



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

January 2017

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Another year is on the way for our Club. Keep up your interest in helping make it another great year. Socializing your dog each week produces dogs that are well-adjusted to both people and other dogs. It is a learning experience as well as a teaching tool.

Dog training can be successful if we understand the five factors for what you want out of life and these can be applied to having a happier, better behaved dog.

Factor #1 Dogs live in the present and they don't waste energy feeling guilty about past failures. A direct focused approach is the best way to be successful.

Factor #2 Be specific - you hear so many people say, "My dog knows how to sit, but he's just being stubborn". or "He does it well at home, but doesn't want to do it here. There are too many distractions". A

dog should sit anywhere, be it on carpet, tile floor, grass or concrete. Training the dog in different locations lets him know what you are asking him to do no matter what.

Factor #3 Develop a step-by-step goal. Training your dog in small increments instead of spending hours on trying to correct a behavior will teach the dog in less time. Always end your training with something the dog knows so he can feel good about himself.

Factor #4 Learn to relax - A dog senses if you are tense. The calmer the trainer is, the more he will be in control of his dog. You hear people who compete in dog shows say, "I was so nervous that's why my dog didn't do well." The old saying of taking a few short breaths and relax is true. Dixon always talked to the people he tested for therapy and CGC and they appreciated that he made them feel relaxed and at ease.

Factor #5 Choose the right environment and attitude to train - some things should be done with little distraction at first, but all dogs should be trained around other dogs so they can be socialized. You should be a leader but also display playfulness and affection. Success is attained when confidence rules. As stated by Paul Owens author of the Dog Whisperer, "Correct the problem not the dog. With that attitude, everything becomes a tail wagging game and that's the greatest Fido Factor of them all."

“When love and skill work together, expect a Masterpiece.”

Till next time,

*Connie*



## Notes and Notices



**Classes begin Jan. 3, 2017 at the Center. We welcome everyone and may we all enjoy a year blessed with friendship with our dogs and continue therapy visiting to enrich the lives of those less fortunate.**

**Marjean will begin a Star Puppy Class Jan. 10 with 13 students. She will be dividing the class after her initial meeting with everyone. If anyone knows of someone who would like to take this class we do have a sign-up and waiting list. Please make everyone welcome as we get to know each other better.**

**I wish to thank all Club members for thinking of me this Christmas. Your gifts were a wonderful surprise and you all continue to be an inspiration to me.**

**The Christmas party was a huge success with 55 members attending. Our silent auction brought in \$242 and we contributed \$185 to Mostly Mutts. The following received therapy awards for their total visits:**

**Marjean Krech - 150 visits Baxter  
Joan Smith - 150 visits Sadie  
Arris Moser - 350 visits Ryley  
Phil Hallden - 1,000 visits Sage**

**Myra Deitrich - 350 visits Toby  
Kathy Bohinski - 500 visits Oliver  
Gail Lorady - 1,000 visits Buffy**

**When coming to class each week, I ask that after signing in you move to either side of the gym. With new dogs coming to class, they need to become comfortable, and having people with their dogs as they enter may be intimidating to them until they become familiar with the gym.**

**We will begin Club membership in January. Those who joined after Oct. 1 will be paid for 2017. Dues must be paid by Mar. 1 or you will be removed from the list and Facebook. Up-dated shot records are due at that time.**

**Brandon Pastuszek, our Web Master, wishes to thank everyone for his monetary Christmas gift.**

**Please feel free, at anytime, to ask us about any concerns you may have.**

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Jan. 3 (Tues)</b>	<b>CLASSES BEGIN SELINSGROVE CENTER</b>	
	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>6:15pm</b>
	<b>Beginners</b>	<b>7:15pm</b>
<b>Jan. 4 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Heritage Springs</b>	<b>11:15am</b>
<b>Jan. 5 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Grandview, Danville</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Jan. 9 (Mon)</b>	<b>5 Star, Sunbury</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Penn View Manor, Selinsgrove</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Jan. 11 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Heritage Springs</b>	<b>11:15am</b>
<b>Jan. 12 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Shamokin Hospital</b>	<b>12:15pm</b>
	<b>VNA</b>	<b>1:15pm</b>
	<b>Life Geisinger</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Jan. 18 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Heritage Springs</b>	<b>11:15am</b>
<b>Jan. 19 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Sunbury Hospital</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Mansion Nursing Home</b>	<b>1:45pm</b>
	<b>Manor Care</b>	<b>2:15pm</b>
<b>Jan. 23 (Mon)</b>	<b>Bucknell University Library</b>	<b>6:00pm - 8:00pm</b>
	<b>(Therapy certified only)</b>	
<b>Jan. 25 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Heritage Springs</b>	<b>11:15am</b>
<b>Jan. 26 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Holy Family Convent</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Jan. 30 (Mon)</b>	<b>Grayson View, Selinsgrove</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>

Newsletter coordinator: Brandon Pastuszek

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Club web site: <http://www.stdtc.org>

# January 2017

December 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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

January 2017

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 2017

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				

■ Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club  
 ■ US Holidays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2 New Year's Day (observed)	3 CLASSES RESUME ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	4 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods ■ 11:15 AM Heritage Springs	5 ■ 1:00 PM Grandview ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South	6	7
8 ■ 1:00 PM 5 Star ■ 6:30 PM Penn View Manor	9	10 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	11 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods ■ 11:15 AM Heritage Springs	12 ■ 12:15 PM Shamokin Hospital ■ 1:15 PM VNA ■ 2:00 PM Life Geisinger	13	14
15 ■ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	16	17 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	18 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods ■ 11:15 AM Heritage Springs	19 ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital ■ 1:45 PM Mansion Nursing Home ■ 2:15 PM Manor Care	20 Inauguration Day	21
22 ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell University Library (TDI Only)	23 ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell University Library (TDI Only)	24 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	25 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods ■ 11:15 AM Heritage Springs	26 ■ 1:00 PM Holy Family Convent ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	27	28
29 ■ 6:30 PM Grayson View	30	31 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	1 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods ■ 11:15 AM Heritage Springs	2 Groundhog Day	3	4