

# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

## August 2016



### **Old Friends** by Connie Cuff

How many of us think we have the perfect dog? How much training does your dog really need? Only you can answer that question!

All of us have either acquired a puppy or gone through the process of adoption. We all want that perfect dog and many of us have worked very hard to train our dogs to become a "GOOD family dog".

Training, as I have often said, is a "lifetime" and we must focus on all the GOOD behaviors our dogs show us. Many of us find ourselves focusing on all the problem behaviors and pressure ourselves to over train so we can have the "perfect dog".

By taking a step back and getting to know your dog's true personality you see a lot of things your dog does well. It will help you relax more and see the GOOD in your dog, especially when you might feel frustrated about a particular behavior problem.

Teaching your dog new behaviors should be fun. Some dogs take longer than others to learn a new technique. Becoming frustrated will only make it more difficult for your dog and all emotions go right down the leash.

Working without distractions and lots of yummy treats can take off some of the pressure in learning a new exercise. Gradually introducing your dog with the new exercise around distractions may be a help in the learning process.

The truth is, there is no such thing as a perfect dog, and there is no official rule book that states exactly how every dog should behave. We get to make up most of those rules based on what works for us and our own dogs.

If your dog is GOOD enough for you and you're able to make the most of those dog years, then your already a winner.

Till next time,

Connie

### **Minutes (July 5, 2016)**

submitted by Karen Sodrick

### **President's Report**

There is a sign up sheet for the Tom Marino Health Fair in Selinsgrove being held on Monday July, 25

There are also 2 new visits that we have added for July. For those who do the Shamokin Hospital visit we will now add the VNA in the Community Arts Building (old High School building) on Arch Street at 1:15 after the hospital on July 15th. There is also a visit at the Stayman Apartment building behind Tractor Supply on Tuesday July 26 at 2:00.

As usual, we will be participating in the Sunbury and Northumberland Halloween parades. The tentative plan is to eliminate the float and just have walkers. A committee will meet to decide on a theme.

I would like to set a date for our annual picnic. Sept 18 is open but a Fall Festival is also being held on that date. September 25th conflicts with the beginning of the Bloomsburg Fair. The club voted to pursue the Sept 18th date.

I have a need for a new copier since the old place went out of business. My daughter will purchase it at Sam's Club. The members approved the expenditure.

It's good to hear that Georgie is doing well after surgery and is now having water exercise therapy.

We are also very glad to have Marjean back with us and I'm sure she is very happy as well.

Submitted by, Karen Sodrick



# Notes and Notices



We have been experiencing some very hot weather on Tuesday evenings. I appreciate those that have been coming and will try to keep training at a minimum and in a shady area. Please bring water to keep your dog hydrated.

There will be a dog swim at the Sunbury Pool on Sunday, August 14 from 1-6pm. Cost is \$8, one dog, and \$10 for two dogs. Phil Hallden will need some help that day so please email him if you are available. All of the proceeds will go to Mostly Mutts.

On August 23 I will be at the Summer Camp at the Sunbury YMCA at 10:00am. There is a group of 75 children and they love to see our dogs. I ask that you have them in costume and you can dress as well since our club will be promoting the Northumberland County Fair Pet Costume Contest on Friday, August 26. We will coordinate this event with registration at 6pm and judging at 6:30pm. Start thinking about your pet's outfit as I'm hoping some of our members can attend this event.

Our sympathies to Stacey Faust with the loss of her beloved Weimaraner Bella and welcome her new Lab mix Luna.

Congratulations to Lori Zerbe and her Standard Poodle Reuben who passed the CGC test.

Congratulations also goes to Daren & Chelsea Mensch with the arrival of their daughter. Madisyn.

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, Sept. 18 for our Club Picnic at the Shikellamy State Park Marina at 1:00pm. We supply the hot dogs and drinks and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and an item for the Chinese Auction which should be pet related. I do have a sign-up sheet at class or you can email me if you plan to attend.

Scientists are finding simple herbal medicines are working better for your pets and pets take them easier and more consistently. But, you should only use natural remedies when directed by you Veterinarian.

Herbs for Anxiety - Chamomile- calms even the most restless of pet. Oats & Parsley.

Herbs for Cancer - Green Tea - boosts the immune system. Garlic (tiny doses) & Cinnamon.

Herbs for Arthritis and Pain - Turmeric - reduces inflammation. Ginger & Peppers.

Herbs for Infections - Ginger - shown to settle stomachs and improve coat quality. Honey & Oregano.

Essential Oils - Most oils are not safe for your dogs. The few that you can use are only safe in the tiniest of doses.

# UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Aug. 3 (Wed)	Riverwoods Heritage Springs	10:00am 11:15am
Aug. 4 (Thurs)	Emmanuel, Danville Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm
Aug. 8 (Mon)	Elm Croft, Lewisburg	6:30pm
<b>Aug. 10</b> (Wed)	Riverwoods Heritage Springs	10:00am 11:15am
Aug. 11 (Thurs)	Shamokin Hospital VNA Life Geisinger	12:15pm 1:15pm 2:00pm
Aug. 14 (Sun)	Sunbury Pool Swim	1:00pm - 6:00pm
Aug. 16 (Tues)	Medium Prison, Allenwood NCIC only	12:00pm
Aug. 17 (Wed)	Riverwoods Heritage Springs	10:00am 11:15am
Aug. 18 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Manor Care	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
Aug. 22 (Mon)	Penn Manor, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
Aug. 23 (Tues)	YMCA Summer Camp, Sunbury (Dress dogs in Costume)	10:00am
Aug. 24 (Wed)	Riverwoods Heritage Springs	10:00am 11:15am
Aug. 25 (Thurs)	Holy Family Convent Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm
Aug. 26 (Fri)	North. Co. Fair, Pet Costume Contest - Registration Pet Parade	6:00pm 6:30pm
Aug. 29 (Mon)	<b>Bucknell University Library</b>	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Aug. 30 (Tues)	<b>USP Lewisburg Camp (NCIC only)</b>	12:00pm
Aug. 31 (Wed)	Riverwoods Heritage Springs	10:00am 11:15am

Newsletter coordinator: Brandon Pastuszek

E-mail: brandon@stdtc.org Club web site: http://www.stdtc.org

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