

COMMON SENSES

Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey

Congratulations Gail & Tani



A very happy Gail Thompson and her new TDX dog Tani with judges Phil Gallagher and Ray Desmarais

I had entered Tani in both Hudson Valley (HV) and Vermont TDX trials on Oct 7th and 14th respectively. I had also entered two local obedience trials (in case I didn't get into TDX trial) on Oct 5 and 6th trying to get the last leg of a UD on him. I got into HV TDX and planned on going up on Friday, Oct 6th to be ready for the trial Sunday morning, giving him a day to rest after the day of traveling. Did not know yet if I had gotten into VT trial, but later found out I was the first alternate.

However on the 4th, while doing UD work, I started getting chest pain that wouldn't quit. I had a heart attack back in 1986 and had stents put into my heart in 2005, so I do have a history of CAD (coronary artery disease). Since I had a rather

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Happy New Year!!! Frank and I hope your holidays were healthy and rewarding.

Recently there has been some discussion with club members regarding what exactly Lenape has to offer the membership besides Certification. The Board has taken this topic under advisement with the outcome as such; a small, brief questioner will be sent to all members asking for their input as to what they would like to see the Club offer. We are a very unique group as the titles achieved are a one shot deal, despite intensive training. So, when the questioner arrives, please take a moment to participate. Issues cannot be addressed unless numerous solutions are available for consideration.

Peg Forte and Dr. Joan Luckhardt will be the Chairpersons for this year's TED. If you are available to help out, please contact these ladies. Volunteers are in short supply. The date for TED is Saturday April 12, 2008.

Our "Soup and Salad" general membership meeting will be Saturday February 16, 2008 @ 1:00pm at the Township building. Officer nominations will be taken at this meeting and our awards Banquet will be Saturday March 29, 2008 @ 4:00pm same location. This will be a catered affair. Please come out and applaud those who achieved titles this past year.

Be well, be happy.
Carol Shields

President: Carol Shields	732-787-4209
Vice President: Lisa Pattison	908-850-8879
Secretary: Mimi Ruch	908-722-9723
Treasurer: Peter Heide	609-466-4160
Membership: Christine Landuyt	732-222-3639
Past President: Alice Crans	908-537-2574

BOARD

Peg Forte	908-832-7231
Gina DeAlmeida	908-963-9552
Teryl Lebkuecher	732-493-4919
Joan Luckhardt	732-329-3429
Donna Hess	908-953-9431





hectic schedule upcoming, I decided to go to the ER to be sure it was nothing. However, even though all the preliminary tests were negative, they decided to keep me overnight and repeat a cardiac cath on Fri. Not knowing what they might find, I decided to pull out of HV trial to give any alternates time to prepare and therefore had to pass up the obedience trial on Friday also. This spring I entered 9 trials and only got into one, so I figured I might be passing up my only chance for a fall entry! Since the cath was negative they discharged me Friday afternoon, and though I made it to the Sat obedience trial, Tani got creative and NQ.

Vermont was offering 6 TD tracks and 2 TDXs. But they only had 5 TD entries, so another TDX track was added. One TDX entry pulled out, so two alternates got in!

The Vermont club was a very gracious club. They had a fabulous dinner for the judges, tracklayers, alternates and entries on Saturday night at one member's home. It was a great opportunity for tracking fellowship. We ate our fill of a wonderful dinner and had plenty left plus even more for lunch on Sunday!

The judges were Ray Desmarais and Phil Gallagher. It was a cool day and it rained lightly overnight so the fields were just perfectly damp Sunday morning. All 5 TD dogs passed, so I figured that it MUST be a perfect day for tracking.

I drew the 3rd TDX track. The first TDX dog was an ILP Cocker, Millie that motored thru her course to her title. While they were in the woods, a hunter came across their track and told us that a bear had crossed her track earlier! We saw moose crossing signs on the roads so who knows, maybe even moose had crossed some tracks. I did not get to see the TD tracks, but all of the TDX tracks were laid so that the gallery could see the whole track from the starting flag, except when he teams were in the woods. The second dog was a Tervuren bitch that got lost in the woods,



Wonderful Job, Tani & Gail



but finished the course without the aid of the tracklayer. That was her first almost successful try at a TDX.

Tani's track covered two fields that were separated by a gravel/gray dusty road that everyone had driven over to get to the start of our track. The cover in the first field was calf high grass but the second field had dense alfalfa that was also calf deep. Tani usually takes a while to get started, but immediately took off in what turned



out to be the correct direction. In that field I could see the track ahead occasionally, and when I couldn't I thought there might be a turn there, but he just kept going straight so I had no choice but to go with him.

We went straight into the woods on the first 235 yd leg. We came to an almost dry, rocky creek bed which he started to follow. I had trouble walking

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on the unstable rocks, until I came to what would have been a waterfall had there been more water in the creek. He was already past that point down creek and I wondered how I was going to get down, but he shortly got up on the creek bank, so I followed him on the bank.



He made his way out of the woods and had to search for the track as I later found out he had exited the woods early. He found the track and shortly thereafter came running back to me with the second article, tail wagging. We continued without incident thru two more turns in that field, then crossed the road. The cross tracks were on those last two legs, but he never indicated them. I practice with him in a business complex where there are several doctor's offices, etc and I lay track early in the morning right past their doors and then return after "who knows" how many people have crossed his track entering and leaving the offices. I've even had the people pass right in front of us while he is tracking and he usually ignores them which surprises me as he is a therapy dog and loves to greet people.

The dense cover in the second field didn't seem to pose any problems for him initially as he made a turn and shortly thereafter came bounding back to me with the third article. He continued straight and several times he poked his nose in the adjoining very tall grass/woody area, but backed out. Since I didn't know what the judges had considered as the second obstacle, I was willing to go with him if he had continued. After a short time I had forgotten as to where he had located the third article.

Then he seemed confused and backed up (not apparently tracking) possibly back beyond where the article had been. We circled around and covered quite a bit of ground back and forth. I thought he had possibly missed a turn but by now I had no idea where the last article had been. You could not see where anyone had walked in this field. I kept thinking this is the best he has ever done and I was pleased with his performance to this point and would have been happy even if we had we never made it to the end! Then he seemed to start going in a straight line, but without the pull he had up to this point. Still not sure if he had found the track, after a short distance he put his nose deeper into the cover so I could only see his ears and to my surprise came back up with the last article. The gallery told me later that when his head was buried in the cover, his tail started wagging. Since I wasn't sure if he was even on the track, I missed that indication! His track was 914 yards and it took him 43 minutes. The first two dogs did their tracks in about 10 -15 minutes. Fortunately the judges were very patient, but being more objective, they could probably "see" his perseverance better than I could.

I trained Tani initially at the Navy base with their head trainer. (Besides dogs for the Navy, Rudy trained search and rescue dogs that were capable of doing a night track up to 29 miles thru towns, fields, etc. However, I've never had a track longer than 3/4 mile as physically I wouldn't be able.) Therefore for Tani's first years of tracking we always had a track layer so he always had someone to find at the end of the track. He loved finding the tracklayer and we had to break him of air scenting if he located the person early, maybe as much as several hundred yards upwind! Later when my most faithful tracklayer had a stroke, I had to start laying my own tracks. So when the tracklayer (in VT) came up to Tani in the field, he had to be he happiest dog in the world at that moment. And Rudy, who retired from the Navy and moved to Georgia several years ago, received a very happy phone call from me.

I owned and trained the first Champion-UD collie of either variety back in the early 60's when roughs were the most popular breed. That was a smooth also. I have always wanted a Ch-UDT dog but I gave up with that dog after he failed 18 TD trials even though he had been certified by 3 different judges including Milo Pearsall, for those of you old enough to remember him! (One trial in RI was at the beginning of a hurricane where the track was now 6 inches under water and the tracklayer was stuck in a tree in the middle of the rising river that already had flooded its banks. We had the first track, but when my dog failed, they cancelled the trial!) But since Tani got his TDX before his UD (had two UD legs before the TDX trial),if and when he ever gets his last UD leg, I still won't have a Ch-UDT dog but a Ch-UDTX.



Got News... WELL, WE DO!

Kathy Gaynor's Blue, AKA ASCA, CDX, UCDX, Vandys K out of Blue CDX, RAE earned her UKC Open title on October 26th at the Pennji Show. Her scores were 193 for her first let, an even more impressive 197 for her 2nd leg, and a 196.5 for her 3 leg. Kathy's Chow Jade AKA Westwind's Four on the Floor CD, RN won Best of Opposite Sex in the Veterans class at the Greater New York Chow Chow Club on September 29th.

Gail Thompson, earned a TDX with her smooth collie, CH Jodiay Markay Smooth Tani, CDX, RN, TD, TDX October 14th in Vermont. *The spelling of Tani's name was incorrect in the last issue.*

Donna Ellis's, Sooty, her Schipperke, finished his Excellent FAST (XF) title at the Talbot KC agility trial on 11/4. He is the first Schip, as well as one of the first dogs in his jump height in this area, to attain the title.

Donna and the Schips:
MACH2 Sooty CDX XF; PG1 PJ2 PK1; OAC EJC NGC TN-N; CGC FFX-AP
Midwatch Solar Flair (Gracie) VCD1 OA AXJ OF; PJ1 PK1

Gina DeAlmeida's Toro completed his CD this past weekend at Lehigh Show in PA. He is now known as "Nordikes Nothing But the Best CD, TD, RA, TT, CGC, TDI"

Please mark your calendars with
the following dates:

February 16, 2008 General Membership Meeting 1 PM ...Soup and Salad
Snow Date February 23rd
This is the meeting at which the nominating committee presents the slate of officers and directors for 2008. Nominations from the floor can be made.
RSVP necessary by February 19 2008 to info@lenapetrackingclub.org or 732-493-4919

March 29, 2008 Annual Awards Dinner and General Membership Meeting 4 PM

Florence Miktus, a longtime Lenape member lost her beloved German Shepherd, Ruby, in November.

Florence and her husband John were active members during the beginning years of Lenape. Ruby was thirteen years old.

Florence adopted her from The Seeing Eye about 12 years ago.

UP COMING TRACKING TESTS

Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.
Westhampton, NJ TR Mar 16, 2008
Tracking
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 5, 2008
Entry Fee: \$50.00

Mt. Nittany Dog Training Club
Penna Furnace, PA TX Apr 6, 2008
Tracking Excellent (Outdoors)
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 26, 2008
Entry Fee: \$85.00

Mt. Nittany Dog Training Club
Penna Furnace, PA TR Apr 6, 2008
Tracking (Outdoors)
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 26, 2008
Entry Fee: \$45.00

Hudson Valley Tracking Club
New Paltz, NY TX Apr 6, 2008
Tracking Excellent
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 27, 2008

Hudson Valley Tracking Club
New Paltz, NY TR Apr 6, 2008
Tracking
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 27, 2008
Entry Fee: \$80.00

Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.
Lexington, KY TR Apr 13, 2008
Tracking
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 12, 2008
Entry Fee: \$75.00

Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.
Lexington, KY TX Apr 13, 2008
Tracking Excellent
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 12, 2008
Entry Fee: \$100.00

Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America, Inc.
Lexington, KY VST Apr 13, 2008
Variable Surface Tracking
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Mar 12, 2008
Entry Fee: \$100.00

Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.
Moscow, PA TR Apr 27, 2008
Tracking
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Apr 17, 2008
Entry Fee: \$50.00

Lackawanna Kennel Club, Inc.
Moscow, PA TX Apr 27, 2008
Tracking Excellent
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Apr 17, 2008
Entry Fee: \$100.00

Colonial Rottweiler Club
Lancaster, PA TR Apr 28, 2008
Tracking
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Apr 1, 2008
Entry Fee: \$70.00

Colonial Rottweiler Club
Lancaster, PA TX Apr 28, 2008
Tracking Excellent
Opening Date: No Date Available
Closing Date: Apr 1, 2008
Entry Fee: \$100.00

Volunteers Needed!

If you are able to help out at this years TED please contact PegForte or Joan Luckhardt. The TED is Saturday April 12, 2008