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# ◆ Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club ◆

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Volume 1 Issue 1

Dec 07, 2003

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Randy Setzer 285-6724 Vice President: Dan Marsh 587-7578  
Secretary: Scott Benowitz 585-7101 Treasurer: Ray Bradley 587-8867  
Pat Dillon 995-2415 Retrievers Ron Russell 333-4339  
Bryan Blatt Spaniels Jack Weiss 586-6365  
Eric & Melody Kaelin 522-8842 Pointers

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES

### Board Meetings:

December 16, 6:00pm  
February 17, 7:00pm  
April 20, 7:00 pm  
June 15, 7:00 pm

### General Meetings:

**December 16, 7:00 pm**

**MHGDC Christmas Party &  
Wild Game Feed.** Bring your best  
dishes. (FWP Building)

ANNUAL MEETING ~ February 21st ,  
6:00pm King Tool

Remember board members need to be there at  
5 p.m. to help set up .

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello All, Somehow another year has disappeared.  
I hope hunting season has been good for everyone.

Our slate of nominees for next years board is:  
Vice President: Dan Marsh, Secretary: Scott Benowitz,  
Treasurer: Ray Bradley, Retrievers: Pat Dillon and Ron  
Russel, Spaniels: Bryan Blatt and Jack Weiss, Pointers:  
Eric Kaelin. We need nominees for President and one  
Pointer member. Any ideas?

Please plan to attend the General meeting on Dec. 16th.  
Bring your favorite wild game dish or dessert and your  
appetite to sample all of the culinary delights. Photos of  
your hunting season are welcome too.

Mark your calendars for the annual meeting on Feb. 21st  
at King Tool. Bring the family and enjoy a great meal  
and greet old friends and make a few new ones.

### MHGDC Board Meeting Minutes

**10/21/03**

The meeting of the MHGDC Board of Directors was  
called to order at 7:15 PM.

**Members Present:** Randy Setzer, Bryan Blatt, Ray  
Bradley, Pat Dillon, Dan Marsh, Art Vant Hul, Scott  
Benowitz

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the Board of  
Directors meeting held on 8/19/03 were read and  
approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Savings \$11,741, Checking  
\$4,799.

**Pointers:** Out hunting

**Spaniels:** Spaniel Field Trial gunning & judging  
seminar Aug 30-31 in Three Forks. Approximately 12  
participants, most from MHGDC. Randy and Jack are  
going to put together some "fun Format" events for  
next year. To be held a few times over the spring and  
summer. More details as they become available.

**Retrievers:** Out Hunting

**Unfinished Business:** MHGDC web site in  
development: MHGDC.org. Dan Marsh will manage  
the site and keep it updated. We'll let you know when  
it's up and running.  
Annual banquet scheduled for February 21, 2004 at  
King Tool.

Randy is preparing a newly typed version of the Constitution and By-Laws containing the 2001 updates. Board approved and will forward to general membership for a vote new language for Constitution: Section 2 (e) Monies collected by the club are only to be spent meeting the objectives listed in 2 (a), (b), (c), and (d).

The access road to the training grounds was improved. Great Job! Thanks to Holcim for donating the gravel.

Club Brochure is being developed by Board members for distribution around town and at sportsmen shows.

Board approved a raise in dues from \$30 to \$35 per year. Dues have not been raised for several years, and annual expenses are rising.

Bryan Blatt will present the Board a format for an open training say in spring-an "introduction to MHGDC training day". Will be open to all hunting breeds.

Randy will be stepping down as Club President at the end of the current term. The Board listed several potential nominees for Club President. Randy will contact them to see if they're interested in serving. If you want to be considered for the position, Please contact Randy Setzer.

**New Business:** Club will participate in FWP's "Adopt a Fishing Access Site" program. The Club will sponsor the Fairweather FAS, which will involve a twice yearly campaign to pick up trash at the site. It will be conducted in Spring (probably in conjunction with the Springer field trial), and again in the fall. The Board will appoint a committee to be responsible for honoring this commitment.

Dan Marsh shared an email he received regarding future use of domestic mallards for hunt tests and field trials: The final public notice of regulations pertaining to the release of domestic mallards was published in the Federal Register on 8/26/03 (vol. 68, no. 165). The public is very close to losing live flyer mallards if the proposed USFWS proposal on the subject is adopted. The primary concern is the spread of disease and the watering down of the viability of

duck in Florida. For some reason, the Western Flyway people also want the practice eliminated. While the title and body of the proposed regulation only seems to affect shooting clubs, the devil is in the attachments as the release of "captive-reared mallards" would also be prohibited in trials, tests and training. Comments must be received by 12/20/03. The final draft may be reviewed at <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

**Spaniel news/Pheasant Championship** The spaniel group hosted a combination gunning and judging seminar on August 30-31 at Three Forks. Many members of the Spaniel group attended the training.

Mr. Tim De Groff came up from Colorado to head the gunning seminar. The purpose of the seminar is to expose attendees to the various safety issues in gunning field trials. A spaniel field trial utilizes gunning teams of three active gunners. This seminar taught the participant the safety and shooting issues encountered in a trial situation. The long term goal of the program is to have qualified and competent gunners at our field trials and training. Until one has actually gunned in a trial setting, he or she has no idea of the many things needed to be considered before the shot is taken. The seminar had both classroom and field training for all participants.

The judging seminar is required of anyone who would like to judge spaniel field trials. Three experienced judges taught the seminar. John Wright headed the judging panel. Tim DeGroff, Dominic Savoie, and Jim McCreedy were on the panel. The seminar consisted of classroom work and field judging of actual dog work. Potential judges must also have two actual apprentice judging experience at actual trials before they can be qualified for judging.

Fall trials have been attended by a few members. John Wright, Chris & Heather Maxcy and Jack Weiss attended the Utah trial in September. John Wright had a big weekend at the Idaho trial in early November. Sam won both the Open and the Amateur. Right now the Maxcy's and John Wright are in Ohio for the US Amateur Championships. We wish them all well.

Hunting season is in full swing. Many spaniel members are actively chasing the various gamebirds throughout Montana. I have heard that there is more than a few birds around this year. I know this to be true since I actually shot a couple myself.

Training sessions will begin again after the first of the year. Contact Jack or Randy for times. All are welcome. We have quite a few new puppies to train so it should be fun watching them.  
Happy Holidays to all club members.  
Respectfully  
Jack Weiss

### **Pheasant Championship**

First of all please accept my apologies for not having this in an earlier newsletter. I am truly sorry for not getting this out to all members sooner.

The annual Pheasant Championship was held August 17 at Headwaters State Park. The weather could not have been better. Clear cool conditions prevailed throughout the day. That was a big relief to all of us considering how hot the summer had been.

The event consisted of 12 Teams. Teams were represented by each of the different dog groups within the club: Pointers, Retrievers, and Spaniels. Each team has a dog and two gunners. The team is given 30 minutes to find six pheasants. This year we also had a bonus bird of one quail per team. Points are awarded based on birds found, retrieved, shots used and actual running time. Teams must walk the course. Naturally safe gun handling is required for all teams.

This year saw quite a few participants. All of us who ran the event in past years were very pleased by the new folks coming out. It is nice to meet the new club members and see their dogs in action. Newcomers this year included: Bill Mealer and Lady, Tim Kirchner and Jack, Ralph Ferraro and Bells, Tam Scott and Atta, Kathy Fletcher and Decoy, and Tom Weiskopf and Finn. I hope that next year we see even more new participants at the event.

The dogs did great. We saw many outstanding performances by many of the dogs. The handlers and gunners also did a great job. I think everyone had a great time even those gunners who missed a few shots.

The results were: 1st Wayne Frederickson and Fay, Spaniel, 2nd Shannon Taylor and Maggie, Retriever, 3rd John Mester and Ami, Pointer and 4th Shannon Taylor and Mocha, Pointer.

The scores were all close and a little luck or a missed shot made the difference in the placements.  
I would like to thank everyone who helped put on this event. We all know there is a lot of thankless work done to make these things happen. Randy Setzer, Scott Benowitz and Al Gadoury planted birds all day. Without their hard work there would be no birds for the dogs to find. Thank you again to everyone else who helped carry and setup the equipment.

I look forward to next year's event. All of you who have not ever participated are welcome to come out and have fun.

Respectfully  
Jack Weiss

### **Club Member Dale Spartas**

has two new books out. Featuring many faces you would recognize. Autographed and scribed copies are available from him.

**To The Point** ~ a tribute to pointing dogs. Author Tom Davis, is a 158 page full size coffee table book. Covering all breeds and aspects of pointing dogs. \$40.00.

**Rooster!** ~ A tribute to Pheasant Hunting in North America. Full blown coffee table book written by some of the best Outdoor Writers in America.

Covers all of pheasant and pheasant hunting as well as the top 6 Pheasant hunting states. You will find included the Biology and History of dogs, guns, shooting, and future of pheasants. 125 pages sponsored by Pheasants Forever \$40.00.

If you're from Bozeman or the surrounding area it is best to pick up a copy from Dale himself, if not they can be shipped for \$5.00 for one book or \$10.00 for 3 books.

Contact Dale at 37 E Main, Bozeman  
585-2244

Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club  
P.O. Box 4717, Bozeman MT 59712-4717



### **ITEMS FOR SALE**

Larry Michnevich has a large Pet Porter that he would like to trade for a medium one and has a wire crate for sale 586-2939.

Ron Russel has Yellow lab puppies for sale \$400.00 333-4339