



Paws and Cues Dog Training

Present a 3-day seminar by

SUZANNE CLOTHIER

CARAT TRAINING

Clothier Animal Response Assessment Tool

April 29, 30, and May 1, 2011 🐾 8:30am - 4:30pm

Woodfin Hotel · 5800 Shellmound St · Emeryville, CA · 94608

CARAT is a novel assessment system that categorizes behavior traits in multiple components that are intuitive and practical. It is the assessment system currently in use at Guiding Eyes for the Blind, one of the world's largest guide dog schools, and is used to evaluate puppies, breeding stock and dogs coming in for training.

CARAT takes a detailed view of the individual dog as a unique combination of many factors working together to influence, exacerbate, mitigate and enhance each other. In the profile created by the nuances and specifics of this complex interaction of multiple traits, an accurate picture is created of the individual, regardless of breed or age. It is unique in its recognition that a response to any given stimulus can either inhibit or activate the animal, attract the animal or create avoidant behavior, and that the distinction between the two is critical in understanding the individual. For example, a dog who reacts quickly and avoidantly to a sudden noise is demonstrating a different response than a dog who reacts quickly and moves towards the same noise. At all times, behavior is assessed according to how productive, functional, or adaptive it may be, with a full understanding that what may be productive, functional or adaptive in one context may not be in another context. For example, there would be great differences in the CARAT profiles for a successful guide dog, competitive agility dog and a suitable companion for an elderly person with mobility issues.

Preliminary results from ongoing longitudinal studies are validating CARAT's use in predicting the success of guide dogs and in the selection of guide dog breeding stock. The results of a small study of 83 breeding animals using CARAT assessment demonstrated the possible value of the CARAT profile as a phenotypical predictor of genotypical success as guide dog producers [presented by Dr. Rudy de Meester, veterinary behaviorist, at the European Society of Veterinary Clinical Ethology conference, Barcelona, 2008]. A current study by Hobbes et al (to be published) shows CARAT traits to form a statistically significant model for predicting success in guide dogs, and identifying the CARAT traits that have significant heritability. More studies are underway to investigate the correlation between the Clothier Puppy Test and the Clothier Adult Test using CARAT scoring as predictive for guide dog success.

WHO NEEDS CARAT? CARAT is a must-have tool for any serious animal professional who is involved in assessing behavior. Whether you are a trainer, a behaviorist, a breeder, a veterinarian, in rescue/shelter work, or involved in service dog organizations, CARAT can open a new world of observation and understanding. CARAT will fine tune your assessments, your behavior modification & training plans, improve your selection of suitable dogs for a given task, sharpen your breeding program's focus on desired traits, and help find the best possible job/task/home for an individual dog.

This is **CARAT Level I-Intro** training, which includes development of observation skills, basic Level I CARAT concepts, introduction to assessments & the Clothier puppy test and IFT tests. The seminar will include video, group exercises, and live assessments. **CARAT Level I is a 3-part certification.** Level I-Intro is a pre-requisite for the following trainings, scheduled for 2011.

Cost: \$375 for all 3 days including continental breakfast and lunch. (All 3 days are required)

For more information: PawsAndCues@comcast.net or 510 638-PAWS (7297)



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A FEW DETAILS:

-  **Dogs:** We expect a large turn-out for this seminar. That will mean that there is very little room for dogs. We ask that you leave them at home or in the car. If this will present a severe difficulty for you, please contact Kathryn at PawsAndCues@comcast.net.
-  **Lodging:** The Woodfin Hotel is a pet friendly hotel. We have a block of rooms that will be available for booking until 3/28/11. The rate is \$109 (up to double occupancy) plus \$10 per night per pet. These rooms are suites with kitchen (full refrigerator and freezer, 2 burner range and microwave/convection oven), living room and separate bedroom (see www.woodfinhotelemeryville.com)
Call 510-601-5880 to reserve a suite. **Ask to book into the Suzanne Clothier Seminar group block.**
-  **Scholarships:** We are offering 2 full SAR scholarships and 2 Caregiver Scholarships:
 -  **SAR:** handlers from established K-9 SAR units are eligible, provided they apply to the hosting group on the SAR group's official letterhead.
 -  **Caretakers:** We offer a 50% discount for up to two people who might miss this educational opportunity otherwise. Registration for accepted scholarship recipients must be paid with a check from the shelter/rescue organization. Email PawsAndCues@comcast.net
-  **CEUs:** This has been approved by CPDT for 19.5 CEUs; application for IAABC CEUs is pending
-  **APDT:** Yes. This is the full version of the presentation Suzanne made at the 2008 Conference in Louisville, KY



SEMINAR REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THIS SEMINAR? _____

Enclose this form with your check in the amount of **\$375** made **payable to Kathryn Horn**. Refunds less a \$30 processing fee will be made up to March 15, 2011. Mail check to Kathryn Horn, 8017 Winthrop St, Oakland, CA 94605