



COMMON SCENTS

November/December, 1991
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Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey

TENTATIVE DATES TO REMEMBER

Nominations Meeting

Friday, February 21, 1992 (snow date 2/28)

Annual Dinner

Saturday, March 28, 1992

TED

Saturday, April 25, 1992

Tracklayer Certification

Saturday, August 22, 1992

Certification Match

Sunday, September 20, 1992

Tracking Test

Sunday, November 1, 1992

WHO'S WHO

OFFICERS

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Vice President
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COMMITTEES

Tracking Experience Day
Tracking Test Secretary
Newsletter

Fran Wilmeth
Linda Riley
Pat Etchells

; FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK: ;

It doesn't seem possible that Thanksgiving is past and Christmas will soon be upon us. The warm weather has been deceiving.

Lenape's second annual test was beautifully organized and run by an excellent committee and test secretary. I wish all had passed, but we did have two successes. You can read about the test elsewhere.

Plans are being made for our events in 1992. See the list of dates and mark your calendars. We hope for a big turn-out at the winter meeting on February 21st (snow date February 28th). John Etchells is making arrangement to have a speaker related to scent work. That's also the meeting for the nominations from the floor for officers and board members.

The Awards dinner will be March 28th. This should be a big one, as we have seven members receiving plaques for their Ts and sixteen members will receive certificates for passing the track layers test.

We're planning a change of location for Tracking Experience Day on April 25th. We've been drawing such large crowds that the Board decided we have outgrown the garage of Jane's ranch house, so we will be moving to a site in Lebanon Township. I'll miss Jane's beautiful facilities and fields and the proximity to my abode. The follow-ups will also be held in Lebanon Township. A

Track Layers Clinic is on the agenda for the summer, possibly August 22nd. Again, the site will be in Lebanon.

The Certification Match will be September 20th, and our third annual tracking test will be November 1st. We hope to continue to hold these two events at Jane Henderson's farm as they do not generate as many people. As you can see, the year ahead will be a busy one.

Lenape will be making a presentation at the Lehigh Canine Learning Experience Day, January 25th in Allentown, PA. At the moment, Joanne MacKinnon and I will be doing the speaking. It's a great opportunity to get people interested in tracking and to promote our Tracking Experience Day in April. Unfortunately the Lehigh event is the same day as the Princeton Dog Training's Club's obedience trial, so there will be a conflict of interest for some of our members. But if you don't have a dog ready to show at Princeton, come to Allentown and support Lenape.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL, and keep on tracking to walk off all the extra calories.

Fran Wilmeth, President

NJFDC Meeting Report

The December 3 Federation meeting dealt with a panel discussion on the topic "Rational Answers to the Overpopulation Problem". The panel was comprised of Ed Sayres from St. Hubert's Giralda; Kathy DeWees, of the Steering Committee, All Breed Rescue Alliance; and Arthur Baeder, DVM. The three of them were very much in agreement that responsible breeders were not the real source of the overpopulation problem. Some of factors contributing to shelter occupancy were:

- pet owner ignorance
- impulsive purchases
- landlord/town restrictions
- the economy
- allergies (a.k.a. behavior problems)

Although purebred breeders are taking the brunt of the criticism, only about 2 to 5 percent of animals euthanized could logically have come from them. However, recommendations made include;

- Adopt Guidelines and Codes of Ethics.
- Support cat licensing.
- Have every Club make financial donations to promotional campaign to identify breeders. The Federation has to be made a household name, and

the public needs to know it is part of the solution, not the problem.

- Support legislation for mandatory neutering of shelter animals.
- Get tough on contracts, and accept stud dog owner's partial responsibility for offspring.
- Encourage AKC to have different papers for pet store and breeder dogs.
- Turn in puppy mill breeders who try to use club affiliations to help them sell their puppies.
- Attend animal rights meetings (but don't sign a roster).
- Communicate with legislators (preferably via handwritten letters) about breeding bans. Many of them don't know there is a problem with the proposed legislation.
- Accept the fact that there can't be legislation against pet stores only, because breeders will be sucked up into it.
- Clubs should set up breed specific rescues. However, some municipal shelters may not release dogs to the rescue groups because euthanizing dogs is a source of income to them.
- Set up a program where the animal population can be identified. Possibly the use of microchip technology could accomplish this end.



Nova BRAGINGTON (EDIE's pup) got her novice shooting dog title at the GS Weimaraner Rating Test.

VICKY BROWN has had a good fall. Her Golden Spice was BW at the Golden Retriever Club of Canada National Specialty for a 5-point major that finished her title. She also got her first leg on her CDX at that show and went on to finish her Canadian CDX in the next several days. GSD Allie got her American UD at Hatboro and went on to get 2 backup legs the next two shows. Vicky now has a father (Brock) and daughter UD.,

Max GEORGE CALVERLEY's Weimaraner decided that besides having breed, obedience and hunting titles, he should also be a tracking dog - so he passed at Dauphin! (See "Max's Whirlwind 'TD'" - Page 6)

BARBARA DRESSEL's Skimmer got her CD in style. After getting the first leg and going HIT at the South Jersey Cocker Specialty, she had 193.5 at Lower Camden and 3d Place for her second leg. She officially finished with a 195 and another specialty HIT. Then just for fun, she got a bumper leg at Morris Hills with a 198.5, won the class and HS sporting dog in the process and was half a point off of HIT! She then got more backup legs at Dauphin and the Springfield shows, with

scores in the high 90s, and several more class placements.

Cocker Shadow ETCHELLS has had a busy fall taking care of six babies.

MILLIE HEFNER is still dazed by the fact that Galliarde has two CDX legs - one at Windham Co KC (181.5), and the other at the Watchung Mountain Poodle Club (187.5).

Golden Retriever Molly GATIER also found the conditions at Dauphin great for tracking, and she got her title on her first try. (See "Good Golly Miss Molly" - Page 5)

GSD Kandi LOOS is now a UDT as a result of passing at Berks. This was her first test and Ronn's fourth tracking title. (See "Earning My 'TD' at the Berks County Tracking Test" - Page 5).

Niga, the MOSER family's Golden, flew to a TD title at the Berks County test. (See "Niga's 'T'" - Page 6).

Also passing at Berks was CAROL SALZETTI's Dachshund.



Test Results by Linda Riley

Once again the weather gods smiled on Lenape. The day of our second annual tracking test dawned clear, breezy and cool. Unfortunately, the tracking gods were not as benevolent, for only 2 of the 5 entrants passed.

The first dog, a Sheltie owned by Nancy Withers, did a successful track that only provided some anxious moments at the last turn. Next Weimaraner Max & Lenape member George Calverley also seemed destined for success, but a missed turn near the end unfortunately ended their hope for a "T" that day. (Max subsequently passed at Dauphin).

The third track was drawn by Marybeth Tally and her Rottweiler. This dog got off to a poor start and was not able to finish without assistance from the tracklayer. Hopes were high for the other Lenape member, LeRoy Moser and Golden Nigel (who had already gotten his "T" at Berks). But a wrong decision at the first turn prevented a repeat of their previous success.

Our entrant from New England, Eva Deane and her Boxer Sally, was our other successful entry. Sally did a lovely, exuberant track. Incidentally Eva and her dog are trained by Randi Meyer, a Lenape member who now resides in New Hampshire.

Many thanks to all the members who made my job as secretary/chairman easier. The first thank you must go to Jane Henderson for providing such exceptional facilities for our test. We are extremely fortunate to have access to such a site. Pat Etchells and her computer provided invaluable help with the premium list, catalog and the artwork for the trophies.

John Etchells as head tracklayer and his support staff of certified tracklayers (Fran, Dottie, Tony and Martha) did their usual professional job. Joanne MacKinnon and her culinary volunteers provided an extensive and delicious repast for all. Also, a thank you to all the Lenape members in the gallery who came out to support the club and cheer on the dogs and handlers. It was a pleasure to see such a wonderful turnout.

PEOPLE TRACKS

Anyone who wants to try to be certified as a tracklayer before our August clinic should call Fran.
(215) 862-2453

Good Golly Miss Molly
by Debby Gatier

I still can't figure out if I was elated or relieved the day Molly passed her tracking test. I didn't think this day would ever come after going through such a hard time to get Molly certified - going through 3 cars and having trouble meeting with several judges. I knew Molly could do it - it was just a freak of nature preventing Molly from proving she was a good tracker. I do thank Bea Connelly for being there for me to certify Molly and also judging her the day she got her T.D.

Well, the day of the test I didn't get an ounce of sleep that night for fear I wouldn't wake up in time and miss the last test of the year. Well, I left at 4:30 a.m. and got there in time with half an hour to spare. OK, SO FAR SO GOOD. The weather reports kept saying severe storms coming up to coast and to expect rain. The temperature dropped to 38 degrees (well, at least it's not below freezing, and she should still be able to track).

Tracking orders were pulled, and Molly was #5 out of 8. The first 3 dogs passed. HURRAY, SO FAR SO GOOD. She'll probably fail - someone has to fail. As we watched the dogs run their tracks, we became frozen as we stood there, so I jumped in the car and turned on the heater to warm up before we went on our track. All I could imagine was getting all tangled up because my fingers were frozen and uncoordinated. I felt very clumsy. OK, I was all warmed up. Someone

approached the car to tell me we were next. OK, MOLLY, THIS IS IT. I was told to walk up over a hill to get to the track, and as I did an old spiritual song hit me, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow...", and I finished singing it till I got to the top of the hill. Then I saw the flags. "Oh God, please let us pass. We worked so hard to get to this point," I babbled as I walked. We reached the judges. "OK, I'M STILL WARM. LET'S DO IT." The judges rolled down their window saying, "Track's not ready for ten more minutes." OH NO, I'LL BE FROZEN BY THEN. Well, our ten minutes seemed like a half hour. Finally it was time. With Molly all excited, we started out, and she stopped before the second flag and looked around. "PLEASE MOLLY, TRACK, TRACK", and off she went, pulling me and every bone in my body. She did her turns nicely and pulled like I never thought I could survive it. As we should be coming near the end I thought, "Where's the Glove?" Molly kept wanting to go to the street, and all I kept thinking was they don't have roads in a TD test. Now I realize it was the tracklayers' tracks leaving the track. "No, not now, not at the end, we can't fail now," so I backed up and backed up again, and GOOD GOLLY MISS MOLLY, she found the glove. As I ran up to the judges in celebration and hugged Molly, I realized I wasn't freezing anymore. WE DID IT.

Earning my TD at the Berks County Tracking Test
by Kandi, UD (Loos)

I was so happy when Ronn decided to leave for the tracking test at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 19, because his sense of direction is poor. Everything was going just fine until we started to look for the Econo-Lodge. After four or five stops for directions, we finally found our lost motel. After we settled in, Ronn took me when he went out for supper. My one regret was his failure to bring me back some ice cream. I had to wait until we got home Sunday, then he gave me a cup of Frosty Paws (canine ice cream), which I like, but it can't compare with the real thing. This was my first overnight stay away from home, and Ronn told me what a good traveling companion I was.

The next morning we arose at 5:45 because we had to be at the tracking site by 7:00 in order for Ronn to feed his face. The drawing was at 7:30, with the first track at 8:00. Incidentally, we had to return to the motel four times for Ronn to get the directions straight. Ronn drew Track #2, which was at the radio tower. The weather had looked threatening, and wouldn't you know, it started to rain during the first track. Well, I don't mind the rain because I enjoy swimming, and Ronn had the presence of mind to bring rain gear.

When the first team successfully completed their job, the judges said that they were going to lay #3, then we would be off. Ronn was trying to look at ease, but I could tell he was nervous. Me! I was as cool as a cucumber. We were called to get ready. I was thinking to myself that I didn't want to just breeze thru the test, so!! on the first leg I pulled my old "I don't know what I am doing" routine, walked around a little then just stood there with a dumb expression. After Ronn began getting concerned and thinking we blew it, I decided to head out. From that point on, until the last leg (five turns), it was rather uneventful - the rain held the scent and the grass was just the right length. Approaching the last leg I overshot the turn and began to cast around. If Ronn remembered nothing else from his learning days, he knew that the best course of action in this situation was to back up and keep backing up, which he did. All of a sudden I picked up the scent and off we went to a successful conclusion. As I always do, I picked up the article and brought it back to Ronn, who waved it triumphantly. I was expecting to get my Iams cookie, but I had to wait until we got back to the car. I am now Kandi, UDT, and a chip off the old block of the last family member Kelsey, UDT, who I understand was also successful at her first test.

Max's Whirlwind "TD" by George Calverley

Before I begin to tell you about Max's successful "TD" test, let me first tell you how I failed him on his very first test at Lenape. As you may remember, Max took off with a strong gait right from the very first flag. He literally pulled me all around the track. On the leg just before his last turn, he pulled very strongly towards the road on what appeared to be a beaten track in that direction. Knowing full well the tracklayer would not lay a track across a road, I started to restrain Max as I remembered Ronn telling me to "back-up". And back up I did, but unfortunately it wasn't far enough to pick up that last turn. Before I knew it, he had picked up the back trail and away we went and so did the judges' whistle. I was then told we were just 50' from the drop. I had failed my dog by not handling him properly, but I had learned a very valuable lesson that I would not repeat again.

Our next test was the following week 10 Nov. 91 at Indiantown Gap and was hosted by the Dauphin DTC. The day was windy, cold and slightly damp with the wind coming off the lake. Once again, Max drew the first track, and we started high up on a hill. I was nervous being the first one again, but I breathed a silent prayer as I strapped on his harness. Max was ready to go, and before we even approached the first flag, he leaned into his harness and away he went. This time I restrained him a little, as I was beginning to feel like the tail on a comet. Our track started out with a right turn then 125' later a left turn. Max was still pulling strong,

and beyond the second turn I had no idea where we were going. I just had to put all my faith in him.

After a few more turns Max started pulling towards a cut in the woods, and again I reasoned that the tracklayer was not going to lay one through the woods. Remembering this time to "back up", I started backtracking. Before I had gone 10', I gazed down in front of me, and, lo and behold, there was the glove. We were dead on track!

Backing up some more, it gave Max the opportunity to scent it as he cast across the track. He picked it up immediately - then dropped it. I remember telling Max to "get it" as he usually does, but then the judge interrupted me by saying, "Max has done his job, now you do yours and pick up the glove for the tracklayer, and congratulations on your 'TD'".

Max and I got a rousing cheer as we approached the onlookers, and I was on Cloud 9. From that point on, it didn't matter to me how cold and wet it was becoming. We had accomplished what we had set out to do at the tracking seminar on 27 April 1991. As a closing note, we wish to express our thanks to the wonderful club members at Lenape whose friendship and guidance has made this all possible.

Now on to the TDX!!!

Niga's "T" by LeRoy and Diane Moser

LeRoy's Thoughts:

Our "tracking" day at Berks County DTC began early and included all types of weather variations. After drawing track #8 (out of 10), we traveled to the site of the first four tracks. While watching these dogs run, a light drizzle turned into rain.

As the rain began to ease and finally stop, our turn was quickly approaching. We watched the next three dogs, then finally it was our turn!. First a short drive, then 2 start flags were in clear sight. As soon as Niga had his harness on, he was off (barely waiting for the line). The field was high and prickly, full of wild raspberry bushes, and fairly steep. Just beyond the second flag, Niga crashed through some brush, turned and look back at me inquisitively, then took off. As we climbed through the first and second turns at a record pace, I knew there was little to do but hold on and keep up. At one point I took a peek to see why I was out of breath, only to quickly see how high we were and how fast we were moving. As we started down the hill on the 4th leg, Niga's speed kept increasing. On what turned out to be

our last leg, we were heading right back toward the gallery and the road on which we were parked. First another thicket of bushes and through a ditch to a lower part. Niga leaned to the left and snatched up the prize!! He must have known this one was special, because he did not want to part with HIS glove.

Diane's Thoughts:

It all happened too quickly for me to be really nervous. We drove to the site and then we saw the field. It was high, just like Niga likes ... only I didn't realize it was so steep and prickly. Niga was ready to go, almost before the line was in place. Then off they went. Up the hill, and five turns later they were heading left and back down the hill, LeRoy running to keep up with Niga. I heard LeRoy yell "HEY, HEY, HEY", and I knew Niga had the glove. He triumphantly brought it back to LeRoy, as the entire gallery yelled "YAY!"

The three of us would like to thank Mom & Dad for allowing us to work together and for putting up with us at all hours of the day and early morning.