



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

April 2019



## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

Dogs don't go out for drinks with their friends. They don't confide in other dogs about what's going on in their worlds, but if they did, it's a safe bet what they'd talk about most: us. And if there were one lament the unhappy dogs would repeat again and again, it would be: "Why don't my humans be better at this?"

It's a good question. Human-dog companionship is supposed to be a bilateral relationship. We expect them to be good dogs, and we reward them with an affirmation of just that "Good Dog", when they are. We give them the basic requirements,

walking, feeding, keeping them healthy, but there is more to the position than that. They give us an enormous amount in terms of love and loyalty, and they don't really ask for very much in return.

Human communication is based on speech, to a dog, this is just so much noise. Trying to get dogs to understand the world through words would be like them trying to get us to understand it through smells. It just doesn't work. Your dog is reading your mood and tone and the expression on your face. If you want your dog to associate the sound of a word with an action such as sit, stay, fetch, don't clutter up the command with a lot of other extraneous words. The right body language makes the meaning of these few words much clearer. Facial cues, eye contact, smiling - can also be especially powerful.

Dogs are forever trying to convey meaning to us, often by directing our attention to something that is relevant to them; dogs aren't just trying to communicate with us, they're trying to train us. The shifting gaze that the dog wants to go outside, or a bark that he wants to be fed, is something us as humans should be attentive to in reverse obedience training that can have a healthy human-dog relationship.

Being a good human companion is less about what you do than what you don't do. For all the richness and complexity of the human-dog relationship, and all of the effort it takes to make that relationship a good one, there is a golden-rule simplicity to it: try to imagine that you were on the other side of that species divide - the subordinate dog, not the dominant human - and consider how you'd want to be treated. "Communication is important, understanding your dog is important, but after that, what counts most is just being a basic good person. Just take care of your animal. It is in the nature of dogs to love us almost to distraction. It ought to be in our nature to be worthy of that love"

Till next time,

*Connie*



## Notes and Notices



**Congratulations to the following Dogs and Handlers who have obtained their CGC:**

**Tamara & Ernie Normington with Finn & Murphy; April Trommeter with Chloe**

**Congrats to Dave Crowl & Reuben who have passed the ATD Therapy Test.**

**Congrats to the following who have completed the Star Puppy Class: Josette Zielinski with Zaphod; Charles and Wendy Luskin with Meg; Staci & Melia Raker with Cooper; Jim Smith with Dusty; Meg and Bill Deppen with Rosie Pearl; Rob Guissanie with Bella Palama; Michelle Fartel with Lucy.**

**Thank you to everyone who have paid their dues for 2019. Please copy shot records when you visit the Vet**

**Congratulations to Matthew Kern for obtaining his Eagle Scout.**

**There is a visit to the Allenwood Prison Complex for the Emergency Prep Day on Thurs. May 16 from 9am - 12pm. I will have a sign-up for those who wish to attend. You do not need to be certified and puppies are welcome. We visit with school children, families, and promote bite prevention.**

**As summer approaches dogs are more prone to being stung by insects to the muzzle or paw and in some cases ingested by the dog. In some cases a stinger can be found on the wound. Initial treatment is rest and a cold compress to relieve swelling and pain. If there is no vomiting, diarrhea, or weakness, Benadryl can be given at 1-2 milligrams per lb. of body wt. Be sure there are NO other active ingredients such as certain decongestants. Most reactions to bee stings are mild, but it is important to recognize more severe symptoms. If in doubt always contact your Veterinarian.**

**In managing bees from congregating around your home this is a natural spray you can prepare to repel them:**

**Fill an empty spray bottle with water, nearly to the top. Add a few teaspoons of liquid dish soap; this will help the next ingredients will dissolve and evenly distribute in the mixture. Add a few drops of peppermint essential oil - enough so that you can readily smell it when you spray the mixture. Then add 1/8 teaspoon each of cinnamon and cayenne pepper and shake well.**

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>April 3 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods and Buffalo Valley</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>April 4 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Vintage Knolls Geisinger Rehab Health South</b>	<b>1:00pm 2:00pm</b>
<b>April 8 (Mon)</b>	<b>Five Star Memory Care, Nottingham</b>	<b>1:00pm 6:30pm</b>
<b>April 9 (Tues)</b>	<b>Start of Star Puppy Class, pre-reg. only</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>April 10 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>April 11 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Mt. View Manor</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>April 13 (Sat)</b>	<b>Springfest Bloomsburg Univ. Upper Campus</b>	<b>11:00am - 4:00pm</b>
<b>April 17 (Wed)</b>	<b>Buffalo Valley, Riverwoods Bucknell University, outside Library (ATD only)</b>	<b>10:00am 11:00am - 1:00pm</b>
<b>April 18 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Sunbury Hospital Mansion Manor Care</b>	<b>1:00pm 1:45pm 2:15pm</b>
<b>April 19 (Fri)</b>	<b>Bucknell University, Langone Center, Stress Relief</b>	<b>8:00pm</b>
<b>April 22 (Mon)</b>	<b>Penn Manor, Selinsgrove</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>April 23 (Tues)</b>	<b>Lewisburg Prison Camp (NCIC only)</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>
<b>April 24 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods Bucknell University Library (ATD only)</b>	<b>10:00am 5:00pm - 7:00pm</b>
<b>April 25 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Bloomsburg University SSC Emmanuel Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>10:00am - 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm</b>
<b>April 29 (Mon)</b>	<b>Bucknell University Library (ATD only)</b>	<b>6:00pm - 8:00pm</b>

# April 2019

March 2019

April 2019

May 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2						1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31
31																					

■ Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club  
 ■ US Holidays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 April Fools Day	2 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training	3 10:00 AM Riverwoods 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley	4 1:00 PM Vintage Knolls 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab Health South	5	6
7	8 1:00 PM Five Star 6:30 PM Five Star	9 StarStarPuppy...s(Pre-regOnly) 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training	10 10:00 AM Riverwoods	11 1:00 PM Mt. View Manor	12	13 11:00 AM Springfest Bloomsburg Univ. Upper Campus
14	15 Tax Day	16 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training	17 10:00 AM Riverwoods 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley 11:00 AM Bucknell University, outside Library (ATD only)	18 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 1:45 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:15 PM Manor Care	19 8:00 PM Bucknell University, Langone Center, Stress Relief	20
21	22 Earth Day 6:30 PM Penn Manor	23 12:00 PM Lewisburg Prison Camp (NCIC only) 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training	24 10:00 AM Riverwoods 5:00 PM Bucknell University Library (ATD only)	25 10:00 AM Bloomsburg University SSC 1:00 PM Emmanuel 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	26	27
28	29 6:00 PM Bucknell University Library (ATD only)	30 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training	1 10:00 AM Riverwoods	2	3	4