



# Common Scents

May/June, 2013

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Here it is June already! Tracking Experience Day went well with the new two-day format. The two-day format eliminates the three follow-up weekends and rolls them all into one on the second TED day. Once again Nancy was the goddess of organization and the weekend went beautifully. I don't know what we would do without her and I don't want to find out! Thanks to everyone who helped - it's very much appreciated.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Tracklayer Certification  
.....Saturday August 3  
Certification Workshop 2013  
.....Sunday, September 29  
TD Test 2013  
.....Sunday, October 13  
TDX Test 2013  
.....Sunday, November 10

Picnic update - In a recent board meeting we decided not to hold the club picnic this year. There didn't seem to be a lot of general interest in the picnic in past years and so, with

so many other things going on, we thought we would let it go for this year. On the other hand, there definitely seems to be club interest in the new tracking classes which are now under way. I'm hoping that this can be an ongoing thing and a potential money maker for the club.

Tracklayer Certification is August 3rd. If you want to come out and learn how to lay track, please contact Peg Forte and she can sign you up. If you get certified you can lay track in one of our upcoming tests!

Have a great summer and I hope to see many of you at our tests this fall.

*Anna*



### CLUB SHIRTS

There are still a few shirts available for sale - 1 small, 2 medium and 2 XL. Contact Nancy Grove at [fuzbutz2@verizon.net](mailto:fuzbutz2@verizon.net).

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**Editor** - Pat Etchells, [deerhill.tracking@gmail.com](mailto:deerhill.tracking@gmail.com)

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## MEET THE EARLY MEMBERS

Sandy Hambrecht – Joined 2009



When it comes to tracking, I guess I'm an example of the axiom, "if at first you don't succeed ..." I originally joined Lenape Tracking Club in the latter half of the 1980s after my husband, Bill Kuntz, and I moved from Pennsylvania to New Jersey with our two dachshunds. We had been dog-deprived apartment dwellers for 10 years until shortly before we bought our house in New Egypt. I had been a dog- and horse-obsessed child, and, although my family had had a series of 3 dachshunds from the time I was four years old, I wanted more. Purchase of a house in a rural area allowed me to begin fulfilling my dream of living with a pack and learning everything I could about dogs and dog activities.

By happy coincidence, there was a state-licensed dog-grooming school right in New Egypt! I took the professional course while simultaneously developing a deep and lasting friendship with the proprietor, a successful breeder/exhibitor of borzois and Arabian horses. From her I learned much more than just dog grooming, and I began looking for opportunities to try different activities with our dachshunds.

Along came Lenape's Tracking Experience Day, which I completed, along with the follow-ups, with our standard smooth dachshund, Mascha. She loved tracking and did well. I joined the club. The distance to Glen Gardner made attendance at weeknight

meetings difficult, but Bill and I did make it to the unforgettable meeting that featured K-9 SAR pioneer Caroline Hebard as a guest speaker. Years later in Toms River I heard her speak again after publication of her book, "So That Others May Live."

Unfortunately my tracking with Mascha gradually fell by the wayside due to our participation in other activities that required far less effort on my part: AKC dachshund field trials and den trials (early versions of today's AWTa den trials and inspiration for AKC's earthdog tests). Our two dachshies ran in field trials in New Jersey and Long Island for the next six years, never quite well enough to place, but lots of fun for them and us. We also met several future good friends in the dachshund world, and eventually joined Dachshund Club of America, Dachshund Club of NJ, and North American Teckel Club.

Meanwhile, we had acquired a collie-dobie cross (one of a large accidental litter, being sold at a local pet store when we happened to go in for parakeet seed) and a pitbull (dumped off as a 3-month old puppy near our house during one of the waves of pitbull hysteria). The latter was the first of our many future rescues or rehomes. I began training these two in competition obedience at Princeton Dog Training Club and later, Brandy Lane Dog Training School in Mt. Holly. At about the same time I completed a correspondence-school course in veterinary assisting, which led me to a part-time position with Windsor Animal Hospital in Cranbury, NJ, where I worked for 14 ½ years.

In those days mixes could earn obedience titles through several mix-breed organizations by entering non-AKC sanctioned matches and requesting that the judge score the dog as if it were a formal trial.

Woody, the gentle pitbull, learned the obedience routines so quickly and easily that I was astounded (remember, I'm a lifelong dachshund person). Unfortunately he was shy with strangers and we never got him to stand for examination without shrinking from the judge's touch.

Alix, the collie-dobe, was a challenge. Hyper and super-intelligent, she was labeled a "wacko" by some of the less kindly people at PDTC. Despite this, we trained (for years) through Open and she earned 2 legs toward her CD, including one 3<sup>rd</sup>-place score in a class of eleven. At this point she decided it was more fun to get creative during matches, and we had a series of "interesting" failures until she and Woody began having hind leg weakness and other health issues. They both lived beyond their 16<sup>th</sup> year and never forgot their obedience routines. I had trained them with both voice and hand signals, and I still remember doing our brace obedience practice – two deaf old dogs slowly and happily going through their paces.

After more years of rescued dachshunds and lots of earthdog tests, I once again went to TED in 2005, this time with our standard smooth, Frankie. And once again, tracking faded, as we maintained our involvement in other, less demanding activities, until Frankie and I took part in Lenape's 7-week summer session in 2009. This time was the charm: we made substantial progress AND gained some tracking buddies with whom we have continued working. This played a major role in Frankie's successful TD test in 2011.

Currently we're working on his TDX, and I've also started working with our standard longhair, Arjun. Bill attended TED last year and is now taking Lenape's 4-week course with Sugar, our rescued cocker. I'm delighted to report that both are doing well and developing a real enthusiasm for tracking.

## LENAPE TED 2013

Reported by Nancy Grove

Lenape's Tracking Experience Day (TED) was held Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> with the follow-up session on Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> at Camp Tecumseh in Pittstown, NJ. It is a wonderful facility for this event and Lenape is fortunate to be able to use this facility.

This year Lenape decided to try a new format – holding TED and the three follow-up sessions on the same weekend. From the feedback we received from the participants, they preferred doing it this way as the information presented Saturday was reinforced on Sunday. They also had a chance to ask questions on Sunday that they thought of after TED on Saturday.

We had nine handler/dog teams and two auditors. Breeds participating in this year's TED included:

- Black and Tan Coonhound
- Borzoi
- English Springer Spaniel
- Golden Retriever
- Otterhound
- Pembroke Welsh Corgi
- Standard Poodle
- West Highland Terrier

TED weekend really starts on Friday setting up and making sure everything is in order at the camp for Saturday. **Jim Bunderla** and I went over to the camp and set up and cleaned for the start of TED on Saturday.

We were fortunate this year with weather. Both days were sunny, low 60s and breezy – great weather for the dogs, though at times with the wind, a bit cool for the humans.

Saturday participants and workers alike were welcomed to TED with a lovely breakfast provided by **Janet Doerer**. This set the tone for day. Following breakfast, **Anna Burbank** welcomed everyone to TED.

Seminar presentations were given by **Rose Mary Laubach** (Introduction to Tracking), **Peg Forte** (Scent), and **Gina**



### DeAlmeida (Tracking Equipment).

Following the presentations, Lenape's newest Champion Tracker, Hope, and handler Rose Mary Laubach gave a tracking demonstration. Hope proudly showed off her glove to one and all! After a quick break to warm up (lots of coffee, tea and cocoa were on hand), everyone went outside again for the station rotations. Making sure participants got to the correct stations on time were Donna Hess and Cindy Grodkiewicz. Presenting the "Lead Handling" station was Rose Mary Laubach. Gina and **George Laubach** led the "Map Making and Journal Keeping" station. **Alyson Fuge** led the "Starting your Dog" station with Janet Doerer and Dreamer demonstrating how to start a dog that had never tracked before. Alyson's Chelsea (with three tracking lessons under her belt) then showed the group how a dog with a little experience tracked. It was good for the participants to see both dogs. Jim Bunderla led the "Measured Pace" station, an enjoyable station, except for the math!

This year Lenape also tried something new – a potluck lunch! Everyone was treated to a variety of dishes - hot food, salads, hoagies, desserts (my personal favorite!) and beverages (hot and cold). Thanks to the foodies who provided such wonderful dishes (**Cris Courduff**, Gina DeAlmeida, Rose Mary Laubach, Peg Forte, **Donna Hess**, **Cindy Grodkiewicz**, **Joyce Miller**, **Mary Christie**, and Alyson Fuge). Thanks also to those providing lunch supplies. A comment overheard from one of the participants: "There sure is a lot to

choose from." Following lunch and harness fittings, everyone went outside again to put into practice what was taught in the morning. We were fortunate this year to have enough workers so that all handler/dog teams had a Lenape member to work with them. By the end of the third track, most of the dogs seemed to be getting the idea of tracking. TED closed with a wrap-up of the afternoon session. All participants were planning on attending Sunday's follow-up.

Sunday's follow-up day started off with another lovely breakfast provided by **Joan Luckhardt**. We then all headed outside for the first session on lead handling. Rose Mary Laubach and Janet Doerer led this session. Following the presentation, handlers played several lead handling games designed to help them with their handling techniques. Lenape members played the role of the 'dog' and, having tracking experience under their belt, were very good in this role! We all headed back inside to warm up where Joan Luckhardt led the discussion on starting corners / turns. It was then time to go back outside to practice starting turns. Two short legs were laid in the same direction and a third short leg was laid at a 90 degree angle to either the right or left (this was the change in direction leg). It was interesting to see that most of the dogs completed the 2 short legs and then just turned on their own to start the third leg. Following lunch, Gina DeAlmeida's Toro demonstrated how to indicate articles. Toro ended his demonstration to applause and pats.





The participants then laid a very long leg with multiple articles so they could see how their dogs behaved when they got to an article. Again, each handler/dog team was paired with a Lenape member to help observe and work with the team. Sunday ended up with a wrap-up of the day and weekend. Although the day ended for the participants, Lenape's workers weren't quite done. Everyone pitched in and before we knew it, the facility was cleaned and the grounds looked the way we found them on Friday night. Lenape's TED 2013 was officially over.



From the participant feedback that was received, TED 2013 was a success! To all the workers who gave of their time and talents to make TED successful, my sincerest thank you! TED could not happen without your support. No job was too small or too 'icky' to be tackled by this great group of folks, whether the job was done quietly in the background (e.g., grounds, parking, monitoring cars during the seminars, setting up for breakfast/lunch) or was more visible (e.g., seminar leaders, station leaders and demonstrations). Everyone pitched in when they saw something needed to be done and just did it. Even Rose Mary's niece, Mary Werger, who came on Sunday, jumped in and helped out where she could.

Also helping were **Melanie Dubberly, Pat Losco and Martha Windisch.**

## TIDBITS

GINA DeALMEIDA reports, "On May 6th, **Toro** & I attended the Rottweiler Specialty held in Lancaster, PA. We had been training for the carting classes. Our training had started 2 months earlier when I hooked up Toro to our new cart for the first time. He quickly took to this new 'game'. We practiced EVERY DAY to be ready for the upcoming specialty. He was having such fun with it that we decided to enter both the 'carting started' class as well as the 'carting intermediate' class. One is on lead and one is off lead. With the help of Jim Bunderla from our club (he donated two 25 lb weight bags) we trained with the required haul for the classes as well. Finally the show was at hand and we were ready to give it a try! Well, Toro did great. We competed against some really experienced dogs, but they were no match for us. We came away with two perfect 200 scores, two new titles - CS & CI A and High In Trial!"



ROSE MARY LAUBACH's Golden Retriever **Hope** took her first trick training class. In the first session she qualified for, passed and earned her novice, intermediate, advanced and expert trick titles. We are working on qualifying for her Trick Championship.



**Spring**, MARTHA WINDISCH's Golden Retriever, recently earned her NW1 title in Frederick, MD.

## CLASSES

Lenape Tracking Club has ventured to do a tracking training course which began at the beginning of May. It is 4 weeks of classes covering the basics in more detail than the TED presents, and we are having a great time doing it!!! The participants are fun, the dogs are having fun and so are the instructors. The course instructors are Nancy Grove, Jim Bunderlea, Joan Luckhardt, and Rose Mary Laubach. Stay tuned for more details in the next newsletter.

## CLUE'S TDX

By Martha Windisch



Clue passed the TDX test held by Gloucester County Kennel Club. There were six tracks, and Clue and I drew #1. Here's how the track went:

Clue started very strongly and made a right turn into the woods and then a left turn by a very loud frog pond (he went over to visit and stare at the pond prior to turning). I can't remember exactly the rest of the track without looking at the map, which I don't have in front of me now (I do remember that the track was 835 yards long). I also know that he tracked very quickly and confidently through the dry grass and entered and exited three different wooded areas. When he found the articles, he wanted to keep them instead of giving them to me - he kept turning his head away from me so I couldn't get the article from him. I let him hold each article for a little bit and then held his collar so I could get the article from him and give him a drink. The track was very dry, so I gave him a drink at the start and at every article find. The start article was a sock, the second was a leather tool case, the third was a pot holder and the last was, of course, a glove.

After finding the second article and starting to track again, Clue started to backwards sneeze so I called him back to me to help him out, he then immediately made a left turn (I was hoping that it was not the cross-track --- and thankful that it

was not since I didn't get whistled by the judges).

After finding the third article, he made a left turn towards the woods. The turn seemed like an acute turn to me - but he was probably a bit past the turn and just worked his way back to it. This part of the track was less certain to Clue and I was beginning to doubt a bit - but fortunately I followed him. He entered the woods and then exited the woods and was still tracking a bit more tentatively than he had done earlier in the track. The judge told me that he was downwind of the track at that point and worked his way back to it - and there was the final glove. It took a while for the judges to cheer since Clue grabbed the glove and played keep away - so it took me a bit of doing to get it so I could hold it up for the judges to see. Then I gave it back to Clue and let him prance around with it and show it to all who wanted to see it.

## A TERRIER'S EARTHDOG TALE

By Mary Christie

On May 17, Judy Todd drove our Border Terriers Alex, Merlin, Raisin, and me down to Spring Cove Farm in Queenstown, Maryland, for two days of Earthdog tests sponsored by the Talbot Kennel Club of Maryland.

Marian S., the farm's owner, was letting us stay at her off-site home, so we went there first to unpack. We left for the farm, which was a short distance away. A Barn Hunt practice was going on when we arrived. There were many enthusiastic owners hoping their dogs would find the one tube out of three containing a rat. Some dogs were not quite sure was going on, but others did quite well including a very game golden.

Judy jumped in to help with the activities. When everything was done, we helped break down the barn hunt area which included

moving a number of bales of hay. We had a lovely dinner in the barn area that evening. Shrimp, crab cakes, grilled chicken, salads, wine and dessert were on offer.

The next day was the start of the Earthdog tests. Judy was up first with Merlin in Master Earthdog. While Judy was out with Merlin, I did the gate stewarding for Junior and Senior Earthdog. Judy and Merlin returned in triumph having qualified in their test.

She then took Alex into Senior, in which he already had two legs and was in search of his third. She and Alex disappeared into the woods where the Senior tunnel was located. In Senior Earthdog the dog has to crawl through a 30 foot below ground tunnel with three 90 degree turns, one false den (no rat), one false exit and a caged rat at the end of the correct path. The dog has 90 seconds to reach the quarry (said rat), must work the rat for 90 seconds (barking, scratching, digging, biting bars, etc., and 90 seconds to recall to the handler when the rat is removed. I waited anxiously for some of these sounds indicating Alex was working the rat (which was safely in a cage behind wooden dowels. This is AKC rules after all.) Finally Judy and Alex appeared and she gave a thumbs up. Alex, under Judge Brenda Weintraub, had his third leg and his Senior Earthdog title. He had recalled to her from the tunnel in 8 seconds.



We returned to the barn to another meal of grilled chicken, hamburgers, hot-dogs, chips, drinks, and dessert. Judy pulled Alex from his afternoon run to give him a break. Then we headed back to Marian's home to relax on the back porch, let the dogs run in the



yard, and watch the bluebirds fly and the thrushes sing. Later, we returned to Marian's house on the farm for yet another meal- pulled BQ pork, salads, wine, desserts.

On Sunday I followed along with Judy, Tiger's mom, and Merlin and Tiger (also a Border terrier). All went well as the dogs hunted together in the field on the walk up to the den. They checked out the false den in the field and indicated that it was empty. Both dogs barked

and worked at opening to the tunnel. Unfortunately at this point the dogs had trouble getting to the rat so that they could work it, so there was no qualifying. Judy pointed out that this was a more difficult tunnel configuration than the day before. The dogs had to really use their noses. So we headed back and Judy gave Alex another run in Senior. He once again qualified under Judge Gail Warnick, and Judy let him investigate a groundhog hole on the

way back.

We had another lunch like Saturday's, then we won the raffle. I got a beautiful flowering plant and Judy got a bottle of Riesling. Lure coursing was being offered, so we went off to that field. Merlin could barely contain himself, especially since he has been qualifying a lot in the CAT. Alex and Raisin also ran and had a fine time.

## FROM THE LEFT COAST

By Pat Etchells

Last fall, with memories of the previous winter's foggy days still in our mind, we came upon information about Oregon State's Master Gardener Program. It involved going to all-day classes every Thursday during the winter months and seemed to be a great way to familiarize ourselves with Oregon vegetation as well as to meet more people – and make the winter pass quickly, so we signed up.

Little did we realize that we were selling our souls to Oregon State University Extension Service! Not only does the program involve the three months of classes, but because it is offered at a very reasonable price, we are required to put in 70 volunteer service hours. This involves working in the greenhouse planting the materials that would be sold at the Spring Garden Fair, working at said Fair, taking part in community plant activities, and putting in 25 Plant Clinic hours.

The Master Gardener Program was initially established to have trained volunteers relieve the county agents of the task of answering JQ Public's gardening questions. Master Gardeners are taught the philosophy of sustainable gardening practices – which, in a nutshell, minimizes the resources you need to use to maintain a garden (water, chemicals, labor, etc.) We aren't expected to know everything, but we have to know where to research it. And we are supposed to share

our knowledge and the OSU philosophy with the community.

An interesting Plant Clinic question involved a woman who had shelf fungus growing out of the wood trim of her motor home. She had unsuccessfully sprayed it with bleach and then full-strength Round-up (which works on green plants...) We recommended calling a mold remediation expert – because this was definitely out of our league!

Then there was the man who brought a plant in a pot to our booth at the Saturday Grower's Market in downtown Grants Pass and wondered what it was. I looked at it and instantly said, "bugleweed". The other Master Gardeners looked at me (a trainee) with disbelief – and spent a lot of time researching it in their books. Finally they gave up and said they would turn it over to the people at the extension office, where there were considerably more resources. We happened to be working there the following Monday and ruled out everything else. So John called the man and reported our findings. He thought about it a minute and then said, "I planted that there a few years ago. I guess it's growing."

The Spring Garden Fair is the organization's primary money-making effort of the year. A dog club friend who is also a Master Gardener asked us to help her in the raffle booth on all the days.

Not only did we rack up lots of credit hours, but we avoided parking lot duty!



Grants Pass always has large hanging baskets of petunias along the streets during the summer. This year the Chamber of Commerce decided to challenge the Guinness World Record for number of hanging baskets in a downtown area (2,000+ held in Dubai). With the help of Master Gardeners, roughly another 3,000 smaller baskets were also prepared and sold to the local merchants to display outside their businesses. Lots of volunteer hours racked up on that project! The official count was taken in May (3,095 baskets) and is still waiting for verification from Guinness. Although I'm sure Dubai will try to reclaim the record, it was a fun challenge!

With most of our volunteer hours "paid", our calendar has a lot more free days on it! But since Master Gardeners is essentially a club of retirees interested in gardening who love to socialize, I'm sure our involvement will continue!