

Online

Spring 2007

NAHRA NEWS

NORTH AMERICAN HUNTING RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION



Devlin Raley and Sadie

Conservation through the development of trained retrievers

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Membership fees per year:
Individual - \$37; Family - \$42; Sponsor - \$200; Club - \$40
Corporate sponsorships are available by contacting the NAHRA office in writing.

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President's Bark

Well it must be spring; I'm just about to judge my first Field Test of 07. I don't think it's going to feel much like spring, but the handlers in our neck of the woods seem to have Invitational fever so here we go. I have had a lot of requests to come judge this year, I really am honored being asked and sorry I can't come to them all but only so many weekends and those little details like a job do take their time.

I'd like to welcome our newest Board members; Chris Goeson from the Rocky Mountain Region, I've judged Chris's dogs a few times and always enjoyed it and he was always ready with a cold one at the end of the day; Debra Bouldin from the Southwest Region. Debra and I ran together at the Invitational in Iowa and had a great time; and Fred Perini from the Mid Atlantic Region. Fred and I have spent a lot of hours together at Field Tests over the years and despite his constant efforts to outshine me as a gunner (successfully) I consider him a close friend.

These folks have a full plate before them and hope everyone will help them make their terms a success.

While we are talking about RD's.....

It's been a few years now since we transitioned into a democracy. It's not been an easy transition. A lot is required of the directors and the members, perhaps more than we anticipated. They say communicating is the hardest thing we do and I guess that's right, but often it seems that getting down to what really matters is hard even with all the "communicating." I recently received a letter from a member in one of our regions complaining NAHRA had not done what was required to keep the program strong in their region. Well this is a heck of a time for me to hear from him. If this is going to work we need to work harder folks. Your Regional Directors are just that - "yours." You voted for them. The organization is taking its lead from them and if we are going to succeed they are going to need you. Their ability to be effective relies on you the members letting them know your concerns and desires. Work with them to craft solutions or at least alternatives they can bring to Board meetings. Simply giving them an earful about what you don't like won't change much. If you aren't getting what you need from them call me, but I will ask if you went through them and why that did not work. It's certain we won't all agree all the time. Our love for dogs and the game and should provide us enough common ground to work through our other difficulties.

Hope to see you out there this year, all the best
Straight lines and crisp casts.
Jim

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On the Cover:

"Delvin and Sadie"

Taken two hours south and east of Ensenada, hunting in the foothills of the San Pedro Martir Mountains.

Editorial on Successes and Lessons

by Keith Stroyan, assistant editor

A couple of NAHRA Board conference calls ago, Jim VanderGiessen had the idea for a "theme" for the this issue of the NAHRA eNews. We came up with the idea of a tribute to the just-past hunting seasons in the form of stories of successful use of NAHRA training as well as lessons learned where your training might not have been complete. I posted a request for YOUR stories on www.NAHRANews.org and we're pleased to present some of them in this issue of the eNews. I hope more will follow in future issues.

NAHRA has always been about HUNTING retrievers, and this issue is mostly about some of your experiences.

Thanks for all your submissions.

The 2007 Richard A. Wolters/North American Hunting Retriever Association Invitational Field Test

LOCATION: STATE GAME LANDS # 169 near Newville, Pennsylvania.

The test grounds are in very close proximity to Interstate 76 and 81, approximately 30 minutes from Harrisburg International Airport, and within 60-90 minutes of Interstates 70 and 99. Photos of the grounds are at:

<http://www.nahranews.org/uploads/newsletter/InvitationalPhotos.pdf>

A major tourist attraction, the Gettysburg National Military Park is approximately 60 minutes south of the grounds.

EVENT DATES: June 13-18, 2007. Testing will begin Thursday June 14 and run through Sunday June 17 with a fall back date of Monday June 18th to accommodate an especially large entry.

TEST COMMITTEE: Co-Chairs - Scott Leonescu and Frank Plewa.

Test Secretary – Cary Irvine

Committee - Kevin McLaren Tom Johnston

JUDGES: Ted Givens, Sonny Zaun, and Dan Hove with alternate judge Diane Sheppard. The judges' biographies are posted at:

<http://www.nahranews.org/uploads/newsletter/Invitational07Judge1.doc>

ELIGIBILITY: All GMHR and GMHRCH titled dogs are automatically eligible. Additionally, all dogs that have attained the title of MHR and/or have earned 100 Senior points between June 15, 2001 and April 30, 2007. Eligible dogs are posted at:

<http://www.nahranews.org/uploads/newsletter/07InvtlEligible13J7.htm>

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: May 21, 2007. Official premium:

<http://www.nahranews.org/uploads/premiums/Invtl07Premium.pdf>

Entry fees, schedule, accommodations, etc. are all available on a special block on the right side of the screen at

www.NAHRAnews.org

TALKING DOG FOR SALE

A guy is driving around town when he sees a sign in front of a house:

"Talking Dog For Sale."

He rings the bell and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a Labrador sitting there.

"You talk?" he asks.

"Yes," the Lab replies.

"So, what's the story?"

The Lab looks up and says: "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the Garda about my gift, and in no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running." "But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security wandering near suspicious characters and listening in." "I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a load of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog.

"Ten bucks," the man says.

"Ten bucks? This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that crap!"

Lessons

by Troy Tilleraas

Do not start Intermediate with a blind-even though in the real world they should be able to handle they can't!

Do not place the bird pile on a trail even close to a vehicle or 4 wheeler as they smell of gas overcomes the bird pile and sets up failure!

Train that dog for a trail as I found a transmitter after a hunt in ND when it come off my belt, 6 hours later, but the dog found it back.

Thanks, Troy. I'm going to have to work on trailing transmitters. (I have luckily found a dropped one – after MUCH searching. Ever put one of those camo shotguns down in the cover, gone out to set decoys and then had some trouble locating the gun before shooting time??? ☺) Keith

Successes

from Jack Bingham

My son's name is Jacob, the dog is Tucker, and its a friend named John the picture was taken on opening day: four of us, 2 hr hunt, 12 birds



Successes and Lessons

From Devlin Raley

See Devlin and Sadie on cover.

This hunting season has ended, but like all hunting seasons it will live on in fond memories and wonderful tales. The weather has been varied, the birds plentiful and the time shared in the field with family and friends thoroughly enjoyable. What more could a bird hunter ask for?

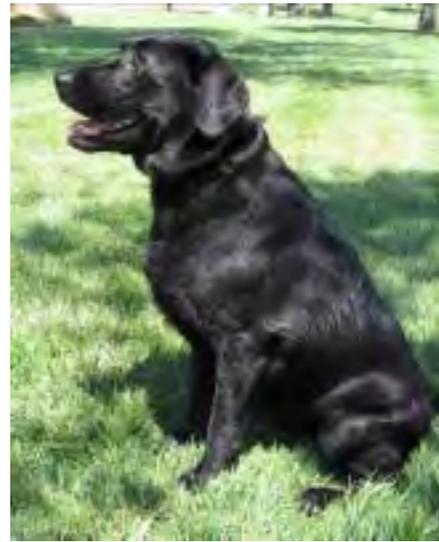
We're a bird hunting family; my wife grew up quail hunting in Baja, and I've hunted upland and waterfowl since I was 8 years old. But the last two hunting seasons have been the most rewarding ever, and the reason for it is a little black dog named Sadie.



Sadie is our first Lab, a black female English Lab. We've had Golden Retrievers, I had Shepherds as a youngster and my wife has had Beagles, but nothing could fully prepare me for the unbridled joy – and challenges – that a black Lab can bring. Sadie is simply a lot smarter than I was prepared for a dog to be.

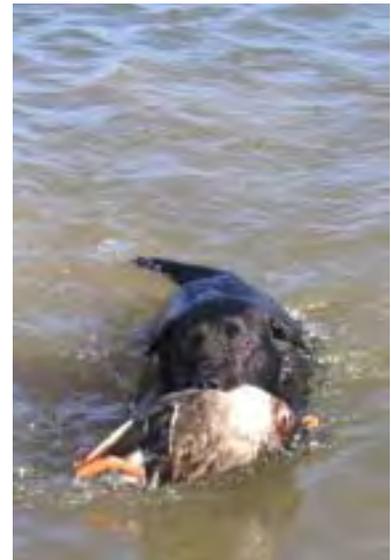
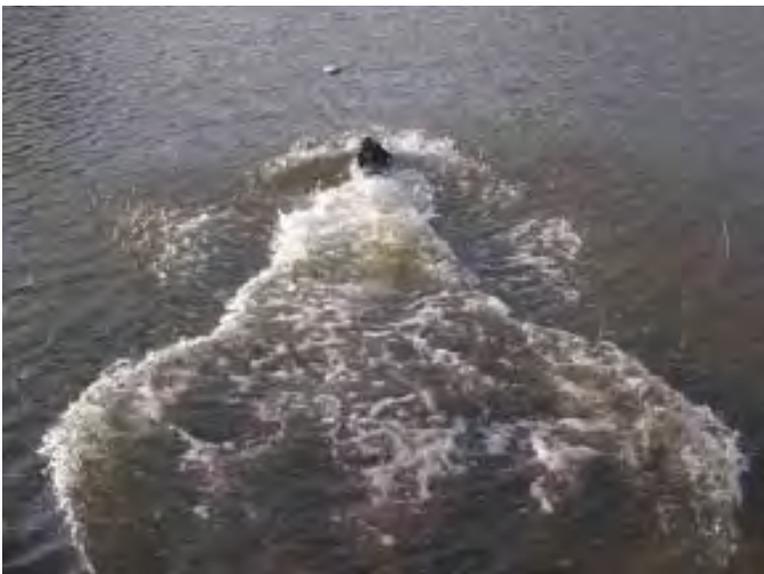
I've done all of Sadie's training. I'm an amateur, and she and I have learned together step by step, day by day, drill by drill. We worked at least an hour a day every day for over a year before she went on her first hunting trip...and we still train several days a week, even during hunting season. She has become an exceptional upland hunter, and her waterfowling has astounded me. We have the good fortune to hunt ducks, geese, grouse, partridge and pheasants in Montana, quail in Baja California (Mexico), and doves, quail, ducks and geese near our home in Southern California. And every day we're in the field, I marvel at how much I've learned.





That isn't to say that we don't have challenges now and again.

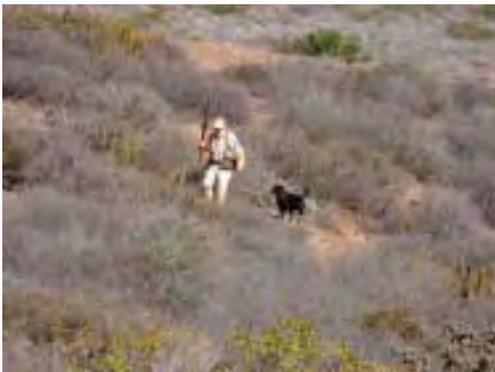
Two weeks before waterfowl season ended this year, and less than a week before we and my in-laws were to leave for closing weekend of quail season in Baja, Sadie and I hunted ducks on two consecutive days. And the other shoe hit the floor. This dog, who has been steady, predictable, responsive and just plain fun to hunt with somehow seemed to forget everything about being steady to shot and steady to the retrieve until sent. I realize that a lot of hunters allow their retrievers to go on the shot and mark, but that's not comfortable for me. Because we do a lot of quail shooting, often with several other hunters, I want Sadie to be working no more than about ten yards out in front, to be steady on the flush and on the shot. I don't want her going for the retrieve until I send her. It's both a courtesy issue with my hunting buddies (I don't want her flushing birds prematurely) and a safety issue (I certainly don't want to take a chance on her getting shot). That also extends to the duck blind, in that I don't want her going until sent. Unreasonable? Too difficult? I don't think so...and she's proven me right more often than not.



With only three days left before the Baja quail trip, I was really concerned about the breaking problem so I posted a plea for help on the NAHRA website. Reaction was fast, and the suggestions were sound: for the first few birds, don't worry about shooting...let your buddies shoot and you work the dog. Treat it as a drill. If she breaks, whistle her back to heel and don't let her have the retrieve. Wow. Tough to do, for both of us!



After the five-plus hour drive to our club in Baja, Sadie was, as always, anxious to get out of the kennel, air, burn off some energy and explore a bit. But in the process, she exhibited a few new discipline problems that made my concern over the breaking come back to front of mind. She was slow to respond to basic commands (come, heel, sit, stay, etc.) and seemed to believe she was in charge. We had a little “discussion,” following which the remainder of the evening went fine.



Day 1

The weather on our first day of hunting was spectacular: crystal clear with the mid-morning temperature in the mid-50s. And there were birds: coveys of California quail as I’ve only seen in Baja, numbering from 50-60 to over 200. And Sadie was ready. *Really* ready...almost to the point of being “hyper.” We walked, the other men shot and I didn’t, instead concentrating on keeping Sadie at heel. And again. And yet again. By the time the third or fourth shot was fired, she had settled back into her “old self.” She was steady, she was focused and she took her voice, whistle and hand commands without hesitation. Sadie never missed a bird, including two “runners” (cripples that can run like a greyhound after a rabbit) and several that fell into or across moderately deep barrancas. And except for one small break, I had “my girl” back!

Day 2

The weather continued to be beautiful and we hunted some really tough country that I hadn't been in for three or four years. It was steep, rocky and the cover was a mixture of thick brush, several varieties of cactus and only occasional open ground. The quail obviously loved it, because we found and broke up a huge covey and then spent a couple of hours flushing and shooting singles, doubles and small groups of five to ten each. And Sadie? She worked 10 yards out, or walked at heel when told. She waited for her command before going for the retrieve. She marked and retrieved a nice double in deep cover, and I even handled her on a blind to the edge of a barranca about 50 yards away where I'd seen a "runner" go in...she trailed the bird, found and retrieved it, and again delivered it to hand. But is there anything more humiliating than having your dog give you "The Look" when you miss a shot and have to command "no bird?!" Our traditional lunch camp in the field that day under a huge cottonwood surrounded by the tall brushy hills was even more satisfying given how well Sadie had performed.

Day 3

Our last shoot of this season was in an area that has sweeping views towards the ocean. It was a sparkling clear day, the birds were very cooperative and Sadie once again worked beautifully...she really loves "her game!" The terrain was much more forgiving than the previous day, although there are always the steep brushy hillsides, the cactus and the occasional patches of thorny wild roses to contend with. Sadie's last two retrieves were picture perfect. One was a blind over the crest of a small hill and the other was a long fall in the open down a gently sloping hillside. She was beautiful to watch. Our last field lunch of the season was in an old corral hidden away in a brush-choked canyon. The corral is made of the rough-hewn trunks of small trees and is flanked by tall cottonwoods and steep hillsides...it's truly a beautiful spot that we always look forward to visiting. As we cleaned our birds, we watched two eagles soaring high above us and I realized just then that I had spent two entire mornings hunting without any concern about Sadie's performance under pressure. We had gotten past the breaking problem, and our little black dog had distinguished herself in the field once again.

The bumps in the road that I've had with Sadie are probably not really as dramatic as they seem to me, and it has been an incredible experience to grow together to the point where we are now. The advice and assistance I've been given through NAHRA have been invaluable in helping me learn how to teach, and in continuing to "bring my dog along" in her training. I believe that our success is measured not only by Sadie's abilities, but also by how much we enjoy the training and the hunt. And Sadie enjoys them more than almost anything else...except maybe a good belly rub at the end of the day!

Devlin, Thanks so much for sharing these stories. This is what NAHRA is all about. Send MORE! Please. Keith

Lessons on A Winter Dove Hunt

by Bob Dominick

A recent post on the forum brought back memories of a winter dove hunt and the deficiencies in my training. Please don't let anything like this happen to you.

This particular hunt was set in a cornfield that had been picked clean. I was sitting against a snow fence, with my nephew, where the doves were resting on some power lines. After a short time it became clear that Tim and I should split up. I sent Tim out in the cornfield 70 yards or so. My families golden retrievers and my self stayed at the fence line.

Tim no sooner got settled as a flock of 10 doves tried to land in the field. As soon as Tim fired and a lone dove fell from the sky as the rest of the flock circled toward me. Both golden's were steady and marked the bird down. I know my dogs have trouble with steadiness so I kept their leashes under the legs of my chair.

The doves, only 10 feet above the ground closed the distance quickly. The dogs now excited from Tim's close encounter broke as I moved from my chair to clear the dog to my left. I don't remember hearing the chair fall as the dogs ran upslope toward the birds, that where only 10 feet above the ground, both dogs became visible under the barrel of my gun. I had to take some time to regroup from nearly shooting both of my dogs. I only crippled one bird before they crossed the power lines.

Shaken from what just happened I called both dogs back in and then sent each dog for a bird, which I now know only reinforced their bad behavior. This hunt took place over two years ago when the dogs first starting hunting.

I consider steadiness my number one priority for any new dogs as well as the two I hunt with now. Had I not seen the dogs, running side by side and upslope from my position, toward the birds that were ten feet above the ground, and directly in the line of



fire, this hunt could have ended in a disaster, All of these factors added up to me nearly shooting both dogs. What if Tim was still sitting with us when this happened?

I am working very hard to break both of the golden retrievers from breaking. I don't have much trouble while training, but I still have trouble while hunting and testing. I will step up my training again this year in hope of breaking this bad habit.

Please consider requiring your dogs to be steady while hunting. I didn't believe that anything like this could happen to me. **Nor can I imagine telling my wife and 8-year-old daughter I shot their dogs and killed them.**

Successes and Lessons

from Darin McFarland

Hi Keith,

I am not very good at writing e-mails but I will try my best to explain the difference in my dogs before the NAHRA and after joining and training for the tests.

My first dog is 7 years old and would retrieve a duck and goose but had to be tied up on a leash when hunting waterfowl in the open if not enclosed in a permanent blind. After working and learning he has been disciplined to where he will not break and no longer needs a leash. He now hunts in an open cornfield and will lie until told to fetch (most of the time – Laughing).

I am beginning to get him to understand the blind retrieves and it is SO rewarding and convenient to use a whistle. My dogs would NOT sit with a whistle before learning. It is nice not to have to throw rocks in the direction you want your dog to retrieve as well. It also has prevented less cripples to get away by casting them.

My oldest at seven has learned obedience as well as quartering. He NEVER hunted upland until this year!!!!!!

The NAHRA hunt tests have put my dogs into different hunting situations that they weren't used to such as upland (which my Penelope is great at now) and has not only gave them so much more confidence but me as well.

It has taught my dogs much better marking ability as well as to before they would run like mad. They pay much more attention to the fall and will deliver to hand to where they used to drop it at my feet or I would have to chase them down.

I still have a ton of training and learning to do with the dogs but we have got a special bond that we didn't have before and we both have realized that we are a team. I could go on and on with improvement stories. I will have to give you a call or I will see you at some tests and tell you about more of them sometime.

Thanks, Darin. See you at the tests soon. Keith

Hunting Success

By Chris Goeson

I was in the middle of switching jobs for just about all of last year, so I got to go hunting a total of one time in the 2006-07 season. And that one time that I got to go, I didn't even get to take my dogs with me. My dad and I started a new tradition a couple years ago and have made it an annual event to go antelope hunting. It's a weekend event that I really look forward to. As great as it is to be able to spend the weekend with my dad, there's something else that makes it very unique. My dad has a friend that comes with us who is over 90. Ray retired from the Navy and used to teach navigation without instruments. He still gets around well, and stays sharp by playing cribbage with anyone who'll sit at the board. If it's not too cold after sunset, you can just imagine how

interesting it is to look at the stars with Ray around. We get Ray into position to get a shot at an antelope every year. (I won't tell you the results; that's a man's own business.)

I wish I could have more time to get out and hunt, but it isn't the hunt itself that's very important to me. I get to spend time with my dad, and hear the war stories from a guy who was there. I do get the dogs out to train and exercise a couple times a week, and that's almost as fun for me as hunting itself. Still, if I'm even out there hunting when I'm 90 years old, that will be all the success I need.

Some thoughts on Balance

By Jim VanderGiessen

Hunting season is over and it definitely will not go into the journal as one of the best. The early season started well and portended all good things for the coming winter. After field test season and Dove hunting I felt pretty good about my dogs readiness for the season.

After the early season Kevin McLaren and I went out to South Dakota to fill the gap between duck seasons. Pheasants are a luxury we don't have at home. The dogs love them and my treks to South Dakota over the years have always been a blast of mixed bag pheasant and waterfowl hunting.

My favorite areas were in good condition and looked as productive as always. My only concern was the large amount of corn still standing. After a couple of days it was clear the birds were not going to be abundant. When the birds are plentiful it's not too difficult to overlook your dog's shortcomings after all there is always the next flush. Conditions did not support that approach this year. Every bird might be the last for the day and performance mattered. We had 6 dogs with us, watching their individual style and skills definitely pointed out their training shortcomings, successes and failures. Not unlike the illicit porridge of the three bears they seemed to fit into three categories; too cold, too hot and just right. The just right dogs had enough go get em to work the heavy cover in the deep ravines that was holding birds and enough restraint to not go on the flush. The too cold dogs had to be encouraged to get in the heavy stuff pretty regularly and were so involved in navigating the brush they never got the full look at a good flush. The too much dog, let the truth be told my dog Lena, well it's all about her. To be fair it always has been, but she has a greatness of heart that is not deterred by 5 strand barbed wire that left her bloody but unbowed. For dogs like her the connection between her hunter and the game is loose at best.

The goal for most of us is a well-finished dog, an MHR maybe a GMHR in any case a dog we can hunt anywhere anytime. We all began at some point and that out of control dog many of us had in the or early days remains strong in our memories. He was such a great dog, if only he did not break on the flush, or maybe on marks or take that extra few yards liberty on the whistle. I suspect I'm not the only one who has that in the back of our mind as we train. While we fear losing control for many of our dogs this control is too much and robs them of balance. I have not mastered the concept of balance, but I know it when I see it. It's that dog coiled like a spring yet will not go without his handler's release. It's that short fast turn to watch the flush but no intention of breaking, only the focused readiness.

I wonder if participation in the various hunting dog programs makes this particular facet worse or better. We all want our dogs to do well as early as possible; it's an affirmation of our skills as trainers. The problem is will the things we do to get that started or intermediate ribbon come back to haunt us when we start running senior. I know I have been there and likely will again. There are many obvious factors we can use to judge our progress, delivery, crisp casts etc. What are less obvious are the subtle factors that speak to the dog's confidence and that elusive balance. I'm not sure how to measure this but I see it a lot when I judge. The mechanics of a performance are easy to observe, did he take that corner of the pond, was he confident running that blind past the mark. That's not the issue. The question is what role does balance play in the overall performance day in and day out and how can we develop it? I think exposure to lots of different terrain and a mix of multiple and single marks are part of it. I think testing when you train is definitely the enemy. It's even worse when its part of judging but that's a subject for another article. Seek out very experienced folks to train with, and ask yourself a lot of questions about the difficulties you are facing and don't be too quick to fall back on mechanics as the source of the problem. Building confidence is as much a part of training as anything else we do. If you figure it out please pass it along!

Good Training and much success in the upcoming season.

Joe May

by Kevin McLaren

The first rays of sunlight on December 27th, 2006 found me stretched out in a corn stubble field, goose decoys scattered in and around me, to my right a hunting companion in his layout blind, to my immediate left a young lab on his first goose hunt. Weather was just about perfect, overcast, temperature hovering around 35 degrees and a consistent breeze at our backs. We had scouted this field and it had been used consistently for last several days, everything seemed to be perfect. Our anticipation level was beyond high, it was as they say, almost a guaranteed thing. Surely we would collect our limits, get home, shower and arrive at work before the first pot of coffee was half gone at the office. Yet, as the time passed, it became obvious that something was not right. The morning was almost deathly quiet, no crow calls, no geese honking, no black birds, no blue jays, no pigeons, nothing was stirring. I even remarked to my friend that something seems to be out of place in the universe, oh well, that is why we call it hunting. At 9AM we loaded up the dekes, rushed home, then to the office. It did not take long for me to be consumed by the happenings at work and it appeared to be another normal day. Around 10:30 I had stepped out of my office to make the short walk to our manufacturing mill to attend to a problem, halfway back across the parking lot I received one of those calls that will forever remain in your memory. "Kevin, this is Phyllis, has anyone called you about Joe?" No, was my reply. "Joe passed away last night." I do not even know if was able to muster a reply. I had the same overwhelming feeling of disbelief that I had almost 3 years earlier sitting in Crowder Mississippi, while on a duck hunt, when we got the call that Sharon May, Joe's wife, had passed in her sleep.

I am eternally grateful to have known Joe May. Joe May was a true friend of NAHRA, he and Sharon had been there since the beginning. Although Joe was never one to be in the limelight or take credit for things, he was in my opinion, one of the most influential people in the NAHRA program and certainly in the Mid Atlantic Region. Joe was a virtual walking encyclopedia of knowledge about NAHRA & waterfowl hunting. Joe could captivate you with his story telling of past hunts, NAHRA events, or the infamous "Mexico trip". Freddy, Tony, and I, as well as countless others, have spent many an early morning hour sharing, listening and learning with Joe. His unique perspective on issues from waterfowl management to retriever work to DFTs always made an incredible amount of sense to me and helped shape a lot of the views that I have today.

Joe's devotion to the NAHRA program was only surpassed by his devotion to his lovely wife Sharon, their family, and friends. Whenever we would get together, the conversation would focus quickly on his daughters and their families. He would always update me on the grandkids and some amusing story about their latest visit. Joe would remind me often of the importance of family. I and countless others are forever grateful to the May family for sharing Joe and Sharon for all these years. I would not even hazard a guess to the number of lives that were touched by Joe and Sharon as a result of their involvement in NAHRA, but I know it is many.

Joe May had countless friends., My wife Wendy and I were fortunate to have experienced his friendship for a few short years. There are many others that had much longer and closer relationships. Yet, it is extremely hard for me to imagine NAHRA events in this region without Joe being there. However, it is in part because of Joe's influence, that there will be a strong NAHRA presence in this region.

It has been very hard to say Goodbye to Joe May. But as I look back on that near perfect late December morning, that somehow wasn't, I believe that just maybe all the geese were going to the field where Joe, Sharon and Lucky were hunting instead of the field I was hunting. I know now that all the things in the universe were exactly as they should have been that morning.

Goodbye Joe, we will miss you.



Sadie

by Kevin McLaren

March 8, 2007

Today, my wife, daughter and I laid to rest a truly great dog. Sadie was without a doubt as talented a retriever as there is on the planet. I would be extremely fortunate to ever own another that was born with the same amount of talent. However, despite the sage advice of experienced mentors, my first attempt at retriever training only empowered her to ignore discomfort. In other words, my lack of focus on obedience issues rendered her unable to sit and remain calm when there were birds, duck calls or loud noises such as shots in the near vicinity, say 1-2 miles. Despite this “small flaw” in her retriever training, she was a great upland hunter and a devoted and wonderful companion to our family. As wild as she was when birds were involved, she was exactly opposite when a toddler crawled over her, poking and prodding her all the while. As I was seeding and mulching her final resting place, I began to reflect on her life and started to make a list of things that I had learned from her. As a result, these are the top ten things Sadie taught me:

1. Obedience is the foundation for all retriever training.
2. There is no substitute for natural talent and ability.
3. Uncontrolled enthusiasm is another word for wild.
4. Just because you have your ham sandwich in your hand, the sandwich may not be intended for you to eat.
5. There are no limits to desire.
6. A dog can be out of control from watching duck hunting on the outdoor channel.
7. An adult lab can hide a full grown rat in their mouth, excluding rodent's tail.
8. A wild Iowa pheasant can be snatched out of mid air.
9. If you want something bad enough, you can endure almost anything to eventually obtain it.
10. When someone tells you your new pup has a lot of enthusiasm, refer to number 1.



2006 Raw Invitational

Photos
by
Mike Speer









From The Regions



From the Northwest

By John Gilbert

MARCH MADNESS in the NORTHWEST

As I write this “March Madness” is about all I’m hearing on the boob tube. For good reason. If you’re a basketball fan this is an exciting time of the year. In my immediate vicinity the fever is accentuated as we have three local teams qualified for post season play. And yes I’m a fan. Yet when I look at the term, it is also a good description of the dog training world in our region. The hard core professionals went south to escape the snow & cold, and most are still a few weeks away from their yearly return. Not unlike our migratory fowl. The bulk of us with more conventional jobs have stuck around and this is our break out season. Coastal Oregon & Washington have already started up the chilly part of their training, test & trial season. Home base for me is the greater Spokane area. It’s described to the rest of the country as the Inland Empire (sometimes the Inland Northwest). Our snow in the lower elevations is now gone and sloppy roads are drying up. Water still a bit cold for young dogs, but we’re getting there. Our first training day was already several weeks ago! Western Montana & Northern Idaho still lag behind, but the hard core are already out there. Now Alberta is definitely a month out, but those Canadians seem used to it and have already had some club training days on snow with picnic tests planned just around the corner. So though our sub climates may have different hurdles, we all are scrambling to begin filling, or patching up, holes in our training programs. Got to catch up with the snow birds soon to return. From club organizational levels we are also scrambling to finish up planning our 2007 training & trial season. With all that scrambling we’ve got our own version of March Madness. With ski season still in full swing and many of our members trying to fit in a bit of fishing, the outdoors has become a lot more occupied. I don’t even want to hear about Spring Turkey hunting. Days are getting longer, so all in all it is a grand (though soggy) time of the year. On a personal note my new steel hip is installed. Though still using a cane my inactive status has the end of the tunnel looming closer. I’m chomping at the bit.

Hopefully E-mail will get the word out, but just in case my slo-mo connection fails, spread the word to all club reps that we are having a regional conference call on March 28th. Our Regional Event will be in the Edmonton area, and hopefully we can hash out the remaining tidbits that evening. I want to remind everyone that our Calgary and Edmonton clubs will again be

synchronizing two consecutive three day weekend tests. So between July 14th and the 22nd there will be SIX licensed tests offered. For all you go-getters this is a hell of an incentive to travel north. The official Regional test will be on Saturday July 21st. I am aware there was no vote or bidding process for the location of 2007's regional Event. I did search out a lot of input, and with time marching on I went ahead and made what I felt was the logical call. The Alberta Clipper Hunting Retriever Association has responded wonderfully. I want to make it clear that for the 2008 location, discussions will begin immediately. The plan is for this decision to be more jointly made and to be behind us by this years regional weekend. Hopefully future years will also use this as their deadline.

It does not seem appropriate use of NAHRA organization-wide space to list everything available, but I have gotten information about club organized training opportunities from the ACHRA, BSHRC, SBDA, TVHRC, & WRHRC in their respective areas. No doubt the others also have something on their schedules. Get in touch with your club for particulars. If you are unsure as to who to contact you can always call me and I can steer you in the right direction. Please do NOT use the number listed in the last NAHRA NEWS (winter 2006). It is the back line to a Spokane fire station and will probably get you nowhere.

The Calgary Club is also sponsoring a SMARTWORK with Evan Graham Workshop on June 22-23rd. The Big Sky HRC hosted one last year. For a number of reasons word did not get out and participation was low. As a unfair consequence they took a financial hit for their leadership efforts. It did not detract from the quality experience the rest of us attended, but we are hoping word of the value in these offerings will spread and produce increased attendance. These are some of the best values out there for increasing your dog knowledge.

The NAHRA NEWS and our website are your best source for figuring what licensed tests to attend. But to summarize what our region has on the calendar, here goes:

SBDA – April 28-9, June 2-3, August 25-6, doubles (Spokane) HVGDC – May 26-7, double (Helena)

BSHRC – June 23-4, double (Kalispel)

PSRC – July 6-8, triple (Bremerton)

WRHRC – July 14-16, triple (Calgary)

ACHRA – July 20-22, triple (Edmonton)

TVHRC – August 4-5, double (Boise)

TH-TH-THAT'S ALL FOLKS,
John Gilbert

From the Southwest

Debra Bouldin recently took over as the Southwest NAHRA Region Director.

She hasn't had time to get her legs under her. We'll look forward to her report in July.

From the Rocky Mountain

By Chris Goeson

We have a new Regional Director in the Rocky Mountain Region, Chris Goeson.

For the Bio...

I first became involved in NAHRA about 7 years ago when I was looking for a group to help me train my first Lab. The experience I've gained and the people I've met through NAHRA are invaluable. I became the Rocky Mountain RD because NAHRA is struggling in the region right now, and we need to find ways to grow our membership in the area if we want to keep NAHRA viable in the area. I look forward to working with the members of the Rocky Mountain Region to find new ways to get people involved in the program.

I would also like to thank Greg Floyd for his years of service. He has a real passion for retrievers and what we do. Without his continuous efforts I'm convinced there would be no region here at all.

From the MidWest

By Keith Stroyan

Successes and Lessons from EIHRA



Eastern Iowa HRA has a full-feature website maintained by the NAHRANews webmaster, Doug Kelley. Following is an excerpt from our forum. It's my substitute for a MidWest Region report. I think it keeps the theme: Successes and Lessons.

Doug Kelley: (23 Oct 06)

We had a similar thread last year and so I thought it is time to start it up again this year. Post up your brags or interesting retrieve stories.

I'll start with more of an interesting story.

Zazu's blind work still has a lot to be desired, but after coaxing Zazu up onto shore after a cripple that he did not see fall, he had a nice short trail and comes back across the pond with a beautiful drake woodie, with its head up looking around wondering what just happened. Zazu brings the bird in off the bank and as I reached for it, inches away from grabbing it, Zazu drops it and it runs under the blind. The blind is a plywood base on 4 poles, about 12 inches high on the water side and tight against the ground on the back side. I did not know if Zazu was going to fit under the blind or not. He stayed at it for about 5 minutes, coming out several times to let me know he did not have it. He stayed with it until he finally was able to reach it. This time I verbally reminded him to hold, and he did.



Craig Arians: (29 Oct 06)

Pheasant hunting is certainly my passion when it comes to hunting and nothing amazes me more than a dog busting through chest high switch grass in search of the downed bird and coming proudly back with it. Coffee and Lucy both pulled this off this weekend along with some other good retrieves.

2 days, six birds. 7 more days to hunt before I go back to work. I hope the dogs and me hold up.

Dake Dietrich: (30 Oct 06)

We were hunting with a party of 4 and Camo was the only dog. One of my friends shot a rooster an the other end of the line. My friend couldn't find the bird, and I sent Camo.

I went over to help, and he said that the bird was a runner, and that it dropped in his area. I asked where Camo was and he told me he didn't know that he took off. I said that he was probably following the bird and we should go find him.

I found Camo with the bird pinned down about 150 yards. He retrieved it, I held it up to show my group.

You can't substitute great dog work.

10 birds 4 hunters Sat

3 by myself Sun.

Dan Cram: (31 Oct 06)

2 hunters 4 birds on Saturday. Should have had a limit easily. Great dog work poor gun work.

Sunday plenty of flushes on my own but no shots. Bird numbers are definetly down but it seems like there are a lot of roosters compared to hens.

One note on Steel shot: I was hunting all public land and using 3" #4s Steel. I had been using a choke that is between an Imp and Mod in past years and always seem to have a lot of cripples and cursed Steel Shot. I switched to a Skeet choke this year and both birds went down stone dead. Now if could just remember to swing the #\$(*% gun I would be deadly!!

Chuck Gent: (31 Oct 06)

I hunted Saturday, Sunday, and a few hours Monday. Saw a total of 3 roosters. Shot one, missed one, and my buddy missed one as well. Bird count seems to be way down. Not a lot of hens either. Still haven't made it through all my normal land yet.

On a happy note, Reese got her first flush and retrieve. Good flush, and nice soft mouthed retrieve. Makes all that time I spent force fetching her worth it. So despite the poor rooster population, it's a good feeling to have the first one under her belt (or collar).

Although, there is still a lot of standing corn around here. I see quite a few roosters leaving the corn fields at night while I'm in my deer stand. Hoping things pick up once the corn is all harvested.

Chuck Gent: (08 Dec 06)

Sounds like a lot of people have had good hunting this year. Today I learned again that it's not about getting limits, or excellent retrieves. It's just time in the outdoors with our best friends leading the way.

Reese is 2 years old now, but this is her first season of hunting. She has been losing scent trails, though. I will admit that I never did work on trailing with her. She has always seemed a natural hunter. I've never seen her out of range, she quarters naturally, and sure knows how to get excited around birds.

Today, in an hour of hunting, I could see her learning as she went. We were hunting waist high brome grass, and today was quite windy. As we started out, she got birdy, but just seemed to loose the scent. She would always circle around downwind, and pick it up again. Follow the trail, loose it, circle around, and try again. I thought the birds were running from us. I just stood there, and let her figure it out on her own.

By the end of the hunt, she had flushed 4 hens. A couple times she trailed a bird for a few hundred yards, and then it flushed just feet from her nose. She got a lot better at staying on the scent She seems to have figured out a lot in just one day, and I couldn't be happier.

I may not have gotten any birds, but I am still smiling with excitement, and looking foreward to another 10 or more years in the field with my dogs. ☺.

Doug Kelley:

We hit our honey hole to end the season and bagged 14 in about 2 hours. We had to push well over 100 birds out of a 100 acre field. Around 3:00 we counted over 20 hens flying in at us, back to the roost, from the surrounding cornfields.

I enjoy the comraderie of an occasional large party hunt but truly enjoy just me and my pooch. So the last hour I broke off from our larger party to finish out the season with just Zazu. With less than 15 minutes left in the season, Zazu had been on a hot scent for a good ten minutes. We came to a slight break in the cover and 2 big roosters flush. One straight away, one circles back behind me. I drop the straight away first then do a 180 and drop the other. Zazu picks up the 2nd bird down then goes back for the first and goes on about a 30 yard trail and grabs the 2nd for a picture perfect season ending double.

**From the MidAtlantic**

By Fred Perini

Thanks to all who supported me during the election as Regional Director of the Mid-Atlantic.

It's been a long winter. Hope you all had a safe, fun and enjoyable hunting season. My season was reasonably good. But due to the warmer than normal winter season, I only hunted about 25 days. My Lab Gunner retrieved about 100 birds during this season. The best of "Big Daddy's" hunt was a 24 bird limit, with two retrieves over 200 yards each in 25 mph winds. Gunner got to sleep on the seat of the truck for the ride home, boy was he exhausted.

Now that the hunting season is over it's now time for the spring hunt tests to start in the Mid-Atlantic. There have already been two tests held in March. The Mid-Atlantic Retriever Club held their test on March 10-11. It was a Single Intermediate/Single Senior test. The weather was excellent and the test was a great success. The next test on the schedule was March 17-18, which was held by the Old Dominion Retriever Club. It was a Double Started/Double Intermediate test. The weather was extremely cold with snow flurries. But despite the cold weather the test was a success. Thanks to all that entered and helped make these early season test successful.

Upcoming tests are as follows:

April

21-22 Shenandoah Valley RC, which will be Double Intermediate/Double Senior

28-29 Southern Maryland HRC, which will be Single Started/Single Intermediate/Single Senior

May

19-20 Shenandoah Valley RC, which will be Double Started/Double Intermediate

Thank you very much,

Fred Perini

From the Northeast

By Frank Plewa

It is that time of year when most of us here in the Northeast and our dogs are suffering from an extreme case of “cabin fever” and the current thaw is making it even worse. While it is warming up some, the ice and snow are still preventing many from doing much with the pups just yet. But that will change soon as it always does!

The coming year promises to be a very busy and productive time in the Northeast for the Region and NAHRA. We will kickoff 2007 in March with a Judges clinic to be held in Western New York. The clinic is a joint effort between the Western New York Retriever Club and the Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association. I have the great pleasure of co-presenting with one of our premier dog trainers and judge, Mr. Joe Letta. I hope all current and prospective judges as well as handlers will make an attempt to join us.

With the addition of Joe, the Northeast now has completed pool its of presenters. The group now consists of Brad Lindberg, Tom Johnston, Paul Young, Joe Letta and myself. That doesn't mean we cannot have an additional name or two so if you know someone who might fit the bill, contact me. I encourage additional clubs to host clinics so that we continue to maintain and upgrade our judging ranks. I also feel that even those who have no aspirations to judge attend these events to gain a better understanding of judging and testing in general.

The Hunter Pilot will continue until August of this year. At which time, comments will be summarized and presented to the Board of Directors to determine if this initiative will become a permanent part of the NAHRA program. I would like to get your comments. Email me at swampcop@superpa.net. I hope you all will try the stake to see for yourselves what it is all about and submit comments.

The Northern Piedmont Retriever Club will hold three Hunter Stakes at its spring event in April so if you have not seen Hunter up close this is your chance. The complete Northeast Region Field Test Schedule is as follows.

DATES	HOST CLUB	ST	HTR	INT	SR
March 24-25	Judges Clinic – Geneva, New York				
March 31-April 1	Navesink River Hunting Retriever Club	-	-	-	2
April 13-15	Northern Piedmont Retriever Club	3	3	-	3
April 20-21	Hudson Highlands Hunting Retriever Association	1	-	1	2
May 5-6	Lake Champlain Retriever Club	2	-	2	2
May 12-13	Navesink River Hunting Retriever Club	2	-	2	2
May 19-20	Western New York Retriever Club	2	-	2	2
June 2-3	Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association	2	-	2	2
June 13-18	RAW INVITATIONAL - NEWVILLE PA				
July 7-8	Horseshoe Retriever Club	2	-	2	2
August 4-5	Southwestern PA Hunting Retriever Club	2	-	2	2
August 11	Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association	1	-	1	-
September 7	Regional Meeting at Hudson Highlands Hunting Retriever Association				
September 8-9	Hudson Highlands Hunting Retriever Association and Northeast Regional	2	-	2	2
September 15-16	Navesink River Hunting Retriever Club	2	-	2	2
September 28-30	Northern Piedmont Retriever Club	2	-	2	3

Because there is so little to report I will throw in a few photos taken from Northern Piedmont Retriever club's annual work detail maintenance of the duck nesting structures on one of our local State Game Lands. It has become quite a social event and a chance to get out during the winter and also do help out our feathered friends. I encourage clubs everywhere to do the same, as it will provide some dividends with your relationship with the local resource agencies.



Current NPRC President Jon Vernam and V.P. Mike Tome knock out some wood duck nests



A flying squirrel was an unexpected tenant in one of our many wood duck boxes.

From Quebec

Bonjour à tous,

La philosophie NAHRA est entrain de renaître de ses cendres au Québec, mais il est encore trop tôt pour dire que la partie est gagnée. Plusieurs personnes travaillent fort pour qu'il y ait des compétitions NAHRA au Québec. Pour cela, nous avons créé l'habitude de tenir deux compétitions par année: une au printemps et une autre à la fin de l'été. J'ai moi même, avec un autre membre, participé à un concours NAHRA au Vermont en 2006 dans le but d'ouvrir la frontière et d'aller voir nos cousins américains de la grande famille NAHRA. Il y va de la survie d'un club de pouvoir sortir de sa région pour se faire connaître des autres. Je profite donc du NAHRA news comme plateforme pour vous inviter à venir vous aussi concourir dans notre belle région de Trois Rivières (Québec) et ainsi apprendre à connaître vos cousins du Canada, vous trouverez l'exercice des plus agréable, j'en suis convaincu.

Best regards
Dany Filteau

Good Day to all of you,

The NAHRA spirit is rising again from its ashes in Quebec, but it still to early to say that the match is won. Many people are working hard to make sure we have NAHRA competitions in Quebec. To make this happen, we got into the habit of having two competitions per year: one in the Spring and one at the end of Summer. I personaly, with another member, participated in a NAHRA competition that took place in Vermont in 2006 in order to pass the border and visit our American cousins from the great NAHRA family. It goes with a club's survival to be able to go outside its region in order to get known from others. I take advantage of this NAHRA news tribune to invite you all to do so and come in our great region of Trois-Rivieres (Quebec) and get to know your Canadian cousins, I'm sure you'll find this experience very exciting.

Best regards,
Dany Filteau

No reports received from Alaska or North Atlantic

2007 Test Schedule

April 13-15 - Northern Piedmont Retriever Club; Newville, Pennsylvania
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Tom Johnston (717)444-3691 tkjohnston@pa.net

April 28,29 – Spokane Bird Dog Association (SBDA); Spokane, Washington
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Bob Trapp (509)928-7799 shellbob@netscape.com

April 28, 29 – Skunk River HRA; Washington, Iowa
Contact: Larry Dusanek dusanela@geticonnect.com

May 5, 6 – Four Points RC; Clear Lake, Wisconsin
Contact: Patsy Hove pahove@aol.com

May 5,6 – Lake Champlain RC; Burlington, Vermont
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Dale Goodrich (802)372-6077 WADAGOOD@AOL.COM

May 12 – Eastern Iowa HRA; North Liberty, IA
1 ST, 1 HR, 1 IN
Contact: Doug Kelley (319)743-3663 ds-kelley@mchsi.com

May 12,13 – Navesink River HRC; New Egypt, New Jersey
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Janice Easterbrook (732)270-2149 labbers@comcast.net

May 19, 20 – Midwest RC; Maxwell, Iowa
Contact: Todd Francisco TAFrancisco@dmgov.org

May 19,20 – Western New York RC; Alabama, New York
Contact: Michele Rappl (716)649-1656 RAP4840@aol.com

May 26,27 – Helena Valley Gun Dog Club; Helena, Montana
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Vicki MacLean (406)442-1918

May 26,27 – Hudson Highlands HRC; Montgomery, New York
2 SR Only
Contact: Scott Leonescu (201)953-1237 hometeambuilders@hotmail.com

June 2,3 – Spokane Bird Dog Association; Spokane, Washington
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Bob Trapp (509)928-7799 shellbob@netscape.com

June 2,3 – Leatherstocking HRA; Baldwinsville, New York
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Mike Hass (585)229-2220

June 2, 3 – Okoboji RC; Spencer, Iowa
Contact: Gary Van Wettering gandsvw@smunet.net

June 13-18 – RAW / NAHRA Invitational; Newville, Pennsylvania
Contact: Frank Plewa 717-334-7135 swampcop@superpa.net

June 23,24 – Big Sky Hunting Retriever Club; Kalispell, Montana
2 ST, 2IN, 2SR
Contact: Judy Cornell (406)862-5083 judy@whitefishrental.com

June 23, 24 – Midnight Sun Gun Dog Association; Falcon Ridge, Alaska
Contact: Kody Bull KodyB@controlcontractors.com

June 23,24 – Nutmeg Retriever Association; Ridgefield, Connecticut
Contact: Bruce Caplin (203)431-2921 BSCaplin@aol.com

July 6-8- Puget Sound Retriever Club; Bremerton, Washington
3 ST, 3 IN, 3 SR
Contact: Harry Williams (360)876-4860 sequimbreeze@aol.com
Wally Kobeski walkobe@comcast.net

July 6-8 - Four Points RC; Marine on the St. Croix, Minnesota
3 ST, 3 IN, 3 SR
Contact: Patsy Hove pahove@aol.com

July 7,8 – Horseshoe Hunting RC; Kenilworth, Ontario
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Yvonne Mangan (519)323-2883 Blazeon4@aol.com

July 14-16 – Wild Rose Hunting Retriever Club; Calgary, Alberta
3 ST, 3 IN, 3 SR
Contact: Howie Boyda h.boyda@shaw.ca
or Paul Price or Jack Gardner

July 20-22 – Alberta Clipper Hunting Retriever Association; Edmonton, Alberta
3 ST, 3 IN, 3 SR; Saturday's event will include NW Regional
Contact: Steve & Carol Fox (780)962-6543 stcfox@shaw.ca

July 21,22 - Midnight Sun Gun Dog Association; Turnagain Pass, Alaska
Contact: Kody Bull KodyB@controlcontractors.com

August 4,5 – Treasure Valley Hunting Retriever Club; McCall, Idaho
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Debbie Ellis debellis@spro.net

August 4,5 – Midnight Sun Gun Dog Association; Kenai, Alaska
Contact: Kody Bull KodyB@controlcontractors.com

August 4,5 – Southwestern Pennsylvania HRC; Grove City, Pennsylvania
2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR
Contact: Charlene Givens (724)327-5605 charted@alltell.net

August 11 – Leatherstocking HRA; Baldwinsville, New York
1 ST, 1 IN
Contact: Mike Hass (585)229-2220

August 25,26 – Spokane Bird Dog Association; Spokane, Washington

2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR

Contact: Bob Trapp (509)928-7799 shellbob@netscape.com

August 25,26 – Northern Piedmont RC; Newville, Pennsylvania

2 Hunter, 2 IN

Contact: Tom Johnston (717)444-3691 tkjohnston@pa.net

September 8,9 – Hudson Highlands HRA / NE Regional ; Montgomery, New York

2 ST, 2 IN, 2 SR

Contact: Scott Leonescu (201)953-1237 hometeambuilders@hotmail.com

September 15,16 – Navesink River HRC; New Egypt, New Jersey

1 ST, 1 Hunter, 1 IN, 1 SR

Contact: Janice Easterbrook (732)270-2149 labbers@comcast.net

September 21-23 – Northern Piedmont RC; Newville, Pennsylvania

2 ST, 2 IN, 3 SR

Contact: Tom Johnston (717)444-3691 tkjohnston@pa.net

Test Results

The few 2007 Field Test Results we have will appear in the Summer eNews.

Titles

TITLES ISSUED JANUARY 2007 – MARCH 2007

MASTER HUNTING RETRIEVER

DEEP RUN COVENTINA, LAB, F, 1/27/2000, JAMES VANDERGIESSEN ; **INDIAN ROCK'S FOOLS GOLD**, LAB, F, 5/8/2001, PHYLLIS GIROUX DVM & JACK JAGODA ; **SOUTHLAND SHALLOW BAY SHAMUS**, LAB, M, 4/25/2003, MIKE REED & KAYLEIGH REED

WORKING RETRIEVER

DAKE'S CAMOUFLAGE HUNTER, LAB, M, 9/20/2001, DAKE M. DIETRICH; **DEEP RUN DIAMONDS AND RUST**, LAB, M, 5/16/1999, CHRIS BOWLIN; **HO'OIKAIKAKEAKUA II**, LAB, M, 9/9/2004, DON BOVERS; **KINGS CANDLEWOOD KATE**, LAB, F, 6/10/2004, BOB KING & IRENE KING; **LICKING RUNS BLACKBERRY JAM**, LAB, F, 2/24/2004, JEAN M. LEONARD & GREGG T. LEONARD; **STONYBECK BROGAN OF SKIBO CASTLE**, LAB, F, 8/31/2002, BARBARA ANN SAMPSON & LINDA DONKELAAR
HI

STARTED HUNTING RETRIEVER

CAERLEON'S CHIRONOMID, LAB, F, 10/6/2004, RAYMOND EVANS; **DEEP RUN DIAMONDS AND RUST**, LAB, M, 5/16/1999, CHRIS BOWLIN; **DENALI LACE OF LOLENDIA**, LAB, F, 2/12/2005, BRIAN B. BRUGGEMAN; **DJ'S CLASSICAL JAZZ MUSICIAN**, LAB, M, 1/29/2005, DEBRA MARSTELLER & DAVID MARSTELLER; **HYSPIRE SLIM SHADY**, LAB, M, 8/17/2003, VONNIE RUSSELL & LISA DA ROSS & LAURA FLETCHER; **KALI OMALLEY**, LAB, F, 6/16/2003, BRIAN RAYNER & MARA STRAUB; **LOLENDIA'S DEZERT ROZE**, LAB, F, 2/9/2003, VICKI DILLENBURG; **MIDNIGHT SPLASH IV**, LAB, M, 10/30/2003, JIM SZELIGA; **MORNING SUN'S CONSTELLATION**, LAB, F, 3/5/2005, MICHAEL O'CONNOR; **REGENCY ANY EXCUSE TO SHOP**, GOLDEN, F, 4/16/2004, JAMIE WARREN & VIC FRANCHI & LAURA FRANCHI;& JENNIFER TAGGART; **SW CHARMSTAR ENCHANTED COLOR**, CCR, F, 4/6/1997, ANN M. SHINKLE; **TAYLER'S REGENCY RUMORS FLYING HIGH**, GOLDEN, F, 4/25/2000, JAMIE WARREN & VIC FRANCHI & LAURA FRANC **AUTUMN GOLD**, LAB, F, 10/3/2005, GREG DOUGHTY & DEB DOUGHTY; **THE CAPTNS CLDWTR PEPPRMNT ROSE**, LAB, F, 1/21/2005, ALAYNE HARTUNIEWICZ & CHERYL HOGAN