



RHRC News

Jean Fowler, Editor (425-483-6476) fernhaven@comcast.net

January 2025

Volume 22, Issue 1

Web: www.rainierhrc.com

2024 RHRC Officers

President

Betsy Reali
BnB_Reali@msn.com

Vice President

Liz Gibson
liz@telopealabs.com

Secretary

Misalyn Armstrong
sngdog9@msn.com

Treasurer

Lee Redd
leeredd3@gmail.com

Past President

Jim Olson

Members at Large

Susan Bell
Chris Braswell
Doug Gallucci
Kevin Medved
Sue Meyring
Bill Woll

RHRC ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET

February 1, 2025
Shawn O'Donnell's Irish Pub
122 128th ST SE
Everett, WA 98208
I-5 Exit 186 (128th St SE)
6 PM

Cost/person: \$45
(includes gratuity and room rental)
Pay at the Door

RSVP to Misalyn @ 360-303-0517 or <sngdog9@msn.com> by Monday, January 27

Along with **Friends** and **Good Food**, we will recognize the **Accomplishments** of our members and their dogs as well as **Elect our 2025 Club Officers**.

Reserve your place now

~~ Menu on Page 2 in this newsletter~~

The Rainier Hunting Retriever Club seeks

- A—To encourage and promote quality in purebred dogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection
- B—To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breeds by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at hunting retriever tests
- C—To conduct licensed hunting retriever tests under the rules of the AKC, NAHRA or any other associations or clubs that may sponsor these tests.

~~Rainier Constitution, Article I, Section 2



2025 Proposed Slate of RHRC Officers

Voting will take place at the Annual Meeting/Awards Banquet
February 1—Shawn O’Donnell’s Irish Pub

- Executive Board: President – Bill Woll
- Vice President: Liz Gibson
- Treasurer: Lee Redd
- Secretary: Misalyn Armstrong,
- Past President: Betsy Reali
- Members at Large: Susan Bell, Chris Braswell, Scott Corley,
Jean Fowler, Leighton Harder, Katie Mearns,

Thank you for volunteering to serve RHRC for the 2025 Year!
Nominating Committee: *Katie Mearns, Chair and Betsy Reali*



RHRC ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET



Shawn O’Donnell’s is a family owned and operated neighborhood pub. Their food has received rave reviews. The scrumptious menu includes:



- Spiced Dry Rub Salmon
- Dublin Broil
- Irish Soda Bread and Honey Butter
- House Green Salad
- Colcannon Potatoes
- Irish Whiskey Mac & Cheese
- Seasonal Vegetables
- No Host Bar

Make it a special weekend by staying overnight at the nearby Quality Inn. This means that if you want to attend from our southern regions—you can comfortably wait until morning to drive back home. (Or spend Sunday exploring the beautiful Skagit)

FEBRUARY 1ST–6 PM

In This Issue

2025 RHRC Officers
(Proposed)
Page 2

Information on Banquet
Page 2

President's Message
Page 3

New Year Resolutions
Page 3

Training Tips—Marks
Page 4

RHRC Member News
Page 5

In Memoriam
Page 6

Dolly Reports
Page 7

RHRC Board Meeting
December Minutes
Page 8

Chase Away Cancer
Page 9, 10

Sunshine
Page 10



Message from the Prez...

Hello everyone, I hope the New Year is treating you well and you are planning to attend the **Annual Club Meeting and Awards Banquet**. This year's event will be held at *Shawn O'Donnell's*, located at 122 128th St SE in Everett, (conveniently located off I-5, exit 186) on *Saturday, February 1st*.

Our Annual meeting gives all an opportunity to meet with friends and other dog enthusiasts without having to do any work! Highlights of the evening will include recognition of member and dog accomplishments as well the election of the 2025 Board of Directors (club officers and members at large). Be sure to cast your email vote for Club Member of the year right away if you have not already done so! More Banquet details can be found in the body of this newsletter.

As always, upcoming events, member news, recognition, canine health tips and more, can be found in the body of this month's newsletter as well.

In closing, I would like to say "Thank You" to the Club Board and membership for the support that has been provided to me over the past four years while I was Club President. It has been a privilege to have had the opportunity to help guide the Club forward and to continue to support the passion of our sport and our amazing dogs.

Signing off, **Betsy**

(425-503-5323 or bnb_reali@msn.com)



New Year Resolutions for Pet Parents and their Furry Friends



Walk your Dog every day (or exercise in some fashion).



Feed a Healthy Diet—Snacks such as carrots, apples or homemade pet treats before table scraps.



Brush Your Dog's Teeth Daily—Prevent plaque/tarter build up, gum disease and bad breath.



Spend More Quality Time Together.



Learn Pet First Aid.



Schedule a Vet Check-Up.



Train, Train, Train!



Prevent Parasites with Preventive Products like Nexgard and Heartgard.

Training Tips—Marks

Pre-Snap Checklist by Pat Burns (Retriever News, April 2021)

Here is Pat's mental checklist that he uses prior to running a set of marks.
Next month will feature Pat's mental checklist prior to running a blind.

Before Running a Set of Marks

- * Know the predicted wind direction
- * Have access to Google Earth photos of the site
- * Orient yourself after arriving on the property (N,S,E & W)
- * Check the current wind direction.
- * Review the order of the throws.
- * Analyze the factors: Terrain, Wind, Cover, Water & Visibility.
- * Review test instructions.
- * Have a plan for exiting the blind and approaching the line.
- * What is the judge's signaling cadence?
- * Where do I want to be on the mat (if there is one) and what side do I want to heel on (if your dog is 2 sided)?
 - for watching the marks
 - for sending on the marks.
- * What cues am I going to use?
- * How am I going to influence?
 - Push or pull?
 - Hand or no hand
- * If training, what are my standards?
- * Be aware of my dog's attitude prior to getting to the line.
- * What is plan A and plan B?
- * Be ready to adapt.
- * What did the two dogs ahead of me do?
- * How has the test changed?
 - Wind, Visibility and Developing Trails.
- * Visualize success and proper execution
- * Focus and don't allow yourself to be distracted?

You can find many of Pat Burn's training tips on You Tube.



* * * * * Lining up for a mark.

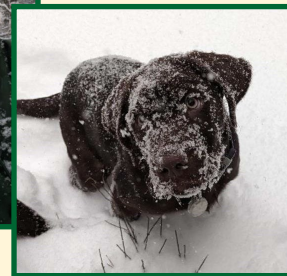
RHRC Member News



Brisket Townley helping clean up after the "Big Blow" in Gold Bar.



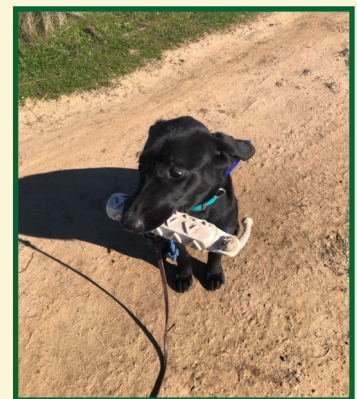
Liz Gibson and Mark Keen at their Wild Brew Farm and photo of McCormick in 2023 when he was 12 weeks old.



Kevin Medved (RHRC Board Member) is a guide for Hidden Ranch Outfitters (they donated a gift certificate for our auction). Here are some happy hunters with Kevin's dogs, Winston and Whiskey (Red Collar). Below is Whiskey Medved after a North Dakota hunt.



Christina Fry submits this photo of Rebel (Lab) and Auston Matthews (Pointer) taken on their last planted hunt of the season. Two trips East for the Frys yielded some quail but no wild pheasants...yet!



Teal Quarles in school — "I'd rather have a duck!"



In Memoriam

Each year the Rainier Hunting Retriever Club acknowledges the losses we have felt—both 4 footed and 2 footed companions, Two giants in the dog world are gone.: Joan Fetty and Dixie Humble. Joan was the founding member of Whistling Wings HRC and supported RHRC. Dixie Humble was a long time member of Rainier and participated in both hunt tests and field trials.

Christine Robertson lost Farley and Holly Krohn lost Flyer. Farley, a talented Irish Water Spaniel, was one of the few members of his breed who qualified at the Master National. Flyer was an outstanding Golden Retriever, qualifying for two Master Amateur Invitationals and earning 2 Master National plates.

As is Rainier's tradition, a donation has been made to Chase Away Cancer in memory of our loved ones.

***“You can remember them and only that they are gone
Or you can cherish their memory and let it live on
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what they would want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.”***

~~~ David Harkins (adapted)

Dolly Reports: A Dirty Story

The day was a bit rainy and foggy but the group was ready to train and I was ready to fly high out of the winger. After everyone decided on where my winger would be set up, it seemed like a good idea to move the vehicles a little closer to our running line. I was happy for the ride. No problem....right?

WRONG!!! Finding a nice solid piece of ground to park was easy for some but my driver managed to find the only REALLY soft spot to park in!

I was relieved when she realized her error while attempting to back up and get off the road. But...it was too late! The pickup would neither go forward nor backward, even in 4-wheel drive. The clay substrate was just too slick.

Training buddies to the rescue....all kinds of tricks were employed. Sticks under the tires, floor mats under the tires, pushing, weighting down the back end, recruiting a professional driver...all to no avail until the decision was made to tow the vehicle out of the swamp. By then there was plenty of torn up ground.

An apology to the land owner, gratitude to all the helpers and a good bath for the vehicle led to a happy ending. One adventure that will (hopefully) not be repeated.

Moral of the story—even though the ground looks stable, if a low spot is in play, don't park there. Lesson learned.

Quack, Quack!!!



Fun Dog Fact

Dogs are capable of locating the source of a sound in 6/100ths of a second by using their swiveling ears like radar dishes.



RHRC Board Meeting Minutes December 3, 2024



Attendance: Betsy Reali (Pres), Lee Redd, Bill Woll, Susan Bell, Misalyn Armstrong, Jean Fowler

Chris Braswell, Susan Bell, Katie Mearns, Scott Corley, Leighton Harder, Jean Fowler.

President Betsy called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Minutes from the November 5th meeting were approved as printed.

Lee Redd, treasurer, reported no significant changes to the budget. Cascade Retrievers will be paid \$200 for the use of the grounds during our October Fun Day.

Old Business:

Membership forms have been distributed to the membership. Dues must be remitted no later than the Annual General Meeting. Award Request forms have been distributed to the membership and are due by January 4, 2025.

Recommended Judges for 2025 Master National

are as follows: Jean reported that she submitted the following individuals' names – Mark Schlender, Susan Collins, John Gammon, Steve Souder, Dave Illias, Dave McPherson, Terrie Sato, Elizabeth Gibson. These judges were requested by the RHRC membership.

Stewards of Children: Pres. Betsy reminded the board that the Stewards of Children certification tests must be taken by all judges (per AKC) and is highly recommended for all who work with children.

Tri-Club Equipment Manager: Peter Gortner is in the process of writing a job description for Equipment Manager. He will send the document to Bill Woll for consideration. The final document will be approved by the Tri-Club.

Katie Mearns, Chair of Nominating Committee, announced the following slate of proposed RHRC board members for 2025:

Executive Board: President – Bill Woll, Vice President – Liz Gibson, Treasurer – Lee Redd, Secretary – Misalyn Armstrong, Past President – Betsy Reali. Members at Large:

Hunt Test Judge Committee (Misalyn Armstrong, Bill Woll, Scott Corley, Jean Fowler) – the committee met in November and selected Master, Senior, and Junior prospective judges for both Spring and Fall RHRC hunt tests. Misalyn is contacting each one individually. One judge has confirmed.

New Business:

Annual Banquet: Misalyn contacted Shawn O'Donnells, a restaurant in Martha Lake (Everett) just off I-5 on 128th St SE. They have a private banquet area downstairs with podium/audio facilities. There is \$100 room fee and \$800 minimum food fee. A Quality Inn is nearby for anyone who wants to spend the night. February is the only month that Friday/Saturday evenings are open for reservations. Misalyn will call for specific dates and will get back to the BOD next week. If Feb 1 is available, she will reserve it for the RHRC Annual Meeting.

For the Good of the Order

** By-Law Committee: Susan Bell and Jean Fowler will work on updating the ByLaws in time for approval at the Annual Meeting in 2025.

**Susan has a winger that was donated by Dixie Humble. She will take it to the Equipment Trailer where Bill can do any necessary repairs.

**Susan will contact PSLRA (Cindy Olson) to establish whether or not they will be holding hunt tests in 2025.

**New Hunt Test: Samish Retriever Field Trial Club will be holding their first hunt test on April 12/13 in Othello at Black Dog a privately owned area. This will precede the Sand and Sage Hunt test the following weekend.

Next Board Meeting: January 7, 2025 at 7 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM

Submitted by *Jean Fowler/Misalyn Armstrong*

Chase Away Cancer

January 15th is National Strawberry Ice Cream Day. Take your pup(s) to get a creamy treat and to give them their monthly "Pup Check" to Chase Away Cancer. Early detection may affect prognosis and treatment!



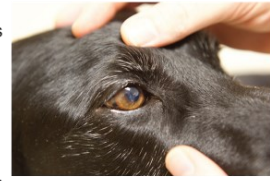
CANINE CANCER CHECK

Use these pictures to help you check every area. Start with the tip of their nose, and work your way to the tip of their tail. For the greatest potential for success, conduct the exam in a familiar environment where your pet is not easily distracted. For example, avoid the time of day the UPS gal makes deliveries, or at dinner time. It might be a good idea to make a body chart: Using a simple outline, note any points of concern in each area. This will help identify when something changes. ***Please be sure to do a K9 cancer check of your dog once a month.**

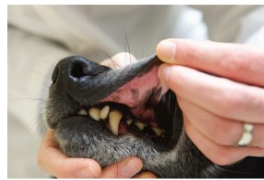
NOSE/MUZZLE: Check the nose for lesions, debris or excessive drainage and take note of whether it is wet or dry. (Your pet's nose will not always be wet, it will typically vary from moist to dry throughout the day.) Check for symmetry of the nose and note any differences from one side to the other.



EYES: Take a look to see whether there is abnormal eye discharge (each pet has different eye weeping. Pay attention to what is normal for your pet and make note when it increases or decreases.) Check the symmetry between both eyes - consider shape, color, discharge, and active movement. Observe all parts of the eye including the whites of their eyes. Note any change in color including increased redness or graying.



MOUTH: Check inside the pet's mouth for lesions, swelling, and bad breath. Their gums should be pink, their teeth free of tartar and plaque. Check the tongue and underneath it. Pay special attention to the gums and the roof of the mouth for symmetry or any obvious masses. Pay attention to the normal ridges and ensure that there is no difference from one side to the other. Not all animals are comfortable with checking their mouth. Take it slow if this is the first time working in their mouth (and while you are there, go ahead and give their teeth their weekly brushing - a healthy mouth ensures a healthy pet!)



JAWLINE: checking outside the mouth, the jaw line should maintains a consistent texture along the entire length of the jaw with no sensitivity to touch and is the same on both sides of the mouth.



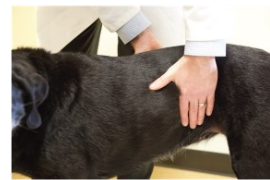
EARS: Check the ears for any abnormal swellings, debris, and odor.



SKIN: Brush back the hair and look at the skin and coat. Check for excessive flakiness, lumps and bumps. Pay special attention to either side of the spinal cord. Make note of the normal color of the skin. Note any changes in skin color including darker or red spots.



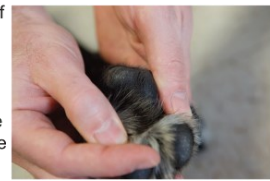
TORSO: Evaluate muscle tone and weight. Note any changes. If your animal is overweight, work to address the issue. Carrying excessive weight can be very harmful to their overall health.



LEGS: Check for heat, bumps and swelling and test the range of motion of the joints. All joints should move freely with no discomfort to the pet.



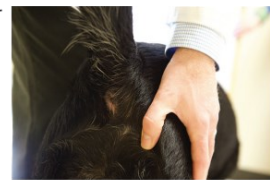
FEET: Look at the claws and the pads of their feet, there should be no debris between their toes and should be fairly symmetrical to the alternate side. Examine the nail bed for any abnormal masses or discoloration. Note excessive heat in the paws. Take note to determine what is normal for your pet.



UNDERBELLY: Gently palpate the belly to look for lumps and notice if your pet seems to experience discomfort or pain. Note any bumps, lumps and sensitive areas over the skin. Examine your pet regularly to determine what is normal so you can determine when there are changes.



ANUS: Also examine your pet's anus for cleanliness, uniformity and a consistent color.

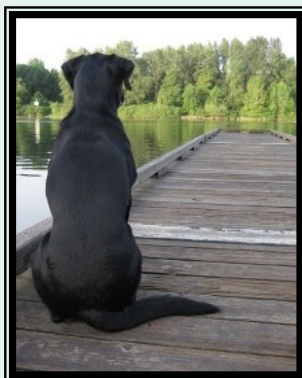


Chase Away K9 Cancer is a proud partner of the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine

Information and demonstrations provided by
Dr. Shay Bracha, Clinical Oncologist at the OSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital



Chase Away K9 Cancer



Many of us have lost our four legged companions to canine cancer and many are currently fighting this disease. One in Three Dogs will get Cancer!

ChaseAway K9 Cancer has partnered with The National Canine Cancer Foundation (NCCF). ChaseAway is a designated fund within the NCCF, a nationwide, contribution funded, 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to eliminating Cancer as a major health issue in dogs by funding grants directly to Cancer researchers who are working to save lives, find cures, better treatments and accurate, cost effective diagnostic methods in dealing with canine Cancer.

RHRC donated \$200 to Chase Away in 2024.

Make your donation today: Donate On-line at www.chaseawayk9cancer.org

OR

Write A Check Payable To: Chase Away K9 Cancer

Mail to : Chase Away K9 Cancer C/O Cera Reusser,

PO Box 65456, Port Ludlow, WA 98365

You will receive a tax deductible donation card as your receipt.



A Ray of Sunshine In Times of Need

The Rainier Hunting Retriever Club is a community of support and love for anyone who is ill, who may have lost a beloved relative, pet, or is in need in any other way.

Please contact Katie Mearns (sonkinas.mearns@gmail.com) if you, or someone you know, could use a helping hand, phone call or other support.



Editor: Jean Fowler
Phone: 206-713-1233
Email: fernhaven@comcast.net

Visit our website
www.rainierhrc.com

The **Rainier Hunting Retriever Club** seeks

A- To encourage and promote quality in purebred dogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection

B—To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breeds by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at hunting retriever tests

C—To conduct licensed hunting retriever tests under the rules of the AKC, NAHRA or any other associations or clubs that may sponsor these tests.



Rainier Constitution, Article I, Section 2



*“Whether their day ends on the couch or in the duck blind,
the dogs that serve us in the field never waste time on regret.
Retrievers see the promise of another dawn in the closing
moments of every hunt,
a dawn that will only prove brighter in their company.”*