



From TCVESSA's President: Francie Nelson

**It's spring, and our Springer thoughts turn from awards banquets to . . .
SPECIALTIES!!**

Wisconsin starts off our specialty season on the first Sunday in May and then it's TCVESSA TIME!!

On May 19 and May 20, Upper Midwest Springer enthusiasts will gather in Ham Lake at On the Run for TCVESSA'S annual back-to-back specialties. We're known for the quality of our Springers (in both conformation and performance) and the warmth of our welcome, so if you're a new club member and this is your first opportunity, please come to the Specialties and see what it's all about.

We have great judges for breed, obedience, and rally; we have wonderful and creative trophies; and of course the camaraderie for which we are known. And any offer of volunteer assistance will be gratefully received by our wonderful show committee. If you can help in any way, please contact Liz Pike, our specialty Show Chair. You can e-mail her at liz.westring@genmills.com

Carmen Laing is organizing a prize drawing of a small number of really cool items. Included this year – a VISA gift card, a beautiful framed print, and the very LAST available copy of Lisa Knight's huge and wonderful book, "The English Springer Spaniel: 40 Years in Retrospect." The purchase price of this book was more than \$140.00 plus shipping, and it's worth its weight in gold if you love Springers and have an interest in breed history and accomplishments. It's loaded with breeding program histories, invaluable photographs, and pedigrees. And, for just the cost of a prize drawing ticket, it might be yours.

Please join your fellow club members on May 19 and 20 for two terrific days of English Springer Spaniels doing their thing in obedience, rally, and conformation!

Francie Nelson
President 2012



TCVESSA Members Celebrate Accomplishments at the Annual Awards Banquet

On a warm Saturday evening in March, 35 TCVESSA members gathered to enjoy drinks and dinner, good Springer friendship, and to celebrate our annual award winners, title holders, and volunteer ambassadors.

This year's banquet was held at the Maple Tavern in Maple Grove. The banquet facilities were great, accommodating our group easily with room to spare (NOTE FOR THE FUTURE: If we return to Maple Tavern, please know that there's plenty of room for a larger banquet group! Join us!!).

As usual, club members brought items (Springer and non-Springer) for the prize drawing and the rescue prize drawing was full of interesting goodies as well. Club members browsed; club president Francie Nelson really, really wanted that big Westminster book (and got it, thanks to the generosity of the winning club member!!).

After a dinner of sliced steak or chicken or walleye, the awards began. Banquet Chair Carmen Laing's "Welcome Earthlings" theme was carried out on the award table, where "Mr. Alien Head" glowed in the midst of our beautiful annual trophies. Alien balloons decorated the tables, and the annual table games featured bewildering "fill in the blank" questions about old movies and TV shows that featured Outer Space and strange alien creatures.

The membership meeting convened just long enough to elect the slate of officers and board members for 2012, and to hear more about the specialties and a "pitch" for support of the Specialty Trophy Fund.

Francie Nelson and Jon Pidde presented the annual awards and trophies, to much applause and a few well-timed laughs. The evening ended with much friendly mingling and a promise to "see you at next year's banquet!"

Special thanks to Gavin Laing for his excellent assistance with the trophy table and ticket sales!!

ANNUAL AWARDS FOR 2011

72 titles were earned by 23 TCVESSA members and their Springers. We don't have the space to list all title winners in the newsletter but if you'd like a copy of the list of winners and titles, contact Francie and she'll e-mail it to you. Her e-mail address is fanfarespringers@comcast.net

We also recognized TCVESSA "ambassadors" whose volunteer hours with their Springers are so deeply appreciated. Special medallions of achievement were presented to our volunteer ambassadors.



TCVESSA Board Meeting Minutes - February 2, 2012

Officers present:

Francie Nelson, President, B.A. Breese, Treasurer, and Kathy Raidt, Secretary

Officers absent:

Julie Roberts, Vice President

Directors present:

Liz Pike, Carmen Laing, and Jon Pidde

Directors absent:

Maryev Monty and Jean Dockendorf

Members present:

Kathy Patregnani

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Francie Nelson.

Secretary's report: The notes, from the December 8, 2011, Board meeting were read. A motion to accept them was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's report: It was reported that an amount of \$8,448.63 was in the club's account.

Memberships:

A seconding reading of a membership application from Maggie Stowe took place. A motion to accept her membership was made, seconded, and approved. The first reading for membership application by Tracy Salzwedel was read.

Specialty 2012:

Liz Pike reviewed open items:

Kathy will e-mail the judges regarding transportation and hotel options.

Lisa Sanderson will judge Juniors on Saturday.

Liz negotiated electrical costs so grooming is now only \$25.00 per plug. It is likely we will need to use both the front and back rooms of the grooming area. We will have up to 42 plugs available and no splitters will be allowed.

The Premium will designate a published break time between the morning and the afternoon schedules.

The Prize Drawing will include a \$200.00 gift card and one framed picture.

New Business:

Kathy Patregnani presented potential agility trial dates and locations. Francie Nelson requested a proposal to be presented at the next board meeting so a vote may be taken.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 29, 2012, at Byerly's in Maple Grove. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathy Raidt, TCVESSA Secretary

TCVESSA Specialty News

It's time to celebrate our breed
Whose form and beauty does exceed
All others in the AKC
From coast to coast, and sea to sea

They gait with wings upon their feet
Perform unflawed and then repeat
Spring in the air to plant a kiss
And whoo whoo happy doggie bliss

So join us in the month of May
And don't forget to mark the day
For winners all, I know we'll be
If not, there'll be a drink on me!

Now that I have your attention with my "poetry", please join us for our 2012 Specialty on May 19th and 20th at **On the Run Canine Center** in Ham Lake, MN (www.ontheruncaninecenter.com).

Don't Delay!! Entries are due to Dog Shows by Design by noon, May 2. Premiums are available on both the TCVESSA and Dog Shows by Design websites. Don't forget to reserve your grooming space! (www.dogshowsbydesign.com)

And, back by popular demand: club hosted continental breakfast both mornings, two great raffles, and a Social Hour on Saturday evening after Breed Judging.

As always, volunteers are needed for set up, clean up, and various other opportunities. Email liz.westring@genmills.com to help with this great event.

I can't wait to see ALL of you in May!

MAY 19 & 20
ON THE RUN CANINE
CENTER

ENTRIES DUE: MAY 2

BACK PAGE STORY HEADLINE

IN A FEW WORDS, IT SHOULD ACCURATELY REPRESENT THE CONTENTS OF THE STORY AND DRAW READERS INTO THE STORY. DEVELOP THE HEADLINE BEFORE YOU WRITE THE STORY. THIS WAY, THE HEADLINE WILL HELP YOU KEEP THE STORY FOCUSED.

EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE HEADLINES INCLUDE PRODUCT WINS INDUSTRY AWARD, NEW PRODUCT CAN SAVE YOU TIME, MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

EXCEEDS GOALS, AND NEW OFFICE OPENS NEAR YOU.

ONE BENEFIT OF USING YOUR NEWSLETTER AS A PROMOTIONAL TOOL IS THAT YOU CAN REUSE CONTENT FROM OTHER MARKETING MATERIALS, SUCH AS PRESS RELEASES, MARKET STUDIES.

CONTINUED STORY HEADLINE

WHILE YOUR MAIN GOAL OF DISTRIBUTING A NEWSLETTER MIGHT BE TO SELL YOUR PRODUCT OR SERVICE, THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL NEWSLETTER IS MAKING IT USEFUL TO YOUR READERS.

A GREAT WAY TO ADD USEFUL CONTENT TO THIS NEWSLETTER IS TO DEVELOP AND WRITE YOUR OWN ARTICLES, OR INCLUDE A CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS OR A SPECIAL OFFER THAT PROMOTES A NEW PRODUCT.

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION...

THINK ABOUT YOUR ARTICLE AND ASK YOURSELF IF THE PICTURE SUPPORTS OR ENHANCES THE MESSAGE YOU'RE TRYING TO CONVEY. AVOID SELECTING IMAGES THAT APPEAR TO BE OUT OF CONTEXT.

MICROSOFT INCLUDES THOUSANDS OF CLIP ART IMAGES FROM WHICH YOU CAN CHOOSE AND IMPORT INTO YOUR NEWSLETTER. THERE ARE ALSO SEVERAL TOOLS YOU CAN USE TO DRAW SHAPES AND SYMBOLS.

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