



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2011

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



We all have our success stories about animal adoptions but this one certainly needs some recognition.

Radar was a beautiful German Shepherd boy who was surrendered to an LA County Animal Shelter when he was 9 months old. He was due to be euthanized at the shelter due to overcrowding until Westside German Shepherd Rescue stepped in to save this hunky boy as they do with so many others. Yet Radar's rescue story did not end there; it was soon learned that he had a genetic condition where his hair follicles were growing on the lining of the eyes. The poor boy was in such discomfort and could barely open his eyes. He would have to have laser surgery to fix the condition, so Westside German Shepherd Rescue began fundraising for his treatment.

Nothing broke Radar's spirit. He stayed a happy, sweet boy throughout the ordeal, and recovered nicely. Months later, a kind police officer adopted Radar when he fell in love with his profile on Adopt-a-Pet.com. His new owner enrolled him in bomb-sniffing school.

Turned out it's a good thing he did because Radar had a gift. He graduated in the top of his bomb-sniffing school class and is now one of the best bomb-sniffing dogs in the country. Radar is considered a full-on LAPD officer and was flown to Washington for the Presidential Inauguration to help protect President Obama! It's quite a leap from shelter to White House. Goes to show you never know how grand a dog can be when given a little love and security. Radar's life was luckily saved and now he works to save other lives. Best of all, he reminds us all to vote adoption.

I know of many volunteers who help Cheryl Hill at Mostly Mutts, including Sara Fry who has been volunteering there for years. I meet college students at Bucknell when we visit with TDI and they speak of their volunteer work at shelters.

All of us have something to share as a volunteer doing TDI work, helping the homeless animals or a project that has been started called SPAN (seniorspets.org). They assist senior citizens with pets to keep the human-pet

### Old Friends (Continued)

bond intact by working with veterinarians or donating food. They also are involved in Meals on Wheels Pet Food Distribution.

You may know of some elderly person with an animal who may need some help with food, walking the dog or a ride to the Veterinarian. We all enjoy our pets and seniors especially need that companionship, sometimes it takes a little digging, though.

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

--Mother Teresa

Till next time,

*Connie*

## **Minutes (August 2, 2011)**

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of STDTC was called to order by Pres. Connie Cuff.

**Report of President:** I want to publicly thank everyone who participated with the flag at the Cavalcade of Champions. Everyone did an awesome job and Kevin sends his thanks also.

It was a wonderful evening for those who viewed the Cavalcade. I sent a letter to Atty. Showalter thanking him for allowing us to participate and also for our seats for the performance.

### **Report of Treasurer:**

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

**Report of Secretary:** Minutes of July Meeting were approved as written in August newsletter.

**New Business:** Our picnic is scheduled for Sun. Sept 25 at 1:00 PM. I have a sign-up sheet for those who wish to attend. Since I don't see everyone on a regular basis, I'm starting early as I need to know the amount of hot dogs and soda to purchase.

I also have a sign-up sheet for the expo. If you do not intend to do the costume parade I would appreciate our coming to the Demo at 6:00 PM. New dogs are welcome even though you have been only training for awhile.

Phil Halden sent a letter to the Nothumberland Borough Council proposing a swim for dogs as a fundraiser for the Norry Pool. We would have a training session along with a swim; along with a swim for the dogs.

**TDI Visits this month:** Grayson View this Thurs. at 6:30PM  
Penn Lutheran, Aug 8th  
Nottingham Village, Aug 29th

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted  
Ginny Pentz, Secretary

## **Breed of the Month**

### **French Bulldog**

submitted by Connie Cuff

The French Bulldog and its popular cousin the Bulldog, are descended from mastiff-type breeds. In the early part of the 19th Century in Britain, blood sports were outlawed and the Bulldog became one of Britain's most enduring symbols. By 1850, small Bulldogs were a common sight and as the Industrial Revolution forced many English laborers to France in search of employment, many would not leave without their little Bulldogs. This was good news to the British who were set on standardizing dogs at 50 or more pounds.



It wasn't long before these game little dogs caught the interest of the French. As a working dog, it was prized for its protective nature as well as its exceptional ability as a rat exterminator and badger hunter. More than this, it proved itself to be the most loyal of companions with a clown-like, charismatic personality.

By 1880, their popularity was widespread and soon they were being exported regularly to the U.S. It was the Americans who were the first to organize a French Bulldog Club in France and their formal breed recognition with the AKC was in 1898.

The French Bulldog should be alert, intelligent and exhibit sensible guardian instincts. They enjoy a good time, and though notoriously stubborn, they're adaptable and adept at knowing when to play or when it's time to just sit on the couch watching TV.

Sociable Frenchies thrive on companionship and are usually placed in situations where people work from home, take their dogs on the job or have non-traditional schedules.

Frenchies do not require clipping or special grooming, just an occasional bath and nail trim with special attention to cleaning the ears and facial wrinkles is sufficient.

It is a short-faced breed, and as a result are susceptible to various ailments and physical restrictions. Special care should be given during warm weather. Most French Bulldogs are delivered by caesarean section and because of these precautions and the necessity of veterinary care, the cost of a Frenchie is high.

In all respects, the delightful French Bulldog is a gem. It is ideal in size, easy to maintain and like the French themselves, a bit eccentric, sensitive and interminably lovable. We are glad to have Heidi Kling from Mifflinburg with her French Bulldog, Moose in our AKC Star Puppy Class.



## Notes and Notices



**Our annual picnic will be held at the Shikellamy State Park on Sunday, Sept. 25 at 1:00pm. Rain or shine. We will provide the hot dogs and soda. Please bring table service, a covered dish and your dog. Also, bring a dog related item for the Chinese Auction. It is a wonderful day of fun and fellowship with our dogs.**

**Doggie Dips will be held at the Lewisburg Pool on Sat. Sept. 10 and Tues. Sept. 13 from 4:00pm to 7:30pm. The Dog Club will be participating with dog training at the pool at 5:30pm. I have asked for volunteers that evening and also with help in making dog bones to sell. Since I will be in Lewisburg that evening, there will not be any beginner or advanced classes at the Marina. Puppy class with Marjean will be conducted as usual at the Marina. Her Star Puppy Classes have been broken up and one will begin at 6:00pm and the second at 6:45pm.**

**Beginning with classes Sept. 6, our Advanced Class will begin at 6:00pm and Beginners and CGC/ TDI training will start at 6:45 due to the change in daylight. We will notify everyone by E-mail when we will move to the Selinsgrove Center.**

**Take a Magic Carpet Ride to CPAA's 7th Annual Woofstock Benefit which benefit's the spay/neuter fund, an alliance of animal rescue ([www.cpaa.info](http://www.cpaa.info)). It will be held rain or shine on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011 from 11:00am to 5:00pm at Riverfront Park, Harrisburg.**

**There is a Senior Expo being held at the Sunbury YMCA on Thursday, Oct. 20 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. If anyone is available to help us that day I would appreciate it. We will have our dogs for petting and pass out literature.**

**I know many of us are dog walkers and use the Shikellamy State park where there are many dogs walked on a leash. (required) Some of you may walk your dogs in isolated areas and may be alone with your dog. Recently an article in Cesar's Way made mention of a woman who was walking her dog and was attacked by a dog that was unleashed. She mentions there was no one to help her and she had problems getting back to her car.**

**Her advice was when walking your dog alone, always carry a cell phone, ID, and emergency contact information. If you have a medical condition, wear your medical-alert necklace or bracelet. Also, in isolated areas carry pepper spray and a whistle. Make sure your dog's tag contains your information: name address, and phone no.**

## UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Sept. 5 (Mon)</b>	<b>LABOR DAY</b>	
<b>Sept. 7 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 8 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Northwestern Academy</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Life Geisinger</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
	<b>Shamokin Hospital</b>	<b>3:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 10 (Sat)</b>	<b>Pool Party, Lewisburg Pool</b>	<b>4:00-7:30pm</b>
<b>Sept. 13 (Tues)</b>	<b>NO BEGINNERS OR ADVANCED CLASSES</b>	
	<b>AT THE MARINA</b>	
	<b>Pool Party, Lewisburg Pool</b>	<b>4:00-7:30pm</b>
	<b>Obedience Training</b>	<b>5:30pm</b>
<b>Sept. 14 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 15 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Sunbury Community Hospital</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
	<b>Mansion Nursing Home</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
	<b>Sunshine Corners</b>	<b>2:45pm</b>
<b>Sept. 19 (Mon)</b>	<b>Emmanuel Nursing Home, Danville</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>
<b>Sept. 21 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 25 (Sun)</b>	<b>Club Picnic, Shikellamy Marina</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 28 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 29 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Oct. 6 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Vintage Knolls, Danville, Demo and Visit</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>

# September 2011

US Holidays

Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

August 2011  
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  
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September 2011  
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October 2011  
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30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 6:30 PM Nottingham Village	30 6:30 PM Advanced Training 7:30 PM Beginner Training	31 10:00 AM Riverwoods	1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6 6:00 PM Advanced Training 6:45 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 4:00 PM Pool Party (Lewisburg Pool)
11	12	13 MARINA CLASSES CANCELLED 4:00 PM Pool Party (Lewisburg Pool) 5:30 PM Obedience Training (Lewisburg Pool)	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 6:30 PM Emmanuel Nursing Home	20 6:00 PM Advanced Training 6:45 PM Beginner Training	21 10:00 AM Riverwoods	22	23	24
25	26	27 6:00 PM Advanced Training 6:45 PM Beginner Training	28 10:00 AM Riverwoods	29 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	30	1
1:00 PM Club Picnic (Shikellamy Marina)						