

# MHSA News

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## Officers & Board of Directors



## From the President ...

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Twelve below on the thermometer this morning and despite coals in the first floor woodstove the temperature in my cabin-office was 47 this morning. Despite these temperatures, my three Cockers would have preferred more time outside before accompanying me to what I find mentally stimulating and bores my dogs: phone calls, drafting and other office work. They all prefer the canine version of work which yesterday yielded a muskrat, trapped above water on the ice. Even recent cold does not cool a Cocker's desire to hunt! Cooper greatly enjoyed the excitement leading to a free-flowing muskrat bite. I was irritated by the resulting trip to the emergency Vet clinic, which required that I call a client to inform him a draft agreement would be received the following morning rather than that evening. Gryphon luxuriated in delivering a muskrat coup de gra, leaving me felling sorry for the muskrat and guilty at not making use of his pelt. Our dogs are by turns entertaining and irritating. So why do old timers in the club and those who have joined recently all share our homes with Spaniels? Why collect for the fun and fellowship of our club's activities? I suppose we enjoy our club for the same reasons we love our dogs. We enjoy sharing activities we love like hunting, walking in fields turning green or later golden, watching sunrises over marshes, searching for birds, hunt tests, training days and trials. We particularly enjoy doing these things in the company of eager, friendly people and pooches. So I hope, during this cold winter, those of you who have already paid your dues will be signing up to help with our scheduled hunt tests, trials and training days! It is the best way to ensure you'll be committed and present. You can run your dog in the same activity you're volunteering at so signing up early to help is the way to ensure your dog a good time: you'll already be committed to attend, so of course you'll enter your dog! Now here is a recommendation for those of you who aren't spending as much time outside as your dogs would like. Curl up next to a fire and read Merle's Door, *Lessons from a Freethinking Dog* by Ted Kerasote. It won the National Outdoor Book Award and is a great read.

My best, Richard Bend

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## MHSA 2007 Awards Banquet, Northland Inn, Brooklyn Park, MN.

A big thanks goes to Chris Dartt for putting together the Banquet at the Northland Inn. The dining room where the MHSA Awards Banquet was held was wonderful, as was the food, just as Chris said it would be.



Thanks also to everyone who brought something for the Raffle. Linda Simon did a great job selling tickets. The Raffle goes a long way to help pay for all of the Awards and other extras that the Club provides for it's members.

I, personally, had a great time putting together the awards, plaques and ribbons together. We are all passionate about our dogs and it shows by the activities we all participate in. There were about 33 people that attended this years Banquet.

**MHSA Merchandise Order Form**

MHSA is pleased to offer the following club merchandise for sale. T-shirts, sweatshirts & hats are stocked by the Association & orders will be accepted throughout the year. Orders can be picked up at any MHSA event. If you would prefer to have your order mailed, **add \$10** to your order for shipping and handling.

Delivery will be at the event following receipt of the order. A check, made payable to **MHSA**, must accompany your order, which can be mailed to Shirley Harford - 7816 66th Ave N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428. If you have any questions regarding merchandise, please contact Shirley at [Lougeelake@comcast.net](mailto:Lougeelake@comcast.net).

**Description of merchandise and order number**

#5930 Fruit of the Loom Adult Short Sleeve T-shirt

Colors –Blaze Orange, Jade Green, Ash Grey, Khaki, Burgundy

Sizes – Small to XL Cost - \$15.00

#1630 Sweatshirt

Colors - Blaze Orange, Ash Grey, Forest Green, Khaki, Burgundy

Sizes -Small to XL Cost - \$25.00

#0504 Polo w/pocket

Colors – Ash Grey, Forest Green, Steel Grey, Orange

Sizes -Small to XL Cost - \$30.00

#16130 Hooded Pullover Sweatshirt

Colors – Ash Grey, Heather Grey, Royal Blue

Sizes -Small to XL Cost - \$30.00

#2110 Polyester Fleece Lined Bomber Jacket

Colors – Pine/ Charcoal, Black/Black, Black/Heather Grey  
 Sizes - Small to XL

Cost - With crest logo on the front \$60.00

- With both crest and back logo \$75.00

#6288 WXT Upland Blaze Orange Safety Cap

Sizes - One size fits all Cost - \$15.00

#3261 Blaze Orange Cap w/2 tone Pheasant on side

Size – One size fits all Cost - \$20.00

Two-sided MHSA Logo Mug (11oz.)

Colors – Ivory w/Burgundy

Cost - \$7.00 ea. or 2 for \$12.00

MHSA Patch

Cost -\$7.50

MHSA Lapel Pin

Cost - \$5.00

**Note:** for all clothing items: 2XL sizes are available - add \$1.50 / 3XL sizes are available - add \$3.00)

Item #:	Description	Sizes	Color	Qty.	Price each	Total Price
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
<b>SHADED AREA FOR BOMBER JACKET ONLY:</b>						
#2110	Bomber Jacket				Crest Logo	\$
					Both Logos	\$
					Size Up Chrg	\$
					<b>Shipping (if applicable):</b>	<b>\$</b>
					<b>Order Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>

**Shipping/Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

By Ann Sunderman

## A Shift on “Bird Dog Alley”

This year’s Pheasant Fest and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pheasants Forever convention in St. Paul boasted a record attendance. There were 29,802 attendees and over 300 exhibitors. MHSAs had a booth on “Bird Dog Alley”. Various MHSAs members and some of their dogs staffed the booth.

MHSAs’s booth featured some great action photos of our spaniels doing what they love to do. HUNT! Leanne put together a photo album with hunting pictures taken by club members and photos of members’ dogs. We answered many questions about the club and its activities. Several people picked up membership applications. It will be interesting to see if we have an influx of new members as a result.

From my perspective, it was a great day. I think my Rory dog had a good time too. He and his booth-mate, Aspen, were excellent ambassadors for spaniels and for the club. The four hour shift on Bird Dog Alley went by unbelievably quickly. It’s always fun talking about something you love. Visiting the other exhibits and “shopping” was just the icing on the cake. All in all it was a stellar weekend. If you didn’t attend, you missed out!



**HUNTERS DELIGHT PHEASANT**

2 pheasants  
Salt  
Pepper  
6 oz. butter  
2 tbsp. peanut oil  
1 oz. brandy  
1 med. onion, julienned  
4 to 8 med. mushrooms, julienned  
2 bay leaves  
Pinch or two of thyme  
Pinch of caraway seeds  
1 cup white wine (Sauterne preferred)  
1 to 1 1/2 cups half and half  
2 cups sour cream  
Dash Worcestershire sauce  
Juice of 1/2 lemon  
Wild rice

Disjoint pheasant and split breast in half. Lightly season with salt and pepper and place in heavy skillet or deep pot. Brown on all sides in butter and peanut oil. Remove meat from skillet.

Stir and add wine and half and half. Blend and simmer another 15 minutes.

Remove from heat; add sour cream and blend thoroughly. Add Worcestershire sauce and lemon juice and blend well. Place pheasant pieces and juices into sauce, return heat to low and simmer 1 hour.

Serve pheasant pieces with adequate sauce over rice, noodles, or dumplings.

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***DON'T FORGET !!!!!***

**The Hunt Test Judging Seminar is:  
Sat. March 1<sup>st</sup>. 2008**

**Entries need to be in by February 16**  
Info can be found on the MHSAs web site: [mnhuntingspaniel.org](http://mnhuntingspaniel.org)

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## Upcoming MHSA Events

### 2008

Mar. 1 – AKC Spaniel Hunt Test Seminar for Judges & Handlers

April 26 – MHSA Club Training Day at Brad Schindler's

May 2,3,4 – MHSA Cocker Trial

May 10 & 11 – MHSA Spring Hunt Test

May 17 – MHSA Club Training Day at Roettger Ridge

June 21 – 1<sup>st</sup> MHSA Fun Trial & Working Dog Test at Major Avenue

July 19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> MHSA Fun Trial (date tentative)

Aug. – MHSA Club Picnic (date to be determined)

Aug. 16 – 3<sup>rd</sup> MHSA Fun Trial (date tentative)

Sept. 6 & 7 – MHSA Fall Hunt Test

Sept. 12-14 – MHSA Cocker Trial (tentative)

Nov. – Indoor Duck Shoot (date to be determined)



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### English Springer Spaniel Information and Field Trial Page

[ESSFT.COM](http://ESSFT.COM)

