



Fall 2008

President: Marie-P Babin
 autumwynd@sympatico.ca

Vice-President: Eileen Fisher
 eileenfi@sympatico.ca

Secretary: Maryke Warwick
 maryke5024@rogers.com

Treasurer: Bev Wiggans
 bwiggans@wshighspeed.com

Social: Dorothy Phillips
 db.phillips@sympatico.ca

Equipment: Mel Babin

Frank Downs
 frankdowns@rogers.com

Newsletter Editors:
 Maryke Warwick
 Marie-P Babin

CCTC TD & UTD Test Oct. 19/08



The weather was superb. Sunshine, a nice breeze and great location. Our judge was Jane Book of Smithville Ont. Our tracklayers were Maryke Warwick, Susie Coutts, Candy Rennie, Eileen Fisher, Sue Godbehere, Helena Tracz & Marie-P Babin. Two dogs passed the UTD test out of four .
 Tersha's Talisman CGN CDX TDX UTD (4 yr. GSD) Colleen Beudet
 CH. Pannovia's Chasing Hearts CGN TDX RN UTD (3 yr. Std. Poodle) Renee Koch.
 Two dogs passed the TD test out of eight.
 Kjaq's At Heart Lexus CD CGN TD (4 yr. Rottweiler) Cynthia Thomas.
 CH. Shana-N-Peppermills Magic Tears CD RE AGX AGMJ TD(7 yr. Std. Schnauzer)
 Michelle Ross

The new CCTC Club wear has arrived !!



We have found a new supplier for our Club wear It's Birdie Boy Marketing in Newmarket. They have, t-shirts, jackets, vests, hoodies & sweatshirts. Extra T-shirts and a few jackets have been ordered to be kept in stock. We still have hats available from last time for \$5.00 and CCTC mugs also for \$5.00.
 If anyone would like to place an order, we've enclosed an order sheet.

CCTC Members' Brags....



CH SR Autumwynd Harvest Knight CD WCI JH RA

"Brogan" earned 2 legs in NAHRA Hunter July 12&13 /08
Owned by Maryke Warwick



**Autumwynd Storm Tracker CD TDX RA WC
CARO RN Therapy Dog "Tank" earned his CD
Aug. 9& 10 /08 & his WC the next weekend
Owned by Susan Coutts**



**CH SR Castlegar Marlo At Autumwynd CDX TD WC
JH RE CGN Am. CD RA**

"Marlo" earned one leg in Utility Aug.9/ 08
Owned by Marie-P Babin



**CH OTCH Selamat's Rahontsi Quinn WC JH TD RN
Am. CDX**

"Quinn" earned two legs in Rally Advanced Aug.5 & 7/ 08
Owned by Maryke Warwick

Brags Cont.....



CH Victory's Bean With The Devil CD RE JWWN
 "Dexter" earned his CD and his RE Sept..27//08 at HDOC. Also he earned his JWWN in Oct. 2008.
 Owned by Eileen Fisher



Jaymar Well Dressed At Luvits CDX AGN AGJN
 "Gucci" won HIT (High In Trial) in Muskoka Aug.10/08 in the Open Class and he earned his AGN July 19/08 also earned his AGJN. Oct.25th /26th 2008 at MDKC Gucci earned 3 more HIT's He passed 4 /4 in the Open Class and earned a perfect score "200" and won the MDKC's 100th anniversary award.
 Owned by Ricki Abrams



Bluechip The Great Houdini CDX AGI AGJI
 "Rocky" earned his CKC AGJI
 Owned by Marg Hacking



CH Beadog Dandyion At Elliquin CD RN
 "Layla" earned her CD at MDKC Oct. 25/26,2008
 Owned by Maryke Warwick

CCTC Members' Brags Cont....



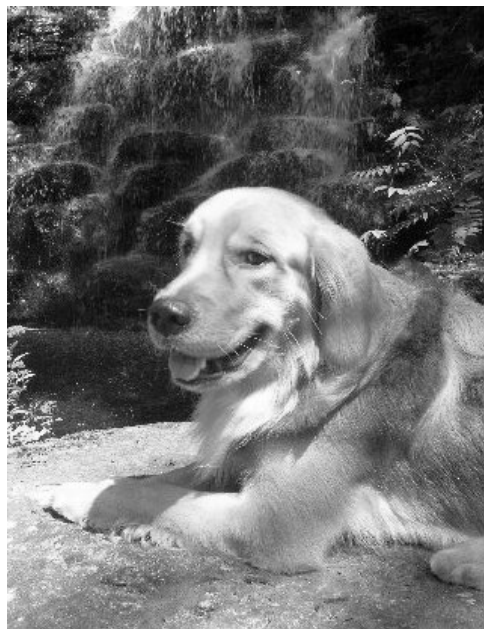
"Abby" & "Lucy"
The two Eng. Springers earned their RA's
at HDOC Sept. 2008
Owned by Wendy Downing



CH Norbury Hollyhill Foxglove FDCH JE
"Maisie" earned her Championship with a WB, BOW,
BOB & a Group 3rd. July.2008. at the Specialty in N.B.
Maisie also earned a leg of her Senior Earthdog title.
Owned by Isobel McGowan



CH Gowrielea's Murphy WCI JH CD RN VC Am WC
"Murphy" earned his 1st leg of his CDX . Oct. 2008
Owned by Sandy Brodie



Gowrielea's Notorius RN CD WC
"Tory" earned his WC July /08
Owned by Sandy Brodie

Braggs....



**Fourwinds Dragon King CDX AGN RA Am CD
OTCH Cole Mine To Have RA CGN
"Chad" & "Cole"**
Both earned their RE's Oct. 2008
Owned by Rosie Van Bommel



**Kassaland's Bo Dibbley CD RN
"Dibbs"**
Earned his CD Sept. 2008
Owned by Rosie Van Bommel



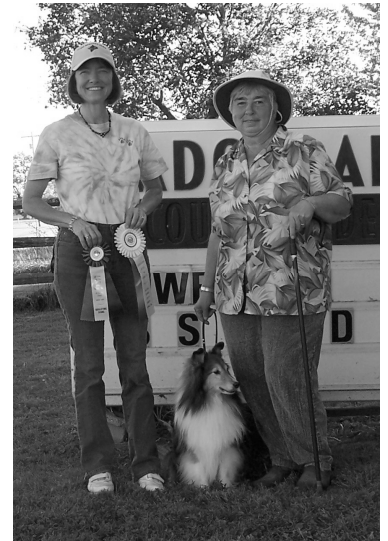
Kjaq's At Heart Lexus CD CGN TD
"Lexus" earned her TD Oct. 19/08 at the CCTC test
Owned by Cynthia Thomas



Castlegar JG TD P-CD CGN
"Jersey" earned her CGN Aug. 2008
Owned by Candy Rennie



And more Brags....



Jubilee Dark Side of the Moon HT

“Sky” earned his first ever herding title (AKC HT) - Herding Tested Sheep!!

Owned by Sharon Palmer

CH. VTCH, ATChC, OTCH, C-ATCH & UCDX, Autumngold Dawson's Creek VCX, Am. CD, RN, RNMCL, RAMCL, RXMCL, AG.X, AG.XJ, NJC, NT, OAC, O-OGC, NA, NAJ, Bronze Award of Merit, MSCDC, RV-N, JS-N, GV-N, FMX, HA, HSA-sd, HTDI-d, HTDII-s, HTADI-d, HTADIII-s, HRDII, ATD-d, OTD-s, STD-c, CGC, CGN

“Tyler” earned his

- AKC HSA-d (Herding Started, course "A" on ducks) title #93!!
- and he earned his 1st leg on his AKC HIA-s (Herding Intermediate Course "A" - sheep)

Owned by Sharon Palmer

New Little Tracker



C'Harbr Dancing By The Sea

“Charleston” the Portuguese Water Dog is;

Owned by Anne Passafiume



Windgates Kiss Me Kate

“Katie” A Shetland Sheepdog

Owned by Carolyn Bray

And more Brags.....



Carmspack Trust CD RNCL TDX UTD RN Therapy Dog HIT

“Trust” the GSD was the first CCTC member to earn an “Urban Title”
She earned her UTD in Ottawa Sept. 21, 2008.

Owned by Susan Coutts.



OTCH Windgates Emerald Star N-CDX CGN

“Emma” earned her “OTCH” Sept. 2008.

Sheltie Owned by Carolyn Bray



Kieran von Eichenluft BH

“Kieran” got his BH (Begleithund) at Niagara Hundesport
trial on Oct 19/08

Owned by Bev Wiggins

Handling at Tracking Tests

by Craig Green

Guiding Your Dog

It is not uncommon for a handler to help the dog find the track in a training session, especially when the dog is honestly trying to work out a difficult problem. The last thing you want to do in training is make tracking so difficult that the dog gets frustrated, thereby learning to dislike tracking. Unfortunately however, some handlers forget that this is not permitted at a tracking test, or don't realize they are guiding their dogs.

According to AKC tracking regulations: "The purpose of a Tracking Test is to demonstrate the dog's ability to recognize and follow human scent..." The AKC does not recognize the dog/handler team, but the dog alone as being the one who finds the article at the end of the track. The regulations also state: "Guiding is defined as behavior by the handler which influences or determines the dog's direction. Guiding is prohibited and the dog shall be marked failed." A literal interpretation of this suggests that any restraining of the dog is guiding. However, most judges I know interpret this rule more liberally.

In my opinion, there is often a fine line between guiding your dog and restraining or body language. Most trackers would have no problem recognizing obvious guiding, such as pointing to the track ahead of the dog, moving the dog from one place to another, or walking along the track ahead of the dog to encourage it to get busy. However, it has been my experience that most guiding is less obvious than this.

Restraining a dog at a tracking test is not necessarily considered by most judges to be guiding, but it can be. If a dog sticks its nose down a critter hole, or is trying to chase a bunny it flushed on the track, the handler may hold tightly to the lead and try to prevent or limit these distractions. However, when the judges think that the handler can see the track (which sometimes happens from dew or other conditions), such restraining might be interpreted as guiding. In wet conditions, I have seen a handler come to a turn which was clearly visible, and not let the dog go any direction except the right one. That is guiding. Although the judges in this case did not call it guiding, one of them later confided to me that she regretted the decision to allow this dog to pass.

Body language can be interpreted as guiding. I have seen handlers lean severely one way or another, to indicate to the dog where they think the track goes. This sometimes is a carryover from training, in which case the handler may not know he/she is doing it. When you know where the track is in training, you sometimes develop such body language without even knowing it.

Some dogs are very tentative in their tracking behavior. They track for a few steps, and then get distracted by something else. These are the most difficult dogs to handle, since in training the handler may have to repeatedly restrain or correct them. It is very difficult for handlers of such dogs in tracking tests to avoid all suspicion of guiding. Training on blind tracks may help the handler reduce or eliminate these bad habits, but some dogs just seem to need every break they can get. If you are unsure about whether a behavior you use in training is guiding, ask the judges before you begin a tracking test.

The tracking rules allow handlers to approach their dogs and untangle their leads or give the dog a drink, or in TDX, to help them over a difficult physical obstacle. However, this doesn't mean guiding. While this is open to different interpretations, I think an important distinction is whether the handler's action tells the dog where the handler thinks the track is. If the handler lifts a dog over an obstacle, it is important for the handler to simply put the dog down on the other side and not indicate to the dog a location or direction where the track might go. This means not pointing to the track. Some judges and AKC reps interpret any pointing to the ground as guiding.

My advice to handlers is to use restraining and similar techniques sparingly, and only when necessary to prevent the dog from doing something that is clearly not tracking. This is not always easy to figure out, but doing too much for the dog may lead to an embarrassing failure at a tracking test.

Gone But Not Forgotten

**CH Oaklea Raven At Autumwynd CDX TD WC
JH CGC (I Utility leg) Am CD**

May 2, 1996 — Aug. 31, 2008

Chocolate Labrador Retriever

“Raven” will be missed and remembered for her beauty and all her funny little ways.

Owned and loved by Mel & Marie-P Babin



**Dea Z Lucescu
“Cleo”**

Feb. 19, 1999 — June 26, 2008

Beauty is not in the face;
Beauty is a light in the heart.

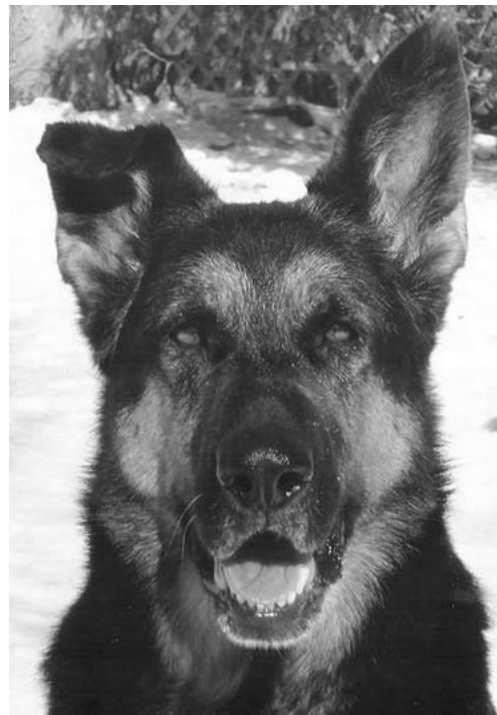
K. Gibran

German Shepherd Dog
Owned and Loved by Shirley Kong

**“Bear”
Bear N-CD CGC RNCL N-TD UCC VAADC
VMJDC ATCHC**

Owned and Loved by Sue Godbehere
1995 — 2008

Bear was Sue’s 1st tracking dog and was the reason for NAMBR’s 1st tracking test in Canada.



IT'S NOT ALL ABOUT TITLES!

Early this morning, I laid an urban track for Trust in our closest village. The area contains a large amount of paved parking area and an equally large amount of grassed area. The library, fitness centre, community centre and arena and baseball diamond area and small park form somewhat of a circular area. It's normally a busy area, but not at 8:30 a.m.

When the track was aged, we walked from the van across the parking area towards the opening in the fence near the library where I had put the start. As we neared the opening, Trust cut across in front of me to the right, almost tripping me. Her manners are normally much better than to do this, and I thought a dog must have recently peed on the fence.

However, she was insistent, and "trusting my dog, named Trust" I thought it unusual enough to walk a few steps in the direction she was pulling before heading through the fence opening.

Much to my surprise, she had her nose down into a small leather billfold with many credit cards, personal information, and a drivers' license spilled out. It had obviously been thrown against the fence, in the grass and I had to really look before noticing it.

Of course I had to apologize for being annoyed with her and tell her how wonderful she was! I gathered it up, took it over to the fitness centre, and the fellow there called the OPP.

He phoned me later, and someone else had walked up the driveway after we found this, and they found three more personal articles and keys, thrown off the driveway into the grass.

The OPP think some vehicles left unlocked (while the fellows were playing hockey at the arena the night before) were likely ransacked.

So another benefit of our tracking dogs. If she hadn't found first "article", no-one would have gone looking for more nearby.

It was quite a rush to realize she had found this on her own. We still did our track, but I think she knew she'd done something special.

Susan Coutts

OH, WHAT A FINE TRACKING MORNING !
(to tune of "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning")

by Pam Green , © 1990

There's a blanket of fog on the meadow,
There's a blanket of fog on the meadow;
The grass is as high as my Bouvier's thigh;
And a heavy grey overcast covers the sky.
Oh, what a fine tracking morning !
Oh, what a great tracking day !
These are the perfect conditions
To T.D.X. my Bouvier !

All the cattle are standing like statues,
All the cattle are standing like statues;
I'm sure that they're all far away from our track,
And will wait 'till we've run it before they come back !
Oh, what a fine tracking morning !
Oh, what a great tracking day !
These are the perfect conditions
To T.D.X. my Bouvier !

It's been raining for nearly a fortnight,
It's been raining for nearly a fortnight;
The wind's non-existent, the temperature's low;
And my Bouvier tells me "All systems are go ! "

Oh, what a fine tracking morning !
Oh, what a great tracking day !
These are the perfect conditions
To T.D.X. my Bouvier !

All the dewdrops are sparkling like diamonds,
All the dewdrops are sparkling like diamonds,
Except for the sweep of the tracklayer's stride;
So if we don't pass , I'll commit suicide !
Oh, what a fine tracking morning!
Oh, what a great tracking day !
These are the perfect conditions
To T.D.X. my Bouvier !
Yes, I'm sure of passing today !

In honor of
Chelsea de Caelichyth, TDX (and other titles)
Xterminator van de Vuilvoet, TDX (and other titles)

ATTITUDE AND GOALS ACHIEVE TRACKING SUCCESS

I think we all begin to track for the fun and enjoyment we have with our dogs. At some point, we notice that we've been building a stronger relationship together and a more confident dog.

In a short while, we come to the realization that the dog is very likely capable of earning a tracking title. But are we, the human member of the team, ready?

This is an important time for you to sit down and think about YOUR training attitude and how to achieve your goals. Because, after all, a title is YOUR goal, not your dogs' dream.

I have always said that every dog is capable of tracking, and most of earning a TD title. But not every dog moves on to earn a TDX or an Urban Title, and you see some struggle in this attempt.

Moving from TD to TDX is a huge step. A much larger time commitment, much more planning, much more land to work on with various obstacles available, is just part of TDX training.

Moving to Urban from either TD or TDX is again, totally different. Finding urban locations that are suitable has become more challenging than many of us expected.

The enthusiasm and capability of the handler will often determine how well their dog progresses when the tracks and situations become more difficult. And the more difficult the work becomes, the more fun and rewarding it should be for the dog. Don't ever let up on the fun and the reward.

Having a plan and a goal is important in setting up a training program. Personally, I am one that works "backwards" from a trial date. As an example, if I'm considering entering a trial which turns out to be in 12 weeks, first I ask myself if we can be ready. That means, we should already be well on our way and won't be trying to push ahead too quickly. Determining what we need to work on is next, ie more distance, or aging, perhaps high winds or rain, more changes of cover, more pavement work in high traffic areas. I aim to "peak" my dog for the trial, not over-train.

I never go out and "just do a track." I also draw a map, make notes, and often take photos as I go. Each track should have one, or two, specific goals in mind and be planned in advance. I want my dog to be successful on the track, learning and progressing as he's going. I need to know where the track is, to achieve this goal. I've laid 99% of all my tracks for all my dogs. Incorporating motivational, short and fun tracks, into the training program is also important. This is where I'll occasionally have a trusted friend lay the track that I've pre-planned, and be hidden at the end for my dog(s) to find. Finding the happy person is a big reward for the dog. Advanced training is a big mental game for the dog, not just a physical challenge.

Conditioning is also very important and should be included as a regular part of your training, for you and your dog. Conditioning does not mean rigorous, extreme exercise; it can be as simple as long, brisk road walks, a little jogging if you're able. We are lucky enough to have a forest, and walks through this area means the dogs trot, run a bit, climb, jump, and are always on the move. We don't need quick spurts, or running, to condition the dogs for long tracks. Tracking, no matter how much fun, is hard work for the dog, and stamina is important.

If both you and your dog have developed the 'right' attitude, built a firm foundation and improved in your training through your goals, always have fun in your tracking training and time spent together, you should be able to achieve what you set out to do, whatever it may be.

I always suggest you look at this great sport of tracking from the dogs' point of view. It just might help!

On a personal note, I have found moving my dogs from strictly vegetative tracks to urban settings very difficult. Aside from finding good places to work, my biggest challenge was my dogs' attitude in WANTING to work on hard surface. This took a lot of time and understanding, on my part, and watching how my dog handled it. Because urban tracks are still fairly new in Canada, most of us did not put our dogs on hard surface (other than road crossings) until after achieving TDX titles. It's a huge step. I will never start another dog strictly on vegetative surfaces only, but will incorporate hard surface, to some extent, in early training plans.

Susan Coutts

www.gooddogsplay.com



If I Didn't Have Dogs

1. I could walk around the yard barefoot in safety.
 2. My house could be carpeted instead of tiled and laminated.
 3. All flat surfaces, clothing, furniture, and cars would be free of dog hair
 4. When the doorbell rings, it wouldn't sound like the kennels.
 5. When the doorbell rings, I could get to the door without wading through dog bodies who beat me there.
 6. I could sit on the couch the way I wanted, without taking into consideration how much space several fur bodies would need to get comfortable.
 7. I would not have strange presents under my Christmas tree - dog bones, stuffed animals - nor would I have to answer to people why I wrap them.
 8. I would not be on a first-name basis with three veterinarians.
 9. The most used words in my vocabulary would not be: "out," "sit," "down," "come," "no," "stay," and "leave him/her/it ALONE."
 10. My house would not be cordoned off into zones with baby gates or barriers.
 11. My pockets would not contain things like poop bags, dog treats and an extra leash.
 12. I would no longer have to spell the words B-A-L-L, F-R-I-S-B-E-E, R-I-D-E, C-O-O-K-I-E, or W-A-L-K.
 13. I would not have as many leaves INSIDE my house as outside.
 14. I would not look strangely at people who think having ONE dog ties them down too much.
 15. I'd look forward to spring and the melting of snow instead of dreading "mud season."
 16. I would not have to answer the question "Why do you have so many dogs?" from people who will never have the joy in their lives of knowing they are loved unconditionally by something as close to an angel as they will ever get.
 17. How empty my life would be.
- ~~~~~

**Annual General Meeting and Potluck Dinner
Friday Dec 12th ,2008
Dinner at 7:00 and Meeting at 8:30
To be held at Eileen Fisher's home**

