



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

February 2020



Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

Do dogs understand what we say?

It is critical that people understand dogs are not born understanding the English language. It is just the sound of the word "sit". They make association once they hear the sound and pair it with things that are rewarding or not rewarding to them.

A dog's vocabulary includes not only sounds we call words but environmental sounds. How often do you pick up your keys and your dog knows you're leaving the house. Dogs can discriminate different car sounds and they become accustomed through conditioning which car is the owners arriving home.

Dogs hear higher frequency sounds and quieter sounds than humans. They also adjust their ears to hone in on the location of a sound and it is left over from the days when dogs were wild and ever alert for prey or predators.

Dogs draw on our speech, body language, even our facial expressions. They can detect something fun is about to happen or when they are in trouble.

In deaf dogs, their ability to detect floor vibrations and their sense of smell keep them aware of their surroundings. While deaf dogs rely on their senses, deaf people can rely on their dogs to hear for them. They alert their owner when the doorbell or phone rings, a baby cries, a blaring smoke alarm or something is left on the stove.

Along with understanding how dogs communicate with us, we should also become aware of the significance of a dog's body language in communicating with us. It is critical in keeping dogs and people safe, and in building relationships of mutual trust and respect that result in lifelong bonds between canines and their humans. If our species had a better understanding of what our dogs are trying to communicate to us, we would see many more dogs living, long happy lives in forever homes.

One good way to begin your canine language studies is pay attention how dogs are expressing with their ears, eyes, mouths, tails and posture. In the Alliance of Therapy Dog rules, we must maintain a 2 foot rule.

Care enough about your dog to learn how to speak to them. Your dog is speaking to you all the time. Remember to listen with your eyes.

Till next time,

Connie



Notes and Notices



We welcome Jane LaCrosse and her Golden Retriever, Asher and Julie Gross and her Boxer.

Congratulations to the following who have passed the Star Puppy Training:

Mary McCreary with Gunner, Bill Rosencrans and Bear, Christine Benfer and Ginger, Nicole Hallman and Arya.

We are collecting memberships for 2020, Dues are \$15 a year. Everyone that is a member and uses Facebook can join us. We have a private Facebook and there are postings of very good information you may enjoy reading. Please keep in mind when your dog receives its Rabies that I will need a copy for my records. It is the law that I keep up-dated Rabies and the Insurance I carry requires this.

Please check our web site and email for cancellations. I keep track of weather conditions, and if they are calling for inclement ice or snow, I will cancel by 5:00pm.

We will begin a Star Puppy Class on Tues. Feb. 18 at 6:30pm. If anyone is interested, pre-registration is required.

If you should meet and speak to anyone about coming to our training classes, please give them my email or the club's email to contact us before coming. I need to prepare paperwork and be aware that they will be there that evening.



If anyone has any concerns in coming to class, please feel free to speak to me about them.

I do appreciate those who come to our visits and I'm hoping more will join us.

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Feb. 3 (Mon)	5 Star	1:00pm
Feb. 5 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 6 (Thurs)	Nazareth at Emmanuel Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:15pm 2:00pm
Feb. 10 (Mon)	Grayson View, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
Feb. 12 (Wed)	Buffalo Valley	10:00am
Feb. 13 (Thurs)	Mt. View Manor	1:00pm
Feb. 14 (Fri)	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	
Feb. 17 (Mon)	Bucknell University	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Feb. 18 (Tues)	Low Security, Allenwood Star Puppy Class Begins	12:00pm 6:30pm
Feb. 19 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Feb. 20 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Manor Care	1:00pm 1:45pm 2:15pm
Feb. 24 (Mon)	Memory Care, Nottingham Village (please bring a copy of your Dog's Rabies with you)	6:30pm
Feb. 26 (Wed)	Buffalo Valley	10:00am
Feb. 27 (Thurs)	Bloomsburg University Maria Joseph Manor Geisinger Rehab, Health South	9:00am - 11:00am 1:00pm 2:00pm

February 2020

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
 US Holidays

January 2020

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
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February 2020

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

March 2020

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Bucknell University (ATD only) 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Low Security, Alenwood 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Vintage Knolls 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 	31	1
2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundhog Day 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM 5 Star 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:15 PM Nazareth at Emmanuel 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South 	7	8
9	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Grayson View 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincoln's Birthday 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Mt. View Manor 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valentine's Day 	15
16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidents' Day 6:00 PM Bucknell University 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Low Security, Alenwood 6:15 PM Training 6:30 PM Star Puppy Class Begins 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 1:45 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:15 PM Manor Care 	21	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washington's Birthday
23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Memory Care 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:15 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Bloomsburg University 1:00 PM Maria Joseph Manor 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 	28	29