

From TCVESSA's President by Francie Nelson

Our May specialties are successfully behind us!

Regardless of the threatening (and, frankly, lousy) weather, we presented two absolutely beautiful shows at On the Run in Ham Lake. I hardly know where to begin to express the "thanks of a grateful club." Of considerable significance were the new faces providing volunteer assistance. We made a special effort this year to recruit new members to help us with all sorts of tasks, and they really came through.

The trophies were unique and appreciated (in fact, we actually sold some left-overs!), the esprit and fellowship was outstanding, and the dogs showed off their beauty and smarts in conformation, rally, and obedience. We welcomed our out-of-state exhibitors with the hospitable friendship and cordiality for which we've become known. Our judges were a pleasure to host.

Jon Pidde and "Benson" completed their OTCH – and we all had cake to celebrate! Yay!!

Each member of your board played an important part in the success of our specialties. Thank you all – with a special salute to Liz Pike, who has become really, really good at deftly and kindly coordinating the myriad of details required to present back-to-back specialties.

If you, as a member, have any suggestions about how to make our specialties even better next year, don't hesitate to contact Liz, me, or any member of the board – and, if you'd like to become more involved in these wonderful events, your assistance would be most welcomed.

The spring and summer shows and performance events are in full swing. I'll be off to the Eastern specialty in late June and then to National Gundog in England in August. Enjoy your springers in all their enthusiastic activities. Just last week, "Felon" flushed an earthworm and sent it flying. I don't know how he did that; I think it's better that I not know. Our breed is a constant source of entertainment!!

Francie Nelson
President, TCVESSA
fanfarespringers@comcast.net

PS If you have suggestions for special programs that might inspire and help you learn more about Springers, let me know!!

Board Meeting Minutes—April 17, 2011

Officers present: Francie Nelson, President; Julie Roberts, Vice President; B.A. Breese, Treasurer; Kathy Raidt, Secretary

Directors present: Liz Pike, Carmen Laing, Maryevelyn Monty, Jon Pidde (via telephone)

Director absent: Jean Dockendorf

The meeting was called to order at the home of Liz Pike by Francie Nelson, President, at 2:23 PM. Francie thanked Liz for her hospitality in hosting the meeting.

Secretary's report: The notes, from the March 23, 2011 meeting, were read. A motion to accept them was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's report: BA presented an estimated fund balance; her report was later submitted to the board by e-mail and is attached to these minutes as part of the official club record.

Old Business:

Specialty

Liz Pike confirmed the photography area, hospitality, gift cards, the social hour, catering, and the raffle. The board agreed to reduce the amount on the pre-paid Visa card (raffle item) to \$250.00 and passed a unanimous motion to approve that decision.

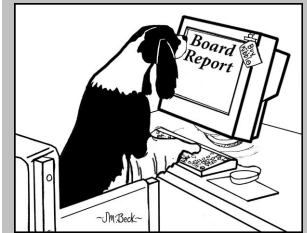
New Business:

Specialty

Liz Pike conducted discussions on the facility, catering, electrical requirements, stewards, the raffles, trophies, judges, signage, volunteers, communication, stewards' tables, and other tables required. Various work assignments were confirmed and new tasks were identified and assigned.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Kathy Raidt
TCVESSA Secretary



TCVESSA Board

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Maryevelyn Monty
mmonty@att.net



Saturday (May 21)

Sweeps: Jacquie Dean

Best in Puppy Sweeps

Ocoee Go Wild
(King, Lorentzen)

Best of Opposite Sex

Ocoee Figure It Out
(Lorentzen, King)

Best in Veteran Sweeps

CH Foxboro Paid in Full
(Still, Jespersen, Thorson)

Best of Opposite Sex

CH Eldamar's Evening Star
(Roberts, Kraft)

Regular Classes : Carol Callahan

Winner's Dog

Springbrook Dream's Insane Asylum
(Kucaba, Hoskins)

Reserve Winner's Dog

Hannan's Kensington Livestrong
(Carrico, Hannega)

Winner's Bitch/BOW

Cedarwood's Angel Eyes
(Welch)

Reserve Winner's Bitch

Ocoee Go Wild
(King, Lorentzen)

Sunday (May 22)

Sweeps: Sue Hahnen

Best in Puppy Sweeps

Foxboro Rendition Top Call
(Still, Murray, Dehmel)

Best of Opposite Sex

Ocoee Go Wild
(King, Lorentzen)

Best in Veteran Sweeps

CH Eldamar's Evening Star
(Roberts, Kraft)

Best of Opposite Sex

GCH Crown Royal's Tea Caddy
(Osburn, Jesseman)

Regular Classes: Eva Berg

Winner's Dog

Springbrook Dream's Insane Asylum
(Kucaba, Hoskins)

Reserve Winner's Dog

Foxboro Rendition Top Call
(Still, Murray, Dehmel)

Winner's Bitch

Ocoee Go Wild
(King, Lorentzen)

Reserve Winner's Bitch

Cedarwood's Made for Me
(Welch)

Saturday (May 21)

(Judge: Carol Callahan)

Best in Veteran Sweeps

CH Foxboro Paid in Full
(Still, Jespersen, Thorson)

BOS Veteran Sweeps

CH Eldamar's Evening Star
(Roberts, Kraft)

Best of Breed

CH Ocoee DSQD with a Vengeance
(King, Lorentzen, Breese, Harry)

BOS

Eldamar's Sprucehaven Embrace
the Spirit (Frisch, Roberts)

AOM

CH Ocoee Go Figure
(King, Lorentzen)

GCH Wil-Orion's Twenty Twenty
(Green, Jesseman, Johnson)

GCH Crown Royal's Tea Caddy
(Osburn, Green, Jesseman)

Best Junior Handler

Alyssa Weber

Select Dog

CH Sprucehaven Under Time
(Breese, Frisch)

Select Bitch

CH Polesitter's Work the Runway
(Bockhorn, Custer)

Best Puppy

Polesitter's Victory Lane
(Bockhorn, Custer)

Sunday (May 22)

(Judge: Eva Berg)

Best in Veteran Sweeps

CH Eldamar's Evening Star
(Roberts, Kraft)

BOS Veteran Sweeps

GCH Crown Royal's Tea Caddy
(Osburn, Green, Jesseman)

Best of Breed

GCH Wil-Orion's Twenty Twenty
(Green, Jesseman, Johnson)

BOS

CH Eldamar's Evening Star
(Roberts, Kraft)

AOM

GCH Springbrook's Spellbound
(Hoskins)

GCH Tagalong's Boy Oh Boy
(Kraft)

CH Sprucehaven Under Time
(Breese, Frisch)

Best Junior Handler

Alyssa Weber

Select Dog

CH Ocoee DSQD w/ a Vengeance
(King, Lorentzen, Breese, Harry)

Select Bitch

GCH Crossroad Cr. Royal Miracle
(Green, Osburn, Kettleon, etc.)

Best Puppy

Polesitter's Victory Lane
(Bockhorn, Custer)





Best Bred-by-Exhibitor
Ocoee Go Wild
 (King, Lorentzen)

Saturday (May 21)

Obedience: Richard Wood

Highest Score/Regular Classes
Benson McGee
 (Pidde)

High Combined
Benson McGee
 (Pidde)

Rally: Sharon Hodgens-Wood

Rally Novice B
Springbrook Dream's Insane Asylum
 (Kucaba, Hoskins)

Rally Advanced A
Fox Hollow Blue Skies
 (Slais)

Rally Adv B
CH MACH Topguns Vin E Wood
Makin' a Splash
 (Patregnani)

Rally Excellent A
Embur's Just Fine N Dandy
 (Hitz)

Rally Excellent B
Topguns Vin E Wood Hott
Summer Dayz
 (Patregnani)

Best Bred-by-Exhibitor
Ocoee Go Wild
 (King, Lorentzen)

Sunday (May 22)

Obedience: Sharon Hodgens-Wood

Highest Score/Regular Classes
Benson McGee
 (Pidde)

High Combined
CH MACH Topguns Vin E Wood
Makin' a Splash
 (Patregnani)

Rally: Richard Wood

Rally Novice B
CH MACH6 Ramblewood
Crystal Clear (Salzwedel)

Rally Advanced A
 (N/A)

Rally Adv B
CH MACH Topguns Vin E Wood
Makin' a Splash
 (Patregnani)

Rally Excellent A
Embur's Just Fine N Dandy
 (Hitz)

Rally Excellent B
CH Springbrook's in Your Dreams
 (Kucaba, Hoskins)

View all the results!

Go to
dogshowsbydesign.com

and select

"TCVSSA Results"

Part II: What Do Springers Look Like? What is “Type?”

by Francie Nelson

What is “type?” We bat that word around as if we really understood it. I’ve been in the breed since . . . well, let’s not go there. Let’s just say that I am still learning important lessons about what that word means.

Basically, “type” describes unique breed characteristics. There is only one correct breed “type.” There are variations in style, which is subjective and subject to change, but only one correct type, which is objective and unchanging. “Type” describes the correct amalgamation of unique breed traits into a unified whole. “Style” describes the differences between what *you* like, and what *I* like. As a wise person once said, “It’s a difference of opinion that makes horse races.” Dog breeding would be pretty boring if we all liked the same things – if there were only one correct “style” as well as only one correct “type.”

After much study and judging on both sides of the Atlantic, I believe that there are five characteristics of correct English Springer Spaniel type, and they are:

- General appearance and outline (this includes proportion and substance)
- Head and expression
- Movement
- Coat texture and color (not markings – color)
- Breed character (temperament/behavior)

This month we are considering *general appearance*.

Here’s what the standard says:

General Appearance

“The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and a docked tail . . . He is above all a well-proportioned dog, free from exaggeration, nicely balanced in every part . . . and is every inch a sporting dog of distinct spaniel character, combining beauty and utility.”

Summary

In evaluating the English Springer Spaniel, the overall picture is a primary consideration . . . It must be remembered that the English Springer Spaniel is first and foremost a sporting dog of the Spaniel family, and he must look, behave and move in character.”

According to our standard, the “big picture” is very important. And we have to understand the “big picture” in order to assess our dogs against the standard. All breed standards *assume* that the reader possesses a certain knowledge base. Our breed standard *assumes* that the reader knows what a generic, breed typical English Springer Spaniel looks like. What is “distinct spaniel character?” What does it mean to “. . . look, behave, and move in character?”

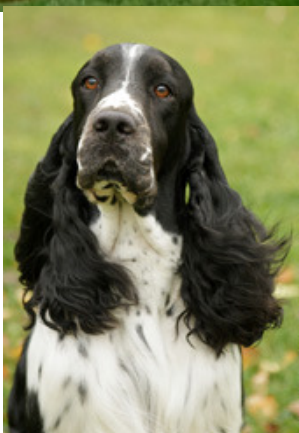
In other words, “What the heck is an English Springer Spaniel supposed to look like if it possesses correct type?”





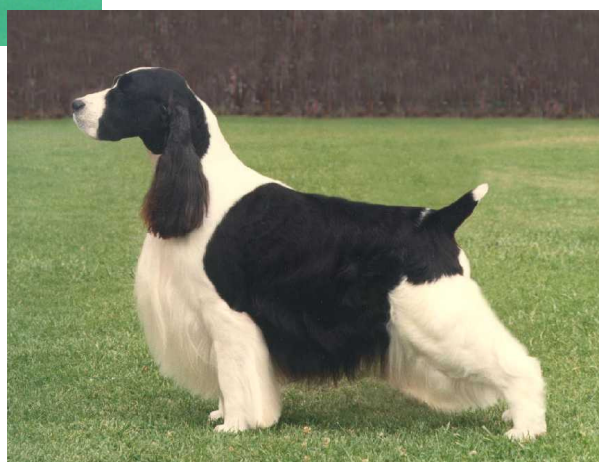
Correct breed type —general appearance— looks like this

And it looks like this



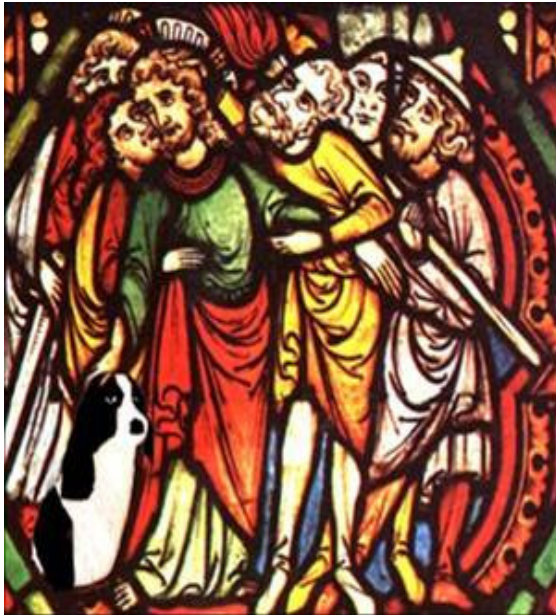
And like this

And like this



Across the US and around the world, the five characteristics of breed type are EXACTLY THE SAME. The only substantive differences between our standard and the English breed standard are these: (1) the English standard calls for dogs and bitches both to be an ideal height of 20 inches; and (2) the Kennel Club of Britain has enforced no tail docking, with working spaniels exempted. As of late 2006, the UK show springers must have natural tails. Don't get me started.

Next issue, I'll talk about **outline**, including proportion and measuring, and I'll also talk about something very interesting that has happened to the general appearance of US show dogs as a result of breeding decisions. There'll be no judgments, "good" or "bad," but there will be some interesting photographs to illustrate, and – hopefully – food for thought.



Springers—beloved of the saints



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Member Wins and Brags

A/C CH Delstyl's Aspen Full Reflection, "Hunter"

Owned by Liz Pike and Carol Hathaway
 Cambridge/Anoka Kennel Club
 Thursday, June 23 – BOB &
 Sporting Group 3
 Saturday, June 25 – BOB
 Sunday, June 26 – Select Dog

Aspen-Lace My Husband's Girlfriend, "Girlfriend"

Owned by Liz and Chris Pike
 Cambridge/Anoka Kennel Club
 Thursday, June 23 – Winners Bitch/ BOS
 Saturday, June 25 – RWB
 Sunday, June 26 - RWB

Pine Bend Show Off, CDX, RAE, GN, OJP, NA, NAP, TDI, CGC "Belle"

Owned & Shown by Kay Glaeser
 WESSA Specialty Show-May 8th, 2011
 Veteran's Obedience-1st Place-Score 191-1/2

Spellbound's First Edition CGC & TDI "Booker"

Owned/handled by Courtney Hansen
 June 24 winners dog-1point
 June 26 winners dog and Best of Opposite
 (3 point major)

April 30—Passed CGC & Therapy Tests:

Spellbound's First Edition 'Booker'

Spellbound's First to Fly 'Amelia'

Spellbound's First Thru The Looking Glass 'Alice'

Spellbound's First Bella Luna 'Bella'

(Owned by Madeleine Craig)

Cedarwood's Angel Eyes "Ava"

Breeders /owners Pat and Wayne Welch
 TCVESSA Specialty May 21 Winners Bitch /
 Best of Winners

Cedarwood's Made For Me "Taylor"

Breeders /owners Pat and Wayne Welch
 GLESSBA specialty February 26
 Reserve Winners bitch, and...

...TCVESSA Specialty May 22
 Reserve Winners Bitch

Cedarwood's Trump Card "Ace"

Breeders /owners Pat and Wayne Welch
 Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club June 11
 Winners dog- Best of Breed / Puppy Group 2

Eastwood Vinehill Nick of Time AX AXJ "Niki"

Owned by B.A. Breese
 5-22-2011 – TCVESSA Specialty
 RN Novice Rally Title Earned

5-28-2011 – BOTC Agility Trial

MXJ Master Jumpers with Weaves Title Earned

6-3-2011 – Fargo Kennel Club

American Championship Title Earned

6-19-2011 – CACM Agility Trial

NF Novice Fast Title Earned

BISS A/C Ch. Sprucehaven Under Time CD RA NA NAJ NAP NJP WD "Charlie"

Owned by B.A. Breese and Mary Frisch
 5-21-2011 – TCVESSA Specialty – Select Dog
 – 5 pt. major
 5-22-2011 – TCVESSA Specialty – Award of Merit

Congratulations to the Buytaerts!



Congratulations to Heidi and Dale Buytaert on the birth of their new baby, Brady Rod-dick Buytaert. Brady was born 8 pounds, 8 ounces on June 21 at 7:55. Congratulations also to Brady’s big sister, Holly, and big brother, Ben, along with the Buytaert Springer crew!

Keeping Up with Melissa Thorson

Melissa got her 10th first place win and another “Best Junior,” which qualified her for Westminster 2012. This was two days before her 18th birthday, and competing in the largest class in an all-breed event: 34 open seniors and 80 juniors in total (Evansville Kennel Club, Louisville, KY, March 19, 2011).

Best Junior Rankings (at the end of March, 2011) featured Melissa with 206 points, and she was 1st in English Springer Spaniels, 1st in the Sporting Group, and 5th in the nation in All-Breed.



Thanks for the news, Gretta—and congratulations, Melissa!

TCVESSA Education Event: Evaluating Springer Puppies

Plan now to attend TCVESSA’s educational session on puppy evaluation July 30 (Saturday) from 10:00am to 1:00pm at Pet Junction in Shoreview (at the NW corner of 694 and Rice). Reserve the date now, and stay tuned for more details.



Remember: TCVESSA has a Facebook Page!



To stay up to date on club members and activities, just go to the page to “Like” TCVESSA. Members can post photos of their dogs, and their wins (or recommendations on how to keep cool this summer!) on the TCVESSA wall. Check it out!

Congratulations on a Great 2011 Specialty!

The 2011 TCVESSA Specialty was a huge success with over 130 entries each day, a beautiful facility, and, most importantly, a lineup of gorgeous, talented Springers. (Okay, we did have just a wee bit of rain and sogginess, and the occasional tornado sirens, but it was still a GREAT time!) All of our judges commented on the depth of breed type - not just the winners, but throughout all the classes. We also had many Rally and Obedience qualifying legs and titles completed, including a new OTCH title for our own Jon Pidde! Complete results are posted on the Show Secretary's site www.dogshowsbydesign.com.

I also want to thank the many people who helped with all of the planning, preparation, set up, execution, and clean-up. Special thanks go out to Patty Salzwedel (Obedience/Rally Chair) and to Club President, Francie Nelson, for providing invaluable guidance. I also am grateful to all the officers and board members for their hard work and support throughout the year leading up to the Specialty. Much appreciation to Kathy Raidt (Judges Hospitality), Maryev Monty and Kathy Patregnani (Trophies), Jean Dockendorf (Ribbons) Ann Sunderman and Shirley Hartford, (ESRA Raffle) Carmen Laing and Aaron Dockendorf (Club Raffle), and our stewards, set up and clean-up crews: Francie Nelson, Eva and Kevin Phillipi, Ann Sunderman, Julie Roberts, Becky Hoskins, Sarah Kraft, Courtney Hansen, Shelia Koon, BA Breese, Joan Beck, Sue Owens, Jean Dockendorf, Maggi Stowe, Alice Musburger, Kandy Bierle, Barb DiGiovanni, Alexis Rossow, Sarah Woodling-Houle, Deb McCormack, Kay Glaeser, and my hero and ring set up champion, Jon Pidde!

If you have suggestions or feedback, please pass it along to me (liz.westring@genmills.com) or any of the current Board members. Congratulations again to all the winners and to the entire club for a spectacular show.

Liz Pike
2011 Show Chair

