



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

March 2015

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



One of the key methods of training is to put yourself in your dog's position and try to see the world through his eyes.

In forming a relationship with your dog friendships are built on shared experiences and the development of mutual respect and trust. It is how you conduct yourself around your dog with confidence and authority using your voice sparingly and controlling emotions.

A dog doesn't have a sense of what words mean. He simply comes to understand through repetition and association that a set of sounds and actions are related to a behavior. They understand the tone and volume of your voice, how you are holding your body and the smallest of gestures you make. These make up only a small percentage of how dogs communicate with us and each other.

When dogs bring in information to process, their predominant sense is smell, followed by hearing and then sight. A dog's sense of smell is somewhere between 10,000 and 100,000 times as sensitive as our own. So, the next time you're walking your dog, remember that there's more out there for him to analyze than you can possibly sense.

It is common knowledge that dogs can hear sounds at a higher pitch than a human can detect and they can hear sounds that originate from a greater distance. Your dog isn't necessarily afraid of the vacuum cleaner, lawn mower or fireworks, they want to keep their distance because it is damaging his hearing or painful.

As for a dog's vision, his visual clarity is 20/75 compared to our 20/20. As a consequence he is less likely to recognize facial features at a distance and instead relies on seeing shape and has a superior ability to detect motion and body language. They also see best in low-light situations like dusk and dawn. This is the reason it is important in training to teach hand signals along with verbal clues.

In playing with your dog the object you want your dog to fetch should contrast with the background against which it will be visible.

The insight in how our dogs view the world and behave shows us their respectful appreciation and utilization of their capabilities.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (February 3, 2015)

submitted by Connie Cuff

President's Report

Everyone needs to sign in every week both for insurance purposes and by request of the Center.

Our insurance premium has been paid to Erie Insurance. There may be a slight increase in March due to an increase in membership.

We received a thank you note from Brandon for our Christmas gift.

There is a visit at Grayson View on Feb. 23 at 6:30 and we would like to have a nice group of dogs present as there will be a photo taken of all the dogs visiting that evening. The family of a recently deceased guest would like to make a memorial plaque in honor of the Therapy Dogs that he enjoyed so much.

If you have not filled out a new Club Application for 2015 you need to do so when you pay for your dues. If you joined in late 2014 you still need to fill out a new application.

If anyone would like to join our club Facebook page you may contact Marjean Krech for an invite. Please ask Connie for her email address.

Paperwork needs to be filled out if you are visiting residents of the Selinsgrove Center. Please return it with a copy of your shot records from TDI.

New members were introduced.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Sodrick



Notes and Notices



Congratulations to the following who graduated from the S.T.A.R. Puppy Class

**Arlene Knepp, Sarge, German Shepherd
Troy & Karen Blue, Bella, Terrier Mix
Lisa Bonshock, Ozzie, Goldendoodle
Krisann Martz, Guinness, Aziat Shepherd
Larry & Florence Long, Blue, Australian Shepherd
Siobhan White, Cordelia, Great Dane**

Congratulations to Chelsea Mensch with Benson on passing his therapy dog test.

Congratulations to Stacy Faust with Bella, a Weimaraner; Brenda Jaworski with Nittany a Bulldog.

Congratulations to the following dogs who earned their Novice Trick Title:

**Sadie with handler, Pam Grose; Reggie with handler Kathi Flock; Toby with handler Myra Deitrich;
Lizzie with handler Karen Sodrick; Cooper with handler Suzzy Smith.**

Best wishes for a speedy recovery for Jim Smith who recently underwent surgery at Geisinger, Georgie will be doing Pet Therapy full time.

Please mark your calendars for commitments that I would like people and their dogs to participate in. Any new dogs are welcome to come since people enjoy visiting with us and petting the dogs. It is good training exposing your dog to new situations:

Saturday, May 9 at the Mt. Carmel Lions Club Street Fair, Oak St. (Main St.) 10:30am. We will do a short demo and visit with the people.

Saturday May 9, Blessing of Animals/Pet Fair at Mifflinburg United Methodist Church, 279 Market St. from 10am - 2pm. Dogs there for petting and socialization.

Saturday, June 27, 9am 4th of July Parade, Lewisburg. We will carry the large American Flag without the dogs. (more information later). Any help with friends and family would be appreciated.

Thanks to Elaine & Bob Walz for the Club cards they had made up for us.

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

March 4 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
March 5 (Thurs)	Emmanuel Nursing Home Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm
March 8 (Sun)	DAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS	
March 9 (Mon)	Nottingham Village	6:30pm
March 11 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
March 12 (Thurs)	Shamokin Hospital Life Geisinger Building Bridges Northwestern Academy	1:00pm 1:45pm 2:15pm 2:45pm
March 17 (Tues)	HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY	
March 18 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
March 19 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Manor Care & Sunshine Corners	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
March 20 (Fri)	FIRST DAY OF SPRING	
March 23 (Mon)	Emmanuel Home, Northumberland	6:30pm
March 24 (Tues)	Low Security Prison Allenwood (NCIC only)	12:00pm
March 25 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
March 26 (Thurs)	Holy Family Convent Geisinger Rehab, Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm
April 2 (Thurs)	Vintage Knolls Geisinger Rehab Health South	1:00pm 2:00pm

March 2015

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
 US Holidays

February 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2015

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April 2015

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 6:30 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 6:30 PM Training 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Emmanuel Nursing Home 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South 	6	7
8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daylight Saving Time Begins 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Nottingham Village 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Training 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Shamokin Hospital 1:45 PM Life Geisinger 2:15 PM Building Bridges Academy 2:45 PM Northwestern 	13	14
15	16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Patrick's Day 6:30 PM Training 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners 	20	21
22	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Emmanuel Home 	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Low Security Prison Allenwood (NCIC only) 6:30 PM Training 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Holy Family Convent 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 	27	28
29	30	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Training 6:30 PM AKC Star Puppy Class 7:15 PM Beginner Training 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April Fools Day 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Vintage Knolls 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab Health South 	3	4