

GVHRC BOARD MEMBERS

President

Dave Carey
nohere44@gmail.com
(541) 915-6596

Past President

Josh Jolicoeur
JolicoeurJ56@gmail.com

Vice President

Steve Ackers
Buffhead63@gmail.com

Treasurer

Randi Weaver
Randiminon@hotmail.com

Secretary

Crystal Laing
crystalccay@yahoo.com

Training Coordinators

Stan Zorn
Steve Arms
jarms007@aol.com

Puppy

Julie Mahoney
mahjul@aol.com

Retrievers

Dave Carey

News Editor

Betty Pellham
bjpellham@aol.com

Equip. Manger

Justin Weaver
weavjust@hotmail.com

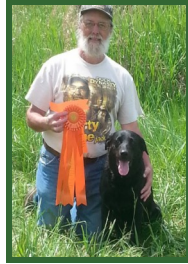
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Vickey Guess
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DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

President's Corner



I want to share a posting from Clark Kennington, owner of Kennington Retrievers in Texas. Clark nails what I have been talking about on setting your goals to achieve what you want to see with your dog, no matter what your breed of choice.

For those not familiar with SRS, Super Retriever Series. It is a competition encompassing all the retriever tests, each series is taken from a different running of testing. Field Trials, AKC Hunt Test, HRC Hunt Test and hybrid of each. They offer competition for both the Amateur and Professional, the lowest score wins. There are many competitions throughout the year leading up to the Crown Championship. Enjoy the read of a person who set a goal and through the years finally accomplished that goal. Thank you Clark for allowing me to reprint your words. Here is the link to SRS website. <https://superretrieverseries.com/> View the live stream of the 2018 Crown Championship. By Dave Carey

Clark Kennington

November 12 at 5:21 AM ·

As I finish packing to head home from this years crown championship I can't help but think about the journey that has taken place from the first SRS I ran until this point... 8 years ago I ran my very first SRS with 2 dogs, max and Trigger. Max destroyed the first series due to it being a test that was in our wheelhouse. But, we were quickly humbled by the second series that had a big retired bird in it. Trigger performed decently well but max bombed out. Neither made the top 12. I remember the ride home like it was yesterday... thinking to myself, how in the world do these people have dogs that good?... and how do they train to such high standards?... I was determined to reach the level of the pros I watched that weekend. So I went to work. Pushing the dogs sometimes to a point that was a little too far... we competed over and over again never making the top 12. Things were starting to get discouraging. But, you can't give up. So we pushed on, eventually making some top 12s. Never placing in an event until 6 years ago. So we went 2 whole years not placing in an event. Trigger was the dog that started the SRS success by qualifying us for our first

Membership
Renewal
Link



Click on Harley
for your link to
traveling on the
road long-term
with a bird dog.

crown. Again, we were humbled and shown we still had a lot of work to do to compete with the best of the best. We didn't make the top 12. Trigger and I qualified again for the next 3 years after finally making a top 12 the 3rd crown we ran but not making the top 4. We finally made that leap in 2016 finishing 4th! We had come so close and I was extremely proud of Trigger and how far him and I had come together. The following year 2017 trigger did not qualify due to an illness. However 2 new players on our team did, Stroker and Nab. A power house team of mother and son. They competed very well and I was extremely proud of them finishing 2nd and 5th. Stroker placed 2nd as a 4 year old! I was happy and satisfied with that result until I watched the footage realizing that I had cost Stroker a crown championship with a mental mistake as a handler. That was a hard pill to swallow. The dogs in this game are so talented that sometimes the difference between winning and losing is which handler makes the least mistakes. This is what makes Lyle so hard to beat. He makes very few mistakes. Realizing the mistake I had made and what the consequences were for that mistake I was determined to not allow that to happen again. I knew I had an extremely talented group of dogs for the 2018 season. So we went to work to qualify all of them for the crown. It was a struggle at times to make myself travel over and over again to these events after having a few qualified but I kept reminding myself that these dogs are good enough and deserve this. After the 2018 season was over we had 7 dogs qualified for this crown. The most by any kennel. It was an unreal feeling to finally see all the work paying off. But at the same time it was an added weight on my shoulders being the pro with the most dogs qualified. You expected to not only win but make a strong showing with the rest. With this added pressure I needed an extra motivator. So I reflected back on all those who always doubted me... the ones that said I'd never be competitive in the SRS game much less win a crown. So I posted on my closet door of the dog truck that I opened every day to get my training gear a little note to myself... it reads... "2018 crown champion.... they said you couldn't do it..... now go prove them wrong!!!" That was my motivation every day I got a dog out to train for this event and every time I got a dog out to run at the crown. Never let anyone tell you what you can and can't achieve.

Now that the crown is over, it still hasn't sank in that a dream has come true. I'm so proud of the dog's performances this past week! They deserve all the recognition and praise. They truly worked their tails off to prepare for this event and I feel blessed to have been the man standing beside them as they showed the world what they were capable of.

In closing... never give up on your dreams. Always strive to be the best at whatever you do every day. Be thankful for the blessings god bestows upon you and don't waste them. God, placed some amazing dogs in my path and without them none of this would even be possible. Be humble, don't allow success to change you and how you treat others. But above all make sure the direction your life is going is in a direction that has the important things in life first... god, and family... I'm a firm believer that the success from this last week is because of life changes for the better that occurred this year. God, has a plan for you. Let go, relax, and allow him to show you his plan and I promise you will be blessed beyond your wildest dreams!

Along with checks and cash,
The club is accepting credit card
payments at all events.



Please send your newsletter
thoughts, ideas, brags and
wags...whatevers to: Betty:
bjpellham@aol.com with
NEWSLETTER in the subject.
Deadline for newsletter is the
third week of the month.



2018 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET & AUCTION

Saturday, January 26, 2019
Doors/Bar Open 5 PM—Dinner 6 PM
EUGENE ELKS LODGE - 2470 W 11TH AVE



Back again this year-
"Dessert Dash" auction!
Please consider donating a
dessert. Items for our
silent and oral auctions are
also appreciated. If you
have an item to donate, let
Vickey know when you
RSVP.

Catering by BIG STUFF BBQ—
Pork ribs, beef brisket, potato
salad, BBQ beans, tossed
salad and rolls. Strawberry
lemonade and coffee included
with dinner.

\$21.00/person. Kids 12 and
under \$10. There will also be
a **no host bar!**



HUNTING & RETRIEVER
CLUB

RSVP by Jan. 12 to Vickey
Email:retrievers2go@yahoo.com
Call/text: 541.870.3838

GVHRC BOARD NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

GVHRC Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2018

Members in attendance: Dave Carey, Justin Weaver, Steve Arms, Betty Pellham, Linda & Richard Galletti, Mindy Shank, Vickey Guess.

Treasurer's Report - Justin provided details on the club's finances.

Old Business:

Swag – Mindy will check to see if our former silkscreen vendor is still in business and has the club logo on file. Justin has a source as well that he will contact. Dave will check with Josh to see if any progress has been made with Michelle's source. We would like to have new swag available for sale at the January banquet.

Banquet – Board members are continuing to work on donation solicitations but help is still needed.

NW Flat-coated Retriever Club request – Dave did some research and it was determined that we do not have some of the specialized equipment that they need nor the workers available to help out at their national event. The board decided it would not be a good fit for our club to participate.

New Business:

Dave announced that we are in need of a new trainer for puppies/started dogs for pointers and retrievers. Steve Arms and Dave are willing to assist the right person to be successful. Anyone who may be interested in the position should contact Dave Carey.

It was noted that there has been some confusion at events on how dogs should be classified during training and competition: open vs. amateur, started vs. intermediate vs. advanced, etc. Crystal Laing put together a chart explaining the different classes so Vickey will contact her to get an electronic copy that will be posted in an upcoming newsletter.

Several board positions will be available for 2019 including Secretary and five At-Large openings. Dave will continue as President for another year, Randi Weaver will serve her second year as Treasurer, and Justin Weaver will continue as Equipment Manager. Anyone interested in serving on any of the open positions should contact Dave.

Richard Galletti reported that he may know of some boys who are available to act as bird technicians at our May18-19 HRC event (mark your calendars!). He will report back once that is confirmed.

Next board meeting December 11th Countryside Pizza at 6 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Members Afield

Mindy Shank with one of her many German Shorthairs, Harper, attending the annual Girls Day weekend in November at the White River Hunt Club in Tygh Valley.



Dan Hagen and Kooper, his small Munsterlander, celebrating the harvest with their first wild chukar taken in Eastern Oregon. Congratulations Team Hagen!

Members Afield



Richard and Linda Galletti's young Labrador Adam really shined when Richard harvested these geese, a double in the Yoncolla area. Richard says watching Adam work the double is something he is very proud of. All Adam's training is starting to pay off.



Our past President Josh Jolicoeur's three French Brittany's. Pictured on the left is Oakley, then Spencer, and finally Pica on the right. Is it treat time yet or are we training?



On the left is Kim Beat and Addie with a nice rooster pheasant taken at Fern Ridge. This team focuses on training and Addie sure has been learning a thing or two and applying it in the field.

New Members In the Spotlight

Meet Gary Laprocino and Roxy. Gary heard about the club by attending a local Sportsman Show and received some information regarding GVHRC. He made contact with our club President, Dave Carey, and attended the February event held in Creswell and then joined the club.

Gary's Irish Setter Roxy came from Muffett Farms in Reedsport, Oregon. Gary has owned two other dogs, a Weimaraner (Baron) whose parents were both double champions and a chocolate Labrador (Coco). They were both raised as family dogs and companions for his sons while Gary traveled a lot for the military contractors and shipyards and really never had the time to train and hunt them.

Gary did some looking around at the common breeds in our club but settled on the Irish Setter partly because of the timing of the litter. He likes the elegance of the breed and, just maybe, because Gary dated so many redheads...ha, ha. Roxy had the nicest of the temperament of the litter. Gary chose Roxy very wisely.

Roxy has adjusted well to apartment living and Gary's regimens after surgeries for old wounds. She's a great companion, has an amazing nose for scent, is friendly, not aggressive, and runs like the wind. Her first experiences in hunting exposed some disciplines she needs to work on such as organizing a search, adjusting to gun noise, returning birds, and being overly friendly with other hunting dogs. Gary's favorite game bird to hunt is pheasants. He grew up hunting them in the cornfields of Ohio.

Team Laprocino is looking to learn from the club the correct way to develop Roxy as a hunting companion. Gary learned a long time ago not to practice bad habits. Best to be properly informed on the correct way of how to train a dog by someone who knows. Gary feels Roxy really needs to learn to swim starting this spring when the water warms up a bit. And he would like to learn more about how the events run and some of the rules of the game.

Gary has found that some of the basic training has gotten his initial interest. He finds us to be an informative, friendly group, and the areas where we hold our events are to his liking. Gary would like to start to get more active in the club by helping with club setups and learning more about how to run the events. He also would like to develop friendships with other hunters willing to invite and show him Oregon's hunting potential for all upland species. Being older now, lone hunts will be a rarity.

Welcome to the GVHRC family Team Laprocino!



You are invited to our



3rd Annual Christmas

Open House

11/30 (9am-8pm) 12/1 (9am- 6pm)

12/2 (10am-4pm)

**McKENZIE
FEED &
PET SUPPLIES**

Sales, Giveaways & Prizes

*Vendors will have demos and samples
of our many fine Pet Foods.*

Special deals through the store.

*Enter to win *6 free bags of
NutriSource Dog or Cat food
Or one of our many other prizes*

Name _____

Cell # _____

4441 Main St Springfield, OR

*Open
House*