



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

February 2012

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Many dogs eat grass. Some sniff around quite carefully for tender, juicy stalks for a particular grass. A small portion of a dog's natural diet in the wild may consist of grass, seeds, herbs and other plant matter.

Herbalist Juliette de Bairacli Levy who died in 2009 at the age of 96, insisted that these natural instincts be indulged in order to have a healthy animal. Dogs, she believed, instinctively eat herbs and grass to cure themselves of various ailments and add vitamins and minerals to the diet.

Juliette had a love of dogs and studied veterinary medicine, but left in protest of animal experimentation and opened a clinic in London that became renowned for curing canine distemper through diet and herbs.

She was a wanderer, learning and sharing wherever she found authentic practitioners of traditional healing. She lived on the Greek Island of Kythera with her beloved Afghan Hounds.

Over the years she developed Natural Rearing, a holistic approach to canine health and diet. Her herbal and dietary veterinary skills were sought by the rich and famous, including Elizabeth Taylor and the British royal family's veterinarians. Her system is primarily one of diet and environment, but in addition she also encouraged the regular use of different herbs at various life stages, or when an animal was struggling with poor health.

Juliette's program includes a natural raw meat diet that includes some soaked grains and milk, various fruits and some vegetables and herbs, abundant fresh air and sunlight, plenty of water and a minimum of 2 hrs. of exercise daily.

In her writing she is forceful about the affects of vaccinations and drugs and shared her experiences with veterinarians who opposed such treatments. Recent veterinary studies have shown over-vaccination of dogs may result in some of the very issues Juliette warned about more than 50 years ago.

Old Friends (Continued)

As a skillful healer, she not only began the resurgence of natural approaches for animals but also resurrected the use of medicinal herbs for people.

With computers you can do your own research but always discuss any new products with your veterinarian.

A friend of Juliette once said, "Juliette may not have a lot of money in this life, but she will have a crown of gold in the next life for all she has done for the animals."

"Volunteers are valentines for all seasons."

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (January 3, 2012)

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The January Meeting of the STDTC was called to order with 20 members present by Connie Cuff, President.

Report Of President:

Everyone must sign-in each week. It is important that the paper is signed since I must hand this into the office after each class.

From time to time, I have things on the table and they are there for you to take.

New members: Mary Rudnitsky with Emma, a rescue from Tennessee.

Newsletters are on the table for anyone who does not get it online.

Secretary's Report: There was no meeting in December due to the Center using the gym.

Treasurer's Report:

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

New Business:

Received a thank you from Brandon Pastuszek.

Membership and shot records are due. Anyone paying after Oct. 1 is good for 2012.

We started using scarves some time ago for different levels of training and since we have some new members, I want everyone to understand the meaning of these scarves. We have a red scarf which means everyone should not introduce their dog until we feel their dog is comfortable with a meet and greet. Yellow is that the dog is more comfortable but does not like a dog in his face. Blue is letting people know he has graduated to a more friendly introduction.

We have a visit Thursday at Nottingham Village at 6:30PM. Everyone who feels they have their dog under control is welcome. Even just getting your dog to walk through the facility to get them used to a nursing home setting is a good training exercise.

As I had mentioned in my January newsletter, I have not received a check from the Sunbury Halloween Parade. I visited the Sunbury Animal Hospital recently and they told me they did receive their monetary prize for first place. So I again made a phone call. He took my name and address and said he would be in touch with the person who writes the checks and I would hear from her. I still did not receive a response. He also told me he would not be in charge of the parade next year.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted
Virginia Pentz, Secretary

Breed of the Month

Weimaraner

submitted by Connie Cuff

In 1929 the Weimaraner was introduced to the U.S. from England and was recognized by the AKC in 1943. Its popularity boomed after World War II when GI's returned from Germany with Weimaraners and tales of the dogs' prowess in tracking and hunting.

This breed is a jack-of-all trades which excels in obedience, field trials, agility, search and rescue, and drug detection.

They crave human contact and attention. They trail their people everywhere, even at rest a Weimaraner has a paw atop your foot or a head perched on your knee.

This dog's inherent loyalty can lead to problems, including separation anxiety. To avoid this, crate training should be started early. Early obedience training will help with this dog's stubborn streak, otherwise the dog will run the house.

Some dogs have allergic reactions to puppy vaccines so veterinarians separate giving distemper and parvovirus.

Since the breed doesn't have much dander, allergy-prone humans usually tolerate Weimaraners. They shed little and require minimal grooming. Known health problems are bloat, immune deficiency, hip dysplasia and eye problems.

They are good with children and do well with other dogs. If they grow up with cats, they do well, but small unfamiliar animals might trigger its hunting instinct.

This dog's biggest plus is sensitivity to people. They make wonderful therapy dogs and have a little bit more bond than most dogs.

It is nice to have Lucy, a Weimaraner, owned by Nicole Schenewerk in our Star Puppy Class.





Notes and Notices



We welcome new members:

**Tammy Gessner from Coal Township with a Lab, Pearl
Katie Mooseberger from Sunbury with a Cocker Spaniel, Ginger
Nicole Schenewerk from Sunbury with a Weimaraner, Lucy
Don Herb with a Labradoodle, Izzy
Laura Girard with a Lab, Cleo and a St. Bernard, Albert**

I would like to mention to everyone about training in the gym. Since we are confined to certain areas for our classes, Marjean in the small room with the Star Puppy and my classes in the gym, we must have our dogs under control at all times. It is nice for everyone to socialize since that is part of training, but when we do, please keep your eyes on your dog since some dogs are not as well socialized as others and do have issues. We do have young puppies coming to class and we do not want them to have a bad experience. As I previously mentioned, I have dog scarves to be used so everyone knows what level of behavior your dog is in training.

In the advanced class, I would like to do more off leash training, so I may break up the class for part of the time to have those dogs who do not have issues work with Sara. I will work with dogs on leash who may need more attention and I can do more one-on-one training.

Please feel free to mention any concerns to me if you feel there may be a problem and I will try to address the issue. I know we are working with a lot of noise and I have brought a speaker, which I will try to use so that everyone can hear me better. Once we move to the Marina in the summer, we have more room that will help with some of these issues.

We are here to improve our dogs' behavior and we should be working with them other than at class. Try to incorporate some of the skills on your daily walks or just sitting in front of the TV you can do sit and down stays. The winter is a particularly hard time to train outside but 3-5 minute workouts will give the dog some attention to focus on you as his pack leader.

At our March 6 meeting we will have Dagny Leininger, one of our members, talk to us about acupuncture for dogs. She is a licensed veterinarian and now has become licensed to perform acupuncture.

Please mark your calendars for Sat, May 5. Some of our members are organizing a Dog Walk for Mostly Mutts at the Shikellamy Marina Park. We will keep you posted for this event since we will need volunteers to help that day.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Feb. 1 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 2 (Thurs)	Emmanuel Center, Danville	6:30pm
Feb. 8 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 9 (Thurs)	Northwestern Academy	1:00pm
	Life Geisinger	2:00pm
	Shamokin Hospital	3:00pm
Feb. 13 (Mon)	Grayson View, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
Feb. 14 (Tues)	HAPPY VALENTINES DAY (Give your dog a bone)	
	Maximum Prison Allenwood, NCIC only	12:00pm
Feb. 15 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 16 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital	1:00pm
	Mansion Nursing Home	2:00pm
	Sunshine Corners	2:45pm
Feb. 20 (Mon)	President's Day (Fly the Flag)	
Feb. 22 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 23 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm
Feb. 29 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Mar. 1 (Thurs)	Elmcroft, Lewisburg	6:30pm

February 2012

■ US Holidays

■ Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

January 2012

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				

February 2012

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			

March 2012

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
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundhog Day 6:30 PM Emmanuel Center 		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy 2:00 PM Life Geisinger 3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital 		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincoln's Birthday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Grayson View 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valentine's Day 12:00 PM Maximum Prison Allenwood (NIC only) 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners 		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President's Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washington's Birthday 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 		
26	27	28	29	1	2	3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Elmcroft 		