

The Gun Dog Supreme

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

<http://www.gundogsupreme.org>

February 2014

Volume 89, Number 1

February 2014



Copyright © 2013 Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America Education and Research Foundation. No part may be reproduced in any form without written permission from the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America Education and Research Foundation.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings:

Feeling like winter will never end? It's a good time to hunker down and check out the latest issue of the GDS. We've got all the Fall Test results from the Heartland and Northeast Chapters. Fall test participation is generally lighter than spring, but we had no Northwest Chapter test last fall, and no WPGCA pups testing in the Northeast event. Spring 2014 tests are just around the corner and we anticipate more dogs and hopefully good test conditions.

The annual Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to coincide with the Rocky Mountain Spring Test on March 28, 2014. In preparation for that event, I've provided an assessment of our current situation as a club and laid out some possible options for the future of the WPGCA. It's just my personal observation; I suspect there are other perspectives, but my hope is that by discussing these issues, we can find the way to a strong future.

Rem DeJong

On the Cover:

Perfect Score

Dulcie of Sandhill tops off her NAT pheasant track at the Heartland Test with a retrieve. Owners Jim & Tami Edgar.

(Photo by Tracy Dilly)

For information requests or to join the WPGCA please email Robin at:

rstrathy@q.com

EDITORS

Rem DeJong
John Pitlo

SUBSCR./BACK ISSUES

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:

Judy Coil
49625 Waldo Rd NE
Kelliher MN 56650
Ph (218) 647-8451
jcoil@paulbunyan.net

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Send articles or proposals 1 month prior to the issues printing to:

Rem DeJong
809 West Kaye Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855

Ph: (906) 228-6475 (EST)
e-mail: crdejong@charter.net

Word document via email preferred.

PHOTO SUBMISSION

All photos should be sent to:

Rem DeJong
809 West Kaye Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855
Ph: 906-228-6475(EST)

Email: crdejong@charter.net for photo submission instructions. Include the name of the dog and owner, and who took the photo. Digital photos are required; use large file size settings. If scanned use 300dpi (grayscale). You can email them or mail on a disk/CD.

WEBSITES

E&R Foundation:
<http://huntersgriffon.org/>

Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club:
www.wpgca.org

Find Us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/griffon.fan

OFFICERS

Gary Pool-President
John Pitlo-Vice President
Judy Coil- Secretary
Andy Rupp- Treasurer

DIRECTORS at LARGE

Ken Hurtig
Ted Silver
Rick Molt
Jim Seibel

A Note from our President . . .

The following article by Rem DeJong is well researched and thought provoking. It is asking the same question that so many of our members have been asking, 'What is the future direction of the WPGCA'. In Rem's article, he has articulated very well where we have been as a Club, where we are now, and some possible directions for the future. We touched on some of the points that Rem has brought up when Mike Reilly facilitated a seminar in Jerome three years ago. At that time no action was taken and now, we as a Club, are faced with those and new challenges.

Since we are a relatively small club with very dedicated members willing to do what is best, please read this article and put your thoughts together. If at all possible, attend the judges seminar and test being held in Jerome, Idaho this March 2014. If you can't attend the Jerome test, put your thoughts together and email them to Judy Coil (jcoil@paulbunyan.net). This will be one of the main topics discussed at this board of directors meeting.

Gary Pool, President

Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America

Where to Now?

by

Rem DeJong

Last month, the GDS recognized Joe Nadeker, who was a key figure in shaping WPGCA history. Reflecting on our past induced me to take a critical look at our future. We usually focus on our immediate circumstances—the upcoming test, who's getting a puppy this year, what breedings are planned—and our long-term direction seems to just happen without conscious planning. Thirty years ago, the WPGCA Board of Directors made a monumental decision—to inject "foreign" blood to restore the griffon breed. Thus began the Cesky Fouseks (Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons) era, starting with the arrival of **Erik od Jezerak** in December 1985. This was a bold and controversial initiative, but one that the WPGCA leadership believed at the time was the only way out for a once-noble breed that was now in serious trouble; plagued by poor temperaments, bad coats, weak structure and mediocre hunting performance. The full rationale for this fateful decision is laid out by Joan Bailey in her book, *Griffon: Gun Dog Supreme (The History and the Story of How to Improve a Breed)*. So how have things turned out?

At the beginning, Bailey wrote:

We expect this project to be completed in ten years, though we will begin to see the positive results very quickly with the first and second generations. That means in ten years [from 1984] we will have stabilized and upgraded the breed, and [will] have established a large enough, sound genetic breeding pool.

Griffon: Gun Dog Supreme, pg. 175

By 1996, Bailey declared the project a success:

... Today, in 1996, as this book heads to press, there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that we have succeeded. In the last two years we have continued to produce litters which have a high percentage of good hunting dogs. That is our goal. To produce sound, easy-to-train dogs that have all the necessary inherited talent to make good hunting dogs, and good family dogs.

Griffon: Gun Dog Supreme, pg. 181

Fast-forward another seventeen years and I conclude: Not so fast. As the breed organization for the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon in the United States, the goal was not just to breed good dogs, but to “restore the breed.” There are two major elements to restoring the breed. One is to breed quality dogs, but the second is to have those dogs recognized as a *breed*. This second point is a political issue, having little to do with canine qualities and more to do with socio-political control of “breed” definition. For example, one of the most powerful breed recognition groups, the American Kennel Club states on their website: “The AKC Board of Directors has the authority to add a breed to the list of AKC-recognizable breeds if, in its opinion, sufficient evidence is presented to justify such action.” What goes into that opinion to justify action is a lot more than genetic inheritance.

At the international level, the *Fédération Cynologique Internationale* (FCI) formally recognizes breeds. For example, the Cesky Fousek is often described as an ancient breed, but it was only recognized by FCI in 1964 as the “Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon”. More recently, the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association (NAVHDA) began its own breed registration process. For organizations like AKC and NAVHDA, breed registration is a major income source as well as power to control breeding.

So what does this have to do with the WPGCA and our future? Plenty. The decision by the WPGCA to outbreed what I’ll call Korthals wirehaired pointing griffons with Cesky Fouseks (Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons) was not universally accepted in the dog world. Another griffon organization, the American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association, quickly formed. In 1991, the American Kennel Club recognized the AWPGA as the official national parent club for wirehaired pointing griffons. Other breed organizations followed suit. At this time, the WPGCA is not recognized by the United, Canadian, or American Kennel Clubs, FCI, NAVHDA, American Field, or the European Griffon and Fousek organizations. Additionally, these same organizations refuse registration and testing of WPGCA bred dogs. NAVHDA began its own registration program for versatile hunting breeds and recognized “pure” Korthals wirehaired pointing griffons and Cesky Fouseks, as separate breeds, but they do not recognize our griffon/Fousek cross. We may be breeding good hunting dogs, but the rest of the official dog world does not recognize our dogs.

Given their intertwined breeding history and similar genetic qualities, the decision to

outbreed the Korthals griffon with the Cesky Fousek may have been genetically sound, but it clearly is not accepted in a political context dominated by pedigree obsession. The WPGCA could breed griffons that point staunchly, hunt with vigor, retrieve waterfowl enthusiastically and it would be to no avail. Our griffons might not only point and retrieve woodcock but grill them in garlic butter and serve them to us on toast with a side goblet of Pinot Noir, but the organized dog world is not going to recognize our dogs as “Wirehaired Pointing Griffons” because of our outbreeding. Given this reality, the WPGCA requires a strategy to survive that was not anticipated when we made the decision to outbreed.

One of my favorite books is entitled: *Everything Is Obvious, Once You Know the Answers*. Looking back, it seems readily apparent that the dog breed establishment would not take kindly to our out-breeding endeavor. Deliberate and open outbreeding is anathema to organizations such as AKC. The WPGCA never had an end-game for how to get our dogs accepted as true wirehaired pointing griffons. Furthermore, it now seems doubtful that the griffon, as a breed, was in such dire straits as the club described back in 1983. It seems more likely that the WPGCA, as an organization, represented only a small proportion of all griffons in the world. Certainly, that is the case now. I did some research on the NAVHDA registry site. For April 2012 to May 13, there were 635 Wirehaired Pointing Griffon puppies registered with NAVHDA. The AWPGA reported to me that about 600 dogs were registered with AKC in 2012. The representative with whom I spoke could not determine how many were dual registrations, but it’s safe to say that there were about 650 to 700 plus new griffons registered. Some might be fluffy, air-head show dogs that won’t hunt, but there are good quality dogs in that 700 too. Many more may be in Europe, particularly France. Meanwhile, I counted the number of WPGCA bred dogs that completed the Natural Ability Test each year. The ten year average is 22.5 pups per year (see table).

Year	NAT Tested
2003	25
2004	30
2005	24
2006	26
2007	25
2008	26
2009	8
2010	26
2011	16
2012	19

In 2014, one can argue about the quality, but the numbers are clear—WPGCA bred dogs represent a tiny minority of all wirehaired pointing griffons in the U.S. Bottom line is the griffon world is not the least bit interested in restoration through outbreeding, and with the small number of dogs that we produce the WPGCA is easily dismissed.

Although the picture I’ve presented thus far appears gloomy, it also represents an opportunity. The WPGCA has a wealth of assets and a world of potential. Given that the original objective of breed restoration is

unreasonable, it is not time to fold up shop, but it is time to adjust our direction. First of all, the WPGCA is an organization of extremely dedicated members. When we began the Cesky Fousek experiment, those first imports were very expensive, but members

stepped up to pay the price. One of the first females was killed before she could be used in breeding. The early litters were not all successful. But through it all, the breeding committee kept at it, members gave of their time and money to serve as judges and board members; owners participated as breeders and honored their commitments to test their dogs. They paid the cost for OFA evaluations and more recently the more costly PennHip evaluations. Members have stepped up to participate in our DNA project with the Cornell University Veterinary DNA project. If there are problems to address, it's not for lack of dedicated, hard-working members who have done their flat-out best in service to the WPGCA.

Our breeding program is unique—not only in that we employ a centralized breeding committee, but also in the way members cooperate in using their dogs for breeding. Given the complexities of modern breeding practices—for example, semen collection and preservation techniques and technologies in controlling the estrus cycle, plus the costs associated with such technology, many of our members would conclude that breeding their dogs was out of the question. Guidance and financial assistance from the WPGCA make it possible for relative neophytes to participate in the breeding program. Simply look at a list of our dog names. The vast majority are “A” and “B” litters, produced by members, not professional, breeding kennels. There is also an amazing level of camaraderie in evidence. When one of last year's breeders experienced some health problems, several members stepped up to help take care of the litter. Members travel almost coast-to-coast to help get pups to their new owners. This cooperative model is unique among breed organizations.

The WPGCA is also very special in terms of our breeding registry and breed data. Although we fret over how to get every owner to expose their dogs properly and to participate in our tests, PennHip and health evaluations, we have far better data than any other breed organization. Nowhere but through the WPGCA can someone seeking a new pup, get the health and performance data that we provide, not only on sire and dam, but on entire litters. So given all that we have going for us, how do we best devote these assets to the future?

A first step is to clarify just what it is that we want to achieve as an organization. I vividly remember an interaction at last year's Pheasant Fest. A couple and their toddler daughter had just stopped by our booth. While the camo-attired hunter talked pointing, retrieving, waterfowl and pheasants with our rep, mom knelt beside her little girl, who had just thrown her arms around a very patient and long-suffering griffon and was giving the dog a big hug. The griffon wagged his tail and gave the tyke a quick slurp on the ear. The hunter paused in his questioning about the griffon as gun dog, and his partner jumped in and pronounced: “I want a dog like that!” This was the dog Joan Bailey was describing in 1996 when she wrote: “That is our goal. To produce sound, easy-to-train dogs that have all the necessary inherited talent to make good hunting dogs, and good family dogs.” That must be our first priority.

The political issues of AKC, AWPGA, FCI and NAVHDA transformed restoring a breed from a genetics issue into a political morass. Now we need to evaluate whether

the goal of breeding the best dogs on a sustained basis can best be achieved by remaining outside of the recognized dog breed organizations or whether we need to work toward eventual acceptance by organizations like AKC and NAVHDA. Certainly there is much valid criticism of controlling organizations like AKC—the obsession with multi-generation pedigrees and the focus on appearance rather than temperament and function. Coon hunters, bear dog men and sled-dog mushers are examples of groups that traditionally have eschewed the approval of AKC in breeding the best dogs to meet their goals. It can be done. Is a similar approach right for us and can we sustain our breeding program this way into the future?

In 1983, a barrier facing the WPGCA was an inadequate supply of breeding stock, particularly breedable females. Thirty years later, we again face that problem, and it is one that the club will need to address. It seems likely that the WPGCA must rely on acquiring some breeding stock from outside our own registry book. The most likely sources are more Cesky Fouseks from the Czech Republic and/or non-WPGCA wirehaired pointing griffons that are AKC or NAVHDA registered. In recent years, we have done both. We have had a good working relationship with Cesky Fousek representatives in the Czech Republic. We have been less welcome by the AWPGA and NAVHDA with notable individual exceptions. If we cannot achieve our breeding goals in isolation from other breed representatives, then we must confront a choice. We can either continue to breed using Cesky Fousek stock and AKC “Korthals” griffons occasionally with our WPGCA registered crossbreed griffons and produce puppies that AKC and NAVHDA breeders do not recognize and that cannot participate in NAVHDA sanctioned tests, or we can call an end to our outbreeding experiment and begin breeding either Korthals griffons or Cesky Fouseks which will be recognized and accepted by the dog breeding establishment.

Continuing to operate as we have over the past thirty years as a small, independent organization does have some advantages. By breeding dogs that only we register and recognize, we can much better control the breeding program. No one can independently breed one of our dogs to an AKC or NAVHDA dog and have it registered anywhere. We are free to select the best breeding stock wherever we can find it. Many of the pups that we are producing are wonderful gun dogs and family companions, so one has to ask: Why mess with a good product? However, our present system does present problems. One is getting potential owners to recognize the difference between WPGCA produced pups and other griffons. In spite of all the print and electronic information that we provide, I still receive numerous queries like: Where can I find a breeder near me? No, those dust-mop headed pooches are not the same as our WPGCA bred griffons, and you won't get a dog like ours from a back-yard breeder near you. Recognition of our special dogs is difficult without an identifying name.

More problematic is acquiring good breeding stock from outside the WPGCA, regardless of breed. Why should non WPGCA breeders share their best breeding stock with us? Their goal is to develop their own breeds, not produce pups that cannot in turn be used in their own breeding programs. They might part with frozen semen, but selling us breedable females is another story. Even when we can acquire stock, we test not only

sire and dam; we attempt to test every pup in a litter and get PennHip evaluations besides. Such data are not available on non-club dogs, so the Breeding Committee risks buying a pig-in-a-poke whenever it considers using outside stock. With a non-club dog it can be hard to know if that animal has produced offspring in previous breedings that had OCD, poor hips or gun sensitivity or if it's littermates were defective.. It's not that the owner is being deceptive; it's simply that the data are not systematically collected on all pups. So sticking to our own registered and tested stock has advantages. It may not be perfect stock, but at least the breeding committee knows the risks. But given the small number of dogs that our organization can produce, going outside the WPGCA is inevitable well into the future. So we can continue as we have done for the past thirty years, breeding our own and trying to go outside when we must. Can we sustain this approach? More importantly: will it produce the best dogs?

We have other options that may be anathema to long-time WPGCA members. We began in the 1950s with AKC wirehaired pointing griffons. We could end our outbreeding experiment, acquire NAVHDA or AKC stock and devote our organization talents to breeding dogs that these outside groups would accept as Korthals griffons. To give up on thirty years of breeding would be very difficult to do, but one can argue that it's our organization model and not the gene pool that makes the WPGCA special. By breeding wirehaired pointing griffons that could be dually registered with AKC or NAVHDA and with the WPGCA, the club should have better access to breeding stock for Korthals griffons from anywhere. Instead of trying to be THE breed club for all wirehaired Pointing griffons in the USA, we would be a special breeding cooperative that follows best breeding practices and enables its members to participate in breeding by offering technical assistance, guidance, puppy placement and testing services. Our purpose would not be to control all griffon breeding but to offer the best hunting Korthals griffons available. Owners could run their dogs in NAVHDA events if they so choose; the rest of the organized dog world see our dogs and judge the merits of our dogs for themselves. The WPGCA would still be small and would need to depend on outside stock to replenish its breeding program, but we would be much more likely to enjoy a cooperative relationship with NAVHDA and AKC breeders than we do now, as well as to gain visibility among hunting dog enthusiasts. Given the rancorous past, the viability of this option would need to be explored to see if we can go back and be accepted.

Finally, we could shift over to breeding strictly Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons (Cesky Fouseks). At the present time, most of our WPGCA dog pedigrees include 50% or more Cesky Fousek lineage. We have to ask ourselves: Does continuing our outbreeding produce a superior dog to what we could achieve simply by breeding recognized Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons? If not, then making this shift has several desirable features. We already have a positive working arrangement with the Cesky Fousek organization in the dog's homeland, the Czech Republic. The strengths and weaknesses of the breed are not new to us. We have a pipeline to European stock. Furthermore, the Czech organization appears amenable to participating in our DNA project and hip dysplasia evaluation programs. Breeding Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons would instantly distinguish WPGCA dogs from the existing griffons in the U.S. Currently, there is no established Cesky Fousek or Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Grif-

fon breed club in the U.S. There is no other group like the AWPGA to compete with us. The WPGCA could become the recognized representative for the breed. The Cesky Fousek is recognized by NAVHDA. Pups that we produce could be dually registered; owners could run our dogs in NAVHDA events, which would give the hunting dog public a first-hand look at the dogs we produce. We began our involvement with the Cesky Fousek as a means of restoring the Korthals Wirehaired Pointing Griffon. Switching our organization to breeding Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons would be an unintended consequence of that original intent. But unintended is not always bad; it can be lucky and good. If we choose this direction, there are many issues to resolve. How do we become recognized as the Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon organization? What dogs could be recognized and registered as Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffons by outside groups? But again, we must start from: How do we breed the best versatile hunting/family dog? Could we breed the type of dog we want on a sustained basis using only Cesky Fousek stock?

The last thirty years has required incredible work and sacrifice by so many people in the WPGCA. In the process, we have produced some wonderful dogs, lasting friendships and incredible memories. I know the WPGCA has done it for me. My wife has wryly commented: "That griffon club is more important to you than church." It's true. I gladly travel 600 miles to spend a December week in the Dakotas at below zero temps with some WPGCA members, chasing pheasants by day and fighting for evening couch space with a bunch of tired griffons. Test weekends are major social events of the year. I've owned griffons continuously since 1973. I refer to them as the markers of my life—I recall when events happened by what dog I had at the time. But I've never been a breeder and never had to make the decisions of a judge or Breeding Committee member, so while I've been a very close observer, I don't have the deep personal investment in the past shared by those who have shaped the WPGCA. Consequently, it's easier for me to ask: Where to now? Given the unanticipated political events following the decision to outbreed, how can we breed the ideal versatile hunter/family dog and assure its survival for future generations? It's time for a new plan.

The WPGCA On-Line

Two months too long to wait for WPGCA news? Did somebody throw out your back issues of the GDS in a house-cleaning frenzy? Want to see photos in full color instead of boring black and white? Then use our on-line resources.

Of course there's our primary club web site: www.wpgca.org

But don't forget the WPGCA Education and Research Foundation site. This is where you'll find our history, breed standard, test booklets and back issues of the GDS. Read them on-line or download for later. It's at: <http://huntersgriffon.org/>

Looking for the best photos? Explore: <http://wpgca.smugmug.com/>

Facebook too: <http://www.facebook.com/griffon.fan>

Upcoming Events

Rocky Mountain Griffon Club

Location: Jerome, ID

Dates: Judges Seminar & Board of Directors Meeting March 28th.

Testing March 28, 29 & 30th

Field Test Chairman

John McDunn

3380 Rottweiler Ct.

Helena, MT 59602

mcdunnk9@hotmail.com

(406)410-0565

Heartland Chapter

Location: Mazomanie, WI

Spring Test: April 25-27, 2014

Field Test Chairs

Kirk & Tracy Dilly

Kirk: (320) 304-2212

Tracy: (952) 240-3564

Email: kirk.dilly@mortonbuildings.com

Mailing Address:

16278 141st Ave

Osakis, MN 56360

Northeast Chapter

Dates: May 10th & 11th (Sat & Sunday)

Hosts: Rick and Tina Molt

Field Test Chair:

Scott Craig & Laurie Connell

85 Rabbit Hill Road

Winterport, Maine, 04496

207 525-3383 (home)

207 581-2470 (work)

Allagash_stream@myfairpoint.net

See <http://www.wpgca.org> for updates. Also www.facebook.com/griffon.fan

Fall 2013 Heartland Test
by
Rem DeJong

Complain about the heat. Boy, I've love the chance to do that right about now, but back on September 6, 7 and 8th at the Mazomanie Test Grounds in central Wisconsin, the heat really was a problem for man and dog at the Heartland Fall Test. To beat the heat and deal with a judge scarcity for Sunday, we began on Friday at 6:00 AM with Ken Hurtig's NAT dog **Desert Jazmine of Sandhill**. John Pitlo was arriving Saturday noon with a bunch of puppies, so he couldn't judge. Jim Seibel was getting one of those puppies so he would not be there on Sunday, and Greg Hurtig was not eligible to judge Dad's dog. It worked out. Judges were Jim Seibel, Jim Crouse Kirk Dilly and Dave Finley. "Jaz" was 13 months at test time. She's a lovely dog with harsh, burr-shedding, liver-ticked coat and eyes to melt the hardest heart. Jaz performed OK in the field, but wouldn't point and she lacked obedience to basic commands. Still, there is a great deal of potential and we look forward to seeing her perform at the IHDT.

In the regularly scheduled event, Group A consisted of Senior Judge Jim Seibel, Judge Ken Hurtig and Kirk Dilly as apprentice. They got to witness some fine dog work. Brice Fawcett can be very proud of his female griffon, **Dusty SantaFe Trail of Sandhill**, as she turned in a perfect score of 28 for a Prize I in her NAT. Mike Branigan's **Archie of Prairie's Promise** earned a solid Prize II, and his littermate, Ray Dent-



The Heat Is On!

The high temps didn't stop **Dusty SantaFe Trail of Sandhill**. Here, Dusty tops off a fine track by retrieving the bird to proud owner, Brice Fawcett Jr. She earned a perfect score of 28 and a Prize I. Judge Jim Seibel and Apprentice Kurt Dilly observe.

(Photo by Rem DeJong)

linger's **Anastasia of Prairie's Promise** turned in a Prize III score. Group "B" was headed up by Greg Hurtig as "official senior judge" but Jim Crouse practiced the job under his supervision. Dave Finley apprenticed. It was good to welcome back a long-time member, Ed Challacombe, who was testing his new Drathaar pup, 7 month-old **Larry vom Rainmaker** (Teddy). They were a great team and turned in a Prize II score. At the IHDT level, Kevin Nessa ran **Gonehunting of Dutchman's Hollow**. This is a case where the score doesn't tell the whole story. "Boo" as she's known, is a nice little dog that's had limited hunting due to a gun sensitive issue. Kevin has really worked with this dog and he's come a long way. She displayed a little sensitivity on the duck track by coming back to handler when the duck was shot, but then swam out and got it. This dog will be a good hunter. During the drag portion of the test—it was really hot, but this dog handled it fine.

On Saturday, Group A was headed up by Senior Judge Jim Seibel, with Greg Hurtig and apprentice Kirk Dilly, Tracy Dilly served as photographer. Joe Smith ran **Doc of Sandhill** in NAT. Doc is a good-sized, smooth-coated male. Joe has worked to prepare Doc at training days in Marshall, MI, and the exposure showed. Doc scored all "4"s except for a "3" in searching.. Dave Mickelson ran **Drew of Sandhill**, and this little female turned in a perfect score of 28 and a Prize I to make her owner very proud. Gavin Good brought **Darling Ellie** of Sandhill back for another go at NAT. It was a great learning experience in dog handling for Gavin; unfortunately, Ellie did not turn in a good performance on this day. But it was great to have a young handler working with



Drew of Sandhill (left) owned by Dave Mickelson and **Archie of Prairie's Promise**, owned by Mike Branigan, both turned in prize winning performances in NAT.

(Photos by Rem DeJong)

his dog and learning the system. Jim Edgar ran another Sandhill littermate, **Dulcie of Sandhill Dulcie** maybe small in stature, but she was big on performance and turned in a perfect score of 28 points for a Prize I.

Meanwhile, in Group B, Ken Hurtig observed while Jim Crouse again trained in the role of Senior Judge. First up was Steve Rossow with son, Remington tagging along as they ran **Awesome of Prairie's Promise**. Awesome did well, earning a Prize III. Another Prairie's Promise A litter dog we tested was **Augsburg (Hagrid)** owned by Jason Koth. Sadly, Hagrid performed very poorly due in large part to an unrepairable foot condition. Hagrid has since been placed in an adoptive home and the club is working with Jason to secure another dog. Kyle Kessler was the handler for **Ammo of Ash Coulee**, running at the IHDT level. Overall, Ammo performed well. He was a bit reluctant to bring game directly to hand. The drag of dead game was the real bugaboo. The judges tried two drags. The first one was immediately after the track of live pheasant. It was extremely hot, so they tried again after the water work portion of the test. Again the refused to go out. This was the only disappointment on an otherwise fine performance.

Jon Hoffart ran Ammo's littermate, 17 month old, **Abe of Ash Coulee** as an observation NAT. Abe had OCD so he had been unable to not test last spring. Ammo is a sweet little dog, but the test performance was maybe not indicative of his real potential. Ammo tracked a long way on a pheasant in a mowed field that ended without locating the bird. Afterward, Jon took the dog out to recheck the track. 300 yards away it ended with a point that only the owner saw. But the enthusiastic search gave the judges an idea. They planted a bird in a mowed grass field in a clump of cover. Ammo came in and locked up on the only point of the week that I could photograph. Saturday's testing event was then upstaged by the arrival of John Pitlo and his H litter puppies for their new owners. Nothing beats the thrill of greeting your new pup, and there were smiles, hugs, oohhs and aughs all around.

Sunday morning, it was back to the testing business again. Greg Hurtig with Jim Crouse as acting Senior, Dave Finley and Kirk Dilly as apprentices set out on the nicest day of the weekend to judge Max Close with **Alex of Ash Coulee**. The consensus of the judges was that as a former marine, Max needs to be more of a drill sergeant with Alex. During retrieves, Alex paraded around with bird rather than retrieving to hand. During the duck track he was reluctant to get into weed choked water. Finally, he made up his mind as swam after it. When duck was shot, it took a lot of commands to get him to swim out to an obviously visible duck that was still flapping on the water. He clearly has potential, but needs more training to reach it.

In spite of the hot weather, the 2014 Fall Test came off well, thanks to Test Chairs Kirk and Tracy Dilly, a group of judges who juggled schedules to make sure everything was covered, and thanks to the dedicated work of volunteers who arrange the test grounds, schedule the dinner, secure and handle the birds, coordinate motels and run the fund raiser events. It takes a lot of effort by many individuals to make this a great test event every year.

Northeast Chapter Fall 2013 Test
by
Rick Molt



And Away She Goes!

Ellie of Crown Point is on her way in the tracking portion of her Prize II IHDT performance. Owner Kurt Soneson and Judge Rick Molt observe.

(Photo by Tina Molt)

On a beautiful fall day, Sept. 28th, we assembled at the Foster Farm in Bristol, Me. Being a one day test with two dogs, we were surprised by the fairly large group of members and people of interest attending the test.

Kurt Soneson tested **Ellie of Crown Point** in IHDT. They were a seasoned team earning a very solid prize II. The duck track was something to behold, the duck never had a chance. Jim Gill coming from Iowa with his wife Barbara and daughter Emily, tested his dog **Bea z Lubiechowa** in UFT. They showed great team work and that all the time and effort of training paid off earning a prize III.

We had some extra birds and time left, so we had two pups do some tracking and retrieving. I asked the owner Joy Jipson if she minded me introducing **Hachi of Dutchman's Hollow** to game and she said, please do. I took a chukar out in the field and released it while holding the pups collar, the excitement building the further the bird got out there. Then, just before the bird disappeared into the cover I released the dog and it

tracked some and then got on the scent and kept working it till he got the bird. At that point I began trotting back toward Joy coaxing the dog, calling his name and slapping my thigh and would you believe the cooperation in that little guy, he followed me all the way back and gave Joy the bird. WOW!!

The other pup **Becasse of Wolf Creek** owned by Andy Goode had their go at it. Andy would get very animated with his pup, building the dogs confidence until it was carrying the chukar around with one of those “smiley” faces”. Andy spent quite some time around the water with his pup and by the time of the next spring test, these pups should do well. Tina Molt and our daughter Hillary, put on a great lunch with Hill’s homemade pulled pork. Dinner was the usual Molt fare with lobsters, clams, chicken, corn, potatoes, salad, beer, wine, pumpkin cake and Jane McKenna’s apple crisp.

Judging were Erik Andersen, Phil Bennett, Sr. Judge Rick Molt, and apprentices Scott Craig and Rick Bromberg. Nice to have both dogs prize and a big thanks to test chairs Scott Craig and Laurie Connell for running such a smooth day in the field.

Good Girl Hachi! What Have You Got?

A precocious **Hachi of Dutchman’s Hollow** made a big impression during an impromptu exposure time at the Northeast Test.

(Photo by Tina Molt)



NATURAL ABILITY TEST, FALL 2013

WI = Wisconsin
 WA = Washington
 ID = Idaho
 ME = Maine
 * = Temperament problem, see write-up
 ++ = Over age, Evaluation only (E)

	Age in Months	Nose and Use of Nose	Searching	Affinity for water	Pointing	Tracking Bird	Attitude Toward Work	Cooperation	TOTAL POINTS	CLASSIFICATION	Conformation	Coat	Temperament
	A	N	S	W	P	TB	AW	C	TP	C	CO	CT	T
GROUP 397 (AUG., 2013 GDS)													
++ABE OF ASH COULEE, M, WI	17	1	4	4	0	1	4	2	16		3	3	ok
GROUP 398 (AUG., 2013 GDS)													
DULCIE OF SANDHILL, F, WI	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	4	3	ok
DUSTY SANTA FE TRAIL OF SANDHILL, F, WI	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	4	3	ok
DREW OF SANDHILL, F, WI	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I	3	2	ok
DOC OF SANDHILL, M, WI	13	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	27	II	3	3	ok
DECCA OF SANDHILL, F, WI	13	3	2	3	4	4	3	3	22	III	3	3	ok
DESERT JAZMINE OF SANDHILL, F, WI	13	4	3	4	0	4	2	2	19		3	3	ok
DARLING ELLIE OF SANDHILL, F, WI	13	2	2	4	1	1	2	2	14		3	3	ok
GROUP 399 (AUG., 2013 GDS)													
ARCHIE OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, M, WI	13	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	26	II	3	4	ok
ANASTASIA OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, F, WI	13	4	4	4	2	4	4	3	25	III	4	3	ok
AWESOME OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, F, WI	13	3	4	4	4	2	4	4	25	III	3	3	ok
AUGSBURG OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, M, WI	13	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	7		2	1	*
GERMAN WIREHAIRD POINTER													
LARRY VOM RAINMAKER, M, WI	7	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	25	II			ok



The Beverly Hillbillies on their way to California.

No wait. Those are judges headed for the field test in Mazomanie, WI!

I don't think OSHA would approve.

DOGS EVALUATED IN FALL 2013***NATURAL ABILITY TEST***

ABE OF ASH COULEE, M, 17 mos., whelped 4/15/2012. Conformation 3, 25.5"H X 24.5"L. Coat 3, Medium harsh, dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: calm, friendly, easy to examine. Dog had OCD. Owned by Jon Hoffart, 30 5th Ave., W, Dickenson, ND 58601. Bred by Tom Coombe. Pedigree 397, Aug., 2013 GDS.

DULCIE OF SANDHILL, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 24.5"H X 25"L, extra P1 lower right & left. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, medium furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine. Owned by Jim & Tami Edgar, 4030 N. Huron Ave., Spring Valley, MN 55975. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS

DUSTY SANTA FE TRAIL OF SANDHILL, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 24.5"H X 24.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, sparse furnishings. Temperament: eager in the field., easy to examine. Owned by Brice Fawcett Jr., 255 E 2300th Rd., Edgerton, KS 66021. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS.

DREW OF SANDHILL, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 4, 25"H X 25"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, soft on head, full furnishings. Temperament: eager, good game desire, easy to examine. Owned by David Mickelson, 210 Cheval Ln NE, Rochester, MN 55906. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS.

DOC OF SANDHILL, M, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 3, 26.5"H X 26.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, short, sparse furnishings. Temperament: very easy to examine. Owned by Joseph & Mary Smith, 551 Kiowa Trail, Montpelier, OH 43543. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS.

DECCA OF SANDHILL, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 3, 23"H X 24"L, straight in front, hind feet fall close. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, short, sparse furnishings. Temperament: hard to examine mouth, a little timid. Owned by Jon Kasworm, 810 N 7th St., Oskaloosa, IA 52577. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS.

DESERT JAZMINE OF SANDHILL, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 3, 24"H X 24"L, lacks depth in chest. Extra Plupper left. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: easy examine, eager. Owned Ken Hurtig, 308 N 7th, Bellevue, IA 52031. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS.

DARLING ELLIE OF SANDHILL, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/24/2012. Conformation 3, 23"H X 23.5"L, extra P1 lower right, fine featured. Coat 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, sparse furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine. Owned by Gavin Good, 14538 510th St., Griswold, IA 51535. Bred by Pete & Linda Engman. Pedigree 398, Aug., 2013 GDS.

ARCHIE OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, M, 13 mos., whelped 7/28/2012. Conformation 3, 25.5"H X 26"L, scissors, extra P1, lower right and left. Coat 4, harsh, dense, flat lying, medium furnishings, . Temperament: hard to examine. Owned by Mike Branigan, 5600 Cross Rd., Concord, MI 49237. Bred by Ted Vanderpan. Pedigree 399, Aug., 2013 GDS.

ANASTASIA OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/28/2012. Conformation 4, 24"H X 24"L, light eyes. Coat 3, harsh, short, flat lying. Temperament: somewhat reserved. Owned by Ray Dentlinger, 1380 Pheasant Avenue., Storm Lake, IA 50588 . Bred by Ted Vanderpan. Pedigree 399, Aug., 2013 GDS.

AWESOME OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, F, 13 mos., whelped 7/28/2012. Conformation 3, 24.5"H X 24.5"L, straight in back, low tail set. Coat 3, harsh, dense, sparse belly coverage, open on ears. Temperament: easy to examine, eager, friendly. Owned by Steve Rossow, 211 W Lawler Ave., Chamberlain, SD 57325 . Bred by Ted Vanderpan. Pedigree 399, Aug., 2013 GDS.

AUGSBURG OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE, M, 13 mos., whelped 7/28/2012. Conformation 2, 23"H X 23"L, down on pasterns, low tail set. Coat 1, sparse, lacks density, slight curl, open spots on coat, sparse furnishings. Temperament: hard to examine, tentative, lacks game desire. Owned by Jason Koth, 905 Lakeview Ave., Polk City, IA 50226 . Bred by Ted Vanderpan. Pedigree 399, Aug., 2013 GDS.

GERMAN WIERHAIRD POINTER

LARRY VOM RAINMAKER, M, 7 mos., whelped 1/13/2013. Conformation: not judged, 24"L X 24"H.. Coat: not judged. Medium harsh, dense, flat lying, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: calm, easy to examine, eager, good game drive, strong willed. Owned by Ed Challacombe, 615 Autumn Oaks Ct., Eagan, MN 55123.

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST, FALL 2013**WATER**

TD = Track of Duck (5)
 RD = Retrieve of duck (3)
 BR = Blind Retrieve (4)
 ++ = older hunting dog

FIELD

S = Searching (5)
 P = Pointing (4)
 RB = Retrieve of Dragged Bird (3)
 TB = Track of Live Bird (3)
 *TR = Track of Live Rabbit (3)
 *RF = Retrieve of Dragged Fur (3)

JUDGED THROUGHOUT

N = Nose and Use of Nose (6)
 AW = Attitude Toward Work (4)
 C = Cooperation (3)
 O = Obedience (3)

OTHER

TP = Total Prize
 PR = Prize Classification
 CO = Conformation
 CT = Coat
 T = Temperament
 T* = see write-up for notation

	TD	RD	B	S	P	RB	TB	*T	*RF	N	AW	C	O	TP	PR	CO	CT	T
			R					R										

GROUP 394 (Aug 2012 GDS)

++GONEHUNTIN OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW

F, 26 MOS, WI	4	3	3	4	0	4	2			3	4	4	2	131		3	3	*
---------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	-----	--	---	---	---

GROUP 397 (Aug 2013 GDS)

ALEXANDER OF ASH COULEE

M, 17 MOS, WI	4	2	3	4	4	2	2			3	3	2	2	128	III	4	4	ok
---------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	-----	-----	---	---	----

AMMO OF ASH COULEE

M, 17 MOS, WI	4	3	4	3	4	0	4			4	3	3	2	139		4	3	ok
---------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	-----	--	---	---	----

GROUP 400 (Aug 2013 GDS)

ELLIE OF CROWNPOINT

F, 19 MOS, ME	4	2	3	4	4	3	4			4	4	4	3	156	II	4	2	ok
---------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	-----	----	---	---	----

UTILITY FIELD TEST, FALL 2013

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

INDEX*

TD = Track of Duck (5)
 SWD = Search without Duck (3)
 BR = Blind Retrieve (3)
 SB = Steady at Blind (2)
 RM = Retrieve of Marked Fall (3)
 S = Searching (5)
 P = Pointing (4)
 SWS = Steady to Wing and Shot (3)

RS = Retrieve of Shot Bird (3)
 WD = Whoa or Down (3)
 TB = Track of Live Bird (4)
 SW = Search in Woods (4)
 H = Walk at Heel (2)
 RDG = Retrieve of Dragged Game (3)
 *F = Find/Retrieve of Dead Game (3)
 *B = Blood Track (4)

N = Nose and Use of Nose (6)
 AW = Attitude Toward Work (4)
 C = Cooperation (4)
 O = Obedience (3)
 TP = Total Points
 PR = Prize Classification
 CO = Conformation
 CT = Coat
 T = Temperament

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

SW

TD	D	BR	SB	RM	S	P	SWS	RS	WD	TB	SW	H	RDG	*F	*B	N	AW	C	O	TP	PR	CO	CT	T
----	---	----	----	----	---	---	-----	----	----	----	----	---	-----	----	----	---	----	---	---	----	----	----	----	---

GROUP 390 (Aug, 2011 GDS)

BEA LUBIECHOWA, F, 36 MOS, ME

3	1	3	4	2	2	4	3	3	4	4	4	3	3			4	3	3	3	201	III	4	4	ok
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	-----	-----	---	---	----

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST

++GONEHUNTIN OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW, F, 26 mos., whelped 7/3/2011. Conformation 3, 23"H X 22.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, dense, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage, open on ears. Temperament: tentative, *gun sensitive, developed during the test but recovers quickly, good game desire, calm, friendly. Owned by Kevin Nessa, PO Box 83, Garden City, IA 50102. Bred by John & Vivian Pitlo. Pedigree 394, Aug., 2012 GDS.

ALEXANDER OF ASH COULEE, M, 17 mos., whelped 4/15/2012. Conformation 4, 25.5"H X 25.5"L. Coat 4, harsh, dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, calm, very energetic, good game drive. Owned by Max Close, 7048 State Route 48, Springboro, OH 45066. Bred by Tom Coombe. Pedigree 397, Page 7.

AMMO OF ASH COULEE, M, 17 mos., whelped 4/15/2012. Conformation 4, 25.5"H X 25.5"L. Coat 3, medium harsh, dense, slight curl, good belly coverage, medium furnishings. Temperament: calm, easy to examine. Owned by Kyle Kessler, 20267 Cty. Hwy 29, Rochert, MN 56578. Bred by Tom Coombe. Pedigree 397, Page 7.

ELLIE OF CROWNPOINT, F, 19 mos., whelped 2/15/2012. Conformation 4, 23"H X 23.5"L. Coat 2, medium harsh, medium dense, soft on head, not flat lying, slightly open on belly. Temperament: eager for game, friendly, good game desire, likes water. Owned by Kurt Soneson, 253 Hoxie Hill Rd., Orrington, ME 04474. Bred by Vicky Foster. Pedigree 400, Page 9.

UTILITY FIELD TEST

BEA Z LUBIECHOWA, F, 36 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.

**Way to Go Bea!**

The Utility Field Test is a marathon event that takes lots of training.

Here **Bea z Lubiechowa** completes a retrieve to happy owner, Jim Gill.

(Photo by Tina Molt)

PennHip Report for 2013

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. If you have had your Dog PennHip evaluated and it does not appear below—send a copy of the PennHip report to John.

BOISE BELL OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Boone of Salmon River: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.37; Right Hip DI = 0.40. Ranking = 50%. Owned by Sam Cox (F).

BEAUREGARD OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Boone of Salmon River: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.35; Right Hip DI = 0.35. Ranking = 60%. Owned by Dave Larson (M).

BANKS OF ARROWROCK: Sire; Boone of Salmon River: Dam; Annie Oakley of Glacier Ridge. Left Hip DI = 0.43; Right Hip DI = 0.43. Ranking = 40%. Dog also had OCD, both front shoulders. Owned by Nathaniel Umphrey (M).

ARIKARA OF ASH COULEE: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Amazing Grace of Arrowrock. Left Hip DI = 0.28; Right Hip DI = 0.29. Ranking = 90%. Owned by Bill Madden (F).

AMMO OF ASH COULEE: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Amazing Grace of Arrowrock. Left Hip DI = 0.37; Right Hip DI = 0.25. Ranking = 60%. Owned by Kyle Kessler (M).

ALEXANDER OF ASH COULEE: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Amazing Grace of Arrowrock. Left Hip DI = 0.19; Right Hip DI = 0.21. Ranking = 90%. Owned by Max Close (M).

DREW OF SANDHILL: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Arthur's Pal of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = none (cavitation); Right Hip DI = 0.50. Ranking = 30%. Owned by David & Jill Mickelson (F).

DUSTY SANTA FE TRAIL OF SANDHILL: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Arthur's Pal of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.21; Right Hip DI = 0.23. Ranking = 90%. Owned by Brice Fawcett (F).

DULCIE OF SANDHILL: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Arthur's Pal of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.38; Right Hip DI = 0.39. Ranking = 50%. Owned by Donald & Tami Edgar (F).

DOC OF SANDHILL: Sire; Friedrich of Dutchman's Hollow: Dam; Arthur's Pal of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.22; Right Hip DI = 0.22. Ranking = 90%. Owned by Joe Smith (M).

AXEL OF WOLFFORK CANYON: Sire; Barton de Los Altos: Dam; Akay of the Midnight Sun. Left Hip DI = 0.27; Right Hip DI = 0.40. Ranking = 50%. Owned by Theresa Maule (M).

GENERAL GRANT OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Badgah of Willow Springs: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.26; Right Hip DI = 0.26. Ranking = 90%. Owned by Gary Gaertaner (M).

GABBY DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW: Sire; Badgah of Willow Springs: Dam; Ayla of Ancient Kennel. Left Hip DI = 0.31; Right Hip DI = 0.28. Ranking = 80%. Owned by Andy Yeast (F).

ARCHIE OF PRAIRIE'S PROMISE: Sire; Andrew Philip of Sourdough Trail: Dam; Arlie of Dakota Prairie. Left Hip DI = 0.37; Right Hip DI = 0.31. Ranking = 80%. Owned by Micheal Branigan (F).

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP??

WPGCA membership runs January through December. Your dues help support the work of the WPGCA, including our breeding program and testing program. Do the WPGCA a favor and use the on-line membership application form. You'll still need to mail in your \$40.00 membership check, but using the on-line form makes sure we get your contact info correct in our database. Here's where to find the on-line application:

<http://www.wpgca.org/about-us/join-or-renew-membership/>

Upon submission of the completed on-line application, you will receive a copy via email to the address you specify. Print a copy of the email and send it with your \$40.00 membership dues check (payable to: WPGCA) to:

ANDY RUPP, Treasurer WPGCA
9592 Kendrick Way
Arvada, CO 80007

Griffon Gear

Looking for a way to show your pride in your WPGCA dogs? Be sure to get your WPGCA apparel. We've got a variety of hats and shirts with the WPGCA logo. Here can you get it? In the past, it was only available at our tests. Thanks to Jon Coil (Heartland Chapter), we now have Griffon Gear available through our website. Just go on-line to <http://www.wpgca.org> and follow the link to griffon gear. Sorry. No credit card sales, but you can check out the merchandise, download an order form and send it by mail.

Breeding Committee Update – 2013

**by
John Pitlo and Jim Seibel**

We started the year of 2013 with plans to breed 4-5 females as we usually do – knowing that something was bound to occur where one or two would not happen. One of the first females to come into season was Alexis of Arrowrock – owned by Bob Matsuoka. The male we intended to use was Clancy of Salmon River owned by Kevin Kennedy. Because it was the middle of winter and we could not get the two dogs together – it was decided to use trans cervical insemination (TCI) for this breeding. Semen was collected from Clancy in WA and shipped to ID where Bob’s vet did the TCI. However, the vet reported that Alexix’s cervix was “tipped” and he could not deliver the semen to the uterus. This breeding did not result in any puppies.

The second female to come into season was Bridget of Willow Springs owned by Brad Meyen who lives in Alaska. The male was Friederich of Dutchman’s Hollow who lives in ND. This breeding was also going to be a TCI with chilled semen shipped from ND to AK. However, due to snags and snafus in the shipping with FedEx (the semen actually sat for a weekend in a shipping warehouse), the semen was dead when the package was opened for use with Bridget. (We learned a lesson here – never ship near a weekend and make sure the receiving vet has facilities to hold chilled semen at his location).

The third female to come into season was Aerobix of Wolf Fork Canyon owned by Randy Hulme in WY. We shipped semen from Friederich of Dutchman’s Hollow to Randy’s vet and they performed the TCI. Aerobix was in whelp but 2 weeks before whelping she had a green discharge. Randy rushed Aerobix to the vet college and although they were able to save Aerobix, all the puppies were lost and they recommended she not be bred again. Like I said before – we knew something would happen – we just did not know how bad it was.

Next was Akay of the Midnight Sun owned by Randy Mann. The male we used was Crownpoints Wykeham Lad owned by Vicky Foster. The semen was shipped to WA and Akay was TCI’d which resulted in 10 puppies whelped on May 14, 2013.

Next to come into season was Francesca of Dutchman’s Hollow owned by Dave and Mary Jo Finley who live in Indiana. The male we selected was Benny “B” of the Midnight sun owned by Jim Crouse who lives in Ohio. There were two natural breedings, the first of which occurred on April 21, 2013. This mating resulted in no pups. Jim had Benny tested and he had motile semen; however, when we went to use him again late in 2013 – the semen was not viable. So that was the reason for no pups from this mating.

So now we had tried 5 breedings – 4 did not take and we only had 1 succesful litter. John & Vivian Pitlo volunteered to breed Ayla of Ancient Kennel for the 3rd time. She was surgically inseminated with frozen semen from Blue Mountains Brew April 30, 2013 which resulted in 9 pups whelped on June 30, 2013. So the club produced 19 pups this year – they went to the following club members.

**”B” litter of Wolf Fork Canyon (WFC)– Breeder is Randy Mann
Akay of the Midnight Sun X Crownpoints Wykeham Lad**

Zeb Brueckman —Washington Male- Bambino of WFC -	Ben Berka —Iowa Female- Beckett of WFC
Bryan Rowder —Wyoming Male- Bo of WFC	Robin Strathy —Montana Female- Brillo of WFC
Phil Lukish —Pennsylvania Male- Bolt of WFC	Les Noehre —North Dakota Female- ”B”Lucy of WFC
Gordon Young —New Jersey Male- Baron of WFC	Andy Goode—Maine Female - Becasse of WFC
Pat Rugar —Oregon Male- Brew of WFC	Dave Read—Michigan Male- Briar of WFC

**”H” litter of Dutchman’s Hollow (DH) – Breeders are John & Vivian Pitlo
Ayla of Ancient Kennel X Blue Mountains Brew**

Steve Scheutte – Wisconsin Female– Hika of DH	Jim Seibel– Michigan Female– Hershey of DH
Dan Walsh – Michigan Male – Henry of DH	Vince Esposito– Utah Female- Helena of DH
Richard Schwerin – Minnesota Female – Hilda of DH	John Pitlo – Iowa Female- Hendrika of DH
Jeff Dillon – Oregon Male- Huckleberry of DH	Tim Jipson– Maine Female- Hachi of DH
Mark Barker – Michigan Male – Hawkeye of DH	

WPGCA Webinar

For those of you not able to join the webinar on January 24th, due to the time of day,
here is a link to the recording so you can view it at your leisure.

[https://cornell.webex.com/cornell/ldr.php?
AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=20961692&rKey=8a98af4b446cae85](https://cornell.webex.com/cornell/ldr.php?AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=20961692&rKey=8a98af4b446cae85)

WPGCA Webinar-20140124 1710-1
January 24, 2014, 3:04 pm New York Time

Judy Coil
Secretary WPGCA



On Their Way! Here's the **Dutchman's Hollow H Litter** (part of it) posing with their new families at the Heartland Fall Test. Richard Schwerin & Hilda, Jim Seibel & Hershey, Dan Walsh & Henry, breeder John Pitlo & Tim Jipson's Hachi, Steve Scheutte family & Hika, Mark and Karen Barker & Hawkeye.