

Rainier Hunting Retriever Club  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2024.

President Betsy Reali convened the annual meeting of the Rainier Hunting Retriever Club at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held in the Pizza Coop in Woodinville, WA to conduct the election of 2024 Club officers and present Annual Awards and Recognitions. Twenty-one club members were present along with several friends and family members.

After a slide show featuring members and their dogs, the membership was pleased to hear an interesting presentation by Dr. Adam Black who spoke about his work on the Avian Flu. Dr. Black has been testing hunting dogs who come in contact with wild and pen-raised waterfowl to see if they have been infected or are carriers of this contagious influenza.

After dinner, President Betsy called the business meeting to order at 7:44 PM and welcomed new members. Voting for the 2024 Club Officers was by ballot. A virtual ballot was also sent to the members who were unable to attend. Nineteen members contributed their votes.

The following were elected:

President (interim): Betsy Reali  
Vice President: Liz Gibson  
Secretary: Misalyn Armstrong  
Treasurer: Lee Redd

Members at Large:

Jim Olson/Past President  
Susan Bell  
Chris Braswell  
Doug Gallucci  
Kevin Medved  
Sue Meyring  
Bill Woll

After the election, President Betsy shared that the club's financial status is healthy with nearly \$16,000 in the bank. This balance is necessary for us to front costs of our hunt tests that range in the neighborhood of \$10,000 to \$12,000 (varies due to judge expenses) to put on. She then reviewed the club's 2023 accomplishments:

Two AKC Licensed Hunt Tests  
Training Days  
Raffle in August  
Developed job descriptions for hunt test volunteers in concert with Evergreen Golden Retriever Club and Puget Sound Labrador Retriever Club  
Securing a new bird vendor for event birds

Produced a monthly newsletter

Participated in the Master National Retriever Club and the Master Amateur Retriever Club issues

President Betsy also reviewed 2024 activities that have been planned:

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of RHRC

Hosting a 2-day AKC Advanced Judges Seminar

Hosting 2 AKC Licensed Hunt Tests

Organizing several Training Days

Hosting the 2024 Master Amateur Invitational

### **Awards**

Beginning the Awards portion of the program, President Betsy recognized Dianne Clark with a beautiful orchid. Dianne is retiring from her position as Sunshine Chairman. Katie Mearns will be the 2025 Sunshine Chairman. Several other volunteers were recognized including Chris Braswell for providing an ATV for use during our hunt tests and also Holly Krohn and Julie Chaykin for their tasty lunches during our hunt tests.

For outstanding support of club activities, Honorary Memberships were bestowed on:

Sheila Leitch

Brian and Elsa Hawley

Gary Abbott

Member of the Year was awarded to Misalyn Armstrong. Misalyn was selected by club member vote for her consistent contributions to all club activities during 2023. The President's Award went to Jean Fowler for her administrative assistance.

Liz Skyllingstad announced and presented the 2023 Member/Dog Awards. Fifteen members and their dogs were recognized.

The evening concluded with Bill Woll presenting a thank you gift from the RHRC Board of Directors to Betsy and Ben Reali for going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that both Rainier and Puget Sound Clubs had live birds for our spring tests. Without their creative and sustained problem solving, both clubs would have had to use frozen birds if the tests could have been held at all.

Respectfully submitted.

Jean Fowler