

Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

June 2017



Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

Every interaction you have with your dog has some reinforcing value, either positive or negative. An animal is always learning 24 hrs. a day. You, environment events or other people can inadvertently shape bad habits.

We certainly don't expect you to always be in "training mode" but when people work with treats and toys in training and then put all of these away, they completely stop thinking about training.

Rather than being super controlling at one extreme, or being oblivious of behavior at the other extreme, you must find a balance between the two. You must give thought in how your actions and the environment impact what your dog is learning throughout the day.

Relationship and trust is a powerful training tool. Playing with your dog is a teachable tool, but depending on how you play with your dog, it can lead to bad habits or even weaken your relationship. Teaching cooperative behavior and polite interactions can enhance the time you spend together.

The environment provided to your dog can enrich and keep your dog happy, healthy and active throughout the day. Bored animals become destructive and lead to unwanted behaviors. Toys, puzzles, and fun items are great ways to train when you're not training.

Taking your dog for a walk each day helps you bond with your dog and will keep both of you in tune with each other, along with the fact that the walk is healthy for both of you.

Just because you turn off your "training brain" does not mean that the animal has turned off his "learning brain". Pay attention to what you and others are doing and how it might effect your animal's behavior. How are you training when you are not training?

Till next time,

Connie



Notes and Notices



Congratulations to the following for passing the CGC Test:

Chris Wert with Finn a Golden Retriever Nancy Owens with Zoe a Cur mix Dave Crowl with Reuben a Labrador Retriever

Welcome New Member: Katie Clemens with Mini. Australian Shepherd, Molly

If anyone is interested in purchasing a Club shirt or a lanyard for their ID, I will have samples at class.

Glad to hear Jim Hepner is doing well after his knee surgery.

We are still training at the Selinsgrove Center and will announce our move to the Shikellamy State Park sometime in June. We are able to work our dogs outside the gym which will prepare us for working our dogs at the Marina.

With the 4th of July on a Tuesday, we will not have class that evening.

Recipe for Chicken Liver Brownies:

1 lb. raw chicken livers
1 egg
1 cup white or whole wheat flour
½ cup cornmeal
Pinch of salt
¼ teasp. Garlic powder
¼ teasp. Oregano

Grind livers in blender or food processor. Combine with other ingredients and mix with spoon. Coat a 10x15 sheet pan with nonstick spray. Fill with the mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until firm to the touch. Cool. Cut into bite size squares and store them in the refrigerator or freeze. For firmer treats, return the squares to a low heat over for 1-11/2hrs. until crispy.

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

| June 1 (Thurs) | Maria Joseph Manor Geisinger Rehab, Health South | 1:00pm 2:00pm |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| June 5 (Mon) | 5 Star, Sunbury Penn Lutheran, Selinsgrove | 1:00pm 6:30pm |
| June 7 (Wed) | Riverwoods Heritage Springs | 10:00am 11:15am |
| June 8 (Thurs) | Shamokin Hospital VNA Life Geisinger | 12:15pm 1:15pm 2:00pm |
| June 14 (Wed) | Riverwoods Heritage Springs | 10:00am 11:15am |
| June 15 (Thurs) | Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Manor Care | 1:00pm 1:45pm 2:15pm |
| June 19 (Mon) | Buffalo Valley, Lewisburg | 6:30pm |
| June 21 (Wed) | Riverwoods Heritage Springs | 10:00am 11:15am |
| June 28 (Wed) | Riverwoods Heritage Springs | 10:00am 11:15am |
| June 29 (Thurs) | Holy Family Convent Geisinger Rehab, Health South | 1:00pm 2:00pm |
| July 4 (Tues) | NO CLASS 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY | |

Newsletter coordinator: Brandon Pastuszek

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

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