



# VOX

## The Newsletter of the Twin Cities Voyageur English Springer Spaniel Assn.



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

Happy New Year!

The economy may be turbulent and we may be feeling the pinch, but our Springers are not affected and they are enjoying a Minnesota winter that's providing plenty of opportunities for celebration and frolic. Watching them gives me confidence that all will be right with the world.

It is a new year and we turn our thoughts to our upcoming activities. Our annual awards banquet in March is really our annual "cause for celebration." Francie Nelson and Patty Salzwedel, overseeing our annual awards submissions, report that members are sending in their wins and scores.

However, we know that VESSA members have earned more honors, so be sure to get your results to Francie by the deadline date of February 9.

The banquet committee has met and has a great plan for a relaxed and celebratory evening on Saturday, March 14 at The Sunshine Factory in New Hope. I'd particularly like to encourage our new members to come! Our theme this year is "Land of 10,000 Springers" and the committee has games, prize drawings, and a great program planned. If you're a new member and you'd like a club "buddy" to help break the ice, let me know and I'll find you some extra hospitality!

Beyond the banquet we are also looking forward to our specialty shows, seminars, Pet Expo participation, and the arrival of spring and getting back into the swing of competition.

Lots going on, and many ways to get involved. Volunteer opportunities are many, so if you'd like to become more active in our great club, drop me an e-mail or give me a call.

Happy New Year to you and your springers!

Julie Roberts

(With the assistance of the Vice President, Francie Nelson)

**Dog Show Semantics** submitted by Francie Nelson

Every sub-culture has its own unique language used within the activity, and the world of dogs—especially that of dog shows—is no exception! Do any of the following sound familiar?

**Pet Dogs Versus Show Dogs**

Pet dogs shed...	Show dogs blow coat.
Pet dogs are in heat...	Show dogs come into season.
Pet dogs trot...	Show dogs gait or move.
Pet dogs stand...	Show dogs stack.
Pet dogs get a bath...	Show dogs are groomed.
Pet dogs beg for treats...	Show dogs bait.
Pet dogs poop...	Show dogs exercise.
Pet dogs bark at other dogs...	Show dogs spar.
Pet dogs wear leashes...	Show dogs wear leads.

**Dog Show Definitions**

- Great stud dog ... Mounts anything that can fog a mirror.
- Excels in movement ... If he gets loose, runs like h\*\*l.
- Personality Plus ... Wakes up if you put liver up his nose.
- Good bite ... Missed the judge, got the steward.
- Large boned ... Looks like a Clydesdale.
- Good obedience prospect ... ugly as h\*\*l.
- Quiet and good natured ... In his kennel.
- Excels in type and style ... However, moves like a spider on speed.
- Won in stiff competition ... Beat four puppies and a 9 year old novice dog.
- Multiple group winner ... At two puppy matches.
- Pointed ... His head is shaped like a carrot.
- Noted Judge ... He put up our dog.
- Respected Judge ... He put up our dog twice.
- Esteemed Judge ... He puts up \*\*all our dogs\*\*.
- Specialty Judge ... Puts up anything that looks like his own breeding.



**TCVESSA Board**

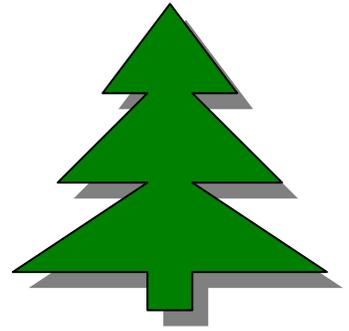
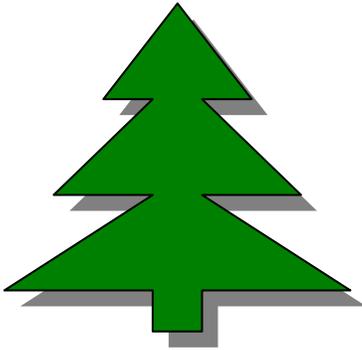
- President  
Julie Roberts  
eldamar@comcast.net
- Vice President  
Francie Nelson  
fanfare@iphouse.com
- Secretary  
Kathy Raidt  
braidt@minn.net
- Treasurer  
B.A. Breese  
cbiserv@lkdllink.net

**TCVESSA Directors**

- Jean Dockendorf  
jeans77@charter.net
- Carmen Laing  
Carmen913@msn.com
- Cyndi Myhre  
shamrockess@msn.com
- Kristin Radermacher  
swedaro@springers@gmail.com
- Kandy Bierle  
kbierle@bethel.edu



# "Land of 10,000 Springers"



## The TCVESSA Annual Awards Banquet

**Saturday, March 14, 2009**

The Sunshine Factory  
7600 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N  
New Hope, MN 55427

763-535-7000 \* [www.esunshinefactory.com](http://www.esunshinefactory.com)

**Social Hour: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Cash Bar**

**Dinner – 7:00 p.m.**

**Program, Meeting & Awards – 8:00 p.m.**

Reservations must be made by February 28, 2009

Dinner price is \$28.00 and includes a House salad, baked potato, vegetable, rolls and butter, coffee or tea and gratuity

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the TCVESSA Awards Banquet. All meals are priced at \$28.00

Please check your meal preference.

_____ Stuffed Boneless Pork Chop	\$ _____
_____ Roasted Garlic Rosemary Chicken	\$ _____
_____ Top Sirloin Steak with Sautéed Mushrooms	\$ _____
<b>Total Check Amount</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>



(please let us know if you desire a vegetarian meal)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail the bottom portion of this page and check payable to TCVESSA to:

Carmen Laing, 9261 Ives Lane N., Maple Grove, MN 55369 \* 763-425-4603 \* [carmen913@msn.com](mailto:carmen913@msn.com)

Reservations must be made by February 28, 2009

(This side is purposefully blank.)

## TCVESSA ANNUAL RECOGNITION FORM 2008

Each year TCVESSA recognizes club members' Springers who performed community service, completed degrees, titles or championships in the United States, Canada or elsewhere during the calendar year.

If your dog earned a degree or title in 2008, or participated in any community service activity please fill out the form below and return it no later than **February 1, 2009**.

Mail form to: Francie Nelson, 3146 Arthur Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418-2211  
Or e-mail to: fanfare@iphouse.com

Include degrees and titles earned in 2008. You will receive a certificate for each degree/title.

**Registered Name of Dog:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Call Name of Dog:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s) of Owner(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title Earned:** Please list title/degree, whether bench, obedience, rally obedience, agility, working, hunting or tracking. Indicate if they are U.S. or Canadian title, etc. Please provide a separate sheet for each Springer earning a title. \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Date Title Was Completed (month 2008):** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Additional Information for Special Banquet Recognition:**

Did your Springer(s) win a Best of Breed, Best of Opposite, or High in Trial award during the calendar year? If so, please provide the following formation about it:

Name of Show \_\_\_\_\_ Location/Date \_\_\_\_\_

Award(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Score (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

***Remember: It is your responsibility to provide this information to receive awards.  
Deadline is FEBRUARY 1, 2009.***

### **Attention Junior Handlers!!**

We would like to do special awards for the accomplishments of our junior handlers and need for you to fill out this form and return it to Francie Nelson by February 1, 2009.

Registered Name of Dog \_\_\_\_\_ Call Name \_\_\_\_\_

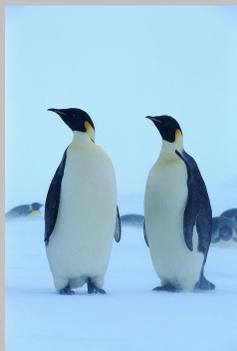
Name of Owner  
\_\_\_\_\_

Jr. Handler's Name  
\_\_\_\_\_

Titles, Placements and Special Awards:  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you have shown more than one dog, please list the others on another sheet of paper. Please return this form even if you didn't place this year. We recognize ALL Juniors!





## Beating the Winter Training Blues by Jean Dockendorf

The dark, cold nights of winter can make leaving home to go to training class uninviting. Slippery roads, icy sidewalks and knee-deep snowbanks can make training outside treacherous or virtually impossible. So how can you keep your canines active and alert when you can't get to class as often as you'd like? Try these ideas to beat the winter training blues:

### Teach a New Trick

Springers love to learn, and tricks are a great way to break up the monotony of winter training. Bow, beg, play dead, roll over, kiss, shake hands, speak, twirl, weave through your legs, and back up are all tricks that Springers enjoy. Pick a new one and teach it to your dog. If you need new ideas or techniques, a quick Google search will give you both ideas and even instructional videos! A new learning experience is apt to inspire both you and your dog and help you both break free from the winter doldrums. If you haven't tried clicker training, teaching your dog a few tricks is a great way to start. Use the treat to coax the dog to perform correctly, click when you get the correct behavior, and offer a treat. Teaching anything new stimulates and reactivates frozen doggy-brains!

### Two-Foot Training

Although training in a spacious ring is ideal, sometimes regular access to large, warm spaces just isn't available in the winter. For something different, try to see just how many exercises you can perform in the two-feet of space available in most kitchens. You don't even have to go outside! Most Rally exercises can be performed in limited space, and lists of them are available from the AKC or off the internet. The best part about practicing in the kitchen is that you can often do a few of these exercises while waiting for dinner to cook! Take just 10 minutes a day and try performing some of the following, or make up your own routines:

- ❖ Figure 8 weave around your legs
- ❖ Pivots to heel (both left and right),
- ❖ Puppy calisthenics (sit-down-sit-down or sit-down-stand) from both heel and front positions
- ❖ Hand signals for sit, down, come, finish
- ❖ Fast sits or downs, sidestep to heel, finishes both left & right

### A Treat Jar in Every Room

Winter is an ideal time to practice good manners too, and a treat jar in every room allows you to reward correct behavior quickly in all circumstances. In addition to the more typical exercises, practice asking for and rewarding the following good behaviors:

- ❖ Kennel Up
- ❖ Quiet or No Barking
- ❖ Off (the bed, couch, counter, etc)

**(Beating the Winter Training Blues, cont'd.)**

- ❖ Leave It (treat on the ground) & Take It (when you command)
- ❖ Clean up your toys (use fetch and drop commands to get them to put all their toys in a basket)

So, if snow and cold are giving you the winter training blues, try teaching new exercises in new ways to invigorate your training program.

**Two Tricks to try:**

**The Bow**



To teach the bow, use a treat in your right hand to coax the dog almost into a down position. To keep the butt in the air, simply place your left foot under the dogs haunches. When first starting out, click and reward even the smallest bow.

**The Figure 8 Weave Around Your Legs**



Start with the dog sitting in front of you with your legs spread. With the treat in your right hand, reach through your legs from behind and get the dog to follow your hand through your legs and around your right leg to the front. Reach through your legs with your left hand and transfer the treat from your right hand to your left. Lead the dog around your left leg and back to the front. When first teaching this trick, click and treat after the dog goes around just one leg.

These ideas may be just “the trick” to keep your dogs alert and happy as we make our way through these cold and dark winter months.

Good luck!



## Maintaining a White Coat by Sarah Kraft

### Prevention is the Best Medicine

As with most things, preventing staining of your Springer's white featherings/markings is the best way to keep them show-ring white. That said, these *are* sporting dogs and the lucky ones lead a "real dog" life. With my own Springers, this includes unsanctioned Earth Dog trials in the back yard; chasing (and sometimes catching) wildlife; peeing on as often as possible, on as many objects as possible; and seeking out the muddiest corner of the yard after a good rain. I know many of you participate with your dogs in hunting events, agility trials, long hikes and lots of other great activities that are fun, necessary and dirt inducing. "White" can be a pretty daunting task! But not to worry – it is possible.

### Bathing Basics

First, for any dog being shown regularly, or being maintained in show coat, a regular bath is a necessity; once a week seems to be a minimum rule under most circumstances. It is important to use good quality products that are formulated specifically for dogs – some of my favorite shampoos for maintenance are: #1 All Systems Whitening Shampoo (used all over), Pure Pet Pure Care Shampoo, and Vellus Shampoo (expensive, but very nice). Human hair products are formulated at a different Ph – and I don't recommend them.

A Springer's bath should always include a good conditioner as well – especially when they are being bathed frequently. Some of my favorite conditioners are: #1 All Systems Botanical Conditioner, Vellus Conditioner, and Chris Christiansen Day To Day Conditioner.

For maintenance bathing, at the first sign of yellowing or areas prone to dirt, it is a good idea to nip it in the bud with a whitening "treatment" shampoo such as White on White, or EZ Groom Crystal White Enzyme Shampoo (must be heated for best results). Work the treatment product into the discolored area's only to help brighten and whiten. Allow the product to remain on the coat for 5 to 10 minutes – depending on how discolored the coat is. I like to apply this type of product after shampooing the whole dog – to ensure any loose dirt or excess oil is removed prior to treatment.

### Keep the Coat Conditioned

Any areas prone to staining should be kept in a leave-in conditioner to aid in prevention. Coat oils, while popular, are not in and of themselves the best answer. They are usually very effective in creating a "barrier", but oils are not moisturizing to the coat. I prefer to use a coat oil over the top of a leave-in conditioner to help seal in the moisturizers from the conditioner. Some products I like are: Vellus Satin Cream (great for putting pants in "binders"), Plush Puppy Sea Breeze Oil, OMG and Reviva Coat, Pro Grow, Isle of Dogs Isle Repair and Isle Strengthen. Whenever products are being left in the coat, they must be bathed out regularly. Often times coat preparations can



## (Maintaining a White Coat, continued)

attract dirt – so they need to be removed and reapplied. It is also a good idea to use a clarifying shampoo on a regular basis and definitely before shows to remove any build up. (See below for suggestions.)

### Stains Happen

Despite our best intentions, it is not always possible to wash our dogs at the first sign of dirt or staining. Various seasons bring with them a prepotency for mud, and there sometimes seems like there is no end in sight! Do your best to clean up major messes – half-baths (washing just the bottom half of the dog) can be a helpful shortcut.

If you are starting to see deeper stains appearing – this calls for more intensive stain treatment. Remember — the stains didn’t happen overnight, and they won’t disappear overnight either. I have found that using the following treatment is very effective at diminishing stains over time. Repetition is key!

First, cleanse the area or areas that are stained with a clarifying or deep cleansing shampoo – I like Plush Puppy Deep Cleansing, and Vellus Clarifying Shampoos.

Next, make a 1:1 dilution of Crystal White Shampoo and microwave it until it is quite warm. Apply this to the stained areas and let it sit on the coat for a minimum of 15 minutes. I’ve been known to leave this on for up to an hour – and even put the dog in a crate for a while to soak – for particularly deep stains.

Then, without rinsing the Crystal White out, apply White on White over the stains and work it in with your fingers or a rubber scrub brush. Allow this to remain on the stains for another 15-20 minutes, and then rinse well and condition the coat. This procedure will need to be repeated every few days until the coat is sufficiently whitened.

On show bath days, I use this mixture on all white areas of the coat to give it that extra sparkle.

There are some stains that just won’t come out no matter how much whitening shampoo you use. For these stains, it is important to keep the new hair growth clean and white, and allow the hair to grow out to a point where it can be trimmed off. I find that red staining falls in this category – and there is usually an underlying skin issue causing the stain in the first place.

Good luck with your whitening, and I look forward to seeing your sparkling white Springers!

***Editor’s Note:** Sarah Kraft is a third generation breeder/owner/handler under the kennel name “Tagalong Springers”. She has competed successfully in conformation for 17 years with Best in Specialty Show, All Breed Best-in-Show, and National Specialty point and AOM winning dogs.*

## Leptospirosis Infection by Heidi Buytaert, DVM

We have had two confirmed cases of Leptospirosis (Lepto) in November in Southern Minnesota and the effects can be devastating to the animal. Leptospire are a spiral shaped bacteria that can cause a serious infection in your dog. Once infected the bacteria can affect several organs and tissues in the body but will commonly localize in the kidneys which will impair renal function. Infection of the liver is also common and can cause death of liver tissue.

Transmission of the bacteria to our canines is primarily from contact with infected urine. There are several different types of wildlife that can carry the disease including raccoons and mice. Contamination of the water and soil from one of these animals can happen and your dog can be infected.

Signs of the infection can depend on your dog's general health and age as well as the specific strain contracted. These signs can include fever, muscle tenderness, vomiting, anorexia, dehydration, increased urination and drinking, pain, cough and trouble breathing. These are all signs that bloodwork should be evaluated and an animal infected with Lepto will commonly show an increase in kidney values. A Lepto titer will need to be sent to a laboratory to confirm the diagnosis. Treatment consists of antibiotics and supportive care including iv fluids. With treatment some dogs can return to normal kidney function but some never do depending on the damage that was caused.

Good news is that we do have a vaccine for several of the different strains of Lepto. The vaccine is very effective and when started should be given in a series of two shots that are four weeks apart and then boosted annually. The vaccine does a good job of protection; however, there are some strains that are not included in the vaccine so the disease can still be contracted. Postvaccinal reactions can be common with this vaccine and may be discouraged if your animal has a history of vaccine reactions.

Bad news is that humans can also contract the disease and contaminated urine can be highly infectious. If it is suspected that your animal could have Lepto good hygiene is important. Never touch infected urine and wash your hands well when dealing with your animal.

Heidi Buytaert, DVM  
[buytaerts@hotmail.com](mailto:buytaerts@hotmail.com)

**Editor's Note:** *TCVESSA member Heidi Buytaert is a veterinarian in Owatonna, MN, where she lives with her husband Dale, children Holly (4) and Ben (2), and her dogs Kirby, Payton, Ivy, and Boris. She has a special interest in canine reproduction and dentistry. Heidi invites you to email her with any questions.*





Congratulations Everyone!

## Member Wins and Brags

### Felstar Saber of White Gold "Ava"

Co- owned/owned Dr. Bev Sigl Felten & Karen M. Larson  
Lake Shore K.C. - November 22 & 23, 2008  
Winners Bitch/BOS (both days)

### Can./Int. Ch. Cymbeline's You Do The Math "Stats"

Owned by Barb Ciresi  
Land O'Lakes KC – January 3, 2009  
Winners Dog – Major

### Can./Int. Ch. Cymbeline's You Do The Math "Stats"

Owned by Barb Ciresi  
Land O'Lakes KC – January 4, 2009  
Winners Dog/Best of Winners – Major

### Int. Ch. Cymbeline's Final Tally "Tally"

Owned by Barb Ciresi  
Land O'Lakes KC – January 4, 2009  
Winners Bitch - Major

Stats is loved by my husband Jerry, and Stats enjoys sitting in his lap as he did at this Land O'Lakes show.



### CH Wil-Orion's Spellbound TD "Charm"

Owned by Courtney Hansen, Erica & Janice Johnson  
Land O'Lakes KC – January 3, 2009  
Winners Bitch/Best of Winners – 3-point Major  
**\*\*\*Championship Earned!\*\*\***

### Fox Hollow All I Wanna Do "Kenna"

Breeder/owner/handler Ann Sunderman  
American Belgian Malinois Agility Trial – St. Paul, MN  
January 11, 2009  
First leg AKC NAJ- clean run- first place!

### Woodridge's Nevagard Lead Off Man CD JH WD NA NAJ "Wrigley"

Owned by Julie and Tim Damgaard  
Granite City K.C. – December 6, 2008  
Winners Dog/Best of Winners - 3 point Major  
Granite City K.C. – December 7, 2008  
Winners Dog/Best of Winners - 2 points

### Swedaro's Anne Oakley (Anne)



Owned by Amanda Drew, Kristin Radermacher and Melissa Thorson  
International Dog Show - November 15, 2008  
Show 1: BOB Puppy, Group 2  
Show 2: BOB Puppy, Group 2

International Dog Show - November 16, 2008  
Show 3: BOB Puppy, Group 2

**\*\*\*Earned International Championship!\*\*\***

Show 4: BOB Puppy, Group 2

**\*\*\*Earned National Championship!\*\*\***

Anoka County Kennel Club B-match  
BOB, Group 3

### Swedaro's Good Hearted Woman (Waylon)



Owned by Kristin Radermacher

International Dog Show - November 15, 2008  
Show 1: V1 Rating

Show 2: V1 Rating

International Dog Show - November 16, 2008  
Show 3: V1 Rating

Show 4: V1 Rating

**\*\*\*Earned International Championship!\*\*\***

### Swedaro's On the Road Again (Willie)



Owned by Kristin Radermacher

International Dog Show - November 15, 2008  
Show 1: V1 Rating

Show 2: V1 Rating

International Dog Show - November 16, 2008  
Show 3: V1 Rating

Show 4: V1 Rating

**\*\*\*Earned International Championship!\*\*\***

#### Note:

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

The next deadline?

March 20, 2009



## Rainbow Bridge

by Courtney Hansen

Your first “my own” dog makes you feel truly grown up – responsible, wise, and in charge. When I brought home an adolescent Siberian Husky rescue from Golden Valley Human Society, little did I realize how much I had to learn, and how much he would teach me about being a grown-up.

Yukon and I decided to become an Obedience Team – and I learned the virtue of patience and persistence. We did get our AKC CGC, CD and CDX as well as our ASCA and Canadian CDs- the third leg of his AKC CD title was the result of winning a run-off and achieving a HIT at the local Siberian Husky Specialty. He passed the TDI test more than once, and we decided to focus on visiting family members in nursing homes. Together, we learned and shared the healing power of a dog’s gentle eyes and wagging tail.

On the outside, Yukon was tough as nails but that simply was the cover for a gentle and sensitive soul. He did not like going out in the rain or stepping in mud puddles and would jump over or walk around the puddles. He hated being left alone at home and let me know in the most definitive ways – chewing his way through kennels, chain link and a few precious yards of my carpet. He let me know he just wanted to “go along” with me – and would wait patiently, and happily, in the car while I was at school. He also was my most faithful “co-worker” at Pet Junction and would entertain customers by playing fetch in the maze of shelves filled with toys and dog food without ‘stealing’ a thing. And I learned the joy of a faithful companion who needed nothing more than to just be with me.

Yukon had one obsession – tennis balls. He was the master, and no ball was safe in our house. Faking him out or getting a ball past him was virtually impossible and you could see in him a fierce competitor, he would have made a great goalie (although not in Flyball, which was too chaotic for this dignified dog). But he was a completely different dog when he played with a child - Yukon would gently toss the ball to the child and then back up several feet and wait for it to be tossed.

I am a better person for having loved and been loved by Yukon – more patient, more accepting, more grateful for the gifts dogs give us. The house feels very empty without this quiet, gentle soul but I know in my heart we will meet again at the Rainbow Bridge.



**“Yukon”**  
1993/1994 -  
November 2008

## Countdown: Shaping Away Canine Aggression Seminar

Constructional Aggression Treatment ("CAT" for Dogs)

Presented by Dr. Jesús Rosales-Ruiz & Kellie Snider April 18-19, 2009/St. Paul, MN

There is a club member discount. If you're willing to work a bit; register participants, stuff folders, monitor the lunch line, the member price will be \$140 (regular price is \$190). The worker price is a limited time offer and you must be paid by **February 1, 2009**. If you don't want to help out the member price is \$155. Registration ends April 8<sup>th</sup> Contact Kris for more details.

Kristin Radermacher [SwedaroSpringers@gmail.com](mailto:SwedaroSpringers@gmail.com) 763-441-0299

Happy  
Valentine's Day  
to you and your  
Springers!



## Upcoming Events

**Canine Good Citizen Testing, and Canine Microchipping:** January 24. Call Pet Junction at 651.490.0026 for more information about either of these offerings.

**Next Board Meeting:** January 26, 2009 6:30PM Byerly's, Maple Grove

**TCVESSA Awards Banquet:** March 14, 2009, at the Sunshine Factory

**Spring Seminar:** *Shaping Away Canine Aggression*, April 18 & 19, 2009, St. Paul

**Springer Candids:** Our next photo page will be dedicated to Springer puppies (individual or group shots). Please email to Kandy by March 20, 2009 (kbierle@bethel.edu).

55127

Vadnais Heights, MN

3611 Oak Creek Terrace

Kandy Bierle

