



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

February 2014

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



In order to communicate successfully with our dogs, it is up to us to learn their language.

We consider our dogs as pets but they consider us as functioning members of a community that directly descends from the pack. Whether the pack consists of itself and an owner or a large family of humans and other animals, the dog believes it is part of a social grouping and a pecking order must be

achieved.

All of the problems we encounter with our dogs are rooted in their belief that they, rather than us, are the leaders of their particular pack.

This is why dogs should never be given the responsibility of being alpha of a pack, as they will simply be unable to cope with decisions they face. The responsibility puts pressure on them and leads to behavioral problems.

Exercises which shows your dog leadership are: Heeling or following with change of pace and turns using a toy or treat. The come game and "reward". The retriever, by hiding biscuits or yourself as a "fun game". By incorporating tricks such as paw giving, saying prayers, crawling, or games that can be thought as enjoyment, with the dog, always as the follower, but with the owner NEVER domineering over the dog.

Positive training techniques, which Marjean instructs in a Star Puppy Class, go a long way in showing the dog you are his care giver and that you love and will take care of him. The success of any program is training on a daily basis. Just coming to class and not incorporating techniques in your daily life with your dog will not give the dog direction are success. This is a lifelong commitment and will go a long way for enjoyment for both you and your dog.

Old Friends (Continued)

With outdoor temps keeping our dogs indoors, we find we need to take care of brushing them more and keeping clothes and home fur-free. For on-the-spot fur removal from clothing, roll it off with a slightly damp sponge. Add a couple of yards of nylon net to your dryer. It'll catch the pet fuzz. Also wipe down the dryer after each load. A daily 10 min. vacuuming, will minimize household fur.

A tip from Whole Dog Journal, Sardines are an excellent addition to your dog's diet. For a 15# dog, - ½ can per week, 50# dog 1 can per week, 100# dog 1 ¾ can per week.

"No winter lasts forever, no spring skips its turn."

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (January 7, 2014)

submitted by Karen Sodrick

Meeting of the STDTC will come to order.

It is nice to be back to training at the Center. In dealing with nasty weather, please check E-mail or web site before coming to class.

Dues of \$15 for 2014 are due. A new Membership list will be compiled March 1. Be sure to purchase your dog license for 2014. All dogs over 3 months should be licensed.

Marjean's Star Puppy class began this evening. Reactive dogs should stay away from the entrance so new dogs do not have a bad experience at the beginning of their training. Sally Bair will be helping with the class.

Dave Grose will be taking care of a 50/50 drawing every other week to raise some extra money for the club.

Anyone interested in working on CGC or therapy training needs to let me know. Sally Grottini will be here April 15 to test for TDI.

Be aware of treats you give your dog. Recently a Boxer ingested a rawhide and they were unable to remove it in time. Always supervise your dog with any treats you may give him.



Notes and Notices



Many thanks to Elaine Walz who had Club cards made up to pass out for people who are interested in knowing more about our Club. If anyone would like to have any, please let me know. Jim Smith had personal cards made for me to hand out on my therapy visits with Cagney. Anyone who is interested in knowing where to order these cards can talk to me at class.

Thanks to Gayle who is taking care of membership and class roster sign-up. I appreciate those who have taken care of their 2014 dues and up-dating their shot records. Please be aware that dues need to be paid by the end of February. Even if you do not attend our weekly classes, but participate in our visiting, we need membership so I can include you and keep a record of immunizations. We will be preparing a new roster March 1, so I must have this taken care of by that time.

If anyone would like to join us on our therapy visits, please let me know since nursing homes do not require certification. If you plan on becoming certified, it is good for both you and the dog to have that experience.

Sally Grottini will be here April 15 to certify dogs for TDI. If anyone is interested, please let me know since she must schedule with TDI two weeks before testing.

Class will not be held on Tues. Feb. 11 as a group will be taking me to the Westminster Dog Show group showing of the Golden Retrievers. This was a surprise Christmas gift for me and I am looking forward to this. Cagney may be jealous since I'll be in the company of 58 Golden Retrievers, but he still is #1 in my book.

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Feb. 5 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 6 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm
Feb. 10 (Mon)	Elmcroft, Lewisburg	6:30pm
Feb. 11 (Tues)	NO CLASS SELINGROVE CENTER (Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show - Best of Show)	
Feb. 12 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 13 (Thurs)	Shamokin Hospital Life Geisinger Northwestern Academy	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:30pm
Feb. 14 (Fri)	Happy Valentine's Day	
Feb. 17 (Mon)	President's Day	
Feb. 19 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 20 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
Feb. 24 (Mon)	Penn Lutheran Village, Selingsgrove	6:30pm
Feb. 26 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 27 (Thurs)	Holy Family Convent Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm
Mar. 3 (Mon)	Grayson View, Selingsgrove	6:30pm

February 2014

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
 US Holidays

January 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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February 2014

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March 2014

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						31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 6:00 PM Bucknell University Library	27 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 6:45 PM Training 7:15 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:30 PM Beginner Training	28 10:00 AM Riverwoods	29 1:00 PM Holy Family Convent 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	30 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South	31	1
2 Groundhog Day	3 6:45 PM Training 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:30 PM Beginner Training	4 10:00 AM Riverwoods	5 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South	6 1:00 PM Shamokin Hospital 2:00 PM Life Geisinger 2:30 PM Northwestern Academy	7 Valentine's Day	8
9 6:30 PM Elmcroft	10 CLASSES CANCELED	11 Lincoln's Birthday 10:00 AM Riverwoods	12 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners	13	14	15
16 Presidents' Day	17 6:45 PM Training 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:30 PM Beginner Training	18 10:00 AM Riverwoods	19 1:00 PM Holy Family Convent 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	20	21	22 Washington's Birthday
23 6:30 PM Penn Lutheran Village	24 6:45 PM Training 6:45 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:30 PM Beginner Training	25 10:00 AM Riverwoods	26	27	28	29