

THE BART BELLON™ NEPOPO™ NEWSLETTER

“SUGARBREAD AND WHIP”™ (“ZUCKERBROT UND PEITSCHÉ”)

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

December 13, 2012

Bart Bellon Seminar
December 8-9, 2012
At the facilities of
Elite K-9



Bart finished up his RSV2000 seminar on the 2nd of December. He drove home to Belgium from Germany on the 3rd and flew to America on the 4th. Bart arrived in Washington in the early evening. At 7:30 am on the 5th, Michael and Bart were on their way to Paducah . After the Paducah seminar and workshop (ending on December 14th), Michael and Bart will be driving west to California from Kentucky for the holidays. Bart will fly round trip from California to Florida for his seminar/workshop in Oxford (January 5-6 and January 7-11, respectively.) Bart will be available for private seminars while in California and on the drive back to Washington in the middle of January. Please contact Michael for information about private seminars and scheduling: michael@bartbellon.com. After his seminar at or near Nashville, Tennessee, in February, Bart will fly to China and Indonesia where he is giving a workshop and a seminar, respectively. Then there is an unannounced workshop at the end of March in Missouri. Contact Michael for more information. There might be one slot left.

Bart is not likely to be coming to the United States often after May of 2013 because Michael is selling her house in the United States. If the public in the United States, Canada, or South America is interested in a Bart Bellon Seminar/Workshop, these five upcoming seminars/workshops (in FL, TN, VA, MO, and PA) offer a unique opportunity to train with one of the most (if not the most) sought after dog professionals in the world. In June, Michael and Bart will be flying back to Europe where Bart has commitments already lined up starting in July.

Bart will be in Europe from July of 2013 to October of 2013. For all European seminar demands, contact info@dogsport.be.

“Sissy is the Sister of Sassa!” (Bart Bellon) Paducah, Kentucky Seminar at the Facilities of Elite K9

(all the newsletters can be found on www.dcmetrok9.com or www.bartbellonseminars.com)

The seminar in Kentucky on December 8-9, 2012, was attended by people from Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Iowa, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Florida and Tennessee. Some participants traveled 1000 miles round trip. The infrastructure at Elite K9 is comfortable and equipped with a conference room, real toilets with a sink and soap(!), a full sized and fenced in training field with lights and a covered shooting area (in case of rain). So, despite some very bad weather during the seminar, we had a back up plan for every situation. The seminar moved flawlessly despite the elements. There also was perfect assistance from Maureen Roberts.

Bart spent some time going over the four steps of dog training: the first step is to make a dog learn his job; the second step is to motivate him to do the job; the third step is to motivate him to do the job when he is not motivated to do the job; and in the fourth step, the dog must look flashy and look like he loves it. Bart did see that many people skip the first step and jump right to step two. People are addicted to the look of high drive and overlook correctness and real understanding. The dog is motivated or lured to do “the job” (sometimes in high drive), but in spite of that, he does not understand “the job”. Motivation must come after the dog understands the job. Further, many people skip the preparation for or do not know how to motivate the dog to do the job when he is not motivated to do the job, step three. And, almost no one gets to the fourth step: after the correction (kick asses) the dog still looks flashy. This is one of the strengths of NePoPo.

NePoPo is a system that first teaches the learning “alphabet”. A child who learns to recite a storybook does not necessarily know how to read. A child can learn to recite a song in a foreign language but that doesn’t mean that they can speak that language nor that they understand what they are singing. A child that can read the alphabet can learn to read words and then can learn to read sentences. Learning the “alphabet” first makes understanding (step one in dog training) clear and easy. Step 3 is easily overcome in the NePoPo system because there is a steady creation of toughness in the dog such that the correction that eventually will come will be both understood and effective (leading to the dog going out of unwanted behavior and into desired behavior) but it will also be a correction without submission. Bart did see again in Paducah that dogs who showed toughness in the bitework (due to the picture) could not be corrected in obedience because obedience was taught with positive reinforcement only and a correction in obedience causes the dog to lose drive or even collapse altogether. The dog needs to learn to be tough and to love the toughness! We don’t want a sissy. The dog needs to have

negative reinforcement added to the training schedule so that the negative reinforcement is understood and prepares the dog for the correction that will inevitably come.

And then came the question: what is negative reinforcement? Because negative reinforcement is sometimes called “avoidance training”, the term “negative reinforcement” has a bad connotation. Many people feel that negative reinforcement is punishment. It is not. Punishments are motivation to make a behavior less likely to happen. Reinforcements are motivations to make a behavior more likely to happen. Negative reinforcement is a level of stimulation to activate the dog to do—it is a motivation “to do” stimulation; if the level of stimulation is too high, what was intended to be negative reinforcement becomes a motivation to never do again (a punishment). Too high stimulation in negative reinforcement becomes aversive training, the “do not do”. With regard to electronic collar use in negative reinforcement, most e-collars brands are too hot to use for negative reinforcement for most dogs. Most electronic collars are designed as “no” collars. A handler needs a versatile collar to use in the NePoPo system because using the remote collar with NePoPo is like electronic doping. (Will “electronic doping” ever be used on athletes/students...?) The whole point is to have an active dog. We want to use negative reinforcement to motivate a dog to do a job, and we must remember that negative reinforcement must be included in A, B, and C or in any kind to “to do” exercise that the dog must learn.

Speaking of negative reinforcement in tracking, most people have no idea how to add negative reinforcement in the tracking. Frank Rottleb did come up with the first tracking system that adds a negative reinforcement component to the track that fits in the NePoPo idea. Bart was quite inspired by that. Christopher Lucas, from Pennsylvania, is the spiritual father of Bart’s indirect reward tracking system. (Bart always likes to give credit to those who teach and challenge him.) The benefit of training around the world is that Bart comes into contact with many people and is always learning as well as teaching.

In the end, dog training is not all about monkey drills. It is about relations and making innovative dogs. When Bart got Kimo out at the end of the seminar, Bart just played with Kimo. Kimo ran between Bart’s legs or ran past Bart, teasing Bart to whip his ass with the bamboo stick. Again and again. Fun, communication, dopamine, endorphins.

NePoPo.



Some Reactions to the Bart Bellon Seminar

(from Paducah, KY)

"I have traveled to work with Bart several times now. I've driven 14 hours each way and never regretted it. I have learned more about dog training from Bart than anyone or anything else. His system is the best and once you learn how to incorporate NePoPo into your training you will never look back. Plain and simple Bart has made dog training easy and exciting and my dogs have never been more motivated, and neither have I. Thank you Bart."

Larry Krohn
270-776-7184
Pak Masters Dog Training

"[I] spent the weekend watching and observing...when you get an opportunity to witness creativity and brilliance in action...the mind races with tidbits of new possibility...I suspect restless sleep for me tonight.

Thank you [Bart Bellon](#) & [Michael Peterson](#) for such passionate sharing of your time and talents."

Robin MacFarlane

"My job has always been to raise the kids and tend to the farm animals and Eric's passion and job to train his dogs. I attended this weekends conference as a bystander with my husband not sure exactly what to expect but hopeful to learn something. What I did learn was an amazing system of training that I can incorporate into my work with the animals we care for and work with for our kids 4h projects as they train them into more polished show animals. What I also received was a brief but beautiful glimpse at one of the top trainers who has done what so few are able to, and that is to effortlessly bridge the knowledge gap for young trainers as a great teacher. Very few individuals are able to convey their knowledge like Bart does."

Lisa Burns

"Hello Michael,

I really enjoyed the seminar this past weekend. Bart is truly inspiring. I believe NePoPo is the most concrete systematic form of training that is resting on sound theory congruent to what science has shown in animal behaviorism. Bart has provided us with a great framework to work with, and it seems that the possibilities are endless in which direction we may take it. This is evident through the sheer amount of people he has influenced, especially in the area that I am most interested in; the sport of IPO. Bart's reputation speaks for itself. He, certainly, has nothing to prove. What I have been most awed by, seeing him in person, is the great humility and extreme passion that he displays. I have learned that training at a high level can be fun. More importantly, he has given me, in such a short time, the confidence in my own abilities and a stronger desire to pursue my passion. I wish you guys the best!

Kind Regards,"

Mike Park

"I just wanted to tell you guys the seminar exceeded my expectations. The amount of detail in theory was wonderfully overwhelming. I am sure it will be weeks of repeatedly reviewing my notes before it all sinks in. Really a job well done! Hope to see you in St. Louis.

Thanks again."

Scott Bakkala

"Thank you for sharing all the training ideas this weekend. I thoroughly enjoyed listening and watching. Being able to watch you work with your dog was the highlight of the seminar for me. I'm looking forward to crossing paths with you again soon."

Darin Shepherd

The Chameleon: This is what we call "EVOLUTION".

Bart Bellon's Chameleon



Or



Traditional Brickstone Receiver



Scheduled Seminars in America with Bart Bellon

At the Facilities of
Police Service Dogs
Training Center
in Oxford, FL
2 Day Seminar:
January 5-6, 2013
5 Day Workshop:
January 7-11, 2013
contact: 305-986-5824



At the Facilities of
Nashville K9
in Nashville, TN
2 Day Seminar:
February 9-10, 2013
5 Day Workshop:
February 11-15, 2013
contact:
michael@bartbellon.com



At the Facilities of
Burgos Kennels
in Fredericksburg, VA
2 Day Seminar:
April 6-7, 2013
5 Day Workshop:
April 8-12, 2013
contact:
michael@bartbellon.com



At the facilities of
No Leash Needed
in St. Louis, MO
2 Day Seminar:
May 11-12, 2013
contact:
michael@bartbellon.com



At the facilities of
International
Conservation
Center (ICC)
in Fairhope, PA
2 Day Seminar
May 25-26, 2013
5 Day Workshop
May 27-31, 2013
contact:
michael@bartbellon.com

