

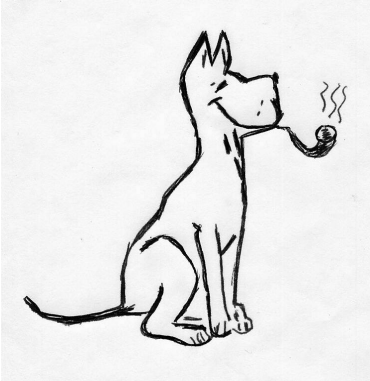


# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

July 2006

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Socialization is important to produce dogs that are well-adjusted to both people and other dogs. It is a learning experience as well as a teaching tool.

Socialization takes place in a very short period of time – in a matter of seconds, or at the most, minutes. Continued over an extended period, it is no longer socialization but play. Some puppy kindergarten classes end up with too much play time which actually teaches hyperactivity in the presence of other dogs.

Keeping in mind that a puppy's first impression of training leaves the most lasting impact, they should be taught that while class is fun, it is more than simple play time. A structured class with lots of praise and positive reinforcement and being

kept busy throughout the class is a much more positive learning experience.

Some people say to me, "my dog is socialized with other dogs, we have another dog at home." Your dog cannot be considered socialized unless you take him off your property and meet other dogs in different situations and be exposed to the world at large. His property is his domain and he can become overly protective of it.

Of course, there is one problem when "socialization" can go wrong.

For example: You are at a park and you approach an obviously young Golden, Lab, etc. who is happily lunging at the end of her lead and paying no attention to her equally bouncy owner. The owner says, "Can Taffy say hello?" as Taffy careens into your dog's face. Your well-mannered dog expects you to keep this canine bowling ball away from him, so he growls and wards her away. You are horrified at the aggressive behavior.

Some dogs do not make friends instantly with everyone and dislike being bombarded with friendly "in your face" overtures. Unless you are observant enough to turn the "Taffys" away, he may have to do it himself.

So, socialize your pup and young dogs, but don't make the mistake of thinking everyone out there will love them as much as you can.

Socialization is a critical time for learning. The young dog learns the fundamentals of pack behavior and bonds with its leader. Once leadership is established, the animal begins to be sensitive to the moods and needs of the pack or human leader. It exhibits a "desire to please" that makes training easier.

Properly socializing and shaping your puppy's temperament requires an investment in time. You will find that your efforts are worthwhile when you become the proud parent of a social friendly dog.

Till next time,

*Connie*

# Minutes (June 7, 2006)

Submitted by: Lydia Storey

Our twenty- sixth monthly membership meeting was held on June 7, 2006 at approximately 7:35 PM at the Shikellamy Marina State Park.

Connie Cuff, President, called the meeting to order.

We received a \$25.00 donation from the Mt. Carmel Lions Club for participating in their Street Fair. We also received a \$25 donation from Eric and Heather Snyder for our participation in Reading to Dixon's Dogs at the Union Count Library.

Congratulations are in order to Jordan Frederick for being part of the Milton Girl's Softball team that is in the State Finals.

We wish to congratulate Brandon Pastuszek on his graduation from high school and we wish him well in continuing his education at Rochester Institute of Technology,

We just completed a Beginners Dog Obedience Class at the Goodwill Playground and the following handlers and dogs passed the CGC test.

Anngallee Becker	with Choloe,	Keeshound
Shannon Becker	with Jarrett,	Chocolate Lab
Loretta and Walter Betsko	with Sophie,	Golden Retriever
T.J. and Kim Brewer	with King,	German Shepherd
Melissa Diehl	with Hoss,	Shepherd mix
Dennis & Susan Tatar	with Bear,	Shepherd mix

Cal Arter with Brando, Doberman passed the T.D.I. testing at our last meeting in May. Please welcome a new member, Melanie Fisher, with Thai Lee, Shar-Pei.

Sally Biddinger's dog, Moses, is recovering from surgery.

Secretary's Report: Lydia Storey asked everyone to please read the minutes of the May meeting in the newsletter. If there are any additions or corrections please advise.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Lou Walsh gave the treasurer's report as follows:

**(Treasurer's Reports are Not Available in the Online Edition of the STDTC Newsletter)**

New Business:

Mary Lou Walsh proposed that club members who are interested distribute cards warning dog owners of the danger of exposing their dog to high temperatures in parked cars with closed windows. These cards are to be put on windshields of cars that have a dog inside with closed windows during the summer heat. Mary Lou is looking into costs for making copies of the card she showed us.

## Minutes (Continued)

Connie announced we will reserve Pavilion #2 at the Marina for our picnic on September 17<sup>th</sup>. We received a very nice Thank you card from Brandon for his graduation gift and also from the Montour Aging Office for our participation in the Nifty After Fifty program at the Columbia Mall. Sherry Carpenter warns dog owners to keep the dog food bag even if you store your food in a different container in order to be able to reference the lot number information in case there is a manufacturer's recall.

### Old Business:

Please sign up to help man the booth at the Sunbury River Festival on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM until ? We will be making dog biscuits to sell. If you need recipes please ask for a printed copy or look on our club website, <http://www.stdtc.org>. Brandon will add any new recipes to the website so they are available for reference. Also, please consider donating an item to be raffled off.

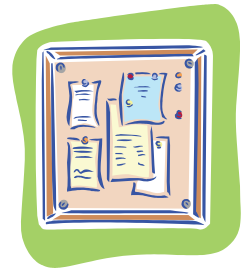
Also, please sign up to help with our booth at the Northumberland County Expo at the Sunbury Armory, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 9 to 3. Any unsold dog biscuits from the River Fest will be sold at the Expo.

Please check the newsletter or the website for our June schedule of therapy dog visits.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:50 PM.



## Notes and Notices



There are additional awards for TDI visits. They are TDIRVA, TDI Remarkable Performance Volunteer Achievement, and is presented to teams who have reached 250 visits. The TDIEVA, TDI Exceptional Achievement Volunteer Achievement, is for teams who have reached 350 visits. All visits must be correctly documented. If you have documented your visits since your 150 visits they will credit you for those visits. Be sure to make a copy of your sheet as you must send in the original paper.

As many of you know one of our members, Erin Pastuszek (Hanna), has injured her back. She would like to thank everyone for the thoughts and prayers. She will spend the next month in a back brace, but is feeling much better.

Be sure to sign up for upcoming activities:

Riverfest—Saturday, August 19th

Northumberland County Expo—Saturday, August 26th

PA Pets Dog Walk—Saturday, September 9th

There are library books available at class. Anyone interested should sign and date a book when borrowing them.

## UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Jul 6 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Manor Care Sunbury</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Jul 10 (Mon)</b>	<b>Shamokin Elementary Demo</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>Jul 13 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Outlook Pointe Lewisburg</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Aug 3 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Penn Lutheran Village Selinsgrove</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Aug 10 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Nottingham Village Northumberland</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Aug 19 (Sat)</b>	<b>Riverfest Sunbury</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
<b>Aug 24 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Buffalo Valley Lewisburg (Demo, Walk-Through, Dress-Up)</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Aug 26 (Sat)</b>	<b>Northumberland County Expo Sunbury Armory (TDI/CGC Testing, Bite Prevention, Demo)</b>	<b>9:00am-3:00pm</b>
<b>Sept 9 (Sat)</b>	<b>PA Pets Shikellamy Marina (Dog Bite Prevention, TDI/CGC Testing)</b>	<b>10:00am-3:00pm</b>
<b><u>Every Wednesday</u></b>	<b>Riverwoods Lewisburg, PA</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b><u>3rd Thursday</u></b>	<b>Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home, Market St. Sunbury</b>	<b>1:00-1:30pm 1:45pm</b>
<b><u>Last Thursday</u></b>	<b>Geisinger Rehab—Health South</b>	<b>2:00-3:00pm</b>

Newsletter Coordinator: Brandon Pastuszek  
 E-mail: [Brandon@stdtc.org](mailto:Brandon@stdtc.org)  
 Website: <http://www.stdtc.org>

# July 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	6 Manor Care (Sunbury) 6:45pm	7	8
9	10 Shamokin Elementary Demo 10:30am	11	12 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	13 Outlook Pointe (Lewisburg) 6:45pm	14	15
16	17	18	19 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	20 Sunbury Comm. Hos- pital 1pm-1:30pm  Mansion Nrs. Home (Sunbury) 1:45pm	21	22
23	24	25	26 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	27 Geisinger Rehab (Health South) 2pm-3pm	28	29
30	31					