



PAWS & EFFECT  
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## Upcoming events!

Saturday May  
17th  
10am—4pm

### A Bark Heard Around the World

Yates County  
Fairgrounds  
Penn Yan, NY

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# Paws & Effect

MAY 19, 2008

## Tips for all dog owners

Victoria Stillwell, renown British dog trainer, author and host of the show "It's Me or the Dog," offers the following advise to all dog owners:

1. Make sure your dog knows the house rules.
2. Never pass up the opportunity to reward your dog for good behavior.
3. Mentally stimulate and physically exercise your dog on a daily basis.

The rules in my house may be different than the rules in your house. My dogs are allowed to sleep with my husband and me. You may not allow this in your house. Your dog, however, must know the rules in your house and the rules must be

consistent. For example, you cannot feed your dog from the table and then expect your dog not to beg when there is company for dinner. Your dog does not know the difference.

We often speak to our dog when he is misbehaving and ignore him when he is sitting quietly beside us or laying on his bed. But we have it backwards. Speaking to our dog, whether praising or reprimanding, is giving him attention. If we only speak to our dog when he is misbehaving, we are reinforcing that behavior. Remember to let your dog know when he is being good. Reinforce the behavior you want repeated.

Dogs need to expend energy. Dogs

that do not have enough mental stimulation and physical exercise will find other means to get rid of excess energy, and we often do not like the choices they pick. Walking your dog and playing fetch or Frisbee are excellent ways to physically exercise your dog. Playing hide-and-seek, practicing obedience cues and giving your dog toys that make him work for his reward provides mental stimulation. As Victoria states, "A tired dog is a good dog."

So remember to follow Victoria's advice and life will be happy for both you and your pet.

Kathy Shumway  
Dog Trainer

## Dog Days

Keep your dogs well hydrated in the summer months. Remember, we need extra water in the heat of the dog days of summer and so do our pets.

Pets should drink 1/2 ounce to one ounce of water per pound of body weight each day. If they are more active they may need more.

Drinking out of streams, ponds, or off the ground may cause some problems for your pet. Standing water can harbor bacteria that could make your dog sick. Also weed killers, insecticides and other chemicals can run off into ground water and cause issues with your pet's system.

Be sure your pets have plenty of fresh drinking water at home, in the car, and on walks. There are many

dog water containers that can make this easy for you to carry along. Or better yet have them carry their own in a back pack.

If you think your pet has become dehydrated there are a few tips that will help you be sure:

- ◆ Pull up on the skin on the back of your pets neck (much like the way a mother dog would grab a puppy). The skin should go back into place almost instantly. If it stays up off the neck for a period of time they are dehydrated.
- ◆ Check their gums. Pull up the lip. The gums should be pink in color and wet to the touch. (Not tacky)
- ◆ Listen for extended or uncon-

trolled panting. Panting helps a dog cool down when they are warm. This is a natural response to heat and exercise. But, if they are panting excessively and seemed stressed (eyes opened wide and throat opened with wide mouth panting) give them some fresh water and a cool place to lay down.

Remember NEVER EVER leave your dog in a car in the summer months. Within minutes the heat will become intense and your dog will not survive with out cool air to breath. Be sure if your dog comes along for the ride if you need to stop somewhere that they are welcome to come in or someone can stay outside with them.

# A Closer Look At Barking - Part 4



## Training Classes:

Behavioral /Obedience Classes—Monday and Thursday Evenings 6:30—7:30 PM. Classes are seven weeks in length. Registration is required. Call 343-0001 to for more information or to register.

Game Night – Every Tuesday evening from 6:30—7:30 PM. No registration is required, but we ask that you call 343-0001 the day of the class to let us know you are coming. Games are selected based on the number of attendees.

Puppy Kindergarten—Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM. For puppies up to 6 months of age. No registration is required.

Basic Obedience Class—Saturday morning 10:00—11:00 AM Registration is required. Please call Andrea at 439-2594

Fun with Agility—Wednesday evenings at 6:30—7:30 PM. Call 343-0001 for more information.

Our complete training schedule is located on our website:

[www.pawsandeffectinc.com](http://www.pawsandeffectinc.com)

We're on the Web!!!  
[www.pawsandeffectinc.com](http://www.pawsandeffectinc.com)

**Territorial Barking** Territorial barking, as with the other types of barking we have previously discussed, is a symptom of another problem. This type of barking is most common in working and herding class breeds, but can occur in any breed. One thing to remember is that territorial barking is a normal canine behavior and is often desired by owners who want their dogs to 'warn' them if someone comes into the yard.

Territorial barking is quite easy to recognize. Dogs that demonstrate territorial barking typically do not bark when they are away from home - i.e. out of their territory. It is important to note, however, that some dog's territory may extent to the surrounding neighborhood or areas where walks are commonly taken.

Leadership skills, counter-conditioning and positive obedience training are three powerful tools that you can use when dealing with territorial barking.

1. Territorial "marking" should not be allowed outside of your property. When walking your dog, do not permit him to eliminate on anything. You should have a designated area in your yard which serves as your dog's "potty spot." Your dog, male or female, should only 'go' in that spot,
2. Leadership skills are a must for dog owners with dogs who demonstrate territorial barking. A dog in a power position may feel it is his responsibility to ward off intruders. When you take over that leadership position, you also remove that obligation from your dog.
3. It is also often necessary to desensitize your dog to strangers who enter the territory using counter-conditioning techniques. The goal is to change your dog's attitude toward people and other animals that enter his perceived domain. A leash and a head collar are a must as these tools allow you immediate as well as effective control over your dog during the desensitization process. The steps below will help you train your dog that it is okay for people to enter his realm:
  - ◆ Select a very special treat—one that your dog especially favors. Examples include a favorite food treat or toy. Once selected, your dog should only be given this treat or have access to this toy during counter-conditioning sessions. Do not allow access to this treat at any other time.
  - ◆ When a stranger or dog enters the territory, give your dog the treat the moment he notices the advancing intruder. Try to give the treat before barking begins if possible.
  - ◆ If your dog starts to bark before you can give him the treat, redirect his attention toward you by luring him with the treat or toy. When you have his attention, reward him lavishly. Remember that the greater the distance between your dog and the intruder, the better your chances of successfully redirecting his attention - so act quickly. It is important to note that your dog must choose to follow the lure and willingly turn away from the stranger. Pulling your dog away sends him the wrong signal - one that the stranger is a danger. This can result in undesirable consequences. Always lure the dog - never pull or force the dog away when desensitizing your dog.
  - ◆ If your dog is too excited to be redirected, give him a couple pieces of his special treat while his is barking and then stop abruptly. This should get his attention. Once you have his attention, lure his focus away from the intruder and treat using the same guidelines as mentioned above.
  - ◆ Continue to treat your dog until the intruder passes. This will allow your dog to realize that the presence of the intruder triggers receipt of the special reward.
  - ◆ Once your dog's attitude toward intruders begins to change, start requesting simple obedience cues such as "sit-stay" and "focus" before rewarding your dog. As time passes, reward more with attention and praise to wean your dog off the food treat.

Over time, your dog will begin to realize that strangers coming into his territory means he gets special attention and rewards. Remember that, like all other behavioral modifications, it will take time for the behavior to disappear. Don't be discouraged. With consistency and patience, your dog, whether young or old, will learn. When your dog notices a stranger and immediately sits and looks at you, you know your efforts have been successful.

Kathy Shumway  
Dog Trainer

# Meet the Fosters

Note: We foster dogs through Paws Across Oswego County. They are a not for profit group made up of volunteers who work on donations and fundraisers. If you are interested in meeting any of our fosters, please call the shop to make arrangements.

## Dexter

Dexter is a lab mix, under a year old. He is a smart little boy who is very eager to learn. Within a day we had him trained to sit and down on command. By the second day he played game night and even won a game! The third day we used him as a demo dog for one of our training classes and he did us proud! As smart and eager to please as he is he has one fault.....He is still not house trained. Because we go outside with the dogs when they are out we think he may be shy about going in front of us. We will continue to work with him and with the right timing and a lot of treats we are sure he'll do good soon.

Dexter has been neutered, heartworm tested, vaccinated, and hips x-rayed. He is also very social with other dogs and respectful of cats.



Bob is a male dachshund Cocker spaniel mix. He is about a year old. He has been very clean in his room and social with other dogs. A little shy at first, but he warms up to everyone very quickly.

We are not sure what his coat will look like grown out. When he came it had been cut off unevenly so we trimmed him up. He will be neutered soon and we will begin some training to see what he can do. He has the sweetest face and soft eyes.

We are sure he will make a wonderful addition to any home.

All the dogs adopted through P.A.O.C. are altered, have all shots, heartworm tested, and stool is checked for any parasites.

## Bob

Studies have reported over 8 million animals are euthanized in shelters across the US. PLEASE spay and neuter.

Looking for a new member of the family? Check out [petfinder.com](http://petfinder.com)

If you would like to make a donation in memory to Paws Across Oswego County send a picture and tell us about your much missed and loved pet and we will place it in our next newsletter

# Summer Fun

## Some fun tricks for a busy, happy summer for your dog:

- ◆ Fill up a kiddie pool with water so they can splash around too.
- ◆ Fill a sand box and hide treats and toys in the sand for them to dig and find.
- ◆ Get a large plastic bowl, fill it with bones, treats, stuffed kongs and toys. Cover with water and freeze. Flip bowl upside down in the center of your lawn on a hot day and remove bowl. The block of ice left to lick and find many surprises is a wonderful way to keep an active dog busy for hours.



Paws & Effect



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"We have more in store for your best friend."

# Meeting new friends Week 6

Here I am at week six of integrating a new ShihTzu ("Arthur") and two new adult cats into my home with my two adult labs and two adult cats.

## Arthur's new look

Have you ever seen a hairdresser that you know has just gone a bit over board with cutting and processing their hair? Well, Arthur has taken the brunt of now living with a groomer. When I had noticed the food and water getting into Arthur's beard and face I shaved it off. Then I trimmed his ears really short to keep them clean. That lead to the troll look. Then I realized that whenever he lowered his head the ends of his now short ears went right into those bulging eyes, so I shaved them off. He is still a little over weight so now he has the appearance of a tick. Everyone says he's still cute, but they say it with a giggle.

## The circle of like

My home has become a tangled web of likes and dislikes. Samantha, my lab, loves the younger new cat who in turn hates her and runs to the safety of the bedroom when ever she comes close. The older cat who rarely leaves the bedroom, loves Sam and rubs against her purring while she pushes him aside to get to Lance.

Lance loves both my cats who despise him. While they sleep he will slowly and carefully lay down next to them. He would be fine, but of course he just can't keep his paws to himself, and he will ever so gently touch them. When they wake to find him there the growling and spitting starts and they run away.

Arthur, who has always played with his cats at my Mom's, now likes to chase my cats. They both run away growling and I hold my breath that they don't take a swat at him. Both my cats have nails and with Arthur's face now void of hair there is nothing there to protect those bulging eyes. I have visions of late night emergency vet trips. I guess cutting all the hair off wasn't such a good idea.

Marge



# Ticks



## Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is transferred to humans and our pets through the saliva of a feeding tick. During the warm months you should feel through your pets coat to detect any unusual bumps. In a heavy coated pet you may first think a tick is a wart or skin tab. Look closely and at the base of the "bump" you can see legs protruding out either side.

There are many different ideas on how to remove a tick. First let me tell you what not to do. Do not burn, squish or try to smother the tick. This will just make it release more toxins into the bite.

There are tick removers that slide close to the skin and lift the tick off, with head in tact. Very small tweezers will also work, but be sure to get as close to the skin as possible. Never grab onto the body of the tick. If the head does remain in the skin, don't fret. It will come out in time. Apply peroxide to the area and keep it clean. If you need help call your vet or groomer.

Remove ticks as soon as possible. Disease transmission doesn't happen right away. When the tick bites an infected mouse, lyme disease organisms (coiled bacteria called spirochetes) move to the tick's intestine and go dormant. Spirochetes can live this way for years waiting for a new host. When the spirochetes detect the fresh blood, they wake up and multiply rapidly. The tick's gut is soon packed with spirochetes (which is why you don't want to squash that tick). Finally, the spirochetes move to the tick's salivary glands and into the new host's bloodstream.

This process – multiplication and migration to the salivary glands, takes time – at least twenty four hours and often longer, so rapid removal of ticks should offer a measure of protection. Although there is no vaccine for humans, your dogs can be protected from Lyme disease with vaccine from your vet.