



Classroom Session— Basic Dog Handler Course

Tyler Garlick

Owner/Founder, Fayette Area Dog Training, LLC

Background

- Apprenticeship 2006-2015 (Garrow Canine Training)
- Fayette Area Dog Training, LLC 2015-present
- Active law enforcement officer
- AKC Canine Good Citizen Evaluator
- Member, Eastern States Working Dog Association
- Member, North American Police Work Dog Association





Education

- ▶ Mike Garrow, Garrow Canine Training
- ▶ Leerburg K9
- ▶ Working Dog Magazine
- ▶ Police K9 Magazine
- ▶ K9 Cop Magazine
- ▶ Jerry Bradshaw, Tarheel Canine
- ▶ Tracy Bowling
- ▶ Stephen Mackenzie
- ▶ Bullock's K9 Training
- ▶ Stateline Canine, Inc.





Current Services

- Puppy Obedience
- Basic Obedience
- Advanced Obedience
- Behavior Modification
- Tracking*
- Bite Work*





Overview

- I. Drives in dogs
- II. Approach to foundations in obedience
- III. Basic handling techniques





Evaluation

- Age, background
- Confidence level, nerves
- Drives
- Dominance level
- Hardness
- Training goals
- Handler lifestyle





I. Drives in Dogs

- ▶ Social Drive
 - ▶ Sociability
 - ▶ How stimulated by social situations?
 - ▶ “Good” vs. “bad” expression
 - ▶ Outward focus
- ▶ Pack Drive
 - ▶ Inward focus
 - ▶ Responsiveness to “pack structure”





- Defense Drive (expressiveness vs. threshold vs. margins)
- Prey Drive
- Fight Drive (combat drive?)
- Sex Drive

Nerves



Weak Nerves

Strong Nerves

Halted → Cautious → Studied → Fluid



Hardness

“Soft” Dog

- ▶ Low tolerance?

“Hard” Dog

- ▶ High tolerance?

Which do we prefer?



Handler Lifestyle and Goals



- “My dog has too much energy”
- An issue with genetics, lifestyle, both?
- Pack/rank structure
- Obedience as a part of lifestyle

II. Foundations in Obedience

- More than just response to commands
- Classical and Operant Conditioning



“Relational Approach”

- Developing communication with dog
- Initial classical approach, then operant
- Positive approach
 - Reinforcement
 - Punishment





Positive Approach

- Positive Reinforcement
- Positive Punishment
- Negative Reinforcement
- Negative Punishment

- Dog learns correction (positive punishment)





Motivation

- ▶ Show the behavior
- ▶ Associate command
- ▶ Expect response
 - ▶ Teach dog to tolerate pressure from handler
 - ▶ Correction and reinforcement

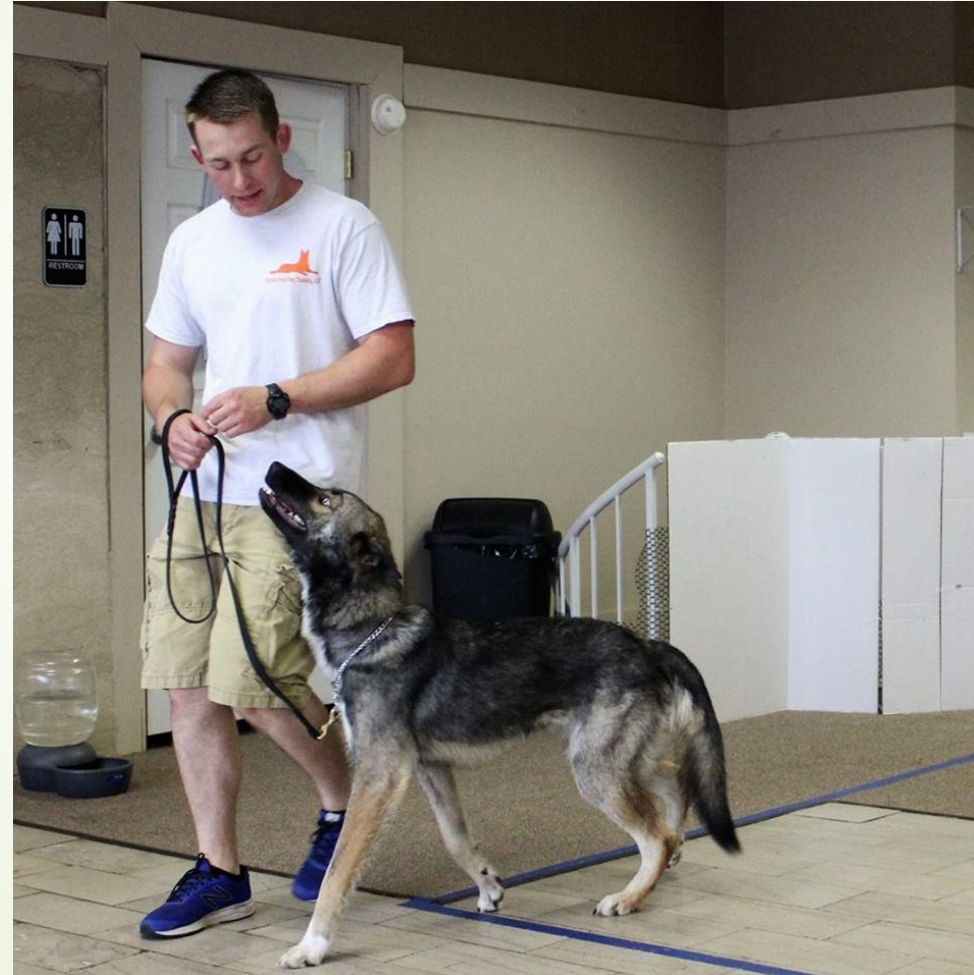


Old School vs. New School



Fayette Area Dog Training, LLC

Alpha-Subordinate Relationship



III. Basic Handling Techniques

- ▶ Leash discipline
- ▶ Training collars
- ▶ Physical interaction





Leash Discipline

- ▶ “Handlebar”
- ▶ “Fireman’s pole”
- ▶ Leash correction
 - ▶ One-handed vs. two-handed correction





Training Collars

- ▶ Flat collar
 - ▶ Slip (“choke”) collar
 - ▶ Prong (“pinch”) collar





Physical Interaction

- ▶ Touch
- ▶ Voice
- ▶ Eye contact/body language





“Heel Position”

- Consistency
- Trust
- Marker
- Control



Clarity ...





FAYETTE AREA DOG TRAINING LLC

(724) 880-6377