

The Gun Dog Supreme

NEWS BULLETIN of the
BOHEMIAN WIREHAired POINTING GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA

<http://bohemiangriffon.org>

August 2019

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings:

It's a busy time. The Fall Tests are just around the corner, and the 2019 hunting season is about to fire up. But, before you load up the dogs and head for the hinterlands, please take the time to cast your ballot on the constitution change proposal. You can vote via paper ballot or go on-line to do it.

Of course, the August issue has all the Spring 2019 test score data. We can only squeeze in a few black and white photos of the test action in the GDS, so please go to our on-line photo gallery to see lots of photos of the dogs in full-color. Sorry. I didn't get photos of every dog. Photography volunteers are in short supply too, so please help out at the Fall test.

<http://bohemiangriffon.org/galleries/>

Laurie Connell deserves a huge round of applause for her work on developing FCI recognition for our dogs. Read her article carefully.

I hope to see many of you at the Fall tests. Here's wishing you staunch points and retrieves to hand.

Rem DeJong,

Editor

On the Cover:

Henry of Auger Falls (M) NAT Owner:
Wallace Roberts
Heartland Spring Test 2019
(Photo by: Cheryl Breuckman)

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

EDITORS

Rem DeJong
John Pitlo

SUBSCR./BACK ISSUES

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

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Send articles or proposals 1 month prior to publication to:

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

PHOTO SUBMISSION

All photos should be sent to:

Rem DeJong
7219 St Charles Place
Kalamazoo MI 49009
Ph: 906-236-0746(EST)

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

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<http://bohemiangriffon.org>

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<http://wpgca.smugmug.com/>

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Membership to Vote on Proposed Constitution Changes

The Board of Officers has recently discussed changing our club name to clearly distinguish ourselves from the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon breed, to move away from a long and rather convoluted name, as well as well to more accurately represent our breed. The Board is proposing to change our club name to “Český Fousek North America” and to make the necessary changes to the club Constitution. Changes to our Constitution require approval by 2/3 of votes cast by paid-up members.

Since our last name change (in 2015, to “Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America”), we have imported over 60 Český Fousek puppies from the Czech Republic and The Netherlands. Many attempts have been made to register our dogs as Český Fousek with recognized breed clubs. After years of help from the Czech club we have gotten official word from the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) that our dogs should be registered through the Fédération Cynologique Puerto Rico (FCPR). [Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States]. We have several dogs that will be registered through the FCPR and plan to continue that process. By registering our dogs through the FCI, the parent organization to the FCPR, and more closely aligning our club with the Český Fousek clubs worldwide, we can gain more widespread and formal recognition of our dogs. It has been suggested that changing our club name to be representative of the Český Fousek would be logical step to take prior to signing any formal agreement with the FCPR. In addition, the Club has already registered “Český Fousek North America” as an online domain name.

The proposed Constitution revision, as recommended by the Board of Directors, would replace the words “Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America” with “Český Fousek North America”. In addition, Section 6 of the Constitution would be changed from the Griffon Registry Book (GRB) to the Český Fousek Registry Book (CFRB). The proposed revised Constitution can be viewed online at:

<http://bohemiangriffon.org/about-us/constitution/proposed-constitution-changes/>

All votes on the proposed change must be cast within 30 days of the mailing date on this August 2019 issue of Gun Dog Supreme. Note: Only paid-up members can vote. Ballots will be mailed to coincide with delivery of the GDS to all club members who have paid dues in 2018 and 2019. The mailing will include a ballot and a membership form. If you have not yet paid your 2019 membership dues, but wish to vote, you may still do so by paying your dues online at:

<https://bohemiangriffon.org/join-renew/>

or by completing the membership form and including a dues check with your ballot. When you receive your ballot, please complete and return it promptly. Paid members will also receive an invitation by email to vote online.

Jim Crouse, President

Editor's Note:

The changes proposed to the constitution are identified below. Terms to be replaced are printed in ~~strike through font~~. New terms are printed in **Bold** type.

There are three related changes in the proposal. Members are asked to approve each.

1. The name of the club shall be changed to: "Český Fousek North America."
2. The breed name used throughout the constitution shall be changed to "Český Fousek."
3. The club breed registry book shall be changed to: "Český Fousek Registry Book (CFRB)."

Constitution

~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of~~ **America**

Český Fousek North America

(Revised ~~2015~~ 2019)

Article I. Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization is the ~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America~~ **Český Fousek North America**.

Section 2. The purpose of the club is to protect, promote, and improve the ~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon~~ **Český Fousek** breed by such activities as:

Developing recommended breeding programs based on performance and type, as outlined in the breed standards.

Sponsoring and participating in field tests that are designed to evaluate the versatile hunting qualities of the ~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon~~ **Český Fousek**.

Sponsoring local chapters of the ~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of America~~ **Český Fousek**

North America.

Affiliating with foreign clubs and studbooks devoted to the advancement and protection of hunting dogs
Cooperating with all other clubs and organizations devoted to the advancement and protection of hunting dogs: and
Acquainting hunters with the characteristics of the ~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon~~ **Český Fousek**.

Section 3. The club is a non-profit organization.

Article II. Activation and Membership

Section 1. The club was activated in 1951 and has been active since that date.

Section 2. Persons of good standing interested in the ~~Bohemian Wirehaired Pointing Griffon~~ **Český Fousek** and approved by the Board of Directors become members upon payment of annual dues. Active members are those who have paid their annual dues for the current year.

Section 3. The Board of Directors at the discretion of the Board of Directors may make expulsion of a member by a majority vote, for any action that they believe to be detrimental to the club. Expulsion shall not be contestable, except that the expelled member may apply for membership in any succeeding year.

Section 4. The club may elect to lifetime honorary membership, without payment of dues, any person who makes an outstanding contribution to the purpose of the club.

Article III. Officers and Committees

Section 1. The officers of the club are the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers serve for three years and without pay.

Section 2. The President appoints acting officers to fill vacancies occurring between elections and appoints regional chairs and committee chairs as may be required. The President, in consultation with the other officers, appoints a member of the Ćclub to serve as Editor of the Ćclub news bulletin, and a member to serve as Registrar.

Section 3. The Secretary is the executive agent of the Ćclub. He or she maintains records of the Ćclub, conducts Ćclub correspondence, and conducts the business of the Ćclub in accordance with its constitution and motions adopted by the Ćclub.

Section 4. The Treasurer receives all Ćclub membership fees and other monies for the Ćclub, except monies directed elsewhere by the President. He or she maintains the Ćclub bank account as directed by the President. He or she maintains a record of all Ćclub monies. Once per year, he or she prepares the annual Treasurer's Report for publication in the December issue of the Ćclub news bulletin, The Gun Dog Supreme. This annual financial report must be submitted to the Board of Directors (via the Secretary) prior to publication in the Ćclub news bulletin. The Treasurer also processes all new member applications, which are then forwarded to the Secretary.

Section 5. The Editor of the Ćclub news bulletin, The Gun Dog Supreme, publishes the news bulletin six times per year under the direction of the Board of Directors. He or she ensures that the news bulletin is available to each paid-up Ćclub member.

Section 6. The registrar maintains the ~~Griffon~~ **Český Fousek Club Registry**, called the ~~Griffon~~ **Český Fousek Registry Book (GCFRB)**, and related items, such as certified pedigrees, litter and individual registrations, Breeders Agreements, and reports directly to the Secretary. He or she also presents an annual report of the Registry to the Board of Directors.

Article IV. Elections

Section 1. Any paid-up members mail nominations for officers to the Secretary prior to November 1 of an election year. The Secretary will publish in the December, The Gun Dog Supreme of an election year, all nominations received. All votes mailed to the designated vote counter, prior to December 31 of that year, after publication of the slate of nominees, are counted, and elections is by majority.

Article V. Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1. The parliamentary business of the Club is conducted by mail or email. To the extent practical, Robert's Rule of Order applies.

Section 2. Normal procedure requires the Secretary, by correspondence and through the medium of The Gun Dog Supreme, to canvas the opinions of the Club members and to frame appropriate motions to be presented to Club members either by mail, email, or by publication in The Gun Dog Supreme. A simple majority of votes cast by paid-up members within thirty days carries a motion, except for motion to revise or amend the constitution, which motions require a two-thirds majority.

Article VI. Dues

Section 1. The annual dues are sixty dollars (\$60) unless changed by a vote of the membership by a simple majority, payable on January 1 of each year.

Success!

Formal Recognition of our Club Dogs

by
Laurie Connell

For many years our club has been trying to have some sort of official recognition in the broader dog world. Our dogs have been called illegitimate and worse on some websites and within the Wirehaired Pointing Griffon world there continues to be the impression that we do not have legitimate dogs, websites warn against acquiring one of our dogs. Now we have the opportunity to change the club name to one that does not include the word “griffon” and that will help us get away from that stigma. But there is another set of steps that will also help. These are 1) having our dogs officially recognized in a major dog organization and 2) have our club become the breed club in that organization so that we can set the rules for breeding dogs. The Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) is the largest international canine registration organization and their registrations are accepted by all other major dog organizations that recognize the Český Fousek breed.

The general club member may have little interest in this endeavor because they just want a good hunting dog. But part of that effort requires a robust breeding program. That is the part of the puzzle that is greatly helped by official recognition in a worldwide organization. In addition, some members of our club would like to participate other dog-world events, such as NAVHDA or UKC events as well as in Český Fousek events that require registration in the FCI, for example the Český Fousek World Cup. Further, this will allow us to export dogs for other countries breeding programs to help maintain genetic diversity.

As many of you may remember, I have been working for the last six years trying to find a path to have our dogs recognized without moving into the American Kennel Club (AKC) or Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) world. It is important to maintain control of the breed as hunting dogs. This philosophy is held by our Parent Club, the Klub Chovatelů Českých Fousků (KCHČF), and is held under their rules in the FCI.

The Český Fousek is not currently a recognized breed by the AKC or CKC. We firmly believe in the work of the KCHČF has accomplished with their national hunting breed, a rare breed, with breed management. The KCHČF has established breed lines as well as the requirement for exterior, working ability, and health. Our club also have these basic requirements for breeding animals. Many rare breeds that have been registered with the AKC become popular and the breeding of those races became uncontrolled resulting in deterioration of the breed. We understand that rare races require breed management. In addition, the AKC does not allow any outcrosses with similar breeds for genetic diversity to maintain good health, as the FCI does, and the KCHČF has done. Therefore, our club did not request recognition through the AKC. In 2014 we attempted to have our club dogs recognized by NAVHDA however, because of our long tumultuous history with NAVHDA we were turned down. Dead-end... We also approached the United Kennel Club (UKC) but we could not have our domestically bred club dogs accepted for breeding registration. Another dead-end.....

The process working with the FCI took nearly three years, hit many dead-ends, and came up against much misinformation. However, Pavel Dostál and I persisted. While some of us were in the Czech Republic for the World Cup in the fall of 2018 our club President, Jim Crouse, and I met with MVDr. Široký, president of ČMKU (Czech kennel club, member of FCI) and Pavel Dostál, as representative of the KCHČF, to find out what path forward our club might take so that our dogs could be recognized by the FCI. Pavel Dostál spoke with MVDr. Široký in early November 2018 and reported that MVDr. Široký meet in Poland with the president of the FCI, Rafael de Santiago from Puerto Rico, and with Yves De Clercq FCI Executive Director from Belgium. The suggestion then was that the ČMKU be the organization that would register our dogs. That lead to many letters back and forth as well as getting a letter from the AKC as to why we would not be registering our dogs in their organization. This turned out to be another one of those dead-ends.....

SUCCESS AT LAST! In May 2019 the FCI held another international meeting at the Shanghai China International Dog Show where our question of registration was again brought up. Last month we finally got word from the FCI (Yves De Clercq) that we should register our dogs through the Puerto Rico FCI kennel club, Federación Canófila de Puerto Rico (FCPR) because they are part of the US as a territory.

The process for registering domestically bred dogs and those with FCI Export Pedigrees are different. Registering litters is straightforward but requires both parents to be registered in the FCPR.

Dogs that possess an FCI Export Pedigree (from Czech Republic or The Netherlands) have a straightforward process and the owner need only send the original FCI registration, an FCPR form, and the fee to the FCPR headquarters in San Juan. These are through regular US mail and no additional postage is needed. There remained the question on how the FCPR would handle approving registrations of our club dogs that do not have an FCI Export Pedigree. In the Czech Republic two FCI approved breed judges need to inspect the dog and certify that it conforms to the breed standard before a registration can be complete. This would mean we would need two FCI judges come to the US and inspect all of our breeding dogs. However, the FCPR only requested a series of photographs instead of in person evaluation by judges. As a test of the process, I sent in a registration request for Allagash of Coyote Hills and had no problem with getting a permanent registration certificate in the mail.

The club registrar (Laurie Connell) can help anyone who wants an FCI registration with this process. Allow one to two months for the final paperwork to be returned to you.

Our club goal is to have all of our litters registered in FCPR and then if owners wish to obtain a full registration to enter an FCI, NAVHDA, or UKC event they will have that opportunity open to them.

Getting the word out to the greater hunting dog world can benefit our club and the breed in North America. This endeavor may take some additional time but can lead to fun opportunities for ourselves and our dogs.

Northeast Spring Test 2019

by

Andy Ogden and Laurie Connell

During a bit of an overcast and cool day in May we met in Winterport Maine to test four of our young dogs. Rick Molt was the senior judge with Phil Bennett and Dennis Carlson filling out the judging ranks. Laurie Connell and Andy Ogden apprenticed and Kurt Soneson and Mark Canfield were our able bird wranglers. Dennis flew into Bangor the night before the test from Hood River, Oregon. Participants and spectators arrived from all over New England as well as Pennsylvania. We were pleased to have several potential new members come and watch. The Kenneleys arrived from Boston MA with their 7 month old non-club imported female,

Moly od Vavřineckého rybníka, and a beautiful Český Fousek cake for the club dinner.



Let Them Eat Cake!

Thanks to the Kenneleys for a fine addition to our club dinner.

(Photo by Laurie Connell)

The test had three natural ability tests and one intermediate hunting dog test. We began the day with the traditional hunting horn music as well as a Czech “welcome to the hunt” song.

The first and second up were the last two of the “D” of Valley House pups (**Flik z Lovčických tarasů x Brita Eso**) to be tested this year. We began with **Dasch** and Paul

Fazio from PA. Dasch opened up with a nice search of field and closed in when entering heavy cover in the woods. Despite some distractions in the gallery he did finally come around and gave a solid point. The bird did not cooperate for his first track so a second track was set up and he tracked very well didn’t give up after the bird went into a rock wall. Dasch had no problem in the water and ended with a prize I, perfect score.

Second dog of the day was **Doc Holliday of Valley House**, also known as Bohdi, handled by Chance Carlson. As with his brother, Bohdi showed plenty of game drive and lots of exuberance in the water. Bohdi had a very nice search and track with a delivery to hand. We saw a very solid point and good work between the handler and dog. Another nice prize I, 28 points was racked up by the Valley House pups.

Bella z České Jahodnice (Erik z Lívy x Jenny ze Sokolí doliny) with David Trudell from PA was the last NAT of the day. Bella is a very nice imported brown female that had little exposure before the test. We could see the “wheels turning” and her learn all through the test. Her search improved by the minute as she gained confidence. Bella exhibited a good nose but didn’t point so unfortunately there was no prize. However she did return both birds directly to hand! When Dave gets more exposure and experi-

ence for her and works in the water she will be a fine hunting dog. We look forward to a much-improved performance for the IHDT.

Last up for the day was our IHDT with **Alby of Bald Eagle (Alan od Tí stromú x Cirad od Aliny z Nehvizd)** and Bryan Pennington all the way from NC. Alby is a handsome 24 mo. male. Alby started his search tentatively and had some difficulty getting out effectively but when he entered the woods his search improved markedly. It should be noted that the test site is also where Alby lived all last summer so he knew there wouldn't be birds in the field. This was followed with a staunch and productive point. His Retrieve of Dragged Game was going well and he crossed the stonewall easily but on the way back he dropped the bird 30 yards from Bryan and then brought the bird to hand with an additional command. There is only one word for a track of Pheasant where an efficient and steady track is followed by a classic retrieve to hand - Perfect! On track of the duck Alby tracked to the waters edge but had difficulty crossing the body of water. As often happens the stronger the urging and the more rocks thrown the more confused and tentative he became. At this point Alby refused to retrieve a duck from deep water and no score could be given. Most dogs and handlers would have given up and headed to the truck but not Alby and Brian. They took a little walk regrouped and were able to get a score of 2 on the blind retrieve. The bond between this handler and dog are exceptional. The improvement in this dog from his NAT in Idaho to his IHDT is nothing short of amazing. We are certain that when Alby comes back to test again he will come away with a prize I, he certainly has the ability.

In the evening we voted in a new treasurer, Anita Trial (new owner of Austin of Shaw Brook) and Andy Ogden gave a report from the National meeting. Many thanks to all those who attended and helped make the Northeast spring test a success.



DOC HOLIDAY OF VALLEY HOUSE on his way to a Prize I. Owned by Chance Carlson, Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield.

(Photo by Laurie Connell)

RMGC Spring Test 2019

by
Tawna Skinner

Twenty dogs were evaluated at the Rocky Mountain chapter of BWPGCA annual spring test this year. The weather was pleasant, except for Friday when 40F. temps and a cold 20+ mph wind created frigid and challenging scenting conditions.

Over the 3 days, 13 pups from the club's 2018 breedings were tested. 6 pups prized. Tracking the live pheasant seemed to be the major challenge for these young dogs, though some also had difficulties with pointing and water. With a late winter across the West this year, access to open water for swimming practice was minimal and some of the pups had not had enough bird and handling exposure in their young lives to be able to exhibit the qualities/skills we are evaluating in NA test.

Five Intermediate, one Older Hunting dog and one UFT dog were also tested. None of these dogs were able to prize; however, all the dogs showed great game desire and searching abilities. All of the older dogs had difficulties with "track of the duck" including the UFT dog **Salmon River Dynamite**, who, without getting a toe wet or tracking scent on water, found the duck and brought it to hand. **Dora Eso**, owned by Ron Lilejdahl, demonstrated her perseverance and tenacity in the duck track when she tracked the wayward duck that had left the pond area, crossed a field, a ditch and was



Affinity for Water

Brandt Bullock reads **Calamity Jane of Nichol's Creek** to dive in for the dummy on her way to a Prize I performance. Rocky Mountain Spring 2019. (Photo by Kathleen Meyen)

headed to parts unknown through the sagebrush. She found and caught the duck and ate part of the leg. This eating of game has been a problem for the pair and eliminated the prize for her qualifying score. However, this little brown dog demonstrated that she has “all the goods” to be a great hunting companion when they get the “game mutilation” under control.

Prior to the three days of testing, the RM chapter offered a Pre-test practice/training day. All of the older dogs/handlers attended and 5 or 6 of the pups. The day was sunny, yet cool, just right for practicing skills. In the morning, at the test site we worked with the pups. Tawna Skinner helped handlers/dogs with a tracking exercise. Gary Pool helped handlers/dogs at the pond. It was suggested that all the pups go for walks over the testing site to introduce them to the new terrain, smells, cover, water, etc.

In the afternoon, all of the older dogs practiced their skills in blind retrieve, track of the duck, live bird tracking and searching. According to handler’s comments, pre-test training day was very helpful, and some said their dog would not have done as well as they did without that day’s practice.

Our Saturday evening banquet was held at a new venue, just ten minutes from the motel. It was catered by Elevation 486, a local and quite popular Twin Falls restaurant. The meal of BBQ pork ribs, salad, potatoes, vegetable and dessert was outstanding and the service excellent. As a result, it will most likely be the venue for next year’s Judge’s Seminar. Over 50 members attended and through their generous support of our raffle and silent auction fundraisers, we were able to generate sufficient funds to cover our yearly test expenses and make a bit of a profit.

Lunches at the test site were again wonderful, thanks to our chapter president, Angie McDunn and all the members who donated their special foods to the cause.

With four days of activities this year at our test site, it takes a lot of planning and logistics to make it all run smoothly and successfully. Once again, the club members willingly and happily stepped up to accomplish all the myriad tasks necessary. Thank you all so much, we could not do it all without you.



Dasenka of Valley House; owner: Brad Meyen. NAT Rocky Mountain Spring 2019

Heartland Test: Spring 2019

by
Jon Coil

Apr 10, 2019, at 3:48 AM

Crouse

Hey look over the running order and make sure it's right.

Reply to Judy

I'm in the hospital getting my appendix removed first thing in morning.

I don't have my paperwork with me. ☹️

DR(Dave Reed)

A little more than a week before the Heartland Spring Test, Dave Reed the unflappable Test Chairman, sent this email to Senior Judge Jim Crouse (check the time). So goes the run up to every test. Put out the fires, keep moving forward. Thanks Dave!

The weekend started Thursday when five handlers and their dogs took advantage of the Training day put on by Heartland Chapter Judges. This training day is an opportunity for handlers to have access to live birds for a pheasant track or for Intermediate Hunting



Alibi of Buckeye Valley, Prize I IHDT with owners Ken and Linda Erb. Heartland Spring Test 2019
(Photo by Roger Fuhrman)

Dogs, to use a live duck for a track or use dead birds for a last-minute drag track or a blind retrieve in simulated test conditions. We encourage all handlers to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity in the relaxed atmosphere before the test.

Friday the Sauk Prairie Grill hosted the annual Board of Directors meeting with the Judges Seminar following. One subject of the seminar was: Judges, recruitment and retention. The discussion touched on the best methods to introduce new apprentices to the art of judging. Judging is a hard job but so important for the Breeding Committee to acquire accurate information on the dogs produced by the club's breeding program and all interested members are urged to get involved. It requires a sacrifice of time and effort but will make you a better dog trainer/ hunter and allow the club to make informed decisions to keep improving the conformation and ability of our dogs. During the training of judges, it has been a common practice after watching a dog perform a task to gather the judging group and discuss what was observed and determine a score. Since the score represents what was observed, like the math I was taught in my dim distant youth, the answer is only as important as the process to determine the score. Apprentice Judges are normally asked to give their observations first to show their thought process, before a score is determined. During my own stint as an apprentice judge, I spewed words at random, hoping to hit the magic sentence to describe what I saw the dog do, finally sputtering to silence under the steady interest of Senior Judge John Pitlo. After a few years I did observe that a correct description of the dog's performance would occasionally earn the apprentice a small nod from the Senior Judge, positive enforcement at its finest. After witnessing the sardonic humor of President Jim Crouse for years, several of us saw the jaw dropping sight of Jim giving apprentice judge Dave Read a hug. I got a picture. The BWPGCA President is putting words into action!

Saturday was a beautiful day in Wisconsin with a lot of the United States represented: Alabama, South Carolina, Missouri, Tennessee, Ohio, Wisconsin, New York, Maine, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Montana, Washington, Michigan. I hope I didn't miss a state. We were also graced by sandhill cranes and Canada geese passing overhead, spring was moving fast along the Wisconsin River, just downstream from the cabin where Aldo Leopold formalized his thoughts on wildlife management. We gathered, forty-three strong, for the morning start of the Heartland Spring Test. We were going to test five intermediate dogs and eight natural ability dogs during the weekend. It was Easter weekend and it was amazing group of people that would give up their Easter to further the cause of the BWPGCA in producing wonderful pets and hunters. We thank all of you for your efforts!

The Intermediate Hunting Dogs tested were **Becky z Plezomského lesa, Alibi of Buckeye Valley, Al of Buckeye Valley, Dora Eso (Sage), Bojar z Bencova Dvora, Cahaba's Lola od Karlova smrku**. During the training day on Thursday, **Ajax aus Böhmerwald** was retested in pointing and water work. A Prize 1 was earned by Alibi of Buckeye Valley and owner Ken Erb. Congratulations on a job well done!

There was impressive work by all the dogs but the hang up was in the two categories that lie out of the Natural Ability portion of the test, the drag track and the water work. Therefore, long before I finished the Natural Ability test with Adler of the High Country in 1995, the idea of retrieve training is repeated and repeated for those that have completed the Natural Ability Test and are preparing for the Intermediate Hunting Dog Test. In addition to perfecting the retrieve, the drag track, the duck track and the blind

retrieve usually need to be practiced a few times by the dog and handler before the test in order for the dog to pass and even then if there is going to be a bump in the road during the test it will be in these categories. For dog and handler, it is always more comforting to have gone through all aspects of the test while training so both you and the dog are confident with doing the tasks. Then even if the team has trouble with one of the categories on test day, the team will be able to get back on track and continue for a good performance.

The Natural Ability dogs being tested were **Hemingway of Auger Falls, Darwin Wallace of Valley House, Hunters Destiny of Auger Falls, Henry of Auger Falls, Hadley of Auger Falls, Choot of Nichol's Creek, Callie of Nichol's Creek and Cider of Nichol's Creek**. All the dogs showed great natural ability with most receiving a prize. The handlers did a wonderful job of exposing these dogs to the places of such great fun, the field and ponds.

We gathered Saturday night at the Sauk-Prairie Grill for a fabulous dinner and reading of the test scores. It was a grand evening of great food, conversation and prizes. We are so lucky for all the people that bring items to auction or give away. Vivian Pitlo again took advantage of Menard's to provide a plethora of door prizes and we auctioned off several donated bottles of "Ugly Dog" Liquor, and a fine leather leash. Auctioneer Jon Coil (second generation auctioneer, Dad would be so proud) did his best but the crowd mostly ignored his deadpan chant and bid enthusiastically. Most enjoyed the family argument when, during the auction, Judy Coil flapped her arms around and bought a leash she didn't know she was bidding on. If you are going to sit in the front row at an auc-



Auger Falls H Littermates at Heartland Test (left to right)

Hemingway of Auger Falls (M) NAT Owner: Jonathan Dorn

Henry of Auger Falls (M) NAT Wallace Roberts

Hadley of Auger Falls (M) NAT Ben Berka

Hunters Destiny of Auger Falls (F) NAT Russell Steele

(photo by Roger Fuhrman)

tion, don't flap your arms when you talk. It was a beautiful leash!

Andy Yeast had his first turn as an Apprentice Senior Judge. Andy kept his cool and did a marvelous job. Thanks for taking on this important effort! Greg Hurtig, Jim Crouse and John Pitlo took charge as Senior Judges. Judges were Jim Seibel, Dave Finley, Dennis Carlson and Rick Sodja, Dennis and Rick from the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Chapters came in to help Judge. John McDunn, Andy Ogden and Laurie Connell, from the Rocky Mountain and Northeast Chapter, help apprentice along with Heartland apprentices Dave Read and Monica Redmond. Ken Hurtig did the measuring of the IHDT dogs. Photographers were Cheryl Breuckman, Roger Fuhrman and Jon Coil. Bird handlers were Paul Stadem, Kyle Kessler, Ted Coon, John Dorn, Spiro Mavroidis and Tom Breuckman. Vivian Pitlo helped with Saturday's lunch. It is easy to see these tests take a large group to make it work. We thank you all and apologize if we missed anyone.

Dave Read could use help with the Field Test Chairmanship, a few months before the test there are a lot of phone calls to be made. Please offer to help him. readgriff@gmail.com Dave says you don't have to break any bones or have appendicitis before the test, he will take care of that stuff, he just needs help with the organizing. See you at the Fall Test.



(Left)
Cahaba's Lola od Karlova smrku
 owned by Don Fizer,
 IHDT, spring 2019, WI,
 (photo by Jon Coil)



Becky z Plezomskeho lesa
 Owner: Edwin McCain
 IHDT, Spring 2019 WI
 (Photo by Jon Coil)

NATURAL ABILITY TEST, SPRING 2019

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

	Age in Months	Searching	Pointing	Track of Live Bird	Affinity for Water	Nose and Use of Nose	Attitude Toward Work	Cooperation	TOTAL POINTS	PRIZE CLASSIFICATION	Conformation	Coat	Temperament
	A	S	P	TB	W	N	AW	C	TP	C	CO	CT	T
GROUP 451 (Feb., 2019 GDS)													
CALAMITY JANE OF NICHOL'S CREEK, F, ID	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I			ok
CIDER OF NICHOL'S CREEK, F, WI	14	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I			ok
COUPER OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, ID	13	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I			ok
CHOOT OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, WI	14	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	27	I			ok
CALLIE OF NICHOL'S CREEK, F, WI	14	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	26	II			ok
COLTON OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, ID	13	4	4	2	4	3	4	4	25	III			ok
CASMIR GOOSE OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, ID	13	1	4	1	4	1	1	2	14				*
CODY OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, ID	13	3	0	0	1	2	2	2	10				*
GROUP 457 (Page 20)													
BELLA Z CESKE JAHODNICE, F, ME	16	4	2	2	0	4	2	2	16				ok
GROUP 458 (Page 20)													
DASENKA OF VALLEY HOUSE, F, ID	12	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I			*
DOC HOLIDAY OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, ME	14	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I			ok
DASCH OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, ME	14	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	27	I			ok

Note: Readers will notice a change in one aspect of reporting in that no CONFORMATION or COAT score is given. We have found that many dogs are still in growth spurts at these young ages and the true length and height changes between the NAT and IHDT test. Coats also change at these young ages. Also, jaws grow in spurts and a 12 month old dog may have a jaw that is misaligned- but it is OK at 2 yrs. of age.

NATURAL ABILITY TEST, SPRING 2019 (CONTINUED)

	A	S	P	TB	W	N	AW	C	TP	C	CO	CT	T
GROUP 458 (CONTINUED)													
DOZER OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, ID	12	4	4	2	4	3	4	4	25	III			ok
DARWIN WALLACE OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, WI	13	2	4	3	4	3	3	3	22	III			*
DANTE OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, ID	12	4	4	0	4	3	3	3	21				ok
DANICA OF VALLEY HOUSE, F, ID	12	3	0	2	4	2	3	3	17				*
GROUP 459 (Page 21)													
ARES Z HAJENKY JEDLOVA, M ID	12	4	2	1	1	2	2	3	15				ok
GROUP 460 (Page 21)													
HUNTERS DESTINY OF AUGER FALLS, F, WI	11	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28	I			ok
HENRY OF AUGER FALLS, M, WI	11	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	27	I			ok
HADLEY OF AUGER FALLS, F, WI	11	4	4	3	4	3	4	4	26	II			ok
HAPPY HANNA OF AUGER FALLS, F, ID	10	4	2	4	3	4	4	4	25	III			ok
HEMINGWAY OF AUGER FALLS, M, WI	11	3	4	4	2	4	2	3	22				*
HVIZDAK AMERICKY OF AUGER FALLS, F, ID	10	3	4	0	4	2	3	3	19				ok
HARTLEY OF AUGER FALLS, F, ID	10	3	4	0	0	2	2	2	13				*

NATURAL ABILITY TEST, SPRING 2019

CALAMITY JANE OF NICHOL'S CREEK, F, 12 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, good belly coverage. Temperament: great game drive, easy to examine, friendly, calm. Owned by Brandt Bullock, 4060 Kilarney Dr., Boise, ID 83704, Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

CIDER OF NICHOL'S CREEK, F, 14 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: 24 "H X 24" L. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, curly, med. furnishings, needs better belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, friendly, calm. Owned by Todd Walrod, 39780-B 175th Ave., Leland, IA 50453, Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

COUPER OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, 13 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: Coat: med. harsh, med. dense. Temperament: good game drive, easy to examine, friendly, energetic, very cooperative. Owned by Greg Miyachi, Bx 282, Grand Lake, CO 80447. Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS

DOGS EVALUATED IN SPRING, 2019 (CONTINUED)

CHOOT OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, 14 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: 24.5" H X 24.5" L Coat: med. harsh, dense, not flat lying, good belly coverage, full furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, friendly, calm. Owned by Steve Smith, 104 Ash St., Lebanon, SD 57455, Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

CALLIE OF NICHOL'S CREEK, F, 14 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: 24.5" H X 24.5" L. Coat: med. harsh, dense. Temperament: happy, eager, good game drive. Owned by Bob Rock, 1837 35th St., NE, Lanmore, ND 58251. Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

COLTON OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, 13 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: 24" H X 24" L, right eye open, butt bite. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, slight curl, open belly. Temperament: easy to examine, friendly, eager, good game drive. Owned by Kevin Kennedy, 2711 86th Ave, East, Edgewood, WA 98371 Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

CASMIR GOOSE OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, 13 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: 25.75" H X 24" L, narrow chest, thin leg bones, little angle in elbow. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, slight curl, ok on belly. Temperament: afraid of birds initially, immature, sensitive. Owned by Eric/Jen Coet, 103 Walnut St., Windsor, CO 80550. Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

CODY OF NICHOL'S CREEK, M, 13 mos., whelped 2/20/2018. Conformation: Coat: Temperament: hesitant, lacked exposure, immature. Owned by Michael Moormeier, 3269 Washington Way, Longview, WA 98632. Bred by Steve/Debbie Schuette. Pedigree 451, Feb., 2019 GDS.

BELLA Z CESKE JAHODNICE, F, 16 mos., whelped 1/11/2018. Conformation: Coat: dog had been shaved. Temperament: easy to examine, friendly, eager, lacks exposure. Owned by David Trudell, 355 Treasure Lake, 647 Santo Domingo Crt., DuBois, PA 15801. Bred by Martin Tichacek. Pedigree 457, Page 20.

DASENKA OF VALLEY HOUSE, F, 12 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: 23.5" H X 23" L. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, thin on chest, sides and belly. Temperament: *not easy to examine, nervous, anxious, tentative. Owned by Brad Meyen, 17180 Hideaway Ridge Dr., Eagle River, AK 995771. Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

DOC HOLIDAY OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, 14 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, med. furnishings, open on belly. Temperament: eager, friendly, good game drive. Owned by Chance Carlson, 29 Oakland Rd, Belgrade, ME 04917 Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

DASCH OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, 14 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: Coat: harsh, med. dense, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: bold, eager for game, friendly. Owned by Paul Fazio, 1102 Cobcord Dr., Lawrence, PA 15022. Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

DOZER OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, 12 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, soft on head, not flat lying, full furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, eager for game, sensitive, unsure at time. Owned by Rob/Susan Morris, 2520 E 2500 N, Hollister, ID 83301 Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

DARWIN WALLACE OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, 13 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, short, flat lying, sparse furnishings. Temperament: *would not let judges examine. Owned by Spiro Mavroidis, 7639 Valley View Rd., Hudson, OH 44236 Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

DANTE OF VALLEY HOUSE, M, 12 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: butt bite, light eyes. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, open on chest and ears, soft on head, full furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine. Owned by John Garske, 1302 E. Appaloosa Lane, Spokane, WA 99208. Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

DOGS EVALUATED IN SPRING, 2019 (CONTINUED)

DANICA OF VALLEY HOUSE, F, 12 mos., whelped 3/19/2018. Conformation: . Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, med. furnishings. Temperament: *unable to examine, very skittish, timid of people, sensitive. Owned by Augustine Hess, 8350 W. Victory Rd., Boise, ID 83709. Bred by Mark/Joanne Canfield. Pedigree 458, Page 20.

ARES Z HAJENKY JEDLOVA, M, 12 mos., whelped 4/2/2018. Conformation: Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, med. furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, friendly, eager. Owned by Grant Richie, 72601 Highway 82, Wallowa, OR 97885. Bred by Martin Kout. Pedigree 459, Page 21.

HUNTERS DESTINY OF AUGER FALLS, F, 11 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 24" H X 25" L. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, calm, good game drive. Owned by Russell Steele, N 8715 250th St., Spring Valley, WI 54767. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.

HENRY OF AUGER FALLS, M, 11 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 25" H X 24.5" L. Coat: med. harsh, dense, slight curl, full furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: happy, somewhat difficult to examine teeth. Owned by Wallace Roberts, 1943 Whitehall St., Maryville, TN 37803. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.

HADLEY OF AUGER FALLS, F, 11 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 23.75" H X 25" L. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, curly, med. furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, happy, eager. Owned by Ben Berka, 220 Northpark Blvd., Huxley, IA 50124. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.

HAPPY HANNA OF AUGER FALLS, F, 10 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 23" L X 23.5" H. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, full furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, happy, eager, friendly. Owned by Larry Semmens, 36574 Mackey Lake Rd., Soldotna, AK 99669. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.

HEMINGWAY OF AUGER FALLS, M, 11 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 25" H X 25" L. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, not curly, med. furnishings, Temperament: * gun sensitive, easy to examine, calm, sensitive, some insecurity. Owned by Jon Dorn, 3437 Briarcrest Dr., Eau Claire, WI 54701. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.

HVIZDAK AMERICKY OF AUGER FALLS, F, 10 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 21.5" L X 20.5" H. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, slight curl, med. furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, friendly, calm. Owned by Angie McDunn, 3380 Rottweiler Crt., Helena, MT 59602. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.

HARTLEY OF AUGER FALLS, F, 10 mos., whelped 5/23/2018. Conformation: 23.5" H X 23.5" L. Coat: med. harsh, med. dense, needs more belly coverage. Temperament: hard to examine, friendly, tentative, immature. Owned by Ross Forsberg, 22911A 107th Ave., NE, Arlington, WA 98223. Bred by Gary/Ann Pool. Pedigree 460, Page 21.



Choot of Nichol's Creek
owned by Steve Smith,
NAT, Spring 2019, WI,
Prize I
(photo by Jon Coil)

PEDGREE 457

	Cir Hrabické remízky
	Emír z Ventova dvora (58332)
	Darka z Ventova dvora
Erik z Lívy	
	Geret z Miroslavského dvora
	Jannet z Křepických vrchů
	Gita z Křepických vrchů
Bella z České Jahodnice	
	Jasan z Hložku
	Bor z Podřipské stráně
	Asta z Podřipské stráně
Jenny ze Sokolí doliny	
	Fešák od Pitné vody
	Dixi od Růvra
	Aza z Malé Volavky

PEDGREE 458

	Car z Přestavlkého revíru
	Hard ze Šimárníku
	Doria z Němečiek
Flik z Lovčických tarasů	
	Kor z Hložku
	Alma z Lovčických tarasů
	Una z Kablaně
“D” of Valley House	
	Nor od Jemiluk
	Brok z Vobícek
	Afra od Strouhovce (57806)
Brita Eso	
	Fred u Klobásné
	Mora z Aufrízu
	Zina Czech Mokřany

PEDGREE 459

	Ogar z Hložku
	Grif od Bošické skály
	Ebina od Bošické skály
Caro Max od Bouňovské studánky	Cid od Tří stromů
	Aby z Honsova sadu
	Corina ze Zátone
Ares z Hájenky Jedlová	
	Mak z Hvízdalky
	Ugas z Těšínovských buků
	Arka z Jílkova mlýna
Ambra z Cerhýnské višňovky	
	Max z Hložku
	Elis z Heřmanické stráně
	Nyka od Krále z Brusnice

PEDGREE 460

	Avar ze Střezmé
	César z Pískové zahrady
	Nira od Jemiluk
Argo ze Stoprounských vinic	
	Emír z Ventova dvora (58332)
	Exa z Lívy
	Jannet z Křepických vrchů
“H” of Auger Falls	
	Hasan z Lišova
	Ir z Třebotovických luhů
	Erna z Třebotovických luhů
Angie Vallis Baptismi	
	Oskar od Jemiluk
	Rouse z Hložku
	Nella z Hložku

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST, SPRING 2019

WATER TD = Track of Duck (5) RD = Retrieve of duck (3) BR = Blind Retrieve (4) ++ = older hunting dog	JUDGED THROUGHOUT N = Nose and Use of Nose (6) AW = Attitude Toward Work (4) C = Cooperation (3) O = Obedience (3)
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)	OTHER TP = Total Prize PR = Prize Classification CO = Conformation CT = Coat T = Temperament T* = see write-up for notation

	TD	RD	BR	S	P	RB	TB	*TR	*RF	N	AW	C	O	TP	PR	CO	CT	T
GROUP 438 (Aug., 2017 GDS)																		
++AJAX AUS BOHMERWALD, M, 33 mos., WI (RETEST)		3	2		0													
GROUP 441 (Aug., 2019 GDS)																		
++A ROC OF MOUNT TIMPANOGOS, M, 27 mos., ID	0	2	1	3	2	3	4			2	2	2	1	83		1	3	*
GROUP 442 (Aug., 2018 GDS)																		
++CAHABA'S LOLA OD KARLOVA SMIRKU, F, 28 mos., WI	3	1	3	4	4	2	4			4	3	3	2	135		4	3	ok
GROUP 445 (Aug., 2018 GDS)																		
BOJAR Z BENCOVA DVORA, M, 24 mos., WI	4	1	2	1	3	1	2			3	3	3	1	99		3	3	ok
GROUP 446 (Feb., 2018 GDS)																		
ALBY OF BALD EAGLE, M, 24 mos., ME	1	0	2	2	4	3	4			3	2	2	2	98		4	3	ok
GROUP 447 (Aug., 2018 GDS)																		
ALIBI OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, F, 23 mos., WI	4	3	3	4	4	4	4			4	4	4	3	162	I	4	3	ok
AL OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, M, 23 mos., WI	3	2	1	4	3	3	4			4	3	2	1	123		4	3	ok
AIDEN OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, M, 23 mos., WI	2	2	3	4	4	3	1			2	4	2	1	113		4	3	ok

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST, SPRING 2019

(Continued)

	TD	RD	BR	S	P	RB	TB	*TR	*RF	N	AW	C	O	TP	PR	CO	CT	T
GROUP 447 (CONTINUED)																		
ARTHUR OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, M, 22 mos., WI																		
	2	2	3	4	1	1	2			2	3	2	1	94		4	3	ok
GROUP 448 (Aug., 2019 GDS)																		
AX Z CESKE JAHODNICE, M, 21 mos., ID																		
	1	3	4	4	4	4	4			4	4	3	3	142		4	4	ok
GROUP 449 (Aug., 2018 GDS)																		
BECKY Z PLEZOMSKEHO LESA, F, 18 mos., WI																		
	2	4	1	1	4	1	4			3	2	2	2	100		4	3	ok
GROUP 454 (Feb., 2019 GDS)																		
DORA ESO, F, 19 mos., ID																		
	3	3	2	4	4	3	4			4	3	3	3	143		4	3	*
GROUP 453 (Feb., 2019 GDS)																		
BORKA OD CHLUMINSKE KAMIZOLY, F, 23 mos., ID																		
	1	3	3	4	4	3	4			3	3	3	3	131		4	4	ok

DOGS EVALUATED IN SPRING, 2019

INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST

AJAX AUS BOHMERWALD, M, 33 mos., whelped 7/7/2016. Conformation: 4, 25.5" L X 25" H. Coat: 3, harsh, medium dense, flat lying, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, calm, happy, good game drive . Owned by Gerard Watras, 7862 County Rd. H, Fremont, WI 54940 . Bred by Richard Schwerin.. Pedigree 438, Aug., 2017 GDS.

A ROC OF MOUNT TIMPANOGOS, M, 27 mos., whelped 29/12/2016. Conformation: 1, 26.75" L X 25" H, OCD in both front shoulders, operated to repair. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, not flat lying, good belly coverage, full furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, good game drive, tentative around water.. Owned by John McDunn, 3380 Rottweiler Dr., Helena, MT 59602 . Bred by Vincent/ Jolene Esposito.. Pedigree 441, Aug., 2018 GDS.

CAHABA'S LOLA OD KARLOVA SMRKU, F, 28 mos., whelped 1/4/2017. Conformation: 4, 24.25" H X 23.75" L. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, good belly coverage, medium furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, eager. Owned by Donn Fizer, 3205 Indian Crest Drive, Indian Springs Village, AL 35124 . Bred by Karel Zehnal.. Pedigree 442, Aug., 2018 GDS.

BOJAR Z BENCOVA DVORA, M, 24 mos., whelped 4/19/2017. Conformation: 3, 26" L X 27" H. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, slight curl, good belly coverage, full furnishings. Temperament: difficult to examine, eager for game at times . Owned by Gary Gaertner Jr., S Devondale Ln., St. Louis, MO 63131 . Bred by Ing. Jaroslav Benc.. Pedigree 445, Aug., 2018 GDS.

ALBY OF BALD EAGLE, M, 24 mos., whelped 5/21/2017. Conformation: 4., 24.4" L X 24.4" H. Coat: 3, harsh, medium dense, good belly coverage, standard furnishings. Temperament: wants to please, good game drive, can be tentative . Owned by Bryan Pennington, 2280 Huffman Mill Rd., Burlington, NC 27215 . Bred by Hiram Adelman/Brook Merrow. Pedigree 446, Aug., 2018 GDS.

DOGS EVALUATED IN SPRING 2019 (CONTINUED)**INTERMEDIATE HUNTING DOG TEST**

ALIBI OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, F, 23 mos., whelped 5/14/2017. Conformation: 4, 23" L X 24" H.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, slight curl, full furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, high game drive, very enthusiastic.. Owned by Ken Erb, 21608 Coyote Hills Dr., Center, MO 63436. Bred by Jim/Monica Crouse & Emily Ramos. Pedigree 447, Aug., 2018 GDS.

AL OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, M, 23 mos., whelped 5/14/2017. Conformation: 4, 24" L X 25" H.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, slight curl, good belly coverage, medium furnishings. Temperament: eager, good game drive.. Owned by Ted Coon, 801 W Brewster, Appleton, WI 54914 . Bred by Jim/Monica Crouse & Emily Ramos. Pedigree 447, Aug., 2018 GDS.

AIDEN OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, M, 23 mos., whelped 5/14/2017. Conformation: 4, 26.7" L X 27.2" H.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, slight curl, full furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, good game drive, calm.. Owned by Victor Woodward, 490 Iron Monarch Loop, CLE Elum WA. 98922 . Bred by Jim/Monica Crouse & Emily Ramos. Pedigree 447, Aug., 2018 GDS.

ARTHUR OF BUCKEYE VALLEY, M, 22 mos., whelped 5/14/2017. Conformation: 4, 26.4" L X 26.4" H.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, not flat lying, full furnishings. Temperament: immature for age, good game drive, friendly.. Owned by Jerry Silvey, 8140 Lupine Lane, Bozeman, MT 59718 . Bred by Jim/Monica Crouse & Emily Ramos. Pedigree 447, Aug., 2018 GDS.

AX Z CESKE JAHODNICE, M, 21 mos., whelped 6/21/2017. Conformation: 4, 25.6" L X 25.2" H.. Coat: 4, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, short coat, good belly coverage, sparse furnishings. Temperament: easy to examine, eager, calm, cooperative.. Owned by Anna Artz, 2029 Ione St., Sacramento, CA 95864. Bred by Martin Tichacek. Pedigree 448, Aug., 2018 GDS.

BECKY Z PLEZOMSKEHO LESA, F, 18 mos., whelped 9/6/2017. Conformation: 4, 23.5" L X 23.5" H.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, medium furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, happy. Owned by Edwin McCain, 15 Rock Creek Dr., Greenville, SC 29605. Bred by Jitka Potuzakova. Pedigree 449, Aug., 2018 GDS.

DORA ESO, F, 19 mos., whelped 8/18/2017. Conformation: 4, 22.8" L X 22.8" H.. Coat: 3, medium harsh, medium dense, flat lying, medium furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, supreme game drive, (*ate part of tracking bird). Owned by Ronald Liljedahl, 471 Craig Lane, Durango, CO 81303 . Bred by Jan Homola.. Pedigree 454, Feb., 2019 GDS.

BORKA OD CHLUMINSKE KAMIZOLKY, F, 23 mos., whelped 4/9/2017. Conformation: 4, 24.4" L X 24.4" H.. Coat: 4, medium harsh, medium dense, sparse furnishings, good belly coverage. Temperament: easy to examine, eager, calm, good game drive, friendly. Owned by Stan Morse, 11282 Floating Feather Rd., Star, ID 83669. Bred by Petr Zachara. Pedigree 453, Feb., 2019 GDS.

Instilling Good Habits for Tracking Live Birds

by Rick Sojda

A few of us were visiting after the recent Rocky Mountain Exposure Day about how often we see young dogs at their NAT and IHDT have difficulty focusing on tracking birds. This came to mind for us after we watched in awe at how well the almost four-month-old Bru of Bald Eagle did on tracking her very first chukar. The Club uses Training and Exposure Days to assist with this, and maybe some other simple exercises at home might help. Nearly all dogs are born with incredibly sensitive noses. Some seem to inherently know how to use theirs and focus on scent. Some need more guidance than others. A bit of nurturing never seems to hurt. Somewhere along the proverbial path of life ...I think about 1975... I was taught a simple way to encourage a puppy to focus on ground scent. I think that I have done it with all five of my dogs over the years, but my memory fades on the details. The exercise is a precursor to tracking the live bird, the duck on the water, and completing the drag efficiently when it is older. I am using the words "track" and "drag" interchangeably, here, but that distinction will occur later in the dog's life.

The exercise I have used is simple, and some others at our Exposure Day had not heard of it. All you need to do is drag a wing or a small dummy with wings taped to it across the lawn or field. Even a favourite toy will work. Of course, you can use a bird if you have one, but it is not at all necessary. If your pup is very young, let it watch and then let them track. Slowly and progressively, make it more difficult. Try not letting the dog watch you lay the track. Try hiding the dummy under a bush or in tall grass at the end of the drag. Make it longer. Put a turn or two in it. Do it all in tall cover. Work in a wet ditch or pond edge. Go back to easy ones occasionally.

Start with one that may only be 10 yards in length to maximize early success. In my experience, puppies quickly learn to actually scent your footsteps as well as the object dragged. No worries, they are still concentrating on ground scent.

When you start the pup, each time use the *same* word. This is not a command, *per se*; you are only trying to get the pup to associate doing the same thing when they hear the word, that is, slow down and use their nose. Be calm at the start of the exercise. Be certain to absolutely gush with praise and excitement when your buddy does well.

Don't worry about the retrieve. This exercise starts way before you have done any actual fetch training with commands. If parading is a huge problem, have your pup drag a ten-foot rope so that you can gently bring her or him to you for extra praise and delivery. You are only trying to not encourage bad habits at this formative stage, not teach and enforce a command. You can never start too early, and I find that my dogs have always enjoyed the game throughout their lives. The whole focus should be on encouraging your pup to use their nose to sniff ground scent. Sometimes all they want to do is search using air scent for the dummy (not track using ground scent), especially when starting the track. If you observe this, one of a few things is likely happening. It could be that they are bored; so quit for now, and try again later --later that day...that week...maybe longer. Use your own judgement. Or, maybe you have made the exercise too easy, and you need to make it more difficult. Another reason might be that you need to work on a slower, more deliberate start to the track. Help the pup keep their nose on the ground for a distance by walking with them. Show them what needs to be done. Remember, we cannot really teach the dog what ground scenting is all about. Obviously, they can naturally smell. Rather, you are encouraging them to slow down, use that wonderful nose for ground scent, and find a reward if they do. By the way, I have not noticed any issues with this exercise negatively affecting a dog's propensity to point or to use air scent when that is more appropriate.

There are a couple schools of thought on leaving treats to eat at the end of the track. Some say it is good positive reinforcement. Others think it introduces the idea of eating the bird at the end of a track. I have not used treats in that manner, but only because I think they are not all that necessary. In my experience, the act of finding the wing/dummy/bird is enough positive reinforcement, itself, --especially if accompanied by gushing praise and encouragement. However, I do provide treats and have a little party immediately at the end of the session.

I have no idea if this process will work for everyone and all dogs. Of course, there is nothing better than lots of hunting where the dog gets to track and is rewarded by a real bird! The combination of both activities has seemed to have given mine a leg up (pun intended). It is impossible to know if my little exercise has helped any, but both of my Fouseks have lost only five percent of the hundreds of birds shot over them. However, that rate seems pretty common in our breed based on conversations I have had with folks who keep such data journals for their dogs. And, both of my Fouseks scored 4s on all six of their tracking tests in both NAT and IHDT. Who knows, maybe I was simply fortunate to have received inherently good trackers.

This puppy exercise is not magical, but it might be something fun to try. I am sure there are many variations that have worked well for others. Certainly, it would be nice to see more dogs focus on the track, and see fewer of our dogs fall into search mode when tracking at their NAT and IHDT.



Gary Pool starts Tess (Angie Vallis Baptismi) on the track

Note the position of Gary's right hand and the fact that he is walking with Tess, all encouragements to keep her nose on the ground and to focus on the track.

Photo: Rick Sojda

Fall Tests

Please see Web page for details on each test.

Northeast Chapter: Sept 20&21

Test Chairman Laurie Connell & Scott Craig Winterport ME 4496-4611

email: oquassa5@gmail.com

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Heartland Chapter: Sept 6&7

Location: Mazomanie, WI

Test Chairman: Dave Read PH (616) 836-5304

email: readgriff@att.net

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Northwest Chapter Sept 7&8

Location: Silver Creek, Washington

Contact: Dennis Carlson

Ph: 541-386-4830

Email: carlson@gorge.net

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