



CH CT EZGoins Mr Deeks at Laci MW

by Cindi Todd

Once upon a time in a land far away....oh wait! This is NOT a FAIRY TALE. Deeks did pass his TDX and earned his Champion Tracker title. It WAS a cold and cloudy morning and it did try to spit on us but it didn't do more.

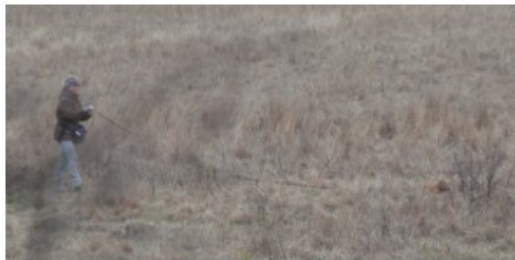
Here we are approaching the judges to start. Amazingly I was not nervous – not a common thing for me in any event. But Deeks looked confident and I guess it rubbed off. He likes this kind of cover now that he is older so off we go.



The start gave us a little bit of a problem as there were bushes to the left at the edge of the 180 degree arc of our indicated approach. Deeks was convinced there were bunnies in them.

Finally we were off and although I had no clue where the turns were, the maps tell me that Deeks was like a train on railroad tracks. He wavered not much, once close to the first cross tracks although those didn't seem to bother him and then, again, when the track went through bushes that he couldn't convince his partner to go through. Finally though I once again decided to 'go with my dog' and we trudged on.

The terrain was pretty similar throughout making it difficult to actually SEE my dog:



continued on page 4

DFW TRACKING CLUB



Tracks



Next Meeting Saturday, June 1, 2019

1:00 p.m.

at the home of

Charlene Dunn

8425 Whistling Duck

Ft. Worth, TX 76118

817.846.5222

Details to be announced later.

Inside Tracks:

- CT Deeks 1
- Meeting Announcement..... 1
- President's Message 2
- Ripley TDX..... 3
- Raiden TD..... 3
- Deeks continued..... 4
- Spring Tracking Classes 4
- Upcoming Tests 5
- DFWTC Minutes 5-6
- The Rainbow Bridge 7
- DFWTC Info 7

President's Message

Every tracking test has its challenges. Sometimes it's the weather, sometimes it's the site, sometimes it's the judges, sometimes it's finding workers, sometimes it's more than one of the above. Sometimes I find myself asking why I get involved with tracking tests at all.

This year's March TDX is a good example. The unit of the LBJ National Grasslands that we have used previously had been on the list to be burned. The combination of an almost-record-setting wet fall and an almost-shutdown of the US government in January led to Unit 49's being burned on February 18. I went out a week later and found that they really burned it (grass-wise). I do understand why they had to do it when they did, but it created a bit of a challenge for us. However, the US Forest Service worked closely with us to find an alternative for our March 10 TD/TDX test.

Then on the Thursday before the test one of our judge's flight was cancelled. The only reasonable flight she could find would arrive at DFW Friday morning. I met her and we drove to Decatur for a preview of the tracking site, since neither judge had been on this site. That was time well spent.

Then the test day came and I remembered why I do this. I love the sport, I love watching dogs work, and I love watching people achieve titles that they've worked very, very hard to get. I am personally glad to be able to help offer people and dogs this opportunity. I do realize that not everyone feels the same about tracking tests – we all have our likes and dislikes. However, I truly appreciate all of those who come out to work at our tests, and especially appreciate the work that Charlene does as Test Chair and Secretary and also the work that Jeanine does as Chief Tracklayer.

All of that work that goes into a tracking test is especially satisfying when we have teams that pass! We should have two new TDX stories elsewhere in *Tracks* - one a new CT - along with another success story from another of our members passing at another test. Congratulations all! And an additional THANKS! to all who worked the test.

With the finish of our Spring classes at the end of April we will head into the summer down-time. We had hoped to be able to hold a Scent Work trial during the summer, but we are still struggling with finding a site and a date that will work together and not conflict with other Scent Work tests. Stay tuned as we work through the issues on this.

In the meantime, it's time to find a slate of new officers for the Club. Please, if you're willing, step forward and let one of the Board members (or nominating committee members) know. Most of the positions are not a lot of work, but in the AKC world you can't have tracking tests without clubs to put them on - and clubs have to have officers.

We already have plans for our upcoming tests. Please put the dates on your calendar along with our March test date, and volunteer when the time comes. Those dates are:

November 9-10, 2019 TDU/VST – Judges Linda Baschnagel and Darlene Barnard

January 11-12, 2020 TDU/VST

March 7-8, 2020

Good luck to those still entering tests this spring, and be careful as we go into summer. Early summer, with both heat and humidity, can be very taxing on our dogs.

Sarah

Ripley TDX by Pandora Galbraith

Somehow Ripley and I passed our TDX!!! So I don't remember much of the actual track, but there were some memorable moments. I remember upon arrival at the grasslands there was a ladybug in my front seat, which I considered a good omen. When we had begun the track, I kind of felt like a rodeo rider; I was just trying to hang on to the lead. Ripley definitely loves the grasslands and was in a hurry. She never had a doubt about the direction of the track. I forced her to stop at the third article for water and to re-scent....for me.....because I was out of breath.



When we got to the end article, she stood 3 feet to the right of it waiting for me. Article identification is not her strong quality, so I had to coax her to sniff it. I wanted her to finish our track well. She was so proud.

It turns out I was the weakest link because I was so excited that I forgot to hold up the articles that she did indicate. I think I just followed her with a stupid grin on my face. Jeanine was great about bringing John to see her finish. Ripley had to go get praise from him. It was the best day ever with my dog.

Diamond M'S Raiden Zapata Mandigo BN, RA, TD, SWN, DJ, DS, CGCA, CGCU, TKA by Benita and Raiden Zapata

Raiden earned her AKC TD title on February 24th, 2019 at the Texas Tri-City Obedience Club, Inc. Tracking Dog Test in Ft. Worth, TX. This was one great day after trying to sleep the night before the test.

We get up early and drive to the test site. We arrive early and all four entry TD teams are present. The Trial Secretary announces "It's time for the draw." Everyone gathers and the draw starts. We draw T#4; the judges do a short briefing and wish all of the teams a great, successful pass in the test. The judges inform me that our T#4 needs to be given to the team that drew T#3 because that dog was in heat; they would run last instead of us. Raiden and I say, "That works, now we don't have to be last."

We all get in our vehicles and drive to observe T#1 team. They pass with flying colors! Raiden and I cheer and are happy for their success. Next we observe T#2. Later into their track we hear the whistle and we know what that means.

I dress Raiden in her tracking gear since we are the next team to run. We wait for the judges; they approach us and inform us that the track is not ready to run. We get back into our vehicle and practice being patient. After a few minutes the judges tell us that the track is ready. We get out thinking positive thoughts. We walk toward the direction of T#3. The judges wish us "Good Luck."

Raiden takes a sip of water and is hooked to her harness. I tell her to "Find It" and she goes to the start flag and does her down indication. I praise her and pick up the article. Raiden takes off tracking on her first leg and I follow behind her. This is a long leg. She does some investigation with a stop and I stop. She commits and makes a left turn. Now we are on our second leg and it is another long leg. She stops and is investigating the area. At this point I take out the water bottle and water her. I present her with the scented article and she takes off. By now we must be on our third leg. I take a couple of deep breaths and follow her. This leg wasn't as long because she took another turn and I followed. Then came another commitment on another turn. By now Raiden is speeding up and I follow her. She found the glove! so I knew that was the end of the track. I picked up the glove and held it up for the judges to view it. I praised Raiden with all my heart and told her what a great dog she was. Tears came with happiness and gratitude. The judges came along with the tracklayer and congratulated us both.

We could hear the happy cheers coming from the gallery in the distance. We now had to walk back to our vehicle. I could hardly keep up with Raiden. She knew she had done well and was feeling the excitement. When we got back Raiden received a surprise of baked chicken chunks and I got a bottle of water. We received a lot of hugs, high fives, and congrats!! from members of the DFW Tracking Club that were present that day. Raiden and I were feeling so happy.



Soon after that, Raiden took a picture with her mom holding the leather glove that she had found at the end of the track. At the end of the test day we took pictures with the judges, Ginny Conway and Jon Bishop, along with our tracklayer Wayne Jackson. This was ONE GREAT DAY that we will cherish. Raiden and I thank DFWTC for providing classes and support and to everyone else that has helped along the way in reaching one more of our goals.



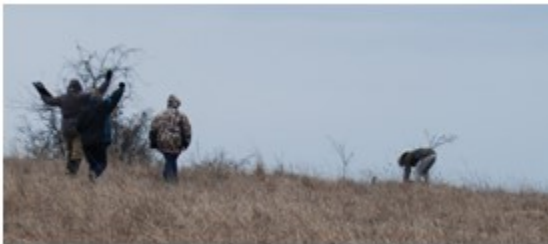
CH CT EZGoins Mr Deeks at Laci MW - continued from page 1

We found our first article on the 2nd leg, a sock, and that calmed the little nerves I did have after the rocky start. Deeks really WAS on a roll.

We then got past the 2nd turn and he convinced me to go through the bushes, another turn and then the 2nd set of cross tracks on the 4th leg. During this part of the track there were times I was at the end of my 40' line. Every time that happened a training refrain from my tracking partner, Jeanine, would go through my head, "What are you doing at the end of your line?", and I would fly back up to 20' ☺. The other refrain I heard whenever he seemed to be struggling "you know he goes 20 steps past a turn before his head comes up" and back up we would and off he would go again.

Then we came to the 4th turn and, voila, he stopped on top of our 2nd intermediate article, the pot holder!!!

He seemed to take an immediate turn after the pot holder, I'm sure it wasn't, and then he started pulling hard! He knew where he was going and he wanted to get there quickly!!



I can't describe the feeling of seeing that glove underneath Deeks' front feet. He knew he had done well. And then hearing the cheers!!! It was fantastic. All the hugs were so welcome!!!!

Thank you to my cheering squad that followed: Linda Baschnagel (who still had to run her track), Charlene Dunn and Jeanine Wilson (who says she is NEVER going to follow me again as it is too stressful).



Thank you to Charlene and Sharon McDonald for taking pictures!!

CH CT EZGoins Mr Deeks at Laci MW

Judges: Sharon Jolly & Becky Johnson
Track Layer: Sarah Helber

3-10-2019

800 yds.
Start: 11:45 a.m.
End: 12:20 p.m.



Spring Tracking Classes are being taught by Charlene Dunn and Pam Joyce.

We have 5 dogs in Beginners. The class is making good progress. We have incorporated some of the "beginner" items we learned from the Jean Hilbig seminar and the teams are already doing turns with no food!

We have 2 dogs in Intermediates. Both dogs are working on distraction training and are doing well with our existing curricula. We are augmenting, when necessary, some remedial reinforcements showing that tracking is the most interesting thing! This can be very hard as we usually have visitors in the form of loose dogs.

We have 4 dogs in Advanced. The teams have handled multiple corners, cross tracks, starts, and will begin obstacles and hard surface soon. We will be breaking them off from regular class as it gets hotter in order to get age and distance in before it is too hot, demotivating the dogs.



Everyone is making good progress and we will check-in throughout the summer.

Upcoming Tests

April 21: TD, TDU, TDX
Houston, TX - closes April 11
Marsha McCaddon
macbuzz2@yahoo.com

April 28: VST
Golden, CO - closes April 3
Jill Grant
billysgirlblue@hotmail.com

May 5: TD, TDX
Catoosa, OK - closes April 25
Jane Wittstock
intcinfo@juno.com

September 29: TD, TDU
Loveland, CO - closes Sept 4
Sue Boyd
tsksboyd@hotmail.com

October 13: VST
Golden, CO - closes Oct 2
Lynn Kaemmererr
badblackcorgi@gmail.com

October 13: TDU
Golden, CO - closes Oct 3
Lynn Kaemmererr
badblackcorgi@gmail.com

November 10, 2019
DFWTC
TDU, VST

November 17: TDU
Ft. Worth, TX - closes Nov 7
Judy Jackson
jjblitzt@hotmail.com

January 12, 2020
DFWTC
TDU, VST

March 8, 2020
DFWTC

DFWTC Meeting Minutes January 13, 2019 - approved March 10, 2019

Minutes of the January 13, 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 12:37 p.m.

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

The minutes of the December 15th meeting were approved as published on the dfw trackers Yahoo Group.

President's Report - none

Secretary's Report - none

Treasurer's Report -

◇ The report was passed around for review

Committee's Report -

◇ Judge's Committee - Linda Baschnagel and Darlene Barnard have given verbal commitments to Judge for the November test.

Election of New Member - the second reading of Tom Hacholski's application was read and he was voted into membership by secret ballot

◇ He is a tracking judge with numerous achievements, he owns Dalmatians, and has 34 years of experience in tracking.

Unfinished Business -

◇ January 12-13, 2019 VST/TDU went well, Charlene will mail paperwork for AKC

◇ March 9-10, 2019 TD/TDX-5TDX/2TD or equivalent

- Charlene Dunn - Test Secretary/Chair
- Judges - Becky Johnson and Sharon Jolly
- Chief Tracklayer - Jeanine Wilson
- Hospitality - John Galbraith
- Committee Members - Charlene Dunn, Jeanine Wilson, Sarah Helber, Jean-Maria Higginbotham, and Pam Joyce
- Sarah has been told the site will be burned in January, Pat will try to go by and check out the area next week
- John G. and Shari will help take out supplies on Saturday
- Application has been made with the forest service
- Premium List is due to AKC 1/24/19

◇ AKC Sent Work Trials

- Written Proposal and estimated costs were discussed
- Charlene made the motion our club hold 2 days of Scent Work Trials with 2 trials on a day on June 8th and 9th, 2019 - Cindi Todd seconded, and the motion passed. Charlene will be Chairperson and Jeanine will be test secretary

◇ November 9-10th, 2019 TDU/VST -

- Judges Linda Baschnagel and Darlene Barnard have verbally consented
- Charlene Dunn will be Test Secretary/Chair
- Application is due 6/27/2019

◇ Spring Classes -

- March 3 to April 27 - no class on March 9 due to TDX/TD test
- Charlene and Pam are teaching classes

New Business -

◇ January VST/TDU - Charlene made a motion to have the January VST/TDU test, Jean-Maria seconded the motion and the motion passes

Next Regular Meeting will follow the March 10th TD/TDX at the LBJ National Grasslands, Unit 49, Decatur, TX 76234

The motion to adjourn was made by Charlene and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pandora Galbraith, Secretary

DFWTC Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2019 - for approval

Minutes of the March 10, 2019 DFW Tracking Meeting
LBJ National Grasslands, Unit 71, Decatur, Texas 76234

Sarah Helber, President, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

In attendance were Charlene Dunn (Treasurer), Pandora Galbraith (Secretary), Sarah Helber (President), Jean-Maria Higginbotham (Board Member), Laurel Hoevker, Pam Joyce, and Benita Zapata.

The minutes of the January 13th meeting were approved as published on the dfwtrackers Yahoo Group

President's Report -

- ◇ Sarah noted the club was approved by the AKC to hold scent work trials
- ◇ Sarah also noted there were new AKC Tracking Rules

Secretary's Report - none

Treasurer's Report -

- ◇ The report was passed around for review

Report of Committees

- ◇ Judges Committee - Linda Baschnagel has sent the club her commitment to judge for November Test
Judges Committee will discuss January 2020 test at meeting today

Election of New Members - none pending

Unfinished Business

- ◇ March 9-10 TD/TDX is completed
- ◇ AKC Scent Work Trials - After discussion about dates Charlene made a motion to have our tests on August 24-25, if the site and judges are available, Laurel seconded, and the motion passed
 - Charlene and Sarah will look into the need to change the club mission statement to include scent work
- ◇ November 9-10, 2019 TDU/VST
 - Judges Linda Baschnagel has sent written consent, and Darlene Barnard has verbally consented
 - Charlene Dunn will be Test Secretary
 - Application is due 6/27/19
- ◇ January 11-12, 2020 TDU/VST
 - Need judges
- ◇ Spring Classes -
 - March 3 - April 27
 - Instructors Charlene Dunn and Pam Joyce
 - Advanced and Beginner is full, Intermediate is adequate

New Business

- ◇ Laurel, Benita, and Charlene volunteered to serve on the nominating committee for next term

The motion to adjourn was made by Charlene Dunn and seconded by Benita Zapata, and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pandora Galbraith, Secretary

Rosie by Karen Yates

We let Rosie go to the Rainbow Bridge on Monday, February 25. She was not having much fun any more, other than getting treats. She had been losing her mobility and not interacting with us much.

She had a fun round of nosework that morning (her version was to tear up a box and throw the pieces at me). It was a gentler game than in the past but she enjoyed it nonetheless.

I can't express how much she will be missed. Thank you all for what you contributed to her fun and varied life.



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