



CMRC NEWS

December 2021

CENTRAL MINNESOTA RETRIEVER CLUB
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**THE NEXT CLUB MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY
JANUARY 8TH, 2022 AT 10:00 AM.**

CLUB MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY, MARCH AND APRIL WILL BE HELD ON THE SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10 AM FOLLOWED BY DOG TRAINING. EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE MEETING AND PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>January 2022</u>	<u>February 2022</u>	<u>March 2022</u>	<u>April 2022</u>
8 th – Club Meeting 16 th – Informal	12 th – Club Meeting 20 st – Informal	12 th – Club Meeting 20 st – Informal	9 th – Club Meeting 24 th – Informal

Election of 2022 Officers and Board Members

Our December Club meeting triggered the Election for leadership positions at CMRC. Here are the results.

President	Gordie Schlichting
Vice President	Dan Tongen
Secretary	Greg Murtha
Treasurer	Andy Hawkins
Board Members	Doug Braun, Kip Dixon, Tom Torvik, Mike Verdon, and Bob Zylla

We had an outstanding group of candidates. Ballots were sent out to all Life and Voting members with the option to telephone their votes in or drop them off at the Club house at a designated time. Thank you for all that voted.

Finally, a sincere thank you to Steve Goetze, Chad Sweep, Sharon Sweep, and Paul Hanson for their exceptional effort, experience, and leadership as part of our CMRC Board. It is noticed and much appreciated

Informal Events

The CMRC Informal's are scheduled and open! Stakes available to run your dog are Puppy, Derby, Jr. Hunters, Hunters, Qualifying and Open. At present, all entry fees to remain the same price as last year. Sign up dogs start at 8:00 am and the Stakes begin at 9:00 am. At this time, the Kitchen will be available for a "hot lunch" during the event. The club needs judges and bird throwers for all the upcoming Informal's. These positions are filled by you, our members. By volunteering we can put on quality Informal events. Please see me or any board member about volunteering for our Informal's.

New Voting Members

Congratulations to Andy Hawkinson, Judy Melham and Kip Dixon who were unanimously approved as voting members at CMRC. Please know all Associate members can make application for Voting membership. Please see any Board member or consult the CMRC Bylaws for the requirements to become a voting member.

2022 CMRC Membership Form

Membership participation is the key ingredient for the club to continue and prosper. The Board was faced with increasing membership fees this year. We all know the issues surrounding our economy...inflation, energy costs etc. which lead to increasing costs to keep up the grounds, building and maintenance. Attached to this newsletter is the 2022 Membership form. Please complete it and send it back even though your personal information may not have changed. We ask that you complete the areas you want to volunteer and check those that apply to you.

Professional Retriever Trainers Association (PRTA) Grant

The low water levels made it miserable at times for water training this year. Even though this 30-year low water may have been an anomaly we have a responsibility to always provide quality water for our events. Our members and pros that pay us deserve to swim their dogs and as a Board we are studying the opportunity to dig a well and provide infrastructure to keep water levels useable when dry conditions limit water work. Recently, we learned that the PRTA awarded CMRC a grant for \$3,000.00 towards the project for a well. Thank You PRTA.

Message from Gordie Schlichting, CMRC President

Happy Holidays to all my fellow club members! I hope all of you have enjoyed the fall season and are enjoying the beginning of the winter season. I am sure that many of you were able to enjoy some time in the field with your canine partners and I hope the hunts were successful and you can enjoy the fruits of your labors.

As some of you are aware, on December 8 we had our regular monthly club meeting and annual election of officers and board. I appreciate that many of our voting and life members took part in the election process. This year's ballot was quite large with several candidates willing to step up and serve the membership. It was the largest slate of candidates I can personally recall ever having on the ballot in my 20+ years as a member. Thank you to those who were willing to accept the nomination.

Sincere thanks on behalf of the club needs to be expressed to those board members and officers who are vacating the board this year. Steve Goetze served as president and vice president, Chad Sweep served as vice president and member at large, Sharon Sweep served as treasurer and Paul Hanson served as a member at large most recently. I thank these past board members for their years of service and leadership, while also encouraging them to not be strangers as we continue forward. We will continue to rely upon their counsel and enjoy their participation in club activities.

Join me in welcoming the new board members and officers for 2022! Alongside, Dan Tongen will serve as Vice President, Greg Murtha continues to serve as Secretary, and Andy Hawkinson will become our new treasurer. Doug Braun and Bob Zylla continue in their positions as Board Members at Large and will be joined by Kip Dixon, Mike Verdon, and Tom Torvik. This board represents the entire club well with both youth and experience, energy and wisdom, and participation in all facets of the retriever games from both the hunt test and field trial venues, avid hunters and sportsman, stewards of our grounds, judges and handlers, and past officers of the club returning to the board after a hiatus. I personally am enthused by the varied experiences of this board and look forward to the leadership this board will provide our club.

*As we near 2022, we approach this club's 75th year in existence. Although this club was officially incorporated with the State of Minnesota in 1948, club events and activities had begun already in 1947! So, I suggest we begin celebrating the "Platinum Jubilee" in 2022 and keep the party going through 2023. We have a lot to celebrate. I am most proud to be a member of CMRC. This is THE PREMIERE retriever club in Minnesota, if not the entire Midwest, even the nation. Consider our history, our longevity, the grounds, the membership and the continued support and vibrancy. It leads me to believe there is no reason this club will not still be here for another 75 years. You are a member of a club that holds 120 acres that is accessible by its members 365 days a year. That ground is maintained and manicured for the training, testing, and trialing of retriever breeds. The club has been the home club and training grounds of retrievers which won 8 National Championships, and amongst our membership are at least 5 Retriever Hall of Fame members! And it is all bought and paid for! Our club is financially solid and has no outstanding debt. If you want more about the club's history, there is a detailed document on our club website at ***cmrcmn.org***.*

I hope right about now each of you reading this message is sitting a little bit taller in your seat with pride in your club. This club was begun 75 years ago by a group of amateur retriever enthusiasts and a few St. Cloud area professional trainers. It was built upon the shoulders of these people through sweat equity and perseverance. We can never personally thank the men like Lorny Martens, Tony Berger, and countless amateurs like Artie Schaeffer who were there at the beginning. But I will challenge the 2022 board and the entire membership to do all we can to continue the work that has raised this club. It falls upon each of us to put in the time and effort to maintain our club and continue to build and improve for the future. I call upon every member to do what they can to contribute a little bit more than you have in the past. I tell my students this all the time, just give 5% more. Just a little bit more any time you can. Come to an extra event, volunteer for an extra day, spend an extra half hour after a training session to clean a bathroom, sweep the clubhouse, empty a garbage can, move a pile of brush, or weed whip a point on the pond or mound. We all know the adage "Many hands make light work." Over the past many years, we have enjoyed tremendous support from our membership for all our activities, I look forward to that continued support. We also perhaps have enjoyed the labors of a few that have made a home for each of us. I look forward to the contributions each of you bring to the club.

In parting, I wish you all a happy holiday season. Enjoy time well spent with family and friends. I also look forward to seeing many of you at our organized club events like the regular monthly club meetings coming up on the 2nd Saturday of the winter months, club training following these winter club meetings, the winter informal trials and other club activities as those plans are made.

Respectfully,

Gordie Schlichting

Greg Murtha, Editor