



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

July 2020



Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

I was hoping by now that things with Covid would have improved so that our Dog Training could be more relaxed. As of this writing everything looks very uncertain.

It has been 3 weeks since we were able to begin classes at the Shikellamy State Park Marina with restrictions. Our training is done in groups, everyone wearing a mask and keeping a distance. As of this writing Gov. Wolfe is requesting everyone to wear a mask when out of doors.

We have members from a wide area and safety is my utmost concern. Everyone has been following rules, and I am so glad that we have been able to get together and have our dogs enjoy seeing each other.

There are two Advanced Classes, one at 6pm and another at 7pm. Sara has been working with a few Beginners at 7pm and Judy is teaching a Star Puppy. If anyone is interested in joining any of the classes you need to sign up as I am keeping a Roster.

With the delay of training due to the Covid, some of the puppies were older, and since they did not have earlier training it did create a problem. Judy has suggested that in the future, Star Puppies should go up to 6 months of age. Older dogs will join a Beginner Class. There may be a Star Puppy Class beginning July 28 so if anyone is interested you must get in touch with us.

Our classes run in Group Sessions. Each week we go over instructions and give out paper work to follow. You must take time to practice with your dog in order to see some results. We offer help if needed but we do not do one on one with our classes.

Sara has continued to test dogs for ATD. The requirement to be observed at two medical facilities has been waived - so you can be tested at three different non-medical sites, such as PetSmart, Lowe's, etc. They would prefer a medical site be included if there is one who will allow it - but it's not mandatory. The Park where we have class would qualify, so the handling test and first observation can be done there.

As for visits, ATD waived the required 1 visit every 3 months and extended it until Sept. 1. Drive by visits, outside windows, post cards to regular facilities count. As long as you can share smiles and joy.

If anyone has anything they would like to share with the Club please let Connie know.

Till next time,

Connie



Notes and Notices



Gail Lorady is making progress after her recent surgery and I know Buffy is busy at work with Pet Therapy.

Glad to see Joan Marquette back with us after her surgery and know Abby enjoys coming to class.

We wish Kelly and Joe Pastuszek years of happiness in their new home in Lewisburg. I'm sure Dozer will settle in and enjoy his new home.

Jim Smith with Dusty and Georgie is keeping up with physical therapy and hope we get to see them soon.

Our sympathies to Josette Zielinski with the loss of her Siberian Husky, Artica. In another note, she has just become a member of ATD with her Husky, Zaphod. Hoping some visiting will open up soon.

Sorry to Barbara Reed with the loss of her Labrador Retriever, Brew, He spent some time as a Therapy Dog.

Jane LaCrosse and Asher and Sally Thomas with Ozzy have successfully passed the ATD Test and become members of Alliance.

Heather Ettinger with Avalanche, who is now an ATD Therapy Dog will be moving to the Chambersburg area. Fortunately she has found a group called Kindly Canines that are very active with ATD visiting. We wish her well in her new adventure.

Myra Dietrich has donated her to time to make Club Car Window Decals for us. Anyone who is interested they are \$4.00 as a Fund Raiser for the Club.

I am sure everyone is out early or late in the evening walking their dog. You need to be careful on asphalt and concrete with your dog's paws.

Many of our dogs enjoy swimming. They love water to cool off but it is an easy way to develop ear infections. After swimming you should flush the ears with a cleaner to prevent this.