

The Luvk9s Lowdown

February 2016 Volume 8, Number 02

In This Issue

- · Intro and 'quick clicks'
- Fading the food lure
- German shorthaired pointer
- Ending with a smile



German shorthaired pointer Photo from AKC website

Quote of the Month

"Never trust people who don't love dogs."

Author unknown

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Luvk9s Dog Training February newsletter

Besides Ground Hog Day (who doesn't love the prediction of an early spring), animal lovers look forward to the Westminster Dog Show every February. As we all know by now, CJ, a German shorthaired pointer, won best of show. This month, we're featuring the German shorthaired pointer.

Will your dog only sit if you show him a treat? Be sure to read this month's article on fading the food lure.

This month's "quick clicks" – just click on the title:

- Tips on dealing with your canine "teenager"
- Canine intelligence the latest on how dogs see the world
- Fun activities for you and you dog
- Most popular dog breeds of 2015

Our next round of group classes will start up the week of March 28. Classes will meet on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays either outdoors at the Wildcat Recreational area or indoors at Red Barn Kennels. If you are interested in a puppy class, obedience, Canine Good Citizenship and therapy dog work, agility, dancing, tricks, noseworks, rally ... <u>click here!</u>

Happy training!

Fading the food lure

Positive dog trainers are often accused of bribing dogs to respond to cues (such as 'sit' or 'down'). But the goal of positive training is to reward, not bribe, the dog.

What is the difference between a bribe and a reward? Let's use the 'sit' cue as an example, because this is usually one of the first cues dogs learn. If you ask your dog to sit, and he doesn't (even though you are sure he knows how) and you then pull out a treat, show it to him, and the dog then sits – that's a bribe!

If you ask your dog to sit using only a verbal cue and/or hand signal, and your dog sits, and you then give him a treat *after* he is sitting, that is a reward.

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So how do you teach your dog to eventually perform a cue without bribing? The technique is called 'fading the lure' and the key is to try to get rid of the food lure as quickly as possible.

To continue reading, <u>click here</u>.

German shorthaired pointer

Did you know that the German shorthaired pointer:

- Is one of the most versatile working dogs?
- Is a water dog complete with webbed feet?
- Was bred to point? No training required!
- Has a coat that repels water AND dirt?
- Is a retriever that rarely develops hip dysplasia?
- Is a high energy dog that was built to jump? (They excel at dock diving!)

To learn more about this wonderful breed, click here.

Ending with a smile....this month's VIDEO

https://youtu.be/oQioo4nc04I

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If you have friends who would be interested in receiving our newsletter, send an E-mail to the same address with your friends name and E-Mail address.

Our website is updated regularly, so check it often: www.luvk9s.com