

**Western PA Earthdog Club
Tracking Primer
with M.A. Klein
Thursday, August 18, 2016**

M.A. Klein

I have been an AKC earthdog and dachshund field trial judge more than 10 years. I have had the honor to judge several Dachshund Club of America national tests. In the past year with my four-legged partners, we have earned two Tracking Dog and one Tracking Dog Excellent titles. Currently, I have three dachshunds and one sheltie with whom I am tracking at all four levels offered by AKC: Tracking Dog (TD), Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX), Variable Surface Tracker (VST) and Tracking Dog Urban (TDU).

Tracking Primer

The presentation will encompass some basics of AKC tracking and hands-on working time. You will become familiar with tracking equipment, training regimens and learning to read your dog. We will learn to plot tracks, to understand positive line work and to provide motivation for you to become a successful team.

Dress appropriately for field work, rain or shine.

Equipment needed: Basic harness (available at most Petco or Pet Smart stores) and a 30-foot line. Samples of different tracking lines and other equipment and some training books will be available to view. Please bring a baggie full of small bites of hot dog or string cheese for your dog.

All breeds are welcome.

Seminar will begin at 9 a.m. with novice dogs and handlers. Dogs with some experience are invited to join the presentation and will be offered an extended tracking opportunity at the end of the day. All dogs will have working time on tracks.

One dog per handler. A short break will be taken for lunch. A box lunch will be provided. All seminar activities should end by 5 pm.

The cost is \$25 per handler. Registration is limited to 12 handlers. Participants must pre-register by contacting Kathy Newman by email at knewman203@comcast.net or by phone 412-889-8005.

You will receive an e-mail confirmation of your registration.