



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

July 2012

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Since our dogs are exposed to the outdoors and more stimuli in the summer months, we find them barking more and demanding attention.

Barking is simply a dog's means of communication, whether directed at other dogs, members of the household or at the world in general. It may be a territorial issue or warn owners of an intruder, or it simply could be a symptom of loneliness and an attempt to get attention. It is up to us to figure out why your dog is barking.

First, you need to decide when your dog's barking is permissible and when it is not. You may not mind if your dog barks to let you know someone is at the door, but then you want it to stop. To correct the problem you tell your dog in a stern voice, "Quiet", call him to you, have him sit for praise or a treat. Your dog will learn that if he barks once, you expect him to come to you. If he barks the second time, tell him "Quiet", use a shake can, call him to you, have him sit and reward. When the dog stops barking immediately, tell him "Good Dog" so that he knows you are pleased with his behavior.

Yelling has proven ineffective, especially when it occurs after the event. Yelling at a barking dog may sound to the dog like you're just joining in the fun.

If your dog is barking out of boredom while you are away, provide him with activities he can do by himself: Kong stuffed toys, a treat that is frozen such as a bagel, hiding treats around the house for him to find. Of course, first and foremost make sure he gets a lot of exercise before you leave.

Sometimes owners reward their dogs for barking such as letting him out of his crate every time he barks. Don't give him what he wants while he is barking, ignore the behavior, don't reward, then reinforce the desired behavior.

### Old Friends (Continued)

Territorial barking can be difficult to stop, because as the person continues to walk past the house, the dog feels he has done his job to get that person off his property. You should find a way to keep your dog away from that area so he isn't triggered to bark and defend his territory.

Be consistent with your praise and corrections so your dog knows exactly what you want from him. Remember, your dog wants to please you, so show him what makes you happy.

"Animals are such agreeable friends - they ask no questions,  
they pass no criticism."

-George Eliot

Till next time,

*Connie*

## **Minutes (June 5, 2012)**

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Connie Cuff, with 27 members present.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Our training schedule will change since we have daylight longer in the evening I will begin the first class at 6:30. Marjean has been training a few dogs at 6:30, which are over 1 yr. They will join the class that Sara will teach for the CGC and TDI training beginning June 12 at 7 PM. I will have a class for anyone who would like to work more advanced work beginning at 7:15pm. Marjean's Star Puppy class, which is into its 4th week, is at 7.

Discussed date for our picnic at the marina.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Minutes approved as written in newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

(Treasurer's Reports are unavailable in the online edition of the STDTC newsletter.)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Please sign up for the Lewisburg Parade. I need to purchase flags Sat June 30. I have not received our placement, will let everyone know. Picnic at Smiths, June 24, 1PM directions in Newsletter. Bring dog and a covered dish.

Discussed pet food recalls. Asked if anyone wanted a club shirt.

We will be at the YMCA on Aug. 7 for a demo and we want everyone to dress their dog up in a costume since we will be promoting a pet costume contest at the Northumberland Co. Fair on Fri Aug 24 at 6 PM. I have committed us to do the contest and there will be a parade with the pets.

**OLD BUSINESS:** I wish to thank everyone again for helping with the Mostly Mutts fund raiser. Also, all those who helped out at Milton Elementary and Mt. Carmel Street Fair.

Meeting adjourned.

## **Breed of the Month**

### **Rhodesian Ridgeback**

submitted by Connie Cuff

Ridgebacks originated in Africa from a mixture of European and African dogs. The first true Ridgebacks were called Van Rooyen dogs because they were bred by Cornelius Van Rooyen, an animal supplier for zoos. His long hunting expeditions required dogs that were not only good guardians and hunters but tough enough to survive the extreme temperatures and life in African bush.

In Africa they are used in pairs or packs to hunt lions, boars and other large game. They have good scenting ability and they track the quarry, then hold it at bay until the hunter comes.



The Rhodesian Ridgeback's claim to fame is the ridge of forward hair on its back. Puppies are born with the ridges they will have at adulthood. They do not change or develop later.

Ridgeback puppies are naturally clean, making them easy to housebreak. Training should begin at an early age, and since they are extremely sensitive to discipline and correction, harsh methods and a heavy hand should never be used.

They require a great deal of exercise. Long runs, jogging, retrieving and obedience work will help keep it busy.

The short coat is easy to care for and seldom needs bathing. Daily grooming with a rubber curry, polishing with a soft brush, and a final rubdown with a damp cloth keeps the dog clean and sweet smelling.

While the robust personality and exercise requirements of the Ridgeback may not make it the ideal dog for everyone, those who choose it will enjoy a devoted friend and energetic companion.

We are glad to have Holly Sprenkle and her Rhodesian Ridgeback, Rutherford, with us.



## Notes and Notices



**I want to thank Joanie and Jim Smith for inviting our Club to their home for a picnic. It was a wonderful day for both the dogs and their owners. After hiking and swimming in the pond, the dogs were tired and happy, which is what every dog should be at the end of the day.**

**Giant Grocery Store has graciously donated bags to be used for clean up at the Shikellamy State Park.**

**Everyone should mark their calendar for Sunday, Sept. 23 as we will hold our annual club picnic at the Shikellamy State Park Marina (Pavilion 2) at 1:00pm. It is an enjoyable day for us as well as our dogs.**

**Our training at the Marina has been hampered by rain and I'm hoping there are better days ahead. We will try to train in shade on warmer days, but I suggest you bring water for your dogs. We are back to our first class beginning at 6:15 until 7:00. Sara Fry has started a CGC/TDI training class at 7:00. I will be training new dogs at 7:00. When there is enough interest Marjean will begin a Star Puppy Class.**

**We welcome Diesel, a Bernese Mt. Dog puppy, owned by Kelly Pastuszek to our group of doggie friends.**

**Everyone is doing a good job in getting up-dated shot records to me after your visit to the vets.**

## UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>July 2 (Mon)</b>	<b>Elmcroft, Lewisburg</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>July 4 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY</b>		
<b>July 11 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>July 12 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Northwestern Academy</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Life Geisinger</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
	<b>Shamokin Hospital</b>	<b>3:00pm</b>
<b>July 16 (Mon)</b>	<b>Penn Lutheran Village, Selinsgrove</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>July 17 (Tues)</b>	<b>Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only)</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>
<b>July 18 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>July 19 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Sunbury Hospital</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Mansion Nursing Home</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
	<b>Sunshine Corners</b>	<b>2:45pm</b>
<b>July 25 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>July 26 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Aug. 1 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Aug. 2 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Concern, Foster Kids, St. Mary's Park, Lewisburg</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
	<b>Vintage Knolls, Danville</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Aug. 7 (Tues)</b>	<b>Visit YMCA, Sunbury (Dogs in Costume)</b>	<b>10:00am</b>

# July 2012

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club  
 US Holidays

**June 2012**  
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**July 2012**  
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**August 2012**  
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 26 27 28 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 ■ 6:30 PM Elmcroft, Lewisburg	3 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training	4 Independence Day ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	5	6	7
8	9	10 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training	11 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	12 ■ 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy ■ 2:00 PM Life Geisinger ■ 3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital	13	14
15	16 ■ 6:30 PM Penn Lutheran Village (Sellingsgrove)	17 ■ 12:00 PM Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only) ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training	18 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	19 ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital ■ 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home ■ 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners	20	21
22	23	24 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training	25 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	26 ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	27	28
29	30	31 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training	1 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	2 ■ 10:00 AM Concern, Foster Kids, St. Mary's Park (Lewisburg) ■ 6:30 PM Vintage Knolls	3	4