



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2012

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Think like your dog - It is not solely the dog's responsibility to adapt to the desires of its trainer. More importantly, it is the trainer's job to learn what environmental cues evoke the desired correct response from the dog - your particular dog.

A number of factors influence every dog's capacity to accept training - personality, previous training experience, age, health, sex, breed and the relationship you have with the dog.

Dogs are highly attentive creatures. They are capable of registering your facial expression, voice tone, even body language. They require consistency of method to supply peak performance. Take, for example, you give your dog a wait command and slowly walk away with no confidence and with your shoulders slouched, anticipating that he will follow you. The dog is receiving conflicting information and will break. The correct procedure would be a firm wait, walk erect and natural away from your dog. As you face your dog with your hands at your side and a happy confident expression, call your dog to you. All of these cues should be consistent as our dogs learn from repetition.

Much more gratifying, however, is genuine praise for a job well done. Praise is something you carry always, and never run out of (like treats).

We use food as a motivator technique to reduce stress when learning a new exercise. Once a dog has learned the correct response to given commands through food training the dog should be weaned away from the tidbit bribery. Gradually phase out the treat but continue to heap on praise.

When we work toward the CGC or TDI title, we want our dogs to respond to us through praise since food is not allowed during testing. Also many are still working with prong collars. In the CGC a martingale or a buckle collar can be used. In TDI testing only a buckle collar or a regular harness are permitted.

Old Friends (Continued)

From time to time we need to analyze our own training. Learn to see the world as your dog sees. Understand that both you and your dog, as you train together, are undertaking a mutual learning experience. Both will be rewarded as you work together, developing a more understanding relationship and harmonious progress toward your goals.

Tip from Marjean - Maintenance training. It normally takes 6-8 months for long-term memory to go into effect. Generalize the good behaviors that you and your dog have learned. Use your obedience in real life, everyday situations. Take your dog to the park and practice new behaviors there, at the vet, on the grooming table. Most of all practice at home during your daily routine.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (August 7, 2012)

submitted by Karen Sodrick

Report of the President

No Class at the Marina, Tues. Sept. 11.

Picnic at the Marina, Sun. Sept. 23, there is a sign-up sheet.

Swim Parties: Milton, Aug. 19, Northumberland, Aug. 25, 26, Lewisburg Sept. 8, 11.

Report of the Treasurer

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

New Business

TDI has sent out an E-mail on Chapters. Everything the club does is under the name Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club. Chapters are formed by people who do not belong to a club, but wish to visit as a group. Everyone has their own certification and can visit whether with a group or by themselves.

Marjean's training tips will be included in the Newsletter.

Visit at Emmanuel Home, in Northumberland.

Breed of the Month

Miniature Pinscher

submitted by Connie Cuff

Don't let the small size fool you. Minis can chew like big dogs and destroy a room in minutes. And don't mess with their toys! They know what is theirs and don't mind defending it. Minis require sturdy toys they can't dismantle into choking hazards.

The origin of the Min Pin is Germany. Some think of this breed as a mini Doberman but they are their own breed in the Toy Group. It has a nature and way about it suggestive of a much larger dog. Their activity level is high and must live indoors. They can live with other pets if introduced carefully; no for small animals.

Nothing fuels a mini like a good show of audience appreciation. It is a born show dog, noted for its lively temperament and intelligence. At a flyball match, one owner's dog would stop mid-relay to get a laugh from the crowd.

Early socialization and training and obedience classes are vital for this breed. Minis are notoriously vocal, even aggressive, when it comes to other dogs. As far as the mini is concerned, the bigger the better. A Min Pin must be treated like a real dog. If you treat them like froufrou dogs, they'll become little dictators. They are very protective of their owners. As one owner stated, her mini is a little devil outside and scares people away with its barking but inside he's a perfect angel, incredibly loving, even needy. Their fondness for home and master is exceptional.

We are glad to have Collette Brandt and her Min Pin Harley with us.





Notes and Notices



Many of you have asked what dog foods we use. There is a web site that describes foods and gives ratings for them. <http://www.dogfoodadvisor.com/>

There are pool parties at the Lewisburg pool on Sat. Sept 8 and Tues Sept. 11 from 4 to 7:30pm. No class at the Marina on Sept. 11.

Anyone interested in a 5/K Run/Walk with your dog can pre-register online at golara.org. This event is sponsored by Lewisburg Area Recreation. By pre-registering by Sept. 7 you will save \$5.

Our club picnic will be held Sun. Sept. 23 at the Shikellamy State Park at 1pm. This is held rain or shine since we have reserved Pavilion 2. The Club provides soda and hot dogs. Everyone brings a covered dish and table service, along with something for the Chinese Auction which should be dog related. We will have games for the dogs and are looking forward to a nice day with our friends. If you have not signed up at class and would like to attend, please let me know as I need a head count to purchase hot dogs and soda.

Our classes at the Marina will be held until darkness becomes a problem. I will begin the advanced class at 6:15pm and the beginners at 7:00pm. I have signed the contract for our classes at the Selinsgrove Center for the fall and winter months. You will be notified when we will move from the park. If you have any questions as to our location, please contact me. There are directions on our web site.

On Sunday, Sept. 9 we will be at Knoebels Grove in Elysburg to visit foster children from Concern who will have a picnic at Pavilion D located next to the Ferris Wheel. We plan on starting at 1:30pm and will have a short visit with them. After, our dogs can enjoy walking through the park and meeting families while we can enjoy some tasty food.

We welcome new members; Barbara Blakley from Selinsgrove with lab mix, Sammie, and JoAnn Kohl from Sunbury with lab mix, Lola.

Karen Sodrnick will take over as our Recording Secretary and Kelly Pastuszek will keep our applications and shot records up-to-date. Many thanks to Ginny for her years of service to the club.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Sept. 3 (Mon)	LABOR DAY	
Sept. 5 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 8 (Sat)	Doggie Dips, Lewisburg Pool	4pm to 7:30pm
Sept. 9 (Sun)	Knoebels Grove, Elysburg Pavilion D (Concern)	1:30pm
Sept. 11 (Tues)	Doggie Dips, Lewisburg Pool NO CLASS SHIKELLAMY MARINA	4pm to 7:30pm
Sept. 12 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 13 (Thurs)	Northwestern Academy Life Geisinger Shamokin Hospital	1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm
Sept. 19 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 20 (Thurs)	Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Home Sunshine Corners	1:00pm 2:00pm 2:45pm
Sept. 22 (Sat)	Doggie Dash, Rail to Trail LARA Lewisburg	9:30am
Sept. 23 (Sun)	Club Picnic, Shikellamy Marina Pavilion 2 (Rain or Shine)	1:00pm
Sept. 24 (Mon)	Bucknell University, Coleman Hall	6pm to 8pm
Sept. 26 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 27 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm

September 2012

August 2012

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September 2012

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October 2012

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- Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
- US Holidays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 12:00 PM Medium Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only) ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Labor Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 4:00 PM Doggie Dips (LARA, Lewisburg Pool)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:30 PM Concern Foster Families, Knoebels Grove (Pavilion D) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CLASSES CANCELED ■ 4:00 PM Doggie Dips (LARA, Lewisburg Pool) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy ■ 2:00 PM Life Geisinger ■ 3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital 		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital ■ 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home ■ 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM Doggie Dash
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:00 PM Club Picnic (Pavilion 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell University, Coleman Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South 		
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training ■ 7:00 PM CCG/TDI Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods 			