



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

December 2007

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



As we look back on this year of 2007, I'm hoping we have all found enjoyment in coming to class, training our dogs, and the friendship of being together with new and old members. May the coming year find us continuing the same and making life better for both you and your canine friend.

With winter weather upon us, I will reflect upon some special care needs for our dogs.

Since most of our dogs spend most of their time indoors, she'll feel the cold outside just as we do. Many owners notice increase shedding and say their dogs pant constantly which reflect a dog's way of cooling off as she goes from outdoors to in.

Add a fatty-acid supplement to your dog's diet and schedule more grooming to reduce fur on furniture. Consider lowering the thermostat where your dog sleeps.

Be aware of your dog's footpads with snow and ice. Salt and chemicals can harm your dog especially if she licks her feet. If you don't use booties, rinse her paws in clear warm water when you get home from a walk. Keep the nails trimmed and the hair cut on the bottom of the paws.

Stay vigilant to the danger of dehydration and hypothermia. A wet coat poses the greatest danger of hypothermia, so dry your dog after outdoor fun.

A word about automotive antifreeze: It tastes sweet to dogs and just a small amount causes lethal kidney damage. Leaky radiators may spill antifreeze, so inspect the ground under your parked car. Empty containers and any rags used should be disposed of. There are several types of antifreeze that are advertised as "pet safe" and serve as an alternative to standard antifreeze.

Also with winter months you should take charge and tame static electricity. A few tips are as follows:

- Use a humidifier to add moisture to the air in carpeted rooms
- Treat your sofa and fabric furniture with anti-cling fabric spray. (Note: be sure your dog is not sensitive to the chemicals)
- Lightly spray your dog's coat with a moisturizing conditioner before brushing or combing her
- Teflon-coated combs and brushes prevent static electricity in the hair coat better than nylon

Old Friends (Continued)

Even though most of us are aware of these notes, it doesn't hurt to be reminded of the importance of keeping our pets safe and healthy over the winter months.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful Christmas and a healthy and happy new year.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (November 6, 2007)

Submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Connie Cuff with 24 members present.

Report of the President: I wish to thank everyone who participated in the Sunbury Halloween Parade. We did receive a check for \$50 and we couldn't have done it without the help of Kelly and Joe Pastuszek who got the float together.

Congratulations are in order for Marjean Krech who finished her title in Rally with Rosie. I will be bringing our signs to class so we can practice some of the directions for the course.

I hope everyone received the E-mail about our cancellation last week. I have a list to pass around for you to check since I have compiled our membership list. Be sure to check your e-mail in case something comes up that we need to let you know about. **Note:** There will be no class on Nov. 13th.

As indicated in the newsletter we will not have class on Dec 18th, since they are using the gym for the residents. Therefore our next meeting after this will be our meeting on Jan. 8, 2008.

New Members:

Elaine Peebles Danelle Reinsburrow

Arris Moser Don Geise

Report of Secretary: Minutes reviewed and approved as printed in newsletter.

Report of Treasurer:

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

New Business: We have been featured in the Prison Highlights on our visit to the Federal and Medium Sections. Exert was read to class.

Ginny volunteered to take charge of shot records. I have a list of those that need to be up-dated. When you send your TDI records in please make an extra copy for club records. Thank you.

Minutes (Continued)

Our Christmas party is Sunday, Dec 9th, at 5 PM It is held at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club. This year we will have a menu of ham, chicken, beef, green bean amandine, mashed potatoes, salad bar, plus pasta salad, coffee, rolls, dessert of cookies, brownie or pudding. Our club puts \$7.00 towards our dinner and this year the cost is \$1.00 less, so the amount each member pays is \$17.00, this includes tax and gratuity. We will have a silent auction and would like donations of articles. We do a gift exchange which should be for a dog or be dog related. Everyone is asked to bring an item for Cheryl Hill's No Kill Shelter. ie: Dog food, paper towels or monetary.

I would like to present obedience certificates to Sonja Ware and Kathy Beeler who have completed the Basic Obedience and received their CGC Certificates

Anyone who has attained their 50, 150, or more TDI visits should sign the tablet. I need to have your name, dogs name and number of visits. If you are close to the number please sign up also.

Siberian Husky available for adoption -- see Kelly.

Old business: Sign up sheets for visits to the Selinsgrove center.

TDI visits: Thursday, Northwestern Academy and Shamokin Hospital. evening Vintage Knolls Danville. Tues. Nov 13 those who signed up for Allenwood Medium and are badged meet in the building by 12:15 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Inner Strength

If you can start the day without caffeine or pep pills,
If you can be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,
If you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time,
If you can overlook when people take things out on you when through no fault of yours, something goes wrong,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can face the world without lies and deceit,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can relax without liquor,
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,
If you can do all these things,

Then **YOU** are probably the *Family Dog!!!*



Breed of the Month

Border Collie

submitted by Connie Cuff

The Border Collie has been bred in the British Isles for centuries, but did not acquire its name until the early 1900's. It is intensely focused on herding livestock and responsive to its handlers every cue. You can even train them to respond to a raised eyebrow.

Enthusiasts agree wholly on one point: owners must be committed to mentally stimulating their Border Collie and fulfilling its energy needs. They were bred to cover many miles a day herding livestock so they can't be expected to act like a lap dog. That is why there are hundreds of these dogs in rescue across the country.

Prospective owners are drawn to the breed's good looks, agility and intelligence. But the Border Collie can be a challenge for the average person. Even though the dog is smart, people must train them. Smart doesn't mean good or obedient as a Border Collie can quickly learn the wrong things, including digging, chasing, nipping and herding children.

Border Collies shun coddling and demand a job. They can be taught to retrieve just about anything and are ideal for agility, flyball, and obedience. Without proper outlets for their herding instinct they can become obsessive and can work themselves into a frenzy watching motion they can't control.

Socialize Border Collies as puppies to prevent fear and aggression. Many people have acquired Border Collie mixes which tend to have the same characteristics as a pure bred.

For those willing to devote the time and energy to live happily with a Border Collie, the rewards are significant. They are an intelligent, warm loving animal that loves you, trusts you, and becomes part of you.



When Your Dog Looks Like You

Have you ever noticed that your perky next-door neighbor with long flowing locks look a lot like her sprightly long-haired dachshund? To a growing number of scientists, it's more than canine coincidence. One Venezuelan study of facial photographs shows more resemblance between owner-pet pairs than pairs that were randomly matched. Another study from the University of California at San Diego found that, when shown separate photos of pets and owners, subjects could often link them (but only if the dogs were purebreds). Both studies suggest the same psychological mechanisms are at work when we pick mates who resemble us. People tend to be comforted by faces that match the one they see in the mirror. That trust factor extends to the animal kingdom, too. (Katie Brophy)





Notes and Notices



I wish to thank everyone from the Club for celebrating my birthday. The bag is beautiful and it was so nice seeing everyone, especially the dogs.

We will be having our annual Christmas Party Sunday, Dec. 9 at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club at 5:00 p.m. We will have a silent auction and anyone who cannot make the party but would like to donate an item, it would be appreciated. Everyone is asked to bring an exchange gift which can be for a dog or dog related. Also, we contribute to Cheryl Hill's No Kill Shelter which can be monetary or dog food, etc.

Our last class for December will be Dec. 11. We will not return to the Center until Jan. 8, 2008.

Please make copies of your TDI health form for me. Ginny Pentz will be taking care of this. We must keep our records current.

Membership renewals will begin in January. They remain the same: \$12 single and \$15 family.

We will not be doing TDI evening visits during January and February, but daytime visits will continue as scheduled. You are welcome to visit facilities on your own, but be sure to contact them first to let them know you are coming.

With the holidays, please keep your dogs safe and free from **chocolate, raisins, and onions**. **Ham** is very toxic to dogs so keep an eye on your dog when you leave the kitchen. There is a web site which has up-dates on bulletins on recalls:

<http://www.nationalpetfoundatin.com/foods/petedge.html>

I am looking forward to a wonderful New Year of dog training and the friendship with one another. May you have a joyful and holy holiday filled with good friends and fond memories of the people and pets that have enriched our lives and made us the people we are today.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM OUR DOG HOUSE TO YOURS



Mostly Mutts No-Kill dog Shelter would like to ask you to add our orphans to your holiday card list. We are holding a holiday card fundraiser and asking each person Who sees this to send a card to our dogs with a **\$1.00** bill enclosed.

A **\$1.00** bill doesn't sound like much does it? When you put all the dollars together It adds up and every little bit helps. Our goal is to have the dogs receive **1,000 cards** And then hang them in their kennels for all the visitors to see.

At this time we have **90+ resident fur-kids** at the shelter and have placed over **150 dogs** this past year into loving, forever homes. Sadly, we have a waiting list of dogs to come to the shelter but there is just no room at the inn.

With the **Holiday Spirit** upon us, please help the fur-kids at Mostly Mutts And pass this message on to as many people as you can.
Our Orphans are counting on you.

You may send your very special Christmas Card to:

Mostly Mutts No Kill dog shelter
C/O Roe Wagner
614 Cherry Street
Paxinos, PA 17860



UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

| | | |
|----------------|--|---------------|
| Dec 3 (Mon) | Bucknell University (TDI only) Lewisburg | 6:00pm—7:00pm |
| Dec 6 (Thurs) | Buffalo Valley Lewisburg | 6:45pm |
| Dec 9 (Sun) | Christmas Party Susquehanna Valley Country Club | 5:00pm |
| Dec 12 (Wed) | Reading White Deer Elementary | 9:00am |
| Dec 13 (Thurs) | Nottingham Village Northumberland | 6:45pm |
| Dec 18 (Tues) | CLASS CANCELED | |

Classes will resume at the Selinsgrove Center Tuesday, January 8, 2008

| | | |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <u>Every Wednesday</u> | Riverwoods Lewisburg, PA | 10:00am |
| <u>2nd Thursday</u> | Northwestern Academy Shamokin Hospital | 1:00pm 2:00pm |
| <u>3rd Thursday</u> | Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home, Market St., Sunbury Sunshine Corners, Market St., Sunbury | 1:00-1:30pm 1:45pm 2:15pm |
| <u>Last Thursday</u> | Geisinger Rehab—Health South | 2:00-3:00pm |

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 Website: <http://www.stdtc.org>

December 2007

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|-----|-----|
| 2 | 3 Bucknell (Lewisburg) 6pm | 4 | 5 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am | 6 Buffalo Valley (Lewisburg) 6:45pm | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Christmas Party (SV Country Club) 5pm | 10 | 11 | 12 Reading (White Deer Elem.) 9am | 13 Northwestern 1pm | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 NO CLASS | 19 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am | 20 Shamokin Hospital 2pm | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 NO CLASS | 26 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am | 27 Nottingham Village (Northumberland) 6:45pm | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | 20 Sunbury Hospital 1pm | | |
| | | | | Mansion Nursing Home (Sunbury) 1:45pm | | |
| | | | | Sunshine Corners (Sunbury) 2:15pm | | |
| | | | | Health South Danville 2pm | | |