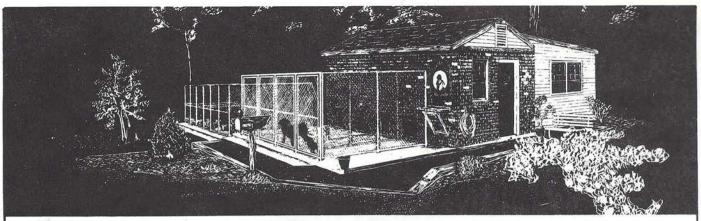
·NAHRANE//S

NORTH AMERICAN HUNTING RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 1/ NUMBER 8

MAY 1986





SOUTHLAND KENNELS

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Two Labs checking out the Special Edition NAHRA Gunning Canoe

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President's Bark

What do thousands of members, dozens of clubs and hundreds of dogs generate? Well, besides that, what's your best quess? The answer? Correspondence, Forms, Returns, Files, Certificates, Licenses, Magazines, Newsletters, Applications -- Paperwork! Mountains of it! On an average day, NAHRA generates nearly 100 pieces of mail and analyzes and records thousands of pieces of information on members, clubs, licenses, judges, and dogs. With NAHRA entering its second full year of licensed events, it was obvious that something had to be done and done fast. The Barker was ably proving its worth as the prime monthly information source for members. but it was rapidly becoming impossible to sort and retrieve all of our information. Acres of squinting people with green eyeshades and garters on their sleeves were one alternative. Obviously, a sophisticated computer system was a better choice. Beginning in October of 1985 we set about searching and questioning to find the best system to fill our needs. We succeeded.

NAHRA now has available an AT&T 6300 PC with 20 megabyte internal hard disk linked to an Epson dot matrix printer with additional access to a state of the art Canon laser printer. That coupled with some custom and some off the shelf software adds up to a pretty sophisticated system, one that will fit our needs



now and into the near future, and which can be expanded when the time comes. What's next? Well first we have to become proficient with the hardware and software, including a couple of custom designed programs. Next, all the vital statistics for your organization, including memberships, dog records and judges will be entered. Only after all these steps are taken will we begin to reap the full benefits, but already the paperwork pile is more manageable. No miracles, but a lot of future work will be saved!

Seminars are going like gang busters. Dick Wolters had a super turn out with the Huron Labrador Retriever Club in the Detroit area as did Dave Maynard, John Bittle and Bruce Jackson with the Southern Piedmont Club near Mooresville, North Carolina. Gary Erickson evangelized at Inland Valley's event in Southern California and John Krupp and yours truly ably held forth for the Oregon and Washington Clubs in Umatilla, Oregon. No engraved invitations, no fancy press releases, no free lunches; just lots of earnest eager people

supplied with down to earth information on handling and judging techniques. As a bonus, these seminars, hosted by established clubs helped four additional NAHRA clubs on their way to final organization. People and clubs helping each other!

Don't wait until the last minute and chance disappointment. Call today to set up a seminar for your club. Air fares are low and people are fired up for information! NAHRA now has eight certified instructors ready to serve you throughout the United States and Canada.

Judge sharing continues to be a hot item. As you are aware, NAHRA is very sensitive about judging and is the only retriever organization which certifies its judges. Whenever possible, clubs are urged to pair an experienced, out of the local area person, with a local judge. That's how techniques and ideas are shared and spread and how a program benefits.

Many clubs with large events have gone to great length (pun intended) to see this program work. Judges have crossed and recrossed the continent sharing thoughts and making friends. It's not expensive (many coast to coast flights are available for less than \$300 if the tickets are purchased over 30 days in advance and the stay includes a Saturday night.) Plan ahead, as a 25% no show penalty is usually charged if the ticket is unused or changed. The clubs who have participated in this program will echo the sentiment that the chance to meet experienced judges and see

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

NAHRA

The Official Publication of the North American Hunting Retriever Association.

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MOVING?

Be sure to let us know so you don't miss the next issue of NAHRA NEWS.

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Postmaster: Send address changes to NAHRA NEWS, P.O. Box 154, Swanton, VT 05488. 802-868-2929

Cover:

Oregon Hunting Retriever Club Licensed Field Test, Sept. 7-8, 1985. Photo by John Orrelle.

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BARK BACK

Letters, nasty, thoughtful, and otherwise, to the Editor.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am discontinuing my membership due to the poorest output of your flyers, that I've ever experienced in my life. Every issue was at least 2 to 3 months late!

How can myself and my dog participate in NAHRA activities when by the time we hear about them, they have been over for 1 to 2 months.

Bull _____!

H.F. MA

Oh, you smooth talker! You sure know how to get a guy's attention. This fellow, or some friend, must have experienced NAHRA in some other life-- one in which we were on time! Here I'd just gotten used to being late.

Seriously, it's too bad H.F. didn't stick around for the new monthly

"Barker" sent first class to every member which includes a Coming Events calendar; or for the brand new New England club which will soon be holding a licensed event practically in his back yard. Both of these innovations come from growth and experience. You complained, we listened and did something about it. Oh yes, the punctuation is all H.F.'s and he finished the last word.

ED.

Dear Editor:

I'm disappointed Richard Wolters won't be writing for GUN DOG any more. I'm thinking of cancelling my subscription (good for 3 more years, I think). Is it true that they said he couldn't write about NAHRA? That he couldn't write about all the underhanded dealing? Let us know in

an upcoming "Barker" or NAHRA NEWS.

Many thanks to you and everyone associated with NAHRA for your hard work and the great concept. We'll make it a success thru your leadership.

Sincerely, K.S., IA

It's letters like this that make up for all the H.F.'s in the world. Note the collective use of we in the last sentence. K.S. hit the nail on the head. H.F. wasn't so perceptive. Oh yes, by now you've read our Veep's latest broadside, well okay, popperside in "Barker," more will be forthcoming.

ED.

Dear Editor:

I very much appreciate the copy of the letter sent to Michigan Out of Doors. It is nice to be informed that something is being done instead of left wondering. This is the second time I have received a copy of a letter NAHRA has sent. Wow! What service. Please let me know if the reply is negative.

I was surprised and happy to learn that there was to be a seminar

in Michigan. I'll be there.

On the other hand, it was disappointing to read about Richard Wolters and GUN DOG. I can't believe they gagged him. I have copies of WATER DOG and GAME DOG, but it sounds like GUN DOG magazine is on its way out of my house!

C.M. MI

P.S. Keep up the good work.

Way to go C.M. We haven't yet received a full reply from Michigan Out of Doors but we'll keep trying. With members like you supplying ideas and leads, we can't go wrong!

DOG TRAINER QUIZ

YES NO
O Is your hand skinned and sore from the heavy recoil of your present single-shot trainer?
O Would you like to have a hand free to steady your "non-slip retriever" while he marks?
O Are you tired of struggling to give your dog more than a single mark in a timely manner?

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·If you answered YES, see the LITTLE LAUNCHER™ SYSTEM ad, page 13.

PRESIDENT'S BARK

how it is done elsewhere is worth the small cost.

Hats, patches and rules books will shortly be on their way. It seems like we cannot keep them in stock!

The Beginners event has attracted tremendous crowds wherever it has been offered. It is fun to participate, fun to watch and it serves as an important training ground for everyone from dogs and handlers to clubs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

and workers. And that's saying nothing about its penchant for generating lots of revenue (current and future) for host clubs.

Most clubs find that Beginner events are one of the most important sources of new memberships. They get people involved at any early stage in their and their dogs career and guarantee success for the future. Much success is had when the local newspaper outdoor's writer is invited

to participate. They're more than happy to oblige and it is a great low cost way to spread the word about your retriever clubs.

That's the state of things through the first third of the year. Feisty as ever, we continue to gain numbers and credibility.

Ned Spear

Dear Editor:

I'm mad. I only got certified to judge Started and I wanted Senior. I have never judged before, but I hunt and raise and train retrievers. What do those other guys have that I don't?

Sincerely, A.B., CA

In a word--experience. There's a more to judging than diagramming tests and setting up situations. One must recognize good dog work, be able to work with people, cope with crisis and remain unflappable and loveable. Quite frankly, not everyone has what it takes. We're all really from Missouri and need to be shown. Judge some picnic and approved events. Show your stuff in a couple of licensed Started then ask us to upgrade your certificate. You'll be the wiser for the exercise and we all will have one more guarantee as to the integrity of our program. Wasn't it Mark Twain (maybe it was Wolters?) who said something like "When I was 18 I was appalled at how stupid my father was. When I got to 21, I was amazed to see how much the old man had learned in 3 years!"

ED.

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LICENSED (L)

1986

5/3	Huron River Labrador RC, Al Perry, 31610 Myrna Dr., Livonia, M
	48154 (1)

- 5/3-4 Northeast Iowa HR Association, R.R. #1, Box 100, Westgate, IA 50681 (L)
- 5/10-11 Southeast Washington RC, Franna Gerber, 222 Enterprise, Richland, WA 99352
- 5/17-18 Lake Champlain Retriever Club, Dick Corbierre, 60 Hickok St., Winooski, VT 05404 (L)
- 5/17 Palmetto Retriever Club, Inc., Bill Boyd, Route 1, Box 129, Salters, SC 29590
- 5/31-6/1 Spokane Bird Dog Association, Gary Erickson, Rt. 1, Box 221-6, Medical Lake, WA 99022 (L)
- 5/31-6/1 Minnesota HRC, Pete Fischer, Box 262, Avon, MN 56310 (L) 5/31-6/1 Aylett Ducks Unlimited, Joe May, Walkerton, VA 23177 (L)
- 6/7-8 Westchester RC Harvey Gardenier, R.D. #1, Box 85, Holsapple Rd., Dover Plains, NY 12522 (L)
- 6/7-8 Alaska Retriever Club, Andy Loranger, P.O. Box 874968, Wasilla, Alaska 99687 (L)
- 6/8 Central Valley Hunting Retriever Club, Betty Sanders, 3436 No. 1st St., Fresno, CA 93726 (L)
- 6/14-15 Snake River Gun Dog & Sportsman Club, Alan Black, Box 2743 College Station, Pullman, WA 99163 (L)
- 6/21-22 Blackwater Gun Dog Association, Michael A. Finckbone, 100 Oak Bend Dr., Grand Rapids, MN 55744 (L)
- 7/12-13 Finger Lakes RC, Archangel Letta, 849 Rt. 21, Shorstville, NY 14548
- 8/16-17 Blackwater Gun Dog Association, c/o Betty Prestridge, Route 1, 3
 Nick Lane, Bovey, MN 55709 (L)
- 8/16-17 Tidewater RC, Janet Sowers, Midlothian, VA 23113 (L)
- 8/23-24 Minnesota HRC, Pete Fischer, Box 262, Avon, MN 56310 (L)
- 8/23-24 Aylett RC, Joe May, Walkerton, VA 23177 (L)
- 8/23-24 Alaska Retriever Club, Andy Loranger; P.O. Box 874968, Walilla, Alaska 99687 (L)
- 9/13-14 New England HRC, c/o Peter Spear, 167 South St., Concord, NH 03301 (Approved)
- 9/13-14 Blackhawk Retriever Club, Bob Forslund, N, 1901 Forest Dr., La Crosse, WI 54601 (L)
- 9/13-14 Southeast Washington Ret. Club, Franna Gerber, 2222 Enterprise, Richland, WA 99352 (L)
- 9/20-21 Spokane Bird Dog Association, Gary Erickson, Route 1, Box 221-6 Medical Lake, WA 99022 (L)
- 9/20-21 Presque Isle R.C., c/o Brad Lindberg, P.O. Box 33, Waterford, PA 16441 (L)
- 9/27-28 Western NY, RC, Tom Stasierowski, 12070 Valley Lane, East Eurora, NY 14072 (L)
- 9/27-28 Rainier Hunting Retriever Club, Mike Anderson, 20320 66th Ave., N.E., Seattle, WA 98155
- Fall '86 NAHRA-NRA Retriever Seminar, vicinity of Washington, D.C., James Norine, NRA, 1600 Rhose Island Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

SAFETY TIP

Recently I was confronted with a very unpleasant task; a broken-hearted friend asked me to come over and bury his dog. His dog had hung himself. The dog was wearing a choke chain that had caught on

the fence when the dog had jumped. A choke chain or a slip collar is a training tool and should only be used while doing obedience work and never left on an unattended dog.

FIELD TEST RESULTS



TAR HEEL RETRIEVER CLUB February 15-16, 1986 DOGS ENTERED, 60 - QUALIFIED, 34 QUALIFYING SCORES

STARTED

Judges: Sharon May, Edwin Clapp Cato - Vikay's Knight Charm, LM

Thundarr - Candy's Kis' Mighty Thundarr, CM

Dixie - Howell's Dixie Delight, LM

WCX, Khy - Candlewoods Kangha Rue Khy, LM

Sandy & Gordon Watkins Sam - Alicia's Sampson of Norman, LM Charles Jurney Jeffrey M. Fralick Devee - Snake Eye's Devee's Wild, LM Beu - Gold Dust Beu, LM C. John Erwin Canis - Canis Chief of Watercraft, LM Glenn Marshall Lake - Neuse River's Watersnake, LM Warren S. Perry Kadi - Springwood's Kodiak Kadi, LM John & Gail Hall Nifty - Southdown's Super Nifty, LM Charles Robbins Fire - Firestone, BS M Charles Jurney Taylor, LM M. Lee McAllister Mr. Buddy - Seebers' Delightful Buddy, LM James B. Seeber Molly - Jubilee Black Tar's Molly, LF Gail B. Wells Cap - Albany Cap'n Yukon Ruddy Duck, CM M.D. Griffin Goose - Rakestraw's GooseDown Dandy, LM Kenneth Rakestraw Brandy, Deerslayers Doll, LF Tom J. Varbrough McBuc - Currituck's Coal Bucket, LM Kirk McInnis Sage - Idaho's Delta Sage, LM Ms. Happy Fitzgerald Bean - Carolina's L L Bean Express, LM Nancy Hughston & Wm. A. Davis Charles W. Wright Misty - Chesbrook's Misty Dawn, CF Jay Lasley Martha Lee K. Voshell Savvy - Little Fox's Savvy, GM Misty - Ch. Jordan's First October Mist, CD, LF Isis - Berman's Board Reach Isis, LF Susane Berman Thunder - Carolina Thunder, GM Alan L. Clardy Lady - Seebers' Delightful Lady, LF James B. Seeber Zoot - Just Plain Zoot, LM Ronald Sykes Coffee - Pocotaligo Coffee, BS F Kim S. Parkman Henry, LM Banjo - Fool's Gold V, C.D., LM Lenny Mastin Lorie Puryear



INTERMEDIATE Judges: Joe May, Bob Lewis Dogs Entered, 31 - Qualified, 15

Big Buc, Trieven Ebony Buccaneer, LM Bomber - High Flight Bomber, LM Mick - Pooreboys Mick, LM Dyna - Broad Reach Dynabyte, LF Rascal - Big River Rascal, LM Duck - Southland's Super Duck, LF Ginny - Southland Virginia Creeper, LF Tootie - Tootsie Toot, LF Jeb - Blaque Tarus Jeb, LM Chase - Super Chase of Live Oak, LF Joshua - Commonwealth's Chief Joshua, LM Fellow - Richard's Fellow, LM Crackin - Southdowns' Crackin To Go Lacey - Lacey J. VI, LF Pepper - Parker's Dash O'Pepper, LF

Toddy, Patel's Toddy Time C.D., GM Baron - August's Stillwater Baron, LM

Deac, Sir Deacon of Norma, LM

William C. Clodfelter Jack & Diana Jagoda Jim Poore Martha Lee K. Voshell William S. Totten, Jr. Kirk Burns Jack & Diana Jagoda Ted & Dennie Phillips Jim Clodfelter Bill Boyd James B. Seeber Richard E. McDonald Tony Leonard Trish Jagoda Michael L. Parker

Doug Jackson Butch & Stephanie Reddick

Stephen W. Waugh



SENIOR Judges: Buck West, Pete Fischer Dogs Entered, 24 - Qualified, 9

Luke - Lucas Morgan of Fairfax, LM Beau - MHR Tuckahoe Beau of Fairfax, LM Smoke - Carolina Gun Smoke, LM Lucky - Southland Lucky Strike, LM Chase - Super Chase of Life Oak, LF Buck - Mama's Boy Buck, LM Jazz - Swamp Cabbage Jazz, LM Bubba - BJ's Bubba, CM Crackin - Southdowns' Crackin To Go, LF

John R. Cameron, Sr. Jean B. Everest John Bittle Jack & Diana Jagoda Bill Boyd Bruce Jackson Mike Jackson Bryan F. Jones **Tony Leonard**

JAMES RIVER RETRIEVER CLUB, INC. Februray 22-23, 1986 QUALIFYING SCORES

STARTED

Judges: Dennis Beard, Ed Giroux, Bob Lewis, Kirk Burns Dogs Entered, 74 - Qualified, 39

Mason - Heatherbourne Magic Man, LM Maggie - Super Whygin's Powder Keg, LF Trouble - Trouble Son of Nutmeg, LM Brandy, LF Bullet - Huguenot Springs Blac Bullet, LF Bandit - Ruddy Ducks Sunshine Bandit, CM McBuc - Currituck's Coal Bucket, LM Jack - Old Claibourne's Black Jack, LM Brutus, Shannondoah's Highland Hero, LM Jazz, Trieven's Ragtime Lady, LF Suzy - Reluctant Sugarfoot Suzy, LF Chillie - Snakebreaks Marsh Ghillie, LM Drake - Southland Drake, LM Molly - Jubilee Black Tar's Molly, LF Crackers - Riverbend's Georgia Cracker, LM Annie - Countrysides Orphan Annie, LF Casey - Fair Casey of Gloucester, GF Voo Doo - Sharihil's Voo Doo, LF Buck - Pinewoods Axis Buck, LM Shane - Sir Shane of Nottingham, LM Alex - Brandy Alexandra Miller, LF Blythe - Garden's Blythe, CDX, WDX, CF Cap - Albany Cap'n Yukon Ruddy Duck, CM Grateful - Graden's Grateful, CDX, WDX, CF Henry, LM Bud - Nanney Creek's Fire Bird Bud, LM Karma - Garden's Karma, CF Handsome - Tiger's Handsome Cub, CM Mocha - Baytown's Mocha Chip, LM Bumper - Bumpers Pride, LM
Dusty - Van Lee Hassett's Dusty, LF
Nicky - Babes Cocoa Nichole, LF
Felix - Garden's Felix, CD, LM Taylor - Taylormac of Irvine Park, LM Shiloh, LM Bear - Super Nova Man, LM Gabby - Fine Creek Gabby, LF Toby - Grand Isle's Tobias Too, LM Josh - Crack A Jack Josh, LM

Steve G. Isom Charlie Swineford LeRoy F. Meyer, Sr. David L. Wigley David & Janet Sowers Garret T. Leahey, Jr. Kirk McInnis Wm. R. & Sue S. Shores Wm. S. Argabright, Jr. E. Britton & M. Clodfelter H.S. & J.H. Palmer Richard G. Robbins W. George Maser III Gail B. Wells Hollie T. May Robert & Jean P. Collison II Ginger & Miller Smither Shari A. May Patrick A. Nolan G.B. & Lynn Carey Matthew & Michele Miller Milly Welsh & Jack Rayhart Lloyd T. Griffith, M.D. Milly B. Wlesh Lenny Mastin Richard L. Stuart Milly B. Welsh Don & Barbara Jackson Deborach & Michael Rausa **Chris Putney** T.P. Hassett Ross Siemers Milly Welsh & Jack Rayhard Lee McAlister Liz & Doug Burrer Dr. A.L. Wilding Gail Butler **Dennis Bruckel**

INTERMEDIATE
Judges: Bruce Jackson, Wayne Overton
Dogs Entered, 62 - Qualified, 25
Bomber - High Flight Bomber, LM
Jack
Dee - Sharihil's 'Lil D, LM
Deke - Super Magazine, Service and Service Service Advanced Service Deke - Super Magnum Deke, LM Buc - Trieven Ebony Buccaneer, LM Scruff - Lady Scruffon of Gwynn, CF Bear - Hunsucker Trained Bear, LM Luke - Hubbell's Cool Hand Luke, GM Duck - Southlands Super Duck, LF

Jack & Diana Jagoda Sharon H. May Dick Bedell William C. Clodfelter Garrett T. Leahey, Jr. Jim Cimburke & Sandy Edwards Mike Hubbell Kirk Burns

Aubrey Anderson

Winky - Southland Bullwinkle, LM Radar, Brandys Decan LaRue, LM Joshua - Commonwealth's Chief Joshua, LM Shogun - Tigathoes Shogun, GM Chase - Super Chase of Live Oak, LF Kodiak - Kodiak X, LM Rhett - Son-Ray's Chargin' Rhett Butler, LM Mick - Pooreboys Mick, LM Taylor - Begging to Fetch, LM Crackin - Southdown's Crackin To Go, LF Maggie - Super Whygin's Powder Keg, LF Bumper - Bumpers Pride, LM Drake - Drake Of The James, CM Jake - Danie's Thunder Jake, LM Ace - Honeyhill Ace, CD, GM Buster - Buster Brown of Tidewater, LM Buie - Shannondoah Beggar Bush Buie, LM

Rocky Emery Peter J. Kennedy James B. Seeber Gaylord W. Hoisington Bill Boyd Joseph A. Abruzzo Dick McRee Jim Poore Arthur J. Williams III Tony Leonard Charlie Swineford **Chris Putney** Chuck Cunningham Donald J. Daniel Thomas M. Mouer **Bob Foster** Wm. S. Argabright



INTERMEDIATE Judges: Neil McCloud, Bob Foster, I.B. Wilson - Jeffrey Black Dogs Entered, 49 - Qualified, 20

Judges: Gary Erickson, Peter Kennedy Dogs Entered, 27 - Qualified, 10

Beau - MHR Tuckahoe Beau of Fairfax, LM Moses - Weller's Moses of Antioch, LM Luke - WR Lucan Morgan of Fairfax, LM Lucky - Southland Lucky Strike, LM Doc - WR Shannondoah's Free Sprite, LM Bubba - BJ's Bubba, CM Crackin - Southdown's Crackin To Go, LF Fellow - Richard's Fellow, LM Chase - Super Chase of Live Oak, LF Fauna - T.J.'s Russet Fauna, LF

Jean B. Everest John L. Weller II John R. Cameron, Sr. Jack & Diana Jagoda Wm. S. Argabright Bryan F. Jones Tony Leonard Richard E. McDonald Bill Boyd Tom & Jody Stasierowski

TIDEWATER RETRIEVER CLUB March 8 & 9, 1986

QUALIFYING SCORES STARTED

Judges: Bob Foster, Neil McCloud, Kirk Burns, Patricia Jagoda DOG Promise - Shotgun's Promise To Me, LF Arthur J. Williams, III Decoy - Buddy Ducks Decoy, Ches, M Edward Warburton Gabby - Fine Creek Gabby, LF **Gail Butler** Ellie - Elvira of Goochland, GRF William T. Richardson Luke - Luke By Land Or By Sea, LM Lewis G. Barnett Corky - Patrick's Cork of Southampton. LM Bear - Super Nova Man, LM Chillie - Snakebreaks Marsh Ghillie, LM T-Mr. TXIV, LM Beck - Becky Brown, LF Annie - Countrysides Orphan Annie, LF Shogun - Tigathoes Shogun, GRM Holly - Jubilee Black Tar's Molly, LF Jammer - Broad Reach Windjammer, LM Felix - Graden's Felix, LM Buck - Pinewoods Axis Buck, LM Blythe - Graden's Blythe, Ches. F Skipjack - Southland Skipjack, Ches. M Sturgis - Sturgis of Landover, LM Taylor - Taylormac Of Irving Park, LM Lady - Nanny's Creek Lady, LF Misty - Lady's Misty Morning, LF Dudley - Jim's Grand Isle Dudley, LM

Blackberry - Southlands Blackberry Jam, LF

Shane - Sir Shane Of Nottingham, LM

Grateful - Garden's Grateful, Ches. F

Sam - Snake Eyes Yosemite Sam, LM Bart - Roughwater's Midnight Bart, LM Misty - Ch. Jordan's First October, LF

Thunder - Sharihil's Thunder Chief, LM

Voo - Sharihil's VOO DOO, LF

Crackers - Riverbends Georgia Cracker, LM

John & Trezy Barb Art Wilding Rick Robbins Myra M. & Stephen G. Fuguet **Phil Bonifant** Patrick L. Nolan Gaylord W. Hoisington Gail B. Wells Lee P. Bossi, Jr. & Cindy Bossi Milly Welsh Patrick L. Nolan Jack Rayhart John R. Cameron, Sr. Ian Mac Donald Lee McCallister Edward N. Giroux Joseph Cardwell, Jr. Dennis Bruckel Ann Parris G.B. & Lynne Carey Milly Welsh Olvin A. Wells Myra M. & Stephen G. Fugeut Martha Lee K. Voshell Shade Gurley Joe May Shari May Bandit - Ruddy Duck's Sunshine Bandit, Ches, M Garret T. Leahey, Jr.

Bear - Hercules Black Dot, LM Buie - ST Shannondoah Beggar Bush Buie, LM Remus - Remus XVII, LM Winky - Southland Bullwinkle, LM Toby - Grand Isle's Tobias To, LM Bo - Commander Boggart, LM Jake - Daniel's Thunder Jake, LM Sport - Huguenot Springs Sport, LF Buc - Trieven Ebony Buccaneer, LM Cassie Bry's Grand Isle Cassie, LF Brandy - Lisa Lee Two of Williamsburg, LF Rhett - Son-Ray's Chargin' Rhett, LM Crank - Wirt's Crankshaft McNasty, LM Happy - Fergies Happy Time, Ches, M Luke - Hubbells Coolhand Luke, GRM Shogun - Tigathoes Shogun, GRM Toddy - Smokenhill's Hot Rum Toddy, GF Tootie - Tootsie Toot, LF Dee - Sharihil's Lil D, LM Drake - Drake Of The James, Ches. M

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SENIOR Judges: Michael Hanan, Jack Jagoda Dogs Entered, 21 - Qualified, 4

DOG OWNER Bear - Hunsucker Trained Bear, LM Jim Cimburke & Sandy Edwards Samm - Northstar's Sandix Samm Teal, LF Ann Sanders Bubba - MHR BJ's Bubba, Ches. M Bryan F. Jones Ginny - MHR Southland Virginia Slim, LF Ivan Morgan



continued on next page

INLAND VALLEY RETRIEVER CLUB, INC. March 28, 1986 QUALIFYING SCORES

STARTED Judges: James Pry, James Rich Dogs Entered, 60 - Qualified, 28

Ricky - Midnite Dude's Rowdy Ricky, LM Buck - Foggy Bottom Buck, LM Molly - Molly Of Ramona, GRF Prince's - NAHRA field Test #0311, LF Candy - Rhoades Chocolate Candy, LF Macho - Trievan Macho Chicken George, LM Duck - Duck Master's Nosin Around, LM Mousse - Mickey Mousse, LM Cooper - Name Pending, LM Lucky - Romick's Gonna Be Lucky Once, LF Red - Rambl'n Red Rover, GM Dutches - RMS Red Dutchess Of Heart, Ches. F O.C. - Game finder O.O.C., LF Blue - Stan's Blue Bart, LM Woody - Tanglewoods Iron Dago, LM Buddy - This Bud's For You, LF Lady - Rhinehart's Lucky Lady, LF J.W. - John Wayne Honcho, LM Ted - Chin To The Wind Teddy, LM Ebony - Silken Ebony's Velvet, LF Babe - Candlewoods Super Babe, LF Jean - Guinevere Of Huntington, LF Rocky - Kenderrick's Blackjack Rocky, LM Aces - Sunnview Gave Romick An Ace, LF Wigeon - Settledowns American Wigeon, LF Hoss - Honcho's Mr. Hoss, LM Stanley - Stanley Steamer, LM Dickey - Sagewood's Black Electra, LM

OWNER Wayne Pope Doug Johnson Paul Cortis Clarence Schmitz Chuck Rhoades George Chaves Charles Breslin Dan Clayton Jeff Winterroth Ron Liesen Luann Pleasant Richard Larsen Jack Kuzma Stan Landess Phil Olmstead Mark Jackman **Bill Rhinehart** L. Walker Ron Benson Sam Allevato Tom Smith, Jr. **Arthur Rogers** Larry Walker Ronald Liesen Kenneth Belyea Jill John Frank Young Fran Young

INTERMEDIATE Judges: Gary Erickson, Bruce Morrison Dogs Entered, 31 - Qualified, 10

DOG Pak - Rio Retrievers Super Six Pak, LM Rio - Rio Retrievers Super Twelve Pak, LM Bunny - Painter's Black Powder Bunny, LF Lobo - Lobo Corkum Fahey, LM Jet - Shining Black Jet, LF Shiner - Moonshine of Lolenda, LM Buck - Foggy Bottom Buck, LM Jack - Desert Blackjack, LM Hy - Rio Retriever Hyab Naber, LM Peter - Rio Retrievers Peter Bilt, LM

OWNER Mickey Walker Larry Walker Mark Jackman Lenda Lee Barker J. Rich & B. Craven Lenda Lee Barker Doug Johnson Teresa Russel Larry Walker Larry Walker

SENIOR Judges: Gary Erickson, Bruce Morrison Dogs Entered, 17 - Qualified, 4

DOG Dolly - Jimkais Dazzlin Dolly, LF Thunder - Wind River Rolling Thunder, LM Ben - Widegeon's Big Ben, Ches. M My - Rio Retriever Hyab Naber, LM

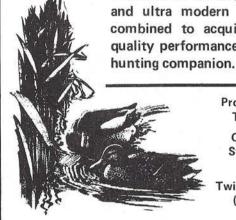
OWNER Jim Prv Scott Seward Stan Klorman Mickey Walker



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JUDGE'S CLINIC

Umatilla, Oregon April 5, 1986



On April 5, 1986 a NAHRA Judges Clinic and Seminar, sponsored by the Southeast Washington Retriever Club and NAHRA, was held at the Grayson Dessert Motor Inn in Umatilla, Oregon and at the Club's Field Test grounds a few miles away.

The Seminar was scheduled to help people get a better understanding of NAHRA and the why's, wherefores, and how to's of properly testing hunting dogs. It also gave people an opportunity to meet a couple of the "Big Guys" from back East, Ned Spear and John Krupp.

There was close to fifty people in attendance which may sound



relatively small to some of the other Clinics held around the country. However, you must realize that the Northwest is still wide open spaces with miles and miles of highway between civilization. Ned and John can both attest to it after a six hour round trip ride in the front seat of a pick up with the renowned guide and Western Region Coordinator, Gary Erickson. There's nothing like a long cramped ride through panoramic Eastern Washington (wheat fields, sage brush, and more wheat fields) with a guy that gets lost four times in one day.

People had come from Eastern and Western Washington, Northern and Southern Idaho, Eastern and Central Oregon, and Doug Ridgway had driven from Mammoth Lakes, California. Doug had to pack a lunch and an overnight bag for his journey. People had driven anywhere from 1 hour to 13 hours to get to the big event.

Half of the people in attendance were already certified Judges but many had come to get clarification on some of the rules and procedures involved with testing and judging. The remainder of the people were interested in becoming Judges in the near future or they were just

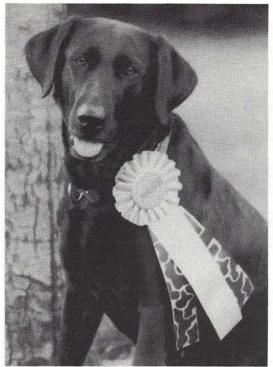


interested handlers and trainers that wanted to know how Judges go about determining if a dog is a good hunter or not.

After six hours in the classroom and two more hours in the field setting up tests, running dogs, and critiqueing both. Everyone came away with the questions answered and concerns clarified. There was an air of rekindled devotion, care and concern for a great hunting retriever testing program. The Seminar was a terrific way to start out our Field Testing Season after a long cold hunting season. It will really be great to be hunting (simulated) in the warmth of the spring sun.







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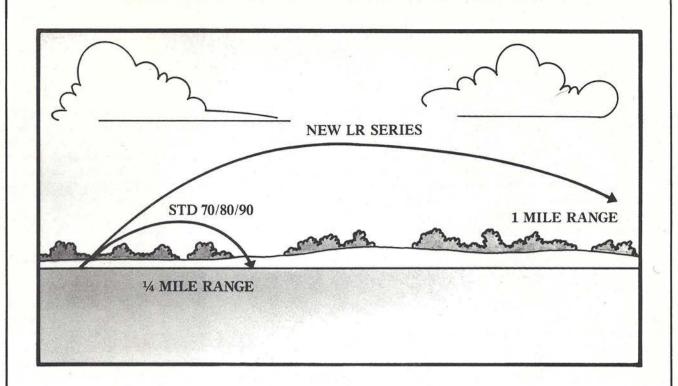
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* Patent applied for.

"IS NAHRA NATIONALLY STANDARDIZED?"

By Gary Erickson NAHRA Western Regional Coordinator

I viewed the AKC Hunting Retriever tape on February 18, 1986. I was shocked to see a dog actually quartering during the walk-up test! But, as the video emphasized numerous times, the tests for their program should be localized. In other words, if you live in an area that has a lot of upland hunting the walk-up is actually a quartering test and if you live in a region that doesn't normally hunt upland birds with their retrievers the walk-up is as the traditional trials have done in the past and the dog is used as a pick up dog while walking with the dog at heel. How can they possibly have a meaningful title if the program is not standardized throughout the United States? Why don't they just have titles for a Duck Hunting Expert or Pheasant Hunting Expert? To be quite honest, a year ago I felt much the same way about NAHRA!!

In February 1985, I attended the first Licnesed Field Test put on by the James River Retriever Club and NAHRA in Richmond, Virginia. The turnout was very impressive. I viewed every test set up in each of the three categories and I ran my dog in the Senior. The mechanics of the field test and the tests that were set up were very impressive but I'm not able to say the same for the dog work in the quartering in either the Intermediate or Senior. A good share of the work done in the quartering tests was far less than impressive. I spent the five hour plane ride home

composing a letter to the Board of Directors of NAHRA letting them know my feelings about their National philosophy and standards. Their response and explanation was immediate --"Quartering is very new for a lot of people in many different areas of the country and many people aren't happy about even having the quartering category but they are trying to train their dogs to do it." I had never stopped to think that it was brand new for some people to use their dogs as a flusher as well as the fine retrievers they are bred for.

The fact that some people had never used their dog for upland game couldn't be refuted but the fact that NAHRA's philosophy of-"A quality hunting dog being able to work any game bird anywhere in North America and do so efficiently" was my main concern. If the standard was not set up for National participation, our titles would be less than viable!!

Along comes February 1986 and myself and Peter Kennedy were invited by the James River Retriever Club to judge the Senior category at their Licensed Field Test. I was really excited about being invited and to be able to inject some West Coast ideas into our tests. Pete and I went after it with a no holds barred attitude. Especially in the quartering which was our last testing category as well as the land blind. I was really anxious to show the boys out East how the boys out West ran quartering.

The scenerio was--You and

your hunting partner are working your dogs down this draw on pheasants. You get about half the way down the draw and see the birds flushing way out of range at the end of the draw. Both dogs are brought to heel and you send your dog on a line out through the field to the right and towards the end of the draw about 100 yards away. When the dog reaches a designated point, give him an 'over' back into the draw and call him towards you to pin the birds down between you and your dog. As the dog gets within 30 yards of you, your hunting partner lets his dog go to trap the birds and put them to flight. The bird is released as it is flushed by the working dog and both dogs must stop to the flush.

Was I ever in for a surprise!! We went into the last series with thirteen dogs and ten ended up Qualifying. I was amazed at the dog work I saw compared to what I had witnessed just one year before. They all did a beautiful job and would be an asset to the hunter after upland game anywhere. NAHRA's philosophy and National Standards are exactly what they are meant to be-truly National and our titles are worth everything they are designed to be!!! I am anxiously looking forward to making my dog a Master Hunting Retriever because I'll know when she does that she will have met NAHRA Standards and philosophy on a National level.

TIPS WING TIPS WING TIPS WING TIPS WING

COOLING OFF

Early season dove hunting usually has some very hot days. A tip to keep your dog from heat stroke, is to locate your hunting stand at the back of a pond or river. Also, carry

plenty of cool drinking water for your dog. If the temperature is over 85 degrees you may be well-advised to leave your dog at home.

"OLD BETSY"

When preparing for a very cold weather hunt "old Betsy" should be cleaned of all oil on moving parts. Then spray her with a silicone to prevent freeze-up.

Wolters Says...

John Krupp and Ned Spear went out to the Northwest. Dave Maynard went down to North Carolina and I ventured out to Michigan in the last few weeks. We all were invited to spread the word about NAHRA.

We all seemed to have had successful trips. Ned and John, like myself, were talking to a mixed audience. We had hunters, breed people and licensed field trial folks in our audience. Dave said that his group were hunters sold on the idea of NAHRA and wanted to hear the gospel.

I am getting the feeling that hostility that developed when this whole movement started has settled down. I know that many of the established field trial people were very concerned about our movement. In some ways they seemed to feel that the hunters would take over their clubs and it would have a detrimental effect on their game. I believe those fears have subsided because they can now see that these two games can run side by side and not interfer with each other. One of the first things I wrote was that these two movements would actually strengthen existing clubs if the new movement was accepted.

In the fire of all the rhetroic many things are said that taken out of context only cause hard feelings. The record has to be kept straight. I understand that the latest discussion is that field trial people are sick and tired of hearing that field trial dogs cannot hunt. I'm not sure if that is a slice at me or not. But the truth of that matter is that there is not one member of the NAHRA board or our area representatives that has made such a statement or believes that is true. Now whether some strong advocates of NAHRA have said that I can't say. But such a statement would be foolish. We all have to recognize that until the NAHRA stud book gets well established our hot dogs will be coming from the field trial breeding. In many cases it's the same dog or litter mates. Two of my Tar's litter mates are today running the field



Richard A. Wolters

trial circuit. It's the training that is different. But we have to recognize that the field trial people kept the "work" in our retrievers for forty years while the big mass pet market was taking it out. The difference that has taken place is that the field trial people didn't test for hunting. That may sound like a fine difference but if they did there would have been no need to start such an organization such as NAHRA. Let me go on record again and say that Wolters "ain't" saying that field trial dogs can't hunt...and let's bury that issue.

The thing that I'm noting is that the field trial people are getting very curious to learn more about what we are doing. In my discussions in Detroit they were, in my estimation, very much in agreement with the NAHRA program. From what they said, I'll bet Tar's Milkbones that they enter NAHRA events and try it.

Without mentioning names, I had two very interesting dinner discussions in the past few weeks. One was in Virginia where I talked to an old time field trailer who I knew twenty-five years ago. When we described some of the tests we run

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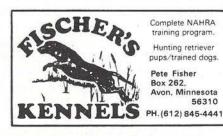
in our senior events to him, he was stunned at the difficulty he thought they represented. He was most interested in how we trained for such things as having a double shot in the water, then calling our dogs off the downed birds and go instead for a blind before the dog was allowed to pick up the dead birds.

We pointed out to him that in a real hunting situation that is the order of how the dog should work. The conservation factor gets involved. The hunter wants to get the bird that was winged and flew off before he picks up the dead birds in the decoys. Licensed field trials have always reversed that. They pick up the marks, then do the blind.

Dinner in North Carolina was fun. Gene Kirby was our host. He is a hot field-trialer. Before dinner we went out to see his farm. He has built a retriever training pond that would bring tears to Gene Hill's eyes. You could work all month on such a place and never do the same test twice. I offered to trade his pond for the one I am now building in Virginia and throw in my wife and kids. I thought I had a deal but he refused the offer of my kids.

His trainer, Gary Unger from Minnesota, really knows his dog training business. Gary is a quiet man and his wife is a fireball. At dinner, in the back room of a casual sloppy Joe sort of restaurant, that really knew how to cook chicken, we had a wonderful conversation. Strangely enough, it was not the men that lead the conversation...it was the ladies. As established field trailers, they were not questioning NAHRA concept but the psychological aspects of NAHRA. One contended that the concept would not fly because the aspect of competition between handler and handler and dog against dog has been eliminated. She contended that no sport in America

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



This is a copy of a letter to the editor of Retriever Field Trial News. The News is the official publication of the National Retriever Club and National Amateur Retriever Club. This letter was published in the January, 1986 issue.

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an editorial letter from Mr. John Parker in the October 1985 issue of Retriever Field Trial News, regarding hunting retriever events in general and the new American Kennel Club (AKC) Hunting Test for Retrievers. We are not representatives of any hunting retriever organization, and the opinions expressed herein are our own.

Several points raised by Mr. Parker are valid. Without question, the sport of field trialing and those dedicated to the sport are most responsible for retaining the working characteristics of the retriever breeds in our country over the past fifty years. Chances are high that not far in the background of any good "hunting retriever" are field trial ancestors. Given the history and present status of several "working" breeds under the auspices of the AKC, however, we believe this to be more a tribute to the retriever breeds themselves, i.e., to their intelligence, versatility, tractability, etc., than to any one governing body.

Mr. Parker is also correct in asserting that present day specialization of the sport of field trailing has resulted in a need for meaningful field events for hunting retrievers and their owners.

Much of the remainder of Mr. Parker's letter is, however, misleading. He names the North American Hunting Retriever Association (NAHRA) as an early force in the establishment of a hunting retriever program and outlines its association and subsequent disassociation with the AKC, and the development of the AKC program. Later, he refers to "...a group who...was not satisfied with the orderly establishment of the above described program and has sought to establish a program through another kennel club." This, he asserts, would eventually lead to a split registry with resulting detrimental effects. The insinuation, by not mentioning which program has associated with another registry, is that NAHRA is involved in this plan, and "...whose stated intentions are to destroy a 54-year old registry of talented and brilliant retrievers."

It is to this premise that we object. NAHRA, like several successful hunting dog organizations for the pointing and versatile breeds, is not associated with any registry, nor is it in the "registry business." It is not in any way party to intentions to destroy the AKC registry. On the contrary, by requiring participants to keep accurate breeding records on their dogs, and to supply said records upon request by the NAHRA Board of Directors, NAHRA is helping to ensure that the AKC registration process will continue to be the principal means of registering most retriever breeds. NAHRA does allow unregistered dogs to participate, but will not recognize such dogs with the title of Master Hunting Retriever. The intention is not to create a new registry, but rather to allow an heretofore ostracized group of retriever owners (a substantially large one in many parts of the U.S. and Canada) to participate in field events. Ultimately, the aim is to educate them in the many facets of responsible dog ownership, including the importance of keeping accurate historic

breeding records. Again, the result is the steering of participants to the AKC registration process, and the betterment of the breeds. This effort is worthy of praise among the retriever enthusiast community, and quite the opposite of Mr. Parker's assertions. The proof is in the proverbial "pudding" - several participants in NAHRA events in our area have subsequently registered dogs with the AKC in order to be eligible for the NAHRA title.

Once again agreeing with Mr. Parker, we are indebted to the NAHRA organizers who "...through their many years of unrelentless urging have performed one of the greatest feats in the name of Retrieverdom." These early organizers are today's NAHRA Board of Directors. They remain totally dedicated to providing the most meaningful field testing for hunting retrievers possible - this being their one and only goal. They guarantee a program that serves only the interests of hunting retriever enthusiasts. It is naive to expect that the AKC program's written quarantee to "simulate an ordinary day's shoot" represents this type of commitment. The NAHRA Hunting Retriever Field Test encompasses the entire range of versatile skills required of hunting retrievers in upland bird and waterfowl hunting. In our opinion, the new AKC program which incorporates only marked and blind retrieves, fails to do so. It is not surprising that the mol comprehensive and innovative program for field testing hunting retrievers is the result of the continued dedication and hard work of the people responsible for the nationwide birth of the hunting retriever movement in the first place.

We respectfully submit that the choice of a hunting retriever program by a club should be based upon careful evaluation of the program's merits. Rather than viewing new ideas (or even old ideas reborn) with suspicion, we should accept them for what they represent - an opportunity for thousands of hunting retriever owners to participate in the field event most suitable to their needs. We contend that the NAHRA program is compatible with and complimentary to the great sport of traditional field trailing. The recognition of a dog's accomplishments in either or both sports will in no way compromise, but rather enhance, good breeding practices.

Sincerely,

Andy Loranger Wildlife Biologist

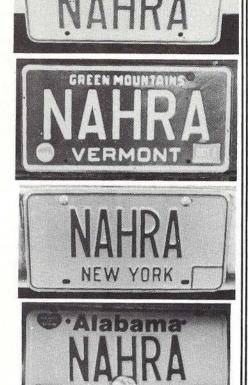
Marc Sternhagen Professional Trainer of Retrievers Former AKC Licensed Field Trial Judge (18 Years)

Avid Upland Bird and Waterfowl Hunters Wasilla, Alaska

License Your "Colors"

For years I have had trouble remembering my license plate number. That's all behind me now! The NAHRA plate has solved that problem. Now there are six of us that show the NAHRA colors. Clarke Campbell in Iowa, Richard A. Wolters in New York, Ned Spear in Vermont. Bill and Cleo Watson in Alabama, and Guy Witt in California have joined me, Jack Jagoda, in Virginia. JOIN US and send NAHRA NEWS a photo of your NAHRA plate and we will print it and who you are.

-Editor



Virginia

85

JUL



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13



Wolters Says

could survive without direct competition. I thought it was a very interesting concept.

I have written the other side of that argument so often that I knew I would only bore myself saying it all again. But approaching the subject from the psychological aspect was most interesting. I'd always answered the argument from the dog's viewpoint...and what competition has led the field trial game to become.

I didn't have to even answer her viewpoint. Another lady at he table did it for me. She said that the attitude of the people at a NAHRA event is very refreshing. The lack of competition produced a "family-like atmosphere" where all contestants and gallery too were interested in the dog and wanted all dogs to succeed.

I quess that the reason I liked the discussion was because they came to an interesting conclusion and it amounted to something like this:

For those folks that thrive on the competition the established field trial game is there. Some people who get into NAHRA will get the flavor of what the dogs have to do and it will lead them into the more competitive game if that is what they want. Some people who find that the more competitive game is not their dish of tea will get into the NAHRA movement where the

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dog's hunting work is paramount. There will be cross-over and that is good for the dogs.

The important thing we all have to learn is that there is a lot to learn from each other. I have written heatedly at times about the things field trial people do in the name of hunting dogs. I did so in order to sell a new concept. But I never said what they were doing was wrong...l said it wasn't right for the hunter. Now we both have our own game. It's the training that is different.

The fun thing for me is that the UKC is playing their version of NAHRA and the AKC are playing their version of NAHRA and we are playing the original game. The NAHRA rules make no compromise for a truly national hunting retriever and, like a pail of milk the cream will rise to the top.

COMPLAINTS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

by Ned Spear

Besides being the King of Cliches, Ned is a country lawyer and lay preacher. He divides his time between hunting, pounding pulpits, the law and running NAHRA's national headquarters. Mostly he hunts.

When "Pumpkin" ran, the Judge sighed and started a conversation with...

We're a brand new club with no experience and want to immediately hold two licensed Senior events...

Do you know what those judges did? Well, listen to this...

It was awful. "Bar Fly" and I waited hours in the hot sun to run and then they ran out of...

Where's my Started Certificate? Come to think of it, the Test results haven't been in the NEWS either. What gives?

I know my local club is going to have a licensed event, but I've seen nothing in the "Barker."

The gallery got sprinkled. My ears are still ringing...

The judge said there might be gators in that swamp and no way am I going to put old "Six Pack" in there. No siree!

Sound familiar? They sure do if you sit at good ol' P.O. Box 154 where the buck stops. The sad part is that most of them would be self-resolving if judges, clubs, Field Test Chairpersons and Secretarys would follow a few simple, common sense rules.

Common Sense Rules Worth Remembering

I. Treat everyone in exactly the same manner you would want to be treated at church. Or--The world does not much regard or long remember a smart, well, you know what I mean!

Judges - be professional, courteous and *helpful*. Remember, it's not an enduro out there nor is it an adversary proceeding. You're the point persons in an evangelical organization. Turn off one person and you lose a dozen.

Don't be careless with people's sensibilities or their love for their dogs. Pumpkin may not have been brilliant today, but don't sigh, snort or order lunch wnen he's running he's precious to someone, and that someone is precious to you and the movement. Help them and be gentle; we all started with two left feet and a clogged whistle. You don't have to engage in debates; but, through the marshall, let people know where they stand (gently).

II. Walk before you run or don't bite off more than everyone else can swallow.

Don't fear the valley of the shadow of the AKC, but have a healthy respect for it and your own abilities. Organize, gain membership, run picnic events, hold a NAHRA seminar, a few picnic tests and perhaps an approved event: then go for a licensed. Be realistic regarding events-why immobilize lots of manpower, munitions and time when you expect only 3 Senior entries? Better to concentrate on Started. That, believe it or not, is where our future is and that is where the entries are for new clubs. If you're ready for Senior and have the manpower and expect the entries, then go for it. If not, take it easy, gain experience make some money, make a lot of people happy and go for the big one later. Put those experienced Senior people to work judging, marshalling and making things go. Sacrifices have to be made. If you don't believe me, ask Penny Rose how many times she has run in 3 years!

Statistics prove that Started and Intermediate are where the action (and money) for the clubs is located. Add a Beginner's event and Katie bar the door! Forget the notion that a Working Retriever title is second best Reread the Judges Guidelines and you will see in what high esteem your Directors hold this category, as well as the Started Certificates.

Run a Started or Started and Intermediate well and send everyone home happy and satisfied rather than half





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baking a whole hog!

brilliance. Or-Don't get too crazy with the tests!

Everyone loves novelty (well almost everyone); but Judges - remember the prime directive - be sensible. Busy tests are great but make absolutely certain they are a hunting situation and make it clear what you are looking for (that's a dangling whatchamacallit - I think - which doubtless will escape the editor's red pen because I bet he can't think of a better way to say it either!)

Simpler is often better, especially if some realistic props are added. Work out of a blind, a boat, utilize a working spread of decoys, use a test that demonstrates a dog's suitability as a hunting retriever; have the handler throw out some decoys with old Six Pack aboard and see if he stays aboard and the handler afloat. They're hunting retrievers, don't hide that behind a lot of razzle dazzle make them show it.

IV. Think big (easy for Spear to say) and like all good scouts, be prepared. Nothing is worse or more embarrassing than running out some precious commodity like birds, shells or people at a Field Test. Has it ever happened to you? Those dreaded words - we'll have to wait a for...Awful!

than enough commodities from ribbons and birds to manpower on hand. Don't skimp; better to reread and follow Rule II above than to fall for the old "forty birds is according to need and maintain sufficient flexibility and ahead of the event date. That's the only way we can be mobility (where is that truck?) to meet any crisis that de-sure that it'll appear in the Coming Events column in the velops (and they surely will).

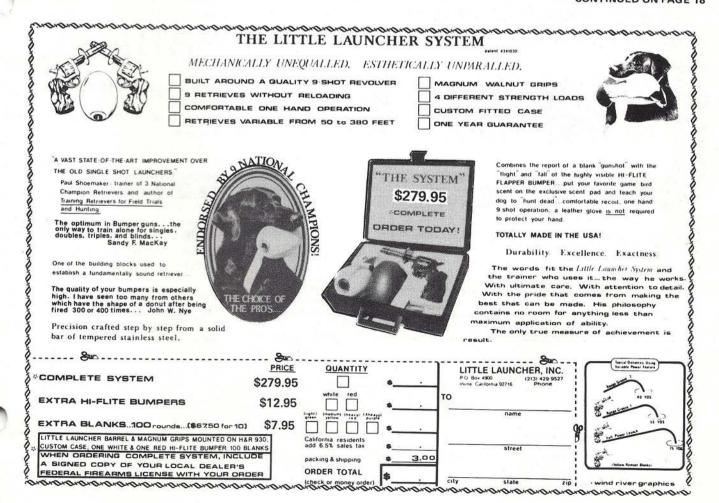
Nothing will gain you a reputation (good or bad) faster III. Innovation leavened with common sense produces than the mechanics of your event. Make certain every category has decoys, bird calls, birds, experienced manpower and all the rest of the material needed to run a first class event. Bring "Bar Fly" and his master in out of the hot sun.

V. Do your homework, because Big Brother is always watching and Santa knows when you've been naughty or

Want to know why some certificates and event results are sent or published late? It's not that good old HQ fouled up again. Nope, it's because the Field Test Reports weren't sent or were sent late or were so full of typographical errors that it took days (right, days) to straighten them out. That's why things are sometimes late! NAHRA listened and responded and came up with a cheaper and better way for Field Test Secretarys to report results. These are licensed, point bearing events, and they deserve your respect. Help your Field Test Secretary get the report and checks in on time and PROOFREAD. That way, old "Six Pack" will get what he deserves when he deserves it.

Use some common sense; NAHRA's one part-time while for Jim or Sam or Bubba or Tex to go back home overworked underpaid secretary gets eye strain because so many lists are single spaced. Paper is cheap - errors are Field Test Chairs - be prepared. Think big. Have more not. Nothing will anger a handler quicker after an event than an entry error that reveals that "Stix Pak" really didn't qualify.

Keep after your Field Test chairpersons to file the comenough" line. While you're at it, allocate your resources pleted Field Test application on time, at least 8 weeks **CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**



Complaints... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Barker and NAHRA NEWS. Come to think of it, why wait until only two months before an event to begin advertising? The sooner everyone knows about it, the higher your entry and the more success you'll have.

VI. Pop the birds - not the birdboys (or anyone else).

Safety is of absolute importance. Lack of it will completely evicerate our sport as well as bankrupt individual clubs. Insurance premiums are high enough and we do live in a litigous society. Make certain that ill or untrained persons never handle loaded firearms. Let's guarantee that the point of origin never becomes the point of "departure." No one else is going to police our program. Our first lines of defense are the gun captains, marshalls and judges. It may not be convenient, but break those guns and keep them open. Properly mark and segregate poppers from shot. Insist upon break action guns. Adopt a training program for your birdboys. Better yet, insist that anyone handling a loaded firearm has a valid hunter safety certificate. Use only experienced, dog wise gunners in all tests. Police the area before (Judges) and after (Marshalls) running. Be conscious of the dog's safety - look for wire, glass and stumps. To say nothing of gators. When in doubt - don't do it!

No one likes to be lectured, but if it saves a life or limb or short circuits a complaint, let's all start preaching! Common sense rules are always worth remembering.

Next quarter, Spear answers the oft asked question...Is that really Dick Wolters posing for those "Delta Queen" advertisements???

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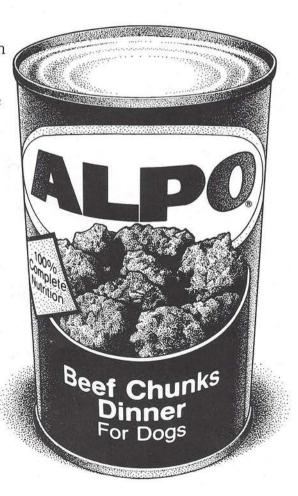
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