

Winter 2004

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CCTC AGM and Christmas Party

At this year's meeting and party, we had 13 people come to Eileen's home. We had a nice surprise from Kathleen Dahmer who sent a box full of dog toys. Everyone had fun routing through the box to pick which toy their dog would prefer.

We held two tracking tests this Fall . The TD test was on Oct. 17th and there were four members that passed the test. They were Pamela Burns with her Std. W H Dachshund "Popagana Von Lowenherz TD", Candice Rennie with her Labrador Retriever "Garshangan's Salem TD", handled by Jackie Meharg. John Drummomd with his Std W H Dachshund "CH. Victory's Develish Ideas TD" and Pamela Martin with her Golden Retriever "Brideton's Too Hot To Handle TD"

Jane Book of Smithville was our judge, and our track layers were; Sue Coutts, Sue Godbehere, Laura Wright, Marg Schneider, Anne Passafiume, Lia MacDonald and Peggy Masanotti.

The TDX test was held on Nov.21st with one Club member that passed. Susan Coutts of Powassan Ont with her German Shepherd Dog "Keepers Maggie-Mae TDX"

Our track layers did a wonderful job as usual. Eileen Fisher, Cynthia Thomas and Jackie Meharg and our X-track people Frank Downs and John Drummond. The test was judged by myself, Marie-P.Babin.

Helena Tracz earned a TD on CH OTCH Carnaby Tafelmusik AGI TD In London under judge Terry Smith on Sept. 26th.

Our Club also sponsored the NAMBR tracking test held on Nov. 28th with no Club dogs passing .

Marie-P Babin

NEW PUPPIES

Carnaby Ace Ventura is a new brother for
CH OTCH Carnaby Tafelmusik AGI TD
owned by Helena Tracz



Streak Von Lowenherz
which means (Streak the Lionhearted)
is a new baby brother for Popagana Von
Lowenherz and owned by Pamela Burns



CH OTCH Carnaby Tafelmusik AGI TD
Owned by Helena Tracz
Judged by Terry Smith on Sept. 26 /04



TD qualifiers with Judge Jane Book
Oct 17 /04



TD Track layers
Oct. 16 / 04

Susan Coutts
and
Keeper's Maggie Mae
TDX
Judged by Marie-P Babin
Nov. 21 / 04



Book Review - About Track Laying by Betty A. Mueller

Review by Pat Norris

Betty A. Mueller of Eliot, Maine has written a book about track laying. And it is exactly that, a book about track laying. This little book (7 x 8.5, 100 pages) has more information on track laying than you can find anywhere else. It is divided into several logical sections. In the introduction Mueller explains that this is not a training manual, but there is information that will help become a better trainer. After all, the track is really our only training tool in this sport. Our peculiar terminology is explained. A second section is called "The Fashionable Track Layer" and describes suitable attire as well as some other useful items.

"Developing Field Skills" gives valuable details on determining how far you have walked, how to find your way around a field and how to make useful maps. It also gives compass instructions.

Chapters on "Points to Ponder" and "Handler's Requests" provide specific help on being a useful track layer for your tracking friends. They cover such topics as using bait, following instructions and the all important outdoors manners. "Laying a Track at a Test" offers most of what you need to know for this most important duty. The part I like the very best in this book is Mueller's Tracklayer's Bill of Rights. Here is that excerpt:

- 1) Being a track layer is a volunteered and unpaid position. A track layer offers his or her services to promote the sport of tracking and to serve the host Club.
- 2) Track layers are an integral part of the test team. Without track layers, there would be no test to enter. No tests, no titles.
- 3) Helping a dog to finish a track is a courtesy offered by the track layer, not a right for the handler. The track layer does NOT have to do it.
- 4) The track layer is not the dog's trainer. The track layer can show generally where the track is and where the corners are, but that is all the help that can be given.
- 5) Track layers are to be treated with respect. If an entrant is rude, abusive or unreasonable, the track layer has the right to leave the entrant on his or her own to finish the track.

An Appendix offers many useful items: a pattern for a track layer's apron, a personal factor chart to figure out how far you walked, and several sample tracks.

"About Track Laying" is available from Howln Moon Press, P.O. Box 238, Eliot, Maine, USA, 03903. www.hmpress.com Phone 1-888-349-9438. It costs \$US19.95.

submitted by Laura Wright

CT TERSHA'S DANCIN' MAN Can TDX
Owned by John and Darlene Barnard

VST Test Held in Lexington Kentucky USA Oct 31st 2004
Judge J M Pitts

This is my version of Dancer's VST track. I was able to watch some of the track and John took me through the whole track afterwards. I'll try and give some more details about what took place.

First of all, no one is more proud of John and Dancer than I am. John spent many years developing VST, promoting it, implementing it for AKC, encouraging others and helping more people than I can imagine through problems with VST and other tracking problems. So his handling of a great dog to the CT title is poetic justice in my eyes.

Dancer is a 5 yr old male GSD and a magnificent tracking dog. John has only been working him for the past year in VST. I titled him to his AKC TD and TDX titles. John just recently got his Canadian TD title on Dancer, hopefully will get his Canadian TDX soon and is looking forward to showing in Canada's new Urban Tracking Tests. We are especially excited about those as we have been fortunate enough to be doing a series of judges' education workshops in Canada in preparation for their new tests.

We have both been proponents of a dog having to have maturity in order to pass VST and although Dancer is a great tracking dog, he and John worked to develop their own rhythm this past year.

Interestingly enough, a local TV station was on hand to record some of the weekend's activities. They came out to the first VST track and some club members introduced John as the father of VST and the most likely person to do an interview with on VST. So the crew interviewed John and will edit the interview to fit a short blip on their local news (not sure I want to see the editing) and they video taped the passing TDX GSD owned by Donna Arnett while he tracked a few yards of this VST track which had already been run by the first dog.

The horse park is a beautiful site, but with the corresponding event weekend being a few days earlier than usual, it coincided with Oktoberfest and some equine competitions in arenas near his track.

One of the judges, Billie French, whom we admire greatly, plots great VST tracks and whom we both love judging with, announced the fact that one track would be in the area of the horses and that she would be alert to any dangerous interaction between horses and dogs because some of these horses were skittish around dogs.

We were actually glad that Dancer got this track for a variety of reasons. The fact that it was very difficult made the pass that more thrilling, but mostly because we have constantly stressed that contamination and distraction in VST is something a well trained and MOTIVATED dog can handle, although this was more than even we expected :) When we arrived, I asked if the park was giving away gold plated horse manure because it was so crowded. Dancer's motivation is extremely high, and without it, he would not have passed. John has also talked about "licking scent" at workshops we have done. Dancer has a habit of licking his articles, taking a couple of steps and waiting. This time, however, he licked his way through the entire track, grass, all hard surfaces, articles and one brief lick on a pile of horse manure on his track. Guess he had to sort out the scent.

He started in grass behind the pavilions where earlier at least 50 people had been hanging around and watching the competition. He made the first turn at the bottom of a rolling hill and after circling a couple times, turned right. No problems on the 2nd leg, he turned left with no problems and shortly after, got the plastic article. At that point, it was obvious that the track was heading toward the pavilion. Fortunately the people had moved, but a couple of vehicles were still parked at the edge. He almost went around the pavilion, but decided the track went through it. I couldn't see the dog at that point, but John said he cast back and forth across the pavilion somewhat, which is understandable considering the amount of people sitting there earlier. He came through mulch and another small pavilion, and turned right on gravel in front of a road. He thought about crossing the road, but made the turn pretty quick. He flew through that leg and crossed a road, some more grass and ended up behind some stables that were part of these events. I tried catching up a little at this point, thinking they were near the pavilion where I last saw them but the gallery told me they were long gone.

Dancer turned left behind these stables and at about 40 or so yards, where the next turn was, it became very interesting. The turn was opposite the arena that had the competition still going on, with horses trotting around, an announcer on a loud speaker, lots of spectators and more trailers and vehicles parked a few yards past his turn. Dancer has never seen a horse before. He glanced up at the arena and horses and John told him to get back to work and I was told he turned to the right then with no problems and was about 3 feet off track. In my opinion, this is truly a case of "team work" which is in the VST introduction in the Regs. After reviewing the area after the track, we realized that people were coming up and down from the arena to the stables right where this turn and part of the next leg were.

He proceeded about 20 yards and hit blacktop and got his third article, fabric, which was lying against the bottom of this slight hill at the edge of grass. We were told after we finished, that it was supposed to be about 30 yards further along the track at bldg 13 and earlier was underneath a van parked right on the track, along with some other trailers and vehicles.

Dancer was now licking constantly to get through this area. There were long rows of stables running perpendicular to this leg. He stuck his nose into each corridor between buildings and checked out the first or second stalls in each corridor but came promptly back to the track.

After a total of 135 yards of this leg on blacktop, he found the correct corridor. He never checked left, turned right and stuck his nose into the corridor and the first 2 stalls and then took off down this blacktop area, casting occasionally at a particular stall which we thought might have had a horse in there just before his track. He went another 105 yards on blacktop, across a drive area behind the stables and into some scruffy grass. At this point he had done about 235 yards of straight blacktop amongst the horse smells, people, vans parked nearby and earlier a couple of loose stable dogs. This was taking contamination and distraction to new heights for all of us.

As he hit the scruffy grass he seemed really tired and John said this was the hardest part for him because he was worried that Dancer was running out of steam, and thought to himself "not now, don't quit now", but that wasn't the case for Dancer. He had some trouble making this left turn which I could watch from one of the arena areas up on the hill about 150 yards away. (I can't talk behind him or have him see me once he starts in a test, because he likes to come back and say hi and go on which is fine in training but not at a test) After struggling for a few minutes with this turn, going up to some paddocks and areaways between them, he came back to the grass area, dropped his nose deeply into the track and crossed a gravel/culvert area and found his last metal article.

14 minutes later after approximately 700 yards, 7 turns and about a 50/50 mix between hard surface and grass, they passed.

Of course, I have to believe that sprinkling some of my beloved Annie's ashes on his head before he started helped. She was my first CT and the first AKC VST and CT dog in the country at age 11 1/2 in 1995 and I believe her spirit was with Dancer every step of the way.

Darlene Barnard

Preventing Cold Injuries

Exposure to the cold can be hazardous, or even life-threatening. Your body's extremities, such as the ears, nose, fingers and toes, lose heat the fastest. Exposed skin may freeze, causing frostnip or frostbite. In extreme conditions or after prolonged exposure to the cold, the body core can also lose heat, resulting in hypothermia.

Section One: Preventing Cold Injuries

1. Check the Weather Forecast

Ø Check the Environment Canada weather forecast before going out in the cold

Ø If conditions are hazardous, a wind chill warning will be issued

Ø If the wind chill is very cold, exposed skin can freeze in minutes

2. Plan Ahead and Adjust your Plans

Ø Develop a plan in advance, to ensure that safety concerns are addressed when temperatures are low and/or the wind chill is high. For example, outside workers could schedule warm-up breaks, or defer outdoor work and substitute or schedule indoor work when temperatures are too cold, where operationally possible.

Ø Bring warm outdoor clothing with you, when traveling, even if you don't expect to use it - for example, throw a survival kit or your parka, mitts, toque and boots in the back seat of the car, when traveling to a meeting. Better to have it and not need it, than the other way around.

Ø Ensure you have a means of communication (e.g. cell-phone), or that you are being monitored using a check-in/out system so that it will be known if you become stranded in a cold location.

Ø Adjust your plans, where required if weather worsens or changes and you become concerned about cold exposure.

3. Dress Warmly

Ø Wear layers of warm clothing, with an outer jacket that is wind-resistant.

Ø Layers are important so you can adjust your clothing and do not begin to sweat.

Ø Mittens, boots and a hat are important. We lose a large portion of our body heat from the head and other extremities. Mitts are better than gloves as they keep your fingers warm by using body heat. Wear a scarf, neck tube or face mask.

Ø When the wind chill is high, try to cover as much exposed skin as possible and check frequently for signs of frostbite.

4. Seek Shelter

Ø While outside, keep out of the wind if possible and when the wind chill is very cold, ensure you monitor and limit the time you spend outside.

5. Stay Dry

Ø Wet clothing chills the body rapidly; wind and wetness take heat away from the body

Ø Remove outer layers of clothing or open your coat if you are sweating

6. Eat and Keep Active

Ø Walking or running, or otherwise moving your body will help keep you warm by generating body heat.

Ø Your body needs energy from food to create warmth; have a high-energy snack ready. Eating well-balanced meals will help you stay warmer.

Ø The use of tobacco and certain medications will increase your susceptibility to cold.

Ø Do not drink coffee or tea as they will aid dehydration. Do not drink alcoholic beverages; they cause your body to lose heat more rapidly. Instead, drink warm, sweet beverages such as hot chocolate to help maintain your body temperature. If you have any dietary restrictions, ask your doctor.

7. Monitor Cold Effects

Ø Some people are more susceptible to the cold, particularly those with circulation problems.

Ø Use a 'buddy system' approach, and keep a regular watch on each other's faces, cheeks, ears for signs of frostnip/frostbite etc.

Ø Keep a regular "self check" for cold areas, wet feet, numbness or anaesthesia; where possible, make sure you get out of the cold, before you reach a point where you cannot help yourself - don't let things get to the danger point.

Ø If at any time you discover a cold injury, stop and warm the area (unless doing so places you at greater risk).

Reference Sources:

The Meteorological Service of Canada at:

http://www.msc-smc.ec.gc.ca/education/windchill/windchill_fact_sheet_aug_10_e.cfm

Outdoor Action Program, Princeton University at: <http://www.princeton.edu/~oa/safety/hypocold.shtml>

CDC at: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/extremecold/faq.asp#windchill>

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



“Carfrae Same Old Song” (Peanuts)
Bred, loved, trained and sadly missed
By Bob & Anne Frost.
(Left)

**“Can.CH.Carfrae ‘Til Tomorrow”
(Emily)**

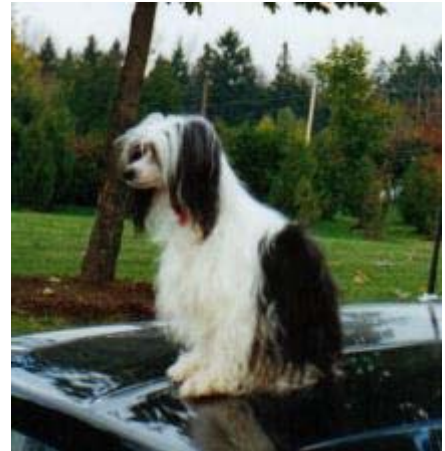
Bred, loved, trained and sadly missed
By Bob & Anne Frost

(right)



“Sanvar’s Montana 2nd CDX AGN CGN
Owned & loved by Corie Bonnaffon
(Left)

CH. Highrise Lady CD TD
Chinese Crested Powderpuff
DOB. June 20/ 92 died in 2004
Owned and loved by Sandra Coombs
(Right)



“Keeper’s Jack”
All-Canadian
Rescued, owned & loved by Susan Coutts



Dogs sniff out bladder cancer from urine

LONDON - Dogs can be trained to sniff out a tell-tale scent of bladder cancer from urine, early experimental results suggest.

The canine's keen sense of smell allows them to identify those with bladder cancer compared to people with other urological diseases or healthy controls.

For the "proof of principle" study, volunteers from the British charity Hearing Dogs for Deaf People trained six of their pets for seven months.

The canines were deliberately chosen to cover a range of breeds and ages. The three cocker spaniels, one Papillion, a Labrador and a mongrel were taught to focus on an "odour signature" in urine that signaled bladder cancer.

The animals learned to ignore differences in the urine samples caused by sex, age, infection, bleeding or diet. In the tests, urine from 36 bladder cancer patients and 108 others were used.

Each dog was presented with one urine sample from a person with cancer and six controls without cancer. They identified the cancerous sample by lying next to it.

As a group, the dogs correctly flagged the positive sample 22 times out of 54, for a success rate of 41 per cent. By chance alone, the expected success rate would be 14 per cent.

"Our study provides the first piece of experimental evidence to show that dogs can detect cancer by olfactory means more successfully than would be expected by chance alone," the British scientists wrote in the Sept. 25 issue of the British Medical Journal.

"The most intriguing finding was the control patient seen during the training phase, whose urine sample was consistently identified by the dogs as a case," wrote T.J. Cole of the Institute of Child Health in London in BMJ commentary.

The control patient's test results were negative, but the consultant was so impressed by the dogs' performance that the patient was tested again. Kidney cancer was found, said Cole, who owns a chocolate Labrador.

The researchers were inspired to conduct the study after another pair of English doctors reported a pet Labrador started to persistently sniff a patch of eczema on his owner's leg, through his trousers.

The man turned out to have developed skin cancer. Once the tumour was removed, the dog ignored the eczema patch. There have also been similar anecdotal reports.

Written by CBC News Online staff <<http://www.cbc.ca/bios.html>>

Important dates for your "2005" calendar

May 7th & 8th 2005, we'll be needing track layers. Please let us know if you can help on that weekend.

Oct. TD test will be held Oct 16th and we'll need track layers for the 15th and 16th.

The Fall TDX test will be held Nov 6th and we'll need you on the 5th & 6th.

A NAMBR test has been planned for Sept 24th so, come out to help . **We really need your help to put on these events.**

