
GOOD NEIGHBOR NEWS



MAY, 2016

Training Schedule: Our next Beginner Class Begins June 7, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

[Sessions Continuing until July]

INTERMEDIATE: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

INTERMEDIATE 2: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

ADVANCED: 11:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

MAY – Hopefully Less Rain and More Sunshine!

CLUB BUSINESS & MORE

PIZZA!

The Club will throw a Pizza Party on Friday evening, June 3, 2016 for anyone who will come to the building and help vacuum and clean the floor! Please RSVP to Camille. Thanks!

WHAT DOES THAT LITTLE VOICE IN YOUR HEAD SAY TO YOU??

Camille says, *"People keep saying that they hear my voice when they show and train. Let's find out 'what I'm saying'. (Or maybe I don't want to know!)"* :0

I'd like everyone to list the 'Camille- isms' they are hearing. Maybe it's that encouraging word or phrase you keep replaying? Or the reminder to praise your dog? Maybe it's that body posture reminder? Please send me an email and let me know what you are hearing and how it is helping your training!

(email me @ kacosta66@gmail.com)

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

Camille just posted an article regarding the effect your emotion has on your dog and it's training and behavior. PLEASE read it. It's important!

CLUB T-SHIRTS AND JACKETS!

We will be ordering more! Information on color, size and prices are on the forms at the building.

NEIGHBORS

There have been a few incidents with one of our neighbors who lives in the apartment building next to the building. She has been yelling out of her window at Club Members while they were exercising their dog. I have spoken with the building manager about this and she is to speak to her tenant.

In order to keep peace with our neighbors please refrain from walking your dog on the apartment's property. (You are allowed to exercise your dog on the back driveway area and the grassy area up by the street, near our sign.) Also, if anyone from the apartment building shouts at you while you are exercising your dog on 'our' building's property, please DO NOT respond. Tell me so that I can inform our building owner. He has advised that he will handle the situation.

We do NOT have a dumpster, so PLEASE clean up after your dogs and take their poop bags home with you.

NEED SOME JUMPS?

Are you looking for a set of regulation sized jumps for your yard? The club has a gently-used set of wooden jumps for sale. Give us your best offer and they are yours. The jumps are at the building and ready to go. They can be in your yard this weekend.

BRAGS

Andy and her Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Rio, continue to work on their RAE title!!

In Andrea's words: "I will call this FORGET THE FOOD AND TELL ME HOW GOOD I AM. Rio struggled with her Excellent B class. Mostly she rushes over the jump (and there are two of them in excellent) and then is ahead of me and out of heel position. Despite my command "Over, Heel" she is still forged. I may try "Over, Yes! Nice job, Heel". There was one corner where she just could not get her nose off the floor and no amount of "leave it" helped. By chance a growling dog crated near that corner did break her focus on the smell. All but 2 dogs succumbed to that tantalizing aroma - no excuse just the facts. I will have to work with more food distractions as Camille suggested - x large milk bones. She did hold her sit stay when I got her lead and I didn't mess up any signs. I did have a redo (at a cost of 3 points) because she was out of position and was about to run into the sign (also points off). I really worried that we might not qualify with her foolishness, but to my surprise we got 3rd Place with a 90+ (our time was faster than another dog with a 90).

I knew immediately when we left the ring that I had forgotten to praise Rio after every sign. I was a little flustered by Rio's problem in the corner (it was only the 4th sign) and I failed to praise her when it might have been most helpful, immediately after the jump and before the corner. I did praise her with the following signs.

A "time out" in her crate, a potty break and we were ready for advanced B. We did a warm up with some exercises that were on the course and heeling.

I don't think I will forget her praise again. Camille and I have discovered that, although Rio loves her treats, my verbal praise is like filet mignon or venison. I trained Rio with food, which is fine, but I should have given her more verbal

praise with the food, so when the food goes away I still have the praise. She really works like a different dog when I remember to praise her after every rally sign. Case in point, we got a 97 and 2nd place in our Rally Advanced class. I did praise her after every sign. So we have 2 RAE legs.

In obedience I will be able to praise Rio after every exercise, after the judge says "exercise finished". I find it ironic that after all this time I am just discovering the power of my praise. Rio will gladly gobble up my treats, but when I watch her in the mirrors and she is looking at me and in heel position and I tell her how great she is, I get more enthusiasm than the best treat.

Just had to let you know how good Rio's jumping was last night in rally. It was exactly what I wanted from her. Perfect. Good girl! One good training session carries positively to the next one for dog and handler.

Rio had another good day. She improved her performance in Rally Excellent. She got a 95 and First place. I had a redo (on a sign) that cost us 3 points. I probably should have taken the 1 point for being out of position rather than redoing the sign. I had 2 redos in Advanced. Now the big 10 points deduction - Rio lost for going to the bowls in a Figure 8 with Distractions. And we practiced that this week! No trials till the end of June. Plenty of time to work on this. We ended up with an 84 and her Third RAE leg." Andrea

GREAT WORK, YOU TWO!! Three Rally Advanced Excellent legs earned, 7 more to go!! Keep up the great work, guys!.....Ed.

Doris and her Mini Poodle, Nyssa, competed on Saturday, May 14th, at an AKC Obedience trial. Doris said "This was our first of three legs towards an AKC Novice title. I was very nervous, and I could hear in my head Camille's words, "You've worked hard, now trust in the training." Well, we passed! Now there are just two more legs to go for our next title!" Doris

We've seen how this little dog throws herself into her practice - so nice to hear it's paying off in the ring for you!.....Ed.

KEEP TRAINING, AND DON'T FORGET TO
SEND ME YOUR BRAGS!!

RELIABLE SIT STAYS

(reprinted with permission of Connie Cleveland at the The Dog Trainer's Workshop - <http://www.dogtrainersworkshop.com>)

Sit! Stay! And, by the way, don't move until I get back!

I often believe that the great majority of Novice class dogs perform the sit stay exercise by accident. After all, you are across the ring staring at them and the stay only lasts for a minute. Many of the dogs are watching everything going on in and around the ring and some of them seem quite surprised when their handler returns. How can you improve the chances that your dog really understands that doing a sit stay is, in fact, one of the exercises?

In the Digital Obedience Guide: The Benefits of Mistakes, proofing is defined as "teaching a dog how not to perform." For example, simply practicing a sit stay repeatedly does not teach a dog that he must stay where left no matter what is going on around him. Instead, you need to allow your dog to make errors, or even try to cause errors, in order to teach him what is and what is not allowed.

Dogs are distracted by visual, auditory, and physical stimuli. I want you to know that your dog will stay, even in the midst of distractions, before you ever get further than a leash length away. This week, I want you to systematically set up three situations. Begin by putting your dog in a sit, and go to the end of your leash.

Step 1: You become the distraction. Do not stand still. Try jumping up, bending over, tying your shoe, stepping from side to side. Every time you move, your dog may use your movement as an excuse to get up. Respond by saying "no, Sit," as you gently and firmly put him back in position.

Dogs are Situational (see "[How Dogs Learn](#) on Connie's website"). Do not assume that your dog understands that he must stay in all situations, teach him. If you have never been distracting, your dog probably does not understand that no matter what you do, he should remain in a sit.

If your dog makes multiple errors during this step, put him on a platform, or small bed to define exactly where you want him to remain sitting. As he starts to stand up, or step off, pull up on the leash and respond with "no, Sit!" Your expectation that he

sit and remain sitting will soon become very clear to him.

Step 2: Use auditory distractions such as someone knocking on the door, or squeaking a toy. Again, the response for every mistake is "no, Sit," as you physically place him back in position.

Step 3: Use visual distractions. Any movement will do such as a ball rolling by, or another dog chasing a toy.

Remember to perform all three of these steps while you are only a leash length away. This ensures that the time between the dog's mistake and your response is almost immediate and easiest for the dog to understand. Most of us are in too much of a hurry to create distance. After all, in a competition, we must stand across the ring from our dogs. Your ability to effectively communicate when your dog makes an error is diminished when you are standing across the ring from him. Increasing distance will be easy once you've created a reliable stay close to you and in the presence of distractions.

2016 TRAINING GOALS

I hope you gave these forms to Camille! If you did not, ask for a form – we have some at the building.

**MAKE SURE TO CHECK our
Club Website for Class
Schedules, Club News, Closing
for weather, etc., etc.
Our website is: www.gndog.com**

Please feel free to send me any newsworthy tales, stories, jokes, articles (recipes?) or anything else you think may be of interest to our Members for inclusion in future newsletters! Emails are:
kacosta@fsalaw.com
and home email is: kacosta66@gmail.com
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