



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

October 2008

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



As we begin our training at the Selinsgrove Center it will give us the opportunity to do some off lead work without outside distractions.

When we bring our dogs to class to train, it's the owners who need the training with a change in their perspective and attitude. During the course of everyday life, the owners do more for the dog in response to its behavioral stimulation.

- Dogs want food/owners feed.
 - Dogs want out/owners open door.
 - Dogs nudge for some petting/owners pet.
- It's no wonder the pet gets a boss-complex.

Dogs try to run the show so it's the owners who need the training, along with a change in their perspective, attitude and behavior which when followed will change their dogs' behavior.

As an example, problem dogs spend a good deal of time nudging their people for petting and most owners feel flattered and comply. The owners are doing just what pleases the dog but the dog does nothing to please the owner.

So what can an owner do to turn the tables? Every time the dog comes to anyone in the family to be petted, ask it to "Sit" for its praise and petting. Make it brief, then release the dog from the "Sit" with "OK". Another nudge, another "Sit".

Within a few days even the bossiest of dogs start to pay attention and look for direction in other areas of life. With the busy life style of families today this is an exercise that can be done when watching TV or reading.

Consistency and persistence are two qualities of leadership. When used properly by all family members and guests as well, dogs that have never obeyed their owners now look to them as leaders.

Even though we have our dog sit to be fed, sit before going outside or car rides, it is performing because it is hungry, wants out or a ride. When a dog wants its owner for petting you are providing what it needs most emotionally.

As I stress at Class, training and socializing is important, but taking what you learn and using it in your everyday life is what we all strive for to have a "Companion Dog".

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (September 2, 2008)

submitted by Ginny Pentz

The meeting of the STDTC was called to order by Pres, Connie Cuff, with 17 members present.

Report of President:

I am waiting to sign papers for the Selinsgrove Center. Please watch for an E-mail when we will start at the Center. I have directions here if anyone would like them. They are also posted on our web site. We will be have a sign up sheet at class. Our visit is from 6:30-7 PM and then you can come to class.

When we come to class to train our dogs it is a family affair. Even though I am leading the class I want everyone to feel comfortable in helping each other. There are times when someone may not understand a command so please feel free in asking me or a person next to you. Everyone should work at their own pace. Getting your dog used to a new command does take time and every dog learns at his own level. The purpose of coming to class is to have fun for you and your dog, so I want everyone to enjoy being here.

New Members were introduced. Minutes of August Meeting were approved as written in newsletter.

Report of Treasurer:

(Treasurer's Reports are not available in the online edition of the STDTC newsletter.)

New Business:

Tomorrow at 7:00 PM there will be a meeting on the new Dog Law revision at Career Link in Selinsgrove with a power point presentation and a representative from Harrisburg to answer questions.

One of our members, Kathryn Starkey, will be having a very serious operation at Hershey Hospital the end of this month. She has been a very dedicated person taking care of many dogs and does a lot of pet therapy with us. I think it would be a very nice gesture to give her a money purse from our club. I had collected \$12 towards a project for the Afghanistan dog so I would use it toward this. All members present were in favor of this.

I had a phone call from a person who is interested in starting a Reading to the Dogs at the McEwensville Library. It would probably be once a month in an evening. If anyone is interested please let me know.

Old Business:

This Saturday we will be at the Shikellamy Marina for the PA Pet Walk. Our booth will be selling dog bones, fireman decals and a raffle basket along with doing TDI/CGC testing. If anyone can help please let me know.

There is a sign up sheet for our club picnic. I need to know how many are coming in order to purchase the hot dogs and buns.

I wish to thank everyone who helped at the Riverfest and making dog bones. We raised \$157.00.

The Sunbury Halloween parade is scheduled for Oct 23rd. Our theme this year will be "Old McDonald's Farm". If you can dress yourself or your dog as a farm animal, or just have a pair of coveralls this will work. I have western hats and red neckerchiefs to use. We will use a hay wagon for those not wishing to walk.

TDI - This week we are at Bucknell University at 6PM for TDI only

Breed of the Month

Chinese Crested

submitted by Connie Cuff

The Chinese Crested originated in South Africa. Ancient Chinese mariners discovered the dogs there while sailing around the world and offered them as barter and special gifts.

They come in two varieties: hairless and powder-puff. The hairless variety sports the same crest ('do on it's head) as the powderpuff. It also has hair on its tail, and lower legs. Its smooth skin feels warmer to the touch because there is no hair to keep heat in its body. The powderpuff is completely covered with a soft silky coat. The hairless ones are more sensitive to the cold, while the puffs seem to get too warm.



Some people are drawn to the breed for its reputation as a clean, odorless housedog. They are low-maintenance but neither is truly hypoallergenic. Unlike other dogs, hairless Cresteds perspire rather than pant and may become sticky or dirty in hot weather. Weekly baths with moisturizing shampoo help maintain the dogs' soft skin.

Prospective owners should ask about health problems which include loose kneecaps, Legg-Perthe disease which may cripple hip joints, and skin problems which can be inherited.

What ultimately wins the hearts of owners is the dogs' intelligence and humanlike characteristics, which make them entertaining and endearing companions. Many Cresteds actually smile, which may initially be mistaken as a snarl. When Happy or excited, Chinese Cresteds are known to sing.

Although Cresteds are highly intelligent they have minds of their own and are apt to rewrite an obedience exercise to suit themselves.

To be truly content, Cresteds want to be involved in what their human family is doing. Better yet, right in the middle of whatever you're doing. They think – no they are convinced, they are human. And after awhile you might forget they are dogs.

Joe's Comedy Corner

submitted by Joe Pastuszek

Dear God: When I get to heaven will
I be allowed to sit on the couch? Or will
It be more of the same old thing?



Sherry's Corner

submitted by Sherry Carpenter

The next two pages of the online edition of the newsletter are nomination information and form for the Red Cross Heroes Breakfast at which awards are given for life-saving actions during 2008. One of the categories is animal rescue or a life saved by an animal.

For more information and opinion on pet-related current events, visit Sherry's Corner online at:
<http://sherryscorner.stdtc.org>.



Friday, May, 29, 2009

For over 91 years, the **Bloomsburg Chapter of the American Red Cross** has worked alongside heroes, aiding victims of manmade and natural disasters and saving lives. Most of these heroes go unrecognized for their life-saving acts, so we would like to make sure that their bravery is acknowledged.

The Bloomsburg Chapter, along with the Red Cross Chapters in Berwick and Danville, will honor those who have put aside their own needs to help others by sponsoring a Heroes Breakfast on **Friday, May 29, 2009 at Bloomsburg University (Monty's)**.

We are looking for nominations of residents of Columbia/Montour Counties who may have performed a life-saving act during **2008**. Please submit a nomination form or call us and keep us in mind for the remainder of the year. The awardees will be selected by a committee of Red Cross volunteers and community leaders.

I am enclosing a nomination form which can be returned to the address above. We will let you know early in 2009 if your nominee is selected for an award.

Thank you for taking the time to nominate your personal hero. We appreciate your efforts and hope that you will consider joining us for the Heroes Breakfast on **May 29, 2009**.

Please call me at **570-784-1395** for additional information on this exciting community event.

Sincerely,

Rita E. Inklovich
Executive Director



American Red Cross Heroes Breakfast Nomination Form

About the Red Cross Heroes Breakfast Program:

Throughout the Columbia and Montour County areas everyday people perform extraordinary life saving acts. Your local American Red Cross needs your help in identifying and recognizing these heroic acts and the people who make them happen.

Nominees may be individuals or groups. They do not need to be Red Cross volunteers or have Red Cross training.

The 2009 Heroes Breakfasts will take place May 29 at Bloomsburg University (Monty's). Proceeds from the breakfasts will benefit the programs and services of the local Red Cross chapters in Columbia and Montour Counties.

Criteria for Nominations:

- Nominee must have saved or assisted in saving a life by preventing or intervening in a crisis situation or by giving the victim(s) aid they needed, or would have needed, to survive.
- Nominee may be professionally trained in life saving skills or a Good Samaritan.
- Nominee cannot have caused or contributed to the incident.
- Nominee must live, work or attend school in Columbia or Montour County. The heroic act may have occurred outside the area.
- The heroic act must have occurred between 1/1/08 – 12/31/08
- Nominee (or family representative if deceased or on active duty) must be available for promotional opportunities and be able to attend the Heroes Breakfast in their area.

Visit our website www.bloomsburgredcross.org for additional information or contact Rita Inklovich at 570-784-1395

To nominate a Hero, please complete this form and mail it to 119 East Seventh Street, Bloomsburg, PA 17815 OR fax it to us at (570) 784-1577, by February 13, 2009.

Hero Award Categories Please select one

Fire Safety

Law Enforcement

Medical

Military

Youth Good Samaritan
18 years or younger

Adult Good Samaritan

Animal Rescue

A person who saved the life of an animal **or** an animal that saved a human life

Nominee

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Location of the rescue _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Nominator

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Witness/Verification Source

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Nomination Statement

Please attach a statement describing the Nominee's heroic act. Please include names and contact information for additional witnesses or others who can verify the rescue, if available. Supporting documentation may include reports, news articles, photos, video and other important information.



Notes and Notices



Our Club Picnic was a great success despite the rainy weather. The food was outstanding and the Chinese Auction was fun and brought in \$75.

Our annual fun night at the Sunbury Halloween Parade is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 23. The parade will form at Beiter's on North 4th Street Sunbury and move to the Shikellamy High School. Our theme this year is "Old McDonald's Farm". We will have a hay wagon with straw for those who do not wish to walk. You can dress your dogs as a farm animal and you can be just Old McDonald. I have red neckerchiefs and straw hats for anyone who needs them. Please be at the parking lot no later than 6:30 pm.

We have been practicing our Square Dancing for our TV debut for Pet Idol at the Susquehanna Valley Mall on Saturday, Oct. 11. We're scheduled for 1:00 pm.

The reading program at Boughner Elementary will begin Oct. 15 at 9:00 am. We will be visiting there once a month. I must know the Monday before our visit who will be going so we will have our assigned classrooms.

There will not be class at the Center Oct. 28 because it is being used by the residents for a Halloween Party.

We will be starting our visits with the residents at the Selinsgrove Center on Oct. 14 at 6:30 pm. It only takes about 20 minutes of your time before coming to class, and we meet in the main building and go to a game room. The residents enjoy seeing the dogs and it is our way of appreciation to the center for allowing us to train our dogs there.

If anyone has accumulated 50 or more visits with TDI for this year please let Connie know – the name of the dog and the number of visits.

I am happy to report that the new Dog Law 2525 has successfully passed the House and is up for a vote in the Senate. The overhaul of this legislation will give stronger protection for dogs in breeding facilities.

We welcome new members:

**Mollie Decker, Sunbury with Dozer, yellow lab
Laurie Laboski, Sunbury with Nika, Bouvier des Flanders
David Lutz, Northumberland with Jake, Chocolate Lab
Andrea Pensyl, Sunbury with Riley, German Shorthair Pointer
Linda & Steve Hafer, Sunbury with Pudgie, a Jug
Myra Dietrich, Shamokin Dam with Toby, American Eskimo
Bonnie Wicker, Northumberland with Gretchen, German Shepherd
Diane Sander, Sunbury with Abbey, Black Lab**

There are Dog and Cat First Aid with CPR classes being presented by the Danville Chapter of the American Red Cross on every Tuesday in October at 6:00 pm. They are being held at the Danville Area Community Center. You can register by calling 275-1441. The cost is \$30 which includes a First Aid Book.

UPCOMING TDI VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

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|---------------------------|--|--|
| October 8 (Wed) | Riverwoods | 10:00 am |
| October 9 (Thurs) | Northwestern Academy Life Geisinger Shamokin Hospital | 1:00 pm 2:00 pm 3:00 pm |
| October 11 (Sat) | Pet Idol, Susquehanna Valley Mall | 12:30 pm |
| October 14 (Tues) | Medium Prison, Allenwood-Badged members only | 12:00 pm |
| October 15 (Wed) | Baughner Elementary (Milton) Riverwoods | 9:00 am 10:00 am |
| October 16 (Thurs) | Sunbury Hospital Mansion Nursing Sunshine Corners | 1:00 pm 1:45 pm 2:15 pm |
| October 20 (Mon) | Reading, Chief Shikellamy | 10:00 am |
| October 22 (Wed) | Riverwoods | 10:00 am |
| October 23 (Thurs) | Sunbury Halloween Parade Beiters Parking Lot North Fourth Street, Sunbury | 6:30 pm |
| October 28 (Tues) | NO CLASS SELINGSGROVE CENTER Maximum Prison, Allenwood – Badged Members Only | 12:30 pm |
| October 29 (Wed) | Riverwoods | 10:00 am |
| October 30 (Thurs) | Geisinger Health South | 2:00 pm |
| November 5 (Wed) | Bucknell University – TDI Only | 6:00 pm |
| November 6 (Thurs) | Penn Lutheran Village, Selingsgrove | 6:45 pm |

Newsletter coordinator: **Brandon Pastuszek**
E-mail: brandon@stdtc.org
Club web site: <http://www.stdtc.org>

October 2008

September 2008

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October 2008

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November 2008

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- US Holidays
- Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|--|-------------------------|----------|
| 28 1:00 PM Club Picnic (Pavilion 2) | 29 6:00 PM Bucknell University (TDI ONLY) | 30 | 1 10:00 AM Riverwoods | 2 6:45 PM Nottingham Village | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 10:00 AM Riverwoods | 8 10:00 AM Riverwoods | 9 1:00 PM Northwestern Academy 2:00 PM Life Geisinger 3:00 PM Shamokin Hospital | 10 12:30 PM Pet Idol | 11 |
| 12 Columbus Day | 13 | 14 12:00 PM Medium Prison, Badged Members Only | 15 9:00 AM Baugher Elementary 10:00 AM Riverwoods | 16 1:00 PM Sunbury Community Hospital 1:45 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:15 PM Sunshine Corners | 17 | 18 |
| 19 10:00 AM Reading, Chief Shikellamy | 20 10:00 AM Reading, Chief Shikellamy | 21 | 22 10:00 AM Riverwoods | 23 6:30 PM Sunbury Halloween Parade | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 CLASS CANCELED 12:30 PM Allenwood Medium Prison, Badged Members Only | 28 | 29 10:00 AM Riverwoods | 30 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab-Health South | 31 Halloween | 1 |