

# Chronicle

The APDT Chronicle of the Dog

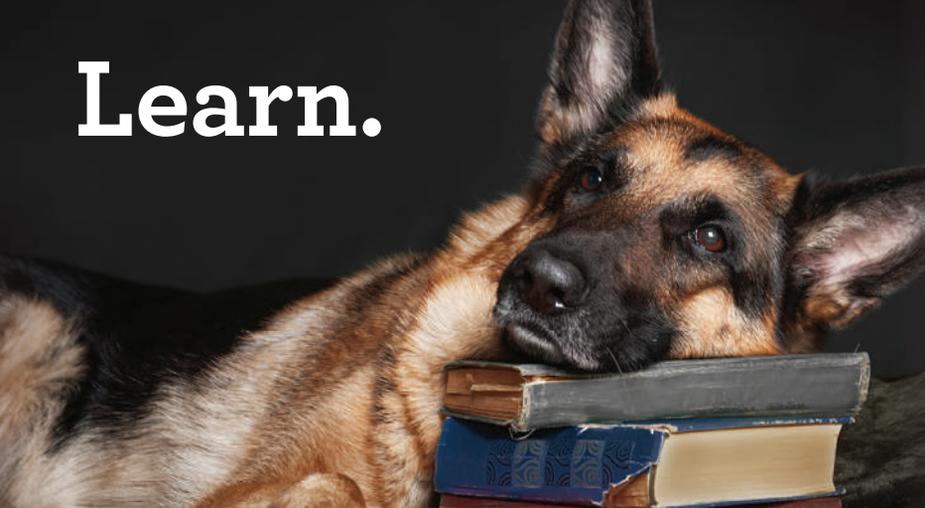


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# The Oregon Trail

## *It's nearly time for the Portland conference; have you registered yet?*



By the time you pick up this issue, we will be only a few short weeks before our 26th annual conference Oct. 30-Nov. 2 in Portland, Oregon. If you haven't already registered for all – or just one or two – days of the convention, please do so quickly, especially if you need hotel accommodations, since that closes Oct. 10. Check out pages 26 to 31 to see the highlights of special events, demonstrations, receptions, exhibit hall activities and vendors. The information is also on our website at APDT.com, click on the CONFERENCE tab in the upper right-hand corner.

This year's conference begins with our esteemed opening keynote speaker, Temple Grandin, Ph.D., on Wednesday, and ends Saturday with our closing keynote speaker, the renown Clive Wynne, Ph.D. While both are animal behaviorists, professors and authors, their topics are diverse: "Understanding Animal Behavior" by Dr. Grandin, and "Dog is Love – The Essence of What Makes Dogs Special" by Dr. Wynne.

Between these two powerful speakers will be a myriad of sessions that will cover the tenants of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers: Animal Learning, Human Learning, Canine Behavior, Health and Nutrition, Business and Laws and Regulations. The schedules for the speakers and sessions are all available at the conference tab on the APDT website.

In this issue, we have several columns written by professionals in the animal behavior/training industry. They include Veronica Boutelle, a long-time *COTD* contributor with her "Biz End of the Leash" column; Melissa Bain, DVM, who writes our "Veterinarian's Perspective" column, and our most recent additions, Steve Appelbaum, president of the Animal Behavior College and David Pearsall of Business Insurers of the Carolinas. All offer unique insights into their areas of expertise. Another longtime contributor to *COTD* is Jamie McKay, who compiles the highly read "Ask the Trainer" column that features a problem and then offers up advice from several other trainers who experience something similar with their classes/clients. All of these points-of-view from those with experience in their fields is a huge benefit for our readers and we are grateful for the time and effort they provide us.

As for our features, Irith Bloom and Kristina Spaulding, Ph.D., did a yeoman's job in explaining how to navigate through scientific papers in order to whittle out the meat of the paper rather than get bogged down while sifting through all of the information. That story begins on page 32. Irith and company also dug into survey numbers about what LIMA (Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive) means to our membership. That story, along with an overview of the Portland conference, and a profile on the APDT Foundation's Blue-9 Working Dog Scholarship recipient begins on page 10.

Peggy Swager offers suggestions on how calming signals may help a highly excitable dog to better focus on training (see page 37), while Melissa Hatfield provides a checklist of signs to look for while picking a puppy to be sure it is emotionally sound (page 41). Rachel Brix brings up an important training concept in her feature "Busting the Muzzle Myth" (page 45): If all dogs are trained to a muzzle, then fewer people would view muzzled dogs they see on walks as automatically "aggressive" rather than just reactive. I know I would feel more comfortable walking my dogs in my neighborhood if a certain neighbor would teach her extremely reactive German Shepherd to wear a muzzle.

We hope you'll enjoy the articles, features and book reviews within this issue and look forward to seeing many of you at Portland in a few weeks.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Devon Hubbard Sorlie".

Devon Hubbard Sorlie,  
Editor

Contact me at [editor@apdt.com](mailto:editor@apdt.com)

# Chronicle

The APDT *Chronicle of the Dog*



2018 Dog Writers Association of America "Best Annual, Special Interest, or Other Topic" Magazine  
2017 Best Club Publication, Maxwell Medallion Winner as awarded by the Dog Writers Association of America

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**41** | EMOTIONAL SOUNDNESS

## Features

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Taking sections out of order may speed process.

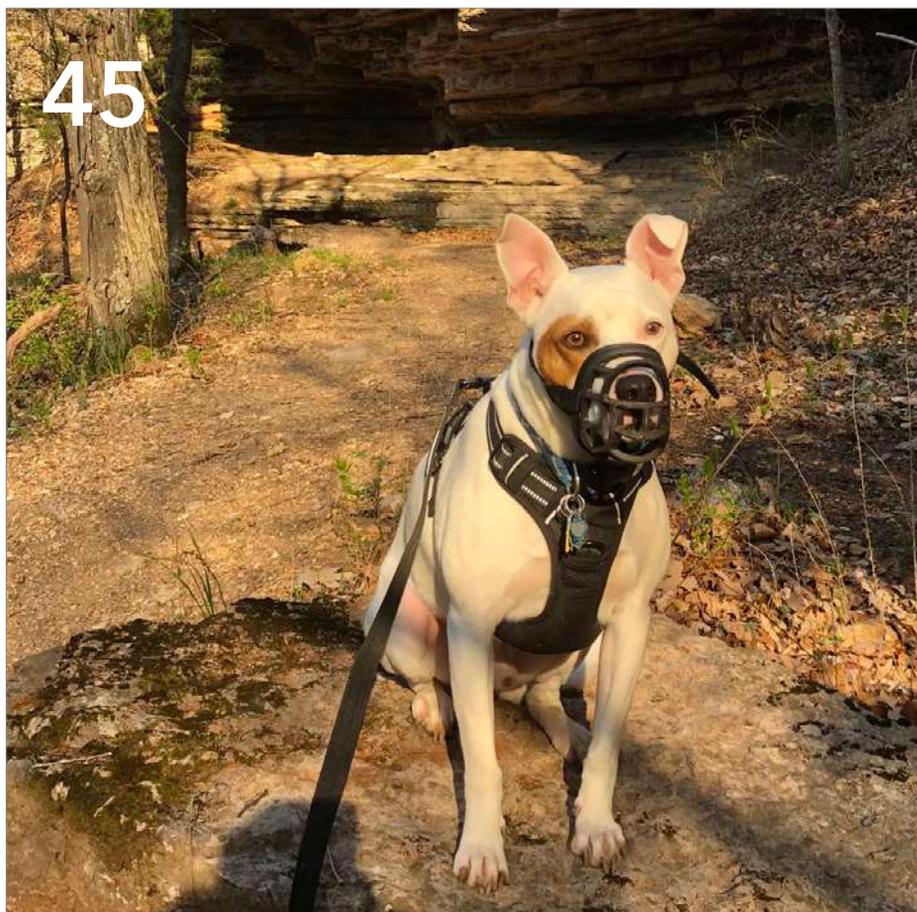
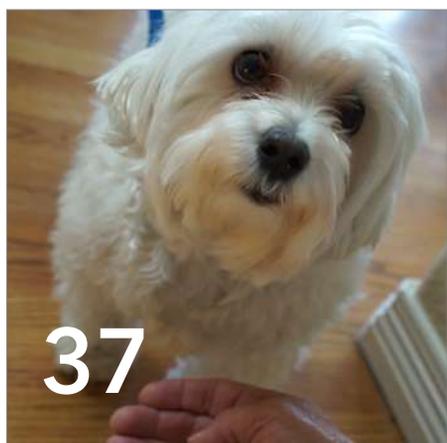
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Ease excitable dogs into training mode with subtle signals.

**41** Emotional Soundness:  
Look for certain traits when selecting new puppy.

**45** Busting the Muzzle Myth:  
Why training all dogs to muzzles makes good sense.



**On the Cover:** Bosun (aka BISS CH Ayehli's All Hands On Deck, CGC) is a beautiful Bernese Mountain Dog who represents our mascot for the 26th Annual APDT Conference. He is owned by Lara Usilton of Mount Sterling, Ky. At only 2 1/2 years old, Bosun's biggest claim to fame is winning Best in Specialty. He is currently working towards his AKC Grand Champion title and will soon try agility and carting, according to his trainer and APDT member, Heather Blakeman of Lexington. Boone Clark Photography



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# We're Listening: APDT Board will seek input from members before adopting position statements



Hello everyone, I hope you all have had a wonderful summer! We have been busy gearing up for our conference that is just around the corner, Oct. 30 – Nov. 2 in Portland, Oregon. Although

the early-bird registration has already ended, there is still plenty of time to register and add a new spark to your business or training tool bag! You can see the full list of sessions and topics by visiting the conference page of [APDT.com](http://APDT.com).

As we mentioned in the last issue, some of our position statements have been recently updated. However, after listening to our membership, moving forward we will be consulting with our members before adopting new position statements. The job of the board is not for us to push our own individual thoughts or beliefs, but to truly represent you, the membership who elected us. Be on the lookout as we will be asking for your thoughts on some very important topics related to our industry very soon, and your participation is the only way we can truly represent you.

Even though it's not perfect, we feel that LIMA (Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive) is one of the best ways to help guide trainers as they are working with dogs. It's a challenge to come up with a staple formula that works for every dog and owner situation because each case is different. Sure, there are a lot of pieces that will almost always be part of what we do and recommend (work under threshold, set the dog up for success, no... don't rub the dog's nose in it – ever, etc.), but when we combine LIMA, the Humane Hierarchy, and our individual expertise, we are hopefully creating a plan and approach that brings our clients relief and reduces the stress on the dog and increasing everyone's happiness. Remember, LIMA isn't a justification to use aversives. Always take proper care you are doing the right thing for both client and dog, strengthening the bond through trust that is earned.

Balancing an inclusive organization that welcomes members of different backgrounds while also advocating and pushing for a modern, positive-reinforcement focused, LIMA-based approach (can I fit any more descriptors into that?) in dog training isn't always easy. But we do it anyway because the best way for us to continue moving our industry in the right direction is by reaching people where they are and helping them do better. We use successive approximations in dog training all the time because we understand that it's an effect approach with proven success, and that's just what we are doing with trainers every day.

If you care about our industry and helping both dogs and trainers, we'd love to hear from you. APDT is always looking for volunteers who want to contribute to making the dog training world a better place. We have several committees that make all of the work we do possible. We are very excited to have five of our members running for positions on the board of directors. You can read about them by logging onto your Membership Dashboard and make an informed decision later this year when you vote for who will represent your voice.

Just in time for conference, we will be unveiling the new updates we've been working on for the Canine Life and Social Skills (C.L.A.S.S.) program. Our volunteers have put in an incredible amount of work to revamp the program and I can hardly contain my excitement for what is to come! I can't give anything away yet, but it looks amazing and trainers of any level will find some benefit from what is coming. Stop by the APDT booth at conference to get an up-close look at the new C.L.A.S.S. and ask any questions about how to implement it in your business.

I hope to see many of you in Portland. Please stop by and say hello to us at the APDT booth and chat with us about what you want to see your organization do!

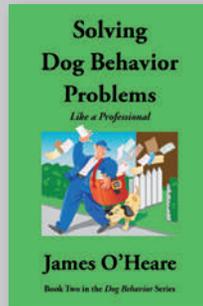
Nick Hof, CPDT-KA, CBCC-KA, KPA-CTP, CSAT

Contact me at [nickhofcpdt@gmail.com](mailto:nickhofcpdt@gmail.com)

## Solving Dog Behavior Problems Like a Professional

James O'Heare

*Solving Dog Behavior Problems*, book 2 in the Dog Behavior series, provides dog guardians the tools to solve dog behavior problems. It explains why dogs exhibit the behaviors they do and how the guardians can assess any kind of problem behavior situation and devise a plan to change the behavior like a professional would.

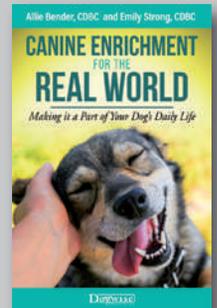


## Canine Enrichment for the Real World

Making it a Part of Your Dog's Daily Life

Allie Bender, CDBC and Emily Strong, CDBC

In the world of dogs, there is more awareness of the need to provide enrichment activities, especially in shelters. Authors Strong and Bender provide you with real world ideas to help you enrich your dog's everyday life.



## Dogwise Publishing authors speaking in Portland

### Assessing Aggression Thresholds

Using the Assess-A-Pet Protocol to Better Understand Aggression

Sue Sternberg

Sue Sternberg has been developing and refining assessment techniques for decades to help shelter workers and trainers determine the likelihood that a dog will engage in aggressive behaviors. Includes Sue's newest protocols based on the theory that sociability is the key predictor of a dog's potential for aggression.

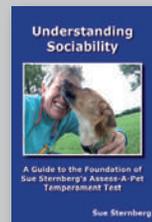


### Understanding Sociability DVD

A Guide To The Foundation Of Sue Sternberg's Assess-A-Pet Temperament Test

Sue Sternberg

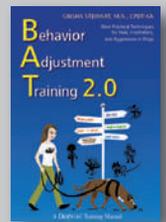
Sociability is a key predictor of a dog's potential for aggression. Sue Sternberg's Assess-A-Pet Temperament Test is a humane and effective method for reading sociability and aggression in dogs. This is an essential tool for determining which dogs are safe and appropriate for adoption.



### Behavior Adjustment Training 2.0

Grisha Stewart, M.A., CPDT-KA

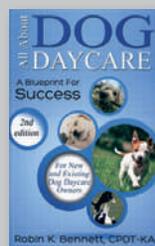
With BAT 2.0, trainer/author Grisha Stewart has completely overhauled Behavior Adjustment Training (BAT) to create a new efficient and practical tool for dog reactivity. BAT 2.0 builds resilience and self-reliance by giving dogs safe opportunities to learn about people, dogs, or other "triggers." Clear enough for all readers to follow, this book also includes technical tips and bonus chapters just for dog behavior professionals.



### All About Dog Daycare

Robin K. Bennett

Whether just starting your daycare career or a seasoned veteran in the industry, this book provides proven techniques to give you a blueprint for success. Learn more about basic information for starting a dog daycare. Also includes forms and record-keeping materials needed to operate a daycare.



### From Fearful to Free

Free Your Dog From Anxiety, Fears, and Phobias

Marty Becker, Lisa Radosta, Wailani Sung, and Mikkel Becker

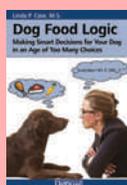
Written by four powerhouses in the world of veterinary medicine and behavior, this informative manual takes an in-depth look at fear: an issue that dog owners frequently encounter yet don't often understand



### How to Run a Dog Business

Veronica Boutelle

This second edition, incorporating Veronica's ten years of experience helping dog pros succeed, included additional advice on packaging services, setting policies, and avoiding burnout, an expanded marketing chapter and resources section, and two entirely new chapters.



# Living as Stuart Smalley

*Take time to focus on successes rather than dwell on failures*



In this hectic, fast-paced world that we live in, we tend to lose sight of decisions we make that affect our level of happiness and personal accomplishments. You may recall

the fictional character, Stuart Smalley who hosted a daily affirmation show during skits on “Saturday Night Live” in the ‘90s. Stuart would finish each of his segments by looking at himself in the mirror and state, “I’m good enough, I’m smart enough, and doggone it, people like me.” While I don’t talk to myself in a mirror, I do answer five questions on a monthly basis to reflect on what I’ve accomplished and what I still need to work on.

**What are your successes?** Once you determine what defines success in your life, you can reflect on what it is that you’ve been doing successfully over the last month. Too often we think about all of the negativity around us, on TV and in our lives, that we forget to appreciate what we’ve accomplished. Take a moment to celebrate your successes and even tell a family member or friend about your success to get that affirmation that you so truly deserve.

**What is working well?** There may be some decisions you’ve made that are doing well, but with a little extra effort could be considered successes. The answer to this question can also help you manage your time better by focusing on what is working well vs. those that aren’t doing so well. By investing in these decisions, you’ll not only have more successes each month, but also learn how to make things go from good to great.

**What lessons have you learned?** Sometimes you stumble and fall when you make the wrong decision. That’s OK. Many experts believe that more learning is experienced when someone fails at first in order to realize what to do differently to keep from failing the next time. We’ve all made our fair share of mistakes in

our lives, trust me. It’s how we learn from those mistakes that determines our level of success moving forward.

**What is keeping you up at night?** Unfortunately, the answer to this question can come way too easily as you are literally staying up at night obsessed with an issue. Acknowledging these mostly stressful situations are important especially when you can reflect back on how you handled those situations. Often times, these issues are overblown as they are actions you cannot take to address them while trying to go to sleep but could be addressed the next day or in the near future. Other times they are situations that are out of your control and you just have to let go.

**What difference have I made in the lives of others?** You could call this the “doggone it, people like me” question if you wish. It really helps you identify how you had a positive impact on the lives of others, even when you’re not consciously thinking about it at the time it happens. This could be letting someone skip you in line, opening the door for someone with their hands full, or just simply letting someone know that you appreciate them. I can tell you that just mentioning to my dog that we are going for a walk, I know that I had a positive impact on her day even before we leave the house.

We all experience stress, demands on our time, expectations of others, personal and professional responsibilities, etc. While you may call it an investment in yourself or a point of reflection for positive self-awareness, acknowledging your successes, failures and personal impact on others can really put things into perspective for you. I hope that while reading the five questions, you already started thinking about how you would answer each question. If you decide to recite them looking into a mirror like Stuart Smalley, then more power to you!

David Feldner, CAE  
Executive Director

Contact me at david.feldner@apdt.com

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## Be a Better Trainer, Build a Better Business: APDT's Conference in Portland Packed with Top-Notch Speakers, Sessions and Exhibitors

By Devon Hubbard Sorlie, COTD editor

The 26th annual Educational Conference and Trade Show is just a few weeks away, so if you haven't taken the opportunity to register, you still have time. Just visit our website at [apdt.com](http://apdt.com) and click on the conference tab in the upper right-hand corner. This year's conference, Oct. 30-Nov. 2 in beautiful Portland, Oregon, will be filled with workshops, seminars, sessions and lots of opportunities to network with APDT colleagues, earn continuing education units for recertification and check out more than 40 exhibitors that support the animal training industry.

### Keynote Speakers

Both the opening and closing keynote speakers are renown animal behaviorists. The esteemed Temple Grandin, Ph.D., known for both her animal behavior work and her autism, will be the opening speaker Wednesday morning on Oct. 30. Her talk on "Understanding Animal Behavior" comes from a nearly 50-year career studying and researching animals. She also credits her autism in making her a better animal behaviorist. Dr. Grandin currently is an animal science professor at Colorado State University.

The closing keynote speaker on

Saturday afternoon, Nov. 2, is Clive Wynne, Ph.D., a behavioral science professor and director of the Canine Science Collaboratory at Arizona State University. He is also the director of research at Wolf Park, Battle Ground, Indiana. His keynote address will highlight research in finding out what makes dogs special in his newest book, "Dog Is Love." He will also lead a session "Helping Dogs with Behavior Science." To read more about both, check out the SPRING and SUMMER issues of *Chronicle of the Dog*. Both issues are located at <https://apdt.com/membership/chronicle/>.

### APDT Award Recipients Recognized



Dr. Wynne will have another reason to attend the conference besides being a keynote and session speaker: He will be honored as the 2019 recipient of APDT's

**Lifetime Achievement Award.** This award recognizes an individual who has strongly and positively influenced the advancement of the profession of dog training. The recipient of the award is chosen by the APDT Board of Directors. "Dr. Wynne's contribution to our

understanding of dogs and behavior cannot be overstated,” said APDT Board Chair Nick Hof upon the announcement of the award honorees earlier this year. “His work has helped to inform us all on the deeper understanding that our dogs have and the influence that brings to training will ripple forward for years to come.”



Kristina Spaulding, Ph.D., will receive the **APDT Member of the Year Award**, which honors APDT members who have demonstrated outstanding commitment, passion and professionalism, and dedication for advancing APDT as it advances the dog training profession and advocates for the pet industry profession. She is a member of APDT’s Education Committee where she helps develop and evaluate APDT’s educational resources. “Dr. Spaulding has worked tirelessly in helping to bring up-to-date and relevant information to our membership. Through her volunteer work and creation of educational materials, our members who seek to learn more will be in good hands as questions are answered and spur more to come,” APDT Board Chair Hof said.

Spaulding has worked tirelessly in helping to bring up-to-date and relevant information to our membership. Through her volunteer work and creation of educational materials, our members who seek to learn more will be in good hands as questions are answered and spur more to come,” APDT Board Chair Hof said.



The third award will go to former APDT Chair Amber Burckhalter, who will receive the **2019 Chairman’s Award**, which recognizes an individual who has significantly impacted the work of APDT during a long period of time. Amber served in nearly every capacity on the APDT board and also on the APDT Foundation Board. “Amber helped to steer our organization through a difficult time of transition,” Hof said. “Through her sacrifices and tireless adherence to the mission of APDT, we emerged a stronger and better organization for our members and for the industry as a whole.”

All three award winners will be recognized during the APDT business meeting just

prior to the opening keynote speaker’s address Wednesday morning.

**Continuing Education Units**



Continuing education units are required for various certificants to maintain their credential status. CPDT-KA and CPDT-KSA certificants must renew their certification every three years, during which time one must earn at least 36 hours of lecture/seminar CEUs, and for KSA certifications, there must be an additional 12 CEUs of hands-on seminars/workshops.

The APDT conference has received approval for certificants of the following organizations: International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants (IAABC), Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT), Karen Pryor Academy (KPA), International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP), National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors, Inc. (NADOI), National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW) and Animal Behavior College Certified Dog Trainer Level 2 (ABCDT-L2). There are two ways of getting CEUs — attending conference sessions, presentations, lectures, demonstrations, and workshops. Attending the full conference will allow for 30 CEUs, or approximately 7.5 CEUs per day, for all of the certificants except NACSW (8).

There are three 8-hour pre-conference workshops scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 29. Two of them are not hands-on workshops: Fear Free and Ethologist for the Day but allow for nine CEUs for IAABC and six knowledge CEUs for CPDT-KA, CPDT-KSA and CBCC-KA. Fear Free will be led by Debbie Martin and Mikkell Becker, while Sue Sternberg and Tim Lewis, Ph.D., will co-lead Ethologist for the Day. The third workshop, Tellington Touch Method® by

Clare Swanger, earns nine CEUs for IAABC and 4.5 (skills), 3 (knowledge) for CPDT-KA and CPDT-KSA.

There is an additional cost to attend the pre-conference workshops and reservations must be made for the limited-seating classes. More information can be found on the conference registration forms at [apdt.com/apdt-conference-2019](http://apdt.com/apdt-conference-2019), or by calling 1-800-PET-DOGS.



**Receptions, Auctions, Exhibits**

The conference offers plenty of opportunities to network, socialize and shop for fun gadgets and toys. The first is a Tuesday night “Regiception” featuring light appetizers and beverages while signing in and picking up your conference packet.

The “Best in Show” Exhibit Hall for pet professionals opens at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, with a “Treats and Tricks” reception. This “pawty” will have light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. Sponsored by Ziwi, come for the treats and see some tricks in the Blue-9 Demo area, which will be the place to see a number of exciting doggie demonstrations.

On Thursday, Oct. 31, the APDT Foundation will host its Live Auction and Reception with light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. Funds raised during the bidding will go to the APDT Foundation, which uses the money for scholarships and grants.

The final social event will be the Yappy Hour from 5-7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, which is the last call for those wishing to visit with or purchase from vendors, exhibitors and sponsors in the Exhibit Hall before it closes for the conference. Amid appetizers, desserts and a cash bar, there will be a silent auction to benefit the APDT Foundation.

## Intrusive vs Invasive. Confusion continues over what the “I” stands for in the LIMA acronym

By Irith Bloom, APDT Education Committee co-chair

Many thanks to the more than 900 of you who took part in APDT’s survey on LIMA! We were extremely pleased to have such a great response, especially since everyone who took part in the survey answered every single question. Here are some highlights from your responses:

1. There was confusion about what the acronym “LIMA” stands for. While it actually stands for “Least Intrusive Minimally Aversive,” a sizable minority of respondents chose “Least Invasive, Minimally Aversive.” Given the similarity between the words “intrusive” and “invasive,” including their somewhat overlapping meanings, that is not surprising. But for the record, the “I” stands for “Intrusive.”

Later on in the survey, there was a question that asked respondents to choose an option that corresponded with LIMA guidelines, from among several different sentences. About 90 percent of respondents chose the correct option, but comments on the question made it clear the LIMA statement can be confusing and difficult to interpret—a theme that came up in comments on other survey questions, as well.

2. About 10 percent of the respondents had watched Dr. Kristina Spaulding’s webinar on LIMA, and several people added praise for the webinar in their comments. About 60 percent of respondents said they had not seen the webinar but intend to watch it in the future. About 30 percent were not interested in watching it at all. Based on the comments, many of those who are not interested in watching the seminar already know a great deal about LIMA through other sources.

What came up over and over in the comments, though, was that people couldn’t figure out how to access the webinar. The link provided through the survey unfortunately did not work properly for many of you. We will do our best to make the webinar easier to access! People also weren’t sure if there was a cost involved in watching the webinar, and many had difficulty figuring out the duration of the webinar. For the record, the webinar is free, and it’s about 109 minutes (one hour and 49 minutes) long.

3. More than 80 percent of respondents stated they understand LIMA and use it as a guideline all of the time. Roughly 10 percent of respondents said they use LIMA as a guideline some of the time, and a small percentage apparently do not use LIMA as a guideline at all. Most of those who do not use LIMA as a guideline chose the option indicating they don’t know much about LIMA, but a very small minority (less than 2 percent of respondents) chose the option indicating they understand LIMA but do not intend to use it as a guideline.

The comments on the topic of using LIMA guidelines fell into several broad categories. Some people said they have always followed a LIMA way of doing things, long before the acronym even existed. Other respondents expressed concerns that LIMA essentially gives people license to use aversive methods, since it includes the use of negative reinforcement and positive punishment—and some of those respondents chose the option indicating they only use LIMA some of the time, since they don’t use all the methods mentioned in the LIMA guidelines. A small number of respondents commented they don’t work their way through the Hierarchy of Behavior Change Procedures as required when following LIMA guidelines, but instead simply go straight to what has worked for them in the past. Similar comments came up in response to several of the other questions in the survey. It’s clear that people have strong feelings about LIMA guidelines.

4. APDT would like to offer education that helps people understand LIMA guidelines, so the survey proposed a variety of topics to focus on. About 84 percent of respondents were interested in learning about LIMA-compliant solutions to typically difficult-to-address behaviors, but it was clear from people’s comments there were other things they wanted that weren’t in the education options suggested in the survey.

Many commenters asked APDT to take a stronger stance against the use of aversive methods of training. A large number also expressed concerns about the lack of enforcement of LIMA guidelines. Others wanted guidance on how to discuss LIMA, both with clients and other trainers. A few commenters would like to see an unbiased discussion of the pros and cons of a variety of training methods. There were also comments, both here and in response to other questions, indicating the LIMA guidelines as currently written are too complex and should be simplified.

5. The last couple of questions on the survey posited behavior scenarios and offered suggested interventions. The comments on these questions made it clear that more information was needed to determine the proper interventions. Some respondents were clearly annoyed by the lack of clarity in these questions, in fact, as APDT moves forward with LIMA education, we will be sure to take those criticisms into account.

The results of this survey show people in the dog training community have strong feelings about the LIMA guidelines included in the joint Standards of Practice adopted by APDT, CCPDT, and IAABC. APDT leadership will be looking carefully both at the results of the survey and the various comments from respondents to ensure APDT serves its members as well as possible.

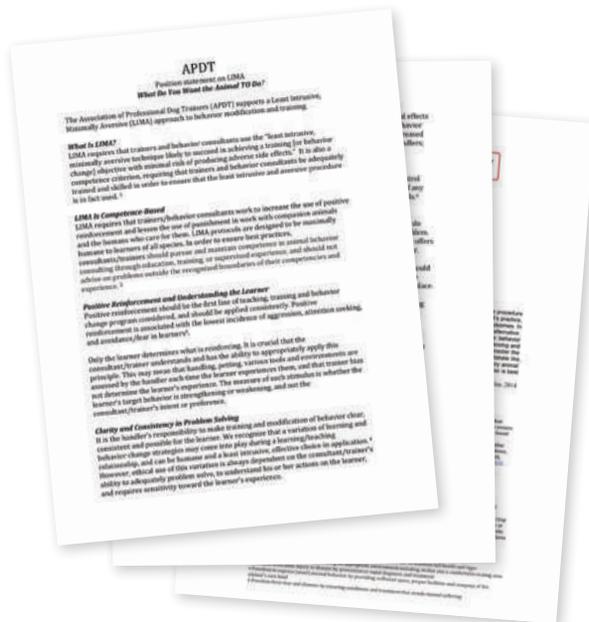
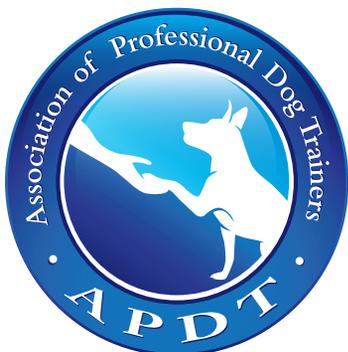
Thank you again to the roughly 900 of you who took the time to participate in this survey. We are extremely appreciative and look forward to incorporating your ideas as we continue our efforts to support professional dog trainers.

# The Association of Professional Dog Trainers (APDT) supports a Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive (LIMA) approach to behavior modification and training.

## What is LIMA?

LIMA requires that trainers and behavior consultants use the “least intrusive, minimally aversive technique likely to succeed in achieving a training (or behavior change) objective with minimal risk of producing aversive side effects.” LIMA also incorporates a competence criterion, requiring that trainers and behavior consultants be adequately trained and skilled in order to ensure that the least intrusive and aversive procedure is in fact used.

To download the complete white paper outlining APDT’s position on this issue, go to <https://apdt.com/about/position-statements/>





## Scent Trainer Chosen as Blue-9 Pet Products Working Dog Scholarship Recipient

By Devon Hubbard Sorlie, COTD editor

The Blue-9 Pet Products Working Dog Scholarship is awarded annually to a certified instructor of a working dog program, a handler of a certified working dog, or volunteer handler of a certified police, military, government agency, professional detection or Search and Rescue K9.



The Blue-9 Scholarship is handled through the Association of the Professional Dog Trainers Foundation.

Members of the APDT Board of Directors and the APDT Foundation Board of Directors are not eligible for the scholarship. The purpose is to allow a certified instructor or a certified working dog handler to attend the APDT Annual Conference and to receive the educational and networking benefits of attendance. The recipient is expected to highlight his or her scholarship at the conference in one of several ways: using social media to inform others about the conference, writing an article, or being interviewed for the APDT *Chronicle of the Dog*.

The sponsors of the scholarship, Blue-9 Pet Products, began in 2013 when conversations with the professional K-9 training community revealed the need for a platform designed specifically for training use. From that input, the training platform Klimb was developed to improve a dog's focus by elevating them off the ground.

"Blue-9 Pet Products' mission has always been to help dogs and handlers succeed in their training," said Jamie Popper, a company representative. "In line with that mission, Blue-9 supports the APDT Foundation Scholarship for working dog handlers. It is our

hope that each scholarship winner will take what they learn each year at the APDT conference and apply that knowledge to help other working dogs and handlers."

It's hard to pinpoint who might be more excited about the 2019 recipient of the Blue-9 Pet Products Working Dog Scholarship: The recipient herself, Coby Webb, Ph.D., or the sponsoring organization. Having talked with Coby, I'm going to tip the scales in her favor. As a police captain for a law agency in Southern California, she is absolutely delighted to be able to attend her first APDT conference that is just three hours from her father's home in Bend, Oregon, where she grew up.

"I've never been to any of the conferences, and now I get to go listen to others, do networking and hear others speak. I love learning about what else dogs can do and what else I can learn," she said by telephone recently. "There is so much to learn from people that I just want to absorb it, things that will help me improve and get to a higher success rate. It will give me more tools in my toolbox. I just love dogs, and I get to be in my favorite realm of learning."

At 49 years old, Coby is no stranger to learning, nor to success. It was her passion for learning and "things with four (sometimes three) legs" that got her into training dogs while growing up near Bend, Oregon. "I always wanted to be a law enforcement dog handler," she said. "I loved the bond between the police dog and the handler. I was in awe with that."

Coby did become a law enforcement dog handler, and then some. She is the only female instructor with the National Police Bloodhound Association and holds instructor, evaluator and judge certifications for tracking and trailing for all dog breeds. She is also a recognized court expert in scent discrimination and has consulted on hundreds of cases regarding tracking evidence. And as if that wasn't enough, Coby invented a scent collection and storage system called "Find'em Scent Safe" that protects the scent of a missing person from becoming contaminated.

### Two passions united

Coby was attending justice of administration classes at the College of the Desert, a community college near Palm Desert, when she was hired as a reserve officer with Palm Springs Police Department in 1992. After completing the police academy, Coby became a deputy sheriff. Coby worked hard through the system and became a canine handler in 2000 when she was paired with a Belgian Malinois named Barrie. At the same time, she had just started her agency's first bloodhound program. Prior to Coby's initiative and written proposal, her agency had used a local volunteer for Bloodhound callouts and Coby began training with him. Coby wanted the sheriff's department to create its own Bloodhound unit where they would be able to trail criminal cases along with missing persons.

"We have a 2.3 million population, and there are people with dementia and kids with autism wandering away from their homes or go missing," Coby explained. Her captain told her to prove the Bloodhound is a valuable service, how it is needed and an asset to the department, and he would support it.

Say no more, said the can-do Coby. She bought her own

Bloodhound, named Maggie Mae, and together they attended trainings in California, Colorado, Maryland, New York and South Carolina, earning several certifications with the National Police Bloodhound Association and other organizations. Maggie Mae aced the field work, which was tracking a human scent through a South Carolina swamp. Now certified, Coby worked as a deputy and served as a Bloodhound volunteer in her free time.

Maggie Mae quickly proved her worth when she found a rape suspect who was hiding near Cabazon. The Bloodhound alerted Coby by sitting on top of the man who had buried himself in the desert dirt. Maggie Mae's superior nose with nearly 300 million scent receptors and her ability to track using both air and ground had done what other police dogs at the scene couldn't – separate the suspect's scent out from the myriad other smells at the scene, including other officers.

Soon after, Maggie Mae was deputized, establishing the first full time Bloodhound unit within her agency (4,000-person department). Coby became a dual dog handler with Barrie and Maggie Mae, so the department got her a patrol vehicle that allowed her to carry both dogs. A second Bloodhound, Abigail, was added to the unit to keep up with casework. Coby worked both Bloodhounds and her patrol K-9. Eventually, Coby became a sergeant and supervised her agency's K-9 program that consisted of 26 handlers. She also became a K-9 trainer. The Bloodhound unit has been credited with identifying killers and finding people throughout the country. Maggie Mae and Abigail were also called upon by the F.B.I. During Coby's time with the K-9 program, she handled four patrol dogs and two narcotic dogs along with her Bloodhounds.

### 2010: A Year of Highs and One Low

As Coby's reputation for training her Bloodhounds expanded, she traveled to Kenya in 2010 to assist the Mara Conservancy with its tracking dog unit that was created in 2009 by the Canine Training Academy (Colorado) to assist the anti-poaching unit.

That winter, Coby earned her doctorate degree in management with a focus on organizational leadership. This is where she had the idea of the "Find'em Scent Safe," a kit used to create an uncontaminated scent sample that could be stored in the freezer for up to a year. The Scent Safes are especially important for parents with at-risk children who may wander off, or those suffering from Alzheimer's disease or dementia. It's a great idea for all family members including hikers, hunters or other outdoorsmen. The premise is simple: Sterile gauze is placed against the skin to soak up smells and cells for several minutes, and then sealed and stored in the Scent Safe which is placed in the freezer for a year. Such a pure scent allows the Search dog to home in on a single scent so it can track faster and better.

Coby explained scents are intermingled all the time, with outside influences and even other family members, so it is unlikely a Bloodhound would have just the missing person's scent on an item of

clothing or even a pillow. "I have twins. So, they're intermingled all the time. And I do the laundry. My scent is on everything. I fold it. I kiss them good night. I lean over their pillow," Coby explained in a previous interview how she came up with the idea. "How can I help the dog be more successful and have families have their loved ones found quicker."



Coby's accomplishments from earlier in 2010 would pale in comparison to the challenge she faced just a few months later — her ability to walk and the possible end of her career. Coby and her family visited her father in Bend over the Christmas holiday. On Dec. 27, the family started their trek back to southern California after they waited out an icy storm to allow the roads to be cleared. Coby was driving her truck

that was towing an empty 20-foot horse trailer on Highway 97 near La Pine, Oregon, when she attempted to pull over to allow faster traffic to pass just 30 miles into the trip. Her truck slid into the opposite lane and the trailer jackknifed as an oncoming Chevy SUV crashed head-on into the driver's side door. Coby immediately asked about the condition of her family and those in the other vehicle. Paramedics told her she had suffered the worst of the accident with a spinal cord injury and a shattered left hip; however, her daughter, Sydney, had a broken foot and her son, Trent, was unconscious from a concussion. Coby and Trent were airlifted to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend. Unsure if she would survive her critical injuries, Coby underwent an 8-hour surgery that repaired her spinal column and hip by fusing titanium to the bone. But she was paralyzed from the waist down; doctors were unsure if it was temporary or permanent and she might never walk again.

To those who know Coby Webb, never say never to this 5-foot-4-inch tall officer. A marathon runner and skier, she was in good physical condition, which aided in her recovery. Her determination did the rest. She gritted her way through 9-weeks of rehabilitation in Oregon and was then cleared to return to California. Within four months, Coby went from her wheelchair to crutches to a walker and then using canes. Within a year, Coby was back at her job developing a department-wide leadership program for all ranks.

Nine years later, Coby has risen to the rank of captain. During the past 27 years as a law enforcement officer, Coby has been the recipient of Officer of the Year, Distinguished Service Medal, California Peace Officers Association's Officer of Distinction, Hero's Award, and for two years in a row she received Honorable Mention for the AKC's Award for Canine Excellence, along with numerous commendations. She has also worked numerous SWAT missions with her Bloodhounds at local and national levels including the Sierra SWAT Challenge for several years. She was also asked to participate and teach tracking/trailing with SWAT for Urban Shield. And now she can add to that impressive list as being the recipient of the APDT Foundation's Blue-9 Pet Products Working Dog Scholarship.



Win a chance to adopt Willie the Perpetual Pig at the APDT Foundation Auction.

## APDT Foundation Seeks Donation Items for Silent and Live Auctions

The APDT Foundation was created to help raise money specifically for research projects that would be of practical use to dog trainers, dog behavior consultants, shelter trainers, and others who work to improve the lives of dogs and the humans they live with.

If APDT members want to contribute to the APDT Foundation, they can provide an item for the auction or buy an item if they attend this year's annual conference Oct. 30-Nov. 2 in Portland, Oregon. The Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 charity and its tax ID number is 27-1498724. All donations are tax deductible according to the Internal Revenue Service rules and regulations.

This year's auction is off to a grand start, according to Foundation board member Sarah Anderson.

"We have already received some amazing donations for this year's silent and live auction," she said. Those items include:

- Willie the Perpetual Pig: Dr. Patricia McConnell donated Willie's Pig Toy for the APDT Foundation's first Live Auction. For the past 25 years, Willie has traveled around the world with the winner of this iconic character's very special auction for a year until re-auctioned at the next conference. This will be Willie's 26th auction! Get a chance to be part of APDT history and follow in the footsteps of previous Willie Caretakers like: Dr. Patricia McConnell, Dr. Ian Dunbar, past Board Chairs and more! You will get to host Willie for a year, control his social media presence and adventures, and have unlimited access to his knowledge and experiences! For more information, check out Willie's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/WillieThePerpetualPig/>
- Chicken Camp: 5-day Terry Ryan Beginning or Advanced Chicken training donated and hosted by KARE (Kitsap Animal Rescue & Education). Location is Seabeck, Washington. Dates are TBD. Lodging and transportation are not included.
- CCPDT certification exam registration donated by CCPDT
- VIP lunches with one of our amazing and knowledgeable presenters: Grisha Stewart, Michele Pouliot, Linda Erb
- Entrance to an online course created for professional dog trainers by Grisha Stewart and donated by Grisha Stewart
- Free access to the full 2019 conference recordings donated by the APDT
- Free access to the 2019 conference shorts recordings donated by APDT

If you have an item to donate, dog related or other, we would love to hear from you! To donate to the Silent or Live Auction at the upcoming APDT Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show, please contact [info@apdtfoundation.org](mailto:info@apdtfoundation.org).





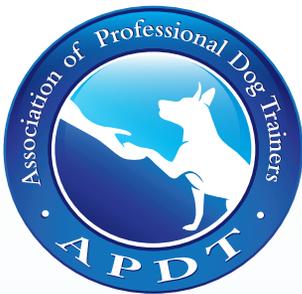



**26th Annual Conference Tee Shirt and Hoodie Order Deadline Approaching!**

Friday, Oct. 4 is the last day to purchase a 2019 APDT conference tee shirt or hoodie. You must be a 2019 registered attendee to order. Extras will not be available for purchase onsite. If you forgot to order when previously registering contact the office at (800) PET-DOGS or [apdt@apdt.com](mailto:apdt@apdt.com).



Here Willie enjoys sniffing the sights in upstate New York while Mark Forrest Patrick attended training earlier this year.



## Never miss a post!

You like APDT because you want to see our posts. Don't miss a single training topic, conference update, multi-week/webinar highlight or more! Here are two easy steps to make sure you never miss an update!

When you are on APDT's Facebook page:

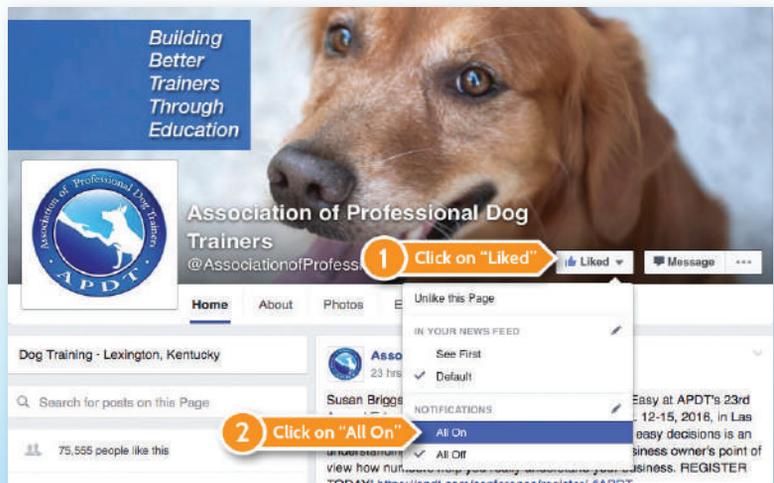
- 1 Click on "Liked"
- 2 Click on "All On"

That's it!

Also, don't forget to follow our LinkedIn page!



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# THE DAY TRAINING REVOLUTION

By Veronica Boutelle, CTC, MAEd

## Some clients just want their dog trained, not to be trained

Unfinished training cases and poor client compliance are frustrating endemic issues in our industry. The frustration often leads to blaming clients, labeling them lazy, uncommitted, unskilled, uncaring, cheap. Sometimes we internalize the failure and blame poor training results on our own shortcomings. Neither explanation is fair, and neither is helpful. We have learned to stop blaming the dog and just get on with training him. Similarly, it's time to stop blaming clients and ourselves, pinpoint the true problem, and get on with a solution.

### Coaching is the Culprit

The heart of the trouble is our coaching approach, our reliance on the flawed model of training people to train their own dogs. The concept sounds so logical — of course owners should train their dogs, they're the ones who live with them. But let's step back and consider the practicalities of the idea and re-examine what our clients really need to know to live successfully with their dogs.

### Why Coaching Fails

Coaching — most often a one-hour session once per week in which the trainer instructs and coaches the client and then leaves them with training homework — places too great a burden on the dog guardian. Yes, they should take responsibility for the animals they have brought into their homes. Yes, it would be ideal if they were to become enthusiastic hobby trainers. But in reality, most owners lack the skills needed to do much of what we ask of them in an effective and expedient way. Nor are they interested in acquiring those skills. Clients don't want to be dog trainers — that's why they call you.

Insisting that clients learn to train their own dogs usually requires the formation of entirely new routines — to add time into an already crowded schedule of obligations, to learn and incorporate very different ways of interacting with their dogs, to do things in ways opposite to their habits. If you've ever changed a routine yourself or read data about humans and habits, you're aware of the magnitude of such a request and the low success rate to expect. For the client, the efforts often result in feelings of embarrassment, guilt, frustration, failure. No one wants to tell the trainer they haven't done their homework. Some clients even cancel or postpone appointments to avoid it.

Other guardians turn their frustration on the trainer or the training methodology — change isn't happening, ergo the

trainer is incompetent, or this positive humbug doesn't work. It certainly can appear so. We've all heard the allegation that positive reinforcement is slow. This is untrue — in skilled hands positive training is elegant and effective. But our clients' hands are not skilled. In their hands, with our weekly coaching, progress must feel slow indeed. And a lack of progress dampens motivation for humans just as it does for dogs. Nobody wants to play a game they don't feel they're winning.

### A Triple Loss

Coaching in most cases is a lose-lose-lose proposition. It frustrates owners, leaves dogs without the help they need, and negatively affects trainers and the training profession. We argue for professional status while claiming we can teach clients to do the work themselves in 60-minute sessions once a week. If dog training is indeed so easy, why all the money and time spent on dog trainer schools, books, DVDs, mentoring, and certification exams? What other profession surrenders authority in such a way? Imagine a lawyer handing over case notes and encouraging you to argue your own case because, after all, you're the one going to prison if it doesn't work. It's no surprise we encounter clients who believe they know more than we do or who argue with us over methodology or complain about having to pay for training — we do not behave as though we hold a professional knowledge and skill set.

### Coaching is Bad Business

Money is lost every time a case — manners or behavior — is left unfinished, and poor word of mouth follows. When training isn't completed, old behaviors resurface and new ones inevitably decline, prompting clients to say "Well, we hired a trainer and it sort of worked for a while, but he's still jumping all over people," instead of "We worked with an amazing trainer, it's completely changed our lives. Let me get you her number!"

Coaching is hard to sell. "We train you to train your dog!" is a terrible marketing message. People don't want to pay money to be shown all the work they themselves need to do. Other common lines include "We'll improve your relationship with your dog" and "We'll teach you to understand your dog so you can give him what he needs." Terrific marketing if your audience is other positive reinforcement dog trainers. But most owners don't call a trainer



APDT trainer Heather Blakeman of Lexington, KY, works one-on-one with a Samoyed puppy's basic manners. Photo by Boone Clark

because they're concerned about their relationship with their dog or because they want to hear that everything going wrong is their fault, that if they just understood their dog and provided properly for him everything would be fine.

People call dog trainers because they have one of two problems — their dog is doing something they don't like or not doing what they want. And without an effective marketing message centered around professional solutions we'll never have the opportunity to help improve those relationships and get dogs some understanding. Dog guardians find compulsion trainers, franchise chains and TV shows compelling, not because they want to harm their dogs, but because these training outfits know how to market — they understand the desire for easy, swift resolutions. They understand people hire professionals to get a professional job done, not to learn how to do it themselves.

### Day Training is the Answer

Can we offer clients an 'easy' button? No, of course not. But we can do better than offering to teach clients to do all the work themselves. We're professional dog trainers, after all — we should be training clients' dogs!

The most elegant model for doing so is day training. Think of it as board and train without the boarding. The trainer trains the dog in the owner's home (or the trainer's facility), then teaches the client the necessary skills to maintain the training for the long haul. A typical day-training program consists of an initial consult and then a number of weeks (determined by the needs and goals of the case) in which the trainer sees the dog several times, wrapping up each week with a transition session to show the client what Fido has learned and to transfer those results to the client. Most packages include a couple of additional transfer or follow-up sessions to ensure clients are set up for lasting success.

On a side note: Don't rule out board and train. If you have the capacity for board and train, it can be tremendously effective as well — so long as proper emphasis is placed on a robust transfer program to ensure that clients experience the success you've attained with their dogs.

### A Triple Win

Day training sets owners, dogs, and trainers up to win. Owners reach their goals, trainers experience the satisfaction of a completed case, and dogs get the help they need. With the trainer at the helm, results come more quickly. The results owners experience in transfer sessions translate into high levels of compliance. Progress is motivating and learning maintenance skills is far easier than learning to change and install behavior. Faster progress also makes buy-in for methodology easier to get. All of this benefits the dog.

### Better Business

Day training is easier to market. You're able to offer convenience, expediency, and customized solutions for busy lives, all key selling points in today's busy world. As one dogbiz consulting client put it, "It's a lot easier to ask for money — and clients are much happier to give it — when I can offer to do the training for them!" Another advantage is that you need far fewer clients when you day train. Because each case means an average of four sessions per week, day training earns you the same amount of money serving roughly one quarter of the clients.

Coaching still has its place, primarily for issues demanding high levels of management such as housetraining, destruction, counter surfing, and the like. Coaching may also be necessary in cases where a dog is too fearful to work for you, at least until enough of a relationship can be built to allow a switch to day training. But most cases lend themselves beautifully to day training, allowing trainers to move the majority of their training sessions into daytime hours — and to finally get to do what we entered the professional for in the first place — to train dogs!

### Personal Trainer vs. Dog Trainer

It's time for R+ trainers to move away from being personal trainers who offer words of encouragement while clients struggle under the weight of training their own dogs. It's time to be dog trainers, doing the work we're hired to do, and for which we have professional knowledge and skills. To do so is kind to owners, good for dogs, and a huge relief and opportunity for dog trainers. Strong teaching and people skills remain critical to success, but what a joy to also get to train dogs, to see owners meet their goals, and to know that you're improving the quality of dogs' lives, all while expanding your own income potential.



**Veronica Boutelle, MAEd, CTC**, is the author of *How To Run a Dog Business* and co-author of *Minding Your Dog Business*. She is the founder of dogbiz (formerly dogtec), the industry's leading business support company. She and her team have been helping dog pros pursue their dream businesses for 15 years through consulting, ready-made business tools, and their new dogbiz University program of online business classes for dog trainers. Learn more at [www.dogbizsuccess.com](http://www.dogbizsuccess.com).

# FEAR FREE? LOW STRESS?

By Melissa Bain, DVM, DACVB, M.S., DACAW  
Professor, Clinical Animal Behavior  
University of California School  
of Veterinary Medicine

## Can we change our paradigm to decreased fear and less stress?

I do not enjoy going to the dentist. The cognitive part of my brain understands that I need to go twice yearly for cleanings to prevent future problems, and I floss regularly so I don't get lectured to about this (drawing on the four quadrants of learning theory!). I am also lucky to have insurance that covers the cost of these visits. However, the digging and gouging of my gums, the whine of the scaler, and the scraping of my teeth set me on edge, and no amount of rationalization helps me to manage my stress more effectively. No worries, however; I have yet to yell at, hit, or bite the dentist or hygienist, as I fully operate within social norms of human society.

The same cannot be said for animals visiting veterinary hospitals. Minimizing stress for patients should always be a priority in the veterinary hospital, and it is increasingly at the forefront of complete veterinary care. It is difficult for an animal to understand "why" something painful is happening to it, or why all of these people are touching them. They are bombarded with factors that are potentially stress-inducing, such as walking into the waiting room, enduring an injection, and having painful ears or legs manipulated. All these stimuli, and more, can elicit fear and stress, and we cannot verbalize to them that it's for their own health and well-being to be treated by a veterinarian. Our

patients cannot rationalize through these situations, subsequently learning via repeated exposures that the veterinary clinic is just about the worst place to be.

Understanding how we can change the environment and handle animals in a manner that is most tolerable to the animal benefits everyone, including the veterinary clinic staff. We also understand

that it is not possible to provide a "no stress" environment. No amount of treats, slow movements, considerate care, or desensitization and counterconditioning can make a pet's visit "fear-free." My dental hygiene can be as gentle as she can, but that does not eliminate the sound of my plaque getting scraped off of my teeth. Nor should we take cookie-cutter methodology to approach it in a lower stress manner. That doesn't absolve us from trying our best to accomplish this, using all that we have available to us and tailor it to the individual patient, including, but not limited to, medications, environmental

Understanding how we can change the environment and handle animals in a manner that is most tolerable to the animal benefits everyone, including the veterinary clinic staff. We also understand that it is not possible to provide a "no stress" environment. No amount of treats, slow movements, considerate care, or desensitization and counterconditioning can make a pet's visit "fear-free." My dental hygiene can be as gentle as she can, but that does not eliminate the sound of my plaque getting scraped off of my teeth.

changes, different handling methods, and even rescheduling appointments, as each patient and client dyad is different.

One positive thing I can say in going to the dentist is that I have "power" to stop the procedure by raising my hand. This helps prevent me from overthinking about "what happens IF it hurts." The fact that I have a choice to stop the procedure alleviates some



There aren't enough treats to make up for where that thermometer is about to go....

of my anxiety during the procedure. The same can be said for animals; by giving them the perception of choice to leave, or being able to signal to a veterinarian to stop what they are doing at the moment, then addressing their fear and anxiety through a systematic approach, they are better able to overcome their anxiety compared to “toughing it out.”

While focus has been on lowering the stress that animals experience in veterinary clinics, the same can be said for dogs attending training classes. It is marvelous when dog owners spend time and energy taking training classes to improve their dogs' behavior, and subsequently, their relationship with them. We may believe that it's in their best interest to take classes; however, we need to also look at it from the dog's point of view. They may be overwhelmed in a particular situation, and it is up to us to identify how best to help them.

Just as we try to help our patients in veterinary clinics, one cannot take a cookie-cutter approach to dogs in training classes. How can you best deliver what that dog needs? Is the concern an emotional issue, or is it a training issue? Can you identify the early signs of stress in a dog (or owner) and have them take a break? Can you arrange the spacing of dogs, or the location of classes, or the speed at which your information is delivered? Would that dog benefit from private lessons? Can you collaborate with another professional to get a different perspective? Should the dog take a break from classes? If one is able to think through the entirety of the process from the dogs' and owners' points of view and troubleshoot options, utilizing

all available tools in your toolbox, we can improve their experience in class and offer them what is best for them.

What binds us all together is our desire to improve the lives of animals and their owners. By recognizing the stressors that they are subjected to, giving them choices in how to approach them, not forcing them into those situations, and working to relieve their anxiety, we can begin to reach that goal.



**Dr. Melissa Bain, DVM, DACVB, M.S., DACAW,** is a professor of Clinical Animal Behavior at the University of California School of Veterinary Medicine. She is board-certified by both the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists and the American College of Animal Welfare. In 2007, she completed a master's degree in Advanced Clinical Research from the UC Davis School of Medicine. She is a past president of both the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists and the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior. In 2016 she was selected as the Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year, awarded by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Additionally, she is the director of Professional Student Clinical Education for the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. Her responsibilities include student and resident education, clinical case management, and research.

# HELPING DOGS FIND FOREVER HOMES

By Steven Appelbaum, President,  
Animal Behavior College, Inc.



## A Little Training Can Make A Difference for Shelter Animals

One of the most fabulous things about being a dog trainer is the tangible difference you can make in the lives of pets and the people who love them. Nowhere is this more noticeable than in rescues or animal shelters. Statistics vary but by any measure a large percentage of dogs wind up in shelters and rescues because of untreated behavioral challenges. What's more, many of these challenges are very treatable. In some cases, dogs are more difficult to adopt because they simply never learned how to greet people properly.

According to Petfinder, 96 percent of dogs entering animal shelters have never received any dog obedience training, of those dogs, 47.7 percent are between five-months and three years of age. This is an important animal shelter statistic because even though you can "teach an old dog new tricks," a younger dog typically has had its bad habits for a shorter period of time, making training easier. Untrained dogs are not only more difficult for shelters to find homes for, but the recidivism rate is much higher. These dogs need training.

Combine this with the needs and budgets of many rescues/shelters and the problem becomes even more acute. Often times shelters and rescues have very tight operating budgets. Their focus is on keeping their doors open, feeding the animals in their care, dealing with veterinary issues and trying to find their dogs as many loving forever homes as they can. While a number of shelter/rescue managers understand the importance of training, they don't have the expertise or budget to hire a dog trainer. Volunteers can be the lifeblood of some rescues and shelters, but most aren't qualified to address behavior. This isn't to minimize their contributions but simply to illustrate that a dog trainer brings unique and valuable skills to shelters and rescues.

Back in 1998 when I first started Animal Behavior College, we were already noticing a change in awareness on the part of shelters and rescues. More and more were embracing the importance of training. With this in mind, we pondered about how we, as a national organization, could make a difference with those dogs who needed us most. After many discussions and a brilliant idea from my Vice-President of Operations Debbie Kendrick, Students

Saving Lives (SSL) was born. The concept was simple enough. Every ABC dog training student would be asked to volunteer a minimum of 10 hours at a local shelter prior to them graduating our program. We knew if students started forging relationships with shelters and rescues at the start of their careers, they were likely going to continue working with them as their careers flourished. To date 12,980 ABC students have donated more than 151,800 hours to shelters and rescues all over North America.

**One person at a time working with one dog at a time is how differences can be made. Every dog trainer reading this can make a difference if you elect to reach out to a shelter or rescue. Simple training like this can make a world of difference. Helping dogs find forever homes is one of the greatest rewards trainers can earn.**

I mention Students Saving Lives because that outreach wouldn't exist without the individual commitment of the people involved. One person at a time working with one dog at a time is how differences can be made. Every dog trainer reading this can make a difference if you elect to reach out to a shelter or rescue. Simple training like this can make a world of difference. Helping dogs find forever homes is one of the greatest rewards trainers can earn.

When considering whether they want to work with a shelter some trainers get intimidated. They visualize trying to work with aggressive or fearful dogs in a stressful kennel environment. Yet not all dogs in shelters or rescues are there because of aggressive or fearful behavior. Many are overly exuberant and never learned to stop jumping on people. Some simply need obedience and calm human interaction, while others can learn to be more comfortable meeting people.

Simple training like this can make a world of difference. Helping dogs find forever homes is one of the greatest rewards trainers can earn.



P.S. Cat trainers have an even better opportunity. According to the ASPCA, about 3.2 million cats enter US animal shelters every year, and approximately 860,000 cats are euthanized in those shelters. One of the interesting things about the above statistic is how it compares to dogs. Again, according to the ASPCA, about 3.3 million dogs wind up in US shelters each year. The number of dogs euthanized each year is 670,000. This means that even though roughly 100,000 more dogs enter shelters compared to cats, 190,000 fewer are euthanized. There are numerous reasons for this, but one of them is that there are fewer cat trainers and less understanding about how trainable cats can be. Teaching cats to be more comfortable with people makes them far more adoptable and allows you to make a difference one precious life at a time.

In tribute to our strategic alliance with the APDT, we are extending a 15 percent discount to all APDT members on full pay enrollment to our Cat Trainer Program. Please make sure to mention the code “APDT15” when you call our Admissions Department at 800-795-3294. You can also visit us at [www.animalbehaviorcollege.com](http://www.animalbehaviorcollege.com).

In addition, APDT full members also receive 10 percent off our other core programs.



**Steven Appelbaum** is the founder and president of Animal Behavior College (ABC). With 40 years of dog training and pet industry experience, he used his extensive knowledge and business acumen to create Animal Behavior College – the largest animal career school of its kind in North America and offers courses in all 50 states and in every Canadian province. ABC offers four core programs in dog obedience trainer training, cat training, pet grooming and veterinary assisting, as well as five short-term programs on an array of subjects including, pet nutrition, training shelter dogs, pet massage, pet sitting and selling and teaching private lessons. Steve is a lecturer and has been an expert consultant and expert witness on a number of dog bite cases. He has written numerous published articles and columns for magazines. Steve is the author of the book *The ABC Practical Guide to Dog Training*, is the former editor of *Off Lead Magazine*, and currently writes a column for *Pet Age*. He and his wife Shelley reside in Pasadena, California. He a private pilot, runner, avid Basset Hound lover and devoted “pet parent” to his Basset Hound Truffles and gigantic 105-pound Labrador named Sam. He may be reached at [www.animalbehaviorcollege.com](http://www.animalbehaviorcollege.com)

# WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE – DO YOU NEED IT?

By David Pearsall, CIC, CWCA  
Business Insurers of the Carolinas



**Workers' compensation covers all work-related injuries arising out of employment and occurring during the course of employment.**

As a professional dog trainer, you are likely aware of the need to carry general liability insurance to protect yourself and your business against bodily injury or property damage claims to others, including your clients and the dogs in your care/classes. But what about those injuries that you, your employees, or your independent contractors sustain while on the job? Over the years we have received many calls from APDT members who thought their medical injuries were covered by the APDT liability insurance, only to learn at the time of the claim there was no coverage for injuries to themselves or anyone working on their behalf.

It is important to note the APDT liability policy is a general liability insurance policy that provides coverage for bodily injury or property damage claims to a third party caused by your negligence. There is absolutely no coverage whatsoever under the APDT liability policy (or any other general liability policy on the market) for injuries sustained by you or your employees. The exclusive remedy for injuries to you, your employees, and anyone required by your state statute to be covered is workers' compensation insurance. This includes covering claims such as dog bites, slip or trip and falls, auto accidents while in route to client's home or training facility/class, etc. All of these are claims we have received over the years. And yes, workers comp will cover the owner(s) of the business even if you do not have employees, so long as you elect to be included.

Unfortunately, unless you or one of your employees have been injured on the job, it might be hard to fathom carrying this insurance. However, I recommend you give careful consideration to the consequences of not carrying this coverage, especially if you are hiring others to work in your business. Suppose you or one of your employees suffered a significant injury from a slip and fall or dog bite and were unable to work for a number of weeks. Although you and your staff may have health insurance, you will find health insurers typically look to exclude work-related injuries. And even if your health insurer does cover the medical expenses incurred, they most certainly will not cover your lost wages while you are unable to work.

According to the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI), as of Dec. 31, 2017, the average medical costs on a lost time claim were approximately \$29,900, while the average indemnity cost (lost wages/settlements) on a lost time claim was approximately \$24,500. There is a good reason why all those workers comp attorneys advertise on television throughout the day — “Have you been seriously injured on the job?”

Workers' compensation covers all work-related injuries arising out of employment and occurring during the course of employment. It also covers occupational diseases resulting from employment, and employers' liability that is excluded from employment. It is the exclusive remedy for workplace injuries, meaning the employee relinquishes the right to sue the employer in exchange for a guaranteed set of benefits. Workers' compensation benefits include payment for medical expenses, disability (loss of income), rehabilitation, and death.

Each individual state has its own workers' compensation statute and the specific laws and benefit amounts vary from state-to-state. Coverage is compulsory in all states with the exception of Texas. But states differ on the requirement based on the number of people you employ or in which you have an employee/employer relationship. Some states mandate you to purchase coverage if you have even one part-time employee, while other states may require if three, four or five employees. Even if you have less than the number required, you still can be held liable for an employee's injuries, so be aware of your state's requirements. Most all states have substantial fines and penalties for not covering your employees. For example, California defines failure to have workers' compensation coverage as a misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in jail and maximum fines of up to \$100,000. In some states you can even be charged with a felony if you do not secure coverage for certain number of employees in a reasonable time. And now many states will specify that failure to have coverage due to lack of knowledge is not a valid excuse for failure to insure, so please be aware if you hire someone or utilize an independent contractor to work for you or on behalf of your business.



Furthermore, each state's workers' compensation statute differs on how they view independent contractors and/or subcontractors. Just because you pay someone via IRS form 1099 and call them an independent contractor, does not mean there is not an employee/employer relationship (which requires you to carry workers comp coverage). The tax code is a federal law whereas workers' compensation is a state law.

For workers' comp law, states typically look at the following when determining whether an employee/employer relationship exists:

- The right to control the work/set work schedule
- The right to hire and fire
- Can the contractor make a profit as well as a loss?
- Does the person perform the same type of work as your business?
- Can the contractor select and hire helpers?
- Does your business furnish tools or equipment for the job (carrying liability insurance can be considered a tool for the job)?
- Does the contractor have the freedom to offer services to, or work for others?

If it is determined there is an employee/employer relationship, you would need to obtain a workers' compensation policy, as again it is the exclusive remedy to cover an on the job injuries. If you are truly utilizing independent contractors and are 100 percent sure they are independent and there is no employee/employer relationship, the best way to remedy the situation is to have the independent contractor(s) purchase their own general liability and workers' compensation insurance, and provide you with a certificate of insurance showing they are fully insured.

Here are a few recent workers' compensation claims examples:

- Employee was attempting to separate two dogs that were fighting and was bitten on the left hand and thumb. Total Paid Medical and Indemnity \$3,910.



- In a training/boarding facility, an employee was opening a large kennel door. The kennel became detached from the wall, falling on the employee's foot, causing a fracture. Total Paid Medical and Indemnity \$36,903.
- While leash-training a dog, the dog began to pull on the leash very hard, causing employee to twist ankle and injure knee. Total Paid Medical and Indemnity \$5,383.
- Dogs got into a fight during a training class and trainer was bitten on the hand while attempting to separate the dogs. Total Paid \$13,774.
- Trainer was bitten by dog on the knee. Total Paid \$2,706.
- During training class employee fell while attempting to run agility course with dog and was injured. Total Paid \$1,526.
- Dog pulled hard on leash, pulling trainer to the ground, tearing ligament in shoulder. Total paid \$13,111
- Employee slipped on wet floor at the training facility and injured knee. Total Paid Medical and Indemnity \$29,083.

As always, if you have additional insurance questions or concerns or want to know more about your individual state requirements, please feel free to contact us anytime at 1-800-962-4611 or via email at [dp@business-insurers.com](mailto:dp@business-insurers.com).



**David Pearsall** is a licensed insurance agent and co-owner of Business Insurers of the Carolinas, an insurance agency specializing in business insurance for pet related services since 1992. David and his team have managed insurance programs for many national pet services associations, including the APDT Insurance Program since 2001. A licensed agent in all 50 states, he holds both the Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) and the Certified Workers Compensation Advisor (CWCA) designations. Contact David at <mailto:DP@Business-Insurers.com>, [DP@Business-Insurers.com](mailto:DP@Business-Insurers.com) or visit Business Insurers on the web at <http://www.DogTrainerInsurance.com>"

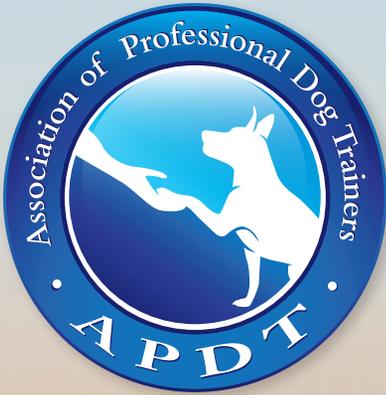


Association of Professional Dog Trainers

# 26th Annual Educational Conference & Trade Show

Oct. 30–Nov. 2, 2019 | Portland, Oregon





*Celebrating 26 years as the premier conference for dog training and behavior consultation professionals*





# EVENTS & EXTRAS

## Special Events

The conference offers many special events. Join in and meet up with old friends and make some new ones.

### Swag Bag Stuffing Party

Tuesday, Oct. 29

RSVP to be a part of the KONG Bag Stuffing Team! Contact Nita Briscoe at [nita.briscoe@apdt.com](mailto:nita.briscoe@apdt.com) by Sept. 30 to reserve your time slot.



### REGIception

Tuesday, Oct. 29

As you pick up your bag and badge at Registration, enjoy some light hors d'oeuvre and beverages as you meet and mingle with attendees.

### Roundtable Discussions

Thursday, Oct. 31 through Saturday, Nov. 2

Join a roundtable discussion to share training information or start your own discussion group.

### Reception with Live Auction

Thursday, Oct. 31, 5–7pm

Enjoy good food and fun with friends while you bid on great experiences and items during the Live Auction to raise funds for the APDT Foundation. Cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres served. For more information about APDT Foundation, log on here: [apdt.com/about/apdt-foundation](http://apdt.com/about/apdt-foundation)

## Exhibit Hall Activities

### “Best In Show” Exhibit Hall for Pet Professionals

See premier products, trends, treats and services in the pet professional industry. The Exhibit Hall will be open Wednesday–Friday with plenty of time scheduled to visit the show floor.

### Wednesday, Oct. 30

5–7pm

### Ziwi Welcome Reception and Exhibit Hall Grand Opening “Tricks and Treats”

We wrap up the first day with a PAWty! Light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will feature a specialty drink at the Ziwi Welcome Reception. Come for the treats and see some tricks! [www.ziwpets.com](http://www.ziwpets.com)



### Thursday, Oct. 31

10am–1pm | 2:30–5pm

### Friday, Nov. 1

10am–3pm

Yappy Hour (Last Call for Exhibit Hall)  
5–6:30pm

### Yappy Hour (Last Call for Exhibit Hall)

The 2019 Exhibit Hall will close Friday night at 6:30pm. Don't miss your last chance for conversations with and purchases from exhibitors and sponsors. Our silent auction (to benefit the APDT Foundation) also closes Friday night. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts and cash bar. Cheers to a great week!

### Blue-9 Demo Area

Our Blue-9 Demo Area will be even bigger this year! Our first Demo is during the Ziwi Welcome Reception, and our last Demo is during Yappy Hour in the Exhibit Hall. Watch fabulous trainers demonstrate how to use the KLIMB training platform from Blue-9 Pet Products to train tricks, improve your canine's fitness level and solve problem behaviors in the home. The Blue-9 Demo Area will be an educational and entertaining area in the Exhibit Hall. [www.blue-9.com](http://www.blue-9.com)



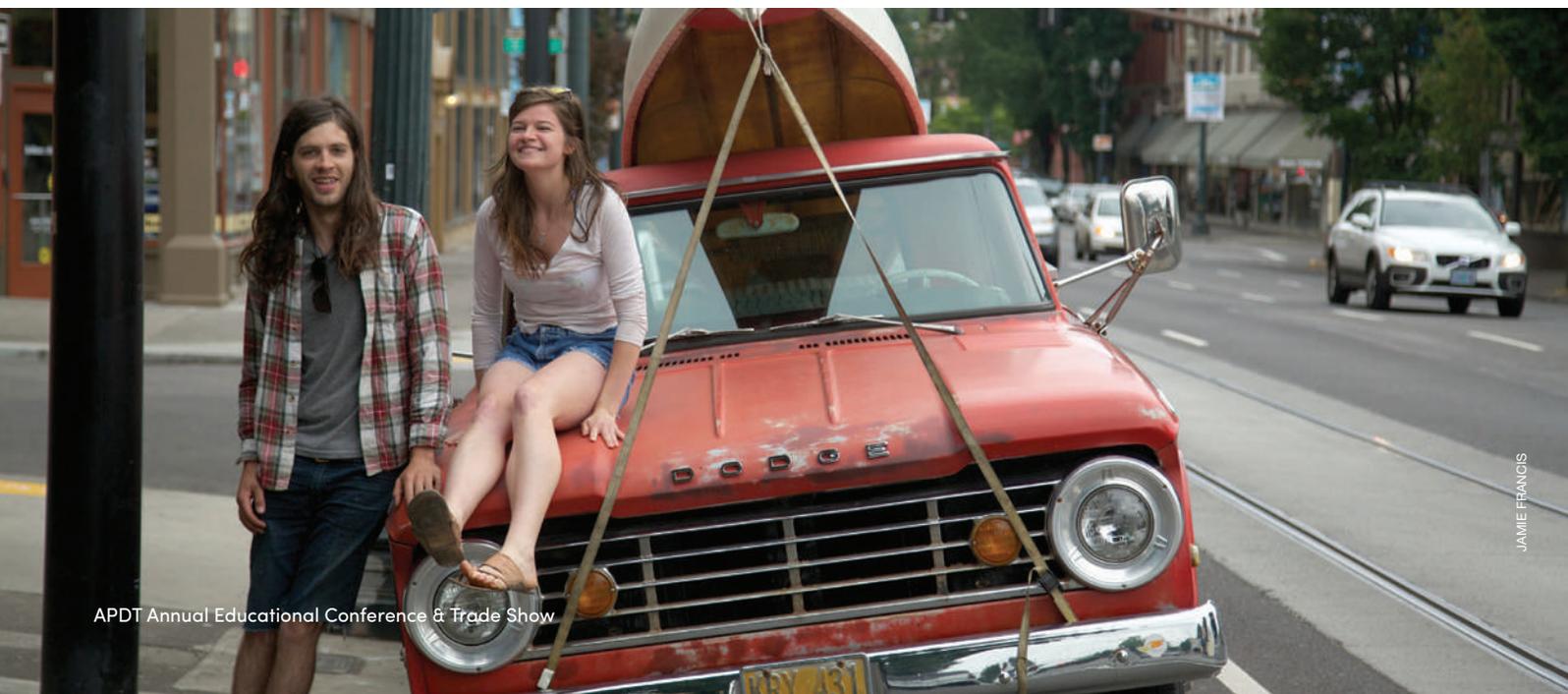
## Conference Extras

### 2019 Conference Recordings

Conference recordings from the APDT Portland conference are available for purchase on the APDT education portal. More details will be provided to APDT members in SPEAK! and in the Fall issue of the *Chronicle of the Dog* magazine.

### The 2019 Conference Program

The conference program will be available to download from the APDT website in PDF form prior to the conference. To move toward a more “green” conference, there will be no printed hard copies of the slide presentations and speaker notes. They will be available for download from the website and app prior to and during the conference.





# EXHIBITORS & HOTEL INFORMATION

## Exhibitors

Here's a list of our fabulous new and returning exhibitors (additional exhibitors may have joined our conference after press time)! Learn all about the latest technologies, trends, products and services for the pet professional industry.

### Education/Research Companies

- APDT
- APDT Foundation
- Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT)
- Dogwise Book Company
- Dolphin Research Center Training Institute
- Enlighten Dogs Pet Tech Pet CPR First Aid
- Fear Free, LLC
- International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants (IAABC)

### Food/Treat Companies

- Crazy Dog
- Happy Howie's, Inc
- PAWTREE
- Pet Botanics
- Petcurean Pet Nutrition
- Steve's Real Food
- Ziwi

### Nonprofit/Animal Welfare

- Alliance of Therapy Dogs
- ASPCA
- Best Friends Animal Society
- Service Dogs, Inc.  
(Texas Hearing and Service Dogs)

### Trainers

- dogbiz
- Karen Pryor Academy for Animal Training & Behavior
- National Association of Treibball Enthusiasts (NATE)
- The Dog Gurus

### Training/Business Products

- Broadly
- Business Insurers of the Carolinas

### Training/Retail Products

- Blue-9 Pet Products
- Coastal Pet Products
- Dog is Good
- Find'em™ Scent Safe
- FitPAWS
- Great Dog Productions
- KONG Company
- Locatis
- MuttManagers, LLC (Breezeguards)
- Petco Animal Supplies, Inc.
- PetSafe
- The Doggone Good Clicker Company
- ThunderWorks
- TransPaw Gear®

### 2020 Annual Conference

- meetNKY



View from the DoubleTree by Hilton

## Hotel Information

### DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Portland on Multnomah

1000 NE Multnomah St.  
Portland, OR 97232

Be sure to ask for the APDT rate when booking your hotel reservations!

Begin your stay at the newly renovated DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Portland, with a warm welcome and a delicious freshly baked cookie upon arrival. Conveniently located in the center of the up-and-coming Lloyd's EcoDistrict, our Portland accommodations are the largest within walking distance of the Oregon Convention Center, Moda Center and Portland Memorial Coliseum. Enjoy convenient travel on the Portland MAX light rail, located directly outside this hotel in Portland, Oregon.

**Room Rates:** \$174 per night (single/double), Group code: PET

**Reservations:** 1-800-HILTONS or [tinyurl.com/yhch5orx](https://tinyurl.com/yhch5orx)

**Deadline for hotel reservations is October 10.**

### Special Notice

*Some companies have been known to solicit meeting attendees and exhibitors with offers of lower rates or nonexistent inventory of hotel rooms. Often referred to as "housing pirates" or "housing bandits," they will phone or email attendees and exhibitors of city-wide events such as this one. It is important to remember these companies are falsely claiming to be affiliated with the event. To protect yourself against these scams, book only with the **official** Housing Service or host hotel (as identified by APDT and its event website); report solicitations to the APDT at [conference@apdt.com](mailto:conference@apdt.com) immediately, including phone number, email address or web link.*



# 2019 APDT Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show Registration Form



Please type or print clearly – this information will be used for your name badge.

To type and save, use the free **Adobe Reader** application. (For the digital signatures below and on the following page, you will be prompted in Adobe Reader or Acrobat to choose a signature option. If you do not already have a digital signature ID, when prompted select the third option, "Create a new Digital ID" and follow the steps.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ APDT MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_ DESIGNATIONS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PR \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

First APDT Conference?  Y  N      Traveling with a service dog?  Y  N      Vegetarian/Vegan?  Y  N

What CEUs will you need?  None  IAABC  CPDT-KA  CPDT-KSA  CBCC-KA    CCPDT ID # (required for CCPDT CEUs) \_\_\_\_\_

List any special needs (due by 09/26/19) \_\_\_\_\_

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS at Oregon Convention Center Sponsored by PetSafe® Limited Space Available	
<b>Fear Free<sup>SM</sup> Workshop</b> with Debbie Martin, RVT, CPDT-KA, KPA CTP, VTA, LVT, VTS (Behavior), and Mikkel Becker, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA, KPA CTP, CDBC, CTC (NOT a Hands-on Workshop)	
Tues., October 29, 9am-4pm	
Participant <input type="checkbox"/> \$100	\$
<b>Ethologist for the Day</b> with Sue Sternberg and Tim Lewis, Ph.D. (NOT a Hands-on Workshop)	
Tues., October 29, 9am-4pm	
Participant <input type="checkbox"/> \$100	\$
<b>Tellington TTouch® Method</b> with Clare Swanger, Senior Practitioner, Tellington TTouch® Method	
Tues., October 29, 9am-4pm	
Participant <input type="checkbox"/> \$100	\$

POWER HOUR Oregon Convention Center Limited Space Available Includes \$10 Concessions Voucher	
<b>Sue Sternberg and Tim Lewis, Ph.D.</b>	
Wed., October 30, 12-1pm	
Participant <input type="checkbox"/> \$25	\$
<b>Michael Shikashio, CDBC</b>	
Thurs., October 31, 12-1pm	
Participant <input type="checkbox"/> \$25	\$
<b>Clive Wynne, Ph.D.</b>	
Fri., November 1, 12-1pm	
Participant <input type="checkbox"/> \$25	\$
<b>POWER HOUR SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

CONFERENCE FEES: OCTOBER 30–NOVEMBER 2				
	Premium Professional Member	Professional Member	Supporting Member	Non-Member
1 Day	\$340	\$370	\$385	\$405
2 Days	\$420	\$450	\$465	\$505
3 Days	\$500	\$530	\$545	\$605
All 4 Days	\$580	\$610	\$625	\$705
I will be attending <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, Oct.30 <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, Oct. 31 <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, Nov. 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, Nov. 2				
<b>CONFERENCE FEES SUBTOTAL</b>				\$

T-SHIRTS AND HOODIES								
T-shirts and hoodies must be pre-ordered and picked up at the conference. T-shirts and hoodies cannot be shipped and will not be sold at the conference.								
Item	Quantity Desired of Each Size					Price Each	Total Qty	Total
T-shirt	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL	\$25	\$
Hoodie	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL	\$40	\$
<b>T-SHIRT AND HOODIE SUBTOTAL</b>								\$

TOTALS	
Conference Fees	\$
Workshop Fees	\$
Power Hour Fees	\$
T-Shirts and/or Hoodie Fees	\$
Muddy Paw Pin (\$20)	\$
Ziwi Welcome Reception Guest Pass (\$25) <i>purchase only for guests</i>	\$
Foundation Reception Guest Pass (\$25) <i>purchase only for guests</i>	\$
Friday Yappy Hour Guest Pass (\$25) <i>purchase only for guests</i>	\$
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	\$

Registrations will not be processed without payment. Make checks payable to APDT. Credit card payment can only be accepted by phone for security purposes. Please call 800-PET-DOGS.

APDT is pleased to offer a payment plan option. Registration fees can be split into monthly payments and all payments must be received in full prior to August 1, 2019. Please contact the APDT office at 800-PET-DOGS or apdt@apdt.com for more information.

Please mail completed registration (with check payment only) to:  
 APDT, 2365 Harrodsburg Road, Suite A325, Lexington, KY 40504 | Fax: 859-201-1061

By attending the APDT Conference on the 29th day of October, 2019 (the "Event") sponsored by the Association of Professional Dog Trainers ("APDT"), I understand and agree that I am assuming all risks regarding the Event including, but not limited to, falls, contact with animals and participants, and any damage caused by animals, participants or guests.

Knowing these facts, I, on behalf of myself, and my heirs, executors and administrators ("Releasing Parties"), release and covenant not to sue and forever discharge APDT and all APDT officers, directors, volunteers and parties associated with APDT and the Event (the "APDT Parties") from any and all claims, foreseen or unforeseen for damages, or liabilities, including attorney's fees and costs, of any kind, by the Releasing Parties or any third parties, including all participants, organizers, officials, members, organizations, and any other person, animals, or organization participating in the Event ("Covered Claims"). Further, I agree to indemnify APDT and the APDT Parties for any and all Covered Claims, for all damages, judgments, and other claims including attorney's fees and costs.

I further grant full permission to APDT and its agents to authorize by them any use of photographs, video, or any other recording of the Event for any purpose.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_



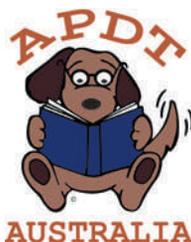
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# Deciphering Scientific Research Articles:

## Reading a Scientific Research Article Requires Breaking It Down in Sections, But Not Always in Consequential Order

By Kristina Spaulding, Ph.D, CAAB and Irith Bloom, CPDT-KSA, CDBC, KPA CTP, VSPDT, CBATI, APDT Education Committee co-chairs

If you're like most people, you may find research articles in scientific journals a bit daunting. They are usually long, and it can be hard to figure out what's going on a lot of the time. In this section, we'd like to talk about ways to read research articles so that you get more out of them.

First of all, let's take a quick look at the sections you're likely to find in a research paper:

- A. Title & Authors
- B. Abstract
- C. Introduction
- D. Methods & Materials
- E. Results
- F. Discussion
- G. Acknowledgments
- H. References

Most people (naturally enough) start at the beginning of the article and work their way through in that order, but you may find you get more out of the article if you jump around a bit. Before we get into that, though, let's talk about what each of the above sections covers.

### A. Title & Authors

This is pretty much what it sounds like — the title of the paper and the names of the authors. The title is supposed to describe the contents of the article yet be understandable even for a person who is not an expert in the field. Unfortunately, not all authors do a great job with their titles.

### B. Abstract

The abstract is a short summary of the entire article. It's usually about 100 to 250 words long, and summarizes the purpose, methods, results, and conclusions of the paper.

### C. Introduction

The introduction presents the question or hypothesis the researchers were exploring. It also includes a summary of the related scientific literature that led the researchers to ask this question, so you, the reader, can understand why this question is important or interesting.

### D. Methods and Materials

This section is also more or less what it sounds like, a description of the methods and materials used in the study. This should be written so another researcher can understand the process well enough to repeat, or replicate, the study (though again, some authors do a better job of this than others). Information may be included on how the subjects of the study (animals, people, etc., being observed) were selected. In some cases, the methods and materials section also includes illustrations or diagrams.

### E. Results

This section describes the results in a factual way. It may include tables and graphs. It does not offer speculation about the data but may point out specific things about the data (e.g., the control group only went through 10 trials, while the experimental group went through 20). This section also generally includes statistical analysis (cue scary music).

### F. Discussion

The discussion is an opportunity for the authors to highlight whatever they found most significant. It goes into how the results relate to the original research question, whether the data support the hypothesis the researchers started with, and so on. If the results were not as expected, the authors speculate about why in this section, too. The discussion also addresses whether the results are consistent with the work of others, and what further research might help clarify any questions that still remain.

### “Control group”? “Experimental group”? Huh?

When scientists do research, they strive to set things up so that only the question they are asking is tested. In most cases, other factors (a.k.a. confounding factors) could influence the experiment, so the researchers design “controls”—usually a group of test subjects or a set of conditions used in part of the experiment — that help them rule out some of those confounding factors. You’ll see a great example of control vs. test conditions in the second half of this article.

### G. Acknowledgments

Not all papers have this section, but it’s basically what it sounds like, an opportunity for the authors to acknowledge and thank people who helped with the study or otherwise made significant contributions.

### H. References

This section includes citations to related literature and is a great place to start if you want to read more on a particular topic.

“So,” I hear you say, “you promised to tell me what order to read things in, not just explain the sections one will find.” And you are right! Here’s one good way to read a research article: Start by reading the Title and then the Abstract, which will give you a sense of what the article is about in general, so you have an idea of where the authors are headed.

Next, think about skipping to the Discussion. (What, you say, skip the Introduction??? Yes, one option is to skip it for now. The Introduction often focuses more on the history of the research that’s already been done, rather than what’s going on in this particular study, so if you just want to know what the current study found, it’s OK to skip this section at first. You can always come back to it later). The Discussion gets right to the heart of the matter: What did the study reveal? If you do skip straight to the Discussion but find that there’s a reference in there to a hypothesis that you can’t understand from context, take a peek at the Introduction to get your bearings.

► *NOTE: As we worked on this article, we discovered that we each have different ways of approaching the Introduction. Irith prefers to come back to the Introduction later because it has such a broad scope that it can wind up distracting her from the focus of the current article — and she occasionally winds up sidetracked looking for an interesting-sounding study mentioned as background. Kristina, on the other hand, prefers to read it first to get a good background on what is already known about the topic and why this particular question is important. You can experiment with different methods to see what works best for you.*

Now that you’ve read the Discussion, you can go back to other sections, depending on what questions the Discussion brought up in your mind. Generally, the sections to consider next are Materials and Methods and Results. These two sections will help you get a clearer understanding of exactly how the research was done and what the data showed, without the authors’ interpretation. It’s a good idea to read both of these sections, now that you understand the basics of what the study was about. We’ve read papers where we’ve found flaws in the methods or materials used, and there have been papers where we’ve questioned the conclusions the authors came to after looking at the raw data, too.

Then, if you are up for more reading and have not yet read the Introduction, go back to it. With the understanding you’ve gained from the other sections, the Introduction may wind up being more meaningful, and it always provides useful context.

The Acknowledgments and References sections are a good resource for learning more about the field of study that the research article is part of. If you want to read more articles on the topic or find out to whom to reach out with questions, these (and the authors) are the sections to focus on.

► *NOTE: We mention all eight sections in the above “suggested order” but you can stop at any point and decide not to move on to the next suggested section, or read a different one first, of course.*

So that’s one suggested order. Try it out and see what you think. You may find, after using this suggested order once or twice, that another order works better for you, and that’s fine. You are the one who is doing the reading, so do it however is right for you. Feel free to shoot us an e-mail about your experiences, too.

Now that you’ve had a chance to learn a bit about reading journal articles, we’ll walk you through a sample article. The first study we chose for this series looks at prosocial behavior in both wolves and dogs. What is prosocial behavior? Prosocial behavior refers to helping behavior. That is, one animal performs an act that benefits another animal. For example, a woman drops a bag in the store and another woman helps her pick it up.

Why is this something we care about? Recent research has found evidence of prosocial behavior in pet dogs<sup>1,2</sup>. This type of behavior is thought to be related to cooperation. Cooperation, in turn, may be related to resource guarding and other forms of aggression. And we’re sure you can imagine that cooperation would be relevant to sharing a house with dogs in general. The better we understand the natural behavior of dogs, the better we’ll be at working with them. Although learning theory is critically important to effective training and behavior modification, it is not the only aspect of behavior that matters.

Now let’s turn back to the details of the study. This paper examined the question of where prosocial behavior in dogs comes from. Is it



Fig. 1<sup>(1, 2)</sup>

a carryover from their ancestors or is it something that developed as a result of domestication? This study also examined the concept of ‘in-group’ and ‘out-group’ membership and how that might have an influence on prosocial behavior. Animals that are part of the ‘in-group’ live together in the same social group. Examples of an in-group would be a pack of wolves, or all the dogs living in a single household. Animals that are part of the out-group live outside of an individual’s normal social group. An individual may or may not know an out-group member. An out-group member could be the dog that lives next door, or a stranger met at the park. There is already a lot of data indicating that animals behave differently toward in-group and out-group members.

This study compared the behavior of wolves and dogs. Both the wolves and the dogs lived in separate groups in outdoor enclosures, rather than in a house with people (i.e., they were not pets). They were trained to use a touch screen with two options. Choosing the ‘giving symbol’ caused the delivery of a food reward to a conspecific (another member of the same species) in an adjacent enclosure. The ‘control symbol’ had no effect. (Fig. 1).

**Fig. 1: Test condition.** The animal on the right is the subject. If the subject chooses the ‘giving symbol’, the animal on the left—the receiver—is given a food reward. Used with permission, Dale et al....

Condition	Tests whether dog/wolf will choose giving signal when...
In-group test	In-group dog/wolf partner has access to food
Out-group test	Out-group dog/wolf partner has access to food
In-group control	In-group dog/wolf partner does NOT have access to food
Out-group control	Out-group dog/wolf partner does NOT have access to food
Non-social control	No partner present. Rules out possible social facilitation.

Table 1. List of study conditions.

There were five different conditions in this study (see Table 1), including two test conditions and three control conditions. The test

conditions were designed to see whether the subject would select the giving symbol when a partner had access to the reward, but the subject did not, thus testing prosocial behavior. In one of the test conditions, the receiver was an in-group member (lived in the same group as the subject) and in the other the receiver was an out-group member (lived in a different group than the receiver).

The control’s function to rule out other possible explanations for the behavior. In one control group, there was no partner present. This was called the non-social control. It tested to see if the animal would select the giving symbol even if there was no other animal present. There were two other controls where there was a partner present, but he or she was in a different enclosure and didn’t have access to the reward. This control group was further split into two categories —in-group control or out-group control. These two related controls tested whether having a partner present had an impact on the behavior of the subject (which could indicate something known as “social facilitation”).

During the *training* phase, the subjects were rewarded in the receiver enclosure when they selected the giving symbol. So, the same dog or wolf that was interacting with the touch screen (the subject) was also getting the reward. During the *testing* phase, the receiver was present and had access to the reward, but the subject did not have access to the reward. This means if the subject selected the giving symbol, he could see his next-door neighbor receive the reward, but he did not receive a reward himself (see Fig. 1).

The study also included a few other features that help make the results more convincing. First, it included ‘knowledge probe trials.’ The researchers conducted these trials at the end of each session. During these trials, the subject dog received a reinforcer at its location for touching the giving symbol. The goal of these trials was to rule out poor performance due to distraction, stress or poor

motivation. The researchers also ran motivation sessions after each session. These sessions were identical to the training phase — the subject had access to the adjacent enclosure and could go retrieve a reward after choosing the giving symbol.

So, what happened? Wolves chose the giving symbol more often when in-group members had access to food than when in-group members did not have access to food. There was no difference for out-group members — whether or not the partner was actually receiving food did not influence the behavior of the subject wolves. There was also no difference in performance between the three control conditions (where no animal had access to the food). So, the performance *under control conditions* was similar regardless of whether there was an in-group partner, out-group partner, or no partner at all.

There was also no effect of session — wolves performed similarly across all trials from start to finish of the experiment.

The results were different for dogs. Most notably, there was no effect of condition. That is, dogs performed similarly regardless of whether or not there was a partner present that was able to receive a food reward. In addition, their performance declined across sessions — as the dog progressed further in the experiment, their overall performance decreased. However, they did well with the knowledge trials at the end of each session.

Taken together, these results indicate that the wolves showed more prosocial behavior than the dogs. In the in-group test condition, the wolves chose the giving symbol more often. However, the dogs did not choose the giving symbol more often when they had the option to give their partner a reward. These results support the idea that prosocial behavior in pet dogs likely came from an ancestor and is not a byproduct of domestication.

These results also provide additional evidence that prosocial behavior is linked to cooperation. This is consistent with previous research suggesting that wolves are more cooperative than dogs<sup>3</sup>. The data also indicate that the type of social relationship with another animal may influence prosocial behavior — wolves appear to be more inclined to help a member of their social group than a non-member.

Perhaps more interesting for those of us working with dogs: Dogs in this study did *not* show prosocial behavior. However, as mentioned earlier, previous studies *have* found evidence of prosocial behavior in dogs<sup>1,2</sup>. Why were the results in this study different? Well, it's hard to say at this point, as this line of research is still very new. However, it's possible that being a pet dog — that is, a dog that lives with people — is an important factor. There could also be something else going on that has yet to be identified.

This study highlights the importance of replication in research. The results of research on prosociality in domestic dogs are

inconsistent. This means that there is still something we are missing. Understanding prosocial behavior and cooperation in dogs has important implications for living with dogs. Cooperative and prosocial behavior could influence the effectiveness of working dogs as well as the trainability and biddability of pet dogs. There is also some evidence of an inverse relationship between prosocial behavior and aggression<sup>4,5</sup>. There is still a lot to learn on this subject, but this paper was an important step in the right direction!

We'll be covering a different research article in each issue of the *Chronicle*. Please let us know which topics you are most interested in seeing!



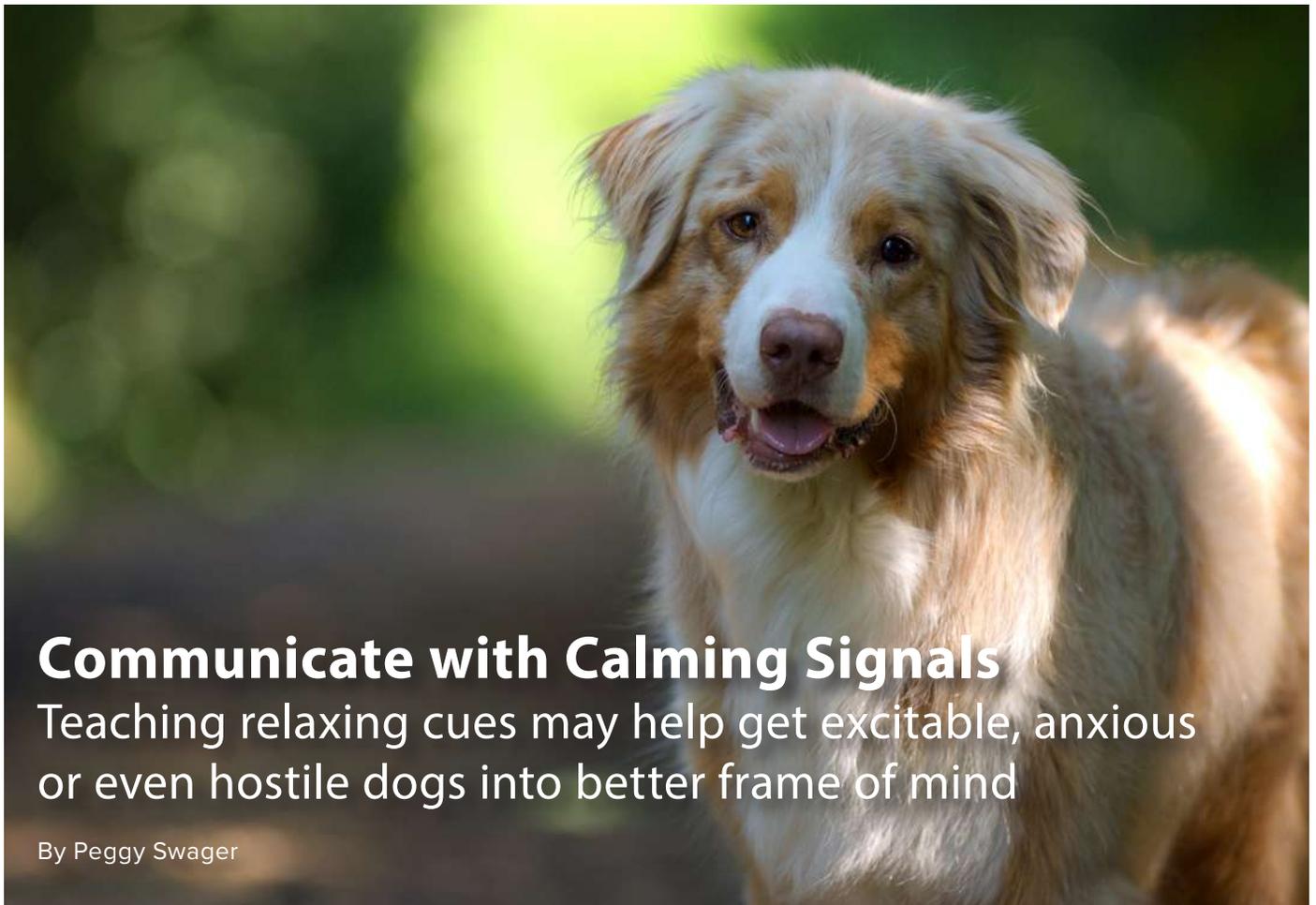
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#### FOOTNOTES

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## Communicate with Calming Signals

Teaching relaxing cues may help get excitable, anxious or even hostile dogs into better frame of mind

By Peggy Swager

**M**y first introduction to calming signals was not Turid Rugaas' book, "On Talking Terms with Dogs: Calming Signals." I first learned about them while talking with someone who was waiting to run her dog in agility. Kelly's turn to enter the ring had just come up. A moment after her name was announced, I had no doubt her dog would not make that run. Her brachycephalic Boston Terrier had become stressed and was now gasping to catch his breath. What I didn't know was that Kelly had used calming signals to teach the dog to relax on cue when this kind of episode came on. Years later, I finally learned how to make calming signals work for me. One situation was with three dogs who fed off one dog's anxiousness. The other was a dog named Benny who was known for biting people who entered his house. Using calming signals changed this dog from hostile, to one I could interact with safely.

Turid Rugaas' book works to translate how dogs use calming signals with each other to deescalate potential hostile situations. These signals communicate in a non-vocal, amiable way. Dogs often use those signals at times to try and communicate with us. This makes learning calming signals a great value to dog trainers when it comes to reading dog body language. What Kelly and her Boston Terrier introduced me to was the concept that we can use calming signals to do

more than read our dogs, we can use them to communicate to our dogs in a way that is similar to natural dog-to-dog communication. Calming signals can be a stronger way to tell the dog what we want the dog to do than if we spoke verbal cues. This technique sometimes works better than giving commands we've taught a response to when we are working to settle down a dog.

One place I found calming signals helped was with three dogs who became overly excited when approached in their outside pen. The dogs, anticipating getting out of their pen, would escalate their joy by jumping and running the fence. The training goal with these dogs was to get them to sit calmly when someone approached. The Golden Retriever got the idea rather quickly. Using the Premack technique, she learned that for her to get what she wants, i.e., let out, she needs to first do what I wanted, to sit calmly when I told her to sit. The Border Collie and Spaniel mix came around next, but sometimes struggled. Youth and excess energy fed into the Border mix's enthusiasm, at times interfering with her efforts to contain herself when needed. The problem child was the Aussie, aka the Australian Shepherd. For this dog, compliance had always been a struggle. Working to get the three to cooperate together was too often sabotaged by the Aussie.

The Aussy had arrived to her third owner with a poor training history. The first owner, an experienced herding trainer, had selected this dog as a puppy from a litter for her potential. Sadly, the Aussy washed out in herding. The dog was strong-willed and not very compliant. But the unsurmountable problem was a focus issue that I suspect had biological roots. I discovered this problem when working with the dog. The Aussy lost focus while walking across the agility dog obstacle called a dog walk and fell off.

**The yawn is another one of my favorite calming signals. To do this correctly, once again you need to display a secure but relaxed posture. The correct way to give a yawning calming signal is to do a deep yawn. That means your mouth is wide open. While yawning, turn your head a half turn to the side. Don't make eye contact with the dog during the process.**

The second owner of this dog had planned on training the Aussy for obedience, but the owner didn't know the correct way to work with a strong-willed dog with little interest in the task at hand. Instead, the second owner first tried to use treats to get the dog to sit and do other commands. The Aussy learned the commands, but often decided not to comply. In frustration, the owner resorted to force and adversity. Instead of complying when threatened with adversity, the Aussy began to refuse to sit no matter what was tried. The second owner gave up and the dog was rehomed. I worked to help resolve behavior issues with this dog, including achieving a reliable sit.

When working the trio together to settle down before being released from the pen, I was able to initially get all three to sit. But one day, the strong-willed, short attention-span Aussy broke her sit and rapidly paced the fence. As I continued to approach, I reissued my "sit" command, but the Aussy would not comply. I used a firmer tone with my command and noticed the dog began to whine while racing the fence.

When I heard that whine, I had a concern. I hadn't used a harsh or angry tone, and knew this dog was not highly sensitive to reprimands. That made the whine out of place. I worried that I'd stumbled onto a conditioned response. The next time I repeated this exercise, I made sure my tone was not stern at all. The whine was worse. With conditioned responses, spontaneous recovery can haunt your training efforts. If I was dealing with a conditioned response with potential spontaneous recovery issues, training would be very time intensive. I'd already spent a lot of time securing her sit command. I wanted to find a better way to train this dog to calm down.

I decided to try using calming signals. Two of my favorite calming signals to use is the head turn, and the yawn. There are some rules for using calming signals to communicate well. Those rules keep you from sending mixed messages to the dog.

I have observed that a good calming head turn is a quarter turn of the head. Even though this head turn sends a calming signal, you need to make sure you are not contradicting that signal with unintended cues. Before giving a calming signal, make sure your shoulders are relaxed. A relaxed posture is not the same as a slumping posture. Instead, you want a sturdy stance, one that makes it easy for you to draw in and out your breath. Don't stare at the dog or make eye contact. With a level chin, turn your head. This kind of communication is non-verbal, so don't issue any verbal commands or offer any praise.

I stepped a quarter of the way inside the Aussy's reaction zone. I wanted to work with her unwanted response, but not get too close since distance can affect intensity. I stopped and assumed a relaxed posture. After taking a calming breath, I turned my head a quarter-turn. Of course, being immersed into her intentions, she didn't immediately respond. I held the head turn for about a minute, then again looked forward. After another calming breath, I repeated the head turn. After a few head turns, the other two dogs began to quiet down. I continued doing head turns. It took a while, but the Aussy quit racing the fence and looked at me. That was enough for this first lesson for me. I calmly walked forward. Of course the Aussy again began her fence racing, but that was okay. I'd communicated with her for a moment, and that was the goal of this first lesson. I let the dogs out.

I repeated the head turns for the second lesson. When the Aussy quit racing the fence, I calmly moved forward. The Aussy again paced the fence. I said nothing and avoided eye contact as I calmly walked to the gate. At the gate, I began once again offering head turns. It took some time, but finally the Aussy stilled. This was a good enough success for the second lesson. With several practices, the Aussy learned to calm sooner and now settles readily when I stop and turn my head. She stays still while I come to open the gate. I never tried to put this exercise on a verbal command. For the Aussy, the calming signal was the best way to get the response I wanted.

I was contacted to work with a mill dog rescue named Benny. This small, white Havanese mix had numerous behavior issues. After a discussion with the owner, we decided to work first on the dog's issues of biting people who came into the house.



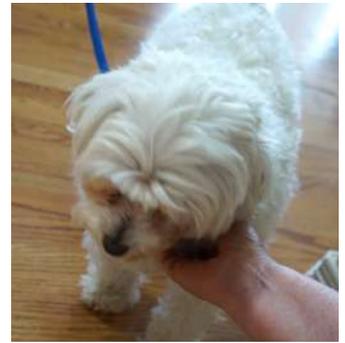
Benny growled



Benny calm signal



Benny be friends look



Benny welcomed my rub

When I arrived to work with Benny, I was ready to apply what I'd learned from working with the Aussie. I'd also arranged with the dog owner for me to safely enter the house without immediately getting bitten. Two things I did to secure this was to call on my cell when I arrived. I did this because some dogs will trigger on a doorbell, making the dog tense and more likely to bite whoever steps inside. The second thing was to have the dog leashed. I made sure the dog didn't have barrier frustration issues with leashes.

Once inside the house, I stopped several feet away from the dog in an attempt to lower the stress to the dog at my presence. Benny kept a rather hostile focus on me. A couple of times he moved towards me but was stopped when the owner engaged the leash. I stood calmly and appeared to pay him no attention. I talked to his owner, using a calm tone of voice. The owner also used calm tones in the conversation. While talking to the owner, I'd occasionally yawn.

The yawn is another one of my favorite calming signals. To do this correctly, once again you need to display a secure but relaxed posture. The correct way to give a yawning calming signal is to do a deep yawn. That means your mouth is wide open. While yawning, turn your head a half turn to the side. Don't make eye contact with the dog during the process.

I could see Benny begin to relax from my calming signals, as well as my calm tone of voice. However, I also noticed any movement made the dog re-tense. Still, I looked for and found an opportunity to lower to the floor. I didn't want to bend over this dog when we finally made contact and felt my lower position would be more amiable. I kept up my conversation with the owner while occasionally yawning.

Finally, Benny quit pulling against the leash. Not too long after that, he put his head down and sniffed. I immediately recognized this signal. As if Benny had read Turids' book, he began to approach in an arc. This is a peaceful way for a dog to approach, which meant Benny was telling me he didn't want to be hostile towards me. I held my position and let Benny make the decisions about making contact with me.

Benny stopped a few feet away. He didn't make direct eye contact

with me, but I knew he was watching. I positioned my hand at this eye level and asked him to come forward. I held my hand steady and let him approach, taking his time. Benny leaned forward and sniffed toward my hand, then after a moment he glanced at me. That was followed by a head turn. I heard him clearly. He was not yet ready to interact.

I held my hand steady and gave him the time he needed. He again sniffed towards my hand. This time when Benny glanced my way, I gave him a yawn with a head turn. He moved closer and repeated his sniff of my hand. That was followed by me giving him another calming yawn. Then, he looked towards me, and made eye contact with eyes. The look seemed to say he felt he could trust me. He then stepped forward, lowered his head, and rubbed the top of his head against my hand. I began to scratch under his chin. I was able to work with this dog after that with more training.

As trainers, I feel we all strive to communicate with dogs. Armed with our accumulated training techniques, we seek to find the best way to train. Those techniques are carefully researched for cues and reinforcements, all in hopes of achieving the right outcome. Still, we are approaching our training using our language rather than that of the dogs. And sadly, sometimes our training introduces more stress than we'd like. Turid Rugaas' book introduced the dog world to the way dogs communicate with each other when working to destress encounters. Since miscommunications can create additional stress, learning how to communicate in a language the dog understands, which is also geared toward destressing an encounter, can have a lot of advantage.



**Peggy Swager**, of Monument, Colo., has authored several accredited online courses, including one on house training issues. She has authored multiple articles and books and received five DWAA awards. Her most recent book is "Hard to House Train." She has a bachelor's degree in biology, minor in education, with undergraduate studies in psychology. She may be reached at [www.peggyswager.com](http://www.peggyswager.com).

# EMOTIONAL SOUNDNESS

## Selecting and Developing the Emotionally-Sound Puppy Crucial for its Sociability

By Melissa McMath Hatfield, M.S., CBCC-KA, CDBC

As professionals, we have clients whose philosophies about selecting the best puppy vary. For some, only rescues are considered and, for others, only the purebred puppy will do. Regardless of whether the puppy is brought home from the local shelter or imported from Germany, they all have the same developmental period.

Let's start with the basics. Besides overall good health, nutrition, and training, there is another equally important component: emotional soundness. Without it, the dog will not develop into its fullest potential and may even develop emotional issues. The clinging wall flower may never develop into the social butterfly; the adage, "you can't turn an apple into an orange," comes to mind, and you can't make them "want to want to."

### Emotional Soundness

A quick checklist should include the following questions. Does the puppy:

- Freely establish eye contact and enjoy human touch?
- Accept novel stimuli?
- Handle frustration?
- Recover easily from being startled and is quick to forgive?
- Have a natural curiosity?
- Respond to play overtures spontaneously?
- Enjoy and seek human companionship?

### Temperament v. Personality

This is often referred to as nature v. nurture. It is important to know the difference, however, since both evolved differently. Temperament is based on genetics, is innate, and is the natural way of responding to the environment, i.e., nature. Temperament is the foundation of the personality. Yet personality is how our temperament (genetics) interacts with the environment, i.e., nurture. Personality traits are present at an early age, are relatively stable over time, and the same response should be expected in future similar situations, throughout the dog's life. (Segurson)

The Svartberg and Forkman Personality Trait Study lists specific traits that are evolutionarily stable and are heritable. They are:

- Playfulness
- Curiosity/Fearlessness
- Chase Proneness
- Sociability and Aggressiveness
- Shyness and Boldness

Shyness is one of the behavior traits most affected by genetics, (Pfaffenberger) so look closely at mom and dad. You need to know, up front, what you are getting. Time and love can cure a lot of problems but not a potential emotionally unsound dog caused by genetics. The expectations and emotional demands for the show ring competitor, hunting dog or working dog are very different from the companion lap dog.

The criteria for selecting an emotionally sound puppy should be an objective observational approach. There are no guarantees, but if you select a dog that passes the following test, your chances are greatly increased. Although there is no way to know if they will thrive in the chosen environment, you sure can be guaranteed the odds of success diminish if they fail these simple tests. Be aware of rationalizations such as, "oh, she just takes a little time to warm up" or similar statements. Dogs communicate in a straightforward and honest manner; what you see is what you get.

After the initial observation the next step in this process is the temperament test, which measures positive emotions such as sociability, stability, confidence, and friendliness, as well as negative emotions such as fearfulness, shyness, anxiety, and aggression. The dog's behavioral response needs an objective description of the behavior rather than a subjective interpretation or rationalizations of the dog's behavior; therefore, the breeder is automatically disqualified from performing the test.





If the puppy is old enough to leave its littermates, it is old enough to be tested. A quiet, but neutral, environment with a neutral tester is ideal. There are many temperament tests available to the breeder. Canine Behavioral Assessment and Research Questionnaire (C-BARQ), Safety Assessment for Evaluation Rehoming (SAFER), and the Volhard Puppy Aptitude Test are three excellent choices and easy to administer. These are self-explanatory and can be easily found with a Google search.

### Critical Periods of Development

John Paul Scott and John L. Fuller, psychologists, summarized the foundation for critical periods in a puppy's development in their book, *Genetics and the Social Behavior of the Dog* (1965). This classic 13-year study was one of the first and most extensive research studies on dogs and due to their "discovery" of the critical periods in the puppy, it became the foundation in developmental studies in the human.

They found that from birth to the 16th week that even a small exposure from a specific experience could greatly affect the dog for life—the younger the puppy the more significant of an impact on the puppy. The first year can be divided into three periods. The following is a condensed outline:

- I. Neonatal: (3-16 days)
- II. Socialization: (4-14 weeks)
  - Canine–Canine Socialization: (3-7 weeks)
  - Canine-Human Socialization Period (7-12 weeks)
  - Fear Impact Period (8-11 weeks)
- III. Enrichment: (14-52 weeks)

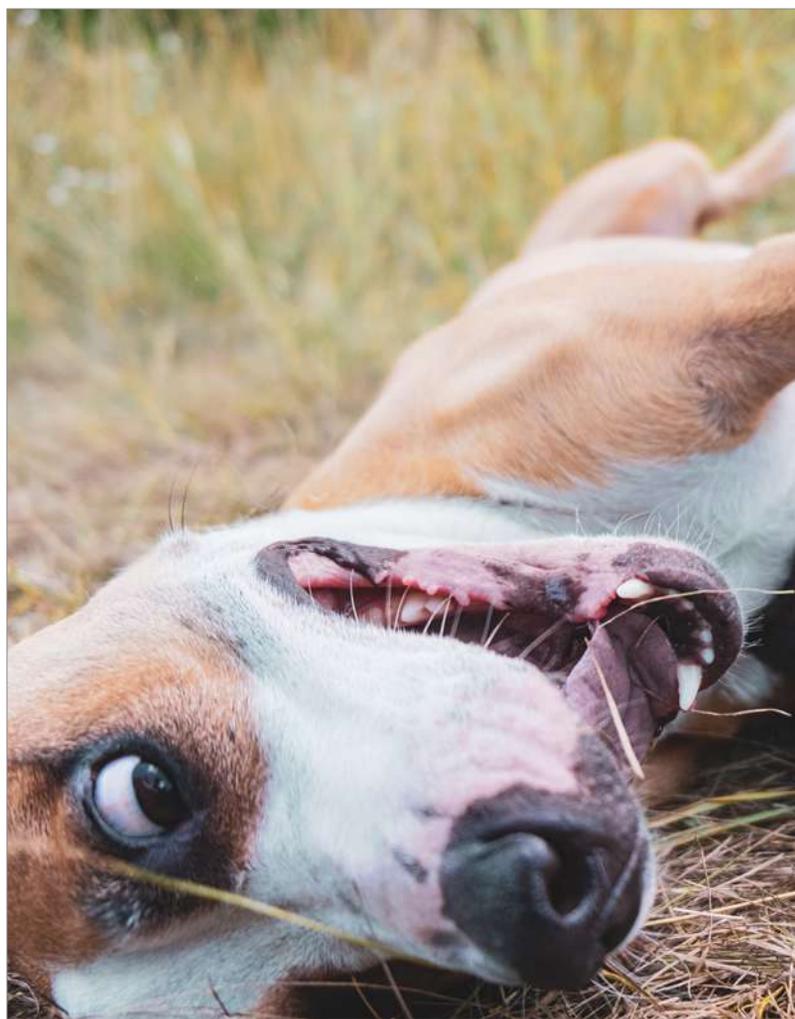
What is the puppy's enrichment program? What experiences has the puppy been exposed to? When you bring your puppy home, you have until the 16th week to maximize optimal emotional growth that builds a lifelong emotional and social foundation.

Enrichment: The 4 E's:

- Explore
- Examine/Seek
- Encounter
- Experience

The 4 E's will be experiences that form the foundation for all other learning, each building on top of each other until the world becomes a safe and predictable place to live and explore. The result is a nonplused, poised, confident puppy.

Unfortunately, a majority of puppies (regardless if they are being primed for a specific task) do not receive this advantage. You can tell as early as 12 weeks those who have a head start and those who have not. These puppies may not necessarily end up with emotional problems later in life, but they certainly will not develop into their full potential. Puppies raised in a kennel environment do not fare well down the road as compared with



puppies started in an enrichment program. Raising puppies in a lackluster routine also puts a puppy at a disadvantage that can be difficult, if not impossible to overcome. So often, the consequences do not manifest until the dog is 18 months to two years of age. It is not uncommon, then, to hear about being surprised at the sudden behavior change in "my normally sweet dog." Multiple intra-species and inter-species experiences are a must for building confidence and developing an emotionally sound dog. As many cross-species experiences as possible should take place during the puppy's first 16 weeks. Cross species social interactions or "meets and greets" build sociability and increase confidence as well as the ability to adapt to multiple changes in the environment.

Sue Sternberg defines *sociable* as the dog's "innate affection for reference and attraction toward humans" and *socialized* as the dog's "early exposure to novel stimuli." For those puppies who have been properly socialized the benefits range from positive behaviors such as:

- Comfortable in new environments
- Communicates well with both dogs and human
- Can ignore nonthreatening stimuli
- Is social and anxious free



For those who have not been socialized the negative behaviors can be:

- Anxiety
- Aggressiveness
- Lacks bite inhibition
- Dog - dog aggression
- Fearful of anything new, including animals, people, and events

A practical example is the startle reflex. An emotionally healthy dog, after being startled, will approach and forgive the offending source. Are they curious? Do they approach novel stimuli? Seek human contact immediately? “She just hates loud noises” and “after all this is a new environment” are subjective statements and should be a red flag in the assessment.

Since the puppy will be spending up to 9-12 weeks with the breeder and the round of vaccines are not complete, the 4 E’s will have to be “in house.” There is a lot that can be done, though, to expose the puppy while keeping it safe. Exploring or seeking is one that the dog will need to continue for life — it is mentally stimulating, builds confidence, and physically strengthening. The best way to accomplish this is taking the dog on a smell-the-roses walk and for a puppy, an opportunity to explore outside the nursery, daily.

For indoor enrichment, puppy gyms and enrichment/interactive toys are available on the internet, and different types of footing with multiple textures are easy to accomplish. Create a playroom with multiple toys, shapes, sizes, and sounds. Have as many friends over (young and old) as possible and hopefully there are other household dogs that can come into the nursery for a visit. Taking the puppies on car rides around the block is a fabulous way to start experiencing the movement of the car. Take a few minutes a day to just “be” with each puppy individually. Whether it is playtime (never too young to start teaching fetch) or cuddling, one-on-one is extremely beneficial for you both.

Once the little one has left the nursery (keeping in mind the 4 E’s) start the program I call “one-a-day” (like the vitamin). If you miss one you will live (and life will surely get in the way of the best laid plans) but unlike the vitamin, if a day is missed, you can double up. You can offer more than one new experience a day, just as long as you don’t overwhelm the little one. Just because you are not exposing them to general public venues or other dogs until the vaccines are complete does not mean that they have to be kept isolated. Going to the bank, a drive-through restaurant where strangers can pet them, sitting on a bench at the mall, visiting nursing homes, schools, riding in elevators, hotel lobbies, having two and four legged friends over, walking to the neighbor’s house and making introductions, exposure to the vacuum cleaner and the UPS truck all can be done safely. The advantage is that you can carry or wheel a puppy in a buggy where they are kept safe, physically and emotionally. You are only limited by your imagination.

### Staying below threshold

All of this is well and good *if* done correctly. The little one must always be kept under threshold and never in a situation where he can’t retreat, get rescued, or removed. He must never be left in a situation to “figure” it out or with the attitude “he will get over it.” If they are showing any signs of stress, anxiety, or fear, i.e., over threshold, they must be removed calmly and quickly as possible. Be aware of rationalizations such as: “oh, it’s not that bad” or “she’ll get used to it.” Learn to “listen with your eyes” by being aware of the dog’s calming signals and respond appropriately. Calming signals are telling us that all is not well. There are approximately 30. Some common ones are licking of nose, head turning, sniffing, freezing and yawning. (Rugass, pg. ix). Keep each new experience natural, flowing from one event to the other, thus building on their original 4 E foundation.

Spending their first 16 weeks learning that the world is a safe place, they should be emotionally and physically secure. Multiple positive experiences as early as possible under threshold can help in creating the ideal companion dog. Multiple negative experiences over threshold can affect the dog’s confidence, create anxiety, and, if stressful enough, can be permanent.

### For Those Who Missed Early Socialization

For those who missed their window of opportunity during their critical period either due to neglect, isolation, or restriction can find themselves in rescues, shelters, or in more dire situations. Lack of early intra-species and inter-species socialization certainly is a serious factor when selecting a puppy for emotional soundness, as the lifelong consequences can be significant in altering the personality and overall emotional stability.

It was once believed that after the 16th week the window of opportunity was closed, hence the term “critical period” of development. However, all is not lost, as the research in neuroscience has shown that the dog’s brain is not stagnant, and the dog can learn and explore well into old age. He may not be the dog that he could have been if given adequate early human/dog interaction, but accommodations can be made to help him in his adjustment and quality of life. Just think smaller exposures and in a longer time frame. Often the hardest thing to overcome is not with the dog but with the pet parent. The game plan should be “to do nothing.” This dog will need time to adjust to living in a new environment with new rules and expectations.

If there has been abuse, neglect, or trauma the main thing you can offer is an environment where the dog can decompress. This may take up to six months or more. I adopted an 18-month-old Boxer off the show circuit and it took him more than a year to have the confidences to interact in a relaxed and friendly manner. Surely his temperament was not conducive to the environment in which he was expected to function. However, adopting the “do nothing” protocol does not mean he is not being taught basic life skills of living with and around humans and possibly other household pets. Otherwise, unless the dog has initiated contact or showed interest just let him be. Time, love and patience can go a long way in helping him adjust to his new world. Problems arise when the pet parent tries too hard and expects too much too fast. Sometimes these are the dogs that are the happiest living in a smaller more predictable environment.

Just go back to the 4 E’s while staying below threshold as your guide. The very fact you have provided a safe place, a routine and a predictable environment is a rehabilitation protocol in and of itself. Don’t expect a cuddle buddy or interaction within the family to come naturally or quickly. This develops on the dogs own timetable, not yours.

### Summary

Dogs communicate with humans in an honest and straightforward manner, but we have to listen with our eyes and our hearts. If they are happy and freely interacting within their environment and with others (two-legged as well as four) you will know. If they are not, begin a rehabilitation program beginning with small incremental exposures staying below threshold. The dog’s relationship and emotional well-being is critical and should be guarded with all of the love and care you can give.

Temperament is the genetic foundation for the puppy’s developing personality. It sets the stage for appropriate behavior and reactions to living in a world with humans and other animals. Add nutrition, medical care, environmental enrichment, training, handling, and grooming. Mix with a creative first 16 weeks including both intra-species and inter-species socialization and the result should be an emotionally sound puppy ready to take on the world.



**Melissa McMath Hatfield, M.S., CBCC-KA, CDBC**, earned a master’s in counseling psychology and is a retired licensed psychological examiner. Her mission is to enhance the human-dog relationship through understanding, knowledge and empathy. Currently she has a private behavior consulting practice

where her main focus is performing temperament assessments and behavior evaluations of dogs who are exhibiting mental health issues. For further information please go to her website at <http://www.lovingdogs.net>.

### Resources

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Apache (right) wearing his muzzle after being conditioned to wear it with positive reinforcement techniques.

# Busting the Muzzle Myth: Why Training All Dogs to Muzzles Makes Good Sense

By Rachel Brix, BSEd, CPDT-KA

**W**alking the busy streets of our small tourist town with my dog, the looks on people's faces range from confusion, to disgust, to laughing, to disapproval to open-mouthed wide-eyed shock. The cause of these contorted faces? A dog wearing a muzzle.

Let's face it: we don't see very many dogs in public wearing what looks to most people like some sort of medieval torture device. And when people who aren't dog professionals in-the-know see us, they think I'm mean, my dog is dangerous, or something else other than what's true. I've heard people mutter "poor dog" or "he must be aggressive" or even come right out and ask, "Why is that dog wearing a muzzle?" Since stopping for a long conversation isn't something my dog can do just yet, I give them the short version: He's in training and we're keeping everyone safe. But as trainers shouldn't we be doing more overall, especially considering muzzles are a trusted, effective and necessary tool?

Truth be told, long before I became a trainer, I was one of those open-mouthed gawkers. I stereotyped muzzle-wearing dogs as "aggressive," and wondered what the heck the owner was doing to the dog that it needed a cage on its face. But last year I adopted a dog named Apache, a long-termer at our rural Arkansas shelter. We were head-over-heels for each other and had worked together on

and off for his 2 ½ years there. A bully breed mix, about 4-to-5 years old with a multiple bite history, management labeled him “unadoptable” and relegated him to a lonely isolated corner kennel. Not wanting that sentence for him, I finally decided to take a chance and bring him home.

He’d had four (reported) bites, Levels 2 through 4 on the Dunbar Scale. I heard the term “zero dog” at a recent conference, and this would describe my boy perfectly—in the fourth quadrant of “no warning/bite” and the most difficult to rehab. Of course he gives a warning, but it’s so subtle it’s tough to train; even with my decade of experience, the help and tutelage of a CDBC, CBCC and with Grisha Stewart’s awesome BAT 2.0. But we’re working on it. And he’s improving.

Granted, most dogs don’t fit into Apache’s category—but to the general public every dog might as well be a “zero dog.” One look at a muzzled dog (especially a bully breed mix like mine) and he’s automatically labeled “aggressive” and the human “mean” (or worse). But there are many reactive dogs who do not wear muzzles, but probably should.

Moreover, dogs who ingest things they shouldn’t can also benefit from a muzzle. I had a client whose Doberman puppy took to eating rocks every chance he got. At first, they had reservations about putting the dog in a muzzle, but after emergency surgery, they decided it was in everyone’s best interest he wear one. One of their initial issues was choosing which type of muzzle to use. As dog professionals, we should be versed in which types of muzzles are best; the most recommended dog-friendly muzzle is a rubber basket muzzle. They’re lightweight and flexible, and wearing one doesn’t prevent a dog from receiving food, drinking and panting. Apache’s muzzle was less than \$20 and took us about two weeks to train. He knows when he puts it on, not only does he get yummy food, but also that we’re leaving our property to go on an adventure.



The fact is, all dogs should be trained on wearing a muzzle. Unfortunately, most dogs never even see a muzzle, let alone receive training on wearing one. And most dogs never bite; even though all dogs could at any given time. In her iconic book “The Culture Clash,” Jean Donaldson offers the sobering reality that many dogs “simply never meet up with the particular combination of elements that would cause them to bite, but this is a stroke of luck. There is no qualitative difference, or even necessarily a quantitative difference, between their temperament and the repeat biter next door.”

Donaldson goes on to assert “the number one bite provocation in domestic dogs is some variation on a behavior we humans consider unprovocative, or even friendly: approaching or reaching out with a hand.” So, I suppose what’s surprising is not the number of bites, but that there aren’t more, especially considering we’ve all witnessed many people who approach dogs uninvited and/or reach out to pet them; the dog doesn’t know they mean no harm and the general public simply doesn’t know better.

Dog bite statistics are akin to fuzzy math: while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports approximately 4.7 million dog bites per year, only about

800,000 require medical care. These numbers don’t include bites that go unreported, which are usually the Level 1 bites that may not even require a Band-Aid. And most bite victims are among our most vulnerable: children and the elderly, and they’re usually bitten by dogs they know. Therefore, keeping our dogs and the people they love safe makes good training sense. Typically, the only time most dogs see a muzzle is in an emergency, when the likelihood of a bite is even more probable.

It’s time to break the stigma, and it’s our job as professionals in an unregulated industry to do it. Our education and experience make us not only uniquely qualified, but also appropriately responsible for educating and guiding the public, thereby advocating for dogs in the process. Muzzles keep everyone safe—the people and dogs in vicinity of a dog with a bite history and the owner of the dog with a bite history—not only from possible litigation, but also from redirected aggression, of which Apache is prone.

Yet there’s millions of unmuzzled dogs who could bite and then continue with owners who may or may not be prepared to prevent future bites; be abandoned; be relinquished to shelters that may or may not have the resources necessary to help dogs with bite histories, or be euthanized.



The author used positive reinforcement to help Apache learn to accept wearing his muzzle out in public.

I was recently at the front counter of a vet's office when a woman came in dragging a stiff-legged and cowering enormous American bulldog-looking dog on a flimsy leash. The dog's nails were clearly long overdue for a trim (the apparent reason for its visit), but the dog was so petrified, it broke away from its human and dashed for the door. The owner attempted to subdue her petrified pooch as a vet tech dashed into the back, reappearing with muzzle in hand. She tried in vain for a several miserable minutes to muzzle the dog. Ultimately, everyone gave up and the dog left not only with an obviously negative experience, but without the desperately needed nail trim. It all seemed like a scene from a bad movie but served as a stark reminder of many things: the staff could clearly benefit from fear-free training; dogs need their humans' help to have positive experiences at the vet, and muzzles should be trained, not forced. As trainers we should consider adding muzzle training to our curriculums. Everyone was extremely lucky this poor dog chose not to bite.

**Maureen Backman, M.S., CTC, PCT-A**, is an honors grad from Jean Donaldson's Academy for Dog Trainers who innovated the Muzzle Up! Project a few years ago, which aimed to educate the public about

dog behavior while reducing the stigma associated with dogs who wear muzzles. While Backman has since closed the business end to return to grad school, the website is still active and contains an extensive collection of resources for both trainers and the general dog-owning public.

Training a dog to a muzzle is, of course, not as easy as teaching them to sit or rollover but should be just as fun and well reinforced. On her blog, Backman describes, "The presence and strength of the "yippee!" response is the single most important factor in muzzle training. If your dog goes "uh oh," "ho hum," or "I'm not sure about this" when he sees the muzzle, it doesn't matter how great the rest of your training plan is; the dog hasn't made a strong, accurate association between the muzzle and the good stuff and without that association, your training will hit roadblocks."

Apache may always have to wear his muzzle in public. And that's okay. Other people mind it much more than he does. I'm learning to mind it less. As dog professionals we should actively assert to remove the stigma associated with muzzles and instead add acclimating our dogs to a muzzle as part of our classes—even adding it to our Responsible Pet

Owners' checklist—and advocate for their usefulness. After all, as Ben Franklin acknowledged, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."



**Rachel Brix, BSEd, CPDT-KA**, has been training dogs and teaching people for a combined 20 years. Also, a writer and speaker, she has spoken twice at the annual APDT conferences and has also been nominated back-to-back years for a Dog Writers Association of America award. She owns and operates Percy's Playground boarding and training facility in Eagle Rock, Missouri, with her husband, who also helps her train—and spoil—their six rescue animals.

#### Resources

<https://muzzleupproject.com/>  
<https://barksfromtheguild.com/2017/12/10/making-peace-with-muzzles/>  
<https://www.petprofessionalguild.com/Muzzle-Training>  
<https://bestfriends.org/resources/muzzles-tool-keep-everyone-safe>



## 2020 APDT Annual Conference

# CALL FOR SPEAKERS

The search is on for those wanting to present educational content for the 2020 APDT Annual Conference, which will take place October 21–24, 2020, in Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky, at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center. APDT is looking for professionals interested in sharing their knowledge and expertise to an audience of dog trainers.

APDT strives to provide a broad range of continuing education that will enhance the professional competency of convention attendees. In an effort to provide meaningful, current and relevant educational programs, sessions need to be interesting and informative for both the newcomer and experienced professional.

This is a significant opportunity to share your knowledge with the dog training industry. Abstracts are being accepted in the following areas:

- Animal and Human Learning
- Business Practice and Technology
- Ethology
- Science-based Research



### Helpful Information

- Only those abstracts submitted via the official APDT abstract submission site will be considered.
- You do not need to be a member of APDT to apply.
- Preference is given to those applicants who hold a CABC, CCPDT, DACVB, IAABC or KPA CTP certification, Ph.D. or DVM.
- Abstract submission deadline is **December 16, 2019**.

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### September 26-October 30

#### *Dog Training 101: What All Beginning Trainers Should Know*



Presented by  
Sarah Filipiak, CDBC

Knowing your stuff can really help a trainer stand out from the crowd. This course will feature all of the information a good dog trainer should know before starting to offer services. We'll go in-depth

into the history of dog training, current training methods, dog behavior and body language, credentialing and how to approach our human clients' behavior.

To learn more about these multi-week courses, go to [pathlms.com/apdt](http://pathlms.com/apdt)

*Dates are subject to change.*

### November 13-December 17

#### *Comparative Psychology and Cognition*



Presented by  
Alexandra Protopopova,  
Ph.D, CPDT-KA

Is your African grey parrot simply repeating a previously heard word or is he using language? Does your dog understand that objects continue to exist even when out of view? Comparative psychologists focus on the evolutionary, developmental and environmental variables influencing behavior of various species of animals. In this class, we will cover the history of animal behavior and cognition, the role and dangers of anthropomorphism and anthropocentrism, and cover key topics in animal cognition research such as social learning, abstract concepts, communication and language, and theory of mind.

# SOLUTIONS FOR CLASSROOM CHALLENGES: VOICES FROM THE TRAINING COMMUNITY

By Jamie McKay, CPDT-KSA

*Ask 10 trainers a question and you'll get 10 different answers! If you have a suggestion for a topic to be covered in this series, please email [jamiemckay@optonline.net](mailto:jamiemckay@optonline.net).*

This challenge was suggested by **Jamie McKay, CPDT-KSA**.

*"Understandably, people attending dog training or behavioral modification classes whether for the first time are not are usually a bit nervous. I like to put them at ease by saying "This class is like Vegas. What happens here stays here!" It usually gets a laugh or at the very least smiles and helps put people at ease. What are some "catch phrases" trainers use to help put their new students at ease?"*



**Ann King, CPDT-KA, CBC**  
[www.canineking.com](http://www.canineking.com)  
[www.bestbullies.org](http://www.bestbullies.org)

I always tell people that the first class is like taking your kids to Toys R Us and then asking them to do their homework. Not going to happen.

**Tina Bassett**  
[www.NCShelterTraining.com](http://www.NCShelterTraining.com)

I've actually got two that I use regularly. When someone registers for class, they get a confirmation email with details on the class, payment, etc. I close the email with: Relax and be prepared to have fun. Don't worry if you feel your dog is out of control or barks the whole time. It is a new experience for them and the first day of school is always exciting for everyone.

During the first night of class the dogs

are generally distracted and over-aroused and people sometimes get discouraged by their dog's lack of focus. I usually remind them that it's their first time in the room, there are new people, new dogs, and lots of smells. Trying to get 100 percent attention the first night is like taking a bunch of kindergarten kids to the circus and trying to teach them math.

I find school analogies seem to work pretty well since we were all schoolkids at one time.

**Lisa Hilleard**  
[www.politepaws.com.au](http://www.politepaws.com.au)

I crack jokes and people laugh right through my class. I say this in a lighthearted way at week one of puppy and manners courses, "Your dog is doing its best based on the information given, so don't be too tough on them. You are doing your best based on the information given, so don't be too

tough on yourself. I'm the one giving you the information so I will take on all the pressure you may want to put on yourself or your dog, as that's my job as your trainer. You're both gonna suck really bad some days and be awesome others, don't worry that's all part of learning. And when you suck blame me! It's my job to make you suck less! I'm 100 percent committed, your dog is 100 percent committed and you are 100 percent committed so we've got this!"

**Robin Murray, CPDT-KA**  
<http://www.fortunatefido.com/>

One of my catchphrases regarding possible pitfalls/errors is "Ask me how I know?" My hope is that it puts people at ease because I've made the exact mistakes they are likely to make and it all turns out OK.

**Natalie Bridger Watson, CPDT-KA**  
<https://www.levelupdogtraining.com/>

I often have students who are absolutely horrified if their dog jumps on or barks at the trainer even if that's the behavior they called me to help fix and it is lesson one so they don't have any information yet to manage it effectively. If they're apologizing effusively, I laugh in a gentle and slightly self-effacing way, then say, "If I couldn't withstand an overly friendly greeting once in a while, I'd be in the wrong line of work. Just so I have baseline, was this greeting better than usual, worse than usual or about normal for her?" Asking them to step back from their emotions and rationally examine the behavior separate from the dog seems to help people get comfortable. Now of course, we know that I didn't intentionally set myself up to be jumped on to take a baseline, but if the



owner is stressing over a largely benign management fail, there's no reason they need to know that. We can make a training plan moving forward without shaming them for what they should have done differently the first time.

I tell clients that I'm here to help fix their problems, not dictate their lifestyle (until/unless it conflicts with their stated goals). If they want to teach no dogs on the furniture, I will help teach that. If they sheepishly admit their dog sleeps in bed with them ("I know it's bad, but it started when he was a puppy and..."), I laugh and tell them that three-fourths of the furniture in my house is here for the dogs, not the people, and I get genuinely offended when my dogs choose to sleep somewhere other than my bed. It seems to really comfort

some people to hear that even the trainer allows her dogs on the furniture and they don't have to banish their dog to get his manners under control.

**Jamie McKay, CPDT-KSA**  
[www.McKay9.com](http://www.McKay9.com)

In addition to the Vegas comment one of my catch phrases is think of your first group class as PreK. Don't expect your dog to be doing college level work yet!



**Jamie McKay, CPDT-KSA** gained her early experience at the Humane Society of Westchester teaching safe handling skills to volunteers to enhance the adoptability of shelter dogs. Jamie teaches group classes at Port Chester Obedience Training Club in New York. She is a Canine Good Citizen evaluator and competes in agility and rally obedience. Jamie and her husband, Stephen, CPDT-KSA, own McKay9 Dog Training, LLC.

# Editor's Choice

## DOG IS LOVE

### *Why and How Your Dog Loves You*

Written by Clive D. L. Wynne, Ph.D., illustrations by Leah Davies  
Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, 3 Park Ave., New York, New York 10016; September 24, 2019; 288 pages. Where to order: Amazon \$28 hardcover, \$14.99 Kindle, \$13.77; Barnes and Noble, \$28, ebook \$14.99.

Clive D. L. Wynne's latest book, "Dog Is Love: Why and How Your Dog Loves You" is less about the cognitive abilities of dogs, and more about a canine's capacity for love that makes a dog so successful in bonding with humans. As a scientist, Dr. Wynne admitted most researchers have to get past the concept that dogs have similar emotions as humans, which anthropomorphizing them, i.e., giving canines human emotions, such as looking guilty when confronted about a misdeed that is more likely to be anxiety, not culpability.

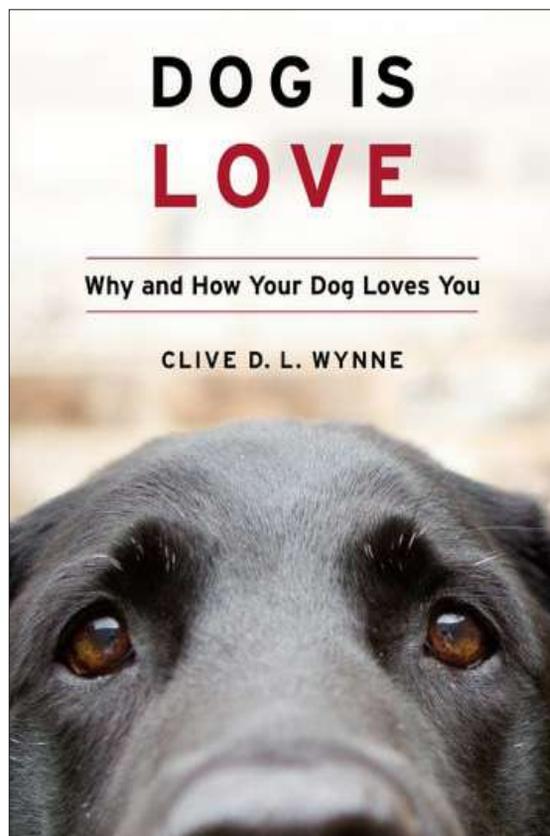
In his book, Dr. Wynne talks about studies that dogs and their owners' hearts will beat in synchrony when they are together, not unlike what is found with loving human couples. "Dog Is Love" is as much of a memoir of the evolution of Dr. Wynne's scientific career as it is a tale on how Dr. Wynne came to the conclusion that dogs have an innate understanding of humans that make them unique.

Dr. Wynne explains several studies that helped him reach that finding, and it wasn't always smooth sailing. At one point, his research resulted in the nickname of "Debbie Downer" of the canine cognition research when his research showed a dog's ability to understand human gestures is acquired rather than inborn.

Yet even faced with a dog's ability to sniff out explosives or cancer or learn the name of more than 1,000 stuffed animals, Dr. Wynne argued yes, they are smart. But they are learning to perform those skills because they want to please their owners. It is that hyper-sociability, or love, in other terms, that makes dogs special, Dr. Wynne concluded.

One promising study compares the genes of dogs to those of the tiny fraction of people who have a rare genetic disorder known as Williams-Beuren Syndrome (WBS). People who have WBS are described as having extremely extroverted personalities. People with those two genes, like dogs, have an amazing engagement in forming relationships, a hyper-sociability and extreme gregariousness, Dr. Wynne explained in the SUMMER issue of the *Chronicle of the Dog*.

There are but seven chapters out of the 288-page book. Dr. Wynne takes the reader on his journeys, which includes trips to



Israel and Nicaragua to discover the origin of a dog's love for humans. It includes a passage from 2,000 years ago when Greek philosopher Arrian of Nicomedia (aka Xenophon the Athenian) wrote lovingly of how his hound Hormé, she with the "greyest of grey eyes," longs to be with him like no other dog before her, and how she gives a bark of welcome and jumps in the air when seeing him after even a short absence. "And so I think that I should not hesitate to write down the name of this dog, for it to survive her even in the future, viz. that Xenophon the Athenian had a dog called Hormé, very fast, and very clever and quite out of this world."

"Dog Is Love" is Dr. Wynne's version of Arrian's rumination about Hormé, except this book written 2,000 years later immortalizes Xephos, a small black dog the Wynne family rescued in 2012. She has been affectionately referred to as a "loveable idiot," which exemplifies it is Xephos' capacity for love that makes her so special. Whether you read "Dog Is Love" for the scientific intrigue or the personal memoir musings, just read it. — The editor



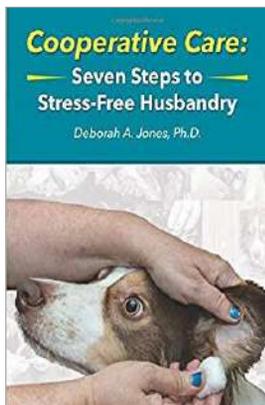
# Books, Banter and Barks

APDT members invited to join Facebook page discussion on dog behavior and training

**Interested in books about dog behavior and in conversations with the authors?** Ever wanted to talk with an author about their research and sources? APDT member Patricia Tirrell has just created a new group on Facebook, “Books, Banter, and Barks,” where you can read books and have discussions with the authors and other members. The group is located at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BooksBanterandBarks/> and select the “join” option. Be sure to answer the three questions asked of each prospective member. If you have any questions, please contact Pat at [patricia@confident-dog.com](mailto:patricia@confident-dog.com).

Below is a schedule of the books to be discussed for 2019:

Date	Author	Title
Sept. 16-30	Melissa Winkle	<i>Professional Applications of Animal Assisted Interventions</i>
Oct. 1-15	Grisha Stewart	<i>B.A.T. 2.0</i>
Oct. 16-31	Claudia Fuggaza	<i>Do As I Do</i>
Nov. 1-15	Clive Wynne, Ph.D	<i>Dog Is Love: Why and How Your Dog Loves You</i>
Nov. 16-30	Cat Warren	<i>What Your Dog Knows, Young Readers Edition (Oct. 8)</i>
Dec. 1-15	Dale Ward	<i>Raising the Worst Dog Ever: A Survival Guide</i>
Dec. 16-31		<i>Quiet time: All authors in the group are welcome to post about their books for the holidays.</i>



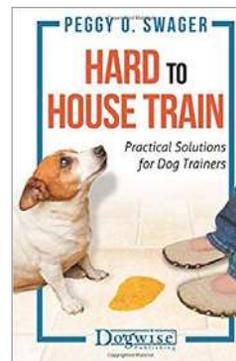
## Cooperative Care: Seven Steps to Stress-Free Husbandry

Written by Deborah A. Jones, Ph.D.  
Published by Deborah A. Jones, Ph.D., Stow, Ohio; 2018; 136 pages. Where to purchase: Dogwise, \$14.95 (APDT members get 10 percent discount using the code APDTPRO10); Amazon \$14.24 paperback.

The book “Cooperative Care – Seven Steps to Stress-Free Husbandry” by Deborah A. Jones, Ph.D., is a valuable resource for dogs from a puppy through their senior years. It may be tempting to jump to a specific section because you feel that is the one area your dog needs the most assistance with. However, Deb Jones kindly reminds us that by going through the entire seven steps you are building a relationship of trust and trust a key factor in stress-free husbandry.

The seven steps include: Place Conditioning, Impulse Control, General Body Handling, Working with the Head, Foot and Nail Care, Tools, People and Places. You will find easy to understand instructions and photos throughout the book plus a checklist for each section. The checklists help you assess where you and your dog are in the stress-free husbandry process. Even for dogs that appear to have these husbandry skills when they start the process it is possible to find that the dog is not stress-free, which is why Jones recommends everyone starts at the beginning. It is empowering to the dogs and their handlers to know they both have a voice in how they progress with stress-free husbandry.

The book is well written, has easy to follow steps with photos, and a checklist. It can be used by trainers and non-trainers alike. Kudos to Deb Jones for this fantastic Fear Free resource. — Patricia Tirrell, CPDT-KA through Books, Barks, and Banter, a Facebook group.



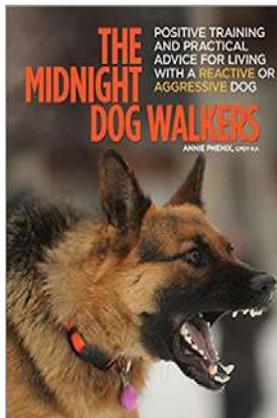
## Hard to House Train Practical Solutions for Dog Trainers

Written by Peggy O. Swager  
Published by Dogwise Publishing, 403 S. Mission St., Wenatchee, WA 98801, August 7, 2018; 234 pages. Where to purchase: Dogwise, \$19.95 (APDT members get 10 percent discount using the code APDTPRO10); Amazon \$19.95 paperback, \$7.96 Kindle.

“Hard to House Train: Practical Solutions for Dog Trainers” gives multiple solutions to housetraining dogs. The first half of the book looks at methods and underlying causes for difficulties with housetraining. There are step-by-step ways of teaching the client how to housetrain their dog or puppy. As for the causes section, the book gives great questions and solutions to ask the client. There are highlighted sections in the book for a quick reference.

The second half of the book talks about the common issues a dog trainer might face with a client. There are case studies that give the trainer an idea on how to handle similar cases of housetraining guidelines to help with their client’s issues. The approaches used in the book are positive training methods and teaching the client to not scold the dog or over-use the crate as punishment.

What we liked most about the book were the questions to ask the client section that offered guidelines to help the client succeed, and the list of things to look for if the problem is medical. Overall if you feel you keep repeating yourself to clients on how to solve their housetraining issues, we would recommend this book to get some different insights on how to approach the client. This book would be a great reference to have in your collection. — Khara Schuetzner, M.A., CPDT-KSA, CNWI



## The Midnight Dog Walkers:

*Positive Training and Practical Advice for Living with a Reactive or Aggressive Dog*

Written by Annie Phenix, CPDT-KA  
Published by Lumina Media, 640 Avis Drive, Suite 200, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48108; released in 2016; 223 pages.  
Where to purchase: Dogwise, \$19.95

(APDT members get 10 percent discount using the code APDTPRO10); Amazon \$19.95 paperback, \$9.99 Kindle; Barnes and Noble, \$19.95 paperback, \$11.99 Nook; Target, \$18.95.

**“Oh no” you think to yourself as you see the sunrise jogger heading your way with yellow Lab bounding along a few steps behind. You scan the environment for a car to hide behind before Fido begins his Jekyll and Hyde transformation. Yes, this is a book for the people who know only too well that not all dogs like all other dogs and people.**

I loved this book right from the start. It felt like the author, Annie Phenix, was speaking directly to me. She knew exactly what I have experienced. It’s a huge comfort to know it’s not just you — there are many pet parents out there who understand. So many in fact, that there is an informal title for those of us who go out of our way to walk our pups at times we’re unlikely to encounter anyone else. We are “The Midnight Dog Walkers.”

Annie has written a touching and informative book that both reassures the reader with a leash-reactive or aggressive dog they are not alone, and also provides clear guidance about what you can do to help your beloved companion. Through heartfelt text, and beautiful photography, Annie Phenix, a life-long dog lover, rescuer, and professional trainer, shares her experiences with, and the lessons she has learned from, some of the many, many dogs in her life.

The author offers insight for the seemingly increasing population of reactive and aggressive dogs, and support for the people who share their lives with them. If you’re considering getting a puppy, then you’ll do well to heed the advice on performing a thorough research of the breeder. If you’re uncomfortable with the aversive training methods that are being recommended to you, listen to that

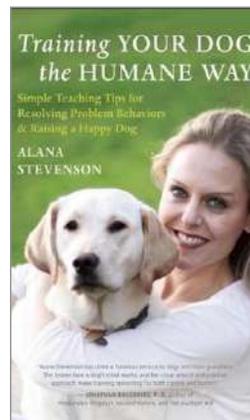


Photo from The Midnight Dog Walkers

inner voice. And if you already find yourself at the other end of the leash from a lunging, barking pup, it’s not necessarily about what you did or didn’t do, but in this book you’ll find a really clear and helpful explanation of the way our dogs learn, and a very personal guide to working through the process of changing your dog’s behavior.

This is a beautifully honest book. It’s a must-read for anyone with a reactive or aggressive dog, or for anyone who finds their sweet puppy becomes a leash-biting Tasmanian Devil upon the sight of a dog/bike/skateboarder when out on a walk. It could also make a great “surprise” gift for the well-meaning but misguided friend or neighbor who doesn’t understand why your dog suddenly becomes “crazy.”

Our dogs offer us so much. Trying to really understand them is the least we can do to offer them the life they truly deserve. Annie Phenix has presented an eloquent and compelling case to take the time to really get to know the dog you have welcomed into your life and home, to help them become the best dog they can be, and not to be lured by promises of quick training fixes for an all too common behavioral issue. — Alexandra Tytheridge-Allan, CPDT-KA through Books, Barks and Banter Facebook group



## Training Your Dog the Humane Way:

*Simple Teaching Tips for Resolving Problem Behaviors and Raising a Happy Dog*

Written by Alana Stevenson  
Published by New World Library, 14 Pamaron Way, Novato, CA 94949, May 24, 2011; 208 pages. Where to purchase: Amazon \$14.95 paperback, \$9.99 Kindle;

Walmart.com \$12.04 paperback, \$11.99 ebook; Barnes and Noble, \$14.95 paperback, \$10.99 Nook.

**“Training Your Dog the Humane Way: Simple Teaching Tips for Resolving Problem Behaviors and Raising a Happy Dog”**

is a book that targets current and prospective dog owners considering dog training options. The book appeals to current and prospective dog owners to use positive reinforcement training with their dogs to set themselves, and more importantly their dogs, for success.

The author uses a very approachable writing style to make a strong case for positive reinforcement training using layman's terminology to help dog owners "connect the dots," so to speak, as to why they should choose rewards-based training above any other training approaches. As an example, the author explains classical conditioning: "Animals learn by association...Dogs make connections by pairing events or sensations that occur simultaneously...For instance, if you jerk on the leash every time your dog sees a person, he will think that the next time he sees someone, he will be jerked or yanked...Over time, he may establish a negative connection with people and become fearful, aggressive, or overly submissive (pages 10-11)."

The author also encourages readers to read the first and second chapters first so they can gain a better understanding of how dogs learn, how to reinforce behaviors, and how to instill sound training techniques. The author then suggests readers may skip around and peruse through the chapters, resources and appendices they and their dogs would benefit from the most. This was the first time I read an author make such a recommendation and I kind of liked it.

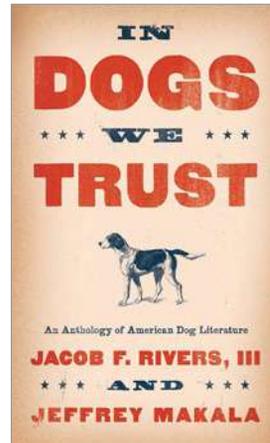
The book's eight chapters are:

- Positive Training and How Dogs Learn and Understand the World Around Them
- Training Techniques
- Teaching the Basics
- Jumping, Chewing, Barking, Housetraining, and Stool-Eating
- Behavior Modification for Dogs Who Exhibit Fear, Aggression and Anxiety
- Walking on a Relaxed Leash, the Sit-Down Strike, and Teaching Your Dog to Wait
- Pooch Etiquette: Positive Interactions at Dog Parks and Other Places Where Dogs Play and Mingle
- How to Choose a Humane Trainer

Chapters are topic-specific and range from discussing behaviors such as loose-leash walking to ensuring positive interactions at dog parks (I can just hear the collective gasp of many of my fellow dog trainers.)

Appendices cover more broader areas, including inter-species introductions, living in a multi-dog household, and harmful training techniques.

My overall impression: This is a great book for dog trainers to recommend to their clients, especially those who doubt the effectiveness of positive reinforcement training. — Tatiana Yastremski, M.A., CPDT-KA



## In Dogs We Trust: *An Anthology of American Dog Literature*

Written by Jacob F. Rivers, III  
and Jeffrey Makala

Published by University of South  
Carolina Press, Columbia, South  
Carolina; May 1, 2019; 288 pages. Where  
to order: Amazon \$27.99 hardcover,  
\$27.99 Kindle, \$27.99; Barnes and  
Noble, \$27.99, ebook \$15.99.

**If you could have just one book that would feature literature that exemplifies how dogs have become so embedded into our lives and hearts, you wouldn't have to look much further than "In Dogs We Trust: An Anthology of American Dog Literature." The authors, Jacob F. Rivers, III and Jeffrey Makala, have found myriad ways to celebrate the human-canine connection with stories, anecdotes and poetry, both fiction and non-fiction. As the authors state on their book jacket, the book offers the opportunity to "learn more about our animal companions, ourselves and our national literature....it helps us explore and explain who we are and who we wish to be."**

The book is broken down into four parts, each dedicated to a type of dog: Working Dogs, Sporting Dogs, Poetry about Dogs, and Companion Dogs. There will be many familiar names, such as J.S. Skinner, Albert Payson Terhune, Jack London, Emily Dickinson, John Burroughs, Meriwether Lewis, John Muir, O. Henry, and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

One amusing essay was written in 1793 by Gov. William Livingston, who offered his "Thoughts on Dogs." He appreciated heroic dogs, like Ithaca, who joyously welcomed home his master Homer after a 20-year absence, and then died. Livingston considered lapdogs a nuisance that required him to feign interest since "they are so often the fondlings of the ladies; and who would choose to be an enemy of any living thing, that is honoured with their affection?" Livingston opined that one general's affection for his lap dog was the reason he was never able to conquer "Quebeck," leaving that mission to General Wolfe, who "never played with lap dogs." Livingston also pondered placing a "very small tax upon every dog above one in a family, and so in proportion for more than two, would amount to a great sum; and I cannot think the serious consideration of such an import, beneath the dignity of the legislature."

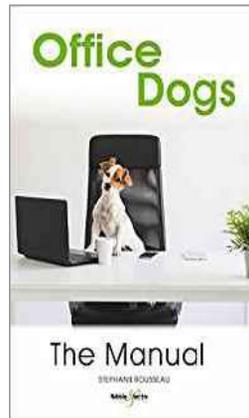
Renown naturalist John Muir's contribution to the book is an ode to a little black dog of unknown heritage named Stickeen that joined Muir's exploration of southeastern Alaska in the fall of 1879. Muir thought the little fox-like dog with a squirrel-

like bushy tail that curled over his back was “odd, concealed, independent, keeping invincibly quiet and doing many little puzzling things that piqued my curiosity.” Stickeen trotted on glaciers as if they were his playgrounds and leapt over crevasses without hesitation. Then Muir came upon a formidable crevasse that required him to painstakingly carve out steps in the ice down to a “sliver-bridge” of ice that connected two glaciers. Stickeen peered into the darkness and then “looked me in the face with a startled air of surprise and concern.” The formerly stoic dog began to whine and cry, and when Muir crossed the precarious sliver-bridge and the steps on the other side, Stickeen went into full-blown panic mode, running back and forth on his side while crying aloud in despair. Muir tried urging him to cross to no avail, then tried hiding, thinking that would force the tiny dog to give up and cross over. Stickeen would look down the crevasse and then back away, howling in distress.

Muir shouted in a stern voice he was leaving Stickeen to the mercy of wolves and bears and urgently gestured for him to come on. Stickeen finally did, crouched down with his body pressed to the ice, and without lifting his feet, slowly inched down the ice steps to the sliver-bridge and across, and then bounded up the final ice steps to whiz past Muir’s waiting arms. “Never before or since have I seen anything like so passionate a revulsion from the depths of despair to exultant, triumphant, uncontrollable joy. He flashed and darted hither and thither as if fairly demented, screaming and shouting, swirling around and around in giddy loops and circles like a leaf in a whirlwind, lying down, and rolling over and over, sidewise and heels over head, and pouring forth a tumultuous flood of hysterical cries and sobs and gasping muttering....he flashed off two or three hundred yards, his feet in a mist of motion, then turning suddenly, came back in a wild rush and launched himself at my face, almost knocking me down, all the while screeching and screaming and shouting, as if saying ‘Saved! Saved! Saved!’ Moses’ stately song of triumph after escaping the Egyptians and the Red Sea was nothing to it.”

After that crevasse-crossing experience, Stickeen was no longer aloof, rarely allowing Muir out of his sight, laying by his side and would “rest his head on my knee with a look of devotion as if I were his god.” After Muir left the area, he never forgot his furry buddy: “Doubtless he has left this world—crossed the last crevasse—and gone to another,” Muir wrote in this 1909 essay. “But he will not be forgotten. To me Stickeen is immortal.”

From the hero dogs to those who were companions, this book is a treasure trove on how dogs have enriched our lives. “In Dogs We Trust” may certainly be found in a library, but that requires one to read the book within a time constraint. This is a worthy publication for that precious spot in a bookcase, nightstand or coffee table, savoring one or two stories at a time. — The editor



## Office Dogs: The Manual

Written by Stephanie Rousseau  
*Hubble & Hattie Publishing, a division of Veloce House, Parkway Farm Business Park, Middle Farm Way, Poundbury, Dorchester, Dorset, England, 80 pages, published May 6, 2019. Where to purchase: hubbleandhattie.com £9.99, Amazon, \$12.49 paperback, \$6.99 Kindle and BN.com \$12.99 paperback and \$6.49 Nook.*

**With more and more corporations recognizing the benefit of allowing pets in the workspace, “Office Dogs: The Manual” offers insight into how to turn your dog into a well-behavior office colleague that benefits all who interact with him. Stephanie Rousseau, a dog behaviorist from Dublin, Ireland, provides data to prove dogs in the workspace reduces stress, absenteeism and contributes to improved morale. A dog-friendly environment may even be a recruiting tool for some employees.**

Rousseau uses case studies to explain how individuals took their dogs from home to office, starting with Sadie, a Cockapoo who had to learn office potty-training etiquette, not to chew on electronic wires/cords and to interact with other dogs/employees politely. As one employee paraphrased: “It takes an office to raise a pup,” which meant colleagues adjusted to the puppy teeth by turning electronics off and keeping chewable things off the floor.

The business behemoth known as Amazon often has as many as 500 dogs at its Seattle office. But there are protocols: making sure the manager and other colleagues are good with the arrangement; proof of vaccination, and the dogs are kept on a leash, tether or penned area.

The manual also addresses employees who have phobias or simply not keen on having dogs nearby. It is important that colleagues don’t feel their views are overlooked or denigrated for not wanting to walk into an office to be met with teeth and claws from an excited dog, get a soggy tennis ball shoved in their hands or dropped on their feet, or watch a manager spend more attention on her pooch while asking for a raise.

Once you get past your colleagues’ concerns and have your manager’s approval, Rousseau then delves into the pet’s needs at the office, which includes dishes, bedding and the occasional break and play time, which might include mind/nose puzzles and toys.

The six chapters are illustrated with courtesy photos from those who contributed information in the manual. This is a great little publication to give to someone either considering allowing dogs in the workshop, or who hopes to have one join them on the job.

— The editor

# CANINE BEHAVIOR

## ● NORMAL CANINE COMMUNICATION

Develop an understanding of and familiarity with normal canine communicative signals, including but not limited to:

- Body language
- Vocalizations

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal canine body language, including but not limited to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appeasement, calming, displacement signals</li> <li>- Stress signals</li> <li>- Avoidance behavior</li> <li>- Displacement behavior</li> <li>- Interspecies communication</li> <li>- Intraspecies communication</li> <li>- Predatory behavior</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Canine vocal communication</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> <li>• Temperament, personality and emotional states</li> <li>• Canine sensory perception</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explaining concepts and methods</li> <li>• Observation skills</li> <li>• Attention to detail</li> <li>• Analytical and critical thinking</li> <li>• Researching</li> </ul>

## ● OBEDIENCE TRAINING

Develop an understanding of and skills in teaching manners/ obedience skills.

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic manners behaviors including sit, lie down, stay, come, and walk on a loose leash.</li> <li>• Fundamental theories and practical elements of animal learning</li> <li>• Group class instruction</li> <li>• Private training instruction</li> <li>• Undesirable behaviors</li> <li>• Normal and abnormal behavior</li> <li>• Training incompatible (desirable) behaviors</li> <li>• Dominance and pack behavior</li> <li>• Temperament, personality and emotional states</li> <li>• Management strategies</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explaining concepts and methods</li> <li>• Identifying and utilizing the appropriate theories, methods and practices</li> <li>• Explaining, demonstrating, teaching, and training basic manners behaviors</li> <li>• Attention to detail</li> <li>• Describing and explaining behavioral concepts and issues</li> <li>• Applying training and/or a behavior modification plan to change behavior</li> <li>• Interviewing</li> <li>• Identifying key issues</li> <li>• Problem solving</li> <li>• Rapport building</li> <li>• Mediation</li> <li>• Assessing situations</li> <li>• Analytical and critical thinking</li> </ul>

\*All information contained in the APDT's Body of Knowledge is copyrighted., APDT2016. Use with permission only.

● **INTERSPECIES & INTRASPECIES RELATIONSHIPS**

Develop an understanding of and familiarity with the most effective means of introducing dogs to:

- New homes
- New family members
- Newborns, infants, and toddlers
- Other dogs (senior, adult, adolescent, and puppy)
- Cats and/or other species
- Pet selection

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process and techniques of introducing new pet to an adult, child, baby, cat, dog or other animals</li> <li>• Body language and canine interaction</li> <li>• Group dynamics including structure of multi-species groups</li> <li>• Selecting appropriate pet for households</li> <li>• Temperament, personality and emotional states</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> <li>• Normal and abnormal canine behavior</li> <li>• Stages of physical and psychological development of the dog from birth to maturity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introducing new pet to an adult, child, baby, cat, dog or other animals</li> <li>• Managing the family</li> <li>• Managing the home environment</li> <li>• Managing the individual elements</li> <li>• Assessing situations</li> <li>• Observation skills</li> <li>• Attention to detail</li> </ul>

● **RESOLVING UNDESIRABLE BEHAVIORS**

Develop an understanding of, familiarity with, and skills in:

- Identifying common undesirable behaviors
- Developing behavior modification plans
- Resolving common undesirable behaviors
- Advising clients when dealing with undesirable behaviors

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal, abnormal, and unwanted canine behaviors</li> <li>• Fundamental theories and practical elements of animal learning and behavior modification</li> <li>• Management strategies</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> <li>• Common procedures for the modification of common behavior concerns, including but not limited to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Various forms of aggression including but not limited to:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interspecies and intraspecies aggression</li> <li>• Resource guarding</li> <li>• Touch sensitivity</li> <li>• Territorial aggression</li> <li>• Maternal</li> <li>• Predatory, etc</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Various types of anxieties, fears and phobias including but not limited to:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separation anxiety</li> <li>• Noise phobias, etc</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Distractions and over arousal</li> <li>- Destruction</li> <li>- House soiling</li> <li>- Poor manners (jumping, barking, negative attention seeking, etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Handling handler’s emotions and attitudes can influence learning</li> <li>• Potential problematic situations</li> <li>• Fundamentals of adult learning theories and practices</li> <li>• Health, nutrition, genetics, ailments, injuries, and other factors contributing to undesirable behaviors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explaining concepts and methods</li> <li>• Identifying and utilizing the appropriate theories and practices</li> <li>• Attention to detail</li> <li>• Analytical and critical thinking</li> <li>• Developing a behavior modification plan</li> <li>• Communicating a behavior modification plan</li> <li>• Implementing a behavior modification plan</li> <li>• Avoiding potential confrontations</li> <li>• Assessing situations</li> <li>• Identifying key issues</li> <li>• Teaching prevention exercises</li> <li>• Applying classroom lessons to the home environment</li> <li>• Identifying and describing desirable and undesirable dog behaviors</li> <li>• Identifying normal dog behavior</li> <li>• Taking client history</li> <li>• Instruction</li> <li>• Researching</li> </ul>

## ● GENETICS

- Understanding of basic genetic concepts, how genes do and do not influence behavior in order to:
- Help differentiate when a behavior is learned, and when it is inherited
  - Provide sound recommendations to clients

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic genetic concepts including but not limited to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DNA</li> <li>- Genes</li> <li>- Chromosomes</li> <li>- Traits</li> <li>- Inheritance</li> <li>- Phenotype and genotype</li> <li>- Dominant genes and recessive genes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Breed specific concerns</li> <li>• Relationship between genetic factors and dogs behavior</li> <li>• Nature vs nature</li> <li>• Common genetic and non-genetic behavior issues and their impact on learning, behavior, and dog’s well-being</li> <li>• Normal canine behavior</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building customer relationship and confidence</li> <li>• Researching</li> <li>• Analytical and critical thinking</li> <li>• Observing</li> <li>• Identifying possible mixes</li> </ul>

## ● BREED VARIATION

- Familiarity with a variety of dog breeds in order to:
- Consider implications of breed on training and behavior
  - Provide sound recommendations to clients

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog breeds and breed related tendencies, including but not limited to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Breed types</li> <li>- Breed characteristics, temperament, and personality</li> <li>- Historical function (or original function)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Relations between breed characteristics and behavior</li> <li>• Basic genetic concepts and how they are related to breed variation</li> <li>• Normal and abnormal canine behavior</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> <li>• How mix breeds and progenerators affect behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training various types of breeds</li> <li>• Building customer relationship and confidence</li> <li>• Identifying and describing dog breed types and characteristics</li> <li>• Researching</li> <li>• Analytical and critical thinking</li> <li>• Observing</li> <li>• Identifying possible mixes</li> </ul>

## ● CANINE DEVELOPMENT

Develop a familiarity with and understanding of various factors that can impact behavior, including but not limited to:

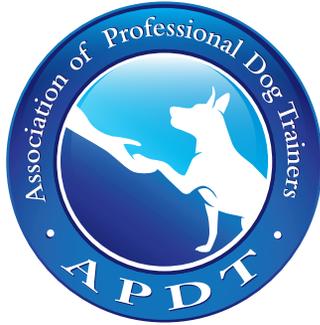
- Canine social, physical and psychological development
- Genetics
- Learning experiences and reinforcement history

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desirable and undesirable behaviors</li> <li>• Breed types and their historical function</li> <li>• Other factors impacting breed characteristics such as genes, selective breeding, environment, training, diet, instinctive behavior, and upbringing</li> <li>• Dog behavior terminologies</li> <li>• The stages of physical and psychological development from birth to maturity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying and describing desirable and undesirable dog behaviors</li> <li>• Identifying and describing normal and abnormal behavior</li> <li>• Identifying and describing how punishment and reinforcement history effect desirable and undesirable behavior</li> <li>• Researching</li> <li>• Analytical thinking</li> </ul>

## ● MECHANICAL TRAINING SKILLS

Develop a familiarity with and skills in training a dog on basic manners such as sit, down, walk on a loose leash, etc

KNOWLEDGE OF:	SKILLS IN:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic manner training techniques including sit, down, walk, etc.</li> <li>• Animal learning terminologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing physical skills to train dogs in basic manners such as sit, down, walk on a loose leash, etc.</li> </ul>



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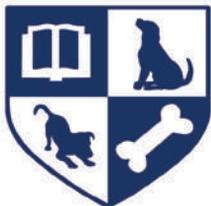
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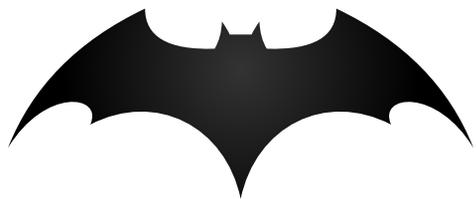
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## Who's A Good Boy! From Batman to Groom, These Stories Show Lighter Side of the News

There is no shortage of bad news that infiltrates our daily existence, but for our Tail End fodder this issue, here are a couple of stories that made us laugh and maybe wince a little.



Photo credit: Batman4Paws

First up sounds like one of those “Florida Man” memes that pokes fun at how many weird stories in the news begins with the headline “Florida Man.” For example: Florida Man Doesn’t Get Straw, Attacks McDonald’s Employee, Florida Man Dances Through DUI Sobriety Test, or Florida Man Caught on Camera Licking Doorbell, for just a couple of the milder headlines.

But our “Florida Man” in this instance is more of a hero than heel: Florida Man Dons Batman Costume to Help Rescue Animals. That’s right, our latex-loving superhero is a Florida man named Chris Van Dorn of Orlando, who has a charity called Batman4Paws. Van Dorn, who has his own private pilot’s license, was inspired by Jeff Bennett of PilotsnPaws, a nonprofit organization that transports rescue animals from shelters to forever homes. Bennett was instrumental in bringing an Australian shepherd named Mr. Boots from an Alabama shelter to Chris’s father, Bob Van Dorn, back in 2014.

Van Dorn, an audio engineer, decided when he got his pilot’s license, he would offer the same service to animals in Florida, except he dresses up as the superhero, complete with mask and cape. When Van Dorn gets a Bat call on his Bat phone, he slithers into his Batman costume and jumps into his Batmobile (actually a Honda Accord) to whisk an animal off of death row and take it to a rescue organization that might be several states away. Recent trips had him four dogs to Vermont and another to Tennessee. His GoFundMe campaign is hoping to raise enough money for him to purchase an RV so he can carry more animals.

On the other end of the spectrum in animal news, we have the story about a British woman named Elizabeth Hoad, who was fed up with dating and decided to marry the most loyal, compassionate and loving male in her life: Logan, a six-year-old Golden Retriever.



Elizabeth Hoad and her “husband,” Logan.

Photo by Jon Bond, The Sun

The wedding ceremony was performed live on a British television morning show, where the dapper doggie wore a top hat and morning coat and the bride wore white (most forgiving to hide the groom’s shedding problem). The ceremony included the exchange of their symbols of never-ending love for each other: a golden wristband for Logan and a wedding band for his bride.

The former swim-suit model, now 49, had rescued her “groom” a year earlier from a situation where he was beaten and kept in a utility closet. After more than 220 unsuccessful dates, Hoad decided to reward the only male who had been loyal by pledging her troth with all the treats in the cupboard to her four-legged love for as long as both shall live. Logan wagged his tail, which was interpreted to mean “I Do.” Good boy! — The editor

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