

the modern dog culture magazine

THE

# BARIK™

Celebrate  
Our 8th  
Birthday!

NO. 32

Dog is my co-pilot™

FALL 2005

## It's a Dog's Life!

Seeking  
**Wildlife**  
Conservation  
Canines

Gregory Edmont's  
**Unleashed**  
Life *in the Run*

**Glam Dogs**  
Then and Now

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- >Bilingual Dogs
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Mark Deamer's entertaining cartoons enliven almost every page, while his appealing graphics demonstrate the right and wrong ways to train. Don't miss the book's printed mascot, who comes to life when you fan the pages. Watch him wag his tail, stand and bark his approval of Dr. Yin's advice. What a smart, and well-trained, dog!

*Jo Haraf is a dog trainer working on a book showing the similarities between dog training and business management.*

## NOTEWORTHY BOOKS

### **You Are a Dog: Life Through the Eyes of Man's Best Friend**

By Terry Bain

(Harmony Books, \$16)

What dog lover hasn't tried to channel her dog's thoughts, or hasn't tried to translate dog-thoughts into human-speak? Most of us won't admit "baby-talking" to our dogs, but decoding dog-speak is a different matter, and a great game to play with other humans at the dog park. Now along comes Terry Bain, who treats us to a master class in this genre. Bain has taken the words right out of his dog's mouth, so to speak, and has written a delightful, sweet and, at times, uproarious interpretation of how the canine mind perceives the world. Sounding something like a cross between Gertrude Stein and e. e. cummings, with a dash of Yoda, Bain's dog's voice has an appealing lilt to it. The book is written in the second-person, which is part of its charm, and chapters, such as "Items in the House," are composed of short ruminations on topics like "The Vacuum," "The Sofa" and "Toys." "Toys" begins with the observation that "Many of the children's toys look as if they have been chewed. You don't remember doing it, but you know it was you who chewed them . . ." This is a book to savor, and with its doglike living-in-the-moment immediacy, merits repeated readings, like a book of verse.

### **Kids & Dogs: Teaching Them to Live, Play and Learn Together**

By Ruth Weston and Dr. Catriona Ross

(Allen & Unwin, \$16.95)

Kids and dogs—is there any more pleasant pairing? In this new training guide from an Australian mother/daughter team (Ruth is a senior dog-training instructor and her daughter Catriona is a registered psychologist), the authors offer tips, tricks and very

## PRAYER TO PERSEPHONE

### FOR MAZY

Lady, please welcome our dog.  
She comes alone and is easily scared. She never wanted  
to be separated from us. Once in New Hampshire,  
we climbed a look-out tower and left her

at the bottom, by the flimsy metal ladder.

As I gazed at mountains and valleys,  
someone yelled, "Is that your dog?"

I looked down and saw her poised

on a rung, a trembling paw reaching  
for the next, all that scary space  
in between, and I flew down the ladder  
and hugged her as she trembled and licked my face.

She likes to be scratched behind her ears.

Lady, will you hold her if she trembles?

—Nan Fry

practical advice on ways to take best advantage of this natural affinity. In addition to their gentle approach to training, they take a realistic look at the pragmatic issues of choosing, caring for and living with a dog. On the other side of the equation, they describe the various stages of child development, and link them with appropriate levels of responsibility and what children of various ages can be expected to understand. An entire chapter is devoted to the issue of dog bites and how to avoid them (invaluable information for everyone, not just children). In the section titled "Lessons," their use of charts identifying possible problems, possible causes and suggested remedies offer refreshingly straightforward options to common training issues. Finally, the book's generous margins, nice use of color, instructive photographs and comfortable size make reading it a pleasant experience.

### **Dog-Friendly Washington, D. C. & the Mid-Atlantic States**

By Trisha Blanchet

(The Countryman Press \$18.95)

Covering the entire Mid-Atlantic region—Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania and northern Virginia—this is another in The Countryman's Press indispensable guidebook series. The one-to-five biscuit rating makes it easy to find the most

dog-friendly regions, and a plethora of useful information, appropriate for all budget levels, helps make planning a get-away for you and your dog a breeze.

### **How to Meditate with Your Dog: An Introduction to Meditation for Dog Lovers**

By James Jacobson,

with Kristine Chandler Madera

(Maui Media, \$16.95)

It would be easy to dismiss this book as yet another trendy, pseudo-mystical effort aimed at the fringe, but that would be a mistake. Despite his use of the a-word (alpha), the author seems to have a good understanding of dog nature, which he links to an easy-to-follow, step-by-step introduction to the basics of meditation. Dogs are natural meditators—he uses the term "hound-lounge" to describe that not-asleep, not-awake state we've all observed in our dogs—and as he notes, "dogs can show us how to be better attuned to the rhythms of life," a skill many of us would benefit from developing. Novice meditators will find useful tips, and the more experienced will smile at the linkages between their practice and "dog nature." All in all, this is a friendly initiation to an eminently useful habit.