



Common Scents

May/June, 2011

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Since I last wrote, we completed another successful TED. This year we had 15 people attend TED, which is down from previous years. Nevertheless, the work to put it on is still the same. I would like to thank all the club members who worked hard to make it another Lenape success. A special thanks to Nancy Grove, who stepped up to the plate this year and coordinated the entire event including the three follow-ups. Based up the feedback and observations from the follow-ups, TED was well received, and we have a new group people who have caught the tracking bug.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Picnic, General & BOD

Meetings.. Saturday, June 25

Tracklayer Certification & BOD Meeting

Saturday, August 6

VST Test & Meeting

Sunday, August 21

Certification Workshop &

Meeting.....Sunday, October 9

TD Test & Meeting.....

Sunday, November 6

TDX Test & BOD Meeting

..... Sunday, November 13

Check out the pictures on the website.

Our next event will be our annual picnic. We are holding it at our house again this year and looking forward to it. Please see the flyer enclosed with this newsletter.

Our Tracklayer Certification is scheduled for August 6th. If you have not certified as a tracklayer, please come out and do so. If you would like to refresh your tracklaying skills, you can come out and go through the class again. If you haven't been tracking for a while and think that you may want to get back into it, refreshing your skills and then coming out to lay track at a match or test is a good way to ease back in. Since this is a "non-dog" event, if enough people want to move the date up or back a week, let me know. We will work to get as many folks out to certify as possible.

Just a tracking thought. Now that we are getting into the lazy, crazy days of summer, and don't necessarily have the time or energy to get out to run a full length track, remember that



you can break the track down into its component parts - turns, starts, articles, obstacles - and work on them independently. This will help keep both you and your dog fresh and ready for when the weather turns cooler and thoughts turn toward certifying at our Match in October or our tests in August or November.

Until next time, keep on tracking.

John

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President – John Etchells * **Vice President** – Peg Forte

Secretary – Janet Doerer * **Treasurer** – Pat Etchells

Board Members Anna Burbank– Jim Bunderla – Gina DeAlmeida – Rose Laubach – Joan Luckhardt

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

IN MEMORY OF FLORENCE MIKTUS

On April 27, 2011, Florence Miktus, aged 89, one of Lenape's honorary members, crossed the Rainbow Bridge to join her husband John - Mickey - and their German Shepherd dogs, Kaiser, Gypsy, Ebony and Ruby.

Mickey and Florence were very active in dog activities in the central Jersey area. In the late 60s and 70s the dog show matches were not the Show-and-Go variety popular today. Matches were all-day affairs that you entered in the morning and waited around to show your dog later in the day. This gave people plenty of time to visit, talk and learn from each other. Florence and Mickey talked with Joanne MacKinnon and Peg Forte and heard about the fun they were having training their dogs to track. They decided that they wanted to try tracking with their German Shepherds.

The description of the Miktus Award on the Lenape website, will tell you just how far Mickey went with training his dogs to track.

This award is given in memory of John Miktus, a member of the club from its first year. John earned seven tracking titles with his two German Shepherd dogs, Ebony and Gypsy. John and Ebony were introduced to tracking at the LTC's first match held in the fall of 1975.

Ebony earned a Canadian TD on 4/17/77, an American TD on 5/8/77 and a Canadian TDX on 10/16/77. (During Ebony's working lifetime the AKC did not offer the TDX title).

Gypsy earned her Canadian TD on 9/23/78, her American TD



on the following day, 9/24/78. On 5/3/81 she earned her American TDX and on 10/17/82 she added a Canadian TDX to her titles.

Both the dogs had their American UD titles. Ebony also had a Canadian UD. Gypsy also earned her Canadian CDX.

An example of Mickey's dedication to tracking happened at one of our early matches held at Jane Henderson's farm near Stockton. The rain was pouring down as Mickey and his dog were on the track. We could hardly see them from our van with the windshield wipers going full speed ... but track they did and they successfully completed their track despite the downpour.

Florence never handled the dogs on a track or in an obedience ring but she was always there, encouraging Mickey and everyone else. Florence was very proud of her Mickey's accomplishments.

Mickey and Florence were early members of Lenape and were also active in the

Somerset Hills Obedience Club. Florence continued to help both clubs for many years. She also volunteered at St. Hubert's Giralda Animal Shelter.

Florence loved to square dance and belonged to the Flutters square dancing group of Hunterdon County. She continued this activity into her 70s.

Joanne recalls that Florence always called her Mrs. MacKinnon.

Her last German Shepherd was a career change bitch she adopted from The Seeing Eye®. Ruby suffered from separation anxiety syndrome, which is why she did not become a guide dog. While her anxiety caused some problems for Florence, she never gave up on Ruby.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Popcorn Park Zoo, PO Box 43, Forked River, NJ 08731

Memories shared by Peg Forte & Joanne MacKinnon



MEET THE BOARD

Rose Mary Laubach

Thirty years ago I received a little Siberian Husky puppy as a birthday present. Little did I know that "Lady" would turn my life around leading to great life adventures. As the years went on I bred Siberians and showed in conformation. We also dabbled in sled dog racing. Of interest, my last home bred Siberian Am/Can CH Arctic Song's Muzakal Magic, CGC, TDI (retired) will be 16 years old on May 11.

The best part to the dog adventures was my involvement with therapy dog programs. I have been an evaluator for 27 years, currently with Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs, working with several school systems doing reading programs with special needs children. I was also involved at 9/11 visiting with two of my therapy dogs who are in the NJVMA Hall of Fame.

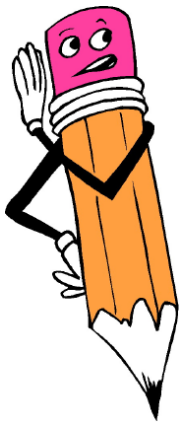
Twenty years ago, my husband and I acquired our first Golden Retriever, Annie, who was 21 months old. She introduced me to the world of tracking and taught me so much. That led to the "potato chip" syndrome - "you can't stop with one". Megan was my

first dog I titled with a TD - and I was hooked!! Along came Willie - titled by George and most recently, my home bred special girl Hope, new TDX.

But life is not all tracking. In addition, we compete in conformation, obedience, agility, and rally, having titled multiple dogs in all areas. Our latest adventure is freestyle dancing.

I have held many leadership positions in several clubs including president, vice president, and board of director positions. It would be difficult to imagine how different life would be if I had not received that cute little puppy so many years ago.

TIDBITS



JANET DOERER reports on her recent trip with **Chase**. They left NJ on March 29 and were gone for a little over 2 months. They started this trip with 70 OTCh points and are coming home

with 97. They started with the AKC National Agility Championships in Lexington, VA. Chase qualified 3 out of the 4 runs. From there they went to Decorah, IA for an obedience show. Chase showed 3 days and was able to get 1 OTCh point and finished his UDX3. From there they went to Valparaiso, IN for the

Belgian Malinois Specialty. Chase started the week with tracking, passing for the 4th time his TD track. Then they did some agility, getting another double Q and a few MACH points. In obedience Chase got 1st in Utility, 2nd in Open, High Combined and 4 more OTCh points. He also finished his Rally Novice title. On to Columbus, OH, where they picked up another 18 OM points. From there they went to Fort Wayne, IN where Chase picked up another 13 OTCh points, winning 3 run offs for

placements. From there they went to Rock Island, IL, where they picked up another 5 points and his OM 3 Title. The last show was in Alexander, NY, where Chase picked up another 4 OTCh points.



HOWARD CUSTER's rescue Chessie **Ginger** finished her CD at Lower Bucks Dog Training Club. She can now be known as Custer's Commander Ginger, CD, RN, CTC, Therapy Dog.



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever **Diggs** ETCHELLS earned his second CDX leg at Bucks County KC with a third place. He finished his title at Allentown Dog Training Club with a second.

PEG FORTE's Flat-Coated Retriever **Wyn** picked up another point at Staten Island KC and was BOS. **Tex** received his APDT Rally 1 certificate and a second certificate for Award of Excellence. His scores were 208, 206 and 199.



At his second show at 10.5 months of age, JANET KELLY's Bloodhound **Steeler** (Wynbrook Apogee Ironclad Oath) went BOB over specials for 4 points. Two months earlier, he had passed the Bloodhound Club Mantrailer trial for his MT title.



Hope, ROSE LAUBACH's Golden Retriever, has been on a roll racking up titles. From April 1 to May 8 she earned an ASCA TD, AKC CD with three placements in four legs, AKC RN with placements including a 100 and first place, AKC TDX, two ASCA Rally Novice legs, two AKC Rally Adv. legs with a first and second place. Rose is very proud of her home-bred girl appropriately named "Goldenways Thanks for the Memories".

CHUCK SHULTZ reports that on April 2, his chocolate Labrador Retriever, **Retro**, earned two legs toward her ASCA Rally Novice title with scores of 196 and 198/3rd place. Not to be outdone, her Grandmother, yellow Lab **P.T.**, earned two legs toward the same title with scores of 198/3rd place and 199/1st place. On April 30th and May 1st Retro earned her APDT RL1 title. In APDT rally, the top score is 210 (there's a bonus sign at the end). Retro earned scores of 205 (3rd place), 206 (2nd place) and a perfect 210. The 210 was only good enough for 2nd place, as the run-off was not perfect. Getting the title with 3 scores above 190 earned her an "Award of Excellence".

Border Terrier **Merlin** and JUDY TODD went to Ontario, Canada in May, where he qualified for his second CKC Junior Earthdog, which earned him the title. The next weekend he earned his Certificate of Gameness at the North American Teckle Club den trial in New Jersey. He is now Ch. Greywoode Merlin JE,RA,OA,NAJ; CKC RN,JE; TDI; CG

MARILYN TRAURIG's Curly Coated Retriever **Sunny** (Ch Keystone Sunstone Star CGC TDI RN CD BN) earned his Beginner Novice title at Lower Bucks Training Club. Also **Nora** UKC/CH CH Landaracurl Royal Crown Princess CGC BN) won her first Rally Novice leg with a second place finish and a score of 99!

TED 2011

TED 1011 is now behind us. Although we didn't fill, we had a number of very enthusiastic trackers, and we expect to see a number of them at a tracking test in the not-too-distant future.

Nancy Grove did a yeoman's job of organizing the event, and everything went smoothly. **Jim Bunderla** kept busy documenting the event with his camera, and

Pat Etchells prepared the printed materials.

Melanie Dubberly put on a yummy and an eye-pleasing spread for breakfast and **Judy Todd** made sure that there was lots of lunch to keep the hunger pangs away.

Speakers were **John Etchells, Rose Mary Laubach, Peg Forte and Gina DeAlmeida.**

Additional members working at the stations, in the field and wherever needed were:

Anna Burbank, Cris Courduff, Alyson Fuge, Sandy Hambrecht, Joan Luckhardt, Chris Macchione, Chuck Shultz and Martha Windisch.

Thanks to all!

Photos by Jim Bunderla & Nancy Grove



Melanie



John



Peg



Gina



Nancy



RoseMary



Judy



Chuck



Anna

THE FOLLOW-UPS



Follow-up 1 – Rain & Fog – Great Tracking Conditions!



Follow-up 2 – Lead Handling in the field – while electronics recyclers in the parking lot wondered what was going on.



Follow-up 3 – More cold, mud and fog

Yet despite these hardships, all the follow-up participants have put in membership applications!

Thanks to member helpers:

Follow-up 1 – Jim Bunderla, Gina DeAlmeida, John Etchells, Nancy Grove, Gerry Harmer, Judy Todd

Follow-up 2 – Jim Bunderla, John & Pat Etchells, Nancy Grove, Joan Luckhardt, Judy Todd

Follow-up 3 – Jim Bunderla, John Etchells, Nancy Grove, Sandy Hambrecht

MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have submitted an application for membership. They will become members unless the secretary, Janet Doerer, 5 Woodland Way, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889, receives any letters of objection within 4 weeks of the mailing of this newsletter.

Pam Benfield & Steve Brenner
46 Upper Creek Road
Stockton, NJ 08559
(908) 996-1088
Iridalo1@gmail.com
Golden Retrievers: Polo, Miss Mae, Pink
Sponsors: Jim Bunderla, Nancy Grove
Attended: TED, 2011; TED Follow-up 1, 3



Dotti Bernstine
5 Club Road
Newton, NJ 07860
(973) 383-2928
dorothybernstine@yahoo.com
Standard Poodle: Diamond
Sponsors: John Etchells, Pat Etchells
Attended: TED, 2011; TED Follow-up 1, 2, 3



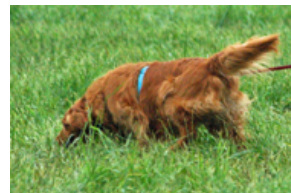
Cindy Everett
254 Lake Warren Road
Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972
(610) 847-9080
ever1956@epix.net
Golden Retrievers: Bella, Sophie, Luke
Sponsors: Jim Bunderla, Nancy Grove
Attended: TED, 2009; 2011 TED Follow-up 2, 3



Cindy Grodkiewicz
1 Longview Lane
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
(908) 537-6803
Cgrod@embarqmail.com
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon: Leala
Sponsors: Gina DeAlmeida, John Etchells
Attended: TED, 2011; TED Follow-up 1, 2, 3



Marian Hrycyk
47 Kingsley Way
Freehold, NJ 07728
(917) 658-1764
marianhrycyk@verizon.net
Golden Retriever: Minnie
Sponsors: Nancy Grove, RoseMary Laubach
Attended: TED, 2011; TED Follow-up 1, 2, 3



Tom & Joanne McMillian
4 Virginia Road
Montville, NJ 07045
(973) 299-1932
tommcmillian@msn.com
Clumber Spaniels: Monty, Blanche
Sponsors: John Etchells, Pat Etchells
Attended: 2011 TED Follow-up 1; TED Follow-up 2, 3



HOPE'S ASCA TD

We woke up on April 1 to see it snowing!! Yikes, what an April Fool's joke from Mother Nature. We were on our way to the ASCA TD test!! I have always wanted to try tracking in light snow. Be careful what you wish for! We arrived, to be greeted by great, friendly folks who welcomed us and fed us well. We drew Track Number 2 and were encouraged by the passing of dog/handler on Track Number 1. So off we went to a long first leg up a hill, not used to tracking in snow boots and trying to breathe at the same time. I thought snow tracking would be easy, but it was not as obvious as I expected. And of course I kept saying to myself, "don't guide the dog," knowing that was a potential hazard. Hope melted into each of her turns and stayed on course. At one point she stopped and kept nudging something on the ground. I asked her what she was doing and she looked back at me but then continued to "explore" something on the ground. Finally, I told her to "go to work," at which time she looked back at me, somewhat exasperated, leaned down, picked up her glove and looked at me as if to say, "what do you think I've been doing?" Goes to show trust your dog and pay attention. And then we celebrated.....

By RoseMary Laubach



Adversity was certainly a part of this title. After entering 10 tests this spring and not getting in any, we drew Alternate Number 2 for the Tracking Club of Massachusetts TDX test on May 1, 2011.

On the Wednesday before the test Hope was stung in the mouth by "something" - not sure what. She had a drastic swelling episode about her face and muzzle, which improved by Friday but then became a total systemic reaction per the vet. On Thursday, we received an email informing us that someone withdrew and we were now Alternate Number 1, but they were not sure if there would be an alternate track. Decisions, decisions. Did I really want to drive 5 hours not having a definite track? On Friday night, I received another email saying another dog became ill and now I had a definite track. Oh my - would my dog be able to track after all the trauma of the bug episode?

We decided to give it a try and headed north. Sunday

HOPE'S AKC TDX

morning was a beautiful, cool, sunny day. There were four tracks PLUS the alternate which they were able to do after all. We were the third team to draw and picked Track Number 1!! Hurray - no time to get nervous.

Our track was 886 yards, crossing a paved road with light traffic, and through two sets of woods, one with a 192 yard leg. Hope far exceeded my expectations, putting her nose to the track and doing her job. She nailed each of the articles along the way, and worked steady up to the second set of woods. She worked it and worked it going in and coming out twice. We stopped, I gave her water and a hug, re-scented and told her she could do it. At that point she headed into the woods, came out the other side, made a turn and headed down the leg to the coveted final glove!!! As I was jumping up and down and hugging and kissing her, she just looked at me as if to say, "no problem, Mom, I knew it was here".

To quote the inimitable words of John Etchells, the hardest part to all of this was getting in the test.

I want to thank all those who have contributed to my tracking abilities - Chuck DiIorio, my husband George who crawled out of bed many a morning to lay track when I know he would rather have 40 more winks, and all the Lenape Tracking Club members who got me hooked on this sport. Thanks everyone for your knowledge, dedication, and support.

By RoseMary Laubach

THE OLD DOGS LEARN SOME NEW TRICKS OR THE MIDDLE-AGED GANG LEARNS SOME NEW QUARRY

By Judy Todd



The day started out early in Damariscota, ME. Donna and 10-year-old Border Terrier Danny and I with 9-year-old Raisin were up before the sun and on our way to the dock at Portsmouth, NH. Donna had made contact with the people who are responsible for maintaining the facilities at Star Island and Smuttynose Island, which actually are in Maine. They were afraid that their remote and beautiful wild islands were being overrun with rats. There was some confusion about whether they were talking about the ubiquitous brown rat or the aquatic muskrat. She and I had agreed to travel out to the islands to see if it would be feasible to stage a NJBE rat hunt in order to get the population down to reasonable levels.

The only access to Star Island, the larger of the two, is by boat. The trip out to the island on a Boston Whaler was fast and bumpy. We arrived at Star Island and started to walk around the buildings there. The dogs were busy casting around the facilities that are used for servicing the large old-time

hotel on the island. We didn't get much of a hit until we reached the kitchen area. Both dogs marked an outside corner of a covered porch, going under and over trying to get to the quarry. Finally it bolted. It went past Donna and along a runway of pipes that led under the roadway into an outbuilding. The dogs tracked it to the small building and into a pile of stacked PVC pipes. They scrambled over and through the pipes and bolted the rat right back to where it came from. It's great to have so many spotters!!

We decided to quit this spot and continue on. We walked past some additional service buildings - one named "Here" and one named "There." The explanation was that equipment that needed carpentry went "Here" and stuff that needed painting went "There." Nothing was found in the service buildings.

We continued on to a group of stone buildings in a rough circle. Danny darted into the largest one that had a 2 foot square access opening at ground level. Suddenly we could see him shaking something in his jaws. He came out with it in his mouth, and Raisin grabbed one end. A terrier at each end, and the finish came swiftly. If this is a rat it's gigantic!! One look though, and we could see the

laterally flattened tail of a muskrat.

We released the dogs to hunt again and they took off again. It was less than one minute later that I heard the characteristic thumping of a terrier drawing quarry. I ran around the edge of the same building and found Danny and Raisin with yet another muskrat between them.

We were directed further on towards the area of the island where there previously had been a compost or midden heap. This was probably the original source of the rat problem. Along the way we checked another outbuilding beside a lovely little pond. After futile attempts to get the dogs interested in the outbuilding, we realized that they were working the edge of the pond. As we got closer we could see that muskrats had built a home against the edge of the pond and both dogs were trying to get into the lodge by going up from the water's edge. After going back and forth and switching positions several times Raisin finally bolted the muskrat past Danny, but it dove under the surface and swam away.

Now we were almost all the way around Star Island. We had come to the area where the waste water is treated when the main buildings on the island are occupied. The holding tanks were not in use at this time of year so we passed by with out any marks. The holding tanks were behind a 3 foot high stone wall. Both Raisin and Danny alerted to a spot in the stone

wall. They both tried to get in between or under the stones on both sides of the wall. Obviously there was something in there. I went to the opposite side from where Donna was, and I could see where the dogs were trying to get in on this side as well. We must be close. I asked Donna for a stout stick and she picked a good one. I only had to tickle the spot where Raisin was indicating a few times and the muskrat bolted to Danny.

After lunch we trooped back to the dock on Star Island and prepared to go to Smuttynose Island, which is just “across the harbor” from Star Island. Smuttynose is about 32 acres in size and has but two buildings on it. The Stewards were mostly concerned with the possibility of rats on this Island getting into the buildings where the volunteers stay during the summer. Getting to Smuttynose involved moving the Whaler from the dock at Star Island to a mooring at Smuttynose, tying up the Whaler there and rowing people and dogs and supplies from the Whaler to a small shell beach on Smuttynose. It took three trips back and forth from the mooring.

They asked us to check out the buildings for rat infestation, but both dogs checked both buildings without any alerts. The first hit we got from the dogs was in the midst of a thicket. Danny found a tunnel going into yet another muskrat lodge. Because of easier access to this lodge, away from the water, we were able to excavate the tunnel system for several feet before it went under a ledge and stone wall. The tunnel was configured similar to a groundhog tunnel with dips and turns and “T” junctions,

the actual size of the tunnel being much smaller, of course. We quit on this lodge without getting anything.

We continued our trip around the island, and I heard Donna call me. She had heard Danny thunder across a metal plate and saw him with yet another muskrat - a solo kill this time. One of our spotters said, “There's another one right there!” She had seen a muskrat run and try to hide underneath a pile of large branches that had been pruned from a cherry tree last year. We could actually see the critter ourselves as it ran back and forth under the pile just out of reach of our dogs and driving them crazy. It was back and forth and back and forth for both dogs with them diving into the pile, heedless of the branches, with us yelling at them to get the job done. Finally the muskrat made one turn too many and the dogs got it. It was an expensive victory, however, as Danny came up with a very bloody gash on his right front leg. We think that on his last dive into the pile of branches he ran up onto a stick which punctured his leg. Luckily I had my fanny pack with bandaging materials. I put a pressure wrap on the leg and it seemed to work especially after we were able to get him to calm down.

We decided to quit while we were ahead. We all packed up and got back on the skiffs and back onto the Whaler. We returned to Star Island briefly and then back to the dock at Portsmouth. Danny was bloody but still willing to keep going and Raisin was bruised and had abrasions on her face and a hole in her head but also wanted to keep going. Fortunately their handlers were a little smarter, and we thought that they had had

enough for the day.

The dogs showed their exhaustion on the way back, barely budging as we pulled into the dock. They were willing to trot up the gangway and back onto solid ground.

Both Danny and Raisin had swelling and abraded areas around their eyes from where they had been pushing through the rocks. They both had a few worn down foot pads and were both very tired.

We met some new friends and we were able to share with them our opinion that they seem to have solved their rat problem on Smuttynose. Last year they stopped dumping their food garbage in a “compost heap” and they were now putting their food waste in a metallic compost accelerator, which does not seem nearly as attractive to the rats as dumped garbage does.

So, a good time was had by all, but it does not seem like these islands will need servicing by NJBE in the future. Two middle-aged dogs and two (ahem) mature women had a wonderful and fulfilling time today. We hunted and accounted for 5 muskrats, which is a new, if not formidable, quarry for us. It may be that this will be a one-off hunt but it was great while it lasted.

