

# TEXAS TERV TRAILS

A Publication of the Lone Star Belgian Tervuren Club  
May-June 2015



*What Else Can We Try?*

CH CYNFYR'S VALENTINES DAY CASANOVA RN NAJ

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**Membership Information**

Individual Membership ..... \$10.00  
Family Membership..... \$15.00

***Write to LSBTC Secretary for membership  
applications or newsletter subscriptions***

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: July 15, 2015  
Articles, Pictures, Brags Welcome!

**MEETING NOTICE**

***The next meeting of the LSBTC  
will be SUNDAY, July 5, 2015  
at the Texas Kennel Club show,  
in Dallas, Texas***

***The meeting will be after  
conformation judging.***

# CH CYNFYR'S VALENTINES DAY CASANOVA RN NAJ

*by Cynthia Parker*



Casanova earned his AKC Rally Novice B title at the Bluebonnet Stampede Dog Show in Mesquite TX. He qualified with 1-2nd place and 2-3rd placements. Then he enjoyed some sun in the field of bluebonnets next door.



**STARS**

NEW RALLY NOVICE DOG



CH CYNFYR'S VALENTINES DAY CASANOVA RN NAJ

*and Cynthia Parker and Jeff Curran*



# STARS



## NEW RALLY NOVICE DOG

### SHUMAKER HILLS BENDIT LIKE BECKA RN, MX, MXJ, OF, HT, NW1, L1C

*and Pat Thomas*

*Pat reports, "So proud of Becka for earning her Novice Rally title with a 4th place finish at the 2015 ABTC National Specialty." Pat and Becka also took a 1st place at the Texas Kennel Club, Inc. show and a 2nd place at the Greater Collin Kennel Club, Inc.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## DUES ARE DUE

"Membership dues shall be \$10.00 for single membership and \$15.00 for family membership per year, payable on or before the first day of June each year. No member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current club year."

*Per the LSBTC Constitution:*

A membership shall be considered lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first of June of each year.

**Remit dues to:**

**LSBTC Treasurer  
Shirley Stowe  
1517 Cimarron Ridge  
El Paso TX 79912**

# MILES TD IS NOW MILES TD TDU

*by Sarah Helber*



*Photo by Ed Presnall*

Tracking is my favorite dog sport. It's also a good sport for puppies, so my youngster Miles, *aka* Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit, and I started early and have been working diligently. Miles earned his TD title at the 2014 National in Ohio, and we've been working hard to be ready for the TDX this year in Pennsylvania. Unfortunately we were drawn 2nd alternate and didn't get to run - such is the nature of entering tracking tests.

I felt we were ready for TDX, and we tried a couple of times. Unfortunately, we didn't pass. The heat was getting to Miles - TDX tracks are usually laid at daybreak or later, and have to age at least 3 hours before running. Miles puts a lot of enthusiasm (maybe too much enthusiasm) into his tracking. At his age at least, he's not one to slow down in the heat.

Dogs take in air to scent, get oxygen, and also cool down. Panting definitely interferes with tracking. Also, while I felt Miles's tracking skills were good, he needed more focus for TDX. He apparently wasn't quite ready for new environments - especially those with mice and geese and water hazards!

I have been working Miles all along with VST in mind as well as TDX. So we went back to working in parks, on both vegetative and non-vegetative surfaces. Parks are great for working distractions.

## MILES TD TDU, Continued

When I received the premium list for the Basset Hound Club of America Regional Tracking Test I considered entering the TD, but feared that it would be just too hot on Easter Sunday. Out of the blue it occurred to me that I could enter the TDU (Tracking Dog Urban) test.

The TDU is an "optional titling tracking test" that was introduced in 2014. It is similar to the TD in length and track age, but has an intermediate article, requires that the track be 10% - 30% non-vegetative (but doesn't allow a turn on a non-vegetative surface), and allows the handler to be 10' behind the dog rather than 20' (I wouldn't go through a parking lot 20' behind my dog!).

I felt that we had the skills required, that the intermediate article would be motivational, and that the track would be run earlier in the day (since it didn't have to age as long) and thus it would be cooler.

I really didn't expect to get into the test, since Miles's prior TD put him in the second tier for the draw, but we did. As it turned out, Easter Sunday was cool and rainy! I still wanted the earlier track, but getting to south Fort Worth for the draw at daybreak in the pouring rain was not much fun. We drew the third TDU track. The first two TDUs ran in the rain, but it had pretty much let up by the time we ran.

Miles started well and did well until we reached the first non-vegetative surface - crossing a road on the diagonal near an intersection. Miles dithered a little, then dashed over to the stop sign and ate most of a chicken bone someone had left behind. I managed to get part of it out of his mouth. I knew I couldn't throw it away, because he would go after it, so I put it in my pack.

We went back to work and he made it across the street, found the track, then charged hard downhill (that was a little scary) to a sock in the middle of a grassy area. That was great - he was motivated and so was I after our experience at the road.

He continued on, made a turn to go behind a building, crossed over a sidewalk and went over to check out the edge of a buried utility closet next to the building. I was worried that he was hunting (although his tail wasn't going fast and furiously). Maybe something about the rat traps on either side of the utility closet.

It seemed like an eternity - we worked around, but he came back to the utility closet several times. Once I pulled out the start article to resent him, but the chicken bone remains came with it - so we had that discussion again. Finally he went on, crossed another sidewalk, found his track and made another turn to the very soggy glove.

He and I were both excited to see that glove, and Miles was now Waldenmark Nose for Fashion Qui Rit TD TDU.