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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Your Committee are negotiating to obtain insurance benefits for APDTNZ members through Marsh Insurance. To ensure the correct decisions are made, information of what members' current insurance schemes cover and the premiums being charged are needed.

This information is completely confidential. Information will be collated to give an overall idea of the types of cover required and to gauge savings that can be offered to members.

Information required:

1. Do you currently subscribe to an insurance scheme?
2. If not, would you be interested if APDTNZ can obtain a reasonable bulk insurance deal?
3. If you are not interested just now, would you be interested sometime in the future?
4. If you currently subscribe to an insurance scheme, what class or classes of Insurance do you have e.g. Public Liability, Combined Liability, Professional Indemnity etc.?
5. What is your type of business activity, e.g. Pet pre-school, Pet training, Pet walking, Pet Day Care etc.?
6. Are you a sole Owner/Service Provider?
7. Do you employ staff?
8. How many do you employ?
9. How many are paid staff and how many are volunteers?
10. Are you a Club or Voluntary organisation?
11. What is your current annual premium?

Any other information that can help with the Committee negotiations

Information must be received by 15 November 2014 and can be emailed with confidence to: president@apdtnz.org.nz

Notes from the President

For those of you who do not know me I took up the position of President at the AGM in June this year mainly because I have a vision of where I see APDTNZ should be heading as a leading professional NZ organisation for everyone who has a vested interest in the welfare and training of dogs. I have huge shoes to fill and will be working with some very committed and talented Committee members to endeavour to make this happen.

The 2014 Annual Conference at Silverstream was a great event with attendees heading home with odour detection overload. Over three days Jill Marie O'Brien introduced everyone to the theoretical and practical concept of nosework and the appreciation of our dog's amazing olfactory sense. I believe everyone is now working with their dogs to observe and learn more about them, odour detection and the benefits for reactive and fearful dogs. Some are now providing nosework training classes. It was a shame that conference numbers were down from previous years and that the conference ran at a loss for the first time.

Your Committee are working tirelessly behind the scenes to provide members with some tangible benefits. So far we have provided book and DVD bulk purchases at discounted rates. This will be repeated, so if you wish to take advantage of the discount and the shared freight charges please contact me. We are also negotiating with Marsh Insurance for our members to take advantage of an insurance scheme already in place for APDT Australia. A Strategic Planning weekend for the Committee has been set aside for 29 & 30 November 2014 and will be held in Auckland. High on the agenda is The Endorsed Trainer Scheme and its process, Marsh Insurance negotiations, proposed changes to the membership application form, an exciting offer from Veronica Boutelle with other items being added as they come to hand. This is an ideal opportunity for your Committee to work effectively as a group to conclude some very overdue items of importance for our members. There will be long term goals, with action points to achieve those goals and the Committee would appreciate submissions from the membership on items that may be considered for inclusion. An outline of the detail required is included in this newsletter.

Hold onto your hats – guess who the 2015 Conference Committee have managed to snap up? It is none other than the fabulous John Rogerson. Look out for more information on the topics to be presented. Wow! This Committee is humming.

Although our name refers to us as the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, we are as a group 'dog aficionados'.

Colleen Pelar describes dog aficionados as dog trainers, dog behaviour consultants, veterinarians, vet clinic staff, shelter workers, rescue volunteers, groomers, dog walkers, animal control officers, dog daycare staff, boarding facility employees, breeders, holistic health care providers, pet supply store owners, pet sitters, therapy dog handlers, puppy raisers, writers that specialise in dog topics and more. In fact anyone who works with dogs other than his or her own is a dog aficionado.

It is therefore understandable that some overseas APDT organisations have made some changes to their name to reflect a more professional and universal approach. Give us your thoughts.

Until next time I wish you well,
Margarette



**Member submission for:
APDTNZ PLANNING WEEKEND 29-30 Nov
2014**

Subject line: Planning Weekend
Email to: president@apdtnz.org.nz

Submission to include:
Your name
Your involvement with dogs (e.g. professional or club trainer, therapy dog, vet nurse, shelter or rescue etc)

Item(s) for inclusion/discussion:

Hair versus Fur

from www.dogplay.com, used without permission.

For the owners of some breeds it seems almost a point of pride to claim that their dogs are covered in hair, rather than fur. The belief is that this accounts for why people may be less allergic to some breeds. What interested me was not that there was a difference in allergic reactivity, but in the distinction between hair and fur. It doesn't take much analysis to see that the ordinary distinctions between fur and hair do little to explain the difference in allergic reaction.

When these breed owners are asked about the difference between hair and fur the most common definition is that fur stops growing after a certain length while hair keeps growing. Some will go so far as to suggest that the hair will grow literally forever if it is not artificially shortened by cutting, breakage or other damage.

I love it when I hear that explanation. Are your arms covered with hair? or fur? Your underarms have fur? or hair? and well do you consider yourself to be furry down below? If you accept the definition that the distinction between hair and fur is that hair continues to grow unless cut, then you are furry on your arms, legs, eye lashes, eye brows, underarms and ... down there. According to that definition the only hair on your body is on your head and face, and everything else is fur.

Poodles have eye lashes. Are the eye lashes cut to prevent them from growing forever? Or do they have a natural length and stop growing on their own? If you accept the distinction some offer between fur and hair then you'd have to say that the eye lashes are made of fur while the dog's body is covered in hair. This just isn't consistent with the ordinary definition of fur.

And another small note to ponder - are wool sheep that must be shorn covered in hair? or fur? In sheep the "hair sheep" are the ones that don't require sheering.

The ordinary definition of fur is related to the density of the hair, and sometimes its softness, rather than growth pattern. This is more consistent of the biology involved, but fails in distinguishing the poodle coat as "hair" vs the Doberman coat as "fur". Logically the terms "hair" and "fur" are not good descriptors of the differences between the coats of these two breeds.

Let's take a closer look at the biology of hair. Each strand of hair grows from the root. Each strand of hair goes through a cycle of growing or

not growing. The cycles vary from person to person. Only the part under the skin grows. Cutting the hair does not affect the hair follicle. Uncut hair grows at the same rate as cut hair. Hair growth is affected only if the hair follicle is affected.

In mammals hair grows in cycles. Anagen is a period of new hair growth. The longer the anagen period, the longer the hair grows. Human scalp hair may stay in anagen for 2-6 years. Human hair on arms and legs may stay in anagen for only 30-45 days. Catagen is a transition phase. During catagen growth stops and the outer root sheath shrinks attaching to the root of the hair. Telogen is the resting phase. For human scalp hair the resting phase is about 100 days. The telogen phase for human hair on arms and legs is much longer than for scalp hair. Exogen is when the hair falls out, and the follicle enters a new anagen period, growing a new strand of hair.



In dogs, as in all other mammals, some hair follicles are in anagen, some in catagen, some in telogen. Shedding, length of hair and presence or absence of an undercoat depend upon the timing of these cycles and the ratio of hair follicles in the various stages. Differences between summer coat and winter occur because during the summer a greater number of follicles remain inactive. Some breeds, e.g. poodles, tend to be low shedding because almost all of their follicles are in anagen (growth cycle) almost all the time; their hair continues to grow and has to be clipped. Some breeds of dog, e.g. Chinese Crested have most of their follicles in telogen and, thus, may be almost completely hairless. Both breeds are often listed as recommended for allergy sufferers.

The bottom line is that hair doesn't grow forever. It grows as long as the hair follicle is in active growth. How long a particular hair follicle is in active growth depends upon various factors. It could be genetically programmed to be in active growth for years, or only for weeks. Most dog breeds have a coat that is genetically programmed for a shorter growth cycle than those similar to the poodle coat. The coats of dogs with a long hair growth cycle will

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shed less.

The poodle coat, and the coats of other breeds frequently recommended to the allergic, have another quality beyond the long growth period. These coats tend to be both tightly curled, and usually lacking in undercoat. This combination tends to keep dead hair from detaching and floating in the air, and it tends to retain the dander, which is the most common source of allergens. Typically in these curly coated breeds the dead hair must be manually removed by grooming or it will stay tangled in the coat causing matting.

Another source of allergic reactivity is the pet saliva. The grooming requirements for these breeds also encourage more frequent bathing, which further reduced allergens. The coats also tend to be somewhat less coated in the water resistant oils common in many sporting breeds. The most likely reason some coated breeds cause less allergic response is probably related to lower shedding and more frequent grooming and bathing.

Yes, poodles are coated in hair. So are most other dog breeds. All hair, including poodle hair, has a natural length. The term "hair" is not properly restricted only to that which has a long period of growth. Fur is a reasonable description for the plushness of a coat, it is not a reasonable description for hair that merely has a short growth period.

*The APDTNZ
Newsletter—a great
read*



Have you heard of The Pet Professional Guild?

By Shelly Turner

I found out about them through Debra Millikan when I attended her wonderful Clicker Training Workshop (hosted by our very own Vikki Pickering) in Nelson. She mentioned that this organisation that was "force free", had big plans but had recently started up and was currently free to join. I took note of this and went home, researched who they were, what their philosophy was and promptly signed up as an Associate Member.

Later on down the track it came time to renew and this time it was not free of charge; they had gained considerably in member numbers and in order to fulfil the goals and objectives they'd set for the organisation they needed to charge a fee for mem-

bership. I decided to renew my membership anyway. I saw a few other Kiwi's joined up but not as many as the number I thought might be keen. Perhaps our fellow APDTNZ members don't know about The Pet Professional Guild so we thought we'd share some information for you on the organisation here.

What is it? (from their website)

"The Pet Professional Guild (PPG) was founded based on a commitment to provide educational resources to pet care providers and the public coupled with an emphasis on building collaboration among force-free pet trainers and professional pet care providers and advocates for mutually agreed guiding principles for the pet care industry. PPG partners, members and affiliates focus on each pet's physical, mental, environmental and nutritional well-being adhering to a holistic approach to the care and training of family pets."

What are the member benefits?

For me, one of the reasons was because I just wanted to support the organisation and what it was trying to achieve. I'd appreciated the free first year of membership so figured paying the annual subscription was really paying for the first and second year in one go and the fee was not outrageous so I felt okay about. But I know you want to know what the member benefits are so I'll share some that helped me decide. I love webinars and PPG have a number of them with some great speakers. For non members you can purchase them for a reasonable price but for members you get a special member rate. Members also get access to a minimum of one FREE educational webcast each month and there are multiple vendor discounts across pet industry partners. There are benefits that are being added over time and for anyone keen to know more there's a section on their website for it (<http://www.petprofessionalguild.com/MembershipBenefitsProgram>)

Does membership make a difference (Commercially)? Maybe, maybe not. What I do know is that when someone was looking around to find a place to learn to instruct at that was "force free" they found my name and so contacted my club. My membership meant something to them.

How much does it cost? It depends so it's best if you check out the website to see what membership rate would apply to you (<http://www.petprofessionalguild.com/AnnualMembershipFees>)

Want to know more? Check out their website (<http://www.petprofessionalguild.com>) and make sure you check out their e-magazine BARKS from the Guild



INTRODUCING CLINICAL ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

PSYC303: Clinical Animal Behaviour

This fast paced course, fully on line, opens a door way to improving the lives of animals.

This course introduces concepts that underpin the successful implementation of Clinical Animal Behaviour, drawn from disciplines of ethology, psychology, learning theory, neurophysiology, and psychopharmacology. The range of research techniques used in this field will also be explored. This course will also provide students with practical opportunities to work with animals.

We welcome applications from currently enrolled students as well as members of the community.

Paper Details

"Clinical animal behaviour is an opportunity for students to learn more about the science behind animal behaviour and training and get an introduction to field of clinical animal behaviour."

This paper provides students with an overview of clinical animal behaviour and training. The material is grounded in scientific theory, particularly with regards to how animals learn. Specific aspects of learning theory that are covered include classical and operant conditioning, de/sensitisation, and generalisation.

Research on contemporary issues of interest to those who own or work with all animals is examined, including topics surrounding human-animal interactions and companion animal welfare. Strategies for dealing with people in an advisory setting is also covered. Determinants of problem behaviours such as stereotypies, phobias, animal-animal aggression and animal-human aggression is examined, along with strategies to modify or manage these problems.

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO

Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato



APPLICATION DATES

This paper will be taught from 10 November to 21 December 2014. All enrolment applications must be received by 7 November 2014.

For more information or to enrol in this paper contact the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences:

T: 0800 800 145 or

E: wfass@waikato.ac.nz

LIBRARY BORROWING RULES

- Only Financial Members of APDTNZ may borrow from the APDTNZ library.
- There is no borrowing fee but to cover postage and packaging within New Zealand there is a charge of \$8.00 or \$13.00, depending on size, this includes the cost for returning the books. The Librarian will advise you which charge applies to your choice of books. This charge is payable with your request. Should any item be damaged or lost, the member will be required to pay replacement costs.
- Only 2 books or a total of 4 disks may be borrowed at a time with a maximum borrowing time of **one month**.
- There is a late fee of \$5 per week per item for overdue items. Please include the fee when you return overdue items.
- Please ensure that items are returned in the courier bag provided and covered with bubble wrap. Do not use sticky tape on the bubble wrap so it can easily be re-used.
- To borrow items please contact the librarian with your request at librarian@apdt.org.nz
- When you receive confirmation that your choice of books is available, you can send a cheque, **made out to APDTNZ** to:
APDTNZ Treasurer,
37 Turoa Road,
Wanganui 4500
Or direct deposit to 03-1503-0398799-00
account name: APDTNZ Inc, please provide your name and the word "library" as a reference.
- Only when payment is received will the books be sent out.
- When ordering please identify all items by author and title, and provide the librarian with your name and full address including postcode.
- Please do not ask the librarian to make a selection for you.
- The list of items available to be borrowed is on the APDTNZ website www.apdt.org.nz or can be posted if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope to the librarian. Or it can be emailed to you. Contact librarian@apdt.org.nz
- Where appropriate, due to either the inability to replace, or the cost of replacing goods, (such as some books & videos) APDTNZ will use Express Post to post such items out to members. Loans from the library of such items will need to be returned by Express Post, as determined & advised by the Librarian.
- *APDT New Zealand Inc. does not necessarily agree with nor condone the information contained in library items that have been supplied on loan to members.*

DVD REVIEW

Separation Anxiety – Both sides now
Nicole Wilde seminar DVD

I really liked this "seminar", it was super informative with the "regular" stuff I already knew about as well as some new, creative things that Nicole has done with her own dog. What made this seminar special and personal was the fact that Nicole herself has a dog the suffers from Separation anxiety and her dog was not a dog that "followed the rules" when it came to her separation anxiety so Nicole had to think outside the square as well as bust some old myths and think of new ways to deal with this issue.

I feel she's really thought of everything here and she includes all the different options and talks about a few different things like essential oils, D.A.P, drugs, natural remedies and body wraps. She goes through a good way of diagnosing separation anxiety and she has some great, cheap ideas on how to remotely monitor your dog when you leave it alone.

I would recommend this DVD to anyone who want to understand Separation anxiety issues a bit better but also to someone who might want some new and exciting ideas.

Helena



The APDTNZ Newsletter is now available in hard copy. If you would like to receive the next newsletter by post please let our membership co-ordinator know by sending an e-mail to:
membership@apdt.org.nz

WHAT DID I SAY?

By Pat Miller

You cringe as you see the large stranger stride briskly toward you, arms outstretched, eyes glued on your dog who is doing his best to hide behind you. "It's okay," she says in a loud, shrill voice as she circles behind you and bends over him to pat him on the head. "Dogs love me!"

Perhaps some dogs do, but yours clearly isn't loving the message she's sending to him with her full-frontal assault. Sadly, she's not alone with her clumsy signaling. For a supposedly intelligent species, we humans tend to be incredibly dense about communicating with our canine companions.

People who work successfully with dogs either have good instincts about how to interact with them, or they learn quickly. There is a real art to using body language to help a dog feel at ease with your presence. Mess it up, and your chances of getting bitten skyrocket. Good dog training and behavior professionals, and perceptive dog owners and lovers are rarely bitten. True, accidents can happen, but humans who know how to send an appropriate message with their own body language are far less likely to be bitten than those who are oblivious to the effect they are having on the canine in front of them. We spend a lot of time talking about reading and understanding dog body language. It's about time we took a harder look at the human side of the body language equation.

Body Parts 101

Just as a dog's various body parts can send clear messages, so can a human's. The trouble is, as Patricia McConnell explains so well in her wonderful book, *The Other End of the Leash*, the message that primates intend to send (humans are primates) are very different from the messages that canids (dogs are canids) receive. In fact, our languages are so different, it's nothing short of a miracle that our two species are able to get along as well as we do. Let's look at the differences.

Eye Contact: In our culture, direct eye contact is admired. Someone who doesn't look you in the eye is perceived as shifty, untruthful, or weak. Our propensity to make direct eye contact with our dogs seems, to us, the right and honorable way to greet another sentient being. In a dog's world, however, direct eye contact is a challenge or a threat, while looking away is a sign of deference or respect. Dogophiles in-the-know approach dogs with soft eye contact or without making eye contact

at all. At the same time, we make it a point to teach our own dogs that direct eye contact with a human is a highly rewarded behavior. Dog trainers from coast to coast go to great lengths to reinforce their dogs for making – and maintaining – eye contact. (See Below, *The Eyes Have It*)

Tip: When approaching a dog you don't know, or if your own dog seems wary of you when you approach her, try looking off to the side or over the head instead of directly into the dog's eyes. If the dog seems comfortable with you try making brief, soft eye contact and see how she reacts. If her body language stays soft and she continues to approach you, she is probably comfortable with at least some eye contact. Take it slow.

Hands: What's the first thing you're likely to do when you're introduced to a human stranger? Reach out boldly and shake hands with a firm, assertive grip. What's the first thing many humans are likely to do when they meet a dog? Reach out boldly and pat him on top of the head. Non-dog-savvy humans, that is. Those who know are well aware that many dogs hate being patted on top of the head, some dogs tolerate it, and a small minority may actually enjoy it.

Tip: If you are trying to make a good impression on the canine you are meeting, you might do best not to reach out at all. Rather, allow the dog to offer the first contact with you. If you must reach toward the dog, offer your open hand, palm up, below his chin level, and let him reach forward to sniff. If she invites closer contact, try scratching gently under her chin or behind her ear – most dogs love that. Just in case she's one of the few who doesn't, or she's not yet ready for that much intimacy from a stranger, watch her response to your touch. If she pulls away, respect her message and stop trying to touch her.

Hugs: C'mon now, even in the world of humans, you'd be offended if someone you didn't know walked up and wrapped arms around you in an intimate hug. Lots of dogs are equally offended, even by hugs from someone they know well. Sure, there are dogs who invite hugs and snuggles, but they are the exception, not the rule.

Tip: Never try to hug a dog you don't know (and don't let your children do it, either!). If you are in the habit of hugging (or allowing your children to hug) your own dog, video some hugs in action and take a good hard look at her body language. If your dog leans into the hugs with a relaxed body and soft expression, you're on solid ground. If you see your dog ducking, looking away, leaning away,

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tensing up or offering other distance-increasing signals, you might want to rethink your hugging program. If you're dead set on hugging a dog who isn't loving it, then make a commitment to a counter conditioning program that can teach her to love – or at least calmly accept – hugs. (See Below: Must Love Hugs)

Body Orientation: Remember that approach for the handshake? You probably stood tall and offered a full-frontal presentation at the same time – we humans would think it quite weird if someone crouched and/or sidled up to us to say hello. However, along with direct eye contact, to a dog, a face-front direct approach screams "Threat!" Equally offensive to many dogs is the human habit of bending or hovering over a dog. If you watch a dog -pro making the acquaintance of a new canine friend, you are likely to see them kneel sideways while avoiding eye contact, and either keeping hands close to the body, or offering an open hand low to the ground.

Tip: Take your lead from the pros. The more wary of you the dog seems, the more important you turn sideways and make yourself small and non-threatening. Of course, if you're greeting an enthusiastic Labrador Retriever who is happily trying to body slam you at the end of his leash, you're probably safe to stand up and face front. But still no hugs, head-pats or hovering please.

Movement: Dogs, especially dogs who aren't completely comfortable with humans, are very sensitive to our movement. Fast, sudden and erratic movements can be alarming, especially if they are combined with direct eye contact and inappropriate hand-reaching.

Tip: Slow, calm movement – or in some case no movement at all, is a better approach with a dog you don't know. (See Below: I Could Have Been Bitten)

Demeanor: Now here's the tricky part. Often, when someone is trying to avoid eye contact, move slowly, speak softly, turn sideways, and control the movement of their hands, they end up looking awkward. Or weird. And that can be very alarming to a dog who isn't sure about the approaching human – or humans in general.

Tip: Video yourself with your own dog while you train yourself to control your eye contact, hands, and body postures. Practice until you can act natural while doing all the approach and greeting behaviors that are very unnatural to primates, while reassuring to dogs. Then ask your friends if you can try it with their dogs. Get really good at it before you try it with random dogs you meet in public.

And always remember to ask the dog's owner first for permission to greet – and respect their wishes if they say "no."

Bottom Line

The bottom line is – primates will be primates. As much as we work to educate humans about appropriate ways to interact with the dogs they meet in this world, there will always be those who, like our stranger in the first paragraph, do all the wrong things in their misguided efforts to love dogs. You, of course, can do better, by making sure you use appropriate body language with the dogs you meet. And you can help your own canids survive in a primate world by teaching them that eye contact, reaches over the head, hugging, and other stupid human behaviors all make good stuff happen.

The Eyes Have It

There's sometimes an occasional moment during shelter dog behavior assessments when the dog being assessed makes deliberate, direct, soft eye contact with the assessor. When this happens to me my heart warms, and I get a little teary-eyed.

"This," I think to myself, "is a dog who has had meaningful relationships with humans."

Somewhere along the line this dog has learned that there is value in making eye contact with humans. You see something in this dog's eyes, and it feels like he is communicating something to you.

If your dog doesn't already know the value of eye contact with humans, you can easily teach him. This is an operant conditioning/positive reinforcement exercise – your dog learns his behavior can make good stuff happen:

Holding a tasty treat in your hand, have your dog sit in front of you.

Show him the treat and move it to the corner of your eye. When his eyes meet your, click and treat. Repeat.

Say the cue "Watch!" just before you move the treat to your eye. When he makes eye contact, click and treat. Repeat.

After several repetitions (the number of repetitions needed will depend on the individual dog), pause after you give the "Watch!" cue and see if he looks into your eyes. If he does, click and treat. If he doesn't, move the treat to your eye, click and treat.

Say "Watch!" Move the treat halfway to your eye, and wait. Just wait. Eventually he will glance at your eyes. Click and treat. (If he never looks at your eyes, do several more repetitions of Step 4)

Say "Watch" and hold the treat at arm's length out to the side. Wait. When he makes eye contact, click and treat.

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When your dog has come to realize the value of eye contact, he will sometimes offer the behavior without being cued. Be sure to reinforce offered eye contact as well as cued eye contact. To help him be comfortable with eye contact from other humans, ask your friend to play the "Watch" game with him as well.

Must Love Hugs

I confess – I'm a primate, and I love hugging dogs as much as the next human. Of the four Miller dogs, one loves to be hugged (Bonnie actively and routinely solicits close contact), so I get most of my dog-hugging needs met by hugging her. Of the remaining three, Dubhy, the Scottie, tolerates hugs, so I occasionally inflict one upon him. Scooter, the Pomeranian, and Lucy, the Corgi, have made their no-hugging preferences clear with avoidance behaviors (no, they've not bitten me for trying to hug) so I don't even try. I can pick Scooter up as needed to carry him places, but this is clearly not a warm-fuzzy hug-fest event. If we didn't have a dog who loved hugs, I might need to teach one to at least tolerate them. I am a primate...

This process involves either classical conditioning – giving a puppy a positive association with something he doesn't already have an opinion of, or classical counter conditioning giving the dog a new association with something he already has a negative opinion of. Either way, the process is similar, but it may go slower if you are working to change an existing opinion rather than simply installing one where none previously exists:

Sit next to your sitting dog, a handful of tasty treats in the hand farthest from your dog. (Assuming your dog is on your left side, have treats in your right hand. If you prefer the other side, just flip the following directions.)

Touch the top of your dog's shoulders (the withers) briefly with your left hand. While your hand is touching him, immediately deliver a high value treat to his mouth with your right hand. Remove both hands at the same time.

Repeat the brief touch-then-feed process until you see your dog brighten happily and turn to look for the arrival of the treat when you touch him. (Note: If you can't get him happy at this step, don't go any further. You have three choices now: a) Seek the help of a positive reinforcement-based trainer to help you with the process; b) Resign yourself to hugging other humans instead of your dog; c) Look to adopt a second dog into your family who clearly loves being hugged.)

Gradually increase the length of time you touch him. As you increase the length of touch, feed, pause, then feed again. Feed multiple times as the length of touch-time increase.

Now touch your dog on his far shoulder, just the

other side of the withers, and immediately feed. This will start to move your arm over his back as is you are beginning to hug him.

Repeat this touch as you did with the withers touch, gradually increasing length of time and multiple feedings as he looks happy about the process.

Slowly increase the approximations of your touch toward an actual hug, making sure you get a consistent positive response at each step before proceeding further.

I Could Have Been Bitten

I will never forget an experience I had as an officer with the Marin Humane Society (Marin County, California) that drove home for me the importance of using appropriate body language with dogs. I was responding to a complaint about an aggressive Rhodesian Ridgeback who was allowed to roam free in his neighborhood.

I pulled up in my Animal Services truck, parked, and sat for a moment surveying the scene. No sign of any dogs. I climbed out of the truck, clipboard in hand. As I approached the front door of the residence I caught sight of a fast-moving brown blur from the corner of my eye. I stopped, stood perfectly still, and didn't make eye contact.

The dog charged up to me and muzzle-punched me – a common precursor to a bite. I stood perfectly still. The dog moved away a few feet, and I quietly, calmly, backed up to my truck and climbed in, still not making eye contact.

Safely in the truck, I reached for my control pole and left my clipboard on the seat. I approached the house again, this time with my pole poised and ready. When the dog charged a second time I slipped the noose over his head, tightened the loop to restrain him, and walked him to my truck, where I placed him safely in a compartment, then returned to his house to discuss the complaint with his owner.

I am convinced to this day that if I had jumped or otherwise reacted in any way to his muzzle punch, I would have, indeed, been bitten, perhaps badly.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Practice appropriate body language techniques (and use them) to keep yourself safe when interacting with dogs

Help your dog learn to tolerate/appreciate – perhaps even love – the kinds of primate body language they are likely to encounter during their lives.

Share body language information with your chil-

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dren and friends to help keep them safe when interacting with dogs.

Peaceable Paws LLC
Pat Miller, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA
301-582-9420

www.peaceablepaws.com

Pat Miller is a Certified Behavior Consultant (Canine) and Certified Professional Dog Trainer. She offers classes, behavior modification services, training clinics and academies for trainers at her 80-acre Peaceable Paws training facility in Fairplay, Maryland (US), and presents seminars worldwide. She has authored "The Power of Positive Dog Training," "Positive Perspectives," "Positive Perspectives 2," "Play With Your Dog," "Do-Over Dogs," and "How to Foster Dogs." Miller is training editor for The Whole Dog Journal, writes for several other publications, and is currently on the Board of Directors for the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers. She shares her home with husband Paul, three dogs, four cats, six horses, two chickens and a potbellied pig.

www.peaceablepaws.com



APDTNZ Committee

Margarette Marshall	president@apdtnz.org.nz
Jen Hebden	
Shelley Turner	
Rebecca Roper	treasurer@apdtnz.org.nz
Susie Londer	education@apdtnz.org.nz
Kate Butler	
Monique Masoe	
Tracey Dunn	membership@apdtnz.org.nz

FOUNDING STATEMENT

The aim of the APDTNZ is to give credibility to affiliated members and confidence to the public for all dog related issues by encouraging and supporting the continuing education of members.

Why Does My Dog Eat Poop?

By Viviane Arzoumanian, CPDT-KA, CBCC-KA, PMCT2, CBATi

Most of us find a dog's habit of eating feces to be quite disgusting. The clinical name for this behavior is coprophagy (pronounced kä - präf' - je), from the Greek words, copro which means feces and phagy which means eat.

There are many theories to explain why some dogs do this, and at least as many suggested remedies. They range from the somewhat scientific to the hopeful. A multitude of remedies can be found through veterinarians, dog trainers, and local pet supply stores. Available literature and anecdotal reports suggest many things work for various dogs, and some dogs don't respond completely despite the best efforts of their caregivers.

Even though there are no definitive answers for this seemingly eternal question, don't despair. Keep reading and make as many of the changes suggested below as you reasonably can, and you may find one or more that work for you and your poop-eating dog.

Unproven theories for why dogs engage in coprophagy:

Disease: pancreatic insufficiency, severe malnutrition caused by infestations of parasites.

Stress: Coprophagy is a behavior that is much more prevalent in shelter dogs than in the general population and is therefore thought to be related to anxiety and stress. For some dogs removing sources of stress can help reduce this behavior. On the other hand, it may be that more dogs are surrendered to shelters because their humans can't tolerate feces-eating.

Fear of Punishment: One theory suggests that dogs punished for defecating inappropriately may begin eating it to hide the evidence, in order to avoid owner disapproval.

It is a behavior modeled by the mother dog: Some very young puppies may engage in coprophagy and then grow out of it if the feces-eating was motivated solely by a desire to keep the environment clean.

Some dog professionals theorize:

If the owner makes a huge deal out of the behavior (and it's hard not to!) the possibility exists that poop takes on special importance to the dog. The canine brain interprets the owner's response as

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interest in, or competition for, this high value item. A simpler explanation may be that poop eating becomes an attention-getting behavior.

Some believe that it is possible to turn poop eating into a resource guarding behavior, for the above reason (the owner's interest in the feces). This would likely be the case if you have a dog that growls at you over attempts to interrupt feces eating. If this is your situation it is likely that the assistance of a qualified trainer is in order to help you address this behavior.

Whatever the cause of your dog's coprophagia, a solid plan for prevention through management and training is necessary.

Prevention strategies:

Caution: Never use punishment when trying to fix this problem, it is highly unlikely to work and could, for reasons stated earlier, easily make the problem worse.

If your puppy shows any interest in eating poop, do not delay addressing this behavior. Using careful management combined with training incompatible behaviors and a bit of counter-conditioning will be valuable in many different settings with you dog and will go a long way. Some possible successful strategies include:

As he/she is pooping praise your dog, and also offer a treat immediately so the dog doesn't even think about his/her deposit.

Manage your dog with a leash and as soon as he/she's done, move the pup away from the feces, and feed high value super yummy treats as you pick up the pile and move on.

If necessary, throw a handful of treats on the ground, so you can pick up the feces without your pup trying to nose in, and remember to praise your pup all the while for eating the treats and ignoring the poop.

Classically condition your dog to associate feces with good stuff from you. Click or verbally mark your dog for noticing feces and immediately treat. You can do this with deliberate set-ups or on the course of walk when feces are spotted.

Teaching your feces-loving dog "leave-it" is a must. Always reward successfully "leaving" feces hand-somely!

Conditioning your dog to love wearing a muzzle will be of some help, though the intrepid dog will still dive for feces unless you use some of the oth-

er strategies suggested in this article. A muzzle full of feces is no fun for you!

As a last resort, and using extreme caution and forethought, if it is possible to create an effective aversive consequence to feces eating, this may be considered. An acceptable example of an aversive in this situation would be sprinkling the feces with a substance with a highly unpleasant taste. This will only work for dogs who eat other dogs feces, so that it can be tainted in advance without the dog seeing it done. Otherwise the dog may only learn not to eat feces that he or she has seen being sprinkled with icky stuff.

NOTE: R+ trainers are loathe to consider the use of punishment, for many reasons. The foremost of which is the risk that it will be associated with caregivers or other important aspects of the dog's everyday life and create more problems than it solves.

For any of the above to work you must use food rewards that your dog likes better than poop!!

If your pup eliminates in the backyard, all pooping must be supervised with the dog on leash. The yard must be kept completely free of feces. Behaviors dogs practice and enjoy increase; ones they never get a chance to engage in decrease and eventually extinguish. Don't give your dog the opportunity to practice. Ever!

Dietary Additives and/or Changes:

Some animal care professionals believe that coprophagia may be related to dietary deficiencies. Here are suggestions for nutritional remedies:

Switch to a food with higher protein and fat content, & lower carbohydrates.

Feed high-quality commercial dog food or a home cooked diet.

Add nutritional yeast (also called brewer's yeast) to your dog's daily meals (B vitamins and thiamine). Coprophagy is seen in dogs with severe nutritional deficits. (Lindsay)

Add a commercial product such as "Deter" to the dog's food that gives the dog's feces an unpleasant taste –worth trying if the dog only eats his/her own feces. These products can be found on-line or at local pet supply stores.

Add digestive enzymes – on the theory that undigested matter in the feces attracts the dog to eat it. Again only helpful if the dog eats his/her own feces. These can be found on-line or at local pet supply stores.

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When feces-eating questions show up on training and dog owner groups on the internet things like pineapple, papaya, and MSG are often mentioned as possible dietary additive treatments. Based on my reading on the dog lists, few people actually report success with using these.

Lifestyle Changes:

If your dog's feces-eating is caused by stress, you can make lifestyle changes to reduce the likelihood of coprophagia.

Dogs need to use their brains and their bodies in fun and challenging ways to stay emotionally healthy. If your dog doesn't know basic good manners behaviors, teach these. In particular, focus on teaching your dog calm, behaviors that promote self-control, such as:

- sit to say please
- leave-it
- drop-it
- sit and wait for dinner (a subset of sit to say please)
- down/stay

Schedule adequate exercise and play for your dog everyday. Make sure the activities you choose are age and health appropriate, and leave your pup tired and relaxed. A walk on-leash, even a long one, may not be the kind of tiring aerobic exercise that will help. Your dog needs a real romp playing with other dogs at the dog park, an extended game of fetch, jogging or romping in the woods with you, or swimming in a pond or pool.

In addition, be sure to provide your dog with lots of interesting (to the dog!) chew toys, puzzles, and food dispensing toys.

If none of the above will work for your dog or your lifestyle, there are some excellent books available with ideas for fun ways to play with your dog, both indoors and out. Some of them include training simple tricks, and none require expensive equipment. Pat Miller, CPDT, Patricia McConnell, PhD., and Christina Sondermann have all written excellent books on how to encourage and structure play with dogs. If you think your dog doesn't know how to play, these books are definitely for you!

Health implications for poop eating

If your dog only eats his/her own feces and is parasite free, there is likely little danger to your dog's health (check with your vet about this to be sure). If your dog has parasites he/she will re-infect him/herself. And of course, eating other dogs poop can lead to ingestion of intestinal parasites or infection with the dreaded parvovirus, which is shed

in the feces of infected dogs.

The Wrap-up

Despite the revulsion, we bipeds experience at the thought of feces eating, Coprophagia occurs commonly in dogs. The good news is that for most dogs it is a modifiable behavior. As with all behavior problems in dogs, implementing a careful and well crafted treatment plan will likely lead to diminishing or even ending this behavior in your dog.

This plan should consist of:

Very tight management – stop the dog from practicing this gross habit sufficient and appropriate exercise – a tired dog is a better behaved dog training of incompatible behaviors – if your dog learns to sit and look at your face for a series of treats immediately after pooping he or she cannot do this and eat poop at the same time training behaviors that give you verbal control over your dog's actions –a behavior like "leave-it" trained to such fluency that your dog can't help responding to the sound of the cue will give you great control over your dog in this and many other situations counter-conditioning so that the dog changes his or her association with what to do in the presence of feces – your dog learns that noticing feces causes treats to fall from the sky, dietary changes – to address any nutritional deficits that might contribute to this behavior, a check up at the vet to rule out pancreatic insufficiency or malnutrition (in a recently rescued dog)

As with many seemingly intractable behaviors in dogs, Coprophagia can be changed for the better. Consistency and a long-term approach applied with patience and planning will win the day on this one!



Mounting

By Gail Fisher

A few years ago I was editing video my staff and I had taken of dog interaction in our daycare yard when I noticed that no matter which of us had been filming, we each had the same reaction when dogs we were filming started mounting: Like unwilling voyeurs, we shifted the camera away. It happened with such regularity that rather than (figuratively) dumping the clips on the cutting room floor, I became curious and saved them in a separate file to look at later.

Prior to this time, I hadn't thought much about mounting except, that is, for its relevance in my dog breeding program, and when students and clients brought it up as a problem behavior. But here was a laboratory of a continuously shifting pack of daycare dogs—sometimes as many as sixty-plus in a day. Rather than simply discussing how to deal with it—which we did—my staff and I started an informal study, noting everything that we could: who, what and when, to see if we could figure out why.

What we discovered surprised us, causing us to re-think commonly held beliefs about dogs mounting other dogs or humans. We started compiling what is now a list of ten different possible reasons for mounting behavior based on the situations in which it occurs, the attitudes of the dogs involved (both the mounter and “mountee”), and the outcome of the behavior. In the 17 years that we've been offering an interactive doggie daycare, these observations have been re-confirmed many times.

Sex Or Dominance?

For years I had thought that mounting was largely related either to sex or an attempt to dominate. My experience as a trainer supported this belief, since owners often reported a decrease in mounting and pushy behavior (interpreted as “dominant”) after their dog was neutered.

Mounting is a normal behavior that starts with young puppies mounting a littermate. Likely playing a role in bonding as well as practicing what will later be an adult behavior, this interaction plays an important educational role: A littermate may turn on her brother, saying, “Quit that!” teaching him to be a gentleman and accept being rebuffed. Such early learning is important in the dog's behavior repertoire, so as an adult, when he approaches a female who is not receptive and she communicates that message, he'll get it and respond appropriately. At least, we hope he will.

We often see mounting behavior in a young

(unneutered) puppy in daycare. At that age it is easily redirected by simply calling the pup's name. But as the puppy reaches adolescence this behavior may start to be problematic—becoming more persistent and pushy. When we start to have difficulty calling the dog off or redirecting him, we'll talk to the owner to determine if they're planning to neuter their dog. If they aren't, we let them know that the day may come when their dog's behavior will no longer be appropriate for a multi-dog daycare environment. Dogs that have been excused from daycare and then are neutered several years later, perhaps after finishing a show career, have occasionally returned to daycare. Re-introduced to the group as a “new dog,” often the problematic mounting and dominant behavior they had previously exhibited is gone. This contrast between pre- and post-neutering behavior supports the belief that mounting is related to either sex or dominance. Sometimes it is ... and sometimes it isn't.

Hormonal Or Not?

As the post-neutering decrease in some mounting behavior demonstrates, some mounting is hormonal—related to testosterone. Both dogs and bitches produce testosterone, males obviously producing more. Testosterone is produced in both the testes and the pituitary gland. Neutering—surgical removal of the testicles—reduces testosterone levels in the average male, and often reduces or eliminates male mounting behavior. But not always. Female mounting is a different story. Some bitches actually begin mounting after they are spayed, possibly because the pituitary gland continues producing testosterone, while removal of the ovaries eliminates the female hormone estrogen, which mitigates the effects of testosterone.

Despite the fact that the majority of dogs in our daycare are neutered, we still see a great deal of mounting—so it's not just hormonal. When we started looking at “who” and “when,” we discerned several different reasons for mounting behavior, and most are neither sex nor domination. Further, there are distinct behavioral differences with dominance or sexual mounting, making it easy to distinguish.

Why Dogs Mount

The first thing we looked at in our “study” was gender. The vast majority of mounting is intra-gender—neutered male to neutered male; and neutered female to neutered female. Occasionally a neutered female will mount a neutered male, but interestingly, rarely vice versa—and then it may be that the female has a urinary tract infection. Once cured, the mounting stops.

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While it's impossible to know with certainty what is in a dog's mind, a great deal of mounting seems to simply be part of normal play. As two dogs wrestle together, one on his back and the other standing, when the "under" dog gets up, the other dog simply latches on for a few seconds. The mounted dog doesn't object or seem to even notice, and after a step or two, they separate to resume their play. We believe this type of mounting behavior is simply related to non-sexual excitement during normal play.

Sometimes two dogs will be joined by a third, adding a caboose. The addition of the third wheel can be problematic even when it doesn't involve mounting, and is a competitive behavior that can lead to kerfuffles. The mounting behavior itself does not seem to be objectionable to either of the dogs being mounted, and if it goes on for more than a few seconds, all are easily re-directed by simply calling their names. We interpret this third wheel interaction as competitive, "Play with me, darn it!" behavior.

New dogs to daycare will often be mounted their first day. We also see mounting in dogs that have developed friendships with others in our daycare. We interpret this type of mounting as being related to bonding and friendship. Bonding may also be the reason for mounting that occurs at daycare between two dogs that live together, but who don't mount each other at home. With this type of mounting, the mounted dog doesn't visibly object to being clasped, and the mounter is easily called off. Occasionally we've noted mounting that seems to be related to resource acquisition—the resource being a hole that the mountee is digging. When the digger moves away from the hole, the mounter takes over the hole.

When Mounting Is Problematic

For the most part, the dog being mounted does not overtly object, and when they do, the reaction is a mild one—simply turning slightly toward the dog that is mounting and then moving away. Rarely, a dog will snap briefly at another dog. In most cases we are easily able to interrupt the behavior by simply calling the dog's name, and redirecting him away from the mountee. There are, however, two specific instances when mounting is problematic, and the mountee does object: when it is either obsessive or related to dominance.

Obsessive mounting occurs when a dog singles out another as the "object of his affection." The mounter refuses to take "no" for an answer no matter how emphatically the mountee may tell him. If

the obsession is with just this one dog, separating the dogs eliminates the issue. On the other hand, if several dogs display an obsessive interest, we suggest that the owner have their dog checked by their veterinarian, including urinalysis. In our experience, such obsessive interest is often due to a urinary tract infection.

We have had a rare mountee where we can't figure out the reason for multiple dogs' obsessive interest, even in consultation with the dog's veterinarian. In that case, for the dog's sake, we suggest he stay home from daycare.

Some of these dogs have returned after a few months, and are no longer mountees. Dominance mounting is another story altogether. We most often note this type of mounting in un-neutered males around 18 months of age. We have some dramatic film of dominance mounting, and it is easy to see the difference in the behavior of all the dogs involved. The dominance mounter is assertive, persistent and forceful, and the mountee is visibly apprehensive and nervous, exhibiting multiple calming signals. Dogs in other forms of mounting will either sit or simply walk away, but with dominance mounting, the mountee stands stock still, and is visibly uncomfortable, seemingly having no good way to stop the mounter. If he objects, the assertive dog may come back at him. Further, there is growling and snarling, which isn't an aspect of most mounting. The moment we notice dominance mounting we will separate the assertive dog to a different playgroup—if possible one in which he won't feel the need to dominate. If we don't have such a group, or if the problematic behavior occurs regardless of which group he's in, we will excuse him from daycare.

Dogs Mounting People

While these possible reasons for dog-to-dog mounting behavior have been observed in a daycare setting, there are situations in which dogs will try to mount a person, likely for different reasons. Owners have reported that their dogs may mount as a displacement behavior when they are anxious or as an outlet for excess energy. In those instances the behavior may be problematic and difficult to redirect. It may be either self-reinforcing, or reinforced by the owner's attention.

Within limits, training may be used to manage mounting behavior. While training does not reduce the dog's inclination to mount, it does arm the owner with an alternative behavior. The owner must learn to recognize a characteristic posture, approach, facial expression, or other precursor and cue an alternative, incompatible behavior before

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the dog starts to mount. Timing is critical, as once the dog has actually started mounting, the owner will have to physically remove the dog, often affecting the owner's attitude toward her dog.

This approach involves training and control, but will not eliminate the behavior. In the absence of the owner's eagle eye, the dog will return to mounting. Negative punishment may help—putting the dog on a down-stay, for instance, and ignoring him, although this is unlikely to prevent the behavior.

Regardless of the reason for mounting behavior, it is important not to blame the dog. The dog is not consciously "deciding" to do something we find objectionable. He's only doing what comes naturally—and in most cases; it's harmless, innocent, and normal.

Past president of the APDT, Gail Fisher, CDBC, has been training dogs professionally for 40 years. Her most recent book, THE THINKING DOG—Crossover to Clicker Training is the quintessential manual for dog trainers interested in clicker training. Gail operates All Dogs Gym® and All Dogs Academy for Professional Dog Trainers, providing education and training for instructors and trainers since 1978.

The APDTNZ is considering ordering the DVD's below from Tawzer, if you are interested in sharing freight costs please e-mail : president@apdtnz.org.nz

Presented by: Grisha Stewart MA, CPDT-KA, KPACTP

"BAT 2.0 Series" is a bundled package of 6 individual DVD titles encompassing Grisha's Behavior Adjustment Training 2.0

DVDs also available separate.

1. Talk With Me! Simple Steps for 2-Way Understanding Between Dogs and People - An Empowered Animals DVD (run time: 1 hr 37 mins): Many people talk TO their dogs, but not with them. Did you know that you can ask your dog questions and get answers back? It's not telepathy; it just takes an understanding of body lan-

guage, animal learning, consistency, and creativity. Actively focusing on communication between humans and dogs allows us to live more peacefully with our canine family members. With some simple changes in how you interact with your dog, you can more thoroughly understand his needs and also help him understand and respond to yours, too. This thought-provoking video will change your relationship with your dog. The information is appropriate for anyone who interacts with dogs on a personal or professional level.

2. Walk with Me! Safety, Fun, and Freedom with Leash Training for You and Your Dog- An Empowered Animals DVD (run time: 1 hr 26 mins):

Two of the major problems people have with their dogs are 1) pulling on leash and 2) reactivity on leash. These two problems are related and can be helped with the techniques in this video. Both ends of the leash get training in this practical video for trainers and pet owners. It takes two to pull, so training people and dogs together makes for a very effective solution. The three major topics covered are: BAT Leash Skills for People, Loose Leash Walking and Heel. Grisha does practical demonstrations of when to use each skill, breaking them down into easy-to-learn steps. She also explains several ways to teach heel and loose leash walking, since not every technique fits every dog.

3. Problem Prevention in Puppies and Dogs: an Empowered Approach to Life with Dogs- An Empowered Animals DVD (run time: 2 hrs 32 mins):

Taking force-free training a step further - from reinforcement to empowerment - Grisha focuses on helping dogs meet their needs in appropriate ways. Doing so can prevent and eliminate many of the behaviors that humans don't like. Empowerment is not only an efficient way to train our dogs, it is a big step in the direction of a high standard of humane care for the dogs who share our lives. Grisha uses practical demonstrations to teach various skills, clarifies where problems come from, and explains how to mesh the needs of your dog with the needs of your family and the rest of human society. This is a must-view video for breeders, puppy parents, dog owners, and professional dog trainers.

4. Survival Skills: Coping with Dog Reactivity in Real Life (run time: 1 hr 12 mins):

Best known for the technique of Behavior Adjustment Training (BAT), Grisha also understands that it's not always possible to train in the ideal way, with the dog learning at his own pace. Sometimes we just don't want to be the one holding the leash with the barking-lunging-freaking-out-dog at the other end. This video has practical solutions to help dogs hold it together on everyday walks. The dog can't do all of

the work – sometimes that is your job, as the one with the larger brain and the thumbs. One major difference between savvy dog trainers and regular pet lovers is that good professional trainers know how to take charge and set dogs up for success. But even pro trainers sometimes manage too much. It's a fine line. Grisha suggests a path between 1) reacting only when the dog is too excited to listen and 2) micromanaging to the point where the dog is not learning. She will teach you ways to prevent problems before they start, react when you have to, and set the dog up to learn as much as possible from each situation.

5. BAT 2.0 Set-Ups: How to Orchestrate Basic Set-Ups and Variations with Dogs (run time: 1 hr 19 mins): Behavior Adjustment Training (BAT) helps dogs gain confidence and social skills by arranging scenarios that allow a dog to explore and learn. Originally developed in 2009, BAT 2.0 is the updated version that is simpler, faster, and easier for dogs and people to do. BAT is effective for many kinds of reactivity, from fear to frustration to 'proper' aggression. This video has several live demonstrations and explanations of BAT 2.0. Whether you are familiar with BAT or not, this video will help you understand how to put this effective tool to work. This is a short introduction to the technique, with variations. It should be enough for professionals to start implementing BAT. If you are not a dog trainer or behaviorist, you will still find this helpful, but Grisha recommends working with a Certified BAT Instructor (CBATI) or a trainer who is experienced with reactivity, and is familiar with this latest version of BAT.

6. BAT for Geeks: A Technical Perspective on Behavior Adjustment Training 2.0 (run time: 1 hr 27 mins): Why does BAT work? What's the science behind it? What's 'under the hood?' What about ethics and the quadrants? Grisha is fascinated by animal behavior and with the inquisitive mind of a mathematician, questions like these are often on Grisha's mind. This video takes a technical look at BAT, mostly through the lens of applied behavior analysis. Join Grisha for whirlwind tour of various studies and their application to BAT. If you are ready to geek out about BAT, this video is for you.



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Would you like to become more 'hands on' involved with APDTNZ? No experience required. Contact president@apdt.org.nz for more info.

Deadline for contributions to be included in
Issue 22, Oct/Nov/Dec 2014
15th November 2014

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- APDTA will not advertise training services or courses.
- All material in the newsletter must be in line with the APDTNZ Vision and Mission Statements and the Code of Ethics
- Placement of material in the newsletter is at the discretion of the Editor and the Committee
- No paid advertising is accepted
- Members may place merchandise ads free of charge in the newsletter, but must include a discount for members
- Events may be advertised in a maximum of 5 lines
- Positioning of ads is at the discretion of the Editor and Committee
- The publication of any advertising material does not constitute the endorsement of the APDTA for the event of merchandise.

APDT NZ Vision statement:

All dogs are effectively trained through dog-friendly techniques and therefore are lifelong companions in a relationship based on mutual respect and trust.

APDT NZ Mission statement:

To promote human-dog relationships of understanding and trust by offering education in canine behaviour and effective, up to date, dog friendly training methods and skills.