



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

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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

From the Prez

Fall has arrived with cooler temperatures, shorter days, and a stunning Super moon. I hope some of you have had the opportunity to view the moon in the evening hours. The change of season often brings a new change to you and your dog's routine, you may be getting ready for a national event or preparing for the hunting season with your trained hunting dog, or you may even be introducing a pup into your dog family! Whatever it is, enjoy the moment.

In celebration of the change of season, RHRC will be hosting a **No-Cost Member Appreciation Fall Fun Day** at Cascade Retriever Grounds on **October 26, from 9:00 to 3:00 pm**. The day will include training set-ups, a hot lunch, good company, and great dogs. More information to follow soon. Check your email.

Club member accomplishments, recognition, canine health tips and more, can be found in the body of this month's newsletter; please take the time to read, resend and share. As always, we welcome new members.

As a reminder, the 2024 AKC Master National begins on September 21 in Kevil, Kentucky. Follow a friend or colleague [here](#). In addition, later in October the HRC Fall Grand National will begin on October 19 in Weldon Springs, Missouri. Again, follow a friend or colleague [here](#). If you have any requests or ideas for Club activities for the 2025 year, please contact any board member so we can continue planning. Thank you for your continued Club participation and support.

Betsy

425-503-5323 or bnb_reali@msn.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



Volunteer Give Back



**FREE—Fall Fun Day
Cascade Retriever Grounds
October 26
9—3 PM**

“Thank You” to all the volunteers who contributed to our successful field events and celebration of our 40th Anniversary. We could not hold our events without YOU—Our VOLUNTEERS!

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

**There is no fee for participating in this event
Watch your email for additional information.**

Be sure to sign up so your Board can plan for birds and food.

“...at least half of the fun of a duck shoot is the company and work of a good retriever.”

Edgar Queeny, Prairie Wings, 1946



Bill Woll and Maddie

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Good Luck to all Handlers and Dogs at the 2024 Master National being held in Kevil, Kentucky





Master National Retriever Club

2023 Bill Teague Handler of the Year Dr. Kathryn (Katie) Quarles DVM (retired) 2023

Katie, a longtime member of RHRC, was honored with the Handler of the Year Award in August, 2024. The award was presented at the Redwood Empire Retriever Club Hunt Test Dinner by the Master National Retriever Club Foundation Board. Annette Pacheco (MNRC Region IV VP) and Ed Ryska (MNRC Region IV Director) made the presentation. Katie has been involved in the retriever sport for over thirty (30) years. As a breeder, trainer, judge and hunt test participant, she is well known all along the west coast.

Katie has been responsible for much of the veterinarian and medical support that all clubs strive for at their events. In 1996 tragedy struck the Master National with the accidental death of Greg Mourges' dog, Odin. After that accident, there was heightened awareness of the need for information regarding emergency services and equipment at all AKC field events. Over the years, Katie has been responsible for preparing and providing the emergency kits and medical support available at each MNRC Hunt Test Flight. Many local clubs have followed this practice with first aid kits available during their events as well as publishing emergency information in their premiums.

Katie received her veterinary degree in 1977 from the University of California, Davis. She then opened her

practice in Clearview, WA - the Clearview Animal Hospital. Her training and expertise continue to be invaluable to her clients and their dogs. She has regularly volunteered as the veterinarian of record for the Master National. She brings her skills and compassion to both dogs and handlers alike at any events she attends.



Katie's first hunt test dog was "Ace", an Irish Water Spaniel. She began training and competing with Ace in 1988-89. She competed with "Ace" in her first field event held at the Carlson grounds in Carnation, WA. Katie trained with Tom Quarles who was training dogs and competing in both NAHRA and AKC events. Much of the training took place at Cherry Valley, north of Duvall, WA. It didn't take long for Katie to get "hooked" into our sport just watching the dogs and marveling at seeing them do what they love and are bred to do.

It was around this time, with Tom's encouragement, that Katie joined RHRC. Tom was already intimately involved with RHRC, serving as Club President in the early 90s. Tom was also a charter member of the Master National and, of course, encouraged Katie to get involved there as well.

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Master National Retriever Club

2023 Bill Teague Handler of the Year

Dr. Kathryn (Katie) Quarles DVM (retired) 2023

In 1994 Katie got her first labrador, "Time" and also attended her first Master National, in Nevada. In 1996 Katie entered "Time" in the Master National in St. Louis, MO. They did not qualify that year but in 1998, when the Master National was held in Carnation at Pepper's Farm, "Time" did qualify! The die was cast and there was no going back. 1996 was an auspicious year as Katie not only sold her Clearview veterinary practice to train dogs full time, but she also married Tom Quarles. They tied the knot at the Hills Ferry hunt test in Los Banos, CA! The rest is HISTORY!

As an RHRC member, Katie has held the positions of RHRC Newsletter Editor and Club Secretary. She was also Hunt Test Secretary for several NAHRA events held locally. She is always willing to help wherever she can. Katie assembled the extensive first aid field kits that RHRC, PSLRA and EGRC use today. She was a strong advocate for ensuring that the clubs have an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) device available at all of our events.

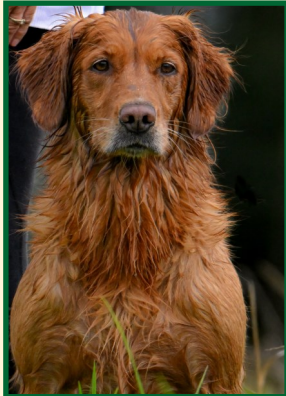
RHRC salutes Katie for her many contributions to the retriever sport we all love.



"To appreciate is to sprinkle seeds of encouragement, nurturing the growth of confidence in others." - Zoe Richardson



RHRC Member News



Shotsy earned her Total Golden award for earning a conformation title and a major working title. There are less than 13 dogs who earned this award this year.

Brassfire's Alcohol You Later MH CCA WCX

~ Submitted by Chris Braswell



HRCH Obsidian Corinna Corrina MH, earned her finish title: Hunting Retriever Champion, at the NorthEast Washington Gun Dog Club.

~ Submitted by Katie Mearns



Greater Pacific HRT
September 14-15, 2024

Photos Misalyn Armstrong

Hydration In The Field—By Seth Bynum, DVM

It's easy to overlook hydration as an important part of the Nutrition of Canine Athletes. With so much discussion about dog food, it's easy to overlook hydration as an important part of the nutrition of canine athletes. It's universally accepted that water is essential for life, but it's often overlooked just how much this basic molecule drives physical activity in a working dog.

Water performs myriad functions in the bodies of performance animals, from lubricating joints to enhancing nutrient uptake in muscles.

While dogs can skip many meals without any long-term ill effects, they won't survive long with a water deficit.

Indeed, hydration is a tightly regulated process that every cell in the body depends upon, with very little wiggle room for error.

The good news is most dogs do a great job of regulating their own hydration without any intervention on our behalf. Thirst is a natural response to changes in hydration status. It's a reflex that dogs involuntarily respond to when the sensation arises, even if that doesn't coincide with what we think the timeline should be for drinking. Despite our tendency to overanalyze, most thirsty dogs will drink what they need when the urge arises and clean, fresh water is available.

There are, however, a few reluctant or finicky drinkers out there. For the minority of dogs that would rather hunt than drink, you have to get creative in managing their hydration.

USE A SQUEEZE BOTTLE

First, efficient water management starts with water delivery. I strongly recommend that you train your hunting dog to drink from a squeeze bottle rather than a bowl. Not only does this delivery mechanism help conserve water, it's much easier to keep tabs on how much volume your hunting dog has consumed.

BAIT THE WATER

For particularly picky drinkers, it's acceptable to bait the water with something highly palatable to entice these dogs to drink when they would otherwise decline. I

often reach for FortiFlora from Purina as a safe and effective way to enhance the flavor of water. In a pinch, a light dusting of salted beef or chicken broth can be enough to encourage extra water consumption as well. Keep in mind that a light dusting is all that's required,

not a giant serving of salty bouillon in a dog that's already behind on fluids.

FLOATING THEIR FOOD

Rehydration can also be achieved quickly and safely at the end of the hunt. Many hunting owners, myself included, employ the tactic of floating their dog's food during the evening feeding. Simply add fresh water to their food bowl until the dry food is bobbing on top. This technique works well to conserve water in the digestive tract that would otherwise be utilized for rehydrating dry kibble. It also forces dogs to consume the water from the bowl in addition to the kibble they're craving after a long day in the field.



©Steve Oehlenschlager, Windigo Images

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Hydration In The Field—By Seth Bynum, DVM

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ASSESSING HYDRATION IN THE FIELD

An easy and reliable means of checking hydration status is to take note of the frequency of urination and the color of the urine. Well-hydrated dogs urinate frequently, and the color is clear to slightly yellow tinged. The skin pinch test can also be a reliable means of identifying a dehydrated dog. In a dog with adequate hydration, a pinch of skin between your thumb and index finger will quickly return to its normal position. The same tissue in a dehydrated dog will hold its tent or slowly retract. While easy to detect, keep in mind that a dog with a delayed skin pinch is already moderately dehydrated. In these cases, a rehydration plan should have already been implemented before reaching this state. Prevention is far and away the preferred tactic here. Keeping an eye on urine color and urination frequency will help your hunting dog avoid dehydration before it becomes an issue.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

It's worth restating that the vast majority of hunting dogs instinctively seek out and consume the proper amount of water given a clean and abundant source along your hunt. Keep track of their consumption and reduce wasted water by using a squeeze bottle, and don't hesitate to enhance the flavor of the water to encourage finicky dogs to consume a little more. Lastly, consider floating your dog's post-hunt kibble in half a liter or more of fresh tepid water to safely rehydrate and enhance digestion in your bird dog. With these tips, the only thing they'll thirst for is another day in the field.

Retriever Journal, Sept 2024
Purina Pro Club



Fun Dog Fact

Yawning is contagious – even for dogs. *Research* shows that the sound of a human yawn can trigger one from your dog. And it's four times as likely to happen when it's the yawn of a person your pet knows.



RHRC Board Meeting Minutes September 3, 2024



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

Welcome: President Betsy opened the meeting at 7:01 pm and welcomed Board Members. The minutes from the July 30, 2024, meeting were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: See Attached. Lee will work on spreadsheet to map out expected expenses for 2025

(Attached Bank Balance: \$15,822.65. JF Editor)

Old/New Business

2024 Business

***Equipment Care** – Ensure that any damage to equipment is tagged and reported so repairs can be made before the event

***Review** the agreement fee for use of the trailer. Currently \$150 per event. It should also include events such as WC/WCX. Needs to be discussed at the next Tri Club meeting

***Board Recruitment** – Put together a Nominating Committee to include 3 members. Looking for members that are not on the current Board to be part of the Committee

***Fall Fun Day** – Suggested date October 26, 2024
Pot Luck, couple of training set ups with left over birds, recruit new members and nominations for replacing open Board positions
Betsy will check Collin's schedule

2025 Business

Master Only Test – Holding test somewhere with less leasing expenses
Realistic to find property and dates? Further discussions required

Change Spring Test date – The Board approved moving the date from May 10 & 11, 2025 to new date

May 17 & 18, 2025

Misalyn will look into requesting date change with AKC

Judges' Committee – Jean Fowler, Scott Corley, Bill Woll and Misalyn Armstrong

Lee will help put together a budget for judges' expenses

Will start recruiting judges by the end of the year for the 2025 calendar year

Thunder Guns – look into the cost and lead time of purchasing 2 more thunder guns

Need to get approval from Tri Club before purchasing

Website – Club website has been updated

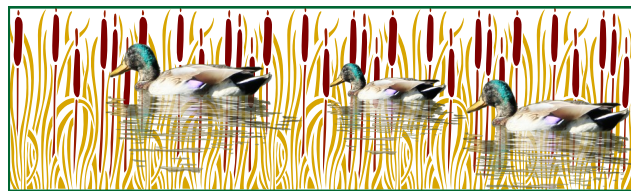
Voting Delegate – Bill Woll will represent RHRC as the club's voting delegate at the Master National

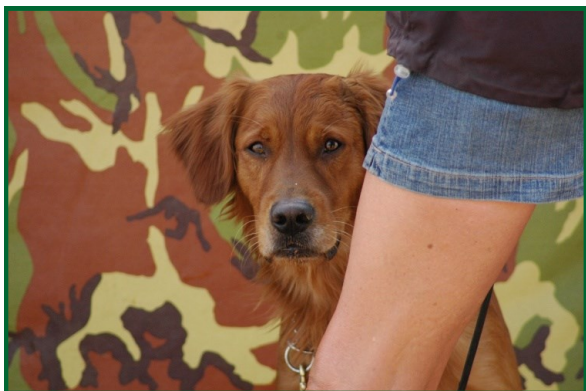
Next meeting Tuesday, October 1, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm

Submitted by:

Misalyn Armstrong, RHRC Secretary





The Holding Blind

AKC Regulations Change

We have received the following communication from AKC.

Periodically the American Kennel Club (AKC) clarifies or changes the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*.

Below is a brief summary of each item and then below how they will appear in order of chapters 1,3 and 5 and corresponding sections in the next reprinting of the regulation book. These clarification changes go into effect October 1, 2024.

- 1) Specify the hunt test application is required 3 months prior to the opening date.
- 2) Clarify the exact point honoring begins which is when the working dog is sent for a marked retrieve.
- 3) Clarify judges can call the next dog to the line by saying the word “dog”.
- 4) Clarify the blind must be clearly marked by a conspicuous object.
- 5) Clarify inspection of birds are required by a judge when damage of a bird is suspected due to hard mouth or unusual situation.
- 6) Specify for a senior test, blinds shall not be run between marks unless they are run first.

Specifics regarding these changes can be found [here](#)



“There is no feeling in the world like that of seeing ducks dropping out of a winter sky coming to decoys that you have made with your own hands. Sometimes I can’t even shoot, the sight is so beautiful. Carving decoys lets a man understand in a very personal way that there is so much more to hunting ducks than shooting them.”

~ Charles Frank, *Southern Living Magazine*, 1985

Chase Away Cancer Report
Vaccine Against Canine Cancer Study—Complete!
RHRC has helped fund this research!

by Sara Nice | Aug 21, 2024
National Canine Cancer Foundation.

Calviri's Vaccine Against Canine Cancer Study (VACCS), has finished the 5-year, 804 dog clinical trial. The VACCS aimed at investigating a novel preventative cancer vaccine in dogs. This trial leverages what is known about shared neoantigens. Neoantigens are irregular peptides from mutations in tumor DNA. Previous attempts at developing cancer vaccines have been unsuccessful due the fact that the mutations are unique to each person or dog.

How does the canine cancer vaccine work? Stephen Albert Johnston, CEO of Calviri and former Professor at Arizona State University, discovered unique protein fragments that arise from errors during tumor RNA processing and that these fragments are present in many cancers. The VACCS vaccine consisted of 31 of the shared neoantigens, thus allowing a broad-spectrum approach instead of needing to personalize the vaccine.

Three well known veterinary colleges helped to conduct the VACCS trial, Colorado State University, University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of California, Davis. This collaborative research effort along with a study that was designed as a randomized, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of a cancer preventive vaccine in dogs ensured the scientific merit of the study.

“The motivation of many of the dog owners was that this trial would lead to developing a vaccine to prevent cancer in humans. We all hope they are right” stated Dr. Jenna Burton, co-principal investigator at CSU.

Each of the participants were meticulously screened to exclude any pre-existing tumors or other serious health issues. Dogs were randomly assigned to either receive the investigational vaccine or a placebo version. Then they were examined every 6 months for tumors and received a vaccine boost each year.

Was the trial a success?

According to Dr. Douglas Thamm, principal clinical investigator (CSU), “The owner participation was amazing. This was one of the largest clinical trials for dogs and it required significant commitment on the part of the owners. The owners made the trial a success.”

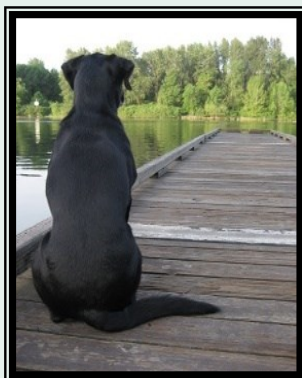
The analysis of the trial's data is still ongoing. It will be published in a peer-reviewed journal as the initial safety and efficacy profile is highly encouraging. Based on this, Johnston, stated that “The safety and efficacy results are encouraging enough that we have begun production of an improved version of the vaccine for approval and conditional sales.” If things go well it is possible this vaccine could be available in late 2025.

Submitted by Cera Reusser

Friday, September 27th is No Excuses Day. 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!

NO EXCUSES!!!

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
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.

DOG TEXTING CODES

- BOL – Bark Out Loud
- OMDT – Over My Dead Toy
- HAW – Humans Are Watching
- OMD – Oh My Dog
- TTTP – Talk To The Paw
- ROFB – Rolling On Floor Barking
- SMB – Smell My Butt

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

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Rainier Constitution, Article I, Section 2



2024 DU Member Photo Contest—Overall Runner Up—Bill Garwood

Ducks Unlimited photographer, Bill Garwood, took this picture in a marsh near Delaware Bay. “I learned to love the marsh through duck hunting and trapping. It’s a special place to me. Being retired, I happen to have much more time to spend in the marsh with a camera.”