



LENAPE TRACKING CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY

COMMON SCENTS

MAY/JUNE 1996
Vol. 20., No. 3

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Another great Tracking Experience Day has come and gone. As usual, we got a lot of positive feedback from the participants. We had a lot fewer volunteers this year due to show conflicts, but we did manage to pull it off with the volunteers we had. Most of the day went smoothly, but it really showed in the afternoon when the participants were starting their dogs. Thanks to all who were able to come and help! We couldn't have done it without you.

Don't forget the follow-ups over the summer. Call Peg Forte if you can help out.



Anna Burbank

TED THROUGH BRIGIT BURBANK'S EYES (AGE 7)

(with original spelling):

The lenape club is a good club. Aspesahly for tracking. Cos it is a tracking club! Two dogs did tracking and found the glov. The croud chereed. My mom Anna gave a speech, and so did a fyooow other pple. It is tracking expeerleins day and we are haveeng fun. One of the dogs named star did a esee track. They had stashins. Then they tout the oners hou to lay a track. And then some did the track And that is all.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Follow-up 1 Make Up

..... Saturday, June 29, 1996

Follow-up 2

..... Sunday, July 7, 1996

Follow-up 3

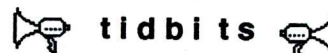
..... Saturday, August 10, 1996

Certification Workshop

..... Sunday, September 22, 1996

Tracking Test

..... Sunday, November 3, 1996



MARTY HAMIL writes from Washington State that she is getting kind of settled and Dobie **Tracy** received her Working Aptitude Certificate in March.

At the Flat-Coat Nationals, the HEIDE's **Sailor** took 1st in Stud Dog, **Lacey** was 1st in working retriever and took a JAM, **Rip** was 2nd in 9-12, and Lacey and her mother took 1st in Brood Bitch.

RONN & MAELIENE LOOS' rescue Collie **Pennie** was HIT at the Tri Ct. Collie Breeders Assoc with a 195.5 from OB. She earned the first leg on a new challenge trophy, having retired the previous two.

FLORENCE MIKTUS recently lost her GSD **Johanna**.

President - Anna Burbank * **Vice President** - Peg Forte * **Secretary** - Pat Etchells
Treasurer - John Etchells * **Board Members** - Barbara Greenfield, Joanne MacKinnon, Hope Meaker, Linda Riley, Dot Vail * **Editor** - Pat Etchells, PO Box 326, Lebanon, NJ 08833.
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JUDGE REQUIREMENTS:

(from AKC Web Page)

TRACKING TESTS

1. Owned, trained and handled a dog that has been awarded an AKC Tracking Dog Title (TD)
2. Have been active in the sport of Tracking a minimum of six consecutive years.
3. Have observed Judges in planning and plotting tracks and served as a tracklayer five times at AKC member or licensed Tracking Tests. Submit completed charts of at least two tracks where you served as tracklayer.
4. Actively participated as assistant trainer or as a trainer in a dog training club or similar organization, specifically as a trainer of tracking.

TRACKING DOG EXCELLENT TESTS

1. Owned, trained and handled a dog that has been awarded an AKC Tracking Dog Excellent Title (TDX)
2. Have satisfactorily judged at AKC member or licensed Tracking Tests a minimum of eight times. This includes five provisional assignments with at least three different Judges.
3. Have observed judges in planning and plotting TDX tracks and served as a tracklayer at AKC member or licensed TDX Tests a minimum of five times. Submit completed charts of at least two tracks where you served as tracklayer.
4. Actively participated as assistant trainer or as a trainer in a dog training club or similar organization, specifically as a trainer of tracking and/or TDX dogs.
5. Have received at least one satisfactory observation within the last twelve months by an Obedience/Tracking Field Representative after having been approved as a regular judge of Tracking Events.

Tracking applicants will be interviewed, and all applicants are required to pass a written test. This test consists of two parts. Part I (open -book) is enclosed with the application forms and your answers to these questions are to be returned with your completed application. your answers to the two questions are scored pass or fail. Part II of the test consists of 50 multiple choice, computer generated questions, administered by a Tracking Field Representative.

Following the initial screening to determine that the applicant meets all minimum requirements (exemptions from some requirements may be made for applicants from Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico), the applicant's name will be published on the Secretary's Page (in the first available issue) of the *GAZETTE* as having applied to judge Tracking Tests. This provides all interested persons the opportunity to comment on the application.

Following the interview applications are reviewed at the first available monthly meeting of the Staff and Board Committee and referred to the next monthly meeting of the Board of Directors for final determination. Following review, applicants will receive written notification of the Board's action.

SEPARATION ANXIETY

reprinted from the Phoenix Field and Obedience Club's *PFOC Newsletter*, 10/95

Dogs are great companions because they become so attached to people. But that attachment sometimes backfires in the form of separation anxiety.

Fortunately, most dogs do not become anxious when left alone. "A well-balanced dog realizes that its owners have departed and curls up for a snooze," says Dr. Nicholas Dodman, director of the Behavior Clinic at Tufts University. However, dogs that do exhibit separation anxiety behaviors - excessive barking, household destruction and inappropriate eliminate - are not acting out of spite or anger. They are simply distressed by separation from "their people." Most dogs live to please - an important fact to remember as you try to help your dog overcome separation anxiety.



GERIATRIC PETS: BABY BOOMERS AREN'T GROWING OLD ALONE

MANHATTAN -- Demographics show that people are living longer and healthier lives. But they're not the only ones. Advances in medical technology and research in animal health have prolonged the lives of dogs and cats.

And as our pets live longer, their need for special care can become greater, said Dr. William Fortney, of the Kansas State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

HOW OLD IS OLD?

How old is old for dogs and cats? You can't judge their ages like people, Fortney said.

"You can judge a dog's age by their size and breed," Fortney said. "Toy breeds like Pomeranians or Shih Tzus are considered geriatric when they reach age 10 and a half or 11 years old. Giant breeds like Great Danes are geriatric when they reach seven and medium-size dogs are considered old when they reach eight or nine."

Cats are considered aged when they get to be about 10 years old.

SPECIFIC HEALTH PROBLEMS DUE TO OLD AGE

As a pet gets older, veterinarians start looking for health problems associated with old age. Heart problems, tumors and cancers, kidney failure, senility, deafness and cataracts can all show up as your pet ages.

"As an animal gets older, the yearly exam becomes even more important," Fortney said. "There are things we will look for on an older animal. And we can talk to the owner about how the animal is doing."

Fortney said the examination of an older animal can take more time because veterinarians will ask more questions.

"We put more of an emphasis on a thorough evaluation of the animal's overall health," he said.

EYE PROBLEMS

One of the most common signs of old age in dogs is foggy-looking eyes. The condition, commonly called "old dog eyes," can be caused either by clouding of the eye lens or by cataracts.

"A veterinarian can look in the eye and tell the difference," said Fortney. "If the cloudiness is caused by cataracts, there's a surgery to remove them. Commonly, the lens is cloudy because of age. This will not cause interference with the dog's vision."

TEETH PROBLEMS

Fortney said a common problem in older animals is their teeth. Especially if Spike or Fido likes to chew on the cow hooves now being sold as chew toys.

"We see a lot of fractured teeth because of those hooves, and not always because a dog is older either," he said. "But older dogs' teeth can be brittle, especially if they haven't had proper dental care. Chewing on those hooves can really damage teeth. Rawhide chew toys are a better choice."

Your dog or cat's teeth should be checked at every visit to the veterinarian. And cleaning them at home with animal toothpaste isn't a bad idea either. Healthy teeth and gums can mean a healthier, happier animal.

"Actually dental care should start when the animal is very young," Fortney said. "Dogs and cats can get gingivitis just like people can. Starting young can minimize tooth loss and gum disease."

Built-up tartar on the teeth needs to be removed professionally, Fortney said.

EXERCISE BENEFITS

Regular exercise for the older pet can do more than just improve their health, said Fortney.

"Exercise gives the owner a chance to bond with the animal," he said. "In older dogs, we've seen exercise help their cognitive functions. They seem to be a little more alert and sleep less."

Regular exercise can also help control weight, maintain muscle tone and joint flexibility and improve regularity in both cats and dogs.

Exercising cats can be a bit of challenge, Fortney said. Try dragging a ribbon or rolling a ball across the floor. Let the cat chase it, but don't encourage him to jump for it. And be sure and put the ribbon away when you're finished so Fluffy doesn't eat it.

"For dogs, try doing two 10 minute walks a day," Fortney said. "Go slow, be patient and don't force your animal to do something. If he wants to go slow, then go slow."

Walking is good exercise for dogs because it's easy on the joints and consistent. Games such as fetch and catch can cause hip injuries, torn ligaments and bad knees. After a dog gets older, it's better to stick to walking, Fortney said.

"Before starting any exercise program, have your animal checked out by their veterinarian," Fortney said. "Let the veterinarian know what your exercise plans are and listen to his advice. Especially if your pet has a heart problem or arthritis."

DEATH OF A PET

The reality of owning older dogs or cats is that eventually they will die. Fortney said veterinarians should help the owner come to grips with that reality.

"Deciding whether to euthanize a pet, especially a pet that has been with you a long time, is a very personal decision. It will be made based on a lot of factors and it should be a family decision," Fortney said.

If an animal is sick, the urge to eliminate pain and suffering often pushes the decision.

"All owners are different," Fortney said. "Some want the animal euthanized the first time they appear uncomfortable. Others are willing to wait until the animal deteriorates further. It's not always clear, all older animals will have their good days and bad days. But unfortunately very few die in their sleep."

And owners can decide when and where it will happen, whether they should be there and what should happen to the animal's body following death.

Deciding to euthanize a pet is a tough decision.

"There is a grief process that goes along with euthanizing a pet," Fortney said. "People need to expect it and know that it is normal and healthy to grieve for a pet which is almost a family member to most owners."
END

This has been a post from KSUPET-L, an electronic mailing list about pet health, utilizing expertise from Kansas State

University veterinarians. This is a low volume list, providing one or two news releases each month. Unfortunately, we are unable to answer specific questions about pet health.

KSUPET-L is a service of Kansas State University News Services. List owner is Cheryl May, director of news services, cmay@ksu.ksu.edu A selection of other pet-health news articles is available on our Web site at:
<http://www.newss.ksu.edu/WEB/News/NewsReleases/pethealth.html>

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH YOUR PUPPY

From 10/95 Canine Chronicle; Author Unknown
via Bayshore DTC's *Collar and Lead*,
December 1995

Remove film from box and load camera
Remove film box from puppies mouth and throw in garbage
Remove puppy from garbage and brush coffee grinds from muzzle
Choose a suitable background for photo
Mount and focus camera
Go find puppy and take dirty sock from mouth
Place puppy in pre-focused spot and return to camera
Forget about spot and crawl after puppy on knees
Focus with one hand and fend off pup with the other
Get tissue and clean nose print from lens
Take flash cube from pup's mouth and discard
Throw out cat and put peroxide on scratch on pup's nose
Put ash tray and magazines back on coffee table
Try to get cute expression by squeaking toy over head
Replace your glasses on your face and fish camera from under sofa
Jump up in time to grab pup by scruff and say "NO! OUTSIDE!"
Call spouse to clean up mess
Fix a double martini
Sit back in Lazyboy recliner and resolve to teach pup sit-stay first thing tomorrow.