



### **From TCVESSA's President** by Julie Roberts

I had the privilege this week of watching Splash, Smudge, and Charlotte work in the field as they are getting ready for the hunt test at the National.

It never ceases to amaze me at the versatility of our breed, and the wonderful qualities that each of our four footed friends possess. As many of us are preparing our dogs for the National in one way or another I look forward to watching friends and their companions show off these traits that hold me so captive! However, I don't know about you, but between working a full time job and getting three dogs ready to bring to the National, not to mention getting myself into physical shape, I've decided I've taken on another full time job! It's a good thing my husband is patient with me, and knows the drill.

As fall approaches we will be nominating a committee to select the new board for 2010. A November membership meeting, fun match is also in the works, and finally we are planning our annual awards banquet for early spring 2010.

Work hard with the final minutes you have before the National, I'll see many of you there.

Julie

### **Upcoming Events: Save the Dates Now!**

Mark your calendars now for two TCVESSA events.

The first is the club's annual general meeting, fun match and potluck. It will be held *Sunday, November 22, 2009*, at C & E Dog Training Center in New Hope. The fun match will involve both obedience and conformation. Additional details will be announced in the next newsletter.

Also, the date for TCVESSA's annual awards banquet has been set for *Saturday, March 13, 2010*, at The Sunshine Factory, also located in New Hope. If anyone is interested in helping to plan the awards banquet, please contact Carmen Laing at [Carmen913@msn.com](mailto:Carmen913@msn.com)

Don't miss either one of these events!

## Board Meeting Minutes—April 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

### Officers present

Julie Roberts, President, Francie Nelson, Vice President, B.A. Breese, Treasurer, Kathy Raidt, Secretary

### Directors present

Carmen Laing, Kris Radermacher, Jean Dockendorf

### Secretary's Report

Kathy read the notes from the March meeting. A motion to accept these was made and seconded.

### Treasurer's Report

B.A. reported a balance of \$28,277.21. A motion to accept this report was made and seconded.

### Membership Committee

Kathy gave the second reading for Megan Nelson and Cathy Mueller. There was a motion to accept them and it was seconded. Mary Dahl will be asked to send them a letter stating that they have been accepted as members.

### Specialty

The entire space is available at the Elk River K9 training center. There will be an extra \$600 for the weekend for the space, which will be used for grooming.

There was a question whether we could break the 12 – 18 month into two classes, 12 – 15 month and 15 – 18 month. The premium list was already mailed and the AKC does not allow changes in classes offered

Catering was confirmed. We will provide our own wine for Saturday evening.

The start time was discussed.

### Other Business

The By-Laws were approved by the AKC.

Julie will contact Patty Salzwedel about organizing an Agility Match and Trial.

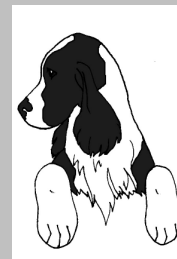
Francie brought to our attention an anti-docking bill on the legislative docket in the state of New York.

Our next meeting will be June 25<sup>th</sup> at Byerly's in Maple Grove. B.A. will check on the community room. Note: since this meeting, the meeting date has been changed to July 15, 2009 at Byerly's in Maple Grove at 6:30 PM.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kathy Raidt



### TCVESSA Board

President  
Julie Roberts  
eldamar@comcast.net

Vice President  
Francie Nelson  
fanfare@iphouse.com

Secretary  
Kathy Raidt  
braidt@minn.net

Treasurer  
B.A. Breese  
cbiserv@lkdllink.net

### TCVESSA Directors

Jean Dockendorf  
jeans77@charter.net

Carmen Laing  
Carmen913@msn.com

Cyndi Myhre  
shamrockess@msn.com

Kristin Radermacher  
swederospringers@gmail.com

Kandy Bierle  
kbierle@bethel.edu



## Board Meeting Minutes—July 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:53 PM.

**Officers present:** Julie Roberts, President, B.A. Breese, Treasurer, Kathy Raidt, Secretary

**Directors present:** Carmen Laing, Kris Radermacher, Cyndi Myhre

**Directors absent:** Francie Nelson, Jean Dockendorf, Kandice Bierle

**Secretary's Report:** Kathy read the notes from the April meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded, and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** B.A. reported a balance of \$22,518.34. The Specialty finances showed a negative \$2,065.05 of expense over income. A motion to accept this report was made and seconded.

**Membership:** No new membership applications.

**Specialty:** There were good comments made again about our Specialty. The electrical problems would need correcting next year. Covering the windows may make it easier next year for Obedience. Kris will call Maureen to reserve May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> in 2010. The caterer was good and we can consider her for next year. Kris will contact her.

Patty Salzwedel volunteered to be Obedience Chair. Next year, Kris will chair the Awards and Trophy committee. Kris will be contacting people to help.

### Other business:

Julie will ask Francie to create a template for job descriptions.

Julie and Patti Salzwedel are looking for a good date to hold the agility match and trial.

Education: \$3,285 was realized from the seminar last April.

Banquet: Carmen will be Chair for this committee again. The Sunshine Factory and Rockwood will be considered. The 2<sup>nd</sup> week-end in March, on the 13<sup>th</sup>, will be considered.

A fun match with a general membership meeting will be held November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Carmen will call C & E. Cyndi and BA will co-chair.

Nominating Committee: Needs to be appointed by September.

Basket for National: Carmen will put it together and Cyndi will take it to National.

BA will send a check for \$100.00 to underwrite costs of the hospitality breakfasts at the National specialty.

**The next meeting will be Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup> at Byerly's in Maple Grove.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM. Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Raidt  
TCVESSA Secretary

## Canine Atopic Dermatitis (Allergies) by Heidi Buytaert, D.V.M.

Atopic Dermatitis is an inherited predisposition to develop allergic symptoms following repeated exposure to otherwise harmless substances, such as dust mites or pollen. Most dogs do not develop the respiratory symptoms that humans do and will usually show skin signs, including the ears. Most dogs will start to show symptoms between 1 and 3 years of age. It is never correct to diagnose a dog with allergies until they are over a year old and has seen each season twice.

The following breeds are more commonly atopic: terriers, Irish setters, Lhasa Apsos, Dalmatians, Bulldogs and Old English sheep dogs.

Atopic animals will usually rub, lick, chew, bite or scratch at their feet, muzzle, ears, armpits or groin. This can cause hair loss and reddening and thickening of the skin. In some cases it is a combination of allergens that add together to cause the itching. These include air-borne allergens, contact allergens, allergens in food and allergens from parasites (fleas, etc.). The allergies can also be a contributing factor to cause secondary bacterial or yeast infections that will cause the itchy factor to increase exponentially.

Diagnosis of atopic dermatitis is based upon the results of intradermal testing and/or invitro (blood) testing. Neither test is effective at diagnosing food allergies and food trials must be completed to confirm these allergy culprits. Many medications interfere with our ability to properly skin test your pet and sometimes a withdrawal period will be necessary before testing.

Treatment can consist of one or several of the following:

- **Antibiotics/Antifungals:** Most dogs will have a secondary skin infection if the allergies have been bothering them for any length of time. Your veterinarian will want to take samples to figure out which prescriptions to use. The infections can take 4-6 weeks to clear and can also affect the ears. These secondary infections must be cleared up before management of the allergies can be successful.
- **Antihistamines:** Work in about 20% of atopic patients. These medications are safe and can be given for life. The only side effect can be mild sedation. Topical antihistamines can also be used in eyes .
- **Avoidance of allergens:** Can be helpful for dust mites. Pollen exposure can be reduced by using air-conditioning and air filters, avoiding outside early morning and late afternoon, wiping down with moist cloths after going outside and frequent bathing.
- **Oral Steroids:** Usually work wonderfully and are cost effective but can come with serious side effects. Steroids should only be used in adult animals or those with very short seasonal problems.
- **Topical Steroids:** Safer than oral usage and can be used locally as in ears or eyes.
- **Cyclosporine:** Immunosuppressive drug that works in about 60% of the patients and dosage can usually be lowered to effect. This drug can cause gastrointestinal upset.
- **Tacrolimus:** Related to Cyclosporine but helpful in localized atopy.





**(Canine Atopic Dermatitis, continued)**

- Fatty acid supplements: Can reduce allergic symptoms in some patients. Can help improve response to antihistamine therapy.
- Allergen Specific-Immunotherapy: Allergy shots can be made specifically for your pet after allergy testing is done on the skin or from the blood. Usually given for the lifetime of the animal. About 75% of animals will improve but results can take 3 to 6 months to be seen.
- Bathing: Using specially designed hypoallergenic shampoos can be helpful. Rinsing thoroughly is very important and following with a hypoallergenic cream rise or spray to remoisturize will help. Studies have also shown that a “luke-cold” bath may give some relief.
- Hypoallergenic foods: Specially made foods are available by prescription where the protein available does not cause allergenic stimulation. Sometimes a “novel” protein diet can also help. This will usually consist of a protein that your animal has not seen, like salmon, duck, venison or even kangaroo.

If your dog has symptoms of allergies an appointment should be made with your veterinarian to discuss treatment options. Often you will need to see your veterinarian often when diganosising and beginning treatment for atopic dermatitis, but once successful management is obtained vet visits are minimal and your dog will be much more comfortable.

Sincerely,  
 Heidi Buytaert, DVM, Heartland Animal Hospital

***Editor’s Note:** TCVESSA member Heidi Buytaert is a veterinarian in Owatonna, MN, where she lives with her husband Dale, children Holly and Ben, and her dogs Kirby, Payton, Ivy, and Boris. She has a special interest in canine reproduction and dentistry.*

## Member Wins and Brags



### Fox Hollow Springridge Redroc CDX "Lane"

Proudly trained, handled, and loved by Brian Schaffer  
6/27/09—Sioux Valley KC  
Open A, 2nd place score 185  
**\*\*\*CDX Title Earned!\*\*\***



### Madam Bailey Angel CD RE NJP "Bailey"

Owned by Megan Nelson  
DKC 7/10/09:  
Earned her 4th RAE QQ  
7/11/09:  
Nov Preferred STD, JWW, & FAST—Qualified  
**\*\*\*NJP Title Earned!\*\*\***

### UCD Sir Buzz Domino RL2 NAC NCC S-NJC O-TN-N TG-N WV-N RN "Buzz"

Owned by Megan Nelson  
7/12/09—UKC Rally Level 1B, Q/90 (URO1 Q#1)  
8/1/09—APDT Rally Level 3A, Q/183/2nd (RL3 Q#1)  
8/2/09—APDT Rally Level 1B Q/207/1st, 2B Q/203/2nd (ARCH QQ #1)



### Embur's Just Fine n Dandy "Dandy"

Owned & shown by Carol Hitz  
7/10/09—Twin Ports Dog Training Club  
Duluth, MN  
Rally Novice A - 3rd leg  
**\*\*\* RN Title Earned !\*\*\***



### PineBendNBriarton Chasin Dreams, RA CD "Gibbon"

Owned and handled by Kay Esler  
7/10/09—Twin Ports Dog Training Club  
Novice B Qualifying Score  
**\*\*\*CD Title Earned!\*\*\***  
7/11/09—Duluth KC  
Winners Dog

### CH Kadrian's Jackpot

Handled by Carl Walin  
Puget Sound ESS Specialty  
August 14, 2009  
Best in Veteran Sweepstakes

### Keepsake 'N' Sunlaine's Premium Blend "Boston"



Owned by Francie Nelson, Carl Blaine, & Bonnie Regan/Bred by Bonnie & Francie  
8/23/09—Great Barrington KC  
Springfield, MA  
Third major  
**\*\*\*Championship Finished!\*\*\***

### Dartek's Three of a Kind "Gavin"



Tracy Marsolek and Tekla Viker  
WD/BOS - Heart of America KC  
3 pt major (Sat)  
WD/BOS - Heart of America KC  
3 pt major (Sun)  
**\*\*\*Championship Finished!\*\*\***

### Dartek's Ilean Black Pearl of Chyna TD CGC "Chyna"



Barb DiGiovanni and Tekla Viker  
Leavenworth KC—August 20, 2009  
WB  
**\*\*\*Championship Finished!\*\*\***

### Dartek's Ilean Kode to the Treasure "Kodi"

Barb DiGiovanni and Tekla Viker  
WD/BOS—Leavenworth KC  
3 pt major

### Eldamar's Dartek Vision "Emma"

Tekla Viker and Julie Roberts  
Coulee Kennel Club:  
1st Leg Rally Novice B 1st place (Sat)  
2nd Leg Rally Novice B 2nd place (Sun)  
1st leg Obedience Novice B 4th place (Sun)

### DarTek's ILean Key to the Treasure "Keyle"

Owners: Tekla Viker & Barb DiGiovanni  
July 9, 2009—Duluth KC  
WB/OS/G2/BPY

### Cedarwoods Chocolate Diamond "Smudgy"

Breeder/owners Pat & Wayne Welch  
Handled by Sarah Salzwedel  
St Croix Valley KC—August 23, 2009  
Winners Bitch



Congratulations Everyone!



Congratulations Everyone!

**(Wins and Brags, Continued)**



**CH Mach4 Ramblewood Crystal Clear UDX  
MH XF WDX "Brooke"**

Owned by Tracy and Patty Salzwedel  
St. Croix Valley KC Agility Trial  
**\*\*\*MACH4 Title Earned!\*\*\***

**CH Topguns Vinewood Makin' A Splash Can  
CD, Am UD MX, MXJ, XF, SH, WDX  
"Splash"**

Owned and handled by Kathy Patregnani  
Coulee KC—August 1, 2009  
Open B, Score 199 High in Trial  
Splash's first UDX leg!

**Hirdler Hill's Sea Born Magic "Morgan"**

Owned by Maryevelyn Monty  
Duluth Kennel Club—July 12, 2009  
Winners B\*tch, Best of Opposite Sex



**Woodridge's Nevgard Lead Off Man CDX SH  
NA AXJ WD "Wrigley"**

Owned by Tim and Julie Damgaard  
6/19/09 Cambridge KC WD and BOW 1pt  
6/20/09 Cambridge KC WD 1 pt  
6/27/09 North Star Herding Group;  
Excellent Jumpers 4th place 2nd leg  
8/2/09 St. Paul Dog Training Club;  
Excellent Jumpers 2nd place 3rd leg  
**\*\*\*AXJ Title Earned!\*\*\***



**CH Tagalong N Shamrock Irish RN, CGC,  
TDI "Sully"**

Owned by Cyndi Myhre, Sarah Kraft, and  
Melissa Thorson

Fort Dodge, IA—6/13/09  
BOB, Group 4  
Paula Nykiel

Marshfield, WI—8/14/09  
BOB, Group 1, BEST IN SHOW  
Eukanuba Qualifier  
Charles Bett, Joseph Gregory, Charles Bett

Marshfield, WI—8/15/09  
BOB  
Joseph Gregory

**("Sully," continued)**

BOB, Group 1  
Marshfield, WI 8/16/09  
Ann Yuhasz, Charles Bett

CGC,TDI—8/11/09

**\*\*\*CGC Title Earned!\*\*\*  
\*\*\*TDI Title Earned!\*\*\***

**BISS Int'l BIS A/Int'l CH Aspen's Ashwyn  
Explorer CGC "Apollo"**

Owned by Maryevelyn Monty &  
Carol J. Hathaway

8/09/09 BOB, Group 3 Freeborn County KC

8/02/09 BOB, Group 2 Coulee KC

8/01/09 BOB, Group 4 Coulee KC

6/21/09 BOB, Cambridge KC

Be sure to email your  
Springer news and  
accomplishments to  
Kandy Bierle at  
kbierle@bethel.edu  
for recognition in the  
newsletter.

The next deadline?  
October 23, 2009



## Rainbow Bridge

by Kandy Bierle

I've always thought I was pretty good about accepting change. After all, being able to adjust to life's ups and downs is an essential skill these days. I have also understood—intellectually, anyway—that all living creatures are temporary. But in spite of this brave acceptance, I have always dreaded losing my dogs. And on a beautiful summer morning, I lost one of my very best friends: Russ. He was 15-1/2 years old, and he had enjoyed a long, active, fun, and healthy life. Still, these and other wonderful benefits suddenly felt shallow and insignificant when I said “good-bye for now” to Russ that day.

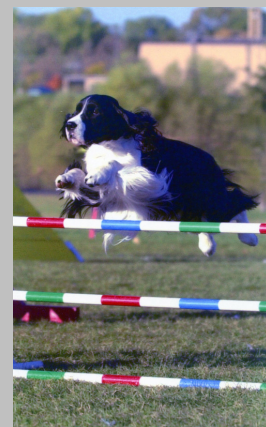
But I won't allow myself to wallow in those feelings of loss, even though they will remain with me for a long time and will bring more than an occasional tear. Telling you about him will make me feel better about having to dedicate this Rainbow Bridge to my long-time buddy.

He was a handsome conformation dog, but in spite of Tekla Viker's excellent grooming and handling skills, the breed ring was not Russ's passion, nor was it mine. One evening, he looked morosely at me from the dog tub. He was covered in shampoo suds as we prepared for a weekend of shows. Make no mistake, he was a very willing fellow, and he really only wanted to be with me regardless of our mission. But I could see that breed was not his interest. I decided we would try our hand at agility. We could train together, travel together, and if nothing else we would have a really good time laughing together. And while I wanted him to look his best, he wouldn't have to be perfectly groomed. Well, we had a wonderful time during the brief two years that we competed in agility. He was six years old when we started, but he learned quickly and he just loved the sport. In spite of my shortcomings as a handler, he won many ribbons and achieved USDAA and AKC titles painlessly. Although a job change removed us from the agility ring prematurely, we considered our experiment a success. We met many lifelong friends and we had a wonderful time.

Russ was level-headed. Like his sister, Keah (Tekla's girl), Russ was never rattled about anything. He was a what-now, let's-go, game-for-anything guy. He was never irritable or possessive, save for a strange-looking plush monkey I bought him for Christmas some years ago; I finally had to hide that toy. Russ was also the most determined dog I have ever met. When he fixed his mind on something, there was absolutely no denying him. If I had half his persistence, I would have achieved much more in life by now.

More than anything, Russ was my loyal friend. My husband, Mark, and I had gotten Russ as a puppy from Julie Roberts, and he was always at our side. Russ was a gentleman, and it was difficult to see him age, even though he did so gracefully and without complaint. He was never short-tempered, even though I knew he was stiff and sore, and that his poor sight and hearing had to be frustrating for him. I have learned many things from Russ during his long life, but I haven't yet learned how to let go of him.

Although he may be gone, I'm holding onto Russ. He's a real keeper.



“Russell”

Eldamar's Reveille Ruckus  
NA NAJ OA OAJ AX AD  
March 4, 1994 - July 28, 2009





## Photos Needed from the National

For those of you attending the national this year, consider bringing your camera along and taking pictures of the happenings during the week. This can include shots of bathing and grooming the conformation dogs, pictures of any of the various competitions or events, or simply pictures of Springer people and their dogs having fun.

If enough photos are received, I will feature them in the September/October edition

## Upcoming Events

**Annual General Meeting, Fun Match, & Potluck:** Sunday, November 22 at C & E Dog Training Center, New Hope. More details coming soon!

**TCVESSA Awards Banquet:** March 13, 2010 The Sunshine Factory, New Hope

**Springer Candid:** The September/October photo page again will be dedicated to favorite pictures of your Springers. An emphasis on autumn shots would be great, but all are appreciated. Thanks to all who have been so wonderful to send photos to me. They are priceless! Please email to Kandy by October 23 (kbierle@bethel.edu).

Best of luck  
to you and your  
Springers at the  
National!



55127

Vadnais Heights, MN  
3611 Oak Creek Terrace

Kandy Bierle

