The Gun Dog Supreme

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Who Will Be My Boss?

Sure he's cute, but will you give him the time, exposure and training needed to reach his potential? Dutchman's Hollow H Litter pups are growing fast.

Photo by Jon Coil

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Yeah, I know. I know. This issue is really late. I told John Pilto that I'd blame him—I had to wait on him to provide the test score data, and he has a perfect excuse because he's taking care of nine puppies that are due to head to their new homes in early September. (Of course if the truth were told, it's Ms Vivian who provides the puppy care.)

This issue is mostly about the Spring 2013 tests. Preparing the February and August test issues always makes me reflect on the immense commitment and dedication of our members across the country who work tirelessly to plan and carry out these test events. The strong participation by our members is really one of the greatest attributes of the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America organization.

There was a relatively small number of dogs testing this spring. In part this is due to the number of pups whelped in the previous two years and also the timing of those litters. Ideally we'd have more pups born in early spring, but sometimes Mother Nature doesn't provide heat cycles to meet our convenience.

The June issue drew attention to the hazard of snare traps. In follow-up Jon Coil provided details on other trapping hazards and Wayne Ransbottum provided some good recommendations of a source for cable cutters. Be sure and check those out and be prepared for Fall. Fall tests are just around the corner and then it's HUNTING SEASON! Yeahhh! Here's to the dogs.

Rem De Jong

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Heartland Chapter Spring Test 2013 and Judges Seminar

by

Rem DeJong

Fox Valley Animal Referral Center representatives provided the Judges Seminar this year. The theme for the morning session was causes, care, treatment and prevention of canine orthopedic issues such as osteochondritis dissecans, (OCD), a disease of the cartilage that can affect various joints in a dog, and tibial-plateau-leveling osteotomy (TPLO), which is a surgery performed on dogs to stabilize the stifle joint after ruptures of the cranial cruciate ligament. Dr. Bruce VanEnkevort - DVM, Diplomate ACVS, General, Orthopedic and Neurosurgery covered these topics and a variety of related issues such as nutrition and genetics. The presentation generated much discussion among those in attendance.



Max Close learns canine CPR from Fox Valley Animal Referral Center staff member, Lyn Schuh

(Photo by Rem DeJong)

The afternoon session focused on field emergency care for hunting dogs-dealing with porcupine encounters, barbwire cuts and other hazards that we encounter in the field. Members of the audience got to practice first aid on "Jerry" the practice dummy. Lyn Schuh gave an informaand entertaining tive presentation.

All agreed that the seminar was a great learning experience. We really appreciate the Fox Valley Animal Referral Service doing such a great job on relatively short notice.

The Heartland Test was held at our customary location on the Mazomanie Wildlife Area, in Wisconsin. Conditions were reminiscent of the old John Denver ballad, "Springtime is rolling around slowly; Grey

skies are bringing me down." Snow was still hanging on in the Upper Peninsula woods when I headed south to Wisconsin, but things were not a lot warmer. Test photos are flecked with snow flakes, and depict a lot of shivering spectators and bundled up participants. Ice-cold water proved to be a factor in the water work portions of the test. Nevertheless, Field Test Chairs Kirk & Tracy Dilly did a great job in organizing and operating a smooth running test. We also want to recognize Greg Hurtig for his work with Mazomanie officials in making this test site available to us.

We evaluated six dogs in Natural Ability (NAT). Two were Ash Coulee littermates: **Alexander of Ash Coulee**, owned by Max Close and **Ammo of Ash Coulee**, owned by Kyle Kessler. These two male dogs were 12 months old, and they had experienced some hunting and exposure over Fall and Winter. Their handlers had also invested time



A Work In Progress

Gavin Good and his young dog, **Darling Ellie**, both learned a lot at this test. Look out birds, they're a hunting duo in the making. Jim Seibel and Ken Hurtig begin the track.

(Photo by Rem DeJong)

and effort in exposing the dogs and it showed in their tests as each earned a Prize I. "Alex" had a perfect score of 28, while Ammo scored 27 with only a point off for affinity for water.

It was that cold water that proved to be a downfall for the remaining four NAT dogs. All were nine month-old **Sandhill D** littermates: **Decca**, owned by Jon Kasworm; **Darling Ellie**, handled by Gavin Good; **Dulci** owned by Jim Edgar, and **Drew**, owned by Dave Mickelson. Whelped in late July, they had had almost no opportunity to develop swimming performance over the long winter and cold spring. They danced and pranced and demonstrated all manner of avoidance behavior to stay out of the pond. Three scored "1" and the other a "0" in affinity for water. All of these dogs have the potential to do much better by the Fall tests if their handlers work with them in the meanwhile.

Although the team of **Darling Ellie of Sandhill** and her handler Gavin Good scored low, they were still a big hit at the test. Gavin is a "young pup" himself, but the teenage handler proved to be a real trooper throughout. It's great to see a young person taking on this challenge. He learned a lot about being a handler, and we are really looking forward to seeing him and Ellie give it a go at the spring test event. Gavin had his whole family there for support and cheering him on. Unfortunately, the dog was often distracted and headed over to the gallery instead of tending to test business. This is something for others to consider too; when a dog recognizes a gallery member as "boss", then having that person in the audience can be distracting. It's best for the person who handles the dog at the test to have worked a lot with the dog independently during exposure and training.

At the Intermediate Hunting Dog Test (IHDT) level, we had three **Dutchman's Holow G** littermates: **Good Boy**, owned by Hank Carriger; **Gabby**, owned by Andy Yeast, and **General Grant**, owned by Gary Gaertner. Also tested were **Calidora "Callie" of Sandhill**, owned by Al Fonken, and **Baron of Arrowrock**, owned by Kerry Studer. For the most part, tracking the duck, retrieving the duck and blind retrieve (all events involving cold water) were the stumbling blocks to good scores. Good Boy of Dutchman's Hollow is a prime example. His handler, Hank Carriger, has hunted this dog a lot—for pheasants, but the dog has had limited water and duck work, certainly none to speak of immediately prior to the test. Another issue that shows up at the IHDT level is retriever training. It takes consistent, repetitive, daily training to develop the dogs retrieving potential to a level where the dog will perform in adverse weather combined with the distractions of a crowd of on-lookers. There were some good individual performances in various elements of the test, but no dogs scored consistently high enough to prize.

The test benefitted from the contributions of many individuals who served as bird handlers, photographers, judges and apprentice judges, many of whom traveled great distances to be with us. Rick and Tina Molt battled weather and baggage handlers on their journey from Maine and Rick Sojda and Gary Pool joined us from the West. A test like this really is a club-wide undertaking. Jon Coil did a fine job, as always, with the raffle prizes and merchandise sale We had a great Friday evening dinner and Saturday pizza night where we solved most of the world's problems (Too bad nobody wrote all those ideas down!).

NATURAL ABILITY TEST, SPRING 2013

WI = Wisconsin WA = Washington ID = Idaho ME = Maine * = Temperament problem, see write-up ++ = Over age, Evaluation only (E)	Age in Months	Nose and Use of Nose	Searching	Affinity for water	pointing	Tracking Bird	Attitude Toward Work	Cooperation	TOTAL POINTS	CLASSIFICATION	Conformation	Coat	Temperament
	A	N	S	W	P	ТВ	AW	C	TP	C	СО	CT	T
GROUP 397 (PAGE 8)													
ALEXANDER OF ASH COULEE, M, WI	12	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28		4	3	ok
AMMO OF ASH COULEE, M, WI	12	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	27		4	3	ok
ARIKARA OF ASH COULEE, F, ID	12	2	4	1	4	1	3	3	18		3	3	ok
GROUP 398 (PAGE 9)													
DREW OF SANDHILL, F, WI	9	3	4	1	4	2	3	3	20		4	3	ok
DULCIE OF SANDHILL, F, WI	9	3	4	1	4	3	3	2	20		4	3	ok
DECCA OF SANDHILL, F, WI	9	3	4	1	3	1	3	3	18		4	4	ok
DARLING ELLIE OF SANDHILL, F, WI	9	2	3	0	0	1	2	1	9		4	3	ok
GROUP 399 (PAGE 9)													
AVIAN MOON OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, F, ID	8	2	4	1	4	1	2	2	16		3	3	ok
ARES OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, M, ID	8	2	3	1	4	1	2	2	15		4	3	ok
GROUP 400 (PAGE 9)													
ELLIE OF CROWNPOINT, F, ME	15	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	1	4	2	ok
CROWNPOINT JASPER,M, ME	15	4	2	1	0	4	2	2	15		4	3	ok
GERMAN WIREHAIRED POINTER													
CADENBERG FALK v SEP, M, ID	12	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	4	3	ok

DOGS EVALUATED IN SPRING 2013

NATURAL ABILITY TEST

ALEXANDER OF ASH COULEE, M, 12 mos., whelped 4/15/2012. Conformation 4, 25.5"H X 25.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, dense, flat lying, short, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: happy, eager, good game desire Owned by Max Close, 7048 State Route 48, Springboro, OH 45066. Bred by Tom Coombe. Pedigree 397, Page 8.

AMMO OF ASH COULEE, M, 12 mos., whelped 4/15/2012. Conformation 4, 25.5"H X 25"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, dense, curly, soft on head, good belly coverage, full furnishings. Temperament: eager, good drive, friendly, hard to examine. Owned by Kyle Kessler, 20267 Co Hwy 29, Rochert, MN 56578. Bred by Tom Coombe. Pedigree 397, Page 8.

ARIKARA OF ASH COULEE, F, 11 mos., whelped 4/15/2012. Conformation 3, 24.5"H X 24.5"L, narrow in chest, fine boned. Coat 3, lacks density, slight curl, good belly coverage, medium furnishings. Temperament: happy, eager, easy to examine. Owned by William Madden, PO Box 921, Bozeman, MT 59771. Bred by Tom Coombe. Pedigree 397, Page 8.

DREW OF SANDHILL, F, 9 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 24"H X 24"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, not flat lying, soft on head, medium furnishings. Temperament: happy, friendly, good game desire, easy to examine. Owned by David Mickelson, 210 Cheval Ln NE, Rochester, MN 55906. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Page 9.

DULCIE OF SANDHILL, F, 9 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 24.5"H X 24.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, good belly coverage, medium furnishings. Temperament: very energetic, friendly, easy to examine. Owned by Jim & Tami Edgar, 408 Huron Ave., Spring Valley, MN 55973. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Page 9.

DECCA OF SANDHILL, F, 9 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 23"H X 23.5"L. Coat 4, harsh, dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: eager, friendly, immature. Owned by Jon Kasworm, 810 N 7th St., Oskaloosa, IA 52577. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Page 9. **DARLING ELLIE OF SANDHILL**, F, 9 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 23"H X 22.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: friendly, immature, hard to examine. Owned by Gavin Good, 14538 510th St., Griswold, IA 51535. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Page 9.

AVIAN MOON OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, F, 8 mos., whelped 7/28/2012. Conformation 3, 24.5"H X 24.5"L, lower incisor outside of bite. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, short, sparse furnishings. Temperament: eager, difficult to examine. Owned by Jeff Hogenson, 1229 Sage Ct., Rifle, CO 81650. Bred by Ted Vanderpan. Pedigree 399, Page 9.

ARES OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, M, 8 mos., whelped 7/28/2012. Conformation 4, 25"H X 25"L,. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, short, sparse furnishings. Temperament: difficult to examine. Owned by Ron Stellingwerf, 1796 Edwards Dr., Sheridan, WY 82801. Bred by Ted Vanderpan. Pedigree 399, Page 9.

ELLIE OF CROWNPOINT, F, 15 mos., whelped 2/15/2012. Conformation 4, 23"H X 23.5"L. Coat 2, medium harsh, medium dense, open spots on neck, ears, flank, and belly, full furnishings. Temperament: eager, happy, good game desire. Owned by Kurt Soneson, 253 Hoxie Hill rd., Orrington, ME 04474. Bred by Vicky Foster. Pedigree 400, Page 9.

CROWNPOINT JASPER, M, 15 mos., whelped 2/15/2012. Conformation 4, 25"H X 25.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, full furnishings. Temperament: friendly, tentative, dependant. Owned by Seth Brooker, 998 Kennebec Rd., Hampden, ME 04444. Bred by Vicky Foster. Pedigree 400, Page 9.

GERMAN WIREHAIRED POINTER

CADENBERG FALK v SEP, M, 12 mos., whelped 3/13/2012. Temperament: eager, friendly, strong desire for game. Owned by Dennis Carlson, 3801 Barrett Dr., Hood River, OR 97031. Bred by Silke Alberts.



Bring It! Callie of Sandhill makes retrieve to Al Fonken during IHDT

(Photo by Jerry Yeast)

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST, SPRING 2013

WATER

TD = Track of Duck (5)

RD = Retrieve of duck (3)

BR = Blind Retrieve (4)

++ = older hunting dog

FIELD

S = Searching (5)

P = Pointing (4)

RB = Retrieve of Dragged Bird (3)

TB = Track of Live Bird (3)

*TR = Track of Live Rabbit (3)

*RF = Retrieve of Dragged Fur (3)

JUDGED THROUGHOUT

N = Nose and Use of Nose (6)

AW = Attitude Toward Work (4)

C = Cooperation (3)

O = Obedience (3)

OTHER

TP = Total Prize

PR = Prize Classification

CO = Conformation

CT = Coat

T = Temperament

 T^* = see write-up for notation

	TD	RD		S	P	RB	ТВ	*T *RF	N	AW	C	o	TP	PR	со	CT	T
			R					R									
GROUP 392 (Aug., 20	12 (GD	S)														
CALIDORA OF SANDHILL																	
F, 24 MOS, WI	2	0	3	4	4	2	4		3	2	2	1	111		4	2	ok
GROUP 393 (Aug., 20	12	GD	S)														
BEELZEBUB EZEKAIL OF	AR	RO	WR	OC.	K												
M, 22 MOS, ID	2	2	2	4	4	4	2		3	3	3	2	123	Ш	2	2	ok
BEAUREGARD OF ARROV	VRC	OCK															
M, 22 MOS, ID	2	2	2	4	3	3	4		3	2	2	2	115		2	3	ok
BARON OF ARROWROCK																	
M, 22 MOS, WI	2	0	1	3	0	3	4		3	2	2	2	88		4	3	ok
BANKS OF ARROWROCK																	
M, 22 MOS, ID	1	2	1	3	0	3	0		1	2	2	2	65		2	2	ok
GROUP 394 (Aug., 20	012	G	DS)													
GIPPER OF DUTCHMANS				4													
M, 21 MOS, ID	3	2	2	4	4	2	3		3	3	2	2	122	III	3	3	ok
GABBY OF DUTCHMANS	НО	LLC	w														
F, 21 MOS, WI	4	2	4	4	4	4	1		3	3	3	3	141		4	3	*
GENERAL GRANT OF DU	ГСН	IMA	NS	Н	DLL	OW											
M, 21 MOS, WI	1	3	0	3	4	1	4		3	3	3	1	102		3	3	ok
GOOD BOY OF DUTCHMA	NS	НО	LL	OW	7												
M, 21 MOS, WI	2	0	0	4	0	1	4		3	2	2	1	80		4	3	ok
M, 21 MOS, WI	2	0	0	4	0	1	4		3	2	2	1	80		4	3	ok

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST

CALIDORA OF SANDHILL, F, 24 mos., whelped 4/16/2011. Conformation: 4, 22.5" H X 22.5 " L. Coat: 2, medium harsh, medium dense, sparse furnishings, open on ears and both sides of the flank Temperament: friendly, easy to examine. lacks drive in water. Owned by Allan Fonken, PO Box 1149, Hayden, ID 83835. Bred by Pete Engman. Pedigree 392, Aug., 2012 GDS.

BEELZEBUB EZEKIAL OF ARROWROCK, M, 22 mos., whelped 5/27/2011. Conformation: 2, 24.5" H X 24.5 "L, slight crossbite, wear on upper 3rd incisor on left, OCD in right shoulder at 14 mos. Coat: 2, medium harsh, lacks density, slight curl, medium furnishings, medium belly coverage Temperament: happy, eager, easy to examine. Owned by Russell Dill, 205 N 5th, Manhatten, MT 59741. Bred by Bob Bullock. Pedigree 393, Aug., 2012 GDS.

BEAUREGARD OF ARROWROCK, M, 22 mos., whelped 5/27/2011. Conformation: 2, 24" H X 24.5 " L, back right leg kicks out when running, injured when young. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, slight curl, medium furnishings, good belly coverage Temperament: happy, easy to examine. Owned by Dave Larson, 112 Lukes Gulch Rd, Grangeville, , ID 83530. Bred by Bob Bullock. Pedigree 393, Aug., 2012 GDS.

BARON OF ARROWROCK, M, 22 mos., whelped 5/27/2011. Conformation: 4, 25" H X 25 "L, extra P1, top left.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, not flat lying, medium furnishings, good belly coverage Temperament: happy, friendly, difficult to examine. Owned by Kerry Studer, 9517 Century Wood Circle, Johnston, IA 50131. Bred by Bob Bullock. Pedigree 393, Aug., 2012 GDS.

BANKS OF ARROWROCK, M, 22 mos., whelped 5/27/2011. Conformation: 2, 27" H X 27 " L, OCD both shoulders, front feet cross while moving. Coat: 2, medium harsh, curly, medium furnishings, soft on head. Temperament: friendly, easy to examine. Owned by Nathaniel Umphrey, 1913 N Fawnwood Ct., Nampa, ID 83687. Bred by Bob Bullock. Pedigree 393, Aug., 2012 GDS.

GIPPER OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, 21 mos., whelped 7/37/2011. Conformation: 3, 24" H X 24 " L, slight crossbite on right side. Coat: 3, medium harsh, dense, short, flat lying, no furnishings, medium belly coverage Temperament: eager, friendly, easy to examine. Owned by Wayne Ransbottom, PO Box 565, Dayton, WY 82836. Bred by John Pitlo. Pedigree 394, Aug., 2012 GDS.

GABBY OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, F, 21 mos., whelped 7/37/2011. Conformation: 4, 23" H X 23 " L Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, sparse furnishings, open on ears. Temperament: eager, friendly, easy to examine, gun sensitive. Owned by Andy Yeast, 6325 Wilcot Ct., Johnston, IA 50131. Bred by John Pitlo Pedigree 394, Aug., 2012 GDS.

GENERAL GRANT OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, 21 mos., whelped 7/37/2011. Conformation: 3, 23.5" H X 23.5 "L. Coat: 3, medium harsh, lacks density, sparse furnishings, open on belly. Temperament: friendly, easy to examine. Owned by Gary Gaertner, 5 Devondale Ln., St. Louis, MO 63131. Bred by John Pltlo. Pedigree 394, Aug., 2012 GDS.

GOOD BOY OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, 21 mos., whelped 7/37/2011. Conformation: 4, 24" H X 24 " L Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, sparse furnishings, needs belly coverage, sparse behind ears. Temperament: very eager, good game drive in field. Owned by Hank Carriger, 25006 McBride Dr., San Antonio, TX 78255-2337. Bred by John Pitlo. Pedigree 394, Aug., 2012 GDS.



I've Got the Bird!
Gabby of Dutchman's Hollow completes a successful track during IHDT
(photo by Jerry Yeast)

UTILITY FIELD TEST, SPRING 2013

Key to tests: * = Optional test WI = Wisconsin, ID = Idaho

INDEX*

TD = Track of Duck (5) SWD = Search without Duck (3)

BR = Blind Retrieve (3) SB = Steady at Blind (2)

SB = Steady at Blind (2) RM = Retrieve of Marked Fall (3)

S = Searching (5) P = Pointing (4)

CIN

SWS = Steady to Wing and Shot (3)

RS = Retrieve of Shot Bird (3) WD = Whoa or Down (3) TB = Track of Live Bird (4)

SW = Search in Woods (4) H = Walk at Heel (2)

RDG = Retrieve of Dragged Game (3) *F = Find/Retrieve of Dead Game (3)

*B = Blood Track (4)

N = Nose and Use of Nose (6)

AW = Attitude Toward Work (4)

C = Cooperation (4) O = Obedience (3)

TP = Total Points

PR = Prize Classification CO = Conformation

CT = Con

T = Temperament

^{*} Numbers in parenthesis are the index values for each category.

TD	D	BR	SB	RM	S	P	sws	RS	WD	TB	SW	Н	RDG	*F	*B	N	AW	C	o	TP	PR	co	CT	T
GROUP 377 (AUG., 2010 GDS)																								
CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL OF SALMON RIVER, F, 47 MOS, ID																								

2 1 2 4 4 4 4 3 3 2 4 4 3 4

3 3 3 3 200 III 4 3 ok

UTILITY HUNTING DOG TEST

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL OF SALMON RIVER, M, 47 mos., whelped 4/22/2009. Conformation 4, 25"H X 25.5"L. Coat 4, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: hard charging, lots of game desire, easy to examine. Owned by Angie McDunn, 3380 Rottweiller Ct., Helena, MT 59602. Bred by Anita Andrus & Tawna Skinner. Pedigree 377, Aug., 2010 GDS.

Pedigrees

PEDGREE 397

INGO VOM KASTANIENHAIN

BLUE MOUNTAINS BREW

GLACIER COOL DEECEE

FRIEDRICH OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW

BARON OS KOSTILKU

AYLA OF ANCIENT KENNEL

TASI Z FESANDY

"A" OF ASH COULEE

ADMIRAL DOZER OF MARSH STREAM

ANDREW PHILIP OF SOURDOUGH TRAIL

AUSTIN OF BANDED PEAK

AMAZING GRACE OF ARROWROCK

CHAR Z HLOZKU

ANNIE OAKLEY OF GLACIER RIDGE

BELLA'S AMY OF FITGERALD'S PRAIRIE

PEDGREE 398

INGO VOM KASTANIENHAIN

BLUE MOUNTAINS BREW

GLACIER COOL DEECEE

FRIEDRICH OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW

BARON OS KOSTILKU

AYLA OF ANCIENT KENNEL

TASI Z FESANDY

"D" OF SANDHILL

BOREK PANVA

HASAN Z LISOVA

CHITAL Z BARTONE

ARTHUR'S PAL OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

ELMO OF AUGER FALLS

BRIGID OF WILLOW SPRINGS

BREA OF TRUMAN'S PRIDE

PEDGREE 399

CHIPPER DE LOS ALTOS

ADMIRAL DOZER OF MARSH STREAM

BRISTOL OF ALDERBROOK

ANDREW PHILIP OF SOURDOUGH TRAIL

BARTON DE LOS ALTOS

AUSTIN OF BANDED PEAK

BINTI OF CLOUDY SKIES

'A' OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE

BOREK PANVA

HASAN Z LISOVA

CHITAL Z BARTONE

ARLI OF DAKOTA PRAIRIE

ARLO OF VALLEY HOUSE

BROOKE OF BOGAN'S POINT

MERRY MEETING BOGAN

PEDGREE 400

BRIDFINDERS AS PROMISED

GREYLOCK GLEN'S COOPER

GRYLOCK GLEN'S ANNIE

GUNMETTLE'S POINTING THE WAY

CARTOUCHE DU FEU FOLLET

CROWNPOINTS FIELD REP AT GM

ROOSTERS KEEN POINT TO POINT

ELLIE OF CROWNPOINT CROWNPOINT JASPER

URAN II LES MOUSTACHES D'OR

BOCOCCIMI LES MOUSTACHES D'OR

RANDA LES MUSTACHES D'OR

DUCHASSEUR CROWNPOINT

TOULOUSE DES BORDS DU DAN

DUCHASSEUR RACLETTE

DUCHASSEUR MAYA

RMGC Spring Test

by Anita Andrus



Congratulations!

Angie McDunn and Creedence Clearwater Revival of Salmon River earn a Prize III in UFT.

(Photo by Vince Esposito)

The Rocky Mountain Chapter tested nine dogs this spring: 4 Natural Ability, 4 Intermediate Hunting Dog Test, and 1 Utility Field Test. The event was held near Jerome, Idaho at the Niagara Springs Wildlife Management Area on the Snake River. Because our test was a few weeks earlier than some years, it was colder and windier than normal; many of us were wrapped in down coats and warm hats on Saturday.

We started off Friday evening with our usual pizza feed but were also treated to a Power Point presentation on Rick Sojda's 2012 trip to the Czech Republic. Sounds like he and his family were treated to much "Czech" hospitality and they got to see many good Fouseks.

Two littermates from the "A" litter of Prairie's Promise, "Avian" owned by Jeff Hogenson (CO) and "Ares" handled by Ron Stellingwerf (WY) did well in their NA search and pointing but had difficulty switching gears and focusing on the track of the live pheasant. They also had problems at the water with neither pup being willing to have all four feet suspended off the pond bottom even with the enticement of a thrown dead bird. It must be noted that these dogs are only 8 mo. old now and would have been only 4-6 mo. old for the 2012 hunting season. Their lack of experience and maturity was probably a big factor in their performance. With a full hunting season under their belts



Good Boy!
Rusty Dill with Beelzebub of Arrowrock
(Photo by Robin Strathy)

they will most likely be ready for IHDT next spring.

Bill Madden (MT) ran "Arikara of Ash Coulee" in NA with a great search and point. Like the other NA dogs, she too had difficulty with the track and water.

Three dogs from the "B" litter of Arrowrock ran their IHDT. "Banks" handled by Nate Umphrey (ID) had recovered his two shoulder surgeries prior to his test, but the injury layoff may have contributed to a weak performance on this day. Dave Larson (ID) with "Beau" got 4's in search and tracking the live pheasant but had difficulty with the duck work.

Rusty Dill (MT) and "Beelzebub" (alias Zeke) put on quite a show in the bird field, I was told. Earlier in the day, Rusty bragged his dog was so good he didn't even need to carry a gun. "Zeke" must have overheard the conversation and like any good hunting dog wanted to ensure his owner's good reputation. When a flushed bird came flying low towards "Zeke" he opened his mouth and caught it! This must be why you never find any shot in birds you eat from Rusty. Angie McDunn (MT) and "Creedence Clearwater Revival of Salmon River" showed what a finished gun dog looks like, earning a Prize III in UFT. Congratulations Angie and "Cree".

On Sunday, Dennis Carlson (WA) ran his German Wirehair, "Falk", a one year old male out of Silke Alberts kennel, in NA earning all 4's and a Prize I. For the "affinity for water" part of the test, "Falk" amazed the judges by going for a swim without a dummy being thrown. Dennis has trained him to enter the water with the "Get it "command.

As usual, RMGC chapter folks all pitched in helping with lunch, bird planting etc. Many thanks to Pres. Angie McDunn and Field Test Chair John McDunn for all the prep work involved with putting on a test and to Secretary/Treasurer Teresa Conner for tending all the score sheets.

Northeast Chapter Spring Test 2013

by Rick Molt



Way to Go, Ellie!
Ellie of CrownPoint on the way to a perfect score in NAT for owner Kurt Soneson.
(Photo by Tina Molt)

The NEGC held their Spring Test on May 18th at the Silver's Farm in Maine. The day started with a light rain giving way to a sunny late morning and afternoon. On hand to be judging were Jim Seibel, Ted Silver and senior Rick Molt. Scott Craig apprenticed and Laurie Connell was our photographer. Scott and Laurie who are also our test chairs did a great job in organizing and running the test.

We tested two dogs in NAT and a third dog was there for evaluation. Seth Brooker ran **Crownpoint Jasper** who did well in the woods part of the search, but showed dependency in the field. Tracked very well, but we could not get a point or get the dog to swim, therefore no prize was awarded.

Kurt Soneson ran **Ellie of Crownpoint**. They showed what a great team is all about. She has all the tools, received all 4's and a prize I. Ellie appears that she might be part duck—she seems to like water probably more than fish do!

Our last dog, **Daisy of Sandhill**, was handled by Kevin Jester (also a judge for the WPGCA). Her owner, Bill Hillman was not able to come and has had some serious medical issues, so the dog has had very little exposure. Because this was the case, Kevin talked to Bill about letting him get the dog a week early so that he could begin exposure and bond with the dog and that is what happened. Because she lacked so much exposure, we (the judges) decided to turn this event into an exposure day and let her test

in the fall. She definitely has natural ability but lacks that bond which all good hunting teams need. She pointed and tracked well, her search was there some of the time, but she appeared to be lost as to what she was suppose to be doing. Bill has confirmed to Kevin that he is going to fulfill his commitment and I am sure if Bill and Daisy get out there this will happen. She does have what it takes!

Saturday evening Sandy Silver along with her family put on a great dinner. We had oodles of pulled pork, coleslaw, more side dishes than I can remember and pies. Oh! and there was wine, wine and some more wine. A great time had by one and all.Once again thank you to all who helped at our spring test.

The NEGC will be holding a fall test on the 28th and 29th of September at the Molt's in Bristol, Maine. We have 3 IHDT dogs and 1 NAT scheduled.



Comin' at you! Crown Point Jasper made a good track. (Photo by Tina Molt)



Field Test Turns Exposure Session

Daisy gets a chance to develop interest in waterfowl and improve affinity for water.

(Photo by Tina Molt)

Danger in the Field

by Jon Coil



Watch Out!

That attraction scent coming from that hole in the brush spells danger.

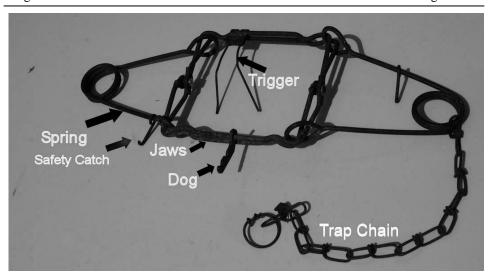
(Photos by Jon Coil)

Ted Silver wrote in the June 2013 *Gun Dog Supreme* about the dangers of cable snares (a cable loop that trappers use to catch animals) after he lost his wonderful griffon **Badgah of Willow Springs** to a snare. It reminded me of a two year old tri-colored English Setter, I had years ago, that ran off at dusk and didn't return. A neighbor, who trapped, called the next day with bad news. The setter had gotten into one of his body gripping traps about a half mile from my house and was killed. He felt terrible; it was the only ground set he had put out. The trapper hadn't done anything illegal; it was just too bad my dog had chosen that night to run off.

Minnesota has recorded a few dog deaths each year over the past several years to these body gripping traps. The problem is enough of an issue that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in its "Hunting and Trapping Regulations" booklet cautions trappers to try avoiding the use of these traps in the vicinity of domestic dogs and includes a page from the Minnesota Trappers Association web site (page 69)

http://www.mntrappers.org/_fileCabinet//trapper_manual.pdf
that shows how to release a dog from a body gripping trap. This method may work, but time is of the essence and the trappers I have talked with are dubious of a successful outcome. I do know of one successful outcome; last year an acquaintance was able to release his wirehair from one of these traps in time using his hands.

These traps come in various sizes for use in trapping different size animals. In Minnesota the two sizes that pose the most danger to dogs are sized 7" X 7" and 10" X 10". The 10" X 10" is commonly used for beaver and, in Minnesota, must be placed at least half submerged in water. The 7" X 7" is often used for animals the size of raccoons,



bobcats, fisher and martin and are placed on dry land, usually with a smell lure and bait. Traps of these sizes are strong enough to kill a hunting dog, the smaller trap sizes are normally not.

The 7" X 7" size is often used in a cubby set with a bait of meat or fish in the back of the cubby. The cubby can be a hut of branches, a box of wood or, as often the case here in Minnesota, a large plastic pail modified to hold the trap. The cubby is concealed in grass and brush, often along a trail.



Close up view of a cubby set trap
Photo by Jon Coil

Years ago when I was young and strong, I could depress the springs on these body gripping traps with my hands; it was painful but do-able. Now I need some leverage to open a beer can., so I have been looking for a set of trap tongs that would be light enough to carry in my hunting vest. The tongs in the local fleet store are steel about twenty inches long, heavy and built for a lifetime. I don't want to carry all that weight, so after talking with a trapper friend, he found for me, a set of tongs that are light weight and would fit in a hunting vest. Sleepy Creek Brand, Model 3 Trap Setter #3

aluminum trap tongs are made for young trappers or trappers that have trouble setting the smaller size traps but my friend discovered that it will open the #220 in an emergency. It won't hold up year after year but will work for my purposes. Their advantage is the light weight (under a pound) and short (14") that allows them to be more easily carried in a hunting vest. Trapping catalogs carry an assortment of trap setters and these with shipping were under \$20.00.



The tongs work like a scissors that grips the spring loops and gives the user some leverage to compress the spring and hold it until the safety catch can be put in place. They will depress both springs in less than a minute if the user is experienced in the me-

chanics of these body gripping traps. I would recommend practicing before the season so if you are very unlucky and your dog gets into one of these you will be able to react with haste in the chaos of the moment. These tongs will also depress the springs on the more traditional foot hold traps that may be set for canines in the field.

These dangers are real while hunting, but it is still a fact that your dog has a better chance getting hit by a car than getting caught in a snare or body gripping trap. Still, it's best to be aware and be prepared.

Cable Snare Article Response—Wayne Ransbottrom

I was saddened to learn of the loss of **Badgah of Willow Springs** who died in a cable snare; he was the sire of my WPG – **Gipper of Dutchman's Hollow**. Living in Wyoming, trapping and hunting coyotes and other predators is a reality and a threat to our hunting dogs. In 2011, two of our Pheasants Forever Chapter members had dogs caught in snares. One was a French Brittany Spaniel, a small dog, whose owner was able to free the tied end of the snare and then work for several minutes with his Leatherman to cut through the aircraft cable. The second dog was a Labrador that immediately sat down and waited for his handler to come free him. This owner had a pair of heavy duty wire cutters and it still took 10-15 minutes to cut through the wire. The Lab's owner credited his "Whoa" training using a stake and rope to saving his dogs life. The dog had learned to sit /lay when given the whoa command or when feeling restraint around the neck. This thought reinforces the experience and training of the drahthaar, Maggie, as described in the June 2013 issue of *The Gun Dog Supreme*.

After reading about the recommended Klein Cable Shears I went to a local Ace Hardware store that carried Klein products. They didn't have that particular cable shear. However, I did run into a member of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department who happened to be shopping at Ace. He's an avid supporter of PF and his father owns a Wirehaired Pointing Griffon (AKC). He's also a professional trapper. The cable snare is evidently a tool of choice for being an effective, quick killer and cheap. He suggested that I look at www.snareshop.com, the folks that sell the snares also sell cable cutters recommended for the specific purpose of cutting the aircraft cable. Located under Departments is a box entitled Tools, click on this box. There are multiple choices for cable cutters ranging in price from \$21.00 to \$120.00. He recommended the Economy Cutter, item #RC8 made in Japan for \$30.00, as being very effective and more reasonably priced than the Klein Cable Cutter. Snare shop also offers a 2-pocket utility tool belt holster that looks like it would work for both a Leatherman and a cable cutter. This fall I will have a pair of cable cutters in my tool holster.

Upcoming Events:

WPGCA Tests

Northeast Chapter

Location: Bristol, ME

Dates: September 28th and 29th (Sat & Sunday)

Hosts: Rick and Tina Molt

Field Test Chairs - Scott Craig & Laurie Connell

85 Rabbit Hill Road

Winterport, Maine, 04496

(207) 581-2470 laurie.connell@umit.maine.edu

Heartland Chapter

LOCATION: Mazomanie Wildlife Area, Mazomanie, WI

DATES: September 6th, 7th, & 8th Kirk & Tracy Dilly Field Test Chairs

Kirk: (320) 304-2212 Tracy: (952) 240-3564

Email: kirk.dilly@mortonbuildings.com

Note: Test scheduled for Northwest Chapter in Washington has been cancelled. Dogs will test at Spring Rocky Mountain Griffon Club event in March 2014.

Announcements and full details on tests and training days can be found on the Chapter pages on the website: http://www.wpgca.org

Events are also posted on Facebook at www.facebook.com/griffon.fan You need not have your own Facebook page to view our organization page. If you have your own page, be sure to "like" us so you can be notified of events

Going hunting this fall? Be sure and drop us an email about your adventure. Send us your photos. Not sure how? Email crdejong@charter.net for instructions.



No, Boss! Look over here! The bird's over here! Dulcie of Sandhill and owner Jim Edgar keep an intense eye on the action at the Spring 2013 Heartland Test.

(Photo by Jerry Yeast)

Do you have photos to share with the WPGCA?

Check out our "SmugMug" collection at http://wpgca.smugmug.com/

Email crdejong@charter.net to set up a gallery and to arrange easy uploading of your images..