



Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

September 2013

Old Friends

by Connie Cuff



What does it mean to enter into a relationship with your dog?

Dogs are not furry little people. They have their own heritage. Try to look at your surroundings through your dog's eyes. Coming to class with a new dog or puppy can be uncomfortable for a dog since he is learning a new skill and a new language.

Learning how to communicate with our dogs involves keen observation skills. Spend some time quietly watching your dog and learning about its personality. Respecting who your dog is and what he needs to feel safe fosters trust and builds lasting partnerships.

In training your dog, you should focus on what you want him to do and he should understand the command. If you're asking your dog to do something and he's unable to follow through, you may simply be asking too much too soon - he's not ready for that level. You should set up his training so he responds in a positive way so he can be rewarded for good behavior. Healthy relationships between a person and a dog are built on fairness and respect, not fear.

In each stage of a dog's life, training is important to form a healthy bond. I have people who tell me their dog has gone through a puppy class and they don't know what happened.

A puppy class is just a warm up. If you do not continue to practice and reinforce skills, just like your own workout program, "use it or lose it". Training should be practiced at first without distractions to build confidence. Once the command is learned, each exercise should be trained in different environments in order for your dog to perform the behavior.

Old Friends (Continued)

In training your dog, he is learning to follow, sit, stay, down, come, food refusal and retrieve. Sift through your daily activities and find opportunities to use these commands.

The type of relationship we develop with our dog depends on our capacity to understand and meet our dog's needs, based on realistic expectations of what is possible.

Till next time,

Connie

Minutes (August 6, 2013)

submitted by Kelly Pastuszek

Report of the President

I wish to thank everyone for volunteering at the many scheduled visits we have had.

Coming this month is a Sr. Expo at the Shikellamy High School on Fri. Aug. 16 from 10am to 1pm. Lynda Schlegel Culver hosts this event and it bring in a lot of people. I need dogs for petting and I will have a table with literature.

The Northumberland Co. Fair is Fri. Aug.23. We are hosting a Pet Costume Contest and parade at 6:30pm. I'm hoping some of our members can participate with dogs in costume. If you plan on coming I have a sign-up sheet and ask if you can be there by 6:00pm.

The Club picnic is Sunday, Sept.22 at 1pm. Everyone should bring a covered dish and something for the Chinese Auction, which is to be dog-related. The club supplies hot dogs and soda. There is a sign-up sheet on the table. We are hosting a CGC testing that day in conjunction with AKC's Responsible Dog Ownership Day.

I wish to acknowledge those who have passed their CGC test: Sara Fry with Talley, Kelly Pastuszek with Diesel, Russ Moyer with Dutch, Mary Schmoyer with Bella, Lee Ann Eichesehr with Kevin.

Introduced new members.

Sara has been working with some of our members preparing them for the CGC test.

Marjean's AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy class recently completed. Congrats graduates!

I have signed the contract with the Selinsgrove Center and will move there sometime in Sept.



Notes and Notices



Our club picnic is Sunday, Sept. 22 at 1:00pm. We ask you to bring a covered dish and something for the Chinese Auction (Dog related). It is held at Pavilion 2 Shikellamy Marina, rain or shine. We provide hot dogs and soda. Would you please sign up ASAP if you plan to attend. It is a wonderful day to socialize and have fun with our dogs.

At our picnic we will be offering the CGC test as we are participating in the AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day Event. If anyone is interested, please contact us to pre-register.

**For anyone who has a dog who loves to swim, there are three events for Doggie Dips.
Sunday, Sept. 8 from 11am to 2pm at Knoebels Grove, Elysburg
Saturday Sept. 14 from 4pm to 7:30pm at the Lewisburg Pool
Wednesday Sept. 18 from 4pm to 7:30pm at the Lewisburg Pool
At all events rabies tag and dog license are required.**

On Sept. 21 at 9:30am there is a Tails-to-Trails 5K on the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail. It is a Fun Run/Walk with Fido. Pre-registration is available on line at www.lvrec.org. Proceeds will benefit Sun P.E.T.S.

Because darkness is starting earlier, I will begin my Advanced Class at 6:00pm and Beginners, CGC at 7:00pm



Please be aware of food being offered to your dog by anyone as it may cause a problem to your dog's health. Always ask the person to give you the treat since you can monitor if you would like him to have it. Recently one of our members had food thrown to the dog and she became very ill.

**We welcome new members:
Sally Bair from Hegins with English Cockers, Lacy and Maggie
Nan Ruhl from Mifflinburg with Bernese Mt. Dog Jack
Jeffrey Deitrich from Sunbury with Keedah
Elaine McDermott with Bubba**

UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Sept. 4 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 8 (Sun)	Doggie Dip, Knoebels Pool, Elysburg	11:00am - 2:00pm
Sept. 9 (Mon)	Bucknell University Library	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Sept. 11 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 12 (Thurs)	Shamokin Hospital	1:00pm
	Life Geisinger	2:00pm
	Northwestern Academy	2:30pm
Sept. 14 (Sat)	Doggie Dips, Lewisburg Pool	4:00pm - 7:30pm
Sept. 16 (Mon)	Penn Lutheran Village, Selinsgrove	6:30pm
Sept. 18 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
	Doggie Dips, Lewisburg	4:00pm - 7:30pm
Sept. 19 (Thurs)	Sunbury Community Hospital	1:00pm
	Mansion Nursing Home	2:00pm
	Sunshine Corners	2:45pm
Sept. 21 (Sat)	Tails to Trails, Buffalo Valley Rail to Trail	9:30am
Sept. 22 (Sun)	Shikellamy Marina Park, Pavilion 2 Club Picnic	1:00pm
Sept. 24 (Tues)	Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only)	12:00pm
Sept. 25 (Wed)	Riverwoods	10:00am
Sept. 26 (Thurs)	Holy Family Convent	1:00pm
	Geisinger Rehab, Health South	2:00pm
Oct. 7 (Mon)	Emmanuel Nursing Home, Danville	6:30pm

September 2013

 Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club
 US Holidays

August 2013

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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September 2013

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October 2013

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27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3 6:00 PM Training 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training 7:00 PM Beginner Training	4 10:00 AM Riverwoods	5	6	7
8 11:00 AM Doggie Dip (Knoebels Pool, Elysburg)	9 6:00 PM Bucknell Library (TDI Only)	10 6:00 PM Training 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training 7:00 PM Beginner Training	11 10:00 AM Riverwoods	12 1:00 PM Shamokin Hospital 2:00 PM Life Geisinger 2:30 PM Northwestern Academy	13	14 4:00 PM Doggie Dips (Lewisburg Community Pool)
15	16 6:30 PM Penn Lutheran Vil- lage (Sellingsgrove)	17 6:00 PM Training 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training 7:00 PM Beginner Training	18 10:00 AM Riverwoods 4:00 PM Doggie Dips (Lewisburg Community Pool)	19 1:00 PM Sunbury Communi- ty Hospital 2:00 PM Mansion Nursing Home 2:45 PM Sunshine Corners	20	21 9:30 AM Tails to Trails
22 1:00 PM Club Picnic (Pavil- ion 2)	23	24 12:00 PM Maximum Prison, Allenwood (NCIC only) 6:00 PM Training 7:00 PM Beginner Training 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training	25 10:00 AM Riverwoods	26 1:00 PM Holy Family Con- vent 2:00 PM Geisinger Rehab- Health South	27	28
29	30 6:00 PM Training 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training 7:00 PM Beginner Training	1 6:00 PM Training 7:00 PM CGC/TDI Training 7:00 PM Beginner Training	2 10:00 AM Riverwoods	3	4	5