

2010 Issue 3

September 2010



MINRC NEWS

Produced by Janet Peters and Edited by Janet Wood and Sheri Walker

The Official Newsletter of the Master National Retriever Club



And Another Point (A Message from the President)...

Forty days and counting! Not that I am but will I ever sleep again? I wake up from dreams of flooding (yes Texas still haunts me), missing plates and ribbons, not enough workers, and running my dogs. Ron reminds me that you “can’t plan for everything” and the “real test of a team is how they handle the stuff you didn’t plan for”, but still I plan and worry. But it is not for a lack of an OUTSTANDING team. As I am sitting here reflecting over the past year I think we have accomplished a lot - the new website, facebook, getting a 3-flight event approved and in the works for this year, the sponsor program, and now the new title (see page 4). This MNRC Board of Directors and all the other folks in the Master National community who stepped up to help us this year have a lot to be proud of and we in turn owe a big thanks to those who came before us and upon whose shoulders we stand. A sincere “thank you” to each and everyone of you and to those who have done this job before that I didn’t realize to thank! This is a great game and a great group of people and I am proud to be associated with all of you and the Master National Hunt Test. And a special thanks to my assistant Sheri—you have been a huge help and a good friend through many trying times, and to my dear husband Ron—without you, I could never accomplished any of this.

Also a big **congratulations** to the 470 dogs who qualified to run this event and good luck to the 357 entered. I am looking forward to seeing you all on my home turf!

I will keep it brief (yes I am capable of that) and let the rest be said in the remainder of this newsletter and on the website!

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Check it Out:

We will be blogging during the event

www.masternational.com

Meet the Judges Part 1

This is a second article of a two part series presenting the biographies of our 2010 judges. They are also on our website. We know that these fine judges will set up a challenging and fun test for us and we look forward to working with and running under them.

Keith Kiesow—Region 2/Wisconsin

I feel privileged and honored to be chosen to judge the 2010 Master National representing Region 2. I would like to thank all of the delegates that have given me this opportunity to judge.

Compared to many individuals participating in hunt tests, I am relatively new. I got my start in hunt tests in 1998 even though I owned hunting dogs since just after high school. I bought a Yellow Labrador, which I named Max, in 1997. I joined the Islandview Retriever Club and have served as the President since 2002. In addition I am also a member of the Manitowoc County Kennel Club.



I participated in my first Master National with Max in 2000 which was held in Indiana. Max received his first plate that year. I have had the opportunity to run Max in three of his five Master Nationals, all of which I have thoroughly enjoyed. Max entered the Master National Hall of Fame in 2003. While Max was professionally trained, I trained my black lab female Kate to Master Hunter by myself along with help from many friends in several training groups. Unfortunately I had to put Max down this year but have replaced him with my next project, Chief, another yellow lab male.

I have been married for the last 30 years to my wonderful wife

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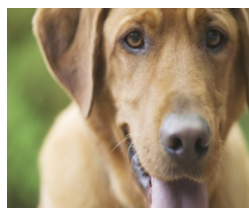
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Meet the Judges (Continued from Page 2)

Luann who has been very understanding and supportive throughout all of those years. I have two great children Kevin (27) and Torri (25) and three wonderful Grandchildren Meyah (2), Makaela (2) and Noelle (1). My family has been very helpful in assisting with training and spent many hours helping at the retriever club's functions.

I currently serve as a full-time Fire Chief for a combination fire department where I have been a member for the past 30 years. The job responsibilities have taken much time away from training opportunities but I thoroughly enjoy helping and working with people in their time of need and ensuring the safety of our citizens.

I started judging in 2003. I enjoy watching the retrievers and handlers work and think more people should take the opportunity to judge. I think you learn to be a better handler by judging because you get to closely watch the trials and tribulations of other handlers and dogs. I like to set up hunt tests that are challenging but not tricky. I like to set up tests that resemble hunting conditions I may see while I am hunting. There needs to be clear distinction between areas of the falls so you can see if the dog can mark. The dog should not be allowed to eventually stumble onto the bird. That whistle does you no good stuffed in your pocket. The dog should come to the line under control and be responsive to the handler on blind retrieves and handles. While I don't expect dogs to line the blinds, the handler needs to challenge the blinds with the whistles and casts necessary for a reasonable line to the blind. I encourage handlers to take their time coming to the line, take a deep breath, try to relax and have fun. Remember hunt tests are a team sport, the dogs and handlers need to work together to be successful.

Congratulations to those of you that have qualified and I would like to wish all contestants good luck!

Region 3—Bill Cummins/Texas

Hello to all Master National Enthusiasts,

I am Bill Cummins Jr. from Noble, Oklahoma. I am happy to be representing Region III in October.

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Coming Soon to A Pedigree Near You

The Master National Retriever Club (MNRC) Board of Directors has approved a proposal from the AKC for a new title for our retrievers. The AKC Board of Directors is expected to approve it by the first of the year. The title consists of awarding a Master National Hunter— “MNH” suffix to dogs passing three or more Master National Events (the current MNRC Hall of Fame requirements). The title is retroactive so it will be awarded to all dogs currently meeting the criteria. MNRC President, Janet Peters commented that “This is a meaningful piece of the history in the retriever hunting test program and a wonderful benefit to the retriever sport! It also shows the commitment and partnership between the MNRC and the AKC”. MNRC Vision/Strategic Planning Committee Chair, Bill Teague, commented “we are deeply grateful to the AKC leadership, especially Doug Ljungren and Jerry Mann, for their support and guidance.”

This development is the culmination of the work and passion of numerous people at both the MNRC and AKC over many many years but here is the recent history and further details on the title. At the MNRC’s winter Board meeting in 2009, the Board approved renewed efforts to work more closely with AKC and the first meeting of representatives from both organizations was held in St. Louis, MO May 19, 2009. Representing MNRC were Dave Kress (Chairman, Vision/



Strategic Planning Committee), Janet Peters (incoming MNRC President) and Bill Teague (current President). The idea was to have the top two MNRC officers and the Chairman of the Vision/Strategic Planning Committee represent MNRC each year to provide continuity and institutional memory. They would work with the AKC on issues facing both organizations. Representing the AKC were Doug Ljungren (Assistant Vice President, Performance Events) & Jerry Mann (Field Director, Sporting Breeds). Multiple topics were discussed, including AKC operations (with emphasis on the retriever-hunting test and field trial programs), adding

Many Thanks to Our Corporate Sponsors



MNH Title (continued from previous page)



flights to the MNRHT, possible new titles, quality of testing the dogs, consistency of judge's scoring of dogs' performance, etc. The importance of having a "Master National based" title to represent and reward the achievements of these fine dogs and their handlers was noted in this meeting as one of the top desires of the hunt test community. Both organizations were pleased with the results and committed to continuing discussions. Since the May 2009 meeting, the dialogue has continued and one of the most encouraging results being the work on and subsequent approval of the new MNH title.

The new title administration will be simple and effective. Each year, the MNRC will advise the AKC of dogs completing the requirements (passes three MNRHT's) and pay a \$20 fee. AKC will add the MNH suffix to the dog's name and the title will be added to the dog's record. To recognize the dogs already meeting these criteria (i.e., the MNRC Hall of Fame dogs – see insert), the MNRC will provide the AKC information on all these dogs (about 135 as of the 2009 event) and pay the processing fee.

As a dog continues to pass multiple MNRHT's, a new title reflecting the dog's achievement will be awarded. For example, a dog that passes four MNRHT's will earn "MNH4", which supersedes the MNH. A dog that passes a fifth event will be earn MNH5, and so on.



If the owner wishes to have a certificate reflecting the new title on the dog, they will simply complete a form provided by the AKC, and submit the completed form with a payment of \$30. The dog's record and pedigree will contain the title whether or not the owner requests a certificate. The current "club title" (MNH) given to a dog passing 2 MNHRTs is currently under review by the Board and you'll be advised of their decision in future publications.

MNH

Meet the Judges (Continued from Page 3)

Some of you may remember that I judged the Master National in Seattle in 1998 and my philosophy hasn't changed. I believe "marking" is the primary importance. I think and hope that over time I am able to put on a solid test that is not tricky but fair to all.

After joining the Sooner Retriever club in 1981, I started to train my dogs and started running Hunt Test and eventually started Topshot Labradors in 1984. I became a Charter member of the Master National and have judged Hunt Tests and Field Trials. One of my hobbies is hunting waterfowl, upland and dove. At this time we have 2 female black labs and 1 male.

I have been married to my wife, Joyce for 20 years. We have 2 young adult children and 3 grandkids. I am fortunate enough to have them hunting with "Papa".

Our middle grandson, Taylor, 12 yrs. just put a JH title on our young female and our 7 yr old granddaughter; Alex got her first JH pass with our 16-month-old male. I believe this is a family sport with the future of it continuing is in our younger generation.

May we all have an enjoyable time and "Good Luck" to all handlers.

And last but certainly not least....

Myrna Zumwalt – Region 4/Nevada

It is such a privilege and honor to have been chosen from Region 4 to judge the 2010 Master National. Thank you to the clubs and delegates for giving me this opportunity.

I am retired from working in the medical profession as a bookkeeper, office manager and everything that goes on behind the scenes. I have lived in Nevada most of my life and have been in Carson City for 36 years with my husband, Tilton. He was the one who introduced me to shooting and hunting. We hunted birds for many years without a dog, but now I would never leave home without one. We acquired our first lab in 1987 when Tilton bid on a lab puppy at a fund raiser and was the high bidder. The plan was for him to take care of and train this lab. Well, we went snow skiing a few days before he was to start an obedience class. While we were skiing he fell and broke his shoulder, so I had to take the dog to the classes. Then we joined Sierra Nevada Retriever Club and I was the one who started learning what the training was all about. Soon we went Chukar hunting



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of the best in the country!***

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with the dog. I shot a chukar, but the dog did not see the fall. Since I had to retrieve my own bird I said "what good is this dog if I have to do the retrieving". So, that prompted me to learn about handling and we went on from there.

My first involvement with the Master National Retriever Club was when Sierra Nevada Retriever Club hosted the 1994 event. I did not have a qualified dog at that time, but I was involved in helping and working the event. Since then I have handled a dog at two events and volunteered in different positions through the years. Ever since I have always felt the Master National Event is the ultimate goal in the Hunt Test program.

I enjoy judging the teamwork of well trained dogs and handlers on challenging tests at the Master level. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication and everyone who has qualified for the Master National has a lot to be proud of. It will be a privilege to judge some of the best in the country. Congratulations to all of you!



--Coming Soon--
Grand Opening
Master National Event Store
Saturday, Oct. 9th, 2010 at 9am
Ramada Inn--Conference Room
(Hours: 9-12 & 4-6 Closed for MNRC Annual mtg)
~~Hours will be posted daily~~
Door Prizes on Saturday
New this year: Variety!
cigars, afghans, coffee cups, sunglasses, wine glasses, jewelry
large sized clothing and soooooo much more.
Special Orders

2010 Event—Progress in California

Well the local crew (Jay Phelps, JP, Janet Wood, and Kevin Bunnell) has this event pretty well cued up and ready to hand over to the 2010 Chief Marshall John Blackbird. We inspected the grounds last weekend and the new pond is in and holds water but has been drained to allow for planting and managing the cover. They will fill her up right after the judges arrive. The other ponds will start receiving water in about 2 weeks. Check out the MNRC Blog on the website for photos of the grounds from last week.

By the way, did you all realize that this is the **20th Running** of the MNRHT! Pretty exciting and certainly marks a milestone of this event. And we are about ready—committee assignments have been made, new equipment has been ordered and premiums are out and entries coming in daily! The schedule was included in the premium and is on the website. Training grounds assignments will be made in the Ramada Inn lobby. And remember—special rates for RV spots are only available by pre-paying and additional hotel space is available at the Holiday Inn Express in Corning, which is not charging an extra fee for dogs. The Host Club, Lassen Retriever Club, will have the majority of their clothing for sale **ONLY** via the internet—see www.101010masternational.com. They will have T-shirts and hats for sale at the event.

A few rules that we thought important to get to you soon and often: ■ Don't drive and use your cell phone in California! ■ Follow Fish & Game Rules for pre-event training and shooting. ■ If you are traveling with firearms and staying at the casino, DO NOT bring into the casino—use the hotel only entrances. Otherwise you will have a personal escort out of the building. ■ On the test grounds, follow posted traffic and speed signs. ■ Watch out for Evel Knievel speed bumps. ■ Park in designated areas only. ■ Air your dogs in designated areas only. ■ Do not drive your vehicle or ATV (if you are a worker) through or across any green planted strips of vegetation. ■ Learn about Fox Tails and know what to do if your dog snorts one. ■ NO SMOKING ON THE GROUNDS—smoking allowed only in vehicles and at the gravel Clubhouse parking lot. ■ Remember this is dry season in California and we are prone to wildfires—don't throw cigarettes out of your car—be careful with BBQs or any other fuels source—as Smokey says—"only you can prevent forest (or grass) fires. ■ Please do not have bitches in season on the test grounds. ■ Dispose of dead training birds in the marked trash cans only. Do not put them in the trash dumpster at either the casino or the test grounds. ■ Follow the rules. Remember, the continued use of grounds like Clear Creek Sports Club depends on you following the rules and treating the property and owner respectfully. The local clubs depend on these grounds to hold their weekend hunts test and are hopeful that you will treat them with the kindness and appreciation that they deserve.



CLEAR CREEK
SPORTS CLUB

And last but not least—Safety! This is the responsibility of each and everyone of you. If you see something dangerous, stop what is going on and help us make it safe. If you are volunteering, make sure you understand or are briefed by the committee chair on how to safely operate the equipment and wear appropriate safety gear (e.g., hearing and eye protection, gloves, sunscreen, etc). Know Safety No Accidents!

Congrats to you all, travel safe and see you soon!

A Glimpse of the Future - 2011

The 2011 MNRHT will be held on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, mainly on Anatidae farm in Vienna, and hosted by the Susquehanna Retriever Club (SRC). The event will begin with the opening ceremony on Friday September 30, 2011 and end with the closing ceremony currently scheduled for October 9, 2011. Maryland's eastern shore, surrounded by the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, is well known by hunters for it's abundance of ducks and geese and is in the migratory fly zone. It is referred to as the "goose capital of America". The SRC has already identified numerous properties for the Master National together with several fantastic training grounds. Additionally, the SRC, together with the Dorchester County Chamber of Commerce and the Cambridge Economic Development Board, are planning a fun-filled week with many local activities and events to

attend during down time. We know our 20th Anniversary event will be very exciting!

See ya there...



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.