

◆ Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club ◆

Feb 2006

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Sam Robinson (C) 539-6119 (W) 585-5530

Vice President: Dan Marsh 587-7578

Secretary: Scott Beowitz 585-7101 Treasurer: JoAnn Kish 388-3200

Retrievers: Pat Dillon 995-2415 Kyle Barner 995-4319

Pointers: Larry Michnevich 586-2939 Mark Donovan 388-8383

Spaniels: Al Gadoury 586-3806 Wayne Frederickson 586-0039

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES

- ◆ Board meetings at FWP for 2006
- ◆ Apr 25, Jun 20, Aug 15, Oct 17 & Dec 19.
- ◆ Annual Game Feed Dec 19 after Board Meeting
- ◆ UPLAND BIRD CHALLENGE APRIL 9TH TRAINING GROUNDS
- ◆ Retriever Hunt Tests
- ◆ Missoula Jun 10 & 11
- ◆ Treasurer State Jun 17 & 18
- ◆ Treasurer State Jul 29 & 30

Preliminary
2006 MHGDC event and training ground schedule:
Training Grounds (TG) To Be Determined (TBD)

NSTRA	March 11-12	TG
Spaniel Field Trial	Apr 1-2	Fairweather
Upland Bird Challenge	Apr 9	TG
German Shorthaired Grp	Apr 22-23	TG
Spaniel Picnic Trial	May 13	TG
Pointer Picnic Trial	May 20	TG
Spaniel Hunt Test	May 27-28	TG, Black bird
Spaniel Picnic Trial	June 10	TG
Pointer Picnic Trial	June 17	TG
Griffon Group	June 24-25	TG
Snake Break	TBD	TBD
Annual Picnic	TBD	TBD
Spaniel Picnic Trial	July 8	TG
Pointer Picnic Trial	July 15	TG
Spaniel Picnic Trial	Aug 12	TG
Pointer Picnic Trial	Aug 19	TG
German Shorthaired Grp	Aug 26/27	TG
Spaniel Hunt Test	Sep 16-17 (?)	TG/TBD

MHGDC WEB SITE IS UP AND RUNNING CHECK IT OUT!!! @ mhgdc.org

Upland Game Bird Challenge

April 9th, 8:00am

Training Grounds

Cost \$65.00 per team

Each team consisting of one dog and two handlers, will receive two Pheasants and three Chukars. Limited to 12 teams, one dog per handler unless entries do not fill up. Lunch will be provided. Contact Bryan Blatt @ 388-5720

We would like to thank all of the businesses and individuals who donated items for the annual banquet. The club appreciates the support in keeping the dog club strong in the effort to continually improve the quality of our much loved hunting pets.

Thanks to Sam and Priscilla Robinson for the effort they put forth in getting everything ready for the annual meeting.

We would also like to thank the past board members for their hard work, Ray Bradley, Ron Russel, Bryan Blatt, Jack Weiss and to wish the new board a Thank you for stepping up, Sam as President, Dan Marsh as V-President, Scott who stayed on as Secretary, JoAnn Kish - Treasurer, Pat Dillon & Kyle Barner for the Retrievers, Larry Michnevich & Mark Donovan for the Pointers and Al Gadoury & Wayne Frederickson for the Spaniels. Everyone's effort is appreciated!

MHGDC Board Meeting Minutes
2/21/06

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

Board Members Present: Jack Weiss, Ray Bradley, JoAnn Kish, Bryan Blatt, Al Gadoury, Sam Robinson, and Scott Benowitz.

Members present: Wayne Frederickson, Larry Michnevich

President's Report: None

Secretary's Report: Minutes were read from the 12/20/05 meeting, modified and approved. As of 12/31/05, club has 130 members.

Treasurer's Report: 2-yr CD-\$12,008, Checking - \$7,319.

Pointers: NSTRA Great Falls, January 20, 2006 results: Eric Kaelin/Huck 2nd, Wayne Frederickson/Nicca 4th, Mark Donovan/Rusty 5th.

Spaniels: Training Saturdays weather permitting.

Retrievers: No Report

Unfinished Business:

Upland Bird Challenge April 9, 2006. Same format as Pheasant Championship, using mix of birds. Organized by Bryan Blatt. 6 openings left.

Club will undertake a clean-up project at the Fairweather Fishing Access Site this spring. Will establish date at Annual meeting.

New business:

2006 meeting dates: Feb 21, Apr 25, Jun 20, Aug 15, Oct 19, Dec 19 after Board meeting. Ray will reserve FWP meeting room for those dates. Annual meeting at King Tool Feb 25.

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The Board will review bonding requirements for the Treasurer, as required by the Club By-Laws.

Club has FWP permit that allows Club members to shoot pheasants and chukars for dog training at the training grounds only. This permit also allows these birds to be kept at Setzer's residence. The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

MHGDC Annual Meeting Minutes
2/25/06

Election of officers: Sam Robinson- President; Dan Marsh - Vice President; JoAnn Kish - Treasurer; Scott Benowitz - Secretary; Al Gadoury and Wayne Frederickson - Spaniels; Mark Donovan and Larry Michnevich - Pointers; Kyle Barner and Pat Dillon - Retrievers.

Clean -up project at the Fairweather Fishing Access Site after April 1 (to be decided).

The spaniel group is working at the training grounds Saturday mornings. There is an AKC English Springer Spaniel Field Trial April 1-2 at the Fairweather Fishing access, all are welcome. Our first flushing dog fun trial will be May 13 at the training grounds. The cost is usually \$20-\$25 and includes lunch. If you would like to run a dog please let me know ASAP. Other fun trials are scheduled June 10, July 8 and August 12.

Al Gadoury

MHGDC Flushing Dog Fun Trial Rules

1. Members only.
2. Teams are one dog and hunter, no running.
3. Birds will be planted only in marked areas. Not all marked areas will hold birds.
4. Scores will be 1-10 for each bird category. A trapped bird or a called safety will result in a score of 7 in applicable categories. Gun safety is scored 0 or 10.
5. Designated gunners and training aids may be used but will result in a maximum score of 6 in applicable categories.
6. Judges may give extra points for anything.

Natural Ability

Bird 1 Bird 2 Bird 3
(Style, desire, intelligence, wind)

Trained Ability

(Obedience, range, retrieve, steadiness)

Hunting Skills

(Stealth, #shots, clean kill)

Gun Safety

(0 or 10)

Dog _____

Hunter _____

Why I belong to MHGDC

On opening morning of last pheasant season Anna and I pulled up to a field in an eastern Montana Block Management Unit that we have hunting on prior openings. There was a pickup parked there already. I walked over to it and saw a man and a black dog in the front seat. In front of us to the right was a large open field with good cover. To our left, the field had been mowed in strips a perfect width for a flushing dog to cover from side to side. It was also good roosting cover. I asked the chap if he intended to hunt and where. He said he wanted to hunt the strips. I told him that was my intention also and if he was agreeable we could hunt adjacent strips. I assured him that Anna and I would be safe shooters and suggested that we try to keep abreast of each other as we worked down the strips. He agreed. Ten minutes before shooting time we were posted at the beginning of the first strip and he was at the second strip. When it was legal time I called to him that I preferred to wait a few minutes longer for better light to tell hens from roosters. He held his post. Then we started down the strip. As things unfolded there were a few birds in his strip and I heard some yelling as he tried to keep his dog in, instead of flushing them out there. He shot a few times but didn't drop anything. We did manage to keep pretty much even with each other. The moment came when Beam flushed a nice rooster that crossed in front and I put the side by side up and dropped the bird in the mowed strip. It seemed like a fairly routine shot to me but our friend in the next strip got all excited and yelled "Great shot ! Great shot." Beam was steady but the black dog was not and started to go for my bird. I called Beam's name and he darted to the bird and scooped it up just under the black dog's jaws. He delivered it to hand as always. When we reached the end of the strip we were ready to head for the next two strips when the chap came to me and said "I am thoroughly embarrassed and am leaving the field to you". He grabbed his dog's collar and headed back to his truck. That was the last I saw of them. Anna, Beam and I enjoyed the rest of the field alone. Somehow I suspect that if I see them there this year, he will have his dog under better control and he may be a better shot. If not, we may have the field to ourselves and he will slink away in the early glow of approaching shooting hour. He seemed like a nice guy. He should be a member of MHGDC and stand tall in the early light with no fear of embarrassing his dog or himself.

Retriever Report by Randy Setzer

The retrievers seem to be at a critical point at this time. While we have a lot of retriever owners that belong to the club, we have only about half a dozen active retriever people.

We have been putting on retriever hunt tests since 1988. This year we decided not to hold a test as no one was willing to be chairman or secretary. The active people have held these positions many times and have hit burn out.

The Treasure State Retriever club is going to pick up our date and run a second test so there will not be a loss of hunt tests available. TSRC has always been very generous in allowing us the use of their grounds and equipment so we ask our members to support them and help them during their tests.

I guess that somehow we are not meeting the needs of retriever people since we have such low participation. We're searching for ideas and requesting suggestions.

One idea we are toying with is putting on a fun test once a month. These would be set up similar to an AKC hunt test and can be a dress rehearsal for members running tests. They could also be a training situation to expose a young dog to guns, blinds, calls and birds. Call Pat, Kyle or me if you are interested.

The last thing I would like to stress is that we need participation. This really applies to all of our club members. If every member would volunteer one day per year to help run or organize an event it would help keep our club healthy and strong.

Randy

MHGDC Spring NSTRA Trial

By Mark Donovan

Once again the pointer fanatics of the Big Sky Region descended on the MHGDC Training Grounds for a weekend competitive bird finding fun. Chairman Conrad Kradolfer really knows how to put on good trial. A big thanks to all the members that helped set up, tear down and run the trial. A special note should be made about the food. All weekend it was fantastic. Lunches served by Jo Ann Kish, Darlene Donovan and Melody Kaelin were absolutely outstanding. The prime rib dinner at the Sacajawea Hotel was incredible and well attended. Dave Kirkland got the fire going both mornings and may go on record as serving the best Conrad Kradolfer MacMuffins on the planet.

This year 11 dogs and 7 members from the club competed, and compete they did. On Saturday Conrad and Diva placed 1st with Huck and Eric Kaelin finishing 2nd on Field B. The weather on Sunday started out cold but club dogs sizzled. Newt and Eric Kaelin finished 1st on Field A and B, Lucy and JoAnn Kish finished 3rd in Field B, Rusty and Mark Donovan finished 4th in Field A and Bo handled by Butch Nelson placed 5th.

For the next two and a half months club members will be traveling far and wide, in state and out of state representing MHGDC in both NSTRA and AKC Trials. Anyone interested in participating or knowing more about upcoming events or trials can call me at

388-8373, or JoAnn Kish at 388-3200. The first official training day will commence on the afternoon of April 6th, see you there – bring a kid!



Self taught artist, expressing my love of my huskies, dog sledding and nature in art. Creating lasting memories of the things we love with line and color.

I can work from your photos, contact me for prices and sizes.

Judy Johnson

and her kennel 'Shadowrun'



Thanks to Judy for the donation of a pet portrait for the annual meeting.

Judy Johnson

Box 1027

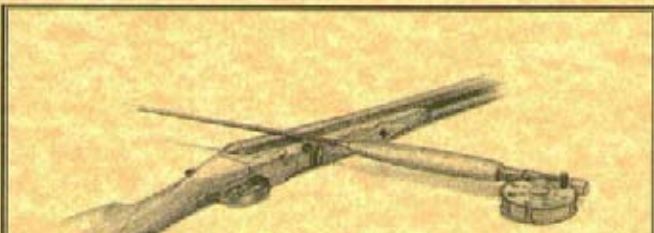
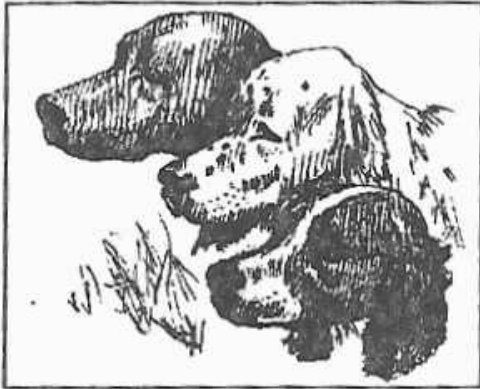
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Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club

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