



Miles TDX TDU

by Sarah Helber



Miles' and my trek to a TDX title took a few different turns than my journey with Jordan, but we finally accomplished it in fine style on Sunday, April 3, 2016 at the Basset Hound of America Regional Tracking Test in Fort Worth.

We had entered (and failed) at 3 tests in the spring of 2015. The weather began to get warm, the critters were waking up, and the whole environment was changing as it does every spring. We apparently weren't ready for all of that at the time. We did enter and pass the TDU (Tracking Dog Urban) test on Easter Sunday of 2015.

Over the summer we trained mostly VST (Variable Surface Tracking), but switched back to TDX training over the winter. After sitting out March 2016 on the Alternates List of several tests, we finally made the draw for the BHCA TDX.

I've never been as nervous as I was for this TDX. I've been entering tracking tests now for over 20 years and I've never had to wait over a year just to compete in a level I was already competing in, but that's what happened. Of course it's also possible that my nerves were the result of the pound cake from Collins Street Bakery that I ate that morning at the TDU draw.

At the TDX draw I drew the first track - a good sign! The day was supposed to be sunny and warm, so earlier was better. The track started on level ground with fairly short vegetation - even more good luck for me as handler.

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DFW TRACKING CLUB



Tracks

Next Meeting Saturday, August 20, 2016

1:00 p.m.

at the home of

Charlene Dunn
8425 Whistling Duck
Ft. Worth, TX 76118
817.846.5222

The Club will provide the meat.
Please bring a side dish
to share.

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Miles was interested in the start article (hmmmm - a new person to follow!), and started confidently. Such a good feeling! We went about 80 yards and he clearly showed a loss of track, which might indicate a turn, and then found the track and headed right towards a drainage ditch. We went down into the ditch (there was a little water in it) and back up the other side (nice to have a big dog to help pull me up) and continued another 20 yards before turning left towards a road with a shallow bar ditch on either side.

Before the road Miles found a sock. Article #2! He quickly retrieved it; I gave him water and let him sniff the start article again, and off he went. Once across the road I looked up and admired the wildflowers in the field ahead - Indian paintbrush, Engelmann's daisies, fringed puccoons, crow poison, winecups, and some I didn't recognize - but I realized I'd better get back to work myself. That was about the time that Miles broke off and went back and forth across the track again and again. I suspected a cross-track, but it could have been a turn. I gave him a little more line, and then a little more, until eventually he was at the full 40' - very unusual for me. He wasn't trying to take the tracks, but he sure was interested in them! Finally he got past them with the additional line, and took off confidently again.

We went through a small patch of grass that was taller, greener, and blowing in the wind almost enough to make me slightly dizzy. Soon thereafter (just before some downy paintbrushes) he broke and took an open turn towards the woods on our left. We were headed straight for a small opening, so I suspected we were on our way to a walk in the woods. Just before we got there, he took a right turn and went along the edge of the woods, where he found a piece of yellow cloth. Article #3! That really warmed my heart. I drank water myself this time, as well as offered it to Miles. Then I let him sniff the start article again and he went on eagerly.

We were headed slightly downhill, downwind, and into a corner of the field with woods to our left and ahead. Very near the corner he headed into the woods. I didn't feel like getting down on my knees to follow him under a fallen tree, so I went around it, called him to me, and then unhooked the line from his harness and hooked it back with the line on my side of the tree. We crashed through the woods and found that there was a smaller grassy area on the other side. The track could have gone there, but Miles decided it didn't, and we went through more woods and back into the corner of the field we had been in. Here he struggled - I guess it was complicated.

He showed me one direction more than others, but he wouldn't commit to it. Finally he decided that that was the correct way. I followed him and, as we continued that way, he regained his confidence. This time we were paralleling the woods at the end of the field. After about 100 yards he made an open right turn uphill towards a tree in the distance. Soon after he passed the tree he stopped and looked back at me, grinning. I couldn't see for sure that he had the final article, but I knew the look he was giving me. He bent down, picked up a glove, and brought it to me, and the judges and tracklayer came up to celebrate!

815 yards and 21 minutes from a fine start Miles was **Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit TDX TDU!** Now it's on to the VST and that Champion Tracker title.



Picture by Donna DeYoung

President's Message

It's that time of year again - hot and humid! Not exactly ideal tracking weather. The tracking season is winding down, and many people just lay off for the summer. I was proud that Miles and I squeaked into a TDX test in early April and passed with flying colors. Our story is elsewhere in *Tracks*.

I want to thank those who attended our June meeting, and also thank Charlene for hosting us. It worked so well we thought we'd meet there again on August 20. And, of course, since we have great cooks in this club, the food was great!

We have not yet found another site suitable for our November TD/TDX, so we agreed at the meeting to hold a combined TDU/VST test at Texas Health Harris Methodist - HEB. Our contact at the hospital graciously agreed, so that will be our plan for this year. I personally would like to see us find another place for a fall TD/TDX, but we've run out of time for this year. Since the meeting I have spoken to someone at the City of Dallas who has told me we won't be able to use Samuell Farm - they have decided not to maintain the "outer" areas which, of course, are the ones we would like to use.

So - we have opportunities for volunteers coming up - put them on your calendars and come help out!

November 12-13, 2016 - Combined TDU/VST Test at Texas Health Harris Methodist HEB Hospital

January 14-15, 2017 - VST Test at Texas Health Harris Methodist HEB Hospital

March 11-12, 2017 - Combined TD/TDX Test at LBJ Grasslands

Stay cool, drink lots of water, and I hope to see ya'll in August!

Sarah

Upcoming Tracking Classes

David Bull will be lead instructor for the 2016 Fall Tracking Classes. They will begin October 1 and continue each Saturday morning through November 19. Watch for sign up information on the DFW Tracking Club website the first of September.



Marian Beck-Edwards and Sarah Helber will teach the 2017 Winter Tracking Classes scheduled to run Sunday mornings January 8 through February 26. Registration will probably begin December 1. The number of students will be limited so watch for the registration information on the website and sign up quickly.

UPCOMING TESTS

Sept. 18: VST
Denver, CO - closes Sept. 8
Hildy Morgan
hildy.morgan@gmail.com

Oct. 1: TDX, TD
Sullivan, MO - closes Sept. 7
Sue Boyd
tsksboyd@hotmail.com

Oct. 2: VST
Union, MO - closes Sept. 7
Sue Boyd
tsksbody@hotmail.com

Oct 2: TDU
Sullivan, MO - closes Sept. 7
Sue Boyd
tsksboyd@hotmail.com

Oct. 9: TDU
Ft. Worth, TX - closes Sept. 21
Kathy Daniel
vkdaniel@comcast.net

Oct. 9: TDX, TD
Gray Summit, MO - closes Sept. 21
Marita Patterson
maritapatterson@yahoo.com

Oct. 9: TD, TDX
Springfield, MO - closes Sept. 29
Mrs. Cathy Hawkins
cathyannhawkins1@gmail.com

Oct. 9: VST
Golden, CO - closes Sept. 21
Martha Rosner
martharosner@gmail.com

Oct. 9: TDX
Ft. Worth, TX - closes Sept. 21
Onofrio Dog Shows
mail@onofrio.com

Oct. 9: TD
Ft. Worth, TX - closes Sept. 21
Kathy Daniel
vkdaniel@comcast.com

Oct. 16: TDU, VST
Golden, CO - closes Oct. 4
Mary Ellen Roach
jmsseton@gmail.com

Oct. 23: TD, TDX
Littleton, CO - closes Oct. 13
Jill Hehr
billysgirlblue@hotmail.com

DFWTC Club Meeting Minutes

For Approval

Minutes of the June 11, 2016, DFW Tracking Club Meeting

Home of Charlene Dunn, 8425 Whistling Duck, Fort Worth, Texas 76118

Sarah Helber, President, called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. noting that a quorum was present

In attendance were members Marian Beck-Edwards, Charlene Dunn (Treasurer), Tracy Freeling (Vice-President), Sarah Helber (President), Laurel Hoevker (Secretary), Pam Joyce (Board Member), Peggy Kirkland, Cindi Todd

The minutes of the March 13, 2016, meeting were approved as published on the dfwtrackers Yahoo Group

President's Report

Sarah thanked Charlene for hosting the meeting and serving as Grill Master
She thanked the members for attending and for bringing a dish to share

The Board has taken the following actions since the last meeting

Darlene Barnard and Linda Baschnagel have been contracted as judges
for the DFWTC January, 2017, VST

A Nominating Committee consisting of Charlene Dunn (chair), Peggy Kirkland, Horst Bungarz, with Jane Bungarz as alternate, was appointed. They have published the following slate of officers:

President – Sarah Helber

Vice-President – Tracy Freeling

Treasurer – Charlene Dunn

Secretary – Laurel Hoevker

Board Member at Large – Pam Joyce

Possible sites for November 2016 TD/TDX

Sarah, Charlene and Laurel checked out Sam Rayburn

Cannot use motor vehicles on the horse path and it would be too far
for teams to walk to tracking areas

Sarah and Charlene checked out Samuell Farm

Might work as test location

Sarah sent application

Has not had a response

Contact people are very difficult to reach

Sarah will pursue, but not for November

Tracy suggested the Caddo Grasslands as a possible location

It is broken up which might make access to the tracking areas easier

Marian suggested the DFW Airport

She has provided the phone number of someone who might know
which areas on the airport grounds would be available for use

Renting the club flags to other clubs

The Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club has been able to get flags elsewhere

Tracy suggested using "golf" flags where taller poles are needed (for
cross tracks, etc.)

The Club Roster needs updating

Cindi will update the roster and place it on Yahoo

IRS Form 990-N required for Small Exempt Organizations needs to be filed

Charlene has tried to electronically file the form

The website used in the past no longer works

The new website will not accept our user name

An organization that does not file for 3 years may lose its non-profit status

DFWTC filed last year – 2015 (for calendar year 2014)

Further discussion was tabled

Sarah and Charlene will work on the problem

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DFWTC Club Meeting Minutes

For Approval ~ continued

Secretary's Report

Signed contracts have been received from Darlene Barnard and Linda Baschnagel who will serve as judges for our January 15, 2017, VST.

Treasurer's Report

The report was passed around for review

Committee Reports

Judges' Committee

2017 VST judges have been contracted

Budget Committee

Consists of Sarah Helber and Charlene Dunn

Needs a non-board member

Cindi Todd volunteered to fill the position

Budget is required to keep our not-for-profit status

Nominating Committee

The report of the Nominating Committee was distributed to the membership two weeks prior to the June meeting as required by the DFWTC By-Laws

Sarah asked for additional nominations.

No additional nominations were made at this June meeting

Election of New Members

none

Unfinished Business

Newsletter

Sarah reminded members that articles for the 2016 Q2 *Tracks* newsletter (April through June) are needed now

November 12-13, 2016, Test

Our application for the test is due to the AKC by June 30, 2016

No site or judges for a TD/TDX

Charlene suggested we hold our AKC date by offering a VST/TDU at the hospital and surrounding parks

4 VST and 2 TDU tracks with substitution factor

Charlene will contact the LaQuinta for our meeting after the test, as well as for January

Nancy Barclay may do hospitality since it is inside

Judges

Cindi Todd made the motion that Charlene Dunn serve as one of the judges

The motion was seconded and passed

Marian Beck-Edwards made the motion that the Judges'

Committee decide on the second judge and contact that person

The motion was seconded and passed

Charlene will make application to the AKC

Sarah will contact Alice Landers (our contact at the hospital) for permission to hold the test there

Tracy Freeling will be the Secretary/Chair

Committee Members to date

Tracy Freeling (Secretary/chair)

Sarah Helber

Laurel Hoevker

Sarah and Marian volunteered to lay track

January 14-15, 2017 VST

Judges are Darlene Barnard and Linda Baschnagel

Charlene Dunn is Secretary/Chair

Will make application to the AKC

Will make arrangements with the LaQuinta

If not available – hospitality at one of the parks

Need committee

MORE UPCOMING TESTS

Oct. 30: TD, VST
Sullivan, MO - closes Oct. 20
Sandi Thompson
gatewaytracking@yahoo.com

Nov. 6: TDX, TD
Houston, TX - closes Oct. 27
Mrs. Glenda Robbins
bwdogs@sbcglobal.net

Nov. 6: TD, TDX
Smithville, MO - closes Oct. 27
Lisa Kramer
lksscottis@kc.rr.com

Nov. 6: TD
Littleton, CO - closes Oct. 19
Diane Thompson
badblackcorgi@gmail.com

DFWTC
Nov. 13: TDU, VST
Bedford, TX - closes Nov. 3
Ms. Tracy Freeling
taf76137@yahoo.com

Nov. 19: TDX
Littleton, CO - closes Nov. 2
Lynn Kaemmerer
badblackcorgi@gmail.com

Nov. 20: TDU, TD, TDX
Fort Worth, TX - closes Nov. 10
Mrs. Judy Jackson
jjblitzt@hotmail.com

Nov. 27: VST
Houston, TX - closes Nov. 17
Ms. Sally Elkins
sallyjelkins@aol.com

Nov. 27: VST
Albuquerque, NM - closes Nov. 16
Ms. Lynn Wilson
lynn@swcp.com

Dec. 4: TDX
Sullivan, MO - closes Nov. 22
Patricia Thayer
conobtra@gmail.com

Dec. 4: TD, TDX
Bellvue, CO - closes Nov. 21
Karen Bever
karen.bever@colorado.edu

Dec. 11: TD (pending), TDX
Houston, TX - closes Dec. 1
Cynthia Krohn
cynkrohn@gmail.com

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DFWTC Club Meeting Minutes

For Approval ~ continued

March 11-12, 2017 TD/TDX Combined Test

Sarah has not had a chance to check the site

Do not know if they did the scheduled burn

Application needs to be made by October 27

Judges need to be “physically able to handle the terrain”; the Judges Committee will address the issue of judges

Fall Tracking Classes 2016

David Bull will be lead instructor

Jean-Maria Higginbotham will help but cannot attend all classes

Additional helper needed

Saturdays, October 1 through November 19

DFWTC Logo Tee Shirts and other apparel

Charlene knows a place in Frisco that does Tee Shirts with InkJet printing

Marian’s co-worker’s husband does Tee Shirts

She will check with Karen (co-worker)

New Business

Budget Committee needs to prepare a budget for the August meeting

January Tracking Classes 2017

Sarah and Marian will teach

Sundays, January 8 through February 26

There will be a cap on the number of students accepted

Registration will probably start December 1

Marian suggested that we offer some way for students (and members) to stay connected

A way to contact each other about tracking training dates, etc.

Possibly a Facebook page

It was noted that students have the email addresses of the other members in their class

Discussion followed

Charlene requests that policy be set regarding record retention

DFWTC files are kept by various members

A decision is needed as to what can be shredded and what must be kept

Sarah and Charlene will develop a “policy” and present it to the membership for a vote

The approved Policy will become part of our Standing Rules

Next Meeting

After discussion, Tracy Freeling moved that our next regular meeting be as follows:

Saturday, August 20, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.

Charlene Dunn’s home

8425 Whistling Duck, Fort Worth, TX 76118

The motion was seconded and passed

A Board Meeting will follow the general meeting

Motion to adjourn was made by Charlene Dunn

The motion was seconded and passed

The meeting concluded at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Hoevker

Secretary

Mom's Zucchini Pie (from Allrecipes) shared by Cindi Todd

- 1 8oz package refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1/4 cup margarine
- 4 cups sliced zucchini
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 2 Tablespoon dried parsley
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 eggs lightly beaten
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

(Note: Cindi used 1 Tablespoon Italian Seasonings and 1 Tablespoon dried parsley instead of their parsley and oregano.)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Unroll crescent rolls and press into a 9" pie pan, covering sides and bottom.

Melt margarine in a skillet over medium heat and cook the zucchini and onion until tender. Add seasonings. Remove skillet from heat and mix in the eggs and cheese. Pour mixture into prepared pie pan.

Bake 20 minutes in the preheated oven until set. Cool 10 minutes before serving.

Remember the Recipe Rules: The recipes shared here are original creations or favorite recipes. Please do not bring one of these dishes to a DFWTC covered dish event as the person who submitted the recipe may very well be planning to bring it. Thank you!



DFW Tracking Club

C/O Cindi Todd

6861 Greenleaf Dr.

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)(3) 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