

in this issue >>>

- *Tips for walking Downtown*
- *Halloween Safety*
- *Staff Updates*
- *Benji the Shiba Inu*
- *Group classes and playgroups*

Chesapeake Dog Training

Connecting People and Dogs Through Training

October 2018



>>> Upcoming Events

- Oct 10 – Agility Group Class
5:30pm-6:30pm @ CDT facility
- Oct 16 – Basic Obedience Group Class
5:30pm-6:30pm @ CDT facility
- Oct 20 – SPCA Vaccine Clinic
9am-11am @ AAC SPCA
- Oct 21 – Basic Obedience Group Class
3pm-4pm @ CDT facility
- Oct 20 – Agility Group Class
10am-11am @ CDT facility
- Oct 28 – Pack Walk @ Quiet Waters
(Text Linda for details)
- Oct 28 – Howl-O-Ween Barkn' Bash
11am-3pm @ Quiet Waters
(hosted by the SPCA)



5 Tips for Walking Downtown

The weather is cooling off and its perfect weather to grab a pumpkin coffee and enjoy the weather with your pup. But walking Downtown isn't always easy with all the distractions. Here are some tips for the hustle and bustle of downtown walking:

1. Heel – Structured short leash walking. Heel is a great way to keep your dog from pulling, rather controlled at your side. Dogs recognize heel as a focused exercise with their leader. Use grassy areas as a planned 'pit stop' for potty and sniffing and then resume heel when on the sidewalk/street

2. Sit – Stop and sit at street corners and intersections before crossing. It never hurts to slow the pace of things and look both ways for safety. If you run into any distractions or need to make any stops, put your dog in sit. Keep focus and control by having your dog maintain another behavior until your walk resumes.

4. Be Aware of Your Surroundings - Especially when it comes to other people and dogs. Be proactive in giving your dog information on what to do as you approach situations. Always have a plan for what to do if your dog becomes reactive or another dog does. Use parked cars as a visual barrier, use an alley to move to a quieter street, or simple stop and sit off to the side if needed.



5. Don't Be a Social Butterfly – This walk is about you and your dog. Do not feel like you have to let people pet your dog or talk to you. Don't feel obligated to let your dog say hi to other dogs/ people. Keep walks and play/social time separate. Stay focused and socialize when the time is right.

3. Use the Proper Equipment – Use the walking equipment recommended by your trainer (likely a prong collar and 6 foot leash). No flexi-leashes! Be prepared with your normal supplies: poop bags, treats etc. It's always smart to carry *Pet Corrector*, especially if you have a reactive dog.

Seasonal Tips and Tidbits >>>

Halloween Safety

Halloween can be a scary time for some Dogs... Literally! Here are a few things to keep in mind this Halloween:

Costumes

While you may have a dog that isn't particularly fearful or reactive, keep in mind that your dog may react negatively to the extra stimulus Trick-Or-Treaters offer. Dogs often perceive things we overlook or that appear normal to us. While your dog isn't exactly afraid of princesses, werewolves, or unicorns; the flashing light on Elsa's wand, the larger than life mask with foreboding shadows, or the grumble of a zombie may insight serious fear in your dog. Dogs have no idea that the events of Halloween are actually fun and planned by humans!

If you know your dog to be reactive to people coming to the door or certain stimulus, we recommend you crate or tether them away from the front door. Even if your dog is friendly, not everyone wants a wet kiss or a dog jumping on their children. This is a great opportunity to utilize the "place" behavior.



Candy

Be mindful to not leave all the tempting treats of the season in locations that dogs can steal them. Their sniffer will certainly lead them to the goodies and if ingested, candy can make them very ill. Chocolate, raisins, and high sugar concentrations are particularly toxic for dogs. Plastic wrappers can cause blockages and choking hazards. If your dog has ingested any of these items call your vet or ASPCA's poison control hotline (888) 426-4434



Bethany is available for private training, as well as helping with play groups, group classes and will also be assisting with the administrative side of CDT. She can be reached at bethany@chesapeakeogtraining.net

Company News >>>

Welcome Bethany!

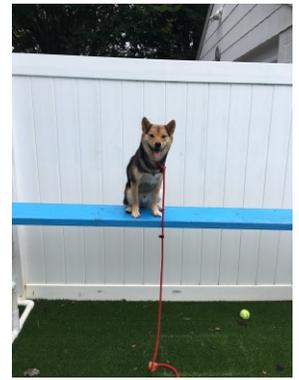
CDT is pleased to welcome Bethany Cornwell (*back!*) to our training team. Bethany has returned to CDT after working with us part time back in 2012. Bethany left to focus on her full-time job at The Maryland Zoo.

Bethany has over 10 years of professional animal training experience and actually met Linda Stallings while they worked together at the Zoo. Bethany has always loved animals and had a natural connection to them, but never truly recognized it and considered making a career out of working with animals until she traveled to Africa. After a trip to Namibia to volunteer with cheetahs, she had an epiphany that she was meant to work with animals.

Bethany has a natural ability to read and interpret animal behavior that has landed her opportunities to work with a variety of species and participate in advanced training programs. More importantly, Bethany loves to talk about training and share her knowledge of training concepts and behavior. Bethany has cared for and trained a variety of animals including birds, big cats, and elephants. Her advanced training with elephants opened her eyes to a new level of communication with another species. Elephants single handily changed her life and taught her more about herself and inspired personal growth more than any other experience. Training elephants taught her the importance of building a trusting relationship through consistency, precision, and clear communication. She has the utmost respect for animals and their intelligence and believes in the importance of honoring that. Her diverse background provides a unique perspective to dog training that is a comprehensive insight into to the dog psyche paired with training technique. Bethany's teaching style is passionate and creative, yet technical and academic. She easily adjusts to working with anyone and any type of dog. Bethany's training skills and experience paired with her love of education and teaching are the perfect match for CDT's theme of "Connecting People and Dogs Through Communication."

We are so excited that she has chosen to pursue dogs as her new species to master!

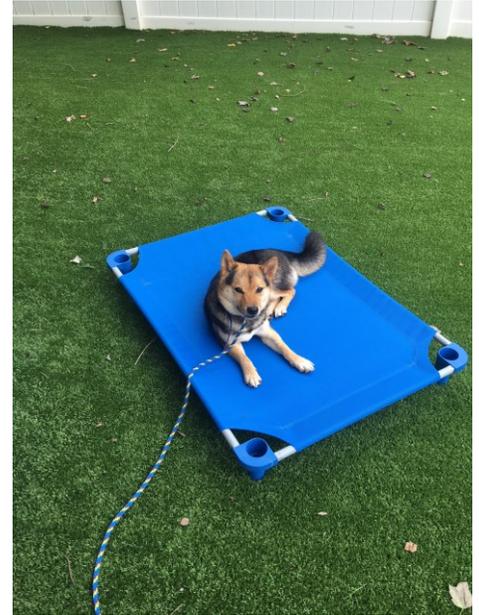
Benji the Shiba Inu learns how to calm down...



We would like to celebrate the accomplishments of one of our Board & Trains' Benji. Benji's owner contacted CDT for help when his 10-month-old Shiba Inu was destroying his house and barking when left alone. His owner had tried to crate train Benji, however he quickly found him to be extremely destructive to himself and experience an abnormal amount of anxiety when confined.



Benji was constantly on overdrive and struggled to settle both physically and mentally. We plugged away at basic obedience and used tools like our agility equipment to expose him to new situations. This allowed for us to work him through situations that initially caused him some short-term stress, but he could be successful at. Big picture, Benji eventually began to calm down. The training provided structure to his life with clear and consistent communication. We focused heavily on the 'Place' behavior so we could teach him how to relax and calm himself down. Benji required much more repetition than most dogs in order to learn behaviors. Another unique obstacle about Benji was his response to pressure. He would mentally 'shut down' if pushed too hard to learn a new behavior. It required a delicate dance of pressure and release to slowly inch his progress forward. But we knew we were on the right path because every day Benji showed up with less anxiety and his owner would report that they were seeing noticeable improvements at home. We are happy to report with a gradual introduction



Benji was signed up for our Board and Train Program and we all agreed that immersing him in a new environment where crating could be trained from the ground up and be part of his daily routine would help break his anxiety with the crate. CDT staff quickly identified that Benji's anxiety was far greater than expected and had to adjust the approach. It was decided Benji should remain at home in the evenings, but still come to CDT daily for the training part of his B & T. This proved successful, as we were able to determine that the biggest obstacle to overcome was not necessarily the crate, but his state of mind.

of a crate after learning "Place", that he is consistently crating without issue and overall responding better for his owner. Benji still has a long way to go in his training, especially in training separation. He continues to struggle with being left alone, but we are confident as we continue to work with him and his owner, that Benji will continue to find a more balanced, thus happy life.

Crate Training 101

Crate training has many more benefits than just potty training and puppies!

Crate training is an imperative part of owning a dog and highly recommended for dogs of all ages and sizes.

It can be used in daily routines to/for: Create structure and boundaries, car rides, visiting family/friends houses, curbing unwanted behaviors, comfort, security & safety, reinforcing leadership, boarding, training separation, etc. etc. etc. 😊

Pet Corrector

Pet Corrector is compressed air that emits a harmless hissing sound. It can be used to interrupt bad or unwanted behavior, or even be used to interrupt possible aggression. This is a great training tool to have on hand for walks, the dog park, barking, jumping, chasing, counter-surfing etc. *Pet Corrector* can be found on Amazon or Chewy.com for the best prices. There are approximately 50 uses per can.

Be advised: There is no guarantee this will stop aggression and could even escalate a dangerous situation depending on how the dogs react to stimulus.



final thoughts...

We are excited to have group classes and playgroups back up and running for the Fall season. Sign up for classes under 'Group Training' in the PetExec Portal.



Playgroups/Socialization (\$24 ea.)

9am – 11am @ CDT

Large Dog Playgroup

- Mondays and Thursdays

Small Dog Playgroup

- Tuesdays

Group Classes (\$35 ea.)

(See CDT calendar for dates/times)

Basic Obedience

Agility

Canine Good Citizen (tbd)

Please note:

Classes and playgroups are weather dependent and subject to cancellation up to 1hr before the scheduled time. If you are signed up for a playgroup or class you will receive an email if there are any changes.

Holidays and other circumstances may impact the regular playgroup schedule.

Thoughts? >>>

We want to hear from you!

Please let us know if there is a group class or time that we currently do not offer that you would be interested in.



photo out-takes >>>

Barney and Billy don't see size as an obstacle! Friends comes in all shapes and sizes!



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