

## Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

May 2015

Old Friends by Connie Cuff



In all aspects of training you should have the right attitude, demonstrate patience, coupled with proper reinforcement and timing of the desired behavior and you will achieve what you want in training your dog. It doesn't matter what you are training your dog, put yourself in the dog's shoes and give him a reason to do what you want and a reason to do what you don't want by communicating those things in all your actions. Get your dog to "listen" to you and to react to you instantaneously.

You know that sounds, tone and volume are as important as the words themselves. You want your dog to not just associate your commands with a reward, but to associate them with an action. If you repeat them over and over, it becomes nearly involuntary. In order to develop reactions, you have to experience multiple repetitions over a long period of time. A well-trained dog will instantly respond, without hesitation, to various commands and tricks you want to teach him.

(The following was taken from a writing by Dixon J. Cuff)

"One of the prime functions of any dog instructor ought to be the nurturing of a better, more aware relationship between dog and handler. If the instructor does his job well, that owner will be more likely to love and care for his dog for many years ahead. The instructor can only give each class his best. After the class is over for that night's training, it is up to the owner to give his dog the best he has learned that week in training.

Your dog is the result of your choice, the environment in which he has lived, and your approach to his training. You must accept full responsibility for any of his failures. It should be recognized that the dog is never at fault."

Everyone at class has been working hard at improving the behavior of their dogs. Some dogs take more time to get the desired results but by taking command and building trust, you will form a mutually rewarding relationship. Dogs are looking for someone to lead.

As with all things, "practice makes perfect".

Till next time, Connie



## Notes and Notices



We send our sympathies to Sara Fry who lost her beloved Talley. She enjoyed visiting as a therapy dog and I know everyone will miss her.

We will be moving our training to the Shikellamy State Park Marina on Tuesday, May 19. Our class schedule is: Advanced members 6:15 - 7:00pm, Beginners 7:15 - 8:00pm. Marjean will begin a Star Puppy Class, with pre-registration required. Everyone is asked to come by 6:45 with the class beginning at 7:00pm. In case of inclement weather on Tuesday classes will be held on Wednesday. Please check our web site and emails for notification.

Congratulations to Gail Lorady who now is certified as a Trick Training Instructor.

We welcome new members: Amy Scholl from Selinsgrove with a Boxer mix, Moe; Mary & Jim Taylor from Selinsgrove with Golden Retriever, Bailey; Lori Karchner from Beavertown with German Shepherd, Isaac; Lori Steele from Elysburg with Golden Retriever, Maggie.

We wish a speedy recovery to Gaye Gaugler who recently underwent surgery.

We will be visiting the Mt. Carmel Lions Club St. Fair on Sat. May 9 from 10:30am-11:00am. Please sign up to be with us as the people are very happy to see our dogs and the dogs enjoy the socialization.

The Lewisburg 4th of July Parade is on Sat., June 27. We will carry a large American Flag without the dog. It is a short walk down the main street and onto the President's Grove at Bucknell. Our reception last year brought many applauds as it showed patriotic pride and made our participation very worth while. Please consider helping us and any member of the family is welcome.

I received a note about zinc toxicity in dogs which can be fatal. Many puppies will take many things in their mouth, so please be aware of your change, especially pennies minted after 1982, metal game pieces from board games, nuts, bolts, and staples.

Recipe for dog shampoo which is cheap and works well:

4 oz. glycerin 4 oz. white vinegar 25 oz. bottle ivory liquid Empty Clorox bottle

Combine ingredients in empty Clorox bottle, fill with water and shake well before using. Glycerin is good for skin, vinegar for fleas, ivory liquid to make suds.

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

May 6 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
May 7 (Thurs)	Grandview Nursing Home Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm
May 9 (Sat)	Mt. Carmel Lions Club St. Fair	10:30am - 11:00am
	Mifflinburg United Methodist Church Blessing of Animals Pet Fair, 279 Market St.	10:00am - 2:00pm
May 11 (Mon)	Penn Lutheran Village, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
May 13 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
May 14 (Thurs)	Shamokin Hospital Life Geisinger Building Bridges Northwestern Academy	1:00pm 1:45pm 2:15pm 2:45pm
May 19 (Tues)	CLASSES BEGIN AT SHIKELLAMY MARINA	
May 20 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
May 21 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Manor Care & Sunshine Corners	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
<b>May 25 (Mon)</b>	Memorial Day	
May 27 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
May 28 (Thurs)	Holy Family Convent Geisinger Rehab Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm

Newsletter coordinator: Brandon Pastuszek

E-mail: brandon@stdtc.org

Club web site: http://www.stdtc.org

## May 2015

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Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
US Holidays

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday = 6:30 PM Training = 10:00 AM Riverwoods = 10:00 AM Sr. Health Expo 1:00 PM Holy Family Con-= 6:00 PM Bucknell University = 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy = 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Library = 7:15 PM Beginner Training Health South = 6:30 PM Training = 1:00 PM Grandview Nursing = 10:00 AM Riverwoods = 10:00 AM Mifflinburg Unit-6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy ed Methodist Church Bless-Home Class 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, ing of Animals Pet Fair = 7:15 PM Beginner Training Health South = 10:30 AM Mt. Carmel Lions Club St. Fair 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 6:30 PM Penn Lutheran Vil-6:30 PM Training = 10:00 AM Riverwoods 1:00 PM Shamokin Hospital Mother's Day lage = 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy = 1:45 PM Life Geisinger = 2:15 PM Building Bridges Class 7:15 PM Beginner Training = 2:45 PM Northwestern Academy 17 22 23 18 19 20 21 = 6:15 PM Training ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 1:00 PM Sunbury Communi-= 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy ty Hospital 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Class = 7:15 PM Beginner Training Home 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners 24 25 29 30 = 6:15 PM Training = 10:00 AM Riverwoods = 1:00 PM Holy Family Con-John F. Kennedy's Birthday Memorial Day 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy vent 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Class 7:15 PM Beginner Training Health South 31 = 6:15 PM Training = 10:00 AM Riverwoods = 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy = 7:15 PM Beginner Training