



Suzanne Clothier Sees the **HEART** Of Kansas City Positive Dog Trainers

Kansas City, MO – October 21, 2015

HEARTland Positive Dog Training Alliance hosted award winning author and pioneering animal behaviorist Suzanne Clothier for two wonderful days of lecture and hands-on workshop on October 17 & 18. Through stories, videos and masterful demonstrations, Clothier taught the importance and techniques of patiently and accurately observing a dog's actual behavior, assessing environmental and physical factors that might be influencing that behavior, and only then prescribing a behavior plan. On Day 2, she worked with 4 dogs to demonstrate techniques for assessing behavior and as case studies for behavior modification techniques.

While **HEART** members learned much from Suzanne, we were humbled and heartened by Suzanne's own words about her time with us in Kansas City, and she graciously agreed to have her Facebook post shared here.



[Suzanne Clothier](#)

October 20 ·

Well, Dorothy, this time it WAS Kansas. And Missouri too.

A terrific weekend with like-hearted people, all brought together by my hosts, the HEARTLand Positive Dog Training Alliance.

The dogs were lovely, funny and sweet. Although we couldn't get the MinPin to tweak an ear towards anything on wheels, she sure had a great time learning the Auto Check-in and Go Hunt, two skills that will be helpful in her car chasing moments. The little Yorkie taught us how much we could see about where a dog's safe zones were, and how those can change in a flash. It was good to send her and her person home with new ideas & skills. The Border Collie brought us the lesson of listening on many levels, and it made my heart full to see her enjoying a simple scent game. I think she and her person are headed for some very cool adventures of the heart. And the baby Corgi -- oh, why isn't there *always* a camera running!?!? No one present will readily forget the Really Real Relaxation Protocol as demonstrated by this little genius. Nor will they forget her impressive imitation of a hooked trout and beached salmon. Very funny little drama queen with a brilliant mind.

But above all, I walked away from this group feeling deeply encouraged. These folks are an outstanding example of what a determined group of trainers can do. HEARTLand restored my faith that when kind, intelligent people put their shoulders side by side, they can make a difference. They didn't set out to change the world. They simply set out to make their corner of

the world a better place. Each member of HEARTLand is a light in their corner, and together, they shine mighty bright.

HEARTLand made me feel GOOD about being a fellow trainer about trying to do right by the dogs and their people. I was so impressed by the HEARTLand Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct that on the spot, I asked if I might join them. I know I'm a bit outside their membership locations, but I'd be proud to be a member.

So here's to the fine folks at HEARTLand Positive Dog Training Alliance. I came to teach for you all, and came home humbled and so darn glad I had a chance to get to know you a bit better. Special thanks to Kay Lampe & Skip Daiger for getting me to KS/MO! (And Heddie, thanks for the scenic tour!)

- End Facebook Post -

Suzanne Clothier is a pioneer in relationship-centered training methods. Her book, **Bones Would Rain from the Sky: Deepening Our Relationship With Dogs**, has received wide spread praise from every corner of the dog world, including twice being included in the Wall Street Journal's list of Top 5 Dog Books. An award winning author of videos, books, booklets and numerous articles, Clothier has written articles for the AKC Gazette, Dog Fancy, Dogs In Canada, Off Lead, Clean Run, Wolf Clan and breed magazines and newsletters around the world. She served as a committee member for the AKC's Agility Advisory Board, and as a committee member of the American Humane Association's Task Force for the Development of Humane Standards in Dog Training.

HEARTland Positive Dog Training Alliance is a group of like-minded individuals comprised of dog trainers, pet professionals and dog enthusiasts aligning themselves to create an awareness of the importance and benefits of positive reinforcement, force free dog training.

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