



What Not to Err: Training Mistakes that Create Headaches for Dogs

Kathy Sdao

October 8 and 9, 2022

Seminar Hours: Check-in 8:30 - 9am ~ Presentation/Questions 9am - 5 pm

COMPETITION CANINE TRAINING CENTER

7533 A Green Valley Road, Placerville, California

The Speaker – Kathy Sdao:

Kathy Sdao is an applied animal behaviorist with over 30 years of experience as a full-time animal trainer, first with marine mammals and now with dogs and their people. Kathy earned her Masters Degree in experimental psychology at the University of Hawaii where she was involved in researching the cognitive abilities of dolphins. After college Kathy worked for the United States Navy training dolphins for applied open-ocean tasks. Subsequently she worked at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Washington where she trained beluga whales, walruses, porpoises, sea lions, otters, and polar bears. Since 1998 Kathy has owned and managed Bright Spot Dog Training Services. Kathy has given many seminars all over the world and has been a faculty member of Karen Pryor ClickerExpo having taught at 41 of these popular conferences since 2003.

Please see Kathy's full biography at <http://www.kathysdao.com/>

TOPICS SUMMARY

A full schedule of topics is attached

Saturday, October 8, 2022

There's no shortage of advice available to anyone attempting to train a dog as a profession, as a hobby, or as an integral part of living with a well-behaved pet. Websites, books, television, dog advocates and well-intentioned friends offer suggestions for basic training and for solving behavior problems. We'll review several errors, both general and technical, that crop up in otherwise beneficial positive-reinforcement programs. Topics include ineffective cues, backward sequences, poisoned reinforcers and more. Understanding how to avoid or resolve these snags will make training fairer for our dogs and more fun for everyone. Kathy has taken this popular one-day seminar and expanded it to offer more insights and additional solutions for professional dog-trainers and dedicated dog-lovers.

The day will be a combination of lecture and PowerPoint. This will not be a working day for dogs. Ample time for questions will be provided.

Sunday, October 9, 2022

The focus for the entire day will be cues; the many types, figuring out what things are relevant to your dog, what can be used as cues, and how to add cues to behaviors. Sunday will also include an opportunity for working teams to practice the concepts being taught. Ample time for questions will be provided.

To find out more visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/hangtownkc/> or our website: <http://www.hangtownkc.org/> or Phone or e-mail: Melinda Grosch at 707-537-7786 (voice/text) or wtrprufdogs4me@aim.com or Mary Clark at 530-306-4551 (voice/text) or dogladyscrapper@hotmail.com

Only working dogs should attend. Please do not bring a dog with you if you are auditing.

Early Bird Registration Ends September 9, 2022

Registration Closes October 1, 2022

Continuing Education Units (CEU=s): IAABC, CCPDT, and KPA pending approval.



Registration

Make checks payable to Hangtown Kennel Club. Mail to HKC c/o Mary Clark, 1640 Honeycomb Drive, Camino CA 95709.

Name _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email _____

Working Spots: **Limited to 8 dog/handler teams.**

Registration Closes October 1, 2022

| Early Bird Registration Ends September 9, 2022* | | | After September 9, 2022* | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Auditing Saturday Only | \$100.00 | | Auditing Saturday Only | \$125.00 | |
| Auditing Sunday Only | \$100.00 | | Auditing Sunday Only | \$125.00 | |
| Auditing Both Days | \$ 175.00 | | Auditing Both Days | \$225.00 | |
| Auditing Saturday and Working Sunday | \$200.00 | | Auditing Saturday and Working Sunday | \$250.00 | |

* 15% Discount for Hangtown Kennel Club members.
 Non-Profit Groups (i.e., Guide Dogs for the Blind, Freestyle or Obedience Clubs, etc.) sending 3 or more people ask Melinda or Mary for special pricing (AUDITING ONLY).

INFORMATION FOR WORKING SPOTS:

If you are interested in a Working Spot please Mary Clark (dogladyscrapper@hotmail.com or voice/text 530-306-4551) or Melinda Grosch (wtrprufdogs4me@aim.com or voice/text 707-537-7786) before sending in a registration. Working Spots are limited to 8 and will be granted on a first come basis. A stand-by list will be created in case someone cancels their registration.

Dog's Name: _____ Breed: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____ Spayed/Neutered: _____

Cancellations/Refunds: If you request cancellation of your registration by September 9, 2022 you will receive a refund of all fees paid less a \$10.00 processing fee. Cancellation requests received after September 9, 2022 will be subject to review by the Hangtown Kennel Club Board of Directors and subject to a \$25.00 processing fee.

For HKC Use Only:

| Date Rec'd | Check No. | Amount | Bank |
|------------|-----------|--------|------|
| | | | |

TOPICS & SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 8, 2022

Check-in 8:30 to 9:00 am Presentation 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Missing Opportunities to Capture

The power of creating contingencies between naturally-occurring (i.e., “offered”) behaviors and valued outcomes is often overlooked in favor of teaching dogs to respond to commands. “Catching & etching” behaviors is a simple method our students and clients can implement quickly, to good effect.

Wasting Reinforcers

Being a skilled reinforcer is the foundation of effective and humane animal-training. Identifying each learner's varied reinforcers and utilizing them frequently and precisely is essential for creating long-lasting behavior change.

Break

Getting the Sequence Wrong

Sometimes one second can make an enormous difference to the efficacy of a training technique. Therefore it's important to understand how a backwards sequence of events (as perceived by the learner) can waste time and effort and also have unwelcome side-effects.

Confounding Reinforcers & Punishers

Most of us would say that, for our dogs, food and play are attractive while reprimands and leash-corrections are aversive. But we err when we presume that the objects and activities which a dog considers reinforcing (or punishing) are immutably so.

Lunch: One hour approximately noon

Misunderstanding Schedules of Reinforcement

Few topics in the science of learning are duller than schedules of reinforcement. Yet there are points of confusion that can lead to ineffective training techniques and “stubborn” animals.

Unbalancing Physical & Mental Exercise

I share with my clients a simple formula: the dog's Physical Exercise + the dog's Mental Exercise = Sanity
Zookeepers use this concept to compensate for the fact that some of their animals are constrained from getting the ideal amount of physical exercise. Pet guardians can follow this example.

Break

Overlooking Agency

Agency is the capacity of individuals to act independently & make free choices. It is a key component of mental health and as such it should be integrated into our training programs and behavior-modification plans.

Blaming the Human

Are we as force-free with our clients and our colleagues as we are with the animals in our care? When dealing with disagreeable people, can we apply our core skills of careful observation, non-reactivity, gradual shaping, and timely reinforcement of alternate behaviors?

Discussion/Q & A

4:30-5:00

Sunday, October 9, 2022

Working With Dogs

Check-in 8:30 to 9:00 am Presentation 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

 Make the Whale Jump: What Cues Can do

Break

 Transferring Cues: Tricks & Triggers

Lunch: One Hour – approximately noon

 So Much Static: Maximizing Clarity

Break

 How to Put a Behavior on Cue

Discussion/Q & A

4:30 to 5:00