



Tracking Club of
Massachusetts

TCM

February 2011

www.trackingclubofma.com

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President's Message

This is the time of year when I sit down and try to determine whether or not I have accomplished any of the major goals I'd set for my self back in the previous year. In a few weeks I'll be creating new goals for 2011. I wonder how many of you do the same thing.

T.C.M. should be an excellent resource for anyone who is just starting their tracking career with a dog and aiming for the T.D. title. In my role as President of T.C.M., it is my job to make sure that the club as a whole helps you in achieving your objective.

Training for tracking is far different from going to a building once or twice a week to work on a specific obedience, agility, or breed conformation problem. In our sport you need adequate fields, a willingness to allocate a good portion of a day for training, and getting someone to be your "coach".

Here is my plan for our new members in 2011. Let's call it "Beginner Tracking 2011". Today this is just an idea in "draft form" but I hope to have it formalized within the next few months.

With the help of Board Member Joyce Arivella, I had ready for the January Board meeting a visual chart of all of our members. From it I will detail our members in a given area and those members will become "T.C.M. regional trackers". To be successful I will need our more experienced members who live in or near one of the clusters to become your part-time coach.

President's Message (cont.)

Some ground rules:

- Each regional group needs to secure its own adequate training sites.
- Your part time coach will show you how to start your dog and tips on how to continue your training. Don't expect "weekly classes".
- A change in a coach for a specific session might occur due to an unforeseen change in one's personal schedule. Be flexible.
- Once started, each group of members is expected to work with each other.
- Have your own training equipment and supplies including numerous flags similar to the ones used by T.C.M. at tests.

Your coaches will also educate you about track laying techniques. This will not only help you in your training but it will also prepare you to be a tracklayer at a test.

For those more advanced tracking teams, we have arranged a "Beyond TD" seminar with John and Darlene Barnard who will teach us about scent, how your dog handles it in various venues, how to start a dog, how to create a positive and motivating atmosphere for the dog to find articles, and much more. This information will be helpful to both the new and the experienced tracker.

Let's get to work!

Art Twiss

Science Corner

This section of the newsletter provides members with a review of the findings of the few studies that have been conducted on the olfactory capabilities of dogs in the hopes that we all can better understand why our dogs can do this marvelous thing called “tracking.”

This second Science Corner article will explore the findings of Craven and colleagues from the Gas Dynamics Laboratory at Pennsylvania State University. In 2007, these researchers published their findings on the 3-dimensional anatomy of the nasal cavity and followed that up in 2010 with a study on the airflow patterns through that cavity. [Craven, BA, Neuberger, T, Paterson, EG, Webb, AG, Josephson, EM, Morrison, EE, and GS Settles. 2007. Reconstruction and morphometric analysis of the nasal airway of the dog (*Canis familiaris*) and implications regarding olfactory airflow. *Anat. Rec.* 290: 1325-1340. & Craven, BA, Paterson, EG, and GS Settles 2010. The fluid dynamics of canine olfaction: a unique nasal airflow patterns as an explanation of macrosmia. *J. Royal Soc. Interface* 7: 933-943.]

Because the domesticated dog comes in a variety of sizes and has been designed into different breeds for specific purposes useful to humans, both their skull and snout vary widely in shape. The canine skull is thus classified according to shape: long and narrow (dolichocephalic) as exemplified by a Collie, short and wide (brachycephalic) typical of the Boston Terrier, or of medium proportions (mesaticephalic) common to Labrador Retrievers. The shape of skull and the resultant shape and length of snout affects the olfactory abilities of the olfactory epithelium in a recessed area.

The canine nasal cavity is divided by a septum into regions: the vestibule, the respiratory region, and the olfactory region. The vestibule distributes air within the nasal cavity and directs the expired air stream, while the respiratory region is responsible for warming or cooling, humidifying, and filtering the inspired air before it enters the lower respiratory tract to eventually enter the lungs. The respiratory region consists of dorsal and ventral nasal conchae (aka, turbinates; Figure 1) - these are long, narrow, curved bone

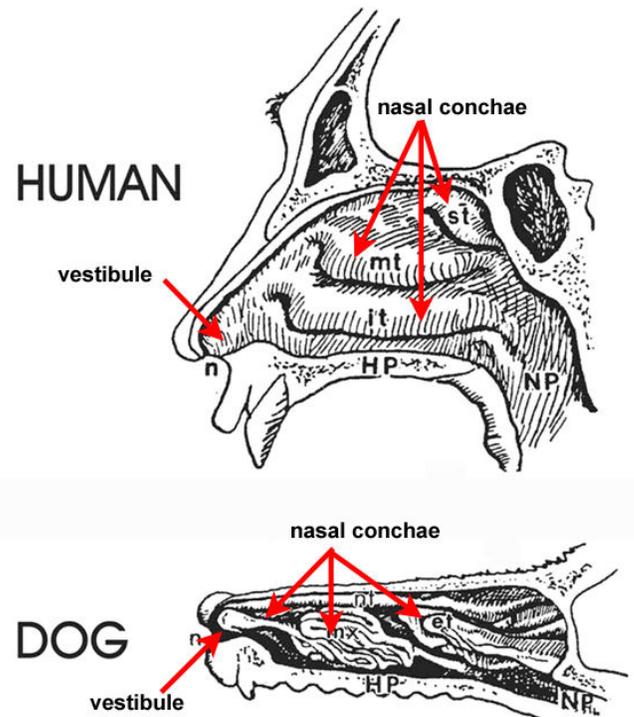


Figure 1: Comparison of human and dog nasal cavities. It, inferior turbinate; mt, medial turbinate; st, superior turbinate; NP, nasopharynx; HP, hard palate; n, nares/nostril; mx, maxilloturbinate (ventral conchae); et, ethmoturbinate (ethmoid conchae), nt, nasal turbinate (dorsal conchae). Modified from: Harkema, JR, Carey, SA, and JG Wagner 2006. The nose revisited: A brief review of comparative structure, function, and toxicologic pathology of the nasal epithelium. *Toxicologic Pathology* 34(3): 252-269.

Modified from: Harkema, JR, Carey, SA, and JG Wagner 2006. The nose revisited: A brief review of comparative structure, function, and toxicologic pathology of the nasal epithelium. *Toxicologic Pathology* 34(3): 252-269.

Science Corner (cont.)

shelves that provide the surface area necessary to transfer heat and moisture to inspired air and to clean the air of foreign particles.

The maxilloturbinates have a complicated, accordion-like shape with a tortuous pathway for air that aids in particle removal. Behind these turbinates are the ethmoturbinates, rolled up structures that provide a large surface for the detection of odorants. Up to now, most anatomical descriptions of these structures have been limited to gross structure and/or histological understanding of the tissues on their surfaces. Using high field animal MRI scanning on a Labrador Retriever, these researchers examined 250 slices of the front and rear regions of the nasal cavity and 450 slices of the middle region. Slices were 200 μm thick. These raw MRI slices were then converted into a 3-dimensional surface model so that morphometric analyses could be conducted on the airway to determine flow regimes through the nasal cavity. The resultant model is shown in Figure 2.

To investigate airflow through the nasal cavity, 7 dogs, ranging in size from Pomeranians to Labrador Retrievers, were outfitted with a transparent muzzle that was designed to sample time-accurate airflow during sniffing; vinyl foam was used to form a seal between the muzzle and the dog's snout. The dogs were trained to sniff a series of scent sources under different circumstances to obtain both short and long bouts of sniffing. Novel scents continuously presented resulted in a long series of sniffs, while trained odorants that required localization from the dog resulted in short sniffing bouts. Both inhalation and exhalation airflow rates were measured; however, the muzzle only permitted accurate measurement of inhalation. Trials consisted of over 300 sniffs with multiple types of odorants presented to all dogs.

Sniffing consists of an alternating series of inhalation and exhalation in a sinusoidal pattern that increases from the first weak sniff to a final large sniff over a period ranging from 0.5 to 2 seconds. Long bouts of sniffing consist of multiple bursts of this pattern, whereas short bouts appear as a single burst. Sniff frequency is independent of dog body size, which contrasts with regular inhalation that is scaled to body size (i.e., a smaller dog inhales less air during a normal respiratory cycle than a large dog).

Using the 3-dimensional model of the nasal cavity and information from the sniffing measurements, these researchers were able to generate a computational simulation to determine airflow patterns

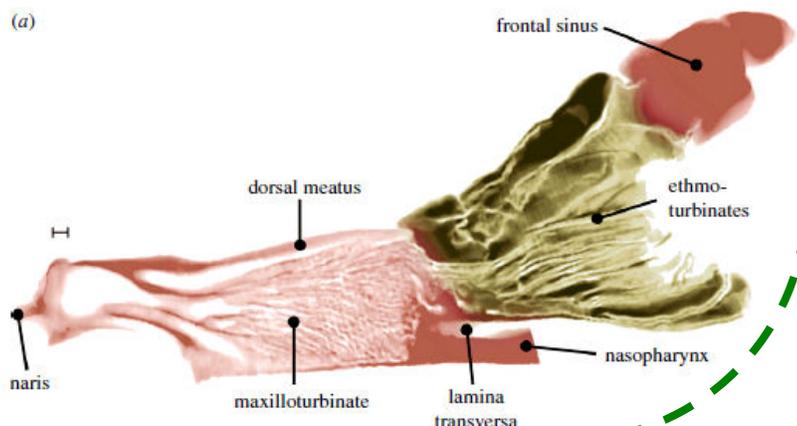


Figure 2: Sagittal section of canine nasal cavity showing the dorsal meatus and turbinates. From: Craven, BA, Paterson, EG, and GS Settles 2010. The fluid dynamics of canine olfaction: a unique nasal airflow patterns as an explanation of macrosmia. *J. Royal Soc. Interface* 7: 933-943. Used with permission.

Science Corner (cont.)

within the nasal cavity. Computational solutions for airflow show that during normal inhalation, the nostrils are relaxed and undilated, and airflow mainly flows turbulently through the vestibule where it splits into 2 streams: about 88-87% of the air then flows through the normal respiratory pathways to the maxilloturbinates and 12-13% flows up into a long duct-like structure called the dorsal meatus that terminates at the ethmoturbinates (olfactory region) where airflow turns and slowly filters through the scroll-work surfaces of this region to interact with the olfactory tissue. During sniffing, the nostrils dilate and this changes the form of the nasal vestibule such that the opening to the dorsal meatus is widened for greater airflow into this pathway. Hence, more air enters the olfactory pathway than during normal inhalation (Figure 3). This airflow pathway contrasts with that of the human, where air must flow over all turbinates to reach the olfactory epithelium that is interspersed amongst respiratory epithelium on the middle and superior turbinates.

Interestingly, during exhalation, no appreciable airflow enters the ethmoturbinate region, which process the odorant signals that arrived with the sniff burst. Again, this differs from the human in that air flows over the olfactory region during both inhalation and exhalation and would, therefore, flush out odorants during exhalation.

During sniffing, airflow into the vestibule is initially turbulent, particularly during sniffing which creates intermittent puffs of airflow. As the air flows through the vestibule and into the maxilloturbinates and then up to the ethmoturbinates, it undergoes a transitional flow pattern (semiturbulent). By the time air has passed through the maxilloturbinates, its flow has become laminar (smooth). When bypassing the maxilloturbinates by flowing through the dorsal meatus, airflow becomes laminar before reaching the olfactory epithelium of the ethmoturbinates. Hence during normal inhalation, flow is designed to be turbulent through the front part of the nose, allowing that region time to humidify and warm the air before it is passed to the nasopharynx and lungs. During odor detection (sniffing), the turbulence caused by inhalation of intermittent puffs of air is dampened in the dorsal meatus as it bypasses the maxilloturbinates to flow directly to the ethmoturbinates.

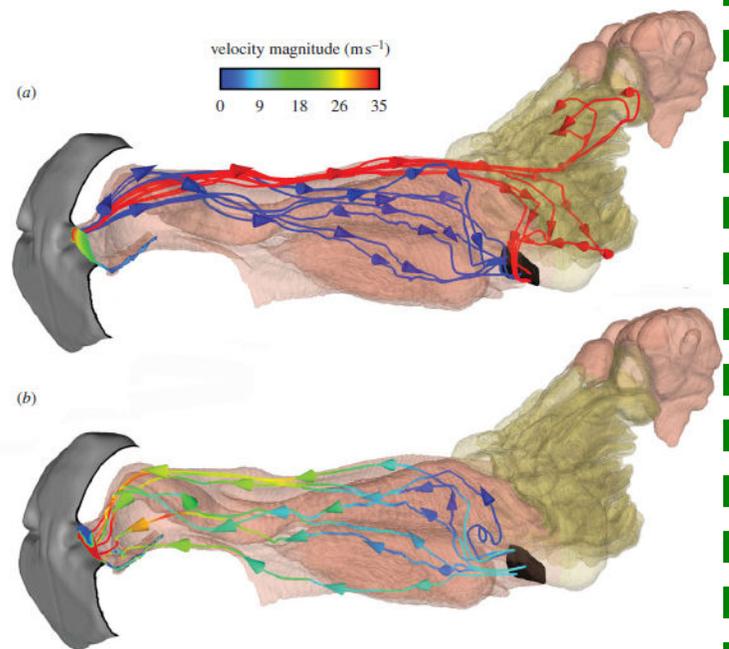


Figure 3: Flow pathways of neutrally buoyant particles through the nasal cavity. (a) Pathways generated during sniffing - note the red arrows showing the higher velocity olfactory pathway through the dorsal meatus and up into the ethmoturbinate region where the particle streams then split to interact with olfactory epithelium. This pathway differs from the low velocity airflow (blue) through the maxilloturbinates. (b) Exhalant pathway showing no airflow within the ethmoturbinate region. Modified from: Craven, BA, Paterson, EG, and GS Settles 2010. The fluid dynamics of canine olfaction: a unique nasal airflow patterns as an explanation of macrosmia. *J. Royal Soc. Interface* 7: 933-943. Used with permission.

Science Corner (cont.)

Additionally, the nostrils affect how odorants are sampled. During inspiration, air in the immediate vicinity (1 centimeter) of the dog's nostril is drawn inward toward the inner edge of the nostril (Figure 4a). This reach of 1 centimeter in front of the nostril is smaller than the separation between the nostrils, so that each nostril samples air from a distinct spatial region, which allows a dog to bilaterally sample odors to gain directional information (comparing odorants side-to-side), much in the same way that we use the spacing between our ears to allow for sound localization. The shape of the vestibule affects expiration such that a jet stream is ejected from the nose in a downward, outward fashion. When sniffing a surface, this airflow pattern has the effect of creating disturbance of odorants on the exterior surface so that during the next sniff burst, those odorants can be inhaled (Figure 4b).

So what does this mean, in a practical sense for a tracking dog or a team in training? By understanding how the dog's nose actually works, the handler can be more cognizant of factors that can affect the dog's tracking performance. Since the odorant pathway skips the humidifying region of the nasal cavity, training and/or tracking a dog in dry conditions is a more difficult task. Odorant particles must diffuse into the mucus layer overlaying the olfactory epithelium. Warmth increases the rate of diffusion, but if air is both dry and warm, the mucus layer will be thinner and less odorant will dissolve into that mucus. If it is so dry that the mucus layer is barely present, then odorant will not interact well with the olfactory epithelium. So what can you do if you have to track your dog in a warm, dry climate or on a warm and dry day? Water your dog! Keep that nasal cavity as moist as possible. Also realize that if your dog is panting, it is not getting air with odorant particles up into the ethmoturbinate region when breathing through the mouth. So if you are tracking in weather that is so hot that the dog can't stop panting no matter how much water you provide, you are setting up your dog to fail in the task before him or her.

Finally, while all dogs can track, realize that the shape of your dog's skull and muzzle will affect the acuity of its tracking ability. Long and narrow (dolichocephalic) or medium (mesaticephalic) proportioned skulls/muzzles have more area for odorants to interact with the olfactory epithelium of the ethmoturbinates. Brachycephalic (short and wide) skulls/muzzles have much less area for the ethmoturbinates and thus a reduced acuity for odor detection

(Figure 5). Nevertheless, some brachycephalic breeds are well-known trackers.

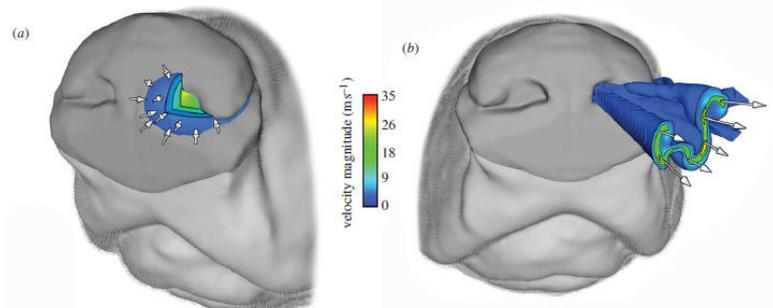


Figure 4: Direction and velocity of (a) inhaled air during sniffing and (b) exhaled air during a sniffing bout showing an air jet with 2 large vortices that can disturb odorants on a surface. Modified from: Craven, BA, Paterson, EG, and GS Settles 2010. The fluid dynamics of canine olfaction: a unique nasal airflow patterns as an explanation of macrosmia. *J. Royal Soc. Interface* 7: 933-943. Used with permission.



Figure 5: Comparison of nasal cavity area (bounded by dotted lines) for a mesaticephalic skull type (left) versus a brachycephalic skull type (right).

Meet Your Fellow T.C.M. Members

Joyce Arivella and I took a few minutes after the T.C.M. year end party on Nov. 6th to talk about the problem of how to develop a beginner's training program for our members who live at some distance from each other. I outlined my idea as to how we might solve it; I got her initial support and she suggested that the Board of Directors talk about it at the January 5, 2011 meeting.

The initial objective of this program is to help train our members who are just starting their tracking careers. In time there should be other positive spin offs.

I took an A.A.A. map of MA. (R.I.; part of eastern CT. and southern NH up to the town of Amherst was also shown) to Staples; had it copied and then pasted it onto a thick poster board. Using the membership list of Nov. 01, 2010, I used colored pins to indicate where each of our members live -- it became quite a colorful display -- and then I took the map to the January board meeting for a general discussion. It was decided to develop this idea and offer it to the membership.

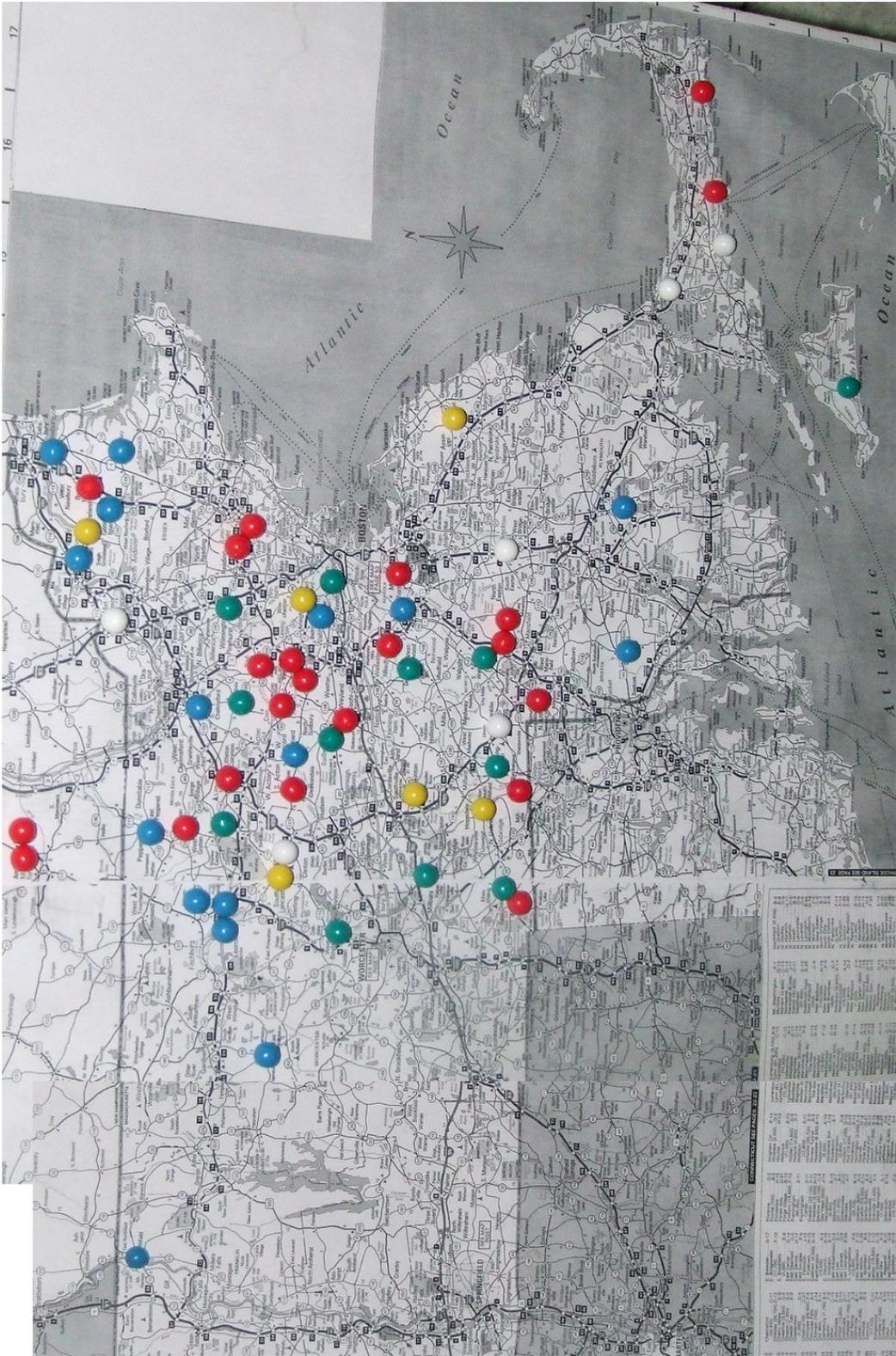
Joyce will take all of the zip codes of our members and do a computer analysis of how we can logically group our members. With your help we'll be able to develop training sites within a given area.

What's the next step? One of our experienced tracking members will be assigned to each "grouping" to help you and your local "grouping" get started. For now, I'd anticipate one starter session per section with your instructor coupled with an obligation on your part to continue your training as needed with your fellow club members. Training sessions with your experienced instructor and how you interface with each other will need to be resolved as events unfold. Let's hope it works.

This project will remain on the Board's agenda until it is finalized. My goal is to get it done before the snow melts (if that ever happens!) and before we get to start the 2011 tracking season. Remember, constructive criticism is always welcomed.

Art Twiss
President

Map of Member Locations



Meet Your Local Judge: Miles Garrod

Miles is a retired engineer and proposal specialist, who worked on many military systems for various large electronics companies. For more than forty years, he and his wife, Sally lived on a small farm in Milford, New Hampshire, where they bred, raised, and trained English Springer Spaniels and Morgan horses. Sally is a certified APDT instructor who teaches obedience and handling. They have shown their dogs in breed, obedience, agility, and tracking.

They originally became interested in tracking in the mid 1970's. Sally was at an obedience training class and a few of her friends asked if she would like to go tracking with them. That was the start of it. Both Miles and Sally enjoyed being outside, working their dogs, and the sport of tracking itself. Sally put TD titles on their first two tracking dogs in 1978 and 1980. They joined TCM in 1981.

They have been active in TCM from the beginning. Miles served for many years as vice-president under TCM's founding president, Ruth Ridings. When Ruth retired, he became president, then a director, and now serves as vice-president, again. He has also been active in other tracking clubs as well as a number of Springer, all-breed, and dog owner's organizations, in which he has been an officer, director, show chairman, obedience chairman, etc.

Miles decided to become a tracking judge and completed his application in August of 1986. After an interview with Frank Harra at the South Windsor (CT) Kennel Club Show in late 1986, the AKC Board of Directors approved him as a provisional tracking judge. He completed seven assignments as a provisional judge between October of 1987 and October of 1989. His last provisional assignment was with his now very good friend and fellow judge Randie Meyer. Their performance at the test was observed and approved by the then AKC tracking representative, John F. Barnard.

Since being approved as a full tracking judge, Miles has judged over seventy TD tests in New England, New York and New Jersey. The test-giving clubs included a variety of tracking, obedience, all-breed, and specialty clubs. Some of these organizations no longer exist or no longer offer tracking events. Miles took an interest in VST as soon as it was suggested as a possible new aspect of tracking that the AKC might adopt. Since the AKC approved VST, he has judged about twenty VST matches and tests for clubs in the eastern U.S.

To encourage more people to actually get out and work their dogs, Miles tries to conduct a few beginner and intermediate clinics whenever dog clubs or other groups are willing to sponsor them. He believes that giving beginning trackers a logical, organized start with a good understanding of the "How's" and "Why's" will promote continued interest in the sport. Since becoming a judge in 1987, he has conducted as many as three or four clinics of various kinds each year.

To promote the sport of tracking, Miles is devoted to mentoring clubs whose members need to understand the details of how best to go about combining tracking events with their current activities. He is also involved in teaching groups that want to add TDX or VST tests to their club's existing tracking programs by coaching them in how to properly conduct the appropriate tracking matches and other supporting events.

Tracking Field Sizes

Knowing that I'm an engineer, people often ask questions about how big a prospective field needs to be to hold a standard track for an AKC test.

I tell them that one can determine the required sizes of tracking fields by the following technique. A number of people have used the system and it seemed to work for them as well. In a sense it is a short lesson in plane geometry.

1. An acre of land in the U.S. customary system is 43,560 sq. ft.
2. A square 1-acre field would be about 210 ft. by 210 ft. ($210 \times 210 = 44,100$)
3. Four of these 1-acre fields, if set side by side to form a big square, would make a square field 420 ft. by 420 ft.
4. Note that in tracklayer's terms 420 ft. by 420 ft. is expressed as 140 yds. by 140 yds.
5. Using a field that is 140 x 140 yards square, if you inscribe a track within the field that follows the edges all around the field and is 15 yards inside those edges all the way around, you end up with a track in the form of a square that is 110 yds. by 110 yds.
6. This 440-yard track isn't legal, because the final drop is at the first Start Flag and all four corners turn in the same direction. However, it does serve to make the point that a field for one TD track needs to be larger than 4 acres.
7. An inscribed "S" would work, except that you'd have three parallel legs about 55 yards from each other.
8. A square 5-acre field would be about 470 ft. by 470 ft. or almost 180 yds. by 180 yds. This size is really useable, but slightly bigger is still much better.

Note that in using the fields described above, there are some standard plotting problems that are ignored: such as tracklayer access and egress and the requirement that adjacent tracks be at least 50 yards apart.

The same sort of logic that leads us to think that a 5-acre field can be used for TD can be applied to the size of a TDX area. You'll find that, in theory, ten acres ought to work. But I don't know that I've ever seen a situation where all the needed obstacles were crowded into such a small space. Keeping different legs of the same track far enough apart can also be a problem. In addition, keeping the cross-tracklayers away from various parts of the track may be difficult, as well as, keeping them away from adjacent tracks. Therefore, eleven acres may be a better minimum for TDX.

From all the foregoing, about all you really need remember as a rule of thumb is that "A five acre field is big enough for TD and that eleven acres will work for TDX."

Miles Garrod

Submit a question for our member judges -- each newsletter will have a Training Tips section based on your questions!!!

TDX Test, 10 October 2010

The Tracking Club of Massachusetts held its Tracking Dog Excellent Test (TDX), on Sunday, October 10, 2010 at High Ridge Wildlife Management Area, Gardner, MA. Judges were Arthur Twiss and Stephanie Crawford. Many thanks to our tracklayers: Kathy Buckley, Amy Deutsch, Kathy Duffy, Rainer Fuchs, Phil Keating, Karen Oliver, and Jane Taylor. Also, thanks to our Chair, Karen Oliver. And thanks to Hospitality, Carolyn Johnson and Kari Lavalli, and to Donna Kiuru for helping with carpooling.

We had a beautiful day for tracking on Sunday and really nice tracks. We were able lay a spare track, so there were 5 judged tracks. Unfortunately, there were no passes this time.

Track #1 went to a Cocker Spaniel that started out beautifully, went into and exited the woods, made a left turn, and after checking carefully, crossed the road, continued down the 4th leg through a hedgerow, passing a group of people walking their dogs, only to miss the next turn.

Track #2 went to a Golden Retriever. This dog also got to the 4th leg, crossed the road and a hedgerow, but missed the article on the 3rd leg.

Track #3 went to a German Shepherd Dog. This dog made the first turn, crossed the road and a hedgerow, but went off track at the 2nd turn.

Track #4 also went to a German Shepherd Dog, that also went off track at the 2nd turn.

Track #5 went to a Belgian Tervuren. This team made the first, 2nd, and 3rd turns and crossed the road, but, unfortunately, took the cross track.

All teams worked nicely, and hopefully will pass on the next try.

Happy Tracking
Leland Perry
TDX Test Secretary



TD Test, 31 Oct 2010

The Tracking Club of Massachusetts held its final event of the year, a TD test at Top of the Hill Farm in Ayer. We had 4 entries and 5 alternates; the judges (Miles Garrod and Deb Brown) put in 4 tracks with 1 alternate which ended up being used as a titling track. The weather was cooperative and three out five teams passed under judges Miles Garrod and Deb Brown.

Track #1 went to a Bloodhound Bitch who is usually pretty mellow, but today she had her nose to the ground and was in high gear, hauling her handler behind her. I think I saw John airborne on one corner!! Congratulations to John Kuncho and CH Heat Wave By George, TD.

Track #2 went to a West Highland White Terrier Dog. He seemed somewhat concerned with the spectators and watched us for awhile before deciding to go to work. This dog worked very hard, but unfortunately on the last leg something took him off track and he tried to recover, until hearing the whistle.

Track #3 went to a Bullmastiff Bitch, who hesitated between the two start flags and moved slowly down the first leg, overshot the corner and continued on her morning walk until hearing the whistle.

Track #4 went to a German Shepherd Dog Bitch who was all business right from the get-go. Moving down the 1st leg briskly, this girl took the 1st corner without hesitation, flew down legs 2, 3, & 4 to the last corner, with the judges jogging to keep up. Leg #5 flew by as well ending with a glove tossing ceremony. Congratulations to Cynthia Kosacz and Guiding Eyes for the Blind Ruthann, TD, who is also the first recipient of the Ruth Ridings Memorial Trophy presented in Memory of TCM founding President Ruth Ridings for each German Shepherd dog that exhibits a passing performance.

Track #5 went to a Glen of Imaal Terrier, Dog who must have witnessed the performance on the previous track and was not to be outdone. Off he went, nose to the ground and was all business. But on leg 4 he noticed all the spectators on the other side of the field. Hmm, maybe I'll go visit them. Nope can't do that ... back to work rounding the 5th corner down the last leg to the final article. Congratulations to Kathy Georgianna and CH Briarhill's Mountain Music, TD, who is the first Glen of Imaal Terrier to earn a TD title.

All in all it was a great test and a great day.
Thanks to the judges, the tracklayers, hospitality,
our hearse driver and all the spectators who joined us.

Jane Taylor
TD Test Secretary



TCM Upcoming Events

April 16-17, 2011 - *Beginner Tracking Clinic* with Art Twiss at Wrentham Crackerbarrel Fairgrounds. Contact clinic secretary Donna Kiuru at Leomecs@aol.com

April 30 - May 1, 2011 - *TDX Test* at High Ridge WMA, Gardner, MA (Judges: John & Darlene Barnard). Contact trial secretary Sharon Concannon at slconcann@comcast.net

May 7-8, 2011 - *Beyond the TD Seminar* with John & Darlene Barnard at the Royal Plaza Drive Marriott in Fitchburg, MA with tracking at High Ridge WMA, Gardner. Contact seminar secretary Randie Meyer at laekenois@sprintmail.com (see attached info).

May 28-29, 2011 - *VST Test* at Holy Cross Campus, Worcester, MA (Judges: Art Twiss & Mike Clemens). Contact trial secretary Lori Hall at nite4mare@comcast.net

October 8-9, 2011 - *TDX Test* at High Ridge WMA, Gardner, MA (Judges: Art Twiss & Carol Ruthenberg). Contact trial secretary Leland Perry at lelper@aol.com

October 15-16, 2011 - *Beginner Tracking Clinic* with Miles Garrod. Contact clinic secretary Pam Frattallone at cockerdog@verizon.net

October 29-30, 2011 - *TD Test* at Walpole Agricultural School, MA (Judges: Miles Garrod & Deb Brown). Contact trial secretary Betty Leblanc at Bette4y@yahoo.com

Please join us for our club meetings at the Rueben Hoar Library on 41 Shattuck Street, Littleton, MA. Next membership meeting is March 11th.

Also, please encourage your training buddies to join TCM. Membership rates are:

\$15.00 for Associate Member
\$20.00 for Full Voting Member



We need volunteers for help with the April clinic and tracklayers/people for hospitality for our May TDX & VST trials. This is a great way to learn more about tracking! Contact Karen Oliver for more info.

This Fall's successful TD teams!





Presents . . .

John and Darlene Barnard
“Beyond TD” Seminar - May 7 and 8th, 2011

Place: Marriott Courtyard, 150 Royal Plaza Drive, Fitchburg, MA 01420 1-888-236-2427 and the High Ridge Wildlife Management fields in Gardner, MA.

About our Speakers: John and Darlene are both AKC Tracking Judges for all levels. John authored the VST program. Both John and Darlene are very active in tracking as well as obedience. Their talk is inspirational, educational and fun! You will learn about scent and how your dog handles it, problem solving, how to start a dog, training positive motivation for articles and numerous handler tips. They will cover the rules and regulations as well as all other elements from TD, TDX and VST.

Cost: \$200.00 (US Dollars) Make checks payable to TCM and mail in care of Randie Meyer, 3 Mayhew Drive, Amherst, NH 03031-2032. Please include this form, the registration fee, buffet fee, choices for box lunch, and a signed Hold Harmless statement. If you wish to request a working spot for your dog you must include a copy of your dogs' current rabies vaccination certificate.

They will begin each morning with a talk at 8 am. Coffee, tea/continental style foods will be available. We will adjourn to the fields at High Ridge in Gardner Massachusetts at 11am. A box lunch will be served at noon time - please make your selections below. We will return to the hotel for a refreshments and summary to wrap up each day and then adjourn at 5pm. Saturday evening there will be a buffet style dinner at the hotel at 7 pm. If you plan to stay at the hotel please be sure to mention the TCM rate (\$109.00/night plus tax). Also, if you are bringing a dog(s) there will be a \$25.00 charge per room for the weekend.

We are inviting dogs to participate for working slots. A drawing will be held two weeks prior to the seminar and you will be notified if your dog has a working slot. Please note - if you are planning on bringing a dog you must provide a current rabies vaccination certificate to be mailed in with this registration form.

Registration is limited - please send your forms in as soon as possible. The seminar will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis! Thank you!

**Directions From All Points of New England to Host Hotel
To Trade Center at the Courtyard by Marriott Fitchburg**

FROM BOSTON - Rte. 2 West to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 Exit), Exit 28 take left off the exit ramp, go over the Rt. 2 overpass and the main entrance will be on the right.

FROM PROVIDENCE - Rte. 146 North to I-290 East to Rt. 190 North to Rt. 2 West to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 Exit), Exit 28 take a left off the exit ramp, go over the Rt. 2 overpass and the main entrance will be on the right.

FROM SPRINGFIELD - Mass Pike East to I-290 East to Rt. 190 North to Rt. 2 West to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 exit), Exit 28 take a left off the ramp, go over the Rt. 2 overpass and the main entrance will be on the right OR Rte. 202 to Rt. 2 East to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 exit), Exit 28 take a right off the exit ramp and the main entrance will be immediately on the right.

FROM HARTFORD CT - Rte. 84 North to Mass Pike East to I-290 East to 190 North to Rt. 2 West to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 Exit), Exit 28 take a left off the exit ramp, go over the Rt. 2 overpass and the main entrance will be on your right.

FROM NASHUA/MANCHESTER NH - Rte. 93 to Rt. 495 South to Rt. 2 West to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 Exit), Exit 28 take a left on the exit ramp, go over the Rt. 2 overpass and the main entrance will be on the right.

FROM VERMONT - Rte. 91 South to Rt. 2 East to Exit 28 (Princeton/Fitchburg Rt. 31 Exit), Exit 28 take a right off the exit ramp and the main entrance will be immediately on your right.

Directions from Hotel to High Ridge:

- Take the **1st left** onto **Princeton Rd** 0.3 mi
- Turn **left** to merge onto **MA-2 W** towards **Westminster** 0.3 mi
- Take **exit 24B** to merge onto **MA-140 N/W**, **Main St** towards **Ashburnham/Winchendon** 4.6 mi
- Follow **MA-140 N**, passing **Sargent Street** on the right and **Betty Spring Road** on left 1.3 mi
- When road merges from 2 lanes to 1, Take a **right**
- Take a **left** at the T-junction 446 ft
- You will pass a prison - the speed limit is **STRICTLY** enforced!
- Proceed past the prison and continue on a very bad road - go slowly! Follow the signs.

Veterinarian

The Acton Animal Emergency Hospital in Acton, Ma (978-263-1742). From Rt. 2:

- Take ramp onto RT-2 E toward CONCORD/BOSTON -
- Take exit #42/MAYNARD/ACTON toward ACTON - go 0.20.3 mi
- Turn Left on MAIN ST(RT-27) - go 1.72.8 mi
- Bear Right on BROOK ST - go 0.40.7 mi
- Turn Right on GREAT RD(RT-119) - go 0.50.9 mi
- Arrive at 164 GREAT RD, ACTON

Emergency Numbers

Gardner Fire Dept - 978-874-2313

Gardner Police Dept. 978-632-5600

Heywood Hospital - Green St., Gardner, Ma 978-632-3420

Ambulance - 911

**Hold Harmless Agreement
Tracking Club of Massachusetts, Inc.**

I understand that attendance of a dog-training event is not without risk to me, members of my family, guests who may attend, or to my dog/s. I understand there are dangers involved in attending an event in which dogs are around strange people and other dogs, and that some accident or injury may result. I am willing to assume those risks for myself, members of my family, my guests, and/or my dog/s.

I hereby waive and release the Tracking Club of Massachusetts, Inc, it's instructors, participants and guests, and the host training site, from any and all liability of any nature, for injury, damage or death which I or my dog may suffer, including specifically, but not without limitation, any injury or damage resulting from the action of any dog, and I expressly assume the risk of any such damage or injury while attending this training session, or while on the training grounds or surrounding area.

In consideration of and as inducement to my participation as a guest or participant in any Tracking Club of Massachusetts, Inc. training seminar, I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the instructors, members, and guests of the host training site and the Tracking Club of Massachusetts, Inc., from any and all claims, or claims by any member of my family or any guest that may accompany me to these events, while on the training grounds or surrounding area, as a result of any action by any dog, including my own.

I understand that it is my sole responsibility to maintain control of my dog at all times while on the training grounds or surrounding area.

Host Training Site: The Marriott Hotel and High Ridge Wildlife Management in Gardner, MA

Signature: (Parent or guardian if a minor)

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form with your check, signed
Hold Harmless Agreement form and rabies certificate (if applicable).
The Tracking Club of Massachusetts, Inc. Seminar

John and Darlene Barnard guest speakers
Saturday and Sunday May 7th and May 8th, 2011
SEMINAR REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Phone # _____

Dog Call Name: _____ Breed: _____

Briefly describe your dog's level of tracking: _____

Lunch Choices: please check one

Ham/Cheese Turkey Tuna

Box lunches contain a Sandwich, Potato Salad, Chips, Cookie/Brownie, Can of Soda

Dinner with John and Darlene:

Yes, I will attend and have enclosed an additional \$35.00 for the dinner.

Vegetarian Meal Requested:

No, I am not able to attend the dinner.

Dinner will be buffet style with several choices including appetizers, soup and salad selections, and a dessert.

For Registrar use only: Check # _____ Received: \$ _____ Seminar: _____

Lunch: _____ Dinner: _____ HH Agreement K9 _____

Confirmation Sent: