

Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club



October 2004 NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter help

Thanks very much to those who sent me stuff for the newsletter. Keep it coming!!!!!!

The end of the grounds are to be sectioned off during puppy class – 6 – 6.30 pm. This area is going to be available for people to train their dogs.

There will be a couple of rules. Firstly this area is for training. You will not be able to exercise or toilet your dog during this time. The other rule is that if you want to use this area you must put up and either put away after you have finished or organise with other people using the area to put it away. The barrier is simple to put up and should only take you a couple of minutes.

Committee Stuff

Ways of increasing instructors and membership

If you are interested in instructing please ring Mandy Starling on 564 9003 or contact one of the current instructors.

Our instructors are all volunteers and offer their time and knowledge term after term. In order to keep the classes as small as possible we need more instructors. The more instructors we have means that instructors that have been taken class after class can have a break before they burn out completely which often happens.

Life Members Board

Keep your eye on this space. There are going to be some important advances on this notice board. We are having some problems with the original intention of the board but are making a small amount of progress on this.

Canine Good Citizen Award

A working group has been set up to start this running in the next term. The CGCA will be available to people who have completed Basic 1 & 2. We are all looking forward to this and it will be good to see how it goes. The CGCA will replace the current grade 3/4 classes.

Club maintenance

We have compiled a list of things that need to be done around the club. If you feel anything else needs to be looked at please put a note on the blackboard inside the club – NOW.

Graduation and Enrolment

This is our current calendar of how graduation and enrolment should be running. Hopefully we will have no more cancelled classes and not need to reschedule any dates:

5th October: Enrolment from 6.30 – 7.30 (for those not pre-enrolled at graduation)

(Instructors Meeting 7.30)

12th October: First class night of Term 4

21st November (Sunday): End of year party

30th November: Last class night of Term 4

7th December: Graduation

11 December: Committee/Instructors Dinner

Senior Training

This term we will be running senior training. This is for people that are currently competing at Test A or higher at Championship Tests (Test A, B or C). Unfortunately we haven't been able to get an instructor to take classes every week but we have managed to organise training every second week. The class will commence at 7.30 on the following dates.

19 October – Jenny Rutherford
2 November – Sandra Gow
16 November – Barry Monaghan
30 November - TBC

Christmas Party – End of year Party

Christmas is now getting closer. Accordingly all members and people attending classes at Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club are invited (along with their dogs and/or family) to attend a fun day and BBQ. We will be organising games (with prizes) for you and your dogs.

Date: Sunday 21 November - Venue: Club Grounds - Ngatitoo Domain
Start time: 11 am

Please bring a plate (salad or desert).

I will keep you updated and reminded in future newsletters. Please keep this date free.

We are also organising a Committee/Instructors dinner – without dogs. This is to be held on **11 December**. Further details regarding both these events will be in the November Newsletter.

How many Dogs does it take to change a light bulb?

Border Collie: Just one. Then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.

Rottweiler: Make me!

Labrador: Oh, me, me! Pleeese let me change the light bulb! Can I? Huh? Huh?

Dachshund: You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!

Malamute: Let the Border Collie do it. You can feed me while he's busy.

Newfoundland: Is it drool-proof? I'll do it as soon as I've finished playing in my water bowl.

Jack Russell Terrier: I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls.

Greyhound: It isn't moving. Who cares?

Cocker Spaniel: Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.

Mastiff: Do it yourself! I'm not afraid of the dark ...

Doberman: While it's out, I'll just take a nap on the couch.

Boxer: Who needs light? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.

Pointer: I see it, there it is, there it is, right there!

Chihuahua: Yo quiero Taco Bulb?

Australian Shepherd: First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle...

Poodle: I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.

Golden Retriever: The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned-out bulb?

Old English Sheep dog: Light bulb? That thing I just ate was a light bulb?

Basset Hound: Zzzzzzzzzzzzzzz ...

Competition

Do you have any photos of your puppy? We are running a competition (winner to be announced at the Christmas party on 21 November).

Have you got any puppy photos of your dog? We are running a puppy photo contest – Cutest puppy, funniest puppy, silliest puppy, soulful puppy etc.

Simply stick a photo of your puppy on the board inside the clubrooms marked "Puppy Photo Contest". Please make sure you put your name and contact details and the puppies name on the back of the photo so we know who to give the prizes to.

Please note: Your dog does not still need to be a puppy. All photos will be returned.

Some good practical advice on Dogs and Children

Plunket issues guide to keep children safe from dog attacks 15 April 2003

Teaching children how to behave around dogs could save them from being attacked by the animals, Plunket says.

Proposed new laws announced yesterday will require all dogs to be microchipped so they can be identified. Local councils will be able to require any dog of "a temperament or type that could be dangerous" to be muzzled.

Recent media attention given to vicious attacks on children should be used to make people aware of ways to stop dog attacks rather than foster a sense of fear, Plunket national safety adviser Sue Campbell said today.

"It would be a shame if children were denied the benefits of pet ownership – the joy, the companionship, and a growing sense of responsibility – because of fear and lack of information," she said.

Some children who did not know how to behave with new dogs naturally squealed and rushed towards them, which could trigger the wrong instinct from the dog, animal management specialist Barry Gillingwater said.

"Fear, pain or confusion can all cause a dog to react to protect itself – some by barking or running, some by biting," Mr Gillingwater said.

Plunket issued a list of practices today it suggested could prevent dog attacks, if followed alongside responsible dog ownership and parental supervision of children:

- **If approached by a dog, children should stand still and straight with arms close to their chests and fists under their chins.**
- **Children should not scream, stare a dog in the eyes or run. Dogs may see children running away as "prey to be chased" and could take staring as a challenge to fight.**
- **Children should turn slowly and keep the dog in view in front of them until it gets bored and leaves them. Most bites come from behind.**
- **They should not playfight with other children around a family dog. It may encourage a dog to protect its "family".**
- **Carers should supervise children when a dog is around.**
- **Children should never approach dogs that are tied up or in a vehicle. If it cannot escape, a dog may react from fear.**
- **Children should not pat dogs near the face, neck or top of the head.**

Mr Gillingwater said most dog attacks happened in homes and familiar places, so pet dogs should be chosen with care.

Parents should choose breeds known to have good temperaments and avoid adult dogs with anti-social traits.

Some New Arrivals



Finally on 23 October my new puppy arrived. Introducing "Visa". Visa is a Bearded Collie puppy. She will be grey when she gets older. We will be looking forward to joining in on puppy class later this term.

Also a big welcome Angela Denton's new puppies. On Saturday 25 September Chilli had three red boxer puppies - two girls and a boy. Congratulations Chilli and Angela.

RESULTS

Please note Titahi Bay have a custom of winners shout night. That is those who have won bring along a plate and we all get to celebrate their achievement.

Results from the Horowhenua Championship show in Levin on 18 & 19 September:

Saturday 18 September

Robin Fraser & Keri – 1st in Test A

Claudia Nottingham & Montana – 4th in Test B

Sunday 19 September

Claudia Nottingham & Montana – 4th in Test B

Angelique Aamodt & Kadin – 2nd in Test C (and their first challenge – well done)

Good luck to Robin Fraser, Jenny Rutherford and Angelique Aamodt who are competing at the National Dog Training Assembly (NDTA) in Timaru over labour weekend. Angelique and Kadin are representing Zone 3 in the teams competition for Test C so we all wish them the best of luck.