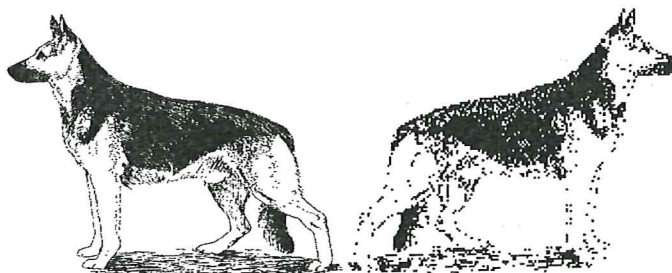
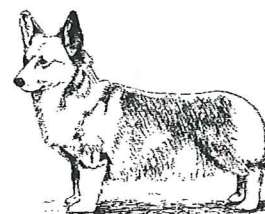
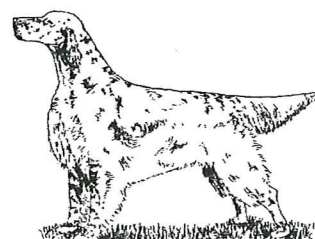
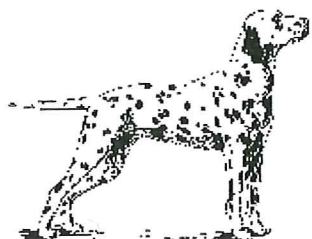


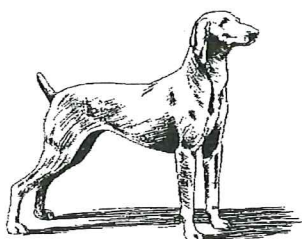
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Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc
PO Box 186
GEE LONG 3220
Phone: 52 434 555

March 2003
Issue No
131

Club Calendar

April

Tuesday	1 April	General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised
Thursday	3 April	Puppy Kinder for puppies 8 – 16 weeks
Sunday	6 April	Class 1 Intake (Induction). Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months
Monday	14 April	Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm.
Tuesday	15 April	Newsletter closes for articles, report, etc
Sunday	20 April	Easter Sunday. NO TRAINING
Tuesday	22 April	Agility/Jumping Trial entries close
Friday	25 April	Anzac Day
Saturday	26 April	Trial Working Bee
Sunday	27 April	PROMOTION DAY. Newsletter available

May

Thursday	1 May	Puppy Kinder for puppies 8 – 16 weeks
Friday	2 May	Trial Working Bee
Saturday	3 May	BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY/JUMPING TRIAL
Sunday	4 May	Class 1 Intake (Induction). Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months
Thursday	15 May	Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc
Sunday	18 May	Spirit of the West entries close. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 month.
Monday	19 May	Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm
Sunday	25 May	Newsletter available. Spirit of the West Challenge



GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 1ST APRIL 2003

COMMENCING AT 8.00PM

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME. A PLATE (OF FOOD) FOR
SUPPER WOULD BE APPRECIATED

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC
Committee for 2002/2003

PRESIDENT	Arthur Thorogood	52 441 819	Public Officer
VICE-PRESIDENT (1)	Colin Humphreys	52 822 683	Training
VICE-PRESIDENT (2)	Barbara Mackey	52 414 243	Administration
SECRETARY	Pam Convery	52 290 145	
	Email: jcgret@ozemail.com.au		
TREASURER	Pam Saunders		Property Officer
TRIAL SEC/ASS SEC	Janelle Convery	52 290 145	
	Email: jcgret@ozemail.com.au		
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Rachel Johnstone	52 419 942	Canteen Manager
	Victor Douglas	52 415 401	Grounds Manager
	Judi Wayth	52 817 271	Hall Manager
	Sandy Malady	52 215 784	Publicity Officer
	Leonie Kelleher	52 431 277	Social Secretary
	Terry Thomas	52 414 649	Assist. Grounds Manager
NON-COMMITTEE	Barbara Thorogood	52 441 819	Training Manager
	Desma Dickeson	52 789 585	Training Supervisor
	Janelle Convery	52 290 145	Shop Manager
	Sylvia Noblett	52 817 442	Librarian
	Arty Chase	52 292 818	Bar Manager
	Pam Convery	52 290 145	Newsletter Editor
	Helen Green	52 486 664	Webmaster
	John Wallace	52 784 734	Raffle Steward

The opinions in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All Committee and Sub-Committee reports bear the name of the respective Officer.

All correspondence should be addressed to: -

THE SECRETARY
PO BOX 186
GEELONG 3213

Club's website address – http://members.tripod.com/geelong_odc

Newsletter closing date for all items – 15th of each month

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REPORTS REPORTS REPORTS REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi and welcome to all new Members.

The new dog boxes are on their way to completion thanks to the assistance of a few Members. We have at least two working bees coming up, so please make yourself available to assist at these days.

There will be a General Meeting on the 1st April at which some information effecting all Members will be discussed so please make an effort to attend.

Enjoy training

Arthur Thorogood – President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hi all and welcome to our new Members

Just a quick report to thank all the Members who have had their dogs vaccination certificates sighted in the past two weeks. We have reduced the list considerably, although there are still a few who have yet to have certificates sighted. A new list will be published in next month's Newsletter.

Hope to see a lot of new faces at the General Meeting on Tuesday 1st April.

Happy training

Pam Convery – Secretary

TRIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Hi everyone

Our back-to-back Agility and Jumping Trials are fast approaching and your help is needed. Painting working bees for equipment have been set for Saturday 5th and Saturday 12th April commencing at 9.00am, so if you have an hour to spare your help would be appreciated. The grounds working bee for the Trial will be on the 26th April commencing at 9.00am and the hall and ring working bee will be on Friday the 2nd May commencing at 5.30pm. Please keep these dates in mind and even if you can only help at one of the working bees the workload for all will be easier.

"How you can help at the Trial" forms will be out in the near future.

Happy training

Janelle Convery – Trial Secretary

TRAINING SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

A reminder notice to all, that having completed the Walk-a-thon, the next Promotion Day is rapidly approaching – 27th April is the date!! Test sheet guidelines should now be in the 'hot little hands' of all Class participants so they can revise and improve their training and homework skills.

Recently I have watched Classes and I feel there is quite a lot of work needed in some areas so both Instructors and handlers need to work very hard to achieve good results next month.

Agility Classes have started again so on the days that Agility isn't working in the ring one of the higher Classes will be using the area.

Puppies and Instructors appear to be settling into their new home and so far reports from around the Club are very favourable. I would like to see a larger more accessible play area for the puppies to enjoy so hopefully we can work towards that in the near future.

Well done to all who took part in today's walk – there will be a full report in the next Newsletter.

Remember to love your dogs

Desma Dickeson – Training Supervisor

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May 2003

The things we learn from our dogs

Sent in by Karen Howell

Never pass up an opportunity for a joy ride
Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy
When loved ones come home, always run to greet them

When it's in your best interest, practice obedience
Let others know when they have invaded your territory
Take naps and stretch before rising

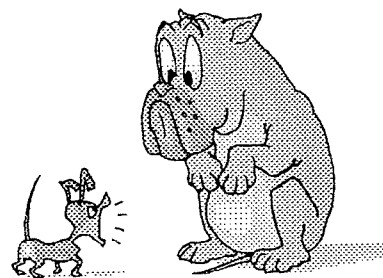
Run, romp and play daily
Eat with gusto and enthusiasm
Be loyal

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it
When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently
Thrive on attention and let people touch you

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do
On hot days, drink lots of water, and lie under a shady tree
When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body

No matter how often you are scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing... run right back and make friends

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk
Never pretend to be something you are not.





Your Love Of Dogs Can Make You Money

...

The days of washing your dog using cold water with you getting a shower too, is fast becoming a thing of the past. With increasingly busy lifestyles and longer working hours more and more pet owners are turning to professional in home services.

Aussie Pooch Mobile has created a fun, friendly and convenient service to cater for this demand to ensure the family pets are well cared for.

Ken Parker from Heathcote in NSW has always had a love of dogs, in particular Boxers. He has shown and bred them for years.

After retiring from the Merchant Marines, Ken was looking for an opportunity that not only he could earn good money from, but also something he would enjoy. Then he saw an advert in his local paper for Aussie Pooch Mobile Franchise. After looking into it further, he realised this was the opportunity he had been looking for.

Ken says, "It is excellent doing something I not only enjoy, but am also reaping the rewards for my efforts from. I have been operating for over 3 years now and can honestly say the decision to purchase an Aussie Pooch Mobile franchise has been a good one. The ongoing support and back up service Aussie Pooch Mobile provides helps ensure each franchisee's success. I have not looked back".

As an Aussie Pooch Mobile Franchisee you will become part of Australia's leading Dog Wash and Care Company established for over 10 years. You will have access to over 100 other operators experience and support throughout Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia and the U.K. You will be provided with full training, all equipment, all insurances necessary, proven marketing campaigns and a guaranteed income.



If you love dogs, enjoy the outdoors and you would like to be your own boss, an Aussie Pooch Mobile franchise could be the lifestyle business you are looking for. To find out more about this great opportunity to earn money doing something you enjoy, phone Mark Welham on 1300 369 369 and ask for your free information pack or visit our web site: www.aussiepm.com.au

Signs of our times – author unknown

Spotted in a restroom of an office:
TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE
FLOOR BELOW

In a department store:
BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS

In an office:
AFTER TEA BREAK, STAFF SHOULD
EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND
UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING
BOARD

Outside a secondhand shop:
WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING -
BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC.
WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG
AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Notice in health food shop window:
CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

Spotted in a safari park:
ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR
CAR

Notice in a field:
THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS TO
CROSS THE FIELD FOR FREE, BUT THE
BULL CHARGES

Message on a leaflet:
IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS LEAFLET
WILL TELL YOU HOW TO GET
LESSONS

On a repair shop door:
WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE
KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR; THE
BELL DOESN'T WORK)

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7 Palmerston St

Ocean Grove Ph 52562400
24 Hodgson St (cnr The Avenue)

Point Lonsdale Ph 5258 4862
103 Bellarine Hwy (cnr Nelson Rd)

Consulting by Appointment

Winners – Practice of Excellence 2001

In 2001, the Australian Veterinary Association, in conjunction with the drug company Pfizer, awarded the inaugural "Practice of Excellence" awards. The only Victorian practice to win was the Bellarine Veterinary Practice, Geelong. A large number of high quality entries were received nationwide. The competition assessed the –

1. TYPE and RANGE of Veterinary service provided
2. STANDARD of facilities, equipment and services
3. TRAINING, EXPERTISE and COMPETENCE of both veterinary and nursing staff
4. OVERALL STANDARD OF CARE
5. CLIENT SURVEY to assess client feedback on all the above

The Bellarine Veterinary Practice is extremely proud of this achievement. It reflects years of hard work and planning, building a range of services that places us at the highest standards nationally. In 2001 the Bellarine Veterinary Practice was recredited as an Australian Small Animal Association "HOSPITAL

OF EXCELLENCE", one of only twelve in Victoria. One of only two outside metropolitan Melbourne.

We provide the highest level of services possible in practice in the fields of reproduction, orthopedic and soft tissue surgery, dentistry, cardiology, radiology, clinical pathology, ophthalmology and behavioural sciences. This obviously requires commitment from a TEAM OF DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS – both veterinarians and nurses.

When you entrust us with the care of your animal, you can be assured that we will do our very best, and use the best resources to give you the best possible outcome for your animal's health problem.

March 2003

Trial Results

Warrnambool - Labour Day weekend

Saturday

Novice Agility

Glenys' Murray

Zak Murray (Zak)

3rd Place

Pass

Open Jumpers

Trish Gavaghan

Lindenbrae Wildrose Tyra AD JD (Meg)

1st Place

Pass

Sunday

Novice Obedience

Libby Hotchin

Ch Lindenbrae Tarfin Aurora (Django)

2nd Place

1st Pass

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\$5.00 Off

Advantage Flea Treatment

\$3.00 Off

Drontal All Wormer Tablets

\$5.00 Off

A 15kg bag of Premium Dog Food
(Eukanuba, Hills Science, Advantage,
Royal Canin)

OR

A free dog wash – (Towel dry)

March 2003

Canine Head Collars

By Myrna Milani, BS, DVM

My veterinarian recommended that I get a head collar for my dog, Dooley, to help tone him down. As soon as I put it on him, though, he totally freaked out. I know it doesn't hurt him, but his response so upset me, I wanted to forget the whole thing. Why is he acting like this?

The most behaviorally sound head collar consists of two woven fabric loops, one of which fits snugly around the dog's neck just behind its ears, while the other loops around the muzzle loosely enough that the dog can eat, drink, bark, and even bite were it so inclined. When properly fitted, the collar mimics the two most common holds canids use to communicate leadership to their subordinates: Adult animals either will grasp the underling firmly, but gently, just behind the ears or hold it by the muzzle. (A comparable human situation would be akin to Mom or Dad keeping a firm, but gentle hand on 3-year-old Junior's shoulder.) Consequently, the collar constantly reminds Dooley that he's not in charge.

How a dog responds to the collar and how the owner responds to the dog's response can tell us a great deal about the animal's behavior and its relationship with the owner. Recall our oft-repeated mantra: Dogs need a stable pack structure in order to feel secure; if we don't consistently communicate our leadership to our pets long enough for them to accept that they live in a human-centered pack, even the wimpiest dog will assume that position because every pack *needs* a leader.

Sometimes the collar appears to cause such an immediate and dramatic improvement in a dog's behavior, it seems almost magical. However, whether any improvement will persist depends on whether the owners implement the necessary changes to ensure a new pack structure. If the owners

Canine Head Collars – Myrna Milani – (continued)

don't reinforce the message conveyed by the collar, then the dog will learn to ignore the collar's message.

Other times, dogs resist the collar from the git-go. Typically this occurs when owners knowingly or unknowingly communicate submission to the dog at the same time the collar communicates the owner should be in charge. Such contradictory messages confuse the animal and cause it to do anything in its power to get rid of the collar to resolve the conflict. Within the canine psychological warfare repertoire, we see dogs who try to convince their owners that the collar contains noxious chemicals that are killing it. These dogs paw at the collar or rub their faces on the floor, furniture, or the owner's leg. Put the collar on other dogs and they'll act like it attacked their brains: They sit rigidly and refuse to move, or stand and stare at the corner.

Ideally, owners recognize these manipulative canine antics for what they are, snap a leash on the dog and take it outside for some fast-paced, upbeat body/mind exercise to reinforce the owner's leadership position. However, some owners become so conditioned to reacting to rather than gently leading their pets, that they fall prey to these very clever canine theatrics and remove the collar instead: "Oh, he looked sooo pathetic. I just couldn't bear to break his spirit like that!" Unfortunately, such an emotion- rather than knowledge-based decision merely perpetuates rather than solves the problem.

This doesn't mean that you should use a head collar—or any training aid—for your pet if your dog's reaction upsets you. Quite the contrary. If Dooley's reaction makes his owner feel guilty or sorry for him, she'll communicate this to him in countless ways, all of which will further cement her subordinate position and perpetuate his unruly behaviors. Under those circumstances, she should learn as much as she can about the behavioral principles underlying the aid to see if these dispel her concerns. If not, both she and her dog would fare better if she chose a different approach that she could happily implement with confidence.

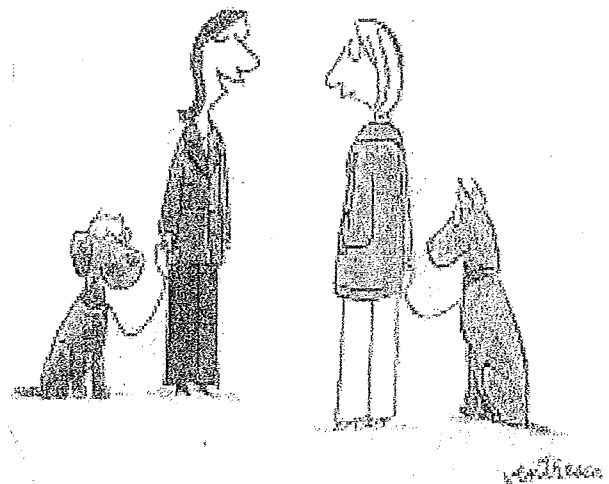
Although some solid scientific principles underlie the use of a head collar, the fact remains that no training aid can work miracles. Turning any doggy demon into an angel always requires knowledge and commitment and a method that meets the owner's needs as well as the dog's.

A Great Dane, a Scottish Terrier and a Chihuahua were sitting in a bar, knocking back a few, when a beautiful French Poodle walked in. "Boys," she said seductively. "I'll make a happy dog out of the one who can come up with the best proposition using the words 'cheese' and 'liver'."

The Great Dane thought a moment, then declared, "I don't like cheese, but I sure like liver and I like you too!" He panted and wagged his tail but the lady just looked away.

The Terrier immediately followed with, "I like cheese and I like liver and I like you!" He wagged his tail, but the Poodle ignored him.

Then the Chihuahua growled, "Liver alone! Cheese with me!" They left together.



"He doesn't like to be called a 'mutt'. He prefers 'a dog of undetermined origin'".

CLEVER CANINES

HELEN READ

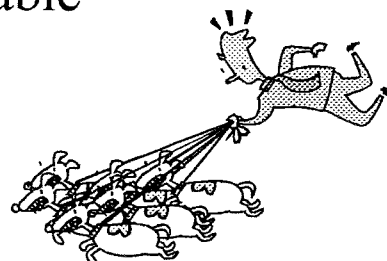
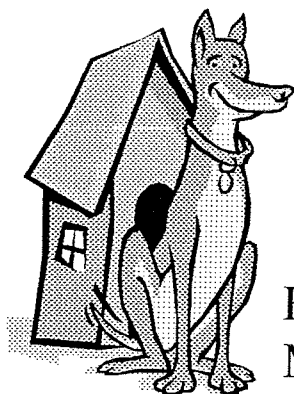
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May 2003

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 4.30 pm – 5.30 pm

CLOSED

Christmas Day, New Year's Day and
Good Friday

Pets enjoy the company of others and what better place to find others than at a Boarding Kennel.

Pets are in the main pack animals and a good Kennel experience can be very useful in developing their own social skills. (The comment above is made by many of our regular clients).

Bring your pet, any special requirements and current vaccination certificate. This is very important so that we know that your pet is covered and as a safeguard to the other animals in care. Bedding, Feed Dishes and Toys are supplied by Jirrahlinga.

Discount offered to Geelong Obedience Dog Club Members for dog boarding – upon presentation of your current Membership Badge and proof of ownership of dogs, eg Council Registration paper

UP COMING TRIALS

Saturday 19 th April	Agility Trial (2) (Easter) Prelim Tracking Trial	Agility Dog Club of Vic German Shepherd Club of Vic
Sunday 20 th April	Agility Trial (2) (Easter)	Agility Dog Club of Vic
Friday 25 th April	Agility Trial/Teams Event	Victorian Canine Association
Saturday 26 th April	Obedience Trial Endurance Test Agility Trial/Teams Event	Red Cliffs District Kennel Club Altona Civic Obedience Dog Club Victorian Canine Association
Sunday 27 th April	Obedience Trial Obedience Trial	Red Cliffs Ladies K & O Club Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club
Saturday 3 rd May	Agility Trial (2)	Geelong Obedience Dog Club
Sunday 4 th May	Agility Trial (2)	Altona Civic Obedience Dog Club
Saturday 10 th May	Agility Trial (2) Tracking Trial Obedience Trial	Bendigo Obedience Dog Club Knox Obedience Dog Club Murray Valley Obedience Dog Club
Sunday 11 th May	Obedience Trial Agility Trial (2) Tracking Trial	Murray Valley Obedience Dog Club Ballarat Obedience Dog Club Knox Obedience Dog Club
Saturday 17 th May	Obedience Trial	Ovens Valley Canine Club
Sunday 18 th May	Obedience Trial Obedience Trial	Wangaratta K & O Dog Club Berwick Obedience Dog Club
Saturday 24 th May	Tracking Trial Endurance Test	Golden Retriever Club of Vic Hungarian Vizsla Club
Sunday 25 th May	Obedience Trial Tracking Trial	Mornington Obedience Dog Club Golden Retriever Club of Vic
Saturday 31 st	Agility Trial (2)	Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club

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March 2003

Great Gifts for Dogs

By Myrna Milani, BS, DVM

For our holiday gift to ourselves this year we adopted an adult dog from the shelter. Now we want to get something really special to welcome her into our home, but we don't have much money. Any suggestions?

Fortunately, the best presents we can give our pets don't cost a cent but they do require that we give of ourselves. For those willing to do that, all of the following rate as gifts that will last your pet a lifetime.

Develop consistency. Of all the owner characteristics that undermine canine behavior, none looms quite so large as inconsistency. We all get our pets with the idea that we *will* reinforce what we learn in puppy kindergarten or basic obedience long enough for our pets and us to internalize these lessons. However life quickly intrudes, and five years later Skippy still jumps up on guests or only comes when he feels like it.

But how can we develop consistency in a life normally characterized by a lack of it? The easiest way is to link any changes to something we already reliably do. For example, rather than trying to set aside 10-20 minutes twice a day for training, Skippy's owners now incorporate his training into their daily walks. He also sits before they feed him and before they precede him through a door, and he holds a down-stay while they floss and brush their teeth.

Notice the details. Few canine problems descend on us out of the blue. More commonly, they represent the culmination of a lot of little things we didn't notice or chose to ignore in hopes they'd

Great Gifts for Dogs – Myrna Milani (continued)

go away. Instead of giving puppy Rosie her own toys and teaching her to chew them instead of the furniture, her owners tell themselves, "She's only teething. She'll outgrow it." By the time they realize she won't, the couch looks like a disaster and the human-canine relationship heads in that same direction. Imagine how less complicated life would be for Rosie if her owners had noticed and dealt with her little chewing problem as soon as it appeared!

Ditch the guilt. Many owners now work or spend a lot of time away from home, leaving their dogs alone. When problems arise, many of these folks may feel tempted to give into guilt: "If I hadn't been gone, Pixie never would have peed on all my shoes," moan her owners. Well maybe, but maybe not. The fact remains that most of us can't afford to stay home with our dogs all the time, or wouldn't want to even if we could. Consequently, it makes more sense for Pixie's owners to eliminate any negative human emotions and focus on concrete ways to resolve the problem. Imagine them making any changes because they feel like failures versus making those same changes because they believe these represent the very best approach for them and their pet. Which strategy likely will create the positive emotional environment that will enable them to do this consistently long enough for Pixie to internalise the new behaviors?

Respect species differences. In this era of studies that remind us how many owners view their pets as beloved family members, it's easy to treat our dogs like one of the kids or little fur-covered humanoids. But even though similarities do exist between certain aspects of human and canine behavior, dogs *do* experience reality in ways quite different from ours. In a wonderful passage from *The Outermost House* (Viking, 1956) naturalist Henry Beston reminds us that we shouldn't measure animals against ourselves because "they move finished and complete, gifted with extensions of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear." That in and of itself makes them and their unique species needs worthy of our awe and respect.

Celebrate the small stuff. Sometimes we get so caught up trying to provide our pets with the right diet, training program or whatever, we forget what most dogs consider the best thing going: - their owners. Just sitting next to them. Just sighing in blissful contentment when a dog ear gets rubbed just the right way. Could any gift possibly be better than that?

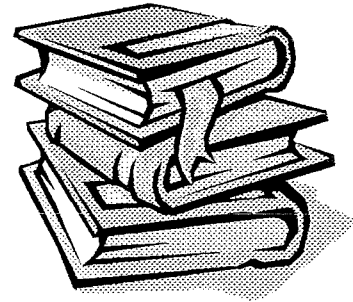


You are a dog person if:

- you have a child's wading pool, but no children
- you install baby gates around the house, when you don't have a baby
- the kitchen rubbish bin is permanently installed in a cupboard to keep the dog out of it
- you can't see out the passenger side of the windshield because of all the doggy nose prints on it
- you sign and send birthday/Christmas cards from your dog
- you put an extra blanket on your bed to make your dog comfortable
- you'd rather stay home on Saturday night to watch a rented DVD and cuddle your dog than go out to the movies
- your vehicle registration plate mentions your dog/kennel
- your dog is getting old and arthritic so you buy some timber to make some stairs so the dog can climb on the bed by her/himself
- you buy a shower head with extra long hose so you can use it to wash your dog in the bath tub
- your parents refer to your dog as their "granddog"
- you never completely finish a piece of steak or chicken so that the dog can have a taste too
- Your dog is the star of your World Wide Web site

Library News

Book Reviews – all the following books are available in the Club's Library, which is open 10.00am to 11.00am each Sunday



The Dog Listener

Jan Fennell

Jan Fennell tells of the tragic loss of "Purdey" her Border Collie/Whippet X, which led her to reassess conventional training methods and attitudes to dogs.

Following her in depth study of pack behaviour, she developed training methods, which used "pack rules" to correct everyday problems in both puppies and adult dogs.

Her easy to read description of case studies, show how she has learnt to communicate with man's best friend and how anyone can learn the language.

A very interesting book, which offers realistic solutions to a range of problems.



Secret Life of Dog Owners

Bruce Fogle

People and dogs have been living together for thousands of years, and since dogs are magnificent observers, it is only natural that they have a few questions about human behaviour they would like answered.

In the *Secret Life of Dog Owners* Bruce Fogle turns his attention to that most curious of breeds: the dog owner.

He responds to canine concerns about the health, habits and general quirks of owners, shedding light on one of the oldest and most complex relationships between humans and beasts.



Surviving Your Dog's Adolescence

Carol Lea Benjamin

Has the adorable puppy that almost always obeyed you suddenly become a brat with lots of attitude? Does your dog bark back, steal food, and destroy your things when left alone? Worse yet, has he become aggressive?

Carol Lea Benjamin's *Surviving Your Dog's Adolescence* presents a positive training program that will teach you everything you need to know in order to have the dog you wish for and deserve.

Benjamin's answer is training the natural way, the way your dog's mother taught him. With easy-to-follow steps, she will show you how to win your dog's respect, get and hold his attention, teach the basic commands and play games that inspire good habits.

Surviving Your Dog's Adolescence presents a humane and effective approach to socializing, exercising, educating and enjoying the zestful adolescent dog.

FOCUS, FOOD AND FUN PHILOSOPHIES

Training Tips from Patty Ruzzo

Ever forward, SLOWLY. Reinforce means strengthen.

Behaviour that is reinforced (while it is occurring) will increase in intensity, frequency and duration. Be quick, generous, variable and unpredictable with reinforcement.

Food is a powerful reinforcer. Be generous! Pair delicious food with smiles, compliments, loving touch, applause and appreciation.

Dogs learn by association. Pair all things wonderful with Obedience!

To maximise results, use a variety of high magnitude, delicious treats, i.e. small pieces of (cooked) roast beef, pork, chicken or turkey, cubes of cheddar cheese, French toast or pizza, and/or cheese tortellini, or (homemade) liver, turkey or salmon brownies. How about bacon or tuna fish to reinforce sit and down "stays". Yummy. Yum.

Continuous use of reinforcement, lasting 10-17 seconds (while the dog is in an obedience position), really makes an impact on said dog's attitude.

Soft textured food (rather than crispy) works best. Easier to swallow and no crumbs falling to the ground.

Cookie VIEWING is not reinforcing to the dog. Give him/her the cookie!

In the sport of competition Obedience, there is a process (training) and a product (showing). Dog and handler can enjoy them both.

HANDLING FOR TEAMWORK

Clear, concise, consistent handling is REINFORCING to the dog.

Body posture, facial expression, verbal tones, energy level, positive expectations and clear, recognizable signal and verbal cues ALL PLAY A PART.

Attention starts with the handler. Trainers who are totally focused on their canine partner will receive reciprocal attention from that dog.

Handler sets him/herself up first and checks own body position for straight alignment before asking perfection from the dog.

Handler's feet in line and pointed forward, shoulders over hips at all times.

On heeling, soft focus on ground 3 feet in front of handler and see dog in peripheral vision.

Walk, think, and focus on straight lines.

Give verbal and/or signal cues BEFORE moving with dog.

Shorten stride length on all turns, halts and curves of the figure 8.

Double track (not signal track) when doing left and right turns, the slow pace and both curves of the figure 8.

Be a teacher who is quick, generous, variable and unpredictable. Be FUN!



FOCUS, FOOD AND FUN PHILOSOPHIES – Patti Ruzzo – (continued)

Take responsibility. The dog is exactly where you put him.

SMILE AND BREATHE!

LET THEM EAT COOKIES!

There is a colossal amount to learn and assimilate about training competition dogs with positive reinforcement. For the purpose of this article, we have decided to address the three most commonly asked questions about cookie-powered training.

WHAT ABOUT THE DOG WHO DOES NOT LIKE COOKIES AND WILL NOT EAT DURING OBEDIENCE SESSIONS?

Food drive and a willingness to work for food is present when compulsion is absent from the training program. Relaxed dogs will eat, (most) stressed dogs will not.

The quickest and easiest way to turn finicky into famished is to use really, REALLY good treats to reward all obedience whenever and wherever you observe it (be it during training sessions or in life).

Cubed roast beef, chicken, beef heart, liver, cheddar cheese, cheese tortellini, liver brownies, etc, would all be considered high magnitude reinforcers. For best results, bring 3 different kinds of treats to training sessions that will be of long duration, and switch from good to better to best as the session progresses.

Also, hand feeding a dog his meals for just one week (ala John Fisher) will absolutely increase the dog's willingness to trade behaviour for food.



Dogs will not continue to work for food they are teased with and seldom receive. Be generous! It makes much more of an impression on the dog if you reward him with many tiny pieces of food, one right after another, praising all the while; "EXCELLENT" "SPLENDID" "BEAUTIFUL" "PERFECT" or "NICE JOB!"

Pair excitement, praise, touch and obedience training with delicious, desirable food.

HOW DO I GET MY DOG TO IGNORE DISTRACTIONS AND PAY ATTENTION TO ME IN THE RING?

Dogs who ignore distractions and pay attention in competition have interesting, creative, energized trainers who are ultra attentive to them.

The dog show environment is a difficult and stressful place to achieve reliable attention. To do so requires the dog (and handler) to block out all extraneous movement, noise, objects, smells, people and animals.

Trainers often think only in terms of obedience exercises, so the tendency is to reward eye contact only during training sessions. Opportunities to reinforce (strengthen) attentive behaviour during every day life are being missed. Pay attention to your dog and he will respond in kind.

A dog's age needs to be taken into account when determining how much focused attention can be reasonably expected. The mature dog (3 years and up) has some life experience under his collar and is a cool-dude in comparison to the socially and emotionally naive adolescent.

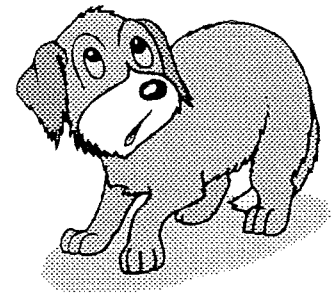
FOCUS, FOOD AND FUN PHILOSOPHIES – Patti Ruzzo – (continued)

Teaching a dog to pay attention is fairly simple.

Step one. Reinforce all attentive behaviour offered, whenever and wherever you observe it.

Step two. Be quick, generous, variable and unpredictable with a variety of wonderful rewards.

Step three. Repeat steps one and two throughout the dog's career. Reinforcers might include cookies, petting, toys, play, or, opportunities to peruse such doggie activities as sniffing the ground, or running and playing with dog friends.



WHEN AND HOW DO I WEAN MY DOG OFF THE FOOD REWARDS?

Training obedience exercises with positive reinforcement is all about being generous, not cheap.

Obedience exercises are made up of a series of unnatural, non-instinctive behaviours, which are not inherently fun to repeat over and over again. Unlike herding, hunting, tracking or lure coursing, competition obedience is not in and of itself reinforcing. So we pay the dog to work. We pay him to learn his job and we pay him to continue to do it well. We reward him so generously that he comes to actually ENJOY the work, and the time we spend together practicing obedience becomes precious to him.

We never stop giving the food, smiles, praise, touch, toys or applause. What we do instead is become variable and unpredictable with a wide variety of reinforcers.

We feed lots of treats as we increase environmental difficulty. As we raise criteria, we raise the magnitude of the rewards. When friends help us "proof" the dog, we remain the good guy who keeps the cookies and kindness coming.

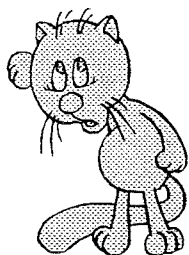
True, we are not allowed to carry food into the Obedience ring, but that does not mean we are without reinforcers in there. Often overlooked is the actual physical presence of the trainer (coach), and the fact that we are allowed to smile at, praise and pet our dogs before and after every exercise. In fact, a handler who has the same body posture, breathing pattern, stride length, verbal tones and expectations in competition as they do in practice is essentially.



REINFORCING HIS OR HER DOG IN THE RING!

We are generous with primary reinforcement (food) through out the teaching phase, and we keep treating through the many, many, many repetitions it takes to achieve muscle memory of the task. We use food in each new and different environment until the behaviour has been generalized, and we use even better food (and more of it) when distractions are abundant.

In the ring, it is the relationship that takes over when the cookies are gone, and it is previous reinforcement history, clear cues and consistent handling that cause the dog to do his best when it counts the most.



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GEELONG

0428 393 465

Dr Trevor M Brown

B.Sc. B.V.Sc. M.A.V.A.



March 2003

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY AND JUMPING TRIALS

SATURDAY 3 MAY 2003

Entries to: J Convery, 247 Shannon Avenue, Manifold Heights 3218 Phone: 52290145

Judges

	<i>Trial A</i>	<i>Trial B</i>
	Agility & Jumping	Agility & Jumping
<u>Novice</u>	Mr R Ashman	Mr M Tyler
<u>Open</u>	Mr F Valastro	Mr J Valk
<u>Masters</u>	Mr M Tyler	Mr J Browne

One entry per entry form. Entries to be clearly marked with A or B. Agility or Jumping. HAS and all titles to be clearly marked.

Entry Fee: \$10 Agility with Jumping free. \$10 Jumping only

Check in: *Trial A:* 7.15am – 8.15am *Trial B:* 12.15pm – 1.15pm

Judging commences: *Trial A:* 8.30am Jumping followed by Agility
 Trial B: 1.30pm Agility followed by Jumping



DOG BREEDS FROM A TO Z

German Shorthaired Pointer



The German Shorthaired Pointer, or GSP as it is colloquially known, is a very intelligent and willing dog, and has a reputation for being a good all-round hunting dog capable of tracking, hunting, and retrieving on land and water. Since the decline of hunting as a pastime or profession, the GSP has become more common as a companion, another task at which it excels.

Another of the breeds developed in Germany in the late 1800s, the first records of the GSP are in the 1870 Kurzhaar Stud Book. Until that time, slow-working scent hounds and bird dogs had been popular. The original GSP probably resulted from crosses of the Spanish Pointer, English Foxhounds and a variety of the German Scent Hounds. This dog was heavier, longer-eared, and slower than

the athlete of today. The modern GSP was produced by crossing this original dog with English Pointers to make it lighter and faster.

The German Shorthaired Pointer is a symmetrically built dog that gives the impression of power with grace. Its body is perfectly proportioned. Height: 21 - 25 in (53 - 64 cm). Weight: 45 - 70 lb (20 - 32 kg).

The head is elegant, with a broad powerful muzzle and a slightly rounded skull. The dark brown eyes are medium-sized and give the dog a soft but intelligent expression. The ears hang close to the head, and are wide and moderately long. The legs are long and powerful, without looking bulky. The body is deep-chested, with a short level back. Traditionally, the tail is docked to half its length, and is carried horizontally when the dog is moving. The GSP comes in two basic colors, black or liver, and may have white spots or flecks, called ticking, throughout the coat. The black dogs have a black nose, and the liver-colored dogs a liver nose. The coat is short, with no feathering, dense, and should lay flat to the body. Another variety of pointer, closely resembling the GSP, is the German Wirehaired Pointer, which, as its name suggests, has a harsh wiry coat.



The German Shorthaired Pointer, derives its virtues from several breeds. It possesses a good no-nonsense practicality. The GSP is definitely a dog for getting the job done, whether it is tracking, hunting, or retrieving. The GSP is big and bold enough to make a good watch-dog and guard dog. Usually, the GSP gets along very well with other dogs and is really quite a sociable animal.

Although originally bred as a utility working dog, the GSP makes an excellent companion and family dog. It is robust enough to suffer the handling of children, and usually gentle enough to enjoy their attention. The GSP really benefits from early socialization with a variety of people of different ages if it is to be kept as a pet. This dog is very hardy and suffers from few ailments, but its feet and limbs should be checked after sustained rough work. A wonderful all-rounder.

GENERAL MEETING

4th February 2003

Meeting opened: 8.00 pm

Apologies J Brophy, K Ciezarek, B Lawrence, J Wong, J Wayth,

Acc: P Pope

Seconded: L Kelleher

Carried

Minutes from the previous General Meeting were distributed in the Newsletter. F Lehrmann requested the following amendment to the General Meeting Minutes dated 3 December.

General Business after Item 3

F Lehrmann - in view of this recommendation already being published and only one week away from being tabled, F Lehrmann expressed his disgust that M Breiberg was approached during Class and told that despite having scored a Pass in Encouragement, that he was not permitted in Basic. F Lehrmann moved 'that an apology be sent to M Breiberg'

Seconded: Motion lapsed due to lack of a Secunder.

Minutes with amendment acc: R Johnstone

Seconded: F Lehrmann

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes

1. P Convery read written report from Public Liability Insurance Meeting – 9th December 2002.
Report attached to the Minutes Book.
2. Price increases in the Canteen. Members agreed to leave prices as they were for the present.

Correspondence Out: Nil

Correspondence In: Lions Club of Leopold re hearing dog, Agenda from VCA Insurance Meeting, Health and Environmental Safety Manual and cover letter, Robyn Youl, Dancing with Dogs Seminar

Business arising from Correspondence

1. Lions Club of Leopold has approached the Club regarding a replacement dog for Mrs Robinson. After discussion at both Committee and Instructor's Meetings it was decided that funds from the Walk-a-thon to be held on 30th March would go towards this project.
2. Health and Environmental Safety Manual has been discussed at both Committee and Instructor's Meetings. Copies are available to Members on request
3. Robyn Youl - Training Supervisor suggested, that Members need to be made aware of the Chain of Command. Members also need to be made aware of the safety issues with children in the Chain Ring during Agility setup and around other Classes and also that children are the parent's responsibility. These item to be place on the Announcement Sheet.

Treasurer's Report

No report available.

Other Reports

Canteen Manager - R Johnstone read written report. Report attached to Minutes Book

Grounds Manager - V Douglas said that the picture frames tracks were now completed. A request for helpers to start the dog boxes was placed on last week's Announcement Sheet. Discussion re ride on mower deferred to General Business

Publicity Officer - S Malady reported that the Instructor's and Committee photo board update was almost completed.

Raffle Steward - J Wallace read written report. Report attached to the Minutes Book.

Social Secretary - L Kelleher read written report. Report attached to the Minutes Book.

Training Supervisor - D Dickeson spoke regarding the new Guidelines for Puppy Class, which were recommended by the Instructor's Meeting and adopted by Committee. Classes to be smaller (10-12 per Class) and with more varied exercises.

Trial Secretary - J Convery read written report. Report attached to the Minutes Book

Sub-Committee Reports

Nil

Acc: R Johnstone

Seconded: K Devlin

Carried

General Business

1. V Douglas said there was major repair work required to the ride on mower, which would cost approximately \$1,150.00. Discussion followed whether to replace or repair the mower, but as the Council did most of the mowing V Douglas felt that repair was all that was necessary, H Read moved 'that the ride on mower be repaired at an approximate cost of \$1,150.00.

Seconded: P Pope

Carried

2. P Convery asked on behalf of the Librarian, S Noblett if funds could be allocated for 2003 for the purchase of new books for the Library. L Kelleher moved 'that we allocate \$500.00 for the purchase of new Library books'.

Seconded: R Johnstone

Carried

3. V Douglas said the Council had been in recently and mulched the branches, cleaned the channel area in front of the Club and removed branches overhanging Breakwater Road.
4. H Read said that Blackdog Wear had altered their Training Halter. The cord on the side has been replaced with similar material to the rest of the halter, which was much better.
5. M Breiberg expressed his disappointment at the changes to both day and time for Trial Class training, as he is unable to attend on a Monday night. It was explained that this was the best way to utilise available Instructors and unfortunately this wouldn't suit everyone. Members attending on a Sunday are quite welcome to join either a Basic revision Class, the Social Class, Agility or Flyball.

As there was no further business

Meeting closed: 9.05 pm