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Connecting People and Dogs Through Training

# November 2018



#### >>> Upcoming Events

**Nov 10 - Puppy Basic Obedience** and Socialization Group Class

4:30pm @ CDT Facility

Nov 11 - Agility Group Class

10am @ CDT Facility

Nov 15 - Lights & Leashes, (SPCA fundraiser) Enjoy 'Lights on The Bay' as a dog walk! 5pm-10pm @ Sandy Point State Park

Nov 16 – Basic Obedience Group Class 4:30m @ CDT Facility

Nov 25 - Pack Walk @ Quiet Waters (Text Linda if interested)



### CDT's "go-to" Dog Friendly Businesses

If you are looking for some places to grab a bite to eat or run errands and want your pup to join you, check out some of CDT's "go-to's" that we use for our Board & Train dogs to expose them to new stimulus and distractions.

Home Depot – Who doesn't always need SOMETHING from Home Depot? HD happily welcomes pups for your indoor/outdoor shopping and is a great way to expose your dog to the world of stores and all that comes with it. Be Prepared for staff to stop you to pet your dog and chat it up ③

#### **Homestead Gardens**

This is another great indoor/outdoor shopping experience for you and your dog, especially this time of year with Holiday decorating and shopping. Be careful in the aisles, as there are more breakable items and displays!



Federal House - Located in Downtown Annapolis, this is not only a fantastic restaurant with an extensive beer list and some of the best crab cakes; their prime location in Market Space offers a great outdoor dining experience for you and your dog. Dogs are more than welcome, as their place settings include a water bowl and they offer doggie food menu courteously of Paws Pet Boutique!

**Grumps Café** – A nearby favorite of CDT. Grumps is a good alternative to the much busier restaurants downtown and is a good place to start working on having a peaceful outside dining experience with your pup.

**PetSmart/Petco** Pet stores are often the most common place you think of bringing your dog, but can be the most challenging. It can be a lot of fun to let dogs pick out a new toy and surround them with all things pet! However, owners should also be careful and prepared to control their dog while working through all the distractions that come with other animals (not just dogs!) and the associated sights, smells, and sounds.

#### Seasonal Tips and Tidbits >>>

## "Pup-Kin" Thanksgiving Day Treats

#### "Pumpkin Bakes" from Stewarts

- <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 1 can 100% pure pumpkin puree
- 1 ½ cups whole wheat flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 tablespoon honey
- Optional: 1 ripe banana
  - Preheat oven to 350°. Mix pumpkin and honey (and banana if using). Mix flour and baking powder and add to pumpkin mixture – dough should be dry. If it is too moist, add more flour. Roll dough and cut into desired shape. Place on parchment-covered baking sheet and bake 10-12 minutes. Cool and store.





Company News >>>

## Meet Josie!



many years because they have focused so much time and energy on taking care of other dogs! The Stallings girls have grown up helping to care for other family's dogs while they boarded and have always been tough and understanding for every farewell when the dogs left to go home... This Fall, both girls are officially full-time schoolers and have shown they are ready for the responsibility of their own dog. A local rescue, 'Lucky Dog Animal Rescue' approved the family for the adoption of a puppy who had been brought to Maryland from South Carolina because of hurricane Florence. The girls were completely blind-sided by the surprise of the new puppy that was not ever going to leave, because she was already home. After much consideration and many great suggestions, the name Josie was chosen. Josie is a small mixed breed who is part Dachshund, but the rest is a bit of a mystery! After years of helping other families, it is time for the Stallings to practice what they preach and experience a puppy first hand! The girls have done a fantastic job of helping potty and crate train Josie. She is great at walking on a leash and an overall great traveler who goes on many outings with the family. We are so happy to welcome Josie into the CDT family!

Many of you know that the Stallings have not had their own family dog for



A very special "Thank You" to **Debbie Mattes** for helping find Josie and referring us to **Lucky Dog Animal Rescue.** www.luckydoganimalrescue.org

# Teaching Hayley to connect with humans

Hayley recently came to us for a 2-week Board & Train and we are so proud of the incredible transformation she has made! Although experienced dog owners, Hayley's family was having a difficult time finding ways to communicate with her. Despite having a sweet temperament and being great with the children (Ages 7 & 10) she was generally disconnected in communication. After months of trying to train her and work through negative behaviors such as counter surfing, barking, and leash reactivity, her loving family was devastated and feeling defeated when they came to us.

Upon our initial assessment it was clear that Hayley was a timid and anxious dog who lacked confidence. She did well with other dogs and even around strangers, but initially was always timid with them. We identified that she was able to focus at times and accept direction fairly easily, but really struggled to connect to humans to have any sort of sustainable communication and focus on them. We introduced the prong and remote collar to Hayley as a way to build consistent and precise communication with her.



As her family had experienced, it took a lot of work and time from our trainers to get Hayley to 'dial in' to them. Her fear and anxiety initially prevented her from maintaining focus. In the first week, we spent a lot of time building a relationship and trust with her. The more we worked with her, her anxiety dissipated and she began to periodically dial in to us during training sessions. As many fearful dogs do, we found that when Hayley felt pressured in any way that her response was to freeze up both physically and mentally. It was a multifaceted approach to get Hayley out of her shell which included building a relationship with her, socializing her with other dogs, and finding the delicate balance of the right amount of pressure to get her attention without shutting her down. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> week, we focused primarily on communicating with her using the remote collar at low levels.

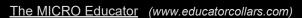






As Hayley found more success in responding correctly to clear and concise communication, she became significantly less anxious and more responsive. We spent a lot of time taking Hayley off-site to expose her to new situations and stimulus and then teaching her how to respond appropriately to them, thus building her confidence.

Hayley's family could not be happier to now be able to effectively communicate with her. Her family said their life has been forever changed, because they can now walk her to the bus stop every day to drop off and pick up the kids. The icing on the cake is that the kids are now the ones who walk her ...





The Micro Educator is a new receiver collar for the commonly used and recommended Mini Educator. The *micro* is made for smaller dogs, offering a slightly slenderer box size which can be positioned either vertically or horizontally on the collar to better fit the dog. Additionally, the contact points are closer together to accommodate the necks of smaller dogs.

The Micro educator can be paired with any educator remote and can be bought separately as an add-on or replacement, or as a whole kit, including remote, collar and assecories.

### Thoughts?

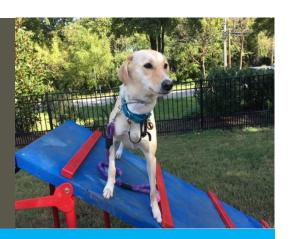
We want to hear from you!



## Training 101

Marking Behaviors...

How to give feedback when training...



When training your dog, timely feedback is very important. If a verbal command (aka a 'cue') has been given, there should only be a brief pause before you follow up that command with feedback. The feedback is either going to be "GOOD" because the dog has done the behavior correctly. Or the feedback is going to be "NO" because the dog has not yet done the behavior and is going to need more information from you. Giving the feedback of "GOOD" serves as a marker, or a bridge, as it is marking the instant in time that the correct behavior occurs.

#### Feedback should be:

- Short and concise (i.e., "Good." Vs "That's a good girl.")
- Said in a calm and even tone
  - o Excitable tone can often be counterproductive to keeping your dog focused or calm
- Consistent

<u>Remember:</u> Training is a tool used to create a common language with your K9 friend. Try to think of your interactions with your dog as a **conversation**. To have a conversation, it requires both parties to be listening/watching, giving feedback, and using consistent communication.



Seriously Tex!?!

There's always that one friend who just can't be serious enough for a one second to take a nice photo...





1307 President Street Annapolis, MD 21403

www.chesapeakedogtraining.net