



# Redfern Ramblings

Spring 2007 Edition

## Redfern Seminar Series

### The Power of the Clicker

July 14 & 15

\$125 with dog by June 30

\$150 with dog after June 30

\$100 without dog by June 30

\$115 without dog after June 30

### The Healing Power of a Dog

[AAT/AAA for Handlers (No Dogs)]

Sept 29 & 30

\$100 by Sept 15

\$115 after Sept 15

For details on seminar content and registration procedure go to [www.redferncanines.com](http://www.redferncanines.com)

## Clicker 101

*"Catch 'em doing something RIGHT!"*

"A dog learns from the consequences of his actions. Whether the action pays off for the dog or whether it doesn't, something will still be learned." (From *"How a Dog Learns"*, in the *Ultimate Puppy Toolkit*, by Urban Puppy Inc., published by Premier.)

This has profound implications for the effectiveness of our puppy training:

- If they receive a reward of any kind following a behavior, they will learn that is "good", and be more likely to repeat that behavior.
- If they do *not* receive a reward following a behavior, they are less likely to repeat that behavior.

Our job as trainers is to constantly be aware of our dog's behavior. *This is true not only during "training sessions"*. When we "catch our puppy doing something right (sitting quietly instead of jumping on us, paying attention, lying on the floor instead of the couch, avoiding a piece of dropped food, etc.), *and reward them*, we're going a long way toward shaping future behavior.

It's important that we also understand the implications for "unintended learning":

- If we leave a bag of dog food where the puppy can reach it, and he treats himself to a feast, he has "learned" (because he got a "reward": the food) that he can help himself to whatever he can reach.
- If we leave our shoes on the floor and he turns it into a chew toy, he has "learned" to seek out fun things wherever he can find them.

Our responsibility includes *preventing* opportunities to learn *undesirable* behavior, *in addition* to positive reinforcement of the things we want them to do.

## Dog Law Follow-Up

THANK YOU to everyone who took the time to contact their legislators and the Dept of Agriculture to comment on the proposed Dog Law.

For the moment those proposed changes have been scrapped. The whole matter has been referred back to the committee to draft a new, more equitable document.

We'll keep you informed about the next steps.

## If I didn't have animals...

- I could walk around the yard barefoot in safety.
- My house could be carpeted instead of tiled and laminated.
- All flat surfaces, clothing, furniture, and cars would be free of hair.
- When the doorbell rings, it wouldn't sound like a kennel.
- When the doorbell rings, I could get to the door without wading through fuzzy bodies who beat me there.
- I could sit on the couch and my bed the way I wanted, without taking into consideration how much space several fur bodies would need to get comfortable.
- I would not have strange presents under my Christmas tree -- dog bones, stuffed animals ,toys, treats nor would I have to explain to people why I wrap them.
- I would have money ....and no guilt to go on a real vacation.
- I would not be on a first-name basis with 6 veterinarians, as I put their yet unborn grand kids through college.

## Summer Training Classes begin June 9, 10 & 18

Included this semester are

- ◆ Loose Leash Walking
- ◆ CGC/TDI Preparation
- ◆ Agility — Introduction
- ◆ Rapid, Reliable recalls
- ◆ Puppy Sampler
- ◆ Rally Obedience — Introduction
- ◆ Puppy Kindergarten
- ◆ Manners Class
- ◆ Beginner Obedience

Classes are held [1] in W. Hanover Twp and [2] at the Susquehanna Twp Municipal Building.

For full Class Schedule, Class Descriptions and Registration Information go to

[www.redferncanines.com](http://www.redferncanines.com)

- I would not have to answer the question "Why do you have so many animals?" from people who will never have the joy in their lives of knowing they are loved unconditionally by someone as close to an angel as they will ever get .
- *How empty my life would be!*

## Training Tools Available

Redfern has high-quality training tools available, usually at prices below retail.

- ⇒ "Gentle Leader®" head halters
- ⇒ "Easy-Walk®" no-pull harnesses
- ⇒ Treat Pouches
- ⇒ Ultimate Puppy Toolkits®
- ⇒ Leather & Cotton Leads
- ⇒ Premier Collars
- ⇒ Busy Buddy®, Bouncy Bone™, Waggle™ & Tug-a-Jug™ toys

Items available at classes, or send an Email to [redfern@ioweb.com](mailto:redfern@ioweb.com) for more information.

## CGC/TDI Evaluations

July 1

August 5

September 16

October 6/7

By Pre-Registration only,  
additional info at

[www.redferncanines.com](http://www.redferncanines.com)

SAVE THIS DATE: **August 10-12** — **Keystone Cluster dog shows**, sponsored by Penn Ridge Kennel Club and Harrisburg Kennel Club. Air Conditioned. Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.