

# MHSA News

Published by the Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association

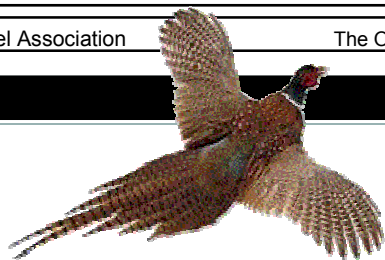
The Only American Kennel Club Licensed All Spaniel Hunting Dog Club

July 2008

Volume 18 Number 7



**Officers &  
Board of  
Directors**



## From the President ...

The club has now held its first fun trial of the summer. For those of you who are working with your first spaniel, you will have noticed that the events are divided up into those for dogs that are steady and those that are not. Steady dogs hup, that is they sit, when the bird flushes. They remain sitting while the bird flies away or is shot and only cease sitting when told either to continue hunting, or to retrieve the bird. Unsteady dogs chase the bird as soon as it flushes and if the bird is shot, get to the bird quickly, sometimes almost as soon as it hits the ground. If the bird is not shot, they should cease chasing quickly and return to the vicinity of the handler, where they continue hunting.

For those of you with dogs that aren't steady; for those of you who have tried to steady your dog but can't; for those of you who have frustrated yourself running a sometimes steady dog in the steady dog events, I would like to encourage you to think of your dog as better for you than a steady dog. Run your dog in the unsteady events and think of those events as the events for the best dogs, the fastest dogs, the real hunting dogs. Congratulate yourself and your dog for being the kind of team that suits you both to perfection. Let me tell you why I say this, and encourage all of you to keep coming to our fun trials.

Some of you may think that the steady dogs are always the best dogs, or that your dog, if not steady, should be made steady. Some "experts" would agree with this. Many practical handlers with years of experience disagree. Let's look at the pros and cons of steadiness. I will grant that here are two incontestable advantages to a steady dog: 1. steadiness is necessary to complete a field trial, and 2. steadiness is necessary to get a Master Hunter leg. However, steadiness is not necessary to find a bird, to flush a bird, or to retrieve a bird. Those are the three things a hunter needs: find, flush and retrieve. Steady dogs sometimes permit a shot on a low-flying bird that a chasing dog would block, but on the other hand it can happen that a chasing bird gets to a wild, winged runner faster than a steady dog and so makes a retrieve the steady dog would have either lost or wasted time on while chasing a runner with a head start. These two pros and cons are a wash. The next advantage to the average hunter of an unsteady dog is absolute. There is no way for the steady dog to match it. A hunter with an unsteady dog can shoot at every flushed bird that is safe to shoot at. He never has to hesitate to shoot a bird because it may fall to close to his dog, luring the dog to break. He never has to avoid shooting a bird because his dog has broken and shooting the bird will be a reward for breaking. He can hunt with any partner who is safe, even if the partner can't be trusted to avoid taking shots if his dog breaks.

### President

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### Vice President

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### Presidents' Letter Continued...

For you hunters who have a dog that isn't steady, I applaud you. If you are a good shot and your dog is a bird finder, you will put more birds in the bag than if your dog is steady... so long as he doesn't chase down the field and flush all the remaining birds out of range! This is so because no "steady dog" is steady all the time, so owners of "steady dogs" have to pass up shots to keep their dogs steady. Even dogs that have become national champions break. I've seen it, all of you who trial have seen it.

So all of you with steady or unsteady dogs come to our next fun trial and remember, no matter which event you are entering, it is the event for the very best dog you could have, **YOUR DOG!**

# MHSA PICNIC



August 9

At

**9:00 am**

**The picnic will be held at Richard Bend's house. Directions to follow at a later date.**



**2008 Minnesota Hunting Spaniel Association  
Fun Trial Stakes and Rules**

**Dates: July 20, & August 16, 2008**

**The Fun Trials will start at 9 AM sharp, rain or shine!**

**All Fun Trials will be held at Major Avenue Hunt Club, Glencoe - MN**

**Entry Fee - \$15/per dog for each stake**

**Purpose:** A fun, non-threatening way to learn and participate in Field Trial-style events. For all stakes except Hunting and Shooting, gunners will be provided by the MHSA Club. Ribbons will be awarded to all placing Handlers/Dogs.

**Puppy Stake:** Steady/Unsteady spaniel less than 15 months old at the time of the first Fun Trial. Open to any Handler. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel

**Junior Stake:** Handler age 16 or younger. Dog may be steady or unsteady. Handler and Dog are judged 50% each. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel. Age and titles of dog do not matter.

**Derby Stake:** Steady dog less than 2 years at the time of the first Fun Trial. Open to any Handler. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel.

**Novice Stake:** This stake is for the new dog and new handler. Dog does not need to be steady. Handler and Dog are judged 50% each. Dog or handler may not have any field trial placements. First place and High Point handler/dogs of previous years Novice Stake should retire from this category. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel.

**Open Stake:** Open to any Handler. Open to any all age steady dog. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel.

**Hunting Dog Stake:** Open to any unsteady dog. Open to any Handler. Handler does his/her own shooting. Handler and Dog are judged 50% each. Limited to 2 shells per bird. Break open action shotgun preferred but not required. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel

**Shooting Dog Stake:** Open to any steady spaniel. Handler does his/her own shooting. Handler and Dog are judged 50% each. Limited to 2 shells per bird. Break open action shotgun preferred but not required. Open to any breed of flushing spaniel

### Fun Trial Rules

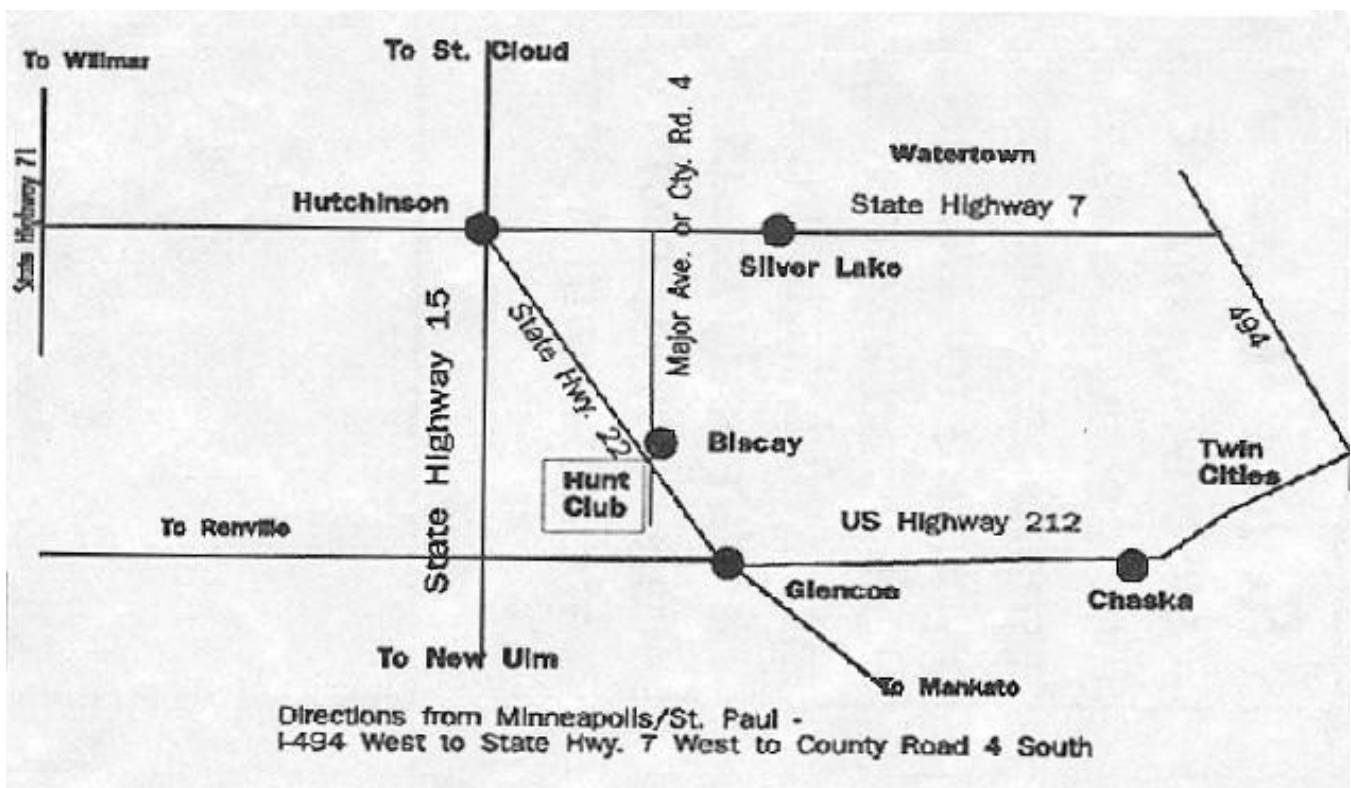
**All participants must wear one piece of blaze orange clothing above the waist while out in the field, preferably a vest. Eye protection is strongly recommended.**

- No dog in season allowed on grounds. All dogs must be on a leash, except when participating. Spaniels are not allowed to wear a collar of any type when participating.
- Unless otherwise indicated, gunners will be provided for each stake by the MHSA Club.
- Open to any breed of flushing spaniel.
- A steady dog is one that stops at the flush of the bird, and/or sound of a shot, and waits for the command to retrieve, heel, or carry on.
- The Fun Trials will use Pigeons in all stakes.
- You may enter as many stakes as you are qualified for.
- The order of the stakes will be as listed, however some stakes may be run simultaneous.
- The Fun Trials will start at 9 AM sharp, rain or shine!
- All Fun Trials will be held at Major Avenue Hunt Club - Glencoe, MN - Map below.

***If you wish to participate, or have questions, please contact:***

***Linda Simon at (320)-510-1904 or email [whistlestopkennel@hotmail.com](mailto:whistlestopkennel@hotmail.com).***

***Pre-registration is not necessary but helpful so we will have enough birds on hand.***



## Working Dog Test Results

June 21, 2008:

There were 5 entries. Paul Gergen received a Working Dog with Blue, Greg Eide received a Working Dog with Skeet, Dean Koehler received a Working Dog Excellent with Bacon, and Nadine Kohn received a Working Dog Excellent with Change.

## Fun Trial Results

June 21, 2008:

Puppy: 1st - Linda Simon with Jonesy, 2nd to Greg Eide with Skeet

Junior Handler: 1st to Christina Gergen with Zorro

Novice: 1st - Christina Gergen with Zorro, 2nd - Paul Gergen with Blue, 3rd - Paul Gergen with Nikki, 4th - Art Fowler with Emma

Open: 1st - Charlie Casey with Fred, 2nd - Dick Bend with Cooper, 3rd - Dean Koehler with Bacon, 4th - Doug Scurr with Shooter

Hunting Dog: 1st - Jerry W. with Annie, 2nd - Nadine Kohn with Blue, 3rd - Paul Gergen - Zorro

Shooting Dog: 1st - Dick Bend with Merlin, 2nd - Jerry W. with Sunny, 3rd - Dick Bend with Cooper, 4th - Dean Koehler with Blizzard

**Sunday 5/11/08 Qualifying Scores****Junior Level (8 entries)**

Night Hawk's Briar O: J. West and C. Starner H: C. Starner (AWS)  
Jullyen of Willow Creek O/H: D. Frost (ECS)  
J&L Saving Grace O/H: N. Thayer (BS)  
Buddy's Forgotten Blue O: L. Gergen H: P. Gergen (ESS)  
CH Fox Hollow Shamrock Front Page News O/H: C. or G. Myhre (ESS)

**Senior Level (18 entries)**

Maggie's Brush Fire O/H: R. Beck (ECS)  
Chyknell Money O: B. Roettger and K. Wiley H: B. Roettger (ECS)  
Suthron Glen's Ana O/H: C. Casey (ESS)  
J&L's Sweet Caroline O/H: S. Thayer (BS)  
Duren's Bluff Creek Blue O: N. Kohn and L. Simon H: N. Kohn (ESS)  
Mallowdale Teddy O/H: B. Benson (ECS)  
Mallowdale York of Cidwr O: K. Wiley and B. Roettger H: B. Roettger (ECS)  
Cannon Valley's Fred of Dansmirth O/H: C. Casey (ESS)  
AFC Fallen Wings's Firefly O: C. and J. Dartt H: C. Dartt (ECS)  
Whispering Winds Echo O: B. and J. Malinski H: B. Malinski (ESS)

**Master Level (6 entries)**

Bluff Creek's Liberty SH O/H: L. Simon (ESS)  
Cowarnecourt Elgar O/H: J. Davis (ESS)  
Mays Lake Cooper O/H: R. Bend (ECS)

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of one of our founding members, Vic Olson, Sr., who died on March 3, 2008. Vic (and Sandy, his wife) first entered the lives of many of us in the mid-1980's when they brought their Springer Max for field training with the Voyageur English Springer club. Hunt tests were in their infancy then, and they took an immediate interest. Major disagreements within the Springer club led most of those active in the hunt tests and field training to leave and, with the encouragement of the AKC, gather in early 1990 to develop the concept of an all-spaniel organization. Thus started MHSA and thus began Vic's history of service and friendship to its members and others.

In the first year or two he served behind the scenes, helping with the cooking, registration, raffle ticket sales, whatever. Anyone who was there remembered how many cold, frozen souls his special soup revived amid the rain/snow storms that hit our first licensed test. In spring 1992 our hunt test secretary transferred out of state, and Vic volunteered to replace her. It was a job he would perform many times, always with excellence and dedication. Along the way he developed a secretary's manual to guide others who wished to take on that difficult task.

Hunt tests weren't just an opportunity to run dogs for titles. For Vic they were a 3-day celebration. Friday nights would often involve pizza, perhaps some cribbage, but most importantly just conversation with other members at the hunting lodge. (Or even donating money to the club in order to get members to dance on the table.) Saturday and Sunday he would be up early, making "Eggs Vic" for whoever grabbed a plate, then getting things ready for the test. At the end of each day the judging results were always promptly verified and thorough records submitted.

Vic served MHSA in so many ways ----- as club Secretary and board member several times, three stints as newsletter editor, setting up programs for monthly meetings, playing Santa at the club Christmas party, serving on special committees. If it needed doing, Vic was likely to volunteer. If you needed help getting something done, you needed only to ask. He thoroughly enjoyed and contributed to so many MHSA activities. Vic was instrumental in obtaining use of land near Orrock, MN for use as club training grounds in our earlier years.

Away from the club Vic was always an ambassador for MHSA, bringing in new members and spreading the word to other dog people he met. He was very active in Pheasants Forever and youth gun training, helping to perpetuate interest in our sport and encouraging others to get involved.

For those of us who had Vic as a friend, we truly had a friend. MHSA truly had a wonderful friend and loyal founding member. He is and will continue to be missed.

---by Gary Sorensen, with a little help from Bill Dunaski, Duane Maki and Hudson Nichols



Vic and Rock



Vic and Max

Vic and Sandy's first dog in MHSA

## 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-	\$
					Size Up Chrg	\$
<b>Shipping (if applicable):</b>						<b>\$</b>
<b>Order Total:</b>						<b>\$</b>

**Shipping/Contact Information:**

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

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

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

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

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

## MHSB Board Meeting Minutes

Bakers Square – Richfield

June 18, 2008

Present: Dick Bend, Linda Simon and Charlie Casey. Tony Roettger and Nadine Kohn by teleconference

Absent: Nadine Kohn, Ann Sunderman, Lynn Lynch and Doug Scurr

1. Approval of 5/2008 meeting minutes – motion to accept by Charlie, second by Lynn. Approved.
2. No President's report
3. Treasurer's report – No report at this meeting

#### 4. New Business

- Approved new members: Edstroms, Mommaerts, Babcock and Seifert.
- Need to fill the Secretary position. Linda Simon will fill in for the remaining time in her term. Will need to identify a new Board Member to fill the open spot on the Board of Directors.
- Dick called Blaha for a bird quote for birds for next spring. Waiting for a return call.
- Working dog test. Tony is unable attend. Linda will provide birds and Dick Bend will judge. Nadine will handle the paperwork. Doug Scurr and Linda Simon will gun.
- A training day at Brad Schindler's has been post-phoned for the summer as Brad is booked.
- Fall Hunt Test – Need to identify a Chair and Secretary. Need to get an application in to the AKC now if club plans to hold a Hunt Test.
- Fall Cocker Trial – Need to identify a Chair and Secretary. Need to get an application in to the AKC now if club plans to hold a Cocker Trial.

Adjournment at 8:20 pm

Motion to Adjourn by Dick

Seconded by Charlie

MHSA would like to welcome the following new members.

**Rob, Denise, Cole, Brady, Dallas and Tony Babcock**

Lake Shore, MN

The Babcock's own Labradors, Golden Retrievers and English Cocker Spaniels.

**Charles, Jan and Lee Schlatter** of New Brighton, MN they own an American Water Spaniel

**Tony, Lisa and Blake Belak** of Roseville, MN they own a Field Spaniel and an English Cocker. They were first introduced to the club through Pheasant Fest.

**Bob Narveson** of Elk River, MN he owns a springer, brittany and a golden.

**Matt and Lynn Appel** of Eagan, MN they own an English Springer, springer mix and a yorkie.

**Lee Bobrowske** of Dassel Minnesota. Lee owns a Springer. His goals for his dog is hunting and Fun Trials.

**Keith and Dawn Skoglund** of Shakopee Minnesota. They have 3 Springers. Keith and Dawn have 30+ years of raising, training, breeding and hunting for personal enjoyment. Their goals for their dogs are hunting, Hunt Tests and Fun Trials.

**Charles Starner** of Richfield Minnesota. Charles has 2 American Water Spaniels and a Wirehaired Pointing Griffon. Charles has attended our hunt tests for the past 3 years, and has offered to volunteer at many of these events.

**Mark Puariea** of St. Paul Minnesota. Mark has an English Springer Spaniel

**Bill Dunaski** of Savage, MN. Bill has been a long-standing member of the MHSA and breeder of English Springer Spaniels. He has volunteered at MHSA events for many years and continues to do so. He is re-applying after letting his membership lapse to attend personal matters.

**As the new members join us for our club events, please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to the club.**

