



# happy tails dog training

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*Happy dogs, Happy homes!*

## **Fetching Facts & Noseworthy Notes** May 2015

### Contact Us:

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### Upcoming Classes

#### Puppy Class:

Monday June 15 – July 20\*  
Wednesday July 8 – August 12

#### Doggy Manners:

Wednesday July 8 – August 12  
Saturday July 11 – August 15\*

#### Advanced Manners:

Monday June 15 – July 20\*  
Saturday July 11 – August 15\*

#### Tails on the Trails:

Thursday June 4 – 25\*

*\*Outdoor class!*



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Check out our blog:  
[www.htdogtraining.com](http://www.htdogtraining.com)

### **Happy Clients!**



### **Great Expectations**

Teaching puppy classes is a lot of fun and very rewarding. The pups come in unfamiliar with basic behaviors; owners are often struggling with nipping, jumping and house training. Most of the puppies start class at about 12 – 16 weeks old, and are still babies.

The first night of classes, I ask about class goals. The one goal I hear from almost every person is: "A well-behaved dog that listens to me." This is a wonderful goal! After all, that is why we train our dogs. However, for many new puppy owners, the hope is for their puppy to achieve this status by the final week of class.

Puppy classes are a foundation; a first phase in a life time of training with your dog. If a puppy parent takes what is learned at class and continues to develop it, expanding on the base provided, either in additional classes, private training or on his/her own, the goal will be achieved. But only going to six weeks of puppy or young adult dog training and then assuming the dog is "trained" will lead to frustration and failure for both the dog and the person.

Heading into a new relationship with a puppy or dog, it is important to have realistic expectations as you are working to achieve the great expectations! Each accomplishment will build on the prior, leading to the goal of a "well-behaved dog that listens." Take the time to teach your new dog the foundation behaviors such as sit, lie down, leave it, and focus first. Use those behaviors to build on for walk nice, come and stay.

Whether you are training for a peaceful household or a therapy dog, the puppy needs to start with the basics in low distraction areas. After your puppy has learned the behaviors with low distractions, start adding in more challenging situations at a gradual pace. Do not go from practicing come in the living room to trying it at a park! With no in between to build on, your puppy will be set up to fail.

Always set your puppy up to win! Select a training scenario that is slightly more challenging than the prior session. For example, if your puppy comes great from anywhere in the house, try out in your back yard – but make sure the distance you call is just a few feet away! This sets your puppy up to win! Winning and success will result in repeating of the right behaviors. And soon, you will achieve your great expectations!

*Quincy, age 9 weeks, has great expectations!*



## Q'S VIEWS



"LIKE" my FB Page!  
@Quincy Joe Simpson

I have always known I was born for greatness! Really, just look at this face! I mean I was in a real life Hollywood movie at 10 months old! This kid has star power, I tell you! Although my Momma says I have "a ways to go" in my training yet...

See, most of my litter went into service dog training. I was part of our breeder's "fee" so I got adopted by my Momma and Daddy while my siblings entered into service training. So from the get go, my Momma said I could be a therapy dog. I absolutely LOVE people – of all ages, shapes and sizes. Plus, I am overall a pretty relaxed guy and enjoy just hanging out.

But since I am still young, I just turned 2, I tend to get a wee bit excited sometimes! I know all the rules, but there are occasions I just cannot hold in my youthful exuberance! My Momma says we have to keep working at my skills while I mature. She definitely has great expectations for me, but she is being patient and letting me be a youngster first!

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## Achieve Your Training Goals!

As discussed in the main article, Puppy Classes are a great foundation for your dog's life time of training. What options are there to take things to the next level and achieve your training goals? In the spring and summer months, Happy Tails offers several classes to help you and your dog reach your training goals!

- 🐾 Advanced Manners is an outdoor class that includes preparation for and taking the Canine Good Citizen Test. This class is designed to improve and solidify good manners no matter where you are with your dog. Because the class is outside, we are able to work in real life distractions and environment. Understanding the level of distraction where your dog needs work is the key to being successful with your training in the real world. You will learn how to train for and through difficult distractions in this class!
- 🐾 Tails on the Trails is an adventure for you and your dog! If you are looking to enjoy the summer at local parks and take trail walks with your dog, this class will help you prepare. We focus on proper manners at public parks and trails, which is far more than not pulling on leash. While polite walking is a piece of the equation, knowing when to use other behaviors such as Stay and Leave It will result in a more successful and fun experience!
- 🐾 The Recall Workshop focuses completely on getting your dog to come back to you when called in high distractions. The workshop is held at a dog park, where other dogs are playing outside of the fenced area for the workshop. In addition, the area is wooded adding in the distraction of bunnies, squirrels, and other quickmoving activity. If you want your dog to "come no matter what" this workshop will put you in the right direction!

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## KIRB'S BLURB



I tend to be an emotional boy. I cannot help it, I think with my heart! While that makes me very affection and loving, I also tend to act first and think second. Not always the best plan, I have learned through the years...

Lucky for me, my Momma realized when I was just a young pup how my Kirby brain operates. She worked with and taught me how to slow down my emotional response, look to her for direction before I react, and to respond in a calm manner. With some diligent work over the years, I am now able to remain calm and stable in a lot of stressful situations!

My brain learned a new way to react. So my emotions are more "in check" and I do not over-respond like I did as a young pup. I must admit, however, there are just some times I cannot control my wiggly, happy self! Like when Grandpa comes over – look out because I have got to wiggle!!