



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

March 2020



## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

Most people who have a dog love their dog. Many of the "problem dog behaviors" that people complain about aren't really your dog's fault. By viewing recurring issues from their perspective - both physically and mentally - you will develop a deeper appreciation and love for your furry friend.

It is important to point out that dogs are pack animals. Your dog's socialization instincts are very strong. Humans and dogs began living together starting around 30,000 BC. Because you provide food, shelter, affection and fun, you are

the leader of the pack.

How many times while we are eating do our dogs beg for food on our plates. As social creatures, dogs view mealtime as a social event, they are begging for inclusion. If at mealtime you provide them their food or a healthy treat, then suddenly your dog not only feels included, they also no longer feel left out.

Dogs are sensitive social animals and are capable of complex emotions and reading the emotional state of their caregiver. When people express anger or annoyance, dogs are highly attuned to that. Frustration on your part will only exacerbate the issue.

Dixie always said when coming to class and training, forget about your work day. Put work problems aside and focus on training your dog. For the wellbeing of your pack, be careful about the emotions you project.

Just remember that you're the leader and your dog looks to you lovingly for reassurance, consideration and safety. Using positive reinforcement and understanding it will translate into a happier dog - and a happier you!

Till next time,

*Connie*



## Notes and Notices



**Welcome new members: Charles & Denise Frost with Coton de Tulear, Bailey; Janet Bucher with Labrador Retriever, Cash; Dave & Joann Sabotchik with Shih/tzu, Bichon, Chloe; Mike Piecuch with Lab mix, Bella; Callie Martin with Blue Heeler, Turbo; Melinda Martin with Golden Retriever, Riley; Maureen Hill with shep mix, Kassie; Jennifer Asmuth with shep mix, Niko.**

**Congratulations to Sue Visnosky who attained her ATD Certification with Willowbie.**

**Our Trick Class with 11 dogs is doing well, and I thank Sally Bair for teaching it. In the future, we will limit registration to 6 dogs.**

**We will be attending the Emergency Prep at the Allenwood Training Center on Thursday, May 14 from 9:30am to 12:00pm. Your dog does not need to be certified and puppies are welcome. This is an excellent day to socialize your dog with groups of children and staff.**

**Our membership dues of \$15 a year were due by March 1. I am preparing my list of members and appreciate those that have done so. Only members are able to participate on our private Facebook.**

**There is a banquet for volunteers who visit the Federal Prisons on Wed. April 15 at 6:00pm. It will be located at the Training Center in Lewisburg. If you plan to attend, please email [sjwhite@bop.gov](mailto:sjwhite@bop.gov) with your registration by April 1.**

**These are a few tips and reminders to help with the safety of our dogs.**

**When discarding plastic wrap and bags from the grocery store, do not place in the trash as our dogs find it very enticing and can cause a blockage if consumed. Safety around children's small toys, rocks from landscaping, playing and throwing sticks can break or splinter, xylitol gum and peanut butter made with it to sweeten. Be careful of tennis balls, as highly energetic dogs can have them dislodged in the throat. Don't forget to dog proof your bedroom, basement, kitchen and yard.**

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Mar. 2 (Mon)</b>	<b>5 Star</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 3 (Tues)</b>	<b>Bucknell University, Hildreth Mirza Lobby (building to left of Library entrance) (ATD only)</b>	<b>9pm - 10pm</b>
<b>Mar. 4 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Mar. 5 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Emmanuel Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>1:00pm 2:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 8 (Sun)</b>	<b>Daylight Saving Time begins (turn clocks ahead 1 hr.)</b>	
<b>Mar. 9 (Mon)</b>	<b>Elm Croft</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Mar. 11 (Wed)</b>	<b>Buffalo Valley</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Mar. 12 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Mt. View Manor</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 16 (Mon)</b>	<b>Bucknell University (ATD only) KLARC Fieldhouse (Athletic Building)</b>	<b>7:00pm - 9:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 17 (Tues)</b>	<b>MAX PRISON - ALLENWOOD (NCIC only) HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 18 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Mar. 19 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Mansion Nursing Home Manor Care</b>	<b>1:00pm 1:45pm</b>
<b>Mar. 23 (Mon)</b>	<b>Bucknell University (ATD only)</b>	<b>6:00pm - 8:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 25 (Wed)</b>	<b>Buffalo Valley</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Mar. 26 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Bloomsburg Univ. Vintage Knolls Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>10:00am - 12:00pm 1:15pm 2:00pm</b>
<b>Mar. 30 (Mon)</b>	<b>Heritage Springs</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>

# March 2020

-  Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
-  US Holidays

February 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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March 2020

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28	29	30	31			

April 2020

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 ■ 1:00 PM 5 Star	3 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training ■ 9:00 PM Bucknell University (ATD Only)	4 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	5 ■ 1:00 PM Emmanuel ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South	6	7
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins	9 ■ 6:30 PM Elm Croft	10 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	11 ■ 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley	12 ■ 1:00 PM Mt. View Manor	13	14
15	16 ■ 7:00 PM Bucknell University (ATD Only)	17 St Patrick's Day ■ 12:00 PM Max Prison – Allentown (NCIC only) ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	18 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	19 ■ 1:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home ■ 1:45 PM Manor Care	20	21
22	23 ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell University (ATD only)	24 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	25 ■ 10:00 AM Buffalo Valley	26 ■ 10:00 AM Bloomsburg University ■ 1:15 PM Vintage Knolls ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	27	28
29	30 ■ 6:30 PM Heritage Springs	31 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	1 April Fools Day ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	2	3	4