

Yabba Dabba Doo! Spring would appear to be just around the corner. And not a moment too soon if you ask me! I am not a fan of winter and as I get older, I find that the cold affects me more.

But, dog training carries on no matter the weather. I have decided that the word "obedience" is an awful word when it comes to relating to our dogs, because for the most part, people just want the dog to have a good recall! **Sit** is nice, **Down** is great, **Stay** works, but if the dog won't "**Come**" then what is the point? Right?

I see it over and over again. Training your dog is not about the number of repetitions you do. It is much more about how you approach each training session. Decide what you want (little steps are best) and then focus on that.

The Everything Class (see how I eliminated the word obedience) continues to be a huge success. Dogs with behavioral issues are getting the help they need and dogs that just want the basics are also satisfied.

Agility. Huckleberry Hounds is hosting its first AAC sanctioned trial in City Park on May 31, 2009. It will be part of The Educated Dog Fair (our 2nd annual event). Hope to see you there as either a participant or spectator.

Kelowna has seen lots of growth in the area of dog training. The list of dog training options grows. And there are as many dog training ideas as there are trainers. My advice to you would be to go and watch a training session (obedience, agility, flyball, etc) before you sign up. Everyone sounds great over the phone or on a website. However it is the real live interaction that is important.

We still have a number of Mexican dogs looking for homes. I have 3 here in Kelowna and there are 42 in a shelter in Cancun that we need to find homes for.

Hope to see you at the Educated Dog Fair on May 31 in City Park.

Cathy Nesbitt

Huckleberry Hounds Dog Sports

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