

**Newsletter of the
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
Club of Southern California
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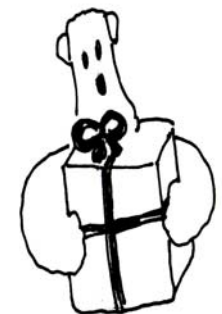
UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, July 19th. Our annual Potluck will be held at the home of Myrna and Bob Flavell in Northridge. Bring a dish to share and have fun chatting with your Wheaten friends and sharing photos and memories of Great Western 2005.

Sunday, October 23rd at Woodley Park in Encino we will be holding our 12th Annual Wheaten Fun Day. This is a fun day filled with Wheatens having fun in the Park. We have games, a costume party, a Wheaten Rescue parade. There will be Canine Good Citizen testing. Veterinary dental technicians there to clean your dog's teeth. A fantastic barbeque lunch is available. We need volunteers to help with hospitality, the games, etc. If you are interested in attending be sure and check the website, www.wheaten.org, for updates. If you can help by volunteering contact M.J. Carr at Gregory.soukup@ey.com. We all love to show, but this is a Fun Day for pet people, your children, your dogs, and your friends. Please come and help support the club and have some fun.

Sunday, December 4th, at the Long Beach Yacht Club will be our Annual Installation of Officers and final meeting of the year. We honor all the club member's dogs who have won titles throughout the year. Did you get a CGC title at the Fun Day, a championship on your dog, or an obedience/rally title? Come and enjoy a wonderful dinner. As many will attest the most fun is the annual gift steal. Bring a small dog related item and partake of the fun of watching it be stolen by your former "best" friend.

*We could learn a lot from crayons:
some are sharp, some are pretty,
some are dull, some have weird names,
and all are different colors...but
they exist very nicely in the same box.*



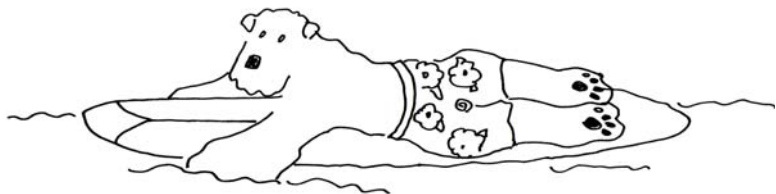
PROTECT YOUR PETS

Being a good pet owner also means providing protection for your pets. Are your gates padlocked? Is your dog crate trained? How does your pet travel in the car? Do you use a crate, a seat belt? Seat belts not only can save your life, but the life of your dog in a sudden stop or accident. Teaching a dog good manners while outside keeps your neighbors happy – and lessens complaints. Being outside with your dog also gives you additional opportunities to train. If you are away from home your dog is best left in the house where it is cooler, cleaner, and he will be happier. Spend some time every day training. Watch your dog's natural behavior and you can turn it into a trick. If your dog likes to jump and what Wheaten doesn't - teach him to do it on command. He will enjoy the attention, and you will be amazed at how clever your friends think your dog is.

Check with the Red Cross in your area. Many offer first aid training for pets, in addition to people. Do you know how to perform the Heimlich maneuver, CPR, stop bleeding, or bandage a cut? If you ever have to call 911 for yourself and you are able, wait outside for the ambulance. This will ensure rescue workers don't accidentally let your dogs and cats out while taking care of you.

While you are out walking your dog, be aware of your surroundings and people close by. Is your dog dog-aggressive? Have you considered walking with a muzzle on your dog? If your dog is truly aggressive and cannot be handled by you, he should not be walked where he can get himself into trouble or injure others. Remember you are responsible for your dog's actions. Don't forget to be a good neighbor and "Scoop the Poop." Always use a leash and keep your dog under control. If you frequent dog parks, be sure your dog is well behaved and remember you still need to clean up after your dog.

Where do you take your dog to socialize? Many of the pet stores welcome you and your dog. Some communities allow dogs at outdoor restaurants. You can use this as an opportunity to teach your dog not to beg or to eat food that has fallen on the ground. Many shops and malls do allow dogs. Just be polite and ask first. Remember your actions can affect how others feel about dogs and dog people.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MERRILLEE FORD

I hope to see many of you at the Great Western weekend and our Specialty Show. I encourage you to join us at the dinner Saturday, June 25th after the show. This year we are having a barbeque and it sounds delicious. At the shows you will see some of the best Wheatens in the country. The Sweepstakes, my personal favorite event, will showcase the up-and-coming Wheatens; and you will have a chance to see what the future holds. Our hospitality is renowned and the chairs are already hard at work planning their menus. Join us under the tent to shop at the boutique, take a chance at the wonderful raffle, purchase some club merchandise, and visit with friends. If you are new to the world of showing, this is a great time to see wonderful dogs, ask questions, and compare notes.

Don't forget the Rally and Obedience rings. There will be Wheatens on the far side of the show site trying for legs or titles there too! This is a fun way to see Wheatens in action.

Mark your calendar, pack your bags, groom your dogs, and get ready to have some fun. The shows start Thursday afternoon with the Futurity, Friday, June 24th is Great Western, Saturday our Specialty, Sunday is Long Beach Kennel Club supported entry, and we round off the weekend with Monday and the Kennel Club of Beverly Hills supported entries.

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IN THE KITCHEN WITH KARLA

*Reminder: these are for your dogs to enjoy!

SWEET POTATO JERKY

3 Medium sweet potatoes
3 Tablespoons flaxseed oil
3 Tablespoons soy sauce
(You can substitute chicken broth for either or both the oil or sauce)

Slice the potatoes thinly and toss lightly with the flaxseed oil and soy sauce. Use just enough liquid to coat them lightly.

Arrange the slices on wire grates sprayed with vegetable oil or on baking sheets lined with parchment paper.

Bake 250° for two hours. Turn off heat after the two hours are over but leave in the oven for at least an additional 2 hours to dry.

SPECIALTY MEATLOAF

1 Pound ground beef (or turkey)
2 Tablespoons rolled oats
1/2 Cup cooked brown rice (or white)
3 Tablespoons chopped garlic
2 Tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
1 Tablespoon ketchup
1 egg beaten
1 Teaspoon Worcestershire Sauce
3 Hard-cooked eggs (shells removed)

Preheat oven to 350°

Mix all ingredients, except the hard-cooked eggs. Place the mix in a meatloaf pan. Make a small valley in the loaf and place the hard boiled eggs in the center. Cover the eggs with the meat. Bake for 1 hour or until cooked through. Slice the meatloaf and mix with your Wheaten's kibble for a yummy meal!



ADVICE TO PUPPIES

Run when you need to!

Give lots of kisses.

Meet new people, even if they look different to you.

Love your friends, no matter who they are.

Don't waste food.

Take an occasional risk.

RELAX!

Try to have fun each day.

Say, "I love you" often with lots of kisses.

Express yourself creatively.

Be conscious of your appearance.

Love someone with all your heart.

Share with friends.

It will get better.

There is always someone who loves you more than you know.

Exercise to keep fit.

Live up to your name.

Hold on to your good friends; they are few and far between!

Indulge in the things you truly love.

Cherish every day.

Ever notice that the people who are late
are often much jollier
than the people who have to wait for them.

SCWTCSC GROOMING SEMINAR

On Sunday, May 15, the SCWTCSC held a grooming seminar. Barb Fain, long time Wheaten breeder, demonstrated some tips on both puppy and adult coats. She made some recommendations regarding shampoos, equipment needs and presented an interesting morning of grooming tips.

A great setting was provided at Debbie Bloom and David Bertsch's backyard in Westlake. A plentiful breakfast and lunch were served which also gave members and guests an opportunity to discuss their latest grooming tips or their latest successes in and out of the show ring. Talk of Great Western buzzed: who will be entered? What exciting menus are our hospitality hosts planning? What raffle prize can I win (hint: there will be a Wheaten trunk which promises to be phenomenal plus many hand-designed Wheaten items such as jewelry and pictures), What will the entry be? And how much money will I spend at the Boutique and the raffle?

The May Wheaten meeting was held in the afternoon and as everyone packed their belongings, we all agreed what a pleasant day it was. Remember there is no meeting in June. See you at Great Western.

ARE YOU READY TO RAFFLE!



This lovely metal sculpture is part of the
Wheaten Raffle at Great Western.
(Drawing will be held Saturday, 6/26 after the show)
Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$12.00
More info is on our website, www.wheaten.org

CALIFORNIA EAR CROP BILL PASSES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 6, 2005 - AB418 passed out of the Assembly Committee on Public Safety late yesterday afternoon. The bill, which would ban ear cropping of dogs, now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee for fiscal analysis and then on to the full Assembly.

Although several concerned fanciers attended yesterday's hearing, they were considerably outnumbered by supporters of AB418. Additionally, the bill analysis that will follow AB418 throughout its path in the legislature lists only three organizations - AKC, NAIA Trust, and the Animal Council - and 22 individuals who opposed the legislation. Fanciers MUST speak up in greater numbers if we are to defeat this bill.

AKC will be posting new information as it becomes available. Please watch their website for additional updates.

What you can do:

* Fanciers should immediately contact their own Assembly member and ask him or her to oppose AB418. To find out who represents you in the California Legislature, check your local newspaper or click here: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html>

* Purebred dog owners should also contact their veterinarians and urge them not to support AB418. Point out that veterinarians should be concerned about allowing the government and public opinion too much control over their practices.

* Share this information with other fanciers and dog clubs. We need everyone's help.

Other points to consider:

* When appropriate veterinary care is provided, ear cropping is a safe and acceptable practice.

* Owners, in close consultation with their veterinarians, should make informed decisions about their pets' care - not the government.

* While Wheatens do not have cropped ears they do have docked tails and this may be the next arena the so-called animal rights activists address.

* Once legislators determine they can ban certain elective procedures, they may be just a short step away from removing veterinarians' and owners' rights to make informed decisions about animal care and treatment.

May the heavens smile upon you,
May the sunshine fill your days,
May the joy of special blessings
Warm your heart in countless ways.

The Dog Inside Mine

The dog barks
Or is barked
By something inside,
Some mechanism in him
Taking hold
Against his best efforts
At sleep
Or civility.
The dog barks
Or is barked
By the dogs inside
The dark of him,
The black in his eyes,
The depths of his mouth,
Something from in
there,
The growl of all
His mothers,
Like a hand,
Rousing his throat
Into noise.
This noise takes notice.
Or something has taken notice
And this noise
Is its charm:
It is not this dog's ears that hear.
It is the centuries,
And they answer back.



Alberto Rios, from *The Smallest Muscle in The Human Body*
© Copper Canyon Press

each seems to present a different philosophy. How do I decide what is the best way to train my dog?
Thanks, Confused but trying

Dear Confused,

The one thing all books and classes should have in common is that they all involve spending time with your dog. There are no shortcuts. Young dogs, like young people, need direction and guidance. Rules must be made, and boundaries must be set. Adult dogs reflect how much time was spent with them as puppies. Be sure the class you take is designed for the age of your dog. If your pup is very young this should include play time and you have to think is this kindergarten or junior high. What is my dog ready for? The other dogs in the class should be of similar ages to your own. Mom personally prefers the praise and perform methods. Exposing him to lots of new situations, surroundings, meeting friends and neighbors and people of all ages is always a good experience. Remember if he is very young he will have a short attention span. Keep the training sessions brief and fun. Don't hesitate to ask your vet or breeder for info also. Spend time with your puppy, and he will reward you with years of devoted companionship.

Dear Mom,

My dog seems crazy about sweets. What is the reason chocolate is bad for dogs? She seems ok if she gets a bite of chocolate chip cookie or chocolate ice cream.
Thanks, Crazy for Cocoa Puffs

Dear Cocoa,

Dogs certainly can have a sweet tooth. However chocolate is the wrong treat for dogs. Chocolate contains theobromine, a first cousin of caffeine. It increases the amount of calcium available to cells, increases the heart rate, and causes the release of hormones from adrenals. In high enough quantities it can stop the heart. The half-life of chocolate (meaning how long it stays in the blood stream) is much longer in dogs. Unsweetened or baking chocolate has about 10 times the theobromine that does sweetened mild chocolate found in candy. While this makes milk chocolate less of a risk, it is still hazardous. To a small or young dog ingesting it can be fatal. Also, chocolate in small amounts can be irritating to the gut lining and cause nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. There are many treats on the market place designed specifically for dogs, so don't feel guilty when you don't share your chocolate and give your dog something that is good for them.

My goal is to be as good as my dog thinks I am. Author Unknown

MOTHER KNOWS BEST



Dear Mom,

I am getting married in the fall. My husband to be has a cat. How do we get the cat and the Wheaten together without starting WWII, or straining our own relationship?

Thanks, Catty to be

Dear Catty,

Mom loves questions like this. It shows you are thinking about a potential problem or trying to solve an activity before it becomes a problem. You can ease the problems between the species with proper introductions. Most people tend to rush introductions instead of letting them become used to each other. Try following these steps to ensure a happy future together:

1. Chose a "safe room" for your cat. One with a door you can close, where you can put his litterbox, food, water, and scratching post so that he can become accustomed to the environment without a dog bothering him.
2. After a few days, move the cat to another room and let your dog investigate the smells in the empty room.
3. Now, it's time for introductions. Put your dog on a leash in another room, and allow the cat to check him out from a distance.
4. If your dog becomes excited, use a piece of food to lure his attention to you with a "Watch" command or something similar.
5. Reward calm behavior; do not allow aggressive behavior. Don't allow your dog to chase the cat.
6. Keep sessions short at first and gradually lengthen them as your dog begins to show good behavior.
7. Always provide separate, safe areas for the dog and cat, so they can get away from each other. Cats need vertical surfaces to climb to safety.

Remember also that Wheatens can have a very high prey drive. If despite your best efforts your dog and cat cannot get along, spend time with them separately. An adult cat can sleep up to 20 hours a day. Keep the dog in another part of the house when it's time for the cat to have some attention, then let them switch places. These measures will help calm your new cat and bring peace to your new happy household.

Dear Mom,

We are trying our best to train our new puppy. He is enrolled in a class in our neighborhood. I recently bought some training books, but

CANINE LEGISLATION INFORMATION

Some questions to ask yourself:

- Who are my elected representatives, and which ones are dog friendly?
- If mandatory spay-neuter is introduced in my county, what will I do?
- If Animal Control tells me I have too many dogs, what will happen to them?
- If my community says my breed is dangerous, what will happen to my dogs if my breed is outlawed?
- Can I afford to have my vet bills doubled, tripled, and quadrupled if my community adopts the guardian term in their animal ordinance?

These are some concerns we all need to consider as canine legislation is quickly evolving.

If you are interested in learning more about some of these issues Patti Strand will be speaking at the Great Western dog show on Saturday, June 25th, under the canopy at the Miniature Schnauzer ring at 4:00 P.M.

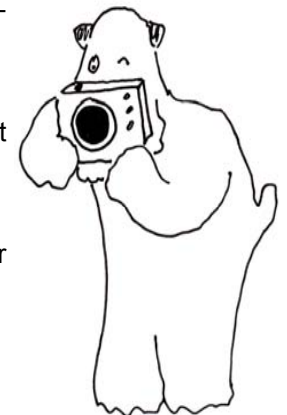
Patti is a nationally recognized animal issues expert with unique knowledge of animal legislation, animal welfare issues and animal rights extremism. She is a 35 year breeder of Dalmations, an author, AKC board member, NAIA National Director and has been a guest on numerous radio and television shows. She will update us on current and potential legislation and other issues of interest to dog fanciers.

DOG DEFINITIONS

Leash - a strap that allows you to lead your person around where you want to go.

The LOOK - how you tell your person they just said/did the wrong thing!

The LOOK2 - how to tell your person it is better to share than to hog it all!



April Showers: Rain or Shine Wheatens are Fine!

The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Southern California held our Sanctioned B Match on Sunday, April 10 at Arcadia County Park in Santa Anita. The 'shine' part of the theme was truly present as nice weather prevailed on 19 Wheatens in the ring, and many more four legged as well as two legged onlookers.

Michael DeCarlo, long time club member and former club president, judged the match. Best in Match was Westridge Back to Waterford (Boswell) owned by Bernie and Ilze Barron from the 6-9 puppy male class. Best Opposite Sex in Match was Bonney's Lucey in the Sky (Lucey), owned by Bonney Snyder from the 9 – 12 puppy bitch class. Best of Champions from a group of four presented was Ch Dounam's Snickers owned by Doug and Naomi Stewart. There was also a parade of five champions.

In addition to ribbons or rosettes in some cases; all entries went home with a toy and class winner's with crystal trophies. First place winners received a bowl donning our theme of a wheaten with an umbrella and galoshes. These trophies as well as the attractive plates for BIM, BOS and Best of Champions were made by Merrilee Ford.

A raffle was held and three lucky winners went home with either a lovely necklace donated by Allison Iwamoto, a painted Wheaten box made by Darcie Olson, or a Wheaten ceramic plate created by Merrilee Ford.

Debbie Bloom was the hospitality chair and thanks to the generous donations of our club members, our tummies got some good nourishment prior to judging. Carol Martin welcomed us by taking the registrations. M.J. Carr was the raffle chair and also helped with trophies.

Beverly Streicher was the match chair, and Miriam Kahan was her co-chair. We know that Beverly did not leave out any details. Miriam also was our ring steward. Michael enjoyed his first judging opportunity and took his assignment most seriously.

The Great Western Terrier Association held their match at 1:00 p.m. at the same location. It is a wonderful opportunity for the puppies to get twice the ring experience all in the same day. The winner there was the same as our best in match winner in the morning.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

* Provide plenty of fresh water and shade for your dog. Dogs can get sunburned...even Wheatens with a short summer cut. If your dog has a light nose be sure and put sun screen on it and limit his exposure during the sunniest part of the day.

* Check with the lifeguard for daily water conditions - dogs are easy targets for jellyfish.

* If your dog is out of shape, don't encourage him to run in the sand. Running on a beach is strenuous exercise, and a dog that is out of shape can easily pull a tendon on ligament.

* Cool ocean water is tempting to drink. Do not allow him to drink too much salt water. The salt in the water can make him sick.

* Salt and other minerals found in ocean water can damage your dog's coat and Wheatens can be sand traps. Be sure and rinse him off with fresh water when you are through your day at the beach.

The majority of dogs can swim, and they love it. But dogs entering water for the first time should be tested. Here are some important tips for teaching your dog to swim:

* Never throw your dog in the water,

* Start in the shallow end, and call your dog's name. You can try to coax him in with a ball or toy - but always keep your dog within reach.

* Remember not all dogs like the water, especially if the ocean and waves are involved. First you may try your dog at home in a kiddie's wading pool to gauge his interest.

* One way to introduce your dog to water is to allow him to play with a dog that you know to be friendly and water-wise. Let your dog follow his friend.

* Swimming is a great form of exercise, but don't let your dog overdo it. He will be using new muscles and may tire quickly.

All Breeds are welcome to join The Cairn Terrier Club

At their 50th Anniversary Show...

Enter the Costume Contest...

Friday, June 24th, 2005

Approximately 5:00 P.M.

George Allen Field, ring 1

(following the Terrier Group)

Anyone can enter, no pre-entry is necessary

Bring your dog and costume to the show. Your dog need not be a

"Show Dog" to participate. You may dress in costume

alongside your dog

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

Hot weather can make anyone feel uncomfortable, your dog is no exception. Here are some safety concerns for your dog's sake:

- * Never leave your dog unattended in direct sunlight or in a closed vehicle. Heatstroke can occur very quickly and lead to brain damage or death. Signs of heatstroke are panting, drooling, rapid pulse, and fever. Immediately immerse the dog in cool water and seek emergency veterinary assistance.

- * Never leave your dog unattended in a hot, parked car. When it's only 80 degrees outside, the inside of a car can heat up to more than 120 degrees in just minutes. Leaving windows partially rolled down will not help. Your dog is susceptible to heat stroke and possible death in these conditions. Humans have many sweat glands in their skin. When we become overheated, those glands produce sweat that cools us as it evaporates. Dogs, on the other hand, do not have sweat glands. They cool themselves by panting, which allows cool air to enter into the lungs and reduce body heat. But this system is not very efficient and heat-stroke can rapidly occur.

- * Always make sure your dog has access to fresh water.

- * All dogs should have proper ID at all times. This should include a collar with ID tag, along with a tattoo and/or a microchip.

- * Keep your dog on a leash when he is outdoors to prevent accident and injuries.

- * Try to avoid strenuous exercise with your dog on extremely hot days, and refrain from physical activity when the sun's heat is the most intense.

- * Beware of insect bites. If your dog is bitten or stung, remove the stinger, and watch the site for an allergic reaction. If a reaction occurs or if there have been multiple wasp, bee or mosquito bites, take the animal to the vet.

- * Most lawn and garden products may be hazardous. Make sure that plants and fertilizers within the dog's reach are not toxic.

- * Talk with your veterinarian about flea and tick prevention medications.

- * Heartworm is a common problem for dogs. Some areas in California have active heartworm problems. Check with your vet for the latest updates and info.

- * No matter how careful and responsible you may be, accidents can happen. Make sure your vet's phone number is close at hand and available to all family members or pet sitters.

- * Taking your dog to the beach on a hot summer day can be fun for man and beast. Being sure your dog is permitted on the beach is the first step to take.

Outside the ring, people were able to socialize and/or exchange tips on grooming and care of our Wheatens. It was a time to have some Wheatens meet one another (!) and some to be evaluated by fellow friends and breeders.

The monthly meeting was also held. What could be better than food, frolic, a dog show and our happy tail wagging Wheatens by our side! This is just a 'precursor' to our next big event that we hope you will all join us for the specialty in June.



How Sensitive is Your Wheaten?.....Beverly Streicher

Never underestimate your Wheaten! Though I knew that some dogs could sense cancer in human beings, I never really thought that my Wheatens had that kind of ability. Frankly I never thought of myself as needing that kind of help, but I did, and a dog of my breeding knew something was going to happen way before I did.

We were attending a 3 show weekend. After 2 full show days we, my friend Judi, her dog (of my breeding) Charlie, and I were relaxing in her "bus" when young Charlie came directly to me and sat ever so close to me. That action surprised Judi and me as he really seemed to want to cuddle with me and only me more than he ever had. Benefit of hind sight tells me that he knew I was headed for trouble even though my glucose blood test (for diabetes) was normal. And he was right. Wouldn't it have been good if I had understood his actions? It would have saved Judi from a rather scary experience, the neighboring motor home residence from a disturbed night's sleep, and me from a hypoglycemic experience, an ambulance ride to the nearby hospital, and a missed show. .

Others have told me of their experiences with their Wheatens. One Wheaten knew that his owner was ready to deliver her baby, others sensed health problems, and their actions warned the owners. Though certainly not scientific, my personal experience and that of fellow Wheaten owners agree with the information given in a very interesting article on this topic written by Mara Bovsun in the May issue of the AKC Gazette entitled Disease Detectives. The subtitle reads "The remarkable abilities of dogs are helping people with health conditions that might otherwise catch them unaware." Do read it, and listen to your dogs. They have senses that go beyond ours.

SNAKE SEASON

We have had an extraordinary amount of rain this season. Don't forget there will be more snakes too. More food, means more snakes. Ask your vet about the new rattlesnake vaccination and be sure you check your yard every time you let your dogs out. There is a special snake fence you can install that will keep them out of your yard. Ask at your local fence installer if it is worth doing in your area.

TRAIN DON'T COMPLAIN

Puppies need basic obedience vocabulary: "Sit," "Lie Down," "Come," and "Stay." In past issues we have covered the "Sit" and "Come" commands.

Using patient repetition, praise, and treats as rewards; you will be surprised how quickly your dog can learn these basic commands. Practice these commands in different settings to assure your dog understands what you mean...not just when he eats or in the quiet of your home. He needs to know to sit at the curb when you are walking or wherever you ask it of him.

Today we will work on the "Lie Down" command. Sit the pup, and then show him a treat. Slowly lower the treat to the ground, allowing the puppy to nibble on the way down. If your pup lies down, give him the treat. If it stands or only follows part of the way, raise the treat to encourage sitting, then lower it again slowly. Give the treat at the lowest point your pup will go. Each time, lure it farther down, When the pup lies down, give several treats as a jackpot. Some puppies will follow the treat down to the ground without actually lying down. For these, make a low bridge with your arm or leg, for the dog to duck under for the treat. Don't press on the dog; simply make the bridge low so it lies down on its own.

If you use hand signals with the treat between your fingers, lower your hand - palm towards the floor - from your head to your waist. After luring the dog several times conceal the treat between your thumb and forefinger.

When your pup is a little more advanced you can make a fun game of it with the "Down" or "Stop" command. Sit your dog facing you and take several steps back. Call the dog and order him to down. When he comes and downs, toss a treat behind him (something light and easy to toss works best, like cheese ball). He will learn the treat is coming and stop. By tossing it behind him you reinforce the stop motion. The better your dog gets at this the farther back you can step. If your dog were ever loose and heading for the street, this command is a great one to stop them from stepping off the curb.

A man never fails among his own people.