

The Gun Dog Supreme

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

<http://www.gundogsupreme.org>

February 2012

Volume 87, Number 1

February 2012



Nobody Move! I've Gotcha Covered!
Barclay of the Midnight Sun pins his bird with style.

Photo by Kate Sojda

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings:

As usual, the February issue has all the scores from the Fall tests. Behind those numbers is the work of many dedicated club members; their hard work and commitment are amazing.

In addition to the test results, check out the article by new member, Sam Cox. He reminds us that the path from pup to gun dog is not a straight-line trajectory. Larry Semmens has joined our editorial crew, and in addition to reporting on the Northwest test results, he has a great article on gun sensitivity. Let me also draw your attention to the photographic contributions of Kate Sojda, who documented the events at the Northwest Test. Thanks everyone, for your contributions.

Rem DeJong

You whoa!

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Printed bi-monthly, the GDS is included with a membership to the WPGCA. Subscriptions are \$40.00/year and due at the start of each year. Subscriptions and requests for back issues should be sent to:

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Glimpses of a Gun Dog Supreme!

by
Sam Cox

Ever since welcoming our first griffon, **Boise Belle of Arrowrock**, I have been on the lookout for glimpses of the hunter she will become. Belle is the first birddog we have allowed in the house, and we've been shocked, puzzled, and yes, frustrated with her housebreaking. We have never had a puppy that just pees whenever she has the urge, even after months of careful crate training. And now, at 6 months of age, we still launch from our chairs when anyone asks, "Where is Belle?" Thankfully, she is much more particular about where she poops and likes to do a thorough search of the yard to find just the right spot. Yes, the glimpse of an in-house birddog everyone brags about is always couched in these words—"be patient."

We remember reading that Griffon pups stay pups even longer than most. Belle is no exception. If it can be found or reached, it can be chewed! She sits at our sides and lies in our laps, wearing her Boise State scarf as we watch Boise State ballgames on television, and she follows us step-for-step wherever we go, so you would think she would be constantly under our scrutiny. But, no, Belle is fast and clever and can have a DVD or cell phone in her mouth without us noticing... until it is too late. Belle loves to play, and nothing is safe from her ever-watchful eyes. Logs of firewood, okra plants, flowers,

rugs, you name it, are fair game in Belle's chewing book. Once I came home to find she had scattered half my hunting gear all over the back yard, which had been hanging in the garage. I worried that this is a glimpse of a "bird-chewing" monster! Yet, the amazing thing is that she never chews up *her* toys and is very gentle with *her* stuffed animals. This gentleness sustains my heart, and I see a glimpse of the soft-mouthed retriever she will become.

Dianne has a 100 pound Bouvier de Flanders named Jean Luc. Belle torments him mercilessly. She is so spontaneous that you never know what she will do next, like allow



Who Me? I Didn't Do Anything!

An angelic little **Boise Belle of Arrowrock** lounges on a comfy pillow while she plots her next mischief. Maybe if I got to hunt more, I wouldn't get into trouble.

Photo by owner Sam Cox

Luc to hold her entire head in his mouth and then flop into a near-coma sleep anywhere the urge hits her. She lays on her back, all four legs spread out to the side. Then she growls and barks and must be dreaming of Luc's head in HER mouth!" I glimpse a dog that will not only get along with humans, but will hold her own among her kind.

Belle can also hold her own in a flatulence contest. And we thought Bouviers were the most notorious! Evidently, Belle can also hold her own in, yes, a beauty contest. Dianne referred to her as my "chick magnet" when I took her for a walk in New Orleans's French Quarter. Every young woman we passed stopped to admire Belle! We have learned that Belle is a born traveler. She has been in 7 states with us and is quite content in the back of our little Prius. Yes, Belle has made a permanent place for herself in our lives, but the question remains, can she hunt? Will she point?

A glimpse of her pointing instinct began when she stalked butterflies, shadows, and plastic bags. Her first unofficial point was of a cat that bounded out of a hollow tree opening day of quail season. Next came a rabbit and finally a dead squirrel—which she did retrieve after it did not move when I kicked the grass. She loves to chase field larks, mourning doves or tweety birds. Ducks? At first, she ignored them. And then their quacking startled her. But, finally, when they flapped those wings, Belle dove in the city pond and swam straight toward them.

Finally, it happened—Belle's first real point. We found a covey near where we first encountered the cat in the tree. The birds came out wild or perhaps she pushed them too hard; I could not tell since the weeds were over six feet tall but the ground cover sparse. But we went around the corner about thirty yards in the direction they flew - when bam! She came down. Every muscle was tense. She had her head pointed intensely toward the ground and was partially crouched. I walked up to her, no movement. I walked in front of her, she held fast. I started kicking the grass and out flew three quail. I shot one and expected Belle to be in hot pursuit. But no Belle. I looked around behind me and she was still frozen solid. I thought perhaps there was one more bird holding. I kicked the grass around her...no more birds and no movement by Belle. Finally, after saying "dead" numerous times, she gave up the point and found the dead bird, which she pointed again. I picked it up and threw it for her while I said "dead". She retrieved it. That was an impressive glimpse of the hunter she will become.

After having had many good birddogs and years of successful hunting, I feel like I am starting over. Belle is teaching me more than I am teaching her. Belle is learning what I want and I am learning to read her behavior. Only birds and mice get a good tail wiggle. Deer, raccoons, turtles and the rest get lots of attention, but no butt-shaking tail wagging.

This last week in South Dakota Belle provided nine solid points on roosters! She worked the cover brilliantly and at an easy walking pace. She never wildly flushed a single bird. The glimpse of the mature griffon that I have seen in Belle tells me that next year's hunting will be even better (especially if I get in a lot of target practice between now and then) because I went 1 for 9 on those rooster points! I may need to take someone with me who can shoot so Belle will connect shooting with retrieving. In fact, it is quite possible that my glimpses of her potential are better than Belle's glimpses of mine!

Creating Then Dealing with Gun Sensitivity

by
Larry Semmens

Unfortunately, it is relatively easy to create gun sensitivity in your dog and it could happen to you. I am no expert, but my experience both divulges some mistakes to avoid that I made with my pup **Aniak of Wolf Fork Canyon**, but also demonstrates how the problem can be overcome.

First, I know Randy and Myra Mann of Wolf Fork Canyon did all the right things with their litter in exposing them to noises as they grew during the few months they had the pups from late August to November, and I want to thank them for all they did.

Somehow, I didn't think to continue with the noises of clanging feed pans and other things as Annie grew from three months to seven months old. She did get reasonably good social and field exposure, although much of those critical first months was the dead of winter which lasts about 6 months here in Alaska and makes exposure more difficult. We did some hunting in March when she was seven months old and I shot a 20 gauge a few times while she ran with my older dog **Glacier Point of Auger Falls**. I noted no reaction to the shots and she enjoyed having feathers in her mouth, so I thought I had nothing to worry about with gun sensitivity. In the summer we frequently ran in the tall grass next to a creek near home, and I shot a .410 once or twice when she was 10 months old. I did note what I considered to be surprise, but not sensitivity. Annie had a lot of good exposure to a couple of strong running and flying quail that were loose around my place.

Then came the big mistake. I decided one evening to shoot a pen raised quail over her, so I enlisted my son and daughter and used a bird launcher. This particular quail didn't fly well and the whole setup seemed to spook the pup. We didn't shoot on the first try, but did shoot in the air from about 30 yards away on the second try, while she was chasing the bird. At the shot she immediately broke off the chase and required quite a bit of coaxing to have any interest in that bird. We backed the gun off to over 50 yards and shot again with similar results. So we quit – perhaps the only smart thing I did that evening. I was feeling pretty sick over the whole debacle, worried that I had ruined my pup. I knew about the dangers of using pen raised birds and I should have skipped this in favor of wild birds. In hindsight, I can see what happened. First, I generated some anxiety in the pup with the new bird launcher. When she was anxious, I then fired the gun, thus associating gunfire with the commotion of that strange contraption. Having established the association by firing nearby, I then made things worse by firing the gun a second time. Even though farther away, I was reinforcing the connection that I had accidentally generated.

This was about three weeks from the August 10th bird season, and I had already booked an air charter for 5 guys to hunt ptarmigan on the opener. So I got to work researching ways to deal with gun sensitivity. I did an internet search on Gun Shy Dog Training Tips and found a lot of information. I also talked with experienced club members.

I began with a cap pistol from 10 yards during feeding and got a bad reaction. She ran to the doghouse and had to be coaxed out to eat. So I had to try something less

noisy. I found two 2.5 inch wide slats of thin plywood about two feet long and slapped them together. This could make a relatively soft or quite loud sound between the cap pistol and a .22 caliber rifle. At every feeding for several days I slapped these boards together softly at first then a little louder. After she found out this was no big deal, I heeled her around the yard on a leash while slapping the boards, varying the sound from soft to medium loud. At first she reacted but continued to heel with lots of encouragement from me. After a few days she could take medium to loud reports with no reaction. I then reintroduced the cap pistol at feeding time. This time it went better, so I continued to shoot the cap pistol at feeding times and when she was running loose having a good time. She was soon ignoring this, so I moved up to a .22 rifle fired into the ground from about 50 yards while she was running with the older dog. There was a small reaction, so I backed up to the boards for a couple more days before going back to the 22 at a distance. At the end of the three weeks she had no reaction to the .22 so I hoped we were done.

The most important thing I learned from this experience was to start softly, increase gradually, and not cut corners. When you do go too far, too fast, you need to back way up and start over. The cap pistol was too loud, and using it first could actually have made things worse in a dog that was now gun sensitive. Commercial products with recorded shooting sounds begin with sounds that are barely audible. By using the slapping boards trick, I could control loudness; Aniak could also see where the noise was coming from, and that made it less scary.

My next mistake was hunting with a group rather than by myself. On the first morning of the ptarmigan hunt, my buddies got into birds out of sight of us a couple hundred yards away. There were probably a half dozen shots in quick succession. Annie reacted by running to my heels and quivering in fear. She was experiencing a lot of new stuff: flying in a small noisy plane; camping and other dogs; hunting in thick knee-high cover, and hearing lots of shooting without seeing the birds. She ended up following on my heels the rest of the morning. I realized I was pushing her too fast and I was again feeling sick about how this was going.

In the evening I took her by myself and allowed her to work at her own very slow pace in fairly open cover. We found a couple birds and shot one. She was excited about the bird and was able to hunt away from me a little better. The next day with my two boys along she didn't want to leave my heels again at first. As the day went by, she did get out in front of us some and she enjoyed getting a couple birds in her mouth. The hunt was for three days and on the last morning we hunted alone again. She was hunting ahead of me finding and pointing birds. She was spooked by flushing birds and I didn't shoot at most of them, even the pointed ones. I always let her play with the shot birds as long as she wanted to and she did get to chase and catch a couple winged birds. This seemed to rev her up and got her hunting more enthusiastically. She was showing signs of coming out of the problem and I hoped that her prey drive would overcome her fears.

We hunted every day for a couple weeks, sometimes only for an hour, sometimes without shooting at all and never shooting more than a couple times. We had a field that contained many snipe that she could point and which I encouraged her to chase. I did this by chasing the birds myself rather than shooting every time especially when there was not a point. When I did shoot I made sure it wasn't directly over her. After a

shot I didn't react, even if she did, but just kept walking. This daily wild bird contact eventually cured her gun sensitivity. We also went on a really good two day duck hunt where there was lots of shooting and many opportunities to find and retrieve ducks.

Now that she was comfortable with shooting in a hunting situation, I did take her to the gun range and got her out of the truck at intervals starting almost a half mile from the shooting. She was not reacting at a couple hundred yards and she got lots of attention from people and other dogs so she thought the range was a good place despite the shooting. It's important to note that Aniak was not left alone; she was getting lots of attention and having fun, so any conditioning was between gunfire and fun. The second weekend I parked a couple hundred yards away and walked her around, eventually ending up with the people and dogs about 50 yards behind the trap shooters. By the Northwest Chapter Fall test a week later she was pretty much over the problem. We kept hunting regularly near home and about six weeks later, hunting in Idaho, she was ranging out nicely, pointing and retrieving unbelievably well. I felt very relieved and a bit lucky that my mistakes didn't cause permanent gun-shyness.

Obviously, the best way to deal with gun sensitivity is to avoid it completely by exposing the pup to noises and different situations from the time she comes home. If I ever have the opportunity to raise another young pup I will be far more attuned to the pup's nature. My older dog is bold and will take whatever comes along without a blink. Aniak is very different. I wouldn't call her soft, but she is timid about a lot of things. I should have paid attention to this and kept exposing her to noises as she grew. If I



Guns are Great Now!

With careful step-by-step work, **Aniak of Wolf Fork Canyon** is on her way to becoming a fine hunter.

Photo by the Larry Semmens

would have introduced the slapping boards and cap pistol when she was three months old and kept purposefully exposing her to other noisy situations working up to firing a gun from a distance in the presence of birds, I think this gun sensitivity problem would have been avoided. I am also going to avoid a big group of hunters early on. There is much to learn and every dog is different, but a carefully planned, incremental, step by step approach is the safe way to introduce a dog to the gun.

Heartland Fall 2011 Test

by
Rem DeJong



From the Test to the Hunt

Test scores are great, but the real proof is in the hunt. Owner Kurt Eickhof holds up a limit of South Dakota roosters pointed and retrieved by IHDT Prize I winner **Friederich of Dutchman's Hollow**.

Photo by Rem DeJong

The Heartland Fall Test was a pretty laid back and relaxed affair. (Unless, of course it was you running your dog; in which case your finger nails might have gotten a tad stubby.) Hot weather and thick cover are often the bane of the Fall test here in central Wis-

consin, but with only nine entries, we could test early and make use of the best cover.

On Friday, senior judge Jim Seibel was assisted by Greg Hurtig and Jim Crouse with Andy Yeast as apprentice. First up was **Francesca of Dutchman's Hollow**, running her Intermediate Hunting Dog Test (IHDT) and handled by owner, Dave Finley. Francesca is a sleek, smooth-coated and energetic female. Her performance was a mixed-bag but overall fine. On the initial search, she acted a bit clingy and dependent, but other parts of her test were impressive. The pheasant track was remarkable. Littermate **Fowler of Dutchman's Hollow** had been given first crack at this track, but while over-running the track, he picked up the scent of Francesca who was just coming out of her heat cycle. With breeding on the brain, getting this adolescent male to focus on bird tracking was now a lost cause. So ten minutes after the bird had been released, the judges let Francesca give that track a try. It was a very long track; the occasional tinkle of her bell from deep in the cover confirmed that she was still hard at work. At last she emerged a good 300 yards away with the pheasant firmly in her grasp. She cruised right up to Dave and delivered the bird smartly to hand.

Having the luxury of running only two dogs, allowed the judges to give Francesca plenty of opportunity for pointing. The initial attempts were not successful, but after the water portion of the test, the judges gave her one more try and this time the point was solid as could be. During the water work, Francesca made a fine track and another retrieve directly to hand. The drag track resulted in a great retrieve to hand. So other than her searching, Francesca had a great performance and garnered a Prize III.

Fowler had been all primed for his Natural ability test last April, but owner Steve Smith had to postpone it due to an untimely Dakota blizzard. Fowler started things off with a great search. When he caught the scent of a pheasant, he whipped around and locked up just as pretty as you please. Tracking proved to be a bit of a problem. On his first attempt, he was distracted by Francesca; on the second attempt he refused to track and ran up to gallery. The judges were able to give Fowler another crack at it later in the day. No longer distracted, he tracked the bird down, and made a rock-solid point. He then caught bird and paraded around and refused to bring it in. Overall he earned a score of 25, but because of his age, could not prize. It's clear that Fowler has plenty of ability and it will be interesting to see how he performs in his IHDT with some training and maturation.

Saturday was the primary test day with six dogs running in two groups. Jim Seibel presided as a senior judge with Greg Hurtig as judge and Andy Yeast as apprentice. Jon Coil served as photographer. Jim Gill ran his female fousek, **Bea z Lubiechowa**, in NAT. Two male **Dutchman's Hollow** littermates ran IHDT: Kurt Eickhof ran **Friederich** and Mike Chlapaty ran **FlapJack Frankie**. As a thirteen month-old female, Bea performed very well. Other than a lone "3" in cooperation, she had all "4s" for a score of 27 and a Prize I. Flapjack Frankie (known as "Jack") turned in a fine performance, earning a Prize III. Jack's duck work was something special. He not only found the duck that he was sent to track, but he also located a duck left over from a recent NAVHDA event. Cooperation and obedience are his main issues, but as Mike gains experience in handling and Jack matures, those northern Michigan grouse and woodcock are in for some big trouble come hunting season! Kurt Eickhoff has to be very proud of Friederich. "Friedie" did a great all around job and earned a Prize I with a score of 169. I had the pleasure of hunting with Kurt and Friedie on a mid-December

South Dakota pheasant hunt, and the dog's performance there on very wild late-season ringnecks confirmed his test performance. He's one fine, hard-hunting griffon.

Group B was under the leadership of John Pitlo as senior judge with Jim Crouse assisting and Dave Finley serving as apprentice judge. I toted the camera. We observed Theresa Maule run **Axel of Wolf Fork Canyon** in a Natural Ability Test while two **Dakota Prairie** littermates ran their IHDT. Bob Rock ran **Betsy** and Steve Rossow ran **Brutus**. This was Theresa's first experience running a dog in a test, and she did a fine job as a handler. Axel was a bit tentative in his search but after chasing a bird, his interest picked up and the search improved.

Betsy of Dakota Prairie was doing a retest at IHDT. Her search tended to be close, and pointing the pen-raised birds was a problem. She caught the first one and required several commands to retrieve. As luck would have it, we encountered a covey of quail in a thick brushy area and she made a good point. Later, she made a fine track of a pheasant and made a long retrieve to hand. The duck track was an exercise in futility. For whatever reason, Betsy just did not want to do it. She dawdled, she peed, she pooped, she drank water, she ate weeds, but she would not retrieve. It was one of those experiences that make handlers old before their time. The deep water retrieve was done very well, but the blind retrieve was tentative.

Littermate **Brutus** was unaccustomed to the thick, choking Wisconsin cover compared to his home South Dakota turf. He made a fine point, but was stymied by the pheasant track. The drag track of a pheasant went off without a hitch, but the track of a duck was a bust, no doubt due to the fact that Brutus has just not had experience with ducks. Senior judge, John Pitlo, took time for some quick exposure by throwing a duck for Brutus several times. That helped get him fired up for the water work. His deep-water retrieve of the duck was eager. The blind retrieve of the duck required sending him out a couple times, but he did okay. This was one of those cases that underscore how important it is to give a dog exposure to all facets of the test, but especially the water work with ducks.

Jim Gill ran his second dog, **Princ z Hlozku** on Sunday morning. Jim Seibel served as senior judge with Jim Crouse and Greg Hurtig assisting and Andy Yeast and Dave Finley apprenticing. Princ ran in Natural Ability. He appeared to be a happy dog but a bit people-shy and was a challenge to examine for coat and conformation. A methodical worker, he performed well in all key areas and earned a Prize III. Princ showed good potential and we're looking forward to seeing how he does at the intermediate level after getting a hunting season under his belt.

Sometimes there is poetic justice. Consider the near drowning of a crate of pheasants by one Jim Crouse, known for his merciless harassment of hapless bird-boys and apprentice judges. Instructed to drop off a crate of ducks in the puppy pond, Crouse instead enlisted Bob Kasworm's son John to help him lug a crate of pheasants to the water instead. Naturally, the warm, caring men and women of the Heartland Chapter expressed their sympathy by making Crouse walk to the podium at the Saturday banquet, where he received a rubber duck squeaky toy while the audience hooted and cheered. Other than that little mishap, things went off very well, thanks to the dedicated work of Heartland Chapter officers and volunteers who work both at the test and throughout the year to organize the event, secure our test grounds, line up accommodations, and arrange meals.

Northwest Chapter Fall Test 2011

by
Larry Semmens

The Northwest Chapter Fall Test was held at the Silver Springs, Washington test site owned by Larry Mason who for so many years has been our gracious host. Many dogs and handlers arrived on Friday and were treated to the hospitality of Warren and Helen Webster, who also greeted us Saturday and Sunday morning with excellent breakfasts of pancakes, bacon and eggs along with a yummy French toast casserole from Claire Niles. It was a great way to start each day! Lunches were also wonderful, courtesy of Zeb Breuckman and Jenny Lachwicz.

Saturday's weather was a bit wet but not intolerable; however, it did make writing on paper scorecards challenging. Those from drier climes found it dang near impossible. We were pleased to have Steve Grieser as senior judge, Dennis Carlson and Rick Sojda (really an apprentice but filling in due to a shortage) as judges; Larry Semmens and Victor Woodward as apprentices; and, Zeb Breuckman helping out with birds. Kate Sojda did a super job taking pictures.

All of the Natural Ability dogs tested were from the A litter of **Wolf Fork Canyon**, whelped August 29, 2009 by Randy and Myra Mann of Dayton, WA. The sire was **Barton de Los Altos** by artificial insemination from frozen semen collected years ago. A review of the data shows that Barton is one of the most prolific and prepotent sires the club has ever had. Of his 47 pups that were tested in Natural Ability prior to this litter, all but 3 prized! This Wolf Fork Canyon litter continues the tradition, so kudos to the breeding committee for thinking ahead to the day when Barton could be used again, long after his death, to produce outstanding dogs. All of the pups showed great game drive and were friendly, eager dogs. They are the typical griffon, and just what we are looking for. One dog was judged gun sensitive, and another did not point the pen raised birds. Each of the others was awarded a Prize I.

Barclay of the Midnight Sun, handled by Hy Adelman, was tested in Intermediate as an older hunting dog on Sunday. Barclay is a big strong male with excellent drive and tracking ability and earned a nice prize II. Hy exhibited good cooperation with the judges as they directed him to the thickest cover on the grounds just to make sure he was willing to follow his dog.

One unusual thing happened when my dog, **Aniak of Wolf Fork Canyon**, flushed a chukar that made the mistake of flying directly at me. I reached out instinctively and snatched the bird from the air to the surprise of Aniak and everyone else. Our photographer, Kate, was right on the ball and captured it all in a sequence of several fast action shots which have been made into a nifty computer desktop. I am working on perfecting this snatching maneuver and actually caught a grouse on a recent hunt in Idaho. I am not certain of this, but on the last day of that hunt I think I overheard Aniak telling someone that "given the sorry shooting percentage my boss exhibited on chukars, we may do better leaving the gun at home; at least he catches them if they fly right at him." A wonderful time was had by all at the test. Great dogs and great friends, it just doesn't get any better.



**1.
The Flush!**

**2.
The Snatch!**



**3.
My Boss Is the BEST!**

Photography by Kate Sojda.

DOGS EVALUATED IN THE FALL 2011 TESTS*NATURAL ABILITY TEST*

++FOWLER OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, 17 mos., whelped 4/18/2010. Conformation; 4, 25"H X 25" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, lacks density, sparse furnishings, belly lacks density. Temperament; easy to handle, independent. Owned by Steve Smith. Bred by John & Vivian Pitlo, Ped., 387, Aug., 2011 GDS.

PRINC Z HLOZKU, M, 13 mos., whelped 7/30/2010. Conformation; 4, 25"H X 25" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, lacks density, medium furnishings, medium belly coverage. Temperament; difficult to examine, happy, people sensitive at times, methodical. Owned by Jim & Barb Gill. Bred by Jaroslav Havlat, Ped., 389, Aug., 2011 GDS.

BEA Z LUBIECHOWA, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/28/2010. Conformation; 4, 22" H X 21.5" L. Coat 4; harsh, dense, sparse furnishings, flat lying, good belly coverage. Temperament; good game drive, somewhat tentative when approached and handled by the judges. Owned by Jim & Barb Gill. Bred by Veronika Dostalova, Ped., 390, Aug., 2011 GDS.

ACE OF WOLF FORK CANYON, M, 13 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 4, 24"H X 24" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, slight curl, medium furnishings, medium dense, open on ears. Temperament; easy to examine, friendly. Owned by Victor Woodward. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

ANGUS JAEGER OF WOLF FORK CANYON, M, 13 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 3, 24.5"H X 24" L, extra upper left P1. Coat 3; medium harsh, medium curl, medium dense, good belly coverage. Temperament; eager, friendly. Owned by Harry Niles. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

ANICKA OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F, 13 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 4, 23"H X 23" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, medium dense, medium furnishings, slight curl. Temperament; easy to examine, friendly, eager. Owned by Rusty Redfield. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

ANIAK OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F, 13 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 4, 24"H X 25" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, medium dense, medium furnishings, slight curl, good belly coverage. Temperament; easy to examine, friendly, eager for game. Owned by Larry Semmens. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

AXEL OF WOLF FORK CANYON, M, 12 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 3, 26"H X 26" L, undershot. Coat 2; lacks density and harshness, slight curl, needs more belly coverage. Temperament; easy to handle, calm, methodical in field. Owned by Theresa Maule. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

AEROBIX OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F, 13 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 4, 23"H X 23" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, dense, medium furnishings, slight curl, not flat lying. Temperament; easy to examine, friendly, eager. Owned by Randal Hulme. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

AUGUST NITE OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F, 13 mos., whelped 8/29/2010. Conformation; 4, 24"H X 24" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, medium dense, medium furnishings, slight curl, open on ears. Temperament; easy to examine, friendly, * gun sensitive. Owned by Randy Mann. Bred by Randy Mann, Ped., 391, Aug., 2011 GDS.

(continued next page)



NATURAL ABILITY TEST, FALL 2011**Key to tests**

WI = Wisconsin CA = California
 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	TB	A W	C	TP	C	CO	CT	T
GROUP 387 (AUG., 2011 GDS)													
++FOWLER OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, WI	17	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	25	*	4	3	OK
GROUP 389 (AUG., 2011 GDS)													
PRINC Z HLOZKU, M, WI	13	3	3	4	4	2	4	4	24	III	4	3	OK
GROUP 390 (AUG., 2011 GDS)													
BEA Z LUBIECHOWA, F, WI	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	27	I	4	4	OK
GROUP 391 (AUG., 2011 GDS)													
ACE OF WOLF FORK CANYON, M WA	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	4	3	OK
ANGUS JAEGER OF WOLF FORK CANYON, M WA	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	3	3	OK
ANICKA OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F WA	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	4	3	OK
ANIAK OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F WA	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	27	I	4	3	OK
AXEL OF WOLF FORK CANYON, M WI	12	4	2	4	4	3	3	3	23	III	3	2	OK
AEROBIX OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F WA	13	4	4	3	1	4	4	3	23		4	3	OK
AUGUST NITE OF WOLF FORK CANYON, F WA	13	4	4	2	4	4	2	2	22		4	3	*

DOGS EVALUATED IN THE FALL 2011 TESTS (continued)**INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST**

++**BRUTUS OF DAKOTA PRAIRIE**, M, 28 mos., whelped 4/31/2009. Conformation; 3, 25"H X 25" L, missing both P1's. Coat 4; harsh, dense, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament; easy to examine, except for teeth. Owned by Steve Rossow. Bred by Steve Rossow, Ped., 378, Aug., 2010 GDS.

++**BETSY OF DAKOTA PRAIRIE**, F, 28 mos., whelped 4/31/2009. Conformation; 3, 24"H X 25" L, excessive cowhock. Coat 3; medium harsh, dense, short, flat lying, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament; easy to examine, calm, can be independent at times. Owned by Bob Rock. Bred by Steve Rossow, Ped., 378, Aug., 2010 GDS.

++**BARCLAY OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN**, M, 27 mos., whelped 6/6/2009. Conformation; 2, 27.5"H X 27" L, cross bite, yellow eyes. Coat 4; harsh, dense, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament; stable, eager, friendly. Owned by Hy Adelman. Bred by Brad Meyen, Ped., 381, Aug., 2010 GDS.

FRIEDERICH OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, 17 mos., whelped 4/18/2010. Conformation; 4, 25"H X 25.5" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament; easy to examine, good game drive, eager. Owned by Kurt Eickhof. Bred by John & Vivian Pitlo, Ped., 387, Aug., 2011 GDS.

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST, FALL 2011**WATER**

TD = Track of Duck (5)
 RD = Retrieve of duck (3)
 BR = Blind Retrieve (4)

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

Key to tests (index number) * = Optional test ++ = Over age, Older Hunting Dog

	TD	RD	BR	S	P	RB	TB	*TR	*RF	N	AW	C	O	TP	PR	CO	CT	T
<u>GROUP 378 (Aug., 2010 GDS)</u>																		
++BRUTUS OF DAKOTA PRAIRIE																		
M, 28 mos., (WI)		0	3	2	4	4	3	1		2	3	2	2	101		3	4	ok
++BETSY OF DAKOTA PRAIRIE																		
F, 28 mos., (WI)		0	4	2	2	4	1	4		3	1	2	2	95		3	3	ok
<u>GROUP 381 (Aug., 2010 GDS)</u>																		
++BARCLAY OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN																		
M, 27 mos., (WA)		4	4	4	4	4	2	4		4	4	3	3	160	II	2	4	ok
<u>GROUP 387 (Aug., 2011 GDS)</u>																		
FRIEDERICH OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW																		
M, 17 mos., (WI)		4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4	4	4	3	169	I	4	3	ok
FRANCESCA OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW																		
F, 17 mos., (WI)		4	4	2	2	4	4	4		4	3	4	4	150	III	4	3	ok
FLAPJACK FRANKIE OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW																		
M, 17 mos., (WI)		3	3	2	4	4	4	4		4	3	2	2	140	III	4	3	ok

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST (Continued)

FRANCESCA OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, F, 17 mos., whelped 4/18/2010. Conformation; 4, 24"H X 25" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, dense, sparse furnishings, medium belly coverage. Temperament; easy to examine, good game drive. Owned by Dave Finley. Bred by John & Vivian Pitlo, Ped., 387, Aug., 2011 GDS.

FLAPJACK FRANKIE OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, M, 17 mos., whelped 4/18/2010. Conformation; 4, 25"H X 25" L. Coat 3; medium harsh, medium dense, slight curl on back, sparse furnishings. Temperament; easy to examine, good game drive, friendly. Owned by Michael Chlapaty. Bred by John & Vivian Pitlo, Ped., 387, Aug., 2011 GDS.

PennHip Report for 2011

by
John Pitlo

At the 2006 WPGCA seminar and meeting in Idaho, the BOD voted to change the hip evaluation from OFA to PennHip. The reasons for this move were numerous and well covered by an article in the GDS by Dr. Corey Cherstrom (June 2006, GDS). For more information go to: www.pennhip.org. The reporting below will be much the same, except a DI (Distraction Index) value for each hip will be reported. A low DI indicates tight hips with a low probability of developing hip dysplasia, conversely, a higher DI value indicates loose hips and a higher probability of developing hip dysplasia. PennHip reports how the tested dog compares to other dogs of the same breed that have been evaluated. A dog with a 90% rating has excellent hips, a dog with a 10% rating has a higher probability of developing hip dysplasia.

NOTE—owners of dogs less than 2 yrs old— you must complete a PennHip evaluation for your pup in order to be eligible for ANY refund as outlined in the Breeders Agreement.

FRIEDERICH OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Blue Mountains Brew: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.28; Right Hip DI = 0.25. Ranking = 90%. Owned by Kurt Eickhof (M).

FOSS-WELL BROWNIE OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Blue Mountains Brew: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.35; Right Hip DI = N/A. Ranking = 70%. Owned by Tom Coon (M).

FRANCESCA OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Blue Mountains Brew: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.32; Right Hip DI = 0.32. Ranking = 80%. Owned by David Finley (F).

FEANIX OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Blue Mountains Brew: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.30; Right Hip DI = 0.23. Ranking = 80%. Owned by Stan Morse (F).

FLAPJACK FRANKIE OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Blue Mountains Brew: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.30; Right Hip DI = 0.22. Ranking = 80%. Owned by Mike Chlapaty (M).

FOWLER OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Blue Mountains Brew: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.22; Right Hip DI = 0.19. Ranking = +90%. Owned by Steve Smith (M).

ANICKA OF WOLF FORK CANYON: Sire; Barton De Los Altos: Dam; Akay of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.54; Right Hip DI = 0.56. Ranking = 20%. Owned by Charles Redfield (F).

AUGUST NITE OF WOLF FORK CANYON: Sire; Barton De Los Altos: Dam; Akay of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.35; Right Hip DI = 0.43. Ranking = 40%. Owned by Randall Mann (F).

ADDY OF WOLF FORK CANYON: Sire; Barton De Los Altos: Dam; Akay of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.38; Right Hip DI = N/A. Ranking = 50%. Owned by Glenn Lehrer (F).

ANGUS JAEGER OF WOLF FORK CANYON: Sire; Barton De Los Altos: Dam; Akay of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.72; Right Hip DI = 0.56. Ranking = 10%. Owned by Harry Niles (M).

BENNY OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN: Sire; Aran Z Novoveskeho Lesa: Dam; Brigid of Willow Springs. Left Hip DI = 0.38; Right Hip DI = 0.29. Ranking = 60%. Owned by Zeb Breuckman (M).

BOOMER OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN: Sire; Aran Z Novoveskeho Lesa: Dam; Brigid of Willow Springs. Left Hip DI = 0.24; Right Hip DI = 0.19. Ranking = +90%. Owned by Kathleen Meyen (M).

AMAZING GRACE OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Andrew Phillip of Sourdough Trail: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.28; Right Hip DI = 0.33. Ranking = 80%. Owned by Tom Coombe (F).

ADDIE OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Andrew Phillip of Sourdough Trail: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.27; Right Hip DI = 0.29. Ranking = 90%. Owned by David Matsuoka (F).

ALEXIS OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Andrew Phillip of Sourdough Trail: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.31; Right Hip DI = 0.34. Ranking = 70%. Owned by Bob Matsuoka (F).

ANNEBELLE OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Andrew Phillip of Sourdough Trail: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.41; Right Hip DI = 0.38. Ranking = 50%. Owned by Robert Bullock (F).

BRISA OF CATTAIL STORM: Sire; Aesir of Dakota Prairie, Dam; Britta of Willow Springs. Left Hip DI = 0.36; Right Hip DI = 0.33. Ranking = 60%. Owned by Peter Meyer (F).

BISMARCK OF CATTAIL STORM: Sire; Aesir of Dakota Prairie, Dam; Britta of Willow Springs. Left Hip DI = 0.35; Right Hip DI = 0.34. Ranking = 70%. Owned by Richard Valent (M).

BLAZE OF CATTAIL STORM: Sire; Aesir of Dakota Prairie, Dam; Britta of Willow Springs. Left Hip DI = 0.61; Right Hip DI = 0.57. Ranking = 10%. Owned by Tony Meyers (F).

ANNIE'S SHRED DOG OF COYOTE HILLS: Sire; Alan Z Vcelinskeho Lesa, Dam; Bella of Indian Creek. Left Hip DI = 0.35; Right Hip DI = 0.45. Ranking = 40%. Owned by Annie Garske (M).

ABACO'S NOTHERN STAR OF DAKOTA PRAIRIE: Sire; Hasan Z Lisova, Dam; Brooke of Bogan's Point. Left Hip DI = 0.28; Right Hip DI = 0.40. Ranking = 50%. Owned by Jane McKenna (F).

BREE OF GLACIER RIDGE: Sire; Baron od Kostilku, Dam; Bella's Amy of Fitzgerald's Prairie. Left Hip DI = 0.44; Right Hip DI = 0.44. Ranking = 40%. Owned by John McDunn (F).

PUPPIES



Wolf Fork Canyon pup bred by Randy and Myra Mann of Dayton, WA

Photo by Randy Mann

A reminder from the Breeding Committee

It is that time of year when the breeding committee determines how many females to breed based on the demand. Last year we had a few members change their mind after we had made commitments on how many females to breed. One of the females did not take and so we did not have extra pups to place. We are asking that ALL people who have indicated that they want a pup this year RE-CONFIRM that they want a pup this year. Also anyone who has not notified us that they want a pup, this a great time to do so. Your help is very much appreciated.

Please send an email to jimseibel@hotmail.com to either re-confirm or put your name in for a pup.

Heartland Chapter

Spring Test

Mazomanie, WI

April 20-22, 2012

Rocky Mt. ChapterJudges Seminar and Spring
Test

March 30-April 1, 2012

(see regional chapter pages on
www.wpgca.org for details)**National Pheasant Fest &
Quail Classic**

Kansas City MO.

February 17, 18 & 19

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2012 Judges Seminar Announcement

The judges seminar for 2012 will be held in Jerome, ID on March 30 in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Chapter Spring Test.

The organizers of the seminar believe that we have become pretty good at judging dogs in the field consistently. Because we are all hunters, we can relate to the requirements well. However, none of us is a conformation judge. The understanding of what makes a griffon structurally sound is critical to selecting breeding stock. It is fair to say that many hunters feel that "dog shows" have contributed to the decline of the natural ability of sporting dogs with regard to hunting. That may be true, but it does not change how important knowing how to evaluate conformation is to the quality of our dogs.

This year, we are privileged to have Dr. Claudia Orlandi present our seminar. Dr. Orlandi has been very instrumental in developing training programs for judges and breeders on the subjects of the ABCs of Breeding and the relationship of Anatomy and Movement. She will present on both subjects and give us lots of "hands on" experience using our own dogs. The seminar builds on last year's seminar in Baraboo, WI. Not all judges attended and few of us feel comfortable judging conformation. It is critical that all judges attend. Please make every effort to be there. Dr. Orlandi is known worldwide for her teaching programs and will present us with a "once in a lifetime" opportunity to learn all we can on the subject. Dr. Orlandi's book, *Practical Canine Anatomy & Movement*, will be available at the seminar. All judges and apprentice judges will receive a copy.—Jim Seibel, Breeding Committee



Northwest Chapter Fall Test Photos

Above: **AEROBIX OF WOLF FORK CANYON** demonstrates affinity for water for owner Randal Hulme.

Below: **ANGUS JAEGER OF WOLF FORK CANYON** retrieves a pheasant to owner Harry Niles.

Photography by Kate Sojda

