



Redfern Ramblings

February 2008 Edition

Special Events

Mark your calendar NOW and plan to attend the following special events:

- **Mutt Movie Nights**
A Feature-Length dog-oriented movie, with popcorn — bring your comfy chair & soft drink! (We'll provide the ice.)
Feb 10 & March 9 (Sun) 6:30 PM
- **CGC & TDI Evaluations**
Feb 16, Apr 5, May 10 (Sat) 2-5
- **Dog Scouts of America Troop 171**
Feb 17, Mar 16, Apr 20 (Sun) 4 PM
- **"The Healing Power of a Dog"** (Seminar on Animal - Assisted Therapy)
Feb 23-24 (Sat-Sun) 9 am - 4 PM
- **Redfern Therapy Group**
March 5 (Weds) 7:00 PM

Cleaning up after "Oops!"

Puppies — and sometimes older dogs — can make messes at the least convenient times and places. Urine and feces can stain and soil carpets, furniture, bedding, and wood or tile flooring.

When this happens there are two things that need to take place:

- CLEAN, SANITIZE and DEODORIZE the area and
- NEUTRALIZE the effects of the stain, to prevent a re-occurrence in the same location.

CLEANING the area needs to be done *quickly* with a cleaner that will not only sanitize the surface but also combat bacteria that may be present in the urine or feces. One very effective cleaner and deodorizer is **Odo-Ban**, which not only cleans and combats bacteria but also deodorizes with a combination citrus, wildflower and eucalyptus scent. It can be mixed with 1 part Odo-Ban to 3 parts water and used in a spray bottle to clean most surfaces.

One cleaning product to *NOT* use is Windex. While Windex is a wonderful multi-surface cleaner, it contains ammonia, which is also a component of urine! Surfaces cleaned with Windex (or any cleaner containing ammonia) actually invite the dog to repeat the use of that area as their own personal toilet.

But cleaning is not enough! It is important to NEUTRALIZE the effects of urine or feces, to remove the attraction by Rover's nose. A

Two Very Special Classes

We're proud to offer several specialized classes to fit some specific needs.

K9 Sampler — Wondering where to go after that first class? Interested in ways to keep your dog working in the company of other dogs and handlers, but not quite sure which direction is right for you and your dog? The K9 Sampler class is designed to help you "get your feet wet" in a variety of training options before diving into a full-blown 6-week course. During the 5 weeks you will get a basic introduction to Rally Obedience, Agility, Competition Obedience, Canine Good Citizen test, Therapy Dog work, and Games & Tricks.

Kids & K9s — This is a wonderful opportunity for young folks in the 6-12 year age bracket to work with their dogs (and families) to learn some of the basics of how to care for and train their 4-legged family member. In addition to learning to handle their dogs and teach them basic commands, they will also learn some basic safety, how to deal with strange (and sometimes unpredictable) dogs, as well as teaching their dog tricks and games.

If you have any questions about these or any other classes, please do not hesitate to ask.

TRICKS ...

More Than Just a Game

It's easy to think of tricks as merely ways to entertain, to give your dog something to do, or to challenge yourself by seeing just what you can accomplish with your canine companion (*who is — of course — more intelligent and talented than ANY other dog within 500 miles!*).

But games are much more than that. Games actually provide an important opportunity to

- Strengthen the bond between you and your companion
- Teach your dog self-control
- Improve your skills as a trainer, and
- Open up creative approaches to fixing behavior problems with your dog.

For example — does your dog bark incessantly

product like **Nature's Miracle** contains enzymes that break down the material to neutralize it.

It is VERY important when used with carpeting that the solution get deep into the carpet or padding. First of all BLOT up as much of the urine as possible (or use Odo-Ban to clean the surface of feces). Then SOAK the area with enough solution to get down into the padding or carpet backing. (On hard surfaces such as wood or tile spray the Natures Miracle on and wipe the surface to remove the excess solution, but do not remove it completely.) Allow the surface to dry naturally.

Gift Certificates Available

Any amount — use for Classes, Seminars or Merchandise.

when visitors show up at your home, and then jump all over them with unbridled enthusiasm? Wouldn't it be great if you could channel that energy into bringing a toy to the visitor?

Do you have a large dog that can sometimes be overwhelming to some people, especially children? Teach them to roll over and play dead — which will relax the dog AND the non-dog-person at the same time.

If your dog jumps on people, teach them to bow, or wave, or shake with their paw as an alternative way to greet strangers.

Got a dog with lots of energy? An active dog will usually be willing to try new things, and will likely go along with just about any crazy trick you can dream up. Because they are looking for attention, they will be more willing to work with you, just for the sheer joy of being with you. The secret is to CHANNEL that energy and enthusiasm, and tricks is one way to turn it to your advantage.

GIVE YOUR DOG A JOB. Then, when they are tempted to exhibit inappropriate behavior "put them to work", and your life will be a lot easier.

For more information, consider our Tricks Class, or see *The Only Dog Tricks Book You'll Ever Need*. By Gerilyn J Bielekiewicz, Adams Media, 2005

CGC/TDI Evaluations

February 16 (Sat)
April 5 (Sat)
May 10 (Sat)

By Pre-Registration only,
call 717-979-0132
additional info at
www.redferncanines.com

Twist 'n Treat

Some toys do more than just give the dog something to do. There are a few toys that challenge the dog to think and give them a reward when they figure it out.

One of those toys is the Tug-A-Jug™, which was reviewed here a few months ago. Another product by the same company is the Twist 'n Treat™, which can be adjusted to dispense dog food or treats either quickly or slowly, depending on how much you would like to challenge your dog.



The hard-rubber toy twists apart so you can fill it with treats or dry food. When closed you can determine the size of the opening to adjust how much food comes out or how difficult it will be for the dog to get at the goodies. It's a great toy to place in a crate to occupy a dog for hours.

Available at classes or on our website at www.redferncanines.com/toys.html.

Worth Repeating

"In general, your dog's attitude is the best measure of your success as a trainer. If you keep sessions upbeat and fun, make it easy for your dog to succeed, and remember to end on a positive note, it won't be long before your dog thinks that working with you is better than anything else in the world." [*The Only Dog Tricks Book You'll Ever Need*, by Gerilyn Bielakiewicz]

Dog Scout Troop 171

Dog Scout Troop 171 launched in January with 18 dogs and handlers, and will have its next Troop Meeting on February 17 at 4 PM.

Over the next few months we will begin working to earn badges and do community service projects.

The most popular badges in our survey were

- Hiking
- Backpacking
- PhoDOgraphy
- Art of Shaping
- Community Service



www.dogscouts.org

This Spring redfern will have several hikes on the Harrisburg Greenbelt and the Appalachian Trail.

We look forward to seeing YOU and your dog at the upcoming meetings.

Current Class Listings

Class Title	Beginning Date/Time	# of Class Sessions
Beginners Class	February 10 (Sun) 2:30 PM	6
Kids N K9s	February 17 (Sun) 1:00 PM	6
Rally -- Level 2	February 21 (Thurs) 6:30 PM	6
Manners Class	February 21 (Thurs) 7:45 PM	6
Puppy Class	February 25 (Mon) 6:30 PM	6
Beginners Class	February 25 (Mon) 7:45 PM	6
Loose Leash Walking	February 26 (Tues) 6:30 PM	4
Competition Obedience -- Level 1	February 27 (Weds) 7:45 PM	6
Agility -- Level 2	February 29 (Fri) 6:30 PM	6
Agility -- Level 1	February 29 (Fri) 7:45 PM	6
Rally -- Level 1	March 1 (Sat) 1:30 PM	6
Reliable Recalls	March 2 (Sun) 1:15 PM	4
Rally -- Level 1	March 4 (Tues) 7:45 PM	6
Tricks Class	March 8 (Sat) 10:15 AM	2
Puppy Class	March 15 (Sat) 9:00 AM	6
Manners Class	March 15 (Sat) 11:30 AM	6
Manners Class	April 1 (Tues) 6:30 PM	6
Rally -- Level 1	April 3 (Thurs) 7:45 PM	6
CGC/TDI Preparation	April 5 (Sat) 10:15 AM	5
Puppy Class	April 6 (Sun) 2:30 PM	6
Beginners Class	April 7 (Mon) 7:45 PM	6
Rally -- Level 2	April 10 (Thurs) 6:30 PM	6
K-9 Sampler	April 20 (Sun) 1:15 PM	5
Agility -- Level 2	April 25 (Fri) 6:30 PM	6
Agility -- Level 1	April 25 (Fri) 7:45 PM	6
Competition Obedience -- Level 2	April 26 (Sat) 12:45 PM	6

NOTE — If the class you prefer is not scheduled at a time convenient to you, please let us know ... we may be able to make an adjustment, or schedule a new class based on general interest.

MOVIE NIGHT (Feb 10)

Sunday — 6:30 PM

The Shaggy Dog

starring Tim Allen

FREE — Popcorn Provided!

(Bring your own comfy chair and your favorite soft drink — ice and cups provided)

Weather Closing Policy

We try not to cancel classes because of the weather, but if weather prohibits travel, we will postpone classes & add a session at the end of the course.

If class is cancelled, we will try to contact you. If you do not hear from us, call Betsy (717-805-1310) or John (717-979-2143) on their cell phones to be sure.

Above all, please drive safely on winter roads. In an accident, your unsecured pooch could become a missile, causing serious damage to him AND you!

Training Aids Available

Redfern has high-quality Training Aids and Toys available, at prices below retail. Included are

- ⇨ Tethers (steel — "un-chewable")
- ⇨ "Gentle Leader"™ head halters & "Easy-Walk"™ no-pull harnesses
- ⇨ Treat Pouches & i-Click Clickers
- ⇨ Ultimate Puppy Toolkits®
- ⇨ Leather & Cotton Leashes
- ⇨ Premier Collars
- ⇨ Busy Buddy®, Bouncy Bone™, Twist 'n Treat™, Squirrel Dudes™, Waggle™ & Tug-a-Jug™ toys
- ⇨ Katies Bumpers™ (fire hose products)

Pictures and prices are available at www.redferncanines.com. Items available at classes, or send an Email to redfern@ioweb.com