

## Presenters in Alphabetical Order

### **Eva Bertilsson**

With a master's degree in behavior analysis and a passion for animal welfare, Eva Bertilsson works as an educator and consultant in a variety of settings. Together with business partner Emelie Johnson Vegh, Eva runs their collaboration Carpe Momentum. "E&E" met on the agility field 20 years ago. They teach seminars and online courses on a wide range of topics and are known for concepts such as seamless training sessions, start-button behaviors, and flowcharts. In 2015 they teamed up with Peggy Hogan to discuss their joint passion for the learner initiated aspect of training and developed the now-classic Animals in Control lecture.

Eva lives in the village of Ljungskile in the west of Sweden, where she also organizes the yearly CCC conference on Choice, Control & Communication. She is a FearFree speaker and a board member of the Swedish Association for Behavior Analysis, enjoying networking and connecting people and ideas. Her most recent cooperation has the nerdy name ABC247.wtf and is a webshop for products and online material.

### **Spook No More: The Spell of Startbuttons**

### **Hannah Branigan, CCUI**

Hannah Branigan, the author of *Awesome Obedience*, is a self-proclaimed training nerd. With the belief that everyone (dogs and humans alike) learn best in an environment free of criticism, Hannah breaks down complex skills into bite-sized, accessible pieces and develops practical techniques that leave her students with a sense of achievement and success.

She is on a mission to make training fun and enjoyable for dogs and their handlers, which means optimizing positive reinforcement techniques across species. She is fascinated by behavior and learning, and passionate about bringing innovative, science-based solutions to the dog/human learning space.

Hannah has a background in both human sports and biology. Now she applies that knowledge and experience to the world of animal training and canine competitive sports. She enjoys training and competing with her own dogs in a variety of sports. Her competition obedience DVDs, Obedience FUNdamentals and Beyond FUNdamentals, have received rave reviews from trainers all over the world, and her students have earned advanced titles in multiple countries.

Hannah is the host of the popular dog training podcast, Drinking from the Toilet, which focuses on the (often inconvenient) intersection between positive reinforcement philosophy and reality. Her mentorship program, Zero to CD, gives trainers a complete, step-by-step blueprint for earning their first level obedience title with curated support along the way.

### **Undead and Unhelpful: Human Distractions Don't Have to Be a Nightmare**

## **Cindy Carter, CCUI**

Cindy Carter, owner of Mindful Manners Dog Training in Charleston, SC, is a Certified Control Unleashed Instructor, member of APDT, and attended Karen Pryor Academy. Cindy has been training dogs in the LowCountry for the past 15 years.

She was introduced to CU after she got her first Aussie, Jude, who was diagnosed with general anxiety disorder. After working through the original CU book and attending a weekend workshop, she traveled to Philadelphia to train directly with Leslie, and her life as a trainer and dog owner was changed forever.

Cindy works with companion dogs, dogs needing behavior modification, and agility dogs who are struggling on and off course. She is currently teaching Control Unleashed for agility at Low Country Dog Agility. The principles of CU are a constant in all of her training and teaching. Compassion and empathy for the dog and handler teams are part of the training package.

Cindy shares her life with two special dogs; a 7-year-old Aussie, Tripp, and 3-year-old Border Collie, Quin. Both are amazing companions and agility dogs.

### **Agility Unleashed: Approaching the Dragon's Lair**

## **Julie Daniels, CCUI**

Julie Daniels won her first award for writing in the fourth grade, and she was training dogs long before that. She learned to walk by holding on to the family's German Shepherd. She currently owns three Border Collies and also gets to live and work with an Australian Koolie and a Staffy mix.

Julie lives in Deerfield, NH, where she owns Kool Kids Agility and teaches CU classes. For 28 years, she ran dog training camps at her world-renowned White Mountain Agility. Some of the theme camps she developed there were Wild Child, Speed-Em-Up, Novice Genius, Jumping Genius, and the WMA Instructor Certification Course, which honed the skills of hundreds of teachers and thousands of dogs worldwide.

Julie has competed and won with many different dogs, including two Rottweilers, a Springer Spaniel, a Cairn Terrier, two Corgis, and four Border Collies. She is the only person to make USDAA Grand Prix finals with a Rottie or a Springer, and she did it two times each. She is also a two-time national agility champion and a two-time international champion. She was the expert voice of Cynosport agility for many years, doing livestream video commentary at international events seen all around the world.

She is the author of four agility books and three DVDs. She teaches popular online classes, including Baby Genius, Empowerment, Cookie Jar Games, Crazy Good, and our favorite, Magic Mats, which is the subject of her presentation here at Conference Unleashed.

### **Magic Mats: Stations in the Conversation**

## **Jen Digate, CBCC-KA, CCUI**

Jen Digate, CBCC-KA, CCUI is a behavior consultant, coach, and writer. Jen is particularly interested in the intersection of equine behavioral health, biomechanics, skills progression, and horse-centric training. Jen has been an avid equine clicker trainer since 2008 and her two main interests are taming and training untouched mustangs (she has five) and learning academic art form riding and converting it into the positive paradigm. She was a speaker at ClickerExpo from 2016 through 2018.

Jen's use of Control Unleashed with her dog clients led her to explore its applications in her work with client horses and her own horses. She is interested in looking critically at how we structure training sessions for horses, bringing in methods from other species when applicable, and creating the most engaged, motivated learners possible.

Jen's long term blog, Spellbound (<http://www.spellboundhorses.com>), was recently retired (though still live), and she has just started a new blog/website, The Alchemist's Horse. You can find her on Facebook at the same name.

## **Bewitching Your Horse with Pony Pattern Games**

## **Dr. Laura Donaldson, PhD, CDBC, KPA CTP, CCUI**

Laura Donaldson, PhD, CDBC, KPA CTP, CCUI, is a retired Ivy League professor (Emeritus, Cornell University) who has also been a dog trainer and canine behavior specialist for 15 years. She holds a PhD in the humanities (her favorite course to teach was called "Gone to the Dogs: The Canine in Literature and Culture") and has done master's level course work in applied animal behavior. Laura is a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant through the IAABC, a Karen Pryor Certified Training Partner, and a Certified Control Unleashed Instructor.

Since 2006, Laura has owned Four Paws, Four Directions Dog Training & Behavior Consulting LLC, which is located in the beautiful Finger Lakes region of upstate New York. Her full-time behavior consulting practice focuses mainly on dogs struggling with aggression issues, and she also teaches both in-person and online Control Unleashed classes.

Laura is a published writer on dog behavior and is very proud that her essay, "The Cognitive Revolution and Everyday Dog Training: The Case of Look at That," won the 2018 Maxwell Medallion Award for best magazine article on dog training and behavior. She lives with my husband and four dogs—two working Border Collies (she has a small flock of Navajo Churro sheep), a couch potato Golden Retriever, and a Working Bearded Collie from the UK who she adopted early this year—as well as Smudge, the cat.

## **Cognition Unleashed: Thinking Dogs & Transforming Behavior the CU Way**

## **Crystal Gerovac, CCUI**

Crystal became one of the two Certified Control Unleashed Instructors in western New York, even though her career was not originally in dog training. Living with extremely fearful dogs flung Crystal into the positive dog training world at Canine Sports Complex.

She began assisting and substituting in Reactive and Fearful Dog Classes, and after a few years, she became an instructor. She teaches Fearful Dog Class, Control Unleashed Class, Puppy Experience and Foundation Agility. The fearful dog training world at Canine Sports Complex is one of Crystal's favorite places to be.

### **Unleashing Your Fearful Dog**

## **Nina Haaland, CCUI**

Nina Haaland, CCUI, has worked with dogs for 18 years. She is a certified dog behaviorist through the Norsk Atferdsgruppe for Selskapsdyr, Certified Control Unleashed Instructor, and Certified Fear Free trainer in Norway. Although she focuses primarily on behavior work, she also does freestyle. Nina has clients using CU for freestyle and also uses CU when training her own dogs. She loves CU for freestyle because of the way it helps the dog with focus and confidence!

### **Freestyle Unleashed**

## **MaryKay Hasseman, KPA CTP, CCUI**

Mary Kay Hasseman has been helping people and animals understand each other for over 40 years. As a horse and dog professional with a unique array of other experiences (from studying with a Zen Priest to upper-level dressage to clicker training), she often finds solutions that don't readily occur to many people.

The diversity of these experiences gives her deep insight into how to apply animal training that is joyful, meaningful, and effective for both animal and handler. She instills this knowledge in all her students while teaching dressage, horsemanship, mindfulness with animals, loving presence while training, and pet therapy for dogs and miniature horses.

MaryKay is a Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner, graduating with distinction in 2010. Her publications focus on how to sharpen our attention to the little details that make a big difference in training our animals.

### **Bewitching Your Horse with Pony Pattern Games**

## **Peggy Hogan**

Like everyone in this conference, Peggy loves all animals and has a passion for training. Peggy loves to share the steps of learning Clicker Training Horses, using primarily the lesser-known (to horse people) techniques of shaping, capturing, luring, and targeting.

She is passionate about sharing how horses offer complex behaviors freely when given choice and control. She has been a leading voice in the use of Start Buttons in all forms of horse training.

Through her business, The Best Whisper is a Click, Peggy has traveled internationally to promote the use of positive reinforcement with horses and has been a speaker at Clicker Expo since 2013. Peggy has a master's degree in psychology. She provides clicker training lessons, clinics, and online coaching.

### **Spook No More: The Spell of Startbuttons**

#### **Jeannine Jay, MS, CCUI**

Jeannine has been the owner and head trainer of Canine Sports Complex Inc for the past 15 years. Jeannine has a Masters Degree in Anthropology and she studied nonverbal communication. Jeannine's training career started in agility, tracking, and other sports where she held numerous titles on several dogs. Her interests evolved into training reactive, aggressive, and especially fearful dogs with a special interest in primitive breeds and street dogs. Jeannine is a member of Niagara Frontier Search and Rescue K9 team, and has recently acquired her CCUI.

### **Unleashing Your Fearful Dog**

#### **Angie Madden, CPDT-KA, CCUI**

Angie Madden, CPDT-KA, CCUI is a certified professional Dog Trainer and Control Unleashed Instructor. Her training philosophy is heavily influenced by her experience as a carnivore keeper, which introduced her to the concepts of husbandry training and enrichment. Angie currently offers private training and group classes focusing on relationship building and communication through her company DogSpeak, LLC.

### **Vampire Bats, Black Cats, and Helpful RATs: Cooperative Counter Conditioning – Putting the Learner in Control**

#### **Leslie McDevitt, MLA, CDBC, CPDT-KA, TAGteach Level 2**

Leslie McDevitt, MLA, CDBC, CPDT-KA, is the author of the internationally popular Control Unleashed series of books and DVDs published by Clean Run Productions. Her books have been translated into many languages; people all over the world have learned how to use her science-based and empowering methods to help companion, performance, and working dogs learn how to function optimally without stress in very challenging environments.

Leslie also certifies qualified trainers to teach her program and is proud of her Certified Control Unleashed Instructors all over the world. If you have a dog that worries about stuff—other dogs, people, noises, dog show judges, the unexpected—Leslie has many fun counter-conditioning games just for you. Leslie is a popular conference speaker and is excited to celebrate Halloween with the very first Conference Unleashed.

### **Look At That Spooky Monster: The Game that Broke the Rules and Changed Everything!**

#### **Pumpkin, Vampire, Zombie. Pumpkin, Vampire, Zombie - Patterns Are Powerful!**

## **Anette Buind Nordby CCUI, KPA-CTP**

Anette Buind Nordby lives in a rural area of Oslo, Norway, with her two Belgian shepherds and husband. She competes in and teaches rally obedience and scent detection, as well as teaches Control Unleashed classes and basic dog classes. Her dog Tzili competes in Elite class rally obedience, obedience class 2, scent detection, and tracking. Tzili qualified for the national team squad in rally obedience as one of the youngest dogs on the team. Her dog, Ezz, has just started her career in the rally obedience ring at only 11 months old. Both dogs are trained to be good citizens and family members as well as working dogs.

## **Nosework Unleashed**

## **Dr. Karen L. Overall, MA, VMD, PhD, DACVB**

Dr. Karen L. Overall has BA, MA and VMD degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She did her residency training in veterinary behavioral medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists (DACVB). She ran the Behavior Clinic at Penn Vet for more than a dozen years. Dr. Overall lectures at veterinary schools world-wide and is an Associate Professor at Atlantic Veterinary College, UPEI, and a Senior Research Scientist at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Overall has given hundreds of national and international presentations and short courses and is the author of over 100 scholarly publications, dozens of textbook chapters and the texts *Clinical Behavioral Medicine for Small Animals* (1997; Elsevier) and *Manual of Clinical Behavioral Medicine for Dogs and Cats* (2013; Elsevier) and of the DVD, *Humane Behavioral Care for Dogs: Problem Prevention and Treatment* (2013; Elsevier). She is the editor-in-chief for *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research* (Elsevier).

Dr. Overall has been named the North American Veterinary Conference (NAVC) Small Animal Speaker of the Year, has been awarded the Cat Writer's Association Certificate of Excellence for "The Social Cat" column in *Cat Fancy Magazine*, and in 2010 was named one of the The Bark's 100 Best and Brightest - *Bark Magazine's* list of the 100 most influential people in the dog world over the past 25 years.

Dr. Overall's research focuses on neurobehavioral genetics of dogs, the development of normal and abnormal behaviors and how we assess behavior, especially as concerns working dogs.

## **Clinical Behavioral Medicine Unleashed**

## **Sarah Owings, KPA CTP, CCUI**

Sarah Owings is a Karen Pryor Academy Certified Training Partner (KPA CTP) and Certified Control Unleashed Instructor. She specializes in study-of-one applications of behavioral principles that help transform the lives of animals—as well as the lives of the people who care for them. An international speaker, and a regular contributor to online training forums, she is known for her innovative approaches to tough behavior problems and her compassionate and insightful teaching.

Sarah has written for *Clean Run* magazine on topics such as stimulus control, release cues, and toy-related cues. Her current passions include nose work, reframing concepts like "impulse control," and encouraging trainers to embrace a philosophy of brave learning. Sarah is a member of the ClickerExpo faculty, an instructor for Cyber Scent Online, a tutor for Tromplo.com, and has served as an advisor to the Glendale Humane Society in Los Angeles. She also consults for the behavior department at Marine Humane Society.

Sarah lives in Petaluma, CA, with two life-changing dogs, Tucker and Zoë, and her life-changing husband, Fred.

## **Ghosts, Ghouls & Other Specters—*like Control!* Reframing Why and How We Teach for Impulse Control**

### **Marge Rogers, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA, CCUI**

Marge Rogers, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA, CCUI has thousands of hours teaching both ends of the leash. Veterinarians recommend Marge for her comprehensive puppy programs, basic training, and behavior modification for fearful and aggressive dogs. Marge is an enthusiastic clicker/marker trainer. Whether you are training tricks, body awareness and conditioning, good manners, or competition skills for any sport, the handler's skills matter. Part of the reason Marge's owners are so successful is that she develops the handlers' skills as well as the dogs'. Her seminars and workshops mix a bit of science with mechanical skills practice and a big dose of fun. Marge wants all of her learners to be engaged and relaxed. Everyone learns quicker when they are having fun.

A lifelong learner, Marge has validated her knowledge and skills through a variety of certifications and credentials, including independent credentialing through the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers. She assisted Leslie McDevitt, author of *Control Unleashed®*, mentoring other dog trainers from around the world. Additionally, she developed and presented continuing education workshops for veterinarians and veterinary technicians in Florida and North Carolina.

Marge and her husband, Bob, currently share their home with two Portuguese Water Dogs, Zip, and Bria. They embrace their mountain life in the High Country of North Carolina. If they are not at home, you can usually find all 4 of them out on the trails.

## **Little Goblins! Puppy Training & CU**

### **Ameera Skandarani**

Ameera Skandarani, a CCUI in training, has been working with dogs professionally for nearly six years as a pet care professional and trainer. Living with and loving two Boxers who are vastly different from each other has expanded her knowledge base and her motivation to keep learning and sharing. Her love of team sports (specifically soccer and softball) has evolved into a love for dog sports.

Ameera is dedicated to helping pet and performance dogs live their best lives by providing a well-rounded training approach, with an emphasis on communication and trust. Ameera's experience training cats and parrots add depth to her understanding of the importance of positive



training. Ameera is actively competing in scent work with her Boxers Sansa (9 years), and Flash Gordon (4 years), as well as doing competition obedience with Flash. She hopes to get back into agility with Flash in the near future. She is also a USCSS scent work judge and is looking forward to becoming an obedience judge in the future.

## **Vampire Bats, Black Cats, and Helpful RATs: Cooperative Counter Conditioning – Putting the Learner in Control**

### **Emelie Johnson Vegh**

Emelie Johnson Vegh has been involved in dog training and various dog sports since her teenage years, after spending many years around ponies. While she was studying to become a high school teacher in English and Swedish, Emelie met Eva Bertilsson on the agility field. The collaboration Carpe Momentum was formed.

"E&E" teach seminars and online courses on a wide range of topics and are known for concepts such as seamless training sessions, start-button behaviors, and flowcharts. In 2015 they teamed up with Peggy Hogan to discuss their joint passion for the learner-initiated aspect of training and developed the now-classic Animals in Control lecture.

Emelie lives in the very south of Sweden in the country's third-largest city, Malmö. She shares her life with her husband, two sons, a daughter, Kelpie Scout, and Field Golden Tessa. Scout is now 12 years old and retired, and Tessa is about to begin her journey into dog sports, primarily obedience and rally obedience. In addition to dog sports, Emelie enjoys training in general and is very interested in sports psychology, running, multisport, and yoga. She is also an author of fiction novels for both children and adults.

## **Spook No More: The Spell of Startbuttons**

### **Megan Wallace CPDT-KA, CNWI, CCUI**

Megan Wallace, CPDT-KA, CNWI, CCUI, started training dogs as a child, and that passion turned into a career when she started her business Dogs Deciphered in 2013. She sees private training and behavior clients, as well as teaching K9 Nose Work® classes. She is a CPDT-KA, a Certified Nose Work Instructor, and a Certified Control Unleashed Instructor. Megan has dabbled in many dog sports with her own dogs, titling dogs in Rally, Obedience, Conformation, Lure Coursing, Herding, Barn Hunt, Dock Diving, and K9 Nose Work®. Nose Work has become her main focus with her dogs and is her favorite class to teach because of the enormous benefits it has for all dogs who are involved in the activity. Megan was first introduced to Control Unleashed when the first book came out in 2007 to help her reactive Border Collies, and she has incorporated the philosophy into all of her work with dogs.

## **Nosework Unleashed**

### **Laurie C. Williams BA, CPDT-KA, CDTI**

Laurie C. Williams CPDT-KA has had a love of and connection with dogs from as far back as she can remember. She is the owner and Director of Training and Behavior Counseling at Pup 'N Iron Canine Fitness & Learning Center in Fredericksburg, VA, where she has been serving her community as a canine education specialist and dog behavior counselor for the past 15 years. She



holds a BA from Norwich University in Montpelier, VT, and was a member of the adjunct faculty of the Natural Sciences Department of Northern Virginia Community College for seven years.

Laurie is a nationally published writer with works appearing in the *APDT Chronicle of the Dog*, *The Whole Dog Journal*, *Dog & Handler*, *911*, *Essence*, *Fitness*, and *Good Housekeeping* magazines. She is currently a member of the Board of Governors of the Dog Writer's Association of America. She is a therapy dog evaluator for Pet Partners, a Canine Good Citizen evaluator, and a licensed judge for the American Kennel Club.

**Avoiding a Nightmare on Rally Street: How Pattern Games, Predictability, and Preparedness Can Enhance Your Rally Obedience Performance**