

## Rainier Hunting Retriever Club Newsletter



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

October 2024

Volume 21, Issue 8

Web: [www.rainierhrc.com](http://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



## FALL FUNDAY



**FREE—Fall Fun Day**  
**RHRC Club Members and Volunteers**  
**Cascade Retriever Grounds, Monroe WA**  
**Saturday, October 26**  
**9—3 PM**

**“Thank You” to everyone who contributed to our successful field events and celebration of our 40th Anniversary. We could not hold our events without YOU!!!!**

**The day will include training set-ups, a hot lunch, good company and great dogs.**

**There is no fee for participating in this event**



### 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

# WANTED!

## LOOKING FOR

### Nominating Committee Members

Two At Large RHRC members are needed. Katie Mearns has volunteered so we need at least one more At Large member. Positions needing to be filled for 2025 include: President and Treasurer  
To volunteer, contact Betsy Reali <bnb\_reali@msn.com>

\*\*\*\*\*

### Volunteers for the 2025 Spring and Fall Hunt Tests

Greatest need right now is someone to serve as Hunt Test Chair. You will not be doing this job alone. There are many seasoned HT Secretaries who will help you. Contact: Spring HT Secretary, Misalyn Armstrong <sngdog9@msn.com>

\*\*\*\*\*

### Annual Banquet Planning Committee

This committee will find a great location for our January event as well as plan the program. The RHRC Annual Banquet highlights member/dog accomplishments for the past year as well as elects 2025 Officers. Contact: Betsy Reali <bnb\_reali@msn.com>

## In This Issue

\*\*\*\*\*

Help Wanted  
Page 2

RHRC Member News  
Page 3

Master National Qualifiers  
Page 4

MNRC Report  
Page 5

Senior Citizen Care  
Page 6, 7

RHRC October  
Board Minutes  
Page 8

Chase Away Cancer  
Page 9

Sunshine Committee  
Page 10



*Go afield with a good attitude, with respect for the wildlife you hunt and for the forest and fields in which you walk. Immerse yourself in the outdoor experience. It will cleanse your soul and make you a better person.*

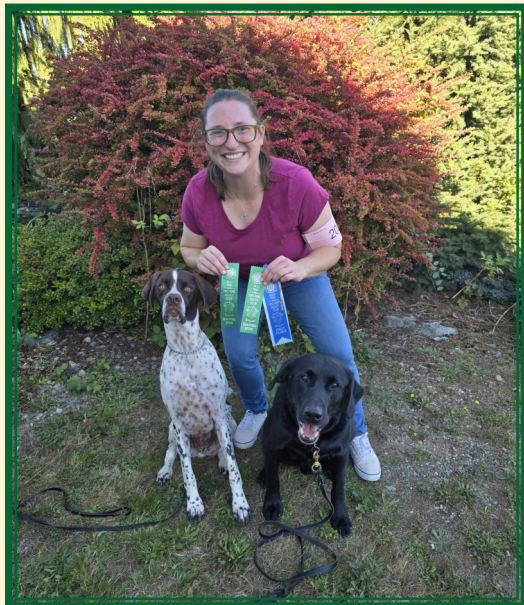
*~~ Fred Bear*

# RHRC Member News



Doug and Patti Gallucci after a successful pheasant hunt.

Lucy Fowler graduates from her physical therapy at Sound Rehabilitation.



Christina Fry sends this photo of Rebel (lab) and Auston Matthews (Pointer) earning their first legs towards a Rally Excellent and Rally Novice title. This was after filling their pheasant limits earlier that morning showing a great example of how dogs excel in all areas of expectations!



Here is Peter Gortner with Radar who is now 13 months old, This is Radar's first goose retrieve in Alberta, Canada. And, YES!, he saw that hay bale and jumped right up on top of it (perhaps to get a better look at any geese that might be flying by).



# Master National Retriever Club

2024 Master National  
Kevil, Kentucky

September 21 to October 2, 2024

Congratulations!



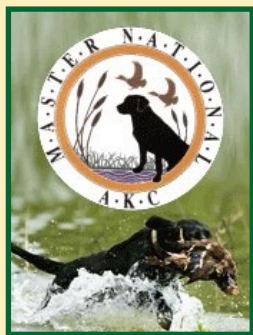
**Dolly Quarles (#90 Flight A)**



**Oliver Gibson (#58 Flight D)**



**Maddie Woll (#45 Flight A)  
Bill Walls (Handler)  
Faith Woll (#36 Flight A)**



# Master National Retriever Club

## 2025 Master National Giddings, Texas October 30—November 9

\*\*\*\*\*

Master National news update from 2024 Annual Meeting:

\* Bylaws Proposal change to exempt Master Amateur Hunter titled dogs from requalification for the MNRC annual event passed with a vote of 62—14. RHRC voted in favor of this change.

\* Board Members elected:

Region 2—Alan Bruhin, Director

Region 4—Ed Ryska, Director

Mike Woodbury was elected VP. Region 34



Photo by Bill Woll



## Senior Citizen Care—by Tom Keer,

Excerpted from *Retriever Journal* (Dec 22/Jan 23)

Everybody loves puppies, but older dogs love everybody. Gun dogs are tough and are experts at concealing aches and pains. A little extra care is required to keep them hunting/competing and it's well worth it.

Weekly, if not daily, work helps keep senior gun dogs in good-to-great shape. However, ultimately, Father Time catches up with us all, and Dr. Johnny Myers, owner of the Animal Wellness Center in Paducah, KY routinely sees three common characteristics in senior dogs:

### A Slower Metabolism.

“Any animal will experience a slowing of the metabolism with age. There isn't a precise, scientifically proven time of when that happens, and that metabolic slowdown can vary by breed as well as individual dog. Symptoms can include graying hair, memory loss, loss of energy, weight gain, among others. If I had to pick a time to start looking for adult dogs to transition to their senior life, I'd look sometime around the dog's seventh year.”

**Recovery Times Take Longer.** “Senior dogs make the first few days of hunting look easy but after that they'll need more recovery time. A side effect of exercise is the formation of free radicals and a buildup of lactic acid. Senior dogs will need more rest in between hunts than younger dogs. That might translate into a day off of every two or three days on.”

**Cruciate Ligament Issues.** “Older age always brings injuries that happened in the past to the

surface. Years of running and hunting puts a lot of pressure on a dog's joints. Ligaments as well as tendons wear out over time. Keep your older dog's time on the ground short and on less aggressive terrain.”

**Senior Nutrition.** “It's really easy for older dogs to gain weight. They are burning fewer calories and weight gain can happen if they are fed the same amount that they had when they were working hard. Consider a food with a lower protein/fat blend unless they have decided to eat

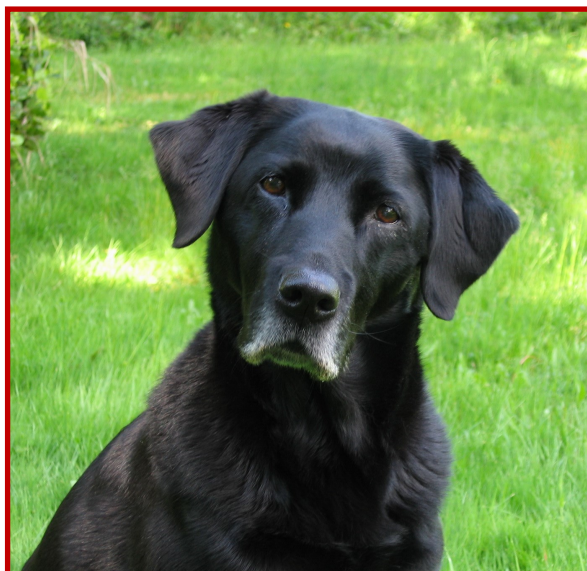
less than usual, in which case stay on the higher protein/fat formula.”

Russ Kelley, Eukanuba's Scientific Services Nutritionist, breaks down the senior age into three different groups. Group 1: 7—8 years old; Group 2: 9—10 years old and Group 3: over 10 years old. Feed the best nutrition you can afford and keep an eye on the following:

**Beat the Heat.** “Watch for signs of heat-related illness, keep properly hydrated. Cold weather and water exaggerates any soreness or pain especially in joints.”

**Rest and Reduce Inflammation.** “Diets that contain omega-3, EPA, and glucosamine help reduce work-related inflammation.”

**Oxidative Stress.** Recovery time can be improved if the diet contains antioxidants. Nutrients that can reduce oxidative stress include



Continued on page 7

# Senior Citizen Care—by Tom Keer, *Retriever Journal*

Vitamin E, Vitamin C, lutein, beta-carotene, and taurine. Be sure your dog’s food contains antioxidants as it will help them heal.

**Tendons and Ligaments.** “Diets containing glucosamine and chondroitin have been shown to have a positive and direct impact on improving joint health. Glucosamine regulates collagen synthesis, which is the process that supports strength and flexibility of connective tissue. Chondroitin inhibits the production of destructive enzymes that break down connective tissue. Diets that contain glucosamine can help improve the connective tissue’s health, while diets with chondroitin help prevent enzymes from having a negative impact.”

**Increase Vet Visits.** With older dogs, it’s a good idea to increase vet visits to twice a year...Before the hunting or testing season begins and again after that season is over.

As our dogs age, our expectations need to change accordingly. Helping them stay fit, adjusting their pace and ensuring that they are getting the proper nutrients will keep them hunting and competing for as long as possible. That goes for owners and handlers too!



## Fun Dog Fact

*A study shows that dogs are among a small group of animals who show voluntary **unselfish kindness** towards others without any reward.*



## RHRC Board Meeting Minutes

### October 8, 2024



Attendance: Betsy Reali, Bill Woll, Lee Redd, Jean Fowler, Susan Bell, Katie Mearns, Doug Gallucci, Chris Braswell, Liz Gibson, Misalyn Armstrong

**Welcome:** President Betsy opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and welcomed Board Members. The minutes from the September 3, 2024, meeting were approved with no corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cash \$15,009.06 \$122.25 net loss for the year through September. Filed the 2024-2025 WA SOS annual report in September. Other: 2025 membership renewals expected soon. TriClub has a \$570.91 cash balance

### Old/New Business

#### **2024 Business**

Master National Debrief: Some discontent due to less land availability for test sites. 16 sites originally designated for the event were reduced to 12 sites. Some flights finished and had to wait until other flights finished before starting their next series. Weather was a factor and rain from Hurricane delayed the event for one day. Ducks were not good – small and immature. Pheasants were great and made the land tests challenging. Tests overall were fair and challenging – bird placement and blinds were good.

#### Fall Fun Day Pot-Luck & Appreciation Day:

- October 26 at Cascade Retrievers 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
- No cost to members. Members are welcome to bring a guest
- Donation jar will be available
- Betsy will bring birds
- Bill & Betsy will bring over equipment from trailer or use personal equipment
- Bill will help with set ups
- Chris will bring her ATV & trailer
- Jean will send out invitations to members, Liz will forward invitation to volunteers that helped at

the tests that are not members  
RSVP by October 21 for the Fall Fun Day

Equipment Care: There is now a Clip Board in the equipment trailer to check out and check in equipment and make notes of any equipment that needs to be repaired.

Board Recruitment: Nominating Committee needs to include 3 members. One board member must be on committee. Katie Mearns will be part of the committee. Two more members needed – personally ask members at the Fall Fun Day to be part of the committee.  
President and Treasurer are the positions that need to be filled.

2025 Judges Committee: Scott Corly, Jean Fowler, Bill Woll and Misalyn Armstrong. Lee Redd will provide budget guidelines. The committee will start finding judges for the spring test as soon as AKC approves date change to May 17th & 18th, 2025. Committee will also find judges for the fall test August 9th & 10th, 2025.  
Waiting to see if PSLRA will offer hunt test in 2025. RHRC will considering offering a Master only test in the event PSLRA does not hold its Spring Hunt Test.

#### **2025 Business**

Ammo: Board approved the purchase of more ammo approximate cost \$350.  
Board approved the purchase of two Boom Guns with Club logo – will be for RHRC use only.  
Approximate cost \$240 each not including shipping

Tri Club Meeting – no meeting currently scheduled.  
Next RHRC Bd meeting Tuesday, November 5, 2024  
The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Submitted by: *Misalyn Armstrong*, RHRC Secretary



### Chase Away Cancer

*October is Cancer Awareness Month. Be your Dog's Hero remember to give your pups their monthly "Pup Check" to Chase Away Cancer. Early detection may affect prognosis and treatment!*

# Canine Cancer Awareness

## Hemangiosarcoma

HSA can be in the spleen,  
heart or dermal

HSA is an aggressive, hard to  
find cancer

### Signs of HSA:

- short of breath
- funny/strange breathing
- tired/not wanting to play
- pale gums
- bloated stomach

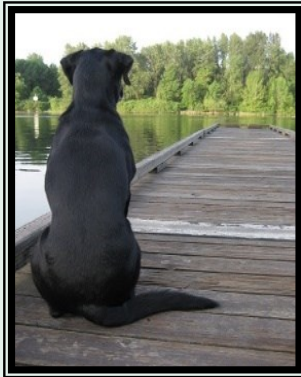


[chaseawayk9cancer.org](http://chaseawayk9cancer.org)

**CHASEAWAYK9CANCER.ORG**



### 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 \$500 to Chase Away in 2023.**

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 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](http://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



“Hunting reminds us that we are part of something bigger than ourselves—the vast and interconnected web of life on Earth.”

~~ Steven Rinella