



# Common Scents

January/February, 2011

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As this newsletter is put to press, we have made it halfway through winter, and what a winter it has been! The days are getting noticeably longer and

hopefully soon the air will be warming up and eventually melting the snow. Sounds like before long it will be time for our thoughts to turn to tracking on grass as Spring arrives.



This year we will be holding both our Nominations and Annual Meetings at the Hunterdon ARC Community Center in Clinton NJ. Big thanks to Gina DeAlmeda who volunteered to give a presentation at the Nominations Meeting on the mechanics of entering and showing at Canadian tracking tests. This should be a very informative program and something of interest to all of us who might like to obtain that Canadian TD/TDX.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Nominations Meeting &amp; BOD Meeting</b> .....	Saturday, February 12
<b>Annual Meeting</b> .....	Saturday, March 27
<b>TED &amp; BOD Meeting</b> .....	Saturday, April 9
<b>TED Follow-ups</b>	
..... Saturday, April 23	
..... Saturday, May 14	
..... Sunday, May 22	
<b>Picnic, General &amp; BOD Meetings</b> ..	Saturday, June 25
<b>Tracklayer Certification &amp; BOD Meeting</b> .....	Saturday, August 6
<b>VST Test &amp; Meeting</b> .....	TBD August/ September
<b>Certification Workshop &amp; Meeting</b> .....	Sunday, October 9
<b>TD Test &amp; Meeting</b> .....	Sunday, November 6
<b>TDX Test &amp; BOD Meeting</b>	Sunday, November 13

The Board met recently and scheduled a full slate of activities for the Club this year. Please note the events scheduled later in this newsletter. Again, we are planning three Tests (TD, TDX, and VST) and a Certification Workshop this fall. As you may know, the Tests and Certification Workshop are financial loss leaders for the Club, but they are what we do. We look to our Tracking Experience Day (TED) to offset these losses. To make TED a success we need your help. We plan to offer at least 24 slots this year, with the option of increasing that to 30 if we have the people power to make it happen. The difference between 24 and 30 can impact the number of events we can put on each year. So when this year's chairperson contacts you, please be sure to volunteer to help. This year we are returning to Camp Tecumseh in Pittstown.

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

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

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

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

This year the Board voted to move the Certification Workshop from late September to mid October in the hope that more fields would be available. Last year we were able to certify 9 teams and offer 9 TD tracks and 6 TDX tracks. These numbers of tracks enabled us to maximize the number of slots we could hold for working members. Unfortunately this year some of the fields we had in 2010 will not be available for

the TD Test and Certification Workshop. One of the farmers has told us he is rotating corn into his fields. In addition, the Hunterdon County Park Commission is planning to plant warm season grasses at Tettertown and will not be cutting these fields. This knocks out at least five TD-length tracks. The Board is looking at various options including seeing if we can get access to additional fields at

Solberg Airport again. If you know of any additional available fields we can use for the test, please let me know. We can never have too many fields to choose from!

Hope to see you at the upcoming Nominations and Annual Meetings! Until next time, keep on tracking.

*John*

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## MEET THE EARLY MEMBERS

Joanne MacKinnon – Joined 1975



Where to begin?

Many, many years ago Peg Forte and I were attending a dog obedience class: Peg with Rajah, a German Shepherd, and myself with Reb, a Golden Retriever. As hard as it is to believe today, at that time the highest performance degree you could earn was a UDT (Utility Dog Tracker). Peg and I thought that was a reasonable goal, but we would have to find out more about this tracking. So equipped with books on tracking and very large tomato

stakes, we headed into the field. We soon realized that we needed more guidance, so we went to a tracking test to see just what it was about. Along the way we met up with other people who were interested in this tracking thing, so we all got together and decided to try and form a dog club devoted just to tracking – something unheard of in those days. The rest is history.

Right from the beginning Ralph and I have been completely involved in everything pertaining to Lenape Tracking Club. Over the years we have met many wonderful people. There is such camaraderie among tracking people.

We remained active in the club right up until our move to New Hampshire in 2002. Along the way I managed to put TDs on five Golden Retrievers, three passing at Lenape tests. While in New Jersey we were also active in Lenape Golden Retriever Club and Waterland Retriever Club. Our Golden Retrievers earned WCs, WCXs, JHs and obedience titles.

After a short time in New Hampshire, we moved again, this time to Waterford, Maine. We remain very active, but now it is with Church and community activities instead of dog activities. We currently share our home with Chase TD, an 11-year-old Golden, and Ruth, a 6-year-old Cairn Terrier.

Just as an aside, our oldest daughter has taken up the leash so to speak. She and her husband Tod live in Santa Barbara, CA, with three Golden Retrievers. Two are rescues and one was purchased from a breeder. Susan is very involved in agility, obedience, rally, flyball, conformation, and of course tracking. She even admits that she has become her Mother!

Back in the beginning, I managed to put a Utility degree on Reb and Peg put a Tracking degree on Rajah, so between the two of us, we accomplished a UDT!

## NOMINATIONS MEETING

The Nominations Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 12, starting at 12:30 p.m.

Gina DeAlmeida will give a brief talk on what is involved in tracking in Canada.

The menu will be soup, bread and lots of desserts. Janet Doerer will coordinate the meal. <jdoerer@gmail.com>

The meeting will be held in the Community Room of The Arc of Hunterdon County  
1465 State Route 31 S,  
Annandale, NJ 08801

Traveling West on Route 78 take Exit 17 and follow the signs to Route 31 South. At the first light, turn right onto County Club Drive. Take the first left, drive past the Ingersoll Rand building. The Community Room is located on the 5th floor of the next building.

Enter through the set of double doors, take the elevator to the 5th floor. Turn right and follow the hallway. As the hallway goes to the left, you will see the Community Room on your right.

Traveling East on Route 78, take Exit 17 to Route 31 South and follow the directions above.

Traveling North on Route 31, after the light at North Hunterdon High School, keep to the right, take the jug handle to County Club Drive and follow the directions above.

## TIDBITS

PAT ETCHELLS' Toller **Diggs** got his first CDX leg at Princeton with a second place. He then took a first place in Open A at the Lehigh Canine Learning Experience match.



PEG FORTE's Flat-Coated Retriever **Tex** (Light-foot's Texas Two Step) earned his ASCA CD over the December 11-12 weekend, placing fourth in two of the trials. This was the third CD Tex earned in 2010: UKC CD in May and AKC CD in June. He also earned two ASCA Rally 1 legs.



BARBARA GREENFIELD's husband Len passed away on November 20 after a long illness and many months in a nursing home. Our sympathy goes out to her.

LILLIAN PUCHALSKI reports that since **Dyna** ( Larlill Tirnanog Wild One CD, RE,TD) would be the demo dog when they teach the BN "Beginners Novice" class at Pocono K-9 Kollege, they figured they should get out there and find out what it is all about. They went to the trial at Princeton and learned a lot. She took a first place. So hopefully they are ready to go. "Love that girl."



Georgia von Wittenhaus  
SchB, TR1, TD  
November 22, 1999 - December  
26, 2010  
Peaceful Journey my sweet  
Georgia,  
You now have wings!  
Diane Thompson



## TROOPER, TD

By Nancy Grove



On Sunday 12 Dec 2010, Farm Fresh Semper Fi (Trooper) earned his AKC Tracking Dog title. York County Dog Training Club in Gettysburg, PA, hosted the test. Judges were Stephanie Crawford and Alan Strauss. Conditions: Rain, overcast/foggy, winds 5-10 mph, temperature low/mid-40's, ground cover 4-6 inches with some taller patches. Oh goody, a soggy cold damp day to be out tracking – Trooper's kind of weather.

When we arrived at the test site all I could think of was 'oh the weather outside was frightful'.

At the handlers' meeting, the last thing the judge said to the handlers was to remember to breathe when we are on the track (yeah, right). I drew Track 5 out of eight tracks plus an alternate track. The first leg of our track ran parallel to a creek that Trooper spotted on his way to the start flag. Fortunately, he did not pay attention to that – maybe because he was already wet. At the start flag, he checked out the article that the tracklayer

tied to the flag so it would not blow away. No problem, Trooper tugged until the article came free. Off we go. Halfway to the second flag, Trooper made a small circle, checked out the gallery and went on his merry way to the second flag, which he indicated. Then we were off down the leg. Along the way, a heron took off from the creek and flew a few feet along the creek bed. Trooper paid no attention – what a good man! At the end of a long first leg, Trooper paused to check out which direction the turn went. After careful deliberation – tug, tug to the right! Off we go. No whistle – yeah we at least made the first turn! A short leg to the second turn and again investigates the direction – tug, tug to the right. Off we go again. A shorter leg to the third turn, investigate the direction and this time a tug, tug to the left. Off we go to the fourth turn. After checking the direction and with a tug, tug to the right we were off again. Still no whistle - whew! Then we had a long leg that was heading towards the road. Trooper paused slightly to check something in a tuft of grass, but before I could check it out, he was off again. Another 10 feet and Trooper

stood and locked onto a tuft of grass – the glove! – followed by a well deserved victory roll. Wahoo Trooper!

Oh, the weather outside was frightful, but the TD test was so delightful! Down the track Trooper did go, oh did he go, did he go, did he go!

Thanks to:

- Lenape club members for their enthusiasm at the TED we attended where we got bitten by the tracking bug.
- Joan Luckhardt and Diane Thompson, the instructors at Lenape's Beginners Tracking class who firmly implanted the tracking bug – thanks "Teach".
- 'Coach' Teryl for your patience in working with us especially through new situations.
- Our tracking buddies, Judy, Sandy, Joyce, Pat and John – thanks for all your help and encouragement along the way.
- Trooper's biggest fan and supporter – Jim Bunderla. Huge thanks – we could not have done it without you by our side – Hugs!



## JACARANDA GOLDENS' TDS

Alyson Fuge

Recently, following in the footsteps of their TD mother Abby, her son Shumba – Ch Jacaranda's Lion's Share and his half sister Lexi - Jacaranda's Boy Crazy both passed their TD tests.



Lexi found her glove at Gloucester Country KC Tracking Test on November 28, 2010. The day was sunny and cool with moderate wind. When the wind was blowing across the track she was busy working back and forth to find the track and when the wind was with the track she was dead on it. The judges said they had never seen one work so hard.



York County DTC test in PA on Dec. 12, 2010 was freezing cold and pouring with rain. In this picture (below) you will see us with Bev Olsen and Lenape's Nancy Grove along with Romaine Halupa - Lenape's TD judge. We took shelter in the barn wrapped in ski gear for this photo. Needless to say the dogs had no problem dealing with the weather. There were moments at the start article when Shumba decided he needed to pee on every bush and eat the grass before I picked up the start article shoved it at his nose said "where's that glove" and then he switched on and finished the job.

## BOOKS WORTH READING

by Peg Forte

For several years I have been reading (listening) to books on tapes and now on CDs as I drive around the US to dog events. In the past few months the books below kept me entertained.

**Scent of the Missing: Love and Partnership with a Search and Rescue Dog**  
by Susannah Charleson

This non-fiction book includes a plethora of information about scent and training dogs for search and rescue.



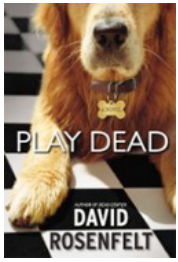
After the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, Susannah Charleson was so impressed by the newspaper photo of an exhausted handler and his search and rescue dog that she decided to train a dog of her own. A dog lover and pilot with search experience herself, Charleson got Puzzle, a strong, bright Golden Retriever, who, from the start, exhibited a unique aptitude for search and rescue work. But the puppy's willfulness challenged even Susannah, who had raised dogs for years. *Scent of the Missing* is the story of Susannah's and Puzzle's adventures and the complex relationship they forge as they help in the pursuit and recovery of people who have fallen prey to crime, misadventure, or catastrophe: a missing teenager, an Alzheimer's patient wandering in the cold, the debris of the space shuttle Columbia disaster.

Visit  
[www.scentofthemissing.com](http://www.scentofthemissing.com)  
for more interesting information.



## Play Dead

by David Rosenfelt



Rosenfelt has written several books that take place in New Jersey and include dogs. This mystery seems impossible to solve, but solve it Andy Carpenter does.

Few can rival attorney Andy Carpenter's affection for Golden Retrievers, especially his own beloved Tara. After he astonishes a New Jersey courtroom by successfully appealing another Golden's death sentence, Andy discovers that this gentle dog is a key witness to a murder that took place five years before. Andy pushes the boundaries of the law even further as he struggles to free an innocent man by convincing an incredulous jury to take canine testimony seriously. It will take all the tricks Andy's fertile mind can conceive to get to the bottom of a remarkable chain of impersonations and murder, and save a dog's life - and his own - in the process.

## New Tricks

by David Rosenfelt

This novel has many twists and turns - great read for fun.

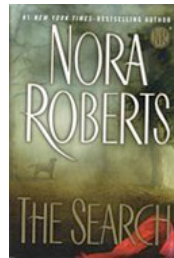


Andy Carpenter gains possession of an adorable Bernese puppy whose owner was brutally murdered. Few can rival Andy's affection for dogs, and he will do whatever it takes to insure that this little pup doesn't fall into the wrong hands. However, his playful

new friend is valued by several people, many of whom are willing to resort to violence to get what they want. It will take more than Andy's usual courtroom theatrics to save this dog, including a little help from his beloved Golden Retriever, Tara. Andy soon discovers that anyone around him is in danger, including his long-time girlfriend Laurie, and he will have to muster all of his wits to save those he holds most dear.

## Search

by Nora Roberts



This novel includes information about search and rescue training and scent and the nightmare of Fiona's past

keeps you on the edge of your seat.

To most people, Fiona Bristow seems to have an idyllic life - a quaint house on an island off Seattle's coast, a thriving dog-training school, and a challenging volunteer job performing canine search and rescues. Not to mention her three intensely loyal Labs. But Fiona got to this point by surviving a nightmare. Several years ago, Fiona was the only survivor of the Red Scarf serial killer, who shot and killed Fiona's cop fiancé and his K-9 partner.

On Orcas Island, Fiona found the peace and solitude she needed to rebuild her life. But all that changes on the day Simon Doyle barrels up her drive, desperate for her help. He's the reluctant owner of an out-of-control puppy, foisted upon him by his mother. Jaws has eaten through Simon's house, and he's at his wit's end. To Fiona, Jaws is nothing she

can't handle. Simon, however, is another matter. A newcomer to Orcas, he's a rugged and intensely private artist, known for the exquisite furniture he creates from wood. Simon never wanted a puppy and he most definitely doesn't want a woman. Besides, the lanky redhead is not his type. But tell that to his hormones.

As Fiona embarks on training Jaws, and Simon begins to appreciate both dog and trainer, the past tears back into Fiona's life. A copycat killer has emerged out of the shadows, a man whose bloodlust has been channeled by a master with one motive: to reclaim the woman who slipped out of his hands

Footnote: When I started listening to books while driving my source was the local library but their selection was not very large. Then a friend introduced me to Booksfree.com where you can sign up for a modest monthly amount, have a huge selection, and your own personal Queue of books. You can pick the order in which they send you the books. My plan gives me two books at a time, so when I'm finished one, and I have one to listen too while the other one goes back.

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## ASCA TRACKING TEST

Date: Friday April, 1

Location: Hopewind Farms in Sparta, NJ

Judges: Deb St Jacques and Lisa Pattison

The test is open to Australian Shepherds first, then other breeds including mixes. AKC certifications are okay. Dog must have an ASCA tracking number to enter - this can be gotten on-line at the ASCA website.