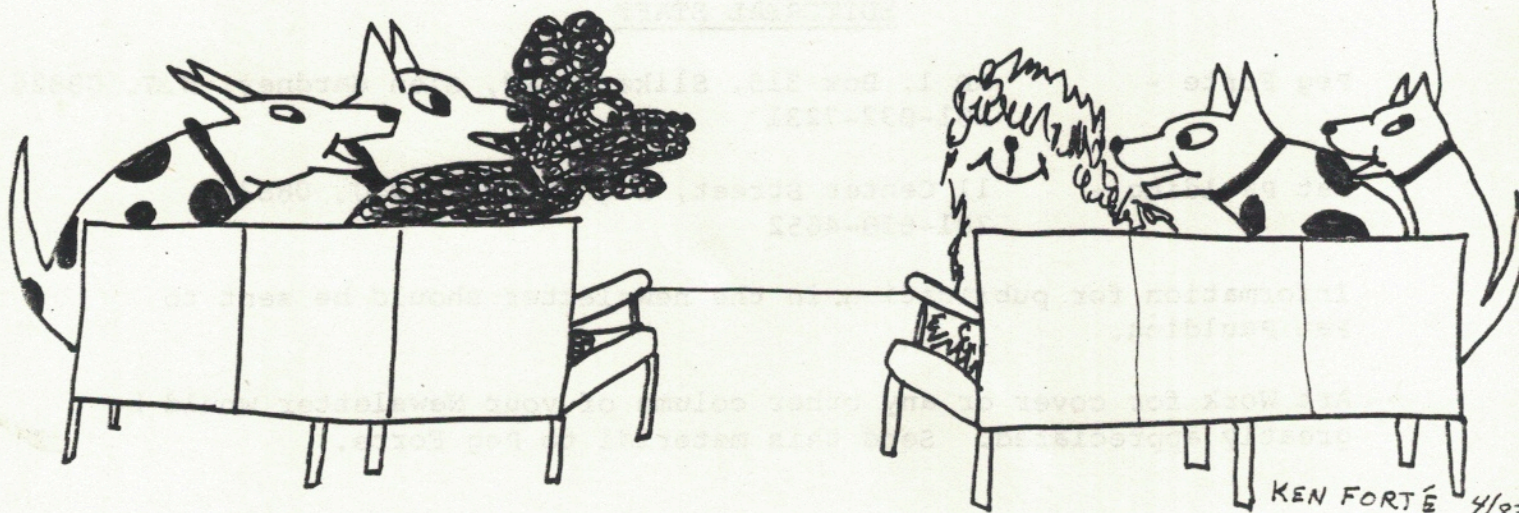


MARCH
-
APRIL

COMMON SCENTS

LENAPE TRACKING CLUB, INC.

VOL. 9 NO. 2
-
1983



KEN FORTÉ 4/83

"WE'RE ALL EARS, CHARLOTTE"

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Information for publication in the newsletter should be sent to Pat Paulding.

Art Work for cover or any other column of your Newsletter would be greatly appreciated. Send this material to Peg Forte.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As I start my second term in office, I thank those members, Boards and Officers who have contributed so much time and effort during the past year. Starting with the 1982 Experience Day, we had successful follow-up training days on a monthly basis, through the summer. Even the weather cooperated for the picnic, and while it was cold and windy, the Match weekend was dry. Our membership climbed into the sixties. (Some of you have not remembered to renew). We did have trouble trying to put together a winter meeting but we will try again to put together a program on the working terrier. The speaker is still willing to come. Our annual awards banquet on March 26, 1983 was well attended. I only wish we had had more new T's to honor. Let's aim for a record number this year.

Lenape Tracking Club was well represented in the March 1983 issue of DOGS IN FOCUS, the official publication of the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, Inc. The March issue featured tracking and scent hounds. At the invitation of the editor, I wrote up a brief history of the club and described ongoing activities. I also contributed a fun story incorporating some truth and mostly fiction, thinking the editor might enjoy a laugh. I never dreamed she would add illustrations and use it in the center fold! The lead article in the magazine was written by Charlotte Schwartz. Peg Forte also made a contribution but the editor decided to use it in a later issue featuring working dogs clubs throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I welcome the new officers and Board members. I am going to miss the presence of Peg Forte and Pat Paulding on the Board but both will continue to edit Common Scents and will serve on committees as in the past. I would have difficulty serving as President without their dependable and creative help.

Spring will come. It always has. Let's hope our Experience Day is clear and comfortably warm. Then we can all get out the flags, harness, glove and canine and GO FIND!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August - Picnic

Nov. 12-13 - Fall Certification Match

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If your address label has a black dot it means that your dues are late and this is your last newsletter unless you mail your dues to Peg Forte, Membership Chairperson, Box 315, RD #1, Sliker Rd. Glen Gardner, N.J. 08826.

TODAY !

TID-BITS

This is the month for Centerfolds.....Pat Paulding was featured with her dog "Nicolle" in an article about spinning dog hair, in the April 4, 1983 issue of TODAY, an in-house publication of AT&T Long Lines. And Fran Wilmeth in the March 1983 DOGS IN FOCUS with her article on "Where Do You Track". (we will reprint the articles from DOGS IN FOCUS in future issues of Common Scents).

Also on the publicity front....the Sunday Star Ledger (NJ paper) March 20, 1983 had a feature article on dog activities, Tracking, Back Packing, and Carting. Florence Miktus and "Gypsy UDTDX; Joanne MacKinnon with "Little Boy and Little Girl" (better known at the MacKinnon's as Reb and Danielle). and their mother (Piper) and brother (Major) as well as Peg Forte's "Moses" were in the photos accompanying the article. This article brought many inquiries about the club and participants for our Tracking Experience Day.

Ronn and Maeliene Loos report that on March 27 "Feather" UD came out of retirement to win the Open Class and High in Trial at the Collie Club of Northern New Jersey.

Peg Forte received a phone call early one morning asking if she wanted an Alaskan Malamute, after emphatically declining she asked "What did "Nicolle" do now?" The reply was "Would you believe she just ate the signatures off of three of the Experience Day checks. Two of those people, when forwarding their replacement checks showed they have a good sense of humor. One's note said "I suppose this is an apt time for you to say 'Love me - Love my dog'! Why don't you make her Treasurer - she seems to have found her calling" (No Gail, you can't quit yet). Another arrived with "something for your Starving Dog! (A chew stick was enclosed).

You may spot the Forte's with a Shepherd puppy soon....it's not a mirage....it's a Seeing Eye puppy which son Gregory is raising.

Lillian Puchalski's granddaughter Nicki has a Golden Retriever puppy, a "Moses" granddaughter. She hope to train her to track.

**Your editors go through all kinds of experiences to get this Newsletter out to you -- we spent some time in the local Court fighting (successfully) to get a parking ticket reduced from \$30 to \$5 + \$5 court cost. Peg's Van was inadvertantly parked in a tenat's spot behind a closed business while working on Common Scents last month.

UPCOMING TRACKING TESTS

- APRIL 23, Mass., Hamilton. New England Dog Training Club, Nancy's Corner., Ruth E. Ivers, 32 Glen Rd., Reading, Mass. 01867
- MAY 1, Md, Clarksburg. Capital Dog Training Club of Washington, D.C., Inc. Communications Satellite Corp. 22300 Comsat Dr., Linda L. Dart, 10101 Gary Rd., Potomac, Md. 20854
- MAY 1, Md., Harford. German Shepherd Dog Club of Maryland, Inc., Elkridge Harford Hunt Club, Jean H. Wilson, 8415 Cunningham Dr., Berwyn Heights, Md. 20740
- MAY 1, Mass., Ayer. Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc. Fields Surrounding Nashoba Valley Hospital, Washington Street, Alfred G. Unger, 28 McIntish Rd., Chelmsford, Mass. 01824
- MAY 7, Md., Ellicott City. Dog Owners Training Club of Maryland, Inc. Tomar Avoca Avenue, Fields & Adjacent Farmlands. Mrs. Patricia Conway, 412 Kingsington Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21229
- JUNE 5, Pa., Furnace. Nita-Nee Kennel Club, Inc. Pennsylvania State University Farms, Rock Spring Rt. 45. Bonnie Jacobs, Box 347, Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. 16865
- JUNE 12, N.J. Clarksburg. Princeton Dog Training Club, Assunpink Wildlife Management Area, Eldridge Road, Ms. Mary Alice Hembree, 951 Brown Rd., Bridgewater, N.J. 08807
- SEPT. 18, N.Y., Great Bend, North Country Kennel Club, Inc. Knightime Kennel, Champion Rd., Jane E. Eckelman, R.D. No. 2, Box 145, Carthage, N.Y. 13619
- SEPT. 25, Pa., Quakertown., Allentown Dog Training Club, Inc. Smith's Farm, R.D. #4, Box 275, Jeanne Smith, Box 275, Quakertown, Pa. 18951
- OCT. 16., Pa., Reading. Berks County Dog Training Club, Tulpehocken Farms & surrounding area, Mrs. Joanne Ney, R.D. 1491, Club Rd., Bethel, Pa. 19507
- OCT, 22., Mass. Southboro. Concord Dog Training Club, Inc. Lynbrook Farm Roanne T. Center, 13 Aberdeen Rd. W. Chelmsford, Mass 01863
- OCT. 22., N.J. Holmdel, Town & Country Dog Training Club., Laura Harding's Bayonet Farms, Mrs. John Drzewiecki, 33 Nottingham Way, Millington, N.J. 07946
- OCT. 29., N.Y. New Paltz Port Chester Obedience Training Club., Inc. Mohonk Fields, Mrs. Lila Wolfman, 484 Harrison Ave, Harrison, N.Y. 10528

TRACKING TESTS EXCELLENT

- APRIL 24 Mass, Hamilton. New England Dog Training Club., Inc. Nancy's Corner, Ruth E. Ivers, 32 Glen Road, Reading, Mass. 01867
- April 24 Pa. Quakertown. Allentown Dog Training Club, Inc. Smith's Farm Carole A. Crothers, R.D. 4, View Drive, Walnutport, Pa. 18088
- MAY 7. Md. Ellicott City. Dog Owners Training Club of Maryland, Inc. Tomar Avoca Avenue, Field & Adjacent Farmlands, Mrs. Patricia Conway, 412 Kingsington Rd., Baltimore. Md. 21229
- OCT. 23. Mass. Southboro. Concord Dog Training Club, Inc. Lynbrook Farm Roanne T. Center, 13 Aberdeen Rd., W. Chelmsford, Ma. 01863
- NOV. 20 Pa. Eighty - Four. Golden Triangle Obedience Training Club, Mingo Creek County Park, Janet R. Pierson, 390 Ambard Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15202

Poorly trained guard dog can imperil an owner

By Deborah Lawson
Special to The Inquirer

Fear of criminals has made many Americans feel insecure in their homes. Statistics show that households with dogs are far less likely to be broken into than those without dogs. Unfortunately, their very real terror has led many Americans to buy poorly trained, vicious guard dogs that are as likely to turn on owners or friends as they are to drive off malefactors.

Just as sensible burglars avoid homes with good security systems, they usually turn from the sound of a barking dog — any dog — and look for residences without such warning systems.

There's no question that the ads for huge, attack-trained German shepherds, Dobermans and rottweilers are tempting to nervous people seeking protection. Women — particularly older women living alone — feel especially vulnerable and look upon such dogs as protectors.

Unfortunately, there's absolutely no regulation or control on who may train and sell guard dogs. Too often, the procedure used is simply to make the dog vicious by teasing, mistreat-

ing, goading, beating and frustrating it until it is a threat to anyone it meets.

It is virtually impossible to predict the behavior of such a dog or to control it when it thinks it perceives a threatening situation. This could be anything from the suddenly raised arm of a friend to an abrupt movement by its owner.

An example is a rottweiler that led all contenders in the American show ring a few years ago. This dog had been attack-trained in its native Germany by world-renowned experts. Not only was this dog a model of conformation for the breed, but it was supposed to be controllable by simple commands.

The dog's American show career came to an abrupt halt when a woman judge lifted her hand to fix her hair one day in the ring. Without a sound, the dog leaped through the air and nearly tore her ear off. Some months later, at home, the dog attacked the owner when she was cleaning its run. And this was a dog

that had had the best training available in the world.

Phyllis Wright, of the Humane Society of the United States, says that an ordinary, alert dog provides more than adequate protection for the average homeowner. She points out that guard dogs of any breed are more likely to bite than dogs whose natural aggressiveness has not been reinforced. Wright, who trained attack and sentry dogs for the Army, says that only specially trained police and military personnel should have attack dogs. The Army has abandoned efforts to retrain its guard dogs for life in the community when their Army careers are over. It just hasn't worked.

"I would never own an attack dog," Wright says. "Having an improperly trained attack dog is like keeping a loaded gun on your dining-room table. Once that dog attacks, there's practically no chance of recalling it."

A dog can discourage break-ins. But remember that you must keep the dog in the house if it is to deter criminals. Chaining it in the yard is useless.

Do you really want a dog in the house? Are you prepared to take care

of it? Unless you have a fenced yard or run, you will have to walk the dog several times a day. This could be dangerous in certain neighborhoods.

The best crime-detering dogs are noisy ones — terriers, for example. Could you put up with its barking under normal circumstances? How about neighbors' reactions?

Consider all the responsibilities before you acquire a dog. It must be housebroken, should receive at least elementary obedience training (with your participation in class), must have regular immunizations and veterinary care, must be exercised, brushed and fed, and needs loving attention and discipline. It cannot be allowed to run loose, and should be neutered unless it is among the tiny percentage of dogs that should reproduce for the advancement of the breed. It must be boarded or taken along when you are on vacation.

Never acquire a guard dog unless the seller requires you to undergo extensive training in its management and control.

A dog can be a fine deterrent to crime. But do consider what you are taking on before you buy any dog, and accept the fact that few individuals are equipped to cope with the dangerous potential of attack-trained dogs.

What to Do When Your Pet Gets Ruff

By Saunders M. Bridges Jr.

Generations of law students learned this maxim: "Every dog gets one free bite." Translation: A pet owner is liable for his pet's actions only if the animal's prior behavior has indicated that it might cause damage.

But in recent years, due to new statutes and subtle changes in old pet laws wrought by years of court decisions, the old rule hasn't always been applicable. In most states, pet owners are now being held to a harsher standard of knowledge than in the past.



The "one-bite" rule has become the "one-snarl" rule.

Under today's laws, pet owners must monitor all the habits and traits of their pets — not just obviously dangerous ones — and act accordingly.

Take the case of Pluto, a friendly and affectionate golden retriever in Pennsylvania. The dog's owner was not terribly alarmed when Pluto welcomed an elderly neighbor one afternoon by jumping up to lick the visitor's face, but unfortunately this caused the neighbor to fall and fracture his hip. Pluto's owner had to pay the neighbor \$5,000 in damages.

The owner was found liable because Pluto had been excessively affectionate with visitors on other occasions. Is your pet's breed naturally aggressive? Does it growl at pedestrians? You may be found negligent if you fail to keep it under control.

This does not mean that you must anticipate every possible act of your pet. In Iowa, for instance, a court ruled in favor of a farmer whose pet chicken

flew through a neighbor's glass window, stating that a flying chicken was a phenomenon which no one could be expected to foresee.

Many pet owners don't worry about liability because their pets are always gentle and well mannered. But, warns Dr. H. Michael Maetz, a veterinarian and epidemiologist at the School of Public Health of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, this is a false sense of security. "Any dog will bite and any cat will scratch," Dr. Maetz says. "This is their natural reaction when startled, frightened, or excited."

What's more, your pet's behavior and personality are not the only bases for liability. Many jurisdictions have ordinances which require you to keep your pet behind a fence or on a leash. Violation of such a law is negligence *per se*, meaning that you will have to pay for any damage which results regardless of your pet's prior behavior.

In many states, an animal that leaves its owner's property is treated as a trespasser, making the owner liable for damage the animal causes. In 1976, King, a German shepherd who lived at a lakeside resort in South Carolina, wandered into a neighboring house just before the owners left. Unknowingly, they locked King inside. Before they returned a week later, the terrified dog had demolished the interior of the house and King's owner had to pay \$5,000 in damages for his dog's trespass.

There are, however, measures that pet owners can take to protect themselves from liability:

Ask your lawyer, local bar association, or legal aid society about the laws in your area. Then obey them.

Don't keep a wild animal as a pet. Only domesticated animals (animals such as dogs, cats, fish, horses, etc., customarily kept by humans) are proper pets in the eyes of the law. If a wild pet causes damage, the owner is liable, regardless of how tame the animal was or how strong his cage.

Check your insurance coverage. Most homeowners insurance policies provide liability coverage which may protect you if you are found liable for your pet's acts. If your policy does not protect you, your insurance agent can sell you a personal liability policy.

And if your pet has ever snapped at anyone, don't give it the chance to do it again. Even in the days when every dog got one free bite, no dog ever got two.

fw

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Saunders M. Bridges Jr. is an attorney specializing in civil litigation.

TRACKING HARNESS

Have you reached a point where you need a tracking harness and don't know where to go? Listed below are two sources:

THE DOG'S OUTFITTER, INC., P. O. BOX 509, GLEN COVE, N.Y. 11542

Non-Restrictive Nylon Harness (Adjustable)

| | | | |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------------|
| #7262 | Small | 16" - 21" | \$9.95 + shpg. |
| #4264 | Medium | 24" - 31" | 10.95 " " |
| #4266 | Large | 30" - 40" | 11.95 " " |

MARION HAYCOOK, 25 Morley Drive, West Paterson, N.J. 07424

These harnesses are made to fit your dog. Information required is as follows:

Breed and weight of dog

Neck - measure top of withers to breast bone

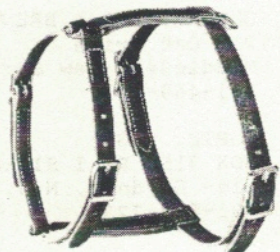
Breast to forearms

Top - below forearms

Small - \$8.50

Medium- 10.00

Large - \$12.00 plus shipping.



April 9, 1983

Dear Trackers:

Welcome to the rest of your life! Yes, that's what tracking can be to you and your dog.

It can bring you stronger muscles, more agility, better health and happiness. It can show you the great outdoors in all weather and all seasons. When was the last time you took your dog for a walk at six o'clock in the morning? The world is beautiful at that time of day!

Provided you use the Glenn Johnson method of tracking training, you will be able to teach your dog to track reliably and with enthusiasm. And you will learn to read your dog.

You do not have to get out everyday with your dog on this program. Most of us have to go to work and we can't get out everyday..... all you have to do is stick to the schedule when you do go out.

It may take you three months or three years, but you will eventually succeed. And you'll have a wonderful time doing it.

Lenape Tracking Club offers follow-up tracking days for those who participate in this Experience Day. By all means, take advantage of them and bring your dog out for further instruction and review.

The best thing about the follow-up days is that experienced trackers are always on hand to observe and help you and your dog. If they spot potential problems, they'll tell you so and help you avoid them.

Remember that anything worth having is worth working for and a T.D. is the greatest. So, get your tracking shoes on, grab your canine partner and get out in the open. It'll do you both good!

Good luck and call me if you have a problem.....or if you just want someone to listen to your frustrations after tracking in the rain without raingear!

Best wishes,

Charlotte Schwartz

Charlotte Schwartz



FOUNDED in 1975

The Lenape Tracking Club, Inc. of Hunterdon County in western New Jersey was formed in June of 1975 by a small group of people interested in tracking. Membership in the club has reached 65.

Our purpose in forming the club was to do all in our power to assist people in training their dogs in the sport of tracking, to encourage sportsmanlike competition in tracking tests and to sponsor educational programs of interest to tracking enthusiasts.

Each Spring since 1978 we have held a Tracking Experience Day introducing beginners to tracking. Monthly thereafter follow-up sessions are held where experienced members support and encourage these new tracking teams. To further its goals the Club holds certifying matches officiated by an AKC judge simulating actual tracking trial conditions.

Club members work together in pairs and small groups throughout the year to train their dogs to track, encouraging each other when they have problems and cheering each track well done.

A Newsletter keeps the members informed. Each March we hold a dinner during which we present awards to each member-dog team earning a TD or TDX anywhere during the previous year. One of our most popular events is our annual picnic held in August each year where the dogs are allowed to bring their owners. Highlight of the picnic is an obstacle course where the dogs really put their handlers through their paces.

All areas of scent work are of interest to our members as shown by programs that have included: Search and Rescue Dogs, Narcotic Detection Dogs, and Police Canine work. Occasionally we participate in scent hurdle races.

Lenape Tracking Club, Inc. is looking forward to a very active and productive future.

KEEP ON TRACKING!