

LENAPE TRACKING CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY

COMMON SCENTS

MARCH/APRIL, 1995
Vol. 19., No. 2

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tracking Experience Day
..... Saturday, April 22, 1995
Follow-up One
..... Saturday, June 10, 1995
Follow-up Two
..... Sunday, July 11, 1995
Follow-up Three
..... Saturday, August 12, 1995
Certification Workshop
..... Sunday, September 24, 1995
Tracking Test
..... Sunday, November 5, 1995

✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦



BARBARA DRESSEL's Cocker **Skimmer** finished her OTCh at Maryland from Utility B with a 198.

Cocker **Pearl** Etchells got her first UD leg at First Dog.

The MacKINNON's Golden's **Ruby** and **Skye** (CD, TD) had seven puppies in mid-March.

HOPE MEAKER's Flattie **Derby** (Ch UDT JH) had a litter of thirteen in early March.

DOT VAIL's Kerry Blue **Leader** finished his CD at Bayshore, and he got a backup leg at First Dog. **Bonnie** got her second UD leg at First Dog.

Levee WINDISCH received her WC title at Lenape (Golden Retriever Club) test last fall. **Misty** earned her first CD leg at K-9 with a 195+.

BETSY ROSS PARTY

On Saturday, February 18, Gail Benson, Pat Blake, Vicky Brown, Anna Burbank, John & Pat Etchells, Peg Forte, Barbara Greenfield, Marty Hamil, Millie Hefner, Mollie Heide, Joanne & Ralph MacKinnon, Hope Meaker, Pat Paulding, Linda Riley, Gerry Sullivan, and Dot Vail got together at the Lebanon Township Municipal Building and had a pot luck luncheon and flag-making party. Thanks to the effort of these individuals, who manned sewing machines, ironing boards, cutting boards, and power saws (off premises), Lenape now has 100 new flags! Everyone had a great time, and the adage of "many hands make light work" was proved again.



✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

TRACK TRADER

WHO: Martha Windisch
WHERE: fields in Burlington Co. NJ (or Mercer Co. Park by Trenton, NJ)
WHEN: Saturday April 29, 1995, time to be decided upon by those interested.
limited to 3 people besides myself.
RSVP for time and directions: 609-726-9054

{Lenape Disclaimer: Meetings set up in this column are NOT Club events, and they are NOT covered by Club insurance. Members should check with the parks or landowners before finalizing any plans.}

President - Anna Burbank * **Vice President** - Peg Forte * **Secretary** - Pat Etchells
Treasurer - Linda Riley * **Board Members** - Pat Blake, John Etchells, Hope Meaker, Pat Paulding, Dot Vail * **Editor** - Pat Etchells, PO Box 326, Lebanon, NJ 08833. deerhill@aol.com

© 1995 Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey. Articles with an author's copyright cannot be reprinted without the author's permission. Any other portion may be reproduced for educational purposes, provided acknowledgment is given to the source and this publication.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Wow! What great weather we've been having. Spring is upon us and TED is coming up in just a few short weeks (April 22). At this point it is filled and there is a waiting list. We'll be using the new format which we piloted last year and which got great reviews

from the participants. We'll need lots of help on the day of the event with food, registration, group leaders, etc. I'll be calling you! There will be a planning meeting on April 7 which anyone interested is invited and welcome to attend.

We have judges for our match and test. We toyed with the idea of running a combined TD/TDX, but decided to postpone the TDX until next year (partly due to the difficulty of finding two TDX judges available for the test). Sue Dolbin will judge the certification match and is agreeable to running the match as a workshop, as Salle Crooks has done for the past two years. Salle Crooks and Sandy Roth will be judging our test. Sandy is a provisional judge who was recommended by Donna Thompson. We are happy to be able to support new judges and really glad she was available for the test. TDX is on the burner for next year, and we are planning a "private seminar" with a TDX judge who could provide valuable information on the particulars of running a TDX test. (More to follow as this gets fleshed out).

We have new set of flags for the test and match thanks to all who came to the "sewing bee" in February.

The club dinner last weekend was a great success. Thanks to Pat Paulding for organizing it and my personal thanks to her for seeing to it that there was a "veggie" dish for me. Congratulations again to Hope Meaker and Derby and Barbara Greenfield and Holly, who earned TDs last fall. Peg Forte unveiled the John Miktus award. It came out beautiful. We're looking forward to seeing someone earn it soon.

Hope to see you all at TED!

Anna Burbank

THE RIDDLE OF SCENT

The February 10, 1995, issue of *The Chronicle of the Horse* featured an article by Henry W. Hooker entitled "Unravelling the Mysteries of Scent." Some of the general observations on scent include:

- In wet areas, scent spreads on the surface of the water.
- If it is muddy, mud carried on the foot may prevent the deposit of scent.
- Dry leaves do not hold scent well, but wet leaves do.
- Rocky and hilly land with thin soil does not hold scent well.
- When the earth is warmer than the air, the earth is "exhaling" and scent is released.
- When the air is warmer than the earth, very little scent is discernible.
- Snow on warm ground preserves the scent. When the ground is frozen, scent will not be diffused until the ground thaws.
- When the air is saturated (i.e., fog), scent cannot be diffused.
- A light breeze can help diffuse scent. On a perfectly still day, scent would rise straight to the sky.
- The sun can hurt the scent by heating the air and creating vertical winds. Its ultraviolet rays also cause scent to deteriorate.



OFA/CERF NUMBERS IN CATALOGS

A memo from AKC states, "As a result of action at the January 9-10, 1995 Board of Directors Meeting, a policy was adopted to permit the inclusion of "OFA and CERF Numbers in show catalogs as a option for the clubs. This information should be written on the entry form following the dog's name, and in the show catalog it will be printed in the same manner. There is no change to the current entry form."

THE JOHN MIKTUS AWARD

At the Awards Dinner, Peg Forte unveiled a prototype of the newly designed John Miktus Award. This plaque on a stone-like base depicts a German Shepherd tracking and will be created whenever any member meets the criteria.

This award will be presented to any member of the **Lenape Tracking Club of Central New Jersey** who earns three different tracking titles with the same dog while maintaining their membership.

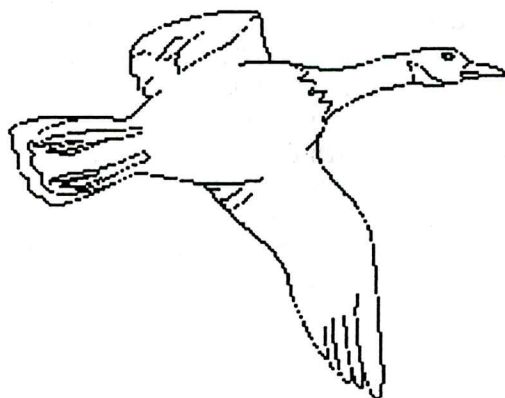
The handler and dog must earn an **AKC Tracking Dog** title, an additional Tracking title with any other registry (domestic or foreign) and they must earn one **Tracking Dog Excellent** title with any dog registry (domestic or foreign).

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**.



LESSONS FROM GEESE

by Milton Olson

Reprinted from the Labrador Retriever Club newsletter

via The Washington State Cocker Spaniel Club *Hi-Lites*

- As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the following bird. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if the bird flew alone.

LESSON: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

- Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird immediately in front.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go (and willing to accept their help as well as give ours to others).

- When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

LESSON: It pays to take turns doing the hard task and share leadership - with people as with geese, we are interdependent on each other.

- The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

LESSON: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging - and not something else.

- When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out of their own, with another formation, or catch up with the flock.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

WHERE DO YOU TRACK?

by Fran Wilmeth

(Ed Note: We found this article while cleaning out Fran's files. Since she was so instrumental in getting many of us involved with tracking, it seemed appropriate to use it right before the first TED that she won't be here for us to call on for guidance and support).

You decide to take a different route home just for a change, and as you drive along, you suddenly come upon a beautiful stretch of fields and pastures. Boy! What a neat place to go tracking! You decide to investigate.

After some searching, you locate the farmer who owns the land and you ask for permission to use the fields for training your dogs to track. "To do what?" he asks. You try to explain how the dog uses his nose to follow the footsteps of someone who has walked across the field, making various turns and leaving a glove at the end for the dog to find. You mention the use of flags to show where the track starts and you explain that the dog wears a harness and is on a long line so he is under control at all times. No harm will be done to property, crops, livestock, wildlife or domestic animals. The farmer acknowledges that he has seen Bloodhounds and German Shepherds on television. It turns out that he has seen Bloodhounds trailing criminals and the German Shepherds doing search and rescue work. You explain the difference, and he asks what kind of dog you would be bringing. When you say that your friend has a Doberman, the farmer interrupts with, "But aren't they vicious?" More explaining about Dobermans followed by the statement that you have a Norwich terrier and a Schipperke. "A What?" You repeat Schipperke. "What's that?" More explaining but finally he shrugs and says you can use the land.

Early the next morning you and your friend arrive and start planting the flags for a couple of tracks. As you approach the edge of the field, clipboard and map paper in hand, you notice two cars parked behind your station wagon. Two worried women come toward you and ask, "What are the stakes for? Are you surveying? Is a housing development going in here?" You explain your activities and they sigh in relief. They look at you as though they question your sanity, but they leave without further comment.

After the tracks have aged the desired length of time, you take out the little Norwich and head for the starting flag. She rips off down the track when suddenly you become aware of the commotion on the far side of the field.

Two monstrous canine beasts of questionable ancestry are racing toward you. Their attitude is far from friendly. You snatch up the Norwich and dash for the station wagon. You manage to win the foot race but then cower in the wagon while the beasts gouge all the paint on all doors and threaten to crash through the windows. Your own dogs are breaking your ear drums with their frenzied barking at the attacking canine.

Finally the attackers tire of their game and wander off down your tracks, leaving their signatures on each flag. In time you summon the courage to get out of the car and retrieve the flags and the gloves.

Then it's back to the state park where competition for field space consists of peaceful geese, an occasional deer, horseback riders and gas model airplane enthusiasts.

Of, if only you owned your own twenty acres!

GOD CREATED THE DOG

Author Unknown

- On the first day of creation, God created the dog.
- On the second day, God created man to serve the dog.
- On the third day, God created all the animals of the Earth (especially the horse) to serve as potential food for the dog.
- On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labor for the good of the dog.
- On the fifth day, God created the tennis ball so that the dog might or might not retrieve it.
- On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the dog healthy and man broke.
- On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but he had to walk the dog.



BE A BUDDY

by Jan Wall

Reprinted from the *MTA News*, Sept., 1988



It occurred to me while laying a track a few weeks back that I was all alone, tucked neatly amongst the acres and acres of vegetation.

The people I was meeting hadn't arrived yet, so I grabbed my glove and flags and went merrily on my way.

Reflecting back, and remembering a true story told by Linda Franklin of her close encounter in a snow filled swale, it occurred to me that no one really knew where I was. Sure, my van was parked in the lot, but I could have been anywhere within a 300 acre area. Had I injured myself, I had no means of signaling anyone for help (even my whistle was back in the van).

Number one, never go out and lay a track without someone knowing where you are (and I'm not talking about a spouse or family member 10 miles away at home either) ... take a buddy. If you track alone like I do the majority of the time, do it in an out-in-the-open area.

Number two, do take some means of a signaling device in case you run into difficulties. A whistle is very inexpensive and easy to carry. Make up some of those small clothespin clips to mark fields you are unfamiliar with. We all know how easy it is to lose direction. Your tracking dog back in the car won't be able to yelp you.

Clubs ... judges ... let's not forget those hardy souls (bless them) who get out of bed at 4:00 a.m. to drive to the test site and set TDX tracks 1 and 2 in the wee hours of the morning. What means of communication do we have with them if there is a need? A twisted ankle (or whatever) when you're even a half-mile from help with no means of signaling certainly could be very unnerving and dangerous.

Be a buddy ... track with a friend. It's a good way to get someone new involved with tracking.

This was written because I've been there at 6:00 a.m., standing in the tall wet grass and feeling very alone. I've also been officiating, wondering if my tracklayers are okay, in the dense morning fog, certainly out of the judges' sight and earshot.

Incidents in the tracking field have been far and few between, but there have been some ... Let someone know you're out there .. be a buddy!

YOU KNOW YOU'RE SUPPORTING YOUR VET WHEN ...

(reprinted from the *MTA News*, March, 1993)

- His receptionist knows your voice on the phone.
- His finance company sends YOU the bill for the new Porsche.
- You have a standing Monday morning appointment, and you always keep it!
- There's a kennel run with YOUR NAME on it.
- His letterhead has YOU as his partner!
- You just make monthly payments.
- His kids sent you letters from Princeton.
- Your dogs think his office is HOME!
- You're asked to select the colors for the new office!
- You know where everything is - and the staff doesn't!
- He tells you he's retiring and he is only 35.
- He tells you he's retiring, but he'll still see you so he can make the payments on his new house.
- The substitute vets know you by name also.
- Your kids check there first when they get home.
- Your in-laws think the vet's office is your vacation home.
- They no longer need to see your driver's license for your check.
- He knows all their registration numbers by heart.
- You have direct deposit to his account!