

Dogs feel very strongly that they always go with you in the car, in case the need should arise to bark violently at nothing right in your ear - Dave Barry

Hi Everybody!

Our TDAA trial of April 19 & 20 went great! With the day of show entries, the amount of runs doubled from pre-entries! It was Easter weekend, but the weather was beautiful and we had many dogs new to TDAA that did awesome! I even ran out of blue ribbons! Lisa now gives me the counts of winnings, so next time I will be prepared <LOL> TDAA is becoming very popular! Dog Training Club of Tampa will be holding their trial on June 6 & 7, indoor, air conditioned. The premium is at their website: www.dtct.org.

This is our last trial of the season until November. In November, we will start by holding back to back NADAC trials, one sponsored by the Tampa Bay Boxer Club, and ours on the Thanksgiving weekend.

Weaving Class

I will be starting a new class after the Basic Agility class graduates. This will be a 4 week Weaving Proficiency Class that will take the dogs from the open channels to the fully straight weaves. By the end of this class, the dogs will be negotiating the straight weaves pretty well. The class will be for a full hour, 7 to 8PM on Mondays. If this class works as well as I expect, it will be a requirement before the dogs move on to the Intermediate level.

The requirements for this class will be that the dogs must have taken the Basic Agility Class, and yes, they can come in even if they are already in Intermediate (and are having problems with the weaves). They must also have their growth plates closed (8mo, for small dogs, and 14 mo. for large dogs).

The price of this class will be \$65 for 4 weeks. Class limited to 10 dogs. We have several dogs pre-enrolled, please let me know if you want to join this class.

New Classes Starting:

Basic Obedience: Thursday, May 1 at 7PM

Super Puppy: Monday, May 19 at 6PM

Weaving Proficiency: Monday, May 12 at 7PM

Doggie Summer Fun Weekend

On Saturday, May 31, from 9AM to 12NOON, we will be having run-thrus. This will be a fund raiser for our DACOF (Dog Agility Competition of Florida) teams. In the front ring, we will set up a FAST course, and in the advanced ring, we will set up a Standard course. These event will be open to the public. The prices will be: Price: \$5 for the first run each dog (3 min.), \$2 second run, \$10

unlimited runs in both fields!

Big Raffle!

Also as a fund raiser for our teams, we will be running a raffle with big items such as a Botox Treatment and Consultation from Plastic Surgeon Dr. Jackie Royce (worth \$350), a set of three agility jumps from Mary Quinn, A set of my 4 Wolf prints (www.coolcritters.com/wolf.htm) and many other great items. I will photograph and post these items on the bulletin board page in my website. Tickets will be \$1 each, 6 for 5\$, 12 for \$10, and 25 for \$20. I will have them available starting next week. The drawing will be Sunday June 1. You do not need to be present to win!

I will be advertising this raffle on Facebook as well!

From Dogonne Holistic:

They are celebrating their 6 Year Anniversary with a big sale!
You are invited to join them Saturday, May 10th from 10AM-6PM for a Full Day of Great Savings!

Save 10% on ALL Dog and Cat Foods

Save 15% on Everything Else

From Kim Albright

Bloomingtondale Feed, the store behind the school, has a new owner. Kim, who used to work the store bought the place and has given it a whole new look! It is fully stocked with all natural foods, and she now carries all the training equipment that I recommend for my students!

From Healthy Pets.com for Those of us Who Swim our Dogs a Lot

By Dr. Becker

Responsible dog owners understand the importance of making sure their canine companion always has fresh, clean water to drink. But what a surprising number of pet owners don't realize is that it's actually possible for a dog to ingest *too much* water.

Water intoxication, which results in life threatening hyponatremia (excessively low sodium levels), is a relatively rare but frequently fatal condition in dogs. At highest risk are dogs that enjoying playing in the water for long stretches. But believe it or not, even a lawn sprinkler or hose can pose a hazard for pets that love to snap at or "catch" spraying water.

What Happens When a Dog Ingests Too Much Water

Hyponatremia occurs when more water enters the body than it can process. The presence of so much water dilutes bodily fluids, creating a potentially dangerous shift in electrolyte balance. The excess water depletes

sodium levels in extracellular fluid (fluid outside of cells). Sodium maintains blood pressure and nerve and muscle function.

When the sodium concentration in extracellular fluid drops, the cells start filling with water as the body attempts to balance the sodium levels inside the cells with falling levels outside the cells. This inflow of water causes the cells – including those in the brain – to swell. The central nervous system can also be affected.

Symptoms of water intoxication include staggering/loss of coordination, lethargy, nausea, bloating, vomiting, dilated pupils, glazed eyes, light gum color, and excessive salivation. In severe cases, there can also be difficulty breathing, collapse, loss of consciousness, seizures, coma, and death.

Dogs Most at Risk for Water Intoxication

Any dog can develop hyponatremia, however, the condition is most commonly seen in dogs who will stay in the lake, pond or pool all day if you let them; pets that lap or bite at the water continuously while playing in it; and dogs that swallow water unintentionally as they dive for a ball or other toy.

The condition has also been reported in dogs that over-hydrate during or after exercise, as well as those that enjoy playing with water from a garden hose or sprinklers.

Water intoxication can affect any size or breed of dog, but smaller dogs probably show symptoms more quickly because it takes less time for an excessive amount of water to build up in their bodies.

Water intoxication progresses quickly and can be life threatening, so if your pet has been playing in water and begins to exhibit any of the symptoms listed above, it's crucial that you seek immediate veterinary care to save your dog's life.

Treatment of hyponatremia in dogs typically includes IV delivery of electrolytes, diuretics, and drugs to reduce brain swelling. With aggressive veterinary care, some dogs are able to recover from water intoxication, but sadly, many are not.

Preventing Water Intoxication in Your Dog

If your dog loves the water, make sure you're there to supervise his activity. If your pet is repetitively retrieving a ball or other toy from the water, insist on frequent rest breaks. Be especially vigilant on days when the water is rough.

Observe how your dog interacts with the water. If her mouth is open a lot – even if she's holding a ball or stick in it -- understand that she's likely ingesting a fair amount of water. The same can be true of dogs that dive to the bottom of a pool to retrieve items.

Familiarize yourself with the symptoms of water intoxication and monitor your dog's appearance and behavior when she's playing in water. After a period of hard play or exercise, use caution when your dog rehydrates. If he immediately laps up the contents of his water bowl, rest

him for a bit before you refill his bowl. If your dog is very active, it's a good idea to have water with you when he exercises so that you can give him frequent short water breaks to keep him hydrated.

If your dog enjoys interacting with water from the hose or sprinkler, you should monitor that activity as well. Water from a hose or sprinkler is under pressure, and you'd be surprised how much a dog can ingest in a short amount of time.

A Word About Salt Water Toxicity

Excessive intake of salt water can result in hypernatremia, or salt poisoning, which is the opposite of hyponatremia. Initial signs of hypernatremia include vomiting and diarrhea, but the condition can quickly progress to neurologic symptoms like loss of coordination, seizures, progressive depression, and severe brain swelling. Hypernatremia, like hyponatremia, is potentially life threatening, and immediate veterinary care is needed.

If you take your dog to the beach, bring along fresh drinking water and offer it to him at frequent intervals so he won't be tempted to drink ocean water.

As an interesting addition, I had a complete physical and labwork a few weeks ago. Results showed that I was very low in sodium. I asked my doctor how a person can be low in sodium, and his answer was...I drink too much water! *Really???*

From Lisa Schmeling

Lisa posted a link on Facebook about dealing with bullies. This was originally an answer from Wil Wheaton to a kid's question. Most children have had to deal with bullying at some time in their lives. Many times it's very difficult for kids to maintain their self esteem when it's under attack, but bullying can go on even for us adults, and Wil's words of wisdom are applicable even for us:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04WJEEb33CY&sns=fb>

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Agility:

Edmar Amaral & Chica (All-American)

Terri Anaya & Levi (Blue Heeler)

Carole Stanton & Kirby (Mini Aussie)

Basic Obedience:

Freddie Ray & Violet (Yorkie)
Charlie Ray & Ginger (Cockapoo)
Haley Patrick & Boomer (Lab mix)
Virginia Noonan & Sully (Pointer mix)

Basic Agility:

Bobby Nadal & Bob (All American)
Kristy Loman Chiodo & Gypsy (Papillon)
Juli Shinozuka & Kira (Rat Terrier)
Shelby Beasley & Pailey (Mini Aussie)

Class Schedule:

Monday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (Next class starting May 19, 2014)
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Weaving Proficiency (Class starting May 12, 2014)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Intermediate Agility

Tuesday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility
10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility
6:00 to 7:00 PM - Distance work class
7:00 PM Masters / Excellent Level Agility

Wednesday:

11:00 to 12:00 AM - Basic Obedience
6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy class
7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate Agility
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting May 1, 2014)
8:00 to 9:00 PM - Rally Obedience

Friday:

9:00 to 10:00 AM - Advanced Agility
10:00 to 11:00 AM - Intermediate Agility

...and now, time for a paws...

Ileana

