



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2021



## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

When you wonder what goes through your dog's mind, one question is this? Does he really love me or is it all about the treats? Dogs are social, so relationships are important so there's evidence we are indeed special to our dogs.

In one study a dog was trained to lie still for an MRI where it was presented with 4 scents - familiar person, a stranger, a familiar dog, and a strange one. What a surprise the strongest response was to the smell of their human.

Couldn't it be because our dogs associate us with food?

Another study showed when they saw one object they would get food and in another their owner would pop into view and

say "Good Dog". The majority of the dogs weighed the social reward of their owner just talking to them at least as highly as food, some dogs it was greater.

Research shows that dogs rely on us as much as children. They're more likely to approach a strange thing or dogs if a person gives off a positive vibe. Yes, it all goes down the leash.

Many of us have seen the reaction of our dogs when Ray Ramos handles our dogs at class. It is his calm demeanor that dogs take vibes from and people are amazed how our dogs react to him.

Emotions affect learning. Fear and stress interfere with learning - that is why we should avoid using punishment when training our dogs. When punishment is used dogs become fearful of training and the person doing it. Dogs trained with positive reinforcement looked at their owners more. Reinforcement only affects behavior, not emotions, so your dog can't learn to be more fearful by being rewarded for it.

If anyone has attended a Dog Show and watched the Obedience competition, you will see how much eye contact dogs have with their owner who has trained them with positive reinforcement.

Whoever said that humans are the only species capable of emotion has never lived with a dog. By looking at the world through a dog's eyes, you'll see we share the same experience, sensations, senses and yes, the same emotions.

Till next time,

*Connie*



## Notes and Notices



**Congratulations to the following who have passed their Good Citizen Test:**

**John and Linda Semicek with Matty, Jean Swartz with Ava, Corinne Kleman with Stella, George & Vicki Sims with Matty**

**Congratulations to those passing the Star Puppy:**

**Meg Martin with Tupelo, Connie Hepner with Mabel, Norine Armish with Nugget**

**Please mark your calendar for Sunday Oct. 3 at 1pm. We will come together for our annual Club Picnic at the Shikellamy State Park Marina. It is a fun day for us and the dogs as well. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. The Club provides hot dogs and drinks. Also we ask that you bring a dog related item for our Chinese Auction. I will have a sign up at Class and you can also send us a message if you intend to come that day.**

**If anyone is interested in doing the Fresh Check Day Event at Bloomsburg University on Wed. Sept. 8 - 10am - 2pm they should get in touch with Kristi Hammaker at [khammaker@bloomu.edu](mailto:khammaker@bloomu.edu).**

**You should forward her a copy of your therapy certification, the dog's rabies certificate and a bio of your dog.**

**It was so nice to visit with Marjean Krech and her husband Don who were visiting from their home in Maine. She was so much a part of our Club and did training with us. Look forward to another visit next year.**

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Sept. 1 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 2 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 3 (Fri)</b>	<b>Lewisburg Pool Doggie Dips</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 4 (Sat)</b>	<b>Lewisburg Pool Doggie Dips</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 5 (Sun)</b>	<b>Lewisburg Pool Doggie Dips</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 6 (Mon)</b>	<b>LABOR DAY</b>	
<b>Sept. 8 (Wed)</b>	<b>Fresh Check Day Event, Bloomsburg U.</b>	<b>10am - 2pm</b>
<b>Sept. 9 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Mt. View Manor</b>	<b>2:30pm</b>
<b>Sept. 12 (Sun)</b>	<b>Knoebel's Doggie Dive</b>	<b>11am - 3pm</b>
<b>Sept. 13 (Mon)</b>	<b>Columbia County Prison Five Star, Sunbury</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 15 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 28 (Tues)</b>	<b>Foundation Seminar Bucknell U.</b>	<b>10:20am - 11:40am</b>
<b>Oct. 3 (Sun)</b>	<b>Club Picnic, Shikellamy State Park Marina</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>

# September 2021

August 2021							September 2021							October 2021							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
														31							

- US Holidays
- Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 1:00 PM CANCELLED – pump issues – Lewisburg Doggie Dips	30	31 5:45 PM Advanced Training 6:30 PM Beginner Training	1 10:00 AM Riverwoods	2 1:00 PM Health South Geisinger	3 5:00 PM Lewisburg Doggie Dips	4 1:00 PM Lewisburg Doggie Dips
5 1:00 PM Lewisburg Doggie Dips	6 Labor Day	7 Rosh Hashanah 5:45 PM Advanced Training 6:30 PM Beginner Training	8 10:00 AM Fresh Check Day Event, Bloomsburg U.	9 2:30 PM Mountain View Manor	10	11
12 11:00 AM Knoebel's Doggie Dive	13 1:00 PM Five Star, Sunbury 1:00 PM Columbia County Prison	14 5:45 PM Advanced Training 6:30 PM Beginner Training	15 10:00 AM Riverwoods	16 Yom Kippur	17	18
19	20	21 5:45 PM Advanced Training 6:30 PM Beginner Training	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 10:20 AM Foundation Seminar Bucknell U. 5:45 PM Advanced Training 6:30 PM Beginner Training	29	30 1:00 PM Health South Geisinger	1	2