



## President's Message

Our March TD/TDX Test is now history but not without some last minute scrambling. Unfortunately both of our original contracted judges, for various reasons, had to withdraw from their assignments. Linda Baschnagel gave us some prior notice and I was conscripted to fill in for her. Due to inclement weather and her flight's cancellation, Sharon Jolly could not depart from El Paso. With less than twenty-four hours we were able to get Carol Ruthenberg to fill in at the last minute. Unfortunately no TD entries and no TDX passes.

Now for a little rest until our VST test in November; however, several annual club functions will take place. The Nominating Committee is contacting the membership to get consent to be officers of the Club. Nominations then may come from the floor and an election will take place for the slate of officers to take over the Club's business at the annual meeting in August. The Budget Committee will present the Club's financial status.

We must all make inquiries for event sites - both for future Scent Work Trials and TD/TDX Tests.

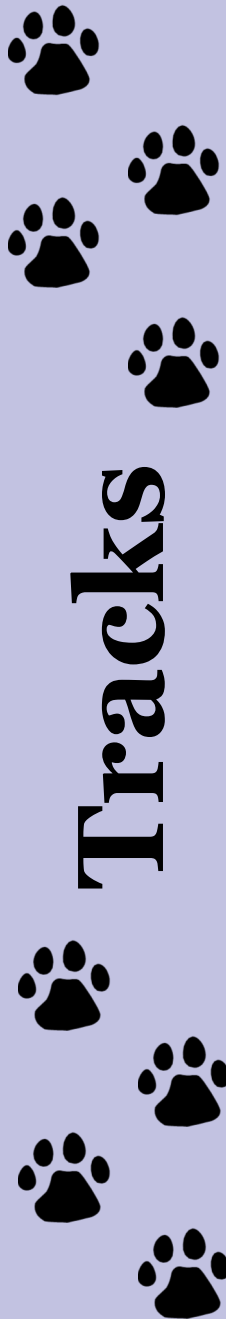
Lastly, training classes will continue.

Tom Hacholski



DFW TRACKING CLUB

# Tracks



## Next Club Meeting

**Saturday, June 11**

**Charlene's House**

**8425 Whistling Duck Dr.  
Fort Worth, TX 76118**

**Time and Food TBD**

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# *Pat & Tot - Tracking Titles*

**Tot's TD**  
by Pat McGowan

## **Abney's Ossum Tot CLM TD**

### **Bassett Hound Club of Greater Ft. Worth, January 30, 2022, Resource Center**

Early on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, I tracked Tot at the Baptist Church in Decatur. Afterwards, I told a friend "I had to check her tag," because she was easy going, no circles, no hunting, just methodically working the track. I even checked her temperature, and she was fine. Sunday morning, I was a little nervous, but Tot was calm and kept staring at me.

When we got to the Resource Center an hour & a half early, Tot laid quietly in her crate like she did not have a care in the world. There were three TD dogs; we drew the third track. At 9:11 a.m., they told me to get ready to follow the Judges and park on the side of the road. I got Tot out of her crate, and she was excited, pulling, jumping, air scenting, sniffing the ground, and checking out what articles were on the side of the road. We crossed the road and went to our start flag in a short dry field at 9:19am. Tot took off, and with a slight breeze she was slightly casting on and off her track, turning left on her second leg. There was a tree and a Juniper shrub looking den that Tot tried two times to go in. I saw her air scenting and she did a complete circle looking around. Tot made a right onto the third leg moving quickly, she circled halfway down, air scenting and, by watching her tail, I knew she had picked up the scent of another animal. Back to tracking, there was an undeveloped area to our left with trees on the edges and she circled two times and kept checking the tree lines and began to get hot. After I watered and re-scented her, she started tracking again and turned right on what was the fourth leg. There were four articles of trash to the left and she checked each one out. We were nearing the road as she made a small circle then turned right on the fifth leg. I was walking in the dry grass, and she was running to my left in the mowed easement with her nose down. Suddenly, she started pulling hard, picking up her pace and she ran up and stepped on the glove, looking back at me. I raised the glove and Tom & Inge gave us the thumbs up. I thanked Tom, Inge, and Terry.

My Track Layer, Terry Vitt, then told me when he was re walking the track something in the Juniper shrub looking den had growled at him, but he could not see it and did not look. Tom said they had seen a coyote down where Tot's third turn was the day before.

Pandora, Shari, and Pam came walking towards us and Tot about drug me down getting to them. The next adventure came trying to get Tot to stand or sit on a cement bench (she had never seen one before) for a photo. Pandora had my camera and was talking to Tot to get her to look for a good photo and Tot was trying to get down to see Pandora since she was talking to her.

Judges – Tom Hacholski & Inge Suchanik, Tracklayer Terry Vitt, Track 445 yds

Thanks to Judges Tom & Inge and Tracklayer Terry and

The Bassett Hound Club of Greater Ft. Worth.

# Tot's VST by Pat McGowan

## Abney's Ossum Tot CLM TD VST

### Indian Nations Tracking Club, March 27, 2022 University of Oklahoma Tulsa at the Schusterman Center

Saturday March 26th, we drove up to Claremore, OK to stay the night, Tot's first motel stay. Sunday morning, we got up and drove to Tulsa headquarters arriving 1.5 hours early. After checking in, I took Tot to an area to walk & exercise. Getting out of the car, a penny heads up that had been in the abandoned parking lot for a while went into my pocket for luck. I was not nervous to track but at headquarters I saw all these geese flying overhead in the mall-like parking lot we were in. Then I looked across the street at Schusterman Center where three of the tracks would be and all the pretty grass, knowing geese like grass. At draw, we got the second track which would be at University of Oklahoma Tulsa at the Schusterman Center. Tot has seen geese at TCCNE but only from a distance. As I get in the car to and Tot.



We drove over to our track and getting Tot out of her crate there was no doubt she was excited to be in a new place with new adventures. We walked up to our start flag at 9:40 a.m. and there was a thin leather wallet. Tot got a longer than normal smell, even giving it a lick for luck. Our first leg was 220 yards in part of a frisbee golf area. About 150 yards down we see a large white German Shepherd to our left barking nonstop. Tot turned and glanced, not bothered and continuing to track. We approached a dirt area where it looked like someone had driven in wet grass and got stuck. I saw those all-familiar paws go down and take a swipe at the dirt. I talked to Tot to prevent a partial swimming pool from being dug, free of charge. Tot then went and stood on a sewer grate looking in, starting back a squirrel ran about fifteen yards in front of her, stopped, sat up and started barking at her. She hit the end of the line and as I was talking to her, she started back to track when a robin flew right in front of her head about ten feet away, another hit to the end of the leash. I kept talking to her and she started to track again, making a right turn on her second leg. On her second leg there was a gray sock under a tree, she stepped on it, gave a head glance, and moved forward.

We crossed a road, then into a parking lot, as she was tracking, she started to turn left, but at the same time two plastic bags stuck in a chain link fence made popping sounds from the wind, so she went to investigate. Tot turned back making her MOT going to her third leg, moving forward nicely checking out items that were in the parking lot. When we got on a grass embankment, four dogs behind a chain link fence hit the fence barking, jumping, and shaking the fence. Tot had her head & nose down and did not see them but made a small circle, never

## Tot's's Passing VST Track (continued from page 3)

barking just looking, and then made a right onto her fourth leg. Tot was slightly casting, then she slowed as she stood on a metal light switch cover, giving a partial head bob, then moving forward. Staying on the grass, she went toward a tree, then turned right on her fifth leg and started paralleling a parking garage.

When we got to the parking garage entry/exit there was a parking arm, and she was looking all around in the garage air scenting which seemed like minutes. She finally started tracking again and picked her head up for a second, put it down and started across the street at a good pace. After checking shrubs Tot started tracking again going parallel with the building. She started pulling harder and past a fire hydrant, I saw her head go down, she stopped and when I got closer, I saw her standing on a plastic CD case, and she turned and glanced at me. I raised it and turned around, and we got a thumbs up. Tom & Debra, our track layer, the photographer, and Sarah were there. I was so focused on Tot with all our distractions: the German Shepherd barking, barking squirrel, robin flying, bags blowing, four dogs barking, parking garage, I had no idea who even was following. (Almost sounds like a Christmas carol).

Tot was hot and we were happy crossing the parking lot back to where we parked. I could barely see someone standing by a white van, as we got closer, I saw Cindy Morrow who had ridden up with us doing sign language if we passed or failed. I waved and Carol from Missouri honked her horn several times which caused Tot to look, seeing Cindy walking toward us, Tot took off in a dead sprint with me hanging on. A neat track to run, found a heads-up penny, and Tot getting her VST Title at University of Oklahoma! What a beautiful day.

Judges: Tom Hacholski & Debra Hnath,  
Tracklayer Kala Rose, Track 625 yds,  
4 Turns



Thanks to Judges Tom & Debra and Tracklayer Kala. Also to Indian Nations Tracking Club for all the hospitality, great tracking areas, snacks and making everyone feel at home!







**Tracking Dog Title**

**Inge Suchanik, Terry Vitt, Tom Hacholski**

**Tot and Pat McGowan**

**January 30, 2022**

**Variable Surface Tracking Title**

**Kala Rose, Tom Hacholski, Debra Hnath**

**Tot and Pat McGowan**

**March 27, 2022**





# Tracking Class Spring 2022

By Charlene Dunn

Spring classes started on March 5 and ran through April 23rd. We have 4 beginners: Catahoula, Redbone Coonhound, Cane Corso, and a Labrador. All are doing great and learning what tracking is all about. We have 3 Intermediates: Border Collie, Golden and German Shepherd. The Golden has already certified. CONGRATS to instructor David Bull and his gal Josie! The other two are getting close as well. We have 2 advanced: Bloodhound and Labrador. Both handled everything we threw at them with ease. We are also offering certification classes again this season. We have 3 dogs vying for those Golden tickets: Portuguese Water Dog, Poodle, and German Short-haired Pointer. Certification classes only meet when our judge is in town, all dogs made marked improvements their 2nd time out, so we should see them certified soon!

On a more somber note, the old Grand Prairie airport which sits next to Park Hill and comprises the fields we use for class has been sold. We are sad to see these lovely fields inside the metroplex being developed and will be searching for more land to have classes. Keep a watchful eye out as our classes are what pays for our tests.

Special thanks to my co teachers, Dori, Tom, and David and to the others who are pitching in (whether being a "dog" in line handling class) or helping bait beginner tracks!



**DFWTC Meeting Minutes**  
**March 13, 2022 – for approval**

**Minutes of the March 13, 2022, DFW Tracking Club Meeting**

**LBJ Grasslands, Decatur, TX**

Tom Hacholski, President, called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm.

In attendance were Teresa Collum, Charlene Dunn (Treasurer), Chelsea Galbraith, John Galbraith, Pandora Galbraith (Board Member), Tom Hacholski (President), Sarah Helber, Jean-Maria Higginbotham (Secretary), Pam Joyce, Judy McDonald, Pat McGowan, Dori Page, Shari Price, Cindi Todd.

Minutes of the January 16, 2022 meeting, were approved as distributed with one update to correct the location of the meeting.

**Report of the President:**

Thanks to test workers including judges, Charlene (Chair/Sec.), tracklayers, et al.  
Thanks to Pandora for sewing the TD patches on the gloves.

**Report of the Secretary:**

N/A

**Report of the Treasurer:**

The Treasurer's Report was passed around for review.

**Report of judges committee:**

Judges for January and March 2023 to be determined/confirmed.

**Nominating committee:**

Cindi Todd volunteered to lead the committee.  
Need a non-board member to participate as well.

**Unfinished Business:**

March 12-13, 2022 TD/TDX

Future site for this test as it is becoming hard to confirm in advance due to burn scheduling

Everyone asked to identify any possible sites they are aware of

Scent Work Trials

Need to locate a better location where the classes can be held closer together.

Spring classes began 3/5

New Tracks Editor

Shari Price with transition support from Laurel

## DFWTC Meeting Minutes March 13, 2022 – continued

### New Business:

November 12-13, 2022 TDU/VST  
Application to be filed by June  
Judges – Stephanie Crawford and Ray Desmaris –  
Charlene to send contracts  
Site – HEB and TCCNE  
January 14-15, 2023 TDU/VST  
March 11-12, 2023 TD/TDX  
Discussed entry fees. Consider increase in future if additional costs incurred for sites.

### Next Meeting

June 11, 2022, Charlene Dunn's house.

Charlene made a motion to adjourn; Pat seconded; and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean-Maria Higginbotham, Secretary

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Upcoming Tests

If you are willing to travel, the following states have (a few) tracking trials between June and August:

Alaska, California, Illinois, Maine, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin.

Find more info at [akc.org](http://akc.org)

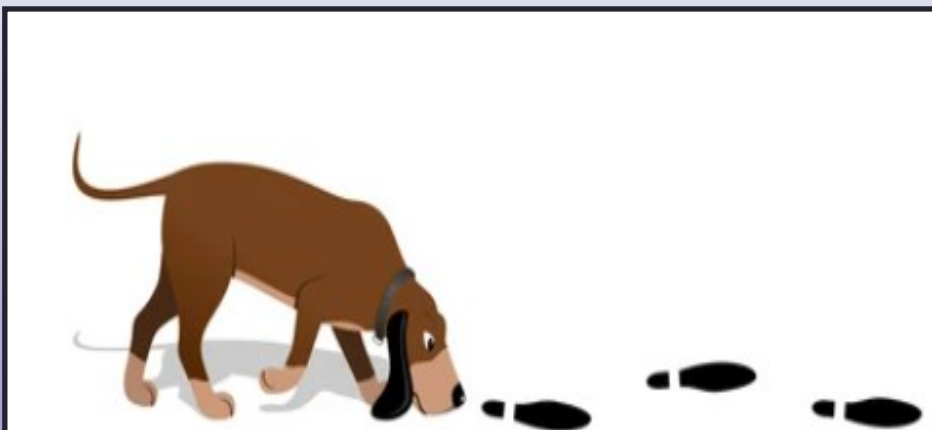
Mark your calendars for upcoming DFWTC Trials (participants and volunteers):

November 12-13, 2022  
TDU/VST

January 14-15, 2023 TDU/VST

March 11-12, 2023 TD/TDX

Charlene Dunn  
[crdslabs@yahoo.com](mailto:crdslabs@yahoo.com)





# Can We Find a TDX/TD Replacement for the LBJ Grasslands?

By Sarah Helber

Don't panic – we haven't lost the Grasslands as a site – but it's time we started looking for other opportunities for our TDX/TD test.

I'm the primary contact between DFWTC and the US Forest Service, and I'm concerned that DFWTC's expectations and those of the USFS are diverging. We're reaching a point where we (me and, I hope, some others) need to spend significant time exploring other units in the Grasslands or we need to find an alternative.

As I understand it, the USFS is pursuing a restoration program based on both fire and cattle, with the ideal burning on a 3-year cycle. Their window of opportunity for burning is January through March. There is both an art and a science to prescribed burning, and when the weather is ideal, they need the flexibility to jump in and burn as much as they can of what needs to be burned. Of course, our March date falls in that "burn window", and that has caused a good deal of frustration on our part and on that of the USFS. Each year they have worked with us so that we could hold our test as scheduled, but each year has been difficult and frustrating for us and for them.

I had hoped that we could alternate units and work around their schedule, but we will probably need at least 3 separate units or groups of units to do that. I intend to continue to pursue this with them, but I also think it's time to begin putting out feelers for other sites. That's where all of our club members come in!

Set aside any concerns about how much work it might be to acquire a new site, put your thinking cap on and do a little brainstorming on what other sites we might be able to use. While you're thinking, don't discard something that might be a good VST/TDU site either – we might want to upgrade those as well.

Most of the test sites we have used over the years have been "discovered" by one of our club members, and the future ones will probably be discovered that way as well.

At this stage don't place unnecessary limits on your thoughts. Obviously, your backyard is a bit small – but I'd suggest anything over 100 acres. Where? I'd suggest anywhere you would be willing to go as a worker. What type of land? For a TD/TDX test open fields are needed, with obstacles (which can be streets or trees or ditches among other things). For a TDU/VST buildings are needed. For both, one of the important issues is access – getting tracklayers, cross-tracklayers, judges and entrants into and out of each tracking area in all kinds of weather.

Some other questions just to get you thinking –

Who do you know who owns or has access (via family, friends, business, etc.) to land? Where is it?

What areas do you see when you are driving around the metroplex that might be useful?

What types of areas have you seen used in other tests? What similar areas are there in the DFW Metroplex?

If you think of something, let me know what and where (and a contact if you have one). Don't feel bad if it doesn't work out – we won't know if we don't look. In the meantime, I'm keeping my own eyes open as well as working with the USFS.

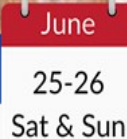
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## Poisonous Plants for Dogs

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Breeds

  
Tickets on  
Sale Now!

Kay Baily Hutchinson Convention Center,  
Dallas, TX

  
June  
25-26  
Sat & Sun



It's important to protect your canine best friend from plants that are poisonous to dogs. Whether you're an avid gardener or have a few potted plants on your front stoop, you should be aware that some plants might not be your dog's friend. To find out more, go to:

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/home-living/protect-your-pooch-from-poisonous-plants/>

### AKC Meet the Breeds is Coming to Dallas!!

What can you do at AKC Meet the Breeds?

- Pet and play with dogs, and learn all about each breed
- Meet and learn from breed experts
- Watch detection dog and agility demonstrations live from the demo ring
- Stroll through engaging interactive areas great for photo opps!
- And so much more!



#### Contact information:

DFW Tracking Club  
C/O Cindi Todd  
6861 Greenleaf Dr.  
N. Richland Hills, TX 76182

E-mail:  
[info@dfwtc.org](mailto:info@dfwtc.org)

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

DFW Tracking Club (DFWTC) was founded in August 2005.

The DFW Tracking Club encourages the training and competition of all breeds of canine companion animals for scent related activities, whether it is for fun, competition or for the potential life-saving value. It is the goal of the DFW Tracking Club to educate the dog-owning public about scent related activities for all breeds, and to encourage sportsmanlike behavior at all times, making the safety of the dogs, trainers, and handlers a priority. The DFW Tracking Club encourages dog owners to spend quality time with their dog(s) and to make friends with people who have similar interests.

The DFW Tracking Club is an AKC licensed club, and a 501(c) tax exempt organization.

For more information about the DFW Tracking Club, see the contact information to the left.