It is hard to imagine but this is the sixth edition of the Greater Cincinnati Pet Pages. Hopefully you have been keeping up with the latest articles and using a lot of the interesting information that the Pet Pages contain.

Personally, I hope you have tried some of the animal communication techniques that have been suggested in the articles I have written. I am always delighted when someone will mention to me that they have tried communicating with their pets. Often someone will say, "I really do feel like I am getting some flashes of information from my animals, but I'm not sure if it is really from him or if it is my imagination." My advice to them is always the same. Keep practicing. You really are getting the little flashes of thought from your pet. Like any new skill you learn, the more you practice the easier and better you will become. Most people know their own animals pretty well. You know their likes and dislikes and you know a great deal about their personalities. Because you know these things you feel like you are not getting messages from your pet, but are using you own knowledge of them when you feel like you are getting thoughts or impressions. Trust me. You really are getting many of their thoughts. Always trust your impressions or intuition. Sometimes that is exactly how we get their messages. It is simply a kind of "knowing".

As we have mentioned before, in earlier editions, not everyone works in the same way. Some people catch on quicker than others but the important thing to remember is that communication with your animal should be fun and easy. It is not a speed contest. It shouldn't be "work". It is a great bonding time for both of you. Your animal may respond very quickly or it may take several attempts. Reading your thoughts is a very ordinary experience for your animal. They do it all the time. As we discussed in the first GCPP only humans think in negative concepts. Animals think in positive concepts. They understand words like "stop" and "no" because each is a very positive command. When we think, "Don't do that". We are actually visualizing (seeing in our mind) the animal doing the exact thing we do NOT want them to do. Keep all of your visualizations positive. Visualize what you want – not what you don't want. Often we need to repeat the "visual message" several times before your pet is willing to do what you are asking them to do.

I talk to many pet owners who communicate a great deal with their pet(s). Both human and animal are aware of the communication and find it useful, and after a while, it becomes a very normal part of their daily experience.

Just relax. I think combing, brushing or petting your animal is a perfect time to practice your communication skills. Let your mind be quiet and try to let other thoughts go when they come into your mind. Focus on your animal. In your mind's eye try to visualize your pet doing something that you want them to do (for instance) to correct a behavior problem. If you have a cat that is not using her litter box, you could visualize her standing in the litter box, even using it. If you have an agility dog that is having a problem with one of the contacts, you can visualize them performing exactly the way you want them to perform. A horse that does not come in from the field when you call her, can be visualized by you as coming to the fence every time you call her name. Whatever the problem behavior might be it can be corrected much easier if you will try visualizing the behavior you want and expect from the animal.

Keep practicing. Your effort and patience will pay off before very long.