



Common Scents

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey
March / April 2006 Volume 31 Issue 2

Looks like spring is finally springing! Certainly felt that way at our Tracking Experience Day. We had March winds and some April showers – and yep, there was even time to smell some flowers. A great crop of new talent was out there in the fields – Odds are, we'll have some brand new qualifiers this year.

Once again LTC can put a feather in its cap – our TED was an unqualified success! And the credit goes to the entire club – to all the members who came out and helped, to those who carted and lugged equipment and materials, to those who gave presentations, to those who sent applicants to us, to those who helped with the refreshments - and to those who shouldered some major responsibility. Our Vice President, Carol Shields, had the biggest job. For her, TED is an activity she is involved in for much of the year. This year, she had an "understudy", Gina DeAlmeida, who was learning the ropes. To you both – wonderful job, and many, many thanks. To everyone – job well done! Lenape literally cannot put on the TED, or, indeed, any of our tests without your help, your talent, and your time (and, in many cases, your food!)

Please join us for the follow up sessions on May 13 (lead handling), and June 11 (turns). We expect that most of these events will at least start outside at the municipal building, but do let Carol or Gina know you intend to come, in case we have to change venue.

If you are interested in becoming a certified tracklayer, please contact John Etchells. We will be in need of your skills at our certification match in September – and don't forget the TD and TDX tests in November.

Meanwhile, bask in the spring. Let's hope April does bring some significant showers and get out there in the beauty of the fields and track!

Alice Crans
LTC President



TED Follow-Up Days

May 13, 2006

June 11, 2006

Tracking Tests

November 5, 2006 TD Test

November 12, 2006 TDX Test

Brags and Tidbits

Beverley Olsen... Rain the Cardigan has earned his final novice agility jumpers leg April 15th, so he is now has a VCD1, RA PT
For the year of 2005 there where no Cardigans that received this title.

Alice Crans... Wee Willie just passed her CGC with flying colors at Golden Rule in Andover. (If you don't count her shenanigans in between tests.) She was simply full of vim, vigor and breakfast by the time we arrived in North Jersey at the test site. She thought it was a big puppy playgroup, and everybody wanted to be hugged by her. When the tester saw Willow coming, she thought – here comes an out-of-control failure for sure. (So did I.) However, the wee one performed each test, itself, then heckled me in between. Her walk was perfect, even giving an automatic sit, her recall exquisite and fast – with a perfect front. When I had to leave the ring, she cozied up to the guy I left her with and won over his heart for three minutes. When they dropped something, she retrieved it. Not bad for barely ten months old. Ahhhh, life is good. She is now, Sunflower's Wind in the Willow, CGC

Lisa Pattison... Murphy the Aussie has earned his another TD from the Australian Shepherd Club of America. He has an ASCA utility title as well so that gave him the new title UDT (utility dog tracker).



Seeking Track Layers

Track layers who can commit are needed for Australian Shepherd Nationals in Sussex, NJ on Sept. 29 & 30 for the TD trial and/or Oct. 4 & 5 for the TDX trial. If interested, please contact me Lisa Pattison at 908-334-1941 or countryclipper@att.net.

Australian Shepherd Club of America has its own tracking program. The web site for information is <http://www.asca.org/Programs+/Tracking>. ASCA does recognize AKC tracking judges and AKC judges tracking certificates. You don't have to be a member of ASCA to enter a tracking test. You will need an ASCA Tracking Number (very easy to obtain) for your dog to use when you register for the event. ASCA tracking title program is usually open to all dogs with out restriction. The national specialty is closed to Australian Shepherds only. Non-titled tracking Aussies have precedence over titled dogs for slots.

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey

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Congratulations Colin

By Peg Forte

Colin, a Flat-coated Retriever, owned by Peter and Mollie Heide is the N.J. Veterinary Foundation's Therapy Dog of 2006 and entered the NJVF Hall of Fame on Sunday, March 5, 2006. He was nominated by veterinarian Mark Smith of the Hopewell Veterinary Group.

Colin visits the Hunterdon Care Center, a nursing home in Raritan Township and the Hunterdon Medical Center. According to Peter, Colin particularly likes older men, who are often retired farmers. Colin has also helped children who are shy and withdrawn through the "Read to the Dogs" program where children read out loud to the dog. Colin is just one of six dogs that the Heide's take to various places. Some of these other dogs are Colin children and grandchildren. Colin has given over 500 hours of service.

Having Colin visit while you are in the hospital can certainly brighten your day. I know because it was my pleasure to have such a visit in January the day after I had surgery.

Alice Crans', Golden Retriever, Topaz, was also inducted into the same Hall of Fame several years ago.

Lenape's February Meeting

The Lenape Board is sorry that many members were unable to attend the meeting. Below are some of the members who enjoyed the day.



Dick and Jane and "Spot" Reduction

By Alice Crans

I ran across an interesting item in the *AARP* magazine last month (well, not literally "ran", since my "running" days are rather limited). Rebecca Johnson, PhD, a professor of gerontological nursing writes in "Spot" Reduction, "Daily dog walking can help you drop 14 pounds in a year – more than most people lose on nationally known weight loss plans. They also improved their flexibility and balance, and felt better about themselves."

Imagine the effects for those of us who track – we should all be skinny. Guess I really have not been practicing very much.

Canine IQ Test

Submitted by Alice Crans

Stanley Cohen, PhD, professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver wrote about and devised tests for *The Intelligence of Dogs* (Bantam Press). The following are three examples. (Purloined from *AARP Magazine* – March/April)

- 1) Throw in the Towel: Toss a bath towel over your dog's head and shoulders. Time how long it takes for him to get free.

15 seconds or less	= 5 points
16-30	= 4 points
31-60	= 3 points
61 to 2 minutes	= 2 points
No luck beyond that	= 1 point

- 2) Unleash the Excitement: At a time when you don't usually walk the dog, silently grab car keys and leash.

Stop where you are. If the dog runs to you or the door,	= 5 points
If not, go to door. If dog gets excited	= 4 points
If not, jiggle door knob. If dog now comes,	= 3 points
If dog pays attention during process, but never comes,	= 2 points
If dog pays no attention,	= 1 point

- 3) Can It: Let dog sniff some food, then place under an overturned empty can, and encourage dog to get it. Time how long it takes.

5 seconds or less	= 5 points
5-15	= 4 points
16-30	= 3 points
31 – 60	= 2 points
No luck after 1 minute	= 1 points

<u>Scoring</u> : 13-15 points	= Genius
10-12	= Doggy Doctor
7-9	= Low ranking political official
4-6	= High ranking political official
3 points	= Doggy Rock