



Connecting Couples

Donna Reeves Bowman, LCSW-C & David L. Bowman, MDiv

Thought of the Month News and Notes

In This Issue

[Thought of the Month](#)
[Upcoming Workshops](#)

Quick Links

[Register for 2013
Workshops](#)

[Next Step Workshops](#)

[IRI Couples Blog](#)

[LaSplash online
magazine](#)

[Be Sure to "Like" Us
on Facebook!](#)

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Issue: #54
August 2013

Dear Friends,

It's almost Fall and children are going back to school, new backpacks, new clothes and anticipation of new adventures. As we bid farewell to the lazy days of summer, we start to get excited ourselves about the approach of new adventures and new opportunities to learn and grow. A friend recently got a new smartphone and bemoans the fact that she must not BE smart! She is off to "phone school" that dreaded Sunday morning at the Verizon store where only the remedial students go.

How about you and your partner? Are you up for a new opportunity to learn? Sometimes we think that a marriage license or just living with another person is so easy that we don't need any more "learning." I suggest that due to the baggage alone, a coach or guide to help us to learn new ways is an awesome opportunity. Why not let us help you and your partner. Wouldn't learning something new create more opportunities to love and be loved? We have lots of workshops and opportunities coming up. See the links below and on the side panel.

As always, if you need us, just call.

Donna and David

[Be Sure to "Like" Us on Facebook!](#)

AUGUST: Why Can't My Wife Be Like My Dog?

In the great musical classic, "My Fair Lady," Pickering (played in full sexist fashion by Rex Harrison) ponders lyrically: "Why can't a woman be more like a man." I have been spending a lot of time with our dog, Ben, and it has caused me to ponder: "Why can't my wife be more like my dog?"

Think about it! Our big black lab/great Dane hybrid is always pleasant. He doesn't expect much. Actually he doesn't expect anything. He loves it when I pet him. He likes me to get close and play with him, but he never complains when I forget to show him affection. He likes it when I feed him and never complains that we don't ever go out to eat. Sometimes we just are in a room together in silence and he never once has insisted that I share my feelings with him. Even when I am in a foul mood he is his steady lovable self. No reactivity to my moods.

He loves to go anywhere with me in the car and he never complains about my driving or asks if I really know the directions for where I'm going. I got pulled over for speeding once and he just sat quietly without shaming or blaming. He just looked at me with his adoring brown eyes as if to say, "I'm sorry." Sometimes I go somewhere without him and he has not once asked me where I am going or when I will be back.

We can watch a whole Nationals baseball game together and he doesn't seem at all bored. When I come in the house Ben always greets me with a joyous wag of the tail and a lick. When he comes into a room where I am located, he always comes over to check and see if I'm ok. Then he goes and minds his own business. On a more revealing note, he doesn't mind that I go out to pee in the yard. No embarrassment for him. In fact he often goes with me. And if I am browsing and happen to linger on a picture of Heidi Klum in a bikini, he doesn't make a big deal of it. I guess he pretends to not even notice.

When I get sloppy and leave my clothes on the floor he sees it as a good thing and promptly lays down on them. All kinds of things are broken around the house and Ben never even mentions any of them. He's happy with things just as they are.

So why can't my wife be more like my dog? Hmmm. You know if she was just like my dog... after 30 years I could likely have become a reclusive porn-addicted slob living in a

broken down dump who only watches sports,
has no friends and can never find his way
anywhere on the first try (and then, only after
running out of gas on the way.)

Thanks, Donna , for being who you are for
me...just who I need!

David (and Donna)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES
COMING UP!

*Be sure to watch this space or check our web
site for future opportunities.*

Getting the Love You Want Workshops

September 13-15, Frederick, MD

October 18-20, Frederick, MD

December 6-8, Frederick, MD

Next Step Workshops

November 16-17, 2013, Frederick, MD

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you
were to live forever." Mahatma Gandhi

"The more that you read, the more things you will
know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll
go." Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!

"It is not that I'm so smart. But I stay with the
questions much longer." Albert Einstein

"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember,
involve me and I learn." Benjamin Franklin

"I am not a teacher, but an awakener." Robert Frost

A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more
than you love yourself. Josh Billings

There are three faithful friends - an old wife, an old
dog, and ready money. Benjamin Franklin

"[Kids] don't remember what you try to teach them. They remember what you are." Jim Henson

"A person can learn a lot from a dog, even a loopy one like ours. Marley taught me about living each day with unbridled exuberance and joy, about seizing the moment and following your heart. He taught me to appreciate the simple things—a walk in the woods, a fresh snowfall, a nap in a shaft of winter sunlight. And as he grew old and achy, he taught me about optimism in the face of adversity. Mostly, he taught me about friendship and selflessness and, above all else, unwavering loyalty." John Grogan, Marley and Me: Life and Love With the World's Worst Dog

"That is what learning is. You suddenly understand something you've understood all your life, but in a new way." Doris Lessing

"I believe that we learn by practice. Whether it means to learn to dance by practicing dancing or to learn to live by practicing living, the principles are the same. In each, it is the performance of a dedicated precise set of acts, physical or intellectual, from which comes shape of achievement, a sense of one's being, a satisfaction of spirit. One becomes, in some area, an athlete of God. Practice means to perform, over and over again in the face of all obstacles, some act of vision, of faith, of desire. Practice is a means of inviting the perfection desired." Martha Graham

"I've seen how you can't learn anything when you're trying to look like the smartest person in the room." Barbara Kingsolver, The Poisonwood Bible

God will prepare everything for our perfect happiness in heaven, and if it takes my dog being there, I believe he'll be there. Billy Graham

We are on this journey with you. Keep in touch!

Sincerely,

**David and Donna Bowman
Bowman & Associates, PA**

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to info@connectingcouples.net by info@connectingcouples.net | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Bowman & Associates, PA | 7823 Chestnut Grove Road | Frederick | MD | 21701
