

The Cougar Bob Review

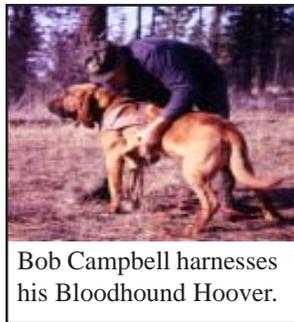
Volume 22, No. 1, December 2013

Bloodhound Thrives on Sisler Training Method

In the mid-1980's, when Bob Campbell bought a mantrailing bloodhound pup and named him Hoover, he tracked down the best trainer for advice. Jay Sisler, Emmett, ID, filled the bill.

Sisler, already famous for his highly successful rodeo act with dancing Border Collies (you can see on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejioz8N9h3U>), also trained bloodhounds to track people. He graciously shared advice, and Campbell applied it.

Sisler cautioned Hoover's master never to force him, but to convince the hound to do the behavior voluntarily. He suggested also, for motivation, keeping a treat handy that the dog likes.



Bob Campbell harnesses his Bloodhound Hoover.



Jay Sisler works with Border Collies he trained.

"Always stay with the dog," he counseled, "and mark the training trail so you will know whether the dog is following it."

He urged the trainer to use a padded harness

to take pressure off the dog's chest, lest it have a heart attack; and he warned never to allow the bloodhound to bark, so the person won't know he is being followed and become frightened or aggressive. Further wisdom included caution never to allow a bloodhound to pee on the bushes, but to keep its mind on the task at hand.

To track humans, Hoover gained the required certification from Idaho and Montana authorities after five years of the training. He tracked and found several missing persons for sheriffs' departments.

Killer Grouse Terrorizes Sagle Peninsula

Riding his nifty 4-wheeler recently near home on the Sagle Peninsula, Norman Campbell became aware of the grouse for the first time. The flying bird slammed into his shoulder and landed in the road. Then it attacked his 4-wheeler in a blur of serious mugging.

"I tried to advance, revving the engine," says Norm. "At that, the grouse flew up and hit the 4-wheeler again. On the spot, I named him 'Spike.'"

Norm noted at the time, that the rapid "thump, thump" of the vehicle's pulsing engine sounded a lot like Spike's drumming, "pum-pum-pum." Perhaps the noise of the 4-wheeler reminded him of another grouse invading his territory. Norm drove on, thumping down the path, while the grouse flopped down the road after him.

Next day, when Spike finished his dance in the middle of the road, he flew up into Norm's 4-wheeler box on the back and hitched a ride for about 100 yards before bailing off. As Norm sat on a log watching for deer, Spike trucked from the bottom of the hill and circled the 4-wheeler in a fancy dance.



Spike lands near the toe of Norm's boot, wondering when he should attack.

"I nearly wore myself out talking to that grouse," Norm recalls, "explaining that my vehicle is not a huge grouse. He left. But I'll bet he will be back!"

Famous Outdoorsmen Offer Advice

From Charlie Craft:

Charlie warns that black bears can be more dangerous than grizzlies. "They're used to living near people, so are not afraid," says he. "But never surprise a grizzly. Let him know you're there, and he'll get out of your way." Charlie wears sleigh bells on his backpack as a grizzly alert.

From Stan Sweet:

Stan recalls that most of the six or seven men who hunted marauding cougar with him for the US Fed Fish & Wildlife back in the '60s, smoked cigarettes. "We figured one carton of Lucky Strikes would last all of us at campfires for one week," he remembers. He wishes he had started younger—to avoid cigs. "Best not to try any of it—drugs, cigs or booze," he says. "Don't start. And if I can quit, you can quit."

From Cougar Bob

"If ever you are lost in the mountains, go down hill till you run onto a creek. Follow creek drainage down until you reach the river or a road. You're the same as not lost anymore."

From Ben Banks:

Ben says, "Bears like ants in trees, so don't destroy a stump with ants in it."

News Flashes:

Cougar Bob and Babe attended his Sandpoint High School Class 65th Reunion dinner at the Golf Course at Sandpoint, ID, in September.

Cataract surgery at the VA Hospital was a good way to spend time in March. Following the exceedingly brief surgeries and several days healing up for each eye, Cougar Bob's Rifle Range long distance vision for bull's eyes improved down to a gnat's eyebow.



Stan Sweet saw a Sharp-Shinned Hawk move into the territory around Bonners Ferry, ID. He also saw the two Robins that took him out.

Rex, Lori Hultz's new Great Dane-Black Lab on a leash, sniffs Hayden Lake surface and water weeds, checking it out. His big head goes all the way under water and comes up with a three pound trout in his mouth. A fisherman nearby, watching the dog for a few pointers, since he himself hasn't caught anything all day says, "I hope he's got a fishing license."

A Review:

"You are my best treasure I ever had," says ten year old Daniel Smith to Cougar Bob.

CLOSE CALLS: The True Tales of Cougar Bob-- by BJ Campbell

AudioBook & E-Book Released



Paperback Order direct from Gray Dog Press. Phone: 509-534-0372, Spokane, WA. www.graydogpress.com, or www.Amazon.com

e-Book .pdf format for use on Tablet/iPad and Computer.

Available on www.Amazon.com or www.cougarbob.com

AudioBook Abridged. Published by Write On. www.cougarbob.com or www.openbookaudio.com



*Wishing you Joy & Peace
at Christmas & in the New Year!
bj & Cougar Bob*

Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who I am, you would ask me, and I would give you living water." John 4:10