



Guest Speaker for May
2014 Meeting
Introduction to the Sport
of Weightpulling
—Lisa Mawson

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Message from IDTC President

This time of year I always feel like anything is possible - the garden will prosper this year, spring cleaning will actually get done - and it is a good time to start something brand new. Well, the Club has some opportunities to do just that -

- the Training Committee is offering some brand new classes for the summer session so if you've been contemplating trying something new with your dog, take a look!

- take the plunge and volunteer to help out at the Club's agility trial!

- march in the Ithaca parade!

It is a time of beginnings—have fun and try something new!

Suzanne Etherington

Raffle Basket Items Needed

Do you have *new or unused items* you are considering for give-away or re-gifting? Please consider bringing them to the *next meeting* – if they would be appropriate items in a raffle basket for the 2014 CPE Trial – June 14th & 15th at our own Treman State Park. Thanks ! Hannah Robinson, Trial Chair

MAY MEETING
Date: 5/27/2014
Location: Baker Board: 6:00pm
Program: 7:00pm
Guest Speaker:
Lisa Mawson
General: to follow

Save the Date! Thursday 5/29/14 Ithaca Festival Parade

IDTC is once again marching the Ithaca Festival parade! This is one of the most unique parades that I've ever seen and participated in. The parade provides us an opportunity to show the public what we can do

with our dogs—from cart pulling, to retrieves, to heeling, to group stays in the middle of the road! Imagine the proofing you can gain by participating in the parade! Noise, distractions, unicycles, horses, carts, kids, music, dancing, candy—you name it, it is probably out there along the parade route! If you're interested in participating, please contact Chris O'Brien privately at cms41@cornell.edu.

DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER IS 6/3/2014

OFFICERS

President

Suzanne Etherington - etherington1@juno.com

Vice-President

Lynn Anguish - lja2@cornell.edu

Secretary

Hannah Robinson - hannah16@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Katie Barnaby - tebika@hotmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Deb Bain	(1/13-1/15)
Kathy Hildreth	(1/13-1/15)
Karen Netherton	(1/14-1/16)
Margie Peech	(1/14-1/16)
Nancy Allmann	(1/14-1/15)

TRAINING COMMITTEE

Training Director

Tammy Osmeloski - ttia607@gmail.com

Co-Training Director

Tammy Snyder (2/14-2/16) appointed

Appointed Members

Sue Pfuntner	(2/14-2/16)
Joe Cowan	(2/14-2/15)

Elected Members

Lisa Mitchell	(2/14-2/16)
Marian Szebenyi	(2/14-2/15)
Joe Osmeloski	(2/13-2/15)

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MISC. COMMITTEES

A.T.T.S.: Tom Szebenyi 564-7230

CU/Pavilion Coordinator: Deb Watrous 533-3672

Equipment:

Assistant:

Equipment Maintenance:

Agility Equip Maintenance:

FLKC Liaison: Marg Pough 273-0925

Graduations:

Beginners: Joe & Nancy Cowan

Advance: Karen Nocera

CGC: Debbie Keith

Historian: Lucille Straub

Holiday Party: TBD

IDTC Yahoo list serve: Kathy Hildreth kphildreth@yahoo.com

Interclub: Sue Yanoff

Judges Selection: Deb Bain 347-6518

Library: Tammy Osmeloski 844-4003

Match Show Chair: Hannah Robinson

Membership Steward: Katelyn Davis katelynjdavis@gmail.com

Newsletter: Chris O'Brien cms41@cornell.edu

Nltr copying/ mailing: Deb Bain 347-6518

Point Show Fall 2014:

Point Show Spring 2014: Marian Szebenyi 564-7230

Programs:

Public Information: Betsy Root 387-7082

Publicity (newspaper): Marian Szebenyi 564-7230

Recorder: Hannah Robinson

Registrar:

Beginners: Marian Szebenyi 564-7230

Advanced: Karen Netherton kan6@cornell.edu

Agility: Pepi Leids 776-9721

Refreshments:

Meetings: Sherry Ditko 756-6538 (H) or 753-8966 (W)

Beg. Grad: Jennifer Gerdes 330-2011

Adv. Grad: Jennifer Gerdes 330-2011

Sunshine: Donna Webster (315) 364-7406

Trophies/Ribbons: Betty Baldwin 257-1683

Video Rentals: Tammy Osmeloski 844-4003

Web Pages:

General: Marian Szebenyi 564-7230

Facebook: Linda Pacioretty

Welcoming Chair: TBD

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Active members get lower rates for classes and other events than inactive members. More importantly, they are what makes the Club work. When you join IDTC, you are considered an active member for the first year. After that, active membership is maintained by putting in a minimum of 10 hours per year doing things for the Club, such as assisting or instructing a class, helping out at events (e. g. being a steward at trials, providing refreshments for a graduation, making arrangements to bring in a seminar speaker, etc.), or serving on a committee such as the Training Committee. Active members are also expected to regularly attend the monthly Club meetings. Your active/inactive status for a year is determined by your participation during the previous year.

General Meeting Minutes

IDTC General meeting Minutes

April 22, 2014

A brief meeting of the general membership followed Sophie Liu's informative and thought-provoking talk on stress and aggressive behavior in Dogs.

Treasurer's Report – there was no treasurer's report presented.

Secretary's Report: The eight new members who approved unanimously were:

Member, Dog Name, Dog Breed

- ◆ Ellen VanGelder, Shorty, Bull Terrier
- ◆ Heidi Tinnes, Echo, Shep X
- ◆ Jami Landry, Freybug & Blitzten, Australian Cattle Dog & Shetland Sheepdog
- ◆ Nicole Izarry, Sierra, Hound mix
- ◆ Tiva Hoshizaki, Atlas, Border Collie
- ◆ Joyce Wheatley, Start & Rumi, American Cocker Spaniel
- ◆ George Whipple, Fiona, English Shepherd/ Scotch Collie
- ◆ Cindy Roberson, Joey, Australian Cattle Dog

Welcome to all New Members !

The old teeter will be auctioned off at the next meeting – in a live auction (in person or by cell phone) by the Master of Club Entertainment, Joe Osmeloski ! Be there or be square !

The next meeting will at Baker on May 20th – with the Board meeting at 6 pm, and the General Membership following a presentation on weight pulling at 7 pm

There were numerous brags, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by Hannah Robinson

NEWS FLASH! *Thinking about entering the CPE Trial in June*, (maybe your first agility trial!), but have questions about entries or the trial itself? Please contact Kathy Hildreth, Trial Secretary, (kphildreth@yahoo.com), or Hannah Robinson, Trial Chair (hannahl6@yahoo.com) – we'll be delighted to answer your questions or give you some encouragement !

NEWS FLASH! *Entries opened May 1st – Close on Monday, June 2nd.*



.....not always

By Sue Rady

As far back as I can remember I have always had a dog. Whether it was a purebred or a mixed breed from a local vet, shelter or breeder there has always been that four-legged friend in my life. I thought I knew all I needed to know in raising puppies, so when our beautiful 13 and half year old Dalmatian, Lady, died, I knew it was time to start the puppy training again.

Very soon after our family brought home our two 8 week old Dalmatians, Buddy and Missy, I could see that this time things were going to be different. I had not been advised on the difficulties of raising two sibling pups from the same litter but now given the situation, it was up to me to steer the puppy training in a different direction. To enable Buddy and Missy to develop their own healthy, individual personality, the two dogs had to be separated as much as possible. They were fed separately, had their own sleeping crates in different parts of the house and they were given separate walks to encourage bonding and leadership between me and each dog. The socialization between the young pups and other dogs was done mainly separately (occasionally together) and was done on neutral ground to limit the protectiveness over their territory.

It was clear that Buddy and Missy did not enjoy the company of other dogs and they were very cautious and nervous of meeting new people, backing away and barking. When seeing other dogs (even when they were on their own) they would bark, growl and jump up and down hysterically on their leash. Our daily walks were not enjoyable!

Having had a Dalmatian, I was fully aware of how much exercise the dogs need in order to use up their endless energy. They need long daily walks (preferably twice a day). It was not an option to just have the dogs run around in the backyard. I had to find a way to manage their reactive behavior so we could venture beyond the boundaries of our home and backyard.

I took Buddy and Missy separately to foundation training (private lessons) which gave them strict clear guidelines on the basics (sits, down, stay, leave-it, recall). I also learned myself, how to calmly and successfully manage situations when we would be out on our walks and to clearly tell people not to approach my dog as 'they were in training'. As the months went by, Buddy and Missy did become a little calmer. In our private training classes, I started to introduce Buddy and Missy to some agility obstacles. From the start Buddy showed much more interest in the agility. Even though I continued the obstacle training with both dogs, Missy decided to hang up her agility hat but did continue tackling a few homemade obstacles in our backyard. Buddy, however, seemed to be catching the agility bug (as did I!) and as the months went by he really got the hang of it. His confidence grew and his nervousness seemed to lessen. Buddy continued with his private agility lessons. We alternated our classes by attending a group class where we would sit in the corner of the training room behind a little fence and observe the performing dogs. Buddy would be expected to sit or lay and control his behavior by not growling or grumbling or lunging as the dogs walked close to him. He could gather data, (look at the dogs) but not react. This took a lot of practice and patience!



As the months went by Buddy finally got to a point where he could leave the corner of the training room and briefly walk with me calmly on his leash amongst the other dogs. We would then return to our corner and wait to be invited out again. Buddy learned that through good appropriate behavior he had earned the privilege to be able to walk around the dogs.

Buddy's sister, Missy, has calmed down too. She enjoys walks with family members and over the last year has taken short visits to a local boarding kennel. Missy got exposure to a variety of dogs in a controlled setting; although she didn't play with them, she learned to be able watch the dogs as they walk by her and not react in a negative manner.

I am not pretending that I have turned two reactive dogs into non-reactive dogs—I haven't. Buddy and Missy are dogs that will always need to be managed. I have just learned how to deal with the situation. Whether at a dog show, in my training class or at the local park or vet, I keep my dog on a short leash, close to my side and pay close attention to what is going on around us.

Through patience, perseverance, firm calm handling and a lot of love, Buddy has become a wonderful agility partner for me and I have a feeling we are going to be doing this for a long time! Missy, although not an agility star, enjoys her role of being a much loved family pet. She is Buddy's number one fan!



New IDTC Agility Committee Formed

As charged by Suzanne Etherington a month or so ago. The Training Committee has appointed 7 members officially to a new ad hoc committee, Agility Committee, made up of Kathy Hildreth, Joe Omeloski, Jan Estes, Donna Hopple, Lynne Wilkes, Katie Barnaby, Mallorie Morse, and Suzanne Etherington ex-officio as President. The first meeting was held on 4/11/14 with Jan Estes as acting committee secretary and Kathy Hildreth as acting chair. All of the above named members attended the meeting. A mission statement was drafted, revised and approved for submission to the Training Committee, once approved thru the ranks, it will be published in the newsletter.

Guest Speaker for May 2014 Meeting: Introduction to the Sport of Weight pulling—Lisa Mawson

Introduction to the organization, American Pulling Dogs Association, the sport of Weight pulling and the very therapeutic effects of this type of resistance training on dogs with various types of behavioral problems, to owners and trainers. Their website www.APDASports.com has a lot of educational information. And their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/APDASports> offers access to their newsletter and monthly training videos

Lisa's info: Lisa has a training center called Canine Culture (www.canineculturecny.com). She moved to the Oneida area in 2007 and shortly thereafter started offering the sport of weight pulling in addition to agility and behavioral classes. What started as a competition sport offering, soon also became a recommendation to Lisa's behavior clients, specifically, as a simple way to drain excess energy to make rehabilitation and confidence building easier, for shyness, phobias, aggression and other types of common problems. It took on a life of its own when she realized how successful and important it was to make a variety of behavioral problems significantly easier to overcome. With more study, and more happy clients, she found the science supported it and wanted to really help get the word out to trainers, veterinarians and behaviorists how helpful it was and hope, with education, they might add it to their program at the same time educate and promote the fun, competitive aspect of the sport I have been introducing to the area for years now. The organization is striving to have the AKC accept the sport into their "title recognition program". An AKC representative is going to be at their April 19th and 20th sanctioned event, and they will be doing demos at the APDT (association of pet dog trainers) national conference in October.

IDTC BRAGS

Debbie Keith—Belgian Malinois, **Finn**, is working his way to a Grand Championship in the most economical way ever! My young male from Finland, CH No-How Ever N'Ever started showing at 6 months and two weeks. His first two weekends out he finished his Championship with 3 Majors and a Puppy Group 1 and 2. His next two weekends out as a Champion, he won a Select the first day, and Best of Breed the next four shows over large competitive classes full of ranked dogs including the #1 conformation Malinois. He took a Herding Group 4 and an Owner Handler Group 4 the last weekend. He is now only 6 points shy of his Grand Championship, with all his other requirements met. He just turned eight months old last weekend!



Anne Williams—Terv, **Falcon**, earned his NWDA (National Working Dog Association) Weight Pulling Supreme Grand Championship. In late March, he earned his IPWA (International Weight Pulling Association) Working Dog Superior Wheels title. Between these two titles, Falcon pulled 23 times his body weight in 10 separate competitions! He is the only Terv to have earned either of these titles. Not bad for a 9 1/2 year old dog!

Jennifer Gerdes—They had an amazing weekend at the Troy Kennel Club show in early April. It was also a



Samoyed Regional Specialty. A little background from Jennifer: “I tried handling **Romeo** (my first conformation dog) for just over a year with zero success. I gave up and put him with a handler, so at least one of us would figure out what to do in the ring. He finished his championship in six months, with a 5-point major in March. This weekend, I was unable to find an available handler, so I had to take him in the ring myself. Not only was he beautifully behaved and quiet, he won Best in Specialty Show!”. Romeo competed with 47 other Samoyeds and came out on top as Best of Breed—with Jennifer on the other end of the lash. It “was by far the most experience I’ve ever had with a dog!”.

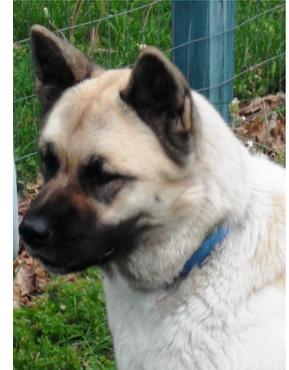
Marg Pough—Border Terrier, **DJ**, has been going to the Tompkins County Public Library (TCPL) for the past 2 years. The once a week, for a month, program has increased. She loves going and is a nice calm dog. Earlier this month, TCPL celebrated its 150th birthday and DJ was pictured on page 2 of the Ithaca Journal.

Chris O'Brien—The Aussies were at it again at the HONYASC obedience trial in mid-April. They were entered in all 4 shows over 2 days. On Saturday, **Fleck**, in her debut ASCA Rally trial, earned her first 2 Rally Novice legs both with 3rd places. **Jazz** earned his first 2 Rally Advanced legs both with 1st places. On Sunday, Fleck had her debut in sub-novice and shined, placing in both trials—including a 1st place! Jazz did really well in both the WC Novice and WC Open events, placing in both events in both trials.



MORE BRAGS

Nancy Alman—reports: My girl **Kiyo** (Akita) passed her Therapy Dog International assessment last weekend—and with flying colors. She's also a Cornell Companion. Kiyo's full name and titles: Big Benz Willow Creek's Kiyomi, UPD, TT, CGCA.



Diane Krause—The GSPs have been busy! **Emma**, new AXP Title! Emma also is tied for 2013 German Shorthair Club of America Tracking Dam of the Year. **Sonny**, new NAJ and NF Titles! **Kendyl** finished # 10 Preferred Agility for the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America 2013!

Suzanne Etherington—Airedale **Morgan** Trueheart finished his Level 4 CPE Agility Handler Games title and Airedale Trevorwood **Verbena Grace** finished her Level 2 CPE Agility Colors on 4/5 at Boom Towne.

Joan Shaw—A little brag for "**Victor**" (UKC CH/AKC GrCh Goldmedal Victor's Leroy CDX BN RA CA CGC). We went to the Miniature Pinscher National Specialty in York, PA and made a foray for the first time in the Utility A ring—he surprisingly did very well, qualifying in each exercise right up until the last one—directed jumping—then he ran around the jump! So no leg but I was very proud of him for his first try! He was willing and cheerful as always and a real crowd pleaser, scooting backward into his heel returns. He also showed in Veterans conformation up against several BIS winners and made the cut to the final 6 dogs! Go SuperDog Victor!!!

Deb Bain—My young English Springer, **Dealer**, finished his championship on Sunday in Trenton, NJ. He got a 5 point major at the Keystone English Springer Spaniel Specialty. He is now CH Hilwinz Gamblin' On A Full House, BN,RN,CGC. He is Tryx' son, and my first homebred and raised champion. Now that I don't have to worry about his coat, I can get back to tracking!

Kathy Hildreth—Sheltie, **Magic**, won a Regionals bye and 12" 1st place Q in the Performance Grand Prix at the Over Rover USDAA Trial on Saturday May 3rd. He also took a 1st place Q in PIII Relay, and Jumpers at the same trial. He had fun running three other courses, but had one little bobble in each of them resulting in NQ's. It was a fun, but muddy two days of entertainment.

Kerry Boisvert and Jennifer Gerdes—Kerry reports: "I wanted to let everyone know that May 10-11 will be your chance to see some of the best pulling dogs in the US and Canada competing at the National Championships at Cicero Two Rinks, Cicero, NY. Sat. will be the snow pull and Sunday will be wheels. The top dogs in each weight division from each region (there are 11 regions) were invited to compete. Divisions range from 0-20, all the way up to dogs over 125 lbs." Border Terrier, **Lark**, will be pulling in the 20 pound class (wheels on carpet) and Jennifer's **Ava** will be competing in both the snow and wheels competitions. Competition will start at 9:00 each day. If anyone would like more information, please contact Kerry directly. For more information regarding the pulling championships go to www.iwpa.net. Click on IWPA Championships on the left side - go to 2014. This will give you all the information, directions, times, etc.

Vet School Open House Demo—Submitted by Marian Szebenyi.

The annual Vet School Open House was held on Saturday, April 12, and IDTC provided a crowd-pleasing Agility demonstration - five of them, actually. We were able to show a great variety of dogs at various levels of training, from beginners who needed a lot of help to the Masters-level dogs who just flew around the course. The audience responded with "ooh"s and clapping - and laughs when a dog decided to go through a tunnel 5 times in a row instead of up the dog walk next to the tunnel.



Loyal IDTC members participated in anywhere from one to all five demos, as well as providing the manpower and vehicles to transport equipment between the Pavilion and the Vet School Arena. Many thanks go to Tammy Snyder with Flare and Flint, Lynne Wilks with Bix, Nancy Almann with Kiyoo, Hannah Robinson with Belle, Genie Hurme with Bebe, Kathy Hildreth with Magic and Wizard, and Joe Cowan with Shelby (who wasn't even signed up, but showed up anyway). And my dogs Cheetah and Tina got plenty of practice with agility equipment as well as people too.

Interspersed with the Agility demos, the Cornell Police showed off their bomb-sniffing dogs, and our equipment made for an interesting set of places to search - the can of explosive inside the numbered cone was not so easy to find! A photographer from the Ithaca Journal was on hand and took some great shots, such as these, showing the enthusiasm and ability of our team.

Pet Expo at the Shops at Ithaca Mall—submitted by Tammy Snyder

I wanted to THANK those who attended the Pet Expo at the Shops at Ithaca Mall yesterday with their dogs. THANK YOU for giving up all or part of your Saturday to educate the public on what we do as a club and also to educate the public on your breed of pup. I heard lots of questions and education occurring about the health, temperament and overall needs of the breeds represented by our very own IDTC members.

Thank you to Margie Peech and Nevil, Betsy Root and Leo, Deb Bain and Tryx, Karen Netherton and Finn, Kerry Boisvert with Lark, Genie Hurme and Bebe. I hope I haven't missed anyone, if so, I apologize. I brought my bestest boy Flint who also educated the public on some "other" things that dogs can do besides Obedience and agility, but showing off his cart pulling.

Everyone had a great time and the public learned a lot about the dogs and their training. We have several take our information hoping to take classes in the future...Again, Thank You for giving your time to the club

TEETER AUCTION!

The Auction for the IDTC Teeter will be at the end of the May General Meeting. There will be no minimum bid. The condition of the teeter is good, it has the skins on it for traction, and the base is in very good condition.

For more information, contact: Joe Osmeloski at ttia607@gmail.com

Summer 2014 Classes

The summer class session is being dedicated to members. We are not offering any Beginner/puppy classes over the summer, but instead in honor of those dedicated members who give their time, we are providing some classes that will allow members to get out and train their own dogs and perhaps try something new.

The registration period will be Monday May 12th to Friday May 24th.

CLASS: Introduction to retriever hunt tests

DESCRIPTION: This mini-class will be an introduction to AKC retriever hunt tests and how to begin retriever field training. No experience is needed, but your dog should be at least six months old, able to swim and enjoy retrieving. The class will be held outdoors and each session will be about three hours long.

INSTRUCTOR: Ann Lynn

REGISTRATION: (via email) at: alynn@ithaca.edu

LOCATION: The class will be held at Hannah Robinson's property in Candor.

DATES/TIMES: Sunday June 1, 8, 15, 29. All days 12-3

CAPACITY: 6 dog/handler teams. Preference will be given to breeds eligible to run the tests, but will happily

American Water Spaniels (effective 4/1/11)	Flat-Coated Retrievers	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers
Barbet (effective 9/1/12)	German Wirehaired Pointer (effective 9/1/11)	Spinone Italiano (effective 7/1/11)
Boykin Spaniels (effective 12/1/11)	Golden Retrievers	Standard Poodles
Chesapeake Retrievers	Irish Water Spaniels	Vizsla (effective 9/1/11)
Curly-Coated Retrievers	Labrador Retrievers	Weimaraner (effective 9/1/11)
Drentsche Patrijshond (Drent) (effective 9/1/12)	Miniature Poodles (effective 1/1/14)	Wirehaired Pointing Griffon (effective 7/1/11)

allow other breeds if there is room. Eligible breeds:

CLASS: Introduction to AKC Tracking

DESCRIPTION: This class will be a hands-on guide to teaching your dog to track. The first day will focus on scent theory and the concepts of starting a dog. We will then take those concepts to the field starting on June 14th, to get the dogs tracking in straight lines, and starting corners, as well as a little aging. You will have time between class sessions to practice a bit, and doing so will be helpful as we move through the curriculum.

INSTRUCTOR: Tammy Snyder

REGISTRATION: (via email) at: tsrotts@earthlink.net

DATES/TIMES: Saturday May 31st, June 14th, June 28th, and July 5th

May 31st 10am-noon at 662 Five Mile Dr, Ithaca

June 14th, 28th, and July 5th 7:30am-9:30am at 330 Brink Road, Candor NY 13743

CAPACITY: 6 dog/handler teams. Preference will be given to those members with little/no tracking experience, but if space permits, members with tracking experience that are starting a new dog will be allowed. Auditors are encouraged and invited. Any breed/size of dog can participate, the only requirement is that the dog not be lame as we will be traversing over some uneven terrain.

IDTC CPE Agility Trial

Members, Agility Enthusiasts, and Friends of IDTC:

Entries are now open for our **CPE Trial June 14-15** at Treman State Park just south of Ithaca !

This is a great trial for families (playground right next door), campers (campground right in the park), and young or inexperienced dogs (lots of room to walk and exercise your dog). Real bathrooms, large pavilion for scorers, comfortable place to sit for lunch and snacks - and plenty of shade trees to make your own "camp" with chairs, crates, and a maybe a pop-up right next to the agility ring !

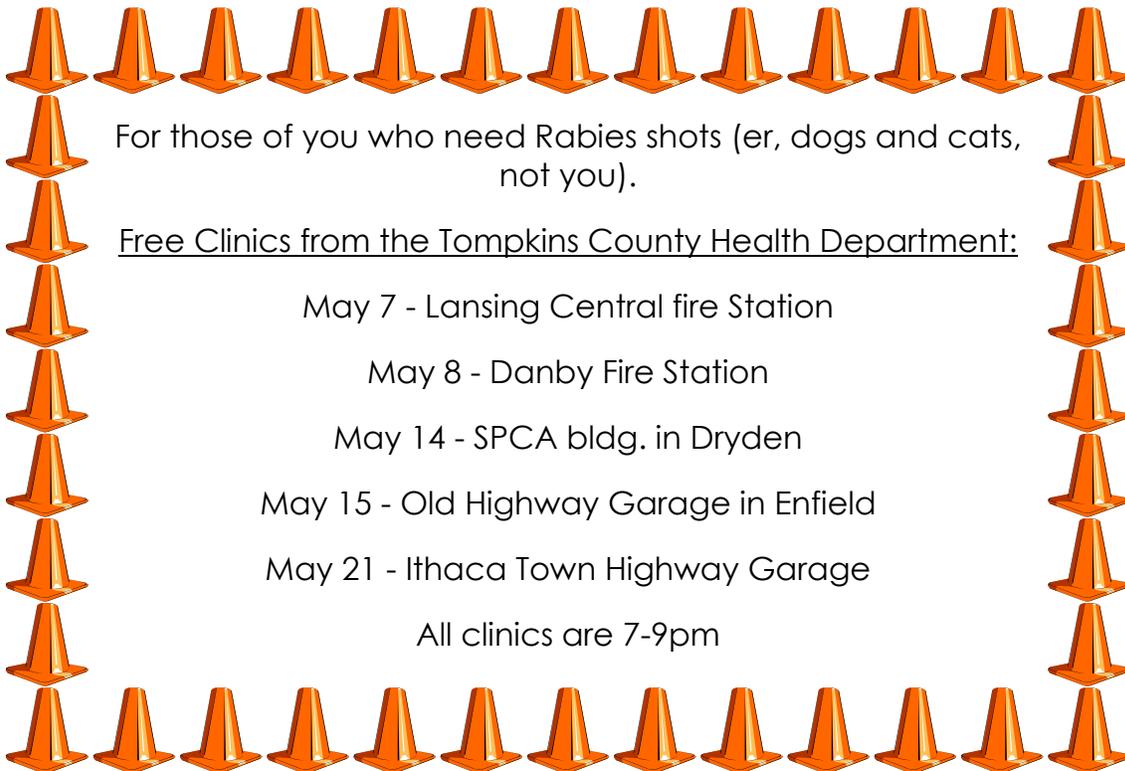
We are offering 5 runs per day and a package deal. Free lunch both days for workers, and an especially nice raffle for workers the last class each day.

Our judge is Don Skibniewski of Buffalo, and you won't find many trials this close to home -

What's not to like ??? Come join us!

Premium available at: <http://www.k9cpe.com/events.htm>.

CLOSING DATE: Monday, JUNE 2, 2014—No Day of Show Entries.



For those of you who need Rabies shots (er, dogs and cats, not you).

Free Clinics from the Tompkins County Health Department:

May 7 - Lansing Central fire Station

May 8 - Danby Fire Station

May 14 - SPCA bldg. in Dryden

May 15 - Old Highway Garage in Enfield

May 21 - Ithaca Town Highway Garage

All clinics are 7-9pm

IDTC—Canine Aggression: Uncommon Solutions to a Common Problem

Sophie Liu, www.progressdog.com

Aggression is an extremely common problem. Now, however, we have creative and effective ways of treating it, both with and without medications. These days, behavior modification alone can be highly sophisticated and effective as long as we follow evidence-based approaches and behavior science.

Without fully realizing it, dog aggression shapes our lives so much. According to the CDC, 4.5 million Americans are bitten by dogs (a likely underestimate) each year, with half being children. 1 in 5 dog bites results in injuries serious enough to require medical attention. It also impacts anyone who has the misfortune of owning a "bad rep" breed due to public fear, hysteria, and Breed Specific Legislation. Moreover, it is the #1 cause of dog relinquishment, and aggression is technically a behavior severe enough to justify euthanasia even at "no-kill" shelters.

Dog aggression is fundamentally a complex behavior, but it is undeniably linked to elevated levels of stress. Studies have shown that chronic stress significantly impacts an animal's ability to think, to remember, to live a quality life. Dogs who routinely show aggression are experiencing intense psychological stress, and it is, without a doubt, impacting their qualities of lives.

Misinformation regarding dog aggression is unfortunately deeply embedded into pop culture, into the media, and into the mind of the general public. [Case in point: see excerpt from the CDC site on Dog Bites.] The concept of a dominance hierarchy between dogs and people is outdated and disproven. There've been multiple studies in recent times that indicate that, at best, it's unhelpful, and, at worst, it increases problems between people and animals. Thus, if the "dominance theory" is not a legitimate source for training techniques, then we should seek techniques that are founded in behavior science and which are supported by evidence, such as those introduced by B.F. Skinner and popularized by his students, Bob and Marian Bailey (famous animal behaviorists and chicken training pioneers).

Simply take the principles of learning theory – operant and classical conditioning – and apply it in this 3-pronged approach. Every successful technique utilizes, in some way shape or form, Classical counter-conditioning, Desensitization, and an Alternate Behavior ("CC/DS/AB"). Classical counter-conditioning refers to changing an animal's emotional response to a trigger, often by pairing something desirable (i.e. food) with a trigger that typically produces a negative emotional response (i.e. strange people producing a fear response). Desensitization means to begin far enough away from a trigger so as to avoid a negative emotional response. Then, slowly over time, bring the dog closer to the trigger without inciting a negative emotional response. Alternate behaviors are crucially important because they teach the dog to perform a behavior incompatible with aggression. Common alternate behaviors include automatic and fast Sits and Downs.

MAY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 	6—IDTC Clas- ses	7—IDTC Clas- ses	8	9—IDTC Clas- ses	10
11 	12	13— Graduation	14— Graduation	15	16—IDTC Classes	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 	27—IDTC Meeting	28	29—Ithaca Festival Parade!	30— Graduation	31—IDTC Class



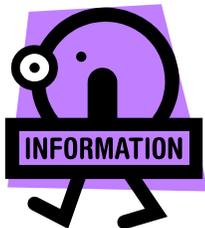
JUNE 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1—IDTC Class	2	3	4	5	6	7
8—IDTC Class	9	10	11	12	13	14—IDTC Class; CPE Trial
15—IDTC Class; CPE Trial	16	17	18	19	20	21 
22 	23	24—IDTC Meeting	25	26	27	28—IDTC Class
29—IDTC Class	30					



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Venue	URL	Venue	URL
AKC	www.akc.org	USDAA	www.usdaa.com
CPE	www.k9cpe.com	World Cynosport Rally	www.rallydogs.com
ASCA	www.asca.org	Dock Dogs	www.dockdogs.com
UKC	www.ukcdogs.com	NACSW	www.nacsw.net
IPWA	www.ipwa.net		