

COMMON SCENTS

May - June
1986

VOL.11
NO. 3



**IS THIS ANYWAY
TO EARN A "T" ?**

LEARN TO EARN

ON TV

WHO'S WHO

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TRACKING EXPERIENCE DAY: Fran Wilmeth
Melinda Berger

FALL CERTIFICATION MATCH: Janet Quodomine

NEWLETTER:

EDITOR: Peg Forte

TIDBITS: Joanne Mac Kinnon

TRACKING TESTS LIST: Marion Repp

FOOTPRINTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

We were all saddened by Bill Hutchins passing in April. Harry Broderson graciously consented to write an eulogy for our newsletter. We thank Harry for doing this, his relationship with Bill was a special one.

Tracking Experience Day 1986 is over, we hope to have a great turn out at the Follow-up session on June 14th (that is a change in dates as Jane's farm was not available on the 7th). Fran's report on the Experience Day is in this newsletter. She needs members to help on June 14th, Please Call her (215-862-2453).

Members who come to help at Follow-ups are welcome to bring their own dogs, if time and space are available tracks can be laid for them.

The deadline for information. Tid Bits, etc. for the next newsletter is July 1st as your editor must get it ready early as she is going on a vacation in July.

Please read the notice of our very special meeting planned for June 27th. (inside back cover). Meeting at 7PM with the guest speaker at 8PM. It is difficult to schedule meeting dates to please everyone. We are planning programs and hope we have a good attendance at them. We still need a Program Chairperson, we have ideas and contacts ... we need someone to work out details.

Looking forward to seeing each of you on June 27th.

Peg Forte

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JUNE 14th 9AM Follow-up, Jane Henderson's
- JUNE 27th 7PM Meeting & Program Leb. Twp. Mun. Bldg.
- JULY 12TH Follow-up, Jane Henderson's
- AUG. 16th Follow-up, Jane Henderson's
- Nov. 1 & 2 FALL CERTIFICATION MATCH Judge: Carol Parkinson

TID BITS to Joanne Mac Kinnon by July 1st

EULOGY

WILLIAM J. HUTCHINS

Often we use the term friend which covers a broad spectrum of ones relationship with an individual. A friend can be close or distant, depending on who they are if relating to the neighborhood, the work place, at social functions or even ones hobby. A friend can be one known for a year, five, possibly ten years or a lifetime. Some you can know for two years and feel it was at least a century. Bill was like that during his contact with people who he had an occasion to meet, work with, play with or to officiate as a judge; be it Obedience Trials, Tracking Tests or during voluntary support activities that he was able to provide.

My personal relationship with Bill wasn't long, seems to me it was about 8 to 10 years ago we first officiated together. This was the Port Chester Obedience Training Club Tracking Tests at New Paltz, New York. As with everyone, in dealing with Bill, we hit it off quickly and compatibly (not easy in tracking tests with mixed personalities brought together). From that event I felt that Bill and I read each other very well and could always work together. Bill's closing remark following the presentation of awards and departure greetings to those in attendance at the Tracking Tests were, "Harry, I will gladly work with you anytime, anyplace again!" Even judges need encouragement from their peers, since actually I felt Bill as my senior by approximately 9 years. Over the years that we worked together I often wondered why Bill was able to plot his tracks twice as fast, walk my legs off in the process and complete the AKC official paper work in much less time. Bill apparently had no hang-ups about how a track should be laid. yet was open for my question or disagreement and replotting to the meeting of our minds. To question where a track had been laid and in the process of being run by an exhibitor, Bill had a better recollection over mine many times, even when his official judging plot did not highlight a specific reference. Such references are most important in reestablishing a dog and handler to the track following a whistled failure and a desire that the two finish the track on an up-beat.

So Bill was like that with me. The few years seem to be a century, since our rapport was that well established. It was only the last few years that Bill confided in me that he had to give up TDX testing since his legs didn't want to take it any longer. However, he always turned up on schedule for AKC Tests in spite of my knowledge of his concern. I found myself now able to do a greater portion of Bill's normally accepted responsibility without any disagreement on TDX assignments. This was the first year that he withdrew from all TDX assignments except the Port Chester D.T. Clubs' tests scheduled for the fall of 1986. He was holding that assignment expecting his legs might improve by then and we could work together as in the past.

Having withdrawn from the Philadelphia Dog Training Club TD/TDX tests for this year, Bill recommended that this correspondent replace him. I'm not sure that the club advised me that he had withdrawn, other than to tell me who the associate judge would be.

On the day of the track plotting for TD and TDX who was at Headquarters but William Hutchins? His opening remark, "Where have you been, you're ten minutes late?" Thereupon I learned the second judge also had not arrived at the specified time, but followed shortly.

Bill and his TD dog "Magic", a black Labrador Retriever female followed our plotting of two of the four TDX tracks. They left to permit the judges to plot the TD tests of which I learned he was to be a participant the next day.

Prior to the formal plotting for the TDX testing, Bill escorted me personally to the area reserved for the TD Tests. It was very hilly, extremely large area for the three tracks, good cover and contained numerous land markings to assist the plotting.

An interesting fact became known during the day pertaining to the TD Tests for 3 participants. Only one qualified exhibitor had entered the TD Test up to the day of closing of entries. Since the AKC rules require at least three to participate in any TD test in order for any one to receive the TD Degree if passing successfully the club was short by 2 entries. Bill and another party having a TD dog agreed to enter in the test to satisfy the AKC rules in support of the three entry/participation rules for a successful exhibitor to earn the TD Degree. Although tracking is not competitive as in other obedience trials, the rule stands and I am in more disagreement today than ever before with this AKC ruling.

As is normal on these occasions, the TDX Testing was the first event of the day due to the extent of scheduling of a single participant of 3 to 5 hours for each test. None of the participants passed, although all showed possibilities by going much beyond the normal TD test that each participant had successfully earned previously.

The track drawing placed the original entry on Track #1, #2 was Bill Hutchins and the #3 track went to the third participant. The first exhibitor of the TD test did a most impressive display of a TD track, passing the test on a steep hilly area with medium high cover. Bill and his dog Magic proceeded on the second track as drawn. I couldn't believe seeing Bill running behind his dog during his follow across the hillside. I mentioned to the second judge, "Look at Bill running to keep up!" Bill and Magic did the 465 yard track in six minutes, less than most would do on the flat. Upon completion of the test, Magic, with glove in mouth returned down the hill dragging her lead. As I went up to meet Bill I remarked to him, "Why didn't you drop the lead?" His remark, "Don't think that I wasn't thinking about doing that, I didn't think I was going to make it." Although Bill was breathing hard, on the way down he asked "Would you have passed me if the lead was dropped and the dog completed it?" My reply, "Of course I would as long as it was inadvertently a loss of lead by you." Bill replied, "So would have I."

These were my last words with William J. Hutchins on April 6th at 12:35 P.M. since I moved over to the test area for track #3. If Bill had other words with the gallery, I'm sure he did, I was not advised. Following, a person from the gallery called my attention to Bill's situation and all emergency matters then became paramount!

William J. Hutchins Memorial Service was held on Wednesday April 9, 1986. Any donations can still be made in Bill's name to the Heart Fund Association in the memory of William J. Hutchins c/o Natalie Hutchins, 449 Great Spring Road, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010.

I personally have no problem in accepting Bill's fate. In his heart I'm sure, he would not have wanted to go in any other way when called to the Great Beyond - my sympathies are with Natalie in her grief and loss at this time.

Harry Brodersen

TIDBITS



Barbara Ridder Irwin sent along the following news: " BUTTER, my Papillon, became an Obedience Trial Champion on October 6, 1985. She is now CH AND OTCH KINE-AHORA SOCIAL BUTTERFLY, the first Champion Bitch Papillon to also become an OTCH. We have just been to Virginia for the Papillon Club of America Specialty on April 19th at Old Dominion. She won H.S. Papillon in Utility B (also 4th place), H.S. Papillon in Open B, H.S. Papillon in the regular classes, H.S. Papillon in Utility B and Open B combined and H.S. AKC Champion Papillon!! Also my new Collie that I bought in England last year is doing well. I started her in Novice B at Hartford - Springfield Collie Club and she got her first leg with a High In Trial score 198. She finished in 3 shows and then got another H. I. T. at Collie Club of Northern New Jersey. We are on our way to Chicago to the Collie Club of America Specialty with our fingers crossed. Maybe we'll get tracking this summer!"



Greg Forte's third Seeing Eye puppy has completed her training in Morristown Greg has received a letter telling him that "Gina" has gone to Arizona with a lady who has two teenage children. This is her third guide dog. Fran Wilmeth accompanied the Forte's to see Gina work in Morristown in April, and took lots of lovely photos again. It is hard for the Forte's to realize that they have been involved in the program for over three years, the first three dogs have become guide dogs and puppy #4 "Gayle" is already six months old.



Fran Wilmeth's LAETON'S FREDRICKA ("Freddie") had quite a day at the Berks County D.T.C. Obedience Trial on May 18th. "Freddie" earned a leg in Novice B, she was the Highest Scoring Norwich Terrier in Novice B, Highest Scoring Norwich Terrier in Trial, and the Highest Scoring Terrier in Trial. Way to go "Freddie".



Eddie Braginton has been busy, her two year old Weimaraner, HEIDT'S AUDENKEN finished her American C.D. in six straight shows as follows: K-9, 188 1/2, HS Weimaraner; Princeton, 196, HS Weimaraner, 4th place, HS Sporting Dog w/Field Placement; Staten Island, 189 1/2 HS Pointing Dog Novice B; First Dog TC, 194 1/2, HS Weimarnener Novice B; Bayshore, 193 1/2 HS Weimaraner; Timonium, 191 1/2 HS Weimaraner Novice B, HS Weimaraner. The dogs' name now reads HEIDT'S AUDENKEN, AM & CAN CD, NSD. Eddie says it's on to tracking now. Good Luck!

FLYBALL

Flyball is fun for the dogs, exciting for the spectators and just plain fun, fun, fun!!!

For those of you who have never seen Flyball, it is similar to Scent Hurdle Racing. Dogs race over four hurdles to a box at the end, where using their paw they release a ball, which they catch and return to their handler over the four hurdles.

Interested in knowing more, or trying it with your dog - CONTACT: Janet Quodomine 201-852-7127

If we can get enough dogs/handlers interested we can arrange competitions.

"PEOPLE TRACKS"

KRISTIN DU FOSSE, MEMBER

If there is anything I like to do almost as much as using my dog, it's writing about her, -- and to think I've been asked. I only hope I shall not bore the reader to tears.

Sometime ago, we lost a dearly-loved Border Collie in a farm accident. The B.C. pups I saw were very poor substitutes for our wonderful Ollie so I considered a Rottweiler pup. I took my husband to see a neighbors'. He said in no way would he consider a dog without a tail. So that was that. I went to the Trenton Dog Show and looked over all the breeds trying to decide what dog I would like. When the Beardies were being shown, there was one dog hawing it up. He jumped and played with the handler while being shown and I said that is the dog for me.

When I got "Lucy" from Larry Terricone, I wanted a dog that would be all mine and one that I could show if I wanted. I got so much more when I got my "Lucy." She didn't turn out to be show dog but we are even more pleased that she is an excellent working dog. She is good in obedience, tracking and helping out with the livestock on the farm. Besides, I am her one and only.

When "Lucy" was a pup, I took her to a Beardedie match show. While we were waiting our turn, I saw a young women with a Dobie in an Obedience class. The dog was in the sit stay and she called her dog. He came and sat at her feet looking up at her. It was just about the most marvelous thing I had ever seen. Need I say that we started classes also? After over 2 years of obedience I feel it has its place but that it is of limited value when taken to the extreme. Ruth Rosbeck said that "Lucy" has a good attitude and that she could be high in trial if I got tougher on her but to me the price would be too high.

I had read of tracking but had no idea what it was. As long as it involved dogs, I was interested so I joined Lenape Tracking Club. At the time, I was doing part-time staff nursing and I had to work every other week-end. It was just my luck that all the club functions were on my week-end to work. I finally got a chance to come to one of the follow-up sessions and Fran Wilmeth helped us to get started. We have a 140 acre dairy farm and we had lots of room to practice. I'll never forget those early days. I would put "Lucy" in the sit-stay and walk on until I couldn't even see her any more in the tall grass. I'd call her and she would track me.

We failed at the club's certification match but the judge (Lisa Bush) very kindly offered to test "Lucy" at home. Lucy passed this and we went on to the Dauphin DTC tracking trial to pass easily. This is our first and only degree we have gotten and for which we are most proud.

We much prefer working in the wide open spaces rather than the show or obedience ring so we prepared for the TDX. Little did we suspect at the time the degree of difficulty in TDX work. It is a real challenge! Our first trial was this last Sept. at Taconic Hills. It was great fun -- dogs the main topic of conversations, the waiting, the eager anticipation, the suspension. If you're looking for excitement, this is

it. "Lucy" did really well but went into some thick, high rushes twice and came back twice. She got back on track but we were blown off! She had missed that corner and so was disqualified. It was a great day, however, and we looked forward to the next trial.

Walt Jagger has a herding clinic in N.E. Penna. in the fall and the spring. I wanted to take "Lucy" to the clinic on Sat. and the Philadelphia tracking trial on Sunday. My husband said I would only confuse the dog but out came the map and it looked like the two activities could be squeezed in. We had difficulty in finding the meeting place for the trial and when we arrived, I was in tears. Before I could regain my composure, I drew Track #1. From then on it was downhill all the way. At the starting flag, "Lucy" wouldn't work. She just wanted to sniff, thinking this was just another motel. There I was, just as I had read, my dog couldn't even get started. After much encouragement, she got on the track only to miss the first article. The track continued into the back lawn of a small estate where the grass was cut very short and littered with goose manure. To top it all off, the geese were still there, just to show you how one has to be prepared for everything.

The next trial was in Mass. The trip was much longer than we had anticipated and when we got to the motel, we got an emergency call that my husband's brother was critically ill in Holland. Since we couldn't do anything anyway, we decided to stay for the trial. The motel had plumbing problems and the toilet made a noise every minute. It was an industrial town and the RR cars banged all night. Can you tell this is the start of another sad story?

I felt right at home with the Massachusetts Tracking Club as the editors of Tracking Scents are also Bearded owners. "Lucy" again had trouble at the start which rather discouraged me. She cast about much more than she usually does. We managed to make it to the last corner and I wouldn't let her make the last leg twice. It was an outright error on my part. The club members told me I didn't know how to read my dog which is what Pat Paulding told me way back when. I feel as if I learned much about tracking through these experiences but a trial is hardly a place to do it.

At this point, I don't know if or when "Lucy" will ever get her TDX. If she does, it will be a greater accomplishment for me as the dog is better at her job than I am at mine.

If it weren't for Lenape, I wouldn't have gotten this far. My thanks to all the members who helped me but especially Peg Forte for her advice, moral support and her waterproof shoulders. To show my appreciation to the club, I would like to lay a track for any handler who is a member, and who feels they are ready for a TDX trial. We have cultivated fields of varying vegetation and a fair degree of difficulty. Give me a call at 201-782-3162 to see if we can set a date. TDX tracking is great sport. Give it a try !

TRACKING EXPERIENCE DAY 1986

Tracking Experience Day 1986 was an unqualified success. Thirty eager handler/dog teams plus six observers listened to an inspired Charlotte Schwartz in the morning. Her summer in Australia (during our winter) must have been a good one as we have never seen her in better form. Our exhibition tracking dog Vicky Brown's German Shepherd, "Brock", did an exemplary track with a beautiful start, a checking out of an apparent cross track, a clear indication of loss of track at the first turn with a good circle around Vicky followed by a clear indication of the new leg. "Brock" started to cut the second corner but his handler held him back until he circled and gave her a strong pull to show that he was right. He sailed to the end and dropped on the glove with the crowd of spectators only thirty yards away. It was beautiful to watch.

By the end of the day the vast majority of dogs seemed to be putting their noses down and getting the idea as they all polished off Day One of Johnson's schedule. We've had several phone calls expressing pleasure about the experience and some asking questions about their dogs' behavior as they have been progressing through the rest of Week One. One participant who had postponed a trip to England until Sunday so she could attend, found time to write a note Saturday night. In addition to being pleased with her dog's performance, she stated, "Tracking really lets you see another side of your dog." How true! We have the names of twenty-seven people on the follow-up list so many participants do want to continue.

The only sad note to report is the written confirmation of Charlotte's statement that she will not be able to do the Experience Day next year. We will try to change her mind but the Club's officers and Board have already started to talk about new plans for presenting the sport of tracking to interested beginners even if we will be missing our stellar attraction.

We thank all those members who worked so hard to make the day a success. It wouldn't "go" without you. We also thank Jane Henderson for the use of her lovely property. The fields were just right for beginners of all sizes. We will be needing volunteers to help on the Follow-up days, the first of which will be on June 14th. Call me if you can come.

Fran Wilmeth, Chairman TED

Study finds women have a superior sense of smell

Washington Post

Women smell better than men.

The notion is not altogether new — scientists have often found that women could detect and differentiate odors with more accuracy than men can.

But in the past, such studies have included almost exclusively whites. A new University of Pennsylvania study has looked at the olfactory abilities of various races and finds the female superiority to be universal.

More than 2,000 men and women were surveyed, including American whites and blacks, Korean Americans and native Japanese, according to a summary of the study in *Psychology Today*. The test subjects were given scratch-and-sniff pads accompanied by multiple-choice questions, such as: "This odor smells most like (a) chocolate, (b) banana, (c) onion, (d) fruit punch."

In all groups, women did better than men.

Korean Americans had the most sensitive noses, followed by a tie between American whites and blacks.

Native Japanese came in last, but researcher Richard Doty, writing in the journal *Neuropsychologia*, said there might have been some cultural bias. The Japanese had the most trouble with cherry, fruit punch, wintergreen and dill pickle, which may be more common in western cultures.

What do you think? We invite your comments!

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Board met on May 2nd at the Lebanon Township Municipal Bldg.

The Treasurer's report which included the income from Experience Day showed us to be in a more stable financial condition then we were at the beginning of the year.

Dorothea Vail extended an invitation from Carol Postly of the Port Chester DTC to Lenape to participate in their 2nd "Advanced Scent Day" they are planning for sometime in November. We agreed to do so and have asked Dorothea to be the liaison between the two groups, to get more details for us.

Further discussion was held on the engraving costs for awards, various Board members are seeking information on prices and alternative methods, so we can make a decision in the near future.

Plans for a meeting in the fall on TDX tracking were discussed no date or exact format selected yet.

Fran Wilmeth has sent out letters to some of the other tracking clubs and hopes to be in contact with all of them by the next Board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be July 10th. Any member who has an idea or something they wish to have discussed should contact an Officer or Board member before that date.

TRACKING TESTS

There are none nearby from June -August.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"I have to go now. I'm being beeped."



"Look, Mom! We have central air-conditioning!"

FRIDAY, JUNE 27TH MEETING 7PM

PROGRAM OPEN

SHAWN SIEVERT

&

HIS DOG GUIDE

Shawn Sievert works as a Switchboard Operator. He received his dog guide from Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael, California. He enjoys answering questions about his yellow Labrador dog guide.

Where? At the Lebanon Township Municipal Building

Directions: On a NJ map locate the intersection of I78 (East-west) and Rt. 31 (North-South) and proceed as follows: Take Rt. 31 North to first traffic light (Rt. 513) turn right and note mileage from light. Follow Rt. 513 through High Bridge. Look for Voorhees H.S. on right and Voorhees Park on the left. Just past them you will make a left turn onto Rt. 628, there is a Sunoco gas station on the corner. This turn will be 3.9 miles from the light on Rt. 31. Follow Rt. 628 to a full stop at Hill Rd. and turn left (Rt. 628 West). Brick buildings on the left, first is the Firehouse, second is the Municipal Bldg., third is the First Aid Squad. Total mileage from Rt. 31 light: 5.7 miles.