



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

February 2026



Old Friends

by *Connie Cuff*

How far can a dog smell?

Your world is most often defined by sights and sounds, but for your dog, **smell is where it's at**. Your dog's nose is a marvel of biology, capable of detecting scents that are undetectable to us.

The distance your dog can detect your scent varies and is subject to things like wind and humidity. Your dog knows your specific scent, a unique mix of scent, breath, skin hormones, laundry detergent and diet. To your dog, your scent is as unique as a fingerprint. Dogs can be shown to detect disease through scent,. High blood sugar spikes for diabetes, those battling Parkinson's Disease, seizures and even cancer.

For a dog to detect a scent a long distance, the wind must be blowing directly from the source to the dog. A downwind source could detect it over miles, while an upwind would only detect the odor once they were virtually on top of the source.

Scent molecules adhere better to moisture. Humidity helps keep microscopic scent particles suspended in the air, preventing them from drying out and dropping to the ground. Fresh blood will be detectable over a far greater distance than a faint, weak odor. The stronger the odor, the greater the number of molecules released into the environment.

Dogs smell better than us because we have about 5 million olfactory receptors, while a dog has about 300 million. When a dog inhales, its nose separates the air into two streams, one for breathing and one for olfaction, which means a dog can continually analyze odors without interfering with their breathing.

Dogs exhale through the side slits in their nose. This directs the outgoing air away from their sniffing path, preventing the dilution of new odors.

Let your dog enjoy the sniff on his morning walk - they are doing the equivalent of your reading the morning news. Allowing your dog to smell around him is a way to show our love to our canine companion.

Till next time,

Connie



Notes and Notices



With this winter weather, it has been a challenge having classes. I hope everyone is spending more time with their dogs, and I look forward to getting together once driving conditions are safe along with the parking at the Center is cleared.

Visiting will continue unless it is posted otherwise on our web page, calendar and emails, indicating "cancelled". We will continue to be in the gym for the month of February, but will need to move to the room in the back of the building in March until we are able to move back to the Marina.

Any events that we will try to organize in the future will be emailed to you for consideration.

Payment of dues for 2026 will be extended until March 15th with eh weather conditions making it hard to get to the gym. Payment can be mailed and you will need to email Connie for an address.

If anyone is interested in a Star Puppy Class, Tracy is thinking of beginning on Sunday, Feb. 8th at 2:00 pm. Please notify Tracy or Connie to get pre-registered. This is necessary as specific information is given before coming to the Puppy Class.

Sympathies to **Johanna McGregor, (Cassandra & Seneca)** with the loss of her husband, **Jack McGregor**, who was a member of our Club. He did visits with us at the prisons and Bucknell and was a proud Pittsburgh Penguins Fan, as he started the Pittsburgh Penguins Organization.

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Feb 2 (Mon)	5 Star (Certified only)	12:15 pm
Feb 4 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
Feb 5 (Thurs)	Lewisburg Federal Prison Camp (Badged only)	12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Feb 6 (Fri)	Bucknell @ inside d/h Elaine Langone Center (ATD only)	11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Feb 10 (Tues)	Nottingham Retirement Center	6:00 pm
Feb 11 (Wed)	Heritage Springs Buffalo Valley	10:00 am 10:45 am
Feb 12 (Thurs)	Mt. View Manor	1:30 pm
Feb 13 (Fri)	Shikellamy High School (ATD only) Bucknell @ inside d/h Elaine Langone Center (ATD only)	8:00 am - 10:00 am 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Feb 18 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00 am
Feb 19 (Thurs)	Mansion Nursing Home	10:30 am
Feb 20 (Fri)	Bucknell @ inside d/h Elaine Langone Center (ATD only)	11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Feb 23 (Mon)	Columbia County Prison (Certified only)	1:15 pm
Feb 24 (Tues)	Penn Lutheran	10:00 am
Feb 25 (Wed)	Heritage Springs Buffalo Valley	10:00 am 10:45 am
Feb 27 (Fri)	Bucknell @ inside d/h Elaine Langone Center (ATD only)	11:30 am - 1:00 pm

February 2026							Month
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
SUN Feb 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7	
<div> 1pm Advanced Trai 12:15pm 5 Star (Cer </div> <div> 2pm Beginner Train </div>	<div> 12:15pm 5 Star (Cer </div>		<div> 10am Riverwoods </div>	<div> 12pm Lewisburg Pr </div>	<div> 11:30am Bucknell (A </div>		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
<div> 1pm Advanced Trai </div> <div> 2pm Beginner Train </div>		<div> 6pm Nottingham Re </div> <div> 10am Heritage Spr </div> <div> 10:45am Buffalo Va </div>	<div> 10am Riverwoods </div>	<div> 1:30pm Mountain V </div>	<div> 8am Shikellamy HS </div> <div> 11:30am Bucknell (A </div>		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
<div> 1pm Advanced Trai </div> <div> 2pm Beginner Train </div>			<div> 10am Riverwoods </div>	<div> 10:30am Mansion N </div>	<div> 11:30am Bucknell (A </div>		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<div> 1pm Advanced Trai </div> <div> 2pm Beginner Train </div>	<div> 1:15pm Columbia C </div>	<div> 10am Penn Luther </div>	<div> 10am Heritage Spr </div> <div> 10:45am Buffalo Va </div>		<div> 11:30am Bucknell (A </div>		

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Events shown in time zone: (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time - New York

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