

August 2016—Sept. 2016

President: Marie-P Babin 1027 Black School Rd. Woodville, On. K0M 2T0 705-374-4069 autumwynd@eastlink.ca

Vice-President: Eileen Fisher 53 Walkerton Dr. Markham, On. L3P 1H9 905-294-7016 eileenfi@sympatico.ca

Secretary: Maryke Warwick 147 Ramona Blvd Markham, On. L3P 2K9 905-471-4053 maryke5024@rogers.com

Treasurer: Anne Whan 777 Hillcroft St. Oshawa On L1G 7H9 905-571-3387 tedwhan@sympatico.ca

Social: Dorothy Phillips

Equipment: Eileen Fisher

Newsletter Editors: Maryke Warwick Marie-P Babin

Webmaster: Connie Gavin 8210 Hwy 62 RR#1 Foxboro, On. K0K 2B0 613-969-0328 conniegavin@hotmail.com

www.crosscountrytrackingclub.com

CCTC's 20th Anniversary Celebration 2016

We had a celebration at the Darlington Provincial Park in Bowmanville Ontario. BarBQ and Pot Luck. On August 14th. The weather was great. For our 20th anniversary we also had t-shirts and hoodies made with the CCTC 20th Anniversary logo on them. Grey t-shirts are \$20.00 and green zip up hoodies are \$30.00.

Lots of fun for everyone and their dogs with games to play. Lots of food, laughs, games and socializing.





Six of the original Club Members; Dorothy Phillips, Maryke Warwick, Marie-P Babin, Bev Wiggans, Irene Mullan and Eileen Fisher



More pictures from the 20th Anniversary..



The games... Trailing for the Bunnies.



More from the Anniversary...Six legged egg race and Rally-o



CCTC Members' Brags.....





"Rush"
MH. OTCH Goldendreams Good To Go TD WCX RA
"Rush" earned his Master Hunter Championship in
New-Brunswick July 17,2016
Owned by Cindy Trann

"Rogue"

Goldendreams Going Rogue TD WCX SH CDX "Rogue" earned her WCI WCX and SH in one weekend!!! Sept. 11-12. 2016
Working Certificate Intermediate plus Excellent and Senior Hunter Titles.

Owned by Cindy Trann





"Savannah"

Round the Bend Savannah NTD, ITD St. John Ambulance Pet Therapy dog "Savannah" has earned her bronze, silver and gold medallions for more then 750 hours of working as a therapy dog in the Whitby/Oshawa area. She has also completed 2 more years towards her next milestone. Well done Savvy!

Proudly owned by Lynda Rupay

More CCTC Members' Brags....





"Roadie"

Thistledoon On The Road Again PCD CDI CDX RA AGN CGN N-JWW Am. CDX UKC CD

"Roadie" finished Can OTCH (Obedience Trial Champion) with a High in Trial and also finished her RE (Rally Excellent) July 17, 2016 ...On Sept. 4, 2016, "Roadie" earned her AAC Novice Standard Agility Title Then on Sept 14th, 2016 her Jumpers Intermediate Roadie also finished her Intermediate Jumpers CKC. The AAC "Agility Dog of Canada" - or ADC , AAC started games SG (which is snooker, gamble and jumper with weaves). She also won "Top Dog" in her class of Starter Jumpers.

Owned by Irene Mullan

"Elroy"

MBPISS. BPIS. GCH. Castlegar Elroy At Autumwynd CGN PCD

"Elroy" wins back to back Best Puppy in Specialty Shows and a Best Puppy in Sweeps at the EOLBA Labrador Specialties in Kingston, July 23rd & 24th, 2016.

On Aug. 5th he finished his PCD title them won another Best Puppy at the LRCO Specialty on Aug. 7th. 2016 at the Kilbride Show. At the Markham KC all breed Show on Aug, 24/16 he won Best Puppy in Show

Proud owner, Marie-P Babin



More CCTC Members' Brags....



"Sammy"

Dragnflytes Dancin Through Life, TDX, UTD, RN, AG.N, CGN, AKC TD, CRN, ADC, SGDC, SD-S, NJ, RATI, RATO, PKD-N
"Sammy" earned his UTD Sept. 24. 2016 at the EPS Tracking Test, Judge was Louise Weaver.

Owned by Connie Gavin

New Tracking Champion !! >>>>>

"Tenor" & "Cassie"

TCH Pinebank's Encore Performer SH WCX RE CDX Am. TD CD RN.

"Tenor" passed UTDX and became a TCH at EPS Tracking Test on Saturday Sept. 24. 2016 in Powassan under judge Louise Weaver.

Pinebank Sundance at Santosha WC. "Cassie" passed her WC at the LRCC WC test on Aug 5, 2016 in Puslinch under judges Ray Bester and Alanna Cholewa.

Both owned by Laura McKay



"Charleston"

CH Charbr Dancing by the Sea, CDX, RAE, TD, AGN, AGNJ,CGN
"Charleston" earned his RAE Title!!

Owned by Anne Passafiume



Friday Nights for get-together tracking and socializing has begun at Markham Rd and McNicoll in Scarborough. If you plan on coming and want to know if anyone will be there, contact Eileen, Maryke or Marie... This was a great start. With Ron Bobson, Sandy Brodie, Eileen Fisher, Dwyn Tomlinson, Maryke Warwick, Stephanie McMahon who returned from PEI a few weeks ago and myself Marie-P Babin



CCTC 20th Anniversary club wear is still available

Below are the T-shirts and zip up Hoodies available for the 20th Anniversary of CCTC .

T-shirts are \$20.00 and the Hoodies are \$30.00

Contact Pamela Burns if you haven't ordered yours yet... psquared@nexicom.net







Gone But Never Forgotten.....



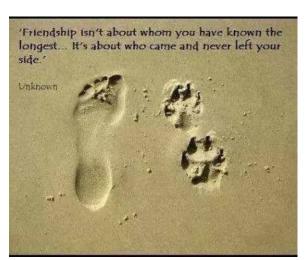


"Star"

Autumwynd Shining Star
Sept. 19. 2005—Aug. 11, 2016
"Star" joins her mom Marlo and sister
Jorja at the Rainbow Bridge....

Missed and loved by **Marie-P Babin** And her other family **the Lloyds**

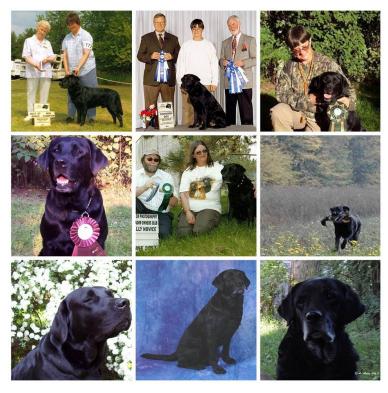




"Samba"

April 21, 2003 - August 31, 2016 U-CD CH. OTCH Kewbeach Dancing Up A StormTD, RE, RX, AGN, AGNJ, ADC, CWD, GROM "Samba" chased his disk over the rainbow bridge to be with his "brother" Tango. He had a long and happy life and will be greatly missed by **Anne and Tony Passafiume**

Gone But Never Forgotten....



"Ben"

May 11, 2001—Sept. 14, 2016

CH. Rucon Skyhawk CD JH WCI RE CGN Am. CC

Missed and loved by Adrienne King Almey



"Winnie"
Passed away Sept.23,2016
Loved and missed by Ruth Ann Miller



"Abby"

Albaran's Busy as Abby CD RE St John Therapy Dog. with over 500 visits.

May 03 2003 - August 15 2016.

Owned and loved by Wendy Downing

Healthy Pumpkin Balls for the our K9 Companions

This snack is not only delicious but is also filled with fiber, vitamin A, beta-carotene, potassium, and iron.

Ingredients;

1/2 cup canned pumpkin

4 tbsp molasses

4 tbsp water

2 tbsp vegetable oil

2 cups whole wheat flour

1/4 tsp baking soda

½ tsp baking powder

1 tsp cinnamon (optional)

Directions;

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Mix pumpkin, molasses, vegetable oil, and water together in a bowl

Add the whole wheat flour, baking soda, baking powder and cinnamon to the mixture and stir until dough softens Scoop out a small spoonful of dough and roll into balls on your hands (wet hands work best)

Set the balls onto a lightly greased cookie sheet and flatten with a fork

Bake approximately 25 minutes until dough is hardened

Good Luck to all our members who are entered in the Fall Tests !!!



New address;

Dorothy Phillips 108 Violet St Barrie On. L4N 9M8



Training Cover Changes

By Rosemary Janoch

Teaching your dog to handle cover changes is important if you plan on earning a TD title, and an absolute necessity if you plan on earning a TDX title. The difference in training for the two titles is simply a matter of degree.

Trainers new to the sport sometime believe there are no cover changes on a TD track. This is not true. In my 30 years of enjoying this sport, I have only had one dog fail to earn his TD title on his first attempt and that failure was due to a cover change. His track started in ankle high grass and made two turns before heading for a section of the field that had not been mowed in a while. The grass had grown to over knee height. He tracked up to the cover change and stopped like he had come to a brick wall. He worked back and forth along the edge of the taller grass, but never went in it. As his frustration grew, so did mine. I could clearly see the beaten down grass straight ahead of me. The entire leg was visible but, unfortunately, I had a young dog on the end of the lead that had not been sufficiently trained in cover changes. Vowing to never make that mistake again, I now make cover changes an integral part of my training program.

Because many inexperienced dogs do tend to regard higher, thicker vegetation as an impassable wall, you may want to start your dog in the higher cover first and have him work out of it onto the lower grass. In general, a dog is more likely to break out of the higher vegetation into an open field than he is to work into the thick growth.

Once he is confident and can do that change well, have him work from the low cover into the high. It would be best if you could initially avoid making the cover change too extreme. It would also help to place an article shortly after entering the new cover and to have the wind blowing into the dog's face. The smell of the glove or toy will encourage the dog to enter the new cover.

Many fields near me are mowed in strips. The height of the cut grass and uncut grass only varies by about 6 to 8 inches. That is a reasonable change to expect even a young dog to handle.

If you can find a field near you that has strips mowed in it, use it to its fullest advantage. Have a leg put in that cuts across the high and low grass. Turn in the high grass and put a leg down one of the rows. Make another ninety degree turn so you are tracking across the strips again. On the next turn, put the leg on the short grass. This track would give your dog a healthy dose of cover change in a single track. If your dog can handle that track well, try a leg that cuts across the mowed strips diagonally. A dog that can competently run that track is ready to move on to more difficult cover changes.

When you wish to introduce a new cover to your dog, I would suggest that you simply take your dog for a walk through the new cover before you actually lay a track in it. For example, if your dog has never smelled a pine forest before, go on a hike with him through the woods and accustom him to the various new odors found there before you expect him to track through those odors. Your dog needs to realize that the pine odor, in this instance, is not what he needs to focus on. It is nothing more than a background scent.

The more frequently you expose your dog to various ground covers, the quicker he will learn the pertinent odors to follow (body scent, disturbed earth, etc.) and which odors can be ignored. If you do this often enough, your dog will generalize the training and will handle new cover changes as a matter of course even if he has never seen or smelled that particular cover before.

Introduce each new cover slowly and patiently. Take baby steps when entering a cover change to help the dog stay on the track. When handling him at that spot, move forward with him at the slightest indication on his part that the track goes there. As your dog becomes more confident, make him give a firmer commitment to the new cover.

Be sure to add vegetation that presents a handling problem to your list of cover changes. This would include briars, blackberry bushes, and multi-flora rose. You need to practice in this type of vegetation for two reasons. Firstly, you can learn your dog's typical behavior when confronted with that type of vegetation. Does he plow right through it, or does he work his way around it to the track on the other side? This is a valuable piece of information to know when you are running a blind track at a test and your dog tracks directly up to that type of vegetation.

Secondly, you need to practice in that nasty stuff once in a while to work on your handling skills. At the same time that you are learning to manage the lead without getting it snagged on everything, your dog is learning that a pull on the lead is *not* a correction. As your handling skills improve and as the dog learns that an occasional tug on the lead while maneuvering through heavy cover is not a signal to stop tracking, working a track through this type of cover will no longer be intimidating to either you or your dog.

Woods are harder for some tracking teams than others. Much of the difficulty depends on whether you have a casting fool on the end of your line. If you do, woods will most probably always be a challenge for you.

I generally teach a dog to go into woods before I teach him to come out. I have found that a dog exiting the woods will often scent up and down along the edge of the woods and will be hesitant to move out into the open field where the scent may have dissipated. I teach the dog to go into woods first by putting the last 5 or 10 yards of the track in the woods. This technique, by the way, is useful with any cover change since the smell of the final article generally lures the dog forward into the new change of cover.

Be very methodical in your training of woods. Start with woods that are relatively open and then progressively move to thicker and thicker woods with longer and longer distances to track before the dog finds the article.

Try an open turn in the woods before you ask your dog to do a ninety degree turn. When your dog can do two ninety degree turns to form a U track, it is time to teach your dog how to exit the woods while still tracking. Place an article or toy a mere 6 or 8 yards straight ahead after exiting the woods. This teaches the dog to move out into the field rather than scenting back and forth along the wood line.

Placing the article or toy directly ahead of the dog will encourage the dog forward, *but* I must warn you that you don't just want to encourage the dog to mindlessly blast out of the woods. It is possible that the track turns as it leaves the woods, so be careful not to pattern train your dog to always expect the track to go forward. Keep a log of your training sessions so you know how many times you had the track go straight ahead, how many times you had the track turn right, and how many times you had the track turn to the left as you exited the woods. The log will keep you from pattern training your dog.

Lead handling in the woods takes practice. Keep the lead off the ground in a comfortable arm position. In training, stay close to the dog and keep the lead taut to prevent tangling it around trees. Use lots of clothespins or markers through the woods so you are certain of the track's location. Keeping the dog right on the track at this stage of the game will eliminate problems later.

If the dog does wrap the lead around a tree, one option is to drop the lead and call him to you. If he is badly tangled, however, it might be best to go to the dog, unclip the lead from the harness, untangle the lead from the vegetation, and then reattach it to the harness. Keep the dog under control while doing this by placing him into a sit stay or down stay. Teach him to be patient and wait for you finish untangling the lead before he resumes tracking. This practice will come in handy if the lead becomes tangled at a test. Be sure at this time that your dog has a reliable restart because, depending on how difficult the vegetation is, you may have to restart your dog multiple times.

At an actual tracking test, keep your wits about you while on the track. If you are fairly certain that you are standing on the track when the dog becomes tangled at the end of the 40 foot lead, mark your position somehow so that you can return to it when the dog has been freed. Find a distinctive visual cue to help you orient yourself in the woods, like a rock, or a broken limb, etc. If nothing is distinctive enough to help you get back to that specific location, drop your hat or something else that is handy so that you know *exactly* the spot you left. Remember that tracking is a team sport and you must hold up your end of the bargain. You must be an anchor when your dog is casting for a turn. Always know the last location where you were *certain* your dog was on the track and be able to back up to that location. This means that you must keep yourself oriented in the woods. Don't just follow the dog willy nilly through the woods and have no clue where you are or where you were. Keep in mind that the AKC rules allow you to move up on the lead when tracking through difficult cover, so don't stay at the end of the 40 foot lead through the entire track. Teach your dog to tolerate you walking behind him at various distances. At one training session, be 40 feet behind him and at the next session be only 10 feet behind. Be sure your dog is comfortable with you moving up the lead while he is tracking. This is an absolute necessity if the two of you are approaching a road. I move up the lead so that the dog and I are crossing the road together. Does your dog let you move up the lead without losing his concentration? All it takes is a little practice.

A command that I have always found handy in the woods is "go around". I teach this command to young puppies when I take them for walks. If I walk on the right side of a telephone pole and the puppy walks on the left side, I quickly make the leash go taut so he cannot move

forward. I then say "go around" and help the puppy back up a step or two and get around the telephone pole. We continue on our walk and it happens again at a fire hydrant, then later at a stop sign, and still later around a tree. Be honest, folks...doesn't this happen to all of us at least a half dozen times each time we take a puppy for a walk? I use these situations to do some early training that will come in handy a year later when we are tracking through the woods together for the first time. That one simple command will certainly not eliminate the need to untangle the lead each and every time your dog gets tied up, but it will greatly cut down on the number of times you must go to the dog to free him.

Remember, however, that in the initial training stages, you should stay close to the dog and keep the lead taut to prevent any tangles. If you have put a sufficient number of clothespins and markers along the way, the track through the woods should be very clear to you. Keep your dog on the track at all times. I will even use my "go around" command if the dog tries to track to the left of a tree that I definitely remember walking to the right of. In these early stages, try to impress on the dog that he is not to air scent but, rather, is to keep his nose on the ground and follow the footprints.

As you work your dog through the various cover changes, be aware of the fact that the different types of vegetation will hold different amounts of scent. Be patient with your dog as he tries to work through the changing odors. Stay close to the dog in the beginning. Cut back on the track's age if necessary. Don't rush the dog but, rather, let him work out the problem for himself. Step in only if he seems to be giving up and is moving on to other things, like mouse hunting. A dog that gives up working on the track has probably been pushed too far and too fast in his training. Back up to a cover change that is less severe to encourage success. Remember that in training cover changes, the way to teach your dog to move ahead confidently is to take baby steps in the beginning.