



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

April 2010

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



It's difficult for many people to admit when they have a problem with problematic behavior. Some people believe it makes them look like failures.

Surveys done show that 1/3 of all dogs remain in their original homes for their lifetime. By in large, dogs are given up are between 7 and 12 months of age. We call these the teenage years and as we all know a time to be pushy and hard to get along with.

Shelters find that when a person gives a dog up for adoption they aren't always honest because they feel guilty getting rid of the dog so they write what they think will get the dog adopted.

When owners did give reasons, they list - jumping on people, running away, mouthing, house training, knocking down children. All of these behaviors can be dealt with if the owner admits there is a problem and looks for help.

People cannot start making changes to solve the problem until they admit one exists. How many times have we heard people giving excuses for the real problem - they blame it on someone else, they blame the dog. Any tactic to avoid the problem. Blame is heaped anywhere but on the owner.

When a dog is part of a family, we need to look at everyone involved with the dog. If one member of the family is trying to correct jumping behavior and others greet the dog with much enthusiasm and allow jumping, corrective measures are in vain.

Owners that bring their dog to training are admitting that their dog has a problem.

A suggestion for helping with a problem is to write on a sheet of paper the following columns:

PROBLEM	WHEN	WHY	PREVENTION	TEACH
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Problem - What you would like to change.

When - When does it happen. Ex. when you leave for work or come home.

Why - Think like a dog, ex. digs in wet dirt because it smells good, barks when you leave because it will be alone.

Old Friends (Continued)

Prevention - What can you do to prevent the behavior. Ex. Have an area just for your dog to dig, when leaving for work give your dog a kong filled with a few kibbles and only use it when you leave.

Teach - Decide how to teach your dog what he is doing wrong. You must catch him in the act or set it up. Try making some changes in your household routine or in the manner that your dog is treated.

Use this information to change your dog's problem behavior so he is a joy to live with instead of a problem.

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain"

-Dolly Parton

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (March 2, 2010)

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of STDTC was called to order by Connie Cuff, Pres., with 28 members present.

Report of the President:

It is nice to be able to train again at the Center. If anyone does not get the newsletter online please pick a copy up at the meeting.

Please pay your 2010 dues as soon as possible since we will be making up a new membership roster. If dues are not paid, you will be dropped from list.

Anyone interested in visiting the Federal Prison at Allenwood and has thier TDI will need to fill out an NCIC check form. Our next visit at the maximum is April 13.

New members present at meeting were introduced.

Report of Treasurer: (Treasurer's Reports are not available in the online edition of the STDTC newsletter.)

Report of Secretary: There were no additions or corrections to Jan. minutes and they were approved as read. No Meeting in February.

New Business:

Received thank you notes from Sherry Carpenter and Brandon Pastuszek.

Susquehanna Service Dogs is having Paws Abilities at the State Farm Shaw building March 13 & 14, go online to get more info at www.pawsabilities.net. You can purchase advance tickets for \$8.00, or at door for \$10.00.

Marjean will be starting new AKC Star Puppy Classes March 23.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Pentz, Secretary

Breed of the Month

Chihuahua

submitted by Connie Cuff

Confidence and agility, combined with terrier-like alertness, make the Chihuahua excellent watchdogs. They think nothing is bigger than they are.

Many owners speak of the dog's strong sensitivity and lively and loyal personality. Snuggling is common to these dogs and you can find them burrowing under a blanket to create a cozy sleeping spot.

In the United States, smooth or long-coated varieties may be inter-bred often producing smooth and long-coated pups. Show judges consider head shape and facial composition when they choose Best of Breed. Temperament also plays an important role in capturing approval.

Everyone needs to be aware that these guys can be extremely difficult to housebreak. With their small bladders they need close supervision while training.

Their small size and big enthusiasm make them excellent traveling companions. However, they are not suited for rough and tumble outdoor life, especially in a Northern climate. With their thin coat, they are easily chilled, and their short legs limit many physical activities.

Most breed historians agree the Chihuahua ancestor was a tiny dog name Techichi, which the Toltec Indians kept in Mexico as early as the ninth century.

Later, the Aztecs may have continued the breed. Carvings of these ancestors grace the monasteries constructed about 1530 between Mexico City and Puebla. The breed's development after the Aztecs is a mystery until the modern dog arrived in the United States in the middle of the 19th century.

Chis raised with other dogs learn to accept them. Parents of young children should consider choosing a slightly sturdier Chihuahua.

Although they often live into their mid-teens, they are predisposed to serious health problems such as dislocating knee, hypoglycemia, and they should become accustomed to regular teeth cleaning since anesthetizing them for veterinary teeth cleaning can be risky.

Whether they thwart off burglars or peek at the world beneath a blanket, the delight Chihuahuas provide assures their continued popularity.

It is nice to have Cindy Cardennis with a Chihuahua mix named ChaChee, Ashlee Walker with Lokie and Regina Russell with Einstein training with us.



Exercise Plans from the AKC Star Puppy Program

Dogs need their minds stimulated just as much as they need an outlet for physical energy in their bodies. Training doesn't always have to be the formal exercises that you learn in dog training classes. Training can include teaching the dog some tricks such as beg and rollover and teaching some games.

Why are games so important? How did you have fun when you were a child? Dogs, like people, are extremely social animals. So how do you play organized games with a dog?

1. First you teach them the rules (training)
2. Then, you enforce the rules (good behavior)
3. Finally, you have fun! Exercise and socialization

Games can be anything you dream up. You can play fetch with your dog with some rules. First, have the dog sit while you pick up the toy. If the dog breaks the sit when you reach for the toy, then don't pick it up. Remember to only pick up the toy if the dog remains in a sit. Hold the dog's collar while you throw the toy telling him to "wait". When the dog stops straining against his collar release him to get the toy. While the dog runs to the toy, you run the other way and hide. When the dog realizes you are gone, allow him to briefly search for you. If he doesn't find you call his name. When he gets to you reward him with a treat or lots of praise. Remember the game itself is rewarding for the dog, so food isn't necessary. Each time you play find a different hiding spot to keep it interesting for the dog. Dogs LOVE this type of play.

Safe for Dogs

Benadryl (diphenhydramine) is an antihistamine that's used to treat everything from bee stings to allergic reactions. It's a mild medication and doesn't work for severe reactions, but it is very safe for dogs, and is inexpensive. Just as it does with humans, Benadryl can cause some mild sedation in dogs – although in rare cases it can cause excitability.

Other antihistamines, such as chlorpheniramine, are also cheap and safe. Antihistamines, like Claritin and Zyrtec, are fine for dogs, too, and while a bit more expensive, may even work better.

Pepcid and Zantac are commonly used antacids. They're both effective in dogs with upset stomach and ulcers. Over the long term, however, they will eventually stop working, so you should either give your dog some time off from them, or change drugs periodically.

Dramamine is an excellent medication for preventing car sickness in dogs. It also causes sedation, which might be rather welcome when you're taking your dog on a long car trip.

Cortisone Cream should be in every first aid box. It can be very effective on minor itchy areas and red bumps caused by bug bites. Be sure to rub it in well and try to prevent your dog from licking it off (although a little licking is not a serious danger).

Neosporin (triple antibiotic cream) is one of the most underappreciated medications in the drugstore. It moisturizes wounds to help them heal faster while also preventing infection. It's important to remember to clean any wounds before applying Neosporin.

Exercise Plans from the AKC Star Puppy Program (Continued)

SAFE, BUT

Pepto-Bismol acts as an anti-inflammatory for the stomach and intestines. Since one of the ingredients is a form of aspirin, it should never be given to dogs more than once or twice. And if your dog has diarrhea that doesn't clear up after two doses, stop giving him Pepto and seek a vet's advice. Basically, Pepto-Bismol can be effective for mild diarrhea and is relatively safe – if used sparingly.

Kaopectate can also be used to treat diarrhea and is extremely safe. The problem: though it's fine for mild cases, it doesn't actually treat the diarrhea; it just bulks up the stool to give the appearance of normalcy.

NO WAY, NEVER:

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDS) are not made to be safe for dogs, and can actually be very dangerous. Prescription anti-inflammatories manufactured specifically for dogs are usually cost-effective and are safer as well as more efficient. Among the NSAIDS to stay away from are:

Tylenol (or anything containing the active ingredient acetaminophen) or Motrin (which contains ibuprofen). Both can cause damage to the liver or the kidneys, and also commonly cause stomach ulcers. And they're not as effective as many of the prescription pain relievers. Aspirin is often taken by humans for its cardiac benefits. But since dogs don't suffer the same cardiac problems as humans do, there's no benefit to their taking it; the relief is not enough to justify the stomach issues it often causes.



Notes and Notices



As some of you know, I lost my best friend Riley recently. I appreciate your concern as everyone knows the feeling of loss when we lose a pet that has been a faithful friend. He touched so many lives with his pet therapy work with over 850 visits in his 9 years. I am hoping his legacy will continue in all the therapy dogs in our club and those training to become therapy dogs.

As one chapter closes, another begins with my new dog Cagney. He is an 11 week old Golden Retriever. I will be trying to practice what I preach each week in training a new puppy. I'm sure I will need help along the way and am looking forward to continuing my therapy work with my new friend Cagney.

We will again be visiting the Mt. Carmel Street Fair sponsored by the Lions Club on Saturday, May 8 at 1:45 pm. We will be located at 4th & Oak Street. I would appreciate a nice turn out as we always receive a warm welcome. We just do some basic training, so even if you have only trained a short time it is a good experience for the dogs. Please sign up with me or call me so I will know how many will be attending.

Please check our web site for upcoming events or cancellations. We will email everyone who is current on their dues for 2010. A new roster will be made up in April.

On March 27 at our training class at the Selinsgrove Center, beginning at 7:00 pm I have asked Deb Trough, an animal communicator, to speak to our club about the Basics of Animal Communication. Her presentation will be for ½ hour with discussion afterwards. If you have a friend who may be interested, they are welcome to join us.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

April 1 (Thurs)	Bucknell University (TDI Only)	6:00pm
April 7 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
April 8 (Thurs)	Northwest Academy Shamokin Hospital	1:00 pm 2:15 pm
April 12 (Mon)	Reading Chief Shikellamy	9:00 am
April 13 (Tues)	NO CLASS Selinsgrove Center Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC Only)	12:15 pm
April 14 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
April 15 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners	1:00 pm 2:00 pm 2:30 pm
April 21 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
April 22 (Thurs)	Emmanuel Center Danville (Rt. 11)	6:45 pm
April 27 (Tues)	Speaker at training Selinsgrove Center Deb Trough, Animal Communicator	7:00 pm
April 28 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
April 29 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00 pm
May 3 (Mon)	Reading Chief Shikellamy Bucknell University (TDI Only)	9:00 am 6:00 pm
May 6 (Thurs)	Nottingham Village	6:45 pm
May 8 (Sat)	Demo - Mt. Carmel Street Fair Sponsored by Lions Club	1:45 pm

April 2010

- US Holidays
- Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

March 2010

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

April 2010

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

May 2010

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:15 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ April Fool's Day ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell University (TDI Only) 			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Easter 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:15 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy ■ 2:15 PM Shamokin Hospital 		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Reading (Chief Shikellamy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CLASSES CANCELLED ■ 12:15 PM Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC Only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tax Day ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital ■ 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home ■ 2:30 PM Sunshine Corners 		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:15 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Earth Day ■ 6:45 PM Emmanuel Center 		
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Speaker at Training ■ 7:15 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 		



Tails are wagging at Mostly Mutts in appreciation
of the help of Susquehanna Trail Club.

All the dogs send a grateful woof!!

All animals need a forever home filled with love and attention.
Your help for our shelter dogs aids us in our mission
to improve the lives of companion animals.

Thanks for making such a difference!

March 3, 2010



Mostly Mutts Inc.
284 Little Mountain Road
Sunbury, PA 17801
[www..mostlymuttsonline.com](http://www.mostlymuttsonline.com)



Use IRS label	Registered Name	Dog Tag Number:
	Calling Name	Rabies I. D. Number:
	Master's Name	

Filing Status

Stray dog Family dog Top dog Underdog

Exemptions for Dependents

Check all Dependents: Fleas Worms Other dependents

Ticks Ear mites All of the above

Income	1 Dry Kibble and other gross income.....	1		
	2 Stolen roasts, turkeys, hams and other capital income.....	2		
	3 Income from beef by-products.....	3		
	4 Kidney, liver, and other organ meat.....	4		
	5 Compensation from hunting, herding, or watching.....	5		
	6 Show winnings.....	6		
	7 Acting fees (dog star).....	7		
	8 Stud fees.....	8		
	9 Capital gains and appreciation of assets:			
	a Appreciation of personal assets.....	9a		
	b Appreciation of assets of other dogs.....	9b		
	c Appreciation of doghouse.....	9c		
	d Appreciation of buried bones not yet fully appreciated.....	9d		

Credits and Deductions	10 Veterinary benefits			
	a Credit for not trembling and whimpering in waiting room.....			
	b Credit for not yelping during shots.....	10a		
	11 Casualty losses from accidental elimination (Special allowance for puppies only).....	10b		
	12 Laundry expenses (ring around the collar).....	12		
	13 Spay pay (credit for neutering).....	13		
	14 Deduction for losses of tennis balls.....	14		
	15 Depreciation of rubber tug toy.....	15		
	16 Tax-exempt income from service as a guide dog for the blind.....	16		
	17 Damages from housebreaking.....	17		
	18 Poultry retrieval without appreciation.....	18		
	19 Impoundment charges.....	19		
	20 Fines for voluntary contributions to sidewalks and lawns.....	20		
21 Credit for deposits behind bushes (safe deposit).....	21			
22 Interest in the deposits of others.....	22			

Balance Due

Your total tax bite

Please Sign Here

Under penalties of perjury, impoundment, and dry kibble for a month, I declare that I have examined this return and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it smell great.

Your paw print (front right): Dog Day: _____

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature

Firm's name (or yours, self self-employed) and address: _____

E.I. No.

ZIIP code