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extrinsically or externally motivated will need more work on the FUN aspect of the program. These dogs may have a soft temperament and will need help from the trainer to raise their confidence level and make agility more fun. Jones says her dog Copper fits into this category.

But what if your dog is already highly motivated, like many herding breeds? Keller's Sheltie, Sabre, whose story appears throughout this book, exemplifies the challenges of how to train the having-too-much-fun dog. Although this type of dog may require little or no external reinforcement, the authors warn that even internally motivated dogs need a trainer who controls the fun and knows how to keep the dog's attention.

Step Two is the Obedience section. The authors are careful to point out that obedience is not a bad word for agility handlers. They define it to mean, "the use of positively based, highly motivational methods to teach the behaviors, skills, and abilities necessary for successful agility performance." If we do our foundation work in obedience first, they explain, we'll have a dog that's responsive to cues and signals. Dogs that are out of control obviously need more obedience work, but even sensitive dogs require an obedience foundation to perform to their potential in agility. This section sets out various steps toward achieving both stationary and moving control of the dog, as well as advice about adding verbal cues and signals.

Step Three means Consistency. Sabre's development as an agility dog provides the example in this section. If he listened and responded correctly to Keller's commands, he not only got to continue playing agility, but he also got extra reinforcers such as a jackpot or playing ball at the end of his run. This chapter emphasizes the importance of following through on your training by maintaining criteria and contingencies. The authors suggest developing and maintaining performance rituals to help prepare you and your dog for competition.

They also alert us to expect regression as a natural part of the training process. I appreciated the suggestions for working through regression phases and found them a welcome addition to the training program. The remainder of the FOCUS program—Unbelievable Success—will come through our commitment and determination to improve our relationship with our dog.

Overall, *In FOCUS* is a nice mix of behavioral theory and practical advice for improving your relationship with your dog. Within each step of the program there are "Training Focus" sections giving more in-depth explanation on subjects such as "shifting criteria" and "varying the reinforcement schedule." Illustrative step-by-step photos accompany the text. And finally, the authors' experience with their own dogs makes the training procedures seem realistic and worthwhile. I have one dog of each type, so I'm starting my program right now. I'm looking forward to helping each dog have just the right amount of fun and some "Unbelievable Success" with both of them. 🐾

Martha Faulk is a lawyer and author who lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. She is Chairwoman of the Board of Directors for the Larimer Humane Society and teaches agility there. Martha trains an Australian Cattle Dog and an Australian Shepherd that she adopted from the shelter and also runs a Border Terrier in agility. Martha may be reached at Marthfaulk@aol.com.

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