

About Ray Coppinger

Raymond Coppinger, PhD., behavioral biologist and Professor Emeritus at Hampshire College, is one of the foremost researchers on canine behavior and evolution in the world.

Ray (and his colleagues and students) have published over fifty papers on his dog research. His favorite publication, however, is the book *Fishing Dogs*, a humorous and iconoclastic look at dogs, fishermen and professors.

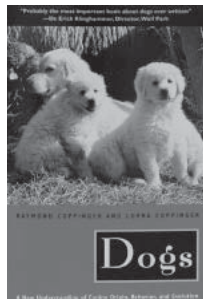
Ray and his wife Lorna Coppinger have more than four decades of experience raising hundreds of different dogs of various breeds, racing sled teams and publishing professional and popular works on canine behaviour.

The Coppingers' latest book is *DOGS: A New Understanding of Canine Origin, Behavior, and Evolution*. Offering a scientifically informed perspective on canines and their relations with humans, the Coppingers take a close look at eight different



types of dogs - household, village, livestock guarding, herding, sled-pulling, pointing, retrieving, and hound. They argue that dogs did not evolve directly from wolves, nor were they trained by early humans; instead, dogs domesticated themselves to exploit a new ecological niche: Mesolithic village

dumps. Tracing the evolution of today's breeds from these village dogs, the Coppingers show how characteristic shapes and behaviors - from pointing and baying to the sleek shapes of running dogs - arise from both genetic heritage and the environments in which pups are raised. For both dogs and humans to get the most out of each other, we need to understand and adapt to the biological needs and dispositions of our canine companions, just as they have to ours.



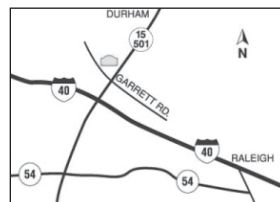
Location & Directions

La Quinta Inn and Suites
4414 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd.
Durham, NC 27707

Phone: (919)401-9660
Fax: (919)401-9661

From I-40 East/West: exit 270-
Highway 15/501 North, 2 miles on left

From RDU Airport:
40 west to exit 270.
Turn right onto Hwy
15/501 north to app. 2
miles. Hotel is on the
left.



Where to stay:

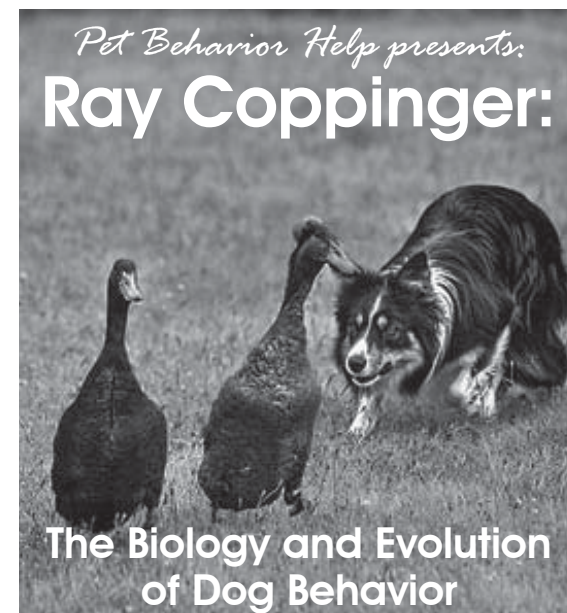
We have a special room rate on the La Quinta Inn at \$67.00 per night plus tax. You must reserve before April 23, 2009 to get this rate. To reserve your room call 1-866-527-1498 and identify yourself as a member of the Pet Behavior Help party, reservation bloc confirmation number 0183GRFYVC.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a lecture seminar, not a working dog seminar. La Quinta allows overnight guests to have pets, but participants may not bring their dogs to the lectures. Dogs left unattended in hotel rooms during the day must be crated.

Cost of the 2-day seminar is \$175.
Registration will open on Jan. 12, 2009.
For more information please contact

Shelah Bloom at
ssbloom@email.unc.edu

Presented by Pet Behavior Help
www.petbehaviorhelp.com



2-Day Seminar
May 16-17, 2009

9 am- 5 pm

La Quinta Inn and Suites, US 15-501, Durham, NC

Join Dr. Coppinger as he
discusses the evolution of the
dog, why dogs behave the
way they do, and how to use
this information to be better
at dog training

Presented by
Pet Behavior Help
www.petbehaviorhelp.com



Evo Devo (Evolutionary Development) is a newly emerging field within Animal Behavior that explores the relationship between genes, nerves, the environment and their impact on what makes an animal behave the way it does. New questions are being asked about why dogs behave the way they do.

Ray Coppinger has spent most of his professional life formulating questions about dogs and searching for their answers. During this seminar, he will share what he's discovered, including the most recent developments in the field.

Join Dr. Coppinger as he discusses the evolution of the dog, cognition of dogs and reasons for canine behavior – and how to use this information to be better at dog training!

Lecture Topics

The Natural History of Dogs

Dogs exist in amazing numbers around the world. Most dogs form a continuous population that feeds, reproduces and maintains its own lifestyle reasonably independently of people. Studying these “village dogs” illuminates the dynamics of how dogs earn a living, suggests how they evolved and adapted to civilization, and provides an essential insight into dog behavior.

The Ethology of Dogs

Most people interested in dogs wish to understand how to modify their behavior. For example, the popular “click and treat” method is used to teach tricks or a particular behavior. In contrast, people who train pointers, sheepdogs, hunting or other working dogs rely instead on innate characteristics. The exploration of these breed-typical behaviors is a job for an ethologist.

Cognition 1

Are dogs intelligent? Do dogs have a ‘mind’? When a Border Collie herds sheep, is it conscious of what it is doing? If herding behavior is genetic, there is little need for the dog to be conscious. Can dogs form images of missing objects? When one tells a dog to fetch a ball, does it form a mental image of that ball and can it generalize to other balls, or does it just remember the one and then search for a familiar smell?

Cognition 2

What is play? Is it linked to intelligence?

Are Dogs Emotional?

Do dogs have emotions? Are they like people's emotions? Most scientists think dogs express fear and alarm but don't see how they can feel guilt or love. Scientists must measure the quantity and quality of a behavior to demonstrate its effect. Could a model be constructed that demonstrates a rich array of emotions in animals like dogs? This will largely depend on exploring how behavioral psychologists, neuropsychologists, and ethologists define emotion.

Evolutionary Development

Bringing learning, development and behavior together into context is an evolutionary perspective often called Evo- Devo in the very recent behavioral literature. We will learn some new terms for understanding the complexity of animal behavior. Emergent Behaviors are complex and simple at the same time, and we will explore how innate behaviors can evolve into intricate ways of moving through time and space.

Registration Form

Cost of the 2-day seminar is \$175.
Registration will open on Jan. 12, 2009.

Lunch - \$10/day Sat. Sun.
 Vegetarian

Full balance is required to hold your place.
Refundable (minus \$50) only if you find someone to fill your spot.

Total enclosed
(registration + lunches): \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Make checks payable to: Pet Behavior Help

Send registration form with check to:
Shelah Bloom
103 Wilder Place
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Please contact Shelah Bloom
(ssbloom@email.unc.edu) with questions.

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