



# Note from Editor

This quarter I learned about the dangers of my dog stepping in a deep hole on track. We had a spot in a

TDX test in Fort Worth. That morning the weather was scattered heavy thunderstorms. We drew last track. Finally it was our turn and Zubie worked hard to start down the first leg, About 50 yards in, I saw Zubie's back left leg go way down into a hole but he kept on working. We soon failed as the conditions were just too much. No one passed.

By the time we got home from the test, it was clear that Zubie was hurting. Trip to the vet and massage therapist confirmed his right leg was strained. Two weeks later, our last TDX test opportunity of the spring and Zubie wouldn't even try to start. That was a very long drive home from Sullivan, MO.

Now we wait while Zubie heals and re-builds his muscle strength before continuing our tracking adventures.

Happy Tracking Everyone!

Jean-Maria



DFW TRACKING CLUB

# Tracks



**Next Meeting**

**Date: August 15, 2014**

**Time: 11:00am**

**Location:**  
**Olive Garden**  
**Irving, TX**

INSIDE	
NOTE FROM EDITOR	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2
EVENT CALENDARS	3
MEETING MINUTES	5
Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit TD!!	6

# President's Message

## SUMMER FUN

As we wrap up our Spring activities...

- Spring Classes March—April

Big THANKS to the instructors and our 2 new assistant instructors. Cindi Todd, Jeanine Wilson, David Bull, and Charlene Dunn. Hopefully we will see Jeanine and David teaching their own classes soon!

- Spring TD/TDX—March

Kudos to Secretary, Tracy Freeling, and our 2 judges, Linda Baschnagel and Sue Boyd. Although we did not have any passes, we will see these dogs earn their titles soon! Special thanks to our land owners, Peggy and Kirk Kirkland, who allow us to interrupt their serenity for two days and help us run tracklayers and entrants all over the ranch.

And head for the summer, DFW Tracking Club hopes you keep your canine partner safe during the summer. While most take the summer off, if you do track during the summer, remember these tips:

- Drive to the tracking site with the windows down. No A/C on. It helps both you and your dog get accustomed to the temperatures. Think about walking out of the nice cool house into the heat of the day, it feels worse than if you had been standing in the heat all day.
- Water your dog! Always, Always carry water with you, even more than you normally do. Your dog is working and will need it at every article. Consider a cool coat.
- If you are tracking after 10 am and have a fair skinned dog, remember they can get sun burned as well. Put sunscreen on their nose and other areas not covered by fur.
- Be careful on humid days. Humidity interferes with the dogs ability to rid themselves of excess heat.
- Dogs don't sweat except in their paws, which is not enough to cool. Dogs cool by panting. Older dogs, young pups, and dogs who have medical conditions have a hard time regulating their body temperature. It is best not to track them in the summer.
- If you suspect heat stroke, do not wait, get your dog to a vet immediately. Keep the dog cool with wet towels and isopropyl alcohol to the hairless part of the body while being transported.

Charlene Dunn

# JULY, 2014

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

## EVENTS

July 06: VST-Fort Collins, CO closes Mrs. Linda Gruver (970) 988-0466  
spiritkennels@earthlink.net

July 20: TDU-Fort Collins, CO closes Hildy Morgan (970) 223-3493  
hildy.morgan@gmail.com

# AUGUST, 2014

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

August 31: TD-Hampshire, IL closes Ms. Nancy Einwich (847) 340-0983  
nteddy95@aol.com

# SEPTEMBER, 2014

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

# OCTOBER, 2014

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

## EVENTS

- September 07: TD/TDX-Elgin, IL closes  
Ingrid Hamburger (630) 365-3248  
i.hamburger@att.net
- September 14: VST-Denver, CO closes  
Karri Britton (303) 367-2077  
rahwynd@comcast.net
- September 14: TD/TDX-Sycamore, IL  
closes Jacqui Fredricks (414) 852-2681  
trackingsec@tervolk.com
- September 21: TDX-Barrington Hills, IL  
closes Mr. Patrick McMahan (630) 377-  
6441 pat.mcmahan@comcast.net
- September 28: VST-De Kalb, IL closes Ms.  
Lisa Foltz (708) 227-8627  
avantidogs@comcast.net
- September 28: VST-Palos Hills, IL closes  
Christine Bartels (847) 812-7961  
cicinc@sbcglobal.net
- October 05: TDX-Sullivan, MO closes Col.  
Marita Patterson (757) 695-0066  
maritapatterson@yahoo.com
- October 05: VST-Lincolnshire, IL closes  
Ms. Darlene Charmelo (773) 354-3212  
bxrlvr@msn.com
- October 19: TD-Littleton, CO closes Laura  
Wright-Smith (970) 535-9782  
brooklyns12@hotmail.com
- October 19: TD/VST-Sullivan, MO closes  
Sandi Thompson (314) 640-9889  
gatewaytracking@yahoo.com
- October 19: TDX-Cherry Valley, IL closes  
Mrs. Terry Middleton (262) 949-8593  
tgm11a@gmail.com
- October 19: TD/TDX-Elgin, IL closes Ms.  
Nancy Bartosch (630) 643-9176  
nancyspetsitting2@yahoo.com
- October 19: TD/TDX/VST-University Park,  
IL closes Cindy Childers (708) 873-9877  
cindyfive0@aol.com
- October 26: TD/TDX-Hanover Park, IL  
closes Ms. Kelly Smolen (847) 334-9152  
kmo204@yahoo.com
- October 26: TD/TDX-Burlington, IL closes  
Chris Van Byssum (708) 280-8854  
chrisvanby@yahoo.com

# DFWTC Club Meeting Minutes

Approved

## Minutes of June 14, 2014, Olive Garden Restaurant, Irving, TX

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm by President Charlene Dunn. In attendance were members Horst Bungarz, Jane Bungarz, Charlene Dunn, Tracy Freeling, Sarah Helber, Cindi Todd, and Benita Zapata. Also present were guests Laurel Hoevker and Pam Joyce.

Motion made to approve March minutes. Seconded and motion passed.

President's Report – Practice date in September, date TBA.

Secretary's Report – No report.

Treasurer's Report – No report.

## OLD BUSINESS

Budget Committee – Proposed budget presented. Motion to approve made and seconded. Motion passed.

Judges Committee – Discussion regarding possible night VST test in May 2015 in lieu of January.

Nominating Committee – Proposed slate of 2014-2015 officers read. No additional nominations were made from the floor.

November 2014 TD / TDX tests – Stephanie Gonyeau and Tom Hacholski hired. No report from committee Sarah Helber, Marian Beck-Edwards, Jeanine Wilson, Betsy Watkins, Jean-Maria Higginbotham, Natasha Decker.

Seminar Committee – No report.

## NEW BUSINESS

New Membership Applications – 1st reading for Pam Joyce. 2nd reading for Laurel Hoevker. Laurel's application for regular membership was approved by secret ballot of members present.

Next Meeting – Saturday, August 16th at Spring Creek Barbecue in Irving. Time to be announced.

A motion to adjourn was made and passed. Meeting concluded at 4:20 pm.

Tracy Freeling, Secretary

# Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit TD!!

by Sarah Helber

I am so proud of my Terv puppy Miles - he kept his focus in a new situation around new people and passed the TD test at the Belgian Tervuren National Specialty in northern Ohio in April 2014 to become Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit TD! And he was barely 10 months old.



**It may look like snow, but it was clumps of switchgrass - photo by clintjudipphoto**

I drove to Vermont in August, 2013 to bring home a puppy (thence the name "Miles" - we drove miles and miles). After a couple of days to adapt to the new sights, sounds and smells I started him tracking. I used the same drill that Marian and I start our students on - food at the toe of every step, then every other step, etc.

Soon he was taking turns nicely, but I was still training on tracks with lots of food and minimal age. Looking at the calendar, I decided I simply had to pull up the food and add time - so we did (gradually, of course). He kept his focus, so I asked Marian to lay us a blind track just to see if he was doing as well as I thought he was. He was - so we kept going.

In late January Charlene agreed to meet me for a certification track. Unfortunately nearby construction work appeared to be too much for us. Miles started well, but lost his focus when the track turned back towards the equipment. However, the next week he did well in a less exciting place, and we mailed our entry for the Texas Tri City TD in Fort Worth. Charlene had remarked on what appeared to be a slight hesitance to commit to the open turns, so we practiced lots of open turns.

At Texas Tri City we drew the first track. Miles started well, was pulling hard and seemed quite confident. On the 4th turn he turned right towards the trees at the top of the hill, rather than making an open left turn. He wasn't pulling quite as confidently, but the grass had changed and I thought perhaps he was dealing with the slight change in vegetation . . . until the whistle blew. When the tracklayer put him back on the track he found the correct direction immediately and found the glove 50 yards away.

While I was disappointed in the failure, I was pleased with Miles' performance, so I entered the DFWTC combined TDX/TD test at Fossil Ridge Ranch. I knew it would be a very different environment for this city dog. We found some

## Miles TD (continued)

tall grass to practice in, and I tried to take him to new places, and certainly we practiced open turns, but he was still a puppy and I knew the puppy brain might kick in. On test day we once again drew the first track. I didn't think he would handle riding in the "mule" very well, so we parked the car and walked across the creek and along the path to and into the hay fields. Perhaps it was the different approach to the track, perhaps it was something in the fields, almost certainly it was puppy brain, but once again we failed. He started well, broke at the first turn, showed the second leg, and then became distracted. He spotted another tracklayer in the distance and decided she really was coming to say "hi". He couldn't take his eyes off of her. Ah well - what's another entry fee?

By this time it was March and the environment was turning green. If he flushed a bird or a butterfly he might well leap into the air for it. After his performance at our test I decided to go all the way back in our training to hot tracks with food on them. I felt perhaps I'd pushed him too fast. I did focus on practicing "Find It" (put your nose down and start looking for something (food)). I had just about decided to wait until fall, much as I hated having to do so. However, I had previously agreed to go to our National Specialty so that Miles' breeder could see him, so I entered the TD test there. I rationalized that maybe the varmints would still be hibernating in northern Ohio in late April, and it certainly wouldn't be hot.

I looked at the long range weather forecast - rain, rain, rain. We practiced in the rain on the couple of days that it rained in Dallas, along with open turns, tall grass, new places and "find it". I looked up the location - Charlemont Reservation - and its website said there were seven ponds. Oh boy! The trip would also be the first long trip for Miles since I had brought him home.

We left early enough for me to at least get my eyes on the site before plotting day. When we arrived I took Miles out of the car and let him sniff around the parking area. Then we drove around looking for terrain similar to what I had seen. I was having no luck finding anything similar, so I decided that something new in the rain would have to suffice. We went to a state park nearby where I laid a one-turn track along the side of a pond, turning into tall grass near some woods. Miles really struggled. It did not warm my heart. The next day I watched herding, but had noticed some clumpy grass similar to the test site at a fairground not too far away. The following morning we went to the fairground and I laid a two-turn track. I discovered that the clumpy grass quickly became a bog - but I continued laying my track. When we ran, Miles really struggled and the track became a serious training track. At least I was holding him close to the track when he stuck his head in the water and came up with something that crunched. Who knows what it was, but he got his "food on the track" I suppose. Once again, my heart was not warm.

Finally it was test day. There were 4 TD's and 4 TDX's. Our judges were Carol Ruthenberg and Ken Basra, with apprentice judge Cathy Greenfield. It was not raining yet, but clearly it would be before the morning was out. Our draw articles were really cute hand-made Terv potholders which were made by our chief tracklayer Beth Lange. I drew first, and drew the first track - my favorite!

The judges said my track was ready to go, so I put Miles's harness on and we headed to the start. The first leg crossed bands of tall wispy clumpy switchgrass and short winter-green type grass, going directly into the rising sun with a road not far to our left. I try very hard not to think too hard when I'm tracking, but it was clear that the first turn would be a right turn. Miles was not pulling hard, and was not pulling straight, since he seemed to be weaving around the clumps of grass. Somewhere on that first leg there was a large hole. The judges had warned us that the footing wasn't good and that there were holes, but I hadn't envisioned a hole 2 feet wide. Between the sun and the bad footing I decided to watch where I was walking and let the feel of Miles' confidence in the line tell me when he was on the track.

## Miles TD (continued)

**Clumps of switchgrass  
in bands - photo by  
author**



**The pond - photo by  
author**



About half way down that first leg a tracklayer came out of the woods across the road. The judges apparently waved at her to stop where she was, but Miles' head popped up and he stared at her. Shades of Fossil Ridge Ranch! However, when I said "Find It" he put his nose down, and then when I said "Where's your track" he took right on off. I breathed a sigh of relief. We went 150 yards, all the way across the field, almost to the woods, and then Miles took a right turn. I think it was somewhere alongside the woods that a bird called out to him. Once again, his head popped up, but he went right back to work when I said "Find It" followed by "where's your track". We went about 110 yards to another right turn. He was still pulling confidently, but not so fast that I had to try to slow him. In fact, I would have said ne never reared up on his hind legs like he does when I'm not keeping up, but the photographer would prove me wrong. I was still watching where I put my feet, more or less moving from clump to clump and didn't see it I suppose. After a left turn I found myself thinking nervously that the next turn could be really important. The fact that I had time to think speaks to how well he was working, and how slowly (for him).





DFW Tracking Club

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Website: <http://www.dfwtc.org>

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 website at <http://www.dfwtc.org> or email the club secretary at

[info@dfwtc.org](mailto:info@dfwtc.org)

## Miles TD (continued)

By now we were tracking near a pond. Lots of birds called out to Miles. At least once more his head popped up, but once again he went right back to work. Finally he broke again, searched, and then made an open turn alongside the pond. Ah - the dreaded open turn next to a pond with birds calling to him. It was "trust your dog" time, and I did. About 50 yards down that leg he stopped and pawed at a glove and looked at me. That was enough indication for me! In a short 10 minutes he had become Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit TD.



Sarah and Miles with Cathy Greenfield, Ken Basra and Carol Ruthenberg - photo by clintnjudiphoto.