

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2014 Mid-winter class schedule and more....

By Laura Tyler ACDBC CPDT-KA

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C.L.A.S.S. Canine Life and Social Skills

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Steamboat Today column - A Dog's Eye View



News FLASH!!! More advanced training opportunities on our western slope!!!

YES! It's almost 2014 and we're already running as fast as we can to keep up! This past fall, Sandra and I teamed up with Colorado Northwest Community College – Craig Campus to offer Head Start Puppy and Family Dog Training classes. We love this association with CNCC. Craig campus offers us a beautiful venue for conducting our classes. We're off to a good start and with 2014 approaching faster than a speeding bullet; we've added additional classes to our schedule!

Introduction to K9 Nose Work®

With DANA ZINN, CPDT- KA, CNWI

In October, we worked to facilitate the first CNCC sponsored "Intro to K9 Nose Work®" workshop taught by Dana Zinn CPDT-KA CNWI.

Dana has been working with and training dogs since 1999. Her many years of dog training experience include working at the s.p.c.a.LA as an Animal Behavior & Training Specialist. It was during her the time working with shelter dogs that drew her to the sport of K9 Nose Work®; not only for her own dogs, but for the many dogs in need of a "job".

Dana was involved in the first publicly offered Nose Work class in the Long Beach, California area. She not only participated but eventually assisted in instruction. From there Dana became involved in the development of the K9 Nose Work® instructor certification program. Dana was one of the first participants to be certified as an instructor for the K9 Nose Work® curriculum approved by the National Association of Canine Scent Work, LLC.



Our first workshop at CNCC filled up fast! And we even had a few people audit without dogs. There were participants from Steamboat, Dinosaur, Meeker, Avon and Edwards that traveled to Craig to attend this workshop. I am totally excited about this new sport! And so is my dog Skippy! She and I will be training and working our way through the different testing levels for the sport. I've also been accepted into the instructor training program. We believe in training what we teach!

2014 New Class!

CNCC Community Education

Does Your Dog Have C.L.A.S.S.? Taught as an open lab, in each session you'll be able to train and/or test with your dog. The lab will be open January 9th through April 17th from 6 pm to 8 pm every other week. This course is for students who wish to go beyond family dog training and continue to develop the skills to prepare independently for each level of testing. Students will train at home and use class time to work through each of the test exercises required. New exercises are added to each educational level. There are three levels you can attain with your dog. First the BA then MA and last the PhD. This training is useful in everyday life and can help your dog learn the skills to behave in social situations.

Students are required to also register with the Association of Professional Dog Trainer's program by going to www.mydoghasclass.com At the CLASS site; you will register you and your dog and download the student manual which will guide you through the self study course. This advanced class is for self motivated students.



Head Start Puppy Training class - January 14 to February 18, 2014. Class time is from 6 pm to 8 pm. A clean bill of health from your Veterinarian is required. Puppy class provides the foundation for accelerated learning throughout your dog's life. This Head Start Puppy class will help you and your family to communicate, manage and enrich your relationship with your chosen companion dog. It's also the perfect time to help shy dogs become more confident and help bold or bossy puppies begin to develop impulse control in a structured and safe environment. Head Start puppies grow up to be treasured family members.

Family Dog Training class - February 25 to April 1, 2014. This class is for dogs of all ages. This six week program will address common training and behavior challenges. Current vaccinations records are required.

The skills taught in Family Dog class will cover every day manners such as "sit" and "settle down" as well as loose leash walking and coming when called. The appropriate way to greet humans with all four paws on the ground is an essential skill too. An introduction to teaching tricks and navigating an obstacle course will add to the fun of family dog class.

Dogs with serious aggression or reactivity issues will not be allowed in family dog class. These dogs need special screening and training prior to attending a group class. Please call one of us if you have questions or concerns. Either Sandra or I will be pleased to help.

Contact Laura for additional information or questions: 970-629-1507,
dogs@totalteamworktraining.com

To register for classes contact:

Mary Kay Morris – Community Education Director – CNCC – Craig Campus – 970-824-1135,
mary.morris@cncc.edu

Private Training and Behavior Consultations - Sandra and I continue to study the science of learning and behavior and take part in advanced educational opportunities. We take this responsibility very seriously and look to help families with dogs in trouble.

Behavior consulting goes way beyond teaching manners and “basic obedience”. Understanding how animals learn and what reinforces their behavior helps us to develop intervention and management plans for individual families. This is sometimes the final attempt to keep a dog with the family.

An alarming statistic shows that most dogs that are relinquished to shelters are between the ages of nine months to three years.

Here’s an all too typical scenario:

The family gets a new puppy. The reason might be? It was free – someone said it would be taken to the shelter – it was irresistibly cute.

The reality check – They were not yet set up for a new puppy – everyone already has a busy schedule – not everyone in the household wanted a new puppy.

Second reality check – the puppy is chewing up everything in sight – he’s not house trained – he barks a lot and chews on the kids. Now he’s sent to the back yard or tied out. This usually happens by the time the puppy is about 5 or 6 months old. Now he’s getting even less attention and starts tearing up the yard or begins boredom barking and scratching at the door. He might run the fence barking and snarling at people and dogs passing by. He jumps up on every person who comes into the yard. The kids don’t even want to pet him anymore because he jumps on them and bites at their clothes and knocks them over. And the neighbors start complaining. If he gets out of the yard and won’t come back when called, the owner finally says “enough” and stops looking for him.

Shelters all over the country are filled with dogs like this; under socialized and untrained. Then a good hearted person who wants to do the right thing decides to adopt this sad looking sweet dog to give him a good home. Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn’t. This dog might seem grateful for a week or so until his lack of training and bad habits start to emerge again. Without intervention the cycle starts over.

The moral of the story is that each of us has to consider getting a new puppy or adopting a rescue dog a life changing experience. Educate yourself or seek help in making this decision ahead of time. Then prepare for months of dedicated management and training. Good dogs don’t happen by accident. They happen on purpose! We’re here to help!

Laura Tyler CPDT-KA - Associate Certified Dog Behavior Consultant through the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants – dogs@totalteamworktraining.com
Sandra Kruczek CPDT-KA – kruczeks@yahoo.com

A Dog’s Eye View - In 2011 we began writing a column for the Steamboat Pilot/Today newspaper. This venue has given us an opportunity to give back to the community by writing educational and sometimes pithy articles about the world of family dogs. The dog’s view point is not always considered so we are here to speak on their behalf. The comments we have received back from the community have been gratifying! Thank you dear readers! Sometimes we need a bit of positive reinforcement too!



This just in from my friend Sue!



Hello Everybody!

Mark your calendars for 2014! I hope your New Year's resolutions included more education, learning and fun for the New Year? Please shoot me an email with your interest, send a check made out to "Sue Sternberg" to hold your working spot:

Sue Sternberg
375 S Main St, #225
Moab, Utah 84532

Official registration forms and confirmation will be sent out later.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO YOUR FRIENDS, VETERINARIANS, ANIMAL SHELTERS, YAHOO GROUPS, FACEBOOK PAGES, etc.

One Day with Chris Zink: "Evaluating Structure, Movement and Soundness" (co-sponsored by the wonderful and dedicated Tiara Rado Animal Hospital of Grand Junction)

Saturday, February 22nd, 2014:

Participation with your dog (hands-on evaluation, jumping, movement, etc) \$100

Participation without a dog: \$45

Breakfast, light lunch, beverages, snacks included

Location: Grand Junction, Colorado (exact location to be determined)

Bud Houston Agility Clinic (co-sponsored by the wonderful Tiara Rado Animal Hospital of Grand Junction)

Friday, Saturday, Sunday April 11, 12, 13th, 2014

Working spot with your dog: \$375 (preference given to those attending all three days)

Auditor spot: \$25/day

Light breakfast, lunch, beverages, snacks included

Canine Musical Freestyle with Bev Blanchard

What is 'Canine Musical Freestyle'? Do you have to be musical? No! Do you have to 'dance' in front of the group? No! Is it about training new behaviors, tricks, and moves to stimulate your dog's mind and body? YES! Does your dog need previous experience or training? No! Open to all! You'll adore Bev. She is an outstanding instructor, a Canine Musical Freestyle judge and competitor, and one of the finest dog trainers I have ever met. If you want to become a better trainer, if you want to have fun training your dog to do more behaviors, this is the workshop for you.

April 23 and 24th, 2014 (this is a Wednesday/Thursday) at Geoff Teare's K9 Powersports facility

Working spot for your dog: \$225

Auditing spot (highly recommended for the curious, seasoned dog trainers, newby dog trainers, folks interested in becoming a dog trainer, interested but very shy dog owners...) \$25/day

Light breakfast, lunch, beverages, snacks included

Note from Laura: I have attended both the Zink and Bud Houston workshops. Awesomely wonderful and invigorating! I will sign up for Canine Musical Freestyle. It's great that we are getting more top quality workshops and seminars on our side of the mountains!! Thank you Sue!!!