

Napa Valley Dog Training Club Training Committee Meeting

December 15, 2010

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

Attending: May Ash, Marilane Bergfelt, Deassa Binstock, Sandy Bonifield, Kelly Finn, Barry Gordon, Linda Luchsinger, Katherine Rhyno, Lynda Rhyno, Lea Ronald, Stephen Ward.

Approval of Instructors / Assistants:

Jim Spiva was a provisional instructor, under Linda Luchsinger, for GM1 on Tuesday nights in Session 6 of 2010. Overview of class was shared, including input from assistants and other instructors. Committee has recommend to the Board that Jim be approved as an instructor for Good Manners 1 in Session 2 of 2011 with the condition he co-teaches GM1 in Session 1 of 2011 with an instructor he has *not* assisted previously. In addition, it was agreed that having 2 instructors in one class would not affect the number of assistants provided to the class (thus allowing the instructors to work together rather than with clients).

Barry Gordon was a pre-provisional and provisional assistant in Session 5 & 6 of 2010. The committee has recommended to the Board that Barry be approved as an assistant for Good Manners 1 starting in 2011.

Lynda Rhyno has been helping with agility class as needed. The committee has recommended to the Board that Lynda be approved as an assistant for all levels of Agility starting in 2011.

Additional Discussion:

Many on the committee voiced a concern about the lack of formal guidance given to new assistants or instructors. Orientation and mentoring was mentioned, and all in attendance agreed that it would be helpful for everyone wishing to help teach / assist classes to get consistent information. No decision was reached and no one offered to work on this effort.

Review of Good Manners 1 Weekly Handouts:

A quick review of the current weekly handouts was discussed by the committee. It was agreed that Week 1 would still be Orientation with no dogs. Some discussion followed about how to give homework prior to the first night with dogs, but no decision was reached. It was agreed that instructors should continue to provide demos at Orientation.

Based on this quick review, the club's current handouts will be used for the new 6-week format. At a future time, the committee will revisit this issue to see how these pieces are working with the new, shorter format.

Review of Good Manners 2:

There are no weekly handouts for GM2, however there is a course outline of skills to be covered / proofed. Mary Ash requested that "Front and Finishes" be included so that folks interested in rally might be better prepared.

It should be noted that the Positive Interrupt should be proofed in GM2 (currently to be taught in GM1), per earlier committee meetings. No one offered to update the course outline(s) to include these revisions. (Laura Ecklin may have the computer files of these pieces.)

Update on Puppy Kinder:

Kelly and Deassa have continued to work on materials and information for the new Puppy Kinder class starting in 2011. They asked if others were interested in meeting and having a final discussion before new classes started – Lynda and Linda voiced an interest. These four, along with Marilane and Laura, will try to meet over the holidays to hash out ideas and concerns.

Marilane has been reworking the current puppy handouts for the new class format. At this time the materials have been made into one multipage handout that includes all skills and problem solving information. (This is the same information used in our current handouts but will be given at one time, beginning of the session.) There was some concern voiced about this new handout format, most notably that the club is moving too much information (forms, club rules, and class handouts) online.

It was agreed that the club rules, registration form (which has been updated per earlier meetings) and the owner's questionnaire be put online prior to the start of 2011 classes. Teresa agreed to communicate with Sue Osborn about this option.

Session 1 – 2011:

Committee reviewed and verified it as it appears with these notes. (*see attached*)

New Business:

- Set 2011 - Session 2 without noting specific instructors (*see attached*)
- 2011 Trainer's contracts were not available.
- New broad jump is being considered by Board.

Next meeting TBA.

Meeting was adjourned 8:20pm.

Submitted by,

Marilane Bergfelt

(*Meeting Recorder to the Stars*)

Agenda Items Not Discussed and held over from August 2010 meeting:

- Need to focus on money making ideas to keep club sound financially.
- Ideas to cut expenses or increase revenue.
- Ideas to enhance GM2, CGC and Advanced Obedience to build more interest and more fees in these classes.
- Targeting dog rescue groups to offer mini-tutorials, vouchers, demos, obedience workshops, volunteer at "rescue reunions".
- Advertising - What works? Can we do something to improve visibility of club.
- Use and distribution of vouchers – limit? Sacred cow? Significant or insignificant impact on bottom line?

Update to Items from the December Meeting:

- Kelly Finn and Sue Osborn were able to put the club rules, registration form and the owner's questionnaire onto the club website. As of 12-28-10 the forms were shown and easy to access / print for client's use.
- Kelly, Deassa, Lynda and Linda met to discuss the activities / weekly outline of Puppy Kinder.
- A "Wish List" for socialization materials was included in the club's December newsletter. While these items are focused on the puppy classes, materials will be available for use in all classes at instructor's discretion. It is hoped, as time progresses and materials are donated, that items can be organized / stored for easy access and longevity.

Session 1 January 3 through February 11, 2011
(6-week format)

Monday (1-3 to 2-7):

5:00pm	Good Manners 2	Sandy	<i>(All Mondays)</i>
6:00pm	Conformation	Michelle	<i>1st & 3rd Mondays only</i>
7:00pm	Advanced Agility	Katherine	<i>1st & 3rd Mondays only</i>

Tuesday (1-4 to 2-8):

5:00pm	Good Manners 1	Lea	
6:00pm	Puppy Kinder	Kelly	(with Deassa & Marilane)
7:00pm	STAR Puppy	Kelly	
8:00pm	Good Manners 1	Teresa	

Wednesday (1-5 to 2-9):

9:00am	Novice / Canine Good Citizen	Marlene	
10:00am	Good Manners 1	Marlene	
11:00am	Good Manners 2	Marlene	
6:00pm	Intermediate Agility	Katherine	
7:00pm	Jumpers 1	Laura	

Thursday (1-6 to 2-10):

10:00am . . . 7pm	Rally classes	Mary	
-------------------	---------------	------	--

Friday (1-7 to 2-11):

5:00pm	Competition Obedience	Teresa	
6:00pm	Puppy Kinder	Marilane	(with Lynda R.)
7:00pm	Good Manners 1	Lynda R.	

Session 2 February 21 through April 1, 2011
(6-week format)

Monday (2-21 to 3-28):

5:00pm	Good Manners 2	Sandy	<i>(All Mondays)</i>
6:00pm	Conformation	Michelle	<i>1st & 3rd Mondays only</i>
7:00pm	Advanced Agility	Katherine	<i>1st & 3rd Mondays only</i>

Tuesday (2-22 to 3-29):

5:00pm	Good Manners 1	TBA
6:00pm	STAR Puppy	TBA
7:00pm	Puppy Kinder	TBA
8:00pm	Good Manners 1	TBA

Wednesday (2-23 to 3-30):

9:00am	Novice / Canine Good Citizen	Marlene
10:00am	Good Manners 1	Marlene
11:00am	Good Manners 2	Marlene
6:00pm	Intermediate Agility	Katherine
7:00pm	Jumpers 1	Laura

Thursday (2-24 to 3-31):

10:00am . . . 7pm	Rally classes	Mary
-------------------	---------------	------

Friday (2-25 to 4-1):

5:00pm	Competition Obedience	Teresa
6:00pm	Puppy Kinder	TBA
7:00pm	Good Manners 1	TBA