



MNRC News

Official Newsletter of the Master National Retriever Club

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President's Message...

Greetings To Everyone,

We are coming into the homestretch. July 31st is the deadline to qualify for the 2007 Master National. I hope each of you who have aspired to accomplish this task, have done so. And those of you who are very close to that accomplishment, I send my best wishes for success. As of this publication we have 215 dogs qualified for the event.

As I mentioned in my last message, a financial review committee was appointed at the February board meeting and I would like to share my interpretations of our financial situation. The past three to four years brought a rise in expenses beyond the normal cost of our event. Extra expenses were incurred during the time we were working through the legal matters associated with "Divorce from AKC" and "The Future of the Master National". The entry in 2006 was lower than anticipated, lowering our revenue. Also, each year there are unforeseen expenses that face the MNRC. These take place as we move the event across the country from region to region. Different areas of the country can be more expensive than others. Those of us that have been attending the Master National event over the years can attest to that.

There are the regular expenses that all retriever clubs encounter from year to year, related to general maintenance or replacement of equipment and supplies. Also today, the cost of running any organization is increasing faster than normal inflation.

You may be wondering about the help that is given to the Master National by our sponsors. Without our corporate sponsors we would not have the nice dinners or parties or the bags, hats and until this year, the bibs. They donate money, dog food, and training equipment each year. I encourage you to acknowledge this and make an effort to thank the representatives who will be in attendance this year. However, be aware that in some situations the MNRC still has to supplement these activities.

This board has openly and honestly taken a good look at our expenses and our future financial situation. We are in good shape financially. However, during the last several years the club has operated at a loss. We are also aware that the new qualifying system is designed to reduce numbers, resulting in lower revenues.

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VISION STATEMENT

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.

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President's Message cont'd...

Therefore, the board has taken two steps toward increasing our revenue and holding down costs. We are now bidding items such as handlers and workers hats and we have also opened the event to more vendors. These are small steps but it is a beginning and I hope you will be supportive of our efforts.

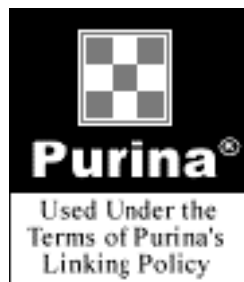
As was reported in the last newsletter, the board met with our host club in February. Since then, the Rappahannock members have been at work preparing for our visit. Please read the information provided by Bradley Sisson, President of the Rappahannock River Retriever Club and the report of the 400th year Virginia celebration, written by Martha Cole Glenn

This will be a grand opportunity for you and your family to visit many historical sites that have played such a significant part in our country's history. I hope you will take time to visit some of these places. There is a possibility that some of these events may play into this year's Master National.

And now, my sincere best wishes to each of you. I look forward to seeing you in Virginia. Stay safe and take care of those wonderful dogs. Remember, without them our lives would not be as rewarding.

Sincerely,
Mary Williams

MANY THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



GUN CAPTAIN'S REPORT

By Jim Huston

As your Gun Captain for the upcoming Master National Event to be held in Fauquier County, Virginia in October 2007. I would like bring you up to date on details about licenses and request that you contact me if you are interested in gunning at the event.

The MNRC will be granted a permit to cover all handlers, workers, committee members, etc. during the dates of the event. You will not need a Virginia hunting license to be a gunner. However, you will need a license if you are going to shoot live birds during your training program. **If you plan on shooting live training birds, all members of the training party must have a license.** Also please note that some of the planned training grounds are in Maryland and they require their own license. Virginia has a "Blue Law" that does not allow shooting live birds on Sunday. In addition, pigeon and chukar may not be used as they are considered nuisance species and may not be released. If you are using pen raised birds you must have a bill of sale present at the training site. You may get a Virginia hunting license on line at the following site: [_http://secure01.virginiainteractive.org/horf/](http://secure01.virginiainteractive.org/horf/). The fees for non-resident 3-day and full season licenses cost \$46 and \$86 respectively. In addition you will need a Federal duck stamp and Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp (\$10).

If you would like to be a gunner at the event please e-mail me at jhuston@wicinc.com. I am planning on preparing a schedule soon after the list of entries is known. We hope to also use a local gun club for some of the duties but will need additional volunteers. Please indicate on your entry form that your work preference is to be a gunner. A final schedule will be published after the Dow Jones number dictates the actual running order. As a gunner you will need to bring your own shotgun (12 gauge only) and wear camouflage clothing and a chair. Shells and lunches will be provided. Each day will be divided into three work shifts. Please plan on being ready for a change out 30 minutes in advance of your shift. This will help to expedite a turn around.

Finally a word about safety. The judges will plan their test to maximize gunner safety. The safety committee will be reviewing each test for potential hazards, however, in the end it is each individual gunner that must make a decision that the shot is safe. We are not as interested in a perfect score on birds as we are interested in a perfect score on safety. Please remember this when you are gunning.

Jim Huston
Gun Captain
jhuston@wicinc.com

Welcome To Virginia

by Bradley Sisson, 2007 Hunt Test Chair

The officers and membership of Rappahannock River Retriever Club, Inc. (RRRC) extend a warm welcome to all that will be attending the 2007 Master National. We hope that your journey both to and from the area will be pleasant and your time in the Old Dominion will be very successful.

Grounds

Thanks to the hard work put forward by Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and Shady Grove Kennel & Hunting Preserve, you and your retrievers will find exceptional testing grounds that typify Virginia's Piedmont. Participants should anticipate running retrievers over rolling land that has a mature crop of millet and grain sorghum. To get a feel for some of the fields, participants are urged to view the pictures found on RRRC's website¹. Individuals are also urged to check back over the course of the summer as the pictures will be updated so to reflect the current state of the grounds.

Flora and Fauna

On a day-to-day basis the biggest problem that one may encounter is with the flora. It is quite likely that one and all will come across poison ivy as well as poison oak, so be careful of the plants you pick or brush up against. Next on the list would be insects. A causal trip afield could be sufficient for you and your retriever to pick up a few hitchhikers in the form of ticks and chiggers. So be sure to bring along some insect repellent for you and Frontline for your dogs. With Lyme Disease being a potential problem, participants are encouraged to consider securing vaccination for Lyme Disease for their canines prior to arrival. While seldom encountered, Virginia is home to several species of poisonous snakes. These include, in order of decreasing frequency, the Northern Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen*)², the Eastern Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus piscivorus*)³, and Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*)⁴. While there are no alligators or fire ants in Virginia, there are beaver, nutria, and Eastern Snapping Turtles⁵, with beaver and snapping turtles having been seen on C. F. Phelps WMA. There are no wolves in Virginia as the gray wolf was eliminated many years ago. There are red and grey foxes, bobcat, and coyotes. The coyote has increased in range and numbers to where it is found throughout the state. And there are some recorded incidents of where coyotes have attacked small dogs on leash.⁶ In a few, generally mountainous places, the Eastern Cougar can be found. Fortunately, for all concerned, there are no reported sightings of Cougar in Fauquier County, which is where we will be holding the event. While the coyote can be hunted throughout the year, the Eastern Cougar is deemed endangered by both federal and

state governments.⁷ Without a doubt, the fall foliage of Virginia can be breathtaking. While the MN event will taking place a little early in terms of typical peak color, it is quite possible that the mountain tops along the Blue Ridge Parkway will offer many opportunities to oooh and ahhh.⁸

Hunting

Virginia is also home to some of the finest white-tailed deer hunting in the country. For the 2006 season some 233,198 deer were harvested in the Old Dominion. Fauquier County, which is the county where the 2007 Master National will be held, had the third highest take with some 6,464 deer harvested last season.⁹ Individuals interested in exploring hunting opportunities in Virginia are encouraged to visit the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' website.¹⁰

Attractions

On those days that you will not be running a dog or watching someone else run theirs, we hope you will take advantage to the opportunity and explore the area as there is much to be seen. From colonial settlements, to vineyards, to the many museums and fine restaurants, to the National Aquarium of Baltimore, to horseracing in West Virginia, to the barrier islands of Maryland and Virginia, to the scenic mountain drive of the Blue Ridge Parkway, there is something for everyone. To explore many more suggestions, as well as request additional information from various tourism bureaus, interested individuals are encouraged to visit the listing found on RRRC's website.¹¹

Traffic

While the test grounds will be in a rural setting, you do not have to travel far before you encounter the masses (actually about 2 million) that make Northern Virginia their home. To get a feel for how traffic is flowing, or not- as is frequently the case, it is encouraged that you check the numerous live video feeds from Traffic Land¹² before you start out. During the week, normal rush hour traffic starts around 5 A.M. or earlier, and will last for about 3 hours. The afternoon return flow will begin around 2:30 P.M., and last from 3 to 4 hours. To be honest, there is no quite time on the major arteries and the off-rush hour(s) will probably look a lot like rush hour traffic in many parts of the country.

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New MNH

Blue Sky's Jenny MH (owner Don Aker) was omitted from last issues List of new Master National Hunters.

Welcome To Virginia cont'd

Mass Transit

If some in your party are interested in seeing the city and you want to stay closer to the event, it is possible for you to have your cake and eat it too as there are several ways of getting into the city and explore the sites and not have to drive all the way in. From Fredericksburg or Manassas, one can take the train (Virginia Railway Express)¹³ into Alexandria as well as Washington, D.C. Once there, you can either walk about or take the Metro¹⁴ to your point of interest. And if you really want to get around a bit, you can take the VRE to Union Station and board an Amtrak train¹⁵ or MARC train¹⁶ to a destination of your choosing. So with so much to see and do, we hope that you will come, explore, and enjoy a taste of Southern Hospitality.

(Footnotes)

- ¹ <http://www.rrrclub.com/Master%20National/TestGrounds1.htm>
- ² <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/information/?s=030016>
- ³ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/information/?s=030015>
- ⁴ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/information/?s=030012>
- ⁵ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/information/?s=030050>
- ⁶ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/habitat/landowners/infosheets/coyote.pdf>
- ⁷ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/species/display.asp?id=050112>
- ⁸ <http://www.virginia.org/fall/FallSubPage.asp?RegionID=1>
- ⁹ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/deer/harvestsummary.asp>
- ¹⁰ <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/>
- ¹¹ <http://www.rrrclub.com/Master%20National/tourism.htm>
- ¹² <http://www.trafficland.com/#start>
- ¹³ <http://www.vre.org/>
- ¹⁴ <http://www.wmata.com/>
- ¹⁵ <http://www.amtrak.com/servletContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/HomePage>
- ¹⁶ <http://www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/>

MNRC NEWS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

September 2007
deadline for information Aug 15

AMERICA'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY JAMESTOWN 1607-2007 YEAR LONG COMMEMORATION IN VIRGINIA

The founding of Jamestown, America's first permanent English colony in 1607 sparked a series of events and encounters which shaped the government, language, customs, beliefs which are all part of the heritage of the United States today. School children across the U.S. continue to learn about Jamestown, Captain John Smith, Pocahontas, Chief Powhatan and Thomas Rolfe, all part of America's early history.

The 400th Anniversary commemoration of the founding of "Historic Jamestowne" was launched in 2006 with an 80-day sail of the newly commissioned replica Godspeed, bringing a bit of history to six ports along the eastern seaboard. Other events so far have included the opening of a new exhibit at Jamestown Settlement, conferences on the roles of Virginia Indians and African-Americans in the early years and the 225th Anniversary of the defeat of the British at Yorktown. This year America's Anniversary Weekend will be held May 11-13 at Historic Jamestowne, Jamestown Settlement and Anniversary Park. The weekend will include numerous concerts, other musical events, cultural events, guided tours, pageantry and demonstrations. Admission tickets to all events are \$30/day. The Queen of England has accepted an invitation to come to Virginia, possibly during this weekend.

Other events during 2007 will include a reenactment of the mapping of the Chesapeake Bay by Captain John Smith, "The Roots of Virginia Culture" at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. (June 27-July 1 and July 4-8), the American Indian Intertribal Cultural Festival in Hampton (July 21-22), a Virginia Black Expo in August and a Forum on the Future of Democracy in Williamsburg (September 16-18). Of course the permanent exhibits at museums in Jamestown, Williamsburg, Yorktown, etc. are ongoing throughout the year. This could be an interesting side trip after the Master National events.

For additional information you may wish to visit the following websites:

www.americas400thanniversary.com
www.folklife.si.edu/index.html
(Smithsonian Folklife Festival)

Martha Cole Glenn
Rappahannock River Retriever Club

2007 Headquarters Information

**HOLIDAY INN SELECT
FREDERICKSBURG, VA**

A UNIQUE HOTEL LOCATED IN HISTORIC FREDERICKSBURG. THE HOLIDAY INN SELECT IS APPROXIMATELY 50 MILES SOUTH OF WASHINGTON DC AND 50 MILES NORTH OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. THE HOTEL FEATURES BEAUTIFUL GUEST ROOMS, SPACIOUS MEETING ROOMS, DELICIOUS FOOD AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

Location And Transportation

3 miles from historic Fredericksburg, 50 miles from Washington National Airport, 50 miles from Byrd International Airport. Kings Dominion, Potomac Mills Mall, Civil War Battlefields-all nearby. Ask us about ground transportation from the airports, shopping and limousine service.

Accommodations

193 Guest Rooms. 9 Suites. 136 non-smoking. 8 handicapped rooms.
Check-in time - 3 PM. Check-out time 12:00 Noon
Executive Level with Executive Lounge
Laundry facilities on site.

Meeting Facilities

11 meeting rooms. 14,000 square feet of meeting space. Accommodates up to 700 people theatre style.
Over 6,500 square feet of exhibit space.

Meeting Services

Business Center open 24 hours daily. Separate registration areas.
Full service sales staff available.

Dining And Entertainment

Shannons Lounge - offering live entertainment 5 nights weekly
The Palm Room Dining Room-open for breakfast and Sunday brunch
Ledo Pizza
Room service available

Recreation and Fitness

Exercise room open 24 hours daily. Junior Olympic size outdoor swimming pool.
Lee's Hill Golfer's Club, (PGA rated PAR 72). Lee's Driving Range

General Information

Languages spoken: English, Spanish. Currency: U.S. Dollars. All Major Credit Cards accepted.
Taxes on food: State 4.5%, City 4.5% Room Occupancy Tax 8.5% Gratuities 18%
One time \$50.00 pet fee

Use the code RR1 & 2 when inquiring about special rates for event

2007 Master National Accomodation Listing				
Establishment	Address	Telephone No.	Web Site	Distance to Shady Grove
Inn at Kellys Ford	16589 Edwards Shop Rd. Remington, VA	540-399-1779	http://www.innatkellysford.com/	7.7
Howard Johnson	6 Broadview Ave Warrenton, VA	540-341-7766	http://www.hojo.com/Howard-Johnson/control/index?variant=	13.9
Holiday Inn Express & Suites	410 Holiday Court Warrenton, VA	888-400-9714	http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/ex/1/en/hotel/WRVVA/welcome	14.1
Hampton Inn of Warrenton	501 Blackwell Road Warrenton, VA	540-349-4200		14.6
Comfort Inn	7379 Comfort Inn Dr. Warrenton, VA	540-349-8900	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/en-US/html/ComfortHome?promo=gg224&kw=gge224	14.7
Red Carpet Inn & Suites	13065 James Madison Hy Culpeper, VA	540-825-2255	http://travels.priceline.com/hotel/overview-United_States_Virginia_Culpeper_Red_Carpet_Inn_Culpeper-2329805.html	16.2
Best Western Culpeper Inn	791 Madison Road Culpeper, VA	540-825-1253	http://www.bestwestern.com/?CMP=LEC-SMARTpages.com	16.8
Comfort Inn	890 Willis Lane Culpeper, VA	540-825-4900	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/en-us/html/HotelInfo?hotel=VA431&promo=gglocal	17.0
Super 8 Motel	889 Willis Lane Culpeper, VA	540-825-8088		17.1
Rappahannock River Campgrounds	33017 River Mill Road Richardsville, VA	540-399-1839	http://www.canoecamp.com/	21.5
Affordable Suites of America	204 University Blvd. Fredericksburg, VA	540-752-7170	http://www.affordablesuites.com/fredricksburg.php	23.1
Cedar Mountain Campground	20114 Camp Road Culpeper, VA	540-547-3374		23.2
Greenwich Inn	4301 Bludau Dr. Warrenton, VA	540-428-3001	http://www.greenwichinvestments.com/inn/	23.3
Hillwood Camping park	14222 Lee Hwy. Gainsville, VA	703-754-6105	http://www.hillwoodcamping.com/	24.7
Best Inn	594 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-899-0101	http://www.americasbestinns.com/reservations/locationdetail.asp?facid=2674	25.4
Fredericksburg Travelodge	605 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-6300	http://www.travelodge.com/Travelodge/control/Booking/property_info?propertyId=09455&brandInfo=TL	25.5
Holiday Inn - North	564 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-5550	http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/hi/1/en/hotel/frbno	25.5
Sleep Inn	595 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-372-6868	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/en-us/html/HotelInfo?hotel=VA148&promo=gglocal	25.5
Days Inn	14 Simpson Lane Fredericksburg, VA	540-373-5340	http://www.daysinn.com/Day-slnn/control/home	25.7

Establishment	Address	Telephone No.	Web Site	Distance to Shady Grove
Quality Inn	543 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-373-5676	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/en-us/html/HotelInfo?hotel=VA085&promo=gglocal	25.7
Super 8 Motel	557 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-8900	http://www.super8.com/Super8/control/Booking/property_info?propertyId=12648&brandInfo=SE	25.7
Comfort Suites	543 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-322-4800	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/html/ComfortSuitesHome	26.0
Howard Johnson Inn	386 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-6000	http://www.hojo.com/Howard-Johnson/control/index?variant=	26.2
Motel 6	401 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-5443	http://www.motel6.com/	26.7
Fredericksburg Colonial Inn	1707 Princess Anne St. Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-5666	http://www.fci1.com/	29.3
Greenville Farms Family Camp	14004 Shelter Lane Haymarket, VA	703-7554-7944		29.7
Best Western Central Plaza	3000 Plank Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-786-7404	http://www.bestwestern.com/?CMP=LEC-SMARTpages.com	30.4
Best Western Fredericksburg	2205 William Street Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-5050	http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/productInfo.do?propertyCode=47084#null	30.5
Econo Lodge Central	2802 Plank Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-786-8374	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/en-us/html/HotelInfo?hotel=VA178&promo=gglocal	30.5
Hampton Inn	2310 William St. Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-0330	http://showhotel.com/hamptoninn/2240101/	30.6
Holiday Inn - Select	2801 Old Plank Road Fredericksburg, VA	540-786-8321	http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/sl/1/en/hotel/frbva	30.8
Prince William Travel Trailer	16058 Dumfries Road Dumfries, VA	703-221-2474		33.1
Aquia Pines Campground	3071 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Stafford, VA	540-659-3447	http://www.aquiapines.com/	33.5
Travel Trailer Village at Prince William Forest Park	16058 Dumfries Road Dumfries, VA	703-221-2474	http://www.traveltrailervillage.com/	34.0
Comfort Inn Southport	5422 Jefferson David Hwy Fredericksburg, VA		http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/html/ComfortHome	34.2
Quality Inn	2310 Williams Street Fredericksburg, VA	540-371-0330	http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/html/QualityHome	34.4
Shenandoah Hills Campground	110 Campground Lane Madison, VA	540-948-4186	http://www.shenandoahhills.com/	34.9
Wingate Inn	20 Sanford Dr. Fredericksburg, VA	540-368-8000	http://www.wingateinns.com/Wingate/control/index?variant=	36.1
Holiday Inn Express	28 Greenspring Road Stafford, VA	540-657-5566	http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/ex/1/en/hotel/SRDVA/welcome	36.3
Hampton Inn Stafford/Quantico-Aquia	2925 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Stafford, VA	540-657-0999	www.hamptoninn.com	37.0
KOA Campgrounds	7400 Brookside Lane Fredericksburg, VA	540-898-7252	http://www.koa.com/	40.1

PLACES TO GO/THINGS TO DO IN FREDERICKSBURG

CENTRAL PARK: located around Holiday Inn Select has an extraaganza of stores and restaurants. Attractions include Kohl's, Target, Borders, Linens and Things, Applebees, Outback and The International House of Pancakes.

Movie theatre: Just two blocks away with 15 screens, 540-786-4900

Health/Fitness: Sport & Health located in Central Park. Show your Holiday Select room key and receive a \$5.00 daily rate. 540-786-4242

Pamper yourself: Ambiance Day Spa and Salon Inc. 540-785-5559

FAMILY FUN

Central Park Funland - amusement park in Central Park with miniature golf, go-carts, bumper boats, arcade and much more. 540-785-2559

Fredericksburg Ice Park - Open year round. Skating, ice hockey and more. 540-786-0809

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Spotsylvania Mall - 125 stores and restaurants. 540-786-6660

Massaponax Outlet Center - one exit south. More than 25 merchants offering 20-70% saving off retail.

SIGHTSEEING

Kenmore - home of George Washington's sister, Betty Washington Lewis. 1201 Washington Ave, Fredericksburg.

Belmont - The Gary Melcher Estate and Memorial Gallery.

Battlefields - Numerous Civil War battlefields, historical sites and parks.

For more information:

Fredericksburg Visitors Center 540-373-1776 or 1-800-678-4748

Spotsylvania County Visitors Center 540-891-8687 or 1-800-654-4118

*MNRC News
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Arcata, CA 95519*