
◆ Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club ◆

Volume 1 Issue 1

MAY 13, 2003

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
Bryan Blatt Spaniels Jack Weiss 586-6365
Eric & Melody Kaelin 522-8842 Pointers Dan Whittman

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES

Board Meetings:

June 17, August 19, October 21,
December 16

General Meetings:

Pheasant/Chukar Challenge Aug.
Christmas Party/Game Feed Dec.

****MHGDC COOK BOOK****

We have received a few recipes for the cookbook. We would like to get enough to put the cookbook together and sell them for a fund-raiser for the club. Please keep them coming.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By now most of us are training on a regular basis. Events are in full swing and we are enjoying the things that this club is about. I hope your dogs are meeting whatever expectations you have for them.

I'd like to caution everyone about the road into the training grounds. When the weather is wet there are some pot holes in the road but they have gravel bottoms so do not widen the road by going around them. The FWP does not want to see any tracks on the west side of the road except in the parking area at the end of the road. At events make sure that guests do not drive on the west side for any reason. We will plan to improve the road sometime this year.

I would like to make sure that everyone is aware of proposed changes to upland bird hunting seasons. These changes include:

- Changing the Sept. 1st opener to the second Sat. in Sept. to run through Dec. 15th.
- Set the pheasant opening date to Oct. 12th and

eliminate the two day delay for nonresidents.

If you wish to comment on these changes (and you should) you can comment by e-mail at fwpwld@state.mt.us, or by mail at FWP Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701. Comment will be accepted through May 21st.

I would like to see every club member contact the FWP commissioners. Let them know bird hunting decisions are important to us and that they have an obligation to us too, not just landowners.
Randy

MHGDC Board Meeting Minutes 4/15/03

The meeting of the MHGDC Board of Directors was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Members Present: Randy Setzer, Bryan Blatt, Jack Weiss, Pat Dillon, Ron Russell, Eric Kaelin, Dan Marsh, Scott Benowitz.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on 2/18/03 were read and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: No report, as Ray could not attend.

Pointers: A 25% deposit was placed on a training bird order for 600 birds. First training session held on 4/10/03 with a good turnout. 14-15 participants, including 3 new members. Fun trials scheduled for May 24, June 14, July 12, August 16 at 7:00 AM at training grounds. NSTRA trial scheduled for July 16, August 14, at training grounds. Contact Tana Kradolfer 388-4974. Young dog clinics scheduled for July 16, August 14 at training grounds, contact Eric Kaelin 522-8842. Pointing dog clinic and microchip placement scheduled May 10 at Plunkett Lake. Pointer Hunt Test scheduled for May 11 at Plunkett Lake. Entries due May 5. Dogs must be AKC registered to enter. Contact Jim Wiitala 443-2896 for clinic and trial info. Advanced Rick Smith Academy scheduled July 3-6 in Lewistown. Contact Tana Kradolfer 388-4974.

NSTRA results: John Edward's and John Boy placed 2nd in Great Falls! Congratulations!

Spaniels: Headwaters Field Trial was very successful, having 50 entries. The spaniel group still has 50 extra pheasants and 13 Chukar for sale. Trial results in a net loss for the group, however the loss will be offset with the sale of extra birds and fees from the Hunt Test. Contact Randy Setzer if interested in buying birds (pheasants @ 10, Chukars @ 7). Group is actively pursuing a quality bird source having less expensive birds. Hunt Test is May 17-18, and is open to all AKC spaniels. Contact Jack Weiss 586-6365. Spaniel training on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings at training grounds. AKC judging seminar held April 13. Several MHGDC spaniel folks participated.

Headwaters Field Trial results: Jack Weiss and Dottie finished all 3 series in the Open Division. This was Dottie's first trial. Congratulations Jack and Dottie!

Retrievers: Treasurer State Club (Butte) has held 3 fun tests with 15-25 dogs attending. Townsend fun test scheduled for April 19. Meet at Townsend Seed @ 8:30 AM. Fun Test scheduled for April 26 at training field between Anaconda and Warm Springs on Highway 48. Contact Dan Marsh 587-7578. Retriever training held on Wednesday evenings at 5:00 PM at training grounds, and Saturday mornings (location to be determined). Treasurer State Club sponsoring a Don Remein seminar June 28-29. Cost for TSC members \$85 to observe, #115 to participate. Non TRC members \$150/\$200. Limited to 10 participants. Contact Kris Hunt 782-8802.

Unfinished Business: Pheasant Championship will occur in Late August. Open to any club member. Contact Randy Setzer or Jack Weiss.

MHGDC web site revisited by Board. Randy will inquire with a web site consultant he has worked with regarding the cost to develop and maintain a site for the club. Randy will report back to the board at the next meeting.

New Business: All future check requests will require an explanation of what the check is for, which group is requesting it, and for what activity the item(s) will be used for.

Bryan Blatt suggested starting a Yahoo-based email group to enhance timely communication between club members. He will try to set it up and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Retriever group submitted a request to purchase equipment for hunt tests, e.g., launchers, holding blinds and chairs. The Board approved the request with the stipulation that the launchers and blinds be built by club members in order to get a better product for less money. Randy will work with the retriever group to build the equipment.

Project will be completed by the 3rd week in June so it can be used for the hunt test.

Randy will provide all Board members with a copy of the Club's By-Laws.

The Board discussed the possibility if the Spaniel and Pointer Groups coordinating better in order to obtain upland birds at a lower cost. It is estimated that the club buys upwards of 1500 upland birds between the pointer and spaniel groups. If the two groups placed one annual order that is larger than 2 smaller orders, we might get the birds at a lower price. Bryan will develop a list of bird suppliers and prices based on Spaniel and pointer group contacts. He will distribute the list at the next meeting, and the topic will be revisited.

The Board discussed the Club's reserve funds, and how much should the club have in reserves. This fund was originated to have money on hand to obtain a training site, by purchase, lease or easement. Other uses for the fund could be to cover bird losses just prior to a test or trial resulting from a weather catastrophe and equipment purchases. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

The Club's insurance company presented the Board the opportunity to purchase a new liability policy to cover the Directors and Officers. This policy would be in addition to existing liability policy. The Board will have the policies reviewed by a competent individual to determine if the club should obtain the new policy a decision will be made once the review had been completed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

The big news in the world of ESS is that we completed our spring field trial. It was held at the Fairweather Fishing Access. The grounds out there make for a truly exciting hunting performance.

We used chukars for the first time in our trial. We were very pleased with how well they flew. In some ways they outperformed the pheasants.

We are planning a hunt test for May 17 & 18 at the Headwaters Training Grounds. This event is open to all AKC registered spaniels. There are three different levels. We encourage any club member with a spaniel to come out. They are fun and non competitive events.

Training will continue on Saturday mornings and Wednesday mornings. Contact Jack or Randy for exact times.

Finally we have birds to sell. We have rooster Pheasants at \$10 and some Chukars at @ \$7. If you need birds for training contact Randy or Jack.
Jack.

SIDENOTE: This will be my last year as Secretary for the Retriever Hunt Test. If anyone is interested in taking it over please let me know, you can start learning this year. Thanks Tracey

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