



Common Scents

September/October, 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Fall is here and hopefully the dry heat of summer is behind us. We are starting to get much needed rain, and the grass is starting to green up again. Hopefully, this will improve tracking conditions for us.

Well, the Certification Workshop is now behind us, and it was quite a successful day with nine dogs certifying. Our judge, Richard Knapp, was able to plot some challenging tracks for the teams to run. For more information about match please check out the article in this edition of the newsletter and the photos on our Website.

The next events are our TD test,

which is followed a week later by our TDX. I suspect that we will fill both tests this year given the number of newly certified dogs in the area. As you may recall, we are expanding our TD test to 9 tracks (plus possibly one alternate) and the TDX test to 6 tracks in order to maximize the number of tracks available to working club members. This will be the first Lenape tests where we are using the test worker option. Anna has told me we have already received (prior to the Certification Workshop) an entry. Given these size of these tests, we have a need for tracklayers and for hospitality at the TDX test. An e-mail requesting help will be out shortly.

Even though we were able to accommodate 10 dogs at this year's workshop, it was quite a challenge to get enough fields to cover the requests for tracks. Up until about 10 days before the workshop, I wasn't sure that we would have enough tracks to provide everyone with a track on Sunday. We were looking at other options such as running tracks on both Saturday and Sunday. Luckily we were able to get some additional county fields. Unfortunately, these



fields were being converted into a meadow (grasses, golden rod and aster that was waist high). One thing I plan to have the Board discuss is the possibility of moving the Certification Workshop to sometime in October when more farmers' fields might be available. On the down side, if someone did not pass at the workshop there might not be enough time to try again privately with a judge to make our test. If you have any comments about this, please let me or any other board member know. It will help us make the best decision for the Club.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Board Meeting

..... Thursday, October 28

TD Test & General Meeting

..... Sunday, November 7

..... Romaine Halupa

..... Lucinda Seeley

TDX Test & Board Meeting

..... Sunday, November 14

..... Susan Boyd

..... Stephanie Crawford

TED 2011

..... Saturday, April 9

WHAT'S INSIDE

Meet the Board	2
Tidbits.....	3
Tracklayer Certification.....	4
Certification Workshop	5
Toro Canadian TDX.....	7
Membership.....	7
Border Terrier Nationals.....	8
Rats Anyone	9

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

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

Board Members – Jim Bunderla – Gina DeAlmeida – Janet Doerer - Peg Forte – Joan Luckhardt

Editor - Pat Etchells, deerhill.tracking@gmail.com

At our last Board meeting we voted to hold a VST test sometime next year. The date and place have still not been identified. We are looking at

several different sites including Rutgers and Lehigh Universities and Brookdale College. Stay tuned - more to report later.

Until next time, keep on tracking

John

MEET THE BOARD



Hi. I'm Jim Bunderla.

I grew up in Bethlehem PA. I always wanted a dog – what little boy doesn't? But it was not to be. I finally got my first dog when I returned home from military service. I was interested in upland game hunting, and so I was planning on getting either an English Setter or a Golden Retriever. The Golden Retriever litter was born first, and Nugget became my first dog. So began my entrance into the dog world. Back then, I didn't know about obedience trials, or any other dog sport, but Nugget was such a quick learner, he did whatever I asked of him. Pretty soon I had him working on hand signals, though I didn't know that's what I was doing. I was just

having fun. I did start Nugget in hunting. I heard about and eventually joined Waterland Retriever club and pretty soon found the wonderful world of retriever hunt tests and the Golden Retriever working certificate. Nugget won a gun dog and placed in several of Waterland's gun dog tests.

My next dog, also a Golden Retriever, was from field lines - Panama Red. Panama was a high-energy dog and a wonderful field dog. He was steady to wing and to shot. We hunted together, worked hunts for others, earned a Junior Hunt title and the Golden Retriever WCX (working certificate excellent), and won many of Waterland's gun dog tests. I eventually became an AKC Retriever Hunt test judge, judging the first Master Hunter Invitational. I really enjoy judging the juniors as I like to see the novice handlers succeed with their dogs.

I met my wife Nancy while I was dropping dogs – eye drops that is – at an eye clinic. Through Nancy I learned of another dog sport – obedience. This was Nancy's passion with her Golden Jolly Roger. Nancy also was active in participating in U of P's animal blood donor program and so Panama became a blood donor (we continue to be active with this program). At this time, I also began the pursuit of a CD for Panama. This was an

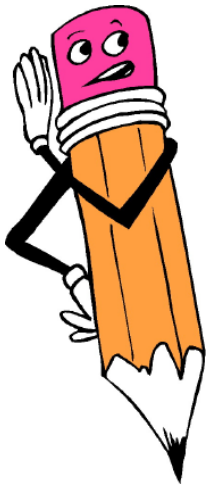
adventure to say the least as Panama had eyes only for hunting. The best obedience performance we had was the day Panama flushed a pheasant just prior to entering the ring.

Eventually the next Golden to enter our lives was Quincy. He was one of those dogs who just want to please. Earning his CD in three trials certainly has spoiled me.

We now have Trooper, who was the catalyst into the world of tracking. Trooper loves to sniff. Several dog fanciers encouraged us to try tracking and told of us Lenape's TED. We attended the TED and the follow-ups and discovered how much we had missed being out in the field with our dogs. Our next stroke of luck was when Lenape offered a 6-week beginner's tracking course. We have continued to track with some of our classmates.

By this time, we had a new pup Gus, and I started working with him in tracking. The rest is history. We joined Lenape where we have met many wonderful people, many who have been willing to help newcomers to the sport. I attended Lenape's tracklayer certification class and my first track was a TDX. It was not half as scary as I thought it would be. We are currently training for TDs.

TIDBITS



HOWARD CUSTER is showing his two recently rehomed Chessies in Rally Novice. At Valley Forge **Fred** earned his first leg with a 4th place and **Ginger** earned hers with a 2nd.

GINA DEALMEIDA took **Toro** on a road trip up to Canada to visit with some Rottweiler friends. While there, they entered in three CKC shows (breed ring). Toro won all three days and picked up seven of the ten points needed for a Canadian championship!! They went for fun to help fill class for a friend and wound up the big winner!! He went back to Canada a few weeks alter and got his Canadian TDX. (See Page 7).



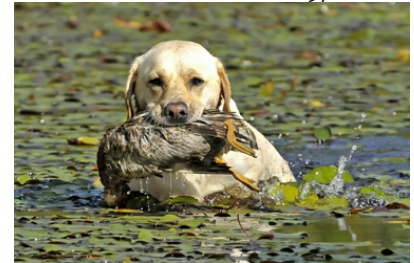
JANET DOERER's Malinois **Chase** got a 200 score in Open under Don Thornton at a Connecticut trial on September 24. At the same circuit, he also had four first places, two High in Trials and one High Combined.

Puppies! RO LAUBACH's Golden Retriever **Amber** had six babies on September 22 – five girls and one boy!



CHERYL MATTHEWS' Labrador Retriever **Grady** completed his AKC CDX on 8/29/10 with a 196.5 and a first place. He completed the title in his first 3 straight shows, 3 scores in the mid-190s, 3 placements – 2nd, 1st and 1st. He is now UCDX Rocky Creek's Making the Grade CDX TDX RE TD (ASCA) CD-H CD(ASCA) NTS. He also earned 5th place in Rally Excellent at the All-Star Tournament on August 6-8 in

York, PA. Grady's Rally team came in 4th place overall. Then in a completely different venue, he earned the first two legs of his NAHRA "SR" (Started Retriever) title on 9/18 and the first two legs on his AKC Junior Hunter on 9/26.



The MATTHEWS family welcomed their new addition, **Liam**, Kerrybrook's Lookout I'm A-Mazin' home from Ohio on 8/14/10 when he was 10 weeks of age. Liam is having fun in Competition Puppy class and hopes to get started in tracking soon. He recently won the AKC Family Dog photo contest for September with this picture.



LILLIAN PUCHALSKI's 9-month-old smooth Tri-color Collie **Anthony** finished his championship with 4 majors from the Bred-by class, handled by granddaughter Nickie. He is Ch Larlill Rock Paper Scissors.



TRACKLAYER CERTIFICATION

Lenape held its Tracklayer Certification on August 7, and we have nine new sets of stinky feet to call upon to lay track at upcoming events!

Congratulations to:

Peter Acerra
Wayne Crans
Howard Custer
Melanie Debberley
Deanna Fit
Gerry Harmer
Joyce Miller
Amy Novak
Andrae Wood



John explains how to use the “measured mile”

The day started out with a overview of what being a tracklayer entails. **John Etchells** led the discussion and had lots of help from seasoned tracklayers **Jim Bunderla, Alice Crans, Janet Doerer, Pat Etchells, Peg Forte** and **Nancy Grove**.

The participants then got to check their pace with the “measured mile” (actually 100 yards as defined by a tape measure!)



The groups see the field from different vantage points

We went out into the field in groups of three and the participants took turns plotting tracks, while discussing landmarks with their teammates.

After lunch, participants put a deposit on poker chips. Then they replaced all the flags on their tracks (except the first two) with the chips and came back inside to take an open book test on the tracking rules. Finally it was time to go back outside and retrieve all the poker chips and get their money back. All did!



When no dogs are going to be running them, many tracks can overlap!

(Pictures by Nancy Grove & Jim Bunderla)

CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP – SEPTEMBER 26

by Pat Etchells – Photos by Jim Bunderla

Land. It's always about the land. When we started planning the workshop, we were counting on our old standby fields – but as time got closer, the fields kept disappearing. The school field was not available because it was needed for parking for a car show. The farmer's fields off Sliker Road which we have used for TD and TDX had not yet been cut. Teetertown fields were not available because of a Civil War reenactment.

Fortunately Peg and I had been tracking over the summer with Chris Spiniello, who had come to TED years before and owned property with lots of hay fields. When Chris agreed to let us use her fields, we were out of the woods, but not home free because we still did not have the eight fields for the eight tracks we had offered. But Peg had contacts with the Hunterdon County Parks department and because we had a good track record, they were willing to work with us to find some land. Unfortunately on that weekend, the only available fields were mid-thigh goldenrod and aster or shoulder-high grasses. But we were desperate and got the necessary permits for whatever we could get!

On Friday afternoon, we picked up judge Richard Knapp from the airport and took a tour of the fields. He was really enthusiastic about how he would be able to use them for the certification workshop and for a future TDX test he will be judging for us.

As to the workshop itself. On Saturday morning, Richard Knapp went out with tracklayers **Jim Bunderla, John Etchells, Pat Losco, Joyce Miller and Judy Todd** and plotted tracks in Chris's fields. Since it was a workshop, not a sanctioned match, with all the conflicts between tracklayers and entrants, the fields were assigned to avoid the mass confusion that a draw would entail.

Saturday afternoon I met up with the tracklayers at the new Crystal Springs fields. The new field was large, so Richard decided to put in a track for my Toller *Diggs* in the back of the field and see how he handled it while John followed Richard's instructions and put in one of the two certification tracks that would go in the front. What we hadn't realized was that the cover in the back wasn't mid-thigh goldenrod –

it was waist to chest high. But *Diggs* showed that it was a trackable field, so Richard certified him and what would have been his track at Chris's was opened up. And everyone was very happy that a second certification track didn't need to be plotted in the goldenrod.

Sunday was a great tracking day on Chris's fields. Newly certified dogs are:

Alyson Fuge's Golden *Shumba* and *Lexi*.

Sandy Hambrecht's Doxie *Frankie*.

Nancy Grove's Golden *Gus*

Joan Luckhardt's Golden *Belle*

Lillian Puchalski's Smooth Collie *Dyna*

And in the Crystal Springs field:

Nancy Grove's Golden *Trooper*.

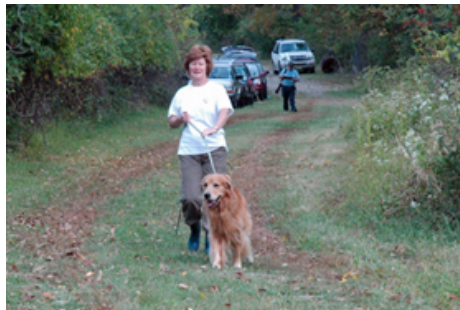
We then returned to the town hall and dined on a potluck lunch.



Lillian & Dyna – Sandy & Frankie – Nancy & Trooper – Richard Knapp & Gus – Pat & Diggs – Joan & Belle – Alyson & Shumba & Lexi



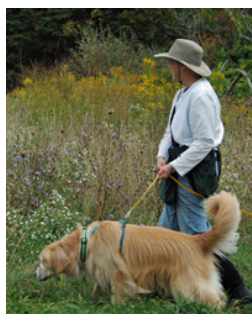
Anticipating a fun day



It's our turn



Going to the track



Are we tracking in that?



An ounce of prevention



A safe return for all



Trooper and Gus Grove



Belle Luckhardt



Shumba & Lexi Fuge



Frankie Hambrecht



Diggs Etchells



Dyna Puchalski

TORO AND HIS CANADIAN TDX

by Gina DeAlmeida



On September 9th, Toro and I packed up our truck and headed up to Canada for our next adventure in tracking. This was going to be our first attempt at a Canadian TDX, and we were a little nervous! As you may or may not know, the Canadian tracking tests DO NOT have a start article!! So we had been working on tracking for at least 200 to 400 yards without the help of an item with scent on it: not very motivational, but necessary. Also, the Canadians believe that a cross track can be put ANYWHERE on the track (including the first leg). So with all of this training, we set out for our TDX adventure.

The morning of the trial, September 10, 2010, we arrived ready for just about anything! The draw gave us track #4. It was a partly cloudy morning, beautiful fields, breezy and cool. As the other dogs headed out to each of their fields, the day got warmer. We wound up in front of our field at high noon - 12:20. After a cool drink of water, a slight harness adjustment and our little heart-to-heart chat that we always have at the start of each track, WE WERE OFF!!

Our track headed out parallel to the road. Within about 60 feet, Toro slowed to investigate

something towards the road. He moved only four feet away from the track, but this was not like him at all! I was immediately worried... but the little voice in my head was screaming, "Trust Your Dog!" After a very short time he proceeded forward and back to work in his methodical manner. He never looked back from that point on. After a right open turn and a right turn, there was a pause... He sits... First ARTICLE found!! It was a glove??? He was confused!!! Gloves are only at the end?? "Mom, what should I do?" I responded, "Go find some more!!!" So off he went, through a ditch, a left open turn, a right open turn, through a short wooded area, another right turn. A long walk up a hill proved productive when at the crest... there was a pause... He sits... 2nd ARTICLE found!! ANOTHER GLOVE??? He had the same confused look, but I had the same response... He pulled me forward to another right open turn, down a steep hill, through another ditch and forward for over 200 yards to the middle of an enormous field. And then, there was that wonderful Toro pause... His sit and the Last Glove was his!!! We did it in 18 minutes!! WOW!!

Unbeknownst to me, leather gloves are used for ALL the articles in Canada!! Then we also found out, the cross tracks were indeed on the first leg only 70 yards from the start (remember, no start article) and on the second leg (still no article for reference or rescenting). I will say that my boy proved to me that he can work out the toughest track put in front of him and I will always trust him to the end!!!! His ride home that evening was

filled with toys, treats and lots of praise from his humble mom.

I still look at the sport of tracking wide eyed as to how these beloved companions of ours will work so hard to please us, for sometimes the smallest amount of praise. I will always shower my boy with love for whatever his results are... He deserves it for all his hard work!!!

MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have submitted an application for membership. They will become members 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.



Deanna Fit
21 West
Gouverneur
Ave,

Rutherford, NJ 07070

(201) 214-6173

<deanna1002@aol.com>

Labrador Retriever - Apple

Sponsors - Peter Acerra,

Andrae Wood

Attended - Picnic, Tracklayer
Certification

Christine Spiniello
4 Echo Lane
Glen Gardner, NJ
08826

(908) 537-7746

<raisinrom@gmail.com>

Doberman Pinscher - Bogey

Sponsors - Pat Etchells, Peg

Forte

Attended - TED '93,

Certification Match



TRACKING AT THE BORDER TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

By Judy Todd

The Border Terrier Club of America held its National Specialty at the Foothills Equestrian Nature Center in Tryon, North Carolina from May 11 to 16, 2010.

Months earlier I had answered a call for volunteers to put on the test. I originally volunteered to lay track. I had taken the LTC tracklayer certification class in August of 2009, and I had actually put my training to work by laying a cross track on a TDX track for LTC that fall. As we discussed the plans and procedures involved in putting on a Tracking Test, it occurred to me that I had just about as much experience as the others who had volunteered. I made the suggestion that the Chairperson make contact with the local tracking club and ask to use as much of their equipment as we needed. This turned out to be a good idea. One of the members of the local club helped us not only by serving as tracklayer but she also brought several sets of club flags with her. I also had remarked that one of the most important people for the smooth running of the test would be the Chief Tracklayer. This should have been one of the more experienced tracking handlers. In this test, however, the Chief Tracklayer had never been to a Tracking Test at all. Fortunately she had very good organizational skills and, with the help of the judges, things went smoothly.

A decision that was made fairly early on was to offer the tracks to all breeds if there were not enough Border Terriers to run the tracks. This turned out to be the case. Four TD tracks were filled with two Golden Retrievers, one Basset

Hound and one Doberman Pinscher. The two TDX tracks did have Border Terrier entries. The judges tried to plot an alternate TDX track as there were two alternates present, but it turned out that because of the site land use restraints, only the two offered tracks were plotted. I was assigned to lay the first of the TDX tracks.

The Tracking Test was scheduled to run on Tuesday. I took the previous weekend to travel from New Jersey to the far hills and mountains of North Carolina. I was ready on Monday morning at 8:00 a.m. for the judges to start. I waited in the central office of the facility for them to finish with the TD tracks. Both TDX tracks would be plotted and laid on the eventing cross country course. I followed the judges as they plotted the track, frantically marking my sheet with my map. I walked it two more times that day, improving my map each time. Before leaving for the day, the judges reminded me that when I drove onto the site on Tuesday I should roll the windows up on my car and stay in the building until it was time to lay the track. Part of my track happened to cross the access road to the facility office building and then it would pass within 40 yards of the same building.

I had no trouble laying my TDX track on Tuesday morning. I think that I could walk it even now. The TD tracks went well with three of the four dogs turning in passing

performances. Now it was time for TDX. I was carefully driven down the access road (across the track with windows up in the car) to the start of my track. Unfortunately the dog lost the track after the first turn and was not able to continue. This same handler also had the second TDX dog, so he elected to start his other dog and not have me guide him on the rest of my TDX track. There was another tracklayer who asked if she could use the next section of the unused and aged TDX track for her dog. After getting an OK from the judges, she and I started with her dog at the next turn and he tracked to the first article. I finished up my track alone and collected the remaining articles.

The TDX handler's other dog did not qualify on her track either. It was a long trip from Colorado for two NQs.

There were many firsts for this test. It was my first time laying a TDX track. It was the Chief Tracklayer's first tracking test. It was the first time that I had served on a Tracking Test Committee. And it was the first time that the BTCA National was held at this site.

The site was great; the headquarters building was high on a hill overlooking most of the eventing cross country course so that spectators had a bird's eye view of three or four of the tracks.

I had a great time; I learned a lot about tracking and laying track and what to train for in tracking. I know that it helped me be a better handler. I'd be glad to do it again.



RATS, ANYONE?

By Judy Todd

Since 2000 some friends and I have been hunting rats in New York City at night in lower Manhattan, not too far from City Hall. It started out with us hunting in Liberty State Park, directly west of the tip of the island of Manhattan across Upper New York Bay. The Hunt Master has a relationship with the park rangers and he was invited to come try to decrease the population of rats in the park. The rest of us were there at his invitation. For several months we had irregular excursions into the park at night after it had been closed to the public. Believe me, the views eastward across the Bay at night were stunning, making it worth the trip even if we found no quarry.

This was different than our usual way of hunting with our Earthdogs. (Small terriers and Dachshunds with a breed history and heritage of entering the dens of earth-dwelling animals in order to eradicate or cause to be eradicated the fox, badger or otter that lay within.) In this country, those who do earthwork with these dogs are usually after groundhogs at the request of a vegetable farmer or a horse facility. Occasionally we also find opossum or raccoon or fox as well. In brief, the dog finds and indicates an active den, enters the den and locates the quarry; the dog then either acts in such a way as to cause the quarry to 'bolt' or leave the den or brings the quarry to bay underground and, by the dog's continued baying, the handlers can locate and dig down to the dog in order to remove the quarry.

While we still hunt our dogs in this way, it's a lot less work and more fun to go ratting. There is

no particular skill or courage needed from the dogs for this activity, and it is just coincidence that the dogs that we have with us are Earthdogs.

This is a story about a recent hunt in NYC. We hunt on Friday nights starting in Theatre Alley off Ann Street, then we move to Ryder and Eden Alleys near the corner of Fulton and Gold Streets. There are very few true alleys left in New York, but they are great for our purposes and, as you will see, for the street people of the area.

April 30, 2010 Friday Night Hunting

Once again I found myself driving to Tenafly on a Friday night in anticipation of a night of hunting rats in lower Manhattan. After a nice chat and dinner with Cheryl and Richard, he and I loaded up our dogs and headed out. Lizzie and Dudley were in the dog boxes in the back of the Land Rover, and Merlin was in the back seat. We stopped briefly to pick up a friend of his, another Cheryl, and continued on our way. Cheryl did not bring any dog with her. Her job tonight would be to keep an eye on Dudley so that Richard could concentrate on Lizzie. I had Merlin with me in hopes that he would finally learn to make a quick, clean kill when he catches a rat.



As we drove south along the West Side Highway from the GW Bridge, we were treated first to a concert of street corner rhythm sounds next to the Meat Market and then a glimpse into the glamour of the Tribeca Film Festival, red carpet and velvet ropes and all.

Traffic was very heavy between the West Side Highway and Theatre Alley. As a result, we were late and Susan and Tanner were waiting for us at the south end of the alley. Connie and Jeff had already taken up filming positions deep in the alley. Susan had Tanner (Border Terrier), Richard had Lizzie and Dudley (Norfolk Terriers), Connie had Astro (mix) and I had Merlin (Border Terrier).

Unlike a few weeks ago, there were occupants of the alley this night. I counted at least 3 people sleeping or attempting to sleep while this activity was going on around them. The dogs were released at the head of the alley. The first rat of the night happened to be Merlin's. We handlers had just reached the stacked trash bags in the middle of the alley when I heard a rat scream behind us. When I turned, Merlin had a rat in his jaws and, having finally learned his lesson, he actually gave it a good hard shake! Done!

We had just gotten started searching the trash bags when Trudy and Demi (Dachshund, SW) arrived for the fun. We continued hunting through the trash bags. For some reason, tonight each of the dogs had his/her own moment in the spotlight. Merlin's was a first rat and killing shake. Dudley found his very own rat for the first time. Demi was



becoming accomplished at marking where the rats were and catching them as they ran. Lizzie was going faster and faster through the pile of bags. Tanner, usually the silent but deadly one, was getting down and dirty and vocal. Astro? He seemed happy just to be with us.

At the end of the row of trash bags, we had accounted for seven rats. Not bad for the first time through. Somewhere in there Merlin managed to spring a leak but after we stopped hunting, it seemed to stop.

Now we had checked all the trash bags and the few rat bait boxes that the dogs had marked. We leashed up the dogs and were off to Ryder and Eden Alleys. We turned down Gold Street from Fulton Street. We got excited when we saw two motorcycles parked against the apartment building on Gold Street, but there were no rats hiding under the motorcycle covers tonight.

It was at about this time that I noticed that Merlin had started bleeding again. I put him up onto a large concrete planter so that I could see what was going on. It took a few minutes of washing his face off before I found a laceration on his upper lip. I was able to put direct pressure on the laceration using the gauze sponge squares

that I carry with me in my fanny pack. After several minutes the bleeding had stopped, but I didn't want him to do any more hunting this night.

Meanwhile, across Gold Street in a fenced and locked car lot, Tanner made the best catch of the night. Susan sent him inside the inaccessible lot. Finding a trash bag with a rat in it, he fished it out chased it down and killed it. Then he proudly brought it out of the lot so that we could give him his "atta-boy's".

Trudy reported that access to the adjoining Ryder Alley was blocked by a truck. We returned to Theatre Alley to see if we could better our record (eight) of a few weeks ago but it was not to be tonight.

We took some photos and left a six-pack of beer for the occupants of the alley then we all dispersed homeward.

Merlin had not had any more bleeding as of the next morning. He has two weeks for the scab to heal up and fall off before he is back in the show ring at the BTCOA National where he is entered in the Working Dog class. {Merlin placed in the class, no scab or scar.}

Jeff's record of the night's activities showed up on a NYC local affiliate television station website. The station was running a story about the problem of rats in New York City (!) and a link to the video of the group of us hunting in the alleys was posted on their news website. Our 10 minutes of fame.

