



The Hempstead Hound



Vol. 13 No. 4

SEPTEMBER 2013

Free



Training Tails –

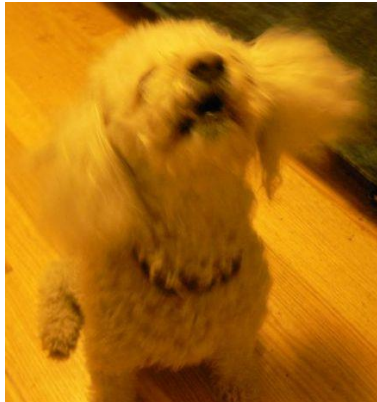
The Bark Stops Here!

by Laura Garber, CPDT-KA

With the quality of lives our dogs are living today as full-fledged members of our families, it's hard to figure what they have to bark about! But all barks are not equal, and you must diagnose the cause before you can have any hope of eliminating it. Here are some techniques for diagnosing and then modifying this troublesome behavior...

Demand Barking

It is in our nature to respond and comfort the cries of our babies, whether they be of the human or canine persuasion. Of course, cries of true distress should not be ignored, but demand behaviors are a different matter. Yips of protest when your dog is first left alone in



Ginger barking

the crate, or an attention-seeking pup demanding to be plucked up into your lap, should not get the desired result, or you will be beleaguered by these behaviors for life. Instead, ask your dog for a polite *sit* (the doggie equivalent of "please") before petting her. Approach her crate only when she's calm and quiet. If your puppy barks at you for attention or for food, turn your back to

(continued on page 2)

About the Town of Hempstead Animal Shelter

The Town of Hempstead Animal Shelter fosters a community of compassion and respect, and provides animals in need with a chance at a lifelong, loving home. Dogs like Candy take refuge at our shelter until they can find the loving forever home that they deserve. Won't you join our community and help our mission?

If now's not a good time for a new furry family member, help us in other ways, by sending donated items from our wish list or volunteer some of your time to our very critical mission.

Stop in to the shelter, call us at (516) 785-5220, check us out online at www.toh.li/animal-shelter or on FaceBook at **Hempstead Town Animal Shelter. Adopt, don't shop!**

From the Vet Room – Flea Alert!

by Christine Giuliani, LVT

Fleas are external parasites that feed on the blood of the host – in this case, your pet! Their bites cause excessive scratching, hair loss, allergic reactions, and anemia. And when your pet cleans himself, he is ingesting them, which can cause intestinal parasites such as tapeworms.

(continued on page 2)

Free Adopter Group Training Classes

The Town of Hempstead Animal Shelter is offering free training classes to shelter adopters by certified profession dog trainer and behavior specialist Laura Garber, CPDT-KA. Classes are one hour in length, meeting the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 11am, weather permitting. Each adopter is entitled to 2 free classes and registration is first-come-first-serve.

Please call the shelter at (516) 785-5220 to reserve a spot.

The Pooch Scoop – Crate Training

Dogs, like their wolf predecessors, like to have a den to call their own. And it's a great training tool for you as well. To attract your dog to her crate, put a Kong stuffed with her favorite food in the crate and close the door, with the dog locked *out*. It won't take long for her to figure out which side of that door she'd rather be on! Make sure to build up her tolerance to time alone in the crate gradually.

<i>From the Vet Room (cont.)</i>	<i>Training Tails (cont.)</i>	<i>Volunteer Scuttlebutt</i>
<p>If your pet gets fleas, the first thing you need to do is give him a bath with a specially formulated flea shampoo. As these shampoos contain pyrethrins, first confirm with your vet that your pet is old enough and in good health before bathing.</p> <p>Next you must clean your pet's environment. Anything that can be washed, like toys or bedding, should be washed in hot water. You can use over-the-counter flea sprays or flea bombs for the house. When using a flea bomb, follow the instructions carefully, as it's important that all pets <i>and</i> people leave the house during the process. And there are sprays for outdoor use as well.</p> <p>An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! To prevent fleas from infesting your pet, use a topical or oral flea preventive that your veterinarian can prescribe. For a dog who may be particularly at risk, on a hike or enjoying a long day out-of-doors, use the additional protection of a flea collar.</p> <p>Finally, keep a flea comb on hand to check for fleas if you see your pet scratching. Find those pesky bugs before they become a bigger nuisance. Fleas gravitate to warmth so now is the time to rid your pet of them before they seek the warmth of your home in the colder months ahead.</p>	<p>her, or put her food away and leave the kitchen. In so doing, you're teaching her that these behaviors impede progress rather than hasten it.</p> <p><i>Barking Due to Separation Distress</i> Separation distress-related barking (whether it be due to separation anxiety or simply hyper-attachment) usually happens immediately upon being left alone. In the case of separation anxiety, other indicative symptoms are destructive (or self-destructive) behavior, breaking of housetraining in a housetrained dog, or anorexic behavior.</p> <p>Treat the underlying cause of your dog's barking by gradually building his tolerance to periods of separation. (See the article <i>Home Alone</i> on http://www.mywoofgang.com/archive_CF_homeAlone.php.) Most importantly, never use punishment in an attempt to decrease separation anxiety-related barking, as it will only increase the anxiety in an already anxious dog.</p> <p><i>Communicative Barking</i> Bella, an English Bulldog client of mine, is a happy girl, and so she should be: She has an affectionate, attentive mom and lives a very good life. There are times, though, when Bella needs to speak up! – when her Tricky Treat Ball rolls out of her reach under the furniture or when she needs a potty break. Far from pushy, she lets out a single yap and waits for the attention she requires. This is perfectly appropriate doggie behavior.</p> <p>Gone are the days when dogs are to be seen and not heard. Communication is a necessary and essential part of our relationships with our canine family members and should not be squelched completely.</p> <p>So, rather than barking back at your dog, identify her grievance and treat the cause.</p> <p>For the complete article, go to http://www.mywoofgang.com/archive_CF_barking.php</p>	<p><i>August Adoptions!:</i> Coyote, Tank, Mandy, Diamond, Naomi, Aspen, Nala, Butterscotch, Liam, Glacier, Aladdin, Chipwich, Mickey, Missy, Helena, Moonshadow, Bixby, Pearl, Kacey, Chester, Savannah, Josie, Waldo, Aurora, Red Baron, Jerry, Cooper, Coco, Tootsie, Maximus, Lacey, Tessa, Mia, Sally, Bubba, Charles, Piper, Maya, Paco, Pebbles</p> <p><i>Upcoming September Calendar:</i> Buddy Training classes: Weds. nights at 6:30pm Agility Clinic: Sun., 9/15 at 11am Dog Volunteer Orientations: Sat. 9/14 at noon Dog Volunteer Meetings: Sat. 9/14 9:30am, Weds. 9/18 6:30pm Call <i>Dolores</i> at x4635 for details.</p> <p>Off-site Adoption Events: 9/7 at PetCo in Syosset 9/7 at AdoptNY in Brooklyn 9/14 at PetCo Unleashed in NYC 9/21 & 22 at Bellmore Street Fair 9/22 at PetCo in Patchogue 9/28 at TBD 9/28 & 29 at Lido Beach Festival Call <i>Wendy</i> at x4628 for details.</p>
<p>Pet Therapy & Humane Education</p> <p>Pet Therapy and Humane Education personnel can visit your group with the shelter's therapy dogs! Free seminars are available teaching pet care, safety and responsibility to students, seniors and special needs groups. Are you a scout or group leader? Contact us for a free shelter tour at (516) 785-0197 or email petttherapyandhumaneed@tohmail.org for more information.</p>		<p><i>Featured Pup – GUNTHER</i></p>  <p>Gunther came in to the Town of Hempstead Animal Shelter as a stray in March, 2012. Playful and friendly with people and dogs alike, he made fast friends. But alas, Gunther needed surgery for hip dysplasia and arthritis, and now he's recovering well in a foster home, waiting for a special someone who knows the meaning of forever!</p> <p>Might you be his forever buddy?!</p>