

**Sophia Yin, DVM, MS**  
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## **EDUCATION**

**Master's in Animal Science** emphasis on animal behavior, 2001. University of California, Davis. Course work fulfilled ABS requirements for certification as an Applied Animal Behaviorist (associate).

**Doctor of Veterinary Medicine**, School of Veterinary Medicine. University of California, Davis, June 1993.

**Bachelors of Science**, Biochemistry, University of California, Davis, 1989. Awarded with Highest Honors.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

**Health Profession's Regent's Scholar Award**. School of Veterinary Medicine. University of California, Davis, 1990.

**Biochemistry Achievement Citation**, University of California, Davis, 1989.

**Dog Writer's Association of America: Best Newspaper Pet Column Award** (2000), Best Newspaper Feature Article (2000, 2001). Six additional articles nominated for best feature article (1999-2004).

**Cat Writer's Association of America: Nominated for Best Newspaper Pet Column** and three nominations for Best Newspaper Feature Article, 2001.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior

American Veterinary Medical Association

California Veterinary Medical Association

Animal Behaviour Society

Cat Writer's Association

Dog Writer's Association

## **APPOINTMENTS/ POSITIONS**

**Santa Barbara Zoo: Behavior consultant**. 2008.

**American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior Media Coordinator**. 2006-present.

**American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior: Recording Secretary**. 2006-2008.

**Visiting Lecturer, Department of Animal Science, University of California, Davis: Taught** three upper division undergraduate courses in domestic animal behavior annually. *Principles of Domestic Animal behavior* (30 hr), *Applied Domestic Animal Behavior* (20 hr), *Domestic Animal Behavior Laboratory* (30 hr). 2001-2007.

**Premier Pet Behavior Consultant** 2007-present.

**San Francisco Veterinary Specialists: Behavior consultant**. 2005-present.

**Sophia Yin, DVM Behavior Housecalls** business. Davis, CA 2001-present.

**CattleDog Publishing, President and Owner**. Davis, CA. 1993-present. [www.nerdbook.com](http://www.nerdbook.com).

**CVMA Behavior Task Force** 2007.

## SEMINARS PRESENTED

**Continu-Ed Behavior Seminars.** *Common Behavior Problems in Pets: How to Recognize, Correct, and Prevent Common Behavior Problems.* (6 hours)

- 3/30/08 – Seattle, WA
- 4/6/08 – Los Angeles, CA
- 6/22/08 – Chicago, IL
- 6/29/08 – Phoenix, AZ
- 7/13/08 – Denver, CO
- 9/7/08 – Portland, OR
- 9/14/08 – Boston, MA
- 9/21/08 – San Francisco, CA
- 9/28/08 – Atlanta, GA
- 10/29/08 – San Diego, CA

**2008 Association of Pet Dog Trainers Educational Conference.** Louisville, KY. October 15-19, 2008. *Are You Seeing What You Think you Are Seeing?* (3 hr). *But the Dog Whisperer Said...* (1.5 hr).

**Sacramento Animal Control.** Sacramento, CA. August 2008. *Kitty Kindergarten and Socialization: Creating the New-Improved Dog.*

**Denver Dumb Friend's League.** Denver, CO. July 12, 2008. *Kitty Kindergarten and Socialization Classes. Creating a New-Improved Image for Cats.*

**Anti-cruelty society of Chicago.** June 21, 2008. *Dog Park Etiquette.*

**Alameda County VMA 2008 Spring Seminar.** Oakland, CA. May 4, 2008. *Practical Animal Behavior for Everyday Use in the Veterinary Practice: Recognize, Reverse, and Prevent Common Pet Behavior Problems.* (5 hr)

**McGeorge School of Law Animal Law Society Pit Bull Panel.** Sacramento, CA. April 7, 2008. *Equality for All: Celebrating Diversity in Animals. An overview of breed-specific legislation and how public opinion of pit bulls effects criminal prosecutions.*

**UC Davis Behavior Medicine Club 5th Annual Behavior Medicine Symposium.** Davis, CA. April 5, 2008. *Reversing Brewing Behavior Problems through Technician Behavioral Health Sessions.*

**Continu-Ed Canine Symposium,** San Francisco, CA., August 2007. *Recognizing Brewing Behavior Problems in a Practice Setting, Reversing Brewing Behavior Problems in a Practice Setting* (4 hr)

**Annual Meeting for the American Society of Veterinary Animal Behavior.** Washington, D.C. July 2007. *Gaining Client Compliance through Media and Simple Demonstrations.*

**144<sup>th</sup> American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Convention.** Washington, D.C. July 2007. *A Simple Approach to Solving Most (Nonmedical) Behavior Problems in Pets. How to Practice Preventative Behavior Modification on a Daily Basis; Build Better Clients and Patients. Behavior Workshop: Behavior Modifications.*

**Kansas State University Veterinary Technicians Conference.** Manhattan, KS. March 2007. *Rapid Reversal of Dangerous Behavior Problems in Animals. Recognizing Brewing Behavior Problems. Two Techniques for Reversing and Preventing Most Behavior Problems. Wet Lab: Techniques for Handling and Training Your Canine Patients.*

**AnimalLearn 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on dogs.** Aschau im Chiemgau, Germany. November 17-19, 2006. *Genes & Behavior; Barking in Dogs: Noise or Communication.* (3 hr)

**Second Chance Animal SPCA Animal Shelter's Telluride Fur Ball.** Telluride, CO. July 8, 2006. *How Animals Learn.* (1 hr)

**Kansas State University 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Veterinarians.** Manhattan, KS. June 4 - 7, 2006. (8 hrs): *How to Modify Behavior in Your Dog, Cat, Horse, Giraffe, Goat...., Four Methods of Behavior Modification, How to Recognize and Reverse Brewing Behavior Problems. On Puppy Preschools and Kitty Kindergartens.*

**San Francisco VMA Lecture Series.** San Francisco, CA. 2005. *Recognizing and Reversing Behavior Problems in Dogs and Cats.*

**42<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society.** Snowbird, UT. August 9, 2005. *A Remote Controlled, Positive Reinforcement Solution to Excessive Barking in Dogs.*

**San Francisco SPCA.** San Francisco, CA. 2005. *The Science Behind the Treat & Train Dog Training System.*

**2005 American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting.** Minneapolis, MN. July 14-16, 2005. *How to Take the Bark out of Bowser.*

**Capital Kennel Club of Juneau and Grateful Dogs of Juneau, Inc.** Juneau, AK. May 14-17, 2005. (15 hr)

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Frank W. Jordan Seminar: Keynote Speaker: Pavlov and Beyond: A Program So Sweet It'll Make Your Mouth Water.** Manhattan, KS. April 2-3, 2005. (16 hr)

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Interdisciplinary Forum for Applied Animal Behavior.** *Treat & Train: Professional Dog Training System.* Phoenix, AZ. March 6, 2005.

**Search and Rescue Exercises (SAR-EX).** Sacramento, CA. September 10-12, 2004. *Psychology on Your Side: Using Science to Speed Up Your Training.*

**American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior Annual Scientific Meeting.** Philadelphia, PA. July 26, 2004. *Barking in Dogs: A Positive Solution for Reinforcing Quiet.*

**UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science Goat Festival.** Berkeley, CA. July 18, 2004. *Goats: The New Landscape Maintenance Crew.*

**Association for Behavior Analysis 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention.** San Francisco, CA. May 27, 2003. *Rapid Reversal of Dangerous Behaviors Using Positive Reinforcement.*

**Association for Behavior Analysis 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention.** San Francisco, CA. May 27, 2003. *Clicker Training with Giraffes, Goats, and Chickens.*

**Animal Behavior Society 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.** Bloomington, IN. July 17, 2002. *Barking in Dogs: Noise or Communication?*

**American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior Annual Scientific Meeting.** Nashville, TN. July 15, 2002. *Barking in Dogs: Noise or Communication?*

**Cornell Feline Club.** Ithaca, NY. November 16, 2002. *The Science of Learning: How to Modify Behavior in Your Cat, Dog, Horse, Goat, Giraffe, Feuding Felines and Cranky Cats.* (8 hr)

**Annual Meeting of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers.** Portland, OR. September 25-29, 2002. *Genes and Behavior. How Dogs Learn: The Science Behind Behavior Modification. Social Learning and Learning by Observation and Insight.*

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canine Behavior Symposium.** Davis, CA. February 23-24, 2002. *How Dogs Learn: The Science Behind Behavior and Behavior Modification. Barking in Dogs: Noise or Communication?*

**The Annual UC Davis Equine Behavior Symposium;** October 6, 2001. Davis, CA. *How Horses Learn: The Science Behind Behavior and Behavior Modification.*

## **ANIMAL TRAINING EVENTS**

**Sacramento Animal Care and Control.** Sacramento, CA 2007, 2008. Presentation on handling and behavior in the kennel or humane society setting.

**University of California, Davis, Experimental College Dog Training Class.** Davis, CA 2003-2008. Teach quarterly 6 week dog training classes.

**University of California, Davis, Experimental College Puppy Preschool.** Davis, CA 2006-2008. Teach quarterly 3-4 week puppy socialization classes.

**University of California, Davis, Experimental College Kitty Kindergarten.** Davis, CA 2006-2008. Teach 3 week kitty socialization classes.

Updated Dec 2008

**University of California, Davis Avian Science Poultry Day.** Davis, CA. 2002. *Chicken Training and the Science Behind It.*

**University of California, Davis Parrot Outreach Program:** Davis, CA. 2001. *Parrot Training and The Science Behind It.*

**California Department of Public Health National Public Health Day Fair.** March 2002. *Dog Bite Prevention.*

**Davis Rotary Club:** Lecture on recognizing and preventing dog aggression. 2002.

**University of California, Davis Shelter Dog Program.** Davis, CA. 2002. Lectured on learning in dogs and then taught the 6 week training course for this program which fosters shelter dogs into permanent homes.

**Safari West Wildlife Park Internship Supervisor.** Santa Rosa, CA. 2004. Lectured on science of learning and set up and supervised an 8 week animal training program involving giraffes, fennic foxes, ringtailed lemurs, ruffed lemurs, camels.

**University of California, Davis, Animal Science Yearling Training Program.** Davis, CA. 2000. Volunteer supervisor. Used a combination of clicker training and natural horsemanship to prepare yearling for general husbandry behaviors as well as groundwork.

## **MEDIA EXPERIENCE**

**Animal Planet's CATS 101, Ep. 110:** Maine Coon, Egyptian Mau, Oriental, Siamese, Himalayan, Turkish Angora and "Crazy Cat". Original air date December 13, 2008. **Ep.**

**109:** American Shorthair, Savannah, Scottish Fold, Persian, Ragdoll, Sphynx and "Cat Came Back" Stories. Original air date December 6, 2008.

**Animal Planet's DOGS 101, Ep. 108:** Weimeraner, Pug, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Maltese and Akita. Original air date November 29, 2008.

**Animal Planet's Weird, True & Freaky, Ep. 108:** When Animals Snap/ Swarms. Original air date October 19, 2008. **Ep. 106:** Snake Meals/ Odd Couples. Original air date October 14, 2008.

**Media Coordinator for the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior.** 2006-2007.

**Award-winning Pet Columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle*,** 1999-2005.

**Freelance writer** for magazines including *Dog World*, *Dog Fancy*, *The Bark*, *Dog & Kennel*, *The Old Farmer's Almanac*. 1996-2007.

**Pet Central with Steve Dale:** October 22, 2006.

**Juneau Afternoon with Susan Fitzgerald:** May 13, 2005.

**Pet Pointers with Dr. Greg McDonald:** March 12, 2005.

**Top Vets Talk Pets with Dr. Marty Becker:** October 30, 2004.

**Talking Animals:** August 8, 2003.

**Daily Planet on Discovery Channel Canada:** "Talking Dogs" Air date June 25, 2003.

[www.exn.ca/dailyplanet/view.asp?date=6/25/2003](http://www.exn.ca/dailyplanet/view.asp?date=6/25/2003)

**The Todd Mundt Show:** September 12, 2002.

## **PUBLICATIONS: Books**

**Yin, S. Low Stress Handling, Restraint and Behavior Modification of Dogs and Cats.** Davis, CA: CattleDog Publishing, 2009.

**Yin, S. How to Behave So Your Dog Behaves.** Neptune City, NJ: TFH Publications, 2004.

**Yin, S. The Small Animal Veterinary Nerdbook.** Davis, CA: CattleDog Publishing. 1993, 1998, 2007 (Also available in German and Russian)

## **PUBLICATIONS: Journal Articles**

- Yin, S, Fernandez, E, Richardson, E, Pagan, S, Snyder D.** Efficacy of a remote-controlled positive reinforcement protocol for training dogs to behave at the door. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 2008;113:123-138.
- Yin S. McCowan B.** Barking in domestic dogs: context specificity and individual identification. *Animal Behaviour* 2004;68:343-355.
- Yin S.** A New Perspective on Barking in Dogs (*Canis familiaris*). *Journal of Comparative Psychology* 2002;116:189-193.

## **PUBLICATIONS: Veterinary and Other Selected Magazine Articles**

- Yin S.** The importance of puppy and kitten socialization. *Veterinary Forum* 2008;25:44-46.
- Yin S.** The hows and whys of parenteral nutrition. *Veterinary Forum* 2008;25:34-35.
- Yin S.** Cardiology update: Canine heart failure. *Veterinary Forum* 2008;25:48-49.
- Yin S.** Spin out: Canine compulsive disorder is no laughing matter. *The Bark* 2008;46:80-85.
- Yin S.** Clinical Update (monthly column). *Veterinary Forum* 2007-2008.
- Yin S.** Understanding Behavior: Classical Conditioning—Learning by Association. *Compendium Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarians* 2006;28: 472-476.
- Yin S.** Simple Handling Techniques for Dogs. *Compendium on Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian* 2007:352-358.
- Yin S.** Dominance Versus Leadership in Dog Training. *Compendium Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian* 2007:414-432.
- Yin S.** Ain't Misbehavin': The Rewards of Positive Reinforcement. *Veterinary Technician* 2006;27:792-798.
- Yin S.** The Medium is in the Message. *The Bark*, 2005;47-49.
- Yin S.** Wolf Hybrids. *The Bark*, 1999;19-20.
- Yin S.** Click and Cluck: Learning Dog Training With Feathered Friends. *The Bark*, 2000;31-33.
- Yin S.** Talk to Me: New Research Explores Animal Sounds as a Form of Communication. *The Bark*. 2005; 62-67.

## **PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT**

Co-inventor with the Sharper Image of *The Treat&Train Professional Dog Training System*. Brought to Market April 2005. This is a positive reinforcement system for training dogs to run to a rug and lie down when visitors arrive at the door rather than jumping, barking and dashing out the door. Development included performing two research experiments, instructing engineers on the features required, product testing, writing an instruction manual, and developing an instructional DVD. The product is currently sold by *Premier Pet* as the *MannersMinder* Dog Training System.

## **CE COURSES OF NOTE**

**Yearly veterinary conferences and animal behavior conferences**

**Intermediate and Advanced Operant Conditioning (chicken training) Workshop.** 2000 (100 hr).

**Reis Ranch Universal Horsemanship Clinic** 1999, 2001 (2 months)

**Five Day Wolf Behavior Seminar at Wolf Park, Indiana.** June 1999.

## **HOBBIES**

Running, swing dance, photography.