



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

April 2011

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Have you ever stopped to think about how many times a day you do something to your dog that involves physical contact and that doesn't just mean petting? Touching the collar to put on the leash, picking him up, wiping the eyes, trimming fur and brushing teeth.

If you're lucky, he's thinking good thoughts. Good association can happen - leash = going for a walk. You can make good things happen - touch collar, feed a treat. Your dog may have negative associations and these are the ones he tries to avoid.

Once again, prevention is better than cure. Don't let your dog become slightly uncomfortable. Treat every new procedure as a good association with handling you may perform with him over the years.

Reaching for the collar. This can be for something good or you can be grabbing his collar during a tense situation. By teaching him a word "Gotcha" and offering a treat, ball or favorite toy, you are letting him know something good happens when you touch his collar.

Many dogs have negative association with paw handling, wiping paws, trimming hair between paws and nail trimming. The best time to start is when your dog is a puppy but through gradual conditioning and with the use of treats and "Gotcha", your dog can become comfortable with you touching and working with his paws.

You want to give your dog a positive association that he loves rather than just tolerates. With positive association, your dog can make deliberate behavior choices in order to get good stuff.

You must remember in doing any procedure your dog does not like, NEVER call your dog with his name to come to you, rather, go to him and attach the leash.

In our classes I try to have everyone touch different parts of their dog and in our exchange have others touch the dog so that he is comfortable with other people touching him. This is helpful in preparing dogs for TDI.

Old Friends (Continued)

If you are lucky, you want your dog to think good thoughts with touch and make every experience a positive outcome.

"Make a game of finding something positive in every situation. Ninety-five percent of your emotions are determined by how you interpret events"

--Brian Tracy

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (March 1, 2011)

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of the STDTC was called to order by Pres. Connie Cuff.

Report of the President: Our newsletter is available. Please add a date to your calendar. I received this date after the newsletter went out - Bucknell University, Monday April 4, at 6 PM.

We would like to introduce new members: Jen & Heth Hansum.

One of our members, Dagny Leininger lost her Dalmation, Gracie, recently. She was a therapy dog. Our sympathies to her.

Report of the Secretary: Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written in the newsletter.

Report of the Treasurer:

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

New Business: There are books available to read. I ask that you fill in the card with your name. Also, anything that is out on the table is there for you to take.

I received a message from Sherry Carpenter about House Resolution 89 - We worked hard to pass the new Dog Law on Oct 9, 2008, which would shut down puppy mills. Now 6 representatives, one from Lancaster, want to review this law. The AKC is supporting this. We will keep abreast of this and may ask you to contact your representatives so that the Dog Law will not be repealed.

Old Business: There is a new rule for food on the TDI test: The evaluator will drop the food. You can tell the dog to leave it and walk around the food. Then, after the handler has the dog's attention, tell him to leave the food again and walk over it. You want the dog not to be totally focused on the food.

TDI visits: We will resume evening visits in April.

Meeting Adjourned.

Breed of the Month

Standard Poodle

submitted by Connie Cuff

Few dogs have climbed to such high favor in many different countries as has the Poodle, but there is some doubt as to the land of origin.

It is supposed to have originated in Germany, where it is known as the “pudel”, meaning to splash in the water. However, for years it has been regarded as the national dog of France, where it was commonly used as a retriever, as well as a traveling circus trick dog.

The poodle undoubtedly originated as a water spaniel. The unclipped Poodle of today bears strong resemblance to the old Rough-haired Water Dog of England as painted by Reinagle at the beginning of the 19th Century.

The Standard Poodle is the oldest of the three varieties. The words Standard, Miniature and Toy denote size only, all are one breed, governed by the same standard of perfection.



Despite the Standard Poodle’s claim to greater age than the other varieties, there is evidence that the smaller type developed a short time after the breed assumed what it is today. The smallest, or toy, was known in England in the 18th Century. In Spain it was the principal pet dog of the latter 18th Century, as shown by the paintings of Spanish artist, Goya. France had Toy Poodles as pampered favorites during the reign of Louis XVI.

We have an array of color - white, black, brown, cream, blue, gray, apricot. Any solid color is allowed in the show ring. If one plans to exhibit, however, he must choose in accordance with the specifications under coat in the official standard.

He who fancies a Poodle is never at a loss. He may choose a big dog to guard and protect, a medium sized one to fit into restricted quarters or a tiny tot to serve only as a “comforter”. But even more, the dog’s innate intelligence and his ability to learn are considered exceptional.

It is nice to have with us the Kramers from Selinsgrove with Tucker, a Standard Poodle, Lisa Inch from Selinsgrove with a Standard Poodle, Connie Hackenburg from Selinsgrove with her Standard Poodle puppies, Christine & Stephanie Burd from Selinsgrove with their toy poodle, Sasha, Joe West from Northumberland with his Golden/Doodle, Riley, and Maria Hensel with her Golden Doodle.



Notes and Notices



We certainly are having a rough time getting rid of Winter. Our classes will continue at the center until snow leaves us and warmer weather arrives. The Marina is still in the midst of clean up and drying out, so we will wait until conditions are favorable. Keep an eye on your E-mail or please check our web site for further info.

There will not be any classes at the Selinsgrove Center on April 12 and April 19 because the gym is being used by the residents for a Spring Fling.

Congratulations to Michelle Havrilla and Bella, a Yorkshire Terrier, who passed the TDI test.

I have set up a new training schedule for classes. This will help the other trainers and me work better with our large group of dogs.

Advanced Class	6:30pm to 7:15pm
Break	7:15pm to 7:30pm
Newer dogs or those working toward CGC/TDI (come at 7:15 to socialize)	7:30pm to 8:00pm

I have received correspondence from Rep. Lynda Schlegel Culver regarding House Resolution 89 pertaining to the Dog Law. She mentions that this resolution does not change the Dog Law or its standard. They are doing a study to study the economic impact. I forwarded her letter and my correspondence to Jessie L. Smith, Esq. who is the Special Deputy Secretary in Dog Law Enforcement. As I hear further on the report from the House of Representatives on June 30, I will keep everyone informed.

If anyone has any questions about training or visits, do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

April 4 (Mon)	Bucknell University (TDI Only)	6:00pm
April 6 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
April 7 (Thurs)	Emmanuel Center, Danville	6:45pm
April 11 (Mon)	Elmcroft, Lewisburg	6:30pm
April 12 (Tues)	NO CLASS SELINGROVE CENTER Maximum Prison Allenwood (NCIC only)	12:00pm
April 13 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
April 14 (Thurs)	Northwestern Academy Shamokin Hospital	1:00pm 2:30pm
April 16 (Sat)	YMCA Children's Health Fair Sunbury	10:00am to 12:00pm
April 18 (Mon)	Reading Chief Shikellamy	9:00am
April 19 (Tues)	NO CLASS SELINGROVE CENTER	
April 20 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
April 21 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
April 24 (Sun)	HAPPY EASTER	
April 25 (Mon)	Nottingham Village, Northumberland	6:30pm
April 27 (Wed)	Emergency Preparedness Carnival Federal Prison Training Center, Allenwood	10:00am to 12:00pm
April 28 (Thurs)	Health South, Geisinger	2:00pm
May 2 (Mon)	Bucknell University (TDI only)	6:00pm
May 5 (Thurs)	Penn Lutheran, Selingsrove	6:30pm

April 2011

March 2011

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 2011

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 2011

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				

Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00 AM Reading (Chief Shikellamy)	28 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	29 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	30 10:00 AM Riverwoods	31 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	1	2
3 6:00 PM Bucknell University (TDI Only)	4 6:00 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	5 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	6 10:00 AM Riverwoods	7 6:45 PM Emmanuel Center	8	9
10 6:30 PM Elmcroft	11 CLASSES CANCELED 12:00 PM Maximum Prison Allenwood (NCIC Only)	12 CLASSES CANCELED	13 10:00 AM Riverwoods	14 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy 2:30 PM Shamokin Hospital	15	16 10:00 AM YMCA Children's Health Fair
17 9:00 AM Reading (Chief Shikellamy)	18 CLASSES CANCELED	19 CLASSES CANCELED	20 10:00 AM Riverwoods	21 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners	22	23
24 6:30 PM Nottingham Village	25 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	26 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	27 10:00 AM Emergency Preparedness Carnival	28 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	29	30