



Common Scents

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey
May / June 2005 Volume 30 Issue 3

President's Message

First, let me say that since I missed the last newsletter, I have been told I have double the space this time. Thus, there are three points I'd like to cover. I'd like to commend Carol Shields on the wonderful job she did as chair of our Tracking Experience Day. This is the largest and most complex undertaking we have all year, and it is really a lot of work for the chair. There's a lot of follow through required, a lot of details to be worked out, and if we fail, the chair is in a real visible position! (Something we do not tell people when they agree to take the job...) One thought for next year, though, can we improve our relationship with the one in charge of the elements? We've had some tricky weather in years past, but this time.....!

This brings me to the point that tracking is one sport that can be done in any weather. One of my most memorable tracking experiences was in a blizzard at night, following a track my son had laid for us, intrepid soul that he is. Not only did Topaz find the glove at the end, she also picked it up after I had dropped it in the snow on the way back and never even noticed I had dropped it. Thus, there is no excuse for not getting out there.

The third point is that it is truly an honor to be President of an organization during its thirtieth birthday. This is a long time for a marriage these days, let alone the survival of a club. I interpret that success to mean that 1) we offer something considered useful to humankind, and 2) we do our job well! Let us hope that we continue to perform an exemplary service for the next thirty years, bearing in mind it will be the new members who are now joining to us who will be giving that service! Best wishes to us all – and see you at the picnic on June 18.

Alice Crans



TED Follow-Up Dates

June 18, 2005 Lead Handling

30 Year Celebration Picnic

June 18, 2005

Certification Workshop

September 25, 2005

Tracking Dog Test

November 6, 2005

Tracking Dog Excellent Test

November 13, 2005

Guideline and Overview for Dogs that Overheat

By Nate Baxter, DVM Northstar Labradors



The first thing that needs to be understood is that dogs and people are different enough that most of the info cannot cross lines. I do not profess to know what the appropriate procedures for people other than what I learned in first aid.

Electrolyte replacement: Dogs do not lose enough electrolytes thru exercise to make a difference, but if the dog gets truly into heat stroke the physiology changes will make them necessary. BUT oral replacement at that point is futile, they need IV and lots of it.

Cooling: The point of evaporative cooling being the most efficient is correct. However, in a muggy environment, that will not help as much, so I do cool with the coldest water I can find and will use ice depending on the situation. The best way is to run water over the dog, so there is always fresh water in contact. When you immerse a dog in a tub, the water trapped in the hair coat will get warm next to the dog, and act as an insulator against the cool water and cooling stops. If you can run water over the dog and place it in front of a fan that is the best. Misting the dog with water will only help if you are in a dry environment or in front of a fan.

Just getting the dog wet is not the point, you want the water to be cool itself, or to evaporate.

For MOST situation all you will need to do is get the dog in a cooler environment, ie shade, or in the cab of the truck with the air conditioning on (driving around so the truck does not overheat and the AC is more efficient).

This past summer I was very concerned about my dogs getting too hot in the back of my black pickup with a black cap. Boy I wish I got another color 6 years ago.

When I had one dog I just pulled the wire crate out of the car and put it in some shade and hopefully a breeze. But having 2 dogs and running from one stake to another, that was not feasible. So I built a platform to put the wire crates on, this raises the dog up in the truck box where air flow better. Then I placed a 3 speed box fan in front blowing on the dogs with a foot of space to allow better airflow.

I purchased a power inverter that connects to the battery and allows the 3 speed fan to run from the truck power. It has an automatic feature that prevents it from draining the battery. When I turned that fan on medium I would find that the dogs were asleep, breathing slowly and appeared very relaxed and comfortable in a matter of 20 minutes or less, even on very hot muggy days.

Alcohol: {Rubbing Alcohol} I did not carry it but probably will next year. It is very effective at cooling due to the rapid evaporation. It should be used when other methods are not working, but do not hesitate to use it. Due to the thicker skin and rapid evaporation I do not worry about it being absorbed. Plus we recommend using rubbing alcohol, which is propylene alcohol, not ethyl, for those of you not aware. So do not try to drink it.

I purchased those cooling pads, but found that the dogs would not lay on them. I would hold them on the back of a dog that just worked to get a quick cool, but probably will not mess with them next summer. I also bought a pair of battery operated fans but found them pretty useless. Spend your money on the power inverter and get a real fan.

Watching temp: If you feel your dog is in danger of heat injury, check its temp and write it down. Keep checking the temp every 3 minutes. Don't forget to shake it down completely each time, sounds silly, but when are worried about your companion, things tend to get mixed up.

Guideline and Overview for Dogs that Overheat

continued

This is **VERY IMPORTANT**:

Once the temp STARTS to drop, STOP ALL COOLING EFFORTS. The cooling process will continue even though you have stopped. If the temp starts at 106.5, and then next time it drops to 105.8, stop cooling the dog, dry it off, and continue monitoring. You will be amazed how it continues to go down. If you do not stop until the temp is 102, the temp will drop on down to 99 or even lower. I cannot emphasize that point enough.

Limit water: When the dog is so heated that it is panting severely, only let it have a few laps of water. Water in the stomach does not cool the dog, you just need to keep the mouth wet so the panting is more effective. Do not worry about hydration until the temp has started down. A dog panting heavily taking in large amounts of water is a risk of bloat. Due to the heavy panting they will swallow air mix in a large amount of water they can bloat. Once the temp is going down and panting has slowed to more normal panting then allow water. The dog will rehydrate it self after temp is normal.

If the dog has a serious problem and even though you have gotten the temp normal, get the dog to a vet, as it can still need IV fluids and some medication. Also, a case of heat stroke can induce a case of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis (not parvo), with a ton of very bloody diarrhea and a lot of fluid and electrolyte loss. These cases need aggressive treatment.

Prevention: The best method of treatment is prevention. Learn to watch your dog, and see the changes in the size of the tongue, and how quickly it goes down. Learn your dogs response to the different environments, and be careful when you head south for an early season hunt test or trial. I have been to Nashville at the end of May the last 2 years, only 5 hours away, but the difference in temp and humidity did effect the dogs as they were used to more spring weather in Ohio. Try different things in training to help the dog cool and learn what works better.

Another very important point: Do not swim your hot dog to cool it then put in put in a box/tight crate. Remember, evaporation can not take place in a tight space, and the box will turn into a sauna. Carry a stake out chain, and let the dog cool and dry before putting it up.

Whew!! Did not think this would get so long. I hope this is easy to understand and helps provide some info that will be useful.

Remember: Prevention, learn your dog. It is worth the time and effort.
Now all we need is for spring to get here and we can hit training hard!!

Bravo!



Congratulations Barbara Ridder Irwin

Submitted by Mimi Ruch

What a lovely surprise to see Lenape member Barbara Ridder Irwin pictured on page 16 of the May 2005 issue of the Gazette. Barbara is the winner this year of the 10th Langdon Skarda Award.

Langdon Skarda, was a lifetime breeder of German Shepherd Dogs. He was an owner/handler, breeding and showing his dogs under the registered kennel prefix of Llano Estacado. Skarda finished his dog career as one of the most popular American Kennel Club all-breed judges. Upon his death at the age of 80 in 1994, twelve of Skarda's closest friends in the dog fancy commissioned the Langdon Skarda award bronze trophy. It was presented for the first time in 1995 with the goal being "in the hope that for now and far into the future, we can reward the best in at least one of us each year."

Brags and Tidbits

Gary Moore...SR Pintail's Star of Dixie. NAHRA Started Retriever
Brass band



Mimi Ruch...SR Mimi's Pintail Pond Geordie, WC. NAHRA Started
Retriever. Brass band...and... SR Caballero Mimi's Angus, UD, JH, Can
CDX, WCI Veterans 1st Place scoring a 193 at Allentown DTC trial

Teryl Lebkuecher...while attending the Cardigan Welsh Corgi 2005
National in Sturbridge, MA, Mace picked up one leg towards Herding
Started, one leg towards Advanced Rally and his Canine Good Citizen

Bev Olsen...also at the CWC National, Rain became one leg closer to his
Advanced Rally title

Lenape Thanks Charlotte Schwartz

Charlotte Swartz, one of the founding members of
Lenape Tracking Club, has made a monetary donation
towards our 30 year celebration picnic. Charlotte
presently lives in Florida where she is writing books and
teaching obedience. Charlotte tells us she will be with us
"in spirit!" and wishes us all to "have fun for me"!



Sorry...

In the last issue of Common Scents,
Lillian Puchalski's name was mistakenly
omitted from the story, Grandma and Me.



June 18 TED Follow-Up Day

The last follow-up day of TED
2005 will be held on June 18...before
the picnic. We will be working on lead
handling as well as any other
problems you may be having. Come on
out no matter where your dog is in his
training. This is open to all members
as well as the TED participants.

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.

Amy Rocco

518 Drake Avenue

Roselle, NJ 07203

908-245 8887

occoradobermans@earthlink.net

Boxer - Deja

Recommended by:

Teryl Lebkuecher and Beverly Olsen

Donna Hess

20 Gerard Ave.

Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

908-953 9431

K9SNmotion@earthlink.net

Aussie - Jessie, CDX, CGC, TDI, AIC

Recommended by:

Beverly Olsen and Lisa Pattison

Welcome

Eddie W. Hicks

2766 Rt. 23 North

Stockholm, NJ 07460

973-208 0771

yosussshop@nac.net

English Springer - Donner, CGC, CD, ASA C.D.

Recommended by:

Joanne Belles and Alice Crans

Canine Osteosarcoma Study

The *Broad Institute* of Harvard and MIT is currently investigating *osteosarcoma* in large breed dogs with the aid of the AKC Health Foundation. It is a part of an ongoing Canine Genome Sequencing Project, and is the first cancer study they are undertaking after they finished sequencing the dog genome this past summer. Currently the survival rate is only about 20% after two years, even with dogs who have had such treatments as chemotherapy and amputation.

The institute is looking for blood samples and/or cheek swabs from both healthy or sick older (8 years plus) large breed dogs, particularly Rottweilers, Great Danes, Greyhounds, Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, among other larger breeds. They would like the AKC number or pedigree information if possible. For more information, e-mail: dog-info@broad.mit.edu, or visit the website: <http://www.broad.mit.edu/mammals/dog/>.



Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey

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Vice President: Carol Shields 732-264-9933

Secretary: Mimi Ruch 908-722-9723

Treasurer: John Etchells: 908-236-2423

Past President: Bev Olsen 732-772-0886

Board:

Peg Forte 908-8327231

Peter Heide 609-466-4160

Teryl Lebkuecher 732-493-4919

Lisa Pattison 908-850-8879