

NOVEMBER 2002

PADZ Proudly Presents
An Evening with "Dr. Dog"

Hear Dr. Dennis Fetko, the host of the popular nationally syndicated radio show "Dr. Dog Talking Animals" as he shares his insights on dog behavior and answers questions from the audience.

What they say about Dr. Dog:
"top-notch, scientifically sound information presented in an entertaining and sometimes hilarious manner...entertains and educates...excellent information."
- Dog Fancy Magazine

November 22nd, 6:30 pm
Encinitas Community & Senior Center
Free and open to the public
Donations welcome

There will be a short PADZ membership meeting before the talk by Dr. Dog. Call 760-753-6347 for more information.

November 5
VOTE!

November 8-9
AKC All Breed Dog Shows
Rancho Santa Fe Polo Grounds

November 16-17
Agility Trial
Del Mar Horsepark

November 22
PADZ Annual Meeting, w/ guest "Dr. Dog"
Encinitas Community & Senior Center
6:30 pm

December 7
Encinitas Holiday Parade

Visit padz.org for links to more information. Notify us of more upcoming dog events in the area by emailing newsletter@padz.org.



<http://padz.org>

Encinitas Holiday Parade

"A Sparkling Season of Peace"

Join your dog park friends and PADZ in the Encinitas Holiday Parade December 7th! We'll delight the crowd with our furry angels, and show support for dog parks in our community.

To express this year's theme we're hoping for angel wings, halos, little white lights, and sparkles.

We plan to have t-shirts or sweatshirts made for the parade. We'll have information at Orpheus Park about ordering your size, or email padz@adelphia.net

Looking for supplies to decorate your pooch? Big Lots, Michaels, Wal-Mart, and Value Craft have affordable selections. Battery operated christmas lights can be wound around your dog's leash or harness. Holiday theme fabric can be used to make a neckerchief or cape for your dog. Want to make a simple jacket for your dog - it'll look great with the dog's name on the side (and the dogs love it when the crowd calls out their name!). Find Simplicity pattern #9520 at Yardage Town.

Updates on the parade will be posted at Orpheus Park as the date approaches.

RITUALIZED AGGRESSION

an excerpt from *MINE! A Practical Guide to Resource Guarding in Dogs* By Jean Donaldson

When I get angry or feel wronged, there is a big difference between suing you or being rude to you and pulling out a firearm and shooting at you. Although all are aggressive acts, one kind is ritualized and one is not. Our laws reflect our recognition that some kinds of conflict resolution and aggression are okay and some are not. The essence of this difference is the degree of damage inflicted. Sports – which are inherently about winning in a

conflict situation – make this distinction as well. The ubiquity of rules in sport implies that we agree on a need for rules and conventions governing how we can engage in them.

Similarly, there is a big difference in ritualized and non-ritualized conflict resolution behavior in dogs. Hard stares, growling, snarling, snapping and biting without maiming force are the “legal” conflict resolution behaviors in dog society. There are ways for dogs to settle conflicts – to say “back off!” if you will – without the high price to all participants of flat-out uninhibited aggression. Dogs are equipped with maim-force jaws, capable of crushing bone and tearing flesh. They carry these heavy weapons with them at all times, yet have managed to not self-annihilate as a species, in spite of lots of arguing about bones, mates, and carcasses. The reason is a long history of selection for well-developed ritualization.

The following are components of ritualized aggression in dogs. They communicate the internal state and willingness to guard to the approaching threat, and advertise agonistic capability (“See these teeth? Hear this big growl? I’d be a formidable opponent in a fight...”), Accelerated consumption is specific to warning competitors away from resources: the rest are used in all types of “back off” situations.

1) **Freezing Up.** Also called “hard-eyeing”, a glassy-eyed stare accompanies a cessation of activity. If the dog was chewing, he stops chewing. If the dog was eating, he stops eating. The stare is oblique, rarely directly at the approaching threat. Owners may report the hard, detached, spaced out looking expression, mistaking it for some sort of seizure.

2) **Accelerated Consumption.** In contrast to a cessation of consumption, acceleration is just that: if the dog was eating, he starts eating faster, almost punching at the food. If the dog was chewing, he starts chewing faster and more intensely.

3) **Growl.** The low, steady and ominous rumbling that dogs are capable of emanating can be on its own or simultaneous with other threats.

4) **Snarl.** Exposing the teeth by vertically retracting the lips may also occur before, after, or simultaneous to other threat signals. Each dog’s style of delivering protracted warning may differ.

5) **Snap.** A snap is an air-bite – dog deliberately misses. People frequently report that a dog tried to bite them but missed or else they were able to move away quickly enough. This is unlikely, as a geriatric, couch-potato dog has a reaction time better than an Olympic athlete, When dogs intend to bite, they bite. When they intend to snap, they snap.

6) **Inhibited Bite.** When a dog bites and no damage is done, the dog is said to have a good acquired bite inhibition or a “soft” or “good” mouth. It has been speculated that this capability of biting without damage is acquired prior to 4 months of age through the mechanism of free-play with other puppies. Puppies need feedback in the form of play interruptions for overly hard biting, but their jaws are too weak to cause pain with pressure alone. Hence the sharp teeth. For detailed information in installing soft mouth in puppies, read Ian Dunbar’s *How to Teach a New Dog Old Tricks* or his other superb books on puppy training.

Next month: what to do when dogs argue.

A Message from the Chair

Lots of things in the works this month. Our booth at the “Flame of Life” on Oct. 20th brought us 25 new members, and some contributions. Unfortunately, at the present time, I do not have the names of those people, but will have them for our next newsletter. We did receive a generous contribution from Bill Snyder, who doesn’t live in Encinitas but wanted to help our cause. Thanks Bill!!! Our yearly membership meeting is coming up on November 22nd, and will include election of 3 board members. Anyone interested in joining this enthusiastic board can contact me at 436-3571, press star 2 when message begins, or send us an email. And, of course, we are having Dr. Dog as our keynote speaker. The Holiday Parade committee is busy putting together their ideas. After their next meeting we will have more details. At the moment we are hoping to have PADZ sweat-shirts (remember, it’s usually cold that night) available at cost plus a small contribution to PADZ. Can’t beat that for a deal, and it helps our bank account. We will have a vehicle, with dog barking music, and at least one decorated dog cart, driven by yours truly. We will pass on some ideas for your dog later. Remember, the Holiday Parade is Dec. 7th at 6 P.M. (participants need to be there earlier). Sign up by phone, email, or the list at the park, up in the near future. Have a great month, and hope to see you at the membership meeting on Nov. 22. **Lu Meyer**

Do you want dog parks in Encinitas? Become a P.A.D.Z. member!

Send us your: Name, Postal Address, Email Address, Phone, Fax, Names of your dogs, Volunteer services you can offer.

Email: padz@adelphia.net
Postal mail: 464 Cole Ranch Rd.
Olivenhain, CA 92024
Phone: 760-436-3571

COMMITTEES:

Public Relations - drhfseldin@aol.com
Park Design - parkdesign@padz.org
Membership - redmans@cox.net
Special Events - padz@adelphia.net

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Send to newsletter@padz.org. Deadline: 25th of the month for the next month’s issue. Editor will consider all submissions, but does not guarantee inclusion.

DONATIONS:

Make checks payable to P.A.D.Z.