

THE HOT WIRE

Publication of the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of Southern California

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NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be Feb 17 at our field trial location. Directions and address can be found on the website www.gwpsocal.com

The meeting will be held during the lunch break. That time will be approximately 12:30. It could be later, it could be earlier depending on entries and how the courses are running.

Please be flexible. Hopefully, you can come out for the whole day and lend a hand to this event. It is a 3 day trial so there should be a large entry so every bit of help is needed to move things along smoothly.

Things to be discussed at the meeting...

Upcoming elections for the new officers for the 2007-2008 year

Upcoming events for the year..Speciality show and a plan for a fun day

Final report on the national event

UPCOMING EVENTS

We would like to plan a fun day in March sometime. My idea is to have a fun day for all sporting breeds that will include a show and go, an introduction to agility and/or rally, and a small workshop on hunting issues. This would be primarily for pups but of course older dogs would be welcome. We could charge a small fee for participation, send flyers out to the different sporting dog clubs and make it a fund raising day as well. More details can be discussed at our February meeting.

NEW CONTACT INFO FOR THE CLUB

Our webmaster has come up with an easier system to contact the chair people in our club. This system allows the e-mails to be the same even if the people themselves change.

Please note the following e-mails addresses and use them when appropriate:

SECRETARY OF THE CLUB (to send articles, letters, any correspondence for the club or newsletter)
secrec@gwpsocal.com

WEBMASTER (to send anything that is related to the web site, or communications)
webmgr@gwpsocal.com

TRESURER...(for anything related to the club's expenses, bills, membership dues, entry fees)
treas@gwpsocal.com

SHOW CHAIRPERSON (for any correspondence related to our specially and supported events or things related to AKC dog shows) shower@gwpsocal.com

RESCUE CHAIRPERSON (for anything related to GWP rescues)
resu@gwpsocal.com

The current people that hold these positions can still be contacted through their personal e-mail addresses or by phone but this will always give everyone a way to contact the chair people or officers without having to look up the personal info each time the posts are updated. Thank you Steve for setting this up

MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

Dues for the 2007/98 year were due in Jan. You have until March 31 to get your dues in to be included in the year's membership. Dues are \$20 for an individual membership

\$30 for a family membership

\$5.00 for a junior membership (under 18)

You can mail your dues to Sara or EVEN EASIER"...go to the website and join on line. There is a link on the website with a membership application form as well as a link to PAYPAL to pay your dues on line safely and securely..

I DID IT AND IT WAS QUITE EASY.

Please take the time to fill out the membership form even if you have paid your dues so that we can have an update data base of our members.

RRMEMBER IF YOU HAVE BRED A LITTER

Puppy buyers are entitled to a 1 year membership in the club when they acquire a puppy from a club member.

Please direct your puppy people to the website or print out a membership application for them to fill out and send it to Sara. Please mark the application so we know it is a free puppy membership

A REPORT ON THE JUDGES SEMINAR

(FROM STEVE ROSS)

On Jan 13 and 14th, AKC held seminars for AKC judges of field trials and hunt tests. The seminars were to present the changing requirements, judging standard, and what to expect from the upcoming meeting of the performance Events Division of AKC. The presenter was Mike Aldrich.

I was able to attend the Hunt test seminar on Sunday and found the day to be quite informative. We covered most aspects of hunt tests, from the initial application to the completion of all documents sent to AKC. There was even a 50 question test handed out. All judges will be required to attend one of these seminars to keep their active status as a judge. One of the problems that manifested the need for the seminars is the lack of standard and in a couple of cases, a complete disregard for the requirements of the standards. There are also new standards and requirements for becoming an AKC hunt test or field trial judge.

At a future date (play date/training/club event). I will give a full presentation on the seminar. (Editors note....if we could coordinate someone who went to the Saturday seminar to also present, that would be great)

A good start would be for each potential field trial or hunt test participant to get a copy of the rules and regulations from AKC. They are available on line (link provided on the club website in the field page) or directly from AKC. You can either write to the AKC ORDER DESK 5580 Centerview Dr. , Raleigh, NC 27606-3390 or you can call them by phone at 919 233-9767 (remember this is an east coast company so they are 3 hours ahead of us)

The titles to ask for are....

- 1...Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures For Pointing Dogs
- 2...Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests For pointing Breeds

CLICKER TRAINING ANYONE??

I had an opportunity to attend ClickerExpo here in Los Angeles. This is a 3 day conference with experts in the field from all over the world. There were lectures and workshops on every aspect of training using this type of training from training a conformation dog to agility, to dealing with aggressive dogs and shelter dogs. For those that don't know, clicker training is a training program where the animal is encouraged to learn by trial and error. There is no correcting and the animal learns to offer behaviors that he is then rewarded for by marking the moment with a clicking noise and a treat. The clicker gives the handler the opportunity to capture the exact moment that the dog does what he is being asked to do and behaviors are broken down into very small pieces. It is all based on operant conditioning for those of you who went to college or studied physiology at any level. It is an amazing process and really teaches you to watch your animal and pick up on small things that most people miss. Signals

your dog is giving you, moments of brilliance, even moments of confusion that lead to failure when working with your dog.

There is even a new book out on how to clicker train a gun dog (which of course I bought!!)

For more information on clicker training, you can go to Karen Pryor's website www.clickertraining.com or you can ask me about it the next time you see me. There are lots of great books on the subject and I encourage all of you to learn about it to add this amazing method to your training bag of tricks.

Braggs

From the Palm Springs show

On Saturday, Laika (RLB Drakkar's Laika What You See JH) won her first points (a 3 point major!)

She was handled by her owner Patty Heiber

The breed was won by Ch. Jay-Mar's Star Spangled banner MH

On Sunday, the points (another 3 point major) were won by Patty's other bitch Gypsy (CynisterNJay-Mar's Fortune Teller JH

Breed again went to Banner

These 2 wins will put Banner in the Top 25 again for 2007

Good weekend for Patty!!!

From the Fresno shows

In Saturday Joan and LD (Ch. Surefire's Secret Obsession CD) gave it a try in the Rally ring

They gained their first leg with a score of 99 (out of a possible 100!). The difference between first and second place was a mere 10 seconds!!

CONGRATS TO THE TEAM OF LD AND JOAN

****A NOTE TO CLUB MEMBERS**

**I asked for brags or things to add to the newsletter a few weeks ago and got
no response.**

**I can not be responsible for remembering what everyone did with their dogs
or who's names are whose' and who owns who. I try my best but if I don't
hear from you, I can't post it.**

PLEASE PLEASE...

**If you have brag or something you'd like added to the newsletter, send it to
me**

THANK YOU!!