



Seen On The Internet

Dachshund breeder Pam Bethke posted the following on the Dachsforum web site:

“Friday morning as I was looking out the bathroom window a fox came trotting across the yard just on the outside of the dog yard. The dogs were all in their crates, he must've known that or else he knew they can't get out of the fence.

Anyway, I decided one knows they have been in dogs too long when the first thing one thinks of when seeing a fox trot across the yard is "Look at that reach, is he a bit leggy or is that the standard? Mmmm. . . pretty head, nice coat, good rear drive, confident attitude, wonder if his keel and ribbing is good. I wonder if he would stand on a table so I could check it out?"

2008 Tracking Advisory Committee Information Your 2008 Tracking Advisory Committee

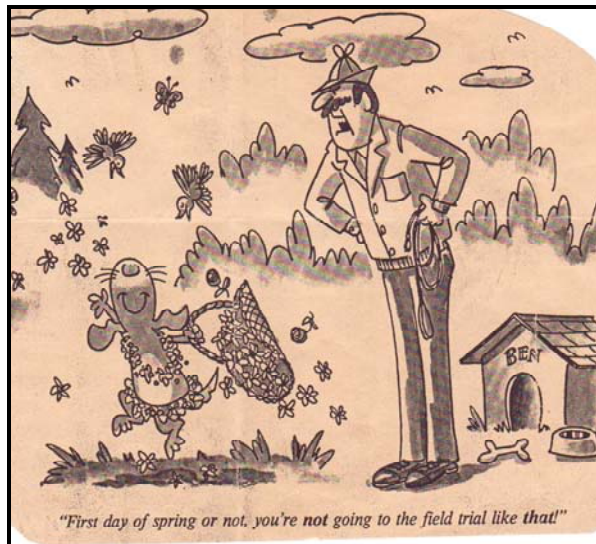
The Tracking Advisory Committee met during the weekend of March 13th to discuss ideas, thoughts, and suggestions submitted from the fancy and from within the committee to advance and improve the sport of tracking.

After selecting the committee members, we knew the sport and its future were in good hands as the nine members represented over 435 years of tracking experience. This experience ranged from exhibiting to judging and track-laying at all levels of the sport. This expertise represented a vast cross-section of the United States.

The committee wasted no time in tackling the multitude of responses submitted by the tracking fancy. As with any review group, some ideas passed through without much debate, some met resistance, and others require research and review by sub-committees, taken from the original committee.

With the committee meeting over, where do your suggestions and ideas go from here?

(Continued on page 9)



"First day of spring or not, you're not going to the field trial like that!"

Inside this issue:

Letter from AKC	2
January Board Meeting	3
Seminar Report	4
Poem: In This House	6
February Meeting Minutes	7
New TD Awarded	8

Licensed to Test



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Lisa M Cecin
Manager
Club Relations

February 15, 2008

Cindy Morrow, Secretary
DFW Tracking Club
P.O. Box 591
Marlow, OK 73055

Dear Ms Morrow:

The representations submitted on behalf of the DFW Tracking Club have been reviewed.

:

We are pleased to inform you that the Committee acted favorably on your request and the DFW Tracking Club has been approved for the holding of licensed tracking events. Please be advised that your club can hold events under the auspices of only those organizations which have been approved by the American Kennel Club's Board of Directors (www.akc.org/rules/policymanual).

In granting this approval, our records have been noted to reflected that your club's focal point of dog interests and activities is Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. It is expected that your club will continue to develop and serve the tracking interests in this area.

:

If we can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,
Lisa Cecin
Manager of Club Relations

This letter from the AKC granting the club licensed status, is an incredible accomplishment that each and every club member should be proud of. The club can now begin to plan its first AKC Tracking Dog test.

MARCH 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Schedule of Events

- ① **March 1** - Carol Pernicka Seminar (Day 1)
- ① **March 2** - Carol Pernicka Seminar (Day 2)
- ① **4** - Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club (TD)
- ① **8** - Spring Tracking Classes Begin
- ① **11** - LA Capital City Obedience Club (TD/TDX)
- ① **16** - Houston Obedience Training Dog Club (TD/TDX)
- ① **18** - Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club (VST)
- ① **25** - Denver Foothills Tracking Assoc. (TDX)

January BOD Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes for January 26, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 1:15p

Present: Debra Lyons, Koni Vahdat, Monica Becherer, Charlene Dunn, Cindy Morrow and guest, Benita Zapata

Report of Secretary: The Spring class currently has 6 beginners enrolled and 6 intermediates enrolled.

Report of Treasurer: At the last Board meeting it was decided that we would need a minimum of 10 signed up or we would consider canceling. Currently we have 12 signed up for the March Seminar so we will proceed with the seminar. 9 signed up at \$125 and 3 signed up at \$150.00. Carol Pernicka will arrive at 6p on Friday, February 29. She is agreeable to videoing dogs working and will work every dog now because of class size. Monica, Charlene and Deb will help. Carol booked her own flight so we will need to reimburse her for the ticket. We also need to send her a list of participants. A discussion ensued concerning the meeting room at the hospital and it was decided to keep the same room both days. Food was also discussed. Cindy's mom will make cinnamon rolls and cream cheese puffs. We talked about having soup instead of sandwiches because it was easier. We will discuss this with the club at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business: Discussion was had concerning making "Member of the Quarter" a part of each newsletter. Club member names would be put in a hat and drawn for each newsletter and a write-up would be prepared to publish.

Due to Koni's resignation as editor of the newsletter, we will need to ask for another editor at the next club meeting. Koni has said she will continue to help

Charlene will update the roster after January 31, 2008 and then send to Sarah.

We have received a letter from the Springer Spaniel club regarding what they require from our club as far as helping with their tracking test. They need a chief tracklayer, tracklayers and flags. They will donate \$100 to our club for our participation in their test. It was also noted that the date had changed to November 2, 2008. Deb will inform the club members at the next meeting.

The AKC Presentation Packet for licensed status will be sent at the conclusion of this meeting.

Koni made a motion to adjourn and Monica seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:58p

DFW Tracking Club Presents Carol Pernicka

Tracking Seminar with presenter Carol Pernicka.

By Cindy Morrow

DFW Tracking Club sponsored a Tracking Seminar on March 1 and 2, 2008, with presenter Carol Pernicka. This seminar brought people from Abilene to Austin to Tulsa and spots in between. The seminar was held at DFWTC's newly approved VST site. The group met in the conference room where they enjoyed home-made cinnamon rolls, fruit, juice, coffee and a few other goodies. While people were happily munching on goodies, Carol spoke about the handouts and went over what she would be covering during the seminar. Meanwhile club members diligently laid tracks, kept food well stocked and overall kept watch for any participants' (or speaker's) need/want. Carol began by going through the list that she had been provided with the different concerns each attendee had regarding tracking/motivation issues their dogs were experiencing. As she went through each concern, she selected a dog and handler to demonstrate the issue and the solution.

Carol talked about tracking with an emphasis on 1) Laying Tracks, 2) Preparing Your Puppy to be a Tracking Dog, 3) Getting Started Tracking Variable Surfaces and 4) Tracking Terminology. Both days of the seminar followed the same general procedure of lecture and demonstration. At the end of the weekend, everyone went away with fresh ideas on how to incorporate the different techniques learned in their training, and a renewed enthusiasm for tracking.

Of course, any account of a DFWTC event would not be complete without all the wonderful food that was provided for the seminar by our stellar cooking members. Honorary club mom, Pearl Morrow aka NeNe, sent homemade cinnamon rolls and cream puffs with her daughter Cindy Morrow, Deb Lyons provided tortilla soup on Saturday, Cindi Todd cooked chili for Sunday, Natasha Decker brought cornbread both days, Tracy Freeling made baked macaroni and cheese for Sunday, Karen Yates brought her home canned pickles, peppers and pickled okra (there were NONE left!), Koni Vahdat brought brownies and Benita Zapata furnished water.



Class Picture



As can be seen in these photos taken at the seminar, a lot of learning was going on throughout the weekend.



"My mother drew a distinction between achievement and success. She said that 'achievement is the knowledge that you have studied and worked hard and done the best that is in you. Success is being praised by others, and that's nice, too, but not as important or satisfying. Always aim for achievement and forget about success.'"

Helen Hayes
US actress (1900 - 1993)

2007 Active Members

Here is the list of the *active* 2007 club members:

Nancy Barclay
Rod Barclay
Monica Becherer
Marian Beck-Edwards
Natasha Decker
Charlene Dunn
Tracy Freeling
Paula Gifford
Sarah Helber
Lucie Hiser
Debra Lyons
Ronna Miller
Cindy Morrow
Connie Napier
Daphne Price
Cherita Sherrill
Toni Skiles
Cindi Todd
Koni Vahdat
Benita Zapata

We currently have 31 members on the membership list.

In this House

Here in this house...
I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks
of the other dogs "out there".
I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world
will not have changed.
I will never know hunger, or the fear of not knowing
if I'll eat.
I will not shiver in the cold, or grow weary from the
heat.
I will feel the sun's heat, and the rain's coolness,
and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose.
My fur will shine, and never be dirty or matted.

Here in this house...
There will be an effort to communicate with me on my
level.
I will be talked to and even if I don't understand, I
can enjoy the warmth of the words.
I will be given a name so that I may know who I am
among many.
My name will be used in joy, and I will love the sound
of it!

Here in this house...
I will never be a substitute for anything I am not.
I will never be used to improve people's images of
themselves.
I will be loved because of who I am, not someone's
idea of who I should be.
I will never suffer for someone's anger, impatience,
or stupidity.
I will be taught all the things I need to know to be
loved by all.
If I do not learn my lessons well, my teachers will
blame themselves, not me.

Here in this house...
I can trust the arms that hold, hands that
touch...knowing that, no matter what they do, they do
it for the good of me.
If I am ill, I will be doctored.
If scared, I will be calmed.
If sad, I will be cheered.
No matter what I look like, I will be considered
beautiful and known to be of value.
I will never be cast out because I am too old, too
ill, or too unruly, or not cute enough.
My life is a responsibility, and not an afterthought.
I will learn that my humans can almost, sometimes, be
as kind and as fair as dogs.

Here in this house...
I will belong.
I will be home.

... .Author Unknown

February Meeting Minutes

DFWTC Club Meeting

February 16, 2008

Meeting called to order at 1:30pm

In attendance: Sarah Helber, Tracy Freeling, Cindi Todd, Natasha Decker, Deb Lyons, Benita Zapata, Koni Vahdat, Toni Skiles (guest).

January 26 Meeting Minutes read and accepted.

President's Report: The Springer Spaniel Club's tracking event was changed from 10/25-26 to 11/1-2. The club will donate \$100 to DFWTC for providing tracklayers.

Secretary's Report: Secretary absent, Koni reported for secretary. The AKC said they have received DFWTC's paperwork for licensed status. It has been placed on their agenda and a decision will be made in 4-6 weeks.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer absent. Printed budget was passed around for member viewing.

Committee Report:

Test Committee: Tracy volunteered to be on the test committee.

Match Committee: Tracy, Cindi, Benita & Koni will be on the match committee.

Seminar Committee: Tracy, Chairperson; Sarah & Koni

Seminar News:

Food for the seminar was discussed. The following will bring the noted items:

Natasha = Cornbread (Sat./Sun.) Tracy = Mac & Cheese (Sun.)

Deb = Tortilla Soup (Sat.) Cindi = Chili (Sun.)

Benita = Water Koni = Brownies (Sun.)

Tracy offered to make color copies of Carol Pernicka's handouts for the participants pending information about Pernicka's copywrite.

New Business:

Member of the Quarter was discussed. It was determined the newsletter editor will select four people annually to profile for the newsletter.

DFWTC web site was discussed. It was suggested the club's by-laws & constitution be placed on the web site.

DFWTC is seeking a newsletter editor.

Members discussed the feasibility of the three-color ink pens; it was decided not to consider purchase; but can be discussed at a later time.

New Members:

Lucie Hiser: Second reading – voted in unanimously.

Toni Skiles: Second reading – voted in unanimously.

Paula Gifford: First reading – needs to complete application before second reading & approval.

Rod Barclay: First reading.

Nancy Barclay: First reading.

Deborah Davis: First reading; applying for associate membership.

Next Meeting will be April 19 at 1:30pm at the AACU

Cindi made a motion to adjourn; Sarah seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

Cindi Todd and CH Laci's Seamus Harper MW OA OAJ AXP AJP TD

WHO (were the judges, tracklayer and who were the contestants)?

Sally Elkins and Sharon Jolly were the judges. Deb Lyons was the tracklayer. Cindi Todd and Harper (CH Laci's Seamus Harper MW OA OAJ AXP AJP) - red miniature wirehair Dachshund

WHAT (I suppose this means the length of the track)?

The track was officially 445 yards with 4 right angle (90 degree) turns (R, L, R, L) in a zig-zag pattern. The first leg was 105 yards, the second 75 yards, the third was 75 yards, the fourth was 95 yards, and the fifth was 95 yards. The cover was short, mowed grass and the official report stated there was no wind (hmmm, I think I beg to differ but lord knows my mind wasn't really there!) and it took 10 minutes to run the track. (And I swear he spent at least 3-5 minutes making me go insane before even taking off from the flag in the correct direction!!!)

WHEN/WHERE?

Dachshund National - January 22, 2008 at Erwin Park, McKinney, TX

WHY?

Oh I asked myself that many times the weekend before and that day with the weather we had to experience. I initially started tracking to improve his work ethic for field trialing (that didn't work by the way - his work ethic IS better but he just feels he can be a tad more creative now about finding bunnies since it is done off leash) but I really enjoy seeing him enjoy HIMSELF so much when he is tracking. He LOVES it!

HOW?

And now as Paul Harvey says... The rest of the story... Oh my gawd! I hate the cold! And I really hate being wet...so of course what is it on the day of my tracking test??? Freezing cold, windy and WET! Oh boy, this bodes well. I *think* I drew the 3rd track <G> Hey, I'm old and it's been over two months now....I do know the time went by very quickly and yet....it dragged if that makes any sense. OK, they are telling me to get my dog ready. NOW my hands are shaking and the harness is all tangled (and it wasn't when I laid it out the night before. How DOES that happen??)...he is finally dressed and we go to the area. The judges are smiling, beneath all their cold rain gear and ask if I have any questions... through my mind is going the inevitable question only I would ask - can I get back in my car now??? but I don't ask it....

Deep breath...I hear Charlene in the back of my head - odd to be hearing her, huh? - "Take your time, don't move until he commits..." OK, Harper, see this? (show him the bandanna) Find Me Another (that's our command). All said in a happy voice. And off he goes ... behind me (the little bugger) to the stand of trees that are about 10 feet back. Well SHOOT (not the word that is going through my mind but you get the drift.). NOW WHAT? Charlene hasn't run THIS scenario on me before because Harper has never done THIS before. OK, deep breath. *Harper, come here and ...find me another* and back to the woods. OH THIS IS GOING WELL. Deep breath. One more time.... *Harper, find me another*. And in his happy little way he says to me *OH, THAT'S what you want!* and he tears off for the 30 yard flag and darn near pulls me off my feet and away we go. He reaches the 30 yard flag and promptly *touches* the pole and looks at me as if to say *where's my cookie?*. I tell him *find me another Harp* and he proceeds to wrap the line around the pole and takes off again. GRRRR! My hands are freezing because I was afraid to wear gloves since I truly couldn't feel the line and it takes me several moments to get the line unwrapped and Harper is still trying to run :). We go a ways and up pops his head, he circles to the left and then

beelines to the right for the first turn, puts his head down and pulls, no questions asked. Every single turn was like that...he would circle the opposite way from the turn and then just pull correctly in to it and pull me along like there was no uncertainty in his mind. The 2nd leg headed towards a road (can't cross a road in a TD level runs through my mind), 3rd leg went through a bare patch between a tiny line of trees without any hesitation and our last leg headed towards a playground and there was the glove....laying out in the open. He is pulling me towards it, he does an about turn and downs on it. HIS INDICATION!!!! WE DID IT! NO ... HARPER DID IT <G>

I know it seems as if I didn't put in any hesitations in his track and truly....although it states it took 10 minutes....I do not remember him searching at all on the straight sections and very little at the turns. It was truly a (hopefully not) once in a lifetime experience of hang on and follow your dog <G> I know...how many times have we heard that phrase in some form expressed by the instructors?



Judge Sharon Jolly, Cindi & Harper, Jean Deiden & Harper's son, Judge Sally Elkins



Tracklayer Deb Lyons, Cindi Todd & Harper, Judges Sally Elkins and Sharon Jolly.



As a bonus on this day, Harper's son at 6 months of age also titled.



DFW Tracking Club was founded in the summer of 2005 by members of the tracking community who wished to offer tests, teach classes, and serve the tracking needs in the DFW area.

The mission of the DFW Tracking Club is to provide a need to the tracking community for tracking tests, tracking classes, and tracking education.

DFW Tracking Club has instructors who can service all levels of tracking from the novice to the advanced tracker. Our classes are structured to teach dogs and their humans to track for an AKC tracking test.

DFW Tracking Club is an AKC recognized club, and a 501(c) tax exempt organization.

We are on the Web!
<http://www.dfwtc.org>

For more information about the DFW Tracking Club, check out our yahoo group at dfwtrackers@yahoo.com or email the club secretary at info@dfwtc.org

(Continued from page 1)

The notes from the committee meeting will be formulated into a review document by the committee, with continued discussion through conference calls. When the committee agrees on the language for each item selected to move forward, the fancy will be asked to participate again as we solicit input from those affected by any changes to the sport.

The recommendations from the committee will be presented on the AKC website for the fancy's review and discussion. After review by the fancy, the recommendations and additional comments from the fancy will be discussed by the nine-member committee.

The outcome of this final discussion by the committee will be presented to the AKC Board of Directors for their review, recommendations, and implementation into the sport.

I want to thank the members of the Tracking Advisory Committee for their commitment to the sport and their continued support in this process.

The AKC and the Tracking Advisory Committee would like to extend their thanks to the members of the tracking fancy who came forward and voiced recommendations and concerns for the future of AKC Tracking.

Please watch for recommendations from the Tracking Advisory Committee to be posted on the website for your review. We need your input and assistance, for you are the guardians of the sport.

Curt A. Curtis



Pictured Front Row: (left to right) Jan July, Carol Ruthenberg, Betty Winthers, Diane Schultz, Carol Clark - Back Row: (left to right) Fran Smith, Herb Morrison, Randie Meyer, Maureen Foley,