

# LENAPE TRACKING CLUB

of

Central New Jersey



# COMMON SCENTS

MAY/JUNE, 1991

VOL. 16 No. 3

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### **TED Follow-ups**

Saturday, June 8, 1991 (8:30 a.m.)

Sunday, July 14, 1991

Saturday, August 17, 1991

### **Training for Tracklayers**

Sunday, August 25, 1991

### **Certification Match**

Sunday, September 22, 1991

### **Tracking Test**

Sunday, November 3, 1991

## WHO'S WHO

### OFFICERS

President	Fran Wilmeth	215-862-2453
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Betty Fletcher	201-543-2687
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### COMMITTEES

Membership/Interclub Communications	Fran Wilmeth	
Flyball/Scent Hurdle	Janet Quodomine	908-852-7127
Tracking Experience Day	Fran Wilmeth	
Tracking Test Secretary	Linda Riley	
Newsletter	Pat Etchells	



BARBARA DRESSSEL with **Surry** and **Skimmer** and PAT ETHELLS with **Pearl** and **Starr** took part in making the obedience portion of AKC's new Cocker video on movement. (It remains to be seen whether any of the footage will make it past the cutting room floor...) On the trial scene, Pearl picked up the first leg on her CD at Pocono Mountain, got the second at Allentown, and finished at Mid-Jersey.

GREG FORTE has won a National Merit Scholarship. He will be attending the University of Delaware, where he has a college scholarship to study research physics.

**Luckipenni**, **CDX**, LOOS was HIT with a 195.5 in open at the Tri-County Collie Breeders Association of S.E. New York Trial and won a leg on the obedience challenge trophy. Last fall RONN and Penni won third place at the Berks County K-9 Frisbee contest.

HOPE MEAKER has a new CDX dog! Her Flat Coated Retriever **Derby** got legs at Allentown, Berks, and Mid-Jersey.

GSD **Ari** MONDA got the first leg on his CD at Delaware Water Gap and earned the second at Allentown.

DOTTIE SEUTER's GSD **Kelly** got her TD title at the Hudson Valley Test. (Details in "Kelly Saves The Day")

**Fred** Basset SVIZENY also earned his TD at Hudson Valley. (See "Fred's T.D.")

**Darr**, RUBY SZCZEPANIAK's GSD, qualified at Pocono Mountain to get the first leg on his UD and take home a third place ribbon.

FRAN WILMETH still has not come down to Earth. **Della**, her 10 1/2 year-old Skipperke, achieved that elusive third leg on her UD at Philadelphia DTC!

## TED FOLLOW-UP

The first TED follow-up will be on Saturday, June 8, starting at 8:30 a.m. We are going to need a lot of helpers, since a good number of people intended to

attend. Also, if you want to track your own dog at Jane's, this is a good opportunity. If you want to come and help or practice, let Fran know. (215) 862-2453.

### ; FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK: ;

Tracking Experience Day 1991 is now history. The weather was sunny and not too hot. People and dogs seemed eager to learn this new sport. We had forty-two handler/dog teams plus a number of spouses and a few observers. My heartfelt thanks go to all the members who pitched in and helped with all aspects of the day. Quite a few participants took time to thank me (and I hope other members) for a good day, and two people praised our club for being so well organized. It's comments like that that make it all worthwhile.

This is the first year since I have been chairing TED that I had to turn people away because we reached our limit. Maybe tracking is catching on or at least arousing curiosity here in the East. We are fortunate that Burlington County Kennel Club is re-instating their tracking test which they abandoned five years ago. However, this will not increase the number of test in the area as Philadelphia Dog Training Club is giving up their TD/TDX tests because they have not filled in the past few years.

Looking to the near future, remember the first TED follow-up is on June 8th and we will need volunteers to work with the new trackers. Forty people signed the follow-up sheet at TED so we may have a large crowd at the first session.

I'm working on the plans for our tracklayers training session and test on August 25, 1991. Save the day if you want to be a certified track layer at our match in September and our test in November. If anyone has any ideas of ways to test track layers for accuracy in finding their tracks without the help of a dog, let me know. I'm open to suggestions.

Let's get our own dogs working out there so we can come up with a bunch of new Ts and a TDX or two. We seem to be skipping spring and going right into summer, so practice sessions will have to be early morning affairs. And good luck to all of you who are working on obedience titles as well.

Fran Wilmeth, President

### FRED'S TD by Tony Svizeny

Mary Ann and I met Mike Clemens at Lenape's test. We even drove up to New Paltz for training a few times. We all know in our hearts that Fred was ready, but my stomach felt as if it were in my throat. Mary Ann drew track #9, her lucky number, she said. While Fred rested in his crate, flashbacks of herds of deer came to mind!

My track was finally called. I decided that this was it. We would do it at Hudson Valley. I kept thinking I just had to "read" Fred and follow him. It had started to get warm, so I thought I'd better carry Fred to the field. I didn't want him to have any excuses this time, like being too tired or too hot.

I put the harness on Fred. I think I forgot about being nervous because Fred started to work deep right at the first flag. The second flag was a bit shorter than the first, and Fred admired it for a second, then went right back to track. The first turn was a right. Fred looked confident, nose still deep, tail wagging, and pulling me right along. The second turn was a left; Fred was still in good form, and I began to feel confident too. We were approaching a hedgerow in the field, and I knew there would be a turn soon. Fred indicated left to the fourth leg, but his tail went down, his head came up, and then

he indicated right - right to the tree line! I thought, not this time Freddie, there will be no tree breaks on this track. But he indicated right again, with his tail still down, pulling me a few steps. I didn't feel comfortable with that indication, but I did feel my stomach return to my throat. Fred kept working on one spot, and I decided to back up a few steps to where he had been "on the track", and in my sternest voice I told him to find it. Then, as if the tracking gods were smiling on us that day, Fred recovered and made the most beautiful left turn I have ever seen in my life.

As we began our fourth leg, Fred looked in good form, and my confidence returned. I felt he was right on as we went up a little hill. At the top of the hill, Fred hooked a left turn, the second most beautiful I've ever seen, to our fifth leg. I thought this must be our last leg. Fred started down the hill, picking up the pace as if he knew it was the last leg too. As if on command, Fred slowed down, and I nervously dropped the tracking line, walked up to Fred, who was watching me over his shoulder and telling me to hurry up, he had found the glove. As I waved the glove in victory, I could hear Mary Ann scream YES!!!

## KELLY SAVES THE DAY

By Dottie Seuter

During the long ride from our home on Long Island to New Paltz on the day of the Tracking Test, I had this sinking feeling as if I were about to attend my own execution (little did I realize that I would almost pull the switch myself)! I thought back to the day when an absolutely adorable seven-week-old German Shepherd puppy snuggled onto my lap and gazed up into my eyes for the first time, never realizing (thank goodness) that she was destined to become brains and heart of our newly-formed partnership. In spite of my proceeding to make every mistake in all the training books, as well as committing a number of totally unique blunders, Kelly had never quit on me, and I only hoped this would not be the day it would happen.

As I watched the first few dogs run their tracks, I began to feel more relaxed because, except for the first one, they seemed easier than the tracks we'd been practicing on recently. However, when I realized it was our turn next, I started to shake. As Kelly and I walked down the hill towards the start, my legs felt like rubber, I had awful pins and needles in my hands and Kelly had her "Oh Nuts, she's doing it again!" expression on her face.

The first flag was only a few yards past the foot bridge and, although I wanted to put her harness on further back, I was so wobbly I was afraid I'd fall in the ditch, so we crossed the bridge on lead. My shaky fingers somehow found the buckles, put on her harness, and it was "post time".

As Kelly picked up the scent at the first flag, she dug right in and began to step-track. I remember thinking, "Wow, maybe this will be okay after all!" She zoomed around the first turn and tried to gallop the second leg as I held on for dear life and tried to lean against her with all of my strength. Once she gets up a full head of steam, I can't hold her, and I had visions of her disappearing down the track a hundred yards ahead of me.

Meanwhile, my husband and the rest of the onlookers watched us believing we were off the track because although the original track #5 had been fouled and we were doing #6, they were all looking at a drawing of the previous track.

Kelly tracked wonderfully around the second corner and down the third leg, and then she suddenly changed her tracking behavior, slackened off on the line, picked her head up and gave me what I felt was an indecisive corner indication. I stopped and backed up, waiting for her to commit again, but instead she went slightly past and to the right of where she had just been and promptly proceeded to roll in deer droppings. When she got up, she seemed to forget where she was. I backed up again to see if she'd find the track, and she started circling around several times without appearing to find any scent. Tears started rolling down my cheeks and all I could think of was that I hadn't followed her on her first indication and I had blown it for both of us. She didn't stop working even though I could see how stressed she was. After what seemed like hours (although it probably was only a minute), she found the track, started working with authority again as I stumbled along behind, whizzed around the corners and suddenly lay down on THE GLOVE.

I ran to her, and dropped to my knees sobbing with tears of joy and relief and showered her with hugs and kisses as her tail wagged madly with pride. When the judges approached us, one of them said to me, "You have a very good tracker, but you'd better learn to trust her." I was absolutely mortified, but as I looked down at my wonderful friend, I realized that somehow she had known how important this was to me, and she was determined that she would get to that glove no matter what, and she did!

## FOR SALE/LOAN

Linda has wares - both old and new.

"Tracking from the Ground Up" by Sandy Ganz & Susan Boyd is available for \$12.00 (plus \$1 shipping.) Club patches are \$3. "Gone Tracking" tote bags are \$10, and the hats are \$6 (plus \$2 shipping). They will also be available at all the follow-up sessions and other Club functions.

The video (VHS) "Training a Competition Tracking Dog" by Leesburg Publications is available to all members and Linda will send it out upon receiving \$2.50 to cover shipping. The borrower is also responsible for the charges to ship it back to Linda.

Call Linda (908-234-0372) regarding any of the above material.



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRACKS - THE LENAPE

by Beth Etchells

The Lenape (pronounced len' ah pay) Indians (or Delaware Indians) inhabited Lenapehoking - a region which includes New Jersey, southeastern New York, eastern Pennsylvania and northern Delaware. Many archaeological sites in this area, including the Plenge site in Warren County, place Native Americans in this region as early as 12,000 BC, and there are still some Lenape Indians alive.

Archaeologists divide Indian occupation into time periods based on artifacts they find, and the names reflect time periods and not any particular tribe. The earliest people (identified by fluted hunting points) in this area were the Paleo-Indians, who inhabited it from about 12,000 to 8,000 BC. This was the post-glacial era, so the sea level had not yet risen, and the land extended 50 miles east onto the continental shelf. The climate was about 20° cooler, and the vegetation was more tundra-like. Mastadon, mammoths, giant beavers, tigers, deer and caribou inhabited the area. These stone-age people were mobile hunter-gathers and ate the animals they hunted as well as fish and plants. Unfortunately, not much else is known about them because the soils in this region are so wet and acidic that any bones or other organic materials have long since disintegrated.

By about 5,000 BC the climate had changed dramatically to what it is today. Warming and glacial melting caused the submergence of the continental shelf, followed by the emergence of the area's coniferous, hardwood and deciduous forests and characteristic fauna. The Late Archaic period (4,000 to 2,000 BC) saw a massive population increase. The people lived in large "basecamps", but these were only seasonal settlements since the Lenape hunted fish that came up the Delaware to spawn. This was a major food source, and huge campsites have been found along the Delaware near Trenton, where vast numbers of fish were processed by boiling to extract the oils, which could be eaten or used as grease. During the winter these people and animals migrated to the cedar swamps in the interior of New Jersey which did not freeze.

The Terminal Archaic period extended from around 2,000 to 1,000 BC. These people were very mobile; they constructed boats and went out onto the Atlantic (as indicated by swordfish remains). The Woodland people were present at the contact period and are identified by the presence of ceramics. Because of the vast amount of resources in this area as well as the variety of artifact styles seen, it is believed that many different people inhabited this area in this era. However, by the contact period when English, Dutch and Swedish explorers arrived, two separate bands of Lenape had evolved. The

southern Unami-speaking Indians inhabited a region south of the Raritan River and the Delaware Water Gap and subsisted on hunting and fishing. The northern Munsee-speaking Indians were under subjugation by the Iroquois in New York, and many of their practices and artifacts are similar to those of the Iroquois. By the contact period these people had taken up farming and were generating a great amount of maize.

The Lenape were a peaceful people. The Iroquois called them "women," but they also sent them to peace conferences because they were respected. The Lenape did not have as complex a society as other groups, but it was matriarchal. The women farmed, made pottery and did the heavy work around the camp while the men constructed the longhouses, canoes and gardening and cooking implements. The children had no responsibilities until they were about 5, when the boys started learning how to hunt and the girls learned to help out around the camp. At 10 most boys went on a vision quest. The Lenape acknowledged several spirits and had a Big House Ceremony.

The European explorers did not respect the Lenape they encountered - the Swedes considered them sub-human; however, they did rely on them to supply furs. The fur trade was just the beginning of the troubles for the Lenape. The Lenapehoking region was not as rich in animals, and especially large animals, as upper New York was, so the Lenape hunted relentlessly to have their share of the European trade goods and alcohol. Once the region was depleted of animals, the Europeans took the land. They did this "legally" using treaties, but these had no meaning for the Lenape since they did not have chiefs (the Europeans often appointed one) and they did not understand that someone could own land. Once the Lenape traded the land they thought they could still hunt on it. Words like "mile" did not mean anything to them, as distance was regarded in terms of how far a man could walk in one day. Thus there were a lot of misunderstandings between the Europeans and the Lenape about boundaries. After several gruesome European attacks on Lenape villages, most of the Lenape finally left the area for Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Kansas and Ontario so most Native Americans in this area today are not Lenape, but rather Native Americans that migrated to this area.

To most people the Lenape have left some names: Hackensack, Hoboken, Hohokus, Manhattan, Kittatinny, Watchung, Assunpink, Passaic and Pohatcong, but to Lenape Tracking Club members, they have left many artifacts that some lucky dog turned archaeologist may sniff out on a track in Lenapehoking.