



July, 2012

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Inside this issue:

Board Minutes 2
June 19th, 2012

News paper article 3

Retriever Report 4

Pointer Report 5

Spaniel Report 6

President's Message

I suspect many of you have heard by now that Randy and Tracey Setzer have sold their place and will be re-locating to the Great Falls area in early August. Both Randy and Tracey have given a tremendous amount of time and energy to the club beginning the day of its inception. The club was very fortunate to have two people of their caliber conducting club functions and business activities. They will be missed for their contributions to the club and their friendship. We wish them the very best in their new ventures.

The new owners, through a conversation with Randy, are interested in allowing the club to continue using the bird pens and possibly parking for our equipment trailers. Details have yet to be worked out, but the club will pay an annual fee and it will be our responsibility to take care of the birds. Hopefully, this will develop into a long-term commitment between them and the club. If not, we will be looking for a site in the Gallatin Valley that can be used for equipment storage and bird holding pens. If you know someone that may have a suitable site, please contact me or one of the board members.

It's that time of year when we need to be cautious where we let our dogs out to run and train. Many pasture grasses are beginning to dry out and the grass seeds they are releasing pose a serious threat to our dogs. Seeds of some species (cheatgrass [downy brome], foxtail barley, needle-and-thread) are capable of penetrating the skin or can be ingested or inhaled and cause a life-threatening infection in dogs. These species are prevalent in parts of the Gallatin Valley. After running or training your dog, it's always a good idea to check him/her for grass seeds especially inside the ears, under the eyelids and between the toes. In this newsletter photos of the species mentioned above are included. Watch for them closely in the field! Your dog's health depends on it.

There are several upcoming events worth noting. There will be an HRC Test at Twin Bridges July 28 - 29 (contact David French davidf@ctagroup.com, or Kerri Payne kerrip@bigskyrcontrol.com). The Snake Break Clinic at the Horse Pasture is scheduled for August 9 (contact Sam Robinson samuel.robinson@stifel.com). A Canine First Aid class is scheduled for August 23 at the FWP Conference Room from 6 - 9:30 PM (contact Greg Johnson gdj@montana.edu).

Good training and keep your dogs cool!

Barley Foxtail



Needle-and-thread



Cheat Grass



Photo: Anne Anderson

Board Meeting Minutes June 19, 2012

MINUTES

MHGDC BOARD MEETING June 19, 2012

Members present: David French, Al Gadoury, Mike Heard, Cheryl Johnson, Greg Johnson, Kerri Payne, Sam Robinson, and Jeff Squire. Members absent: Peter Bakun, Jack Weiss.

Minutes from the April meeting were not approved. They will be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kerri Payne updated the board on the balances in the bank (9,324.88) and money market (5,590.10) accounts. She reported on recent club events. The NSTRA event had a loss of \$328; the HRC netted \$217, and the Cocker Trial had a profit of \$2,285.36.

Retriever Report: There will be an HRC event on July 28 & 29 in Twin Bridges at Bill Totten's place. The topic of selling chances on two different types of guns was brought up. David French indicated the costs for the guns, how many tickets would need to be sold, etc. Following discussion, the board decided to not purchase the guns at this time and perhaps consider it next year.

Pointer Report: Sam Robinson indicated there were 14 braces held at the last PED with three new members participating.

Spaniel Report: Jeff Squire reported on the Spaniel Hunt Test. He indicated that due to lack of entries, the test was held on one day only, June 3. There were 5 dogs entered: 1 junior, 1 senior and 3 master dogs. Unfortunately, only one dog received a qualifying score. Jeff also reported on the TED which was held on June 10. There were 7 dogs: 1st went to Al Gadoury with Bella; Kerri Payne took 2nd with Dennis; and Jack Weiss took third with Spot. Kyle Barner chaired the event and his lovely wife, Veda, provided the lunch.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Road work and weed management @ the Horse Pasture: Greg Johnson will contact Jack Roadarmel for filling the potholes. He indicated that Randy Setzer sprayed for Foxtail.

Pheasants Forever Youth Day: Joe Braverman for the retrievers and John Wright for the spaniels have volunteered to make their dogs available for the day.

NEW BUSINESS:

Storage Facility, Equipment Trailers and Bird Pens: Due to recent events and a high probability of losing the use of Randy and Tracey Setzer's property which houses the club's bird pens, storage shed and equipment trailers, the board discussed possible alternatives for the housing of these assets. It is unknown at this point if the potential buyers of the Setzer property would be willing to allow the club to continue the same arrangements as we have had with Setzer's. The assumption is that the club would be charged a monthly rental fee of some type. Sam Robinson mentioned that Ron Murray, who has a dog obedience business in the old Avis Building on the Frontage Road to Belgrade, may allow the club to store their equipment on his property. There may also be a possibility of erecting bird pens on that property. Sam will speak to Ron within the next week or two and report back to the board. Other

Possibilities were discussed. It was suggested that in the next newsletter a plea to the entire membership be made for other possibilities or solutions. The logo that is on one of the storage trailers needs to be removed. The board felt it would be nice to have the club's logo on it. And perhaps sponsors who would be interested in having their logos displayed could be solicited in order to defray the cost of removal of the current logo.

Birds: The availability of birds for future use was discussed. Combining bird use for different events has saved the club money in the past and the hope is to continue that practice. Source of birds was discussed. Greg Johnson mentioned that he plans on picking up some pheasants from Tony Fowler in Conrad, MT around mid-July.

Banquet: Al Gadoury was nominated to check out venues for the annual club banquet to be held in February 2013.

Upcoming Events:

Snake Break Clinic: The club will again hold a snake break clinic sometime in August. Sam Robinson indicated he could have posters printed up and displayed in Vet clinics throughout the Bozeman area as a means of advertising the event. Jeff Squire made available to the board a hand out entitled "Instructions for Field-Dressing a Snake Bite."

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2012. However, due to the impending loss of the Setzer property, a July meeting was discussed.

8 - Ravalli Republic, June 13, 2012

Hamilton scientist dedicated to studying salmonella and training bird dogs

DAVID ERICKSON

RAVALLI REPUBLIC

Olivia Steele-Mortimer loves the great outdoors, but she has dedicated her life to studying the world on the molecular scale.

Steele-Mortimer is a senior investigator at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton and the chief of the salmonella research division. She has a Ph.D. in cell biology from the European Molecular Biology Laboratory and has been working in Hamilton for the past 11 years.

Her work at Rocky Mountain Labs has been dedicated to studying one of the world's most famous types of bacteria: salmonella.

"We study how salmonella interact with mammalian cells," she explained. "Salmonella is one of the more well-known bacterial pathogens that can live inside mammalian cells. In the developed world, we normally only see it as responsible for food poisoning outbreaks. We've had some huge outbreaks, like the peanut butter outbreak in 2009. If you look at the cost in monetary amounts, it's incredible to the food production industry. It has resulted in a massive reorganization about how food safety is controlled in the U.S."

However, salmonella is even more serious in developing countries.

"In the developing world, there is a related strain which, if you have decreased immune system protection because of HIV/AIDS, can cause a very serious systemic disease," she said. "In Africa this actually one of the leading causes of death in people who have HIV/AIDS. There are 2,000 kinds of salmonella. You can find them in any environment - in animals, birds, reptiles. Some types of salmonella specifically infect reptiles for example."

Steele-Mortimer said her work is a combination of cell biology and microbiology.

"As an undergrad in microbiology I worked in labs and realized that you need to understand the host cell and the pathogen cell," she said. "So I did a Ph.D. in cell biology so I could learn more about the host cell side of things."

Steele-Mortimer grew up in Ireland before moving to London and later Germany for school.

She worked in Vancouver, Canada, and St. Louis, Mo., before coming to Hamilton. She said it was the mountains and the outdoor recreational opportunities that drew her to Montana.

"I came here because it's a fantastic place to live," she said. "I like the outdoors. I train bird-dogs in my free time - English cocker spaniels. I compete with them. I got third-place in the national competition last fall. All my dogs have been imported from Ireland, England or Wales. I don't consider myself a commercial breeder at all, but right now I have six dogs. Training bird dogs is definitely something you need great big spaces for. Montana is great for it."



PHOTO PROVIDED

Olivia Steele-Mortimer poses with two judges one of her English cocker spaniels at a field trial in Roy, MT. She recently took third-place in the nation in a bird-dog competition.

Reach reporter David Erickson at 363-3300 or david.erickson@ravallirepublic.com.



Retriever News

Missouri Headwaters HRC/UKC Upland Hunt Test May 5 and 6 was well attended by a field of 9 Labradors, Golden Retrievers, Spaniels and Cocker Retrievers. The coveted Dog of the Day Award went to David French and the powerful, charismatic Golden Retriever Dewey. Other members passing were John & Kerri Payne's Dennis and Spirit, Anne Olson's Fly, Al Gadoury's Bella, Randy Pearson's Dakota and Cheryl Ann Dooley's Moxie. I would like to thank Judges Margo Ellis Linghor, Al Gadoury, Mike Heard, David French and Kerri Payne. Thanks to gunners Capt. Greg Johnson, Randy Setzer and Scott Benowitz for giving up your weekend. Thanks to commit-

tee members Kerri Payne for doing most of the real work, Randy Pearson for Field Marshal and security, Larry and Ann Michnevich for field Marshall and Cheerleading. Mike and Julie Heard for an excellent lunch. The club made a profit of \$217.

Retrievers are training. If you would like to be on the e-mail-training list please let me know. Any flushing dog at any level and any age are welcome to train with us. Check your e-mail for time and place. Please bring a duck call, shotgun, dark and a light jacket and any training equipment that you have. To train with live gamebirds or participate in the flushing dog Training Evaluation Days you must have a game bird permit from FWP. Copies are available from me or on the club website www.mhgdc.org. Our next Flushing Dog TED is July 8. Still looking for a Retriever member to chair this event.

Our HRC Hunt Test will be in Twin Bridges July 28-29, 2012. Entries are filling up and are limited. See the HRC website www.huntingretrieverclub.org to enter. This is open to all flushing breeds. David French is the Chairman. Please let him know if you would like to help and I will put you on the list.

Al Gadoury

Pointer News

Pointing Dog Evaluation Results 5/19/12

We had a beautiful day for our second PDE of the season. We had 11 braces with lots of great dog work. It is really impressive to see how smoothly the PDE's run. We ended the day 30 minutes ahead of schedule. We could not do this without the great help from everyone. George, JoAnn, and Shannon helped us get a good start by being at Randy's by 6:30 a.m. Of course when we got to the training grounds Diane, Gibson, Clay, Wil, Shannon, George, and JoAnn set up in a flash, then filled bird bags, and began to plant. Sam and Priscilla arrived with donuts. At 11:30 Sam and Priscilla put on a great lunch which included steak sandwiches, potato salad, and all the trimmings. As Wil would say, "The Pointing Dog Evaluations are a picnic with your dog." At the end of the day Jan, Jim, Tom, Wil, Shannon, Clay, and Gibson all helped to pack up the gear. Then off to Randy's to put it away. Thanks to all.

Third Place Peter Bakun and Madi

Second Place George Stewart and Reno

First Place JoAnn Kish and Maggie, Clay Morton and Chester,

Tom Curtis and Birdie, Jim Lovell and Ruby

Diane Bakun and Jeffe 10

JoAnn Kish and Emma 0

George Stewart and Reno 35

Shannon Taylor and Bart 25

Gibson Gaylord and Jasper 10

Clay Morton and Roscoe 20

Peter Bakun and Gallatin 18

JoAnn Kish and Maggie 40

Sam Robinson and Feather 20

Sarah Davies and Chace 8

Tom Curtis and Chica 28

Peter Bakun and Madi 33

Wil Avril and Meg 5

Clay Morton and Chester 40

Jim Lovell and Ruby 40

Tom Curtis and Birdie 40

Wil Avril and Annie 20

Priscilla Robinson and Cayenne 20

Bill Shields and Heidi 30

Tom Robinson and Terra 20

Bill Shields and Missy 10

Tom Curtis and Lulu 15

The next PDE will be June 16th. Please e-mail Peter Bakun ASAP if you wish to enter. The braces will be done by the 6th of June. Shannon Taylor will marshal the PDE.

Spaniel Report

June Flushing Dog Training Evaluation Day-

3 Oily Labradors and 4 finely tuned Springer Spaniels under the watchful eye of the Honorable Jeff Squire made their way through the brush and thickets in search of upland birds on Sunday June 10th for the June flushing dog training evaluation day.

The weather was adequate and the shooting was OK, but the dogs had a ball showing what they could do.

When all was said and done, Bella with Al Gadoury at the helm provided the best team effort. Dennis and Kerri Payne were a close second followed by Spot and Jack Weiss.

Kerri is proof that a hardcore retriever trainer can also train an upland hunter to a high level. She better be ready for the newest Payne- Pepe' the English Cocker. It's going to be fun!

A great lunch provided by Veda Barner rounded out the morning.

After bird costs, the MHGDC profited \$9.50

Kyle Barner

Please keep the Horse Pasture clean. Pick up all shells and wads.

TRUE GRIT BRITS KENNEL



True Grit Brits Kennel offers long and short term boarding for friendly well socialized bird dogs. Boarding includes a 3' X 4' heated indoor kennel with a 12' outdoor run and play sessions several times each day in our 4 acre dog yard. Daily rate \$15/day per dog. Special rates available for long term boarding, multiple dogs, senior dogs, and puppies. We have several years experience boarding sporting dog breeds. Our string of brittany's are accustomed to having visitors and will greet you enthusiastically!

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