

MHSA News

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The Only American Kennel Club Licensed All Spaniel Hunting Dog Club

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From the President ...

Dear Fellow MHSA Members,

It looks like old man winter is making up for the mild start! I guess a good snowstorm or two shouldn't surprise anyone living in the upper Midwest. I don't even think of putting away the snow blower and shovels until May. (OK, maybe I'm stretching it) But despite our recent turn in the weather, spring is right around the corner.

This is the time of year to get our dogs AND ourselves in shape for our upcoming spring events! Our dogs, Aspen and Rayne, are taking this time to get lots of exercise romping through the snow. It also adds a new challenge in finding the hunting dummy!!! (A little pheasant scent helps) And me, well, I'm shoveling.....a lot! Seriously, winter can be a less active time for many of us. Field training and events can be physically demanding and getting in shape before hand can help prevent injury or discomfort. Please watch our calendar for dates and times of upcoming events. Also, please contact any board member to get on a list of those willing to help out and participate in events! I think you'll find it fun and rewarding!! (And, there's no experience necessary!)

Unfortunately, we didn't have enough people signed up to attend the Judging Seminar to meet the minimum requirement. This would be an excellent educational experience even if you have no plans to actually Judge at an event. It will be a great way to become familiar with the rules and requirements you'll be judged against in the field. We hope to offer it again in the future, so please keep it in mind.

Well, mend those bird bags and get all your hunting gear back in order, I look forward to seeing you all in the fields!!!

Best Regards,

Michael Bury

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MHSA's Sanctioned Cocker Trial

February 24, 2007

For those of you that missed our first sanctioned trial, you missed a very interesting day! We all thought we were nuts on the drive out there . . . little did we know that the trip home would be much worse! The day started out with pelting sleet then quickly turned into snow. Surprisingly, there was very little complaining. Everyone was just having fun with the fact that we were all insane enough to be out there. Of course, the dogs loved it! The motto of the day: "Minnesota trialing at it's finest!"



Special thanks goes to all those who came out:

Tom Radde and Craig Chilstrom – Judges
 Nadine Kohn – Event Chair
 Leanne Schmitz - Event Secretary
 Linda Simon - Game Steward
 Kevin Rutherford and Linda Simon who planted birds.
 Tony Roettger – Steward of the Beat
 Bethann Roettger - Field Marshall
 Mary Kemper - Judges Steward and Marshall
 John Dartt - Gun Captain
 Gun Team: Dennis DuErr, Pat Gilligan and Paul Mommaerts
 Club Members: Lisa & Mark Luttinen, Jim & Lynn Lynch and Dave Hofstadter.
 Nadine's nephews Ben & Tim Schaumburg who helped wrangle dogs.
 Jerry & Myra at Major Avenue Hunt Club for the grounds, ATV, hospitality and the wonderful lunch.
 And the participants and their dogs: Dick Bend, Deb Strohl, Chris Dartt, Bethann Roettger, Doug Scurr and Tony Roettger.



Placements:

1st - FC Sandford Guinevere "Carly" – O/H: Bethann Roettger
 2nd - Fallen Wings Sergeant Pepper "Pepper" – O: Chris & John Dartt / H: Chris Dartt
 3rd - Razr's Edge "Edge" – O: Donna Hengtgen / H: Tony Roettger
 4th FC Fallen Wings Whitney Morgan "Morgan" – O/H: Deb Strohl
 Gun's Award - Wizard of KS Phlatlands "Wizard" – O/H: Doug Scurr

Congratulations and thank you from the MHSA!



Judge Radde unknowingly Testifies to the weather conditions for the day. (Note the ice in his beard!)
 ←

Are the arrows in the Mary's vest a newfound souvenir or a subconscious reminder to mind your Marshall!! →



MHSB Board Meeting Minutes

Applebee's in Roseville – 6:30pm

January 2nd 6:30

Present: Mike Bury, Dick Bend, Jon Pidde, Mark Monson and Heidi Reinhardt

Absent: Bethanne Roettger, Brad Schindler, Dave Hofstadter, Matt Priske, and Jim Lynch

Called to order by Mike at 6:45, second by Heidi

- I. President's report – Nothing new at this time.
- II. Secretary's report – Nothing new at this time.
- III. Treasure's report- \$3071.98. There may be one outstanding bill from Jim Roberson from the Duck Shoot.
- IV. Committee reports-
 - A. Club training committee-
Volunteers will be asked for at banquet. Possibility of rotating sites for training around metro area. Need more information regarding permits, regulations, and fees involved in holding training on other sites. The possibility of club members hosting training will be brought up at banquet.
 - B. Membership committee-
Several inquiries have been submitted via E-mail. Heidi motioned that the membership chair be able to respond to e-mails and give club info to interested persons. Dick seconds motion passed.
- VI Unfinished Business-
 - A. Trauma Kits:
Unanimous decision to give Leanne the ok to get info and offer kits to the club. And look into purchasing a quantity to have on hand for field events.

Dr. Smith accepted offer to present information to club on basic first aid. She needs a date and time, possibly for March.
 - B. Rally Title and Club awards.

Some ideas that were presented by board members present were:

- More awards and ways to recognize our dogs the better.
- The Outstanding Achievement Award is heavily weighted for performance events.
- Possibly add another award calling for a Multi-Titlist
- Would splitting the awards further separate and fuel the argument of Field vs. Bench?
- Would a weighted system similar to the parent club be feasible?

It was decided after much discussion that a weighted system would be difficult to define considering the difference in how field and performance events are earned.

The members present at the banquet will be able to vote on the following. A yes vote will change the award; a nay vote will keep the award as it currently stands.

1- The Glenhurst Versatility Award

To add the Rally obedience to the obedience qualifier of the award.

2- Outstanding Achievement Award

To separate the into two separate awards

A- Outstanding Filed Achievement to include:

Field Trials
Hunt Tests
Working dog
Tracking

B- Outstanding Performance Achievement to include:

Conformation
Agility
Obedience (including rally).

D. Newsletter-

The current newsletter editor Leanne has realized that we are mailing the newsletter to many members with internet access. It is costing the club \$125.00/year in postage. Mixed comments on pulling it off the website and sending it via email to members only Leanne will contact those currently getting it mailed to see if she can send it via email to reduce postage costs.

E. Membership Benefits-

Would exclusive membership rights be worth setting up, would it generate more public interest?

Jon declines to use of exclusive rights, it seems like we are generating an acceptable amount of interest currently, and it may be time consuming to set up exclusive rights. Dick seconds this theory, motion declined.

Mark Monson will look into corporate sponsors. He will find out if large corporation's i.e. Galyans, would offer discounts to MHSA club members. Mark expressed interest in discount benefits from companies in good standing with the club such as BP ammunition. Mark will also look into contacting Major Ave. Hunt club to see if they would provide discounts to MHSA members.

F. Joint Fundraiser with TCVESSA-

Jon has discussed MHSA's joint fundraising effort with TCVESSA.

TCVESSA does not like the idea of using dead birds in the photos. The chairperson of the fundraising effort feels that pictures of this nature would hurt sales of the calendar.

Dick mentioned that the editor may be interested in the aesthetic appeal of the calendar, and agrees that some pictures may be distasteful, and judgment would need to be used when submitting such photos. However there are many ways to show dogs in action and pictures of the day's hunt in an aesthetic tasteful manner and should not be discounted all together.

Mark motioned that if TCVESSA does not want to host a joint effort that would include all of MHSA's stipulations, the MHSA formulate one. Dick seconds the motion and will look into his photography companies' methods for publishing one. He will also bring a sample up for raffle at the banquet.

TCVESSA joint fundraiser has been tabled pending the next TCVESSA meeting.

New Business-

A. Promoting the club:

Brochures need to be updated. They should include updated contact information, membership dues; add fun trials and field trials (pending AKC approval) to club events. Heidi will find out who has the hard copy of it, and work on producing more to hand out at dog related events.

Dick would like to ensure that we have a very open door policy with the club, encourage many different people to join, but ensure that all members have a strong interest and tolerance for hunting spaniels.

B. New members to vote in at banquet:

Gary & Cyndi Muessing

Mark & Shelia Mensen (Membership dues paid at MHSA Fall Hunt Test, unanimous decision from board to extend membership dues into 2007 for this member.)

Arthur Fowler

Michael Davis

Lisa Luttin

Motion to adjourn: by Heidi, second by Mike.
Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

MHSA Membership Meeting

January 20th 2007

Oak Marsh Country Club, Oakdale Minnesota

Meeting called to order by Dick Bend, second by Mike Bury.

Dick Bend thanked all the club members who attended and welcomed everyone to the New Year.

Heidi gave the secretaries report calling for approval of the 2007 Board members. The wrong list was initially read, but corrected later. The 2007 board nominees passed.

Heidi gave the membership report and asked for the club to invite the individuals listed on the December Minutes to the club, members accepted.

Dick presented the membership with the voting items, and opened the floor for brief discussion.

Club members at large had the following suggestions:

- Rally obedience as a separate qualifier from the obedience.
- The awards not split, but add Rally as a separate qualifier.
- Point out that MHSA is a hunting club and the awards should reflect that aspect.

After several minutes of discussion, Dick closed the floor, and initiated voting.

The results were as follows:

- Glenhurst Versatility Award will have Rally added to the obedience qualifier
- The Out standing Achievement Award will remain the same.

Dick thanked everyone for their participation and the meeting was closed.

News Article issued by the American Kennel Club

MN Dog and Cat Breeders Act Aims to Regulate Breeders
[Wednesday, January 24, 2007]

Minnesota Senate Bill 121, known as the Dog and Cat Breeders Bill, has been introduced by Senators Betzold and Koering. It seeks to establish breeder licensing, inspection of all "kennels", and unproven care standards. If passed and signed into law, the changes imposed by this bill would have a profound impact on dog breeders in Minnesota. It is imperative that breeders and concerned dog owners contact their senator and the committee chairman to express their opposition.

The American Kennel Club strongly supports humane treatment of dogs, including an adequate and nutritious diet, clean water, clean living conditions, regular veterinary care, kind and responsive human companionship, and training in appropriate behavior. However, many of the changes proposed by SB 121 are impractical, unenforceable, and costly. Most importantly, it will not improve the quality of life for dogs in Minnesota. Instead, enactment of this law will create greater burdens for responsible breeders and many will be forced to stop breeding altogether.

For example, the proposed set of laws would require the following:

- Any breeder with six or more intact adult females will be forced to comply with the requirements of SB 121. An adult dog is defined as one who is over 20 weeks of age. This threshold is both arbitrary and overreaching as it does not focus on the number of litters or puppies produced and sold.
- If a veterinarian is part of the inspection team and determines there is a substantial risk to the health and welfare of an animal, including, but not limited to, disease or pain, the veterinarian may immediately euthanize the animal.
- It will be almost impossible for smaller breeders and dog owners who maintain their dogs in their own residential premises to comply with the unreasonable building standards required by SB 121.
- SB 121 will require an annual inspection of any premises deemed to be a kennel. The inspection report will be made available to the public within 60 days of the inspection.
- Under SB 121, the amount of space required of each dog is based on the dog's weight. There is no scientific or accepted husbandry basis for these requirements.
- Animals may not be tethered or leashed as a means of confinement.

You can read the bill in its entirety at:

<http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/bldbill.php?bill=S0121.0.html&session=ls85>

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Contact the following members of the Minnesota Senate Committee on Agriculture and Veterans who will consider this bill.

Senator Jim Vickerman, Chair
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Room 226
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
(651) 296-5650

Senator Sharon L. Erickson Ropes, Vice Chair
(651) 296-5649
sen.sharon.erickson.ropes@senate.mn

Senator Steve Dille, Ranking Minority Member
(651) 296-4131
sen.steve.dille@senate.mn

Senator Satveer S. Chaudhary
(651) 296-4334
sen.satveer.chaudhary@senate.mn

Senator Joe Gimse
(651) 296-3826
sen.joe.gimse@senate.mn

Senator David W. Hann
(651) 296-1749

Senator Bill G. Ingebrigtsen
(651) 297-8063
sen.bill.ingebrigtsen@senate.mn

Senator Paul E. Koering
(651) 296-4875
sen.paul.koering@senate.mn

Senator Gary W. Kubly
(651) 296-5094
sen.gary.kubly@senate.mn

Senator Keith Langseth
(651) 296-3205
sen.keith.langseth@senate.mn

Senator Steve Murphy
(651) 296-4264

Senator Rod Skoe
(651) 296-4196
sen.rod.skoe@senate.mn

Senator Dan Skogen
(651) 296-5655
sen.dan.skogen@senate.mn

Senator Betsy L. Wergin
(651) 296-8075
sen.betsy.wergin@senate.mn

To find your Senator, go to: <http://geo.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/districts/start.html>

For more information, contact AKC's Canine Legislation Department at (919) 816-3720, or e-mail at doglaw@akc.org.

HUNT TEST NEWS



Spring

Plans for the upcoming Spring Hunt Tests are moving right along. Premiums are ready and will be posted to the web. The Spring Hunt Test Committee consists of:

Chair - Nadine Kohn

Secretary - Leanne Schmitz

Committee Members - Richard Bend, Heidi Lund, Linda Simon, Jon Pidde

Your judges are:

Saturday:

Junior – Tammy Cotten & Jim Lynch

Senior – Lynn Christen & Doug Scurr

Master – Paul Mommaerts & Bernie Rupp

Sunday:

Junior – Jim Lynch & Mark Monson

Senior – Lynn Christen & Doug Scurr

Master – Paul Mommaerts & Bernie Rupp

Fall

Please start thinking about whether you are willing and able to serve on the Committee for the Fall Hunt Tests. Due to the regulations changes, especially concerning judging eligibility, planning for the fall tests should start early.

Anyone willing and able to help out at the hunts is more than welcome.

Are you interested in . . .

- Serving on the committee?
- Marshalling?
- Bird Planting?
- Organizing the raffle?
- Organizing the BBQ?
- Shadowing the secretary or chair?
- Maybe you have a suggestion for judges?
- Apprenticing?

If you would like to help in any capacity, please contact a board member.



MHSA 2007 Fun Trials



Plans for the 2007 fun trials are now underway. Please be patient as planning is currently being determined by the availability of birds.

Our first fun trial for 2007 will be held on June 9, 2007 at Major Ave. Hunt Club. Cost will be \$15.00 per entry.

The stakes we are planning to offer include:

- Puppy: Any handler. Dog must be less than 2 years of age; dog may be steady or un-steady.
- Junior Handler: Any dog, any handler under 16 years of age. Dog may be steady or un-steady.
- Derby: Any dog, any handler. Dog must be less than 2 years old, dog must be steady.
- Novice: Neither dog nor handler may have placed in any stake in AKC Licensed Field Trial. Dog may be steady or un-steady.
- Open: Any Dog, any handler. Dog must be steady.
- Hunting Dog: Handler shoots, dog must be steady. Score is based 50% on shooting/50% on dog work.
- Shooting Dog: Handler shoots, dog may be un-steady. Score is based 50% on shooting/50% on dog work

If you are interested in joining us, please be sure to contact Linda Simon at 952-467-4476 or whistlestopkennel@hotmail.com so that she can arrange for the appropriate number of birds.

More detailed information regarding this and other fun trials will be available in upcoming newsletters and on the MHSA website.



Pheasant stew with shiitake mushrooms and wild rice

1 pheasant, 2-1/2 to 3 lbs
 2 T olive oil
 Fresh ground black pepper
 ¼ lb. bacon, smoked, 1/4-inch dice
 3 medium leeks, thinly sliced
 1 large carrot, finely diced
 1 rib celery, finely diced
 8 cup low-sodium chicken broth
 14 oz. Italian peeled tomatoes
 Fresh basil or parsley; chopped

1 cup hearty red wine
 2 bay leaves
 2 t. fresh rosemary, minced
 1 t. fennel seed
 ½ c. wild rice, rinsed thoroughly
 1 T. unsalted butter
 ¼ lb. shiitake mushrooms; or other wild mushrooms
 1 ½ t. balsamic vinegar
 Salt

Separate the legs and thighs from the pheasant. Remove the breast meat from the bone, keeping the breast intact. Remove and discard the skin. Inspect meat for any remaining shot. Brown the legs and thighs in olive oil. Remove from pan. Add bacon and cook until crispy. Add leeks, carrots and celery. Cook until vegetables begin to soften. Add chicken broth, tomatoes, red wine, bay leaves, rosemary, fennel seed and wild rice. Return the legs and thighs to the pot and simmer 1 hour or until rice is cooked.

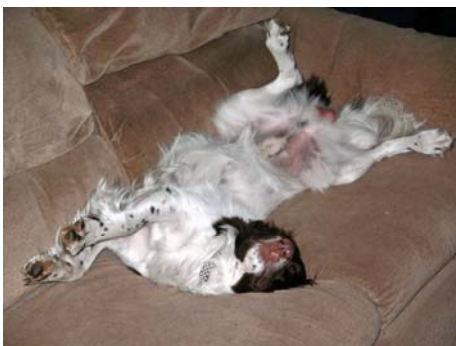
In a separate pan sauté mushrooms. Add vinegar and season with salt and pepper and add to the pheasant stew. Season the pheasant breasts and cook in a hot sauté pan 3-4 minutes per side until medium rare. Let rest a couple of minutes then slice on the diagonal. To serve, ladle stew into bowls and garnish with sliced pheasant and chopped basil.
 Yield: 4 Servings

NOTE: Can use any game for this, venison, quail, duck, etc, etc. If meat without bones (such as venison) is used, reduce amount to about 2 pounds.

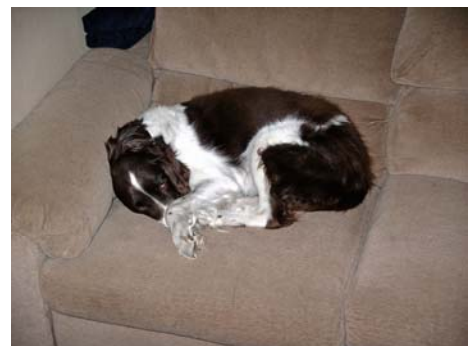
Parting Shots



Benson Fletch & 'Cuda playing in the new fallen snow



The Aftermath:
 A Tired Dog is a Good Dog!!



Upcoming 2007 MHSA Events

May 12 & 13 – MHSA Spring Hunt Tests


May 19 & 20 – MHSA hosted ECSCA Cocker Field Trial

June 9 – Fun Trial at Major Ave. Hunt Club

June 23 – MHSA Working Dog Test

Sept. 8 & 9 – MHSA Fall Hunt Tests

More to come . . . !!



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<http://www.nutrisourcedogfood.com>

English Springer Spaniel Information
and Field Trial Page

ESSFT.COM



Cockers in the Field



www.fieldcockers.com