

Great Plains Hunting Retriever Club

HRC – “Conceived By Hunters for Hunters”

Volume 5 Issue 6 June 2017

Editor’s Message – Paul Bishop

We had the “Wrap-up Meeting on Tuesday May 23 to celebrate closure on the 2017 hunt test. It takes a lot of “hands and minds” to bring a hunt test to closure in “good order” and a **HUGE THANK YOU** is in order for all who helped. Members who helped with set-up on Friday and who performed tasks on Saturday and Sunday were “absolutely essential”. The “no show status” of winger operators created problems so the willingness of club members to operate wingers and do “what-ever-else” was needed was “absolutely essential”. The test could not have been completed without the help of the club members. Thanks!!!

Special thanks to Shelton Locker and Apex Retrievers for underwriting the shot gun raffle. Randy Smith sold the winning ticket. The ticket was purchased by an Eaton, Inc. employee.

One hundred twelve dogs were entered in the Saturday tests and 106 were entered in the Sunday tests. We had 40 started entries on both Saturday and Sunday. Entries in the seasoned category were 42 and 36 on Saturday and Sunday respectively. This is the first year that we’ve needed two flights of seasoned. There were 30 finished category entries on both Saturday and Sunday. The pass rate for all categories combined was just over 75 percent. The 2017 test “set a record” for the number of entries and is a 60 percent increase over the entries recorded in 2016.

A few of the noteworthy accomplishments include “HR” titles earned by Colton Eurek and “Duke” and Jake Lindstrom and “Teal”. “Lucy” owned by Tom Phillips and ran by Josh Dirr of

Flatlander Kennels also earned the HR title. We had several other members running seasoned dogs and earning passes – Jason Borg, Pat Baughman, Logan Trampe, Nate Krizek, Mark Morten. The good folks from Apex Retrievers ran several seasoned dogs, some owned by other members of the club or by Dane, Kevin or Rich themselves. Randy Smith and Sonny earned started passes as did started dogs owned or handled by the good folks from Apex. Nine of the forty dogs in the started category were owned or handled by Kevin and Maggie Mansfield. Jim and “Murphy” and Paul and “Millie” earned Finished passes. I’ve probably failed to mention dog-handler teams from the club that put forward a noteworthy performance. If so, let me know and I’ll get it acknowledged in the July newsletter.

One of the items on the agenda of the “Wrap-up Meeting” was evaluation of the hunt test. Several items were discussed (refer to minutes – May 23 Meeting). One of the outcomes was the plan to form sub-committees to address three areas: (winger operators, morning test prep and grounds). Eric, Tracy and Jim have volunteered to address winger operators and Jim is a “committee of one” to check out the availability of additional grounds. Bill Shaffer will recruit members to propose a procedure for morning test preparation. Another chore that needs attention is updating “Wall of Fame” on the headquarters trailer. Dane and Bill will work out a procedure for efficiently getting the necessary information for updating the “Wall of Fame”.

pb

June Training Day Schedule

Host	Date	Time	Concept
Mark Morten	June 10 (Sat.)	8:00 - Noon	
Bishop	June 15 (Thurs.)	7:00 PM - Dusk	"Water Work"
Bishop	June 22 (Thurs.)	7:00 PM - Dusk	"Water Work"
Bishop	June 29 (Thurs.)	7:00 PM - Dusk	"Water Work"



Outdoor Discovery Days

Thursday May 11 and Friday May 12 were the dates of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) "Outdoor Discovery Days". The event was held at Fort Kearny State Recreation Area south and east of Kearney. The event is intended to provide fifth grade students from area schools an opportunity to observe and participate in an array of outdoor activities. As has been the tradition of Great Plains HRC, we provided students with an opportunity to observe retrievers working as would be expected in waterfowl and upland hunting situations. Jim McCurry and Paul Bishop logged time on both Thursday and Friday. Dick Schumacher and Jack Lindstrom helped out on Thursday. Based on feedback from the good folks at NGPC, the demonstrations were ranked as "excellent" by the students and their teachers.



Dick Schumacher and the new pup "Ice" were valuable members of the cast. The school students were very attentive to the work of the pup and the explanations provided by Dick.