

Common Scents

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey May - June 2004 Volume 29 Issue 3

Congratulations Barbara Greenfield



Due to the wonderful work that Barbara Greenfield and her golden retreiver, Clark, have done being involved with the Community & Children of the Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library System they have been recognized by the AKC Community Achievement Awards Program. Barbara and Clark's efforts were rewarded by Lenape Tracking Club receiving a cash award to support continued public education and activities. Barbara requested all of the money be given to Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library for the purchase of children's dog books. Lenape gladly did so and wish Barbara and Clark continued success in this very worthwhile endevor.

Attention Members

Please make sure that Lenape has your most current mailing address, telephone number and email address. Contact John Etchells (908-236-2423) Jetchells@att.net, Alice Crans (908-537-2547) Crans@blast.net or Teryl Lebkuecher (732-493-4919) OneDobe@aol.com with any changes, corrections or additions.



Lenape's newest board member, Carol Shields is recovering from hip surgery. She is in Riverview Hospital Rehab Center, Room 554, One Riverview Plaza, Red Bank, NJ 07701. Surely cards and well wishes would brighten her day.

June 5, 2004 TED Follow Up

Sept. 26, 2004 Certification Workshop October 31, 2004 Tracking Dog Test

Nov. 7, 2004 Tracking Dog Excellent Test

Tracking Experience Day

April 17, 2004

What a successful day! Lenape Tracking Club has run another successful event!

What a wonderful day for our Tracking Experience Day! This time, the weather cooperated – warm and sunny (which was a far cry from the cold rain earlier in the week). This year we were happy to have the gazebo and the pavilion to keep us away from the sun for a while. We ended up with 30 participants assisted by about 25 club members who showed up to help.

The demo dogs did very well – we had a small version in Rain, a Cardigan Welsh Corgi handled by Bev Olsen and a larger version, German Shepherd Miya, handled by Marilyn Mueller.

After the scent presentation by Hope Meaker and Map Making by John Etchells, the group moved through the instructional "stations". Mimi Ruch and Carol Shields starred in Starting a Dog, Marilyn Mueller and Peter Heide set up the measured pace course, and Priscilla and Karl Gabosh worked everyone in Lead Handling. (Actually, I think they did most of the physical work....) The Map Makers under John Etchells could see their distant markers this year (remember the fog last year? – the TED where we needed a GPS to find home base?), and once again Teryl Lebkuecher and Bev Olsen talked about the specifics of tracking with different breeds of dogs. The Herders did a masterful job this year of keeping the groups moving – they segued into the lunch line just about perfectly!

Judging by the talent shown in the afternoon session, there were a lot of very capable trackersto-be out there – and tracker trainers.

In this, the year of last minute changes, there are two people who deserve a special mention (aside from the usual group of stalwarts coming in on crutches, etc.) – one of the oldest (members – not age) and one of the newest. Tim Riley dropped in from Vincentown. He was one of the original members of Lenape Tracking – and most welcome in this year as we head down the road to our 30th year celebration. Another person who came to help was Chuck Shultz of Freehold. He is not exactly a member officially, but I worked the poor guy really hard as a lone herder, go-fer and all around sort of "Chuck of all Trades". (Well, he brought it on himself; he's tall enough to stand out, and bought a bright gold Lenape hat, so I could always see him.)

Rain & Bev



Miya & Marilyn



Tracking Experience Day

continued





Next, of course, are the three follow up sessions. The first is "Article Identification" under Lisa Pattison. The session will start at 9 AM on Saturday, April 24 at the Woodglen School. The other two sessions will be "Turns" on Sunday May 16 and Lead Handling on June 5. These latter two will start at 8 AM. Please bring your own beverages, and water for your dogs as we will be outside for the duration.

All participants and members who opt to help during the latter sessions are asked to contact Alice Crans at crans@blast.net, (908) 537 – 2574. We need to know you plan to come because we will have to contact you if for some reason (weather!) the session needs to be postponed

We will have disks burned of a series of some of the pictures taken at the TED for the participants. If you attended and would like a copy, please come to a follow up session, or call Alice Crans to reserve a copy.

Once again, good tracking to all our participants – and many, many thanks to all those club members who came and assisted in one fashion or another. Literally, Lenape cannot offer the Tracking Experience Day without your help!

Thank you Patti Cassidy for photos!

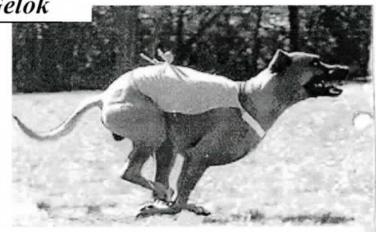




Member Profile... Claire Gelok

Hello Club Members,

My name is Claire Gelok and my home of 27 years is located in Blairstown, NJ. I have been married to Bill for 39 years. I have been Mom to Jim for 37 years and I am called Grandma by 3 wonderful children.



My life in Ridgebacks began nearly 23 years ago when I sent Bill to Spring Valley Farm for horse bedding. Instead, he came home with a 4 month old puppy bitch on a show contract! Jessie, Marilyn and Monroe have added unimaginable joy to our lives while making their marks in the conformation ring. Mr. Bailey took me into the world of owner /handler. Since I have never had the desire to enter the conformation ring with any of my ridgies, my quest for a professional handler started. Ina conspiracy between Mr. Bailey and his breeder, I ended up handling him myself. We had an amazing run – 4 majors on the Cherry Blossom Circuit to finish his championship. When Bailey was six months old, Bill added "Mr." to Bailey's name. It was my husband's thought that people were going to respect Bailey when he grew up.

I found out in short order that Bailey's game of choice was lure coursing. The 'DC' was the start of my addiction. I was hooked on performance events. Ridgebacks are a versatile breed. How far could we go?

I set goals that most folks thought were unrealistic. But within five years Bailey's name became DC Spring Valley's Half Diamond, MC, UD, NA, FCh., HIC, TDI, CGC, VCX, ET. Showing his quiet demeanor and totaling "wowing" the spectators ringside, Bailey's average score for the 'CD' was 192.6 and for 'UD' was an impressive 184.

When the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of America announced that they were going to offer an endurance trial to be held in conjunction with the 2002 National Specialty, I bit the bullet and started training/conditioning Bailey for the 12 mile event. During one of our training runs, Bailey proved his courage and devotion. I was concentrating on my speed and Bailey was running free through the woods. I never saw the bear until he was smack dab in front of me. In my panic I used the front brake instead of the rear brake and when I looked up the bear was standing on it's hind legs. My voice never made a sound, my body wouldn't move. From out of nowhere, Bailey appeared. He never made a sound until he was between the bear and me. I can still see the spit coming as he ran around the bear, biting at it and barking in it's face. When the bear bounded up the hill, Bailey was in hot pursuit. It was about time that my senses came back. I peddled for all I was worthwhile screaming for Bailey to come back. Minutes went by before Bailey appeared at my side in a nice easy trot like nothing ever happened.

At the age of 5 1/2, Bailey was awarded the "Best Conditioned Ridgeback" from a field of 21 entries. It was also noted by the veterinarian in charge, that Bailey was the oldest competitor in the top 6 qualifiers! After reading the announcement for the 2003 ET, I seriously thought over taking on the event. Bailey would be another year older. I decided to train and condition Bailey's daughter, Rose, for the event. It was made very clear to me that Bailey was not going to be left out.

Member Profile... Claire Gelok

continued...



He loves to go for runs on the bike trails. Rose became our "wheel dog" and Bailey was trained to run on the outside. When the winners were announced for the 2003 ET, our vet in charge stated that all 31 teams qualified and that the oldest competitor in the trial was Mr. Bailey. He was awarded 3rd runner up. Our exercise program does not include 40-50 miles of weekly biking anymore but Rose, Bailey and I still go to the bike trail on a leisurely basis.

Bailey's latest endeavor involves working with severely disabled students that are neither verbal nor ambulatory. He has developed a special relationship with each child. By their smiles and vocalizations, you know they are aware of Bailey's presence. On a particular visit as we were entering the classroom, I noticed Bailey scanning the room with a concerned look in his eyes. I followed Bailey to the other side of the room to the source of his concern, a young boy on a floor mat was having a seizure. The physical therapist and I watched in amazement as Bailey pushed aside the bumper pillows and nestled next to the child on his own accord. Bailey stayed with the child for quite a while after the seizure subsided, then went on to visit others.

Because of all that he is, Mr. Bailey was awarded 'Ridgeback of the Year' by the Ridgeback Register magazine.



Once again, Lenape member, Florence Miktus has made a cash donation to our club. The funds will be put to good use and they are certainly appreciated.

Thank You Florence Miktus!

Brags and Tidbits

Kristine Conway...Saga, GSD earned an AKC CDX in 3 straight shows, placing each time! Saga is the 12th nationally ranked novice dog in UKC for 2003. Kristine's SeaBreeze, GSD, is ranked 24th.



Lisa Pattison...Lacey qualified in AKC open obedience to finish her CDX title. Only 2 dogs out of 40 in her class qualified. She earned 1st place and highest scoring therapy dog despite the heat and Lisa recovering from recent knee surgery. AND THE BIG NEWS IS that is Lacey's VCD2 title! Lacey also has earned the distinction of being 1st non-Bernese and Aussie to pass Bernese Mt. Dog Draft test in NJ!

Lenape Tracking Club Central New Jersey

Officers:

President: Bev Olsen 732-772-0886 Vice President: Alice Crans 908-537-2574 Secretary: Mimi Ruch 908-722-9723 Treasurer: John Etchells 908-236-2423 Board:

 Peg Forte
 908-832-7231
 Carol Sheilds
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 Peter Heide
 609-466-4160
 Immediate Past President:

 Teryl Lebkuecher
 732-493-4919
 Barbara Greenfield

 Lisa Pattison
 908-850-8879
 973-696-8787

Tracking Experience Day Follow Up Sessions

The TED Follow Up days held on April 24 and May 16 were successful. Six to 8 TED participants attended the sessions. The session topic of "article identification" was led by Lisa Pattison and topic of "turns" was led by Teryl Lebkuecher. It would be very helpful if other club members made an effort to attend these sessions in the future. Not only could you share your expertise with beginners but you would have a chance to work your dog.



Tracking and the Internet



The internet is full of wonderful spots of information regarding any and all dog activities. One feature of the internet that I find useful is the email groups concerning different subjects. Two that I belong to are tracking@smartgroups.com and TRACKING-L@YAHOOGROUPS.COM. A recent post from these groups caught my eye and with the author's permission, I am sharing it with you...give it some thought.

"A word of caution to everyone out there. While we were plotting the tracks the person running the test mentioned that this might be the last test for Northshore. She had had a horrible time getting tracklayers and was simply frustrated by the experience. She was able to get enough people, but this should be a warning to us all. If you don't have tracklayers, you don't have a test." Wally O'Brien

AKC tracking judge

Suggested by John Etchells... check out www.npr.org (National Public Radio). Under the drop down list for "select" pick "Fresh Air with Terry Gross". When you get to her page either pick archives and select the 5/24/04 show. Select the link for Pet Detective. One of Terry Gross' guests was Kathy Albrecht. You can hear a 1/2 hour show on using a tracking dog to find lost pets. I think you will find the show very interesting.

Officer Archer Jones

State Police K9 Unit

Thanks to Lenape member, Laurie Shuren, we had a very informative and interesting presentation as part of the March meeting. Officers Arch Jones and Colin Frinzi are members of the NJ State Police K9 Unit, along with their dogs Nero and Atos. The officers provided an insightful look into owning, training and working with a special partner...their dogs.

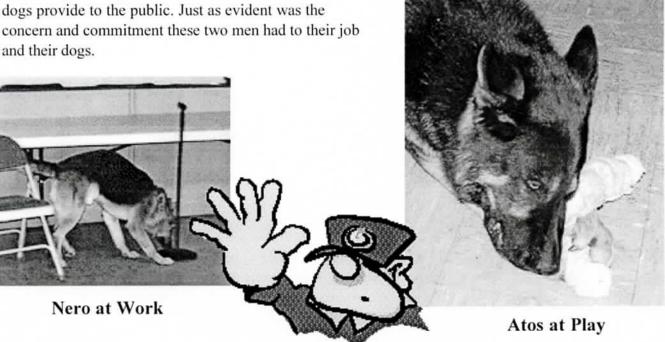


Officer Colin Frinzi

Both dogs are GSD imported from Czechoslovakia through a broker who provides all of the NJ State Police with their K9 unit dogs. Both dogs are cross trained in several areas such as protection, tracking and search work. Officer Jones' dog, Nero, specializes in narcotics work while Officer Frinzi's dog Atos, specializes in explosives detection. Each dog "showed their stuff" as samples were hidden in the meeting room and then the dogs were sent on a "find." Both dogs were successful within minutes showing just how powerful their noses are. Of course the dogs were rewarded with that "special towel" and a game of tug. Even the Lenape members got to reward the efforts of Atos "Come on Peter, give a GOOD TUG!! with a good tug or two.

By the end of the afternoon, it was quite evident what a demanding and important service these handlers and dogs provide to the public. Just as evident was the





Lenape's Proposed New Members

The following person(s) have applied for membership in the Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey. They have fulfilled all of the requirements of new members and will become members in 30 days from the mailing of this newsletter unless we receive written comments as to why they should not become a member.

Christine Carlson

9 Windemere Ave., Unit 6 Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856 (973) 770 3497 Email katerpoo@aol.com Australian Shepherds Tessa and Jester Attended TED, '04 and Followup 4/24/04

Jayne Lips

PO Box 760
Bushkill, PA, 18324
(570) 588-3967, Email jaynelips@webtv.net
Australian Shepherds Sonsi and Reason
Attended TED '04 and Followup 4/24/04
Recommended by: Lisa Pattison & Teryl
Lebkuecher

Marty Smith

10 Brook Lane
Bordentown, NJ 08505
(609) 291 1005, Email riverdelcbrs@aol.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers Dasher, Piccadilly,
Keeper, Sky and Lacey
Recommended by Martha Windisch & Alice Crans
Events: TED '93 and TED '04

Charles Shultz

61 Oriskany Drive,
Freehold, NJ 07728
(732) 683-9075, Email chuckles@chuckles.net
Labrador retrievers, Breaker and P.T.
Recommended by: Beverly Olsen & Teryl Lebkucher
Attended Meeting 2/21 and TED 4/17

Look for the new member profile in the next issue. Be prepared new members, you will be asked to provide a short "This Is Me". Help the editor out and send it in before she has to ask!!