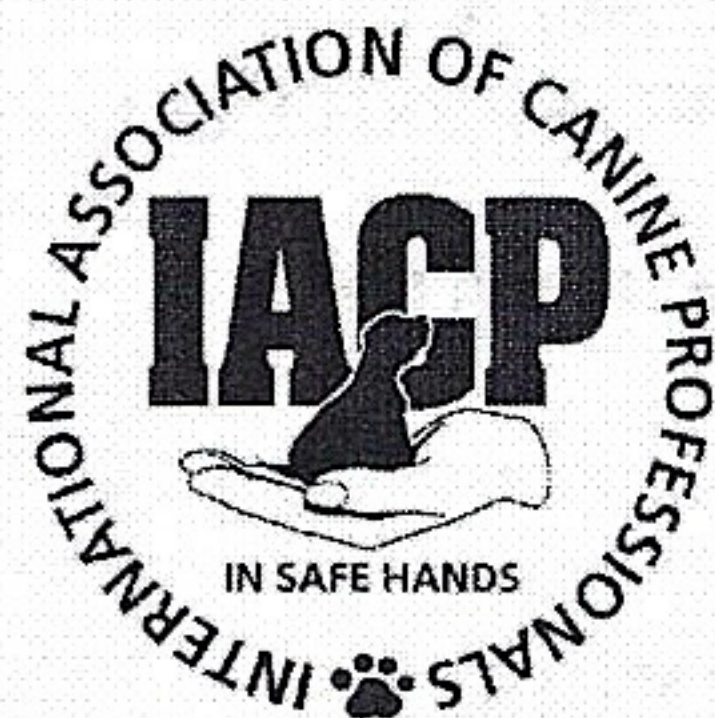


THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE THE SAME

Martin Deeley—Executive Director



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS

SAFE hands

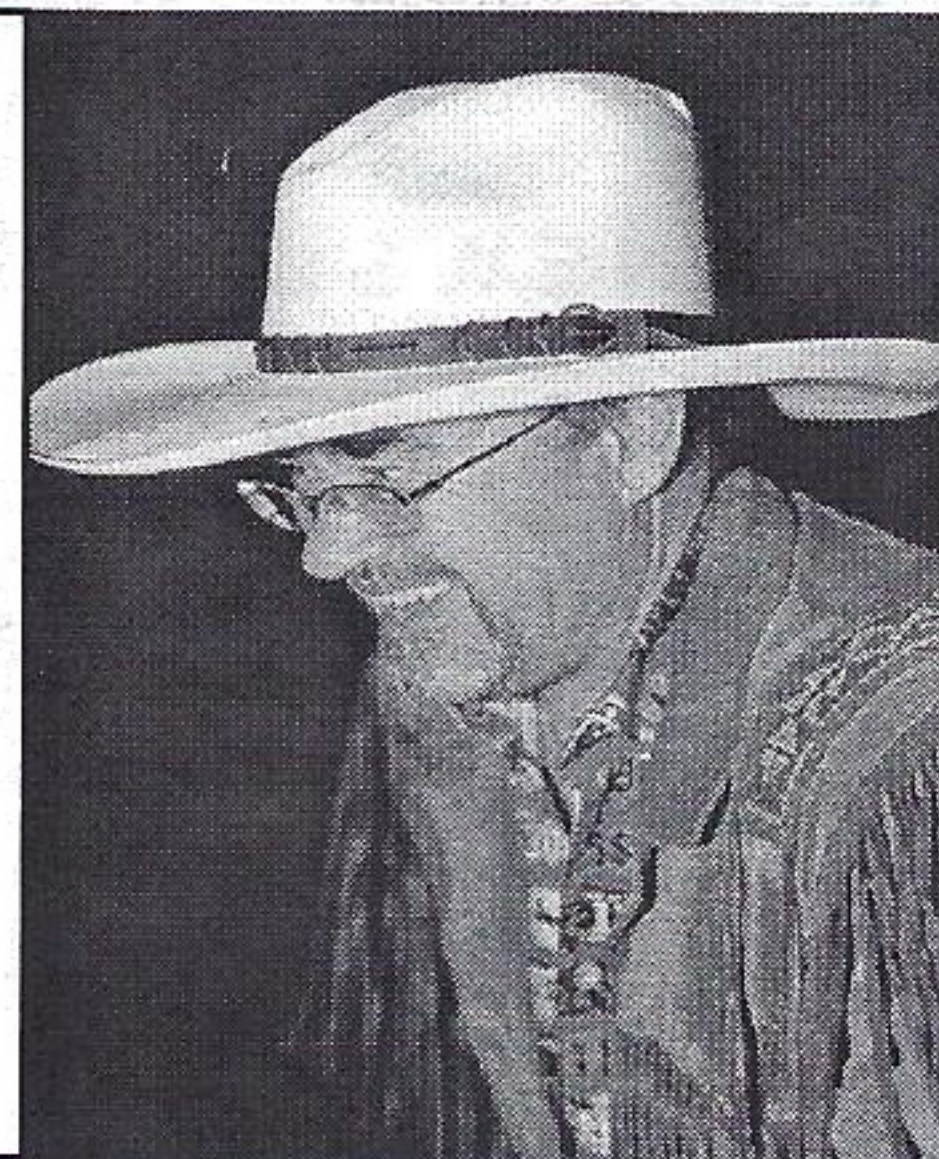
"The World will never be the same again." That statement has been repeated many times on the television over the past weeks following the horrific attack on America. As I watched the pictures and heard the stories told I could only imagine the horrors that fellow citizens, firemen, police officers and hospital workers had experienced and were going through. Then among the pictures I saw a Search and Rescue Dog working among the rubble and realized also that, as many times happens, our canine partners are always there with us - helping, supporting and working with us. Oblivious of broken glass, thick dust and mangled ironwork, there was a dog using his own skills and natural abilities searching with his handler the ruins of the World Trade Center hoping to save lives of those possibly trapped. I then heard from a cyber-friend that he and his dog were on the scene immediately following the collapse of the buildings. Over a week later he still finds it impossible to talk about what he saw - but his dog did find people below the rubble, unfortunately none of them survivors. Teams of SAR dogs are participating around the clock always optimistic and hoping against all the odds to find survivors. As always in such hours of need it is our dogs we turn to, to work alongside us.

Recently on a Workshop tour of Europe I visited a Seeing Eye dog-training establishment in Switzerland and watched these wonderful dogs being trained. A blind man told me, "My dog has given me back my eyes and my life - he is also a wonderful companion in my life." At a conference I met a young boy in a wheelchair - almost totally paralysed. With him he had his service dog, who was his constant companion. I asked what he could do and he told me a variety of tasks from picking up objects to opening doors. And then he added "But the most important thing is that he is my best friend." The look of mutual admiration and love between this young man and his dog left me with damp eyes - it said all that needed to be said.

Only last year I watched a demonstration and a competition for Police Dogs, admiring the abilities of both dog and handler. In talks with the police officers afterwards I heard stories of their exploits and the works they had done. In all the talks

Martin Deeley
"Cowboy
Style"

At the IACP
Conference
2001 in
Hutto Texas



I had to pressurize the officers to talk about these exploits. Their admiration for their dogs work was obvious but they were too modest to discuss their own involvement. A few years ago I worked with a group of sniffer dogs in England and constantly remember their enthusiasm for the job and the wonderful relationship they had with their Police handlers.

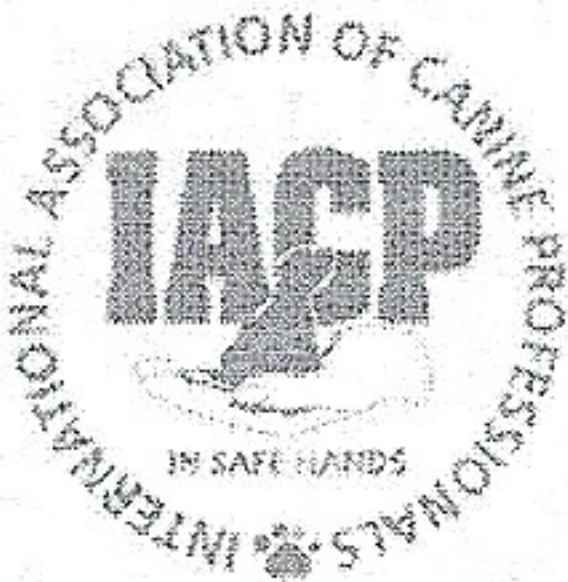
On my return from Europe as I waited for my baggage to come through to reclaim - hoping it had not been left behind I caught a movement in the corner of my eye and there was a beagle tail wagging checking bags, suitcases and even people. Oblivious to all the commotion and trolleys, he and his handler were going about their work - and he was enjoying it.

I could quote, as I know many reading this can quote, instances of where our dogs work and support us. And let us not forget that even the 'non working' pet dog provides support, comfort, security, companionship, confidence and entertainment that many of us need to enrich and enjoy our lives.

Our dogs provide us with so much and more when we fulfil our responsibilities to them. When we took them into our 'pack' we also took on a responsibility to train and care for them. These responsibilities bring about the great dogs from all sections that we see today. The services that we as professionals provide to the public help them satisfy these responsibilities and when we see how important the roles of our dogs are in society today we should all be proud of our professions. In society there are

Cont pg9 Col 3

IACP NEWSLETTER



IACP NEWSLETTER

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REGIONAL MEETING GROUPS TO BE ENCOURAGED

The IACP was established to create more understanding across the professions. To achieve this we now wish to encourage and support regular meetings of local groups of professionals where they can get to know and understand each other's profession and especially to network for the benefit of their business and the world of dogs. Already groups are meeting in different parts of the United States and we are now asking for Voluntary Regional Organizers who will bring together groups in their area. Professionals attending these groups do not necessarily have to be members of IACP.

The success of the present groups has been inspirational in our desire to formally create Regional meeting groups and to encourage everyone within the professions to work together and to join us within the IACP.

If you are interested in become a Regional Organizer please contact Martin Deeley at Head Office.

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2002 IACP ANNUAL CONFERENCE



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AFFILIATE MEMBER - 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. Receive benefits but cannot use the IACP name or logo for business purposes.

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VICKI HEARNE INDUCTED INTO THE IACP HALL OF FAME

Within the world of dogs there are many unspoken and often unrecognized heroes, people who give their lives to the well being of dogs and provide the motivation, experience and knowledge which enables all dog lovers and dogs to have a better life together. Whatever their profession, today all of us within the dog world benefit from their work and dedication to dogs. The International Association of Canine Professionals in the Spring of 2001, established the IACP Hall of Fame to recognize these 'heroes'.

Vicki Hearne who sadly and far too soon passed away earlier this year was an author, writer, poet, trainer, and defender of dogs everywhere, and sadly lost her battle with cancer this year at the age of 54. Dog lovers know Vicki mainly from her books "Bandit: Dossier of a Dangerous Dog" and "Adams Task: Calling Animals By Name", which are classics - but she has done so much more than we can ever imagine. A powerful writer Vicki had the ability to put



her finger on the pulse of dogs and their relationship with people and to write and explain about it in a way which not only made fascinating reading but imparted a message to the heart. She made you think, she created understanding and more than that you fell in love with this lady without ever having to meet her. Vicki was a communications genius both with people and dogs. The dog world owes a tremendous debt to Vicki Hearne.

Victoria Elizabeth Hearne was born Feb. 13, 1946, in Austin, Tex. She worked as a self-employed animal trainer beginning in 1967. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in English at the University of California, Riverside, in 1969 and was a Stegner Fellow in Poetry at Stanford University during a year of study there.

She worked as a lecturer in creative writing at the University of California, Riverside, from 1980 to 1984 and as an assistant professor of English at Yale from 1984 to 1986. From 1989 to 1995 she was a visiting fellow at the Institution for Social and Policy Studies at Yale.

We will all miss and always remember Vicki for her words of wisdom and true love of dogs.

Her Hall of Fame award will be presented to her husband Robert Tragesser in memory of all she did.

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BONDING Joel McMains

Articles that move quickly involve the reader. Leading with flavored questions is one method, imagery another, shock is a third. Consider a blend of these techniques.

Have you noticed that some scientists seem driven to reinvent the wheel? To prove what most of us know? Ponder this experiment. Researchers removed healthy baby monkeys from their parents and housed the young animals in separate, spacious, well-lighted rooms. In each was an appropriately sized, manmade parent, a furry, seated, big-eyed substitute engineered so the duressed orphans could nurse at will. But, of course, there was no communication. No affection, no cuddling. Love and the opportunity for bonding was withheld from the equation.

Food?
Check!
Shelter?
Check!
Security?

...

Security?
After a few days the young primates began to cling to the surrogate parents' necks more than normal. It was as though the little ones were seeking acceptance and touching. Finding not even acknowledgment, they soon regressed, curling into the fetal position at the replacement parents' feet for long periods.

This was predictable, as radically stressed animals, including humans, often regress to the last emotionally safe place. It's a survival mechanism. Sometimes it works, but often it just weakens the system further by fighting a losing battle that comes to be nothing more than a delaying action.

Within weeks, despite the availability of wholesome food in a protected environment, over half of the young monkeys had died. As anyone knowledgeable about animals could have predicted.

Now, while that image of so-called science resonates, consider human-canine bonding. Dogs trapped in artificial families may not expire, but often they develop the canine equivalent of a thousand-yard stare, always looking, seeking, trying, sometimes frantically, at least at first.

For trainers this begs a question: Must lessons be rooted in bonding? Answer: No, but it's certainly better that way.

Some competition dogs are more conditioned than trained, more dependent than bonded. Often their handlers are as in tune with them as Don Imus and Hillary What's-her-name. A relationship that should epitomize a pinnacle, given the owners' professional status, is sometimes the pits.

For me to characterize bonding requires only a dusting off of memories, but defining it can be a tad tricky. "A uniting force or influence" is a nice Harper-Row generalization, and it indeed conveys a message; but the same description applies to concepts ranging from peanut-butter sandwiches to super glue. The definition only hints at the inter-species phenomenon.

While only the dogs themselves can finally know, I liken bonding to a shared shelter held together by reciprocal caring. The effect is like the comfort of a warm coat against winter's chill. It's knowing to a certainty that a candle always burns in the window.

Like any emotion, bonding can be seen, touched or tasted only metaphorically, but it can be felt. Though as tangible as air, bonding is every bit as real. Just as life needs oxygen, bonding is integral to an enduring human-canine relationship. If that's your target, bonding is the arrow. The bow? That's you, or—more specifically—your desire.

Q. But won't a dog initiate the bonding process?

A. Sure. Nature drives any sound dog to bond with his people, his pack, just as it motivates him to eat, procreate, and defend himself. And Nature is why a dog desires a bond with a person. Delight in human companionship plays a part, sure, but a stronger and more practical motivator is survival, the most powerful instinct. Ever a pack animal, Nature leads the dog to seek and bond with a pack leader.

To canine eyes, absence of a number-one portends a threat to pack survival; and if the pack is at risk, the dog feels that he himself is on shaky ground. No, dogs don't think all this out. They simply know it. Their need for security is why some dogs attempt to rule the household: Having not discerned a leader, they become one, filling the role themselves.

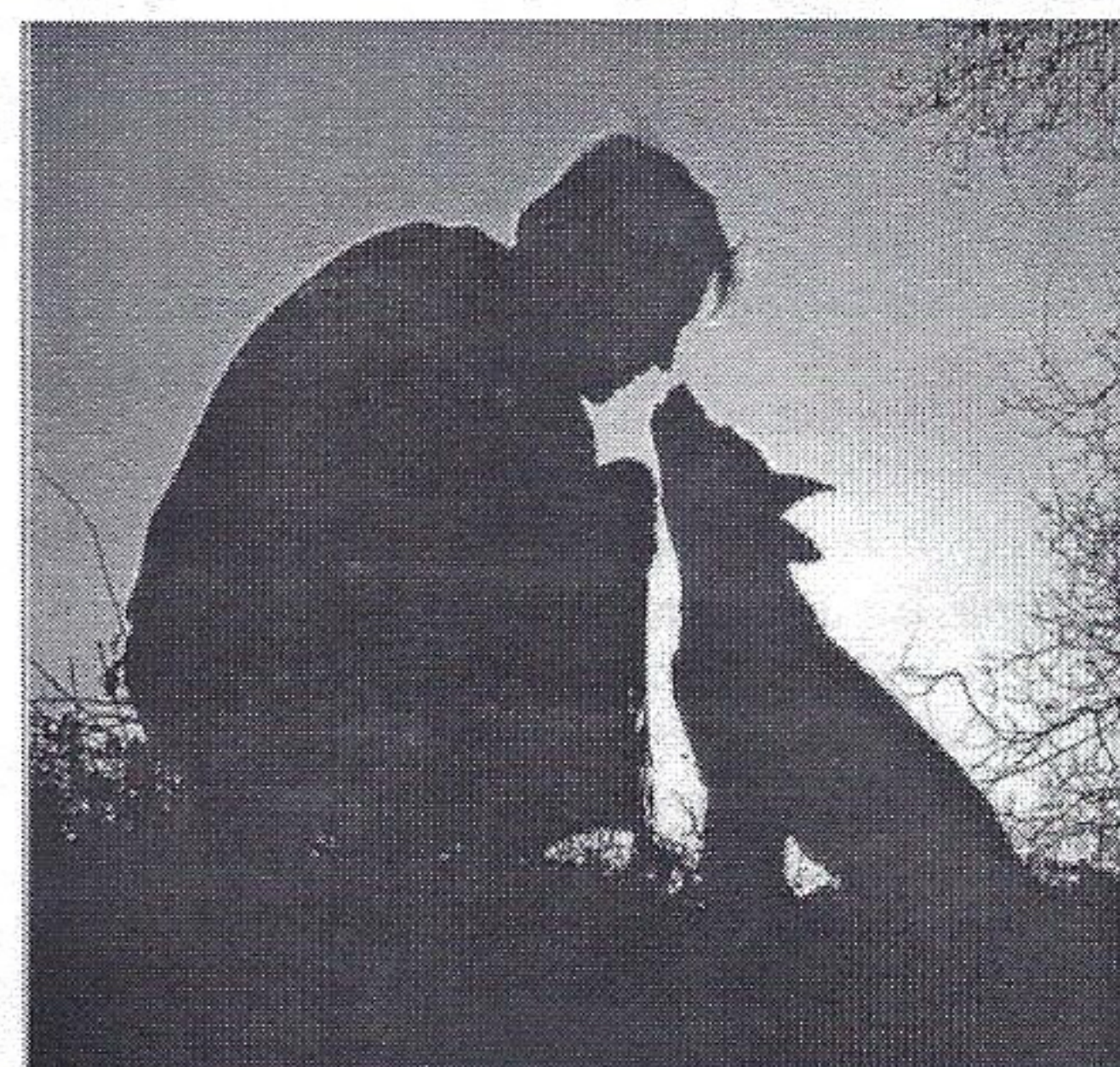


Photo from Dog Logic by Joel McMains published by Howell

Humans often ascribe such dominating behavior to self-willed hardheadedness, though in truth the animal's survival and pack instincts juxtaposed against uninvolved owners are the driving forces. That's why we either recognize and accept our pet's mindful, sparkly eyed overtures, or we both lose. The good news is that pooch can teach us about bonding like no other can. He not only knows to bond, he knows how. Dogs are born with the knowledge; we have to learn it. Moreover, we have to be taught. And what better instructor than man's best friend!

Some folks think of bonding as akin to love. That's not wholly inaccurate, but a canine Thesaurus might offer "attachment" as a synonym with "eternal" as a qualifier.

Q. But doesn't contemporary wisdom hold that attachments are unhealthy?

A. "Contemporary wisdom" is not just a cliché, it's an oxymoron. And while attachment to things is indeed pointless, dogs are not things.

Keep in mind: What passes for human love can be transient, and while people can accept probability as a condition, dogs cannot. They're smarter than that. Nature has ordered their world in one of absolutes. Devoid of gray shadings, a dog's perception is one of on or off, yes or no—obey or disregard. Likewise, for the dog, the concept of yesterday has no more meaning than tomorrow. Through canine eyes, all that exists is today, in the sense of right now. This instant. Homo sapiens could learn much from Canis familiaris.

No, the dog is not emotionally or spiritually fragmented, but he perceives time and existence as a series of moments and events, not a continuum. Understand one inviolable truth about bonding: It's not what I say it is or what you say it is. It's what your dog says it is, and no earthly power can change his opinion.

Though bonding is more a matter of owner perspective than, "Do this, do that" steps, certain techniques are helpful. Primary among these is being available, not being too busy with the ad nauseam rerun, be it in the newspaper or on the idiot box, to acknowledge pooch with a pat and a few appreciative words when he seeks you out.

Bonding is offering your hands, allowing them to be nuzzled, but not smothering your pet in an intrusive embrace. It is taking care not to cross the line that separates obedience from slavery. It's looking deep into your dog's eyes, and allowing his consciousness to intersect your own. It is acknowledgment, communicated awareness, quiet joy of a shared moment. It's doing things he enjoys: Throwing his toy for him, long walks together, and quiet, ear-rubbing moments. It's suspending your human notions of right and wrong long enough to let your pet be a dog.

Talking to the animal in your normal voice is another positive approach, as compared with speaking to him in contrived tones, as though he were the foreigner. It can even be taking a break from keyboarding an article about human-canine bonding long enough to pat the adult Doberman who has decided that now is the perfect moment to perch on your lap and wash your face.

How you feed your dog affects bonding. Lightly scenting his food by pouring it over your hand as it falls into his bowl is a subtle yet powerful technique. Letting the animal see you prepare his meal and give it to him says more than merely setting down the filled dish and letting him discover it. Feeding your partner in the house instead of out back sends a message of togetherness, as does encouraging him to sleep on or near your bed, as this expresses natural pack behavior reminiscent of the den.

Introducing your pet to visitors, saying his name and touching him as you do, includes him. Not wearing sunglasses when working or playing with pupper encourages eye contact, while people without eyes intimidate at a visceral level.

Encouraging a pack-greeting ritual (within reason) when you come home accepts and

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approves of your dog. Neighbors overhearing you make comments like, "Hey, pupper, tell me about your day," may have them calling the white-coated guys with the nets, but remember that your dog hears your words as our version of yips.

Brushing your pet—grooming—is reminiscent of pack behavior, as is noticing that he can't quite reach where it itches, and scratching the spot for him.

Consider this simple act: Your dog paws the door, you immediately open it for him. This adds one more bit to bonding's mosaic as your response says you not just hear him, you listen to him.

Approval and discipline—training—affect bonding. They establish and perpetuate positive communication, without which nothing worthwhile can happen. But keep in mind that while pack leaders rule, they don't call every shot. They don't throttle members' identities in the name of training. Though leaders know that bonding doesn't mean equality, they treat individuals as individuals having likes and dislikes, which they take the time to learn and respect. They also know that honest mistakes can happen, and are consistent in their expectations and reactions.

Another way of studying bonding is looking at what can block it, examining what not to do. A primary inhibitor is punishment directed toward the dog's self rather than his behavior. Lack of care, like a dry water bucket, is another obstruction. So is being left in a car on a hot day, or being laughed not with, but at. Of a certainty, bonding is not being chained and forgotten in the back yard, or assigned a

status more befitting an ornament, a not uncommon practice with showdogs, and unfortunately like JonBenét.

Bonding is rejection of training methods that the wisdom of the child within us whispers are depraved. It is recognizing that some people, lauded if self-anointed seers among them, have no business around dogs, certainly not around yours or mine; that such brutal folks are power-trippers who love not dogs but self-aggrandizement; that animal abuse can take many forms, that there are many types of starvation.

The substrata underlying all that passes between you and your dog, bonding is neither accident nor incident. It's a process, much as fruit ripens gradually, not instantly. And that's one of the phenomenon's dearer aspects: It can always grow, it can always get better.

We may never understand bonding totally, regardless of how many lab animals that bubble-headed scientists sacrifice on the altar of research grants. The good news is that pooch understands bonding well enough for both of us. The important thing is to let it happen, to accept it, and most important, don't get in the way of it.

Now, have I outlined all there is to know about bonding? Hardly. I've barely winged the subject on the ear. Virtually every paragraph could be expanded into a chapter. If you've experienced bonding, you know that to be true because you know what it is. If the concept is new to you, great joys await, and are yours for the asking.⁶

Joel McMains is an Internationally recognized writer and trainer from Indiana

Self Correction

by Mary Mazzeri

Dogs learn things all the time. But sometimes they learn to do that which we don't want them to do. Wouldn't it be great if a dog could learn to train herself to avoid those unwanted behaviors? Well, with a little help, perhaps she can. A self-correction is really a great learning experience. This is where a dog learns to avoid/extinguish a behavior because she thinks that her own behavior causes an unpleasant reaction. I can think of many self-correction training examples that use physical corrections and where redirection is not required. Here are just a few:

The electronic fence: here a dog learns to respect its boundaries because she discovers that going into a forbidden zone is quite uncomfortable.

A remote electronic collar that is hand triggered from inside the kitchen window when Bowser starts to excavate the flower bed. As far as Bowser knows, digging in the flower bed is not as much fun as he thought it was going to be.

A dragline on a dog who bolts out the door every chance he gets. This dog lives on a dragging line (supervised, of course). Length depends on how fast the dog is and how slow handler is. The problem situation is set up many times. Someone stands on the drag line with a couple of feet of slack in it as they or someone else opens the door. This allows the dog to go for it and experience the consequences of his action. This teaches quickly and unemotionally. Enough repetitions over several weeks at each door of the house will help the dog to discover self-control. Just the presence of the dragging line (or bicycle cable if the dog is a chewer) acts as a constant reminder. The longer the bad habit has existed, the longer the dog wears the reminder.

Another example of self-correction awareness is more personal and brings back warm memories of a wonderful little pal God loaned me for a while. George, a striking champion Border Terrier who I inherited when he was almost four years old, came to me as an intact male with a well-developed marking in the house behavior. I used physical self-correction exclusively to extinguish the behavior. I brought this happy-go-lucky little fellow home, showed him around the yard and bathroom facilities, and praised him for using them. George and I played ball and he had a drink of fresh water. After his initial learning experiences and to the day he died, George held himself accountable for using the outdoor run and yard as his only marking area.

When I brought George inside my home that first day, I closed the two of us off in a room and I settled into a comfortable chair with a good book and six little throw chains ready for use. I gave him a toy to play with and settled into a chair with my book and the first chain held silently in the palm of my hand. George promptly went off exploring. I gave him no direct eye contact and acted preoccupied with reading the book. Sure enough, it didn't take him long to pick a spot on my wall to sniff and line up. Zap! Something bit him in the butt just as he started to lift his leg. Yes, I threw it at him when he wasn't looking. He startled as it interrupted his behavior. He looked at the chain, looked at me (I was reading the book), and took a brief look around the room.

If George had been a more insecure dog, I might have landed the chain beside him, but this was a mature, high-minded terrier. I left the chain lay where it was, and during



this whole time said nothing.

After a minute he shrugged it off and went on his way exploring the room. Sure enough, he picked the corner of a closet as his next target, but somewhere between the sniff and the leg-up, another zap in the butt. He looked at the chain, then at me, and he laid down and looked around the room, his mind processing. I said nothing and ignored the whole scenario, except that I had silently slipped a chain into my palm.

After ten minutes George shrugged off the event and proceeded with his reconnoitering, discovering the couch. Ah, sniff, sniff. Now that corner smells really interesting. No, wait. George is pulling his nose back abruptly, lifting one paw and looking up thoughtfully at the ceiling. He decides that the marking bug might bite him again so he aborts the target. He lays down and starts chewing on the toy I had placed on his new bed.

I wanted George to think that his behavior was not pleasant. In the house anyway. For six weeks I watched him

closer than a puppy, throw chain always nestled in hand so the timing would be immediate. It got to where I could block him off in the kitchen with me while I was preparing dinner, chop the salad, watch him out of the corner of one eye, see him sniffing a chair leg, set down the knife, tag him and pick the knife right back up and go on with the salad. Never did I yell at him or get personally involved with correcting him.

During the first month or so he tried marking in every room in the house at one time or another without success. He was always under my direct supervision or crated or outside in the dog yard. After two weeks, when he would start to sniff, he would automatically and quickly pull his head back and look up to Heaven as if to say, "I wasn't going to mark. See I stopped myself." Maybe he was starting to think, God is watching.

Eventually he could be trusted anywhere in the house. This took a while, since his was a well-established behavior, but gradually George earned more freedom. But the point is, it was a physical correction that worked to create an aversion to an unwanted behavior without me having to be

involved directly. It didn't effect my relationship with the dog. His behavior didn't change based on my presence. I was able to give him positive attention when he did the right stuff. He also received physical corrections when appropriate. He was a happy-working dog who earned an AKC CDX Obedience Title and a Working Certificate of Gameness Certificate. George best loved his job as a Therapy Dog.

Whenever I can, I like to distance myself emotionally (and physically, if possible) from a correction; but I don't avoid needed corrections. If a dog learns to think that some behaviors have unpleasant consequences, he tends to internalize the avoidance of the behavior. Then all I have to do is make it my job to look for the good and praise it. My dogs have always liked it this way and perhaps your clients' dogs will too.

Mary Mazzeri has owner-operated Care Dog Training in Carpentersville, Illinois since 1970. She is a successful competitor in conformation, obedience, tracking, and lure coursing with her Irish Wolfhounds and Border Terriers

A DAY IN THE PARK

by
Cyndy Douan
BS, MHDL

The last day of September was such a beautiful day in Charleston. The hint of the change of seasons marked the start of a trip to Hampton Park with my dogs for a few hours of meeting new friends and relaxing in the warm sun. I'd traveled from Georgia with my dogs so I could spend a week of vacation visiting with family and friends, and I hoped to participate in some activities I could enjoy with my dogs.

Finally, the morning I was looking forward to had arrived! I had read about the Sunday's at Hampton Park in Dog Fancy magazine, but it was by chance that I happened to have a connection

with Caroline Hunt who gave me the information on the group and arranged for me to join in on the fun. Driving around the park for the first time in years, I was taken with the landscaping and all the variety of beautiful flowers. The girls and I unloaded, leashed up, and took a stroll around the park. Carmen was enthralled with squirrels which she never sees at home, and Jaymie, as always, was eager for any new adventures. As we made our way around the park we were greeted by the barks of two German Shepherds hailing our arrival. We met the friendly Shep-

IACP STANCE ON PUPPY MILLS

Martin Deeley & Joel McMains

As an organization, the IACP has been asked to express its position regarding puppy mills and puppies sold routinely through pet shops. Some months ago, these topics were debated among board members. Concerns were expressed, such as, "What constitutes a puppy mill?" and, "What about honorable breeders who also sell pet supplies?" No conclusions were reached because of the lack of clear definitions in the profession.

But then we ask ourselves whether exactitude is necessary when professionals with common sense and experience can recognize and identify puppy mills and pet shops that regularly sell puppies with no regard as to where or how they were bred.

In classifying a puppy mill as such, we see it as a case-by-case question. One-size-fits-all definitions are impractical and unrealistic. Besides, we don't see a need to define the phrase, "puppy mill." Any dog professional knows what a puppy mill is, from the smells, the cramped filthy conditions, the number of breeds offered to all comers.

Speaking for the IACP, we condemn in concept puppy mills and their operators. We similarly condemn pet shops that routinely buy pups for resale. This practice should be legislated out of existence, for the benefit of future dogs and their owners.

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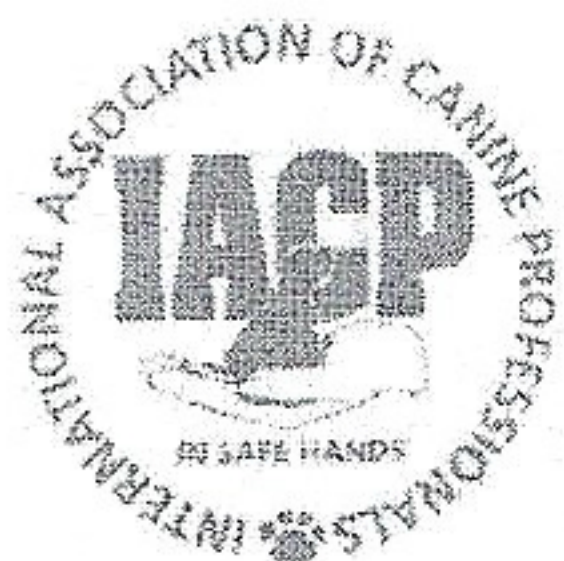
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Train Humane: Use a Head Halter

by Miriam Fields-Babineau
(Advertiser Article)

Professional trainers use whatever method or tool necessary to perform their jobs in the most humane and efficient manner. This means keeping an open mind and reading the canine student. Reading the dog consists of watching her body language and reactions to stimuli.

Often we encounter a dog that has been spoiled and become headstrong. The dog jumps up or pulls while being walked. In some cases the animal has learned to respond aggressively when meeting other dogs or people. Most owners do not realize how much their behavior and reactions promote these unwanted responses and tend to make matters worse by pulling and yelling. Using treats to redirect attention while the dog is distracted rarely works since a frenzied animal does not care about food, only about reaching the object of his contention.

Since Alice DeGroot's invention of head halters in the late 1970s, there has been little need for negative-reinforcement methods. Head halters teach dogs in a way they understand.

How often do dogs hit each other? Obviously, never. These behaviors are not in the canine repertoire. When one dog corrects another she growls in a low tone. Often, the dominant dog pushes the other dog downward via the neck or muzzle. When a dam corrects a puppy she puts the pup's muzzle or other part of the face in her mouth and gently pushes downward as she growls.

Head halters work the same way. When correcting a dog, pressure is applied to her muzzle as the trainer growls a verbal correction. The dog immediately recognizes this communication and responds. She is humbled. Within a short time the dog that was charging aggressively has stopped and learned to control the outburst. All without pain!

A dog that insists on pulling on the

leash quickly learns to heel, often in less than ten minutes with the proper use of a head halter. Where the head goes, the body follows. How can a dog run toward another dog if his head cannot first turn to look at the other dog? Hence, he learns to watch his handler and ignore distractions.

Over five different types of head halters are on the market. These are grouped into two types: Conventional and Figure Eight. The conventional head halter is the type developed by Alice DeGroot, DVM. Resembling a horse halter, it offers freedom of jaw movement and is the least likely to irritate the eyes since it is worn loosely. The Figure-Eight head halter is worn tighter, often causing eye irritation and restricted jaw movement. Both work equally well when it comes to teaching basic obedience but the conventional head halter may be easier for the dog to remove than the Figure-Eight halter. However, this does not cause problems provided the handler keeps a vigilant eye on the dog while using the head halter. No dog should ever be left alone

while wearing a head halter.

The most recent head halter on the market is the Comfort Trainer. This is a conventional head halter, much like Alice DeGroot's K-9 Kumalong. It offers freedom of jaw movement, remains below the sensitive eye area, and is made of a non-slip, soft material.

Not every dog requires using a head halter. Many respond well to click and treat or lure and reward methods. Some dogs feel so humiliated while wearing a head halter that other methods should be investigated. However, when training a dog who, when aroused, does not care about food or toys, head halters offer a humane alternative to painful training methods.

Miriam Fields-Babineau has trained professionally for over 20 years. She has published 20 training books, including Dog Training with a Head Halter. Her Website is: www.miriamfields.com

**Train Humane: Use a Head Halter!
And, not just any head halter...**

Comfort Trainer (patent pending)

The no-slip, easy fit and comfortable design from Miriam Fields-Babineau

Comfort Trainer is featured in the book, *Dog Training with a Head Halter* by Miriam Fields-Babineau, published by Barron's Educational Series.



Comfort Trainer comes in 5 sizes, fitting any dog from a Jack Russell Terrier to a Great Dane. This training device is also usable on brachiocephalic dogs, such as Bulldogs and Boxers.

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Looking Forward to Looking Back

by Cyndy Douan B.S., M.H.D.L.

Every year's ending offers a new and exciting time for me. It is a time when I can look back and take stock in what I have accomplished in the span of one year. It is also a time when I can use the knowledge I have drawn from the previous year to plan the following year and years to come. So much can be gained from looking behind at the steps we have taken and figuring out the results of those steps.

In the financial department, I look at the amount of money I have made. I compute the total gross, then divide by 12, to determine the average amount for each month. To plan for the following year, I decide how much more money I would like to make and determine monthly income goals. I track this yearly, and since I have been doing this I have made more money every subsequent year. I also look at where I stand with emergency-savings funds and try to set aside in savings at least six months salary. I remember that I have to save money I make in busy seasons so that I'll have a fallback in case I need cash during slow seasons.

In the marketing department, I look back and list the major referral sources for my business. These are usually the sources that I continue to pursue and make financial and time investments in for the following year. I also send Christmas cards or gifts of flowers or candy to those referral sources that have been most lucrative and loyal to my business. I decide to pursue one new marketing strategy that I have not previously tried, or try to develop referral sources from a few other businesses I have not already made connections with.

In the servicing department, I take stock of all the letters, emails, and phone calls that contain feedback on my business and services. Reviewing all the positive comments at year-end gives me a great sense of accomplishment and is a great booster after a year's hard work. I also study the criticisms, remember difficult situations and times when I know I could have chosen better options but did not. Though criticisms are often tough to hear and

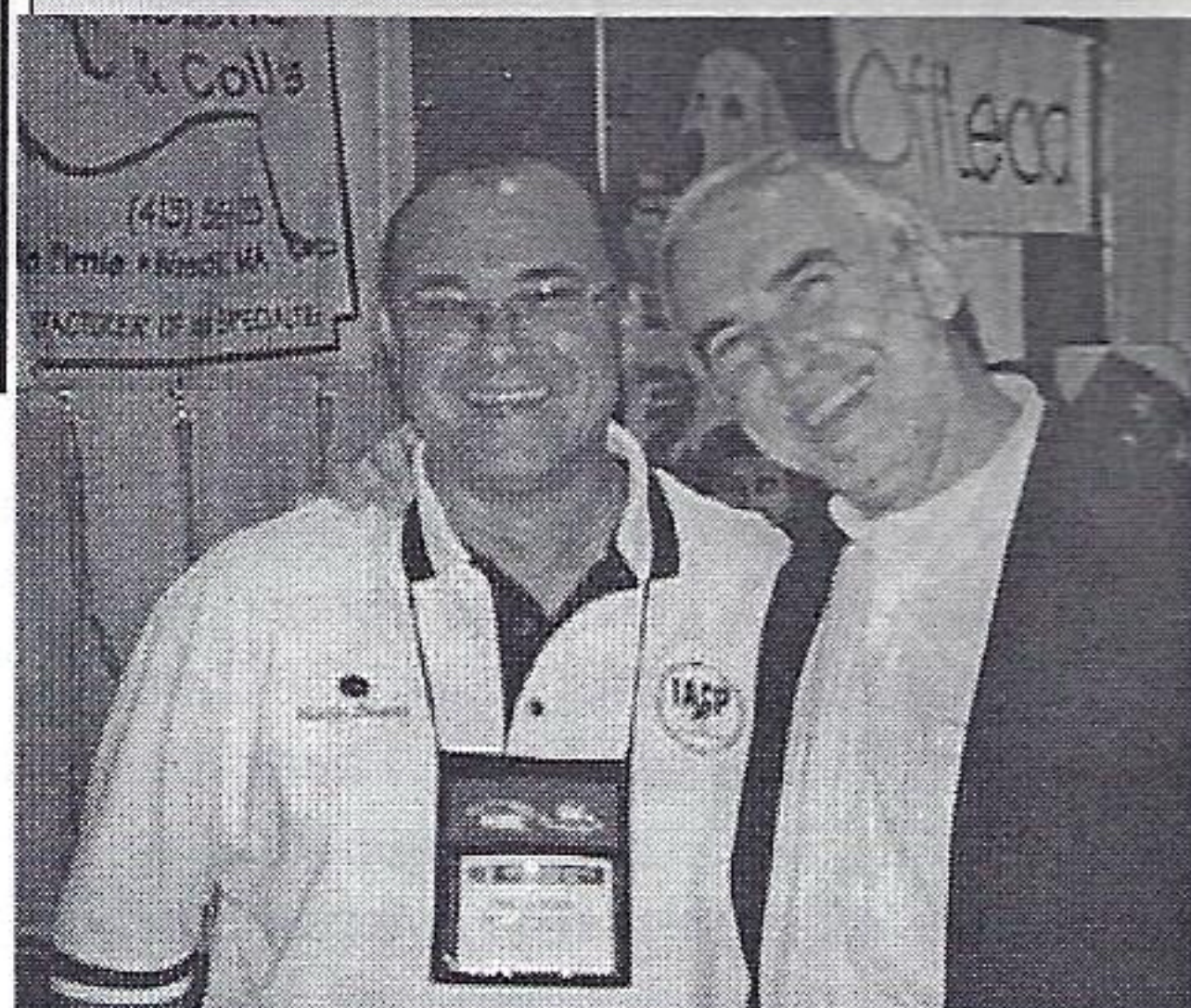
digest, I find that they offer tremendous insights into aspects of myself, my life, and my choices that I often fail to examine. Criticisms offer opportunities for changing myself for the better and help to remind me that I am always subject to improvement.

Finally, the personal department. I once read, "Do what you love and the money will come." Although not quite that simplistic, I have found that sentiment to be true. At the end of each year I do some checking-in with myself to be sure that what I am doing is still what I love to do. I have found that even if my job is something I love, this does not save me from the risk of burnout, the feeling that I want to dig out a cave and go hibernate in it. So much of what the canine professions are about is helping and giving, but there is a limit to how much of that which I can do before I become given-out. In looking back over a year, I can pinpoint times when burnout was approaching; I can recognize the signs that I am beginning to give out. Each year I plan ways to prevent burnout and I evaluate what worked and what didn't. For each new year I set aside time on the calendar which will be my time, and I plan activities for myself that will revive, renew, and refresh my spirit. I know these times will provide me with the crucial fuel to get through the year. I make these times as high a priority as the mortgage, taxes, and food that goes on the table.

I wish all of you the best in your professional careers. I hope you all will be inspired as I to look forward by taking a look back. Happy New Year!

Cyndy Douan is a co-founder and Head of Education of the International Association of Canine Professionals. And Operates Kingston Kennels, a very successful kennels and training business in Georgia

THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE THE SAME
Cont. from Front page



Martin and Dr. Ian Dunbar at APDT Conference

those who would wish to control our ownership of dogs and there are a few who would wish there were no dogs or pets within society. When dogs do wrong there is always a large press coverage and public outrage generated, is it not about time that we let the world know more about how dogs do right, how they support and help us, how they are there at our times of need and how we as dog lovers and professionals are creating responsible owners and dogs that contribute to our society and the well being of people.

As I sat on my safe bed, watching the TV screen and seeing the events in New York and DC time and again, my hand laid on the back of my young female black lab hunting dog. She was unaware of the reason I was tense, fearful, distraught, shocked and racked with emotion at that time but she recognized this, her eyes carefully watched me, her body warmed mine as she lay alongside my legs, an occasional touch from her tongue reassured me and she was there for me, especially at that moment. We, as professionals, have a responsibility to help owners to raise their dogs to be good healthy well-behaved and trained dogs, dogs that can and do provide these special relationships and services, and enrich our lives. Maybe with a united effort we can together ensure that the world will not be the same as it has been for dogs but will improve and their companionship and role in society today be recognized with our help for the richness and rewards they provide. The aim of the International Association of Canine Professionals is to provide this United Front for all professionals. I would encourage all members to invite and encourage others to join us and help this dream become a reality together.

Geriatrics and Canines (Contd)

Lyn Richards

By watching your dog for any changes in his eyes, you can almost always catch problems fairly quickly. Clouding of the eyes (a condition where the lens gradually becomes opaque due to the effects of aging, dry eyes or perhaps the first stages of cataracts), impending blindness (loss of vision characterized by fear of new places or open spaces). Cataracts and retinal problems can be diagnosed properly only by your vet, but you can see the symptoms pretty easily. Confining a dog with these problems to a smaller space and not moving furniture can help make your dog more secure and comfortable.

Eucalyptus and honey may be taken orally as a tea to help slow the effects of eye problems brought on by aging. Dr. Pitcairn recommends eucalyptus-honey eye drops placed in the lower eyelid of a dog with cataracts once a day. Treatment takes place over a period of weeks. Greater Celandine tea can also be used as an eyewash in a dog with cataracts.

There are breakthrough surgeries available to correct some eye problems, but in an older dog, surgery can sometimes be too risky and stressful.

A typical problem of the older dog, one the owner can make less uncomfortable, is keeping the eyes washed with a warm moist towel, applying saline solution to the corners of the eyes at intervals. The Celandine tea wash described above can be used and in the worst cases, a veterinarian can prescribe boric acid ointment, or Optimune, an expensive but effective solution.

The older dog can begin to experience dental problems just as we do. A variety of factors can cause tooth problems in an older dog, and can be prevented by simple cleaning on a regular basis. I use a human toothbrush on my dogs, and brush at least once a week with a drop of eucalyptus oil and baking soda.



I give raw beef leg bones at least once a week, and watch carefully for chipping. If the bones chip, be sure to remove them. Raw bones should not chip, but instead should fray, removing much of the danger of tooth damage, and providing the needed tooth cleaning and increasing circulation to gums, which in turn promotes gum health. As well, this satisfies the urge to gnaw or chew. Remove the bones after a couple of days.

Eating meals spread out is much easier on the heart in an older animal. It allows the body to handle the meal much more efficiently, and puts less stress on the heart. Please do not feed your dog only once a day; frequent smaller meals are better.

Omega-3 fatty acids are thought to reduce the frequency of blood clots and possibly lower blood pressure as well. The easiest way to get your dog to do this, is to feed fatty fish (tuna or herring) a couple times a week. I use Back To Basics food, which contains fish meal (herring) and fills the need for Omega-3 fatty acids in my dogs. Selenium is a mineral which helps keep Cardiac health at an optimum but is poisonous if overdosed. Use with caution.

Cardiomyopathy is enlargement of the

heart. Many factors bring it on, though exactly why is unknown at this point. It is not an uncommon occurrence in older dogs, and can be treated to extend the pet's life if caught early. Signs to watch for include swollen extremities, noisy or difficulty breathing, and lack of energy. Arrhythmia and murmurs are usually present earlier on in a dog's life and may go unnoticed until aging exaggerates the problem.

As a dog ages, the ears, just like ours, begin to fail. A tilting head should be watched for, since it can signal punctured eardrums or infection. Excessive barking can also signal a loss of hearing, as the dog becomes distressed because of the lack of sensory input. Nothing can be done to prevent normal hearing loss due to age, but infections can also cause deafness if not treated in a timely fashion. Looking for discolored wax is one way to keep an eye out for problems. The normal color for earwax is clear yellow and sparse. Keep an eye on the ears and if you notice discolored wax or deposits in the ear, have the animal checked immediately.

Diabetes is a disease that can be brought on by age, and are often due to diseases that cause pancreatic problems. The symptoms are extreme thirst, hunger and constant, frequent urination. Smelling sweet breath from your pet is a clue that he is ill with this disease. It is important to watch for this condition, as it is treatable or manageable, but must be caught as soon as possible to prevent extreme illness or perhaps even death if left untreated.

A sugar-free, preservative-free diet and some foods and herbs are helpful in diabetes management. Foods recommended include grated carrots, Jerusalem artichokes, garlic

and alfalfa. (Alfalfa is also useful against joint pain). Herbs include alfalfa, parsley and periwinkle. Yarrow contains insulin-like properties and goldenseal is known as having the ability to significantly reduce blood sugar.

Any animal with diabetes must have its sugar levels monitored constantly as changing blood sugar levels require different insulin adjustments. If your dog's blood-sugar levels can be kept under control with diet and herbal remedies, he will be much better off. If you are unable to do so, proceed with insulin treatments.

Vets treat diabetes with insulin but an owner can help by making sure that the affected dog gets plenty of exercise as diabetes is exacerbated by obesity. Also, lowering your pet's weight by feeding frequent small meals can help keep the diabetes under control.

Decreased appetite is normal in a less active dog. Increased appetite also takes place in sedentary dogs because of boredom. Watch for a marked change in appetite, which could indicate kidney or other problems. An increase in appetite can also cause obesity, which can compound other age-related problems.

Adding extra fiber to your dog's diet is a good way to help an obese pet lose weight, and help keep the dog's belly full as well. A simple way to add fiber to your dog's diet is adding a bit of chopped or ground raw green beans, carrots or broccoli to the food dish every day. I blend any or all of those in my food processor, and my dogs line up anxiously for the resulting soup.

The jury is still out on this next bit of info, but research evidence is piling up indicating that a low protein and phosphorous diet can retard kidney failure, which according to vets is the third most common cause of death in geriatric dogs. I have been feeding my dogs according to this philosophy, in hopes that the lower protein will increase their longevity. The kidneys are responsible for processing protein, and the more protein you feed an animal, the heavier the load on the kidneys.

Less protein means longer life.

I also use the books Give Your Dog a Bone, by Dr. Ian Billinghurst, Natural Healing for Dogs and Cats, by Diane Stein, and Dr. Pitcairn's Complete Guide to Natural Health for Dogs and Cats as guides to feeding my dogs. I feed a kibble diet but use these books to help make that diet as well rounded and healthy as I can. These books are based on the premise that when fed a natural whole-food diet, animals are far healthier than if fed cooked and processed foods. This is very important in preventing problems as a dog ages, and can be instrumental in increasing the comfort and digestion of an older dog.

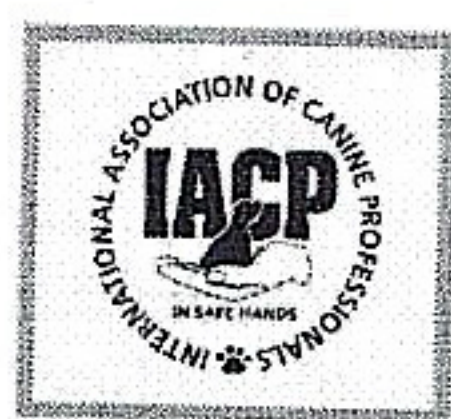
I also recommend certain supplements for easing digestion and increasing the ability of the digestive system to work as efficiently as possible. These include SBGA, enzymes and probiotics. The SBGA and enzymes are available from Cell-Tech; the Probiotics I use are by Fastrack.

Alfalfa is an excellent herb balancing the diet and helping digestion, and has a high amount of nutrient value as well.

Lyn Richards has been training dogs and dressage horses for over 22 years. She is the Dog Site Administrator for NetPets.org. She enjoys dog training, web building and computer support for dog related businesses. A member of DWAA, IACP and APDT, she writes for several breed related magazines, and the Whole Dog Journal

MAKE FRIENDS WITH FELLOW PROFESSIONALS IN YOUR AREA AND INTRODUCE THEM TO THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS.

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A DAY IN THE PARK Contd

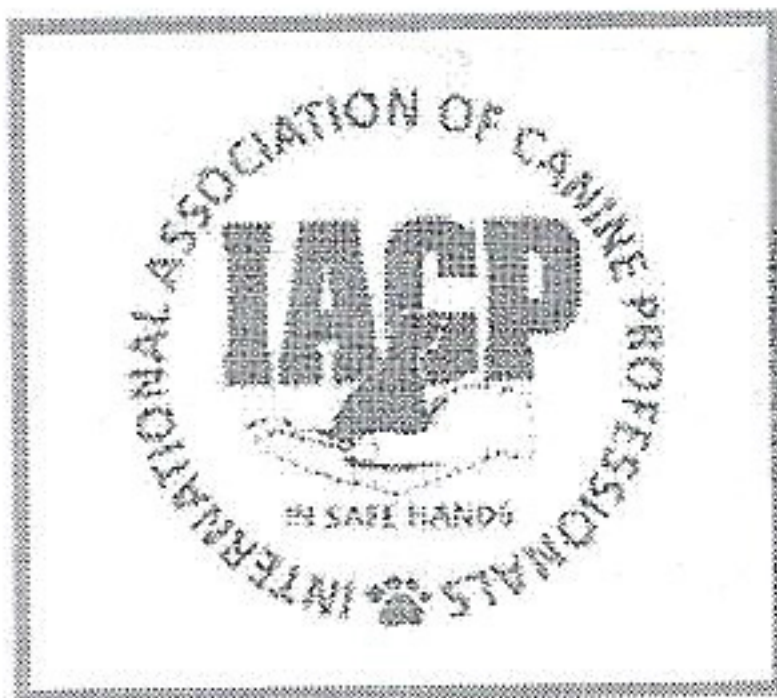
herds, and then we were introduced to Connie DeFranco and Aasta Lefcourt who were setting up for an obedience demonstration. The girls and I were warmly welcomed and made to feel right at home.

As we watched the setting up, other people and dogs began to arrive. Many of the dogs were very social and friendly. Although there were occasional barks and a snarl here or there, I was amazed that all the owners were calm, composed, and confident of their ability to handle their dogs and negotiate their way around the crowd of owners and dogs. The trainer soon arrived to give the obedience demonstration. She had brought along two German Shepherds who were well-trained and controllable off-leash with voice cues and hand signals. I believe it is wonderful that professional trainers donate their time to educate owners about obedience training and perhaps inspire them to get involved with their dogs through formal training. Michelle Donlick was doing just that! She had many owners on their feet and in the ring, showing, helping, and guiding them through exercises. Michelle ran me through the Novice exercise with Jaymie and she was encouraging, patient, and complimentary of the work I had done with my dog. My hat's off to Michelle for her generous giving of time and expertise.

After the demo, many people remained in the park and met and mingled with each other. I met some lovely people and nice dogs as I sat in my chair under the shade. I learned that there were other dog trainers at the park that day and that everyone was encouraged to seek their help and advice. I observed that responsible dog ownership was being modeled by those who were veterans of the group to those who were newcomers. People were being mindful of their dogs, asking permission to pet strange dogs, and asking if other's dogs were okay to greet their dogs. I believe that the concept of Sunday in the Park is a vital one, and an event which clubs and professional trainers should endeavor to establish everywhere.

To grasp the importance of what the German Shepherd Dog Club of

Contd pg 13 Col 3



Therapy For Dogs—Perspective On a Session Part One: Foundation

by Maryna Ozuna

Bodywork, touch therapies and manipulation, though becoming more mainstream, are still in their infancy in the dog world. Done well, hands-on bodywork can contribute much to canine development and training. Done poorly, it can cause distrust, resistance and discomfort. Like any good training component, success depends on knowledge, skill and clarity. Critical is gathering pertinent information before actually putting hands on.

Important breed differences come first. A sight hound does not have the same instinctual package as a terrier. A herding dog is not a thick-necked, heavily muscled guard dog. Working on a stud male Kuvasz differs from working on a female Shih Tzu. The techniques will not vary but the nature of the dialogue between you and the dog, how you apply the techniques, and the kind and quality of feedback you receive, will. Same basic language, different dialects.

While that may seem obvious, it is perhaps the largest cause of lack of success in a session. This is not to suggest that someone with competent skills who has never worked on a particular breed should refrain from doing so. The idea is that the person should be willing to work in collaboration with the owner, breeder or trainer to develop skills as applied to this type of dog. There are more similarities than differences, but since we are working with areas of discomfort or pain, we must be cognizant of differences in instinctual responses. Not only can awareness of these distinctions keep you from getting bitten when you're poking sore muscles, but paying attention to the details and feedback enables a more intimate dialogue between practitioner and dog. A good practitioner does not assume that all her skills will apply equally to every dog. She pays attention and asks questions.

An odd facet of working on animals is

that while your ultimate client is four legged, your relationship with this client is based also upon your relationship with the two-legged one involved. At minimum, this creates a triangle. Other parameters might include: husband and wife; parent and child; owner and trainer; or owner, trainer, veterinarian. A practitioner must manage the needs of the humans as well as the needs of the dog. For example, you might have a very quick dog and a very methodical owner, or vice versa, the rule being that you work at the speed of the dog and talk at the speed of the owner.

I evaluate as much about the handler and dog relationship as possible. How do they move around each other? Is there an invasion of body space or are both parties secure in their space? Do they curl around each other or is there free movement? Is the movement fluid or awkward? Friendly or tense? Do we have a small owner with a big dog that doesn't fit well together? Is there confidence or confusion between the two? And if the people equation is more complicated, what are the lines of movement between the different members of the dog's retinue? At this point I am less concerned with emotional and behavioral factors than the movement factors that may be causing problems in the dog's body.

As I observe, I am formulating objectives. Where am I going with this animal and why? What does the human want versus what do I think might be possible? I may see more possibilities for integrated physical and emotional well-being than do the animal's people. At times, it falls to me to say that I think that certain objectives are unreasonable given the dog's condition. Other times it becomes a mutual exploration of possible objectives, which is the most rewarding of scenarios.

On a practical level, I want to know what is expected of me. Am I facilitating an animal after surgery? Am I exploring a dog whose behavior has changed suddenly, for which the veterinarian finds no medical cause? Am I facilitating the coordination of a competition-obedience dog who seems stuck at a particular level? Am I doing acute therapy on a service dog whose harness has caused shoulder or gait problems? Am I teaching an owner how to make an old-timer more comfortable? Am I exploring a newly rescued dog? Where am I going and why?

Besides my own observations, I also want to know as much as I can about other contextual factors in the dog's life. While his people relationships are critical for me to understand and evaluate, other details are also imperative to interpreting what I am going to find under my fingertips. What is this dog's personal history? Medical history? What are the management details? Where and how is the dog housed? What opportunities does he have to move about? Free? On-leash? What other relationship factors besides the primary ones are there? Kids? Other dogs? Frequent visitors? Fence lines? Rivalries within his pack?

All such elements provide tremendous bits of information I can use to guide my hands. For example, a dog with behavioral changes living with a new puppy will often be extremely tight along the top line. A dog with an injury to one leg is likely to have compensatory tightness in the contralateral limb: i.e., right-hind injured will cause compensation in the left shoulder. A dog cooped up in too small an area with lack of exercise might be either super flaccid or wound like a top, depending upon the breed. Over time, contextual clues form an

encyclopedia that can guide me to what I may find in a dog's body. They are not a substitute for exploration and therapy, but they provide powerful additional information to enable a practitioner to fine tune his hands for maximum effect.

As well, I need to know whether there are any time urgencies to my work. Are we two weeks away from surgery? After surgery? What does the veterinarian need from me, and when? Are we a month out from competition? Two days out? Day of? How I work on an athlete, whether two- or four-legged, a month from competition is very different from what I do near or in the middle of competition. Is there a time-urgency to a behavioral issue? Many behavioral issues have a somatic component, which can either be the chicken or the egg. Regardless which came first, behavioral problems or body problems, facilitating release and integration in the body always helps facilitate changing the behavioral patterns.

The above process takes me far less time to do than say. The idea is that when I finally do put hands on, I want my work to have a lasting effect. If the reasons behind the problems in the dog's body are not eliminated, I am going to fix the dog today and he'll be a mess again a week later. Not useful. Besides which, depending on what the contributing factors are, fixing an animal, so to speak, only to send her back into a negative situation is cruel.

An enormous amount of body information can be obtained through observation. I have the dog move straight away from me on a slack lead, then back, then straight out to the side and back to the other side. I want to see movement at the walk, trot, and run, if possible. For evaluation purposes, at this point I dispense with rigid notions of breed characteristics. We're talking biomechanics here, not breed. There should be an overall sense of movement flowing smoothly from front to back, side to side and top to bottom, like water flowing down a hill. Where is the movement of the water impeded? Where does it go astray? The overall

effect should be pleasing to the eye. I have seen Basset Hounds with an undulating, sensuous movement that made my jaw drop. I have seen Salukis with movement so restricted that they looked like the Tin Man.

What's moving and what isn't? All parts of the dog should undulate or swing. Does the head follow through the movement of the back? Is the swing of tail echoed by the swing of shoulders and hips? Does the torso sway and flex? Does the front part of the torso flex, but not the back? How do the legs track? What is the flight pattern of foot, ankle, knee, hip, shoulder, back, head, tail? Do they describe an oval, a circle, or a wobble, or a snatch? Is there evenness, or does the line of the pen break at some point in the ellipse? Are the movements of different parts of the body conjunctive or disjunctive?

Finally, I put hands on. Despite mentally accumulating all of the foregoing tidbits of information, I never approach a dog with a fixed idea of what I am going to find. Nor do I approach one and go straight to a known problem area. I want my interaction with the animal to be a dialogue. Would you walk up to a stranger on the street and start palpating intimate parts of their body? You may do so with a dog but there can be consequences. Like lost fingers.

I always start with the most reflex neutral zone on the dog's body, the shoulder area. Approaching very matter-of-factly, with soft eyes, I place one hand on the chest and one hand over the back between the shoulder blades, and gently hold. I want my hands to do the dialogue, not my eyes, and not my body language, both of which I keep neutral and non-threatening. For me, a good session consists of information passing in both directions between myself and the dog. My job isn't to fix, it's to facilitate.

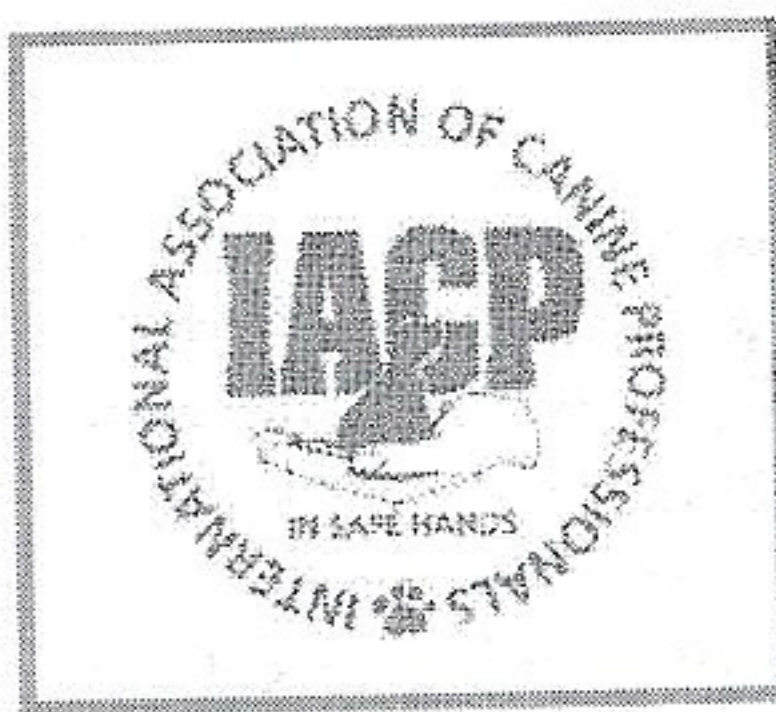
I am providing the dog information with my hands. He is giving me feedback as to whether or not that information is useful, confusing, threatening

or delightful. I may have a particular objective, such as releasing a frozen shoulder, but if I just plow on through that shoulder without eliciting the dog's cooperation and participation in the project, I am not only going to get far less release of bones and muscles, but markedly less integration of the result in the dog's overall movement, postural, and behavioral picture. For a session to be a complete learning experience, neurologically and motorically, it must be a dialogue.

Maryna Ozuna, founder of the Kin-aesthetics system of therapy, has worked with humans and animals for over 20 years. Her animal clients have included World Champion performance horses in a multitude of disciplines, dogs of innumerable breeds, and a variety of other animals. Maryna can be reached at maryna@theriver.com, or (520) 452-8681.

A DAY IN THE PARK Contd.

Charleston is offering, one must understand the plight of the pet dog. More and more, elements of society are pushing pets farther and farther away from us: Restrictions on places dogs are allowed to accompany their owners, breed specific legislation that targets certain needs which cannot be owned, insurance companies refusing to cover homes in which certain breeds are kept, and even restrictions on the number of dogs one can own are all potential threats. Many of these legislative efforts are being pushed forward as a result of incidents which are the fault of dog owners who are intentionally irresponsible or simply uneducated about responsible pet ownership and the natural behaviors of dogs. Sundays at the Park is doing a terrific job to help turn the tides by helping everyone who owns a dog to socialize their dog and learn how to responsibly own a dog. We all want to continue to have our dogs and to ensure that our children and their children can also enjoy the companionship and unconditional love that dogs bring to our lives. The German Shepherd Dog Club of Charleston is offering the community a service that will help to keep our dogs as forever friends.



An Interview with Vivian Bregman

by Jeanneane Kutsukos

Vivian Bregman, the famous "whatever works" trainer has put 30 obedience titles on her eight dogs. She is a founding member of IACP and one of the more respected dog trainers worldwide. Along with holding training classes, she monitors several dog training lists, among which is the PT (Professional Trainers) list.

JK Please explain your "whatever works" philosophy.

VB I often start, especially with puppies, with the clicker. I use a buckle collar, prong collar, chain choke, long lines, whatever I need to in order to get results. I feel that it is kinder to use one correction than to nag the dog for months. Also my primary goal is to keep the dog in the home.

In 1963 I entered my first dog show. In 1965 I started teaching other people's dogs for the German Shepherd club. In the years since I have had eight dogs—three German Shepherd dogs and five Border Collies. I have shown them to over thirty obedience titles in AKC, UKC, CKC and in Bermuda.

My Shepherd Misty was not a happy worker, so two years later I discovered, all on my own, treats. She would drag out to the Dumbbell, check the trees, pick up the db, and amble back. When I started using treats she started moving faster. When I told my friends (who noticed the difference in Misty) that I discovered treats they told me that it would never work. So I stopped telling them about it, but continued to use them.

I've been to dozens of seminars over the years, and have discovered that today treats are okay. I also use and teach clicker training. I find that in private lessons nothing works quite as fast as starting with the clicker. However, I don't feel that every dog can be trained completely with a clicker. I also don't believe that every dog can

be trained with nothing but positive reinforcement. Although I have tried.

My methods are pretty much whatever works, although there are obviously methods I will not use because I believe them to be cruel to the dog. In all the years I've been training the most important thing that I have learned is that no two dogs are exactly alike.

JK How long have you been training dogs?

VB My own dogs since 1963, other people's dogs since 1965.

JK How did you become interested in dog training?

VB In 1963 I had a dog that got out and was hit by a car and got killed. On my next dog, I was not going to let this happen, so I picked up a copy of Bill Koehler's book and trained my Shepherd with that. Got her CD at nine months. She was my first UD dog as well. Along the way I discovered I liked teaching people how to train their dogs and I seemed to have a flair for it.

JK Do you train in-home or classes or both?

VB I've been doing in home for years, although I'm phasing it out. Not that I don't like it anymore, but at 65 I find it harder to get down on the floor with a puppy. My classes are now only through the local Adult School.

JK What do you like least about your job?

VB When I have to tell people they have to put the dog down because they let the problems like biting go on too long.

JK What is most satisfying about it?

VB When someone calls me up and says 'You know, Misty got out the other day and when I called her, she came back!'

JK What is your most memorable moment?



VB It wasn't a good one, but I don't suppose that matters." A woman called Up to ask at what age a dog should be housebroken. Recognizing a trick question, I asked the age of the dog, how long she had it, and the breed. She answered 'A six month old Sheltie that she had for four months.'

"Yes," I said, it should be housebroken by then. I went to her house to find a Sheltie tied up to a dog house surrounded by piles of dog feces. I said: 'Let's take the dog in and talk.' We took the Sheltie in and the first thing she did was to sniff the rug and squat and pee. 'She does this every time we take her in,' the owner said. 'How often do you take her in?' The owner answered 'We take her in every month or so to see if she's housebroken and she always pees so she isn't.' Before I could respond I heard a dog barking in the basement. 'Who's that?' I asked. 'Oh, that's the Miniature Pincher, he's not housebroken, but he's fourteen and small so it doesn't matter. We just want the Sheltie Housebroken. When she messes it's bigger than the Min Pin.' It seems that the Min Pin had the run of the house and messed everywhere. They brought the Sheltie in once a month, she smelled where the Min Pin had messed, and did the same.

When I tried to explain this to the own-

ers their response was: 'But you said that a six month old Sheltie should be housebroken.' I tried explaining that the dog had to be trained, in order to learn, but I got nowhere. So I left, no charge. This was the only time I felt that I couldn't help the owners although I really felt sorry for the Sheltie.

JK Which dog was your hardest to train and why?

VB I think the Afghan that I never did train, which was not my dog but a student's dog. The dog never noticed anybody on the other end of the leash. I put a prong collar on the dog and tried to walk it. It pinged and ponged off the end of the lead and never noticed what was happening. The owners said that the dog, when let off lead, would run in the woods until it hit a tree, fall down, and then run again. This was twenty years ago, and I think about the dog now and then, and wonder if I could help him now, now that I know more.

JK How would you describe what you do?

VB Right now for the group classes I take a bunch of dogs who are off the walls and civilize them. I teach the owners how to make their dog better pets. I advertise under the saying: *Civilize Your Dog*.

JK What is your purpose in teaching the training?

VB I like the feeling that I get when I see the eighth week of training, and remember what the first week was like for the beginners.

JK We know you monitor more than one dog training list. Any helpful suggestions for others?

VB I suggest lots of lists for everybody. There is no way you can know everything about dog training and so you should continue to learn. After doing dog training for all these years I went to a seminar on electric collars this year. I found that they had changed a lot since I first heard about them. I will add them to my tool box.

JK What do you envision for the future of dog training?

VB I would like to see more trainers being certified with either IACP or with

NADOI. I know that it makes a difference when I get calls to be able to say that I am certified with a national organization."

JK What direction do you think is being taken?

VB I think that the expression 'He rode off in all directions' best expresses the way dog training is today. There are those who think that nothing but a clicker is the best way, and those who think that nothing but an electric collar is the best way. I don't seem to see as many middle of the road trainers as I used to. Those who use lots of tools for different dogs.

JK What would you like to see changed?

VB I'd like to see more people certified. I am appalled by the number of people who take one dog through a beginners classes and then open up a school. I am also appalled by how little I knew when I first started teaching.

JK What would you like to see left alone?

VB I realize that anybody who wants to teach must be allowed to-it's the American way. No matter what their qualifications are. I think that the marketplace will straighten them out.

JK What major problems does dog training face?

VB I am concerned because of the pure positive movement taking hold. I've had calls from people who were told that their dogs were untrainable because their trainer couldn't handle the dog. And I managed to train the dog. Of course, I didn't use the pure positive method. But the dogs are still in their homes and the families are happy with the dogs.

JK What qualifications should an instructor have?

VB I am often asked what my qualifications are to teach other people how to train their dogs. Experience in training dogs that you own is not enough. Actually, experience in teaching is not really enough. You have to be able to show that the dogs you helped people to teach are trained. I am always pleased when I get a call from some-

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their last dog, twelve or fifteen years ago, and now that they have a new dog they are pleased that I am still doing it.

If someone is looking for an instructor to learn how to train their own dog, they couldn't do better than to look for someone certified by either IACP or NADOI.

IACP can be found at:
<http://www.dogpro.org/>
and NADOI can be found at
<http://www.nadoi.org/>

A THOUGHT!

If you can overlook when people take things out on you when, through no fault of yours, something goes wrong,

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,

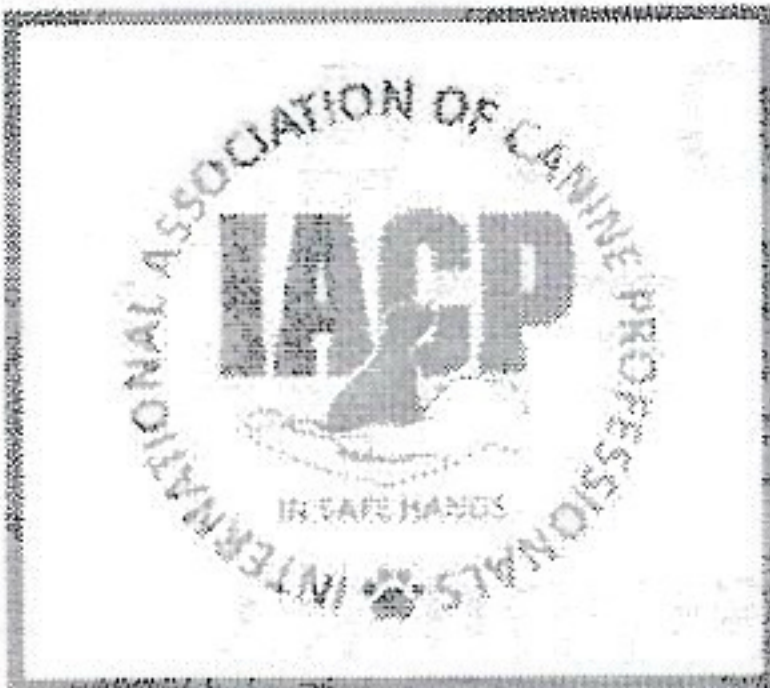
If you can face the world without lies and deceit,

If you can conquer tension without medical help,

If you can relax without liquor,

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,

**THEN YOU ARE PROBABLY
THE FAMILY DOG.....**



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS is established to maintain the highest standards of professional and business practice among canine professionals. Its aim is to provide support and representation for all professional occupations involved with any aspect of canine management, health, training and husbandry.

The INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS commitment is to develop professional recognition, communication, education, understanding and co-operation across the wide diversity of canine expertise and knowledge.

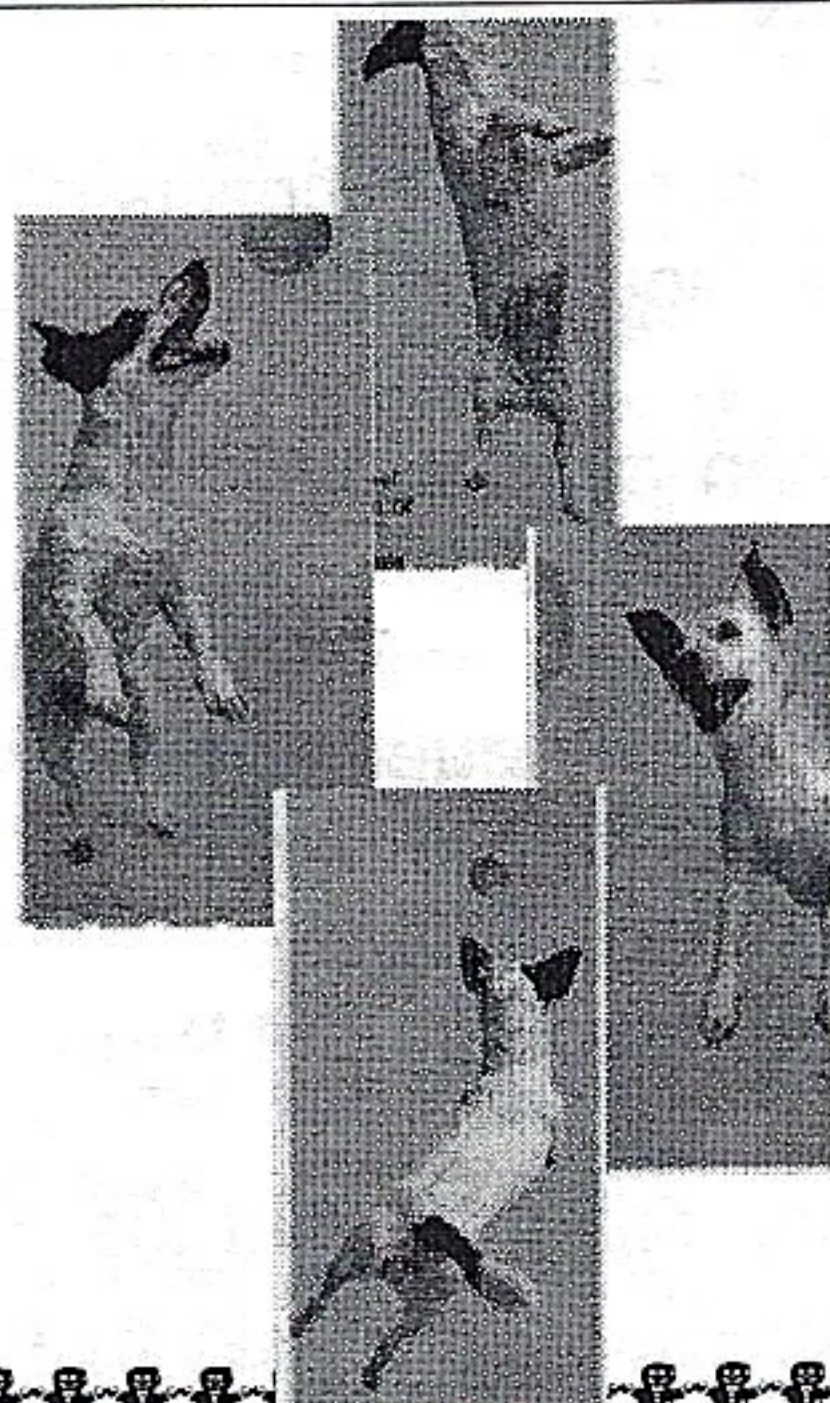
CONTENTS

THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE THE SAME Martin Deeley...1	LOOKING FORWARD TO LOOKING BACK Cyndy Douan9
HOW TO JOIN IACP2	GERIATRICS AND CANINES Cont Lyn Richards 10
REGIONAL MEETING GROUPS2	THERAPY FOR DOGS-PERSPECTIVE ON SESSION
VICKI HEARNE INDUCTED INTO THE IACP HALL OF FAME3	PART ONE: FOUNDATION Maryna Ozuna 12
BONDING Joel McMains4	AN INTERVIEW WITH VIVIAN BREGMAN
SELF CORRECTION Mary Mazzeri6	Jeanneane Kutsukos14
IACP STANCE ON PUPPY MILLS7	A THOUGHT! . Author Unknown15
A DAY IN THE PARK Cyndy Douan7	MISSION STATEMENT16
TRAIN HUMANE: USE A HEAD COLLAR Miriam Fields-Babineau8	

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