



LAND OF LAKES HRC

Retriever News



September/October 1999

Club Newsletter

Vol. 3 No. 7

1999 Calendar of Events

(subject to change)

October 23 - Game Farm Pheasant Hunt

Advance reservations due in September.

November/ December - Club Meeting

To be announced

LLHRC is now available and updated on the web thanks to Chad Peterson. Visit the site at <http://www.pconline.com/~chad/lohrc>

Our schedule of events (such as they are during the hunting season) will be posted on the website, as best as possible.

Hunt Test Results

Congratulations to LLHRC members for passes at these Hunt Tests:

Ed Victory and Cassie received two started passes at WISILL, and Cassie earned her NAHR Started

title at the recent test at Kelley Farms. Ed's puppy Tyke also earned her first NAHR started pass.

Jamie Petersen's young Cubbie has earned her AKC Jr Hunter title, completing the last leg at Kelley Farms 8/28. Cubbie also earned her title by going four for four in the tests they entered.

Jim Bowden's Charlie passed his third AKC Master Hunter test at Kelley Farms on August 28th.

Annual Club Dues for 2000 will be sent out in December, start saving up your \$15 now

Three Club Hunt Tests in 2000!

Next year the LLHRC will once again conduct a back to back Licensed Spring Hunt in June at Kelley Farms. Jim and Lana successfully secured the site for the second weekend of June (6/10-11/00). Mark your calendars now, one great advantage is that we will avoid the competition for hotel space with the Back to the '50s car show we experienced this year.

In addition the LLHRC will seek approval from HRC to conduct a Licensed Hunt Test followed by a HRC Judges Seminar on the weekend after Labor Day (Sept 9/10) next year.

Our hope is that this scheduling will attract entrants from clubs throughout

the region to our Hunt Tests, and make it a positive experience for our local members too.

We learned during our previous two hunt tests that these events require a lot of time and efforts from our members to achieve success. We also found that as a group we do good work and put on a good show. Think about how you might want to help out next year and step forward – the saying is true that many hands make light work. Coordinators for food, banquet facility, motel accommodations and other items were part of the discussion at our September meeting. Give it some thought. An active role is really quite fun.

Training Day Report

Our September 11th Training Day at Elk River Kennels was a fun filled morning of club activity with fifteen handlers, dogs and several observers gathering together. Two tests were setup; a single water retrieve with a diversion, and a land series up to a triple with a blind.

The day started with a bit of excitement as a flock of geese landed in Al's decoy spread, prompting three members with early season stamps to attempt to stalk them using the lone bush in the middle of the field as blocking cover. When the cover ran out, and first day of season shots being what they are, the guns started blazing at the fleeing

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President's Corner

- by Jim Bowden
Ribbons

HR Chunk of Desert Storm, JH, owned by Jim Bowden passed another AKC Master Hunter test at Kelley Farms on August 28th. This was his third leg towards a Master Hunter title.

Puppies

Jack Frahm is the proud owner of eight (8) black lab puppies sired by Jim Bowden's Charlie. They were born on Aug. 30th out of an AKC female who is an excellent grouse hunter. Females \$400 and males \$350. Call Jim Bowden for more details. Call Jack Frahm at 218-254-7194 to reserve a pup.

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Friends of LLHRC

A young club faces many challenges in its efforts to grow and become a viable organization. With the help of dedicated people investing their time, talents and resourcefulness a club can grow with limited economic resources. The Land of Lakes HRC is fortunate to have had people and their businesses willing to help us succeed and grow.

We would like to take a moment and thank these folks by recognizing their contributions by bringing their names to our members' attention.

Al Frieberg's Elk River Kennels. Thanks for the training space!!

Schmelz Countryside VW-Saab. Thanks for painting and rustproofing our equipment.

Copy-Right of Snelling. Thanks for the printing and signage.

Westvaco. Thanks for the paper products and Jim's time!

Lana Gunsell. Thanks for all your contacts that have brought in numerous raffle items.

Herter's Outfitters. Thanks for the good deals on equipment.

Rush River Outfitters. Thanks for the great deals on training aids.

Purina. Thanks for dog food samples and hats to encourage new memberships.

WISILL HRC. Thanks for the Remington 870 that earned over \$800 in our raffle.

And thanks to all members and their business contacts, that this short list has missed, for their part in making LLHRC work as well as it has so far.

It takes a lot of people working together to make a volunteer organization function successfully, all members of LLHRC deserve a hearty "thank you!".

Thanks!

Training Day Report

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geese and one dropped for dinner.

Excitement and exuberance seemed to be the themes of the day. We had more loose dogs than any training day in recent memory. Those flat coats really know how to slip away for a wild romp, and they're great mentors for the impressionable goldens and labs.

The morning ended with one of those "you had to be there to believe it" and it's too bad a video camera wasn't rolling for America's Funniest. It began with a water retrieve using a live clipped wing duck in Al's small island pond; Java sped in for the retrieve; as she got close the young mallard started swimming and around the circle they went. Each time Java would close the gap there was a quick flapping of wings a nice take-off move and a safety margin was gained by the bird. Twice around the track they went with a quack, quack, quack and a retriever intent upon the task at hand. Lana calls for other dogs to help out the tiring Java and soon the calvary arrives. Entering from all sides of the small pond dogs hit the water as the little duck paddles swiftly in the channel around the island of reeds. The duck is swimming as fast as he can and skimming away on the surface with his take-off move as six dogs give chase like greyhounds at St. Croix Meadows. With the pack closing in upon him the duck reaches into his bag of survival tricks and dives, losing his pursuers as he pops to the surface on the opposite side of the island.

It may not have been a classic training exercise but it was a memorable learning experience. Lesson could be viewed as the importance of all the minor details when training, such as slowing down a live clipped duck with a hobble before it leaves the birdboy's hand. A long handled net also might be added to the equipment list :-).

In addition to the extraordinary excitement Training Day went pretty well. The new member handlers and dogs look to be a promising group. Tom completed the triple and blind with nice style. Scott Morneau had 5 month old puppy Abby working nice on a couple of tough singles. Jeff Wilson and his chessy Jack looked they had been working together well. Doug was overly modest in their dogs training. Jeff and his golden puppy are starting off in the right direction. Sheryl and her young golden have got parts of the equation figured out. And I'm certain that my observations are incomplete so I apologize if I

President's Corner

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Equipment Needs

During the Game Fair Treasurer Mark Switzer and Jim Bowden bargained with Herter's for a deal on holding blinds for training days and our licensed hunts. The Club also purchased 3 talkabout 2-way radios for Club events. This will assist in getting necessary shot shells, birds and other equipment to test sites when Site Marshals call in requirements.

Still need a club trailer, shotguns and other misc. equipment which will make it easier to conduct training days, etc.

Anyone knowing of some farm land where we could hold training sessions (land or water) please call Jim at 651-462-1324.

Fall Upland Training Day

Early reservations are being received for our fall upland training day utilizing live pheasants. First come, first served. A pheasant cook-out will follow training day - Bring wife & kids & dogs.

UKC Hunt Tests

Recently I judged a licensed hunt held at Bong

Recreational Area in Wisconsin in the Finished category and made some observations:

1- Judges are introducing more and more short breaking birds both on land and water.

2- "Suction" scent is being used on most blind retrieves (that means dogs must run past old falls on the way to blinds).

3- "Wipe-out" marks are being used to erase memory of first or second bird thrown.

We need to train for more of these scenarios if we are to be successful at the Finished level. I'll be explaining some of these tests at next training day.

Hunting Season

I'll be hunting every weekend (and some week-days) beginning Sept 18 & 19 for the elusive ruffed grouse in some of my favorite spots north of Duluth. More to report on grouse numbers after opening weekend. Remember gun safety while afield!!

Scholarship Fund

Applications are accepted each year for the HRC Scholarship Fund available to sons and daughters of UKC/HRC members in good standing. Check your next magazine for more details.

missed anyone, like Jamie and Cubbie, Norm and Brooke, Mark and Dino, who make this stuff look easy, or Charlie who proved how on any given day even a HR title holder can show how not to do it.

This was our last full club training day for 1999. The hunting season has started (as this newsletter seeks publication) making club gatherings difficult to schedule.

In review our 1999 training days were positive experiences, though like anything some were better than others. Next year we'll start it up again, if you have any ideas for club training days including goals, activities, schedules, or more please speak up and share them. There will be club meeting in December and January when a schedule of events for 2000 will be started. The position of Training Day Coordinator is open and ready for you!

A benefit of LLHRC membership is getting to know other hunting retriever owners and helping each other with training. Look over the membership list, pick up the phone and give another member a call. To give you an idea of what outcome is possible, Chad Peterson broke the ice and several east-metro members gathered on Thursday evenings at a public land/water site in Blaine during the last half of the summer.

Good luck training!

Game Fair '99 in Review

At the September 7th meeting our LLHRC efforts at Game Fair were reviewed. In the discussion we reached consensus on several items including the following:

Game Fair is a great opportunity to reach out to people, introduce the club and get new members. As such we should continue our presence.

In 1999 there was a drop off of traffic in the Dog Club Tent compared to previous years and people had a difficult time finding the booth. Given that this display space is provided free of charge to volunteer organizations by this increasingly popular commercial venture it is a situation that may require creative innovations in the future by dog club exhibitors to make their presence a positive experience for all parties.

LLHRC should find a way to get our name on the main program as an exhibitor or demonstrator. This could help address the traffic issues in the Club Tent.

We need to improve our collateral (printed) materials that we pass out at Game Fair to better communicate what it is that our club and the national HRC is all about.



Land Of Lakes Hunting Retriever Club
Randy Gustafson, Newsletter Editor
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In this issue:
Game Fair '99 Report
Club Pheasant Hunt Info
Updated Member List
And More!

Hunt Pheasants with Joe Loeffler, LLHRC member.

Wanted: Handlers and Dogs wanted for a day of sport Pheasant hunting. I am organizing a number of hunts from October 17 through October 29. I need a handler and dog for each day. Dogs should have some experience, but need NOT be professionals. Hunts are 4 to 6 hours per day at Mission Creek Hunting Preserve, near Hinckley, MN.

Pay: Handlers would receive \$50 for services or I will pay fees for the day of hunting (includes 3 pheasants). Contact: Joe Loeffler: daytime: 651-697-6381; evenings: 651-429-5949 for more information. This is a great opportunity to give you and your dog some additional hunting experience in an upland game setting.

FOR SALE- WANT TO BUY?!

FOR SALE - TriTronics Pro 500 training collar. Brand New. \$300.
Contact Troy Osborn, 612-384-5946

WANTED - Used Snow Goose Decoys & person to hunt geese with in Sckatchewan for 8 days in Oct. Contact Chad Peterson, 651-292-9668

WANTED - 8to12 foot covered trailer for storage and hauling of dog club training and field trial equipment. Contact Jim Bowden, Pres LLHRC.

WANTED - Used Remington 870 12 ga shotguns in serviceable condition could use 3 to 5 for LLHRC Hunt Tests. Up to \$100.

WANTED - Training area. 20 acres plus within an hour of metro area for LLHRC, lease with purchase option potential.

If you have something for sale, for trade, or want to buy, this newsletter offers free space to get it done! Send your items, description and phone number (or way to have buyers contact you) to Randy Gustafson, Editor.

Area Dog Event Calendar

Here's listing of events that our newsletter editor has been made aware of:

UKC/HRC Hunts:

6-10/11-00 LLHRC, Kelley Farms, Stillwater, MN. Hunt Test Sec: Mark Switzer
9-9/10-00 LLHRC, Kelley Farms, Stillwater, MN. Hunt Test Sec: Mark Switzer

AKC hunt tests:

NAHRA hunt tests:

AKC licensed trials:

Other:

Newsletter Items Wanted!

A newsletter is only as good as the contents. Share your hunting experiences! Your reports can be as simple as Grouse flushes and successes and where you were hunting. Or a report from the duck blind. Send in your stories and they'll get published.

To be included in the next issue mail your item to Randy Gustafson, 1775 St. Marys St., Falcon Heights MN 55113, or via email: copyright@ismn.net.

National HRC Membership Is A Good Idea.

The saying goes: A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.