



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

July 2007

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



We as obedience instructors take a special interest in the human-animal bond. Helping people train their dogs is helping them to develop communication with their pets—to better understand each other, and to establish mutual respect. The end product is a dog that will fit better into the new environment people have created for themselves and their animals.

As a class instructor, I am often consulted on "special issues". Questions people have about behavior problems and a multitude of other situations can influence a people/pet relationship. Although these topics are not part of a usual dog obedience class, they are an important part of pet ownership.

Veterinarians are taking a greater interest in the roles pets play in their owners' lives and are becoming more active in counseling clients experiencing behavior problems.

In training I try to address dog issues by keeping up with literature and new ideas. I also have access to people who deal with behavior problems.

Some dogs learn more quickly than others and I know it is hard for trainers who come to class and see their dogs progress at a slower pace. It does take patience, persistence and confidence to strive for the Canine Good Citizen. So everyone hang in there. You will see results with Patience, Practice and Love, as Dixie called it P.P. & L.

The attitude and approach you have toward a new situation should be calmness and a matter-of-fact approach. If you are taking your puppy or dog to the vet and you are frightened and nervous, you are communicating this your dog and instilling a fear of a vet's office to your dog.

The same holds true in taking our dog to an obedience class. Attempt to avoid communicating an attitude of anxiety to your dog.

Also don't cop out—People make excuses for their dog's poor socialization. Some remarks are: "I work full time and its difficult to get my dog out." "We don't have kids at home, and my dog is afraid of kids." "My dog is afraid of men."

Within our dog club there are members who have been with us for many years and we are all here to help one another. I enjoy coming to training each week and appreciate all the help everyone gives to the Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (June 5, 2007)

Submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of the STDTC came to order with 15 members present.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT:

I wish to thank Marjean Krech for her donation of \$25 dollars from her CGC/TDI testing at the Pet Platoon adoption at Montgomery. We also collected \$9.00 for Cheryl Hill.

We received a thank-you note from Nifty after Fifty.

We scheduled our picnic date for Sept. 9 2007, the second Sunday in Sept.

For remainder of summer when you come to class, please check by the pavilion as you enter, if the grass space is available there and it is hot we may be able to train there.

There will be a visit at Nottingham Village at 6:45 PM.

Old business:

Anyone who has received a CGC from us please let me know so I can give you a certificate from the club for training.

2-day dog shows:

July 28 & 29 @ Bloomsburg Fair Grounds

July 20 & 21 @ State College

Meeting was adjourned.

We Need Homes!

“Maggie” a Shih Tzu is under 5-years-old and up-to-date on vaccinations. She is heart-worm negative and is salt & pepper color. Maggie is currently in the foster care of Marjean Krech. Marjean can be contacted via E-mail at mkrech@bucknell.edu or via phone at 837-0450.

A male Standard Poodle, apricot-colored. He is 7 months old, has shots, and is ACA registered. Contact Delores Kerstetter if you are interested.

A male German Shepherd, black, tan, and silver-colored. He is 7 months old and has all shots. Contact Delores Kerstetter if you are interested.



Breed of the Month

Bichon Frise

submitted by Connie Cuff

The Bichon is related to the Maltese and descended from the Water Spaniel, also known as the Barbet, from which came the Bichon's original name of Barbichon.

The breed was hard enough to withstand ocean voyages. It has been told that the Italian and Spanish sailors would take the little dogs with them on the merchant ships. When they met the ladies in different ports and on the islands they would give them gifts. The Bichon became known as "The Love Dog".

Later, the Bichon became a favorite of Italian, French and Spanish royalty and appeared in several paintings by Francisco de Goya. In the late 19th Century, the Bichon became a street dog accompanying organ grinders and performing in circuses.

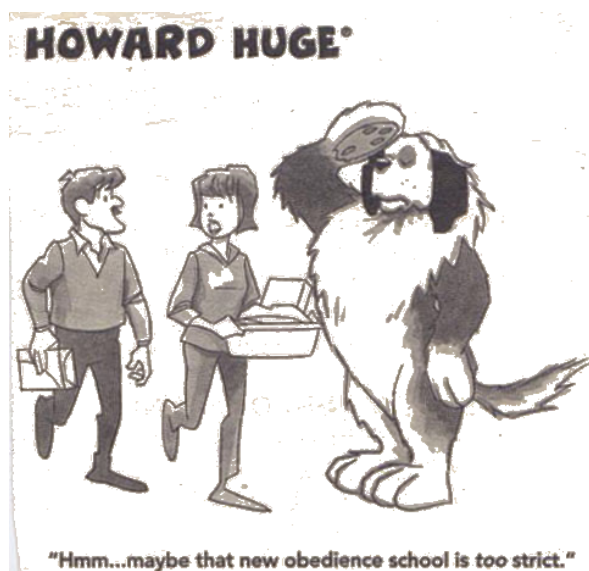
The Bichon became popular in the U.S. after formation of the Bichon Frise Club of America in 1964.

Renowned for their cheerful disposition, they gain friends and devotees wherever they go. They like children more than many small breeds. Because their demand for close human interaction, they thrive on being with you, next to you or on you.

Grooming is one of the greatest challenges of owning a Bichon. It costs more for a Bichon than other breeds and should be done every 4-5 weeks. It benefits with a weekly brushing and the hair around the eyes should be wiped to reduce tear staining.

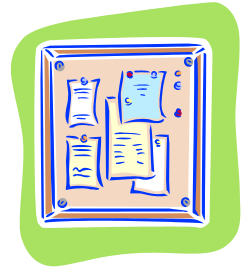
Bichons are prone to skin allergies, bladder infections and stones, ear infections, eye diseases, excessive tartar and early tooth loss. Dental care should include brushing 2-3 times a week.

The Bichon's personality wins championships and hearts. Their approach to life is, "Here I am, love me!"





Notes and Notices



We have been asked by the McClure Bean Soup to put on a demonstration for them. The night would be Thursday, Sept. 13 at 6:45pm. I know it is quite a trip but it would be a great opportunity for our dogs and members to meet people at a nice events.

Our Sunbury Halloween Parade is always a lot of fun, and I had a suggestion from one of our members to use as our theme, the “Red Hat Society.” So everyone check the yard sales and think of some float decorations for October.

There will be a Pet Expo and Adoption at Sunlight Feed in Bloomsburg on Saturday, July 21st. Marjean Krech and Sally Grottini will be doing the CGC/TDI testing from 10am to 2pm. Anyone interested in helping them, please let them know.

There is a 2-day dog show at the Bloomsburg Fair Grounds on Saturday, July 28th and Sunday, July 29th with confirmation, obedience, and rally.

A 7-month-old make apricot standard poodle is available for adoption.

Welcome new members:

Peggy and Roy Raker from Sunbury with Maxine and Lucky, mixes.
Amy Neuhard from Sunbury with Max, a French Bulldog.

Recipe for dog shampoo which is cheap and works well:

4 oz. glycerin

4 oz. vinegar

25 oz. bottle ivory liquid

Empty Clorox bottle

Combine ingredients in an empty Clorox bottle. Fill with water and shake well before using.

Glycerin is good for skin, vinegar for fleas, and ivory liquid to make suds.

To Family and Friends,

Don and I are so sad to pass the news that Moe passed away on May 31. Moe was the greatest dog. He enjoyed life to the fullest. He traveled extensively all over the USA both in the bus and the truck and lived in several states.

He will be missed for a long, long time, but he will be loved forever.

Gunnel and Don



Tribute to Moe

5/2/95-5/31/07



The biggest in the litter, little did we know,
How big this Bichon would become, that was Moe.

They said he was beautiful, but too big for show.
But we loved the long legs and all 33 lbs, that was Moe.

He was one of a pair with Mia, a real duo.
But soon he was to be the dominant character, that was Moe.

All the things he would learn, delighted us so.
"Chippies," cows and white dogs were his delight, that was Moe.

As time passed, a special bond with Gunnel would grow.
Follow her, lick her legs after a shower, faithfully wait, that was Moe.

Al though Don loved him like no other dog, Don was just so-so.
But they had their special thing, they would sing, that was Moe.

Favorite things were many, he had a great love for snow,
Also pupperoni, ice-cream and red peppers, just to name a few...that was Moe.

Bed-time was a ritual- 10 O'clock it was time to go.
A milkbone to snack and lift him up to bed, that was Moe.

In all his twelve years in life's big show,
We never met a bigger Bichon, that was Moe.

He was a once in a life-time dog, we now know,
We are grateful to have shared so much with our Moe.

In the end after 4 months of valiant struggle, he had to go.
To keep a tuft of hair, some ashes and many pictures, this is now Moe.

Now that he is gone, in our hearts and minds his memory will grow.
And we will always love him and miss him, to us this is still Moe!

Written by Don- for Gunnel and Moe

The nose knows

This persistent mixed breed used 'dognostics' to sniff out cancer.

Pet sitter Ann Raasch thought it odd when a favorite canine client cut short a cuddle session on the couch and jumped on her chest. Raasch let out a shout of pain as Sadie, a Hound mix, made deep eye contact and used a paw to strike her on the breast — not just once, but twice, and then again during subsequent visits.

The pain from Sadie's pounces drove her to tears, Raasch says. The pain from the first episode continued for a few days. Later that week, Sadie again pounced on her breast. Raasch finally took it as some kind of hint.

"That's when I realized I should call my doctor," says Raasch of Madison, Wis. She mentioned the dog's odd behavior to her physicians, who found nothing alarming on two mammograms and an ultrasound test.

But Raasch sensed Sadie knew something. At Raasch's insistence, the doctors pressed on. Eventually, a surgeon found a lump in Raasch's breast. A biopsy deemed it cancerous. During surgery, doctors found not one lump,



Sadie's behavior led pet sitter Ann Raasch to seek a medical exam.

but two. Radiation and chemotherapy followed, and Raasch now has a favorable prognosis.

A grateful Raasch credits 3-year-old Sadie for the early detection. She believes Sadie sniffed out the cancer and persisted with her alerts until Raasch got help. "Without her, I would not have had this diagnosis and probably would be very sick — or worse — at this time," Raasch says.

"My little angel, Sadie, knew what neither mammogram nor ultrasound could tell me," Raasch believes. "She knew exactly what she was doing.

"It was just one of these miracle moments."

Proud but not overly surprised, Sadie's owner, Jennifer Israelite, says the dog — found among a litter of puppies abandoned at a friend's farm — appears to have a special gift.

"She can tell us we're going to get a cold," Israelite says. "She does this sniffing thing. We call it 'dognostics' instead of diagnostics." During Sadie's

quick exams, the 25-pound dog intently sniffs Israelite — her ears, her eyes, her nose, and so on. If Sadie finds no problems, she lets out a loud, horse-like huff. But if she senses trouble, she lingers at the questionable area.

Israelite attributes this unusual ability to odor. Maybe Sadie notices her favorite people smell differently when they fall ill. But Israelite says she never expected Sadie to sniff out breast cancer. "I'm obviously thrilled that Sadie was able to convince Ann to seek medical attention," she says. "She and Ann have a very special bond."

Medical journals note other cases of cancer-sniffing dogs. One dog routinely sniffed at a mole and even tried to bite it off the owner's leg. The dog's constant attention to the mole drove the owner to see a doctor, who proclaimed it malignant melanoma, according to the British medical journal *The Lancet*. Another man saw a doctor after his Labrador Retriever persistently sniffed at a scab long treated as a case of eczema; it turned out basal cell carcinoma lurked below the less-serious eczema skin condition.

"With these two patients, the dogs could smell the lesions through clothing and showed no further interest once the lesions had been excised," reported the September 2001 issue of *The Lancet*.

This month marks the second anniversary of Raasch's successful treatment. "I feel real fine," she says.

"It's very emotional for me to talk about," she adds. "She is just the sweetest dog. I couldn't love her any more if she were mine." 🐾

Sally Deneen is a DOG FANCY contributing editor and lives in Seattle. She is co-author of The Dog Lover's Companion to Florida (Avalon Travel Publishing, 2001, \$20.95) with her husband, Robert McClure.

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UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

July 5 (Thurs)	Buffalo Valley Lewisburg	6:45pm
July 8 (Sun)	VA Hospital Wilkes-Barre TDI Only, Register with Connie <i>(Meet at Nursing Home entrance. Dogs must wear yellow tags and everyone must carry their ID.)</i>	1:45pm
July 12 (Thurs)	Emmanuel Center Danville	6:45pm
August 18 (Sat)	Riverfest Sunbury <i>(We will hand out dog literature and TDI/CGC information. We also will sell homemade dog biscuits. We will have therapy dogs with us.)</i>	9:00am-2:00pm
August 25 (Sat)	Northumberland Co. Expo Sunbury <i>(We will hand out dog literature and TDI/CGC information. We also will sell homemade dog biscuits. We will have therapy dogs with us.)</i>	12:00pm-3:00pm
Sept 8 (Sat)	PA Pet Walk	TBA
Sept 9 (Sun)	Club Picnic Shikellamy State Park Pavilion 2 <i>(Bring dogs and a covered dish. Club will supply drinks and hot dogs.)</i>	1:00pm
Sept 13 (Thurs)	McClure Bean Soup Demo	6:45pm
<u>Every Wednesday</u>	Riverwoods Lewisburg, PA	10:00am
<u>2nd Thursday</u>	Shamokin Hospital	2:00pm
<u>3rd Thursday</u>	Sunbury Community Hospital Mansion Nursing Home, Market St., Sunbury Sunshine Corners, Market St., Sunbury	1:00-1:30pm 1:45pm 2:15pm
<u>Last Thursday</u>	Geisinger Rehab—Health South	2:00-3:00pm

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 Website: <http://www.stdtc.org>

July 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	Buffalo Valley (Lewisburg) 6:45pm		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
VA Hospital (Wilkes-Barre) 1:45pm			Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	Shamokin Hospital 2pm	Emmanuel Center (Danville) 6:45pm	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	Sunbury Hospital 1pm	Sunbury Hospital 1pm	
				Mansion Nursing Home (Sunbury) 1:45pm		
				Sunshine Corners (Sunbury) 2:15pm		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Riverwoods (Lewisburg) 10am	Geisinger Rehab (Health South) 2pm	Geisinger Rehab (Health South) 2pm	
29	30	31				