

CALLBACK

Fall 2008



The Saskatoon Retriever Club Newsletter

President's Message

WHEWWW!

That long sigh of relief signifies the end of what may have been the busiest season in the history of the Saskatoon Retriever Club. Seven major events were hosted by the club involving countless hours of work and dedication by our members. From the WC's, Hunt Tests, and Field Trials, to the hosting of the Master Nationals, the club rolled up its sleeves and got down to the business of proving once again that we are one of the most active, diverse and vital dog clubs anywhere.

I could easily fill this newsletter with praises and thanks to all who contributed so much. I think instead that I will simply say that you have all done yourselves very very proud.

Let me not forget the dogs in all of this as many distinguished themselves throughout the summer. The reading of the honour roll at this year's Christmas party will no doubt be a long and glorious one. From the grizzled old veterans to the up and coming pups, our retriever breeds have repeatedly demonstrated that well trained dogs can do a whole lot more than chase tennis balls and beg for treats.

Speaking of training, there will be no rest for the wicked in the New Year and we will be running our beginner dog class starting in January. We will be limiting our class to eight dogs, so be certain to register with me early for one of the seven remaining spots. Stay tuned for picnic trials which will be organized on Sundays as long as the weather holds.

All you hunters are no doubt already up to your eyeballs in decoys and coot droppings. The ducks are in abundance, the geese are moving south, and in the words of a song I once heard..... "these are the days we live for". Have a great season!

- Jeff Morari

Saskatoon Retriever Club President

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
2008 National Master	2-3
George Whyte Remembered	4
Beginner Class Thank You!	5
2008 SRC Hunt Tests	5

Upcoming SRC Events

Annual General Meeting
- *October 16, 2008- 7:30 PM*

Christmas Party
- *December 6, 2008*
- *Cocktails at 6 pm, Dinner at 7*

SRC Annual General Meeting

Everyone, please remember that our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday October 16th, 2008 at 7:30 pm. We cover a lot of important issues at this meeting, finishing up business from the past year and preparing for the next. One key item is the election of officers and ensuring we have all out key positions filled. So if you're looking to become more involved, or would just like to know a little more about what is going on, please come out. All club members are invited.

REMINDERS

- To submit your article, event notice, story or anything else for the next issue of the Callback, please send it to Dale Johnstone at dale.johnstone@sasktel.net.

2008 National Master Hunt Test

Wow!!! What a year, It seemed like there was something happening at the club grounds every weekend, A lot of those weekends were occupied by club members preparing for the National Master Event. As chairperson of the National Master Event I would like to thank all that worked, competed and helped organize the event.

I have come to the conclusion that I had the easiest job of all. With the help of all the committees and the sub-committees it was a success. Without Garry and Sue Taylor's (Sue is the most organized person I know) expertise and guidance this task would have been very tough. to accomplish, Anne Hildebrand's and the Social Committee's efforts to make sure that everyone from judges, workers, contestants and spectators was fed and watered right from pre-national set up, onto organizing the banquet nightly events and the Toast to the Qualifiers on the final day . A Heartfelt thanks.

A huge thank you to Jim Couch's and his guidance of the Finance committee who efforts helped make this profitable event. The clubs profits are entirely due this groups work.

Thanks to Lynn Campbell in helping on numerous committee's and taking care of the finances and banking duties. Lynn works tirelessly for the club at every event and I know she doesn't realize how much we appreciate her. Due to these people and many more my role as chairman was easy.

There are many people who helped with the set up of the tests, which included either throwing birds, running dogs or both. A big thank you goes to this group for taking the time for this – Thanks to Jeff Morari, Tim Fahl, Louise Thorpe, Lynn Campbell and Char Couch for their efforts.

We are just final stages of completing the accounting from the event and by all indications it was a great success for the club.

Our club was well represented, I believe there were 13 dogs from the club who qualified for the event, I believe it would be very hard for any other club in Canada to qualify that many for an event of this nature. Many of the dogs from the club finished the event and now have national titles. Well done!

I apologize if I have missed thanking someone; we had nearly fifty volunteers help with the event. Some of whom were not even club members, but showed up and gave their support. Thank you!

Remember each days activities and test results are posted on our website, if you have not had the chance to view the pictures (thanks Katherine), the write ups (Sue Taylor) and the drawings (done by Tim Fahl alias "Rough Copy") please do so.

Again thanks to all.

John McDonald
Chairperson 2008 National Master

Congratulations

Congratulations Doug and Anne Hildebrand on their retirement from OFFICIAL work and also to Hans and Margareta Berin on their Retirement. Both couples retired from the dentistry world and are now free to pursue their other passions such as gardening and dog training, hunting, etc.

2008 National Master Hunt Test Qualifiers

Dog 17. GMH CLUBMEAD'S THUNDERING THOR (Thor)

OWNER: Doug Hildebrand, Saskatoon SK

HANDLER: Doug Hildebrand**Dog 21. FTCH AFTCH TAYLORLABS TRUE BLUE MH (Blue)**

OWNER: Garry and Sue Taylor, Saskatoon, SK

HANDLER: Garry Taylor**Dog 24. FTCH AFTCH GMH CLUBMEADS AUTUMN BREEZE CDX (Breeze)**

OWNER: Garry and Sue Taylor, Saskatoon, SK

HANDLER: Sue Taylor**Dog 26. PRAIRIESTORM HAWK CDX WCX MH (Hawk)**

OWNER: Danielle Greanya and Sean Hemmingsen, Saskatoon, SK

HANDLER: Ross Campbell**Dog 29. SASKQUILL'S PRAIRIE THUNDER MH (Thunder)**

OWNER: Doug Hildebrand, Saskatoon SK

HANDLER: Doug Hildebrand**Dog 5. NMH HIGH MILEAGE FIRESTORM MH, AmMH (Pixie)**

OWNER: David and Martha Kress, Gallatin, TN USA

HANDLER: Marty Kress**Dog 8. NMH GMH Bailey's Misty Lake WCX (Bailey)**

OWNER: Trent and Stephanie Sproule, LaSalle, MB

HANDLER: Trent Sproule**Dog 12. HRCH UH GMH OTCH Am/Can CH COASTALIGHT WIND OVER TIDE AmUD WCX TD DD (Rip)**

OWNER: Judy Teskey and Wendy MacDonald, Ladysmith BC

HANDLER: Judy Teskey**Dog 13. HIGH MILEAGE HILLTOP'S HUSTLE MH, AmMH, MNH (Hustle)**

OWNER: David and Martha Kress, Gallatin, TN USA

HANDLER: Marty Kress**Dog 19. CANDLEWOOD'S HIGH MILEAGE HOPE AmMH (Hope)**

OWNER: David and Martha Kress, Gallatin, TN USA

HANDLER: Marty Kress**Dog 25. NMH FTCH AFTCH GMH DUDLEY DO RIGHT XXXII CDX AmMH (Dudley)**

OWNER: Shirley Greener, Orangeville, ON

HANDLER: Shirley Greener**Dog 28. MISTY MARSH'S MINNESOTA MAGGIE WCX MH JFTR (Maggie)**

OWNER: Trent and Stephanie Sproule, Rd, LaSalle, MB

HANDLER: Trent Sproule**Dog 30. HIGH MILEAGE JB'S BELIEVER AmMH (Faith)**

OWNER: David and Martha Kress, Gallatin, TN USA

HANDLER: David Kress**Dog 32. MOSSY'S DANGLING PARTICIPLES MH (Rebel)**

OWNER: Red and Marlene Wilkinson, Regina SK

HANDLER: Red Wilkinson

George Whyte

George Whyte passed away July 15th, 2008 in the Palliative Care Unit of City Hospital. George is survived by his wife Marlene and daughter Linda. George and Marlene were original members of the Saskatoon Retriever Club.



George requested that no funeral be held so on Sunday, September 14th, 2008 a memorial gathering was held at the Saskatoon Retriever Club in conjunction with a picnic trial in the morning and a remembrance to George in the afternoon. It was a beautiful sunny warm Sunday and it brought out a lot of club members and a lot of George's friends. We the club members remembered George as a kind, always helpful with sometimes a funny sense of humor. It was especially nice to see all the pictures of George and learn about his life before the Retriever Club. Most of us were not aware that George was a very good hockey and football player, even playing professional in his earlier years. He retired from the Saskatoon Fire Dept. and spent his retirement days training his dogs and enjoying coffee etc. with all his friends.

He never missed a day out training if possible and was in good enough form to run Jesse in the Qualifying Stake at our spring trial. It was a wonderful day and after everyone gave a toast to George. Rhonda Morari sang her wonderful song "Back In The Field" which tells the story a hunter and his connection with his dog and love of the sport. The floor was then open for stories and a few remembrances of George were told.

Our condolences to Marlene and Linda, he will be missed.

- Lynn Campbell

Beginner Class “Thank You”

On behalf of club members who attended the Puppy Class this past winter and spring, we would like to send a sincere "Thank You" to Jeff Morari and the numerous experienced club members who came-out on cold winter nights to help dogs and handlers master the basics with our new dogs. Your generosity of time, expertise and talent **far exceeded expectations.**

To further add to our good fortune, we had the benefit of training opportunities on the club grounds, with the support of so many members who came out to cheer us on, offer words of wisdom and advice and let us watch their “Big Dogs” do their stuff! What a learning opportunity.

The outcome of the level of enthusiasm and encouragement shared by club members is reflected in the June Field Trial results, with five of the new pups from this class achieving Working Certificates.

Again, thank you to Jeff and all the club members who shared with us your time, wisdom and talents!

- *The Reilly Family*

2008 Hunt Tests

As a quick follow-up to the August Hunt Test we put on this past summer, I’d like to take the time to thank all of the participants and volunteers who helped organize and run a very successful event. These tests take a lot of preparation and work to organize but thanks to the spirit, contribution and experience of many of our club members you made a Hunt Test Chairman’s job easy.

Further it’s great to get feedback from people who visit and participate in our tests on the exceptional quality of our grounds and tests; this is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our club members.

With that I’d like to thank and recognize the following groups who helped make this weekend a success:

- The Hunt Test Committee for looking after all of the finer details including food, judges, paperwork, prizes, ribbons, and the list goes on;
- Land and Equipment Committee for maintaining and preparing grounds - between grass cutting, weed control and general maintenance this is a huge job;
- Our local and travelling judges who’s efforts and creativity made it a challenging and memorable event (visit our Saskatoon Retriever website for picture of a very pretty Sunday Master Land Series);
- We had a great group of kids come out this weekend thanks to all who helped find them;
- Everyone who contributed dishes to the tailgate party Saturday night; it was a great feast; and
- All the club members running dogs who pitched in to throw, setup, tear down and marshal.

As you can see there were many hands to make a big job small work. I hope I haven’t missed anybody but if so please except apologies and thanks.

Helton Fan
Hunt Test Chairman

Thanks to all who sent in submissions for this edition of the Callback.