



THE WAG

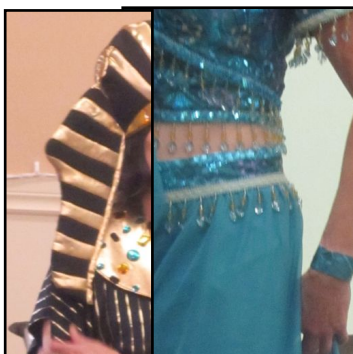
VOLUME 13

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SHADOWS OF ETERNITY UPDATE

When this WAG comes out, we'll be in the final week before the show. Here's what's happening:

Costumes: Annette let us know last Tuesday that she has put the final stitches on the costumes. She also made several trips to Beijing and Sidney for wigs and bling for the look to be just right. We know she likes shopping, but this was above and beyond.



Set: Lin outdid herself with the set design for this show, creating three separate sets. Thanks to Lin's coordination and know-how, many members were able to contribute hidden talents. For example, who knew Anne and Nina were such expert fabric artists? That Jan, Jean, and Debra could tackle the huge fabric projects and emerge relatively unscathed? (Okay, I lie. A dislocated shoulder *is* pretty serious) That Joan could create hieroglyphic stamps that enabled us to print up four thirty-by-ten-foot drops in a matter of days? That Charlie, Ann's husband, had the carpentry skills to create collapsible risers?



Meanwhile, the rest of us pitched in on the work bees: Among *many* other things, Gail gave light to lanterns, Grazyna and Joyce bejewelled bunting, Lyd feathered fans, Chris painted balls blue, Ann blackened fan bases, Annette styled swagging, Ray and Tristan painted scaffolding, Sharon provided her barn and painted, Alison trucked titanic columns, Karen glammed a crook and flail. We all learned the magic of magnets, the pain of hot glue, and the joy of wielding power tools.

Publicity: Gail, Shannon, and Lin did a great job of flyers, posters, press-releases, and media coverage, even garnering a spot on Global news!

Music: Ray did the final editing last week. The score includes Persian-inspired music, classical music, and modern music. Somehow, Ray worked his magic to make all the music fit seamlessly together.

Lighting: Ray Moschuk is back to do our lighting. To help us out, he's flying in from Hawaii where he is currently working.

Make-up: Brookwood Secondary Drama students, led by Gordon, is back and looking forward to transforming us into ancient Egyptians. Or wait, *young* Ancient Egyptians.

Kite-flyers: We've picked up two new kite-flyers this year, Lam and David, both from the Lower Mainland and both with international reputations. (And then there is their kite-flying). We're excited to have the inimitable Tristan back to star in our production and brother Cailan joining us as, wouldn't ya know – Tristan's brother!

Stage Manager: Calling the shots on the set will be Lorra, whose experience will help ease those butterflies. Brookwood students will act as stage hands again.

Dancer: Earlier this year, Erin starred in another performance at the Bell with her Ballet group. We're pleased she likes dogs and decided to join us in *Shadows*.

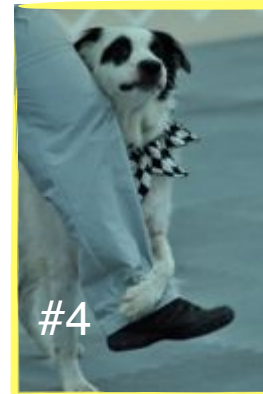
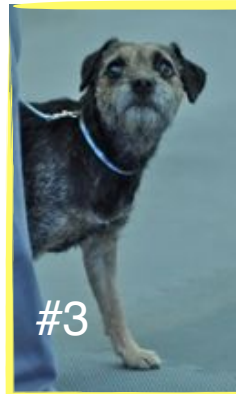
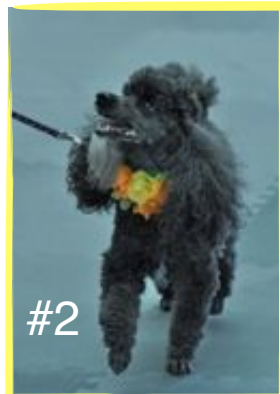
Narrator: Guiding you through the story will be Alanna, owner and manager of Waldo and Stubbs Pet Store in Fort Langley.

Bad Guy: Yes, we have another evil dude, this time portrayed by Chris whom we all attack whenever we can.

Rehearsals: What can we say? Ray hasn't pulled out all his hair!



Welcome new members: Karen Hathaway from Deer Park, WA, and Jane Burkey from Sequim, WA.



Caption Contest: What are these dogs thinking!! Choose any or all.

Send captions to Lyd (freya9@telus.net) for these doggie pics. To be published in next WAG

Drive and Drive Work by Kristen Ficke and Lenore Baskin (From Vancouver Island's Muttley Crew)

If I said that I wanted to get more drive out of my dog, or that dog has a lot of drive, what is it I am talking about? **What is drive?**

Drive is the desire to work, the enthusiasm to work, and the enjoyment of working that we get from our dogs. But more than just that, drive is flair within the dog, a genuine excitement that seems to radiate from the dog and shows in their performance and work habits. It is the difference between just working for a handler and working with the handler for the sheer excitement of it. A dog with drive will have a certain look of "Oh my god! This is the best thing ever! I really want to do this!" Different dogs have different levels of drive. Sometimes we have to spend a lot of time building drive in a dog.

How do we build drive in our dogs? It takes a lot of patience and enthusiasm from the handler. If the handler is repeating the same training techniques, the dog may lose interest. The handler then has to be more interesting and encouraging to the dog. At first this may confuse the dog, this is where the patience comes in. If the handler is flat and boring the dog will then be flat and boring. This is where the enthusiasm comes in.

What sorts of techniques work? I think the most important thing that the handler can do to create drive is become unpredictable in training. I am not talking about teaching tricks so much as putting play and interest into the training sessions. So I may ask my dog to perform a spin then as soon as my dog starts that spin I may run in the opposite direction calling his name. When the dog reaches me, I may have a tug game or play with his paws, or rub him behind the ears. I can also use different treats and toys and deliver them in different ways. Each time it would be different.

Touch is important in training for drive as well as movement. So if I ask my dog to perform a spin (clockwise direction), I may put my hand on the inside of his right hip and lightly swing him into the spin. When he comes out of the spin, I will have a tug game, or play with his paws or rub him behind the ears. During play I may give the dog a little shove, or lift his back feet off the ground and then run away and then ask for a trick. Each time would be different.

Voice is also important to create drive. If my dog performs with only half an effort, I may say something like "what was that? Let's try that again" with a disappointed sound in my voice. I would set up to do it again. Most often the dog will do it with more effort.

If he performs with more effort, then I may say "that was better," with a little more praise in my voice. But I would set up right away and do it again. The dog knows that he should try harder at this point and if I get a real enthusiastic response then he will get a very enthusiastic voice reward. If that fails then I go back to running in the opposite direction or giving him a small shove before I run away. This is going to bring my dog up into a different level of excitement and he will be more interested in performing.



Lenore being unpredictable.
Playing with
Nahli's feet.



Kathy and Griffon
having a good
game of tug.

Rewarding effort is important. If your dog is valiantly trying to give you what you want, reward that. It may not be the end product, but it's a step in the right direction. For some dogs this is a very new way of training and they will need to start small. On the other hand, do not reward lack of effort. Make it so that enthusiastic work is the only thing that gets your dog his reward.

Timing is also a very important piece of drive work. You must be quick and fluent with movement and

rewards. So if you are not tired at the end of a training session, you have not moved enough. Keep your training sessions short and at a very high level of movement. End your session when your dog is on a high note. Do not train to the point that he goes flat. With some dogs, this will be a very short time period, a matter of minutes at first. But you can build drive in your dog to the point that they can work with enthusiasm and excitement for much longer.

Drive check list:

Use these tips to bring drive work into your training sessions

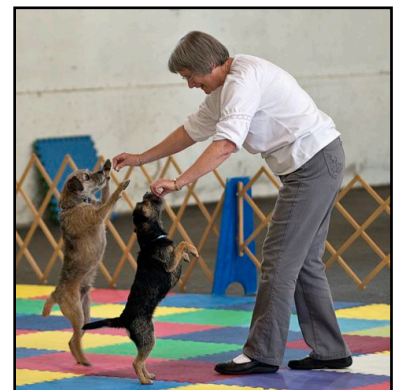
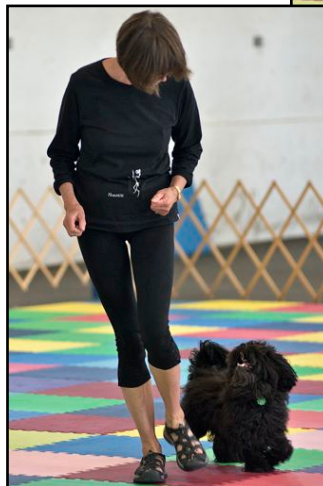
1. Be unpredictable
2. Use touch
3. Use your voice and demeanour to let the dog know how he is doing.
4. Reward effort
5. Be quick and fluent in training, keep the excitement up
6. Keep training sessions short
7. End training when the dog is at his most excited



Kristen starting to
run away from
Brodie

Hats off to Muttley Crew and the rest of the Vancouver Island team for hosting the lively and fun **2012 ISLAND FLING!** The relatively small entry packed a huge punch and the colorful mats just added to the energy. Hand-made prizes and welcome gifts created that artsy "island" feel.

Photographs by Gerald Hogrefe.



Michele Pouliot shows us how to party!

Training clean, trouble-shooting, creating routines, the “on” and “off” switches, effective training sessions – Michele presented all of these topics and more in her confident and confidence-inspiring attitude. But, the session that stood out the most and had the most immediate impact in her August workshop held at Zoomies in New Westminster was “party in the ring.” Michele noted that many dogs work great outside the ring, but as soon as the food is put away and the dog enters the ring, its tail goes down, its body language says: “I don’t want to be here.” To change that attitude, Michele recommends the following party variations:

- warm up dog
 - prepare to enter the ring (sit, leash off)
 - enter the ring, take three steps, PARTY! (play hard with dog for a couple minutes) Leave the ring in control.
 - Repeat 3 to 5 times.
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- warm up dog
 - prepare to enter the ring
 - set dog up for first move
 - cue the music
 - PARTY! (Vary the time the party starts: before first move, after first move, after second move) Leave the ring in control.
 - Repeat 3 to 5 times

“Party” is a great exercise to do with a small group. To simulate the ring, use gating or a couple tables. Helpers could start the music, toss toys into the ring, applaud the party. Have FUN!



Partiers Heather and Sam.
Below: Karen and Beezuzu,
Michele, Lenore and Lance



Leave it to the Emerald City club to put a twist on a Paws 2 Dance event! The **BSB Hula Hoedown** had everybody swaying to the rhythm of Hawaiian drums in sunny Sequim. Each day of this two-day event started with impressive a-cappella anthems. Saturday night featured a Hawaiian Luau followed by Hula dancing – a perfect way to end the summer. Hawaiian photos by Karen Eskilson and Joan Strick.

Competition photographs on next page by Kathy Kolatski 2dogsandaflounder.zenfolio.com





Best "newbie" team



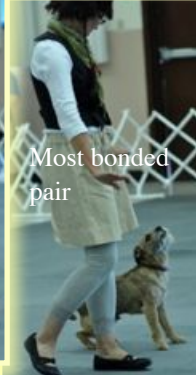
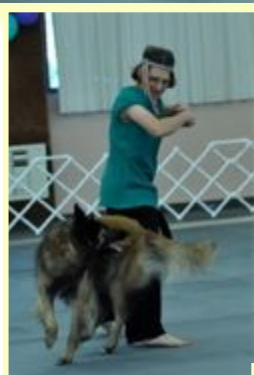
Best opening move



Most in-sync team



Best Closing Pose



Most bonded pair



Dog most interested in audience



Best Prop



Best Distance Move



Dog with best tail-wagging



Most artistic



Funniest Routine

