Common Scents

March/April, 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER

TED
.... Saturday, April 10
General Meeting
.... Saturday, April 10
TED Follow-up
.... Saturday, April 24
.... Sunday, May 2
.... Saturday, May 15
VST Test
.... Sunday, June 20
Board Meeting
.... Sunday, June 20
Picnic
.... Saturday, July 10
General Meeting
.... Saturday, July 10
Tracklayer Certification
.... Saturday, August 7
Board Meeting
.... August TBA
Certification Workshop
.... Sunday, September 26
General Meeting
.... Sunday, September 26
Board Meeting
...................October TBA
TD Test
.... Sunday, November 7
General Meeting
.... Sunday, November 7
TDX Test
..... Sunday, November 14
Board Meeting
..... Sunday, November 14

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Now that our annual meeting is behind us, Lenape begins its work for the 35th year. That is a major anniversary year for us and we have many activities planned.

With the annual meeting we have some changes in your Board. After many years of service to Lenape, Alice Crans has stepped down from the Board. During her tenure, Alice has been a Board Member, Vice President and President of the Lenape. In addition, she has chaired multiple TEDs and tests. Alice is a certified tracklayer who has willingly volunteered to lay track at many tests even when she didn't physically feel up to it. Alice also was a contact with many of the farmers in the Glen Gardner area, which helped us to secure fields and was also instrumental in getting the fields at the Hagedorn Center for our TDX test. Alice, thank you for all your help and continued support.

Replacing Alice is Jim Bunderla. Jim, welcome to the Board!

President – John Etchells ✷ **Vice President** – Anna Burbank
Secretary – Carol Shields ✷ **Treasurer** – Pat Etchells
Board: Jim Bunderla · Gina DeAlmeida · Janet Doerer · Peg Forte · Joan Luckhardt
Editor - Pat Etchells, deerhill.tracking@gmail.com

As I reported at the Annual Meeting, 2009-2010 was a good year for Lenape. Last year we held a successful TED. In May we held a VST seminar given by Jerry Lewis. In June and July, Joan and Diane held Lenape sponsored training classes. In September, we held our annual certification workshop where we had 8 members'/TED participants' dogs attempt to certify. In November, our TD test had 9 dogs run with 7 earning TDs. I believe this was a record number of passes for Lenape! We finished out the year with a 4 track TDX test. We did all this while increasing the treasury a little.

2010 is shaping up to be another busy year. TED is scheduled for April 10th and we overfilled again this year. In June we will be conducting our first VST test with a three dog test at Ramapo College. In July we are planning a summer picnic to help celebrate Lenape's 35th anniversary. In September, we will again be holding our Certification Day, followed by our TD & TDX tests in November. As you know we are planning to expand the numbers to 9 regular tracks for TD and 6 for TDX. This is the first year the test worker option comes into play and we are looking to maximize the benefit to club members given the constraints of our fields. In order to accomplish these events, it will take the efforts of all of us coming to volunteer as tracklayers, hospitality, chairing events, and the like to make these events successful. I know we can count on your support.

With regard to TED, this year we set up a Yahoo List for the TED participants. Originally, we thought that using the list would facilitate our communication with the participants and getting TED materials out to them. It appears this is working well and has serendipitous benefits. In addition to providing information, the participants have introduced themselves to each other and have started to raise some very good questions about tracking. As in past years, our TED participants range from novice dog owners to folks who have put tracking titles on dogs. Many of the questions are of the type that are normally raised early on at TED. Now that these questions are addressed, it will be interesting to see how it impacts TED.

Until next time, keep on tracking.

John

TIDBITS
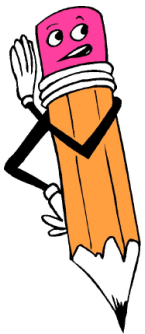
Rottie **Toro** & GINA DeALMEIDA went to their first official Schutzhund trial on March 20 and walked away with a new BH title by doing a perfect routine. The BH routine is the first title required for entry into any Schutzhund trials. It is considered proof of temperament for off lead field work at these events. The BH is a combination of 3 areas of work: Obedience (on & off lead), road work (steadiness with traffic, bicycles, joggers) and temperament test (out of site down with animal & people distractions).

PEG FORTE reports that **Tex**, Light-foot's Texas Two Step, debuted in Rally Advanced, qualified and earned 4th place at the Non-Sporting Rally Trial (open to all breeds if it didn't fill with Non-Sporting dogs) in New Brunswick on the evening of March 25. The following day **Wyn**, StormWatch WhirlWynd, earned her first breed point at the New Brunswick KC show in New Brunswick.

PAT LOSCO's two Aussies spent a stormy weekend at a marathon ASCA (Australian Shepherd Club of America) show where they got 4 chances in two days to show for titles. Her older dog, **Blaze** added a UDX to the ASCA OTCH title she earned last year. She is currently ranked No. 1 in the ASCA national "Superdog" listings, which is their High Scoring Open/Utility Combined category. Right behind her, 2 yr old puppy, **Smoke**, earned his ASCA CDX with 4 first places from Open A class. He even held his stays with thunder booming loud enough to scare several dogs from the ring.

At Staten Island CHERYL MATTHEWS' Lab **Grady** earned his 1st Rally Excellent leg with a score of 98 and 2nd place. He also earned a bumper Novice B leg with a score of 198 and 3rd place. Then at Monticello he earned his 2nd RE leg

Photo by www.mnicolefischer.com

and also earned first place in Nov B. Then at First Dog he finished up his RE title in 3 consecutive shows with a 96 in the morning – then he won Novice B in the afternoon.

LILLIAN PUCHALSKI writes: It is with a heavy heart that I say after 5 Chem treatments we lost our Sheltie **Sparky** from Lymphoma which he was responding to but cancer filled his kidneys. We did everything we could but it was not enough. Had to make the decision as to what was best for him not me as he began to suffer. He was 7 did not make his 8th birthday. SPARKY had 22 plus titles behind his name. He was " TRIUMPH LITTLEMAN OF LARLILL". Had come home one time with a Rosette "Highest

Scoring Sheltie" at a Shetland Sheepdog Agility trial. I hope the Angels do not flap their wings because he may think they are Turkeys and chase them. That was his favorite job here at home. We miss him but hope he and Dad are sitting together on a swing like they always did at home, swinging away. They were always together. Our hearts hang heavy.

MARILYN TRAURIG reports that Landaracurl Royal Warrant (**Myles**) won open dog at Crufts and the dog CC making Myles the 1st American Champion in our breed to win the CC at Crufts!

MEET THE BOARD

I've been around dogs all my life and like most people, most of my dogs were my best friends as I was growing up. I had a collie that came with me when I got married and when he went to the rainbow bridge I got Sadie my mix breed from a local shelter. She taught me how smart a dog can be and was very well behaved and followed me everywhere.

One day I happened to go to an obedience dog show and was watching the Utility ring. I was so impressed and thought one day I'll have a dog that can do that. My next dog was Duke my dobi/shep mix. I really wanted him to be my "obedience" dog and he did really great in novice receiving the award: number one Novice dog in the North East by AMBOR (American Mix Breed Obedience Registration). Duke did a lot of stuff, but I learned obedience was not going to be his goal. He has worked a lot with children at St. Joseph Children's hospital, working in a goal orientated therapy program and at Hunterdon Medical Center with their dog therapy program.

During this time I really wanted a dog for obedience, so I asked my trainer about different breeds of dogs, and she suggested a Belgian Malinois. I said a Belgian Malinwhat? Being I knew nothing about the breed, I contacted Belgian rescue and fostered four dogs of different ages and fell in love with the breed. Then I contacted Kathy Greenwood of Oklahoma and received my very first pure breed puppy.

To say Belgian Malinois are active would be an understatement. If you don't give them a job they will find one. Chase loves to do it all and so do I, so we make a great pair. We started in obedience and he excelled in leaps and bounds. Becoming the number one Novice A dog in the country, he loved the Open exercises and going for that dumb bell and he was challenged by Utility. He is now working on his OTCH. But it did not seem enough so we decided to learn agility. Well he loved it and I try to keep up. If I don't give him direction soon enough on the course he will bark at me, so I guess he knows how to keep me in line. We are now working on his MACH and he is almost there. But again it did not seem like enough so we got involved in sheep herding. He again loved it but I really did not so we only got our HT (herding tested) title and left that alone. But what else could we do - how about tracking? Hey why not, so we went to the TED seminar and then started to put his noise to work, in no time he passed his certification and then passed his TD test.

I spend most of my time training my dogs and being their best friend and now that I am retired from Telcordia after 29 years, I have more time to do just that. And if I'm not training we are usually out in our camper finding some really nice trail to walk.

Janet Doerer

AWARDS DINNER

The Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner was held on Saturday, March 21 at the Spinning Wheel Diner. Everyone had a great time, and as usual, Peg Forte presented adorable figurines to members who had achieved tracking titles in 2009.

AKC TDX
Gina DeAlmeida - Rottweiler - Toro **-** (Nordikes Nothing But The Best CD RE TDX)
    Oriole Dog Training Club - 4/5/09

AKC TD
Janet Doerer - Belgian Malinois **-** Chase - (Alouette's Chase That Dream VCD2 UDX OM1 HT MX MXJ NAP)
    Lenape Tracking Club - 11/1/09
George Laubach - Golden Retriever - Willie (Goldenways On The Road Again CD RN TD)
    Lenape Tracking Club - 11/1/09
Joan Luckhardt - Golden Retriever - Dennis (Traeloch's Looking For Trouble TD)
    Berks County Dog Training Club - 10/11/09
Susan Palius - Spinone Italiano **-** Rico (Ch Darby Canyon Gracie's Fellini RN TD)
    Capital Dog Training Club - 12/6/09

OTHER TDX TITLES
Lisa Pattison - Australian Shepherd - Lacey - (Propwasheloradanan Wildchild VCD2 TDX HSAs AX)
    ASCA TDX - Garden State Australian Shepherd Club - 11/22/09

OTHER TD TITLES
Gina DeAlmeida - Rottweiler - Toro - (Nordikes Nothing But The Best CD RE TDX)
    Canadian TD - St. Francis Kennel & Obedience Club - 9/13/09
Cheryl Matthews - Labrador Retriever - Grady - (Rocky Creek's Making the Grade CD RA TD)
    ASCA TD - Garden State Australian Shepherd Association - 3/29/09

THE MIKTUS AWARD
Gina DeAlmeida and Toro - TD - Lenape Tracking Club - 11/5/06; TDX - Oriole Dog Training Club - 4/5/09; Can TD - St. Francis Kennel & Obedience Club - 11/13/09

Janet   **George**   **Lisa**   **Gina**

MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have submitted an application for membership.   He/she will become a member unless the secretary, Carol Shields, 791 Palmer Avenue, Holmdel, NJ 07733, receives any letters of objection within 4 weeks of the mailing of this newsletter.

Howard R. Custer Jr, 35 Burnside Ave, Norristown, PA 19403
  (610) 539-7709 - <h.r.custer@verizon.net>
  Border Collie - Kori, Bichon - Kirk
  Sponsors - Ro Laubach, George Laubach
 Attended - TD Test, Awards Dinner

Geralynn Harmer, 425 Maple St., Jenkintown, PA 19046
  (215) 885-3347 - <L2Hike@verizon.net>
  Golden Retriever - Kelsey, Tucker
  Sponsors - Nancy Grove, Jim Bunderla
  Attended - TDX Test, Nominations Meeting

Andrae Wood & Peter Acerra, PO Box 424, Oldwick, NJ 08858
  (908) 832-9480 - <gmfarm8858@yahoo.com>
  Belgian Sheepdog - Willow
  Sponsors - Janet Doerer, Peg Forte
  Attended - TDX Test, Nominations Meeting

NOMINATIONS MEETING

The bad weather machine in February took a break and let us hold our Nominations meeting as scheduled. Nancy Grove coordinated a yummy spread, and Ro Laubach gave a fascinating talk on the Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dog program.

The purpose of the meeting was to allow the Nominating Committee to present its slate and to accept nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations, and the proposed slate was voted in (at the Annual Meeting in March).
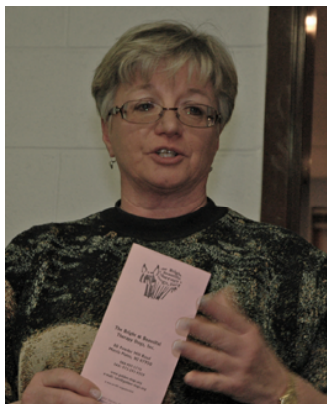
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Board:
Jim Bunderla
Gina DeAlmeida
Janet Doerer
Peg Forte
Joan Luckhardt

TRACKING TECHNOLOGY - PART 2 – GPS
By Chuck Shultz - 3/23/2010

In the last article, I talked about how I'm using a high-definition camera, the *GoPro HD Helmet Hero* in canine sport tracking. The other high-tech item I'm using these days is a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit called the *Garmin ForeRunner 305.* I've found it to be useful for going back to analyze my dogs' tracking habits and see their strengths and weaknesses.

When I first got the *ForeRunner*, someone on a bulletin board replied "*I could never imagine how anybody could ever use a GPS in tracking.*" I thought about that remark and realized that there are a lot of different types of hardware that call themselves 'GPS units' and it's likely that he wasn't familiar with the kind I'm using. The kind of GPS unit that finds its way onto a car's dashboard is a lot different than the kinds of GPS units that duck hunters train with.

The Hardware
The *Garmin ForeRunner 305* is intended for runners and cyclists. It has 3 settings: *Running*, *Cycling* and *Other*. I use the *Other* setting for tracking. The *ForeRunner* wears like a wristwatch, only a little larger. Its job is simply to keep track of where you are at any given time and to create files that can be transferred to a computer and looked at later. The ForeRunner comes with an adapter, a USB cable and a computer software program called the *Garmin Training Center.*

When you first power up the *ForeRunner*, it needs to stay in one position while it acquires at least two satellites. When I'm tracking, I put the *ForeRunner* on the ground, power it up, then walk away from it and put on my boots. Even on a fairly cloudy day, it doesn't take long to synch up. When it's ready, the *ForeRunner* switches to a main menu and you can move the unit around.

In practice sessions, I'll have the tracklayer wear the *ForeRunner* when laying the track. To do so, the tracklayer only needs to press the *Start/Stop* button once at the start flag, then once again at the final article of the course. Before running the next track, I make sure to hold down the *Reset* button for 3 seconds to reset the lap counter. By doing this,

I get a separate file for each lap of each track. I will show you later how to merge laps for the tracklayer and dog back together onto the same map.

When it's time to run the dog, I attach the *ForeRunner* to the dog's tracking harness. I again press the *Start*/Stop button once at the start flag and once when she gets the final article, then hold down *Reset* before running the next track.

Using the *ForeRunner*, I find that I don't need to write down a lot of the info on track that I would otherwise. (I'm talking about practices, not tests.) As long as I'm not running a lot of dogs that day, I find that I don't need to keep paper notes on things like the start times for the tracklayer, dog and cross-trackers, and the distance of the tracks. In fact, I've gotten to the point where I can write down all of my notes at the end of the day

after all of the tracking has been done. This means I don't carry notepaper with me on the track.

I also find that I don't need to count my steps any more. I keep aware of when I'm making short or long track legs, but what's important is the total distance of the track. The *ForeRunner* tells me that along the way. It begins by displaying the number of feet I've traveled. Once it gets to one tenth of a mile, it switches to miles, displaying a number like *0.32 miles*. I just need to keep in mind what distance of track I'm laying.

Track Length	Yards	Miles
TD	440 – 500	0.25 – 0.28
TDX	800 – 1,000	0.45 – 0.57
VST	600 – 800	0.34 – 0.45

When you are tracking with the dog, the Garmin does allow you to display your current position and the tracklayer's path at the same time. The problem is that the dog is wearing the GPS unit while you're tracking, so reading it can be tough if she wants to run around.

After Tracking

Once your tracking day is done, you can load the files it creates onto your computer. What you do after that really depends on what you intend to do with your files. I'll describe the way I use these files-

ultimately, I create web pages that I call the dogs' *Tracking Logs*. Meanwhile, I'll tell you enough here to get you to almost any place you need.

Just by plugging the *ForeRunner* into my PC using an adapter and a USB cable, it brings up the *Garmin Training Center* software. *Garmin Training Center* does a nice little job of organizing all of the files it creates. It gives a tree-type menu that allows you to find what you're looking for using the date and time the track was run. Even if you run several dogs in a day, it is obvious based on the time the track was run and the shape of the track, which track you're looking at and whether you're looking at the tracklayer's walk or the dog's run.

The *Training Center* program displays the shape of the track, but for the background, it relies on the maps installed on the computer you're using. In general, the maps that come with computers lack detail, are very incomplete and very inaccurate, so I prefer to view my tracks on *GoogleEarth*. If you have purchased and installed good quality terrain maps on your computer, you might not need to go through the steps I describe to view the tracks in *GoogleEarth*.

Training Center has a tab that shows you some useful statistics about your tracks. What I find important is the track length, the distance the

dog traveled, the amount of time she took to run the track, the time difference between the tracklayer and the dog, and the total elevation changes.

Within *Training Center*, by right-clicking on a track's time and date label, you can bring up an option to export the track. These files are saved with a *.TCX* file extension, signifying that it's a *Garmin Training* file. Save each file with an appropriate name, like *20100317_tracklayer.TCX* for the tracklayer and *20100317_Fido.TCX* for the dog.

The next trick is to use a web site called *GPS Visualizer* to convert our *Garmin* files into *GoogleEarth* files. The web page

http://www.gpsvisualizer.com/map_input?form=googleearth

does just what we need here. Using the form on this page, you can upload files for the tracklayer, for the dog running the track and for any cross-trackers. Use the section in the upper-right to identify the *Garmin* files on your PC. I always put the tracklayer's file in the first position, the dog's file in the second position and cross-tracker's in the third. The form allows you to add more than three files, if you wish to, but I haven't needed more than 3. Files for our sport are nowhere near their 3MB size limit.

The output of this form is a single *GoogleEarth* file, with a *.KMZ* file extension. I save that file on my computer, where I can double-click on that file to open up *GoogleEarth*. It zooms in to the track, complete with a background showing the track's terrain. If all I wanted to do was to see the track on top of the terrain, I'm done. But my real goal is to create web pages of the tracks my dogs run. I've chosen *Microsoft PowerPoint* as my tool for creating web pages. Fortunately, there's a very easy way to get from *GoogleEarth* to *PowerPoint* or any other program you may want to use.

When I bring up *GoogleEarth*, I make it the active window and I maximize it on my screen. I then hold down the *Ctrl* key while I hit the *PrtSc* key. On a Windows PC, this stores a copy of whatever is being displayed on the screen at the time into the computer's copy buffer, similar to hitting *Ctrl-C*.

When I bring up *PowerPoint*, I put each track on a separate slide. I insert a new slide for the new track, I then hit *Ctrl-V*. This pastes the image of the track map stored in the copy buffer into whatever program is active

at the time. I always need to resize and crop the image so that it fits on the slide. I then add a title to each slide, along with some notes about the weather and the dog's run, plus the statistics that the *Garmin Training Center* gathers. I include icons for flags and articles wherever they were used on the course. Sometimes, I'll annotate the course map to describe where the dog went off course. I'll also put in a pointer showing which way the wind was blowing.

PowerPoint provides the *File->Create Web Page...* menu selection that publishes *frames*-based web pages shown below. Users can navigate from track to track by clicking on a title on the left side. The tracks appear on the right-hand side.

The *ForeRunner* claims an accuracy of about 30 feet. You can see in this example the difference between the dog's track and the tracklayer's. Some of that difference was from the wind causing the dog to go off track, but not all of it. In this case, it looks like the consistent differences between the tracklayer's line and the dog's line were due to the GPS calibration being just a *little* different on each run. I find that if I leave the *Forerunner* powered on during my entire tracking day, the gaps between runs seem to be less.

In the next article, I will talk about some computer software I envision that would bring together both of the technologies I've discussed so far-HD video and GPS.