

CALLBACK

Winter 2009



The Saskatoon Retriever Club Newsletter

President's Message

Well, here we are in the depths of a good old Saskatchewan winter; dreaming of sunny days of training and trialing while numbly fingering the ribbons acquired last summer. The pup sits bored under the table dreaming of the glorious fall days spent afield. Occasionally your eyes meet his and you share the mutual understanding of the term "too cold for man or beast". What is one to do?

Personally, I find a nice roasting goose or duck pretty good tonic for these "dog days of winter". Somehow the fabulous aroma of a browning bird allows me to remember the point and purpose of all the training and preparation. This is also a good time to review the literature and plan a strategy for the coming season's training. When time permits I enjoy watching dog work on some of the hunting shows that come across my TV. Often times I marvel at how good our dog work is in comparison.

Do not fear, the weather will break and we will be out picnic trialing again. The training class will be up and running by the end of this month and all are invited to come and share their expertise. At this time we still have room for a few more dogs. We will also be running a booth at the Sports and Leisure show again and this time around we have a dedicated space to do hourly demonstrations. Stay tuned, as we will be recruiting club members to help out with this event as well.

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Most of all, take heart. Winter cannot last forever, and before you know it, the snow will melt and we will all have a chance to survey the completed modifications to the club land. In the meantime, keep warm and put Old Fang through a few backyard drills while your goose jerky cooks on the smoker. It will do you both a world of good.

- Jeff Morari
Saskatoon Retriever Club President



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.
- Thanks to all who sent in submissions.

Memberships:

2009 Membership renewals are due. A copy of the membership renewal form is on the last page. Please make sure you send your form and fees in to Lynn if you haven't already done so.

2009 Spring Retriever Class



Saskatoon Retriever Club Spring Retriever Training Class

"We teach you to train your retriever"

Classes emphasize:

Socialization

Obedience, Steadiness

Hold and Fetch, Retrieving to hand

Introduction to decoys, calls, gunfire and simulated hunting

Classes are open to CKC or AKC Registered Retrievers older than 6 months of age that have completed a basic obedience class (sit, down, stay, come, heel).

Sessions begin January 19, 2009 and will be held Sunday evenings 7-8:30 pm for indoor sessions, then outdoors in the morning.

Contact Jeff Morari for information or to register: 955-4607.



Wanted:

The club is looking for a treasurer trainee to help, learn how to keep the club's books and take over as treasurer in October 2009. If you are interested in this or have questions, please contact Lynn at 931-1157 or email bigskylabs@sasktel.net.

2009 Tentative Calendar of Events

January 19, 2009 – Start of the Spring Retriever Class

March 5 – 8, 2009 – Saskatoon Sports and Leisure Show

March 26, 2009 – SRC Club Meeting

May 16 – 17, 2009 – Spring Field Trial (*Pending CKC approval*)

June 6 -7, 2009 – SRC Working Certificate Test (*Pending CKC approval*)

August 1 – 3, 2009 – SRC Hunt Test (*Pending CKC approval*)

Note: At our annual meeting last October one of the main discussions was around how to handle the rising costs of putting on events. Our club relies on members to volunteer throughout the year from cleanup days to judging, throwing and marshalling at our events. This year we will be hosting our usual events, but will try a 3 day hunt test in August and will not be holding one in June this year. Your help prior to and during our club's trials and tests is critical to our success, so we hope to see you this year both participating in and helping out with our events.

Classifieds

For Sale:

Ducks Unlimited "Mutt Hut" Portable Dog Kennel. "Features include a treat pouch and water bottle holder, removable soft fleece pad, slip-resistant rubber floor; mesh windows with roll-down covers and a convenient carry case." Measures 29 1/2" L x 19" W x 19" H. Contact Dale at dale.johnstone@sasktel.net or phone 651-3603.

Free:

Many years of the Online Magazine – great reading and training advice, Lynn 931-1157 or bigskylabs@sasktel.net.

Wanted:

Extra-Large (40" L x 27" W x 30" H) Vari-Kennel. If you have one that you want to sell, please phone 934-4982 or email: althouse@sasktel.net

Wanted:

The club is looking for a treasurer trainee to help, learn how to keep the club's books and take over as treasurer in October 2009. If you are interested in this or have questions, please contact Lynn at 931-1157 or email bigskylabs@sasktel.net.

My Favorite Things

Excerpts from a Dog's Diary.....

8:00 am - Dog food! My favorite thing!
9:30 am - A car ride! My favorite thing!
9:40 am - A walk in the park! My favorite thing!
10:30 am - Got rubbed and petted! My favorite thing!
12:00 pm - Lunch! My favorite thing!
1:00 pm - Played in the yard! My favorite thing!
3:00 pm - Wagged my tail! My favorite thing!
5:00 pm - Milk Bones! My favorite thing!
7:00 pm - Got to play ball! My favorite thing!
8:00 pm - Wow! Watched TV with the people! My favorite thing!
11:00 pm - Sleeping on the bed! My favorite thing!

Excerpts from a Cat's Diary. ..

Day 983 of my captivity... My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength. The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape.

Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates what I am capable of. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a 'good little hunter' I am.

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of 'allergies.' I must learn what this means and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow -- but at the top of the stairs.

I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released - and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded.

The bird has got to be an informant. I observe him communicating with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now...

Reminder

Our Awards Night & Christmas Party has been scheduled for January 16th, 2009 at the Park Town Hotel, Happy Hour at 6, and supper at 7.

Website

We will be adding more pictures to the website over the coming months. If you have any pictures (of your own) that you'd like on the site, please contact email

dale.johnstone@sasktel.net.



New Application
2009 Renewal

Date: _____

Saskatoon Retriever Club

Membership Application & Renewal

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel _____ Cell _____ E-Mail _____

Fax _____ Do you wish your Newsletter via Email (Yes)___ (No)___

Are you a CKC member? Yes No CKC Member No. _____

What Breed of Retriever do you own _____

Membership classifications:

- New member, \$100.00 (subject to SRC Directors Approval)
 Family membership, \$75.00 (renewal)

I / We agree to allow my email address to be part of a distribution list to be used by the Saskatoon Retriever Club Executive for the purpose of disseminating club information. YES NO.

I / We agree to abide by the Constitution, Code of Ethics, Aims and By-laws of the Saskatoon Retriever Club and the By-laws and Rules of the Canadian Kennel Club

Signature of Applicant

Please mail application and membership fees payable to:

**The Saskatoon Retriever Club
C/O Lynn Campbell, Treasurer
Box 176, Clavet, Sk
S0K 0Y0
(306)931-1157
email: bigskylabs@sasktel.net**