



Quote of the Month:

"The fully trained tracking dog has the unique ability to use his highly developed olfactory system to accomplish that which we cannot do, that is, to unerringly follow the footsteps of a total stranger who has passed through an area hours before and identify any objects that he may have dropped along the way. For a dog to follow his master's footsteps is natural, but to follow those of a stranger's path is the result of training. What it is that the dog actually smells when following the track of another human being is still not known and is under continuous scrutinization, but the fact that the dog can follow another human being even hours after the fact is not in dispute at all."

(From Tracking dog: Theory & Methods by Glen R. Johnson (\$19.95)
Available from Amazon.com.

Tracks

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi All

I hope everyone's doing well, two legged and four legged members as well.

Just wanted to remind everyone that Elections of Club Officers is coming up. If anyone wants to throw his/her hat in the ring, that person can be nominated from the floor at the next meeting.

We are still searching for a new place to hold classes. We have some parks that we need to do some homework on, to see if they will meet our needs.

See everyone at the next meeting on August 10.

Deb

Inside this issue:

President's Report	1
TAC Recommendations	2
Calendar	3
April Meeting Minutes	4
Veterinary Ultrasound	5
Glossary of Tracking Terms	6
Working in Heat	7
June Meeting Minutes	8
June Board Meeting	9
Book Review	11

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



Tracking Advisory Committee Recommendations

The TAC committee has been working on revisions to the rules for Tracking Tests and sends this report:

We are pleased to present the [2008 Tracking Advisory Committee \(TAC\) recommendations to the fancy](#). The 2008 TAC and AKC staff have devoted hundreds of hours toward the review and development of the ideas submitted by the fancy during our solicitation period in 2007. Our task is not yet over and we now need your assistance again. We ask that you take the time to review the recommendations and give us your input, thoughts, and suggestions. The closing date to submit your comments is September 17, 2008. As you read through the document you will find the recommendations in **underlined text**. (Only the chapters and sections affected by the changes are listed.)

Comments may be submitted electronically to trackadv@akc.org or by mail to:

American Kennel Club
Companion Events Dept.
TAC Recommendations
8051 Arco Corporate Drive
Raleigh, NC 27617-3390

After the closing date, the committee will be presented with the comments from the fancy for further review. This will lead us toward the final development of the recommendations to go before the AKC Board of Directors.

Please help me in thanking each and every 2008 TAC member for their time and work on this project: Carol Clark, Annette (Nan) Cochrane, Maureen (Moe) Foley, Jean Hilbig, Jan July, Randie Meyer, Robert (Bob) Rollins, Carol Ruthenberg, and Frances (Fran) Smith.

Sincerely,

Curt A. Curtis
Assistant Vice President
Companion Events

Note:

Everyone needs to take a LONG hard look at the changes proposed by the TAC. They are found at: http://www.akc.org/events/tracking/2008_tracking_ad

[visory_committee.cfm](#)

We as part of the tracking community have only a short time to make our feelings known. I suggest everyone read them, they are an eye opener and will cause a great deal of change for our club. EVERYONE's comments count. Even if you don't/haven't shown at the other levels, if anything strikes you as odd or not appropriate question it.

Some things being considered:

- Introduction of Tracking Willingness, Tracking Started, TDU - Urban TD test, and Junior Handler program
- Introduction of "saved" spots in tests for "workers"
- Removal of the 30 yd flag at TD level (i.e. your *dog* has to figure the way the track goes from day one)
- Since they are removing your 30yd flag the first leg can now be shorter than 60yds
- No restart at TD level
- Obstacles allowed on 1st leg now for TDX
- VST you can turn in a sharp stairway now and it doesn't count toward turn limit
- Moment of truth turn has to continue 30yds before return to vegetation, but all other directions only 10yds
- Weighing down of articles in VST (i.e. article could feasibly be covered)
- Tracklayer can now cross other tracks to get out of the field
- VST test cannot be judged by 2 provisionals anymore
- Removal of the paragraph that says judges shouldn't intentionally place article to FAIL the dog
- Must have VST title to judge VST
- Must attend AKC seminar

Let your comments be known!

SEPTEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 VST	15	16	17 Dead- line for TAC	18	19	20
21 TD/TDX	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2008

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

WHAT'S COMING

September 14—VST Test

Overland Park, KS—Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club—all breeds - Contact: Christine Lero (cmlero@sbcglobal.net)

September 17—Deadline for comments on TAC Tracing revisions

September 21—TD/TDX Tests

Hutto, TX—Border Terrier Club—Border Terriers— Contact: Sue Young—918-232-7004

October 5—VST Test

Bedford, TX—Basset Hound Club—all breeds—contact Freda Burks (fab@airmail.net)

October 5—TD/TDX Tests

Springfield, Mo—Springfield Dog Training Club—all breeds Contact Anna Freeman (aandyfreeman@sbcglobal.net)

October 19—TD & VST Tests

Des Moines, IA—Des Moines Obedience TC—all breeds Contact Shannon Rodgers 515-450-3615

April Meeting Minutes

DFW Tracking Club

April 19, 2008 Meeting Minutes

1:08 pm (Meeting called to order)

In Attendance: Deb Lyon, Charlene Dunn, Tracy Freeling, Natasha Decker, Marian Beck-Edwards, Koni Vahdat, Sarah Helber, and Cindi Todd. Guests: Rod & Nancy Barclay, Kim Couch and Paula Gifford. Motion made by Sarah, Charlene D. seconded to correct February Minutes to change start time of meeting from *1:30* to 1:00 p.m. Motion passed.

President's Report: None.

Vice-President's Report: No report.

Secretary's Report:

AKC's April Meeting report denoted club membership requirements as far as numbers required to be considered a *club*. Discussion ensued about what *area* DFWTC truly covers according to AKC's definition. It was decided that Sarah will help Cindy M draft a letter to AKC defining and/or expanding our area from Dallas-Ft Worth to include the counties that touch the DFW counties.

Discussion held in response to DFWTC's classes being filled so quickly that Beginner Class graduates are not aware of when to apply to be in the next session. Sarah H wishes to have a committee meeting to draft a list of minimum requirements for Beginners Classes and how to handle informing classes of when to sign up for next class(es).

Cindi T was asked to prepare a synopsis of Beginner Class work and homework required during the 8 week session. This is to help the people decide if they can commit to the amount of work required before they sign up and then possibly drop out of class. The synopsis is to include equipment required (due to our loss of supplier of fanny packs) and possible places to purchase such items and a reading list the instructors would like the students to read.

Discussion was held about setting up an opening date and closing date for class membership similar to show entries.

Treasurer's Report.

Income/expense report from February to April was passed around. A discussion was had about the costs of the seminar and outstanding receipts. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

In December an IRS letter was read saying we had to file an electronic postcard, but would not be available until after the 1st of the year. IRS accepted our filing of a non-profit organization grossing less than \$25,000 per year, and we now have electronic filing capabilities. THANK YOU Charlene.

Committees:

Tracking Committee: Chair is Tracy Freeling. Tracy F volunteered to be Test Secretary. Discussion about how to select judges and the fees to be paid and it was decided that will be a DFWTC membership decision. Tracy F will write letters to confirm acceptance by judges which will include all pertinent information including fees and expectation of both sides of the contract to judge.

Gillian Salling has offered to be a judge for our 1st AKC tracking test. Sarah H. made a motion and it was seconded to have Charlene Dunn as the 2nd judge. Motion passed. Charlene D abstained from voting.

Discussion about test date and size. It was decided to set the location for test as TCC Northwest and to limit the test to 5 tracks to be held on 11/29-30/2008. A motion was made & seconded and the motion passed.

Tracy F will check in to setting up online application access for DFWTC with AKC although the first event will need to be done by paper.

Seminar Committee:

Post seminar survey forms were received and the response was very positive. The seminar speaker was well received. Negatives were hotel accommodations, decided to remove the hotel from Suggested Hotel list that received the most negatives. Some attendees did not appreciate the fact their dogs could not be in an air-conditioned room while waiting to work.

Charlene suggested Stephen Ripley as the next seminar speaker. His requirements were sent to Charlene D and were very reasonable.

Old Business:

Newsletter editor: It was reiterated that Koni can no longer be the editor. Nancy Barclay volunteered to do it as she has experience with the DFW Dachshund Club as she is editor of their monthly newsletter. Her offer was accepted and Koni will help her get the 1st quarter's newsletter done in a timely manner.

New business:

Marian and Sarah relayed that they were met this morning at their classes by a Chesapeake representative informing them that they will no longer *suffer* our trespassing on their land. Therefore, no tracking allowed anywhere except on AA land which is the land directly south of the Credit Union building. Several members decided to go investigate the other sites that might be possible to hold classes. The location for the last classes for Sarah & Marian will be decided this week and the students will be informed where that will be.

Nominating Committee:

Volunteers were Chair: Cindy Morrow (board member), and Tracy Freeling and Cindi Todd as members at large.

New Members: Second reading for Rod & Nancy Barclay and Paula Gifford as voting members and Deb Davis as associate member. All were unanimously voted in. First reading for Kim Couch and associate member applicant Pam Raymond.

Next meeting June 14, 2008 at AA Credit Union, inside.

Cindi T made motion to adjourn. Charlene D. seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM

HEALTH NEWS: Ultrasound for Faster Diagnoses

Ultrasound's arrival in veterinary medicine provided a giant leap in diagnostic capability for the profession. Ultrasound uses a probe to transmit and receive high-frequency sound waves. The waves are directed toward various organs by placing the probe against the dog's skin. The changes in the waves that return to the probe after reflecting off internal organs can be used to create an image, which is projected on a monitor. This provides veterinarians with a painless, noninvasive way to visualize the internal structure of organs such as the liver, kidneys and even the beating heart—views that X-rays could not deliver.



In the latest step, researchers at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University have investigated another application for ultrasound. They now use focused abdominal ultrasound in the emergency room to look for evidence of fluid within the abdomen in animals who have sustained trauma, such as being hit by a car. Trauma may result in internal bleeding or leakage of urine into the abdomen. More than a third of dogs hit by cars suffer internal bleeding, which may not necessarily be apparent on routine physical examination, says Elizabeth Rozanski, DVM, a specialist in emergency and critical care at the school.

Some veterinarians detect internal bleeding by simply monitoring patients until the signs became obvious, but at that point the patient may already be weak and anemic. A needle may be used to “blindly” aspirate fluid, but this technique risks missing the area of internal bleeding. A third technique is abdominal lavage, in which veterinarians introduce fluid such as saline I to the abdomen through a needle, then retrieve it. Lavage is performed with a local anesthetic and possible light sedation. “We run saline directly into the abdomen through a catheter and then let it drain out. If there’s internal bleeding, it will come out tinged pink,” Dr. Rozanski says. “This procedure is much harder on the patient than ultrasound, which is non-invasive and doesn’t require sedation.”

Focused abdominal ultrasound's advantage is that it enables the veterinarian to pinpoint the fluid, Dr. Rozanski says. “On an ultrasound, internal fluid of any kind looks dark. Then you can sample it with a small needle to see if it’s urine, blood or something else.” A dog with significant internal bleeding is monitored in the hospital for a day or more. If the bleeding is serious, the dog might need a transfusion.

“Emergency room doctors with only two to four hours of training in focused abdominal ultrasound were able to use

(Continued on page 10)

Glossary of Tracking Terms

This glossary was compiled using definitions found in the references in tracking books.

AIR SCENT : The airborne scent left by a person, animal or object. (Is also used as a verb when the dog attempts to follow a track by locating the airborne scent left by the tracklayer.)

ARTICLE : An item left on the track by the tracklayer for the dog to find.

BACKTRACK : Retracing steps over a portion of the track that has already been completed.

BLIND TRACK : Laid by another person and totally unknown to the handler.

BODY SCENT: The unique aroma surrounding each individual. The scent a dog follows is a combination of "track scent" and "body scent."

CAST : Stray or wander off a track for more than 3' on either side. (Something the dog does.)

CERTIFICATION : A written statement by an AKC tracking judge that a dog has satisfactorily completed a track equivalent to a TD tracking test. Such a document is required when entering an actual TD test. (AKC Tracking Regulations)

COURSING : Sweeping back and forth across the track in wide arcs. (Also called "quartering.")

COVER : The type of vegetation covering the ground. Examples: short grass, hay, woods.

COVER CHANGES : Changes in vegetation that occur on a single track.

CROSS-TRACKS : Diversionary tracks which intersect the primary track. In tracking tests, cross-tracks are laid deliberately to test the dog's ability to discriminate between the "right" scent and other scents. In training (and in tests) animals and people sometimes provide unplanned cross-tracks.

DEEP NOSE : The dog's characteristic in tracking whereby it takes full scent and tracks with its nose close to the ground. This is a desirable quality.

DROP : An article placed on the track to be located by the dog. Can also be a food drop (used in training).

FH (Fahrtenhund) : The most advanced tracking title awarded in the sport of Schutzhund.

FOULED TRACK : Compromised (or "polluted") by an unplanned scent.

FRINGE : The immediate area on either side of the primary track.

HIGH NOSE : The dog's characteristic in tracking whereby it tracks with its nose too high above the ground. A dog with high nose is using air scent as well as the track scent and will lose points during the tracking portion of the Schutzhund evaluation.

INDICATION : The change in the behavior of the dog that signals the handler to a loss of scent, a turn, an article, etc..

LEG : Segment of a track between the start and first turn or between subsequent turns.

NON-RESTRICTIVE HARNESS : A harness that does not restrict the dog's shoulder movement.

OBSTACLE : Obstruction or hindrance that interrupts dog's scenting. May be natural or man-made and dog and/or handler may have to go around, over or through it. (Ganz & Boyd)

PLOT : to lay out a track and/or make a map.

PRIMARY TRACK : The track the dog is to follow.

QUARTERING : See Coursing.

SCUFFING : Dragging of tracklayer's feet to leave a very concentrated scent.

STEPTRACKING : Scenting from one footprint to another. Beneficial in finding articles, sorting out primary track from cross-tracks, and working older and/or longer tracks.

TRACKING DOG : The title awarded by the AKC to dogs which have successfully completed a TD track at a licensed tracking test. (AKC Tracking Regulations)

TRACKING DOG EXCELLENT : The title awarded by the AKC to dogs which have successfully completed a TDX track at a licensed tracking test. (AKC Tracking Regulations)

TRACK SCENT : The scent of the ground surface that has been disturbed by the tracklayer. The scent a dog follows is a combination of "track scent" and "body scent."

VARIABLE SURFACE TRACKING : A type of tracking, recently added to the AKC's tracking events, in which the dog follows human scent across a variety of surfaces on a single track. The title VST is awarded by the AKC to dogs which successfully complete a VST track at a licensed tracking test. (AKC Tracking Regulations)

WHISTLE : What the judge uses to indicate that a dog and handler have lost the track and failed a test. Glen Johnson describes the "chilling pain" of getting a whistle, but it's doubtful you'll need therapy.

Summertime Tracking

DANGERS OF WORKING DOGS IN HEAT

Nate Baxter DVM

The first thing that needs to be understood is that dogs and people are different enough that most of the info cannot cross lines. Dogs do not lose enough electrolytes thru exercise to make a difference, but if the dog gets truly into heat stroke the physiological changes will make electrolytes necessary. Unfortunately oral replacement at that point is futile, they need intravenous fluids and electrolytes and lots of it.

COOLING: Evaporative cooling is the most efficient means of cooling. However, in a muggy environment, the moisture will not evaporate and cooling does not happen well. I cool with the coldest water I can find and will use ice depending on the situation. The best way is to run water over the dog, so there is always fresh water in contact with the skin. When you immerse a dog in a tub, the water trapped in the hair coat will get warm next to the dog, and act as an insulator against the cool water and cooling stops. If you are able to place the dog in front of a fan after running water over him/her, that is even better. Misting the dog with water will only help if you are in a dry environment or in front of a fan. Just getting the dog wet is not the point, you want the water to be cool itself, or to evaporate.

For most situations all you will

need to do is get the dog in a cooler environment, i.e. shade, or in the cab of the truck with the air conditioning on (driving around so the truck does not overheat and the AC is more efficient). Up to a couple of years ago, I was very concerned about my dogs getting too hot in the back of my black pickup with a black cap. A new white truck fixed a lot of that problem. When I had one dog I just pulled the wire crate out of the car and put it in some shade and hopefully a breeze. But having 2 dogs and running from one stake to another, that was not feasible. So I built a platform to put the wire crate on. This raises the dog up in the truck box where the air flow is better. Then I placed a 3 speed box fan set to blow on the dogs with a foot of space to allow better airflow. I purchased a power inverter that connects to the battery and allows the 3 speed fan to run from the truck power. It has an automatic feature that prevents it from draining the battery. When I turned that fan on medium I would find that the dogs were asleep, breathing slowly and appeared very relaxed and comfortable in a matter of 20 minutes or less, even on very hot muggy days.



ALCOHOL: I carry it for emergencies. Alcohol is very effective at cooling due to the rapid evaporation. But it should only be used when other methods are not working. You should be on your way to the veterinarian before you get to this point. We recommend using **rubbing alcohol**, which is propylene alcohol, not ethyl, for those of you not aware. So do not try to drink it. Alcohol should be used on the pads and lower feet area where there is little more than skin and blood vessels over the bones. Use a little bit and let it evaporate, you can use too much as some is absorbed through the skin. There are concerns about toxicity, but you have to get the temperature down.

WATCHING TEMPERATURE: If you feel your dog is in danger of heat injury, check its temp and write it down. Keep checking the temp every 3 minutes. I recommend getting a **rectal glass thermometer**. I have found the digital ones to be very unreliable. Don't forget to shake it down completely each time, sounds silly, but when you are worried about your companion, things tend to get mixed up.

VERY IMPORTANT: Once the temp STARTS to drop, STOP ALL COOLING EFFORTS. The cooling process will continue even though you have stopped. If the temp starts at 106.5, and then next time it drops to 105.5, stop cooling the dog, dry it off, and continue monitoring. You will be

(Continued on page 10)

June Meeting Minutes

DFW Tracking Club

June 14, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:10pm.

In attendance: Deb Lyons, Daphne Price, Toni Skiles, Ronna Miller, Sarah Helber, Lucie Hiser, Cindi Todd, Charlene Dunn, Monica Becherer, Paula Gifford, Marian Beck-Edwards, Natasha Decker, Benita Zapata, and Tracy Freeling. Guest: Sherry Creighton.

Minutes of last meeting were read by Cindi Todd – Ronna Miller motioned to approve minutes as read and Tracy Freeling seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes of the last board meeting were read by Charlene Dunn – Cindi Todd motioned to approve the minutes as read and Paula Gifford seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report – Deb spoke about the instructors meeting, and said that the outcome would be discussed in old business.

Treasurer's Report – Charlene Dunn read the income and expense statement and net worth. She stated the income since the last meeting was dues and t-shirt sales. Tracy Freeling made a motion to accept the report as read and Cindi Todd seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Test Committee Report- Tracy said the club received the approval letter from the AKC for the Nov. 30th TD test. Tracy will make a premium and send it out to the various groups and lists to advertise. Tracy will also find out how many slots the NW TCC campus was approved by the AKC to hold. The test was approved for 5, but if the AKC approved the site for 6 the alternate can be plotted and ran as a titling track. Tracy has heard from Gillian Salling, she is back in the country and ok with the change of location.

Springer Committee Report – Deb said that the Springer test that DFWTC would be supplying the tracklayers for needed to be a committee and the club needed to get the volunteers finalized. Deb will check the letter sent by the Springers to see if they plan to provide end articles, and DFWTC will provide chief tracklayer, tracklayers, and flags for the test. Tracklayers will be Deb Lyons, Charlene Dunn, Natasha Decker, and Tracy Feeling, Sarah Helber, and Marian Beck-Edwards. Cross-track layers will be Cindi Todd and Lucie Hiser.

Seminar Committee Report – Tracy and Sarah had reviewed information about Steve Ripley. A discussion was had about having him for 2009 and the short time frame in which to put a seminar together and advertise. Deb mentioned that since we had done this before the lead time should be less. Tracy will contact Steve to see if he is available, if his costs are still the same, and how many dogs he will work and report back at the August meeting. Monica Becherer motioned pending Steve's response to have the seminar in 2009 and Natasha Decker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Nominating Committee Report – Cindi Todd spoke for the absent chairperson. The nominating committee put forth the following slate of officers:

President – Deb Lyons
Vice-President – Koni Vahdat
Secretary – Cindy Morrow
Treasurer – Charlene Dunn
Board Member at Large – Monica Becherer

The floor was opened for other nominations. There were none. The slate of officers goes to August as presented.

Old Business

Classes – A discussion was had about where or who had the land to support our current class structure. All members are encouraged to look for places with 100-200 acres and that will allow the club use of the land. Charlene Dunn passed around the club resource PDF that the club put together when approaching the hospital for permission. Charlene will put the PDF in the files section on the yahoo group for members to download and use when approaching businesses. Charlene will also put a scanned version of the club insurance in the files section.

Class Structure – Deb Lyons brought up the class length and numbers. The instructors had discussed taking the classes to 10 weeks. Marian Beck-Edwards talked about Judy Asher's and other clubs success rate and their class structure being very close to Glen Johnson. Marian Beck-Edwards also commented that the potential students should be interviewed before being accepted into class. The students must be willing to commit to the 10 week schedule 100% and be willing to track a minimum of 5 days a week. A discussion was had about tracking style and the ability for all to conform to one style.

The consensus was that the club should not be limited to one style and guidelines should be adopted to support graduation from a specific class. This brought up what Cindi Todd had put together from the last meeting. The instructors will review.

Fee Structure – The cost of classes vs. time effort and commitment was discussed. The club reviewed what the other venues charge for their classes. It was mentioned that even a movie was more expensive than taking a tracking class. Currently for an 8 week class it costs the public \$80 and members \$40, which breaks down to \$10 and \$5 per class. A motion was made by Natasha Decker and seconded by Tracy Freeling to change the class costs to \$15 for non-members and \$7.50 for members. Motion passed. Charlene Dunn will update the standing rules to show this change.

New Members

Potential members, Pam Raymond and Kim Couch, from the April meeting were read for the second time. A vote was had by secret ballot for both Pam and Kim. They were accepted unanimously.

Sherry Creighton's application was read for its first reading. She is applying for full membership, lives in the Dallas area, and willing to help out with hospitality and club functions.

New Business

Charlene Dunn asked that the club consider placing the duties of class secretary, membership, and recording secretary into committee. Natasha Decker volunteered to take recording secretary duties for the August meeting, Tracy Freeling for October, and Marian Beck-Edwards for December. Cindi Todd volunteered to be the membership chair. All applications will be kept by her and read at meetings.

The next meeting will be held August 10, 2008 at 1:30pm at the HEB Hospital. Marian Beck-Edwards made a motion to adjourn and Ronna Miller seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm.

June Board Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes for June 1, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 11:45am

Present: Debra Lyons, Koni Vahdat, Monica Becherer, and Charlene Dunn

Report of Secretary: Cindy asked Deb to present to the board the option of having a committee handle the duties of the secretary. The board had a discussion on the duties of the secretary and what can be divided. There was also a discussion on having the duties of classes split into a committee; all discussion was contingent on the ability to find someone willing to serve in those positions and the outcome of the meeting on June 8th on the class structure.

The board will present the options to the club at the June 14th meeting.

New Business:

Loss of AA fields. The Board discussed the loss of the AA fields and options for places to hold class. Current options are Webb Committee Park, Seagoville Park, TCC North West Campus. TCC would have to be approached along with the cow-

town trackers to make sure we were not in conflict. Options of moving classes to Sundays, rotating classes, changing class structure, and changing the classes offered were also discussed.

Moving Meeting Location. The Board discussed moving the meetings to the HEB hospital, due to the club not teaching at AA anymore. Deb can book a room for free; however, the club would have to decide on a more set schedule for meetings to allow the hospital to book in advance, also with the option of moving classes around the club may want to look at having the meetings on a different day. With 6 meetings a year, the schedule should not be that difficult to work out.

Monica made a motion to adjourn and Koni seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:54p

(Continued from page 7)

amazed how it continues to go down. If you do not stop until the temp is 102, the temp will drop way too low. I cannot emphasize this point enough.

WATER: When the dog is so heated that it is panting severely, only let it have a few laps of water. Water in the stomach does not cool the dog, you just need to keep the mouth wet so the panting is more effective. Do not worry about hydration until the temp has started down. A dog panting heavily taking in large amounts of water is a risk of **bloat**. Due to the heavy panting they will swallow air. Mixed with a large amount of water this can cause the dog to bloat (an extremely serious condition). Once the temp is going down and panting has slowed to more normal panting then allow water. The dog will rehydrate itself after temp is normal. Finally, even if the temp is normal, get the dog to a vet, as it can still need IV fluids and some medication. Also, a case of heat stroke can induce a case of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis (not parvo), with a ton of very bloody diarrhea and a lot of fluid and electrolyte loss. These cases need aggressive treatment.

PREVENTION: This is the best treatment. Learn to watch your dog, and see the changes in the size of the tongue, and how quickly it goes down. Learn your dog's response to different environments, and be careful when you head south for an early season hunt test or trial. I have been to Nashville at the end of May, only 5 hours away, but the difference in temp and humidity did affect the dogs as they were used to more spring weather in Ohio. Try different things in training to help keep the dog cool and learn what works better.

AVOID: Do not swim your hot dog to cool it then put him/her in a box or tight crate. Evaporation cannot take place in a tight space, and the box will turn into a sauna effectively cooking your dog. Carry a stake out chain, and let the dog cool and dry before putting it up. I demonstrated this lesson this spring with my 10-month old pup. After a 15-minute session in yard drill on a warm 70°+ day, she was panting pretty hard and was pretty hot. She was OK but it was time to



stop. Just for the heck of it I took her temp. It was 103.6, above normal but not too bad for a dog that had just finished working. In my back yard I have a 300-gallon Rubbermaid tub filled with water. I took her to it and she jumped in and out 3-4 times. She appeared totally improved, tongue was much smaller, and eyes brighter and her full spring was back into her step. So I re-took her temp and it was 104.2! So even though she looked better she was actually hotter. This is a perfect

lesson to show why you should not get the dog wet and then put them where air is restricted. Water on the dog's skin causes the blood vessels to constrict, decreasing blood flow to the skin. Therefore the hot blood is shunted back to the dog's core and retains the heat. You may have felt the same thing - after exercising you take a shower and get cooled off, but as soon as you turn the shower off you start sweating again.

Remember: Prevention. Learn your dog. It is worth the time and effort.

(Continued from page 5)

this technique to make an assessment as to whether internal fluid was present and then to see whether the radiologist agreed. In most cases we were able to save about 12 hours in making that diagnosis and begin immediate treatment for the dogs that needed it," says Dr. Rozanski.

One limitation is that while large urban veterinary hospitals are now likely taking advantage of this new technology, some veterinary practices don't have ultrasound equipment and the staff trained to use it — particularly smaller clinics in rural areas.

(The preceding article was taken from the March, 2007 issue of **Your Dog**, published by Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. It was written by Elissa Wolfson)

Book Review

Following Ghosts: Developing the Tracking Relationship; by Suzanne Clothier & John Rice. Flying Dog Press, 1996. Booklet.

A common sense approach to tracking/search & rescue based on respect for the dog's natural abilities, positive reinforcement, and keen observation skills. To be successful with this approach, all you need is a good relationship with your dog. Based on John Rice's extensive experiences with his all Golden Retriever Police K-9 unit, this approach to tracking focuses on the relationship between dog & handler, and an understanding of scent from the dog's point of view. Find out why variable surface tracking is not the ultimate goal - but the very best starting point! Learn why food on the track confuses dogs. Discover the perfect tracking field - in your own neighborhood. Track anytime, in almost any weather. Not a how-to recipe book, *Following Ghosts* offers a revolutionary and challenging look at tracking, canine abilities and ways to help you and your dog reach your tracking goals. Whether you're a tracking novice or an experienced tracker, this booklet will change your thinking.

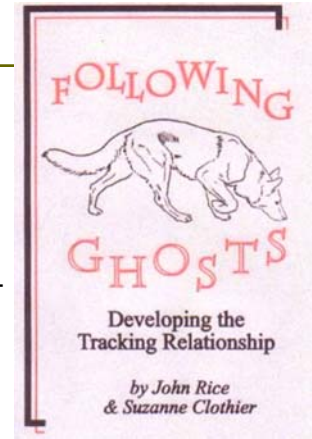
"Following Ghosts is based on common sense, respect for the dog's natural abilities, positive reinforcement and keen observation skills. It is *not* a recipe book that will tell you how many tracks to lay every day for how many weeks in order to produce a TD, TDX, or VST dog. It is an approach that allows thoughtful handlers to learn how to read, trust, and assist their dog within the context of a tracking relationship." (from the introduction)

About the authors:

John Rice is a retired forest ranger with an extensive background in K-9 Search & Rescue. He teaches track-

ing from a unique perspective learned from 14 years of observing dogs at work in the demanding conditions of real life.

Suzanne Clothier is a professional dog trainer, a German Shepherd breeder and the author of numerous articles which have appeared in the AKC Gazette, Dogs in Canada, Off Lead, and other publications. She teaches seminars on a wide variety of topics.



Book is available from Working Dogs Bookstore
(www.workingdogs.com)

"We are alone, absolutely alone on this chance planet; and, amid all the forms of life that surround us, not one, excepting the dog has made an alliance with us."

—Maurice Maeterlinck



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.

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