

# **Yahoo! Mud Season!**

## **Late Spring Hoping for Summer Newsletter**

**By Laura Tyler**



### **What's Inside:**

- Canine Free Style – something fun to do with your dog!
- Spring class update
- April Stools Day sponsored by Pet Kare Clinic
- Train To Adopt™ with Sue Sternberg – local event

**Canine Musical Freestyle Clinic with Bev Blanchard – sign up NOW!!!**  
**Wednesday and Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**At Geoff Teare's K9 Powersports facility in Grand Junction, Colorado**  
**Contact Laura for registration information: [dogs@totalteamworktraining.com](mailto:dogs@totalteamworktraining.com)**

Dust off your dancing shoes! Even if you are not musical—this clinic is all about training your dog and elevating your skills as a trainer. Freestyle is an amazing sport that really connects dog and handler. Bev and Sue Sternberg both teach at Camp Gone to the Dogs—they teach different things, but Sue takes Bev's Freestyle classes and considers her to be one of the finest instructors and trainers out there. **Thank you Sue, for bringing Canine Freestyle and Bev Blanchard here to the Western Slope.** Skippy and I will see you there!

This workshop is for you if:

- You are a person who wants to enrich the vocabulary and communication between you and your dog
  - You are a person who wants to teach his/her dog to learn new behaviors and tricks
  - You love training and working with your dog
  - You are a professional or aspiring dog trainer looking to improve your training ability as well as your instructing skills
  - You like to have fun and work with your dog!
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## **Higher Education**

**CNCC Class Update:** Our Spring Classes are finishing up and we've had a great time! We held **Head Start Puppy Class** beginning in January of this year. A totally incredible group of families and wonderful puppies! We followed up with **Family Dog Class** and several of our puppy families continued with their training by enrolling in our family dog class. This early training and consistent practice really help our families work through puppy adolescence.

We added two new classes this semester; **Nose work Lab** (based on teaching "scent" detection) and **Canine Life And Social Skills – C.L.A.S.S.** These two classes are independent study labs. This new concept allows students and dogs to work independently at home and be prepared to test and advance at the next lab session. The every other week schedule seems to keep everyone motivated to work outside the classroom.



Three more of our Canine Life and Social Skills, C.L.A.S.S. teams passed their first level of testing. We now have five teams advancing to the next level. This self study/practice course offers our advanced students a chance to grow their skills and build an even greater relationship with their dog. This program is based on the teamwork we need in place to include our dogs in public outings and activities. The really cool part is that we need to retest every three years! That keeps us working on maintaining our skills. Skippy and I will be retesting this year.



Our **Nose Work Lab** sniffer dog teams are working toward building the desire to hunt and students and dogs are progressing in their teamwork. This last class we began to hunt for hidden scent outside. This next session we'll begin teaching our dogs the process of doing a vehicle search. It's really exciting to see the enthusiasm our sniffer dog teams' show for searching the various elements. GREAT FUN!!!

**Stay tuned! CNCC will host another Introduction to Nose Work seminar this summer. This seminar, taught by a Certified Nose Work Instructor, is a prerequisite to attending our Nose Work Lab class.**

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## **Spring Poop Patrol in Steamboat**

### **April Stools Day!**

The Pet Kare Crew needs help picking up poo in our parks and trails.

Sat. April 26th 12:00 to 3:00

Volunteers Can Meet At the Pet Kare Clinic

Or Call Us for More Information

Please call us to confirm in case of inclement weather 970-879-5273



While addressing this very stinky subject, we have an article on our Community Education page called REACHING CRITICAL MASS – the environmental impact caused by NOT cleaning up after dogs. If we take the time to clean up and dispose of pet waste in an appropriate receptacle we can at least contain the contamination and help prevent exposure to disease and minimize the environmental impact. Please feel free to share this article. We've got to get this information out there. Otherwise more and more locations will close access for dogs to our hiking trails; especially locations near waterways.

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## **Train To Adopt™ Coming to Craig May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Here's a quote from Petfinder Foundation:



“What does a shelter dog want for Christmas — or any day of the year? A new trick to learn; a fun toy to play with. And our grants provide both: Train To Adopt™ helps shelters teach adoptable dogs basic social skills, and we've given more than \$7,000 in enrichment toys from our friends at KONG to 10 shelters over the past two years.”  
<http://www.petfinderfoundation.com/blog/category/train-to-adopt/>

### **Humane Guidelines and a Training Program for Dogs in Shelters.**

Sue Sternberg, who created the Train to Adopt™ program, has this to say:

“Imagine a potential adopter walking into your shelter and visiting with a dog who can sit, show self-control, and calm himself even when excited. Imagine a potential adopter who sees a shelter dog as partially trained and is inspired to do more training with the dog since the dog knows more than their previous dog ever did! I created the Train To Adopt™ (TTA) program to encourage, promote and provide quality of life for dogs in shelters.

When a shelter spends time training and working with its dogs, everyone benefits. The mental stimulation from the training can help **prevent the dog from succumbing to the stressful and harmful effects of kenneling.** **The methods outlined here teach shelter dogs how to LEARN.** They can get relief from the frustration of life in the shelter through their success at learning new skills. It is not enough to simply house a dog and care for its physical needs. A dog's quality of life is about his present mental state. A dog does not live for a future—

he spends his time in the present. It's what we love so much about a dog. Dogs keep us in the moment. They don't spend a lot of time dwelling on the past, nor can they sit in a cage and fantasize about a future in a home. We can do that.

**It is therefore our responsibility to do more than just keep our shelter dogs alive.** We assure that they are living humanely, each and every day while in our care. We must make sure that their mental, behavioral and emotional well being is better each day they are with us. It is my hope that the Train To Adopt™ program can help us all meet that goal.” Sue Sternberg

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## **Details – Train To Adopt™**

Saturday May 3, 2014 at the Center of Craig – NE Corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Yampa Ave.

9 am to 4 pm – Lunch provide to those who register by April 15<sup>th</sup>

Contact Laura Tyler at: [dogs@totalteamworktraining.com](mailto:dogs@totalteamworktraining.com)

Cost: \$25

If you are actively working in an organization involving rescue/shelter work there is no cost to you thanks to our generous sponsors! Any questions? Contact Laura at 970-629-1507

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**Big THANKS to our Yampa Valley businesses and residents for the great support!**

- **Animal Assistance League of Northwest Colorado**
- **Bear Creek Animal Hospital – Craig**
- **Canines Unlimited – Craig and Steamboat**
- **Colorado Northwest Community College**
- **Craig Veterinary Hospital – Craig**
- **Dr. Gary and Lori Visintainer – Craig**
- **Humane Society of Moffat County**
- **Murdoch's - Craig**
- **Paddy Whack's – Craig**
- **Pet Kare Clinic – Steamboat**
- **Routt County Sheriff's Office**
- **Steamboat Springs Police Department**
- **Snyder and Counts Farm – Seed and Feed - Craig**
- **Tim and Kathy Osborn – Craig**
- **Total Teamwork Training – Northwest Colorado**



Both the **Animal Assistance League** and the **Humane Society of Moffat County** will hold silent auctions during the Train To Adopt™ workshop. Funds generated by these silent auctions will provide much needed funding for their worthwhile programs.

The TTA workshop is provided for free to people actively working in the shelter/rescue industry thanks to these wonderful sponsors!

The general dog loving public is encouraged to attend this day long workshop for a donation of \$25. You must register by April 15<sup>th</sup> to get on our lunch list. Lunch will be provided by Mauka bakery in Craig. Coffee will be provided by Down Town Books in Craig. Thank you Mr. Mayor!

**Think Summer!**