

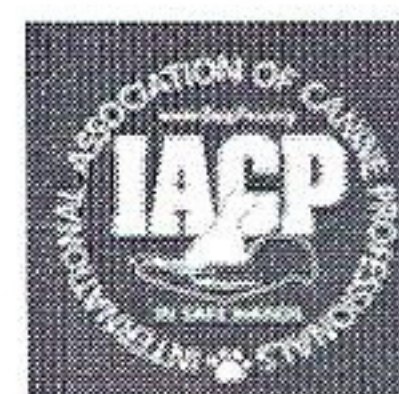
IACP

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CANINE PROFESSIONALS



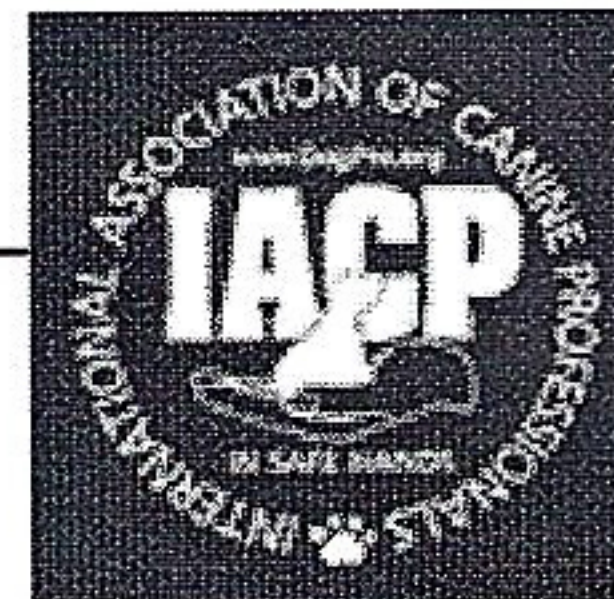
Photo by Heather Houlihan

Safe Hands Journal



Volume 8
Issue 3
Fall 2007

SAFEHANDS IS THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE



Newsletter Staff

Editor Marc Goldberg
Publisher Martin Deeley

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

Legal Notices

The International Association of Canine Professionals Journal Safehands is intended as an education and communication vehicle for fostering learning, cooperation, exchange of information, 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 reflect the views of the IACP, its officers or editorial staff.

Reprint Permission/Submission

Copyright 2007 IACP. All Rights Reserved. No items may be reprinted without the written permission of the IACP and authors. Members should mail requests to the journal Editor. Original letters/articles may be submitted to the Editor for consideration. Email submissions to Marc Goldberg at CanineShrink@aol.com.

Advertising and Application Address

Per issue Rate:

Business Cards \$45.00, 1/4 page \$350.00, 1/2 page \$450.00, full page \$750.00. Send black and white camera ready copy together with check made out to IACP to:

IACP Journal
P.O. Box 560156
Monteverde, FL 34756-0156

Deadlines

Please submit well in advance of publication. Submissions will be considered for the next available issue.

IACP Membership/Journal Information

International Association of Canine Professionals
P.O. Box 560156
Monteverde, FL 34756-0156
(877) THE-IACP or (407) 469-2008; Fax (407) 469-7127
www.dogpro.org

Newsletter Subscription

Available to non-members \$30.00; or included free with membership

Officers

Executive Director	Martin Deeley
President	Cyndy Douan
Vice President	Marc Goldberg
Secretary/Treasurer	Pat Trichter

Directors

Martin Deeley, Cyndy Douan, Marc Goldberg, Pat Trichter, Bob Jervis, Babette Haggerty, Chad Mackin, Paula McCollum, Jill Skorochood, Margot Woods.

IACP Hall of Fame

Frank Inn, Vicki Hearne, Carol Lea Benjamin, Winifred Gibson Strickland, Lois Meistrell, Edi Munneke, Weatherwax brothers, Dr. Ian Dunbar, Arthur "Captain" Haggerty, Jack & Wendy Volhard, Bill Koehler, Captain Max Emil Frederick V. Stephanitz, Will Judy, Monks of New Skete

Honorary Members

Brian Kilcommons, Bash Dibra, Gary Wilkes, Cesar Millan, Ilusion Millan

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 cooperation 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 five years experience as a canine professional. Can vote on IACP issues and use IACP name and logo on business materials.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER – Less than five years experience as a canine professional but practicing as a professional. Can use the IACP name and logo on business materials. May not vote.

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, students of canine professions, trainees, volunteers, part-time, and devotees of canine related occupations. Cannot use the IACP name or logo for business purposes and may not vote.

Annual Fees:

Professional \$75.00; Associate \$50.00; Affiliate \$35.00
An additional \$25 fee applies for initial processing costs of Professional and Associate members only.

Benefits:

All IACP members receive our SafeHands Journal, have access to our email list, seminars, educational materials, business support materials, events and activity calendars, regional group participation, and our Certification Programs. Discounts for sponsor services are available to members.

Applications and renewals can now be paid through MasterCard, Visa and AMEX.

International Association of Canine Professionals

P.O. Box 56016
Monteverde, FL 34756-0156
(877) THE-IACP or (407) 469-2008; Fax (407) 469-7127
Email: IACP@mindspring.com
www.dogpro.org

IN THIS ISSUE

What CDT Means to You	Cyndy Douan.....	4
The Power of Neutral.....	Chad Mackin.....	5
Partnership and Dogs.....	Martin Deeley.....	8
James "Jay" Stull.....	Robin MacFarlane	11
Dog Trainer...and Therapist.....	Pat Trichter	16
Living with Dogs.....	Marc Goldberg.....	18
Bloat and your Dog.....	Thom Somes.....	21

***SAFEHANDS JOURNAL IS PROUDLY
SPONSORED BY***



4M ENTERPRISES
EVERYTHING
IN DOG **BOOKS**



Discounts to IACP members on new books.

To obtain discount enter member number in password box.

Inquire about old and used books.

www.4mdogbooks.com

info@4mbooks.com

800-487-9867



From the President **What CDT Means to You**

by Cyndy Douan, CDT

The release of the IACP Certified Dog Trainer Program in March of this year has resulted in a renewed interest among our members to obtain certification. We've received two completed CDT exams and have a number of other members working on completing the exam. Through the grandfathering program, IACP members who have qualified are working on submitting their requirements for the CDT and we've certified quite a number of those members already.

I took the opportunity to interview two IACP members who have taken the CDT exam:

Rich Sherman of Twin Cedar K9 in Sutter Creek, CA; and Mike Robertson of White Mountain K9 Academy, LLC in Plymouth, NH. I'd like to share their feedback with you.

When asked about the level of difficulty of the exam, Rich Sherman replied "The exam itself was not easy, especially considering the challenge of the different dog personalities and temperaments. Also, keeping track of the training sessions in enough detail to report for the exam was both a challenge and very valuable in helping evaluate each time out." Mike Robertson had a somewhat different view. Mike said "The exam was not difficult at all. I've kept records through my years of training and then behavior work. Without records, I think it would be difficult, which it should be."

I wanted to get a sense for how time consuming the CDT exam is to complete and submit. "I was able to complete it fully, once all the material was together, within two hours. Again, having decent records was IMMENSELY helpful here" reports Mike Robertson. Rich Sherman said "It was time consuming for me. I made a point of sitting down and writing detailed notes in my journal after each session. I included what my goals were for each session, how the dog performed from the time I first opened the kennel door, approached collar in hand and to the time I left the kennel. I also chronicled my thoughts as I was working with the dog. Things that went well and problems I encountered. As I look back, it is very interesting to read my writings... from the 'well, that worked' moments to one place where I was stumped and had to get help and advice from another trainer. Great reading now, but not so easy to write then. And most valuable experience as I move forward."

When asked if he felt the CDT Exam to be valuable, Rich Sherman said "Yes, and I am using some of my note taking techniques today. I just recently had an aggressive Great Dane and I was glad to have notes on a similar case just before this dog came out. Additionally, having the notes that I now keep from every session gives me a good reference point to review how things are going with the folks I work with. It is surprising the little things I had forgotten when I go back and read the training notes." Mike Robertson told me "The questions were well constructed. I don't know that I would use the term "valuable"

though. It did give me a few items to add to my own case file for future clients."

By the time of my interview, Rich Sherman's exam had already been evaluated and he had received his CDT certificate. I asked Rich what the CDT title meant to him. Rich replied "Well, to me it is an achievement that I am both proud of and display on my cards and all our documentation. To me, a certification only means as much as the organization behind it. The CDT issued by the IACP is real and very meaningful in my book. Reading the Safe Hands forum is all the validation one needs to understand the qualifications and professionalism of the IACP. The exam is not an easy one and being that it is from the IACP, the title is something I am quite proud to have. Besides, after the folks I worked with saw what I went through and my expression when I passed they all took me out to a nice dinner celebration. How could I complain about that?"

I also asked Rich and Mike how the CDT Certification would serve them in their professional goals. Mike Robertson replied "Recognition. Public Respect. We're launching an online training service and having certification will allow us to be more publicly accepted. I really enjoy the benefits of IACP, so it's a nice way to draw attention to the organization as well. Rich Sherman shared "I have been working with shelter dogs, particularly problem ones, since 1984. It was all volunteer as I followed another career path. About six years ago I was able to pursue my real interest, dogs and training, on a full time basis. I was very lucky to hook up with Margaret Blair owner of Twin Cedar K9 and joined with her on an apprenticeship basis. Things proceeded over the years and I grew in the trade and made some wonderful contacts and had great clients. All that came together for me when I joined the IACP, applied and took the CDT exam, passed and now can add the certification to the top of my resume. To be a trainer with Twin Cedar we have to be certified and with the CDT I am now very proud to call myself a professional trainer. The demand for training and problem solving in our area is growing rapidly and being the only trainers in our area that accept and work with problem and aggressive dogs, we get numerous referrals. I hope to stay here for a long time and continue to develop my skills and help the dogs and owners. And I continue my shelter work, now as a certified trainer!"

Rich and Mike offer different perspectives on their experiences with the IACP Certified Dog Trainer Exam, but it seems that both agree that IACP is an organization worthy of their participation and that the CDT Program has value in their professional lives.

The Power of Neutral

by Chad Mackin

Recently, I was pointedly told by a trainer, a man for whom I have always had a great deal of respect, that every stimulus was either good or bad, that there is no such thing as a neutral sensation. I cannot accept that. As I sit here typing my arms are resting on the arms of chair, my computer is sitting on my lap, my posterior on the seat of the chair, my feet on the floor. I am aware of pressure against my body in any number of places. I have no particular feeling about any of these beyond a slight itch at my left elbow. If I weren't thinking about it, the chair would fade into the background, I would still be aware of it on some level I suppose, but I wouldn't be thinking about it. These sensations are all neutral.

This is not always the case, to one who is foot weary. A chair, any chair, will be met with great relief; it will definitely be a good thing. One with a sore backside will find any form of sitting to unpleasant at best.

With that in mind, let's consider another aspect of behavior. Sights, sounds, smells, and places often bring back complex memories or emotions related to those memories. A certain color can recall a sense of joy or sadness without ever telling us why. A word or a phrase can recall a forgotten face or voice. Details long forgotten can come back to us as clearly as if we saw them just yesterday. What we feel when these things are recalled often depends on what we feel about that memory at the time.

We form these associations every day. Words, smells, melodies, and various other stimulations become connected with events, ideas, concepts and controversies. We may not even know when it is happening. Associations are powerful and inescapable.

We have now established a few key points. The first is

that neutral stimuli exist. The second is that how we feel about a particular stimulus may in fact depend more on the situation than the stimulus itself. And finally, we sometimes create very strong connections between specific events and things that are related only by coincidence.

All of these facts put together point to an amazing truth: We can use neutral stimulation to intentionally create connections between two unrelated ideas. This may not sound like a new thought, and many readers may have already come to this conclusion. However, I think it differs from conventional wisdom in one important way. A clicker trainer will take the neutral sound of a clicker and associate it with food and praise turning the

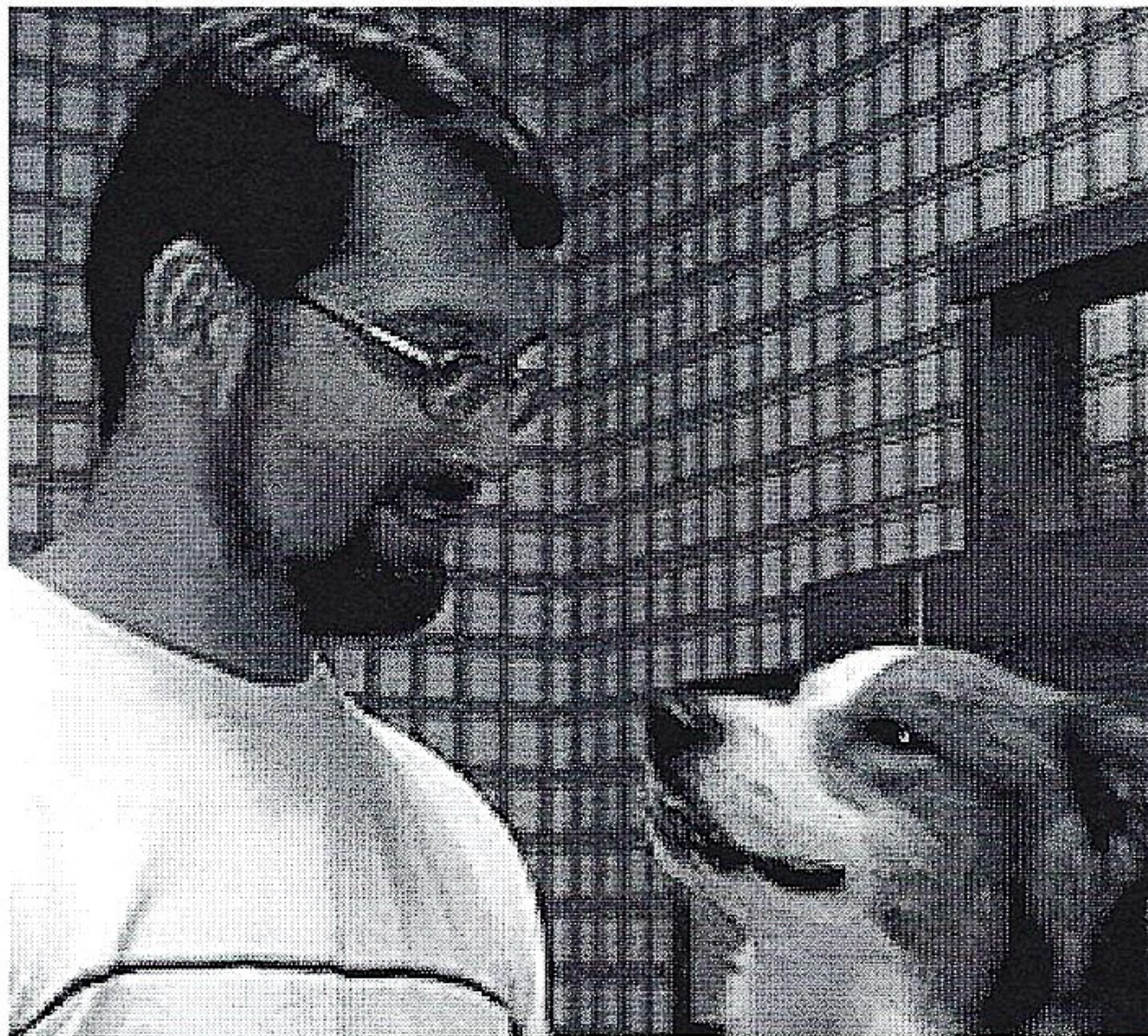
click into a reinforcer. A trainer who uses chain training collars associate the sound of the running chain with a correction making it a punisher. In both these examples a neutral sensation is being transformed into either a positive or negative. I am talking about something different. I am talking about *leaving* the sensation neutral while associating it with a specific behavior.

To accomplish this, we would be well-served to use an entirely new stimulus. The reason for this is simple. If we are using a new stimulus,

we will not have to over-ride previous connections. We know that the dog hasn't associated the stimulus with fear, food, play, or anything else. This gives us the very best chance of determining how the dog will view this new experience.

While I suspect that there are a good many neutral and unknown stimuli we could use with most dogs, my favorite one is the e-collar.

It might be helpful at this time to address an important



misconception. Most people seem to believe that the e-collar is necessarily an unpleasant sensation for the dog. This is partly due to the way they have been used historically and partly due from our own learned fear of electricity. But anyone who has used a TENS unit to heal pain can attest that while electricity is a very unique sensation, it isn't necessarily painful or unpleasant. Unfortunately, some people do use it only as a punisher. But we can use it a different way.

The e-collar is one of the best tools we have available for making neutral associations. Provided the collar is within range, there is no change in the feeling of the stimulation as the dog gets further away. In other words, the association will be identical when the dog is 100 yards away or sitting right next to you. Next, the sense employed is touch rather than hearing or sight. Tactile cues can be more noticeable than other types. Even children know this. When being ignored, the intuitively tug on a parent's sleeve. This, they understand, is harder association to ignore.

As dog trainers, what is the value in creating such an association? Does it help us accomplish our goals? In a word: Yes! Or more precisely: "It can, if done the right way." We know links can allow us to recall information; they bring to mind things we have forgotten. This is one way that building associations can help us. Linking two distinct concepts strengthens the memory. An example is when you smell cookies baking and strongly remember your grandmother.

When we are faced with something in the present (i.e., the smell of baking cookies), it brings the past into the present. I don't pretend to know why, but I do know these connections make memories seem closer, more present. If, for example, we associate this new stimulation with the act of sitting, the dog will feel the stimulation and be reminded to sit. Perhaps he will be reminded of the times you placed or lured him into position. Hopefully he will be reminded of the praise (and cookie) he got after he placed his butt on the ground. Regardless, the stimulation will serve as an anchor recalling a specific act or event.

By making the association more concrete we drastically accelerate the dog's learning, getting quicker understanding, and better retention. Of course, the above example is an oversimplification of the process. The act of learning that "sit" means "put your butt on the ground," is making one of these associations. So what is the advantage of having yet another anchor? Remember, it is not just the command that the dog has associated with the behavior. Chances are he has learned to recognize body cues, and spatial contexts as well. Using a neutral anchor makes teaching a sit in motion a whole lot simpler *because* the dog has made these extraneous connections. When we want to teach the dog to stop and sit

while we are walking, what happens? We remove two of the three anchors of the command. All we have now is a voice command that is directly opposing the other two anchors. We are, after all, walking away from the dog, which is pretty clear body language for follow me. Is it any wonder that the dog can easily be confused? Adding the stimulation gives the dog another cue. Suddenly the waters are less muddy.

Stimulation is far more powerful than spatial context or body language. In most cases the dog has never felt this sensation outside of a relationship to direct commands. Also, if we are choosing e-collar as our neutral anchor, it is a tactile cue, which is clearer than visual, auditory and spatial cues.

In short whether the stimulation is a negative or a positive or neutral will depend directly on the intensity and the dog's state of mind at the time. If the dog is being told to sit because he is waiting go outside, he may sit with enthusiasm and joy, if however he is being told to sit for an injection, his demeanor may not be quite so enthusiastic.

Command, and the stimulation associated with it are neutral. As such the dog's attitude towards it will vary from moment to moment. If neutral stimulus is used to create concrete associations, the command will bring to mind the stimulus. This is especially important when dealing with a tactile anchor, like an e-collar. I don't mean necessarily that the dog will "feel" the collar, but that it will bring that tactile cue to the forefront of the dog's memory. It will remind the dog of that subtle tap on the shoulder which will strengthen the immediate nature of the command. This is invaluable when the dog is off-lead and off-collar and hears the command spoken even faintly. The recollection of the collar tap will seem more immediate, not faint like the command and will often help the dog respond to a verbal command.

We are, of course, still talking about oversimplifications, but this example gives us a better, more in-depth understanding of what is happening, or more correctly what will happen if we set things up the right way.

If you will take the time to experiment with the use of neutral stimulus to anchor new behavior, you will find a rich reward. The proper introduction of neutral stimulus reduces uncertainty and helps with faster, less stressful learning, and longer retention. The training process will be easier for both you and the dog. Why? Because you're using a language that he can easily understand.

Chad Mackin is an IACP Director and head trainer at A+ Dog Obedience in Webster, TX. His Pack to Basics™ workshop will be presented November 2 and 3, 2007 in Webster, TX. For more information contact trainer@aplusdog.com.

IACP



Continental KENNEL CLUB

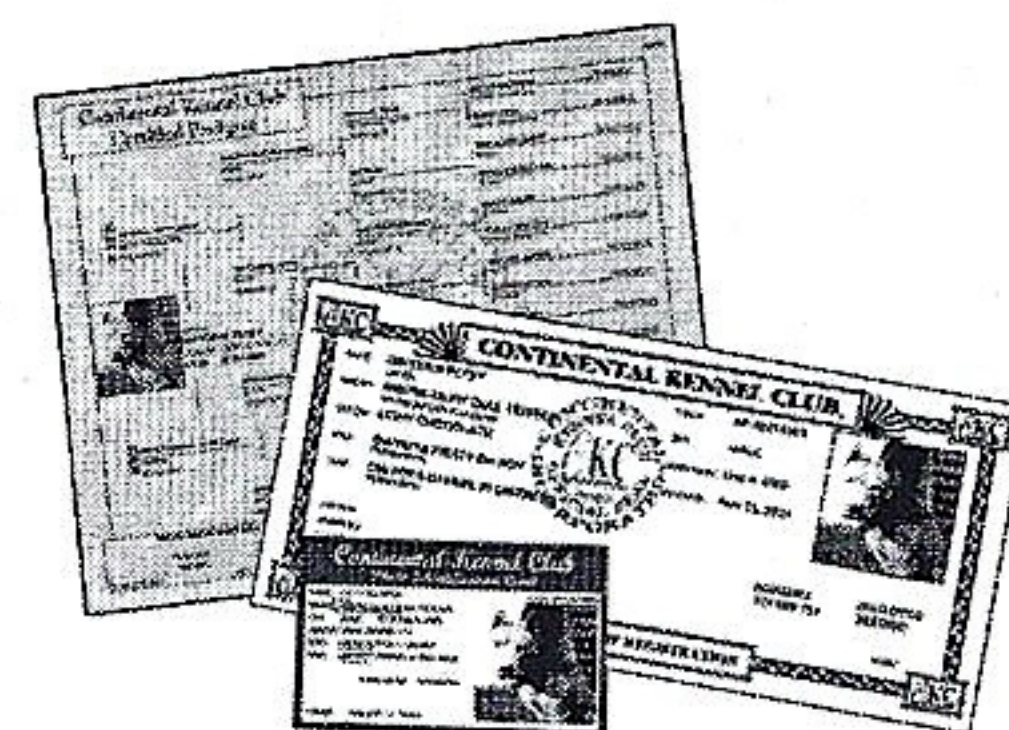
1-800-952-3376

www.ckcusa.com

*"Offering the dog world a choice
in canine registration services
since 1991."*

Continental Kennel Club's Mission Goals:

1. To provide dog owners with quality registration services for keeping track of the ancestry and progeny of their dogs
2. To officially sanction and sponsor a variety of canine events for its club members and their dogs
3. To provide canine-related services and products to its club members and their dogs



Registration Services



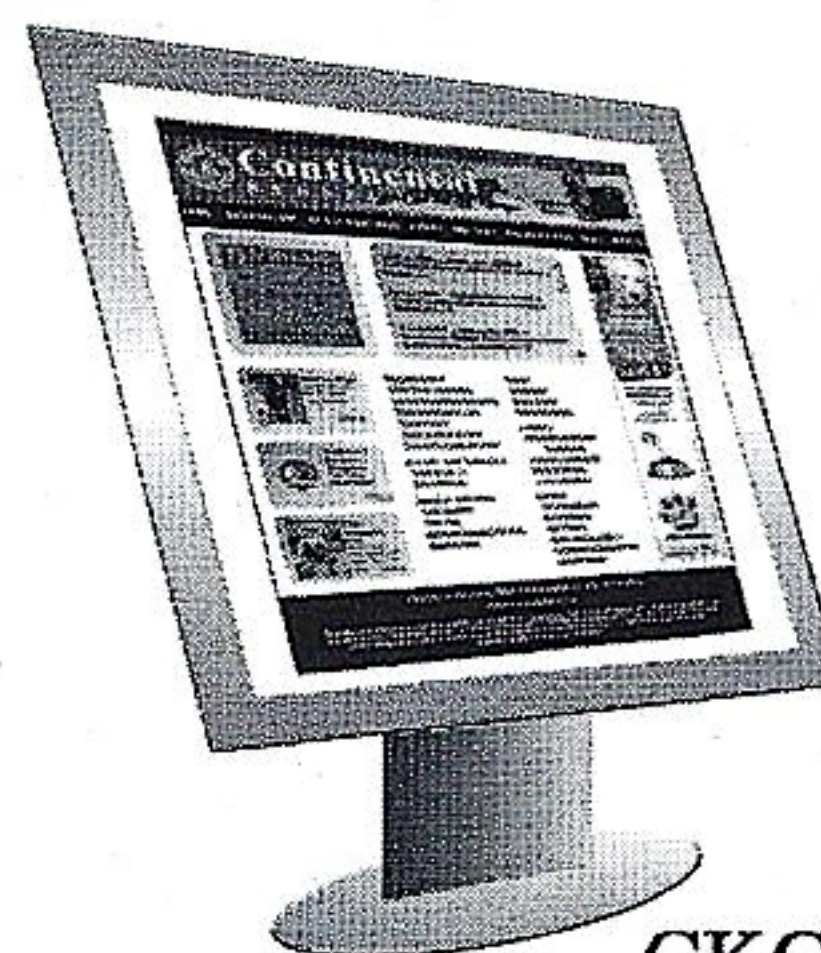
CKC Quarterly Magazine

Continental Kennel Club provides:

- Free litter registration papers to CKC breeders
- CKC Quarterly Magazine
- Monthly Newsletter
- Educational material such as books, magazine publications, training seminars, and its online presence.

CKC Website offers great information for a wide audience in:

- advertising
 - registration services
 - articles
 - events
- AND MUCH MORE!**



CKC Website



The Continental Kennel Club Training Center caters to all dog enthusiasts by offering:

- courses for instructor training, junior handler training, along with many other educational programs
- an on-site Pro Shop filled with excellent products to benefit your dog's needs
- events and activities in obedience, agility, conformation and more for the whole family to enjoy.



Partnership and Dogs

by Martin Deeley, CDT

There are dogs that are born wanting to be partners and are willing all of the time. I call them honest dogs. They don't try to manipulate, deceive or control, they want to do what you want to do and give everything to achieving with you.

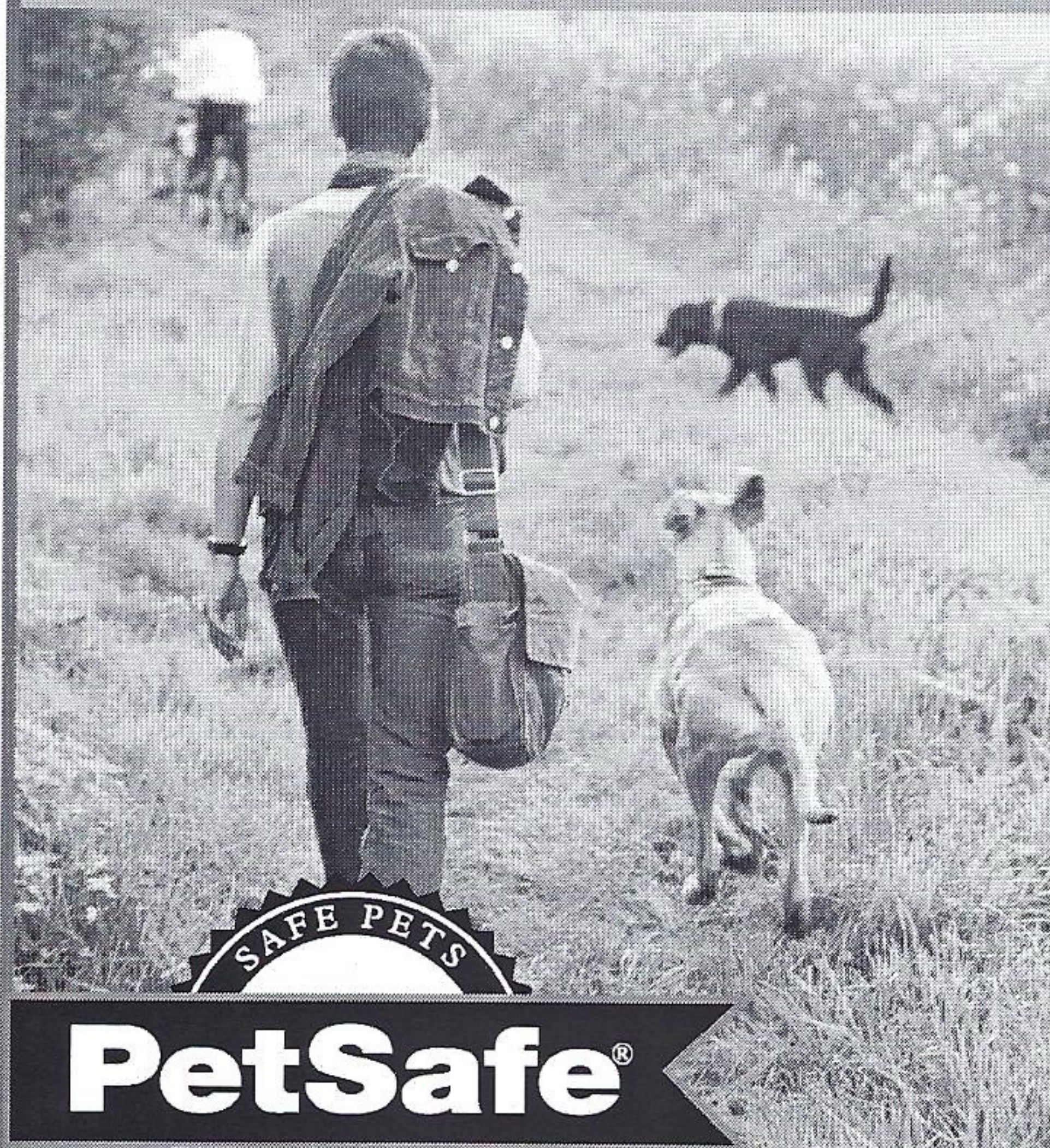
There are dogs that are willing to be partners for some actions part of the time. The rest of the time they do not want to be a partner, they do not have the desire to please or work with you for certain actions.

There are some dogs that are not willing most of the time. Not truly wishing to be partners. They are individuals; we sometimes call them independent, willful, dominant and other descriptive adjectives.

Of course the largest percentage of dogs falls between willing and wanting to be a partner and not wishing to do as required. In the past we thought dogs, in the majority of cases, did not wish to do as asked so we predominantly forced them. The modern thinking is that dogs, through all positive reinforcement type work, will become willing partners. Neither is correct and that is why we need balance in training.

If we have the dog that wants to partner and has the natural skills, intelligence and trainability, then as a trainer they can really make us look good. It all falls into place and the steps work to achieve the complete true partnership. I know trainers who have succeeded to the highest

my pet and me the best place to be



PetSafe® products take care of your pet's safety, comfort and everyday needs so you have more time for all those things you like to do together.

See the full line of PetSafe products for pets of all shapes and sizes at www.petsafe.net

- Pet Containment
- Pet Training
- Bark Control
- Pet Doors
- Beds
- Feeders
- Agility Equipment
- Pet Accessories

PetSafe is doing its part to contribute to saving the lives of pets. Every year we give product and monetary donations to deserving causes that make the world a better place for unwanted animals.

level with one dog and then can never find another dog to succeed with. The reason of course is that they were not willing to change to the needs and personality of the new dog.

The dogs that have a mixture of wanting to partner and not wanting to partner are the ones where we have to work hard. We have to work to enhance and not damage the skills they are good at and want to partner us with, and we have to work even harder to change what they don't want to do into something they want to do and then through the pleasure of doing, enjoy it. For example a dog that does not enjoy retrieving may be forced to retrieve and then finds that he like the work. You then become his partner for that activity if you train correctly so that you are dependent on each other.

In some instances a dog may not enjoy or wish to do an activity. However if we start small with a little something he likes we can build it up to a complex job he enjoys. This is the skill of training. We are training for a partnership.

Then there is some work that a dog may not enjoy doing, does not wish to partake or partner in and you cannot get him to enjoy it. He does it but is more accepting of it than enjoying. With this work he is commanded to do the task and he obeys because there have been repercussions for not doing it. Some jobs and actions do not result in enjoyment or a want to. Not everything in life is enjoyable. Not everything in life is just acceptable, sometimes in life we have to do things because it is expected of us and it is required.

What we have to realize is that we need to read and understand each dog to determine what he does enjoy partnering on, and what he does not or what he is not motivated to do. If we put pressure and try too hard on the

things he enjoys, correcting him at the wrong times and letting moments of frustration spread over into the moments he is doing right we can even destroy the actions he enjoys and wants to partner on. If we approach the actions he want to partner us on in too demanding a way, and this is dependent upon the dog, then once more we can make a dog fearful of even enjoyable actions.

There has to be a reading of the dog, an understanding of his mind, a determination of what will work, a simple approach to making it work, the taking of steps in small stages which enable you to succeed at each stage, a stopping at each stage when you know your dog has been successful and realizes it and a building of confidence plus a feeling of achievement.

There has to be a playing of your body actions, voice tones, facial expression and use of any equipment and methods that guides the dog and helps him achieve even when correcting. We don't think about any quadrants, we watch and read what is successful and changing the dogs attitude. We change and adapt, and use our personality and actions as a musical instrument to build the partnership concerto within the dog.

We can change an unwilling, an independent and a dominant dog into a more willing type partner on some issues, maybe most if not all with some: but there will still be times when he has to obey just because I told him to.

In working gundogs the partnership is very strong; it has to be. My dogs have to realize that when I give a command it is to help them, to guide them, even to keep them safe. It is to achieve our objective in the field. Saying that there are times when I know what is best and there are times when my dog knows what is best. He has skills and abilities that I could never aspire to. I help put him in a position



TRIPLE CROWN
WORLD LEADER IN PET EDUCATION

Dog Tough Interactive Toys

For Big Dogs...

For Small Dogs...

For All Dogs.

Use the Everlasting Fun Ball and Everlasting Treat Ball with Every Flavor Treats, Everlasting Treats, Everlocking Treats, or your own dog food. Check out our full line of products online at www.aboutdogtraining.com or call 877-823-7847x1119.

to do his job and then tell him, you take charge now. He then works on his own initiative. If I feel that at any time he needs guidance, I break in and give a command, which means, stop and look at me now, I know a little better and will help you so that we can succeed together.

When a dog ignores me or does different from what I ask, I have to decide what needs to be done. Did he ignore me because he did not hear, maybe he did not understand for whatever reason, perhaps his animal drive had taken over, or he was simply saying - go to hell, I know better. There can be a variety of reason and from my knowledge of and relationship with the dog I should be able to read and understand what exactly it is. From this I again look at my training program, initiate an approach and work to avoid it. I do this to build an extra solid reliable piece into my partnership structure, to minimize the problem happening again and building the partnership through achieving together in the future. Reading and knowing the dog is most important and if in doubt about why it happened I will give the dog the benefit of this doubt. Correcting a dog when he does not know why he is being corrected destroys partnership.

Remember also that during all this the dog will be doing the same with you. He will be looking and seeing how clear, consistent, trustworthy, understandable, reliable, correct, honest and mentally stable *you* are. The moment he finds you are not trustworthy or you get it wrong or you are unclear then out of the window goes the potential full partnership. The moment he does something different from what you tell him and he is rewarded because he was right and you were wrong you loose a rung in the partnership ladder and when you loose one rung it takes a lot more time to rebuild it than it takes to loose it.

I have dogs of my own that I have feel I have built a true partnership with. I trust them because I know them. They trust me because they know me. They read me better than I often read them but there are instances when even with them I have to command them, not ask. I have to overrule what they are thinking of doing.

We are all looking for that ultimate partnership with our animals, but in practice I doubt ever the real true 100% reliable partnership ever is achieved.

The real partnership feeling of being as 'one' (and it is a feeling) comes from a strong foundation, a continuing confidence in each other, an ability to read and understand one other and most of all trust. It is a two way street. And it never stops - it should be ever present. If we can do this through our actions and interactions, which include being creative with our 'notes' and instruments, we can achieve the honest and true Partner - a loving, lifelong relationship.

Martin Deeley is the Executive Director and founding member of IACP. He was named UK Gundog Trainer of the Year 2007 and is an award winning author. Martin can be visited on the web at MartinDeeley.com. **IACP**

Martin Deeley and Marc Goldberg will change the way you look at dog training...



E-Touch and ForceFree Methods Workshop

November 6 to 10, 2007
Montverde, FL

Become double certified in these compatible and rewarding methods of remote collar training. Learn to use low level remote collar in conjunction with crystal clear body language to engage the dog's natural Pack Drive. Doesn't that sound like more fun than correction after correction?

Bring client dogs and return them off leash reliable. Clients pay all or part of your tuition. Turbo-charge your income!

The seminar was a wonderful introduction to e-collar on all levels and made it eminently clear how I can incorporate it with what I already know as a trainer.

Brother Christopher, Monks of New Skete

**Contact: Martin Deeley
407 469 5583**

<http://www.internationaldogschool.com/id21.html>

<http://www.chicagodogtrainer.com/id31.html>

James “Jay” Stull

March 22, 1957 - July 12, 2007

by Robin MacFarlane, CDT

There are many reasons to remember Jay Stull. The contributions to his clients, to his friends and to his fellow canine professionals are many. Those who did not get the pleasure to know him well might simply remember his size. At six foot three inches, two hundred and seventy or so pounds, you knew where Jay was in the room. He was the perfect height for one of those big bear hugs that are often freely dispensed at the annual IACP conference. But those who ventured a bit closer knew him not for his stature but for the size of his generosity. His gen-

erosity in giving of time. There was always time, time for a chat, time for advice, time for dreaming big things, time for his Kool King cigarette and a talk about whatever was the concern of the moment. Nothing needed to rush a conversation. Whether the topic was a matter of great concern or simply commentary on how the day was going, Jay's trademark long pause between thoughts gave the listener time to either cultivate the gravity of what was being said or time to chuckle at the absurdity he had just pointed out to you.

Help Protect Your Profession—Join the Pac.



THE LEGISLATIVE FOUNDATION FOR CANINE PROFESSIONALS



866.465.CPAC • www.CaninePAC.org • 1443 Farmside Drive • Foristell, MO 63348



KONG
company

16191-D Table Mountain Parkway, Golden, CO 80403-1641
Phone: (303) 216-2626 • Fax: (303) 216-2627 • www.kongcompany.com



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>

Jay's clients remember him for his fair and patient treatment with their dogs and the friendly, down to earth nature that made him easy to learn from. A few of the people interviewed recalled his dedication to providing solutions that were right for them and their situations rather than insisting on the standard that fit his desires. Jay often asked his clients, "Is this okay with you?" Apparently that made a significant impression with the veterinarians that referred their clients to him. It wasn't about Jay, it was about the clients needs, abilities and desires. The key phrases that came from my discussions with students were; fair, non-judgmental and never at a loss for what to do. That alone says a lot.

Some of our colleagues might remember Jay for his seemingly argumentative nature that appeared in e-mail forums. It is my belief that perception would only be held by those who had not yet actually met him in person. Jay was strongly opinionated but if you heard the voice rather than read the key strokes, there was little argument in the inflection. It is more accurate to say he expressed himself in a simple matter of fact voice that resonated with good ole common sense. Sprinkled in was a belly laugh that couldn't help but put your mind at ease and find the silliness and humor of any given situation.

The e-mail forums are where the early whisperings of a new organization were heard. It was through APDT and the Pro Trainers List that the founders came together to create a vision of an organization that remained open to ideas and freedom of decision. An organization that could encompass all within the dog profession to work together for the betterment of our respective businesses and the betterment of the dogs we ultimately serve. Jay's analytical mind and tell it like it was style challenged those who sought to create limitations and restrictions. His critical thinking and ability to ask difficult

questions left many befuddled and unable to provide logical answers. He often opened eyes and minds with his vast knowledge of legislation and how things worked in that realm. Though his generosity he helped anyone that asked for greater understanding and clarity of issues. He had a knack for making people comfortable, but he was not one to battle wits with if you were speaking on a subject you knew little about.

Jay will be remembered for his conviction for the canine professions. For nearly 30 years in this industry he worked and fought hard. In August of 2006 Jay created CPAC, the Canine Political Action Corp. The mission statement reads: The Canine Political Action Corp is dedicated to the representation



Jay Stull

of dog trainers and dog groomers in the legislative arena at local, state and national levels in the continental United States. CPAC serves to protect those canine professions from legislation that would adversely affect them, as well as to encourage legislation in their best interest. Jay spent much of 2006 and 2007 being the watchdog for those of us that choose to make a living training and or grooming dogs. He spent countless hours scanning,

searching and reviewing legislature. Watching for anything that might adversely affect our ability to conduct business and make a real living doing what we all love.

He traveled to meet with various representatives and aids to discuss our concerns and point out problematic wording in proposed bills. But Jay took things a step further. His belief was the CPAC should be there to help our representatives rather than merely battle them. He offered solutions to the problems they were facing. He wrote suggested amendments to the bills that were pending, and he was succeeding. In May of 2007 Senator Tesei of MA sent a letter to the committee endorsing CPAC's suggested revisions to Mass Groomer Licensing Bill 235. Senator Tesei's letter states in part "Jay Stull,

the Executive Director for the Canine Political Action Corp, testified at the May 29th hearing. He also provided the committee with a list of suggested amendments, a copy of which I have enclosed. As the main sponsor of Senate Bill 235, I would like to go on record in support of Mr. Stull's proposed amendments, and ask that the bill be amended accordingly and released from committee with a favorable report."

Jay Stull made a difference.

My friendship with Jay started when I became part of the board of directors for IACP. Jay was one of the founding members. He, like the others who began the organization, believed in the mission *to maintain the highest standards of professional and business practice among canine professionals.....to provide support and representation for all professional occupations involved with any aspect of canine management, health, training and husbandry.* Jay always strove to keep that mission statement as well as the bylaws of the organization at the forefront of our thinking. I don't recall a single board meeting coming to completion without his reminders of "does this fit our mission, or we can't do that because it is against the bylaws" Jay was forever the voice of logic and reason. He did not allow us to get off course if what ever we were discussing did not fit the rules and guidelines that had been created. He was the one person we all looked to when it came to interpretation of what we could or could not do in this non-profit organization.

While learning the ropes of an organization and the functioning of a board, it did not take long to gravitate to a person who was so capable of seeing much farther into the future than most. Jay had a knack for seeing holes or shortcomings in thought or flaws in logic. He could point out the pitfalls of strategies and just as easily help develop alternative courses of action. And there were always alternatives and other routes to take and he could point out the pitfalls of each of those choices as well. He was a master of pointing out that every choice would be accompanied by a consequence. And every consequence gave opportunity for another choice. Jay's ability to see the twists and curves in the path was amazing. And it was at each of those curves that his hearty laugh came out. I believe the twist and turns of life's choices are exactly what Jay thrived on. It

energized him, and yet as convoluted as it all may have been to most of us he always came up with a variety of solutions to a problem, you just had to pick one and go. It was that ability to reason it through and then just go with conviction that lead to the respect I have for Jay Stull. Once the mind was made up, don't look back. Jay shared a few simple words of wisdom several years ago as I wrangled with one of life's options, "make a decision and then live with it" He never suggested what decision to make but only to do so and then move forward with conviction. Those words left a huge impression and I am still learning to walk that path with confidence. But until we cement our goals, ideas and decisions in our minds we can not move forward. I would request the members of this organization take from Jay's wisdom and move forward with conviction. This profession is under siege in a variety of ways. We, each and every one of us, must become committed, get involved and move forward to better our future.

To borrow words from W. H. Murray (1951).

The Scottish Himalayan Expedition

*Until one is committed
there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back.
Always ineffectiveness.
Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation),
there is one elementary truth,
the ignorance of which kills countless ideas
And splendid plans.
That the moment one definitely commits oneself,
Then providence moves too.
All sorts of things occur to help one
that would never otherwise have occurred.
A whole stream of events issues from the decision
Raising in one's favor all manner
Of unforeseen incidents and meetings
And material assistance,
Which no man could have dreamt
Would have come his way.*

For me personally, Jay will always be remembered as Scarecrow. In my early time on the board I shared with him my feelings of inadequacy and bewilderment while learning the nuances of politics in a not for profit organization. A favorite childhood story seemed fitting for its mimicry of the situation. I relayed the feeling of being Dorothy, lost in Oz, a

strange land filled with pitfalls and danger. However, the road became less treacherous as friends and mentors joined the journey. Jay was, and always will be, the representation of Wisdom. An uncluttered mind that could see beyond emotion to what is and what should be, thus I coined him Scarecrow.

As we each take up our respective journeys, the qualities of heart, wisdom and courage are needed, so find your mentors and learn well the lessons they provide.

Jay Stull will be deeply missed, but I am certain there are other Scarecrows among us. Don't be afraid to step up and follow the path, it will illuminate and reveal itself as you go. Make a commitment to pay it forward. We each have a legacy to leave.

Jay, - There is no place like home. Rest well.

Jay is survived by his wife PJ, a son, Mike, a brother Steven and his parents, Jim and Mable Stull.

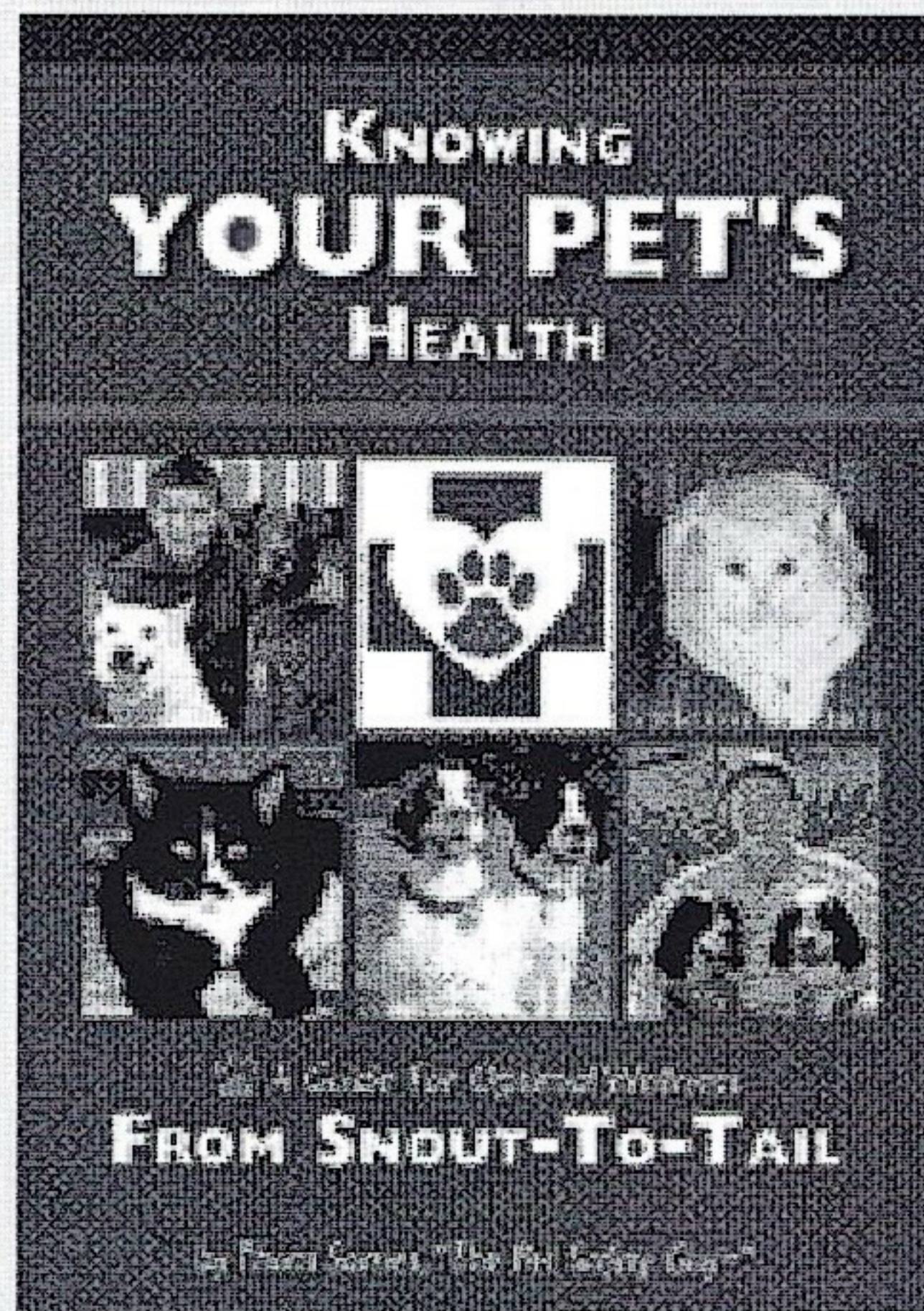
Thank you to those persons who allowed me interview time and contributed greatly to this memorial. To Pam Echterling, Craig Ostermeyer, the Saturday morning Hunt Club, Cyndy Douan, Martin Deeley and especially PJ Stull. Hugs PJ. IACP is here for you.

Authors note: CPAC has lost an important man in our battle, but we are moving forward. We continue to monitor all states weekly. We are prepared to help with pending groomer legislation expected in this next session. At our recent BOD meeting we discussed our need for members and support and would like to thank those who have joined us and contributed in the wake of Jay's passing. CPAC needs you in order to carry on. Without your membership and sponsorship dollars, we will not be able to continue his work. Please consider joining today. www.CaninePac.org.

Robin MacFarlane, CDT owns and operates the That's My Dog! Ecademy, and can be found on the web at ThatsMyDog.com. She also sits on the Board of Directors for CPAC.

IACP

Thom Somes, "The Pet Safety Guy™" is happy to announce the new & improved edition of "Knowing Your Pet's Health—A Guide For Optimal Wellness From Snout-To-Tail."



This 40-page full-color guide includes "The Pet Safety Guy's" 5 Components for Optimal Wellness, Human-Animal Bond, Exercise, Euthanasia, and much more. Now it includes a full-page Pet Tech Snout-To-Tail Assessment Worksheet. "Knowing Your Pet's Health" retails for \$9.95 each. We'll pay the *Shipping & Handling! Order today! This offer ends soon!

Special Pricing for Pet Care Professionals:

20 @ \$7⁵⁰ each • 25% Savings!

50 @ \$6⁵⁰ each • 35% Savings!

100 @ \$5⁵⁰ each • 45% Savings!

Visa, MC, Discover and Check welcome. Pet Tech will pay Media Mail* shipping on all orders. Offer Ends December 1, 2007!

*** Faster shipping & Signed Copies Available; Contact Pet Tech for Pricing.**

www.PetTech.net

e-mail kyph@pettech.net

(760) 930-0309

Dog Trainer...and Therapist

by Pat Trichter, CDT

A friend returned my call the other day and was kind enough to share that she had lost one of her dogs to a freak accident the day before. I was astounded she could talk and felt special she was comfortable enough with our relationship to even pick up the phone. Of course we went through all the usual grieving rationales that are psychologically comforting, cried a little with each other and shot lots of love, compassion and empathy to each other. When we had exhausted all our philosophical euphemisms and were emotionally worn out, I thanked her again for calling.

Even though great sadness was the focal point of our conversation I'm not sure who got more out of the call. My thoughts were with her for the next 24 hours and as were remnant pieces of our talk floating through my brain like a bar of music that won't go away and repeats itself over and over again.

I was astounded to realize the amount of stimulation I had received by engaging in one of the most emotionally difficult topics there is. I didn't feel drained or weary but like I had gained ground with my own emotional growth. I'm sure she has no idea how much of an impression and boost our conversation had.

Most of the people who have this gift for giving of themselves don't even realize they're doing anything other than conversing with you from their heart, but I had this need to reach out one last time to thank her again for being a 'friend'. The best I could do was to call a bookseller and have my favorite 'Dog Heaven' book delivered to her door step.

How each of us handle emotional distress is individual. How we move through the various stages of resolution is up to us, as individuals, and how we let it affect our daily lives at home and at work, is indi-

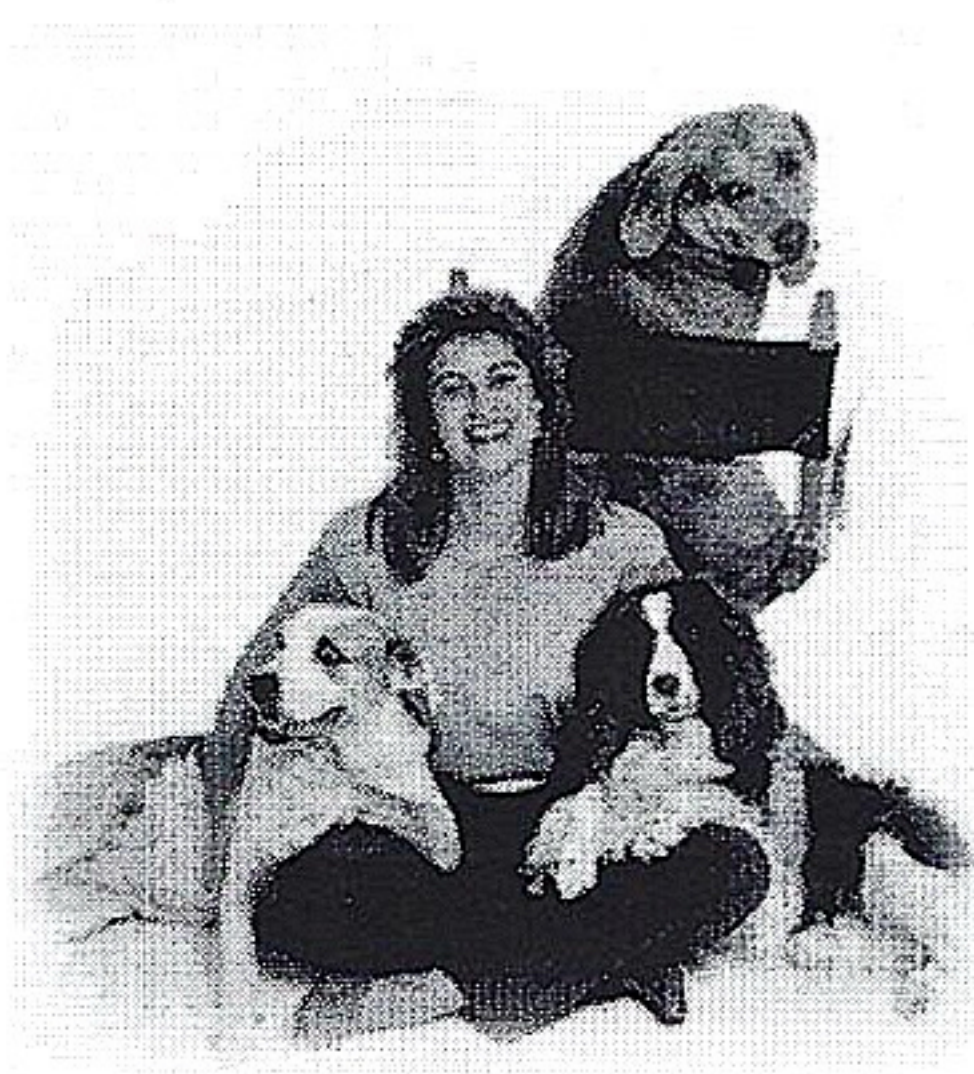
vidual. Grief and great sadness seem to be two of the most difficult to hide whether its ourselves or another person we encounter.

Most of us within the professional field of dogs seem to be helpers and it seems that this quality is also one of the ones that make us so good at what we do. Many of us overreach ourselves above and beyond what is emotionally necessary to offer clients. Are we even aware of what we can, or cannot offer emotionally? Should there be limitations or a cut off point? Again you are the only one who can decide and if you haven't thought this concept through yet, it's a boon in your hat to figure it out ahead of time.

Are you already prepared or do you just figure you'll deal with it when (and if) the time comes?

'Winging' it and learning from experience is sometimes the best way but don't be misled into thinking these two emotions (great sadness and grief), won't be issues you'll never have to deal with. Somewhere a long the way in our professional careers we'll meet them and whether the experience falls flat or is emotionally beneficial to one or both parties entirely depends upon being prepared.

How we handle our clients and/or ourselves under duress has a direct impact on the public's perception of us, the level of accomplishment we want to achieve, and our check book. Whether we want to admit it or not credibility goes beyond any 'talent' we may have with dogs and ultimately comes down to community trust. We're not social workers or therapists by trade yet we are thrown into many situations where one sure would be useful. I'm not suggesting that you study to act like one. It's not part of our job description and we don't have a license to authenticate our ability to help clients achieve a better state of mental health. But I am saying you should know how to protect yourself, your emotional stability and



sanity. This is the part that affects the entire ball game.

As mentioned earlier, some people have a gift for empathy. Those of us who don't have to study it. There's a lot more to dealing with emotions than our own personal experience. Those of us who are clever enough to figure this out, study it and learn to set emotional limitations and boundaries, will enjoy life and our work much more than those that don't. We will also be able to share emotions more productively with our clients.

I don't know about you but several times when I have arrived at a client's home for a dog training lesson, the person opening the door to greet me appears to be wearing heavily one or more emotions. Their body language says it before they do and in that one instant a jolt seems to shoot right through me that feels like I've just been slapped across the face. True performer that I am I put on a smile and enter hoping I can at least brighten their day a little by helping them interact with their dog and further close the gap of miscommunication a little more. When I meet one of these people my goal becomes: 'help the dog' because I know that by helping the dog, he becomes better at his job....that of a 'residential' therapist

Pat Trichter has had a life long passion with animals. She adopted people later. She is happily married, has no children of her own, and lives on 5 acres with Mother Nature. Pat can be reached at: fang2u@mindspring.com.

IACP

Pack to Basics™

with Chad Mackin

November 2nd and 3rd 2007
Large Field Socialization Indoors!

Pack to Basics is a philosophy unlike any being used in dog training today. Embracing the unconventional approach of allowing dogs of every age, size and temperament to interact within a supervised, indoor environment, Pack to Basics relies on dog's natural reactions.

Cure aggressive, shy, fearful, and other problem behaviors!

COST: \$300. LOCATION: Webster TX

For more information contact Chad Mackin.
trainer@aplusdog.com

Anyone who has paid a deposit for the ForceFree/E-touch workshop will received a **\$50 discount** on Pack to Basics. A two-day, hands-on workshop with Chad Mackin's Pack to Basics aimed at eliminating aggression, fear, shyness and other problem dog behaviours through the principles of Large Field Socialization.



For Your Disc Catching Superstar

Aerodynamic...



Floats...



Dog Tough!



The Easy Glider is easy to throw and easy for dogs to catch. Perfect for training puppies and comes with a free training guide. Available in 9" or 11" diameter. Check out our full line of products online at www.aboutdogtraining.com or call 877-823-7847x1119.



Living with Dogs

by Marc Goldberg, CDT

Living a structured life with my dogs comes as second nature to me. Their lives are neatly divided into three categories: work, rest and play. Because my personal dogs are free from the major problems plaguing most of our clients, I also allow them a certain amount of liberty in the home. I call this "I Have No Idea What The Dog Is Doing" time.

This article is not about training dogs. Whatever method you use to train dogs cannot succeed if the dog is living in pandemonium when not training. I'd like to write about *living* with dogs, not training them.

Unlike most "civilians," my life revolves around the dogs. I know where they are and what they are doing almost every moment of their lives. They have earned those moments when they are loose and unattended. Yet loose dogs, not carefully observed by their owners, are those who cause the most trouble...and bring us the most business.

Housebreaking errors, chewing and incessant barking are crimes, yes. But typically, they are crimes of opportunity. Eliminate the opportunity and you also eliminate the crime. Simply stated, do that for long enough and the dog becomes so accustomed to good behavior that he barely remembers how to be naughty.

Another major contributor to dog behavior problems is when the relationship between dog and owner is not in good order. For example, dogs do not bite or growl up the flow chart, unless the behavior is driven by fear. However, dogs may guard space and resources from their owners when they perceive themselves to be above the owner on the flow chart of authority.

Since I'm talking about authority and relationship, the question arises as to whether this concept is the

same as dominance and submission. It also brings to mind the question of whether humans and dogs can enjoy *partnership* as opposed to relationship based strictly on authority and respect for same. To speak to this issue, let's first examine how dogs relate in the pack.

In observing my own three dogs as they live with one another I have come to some conclusions about this matter. My Doberman is the pack leader. Either of the other two will yield to him on any issue he chooses. The Border Collie mix is next in line. He does not challenge the Dobe on any issue of importance. Yet, he does demand this same respect from the Rat Terrier, who will yield to either of them if they demand.

Does this mean that the pecking order is clear, and ever present? Yes and no. Many a time have I seen the Rat Terrier playfully grab my tolerant Dobe by the throat, or bite his rear hock as he's walking away. She'll also steal a bone right out from under him if he's not careful.

How can this happen and how does the structure of the dog pack permit such acts of defiance? Simple. The Dobe only puts his foot down on matters which truly concern him. From her body language, he realizes that the terrier isn't seriously challenging him when she bites at him. So he responds playfully if he's in the mood. Or he stops her with a hard look if he's not. He does the same with the Border Collie, and so forth down the line.

And up the line. No superior pack member can or will force a subordinate to play if the subordinate does not wish. Each has a certain control over his own life and the lives of the others.

In my opinion, there is little serious discipline to be

practiced precisely because the pack structure is well understood by each of the dogs. I represent the most critical aspect of the hierarchy. There is an unassailable law which applies to the entire pack, whether they are acting as individuals or as a group. They must each obey me, individually and as a pack. I have the right to place any of their bodies where I wish them to go. I have the right to take each of their resources. And I have the right to reinforce known rules upon any member.

It is this clarity of authority which allows the pack to function as a partnership. Even lower ranking members feel comfortable demanding their share of resources, whether it be jockeying for my touch, dividing bones, or sleeping space on the dog beds. I am quite sure that there would be a great deal more squabbling if my presence was not foremost in the dogs' minds.

But the concept of work, rest and play has been deeply instilled into each of these dogs. Therefore, the abundant use of obvious authority is not necessary anywhere within the food chain. It is not often that my Dobe must fix the terrier with a hard glare. And it is not often that I must shoot one at him. That's because I have rigged their lives with such a high degree of structure that each knows his place relative to the other, and to me. My dogs are under specific obedience commands only occasionally, when necessary. Life is relatively peaceful, and power is shared most of the time.

I constantly see clients in my home. They bring unruly or aggressive dogs into my environment. Therefore, my dogs are all accustomed to being crated when I need them out of the way. They cope easily with this confinement (rest) because they also receive adequate play and work time. It's just part of the balance of life.

This balance is also the centerpiece of my training with client dogs. If the dog is living in my house, his schedule is quickly meshed with those of my pack. There are defined moments when we work, when we rest in the crate or on tether, and there are specific times when we play. Play is supervised and has rules.

All good games have rules. My primary rule for playing dogs is that they not fight over resources such as toys or space, and that they moderate their play style so as not to overwhelm any dog. This does not come natural to most client dogs. They have to be shown that they can share and that they can play without overpowering. But once the dog realizes he will have access to all this, he's willing to access them on my terms. That yielding to my rules doesn't happen without insistence on my part. I do insist. And it does happen.

For example, many of the dogs I train do not like the crate, according to their owners. Yes, for the first couple of days I find I must insist they step into the crate and remain quiet in there. Generally, by the third day, most dogs are cheerfully hopping into the crate for me under their own steam. That's because they know they may randomly receive a treat for loading. They also accord me the power to ask them to place themselves within. I also feed in crates, building the concept that this is the dog's private, happy space.

Usually, a dog who respects your authority to place his body in a crate, is also a dog who will not growl at you for moving him off a couch, or otherwise taking resources. I believe a dog demonstrates this respect by crating himself when you point at the open door.

Quiet in the home as well as the crate is very important to me. I cannot abide meaningless barking. I do permit the occasional bark of happiness or alert. But barking without purpose merely serves as expression of a dog's needless excitement. Once I have stopped useless barking, I find the dog far likelier to remain in a calm frame of mind. That is the state in which I want him to live most of the time.

It is a good idea to walk through the dog's space occasionally instead of walking around. The subtle message is: all the space in the world belongs to me, yet I do share it with you. I think similarly of toys. I do have a bunch of dog toys, but they're not scattered all around the house. I keep them put away in a box. When I want the dogs to enjoy them, I pull a few out and distribute them. Sometimes I even put my own saliva on them, marking them as mine. Not so curi-

ously, those are the most sought after of the dog toys. If they're good enough to belong to the boss....

I have a confession to make. Probably sixty percent of the learning experience I give to client dogs comes from highly structured, managed animal husbandry. It doesn't come from training at all, at least not what we would label traditional dog training. Yet it is the most powerful form of dog training there is...living with dogs in a way that makes sense to them, and encourages them to collaborate within the pack.

Partnership does not mean equality. It means fulfillment to each, and to each his fair share of the "stuff of life." Respecting the authority of the boss and respecting the needs of the dog enables each to partake of the relationship in a way that deeply satisfies both dog and owner.

Recently I trained a 14 week old Labrador puppy. I nicknamed him the Pirhana. This puppy was a major biter, with no bite inhibition. The owner's girlfriend is covered in scars and scratches. I found the Pirhana detached from humans in that he neither asked for nor accepted any form of affection. He was not housebroken. And his play with my dogs was aggressive.

I lived with this dog for only ten days. But that ten days was composed of 240 hours, or 14,400 minutes, or 864,000 seconds. For each of those 864,000 seconds I managed that dog, whether it was how he was permitted to use his mouth, when he ate and where he eliminated. The result was a puppy who finally began to solicit affection, did not bite me, played appropriately with the other dogs, and who did not have a single accident in his last nine days of living with me. I also trained him to walk nicely on a leash, not to jump, and to come when called. Those skills took only a couple of hours to teach. The Pirhana, really named Frank, is an incredibly smart dog. However, he was a puppy completely devoid of respect for authority, and in fact, ignorant of the entire concept. It was the management of living with me that turned him around. The dog training was a small bonus.

The day after he went home his owner wrote to me:

Today was the first day Frank was truly a member of our family. Sara (the owner's three year old daughter) and Frank spent the entire day with each other and I have never seen either of them so happy.

Frank has become the affectionate and wonderful puppy that we knew was inside. We have seen too many positive changes to even list. The most important, and most evident, is that he is HAPPY! Rather than limiting him, his boundaries and rules have set him free.

We realize that there is a lot of work to be done. This is work we look forward to. We have no doubt that the investment of time will pay dividends for a lifetime.

We look forward to working with you as Frank continues to grow and develop into the best friend he was meant to be.

Thanks so much,

Kelly, Sara and Karl

You can do the same for your clients, even if you don't live with the dog. Explain to the clients not only how to live with their dogs, but the reasons why. I'm no miracle worker. All I did for Frank, formerly known as the Pirhana, was to manage his life and his resources long enough for his true nature to come forward. Frank is a dog. A dog is most comfortable in pack drive...the drive to collaborate with the leader and receive his share of resources including food, water, space, playtime, and love.

Marc Goldberg trains dogs in the Chicagoland area. Visit him on the web at ChicagoDogTrainer.com. He and Martin Deeley will present a remote collar workshop from November 6 to 10, 2007 in Montverde, FL. For more details, contact the author at canineshrink@aol.com.

IACP

Bloat and Your Dog!

by Thom Somes, "The Pet Safety Guy™"

First aid for dogs and cats is what Pet Tech teaches. I have often wanted to come up with a term that brought to mind something quicker than being "first". We use the word "immediate" for responding to many of the emergency situations that we cover. There is another variable that can be critical in responding quickly to a medical emergency and that is recognition. Sometimes the "tipping point" that gets us to finally realize we need to take action is well into where the injury or illness has become acute and potentially life-threatening, even with advanced veterinary care.

Bloat is one of these emergency situations that require quicker recognition and immediate first aid and veterinary care for a full recovery. It is also one of those medical emergency situations that have many social myths, home-remedies and misinformation surrounding first aid care. Pet Tech uses Kirk and Bistner's, "Handbook of Veterinary Procedures and Emergency Treatment, 8th edition as

our primary source of emergency veterinary medical reference. This is the same book that EVERY veterinarian has in their office.

Pet Tech's teachings are based on the premise that all you really have in an emergency situation are your "head, hands and heart." One of Pet Tech's mantra's when rendering pet first aid is to "use your head, be careful with your hands, because you have a heart." The following six pieces of information for learning and rendering First Aid & Care are: Definition, Causes, Signs, Actions for Survival, Veterinarian Care and Prevention. I will take this same approach in this article for Bloat.

Definition: Kirk and Bistner's Veterinary Textbook refers to two types of bloat: gastric dilatation, and gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV). Volvulus means a "twisting of the stomach or the intestine". Since both require immediate care and diagnosis by a veterinarian, we will keep it

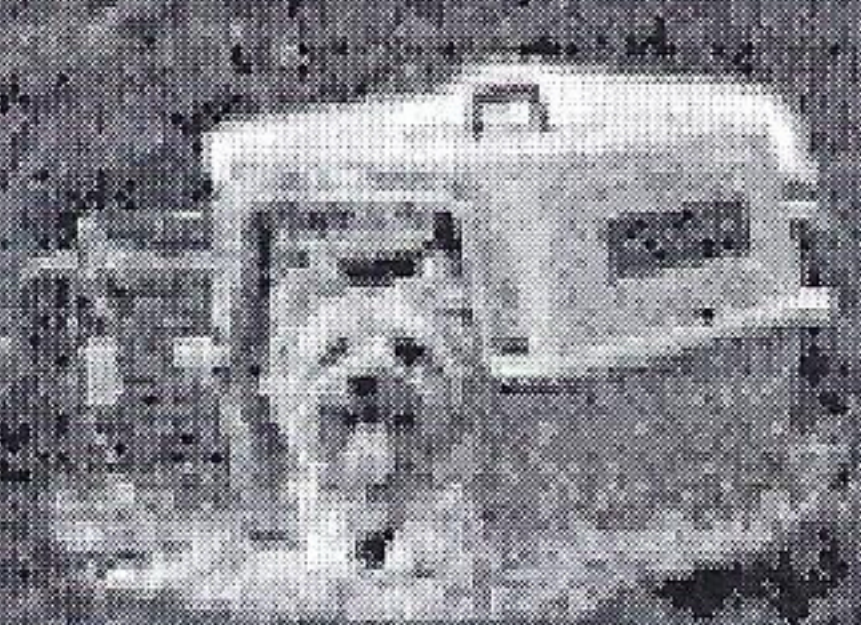


**Sit.
Stay.
Kennel...
Fetch?
Roll over, please?
Okay, now what?**

1-877-PETMATE
www.petmate.com

Petmate

Thinking about getting a new dog? Your puppy in need of kennel training? Petmate can help. www.petmate.com. Get answers to frequently asked questions about training and see other Petmate pet products that will benefit the relationship between you and your pet.



simple and refer to it as bloat. Bloat is the filling of the stomach with air, with or without the stomach twisting. This twisting cuts off blood supply and can make this life-threatening situation become EVEN more life threatening.

Causes: Much time and science has been devoted to studying the cause of bloat. Different social myths have come and gone over time including raising your pet's food dish, severe exercise prior to or after eating, even the amount and type of food given. The primary fact of the matter is that GD/GDV happens to large and giant breeds with deep and/or narrow-chests. Including but not limited to the following breeds: Bernese Mountain Dog, Basset Hound, German Shepherd, Gordon & Irish Setters, Great Dane, Labrador Retriever, Saint Bernard and Standard Poodles.

Signs: One Pet Tech principle is that you must know what is normal for your pet, because then you will more quickly recognize when something your pet is presenting is NOT normal. Pets like people respond, differently to pain, stress and discomfort. Signs include but may not be limited to the following:

Head thrust forward

Unproductive vomiting with retching. Do not confuse saliva for vomitus.

Abdominal region can be distended (bloated or swollen) hard, rigid, painful to the touch, and guardedness. Distention may be difficult to ascertain if the stomach is tucked up under the dog's rib cage.

Capillary Refill (rate at which blood refills empty capillaries, checked at the gums) prolonged with possible red gums (unless gums are normally pigmented black), then they will become white/pale as shock progresses.

Prepare to treat for shock. Shock by definition is the lack of adequate oxygen to the cells of the body.

Lethargy (weakness characterized by a lack of vitality or energy), restlessness (unable to get comfortable), anxiousness, pacing or lack of movement (all are different responses to pain)

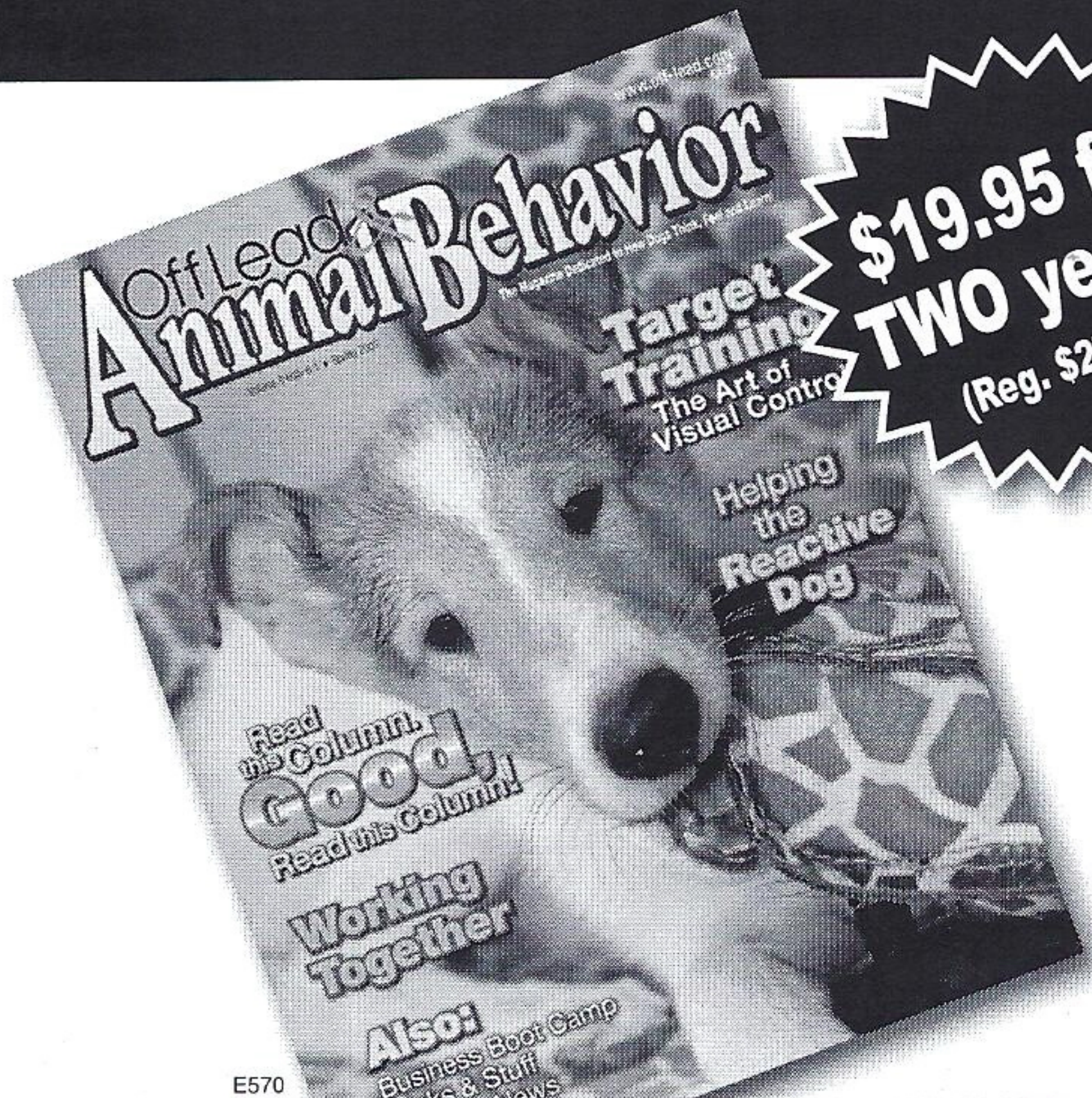
Rapid heart rate (also as time passes slowed heart rate)

Straining to defecate

Collapse

Actions For Survival: Time is of the essence. Do not

IACP Member Special!



\$19.95 for TWO years!
(Reg. \$27.95)



New Editor...
Steve Appelbaum,
Dog Trainer and CEO of
Animal Behavior College

☐ IACP Member Special \$19.95 (Reg. \$27.95) for 2 years.
Payment must accompany order.

Name: _____

Business: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

www.off-Lead.com

Barkleigh Productions, Inc. • 970 West Trindle Road • Mechanicsburg PA 17055
(717) 691-3388 • Fax (717) 691-3381 • info@barkleigh.com • www.off-lead.com

hesitate getting to the Veterinarian for a definitive medical diagnosis. Other Pet First Aid actions include:

Make a mental or written note what time you began aiding your pet.

Restrain and muzzle the pet if necessary.

Assess your pet's vitals: Heart Rate, Breathing Rate, Temperature, Capillary Refill Time and Mucous Membrane Color. Reassess every few minutes, if possible.

Contact your Veterinarian prior to transport, for prehospital instructions and so they can be ready to admit and treat upon arrival.

Unless you are trained in Orogastic Lavage, which is using a long plastic tube for gastric decompression (letting the air and pressure out of the stomach), then the nearest emergency animal hospital is your best course of action. However, even if you choose to do the Orogastic Lavage you MUST still get your pet to the Veterinarian ASAP!

Prior to transport and during transport, treat for shock.

There are Bloat Kits available on the Internet. The skills needed to administer a Bloat Kit are beyond the skills and techniques of a pet first aid training. With that being said, it is NOT beyond the lay pet owner or Pet Care Professional to learn. This is a skill that is best learned from your Veterinarian (this is why you need to have a good relationship with them) prior to an incident occurring.

Veterinarian Care: Immediate care will be to assess your pet's vitals. I cannot stress how important it is for you to pass on the vitals you assessed on your pets to the veterinarian and what time you took them. This builds a window or timeline, for the Veterinarian, that the pet has been affected and will factor in to how aggressive they treat your pet. The Veterinarian will use clinical signs, the physical exam, x-rays and possible sonograms to definitively diagnose gastric dilatation or gastric dilatation-volvulus. Other initial actions by the Veterinarian may include a large bore catheter for delivery of fluids and drugs, ECG, blood pressure, heart rate, capillary refill time, and respiratory function. Initially, they may force a tube down the pet's throat (orogastric lavage) to decompress the stomach. If this is not effective, then they may try a needle thru the abdomen to release the pressure, then surgery. Surgery will put everything back in place and assess the cellular health of the stomach. Be sure to request that they tack the stomach to create 3-point restraint to reduce the severity of another attack. After this, they will

tell you the prognosis. Ongoing monitoring over the next couple of days may be indicated, depending on the severity of the bloat. Surgically treated bloat (with volvulus) is in the 10%-18% range for survival. Pets that are going to die of bloat usually die within the next 72 hours.

Prevention: Even if you do everything right for your dog, they can still succumb to bloat. However, some things you can do to potentially reduce your pet's likelihood of bloat include:

Feed the highest quality food you are able.
Feed 2-3 times per day. Do not give one big meal per day.

Do not give tap water. Give bottled or filtered water.

Do not give food 1-hour before or after vigorous exercise.

If you must change the pet's food, do so over a period of several days. However, if this is not possible, as with this Pet Food Recall, then start them with 2-3 small meals of the new food throughout the day.

Purchase, learn and acquire the skills needed to use a Bloat Kit.

Conclusion: Recognition in the earliest stages of bloat is necessary for the best chance of survival. If you have a dog that has a genetic or physiological disposition to bloat, then have a candid conversation with your Veterinarian on what precautions you can take and what immediate actions are best for your situation. Quick actions for survival can mean the difference between life and death; quick recovery and prolonged treatment: full recovery and limited life-ability. In any emergency situation, do the best you can, "use your head, and be careful with your hands."

Thom Somes, "The Pet Safety Guy™" is a nationally renowned speaker, author and professional trainer. He is the founder and President of Pet Tech, Inc., the first international training center dedicated to Pet First Aid, CPR & Care for dogs and cats. Pet Tech's programs are the official Pet First Aid, CPR & Care Training for the International Association of Canine Professionals. Teaching pet first aid & care is a great way to increase your bottom line, attract new clients and service your existing clients with information they want and need to know! If you are interested in becoming an instructor or looking for an instructor in your area, check our web site at www.Pet-Tech.net, contact us by phone at (760) 930-0309 or e-mail iacp@pettech.net

IACP

play. hunt. cuddle. chase. race. swim. nuzzle. pet. pat. love. — **YOUR JOB**
contain. train. feed. quiet. — **OUR JOB**

PetSafe® products take care of your pet's safety, comfort and everyday needs so you have more time for all those things you like to do together.

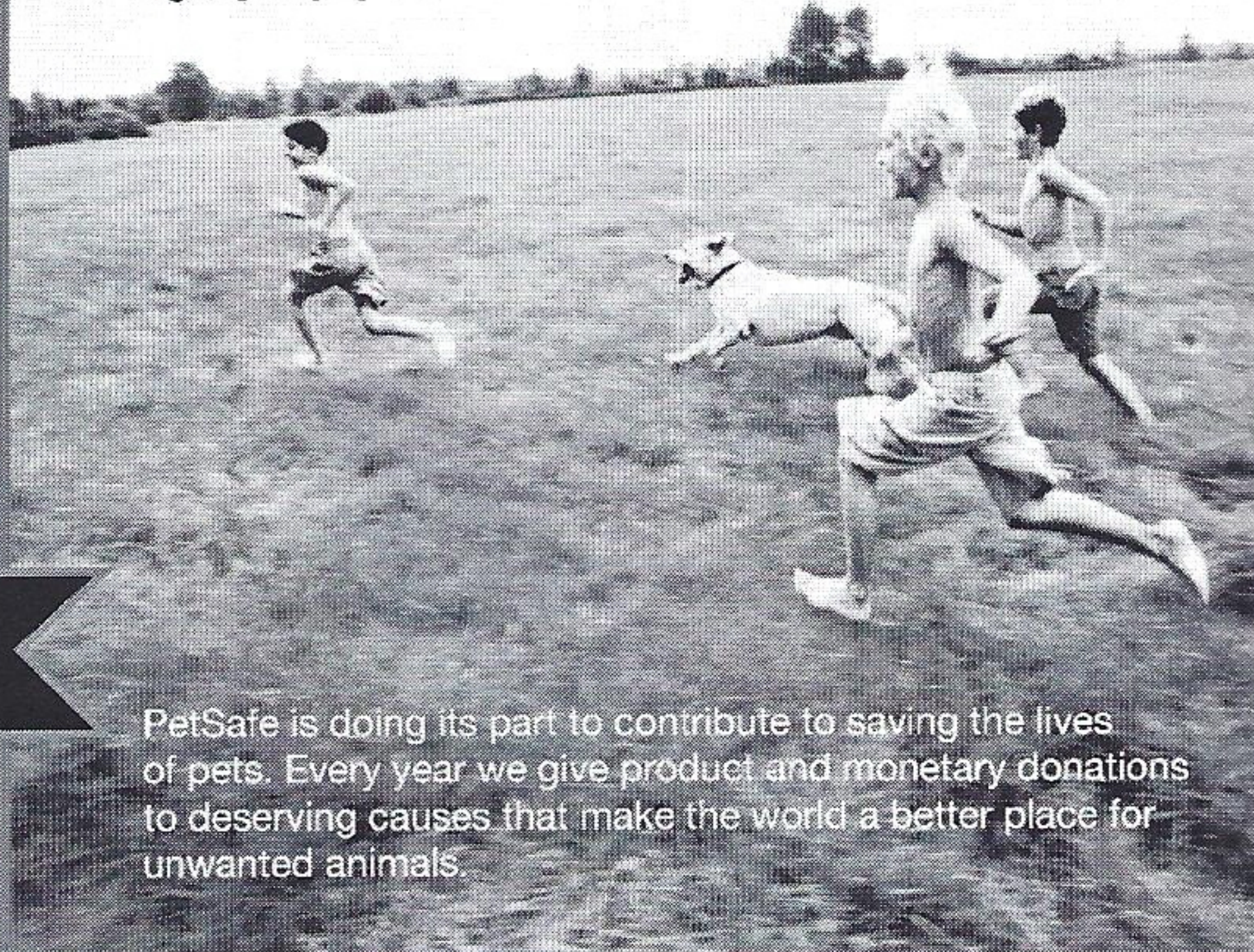
See the full line of PetSafe products for pets of all shapes and sizes at www.petsafe.net



PetSafe®



- Pet Containment • Pet Training • Bark Control
- Pet Doors • Beds • Feeders
- Agility Equipment • Pet Accessories



PetSafe is doing its part to contribute to saving the lives of pets. Every year we give product and monetary donations to deserving causes that make the world a better place for unwanted animals.

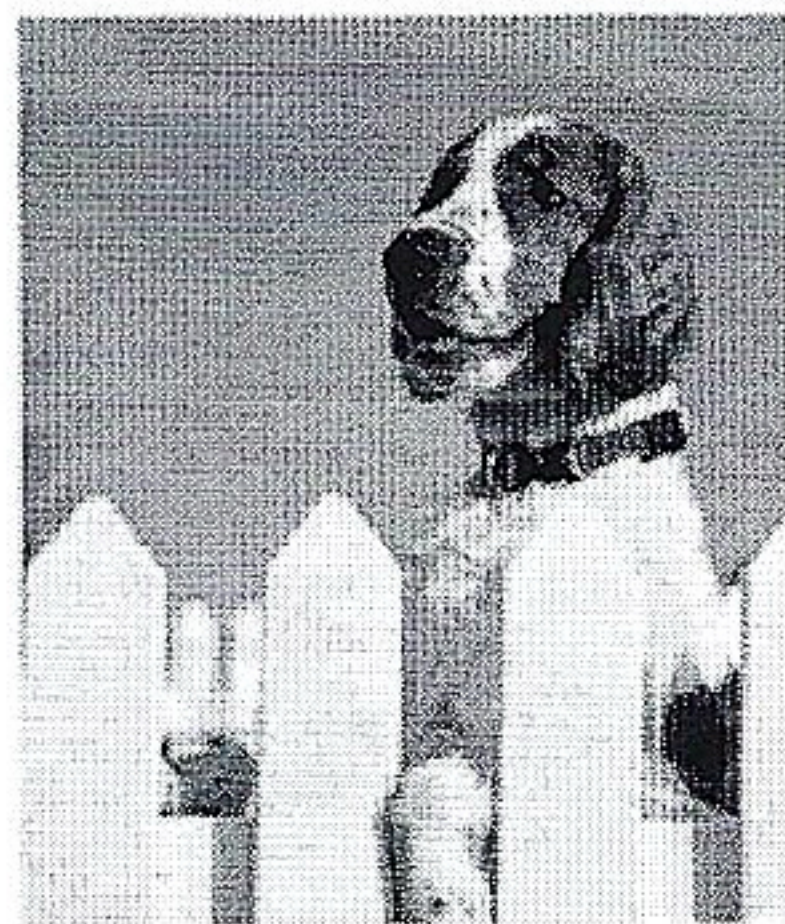
PREMIER™

Your Pets, Our Passion™



Gentle Leader® Headcollar

Quickly controls jumping, pulling and lunging



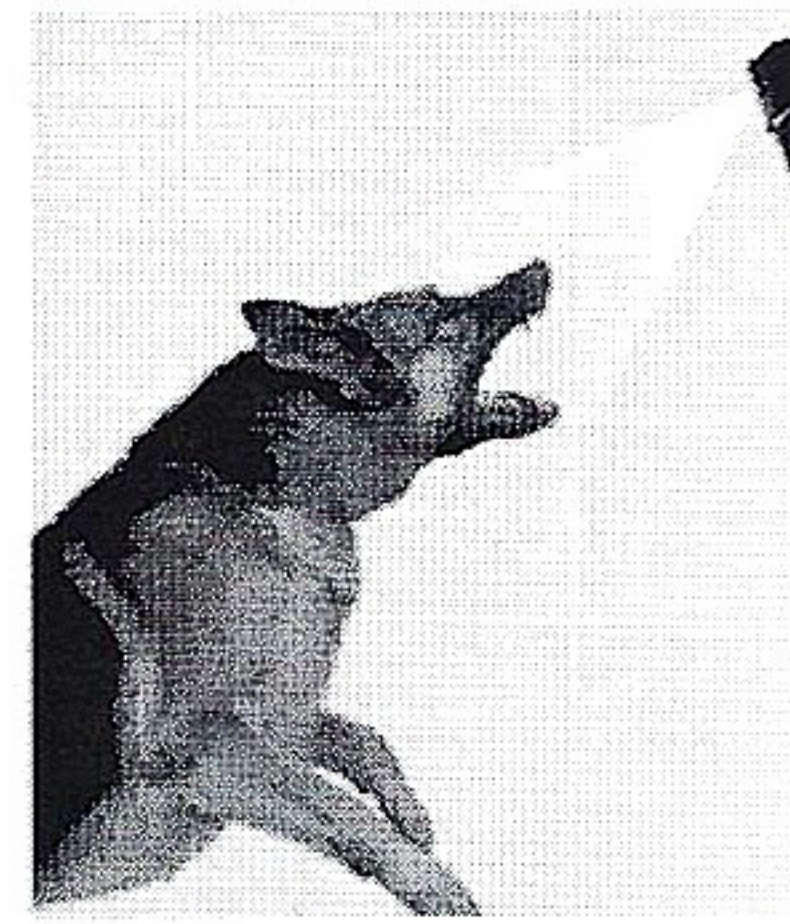
KeepSafe™ Break-Away Collar

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