

Napa Valley Dog Training Club
Training Committee Meeting

Feb. 24, 2010

Corrected 6-21-10 by MBB

Meeting called to order by Teresa Russell at 6:40pm

Attending: Joy Wood, Jim Spiva, Marlene Soldavini, Lynda Rhyno, Katherine Rhyno, Kelly Finn, Sandy Bonifield, Deassa Binstock, Marilane Bergfelt, Mary Ash, & Linda Adamich.

Reminders:

- Instructors need to turn in end-of-session invoices.
- There needs to be an Attendance Roster for each class.
- Each Attendance Roster needs to include names of Assistants. (That is how office knows to create vouchers.)
- Instructors and assistants need to consider safety and liability issues when using the building with other members and/or current students outside of regular classes. This includes insuring that folks have signed our liability release form annually / before working their pets in the building, and that the *Training Committee* Chair is notified prior to an instructor using the building with a student for a one-on-one session.

Provisional Instructors / Assistants:

- Beth Schutz completed her provisional assistant run with Puppy, Session 1 / 2010 on Tuesday evening with Lea. Committee recommended Beth be made an assistant for Puppy & GM1. (Joy-Joy seconded it.) Recommendation will go to Board.
- Lynda Rhyno will start her provisional instructor's gig for Puppy and GM1, Session 2 / 2010 on Tuesday evening with Lea.
- Clarification: Puppy and GM1 are the only classes that require 'provisional' training for both instructors and assistants. All other classes require instructor's recommendation &/or the person has prior experience. *Training* Committee must recommend all assistants and instructors to the Board for final approval.

Standardized Fee Schedule:

Lynda Rhyno recently updated our club's class fee schedule, which was passed around for review. Changes include: Reduction for "3rd Dog Class" of \$25, "Reduce Week Session Fees" & "Increased Week Session Fees". (Thank you Lynda.)

Updating Registration Form:

The above topic lead to a conversation surrounding client's continued confusion regarding the fee reduction for "rescue dogs". Even though our sign notes a one-time-discount, people often pay the reduced fee for every class and it is only caught several weeks into the session has begun.

It was requested that our blue class registration form be revised to include more directions about 'rescue', 'senior' and 'junior' handlers. Teresa offered to look at the form to see if she can clarify fees.

Class Updates:

Agility: Advanced Agility will continue at 6:00pm. Jumpers 1 will move to 7:15pm. This second group will start very large, but may drop in attendance? Middle agility group has been disbanded – and clients have been contacted to see if they have other training options.

CGC: Day class currently has low sign-ups. Mar will evaluate GM classes and move clients around to make better use of time.

Puppy Day: No 11:00am puppy on Tuesday. Mary will offer an Intro to Rally class instead.

Session 3: Mar will be teaching a CGC class at 5:30pm on Fridays.
Teresa will teach GM1 & Puppy on Fridays.
Marilane will take GM1 at 7:00pm on Tuesdays.

Setting Classes: To be set at a later date.

Building:

Teresa gave an overview of the new process for reporting building problems. Gerry Glantz will create a sheet that will be kept in the NVDTTC office. Please write a note on the board if you see or experience a problem and call Gerry. Thanks.

NVDTTC Guidelines and Procedures:

Club website includes information on our current guidelines and procedures, however some information is missing. If you remember something that should be included, please leave a note in Teresa's box.

S.T.A.R. Socialization - Training – Activities – Responsibility

Designed by the AKC for young dogs ages 4 months through 1 year of age, this class is designed to include specific exercises and activities. To get a STAR certificate, dogs are evaluated on specific exercises/activities during/after each class meeting by a seasoned CGC evaluator.

After much discussion, it was agreed that our club would consider revamping our current classes to:

- Puppy Socialization Class For dogs ages 0 – 6 months
- STAR Class For dogs ages 6 – 12 months
- Good Manners For dogs ages 12 months and older

These changes might occur after:

- 1) Kelly reviews our current Puppy class outline to include more socialization and confidence building exercises into the weekly curriculum. Deassa offered some good insights to similar classes taught successfully by others.
- 2) Mary will look online to see if the AKC website has a weekly outline for the STAR program. If so, it will be reviewed for our club's use.

Additional comments:

- Young dogs could repeat the STAR class so long as they meet the age requirement. (This is the same for Puppy and Good Manner classes.)
- Current Good Manner 1 class might need to be revamped depending on the outcome of the classes for younger dogs.
- Significant scheduling changes may be needed to ensure all 3 classes are offered regularly.
- Staffing issues may arise (should it be decided that only CGC evaluators can teach the STAR class).
- Adolescent dog behavior often arises before or around 6 months of age. This may become a factor in the STAR classes, and should be addressed so that young dogs are not stressed or harmed.

Meeting was adjourned 8:00pm.

Submitted by,
Marilane Bergfelt
(Meeting Recorder to the Stars)