

Wildlife Afield:

# How To Train A Bird Dog Owner

By JIM DEAN  
I am in the process of being trained by a dog—a young German short-haired pointer to be exact. That's not so bad. I'm told lots of people who purchase dogs must undergo a bit of schooling.

What bothers me is that I think I'm flunking the course. My instructor's name is Pepper. Last night, Pepper informed me that he didn't think it was any of my business where he conducted his business, even if it was on the kitchen floor.

We have been arguing about this matter since Pepper first came to the house some months ago and enrolled me in a course titled "The Proper Role Of A Human Being In The Presence Of A Young Bird Dog."

I maintain—perhaps wrongly—that as a student, I should have a say in how this course is taught. Naturally, Pepper disagrees.

This is not the only point of disagreement. Pepper also claims that he has the authority to "chew" me out anytime he thinks I need it. In fact, he has "chewed" me out so many times that I fear my hands are scarred for life. I have pointed out to

him that he has rawhide bones to chew on, but he says he prefers a lighter, milder chew and that my fingers are perfect.

The most embarrassing thing that has happened so far concerns my physical conformation. Pepper has been looking me over carefully, and he maintains that I have some very definite flaws. He says I'm cow-hocked and snipy. Which, if I understand correctly, means that I am knock-kneed and have a weak chin. He's also concerned about my nose. He thinks I may not be able to smell a bobwhite quail or a woodcock.

I know I must have been a disappointment to him when we went out for a jaunt on a farm recently. Pepper ranged far and wide, covering a lot of ground, and I had a heck of a time keeping up. He says I'm slow and timid and that if I ever plan to be any good in the field, I'm going to have to increase my range.

Well, shoot, nobody's perfect.

I think Pepper is rather proud of my retrieving, however. The other afternoon, I threw sticks for him in the backyard for at least an hour, and I

retrieved every one of them while he sat there and watched.

I am also rather proud that I have learned where I'm supposed to sleep at night. For a month or so there, I thought I would never get it straight. Unless I am mistaken, I believe Pepper wants me to sleep on the foot of the bed.

It's clear to me that he regards the pillow as his own personal property. At least, that's where he's been sleeping, and he doesn't seem to mind if I sleep at his feet. I'm glad we got that worked out because there really wasn't room for both of us on the pillow.

The other day I asked him if there wasn't something he could do about the fleas, but he didn't seem too interested. Apparently, he thinks fleas are something I've got to learn to live with. Gee, you'd think he'd at least get me one of those collars.

I guess it's really too early to predict what's going to happen between me and Pepper. I even asked my wife Diane what she thought I ought to do.

"I wouldn't worry about it," she said. "They say it often takes two or three years before you can tell. If you haven't shown any promise by then, we'll get rid of you and get somebody else."

Pepper didn't say anything. I think he's still hoping I'll turn out all right.



AREA ANGLERS FISH AT HATTERAS—Gene English, Milton Tadlock, and Joe Brickhouse of Elizabeth City and Eugene and Chris Boyce of Hertford, are shown with a 150 pound blue marlin, which English caught while the group fished off Hatteras a few days ago aboard the cruiser Ebb Tide, with Capt. Stuart Mebel. Not shown in photo were 67 dolphin the party caught from waters near the western edge of the Gulf Stream. (Jane Oden Photo for Dare Tourist Bureau.)

FINISHING DRIVE

Members of the Perquimans County Marching Unit are finishing their drive to sell community birthday calendars in the county.

If there is anyone who has not been contacted and would like to list their birthday and anniversary and buy a calendar, he is asked

to contact a member of the unit or Mrs. Marion Swindell, secretary of the Marching Unit Parents Club, at 426-5614.

## Register Now For PP&K

Registrations for the 1974 Punt, Pass and Kick Program sponsored locally by Winslow-Blanchard Mtr. Co. Inc. continue to roll in. The national goal is a record 1,200,000 registrants.

Over the past 13 years, PP&K has registered more than ten million youngsters, making it the largest youth activity of its kind in America. In each of the last six years, registrations have topped the million mark.

Any youngster 8 through 13 years of age, accompanied by a parent or guardian, may register at any participating Ford Dealer. There is no registration fee.

Each registrant will receive a free PP&K Tips Book which includes a complete set of rules, helpful conditioning exercises and important punting, passing and place-kicking tips by leading NFL specialists in these skills.

PP&K involves no body contact, no special equipment is required and youngsters compete only against others in their own age group. Participation does not impair a youngster's amateur standing.

First, second and third place winners in local competition will receive one of 18 local trophies.

## Area Girls Collect For Cause

Five young ladies of Hertford collected \$83.08 for Muscular Dystrophy Monday afternoon.

While watching the Jerry Lewis Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy on TV, Tracy Speaker felt the need to help in some way. She called several of her friends who helped her canvas the neighborhood for about three hours. The money has been sent to national headquarters and will be used to help in the research to find a cure for the

disease. Those helping Tracy were Nona Cooper, Linda Miller, Claudia Lane and Sandra Lane.

RETURN HOME

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Watson returned to their home in Philadelphia, Pa. on Monday after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Proctor.

FROM UNC-CHAPEL HILL

Miss Eva Newby, student at UNC-Chapel Hill, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Newby.

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## Football Schedule

The football season for the Perquimans Pirates will officially begin tomorrow night as the team takes on Plymouth in foreign territory. Although this will be the first scheduled game, the Pirates did participate in a scrimmage game against Northeastern High School last Wed. night.

The 1974 football schedule for the Pirates is below:

September 6	Plymouth
September 13	Edenton
+September 20	Roanoke Rapids
+September 27	Scotland Neck
xOctober 4	Knapp
x+October 11	Northampton
x+October 18	Murfreesboro
xOctober 25	Gumberry
x+November 1	Gates
xNovember 8	Camden
+Home Games	xConference Games

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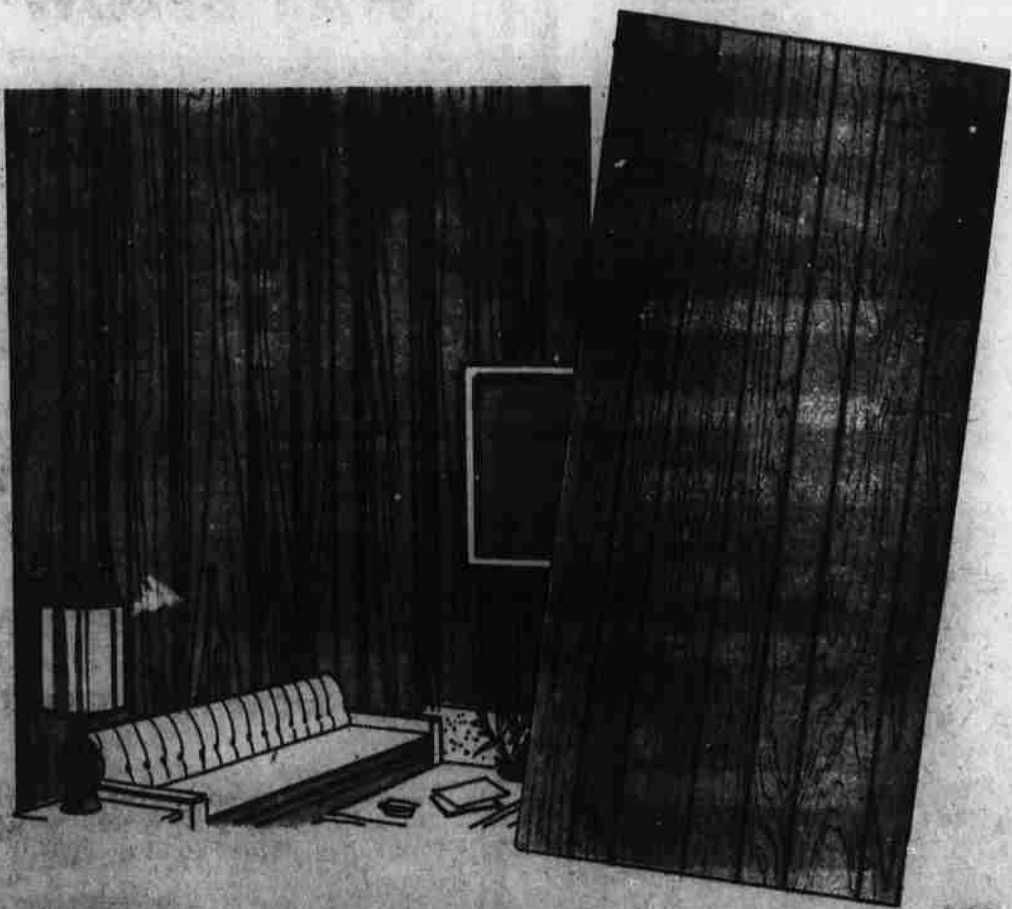
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- An example of financing: an amount of \$18,000 less the \$100 down payment at an ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE OF 9.75% would require 2 months with no installments and fourteen (14) monthly installments of \$145.32 each and then 180 installments of \$189.63. Deferred payment price \$36,269.28 (the sum of the down payment plus all monthly installments over 16 years and 4 months). If repaid within 16 months, deferred price is \$20,035.88.
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