

# MHSA News

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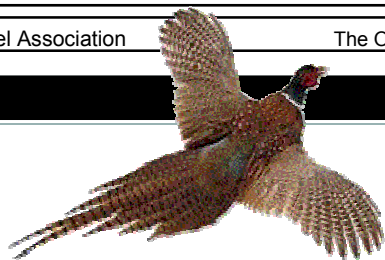
The Only American Kennel Club Licensed All Spaniel Hunting Dog Club

April 2009

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Board of  
Directors**



## From the President ...

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When I wrote about how to interpret dog gaits from tracks in the snow last month, I knew most readers would not have a chance to see what I saw until next winter. I knew you all would be busy turning to the pages of that newsletter, as you are now with this one, to get all the club events on your calendars. The snow would be gone by the time you read my words. I was wrong, it is April 1<sup>st</sup> today. There is fresh snow on the ground today.

Nonetheless, I'm going to write about spring and all the opportunities it provides. The time has come to leave the indoor agility course for the expanse of the outdoors. Weave poles can now be set as far from the seesaw as you wish, with the A-frame and tire jump distant dots on the landscape if that is what you want. Walls of a building need no longer constrain.

For me, as a member of the field sports side, the challenges for my dogs are even further spread across the landscape. To give an example, a GPS on my Setter last weekend showed thirteen-plus miles covered after a walk of less than an hour-and-a-half. My dog's main tests were spread across those miles, two Woodcock and a Grouse, with Alders and deadfalls providing miles of agility equipment as a bonus.

Before discussing the use of woodcock in spring as dog training equipment, a brief expository detour is in order to explain my partial disloyalty to spaniel country. I blame women, first my mother then my wife, for teaching and reinforcing my disloyalty to one breed. I was first born into a country of sheep dogs. My mother raised English Shepherds and Border Collies. When not training on sheep, she did obedience training.

The only dog of hers I ever cared for was a Golden which, when not on the obedience circuit or on TV, was my hunting companion in the years when sling-shots, atlatal launched spears, blow guns and other pre-firearms weapons were my only aids. As you can tell from this history, I was from the beginning a throwback. I was drawn to wild animals, both as pets and as prey. Sheep held no appeal.. The Golden, however, taught me early, as other dogs did our ancestors, that a dog was an essential aid to the hunt. Together we accounted for a number of rabbits and squirrels in those pre-gunpowder years.

## Presidents' Letter continued

After the acquisition of gunpowder and after swimming myself for a few ducks in sloughs both muddy and cold, I acquired a Lab. With the uplands affording more scope for my wanderings, Springers were next in a natural progression and but for the next strong feminine influence, I would still be loyal to them. My wife, however, wanted less mass of dogdom about the house and asked if it was possible to change to smaller dogs. A visit to the 2000 Cocker Nationals convinced me it was and Cockers followed. Only later when I assured her that an English Setter was barely bigger than a Cocker did she acquiesce to my newest hunting companion.

Enough justification for my owning a Setter and here follows the promised intelligence for Spaniel owners from the world of pointing dogs. As perhaps few Spaniel owners realize, grouse dog trials for Pointing dogs are run in the spring on wild grouse and the plentiful woodcock migrating through. Training for them consists of long runs in the woods on wild birds. Last weekend, a forty-five minute run for my nine-month-old Setter, just learning, produced his first grouse and two woodcock, all nicely pointed.

And now the bonus for Spaniels: that run was followed by a run of my two Cockers producing seven Woodcock flushes, each accompanied by the report of my starter pistol. But for the absence of any retrieve, this was a perfect training run on wild birds in the same hunting habitat we traipse in autumn amid golden, falling leaves. As all Spaniel trialers know, flushes without retrieves are important for training steadiness, but seldom offered by fall hunts due to the desire to never lose a bird.

Get out this spring before the fifteenth, while it is still legal to train on wild birds. You and especially your dogs will love the experience!

Good Training, Dick B.



# MHSA SPONSORED EVENTS:

## May 1, 2 & 3 - Major Avenue

AKC Cocker Spaniel Field Trial - Chairpersons: Bethann & Kim Wiley

## May 9 & 10 - Major Avenue

AKC Spaniel Hunt Test - Chair: Bill Dunaski

Secretary: Ann Sunderman

Game Steward: Linda Simon

## June 6 - Good Going Kennels

Club Training	Chair	Linda Simon
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Noon Potluck

Working Dog Test	Chair	Brett Edstrom
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American Water Spaniel RCT Test	Chair	Selected?
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## June 20 - Major Avenue

MHSA Fun Trial	Chair	Linda Simon
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## July 11— Good Going Kennels

Club Training day

## July 19 - Major Avenue

MHSA Fun Trial	Chair	Linda Simon
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## August 1 - Richard Bend's House

MHSA Summer Picnic	Chair	Richard Bend
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Membership Meeting

## August 15— Good Going Kennels

Club training day

# MHSA SPONSORED EVENTS:

## August 22 - Major Avenue

MHSA Fun Trial

Chair

Linda Simon

## September 5 & 6 - Good Going Kennels

AKC Spaniel Hunt Test

## October 16 & 17

AKC Cocker Spaniel Field Trial

Chairpersons

Kim & Bethann Wiley

## November

MHSA Duck Shoot

Holiday Party



**MHSA Board Meeting Minutes    Bakers Square-Richfield                    March 3, 2009**

**Present:** Ann Sunderman, Bill Dunaski, Jim Lynch, Kim Wiley, Richard Bend

1. Approval of February 3, 2009 minutes
  2. Approval of March Agenda
  3. **Old Business:**
    - a. Major Ave lease-Done
    - b. Collection and transfer of club documents-tabled
    - c. Trophy Chair- Shirley has accepted
    - d. Veteran's awards- cost will be \$57
    - e. Airedales- Will make amendment to bylaws to indicate awards given to spaniels only
  - f. **New Business**
    - g. Gunning seminar was a success- thirteen registrants, \$270 received. Amount to be reimbursed to Mark Haglund for mileage, donuts and lunches to be determined.
    - h. Cocker Field Trial - No new information
    - i. Spaniel Hunt Test - The hunt test judges have been chosen and sent to Ann for submission to AKC. Bethann is working on bird planters. Linda will be head bird person and John Dartt will be head gunner. Heidi is working on Marshalls but still needs more volunteers.
    - j. Good Going Kennel Activities on June 6 - no new information
    - k. June Fun trial - no new information
    - l. July Fun trial - no new information
    - m. August club picnic - no new information
    - n. August Fun Trial - no new information
    - o. September Fall hunt test will be held at Major ave
    - p. October Cocker Field trial to be held at Good Going Kennel
    - q. November Duck shoot - no new information
    - r. **New memberships;** Scott Lichty and Anita Smits, Susie and Tim Brown and Lynnda Lenzen have been approved
    - s. **Presidents Report:** nothing the report
    - t. **Secretary's report:** nothing to report
    - u. **Treasurer's report:** nothing to report
- Meeting Adjourned.

**MHSA Board Meeting Baker's Square Richfield April 7<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Present: Brett, Art, Bill, Rachel, Jim, Kim, Charlie, Richard

1. Last months' meeting minutes: have not yet been sent to board for approval, Rachel to type and send out.
2. April Agenda approved
3. Old Business: Collection and transfer of club documents- tabled
4. New Business:
  - a. Club training: A lot of interest in more club training by new members who are beginner trainers. Organized training can help to draw new members. We have 1 club training schedule so far in June. Many new members may not know what activities are available. We will send out a postcard to the members highlighting the activities and direct more towards beginner trainers. Club will need commitments from experienced trainers to be available to help/train. Club would like to start with once a month scheduling and then re-evaluate the success. Cost to train at Good Going Kennels is \$100, the club will absorb the rental cost and participates responsible for the birds used. Brett to check if July 11 and August 15<sup>th</sup> are available for training days. *Brett as confirmed these dates for club training.*
  - b. Fall hunt test dates: potential conflict with WESSA Hunt Test: The dates were discussed and the location of the WESSA test which is 380 miles away. It was decided to keep our current dates (Sept 5 and 6<sup>th</sup>)
  - c. Membership: Decline in membership, will look at ways to increase membership, ie club training. Bill and Rachel to work on a welcome packet to send to potential members.
  - d. Spring Hunt test: judges have been confirmed. Volunteers still needed and items for the raffle.

New members: Larry Hennesy and Dan Voye to be considered for membership.

Treasurer's Report: \$2959.80 current balance

Meeting Adjourned

May 1-3, 2009

**MHSA Cocker Field Trial**

**Major Ave Hunt Club, Glencoe, MN**

Everyone is welcome to come out and enjoy some of the best English Cockers in the country running in our club field trial! The trial will start each day at 8:00 and run until about 3:00 each afternoon. The weekend is made up of 3 separate field trials, two Open Stakes and one Amateur Stake. For more details, view the premiums on the "Calendar" page at the club website [www.mnhuntingspaniel.com](http://www.mnhuntingspaniel.com) If you have questions about the event please email the field trial secretary, Bethann Wiley at [bethann-wiley@yahoo.com](mailto:bethann-wiley@yahoo.com)

**AKC Spaniel Hunt Test**

**May 9th and 10th**

**Major Avenue**

The fall hunt test is fast approaching and we are still in need of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Bethann for planters and Heidi for marshalls and stewards.

We also need items for the raffle. If you have items to donate please let Bill or Ann know.

Please plan to join us for a weekend of fun at the fall hunt test. Hunting begins at 8 am. Each day will have a Junior, Senior and Master Test. For more details, view the premiums on the calendar page at the club website: [www.mnhuntingspaniel.com](http://www.mnhuntingspaniel.com). If you have questions please email the hunt test Secretary Ann Sunderman.

*Please remember to wear your blaze orange at all club trials*

## MHSA Merchandise Order Form

MHSA is pleased to offer the following club merchandise for sale. T-shirts, sweatshirts & hats are stocked by the Association & orders will be accepted throughout the year. Orders can be picked up at any MHSA event. If you would prefer to have your order mailed, **add \$10** to your order for shipping and handling.

Delivery will be at the event following receipt of the order. A check, made payable to **MHSA**, must accompany your order, which can be mailed to Shirley Harford - 7816 66th Ave N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428. If you have any questions regarding merchandise, please contact Shirley at [Lougeelake@comcast.net](mailto:Lougeelake@comcast.net).

Description of merchandise and order number

#5930 Fruit of the Loom Adult Short Sleeve T-shirt

Colors -Blaze Orange, Jade Green, Ash Grey, Khaki, Burgundy  
 Sizes - Small to XL      Cost - \$15.00

#1630 Sweatshirt

Colors - Blaze Orange, Ash Grey, Forest Green, Khaki, Burgundy  
 Sizes -Small to XL      Cost - \$25.00

#0504 Polo w/pocket

Colors - Ash Grey, Forest Green, Steel Grey, Orange  
 Sizes -Small to XL      Cost - \$30.00

#16130 Hooded Pullover Sweatshirt

Colors - Ash Grey, Heather Grey, Royal Blue  
 Sizes -Small to XL      Cost - \$30.00

#2110 Polyester Fleece Lined Bomber Jacket

Colors - Pine/ Charcoal, Black/Black, Black/Heather Grey  
 Sizes - Small to XL  
 Cost - With crest logo on the front \$60.00  
       - With both crest and back logo \$75.00

#6288 WXT Upland Blaze Orange Safety Cap

Sizes - One size fits all      Cost - \$15.00

#3261 Blaze Orange Cap w/2 tone Pheasant on side

Size - One size fits all      Cost - \$20.00

Two-sided MHSA Logo Mug (11oz.)

Colors - Ivory w/Burgundy      Cost \$7.00 ea. or 2 for \$12.00

MHSA Patch

Cost -\$7.50

MHSA Lapel Pin

Cost - \$5.00

**Note:** for all clothing items: 2XL sizes are available - add \$1.50 / 3XL sizes are available - add \$3.00)

Item #:	Description	Sizes	Color	Qt y.	Price each	Total Price
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
					\$	\$
<b>SHADED AREA FOR BOMBER JACKET ONLY:</b>						
#2110	Bomber Jacket				Crest Logo	\$
					Both Lo-gos	\$
					Size Up Chrg	\$
<b>Shipping (if applicable):</b>						\$
<b>Order Total:</b>						\$

**Shipping/Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Wags and Brags

This is a new section of the newsletter. I would like to highlight our members' dog awards, achievements, new litters or new dogs. Please send me a paragraph about the achievement along with a photo.

## *Congratulations to Ann Sunderman and Kiera on their new puppies:*

My birthday gift this year was four new ESS puppies. Kiera, Ch Fox Hollow Brand New Day RN JH OA OAJ NF WD, presented me with four puppies on 03/25/09. The sire of the litter is Ch Ramblewood Believe, "Brooks". There are three girls and one boy. The boy and one of the girls are black and white and the other two girls are liver. In keeping with the birthday theme, their puppy names are Party, Wish, Card and Happy.



*Spring is finally here!*

*Get out and enjoy your dogs!*



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English Springer Spaniel Information  
and Field Trial Page



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