

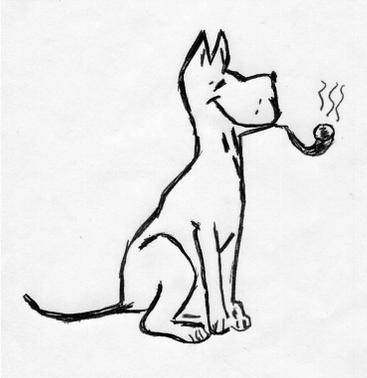


Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2006

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



First, I want to thank everyone who participated in the Riverfest and the Northumberland County Expo, whether bringing their dog or supplying biscuits. People loved seeing our dogs and they did a good job in promoting therapy work.

Before giving your dog some food to eat, give him food for thought. Does your dog play with more of his food than he eats? Does he snatch a kibble or two and deposit it in an undisclosed location? Is he enthusiastic about treats yet uninterested in meals? It's more likely that your dog is hungrier for thought than for food.

Dogs are pack animals and eating is a necessary, daily pack ritual. Dogs whose jobs include carrying out tasks (sit, down, stay) for the people they live with become secure, working members of the family and eat well when food is used as a reward for carrying out these tasks. Dogs who are not required to work for their food tend to become insecure about their pack status, therefore becoming confused when they may or even should eat.

Feeding a meal to a dog for a job well done helps him feel that he has earned the meal. If you give food to your dog for free or leave it for him to eat when he pleases promotes confusion and fosters territorial as well as assertive behaviors. It's vital in the success of the human-dog relationship to remind your dog that you are the hand that feeds. If your dog chooses not to eat when you serve it, pick up the food and offer it later as a reward for completing another task.

Human food added to the dogs diet occasionally is okay. But most dog foods are nutritionally complete and one is bound to be a perfect fit for your dog's needs. If you need to modify the recipe, raw vegetables and some fruits make wonderful treats.

Don't serve a meal to your dog just before you leave the house. Dogs often feel stressed when left behind, so if a meal is offered just before you head out the door the dog learns to treat the meal as a sure signal of departure.

Try to begin the day with a long walk, mix in some obedience commands before feeding, and allow time for him to finish the meal before you dash off for the day. Your dog will become more enthusiastic about his well-earned meal and he'll be too tired to stress about you leaving.

This may require setting your alarm a little earlier but the walk is not only good for your dog but you as well. Think of the calories that you both are burning and it will help the two of you to slim down.

Your dog will love the walk and you will establish an alpha relationship with your best friend.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (August 2, 2006)

Submitted by: Connie Cuff

Report of the President

I want to acknowledge and thank Lydia Storey for her time and effort as our Secretary in the past years. Virginia Pentz has volunteered to be Secretary and I wish to thank her for taking over that position.

Lydia Storey sent me an article on pet insurance. Many companies are claiming to offer pet insurance when they are really offering a discount veterinary plan. With pet insurance you will select a plan and have a deductible. and a certain percentage of veterinary expenses you are responsible for. For example if an operation cost \$2,000 and your deductible was \$250 and the coverage rate was 80/20, you would be responsible for \$600 and your insurance company would pay \$1400. If you had a vet discount policy you would need to take your pet to a participating vet and you would receive 25% off your bill. In this case that would be \$1500. So there is a difference.

I want to congratulate Josette Zielinski for passing the TDI test with CJ.

The 28th Meeting of STDTC was called to order at 7:45 PM at the Goodwill Hose Co Playground, with 16 members present.

Secretary's Report - In the newsletter. Are there any additions or corrections. The minutes are approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

Old Business

Sunbury River Festival Aug. 19. I have morning coverage. Anyone who can help please sign up. If you make dog biscuits be sure to include copy of recipe so we know the ingredients. If you can't make it Sat but can make biscuits, see that we get them before Sat. so we can bag them. Recipes are available on line or I have copies available.

I will be getting in touch with people for the North. Co. Expo and would appreciate anyone who can help that day.

Our picnic is Sunday, Sept 17. I would like everyone to sign up and give the number from your family that will be attending since we need to get soda and hot dogs. We all enjoy the day and will have games for the dogs and everyone bring a dog related gift for the Chinese Auction and a covered dish (with something edible in it of course).

I have flyers for the PA Pet Walk Sept. 9th.

Available to Members are dog club pins and TDI decals for cars (magnetic).

Decals-\$3.00

TDI visit this week is Nottingham Village, North. Visits not included in the newsletter are Sept. 7 Emmanuel Center, Danville and Oct. 5, Grandview, Danville.

New business

I would like discussion on our location here at the playground. We would like to get back to the Marina as I do not want to lose that location and there are benches to sit on. I know August is a hot month and it can be buggy there near the water. After discussion it was decided to stay at the Goodwill Playground until grass is mowed at marina.

Minutes (Continued)

The Sept. meeting will be held at the Marina with a pet massage therapist as a guest speaker. She will do a demonstration for us. She is from Williamsport and is a friend of Marjean Krech.

We will remain at the marina until we move to the Selinsgrove Center about the middle of Oct.

I have two tunnels available for anyone who would like to have them.

Linda Bennett with Winchester who is our Union County Library coordinator has recently had surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Card from Jim Hepner.

Anyone interested in attending Dog Shows. At the Farm Show, Hbg, Fri and Sat Aug 11 & 12 Breed and Obedience. Sun. Aug. 13 Breed only. Mid Susq. Kennel Club Sat & Sun Aug 26, 27 at Middleburg, Breed, Obedience and Rally

Jordan Frederick of Milton's baseball team made to the playoffs and is playing on Friday, we wish them good luck.

Arthor Hagerty, a big dog trainer, passed away recently, Connie read a brief history of his dog training past.

Union County is looking for dogs for its reading to dog program. Dogs MUST be TDI certified. If interested contact info is as follows:

Phone: Home-570-524-7180

Work-570-577-1149

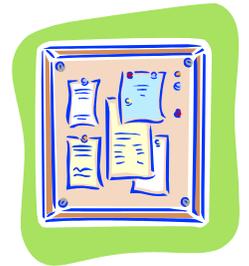
E-Mail: lbennett@bucknell.edu

This is something you set up between you and the client.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM



Notes and Notices



Anyone interested in adopting a pet from Mostly Mutts can apply on line. Their web site is mostlymuttsonline.com.

We will be putting on a demonstration at the PA Pet Walk on Sept. 9 at 12:00 noon. I would appreciate as many members as possible to participate. We have all levels of trained dogs and it is good for the public to see how dogs progress. The demonstration will just be what we do at class. Any dogs that can do tricks will make it more fun.

Our picnic is Sept. 17 and I'm hoping we have a nice turn out. The dogs enjoy the day and it's a day off from cooking and we all enjoy fellowship. Please sign up so we can purchase the hot dogs and soda. Remember a covered dish and a gift for the Chinese auction. The time for the picnic is 1:00 p.m. at Pavilion 2.

We will be moving to the Selinsgrove Center sometime in October. The day will change to Tuesday nights at 7:00. We'll be starting our class at the Marina on Wednesday for the month of September at 6:30.

It is not too early to think about the Sunbury Halloween parade in October. We would like to do a theme this year and Molly Bittenbender purchased pumpkin caps for us to wear so keep that in mind when you design your costume.

Debbie Stark's Goldens, Maggie and Brodie, participated in the "Kingminster" at King's College in June. The show consists of dogs belonging to members of the King's community, and it benefits the SPCA. Maggie won "Friendliest," and Brodie won a trophy for "Best In Show!" This was their second year participating in the show. Congratulations from all of us at the Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club.

Dog Philosophy

Submitted by Connie Cuff

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

"The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue."

"The average dog is a nicer person than the average person."

—Andy Rooney

"Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog."

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole."

—Roger Caras

"If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then give him only two of them."

"My goal in life is to be as good of a person my dog already thinks I am."

—Anonymous

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Sept 7 (Thurs)	Emmanuel Center Danville	6:45pm
Sept 9 (Sat)	PA Pets Shikellamy Marina (Dog Bite Prevention, TDI/CGC Testing) Demo	10:00am-3:00pm 12:00pm
Sept 14 (Thurs)	Manor Care Sunbury	6:45pm
Sept 17 (Sun)	Club Picnic Pavilion 2	1:00pm
Oct 5 (Thurs)	Grandview Danville	6:45pm
Oct 28 (Sat)	Dog Whisperer (Cesar Millan) Lancaster (For Members who Purchased Tickets)	
<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
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Website: <http://www.stdtc.org>

September 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	7 Emmanuel Center (Danville) 6:45pm	8	9 PA Pets (Marina) 10am—3pm Demo 12pm
10	11	12	13 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	14 Manor Care (Sunbury) 6:45pm	15	16
17 Club Picnic Pavilion 2 (Marina) 1pm	18	19	20 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	21 Sunbury Community Hospital 1pm—1:30pm Mansion Nursing Home (Sunbury) 1:45pm	22	23
24	25	26	27 Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	28 Geisinger Rehab (Health South) 2pm—3pm	29	30