

Responsibility
&
Accountability



Ownership
Legislation
Community

www.TeamPitAFull.org

About the Trainer & Training Theory

David Edelstein

Always drawn to animals, I began bringing home strays and injured animals and rehabilitating them (even in its crudest form) as early as ten years old. In 1990, I met Doug (a Pit Bull Black Labrador) and Alex (A German Shepherd Standard Collie) and my quest to find out what makes this particular species of animal work began.

From volunteering at local rescues to get first-hand experience to assisting behaviorist at municipal animal shelters with assessing potentially dangerous dogs... my agenda was hands-on experience, more experience in reading vocalizations/ posture/ instinctual behavior/ degrees of territoriality/ dominant vs passive temperament/ and the ability to accept structure, leadership, sense of community and belonging.

From day one... there was a draw, an attraction to dogs at the end of the line. Deemed "Unadoptable", abused, neglected, emaciated, beaten and burned... I went looking for "the worst of the worst". There was an emphasis on dogs who not only needed help and a second chance, but also who needed a voice to convey to the world how they came to where they are now. With the help and second chance, they have all gone on to live out their lives with their people in peace.

In the spring of 2007, Team Pit-a-Full began with the assembly of its founders: Daze, then Forrest and Kane. Not only did my knowledge base of "pack" or community increase, but how a pack moves and works together when under stable and consistent leadership. Not long after, the stability began influencing our approach to dog training, the introduction of one-on-one/ intense boot camp training, and our approach to "dog-teaching-other-dog" training method.

"When under stable and consistent leadership". Going back into R/D mode...What is a respected leader? The human canine relationship goes back thousands of years to the original domestication of wolves. With the exception of the 2% of DNA dedicated to domestication and appearance... Dogs and wolves are genetically identical. What makes a respected Alfa wolf and can that dynamic be adapted for human leaders? And so we did and adopted our leadership theory:

"A leader is not only a boss, but also a protector, a good provider, and a good decision maker for the pack."

That leader becomes "the solid concrete pillar in the center of the room" for the dog to rely on and obey the math:

I SAY + YOU DO + POSITIVE RESPONSE = civility

Or

I SAY + YOU DON'T + NEGATIVE RESPONSE = repeat procedure

Why not Positive Re-enforcement Training exclusively? Dogs do not come from a democracy like us humans. Dogs know and understand hierarchy or a dictatorship. Humanely and confidently leading one's pack is what dogs know and understand. To consistently convey positive and negative response to behavior is to be crystal clear as a leader. In the absence of genuine leadership, just like their ancestors the wolves... a dog will assume that authoritative role. A dog in charge with no check/ balance is a dog that has a very good chance of running into behavioral problems (i.e. overt territoriality, possessiveness, aggressive towards other dogs and/ or people, etc.)

"What sort of Negative response are we talking about here?" Since 1990, I have honed and tooled our theory and practice on how we communicate Yes from No. Our approach is the use of:

#1 Voice, #2 body language, and #3 the use of leash control (when outside the home)

PLEASE NOTE – Negative Response ≠ physically hitting, kicking or beating a dog, nor does it equate to the use of "ecollars"/ shock collars, choke chains or pinch/ prong collars. Humane starts with human.

Defensive Dog Ownership: What is it and why is it included in dog training? So we have spent the weeks training and practicing and establishing structure, and a dog (and their owner) are doing great. Control and leadership are working well and a

dog is now a joy to include in the home. And then we go out the door and we come across another dog and their owner who aren't doing so well and present a possible problem (i.e. aggression or overly friendly, protective of their human, territorial, etc.) and we must make a sound decision for our group of what to do about it. Enter Defensive Dog Ownership. This tool includes calm and accurate assessment of the situation and calmly yet quickly taking evasive action to avoid the problem... and your dog saw you doing it and respects your leadership that much more for it.

David R. Edelstein

David Edelstein

Founder/ Trainer –

Team Pit-a-Full Dog Training & Rehabilitation

[Formal resume' attached]

DAVID R. EDELSTEIN

[Team Pit-a-Full Dog Training & Rehabilitation]

CURRICULUM VITAE

David R. Edelstein is the founder and chief trainer of Team Pit-A-Full Dog Training & Rehabilitation in Denver, Colorado and has been working with at-risk dogs since 1990.

He has consulted with and trained thousands of dogs and their owners. In addition, he has consulted with and assessed dogs for the Westminster City Attorney's Office which are facing dangerous dog designations.

Mr. Edelstein is also the trainer/ behaviorist for Friends of Retired Greyhounds in Thornton, CO, Consulting Trainer for Colorado Beagle Rescue, and has consulted with Blue Lion Rescue (Yoder, CO) and Big Dogs, Huge Paws [Giant Breed Rescue] in Golden, CO.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member - - NADOI National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors

EMPLOYMENT

2013 – PRESENT

Friends of Retired Greyhounds Rescue

Chief Dog Trainer and Behaviorist

Assess dog behavior, basic obedience and social ability, employing various techniques to correct behavior and train dog owners to be more effective leaders for their dogs

2009-PRESENT

Consultant in Dog Behavior

Completing Formal Evaluations and Proving Testimony as a Dog Behavior Expert in various types of dog-related litigation

1990 – PRESENT

Private Residential Dog Training and Rehabilitation (dba Team Pit-A-Full Dog Training and Rehabilitation since 2006)

Founder/ Trainer

Assess dog behavior, basic obedience and social ability, employing various techniques to correct behavior and train dog owners to be more effective leaders for their dogs

2011 - 2012

Best Friends Pet Care, Wheat Ridge, CO

Chief Dog Trainer

Assess dog behavior, basic obedience and social ability, employing various techniques to correct behavior and train dog owners to be more effective leaders for their dogs

2004 - 2006

Private Residential Dog Trainer with Felipe Azusa (former partner to Cesar Millan)

Assess dog behavior, basic obedience and social ability, employing various techniques to correct behavior and train dog owners to be more effective leaders for their dogs

1990 - 1994

Orange County Animal Care and Control, Orange County CA

Volunteer Junior Dog Trainer in Training

Assessed basic obedience and social ability, worked with potential adopters to implement basic obedience

EXPERT (& Expert Witness) CONSULTATIONS

August, 2012 - Consulted and entered expert opinion regarding readiness of the owner and the owner's home for the return of an alleged dangerous dog to the home. (Englewood, CO)

July, 2013 – Prepared and testified as expert witness defining long term effects of an institutional setting on dogs (Jefferson County, CO)

July, 2014 – Consulted and prepared to testify on assessment, training/rehabilitation, and future training program of alleged vicious dog involved in dog/dog fatality. (Englewood, CO)

October, 2014 – Expert Witness. Consulted and testified as expert witness regarding evaluation, training/rehabilitation, and temperament, behavior and welfare of (2) dogs involved in a dog park related incident. (Westminster, CO)

January, 2015 – Completed formal evaluation and prepared to testify regarding the temperament of two dogs in an alleged dog/dog attack. (Boulder, CO)

March, 2015 – Completed formal evaluation and entered opinion as expert in temperament and behavior in alleged animal abuse case. (Longmont, CO)

May, 2015 – Completed independent formal evaluation of temperament, recommended training program and regular reporting of training progress per animal control requirements. (Denver, CO)

August, 2015 – Completed formal evaluation of temperament and entered recommendations for containment and long term training program to city attorney's office. (Westminster, CO)

September, 2015 – Completed formal evaluation of temperament and entered recommended minimum training program to city attorney's office in lieu of "harboring a vicious animal" charges. (Westminster, CO)

November, 2015 – Completed formal evaluation of temperament and entered long term training program as expert in civil litigation involving custody and criminal animal abuse. (McIntosh County, GA)

December, 2015 – Completed formal evaluation of temperament and entered recommended course of action regarding containment and long term training/follow up evaluation to city attorney's office. (Westminster, CO)

March, 2016 (Pending) – Completed formal evaluation of temperament and behavior, and prepared to testify as expert witness in litigation involving dog/ dog fatality. (Lakewood, CO)

COURT EXPERT QUALIFICATIONS

Jefferson County Court, Jefferson County, CO July 2013 (McCartney – July 2013)

Westminster Municipal Court, Westminster, CO 2014 (Rost- September 2014)