

COMMON SCENTS

January/February, 1993
Vol. 17., No. 1

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey

TENTATIVE DATES TO REMEMBER

Lehigh Valley KC's Canine Learning Experience Day
Saturday, January 30, 1993

Nominations Meeting
Friday, February 5, 1993
Friday, February 12, 1993 (snow date)

HVTC's John Barnard Seminar
Saturday & Sunday, March 27 & 28, 1993

Annual Dinner
Saturday, April 3, 1993

T.E.D.
Saturday, May 1, 1993

Certification Match/Tracklayer Certification/Annual Picnic
Sunday, September 26, 1993

Tracking Test
Sunday, November 7, 1993

WHO'S WHO

OFFICERS

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

John Etchells 908-236-2423
Martha Hamil 908-846-5333
Ruby Szczepaniak 908-638-8904
Linda Riley 908-730-7717

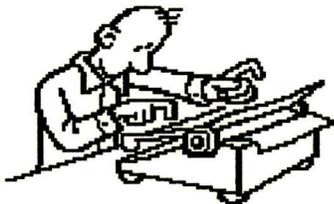
BOARD

Barbara Dressel 201-288-3755
Peg Forte 908-832-7231
Ronn Loos 908-234-0507
Hope Meaker 908-995-2276
Fran Wilmeth 215-862-2453

COMMITTEES

Tracking Experience Day
Tracking Test Secretary
Newsletter

Linda Riley
Dot Vail 201-947-1835
Pat Etchells



From the President's Desk:

This is the time of year when tracking seems to be only a pleasant memory. But we do have some activities for those determined to fight the winter doldrums. Anyone is welcome to help us man the table at the Lehigh Canine Learning Day. (Call me at (908) 236-2423 for details.) Then our nominations meeting is quickly approaching. We will be showing a Sandy Ganz videotape

on beginning tracking. Since we will be incorporating some of her techniques into our TED program, members would benefit from seeing it. And finally we are looking for a site for our April 3 annual dinner. Mark the date, and full details will follow with the next newsletter.

A final thought. If we all get busy with our projects around the house now, when Spring finally arrives, we will have time to track!

John Etchells

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Peg Forte Joanne MacKinnon, and Pat Etchells, has proposed the following slate of officers and Board members for the 1993-1994 year. Additional nominations may be made at the February meeting.

President	John Etchells
Vice President	Marty Hamil
Secretary	Ruby Szczepaniak
Treasurer	Linda Riley
Board Members	Peg Forte
	Ronn Loos
	Hope Meaker
	Dot Vail
	Fran Wilmeth

TRACKLAYERS - Hazardous Duty

Reprinted from *Gone Tracking*, Palo Alto Foothills Tracking Assn.,
via *Nose News*, Indian Nations Tracking Club, May, 1992

Tracker says: "Are we on the right track?"

Tracklayer responds: "I think so ..."

Tracker asks: "Don't you know? Do you have a map?"

Tracklayer responds: "I don't like clipboards, so, I drew it on my fingernail."

Tracker says: "Did you place the lasagna 20 paces beyond each turn?"

Tracklayer responds: "I was hungry and ate it..."

Tracker says: "Didn't we make a right turn about 100 yards back?"

Tracklayer responds: "I don't know ... I was petting a rattlesnake."

Tracker says: "Where did you place the glove?"

Tracklayer responds: "Near a tree .. OH! NO! It's still under my belt!"

"HEY! SOMEONE'S THROWING ROCKS!!!!!"

Notes on John Barnard's presentation

by Mary E. Syslo, Midwest Tracking Association

What is scent? In a field a thousand yards away, a dog will alert to a person walking. Does the dog smell this person? Hear this person? See this person? Does electricity play an important part in this? Is there an aura around the person which is made up of changing electrical patterns? We have only scratched the surface as far as dogs and scent work are concerned.

Electricity is known to affect the scent work of dogs. Overhead power lines do affect tracks. This doesn't mean you can't have tracks around power lines, but you should know that this can affect scent. The book *Currents of Death* was recommended for more information on this subject.

Ultraviolet rays affect scent. It has been described as putting scent to sleep. This theory had been reported more than 10 years ago, and it is an established fact that these rays rearrange molecules into different structures.

Time of day is also an important factor in tracking. Early morning is known to be the best time, while mid-day tracks experience the most failures because of sun, pressure, and humidity effects. 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. is when these rays have the strongest effect.

Whiskers. It has been established that whiskers are a scent apparatus, a sensory organ, and part of the structure of the animal. Whiskers should not be cut as they serve an important purpose. An example was given on dogs trained to detect explosives. Dogs with whiskers cut tripped booby trap wires, while those with intact whiskers indicated the wires.

How many times have you heard, "Go with your dog. Believe him!" The US Government has spent millions of dollars to duplicate the dog's nose, and you guessed it. The dog is still the best thing we've got going for us as a detection device.

The average human does not realize the importance of scent in his everyday life. We take it for granted. Scent is very important to other forms of life. For instance, one insect can tell when another wants to make love from seven miles away ... by scent!!

Traveling Tips

reprinted from *The Hudson Valley Tracker*, January/February, 1993

Ways to cut the risk for a pet when traveling by air ...

Many pets suffer risks to their health when traveling by air. Owners should take precautions to minimize risks to their animals.

- Try to travel when temperatures will be above 40 degrees or below 80 degrees at end of the flight or at stops in between.
- Travel at off-peak hours. Airlines may allow you to stay with your animals longer. Animals will avoid long flight delays at these times.
- Use a sturdy kennel with room for the animal to stand, turn around and lie down.
- Inform the crew that a pet is on board if the flight is delayed.
- Avoid tranquilizing animals, if possible.



SOURCE: *Conde Nast Traveler* magazine.