



# Sporting Tails

Mount Rainier Sporting Spaniel Association

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March 2006

## Officers:

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## Next meeting:

Saturday, March 11, 2006

**Meet Noonish at the Western  
Washington Hunt test**

**Scatter Creek - Area 2**

<directions on back>

## Mission Statement

*Promoting the betterment of  
Sporting Spaniels by  
encouraging development of  
each dog to its fullest potential.*

Help keep us current, send  
in dues and roster changes



**MRSSA on the Web:**  
[www.sportingspaniels.org](http://www.sportingspaniels.org)

## MRSSA Outings

Mar 11 - meet with WW HT

Apr 8 - Meet with Field Day

May 6/7 - meet at our HT

June 4 - meet at Field Day  
Fun Hunt

July 22 - Meet at Field Day

Aug 13 - Meet at Field Day

Sept 2 - Hunt test cluster



## Performance (other) group

The Eastside Obedience/Rally group is meeting on Thursday evenings. If you would like to join in or get information on starting a group in your area, contact Lisa Peters and i'll put you on the list.



## Upcoming Hunting Activities

### Combined Field Training Days:

April 8 Field Practice Day - North Unit

May 6 & 7 AKC Hunt Test - North Unit

June 4 Field Practice Day - North Unit  
Fun Hunt

July 22 Field Practice Day - North Unit

August 13 Field Practice Day - North Unit

September - Labour Day hunt test cluster.



## Fun Hunt Meet....

### FUN HUNT MEET

1. Object: Handler and dog find, shoot, and retrieve two birds in a mapped out area the fastest and with the least shots.
2. Who: One handler, one dog, (any sporting spaniel breed) and one judge with stop watch. ( handlers who cannot shoot may have one gunner)
3. Where: The area to be set up by club. The area should be three times larger than the normal hunt test width and as long as would normally be for two dogs in a hunt test. There shall be a start flag at the beginning of the field.
4. Birds: Three birds will be planted anywhere within this large area. any type of bird may be used as determined by club. This could require three bird planters.
5. Time: Time starts on the go signal from the judge and stops when the second bird is in the handlers hand. Maximum allotted time is 15 minutes.
6. Shells: The handler is provided with 6 shells. Each shell unused will be given a 30 second refund from total time.
7. Gallery: Gallery may follow quietly as in a hunt test.
8. Winner and placements: The winner is the handle who has the fastest adjusted time. Other placements are the next fastest adjusted times. In the event there is no one who bags two birds in the 15 minutes time frame, the winner will be awarded by how fast the first bird was bagged as scored by the judge.
9. Prizes: Prizes will be picked by the club

# Braggs and Boo Boos...



**From Linda Fraser - lots of clumber braggs!**

Eukanuba Invitational - Tampa Florida January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006

CH Creswick's Simply Red JH SH was the Best in Breed By Exhibitor!

This is what we sent to the Clumber newsletters:

"Big Congratulations to the Clussexx, Creswick, Breakaway and Cannonbrook Kennels on the wins yesterday in Tampa! You will forgive us if we are especially pleased for CH Creswick's Simply Red SH, a dog who excels both in the ring and in the field, He shows superbly for Julie Wickwire and is a total gentleman in show whereas he can give Bob Wickwire a run for his money in the field whether it's in Master Hunter competition where he has several legs toward his title, or, he is digging a pheasant out of cover in a Montana ditch!

**For The Connells and the Wickwires** - *"We are proud to announce that Creswick Cameo Red Velvet CW ("Velvet") finished her championship in last Thursday at the Manatee KC show in Sarasota, Florida!*

*Velvet was WB, BOW and BOS over a special for a 5 point major! She finished with 4 majors and was owner/handled by our daughter Lauren to all of her points. Velvet is co-owned by Lauren and Leslie Connell.*

*Velvet's half-brother, Red, had a great weekend too. He was Best Bred-by Exhibitor Clumber at the AKC Eukanuba show in Tampa this past weekend. It was our first time to attend the show, and it was quite a thrill. There were many lovely dogs in competition, so we'd also like to congratulate all the winners from the show. If you've never been before, I'd highly recommend Long Beach next year!"*

**More From Linda Fraser** - The Fraser and Wickwire families had a large celebratory drink last night as: Flyaway Creswick's Belleau Wood, better known as **Bella**, went Best in Sweeps from the 6-9 puppy bitch class at the American Spaniel Club Show under Jan Sutherland! Bella is out of Ch. Clussexx Billy Goat's Gruff and A/C Ch. Creswick's Uptown Girl JH (Torey). She was co-bred by Patrick and Linda Fraser, and Bob and Julie Wickwire and is owned by Karen Martin and Bob and Julie Wickwire. Bella was expertly handled by Rachel Sangar. We are so happy for Karen Martin who is giving our little girl the best of opportunities to put her best paw forward!

This weekend, aged nine months and four days, Flyaway Creswick's Ticonderoga entered his very first two conformation shows at Cloverdale, (just outside Vancouver) at the Ladies Kennel Club of British Columbia shows. Ty was bred by Robert and Julie Wickwire and Patrick and Linda Fraser, sire CH Clussexx Billy Goat's Gruff by Am/Cdn CH Creswick's Uptown Girl JH. He had virtually no ring training and had not been exposed to many other dogs other than neighbourhood walks. We are very very proud of this puppy who was breeder/owner/handled by Pat Fraser.

The results were as follows:

First show ever - Jan 28<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Judge Maurice Tougas, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, awarded him the breed and best puppy in group.

There were fifteen breeds present in Puppy including the ever popular Golden Retrievers, Labradors, Pointers, Vizslas and Weimaraners as well as English Cocker Spaniels, Springers, GSHP, Pointers, Flat Coats, Nova Scotia Duck Tollers and Irish Setters plus Irish Water Spaniels; it was a hellacious competitive gathering!

Second time out - Jan 29<sup>th</sup> - Sunday - Judge Dr. Everett Mincey of Fraser Valley awarded Ty the breed. This was followed by Group Judge Marit Sunde of Sweden

giving Ty a Group 4 and his back to back win of Best Puppy in Group!

While we didn't win the Best in Show Puppy it was a heady experience to have your boy there for the final run for the roses at Puppy Best in Show two days running and he conducted himself well from 9:00 a.m. till the finish at 5:30. The rosettes are hanging high on the mantel next to the very nice crystal that went the

two Best Puppy wins. Today he is playing in the front yard with the rest of the clumber crowd and life is back to normal!



**Wow! Congratulations to all of you!**

The committees are what makes a club successful. People concentrating on events they are interested in to make them the best they can be for all who participate.

We've all been to events which were poorly run - often it is because new folks are thrust into roles they are uncomfortable with. Well, if you've been thinking about helping at an event or on a committee but feel you aren't qualified - here's the way to work through that. Join any of our committees.

Hunt test folks always need help, it takes a lot of manpower to put on a hunt test and they would love to have people who want to help share the load.

Fund-raising is always looking for new ideas and people to carry them out. Without funds the costs of our events fall on the shoulders of our members. Raffles, Show and Goes, CGC and Spaniel Olympics are all looking for members to organize and help run.

Many hands make less work for everyone, join us in making our events special and a credit to all involved. The newsletter has a list of committees published, if you want to help out contact someone already on the list or Pete Evele.

**From the Treasurer....**

**Dues are due....**

### Time for Dues:

Please clip and mail your dues to Karyn Eby.

Please fill out the form - it will be used to make this year's roster as accurate as possible.

If you've paid after September - you're good for this year.

Member ship type:

<input type="checkbox"/> Family	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Family	20.00

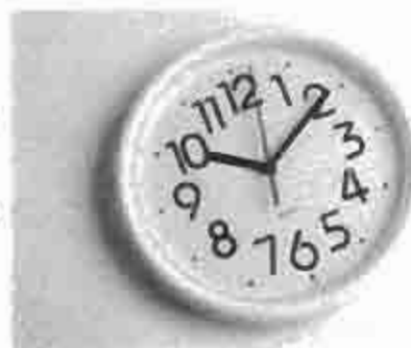
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

subscribe to MRSSA egroup list?  yes  no which kind of spaniel? \_\_\_\_\_



**Treasurer:**

Karyn Eby  
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## Committees....

**Hunt Test** - Karen Lee, Danae Steele  
Secretary - Ruth Tabaka  
Birds - Dan, Karyn, Danae  
Judges - Dan  
Grounds - Eby's  
Hospitality - Lisa  
Potluck - Lisa

**Awards** - Ruth Tabaka

**Booth and Dog Shows** - Kerri Kuykendall

**CGC** - ? Volunteer needed

**Spaniel Olympics** - Ken Clausen, Dan  
Connell

**WD test Secretary** - Ruth Tabaka  
Judge - Julie Wickwire

**Fund Raising** - Lynn Winchester, KIKI Unger

**Show and Go** - ? Volunteer needed

**Fun Hunt** - Dan, Karen Lee, Steve Eby



## Cheers and Applause... 2005 Award Winner!!!!

### *The 'Trucker' Challenge Trophy*

The Trucker Challenge Trophy was won by Joy Evele and her Dog Mister.



I think we've all watched Joy and Mister become the fine team they are today. Lots of good, hard, enjoyable work went into this endeavor.

*Congratulations to both of you.*

*This trophy is based upon legs earned at hunt tests, it is sponsored by Steve and Karyn Eby in memory of Ruth Tabaka's dog 'Trucker', who was a very versatile dog.*



Old Farts and Feather Fetchers  
Annual Fall Hunt Seminar – October 2005 – Choteau Montana  
otherwise known as "Sara and Ty's Marvelous Adventure"

*As has been the custom in the Northwest, Clumber fanciers who hunt and/or hunters who favour clumbers gather together for an annual seminar in an area which will hopefully produce upland game birds. As puppies born in April it was the first opportunity for these young feather fetchers, (Sara and Ty), to hit the road with the old farts and hopefully learn something from the more experienced feather fetchers!*

*In attendance were feather fetchers "Red and Maddie" accompanied by Bob Wickwire, "Amity" escorted by Jack Rutherford, "Razzle" cared for by Bob and Debbie Chance, "Brutus and Lollypop" attended by Darrell Reeves, and "Herschel and Torey" occasionally under the guidance of Pat Fraser. On this first adventure "Sara and Ty" were catered to by Linda Fraser. Bob and Debbie also brought their American Cocker who gave some supervision but is mostly retired from the field, and Waverley Reeves provided the token black dog, "Kate" a young Labrador. Non clumber owning guests were Sam Catalano of Florida and Lane Wickwire of Oregon, along with Old Fart-in-training, Patrick Fraser of Prince George, B.C.*

*We drove from our various homes in Montana, Oregon, and British Columbia; this was about a two day drive for most of us with lots of dog watering along the way. The Chances who live in Montana had done the research and directed us to circle the wagons at the Choteau KOA, about fifty miles north of the Missouri and Great Falls. We camped below the Choteau Golf Course and a large family of Huns walked the ridge line between the campground and the course, nodding down at the puppies, enticing them up the hill.*

*Choteau is located on U.S. Highway 89 about 20 miles east of the Rocky Mountains in a region called the Rocky Mountain Front. The Front forms the seam between the wild lands and wilderness of the Lewis and Clark National Forest and the foothills and plains domesticated by area ranchers and farmers. The Front is a slice out of America's heartland and, in some ways, is a slice out of this country's past. As we arrived we could not help but think about what Meriwether Lewis and William Clark must have thought as they first viewed this beyond belief area for the first time.*

*Once in Choteau we looked out on the marvelous flat land that makes Montana "Big Sky Country" and realized this was not hunting as usual! We had lots of local maps and information but had to scout the various farms and seek permissions to hunt the fields, and we had to locate the various Block Management Area boundaries and sign in boxes. Pheasants were plentiful as they frolicked along the roadsides, (read non shooting areas), and peeked out from behind "posted signs"; they were very survival savvy as it was the third week of bird season and these were the most streetwise. Also, once in the fields with the clumbers enjoying these seemingly endless landscapes it was soon obvious that range determination was somewhat a problem, hot on the chase, the clumbers could out run the kill zone easily and pheasants who had feathers blow away landed briefly, shook themselves off, and thumbed their noses in flight as the dog came in for the retrieval! The pheasant community was adept at flying low, parallel to the horizon and below it, and it appeared that "blocking" was something to consider. Both gunners and feather fetchers lost their cool on occasion. The local residents, which included two Hutterite colonies, were very helpful giving location suggestions and advising us on the proper load for the shot gun shells; this is not an area for light loads! The Hutterites also delivered fresh farm eggs, veggies and baked goods right to the camp at prices we city folk could hardly believe!*

*Aside from pursuing birds we learned about the unique local beverage, a pale ale, known as "Moose Drool", and that it mandatory to throw peanut shells on the floor of J.D.'s bar in Bynum, also that the Choteau Outpost has the best cinnamon buns ever! Alternating chuck wagon duties Pat Fraser barbecued moose steaks on his knees in the parking lot, (the wind kept blowing the barbie out), Debbie Chance made a grand chicken buffet, and Linda Fraser came up with the deviled eggs.*

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In the field our hero, Herschel, had a notable retrieve, running madly past a decoy flush, hot on the chase of a cripple; a debate ensued and then he brought back the live wild pheasant, its butt firmly held in his mouth. Best gun had to go to Darrell Reeves with a double, two barrels, two birds! Most consistent hunters were Bob Chance and Jack Rutherford who enjoyed success on all their trips out.

Bob Wickwire shot the most unusual "different species". While Sara and Ty mostly watched the field work on the end of long leads Ty, on the event of his six month birthday, flushed a sharp-tail out of a ditch, unfortunately he had no gunner attending.

The CSCA Hunt Chair Bob Wickwire cooked his traditional pheasant dinner, (recipe to follow in the next edition of the Bulletin), which was followed by the only formal seminar session. The session focused on the development of a regional hunt committee to assist the chair in the promotion and education of the hunting aspect of the clumber fancy. On a practical note a working question was presented, how to hunt a crosswind to advantage with a clumber, which brought forth many good suggestions for a successful hunt.

Like a good floating crap game hunters arrived and departed at various times, for Lane Wickwire, Jack Rutherford, and Patrick Fraser, the scheduled flight out of Great Falls for some reason leaves before sunup, and Sam Catalano had to head south for the winter. The rest of us departed while hunting, the Frasers hunting sharptail enroute to Grand Coulee, Bob Wickwire directly back to Corvallis as Regd had upcoming shows, (and got a group four at them), and the Reeves brothers along with the Chances headed off to Augusta for one last day pursuing pheasants. A good and challenging hunt was over, but next year will be another story.....Sara and Ty will be there, and they know where the birds are!

As dictated by

Flyaway Creswick's Saratoga and Flyaway Creswick's Ticonderoga  
(and transcribed by Linda Fraser)



Old Farts - left to right Pat Fraser, Bob Wickwire, Bob Chance and Jack Rutherford New Feather Fetchers - left to right Ticonderoga and Saratoga - aka Ty and Sara



Dirty Herschel

<editor's note - sending a picture called "dirty herschel" via email causes the spam blocker to do headstands :->

## Directions to Scatter Creek....

To Scatter Creek Area 2

From I-5

take Exit No. 95 toward Littlerock.

Turn LEFT on Case Rd.

continue south for several miles.

Area 2 is on the right side of Case Rd.,

look for the large gravel parking area  
with an outhouse.



MRSSA Newsletter  
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