

# Herding Clinic

**May 29\*, 30, 31 and June 1, 2025**

**Location: Silverspoon Farm, Garretttsville, new York**  
**Sponsored by: WASCUNY**

Tanya Wheeler has been working with animals her whole life. She graduated with her Master's Degree in Biology (Wildlife Science) and an undergraduate degree in Psychology (Animal Behaviour). She has studied principles of Learning Theory and Behavioral psychology, and uses a positive approach to all aspects of her dog training.

She is successfully training and competing in the highest international, competitive level of stock dog herding world, advanced/elite level agility and obedience (CKC, ASCA and AHBA) with her Australian Shepherds and has either owned and bred or bred and trained the top herding dog in Canada (all breeds) for over 10 years. She and her dogs have been invited as one of the top 10-20 dogs in the world to compete at the International ASCA stock dog Championships (cattle sheep and ducks) 8 years consecutively and placed in the top 10 overall with 3 of her dogs. Tucker Creek is the first Hall of Fame (HOFX) Kennel in Canada and achieved HOF excellent in both Canada and the USA (with the CKC and Australian Shepherd Club of America). It has always been their goal to demonstrate the versatility of their dogs by training dogs in herding, agility, obedience, rally, tracking and conformation. Their Aussies have ranked #1 in Canada for top herding dog for many years consecutively and in the top 10 in the world finals competitions for many years as well.

Tanya has experience with many breeds and travels considerably, delivering clinics and seminars in North America and Europe to handlers from beginner to advanced. She is a licensed herding trial judge with ASCA, AKC, CKC and the AHBA. As a herding teacher her focus is foundations and more specifically developing the natural talent of a useful dog. Spending much of her life working a wildlife biologist but always involved with horses and dogs in training and in competition, eventually led her to a life of travel delivering sheep dog herding clinics and judging stock dog trials around the world.



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Her approach leads to a more dependable working dog, and trial dog whose strength is in reading and evaluating its stock and working to please the handler. Her technique is not

uncommon but there is a strong emphasis on body language, the importance of foundation, understanding pressure, and looking at things from the dog's point of view. Much of her training came from a variety of talented instructors over the years including many years with Mr. Bob Vest. She is capable of working with with a range of talent and helps you find the best in your dog and to develop your communication skills with your herding partner. As she says, *"It is important to see things from the dog's point of view and establish the most basic of needs for a dog to feel confident, and a full partner in a working relationship. A positive working relationship with a dog is based on trust, the ability to understand correction, not as punishment, but an opportunity to make a better choice, with positive energy, and confidence that the handler is a fair and kind leader in life."* Her technique includes a strong emphasis on *body language*, & the *importance of timing*, and the *release of pressure*.

You can learn more about Tayna's training approach and experience by visiting <https://thetalkingdog.ca/about-the-talking-dog/>

## **CLINIC DETAILS**

**DATE OF CLINIC** - May 29\* (evening), 30, 31, June 1 2025.

**HOURS** - May 29\* evening seminar ~5:00 – included as part of clinic to go over introductions and some theory.

Working Clinic days: May 30, 31, June 1 - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

**ENTRIES** - WASCUNY members \$150 per dog per day, Members registration FEB 1 to 7.

Non WASCUNY members \$165 per dog per day all others opening FEB 8.

No refunds unless your slot(s) can be filled. A wait list will be kept. Auditors \$65 per day (Includes Thursday evening).

**Working Spots** include one morning lesson and one afternoon lesson. Lessons can be split between one dog in the morning and one dog in the afternoon. Please note this at the time of entry. Limit of 10 slots (one slot includes am & pm) per day. Make checks payable to WASCUNY.

**Mail entry to :** Pat Pagano, 34 Almond Dr., Somerset, NJ 08873

**PayPal - payment to:** [wascuny@gmail.com](mailto:wascuny@gmail.com) Friends and Family only or add the fee to your entry.

**HANDLER SEMINAR AND DISCUSSION** Thursday evening Tanya will hold a participant only seminar and orientation the evening before the clinic. She presents a great deal of information relevant to herding and getting the most out of the clinic. Each handler will get time to discuss their goals for attending the clinic. Please attend this session. Auditors are welcome to attend.

**LOCATION** - Silver Spoon Farm, 4276 State Highway 51 Garrattsville, NY 13342 Site: The herding clinic will take place just up the road from the dairy. Look for a "Herding Clinic" sandwich board sign next to the driveway. The house is beige colored with an aluminum ramp at the front entrance. If you're coming from the north and go past the farm (red barn right by the road) you've gone a stone's throw too far. Located less than one mile from the 4 corners of Garrattsville. Parking: Drive down the dirt road/driveway and you'll see a fenced in agility training ring. You can park alongside the training ring or along the white barn. **DO NOT PARK IN THE ALFALFA FIELD.** If possible, please avoid parking near the house. **DRIVE SLOW** down the driveway. Do not block the road way - farm equipment must be able to get through. Cell service is very limited in this area - it might be a good idea to screenshot or print directions for the drive home so you have an idea of which way to go.

**PROPERTY ETIQUETTE** - Do not allow your dog to pee on the blueberry bushes. Dogs who are not working should be on leash at all times. Clean up after your dogs. Trash can for dog waste is located next to the tractor without a motor. No dog to dog greetings. No retractable leashes please. Porta John will be on site. Note that this property is a working dairy farm.

**WHAT TO BRING** - A chair, buckle collar, leash, pen and paper for note taking, poop bags.

**FOOD** - Water will be provided. Lunch will be available at a pre-paid cost. The nearest food/gas is in Morris (about 8 miles south).

**LODGING** - Be sure to verify the current pet policy when booking. We suggest you book early as possible since Cooperstown is busy during baseball season <https://www.thisiscooperstown.com/> <https://www.bringfido.com> (search Cooperstown or Oneonta area)  
Quality Inn, 5206 St. Hwy 23, Oneonta, 13280, 607-433-2250.  
Super 8 Hotel Wyndham, 4973 State Highway 23 Oneonta, NY 13820(607) 432-9505  
Gilbert Lake State Park 870 County Route 12, 18 CCC Rd Laurens, NY 13796 (607) 432-2114  
Cooperstown Shadowbrook Campground 2149 Cty Hwy 41, Cooperstown, NY (607) 264-8431

**Registration form:**

## **CLINIC REGISTRATION**

Questions contact Patty Pagano 732-266-6042 / [pattyannp2@gmail.com](mailto:pattyannp2@gmail.com)

**CHECK IF PARTICIPANT** \_\_\_\_\_ \$150 member / \$165 non-member

NOTE 1 spot per person if the clinic fills, there will be a wait list. 2 dogs allowed if not filled.

**CHECK IF AUDITOR \$65/day** \_\_\_\_\_ (dog information not needed) includes Thursday evening.

**CHECK THE DATES YOU ARE ATTENDING** (note 1 or 2 dogs per session or split)

Working Sessions include AM and PM per fee per dog per day (\$150 members/\$165 non-members).  
You can have 2 dogs split the day - one in AM and one in PM.

**Check which days you are attending Thursday (29th) Evening Seminar (included)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday (30th)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Saturday (31st)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Sunday (1st)** \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### **DOG 1 INFORMATION**

DOG NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DOG AGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOG BREED \_\_\_\_\_

HERDING EXPERIENCE \_\_\_\_\_

If the clinic doesn't fill a second slot will be allowed. We will also have a wait list.

### **DOG 2 INFORMATION**

DOG NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DOG AGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOG BREED \_\_\_\_\_

HERDING EXPERIENCE \_\_\_\_\_

