

Introduction to Clicker Training Workshop with Katey Kintzer

When: Saturday July 20, 1 to 4 pm

Where: MSPCA Shelter in Brockton, MA

Info: www.animal-companions/clicker.html

About the Workshop

Using a combination of short lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on work, Katey Kintzer will present the basics of the “clicker training” method of training your dog. Learn the art and science of this positive reinforcement technique for dog training. Clicker training is ideal for training your dog with compassion and understanding rather than force or dominance.

Katey will show you the “training game” and “a hundred things to do with a box” – training exercises you can do at home! Other topics include “attention training” (how to get your dog to pay attention to you!) and ways to eliminate problem behaviors (jumping, pulling, mouthing, etc.).

About the Instructor

Katey Kintzer graduated in 1979 from the University of New Hampshire with a BS in Animal Science. She has worked as an animal health technician and an anesthesia technician at the veterinary schools at Cornell and Tufts Universities. She served on the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at Boston University Medical School and other biotech companies for many years.

Katey teaches courses at Becker College in animal behavior, animal care and management, nutrition, and dog training. She has been working as a clicker trainer and behavior consultant for a variety of species for six years, and has trained and shown horses and dogs for over thirty years. Katey, her husband Peter, their two children, and their menagerie live on their farm in Sutton, Massachusetts.

Fees

With dog: \$60 (Class Limit: 10). Auditing (without dog) \$30.

Please bring a folding chair. If you are attending with your dog, please bring a leash, a Gentle Leader™ head collar (if you have one) and/or a flat collar, and lots of bite-sized treats your dog likes.



Katey Kintzer Clicker Training Workshop Registration Form Saturday July 20, 1 to 4 pm, Brockton MSPCA

Name: _____ Dog's Name _____

Address: _____ Breed: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ (Neutered? Y/N _____)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

_____ With dog (\$60)

_____ Auditing (\$30)

If attending with your dog, please enclose a current Health Certificate from your veterinarian, or a record of current vaccinations.

Make checks payable to the order of Katey Kintzer, and mail to:

Katey Kintzer c/o Ann Dupuis (Organizer), PO Box 838, Randolph MA 02368-0838

What's Clicker Training?

Clicker training is a scientific approach to modifying animal behavior. Using “operant conditioning” and “positive reinforcement,” clicker training techniques have been used successfully on dolphins, dogs, horses, cats, and many other species. These techniques developed out of behaviorism studies performed by B.F. Skinner and others.

In more practical terms, clicker training is a tool you can use to develop a better relationship with your dog. And so far as dogs are concerned, clicker training is a fun and interesting game they can play with people!

The concept is simple. The clicker “marks” the behavior you wish to reinforce (encourage the dog to do more often, or longer, etc.). A treat rewards the behavior. The treat is usually food to start; later praise or a pat or a toy or some other reward will do. The dog learns that the “click” means a reward is coming, and begins to look for ways to make you “click.”

Dogs soon learn they can get the trainer to “click” and treat by doing certain things. They don't realize the trainer is shaping their behavior at the same time!



Clicker training has been around for decades, but it's only now beginning to catch on with “traditional” dog trainers and pet owners. It's a technique that's best learned by watching an experienced clicker trainer working with animals and explaining what they're doing and why – and then trying it yourself!

You don't need to have any experience in training animals. In fact, it can be more difficult to learn how to do clicker training well if you're already used to traditional training techniques! Clicker training focuses almost entirely on “positive reinforcement” (rewarding desired behavior). Because the idea is to engage the dog willingly and eagerly, punishments are counterproductive in clicker training sessions. Part of the art of clicker training is learning how to encourage an animal to present a clickable behavior, without resorting to harsh collars (choke or prong collars), shouts, or other negative corrections.

Learn More

For more information on clicker training, please visit:

www.animal-companions.com

Follow the links to clicker-training sites on the World Wide Web!

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(Fill out other side. Feel free to include any comments or questions here.)