

"Things that upset a terrier may pass virtually unnoticed by a Great Dane" --- Smiley Blanton

Hi Everybody!

March was the last month of trial season at Cool Critters. The NADAC trial was a lot of fun, in spite of rain on Saturday. Those double runs are great! The TDAA trial was Easter weekend, so the entry was down, but we had fun anyway!

Our trial schedule for the next season will be:
November 5 & 6, 2016 --- Tampa Bay Boxer Club NADAC trial
November 26 & 27, 2016 --- Cool Critters Thanksgiving trial
January 7 & 8, 2017 --- NADAC Games trial
January 14 & 15, 2017 --- TDAA Winter trial
February 4 & 5, 2017 --- NADAC trial
March 4 & 5, 2017 --- NADAC trial
March 18 & 19, 2017 --- Spring TDAA trial

It's going to be a busy year!

No Classes

There will be no morning Agility classes Friday, April 29

AVSAB

This is from behaviorist Scott Shwartz, Dash's Dad, the recommendations of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior on Puppy socialization:

"The primary and most important time for puppy socialization is the first three months of life. During this time, puppies should be exposed to as many people, animals, stimuli and environments as can be achieved safely and without causing over stimulation manifested as excessive fear, withdrawal, or avoidance behavior. For this reason, the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior believes that it should be the standard of care for puppies to receive such socialization before they are fully vaccinated.

Because the first three months are the period when sociability outweighs fear, this is the primary window of opportunity for puppies to adapt to new people, animals, and experiences. Incomplete or improper socialization during this important time can increase the risk of behavioral problems later in life including fear, avoidance, and/or

aggression. Behavioral problems are the greatest threat to the owner-dog bond. In fact, behavioral problems are the number one cause of relinquishment to shelters. Behavioral issues, not infectious diseases, are the number one cause of death for dogs under three years of age.

While puppies' immune systems are still developing during these early months, the combination of maternal immunity, primary vaccination, and appropriate care makes the risk of infection relatively small compared to the chance of death from a behavioral problem.

Veterinarians specializing in behavior recommend that owners take advantage of every safe opportunity to expose young puppies to the great variety of stimuli that they will experience in their lives. Enrolling in puppy classes prior to three months of age can be an excellent means of improving training, strengthening the human-animal bond, and socializing puppies in an environment where the risk of illness can be minimized."

The AVSAB claims that in general, puppies can start puppy socialization classes as early as 7-8 weeks of age. Puppies should receive a minimum of one set of vaccines at least 7 days prior to the first class and a first deworming. They should be kept up-to-date on vaccines throughout the class. I recommend with all my puppy people to consult with their veterinarians as to their preference for puppy vaccine regimens.

Class Schedule

Monday:

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (**Next class starting May 2**)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Agility (**Next class starting in May 16**)

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

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Distance Class

Wednesday:

10:30 AM - Advanced Rally

6:00 to 7:00 PM - Super Puppy (New class starting June 1, 2016)

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Intermediate / Advanced Agility

Thursday:

7:00 to 8:00 PM - Basic Obedience (Next class starting May 26, 2016)

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

Congratulations to Our Latest Graduates!

Basic Agility:

Nadine Pohowsky and Reba (Aussie)

Donna Butler and Raisin (Boxer)

Jackie Royce and BaBa (Boxer)

Jennifer Tomlinson & Janga (Border Collie)

Shane Raymond & Murphy (Catahoula Mix)

Basic Obedience:

Elaine Trautman & Charlie (Maltese)

Sandra Stevens & Mai Tai (Pomeranian)

Becky McAneny & Luke (Husky Mix)

Tiffany Kitchin & Shelby (Boxer)

Giovanna Bravo & Ozzie (Aussie)

Ron & Mona Dixon with Conan (Rottweiler)

Lindi Hemmingway & Marshall (Labradoodle)

Eliana Green & Ginger (Aussiedoodle)

Marah Ridgeway & Stark (Pitt Mix)

Dave & Dyana Rochelle with Donut (Boxer)

Gary Tipton & Abbey (Bulldog)

Lisa Tipton & Ginger (Goldendoodle)

Janet Swilley & Bodie (Standard Poodle)

Super Star Puppy

Fred Barnett & Susie (Min Pin)

Sandra Le Fevre & Joy (Chesapeake Bay Retriever)

Paul Burke & Raylan (Rhodesian Ridgeback)

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

Ileana