

Las Vegas Hunting Retriever Club

President: Brian Dunlevy

Well spring is coming to a close and we are headed into the dreaded summer months here in the desert. It has been a cool spring so far and we have not even hit 100 degrees yet but we know it is only a matter of time. I want to encourage everyone to watch your dogs for signs of heat distress. Our training sessions are going to come earlier and earlier as we try and take advantage of the cooler hours of the day.

Elections have been held and we have a couple of new board members to assist with the management of the club. Thanks to Margo Ellis, and Ray Crump for joining our Board of Directors.

Members have been active in pursuit of Hunt Test passes as we wrap up the spring campaign. It is a real challenge out here in the west with fuel prices being what they are and the distances required for travel. Brian Dunlevy has been fortunate enough to have been invited to judge at Whistling Wings, and if you ever get the chance to make that hunt it is well worth the effort. Our HRC family is always welcome and if you ever find your way to Las Vegas, drop us a line and we will treat you to an adult beverage or glass of tea as you prefer. Watch your dogs and travel safe

Missouri Headwaters

Well it would appear that Old Man Winter has finally loosened his hold and that Spring may finally be on the way. Here at Missouri Headwaters we have been training when we can, and we just hosted our first Upland Hunt.

Missouri Headwaters is blessed to have members from all three hunting groups and the members all work together to help each other. It was with the help of the Spaniel group that we were able to put on this event. Members of our Spaniel group help us with planting the birds. With their knowledge we were able to have naturally flushed birds. Members from the Spaniels also volunteered to be the gunners for this event. The handlers and dogs were treated to pheasants and chukars.

I would like to thank Bud Reed, Margo Ellis and Al Gadoury for setting up two very challenging courses for the dogs and handlers. I would also like to thank Bud for braving the Friday night blizzard that almost sent him to Idaho Falls, ID, and the 4" of snow that was on the grounds Saturday Morning to kick off the event. While the day may have started with snow – Saturday turned out to be a beautiful day and by noon the snow was gone, and many of us ended up with SUNBURNED faces. 🍷

Doc and Nami Erickson traveled from Spokane with Casey and Tucker. Randy Peterson traveled from Saint Helens, OR with Louie to participate in our event. We cannot thank you enough for braving the interesting weather to help support our event. On Sunday Doc and Tucker treated the gallery to a spectacular run. Tucker flushed a pheasant and made a leap in the air to catch the bird. Tucker missed the bird and while Tucker was in midair Doc blew his whistle – Tucker landed and immediately sat. He was rock solid steady until released to get the bird. I wish you all could have seen the smile on Doc's face when he came back to the line. Randy and Louie also treated us to yet another outstanding performance - Louie had a low flying pheasant that teased him and the gunners had to ride the bird out until they could get a clean shot. Louie was also rock solid and when released Louie had to make a longer than average retrieve. Louie marked where the bird fell and he promptly retrieved the bird and returned to Randy with a pheasant that was nearly as big as he is. Needless to say Randy was also smiling. Given that fact that we had naturally planted birds, some of the dogs also were able to show off their tracking abilities. All in all it was a grand weekend and we hope to be

able to host another double upland event next year. We hope that you will be able to come and join us.

Now that the Upland event is over we are busy planning for our regular hunt later this year. Please look for the Date in the back of the HRC magazine. The Bitterroot HRC club is hoping to host an event the weekend following our event. So please mark you calendars for the end of July and come on up to Montana – You have two weekends where you can run your dogs and in-between events you can explore the wonders that we have to offer here in Montana.

Below are some pictures from our Upland event. Until next time take care, be safe and have a grand day.

Kerri



Northeast Washington Bird Dog Club

We've had a very busy Spring Season. In March we were very happy to have Margo Ellis come to our club and put on a Judges - Handlers Seminar. The next day we had a Picnic Test so that we could practice all of the things that she taught us.

We have had two more Picnic Tests and some get togethers for training days. Just a couple weeks ago, we had our Spring HRC Hunt Test. We had Regular Hunts on Saturday and Sunday as well as an Upland Hunt on Saturday, and we are planning to have another Hunt with another Upland just prior to hunting seasons opening up out here.

We have been very lucky to have a lot of people from throughout our region support our Club, and as a result we have been able to buy a trailer and quite a bit of new equipment.

Whistling Wings HRC

Well, our 2011 season is off to a great start. We had our first hunt test of the year and it was well attended. The weather wasn't too good but after seeing and hearing what the rest of the U.S. is putting up with I don't think I will complain. We had over 50 dogs and our set up was fantastic, thanks to one of our members, Sam Pace, whose signage contributed greatly to our Hunt Test grounds and organization. Way to go Sam!!! Quite a few titles were won in Started, Seasoned and Finished and, of course, some water baths were administered. Congratulations to all of our title winners! We also were well represented at the Spring Grand with 6 dogs entered and one dog, Brew, owned by Sam and Toni Pace making it all the way and winning a Grand Pass. We are so proud of you and all of our dogs that went. Our monthly practices have been well attended with many new dogs participating and owners too!! The calendars here in the Pacific Northwest are full of Hunt Tests and we will be participating and helping wherever we can. Good luck to all of our local clubs and good Hunt Testing.

