

CALLBACK



The Saskatoon Retriever Club Newsletter

President's Message

Well here we are in this deep freeze that we refer to as a Saskatchewan winter. If you are like me, the cold and dark tends to take its toll on the motivation. However, that foot warmer lying under the table would probably love to go out and run through a few maintenance drills. Get the pup and yourself out for a little work. It will do you both a world of good.

The Retriever Club had to bid farewell to one of our own this past month. Ed Adolph died on January 24th. Ed had been a member since the 1970's and was truly one of the important builders of the club as we know it today. Evidence of Ed's selfless "get it done" attitude can be seen in many of the facilities that we all enjoy. Our club was a very important part of Ed's life, and it was gratifying to see a strong turnout by our membership at his funeral. Our condolences go out to Ed's wife Ila and the rest of the Adolph family. Ed was a fine friend who will truly be missed.

The annual Spring Training Class is now underway. This year's group includes labs, goldens, flatcoats and even a duck toller. This eclectic group will be meeting Monday evenings at 7:00 at Ebon Stables. We can always use a hand with the dogs and the new handlers, and if you can make it out, your assistance would be appreciated. Call John Macdonald or myself and we will slot you in for a session or two.

You should have received your raffle tickets in the mail by now. With the fabulous prizes assembled by Jim and Char Couch, these should be an easy sell. Thanks to Don and Earla Lardner for coordinating the sales. Once you sell your two

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books, be sure to contact Don for more. This is a fabulous fund raising opportunity for the club so make the most of it.

Finally, the club will be putting on a display at the annual Saskatoon Wildlife Federation Sports and Leisure Show, March 6 - 9th. We will have a booth where we can really sell our club and its programs to the general community. In addition, it appears as though we have the chance to put on retrieving demonstrations. Any of you who rang the bells for the Salvation Army at Christmas know that this will be a huge attraction.

Obviously this kind of show will require a lot of person hours. Gary Taylor will be coordinating things for this event so be sure to call him and sign up. Once again, I hope you winter well and let's plan to make 2008 a fantastic year.

- *Jeff Morari*

Saskatoon Retriever Club President

REMINDERS

- Next SRC general meeting will be Thursday April 24, 2008 at 7:30 pm at Doug & Anne's.
- 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 Event Calendar

This is shaping up to be a busy year for the Saskatoon Retriever Club. As Jeff mentioned, the annual Spring Training Class is underway and that is just the start of the activities for this year. Here is a preliminary list of events and dates.

March 6 – 9
Saskatoon Sports & Leisure Show

April 24, 2008
SRC General Meeting

May 17 - 18, 2008
Spring Field Trial

June 7 -8, 2008
Working Certificate Tests

June 14 - 15, 2008
June Hunt Tests

June 28 - 29, 2008
SRA Field Trial

August 2 - 3, 2008
August Hunt Tests

August 18 - 24, 2008
2008 National Master Hunt Test

Great Dog Story

Awhile back, an old, tired-looking dog wandered into the yard. I could tell from his collar (though no tags) and well-fed belly and the fact he was clean that he had a home. He followed me into the house, down the hall, and fell asleep on the couch.

My dogs didn't seem to mind and he seemed like a good dog, and I was Ok with him, so I let him nap. An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out. The next day he was back, resumed his position on the couch, and slept for an hour.



This continued for several weeks. Curious, I pinned a note to his collar that I wrote:

"Every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap. I don't mind but want to be sure it's ok with you."

The next day he arrived with a different note pinned to his collar:

"He lives in a home with ten children -- he's trying to catch up on his sleep. May I come with him tomorrow?"

Get Well Soon Don!

About the time this arrives in your mailbox, Don Lardner will be recovering from surgery. I'm sure he'd appreciate a call or a note while he's on the mend.

2007 Awards

JUNIOR HUNTER

Deep Run Billy The Kid WC JH owned/handled by Danielle Greanya
 Fly'N'South's The "Trinity" WCI JH owned by Danielle Greanya handled by Katherine Brewster
 Goldenworks Jagg U'R CD WC JH owned by Pat & Keith Althouse, Keith handler
 SHR Gras-Land's Sweet Brandy WC JH owned/handled by Danielle Greanya
 Heads Up Gin'n Juice JH owner/handler Helton Fan
 Prairielight Patsy Cline WC JH owner Hans & Margareta Berin
 Ch Prairielight Triumphal Entry CD WC JH owner Hans & Margareta Berin
 Saskquill's Quill Plainsboomer JH Dale & Lori Johnstone, Dale handler
 Saskquill's Shivers WC JH Darryl & Cindy Shmon, Darryl Handler
 Wyldfire's Flames are Roaring JH (Flame) Jim Couch, Charlene Couch Handler

SENIOR HUNTER

Charmlee's Rio Ranger SH Helton & Randeem Andre Fan, Helton handler
 Prairiestorm Hawk CD WCX SH Danielle Greanya & Sean Hemmingsen, Ross handler

MASTER HUNTER

Bigsky's Evening Rose WCX MH owner/handler Jason Caswell
 Eat My Dust II MH (Dusty) Jim Couch, owner/handler
 Bluegoose's Double Deal MH Chandra McDougald
 Saskquill's Black Jackson WCX MH Jeff & Rhonda Morari, Jeff handler

FIELD TRIAL CHAMPION

FTCH AFTCH TaylorLabs True Blue Garry & Sue Taylor, Garry handler

2007 Saskatchewan Retrievers Association - High Point Field Trial Awards

Junior

Taylorlabs Sugar and Spice - Owner Sue Taylor

High Point Open Dog

FTCH AFTCH GMH Clubmead's Autumn Breeze CDX - Owner Sue Taylor

High Point Qualifying Dogs (Tied)

Taylorlabs Magic Spell SH - Owner Tim Fahl

Eat My Dust MH – Owner Charlene and Jim Couch

Membership Lists and Cards

Your 2008 membership cards and membership list is enclosed. If there are any errors or omissions, please contact Lynn at 931-1157 or bigskylabs@sasktel.net.

Spring Field Trial

Our Spring field trial will be held on May 17 and 18. We will host an Open, a Qualifying and a Junior stake on Saturday and an Open and Qualifying stake on Sunday. Plan to attend as a competitor and/or as a worker! We did not get a rush of volunteers after the last newsletter - please let us know if you are willing to work for a day as a marshal, assistant marshal or thrower (*we hope to have Club members help throw the minor stakes, to decrease costs*).

If you are interested in volunteering to help please contact Garry Taylor (FT Chairman) at 343-4993 or by email: sue.taylor@usask.ca.

Mid-Summer (Association) Trial

The Saskatchewan Retriever Clubs Association trial will be held on June 28 and 29. We will host an Open each day, and no minor stakes. We do still need help from Club members willing to serve as marshals and assistant marshals.

If you are interested in volunteering to help please contact Garry Taylor (FT Chairman) at 343-4993 or by email: sue.taylor@usask.ca.

2008 National Master Hunt Test

As we announced in the last newsletter, our Club will host the 2008 National Master Hunt Test Stake. This event will start on August 18th and will conclude on either Friday August 22nd or Saturday August 23rd.

Look for more details about the National, the social events accompanying the National and entry forms and premium list on the Saskatoon Retriever Club website (www.saskatoonretriever.ca)

If you are willing to help in any capacity, please contact one of the following:

John McDonald (*Chairman, 955-1668*): if you have questions about the event or if you are not sure where you could help the most.

Anne Hildebrand (*social committee, 477-2873*): if you are willing to help organize or work at one of the social events or man the hospitality room.

Garry Taylor (*gun captain and assistant marshal, 343-4993*): if you are willing to throw (often using a winger) or gun for one or two series during the week or if you can help with marshaling duties and setting up the tests.

Doug Hildebrand (*chief marshal, 477-2873*): if you are willing to help the judges (cutting brush, throwing birds, running your dog) during setup for this event on August 15, 16 and 17). Dogs and handlers entered in the National Master cannot participate in setup.

Jim Couch (*finance chair, 477-0913*) if you know of a potential sponsor we should contact, if you wish to make a personal/business donation, or if you have an item for the Silent Auction.

2008 National Master Hunt Test – Preliminary Schedule

Thursday, August 14	Judges arrive, meet with marshals, see Club grounds and other available properties.
Friday August 15 – Sunday August 17	Judges set up tests
Saturday August 16	Banquet: Sunset Estates Hall (<i>20 minutes from Club Land</i>) Dress: casual (camo optional) Cocktails: 5:00pm, Banquet: 6:00pm Handler's number/kits distributed Draw of starting dog number Silent Auction Opens
Sunday August 17	SRC Clubhouse: Master National Directors Meeting Master National Annual General Meeting Vetting of bitches: 1pm-2pm
Monday, August 18	7:00 am: Caravan leaves headquarters 7:30 am: Honorary Test dog runs Official male and female test dogs Begin first test of National Master
Each morning at 7:30 am a caravan will leave headquarters to lead contestants to the test site.	
Sandwiches, treats and drinks can be ordered at the Clubhouse each day for delivery to the stake for lunch.	
Muffins, coffee and juice will be available for purchase for breakfast each morning at the Clubhouse.	
Each evening at the conclusion of the tests, the Hospitality Room will be open at the Clubhouse, where callbacks will be announced. All social events except the Banquet will be held in our Clubhouse.	
Monday, August 18	Shish kabob Barbecue and Beer Social
Wednesday, August 20	Purina Workers Party, End of Silent Auction
Friday August 22 or Saturday, August 23	Announcement and Toasts to Qualifiers Flexible schedule

2008 National Master Hunt Test – More Details

Who can enter?

Dogs eligible for entry include: (1) All dogs with a CKC MH title or an AKC MH title with 2 CKC MH passes between September 4, 2007 and August 8, 2008 and (2) All CKC GMH titled dogs.

Good luck especially to all of our Saskatoon Retriever Club members as they train their dogs and participate in our summer Hunt tests to try to qualify for this National!

To enter: download a copy of the entry form from the website, complete it and send it to Sue Taylor

Social Event Tickets

Saturday, August 16th Banquet: \$35.00

Monday, August 18th Shish kabob Barbecue and Beer Social: \$15.00

Wednesday, August 20th Workers Party: \$25.00 (free to all workers*)

Advance Ticket Packages (all events):

Visitor / Competitor Package: \$60.00

Worker's Package: \$40.00 *

** A worker is any individual who works one entire day at the trial (or two half-days*

Raffle

The Saskatoon Retriever Club is sponsoring a raffle for fundraising.

1st Prize: Mossberg Silver Reserve International 12 Gauge Combo Shotgun
Or
Ducks Unlimited Limited Edition Leather Office Chair

2nd Prize: Garmin Street Pilot C550 GPS Unit

3rd Prize: \$250 Cash

Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10

Draw will take place on August 20th at 7:30 pm (Workers Party)

Club members have recently been sent books of tickets to sell or buy. If you require additional tickets, contact Don Lardner 222-3192 or John McDonald: 955-1668.

For Sale

Duck Calls for sale - \$5.00 each – Good for Hunt Test participants. Call Jeff Morari at 955-4607.

In Memoriam

The Saskatoon Retriever Club lost an Honorary Member on January 24th, 2008. Edwin Otto Adolf passed over Rainbow Bridge. Ed was one of the original SRC members who put up money on a loan basis to purchase the original land. Little did they know at that time how lucky it would be for all of us members to come. Ed loved dog training and loved been involved in all aspects of the retriever world. He could fix or build anything and a lot of what we enjoy today is thanks to Ed's handyman efforts. When Ed got his last dog Jenny, a yellow Labrador, everyone teased him so much because she was yellow, he had always had blacks. He would just laugh and together they made quite a team. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing and the outdoors.

Ed is survived by Ila, his wife of 60 years and four sons, Larry, Les, Cliff and Dale along with 8 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson. He was laid to rest with Jenny at his feet on January 28th during a cold blizzard. Members of the SRC had the honor of been Ed's pallbearers and he was saluted at the gravesite by 4 SRC members' dogs and some duck feathers courtesy of Jeff Morari.

We will all remember Ed's kindness and Ila's always cheerful outlook. Our condolences to Ila and all the Adolf family.

- *Doug Hildebrand has been kind enough to forward a copy of his tribute to Ed which can be found starting on page 8.*

Rainbow Bridge

The Davis family sadly reports the passing of Sandpocket Emma on November 8th. It was through pure luck that we happened to learn that Don and Earla Lardner had puppies for sale and our lives changed and blessed in many ways in January of 1995 when we picked her up. Emma was very much like her mother FTCH AFTCH Duxbak Daisy Mae. She was so gentle with our two young sons. Not once was I ever worried about her with the children. She also inherited her mother's drive, marking ability and hunting instincts. On the flipside, the old trialers tell me she inherited great marking ability as well as a wild/naughty streak from her sire FC FTCH AFTCH Candlewood's Diamond Jim! Her antics at puppy class, the Regina Hunt Test and in the field at the time tested my resolve, but now make me smile and laugh, as I'm sure some of you will now too. I learned a little about dogs and a lot about myself from m

One of the other great things that Emma brought into our life was my involvement with the Saskatoon Retriever Club. Once again I learned a bit about training dogs from the club members, but more importantly I met many great people and had countless good times. I always knew the club was unique, but since moving to Calgary nearly three years ago I have come to appreciate its value more and more. So please continue your hard work to keep up and improve the grounds and to maintain the friendly welcoming nature of the club.

- *Paul Davis*

Editor's Note – Everyone remembers Emma's enthusiasm for retrieving and her kindness with the boys. Our condolences on her passing.

A Tribute to Ed Adolf

By Doug Hildebrand

If circumstances had been different, Sue and Garry Taylor, Retriever Club members and good friends of the Adolfs, would have been here today to share in this service of remembrance. They are unfortunately out of the country but are here with us in spirit. They have sent their old dog Breeze in their place and she will be attending the outside part of the service. Breeze was a good friend of Ed's, even visiting him in the nursing home.

Sue and Garry sent me an e-mail from Granada several days ago in which they expressed some of their remembrances of Ed. I will include some of those thoughts in my tribute today.

For decades, Ed was synonymous with the Saskatoon Retriever Club – he was a constant feature there, involved with every facet of the club.

Perhaps I should explain a little bit about the Saskatoon Retriever club for those non dog people here to provide some background as to why our club and retrievers in general played such a huge part of Ed's life.

The Saskatoon Retriever Club consisting of approx. 60 families was formed to provide help and support for individuals interested in training their retrievers to be "the best they can be." We own 2 quarter sections of land approx. 10K south of the town of Bradwell. On our property we have a fully equipped clubhouse set in a beautiful campsite adjacent to numerous ponds and fields ideal for the training of our dogs. For many members this beautiful location is our home away from home, our cottage at the lake or our cabin in the woods. We pride ourselves on having the best retriever club in Canada. We host a major field trial each spring as well as 2 hunt tests each summer as well as a working certificate test. We have hosted several national competitions and are looking forward to hosting the 2008 National Master Hunt test this coming August. We have also sponsored many seminars to help our members with their training.

Obviously, all this success didn't happen by accident. Ed Adolf played a huge role in making our club what it is today.

I'd like to talk about Ed's contributions by dividing them up into 5 categories:

1. Ed the administrator
2. Ed the handyman
3. Ed the teacher
4. Ed the dog trainer
5. Ed the Competitor

Ed the administrator:

Every club needs people who make decisions as to the direction their organization will take. While Ed was primarily a doer, someone who preferred to lead by example rather than by fancy speeches, he didn't hesitate to do his share of administration, serving on numerous committees over the years, including the office of president for several terms. During this time some very important decisions were made as to the direction of the club and his wise counsel was much appreciated.

Ed the Handyman:

When we think of Ed at the Retriever Club Grounds, the lasting impression in our minds will be of Ed fixing something or building something. With 3 storage sheds, a clubhouse, a temperamental tractor and numerous pieces of equipment, something was always going wrong and there was Ed to fix the problem. When we needed shutters for the clubhouse or the duck walk for the Wild Game Dinner, Ed to the rescue. When we needed wingers in the early days of the Hunt Test, Ed designed and built our first wingers. They may have weighed 50 lbs. and made to last 100 years, but they could sure launch a bird. The list of Ed built things goes on and on.

Ed the Teacher:

Probably the most important thing our club does each year is the Retriever Training Class that we run for the general public, the source over the years of most of our members. Ed was very active in this class in the early years and many handlers benefited from his instruction. Ed was always friendly to new members – whether they had a good dog or one that wouldn't pick up the birds. He was always cheerful and positive, offering encouragement as we progressed with our dogs. He judged all types of tests and was always positive – complimenting you on a job well done or laughing with you rather than at you if your dog did something stupid

Ed the Dog Trainer:

Ed was a dedicated dog trainer. Some may say dedicated isn't a strong enough word. Let me give you an example: the temperature is -25C; the wind is howling and visibility is limited. The snow is up to your armpits and 99.9% of the population is inside snug and warm. Dog training is cancelled for the day, right? Wrong! Ed and his training buddies George Whyte and Chuck Girling can be found at the snow dump throwing mark for their dogs.

Ed the competitor:

Ed always had good dogs and could play with the big boys in the field trials. His dogs were always a little wild and tough, but Ed liked them that way. His best dog and his last dog was Jenny. We could hardly believe he would get a yellow dog...but he did and they did wonderful things together. Jenny was devoted to Ed and Ed was very proud of her when she became one of the first dogs in Canada to achieve the title of Master Hunter.

When I was thinking back over the 20 years I've know Ed through the Retriever Club, several images stood out in my mind:

Firstly, I see Ed somewhere by one of our storage sheds fixing something, probably our temperamental old tractor.

Secondly, I see Ed at our annual Retriever Club Christmas Party conducting our Christmas Gift Exchange. The format, I think, is familiar to most of you: when your number is called you either take a gift from under the tree or in the true spirit of Christmas you steal a gift from someone who already has opened their gift. In the early years this gift exchange had few rules and Ed was the head referee. Ed loved every moment of this free for all and I can see him standing there with a big grin on his face.

In the early years several club members, including Ed, kept camping trailers at the campground year round, so often people would camp there for the weekend. After dark we would sit around a big campfire with the stars so big and bright you could almost touch them. This is when we discovered that Ed loved to sing and we had great sing songs around the fire pit.

Even after Ed became too frail to get out on his own, he still maintained an interest in what was going on in the club and we appreciated his family bringing Ed and Ila out to various functions. One such occasion sticks in my mind. Last fall we were having a training session at the club grounds. The weather was terrible; the fog was so thick you could hardly see your dog. Suddenly, there was Ed in his wheelchair ready to watch a few minutes of training before heading back to the city. Ed didn't say much, but he was interested in what was going on. It must have been tough just watching, with a lifetime of memories surrounding you. It truly was an Ed training day, the trainer who never let a little thing like bad weather keep him at home.

Sometimes people who contribute so much are never properly recognized until after their passing. Fortunately, while Ed was reasonably healthy, our club had the privilege of awarding an honorary life membership in the Saskatoon Retriever Club, an honor that was richly deserved.

So now it's time to say goodbye. We know Ed has gone to better place, a place where there has to be Retrievers. If there are Retrievers, there has to dog training. I see Ed, strong and healthy. The sky is blue, the sun is warm and the water is clear. Here the birds are marked truly, the blind retrieves crisp and cleanly taken and the birds are delivered tenderly to hand. This is heaven indeed.

I would like to close with a note from Sue and Garry which expresses the sentiments of all us dog people:

We wish we could be with you today – Ed was one of our favorite people and we consider that we were lucky to be able to call him friend.

We Need Your Help!

We need your help and support March 6, 7, 8 and 9th 2008 at the Saskatoon Sports and Leisure Show.

We have rented a 10 x 10 booth to promote the club's activities and membership. We need to let the public know what a great sport the retriever game is and what we have to offer as a club and organization.

It is also essential that we promote the upcoming 2008 National Master and we will be selling raffle tickets on the draw items – the DU Chair; the Mossberg shotgun and the Garmin GPS plus the cash prize of \$250.00. All these will be drawn for at the National Master in August at the workers party.

We require help at the booth for the entire show. This includes setup, demos, booth attendants and dismantling. We need at least 2 people per shift to attend the booth and extra help plus dogs to do the demo. We are estimating that if we get enough help the shifts will be no longer than 2 hours. The club will supply you with an event pass.

SHOW TIMES:

-THURSDAY MARCH 6TH- 6:00 p.m. TO 9:00p.m.
-FRIDAY MARCH 7TH - 1:00 a.m. TO 9:00p.m.
-SATURDAY MARCH 8TH - 11:00 a.m. TO 9:00p.m.
-SUNDAY MARCH 9TH - 1:00 p.m. TO 5:00 p.m.

Having your dog with you at the display is a great crowd pleaser.

We are currently trying to obtain a small area where we can showcase our dogs. The Saskatoon Wildlife Federation has a possible 20 x 40 ft space where we can do small handling, obedience drills and answer questions from the spectators.

Puppies in training, dogs that have just started the class and the more experienced dogs for more complex drills are all welcome. Please contact us and volunteer your time.

Garry Taylor is chairing this effort and Jeff Morari is coordinating the staffing of the booth. Please give them a call and lend your help.

JEFF – 955-4607
GARRY 343-4993

LET'S PROMOTE OUR CLUB!!!

Note: The Retriever Journal article that Red Wilkinson wrote and Katherine did pictures for is now out. You can pick up a copy at The Reader's Nook in Saskatoon. It has a good picture of Ross, Dan Evelsizer, Jeff Thorpe, and Jeff Morari. Doug can be seen in a picture of spectators and John's truck is also in there.