



Spirit Ridge

K9 Training & Rescue



... because sit happens "



RUFF STUFF



SPRING Edition 2   8

www.spiritridge.com

vol.2, No.2



From the Editor's Paw ...

I hope that everyone is finally enjoying the beautiful spring weather and taking plenty of walks with their dogs. If this is not the case and the reason is that your dog is aggressive towards other dogs or you are just too embarrassed to even try, be sure to contact us! We can help teach you how to get the most enjoyment out of walking with your dog!

Over the heavy winter slumber, many things have happened at Spirit Ridge! We were able to find the perfect 'fur-ever' home for Blue, the Australian Cattle Dog that had fallen on hard times. James and Roxana of Toronto have told us that he will never be returned! Both are firm and loving with their new four-legged friend *Blue*. They exercise him on a daily basis and love to show him off on walks in downtown Toronto. As with all rescues, they make sure Blue is aware of all his rules, boundaries and limitations and of course shower him with affection – *in exactly that order of importance!*

On a personal note we are pleased to announce the arrival of our littlest Spirit Ridge pack member. 'Sonic' Boom is a Belgian Malinois that came bounding into our lives on March 6th. Since his arrival here at the Ridge, Sonic has been busy with puppy obedience and puppy agility classes. At the age of 12 weeks he was already going on an assignment helping me assess and rehabilitate a German Shepherd that just so happened to have aggressive tendencies towards puppies. Clearly Sonic is on his way to being our youngest working dog. You can find Sonic and me hanging out in front of grocery stores, Walmart, the Orangeville Mall and anywhere else there is action! This is Sonic's socialization period where he needs to be exposed to every and any new situation in order to become the flexible, easily adjusting adult male dog that I know he can be. Sonic's next assignment will be as Spirit Ridge's ambassador and mascot at the **Erin Spring Home & Lifestyle Show** on May 3rd. He will be at our booth showing everyone what he has learned in obedience, doing some agility work and slobbering all over new friends. If you have some time, feel free to drop by, meet Sonic (and us) and ask any questions relating to your dogs and their behaviour. We are always eager to help provide solutions that will improve your relationship with your dog(s). **Have a great Spring!**

Spring-Summer 2008 Classes

Group Classes in:

- Obedience (Beginner & Intermediate)
- Agility (Adult and Puppy)
- Rally Obedience (Beginner & Advanced)
- Tracking (Beginner & Intermediate classes)

Introducing:

- WALK THE DOG – short 3 week course
- Schutzhund Training School
- Private K9 and human behavioural improvement sessions

For more info on our classes visit our website (www.spiritridge.net) and click on 'Services'.

Handler & Leadership seminar - Update

Finally, after a couple of scheduling conflicts, we have re-scheduled for Sunday May 25th between 12- 4:30 PM (see write up on page two of this Newsletter).



Spirit Ridge's Puppy-Spielberg - 'Sonic' Boom
- directing puppy agility class

A POEM FOR THE PUPPY OWNER

*Don't Smell Crotches, Don't Eat Plants,
Don't Steal Food or Underpants
Don't eat my Socks, Don't Grab my Hair
DON'T RIP THE STUFFING FROM THAT CHAIR!*

*Don't Eat those Peas! Don't Touch that Bush!
Don't Chew my Shoes What IS that Mush?*

EAT your cookie, Drink your drink,
Outta the toilet! Outta the sink!

*AWAY FROM THE CAT BOX, IT'S FOR THE CAT!
(and MUST you kiss me after that???)*

*Yes, raising a puppy, Is NOT for the lazy
Though puppies are funny, They're also crazy.
But don't despair, through toil and strife,
After 3 years, you'll get back your life!*

So, let's go for 'walkies, You can 'Do your Thing'
and perhaps I'll get back, MY DIAMOND RING!



Jesse's K-9 Cuisine Korner I've been away for a while since I now have a new puppy ('Sonic' Boom) to train. Have no fear though!! I am back with another doggy-licious recipe for the Spring – and this one is for my friends that happen to have a wheat intolerance! I don't know what that means but 'woof' it down and enjoy!

Wheat-free Chicken Liver Biscuits

- 1 pound raw Chicken Livers
- 1 Egg
- 1 cup Whole Wheat Flour
- 1/2 cup Cornmeal
- pinch of Salt
- 1/4 teaspoon Garlic Powder
- 1/4 teaspoon Oregano

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 9"x13"x2" pan with nonstick cooking spray. Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl. Put chicken livers and egg in blender and mush. Add chicken liver/egg mixture to dry ingredients and mix with a spoon. Poor into prepared pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until firm to the touch. Cool, cut into bite sized pieces and store in refrigerator or freezer in plastic bags. For firmer treats, scatter cut treats on a cookie sheet, return to low-heat oven for 1-1 1/2 hours until crispy.

Here I am, teaching my new puppy how to give' puppy luv



Original Article
Reproduction rights obtainable from
www.CartoonStock.com

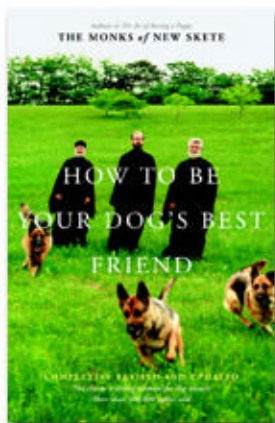


"Great. It's the call of the wild, and you've got me on hold."

Interactive Seminar on Leadership and K9 Handler skills set for May 25th - (12-4:30PM)

This Sunday seminar will focus primarily on helping handlers recognize the signals our dogs are giving us as well as teach basic leadership and handling skills. Handlers will learn the difference between unfocussed and destructive human energy compared to calm-assertive handling and leadership skills. The most predominant mistakes we make as humans and their detrimental effect on your relationship with your dog **plus** the dispelling of many very popular myths will also be covered in this interactive seminar. **If you are interested in registering for this seminar, please contact us!** A limited number of attendees' dogs will be permitted to participate in this seminar to help with demonstrations. Parking is plentiful and you will leave armed with a great deal of knowledge on how to improve your relationship with your K9 friend!

Recommended Reading



How to Be your Dog's Best Friend (by the Monks of New Skete). Summary: This book is a classic, initially written in the '90s. It covers topics on how to select a dog to fit your lifestyle, how to read a pedigree, how and when to train, and how to properly use praise and discipline with wisdom, compassion and caring. Available in any large book store.



Contact Information:
Jim Tsitandis,
K9 Trainer and Behavioural Consultant

jim@spiritridge.net
(519) 855-6962 www.spiritridge.net