

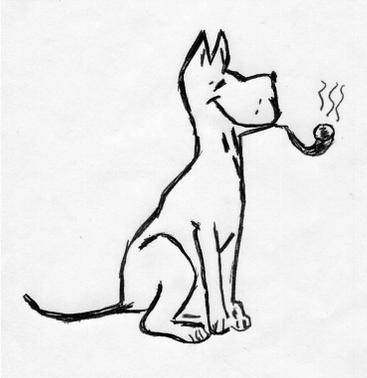


Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

October 2006

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Our club was treated to a special demonstration by Lana Kline on Pet Massage. Some of our dogs had the opportunity to learn first hand how to benefit from this therapy. The No.1 benefit is the relaxation in the animal and the person. It helps the immune system of both and establishes an emotional bond between owner and dog.

A group from our club recently visited children in an after school program to demonstrate to them how our therapy dogs perform, to educate them on greeting a dog and owner, and bite prevention. In the group, the majority of children had a dog in their household. Many of them fielded questions to us which showed their interest in our demonstration.

Studies have shown that interacting with and caring for pets are sources of developing behaviors and ideas related to nurturing others. In research conducted by the Delta Society it found that if a mother was employed, the child was more involved and attached to a pet.

In a book by Barbara Shumamflang titled "Happy Kids, Happy Dogs: Building a Friendship Right from the Start" she explains that parents must do three things to create a good relationship between their dog and their child: actively coach the child rather than merely supervise, teach the dog to have positive associations with the child, and evaluate interactions by monitoring the dog for signs of stress or other warning signs. She says it is essential to have a safety zone for the dog to go to when the dog shows signs of stress.

In Frank Ascione's "Children and Animals: Exploring the Roots of Kindness and Cruelty" he writes about the relationship between the abuse of animals and both physical and sexual violence toward people. As an indication of future problems, a child's cruelty to animals often shows up at an earlier age than bullying, vandalism or cruelty to people. He focuses on the importance of developing the ability to empathize with animals while young and the links between empathy for animals and empathy for people.

Even if you have no children in your household, you may be a grandparent or know of a family who has young children and a pet. A little nurturing and education on your part could help with the human and pet bond and eliminate the need for families to turn their dogs over to shelters because they are out of control and do not get along with their children.

A little information can go a long way in helping everyone.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (September 6, 2006)

Submitted by: Virginia Pentz

Meeting of the Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club was called to order at 6:45 PM with 24 members present.

Report of the President:

Nice to see everyone here this evening. I want to thank Sally Bittinger for bringing some goodies for refreshments.

We will be here at the Marinna until the darkness sets in, possibly the end of Sept. I'm waiting to sign papers for the Selinsgrove Center and we have it beginning in Oct. Everyone will be notified by E mail or phone when we move. If you don't hear please call me. Everyone should sign the book for this evening so I know you got this message.

I wanted to mention how much Dixie's legacy has changed the lives of so many people and mention that two people who we trained in the spring of 2005 at Bloomsburg have been nominated by the Women's Center in Bloomsburg as Volunteers of the year. They are Mary Pratt with a sheltie and Melissa Greenley with a Giant Schnauzer mix.

Report of the Secretary, any additions or corrections. The minutes are approved.

Report of the Treasurer, any additions or corrections. minutes are approved.

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

New Business: We have car decals for those who have TDI at \$3. Laura Girard with Cody and Cleo have passed the CGC/TDI test. We are ordering club shirts, if anyone is interested see me this evening. Linda Bennett has about 6 people signed up for the reading program at the Union County Library. If anyone else is interested they should let her know tonight since we will start in about two weeks. We hope to complete the program by the end of Oct. It runs for 6 weeks.

Old business: Please sign up for PA Pets on Sat. We need help with testing dogs and our demo is at 12:00p.m. I have folders with bone recipes so anytime you can check them out. Please sign up for our picnic on Sept. 17. Our TDI visit this week is Thursday 6:45p.m at Emmanuel Center Danville. On Thus. Sept. 21, which is our visit at the Sunbury Hospital and Mansion, there is a program we will do at Zion Lutheran Church at 3:00 PM. for the after school children.

Does anyone have anything to add to this meeting? Do I have a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM. I will have Marjean Krech introduce our guest this evening.

Sherry's Corner

CONGRESS PASSES AKC-SUPPORTED VERSION OF "PETS" BILL

--Bill Addresses Challenges Faced By Pet Owners during Disasters--

New York, NY - this week, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives passed by unanimous consent the "Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006," known as "PETS." PETS addresses the problems experienced by pet owners before, during and after the 2005 hurricane season. The enacted bill includes the stronger Senate language -- which the AKC supported and lobbied for-- rather than the weaker House version of the bill. The bill now goes to the President, who is expected to sign it.

Amidst evacuation for hurricanes Katrina and Rita, many pet owners were forced to leave their pets behind because emergency relief agencies, transportation facilities and shelters were not equipped to accommodate them. This caused some persons to resist evacuation orders, slowing down the process and putting human life at risk. Equally problematic was the public reaction to the widespread publicity given to the plight of the pets that were left behind. A recent AKC survey revealed that 67 percent of pet owning households nationwide said they would refuse future evacuation orders if they were unable to take their pets with them.

The PETS bill requires that disaster relief and emergency management agencies include provisions for the needs of households and individuals with pets and service animals in disaster relief plans as a condition for federal approval of such plans. The bill also makes providing services to individuals with household pets and service animals a legitimate activity on which to spend emergency and disaster relief funding, and authorizes the federal government to provide funds to states and local authorities for animal emergency preparedness purposes, and for procurement, construction, leasing, or renovating of emergency shelter facilities that will accommodate people with pets and service animals.

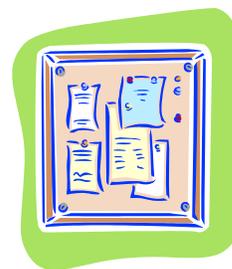
AKC President Dennis Sprung commended the Congressional action, saying "I want to thank the Congress for acting promptly and decisively to address this problem. This legislation will go a long way in assuring that the disastrous situation that occurred in 2005 is not repeated. I also want to thank the many members of the purebred dog fancy who supported and helped advocate for the passage of this important legislation."

Sprung also noted that the successful passage of the PETS bill was a collaborative effort involving many animal interest organizations and AKC was pleased to be a leader among them.

During the aftermath of hurricane Katrina, the AKC sent staff to the affected areas to assist with the needs of displaced animals and affected fanciers. Many individuals as well as 545 AKC clubs and organizations made donations to the AKC/CAR Canine Support and Relief Fund, enabling AKC to organize and support multiple airlifts transporting dogs to facilities out of the affected region. In addition, AKC recently hired a full-time employee who is responsible for coordinating disaster relief efforts on behalf of the AKC and AKC/CAR.



Notes and Notices



A big thank you to Sally Grottini for putting together a wonderful poster about our dog club. She and her Newfoundland, "Chance" were featured in the supplement of the Daily Item with the State Animal Response Team. Chance is now the SART mascot.

Bucknell Grad student will do housesitting/petsitting. Very responsible and conscientious. References include Dagny Leininger & Marjean Krech. If interested email Molly Clay at mmc022@bucknell.edu or contact Marjean at 570-577-3655 (work).

I appreciate all those who participated in the PA Pets demo, handed out literature, and helped with TDI/CGC testing at the Marina.

Our picnic was a wonderful time for our members and pets to get together to enjoy good food, friendship and playtime for our dogs. A special thanks to Mary Lou Walsh and Virginia Pentz for taking care of hot dogs and the Chinese Auction, Sara Fry and Marjean Krech for supervising the games, Cecilia Margani for dog beds and pet food, and Barbie Laughman for the photography.

Congratulations to Kim Boop for passing the CGC/TDI test.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Oct 5 (Thurs)	Grandview Danville	6:45pm
Oct 12 (Thurs)	Penn Lutheran Village Selinsgrove	6:45pm
Oct 19 (Thurs)	Sunbury Halloween Parade (Meet in front of Weis on N. 4th St. Our float will be the Pumpkin Patch. Let Connie know if you need a pumpkin hat. You and your pet may wear the costumes of your choice. Check the radio, with Connie, or our web site for postponements and cancellations.)	6:30pm
Oct 23 (Mon)	Vintage Knolls Danville (We will be visiting with Danville H.S. students.)	6:45pm
Oct 28 (Sat)	Dog Whisperer (Cesar Millan) Lancaster (For Members who Purchased Tickets)	
Nov 2 (Thurs)	Outlook Pointe Lewisburg	6:45pm
Nov 6 (Mon)	Bucknell University, Coleman Hall Lewisburg TDI Only	6:00pm
Dec 4 (Mon)	Bucknell University, Coleman Hall Lewisburg TDI Only	6:45pm
<u>Every Wednesday</u>	Riverwoods Lewisburg, PA	10:00am
<u>3rd Thursday</u>	Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home, Market St. Sunbury	1:00-1:30pm 1:45pm
<u>Last Thursday</u>	Geisinger Rehab—Health South	2:00-3:00pm

Newsletter Coordinator: Brandon Pastuszek
E-mail: Brandon@stdtc.org
Website: <http://www.stdtc.org>

October 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	5 Grandview (Danville) 6:45pm	6	7
8	9	10	11 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	12 Penn Lutheran (Selinsgrove) 6:45pm	13	14
15	16	17	18 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	19 Sunbury Community Hospital 1pm—1:30pm Mansion Nursing Home (Sunbury) 1:45pm Sunbury Halloween Parade Meet at 6:30pm	20	21
22	23 Vintage Knolls (Danville) 6:45pm	24	25 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	26 Geisinger Rehab (Health South) 2pm—3pm	27	28 Cesar Millan (Lancaster) Must have Purchased Tickets
29	30	31				