



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2010

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



These are some helpful training tips which bear repeating, even to me as a trainer since we jump to big steps instead of looking back on the basics.

Take training in small steps at the pace of your dog. It is better to succeed slowly in small steps than to try big steps and fail.

Even clever dogs can encounter difficulties. Distractions, the activity you are teaching, and the tools you are using can all create barriers to learning and retention of what has been learned.

We are always training. 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 52 weeks a year. Good behaviors need repeating many times to become a habit. Be a trainer always.

Help your dog, put it in a position where it can do right. Nothing succeeds like success. By channeling his thoughts, actions and directions to do what you are teaching and succeed, you will avoid mistakes.

Guide and show, and always give your dog the benefit of the doubt if it goes wrong. Sometimes dogs do not understand what we mean - even when we think they do. Distance, environment, body communication, distractions all affect interpretation and understanding.

Even dogs have off days. An upset stomach, tiredness, muscle strain, a mood swing, a female in season can create off days.

Be patient, take your time, and keep calm. Count to 20 and then put your dog in a position where it learns what is required.

Be confident, positive and clear in all you do. A dog cannot be confident unless you, as a trainer, are confident, so the dog believes in you and wants to follow your guidance.

Stop on a high when your dog is doing well. Stop on success with each session.

**Old Friends (Continued)**

Training is exercise. Make exercise and training fun and they can become so related they are one and the same.

Never be too proud to go back to the basics.

Be Fair, be fair, be firm, but always HAVE FUN

"If you aim at nothing, more than likely you'll hit it"  
--Laverne Hart

Till next time,

*Connie*

## Minutes (August 3, 2010)

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of the STDTC was called to order by Pres. Connie Cuff with 27 members present.

**Report of the President:** It is so nice to see everyone working hard at training even though we have had such a warm summer. We have two more people who have received TDI on their dogs, Josette Zelinske with her husky and Jan Mull with Sophie Love.

Some one left a water dish.

We welcome the Hoffman family from Williamsport, Emily, Anna, Kate and Mikela with their Golden Retriever, Missy.

I have thank you notes from our demo at the Sunbury YMCA.

There is a dog show in Middleburg on Sat., Aug. 28 and Sun., Aug. 29.

**Treasurers Report:** Same as last month.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of July 2010 were approved as written in August Newsletter.

**New Business:** Katie Davis has mentioned that LARA will sponsor a pool party for dogs at the Lewisburg Community Pool on Sat., Sept. 11. We will have more details on this event when it becomes available. Marjean will begin the new AKC Star Class on Aug. 11.

On Wed., Sept. 11 we are scheduled to put on a demo for the residents at the Selinsgrove Center at 6:45 PM. This is their annual picnic and a big affair. I'm hoping we have a good turn out since the center is kind enough to let us use their gym in the winter.

Mary Lou Walsh is working with 5 different facilities to prepare for our Christmas Party. Susq. Valley Country Club, Townside, La Primivera, Ted's on the Hill, and Front St. Station. At the Townside, they are moving their dinners to a new location which is BYOB and since this is a club function, to protect us from any litigation, no one can bring alcohol to this event. At the Front St. Station, there is minimum of 50 people for the buffet, and in the past we have close to 40 attending, so that also should be considered. We will have a ballot for voting on this at our Sept. meeting. Only those who plan to attend should vote on our party.

We have been asked by the Red Cross to set up a table at the Sunbury Social Club for an event which they are sponsoring for Fire Prevention Week. The date is Sat., Oct. 2 and we will bring our dogs. I will have literature to pass out and can show the children the correct way to pet a dog. There will be fire trucks there and other activities for children. I will let everyone know the time. I told them we could do from 2-4 hours.

**Old Business:** I would like to make a report about the flag. Kevin, who is now member of the flag committee, met with them on July 28. Larry Erdley made an apology to him in front of the group. They have indicated that we will lead the parade with being carried horizontally, Kevin told them he will try to coordinate with the Wounded Warriors to do a marathon to raise money for them in the State of PA. They will end up in Lewisburg the day of the parade. He will also have an army helicopter for the parade. He plans to talk to his Col. and would like to bring bus loads of soldiers from Walter Reed to view the parade at a viewing platform. I'm hoping we can have a nice turn out, which is scheduled for the last Sat. in June. Since we will start the parade, our placement will be at the High School. Please mark your calendars now even though it is a year away.

Please sign up to help at the Northumberland County Expo - If you can't be there that day and can make dog bones it would be appreciated. Our demo will be at 1 PM so I'm hoping I will have a nice group and we will also square dance.

This Thursday our visit is at Emmanuel Center on Rt 11 Danville at 6:45 PM. You do not need to be TDI.

Meeting adjourned.  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Ginny Pentz, Secretary

## Breed of the Month

### Dachshund

submitted by Connie Cuff

These hot-dog-shaped hounds have keen noses, wanderlust and independent spirits.

One breeder discusses temperament with potential buyers stressing you can't trust a Dachshund off-leash.

Centuries of breeding gave this dog the shape, strength, and tenacity to chase badgers through brush and into burrows (Dachshund means "badger dog" in German).

Specialized varieties emerged in the 17th and 18th centuries: the Smooth for following prey into burrows and the Wirehaired for over-land hunting and tracking.

The Wirehair's boldness and courage suggest Terrier influence. The Longhair has a calmer demeanor. The Smooth tends to scheme. Longhairs are very happy just to sit on the couch with you and watch a tennis match. Smooths are more fickle. They are too busy stealing each other's toys to hang out with you.



All varieties pose obedience challenges. That little bit of stubbornness, combined with their high intelligence, make obedience training extremely important.

They can get along with cats and older children who know how to handle small dogs.

They excel as watchdogs and their playfulness keeps owners amused. Food motivates them more than anything so they easily can become obese which is dangerous for this breed.

Disc disease is a serious and painful condition which can result in temporary or permanent paralysis. Contributing factors are obesity, jumping from high places and sharp side-to-side movements.

Whatever the size, color or coat type, the unforgettable wiener dog wiggles its way into people's hearts. You just can't help but fall in love with them. It is nice to have Joannah Skucek from Mifflinburg with Dascha a dachshund with us.



## Notes and Notices



**Our annual picnic will be held at the Shikellamy Marina on Sunday Sept. 28 at 1:00 pm. Hot dogs and soda will be provided. Everyone should bring a covered dish, place setting, something for the Chinese auction and of course the dog. Please sign up.**

**There is a swimming party for dogs sponsored by LARA Lewisburg on Sat. Sept. 11 from 4 to 7. Cost is \$7 for the dog, adults free. Rabies and license required.**

**A letter was recently sent to the Citizens Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service to promote a postage stamp honoring all the dogs that have served in all the wars. Members of our club along with the National Guard of Berwick gave their signatures. Terry Burns will keep us posted on its progress.**

**We are providing a ballot at class to vote on the location of our Christmas party. Anyone who plans to attend is asked to give their opinion.**

**A big thank you to everyone who helped in anyway at the Northumberland County Fair. Our dogs enjoyed getting together even though the participation was disappointing.**

**We will not be attending Building Bridges with our therapy program until further notice.**

**We welcome new members:**

**Tami Diehl from Lewisburg with Beemer, a Yorkshire terrier  
Joannah Skucek from Mifflinburg with Dascha, a Dachshund  
Rosemary And John Mattisini from Danville with Sunny, a Cocker Spaniel  
Kathy Temple from Sunbury with a Yellow Lab  
Cathy Bryner from Mifflinburg with a Shih Tzu**

**On Oct. 2, at the Sunbury Social Club we will have a booth set up for a Family Fun Day sponsored by the American Red Cross for Fire Prevention Week. I will have more information about time. If anyone could help with this project let Connie know.**

**We would like once again to participate in the annual Sunbury Halloween Parade. We will be discussing the theme and details at class. Anyone who has any ideas please let us know.**

**I will be signing the contract for the Selinsgrove Center beginning the first week in October. Since darkness is setting in early, I will try to begin class by 6:15. We notify Everyone by E-mail when we move to the Selinsgrove Center.**

## UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Sept. 2 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Manor Care, Sunbury</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Sept. 8 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 9 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Northwestern Academy Life Geisinger Shamokin Hospital</b>	<b>1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm</b>
<b>Sept. 11 (Sat)</b>	<b>Pool Party sponsored by LARA at Lewisburg Pool</b>	<b>4:00pm - 7:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 14 (Tues)</b>	<b>Medium Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only)</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 15 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 16 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners</b>	<b>1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm</b>
<b>Sept. 20 (Mon)</b>	<b>Bucknell University</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 22 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 23 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Penn Lutheran, Selinsgrove</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>
<b>Sept. 26 (Sun)</b>	<b>Club Picnic, Shikellamy Marina</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 27 (Mon)</b>	<b>Reading Chief Shikellamy, Sunbury</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 29 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 30 (Thur)</b>	<b>Health South, Geisinger</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>

# September 2010

US Holidays

Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

August 2010

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				

September 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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26	27	28	29	30		

October 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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
29	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Beginner Training</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced Training</li> </ul>	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Beginner Training</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced Training</li> </ul>	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:45 PM Manor Care</li> </ul>	3	4
5	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Labor Day</li> </ul>	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Beginner Training</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced Training</li> </ul>	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Northwestern Academy</li> <li>2:00 PM Life Geisinger</li> <li>2:45 PM Shamokin Hospital</li> </ul>	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4:00 PM Pool Party sponsored by LARA</li> </ul>	11
12	13	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:00 PM Medium Prison, Allenwood (NCIC Only)</li> <li>6:15 PM Beginner Training</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced Training</li> </ul>	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>	16 <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>	17	18
19	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00 PM Bucknell University</li> </ul>	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Beginner Training</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced Training</li> </ul>	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:45 PM Penn Lutheran</li> </ul>	24	25
26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00 PM Club Picnic</li> </ul>	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 AM Reading (Chief Shikellamy)</li> </ul>	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15 PM Beginner Training</li> <li>7:00 PM Advanced Training</li> </ul>	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South</li> </ul>	1	2