



FALL 2002

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President: Marie P.Babin` • • Autumwynd@sympatico.ca • • Vice-President: Eileen Fisher • • Eileenfi@sympatico.ca • • Secretary: Maryke Warwick • • Maryke5024@rogers.ca • • Treasurer: Bev Wiggans • • Bwiggans@idirect.com 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE</u></p> <p>Hopefully everyone’s had a good summer and enjoyed their time with their dogs whether it was training or sitting out on the porch.</p> <p>The Aug. 23rd Bar B Q was fun and when we have it again next year, don’t miss out on a great time.</p> <p>We had our tracking get-together in September with a good turn out.</p> <p>The TD test was held on Oct. 20th ‘02 and the TDX test will be held on Nov. 10th ‘02.</p> <p>The May 11/03 TD test is approved with Sharon Smith as our judge.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>THE NIGHT OF THE GENERAL MEETING</u> <u>AUGUST 23rd</u></p> <p>For this general meeting the CCTC had decided to relax a little and enjoy time for socializing and partaking in a BBQ. It was a pity that only 9 club members could come that night, as it proved to be a very enjoyable and productive evening.</p> <p>Adequate supplies of appetizers were washed down with suitable liquid refreshments, as the talk ranged from tracking conquests to upcoming events. There were also numerous photographs of our various canine activities to admire.</p> <p>Shelley Gilanders, who is a new member, shared experiences with us concerning a tracking test in Michigan which involved finding a felon. She also has had some experience with variable surface tracking, which is very popular in the States.</p> <p>The canine trackers were duly represented by: Gaia MacDonald, Ranger Downs, Mackenzie Fisher and Kavik Fisher,</p> <p>They spent their time tracking down all the tiny morsels that slipped from the table.</p> <p>After delicious hamburgers, which were grilled to perfection by our multi-talented president, we thought, as it was now 10:00pm; it was time to begin the official proceedings. We sat in chairs close to the pond and these in turn were surrounded by flaming torches, courtesy of the Warwick family. It closely resembled a scene from “Survivor!”</p>
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ANY NEWS FOR US ???

Don’t forget to send us your brags, your news and articles that would interest our other members.



Articles or brags on other activities you and your dogs take part in . Eg; Herding, Agility, Draft dog, Water rescue, Obedience, Conformation, Field work, Therapy dog, Search and Rescue, Schutzhund, ect...Write us some articles for the News-letter. Send to Maryke.Warwick or Marie-P.Babin

The meeting went smoothly until Frank was concerned that Ranger Downs was wandering around too much. After some muffled commands in German, Ranger came over to his master. Frank now told him to go around the back of the chair and “platz”. Ranger duly set off to fulfill this mission when we heard a gigantic splash. Ranger was now in six feet of water swimming with the startled koi! The next minute was pure action as Frank tottered on the edge of the pond trying to lift a bedraggled and definitely not pleased, Ranger out of the water. The rest of the gathering gripped Frank as he too looked as if he was going to join Ranger in his swim. Finally Frank and Ranger were saved and the meeting was declared adjourned, seconded by Frank!

Do try to attend the next CCTC General Meeting, because you never know what might happen!!!!!!!!!!

Eileen Fisher

OCT. 20, 2002 TD TEST

Seven dogs passed out of eight. They were excellent !

Track 1- Labrador Ret. "Yeoman Of The Guard CDX WCI JH"
12/02/96 Dorrie Kirk of Powassan Ont. Passed.

Track 2- Belgian Sheepdog "Toronto Du Castel D'Argence"
09/02/02 Lori McLeod of Whitby Ont. Passed

Track 3- Belgian Sheepdog "CH.Zouk Du Clan Quattpatt"
06/06/99 Susan Read of Reaboro Ont. Passed.

Track 4- Leonberger "O Rouale's Cool Hand Luke" 08/07/01
Glenna Stephens of Utopia Ont. Passed.

Track 5- Curly Coated Ret. "CH. Addidas Alpha Coca Cola
UD JH WCX AGI Nancy Stonell of Toronto Ont. Passed.
16/07/93

Track 6- Rottweiler "Arguswebb Agawa Moon Hybs CDX"
26/08/97 Cynthia Thomas of Etobicoke Ont. Passed.

Track 7- Golden Ret. "Falcon Lakes Hop Along Kasade CD
WCX JH 08/07/98 Beryl Proctor of Callendar Ont. Passed.

Track 8- Belgian Sheep Dog did not pass this time but we wish
him luck next time

It was great to have almost as many track layers as tracks.

The Track layers were. Maryke Warwick, Eileen Fisher, Julia
Holt, Sandra Coombs, Sue Godbehere, Mel Babin and Myself
Marie-P.Babin. A great time had by all .



The weather cooperated for the tracking test. The sun was shining and the wind was calm. All the tracks were grass and alfalfa and were covered in dew in the early morning. **Seven dogs passed from the eight entered.** **Mike Wood of Woodlawn Ont. judged the test.**

STORY SHARING : BRAG

CH Salorna's Mighty Hunter CD TD CGN owned by Sandra Coombs completed his CD in 3 trials. In July at Oshawa Obedience he completed his 1st leg with 193- High in Class. His 2nd leg was 190.5- High in Class. His 3rd leg was at the Trio Show in August with a 4th in Class. Also at the Trio Shows he successfully completed his CGN.



TRACKING WITH A PUPPY OR AN ADULT DOG

I find the differences aren't so great. Since I've been teaching tracking classes in '91 I've had both in class and I just think that some dogs are better trackers than others and it doesn't really have anything to do with their age.

Some puppies have been as young as 11 or 12 weeks of age. The oldest dog who was tracking with me was 14 years old and just loved it. { Amazed that wieners grew in these fields }

I use chicken wieners on the tracks so puppies catch on just as fast as older dogs with the exception that puppies don't concentrate as hard so you sometimes see them leap through the air to catch a butterfly but then go back to tracking and to find more treats.

I feel that it's good to get them started early as you would with obedience puppy classes and some short retrieves .

I think that with the very young you need to stay close behind them longer than you would with the older dog because of the concentration.

As for indicating, I find pups do it quicker since they possibly think of this as finding a new toy.

Older dogs sometimes need to be taught to indicate but sometimes they're just naturals and retrieve it.

An indication can be anything from just stopping and looking at the article to retrieving or dropping at the article as they do in Schutzhund.

Tracking in the Winter by Donna Smith

You can track all winter with your dog and continue with your beginner's exercises to keep limbered up for spring classes. When tracking in the winter, it is important to understand a bit about snow, humidity and temperatures which is why I am providing this little lesson in physics and meteorology. When the ground cover changes, ALWAYS back up a few lessons to re-introduce the dog to new cover. When we teach a dog to track on ground cover, there is a mixture of vegetation and human scent. On snow the dog depends more on following only human scent, and you are less dependent on fields – go to parks, parking lots, your own lawn or driveway after fresh snow falls or on nice sunny days after a long warm stretch when the snow is warm for several layers. TDX people can take advantage of roadways, cleared or melted areas for changes in cover.

Snow is mostly AIR:

- One gallon of snow only makes one CUP of water. This gives you an idea of the **density of snow**.
- Think of these three things – all the same size: a brick / a block of wood / a chunk of foam. All three are the same size but each has a different **density**.
- Tracking in **loose, dry snow** is the best – it has the least amount of water content, and the most amount of air. When it is disturbed, air pockets will be released and scent will rise
- If you lay a track, and a lot of fresh snow falls over it, abandon the track for the day. The fresh snow will prevent scent from escaping.

The best **time** to track in winter is

- **RIGHT BEFORE IT IS GOING TO SNOW**, because evaporation is taking place into the atmosphere to cause snow conditions, and this will help scent to rise as well (watch for incoming cold fronts, see next page)
- **RIGHT AFTER IT HAS SNOWED** to take advantage of nice loose, fresh snow before it packs, freezes or packs.
- Laying a track in older snow will release bacteria from the warmer layers, however the warmth of lower layers closer to the ground will hold scent better, so it is good to track in snow if your footsteps reach close to the ground, rather than in packed snow where there is still a lot between you and the ground
- Wet snow will absorb scent (not good) but melting snow will release it
- Ice crystals, ice and cold snow (not warmed by the sun) will cause the bacteria that is scent to deteriorate quickly

Air temperature and solar radiation

- In mid winter, south facing slopes are better during the day
- New dry snow reflects 90% of solar radiation and retains 10% (still a lot)
- Wet snow absorbs 50% of solar radiation into the top meter, mostly the top 20 cm; **if it has not snowed for awhile, aim to track in wet snow on nice sunny days (everyone build a snowman to gauge the snow)**
- In the spring, north facing slopes start to gain in the amount of solar radiation they receive and absorb during the day
- **Cold fronts** are cold dry air that cause evaporation and heat and moisture to the snow surface – the air close to the surface of the snow is turbulent; watch for incoming cold fronts – a good time to track – we get a lot of cold fronts because we live next to Lake Superior and cold air comes in from the lake

Air density is caused by temperature, pressure and water vapor.

- You should be aware of these factors to understand how scent is behaving on certain days, and know why your dog is behaving a certain way (air scenting in a FAN, quartering in a LOOP, losing scent OR zeroing in on article location but ignoring track in a CONE).
- Humid air is lighter because water vapor replaces nitrogen and oxygen, which are heavier; scent rises quickly – possibly too quickly for a good track; in a real search, searchers would work ridges and hilltops to find scent, and go back to lower areas after scent has fallen. This produces a scent **CONE, when scent goes straight up**
- Dry air, when the temperature is warm, is dense because molecules speed up and push against their surroundings (like a balloon expanding). This produces a scent **LOOP, when scent loops around, up and down (and it is even harder with wind)**
- When temperatures decrease, the balloon shrinks, and density decreases. This produces a scent **FAN, when scent fans out along the ground, covering a greater area.**
- Interesting facts: in dense air, baseballs do not travel as far (less go out of the park)

Evaporation

- When things are stable, evaporation and condensation are equal (the amount of water molecules that are vapor and liquid)
- Picture a warm lake and cold air
- Water molecules in the lake speed up when they are warm and become vapor, transferring heat energy to the air; this warms the air
- The same thing can happen on a day when snow is melting and transferring heat energy up into the air – a good day to track

Condensation

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- The air is warmer than the lake or snow or warm rain falls into a cold lake. Water molecules in the lake / snow get heat energy from the air and break away from their liquid state to become vapor
- Once they are in the cold air, the molecules slow down and the result is either clouds, fog or dew
- The warm air is cooled
- Picture how perspiration evaporating from your skin cools you down by taking away the heat energy from your skin
- In the winter, the cold surface of the snow makes tracking difficult, and the cooling effect on the air is hard on you and the dog

SOME DEFINITIONS (for when you are looking up the weather!)

DEWPOINT The temperature the air would have to be cooled to for SATURATION to take place. Usually given in the paper or weather online.

CONDENSATION The phase change of a gas to a liquid. In the atmosphere it is the change of water vapor to liquid water

FREEZING The phase change of liquid water into ice (NOT a good time to track!)

EVAPORATION The phase change of liquid water into water vapor

MELTING The phase change of ice into liquid water

RELATIVE HUMIDITY The amount of water vapor actually in the air divided by the amount of water vapor the air can actually hold

SATURATION The amount of water vapor is at a maximum possible at the existing temperature and pressure. If the temperature falls any more, it will either rain (condensation) or freeze (meteorologists call freezing sublimation).

ALWAYS DRESS PROPERLY AND ALWAYS LET SOMEONE KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING (AND DON'T CHANGE YOUR MIND)

***Note: it takes energy for your dog to eat snow and convert it to hydrate properly. If your dog is working hard he could get colder without a proper drink of water, so have water handy for him.**

This information comes from: Syrotuck (Scent and the Scenting Dog), Bryson (Training the Search and Rescue Dog), USA Weather online articles, found at <http://www.usatoday.com/weather/whumdef.htm> and the National Snow and Ice Data Center website at http://nsidc.org/NSIDC/EDUCATION/SNOW/snow_FAQ.html

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

OTCH Ciadar Madison Am.CDX Can./Am. WC JH
CGC TDI "Laser" Golden Retriever 11 yrs old
owned and loved by Irene Mullan

OTCH Candega's Quadrille TD Am.CD "Cory"
Shetland Sheepdog 17 yrs old

Owned and loved by Michelle Visentin

"Visa" German Shepherd Dog owned and loved by
Bev Wiggans

"Sam" Chesapeake Bay Retriever owned and loved
by Diann McHale.

CROSS COUNTRY TRACKING CLUB ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POT LUCK & GENERAL MEETING

**ON FRIDAY , DECEMBER 13, 2002
at 7:00 pm
EILEEN FISHER'S HOME**