

# VOX



# VOYAGEUR

WINTER 2026 ISSUE ONE

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN CITIES VOYAGEUR ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL ASSOCIATION

### DIRECTORS

President

Courtney Hansen

Vice President

Mary Dahl

Secretary

Carmen Laing

Treasurer

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At Large

Heather Rand

Diane Slais

Tekla Viker

Kathy Patregnani

Michelle Berge

### From The Editor

Hello everyone! My name is Alice Musburger. I have been a TCVESSA member Since 1994. I am volunteering to publish our club newsletter at least quarterly. This is completely out of my wheelhouse, but I am going to give it shot! Who Says, "old dogs cannot learn new tricks?"

If you would like to help me, please let me know. I truly believe in "the more the merrier"!

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to all,

We are finally starting to see more sunshine and the promise of warm weather is teasing us. I hope you all have lots of great plans for this spring and summer with your best, four-legged friends. If you can, please try to attend some of our TCVESSA activities.

We have an Obedience and Rally and Agility Trials in May. We are combining with Cambridge Summer Solstice Show to have four supported entry shows and a concurrent Specialty on Saturday afternoon. Judging for the Specialty will be indoors!

If you are planners, the ESSFTA is holding an agility trial here in July. we also have more agility trials in October and December and another specialty with supported entries in October. We are working on some other events too! If you have any ideas or would like to organize an event, please reach out to a Board member! All these activities could not happen without the help of our club members who volunteer their time to help both at the events and behind the scenes planning and organizing. Please help if you can.

New on our slate is a fundraising committee headed by Diane Slais. Again, we want ideas to work on. What fundraising ideas do you have? If you can help, please donate time or money as none of our fun activities are free.

We are looking forward to another Wonderful Awards Banquet on April 11th at Lord Fletcher's. Please get your reservations into Carmen and start rounding up items for the raffle tables!

Please give a heartfelt Thank you to Alice for taking on the Roll of VOX editor!

I look forward to seeing all our members at some upcoming events!

Cheers,  
Courtney

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

March 31, 2026, is deadline to make reservations for TCVESSA Awards Banquet.

April 1<sup>st</sup> is last deadline to pay TCVESSA Dues for 2026 before losing your membership.

April 11, 2026, TCVESSA Annual Awards Banquet at Lord Fletchers at 5:00 pm

May 7 is next TCVESSA Board Meeting.

May 16 & 17 Obedience and Rally Trials at Cloud Nine. Closes April 29, 2026.

May 29, 30 & 31 Agility Trials at On The Run. Closes May 13, 2026.

June 1, 2025, Deadline for Spring VOX.

June 18-21 Summer Solstice Show Cluster at Isanti County Fairgrounds in Cambridge, MN.

**(We will have supported entries for 4 shows and a concurrent specialty on Saturday afternoon).**

## BRAGS AND PROUD MOMENTS

Sheila Koon and her Springer, Zeva , are a rare pair in TCVESSA. Few members of our club participate in AKC Tracking.

On April 13, 2025, they earned the VST title in Des Moines, Iowa. VST is the Variable Surface Tracking Title.

With this title, the team became Champion Tracker. **Zeva is now CT VinEwood Bright Lights N Action VCD3.**



**CH MACH PACH Cedarwood's Odin Of Arrowrock  
MXG MJG MXP4 MXPB MJP4 MJPB PAX OF MFP T2BP**  
owned by Jean Dockendorf & Pat Welch.

Odie earned his Master Agility Excellent Preferred 4 title and his Master Agility Jumpers titles at the TCVESSA Trial on Friday, January 23, 2026, He earned his PACH and on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> under Judge Shannon Jones.

**CH MACH2 VinEwood's Old Time Rock & Roll CDX BN  
RE JH MXS MJX XF T2B BCAT SWA DS DJ CGC TKN  
WDX**

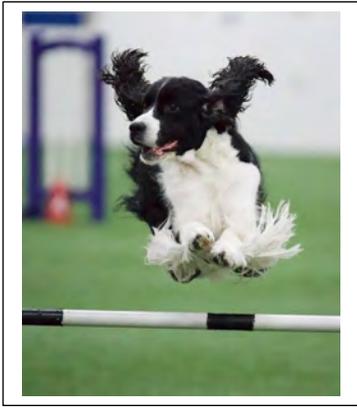
Bob Seger earned His MACH2 on Saturday January 23 at our TCVESSA Agility trial under Judge Shannon Jones. Seger is owned by Kathy Patregnani.

WhimzE" is now:

**CH Temerity On A Whim At VinEwood!**

On January 11, 2026, she was BOB, BOW, 2nd place NOHS group and earned her Breed Championship. WhimzE is owned by Diane Slais, Kathy Patregnani and Courtney Hansen.





Ella earned her Time 2 Beat 2 title at the TCVESSA Agility trial in January 2026!

She is now **CH MACH Cedarwood's Dream A Little Dream MXS MJS MXF MFP T2B2 T2BP**. Ella is owned by Jean Dockendorf and Pat Welch.

There goes WhimzE again!!!!  
(Springers are a busy, curious dog)



\*\*\*\*\*



Laura Shreiner and Sparx were invited to the AKC Agility Event in December 2025.

Sparx was a finalist at the 2025 Invationals this past December in Orlando and brought home the Springer Spaniel breed medallion! CONGRATS!



**GCH CH MACH3 VinEwood's The Fire Inside CDX BN RN JH MXG MJC PJD MFS TQX T2B**

Congratulations to Abe and Demelza Holmes! Abe is

**GCH CH Echo's I Anit Lyin BCAT CGC TKN FITB**

Demelza's niece, Willia Dyer, has become quite the team with Abe. Willa has really put all the work into him! 🐾

Abe received First Award of Merit at Westminster this year!

Abe is owned by Demelza Homes and Karen Schavrien.



Willia and Abe at Westminster.

## BRAGS CONTINUED

2025 was a good year for Joan Beck and her Springer, Ziva. Ziva earned her Novice Fetch Title, her Beginner Novice Obedience Title and her Rally Master Title.

Ziva is now **GCH CH Starlight's Beyond The Night BN RM CGC TKA FTN**

Ziva also got to do some modeling this year for one of next year's dog toy catalogs. She worked for 90 minutes in front of a green screen, holding and catching all kinds of toys.

CONGRATULATIONS ZIVA!

## DO YOU REMEMBER THE VOLUNTEER CARD?



To refresh your memory.... When you volunteer at club events, you may ask for a volunteer card. The person in charge should have some. Your card can be punched for volunteer jobs that you perform. One punch equals \$2.50. There are 12 punches per card which adds up to \$30 per card. Cards can be redeemed for raffle tickets at our specialties or at the banquet raffle. Cards can even be used toward the cost of your banquet ticket. I know from experience that one card can be filled working just one day at an agility trial! More ideas are welcome as we would like to see the yellow cards flowing!



Odie with Dr. Friedenber

**Who is Odie Dockendorf?**

**Odie is a hero among English Springer Spaniels!**

Odie is an 11-year-old Champion and multi-titled male English Springer, owned by TCVESSA’s very own Jean Dockendorf and bred by another TCVESSA member, Pat Welch. Odie has donated blood to help scientists map the breed’s genome. Dr. Steve Friedenber

**A genome is a complete genetic blueprint, a complete set of genetic instructions (DNA) found in an organism, acting as a detailed manual for the development, function, and growth of a living thing.**

While the genome of the dog has been mapped, only a handful of individual breeds have had their genome isolated and. Until now, scientists have used genomes from mapped breeds, such as Boxers and German Shepherds, to conduct research.

English Springers will soon join the handful of breeds whose genetic blueprints are mapped and known. The fully sequenced genome will provide a powerful tool for studying breed health and locating the genetic roots of inherited traits. This achieves a vital goal: to improve diagnosis, treatment, and perhaps even prevention, for future generations of dogs. It may have important implications for human research, too.

**Now we all know Odie – he’s a Springer Champion for all time!**

Submitted by Francie Nelson



\*\*\*\*\* Is that WhimZe Again?

## **DID YOU KNOW??????**

- “VOX is Latin for "voice" or "sound," widely used to represent vocal expression, opinion, or communication. It frequently appears in phrases like *vox populi* (voice of the people). Our Club newsletter is the voice of TCVESSA!
- “VOYAGEUR” is the French word for traveler. It refers to persons who worked as canoe paddlers, bundle carriers, and general laborers for fur trading firms from 1690- 1850’s. Voyageurs National Park spans 218,000 acres of lakes, forests, and streams in northern Minnesota. Established in 1975, the park is named after the French-Canadian Voyageurs who once navigated these abundant waters.
- Therefore, Voice of the Traveler is our newsletter commonly known as the VOX!
- TCVESSA was incorporated in 1977! The club began as an idea between two old Springer colleagues, and it quickly grew. In fact, its first fun match was held in short weeks of its incorporation and had great support from Minnesota Springer folks. A contest was held to name its newsletter, and “Vox Voyageur” the Voice of the Voyageur, was chosen.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR INVOLVEMENT**

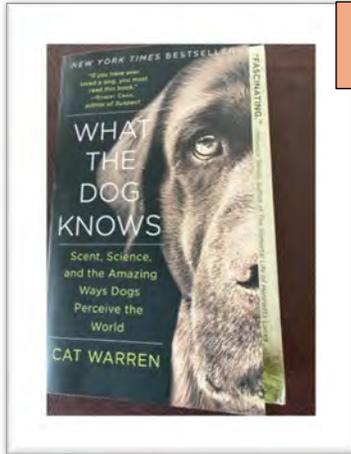
**I have volunteered to chair the TCVESSA fundraising committee and I am looking for members to join me in this endeavor. Let’s explore creative ways to boost the club’s financial health, while at the same time offering ways to provide opportunities and activities for our members (and their canine companions). If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please reach out to me. I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas!**

**Diane Slais, TCVESSA Board Member at large**

**Email: [DLSTRAPSTER@AOL.COM](mailto:DLSTRAPSTER@AOL.COM) OR Text: 612.396.5694**

**FUND RAISING CAN BE FUN** done in the company of friends! Diane needs your ideas; your wants and desires LOL! Our club has many aspirations and activities to plan and wishes to meet all our club member interests. We need \$\$\$\$ to do so and ideas to be successful. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!!!

## BOOK REVIEW



- How do you train a cadaver dog?
- What is the smell of Death?
- Surely one cannot use dead body parts!?
- How long after death can a cadaver dog find a body?
- How far down can a cadaver dog smell a body?
- Can cadaver dogs smell bodies underwater?
- What is the closest thing to the smell of a dead body?
- 

Are you a fan of Nose Work? This book is for you!

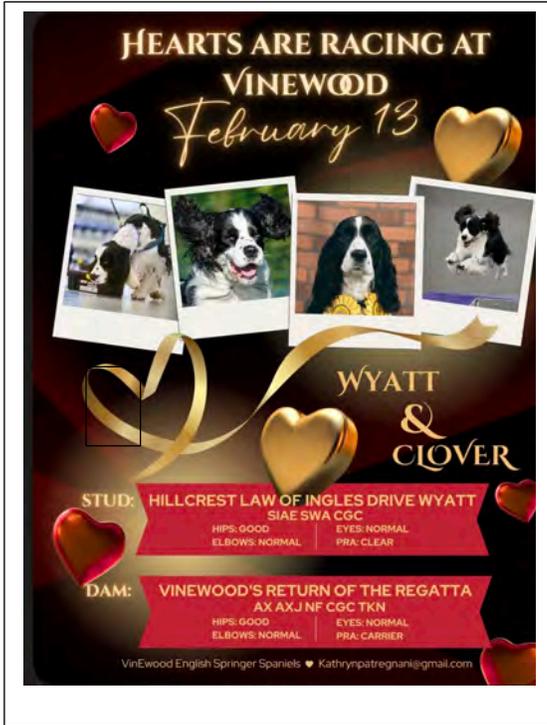
Today, we have AKC Nose Work classes, training and competition for a nonprofessional experience where we can understand more deeply the canine nose. Scent Work has exploded across our society ranging from military, police work, security work as well as search and rescue duties. For centuries, hunting of course has always enjoyed the thrill of the dog's incredible ability to smell. Don't forget the awesome skill of the bloodhound and their keen work. But going back ten to fifteen years ago, apart from hunting, many of these disciplines were private or were held by professionals and limited to a mostly male dominated occupation. Now, dog nose detection work is in most all fabrics of our society and includes many women as well.

This book, "WHAT THE DOG KNOWS", by Cat Warren, was published in 2013. Cat is a professor at North Carolina State University, where she teaches science journalism and creative nonfiction. She is also a cadaver-dog handler. Today, these dogs are called Human Remains Detection dogs (HRD). Journey along with Cat as she learns to train her German Shepherd, Solo, to locate the scent of decomposing human remains. Unlike traditional search-and-rescue dogs that look for living persons, cadaver dogs are trained to detect the unique, complex odors produced by human decomposition, including blood, bone, and bodily fluids, even when buried, underwater, or scattered. Not only does she learn by the school of hard knocks, but she must also break into a male dominated field in her quest to understand the olfactory genius of dogs. What started out as a hobby for her soon became a calling that all of us dog lovers can relate. It is an exciting read! I found myself gripped by learning the science, the rigorous training and skilled handling that underlie the amazing abilities of HRT dogs. (This book is available on Amazon in paperback for \$12.98)



## FROM THE WHELPING BOX

Announcing the “Love” Litter!!



Whelped February 9, 2026. Three B/W girls, One B/W boy and one L/W Boy.

VinEwood Kennels. Kathrynpatregnani@gmail.com



## News from Tagalong Springers



Thomas, CH Tagalong's Classic Composition and Amelia, Tagalong & Segre's Dare to Dream welcomed 7 puppies on February 7th! There are 3 B/W boys, 3 B/W girls, and 1 L/W girl. Puppies and mom are doing great! One B/W male is still available. Contact Sarah at 612-508-3827.

**NEWS FROM THE BOARD**

**TCVESSA MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 8, 2026**

**Call to Order: 7:34PM**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Mary Dahl, Sandi Klimers, Carmen Laing, Liz Pike, Cyndi Myhre, Alice Musburger, Tekla Viker, Diane Slais, Gretta Thorson, Michelle Berge, Courtney Hansen, Kathy Patregnani, Jean Dockendorf.

**Absent:** Heather Rand

**Reading of Minutes of November Meeting:**

First Motion to Approve: Mary Dahl

Second Motion to Approve: Diane Slais

Motion Carried

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**President:** No Report.

**Vice-President:** No Report.

**Membership Chair Report:** No Report.

**Treasurer:**

Beginning Balance (11/20/2025)		\$5,473.10
Income		\$16,236.02
Dues, Donations +Interest	390.02	
December Agility Trial	15,846.00	
Expenses		-14,892.28
Website/PayPal	-23.15	
Restock Ribbons	-\$1,532.97	
December Agility Trial	-13,336.16	
Ending Balance (1/8/2026)		\$6,816.84

First Motion to Approve: Diane Slais

Second Motion to Approve: Tekla Viker

Motion Carried

**Secretary: No Report**  
**COMMITTEE REPORTS – No Report.**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **December Agility Budget/Update**

The group discussed the financial results of December's Agility trial with major expenses being AKC fees, judge costs, and facility rental.

### **Fall Membership Meeting**

They agreed to hold the January annual meeting on January 24th at the agility trial location, with members arriving around 3 PM and the meeting starting between 4:30-5 PM.

### **October 2025 Specialty Update**

The meeting focused on a misunderstanding regarding judge selection procedures for a club specialty show. Cindy, the show chair, had initiated a process to collect bios for sweepstakes judges to help members make informed voting decisions, which led to a conflict with a few members of the board. These few board members expressed that while the idea of bios was good, the process should have gone through them first. The discussion revealed a lack of communication about existing procedures, with Liz acknowledging she had previously documented judge selection responsibilities, but these weren't shared with the new show chair. The conversation ended with Cindy announcing her resignation due to the conflict, though the board expressed regret about the situation and acknowledged communication failures on both sides. Liz Pike emailed Mary and Courtney the show chair responsibilities document.

### **Addressing Leadership and Communication Concerns**

The board discussed concerns about communication and leadership changes with it being tabled until next meeting.

### **Cambridge Dog Show Planning Meeting**

The group discussed plans for an upcoming dog show in Cambridge, focusing on application details and judge selection. Courtney and Sarah are handling show chair duties, with Liz aiding on applications. The group discussed the selection of judges from Cambridge's panel to save on expenses. The group agreed to proceed with the current plan for the specialty show, with a focus on determining if the location and timing work well for future events. The club discussed plans for concurrent shows and agreed to start with two concurrent shows this year to test the concept, with supported entries on other days, rather than fully committing to all four days.

### **Vox Editor Update**

It was reported that no update on this position. Alice mentioned that she is willing to do the job but wants assistance.

### **Annual Awards**

Alice reported that she currently has 11 applications and trophy expenses. The board approved using dog tags as a new recognition method for title earners and kennel plates for new titles.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Website**

Jean Dockendorf explained that website issues are across the board (internet) and should be resolved shortly.

- Next Meeting Date: February 12, 2026, at 7:30 PM

**ADJOURNMENT:** Adjourned: 8:34 PM

## **TCVESSA MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

Meeting called to Order 7:33p.m. Via Zoom Meeting

Attended by: Mary D, Tekla V, Courtney H, Liz P, Joann R, Diane S, Sandi K, Sarah W, Michelle B, Jean D, Kathy P, Heather R, Carol H, Carmen L

Clarification was made about board minutes, corrections and who can or cannot make motions and second motions as follows:

Typo corrections made to last month's meeting minutes and discussion around membership meeting vs board meeting and who can approve the meeting minutes.

With membership meeting minutes everyone in attendance can approve, Board meeting minutes can only be approved by board members

Going forward we need to designate membership meeting vs board meeting at the beginning of the meeting and minutes need to reflect so we know who can approve the minutes for that portion of the meeting if there is a board only portion of the meeting

Diane approved, Mary 2nd

No new membership applications. 11 members have not paid yet. Mary will send a note. Membership dues can be collected at the March 15th meeting

Treasures report

\$240 income and \$72 from Baray

Jan Agility expenses and \$350 for AKC fees need to be paid  
ending balance \$6006.16

\*request for funds for May Obedience trial

\*request for funds for June Agility

\*Liz was going to work with Sarah for application(s) for Cambridge and associated fees (we may be on the late side of things)

Michelle B was going to send examples of contracts for judges to Sarah & Courtney

Courtney was going to update the premium for Cambridge and check on entry fees with Gloria if Cambridge wanted them all the same

Discussion ensued around filling out applications and around the specialties

Discussion ensued around Oct 1-4 specialties in Hutchinson and the cost differences between a designated and concurrent (more expensive for the club). Prizes and ribbons are most of the cost. The club receives approx. \$18 of each entry from regular classes from a designated. Michelle states that she needs help with the Oct specialty and cannot do it alone. Several people offered help with different pieces of the specialty, and it was decided that we would scale back for 2026 and 3 supported entries and 1 concurrent

Kathy approved and Tekla 2nd

Mary was to send out the spreadsheet for cost breakdowns for 2025 Hutch specialty.

Diane will be point person for fundraising efforts (she is not in charge of it all and can recruit help)

Discussion ensued around TCVESSA Logo gear from Big Frog; Sarah was going to ask Ruth Dehmel about some artwork

Discussion ensued around fundraising idea of having members sponsor ribbons and/or prizes for placements at the specialties and obedience trials (like the National)

Michelle to send a spreadsheet for ribbon and prize donations

Liz R offered to make some wooden Springers for both specialties and the obedience trials

Discussion ensued around Coffee and Canines meeting in St. Louis Park and how some clubs have turned it into a fundraising event. This could be a possibility for us in the future.

Zoom Account update: Gretta was changing over the Zoom account to herself and another person to be able to host the meetings. The names of the people on the account can be changed as needed if it is set up under the club's name.

Conclusion of membership meeting

Board only Meeting:

Discussion around the bylaws and Zoom voting for members

The wording that the National Club used was read and discussed.

and it was agreed to adopt the same wording as ESSFTA

Addendum to the by-laws will not go into effect until all members are notified, likely after the Awards Banquet

We will need 2/3 of members in attendance pass such an addendum.

Discussion ensued around some voting needing to be done in secret and this can be done via the chat feature on Zoom but will need to take some planning prior to the meeting.

Gretta motioned Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Discussion around the meaning of "in good standing" for members when it comes to voting at meetings.

It was decided that if members are paid in full for their dues prior to the meeting being called to order they will be allowed to vote at the meeting they attend. (if meeting is called to order 5pm if dues are paid by 4:59pm the member will be considered in good standing and can vote).

Gretta motioned and Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Next meeting March 5 7:30pm

motion to adjourn Gretta 2<sup>nd</sup> Tekla meeting closed at 916pm

submitted by:

Courtney Hansen

## TCVESSA CLUB WEBSITE UPDATE

The club website has been down for several months. The club is working to find a new host and to get the new site up and running. A Huge thank you to Jean Dockendorf for taking care of this for the club. The cost to the new website will be similar to the cost of the old website. **IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE** look frequently to the club's Facebook page for information and news.

## OBITUARY FOR MARGARET BECKER

Margaret Becker was a longtime friend of Francie Nelson and Marley Whiting. She was especially close to Lori Hilleren. Older Springer and other dog folks in the Twin Cities area will remember Margaret. She specialized in obedience and was a tough competitor in the 80's and 90's. She worked as a dog groomer and loved to train and show! Many older folks will remember training at Canine College under Marley Whiting. Margaret was a special person to Marley Whiting. Marley worried about her all the time!

Her first dog was Jesse. Margaret got a UDX on Jesse. Jesse served to motivate Margaret to learn to drive a car, to get her driver's license and to her first vehicle. Why might you ask? The answer was so she could train and show! This happened when she was in her 40's! She had many other dogs, one of which was Brooke who Francie Nelson helped her find. She got a CDX and breed Championship on Brooke. Another dog named Dewey, was her HEART dog.

Lori Hilleren first met her after she was divorced. After the divorce, Margaret surrounded herself with friends. She moved out to Dawson, MN in 1994 because her oldest son lived out there. After a while, two more of her for kids moved out there later. With encouragement from Margaret, Lori herself moved out to Dawson after her retirement.

Lori mentioned that Margaret's only daughter, Tina, moved to Dawson twenty years ago and has been there the entire time taking care of Margaret. Many Springer people have met Tina and believe that Tina is an angel! Margaret had a great kindness for both people and animals. Lori says that Margaret was a special and unique friend to her that she will miss.



**Margaret Becker**

**October 26, 1942 — March 7, 2026**

- Have you read a good dog book lately?
- Do you have any funny stories about trips to and from show/trials?
- Do you have any particular interest or idea that you would like the club to do?
- Do you have any hilarious or extra interesting photos of your dogs to Share?
- Do you have any articles of interest regarding our breed to share?

PLEASE SHARE ANY OF THE ABOVE FOR THE SUMMER VOX.

(Deadline for submission is June First)

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR:

- Ring Stewards and help in general at obedience and rally trials May 16 & 17. Contact Kathy Patregnani.
- Bar setters, leash runners and much more for agility trials May 29-31. Contact Kathy Patregnani. It does not matter if you have not done this before! Your help is still needed.
- Ring Stewards and TONS more from small to larger for Anoka/Cambridge. Shows If you are a body, your help is needed. Contact Sarah Willms, Tekla Viker or Courtney Hansen.

***IN ORDER TO HELP ALL OF US UNDERSTAND WHAT HELP IS NEEDED FOR THE BREED SHOWS, THE NEXT PAGES HAVE DEFINITIONS OF THE TYPES OF SHOWS WE CAN OFFER. WE DO NOT WANT TO BE A "BREED ONLY" CLUB, BUT MUST START WITH THE HEART, SOUL AND ORIGIN OF MOST OUR DOGS AND EVENTS. WE ARE A TALENTED GROUP AND COLLECTIVELY HAVE MUCH TO GIVE AND TO DO WITH EACH OTHER AND OUR DOGS.***

### **Designated Specialty**

A breed club holds its specialty *in conjunction with* an all-breed show, but the all-breed show-giving club handles most of the event logistics. The specialty is “designated” within the larger all-breed event.

- Entries are typically processed through the all-breed show superintendent.
- Uses the same show site and infrastructure.
- Judging is separate for the specialty, but administration is integrated.
- The show is listed distinctly in the AKC event schedule, even though it's held at the same site/time as the all-breed show
- Often includes specialty perks (supported entries, trophies, sweepstakes, etc.)

### **Practical Effect for Exhibitors:**

- You enter your breed for the specialty and may also enter the all-breed show (often same weekend).
- Points earned count as specialty points.
- Lower administrative burden for the breed club.
- Because a designated specialty is held within the all-breed show, Best of Breed at the designated specialty does go on to compete in the Group.

### **Concurrent Specialty**

A breed club holds its specialty at the same site and on the same day(s) as an all-breed show, but it is a separate AKC-licensed event run independently by the breed club. The specialty runs “alongside” the all-breed show but is technically its own event.

- The breed club is fully responsible for its own event.
- Separate event number and AKC approval.
- Separate judging panel (though sometimes judges overlap).
- Separate show committee and liability.
- Entries are often handled independently (though sometimes by the same superintendent).
- When a breed club holds a concurrent specialty, the all-breed club may choose not to offer regular classes for that breed in its all-breed show. This is often done: to concentrate entries in the specialty, to avoid splitting majors, to simplify

scheduling. When this happens, the breed only shows in the specialty that day and there is no Best of Breed in the all-breed show for that breed (ie no ESS in group).

**Practical Effect for Exhibitors:**

- You enter two distinct shows (the concurrent specialty and the all-breed show), unless designated otherwise.
- You can earn points in both on the same weekend.
- More administrative control for the breed club.
- Best of Breed at the concurrent specialty does NOT advance to Group from that event.

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Designated Specialty</b>	<b>Concurrent Specialty</b>
Administrative control	Mostly all-breed club	Breed club
AKC event status	Part of all-breed event	Separate licensed event
Entry handling	Through all-breed	Separate event entry
Liability	Shared / primarily all-breed	Breed club responsible
Flexibility for breed club	Limited	Greater control
Separate specialty awards	Separate specialty awards	Separate specialty awards
Judging schedule	Judging schedule	Judging schedule

**Supported Entry**

A supported entry is when a breed club “supports” the entry of its breed at an existing all-breed show. It is the simplest way for a breed club to encourage participation because the all-breed club runs the show.

- The breed is judged as part of the regular all-breed show.
- Best of Breed advances to Group (just like normal).
- The breed club promotes the show to its members to encourage a larger entry for majors
- Often donates trophies or awards



*Join your fellow club members in  
celebrating all of our  
2025 accomplishments!*

**The TCVESSA Annual Awards Banquet**

**Saturday, April 11, 2026**

**Lord Fletchers**  
3746 Sunset Dr  
Spring Park, MN 55384  
952-471-8513 [www.lordfletchers.com](http://www.lordfletchers.com)



Social Hour: 5:00-6:00 p.m. Cash Bar  
Dinner: 6:00 p.m.  
Program, Meeting & Awards: 7:00 p.m.

**Reservations must be made by March 31, 2026**

Dinner price is **\$50.00** and includes a House Salad, Coffee, Dessert and Gratuity.  
**Filled Volunteer Cards are worth \$30. One card per dinner.**  
**Remember to include these with your RSVP**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the TCVESSA Awards Banquet. All meals are priced at **\$50.00**.  
Please check your meal preference.

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| _____ <b>Parmesan Crusted Chicken Breast</b>                         | \$ _____ |
| AuGratin Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables                              |          |
| _____ <b>Fletcher's Walleye</b> Topped with Toasted Almonds          | \$ _____ |
| AuGratin Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables                              |          |
| _____ <b>5 Cheese Tortellini</b> Basil Pesto Cream Sauce, Mushrooms, | \$ _____ |
| Tomatoes, Revol Greens, Parmesan Cheese                              |          |

**Total Check Amount** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Filled Volunteer Cards are worth \$30 towards dinner price. One card per dinner)**

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 \* 612-202-0548 \*  
Carmen913@msn.com

**Reservations must be made by March 31, 2026**



***May the warmth of the evening embrace you and your accomplishments!***

All Award Forms and Guidelines can be found on the TCVESSA Website. Please print these forms to use for your award titles. [www.tcveffa.org](http://www.tcveffa.org) Forms are due **Saturday, January 31, 2026.**

Also:

Each year, club members and their Springers are recognized at our banquet in one of three ways.

1. Each member receives a personalized certificate for a Springer completing a title.
2. Members whose dogs qualify for our many Annual Awards receive mementos.
3. The permanent Annual Award Trophies recognize the highest achievement, and each resides with the winner for one year.

Some members have mentioned a preference not to receive mementos. This year, we are making this choice optional. At the bottom of the awards form (the form to be filled out and returned to the awards chairpersons), please check the appropriate box to indicate whether you do, or do not, wish to receive a memento.

You and your dog will still be recognized, as always, at the banquet. Thank you!



### ***Raffle***

Look High—Look Low and gather items for our annual prize drawing.

We are asking members to design, find or create and donate something for the raffle. Look through those closets, boxes and bags, new or used, or show us your non-dog creativity, bake, scrapbook, paint or build.

If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail Carmen.  
[Carmen913@msn.com](mailto:Carmen913@msn.com)





Twin Cities  
Voyageur  
English  
Springer  
Spaniel  
Association

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

This form is for ...

- New Membership Application  
 Renewal Membership

Office use only:

First Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date (month & day only – not year): \_\_\_\_\_

Registered names and "call" names of Springers owned that are active this year. (Use back of sheet if needed).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Breeder Referral List:** Do you want to be included on the club breeder referral list? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No

The breeder list will be posted on the website and provided to email inquiries. In order to be listed, a breeder must be a TCVESSA member in good standing and promise to abide by the ESSFTA dog breeding guidelines and standards of ethics.

### Membership Dues

Dues must be paid **before January 1st each year**. Memberships expire on April 1. Make checks payable to TCVESSA.

Return form along with your check to:

Mary E Dahl, Membership Chair  
12478 State Highway 1 NW  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701  
[medahl@wiktel.com](mailto:medahl@wiktel.com)

Membership Type:

- Individual \$20  
 Family \$30  
 Jr. membership \$12 (must be under age 18)  
 Canadian \$30 (please use U.S. dollars)

### Areas of Interest

Please indicate all areas you are interested in:

- |  |   |                                      |  |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conformation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Trick Training   | <input type="checkbox"/> Obedience   | <input type="checkbox"/> Nose/Scent Work     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming clinics        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pedigrees        | <input type="checkbox"/> Tracking    | <input type="checkbox"/> Breeding/Genetics   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rally Obedience         | <input type="checkbox"/> Handling clinics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agility     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dock Diving         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting, Field training | <input type="checkbox"/> Therapy Dog      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fun Matches | <input type="checkbox"/> Canine Good Citizen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Springer rescue         | <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for a Pet | <input type="checkbox"/> Barn Hunt   | <input type="checkbox"/> Temperament Testing |

### Volunteer Commitment

I understand that TCVESSA is an "All Volunteer Club" and it takes all members' willingness to help with activities in order to keep the club healthy. *I am willing to donate at least 2 hours annually to the club in:*

- |   |                                       |   |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Shows    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fun Matches  | <input type="checkbox"/> Education      | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obedience Events   | <input type="checkbox"/> Website      | <input type="checkbox"/> Agility Trials | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine Person        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter   | <input type="checkbox"/> Awards         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunt/Working Tests     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event Photography  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ring Steward | <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet        | <input type="checkbox"/> Bookkeeping & Archives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member Mentor  | <input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME!     |   |   |

I have the following skills that I can share with TCVESSA \_\_\_\_\_

### Correspondence

TCVESSA will send all correspondence including the VOX newsletter via email. If you cannot receive email and need correspondence sent by postal mail, please check this box: \_\_ need postal service

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_