



# Sporting Tails

July 2006

## Meeting Dates

- July 22
- Aug 13
- Sept 2
- Oct-Nov TBD
- Dec—North

## Fun Hunt

The First Annual fun hunt got off to a rousing start with participants who reported a good time was had by all.

The winners were announced with a timing numbers listed in the negative—a good thing!

Winners were:

- First—Joy and Mister
- Second—Pete and Flint
- Third—Rob and Pepper

Because this was deemed such a success, we are planning to hold another fun hunt next year. Any suggestions or comments should be directed to Dan Connell.

Thanks to Dan and the club members who helped this run smoothly, we can all look forward to another fun hunt test next year.



## Working Dog Test

MRSSA will hold its annual Working Dog Test on Friday evening, Sept 1. This will allow for a less hectic Saturday than we've had in the past <hopefully :->.

Watch for news about an Aug 13 working dog test. This is something we are currently discussing and will have more information next month.

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## Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled with the combined field day on Saturday, July 22nd.

Meeting will be around noon.

Directions to Scatter Creek on the back.

## Mission Statement

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

## Braggs



### From Linda and Pat Fraser—

Fly~A~Way Corey Kennels is pleased and proud to announce that on Sunday, May 28th, at Three Forks, Montana AmCdn CH Creswick's Uptown Girl JH WDX, known to her friends as Torey, attained her fourth senior leg and title. Torey is chasing her brother, CH Creswick's Simply Red who earned his Master Hunter title earlier this month as part of the Creswick dynasty ruled over by mother CH Cameo Comedy The Divine Ms. M. JH SH MH - we thank judges Ron Klimes and Owen Metcalf, and also, the Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club who put on excellent tests despite the very, very, very wet weather!!!

### From Traci and Jeni Saulino—

The Tacoma Rainiers are the Class AAA farm team for the Seattle Mariners, and once a year they have a game where you get to bring your dogs to the ballpark. They have special events, free nail trims, games, door prizes, and a special section for the dogs and their owners to sit.

This year we took Briggs and Stella to the game.

Showing off that he is a Baseball Stadium dog, Briggs was one of only 4 dogs to win the contest, and he and I got to go out on the field after the 3rd inning and be introduced to the crowd by name, and he won a 20 pound box of dog cookies, a nice ceramic cookie canister,

and of course the undying admiration of thousands of ballpark fans! What contest did he win? Well, I hope he doesn't get too embarrassed by this... but he won the "dog look alike with the owners" contest. Personally, I take this as a huge compliment, as Briggs is a handsome guy to die for. For the official photos, I naturally lolled my tongue out and tried to look as friendly as he does. To humor me, he wore a Tacoma Rainiers hat for the photo.

(The other 3 dogs had won best trick (a Pug who did a sort of "sit-down-roll-over-catch a treat" ensemble; a GSD who had the loudest bark; and two little chi-cross type dogs who won best-dressed - they were being forced to wear Daisy flower bonnets - poor dears)

Of course Briggs knew that everyone in the stadium came solely to see him, all the applause was for him, and he was only slightly bummed that he didn't catch the foul ball that flew into our section.

We love these guys ...

### From Lisa Peters —

Sterling picked up the first leg of his CD at Mt. Baker and Morgan got a first in Utility B at Bell— Vernon to pick up a few more points toward her OTCh.

## An Obedience Lesson—Lining Up

**"The line up between the stand for exam and the heel free is one of the most critical in the novice routine."**

Line ups. Every exercise in obedience begins with a line up of some type. Sometimes you may not be in quite the right position and the judge will ask you to move forward or backward a couple of steps. Keeping the dog's attention during the line up can help your performance immensely. During a line up you may interact with your dog—talk to the dog, tell him he's great and what you are going to be doing next.

I like to begin my heeling routines and drills with some line ups. I will walk about 8-10 feet, execute a left loop (it looks like a J) and come to a sit. That maneuver for us will be

complete with a "get your bum in" and a "come up and sit." You can practice straight ones, right turn loops etc to mimic the starting points of each exercise. Mix it up, different distances and directions.

In Novice the lineup between the stand for exam and the heel free is the most critical—you need a way to keep attention and if you've practiced a line up, the dog will go with you confidently. I like to treat the stand for exam when we've lined up for the heel free. I feel this gives good continuity to the exercise.

Line ups—unscored, but so important.

## Performance (Other) Group

There is a group who meet on the Eastside on Thursday evenings. We practice Obedience and Rally regularly but will accommodate pretty much anything you want to work on. For information on this group or how to start your own, contact Lisa Peters ll\_peters@verizon.net.

**Sammamish Fun Match**  
**Marymoor Park, August 26**  
**Conformation and Obedience**  
 Email ll\_peters@verizon.net for a flyer

## Hunt Test Advisory Committee

Nine proposed revisions as adopted by the "2006 Spaniel Hunt Test Advisory Parent Club Sub-Committee Representatives are in the attached file. These proposed revisions were passed upon input from clubs directed through sub-committee members. Some 160 plus comments were received, combined into 60 plus proposals from which "Nine" revisions were selected by the Sub-committee to be forwarded to the AKC. The Sub-committee is currently working on the final proposal, which was mandated by the AKC to deal with "Judges Qualifications."...

...Therefore they do NOT represent any adopted changes, rather they are proposed changes, that have been recommended by the Sub-committee, for consideration at our Aug meeting, which if selected for further consideration will be passed on to the AKC Board of Directors for final action and if accepted, then incorporated in to the current regulations and guidelines.

Nine Points—< editor's note—these are paraphrased for space, for full text see the MRSSA egroup or contact Dan Connell >

1. Hunting Style—each parent club will provide a description of their breed's overall style to serve as a guideline to judges.
2. Flushing Style—as to how the flush pertains to overall hunting style.
3. Minimum and Maximum water retrieve distances (yards) JH-15-25, SH-25-35, MH-35-45
4. Blind Water Retrieve test definition
5. Recast for marked water retrieve or blind water retrieve not allowed at master level.
6. Gun handling by Exhibitor at the Master level.
7. Minimum and Maximum land hunt dead requirements (yards) SH-20-40, MH-40-60. Recasts not allowed.
8. Gunner requirements.
9. Clarification of 11 different existing regulations

Any comments by club members should be directed to Dan Connell, 12710 Reservoir Rd E. Puyallup, WA 98374 phone 253.841.5883 email cameodan@comcast.net

## Book Review

Animals in Translation by Temple Grandin and Catherine Johnson.

Temple Grandin is a PhD in Animal Science and also autistic. She primarily designs slaughterhouses and facilities for holding animals to comply with humane slaughter practices. She feels her autism allows her a special view into the world of animals and has written a book which is quite fascinating. Her information is properly researched and the collected work helps to understand all aspects of animal be-

havior and how humans affect it. From selection for single traits to how fears are generalized, the book is informative and uses different species as examples. She causes one to rethink the animals in our lives and our interactions with them. As Nature magazine commented—"At times, it is difficult to work out whether this is a book about animal behavior with insight from autism, or a book about autism that uses animal behavior to explain what it is like to be autistic."

**Animals in Translation**  
by  
**Temple Grandin and**  
**Catherine Johnson**

## Treasurer's Report

Our treasurer is currently experiencing computer problems of epic, biblical proportions; she sends her apologies and begs for mercy :-)

Hope you get that straightened out soon, Karyn.

***"We expect our dogs to listen to us when we speak to them and our dogs, no less than we, do expect us to listen to them."***

**Roger Caras**

MRSSA MEETING, SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2006

## MEETING MINUTES

### Members present:

Erich Bretschneider  
Dan Connell  
Lyn Winchester  
Bob and Keitha Unger  
Lisa Peters  
Karen Lee  
Tammy Hall  
David Sald  
Gregg Stock  
Danae Steele  
Guests:  
Rob Morrison  
Gene Remis

### Discussion:

Minutes for the last meeting were posted earlier in the week on the website. Minutes posted were approved.

### Reports:

No reports from president, secretary, or treasurer.

### Committee Reports:

#### 1. Hunt Test Committee:

- We know all but judge for the Hunt Test.
- We are still waiting for bird information from PSESSA so that MRSSA can reserve the birds.
- MRSSA also needs a count of birds that will be needed for the working test. It was discussed that we should probably estimate that 20 dogs would likely be entered. Based on the working test requirements for each individual breed, it may mean an additional 40 birds would be needed (2 birds per dog entered).

Discussion: Karen Lee will check to see if anyone is interested in a working test for the August 13 training session to reduce the number of dogs that will be entered in the working test over Labor Day and will report at the July meeting. It could be conducted like any other Working Test but judges would be able to give feedback to the handlers on how to improve performance. It was also discussed that since the Saturday evening of the Hunt Test was so busy, that the Working Test be moved to Friday night instead.

Decision: It was moved and seconded that the Working Test be moved to the evening of Friday, September 1. This will be instead of holding the Working Test on Saturday evening.



## Mount Rainier Sporting Spaniel Association

**Sporting Tails Editor**  
Lisa Peters  
15911 181st Pl. NE  
Woodinville, WA 98072

Phone: 425.788.5370  
Email: [sportingtails@verizon.net](mailto:sportingtails@verizon.net)

### Directors:

Tracy Saullno  
Debbie Mendenhall  
Lynn Winchester



## Directions to Scatter Creek

From I 5

Take exit #95 toward Littlerock

Turn LEFT on Case Road

Continue South for several miles.

There are 3 areas to meet.

1. Across from the moving highway sign.
2. Gravel parking lot w/ outhouse— On Right
3. Turn RIGHT on 180th St. continue to a T, turn RIGHT and jog Left into a parking lot

## Officers

### President:

Pete Evele  
8150 NE View Ridge Lane  
Poulsbo, WA 98370  
[kevele@oz.net](mailto:kevele@oz.net)

### Vice President:

Karen Lee  
10409 Canyon Rd E. #211  
Puyallup, WA 98374  
[Kleeess@aol.com](mailto:Kleeess@aol.com)

### Secretary:

Tammy Hall  
SE 211 Maplewood Lane  
Shelton, WA 98584  
[Jardawg@hctc.com](mailto:Jardawg@hctc.com)

### Treasurer:

Karyn Eby  
3207 Libby Rd. NE  
Olympia, WA 98506  
[PerdrixEC@comcast.net](mailto:PerdrixEC@comcast.net)

