



Urban Tracking Test April 23, 2017 Judge Jack Wilhelm

Feb. 2017— June, 2017

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Here are the tracklayers from the Urban test of April 23rd.

L to R are ;

Marg Schneider, Irene Mullan, Stephanie Dixon, Rose Brown, Judge Jack Wilhelm, Peggy Masanotti and Eileen Fisher..

We have an awesome Club with so many willing to help at every test.

The weather was beautiful for the Urban test and some of the dogs worked really well to almost the end but no luck, there wasn't a pass today. With Jack Wilhelm judging, there were 4 UTD & 2 UTDX dogs entered..

Hopefully next time we'll have all passes.

Big Thank you to all the tracklayers who came out and helped to make the test run smoothly

CCTC TD & TDX Test May 7, 2017 Judge Marie-P Babin.

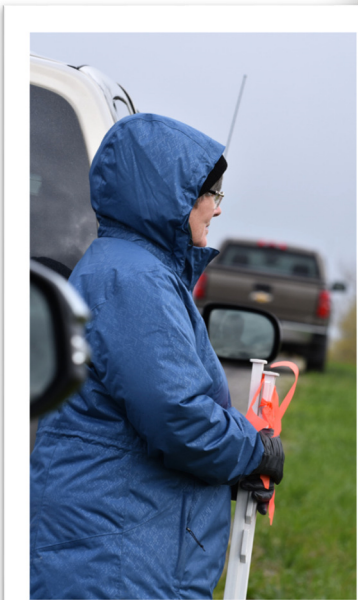
Five entries had come in, then one pulled after closing date then a second person also pulled from the test the night before the test...so all we had was 3 TDs in our test.

It had been raining for 3 days. Our usual place to hold the TD tests, had too many puddles to be used. We decided to do the tracks north on Holt Rd where we have used the field in the past. It was not as wet since it's on higher grounds but it was still wet. Very strong wind also.

None of the dogs passed this time for various reasons.

Thanks to our tracklayers who come out and walk their tracks no matter what weather we get.

Around the table after getting the tracks ready, left to right were; Maryke Warwick, (secretary) Anne Whan (treasurer who came to carry flags) Connie Gavin (Tracking Rep for our zone) Marie-P Babin (Club pres. and judge of the day) Eileen Fisher (Vice-pres.) and Vivien Brennan.



Rep. Connie Gavin



Tracklayers



Judge M-P Babin

Wet Fields.....



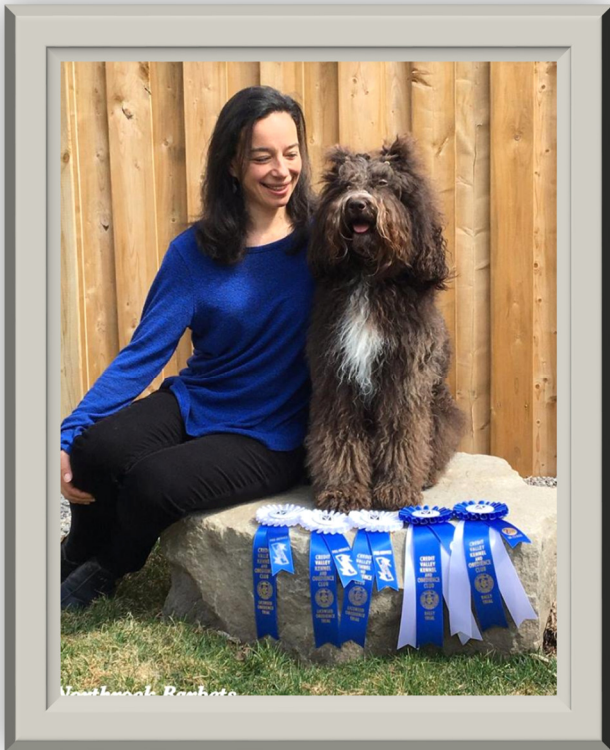


The Urban test was on April 23rd . We offered 4 UTD & 2 UTDX. There were 8 of us at Timmies in Markham to witness the new way to take in entries. In the picture from left to right were Gail Gordon, Anne Whan, Eileen Fisher, Maryke Warwick, Marie-P Babin, Wendy Downing, Sandy Brodie and Barry Robinson.



A lovely CCTC framed certificate for our first Honourary Member was made by Anne Whan and was presented to Wendy Downing at the draw .

CCTC Members' Brags.....



“Summer”

URO1 UCH. Nuphar’s Soak Up The Sun PCD RN CGN
“Summer” earned her PCD April 2/17
 Owned by **Stephanie Dixon**



“Kara”

Goldencol's Karamel Delight WC TD PCD RA CGN U-RO1
“Kara” earned her UKC Rally Obedience Title U-RO1
 April 30/17
 Owned by **Eileen Fisher**



“Elroy”

MBPISS BPIS BISS GCH. Castlegar Elroy At Autumwynd PCD CGN RN RI U-RO2
“Elroy” earned two UKC Rally Titles. U-RO1 April 29/17 and U-RO2 and Total Dog with Group 2nd. April 30/17
 Then on June 11/17 Elroy earned his U-RO3 Title !
 Owned by **Marie-P Babin**

CCTC Club Members' Brags.....



“Savannah”

Round the Bend Savannah CGN, PCD, RN, CRN-MCL, NTD, ITD, JRTCA RO1

“Savannah” earned her RN Jan 2017 and her PCD March 4/17
Owned by **Lynda Rupay**



“Penny”

Carnaby Love Child PCD

“Penny” earned her PCD March 4/17
Owned by **Wendy Downing**



“Sterling”

Reynard's Folly Sterling CGN, PCD, RN, CRN.
So very proud of him earning his first Obedience Title
and his second Rally Obedience title.

“Sterling” earned his PCD and his RN Mar. 26/17
Owned by **Tricia Budrow** and handled by **Lynda Rupay**.

More CCTC Members' Brags....

“Grail “

Cavanhill's Act Of Courage SD-E

Grail earned his SD-E (Scent Detection Excellent
May 20, 2017

Owned by **Victoria Vidal-Ribas**



“Sterling”

Reynard's Folly Sterling CGN CRN PCD RN RI

“Sterling” earned his CKC RI Title
May 27, 2017

Owned by **Tricia Budrow**, Handled by **Lynda Rupay**



“Casie”

OTCH Longgun's Sharp Shooter CDI RN AGN AGNJ AGI
PI WC JH

“Casie” earned his OTCH Title .

New Obedience Trial Champion !!!

May 27, 2017

Owned by **Anne Whan**



More CCTC Members' Brags....

"Tenor"

TCH OTCH Pinebank's Encore Performer SH WCX RE
"Tenor" earned a second TDX & his OTCH !!!!
at the Labrador Owners' Club Specialty June 1 & 2, 2017

Owned by **Laura McKay**



"Summer"

URO1 UCH Nuphar's Soak Up The Sun "Summer" RN PCD CGN

"Summer" is now Certified with "Therapeutic Paws of Canada"

Owned by **Stephanie Dixon.**

More CCTC Members' Brags....



“Elroy”

BISS BOSS MBPISS BPIS GCH. Castlegar Elroy At Autumwynd PCD CGN RN RI U-RO3

“Elroy” had the most amazing weekend ever at the Labrador Owners’ club Specialties June 2nd to June 4th, 2017’

He did earn one leg towards his CD. . On Saturday he won Best Opposite Sex in Conformation and on Sunday, he won Best in Specialty Show !!

Proud Owner..**Marie-P Babin**



“Piper”

BPIS Ch Elliquin’s Pipin’ Aboard TD
“Piper” earned her TD Title at the Labrador Owners’ Club Specialty on June 1st, 2017
 Proudly Owned by **Maryke Warwick**



“Whistle”

GCh Elliquin Whistlin’ Thru TDX RE CD WC CGN HIC
“Whistle” won Best Veteran in Sweeps at the Labrador Specialty June 4, 2017 plus an Award of Merit.
 Proudly Owned by **Maryke Warwick**

“New Little Trackers”

“Tootie”

Dewkist QT Patootie

This little French Bulldog was born on February 3, 2017

Breeder : Sharon Strong, Amherst N.S.

Owners: Gail Gordon & Sharon Strong

She already loves tracking..

Lives with and will be trained by **Gail Gordon**



“Dare”

Golem’s First Daredevil at Starline

Baby Sheltie was born on January 8, 2017.

Dare came from North Carolina from Herding lines.

She has already been herding 30 ducks !!!

Proud owner **Sharon Palmer.**

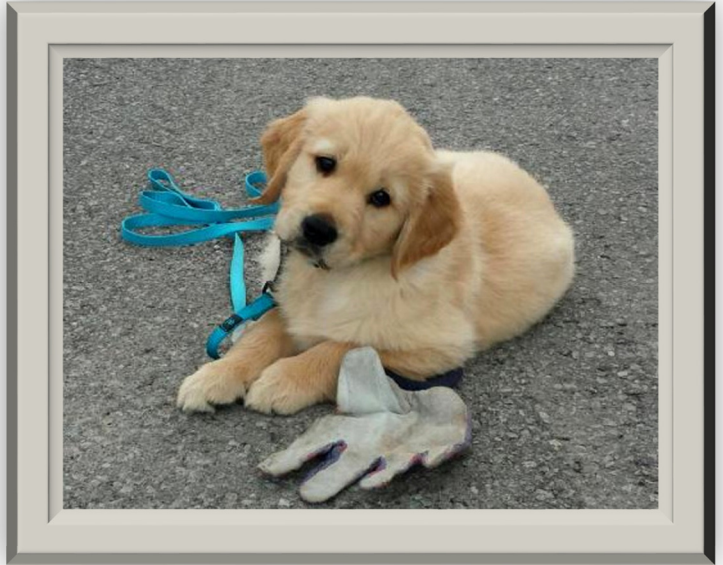
“More New Little Trackers”

“Angus”

Gowrielea's You're in My Heart.

Golden Retriever born on March 22, 2017
Has already been out tracking..and retrieving ducks !!

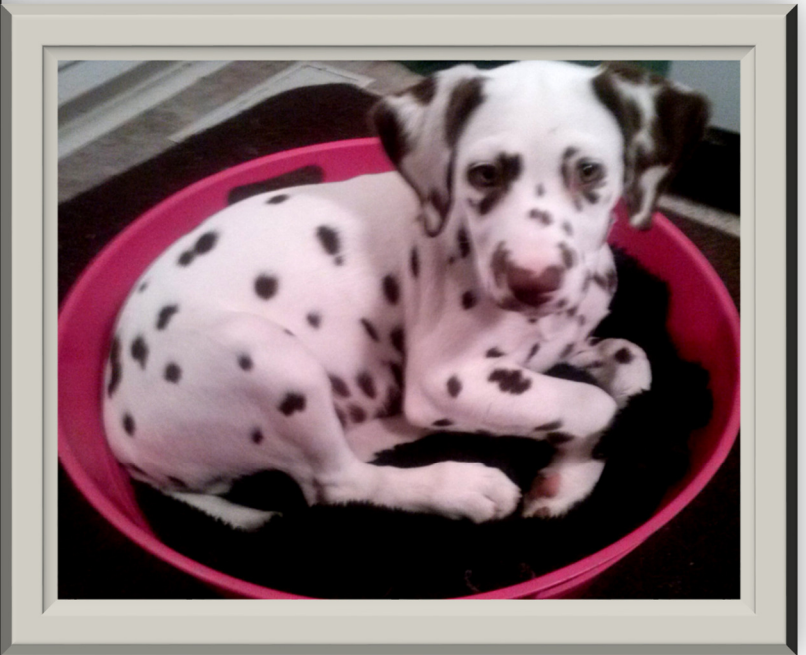
Owned by **Sandy Brodie**



“Gabriella (Ella)”

Mae von Lowenherz was born April 4, 2017

Std. Wire-haired Dachshund
Owned by **Pamela Burns**

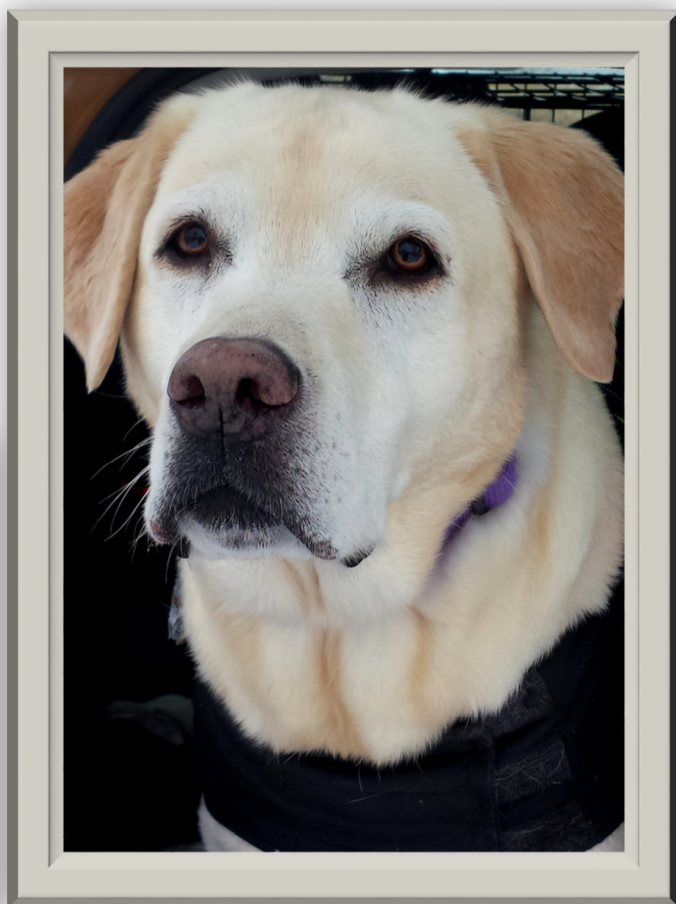


“Beep”

Batik A Hint of Blarney
Born March 9, 2017

New baby Liver Dalmatian
Owned by **Irene Mullan**

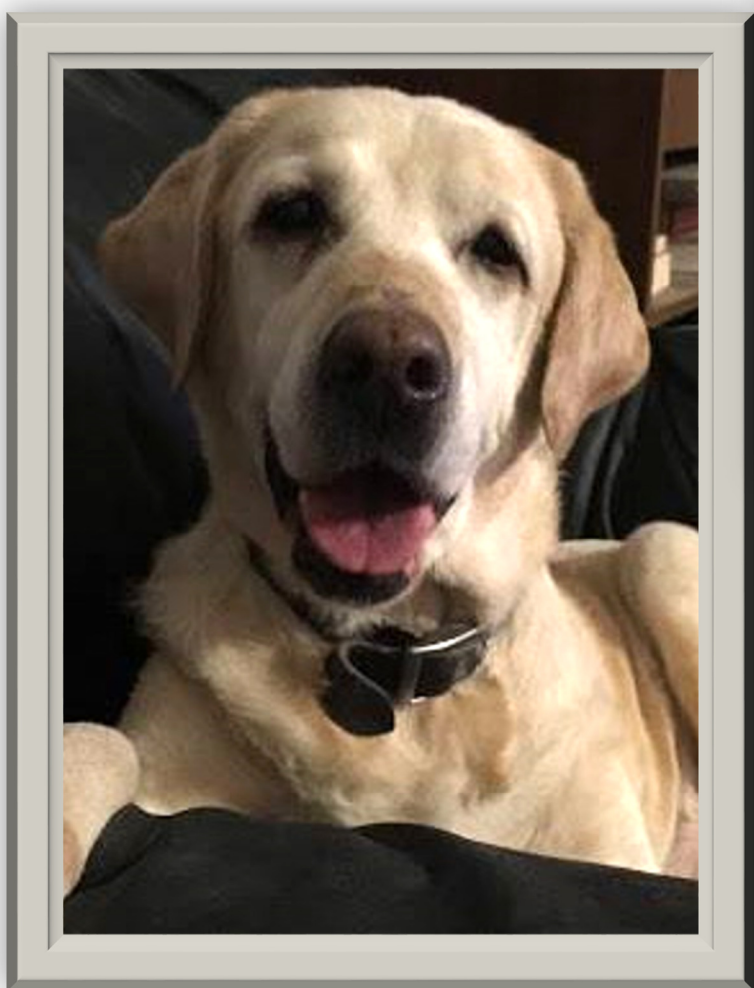
Gone but Never Forgotten....



“Emma”

Labrador Retriever Dec. 2003—May 17, 2017

Loved and is missed by **Deborah Dorken**



“Rommie”

Labrador Retriever Feb.14, 2003 - April 6, 2017

Treasurehunt’s Andromeda WC CGN

Loved and will be missed by **Peggy Masanotti**



True friends are always together in spirit

L.M. Montgomery

Gone But Never Forgotten.....



“Lotto” & “Shorty”

Lotto (Victory's Cash For Life) and **Shorty** (Victory's Short of Cash RN) came into this world just hours apart and crossed the bridge together just hours apart. Lotto and Shorty are the end of an era for me....both being my last children from my heart dog Cash (BISS Ch Victory's Wire Me Money). My very sincere thanks to Victoria Thomas of Victory Kennels who not only bred these wonderful dogs but allowed them to share their lives with me.

Will be missed by **Susan Skolnick**.



“Sasha”

Boston Terrier
CH.(CKC,CFC) To-Che's Lasting Impression
"Sasha" 2002-2017

Loved and missed by **Gail Gordon**

Party Pup Cakes !!

Ingredients...

1 large egg
1/4 cup + 2 tbsp. peanut butter
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1/3 cup honey
1 cup shredded carrots
1 cup whole wheat flour
1 tsp baking soda
1/3 cup quick cooking oats



Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Line a cupcake tin with 6-7 cupcake liners. Combine the egg, peanut butter, oil, honey, and shredded carrots in a large bowl. Feel free to omit the honey if you'd like.

In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, and oats. Add this to the carrot mixture, and stir until all ingredients are fully incorporated.

Divide the mixture evenly among prepared cupcake liners.

Bake for 15-25 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out with a few crumbs on it and the tops are slightly golden brown.

Remove from oven and let cool on wire rack.

OPTIONAL: For frosting you can either use peanut butter by itself, or to make it a bit more creamy, add a bit of unsweetened applesauce to the mix!

Improving the Start By Rosemary Janoch

No matter what level of training your dog currently has, developing and maintaining a good work ethic at the start of a track should be an ongoing goal. If your dog putters at the start flag eating grass and acting disinterested, you have a poor start. If your dog meanders down the first leg with a lack of motivation but settles in nicely after making the first turn, you have a poor start. If your TD dog runs from the first flag to the second flag but then stops and wonders where the track is, you have a poor start. There are exercises that can be taught and handling techniques that can be used to improve your dog's start.

Let's begin with the TD dog that runs from the first flag to the second flag without really tracking, but rather just uses his eyes to get to the second flag. Unfortunately, if you permit your dog to start a track in this manner, you have just wasted the only 40 yards of terrain that you were absolutely positive of where the track was. Remember that the track layer must line up in a straight line 10 yards before the first flag and then must walk between the two start flags which are 30 yards apart. That gives you a solid 40 yards of known track to settle your dog in, praise him for tracking the correct scent, and establish teamwork before you pass the second flag and find yourself in an open field. A tracker who allows the dog to run to the second flag without tracking is every bit as ineffective a handler as the individual who is impatient at the start and basically "pushes" the dog along between the two flags even though the dog is floundering. A handler that keeps moving along using up the space in between the flags accomplishes very little except that they have managed to do 30 yards of the track. Who is going to do the rest of the track if you haven't allowed the dog to work the first 30 yards?

So what should you be doing with your TD dog? First, I would suggest you establish a calming routine when starting a track. You want to avoid the frantic searching behavior exhibited by some dogs that leaves them physically and mentally exhausted before they even begin the track. So the idea is to remain calm at the start. Do not be in a hurry to begin. If you are not in a panic your dog will not be in a panic either.

As you approach the start of the track, line up yourself and your dog in a straight line with the two start flags and stop about 10 yards from the first flag. Here is the beginning of the 40 yards of known track. Put the harness on your dog, calmly play out the tracking line behind you to be certain it is not tangled, and confidently give your tracking command to "go find." Allow the dog to move forward with about 6-8 feet of tracking lead. Do not give him the entire 40 feet and permit him to wildly circle the area looking for the track. It is directly in front of him. If you took several moments putting on his harness and playing out the line behind you, your dog has already found the track and knows it is directly in front of him. This is why you only give him 6-8 feet of lead. You want to see him move smartly forward with no horsing around before you let more lead slip through your fingers. If you consistently stick to a routine of this sort, your dog will give you the same beautiful start at a test that you ask of him in practice. The key is to be sure that your start routine at a test is as identical as possible to the start routine you use at a training session.

Patience is needed. Don't mindlessly chatter at your dog. Wait for your dog to tighten the lead, lean into the harness, and commit to the track before you leave the first start flag. You are trying to develop the habit of starting well. Dogs are creatures of habit and with enough repetitions you will soon find that your dog will not know any other way of starting.

If you have one of those dogs that likes to run to the second flag without tracking you might find that a food drop between the two start flags gets his nose down. Be sure the drop is significantly enticing or it will mean nothing to him. When the nose is down at the start flag, move the food drop farther and farther from the start until it is beyond the second flag and then eliminate it all together (the sooner the better).

At this point you might be thinking that since you and your dog are going to be pursuing the TDX title somewhere down the road, you want your young TD dog to learn to find the direction of the track for himself without you bringing him straight up to the first leg. I believe in doing this, but only after my TD dog has a no-nonsense, 100% reliable, totally committed start when he is brought directly in to the flags and, needless to say, test day is not the time or the place to be adventurous and bring your dog into the track at an angle. Make sure that you always bring your dog straight in to the track at a test.

If your dog tracks half-heartedly until after the first turn, see if a "starter" track helps. A starter track is a short (50-60 yards) straight track. It provides the dog with a quick reward for tracking as the glove is found just beyond the two start flags. Typically, starter tracks are most effective with youngsters who need a reminder about what their job is, but I have seen them used with more experienced dogs that lose focus.

Starter tracks are also useful if you travel. If you enter an out of town tracking test with your dog, I suggest you locate a field near your hotel and put in a starter track for your dog to acclimate him to the local field smells. Be sure you are not where near the tracking site, however, as this would be considered training on the grounds.

If you have established a routine at the start, brought him in straight, and shown patience at the start flag without pushing your dog to the second flag, and yet you still don't like your starts, you might be tempted to "help" your dog by shuffling your feet at the start or scuffing the ground when you lay the track. This actually overloads the dog's nose and makes it harder for him. If you feel you need to do something, simply pause at the first flag for a count of ten before walking forward and then use a shorter stride than you usually do when you walk. After the first 50 yards or so, you should start using your usual stride.

Avoid using too many fresh tracks that are only 10-15 minutes old as the overabundance of scent may be making it difficult for your dog to start. Be sure to do 30-45 minute old tracks although it is not wise to do too many of them either. Dogs learn how to track more effectively when faced with a variety of track strengths, so keep varying the track age. Avoid using any start methods that involve corrections (verbal or physical) or confrontations like a forced down on a dog that is unwilling to give you one. Corrections and confrontations do nothing to improve the dog's mind set at the start of a track. Provide an incentive to start the track instead. Highly motivated dogs generally have wonderful starts. Use positive reinforcements like prized toys and treats to get the dog focused on the task at hand instead of negatives. If the dog's early experiences with tracking have been highly motivational and if he has repeatedly experienced success on his tracks, poor starts are unlikely to creep into future training sessions.

If your dog is working at a more advanced level of tracking (TDX or VST) and he has developed a start problem, closely examine your training schedule. This is particularly true if your dog approaches the start flag with a "couldn't care less" attitude. You might be guilty of overtraining your dog. Perhaps he has been asked to do too many tracks that were too long, too old, and too complex. His reluctance to start could be telling you he needs a break. If he isn't having fun anymore you need to lighten up.

When training your advanced dog to do a one flag start, document your angles of approach to the track. Methodically cover all the angles to the start article. Keep track of how you approach the flag so that you bring him in from both the left side and the right side equally often. If you notice that he struggles with one side more than the other (for example, he always takes a long time to find the track when it heads off at a 45 degree angle to the left) then be sure to work that approach in more frequently than the approaches with which he has no difficulty. Keep in mind that at a test you should always ask the judges from what direction they would like you to approach the start flag...and then specifically follow their directions! I have seen exhibitors make huge arcs approaching the flag so that the actual track is practically behind the handler. The dog has to really work hard to find the direction of the track and then needs to convince the handler to turn around and track backwards. Going directly to the flag from where the judges send you in eliminates this problem.

The age of the track sometimes causes an advanced tracking dog to start poorly. If you find your dog starts well on a 1 or 2 hour old track but struggles on a 3 hour old start, try laying a sequence of three simple tracks that vary in age and are run in the reverse order from when they were laid. For example, you could walk the first starter track at 7 am, lay the second track at 8 am, and the final track at 9 am. At ten o'clock you run the dog on the third track you laid which is only one hour old. Remove his harness at the end of the track and praise him for a job well done. Now take him to the second track that you put in which is now 2 hours old. Put on his harness and run that track. Remove the harness and praise him for another job well done. Walk him over to the first track you laid at 7 am which is now 3 hours old and run him on it. I have had individuals with youngsters who have never run a three hour old track that have successfully run all three tracks. Dogs seem to clearly understand the concept of track age when they are presented with three tracks of varying ages, one after another. This can be modified to only put 30 minutes between the ages so that the tracks were 2 hours, 2.5 hours, and 3 hours of age (or for youngsters that run a 30 minute, 1 hour, and 1.5 hour track). The secret is to make this a practice in starts only. That is the reason you keep taking the harness off and putting it back on. Common sense would tell you that if you are having a start problem, you don't need to work on a full length track...concentrate on the problem at hand and keep the tracks short.

Having a start problem creep into your training program is like having a front or finish problem with your obedience dog or a retrieve problem with your field dog. Our dogs aren't spending their evenings devising ways to be naughty. They simply don't know what is wanted of them. That brings me to one of my favorite quotes from the book "Tracking Dogs: Theory and Methods" by Glen Johnson who says:

- (1) If the dog is not giving the track his full attention when in training then I am not providing the necessary motivation to keep him interested in the track- it is my fault.
- (2) If the dog is not learning the objective I have set for him to learn- I have designed the learning situation incorrectly for him to learn that objective- it is my fault. (
- (3) If the dog cannot handle an unexpected situation- I have not prepared him for that situation- it is my fault.

Happy tracking and good starts to you all!

