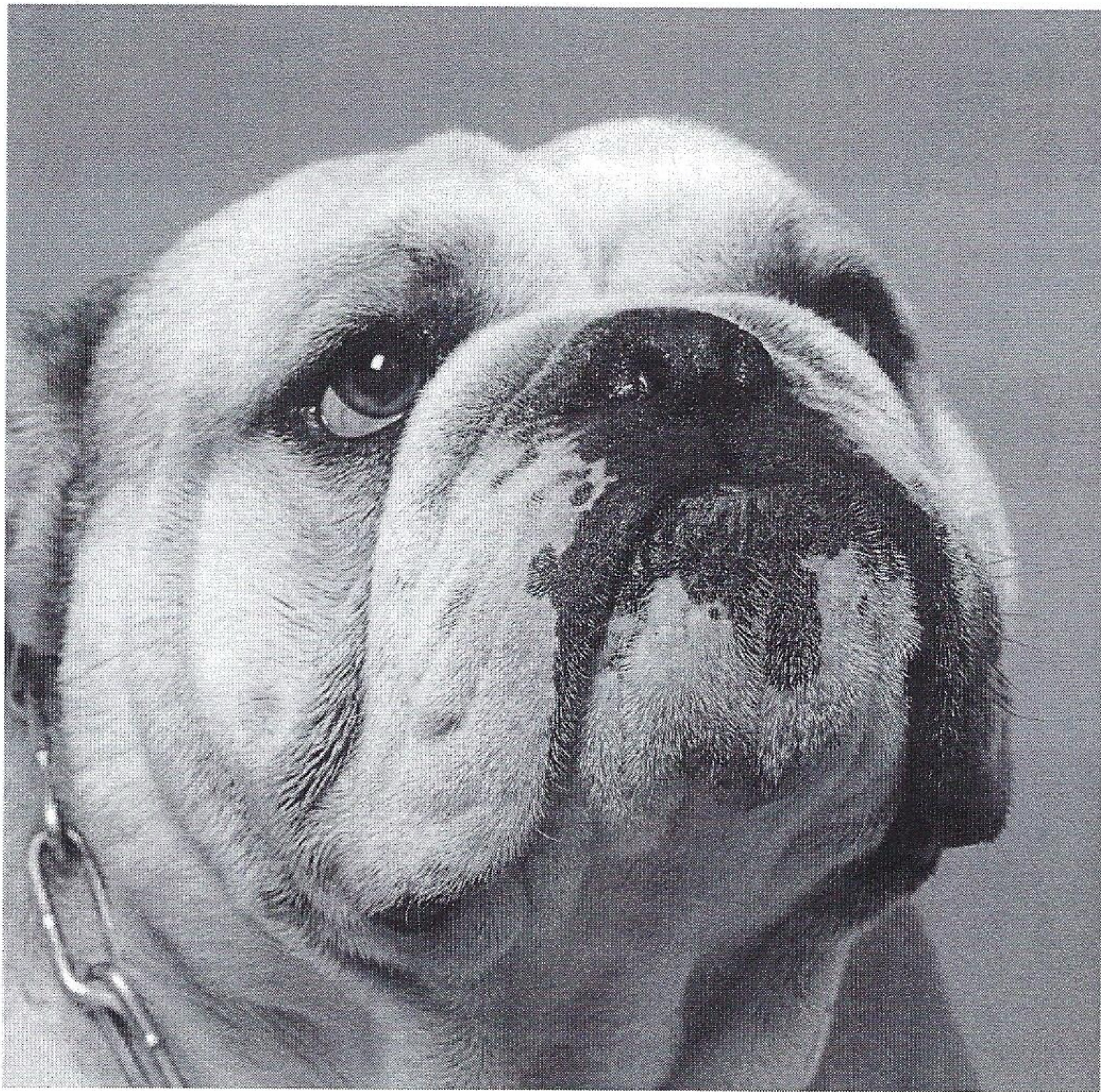
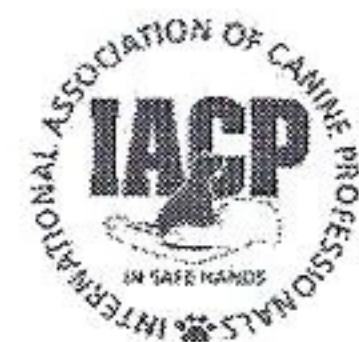


# IACP

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS



*Safe Hands Journal*



VOLUME 4  
ISSUE 2  
SUMMER 2003



# SAFEHANDS IS THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE



## SafeHands Journal

### Newsletter Staff

**Editors** Caroline Hunt  
Jeanneane Kutsukos

**Assistant Editor** Vivian Bregman

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

### Legal Notices

The International Association of Canine Professionals Journal SafeHands is intended as a communication vehicle for fostering cooperation, exchange of information, sharing of business resources and networking across the canine professions. SafeHands is published Quarterly. The IACP does not assume any legal responsibilities for published articles. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily express the views of the IACP, its officers or editorial staff.

### Reprint Permission/Submissions

Copyright 2003 IACP. All rights reserved. No items may be reprinted without the written permission of IACP and authors. Members should mail requests to the Journal Editor. Original letters/articles may be submitted to the Editor for consideration.

### Advertising

Per issue rate:

Business Cards \$25.00, 1/4 page \$50.00,

1/2 page \$100.00, Full page \$200.00

Send black and white camera ready copy together with check made out to IACP to

IACP-SafeHands Journal

P.O.Box 560156,

Montverde, FL 34756-0156

### Deadlines

Feb 1, May 1, Aug 1, Nov 1.

### IACP Membership/Journal Information

International Association of Canine Professionals

P.O.Box 560156,

Montverde, FL 34756-0156

IACP@mindspring.com

(407) 469-2008 Fax (407) 469-7127

www.dogpro.org

### Officers and Directors

**President &**

**Executive Director** Martin Deeley

**Vice President** Jay Stull

**Secretary** Robin MacFarlane

**Treasurer** Pat Trichter

### Directors

Steve Appelbaum; Vivian Bregman; George Cockrell; Martin Deeley; Cyndy Douan; Gina Lynn Hayes; Robin MacFarlane; John Van Olden; Jay Stull; Pat Trichter.

### Hall of Fame Honorary Members

Frank Inn; Vicki Hearne; Carol Lea Benjamin; Winifred Gibson Strickland; Lois Meistrell; Edi Munneke.

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS is an organization 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.

## For Those Dedicated to the Well Being of Dogs

### 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. Eligible for all benefits.

**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. Eligible for all benefits.

**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:

Professional \$75.00 Associate \$50.00 Affiliate \$35.00

Newsletter Subscription- Non-members \$25.00

**\*\*Please note** An additional \$25 fee applies for initial processing costs for Professional and Associate membership, but does not apply to Affiliate Memberships or Newsletter Subscriptions.

### Other Benefits:

All IACP members receive the SafeHands Journal, have access to our email list, seminars, educational materials, business support materials, events and activities calendars, regional-group participation, and our Certification Programs for Dog Training Professionals. Discounts are available to all members.

**To Apply:** Contact the IACP through our web site, email, address or phone to request an application, Mission Statement and Code of Conduct.

### APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS CAN NOW BE PAID THROUGH MASTERCARD, VISA, AX

International Assn. of Canine Professionals,  
P.O. Box 560156, Monteverde,  
FL 34756-0156

Telephone number - (407) 469-7127 Fax - (407) 469-2008

Web Site : www.dogpro.org e-mail: IACP@mindspring.com



## IN THIS ISSUE

|                                                                |                              |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| What does it mean to spoil a dog ..                            | <i>Karla Gardner-Hamlin</i>  | ....4   |
| Training Tables .....                                          | <i>George K. Hobson</i>      | .....6  |
| IACP Releases a New Certification .....                        |                              | .....8  |
| Come When Called .....                                         | <i>Vivian Bregman</i>        | .....9  |
| The 2003 IACP Conference Through<br>the Eyes of a Dreamer..... | <i>Margot Woods</i>          | .....10 |
| Does Your Dog Understand<br>the Word Sit.....                  | <i>Shirley Machacek</i>      | .....12 |
| New IACP Campaign Earns Honors.....                            |                              | .....13 |
| Therapy for Dogs; Part One.....                                | <i>Maryna Ozuna</i>          | .....14 |
| Because They Can.....                                          | <i>Martin Deeley</i>         | .....16 |
| Interview: Rocky Boatman.....                                  | <i>Jeanneane Kutsukos</i>    | .....18 |
| Consequence Versus Correction....                              | <i>Aimee Sadler</i>          | .....20 |
| Improving Performance.....                                     | <i>Captain A.J. Haggerty</i> | .....21 |



## SAFEHANDS JOURNAL IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

**PetSafe**  
TRAINING SYSTEMS

Safe Pets. Happy Owners.™

**SUPPORT ALL OF OUR FELLOW CORPORATE MEMBERS AND  
SPONSORS AS THEY SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATION**

### From the IACP President

As our membership grows rapidly, now well over 500, the SafeHands Journal becomes more and more important in helping members with new thoughts, approaches and ideas. Bringing education and understanding to us all, plus interesting information to encourage and stimulate our thinking. The Association was established with the prime aim of encouraging all approaches, methods, techniques and equipment to be openly discussed, no matter what section of the profession we were representing. Every canine professional is welcomed. This mission has not changed, and this issue I see illustrates the diversity of skills and knowledge of our writers, all of them members. For me personally I see this as a great achievement of the Association, the encouraging of new writers to confidently discuss their thoughts and experience. And of course established experienced writers who constantly work diligently to unselfishly share their knowledge.

The more we know the more we realize we know little. The more we know dogs the more we realize we have so much more to learn. The Association has given me as an individual the opportunity and ability to learn far more than I ever could have done on my own. This opportunity is available to all members, it is a 'treasure' which can lead us on to more satisfaction in our job, more confidence in our work and definitely more success in our business. Approach all new information with an open mind and a willingness to listen and understand. Only in this way can we know more and find the best avenues to increase our abilities and help our clients both two and three legged. As we move forward I hope you will share your SafeHands Journal with potential members and encourage them to join our family of professionals. Enjoy your Safehands.

*Mark D. Jones*  
President IACP



# What does it mean to spoil a dog?

By Karla Gardner Hamlin, B.S., RVT

The literature is full of it. The breed books warn against it. Spoiling a dog is cautioned against as it is said to cause behavior problems in dogs.

According to Miriam Webster's online dictionary the definition to spoil is *4 a : to impair the disposition or character of by overindulgence or excessive praise b : to pamper excessively.*

We regularly hear from dog lovers guilty confessions that they knowingly spoil their dogs, which is often followed by a smile of helplessness. What is so bad about spoiling a dog that you love?

Dogs are pack animals by nature. Some are driven by genetics or by their successful efforts to obtain access to food, comfort, attention, and other valued things to put forth a lot of effort to gain and maintain control of their world. Our pet dogs don't have to work herding sheep, guarding flocks, or hunting to find food. However, their ancestors were selectively bred to do such a job all day long, over and over, without losing interest.

In a litter with littermates and mother, puppies learn to push and shove other puppies to get to the greatest quantity of milk, to climb to escape the nesting box, to growl and threaten to maintain control of a food dish. The more successful they are at controlling things, the more willing they are to try to do so in other aspects of life. If they do not learn to defer or submit to protect themselves or to gain access to the pack, they may be unwilling to do so in later life.

Certain breeds of dogs are selected for traits that create this kind of bold and confident personality. This type of dog may be resistant to complying with the rules required for successful life in a house with people. Spoiling occurs when the demanding puppy makes known to a person/owner that he wants something and the person complies by giving the puppy what he wants.

Responding to a command like "sit" before receiving something desirable causes the puppy to defer or become compliant. A puppy who is raised in an environment where he must defer or comply to get the things he craves, learns to need and to listen to the owner/trainer. Upon compliance, the owner might feed the dog, let the dog outdoors, stroke the dog, throw the toy, etc. This is the time to show affection.

There are dogs who desperately want access to the pack. Some of these dogs grovel and defer by licking, crawling to people, and avoid directly looking at people.

You might think that their tails will fall off from wagging so much. They smile and grin and seem to enjoy bodily contact. They can be like clinging vines.

When this behavior brings the stroking and talking and attention that they crave, they do it more. These dogs can become very dependent and subsequently can become destructive when ignored or separated from the person of their affection.

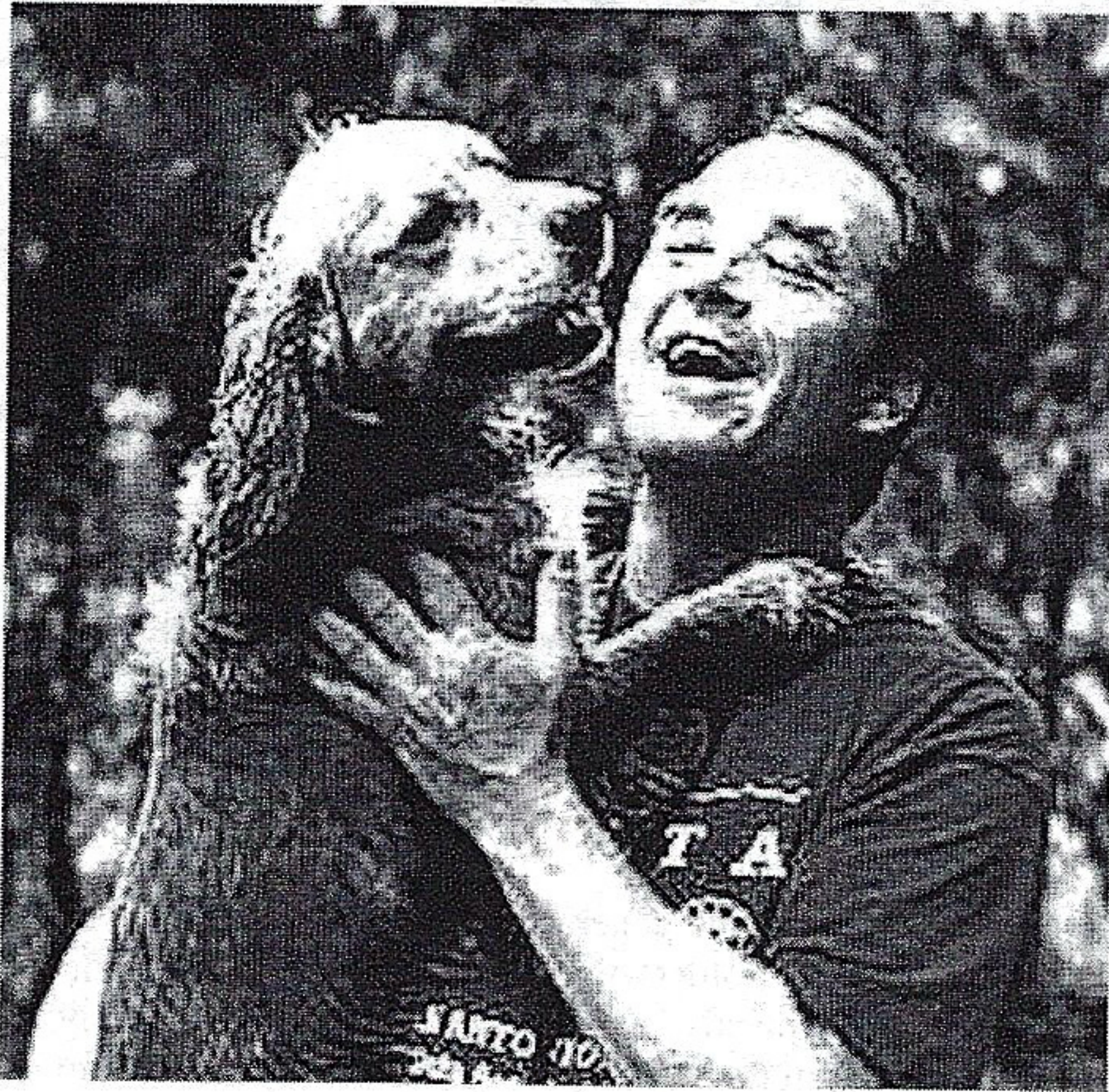
There are other dogs who want to escape confinement. They may start by finding their way out of a box, then pushing a door and making it open. They often learn to jump fences, climb over, dig under, operate gate latches, etc. and roam their neighborhood communing with other dogs, being menaced by some, following trails, playing with children, eating garbage and generally scavenging.

Still other dogs are motivated by a desire to vigilantly gain and maintain control of all valuable resting places, food, and resources by menacing and threatening certain people who confront them or approach and appear to be encroaching on their possessions. These dogs often get very stimulated with play and sometimes go overboard, with excited play looking more like aggressive behavior with accompanying growling and biting. Some dogs really enjoy confrontations and fighting.

When we spoil or indulge such dogs by stroking and coddling the clinger, or letting the escape artist loose, or leaving the tyrant alone when he menaces or threatens to control some resource, we can fuel the growing fire. Such dogs grow increasingly more strong willed and neurotic. From spoiling we can give rise to separation anxiety in the clinger. From spoiling we encourage aggressive behavior as the dog learns to defend himself and maintain possession of things with biting, growling, and menacing. From spoiling we teach a dog that he does not need us for anything as he can get what he wants for himself and so he roams the neighborhood and becomes less and less a companion to the family who claims him as theirs.

"But I got a dog so I could spoil it!" the indulgent owner wails. "I love him and he bites me! I love him and he runs away! I love him and he destroys my home!" Or how about, "...but he doesn't like a collar...or he does not like to be indoors...or he does not like to be confined to our property..." People actually





him learn that the attention which he seeks will be given for his good behavior, for his responding to those commands he learned from you in training. If your dog is reluctant to be handled, teach him that his calm acceptance of your handling will earn him release from restraint, rewards, and reassurance from you, and that struggling and fighting will not gain him anything. Let him see that calmly chewing on his favorite bone or a kong filled with delicious treats when you separate yourself from him will result in your calm and reliable return.

Dogs who make demands and have them satisfied by their human family due to spoiling are rewarded for all of the things that make them less a companion and more of a dictator. When your dog learns to live with you by your rules, he also learns how to please you and earn the things he likes with good behavior. Good management, supervision, and secure confinement of your dog creates a companion who is bonded to you for the right reasons. Dogs who earn good things in life look forward to being with their human and to being asked to do something for which they can be rewarded, which is the most healthy way to love your dog.

*Karla Gardner-Hamlin is an IACP Professional Member from Ohio. Her Bachelors Degree is in Communications and Public Relations.*

*This article was first Printed in Off Lead*

surrender their beloved companions to dog pounds because they could not bear to confine the dog in order to solve their problems.

There is a wonderful secret for those who seek the answer to this problem. Don't just train your dog in an obedience class to sit, down, come, stay and heel. Teach your dog that he will sometimes be ignored and that accepting that is his only choice. Securely confine him to prevent escape. Help

## **10% DISCOUNT ON BOOKS FROM 4M ENTERPRISES INC.**

The IACP have arranged a discount of 10% for all members on books purchased from 4M Enterprises Inc .

*Their motto is "If we don't have it - we will do our doggonedest to get it for you!"*

4M carry and can locate out of print books as well as new.

To get the discount members should state that they are an IACP Member together their membership number in the comments box when ordering over the internet.

4 M Books can be contacted at:

<http://www.4mdogbooks.com/>  
Tel (510) 489 8722



# Training Tables

## A Place for Learning

George K. Hobson

Training tables have been around in one form or another for longer than any one can document. Some cave-man, tired of bending over to get to a pup, probably hoisted it onto a rock and gave it a pet or a bit of food, and the training table concept was born. Well, maybe that's a stretch, but then fact is often stranger than fiction. My own experience and the advice of quite a few others is that every trainer should consider having a table as part of their equipment. "Well, thank you very much!", you say. "I've never used one and gotten along very well. Why should I bother with it?"

The two most obvious reasons are comfort for the trainer, and control over the dog. The trainer is able to reach any part of dog from a standing position, and more quickly than when the dog is at ground level because there is no need to reach downward. The reduced fatigue from avoiding bending and reaching, in sometimes awkward positions, is considerable by the end of several training sessions in a day. Control over the dog is enhanced not only by proximity to it, but through design and use of the table itself to accommodate specific training tasks.

A key concept about the use of training tables: they are a place where the trainer wants learning to occur. That fact should be the basis of starting every dog's relationship with the table, and until the dog is at ease on the table the entire effort is oriented to achieving a desire in the dog to be up there. Sometimes there's a humorous bit of back ground involved in getting a positive attitude instilled in the dog -- to include overcoming previous training that stopped getting up on anything resembling the dinning room table at meal time!

Achieving a desire to be on the table can be done in conjunction with teaching the dog to get on or off a given surface. These two easily taught commands can be one of the basis for building responsiveness and obedience, while gaining a positive attitude from the dog toward learning from the trainer, at a location where success is taking place. The training table should also be used as a place where grooming occurs, good words are imparted to the dog, and appropriate affection is frequently given.

I've never seen or read anything about preparing a dog to anticipate good things on a training table. Quite the opposite, as more than one book and training video I've read or watched has simply advised restraining the dog to preclude it leaving the table. I've used all of the methods I've seen to do that, such as overhead cables, hob-

bles, and tie-posts. In every case with the devices there was a reduction in effective training time, and a requirement to overcome the stress or distraction resulting from each device. In some instances the device was actually an impediment to the task at a higher level, and when the constraint was removed to continue to that level, another period of adjustment to the absence of the restraining effect had to be gotten through. When the dog wants to be on the table all of that is eliminated, and the dog is better prepared to learn.

You should generally expect a dog running to get on the table voluntarily on the third day by giving it four or five positive experiences on the table each day. If the attitude isn't one of willingness by the third exercise of the second day, I will increase the number of repetitions for the day and attempt to make each one more appealing. Because some of the tasks I train on the table involve the dog getting off with a return to the table to complete the exercise, early work always involves a number of on-and-off actions in each session, and a lot of handling while on the table. In short, I want the dog to have already experienced, as a fun issue before formal training starts, the handling I'm going to put him through while training on the table. If I'm going to teach the trained retrieve I do a lot of ear and mouth handling, and if I'm going to teach woah I walk the dog up and down the table on a lead. This allows me to get a good read on the existing level of cooperation I have from the dog, and to appropriately adjust my approach to training each as an individual. The goal is to cause the dog's attitude toward what it and I do on the table to be positive, and that pleasing me on the table is rewarding.

As easy as it may seem, getting some dogs on the table can present an initial problem of significant resistance by the dog. It is important to establish from the start that the table is a place where you are in total command. Even tractable dogs of good disposition may resist, must be dealt with firmly, and must not be allowed to be successful in avoiding being put on the table. This is easily accomplished by the use of a lead in conjunction with a ramp for the first few days of putting the dog on and off the table. This ensures that the dog's ability to refuse your command to get on, or for it to get off with out permission, is under your control. Approach getting the dog to mount the table, to remain there, and to dismount only on command just





as you would the teaching of any other task: but with the added goal of making the table a place the dog wants to be.

Dogs that are anxious or even fearful of the situation in which training is being conducted are not going to give the trainer their best effort. This begs the question as to why a trainer would put a dog into a place where the dog immediately becomes a lesser student? I have seen training videos, and had discussions with a few trainers, where the training table has been referred to as a less than positive place in the dog's view. Those trainers chose to approach this by just "working through it". It seems to make more sense, that the dog should see the training table as a positive place for it to be before using the table for any training that may be stressful.

The trainer's relationship to the table height is of importance from two standpoints. The first is trainer safety, and the second is the ability to quickly and easily reach the dog as required for the training involved. Trainer safety is always to be considered in the relationship of table height and the dog being trained. Safety in design comes primarily from ensuring the dog's opportunity to access the trainer's face or chest area is appropriate to the dog and training being conducted. A lower table will reduce the level of the dog's muzzle to those areas. Trainers dealing with dogs of significant variance in height might elect to have two or three tables of different heights but of the same width, about five feet long, which could be placed end to end to gain desired length. This allows the trainer to use the appropriate height when next to the dog, and the other tables for extension of the working surface. Trainers on an eye-to-eye level with dog that is even potentially aggressive are more at risk of injury in the face and throat area, and if they elect to train from that position should take appropriate precautions. In some instances, the reduction of the relative height from trainer to a timid dog will be a positive because of the less dominate or threatening positioning of the trainer. This should be looked for as even a very subtle, positive change in the dog's body language, reduction of nervousness, or attention to the trainer's efforts.

The location and training objectives dictate the selection

of materials for durability and portability. Tables to be permanently outside should be made of treated wood, or a combination of galvanized pipe for the frame and treated wood for the top. Tables to be used inside do not need treated lumber, and will benefit by being lighter and easier to move. The need for a portable table is a challenge to satisfy with a truly portable design. Commercially available at a reasonable cost is a table with metal frame, folding legs, and a laminated top sold at business supply stores. The slick surface of the commercial design

is unsatisfactory for training, and should be covered with rubber matting before use. I strongly recommend the use of deck screws instead of nails if you make one from wood. My current tables are now over ten years old, and except for an occasional tightening of screws remain sturdy.

At some point you'll find the dog running to the table and waiting when you arrive for training. Hopefully you'll also find a wagging tail and a look in the eyes that asks "What's in store for today?" Those enthusiastic leaps to the table put a lot of lateral stress on the frame which is another reason to use screws in construction. For dogs of up to about 70 pounds, tables constructed of 2 x 4 frames and 1 x 4's for the top (lighter than plywood), with a width of twenty five inches provide adequate surface area for training. A total length of 10 feet gives enough distance for most work with medium breeds, but 15 feet or more is desirable.

The tasks to be trained will also influence the height, as well as the width of the table's design. Ideally, with the dog standing along the near edge of the table the trainer should be able to reach over the dog and touch its outside flank. However, the table must also be wide enough for the dog to easily turn 180 degrees during the execution of training for fetch, line, and other tasks. Lowering the height will give the trainer greater reach over the dog while maintaining width necessary for 180 degree turning. If you've used the approach of getting the dog to want to be on the training table, you should not need any of the overhead control devices designed to ensure the dog remains there. In the case of aggressive dogs, such design additions may offer the trainer additional security, but are not enough to ensure safety. The trainer's best defense against being attacked is correctly reading the dog and listening to his own gut feeling.

Cont'd Page 23



# IACP RELEASES A NEW CERTIFICATION

The IACP Department of Education has now released the IACP Professional Dog Training Instructor Certification Exam. This exam is designed to evaluate and certify an applicant's *basic* level of knowledge, experience, and instructing skills relevant to teaching the general public to instruct their dog's training.

While IACP continues to offer the Basic Trainer Skills Exam, which primarily evaluates an applicant's abilities to train dogs, the Professional Dog Training Instructor Certification Exam carries evaluation a step above, to assess primarily an applicant's ability to instruct people. This is a skill that is crucial to those who teach classes and lessons on dog training. Reflecting that step above the Basic Trainer Skills Exam, the IACP Professional Dog Training Instructor Exam includes eligibility requirements for applying for the exam and maintaining the Certification status.

To be eligible for the exam and to maintain certification by the IACP, the applicant must be an IACP member for a minimum of 1 full year, maintain their *Professional* Membership Status in good standing on a yearly basis, and submit proof of Continuing Education.

The Exam components consist of Letters of Reference, Materials Submissions, a Videotaped Practical, and Essay Questions.

Allotments and dispensations on the exam fees and requirements are allowed for those who are NADOI endorsed Instructors or those who are certified by the Certification Council for Pet Dog Trainers, also known as CPDT's.

This new certification as well as the Basic Trainer Skills Exam can now be viewed and downloaded from the IACP website. Hard Copy Workbooks of the Exams can be purchased for \$15.00 each through the IACP Head Office or by sending your check to : IACP Department of Education, Division of Dog Training, P.O. Box 1144, Rome, GA, 30162. You may also contact Cyndy Douan for more information at [cspotsit@mindspring.com](mailto:cspotsit@mindspring.com)

The IACP's Department of Education's ultimate goal is that the communities served by an IACP Certified Instructor will have confidence in the services they receive. Passing the IACP Professional Instructors Exam provides members with a recognizable Certification that is approved and applauded by an internationally established organization and peer Professionals world wide.



## ***BASIC TRAINER AND INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATIONS***

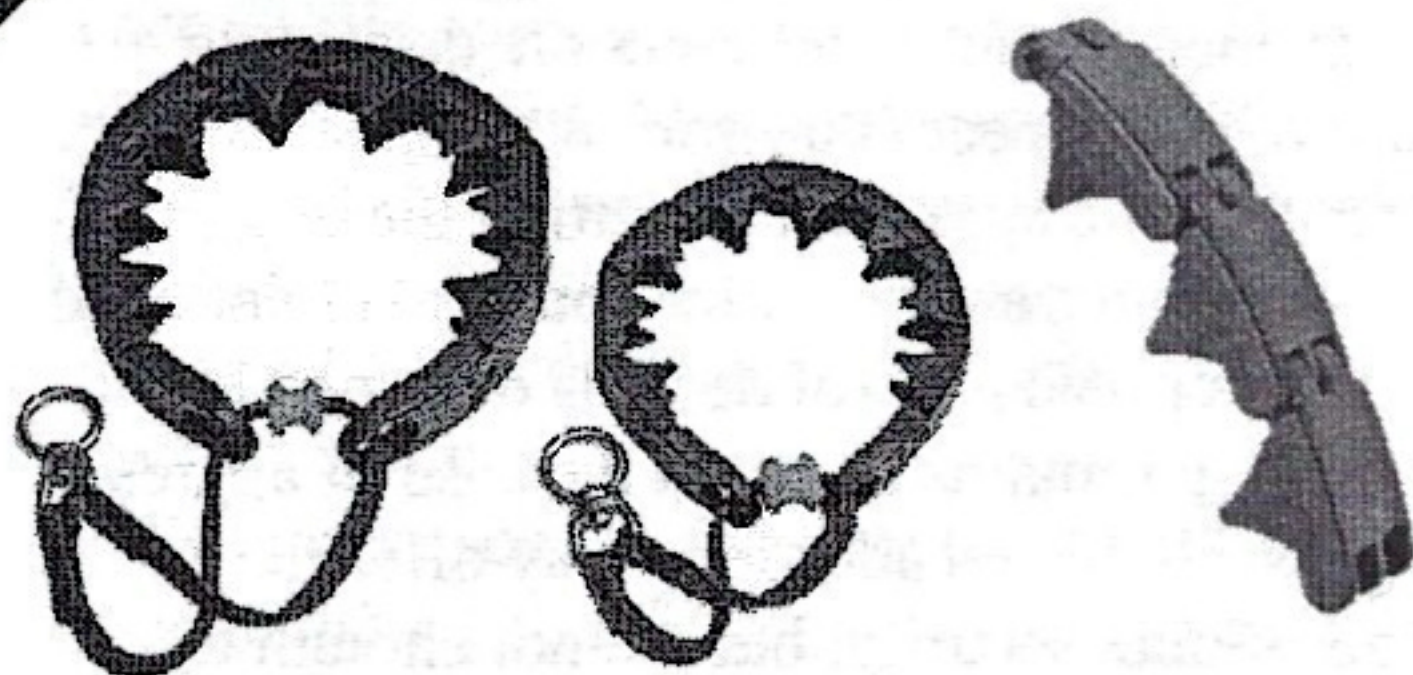
**KNOWING IS ONE THING  
PERFORMING IS ANOTHER**

**THE CERTIFICATION THAT SHOWS YOU HAVE THE PRACTICAL ABILITY AS WELL  
AS THE KNOWLEDGE AS A PROFESSIONAL**

**For Further Information contact Cyndy Douan, Director of Education & visit [www.dogpro.org](http://www.dogpro.org)**

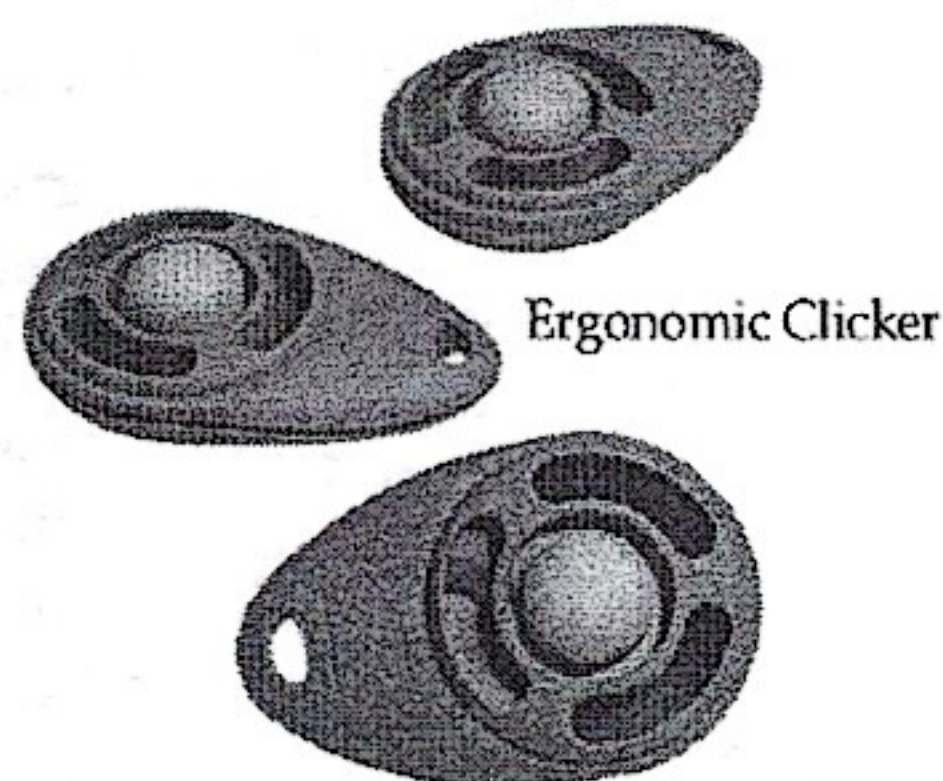
**NEW**

**Good Dog Collar™**  
Patent Pending



**Revolutionary High Strength Polymer Training Collar**

**For Dealer Opportunities Call 1-877-823-7847 x1119**

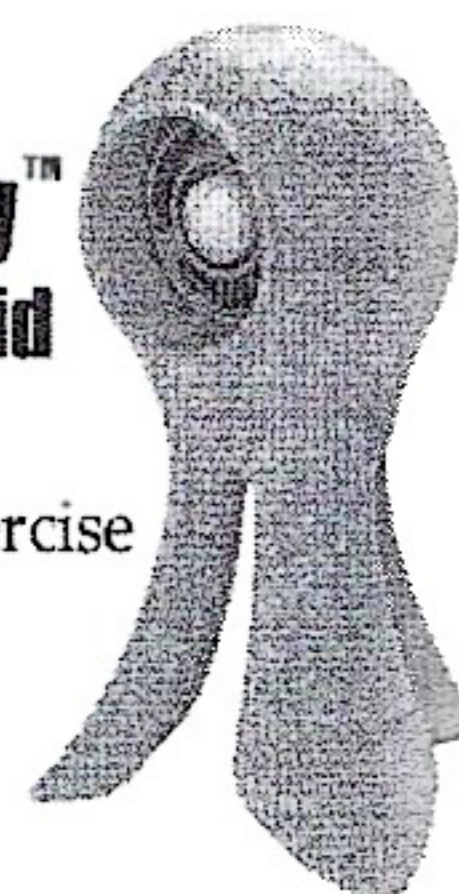


Ergonomic Clicker

**Quick Click™**

**Click & Play™**  
Patent Pending  
**Squid**

Combine  
Training with Exercise  
and Play



Available at Major Retailers



**TRIPLE CROWN™**  
WORLD LEADER IN PET EDUCATION

**FREE Instructional Videos, FREE Training Guides, FREE Solutions**

**[www.aboutdogtraining.com](http://www.aboutdogtraining.com)**





## COME WHEN CALLED

Vivian Bregman

One of the most important things for the dog to learn is to come when called at all times—the first time and every time. This is done by making a habit of obedience. The dog learns that he has no choice in the matter, that he must come every single time, and that it is always pleasant for him when he comes. In the beginning, “pleasant” is signified by a treat as well as praise.

Before anything else, the dog must learn what the word “Come” means. You want him to learn that hearing “Come” means wonderful things. When you first get the puppy is the time to start --- but it is never too late to start this exercise. Take a small piece of food, something that he likes, walk up to him and, pushing the food into his mouth, say “Come.” If you have a puppy under four months of age, use a small piece of his own food to keep from upsetting his stomach. Do this (walking up to the dog and pushing food into his mouth) about fifteen or twenty times a day. Also, say “COME” every single time you feed the dog. Do this for about a week. After a week or so walk up to the dog and put the food about ten inches in front of his face and say “Come.” He should move forward and take the treat. This is a sign that he understands what the word means. Gradually, over the next month, move further and further from him when you say “Come.” The first time he doesn’t come, move closer to him again. Make sure that you do this in the house, where he can’t possibly get away. Once he understands what the word “come” means, you can start convincing him that you mean always.

To start, you need a long-line -- a piece of rope about twenty feet long with a snap at one end. Attach the long line to the dog’s collar, using the dead ring or a non-choke collar in the beginning, and hold onto the other end. Let the dog wander around following his nose until he is interested in something. Then, in the following order:

1. Say “Fido, come” in a happy voice, while you show the dog the treat which you have in your hand.
2. If the dog moves towards you praise him as he comes in, praising the slightest movement towards you and giving him the treat when he gets to you.
3. If the dog makes no move towards you then pull sharply on the lead, praising as you do so. Remember to praise the dog for every little movement towards you. If you have a particularly stubborn dog you may have to jerk, praise, jerk, praise, all the way in. Once he reaches you, remember the treat, even if you have jerked him all the way in. No matter how he did it, you called, he came, reward him!

It is very important that the dog NEVER gets the opportunity to disobey. The dog must NEVER be called unless he is on a long-line so that he cannot escape. The younger the dog is when this is taught the better. If a dog never has the opportunity to get away when he is called he will

get the feeling that it is impossible to escape you. The more times that the dog is called and is forced to come, and is rewarded for coming, the more he will be convinced that it is in his best interest to do so.

This exercise should be done four times in a row, three times a day.

The first week, praise the dog every time it comes, and reward it every time. The second week, praise the dog every time but reward the dog with food every second time. The third week reward the dog every third time, and the fourth week, reward the dog every so often. The Random Reward method is the best way to teach the animal -- any animal. This method is also called “Intermittent Positive Reinforcement.” REMEMBER, the praise is always given, but the food treat is given randomly.

When two full weeks have gone by without having to jerk the rope, it is time to drop the end of it. Now you do exactly the same thing as before, except that the dog will see that you have no rope in your hands. Make sure that you are standing near the end of the rope when you call the dog. If the dog moves towards you and otherwise does a reasonable “come” you must praise and reward the dog. If the dog does not move put your foot on the end of the rope, then pick up the rope and pull the dog towards you, exactly the same way you did when you started.

When the dog has been responding correctly for one month while dragging the rope, it is time to start shortening the rope.

Using your own judgment, and remembering that it is always better to go too slowly than too quickly, start making the rope shorter. At this point it is no longer necessary to be near the end of the rope when you call the dog. The rope is there only for emergency use -- if he runs away you have only to get within ten or so feet of him, instead of having to get close enough to grab the collar.

At this point, which will take MONTHS (maybe more if you have started with an adult dog), you have to try to call the dog when he is loose. Try to find a large enclosed area and let him loose for about ten minutes. Call him. If he comes as he should, and he should, praise and reward him to excess. If he doesn’t come at once, try running away from him and calling him as you run. When he does come, remember the reward and the treat. AND don’t let him loose for another few months. REMEMBER, any time you have a problem, back up a few steps.

*Vivian Bregman is a Director and Co-Founder of the International Association of Canine Professionals.*



# The 2003 IACP Conference Through The Eyes Of A Dreamer

Margot Woods

I have a long-standing dream of a professional organization that would really showcase dog trainers and set a high level of standards. It has always seemed to me that a professional dog trainer should have a personal dog that could/would display the trainer's skill level and students with dogs that showcases teaching skills. With that thought in mind I joined a professional organization some years ago. Imagine my disappointment when upon attending a conference I discovered that the trainers in attendance did not, in fact, have well behaved dogs when out in public nor did any of their students. How could that be? I heard lots of excuses for why the dogs that were in the company of people calling themselves dog trainers were unruly, noisy and frequently outright disobedient. I heard a lot of excuses for why the students weren't even present. Not one of the excuses made a bit of sense to me. It wasn't long before I lost interest in the organization.

Time passed and another organization came on the scene. Trouble was, not only did they seem to be attracting what I had come to think of as the "not-a-trainer" but they appeared to be intent on a path that would further lower the standards not just of dog training, but of what a well behaved dog was or should be. So I continued to be a lone voice calling in the wilderness. I watched one privileged after another vanish as more and more "No Dogs Allowed" signs went up.

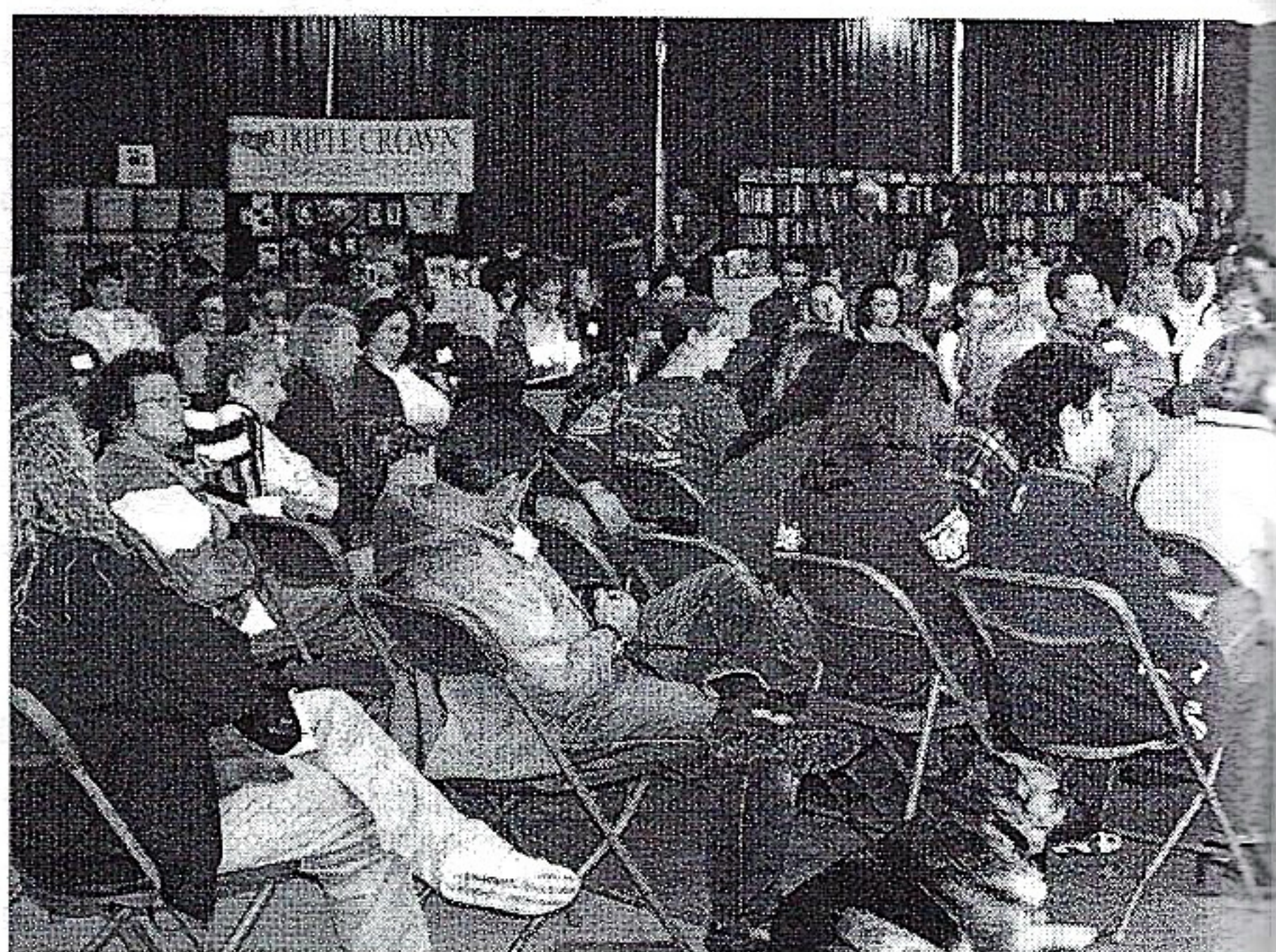
More time passed and yet another organization popped up. When I looked into it I was even more disappointed. The standards were continuing to drop. The general cry seemed to be, "make it easier, and make it less stressful." Here we are living in a world that becomes more difficult and more complex in its demands as the days go by and we have groups that want to lower the very standards that could make dealing with these complexities easier. Strange, so very strange and I knew this was not the organization for me.

Came the day when people on an email list I was on started talking about yet another new group. They called it the International Association of Canine Professionals. Mighty fancy name for this new group, I thought, but at least their goals sounded promising. I knew some of the people who were joining. Knew they were good trainers. Knew they were trainers that routinely turned out well-trained, obedient and polite dogs. These very same dogs were being handled and trained by owners who had high levels of training and behavior expectations. I joined.

Shortly after I joined an announcement was made that there would be a conference. I had stopped going to conferences. Never could find the time or the money and besides every single time I made the effort, I was disappointed in the outcome. However, when the location of

this conference was announced I sort of felt I really didn't have a choice in the matter. I was going to have to go because this conference was to be held in Hutto, Texas. Hutto is just a spit down the road from Austin and that meant I could combine business with personal. Go to the conference and visit family. So I got busy and put aside the money, scheduled the time and made the fifteen hundred mile plus journey.

The first year had lots of good points and a few not so good points from my way of looking at things. The excitement level was very high. The atmosphere was at the top of the scale when it came to friendly. The location was the very best. That first year there were 95 (+/-) humans and about 10 dogs in attendance. Sadly, I found myself the only one with a dog working off leash for the entire weekend. The absence of well-trained, well-behaved dogs was a major disappointment for me. After all, weren't these folks supposed to be professional dog trainers? If so, then why did they have to not only keep their personal dog on a



leash, but a tight leash at that? Most of them hadn't even brought a dog with them. What was going on? Had the level of training ability fallen so low that no one even remembered or knew how to achieve off leash reliability?

Never being one to be shy about voicing an opinion on what I considered to be an important topic, I didn't just speak up; I pretty much shouted my disappointment. In return I heard lots of excuses and not a single legitimate reason. I suspect I annoyed more than a few people. The conference ended. I continued to fuss every single chance I got. Some people might even go so far as to call it nagging.

A year passed and we returned to Hutto for the second conference. The attendance level had jumped to 140 hu-



mans and 15+ dogs. Seemed to me there should have been more dogs but at least it was an increase over the first year. Best of all, I was no longer alone. There were more dogs able to work off leash in a reliable fashion. Not many, mind you but even 3 or 4 is an improvement over 1. Things were definitely looking up. A pitch was made to the board to get IACP to sponsor a strong off leash program. While the reception of the proposal wasn't a resounding yes, at least they remained open to the idea.

Here I sit, on a plane headed home after the third IACP conference. This year the human attendance jumped to 180 and there were 39 dogs present. Of those dogs present there were at least 15 to 20 dogs working off leash for all or the greater part of the conference. We are succeeding in raising the bar. The off leash test program was presented to all the conference attendees that remained for the final speaker on the agenda. It seemed to me that the idea was well received.

Yes, there were lots of questions. It isn't going to be easy to take back all the ground that has been lost or given away over the past 30 years. An entire generation will have to learn about dogs, behavior, consideration and the difference between rights and privileges. For me the truly important thing is that the bar is being raised and the first big and very difficult step has been



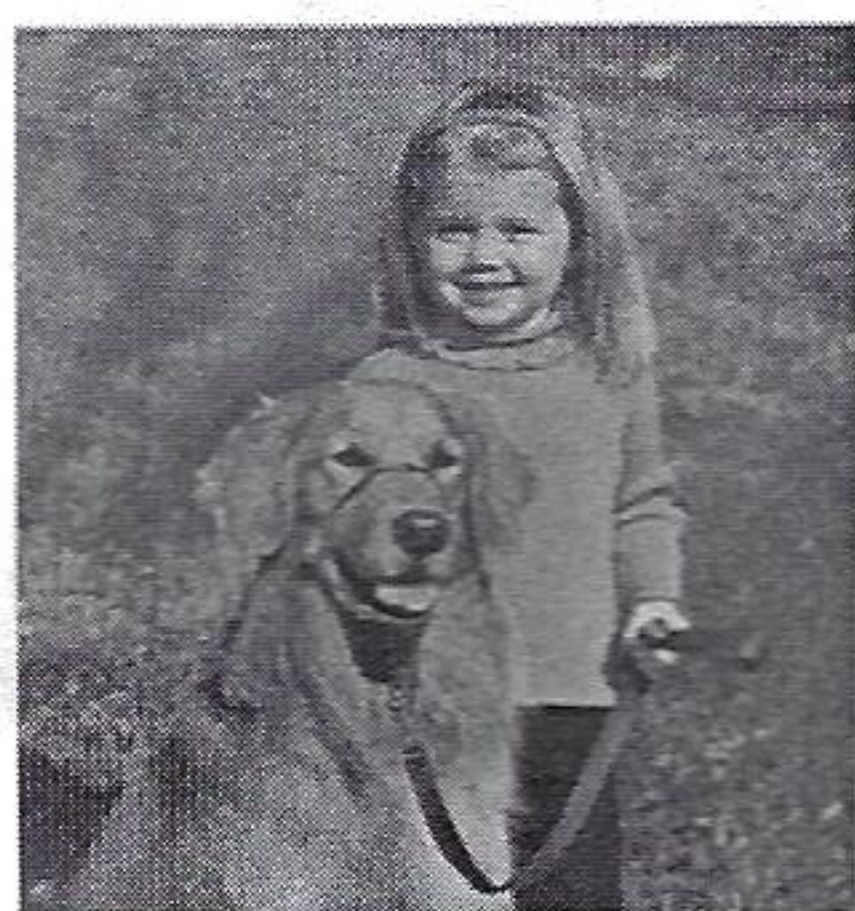
Margot with IACP Director George Cockrell enjoying every minute

taken. It was taken by IACP -- and because of that I know I am proud to be able to say I am a member.

*Margot Woods, Dog Trainer*  
IACP Professional Member #1043  
<http://margotwoods.Writing.Com/>

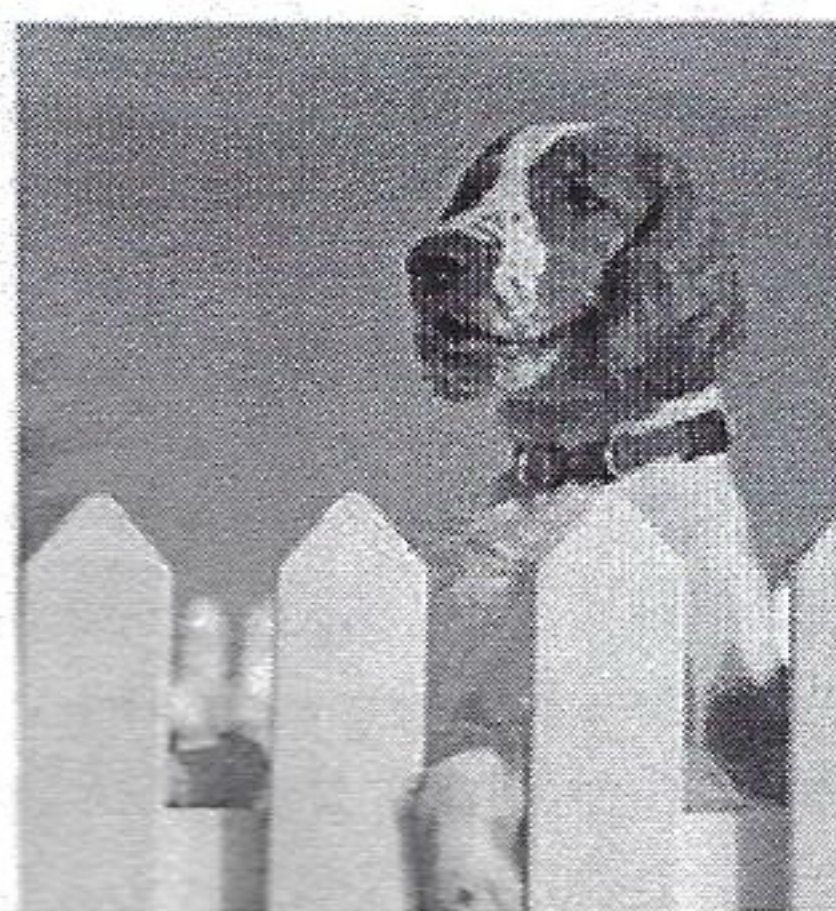
# PREMIER™

Your Pets, Our Passion™



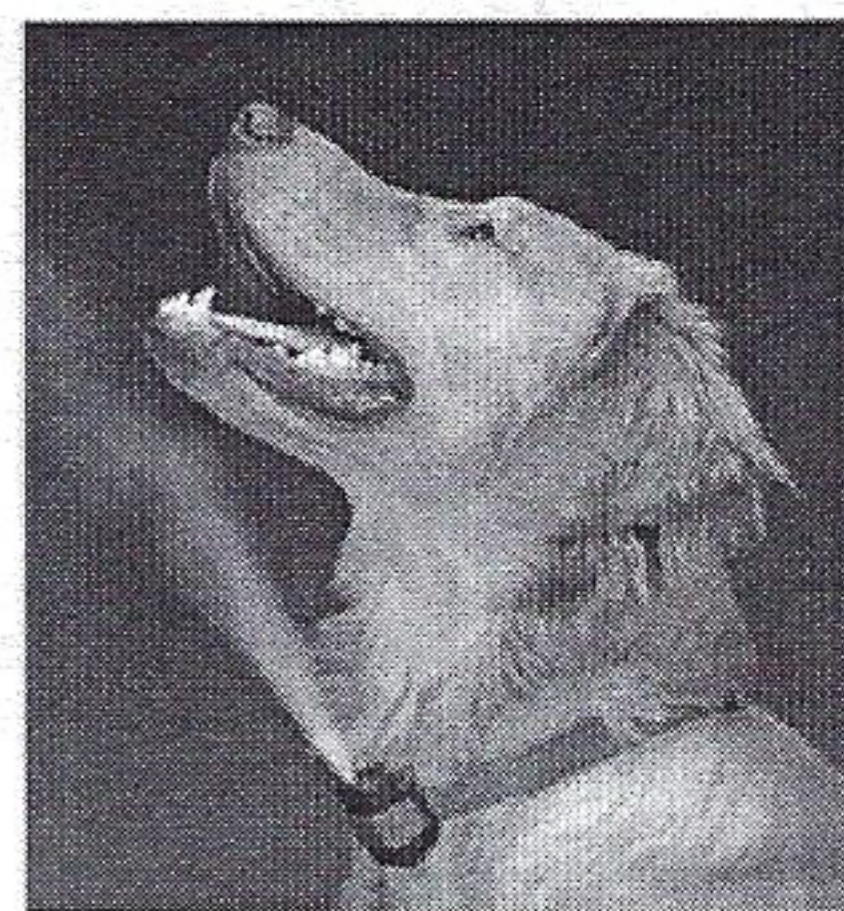
## Gentle Leader® Headcollar

Quickly controls  
jumping, pulling  
and lunging



## KeepSafe™ Break-Away Collar

Prevents  
collar strangulation  
accidents



## Gentle Spray™ Citronella Anti-Bark Collar

Twice as effective  
as shock collars



## Direct Stop® Animal Deterrent Spray

Humanely interrupts  
dog aggression

800.933.5595  
[premier.com](http://premier.com)



# DOES YOUR DOG KNOW THE WORD "SIT"

## *Training Tip from Shirley Machacek*

I teach competition obedience classes. New students coming into my class invariably feel their dogs have the simple prerequisites required for admission to my classes; i.e., a **WORD "sit"**, a **WORD "down"** and a **WORD "stand"**. When I question a potential class enrollee about their dog's ability to sit **IN place when asked and where asked** to do so, the response is always "Oh sure, my dog can do that".

Yet, when I take the dog's leash, move from the owner, have the owner turn slightly so they are not directly facing the dog, and tell the owner to give the command to "sit" in a **NORMAL tone of voice**, I seldom have seen a dog that can comply. Then I have the owner hold my dogs' leashes (and I have 3), walk away from me so that my back is to my dogs, and when I ask my dogs to sit, down or stand in place, they can and do so.....what this demonstrates then and there is simply that there is a significant difference between a "situational" sit and a true **WORD sit**.

How does one assist the dog in learning that "sit" has nothing to do with the handler's proximity and everything to do with the dog's rear? First, accept as fact that dogs do not learn words, they learn by situation and circumstance. They read us to figure out what we are asking. If "sit" is only asked when the dog is in front of or to the left of the owner, then "sit" will only mean 'Sit front or left' to our dogs. The first time we then ask the dog to "sit" at a distance in place with our backs to the dog, the dog cannot comply because the situation and circumstance of their comprehension for "sit" does not exist. It is like asking you to drive without a vehicle.

Generalization is the most difficult part of teaching for the trainer and the most complex part of learning for the dog. One of the exercises I use in my class to get the dog thinking and broaden his "sit horizon" is a "team sit". Two handlers exchange dogs.....working only one dog at a time, one owner will request "sit" and the other handler will assist the dog into the performance of the request. The owner will praise from a distance, then approach and reward the dog while it is still sitting. This single exercise gives a significant



amount of information to a dog. The dog learns to respond to the verbal prompt to "sit" in place and always on the first request regardless of the owner's location or proximity to the dog.

Try asking your dog to "sit" while you are seated, while your back is to the dog, while you prone on the ground. You may be surprised to see your *trained* dog has a very limited grasp of the **WORD "sit"**.

*Shirley Machacek is an IACP Member and has shown and titled Belgian Sheepdogs and Belgian Tervuren in conformation, herding and obedience for the past 18 yrs. Her dogs have earned multiple HITs, HCs and OTCH pts.....presently she is working dogs in tracking and agility. Shirley has taught competition obedience for 4 years at Rob CaryPet Resort in San Antonio, TX.*





# Put a new face on your old dog.

Web development with function and form.  
For samples, see [www.getsmartdesign.com](http://www.getsmartdesign.com)

GET SMART  DESIGN CO.

## New IACP Campaign Earns Honors

The International Association of Canine Professionals' recently completed Membership Brochure and Web Site designed by Get Smart Design received a First Place in a local American Advertising Awards competition. The American Advertising Awards is a three-tiered competition where winning entries advance through local, district and national competitions. The IACP campaign was entered in Dubuque, Iowa by Get Smart Design Co., a proud sponsor and platinum corporate member of our organization., and went on to win an 'Addy'.

IACP President Martin Deeley told SafeHands "We

are delighted with the work the team at Get Smart have done for the Association which includes conference promotion and fliers. Our enquiries from and visits to the web site have increased substantially and the support his staff give us for the web site is tremendous"

Get Smart have developed a professionals easily recognized image for the IACP and have followed this through with artwork for The SafeHands Journal and new IACP education/fliers which will soon become available to members.



## Dog Trainer Insurance

Offered by: **Business Insurers of the Carolinas**

### Here's Great News!

*IACP has partnered with Business Insurers of the Carolinas to offer a group liability protection policy to IACP members. In addition to the advantage of affordable group rates, this policy includes a special care, custody, and control endorsement which provides you up to \$10,000 coverage per occurrence for the property and pets in your care. This policy also includes a \$1,000,000 per occurrence liability limit. It covers you, the professional dog trainer, when your negligence causes bodily injury to a third party.*

*We are proud to introduce our new Professional Liability Policy, which provides coverage on a claims-made basis with limit options of \$250,000, \$500,000, or \$1,000,000. This coverage is designed to protect you, the professional dog trainer, against alleged negligence in performing or failing to perform the applicable training you agree to with your client. It provides defense costs for allegations of intentional, dishonest, and fraudulent acts, as well as you gaining personal profit not legally entitled to, unless proven by judgement.*

**Call today for more information!**  
1-800-968-4611 ext 224 or 220  
<http://www.dogtrainerins.com>



# Therapy For Dogs—Perspective On A Session

## Part One: Foundation

by Maryna Ozuna

Bodywork, touch therapies and manipulation, though increasingly accepted in the horse world, are still in their infancy among dog people. At best, hands-on bodywork contributes to canine development and training. At worst, it causes distrust, resistance and discomfort. The governing difference between best and worst? Knowledge, skill and clarity. Many factors and pieces of information must be in place 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 Shitzu. It is not the technique that varies so much, it's how it's applied, the nature of the dialogue between you and the dog, and the kind and quality of feedback you receive. Same basic language, different dialects. While this may seem a truism, it is perhaps one of the largest causes of lack of success for a bodywork practitioner. 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 present themselves as willing to work in collaboration with owner, breeder, trainer, etc., to apply their skills on this type of animal. There are more similarities than differences, but since we are working with areas of discomfort or pain, we need to 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, paying attention to the details and feedback enables a more intimate dialogue between practitioner and dog. A good therapist does not assume that all her skills will apply equally to every dog. She pays attention and asks questions.

An odd facet of doing animal therapy is that while your ultimate client is four legged, your relationship with your client is based partly upon your relationship with the two-legged animal. At minimum, this creates a triangle. And there may be others to consider: Husband and wife; parent and child; owner and trainer; or owner, trainer, veterinarian. A therapist must manage the needs of the humans with the needs of the dog. Further, you may have a very quick dog and a very methodical owner, or vice versa. You need to 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 concentrating on the movement factors for what may be holding patterns in the body.

As I begin my observations, I am beginning to formulate my objective. Where am I going with this animal and why? What does the human want versus what I think might be possible? I may see far more possibilities for integrated physical and emotional well-being than do the animal's people. Sometimes it falls to me to say that I think that certain objectives are unreasonable given the animal's condition. Other times it becomes a mutual exploration of possible objectives, which is by far the most rewarding. But it all depends on what we are doing.

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 their old-timer more comfortable? Am I exploring a newly rescued dog? Where am I going and why?

As part of formulating objectives, and as a continuing part of evaluating the relationship factor, I 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 these 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 contra-lateral 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 adequate exploration and therapy, but they provide powerful additional information to enable a practitioner to fine tune his hands for maximum effect.

An additional integral component of context is time. What are the time urgencies of 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 legged or four, a month out from competition is very different from what I do closer in, 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 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, 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's not? 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 above tidbits of information, I never approach a dog with a fixed idea of what I am going to find. Nor do I approach a dog 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 might 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, without making any particular eye contact, 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, e.g. releasing a frozen shoulder, but if I just plow on through that shoulder without eliciting the dog's cooperation and participation in my project, I am not only going to get far less full release of the structural components, 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 based in a dialogue.

Next in the series : Of Tubes and Texture

*Maryna Ozuna, lives in Arizona and is founder of the Kinaesthetics system of therapy. She 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 will be presenting a workshop of her techniques at the IACP 2004 Conference.*



# BECAUSE THEY CAN

Martin Deeley

I sat outside my hotel at the roadside table enjoying the early warmth of Swiss sunshine as it percolated into my jet lagged body. Warm fresh clear air that still had a cool touch from the snow clad mountains that I could see rising in the distance. Uster is a large and busy town 12 miles from Zurich; it merges with Greifensee making it a large conurbation on the shores of Lake Greifensee. This was my fifth visit to Switzerland to run hunting dog workshops. This was to be my third year in a row both for Switzerland and Austria, where I was to travel afterwards to run two four day workshops in the beautiful mountain village of Maria Schmoll. Every year the clubs ask for more and as I sat there enjoying good coffee and the friendship of the Swiss people I was pleased that they did.

As I sipped my coffee, busy early morning traffic took people to their offices and shops, and schoolchildren cycled to their lessons. This was a busy intersection of one main road with three other feeder roads coming into it. Semi's were distributing to the supermarkets and large vans delivering small drop offs to the smaller stores. It was then I saw him. He looked to be a cross between a Labrador and a Schnauzer. He came confidently from behind some buildings along the sidewalk. Off leash, it appeared we had a stray dog in the center of a very busy town. Where three of the roads converged he stopped and waited. Watching the traffic as I had been, just part of the days regular scene. A man appeared from the same direction two seconds later and stood alongside him. Was he with the dog? I really could not tell. There was no glance of recognition, no looking for a command. The main road was constant traffic. Two cars waited at the feeder roads. A gap in the traffic had them pulling out and into the main flow. Again there was no glance, no words as the man began to cross the road, this time with the dog at his side. Were they together? I really could not tell. They appeared to be but there was no positive signal that confirmed this. The dog went about a yard ahead. Nonchalantly watching everything and stepping almost casually to one side as a cyclist rode along the sidewalk. The man turned towards the edge of the sidewalk to cross the main road and the dog again noticing this immediately, came alongside. They must be together. A gap in the traffic and both set off across the road. A bicycle came out of the road opposite and turned in their direction. The man and dog stopped in the middle of the road and the cyclist went past as did a car that had come down the main road behind them. Neither man nor dog seemed to notice. This was normal. Road clear they both completed the crossing and the man went to a small grocery store. As he did, again with no noticeable signal, the dog sat down by the door of the store and then lay down watching the traffic and other customers as they entered the store.

Now I knew they were together, they had to be. But how had he trained this dog? How was the dog so reliable, so confident, and so unaffected by everything that was happening? Five minutes later the man reappeared from the store paper bag in hand and immediately made for the main road again. A quick look to see where there was a gap - this time a very small gap, and both dog and owner crossed to continue their morning shopping expedition. Two greyhounds, this time on leash, appeared and were walking towards him. Now this would be interesting. It was a non-event. The slightest glance said "Good Morning" and not one of the dogs hesitated. There was no faltering in their stride or loss of purpose. Throughout all this 'action' there was the occasional cursory sniff at a post or wall from the dog as he disappeared into the distance towards the main shopping precinct but I never saw him cock his leg once.

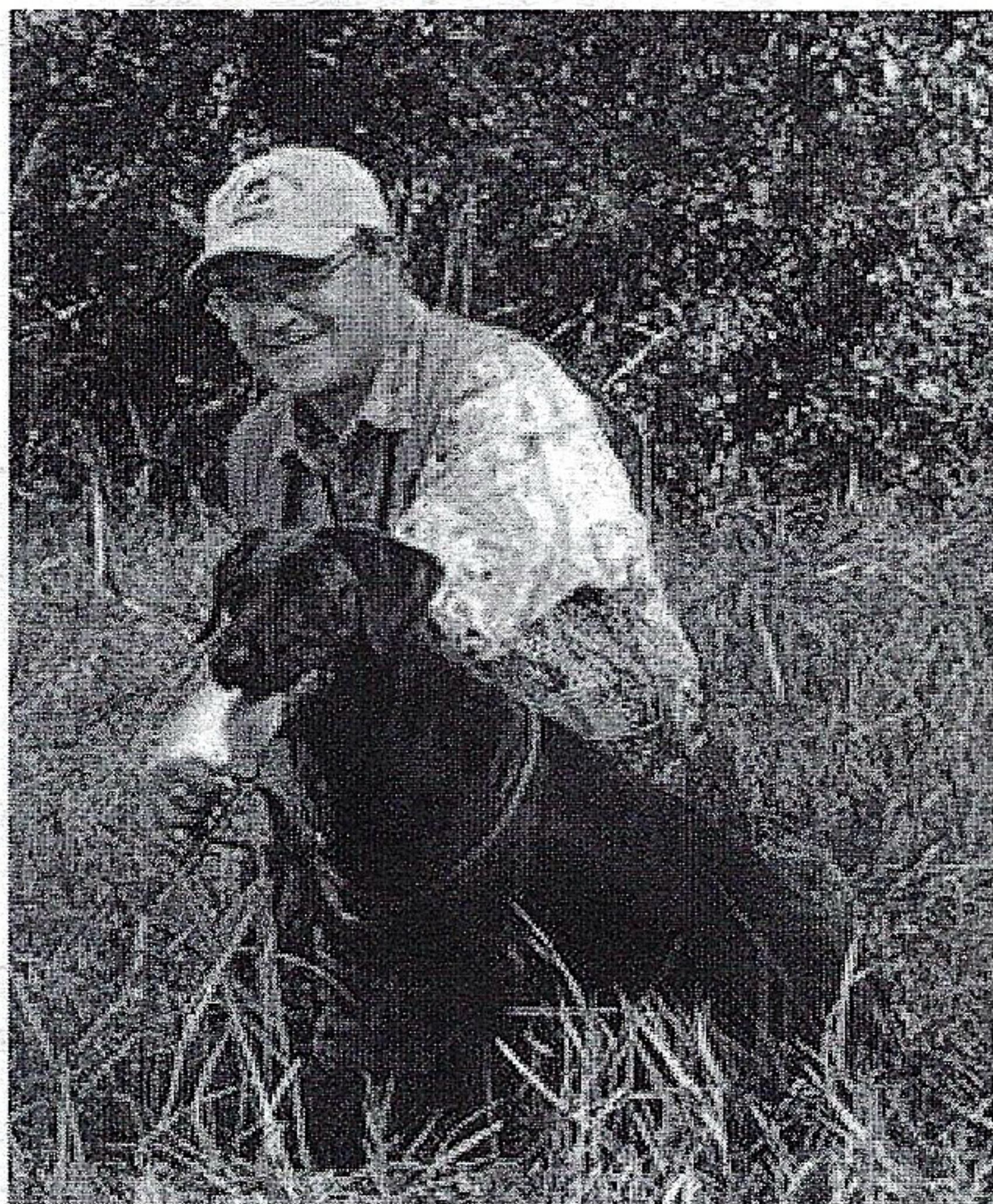
I was still sat at the table twenty minutes later when I saw the dog and his owner returning this time with more bags. Their attitude towards each other was exactly the same. They were doing their customary early morning shop. As they walked past the tables a rough haired Jack Russell under one of them barked. The black dog glanced over at the noise and gave a look that said "Terriers!" And continued unmoved always staying within two yards of his owner.

Throughout all of this the owner never ever gave the appearance of thinking that his dog would do anything other than what he did. There was total confidence that was reflected in the attitude of his dog. There would be no problems because there could be no problems.

Later that day I went down to the lake where my host and friend, Steve, has a very nice outdoor training school to watch him work with his students. The school is sandwiched between a road to the lake and a path leading from a car park to the lake. This beauty spot is a favorite place for fishing, sun bathing, walking, roller blading, cycling, skate boarding and most definitely dog walking. Its position is perfect for promoting the school and draws spectators to watch as Steve goes about his business of teaching dogs and owners. Young men and women floated down the roads and paths on their roller blades at speeds that to me were not very safe. Together with the bicycles they weaved in among the people walking down to the lake and cars came briskly into the car park unloading owners with many different interests all centered around the paths and shoreline that circled the lake. It was not this hive of activity however that had me fascinated. Remember I am a dog man. I would guess that between twenty five to thirty percent of the people enjoying this facility had dogs. Some ran alongside the bicycles, some jogged, others

Continued on page 17





Martin with Hunting Retriever Champion Green Mountains O'Mi Darlene

ran with their roller blading masters - all off leash. The rest walked leisurely along with owners more intent on talking to each other and getting to the lake than on controlling their dogs. But why should they be intent on controlling them. They were not out of control!

A few dogs were on leash, each leash having the familiar 'poop' bag knotted around it. They were puppies or appeared to be young dogs. Older dogs ran free aware of the 'traffic' and where their owners were all the time. Occasionally a dog would greet another for just a passing moment and then continue on his way. One dog could not contain the call of nature and just had to have a poop in the grass on the edge of the farmer's field. Immediately a bag came out of the owner's pocket and it was collected to be deposited in the many poop receptacles regularly spaced along the road and the edge of the lake. This had to be dog heaven and owner's heaven as well. They surely did not realize how lucky they were.

Steve ran his class of eight young dogs as this activity buzzed either side of him. And then I realized why this perfect dog world was such. It was expected. It was familiar. It happened from the moment they left the litter and came into the world of humans. In the class, dogs sat, recalled and downed next to each other oblivious of the activity that should have been so distracting. It was not distracting because it was always there - no big deal.

A dog is part of the family and in Switzerland and Austria they are involved in all the family activities. They are allowed off leash in parks, they are allowed in restaurants, and they are accepted wherever there are people. Of

course there are rules and laws. One of the main ones being that you pick up your dog's poop. Either in the road or in a field. In fact especially in a farmer's field. A dog that poops in a farmer's field and is not picked can result in a very irate farmer telling an owner exactly how he feels. Grass is money in Switzerland and Austria and is definitely not to be contaminated with dog poop.

That evening I sat at dinner with Steve and his wife at the roadside restaurant where I had watched the black dog in the morning. Two dogs a golden retriever and a mutt lay under separate tables. Both slept soundly as their owners enjoyed their meal. I asked Steve how they trained their dogs to be such good citizens and be so openly accepted in public places. His facial expression reflected his thought, which was one of bewilderment, and as though I had asked a stupid question. His answer was "Responsibility. We are responsible for everything we do, ourselves and our dogs." He added, "We are responsible for everything around us and if we do not show responsibility others will restrict us. We don't want that so we are brought up to be responsible. Both dogs and owners."

That word 'responsibility' is a word my father used regularly and insisted I observed. I knew the word well. For the dog owners of Uster, responsibility is not just a word but also a habit and a way of life. There is a sharing, and a partnership within the family that is admirable. But it is more than that. This behavior from both the dog and owner leads to a bond that brings about respect and breeds a deeper love and need for each other than we realize. Too often we feel that by loving and showing love to a dog, love, respect, loyalty and responsibility will be given in return. Love is never missing but in emphasizing, respect, responsibilities and loyalty by creating the correct behavior from the very beginning, the Swiss people I have met and watched build the 'love' for and from their dog. What is interesting is that they do not realize they are doing it. It is an accepted and normal way of life. Responsible attitudes have avoided restrictions in public places; responsible attitudes have ensured their dogs are accepted by non-dog people in public places.

I sat at the table and smiled at Steve and realized why dog owners take their dogs everywhere with them. By accepting responsibility for their dogs - they can.

***Martin is a co-founder and President of the IACP. He presents Hunting Dog Workshops in Austria, Switzerland, Holland, Britain and America. He has been training dogs for 30 years and writes for leading magazines in Britain and America. More information on Martin can be found at [www.martindeeley.com](http://www.martindeeley.com)***



# AN INTERVIEW WITH OUR FIRST PRESIDENT ROCKY BOATMAN

by Jeanneane Kutsukos

***Q. How did you get interested in dog training?***

A. I am from a very small town in Mississippi and growing up had a love for dogs. One day, my father noticed a young man downtown who had extremely long hair. Now, this is unique for the late sixties in this town since most folks were country farmers. My father felt that I was at an age where I needed guidance and needed to avoid situations that would influence me as an adult. He felt that if he kept me busy during the weekends, I would not have an opportunity to be around people who may influence me the wrong way.

My father was a hobby bird dog trainer, meaning he would train his own dogs and those of friends for no charge. He had me working with his and other dogs during the weekends on the obedience side as well as beginning bird dog training. I would work with him every chance I had and learned quite a bit from him. He never imagined where this weekend prevention would lead.

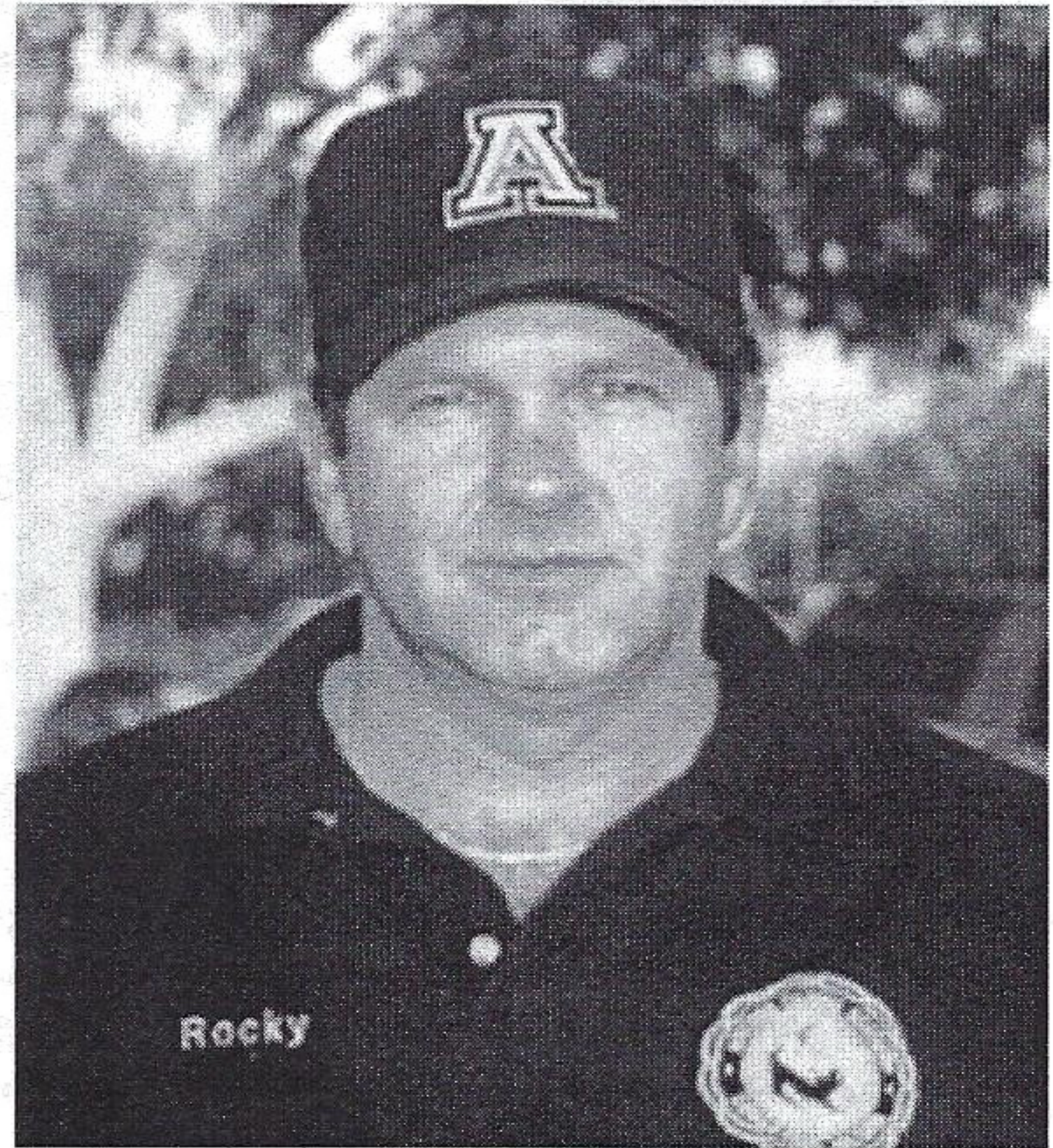
When I turned 18, I joined the military to escape from this small town. As I traveled around the country, I continued to work with dogs on both obedience and hunting. Eventually, it became my goal to operate a business upon retirement; however, the demand for training increased and I did most of the training as a side to my military career.

***Q. Being the owner of Arizona Canine Academy must have a lot of challenges. What was your biggest one in starting the school?***

A. I guess the biggest challenge was writing the program. I discussed the school with many friends in the profession and together we developed the phases we felt were the most important as a trainer. I wanted a program that would truly prepare a student to be a good trainer and instructor, yet provide flexibility in order to adapt the program to new learning experiences and ideas as they were developed.

***Q. What do you look for in a future student?***

A. Dedication to the profession. This to me is the most important factor a student must have. They must have the motivation and desire to learn the profession, but must be ready to join the profession as a professional and represent the profession to the best of their ability. Dog trainers in the past have been viewed as hobbyists or those people who are smelly, dirty, and not very sociable. The profession has come a long way, however, public opinion of our profession has not moved as fast. This is why graduates need to be professionals right out of school.



***Q. Do you have one individual student that stands out in your memory? If so, can you explain why?***

A. To me, each and every student who has attended Arizona Canine Academy is special. Many stick out in my mind so it would be impossible to list just one. The majority of students who attend graduate and those who go on and work in the profession make me feel the most proud. I know a number of graduates have joined and been involved with IACP and that makes me very proud as well. Just being able to help someone fulfill a life long dream of working with dogs is a great reward that keeps giving back to me on a regular basis.

***Q. What do you consider the ideal class size and why?***

A. I feel the maximum number of students for me is eight. This way, I can spend more time helping each person develop as a trainer and overcome problems they may be having in different areas of the program. Ideally, one on one is the ideal class size, but financially that is impossible for our school. I feel the larger classes cannot provide the necessary help one may need in such a short time. I get to know each of my students and become friends with them by the time they graduate. Bonding between classmates is also important and many become great friends long after graduation. We even set up an email discussion list so our graduates can continue to keep in touch as well as meet



others who have graduated over the Internet.

**Q. What do you like best about teaching the students?**

A. Opening their minds to our profession. Many students had no idea about our profession prior to attending. Once we get into the program, they quickly learn that our profession is much more than dog training. I gain a tremendous satisfaction watching them put into practice what was taught as well as opening their minds to many wonderful experiences. I love it when students generate group discussions through questions. I guess it is the satisfaction that I have molded minds, both young and old, into caring professionals who love our canine friends.

**Q. What do you like least?**

A. The end. I wish all students could experience each and every new experience I have with clients and their dogs. I have so many things I would love to share with our students yet time prevents this continuous education. Saying goodbye at graduation is always hard for me. It is like saying goodbye to a good friend who you may never see again. I really do not have any bad experiences in teaching and do not like anything in particular the least. Teaching to me is the one thing I really enjoy the most in the profession.

**Q. What is your most memorable moment in training dogs yourself?**

A. There are many but the ones that stick out the most are the ones where the owners tell me that I have saved their dogs lives. When students truly appreciate what you have provided for them and they tell you this, you cannot help but feel proud of yourself and the profession.

**Q. What breeds do you like training the most?**

A. The Canine Breed. I love all breeds and each dog individually. I learn from each and accept them for who they are. I love challenges so if a particular dog provides a challenge, then I learn a great deal from the successes and failures from this dog.

**Q. Which do you consider the hardest breed to train?**

A. The Human Breed. I had to say this since I have not found many "breeds" hard to train. By understanding various methods of training and truly understanding the behavior of dogs, all dogs can be trained no matter what the breed. I do get an Airdale every now and then that provides a challenge, but we usually have good success once we discover what this particular dog wants from us.

**Q. What advice can you give to new trainers starting out?**

A. Learn with an open mind. Try new things and learn to ask why. Without why, new trainers will never truly learn. By understanding why things are done and why dogs do what they do, new trainers can gain an insight to

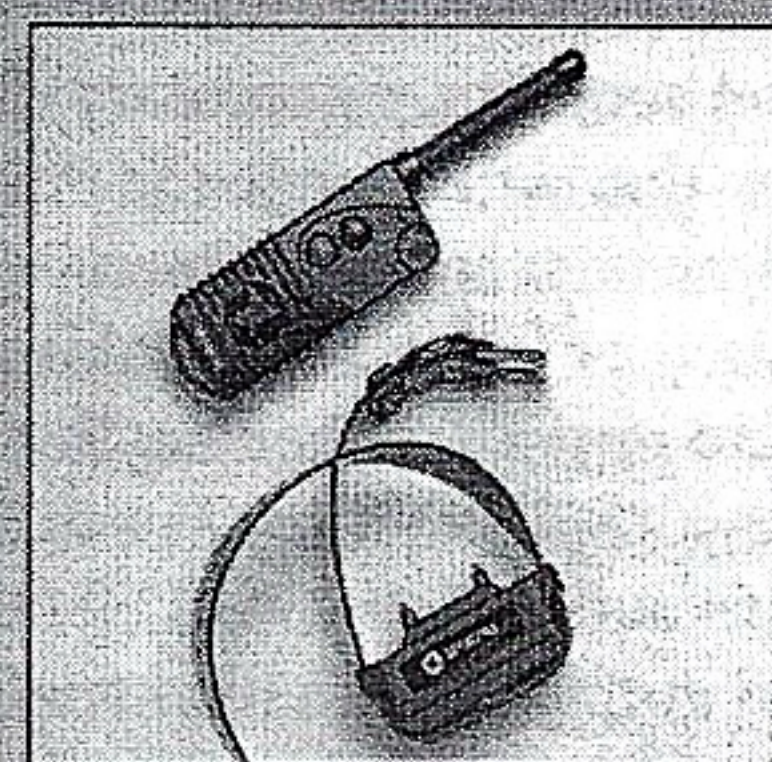
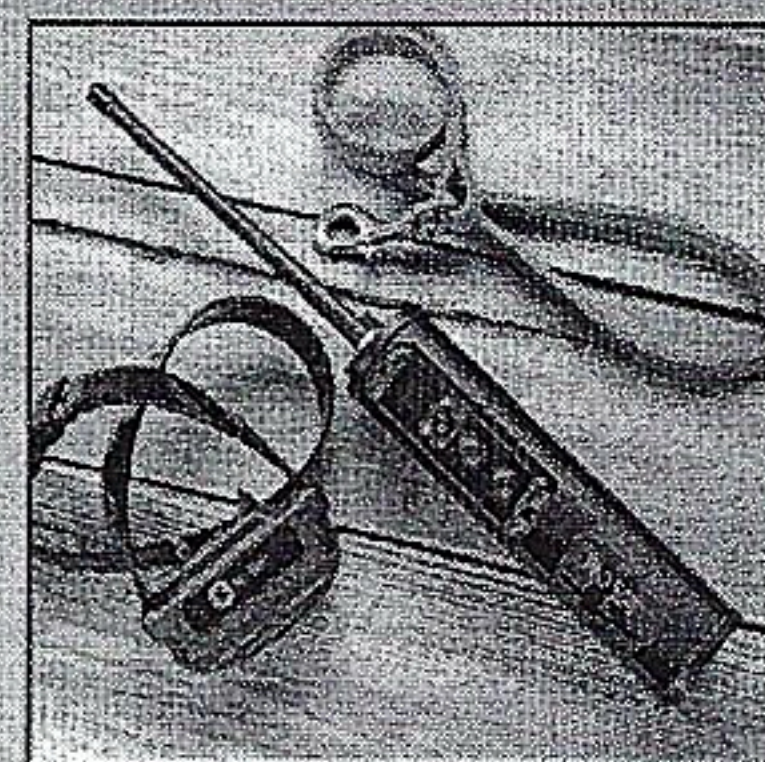
the world of dogs that will truly help the trainer grow. Do not get bogged down by this side or that side of the profession. Stay focused on your own goals and look for successes rather than failures. We create our own goals and paths and can adapt as we go. Learn to represent the profession in a professional manner and be proud of who you are.

**Q. If you have a son or daughter, and if they were so inclined, would you like them to be dog trainers?**

**Please explain.**

A. This is totally up to my daughter. She will make her decisions in life without my influence. I totally support my oldest daughter and the career she has chosen and will support my younger daughter on her choices in life. If she chooses to become a trainer then I will do all in my power to teach her and help her choose her own path.

## THE PRO 500<sup>XL</sup> & SPORT<sup>®</sup> 50



### Two great reasons to choose Tri-Tronics.

The Pro 500<sup>XL</sup> is Tri-Tronics top-of-the-line. It's versatile. It's rugged. It will stand up to the wear and tear that a serious trainer can put on a collar. Your choice of short or long contact points. 36 levels of stimulation – 18 each of momentary and continuous. Also available in a 2-dog system.

The Sport<sup>®</sup> 50 has all the reliability of a Pro 500<sup>XL</sup> but with a smaller transmitter. And it's more affordable. Both momentary and continuous stimulation are included.

2-and 3-dog systems are available in the Multi•Sport<sup>®</sup> 2 and the Multi•Sport<sup>®</sup> 3. Lanyards are included with Sport Series units.

Holsters can be purchased for both the Sport Series and Pro Series units.



To find out more about Tri-Tronics e-collars, call the dealer nearest you or 1-800-456-4343. Visit us at [tritrronics.com](http://tritrronics.com)

**SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE  
ON T-T PRODUCTS TO IACP MEMBERS  
THRU**

**INTERNATIONAL GUNDOG WORKSHOPS**

America  
Great Britain  
Holland  
Austria  
Switzerland



407 469 5583  
[www.martindeeley.com](http://www.martindeeley.com)



# CONSEQUENCE vs. CORRECTION

Aimee Sadler

My goal (and my job) at the Southampton Animal Shelter has evolved. It began, four years ago, as a job where I utilized my skills as a handler and trainer to better the daily lives of the shelter dogs through companionship, mental stimulation, exercise and socialization. My job has now become to train them (and to train others to train them) so that they are more adoptable. I am dedicated to my work with these dogs and want to accomplish these goals on their behalf.

With this said, I would like to describe part of my training technique/philosophy. Although I prefer to focus on methods of positive reinforcement, I find that there is a viable place in training for consequence and correction. Basically I differentiate the two by how they can affect one's relationship with the dog being worked. Generally speaking, when I am handling and training any animal I am looking for a supremely positive relationship to be created (especially in the animal's opinion!!!). There are times when I feel that it is appropriate (and sometimes necessary) to affect that relationship in a way that will change the dogs' way of relating to me...to respect me and have more regard for me and what I am asking of them. I am looking for that dog to consider me more important than anything that might have been a previous distraction. For example, very commonly the dogs at the shelter will "fence fight" as they are coming and going through the kennel. My method of choice, in this case, is to ask for an alternative and incompatible behavior - looking at me. If I can get eye contact I will positively reinforce it (with treats, toys, praise - whatever they find valuable!) all the way down the kennel in hopes that they will consider looking at me more eventful than worrying about the other dogs. Many times this is an effective technique. No matter how aggressive the dog is behaving, I find that their aggression is usually based in fear and anxiety and they are simply trying to communicate to the other dogs to leave them alone. Sometimes, though...this is not the case. Aggression can be a very self rewarding behavior. Even if it WAS based in fear initially, by continuing to rehearse this behavior, it can end up holding intrinsic value for the dog. When I find that I cannot get their attention positively, and I can see that their behavior has escalated, I will opt to correct. If I do correct it will be quick and effective. I will know that this has been accomplished when I get the eye contact I have been looking for and at THAT time, I can begin the process of maintaining that eye contact through positive reinforcement. By applying this correction (a strong leash correction with a verbal negative marker, such as eh-eh, would be one example), I am hoping to obtain a level of regard to my presence that was not previously there. My goal in utilizing correction in this case, is to establish a relationship of re-

spect and leadership so that I may teach behaviors that are acceptable and less stressful and dangerous for all involved.

Consequently, there are many occasions when teaching an alternative behavior where I find it ineffective for the dog to associate that correction with me. The reason being, that I want them to think that THEIR actions create a situation that they don't prefer and that I offer a situation and/or option that they DO prefer. For example, one of our greatest challenges is getting the shelter dogs to walk nicely on leash...for everybody...not just us! I want this to be accomplished as pleasantly as possible. I want those dogs to associate only positive things with their walks but I do NOT want them dragging volunteers or prospective adopters down the street! One option is the classic leash correction. A very effective technique. Many dogs have learned (and still are learning) quite well with this technique. I am not willing to dismiss years and years of successful training, BUT, we are talking about shelter dogs here...ones who are deprived of the basic creature comforts of the average domestic dog. I am hard pressed to take these guys out of their runs and start the classic heel work with the use of slip-collars, etc., to get results. Instead, I prefer to use what I call a "drop-and-go" method that falls more in my category of consequence vs. correction.

I don't want the dogs to feel like going on a walk is a drag or scary because they are going to experience consistent corrections when they fall out of position...a position that they don't understand or find particularly rewarding. Instead I choose to have them learn that when they feel steady tension on the leash (which they have created) that what will follow is a release of the pressure and then...my back abruptly heading in the opposite direction! Do they get a correction when the slack is taken up and they hit the end of that leash? - you betcha! Do they think that I did it or do they think that THEY did it by not paying attention to where I was going? I can't say that I KNOW what they are thinking, but I have observed what appears to be an understanding that it is they who have created the situation. They quickly figure out that it is in their best interest to pay attention to the person at the end of the leash and to make it back to their side to receive all the treats and rewards that appear from that location. I want them to understand that they can do this while they sniff the ground and do their business...that it doesn't have to be heel or drag! I do not want their relationship with any person on the other end of the leash to be adversely affected, hence my concept of consequence vs. correction.

*Aimee Sadler is an IACP Professional Member and has had 16 years of hands-on work with dogs and animals of many species including exotics and marine mammals. Aimee lives in New York*



# IMPROVING PERFORMANCE

Captain A. J. Haggerty

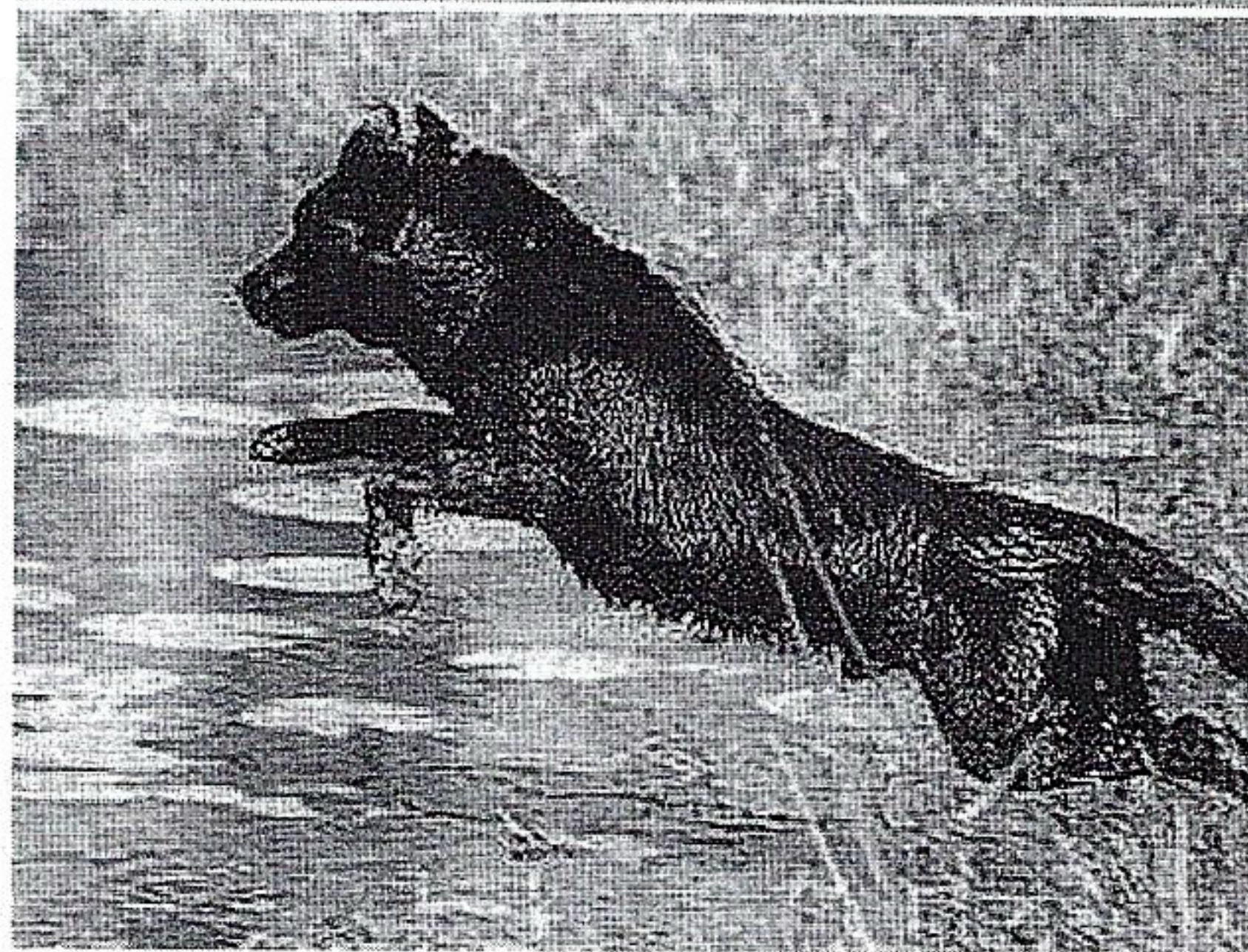
Who was it that said, "Everybody talks about the weather but never does anything about it"? Well, everybody talks about movement but never does anything about it. A lot can be done for movement as well as other areas of performance exercises. Dogs are athletes and we want to make them better athletes. Human Olympic level athletes will break an exercise down to its smallest level. Hey, wait a second! That is a dog-training technique! No, not really it is a *training* technique. Humans spend time analyzing each phase of the exercise. The runner along with his coach and video-aide, analyze the most efficient way to get off his starting block. Do Greyhound owners analyze the way the dog exits the starting box? Probably not! It is always easier for humans to break things down and mentally adjust their performance. The dog trainer does not have that luxury. It takes far greater creativity on the part of the trainer to analyze the miniscule differences and convey to the dog a better way of performing. Trainers have to keep thinking!

Drive, heart, guts are elusive concepts that are needed by the canine and human top winners. Human coaches have been struggling how to develop that will to win for generations. With dogs we seldom give it thought. We would rather pick the dog that already has the heart. Don't raise the bridge, lower the river. There are two reasons for this:

- 1) The smaller time frame that we have for the competitive dog
- 2) And more importantly, dog owners generally go with the hand we are dealt. We go with the dog we have rather than finding the ideal dog.

Four plus years is a long period of competition. There are many reasons for this short time frame. Dogs are "over the hill" competition-wise at 7 ½ to 8 ½ years of age. Before even starting to compete the dog must take a couple of years to mature and be recognized for his potential. This is followed by at least six months to a year of weighing the dog's possibilities and developing a plan. Another six months might be spent getting the dog's performance at a peak level. At this point a specialist, if one can be found, *may* be called in to fine-tune the dog. A more likely situation would be that the dog starts off on a stunning campaign and a minor flaw is later noted. What kind of flaw? That depends on the area of competition. They can run the gamut from field trials to field games. From running to trotting to swimming to soaring.

Finding that specialist can be difficult, depending on what you want to improve upon. There is no problem finding trainers that specialize in improving obedience competition. They will push the owner and dog towards that 200 score or OT Ch. Agility is developing a cadre of trainers that not only teach but also fine-tune the hard charging competitor.



Most of these trainers do not spend their full time doing this remedial work. They are generally full-time trainers that have developed a fondness for that particular phase of the sport or perhaps a part time participant in the sport that like Topsey "just grew" into it. We are starting to see more and more trainers specializing in this sport. Angelica Steinker, Florida-based dog trainer, hopes to change from an obedience/problem solving business to full-time agility training. She's approaching agility from the point of view of developing peak performance zone

How do you develop that obsession or the dog's will to win. Putting the young dog in a competitive environment can develop heart. The competitive environment depends on the work the dog is being trained to accomplish. A Greyhound racing technique is having the dogs in long side-by-side outdoor runs. The racing Greyhound trainers develop competitiveness by utilizing "fence running" generally considered a problem. This negative is turned into a positive while also getting in great physical shape. Now the type of training the dog is being prepared for is extremely important. Side-by-side training could increase competitiveness between agility dogs. However if their energies are not channeled in the right direction (straight-ahead) it could be counter-productive. The impracticality of utilizing equipment side-by-side is another stumbling block. An extra set of equipment is a viable, if expensive solution. Agility is the sport that should see the greatest growth in improving performance. It is a relatively "new" sport with a lot of imaginative trainers. The crowd-pleasing factor is another important asset in the future growth of this sport. It is the sport that has the greatest opportunity for improving performance.

The common denominator in improving



### Improving Performance Contd

performance in dog sports is movement. All sports require movement. Let's zero in on that "ability" to physically accomplish a task through movement.

Jim Buck, Manhattan's exclusive East Side dog walker has been working on improving movement in dogs for the past four decades. When asked about improving movement he tersely explained, "Practice, practice, practice!" He feels that this training comes with the dog-walking package. He does a great deal more than walk dogs. He improves movement

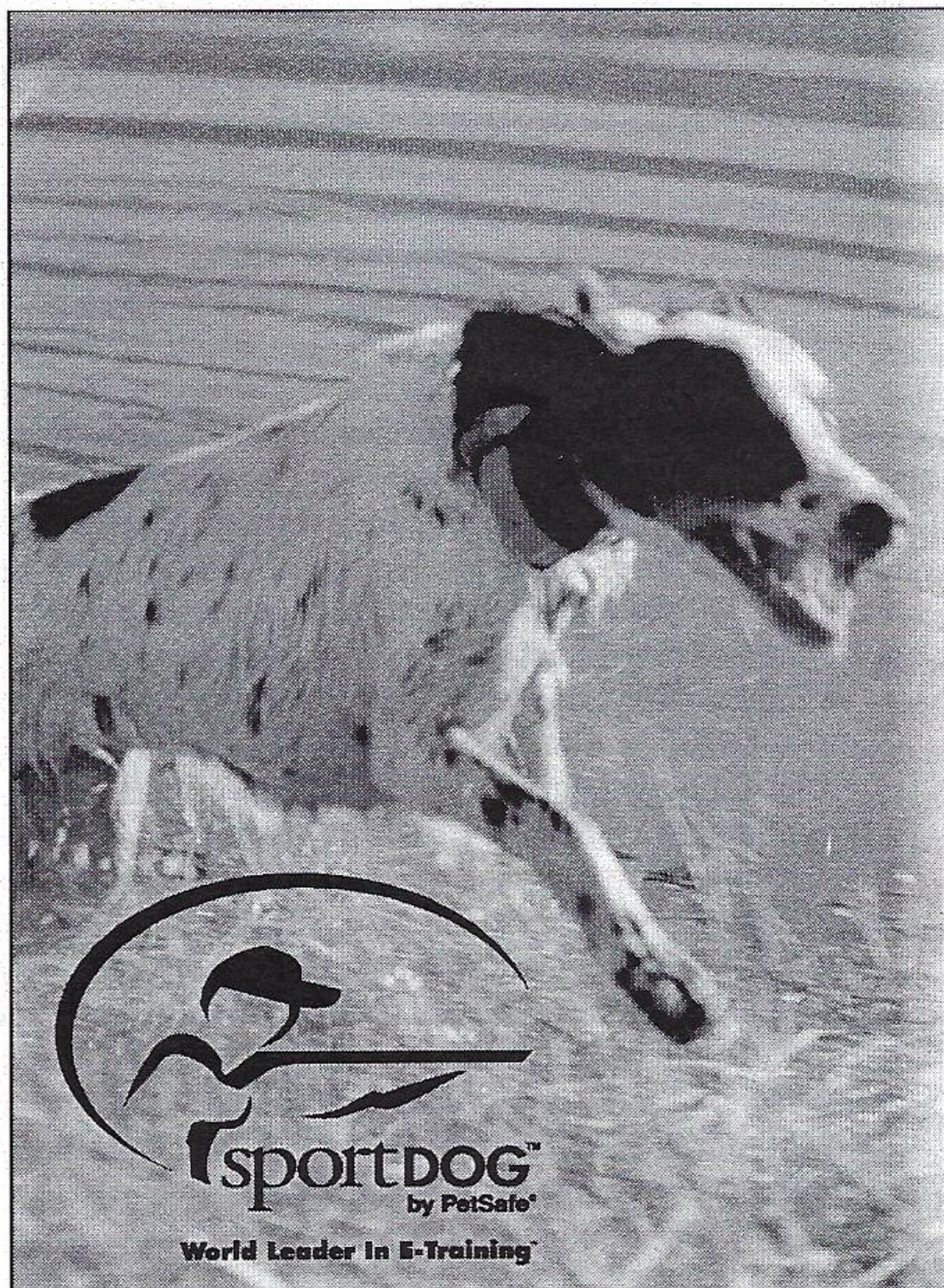
How do we improve movement? The first step is through observation. Figure out what the movement problem is and then come up with a program. Pound Ridge, New York horse trainer Caren Haggerty explains how she would use gymnastics to condition a horse to rock back on his hindquarters prior to jumping. Having the horse come off of one jump and be met by another close in jump causes him to immediately rock back on his hindquarters. Fanciers and trainers can learn a great deal from the horse fraternity. Horse people are obsessed with movement but it is more from a "feeling" than a seeing point of view. They are up on the horse and can feel the erratic or undesirable movement. You sit at ring-side and are jarred by the inappropriate movement of a dog.

Cavalletti is a great approach to solving movement problems from a vertical rather than horizontal (airborne) point of view. Arranging poles or PVC pipe in grids in front of the dog causes him to rearrange his movement. Carefully record the distances and adjust the poles to create the drive and reach that is needed. It is simple in explanation but more difficult in practice. Grass is perhaps the best footing for this training. Start by laying the PVC poles at the dog's height at the withers. Start the dog ten feet away from the grid so that he can see what's ahead. Then trot the dog through the poles and adjust as needed.

Veterinarian Christine Zink has worked, lectured and written extensively on correcting movement. Both of her books, "Peak Performance: Coaching the Canine Athlete" and "Jumping From A to Z: Teach Your Dog to Soar" (Howell Book House) are excellent sources of information.

Keep observing and thinking. Performance can be improved beyond what you believe!

*Captain Haggerty has observed and competed in various dog sports for over fifty years. Haggerty is licensed to judge seven breeds and varieties of dogs plus Junior Showmanship. He claims to learn something new everyday. IACP Founding Member.*



## New Tools for your Box!

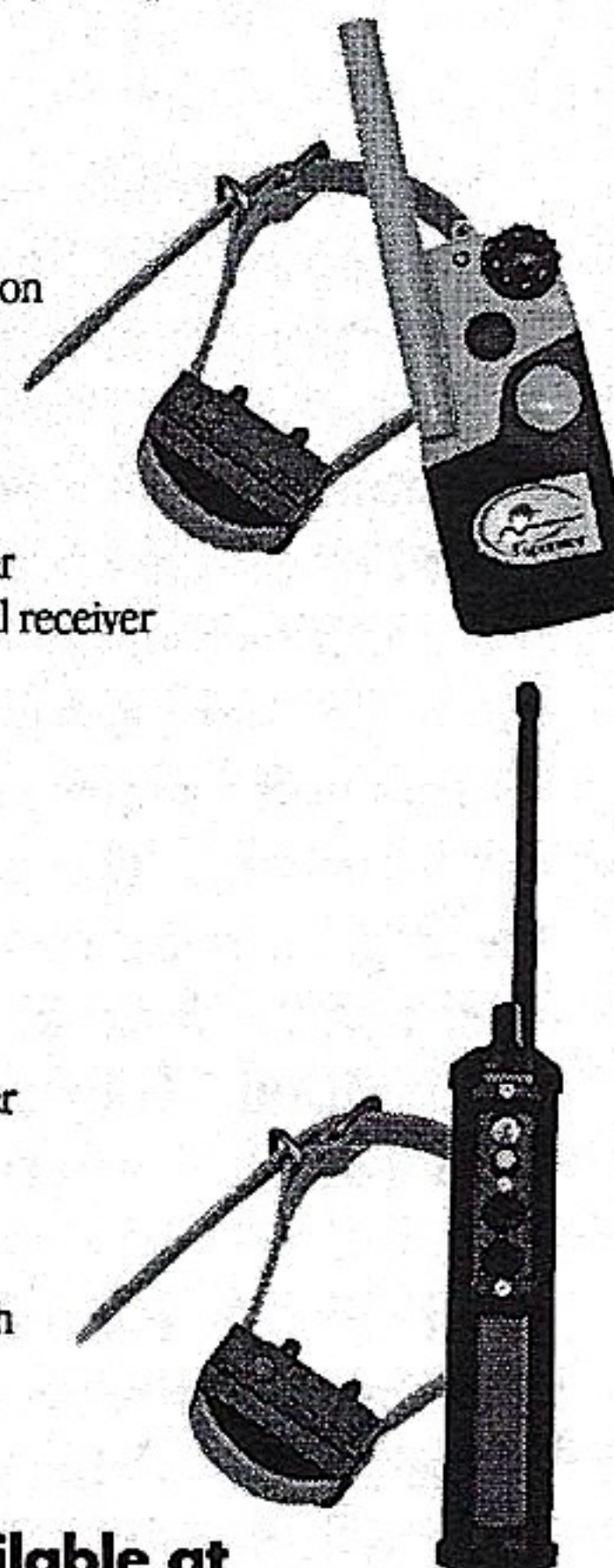
PetSafe introduces two new tools to help you be successful with your clientele. new to the market are the SportDog 3/4 mile and SportDog 1 1/2 mile trainer. Versatility and durability at a price that won't break the bank!

### SD-1200 FEATURES:

- 3/4 Mile range
- Simple operation
- 8 Levels of continuous or momentary stimulation
- 7 unique training modes to meet your specific training needs
- Provides consistent, reliable stimulation on land and in water
- Waterproof receiver, water resistant transmitter
- Expandable to 2 dog system, with an additional receiver
- Ni-MH rechargeable battery with charger
- Exclusive Lifetime Warranty

### SD-2400 FEATURES:

- 1 - 1/2 Mile range
- 30 Levels of stimulation
- Simple operation
- Continuous and momentary stimulation
- Waterproof receiver, water resistant transmitter
- Provides consistent, reliable stimulation on land and in water
- Ni-MH rechargeable batteries with chargers
- No magnet required, protected ON/OFF switch on receiver.
- Exclusive Lifetime Warranty



All products available at  
[www.dog-training-collar-report.com](http://www.dog-training-collar-report.com)  
1-877-823-7847 x 1119



## Training Table Contd

There are two commonly used table restraints for those that may choose to use them. One is a post extending above the table, with an arm extending half across the width. The arm should allow about 5 inches clearance over the top of the dog's head when it is standing erect. The second, suspended by a post at each end, is an overhead cable running the center length of the table. This cable is used with a trolley arrangement linked to the dog's collar to keep it from dismounting the table when sent down the table's length. I have used both, and found them to work when properly employed in conjunction with the flat collar.

If you do use the restraints, the proper length of line from the fixed point (arm or trolley) to the dog's collar must be enough that the dog, if dismounted, is able to prevent itself from choking by placing its front paws back on the table. One or at the most two dismounts and the dog usually realizes that the consequences of doing so are an immediate correction (supplied by the short line from collar to the restrain point), and the action is not generally repeated. The collar must be a flat, buckle collar, adjusted to prevent the dog slipping out of it during these instances. Give no other correction than what the dog has caused itself to experience, and if required assist the dog back onto the table without unbuckling the collar. If you decide to use the restraints discussed above with small breeds and toy breeds, ensure the combined width of the table and length of restraint are such that the restraint prevents them from being able to jump off.

Exercises which I commonly start on the table are: Woah or stand, sit, down, the retrieve, take a line forward, take a line 180 degrees by turning left or right, take a line 90 degrees left or right, down for examination, and of course on, and off first

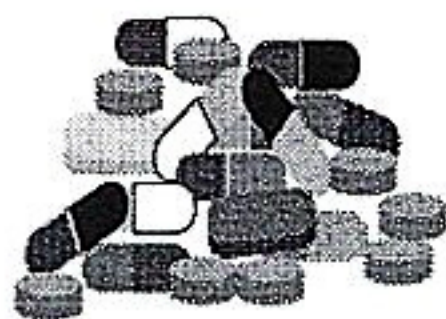
of all. By correctly positioning the dog in relation to table configuration, the table contributes to the dogs learning by eliminating some of its options in learning those tasks. For example: In teaching woah the action is performed at the end of the table where the next step would be into empty space. In teaching sit and down, the end of the table and restricted width reduce the dog's sense of space in which it can move about. By standing at the end of the table for the retrieve, instead of stepping forward the dog must extend its head and neck when learning to reach for the object. In taking a line forward, the table provides a clear path to the object to be retrieved. For the 180 degree line, by placing the dog on the appropriate edge it must turn in the desired direction and to the correct degree. For 90 degree lines the dog is placed at sit at one end facing across the table's width. It then has no choice but to move directly on a 90 degree line upon command. Down for examination has the dog in a subordinate position but the trainer is able to remain in a standing position (and is thus more mobile) without towering over the dog. This also prepares the dog for the veterinarian's examination table.

Design and use of the training table are limited only by the user's imagination. Whatever you build for your first table, you will certainly find changes to improve upon it to meet your own training needs. Consider safety, portability, and the tasks to be trained to get the best design for your needs. Try it -- you'll like it.

*George Hobson is an IACP Professional Member and gundog trainer from Eastwood Farms Missouri*

## Ordering Prescriptions from us is easy

# LO-COST PRESCRIPTION DRUGS



*We are an organization helping Americans get prescription drugs from Canadian Pharmacies at huge discounts.*

*You can save anywhere from 20 to 75% on prescriptions and over the counter medications.*

***These medications are all FDA approved***

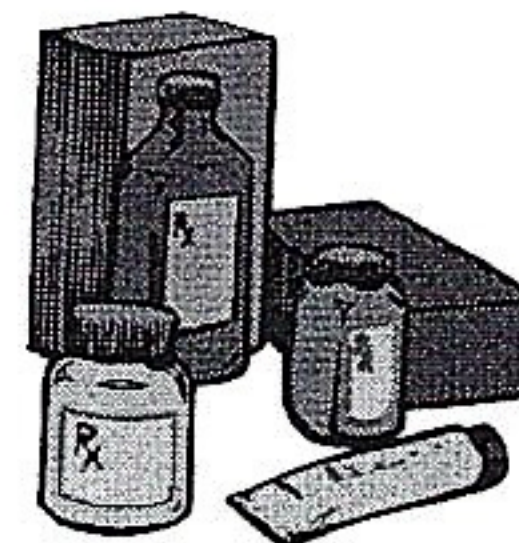
*For more information and how to order call*

*Toll free 800 620-2088 or 863 385-1996 Fax# 863 385-1907*

*web: [lo-costprescriptiondrugs.com](http://lo-costprescriptiondrugs.com)*

*E-mail: [info@lo-costprescriptiondrugs.com](mailto:info@lo-costprescriptiondrugs.com)*

*Affiliate Manager—Karin Morgan-Morton. Sebring. Florida*







## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** ***IACP CONFERENCE DATES (planned)***

2004 - MARCH 25-28

2005 - MARCH 24-27

2006 - MARCH 23-26

2007 - MARCH 22-25

2008 - MARCH 20-23

### **MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND!**

*The annual Conference offers attendees a unique opportunity to not only learn from, but also chat with some of the industry's leading professionals. This is a conference where everyone is welcome; all methods and approaches are embraced. Plus, the strength of net-working with fellow professionals*

**The International Association Of Canine Professionals  
is Proudly Sponsored by**

**PETSAFE**

**TRIPLE CROWN ACADEMY**

**TRI-TRONICS**

**PREMIER PET PRODUCTS**

**NATIONAL K9 SCHOOL FOR DOG TRAINERS**

**EUKANUBA**

**KONG**

**COASTAL PET PRODUCTS**

**ABSORPTION CORP**

**NUTRO**

**GET SMART DESIGN**

**PETSMART**

**4M BOOKS**

**AMERAPETS**

## **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS**

P.O. Box 560156 Montverde, FL 34756-0156  
Telephone - (407) 469 2008 Fax - (407) 469 7127  
[www.dogpro.org](http://www.dogpro.org)

