



YOUR DOG'S HEALTH: THE AGE OF THE SPECIALIST

Today's dog may see a variety of specialists during the most dramatic moments of his life—a specialist in emergency and critical care may operate to save the life of a dog hit by a car; an older dog might have a kidney stone removed by a surgical specialist; an ailing heart

may gain a pacemaker installed by a cardiologist; an oncologist can provide options to prolong the life of a dog diagnosed with cancer; a dog in danger of losing his home because of aggression can be helped by a behaviorist. And these are only some of the veterinary specialties becoming more and more common. Primarily fueling the trend toward specialization is a demand by pet owners willing to pay for advanced care. At the same time, more and more graduates in veterinary medicine elect to specialize in areas that are of particular interest to them.

At most university colleges of veterinary medicine, specialists use a host of diagnostic tools and therapies similar to those found in major human hospitals, including ultrasound, MRI imaging, kidney dialysis, chemotherapy and open heart surgery. Most specialists are "board certified." This means that in addition to completing undergraduate training and four years of veterinary school, they have completed an internship and residency in their specialized field (an additional 3-5 years of training). In addition to this extensive training, a

(Continued on page 10)

NOTICE: Annual dues must be paid by January 31, 2009 in order to keep your membership in the DFW Tracking Club current. The exception is those members who were voted in at the October, 2008 meeting. Your dues are already paid. For other members: \$15.00 for Associate Membership; \$20.00 for Regular Membership; and \$30.00 for Household Membership. Send your dues to Charlene Dunn, 6707 Silvercrest Drive, Arlington, TX, 76002.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi All,

Well the holiday season is here. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy & Safe New Year.

We have had a busy fall. Fall classes are over and the beginners did well. One of our intermediates has certified, some others are real close to making their goal. Onto the next session that starts after the first of the year. More good things to come in 2009.

I would like to thank everyone that helped with Springer's National tracking test. Chief tracklayer, Cindi Todd, her tracklayers Sarah Helber & Tracy Freeling, and cross tracklayers, Natasha Decker & Karen Mann.

I was so proud that our Club's first AKC tracking test went so Very Well!! Everyone did a Great Job!! Congratulations to our two entrants that passed!! Special Thank You to ALL club members and supporters who helped with the test. Last but not least our Judges!! Charlene Dunn & Gillian Salling.

To all of the members that helped throughout the year:

I THANK YOU! we cannot be a **CLUB WITHOUT YOU!!!**

In This Issue

Seminar Information	2
Tracking Chairman Report	3
Tracking Judges Report	4
Calendar of Events	6
Winter Classes	7
Search & Rescue	8
New TD Earned	9
Meeting Minutes	10

*DFW Tracking Club Presents Steve Ripley's
Making Scents of the Urban Jungle*

Date: January 31—Feb 1, 2009 Location: Harris Methodist Hospital—Bedford, TX

Cost: \$225 Working Team \$125 Audit (includes book and breakfast/lunch both days)

For registration form please visit www.dfwtc.org and click on Events.

About Steve...

My interest in tracking began over 30 years ago when our Golden Retriever, Feather, earned her TD title. My wife had no interest in working on a TDX title so I took over the challenge. On our second try we were successful and that was when I was hooked. A couple of old friends, also judges, mentored me into the judging challenge. I have been judging over 30 years, at all levels of tracking. The biggest honor of my judging career, was being asked to judge the 2007 AKC Tracking Invitational. This was a most memorable and life-time achievement.

After I was approved to judge VST tests in 1995, I felt the need to learn more about the title that I was judging. With this in mind, I set out to train Zoe to her CT title. I felt I would make a better judge if I had actually experienced the problems that one encounters during the training journey. Zoe successfully completed the training program by passing her VST test on the first try. This at the tender age of 2 years and 6 months old. At that time, she was the youngest dog to earn that title. I am currently training another dog, Archie, for his CT title. As a part of the training process, I decided it was a good time to refresh in my mind the steps that Zoe and I took in our quest for her CT title. As a part of this process, I documented the steps taken and have written them into a booklet. The seminar is based on the information presented in the booklet.

My objective of the seminar is to share with the participant all of the tips, problems, and pitfalls I have encountered over my years of judging and observing the behavior of dogs while tracking. This will make the training experience easier, and more enjoyable on the journey to earning that coveted "CT" title.

Space is limited to 10 working teams!

A comprehensive 2 day learning adventure based on the booklet, focusing on scent training work in an urban environment with the emphasis on improving the skills and confidence of both dogs and handlers. Topics will be covered through PowerPoint presentations, discussions and demos with CT trained dogs when available. The emphasis of the second day will be working with novice (to VST) dog and handlers so everyone can watch the dogs and handlers learn the lessons covered on the first day.

- Tracking styles
- Article placement
- When to start training
- Tracking scent posture for your dog
- Aging
- Handling distractions while tracking
- Track plotting for training

- Scent in the urban environment
- Excuses
- Handling and its importance
- Training methods and tricks
- Motivation & Conditioning
- When are you ready to enter a test
- What to expect on test day

Tracking Test - November, 2008



The weekend of November 29th and 30th was a true November weekend - cold and windy! But tracking goes on despite the weather as we all know so Saturday morning found chairman Tracy Freeling along with Koni Vodhat (stepping in for chief track



layer Cherita Sherrill) and her crew - Deb Lyons, Sarah Helber, Cindy Morrow, Natasha Decker, and Monica Becherer with judges Gillian Salling and Charlene Dunn at the northwest campus of TCCC plotting tracks. They were helped by Robin Terrell, Paula Gifford and Ronna Miller carrying flags. Koni Vahdat served as the tracklayer chauffeur.

On Sunday morning the sun was shining but the wind was straight off the north pole and got stronger as the day went on. The hospitality team, led by Nancy and Rod Barclay and helped by Sherry Creighton, Char-

The drawing for tracks took place as scheduled at 8:00 with the first track going to Anna Marie Gustafsson and her GSD. They set the pace, doing a fabulous job and earning a TD. Cindi Todd and her dachshund, Vegas, did a super job until Vegas got



Drawing for tracks

tempted by birds and decided to become a bird dog! Oh, well. Debra Hnath of Claremore, OK and her GSD had success on their track to earn the second TD of the day.

The tracking was completed by 10:30 so everyone gathered back at the hospitality tents (which were threatening to blow away with the wind at any minute!). The soup and chili were not quite hot yet so everyone



Gathering for lunch!



warmed up with Ronna's mulled cider and cinnamon rolls. The cold and wind sharpened appetites so the soup,



lotte Bascom, Kim Couch, Natasha, Ronna and (of course!) Cindy Morrow's mom was there by 7:30 to set out coffee, sweet rolls and (soon-to-be hot) cider. The wind was wicked but at least the campus was quiet during the holiday weekend - no motorcycles, golfers or soccer fans for a change!

lotte Bascom, Kim Couch, Natasha, Ronna and (of course!) Cindy



Judges Gillian Salling and Charlene Dunn are prepared for the cold!

Morrow's mom was there by 7:30 to set out coffee, sweet rolls and (soon-to-be hot) cider. The wind was wicked but at least the campus was quiet during the holiday weekend - no motorcycles, golfers or soccer fans for a change!

chili, ham sandwiches and corn bread tasted good.

The coup de gras was Kim's cake which was in the shape of Texas with our logo on it. The honor of cutting it went to the two qualifiers of the day: Anna Marie and Debra.



Anna Marie and Debra were also presented with trophies designed by Deb Lyons—a commemorative framed photo/document. The whole event was photographed by Den Lyons and Natasha Decker's husband as well as by Rod Barclay.



Hanging on!

As the wind gusts became stronger, several people found themselves holding on to the tents in strategic spots. So we decided to cut things short and start packing up before they became airborne!

More on the Tracking Test by Charlene Dunn

I am pleased to announce the results of the Dallas/Fort Worth Tracking Club's inaugural tracking test!

The day dawned bright and sunny, with temps in the 40s. The wind was blowing and predicted to get stronger as the day ran on. My co-judge, Gillian Salling, and I watched the first 2 tracks go down and then motored over for the draw. After the draw and some hot cider (and a cream puff -- thanks Cindy's mom!) we were off to the first track.

T1 went to a GSD bitch from Sweden. This dog struggled at the start in the winds and eventually had to convince her mom it went towards the fence. After that the dog tracked beautifully, circling once at the

second to last turn, then straight on to the glove. This track was 50 min old, 4 turns, and 444 yards. Congrats to Nordblick's Mira, now TD and her handler Anna-Maria Gustafsson.

T2 went to a mini wirehaired Dachshund bitch. This dog took off like a rocket and zoomed through the first 2 turns, made it to the 3rd and then back tracked half the leg and went off to the right to flush some birds. Once put back on the track she motored to the glove quickly. We will soon see the TD after this Dual Champion's name!

T3 went to another GSD. This dog came down from Oklahoma to try our Texas weather. The dog took off strong, broke at the crest of the hill, readjusted to

the track and took the first turn, looped at the second, due to the wind overshot the 3rd but convinced his owner that it did indeed go to the right and they soon were at the 4th and final turn and on to the glove. This track was 41 min old, 4 turns, and 447 yards. Congrats to Rin Tin Tins Lord Solomon, now TD and his handler Debra Hnath.

T4 went to a local Basset Hound bitch. She seemed very upset by the judges and traffic and did not want to start, despite a valiant effort by her handler. I'm sure we will see her tracking soon.

T5 went to a Vizsla from Louisiana. This dog took off past the 30yd flag and flushed some birds, then appeared to get spooked by something in the field and refused to take a step further despite a great attempt by the handler to get him going again. Afterwards, the handler has said he got a sticker when they were letting him "air" in another field. I'm sure this dog will pass soon.

With the tracks complete we headed over to the hospitality tents for good food and pictures.

Now for the specifics of how well the test was run...

The test chairperson and secretary was Tracy Freeling, she is a veteran at running tests, field trials, etc and did a stand-up-knock-out job as usual.

Chief tracklayer was Cherita Sherrill who had everything organized and ready to go when she got sick (thank you Koni Vadhat for stepping in at the last minute to shuttle tracklayers around and keep them on task).

Veteran tracklayers Deb Lyons, Sarah Helber, Cindy Morrow, Monica Becherer, and first time tracklayer Natasha Decker, not only did a great job of laying their tracks, but each tracklayer then hand drew and decorated the gallery map of their tracks for the entrants to take home as souvenirs.

Flag carriers Ronna Miller, Paula Gifford, and Robin Terrell did a great job of keeping up with the judges.

Hospitality was well staffed and ran by Rod and Nancy Barclay with assistance from Cindy Morrow's mom,

Charlotte Bascom, Ronna Miller, Kim Couch, Sherry Creighton, and Natasha Decker. They kept everyone fed, the generator running, and the tents up in the hurricane force winds!

Ronna Miller handled the gallery maps and did a great job of keeping the gallery informed of where they could (and could not) be.

Natasha's husband, Mark, accompanied us as the photographer. He did a great job.

Awards were handled by Deb and Dennis Lyons. They were AWESOME! Each passing dog got to take home the homemade framed award with a certificate and photo, done on site. Gotta love digital cameras and portable printers!

Notes from the Judges:

On a personal note, I would like to say how VERY PROUD I am of this club. From the 4 people who started DFWTC in the summer of 2005 until today with 30+ members and their first licensed test, this club has done a GREAT job. They offer classes and seminars every year and run cert matches like tests. I'm sure all that hard work is what made this first test go off like clockwork. The club members worked together like a well oiled machine!

GREAT JOB DFWTC on your FIRST TRACKING TEST!
--Charlene Dunn

I would like to thank the club for giving me the honor of judging at their inaugural test. Everything was so well run and organized that it seemed as though the club had been doing this for many years. I want to especially thank Tracy for ferrying us around, the hospitality people for their hard work in the horrible wind, and also my fellow judge, Charlene Dunn, for all of her preparations on researching the site and trying to get the tracks arranged so that the dogs kept out of the stickers! This is a great tracking club and the area is fortunate to have it here. Many congratulations to the two new TD dogs and owners!

--Gillian Salling

JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 VST TR/TX	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 TR/TX Classes	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 TR	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 4: In Houston (Southwest Tracking Association of Metropolitan Houston.)

TR/TX - Closes Dec. 26

January 4: In Las Cruces, NM (Tracking Club of El Paso)

VST - Closes Dec. 17

January 11: In Placitas, NM (Sandia Dog Obedience Club)

TR/TX - Closes Dec. 31

January 11: Winter Classes Begin

January 25: In Fort Bliss, TX (Tracking Club of El Paso).

TR - Closes Jan. 15

FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 TX	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 TR/TX	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 TX	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 TX TR/TX	23	24	25	26	27	28

February 1: In Placitas, NM (Sandia Dog Obedience Club)

TX - Closes Jan. 21

February 8: In Smithville, MO (Greater Kansas Shetland Sheepdog Club)

TR/TX - Closes Jan 22

February 15: In El Paso, TX (Tracking Club of El Paso)

TX - Closes Feb. 5

February 22: In Smithville, Mo (Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club)

TX- Closes Feb. 5

February 22: In Fort Worth (Texas Tri-City Obedience Club)

TR/TX - Closes Feb. 9

MARCH 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 TR	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 VST	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 TR/TX	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

COMING UP

March 1: In Smithville, Mo (Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club)

TR - Closes Feb. 19

March 8: In St. Louis, Mo (Gateway Tracking Club)

VST - Closes Feb. 26

March 15: In Houston (Houston Obedience Training Dog Club)

TR/TX - Closes Mar. 5

Winter Classes:

Marian Beck-Edwards & Sarah Helber will be teaching the winter tracking class. Marian and Sarah are planning on structuring these classes a little differently from their previous classes. This winter the session will consist of ten classes to be held on Sunday mornings, beginning January 11 and (skipping February 1st, February 22nd, and March 29th) ending on April 5. The classes will be held at a couple of locations in the Grapevine/Southlake area. Marian is now in the process of contacting those interested in the classes. If you would like to know more about the classes and/or find out if there is still room in the class, contact Marian at mbe54@vizon.net or Sarah at s.helber@att.net.

*The eyes of a dog, the expression of a dog, the warmly wagging tail of a dog, and the gloriously cold damp nose of a dog were in my opinion all God-given for one purpose only—
to make complete fools of us human beings.*

Barbara Woodhouse

No Bad Dogs



The Search & Rescue Team by Julie Gatlin

Have you ever wondered if your AKC Tracking Dog would make a good *search and rescue* dog?

From time to time, the thought has probably entered many handlers' minds..."I have this dog with this incredible nose and this talent for sniffing out scent, now what?" But, as I have found out in my three years as a member of Search One Rescue Team, it's just not that simple.

Search One Rescue Team is a DFW-based volunteer organization that operates in conjunction with – and at no charge to – government agencies and law enforcement. We have 33 members who care for and train 22 dogs. Our mission is to locate lost or missing persons. We do this, in large part, through the help of our canine partners.

Search One trains and works three different disciplines of search dogs: Air Scent, Trailing and Human Remains. Trailing is the discipline most similar to AKC Tracking, where the dog works on harness and line and follows the scent of a specific person. Trailing differs from Tracking in that the goal of Trailing is to locate the person in the most efficient manner possible (cutting corners is allowed!). Trailing consists of a combination of Tracking (footstep by footstep) and Air Scent techniques. Tracking is most often associated with the work of Bloodhounds, however, other breeds are capable of following this method, as well.

Air Scent canines work off lead and range away from their handler and search team. The goal of the Air Scent dog is to find human scent. Any human scent. This method is particularly effective when working in wooded, wilderness or very large areas; and when it is not known where a person was last seen, or even who the person is.

Human Remains dogs are also referred to as Cadaver dogs. These dogs are trained to search for deceased persons, bones, decaying tissue, etc. Most of Search One's Human Remains dogs are also Air Scent trained. The methodologies are very similar: one is a search for a live person and the other is for a deceased person.

Many people are surprised to learn that the majority of dogs on Search One Rescue Team are rescues themselves. This is due, in part, to the fact that the temperament required for a good search dog can sometimes be the polar opposite of the temperament that makes a good pet. Thus, many dogs that are dumped at shelters have temperaments that make them poor choices as pets for people who don't have a lot of experience handling dogs, and they are often seen as "problem" dogs. Some of these same characteristics make for a very good search dog.

All dogs applying to be members of Search One are taken through a rigorous screening process to ensure that when lives matter, they are up to the task. Search Dogs need to have a very high hunt drive – that is, they will search and search for their reward and will not give up, no matter what the conditions, weather, or distractions. They are also screened for sociability with other animals and humans. In addition, each dog is taken through a series of "nerve" tests, to ensure their ability to deal with all sorts of situations and obstacles. Certainly, not all dogs are up to this challenge.

In theory, any breed can be a search and rescue dog. In practice, there tends to be a handful of breeds that are best suited for the job: Labrador Retrievers, Bloodhounds and German Shepherds are the most common. Search One also has, or has had, members from the following breeds: Belgian Malinois, Golden Retriever, Doberman Pinscher and Border Collie.

So, the next time you or someone you know is wondering whether or not your canine partner is suited for search and rescue, consider the temperament, drive and breed of the dog. Another consideration is the amount of time and training required to develop a mission ready search dog. Training a dog for search and rescue requires considerable commitment of time and resources, but it's a commitment that reaps many rewards. Search dogs save lives.

To learn more about Search One Rescue Team visit www.searchone.org

Anna Gustafsson and Nordblick's Mira TD

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

Gillian M. Salling and Charlene Dunn were the judges. Deb Lyons was the tracklayer.

Anna Gustafsson and Nordblick's Mira – German Shepherd Dog female. Both dog and owner were born in Sweden.

WHAT?

The track was officially 444 yards starting with 1 open right turn, and then in total we had 2 left angle (90 degree) turns and 1 right angle (90 degree) turn in a zig-zag pattern. The first leg was a loooong(!) 130 yards, the second 74 yards, the third was 60 yards, the fourth was 95 yards, and the fifth was 85 yards. The cover was short, dead grass and the official report stated there was light wind and it took Mira all in all 10 minutes to run the track.

WHEN/WHERE?

DFW Tracking Dog Test, November 30th, 2008.

Tarrant County College, Northwest Campus 4801 Marine Creek Parkway, Forth Worth, TX

WHY?

Mira had earlier said there was no day too late to get an American tracking title as she has now lived in the States for 2.5 years without taking an official test in this country. In other words – she thought it was about time she got an American tracking title as she already has the Swedish! (She has earlier successfully completed Novis, Lower and begun Higher level trials in Sweden as we in 2006 moved to the States. Explanation of the levels in Sweden: There are total 4 levels – Novis, Lower, Higher and Elite. These are the official levels stated by The Swedish Working Dog Association). Apart from this, she also participated in SKC (Swedish Kennel Club) Obedience Tests in Sweden, where she has passed Obedience Level I, II and started taking trials in Level III.

...another very good reason to take this test was to proudly represent the arranging club of the trial – the DFW Tracking Club!

HOW?

Well... we kind of got the shortest stick in the draw... but we were also the lucky ones as we got track no 1 and whoosh - there we were on the track at 08:20am right after the draw.

It wasn't the most graceful start I must admit. At first, Mira didn't seem to be in a tracking mood, she was calm and relaxed. Mira wandered around, sniffing the grounds in peace and quiet (everyone around were dead tense and quiet...) and then she wandered off to the next flag. Phew! – I thought, now she has the track! But she zig-zagged slowly forward – not steady like she usually does so I started having my doubts again. (When she tracks well, she tracks confidently and well-focused, she pulls a lot in the harness to move forward and follows the track with excitement). This morning I had to ask her twice to start tracking before she really got it, and then she looked as if she meant: "Aha Mom! I didn't know you wanted me to actually do something? Of course, now I get it - I'll track for you..."

And then, everything changed. The first leg was really long (130 yards) and Mira kept me moving straight forward for a long time. I thought "the judges gotta blow that whistle as there have been no turns for ages!". But then the open turn came and Mira stayed more focused. She analyzed every turn well and followed the track as it had been laid. I had a hard time believing she was on the track as she made her right turns because there was a fence right there, but I found out later that the track was actually laid that close to the fence!

Going forward, Mira's tracking was beautiful from the second turn and the rest of the track until the article was found at the end. Mira did a wonderful job as she had realized that we were actually here to do some serious tracking! She just needed to get in to focus at first. Maybe she needed that "wake-up call".

Mira often wants to please and do her best, and so she did this day as well. It paid off, we passed! It was nice to see her pick up that glove at the end, and then the sight of both judges raising their hands towards the sky, clearly indicating that we had passed.

Thank you DFW Tracking Club for a very well arranged TD test!! Mira and I both enjoyed it and we look forward to getting ready for TDX and VST now.

//Mira and Anna

(Continued from page 1)

*Board-certified Veterinary Specialist must pass two rigorous examinations to achieve Board certification from the ACVIM.

Of all the veterinarians in the United States, only about 12 percent are board-certified. The first two recognized specialties—public health and pathology—began in 1951. The first clinical specialties, radiology and veterinary surgery, debuted in the 1960s. The 1970s ushered in a wave of others: ophthalmology, followed by cardiology, internal medicine, neurology, oncology, dermatology and anesthesiology. In 1993, the American Veterinary Medical Association recognized the most recent specialty—veterinary behavior.

Most specialists limit their scope of practice to one discipline, such as cardiology and occasionally to one species, such as dogs. Following is a list of some of the most common specialties and the number of active board-certified

<i>SPECIALTY</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>2004</i>
Anesthesiology	80	148
Cardiology	52	120
Dentistry	18	75
Dermatology	53	158
Emergency & Critical Care	19	156
Internal Medicine	411	1,145
Neurology	46	126
Nutrition	29	47
Oncology	34	151
Ophthalmology	129	264
Pathology	932	1,411
Pharmacology	5	43
Toxicology	70	98
Veterinary Behaviorists	0	36
Veterinary Surgeons	421	1,041

diplomats in each field (as of 2004).

As people became willing to spend more money on their pets and demanding care for them, veterinarians who traditionally had one— or two— or three— man practices found themselves having to be on call 24 hours a day. Clinics and hospitals started hiring people for emergency duty, which then led several practices to join together to create a central location to serve only after-hours patients. Soon, it became clear that wasn't always practical. A dog hit by a car ideally shouldn't be moved from an after-hours clinic to a regular vet's office the next morning and then back to the after-hours clinic that night. This led to around-the-clock hours, with a nursing staff and a surgeon in the practice.

But life-threatening emergencies run the gamut, including diabetic dogs who need to have blood sugar regulated and monitored throughout the night. A need for a veterinary specialist with a wide range of life-saving skills—not only surgery, internal medicine and anesthesiology—became clear. The specialty of emergency and critical care was born.

It is not easy to create a new specialty. To be recognized by the AVMA's American Board of Veterinary Specialties, a proposed specialty must demonstrate that improved veterinary medical services will be provided to the public. What's more, there must be a necessary number of potential Diplomates to serve a clearly defined need within the profession. The new field must represent a distinct and identifiable specialty of veterinary medicine, one supported by a base of scientific knowledge and practice and acceptable to the profession and the public. Finally, it must establish and abide by clearly stated standards for admission to membership. Understandable there are relatively few specialties—only 20.

In the Dallas/Fort Worth area there are several Veterinary Specialist Clinics. Most require referrals but welcome calls requesting information.

Veterinary Referral Center of North Texas (includes 5 specialties: dermatology; diagnostic internal medicine; ophthalmology; radiology; and surgery)
www.vrcnt.com

Veterinary Specialists of North Texas—Animal Cancer Center. <http://vsnt.com>

Dallas Veterinary Surgical Center.
www.dfwvetsurgeons.com

Animal Diagnostic Clinic. www.adcdallas.com

Animal Radiology Clinic. www.xrayvet.com

Veterinary Internal Medicine Clinic.
www.vimc-dfw.com

Animal Ophthalmology Clinic. www.eyedvm.com

(Parts of the above article were taken from an article in *YOUR DOG*, the newsletter of Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, January, 2006.)

October 2007 DFWTC Meeting Minutes

DFW Tracking Club

October 12, 2008

Olive Garden Restaurant, Grapevine

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm.

Members in attendance were Deb Lyons, Koni Vandat, Charlene Dunn, Monica Becherer, Sarah Helber, Marian Beck-Edwards, Cherita Sherrill, Kim Couch, Natasha Decker, Sherry Creighton, Nancy Barclay, Rod Barclay, Cindi Todd, and Tracy Freeling. One guest, Anna Gustafsson, was present.

President Deb Lyons called the meeting to order. The minutes of the August meeting were read. Monica made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Sarah. Motion passed by voice affirmation.

President's Report -- Deb read a letter from our insurance carrier.

Secretary's Report -- Not present. No report.

Treasurer's Report -- Charlene passed out an income expense report and a summary balance statement for the members to review. Sarah made a motion to accept the treasurer's report which was seconded by Tracy. Motion passed by voice affirmation.

Committee Reports:

Tracking Test Committee -- Test Chair /Secretary (Tracy) reported that plans were proceeding for the club's inaugural test. Hospitality chair (Nancy) discussed the lunch menu. Deb discussed the trophy items planned for successful trackers: a framed photo and certificate commemorating their track.

Seminar Committee -- Tracy reported that Steve Ripley could not commit to the March weekend preferred by the club. Instead the seminar was scheduled for January 31 - February 1. A flyer was created and posted to the club website. The seminar information was also forwarded to various tracking discussion groups. Sarah reported that she had received reservations for 6 working slots and 5 audit slots so far. Charlene reported that Steve Ripley's airline tickets had been arranged and purchased.

Old Business:

Springer Spaniel National Tracking Tests -- Deb reported that the Springer Club did not receive any Springer entries. It did get three non-Springer TDX entries, however. Chief tracklayer Cindi Todd reported that she was finalizing the plotting schedule with the test chair. Sarah, Tracy, and two Springer fanciers will lay tracks. Natasha and Cindi will handle the cross tracks.

New Business:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 14th. Location and time to be announced.

Sarah made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Charlene. Motion passed by voice affirmation. Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.