



## LENAPE TRACKING CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY

# COMMON SCENTS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1996  
Vol. 20., No. 5

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



If we were to judge last month's Certification Workshop by the number of dogs that got certified, it was a whopping success! (If we judge it by the weather, it was less than perfect for those of us not using our noses. Rain, rain, and more rain.) Congratulations to all!

Next month is our trial, on November 3. It will be a combined TD/TDX, so it should be interesting, and perhaps even fun. We'll need more tracklayers than usual, as we'll need some human bodies to lay cross tracks. (Plenty of non-human cross-tracks out there already!) Come help out and enjoy the weekend with us. Lots of good food, too.

Anna Burbank

### tidbits

Cocker **Robin** (TD) ETCHELLS finished up her CDX at Palisades. **Daisy** has 2 CD legs.

KARL & PRISCILLA GABOSCH's Ridgeback **Mattie** finished her AKC Field Championship (Lure Coursing) to become a Dual Champion.

Chow **Shadow** GAYNOR earned his second CD leg at Palisades.

**Chipper** (TD) MacKINNON got his first CD leg at a Golden Specialty.

HOPE MEAKER's Flatties **Pega** and **Derby** (TD) both got their Canadian TDs. Pega also earned her US and Canadian CDs. Derby got her NA agility title and a HIT.

MIMI RUCH's Labrador **Abner** earned his TD on his first try at Berks.

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### MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have submitted applications for membership. They will become members 30 days after the mailing of this newsletter unless the secretary, Pat Etchells, PO Box 326, Lebanon, NJ 08833, receives any letters of objection within 30 days.

Alice Crans, 306 Jeffrey Lane, Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 (908) 537-2574

Golden Retriever- -Topaz

Sponsors - Peg Forte  
Louise Tiernan

Lisa Pattison, 31 Mt. Lebanon Rd, Port Murray, NJ 07865-3223 (908) 850-8879  
Aussies- -Murphy & Shelby  
Sponsors - Pat Etchells  
Peg Forte

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### Tracking Test

..... Sunday, November 3, 1996

#### TED 1997

..... Sunday, April 20, 1997

**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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## ONE AUGUST NIGHT

© Hope Meaker

Anyone who thinks tracking is boring should go tracking with me. Recently I took Peg Forte up on her offer to lay track for me. I called Peg Friday afternoon to remind her and also to give her a chance to postpone due to predicted thunderstorms that evening. Peg agreed to meet me at the field at 7:00 p.m.

I arrived at 7:00 to threatening skies and discovered that Peg wasn't there. I figured that she decided to play it smart and not come out to play in the rain and lightening. So I set off to lay a short track for Peg so that my trip wouldn't be a waste. I estimated that I would have just enough time to age the track 15 to 20 minutes and run it before the storm hit.

As I was walking back to the track at about 7:35 p.m. with Pega, it started to sprinkle. I looked across the field and saw Peg starting off to lay a track for Derby. By now, it was starting to rain harder and the thunder was rumbling ominously in the distance. Within 5 minutes, it was pouring and the lightening was flashing. I was very concerned about Peg being out in the field and expected to see her heading back any second. After nearly 10 minutes of thunder and lightening and downpour, the storm began to pass, and I was going to find Peg. As I set off, I saw her come out of the tree line and continue to lay track. Peg eventually came back to her van and after letting the track age, I decided to see if Derby could run a truly blind track, as it was quite dark by now.

Peg warned me about four ruts shortly after the second flag, and I successfully negotiated three of them. I then proved once again that tracking can be a contact sport as I made contact with the ground. Peg came up to check on me and definitely showed more concern for my condition than Derby did (she was off grazing). After I decided that the sprain wasn't severe enough to prevent me from finishing the track, Derby and I set off again. Peg meanwhile went back to retrieve the flag and her map and unbeknownst to me nearly fell in one of the ruts. We successfully found three corners and on the fourth leg Derby got hot and stopped for a rest (20/20 hindsight). Peg came to help, thinking that Derby had missed the turn. We backed up to the set of tracks in the grass that Peg thought she had laid the track near. I tried to get Derby started, but all she wanted to do was go further down the field. She was very

insistent. Peg was sure that even in the dark, she had found her sight marker. Finally, Peg realized that there were two sets of tracks in the grass and when we moved down below the lower set of tracks, Derby took off tracking again and quickly finished the track.

Moral of the story. If you are a klutz like me, don't track after dark. AND ALWAYS BELIEVE YOUR DOG!

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## TD CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22, 1996

Peg Forte Chairperson

What a weekend of tracking we had. What a wonderful learning experience we had. For those who were able to participate both days, plotting tracks on Saturday and laying them on Sunday, the opportunity to work with AKC Judge Sandy Roth was a delight. (Even though it rained most of the day on Sunday, making the tracklayers wet but making the tracks "easier" for the dogs.)



Sandy taught us many things about tracklaying, especially about TDX tracklaying. Those tips will come in handy for the test on November 3rd.

The four TD dogs ran their tracks in the morning on very wet grassy fields. Member Mimi Ruch's Labrador "Abner," took his time on the track but turned those corners right on the mark and found my glove and was certified in Balmer's big hay field.

The second track at Balmer's was drawn by Lisa Pattison and Murphy, an Australian Shepherd. Lisa, a pending member, attended our experience day in the spring and has been working her dogs regularly. Murphy thought the wet grass was great to lick and was somewhat distracted at times, but he finished his track, found the glove and dog no. 2 was certified on the track laid by Barbara Greenfield.



Back at the municipal building, the pressure was on the next two dogs. Could they lead their handlers to the gloves? Joanne MacKinnon with her Golden Retriever, "Ruffie," worked in a large hay field. Joanne wore gloves on her hands to protect them from being burned by her tracking line as her dog wasted little time pulling to that glove at the end of the track laid by Mimi Ruch.

Pat Etchells' Cocker Spaniel, "Pippin," was the last of the TD dogs to track on the fields by the municipal building. He got off to a slow start, hampered by his stepping on a thorn. But then he settled down to do some serious tracking and dog no. 4 made it to the glove on the track laid by Lisa Pattison.

Priscilla White and her Basset "Muffy" went to work on a TDX track that had aged over two hours. Muffy took Priscilla through tall, wet matted grass, through a hedgerow with stones, and across another field. After turning into the woods and then out into another hay field she located the final of the three articles. Muffy had some problems with the start, but she showed she hasn't forgotten what she knows. With some more practicing she will earn that TDX. John Etchells laid this track, Joanne and Ralph MacKinnon laid the cross tracks.

Then it was off to Joanne & Ralph's fields for the last tracks. First was a TD track for "Jason," a Golden Retriever and his handler, Louise Tiernan. Jason had some problems on the track, but showed that he did have the idea well enough that Sandy opted to have a second track laid for him. But he did not certify on either of the tracks that Pat Etchells put down for him.

Barbara Greenfield's Golden Retriever "Holly," had a crack at a track of about 650 yards, with three articles, laid by Ralph MacKinnon. Joanne and I were the crosstrack layers. Holly worked well and although she isn't quite ready, the potential is there and we know Barbara will persist and they will earn that TDX soon.

The two days were full of camaraderie, learning and the thrill of seeing dogs track. Try to join us at the next Certification workshop. This is the time and place where you can learn more about tracklaying and tracking. Be a part of your club and participate.

## LOVE, MIRACLES AND ANIMAL HEALING

By Allen M. Schoen, DVM and Pam Proctor.  
Simon & Schuster ©1995 \$22.

In this non-fiction book, the reader learns how a traditionally trained veterinarian has gone beyond standard medical practices to embrace the Eastern art of acupuncture and herbal healing.

If you do not believe in these methods reading this book may change your mind as Dr. Schoen relates many documented examples. These touching stories about his patients certainly give one something to think about.

The book is divided into four parts. The first relates how Dr. Schoen began to change the way he looked at how he was treating his patients. In the section on bonding, he encourages you to learn to listen to your animals.

He describes how touching can aide the healing processes and how the animals have feelings that cause them to react to what is going on around them. The sensitive issue of knowing when an animal is ready to die is discussed in the chapter on "Letting Go."

Acupuncture and homeopathic methods are related in the third section on healing. Basic charts showing some of the acupuncture sites are included. Details on the benefits of therapeutic massage are explained and illustrated.

The lessons Dr. Schoen has learned from the animals he has treated and has shared his life with include compassion, forgiveness, transformation, gratitude, sacrifice and joy.

While the book does not contain an index to help you return to a passage you might want to show someone, it does have an appendix that includes a list of veterinary resources, recommended readings and references.

Read this book with an open mind; you may begin to understand why alternative veterinary medicine has a growing following.

Peg Forte  
★★★

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## TRAINING CROSSTRACKS

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Tracking List

Carolyn had some good advice for Dan on training crosstracks. With the caveat that this is advice from someone whose dog just failed on a crosstrack :-), but who also a month before passed a TDX, I have some additional tips.

I also do the serpentine main track, with the crosstrack layer(s) going in a straight line across the track, thus providing 6-8 crosstracks to practice on. If I have only one crosstrack layer, she can go down and back, thus providing a double crosstrack (going about 4 feet apart). I have laid the main track and marked the crosstracks with stakes and surveyors tape. She picks up the stakes, leaving the tape, so I know exactly where the crosstracks are. If possible the tape is attached to a higher weed or something which is unobtrusive to the dog. The first times doing crosstracks I have only a single crosstrack, so it is easier.

The first times out, I triple lay the track, just after where the crosstrack is laid, thus making the original track more enticing, and "easier". I also baby step. I also put down an article with food (or I suppose you could just use food) a few yards past the crosstrack to reward the dog for taking the main track. This is all to get the to perceive the main track as being the better one. Eventually, of course, this is all faded away. In fact, eventually I have the crosstrack layer baby stepping the crosstrack to "entice" the dog on to the crosstrack, and making the crosstrack very hot, and then just at one hour with a five hour old track, since this could happen in a real test. (I admit I did not get to these last steps with the current dog).

I also follow the same action of gently restraining the dog from the crosstrack and encouraging the dog to find and follow the main track. I also start crosstracks with the main track about 2 1/2 hours old with the crosstrack about half that.

I also must tell you that though I think training crosstracks is clearly essential and critical, there is a certain amount of "luck" involved.

## GETTING THOSE ELUSIVE CRITTERS OFF YOUR SKIN

If despite your best efforts at awareness and avoidance, a tick has burrowed it's head into your skin or your dog's, here's how to get it off:

"Don't think that petroleum jelly, heat, lighter fluid, alcohol or any other kind of irritant will make the tick back out," said Don Mock, Kansas State University extension specialist. "Such methods only work if the tick is not securely attached."

And don't try unscrewing the tick or squeezing the tick's body, both methods could make the tick regurgitate under your skin and cause infection, Mock said.

"The best way to get a tick off is to place fine-tipped tweezers close to the skin and grasp the tick's head," Mock said. "Then pull, gently and patiently, directly away from the skin surface. Never sideways and don't twist."

After the tick is removed, disinfect the bite site.

Put the tick in rubbing alcohol with the date and the victim's name on the container and save.

Mock recommends being especially watchful for the first 10 to 14 days after a tick bite.

"If signs of illness such as flu-like symptoms, headache, fever, lack of balance, skin rashes, muscle or joint pain, or nausea develop, see a physician," Mock said. "Take your tick along with you."

Remove a tick as soon as you see one, Mock said. "Ticks require several hours to become firmly attached. Disease is rarely transmitted within the first eight hours of attachment, seldom even within the first 18 hours."

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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.

KSUPET-L is a service of Kansas State University News Services.