

Volume 10 Issue 1

March 2014

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Note from Editor



What a fun quarter this was! I laid my first test VST track and the dog passed! Be sure to read the report and enjoy the pictures from our 100% pass rate test. I learn just watching teams work. Don't you wish you could "see" you and your dog working the way the judges, tracklayer, and gallery can?

We had lovely weather and a full entry with alternates for our March TD/TDX test. Zubie and I came oh so very close to passing. We just couldn't make that right turn into the wind, away from the huge pile of brush. That was our best tracking day ever! I was so proud of Zubie and how he worked that track.

On a non-tracking note, my baby dog Davy finished his Championship on a cold icy day in Wichita Falls. He is now CH Tejas Wild Frontier.

Happy Tracking Everyone!

Jean-Maria



DFW TRACKING CLUB

Tracks



Next Meeting

Date: June 14, 2014

Time: 3:00pm

Location:
Olive Garden
Irving, TX

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President's Message

Off to a Rocky Start...

Well I would like to say we started this year off with a Bang! However, for the 2nd year our VST test has faltered and fallen short of filling. On the plus side, last year we boasted a 50% pass rate and this year we up out boast to 100%, cementing our VST sites as the most passable in TX, but it comes a time when we as a club have to evaluate whether we should continue to offer this test. Perhaps everyone can put on their thinking caps and come up with some alternatives to discontinuing the test all together.

This year we also lost one of our founding members and several workers in the club. We will need everyone's help to step up and fill these voids. The club needs workers to survive.

On another plus note, we have a full winter class and Marian and Sarah report they are coming along nicely. Train up those new helpers as we gear up to staff our March TD/TDX! Speaking of our March test, it marks another first for our club. It will be the first test we offer that allows mixed breeds to compete! This is a great addition to the sport of tracking. It gives people something else to do with their shelter dog that may be of an unknown parentage.

Charlene Dunn

DFWTC Active Member List

Nancy Barclay
Rod Barclay
Marian Beck-Edwards
Horst Bungarz
Jane Bungarz
Charlene Dunn
Tracy Freeling
Sarah Helber
Jean-Maria Higginbotham
Cindy Morrow
Marsha Muse
Susan Norvell
Gillian Salling
Cindi Todd
Betsy Watkins
Jeanine Wilson

APRIL, 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			

MAY, 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

- April 06: TDX-Fort Worth, TX
closes March 27 Judy Jackson
jjblitz@hotmail.com
- April 13: VST-Champaign, IL
closes April 03 Jenna Zeidler
beastbunny@hotmail.com
- April 13: VST-Lincolnshire, IL
closes April 03 Teresa Higgins
teehiggs@aol.com
- April 20: TDX-Sullivan, MO
closes March 26 Sandi Thompson
jaysandi@sbcglobal.net
- April 20: VST-Golden, CO
closes April 02 Martha Rosner
martharosner@gmail.com
- April 20: TDX-Hanover Park, IL
closes March 31 Mrs. Darlene Barnard
ctannud@sbcglobal.net
- April 20: TDX-Houston, TX
closes April 10 Ms. Zandra Anderson
zeeangel@aol.com
- April 20: VST-Springfield, MO
closes March 26 Carol Perry
aussies2u@centurytel.net
- April 27: TDX-Hoffman Estates, IL
closes April 16 Mr. Meb Ingold
mebnjettah@gmail.com

- May 04: TDX-Skiatook, OK
closes April 23 Sue Young
syoun@indiannationstrackingclub.org
- May 18: VST-Golden, CO closes April 30
Ms. Martha Rosner
martharosner@gmail.com
- May 18: TDX-Loves Park, IL
closes April 30 Karen Johnson
equiterv@frontier.com
- May 18: VST-Lincolnshire, IL
closes May 08 Nancy Foster
nfoster1080@sbcglobal.net

JUNE, 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					

EVENTS

June 07: VST-De Kalb, IL closes May 19
 Ms. Vickie Prescott
 v.prescott@comcast.net

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		

July 06: VST-Fort Collins, CO
 closes June 26 Mrs. Elaine Verdill
 everdill3@gmail.com

July 20: TDU-Fort Collins, CO
 closes July 09 Hildy Morgan
 hildy.morgan@gmail.com

DFWTC Club Meeting Minutes

Approved

Minutes of January 12, 2014, Tarrant County College, Colleyville, TX

The meeting was called to order at 12 pm by President Charlene Dunn. In attendance were members Charlene Dunn, Rod and Nancy Barclay, Tracy Freeling, Sarah Helber, Jean-Maria Higginbotham, Marsha Muse, Cindi Todd, Betsy Watkins, and Jeanine Wilson.

The December meeting minutes were available on the Yahoo Group. Motion to approve, 2nd and motion passed.

President's Report – Charlene thanked the Kirklands for allowing us to once again use their ranch for our tests.

Secretary's Report – Tracy Dulock's membership application received its second reading.

Treasurer's Report – The Income/Expense report was passed around.

OLD BUSINESS

Tracy Dulock Membership Application – Voted upon approved by the members present.

March 2014 Tests – Judges are Linda Baschnagel and Sue Boyd. Tracy Freeling will chair / secretary event. Charlene Dunn will handle hospitality. Will need chief tracklayer.

Judges Committee – Judges need to be found for fall 2014 and all of 2015.

Budget Committee – Nothing to report. Will meet later in the month.

Seminar Committee – Postponed.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Classes – Slated to begin 1st weekend of March.

Next Meeting – To be held after the March TD / TDX Tests.

A motion to adjourn was made and passed. Meeting concluded at 12:14 pm.

Tracy Freeling, Secretary

Minutes of March 9, 2014, Fossil Ridge Ranch, Valley View, TX

The meeting was called to order at 1:50 pm by President Charlene Dunn. Members in attendance: Natasha Decker, Charlene Dunn, Marian Beck-Edwards, Tracy Freeling, Sarah Helber, Jean-Maria Higginbotham, Susan Norvell, Cindi Todd, Betsy Watkins, and Jeanine Wilson. Guests present Peggy and Kirk Kirkland.

Motion made to approve January meeting minutes. Seconded and passed.

President's Report – Charlene thanked the Kirklands for use of the ranch.

Treasurer's Report – Income / Expense report circulated.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Committee – Is reviewing draft budget for year.

Nominating Committee – Natasha Decker, Susan Norvell and Cindi Todd. Committee needs to present a slate of officers prior to the June club meeting.

Seminar Committee – No report.

Corgi National Tracking Tests – Slated for October 8-9. Conflict with DFWDC activities noted. Discussed whether to require a deposit or hefty rental fee.

VST Test

Hurst, TX

January 11-12, 2014

Our 2014 VST Test was primed and ready, we had great judges (Darlene Barnard and Mitzi Young), we had great workers (Betsy Watkins as chief tracklayer and Karen Yates and Jean-Maria Higginbotham as tracklayers, and of course our wonderful cook Nancy Barclay), now all we needed were entrants... We had hoped for better entries this year than last... I guess we should have qualified better entries. This year we had 3 entries instead of 2 but one dropped out at the last minute. The 2 entries we had, however, brought their A game and did not disappoint.

Saturday was a nice warm day; the judges toured the campus discussing the numerous possibilities that they had with only 2 tracks to plot. Each judge got to lead plot 1 "superb" track. Now it was up to the dogs...

Sunday we were out well before dawn, our tracklayers plotted by headlamp, hand held flashlights, the campus lights and of course the headlights of not only the judges' car, but a wonderful worried mother hen of a chief tracklayer.

Tracks down, the crew adjourned to the Racetrack for some much needed coffee. Soon hospitality would arrive and we were busy setting up the tables and food for our 2 entrants. As the draw time drew near, the handlers convened. First draw was the Rottie and he drew first track that left the Dobe for 2nd track.

Jeff Shaver was patient and methodical as he and Buck worked down the track. This slow and steady team had one little bobble to kill a plastic bag that invaded their space, and then it was back to business and the forth article was his. Congrats to now CT Blackwood Midnight Cowboy.



VST Test (continued)

Hurst, TX

January 11-12, 2014

The Dobe took off like a shot, dragging his handler into a parking lot until he noticed he had run out of scent, he backtracked picked up the next leg and was off like shot again. This was a drastic change from the leisurely stroll the judges had on the first track and had Darlene and Mitzi running to keep up. 2 more turns and the team was at their moment of truth turn, which he took on the mark. Only 1 turn left and once back on grass the Dobe soared to the end article and the title of VST. Congrats to Swift Run's Scout von Kkro CDX, RN TD VST.

After the test we adjourned to great food and handed out awards to Texas' first 100% pass rate VST test!



TD/TDX Test

Valley View, TX

March 8-9, 2014

Our spring tests drew a good entry filling at both levels. We actually had alternates at both the TD and TDX levels ... first time that has happened in a while!

Yesterday was cold and drizzly, but we managed to get all the tracks plotted by mid-afternoon. Temperatures were a bit brisk early this morning, but we did not witness any precipitation today. Scenting conditions were actually pretty good given the cool weather and high humidity levels.

All in all things went very well ... except no dogs passed. Our eight entrants all put in a good effort, however, and we will surely see these dogs title in the future.

Judges Sue Boyd from Florida and Linda Baschnagel from Missouri did a terrific job. Chief tracklayer Natasha Decker kept everything organized on both Saturday and Sunday. Hospitality chair Charlene Dunn supplied lots of good stuff to eat with some help from Marian Beck-Edwards.

A big thanks to our tracklayers and cross-track layers. Without them, this event would not have been possible.

TD Test - Leslie McCracken, Marian Beck-Edwards, and Jean-Maria Higginbotham

TDX Test - Marian Beck-Edwards, Charlene Dunn, Tracy Freeling, and Sarah Helber

X-Tracks - Natasha Decker, Diane Brundage, and Peggy Kirkland

Leslie and Marian laid two tracks a piece. Despite having their own dogs entered, Charlene, Sarah and Jean-Maria each laid a track for the test level in which they were not competing.

Last but certainly not least ... the club was extremely fortunate to once again enjoy the hospitality and generosity of Peggy & Kirk. The Kirklands allowed us to use their lovely ranch for our tests yet again. They put a lot of work into making their property as track-friendly as possible. And despite having relatives coming for a week-long stay, Peggy & Kirk spent two long days shuttling judges, tracklayers and exhibitors around the ranch in their vehicles.

Thanks one last time to Peggy & Kirk and all our volunteers!

Tracy Freeling,



DFW Tracking Club

C/O Cindi Todd

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N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

info@dfwtc.org

E-mail:

dfwtrackers@yahoo.com

Yahoo Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dfwtrackers/>

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

Minutes (continued)

NEW BUSINESS

Night VST Test – Discussed moving club VST test to May in 2015 and holding it after sunset.

Website – Charlene reported that the club has been approached about advertising pet insurance on website. Members disinclined to allow any type of commercial advertising.

November TD/TDX Tests – Motion made by Cindi Todd to hold tests this year. Seconded by Jeanine Wilson. Approved by membership. Committee volunteers: Sarah Helber, Marian Beck-Edwards, Natasha Decker, Jeanine Wilson, Betsy Watkins, and Jean-Maria Higginbotham.

New Membership Applications – First readings for Laurel Hoevker (regular) and Peggy and Kirk Kirkland (household).

Next Meeting – To be held on June 14th at Natasha Decker's house. Details of potluck to follow in meeting announcement.

Motion to adjourn was made and passed. Meeting concluded at 2:35 pm.

Tracy Freeling, Secretary