



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2018

## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



Our dogs count on us for nearly everything - especially our ability to understand them and communicate with them.

Human - dog companionship is supposed to be a bilateral relationship. We reward them with - GOOD DOG! when they are, and they have a right to expect us to be good people in return.

People think they are being good since we feed, walk, keep them healthy, bathe and give them toys, but these are only the basic job requirements.

The mistake we make is assuming that they understand us better than they do and then becoming frustrated when they don't. Human communication is based on speech, to a dog this is just too much noise. Trying to get dogs to understand the world through words would be like them trying to understand it through smells. It just doesn't work.

It doesn't mean speech never has meaning to the canine brain, but what your dog is actually reading is your mood and tone and the expression on your face.

Dogs can learn the sound of a word with an object or action - sit, stay, fetch, ball, walk - but only if you don't clutter up the command with a lot of other, extraneous words.

Humans can convey meaning through posture, facial cue, eye contact, smiling. communication is not just a one-way transaction. Dogs are forever trying to train us. Being attentive to their type of training can have a healthy effect on the human - dog relationship.

Being a good human companion is less about what you do than what you don't do. When it comes to punishing a dog, Don't. There are kind effective modes of training that work very well. Companionship - the dogs which are left at home all day and look happy when you return doesn't mean the long hours you were gone weren't miserable.

For all of the richness and complexity of the human-dog relationship there is a golden - rule: "What counts is just being a basic, good person. Just take care of your animal."

It is the nature of dogs to love us almost to distraction. It ought to be in our nature to be worthy of that love.

Till next time,

*Connie*



## Notes and Notices



**Congratulations to Star Puppy Grads: Elizabeth Pavis and Hamilton, Carla Minori and Stella, Susan Belotti and Katie Scarlett**

**I have signed the contract for the Selinsgrove Center Gym - please check Club emails and the web site and Facebook for the starting date in Sept. Also check Spam mail as some have said they are not receiving Club emails.**

**The Club picnic is Sunday, Sept. 16 at the Shikellamy State Park Marina Pavilion #2 at 1:00pm. We supply hot dogs and drinks and you are asked to bring a covered dish and an item for the Chinese Auction which should be dog related. We do games with our dogs and everyone enjoys the day with good food and family and friends spending time together. I need to have your invite response so I can prepare for the day. You can add to the list at class or send an email to our web site.**

**Please check the Doggie Swims which are listed on the calendar.**

**I received a thank you from Arc of the Susquehanna Valley for our donation in memory of Jan Mull. Congratulations to Taylor Little and Mollie for passing the ATD Therapy Test.**

**We are working on the Sunbury Halloween Parade. It will be held on Thursday, Oct. 18. If anyone is interested, please let us know so we can coordinate this event.**

**Just a reminder - Once your dog is tested and certified through any organization, you are responsible to follow all the rules that this group requires. You do not visit under the name of STDTC. All your insurance is covered under your testing therapy group.**

**The Club raised \$354.00 for SUN P.E.T.S at the Doggie Swim at the Sunbury Community Pool with 43 Dogs attending. Thank you to all that were able to help that day.**

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

<b>Aug. 31 (Fri)</b>	<b>Doggie Swim, Lewisburg</b>	<b>4:30pm - 7:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 1 Sat)</b>	<b>Doggie Swim, Lewisburg</b>	<b>Noon - 4:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 2 (Sun)</b>	<b>Doggie Swim, Lewisburg</b>	<b>Noon - 4:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 3 (Mon)</b>	<b>LABOR DAY</b>	
<b>Sept. 5 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 6 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Maria Joseph Manor Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>	<b>1:00pm 2:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 9 (Sun)</b>	<b>Doggie Dips Swim, Knoebels</b>	<b>11:00am - 3:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 10 (Mon)</b>	<b>Five Star, Sunbury Rockwell Center, Milton</b>	<b>1:00pm 6:30pm</b>
<b>Sept. 12 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 13 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Bloomsburg Univ. Welcome Students Shamokin Hospital VNA</b>	<b>9:00am - 11:00am 12:15pm 1:15pm</b>
<b>Sept. 16 (Sun)</b>	<b>Shikellamy State Park Marina Club Picnic</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 19 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 20 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Sunbury Hospital Mansion Manor Care</b>	<b>1:00pm 1:45pm 2:15pm</b>
<b>Sept. 25 (Tues)</b>	<b>Low Security, Allenwood</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>
<b>Sept. 26 (Wed)</b>	<b>Riverwoods</b>	<b>10:00am</b>
<b>Sept. 27 (Thurs)</b>	<b>Bloomsburg Univ. SSC Lobby Vintage Knolls Geisinger Rehab Health South</b>	<b>10:00am -12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm</b>

# September 2018

August 2018

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1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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September 2018

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October 2018

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28	29	30	31			

■ Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club  
 ■ US Holidays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 ■ 12:00 PM Doggie Swim	27 ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell Univ (ATD only)	28 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	29 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	30 ■ 10:00 AM Bloomsburg Univ. ■ 1:00 PM Emmanuel ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	31 ■ 4:30 PM Doggie Dips	1 ■ 12:00 PM Doggie Dips
2 ■ 12:00 PM Doggie Dips	3 Labor Day	4 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	5 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	6 ■ 1:00 PM Maria Joseph Manor ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab, Health South	7	8
9 ■ 11:00 AM Doggie Dips Swim	10 ■ 1:00 PM Five Star ■ 6:30 PM Rockwell Center	11 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	12 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	13 ■ 9:00 AM Bloomsburg University ■ 12:15 PM Shamokin Hospital ■ 1:15 PM VNA	14	15
16 ■ 1:00 PM Shikellamy State Park Marina Club Picnic	17	18 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	19 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	20 ■ 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital Home ■ 2:15 PM Manor Care	21	22
23	24 ■ 12:00 PM Low Security, Allenwood ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	25 ■ 12:00 PM Low Security, Allenwood ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	26 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	27 ■ 10:00 AM Bloomsburg Univ. SSC Lobby ■ 1:00 PM Vintage Knolls ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	28	29
30	1 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	2 ■ 6:15 PM Training ■ 7:15 PM Beginner Training	3 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	4	5	6