



Common Scents

July/August, 2010



Well, we are deep into the "Lazy, Hazy, Crazy, Days of Summer" and it is a hot one. As we all know, there were many days in July where the temperature exceeded 90 degrees! This weather presents challenges for those who want to certify at our September workshop.

Since the last newsletter, we have successfully completed our first VST. As I am sure you heard, we had one dog pass on the last track. Again,

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the temperature was well in the 90s when the dog finished.

We also held a picnic in July to celebrate Lenape's 35th anniversary. A good time was had by all who attended. One thing we did was buy car magnets for all members. Those at the picnic already received them. For members not at the picnic, the magnets will be handed out to you at the next Lenape event you attend. I want to thank all the members who helped to make this a success.

Website. Lenape's new webpage is operational. If you haven't visited, please find some time to stop by. One of the features is a gallery of past events, including our VST and picnic. We are in the process of gathering pictures from events over the past few decades to put up. I would like to thank Pat Etchells, Joan Luckhardt, and Joyce Miller who spent many, many hours making this a *First Class* tracking website!

As reported on Lenape's list, we are holding our annual tracklayer certification event (for people) at the Municipal building in Lebanon

Township on August 7th. We have a number of people signed up, but if you haven't certified and would like to, let me know as soon as possible. We need to prepare individual packets for each participant, and I would appreciate it if you let me know that you are coming ASAP. You can e-mail me at jetchells.tracking@gmail.com

Our annual certification workshop (for the dogs) is coming up on September 26. We have Richard Knapp as the certification judge again

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tracklayer Certification

.....Saturday, August 7

Board Meeting

.....August TBA

Certification Workshop & General Meeting

.....Sunday, September 26

.....Judge: Richard Knapp

Board Meeting

.....October TBA

TD Test & General Meeting

.....Sunday, November 7

TDX Test & Board Meeting

.....Sunday, November 14

.....Judges: Susan Boyd

.....Beth Goodbody

President – John Etchells * **Vice President** – Anna Burbank

Secretary – Carol Shields * **Treasurer** – Pat Etchells

Board: Jim Bunderla • Gina DeAlmeida • Janet Doerer • Peg Forte • Joan Luckhardt

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this year. We are looking forward to a fun two days, plotting and running tracks. We are planning eight tracks this year, but will try to accommodate all members who want to certify. One thing you need to keep in mind is that we normally have fewer farmers' fields available in September than

in November. Therefore, if you think you might be ready to certify in September, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can track down the necessary fields so that all can attempt to certify. A flyer about the event will be on the Lenape list within the next couple of weeks. If you are still not signed up for the

list (with a linked profile so you can access the files) and want to attend the match, let me know and I will get a flyer to you.

Until next time, keep on tracking.

John

MEET THE TREASURER



After growing up with no furry pets because my mother had allergies, getting two puppies (a buff Cocker and a mix) was one of the first things John and I did after getting married.

Two kids and thirteen years later, we found ourselves dogless and got a black Cocker puppy to fill the void. Daughter Beth, then 12 years old, took her to an adult ed obedience class and won a blue ribbon – and we were hooked. Over the next three decades, we acquired many more Cockers, got involved with a number of dog clubs – obedience and specialty – and, of course, Lenape Tracking Club.

Early on during this period, I made the seemingly innocent mistake of typing the envelope we used to mail in an application for obedience classes. It caught the eye of the nominating committee, and all of a sudden I found myself CoSec of the club. Then the “secret” was out that I had

gone to Katie Gibbs Secretarial School and had been indoctrinated with the beliefs that a business letter was a work of art with a white frame, hyphenating before a one-letter syllable was a misspelling and backspacing to type a comma over a period made a letter “unmailable” (they used a magnifying glass to check!) Pretty soon other dog clubs jumped on the “Pat can type” bandwagon, and I found myself doing newsletters, being trial/show secretary, etc., etc., etc.

While not doing club paperwork, I also actually did some stuff with my own dogs! We bred several litters under the Deerhill prefix, and I put obedience and tracking titles on several generations of them.

In the late 90s, I started helping with Cocker rescue. At first this involved cleaning up and photographing Cockers – and learning to use photo and webpage editing software so we could promote the dogs on the Internet. Eventually I ended up whelping litters and fostering myself, and by the time I parted ways with rescue, three fosters had become permanent residents. They also fell victim to my training whims and got ILPs

and earned obedience and/or rally titles.

Four years ago we did the Puppy Aptitude Test on a Toller litter whelped by John's co-worker. One puppy wowed us – but the timing wasn't right for another dog. When they repeated the breeding two years later, we were ready and were able to test the litter and get the obedience pick. So I'm now back in the obedience rings, on the tracking fields and even in the conformation ring.

Over the years dog clubs have come and gone – but Lenape has been a constant. Tracking clubs are unique in that there is very little competition and socializing is mandatory! And the opportunity to enjoy Nature as the same time as working your own dog or laying track for someone else is priceless.

Pat Etchells



THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC!

Lenape turned 35 years this year, and we held a picnic party in the Etchells' yard to celebrate. **Andrae Wood** coordinated the food and made sure that there was something for everyone's taste while **Jim Bunderla** was kept busy flipping burgers and dogs. And, of course, we all attacked the cake.

The dogs especially enjoyed the games **Nancy Grove** and **Judy Todd** put together. Fortunately Nancy was talented enough to take all these pictures as well! Many other photos are up on the website, but this is a sampling of the fun we had.



Peg cutting the cake



The gallery - Standing Room Only



Tally-Ho! - Janet & Duke



Hurdle - Melanie & Zenta



Potato Weave - Pat & Diggs



So you think you can dance - Gail & Tani



Birthday Bash - Pat & Beans



Ups N Downs - Howard & Fred



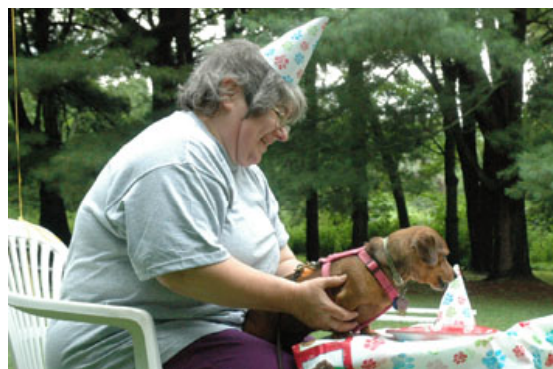
Dipping for Dogs - Torrie



Birthday Bash - Merlin



So you think you can dance - Gina & Toro



Birthday Bash - Sandy & Fox



Cookie on a Raft - Ginger

LENAPE'S FIRST VST TEST



The tracklayers and judges

Lenape has the first VST under its belt, and it was a very successful venture!

Anna Burbank and **John & Pat Etchells** took care of the administrative details. **Carol Shields** co-ordinated a very capable group of tracklayers: **Gina DeAlmeida, Janet Doerer, Cheryl Matthews,** and **Martha Windisch.** **Ro & George Laubach** brought their motorhome and served up a yummy lunch. **Jim Bunderla** and **Nancy Grove** did their usual splendid job behind their camera lenses. **Judy Todd** provided security, watching judges' and exhibitors' dogs back at headquarters while everyone else went out to watch the tracks. And lots of other members showed up to give moral support to everyone.

When we first considered the possibility of holding a VST following Ed Presnall's and Mary Thompson's seminar, it hadn't quite registered in our minds that it would be on the first day of summer, which is also the longest day of the year – and maybe it could be really, really hot. We advertised the test as three tracks – but since there was room on the campus, the judges decided to put in an alternate, so we were able to accommodate four dogs. We had also advertised a 10:00 a.m. start, but on plotting day the judges suggested pushing everything up two hours. Fortunately we were able to contact all the entrants, who were more than willing to track at a cooler time of the day, and also fortunately the tracklayers were agreeable to getting up in the wee hours to put the tracks down.

Incidentally, the reason why we couldn't hold a night test or start even earlier is that the school wouldn't allow it because skunks and raccoons overrun the campus at night!

The first three dogs had trouble before reaching the final article and heard the dreaded whistle. The day was getting hotter and our optimism was starting to fade.

Finally our luck changed when a 10-year-old black Belgian Tervuren went to the starting flag in 84 degree heat. Almost an hour later later, she was at the final article and was the first dog to earn a CT in New Jersey. Congratulations to Maura Hogan and "Malibu"!

Reported by Pat Etchells
Photos by Jim Bunderla & Nancy Grove



CT Montage Surfs Up VCD1 CDX PT



The gallery



Lunch at the motorhome

TIDBITS



HOWARD CUSTER recently added two Chesapeake Bay Retrievers to his household: **Ginger**, a 4-year-old sedge (left) and **Fred** – a 7-year-old deadgrass (right).

JANET DOERER's Belgian Malinois **Chase** got his 19th double "Q" at an agility trial on July 19.



At Greater Philly, the ETCHELLS' Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever **Diggs** went BOW (owner-handled) for a major.



SANDY HAMBRECHT reports that her 8-year-old Longhaired Dachshund **Arjun** passed his CGC . Arjun was adopted in 2007 – and is charming but a challenging dog to work with!



PAT LOSCO's Australian Shepherd **Blaze** (left) earned her AKC MACH in July and was No. 3 in the ASCA national Superdog (high combined) standings for this year. Two-year-old **Smoke** (right) added an AKC CDX and OA and AXJ this year.



CHERYL MATTHEWS' Labrador Retriever **Grady** completed his fourth CD – the ASCA CD - over the July 4th weekend with 194.5, 198, 198 and two first places. He also picked up an ASCA CDX leg in Open B with a 196.5 (second place).



LILLIAN PUCHALSKI's Smooth Collie **Dyna** (Larlill Tirnanog Wild One CD, RA, HIC, BH, TDI, BPD, VC) finished her RE title at Susque-Nango. She also went to her first CPE Agility Trial at Barto on July 12 and got three Qs – two in Standard and one in Colors. Next on her agenda is tracking since she likes to put her nose down!!

JUDY TODD took her Border Terrier **Merlin** to Canada for two three-day shows (Kars KC and Valley KC) in July. At Valley he qualified in rally all three days and came home with a CKC Rally Novice title.



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.



Ed & Terry Woltman
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German Shepherd Dog – Jax

Sponsors – John Etchells,
Peg Forte

Attended – TED, Follow-ups 1
& 2

THE LENAPE YAHOO LIST

A reminder for members who are not on the Lenape Yahoo list. Because the newsletter comes out only every other month, many timely announcements are put out on the list. If you want to subscribe,

Go to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LenapeTrackingClub/>

and follow the prompts.

Just put your name in the comments section.

TRACKING TECHNOLOGY - PART 3 – BRINGING IT TOGETHER

By Chuck Shultz – 5/21/2010

What if we could take the two technologies I've talked about so far (HD Video and GPS) and put them together? The ideal way to do that is similar to the technology used on football game broadcasts. They superimpose a yellow line across the screen to highlight the marker for the first down. They can do this because they know the exact position of the camera, the exact direction the camera is oriented in, and exactly where the ground is. It would be nice if some day we had a unit that combines the hi-def camera image with a GPS with a resolution down to the inches, rather than 30 feet. The unit would record video, synchronized with data that describes the position and orientation of the camera. Combine all of that with details about the surface, and it should be possible to superimpose the line of the track onto the video.

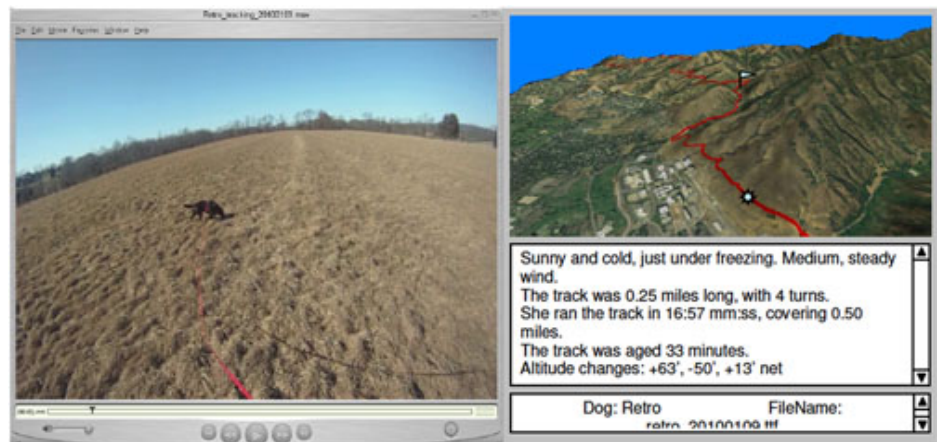
Until Then...

Well, given that we don't have that technology at hand (at least, not yet), the next best way to display what we've gathered on camera and from the GPS would be in two

windows – one for the video and a separate one for the track. I'm thinking of writing such a PC program; let's call it the *Tracking Organizer*. Its job would be to:

- Read in and play video files,
- Read in the GPS files to make a Track Map, and display them in a window over top of the terrain. Three dimensional terrain maps are available from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory website <http://onearth.jpl.nasa.gov>
- Play the video in sync with an icon that moves across the dog's track map showing the dog's position, ,
- Collect and display notes about each track, and,
- Create web pages using the track map and notes. ,

I've shown a user interface for such a program in the picture below: On the left is a menu bar, video player and player controls, on the right is the track map, track notes and file notes.



A couple of other things this program should be able to do.

- Provide an easy way to synchronize points on the video with points on the track map.
- Provide a way to edit the tracks (or portions of tracks) on the track map to compensate for the 30 foot accuracy of the *ForeRunner*.
- Provide a way to zoom in and out of the video and the track map.
- Provide a way to adjust the viewing angles of the 3-D track map.
- Allow icons to be placed on the Track Map, such as *flags*, *articles*, *food drops* and *notes*.
- When reaching a *notes* icon on the track, pop up the notes. Similarly, highlight *flags*, *articles* and *food drops* when the dog reaches those items.
- Click on a spot on the Track Map and the video will jump to that point. Similarly, go forward or backward on the video controls and the Track map icon moves with it.

- Make the windows sizeable.
- Provide reports of the number of tracks run, distances covered, averages, all the things a tracker needs to see. Be able to associate different dogs with different tracks and get reports by dog.

This program could perform another useful task, it could create DVDs or BluRay disks of the tracks. Not only could it use the video captured while running the track, but it should also be possible to create an insert on the video of the track map, again showing an icon move across the track that represents the dog's position in sync with the video.

DVDs have a feature called alternate angle, which allow a different view of the same action. Using this feature, it should be possible to make the map optional, such that sometimes you could play the DVD with just the video, other times you could play it with the moving track map displayed.

It Pays to Accessorize

An interesting thing about the *ForeRunner 305* is that it comes with a heart rate monitor that straps around the jogger's/cyclist's chest. The monitor wirelessly transmits the wearer's pulse to the *ForeRunner*, so that it can be displayed later on the *Garmin Training Center* software.

For tracking, I envision a meter that would attach to the lead and read how much tension is on the lead. The meter would wirelessly transmit its readings to the *ForeRunner*, using the same techniques as their heart rate monitor. In turn, the software I described above could color code the track map to show when the dog or handler was pulling and when the lead was relaxed. What would be even more helpful would be a way to differentiate between tension created by the dog and that by the handler.

By using these numbers, the software could compute what percent of the time the dog is pulling nearby and in the same direction as the track. And it could count maybe how many corrections you issued on-track. What would be useful would be a reliable measurement of how the dog is doing.

With some study of these results in real tracking situations, I believe the program could be set up to recommend training tips, based on the nature of the dog's movements over the track. It could recommend, say, more food drops, or exercises designed to improve starts or turns. This kind of feedback could make the program very useful to trackers, especially ones who have to train on their own.

