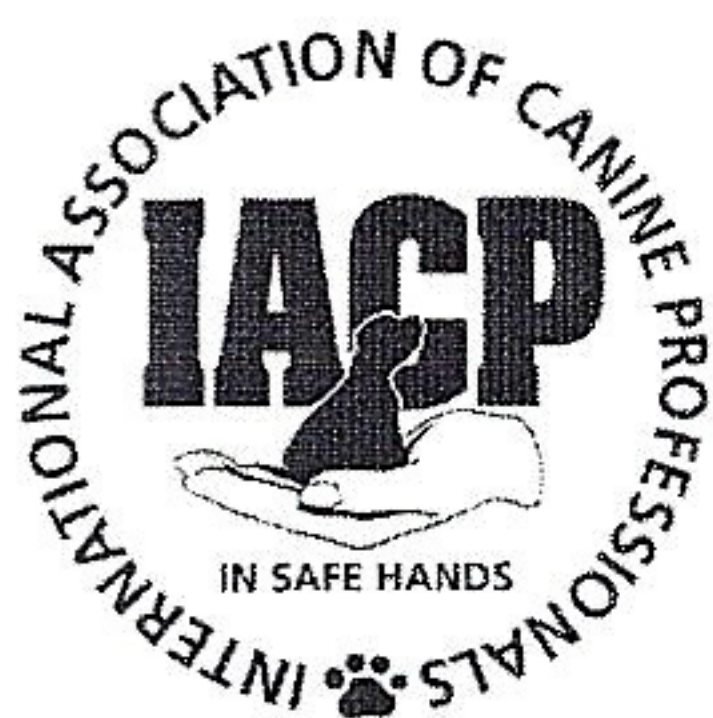




"WHERE IS IT ALL GOING?"

by Martin Deeley, Executive Director

Recently American Airlines put a ban on transporting certain breeds, as well as cross-breeds that include the banned breeds in their heritage. They will no longer accept the American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Bull Terrier, Doberman Pinscher, or Rottweiler. Only puppies of these breeds between 8 & 12 weeks of age may be accepted, and the breed and age of the dog must be indicated on the health certificate for it to be accepted.

It appears that this policy was not introduced as a reaction to legislation banning specific breeds but due to experiences where dogs had escaped from travel crates and created problems. The safety of the traveling public is paramount, and although we may not like their decision we have to understand the reasoning behind it.

In addition I am receiving increasing amounts of mail related to breed specific legislation. Politicians are feeling the necessity to act in the interest and safety of the public after a dog acts dangerously or when a person gets attacked. Politicians are there to act on behalf of the public and they do so in the only way they know how – legislation.

The big problem with bans of any nature, whether by an Airline or by a political body, is that the innocent also suffer. In fact they usually suffer more because those who are to blame for the problems do not abide by their responsibilities as dog owners or members of society.

We have restrictions on walking dogs "off" leash, and dogs are increasingly banned in many public places; now we are experiencing general bans on breeds and specific bans on flying. Where will it all end? There is one common feature running through all these bans – the irresponsibility and lack of knowledge and experience of people. We all realize that breed bans are the

result, in most instances, of irresponsible ownership. Some breeds are more likely to bite than others but with good socialization, training and management the drive for breed bans by public servants would not arise. However, it is not only the owners that have a responsibility for dogs. Often this responsibility is also passed onto others such as kennel owners, groomers, trainers and other professionals—including baggage handlers and those responsible for transporting dogs by air or land.

Laws are already in force aimed at compelling dog owners to be responsible. The predicament is that this section of law enforcement is not usually a high priority, and many misdemeanors go unnoticed until something serious occurs. Although more rigorous law enforcement can be encouraged, we need to be more positive and act in the belief that most owners do want a good well-behaved companion. What owners often lack is the knowledge and ability to fulfill their responsibilities. The question now is, what can we do as professionals to help them?

In the case of the airlines, the problem lies in the handling of the dogs they carry. No one wants an air accident because of a dog escaping from a crate! Therefore, the containment of dogs in crates and also within the hold of an aircraft needs to be investigated and escape-proof facilities designed. The design of escape-proof crates should create few problems. Handling of dogs in transit is another issue, however.

I have transported numerous dogs across the Atlantic and also within the American continent, and on more than one occasion I have been a little concerned watching how a crated dog was handled.

(continued on page 6)



IACP NEWSLETTER

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Caroline Hunt

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The editors reserve the right to refuse any advertisement or any article or letter submitted for publication. Copy subject to editing for grammar/length.

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THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND

This issue celebrates the human-animal bond in its infinite variety. Martin Deeley and Caroline Hunt write on the problems raised by breed bans and other airline policies. Martin also contributes articles on selecting a trainer (an IACP Classic Article) and the need for versatility. Margot Woods reviews a classic book on electronic training, in line with Martin's precepts. Duane Overturf continues his series on monitoring our dogs' health through diet. Donald McCaig introduces us to the unique relationship between stockdog and handler.

In a compilation begun on the SafeHands e-mail list, Carol Lea Benjamin and Donald McCaig movingly describe the healing actions of dogs that they have observed; this topic, "Healing Dogs," follows upon our last issue's article by Steve Dale on the human-animal bond and its health implications. Pat Trichter's review of a newly revised book on therapy dogs complements this topic.

Professionals need professional information, too, and we provide that for you in the form of a conference overview, IACP nominations, information on health and liability insurance, and several new book lists assembled by Cyndy Douan.

Please let us know if you have an article to contribute, or an idea for a topic that you would like SafeHands to address. This is your journal.

How to Join IACP

PROFESSIONAL MEMBER - At least 5 years experience as a canine professional. Can vote on IACP issues and use the IACP name and logo on business materials.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER - Less than 5 years experience as a canine professional but practicing as a professional. Can use the IACP name and logo on business materials.

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.

Annual Fees: (Matched Funding)

Professional \$75.00 Associate \$50.00 Affiliate \$35.00
Newsletter Subscription- Non-members \$25.00

An additional \$25 fee applies for initial processing costs, but does not apply to Affiliate Memberships or Newsletter Subscriptions.

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, phone or fax to request an application, our Mission Statement and our Code of Conduct.

APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS CAN NOW BE PAID THROUGH MASTERCARD, VISA, AMEX

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IACP CONFERENCE 2003: AN OVERVIEW

If you haven't already marked your calendar, block off March 20-23 for IACP's third Annual Conference. From the welcoming reception on Thursday evening through the awards banquet on Saturday, the conference is packed with everything useful for the canine professional—plus great entertainment and a chance to meet some of the people you've been hearing about.

Featured speakers include:

BRIAN KILCOMMONS: "Are We Failing Dogs?"

Brian analyses methods of training and asks "Are we doing the best we can to train dogs?" Should we be expanding our abilities to learn and apply a variety of techniques? Also are we giving back to dogs as much as we can? How can we as professionals help shelters and dogs that are in need of training to enable them to find and keep good loving homes?

FRED HASSEN: "Remote Training Collars: Fact or Fallacy?"

"Remote electronic collars should only be used as a last resort!" or "You can't teach with a remote collar!" or "My dog is collar wise!" You may have heard all the above statements in regard to training with remote electronic collars. But what are the facts and what are the myths. Fred leads an intriguing discussion that helps you decide.

CYNDY DOUAN: An Overview of IACP Trainer Certification Projects

Cyndy offers a presentation of current Skills Assessment Tools used by the IACP for certifying dog trainers. The components of the IACP Basic Trainer Skills Exam and requirements for completing this exam will be explained in detail. Plans for the release of the IACP Dog Training Instructor Exam will be announced along with a brief overview of its components. Additional "up to date" developments in IACP certification projects will be included.

SCOTT MUELLER, "In Service of Humans"

Scott will share his wealth of experience about the service dog industry. This discussion includes some history of service dogs, material on evaluating dogs for various purposes, what it takes to

IACP ELECTIONS

The International Association of Canine Professionals has received the following nominations for the positions of Director on the Board.

- John Van Olden (California)
- Steve Appelbaum (California)
- Gina Lyn Hayes (Massachusetts)
- George Cockrell (Maryland)

Four positions are open for Director, and we have only 4 candidates two having withdrawn for personal reasons. From the by-laws 2.7G *"If after the close of nominations the number of people nominated for the board is not more than the number of directors to be elected, the corporation may without further action*

declare that those nominated and qualified to be elected have been elected." Therefore these 4 candidates will be the new IACP Directors. No election being necessary.

Bio's and information from candidates will be published in the January Safe-hands Journal.

We realize that some members may not know these candidates personally; however, we will provide information on each including contact information

We look forward to working with all of them to bring continued growth and success to your Association.

create a winning dog/recipient combination, and the responsibilities of the trainer.

BABETTE HAGGERTY: "Positively Personable: This Owner Is Driving Me Nuts!"

You can lose many potential clients because the owner couldn't relate to you nor hear what you were saying. Learn how, in less than 10 seconds on initial contact, to identify all dog owner personality types. Learn how to market, sell and teach every type personality. Discover how to decrease your phone time, increase your sales and student retention. Learn how to talk to owners in a style they understand. This seminar has shown professionals how to increase word of mouth referrals by over 48%.

MARTIN DEELEY: "A Fetching Way to Train"

For many dogs, chasing and carrying toys is the happiest time of the day—and, of course, owners love throwing things for their dog and watching them run. Although owners play fetch as a way to exercise and have fun with their dog, what they do not realize is that it is also an excellent way to train using the rewards that retrieving brings.

The fun yet surprisingly complex task of retrieving is a relaxed and rewarding way to motivate your dog and mold its behavior. Martin will explain how he encourages dogs to retrieve from a very early age and then uses this rewarding

activity and the joy of carrying toys to train dogs, change their behavior and do it in a way that creates a wonderful relationship between owners and their dogs.

KENNETH PHILLIPS: "Don't Let The Dog Laws Bite You: Know your Business' liability"

Why should canine professionals be concerned about law, anyway? What special issues do we face? When are trainers, breeders and other dog pros held liable for things that go wrong? Ken will tell us what to do if we get a subpoena, how we can get paid to be consultants in lawsuits and criminal cases, and why dog bite law is actually great for our businesses.

He also will discuss breed bans, legal ethics for trainers, how to protect ourselves with written disclosures, and hot cases like the San Francisco dog mauling trial.

TONY ANCHETA: "Off Leash Control: The Standard to Aim For"

Is your "basics" level class structured to meet the off leash needs of your clients? It can be, with proper motivation: people motivation, that is. Learn how at this interactive presentation scheduled to be held outdoors.

DON'T FORGET: THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTEST ENDS ON DECEMBER 31st . You could win free airfare to the conference, simply by recruiting 15 new members. Do it!



NEWS YOU CAN USE: New Benefits for IACP Members

LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR IACP MEMBERS

The International Association of Canine Professionals is now able to offer General Liability Protection Insurance and Professional Liability Insurance to its members. General Liability Insurance is underwritten by Royal Sun Alliance Insurance and the Professional Liability Policy by Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America.

These Policies are for IACP Members only.

The General Liability Insurance Policy covers all of your premises and operations and other standard policy coverage's; plus Care, Custody and Control (CCC) added coverage endorsement designed for the IACP. This is coverage for personal property including pets in your care, custody or control.

The Professional Liability Insurance provides coverage when the company or individual is alleged to have been negligent in performing or failing to perform their professional service for a fee.

We would encourage all members to consider these policies especially if they have no coverage at the present time.

For further information contact:

IACP Insurance Administrator, P.O. Box 2536, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2536

1-800-962-4611 ext 220 or 224

e-mail; IACP@business-insurers.com

Update from the IACP Education Department

The Basic Trainer Skills Exam- Version 1.0 had been scheduled to expire and be replaced with a revised edition on December 31, 2002. The Education Department has decided to extend Version 1.0 for an additional year until December 31, 2003 in order to obtain additional feedback from exam candidates and evaluators.

The exam is available online at www.dogpro.org (click on Trainer Assessment) or can be shipped by request in hard copy format.

Feedback we have received so far has been very positive and encouraging. The two main components of this exam are case studies written about dogs you have trained and videotapes where you film yourself doing hands-on training with dogs. We are very proud to offer an exam and resulting certificate which is based in putting a dog training professional's knowledge into real practice, with real dogs, and in real situations. No test of what you know can exceed the value of a test which evaluates how you put that knowledge into use.

The IACP is always available to assist

you with your questions or informational needs. If you'd like to know more about the exam or have questions about the exam or how to take it, please contact Cyndy Douan at spotsit@mindspring.com or 770-764-0083.

In an effort to encourage further education, the IACP Education Department will begin to publish lists of recommended books and videos in the SafeHands Magazine. We have also begun to add book reviews to the magazine. The education department would also now want to invite IACP members to submit reviews of seminars, workshops, or conferences which they have attended. We would like articles which range in length from 250 to 500 words. Submit all review articles to Cyndy Douan at cspot-sit@mindspring.com or mail to IACP Education Dept. P.O. Box 1144 Rome, GA 30162-1144.

As a reminder to our members, 4m Books is extending a 10% discount on book purchases to all IACP members. Visit their website at www.4mdogbooks.com or call them at (510)489-8722. Be sure to state you are an IACP member and, when placing internet orders, type your membership number in the comments box.

Are You Looking for Health Insurance?

In discussions with Mark Cosby of the National Association for the Self Employed, the IACP have developed a relationship that will enable members who are searching for reliable health insurance to be provided with a quote and upon acceptance a health insurance policy that is underwritten by The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company. This policy has advantages for the small business owner.

For more information contact:

Mark Cosby 909 883 1066

www.markcosby-ins.com



IACP thanks PetSafe, our Platinum Corporate Member, for continuing to support our organization and SafeHands. Visit their web site today!



So Many Foods, So Little Time: Dog Foods, Part Two

by Duane Overturf

In our last issue, protein was the topic of discussion. In this issue, we will look at carbohydrate sources of commercial dog foods. Keep in mind that the protein source is the most important single component of your dog's diet, and high quality protein is the most expensive ingredient in your pet's food. It alone is a very good indicator of the quality of a dog food. The remainder of the food will be composed of sources for carbohydrates, fats, fiber, vitamins, minerals, herbs, enzymes and friendly bacteria.

In this issue we will deal with carbohydrates, and in part three, we will cover the remaining components of dry dog foods.

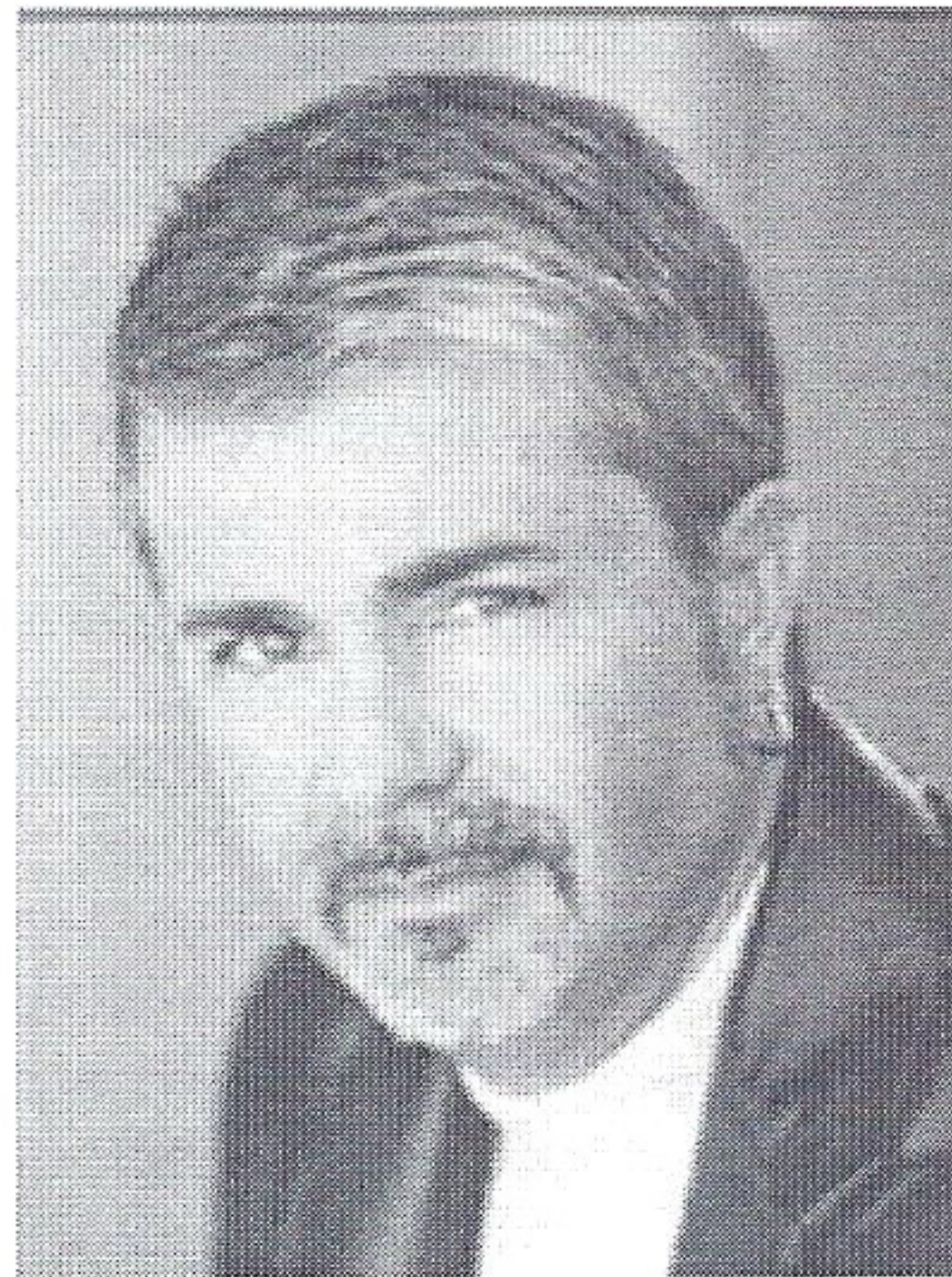
There is a lot of controversy between pet food companies about what should be used to supply the carbohydrates. The main sources are corn, wheat and rice; however, potato, oats and some of the more exotic grains are now finding their way into dog food. As with proteins, there are a few things you want to see on the label and a few you don't want to see.

To begin with, there are different grades of grains. Many companies are now boasting that they use human grade ingredients, but even here there can be a difference. Corn comes in five grades, with grade one being the highest grade. The difference is in the amount of burnt kernels contained in the feed. You can even go a step further and look for a food using organically grown grain. Is a food using organic grain of a lower grade better than a non-organic grain of a higher grade? That's a topic that could be debated but will not be discussed here.

Generally speaking, look for foods that use whole grains and not the left over residue of another industry. An example would be brewers rice versus whole brown rice, ground rice or rice flour. Brewers rice is left over from the brewing industry and will not have the same nutritional value as whole brown rice or rice flour. White rice will not supply the same amount of natural fiber as whole brown rice will and so on and so on. Second, look at the grind of the grain listed.

Ground rice is coarser than rice flour and not as digestible, especially for a dog, given its short intestinal tract.

Third, look to see if the company is listing the same grain several times on the label. This is bad sign, in my opin-



ion. For instance, a food may list ground wheat, wheat flour, wheat middlings and wheat bran all on the same label. Companies that do this are probably trying to give the impression that their food contains more meat than it really does.

Here's an example of a hypothetical ingredient list: chicken meal, ground wheat, wheat flour, soybean meal, wheat middlings, animal fat...etc. What do you think is really the number one ingredient of this food? Without getting the exact quantities of each ingredient from the manufacturer, my guess would be that this food actually has more wheat than chicken—but to the unknowing consumer, it appears to have more chicken than any other ingredient. This is one of the tricks some companies use to give consumers the impression their food is mostly chicken when in reality the total amount of wheat is more than the amount of chicken. But because they use wheat in three different grinds, or by-products, the chicken ingredient is pushed to the front of the list.

Watch for tricks like this, and when

in question ask the local rep why the company uses types of wheat that are virtually the same except for their grind. Don't be surprised if the rep doesn't know. Chances are most reps are not even aware of what the company they represent is up to.

Another thing to be aware of is that different types of grains contain different amounts of protein. Corn is lower in protein than is wheat or oats. A food using corn as its carbohydrate source will have to have more meat protein to achieve the same percentage of protein as a food using wheat or oats, making the product that uses corn more costly to manufacture.

Still another thing to consider is the cooking process. Baked foods are usually more palatable than steam extruded foods, but they need to be cooked longer in order to convert starches to digestible sugars. If you are choosing a baked kibble, be sure it comes from a manufacturer that you are sure is taking care to cook the food completely since it takes more time to produce baked food than extruded.

Finally, when it comes to carbohydrates in dog food there is controversy as to whether a dog needs grains in the food or not. Most of the new raw food diets are grain free and use vegetable sources like carrots and broccoli to supply carbohydrates. I personally believe this is a move in the right direction. Dogs have a shorter intestinal tract than humans and other animals that eat primarily grains (like cows). Most of these animals have two stomachs, which enable them to digest those grains thoroughly.

In summary, look for a food that has multiple protein sources of high quality that are in prominent positions on the ingredients list and a variety of whole grains and/or vegetables that are not prominently listed more than once each on the ingredients list. This should lead you in the right direction towards deciding whether a food is of the quality you want to feed your dog.

One of my crates, with dog inside, was stood on its side, door at the top, when it arrived in an elevator to the floor where I was waiting. Only his socialization, training and good temperament avoided what could have been a very stressful situation for all concerned. We have all heard of dogs being left on hot or very cold tar-macs, waiting to be loaded and airlines have made moves to minimize this possibility, however, the main factor once more is people. The responsibility and concern for the well being, safety and security of the dogs rests with people, in this instance the handling staff.

So what is the answer? I am sure there is a wealth of thoughts and ideas on how we can overcome the need for restrictions and bans. The main one has to be education of the dog owning public, the general public and those working with dogs.

The IACP has already offered to assist American Airways and encouraged them to provide more training for their ground staff in handling dogs. We also asked them to remove their ban as this is creating a restriction for those who participate in showing, sport and having their companion go with them on holiday. Their answer is that our comments "have merit," and the manager of the airline's cargo department is reviewing our (IACP's) comments. We can only wait to see whether they take favorable action and repeal this ban.

To remove the need for other bans and restrictions, the public needs to be better educated, helped and supported. The availability of time to volunteer help is always our biggest problem – how much time can we as professionals afford to give to non-paying "education"? I have found, however, that what we give is repaid many times over. Talks in schools on dog ownership, and demonstrations of good dogs get the message taken home to the family. Free seminars, demonstrations at fairs, events and even social functions among friends motivate and educate the public. And an additional benefit is that we can increase support for dogs among non-dog owners in doing so. Let's show people what a good dog is; let's explain how to achieve good companionship; let's spread the word far and wide so that owners are motivated to share their lives with their dogs and in doing so create good companions.

IACP BOOK NOOK REVIEW: ***Understanding Electronic Dog Training*** **by Dr. Daniel F. Tortora** *Reviewed by Margot Woods.*

Understanding Electronic Dog Training
Tri-Tronics Inc., Tucson, AZ, 1982

This is a book published with the clear intent of furthering the sales of electronic collars. Having said that let me hasten to add that I think it is a shame the book was directed at so narrow a venue. Dr. Tortora did an excellent job of explaining how electrical stimulation works as a training aid. His explanation of the three principle stages of training is something that certainly can and should be applied whether you chose to use an electronic training collar or not.

The principles of punishment, avoidance and relaxation are just as valid today as they were when this book was first published. I can just hear a few trainers saying, "no way, we have moved far beyond this old stuff. Electronic collars are far more sophisticated than they were then." It is true, electronic collars are more sophisticated and more flexible. We may make use of momentary stimulation

that is so fast you could do a thousand in the blink of an eye. We can now raise and lower the levels with just the flick of a button. None of that changes the need for the same three levels of learning.

One thing that did jump out at me was that he talked about play training. That's right. He was a big believer in using play as a form of relaxation. Believe it or not, he had a play command that he taught. Made sense to me then and it still makes sense to me. After all, commands are nothing neither more nor less than a means of communicating, a way of carrying on a clear and understandable dialog with your dog.

I just wish that someone could get Dr. Tortora to write a new electronic collar training book. If you can find a copy of *Understanding Electronic Dog-Training*, grab it. It is well worth having in your library.

As professionals with concerns for dogs and their owners, we need to increasingly get the message out and help owners achieve standards that will avoid the necessity for bans. It takes only one serious dog bite to pressure legislators to act – the thousands, hundreds of thousands that behave well never offset this one action. We not only have to educate but we also have to 'advertise', promote and demonstrate the value of dogs and the richness they impart to our lives and the good they do for the public – Police work, Search and Rescue, Service to the disadvantaged, Herding, Bomb and drug detection, Hunting, Therapy, and all the other valuable services they provide. By increasing knowledge and awareness of dogs and their ownership in this way not only will there be benefits to dogs, I know our business and profession will also grow.

On one of my workshops in Switzerland I was so pleased to see dogs walking and playing in parks off leash. They trotted along with owners past other dogs and not once did I see a semblance of a fight; dog poop was picked up and owners enjoyed their dogs. I asked one of our Swiss mem-

bers how all this was possible. His answer, "Because we take responsibility for the actions of ourselves and our dogs."

I personally believe that it is only a matter of time before all states consider dog licensing and the licensing of trainers. These moves have both advantages and disadvantages; our aim must be to remove the disadvantages. Unless we demonstrate that we want to educate, help and support our communities and can control our professions, the legislators and corporate bodies will act without us.

Now is the time to create an awareness of the need for education and the role the IACP and you (as members) can play. It is going to be a battle but we all need to accept responsibility and take actions to promote education, understanding and acceptance of dogs. Tell everyone about your Association and provide help, support and information wherever possible.

As canine professionals, we must realize that society and dogs need our help; we have to act now if we are to avoid more bans and restrictions.



TWO NEW BOOK LISTS FOR IACP MEMBERS

by Cyndy Douan

The IACP encourages our membership to seek a broad knowledge of theories, approaches and perspectives within each members selected canine profession. The following is a list of suggested reading for dog trainers which encompasses a very broad scope of knowledge and practice. Some titles are rather new, while others may be older and perhaps even out of print. Older books can often be found at used bookstores or via the internet at sites that sell used or out of print books.

If you are interested in writing a review of one of the titles listed below for the SafeHands Journal, OR if you would like to add a book to the list that you have found to be valuable in helping you with your training skills and knowledge, please contact Cyndy Douan at the IACP Education Dept. The e-mail address is: cspot-sit@mindspring.com (Titles with asterisks have already been reviewed.)

General; Puppy Raising:

- "The Art of Raising a Puppy" – Monks of New Skete
- "The Perfect Puppy" – Hart and Hart
- "How to be Your Dog's Best Friend" – Monks of New Skete
- "Understanding Your Dog" – John Rogerson
- "Why Does My Dog?" – Fisher
- "DogSpeak" – Bash Dibra
- "Dog Tales" – Ray McSoley
- "Good Dog, Great Owners" – Brian Kilcommons
- "The Dog's Mind" – Bruce Fogle
- "Canine Lexicon" – Prisco and Johnson
- "Man Meets Dog" – Konrad Lorenz
- "The Body Language and Emotion of Dogs" – Myrna Milani
- "Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary" – F.A. Davis
- "Dog Heaven" – Cynthia Rylant

Training; Problems; Learning Theory

- "How Dogs Learn" – Mary Burch and John Bailey
- "Training Your Dog" – Volhard and Fisher
- "Training Your Dog" – John Rogerson
- "Dog Logic Companion Obedience" – Joel McMains
- "Koehler Method of Dog Training" – Bill Koehler

- *"Beyond Basic Dog Training" – Diane Bauman
- "It's Magic – Training Your Dog With Sylvia Bishop" – Sylvia Bishop
- "Your Dog : Its Development, Behavior and Training" – John Rogerson
- "Solving Your Dog Problems" – Michael Tucker
- "Dogwise" – Fisher
- "Excellerated Learning" – Pamela Reid
- *"Think Dog!" – Fisher
- *"Understanding Electronic Dog Training" – Daniel Tortora

Instructing and Consulting

- "Teaching Dog Obedience Classes" – Volhard and Fisher
- "Teaching Obedience Classes and Seminars" – Joel McMains
- "Evans Guide for Counseling Dog Owners" – Job Michael Evans
- "People, Pooches, and Problems" – Job Michael Evans
- "Dog Problems" – Bill Campbell

Specialized Training

- "Manstopper" – Joel McMains
- "Dog Tricks" – Haggerty and Benjamin
- "How to Get Your Dog Into Show Business" – Haggerty
- "How to Get Your Dog to Talk" – Haggerty
- "Retriever Training" – Jim and Phyllis Dobbs
- "Working Gundogs" – Martin Deeley
- *"Therapy Dogs" – Kathy Diamond Davis

Business Book List

The IACP is dedicated to helping those in the canine professions build successful businesses. While there are many practicing professionals who are very knowledgeable about the services they offer, managing the business aspects can be a roadblock to success. Becoming business-savvy can mean the difference between working in a part-time capacity with dogs and using your "day-job" to support yourself, to making your work with dogs a full-time career with a full-time salary.

The IACP would like to suggest the following book titles as invaluable tools for our members to utilize in building their businesses.

- "Lifetime Plan for Success" – Dale Carnegie
- "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" – Stephen Covey
- "Bottom Up Marketing" – Reis and Trout
- "Marketing Without Advertising" – Phillips and Rasberry
- The Elements of Style – William Strunk, Jr. and E.B. White
- "The Elements of Grammar" – Margaret Shertzer
- "Starting a Limited Liability Company" – Shenkman, Weiner, and Taback
- "422 Tax Deductions for Business and Self Employed Individuals" – Kamoroff
- "Think and Grow Rich" – Napoleon Hill

MEMBERSHIP CONTEST DEADLINE IS NEAR!

Rule 1: Prizes will be determined based upon the total number of Professional and/or Associate Level memberships referred during the contest period.

Rule 2: Membership applications MUST include the name of the referring member.
Prizes are as follows—

- 2 to 4 Members: IACP T-Shirt and Certificate of Appreciation.
- 5 Members: Free one-year membership in IACP, Certificate of Appreciation.
- 10 Members: Free one-year membership in IACP, Certificate of Appreciation, large bag of dog food (Natural Balance)
- 15 Members: Free one-year membership in IACP, Certificate of Appreciation, Airfare to IACP conference to the value of \$250.00
- 20 or more members: Free two year membership to IACP, Certificate of Appreciation, Free 4 nights accommodation in Conference Hotel for IACP Conference

December 31 is approaching, so let's make the last weeks of the contest the most successful of the



PRO-FILES: AN INTERVIEW WITH BABETTE HAGGERTY

by Jeanneane Kutsukos

Babette Haggerty is the owner of Babette Haggerty's School for Dogs in Jupiter, Florida. She is the daughter of the world famous trainer, Captain Arthur Haggerty and an accomplished, certified trainer in her own right.

How long have you been training?

I started training on my own in 1989.

How did you get started? (Loaded question <grin>)

I really began when I was a little kid. From about the age of six on my dad would bring me to work with him on the weekends, during the summer and any time we would be filming a movie or TV show. I would walk the dogs, clean kennels and answer the phone in his training school and kennel. He always wanted me to know how to earn a dollar. It was great -- I think that I made \$2 an hour and he paid me from the time we left the house to the time we got home. He would take me for a yummy breakfast, great lunch and very good dinners. I got paid, even while eating :-)

I was little but there was one time that I can really say that at seven years of age I saved a job for him and bailed out an entire production company with a Black and Decker commercial while on location in Maryland. When you see him, ask him about the French Bulldog and Dallas Cowboy Bob Lilly.

How has being the daughter of a world famous trainer helped you? How has it hindered you?

I am tremendously lucky. If it weren't for my dad, I would probably be leading a boring life doing what, I have no idea. I would probably have a family dog but that would be it. I have been given opportunities and an education that many never get lucky enough to receive, even after many more years of training than I. It is not always easy, however, because people expect more of me; I don't necessarily get to be anonymous either. It is no secret that people either adore my dad or have feelings quite the opposite.

Those who have chosen to not know who he really is, what he has done and have chosen feelings other than respect and admiration, are those that lose but they also feel the same way about me. My feelings used to be hurt and sad when someone didn't like me and made judgments about me without knowing me. Today I realize that unkind people who condemn and criticize without knowledge are not the people I want to be around anyway. It is neat because now my husband in the last two years made a career change and has started dog training full-time. He enjoys it, the students enjoy him and he is good. It is neat that my dad has been able to give my husband something that he enjoys as well. So to honestly answer your question, having my dad as my dad has been the best and I wouldn't have it any other way.

Did your father's reputation cause you to move a long distance (Florida to California) from where he is?

Actually, my dad's school was always in New York City. I was raised in NJ in the suburbs. I was living in NYC for several years before I moved to Florida in 1989. My dad moved to LA the following year.

How did you get started in Florida?

I was in college in Florida and I had gone to a dog show. I called my dad and told him how much I missed being around the dogs. He said, "Why don't you start training?" That concept was beyond my wildest thoughts. He was the trainer -- THE trainer. I don't think that I really thought anyone but my dad trained dogs.

As silly as that sounds today, I knew that I could train dogs. I always helped but I didn't think that I could actually become a trainer. He came to Florida, bought me a set of business cards, paid for my first ad, taught me how to pass out my cards to the vets and pet shops and boom--I was in business. It snowballed from there.

How much do you think dog training methods have changed from your father's time to yours?

Hmm--well, I know from dog training books from even before my dad's time there are the same arguments for methods and tools and such as they are today. Many of the same tools and methods used 100 years ago are still used today. They still have the same arguments for and against. A lot of people will have you believe that before they started training dogs everyone tortured and beat dogs. If they read the old classics like Dinks, Mayhew, and Hutchinson, they will realize that the same arguments were present then as they are today. I think that the Internet has just increased our communication so much that people know more about what others are using.

My dad has always said that dog training has an infinite amount of knowledge and it took me a while to realize that he is right. He always said that training is ever evolving and it is true. When my dad and I visit each other and we work dogs, he will do things differently than the last time I worked dogs with him. He has always argued that it is an art and it truly is. I think that it is the same for me, I hope it is.

Do you envision your son being a trainer and making it three generations, or do you prefer that he go into another field?

Actually, my grandfather raised and showed dogs as well. As far as my son is concerned, it would be very neat if he decides to train. My dad never mentioned it to me. I only worked for him because it was the best deal in town. He tells me that he didn't want to pressure me and turn me off of it.

Ryan's first word was "doggie." He does attempt to put the leashes on the dogs when they are sleeping and he likes playing with the collars, etc., that he finds around the house. Every now and then if we have a baby-sitting challenge my husband or I will take him to group class and he is not only a big hit but a great distraction for the dogs. I do joke that I would love it if he became a veterinarian because it would save me money but I want him to do what will make him happy.

How difficult do you find being a successful trainer with all the long hours it entails and being a good wife and mother to your infant son?

I make quality time with him and my husband a priority. I have good training assistants who teach the group classes and help with the office work and phone calls. That helps a lot. I don't think about whether it is hard or not. I just keep going. I also prioritize and delegate more.

Which was your hardest dog to train and why?

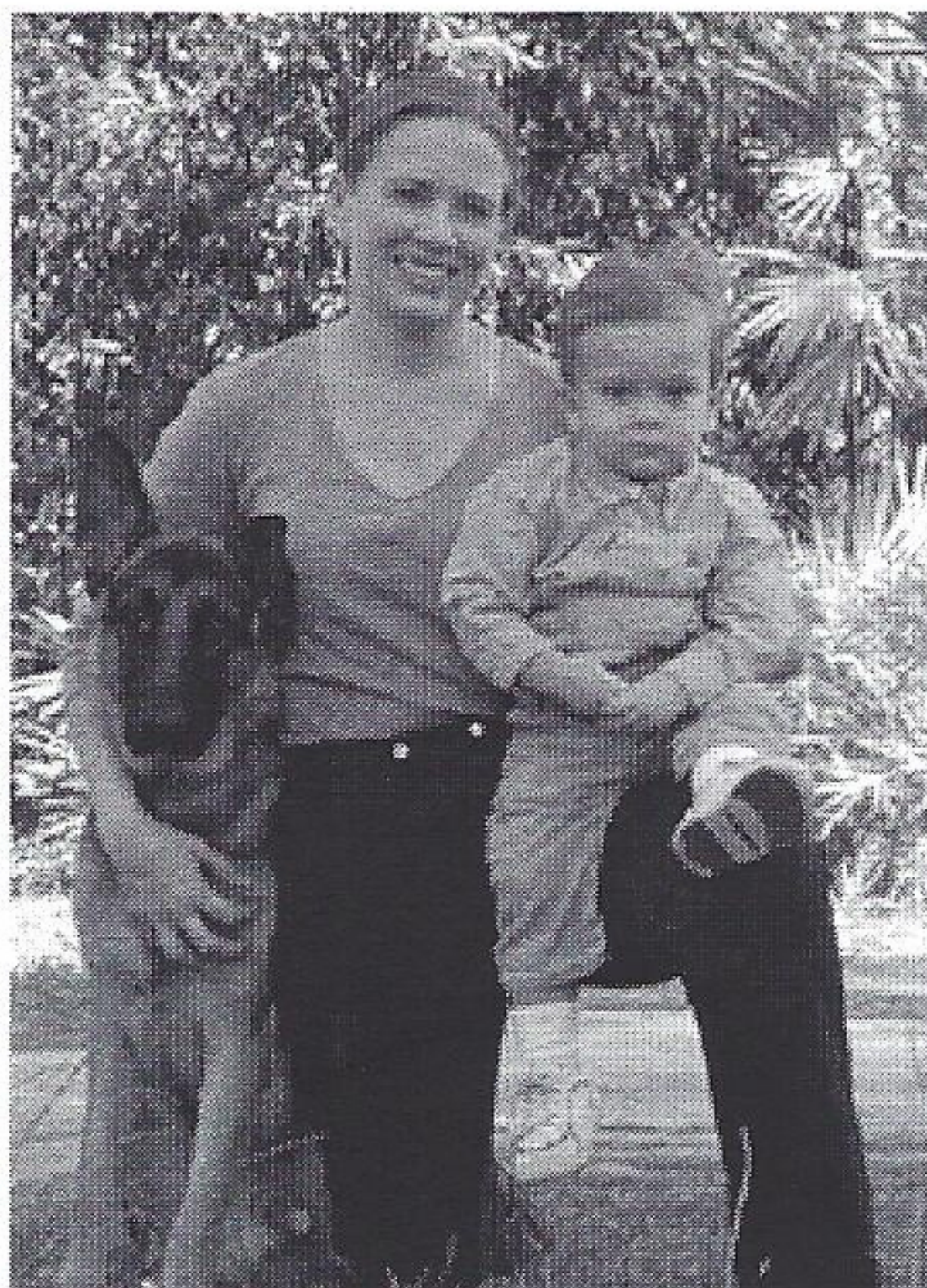
Buddha, the Rhodesian Ridgeback goes down in history on that one. Cool dog today. She is about 9 years old. I saw her about two years ago. She was sooooo stubborn and didn't give a rip about anything.

Which dog stands out in your mind for any other reason?

Probably Leo, the Black Chow that sent me to the hospital. I had a new respect for dogs after that.

Would you like to elaborate on that?

Well, he nailed me pretty good. In four different places actually. I was young, dumb and too big for my britches. I have to say, however, that from watching my dad and his trainers agitate dogs for years kicked in and literally saved my a***. If I hadn't done what I did, I would have probably been a lot worse off.



Babette with future IACP member Ryan. Photo courtesy of Babette Haggerty.

Some "trainers" will ignorantly suggest that attack training is mean and cruel and won't have anything to do with it but they don't know. I am definitely not an expert when it comes to attack training or SchutzHund training. I know what it is and what it isn't.

I have done some SchutzHund, not as much as I would like due to time constraints, but in my opinion every trainer needs to get out there and become as familiar as possible with SchutzHund. They will learn more about dogs, the way they are motivated and think in a very short

period of time. The dogs have a blast doing it and the trainers can learn a ton. It will also one day, probably save their rear, the way it saved mine.

Do you prefer any particular breed or breeds

Give me a Standard Poodle to train any day of the week. I personally love German Shepherds and Belgian Malinois. My home will always have a German Shepherd. I do plan on adding a Standard Poodle, Newfie, French Bulldog and a Golden to my family one day. Not all at the same time. I envision myself as an old lady with just Standard Poodles and German Shepherds.

We know your father has written a vast number of articles and books. Are you following in his footsteps in this area as well?

He has been nudging me for years to start writing. I told him that I would when I had something original. It took me a while to do something unique but I did. I just sold my first book. It will be out sometime next year. I have two more books on which I am working and I have been writing a lot more articles. I have a puppy training article coming out in Dogs USA next year. I have had articles in Off-Lead, and different newspapers. I enjoy the writing but I also enjoy getting out there in the heat, working dogs and the owner saying, "He is a different dog."

That is a lot of fun to me.

NEW REGIONAL GROUPS COORDINATOR

by Martin Deeley

The International Association of Canine Professionals has always emphasized the need for all professionals to work together. We established Regional Groups to encourage the networking and sharing of information and skills, but little did we know how successful the prototype groups would be.

This success has been due to the hard work of the Regional Organizers, and all credit is given to their dedication and enthusiasm to make these work. To assist members wishing to establish their own

groups, we have now appointed a Regional Groups Coordinator Chairman - your very own George Cockrell.

George will be helping new groups to set up and also established groups to grow. He will be your central coordinator and you could not have a better man.

George has been there for the Association from the beginning and always gives 100%. His own Regional group, the M.A.D. Group, has gone from strength to strength. With George's help we want to encourage new groups and provide all the

guidance required to operate them equally successfully.

If other members wish to set up a Regional group, (you establish the region you can confidently encourage participants from), then please contact myself and George. It's a great way to network, create more business and make new friends and add new IACP members.

George can be contacted at Larjk9@aol.com or through the head office at 407 469 2008.



HEALING DOGS

Compiled by Caroline Hunt

The debate continues: can dogs really “think” (or even “learn” in the traditional sense), or are they just furry automata, bundles of conditioned responses? Why do dogs do what they do? Can dogs be altruistic, or are they just attractive parasites performing on cue?

Any canine professional is all too familiar with the dog owner who thinks of Rover as a “fur kid” and treats him as such. Those of us who work extensively among therapy dog people have more than our share of acquaintances who truly believe that little Fifi and Pierre are gifted with psychic powers and demand to take their spoiled little poodles into the ICU.

Our SafeHands stories are not from people like that. These anecdotes—from professionals, mind you—focus entirely on a certain type of canine behavior and its effect on the individual human being. It’s obvious that the authors have some ideas about what motivates that behavior, but we’ll leave that tempting path unexplored for now.

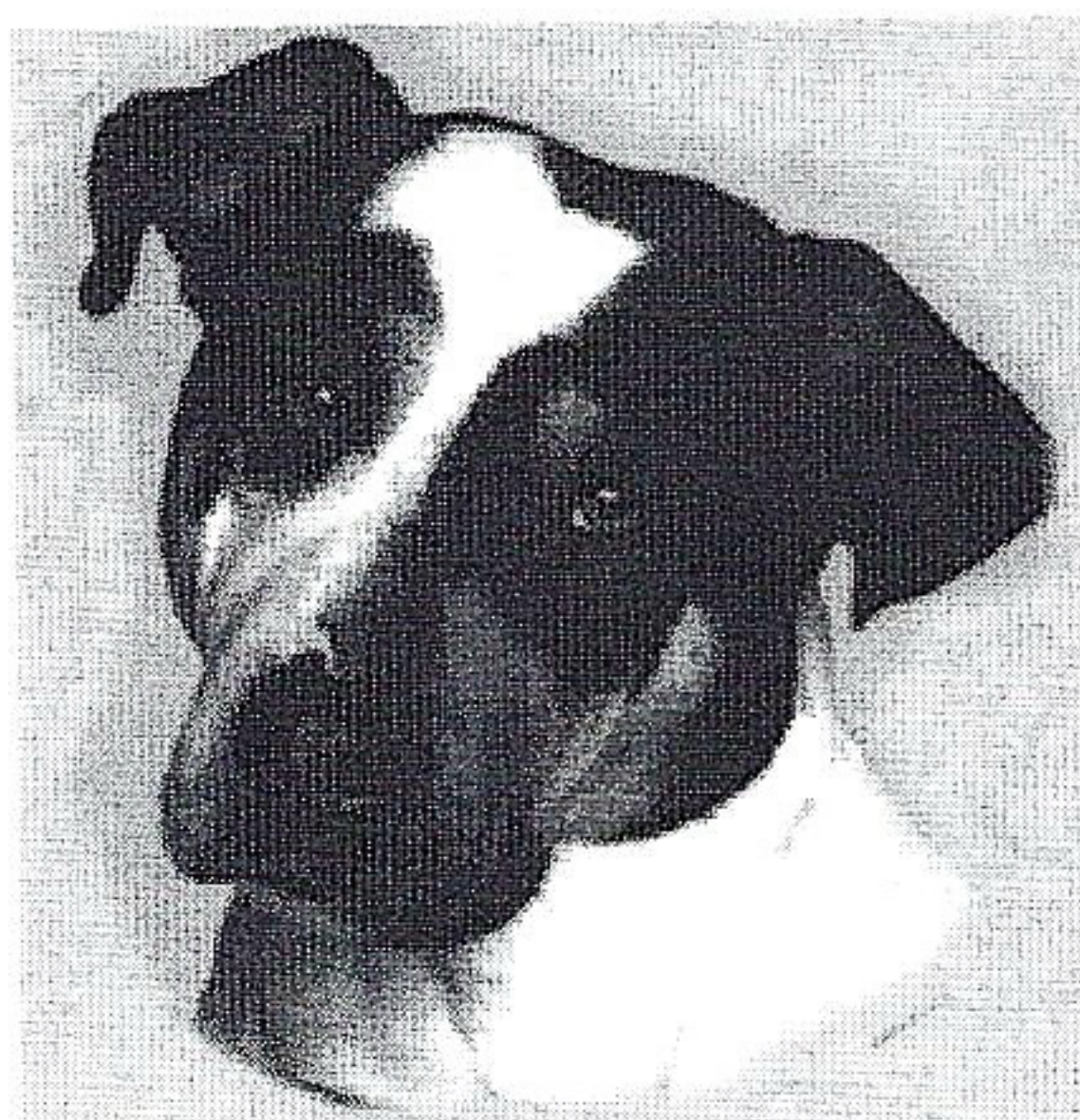
I. Dexter’s Touch by Carol Lea Benjamin

Carol Lea, the professionals’ professional, needs no introduction either as a trainer or as a writer. Dexter, a mixed breed from the shelter, became a registered therapy dog with Therapy Dogs International. He appears on the front cover of “Surviving Your Dog’s Adolescence,” a book that most of us often recommend to our clients.

A few months ago, I heard that a young neighbor was in a bad way, that the cancer she’d battled the year before was back, that the prognosis was grim. I only know one thing. So that’s what I did. I called and asked if I could bring Dexter to visit. I was told I could.

I sat on the floor of her bedroom with this acquaintance and her husband watching my dog do his thing, never saying a word. Dexter leaned and kissed. I suggested the young woman get into bed and she did. She didn’t have to call Dexter to follow her. He landed on the bed as she did, lying against her, pressing into her, kissing her face.

After a while, she began to laugh. And though I thought I’d stay ten minutes, I stayed an hour and a half. When it was time to go, this person I barely knew put her arms around me and thanked me, telling me how much better she felt.



*Dexter (adapted from the cover of “Surviving Your Dog’s Adolescence”).
Photo by Carol Lea Benjamin*

I left her house a rich woman. I had a new friend, someone I learned to love very quickly and loved until a month ago when she died. And I had seen, again, that what I believed to be true is true—that a dog who is able to focus on helping one person in pain, even when the act the dog performs is his own idea and not something he was trained to do, will know how to focus on another person in pain and being of generous heart because he is a dog, will do just that.

II. June’s Generosity by Donald McCaig

Like Carol’s account, this one appeared originally on the SafeHands e-mail list. Donald McCaig has raised sheep, trained and trialed sheepdogs for twenty years. His books include Nop’s Trials, Nop’s Hope and Eminent Dogs, Dangerous Men. See his stockdog article, page 14.

Several recent threads have focused on the proper relationship of man and dog. Is it a partnership, guardianship, ownership, beneficent dominion or some other? Related threads have inquired if the dog ever wants to “please” its owner. The list consensus is probably ownership and no they don’t: dogs please themselves.

While this view is a refreshing antidote to the ruthless sentimentality that produces books like “dogs never lie about love” and is a useful stance for training many different dogs to acceptable standards of obedience in fairly short order; the view that we “own” dogs who, without the trainer’s intervention would do whatever they wished seems over simple.

I am remembering Carol Lea’s service dog who, trained to relieve her pain, sensed a stranger’s pain and without prompting relieved it.

And I am remembering the ruins of the Temple of Nodus on the bank of the Severn River in Gloucestershire. The Roman/Celtic temple (2-400 AD) attracted pilgrims (many women) from Roman Britain and Gaul, for healing. The Temple stands on the shaded brow of a low rise overlooking the river.

Even today, it feels like a holy place. Somebody—Karen Armstrong I believe—wrote that holy places are where the veil between heaven and earth is thinnest. Anyway, those long ago pilgrims climbed the path to the summit where after a consultation with the priest and prayers in the sanctuary, pilgrims would retire to the rooms that lined the outside walls where they’d be attended to by the healing dogs. Usually the pilgrim would stay for a couple days of prayers, roman baths and the ministrations of the dogs.

Unless we’re butchering or the dogs drag a dead deer out of the woods, our sheepdogs get kibble, once a day, same same. Fresh meat is a rare prize.

Well, our oldest dog Harry is dying and losing weight dramatically so my wife Anne has been supplementing Harry’s kibble with canned dog food, pedigree, mighty dog, whatever. Yesterday morning, after Harry refused to eat even this high dollar stuff, Anne came back into the room where I was working, in tears and set Harry’s bowl down for June.

June was extremely interested and took a mouthful of meaties before she realized how upset Anne was. June walked over and gave Anne her meaties, dropped the meaties in Anne’s lap. The concerned dog does what little it can.

IACP BOOK NOOK REVIEW:
Therapy Dogs: Training Your Dog to Reach Others
by Kathy Diamond Davis
Reviewed by Pat Trichter.

THERAPY DOGS. Training Your Dog to Reach Others. 2^d Ed., 2002. Dogwise.

If you ever wanted to know what it was like to be on this end of the leash, Kathy Diamond Davis does a jam up job letting you know about the multiple types of environment you can walk into, the peripheral activities you need to be constantly aware of, and the array of feelings you may encounter and experience as a volunteer. We never seem to have enough time to do something like this, admire the dedication of the people that do, and frequently have people ask if we think their dog would make a good therapy dog. I'll be recommending this book to clients so they can glimpse the other side of volunteering, the responsibilities that go with the job, and the people who come to depend on them "beyond" training the dog.

Kathy Diamond David nicely sums up the difference between "assistance" dogs and "therapy" dogs, along with other terms and descriptions used in today's world of dog therapy such as "animal assisted therapy, animal assisted activity, and pet therapy." She has written this book in the hope of recruiting some readers to the volunteer vocation she loves, assisting as a "dog-handler team."

Being a volunteer dog-handler for over 15 years, she recalls her own experiences to show the reader the pro's and con's of the occupation and the training that's needed, not only for the dog but for the handler as well. She's obviously walked

the halls for Davis's stories not only share her mistakes for others to learn from, but the emotional benefits she's gained through the training relationship with her dogs and the people she's worked with.

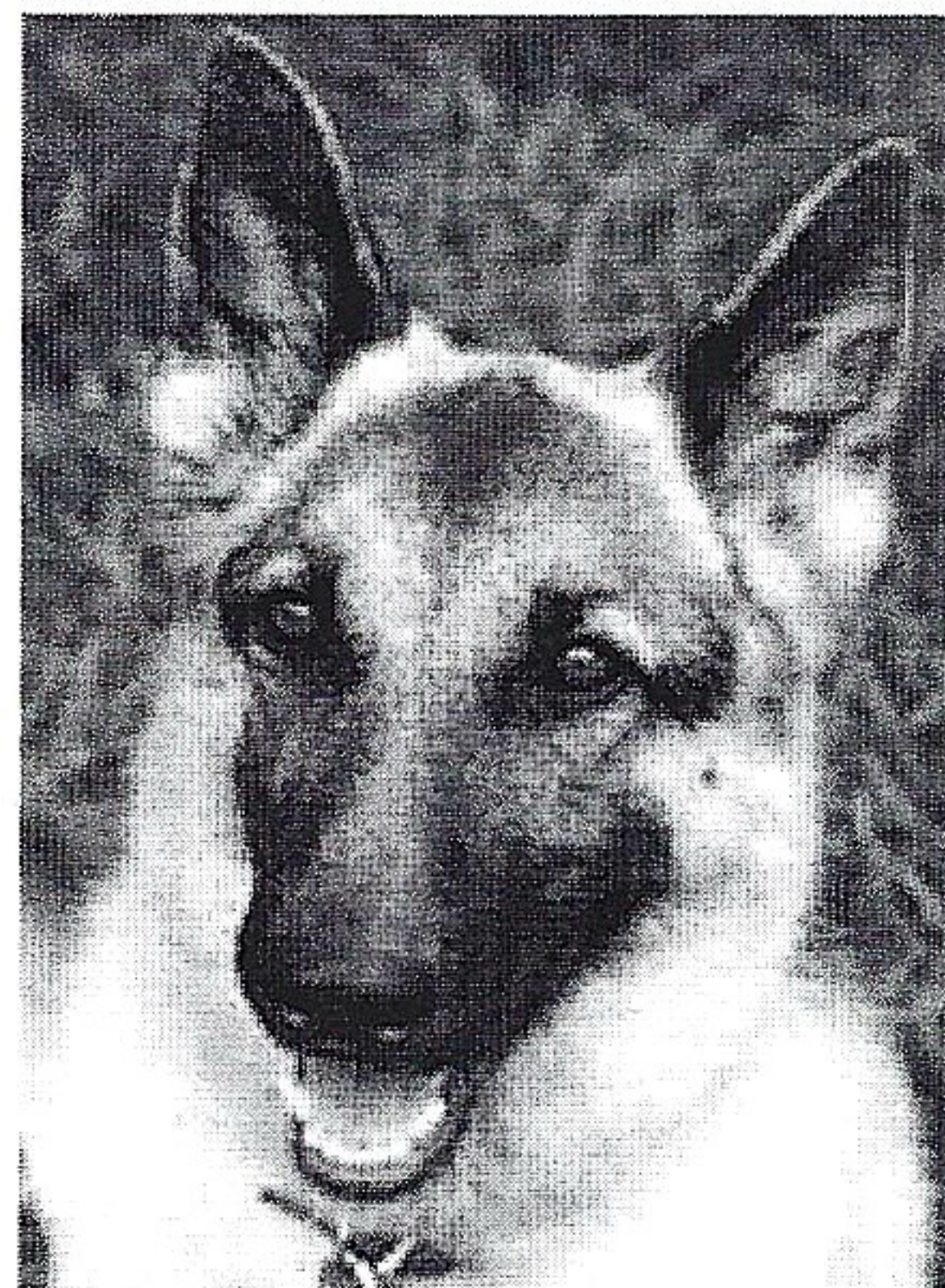
The dog training is specific, involves a lot of work and must be reliable. Her recommendations for training exercises mostly come from an obedience competitor's perspective and she's apparently run into some abusive dog trainers somewhere along the way because she slams and damns all dog trainers who use any kind of punishment. I personally found her opinions in this area to be a bit strong and unnecessary, and found some statements to actually take away some validity of other good advice she did have to offer. If you are a Professional Dog Trainer, you may just want to look at these remarks as coming from someone who is ignorantly passionate about "their" work so you don't overlook the worthwhile chapters this book does offer.

If you've had any inkling to try volunteering your services with a dog, then you may want to check out this book. Especially if you have a desire to help disabled people, you need the willingness, patience and perseverance to learn to think differently about yourself as a handler, and enjoy teamwork with your dog. The opportunities to share the love your dog is willing to share with others can be one of the most satisfying and heart warming journeys you will ever take.

the peculiar grave dignity that marks the finest of GSDs.

She made her debut in a psychiatric ward, ministering most of the time to clinically depressed elderly women (outpatients attending on a grant that soon expired), with occasional forays into the locked ward to visit would-be suicides, self mutilators, and others who were dangerous to themselves and to others. She took tears, grumbling, and bizarre behavior in stride. Nearly all who interacted with her became noticeably calmer.

One day, during an uneventful visit with the outpatients, I turned away briefly



Kirsten in her psych-ward days, about 1997. Photo by Caroline Hunt.

from my dog to admire a small window garden, planted by the outpatients in memory of one of their number who had died since our last visit.

Turning back, I found no dog. This was unthinkable—Kirsten, an extremely biddable dog, was never one to test an owner's patience.

Where had she gone? With a quick excuse to the outpatients, I set out down the hall—where I immediately saw the tip of a plummy tail disappearing into an administrative office. Kirsten had pushed the door open and invited herself in. Why?

Following that tail, I found my dog with her muzzle resting on a senior nurse's knee, looking up into her face as she fell into a spasm of weeping. The woman's life had just fallen apart, her family was in disarray, and she herself had been in a numb state of shock since the night before. Kirsten's gesture had released her to grieve, then eventually to get on with putting together the pieces left to her.

How do they know? Dexter, June, and Kirsten all offered something that was needed, and did it on their own initiative.

There are kinds of behavior we can train, and then there are the intangibles, the things that can't be, or at least aren't, taught. As trainers, we need to understand as much as we can about both.

III. Kirsten's Choice **by Caroline Hunt**

Everyone's first therapy dog is special, and Kirsten was no exception. Tied to a shelter fence in the night, she weighed in at 43 pounds on "intake"—an adult German Shepherd Dog that should have weighed almost twice as much.

After months as a foster, "just until she puts on enough weight to be adoptable," Kirsten had not only taken up residence permanently but promised to be a fine therapy dog: stable, affectionate but not exuberant, well behaved, and always with



THE NEED FOR VERSATILITY

Martin Deeley

As a trainer of pet dogs, hunting dogs and their owners, and running workshops throughout the United States and Europe, I find it becoming increasingly obvious to me that dog trainers are not taking the opportunity to develop their skills and versatility.

What do I mean by versatility? I mean the ability to bring a wide range of approaches, methods and equipment to the task of training a dog. We have all experienced old school trainers who have not changed their approach; trainers who use positive reinforcement methods but still rely heavily on compulsion and punishment. At the other extreme end of the scale there are those who state they never use compulsion or punishment. From both of these "camps" I have seen problem dogs. These are dogs that are suffering—and I use that word correctly, in my opinion. They have not been shown what is and is not required in the best possible way resulting in unwanted behavior, and creating confusion and unhappiness for both dog and owner.

The trainers I have watched that are getting the results required for the benefit of the dog and the owner are those who have the ability to match the training to the needs of the dog/owner partnership. By reading the character and personality of each dog and by understanding the situations they encounter these trainers build a training program that not only achieves the results but also creates a long and lasting relationship between owner and dog.

We have all seen dogs which through lack of understanding and even fear will develop a behavior that they hope will avoid perceived corrections. On the other hand we have all seen dogs where even an enticing reward will not create the behavior we require. Waving the tastiest cookie generally does not stop an inveterate cat chaser.

When we consider the theories of Operant Conditioning; we have available to us four quadrants. Two of these will either develop and encourage the wanted behavior of our dogs – positive and negative reinforcement, and the other two remove

the unwanted behaviors, positive and negative punishment. The claim has been that if we use positive reinforcement with the occasional negative punishment (taking away an anticipated reward when the dog does not behave correctly), this will enable us to train a dog effectively to a standard that will make it a good and reliable companion and pet. My experience is that this is not working. Dogs like humans make decisions based on relative importance. Some are not concerned if they do not get the treat when they behave badly, the incorrect behavior is more rewarding than the withheld reward. It is emphasized, by those promoting pure positive approaches, that we can make mistakes as humans when we punish dogs, and create problems.



Martin with a willing pupil. Courtesy of the Martin Deeley International Gundog Workshops site, www.martindeeley.com.

That is correct, but it is equally true that unwanted behavior can also result from the incorrect giving of rewards. Only this week I had a letter from a friend where he had observed a dog in class that was dog aggressive. The class trainer told the owner not to do anything but stand still until the dog stopped lunging and snapping and then to give him a cookie for the good behavior. This dog became worse – he saw the reward as being for the action

of attacking other dogs. There are as many examples where poor behavior has been developed through poor methodology and application of positive reinforcement as there are through poorly applied corrections.

Trainers who find their approach to training a dog using the highest degree of positive reinforcement is not working fall back onto 'management'. I am regularly hearing – "Always have him on the leash." "Do not take him where there are other dogs." "Leave him in the crate when you have visitors." And "Never let him be in the yard unsupervised." And occasionally will recommend euthanasia rather than apply 'punishment'. Owners want to enjoy their dogs; and dogs deserve to enjoy their lives with their owners. With an increase in management of dogs instead of training we are restricting the quality of life of both dog and owner.

We have, quite rightly, moved to more positive reinforcement (reward based) ways of training dogs but should we totally exclude other approaches that can achieve the results which will create the happy and motivated companion or working dog. Positive reinforcement tells the dog when it is doing right. We should build training programs that put the dog in a position where it does right and we can reward it. A high degree of positive reinforcement is essential to a happy dog/trainer working relationship. However – we also need to tell the dog when it is doing something we do not want. Punishment does this and it does not have to be abusive. To deny either approach means we are denying the dog the ability to learn behavior that will result in a happy and fulfilling partnership.

For some dogs we can change unwanted behavior by redirecting it, by replacing it with another behavior. With others this does not work. With some dogs we can force them into a behavior we require, with others this will not work. As trainers we should not become entrenched in narrow ideologies but be more versatile, trying different approaches, and applying methods that will achieve the results we seek.

(continued on page 13)

CLASSIC ARTICLES: SELECTING A TRAINER

The correct selection of a professional trainer to help a family with their dog training and behavior problems is essential. A good trainer should combine a variety of methods and be sensitive to the individual needs of the owner and the dog. While convenience, cost and scheduling are considerations, finding a class or having in-home consultation where you feel comfortable and successful should be your primary concern.

These guidelines have been developed to help in that selection and permission is granted to copy them for clients. Shop around until you find a trainer that will work for you.

1. Ask your veterinarian for referrals. Vets see many well-behaved dogs often. Ask owners of well-mannered dogs where they received their training.
2. Good training is flexible and suits the needs of the dog and the owner. Competent trainers modify their methods so that everyone can succeed.

3. Find a trainer who can deliver what you and your dog need. If obedience competition is your dream, find a successful competitor. If you want to train your dog to assist you in your disability, find a trainer with that specialty.

4. If you have a specific problem with your dog, ask trainers what their experience is with this problem. Ask if they have experience with your breed. Ask questions if you don't understand their program or if something doesn't sound right.

5. Where possible observe the trainer with other dogs before enrolling. Are lessons orderly and enjoyable? Are students struggling with their dogs without getting help? Does the instructor use assistants to manage large classes? If an instructor won't allow you to observe them, look elsewhere.

6. How does the instructor interact with the dogs? Is the treatment too rough? Does the instructor genuinely enjoy dogs? Do the dogs enjoy the instructor? How

does the instructor's own dog relate to the instructor? Would you be proud to have a dog that behaved like the instructor's dog?

7. Instructors only spend a short time each week with the students' dogs. Is the instructor preparing the student to practice until the next lesson?

8. Interview the instructors you are considering. Ask where they got their experience. How long have they been teaching? Ask about failures as well as successes.

9. Be skeptical of instructors who offer guarantees. Not all dogs and owners can be trained to the same performance standard in the same length of time. Look instead for instructors who offer to make time for students who need extra attention.

10. Refuse to deal with trainers who make you uncomfortable.

11. Is the trainer a member of a Professional Trainers organization such as The International Association of Canine Professionals or NADOI?

Versatility (from page 12)

The answer has to be the education of trainers and owners. A professional trainer should be up to the job of learning more, and educating owners correctly whether teaching reinforcement or punishment. Incorrectly applied both are abusive or create abuse. Applied correctly both are highly successful. I am often left with the question, do those who avoid certain methods not trust the owners to do right by their dogs, or are they lacking trust and confidence in their own ability to train them correctly?

Today there is available more equipment, more education and more knowledge than ever before. Our equipment is the tools we use. How we use it is the catalyst to changing behavior, and the important feature of any piece of equipment is that we use it correctly. Dogs can be mentally and physically abused with and without equipment. The equipment in itself is of no consequence except that in the right situation and applied correctly it will help a dog understand and learn. Our responsibility as trainers therefore is to

know the strengths and limitations of the tools we use and to gain knowledge and experience in when and how to apply them. With the complexity of life today and the demands this places on the dogs in our life, those training dogs need to be versatile. They need to have a broad knowledge of the ways of developing correct behavior in a dog and the approaches and tools that can help them.

Trainers have a responsibility for the behavior they create and to be ensconced in one specific dogma, method or piece of equipment is denying the dog of the ability to learn effectively. While other jobs have been deskilled through technology and 'improved' management techniques, the dog trainer's job has become increasingly more skilled, requiring more versatility and practical experience over a wide range of approaches, methods and equipment. To not build this versatility for the benefit of training dogs is to lose an opportunity for the dog; an opportunity for life, love and happiness. Versatility provides the ability to not only train well but who knows, one day to save a dog's life and create a very happy family.

Martin Deeley has been training dogs for over 25 years and has written three books on dog training. He writes regularly for European and American magazines and has devised, directed and presented nine training videos. Martin runs regular workshops and seminars for hunting dogs throughout Europe and America. He is co-founder and Executive Director of IACP.

In 2002 Martin received the special award from the Dog Writers Association of America for the best training article of 2001. He can be found online at www.citydawgs.com

"Versatility" appeared originally in "Off Lead" magazine.

Editor's note: we think that Martin's classic "Selecting a Trainer," above, which also appears on the IACP web site, makes an ideal handout for dog owners who may not know how to go about finding the best instructor for them. Why not photocopy this useful half-page article for distribution?



GETTING INTO STOCKDOGS

by Donald McCaig

Maybe you have a client who'd like to try livestock work. Maybe you'd like to try it yourself.

While gifted trainers won't find stockwork impossible, that work makes assumptions that may be unfamiliar and your learning curve will be much sharper if you engage a trainer.

Which trainer depends on what you hope to do, whether you wish to compete in traditional sheepdog trials, work livestock on your farm or more modestly, to have a little fun with your dog around sheep.

Titles and Fun

If you have an AKC registered "herding breed" you should consider the AKC herding program. Attend a trial and ask - there are plenty of AKC trainers.

If you've a German Shepherd from imported herding stock. Ulf Kintzle has a good reputation for training "tending" dogs. <http://www.users.nac.net/ulf/tending.htm>

Though they're rarer than AKC events, both ASCA (www.asca.org) and the American Herding Breed Assn (www.ahba-herding.org) have trials too.

Commercial operations

If you have a commercial sheep or cattle operation you should buy a stockdog tomorrow, 3-6 years old, ready trained. The highest prices paid for trained stockdogs aren't by trial people but by ranchers. In thirty years as a stockman, I have never met a farmer or rancher who once had a good dog and was ever without one again. There are three breeds to consider: Working Kelpies, McNabs and Border Collies. McNabs are good cowdogs but are hard to find outside of California, and working Kelpies are terrific in pens and chutes but are hard to find anywhere. Working Border Collies are common as mud. Ranchers attending the Red Bluff Bull sale can get one at the auction: www.redbluffbullsale.com/bullsale/DogPage.

If you are thinking about trialing: buy a trained dog.

Experienced trainers

If you are a stockman or horseman who

has bought a trained dog, likely you won't need many lessons. If you've ignored my advice and bought a pup, or if you've never been knocked flat by a large ruminant, you have more to learn.

I'd avoid AKC herding trainers. The AKC herding trainers I have met were pleasant people with pleasant dogs. None were stockmen. If any of them have trained a dog able to run in an open sheepdog trial - the ordinary competence the commercial man needs - I have not met that AKC trainer.

Similarly, I would avoid behaviorists, positive trainers or those who'd train sheepdogs with shock collars. While such methods may be entirely appropriate in other contexts, I know no experienced sheepdog trainer who uses them.

Go to USBCHA.org. Under upcoming sheep or cattle trials, phone a contact person near you and ask. Stockdog training methods are uniform and for the beginner, one experienced trainer is probably about as good as another.

If you are unsure of a trainer's qualifications, ask them if they've ever won a sheepdog or cattle dog trial. If their answer is a lengthy explanation of why and how trials don't prove anything, keep your money in your pocket.

How will your dog be trained?

Sheepdogs are trained at clinics, board and train and private lessons. Ditto: cattledogs - though training opportunities are fewer. If you sign up for a clinic you can expect to work your dog twice each day over two or three days: \$50-100 per day. The great bargain is spectating. A 10-20\$ fee is charged, you get the same information and aren't worried your dog is going to make a fool out of you. Most clinicians are enormously experienced - some will have helped train thousands of sheepdogs. After many years as an open handler I still take my six month pups to a Jack Knox clinic for their first go working sheep. Jack is not only better at this introduction than I am - he is one of the best in the world.

Board and train will run 300-\$500 a month. If you start your dog at six months, he should be fully trained by

three years old but boarding training is usually intermittent. Perhaps you'll start your dog at a clinic, ask the instructor to take it home for a couple months, reclaim it for six months and then board it again. Experienced handlers often board and train dogs they haven't time for or if their dog has a problem they can't handle. I owned a sulky-timid bitch I was too big and intimidating to train so I sent the bitch to a woman trainer for two months. After the bitch was well started, I could train her.

Boarding and Training sheepdogs is usually a part time occupation and the number of sheepdogs anybody can train is limited. Including their own dogs, most trainers keep less than a dozen. Professional trainers are often torn between paying the bills and giving their own dogs enough work. Consequently finding someone willing to squeeze your dog in may be difficult.

And should another train your dog or if you buy a fully trained dog, you'll still need to learn how to handle it.

Private lessons (\$50-\$100 an hour) and or/informal apprenticeship interspersed with clinics is how most people train. Many open handlers help others train: "Just bring your dog over. We'll try him on sheep and see what he does." I have three students, two already running in novice trials. While I don't charge, I do expect some help with the grunt work at my annual sheepdog trial.

Stockmen won't find training their sheepdog pup difficult or expensive. Attend a few clinics, bring the dog to an open handler every month or so, train the dog fifteen minutes every other day and give the dog all the chores he can handle.

If you live in a condo, and wish to compete in open sheepdog trials, you have your work cut out for you. Probably you should quit your job, sell the house and move to a farm where you can start a sheep operation. You won't be the first. One fellow I know claims that his first sheepdog has, to date, cost him more than a million dollars. He counts himself ahead of the game with his new life working and training homely little black and white sheepdogs.

DOGS ON PLANES: SAFE TRANSPORT, OR DEATH SENTENCE?

by Caroline Hunt

On May 3 of this year, half a dozen young German Shepherd Dogs set forth on a routine flight from Atlanta to Dayton. It was to be the final leg of a journey from Frankfurt, Germany, for these future police and security dogs.

Only one of the dogs made it. On arrival in Dayton, the other five were dead.

Other dogs, though not fatally affected, have been effectively ruined by a travel experience. One family known to me bought a German Shepherd puppy in Germany. Booked through to New York, the puppy landed instead in Bangkok, where it was finally located days later—uncared for and, apparently, overlooked. By the time the pup arrived in its new home, it was in poor condition both physically and psychologically. The physical damage was temporary; the psychological wasn't.

Horror stories like this, though graphic, are statistically rare. An overview of how plane travel works for dogs will show what the owner needs to know in order to minimize the chance of disaster.

Generally, there are three ways for a dog to travel on an airplane: in the cabin, as baggage, or as cargo. There are big difference among the three in the experience for the dog, as well as in the safety factor.

Safest, obviously, is travel in the cabin. Two kinds of dogs get to travel with their owners: service dogs, and very small dogs (or other pets) that will fit under a seat. The owner of a service/assistance dog is supposed to be accommodated, and usually is, on domestic airlines.

As anyone with a service dog will tell you, however, poor education of airline personnel is still more common than it should be. Planning ahead, getting assurances from the airline in writing, and arriving ahead of time to straighten out last-minute snafus are the best preventive measures. For instance, one of my columnists for another newsletter was refused ground transport with her guide dog—but, luckily, she had allowed so much lead time that she was able to get in touch with airline authorities and reach her plane in time, with their help. It doesn't always work out that well,

unfortunately.

If Fifi isn't a service dog, she needs to fit into a carrier that will go under the seat. Delta prescribes "max. size 17"L x 12"W x 8"H," and other airlines are fairly consistent. Most companies limit the number of cabin pets, and the policy is usually first come, first served.

The larger dog must go either as checked baggage (on the same flight as the owner) or cargo (traveling separately). Here the problems begin. Temperature control and pressurization in non-passenger areas can be less than ideal.

Because of the temperature problems, many airlines will not ship dogs, or indeed other pets, as checked baggage during the summer months—typically, from May 15 to September 15. Even cargo shipments are affected if the conditions are "extreme" (over 85 degrees or under 45, or over 70 degrees for "snub nosed breeds," according to most airlines.

Continental Airlines, along with several others, will take dogs as cargo but not as checked baggage. The theory is that this gives the airline more choice of flights, thus making the dog's trip safer if it is necessary to work around extreme weather conditions or long delays.

Some lines will not ship dogs at all, either as baggage or cargo, for individual owners. United, for instance, requires that the dog be routed by a "known shipper." A what? Their definition: "Known Shippers" are individuals or companies that have a shipping history and approved cargo account, i.e. commercial animal shippers and licensed pet breeders."

The most recent complication is the ban on flying certain breeds, described by Martin Deeley in our lead article. Though currently in effect only on American Airlines, this type of policy may spread.

Southwest Airlines, strictest of all, flies no pets of any kind. Period. Their web site lays this out with admirable clarity: "Southwest Airlines does not accept live animals other than animals trained to assist disabled persons. Southwest Airlines does not accept pets for transportation in the cabin of our aircraft or in the cargo hold. Please make other arrangements for the transportation of your pets."

Why the pullback? Much of the current policy of major companies comes as a result of Senator Frank Lautenberg's Safe Travel for Animals Bill, approved in April 2000. Key provisions include (1) mandatory reports to the Secretary of Transportation when there is a mishap, with subsequent publication of that information; and (2) improved training for baggage handlers in how to work with animals being shipped.

Not approved were several other provisions moved by Lautenberg, notably the retrofitting of "Class D" (the most common) cargo holds to improve safety for animals.

The split seems to represent a compromise by Congress between two groups of animal people, each lobbying heavily. In favor of passing all the Lautenberg amendments were HSUS and ASPCA; in favor of passing none were AKC and the Cat Fanciers Association, along with many airline organizations.

What should the concerned owner do? The safest advice is to consult people who regularly ship dogs; seek their advice, and then follow it. Certain airlines, and certain airports, have a much better reputation than others where baggage/cargo animals are concerned.

Published statistics, in addition to being hard to find, do not reflect these differences in full. For information that you can use, look to those with experience in shipping and a network of acquaintances with similar experience.

Reputable breeders and trainers and individual importers would top my list of people to ask. E-mail lists may yield helpful clues, too, though you will need to sift through a lot of anecdotal material.

Many of us would prefer not to drive across the country if we could fly, but we may need to know the alternatives. Consider sharing the drive time and gasoline expense with someone else. Try planning a short vacation around the trip, allowing for stops along the way. See whether you can arrange a shuttle for your dog, as rescue groups do. Wherever there are dog people, there are ingenious solutions.



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.

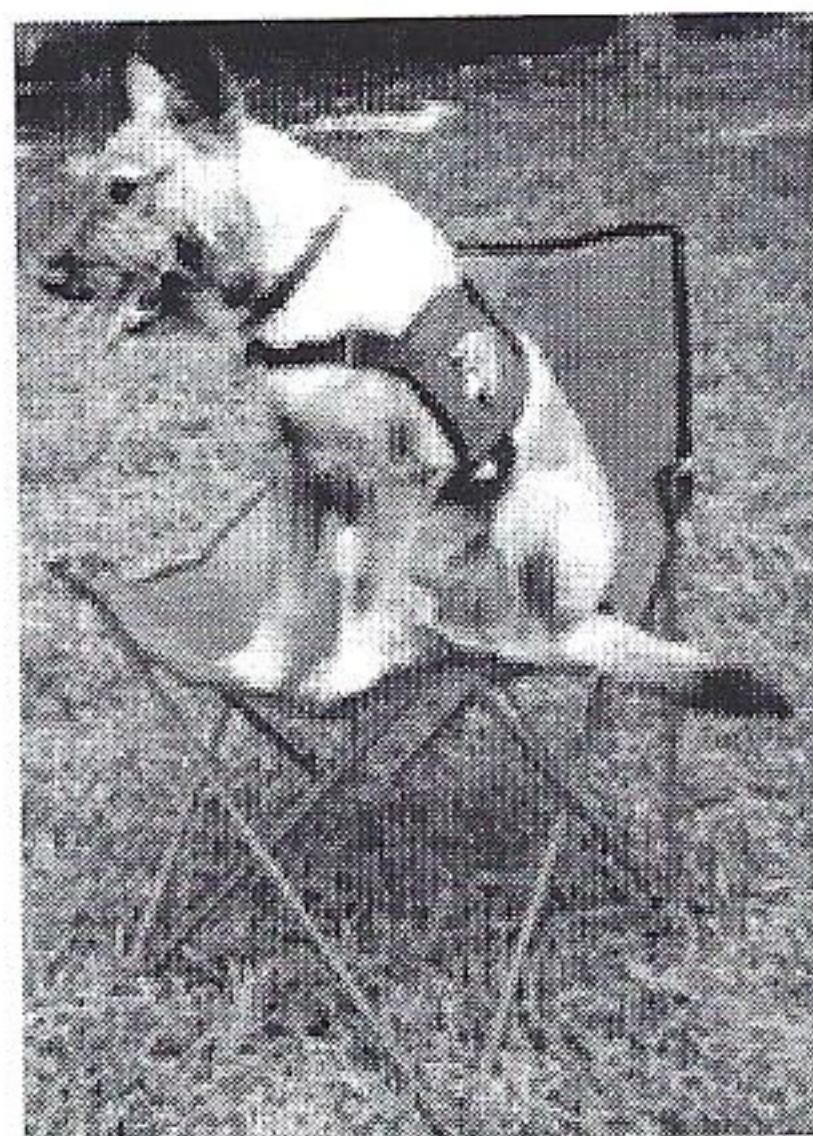
The INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS commitment is to develop professional recognition, communication, education, understanding and cooperation across the wide diversity of canine expertise and knowledge.

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