



**THE SCENTINEL**  
TRACKING CLUB OF VERMONT NEWSLETTER  
Fall 2015

**From our President!**

Hi all,

Hope you are making the most of our delayed winter - here in Danby we're getting in a bit more tracking even with the short days. TCV had some great events over the past few months:

The Fall test was a success for a number of dogs and people, and we impressed the AKC representative with our teamwork and organization.

The TDX seminar in November lead by Ray Desmarais was both informative and a lot of fun. It was enjoyed by all who attended (especially the head-cam vids!).

The VST on Thanksgiving weekend garnered only the second pass ever at a TCV test, making for a very happy exhibitor and new Champion Tracker.

The annual meeting in November was well attended and resulted in some new Officers and Board members. A big Thank You to retiring Board members Joanne Fratrigh, Alan Shelvey, Elaine Thomas and Renee Traverse.

Happy Holidays to you and yours from me, Glenn and the furry ones at Danby Pond! Cheers, Mie

**New Judges:**

Congratulations to **Mie Kingsley** for being accepted as a provisional AKC TD/TDU Judge.

Congratulations to **Lynda Morgan** who is now a regular status TXD Judge.

**From the Editor:**

Our club accomplished so much this year. In addition to our regular yearly events, we hosted an AKC Seminar, presented a Spring TD Clinic and a Fall TDX Clinic, and put on 2 VST tests!

I believe we were so successful this year because of our members willingness to volunteer, and beyond that the leadership of our President! Mie Kingsley in her quiet, modest way, organizes and motivates TCV! I'm very proud to be a member of TCV... a club where we enjoy each other's company and eat pretty well along the way! Linda Shelvey

Mie's first certification is in the books! Done after our TDX Clinic.



## **Fall Test Report:**

TCV Members,

Spring was late this year at Smokey House in Danby. As a result, our April 19<sup>th</sup> TD/TDX Test took place on brown, dry grass with few dogs passing.

However, a late Fall for our October Test led to perfect tracking conditions, with long, lush grass at Smokey House. Not to mention that the Club was able to align our Test date with peak foliage for one of the most beautiful weekends ever!! The Test resulted in 5 new TD Titles. Three of the TDX teams passed. Conditions were not too difficult, grass was high and wet, but there was a gusty South wind!

Many thanks to all who helped with the test this weekend. It's not just the names mentioned here, but so many Club members that bring food, or contribute raffle items, awards or cash.

Kathy Murphy was our Test Chair and Emily McDermott was our Test Secretary. Joan Sullivan, our Trophy chair did a wonderful job with the draw and organizing prizes. Joyce Smith donated the TD wooden T's, a TCV tradition and some lovely notecards.

Kristie and Dan Adams hosted the Saturday evening Pre-test Dinner and a wonderful time was had by all who attended. Mie Kingsley and Glenn Williams and Kathy Murphy made sure workers had morning snacks and lunch on Saturday!

Judges were Ilene and Lynda Morgan and Dorie Viguers. With three Judges we were able to offer 6 TD and 6 TDX tracks. Mie Kingsley also worked the TD and was tested by AKC Rep. Diane Schultz and will soon be an official AKC TD Judge!!!

Lynda Morgan was also observed for TDX full status by Diane at this test!!

Chief Track-layer for TD was Glenn Morgan. Annie Davis and Taffy Hyyppa were first time track layers, along with Charleen Lundeen, now an experienced track layer! Rene Bugnon was TDX Chief and his crew was Roberta Barili and Laura Malinconico. Cross track layers were Veronica Metivier and Sonja Blanchard. Renee Traverse was the driver for all the TDX action!

Kathy Murphy also chaired Hospitality ....and the food was amazing this year!!

Jane Klonsky kept the gallery under control. Map boards were done by Rene Bugnon and Mie Kingsley.

Lynda Morgan, somehow appeared as the Raffle Queen, even with all her other duties!! Taffy, Kathy, Joyce and Joan also made the raffle presentation beautiful. Once again our Club put on a test to be remembered. Thanks to everyone for making this an enjoyable and memorable weekend for the entered teams!

Happy tracking,  
Linda Shelvey

**Test report write up for <Tracking\_Dog@yahoo.com>  
TD/TDX Results for Tracking Club of Vt. 10/11/15**

At Smokey House in Danby, Vt., a perfect Fall day provided very successful tracking conditions. The Tracking Club of Vermont's Fall Test resulted in 5 out of 6 TD passes and 3 out of 6 TDX passes. Grass was long and lush. Our only small complication was a rather stiff SW wind at times.

TD tracks one and two were in an area where we couldn't observe. Track 1 was a Vizsla, handled by an 82 year old woman. They worked their track with some casting and soon had their glove. Track 2 was run by a Welsh Terrier who showed no uncertainty and his handler smartly followed as he motored along to the glove!!

Track 3 was run by a Clumber Spaniel and I wish I had been able to watch this team run. I heard they worked methodically all the way to the end! Track 4 was our only non pass. This was me! My young lab with totally distracted by horses at the start and after protecting the Judges and Gallery from these monsters, was not able to get her brain into tracking mode!

Track 5 was a hard working GSD, who cruised his track quickly and almost caused his handler to hyperventilate! Our last TD pass was a Dalmatian that ran a very nice track, with breathtaking scenery behind her.

On the TDX side, we started with a Golden that did a fabulous job. She got her cross tracks, articles and did a wonderful job in the woods, but upon coming out of the woods couldn't regroup for her last 2 legs. Her handler should be very proud of this first TDX effort!!

Track 2 was a very nice working Berner. He did fantastic until it came time to indicate the second article, which he motored over! Track 3 was a Rat Terrier that didn't make it past the start.

After this slow start we were on a roll! Track 4 was run by a Yellow Lab who proved to be an enthusiastic tracker. Showing some nice article indications, this team was able to find their glove!!! Track 5 was run by a PBGB. This was an uphill start and the little guy was all business! It was fun to watch him motor along and find the glove at the end! Track 6 was run by a young black lab, that tracked fast and with lots of energy! Thankfully she had a young handler because the track was completed in nine minutes!!!

Happy Tracking!  
Linda Shelvey for the Tracking Club of Vermont

Passing TD Teams!

Congratulations to TCV Members :

Ginnie Wilson and GSD Ruger!!!  
Joyce Pedone and Welsh Terrier Emmett!!  
Beverly Matthew and Viszla Lonie!!

also a Dalmatian and a Clumber Spaniel earned their TD titles.

Passing TDX Teams:

Debbie Grandquist and Lab, Piper. Debbie is a new a TCV member!  
also a PBGB and very nice working young black lab had passes on our tracks!

### TD's



### TDX's



### June VST TEST:

The Tracking Club of Vermont held our annual VST test last night at Castleton College in Castleton, VT. We have not had a VST in a year and a half, as our Thanksgiving 2014 test was canceled because of massive snow (guess we should have known then what we were in for last winter).

Judges Arthur Twiss and Mike Clemens were terrific to work with and plotted fair, pass-able tracks.

Track 1 went to a Golden boy who was very happy to get out of the car after a long drive. He quickly picked up the start but soon decided to follow a scent too far off track. When put back, he demonstrated some excellent work, especially on the non-veg surfaces.

Track 2 went to our senior citizen, a 13.5 year old English cocker. Patience and perseverance helped this team slowly work out the track, saving themselves from the brink of the whistle a few times. They were not bothered by a missing first article and made their way up into the main campus. Tracking along a sidewalk, they worked their way around buildings, to their second article. They were on the second to last corner when they missed a turn, much to the gallery's disappointment. We really thought that we would be witnessing the 2nd pass in the history of our club's tests.

Track 3 was the test's baby, a 22-month old English cocker in her first VST test. The team took their time starting but finally got going on the track. They spent some time working out the first corner in the middle of campus, eventually heading the correct direction. They worked down the second leg, until the puppy decided to follow the scent downhill, while the track took a left.

Track 4 was the other heartbreaker of the night. The 10.5 year old black lab started in the dark shadows of the Athletic Complex. The team worked their way along the building and out front into the parking lot. This dog is a fantastic article dog, and he saved himself by alerting to an article which he easily could have by-passed. Once out of the lot, the team worked their way along an uphill walkway, up a set of stairs and to their final turn. The gallery was sending silent encouragements as the team decided whether to go left or right. Entanglement in a small tree may have marred the team's concentration, as they headed away from the elusive sock to the whistle.

The Alternate track was our only non Sporting dog, a Border Terrier. The rain, which had held off all night, finally started when this team was slightly beyond the start flag. The terrier smartly chose to take her handler under a covered pavilion, although this was not exactly where the tracklayer had been. They did find the first article soon into the parking lot, but has difficulty re-finding the track, while it continued to rain.

This was a great test to watch and a lot of fun to observe some wonderful teamwork.

Many Thanks to our judges and, of course, our tracklayers - Bob W, Patti R and Glenn W.

Happy Tracking!

Mie Kingsley, VST Chair/Sec

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## **FUN DAY:**

TCV's annual Fun Day/Picnic was held in the fabulous weather on Saturday at the home of Pam and Bill Badger. Thank you Badgers for your hospitality and your grilling. It was a beautiful day in a beautiful setting to hang out in the shade with dog folk and our furry friends. The pot luck lunch was delicious as always (we do eat well!) and the dogs and people even got to try out a little rally obedience. Pam's new Golden puppy, Wilhelmina, made many new friends and was an enthusiastic hostess.

## **November VST:**

Just wanted to share the results of the VST on Saturday. We had one pass, Terry Brown from Syracuse and his Belgian Sheepdog, Zia, now CH CT Farwoods Winter Solstice VCD2 TDX AX AXJ. Prior to this we had had only one VST pass at our tests, Donna Deal and her Border Collie Arrow. It was a lot of fun watching the 5 teams and finally getting to cheer at the end. Cheers -M

Here is an email from Terry and Zia:

To Mie and the Fall VST tracking test committee and volunteers:

I wanted to take a moment to give you all a huge **THANK YOU** for your work in putting on your clubs most recent VST test. I know that putting on a test is a tremendous effort and that in many cases, there is very little reward. The enjoyment that I had as an exhibitor could not have happened without all of your efforts.

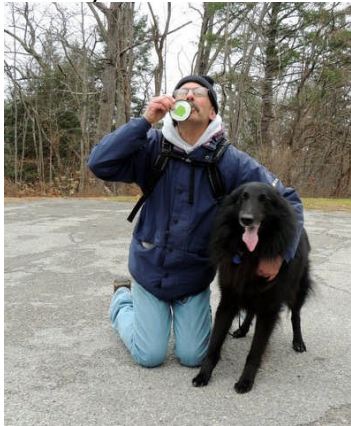
To say the least, I'm thrilled with how my dog and I worked as a team and our efforts resulted in passing one of the tracks at your test.

Without all of you, this once in a lifetime moment would not have happened.

A heart-felt thank you for a job well done! :-)

Sincerely, Terry Brown and Zia CT

Terry Brown and CT Zia



## **GOOD DEED DONE**

A group of handlers and dogs, including Mie's students, TCV and Therapy Dog Club members, visited handicapped children and adult campers at Silver Towers in Ripton.

We entertained them with some demonstrations of obedience exercises and tricks. The dogs circulated through the audience and received lots of pets!!

They really enjoyed it. The camp is sponsored by the Vermont Elks. Sharon Kroker donated her time and tested several dogs for their CGCs and CGCAs.

Congrats to all the new CGCs and CGCAs!!

Montana CGC, Big CGC, Willoughby CGC, Anya CGC/CGCA, Teo CGC, Seguin CGC/CGCA, Sophie CGCA, Ayla CGCA, Ruger CGCA, Chubbs CGCA, Mollie CGCA, Jesse CGCA

**2015 Dana Avison Award : please vote by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>!**



**Tracking Club of Vermont  
Dana Avison Award  
2015**

**This award will be presented to the club member who demonstrated exceptional service to the club and dedication to the sport of tracking.**

**Please return your nomination to Sec. Joyce Pedone by December 31, 2015.**

**Joyce Pedone  
PO Box 72  
Clarendon, VT 5759  
[terrierstwo@myfairpoint.net](mailto:terrierstwo@myfairpoint.net)**

**I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the 2015 Dana Avison Award based on the following (describe the member's service to the Club and Sport during the year):**

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## **TCV's TDX Tracking Clinic – NOVEMBER 14-15**

Veteran AKC Judge and club member Ray Desmarais presented a 2 day TDX Clinic at Smokey House this November. This is a very important fund raiser for TCV and we really appreciate Ray's time and generosity to our club.

We had a fun group of trackers, with a depth of experience that led to interesting discussions and questions for Ray. What a fun way to share knowledge and camaraderie.

Ray walked with each team while they tracked, offering helpful commentary. Each team also received a Go-Pro digital copy of their track!! I've attended this clinic and worked it as a track layer many times...and I always learn something new! Thanks to Ray, our track layers (Mie, Joyce, Taffy and Linda), and to Kathy Murphy and Elaine Thomas for keeping us well fed! Pam Badger was our Clinic Chair.



## **TRACKING TIDBITS AND FUN FACTS**

The average person has 5 million smell receptors, while the average dog, depending on breed, has 125 to 250 million smell receptors. The Bloodhound has an incredible 300 million smell receptors.

### **Informational Tidbit:**

Researchers have estimated that a bloodhound's nose consists of approximately 230 million olfactory cells, or "scent receptors" — 40 times the number in humans. Whereas our olfactory center is about the size of a postage stamp, a dog's can be as large as a handkerchief

### **Tracking Test Pass Stats:**

TD passing rate - 52.5%

TDX - 20%

TDU - 31%, not a surprise since it's a new test.

VST is 10.6%



## ***Can Dogs Help Solve Vermont's Water Quality Problems?***

**by anrwsmblog**



Sable of Environmental Canine Services LLC

For water quality scientists there are many tools available for measuring pollution in the nation's rivers, streams, lakes and ponds. These tools range from measuring chemical concentrations, such as for dissolved oxygen, alkalinity, phosphorus and nitrogen to biological toxicity test organisms such as daphnia, minnows and mollusks. In the last 5-10 years using domestic canines (dogs) to smell water pollution has become established in the science. The use of dogs to detect explosives, drugs and in locating persons by smell in search and rescue is well known. What is not well known is how well they can smell wastewater from human sources such as septage and sewage. Recently dogs have been used in urbanized areas of 11 states as part of a municipality's program to locate and eliminate illegal or illicit discharges (IDDE). The municipal IDDE program is a requirement of the federal Clean Water Act. In Vermont DEC has supported a voluntary IDDE program statewide where it was not required.

Dogs can detect human wastewater in both the air and water with an incredible level of sensory perception. According to one source: a dog's sense of smell may be as much as 100 times better than ours. A human nose has only three-square centimeters of olfactory membrane whereas some dog breeds, such as Bloodhounds, have as much as 150 square centimeters. Dogs also have forty times more scent processing cells in their brains than humans. A dog also has a phenomenal olfactory memory. A dog can remember smells long after being exposed to the original odor. Dogs also have an additional organ in their nasal cavity known as Jacobson's organ. This organ's function can best be described as a combination of taste and smell. Dogs can literally taste the air.<sup>1</sup>

Today in Vermont there are 22 known bacteria impaired water segments from nonpoint pollution sources (farms, streets, homes, wild animals) and 9 known point source/wastewater/combined sewer impaired water segments. In many of these segments locating the cause of the impairment can be extremely difficult and typically requires long term monitoring and investigation. Tracking down individual sources of bacterial pollution whether it is a leaky sewer pipe or a failed septic is not easy and requires skill and a certain degree of luck for the investigator.

Flower Brook in Pawlet is one of the 22 water segments considered impaired for bacteria, and has been known to be contaminated since 2008. Over the last 10 years the Poultney-Mettawee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD), VTDEC and the USEPA have collaborated on a variety of technical studies and monitoring to try and locate the nonpoint sources of bacteria in the watershed. The brook has a moderate level of bacterial contamination seasonally ranging approximately from 0-1000 col/100 ml. The current state standard is 235. In 2011 a USEPA study confirmed that human bacteria was one source of the contamination. Since 2008 PMNRCD has worked with various farms and landowners to reduce obvious nonpoint source runoff discharges to the brook and as a result the overall trend in water quality is improving.

This year VTDEC collaborated with the Center for Watershed Protection of Ellicott City, Maryland to conduct canine bacteria detection along Flower Brook. This study is a part of a larger effort to develop a national manual for rural communities to address bacterial contaminated waters<sup>2</sup>. This week Environmental Canine Services LLC of Turner Maine came to Flower Brook in Pawlet. In collaboration with the VTDEC contractor, Watershed Consulting Associates of Burlington, the team investigated 15-20 suspected sites based on earlier investigations. The dogs identified at least 8 positive sites which will now require further chemical monitoring and follow-up with landowners. Two of the eight sites had surfacing effluent or contaminated water. **It took the dogs less than 15 seconds** to identify a contaminated site once visited. The dogs were trained to either sit down or bark when human bacteria was detected.

One preliminary conclusion from this investigation is that Pawlet may have a number of sites where partially treated septage is being released to surface waters, either through groundwater or occasional surfacing of effluent. The dogs corroborated the 2011 USEPA results and provided more precise location information. The high frequency of positive human bacteria detects are a reason for concern. However, it is impossible to know at what E.coli concentration the positive canine detections correlate to, and therefore the dogs may be detecting human E.coli at very low levels. It is probable that the cumulative impact of a large number of small sources of poorly treated septage is contributing to the elevated levels in the brook rather than one or two large sources.

There are many Vermont communities like Pawlet that are (1) without a centralized wastewater system, (2) located on poor soils or soils with a shallow hardpan, and (3) have homes immediately abutting waterways or lakes and ponds. Any of these communities could have a very similar bacterial contamination problem as Flower Brook. Residential homes and camps that encircle lakes are a good example of where this could occur and also threaten the viability of the recreational resource. In many of these areas there is little or no monitoring for bacterial contamination. Canine bacteria detection could provide significant information on the present condition of private septic systems around recreational lakes and ponds as well as further our understanding of bacterial contamination in the 22 impaired state waters.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.dog.com/dog-articles/dog-sense-of-smell/2054/>

<sup>2</sup>*Safe Waters, Healthy Waters: A Guide for Citizen Groups on Bacteria Monitoring in Urban Waters*

Center for Watershed Protection, Ellicott City, MD.

**Walter Bebout Memorial Award for Leadership in Canine Legislation Awarded to Vermont Federation of Dog Clubs, from AKC News.**

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The American Kennel Club is pleased to present the Vermont Federation of Dog Clubs (VFDC) with the Walter Bebout Memorial Award for Leadership in Canine Legislation in recognition of their effective coalition-building and educational outreach on behalf of Vermont dogs and dog owners.

VFDC members work in cooperation with other animal, agricultural and veterinary organizations to support positive legislation to protect dogs and the rights of dog owners and to amend or defeat problematic bills. Recommendations from the VFDC have been included in measures to clarify statutes governing animal control, welfare, and sales in the state.

## Scent Detection Horses

There is a new concept being used and studied by many across the world, it is the Air Scenting Detection Equine. Air Scenting is a search tool used for detection work. Horses are trained to follow airborne scent to its source, which could be a missing person, narcotics, etc. The scenting horse only goes into the scent locating mode when given special cues, otherwise it can double as a patrol, family riding or show horse.

### The Lost Art

Using the horse's scenting abilities is nothing new. While reading history, you will find examples on how the horse's scenting ability helped early pioneers find water, warn them when danger was near and for hunting. One example of this can be found in the book The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt by Edmund Morris. In this book they describe how Roosevelt used his horse's air scenting abilities to hunt buffalo. Other examples on how the horse's scent locating abilities were used for hunting can be found in the book The Mustangs by J. Frank Dobie. History tells us that in the days when horses were used for man's survival, their natural air scent locating ability played a much more important role than most people are aware of.

### Natural Instincts/ Natural Horsemanship

Using equine scent locating is natural horsemanship in its purest form. The horse has been selectively bred in the wild to use its air scent locating abilities to search for choice feed, minerals, water, its own kind and to avoid danger. Horses learn scent locating very quickly, and they enjoy it because it is the only completely natural task they do for man. Scent detection training is the quickest road to learning the horse's sign language. You can train your equine to scent detect a variety of sources that can range from clothing, people, treats or even an equine toy. During training, you will develop an understanding of sign language and rely totally on it in order to achieve your goal. Learning to read your horse's language will help you advance in all horsemanship skills .

## CANINE CLASSIFIEDS

### ADS FOR SERVICES, ITEMS FOR SALE BY TCV MEMBERS

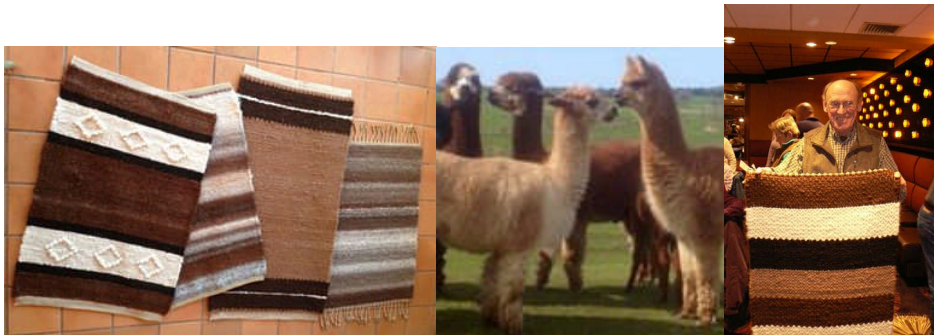
Balderdash Dogwear, handmade in Vermont by TCV member, Sonja Blanchard, offers custom ribbon collars for all sizes of dogs. Martingale leashes, Flat buckle collars and heavy duty leashes as well as beaded show leads. Visit my website for more info at - [www.balderdashdogwear.com](http://www.balderdashdogwear.com)





Dog Portraits by TCV Member Diane Richardson

## CROWN POINT ALPACAS – TCV Member and Artist – Bob Wertz



The fibers, rugs, and gift items can be purchased directly from Bob by sending him an email at bobw33862@gmail.com or by using his Etsy shop (see under website).

<https://www.facebook.com/CrownPointAlpacas>

## **BRAGS;**

### **What is a Title, Really?**

by Sandy Mowery, originally published in Front & Finish - Shared by Mie!

Not just a brag, not just a stepping stone to a higher title, not just an adjunct to competitive scores; a title is a tribute to the dog that bears it, a way to honor the dog, an ultimate memorial.

It will remain in the record and in the memory for about as long as anything in this world can remain. Few humans will do as well or better.

And though the dog himself doesn't know or care that his achievements have been noted, a title says many things in the world of humans, where such things count. A title says your dog was intelligent, adaptable and good natured. It says that your dog loved you enough to do the things that pleased you, however crazy they may have sometimes seemed.

And, a title says that you loved your dog, that you loved to spend time with him because he was a good dog, that you believed in him enough to give him yet another chance when he failed and that, in the end, your faith was justified. A title proves that your dog inspired you to that special relationship enjoyed by so few; that in a world of disposable creatures, this dog with a title was greatly loved, and loved greatly in return.

And when that dear short life is over, the title remains as a memorial of the finest kind, the best you can give to a deserving friend, volumes of praise in one small set of initials after the name. An obedience title is nothing less than love and respect, given and received and recorded permanently.

**From Ray and Allison Desmarais:**

Introducing our fifth Champion Tracker! Saphira passed her VST test at the Burlington Obedience Training Club. She's had a couple of almos that were heartbreakers, but there was no denying her this night: she was on her game!

**From Tibby Chase:**

Cate got one Masters agility leg then went on to win Excellent rally with the only 100 of the day. Fourth in Advanced (96') her team ( Team Sippiwissett) was second to Arlos team ( terrific tris). Then she scored 195 in Novice and 2nd place to HIT 199 dog. She then placed 2nd to Reese in the Versatile Corgi Challenge (25 entries) and topped off the week being one of 2 corgis this year to earn the VPX ( versatile performance corgi excellent). Phew..one cool dog whose life-ambition is to swim, chase balls and track all day. Thank you to all my friends who coached , helped me, and supported us. It is a fun journey.

**Tunbridge July:**

We had a lot of success at Tunbridge and I hope everyone had a good time despite the heat. I am so happy and proud of everyone who competed. Conditions were not always ideal and not all runs were flawless, but everyone displayed good humor and good sportsmanship.

In no particular order, and most of these were not only qualifying but placements as well:

Annie and Berners Teo, Greta & Anja, 4 RN legs and GCH points.

Joan Bradley and Eng Cocker Sophie, 2 RN legs.

Joan Sullivan and Lab Murphy, have a new CD Title.

In the conformation rings, Championship points and Grand Championship points for: Beverly Matthew's Vizsla Imri, Patti Richard's Chinook Atka, and Eng cocker Stella. Atka and Patti also had Owner-Handler Group 2 and Group 3 and Stella and I had an OH Group 4.

Cheers -M

Congratulations also to Mie and Glenn. English Cocker Janey has a new litter of pups!!

Patti Richards and Alice Ayres also have litters. Chinooks and Goldens!!

Kristie Adams' dog, Ivan, has earned his AKC Therapy Dog Novice title. Well done, Ivan!

Amherst, NH: Joan Bradley and English cocker spaniel Sophie showed under Michael Calhoun to earn the 3rd leg for their Rally Novice title.

From Mie:

The PVKC rally trials took place today and we had a number of folks showing:

Charlene Lundeen and All American Chubbs won both their classes and finished their Rally Novice title with 2 firsts, 1 fourth and a perfect score of 100.

Dave and German Shepherd Seguin entered their very first trial and came home with a 2nd place and their first Rally Novice leg.

Annie and berner Teo (aka Mr T) earned a placement and a new Rally Novice title while veteran Anja earned placements for her first two Rally Advanced legs.

Huge Thank You to Annie for providing lunch and to Joan Sullivan for being an excellent supporter.

**New TD:** Bernese Mtn dog Elfi and I were down the road a bit in Gardner, MA earning Elfi's Tracking Dog title.

**New TDX:** Mie and English Cocker Stella earned their TDX at TCM !!!

Even further east Kristie Adams and German Shorthair Ivan were out on the Cape earning a Major towards Ivan's conformation championship.

And a few weeks ago Bev Matthew's Vizsla Imre earned 2 Group 1s and a reserve Best in Show. Patti Richards and Chinook Atka won Best of Breed for a Grand Champion major and Owner-Handler Group 3 last weekend.

**Iron dog:** Ginny Wilson's Grandson and GSD Ruger compete in the Iron Dog!!!



Sonja Blanchard and Quincy earned their Masters Standard MX title!

Kristie Adams and HHH Filigree won their first major in breed!

**From Patti Richards:**

Yesterday my little boy Atka, became GrCh Forever Greene Atka. He is the first AKC Grand Champion. I am very proud of our home bred boy. He is not only a wonderful example of what a Chinook should look like, but he has the sweet temperament that is one of the best parts of our breed. The Canadian Judge who gave him his final point had nothing but wonderful things to say about the Chinooks he had seen on Sat. And the two he got his hands on Sun. He complimented

our owners and breeders for the work with a small breed and said he understood the dedication and love that goes into breeding within a small gene pool. Thank you Dr. Michael Woods.

### **Magpie's Excellent Adventure:**

On August 20<sup>th</sup> we received the following email:

"Molly our golden retriever was last seen an hour ago in front of our barn on Upper Cold River Road in Shrewsbury. She is 16 years old. She can't see or hear very well. Since she is very old she generally only goes outside to do her business. She never wanders too far. She is a very happy and loving dog."

After getting in touch with our neighbor, Magpie, aka –"The Pie" and I drove up the road to try to find Molly. Why use "The Pie" you ask? Well, although she is young and not as experienced as our other 3 trackers, who are trained to follow human scent, at 9 months old, Pie tracks anything and everything at warp speed!!! We have watched her track our dogs around the yard, fields and woods effortlessly.

We used Molly's dog bed for her scent article. Molly had been missing for 6 hours at this point. We worked in expanding circles around the neighbor's property and after 45 minutes we found poor Molly wedged between a concrete porch and some barberry bushes. The bushes had to be cut to get her out! Along the way, Magpie met her first flock of mallards. Although very interested, she tended to tracking business, a nice surprise. However, as we circled the duck pond she did decide to take a cooling swim, her first real paddle of any distance. All in all a big day for "The Pie" !! Our little doggie hero!



**Congratulations to everyone on these wonderful achievements!**

### **From the Archives:**



## ***1997 TD TEST***

### ***... a great day, with one hidden trap!!***

"Watching a tracking test is like watching paint dry," said Joyce Geier's Mother as she politely declined the invitation to accompany Joyce on the six-hour trip to our third annual TD Test. With these words in mind, I tucked a skein of yarn into my pocket and patiently knit on a sock while our first entrant and her dog proceeded to their starting flag.

It was cold, the grass was covered with melting frost, and Marnia the wirehaired Dachshund did *not* want to get her belly wet! For several agonizing minutes, she tested Pat Lane's patience between the first two flags. But once convinced that she really must follow the track, she took off and steadily worked the remainder of her very hilly track. It was a delight to see her little tail wag when she found my glove!

Next was Joyce Geier and her Border Collie, "Troy." Joyce is not yet convinced of her young dog's agility, and was sure he'd trip over his own four feet before the track was over. But Troy worked his track steadily and fast -- I must have blinked after the second turn, because the next thing I saw was Joyce tossing the glove for him, and trying to keep him out of any gopher holes.

The judges and I socialized with the third and fourth exhibitors; and their spouses while waiting for track #3 to be ready.

The third track belonged to Buddy Dillon King, a beagle handled by Diane King. Diane shared with us her funny story about her certification track, and told how embarrassed she was to find out the judges could hear everything she had said to the dog -- including something like "Come on Buddy, find the darn cookies!!" exclaimed in a moment of frustration.

But our jovial mood changed when we suddenly heard frantic shouts from the riverbank. I threw my clipboard and sock-in-progress to the ground, and began to run. Exhibitor #4, Susan Tasillo, had been walking her dog along the riverbank to exercise him before it was his turn. I heard her yelling for me to call a vet and to get strong people to help her lift her dog -- he'd been caught in a trap along the river's edge!

While I ran back to get the vet's phone number and a cell phone, I alerted Miles and the gallery -- David and Fred, the husbands of the two exhibitors. Observant readers probably noted that I hadn't thrown the yarn from my pocket when I tossed the sock -- so by then my legs were trussed up like a holiday turkey.

I stumbled back down the field to determine what the exact situation was, so I could make appropriate arrangements with our on-call vet. By then Susan and David had lifted the dog onto shore. We saw that it was "only" a clamp-type trap designed to drown beavers or otters, and that it did not appear to have torn into the dog's flesh.

Miles quickly determined how to release the trap, and with the help of Fred and David, freed "Kipling" from

his predicament. Kip quickly leaped to his feet and began leaping around with joy. Of course, by then the humans were tearful with relief.

After taking some time to check Kip for injuries -- Susan happens to be a vet -- we proceeded with the test. I didn't get to see Buddy and Diane run their track, as this track wasn't especially visible to a gallery.

I was thrilled when Diane and Buddy returned with their glove, as I don't know if I would have been calm enough to run a successful track after the crisis we'd just faced.

Susan and Fred monitored Kip and tried to relax before it was Susan's turn. She declined the offer to run our alternate track, so we continued with the original schedule. Kip seemed a little distracted by the judges and others behind him, so the gallery stayed well back until Kip was near the end of his track. After all he and Susan had just been through, I'm sure

there were extra good luck wishes sent their way that day. And we soon had our #4 TD title of the morning! Kip and Susan took home two special souvenirs — a breed tote bag embroidered by Ellaine Thomas , and one rusty beaver trap!

Our #5 dog was "Jed," George Plummer's new Border Collie. As usual, George's dog was well-trained and completed his track in mere minutes. George and Jed successfully dealt with the potential distraction of a friendly dog who wandered into their field before we ran the track, with some help from Judge Dana Avison who successfully herded the dog away from the actual track. TD title #5!

And finally, Peter Hewitt from Canada and his Golden Retriever ran track #6. **I** didn't see this track, but I was told they were also a fast and flawless team. Peter and his dog "Hewhaven's Awesome Possum" were awarded an engraved brass key chain offered by Kathy Duhnoski and Carolyn Fuhrer.

So, with a record 6 for 6 passing rate, Dana Avison went off to certify a dog on the alternate track. Making it a perfect day was Pat Lane and her Airedale, who were certified on a gorgeous field up in the hills. After the awards ceremony, the exhibitors, judges, and club members enjoyed a wonderful buffet organized by Gini Marconi with help from Dana, Nancy: and Elaine Thomas. Thanks to you all for your donations and culinary skills!

Thanks to our mitten knitters, Lynne Mayo, Betty Hyde, France Roozen, and Nancy Anderson -- we received many compliments on this nice touch! And the plan worked -the weather was warm enough that people didn't need to wear the mittens that day.

Our tracklayers for the day were Elaine Stuart, Mary Jane Russell, and Dick Munson – all coordinated by Chief Tracklayer Peter Rosengarten.

Nancy Anderson did a superb job in her first time as Tracking Test Chairperson, and we all suggested that she be promoted to the combined honor of Test Chairperson *and* Secretary next year! And special thanks go to those who were there to selflessly help Susan and Kip during their trap crisis -- especially to Miles, Fred and David for quickly getting Kip out of the trap, and to David -- who could have been home watching the World Series, but drove with his wife to a tracking test and ended up knee deep in a cold river and then standing around in wet boots for the remainder of the day. Others may have gotten wet, too -- I know Susan did! The weather for the test was great this year, but it wasn't warm enough for wet boots to be comfortable for very long! A special thanks to you all.

— Mary Jane Russell Test Secretary

## CLUB NEWS

### **Upcoming Events:**

January Monthly meeting. Location TBA.

February Holiday Party. Holiday Inn, Rutland, Vt.

### **New Members:**

Welcome new members! Taffy Hyyppa, from E. Wallingford and her Labs! Taffy has become an experienced tracklayer already! Patty McWilliams and Lab Fiona are from Middletown Springs are eager new trackers! Debbie Grandquist and Labs from Weston. Debbie and her Lab Ellie earned their CT and Debbie is now tracking with her young Lab, Piper. Charlotte Badger, daughter of Pam and Bill, has helped with many TCV events in the past. Now a new member, Charlotte and Phoebe are working towards their TDX!

### **2016 Tracking Club of Vermont Officers and Board Members**

President: Mie Kingsley, Vice President: Joan Bradley, Treasurer: Joanne Fratrach, Secretary: Joyce Pedone

Board Members: Kristie Adams, Pam Badger, Charlene Lundeen, Kathy Murphy and Glenn Williams

Thanks to Elaine Thomas, Renee Traverse and Alan Shelvey for serving on the Board for many years!

Please send your brags, news, items for sale, ads, pictures, etc....to Linda Shelvey for the next Scentinel. [shel@sover.net](mailto:shel@sover.net)

Happy Tracking!