



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

November 2012

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Today most dog owners keep their pets around for companionship. It comes from how happy they make us feel, greeting us with wagging tails, sharing a walk, or cuddling on the couch.

The intense bond that develops between owners and dogs sometimes can attach emotions to dogs that can result in unfair expectations and negative consequences.

This bond can make people forget that canines sense and interact with the world differently than humans, but understanding and respecting these differences can produce a healthier relationship with dogs. Problems such as insecurity, guarding and aggression can result when owners treat their dogs as family members.

Dogs communicate with each other with whines, barks, growls, coupled with body language. Consider the owner who glares at her dog after finding an indoor mess, or your favorite shoe chewed on. Owners believe the dogs feel guilt for what they had done because of its body language, when in reality this signal conveys an attempt to appease an angry owner. Dogs mental ability to associate an action lasts 5 seconds, so punishing an act after the fact is useless since the dog has long forgotten the act.

Shy or under-socialized dogs perceive a person bending over a dog and making direct eye contact as a threatening gesture and cause the dog to shrink away or strike out. This is because one dog "standing tall" over another dog represents authority or challenge.

Problems arise when owners pick up dogs or coddle them when they are under stress. This can result in lack of confidence and fear aggression.

Awareness of the differences between humans and dogs helps owners treat dogs lovingly but fairly. The key to keeping balance is to be clear and consistent with the rules and what is expected of the dog. Remember giving a command one time instead of repeating it four or five times.

Old Friends (Continued)

Loving dogs and sharing our lives with them improves our time on Earth. We must remember to love our canine friends not only for the many similarities we share but also for the numerous differences as well. It's about respect and appreciating each other for what we truly are.

"A happy memory never wears out."

-Amish proverb

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (October 2, 2012)

submitted by Kelly Pastuszek

Report of the President

Anyone attending the Christmas Party on December 2nd is asked to donate an item to Mostly Mutts, which is something we do every year. Mostly Mutts included a "wish list" in their recent newsletter: used blankets, toys, push brooms & mops, simple green cleaner, white vinegar and club soda, pooper scoopers (metal only) 2 pieces, purina dog chow (green bag), purina puppy chow (blue bag), dog treats, NO rawhides. They also collect purina dog food seals. Monetary donations will be accepted as well. If you want to bring donations to class beforehand, we will make sure to get them to Mostly Mutts.

I want to thank everyone who came to the picnic. We had a lot of fun.

There is a Fall Festival at the Sunbury Animal Hospital this Sunday from 11 to 3. If anyone can help, I would appreciate it.

Secretary Report: In the newsletter

Treasurer's Report:

(Treasurer's Reports are unavailable in the online edition of the STDTC Newsletter)

New Business:

Sunbury Halloween Parade is Thursday October 18th. We are dressing dogs as prisoners with the theme of "Who Left the Dogs Out". We should be costumed as officers. Wal-Mart has a children's costume at \$6.95 which can be converted for a dog. Anyone who has a black shirt from last year bring it to class so we can stripe it with tape. We will have a jail house float and have room for 4-5 riders. Get to the Shikellamy High School no later than 6:15 pm. We will be there early as they are forming at 5:30 pm and we want to be at the beginning. Anyone who is not attending and would like to donate candy can bring it to class.

Marjean will be starting a puppy class next Tuesday at 6:30 pm. If you know of anyone who would like to participate please notify me or Marjean.

We have a visit at Nottingham Village on Monday, October 15th at 6:30pm and anyone who has their dog under control and would like to visit is welcome.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Pastuszek

Breed of the Month
Blackmouth Cur
submitted by Connie Cuff

The Blackmouth Cur is a well-muscled rugged hunting and cattle dog whose coat is generally red, yellow, brindle, fawn or buckskin.

They are great family dogs and great social dogs if trained properly. The Cur is a very smart breed and shows loyalty to its owner. They are good around children if introduced correctly. The breed was bred as a homestead dog that would protect its family and home against intruders. Off their turf they work well with other dogs hunting, herding livestock, but on their family property they will chase the same dog away.

As for their health, they seem to be a rather hardy breed with their average life span of 12- 16 yrs.



The Cur is very athletic and eager to please. They herd animals, track or trail game, run in coursing work and as Search and Rescue Dog. They will tree game and are successful deer tracking dogs in the South.

The breed originated in the United States and have varied historical documentation dependent on region. Most of the regions are southern, such as Alabama, Texas, Florida and Mississippi. They are not recognized by the AKC.



Notes and Notices



I wish to thank everyone who participated in our two Halloween parades. Those that prepared the shirts, donated items for the float, walkers, including our cart wheeler, donations of candy, drivers and decorators, and anyone who helped make this a fun night for all. I have learned that we took 2nd place in the Northumberland parade. Haven't seen the winners from Sunbury yet.

Our Christmas party will be held on Sunday, Dec. 2 at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club. We ask everyone to be there by 5pm with dinner served promptly at 5:30. The cost is the same as last year \$17 and the menu will be the same. Everyone should bring a gift exchange for the dog and something for the silent auction (it does not need to be dog related). We make a donation of food or cash to Mostly Mutts. Please notify us by Nov. 20 if you will attend with payment due by Nov. 27.

Our training in December has been shortened because the gym is being used by the residents and holidays fall on training nights. Class will meet Dec. 4 and we will return to the Center Jan. 8. All our scheduled visits will continue and you will be notified by email if there are any changes.

Please be aware of emails sent out by Kelly since weather and unforeseen problems at the Center may cause cancellation.

I will be at the Shikellamy High School for a Senior Health Fair sponsored by Linda Schlegel Culver on Sat. Nov. 10 from 10am - 1pm. If anyone can help me that day with your dog, I would really appreciate it.

In talking with Cheryl Hill recently, she mentioned she does fire drills at the kennels. Thinking about disasters like fires isn't pleasant, but you can teach your dog a safety skill by holding periodic fire drills whenever your smoke alarm goes off. Start by teaching your dog a verbal cue, such as "Outside!" that means it's time to immediately exit the house. Say the word, then briskly accompany your dog to the door, open it, and go outside. Once you are both outside, close the door and give her some tasty treats. The next step is to add the sound of the alarm. When the alarm beeps, give the "Outside!" cue, and go with your dog to the exit. Once outdoors, reward her with treats. If you practice fire drills like this with your dog two or three times a month, she will start to run to the door when she hears the alarm instead of hiding under a bed, without needing a verbal cue.

I want to let everyone know of a payment method you are able to use in case you run into a problem with a large medical bill at your Veterinarian. I have checked and all of the Vets in this area accept this credit card. It is called Care Credit And you need at least a \$200 bill to sign up. When you add the bill to the card you have 18 months to pay it off with out interest. You can apply on line at CareCredit.com I have used it and found it to be very beneficial.

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Nov. 1 (Thurs)	Grayson View, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
Nov. 7 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Nov. 8 (Thurs)	Northwestern Academy	1:00pm
	Life Geisinger	2:00pm
	Shamokin Hospital	3:00pm
Nov. 10 (Sat)	Shikellamy High School, Sr. Health Fair	10:00am - 1:00pm
Nov. 13 (Tues)	Maximum Prison Allenwood (NCIC only)	12:00pm
Nov. 14 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Nov. 15 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital	1:00pm
	Mansion Nursing Home	2:00pm
	Sunshine Corners	2:45pm
Nov. 21 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Nov. 22 (Thurs)	THANKSGIVING DAY	
Nov. 28 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Nov. 29 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm
Dec. 2 (Sun)	Christmas Party, Susquehanna Valley Country Club	5:00pm
Dec. 3 (Mon)	Bucknell University, Coleman Hall	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Dec. 5 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 6 (Thurs)	Elmcroft, Lewisburg	6:30pm
Dec. 11 (Tues)	Low Security Allenwood (NCIC only)	12:00pm
NO CLASS DEC. 11, 18, 25, Jan. 1, Classes resume Tues. Jan. 8, 2013		
Dec. 12 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 13 (Thurs)	Northwestern Academy	1:00pm
	Life Geisinger	2:00pm
	Shamokin Hospital	3:00pm

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Dec. 19 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 20 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
Dec. 25 (Tues)	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
Dec. 26 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 27 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm

Newsletter coordinator: **Brandon Pastuszek**

E-mail: brandon@stdtc.org

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

STDTC Newsletter

November 2012

Page 7

November 2012

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
 US Holidays

October 2012
 S M T W T F S
 1 2 3 4 5 6
 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
 28 29 30 31

November 2012
 S M T W T F S
 1 2 3
 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30

December 2012
 S M T W T F S
 1
 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30 ■ 6:15 PM Training cancelled ■ 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training Cancelled ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training Cancelled	31 ■ Halloween ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	1 ■ 6:30 PM Grayson View, Selinsgrove	2	3
4 ■ Daylight Savings Time Ends	5	6 ■ Election Day ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training	7 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	8 ■ 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy ■ 2:00 PM Life Geisinger ■ 3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital	9	10 ■ 10:00 AM Shikellamy High School, Sr. Health Fair
11 ■ Veteran's Day	12 ■ Veteran's Day (observed)	13 ■ 12:00 PM Maximum Prison Allenwood (NCIC only) ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training	14 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	15 ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital ■ 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home ■ 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners	16	17
18	19	20 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training	21 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	22 ■ Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training	28 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	29 ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	30	1