



GREATER COLUMBIA
OBEDIENCE CLUB

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

GCOC Obedience/
Rally Trial, January
2011.

Sign-up for Fall
Classes starting in
Oct/Nov!! Visit:
www.gcoc.net

Next meeting is
October 7th, at the
Training Building.

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Kitchen Training, Part II by Phyllis Beasley



Well, I don't know about you, but the heat this summer was SO bad, that my belief in training in air-conditioned kitchens was re-affirmed with a vengeance! And the Shelties boys were so bored with staying at home that they hovered around me constantly in the kitchen, waiting for Mom to play some exciting training games! (And only a few times did I find dog hair in dinner!) This summer I practiced my Stepper's real bug-a-boos in Rally Advanced and Excellent: the moving stand and those darn left pivots. With my youngest Sheltie, Sky, I practiced re-calls, finishes and stands (since we have dreams of him becoming a conformation dog). All of these exercises are easily trained in a kitchen, even a small one. The biggest problem is separating the dogs so I don't have three shelties crowded into one little space and all wanting to practice at the same time!

Left Pivots

I wish I could say there is one quick and easy way to train pivots, but, as with most dog training, there is not a one-size-fits-all method. Those of you who have been working on pivots with your dog know exactly what I mean! In teaching pivots, the first thing the dog should learn is good hind end awareness. He needs to understand that he can move his hind end back without having to move all of his body. Teaching a dog to back up first (see Kitchen Training Part I) is a good way to start. Another exercise that helps a dog understand the type of movement needed for pivoting is to have the dog in heel position and begin making circles to the left and continue to make smaller and smaller circles---but just be careful not to do it too long or you will get really dizzy! Yet another way is to have the dog at heel position with the dog between you and an object such as a kitchen stool.

Turn tightly in a slightly square manner around the object the dog will have to stay close at your side and by moving in this method, he will find it necessary to move his hind end.

Here is a brief video of Kitchen Training the left turn movement with Stepper: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xY65jlMePzk>

If you lure this exercise by having the treat in your left hand and moving it back and out, make sure the treat is not too high, causing your dog to sit. You may need to try a few angles for luring before you find one that gets the desired movement. For clicker-savvy folks, you can teach a dog to move its hind end by placing a phone book on the kitchen floor and shaping the behavior till, first, the dog will stand on the book with its front legs, then begin clicking for back end turning movement by the dog as the dog follows you as you turn around the book. Once he gets this movement down pat, then have him in heel position with his front feet on the book and begin movement around. (Clear as mud?) Here are two links on YouTube illustrating that method:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LMWgu8Q_Ngk (I would pick an object with more secure footing)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22dOf88RTiI>

For Rally, the principle part of all pivot exercises is that the dog moves with the handler and sits. So as you are training, make sure that you are encouraging your dog to move at the same time you do. Don't get discouraged if your dog doesn't pick up this movement quickly. Moving so closely together and in that awkward left pivot position is one of the hardest things to learn to do correctly, in my opinion.



Kitchen Training—Part II Cont.

Moving Stand

Again, for some dogs this can be a difficult exercise, but you don't need much space to practice. Start by heeling a few steps, then say "stay" and give a hand signal in the dog's face and stop your action. Reward. I have found that it is better to say "stay" than "stand." It may confuse dogs when you say "stand" when they are already technically standing!

Once the dog is stopping and staying in a stand when you stop, then heel a few steps, say "stay" and use your hand signal, but walk on ONE step further. Reward!

Make sure you don't put your reward so far away from the dog's nose that he has to take a step to reach it! In fact, it would be a good idea to not put the

treat in your hand as you cue your dog to stay. After he stays, then reach into your pocket or treat bag to reward him.

Continue to work slowly on going additional steps away from the dog when he stays, but do it gradually so that he gets used to the fact that he will be staying in a stand while your motion continues, eventually going around the dog. Remember, you are slowly working towards the correct performance of the exercise which calls for "while heeling and without pausing, the handler will stand the dog and walk around the dog to the left."

If you find that your dog continues to try and follow you as you step forward, you may want to work more on the stand-stay concept. Heel a few steps, cue your

dog with a hand signal to stay, then swing directly in front of him and reward him from there. You can work separately on the stand stays by asking him to stay and by gradually increasing the stay distance as you continue to face him. Reward frequently. Once he is solid on this type stand-stay, then go back to the method above, but always work in slow increments. And, as you all who have worked with me before know when training any of the stay-walk around exercises, ALWAYS be sure and incorporate the required pause after returning to heel position---count "1", "2" before moving on! Happy Kitchen Training!



Phyllis works with her dog using the kitchen stool as a tool for teaching left pivots.

Pumpkin and Peanut Butter Dog Treats!!

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup canned pumpkin
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground Cinnamon



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Whisk together the flour, eggs, pumpkin, peanut butter, salt, and cinnamon in a bowl. Add water as needed to help make the dough workable, but the dough should be dry and stiff. Roll the dough into a 1/2-inch-thick roll. Cut into 1/2-inch pieces.
3. Bake in preheated oven until hard, about 40 minutes.

The Tricks Festival offers you the chance to work individually or with others in creative or structured presentations to showcase your dogs tricks using single or multiple skills. Participants may come with their dog ready to do their presentation or they may come without their dog to watch and gain insights. Bring a chair and let's have some fun!!! Dogs can be crated in the building or in cars.

Email registration form to Diane Sanderson muddypaws100@yahoo.com and mail your fee to Diane Sanderson 950 Westfield Court Sumter, SC 29154 Don't forget to include your t-shirt size!!

\$30 per person with or without a dog, and it includes all of your presentations. We will not be able to refund your fee if unable to attend. **You will receive: a Dog Tricks Festival t-shirt, a catered lunch from Doc's BBQ : meat, 2 sides, dinner roll, and drink, lots of insights and fun!!!!!! Deadline to enter is Oct. 1st!!!!**

It's all for fun and to provide a happy and safe experience for our dogs! Share what your dog can do!



Greater Columbia Obedience Club

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Serving Columbia since 1968

The Greater Columbia Obedience Club (GCOC) started in 1968. It is an American Kennel Club (AKC) sanctioned organization made up of local dog enthusiasts. GCOC is charged with providing valuable community education and seminars to educate the public about dog sports, dog obedience and many other canine health and well-being subjects. GCOC also regularly hosts AKC sanctioned Obedience, Rally and Agility Trials.

As part of its mission, GCOC has been offering obedience training classes for pet owners and their pets in the Columbia area for many years. All instructors are volunteers who have earned one more titles on their dogs.



Upcoming Events

FREESTYLE COMPETITION & FUN MATCH— 2ND ANNUAL PUTTIN' ON THE GRRR-ITZ

NOV 13-14, 2010 - 8AM -
4PM EACH DAY

Description: WCFO membership and pre-entries are required for the competition. Open to the public. The fun match is open to anyone, no pre-registration required and \$5.00 per entry. **Questions?** Email Peggy Singletary at ralei@sc.rr.com



Sheltie Fun Day Saturday, October 16, 2010. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Harbison State Forest, Gazebo Area

For ALL herding breeds! Phoenix Border Collie Rescue and Australian Shepherd Rescue will be there, too. Meet adoptable dogs!

Concessions, games, contests, silent auction and raffle! Demonstration on how to groom your pet Sheltie.

Canine Good Citizen test at 1:00 p.m. Fee: \$15 Separate registration required, contact MeAndMyPez@aol.com. Beautiful AKC Canine Good Citizen ribbons awarded to all who pass the test.