

COMMON SENSE

JULY - SEPT.

VOL. 12 NO. 4

PICNIC

DOG OLYMPICS



OCT WITH

MINNAPPE TRACKING

CLUB, INC.

WHO'S WHO

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MEMBERSHIP: Pat Paulding

INTERCLUB COMMUNICATIONS: Fran Wilmeth

FLYBALL/SCENT HURDLE COM: Janet Quodomine

TRACKING EXPERIENCE DAY: Fran Wilmeth

FALL CERTIFICATION MATCH: Janet Quodomine

NEWLETTER:

EDITOR: Peg Forte

TIDBITS: Joanne Mac Kinnon

TRACKING TESTS LIST: Marion Rapp

FOOTPRINTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Since the last newsletter, exactly one person has volunteered to help that wasn't already helping so much for the plea for help. Once again I must remind you that the whole burden can not always be carried by a few. we are getting tired. Janet still needs help for the fall match volunteer your services today.

Work on the information for the AKC is progressing. Vicki Brown, Gail Palmer and Edie Braginton have gotten all the information from the members and are compiling it.

At our house we are recuperating from a three week visit with friends from England and getting used to the latest Seeing Eye puppy who arrived last Friday. "Ty" is a German Shepherd, he'll be at the picnic for everyone to see. "Zesty", a black Labrador has gone back for training if she passes her hip x-ray and health check.

Hope to see many of you at the picnic.

Peg Forte

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- OCT. 6 & 7 DOBERMAN TRACKING TEST
Tracklayers still needed, call Peg
- Oct. 17th PICNIC - DOG OLYMPICS
Mac Kinnons - see flyer on page 4
- OCT. 31 & FALL MATCH - Janet needs help - Call Today
Nov. 1
- NOV. 15 Port Chester - Advanced Tracking Seminar
Tom Knott - speaker
check match show bulletin for details
- JAN. 16, 1988 PROGRAM/COVERED DISH SUPPER
- MARCH ANNUAL DINNER
- APR. 30, 1988 TRACKING EXPERIENCE DAY

Deadline for TIDBITS - Oct. 17, 1987

Send to Joanne Mac Kinnon, see Who's Who for address or bring them to the picnic

Tid Bits



SUE CONE sent along the following "tidbits":

Chesapeake MONTAUK WATERS TEMPE WICK earned her Canadian CD with a High in Trial last summer, her UD last fall, and another High in Trial this May. Last Sunday (July 12th) she earned her American Chesapeake Club Working Certificate in Franklinville, PA. Chesapeake KATMAI ABIGAIL ADAMS earned her Canadian CD last summer and her American CD last fall including a High in Trial. ABBY is the dog featured in the current Oppenheimer ad, chasing her tail over mutual funds.



BARBARA RIDDER IRWIN wrote us the following letter:

"Here are a few tidbits for you. One terribly sad but the rest happy.

My CH OTCH KINE-AHORA SOCIAL BUTTERFLY died on March 26 under anesthesia when she was having a routine teeth cleaning. She was only five years old and I will never recover from that tragedy.

However, I have a new Papillon - she is six months old today (July 19th). She does not look like Butter - thank goodness or I could not have been able to keep her. She is very outgoing and smart and I think will make a good show prospect. I also have another Pap. coming from Ilse Sternberg who just had a litter of two; so I'll have company for my "Megane".

Also, Cory got her UD at three shows three days in a row! She is the Collie bitch I bought in England. Then she got a HIT at Tri County Breeders Assoc. Then she got her Herding Certificate. Then I bred her and on July 3rd she presented us with seven babies - 4 male 3 female - all sable and white.

I started her tracking after I bred her and she was getting the idea, but the heat made me stop and then it got too close to whelping time. Maybe when they are weaned I'll try again. Millie Hefner brought her puppy over here and we were sort of doing it together. Some day maybe I'll get a TD!"



FRAN WILMETH'S Doberman, MORGAN, finished her CD degree at the Quaker City Doberman Pinscher Club Specialty on June 12th with a score of 193. Her other two legs were earned at the Penn-Jersey Doberman Pinscher Club Speciality and the Allentown Dog Training Club Obedience Trial.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board met on Aug. 20th. Treasurer reported a balance of \$763.15.

The Aug. TED follow-up was cancelled due to lack of interest. No more scheduled, those who are really interested are getting together on their own.

Fran Wilmeth and Joanne Mac Kinnon will be giving a seminar on tracking at Back Mountain Kennel Club in PA on Sept. 26th.

Match plans are proceeding, building is set and so are fields. Judge is Susan Dolbon from Enola, Pa.

AKC has appointed John Barnard to the Performance Division, he will concentrate on Tracking!!!

Doberman Specialty - we still need more tracklayers.

Fran Wilmeth and Joanne Mac Kinnon gave a tracking demonstration at the Sussex Hills Show on Aug. 30th. "Piper" did a great job.

Plans for picnic and dog olympics were discussed.

Next Board meeting is Oct. 1st.

PROPOSED MEMBER

The editor apologizes for omitting one name in the last issue.

Mildred Hefner, 75 Lake Rd., Morristown, N.J. 07960 267-5676

Millie has Standard poodles.

If no objections to the above proposed member are recieved by the Secretary within 30 days from the mailing of this newsletter, this person will be a member.

How's this for the oddest reason to have a dog - if you are worried about your plants being taken care of while you are away, an article on the care of plants suggests: "If all else fails, get a dog.... and then the person who comes in to feed the dog can water the potted palms as well!"

PEOPLE TRACKS

RANDI MEYER - MEMBER & TRACKING JUDGE

Originally Randi was involved with horses, training, showing, etc. She says she went to the dogs as she could no longer have horses.

Randi grew up with Boxers, an Airedale, a Saint and a Newfy. She got into Belgian Tervurens due to their intelligence, working ability and their sense of humor.

Randi's dogs that have earned titles are as follows:

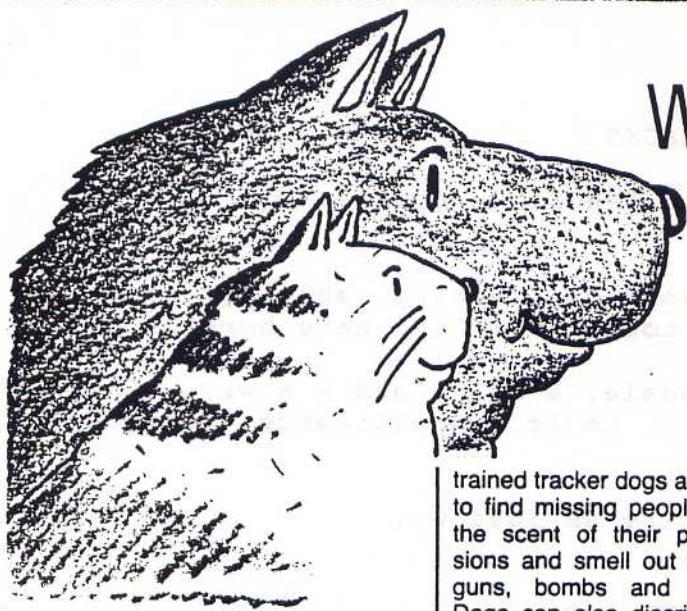
Alisa of Sunburst CD
Glenoak Amanda of Echo Hill CDX. TD
Ch. Rockaway's Best Bet TD
Wysteria's Candy CDX TD
Escapade du Cachet Noir CD, TD
Ch. Souvenirs Trivial Pursuit TD
Ch. Luba vom Gebirge CDX
Ch. Apache of Sunburst CD

In answer to the question of how she got interested in tracking, Randi's reply is that she dearly missed the SAM rides with her horses so she decided to try tracking to get back into the fields.

Randi is active in conformation showing, obedience and tracking. She enjoys working in Nursing Homes with her therapy dog as well as in schools. She teaches obedience and tracking. She is the P/R (Public Relations) person for the American Belgian Tervuren Club along with writing the Tervuren column for the AKC Gazette. And she is a Tracking Judge.

Married, with an 8 year old son and 2 Tervs, Randi works part-time for a veterinarian. In her spare moments she enjoys playing the guitar and fishing.

Randi said that our request for an amusing story was a tough one. She guesses it's a tie between the day she lost her dog and searched for hours only to find the dog relaxing in the bathtub on a hot summers day or a few weeks ago when a group of obedience judges were sitting on the wall by the stairs and her puppy heeled perfectly up the stairs backwards - i.e. tail first !



WHAT YOUR PET'S NOSE KNOWS

Smelles can stir us emotionally. Our mother's brand of perfume or the aroma of roasting marshmallows, say, may arouse feelings of security or memories of summer camp. But an animal's sense of smell is estimated to be a hundred thousand times stronger than ours, so the effects of smells on our pets are much more profound.

Odors can make animals euphoric, aggressive or infertile; they can excite them sexually—and even kill them. Our pets' reactions to odors may seem strange, but a better understanding of how and why they react as they do will make your pet's behavior seem more logical.

The heightened sensitivity to smell in cats and dogs may be attributed to better developed receptors in their noses. In addition, they have a second scent organ, called the vomeronasal or Jacobson's organ, that humans and other primates lack. It is located in the nasal cavity and is connected to two openings behind the upper front teeth. The smell of whatever an animal licks or eats is relayed directly to the organ, which is linked to the area of the brain associated with sexual, territorial and aggressive behavior.

With their more sophisticated smelling apparatus,

trained tracker dogs are able to find missing people from the scent of their possessions and smell out hidden guns, bombs and drugs. Dogs can also discriminate between identical twins on the basis of odor, and can even detect infrared light via special sensors in their noses.

Dog owners often ask me why their pet sniffs and urinates on so many trees and sign posts when it is walked. The dog is smelling the places where other dogs have urinated and then is leaving its own mark, which tells other dogs its identity, sex and, possibly, emotional state. When dogs of the opposite sex are out together and one marks, I have often seen its mate urinate over the same spot, as if to indicate that they were together.

If a female leaves a mark when she's in heat, it's a sexual communiqué. The bitch's urine contains a pheromone, a strong odor that stimulates the central nervous system—and in this case the male dog's sexual drive. Pheromones are so potent that one produced by sexually aroused male boars can put female hogs into a trance, allowing the male to approach for mating.

Pheromones, though, can send confusing signals to pets. For instance, the pheromones from our armpits and scalp can excite pets and prompt them to mount our legs, and male pets get sexually aroused if their owner comes home smelling of a female dog in heat. Some hand and face creams drive

male dogs crazy because they contain a chemical duplication of the pheromone in the urine of female dogs.

Some years ago, a student in a psychology class I was teaching observed social sniffing in a pack of caged dogs. He reported that the dogs sniffed each other hundreds of times a day. I wondered why these dogs, who lived together and were familiar with each other, kept smelling one another in various places. I concluded that they were communicating with each other. Through their sense of smell, animals seem to adjust to and become attuned to other animals and their environment.

Pets seem to feel more secure when they put their own odors on unfamiliar or threatening things. Cats have scent glands on their temples, lips and tails, which they use to mark their offspring, companion cats, owners and furniture in the house. That's why cats rub against us; their scent is a bond of friendship.

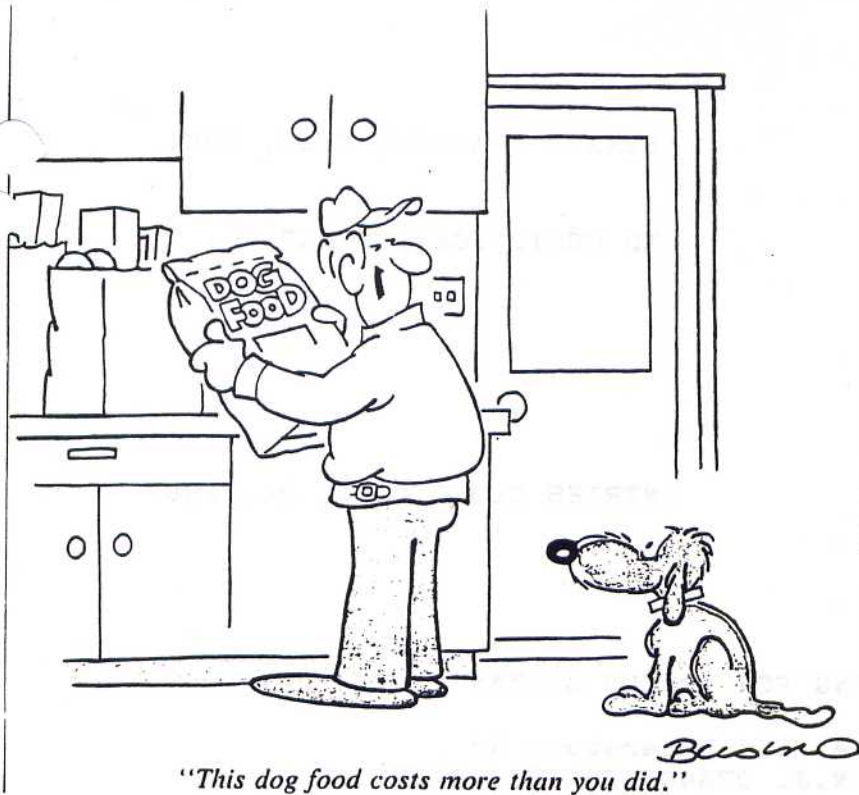
Spraying urine is another way pets establish a sense of familiarity within their territory. Insecure male cats may urinate on rival cats, a new pet, a new baby or even a visitor's clothes in order to feel more secure. Male dogs—especially adolescent ones—may also mark strangers. Castration helps eliminate spraying in cats.

Often cats and dogs are frightened by or aggressive toward humans of the opposite sex from their owners. I know of many male dogs that, after one or two sniffs, growl at their mistress's new

male friend. This is most likely due to the odor of unfamiliar sex pheromones rather than to genuine sexual rivalry or jealousy. Similarly, some cats and dogs may seem to dislike people from foreign countries or of other races than their owners. This is probably because these people eat different foods and therefore have unusual—as far as the pets are concerned—body odors.

Pets often seem to know when we're upset or depressed. As our feelings affect our body chemistry, I am sure they can determine our emotional state from the smells our bodies produce. Rats can detect the difference, on the basis of smell, between familiar and strange caretakers and between schizophrenic and nonschizophrenic people. I think it is likely that animals can smell fear in humans and other animals, although no studies have confirmed this. One test, however, found that rats became extremely agitated when they smelled air that had been blown over another group of rats that were alarmed by a threatening stimulus. Frightened cats and dogs often evacuate their anal glands—the smell possibly being a warning to other animals. A mouse placed in the cage of a mouse that has previously defeated it may die from fear, even though the dominant mouse isn't in the cage.

But there is another side to an animal's sense of smell, one of pure pleasure. Cat owners know all about the intoxicating effect of catnip. The herb's odor gives cats a natural high. Dogs also seem to get high when they roll in what we consider obnoxious-smelling things, like manure or dead fish. Clearly, a dog enjoys wearing the odor—though we certainly don't enjoy smelling it! I think that, just as our senses of sight and hearing allow us to enjoy art and music, an animal's sense of smell must have an aesthetic dimension. ■



"This dog food costs more than you did."

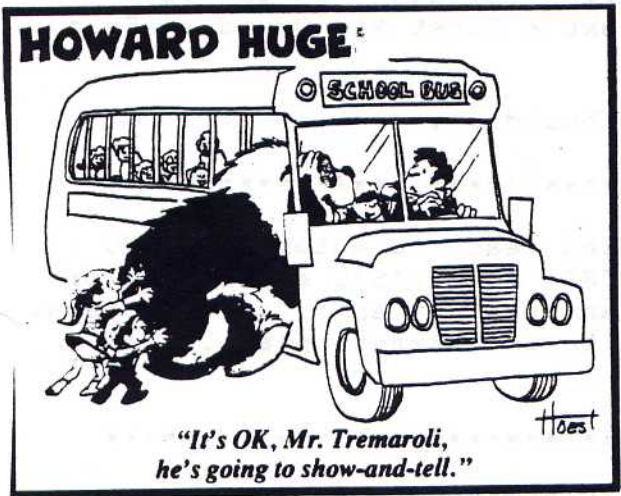
Buscino



HOWARD HUGE

"When do you think he'll be old enough to be left alone without a sitter?"

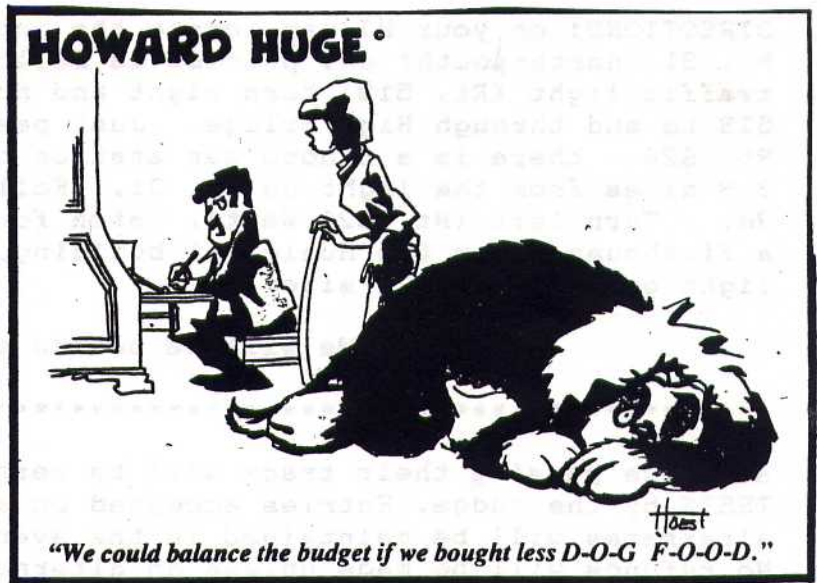
Hoest



HOWARD HUGE

"It's OK, Mr. Tremaroli, he's going to show-and-tell."

Hoest



HOWARD HUGE

"We could balance the budget if we bought less D-O-G F-O-O-D."

Hoest