



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

May 2010

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Every dog needs a walk each day, not only for the exercise but spending time with you and it is a good time to practice training skills.

Being able to let your dogs off leash, if you can locate an area to do so, gives dogs the freedom of fun and good aerobic exercises.

Before you can turn your dog loose, be sure he is trained to come at your call - every time you call. Many dogs come reliably during on-leash training sessions but ignore their owners if something more interesting catches their interest.

When training your dog to come first never call your dog to come and then punish it. Always keep the come command positive. Let the dog know that the best thing it has ever done is to come to you. We have used the whistle for the come along with a treat reward or a special toy as something positive. If he runs the other way you can turn your back and run in the opposite direction or lie down on the ground.

Try a 20 foot length rope to use so you still have control of the dog. Next, build up distractions during these training sessions.

Since we will be moving to the Marina our dogs will encounter many new distractions - skate boarders, squirrels, joggers, new dogs, baby buggies, people outdoor cooking, etc.

After your dog is reliably coming to you on a long leash try to find a fenced in area with distractions.

Additional commands to teach your dog during training is "stay close" which means to run but not too far. "Leave it" means to stop sniffing or bothering something and "wait" means to slow down. These commands along with come, sit, down, and stay allow you to verbally control your dog when they are running free.

In many areas it is illegal to allow dogs to run loose. It is illegal for dogs to harass livestock and also some wildlife.

There are dog parks which allow dogs to run free, but be sure if your dog relieves himself that you do clean up since complaints will cause owners to lose the privilege of using a facility.

By being a responsible dog owner in training our dogs in public, we will help other dog owners become more educated and responsible as well. A well-

Old Friends (Continued)

behaved dog is the result of training—they were not born good, and it is a commitment which lasts a lifetime.

"If you do what you fear, you won't fear what you do"
--Gordon Morton

Till next time,
Connie

These are some of the outdoor plants that can be poisonous to children and pets:

Azaleas: All parts of plant are fatal. Produces nausea, vomiting, depression, difficult breathing, and coma.

Bleeding Heart: Foliage may be poisonous in large amounts.

Buttercups: All parts have irritant juices which may severely injure the digestive system.

Daffodil & Hyacinth: Bulbs cause nausea, vomiting, Diarrhea. May be fatal.

Lily of the Valley: Leaves and flowers cause irregular heart beat and pulse, usually accompanied by digestive upset and mental confusion.

Rhubarb: Leaf blade is fatal. Large amounts of raw or cooked leaves can cause convulsions, coma, followed rapidly by death.

Yew: Berries and foliage are fatal. Foliage more toxic than berries. Death is usually sudden without warning symptoms.

Larkspur: Young plant and seeds cause digestive upset, nervous excitement, depression. May be fatal.

Other plants, asparagus fern, baby's breath, calla lily, Easter lily, English Ivy, Foxglove, Geranium, Morning Glory, Primrose, Bittersweet, Cherry (seeds and wilting leaves), Clematis, Cyclamen, Oleander, Tomato Plant (green fruit, stem and leaves).

Be careful of discarded grass clippings. Dogs like the fermented sweet taste.

Minutes (April 6, 2010)

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of the STDTC was called to order by Pres., Connie Cuff, with 24 members present. Everyone was told to pick up a newsletter if they do not get it online.

We received a certificate form Mostly Mutts for our donation at Christmas.

In a recent issue of Bark magazine here was an article about safe pet toys. I will include it in my next newsletter but thought I would give you an idea about what they have to say about avoiding some products:

Avoid painted toys

Buy USA made toys

Be leery of "no name" or generic brands

Buy toys made with natural materials

Avoid pet collars with die-cast jewelry

Research companies that make dog toys

Avoid tennis balls made exclusively for pets (nearly half tested contained lead). Sports tennis balls contain no lead.

NO DOG CLASS NEXT WEEK April 13

Report of the Treasurer: (Treasurer's Reports are not available in the online edition of the STDTC Newsletter.)

Report of Secretary: Minutes of March meeting were approved as written in the April newsletter.

New Business: We will have Deb Trough, an animal communicator with us on April 27 at 7 PM. She will speak for 1/2 hr and then we will have discussion. Bring a chair if you choose.

Mt. Carmel demo May 8th at 4th & Oak St. (main st.) 1:45PM

Old Business: Dues are due, new roster.

TDI visit this Thurs. at Northwestern Academy and Shamokin Hosp.

Thurs. April 22 Emmanuel Center, Rt 11 Danville

Breed of the Month

Puli

submitted by Connie Cuff

Beneath the Puli's dreadlocked coat lives a colorful, boisterous spirit.

Centuries ago, the Magyar people took the breed's ancestors to Hungary from the east. The Puli nearly disappeared in the 17th Century though cross-breeding. However, in 1912 Hungarian veterinarian Emil Raitsite began diligent work to re-establish the Puli. The AKC accepted the Puli for registration in 1936.

The Puli has a soft, fluffy, curly undercoat and a long, profuse outercoat. As the two coats grow, they weave together into cords. During the first two years, owners must manually separate the cords to prevent matting.

Brushed coats need brushing every one or two days. After baths a Puli needs thorough drying, which can take several hours.



Although American Kennel Club herding competitions favor quiet, low-contact dogs, a Puli at the top of its game can handle a flock and of up to 400 sheep – and does so its own way.

The Puli is independent. He does not need to be instructed every step of the way. Most herding dogs, including the Border Collie, need the commands.

Pulik (plural form) come in black, rusty black, white or gray. Their activity level is high and trainability is good. Best home is a country setting or with a yard. It is good with other pets but will try to herd them. They can be good with children if raised with them, but will also try to herd them.

A Puli is so much more than look, they are active and vocal. They do have a gentler side as well. An owner who was hiking in the Appalachians fell and broke his leg in four places and the dogs never left his side.



Notes and Notices



I would like to acknowledge the kindness of the students from Chief Shikellamy Elementary School where I do reading to the dogs. They have graciously donated \$100 for the purchase of books for their library in memory of Riley. His legacy will live on in the students reading of books and their thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

We have signed up to participate in the 4th of July Parade in Lewisburg on Saturday, June 26th. We are working on using a flag with our dogs and more information will be in our June newsletter. The parade forms at the High School at 9:00 a.m. and moves down the main street to Third Street to Bucknell University President's Grove. About a 1 hour walk. I am hoping for a good turn out so if you can participate, please contact me. Also, any family member who can help out with the carrying of the flag would be appreciated.

Please check the web site and emails for any cancellations due to weather conditions now that we are training at the Marina.

Anyone who has newspapers (no glossy inserts) can bring them to class as Ginny Pentz is taking them to Funnybrook Meadows, a Therapeutic Riding Facility.

Marjean will begin a new AKC Star Puppy Class on May 25th. This is for dogs up to 1 yr. of age. If anyone is interested please contact her.

I wish to publicly thank Giant Foods for providing the Marina with clean up bags. They give them to me since our Club trains there and we are involved in volunteer work.

Be sure to check Sherry Carpenter's blog on our web site.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

May 2-8	Be Kind to Animals Week	
May 3 (Mon)	Bucknell University (TDI Only)	6:00 pm
May 4 (Tues)	TRAINING RESUMES AT SHIKELLAMY PARK	6:15 pm 7:00 pm
May 6 (Thurs)	Nottingham Village (Northumberland)	6:45 pm
May 8 (Sat)	Mt. Carmel Lions Club Demo 4th & Oak Street	1:45 pm
May 9 (Sun)	HAPPY MOTHERS DAY	
May 11 (Tues)	Medium Prison Allenwood NCIC Only	12:00 pm
May 12 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
May 13 (Thurs)	Northwest Academy Shamokin Hospital	1:00 pm 2:15 pm
May 19 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
May 20 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners	1:00 pm 2:00 pm 2:30 pm
May 24 (Mon)	Reading Chief Shikellamy	9:00 am
May 26 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
May 27 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab Health South	2:00 pm

May 2010

- US Holidays
- Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

April 2010

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May 2010

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June 2010

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Speaker at Training ■ 7:15 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Be Kind to Animals Week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Reading (Chief Shikellamy) ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell (TDI Only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Training Resumes (Marina) ■ 6:15 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cinco de Mayo ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:45 PM Nottingham Village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:45 PM Demo - Mt. Carmel St. Fair 	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mother's Day 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 12:00 PM Allenwood Medium Prison (NCIC Only) ■ 6:15 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy ■ 2:15 PM Shamokin Hospital 		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital ■ 2:00 PM Manston Nursing Home ■ 2:30 PM Sunshine Corners 		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Reading (Chief Shikellamy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ John F. Kennedy's Birthday 	
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Memorial Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM Advanced Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 			