



Common Scents

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey
March / April 2005 Volume 30 Issue 2

February Meeting

By Lisa Pattison

The Equipment Repair meeting was a great success. The food was fantastic. Our members are great cooks and great providers. We are certainly all experienced at jackpotting ourselves. Plenty of members turned out to pick up the gauntlet and revamp and build more flags. Striking new colors, materials, and new flag stakes were the fruits of the 2 hour siege. Sewing machines, staple guns, a sander and countless hands all pitched in to renew the Lenape Club's "bread and butter" THE FLAGS!

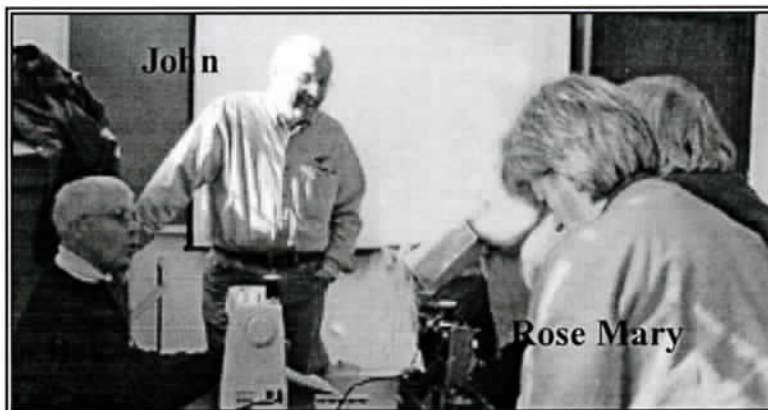
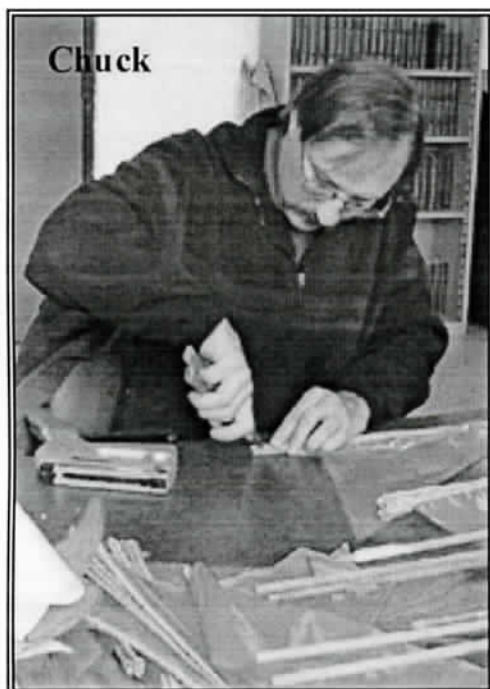
Time and time again you will hear TED (Tracking Experience Day) pays for the tests and events that Lenape holds each year. TDX tests are the biggest drain on the funds but definitely an honor to hold. To see the dogs and handlers who have persevered to the 'nth degree is certainly a worthy cause.

**Mimi Ruch
hard at work
sewing new flags**



February Meeting

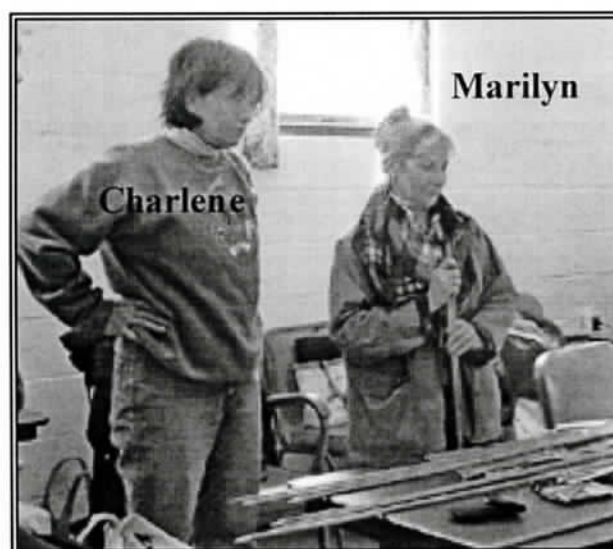
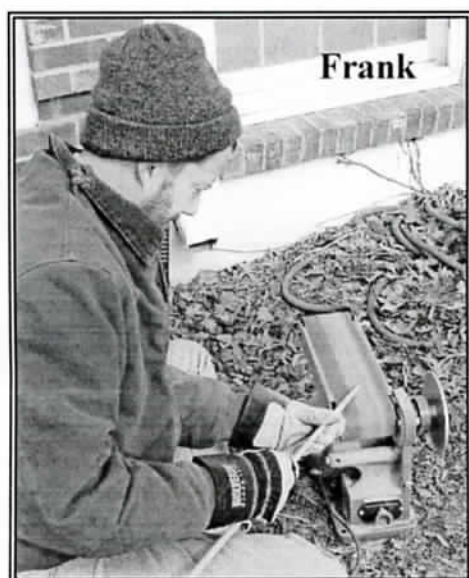
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I just wanted to say thanks to everyone who participated. I know I will appreciate first hand all of the day's efforts whether it is carrying the newly fitted and clearly marked flags or running a TDX test .

It was great seeing everyone who attended... now

WHERE WERE THE REST OF YOU?



Brags and Tidbits

Kathy Gaynor...Blue the Keeshond now has an AKC Open title scoring a 195 and a first place and Jade the Chow was the first Chow to earn an AKC Rally title !!

Marilyn Taurig...Shadowbrooks Hurricane Hunter has earned his CGC and Keysteel Sunstone Star has earned his CGC and TDI.

Lisa Pattison...Lacey the Australian Shepherd earned an AKC UD leg at Staten Island Kennel Club Show.



Eve Nelson-Barry...Diva an 8.5 year old Doberman has earned her AKC CD.



Lenape Members Clear Your Calendars

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey turns 30 this year. We are going to mark the occasion with a picnic for the membership. So please make arrangements to join the celebration. As always with any tracking event, there will be lots of food, fun and storytelling. The Board hopes to see all the members on **June 18** at the Lebanon Township Municipal Building. Details will follow.

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey

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Gramma and Me



By Ringo...also known as

*CH Lar-Lill's Revolution, CD, TD, CGC,
HIC, TT, TDI, CS, VCX, BPX, RN*

Gramma woke me up one morning and told me "It is the big day of the tracking test."

She had my bag all packed with my tracking harness, water bucket and of course some water. Of course she had on those big old boots of hers. That meant we were headed out to the fields because she also had on that ugly orange hat. Off we went.

It was just about time to draw for the tracks when we got there. She drew track number 5. The waiting around while other dogs ran their tracks made Gramma nervous. She kept saying to herself, "Shut your mouth and trust your dog."

Finally, it was our turn. We got up top the field and I thought to myself, "Why are those children playing in that yard?" Gramma put my harness on me and we walked up to the starting flag. I put my nose down and started to track. I heard a man running up the road hollering at the children not to come and play with me. Then as I made the first turn, I looked back and there was Gramma flat on her face. One of her feet got caught in my lead. I never knew Gramma could move so fast. I kept on tracking and about 20 yards further along there was Gramma fighting with a big stick that got tangled in my lead. I never knew a brand new lead could be such a problem.

After that, things went along pretty well. I found a few munchies in the field. Boy, it was a good thing that Gramma didn't know what I was eating. The next run was a little tricky. Gramma stopped and gave me more lead so I could figure this out. There it was and off I went and along came Gramma, still on her feet. Boy, as I went along I was thinking that it sure was a long way. All of a sudden I was going in another direction. My nose was to the ground and I dared not look back to see what Gramma was doing. Maybe it was better I didn't know. All of a sudden I hit pay dirt. There was the glove she had wanted me to find. So I swung my body sideways as I was taught, nuzzled the glove, looked up at Gramma. She was coming toward me asking what had I found. Boy, was she happy to see me and the glove. I think she started to cry when she picked up the glove. All of a sudden the people who had been following us started to clap and yell "congratulations." They came up and hugged me and Gramma. I guess we did all right since everyone seemed happy and they were telling me what a good boy I was.

Another Scent

By Mimi Ruch

The March/April 2005 issue of Just Labs (Vol 4, No 6; pp 20-21) has an article about Clancy, a Labrador-hound mix who was taken from a St. Paul, Minnesota shelter to learn how to detect mercury. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency started a new Mercury-Free Zone Program in December 2000. The MPCA had found that schools in the state contained an average of 2 pounds of mercury, an extremely toxic substance that can effect the brain, central nervous system, kidneys, and liver. Mercury was found in classroom science equipment, sinks, storerooms, and nurses' offices as well as from broken fluorescent light bulbs. Both Carol and Clancy have their blood levels checked every three months.



Carol Hubbard, who has a background in chemistry and biology, was chosen to be Clancy's handler. She trained Clancy with methods used to teach dogs to hunt illegal and dangerous substances. Clancy's reward is a tennis ball. Clancy detects the scent of mercury vapor. He sits to indicate he has found it. A Lumex instrument is used to confirm Clancy's finding. The Lumex can measure as low as two nanograms or two parts per trillion. Carol has determined Clancy can detect down to about 100 nanograms which is below the safe concentration of 300 nanograms.

It can cost from \$5000 to \$25,000 to clean up a mercury spill in a school laboratory which has to be temporarily closed. Detector dogs have been found to be faster and more efficient than machines; they help save time and money for important clean-ups.



TED Follow-Up Dates

April 9 TED Make Up Day
April 17 Article Indication
May 14 Turns
June 18 Lead Handling



June 18, 2005

30 Year Celebration Picnic

Mace Goes To Maryland

By Teryl Lebkuecher

When it comes to tracking, I am very lucky. I have entered Mace in 3 TDX trials and I have gotten in each one. What are the chances of that?

Sunday, March 27 off we go to the Oriole Dog Club tracking test. Bev Olsen was in the co-pilot seat with her dog Rain who was running in the TD test. The weather was cloudy and cool...perfect. The drive was easy and the site was just fit for tracking.

My draw was at 9:30 which was just about the time that Bev was to run her track. Since we traveled together, I had to drive Bev to a field near to her track and race off to make my draw. I felt terrible leaving Bev and Rain standing alone in a cold field.

This was a six TDX track test. I drew the first track. There is my luck again. Track one...could not ask for better. The judges were ready, I was ready, Mace was ready and there was the start flag.

Mace walked around a bit at the flag but soon took off straight ahead. At this point in Mace's tracking life, I just follow him where ever he takes me. He knows if he is right, he gets a big reward. If he is wrong, he gets nothing. Mace wants the reward. Certainly, I was going to follow him now; there was no other choice.

First turn seemed to come quickly. I was very pleased to get past the first turn. Now I would be happy as hell to get to the first article. On a very bare stretch of the track I spotted a very brightly colored article. I wasn't sure what it was, too far away to tell. Mace goes right up to it and sits. It was a hand made mitten with every color yarn you could think of. Nice choice for an article!

Mace continued on. A turn or two...I was not counting. The track went down a hill and up the other side. Mace was heading toward some sort of horse panels. The track goes through these things? Again I see a very bright orange and grey thing lying in amongst the panels. Mace sits. It is a hunting sock. On we go. I was sure we should go to the left...seemed logical but Mace was going right. I was going with him. If he was wrong at this point, I would still have been very happy. He was working very hard and had come a long way. Mace goes straight toward a couple of large piles of stone. What was this? The dog was climbing over the piles. At one point he walked up a ramp that was near the stones. I was waiting to hear the whistle. No whistle. I thought I would just let Mace work it out. He circled around a bit. I backed up a couple of yards and off he went. Thank goodness, I really wanted to get away from those stones.

At this point, I thought the end of the track was near...it had to be...the dog was running out of handler. I kept looking for the glove as we came down a hill through the trees. What I thought was the glove turned out to be a chunk of bark. Mace did check this out but continued on. We were now close to a walking path. As I saw the glove ahead of us, two men were walking on the path. It was so quiet that the men's voices carried through the woods. Mace stopped and stared at them. "Look at that dog. Those ears are so big it looks like a rabbit. He's a funny looking dog!" Mace was within 50 yards of the glove. I was worried that the man's comments would hurt Mace's feelings and he would quit. The men passed by and Mace went happily to the glove and sat. I guess Mace is used to being called a funny looking dog!

The only thing that could have made this a better day would have been if Bev had been watching. She would have seen that all of the work she put into both Mace and I paid off. Once again, thank you Bev...we couldn't have done it without you!