



The Electronic Newsletter

Twin Cities Voyageur English Springer Spaniel Assn.



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Kevin and Archie at the starting line.

Fast-CAT

By Linda and Kevin Krueger

We were super excited when Joan Beck contacted us asking us to write an article on Fast-CAT as it is something that our Archie and Auggie really enjoy as do Kevin and myself.

CAT stands for Coursing Ability Test. The AKC Fast CAT event is a timed 100 yard dash

where an individual dog chases a lure in an enclosed fenced track. The lure is, actually, a plastic bag but to the dog it is a "bunny"! A football field is 100 yards long so, that gives you some idea of the distance your dog runs.

What dogs are eligible?

Your dog must be at least 12 months old to participate and have an AKC number. An AKC Canine Partners number is for mixed-breed dogs and dogs ineligible for AKC registration. Spayed and neutered dogs can compete. Females in season are not eligible to compete at that time. Prior to your dog's run, it must head to the inspection committee table where it will be checked to make sure it is not lame and is fit to run.

What should you bring to the Fast CAT event?

There are a couple things you will want to have with you at an AKC Fast CAT event. First, you will probably want kennels if you are bringing more than one dog. While running one dog, any other dogs you have need to be safe. We kennel the dog that is not currently running and have a lock on that kennel

Continued on page 2

since the running track can be a distance from our car and we want our dogs safe. Try to arrive at the event early so you can get a shady spot, if at all possible. You will want items to keep your dog cool after the run. We run battery operated fans and have our dogs on cooling mats. These mats are the size of our kennels and become activated with the dog's body weight. They work! They are, also, super easy to clean especially if the track is wet (the event is held rain or shine) and the dog has gotten dirty. We, also, have spray bottles with water in them and, if it is really hot out, we spray them prior to putting them on their cooling mats inside the kennels. Many Fast CAT events have a kiddie pool for dogs to lay down in and splash around in to cool off. I could spend all day just watching the dogs that do that! Ours prefer not to!



Will you need any help to participate?

It is easier if you have a friend come with you to the AKC Fast CAT event. One of you would release the dog at the starting line and the other would catch the dog at the finish line and cheer the dog on as it runs the track. If you go to the event alone, a committee member will release your dog for you. If that's the case, you will need two leashes (one for the releaser and one for yourself at the finish line). Dogs can run with collars on but all tags must be either removed or taped up to the collar to prevent

anything from getting caught in the lure line.

How do you get a Fast CAT title?

The miles per hour that your dog runs is considered points. There is a handicap for smaller sized dogs. For example, dogs below 20 inches at the withers have a handicap of 2. A dog having a handicap of 2 will have to multiply their mph by 2 to get the correct number of points of earned.

Fast CAT Titles earned are: BCAT (150 points), DCAT (500 points), FCAT (1,000 points).

And, then, you get a number attached to an FCAT title for each additional 500 points so, FCAT1 means your dog has earned 1500 points. You can see how your dog is doing compared to other dogs in the same breed by going to the akc.org site and search for Fast CAT Top 20 Dogs. You can choose what year rankings you want and what breed you want to look at. Maybe your dog will be the fastest in its breed and make it into the AKC Fast CAT Invitational!

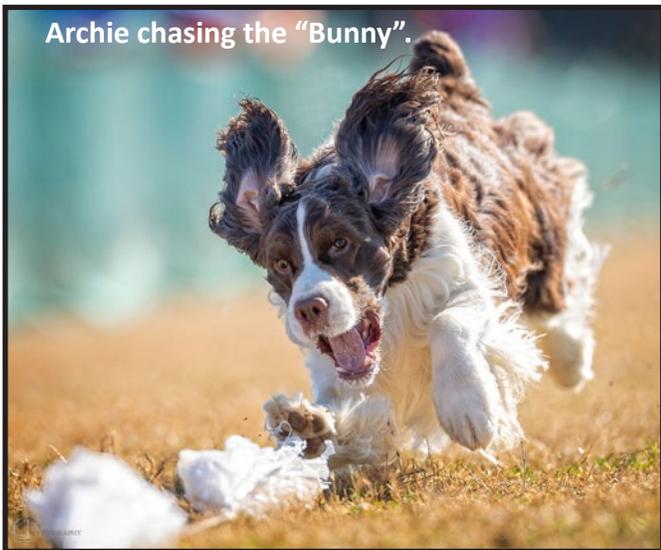
What have Kevin and my experiences been at Fast CAT events?

We went to our first Fast CAT event in July, 2021 so we are still newbies. We have had a very positive experience at every event we've gone to. The committees are well organized and everyone is super friendly and helpful. The events range anywhere from 3 days to 6 days. Some of the events, also, have CAT. CAT is different than Fast CAT. The CAT event takes place in a huge, fenced-in area. Here dogs chase a lure on either a 300 or 600 yard long course. This is not a straight course as it has turns in it. Smaller dogs or senior dogs can run the 300 yard course while others run the 600 yard course. The dog chases a lure, just like in Fast CAT but, of course, for a much longer stretch! The dog must finish the course in 1 ½ minutes, if running the 300 yard course and in 2 minutes if running the 600 yard course. For this event you only earn either a pass or a fail. You earn titles based on how many passes you get.

CAT Titles you can earn include: CA (3 passes), CAA (10 passes), CAX (25 passes), CAX#.

Think about it, your dog can earn its CA title in one weekend!

We run our two English Springer Spaniels, Archie and Auggie. Archie LOVES chasing the lure. You can tell the dogs who love chasing the lure, while standing in line waiting their turn to be on the running track. They never take their eyes off the lure, they are pulling on their leash, they might be barking with excitement. That's our Archie!!! Auggie however, does not care about the lure at all and shows no excitement in the waiting line! He just loves running and loves running the 100 yards to Mom! If the Huntmaster isn't moving the lure very fast, Auggie doesn't run fast. So, Kevin tells them, at the starting line, to please keep the lure way ahead of Auggie and moving at a good clip so that Auggie can run his best. They accommodate that request and Kevin is not the only one who makes that request. No need to do that for Archie! He is laser focused on that lure. When he crosses the finish line, he will grab the lure (plastic bag) and shake it.



Archie chasing the "Bunny".

You can train some dogs to have an interest in a lure. You can tie a plastic bag to the handle part of a broom and try to entice your dog to think of it as

a toy or game to catch the bag. We, however, had no such luck with Auggie! He just thinks it's stupid!

If there is a CAT event, in conjunction with the Fast CAT event, Archie is there! We can't run Auggie in CAT since he has no interest in a lure. We were super worried the very first time we put Archie into a CAT field. Would he be fit enough to run that distance (600 yards) at a fast speed? Would he stay focused on the lure for that long? No need to worry!!! He LOVED it!

Summary:

If you haven't tried Fast CAT (or CAT) yet, go for it! Whether you have an Archie-type dog, who loves chasing the lure, or an Auggie-type dog, who just loves running to its owner and could care less about the lure, your dog is getting exercise and having fun. You get some exercise too as you walk back and forth that 100 yards! Some events have a golf cart to transport people from the starting line to the finish line so, if you have problems walking, you could check into that before registering for the event.

Oh, one more fun fact about FastCAT! The Huntmaster will yell "Tally Ho" when the lure is released and your dog takes off down the track! We always get a kick out of that!



**Letter from the President
April 25, 2022**

Happy.....Spring?

Even though the weather is acting like a scene from the movie “Frozen”, I am confident that by the time we reach our May Specialty and All Breed Obedience and Rally Trial, we WILL be enjoying a fun filled and sun filled day! If you haven’t sent in your entries yet, make sure to do so as soon as you see this – entries can only be sent paper copy and close at noon on May 4th. Our new show secretary, Mike Teh, has all the information for our show on his website, www.xtremeK9s.com. Also, make sure to send in for grooming/electrical and lunch orders – due by Friday, May 6th.

And, as you’re packing for the show, take a look at those show clothes that are gathering dust in your closet, pull them out, and put a price on them. Rehoming your no-longer-fit or no-longer-my-style or need-space-for-new-stuff will make both you and the new owner happy! We’ll have a clothes rack available for you to display them.

As always, many hands make light work! If you can help with set up, clean up, stewarding or any other activities at the trial, we would greatly appreciate it.

While you’re filling up your dog activity calendar, don’t forget to enter our TCVESSA Agility Trial on June 4-5, 2022 at On the Run Canine Center. Information for the trial is on www.xtremeK9.com as well as a link to the volunteer sign-up sheet.

I want to thank all the TCVESSA members and friends who gathered to celebrate our dogs and their accomplishments at our Annual Awards Banquet on March 26th. After TWO years of canceled banquets, it was wonderful to see old friends and meet some of our new members. Special thanks go to TCVESSA Board members Carmen Laing and Diane Slais for all their hard work to make the banquet a success and to Alice Musburger for her tireless work on the awards.

I want to thank Courtney Hansen for her three years of service as our President and Alice Musburger for her service on the Board, both as our secretary and as an at-large director. Courtney will stay on as Vice President while Alice is stepping off the Board but will continue to manage our Annual Awards.

Finally, after more years than we can count, BA Breese has decided to step down as our treasure. BA has been a steady and prudent manager of our funds and we cannot thank her enough for her wise counsel and quiet leadership.

We are pleased to announced that Tom Lenzmeier will be assuming the role of Treasurer. We welcome Tom to the TCVESSA Board and look forward to working with him.

Looking forward to seeing you all in May!

Liz Pike

TCVESSA President



I hope everyone is having a good summer. This is a catch-up edition of the TCVESSA Newsletter. Events in my life have prevented me from keeping up with my volunteer newsletter responsibilities. Over the last year I have become a full time caregiver to a husband with rapidly advancing health issues as well as trying to keep up full time employment and going back to school to learn a new trade as my profession shrinks to the point where it is difficult to earn a living wage. As much as I tried, the newsletter was always last on my to-do list and I often found myself to be too tired at the end of the day to tackle the project. We have a new editor taking over after this issue. Please welcome our new Newsletter editor Laura Schreiner

Joan M. Beck
Outgoing Newsletter Editor

Quick Tips For Keeping Your Dog's Joints Healthy.
(A synopsis from the July/August 2022 issue of the AKC Family Dog Magazine)

We all want our dogs to stay as healthy as possible and healthy joints are an important part of that equation. When it comes to joint health there are four main areas of importance. Genetics, nutrition, exercise and sterilization.

Genetics: Most of us know that genetics are key to good joints. The American Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) tells us that breeding animals with better joints tends to product animals with better joints; however, there are too many genes involved with each joint combination to have specific genetic tests for joint health. Choosing animals with good genetic histories improves the odds that your dog wont have bone and joint issues.

Nutrition: Nutrition is a key factor for healthy joints. In a nut-shell, keep your puppy/dog lean throughout its life. Studies have shown that heavier dogs have a higher incidence of joint issues.

Exercise: Exercise is critical to proper growth, but overuse of growing bones, tendons and ligaments can cause long term damage. It appears best to allow puppies to exercise naturally until they have stopped growing. Forced exercise, including treadmill work, long distance trotting or running and agility jumping should be avoided until after growth has stopped.

Sterilization: How does sterilization affect joint health? Much of properly regulated bone growth is governed by sex hormones that are lost with spay and neuter. We now know that early sterilization in dogs delays the growth plate closure in the bones causing them to grow past their desired length. These larger and longer bones put strain on the ligaments and tendons that attach to the bones. The extra stress on attached structures appears to account for both increasing number of ruptured ligaments and tendons as well as stress on the joint itself leading to possible hip and elbow dysplasia.

2020 TCVESSA VOX Publication Schedule	
Issue1:	
Submission deadline:	Jan 10
Publication date:	Jan 15
Issue2:	
Submission deadline:	Apl 10
Publication date:	Apl 17
Issue 3:	
Submission deadline:	July 10
Publication date:	July 15
Issue 4:	
Submission deadline:	Oct 10
Publication date:	Oct 15

**April2021TCVESSA Board Minutes
April 15, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by president Courtney Hansen at 7:13 p.m. Board members present were Liz Pike, Courtney Hansen, Carmen Laing, Kathy Patregnani, Diane Silas, B.A. Breese and Julie Roberts. Member absent was Tekla Viker and Alice Musburger. Several additional club members joined the call.

The March minutes were approved.

Treasury report was for the sum of \$11,540.13. Kathy requested funds for ribbons for the Junior Handlers at the Agility Trial, Highest Scoring Junior. A motion for Highest Scoring Jr. ribbon was made by B.A., and seconded by Kathy P. Prize purchases for BOB, BOS for one day was also decided.

No new memberships.

Old Business:

Gift cards of \$100 was decided for our trial judges, a lesser amount for the sweeps judges. It was also encouraged to spread the word that our premium list is out. It is ok to set up generators on the South side of the building. There will be no social hour because of covid, pre-ordered box lunches will be available. Kathy will get stewards for obedience, Francie will be the inside the ring steward for Saturday, Carol Hathaway for Sunday, B.A. and Carmen will also help with stewarding. Brian will call about the crate we are giving away for the raffle.

Annual Awards – Alice sent out notices for the annual award if you got one. The list of the recipients will be published in the April Vox.

The Des Moines specialty is on, we still need to determine prizes.

The June agility trial is set. Mike is checking to see if we can switch the running order to help fill the classes. We will wait until Fall before doing any more research on holding a health clinic.

New Business:

Joan was going to check into a Summer fun day, she was not available at this meeting to comment about it. We will look into a Fall date for a scent work trial, possibly October.

Next meeting date is set for May 13, at 7:00.

A motion was made to end the meeting by Kathy P, seconded by Julie Roberts

Respectfully submitted by Julie Roberts



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ Thursday May 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Courtney Hansen at 7:06 p.m.

Members present: President Courtney Hansen, Vice President, Liz Pike, Secretary Julie Roberts, Treasurer B.A. Breese, members at large Kathy Patregnani, Diane Slais, Julie Roberts, Tekla Viker, Carmen Laing and Vox Editor Joan Beck. Also present was Brian Schaffer and Carol Hathaway.

The minutes were read and approved by Liz Pike, seconded by B.A. Breese. It was noted to reach out to Jean Dockendorf to change the website to note that Julie Roberts should now be listed as secretary.

Treasurer's report: B.A. Breese reported that currently we have \$11,180.29 in our treasury.

The fees for the specialty show would be 1812.50 for 2 days rental, \$60 charge extra for the electrical, \$275 for cleaning afterwards, \$153.01 for the plastic for a total of \$2,300.51.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

We talked briefly about a new logo and decided to table it until next time. The old logo was last changed in 2003. If we decided to change the logo, we should present it to the whole club. Joan will make up a couple of versions to present to the board and the membership.

The ring set up for our specialty show will be at 1:00 p.m., 2-6 p.m. for exhibitors and club members to set up. Exhibitors will be able to use the bathing facilities for \$5.00, given to Michelle at the front desk. The club prize drawings will be \$1.00 for each ticket, \$20.00 for 25 tickets. Diane Slais will help distribute lunches at the shows.

Zoe Anderson's prize drawing will be garage sale items. If coming bring the items on Friday. TCVESSA will offer a \$100 scholarship to give to her Saturday after the juniors showing.

Judges' hospitality, Carmen Laing has been in touch. Patty Darke wants coffee. Kathy Patregnani and Courtney Hansen will be in charge. Courtney Hansen will bring her Kureig machine, Kathy Patregnani will bring the creamer and Carol Hathaway will bring the Kureig pods.

Joan Beck discussed under new business the possibility of renting an outdoor skating ring for TCVESSA's summer outing, they are completely enclosed.

Brian Schaffer discussed the Spring hunt test in Baldwin on September 17, 18 and 19, 2021.

Next meeting date, June 10th at 7:00 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Kathy Patregnani, seconded by Diane Slais.

A short board meeting was called on 5-16-2021 on mask mandates. Michelle requires no masks, and the premium list says that we will comply with state, local requirements. The mask mandate for the state has been removed by the state, so therefore we will not be requiring masks at the show. The judge on Sunday does not feel comfortable without the masks, so we will require them on Sunday in the ring.

(No record of who took the meeting notes)

**TCVESSA Board Minutes
August 8, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Courtney Hansen. Members present were Liz Pike, Carmen Laing, Diane Slais, Kathy Patregnani and Julie Roberts. Also present was Brian Schaffer, Carol Hathaway and Joan Beck.

Location for places to hold our Fall membership meeting were discussed. Suggestions were put on hold until the next meeting.

Carman Laing, Mary Dahl and Brian Schaefer will be on the next nominating committee.

Rescheduling of the scent workshop was discussed to possibly hold it in February since it's a down time of year. Canine Cabin near St. Cloud was mentioned as a place to hold the workshop.

Ideas were mentioned for an alternative show secretary called "Dog Show in a Box." It would be \$250 up front for the first 50, \$5 a dog after, per day. We need a breakdown of what the receipts entail, Liz will send that to Mary Dahl so we can compare. What does Claudia provide and what doesn't she provide? Another possibility is Extreme Dog Sports. Mike will give us a break down. While he hasn't done conformation, he has done other sports.

St. Paul Dog Training is looking for donations to honor a high scoring sporting dog or high achieving dog. This December we will not hold an agility trial but will stay at Dawn's for the following year. \$1,000 we lose by staying at Dawns. We make about \$10 an entry. For now staying at Dawn's and re visit if we lose too much money. We will stay at Dawn's for June.

The banquet was pushed to next time, we will see if the old Sunshine Factory will rent out their room. Is the banquet still a go? Carmen will do some checking., Diane will call the Sunshine Factory. Next meeting is Thursday, September 23rd, at 7:00.

May Specialty show still needs judges for sweeps and Jr. Showmanship. Carol Rushing wants airfare to judge the Des Moines show in September, Liz will assist her with air miles.

A notion was made to end the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Roberts



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ 9/23/21

Meeting was called to order by president, Courtney Hansen at 7:11 p.m.

Board members present: Courtney Hansen, Liz Pike, B.A. Breese, Kathy Patregnani, Carmen Laing and Diane Slais. Member Carol Hathaway also joined the meeting. Board members absent: Julie Roberts, Tekla Viker and Alice Musburger. The meeting was conducted on ZOOM.

The August minutes were not available and, therefore, were not approved. Julie can furnish the minutes to the Board and they will be addressed at the October meeting.

According to Treasurer, B.A. Breese, the club has \$7,803.84 in the account. B.A. is waiting for a bill for ribbons at the Des Moines Specialty to be sent by either Des Moines Kennel Club or Onofrio. Courtney will be submitting receipts for cooling towels/prizes at the Specialty.

There were no new membership applications and, therefore, no new membership readings.

Old Business:

There was a short debrief of the Des Moines Specialty. A discussion of the cost of doing the Des Moines Specialty will take place after B.A. receives all of the receipts and the raffle money has been sent to her. Kayla Nyvold ran the raffle and it is reported that over \$600 was taken in through this endeavor.

The VOX was brought up. Joan Beck will need to be contacted to find out when the new issue will be coming out.

New Business

The Fall meeting will be held at For The Love of Dogs, in Inver Grove Heights, on November 13th from 3-6 p.m. The activity will be free to TCVESSA members, as TCVESSA will pick up the cost. There will be two activities; swimming for the dogs and an introduction to rats for Barn Hunt.

Nominating Committee - There are no updates. Carmen will call a meeting 6 weeks prior to the fall meeting and the slate will go out 3 weeks prior to the fall meeting.

Nose Work/Scent Work Seminar - The seminar will be held at Canine Cabin on February 12th and 13th.

Ideas for alternative show secretary - Kathy P. indicated that Mike Teh is interested and he may be an option. Kathy will provide Mike's contact information to Liz P., so she can discuss the finer details and do a comparison of what Mike would charge as to what Cindy O'Hare charged. After this comparison is comprised, the club will be better able to make a decision going forward. Mary Dahl has a list which itemizes all of the services included by the show secretary, at the TCVESSA Specialty, and the cost of each item.

Momentos for awards banquet - Courtney H. brought up the idea of water buckets.

Agility trial - The next agility trial will be the weekend of October 22nd. Saturday's and Sunday's spots are full and there are 99 runs left for Friday.

Annual banquet - Carmen L. and Diane S. have been in conversation with the General Manager at Pub 42 in New Hope. Things are very promising, on this front, and we are looking to have the meeting/banquet on Saturday, March 26th 2022.

The next TCVESSA meeting will be on 10/20/21 at 7 p.m. (ZOOM).

The meeting was adjourned, for a brief closed board session, at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Slais



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ 10/20/2021

Meeting was called to order by president, Courtney Hansen.

Board members present: (Not reported)

Treasury report was for the sum of 6,824.03. Alice has a receipt to give to B.A. from Des Moines.

Old Business: Des Moines specialty, no bills yet. The question was brought up should we continue to do this with Des Moines. Don't know what ribbons will cost, \$130 for the gift cards, ribbons probably around \$700-800.

The TCVESSA Vox issue was due October 15th. We had no summer issue, the last issue was in April. We considered the idea of looking for someone else to take this over. We should ask if someone is interested in taking over the Vox at the November membership meeting.

The November membership meeting will be held at For the Love of Dogs in Inver Grove Heights on Saturday November 13, from 3-6. Kathy will pick up snacks, and pop for the meeting.

The nominating committee has selected:

President: Liz Pike

Vice President Courtney Hansen

Secretary: Julie Roberts

Treasurer: B.A. Breeze, with Mary Dahl learning

The nose work workshop will be held at Canine Cabin, February 12 & 13. Holly Bouchard will be presenting the seminar.

Mary will work up a spreadsheet on the cost of using Cindy O'Hare for our show secretary.

New Business: Diane did some scouting on a place to hold a banquet. Pub 42 (Old Sunshine Factory) does have a banquet room, no side building, seats for 60. They have tables that they can put on the side for awards, raffles etc. Date, March 26th. Next step is to meet with Rob to look at menu. No fee for room, \$20 if we bring our own desserts. Cash for beverages, cost will be no more that \$30 a plate.

Motion to adjourn was made by Diane Slais, seconded by Alice Musberger.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Roberts, Secretary



TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ 11-13-21 FALL MEETING AT FOR THE LOVE OF DOGS IN MENDOTA HEIGHTS

Members present: Liz Pike, Courtney Hansen, Alice Musburger, Kathy Patregnani and Diane Slais. Numerous members were in attendance. Dock diving and barn hunt exercises were offered to members and their dogs.

President Courtney Hansen called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

The reading/approval of the October minutes will be delayed, as they have not been received from Secretary Julie Roberts.

There were 6 first readings for new applicants at the meeting (3 family and 3 individuals). The families are: Jill, Cody and Grady Dunham; Joane and Liz Riel; Mathew and Mary Haggerty. The individuals are: Sterling Erickson, Barton Maria and Demelza Holmes. Alice M. noted that we know have 55 members which raises the quorum from 11 to 12.

Treasurer's Report: B.A. Breese informed Courtney Hansen that TCVESSA has \$10,609.88 in the bank account. No requests for expenditures were made.

Old Business:

There was a debriefing of the Combined Specialty in Des Moines. We are still waiting for the bill for ribbons (Onofrio apparently made a mistake in the process). There was some discussion of maybe joining the Granite City/Hutchinson show.

Carmen Laing chaired the Nominating Committee. Mary Dahl and Brian Schaffer also participated on this sub-committee. The slate of the Board is as follows: President Liz Pike, Vice President Courtney Hansen, Secretary Julie Roberts (Diane Slais may be interested), Treasurer B.A. Breese (Mary Dahl is interested), at large members are Mary Dahl, Carmen Laing, Tekla Viker and Diane Slais. Alice Musburger will be stepping down, however is still committed to tabulating the annual awards.

The club will host a nose work/scent work seminar at the Canine Cabin, in Clear Lake, MN, on February 12th and 13th. The instructor will be Holly Buchard. The original seminar was to take place during the fall of 2019, however it was canceled due to COVID. Those who registered for the 2019 seminar will have priority for registration this time around. Both working and audit spots will be offered.

New Business:

The TCVESSA Specialty will be held on May 21st and 22nd at On the Run Training Center. Volunteers will be needed for set up and hospitality. The show will include all-breed obedience and rally obedience, along with breed. Liz mentioned that she would like to step down as chairperson of the specialty.

There will be no TCVESSA agility trial in December, as our slated weekend falls over the Christmas holiday. Kathy Patregnani brought up the idea of the club sponsoring/hosting an AKC scent work trial. She will look into would steps the club would need to take to get AKC's approval.

The TCVESSA agility trial in January will be at Cloud 9. Any members who can volunteer to help would be much appreciated.

Alice Musburger read the names of all of the awards earned in 2020. A list of the awards/recipients will be included in a separate attachment to these minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Diane Slais

TCVESSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES – 2-3-22

Board Members Present: Liz Pike, B.A. Breese, Alice Musburger, Courtney Hansen, Kathy Patregnani, Julie Roberts, Carmen Laing, Tekla Viker, Diane Slais. TCVESSA member Joan Beck, Mary Dahl and Mary Haggerty also joined the ZOOM call.

A motion was made to approve the November '21 minutes by Liz. B.A. seconded.

Alice, in tandem with Julie, provided the Secretary's Report. First readings were done for Rita Bakalar, Maria Barton and Demelza Homes. The second readings for Sterling Erickson; Jill, Cody and Grady Dunham; Joane and Liz Riel, as well as Mary and Matthew Haggerty were completed. It was also mentioned that Mary Dahl is now a lifetime member.

Treasurer B.A. indicated that TCVESSA's account balance is now \$13,610.04.

Kathy mentioned that the club took in \$3,700.00 at last month's agility trial. Since we have not had a meeting since November, and we were running low on ribbons, Kathy stated that she made an executive decision to order approximately \$600.00 worth of ribbons. There were no other requests for money.

There was a short debrief of the January agility trial at Cloud 9. As noted above, TCVESSA made \$3,700 from the event. Kathy stated that she had an unpleasant verbal exchange with C9 owner Dawn Falk and that Dawn was quite inhospitable at the trial. Kathy mentioned that she looked into FUSION for next January's agility trial, as a result. C9 charges \$2,800.00 for the weekend rental and FUSION would only charge us \$2,400.00. Courtney gave an update on the Nose Work/Scent Work seminar to be held on Feb 12/13 at the Canine Cabin in Clearwater. The instructor will be Holly Bushard. Of the 12 working spots, only 1 is still open for both days. All 6 of the audit spots, for both days, are still open. The club will provide snacks and water. A registration form is not needed, COVID waivers will need to be signed on site (for TCVESSA) and no face coverings will be required.

Alice provided the award update. She is still waiting for 2 people to send her information before she can do the final tabulation of the 2021 awards. Twenty-three dogs applied for awards and there are approximately 30 new titles. There was a discussion about the plaques which are displayed at the banquet. Does the club want to continue on that path? The process is quite an undertaking (engraving, transporting, storage 364 days a year) since they are only displayed once a year at the Annual Banquet.

Carmen stated that she has received 3 reservations for the Annual Banquet/Meeting, at Pub 42, on March 26th. She would welcome any help from members to help her set up the private dining room at 4:30 p.m. on that day. Although Carmen sent an email/PDF to all members about the Annual Banquet, Alice suggested that Carmen send a PDF directly to Jean Dockendorf, so she can add the event to the TCVESSA website. The Des Moines Specialty will be held on the weekend after the National, so it was agreed that we will decline this year.

Liz made an executive decision and said "yes" to the supported entry at Key City, which will be held around Memorial Day weekend.

Brief update on our ESS specialty in May: All Judges (4 conformation, 2 obedience/rally) are confirmed, Mike Teh will be the trial secretary and Kayla Nyvold will run the club raffle.

There was a Fast Cat discussion. Kathy has spoken to an individual named Matt who is well-versed in this area. TCVESSA will need to get licensed through AKC to have any trials. Alice suggested the Wright County Fairgrounds as a venue, should we be approved for a license. Kathy also mentioned that a weekend could support 4 trials/500 runs and could bring in \$5,100.00.

Joan mentioned that she will do a VOX soon. Julie and Diane will provide her with the approved Board Meeting minutes from October and November for publishing.

The meeting ended, however the Board continued on in a closed session for another 12 minutes.

Liz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Kathy seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Slais

TCVESSA Meeting Minutes 3-3-22

The meeting was called to order, by President Courtney Hansen, at 7:06 p.m. and took place on Zoom. Present Board members: Courtney Hansen, Liz Pike, Carmen Laing, Kathy Patregnani, B.A. Breese, Tekla Viker, Julie Roberts and Diane Slais. TCVESSA members Mary Haggerty and Tom Lenzmeier joined the meeting.

Second readings for new applicants Maria Barton, Rita Bakalar and Demelza Holmes took place. Motion to accept – Kathy P., second – Tekla V.

Treasurer, B.A. Breese, informed all parties that we have \$11,915.47 in the bank account. There was a brief discussion about the Nose Work/Scent Work seminar which TCVESSA hosted in February. Fun was had by all. It was brought up that we may want to host another in the future. The club took in \$276.00, in profit, from the event (several participants paid for some of their entries with full volunteer cards).

There was a discussion about the perpetual trophies/awards. Does the club want to provide recognition for annual awards in another way? At present, they are only displayed once per year, at the annual banquet, and spend 364 days a year in storage. Perhaps a Shutterfly book with each page dedicated to the recipient of each award every year (with the dog's picture) would make more sense.

It was mentioned that the awards for the annual banquet, on March 26th, have been ordered and should be arriving by March 20th.

New Business:

Kathy P. stated that the Judge for the October agility trial is not going to be available and all local Judges are booked for that weekend. Kathy is trying to see if Mike Teh can step in. Tom L. suggested that Tom Slattery should also be contacted to see if he is available.

The May Specialty - Mike Teh will be our secretary for the show and he has all of the information he needs for the premium list. Tekla will take over the grooming and lunch reservations for the show. Liz and Diane will help with the lunches on site. There will be no welcome bags handed out to participants.

Fast Cat: There was further discussion regarding TCVESSA hosting a Fast Cat trial. Courtney and Kathy have been in contact with Matt Bixby who would bring all of the equipment. Kathy or Courtney will check into whether Matt brings anyone along to help, as the trial will need 12 volunteers to run smoothly. According to the rules there are certain jobs volunteers cannot do if they are running the same breed of dogs as the host club represents – such as the lure and timer. VOX – There was a brief discussion about moving forward to resume the VOX.

The next meeting will be on 4-14-22 at 7 p.m. on ZOOM. Liz will send out an invite to all members.

A motion was made, and seconded, to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Motion: Liz, second: Mary Haggerty. There was no closed Board session after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Slais

TCVESSA Meeting Minutes 3-26-22

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by President Courtney Hansen. The meeting was held at the Annual Banquet at Pub 42. There were 39 people in attendance. The 3-3-22 reading of the minutes was waived until the 4-14-22 meeting.

The slate of the Board was ratified:

President: Liz Pike, Vice President: Courtney Hansen, Treasurer: B.A. Breese, Secretary: Julie Roberts. Board members at large: Mary Dahl, Carmen Laing, Tekla Viker, Kathy Patregnani, Diane Slais. Alice Musburger is stepping down, however will continue to chair the tabulations for the annual awards. Treasurer B.A. Breese stated that our account balance was over \$8,000 (this is approximate and will be updated at the 4-14-22 meeting).

There was a recap of the Nose Work/Scent Work seminar, hosted by TCVESSA, in February. A reminder was made that we always need volunteers to help at the upcoming Specialty in May. Those who are interested in volunteering should contact Liz Pike. If interested in stewarding for obedience/rally, please contact Kathy Patregnani.

We will have agility trials in June and October – both at On the Run Training Facility. The club is looking into the logistics of hosting a Fast Cat Trial, as well as a Scent Work Trial. Liz mentioned that there is a Fast Cat Trial in Cambridge (April 16/17) for those who are interested in entering, or observing.

There was a discussion about the perpetual plaques. Maybe a display book instead – Liz brought samples. Tom Lenzmeier also suggested a website with the pictures of the dogs, and their awards, which would be viewable at any time.

A motion was made, and seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Slais