

Greetings. Warm breezes and the smell of BBQ tells us its summer time...

Outside of training our dogs and yours we have been getting around town at Homeward Trails Yappy Hours, Pride Festivals in DC and of course out with the pooches at Virginia wineries. We are excited to introduce a new member of the team and announce a new class offering.

I also took time to address a common question that I get from my students working on complex behavioral issues.

Hope the flip-flop season is a good one!



Kiss Your Canine,

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## Adventure Dog!

We are super excited to announce our Adventure Dog series of classes starting this summer. Adventure dog classes are held outside of a normal class or home setting. They are coordinated at predetermined locations around the DC metro area and beyond!

The purpose of Adventure Dog is to take you and your canine out of the normal routine and learn to be happy and safe in many different settings. All classes are built to strengthen your relationship in public settings. The class works on letting your dog be a dog without losing control.



There are three kinds of adventures:

- 1) **Nature Lover** - This class is held in a park or rural setting with the lure of squirrels, rustling leaves and the smell of the great outdoors!
- 2) **Urban Warrior** - There will be exposure to people, traffic, other dogs (not in the class), and the hustle and bustle of the Nation's Capitol.
- 3) **Adventure Extreme**- These are overnight adventures for you and your canine. Don't miss the chance to participate in one of these classes!

**Next Scheduled Adventure: Herding Anyone?**

For a current schedule and details take a look here:

[www.kissablecanine.com/adventuredog](http://www.kissablecanine.com/adventuredog)

## Will Prozac Help My Dog?

I am often asked: "Will Prozac help my dog stop (fill in the blank)?"

This is a fair question to ask and as a trainer I should be able to respond. However, I am not a medically trained professional in small animal medicine. I have an ethical responsibility to *not recommend*, even anecdotally, which behavioral medicine a dog should be prescribed.

I align my position to the Code of Professional Conduct of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, in which I am a professional member.

This Code states: "The relationship between dog trainers and veterinarians must be cooperative for the benefit of dogs and their people. ... medical diagnosis, prognosis, prescription of, or recommendations for, administering medication are all part of veterinary medicine and not the dog training profession."

As a pet owner, if pharmaceutical intervention is necessary ask your trainer to come with you to the next vet appointment.

Not sure if your vet is current on best behavior practices?

The initials DACVB (Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists) refer to a veterinarian who has had a residency in veterinary behavior and passed a national examination. A DACVB specializes in diagnosing, treating and medicating behavioral problems in companion animals.

At a minimum ask if they belong to any associations that focus on animal behavior such as the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) or the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists (ACVB).

Remember, you are your pets best advocate and are always entitled to a second opinion.



## Our Business is Growing, Welcome, Susan!

KissAble Canine is excited to announce a new member of the team, Susan Colón. Susan has always been a part of the KissAble Canine family, but now in a formal role as the Office Manager. Her role is to help coordinate and update the schedule, connect with new students as part of the orientation process and above all else keep us busy training!

You can reach Susan at [info@kissablecanine.com](mailto:info@kissablecanine.com) to reschedule sessions or inquire on the latest services.



### Canine Good Citizen

The next test is August 16, 2009 at 9am held at 4140 S Four Mile Run Dr, Arlington, VA 22206.

An AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Program

The CGC test is a great way to prove your dog's ability to be a happy, safe member of the community. There are 10 tests from greetings with a stranger to supervised separation. Think your dog can prove they are a Good Citizen? Email: [info@kissablecanine.com](mailto:info@kissablecanine.com)