

August President's Press 2022

Welcome NAHRA members and families!

First let me congratulate the qualifiers from this year's Invitational! I was unable to attend but I understand that the test was challenging and the dog work was excellent! Many thanks to the judges – Dave Combs, Patsy Hove, and Tedd Snodgrass – who put the test together and challenged the contestants to be their best.

It goes without saying that an event like this takes months of planning, hours of effort, and extraordinary commitment by all the individuals who make up the committee as well as their support staff and families. I want to personally thank all of you for the great event that you put on this year! Listed below are the committee members for this event. They were all volunteers that gave up a year of their lives to make the 2022 Invitational a success. Please find the time to send them a note or make a point to recognize them the next time you see them at a NAHRA event.

On behalf of the Western Region, the Spokane Bird Dog Association 2022 Invitational

Committee Members:

Chairman – Paul Pommerening

Co-Chairman – John Gilbert

Treasurer – Ellen Zeigler

Secretary – Janet Pommerening

Activities/Events/Hospitality – Carol Black

Birds and Grounds – Scott Rae / John Gilbert

Marketing/Fundraising – Jeff Backstrom / Jim Tracy

Publicity/Advertising/Website – Ron Stahl

NAHRA Liaison – Bob Boeh

Lastly, I would like to thank all our friends who sponsored and supported the 2022 NAHRA Invitational!

This year has been challenging for me with new work projects and additional travel. My wife and I also moved into a new house (the closing took place during the Invitational). And I have needed to spend time dealing with extended family. Despite my poor performance in keeping you all informed, I want you to know that your board is working hard on your behalf. Starting this month, we are implementing software that will make Rosemary's job more efficient and allow her to keep the lists of NAHRA activities more current. We also formed a task force comprised of members-at-large to gather information on concerns that members have voiced to the board. And we are still working on making the idea of a NAHRA Registry a reality.

Shout outs by the Pres!

I would like to thank Rosemary Haynes for her many years of service to NAHRA!

I also want to recognize your Regional Directors: Larry Housman, Bob Boeh, Paul Agranoff, and Dwight Dial. If your club has an idea that you would like to try or that you believe would improve the NAHRA organization, these are your guys to bounce ideas off of and get the ball rolling to making things happen!

And a second shout out to Larry Housman for picking up the mantle of organizing the 2023 Invitational. Please ask him how you can contribute to the East Coast Association's efforts.

To aid in ongoing funding needs for the NAHRA organization and to provide a chance to have the time of your life, I am announcing, **"a weekend with the Pres!"** I am sponsoring a weekend pheasant hunt in South Dakota. The lucky winner and three of their closest friends will get a weekend of hunting on private land and the opportunity to discuss with the president of NAHRA any topics they like. The details will be available on the NAHRA website and Facebook page. Please support NAHRA for a chance to Hunt Pheasants the way God meant them to be hunted: in the rolling hills, fields, and wetlands of South Dakota!

Be safe and good luck!
Phil Hines