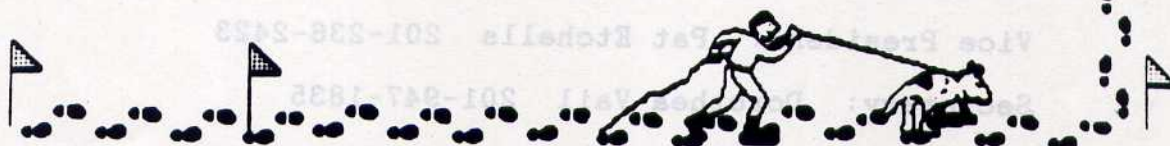


LENAPE TRACKING CLUB



of

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY



COMMON SCENTS

NOVEMBER--DECEMBER 1989

VOL. 14 NO. 6

DATES TO REMEMBER

ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1990

TRACKING EXPERIENCE DAY--1990

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1990

WHO'S WHO

OFFICERS;

President: Fran Wilmeth 215-862-2453

Vice President: Pat Etchells 201-236-2423

Secretary: Dorothea Vail 201-947-1835

Treasurer: Linda Riley 201-234-0372

BOARD:

Peg Forte 201-832-7231

Martha Hamil 201-846-5333

Charlotte Yurasek 201-735-7229

Marion Rapp 201-538-4142

Jeff Monda 201-454-3581

COMMITTEES:

MEMBERSHIP: Fran Wilmeth

INTERCLUB COMMUNICATIONS: Fran Wilmeth

FLYBALL/SCENT HURDLE: Janet Quodamine 201-852-7127

TRACKING EXPERIENCE DAY: Fran Wilmeth

FALL CERTIFICATION MATCH: Janet Quodamine

NEWSLETTER: Marion Rapp

NEW MEMBERS

The following people have submitted their applications for membership. They will become members 30 days after the mailing of this newsletter unless the secretary Dot Vail (address above) receives any letters of objection within 30 days.

Ms. Patricia Blewitt, 1357 Kennedy Street, Phila., PA 19124
Home Phone 215-PI4-9866 Work Phone 215-951-8729
She has a saint bernard, Ch. Miss Muffin, C.D.

Ms. S. Hope Meeker, P.O. Box 464, Milford, NJ 08848
201-995-2276
Hope has golden and flat coated retrievers.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Joyous Holidays to all you trackers and your canine companions! I hope your list of New Years resolutions includes at least one that involves setting up a regular tracking schedule and a "T" in 1990.

Two of our members are celebrating new tracking titles! Millie Hefner and her black Standard Poodle, Galliarde, passed at the Berks County Dog Training Club test on October 15th. Then on November 14th, Linda Riley and her Tibetan Terrier, Molly, passed at the Oniole Dog Training Club test in Maryland. Molly is now a UDT, quite an accomplishment for a dog acquired from a humane society. We've asked Millie and Linda to write up their experiences at their tests and these should appear elsewhere in this issue.

Our second AKC sanctioned match went off without a hitch thanks to Marty Hamil, match secretary, and Janet Quodomine, match chairman. One of the four entries was certified. This was a Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Ariel's E Bright Pocket, owned by new Lenape member, Betty Fletcher. Details of the Match are in a separate article.

We expect 1990 to be a busy year for Lenape. Those of us who are involved in obedience, field trials and breed competition in addition to tracking will have to establish priorities at times. There is no way we can avoid conflicting dates for all our activities once the spring show season gets underway. We will try to announce our dates far enough in advance that you can plan your weekends. If we can get permission from AKC, we might move our first trial date to April but if we have to wait the six months from the match, then our trial date will be in May which is a very busy month with nearby shows and obedience trials every weekend. Mark your 1990 calendars now for the Annual Dinner on March 31st and Tracking Experience Day on April 28th. We are planning a general membership meeting for late January or early February. Details will follow.

We are pleased to report that Joanne MacKinnon's eye is much improved. For those who hadn't heard, she was helping Ralph post their farm with no hunting signs when a tree branch whipped back, hitting her in the eye and depositing a piece of wood in the eyeball. The wood chip was surgically removed and Joanne spent five days in the hospital. Once home, her activities were curtailed so dog training ceased for a while. This is why Joanne and Skye were not at our Match and why Joanne was not a track layer. Jackson and I are delighted that we will soon be able to resume our weekly tracking sessions with Skye and Joanne.

A personal note: the Wilmeth canine corps has expanded to eight. A four year old Am/Can Ch. Schippenke who was retired from the breed ring has joined our household to become an obedience dog. After four years of prancing around a breed ring, she finds the concept of sitting very difficult to comprehend but we're working on it. More recently an eight week old Doberman pup has disrupted the peace and quiet of the "old folks". She was raised from birth by the Quaker City Doberman Pinscher Club Rescue Committee. We plan to start tracking training in puppyhood and then do obedience with her. I guess one could say my retirement has really gone to the dogs!

Keep on tracking! It will help keep the weight down over the holidays.

Joan Wilmeth

REPORT ON AKC SANCTIONED TRACKING CERTIFICATION MATCH, November 19, 1989

The weather was clear but cold and windy on track plotting day. The day of the test was clear, much less windy and seemed warmer. Judges Elissa J. Kirkegard (AKC licensed for tracking) and Dorothea Vail (AKC licensed for all obedience classes but not for tracking) spent Saturday morning carefully plotting five tracks on the fields at Jane Henderson's farm. Track layers were Peg Forte, Pat Etchells and John Etchells. There were four entries and one alternate track.

On Sunday, Fran Wilmeth's Norwich Terrier, Jackson, drew the first track. He started eagerly but soon disappeared down a ground hog hole at the edge of the first leg. (He refuses to go to ground at terrier trials.) A tug on the harness got him back out and he resumed tracking, making the first turn without trouble. At the second turn, he circled twice and took off hard to the right. Unfortunately, the track went to the left. (Jack may have been confused by a deer path.) Once he was put back on the track, he worked his way to the glove with only minor interruptions to hunt field mice along the track. He ran the total distance and was exhausted but happy at the end.

Betty Fletcher's Corgi, Colonel, then showed us how tracking should be done. In a very workman-like fashion, the little guy walked along with his nose "tied to the track". Colonel is slow and methodical and so accurate! He's a pleasure to watch. He got to the glove without a hitch. Betty and Colonel started tracking at our TED in April and are proof of what can be done with consistent effort. They'll go for the TD in the spring since there are no more tests this fall.

The third track went to a Golden, Jasmine, owned by Susan Shaw. Jasmine seemed to have some trouble getting started but then took off down the track like a bolt of lightning. She worked out a couple of turns, seemed lost at times but then tore across the field on a long leg only to stop shortly before the final turn. She circled a few times and then backtracked the long leg. Once she was headed in the correct direction, she did locate the glove.


Cathy Thompson's Rottweiler was too keyed in on the deer which were visible in all the fields. (There must be several hundred deer living in Jane's compound.) Cathy later said that the Rottie had previously run deer with a kennel mate after escaping the fenced-in yard. As Cathy approached the starting flag, a small herd of deer dashed across the field. Finally attention was focused on the task at hand and all went well until the second turn when the dog went downhill while the track went uphill. After being restarted, she tracked to the final leg which paralleled a hedge row. As she was approaching the glove, a large buck charged out of the hedgerow and across the field. Fortunately the harness and line held but attention was lost and it took some time to redirect it to the glove.

After spending several hours in the cold, crisp air, we all retreated to a room in the barn where Janet Quodomine's delicious chilli was enjoyed by all. Cake and hot coffee topped off lunch followed by the awarding of a "foot print" to our successful tracking team.

We thank our judges, Lisa and Dottie, our track layers, Peg, Pat and John, our chairman (and food supplier) Janet and our match secretary, Marty for a most successful day. Extra thanks go to Jane Henderson for the use of her barn for headquarters, her fields which were in beautiful condition, and her neighbor for the use of one field. Now it's on to the real thing!

FHW

TID BITS




From Maeleine Loos: On October 6th, Luckipenni earned her CDX from the Open B class in three trials with all scores between 192 and 195.

At Morris Hills DTC trial on November 12, Penni was Highest Scoring Collie in trial with 193 1/2 and won a lovely trophy which had been donated by Linda and Dan Knause of Willow Grove, Pa. for the 1988 trial but was never won.


The Knauses are actively involved in Collie Rescue of Southeastern Pa. and ironically it was through Linda Knause that Ron and Maeleine adopted Penni from the Montgomery County, Pa. SPCA at 5 1/2 months

What a special win for Maeleine and Penni!



From Linda Riley: Molly has a "T". She passed at the Oriole Dog Training Club Tracking Test on November 19, 1989 and is now officially Molly, UDT.

For more about Molly, see Linda's article.



From Jeff and Johanna Monda: Their two German Shepherd Dogs got their C.D.'s

Judy's scores were 181 for a first place, 182 for a fourth place and 179 for a fourth place.

Presley's scores were 186, 182 1/2, a second place, and 192.

Congratulations !

A small note from the Editor:

Because of the miracles of modern technology and IBM this newsletter is a joy to put together. But what makes it even better is when club members contribute so generously to make up its content. Thanks folks and well done.

Marion

AND SO DOES MOLLY...

Well...Molly finally did it! UDT at last!

Those who know us are aware that Molly and I have had a bumpy trip to her elusive "T". The fall tracking season started with a new problem when Molly had an allergic reaction and lost her sense of smell. Definitely not the way to pass a tracking test!

But hope springs eternal and I felt that if she could get in, one of the late fall tests might suit her. Oriole Dog Training Club's test was the last possibility for us this fall and when we got in, it seemed as if things were finally falling into place.

Molly loves the cold and test day was just that with very little wind. To make us feel even more at home, the test site was a horse farm. I wasn't thrilled when we drew the first track but I figured at least it would be over soon one way or the other.

She started well and had no trouble with the first 3 legs which were in low grass. At the third turn she seemed confused and I was also since a left turn would've taken us back near the start but a right turn meant a change of cover - from low green grass to dead weeds about shoulder height! Into the high weeds we went and luckily no whistle. Out of the high cover and a sharp right turn and then some anxious moments for me when we had a diversion on field mice. I got her attention back on the track and was pleased with her confidence. The next turn was perfect and I was sure we must be nearing the end and also began to feel that maybe we had a chance at passing. It seemed as if that leg would never end, but when I saw her stop and then saw the glove poking up out of the grass I literally went crazy. I was cheering, crying and hugging her all at once. Even the judges and tracklayer got involved and there wasn't a dry eye amongst us. Luckily someone had enough tissues for us all!

Now that it's all over, all the work seems worthwhile and the memories of the bad days are fading fast. I know for certain that this "T" belongs not just to Molly and I but to all the Lenape members who faithfully laid track and encouraged us. Many thanks to all of you. None of this would've been possible without your help.

Linda Riley and Molly, UDT

GALLIARDE EARNS HER 'T'

For those who've never met her, Galliarde is a 55 lb. black standard poodle. She has three speeds: fast, faster and turbo-jet. She has three moods: high, higher and dynamite, and is the only dog I know who could benefit from a little de-motivation. At four months of age, Galliarde was happily carrying a glove, or anything else for that matter, so we started tracking shortly thereafter. Our first attempt at certification about two years later ended with a romp through the field, a glance at what possibly could have been the drop, and a frantic search for the tracklayer's final destination. However, certification came on the second try and we were as ready as we could manage this fall and entered three tests. We made the cut in two and a third alternate spot in the third.

The day of the test at Berks County Dog Training Club dawned with fog so thick that the test was postponed from 8 AM until 10:30 AM because the tracklayers literally could not see even the second starting flags. When the fog finally burned off, the sun came out and the temperature soared. We had track #8 and at this point there were four passes and three failures.

We started out as usual at a pace one notch below flying and did quite well through the first four turns including a trek up a hill and around some hay stacks. She seemed to have some problems at the fifth turn and did a lot of casting. My panic button was on re-set but she swung behind me to where she had overshot the turn, poked her nose down and took off downhill in high gear with her poor handler literally hanging on with every ounce of strength available. She found the glove, the audience roared and I sat down feeling as if I'd won the medal of honor in at least three wars when all I had done was run a marathon. Galliarde rolled her black eyes as if to say "a piece of cake."

Are we going to try for a TDX? Frankly I don't think that I'd be able to do it physically but we're still packing our weekly lunch kit and water jug and driving off to meet our tracking friends. With the cold weather, perhaps the ticks and fleas will disappear for awhile and we'll try some work in the woods, some road work and a fence or two. Who ever knows what could develop. This has been a long and rambling tale but it was a long, hard trail to get that coveted T even if it happened at her first official try.

Respectfully submitted for Kaeley Dial 'G' for Galliarde, CD, TD, by her ever loving owner and devoted slave, Millie Hefner.

The nomination committee, chaired by John Etchells has put together this slate for the coming year. Officers and board members will be voted into service at the March 31st annual meeting.

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President: Fran Wilmeth
Vice President: Pat Etchells
Secretary: Dorothea Vail
Treasurer: Linda Riley

BOARD:

Peg Forte
Martha Hamil
Charlotte Yurasek
Marion Rapp
Jeff Monda

Marion Rapp, Editor
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FOUNDED In 1975



FIRST CLASS