

2011 Issue 1

February 2011



# MNRC NEWS

## ***The Official Newsletter of the Master National Retriever Club***



*...(A Message from the President )...*

### **Greetings Fellow Dog Lovers**

Well it's now my turn at the helm of this great MNRC ship. I only hope I have learned enough of what the previous Great Ship Captains before me have done and tried to teach me over the past few years.

The MNRC has come a long way from when it first started and it is a great honor for me to be part of it. From the very first event that was a single flight judged by three judges to three flights that are judged by six judges. The number of entries continues to increase each year with 2011 expecting to top all time records.

We have introduced the new AKC title MNH, and it is now in effect. This title will be retroactive for all dogs that are in the MNRC Hall of Fame.

The new Master National web site continues to evolve day by day. In other communications additions, we now have a MN Facebook and Twitter sites and Blog pages. For the first time this year, we used mobile Text Alerts to inform owners/handlers at the 2010 MN of starting numbers and important announcement.

The list of accomplishments goes on, with a lot more in the hopper. All this could not have happened without the outstanding cohesiveness of the current MN Board of Directors.

While I am at it, I would like to welcome our two new Directors to the team. Representing Region #1 is Auggie Argabright and Region #2 is Jace Tramountin, "Welcome to the family".

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### ***Looking Ahead***

**The 2012 Master National will be hosted by the Black Warrior Retriever Club at the Forever Wild State Cattle Ranch in Greensboro, Alabama. Dates are Oct. 19-28, 2012.**

# 2011 Master National Update

## A message from the 2011 Hunt Test Chairman Frank Durham:



I am happy to report that planning for the 2011 Master National is in full swing.

A new pavilion for “Frankie’s Party,” has been constructed on the Main Hunt Test Grounds. And a new bird pen to house both ducks and pheasants is currently under construction.

Three ponds on the main grounds are looking fantastic. And we’ve been working to enhance the 4th pond, known as the “Stick Pond.” This water consists of a natural pond in a wooded area, which can be easily accessed from all sides.

The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce and the Dorchester County Board of Tourism are gearing up to host a number of events and activities around town for everyone to enjoy in their off hours.

Next month, we will be working on the farm roads to provide better ingress and egress during the hunt test.

The Annual Winter Meeting of the Board of Directors took place in February. All MNRC board members visited the host hotel, all hunt test sites, and the party sites!

We’re looking forward to seeing you all and believe this 20th Anniversary Master National will be a great event!

Check out the Susquehanna Retriever Club Web site at [www.susquehannaretriever.com](http://www.susquehannaretriever.com)

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## Officers and Board of Directors

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# President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

I hope you all had as good a time in Corning, CA. Linda and I thought it was the greatest. The accommodations were outstanding, as well as the weather and the food at the casino.

The best part was seeing all our old friends and all the new friends we made, it was great! The Lassen Retriever Club represented by Jay and Raelene Phelps did one the best jobs I have ever seen a host club perform. They had every base imaginable covered, "You guys were awesome."

Oh, did I mention that this was the largest number of entries ever in Region #4? This was the first time the MNRC was authorized by the AKC to split the entries into three flights. Boy was it a challenge. The need for additional equipment, workers and all kind of other stuff was amazing.

I must say at this point a giant "Thank you" to the equipment crew lead by Kevin Bunnell our Equipment Chairperson. The fabulous job they preformed during test set up and their ability to keep the equipment moving from site to site without missing a beat was— "Outstanding".

Then there was Jim Charboneau, who at the last minute was thrown into accepting the Bird Steward Chairperson due to Ray Muth's absence. Ray underwent emergency surgery and we happy to report he's doing fine now.

Unfortunately I'm just skimming over the top saying "Thank You" to all those that made the 2010 Master National event a great success.

I think I have rambled on long enough; I will let someone else have their turns.

**John Marchica**  
Master National Retriever Club  
President

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# Meet our new Region 1 Director

## Auggie Argabright

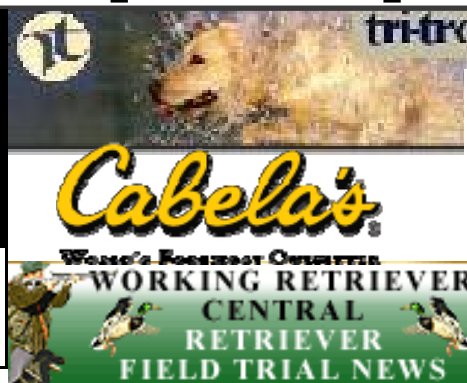
I was born in Eastern Tennessee, raised in Roanoke, VA and educated at VA Tech. After graduation and seven years in the US Army as an E-7 Drill Sergeant, I began a career in the corrugated industry with the Chesapeake Corp. of V A. I lived in Winston-Salem, NC and Clarks Summit, PA, before transferring to Baltimore, MD in 1973. After 34-years in the corrugated industry, I switched careers. At the present time, I work with special needs children.



The "Retriever Bug" bit me after spending a day in Charlottesville, V A with Martha Lee Voshall and watching her work her very talented black Labradors. In 1977, I purchased my first chocolate Lab, "KT", from a breeder in NC. KT was absolutely a trial and error trained hunting dog. After entering and placing third in KT's first hunt test, I began what has been 33 years of training and traveling. Although, KT had his faults, he did help me meet and make many long time friends. It was with the help and encouragement of friends like Augie and Louise Belmont, Jay Sweezey, Clayton Crawford, Rusty Bergen and Junnie Harris that I purchased and trained my second chocolate Lab - "Doc", Shannondoah's Free Sprite.

Not having much success in the field trial game, with only one JAM in the Derby, Doc and I turned our main focus to hunt tests. It was there that I met and made many more friends, one of which (continued on page 8)

## Many Thanks to Our Corporate Sponsors



# Meet our new Region 2 Director

Hello, my name is **Jace Tramontin**, I live in Northern Minnesota on the Iron Range most of my life. I have two kids and am married to a wonderful person to whom I could say pushed me into the dog realm these past years.

I have had all three colors of labs due to my wife. My first dog was a yellow lab, and I had tried to train myself but ended up as a family dog due to some extenuating circumstances from my brother-in-law's actions and my inexperience in training. Let's just say, I learned.

For 10 years, before we were involved in the retriever club, we were involved with fundraising banquets. A black dog was going up for a live auction. My wife and kids talked me into bidding on the dog, with a promise she would train the dog for me to go hunting. To make a long story short, we did get the dog. My wife kept her word on training.



That is when I really became involved with our local club, the MIRRC, nine years ago. I have held numerous positions within our club from a bird steward to president and I am currently running the kitchen with the help of my wife. For the last five years, I have also been in charge of fundraising for our club.

The year I was President of MIRRC, 2008, we were fortunate to have hosted the Master National in Northern Minnesota. I was a Co-Chair of the event along with being responsible for running the kitchen and merchandise sales. That year I acquired our third dog, a chocolate lab at the handler's banquet. It was a live auction and my wife was present to win the bid.

In conclusion, I have enjoyed meeting new, like minded, people interested in having fun while running any kind or color of dog at hunt tests and national events. I look forward to helping make the Master National Retriever Club the best it can for the members

# 2010 Hall of Fame Qualifiers

## 6 Passes

Fr. Jim's Rebel Yell MH Fr Jim Strange  
Lab's Unlimited Live Wire MH Bill Cox

## 5 Passes

Becky Lou's Bayou Beamer MH Louis Dejohn  
Medicine Mans Feather Quest MH Beckey Malphus Dvm  
Pine Acre's Webfoot Winger MH Mark Parman  
Robbins Red Ruby MH Chris Robbins

## 4 Passes

Armagh's Pug Mahon MH James Bergh  
Fc Little Wing MH Mike Moss  
Hermans Nitro Nici Of Sunnyview MH Bill Herman  
Pin-Mark's Creole Pepper Queen MH Ida & Bob Richards  
Raider's Jumpin Jack Flash MH Larry Kimble  
Siskiyou's Water Hammer MH C. Goll/J. Reinhardt/J. Peters  
Swamp Run's Go Get'em Gator MH Ray Shanks  
Tall Pines Long Shot Tanker MH Glenn Rogers  
Taylорlab Downtown Cooter Brown MH Lyle & Debby Steinman  
Too Terrible Tillie MH Mike Collson  
Windigo Flip N' Fly MH Janet Peters & Ron Sauls  
Zoey's Black Magic MH Dennis Greer

## 3 Passes

Aspen's Mr Maverick MH Art Stoner  
Borderline's Big Echo MH Sallie P. Sullivan  
Borderline's Miss Liberty MH Sallie P. Sullivan  
Contrails Tailspin MH Michael Moss  
Creditriver's Wild Card MH Randy Bohlmann  
Dj's Ramblin Rascal MH James Lowry  
Emberain Lefty Lucy MH Pat Denardo  
Fats Waller's Joint Is Jumpin MH Kathleen Folsom  
Fr Jim's Terrible Enigma MH Fr Jim Stange  
Grouse Creek's Blazin' Cinder, MH Jay & Raelene Phelps  
Island Acres Widow Maker MH Doug Shade  
Kate's Diamond In The Ruff MH Dorothy & Michael Ruehman  
Lloyd's Cash Call MH David & Ellen Lybeck  
Molly's Magnolia MH Betsy & Wes Magee  
Phineas Of Oakstone MH John & Susan Micheli  
Real Gold Roxie Music To My Ears MH Janet Wood

Continued on Page 7

# AKC Master National Hunter Title

## **3 Passes** *(Continued from page 6)*

Rebel Ridge Let'em Rip Wendy Rowan  
Rocking M Black River Raider MH John & Judy Lorenzo  
Sarah's Back N Smoken MH Dennis Greer  
Satchabrat MH Doug Shade & Sharon House  
Sawtooth's No Foolin' MH Debra Ziegler  
Swift River's Speed Trap MH Buck Shope & Tara Yohan  
Webshire Can-Do Canook MH Lynn Macdonald

## **AKC Master National Hunter Title (MNH)**

The American Kennel Club has approved a new MNH title for retrievers. The MNH, which stands for Master National Hunter, title will be in addition to the dog's MH title.

The title is given to any dog that successfully completes three Master Nationals, which is equivalent to the Master National Retriever Clubs' (MNRC's) Hall of Fame designation. When the MNH is earned, it will go on the dog's pedigree.

The MNRC Board and the AKC have agreed that the new title will be retroactive. Every dog currently in the Hall of Fame will now have the new AKC title. The MNRC Board of Directors agreed that they (MNRC) will pay the \$20 AKC fee for recording the new title retroactively, as well as in the future.

The AKC will offer the option to purchase a MNH certificate. If an owner would like an AKC certificate, they can complete a form provided by the AKC and pay the \$30 fee.

## **Master National Retriever Club Title (MNR)**

The MNRC has approved a new "club" title to replace the previous MNH that was earned when a dog passed 2 Master Nationals. The new "club" title is the Master National Retriever (MNR) which will be granted to all dogs qualifying at two Master National events. This is a "club" title and cannot become part of the dog's pedigree.

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## Meet Region 1 Director — Auggie Argabright

was Jack Jagoda. It was Jack that I turned to after reading about Ned Spear and his idea about running hunt tests against a standard as opposed to placements. From that initial idea, of running hunt tests against a standard, developed the North American Hunting Retriever Association and later the AKC Hunt Test. HAHRA had 176 dogs entered in our first event in Richmond, V A. Unlike the AKC, Jack and I knew that there were many retriever enthusiasts out there that would SlipPOIt Retriever Hunt Tests.

Doc, *MHR Shannondoah 's Free Sprite, MH*, went on to become the first chocolate Lab to earn the AKC Title of Master Hunter and the second chocolate Lab to hold both the AKC and NAHRA Master Hunter Titles. Doc went on to compete in both of the first Master National Invitational for both organizations. We were also qualified to run in the first Master National in DE, but Doc was fighting cancer at the time. However, we did show our, mine and Doc's, support for the Master National by becoming a Charter Member.

My Labs have competed in field trials, hunt tests and held several State Gun Dog Championship Titles. I specialize in the breeding of chocolate and yellow Labs, but also own several black Labs. I've been very lucky over the years, to have my Labs featured in *Just Labs*, *Gray's Sporting Journal*, *The Art of The Gun Dog 2007 Calendar* and greeting cards by wildlife artist and dog trainer Kristen Hoffman.

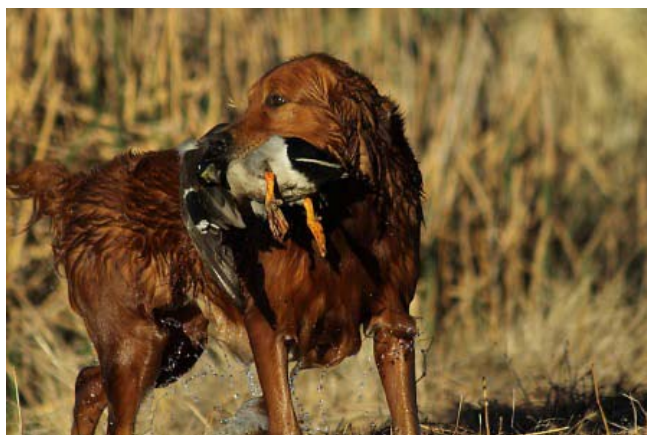
Living on Maryland's Eastern Shore, I am very active in the hunt test movement, but have also competed in AKC field trials. Most recently, Cin-D's Storm Trooper MI-I, MNH, QAA received a JAM in only my second time running in an Amateur All Age Stake. "Rocky" and I also qualified at the 2003 and 2005 Master Nationals. Currently, I am competing in hunt tests with Rocky's offspring: "Drake", Shannondoah's Highland Drake, MH and field trials with Shannondoah's Highland Cruise, JH. "Cruise" has earned: 3rd Place, 4th Place, Reserve JAM's and JAM's in the Qualifying Stake.

Before becoming the Director for Region 1, I have served as: 1) President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member of the Board in thirteen years with the MD RC, 2) President, Member of the Board and Delegate to the Master National in thirteen years with the Talbot RC, 3) Member of the Board for five years with the Susquehanna RC. and 4) Judge for both the 1999 and 2008 Master Nationals.





# Remembering 10-10-10



## Vision Statement

### Master National Retriever Club

*The Master National Retriever Club, Inc., is committed to the hunting tradition, and devoted to the promotion, breeding, training and best interests of retrievers. In order to carry out our commitment, Master Hunters will be tested annually in a non-competitive manner at the Master National Stake to the maximum of the standard set out by the American Kennel Club. We firmly believe in supporting the hunting test program and that all participants should conduct themselves as good sportsmen. To obtain the maximum of the standard there shall be such utilization of terrain, bird placement, and natural conditions so as to provide significant challenge to the abilities of the master hunting dog.*