



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

April 2025



Old Friends

by *Connie Cuff*

“Tone and Volume is not what we say but how we say it.”

If your tone reflects pleasure, love, sadness, disappointment or worry, your dog will pick up on it. Dogs respond to different volumes. If you speak at a regular volume and suddenly shout, he will know something is up and pay attention. Your dog detects total change from happy to demanding or sad or cheerful.

There are five common distinguishing tones in dog

training:

Cheerful - (high volume, high pitch) he will perk his ears and wag his tail - Good Dog!

Disappointed - (low volume, low pitch) it commands attention, accompanied by a frown. He will lower his head and tail.

Soft and reassuring - (low volume, high pitch) it expresses affection and caring, tells him you love him.

Firm - (low volume, low pitch) commands attention and he better listen.

Caution - (high volume and high or low pitch) a sudden commando get your dogs immediate attention. Used in emergencies. If overused, it loses its effect (using a short sound that is used only for emergencies may work since it is quick and effective).

Vocal is important even if you'd dog does not see you. Calling him to come into the house.

Dogs also recognize actual words: “Treat”, “Potty”, “Down”, “Sit”, etc. You always should use a release word such as “OK”. Try to not use the dog's name and say it one time.

Canine communication uses most of the senses including smell, sounds, visual cues. Pheromones, glandular secretions, barks, whines, growls, body posture. Unlike in people, canine body posture and scent cues are significant components of dog language.

Till next time,

Connie



Notes and Notices



Thoughts and prayers go out to **Joan Marquette** (Golden Retriever, **Abby**) in the loss of her husband, **Shubby**. **Shubby** was a mentor to countless youth/high school football athletes, serving as an Assistant Football Coach at Line Mountain for 57 years. He touched many lives and will be greatly missed. **Shubby**, you will be missed at our Dog Club picnics.

We send our sympathies to **Lori Zerbe** with the loss of her Standard Poodle, **Ruben**.

Congratulations to our Star Puppy Grads: **Rob and Cheri Cook** with **Luna**, Shepherd mix; **Sophia Ramer** with **Phoebe**, Goldendoodle; **Chad and Terri Rapp** with **Whiskey**, German Shepherd; **Alex Martz** with **Penny**, Golden Retriever; **Laura and Todd Aungst** with **Boaz**, Yellow Lab.

We have been asked to visit Lewisburg High School with our Certified ATD Therapy Dogs on Wednesday, May 7th from 10:30am to 11:30am. The school may start a program for monthly visits for the 2025-26 school term. If you are interested, you need to sign up on the spreadsheet so we have a list of attendees before the visit. Our visits at Shikellamy High School have been very successful and the students are so appreciative.

We are so glad to see puppies and dogs in training to be a therapy dog, attending our nursing home visits. It is an ATD policy for those that have ATD certification, to use a 2 foot rule when visiting. Dogs are to keep at least 2 feet away from each other and are not able to socialize with other dogs on visits.

Our Emergency Prep Day at Allenwood Prison Complex is on Thursday, May 15 from 9am to 12pm. Dogs do not need to be certified and puppies are welcome.

Please check the STDTC.org website to view upcoming visits. Click on the “calendar” tab at the top to view the events for each month.

We will continue our training at the Selinsgrove Center gym until the beginning of Ju

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

April 1 (Tues)	Lewisburg Federal Prison Camp (Badged only)	12:00 pm
April 2 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
April 3 (Thurs)	Midd-West Middle School (ATD only) Geisinger Rehab Health South (certified only)	9:00 am - 1:00 pm 1:00 pm
April 4 (Fri)	Bucknell Paws for a Shake (ATD only) @ downhill Langone Center	12 – 1:00 pm
April 7 (Mon)	5 Star (certified only)	12:20 - 2:00 pm
April 8 (Tues)	Allenwood Federal Prison Max (Badged only)	12:00 pm
April 9 (Wed)	Heritage Springs Buffalo Valley	10:00 am 10:45 am
April 10 (Thurs)	Mt. View Manor	1:30 pm
April 11 (Fri)	Shikellamy High School (ATD only) Bucknell Paws for a Shake (ATD only) @ downhill Langone Center Bucknell Dance Marathon (ATD only) @ McDonald Commons Bucknell Stress Relief (ATD only) @ Uptown	8:00 - 10:00 am 12:00 pm 5:00 - 7:00 pm 8:00 - 10:00 pm
April 14 (Mon)	New Story School, Selinsgrove (ATD only) Celebrations Villa, Lewisburg (Formerly Elm Croft)	9:30 - 11:00 am 6:00 pm
April 16 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
April 17 (Thurs)	Mansion	10:30 am
April 18 (Fri)	Bucknell Paws for a Shake (ATD only) @ downhill Langone Center	12 – 1:00 pm
April 20 (Sunday)	HAPPY EASTER! NO CLASSES	
April 21 (Mon)	Columbia County Prison (Certified only)	1:15 pm
April 23 (Wed)	Heritage Springs Buffalo Valley Bucknell w/Rita's @ McDonald Commons (ATD only)	10:00 am 10:45 am 5:00 - 7:00 pm
April 24 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South (Certified only)	1:00 pm
April 30 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am