



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

May 2012

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



With nicer weather and an early Spring, it is time to get your dog socialized with new smells, noise, and lots of outdoor activity.

Take your dog to local parks, such as the Shikellamy Marina and enjoy a picnic lunch, where he can see other dogs. Be careful with meet and greets since all dogs are not friendly, especially with dogs in their face. Spend some time on a bench and try obedience commands as you walk through the park.

On garbage day, take your dog on a stroll through the neighborhood since he can experience different aromas and sounds, and it is a good time to train the "leave it" command.

Visit a playground or outdoor sporting event where there are children, a lot of high-pitched tones and they can see fast moves.

An outdoor market, such as the Farmers Market on Wed. in Lewisburg, is an excellent place to wander through with loose leash training.

There are some outdoor cafes, such as Hide Away at Brookpark Farms, where you can enjoy lunch with your dog trained to lie at your feet. Be aware there are chickens and ducks wandering around the grounds.

Visit your pet store where your dog can enjoy all the good smells and see other dogs enjoying the same. He usually receives a biscuit at the check-out and he'll never forget the experience.

Let your dog go with you to the car wash and see if he can handle the trip. (not all dogs enjoy this experience)

A construction site is a good place for your dog to observe the hustle and bustle of workers and noisy machinery. The River Walk along Front St. in Sunbury is a challenge for any dog to get used to traffic and noise.

### Old Friends (Continued)

If you have the opportunity to visit nursing homes with us, the smells, activity of wheel chairs and medicine carts, along with a ride on the elevator, will train your dog for therapy work.

A fun outdoor activity is to play hide and seek with your dog, giving him a "wait" command while you hide and then say "find me". You also can hide a few biscuits for him to find.

All of the above should be observed with caution as all dogs cannot accept these experiences. Watch for the stress level in your dog and introduce these activities gradually. Offering praise and encouragement boosts confidence and helps the dog get through a scary experience.

Don't forget your clean up bag since we want people to see we are responsible dog owners.

"You never have to wait for anyone, or anything, if you find pleasure  
in the moment at hand"

Till next time,

*Connie*

## **Breed of the Month**

### **Cardigan Welsh Corgi**

submitted by Connie Cuff

Many owners of this breed have been posed the question “What kind of mix is that?” As a comparison with the Pembroke Corgi, the most obvious difference between the two breeds is that the Cardigan sweater has long sleeves and the Cardigan dog has a long tail.

Its historical origin is Wales. Experts believe that Cardigans descended from the Dachshund with its longer body, heavier deeper chest, a blunter jaw and rounder tipped erect ears.

The original job of the Welsh was to go before cattle and clear the way for them. It is an excellent watch dog, friendly and outgoing, but capable of being reserved or cautious about strangers. Its bark sounds like that of a dog 10 feet tall.



It is adaptable to many environments, from frigid Alaska to the deserts of Arizona. Wherever they are, they must be considered house dogs to live in close companionship with their owners. They always devise their own activities to pass time; therefore, they are companions for those who have to work by day. Proper socialization of a puppy will avoid most problems, especially behavior around other dogs.

They do well in conformation, obedience, flyball, agility and tracking. Their loving disposition and “clownish demeanor” make them excellent therapy dogs where they are welcome visitors in nursing homes, hospitals and rehab facilities.

These delightful companions may not be the most glamorous of breeds, but to anyone who has lived with a Cardigan, there’s no doubt that they could not imagine existing without one.



# Notes and Notices



As we begin training at the Shikellamy Marina State Park, I'm hoping we all enjoy socializing our pets and it is a good time for us to share fellowship as well.

We must be aware of weather, so be sure to keep us updated with your E-mail address or phone contact as we will notify you by 5:00pm if there is a cancellation in our training or activity.

Our goal with the club is to prepare the dogs for the Canine Good Citizen or TDI test if you are interested in therapy work. Not all dogs are comfortable in doing this work. So you both should enjoy the time spent performing this activity.

**Congratulations to the following who have attained the CGC title:**

**Joan Haire-Campbell with Daisy, a Golden Retriever  
Mary Jane Purnell with Mitch, a Shilo Shepherd  
Dagney Leininger with Mrs. Beasley, a Basset Hound  
James Smith with Georgie, a Golden Retriever  
Corey Waters with Madison, a Collie  
Terry Burns with Riley, a Golden mix**

Our fundraiser for Mostly Mutts will be held Sat. May 5 (rain date Sun. May 6) at the Shikellamy State Park Marina from 10:00am until 2:00pm. We will be setting up at 8:00am with registration beginning at 9:00am. I would appreciate volunteers to help us that day with the food stand, registration, or manning the table for our club with helpful dog literature. We are taking monetary donations to purchase food for the stand if you are unable to be there that day.

**Please be aware of upcoming events:**

For those who have signed up, the date for the reading at Milton Elementary has been changed to May 14 from 6:30 to 7:30pm. I would like everyone there by 6:15.

The Mt. Carmel Street Fair sponsored by the Lions Club is Sat. May 12 at 10:00am. This event is a fundraiser for their Club and they are gracious in giving us a cash donation for participating in this event.

**Please keep our calendar posted so you are aware of our club's schedule.**

Mark your calendars for Sat. June 30 for the Lewisburg 4th of July Parade. We will be walking, as last year, with small flags. Kevin has once again organized the Para Olympics bike ride from the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. to the parade in Lewisburg. It should be an awesome event.

## UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

|                       |  |                                     |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| <b>May 2 (Wed)</b>    | <b>Riverwoods</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>                      |
| <b>May 5 (Sat)</b>    | <b>Mostly Mutts Marina Doggie Walk<br/>(sign-up 9:00am - 10:00am)</b>            | <b>10:00am - 2:00pm</b>             |
| <b>May 6 (Sun)</b>    | <b>Rain date for Doggie Walk</b>   |                                     |
| <b>May 7 (Mon)</b>    | <b>Bucknell University (TDI only)</b>  | <b>6:00pm - 8:00pm</b>              |
| <b>May 9 (Wed)</b>    | <b>Riverwoods</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>                      |
| <b>May 10 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Northwestern Academy<br/>Life Geisinger<br/>Shamokin Hospital</b>             | <b>1:00pm<br/>2:00pm<br/>3:00pm</b> |
| <b>May 12 (Sat)</b>   | <b>Mt. Carmel Lions Club St. Fair</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>                      |
| <b>May 14 (Mon)</b>   | <b>Milton Elementary School Reading Program<br/>(Be at the school by 6:15pm)</b> | <b>6:30pm - 7:30pm</b>              |
| <b>May 15 (Tues)</b>  | <b>Allenwood Federal Maximum Prison (NCIC only)</b>                              | <b>12:00pm</b>                      |
| <b>May 16 (Wed)</b>   | <b>Riverwoods</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>                      |
| <b>May 17 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Sunbury Community Hospital<br/>Mansion Nursing Home<br/>Sunshine Corners</b>  | <b>1:00pm<br/>2:00pm<br/>2:45pm</b> |
| <b>May 23 (Wed)</b>   | <b>Riverwoods</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>                      |
| <b>May 24 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Nottingham Village</b>  | <b>6:30pm</b>                       |
| <b>May 28 (Mon)</b>   | <b>MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATED</b>   |                                     |
| <b>May 30 (Wed)</b>   | <b>Riverwoods</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>                      |
| <b>May 31 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>   | <b>2:00pm</b>                       |

# May 2012

April 2012

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May 2012

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June 2012

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US Holidays

Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday  |
|---|--|---|---|--|--------|---|
| 29  | 30   | 1<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Regular Class Training</li> <li>6:15 PM New dogs over 1 yr (Mar/jean)</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced off-leash Training</li> </ul>   | 2<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>  | 3<br>  | 4<br>  | 5<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cinco de Mayo</li> <li>9:00 AM Dog Walk (Sign-up)</li> <li>10:00 AM Dog Walk</li> </ul> |
| 6<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog Walk Rain Date</li> </ul> | 7<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00 PM Bucknell University (Coleman Hall – TDI ONLY)</li> </ul>   | 8<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Regular Class Training</li> <li>6:15 PM New dogs over 1 yr (Mar/jean)</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced off-leash Training</li> </ul>   | 9<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>  | 10<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Northwestern Academy</li> <li>2:00 PM Life Geisinger</li> <li>3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital</li> </ul>            | 11<br> | 12<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Mt. Carmel Lions Club St. Fair</li> </ul>                                     |
| 13<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mother's Day</li> </ul>      | 14<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 PM Milton Elementary School Reading to Dogs</li> </ul>   | 15<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:00 PM Allenwood Federal Maximum Prison (NCIC only)</li> <li>6:15 PM Regular Class Training</li> <li>6:15 PM New dogs over 1 yr (Mar/jean)</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced off-leash Training</li> </ul> | 16<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul> | 17<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital</li> <li>2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home</li> <li>2:45 PM Sunshine Corners</li> </ul> | 18<br> | 19<br>  |
| 20  | 21<br>   | 22<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Regular Class Training</li> <li>6:15 PM New dogs over 1 yr (Mar/jean)</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced off-leash Training</li> </ul>  | 23<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul> | 24<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 PM Nottingham Village</li> </ul>   | 25<br> | 26<br>  |
| 27<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memorial Day</li> </ul>      | 28<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John F. Kennedy's Birthday</li> <li>6:15 PM Regular Class Training</li> <li>6:15 PM New dogs over 1 yr (Mar/jean)</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced off-leash Training</li> </ul> | 29<br>  | 30<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul> | 31<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South</li> </ul>   | 1<br>  | 2<br>   |