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From the Prez.....

*After four months of sunshine, late October rains kicked off Fall in the Pacific Northwest and cleared the smokey skies caused by local wild forest fires. October also launched bird hunting opportunities at local release sites as well as destination hunting grounds. Good luck to all those hunting wild fowl and those actively pursuing other events and competitions with their retrievers.*

*As we look ahead to 2023. It is our plan to add at least two training days to the calendar and bring back the 10 Series which is a fun event for all. Additionally, we have started looking into the possibility of hosting a Master Amateur Event in 2024 in our local area. As we learn more, further information will be shared on these topics.*

*As noted in our previous newsletter, the spring and summer 2022 event season was busy for both AKC and HRC Hunt Tests in the Pacific Northwest area as well as many agility trials, obedience, showmanship and other AKC sanctioned competitions. Many Club members have accomplished dogs in these events. I would like to extend Congratulations to all those who have taken part in these events, qualified, titled, placed, to include the 2022 Master National Event, held in Roseburg, Oregon.*

*Please continue to share your accomplishments and interests with your dog(s) with us. We continue to welcome your ideas and recommendations to improve your hunt test experience. To share your ideas, visit our Facebook Page, Rainier Hunting Retriever Club, or email me directly @ [bnb\\_reali@msn.com](mailto:bnb_reali@msn.com).*

*Thank you for your continued participation and support, we could not do it without you!*

*Betsy*



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

## Caring for your Older Hunting Dog by Keith Crowley

“How old would you be if you didn’t know how old you are?” That’s how dogs feel about aging. They don’t know and don’t care. They live in the moment.

Here are some common sense ways you can keep your aging hunter in the game longer.

- 1) Keep your dog lean through diet and exercise. A fat dog is far more likely to injure itself through over-exertion. Swimming is a great choice for older dogs as well as brisk walks.
- 2) Keep your dog (and yourself) hydrated. Mix extra water with your dog’s kibble.
- 3) Anticipate situations where your older dog may get into trouble through sheer exuberance. Stop them from over exerting themselves even though they just want to “go!”.
- 4) At the risk of losing some game, weigh the consequences of sending your older dog into an icy river.
- 5) Keep up with annual physicals. Joint supplements and NSAIDs can help with arthritis.
- 6) Limit their time in the field with you. Perhaps treat them like a new puppy. Shorter hunts will be best.
- 7) Limiting jumping to and from a pick-up tailgate will prevent a hard fall or preventable joint damage.

Age is a question of mind over matter. If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter” (Satch Paige). Older dogs don’t mind at all, just so they can keep coming along.

Excerpted from *American Hunter*, January 2020



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## Snoqualmie Valley Retriever Grounds—History

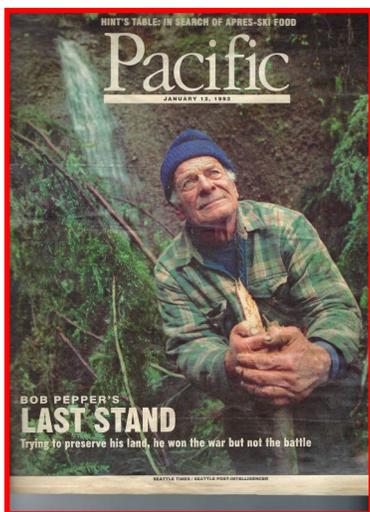
Many RHRC members have used these grounds for dog training over the years and the Rainier Hunting Retriever Club has used the property (along with other clubs) for their AKC Hunting Retriever events. The grounds, originally referred to as “Peppers”, was developed by the original owner, Bob Pepper. His field trial champion, Jiggs, is buried on the property. In January 1992, the Seattle Times Pacific Magazine featured an extensive article about Bob Pepper. I recently found out that Chris Braswell had a copy of the magazine and she generously loaned me the article so that I could copy it and share it with you. Thank you so very much, Chris.

~~JF

Here is the fourth and final chapter in the History of the Snoqualmie Valley Retriever Grounds. April/ May, June/July and August RHRC Newsletters have the first 3 chapters.



(The Saga continues with Bob fighting with King County.)



*But while Pepper won the war, he lost the battle. "He changed incredibly the operation of county government," says Sims (County Councilman, Ron Sims), "but like a lot of people, and I hate to say this, they still remain injured. They are not made whole. He will only have the satisfaction of the*

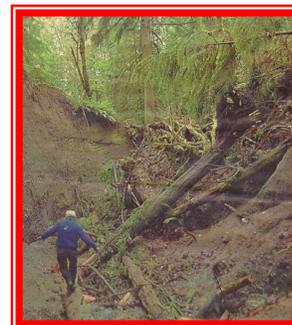
*knowledge that he changed the course."*

*To Pepper, that wasn't enough. He went to court. In the spring of 1991, more than a decade after the erosion began burying his property, he was seated before Superior Court Judge Richard Ishikawa. Within hours, Pepper would be on his feet bellowing.*

*Ishikawa dismissed two big defendants : Quadrant and Puget Power. He said there was not enough proof that they had improperly drained water on the plateau or were directly responsible for damage to Pepper's property. He narrowed the*

*defendants to one developer, J.J. Welcome, and a few individual landowners on the plateau.*

*A jury was seated in June and, for five weeks, tried to unravel the knotted version of events on Novelty Hill. Officials from J. J. Welcome argued that all of its homes were built with permits issued by the county, according to county codes and regulations. Other experts testified that, indeed, improper drainage had occurred on the plateau, but it was impossible to say who had dug the ditches and when. Pepper jumped to his feet and cried foul. The judge sat him back down with a warning.*



*Finally, it was over. An exhausted jury found that development had caused runoff damage to Pepper's property and awarded him \$517,000. But what the jury giveth, the judge taketh away. Ishikawa reduced the award to \$129,000. Apologetically, he ruled that Pepper could receive only the amount that his land had diminished in market value - not the estimated cost of repairing the damage. In other words, the damage had reduced the value of his property by about \$129,000 on today's market, and that was all he could be compensated.*

*"I did what I had to do based on my reading of the law," says Ishikawa. "But he was upset with me. He's a very emotional fella. He believed in his position."*

*Indeed. Pepper staggered from the courtroom, his hands knotted in rage. The \$129,000 wouldn't begin to patch up his farm, let alone pay for the attorney's fees, which were \$675,000 and mounting. Reporters who covered the trial recall him glowering in the hallway. When Ishikawa walked past, Pepper stopped him. "Thanks," he growled.*

*"For what?" asked the judge.*

*"For nothing," Pepper spit back, fists shaking at his sides. He approached Ishikawa, but his attorneys restrained him, calling, "Bob ... Bob ... BOB!"*

*Now, half a year later, that scene is still burned in Pepper's memory, as is the whole ordeal. "What was it all about? I went there for salvation and got a burlesque show instead."*

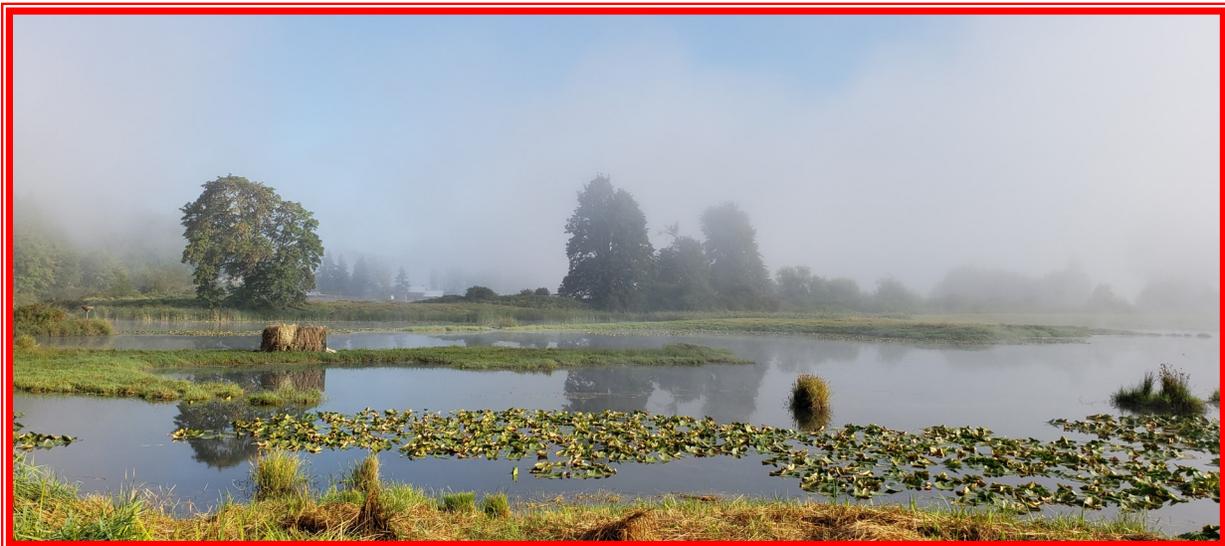
*"It was awful," agrees his attorney, Camden Hall. "This result seemed totally unjust and unfair, and the law shouldn't be this draconian." Hall isn't sure his firm will ever see the \$675,000, but he isn't backing off. He will represent Pepper before the state Court of Appeals this year.*

*"Bob Pepper is a wonderful man with a vision of what he'd like to leave for future generations, and that vision is being constantly compromised by events and activities beyond his control. He's like the Little Dutch Boy with a finger in the dike, but it's leaking everywhere. I hate to think he's an anachronism, but this trial has proved that people with vision are swimming upstream."*

*Bob Pepper is a better swimmer than most, but even he is floundering. The appeals process this year will be grueling and expensive and, most likely, demoralizing. Although he's a man who could wrestle an elk bare-handed and win, that raw personal power isn't enough against the forces of power today. He's come face to face with the huge edifice of progress and found it clumsy, immovable and numbingly oblivious to single human lives. Like a modern-day Don Quixote, he is tilting at windmills.*

*Yet Pepper won't quit the struggle. There is something in his spirit that can't compromise, not even for progress, and certainly not for the progress of a powerful few. To them, he raises his lance and says, "This is the last valley. It's a paradise of life and you're not going to ruin it."*

*And then he lowers his arm and gathers a handful of bread crumbs for the birds. Jaw set, he high-steps through the field, talking to himself or the old white horse who follows him with sway-back devotion. The nag knows nothing of his struggle, but knows something of the man, and follows him to the end of the field.*





## Master National Retriever Club News



**As you may be aware, the Master National Retriever Club considered some dramatic changes to the Master National Hunt Test.**

**The Annual Meeting, held in September at the Master National in Oregon, gave members the opportunity to vote on the implementation of the proposals. RHRC members voiced their opposition to all proposals made by the Master National Board of Directors. The vote, as taken at the meeting, reflected the dissatisfaction with the proposals by a majority of the member clubs.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Hunt Test Advisory Committee has recommended the adoption of the following changes by the American Kennel Club:

1. A person shall be considered an Amateur who during the period of one year preceding the trial in question has not received compensation in any form for the training of a dog for hunting, hunting tests or field trials and/or the handling of a dog in the same, and/ or the regular systematic personal instructions of other individuals regarding the above pursuits

2. Failure to go on a blind - A dog sent on a blind retrieve shall at once proceed in the general direction of the line given by the handler. A dog that fails to do so shall, in the absence of unusual extenuating circumstances, be eliminated from the stake.

3. Concern has been expressed over excessive passing rates & quality of judging on master dogs at hunting tests. Both the Hunt Test Advisory Committee and AKC are addressing this issue.

These are the recommendations have been made to the American Kennel Club (AKC) by the Hunt Test Advisory Committee. The AKC can accept, reject, or modify the recommendations. Additionally, the AKC can implement changes in the regulations and guidelines without consulting the committee.

If changes are made, the AKC notifies the Club's "secretary of record" of any AKC decisions on new/ revised regulations via e-mail.



# Happy Halloween



## Reflections after the Master National



*The heart of the dogs,  
They look at you deep in your soul  
You look back  
We have a conversation  
Sharing warmth and thoughts  
You give him/her the job  
They were born to do  
The twinkle in their eyes  
The eagerness of their will*

*They do it all  
They performed and you're so proud  
You thank them for being them  
No matter ribbons, trophies  
The companion does it for you*

*There is nothing as great as  
The heart of a dog  
His adoring eyes  
His warmth when you're cold  
His unconditional love  
Look through their eyes  
And feel their loving soul  
Their exuberance, their compassion*

*The heart of my dogs  
Competing at Master National 2022  
Looking in my dog's eyes brought me  
these thoughts  
Thank you Corinne for being you  
For your love and dedication  
For you friendship and companionship*

*Katie Sonkinas Mearns  
Owner, Trainer and Handler*



## RHRC Board Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2022



Attendance: Betsy Reali (President), Lee Redd, Jean Fowler, Susan Bell, Jim Olson, Bill Woll

Absent: Doug Gallucci, Dianne Clark, Liz Gibson, Sue Meyring, Cat Martini-Rashid

President Betsy called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. The August minutes were approved as written.

### **Treasurer Report(s) – Lee Redd**

RHRC has \$13,049.14 in the bank. \$1,440 was raised from the raffle at the Fall HRT. There have been some lost items that cost the club \$670 to replace. This includes 496 Junior Qualification Ribbons and 3 bird crates. The bird crates may still be at SVRG. Regarding our Fall HRT expenses, the cost of the scratches was offset by only having 3 pop and throw people to pay. Bird expenses were \$1,000 lower because we used fewer birds and did not have a stewarding fee. Judge costs were lower for our fall test compared to our spring judge costs. Bill Woll suggests investigating the possibility of renting the “Tiny Houses” on SVRG from Will Hart as accommodations for some judges. Before actually renting one of the houses, we need to have a “walk-through” to ensure the facilities are appropriate and “judge-friendly”.

Tri-Club account: \$618.80. Because this amount has dropped below \$1,000, each club will need to add funds to return the balance to \$1,000.

### **Old Business**

Automatic External Defibrillator: The Board was supportive of the plan to rent the AED as this will ensure we always have good equipment that is ready to be used. We could lower costs if we rent it for the summer rather than by month. Bill Woll will check with both Cascade as well as Whistling Wings to see if they would like to use the AED at their spring and fall events. This would lower the rental fee to all clubs.

Equipment needs: We need additional wingers/thunder guns. Susan Bell (EGRC \$300) and Jim Olson (PLRA \$600) will ask their respective clubs if the expense of these items can be supported by the Tri-Club. The equipment may be available at the Master National for a reasonable cost.

Tri-Club Agreement: Jean will shepherd the proposed changes to all clubs involved and will secure approval/agreement signatures.

### **New Business**

2023 Test Dates: The Board agreed on May 13/14 as the dates for the Spring Hunt Test. That should not conflict with members who are attending the Master Amateur Invitational (held the end of April in Texas). Before the next test we will need more duck calls. We have sufficient ammunition (6 cases/12 gauge; 1.5 cases/20 gauge) for the spring test. It is imperative to secure judges for our events before the end of this year. Jean will send out a request to join a Judge Selection Committee to the entire membership.

Master National Delegate & Master National Survey: Susan Bell is RHRC delegate to MNRC. A summary of feedback from the RHRC membership regarding proposed restructuring of qualifications/regions was submitted to MNRC. General consensus from RHRC membership was to not support ANY of the proposed restructuring of MNRC. Sue Collins was RHRC membership choice for Regional Director.

RHRC Training Days: The Board held a lively discussion regarding the possibility of holding 2 training days this coming spring. Locations suggested were both Cherry Valley and Green-Leitch Training

Continued on page 8

# RHRC Board Meeting Minutes September 6, 2022—continued



**Grounds.** Bill Woll has had a lot of experience with Cascade Training days and offered good advice. No decisions as to date/locations were made. The possibility of holding a joint training day with PSLRA was suggested. It was also suggested that we might be able to share a bird order with Cascade (who is holding an event in April).

**Mark Wickham Memorial Ten Series:** The Board is hoping that we can put Covid behind us and, again, offer a Ten Series to members of the retriever community in June. We will need event chairs to run this event.

**Live Flyers for Events:** Discussion was held regarding using live flyers, where they would be housed and who would get them given that Wendy is no longer going to be in the bird business.

**New Ribbon Design:** Betsy introduced the idea of upgrading our award ribbons to include two colors – especially for title ribbons which could also include a ribbon stating “TITLE” in the rosette. This idea was met with enthusiasm.

Our next meeting will be held October 18 at 6:30 PM.

All were wished good luck at the upcoming Master National event in Oregon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Submitted by, *Jean Fowler*,  
RHRC Secretary

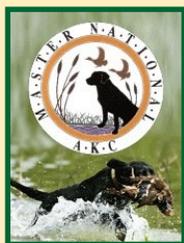
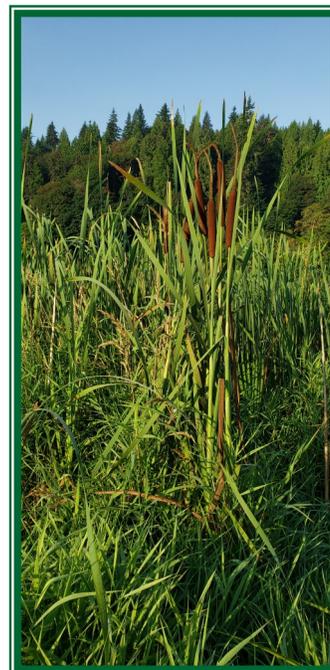




Many RHRC Members and their Dogs have Qualified to Enter and Compete in the 2023 Master Amateur Invitational

**If you have qualified to compete in the 2023 Master Amateur Invitational, please be sure to check with MAI to ensure all of your qualifications as an amateur have been recorded. The qualification form can be located here:**

**<https://www.masteramateur.com/2022mnsurvey.html>**



The following dogs Qualified for the 2022 Master National that will be held in Roseburg, Oregon September 29—October 9, 2022 **Bold** Indicates Dogs who Qualified



**Autumn's Don't Look Down—Katie Quarles**

**Autumn's Klondike Kate—Tom Quarles**

Autumn's Ruffcut Diamond at Fernhaven— Jean Fowler

Birddog's Golden Compass—Fred Drennan

**Boogie Jean's Happy Here and Now—Sue Meyring**

**Brassfire's Its5oclocksomewhere—Chris Braswell**

**Cascade Ranges High Hunts Low—Colin Ching**

**Fynder Never Cry Wolf—Christine Robertson**

**Grouse Creek's Lightning Fast Eva—Betsy Reali**

Hathaway's Duck Filled Marsh—Brian Hawley

Hawley's Change in Fortune—Brian Hawley

Ireland Farms Dutchess of Stormy Mtn—Kevin Medved

Island Acres Bronco Betty—Susan Bell

**J and J's Wild Irish Rose—Joanie Belcher/Kevin Medved**

Justin Time Salty Margarita—Dianne/Randy Clark

**Obsidian Corinna Corinna—Katie and Robert Mearns**

**Rattlin Ridge's Willin O Ranmar—Randy/ Dianne Clark**

**Skyriver's Mr Winston Goes the Distance— Kevin Medved**

Telopea's Tough Rollin Oliver at Centerfield—Liz Gibson, Mark Keen

**The Captain's Vincent Rolls Like Lightnin—Liz Gibson, Mark Keen**

**Topgun Have a little Faith—Bill Woll**

Topgun Sweet Little Madness—Bill Woll

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# Congratulations



Colin Ching's HRCH Cascade Ranges High Hunts Low MH28 QAA. This is Cade's second Master National Plate!



Bill Woll and Faith. This is Faith's



Rosie is a little bored with all the foll-de-rol but Joanie Belcher is proud of her girl! - Thanks, Bucko Van de Brake—Conway Kennels.



Chris Braswell's Tippy and her Master National plate.



Joseph Lee and Stephanie Harris are pleased with the Junior title earned by Endless Limits Kick It In Skagit, an American Water Spaniel.



Skyriver's Mr. Winston Goes the Distance Qualifies! Thank You, Bucko!—Keven Medved

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# Congratulations



Katie Mearns and Corinne earned a plate at the 2022 Master National!



Betsy Reali and Eva (Grouse Creek's Lightning Fast Eva) qualified at the 2022 Master National!



Christine Robertson's Farley is on his way to the Master National Hall of Fame with 2 plates!



Rattlin Ridge's Willin O RanMar, MNH "Alice" earned her spot in the MN Hall of Fame and her handler, Randy Clark was awarded the Amateur Team Excellent in Roseberg this past October

"We are so proud of our boy, The Captain's Vincent Rolls Like Lightnin" MNR, MH, aka Vinnie, who qualified for and passed the MN 2022, for his second plate! Thank you to Bucko for all your hard work to make this happen. At 11 years old Vin's still got a heart full of spirit and enthusiasm for the work he does. Our other boy, Oliver, who got his MH title this year, also qualified for the MN's, and ran the first series. He's looking forward to 2023."



### 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.

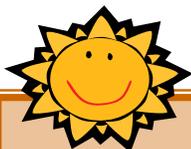
**We raised \$1,474,518.37 by the end of 2021**

Make your donation today: Donate On-line at [www.chaseawayk9cancer.org](http://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 Dianne Clark if you, or someone you know, could use a helping hand, phone call or other support. You can reach Dianne at: 360-568-3368 (home), 425-299-4252 (cell) or [dianneclark@comcast.net](mailto:dianneclark@comcast.net)



*November 23rd is "Thankful for My Dog" day—Celebrate your dog and Check your pup Monthly.*

*Do A Pup Check to Chase Away K9 Cancer.*

*Early detection may affect prognosis and treatment!*



<p><b>CANINE CANCER CHECK</b> 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. <b>*Please be sure to do a K9 cancer check of your dog once a month.</b></p>	
<p><b>NOSE/MUZZLE:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>MOUTH:</b> 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 from 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!)</p>	
<p><b>SKIN:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>LEGS:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>UNDERBELLY:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>EYES:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>JAWLINE:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>EARS:</b> Check the ears for any abnormal swellings, debris, and odor.</p>	
<p><b>TORSO:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>FEET:</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>ANUS:</b> Also examine your pet's anus for cleanliness, uniformity and a consistent color.</p>	



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



## Rainier Hunting Retriever Club Newsletter

Editor: Jean Fowler  
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Visit our website  
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Rainier Constitution, Article I, Section 2



**2019 Ducks Unlimited Honorable Mention  
Photo by Brad Frazier (Copyright)**