



# DOG TRAINERS WORKSHOP

864-862-8626

www.dogtrainersworkshop.com

864-862-8688 Fax

## NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING SHOWS

January 7-8, 2012  
Clemson Kennel Club  
Pendleton, SC

January 14-15, 2012  
Greater Columbia Obed. Club  
Columbia, SC

January 14-15, 2012  
Atlanta Obedience Club  
Norcross, GA

January 21-22, 2012  
Chatahoochee ESS Club  
Lawrenceville, GA

January 28-29, 2012  
Charleston Dog Training Club  
Ladson, SC

February 3-5, 2012  
Swanee Mountain Kennel Club  
Conyers Kennel Club of GA  
Lawrence Kennel Club  
Atlanta, GA

February 4-5, 2012  
Charlotte Dog Training Club  
Charlotte, NC

February 11-12, 2012  
Labrador Specialty  
Charlotte, NC

February 17-19, 2012  
Greenville Kennel Club  
Spartanburg Kennel Club  
Hendersonville, Kennel Club  
Greenville, SC

*Continued on Page 4...*



December 2011

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men  
From heavens all gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

*May the beauty of the season be with you  
all through the New Year*

*Connie Cleveland  
Cat Perry, M.J. Douglas,  
Tracy Sosebee, Franny Falkenburg,  
Christopher Riddle  
Pam Ambuhl, Donna Brocht*

**Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year**  
*From all of us at the Dog Trainers Workshop*

### Share the Warmth



In the early 1900's a father, mother, and three small children arrived in our country by boat from Yugoslavia; immigrants, looking for a better life and brighter future. The family settled in Milwaukee, a job in the steel industry was found, and the family grew. Soon there were eight children. Money was scarce and in the cold winter months, the father and his sons slept together in one bed for warmth, while the mother and the girls slept in the other.

One Christmas, the father gave his two young sons money so that they might go to the store and buy gifts for their brothers and sisters. Instead, they bought a blanket for their father so that he would no longer have to use his overcoat as his blanket to keep him warm at night.

The Immigrant was Connie's grandfather, and the generous young boys, her father and uncle.

It has become our tradition to ask that in lieu of the wonderful gifts and goodies that so many of you share with us during the holidays, that you would bring us coats, jackets, blankets or sweaters that you no longer use so that others may be warm this winter. We, in turn, will be donating those objects to help support emergency services for the homeless in the upstate.

We will keep our donation box available throughout January. As you enjoy your new coats and sweaters, please let us find a home for your used items.

# Training & Playing – Can they Mix?

Most of us started in obedience classes in order to gain control of an unruly pet. As you progressed through the beginner class, then the advanced beginner class, and even into the Heel, Jump, and Retrieve class, your focus may have continued to be on gaining control.

However, as you continue to train, controlling your dog is no longer an issue. Perfecting your performance becomes the challenge. As you teach your dog more difficult exercises, you realize you want your dog to be animated as well as accurate.

How can you keep the dog enthusiastic about learning, as well as animated in his performance? Can he be as enthusiastic about performing as he is about playing? Can training be fun?

First, recognize that all dogs have varying personalities. Some of you are dealing with dogs that are excellent problem solvers, thoughtful, controlled, accurate, and need a lot of encouragement to perform with enthusiasm. Conversely, some dogs are naturally full of energy and speed, but with that come inaccuracy and inconsistency. Most of you have dogs that fall somewhere in between those two extremes. (see *What Kind of Trainer Do You Need to Be?* at <http://www.dogtrainersworkshop.com>)

However, regardless of his personality type, to keep training fun, it will be helpful to have the following four tools in place:

## 1. An enthusiastic release

Either in the ring, or in training, it is necessary for your dog to know how to take a break and relax. You need to be able to throw your arms in the air, give him a release command, ie. “OK,” and have him respond. If your dog is not responding, keep your hands off him and clap for him. You want to use this release to let him know it’s OK to take a break and use it as an opportunity to tell him “job well done!”

## 2. Games to play

Sometimes it’s beneficial to have games you play with your dog. Any game you play should engage him with you. Therefore, throwing a ball or toy, although fun for the dog, may not be your best choice. Retrieving is a game he plays independently of you. Alternatively, tug-o-war engages you both and many dogs enjoy that activity. I tend to play with my dogs without the aid of an object, simply pushing

him, turning away from him, trying to engage him in a game with me the way he would play with another dog.

## 3. A cue word

There is a huge benefit to having a dog that knows a cue word for a treat or toy that he enjoys. Can you say “treat,” or “cookie,” or do you have another word that causes him to put his ears up, and get excited? In fact, if you start by always using a cue word before you give him his toy or treat, you can then try using the cue word and delaying the reward. Later, you can use the cue word intermittently, sometimes immediately producing the treat, and sometimes delaying it. This trick is exceedingly helpful in the ring. If your dog becomes distracted or nervous, a carefully timed cue word may get him to reengage and perform the next exercise.

## 4. A self-rewarding exercise.

Never underestimate the power of an exercise that your dog enjoys. For example, if your dog loves the retrieve over the high jump, you do not have to cheer for him when he performs that exercise, he will have a good time whether you chime in or not. However, you better get very excited when he adjusts himself for that perfect front, as he is doing that just because it pleases you. Furthermore, your dog’s attitude will be better if you alternate between exercises your dog enjoys and those that he is just learning or that are giving him trouble.

Finally, some of you tell me that you have trouble relaxing and releasing or playing with your dog. You may feel self-conscious and that “playing” is not your personality type.

I have long maintained that to train a dog you must have a “toddler mentality.” In the beginning you gave your dog choices, much like you would give a toddler. You told him to sit, and if he did not, you made him sit– the dog had two choices, he could do it or you would make him do it.

None of you would have trouble being enthusiastic when a toddler did something for you. When presented with that crayon drawing, or popsicle stick ornament, you know perfectly well how to enthusiastically respond– with no embarrassment or self-consciousness. If you can do it for a toddler, you can do it for your dog!

As you continue in the advanced classes, go forward with two goals; first teach your dog to perform the exercises that he needs to know to earn his next title, secondly, bring out the best in your dog’s attitude while you do so.

# Congratulations 2011 Title Winners!



## OBEDIENCE TRIAL CHAMPION

Donna Duffy & Jack (Golden Retriever)



## UTILITY DOG EXCELLENT

Barbara DuCharme & Bamboo (Border Collie)



## UTILITY DOG

Grace Lichtenwald & BG (German Shepherd)  
Pam Ambuhl & Maya (Golden Retriever)  
Monica Hunter & Ursa (German Shepherd)



## OPTIONAL TITLES

### Beginner Novice

Palmer Cross & Jesse (Beagle)  
Jenny Durrance & Shadow (Bernese Mountain Dog)  
Elliott Saddoris & Trouble (Labrador Retriever)  
Emmy Gillespie & Tara (Brittany)  
Dollye Franks & Spartacus (Irish Setter)  
Anne Vandiver & Sarah (German Shepherd)  
Chris Abbott & Moonpie (Flat Coat Retriever)

### Graduate Novice

Mac Rood & Ace (Golden Retriever)  
Janine Fiorito & Robin (Golden Retriever)

### Graduate Open

Monica Hunter & Ursa (German Shepherd)  
Grace Lichtenwald & BG (German Shepherd)

### Versatility

Grace Lichtenwald & BG (German Shepherd)  
Monica Hunter & Ursa (German Shepherd)

### Rally Novice

Chris Brooks & Sherman (Golden Retriever)

### Rally Advance

Dollye Franks & Spartacus (Irish Setter)

### Rally Excellent

Chris Abbott & Moonpie (Flat Coat Retriever)



## COMPANION DOG EXCELLENT

Michelle Andavall & Rio (Golden Retriever)  
Linda Garrett & Stormie (Weimaraner)  
Susie Hart & Karmen (Giant Schnauzer)  
Cat Perry & Wyatt (Labrador Retriever)  
Autumn Murphy & Kia (German Shepherd)  
Mindy Costanza & Serria (Australian Shepherd)  
Tony Cherubini & Silvara (German Shepherd)  
Patrice Hoerster & Cali (Golden Retriever)  
Janet Lydie & Brock (Mix Breed)  
Grace Lichtenwald & BG (German Shepherd)



## COMPANION DOG

Lori Hayes & Gabe (Shih Tzu)  
Pam Putman & Jackson (Mix Breed)  
Sarah Saddoris & Sam (Min. Dachshund)  
Rachael Cross & Phoenix (Golden Retriever)  
Patrice Hoerster & Cali (Golden Retriever) (U-CD)  
Dorothy Dillon & Rev (Belgian Tervuren)  
MJ Douglas & Digger (Cocker Spaniel)  
Kevin & Michelle Miller & Chaugi (Mix Breed)  
Linda Garrett & Stormie (Weimaraner)  
Masaka Mori & Kilo (Port. Water Dog)  
Dollye Franks & Spartacus (Irish Setter)



Please let us know if we mistakenly left your name off the list!

# Upcoming Classes

New Term starts Jan. 10, 2012

*Please register by Dec. 29th!*

Fees: \$100.00 per 8 week class  
\$180.00 per 2 classes



## Heel, Jump, Retrieve

**Jan. 11: Wednesday @ 6:00 pm**

For dogs learning the fundamentals of heeling, jumping and retrieving. These dogs should have completed the Beginner and Advanced Beginner classes.

## Novice/Open

**Jan. 10: Tuesday @ 6:00 pm**

**Jan. 11: Wednesday @ 7:00 pm**

For dogs learning the Novice and Open exercises. Prerequisites include the Directed Jumping exercise and an ability to retrieve with distractions.

## Open /Utility

**Jan. 10: Tuesday @ 12:30 pm**

**Jan. 10: Tuesday @ 7:00 pm**

**Jan. 11: Wednesday @ 8:00 pm**

For dogs proficient at the open exercises and actively learning the Utility exercises. Dogs preparing to compete in either Open or Utility should participate in one of these sections.

## UDX/OTCH

**Jan. 10: Tuesday @8:00 pm**

For dogs training regularly and actively pursuing their UDX and/or OTCH titles



## A Note From Joe Duffy & DOCG

The spring trial for D.O.C.G is coming soon.

It will be held in mid march at the Simpsonville Senior Center on March 24/25 2012. We pride ourselves that our trial has come to one of the premier shows in the southeast with many top competitors coming year after year. The location, food and friendly atmosphere is what keeps them coming back year after year.

What makes it all work is the volunteers who man the rings, food service, bake sale and raffle sale. If you are able to volunteer to steward I need to hear from you. Staffing a show of this size takes everyone pulling together.

You can contact me any time at [joeduffy43@gmail.com](mailto:joeduffy43@gmail.com). Please put our show on your calendar for March.

Joe Duffy, Trial Chairman

## Upcoming Shows

*Continued from Page 1...*

March 3-4, 2012  
Hilton Head Island KC  
Hilton Head, SC

March 3-4, 2012  
Winston-Salem Dog Training Club  
Winston-Salem, NC

March 10-12  
Atlanta Obedience Club  
Norcross, GA

March 16-18, 2012  
Carolina Dog Training Club  
Greensboro, NC

March 24-25, 2012  
Dog Obedience Club of Greenville  
Simpsonville, SC

A complete calendar is on  
[www.dogtrainersworkshop.com](http://www.dogtrainersworkshop.com)