

COMMON SCENTS

MAR.-APR. 1988

VOL. 13 NO. 2



PAT PAULDING



FRAN WILMETH



FLORENCE MIKTUS - RONN LOOS

LENAPE TRACKING
CLUB, INC.

FOOTPRINTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

We completed the information necessary and submitted the club paperwork to the AKC on March 17th. We have received a letter dated March 23 from the AKC. The letter read as follows:

"This will acknowledge your March 17th, 1988 letter, with enclosures, submitted on behalf of your group, Lenape Tracking Club, concerning its request for AKC accreditation.

Your club's file, along with this updated material, will be placed on the agenda of our New Clubs Committee for its consideration and you will be advised of any decision in approximately six weeks."

I would like to thank all those who helped get this material ready. Joanne Mac Kinnon and I spent enumerable hours researching through the clubs thirteen years of paperwork. Without Joanne's help the job would have never gotten done. Vickie Brown, Edie Braginton, and Gail Palmer did the work on the members list of titles, etc. which was another large part of the job.

At the club dinner in 1987 the majority of members voted that they wanted to go for the AKC accreditation. If we are granted the accreditation more than 5 or 6 people will have to start working or we won't be able to hold matches, tests, have a newletter, etc.

A FEW PEOPLE HAVE BEEN CARRYING THE LOAD OF THE WORK OF THIS CLUB FOR THE PAST 13 YEARS. WE ARE TIRED OUT. IT IS TIME FOR OTHER MEMBERS TO STEP FORWARD TO DO THE WORK.

We have some new faces on the board this year, new members Linda Riley and Pat Etchells, who have shown a great deal of interest and enthusiasm. We need more members like them to step forward to help.

This is not the first time we have appealed for help or involvement from the membership. These pleas seem to fall on deaf ears

IT IS TIME TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED.

Peg Forte

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER ??

PICNIC - WITH EVENTS FOR THE DOGS

NOV. 5 & 6

CERTIFICATION MATCH
LEBANON TOWNSHIP

IF THERE IS A BLACK DOT BY YOUR NAME ON THE MAILING LABEL. IT MEANS YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES FOR 1988. PLEASE SEND TO FRAN WILMETH IMMEDIATELY OR YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB. FRAN'S ADDRESS IS IN THE WHO'S WHO ON THE INSIDE OF THE COVER. DUES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ARE \$10, A FAMILY \$15.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DINNER/MEETING - MARCH 19, 1988

Shirts with logos - a lengthy discussion was held on obtaining T-shirts and/or sweatshirts with the club logo on them. It was decided that the shirts should be green in color, with the logo in the center of the front of the shirt. Shirts will be sold to members only. A motion was made that the shirts be sold for \$2.00 more than they cost.

Update - the sweatshirts and T-shirts are ordered and are expected to be delivered in time for the Tracking Experience Day. Orders for the shirts were taken at the dinner meeting. We will take orders for the shirts at TED or through the mail. Price will be determined after we pick up this order. We must have a minimum of 12 to order or there is an extra charge of \$5.00, but we are allowed to mix sizes and types of shirts.

Fran Wilmeth reported on correspondence with the Mid-West Tracking Association. They have suggested that we spearhead the start of such an organization here in the east. Fran has written to "Tracking Scents", a tracking magazine from Mass., to ask that they suggest the start of such an organization in their publication to see what kind of interest there might be.

Jim Proffitt also suggested that we get together with clubs that have stopped holding tests to offer our help in reviving their tests. General consensus at this time was that we must wait and see if AKC grants us accreditation to hold matches and tests. Then we also need to have enough people who are interested in working at any such events with this club, before we start offering to help other clubs hold tests.

Moving our fall match date to earlier in the fall was discussed and has been referred to the board for further consideration. This year's date of Nov. 5 & 6 will stand, judge is already arranged.

The slate of officers was presented by the Nominating Committee Chairperson Pat Paulding. There were no nominations from the floor. Your 1988 officers are as listed in the Who's Who on the inside of the cover.

Following the meeting awards were presented as follows:

TD plaque	Fran Wilmeth & Lottie
TD plaque	Randie Meyer & Dispatch (to be mailed)
MIKTUS AWARD	Ronn Loos
GAINES AWARD	Pat Paulding

RONN LOOS THANKS THE MEMBERS

WE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM RONN LOOS DATED 3/22/88

"Please convey to the membership of LTC my sincere thanks for being selected to receive the John Miktus Memorial trophy. Needless to say, I was very pleasantly surprised.

As you know, Maeleine and my relationship with John and Florence goes back to the early 70's when we trained, went to shows together, and more or less followed each other from one title to the next, thru UD and on to tracking.

Maeleine and I often find ourselves reminiscing about those days and how much we miss John and the close relationship we enjoyed. This magnificent trophy will help to keep the memory alive."

Thank you again. Obediently Yours, Ronn Loos



February 10, 1988

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Midwest Tracking Association has held several General Membership Meetings and Board Meetings over the past 10 months to discuss important issues and what impact these issues will have on the Tracking community in the future. The issues of bitches in season, the Lottery, Footwear, the draw for alternates, refunds, etc. are all issues which all of us are concerned about and want to see changed in some way.

When the Midwest Tracking Association formed, we had a goal in mind, to pull together the Tracking community into one voice, a voice which would be heard and not ignored. Recently, we have heard that the newly formed Tracking Advisory Board could be a one shot deal. If important issues which we feel should be changed are not this time around, (we) could be waiting a long time for another chance. The Tracking community was under the assumption that the Tracking Advisory Board would be an on-going Committee of tracking enthusiasts who would recommend changes in rules and regulations based on the input from the Tracking community. It appears that this is not the case. It could be that because of the rumblings created by such groups as the M.T.A., the A.K.C. felt it necessary to act and act quickly. By forming the Tracking Advisory Committee the A.K.C. could quiet the rumblings and keep control over the tracking issues.

We all need each other's help. We must write to the A.K.C. and let them know that the Tracking Advisory Committee must be a committee devoted to on-going needs of the Tracking community. They are an important liason between the A.K.C. and the very issues we have all been working so hard to change.

Let the A.K.C. know how you feel. Write to Bob Squires, Roberta Campbell, or the President of A.K.C., Kenneth A. Marden.

MIDWEST TRACKING ASSOCIATION

WILL YOU HELP ?

by MAELIENE LOOS

Attention all obedience and tracking enthusiasts ! If you are a true animal lover and have a genuine concern about the over population of dogs and the horrendous plight of the unfortunate creatures in the animal shelters - YOU CAN HELP ! Contact your local shelter and donate your knowledge and ability as a trainer.

Here are a few instances where your services can be most helpful - indeed life saving.

1. The shelters can offer free obedience training with the adoption of any dog.
2. The shelter can offer free training to anyone intending to give up their pet, because they no longer can or do not want to cope with the myriad of problems dog ownership entails. When the home situation becomes intolerable and all sorts of unrelated problems occur, the dog is the first to go.

Do not feel, that because your dog did not score in the 190's or earn a UD title that you lack the necessary ability to help. Anyone in this situation needs the basics, not the fine points of obedience.

Desperate situations call for desperate action so I use, what I refer to as, a crash course in obedience. The universal complaint is "my dog won't come when called" so the recall is started immediately using food in the beginning. Walking quietly by the owner's side or at the end of the leash, not obedience heeling, is next; followed by the sit and down stay. No fronts, no finishes, stand for examination (unless requested) or figure 8's. Keep in mind the dogs life may depend on this training. To the harried owner any progress is considered miraculous, and he is amazed that this supposedly stupid animal has suddenly become amazingly intelligent.

3. Work with problem dogs at the shelter. Many of them are undisciplined and uncontrollable and would never be adopted if they didn't learn some manners. Others are timid, scared. These respond well to individual attention and gentle training. The latter makes a dog easier to place also.

continued on the next page

WILL YOU HELP ?


4. Make yourself available to area shelters, as a source of help for behavior and training problems they cannot handle. I was really surprised by the fact that those involved in humane work know almost nothing about dog psychology or training. They appreciate having someone with this knowledge to refer to. Many of these calls deal with housebreaking, chewing, jumping up and aggression. For those who equate a crate with a medieval torture chamber, I compare it to a child's playpen. Most people can relate to this.


When giving telephone help I explain my instructions in detail and always ask people to please let me know if the problem is solved, explaining that there are other solutions that can be tried. This way if the problem is not corrected, hopefully the dog will not be returned to the shelter or worse yet, dumped on the side of the road.

As a result of the vast number of calls I have received, I find that people are totally ignorant of the tremendous importance of spaying, altering their dogs (and cats), that they tend to over feed and under exercise their pets and that they fail to understand the "leader of the pack" theory.

Unless you live in the city you will not be swamped with students. In addition to our township pound, I offer the free training to anyone adopting a dog from a private rescue group and a local collie rescue group. If you help to save the life of even one dog it will have been worthwhile.



 Edie Braginton's male Weimaraner "Heidt's Bismark, NSD earned both his majors last fall, going Best of Winners each time. He now has 8 points. He also won a second in the Sporting Group at the Super Match last fall. He earned his Novice Shooting Dog, (NSD) rating the same day he earned Best Adult in Match at the Delaware Valley Weimaraner Club's fall match. Now on to C.D. work.

 Joanne and Ralph Mac Kinnon's "Major" earned the second leg of his Junior Hunter title at the Maryland Retriever Club's Hunting Test on April 23rd. He's half way to the title of Junior Hunter.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH THESE SPORTING DOGS !!!!!

PEOPLE TRACKS

June Oswald

Dogs have always been a part of June's life. Her memories of childhood include the presence of a mixed breeds, a Poodle, a Boston terrier and an Airedale. When she finished school and had a place of her own, she adopted an Irish Water Spaniel from the SPCA, but unfortunately he could not overcome distemper. Her veterinarian recognized a good home and placed a lab-greyhound mix with June. In order to control this dog's desire to jump, June trained her through utility and showed her at matches. Recognizing it was the lab in this dog she liked so much, June selected her later dogs from that breed.

Dogs with titles are:

Spinaway Merrylegs, CDX, WC
Sirius Lad of Ayr, CDX, WC
Ayr's Mornin' Chocolate, TDX

June got interested in tracking when she was teaching Pixie scent discrimination in utility. When she lost a \$10 bill from her pocket, June gave Pixie her scent and asked her to find it - and she did! June then went on to find out how to teach tracking. She started Chipper at ten weeks - got his titles the first tries, and is now doing successful jobs for the local police.

Other animal-related interests are teaching obedience, studying about animal behavior, and giving demonstrations to nursing homes and local schools.

June is single and lives with her elderly mother and aunt. After working for some time as a pediatric nurse, she went with the medical department at Smith Kline & French Labs. Since her retirement in 1986, June has been devoting more time to her dogs. Other hobbies include needlepoint, making baskets and latch-hook rugs, and playing with her computer. She is also doing a lot for Suburban DTC.

When asked to relate an amusing story, June recalled the time she and Chipper were running a track June had laid several hours earlier at a park. As they reached the last leg, there was a loose German Shepherd who approached him. Chipper picked up the glove, stood very tall, then swallowed the whole glove rather than surrender it to another dog!