

Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club



General Meetings:

February 9th, 2008 Annual Club Meeting/ Election of new officers and board members and RAFFLE at the King Tool building on Love Lane.

Board members 5:30 pm for set up,
6:00 - 7:00 social hour
Dinner served @ 7:00

Tentative club calendar for 2008 (need more content from board members)

Spaniel Hunt Test Seminar Jan 26. Will be held at the Methodist Annex in Three Forks handlers welcome to attend Cost \$35.00 lunch included, need to call Tracey before Jan 14, so we can order the right number of supplies.



Spaniel Field Trial April 4 & 5 Clarkston

Spaniel Hunt Test date TBD

Clean up for Club shed and flight pens last weekend of March 29/30

Board of Directors

President– Randy Setzer 285-6724
Vice President - Dan Marsh 587-7578
Secretary—Scott Benowitz 585-7101
Treasurer –Julie Kirkland 582-7376

Retrievers

Pat Dillon 995-2415
Kyle Barner 995-4319

Pointers

Sam Robinson (c) 539-6119
Wil Avril 522-0992

Spaniels

Al Gadoury 586-3806
Greg Johnson 586-6323



**Attention Club
members/business
owners**

Raffle items needed for February meeting, any club member wishing to donate please contact Sam Robinson with your donation.

Presidents Report

Hello All,

We have come up with a slate of officers and board members for next year. There will be a few new faces to join the board. At the December General meeting and wild game feed the slate will be presented to the membership and we will ask if there are any additional nominees from the floor. If you wish to nominate someone you must have a note from them that they will accept or they must be present.

This coming year will be the 20th anniversary of the club! Club members have earned many accolades over the years and we have our second National Champion. Congratulations to Mark and Buddy!

Sam has graciously agreed to chair the raffle/auction for the annual meeting. Please contact him if you have something to donate.

The club is sponsoring more events all the time and hence more conflict of dates. If anyone has any ideas for additional training areas please contact a board member.

Randy

MHGDC Board Meeting Minutes 11/13/07

The meeting of the MHGDC Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Board Members Present: Sam Robinson, Wil Avril, Al Gadoury, Julie Kirkland, Greg Johnson, Randy Setzer, Dan Marsh, and Scott Benowitz.

Members Present: Jeff Squire, Tracey Setzer.

President's Report: None

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the 08/21/07 meeting were corrected and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Income/expense statement for month and year-to-date was presented.

Pointers: No report. Mark Donovan placed 1st in National STR event. Congratulations Mark!

Spaniels: The Spaniels are out hunting. Robert Griffin's Annie placed 3rd in Cocker nationals. Congratulation Robert! Training will resume on Saturdays in January, weather permitting.

Retrievers: No report.

Unfinished Business:

Training grounds parking lot repairs completed. Assumption of Risk document reviewed by attorney, and results will be presented at next Board meeting for Board to consider. Sam had an insurance agent evaluate the need for liability insurance for club officers. As the club has no employees, a determination was made that the officers are not exposed to any additional liability than what the club is exposed to. So liability insurance for officers is not needed. Sam will provide a written report to include in minutes.

Proposed slate of officers and Board members for 2008 elections: President – Randy Setzer; Vice Pres – Greg Johnson; Secretary – Scott Benowitz; Treasurer – Julie Kirkland; Spaniels – Al Gadoury & Jeff Squire; Retrievers – Pat Dillon & Kyle Barner; Pointers – Peter Baukin. Need another Pointer Board member. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor at the annual meeting.

Annual meeting February 9, 2008 at King Tool. Same format as last year. Famous Dave's will cater. Raffle donations to Sam or Randy. Greg Keelor to perform.

As previously approved by Board, Sam will arrange for an audit of club finances.

New Business:

2008 dues notices and annual meeting/banquet notice will be mailed before January 10, 2008. Sarah Levelle will speak at annual game dinner. Spaniels will purchase FT birds from Carl Bayer. Pointers undecided as to who they will purchase NSTRA and training birds from. Julie to reserve FWP meeting room for 2008 board meetings. To be held 3rd Tuesday of every other month.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.



Mark Donovan and 2 X NSTRAFC Montana's Rusty Little Pants

***Congratulations
Mark and Rusty!***

The members of MHGDC would like to congratulate you on winning the NSTRA, National Purina Endurance Classic, field trial in Kennewick Washington on September 8, 2007.

All your training and hard work has truly paid off. Your first pointer, your first National trial and you come home the winner. Also the first dog in the NSTRA Big Sky Region to become a National Champion. Nothing short of simply awesome job well done! Congratulations!

In Montana there are probably not more than a couple of dozen people that know that English Cocker Spaniels are serious bird hunting dogs. However, anybody that attended the recent English Cocker Spaniel Club of America Field Trial in Belgrade will tell you otherwise!

In September Field Bred English cocker spaniels from as far away as Texas converged for three exciting days of field trialing at the foot of the Bridger mountains. This is the 3rd year that the Cranefield Farm English Cocker Society has put on a trial and Field Trial co-chairs, Dominique Savoie and Robert Griffin, together with a handful of hard working volunteers managed to put on another wonderful event. This year we had 3 Open Stakes on Fri, Sat and Sun as well as 2 Puppy Stakes on Friday and Sunday. Open judges were Sue Neville (Wisconsin), David Jones (Texas) and Gary Hanvey (Montana). The birds, pheasant and chukar, flew strongly and the gun team, captained by Jess Sekey, did an outstanding job of shooting for the dogs. Thanks to the generosity of several local landowners we were able to have a variety of courses that provided some real hunting cover and tested the abilities of both dogs and handlers. There was some really outstanding dog work and lots for the gallery to see.

On a personal note, it was especially exciting for me to finish my first field trial champion (Buster) here at our own trial surrounded by such a great group of people. For somebody that could not even get through a junior hunt test 3 years ago it does not get much better than this!

In October 2008, starting on the 22nd, the Cranefield Farm English Cocker Society will be hosting the National Cocker Championship (NCC). This will be an incredible opportunity to see the very best dogs and handlers in the Nation, and we would love to see as many people there as possible. It is hard to imagine a more scenic backdrop for a Nationals than the Bridger mountains with a fresh coat of snow on the peaks and elk in the foothills.

Anybody who would like to find out more about Field Bred English Cocker Spaniels or would like to volunteer at the NCC please contact myself, Dominique, Robert or Larry Michnevich. We are all members of MHGDC.

Olivia Steele-Mortimer

Results

Friday September 14, 2007

OPEN STAKE (37 ran)

First: Fallen Wing's Grasshopper "Dobie"
O: Chris & John Dartt H: Chris Dartt
Second: FC Warrener's Craveri's Murrelet MH
"Annie" O: Robert & Deirdre Griffin H: Robert Griffin

Third: Ballyduff Coal SH "Buster"
O/H: Olivia Steele-Mortimer

Fourth: Warrener's Indigo Bunting "Madigan"
O: Dennis Joannides H: Paul McGagh

PUPPY STAKE (6 ran)

First: Mays Lake Cooper "Cooper" O/H: Richard Bend

Second: Warrener's Scissor-tailed Flycatcher "Toby" O: Curt Cady H: Tawney Crawford

Third: Caoimhe "Keeva" O/H: Joe Dailey

Fourth: Bigcockers Empire Climber "Kong" O: Phillip Hagen H: Buck Grabowski

Saturday September 15, 2007

OPEN STAKE (42 ran)

First: Ballyduff Coal "Buster"
O/H: Olivia Steele-Mortimer (new FC!)

Second: NFC/FC Chyknell Red Kite "Midge"
O/H: A.R Ginn, Jr.

Third: Prairiewoods Moonbeam JH "Zoe"
O/H: Joe Dailey

Fourth: Warrener's Cliff Swallow "Spook"
O/H: Vicky Thomas (new FC!)

Sunday September 16, 2007

OPEN STAKE (40 ran)

First: Prairiewoods Moonbeam JH "Zoe"
O/H: Joe Dailey

Second: Warrener's Fork Tailed Flycatcher "Cricker"
O: Rick & Kimberly Simonsen H: Paul McGagh

Third: Quailmoor Quick "Quick"
O: WR & Tawney Crawford H: Tawney Crawford

Fourth: Deacon "Deacon"
O/H: Joe Dailey

PUPPY STAKE (6 ran)

First: Mays Lake Cooper "Cooper" O/H: Richard Bend

Second: Caoimhe "Keeva" O/H: Joe Dailey

Third: Warrener's Hammond's Flycatcher "Taya"

O: Tom & Leslie Donnelly H: Leslie Donnelly

Fourth: Bigcocker's Empire Climber "Kong"

O: Phillip Hagen H: Buck Grabowski

Spaniel Report by Al Gadoury

Congratulations to John Wright and his English Springer Spaniels. Seer was Canadian High Point Open Dog for 2007, the top all-age dog in Canadian trials over the course of the year. Shaman was the Canadian Hi Point Sire for 2007; his offspring amassed more points than any other dog.

Congratulations to Robert and Dede Griffin and their English Cocker Annie. Annie placed third at the Nationals in WI this year and Robert won Amateur Handler of the Year. Annie's pups are due December 1.

The Spaniels will start training in January, weather permitting. Have a Merry Christmas and I hope to see you at our potluck dinner December 18.



(new info Annie has 6 puppies, for more info call Robert, phone number below)

English Cocker Spaniel Puppies

CNFC/FC Warrener's California Quail, "Storm" X FC Warrener's Craveri's Murrelet, MH "Annie"

Storm was the 2005 Canadian National Field Champion and Annie was the 2006 High Point Cocker as well as placing 2nd in the 2006 Cockers Nationals and 3rd in the 2007 Cocker Nationals

Call Robert Griffin at 406-646-9723 if interested.

Overheating and Hypoglycemia

By Joe Spoo DVM

Overheating, or heat stroke, is a common problem in hunting dogs, and as we found out during South Dakota's pheasant opener last year, a deadly problem as well. Overheating is a condition that develops from the body's inability to regulate temperature. Basically, the heat being produced by the body is greater than the heat being dissipated.

The causes of heat stroke in hunting dogs are numerous, but at the top of the list is a lack of conditioning. Too many guys take their dogs from the couch or the kennel straight into the field without any thought about the dog's level of conditioning. This would be akin to taking most of us on a given day and demanding us to run a marathon...at the drop of the hat. The difference is that we're able to say no and are in tune with our bodies enough to know when to stop. These dogs love to hunt and love to perform, and by the time they are showing signs of a problem it is often too late.

Other causes of overheating include lack of acclimatization, high humidity and high temperatures. A rule of thumb used by many dog trainers down south is that if the ambient temperature when added to the humidity is greater than 150, you probably shouldn't be running your dogs. You can still have heat stroke develop at lower temps, but this is when it becomes particularly dangerous. You'll also see heat problems with too much exercise too soon. Also an obese animal is going to be much more prone to overheating than one running at a lean body weight. Previous episodes of overheating will also predispose a dog to overheating again, because overheating can cause the body's internal thermometer to become "out of whack" and make the dog more susceptible to future episodes.

It's also important to know a dog in water can still have heat stroke. This is particularly true in the summer months and early fall when many of the shallow bodies of water have had time to heat up. At these times it can be like swimming the dog in a hot tub. Just because they're wet doesn't mean they're cool. Basically, you should always try to be smart when working your dog in any type of heat.

Signs that your dog may be getting close to overheating include panting and/or extreme hyperventilation. These dogs aren't just hot; they are trying to move as much air as possible in an often futile attempt at removing heat. Many of these dogs will also be hypersalivating. They'll come back with long ropes of drool coming out of their mouths, or puddles of saliva around them. They also will have an altered mental state and appear glassy-eyed. Often when you look at these dogs

Over heating & hypoglycemia continued

they look like they are in trouble, almost as though no one is home when you look them in the eyes. Many will become ataxic (i.e. stumbling and incoordination) and show muscle weakness. Often, but not always, you will see vomiting and diarrhea develop. From here it may progress to total collapse.

At this point you are probably wondering what temperature the body has to reach to fall into the category of heat stroke, and unfortunately there isn't one. The normal body temperature of dogs is 100-102.5 F, but in normal working dogs, without heat stroke, we can have temperatures during and immediately following exercise that get up around 106-107 F without causing a problem. But these are the same temperatures that we start worrying about heat damage starting to occur with heat stroke.

This is where having a thermometer in your emergency kit becomes important, because if the temperature does not begin to fall immediately, or worse it continues to climb, after the exercise is stopped, your dog is in trouble. As corny as it may sound, I would recommend taking your dog's temp after a day of hunting or while out training when you are not even close to crossing the overheating line. This will give you an idea at what temp your pup typically runs while at work and will allow some sort of baseline if you get into trouble out in the field.

Basically during heat stroke all the body systems are being affected. The tissues of the body are essentially cooking themselves. When we get these dogs into the clinic they have severe blood chemistry abnormalities, they can go into respiratory distress and this is one condition that can quickly lead to death.

As far as starting treatment in the field, the biggest thing is to get them cooled down. If there is water around get them a cool water bath or spray them down. If you are going to cool them in standing water be sure to wade in with them and hold on to them, as they could collapse and drown or get out too deep and not be able to make it back. Apply ice to the hairless portion of the belly and especially deep in the armpits and groin, as there are some very large blood vessels in these areas that help cool them down fast. You can also get them in the vehicle with the A/C on high with the fans blowing directly on the dog.

The whole while during the cooling process you need to be monitoring the dog's temp and stop cooling them when the temperature reaches 103 F. This will also allow you to make sure you are not cooling them too fast. It is very easy to over-cool these dogs and drop them down too low and end up causing hypothermia...remember the internal thermostat is no longer working correctly.

If it appears that your dog got more than just got a little warm, you need to get him to a vet. Continue attempting

to cool him down while transporting them to a vet, though. Hospitalization, monitoring and supportive care are very important in order to save these dogs. Many of the dogs that survive may have long-standing problems, and the sooner you seek veterinary care the better.

Another problem that can contribute to heat stroke and may cause death all on its own is hypoglycemia or low blood sugar. It is also termed exertional hypoglycemia, hunting dog hypoglycemia, or sugar fits. We see this condition when the blood glucose levels fall below 50.

The cause of hypoglycemia is similar to heat stroke: a lack of conditioning. Hypoglycemia occurs when your dog does too much work too soon, and it occurs early in training and often with over-anxious young dogs. Many of the dogs we worry about are those dogs that are constantly trying to go. They're wild in the box, excited before they're released, and some of them have gone through an entire workout without ever getting off the truck.

Some of the signs you may see with this problem are an altered mentation where the dog just doesn't seem to be acting right and is confused and almost dazed. There can be trembling or shaking as well. Many of these dogs will have a nervousness and anxiety about them and most dogs will exhibit weakness and ataxia or stumbling, as they can no longer walk normally. In severe cases it can lead to collapse, seizures, coma and death.

Treatment consists of getting simple sugars into the dog. Oral simple sugars are absorbed from the gums and thus do not need to be forced down the dog. I recommend carrying a bottle of 50% Dextrose or Karo Syrup in the first aid kit. You can draw up a syringe of the dextrose and administer it slowly until the problem resolves. If using syrup you can just take some and rub it on the gums until the dog responds. If you do not have these items you can also use honey or *REAL* fruit juice... **the key being real fruit juice as too many juices contain artificial sweeteners the will be of no value in treating the problem.** In a pinch items like Pepsi or Gatorade could be used. Just be sure to take it slow and rub them on the gums as many of these dogs may not be able to swallow, and you don't want to pour pop down the wrong pipe. If the dog recovers uneventfully, I wouldn't send them back out to perform. I'm big on running bloodwork with any type of collapse, and although likely everything will be normal at the time of the work-up, it will allow you to rule-out other possibilities causes of collapse. Many of the emergencies we see in hunting dogs can often be prevented with preseason conditioning, nutrition and getting to know your dog. With a little education on what to do when an emergency occurs you can also prevent these problems that crop up from being a season ending, or worse yet, life ending condition.

Food items to avoid with dogs: From PetEducation.com Dr's Foster & Smith's source for expert pet information **Alcoholic Beverages** - Can cause intoxication, coma, and death.

Baby Food - Can contain onion powder, which can be toxic to dogs. (Please see onion below). Can also result in nutritional deficiencies, if fed in large amounts.

Bones from fish, poultry, or other meat sources - can cause obstruction or laceration of the digestive system. **Cat Food** - Generally too high in protein & fats.

Chocolate, coffee, tea & other caffeine - Contain caffeine, theobromine, or theophylline, which can be toxic and affect the heart and nervous system.

Citrus oil extracts - can cause vomiting **Fat Trimmings** - can cause pancreatitis.

Grapes & raisins - Contain an unknown toxin, which can damage the kidney's. There have been no problems associated with grape seed extract.

Hops - Unknown compound causes panting, increased heart rate, elevated temperature, seizures, and death.

Human vitamin supplements containing Iron - Can damage the lining of the digestive system and toxic to the other organs including the liver & kidney's.

Large amounts of liver - Can cause Vitamin A toxicity, which affects muscles and bones.

Macadamia nuts - Contain an unknown toxin, which can affect the digestive and nervous systems and muscle. > 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should

Marijuana - Can depress the nervous system, causing vomiting, and changes in the heart rate.

Milk & other dairy products - Some adult dogs & cats do not have sufficient amounts of the enzyme lactase, which breaks down the lactose in milk. This can result in diarrhea. Lactose-free milk products are available for pets.

Moldy or spoiled food, garbage - Can cause multiple toxins causing vomiting and diarrhea and can also affect other organs.

Mushrooms - Can contain toxins, which may affect multiple systems in the body, cause shock, and result in death.

Onions & garlic (raw, cooked, or powder) - Contain sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause anemia. Cats are more susceptible than dogs. Garlic is less toxic than onions.

Persimmons - Seeds can cause intestinal obstruction and enteritis.

Pits from peaches & plums - Can cause obstruction to the digestive tract.

Potatoes, rhubarb, & tomato leaves; potato & tomato stems - Contain oxalates, which can affect the digestive, nervous, and urinary systems. This is more of a problem in livestock.

Raw Eggs - Contain an enzyme called avidin, which decreases the absorption of **biotin (a B vitamin)**. This can lead to skin and hair coat problems. Raw eggs may also contain Salmonella.

Raw Fish - Can result in a **Thiamine (a B vitamin)** deficiency leading to loss of appetite, seizures, and in severe cases, death. More common if raw fish is fed regularly.

Salt - If eaten in large quantities it may lead to **electrolyte** imbalances.

String - Can become trapped in the digestive system; called a "string foreign body"

Sugary Foods - Can lead to obesity, dental problems, and possibly diabetes mellitus.

Table scrapes (in large amounts) - Table scrapes are not nutritionally balanced. They should never be more than 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should not be fed.

Tobacco - Contains nicotine, which affects the digestive and nervous systems. Can result in rapid heart beat, collapse, coma, and death.

Yeast dough - Can expand and produce gas in the digestive system, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines.

**ITEM OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE
TO LABRADOR OWNERS, PERSPECTIVE OWNERS, BREEDERS, ETC**

**There is a genetic disease called
Centronuclear Myopathy**

**Below is a web site you can go to, to learn more on this disease and how you can have
your Labrador tested for this debilitating and heart
breaking disease. labradorenm.com**

Or you can access it by going to Working Retriever Central

Pointing Dog Training

I train all breeds of pointing dogs to a high level: whoa, come, heal, force fetch, steady to wing or shot. **My five-month program begins in April and ends in August.** I limit my kennel to no more than two dogs per summer, so your dog will get lots of individual attention.

Please feel free to talk to me personally or inspect my kennel. I can provide references and my rates are reasonable.

Dave Carty 586-8203

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