



Have you paid your DFWTC dues?

Dues are considered late after January 1st and lapsed after January 31st. Send your dues to Charlene Dunn, Treasurer, now!



President's Message

By the time this is published, the results will be in for Miles's and my debut in VST. I think we can pass, but I know many, many things can happen, and it will take teamwork to overcome them. There's a very good chance we won't be helping Laurel fill up her Q1 edition of *Tracks*. However, there's nothing quite like entering a test to spotlight areas needing attention. The difficulty will be stepping back and dealing with what I learn from the experience.

I am glad that we have a local test to enter, and I appreciate the club members (and others) who volunteer so that we can offer that test. Many thanks to Charlene for being Chair/Secretary and to Jeanine for being Chief Tracklayer. I'm sure there will be a write-up on the test to include thanks for the whole crew it takes to put it on – but not until the March edition.

While I'm thanking people, I would also like to thank Charlene and Pam Joyce and their crew, as well as judges Darlene Barnard and Linda Baschnagel for their work on our November TDU/VST test. I just wish we'd have had a passing team to congratulate.

This year we held an after-Christmas Christmas Party at Shari Price's house in Duncanville. The food, as usual, was really, really good. Thanks, Shari – and you have a lovely home!

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DFW TRACKING CLUB



Tracks

**Next
Club Meeting**
Sunday, March 8
following the TD/TDX
(no earlier than 12-noon)

**Headquarters at
Unit 71 of the
LBJ Grasslands
Decatur, TX 76234**

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President's Message - continued

Next in line after the January test is our TD/TDX test the weekend of March 7-8, 2020 in the LBJ National Grasslands near Decatur, TX. Our judges are Sharon Jolly from El Paso, who judged there last year, and Ginny Conway of Houston. Charlene is Test Chair/Secretary. I know I sound like a broken record, but combined TD/TDX tests require more workers than VST/TDU tests. In addition to our tracklayers and transportation we also have to have people to carry those flags and people to plot and execute the cross-tracks. Please volunteer to help!

If you haven't paid your dues, remember they were due January 1.

Sarah

Winter 2020 Tracking Classes

Sarah Helber and Marian Beck Edwards welcomed the winter tracking class students and their dogs on Sunday, January 5 at Parkhill Park in Grand Prairie. This year's winter class consists of three intermediate dogs (two otterhounds and a miniature poodle) and two beginner dogs (a bloodhound and a German Shepherd). It's always fun to see familiar faces as well as meet new people and dogs.



The weather this year may have been the finest starting weather in at least a decade. Classes are planned to continue through February 23, assuming the weather continues to accommodate.

Davy Cocker aka

**GRCH CH Tejas Wild Frontier TD TDU RN NA OAJ NF RS-E JS-E GS-O
12/22/12 - 12/20/19**

by Jean-Maria Higginbotham

Davy was my heart dog. He decided he was my puppy when he was about 4 weeks old. I would go over to see his litter, the girls would run around and play, Davy would park himself with me and play with me. He was my do all the things dog. My first dog to show in conformation myself. My first grand champion. My novice A rally dog. We both loved tracking and agility. Davy had come very close to passing a VST test and we had TDX tests coming up soon. We were working hard on our distance skills to be able to earn ASCA elite gambles. More important than all the dog sports, Davy was my love bug. He was always in my lap and slept beside me every night. If I had a rough day, he would snuggle even closer and sleep with his head on my shoulder all night. It's so hard to lose a dog in their prime. We still had so many adventures left. Unfortunately, cancer in his spine and ribs said otherwise. Rest well my baby boy. You were a bright shining star.



Upcoming Tests

February 2: TDX
Placitas, NM - closes Jan 22
Mr Lynn Wilson
lynn@swcp.com

February 16: TDX
El Paso, TX - closes Feb 6
Michele Mauldin
mauldinm@msm.com

February 23: TD, TDU, TDX
Fort Worth, TX - closes Feb 10
Judy Jackson
jjblitz@hotmail.com

February 23: TD, TDX
Littleton, CO - closes Feb 13
Tracey Griffith
traceygriffith2@gmail.com

February 23: TD
Placitas, NM - closes Feb 11
Doranna Durgin
doranna@chargespell.com

February 23: TDX
Smithville, MO - closes Feb 13
Debbie McHenry
mmc5301@aol.com

March 1: TDU, TDX
Fort Worth, TX - closes Feb 20
Judy Jackson
jjblitz@hotmail.com

March 1: TD, TDX
Littleton, CO - closes Feb 20
Carol Makowski
bristleconeassets@yahoo.com

March 1:TD
Smithville, MO - closes Feb 20
Ellen Lash
ellenlash@gmail.com

**March 8: TD, TDX
DFWTC
Decatur, TX - closes Feb 27
Ms. Charlene Dunn
crdslabs@yahoo.com**

March 8: TDX
Sullivan, MO - closes Feb 27
Kristi Shaw
stlvisla@gmail.com

March 8: TD, TDX
Littleton, CO - closes Feb 26
Lynn Kaemmerer
badblackcorgi@gmail.com

March 15: TD, TDX
Houston, TX - closes March 5
Marsha McCaddon
events@hotdogclub.org

DFWTC Meeting Minutes November 10, 2019 - approved

Minutes of the November 10, 2019 DFW Tracking Club Meeting
City of Hurst Fire Station, 2100 Precinct Line Road, Hurst, TX 76054

Sarah Helber, President, called the meeting to order at 12:58 p.m.

In attendance were members Charlene Dunn (Treasurer), John Galbraith, Pandora Galbraith (Secretary), Tom Hacholski (Board Member), Sarah Helber (President), Laurel Hoevker (Vice-President), Pam Joyce, Pat McGowan, Dori Page, Shari Price, Cindi Todd, and Benita Zapata

The Minutes of the August 3rd meeting were approved as published in Tracks

President's Report - none

Secretary's Report - none

Treasurer's Report -

⇒ The report was passed around for review

⇒ It was noted the increase in tracking tests due to increasing airfare costs

Report of Committees

⇒ Judges Committee - Have judges lined up for January 2020 and March 2020 tests.

Election of New Members -

⇒ 1st reading of request for Associate Membership Application of Katie McCullough

She owns a Labrador and NSTDR and has been tracking 3 years

Unfinished Business -

⇒ November 9-10, 2019 TDU/VST is complete

⇒ January 11-12, 2020 TDU/VST-

Judges- Sue Ammerman and Linda Baschnagel
Committee Members

- Test Secretary-Charlene Dunn
- Hospitality-John Galbraith
- Tom Hacholski or Jeanine Wilson to be Chief Tracklayer
- Sarah Helber
- Laurel Hoevker

Insurance is due to TCCNE December 9, Charlene will renew

⇒ Fall Classes - were full and went well, using test as a class day went well

⇒ March 7-8, 2020 TD/TDX -

Judges Ginny Conway and Sharon Jolly
Committee Members

- Test Secretary- Charlene Dunn
- Sarah Helber
- Hospitality-John Galbraith
- Laurel Hoevker

Sarah has submitted Application and Ops Plan for Units 49 and 71 -

Unit 71 will hold headquarters and port-a-potty

We will need trucks to assist with transport on site

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DFWTC Meeting Minutes November 10, 2019 - continued

- ⇒ AKC Scent Work Trials -
 - We will be checking into dates for June, and possibly July or August
 - We will check into using an event site in Alvarado
 - Mission Statement will need to be changed
- ⇒ Stinky T-Shirts-no sale available yet

New Business

- ⇒ November 7-8, 2020 TDU/VST? - Charlene made the motion we have a TDU/VST Test November 7-8, 2020, Pam seconded and the motion passed.
- ⇒ Roster Update and Update AKC - Charlene and Cindy will do this and Sara will check into uploading officers information to the AKC
- ⇒ Christmas Party - Pandora made the motion to have the celebration at Shari Prices house on December 28th at 1: 00 p.m., Tom seconded and the motion passed. The Party will be at 8 Equestrian Trail, Duncanville, TX 75116.
- ⇒ Yahoo Groups-
 - Yahoo will no longer allow groups to store user content on their site
 - Charlene and Cindy will try to download - Bi-laws, constitution, old rosters, minutes, pictures
 - Cindy made the motion Charlene and Jeanine move historical data that was discussed from Yahoo to the Website by the 14th. The motion was seconded by Shari and passed
- ⇒ Winter classes will be taught by Sarah and Marian from January 5th to February 23.
- ⇒ March classes will start after the March test

The next meeting will be held at the Christmas Party at Shari Price's home on December 28 at 8 Equestrian Trail, Duncanville TX 75116.....and the board meeting will follow.

Charlene made the motion to adjourn at 1:49 p.m. and the motion passed

Respectfully Submitted,
Pandora Galbraith, Secretary

Tanbark's My Friend Mandy by David Bull

Just as it is for all of us who participate in dog sports there are two parts to the lives of our companions. Firstly she was loyal, intelligent, athletic, and easy to train. Her favorite activities were swimming and simply just sitting outside together in the evenings watching birds. She also had the ability to make eye contact for a long time without turning her head. I often wondered what she was contemplating. In her performance life she earned a pile of agility ribbons and titles. We participated in the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge in agility and dock diving. She had 14.5 years of good health and she was still climbing onto the couch and bed until her last day. I have her collar, along with Julie's collar, hanging in my car. I touch them both every day.

More Upcoming Tests

March 22: TDU, VST
Tulsa, OK - closes March 12
Jane Wittstock
intcinfo@juno.com

March 22: TDX
Littleton, CO - closes March 12
Lynn Kaemmerer
Badblackcorgi@gmail.com

March 23: TD, TDX
Gray Summit, MO - closes Mar 13
Colleen E Kimble
clumbermtn@gmail.com

March 29: VST
Rogersville, MO - closes Mar 19
Mrs. Cathy Hawkins
cathyanhawkins1@gmail.com

March 29: TD
Littleton, CO - closes March 12
Diane Thomson
dianethomson01@comcast.net

April 5: TD, VST
Sullivan, MO - closes March 26
Sandi Thompson
gatewaytracking@yahoo.com

April 19: TD, TDU, TDX
Houston, TX - closes April 9
Mr. Jeff Shaver
jshaver522@yahoo.com

April 19: VST
Golden, CO - closes April 8
Tracey Griffith
traceygriffith2@gmail.com

May 3: TD, TDX
Catoosa, OK - closes April 23
Jane Wittstock
intcinfo@juno.com

May 8: TD, TDX
Sullivan, MO - closes April 29
Kathy Yardley
fergley@hotmail.com

May 17: VST
Golden, CO - closes May 6
Tracey Griffith
traceygriffith2@gmail.com

June 14: VST
Greeley, CO - closes June 4
Karen Bever
Karen.bever@colorado.edu

June 16: TD
Gray Summit, MO - closes May 20
Ellen Calnan
redtileservices@gmail.com

DFWTC Meeting Minutes

December 28, 2019 - for approval

Minutes of the December 28, 2019 DFW Tracking Club Meeting
Shari Price's Home, 8 Equestrian Trail, Duncanville TX, 75116

Sarah Helber, President, called the meeting to order at 2:24 p.m.

In attendance were members John Galbraith, Pandora Galbraith (Secretary), Sarah Helber (President), Laurel Hoevker (Vice-President), Pam Joyce, Shari Price, and Alan Schrader.

The Minutes of the November 10th meeting were approved as published on Yahoo

President's Report -

- ◇ Sarah has emailed changes in officers from August to the AKC
- ◇ We still need a roster update
- ◇ Sarah met with Charlene on December 27 for Treasurer updates

Secretary's Report - none

Treasurer's Report -

- ◇ The report was passed around for review
- ◇ Website cost has increased over last 5 years - the amount will pay for 5 years for the domain name and website and for 2 years for the SSL certificate
- ◇ Judges Travel costs are more expensive
- ◇ Dues are due

Election of New Members -

- ◇ After the 2nd reading of the request for new membership, Katie McCullough was voted into membership by secret ballot.

Unfinished Business-

- ◇ January 11-12, 2020 TDU/VST - Judges Sue Ammerman and Linda Baschnagel
 - ◆ Committee Members
 - Test Secretary - Charlene Dunn
 - Hospitality - John Galbraith
 - Chief Tracklayer - Jeanine Wilson
 - Sarah Helber
 - Laurel Hoevker
 - ◆ Sarah might be able to drive Susan Ammerman around the test sites on Friday
 - ◆ May need more tracklayers
- ◇ March 7-8, 2020 TD/TDX- Judges Ginny Conway and Sharon Jolley
 - ◆ Committee Members
 - Test Secretary - Charlene Dunn
 - Hospitality - John Galbraith
 - Sarah Helber
 - Laurel Hoevker
 - ◆ Still need a Chief Tracklayer
 - ◆ Will need trucks at the test site
 - ◆ Need workers - Pandora Galbraith will lay a track
 - ◆ Sarah signed approved Application - Units 49 and 71-71 may be scheduled for a partial burn
 - ◆ Our contact Marc Pons has been reassigned as of February
 - ◆ Premium List is due January 23, 2020

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DFWTC Meeting Minutes December 28, 2019 - continued

- ◇ November 7-8,2020 TDU/VST - Judges Ron and Luci Seeley
 - ◆ Test Secretary - Charlene Dunn
 - ◆ AKC Application due June 25, 2020
 - ◆ Premium List Due September 24,2020
- ◇ Winter Classes -
 - ◆ Will run January 5,2020 - February 23, 2020
 - ◆ They have 2 beginners and 3 intermediates signed up
- ◇ AKC Scent Work Trials -
 - ◆ Benita Zapata talked to the individual in Alvarado in late November, dates are filling up
 - ◆ Charlene spoke with someone about using private schools - if anyone has a connection
 - ◆ Alan said Canton has a lot of buildings used for First Monday that might work, but it is 80 miles away?
 - ◆ Shari suggested the possibility of working with another club in some capacity - perhaps to work their trial and they work ours
- ◇ Stinky T-Shirts -
 - ◆ We do not need to order 50 shirts, so we must select one ear set
 - ◆ May need words without the Logo/drawing to save some money
 - ◆ We will vote next meeting
- ◇ Yahoo Website -
 - ◆ Jeanine and Cindi have downloaded all the content
 - ◆ There may be an inability to see conversations
 - ◆ Because our site was on one of the oldest servers, Charlene found renewing our website and adding SSL (higher security) would raise our fee substantially
 - ◆ Jeanine is working on moving the website to a different server, deadline is January 7,2020
 - ◆ We need to be able to find a roster on the site
 - ◆ We may need to put roster on Google Drive or Go Daddy

New Business - none

The next meeting will be held following the January 12th TDU/VST Test Conclusion at the City of Hurst Fire Station, 2100 Precinct Line Road, Hurst, TX, 76054

The motion to adjourn was made by Pam, seconded by John, and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pandora Galbraith, Secretary

Just a Thought on Handling

by Sarah Helber

While reviewing my personal test reminders (like breathing rather than holding my breath at the start!) I had an odd thought that I thought I would share. Recently I bought a car with lots of safety bells and whistles, one of which is “lane keep assist” (LKA). When that feature is turned on, the system constantly works to identify the lane markers and to make sure I stay within them. When the system felt that it knew where the lane was and it also believed I was going to stray from my lane, my car would gently steer me back to the lane. It may be my imagination, but even when I was in my lane the feel of the steering wheel was a bit different. Perhaps it was nudging me even then. Whatever was happening, it was very distracting to me.

After a few days with LKA turned on, I realized that I was probably getting a really good sense of nervous handling from my dog’s point of view. I’m referring to the subtle, subconscious things their handlers do to their dogs – such as reluctance to go along with a dog that’s pretty sure he knows where the track goes, or being distracted by thinking about where a track might go rather than paying attention to the dog at all.

I finally turned the LKA system off. I felt it wasn’t up to the task on the poorly marked and re-marked highways in our area and it was distracting me while I was driving. Unfortunately, Miles has to deal with his handler on the track. Since he can’t turn me off I hope he can tune me out if my nerves get the better of me on his track.



DFW Tracking Club

C/O Cindi Todd

6861 Greenleaf Dr.

N. Richland Hills, TX 76182

info@dfwtc.org

E-mail:

dfwtrackers@yahoogroups.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 fulfill the needs of 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