The Gun Dog Supreme

NEWS BULLETIN of the BOHEMIAN WIREHAIRED POINTING GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings:

Hopefully, you've been too busy out hunting to notice that the October issue is a tad late. I was busy with several club members attending the Cesky Fousek World Cup and related events, and that held things up.

Anna Artz provides a great intro piece for the Czech trip. I expect there will be more articles in future issues, not only on the dog show and tests, but the work done on our breeding program and the prospects for a world-wide Cesky Fousek organization. Stay tuned.

As we lok toward the future, Joan Bailey reminds of of our roots with a second article on the late Bodo Winterhelt.

It seemed like a good time to reprint an article on the dangers of trapping snares. Please read it and be prepared. There are also some good YouTube videos on how to cope with this menace.

Finally, please send us your hunting photos and stories to share with readers in future issues. Hope to see you in the field or online soon.

Rem Desong, Editor

On the Cover

Andy Ogden did an outstanding job representing our club at the World Cup. In the photo, his dog Kaja completes a retrieve of a pheasant to Andy under the watchful eye of Czech judge, Jaroslav Havlát.

For information requests or to join the BWPGCA please email Robin at: rstrathy5427@gmail.com
Or visit our web page at http://bohemiangriffon.org

EDITORS

Rem DeJong John Pitlo

SUBSCR./BACK ISSUES

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Robin Strathy 441 Flood Road Great Falls, MT 59404 (406) 788-4934 rstrathy5427@gmail.com

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Send articles or proposals 1 month prior to publication to:

Rem DeJong
Ph: (906) 236-0746 (EST)
e-mail: dejongrem@gmail.com

PHOTO SUBMISSION

All photos should be sent to: Rem DeJong 7219 St Charles Place Kalamazoo MI 49009 Ph: 906-236-0746(EST)

Email: dejongrem@gmail.com for photo submission instructions. Include the name of the dog and owner, and photographer. Digital photos are required; use large file size settings. If scanned use 300dpi (grayscale).You can email them or request instructions for uploading to website.

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BWPGCA Photo Gallery: http://wpgca.smugmug.com/

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BODO Part II by Joan Bailey

As most of you will remember from reading the "Griffon" book, the beginning of testing our dogs got underway quite quickly after our return from Europe in 1969. The first test was at Bodo's home north of Toronto. It was here where you begin to see how the three of us (Ed, Bodo, and Joan) worked together, each of us using the knowledge we possessed in order to make our exciting endeavor come to fruition.



Bodo with Ulla

For example, when the first dog was being tested, it failed one part of the test, like he didn't make a retrieve or it might have been that the dog didn't hold steady after the shot. So Bodo walked over and thanked the handler and told him the testing was over. Ed walked in quickly and explained to Bodo that although that is how it worked in Germany, as we were just starting out, we should let the handler and dog finish the test even if they wouldn't qualify because they had paid their entry fee and needed the experience. And that is how the Griffon club still does it today. If we had stuck to the old way we probably would have missed using a lot of dogs that we needed for breeding. And it might have turned off potential members.

Luckily the Griffon Club already had a few chapters: The Sierra Griffon Club, started by Harold Baskin in California, was taking off. We thought we could pull off a test using the new rules we had started to use in the East.

At the same time we had another new chapter, started in Maine by Cliff Morton, an older man who thought Griffons were the best dogs ever and he had used his male dog for breeding, I believe Lou Taxiachris got his first Griffon from Cliff.

Because it was a lot closer for us than California, we talked Lou into organizing a test for the newly formed Northeast Griffon Club. I persuaded Harold and his wife, Sally; and their son-in-law, Dick Austin, and his wife, Joanne, to come to the test in Maine so they could really get a hold on this new concept. After Dick and Harold spent the day in the field with us, they were hooked and agreed to organize a test in northern California with the Sierra Griffon Club.

Ed talked Dave Duffy into coming to Ontario to a training day prior to a Utility test. I happened to be standing beside Dave when a guy brought up a German Shorthair to track a duck in a pond. Duffy was highly skeptical that a dog could track a duck in water. Then he saw the dog do it! And he wrote about us in *Field and Stream*.

And as most of you know, that is how we got Joe Nadeker interested in this because, coming from the C.R. he was well aware of what we were doing, once he read about us in

Field and Stream and came to our California test. And then later it was through Joe that we began getting dogs from the C.R. He opened that window for us.

Then I talked Bill and Barbara Jensen, long time club members, into organizing a test in the mid-west. It ended up in southern Minnesota and I talked Larry Mueller (hunting dog editor for Outdoor Life) to come to Minnesota. He was very impressed with what he saw and wrote about us in Outdoor Life:

"... Obviously, the club's members know what they want, and they
go about getting it in a manner that differs radically from that
of a usual dog club. They hold tests, not trials. They are cooperative,
not competitive. There are no cover-ups of bloodline faults; taboos
do not prevent objective publication of breed facts. In 10 years, hip
dysplia was licked and the breed improved by 100 percent. Nothing
like that has ever been achieved in such a short time under field-trial
competition.

...with patience and perseverance, there may one day be enough really good Griffons to go around."

Of course this was a huge help for the Griffon Club, and for NAVHDA.

We knew that in order to make all this work; to have good testing of versatile dogs, we also needed money. So far we were putting on the Natural Ability Tests and holding a training clinic on the Saturday, testing on Sunday.

We needed money and that is when we decided to write a book, which became "The Green Book." Here again we used what each of us could provide: Ed and Bodo to write; Joan to nag them and write the subtitles for the photos. I also did the arranging of the photos because I had had experience for quite some years doing it for the Griffon Club newsletter.

Then we got an idea for how to make money to produce the book; we would offer people in NAVHDA a special numbered, leather-bound book for a heafty price. This did the trick; we got enough orders from this to pay for the production of the books.

And this is what Bodo wrote in the Bailey copy of the book:

Pete, your name should appear at the top of this book. You did most of the work while we had our fun. Bodo

Ed, I do not know why we started it; let us hope it will be for The better of many dogs.

As the girls say: It was fun to do it with you. Bodo

So never forget that if it had not been for Bodo, who taught us how to test our dogs, we would not have all that we do today.

Editor's Note:

Thanks, Joan, for helping us remember our club roots. This is the second of a two-part tribute to Sigot "Bodo" Winterhelt. Part I was published in the August, 2018 issue. Sigbot Winterhelt was born in Mainz, Germany in 1926. The nickname Bodo came from his mother. NAVHDA has published on their website an interesting biographical sketch of Bodo's life. I found it quite interesting, and I think you'll enjoy it.

https://www.navhda.org/bodo-winterhelt

Czech Republic Trip – World Cup 2018 by Anna Artz

Even as I head back to work and get on with my daily routine, I'm still reliving the wonder and excitement of our trip overseas. I'm sure I am not the only one having a hard time adjusting. We really did seem a world away. Club members Jim Crouse, Rem DeJong, Andy Ogden, Dennis Carlson and Monica Redmond also shared in this adventure. What an incredible time we had!

Special thanks must go out to Pavel Dostál, Pavel Horák and their families for hosting us; Silvie Neradilová and Pavel D's nephew František Viktorin for assisting with translation and countless others who went out of their way to make us feel welcome. Dana Brzkovská also gave us a personalized tour of historic old town Prague. These individuals put an insane amount of time and effort not only into facilitating the World Cup (I believe it took over two years of planning) but also in coordinating our transportation and accommodations during our two week stay. Hats off to all of them. It was an incredible amount of work and they worked tirelessly on our behalf. They deserve our gratitude, recognition, and thanks.

To start our European adventure, Laurie Connell, Andy Ogeden and I arrived one week early. Andy brought his 4-year-old female Kaja od Tyrse with him to compete in the



The First Family of the Cesky Fousek

Pavel Jr., Veronika, and Pavel Dostal were key among the gracious hosts at the dog show and world cup.

World Cup. He wanted to give Kaja time to get acclimated and rest, which turned out to be a very smart move. The plane ride took more out of her than we all realized. While Kaja recuperated, Laurie, Andy and I attended a very special hunt test, the Jaromir Dostal Memorial Test. This Memorial is open to the best pointing dogs in the Czech Republic each fall and is held in remembrance of Pavel's revered father, Jaromir Dostal. Jaromir's widow attended and even said a few words at the opening ceremony. It was very emotional and beautiful!

The two-day Memorial was filled with exceptional dog work and covered disciplines in field, water and woods. Some of these disciplines we had never seen before. There was a group hunt, retrieve of fox, stalking of the deer and 600+ meter blood track. Amaz-It really was a marathon event for these dogs. Participatbreeds included Cesky Fousek, German Shorthair Pointer, Longhair Weimaraner, and English Pointer. It was a special treat to see such experienced handlers and talented dogs at work. While most of the hunt test disci-



New Friends and Old A special treat for Andy Ogden was getting to meet Mr Jan Blazek, the breeder of his dog, Kája od Tyrše.

plines were familiar to us, the way these disciplines were judged was quite different. For example, in the search portion of the test, each dog received 3 separate scores. Judges were evaluating three different elements of the search: speed (dog must use his mobility to find game efficiently); system (pattern of searching such as a dog who casts from side to side in front of the handler in a systematic manner), and pace (also considered endurance where the dogs maintain the same speed throughout the 20 minute search). We learned a lot because Pavel Dostal spent most of the test walking with us and translating what the judges were saying. Also, during the Memorial weekend, Andy was able to meet with Mr. Jan Blazek (breeder of his female Kaja). They shook hands, took pictures and smiles were bright. Mr. Blazek was so proud to have his pup return to the homeland to compete that I believe he told everyone within earshot at least twice!

After the Memorial test weekend, we visited with several breeders of imported pups, toured old-town Prague and enjoyed a special Medieval dinner with actors in costume. At this point we were also joined by club member Dennis Carlson and his friend Kathy.

Our American entourage was growing! On September 27th, our group spent the morning on a private farm owned by Jaroslav Havlát and participated in a traditional duck hunt! Suffice it to say, this duck hunt was VERY different than anything we had ever seen before, but it was fun and we learned something new. It makes sense how the Czechs train their dogs when you see how they hunt. It's not what you think.

Pavel Horák meanwhile had arranged for several mornings of dog training. The intent



The Czech Hunting Tradition

In addition to the dog show and formal test, our group geot to observe Czech hunting practices, which helped us to appreciate why the Czechs train and test their dogs as they do.

was to allow international participants to practice different test disciplines with their dogs and experience the one's unfamiliar to them. We made several new friends this way and it was probably my favorite part of the whole trip. Our group spent a lot of time with these European handlers in the field learning about their style of hunting and the differences in how they train. From France we met a gentleman named Jacque with his champion male. Jacque had a tough time for a few days as there was no one in our group who spoke French, but we managed to get by with gestures and smiles. From Norway we were introduced to Helge Helmstad and Trude Heimstad with their 2 beautiful and very experienced fousek females. From the Netherlands we met Peter Kluft treasurer for the Netherland Fousek Club and a husband/wife team Theo and Carla Witjes with their dog Stip (pronounced Shhh-tip). Most of these handlers spoke some English. Their dogs had undocked tails and were beautiful to watch in the field. Andy Ogden was also very happy to have this practice time for Kaja. She not only got to

stretch her legs over unfamiliar terrain (mostly sugar beet fields), we watched her learn and improve with exposure to each new discipline. Andy had to remind her not to "chase" hares in the group hunt!!

With training behind us, our attention turned to the World Cup. Jim Crouse, Rem DeJong and Rem's son, Pete, and Monica Redmond arrived just prior to the big event. With our U.S. Club entourage now complete, we were driven to the famous Konopiště Castle (about one hour outside of Prague) where the Club Dog Show and World Cup would be held. Andy Ogden was getting understandably excited and nervous!!! □ Before settling into our hotel rooms, our group had a personalized tour of Konopiště Castle. The last owner of this castle was Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian empire. His assassination in 1914 in Sarajevo triggered the chain of event that ultimately resulted in World War I. Prince Ferdinand was not just a wealthy aristocrat, turns out he was also an avid hunter. During the castle tour, our group was given a separate "brief" behind-the-scenes viewing of Prince Ferdinand's private armory and his massive trophy collection which numbered in the thousands. What a wonder to see so many old and historical guns and hunting equipment! No photos were allowed of course, but it was a sight to behold and I will never forget it.

Finally, the Club Dog Show and World Cup was upon us. Details of the World Cup events will follow in the December GDS Issue. Andy Ogden will have the honor and privilege of detailing his remarkable experience with showing and testing his dog Kaja od Tyrse. Suffice it to say the pair made America very VERY proud!!! Photos will be posted on our Facebook sites and in our web page gallery (https://bohemiangriffon.org) In closing then, let me just add that if anyone from the U.S. has an opportunity to attend the next Cesky Fousek World Cup please do. It is well worth the expense and effort to go. There has never been a time that any of us had ever seen so many Cesky Fousek together in one place at one time. I believe the final count was over 80 individuals entered in the club dog show. It was an impressive gathering!



Field Tests will never be the same

Not after seeing the way our Czech friends do it—complete with fresh grilled sausage and draft Pilsner beer served in real glass mugs.

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Clicker Litter by Karen Pryor

How soon can you begin training puppies? As soon as their eyes and ears are open, according to some breeders, who are using the clicker on whole litters of pups, even before they are weaned. Why would you want to do that? Well, the clicker means good things are coming. The puppy that makes that connection can then learn that its own actions sometimes cause those clicks that lead to treats. And the puppy that makes that discovery has a big start on a happy future.

Here's how it works. As soon as supplemental feeding begins, the litter owner clicks as the pan of food is set down among the puppies. Some people click just once, and some click as each puppy nose actually reaches the food. Police officer Steve White, who breeds German shepherds, begins clicking even earlier, every time the dam goes into the litter box to nurse her babies-surely a very important event for the pups.

After some exposure to the clicker, start taking each puppy away from the litter for a short session on its own. Click, and treat. A dab of pureed baby food meat on the tip of your finger makes a great treat, even for the tiniest breed. Then pick something the puppy happens to do, such as lifting a front paw, and click as the paw goes up. It may take ten or more clicks before the puppy begins lifting the paw on purpose; but then you'll be amazed at how enthusiastic the puppy becomes. "Hey, look! I can make that huge person give me food, just by doing THIS!"

Choose any simple behavior at first: it doesn't need to be something useful. A sit, spin, wave, play bow, back up, or lie down, are all possibilities. You can teach all the puppies the same behavior, or, if you have them identified individually, teach them each something different. Don't try to coax or lure your students into a particular behavior; you want each puppy to discover that its own actions make you click. This teaches the puppy a major life lesson: "I like to find out what people want me to do." That discovery won't happen if the puppy just learns to wait to be shown what to do.

How much time does this take, in your busy life? Two or three clicker lessons, of no more than two to five minutes each, are enough to develop some cute little behavior. No need for a lot of drilling; once a puppy learns what to do for a click, it won't forget.

More importantly, these brief lessons can convert a puppy of five weeks or so from an oblivious blob into an eager, observant learner.

You can capitalize on this awakened state in many ways. For example, when people come up to the litter box, do the puppies rush over and leap on the walls, begging for attention? Probably. So use clicker sense and make a new rule-a rule for puppies and for family and visitors, too: only puppies that are sitting get petted, or lifted out of the pen. It doesn't take long to get the whole litter sitting; and you can click them all at once, for doing that. Now, when supper comes, the puppies will have to sit and be clicked before the dish goes down. Instead of repeatedly and unintentionally reinforcing jumping up, a behavior most pet owners really hate, you are building a bunch of pups with better manners than that, even before they leave home.

"Come when called" is another skill the whole litter can learn with clicks and treats, and a fun one for children to teach. Two or three children can take turns calling a puppy back and forth between them, clicking and treating when the puppy goes to the child that called. You're going to give your buyers a puppy that already has a head start on this important behavior.

How far can you go? Training with absolutely no corrections, just informative clicks and enjoyable treats, you can go a long way, even with a baby. When my last border terrier puppy arrived on the airplane, a long-distance purchase bought sight unseen, she was just nine weeks old. I brought her home, set her down, and gave her a little toy. She picked it up, carried it to me, and dropped it at my feet. Surely this is an accident? I thought. I tossed it. She went and got it, brought it back, and dropped it again. Using clicks and treats, the breeder, as a treat for me, had taught this tiny puppy a nice retrieve!

Breeders with clicker-trained litters usually give their buyers a demonstration of what the puppy has learned, a simple list of instructions or suggestions for using the clicker (several lists are available free on line: search for clicker training sites) and of course a clicker or two. People love taking home a puppy that already knows a trick; what a smart dog! And your early work starts them off with an attentive and cooperative pup that is ready to learn more-a puppy that has a far better chance of fitting in to its new world than a puppy starting from zero.

Melinda Johnson, a long-time breeder of soft-coated wheaten terriers, began clicker training litters several years ago. Like many breeders, Melinda will always take a dog back if it doesn't work out in its new home. Melinda reports that since she started clicking litters, her return rate has dropped to zero; and her file of letters from thrilled and happy owners has grown enormously. "Smartest, most attentive dog I've ever had." "A laugh a minute, how did we get along without her?" These puppies still have a lot to learn, of course. But they start their new lives knowing how to learn, and ready and eager to learn more. Click!



These guys look ready for some training!

Our breeders already do a lot to get pups off to a good start and ready for their new homes. They often do early stimulation exercises, crate training and exposure to swimming, just to name a few. Clicker training may seem like just one more thing to add, but it can be integrated into the puppies' development. It's then a natural for the new owner to continue using the clicker for basic house training and retrieving.

Editor's Note: I received a request for an article warning about the danger of trapping snares. We ran the following article in 2013, and it seemed like a a timely item to reprint as we go afield with our beloved bird dogs.

A Tribute to a Dog and a Warning by Ted Silver

It was December 15th, the last day of pheasant season in Nova Scotia. We set out from the vehicles looking forward to the day's hunt ahead. Peter,I, and Peter's son in law, Jerrid were accompanied by three Drahthaars and one griffon, Badgah of Willow Springs. Gun bearers, Sandie and Barbara were along for the outing. We were primed for a good day. We soon started working both sides of a large ditch that we had all hunted many times before. In fact, Jerrid had been



Author Ted Silver poses with his dog, Badgah of Willow Springs

in the very same spot within week. the Where the ditch emptied into an even larger ditch, Jerrid jumped a group of mallards and dropped one of them. We were busy getting a dog to retrieve the duck across the water where it had fallen when we noticed that Peter's dog, Maggie, seemed to be caught in something on the other side of the ditch. Maggie immediately sat and froze. Soon after, Badge, who was not far from her, also became hung up. His response to the situation was, unfortunately, completely different from Maggie's. He fought violently. Jerrid approached and saw that both dogs were caught in separate snares that had been

set for Coyotes. Once we realized this, the rest of us moved as quickly as we could across the deep ditch to get to the dogs. I carried a large Leatherman tool just for this situation. My friends each had similar devices. As I approached Badge, I felt a sense of urgency but also felt confident that I would have him cut out quickly. I learned soon that wasn't to be. The snare cable had tightened and was deeply embedded into the coat and skin of his neck. With difficulty, I slid the wire cutter onto the snare and squeezed with every bit of strength I had, all to no avail. The aircraft grade cable wouldn't cut with my or any of my friend's cutters. The catch mechanism on the snare wouldn't release (and we shouldn't have expected it to). In desperation, we tried an emergency tracheostomy even though we knew there was no reason for that to be successful either.

Jerrid was able to slide the snare off of Maggie, because she hadn't fought and therefore had not tightened the noose around her neck. The farmer who owned the land came down to where we were. He was a good friend of Peter's. He had no idea that the snares had been set on his property.

I believe the reason Maggie froze in the snare, thereby saving her life, may have been because she had been trained with a choker collar. I did not use a choker much with Badge. He just didn't seem to need it. My next pup will be trained with a choker.

In the future, I plan to carry cutters capable of cutting through the snare cable. Cutting is the only way to get a dog out once the snare has tightened.

I have since learned that coyote snares can be set in Nova Scotia during the bird hunting season and without the permission of the landowner where they are set. They don't need to be flagged or any sort of notice made that they are in an area. That doesn't make sense to me, but that is the way it is. Certain states in the USA permit snares and others do not.

Badge was 7 1/2 years old and in his prime. He knew his job very, very well. It was a joy to watch him work (well most of the time). He wasn't perfect, but then again, neither am I. We knew how to hunt birds together, and we knew how to tolerate each other's less than desirable traits. He was a great friend out of the coverts as well. He was gentle with children and a gentleman with adults and other dogs.

It is always a long drive home to Maine from Nova Scotia. Last December the drive home was much longer.

Addendum by Wayne Ransbottum

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 threat to our hunting seasons. In 2011, two of our PF 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 who 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 and feeling the restraint around the dog's 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 in to 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 snares are evidently a tool of choice for being effective quick killers 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, chick 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

Heavy-Duty Cable Shears, Blue, 7 1/2-Inches 63016

- Heavy-duty, tempered steel blades
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- Unique triangular jaws cleanly cut cable without compression or frayed ends
- Lightweight tool perfect for overhead cutting

https://www.kleintools.com/

Klein Tools



Help Our Club

Do you take photos of your Cesky Fousek? Do you use Facebook or go online to browse for bird dog or hunting related content? Then you can be a real asset to our club by following a few easy practices. Lots of us have some kind of online presence, whether it's using Facebook or email or just surfing websites.

You probably know that the club has a website: www.bohemiangriffon.org. You also know that we also have a couple Facebook pages:

https://www.facebook.com/griffon.fan/

https://www.facebook.com/ceskyfouseknorthamerica/

Here's what you can do to help the club promote our dogs.

If you are a Facebook user, please visit and "Like" our pages.

Don't just like the posts that you see on our sites, SHARE them. That will encourage other folks in your network to visit our page. Most new members and dog buyers are people who already know someone with one of our dogs, so sharing our club's Facebook page with your family and friends is a good way for us to reach more people.

Whenever you post dog photos, be sure to add a little information. Tell people it's a Cesky Fousek. Include our website URL with your comment. Eg. "Here's a pic of my dog, Bruno, on a pheasant hunt. He's a Cesky Fousek. See more about the breed at: https://bohemiangriffon.org." Adding the club URL in your posts can do a lot to generate interest.

Other websites

Many of us frequent gun dog related websites and discussion boards. Here are some examples suggested by Lucas Wendl and Rick Sojda:

Wild Bird Hunters

All Things Grouse

Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever (plus local chapters)

Project Upland

Bird Dogs and Flyfishing

Ruffed Grouse Society

North American Grouse Partnership

Grouse and Woodcock Hunting

You can post comments and photos of your fine dog on many of these sites. Make a point to mention that your dog is a Cesky Fousek, and include a line like "See https://bohemiangriffon.org to learn about the breed.

Doing little things like this once a month or so doesn't cost you a dime, but it can go a long way toward reaching new members who will love our breed.

What's Happening

2018 Election of Officers

We have an election this year for club officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer). Any paid-up members may mail nominations for officers to the Secretary prior to November 1st. The Secretary will publish in the December GDS of an election year, all nominations received. All votes must be to the designated vote counter, prior to December 31. Details on how to cast votes will be in the December GDS. Secretary email address is: rstrathy5427@gmail.com

2019 NATIONAL PHEASANT FEST & QUAIL CLASSIC FEBRUARY 22,23,&24 | SCHAUMBURG CONVENTION CENTER | SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS. Note: the club is not planning to have a booth at Pheasant Fest this year, but members are encouraged to attend and bring their dogs. We can supply club business cards to hand out to interested persons. Specifics will be in a later issue.

Spring Tests (Preliminary dates are subject to change.)

Heartland: Tentative April 12-14 with training day April 11. Actual dates cannot be confirmed until January.

Contact: Dave Read readgriff@gmail.com

Northeast: 2nd or 3rd weekend in May. To be determined Contact is Laurie Connell oquassa5@gmail.com

Rocky Mountain: the tentative test dates are the 29th through the 31st with the exposure day on the 28th.

Contact: Angie McDunn McDunnK9@hotmail.com