

Seminar in Marathon

(03. - 06.06.2010)

For the third time I was invited again by the greek IPO-handlers from Greece, to do a seminar. Costas Foukis had organized this meeting in Marathon. Here lives Vasilis Balakas and breeds German Shepherd Dogs (Marathonland). His private area is perfect for those purposes. There is a big very well-kept training field with a club house and terrace.



Well known and new dog handlers from the previous seminars in Athens and Thessaloniki were present and were happy to greet me once again. True to the motto: "More quality, not quantity" was the group size to 15 dogs have been limited.



Here we met on Thursday afternoon with the participants.



After greeting they show me the previous way of working with a young dogs in the protection work. Then I introduced my philosophy and approach in protection work in theory. Then we went to dinner in a nearby tavern.

On friday morning we met to begin the tracking work. I saw excellent exercise performances of the dogs and could give a few tips for preparation to trials and competitions.

After lunch we worked the dogs in obedience and I could give some Tipps to some practice processes. Subsequent exercises could then be presented liquid and better. It must however be clearly said that some dogs are trained to a very high level, and there were only little things to improve.

Then protection work was announced. According to statements from the night before the dog handlers now in the practice could see very quick, which advantages is in the new way of working.



It prevents not only the later occurring and common problems and issues.



More intensity, better grips and clearer behavior associated with better obedience are consequences of this training method.



On Saturday morning, the obedience exercises were reviewed and improved again before the afternoon once the dogs were working in protection.

This time, however, including the three present club helpers, because this should indeed be integrated into the new working practices and training.



Normally at this time of year during the lunch time it is 30°C. Too high, to consistently work with the dogs. But during the entire stay, the weather was very good to us.

We had temperatures around 21 °C, a gentle breeze and two light showers. It was enjoyable for all.



Before I left early Sunday afternoon, the helpers were working again, all dogs in protection work. They could put the statements very well and I am confident that this seminar has contributed to a further increase in performance.



*Many thanks to Costas, Vasilis & Helena
for the friendly support and the excellent hospitality during my stay.*