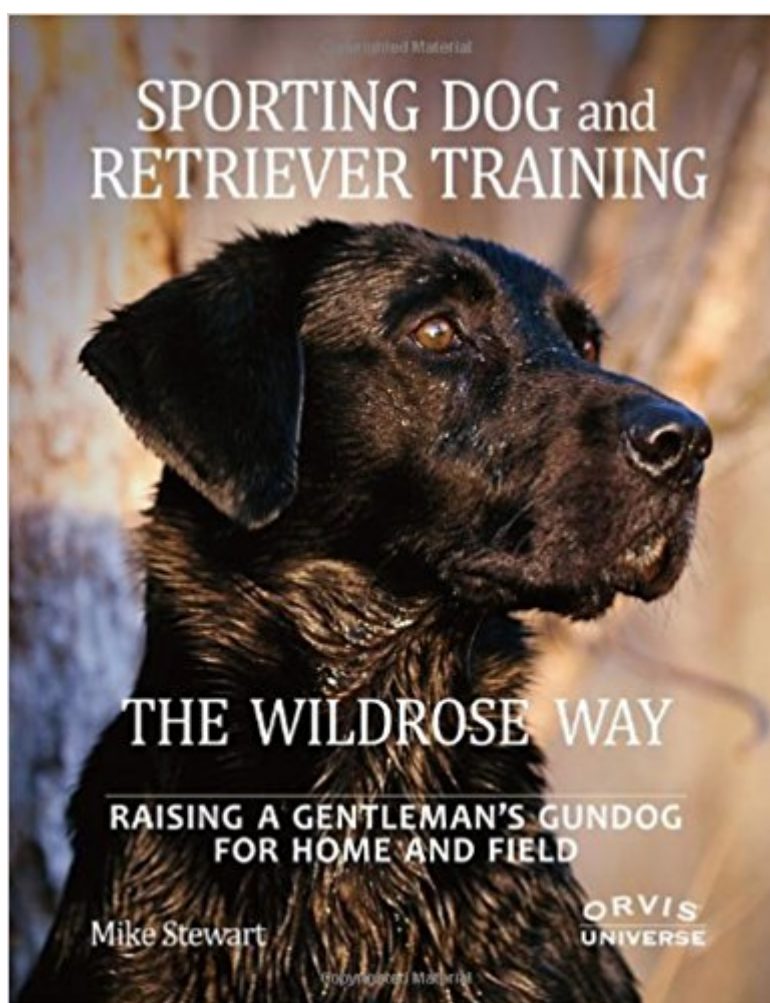


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# Sporting Dog And Retriever Training: The Wildrose Way: Raising A Gentleman's Gundog For Home And Field



## Synopsis

A comprehensive guide to transforming your dog into a valuable wing-shooting companion in the field and at home. Created by Mike Stewart of Wildrose Kennels, the Wildrose Way is a unique, low-force, positive training method that is field-proven for upland and waterfowl gundogs. The training prepares dogs for versatility "any game, any terrain, any destination" and makes them desirable companions for any situation. Now, for the first time, Stewart's methods are compiled in one indispensable reference book, fully illustrated with photographs and diagrams. Containing chapters on establishing essential behaviors, the core skills of the hunting retriever, and waterdog finishing work, as well as sidebars on such topics as breed selection and effective canine leadership, this step-by-step book is designed specifically for wing-shooters who want to transform their pup into a gentleman's gundog.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Mike Stewart's Wildrose Way is the right way when it comes to training gundogs. Mike has an uncanny talent for getting the best out of his "clients", and he's also a pro at communicating his simple methods so other trainers can do likewise. A Sporting Dog and Retriever Training earns 5 stars "my highest recommendation! It's the book I'll train by." ~Wade Bourne "A handsome, skilled guide to everything you need to know about raising and training a gundog. It is packed with 200 color photographs, as well as step-by-step instructions on how to train the perfect gundog." ~Shooting Gazette (UK) "Mike Stewart of Wildrose Kennels has teamed up with Orvis's Paul Fersen to produce a valuable gun dog training book, Sporting Dog and Retriever Training: The

Wildrose Way. Stewart distills 30 years of dog training experience into a complete course in selecting, starting, field training, and finishing what Wildrose calls a "gentleman's dog" – a biddable, companionable, successful bird dog or retriever. Stewart and Fersen provide a detailed training regime perfectly suited to canine instincts and capabilities as they relate to the hunter's needs afield. Stewart is particularly insightful on communication, learning (and mis-learning) habits, and canine memory. Three early chapters – "Train Yourself to Train Your Dog," "Starting Your Pup the Wildrose Way," and "Foundational Excellence" – are must reading for any gun dog owner who wants to encourage good habits and avoid irremediable mistakes. The two chapters on field training are invaluable. This excellent manual brings fully to light the concepts and techniques of Wildrose training.

~Gray's Sporting Journal "Stewart shares his more than 40 years of training experience in one of the most exciting training manuals to be released in years. Illustrated with extraordinary photography and accompanied by numerous sidebars and tips, this easy-to-read, practical book tells you everything you need to know, from socializing young pups to producing a finished gun dog worthy of the field."

~Ducks Unlimited Magazine "Mike's common sense approach to gundog training and handling is time tested and it works! Furthermore, it is unusual for one pro trainer to excel in both pointing as well as flusher/retriever dog training. Mike has accomplished that as well. The result: A gentleman's gundog of which one can be proud, either at home or afield."

~John C. Gosselin, The Upland Almanac "If preparing to school a new canine hunting companion, [you] would be well served by Sporting Dog and Retriever Training: The Wildrose Way. Mike Stewart has trained dogs for more than 30 years. He works to produce focused, obedient hunting dogs that will fulfill their owners' goals, including retrieving waterfowl, finding upland birds, going fly-fishing or canoeing or camping or simply relaxing with the family at home. Although styled as a training manual, this book is very high quality: good paper, a sewn binding, and graceful sepia-toned drawings along with all of those great photos of Labs, springers, cockers, and pointers happily learning and carrying out their life's work."

~Shooting Sportsman "Mike Stewart, perhaps America's best canine-training person, has finally shown us some of his secrets. Using unrelenting positive-reinforcement for the dog and demanding work at understanding the way each dog's mind works, The Wildrose Way allows us a window into the amazing and ancient dog and human relationship. Now I know, to an enlightening degree, how Stewart does it."

~Donovan Webster, National Geographic Advisory Board "Stewart has more than 30 years of experience training a variety of sporting dogs, and his methods may now be studied in this fully-illustrated 256-page reference book."

~Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal

Mike Stewart is president of Wildrose Kennels and has more than thirty years of experience training a variety of sporting dogs. His unique, positive training method is recognized and celebrated by sportsmen across the country. Paul Fersen has been with The Orvis Company for almost two decades and is now a senior writer. He has been published in *Gray's Sporting Journal* and *American Angler* and has written several books. John Newman is president of Ducks Unlimited, the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving waterfowl habitats.

Over the years I have owned and trained six Labs to various AKC Hunt Test titles. During that time, I've read and studied no less than 20 books written by various well known trainers. However, this book by Mike Stewart is the best book I have ever read or seen. Mike's method of training is unique in that he does not advocate the use of "pressure" (e-collar) as do nearly all other trainers. I am currently using this method on my newest Lab and she is becoming a biddable, eager, fun dog to work with. I am very pleased with the focus this dog has on me, making it so much easier for me to train her new concepts and actions. Additionally, the photos and drawings are not only of the highest quality but they completely illustrate the concept or purpose which is being taught at the time. Lastly, the book itself is of the highest quality: hard back, super quality print and photos, large size, opens and lies flat for easy reading. You cannot go wrong with this excellent manual which focuses on "training the trainer".

I am not interested in teaching a dog to hunt, that is not why I bought this book. I was more interested in creating a smart foundation for our next puppy. Excellent, clear directions on creating a well-mannered partner, no matter what the breed. I look forward to my morning cup of coffee with this book as I take my time learning all I can before we even start looking for our next dog. Awesome book! Oh, and all the Wild Rose Facebook groups and pages are incredibly helpful as well.

Very good book. I have read several on training dogs/retrievers and this one is my favorite. Lots of illustrations. An easy read. Training tactics are low pressure, but effective. It will remain on my desk for review.

I purchased this book because I bought a British Lab that had been trained with the methods used in the book and I wanted to keep a consistent approach with the dog. The book focuses on obedience as the basic building block and going from there. My dog just turned two and he has

been trained with these methods since he was 8 weeks old. He has heel, sit, stay, here, load down to a tee. Working on hunting skills is so much easier when your dog obeys commands. The book is easy to read, the pictures are beautiful and the diagrams are easy to understand. I highly recommend this book.

good read

Mr. Stewart shares his life's long passion of developing the ultimate "Gundog". This extremely well written and illustrated book provides the wisdom and practical knowledge to raise a puppy or to influence the behaviors of an older dog. One could only hope to someday visit Mikes WILDROSE KENNELS to watch Mr. Stewart and his pack train. This book is much more about handler timing , responsibilities and clear communication than previous books I've read. Thanks Mr. Stewart

Highly recommend this book to anyone looking to train their dog using the Wildrose method of positive reinforcement. The style and writing of this book are both excellent and the instructions/techniques are easy to understand. It has a nice hard cover construction and is a very nice quality book.

Out of all the mainstream American trainers I like Mike Stewart's methods the best.. No riding crops, shock collars, etc... Just pure mostly adverse free training. If there is anyone pushing force free in away Ameicans can get behind its this guys books and DVD's leading the charge.

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