



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

December 2011

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



As we approach the holidays our lives become busy - shopping, decorating, baking, etc. and we tend to become lax in monitoring our dogs exercise and activity level.

Don't forget your daily walks, not just on the sunny ones. There will be days when it is raining or cold. Days when you are tired or have a headache. But if you look for them there will be opportunities to enjoy the moment every day - even if it's the moment of coming back to a warm dry home at the end of a walk on a wet, winter one!

Over the holidays our dogs may need discipline as there are situations which need attention. Most people punish a dog after he has done something wrong. Remember to catch your dog in the act in order to correct his misbehavior.

Dogs are masters at reading body language and understanding facial expression. They recognize fury from the stance, angry look, and tone of voice, but they cannot understand the raging word.

Be sure to reward your dog for good behavior, if using treats, a toy or just praise and affection. This is the way dogs learn what they are doing right better than discipline for what they are doing wrong.

Our Club has come a long way in training our dogs in all kinds of situations. We never know when a certain condition will cause our dogs fear or excitement so we must prepare them for all levels of activity.

Every dog learns at different levels and over the years personalities can change. By coming to class we can keep these activities in check.

Old Friends (Continued)

I am so proud of every one of you and for all the help you have given me this year. People ask me all the time, "Can you train my dog". My reply is, " I will train you to train your dog". All of you as members are dog trainers and as a group we help each other.

May the coming year, 2012 bring everyone together as dog trainers to make the quality of life with our dogs better for all of us.

"The nice thing about the holidays is that you can make people forget the past with a present."

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (November 1, 2011)

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: As I have mentioned at class, we will not meet here on Dec. 6, 13 & 20. I will be here for anyone who would like to train on Dec. 27. Every one should keep up with training commands especially with company. It is a good time to hone in on your training skills.

I want to thank everyone for their participation in the Halloween parade. A special thanks to Bonnie Wicker, Myre Dietrich, Laurie Cooper and the driver of the float who all made this possible. We took 2nd in Sunbury & Northumberland.

The YMCA affair went very well and we met many people who enjoyed seeing the dogs.

Report of the Secretary: Minutes for the October meeting were approved as written in the November newsletter.

Report of the Treasurer:

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

New Business: We are preparing for our annual Christmas party. It will be held at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club and we ask everyone to be there by 5 PM. We will do a Chinese Auction and any item will do, it does not have to be a dog-related. We have a gift exchange, which is for the dogs and you wrap them. We also take donations for Mostly Mutts, which can be monetary or dog food, etc. This year we will have entertainment by Rick Lorady.

I am asking if anyone has reached their quota of TDI visits to give me your name, dog's name and number of visits as soon as possible.

Marjean will begin a Star Puppy Class in January if we get a quota of 6 people, so if you know of anyone who is interested, please let me know as we are making up a list.

We have a visit at Grayson View this Thurs at 6:30 PM. Please try to come with your dog as the residents really enjoy the visit.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Virginia Pentz, Secretary

Breed of the Month

Australian Terrier

submitted by Connie Cuff

When you read about Australian Terriers, you hear about brave hunting dogs, but they are really one of the more gentle Terriers and some of the easiest to train. What you don't hear is that they were also bred to be companions.



Confident, adaptable and affectionate, Australian Terriers likely descended from Yorkshire, Skye, Manchester and Cairn. Early British settlers took these dogs to Australia where the Australian Terrier was developed. In the mid-19th Century they were bred to herd sheep, serve as watchdogs, and control rodents in mines, at the waterfront, and on farms. The breed's undercoat keeps the dogs warm and the rough outercoat repels dirt, grass and brambles.

Today, this well-loved family dog retains the personality and good looks of its ancestors. They are very low-maintenance dogs that just go with the flow and are willing to please and are slightly less independent than the typical terrier.

The breed requires little grooming, adapts to whatever exercise an owner provides, and rarely has serious health problems because of small numbers and careful breeding.

In addition to conformation, the breed takes to obedience, agility and Earthdog trials.

First shown in its native country in 1899, the Australian Terrier came to the United States in the 1940's.

Happiest at home surrounded by adoring humans, this energetic Terrier will dig and hunt small animals, such as squirrels, rabbits and cats when opportunity arises. But its perky ears and dark, lively eyes make it tough to resist and with owners wanting to own more than one.



Notes and Notices



This year has brought many wonderful activities including our therapy visits and training at the Selinsgrove Center. I wish to express my thanks to the following people who make all this possible.

Marjean Krech for teaching the Star Puppy Class and doing TDI evaluations.

Sara Fry for helping prepare dogs for the CGC and testing.

Ginny Pentz, my secretary and she prepares my membership list and keeps track of medical records.

Karen Sodrick, my co-treasurer.

Terry Burns & Myra Dietrich for coordinating the therapy visits.

Laurie Cooper, Myra Dietrich & Bonnie Wicher who really went all out to get us all ready for the Halloween Parades.

Sherry Carpenter who writes the blog for our Club.

Brandon Pastuszek who does a wonderful job in organizing my Newsletter.

Kelly Pastuszek who does E-mails and assists with a lot of behind the scenes help.

Sally Grottini who has done videos of our Club and made them into CDs.

Marjean will begin a Star Puppy Class for dogs up to 1 yr. of age on Jan. 10 at 7:00pm. If anyone wishes to join the class please register with Marjean or me.

We received a thank you from Jan Mull for our donation to her family with the loss of her daughter Tara Lee.

Plaques for TDI were awarded to:

Jim Hepner, Trico, TDIAOV

Steph Fullmer, Sarah, TDIAOV, Penny, TDIA

Kelly Pastuszek, Kira, TDIRVA

Phil Hallden, Sage, TDIA, Tucker, TDIA

Myra Deitrich, Toby, TDIA

Gail Lorady, Buffy, TDIA

Ginny Pentz, Katie Do, TWT

Kathy Bohinski, Oliver, TDIRVA

Club dues will begin for 2012, please give Ginny Pentz updated shot records.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Dec. 1 (Thurs)	Penn Lutheran, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
Dec. 4 (Sun)	Christmas Party Susquehanna Valley Country Club	5:00pm
Dec. 5 (Mon)	Bucknell University (TDI only)	6:00pm-9:00pm
Dec. 6 (Tues)	NO CLASS SELINGSGROVE CENTER	
Dec. 7 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 8 (Thurs)	Northwestern Academy	1:00pm
	Life Geisinger	2:00pm
	Shamokin Hospital	3:00pm
Dec. 13 (Tues)	NO CLASS SELINGSGROVE CENTER	
	Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only)	12:00pm
Dec. 14 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 15 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital	1:00pm
	Mansion Nursing Home	2:00pm
	Sunshine Corners	2:45pm
Dec. 20 (Tues)	NO CLASS SELINGSGROVE CENTER	
Dec. 21 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 25 (Sun)	MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL	
Dec. 27 (Tues)	Class Resumes at the Selinsgrove Center	
Dec. 28 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Dec. 29 (Thurs)	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm
Jan. 1 (Sun)	HAPPY NEW YEAR	
Jan. 4 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Jan. 5 (Thurs)	Nottingham Village, Northumberland	6:30pm

December 2011

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
 Holidays

November 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	28	29	30			

December 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	28	29	30	31

January 2012

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				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28 ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	29 ■ 6:30 PM Advanced Training ■ 7:30 PM Beginner Training	30 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	1 ■ 6:30 PM Penn Lutheran, Selinsgrove	2	3
4 ■ 5:00 PM Christmas Party	5 ■ 6:00 PM Bucknell University (TDI only)	6 ■ CLASSES CANCELLED	7 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	8 ■ 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy ■ 2:00 PM Life Geisinger ■ 3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital	9	10
11	12 ■ CLASSES CANCELLED ■ 12:00 PM Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only)	13 ■ CLASSES CANCELLED	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 ■ CLASSES CANCELLED	20 ■ CLASSES CANCELLED	21 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	22	23	24
25 ■ Christmas	26 ■ CLASSES RESUME ■ 6:30 PM Advanced Training ■ 7:30 PM Beginner Training	27 ■ CLASSES RESUME ■ 6:30 PM Advanced Training ■ 7:30 PM Beginner Training	28 ■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods	29 ■ 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South	30	31