



CMRC NEWS

July 2022

CENTRAL MINNESOTA RETRIEVER CLUB
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THE NEXT CLUB MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY JULY 20TH AT 7:00 P.M.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2022

20th Club Meeting
29th Hunt Test -O/H Q

August 2022

4th Field Trial
10th Club Meeting

September 2022

14th Club Meeting

October 2022

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

CMRC UPCOMING AKC LICENSED EVENTS

THE JULY HUNT TEST WILL BE HELD FRIDAY JULY 29TH – SUNDAY JULY 31ST

WE WILL HOLD AN OWNER/HANDLER QUALIFYING ON FRIDAY WITH A MASTER AND DOUBLE SENIOR, DOUBLE JUNIOR STARTING ON SATURDAY.

THE SUMMER FIELD TRIAL WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 4TH – SUNDAY AUGUST 7TH

WE WILL HOLD AN OPEN ALL-AGE STAKE STARTING THURSDAY, A QUALIFYING STAKE STARTING FRIDAY AND AN AMATEUR ALL-AGE STAKE STARTING SATURDAY.

CMRC JULY NEWS

CLUB TRAINING NIGHTS ARE WEDNESDAYS STARTING AT 5:30

We've had good turnout for our club nights! It's an opportunity to meet fellow members and work in a group setting. Sometimes, test-like conditions are hard to replicate by yourself. These nights give your dogs the opportunity to work on sitting in holding blinds, being obedient around other people and dogs, as well as working on various concepts in field training.

This week is expected to be pretty warm late in the day. Check out the information below for keeping your dog cool and remember, the health and safety of your dog is of the utmost importance.

[Tips from the AKC for keeping your dog cool](#)

REMINDER: The Grounds will be in use the next three weekends for events. No training is allowed 24 hours prior to the beginning of the event.

NAHRA Four Points Retriever Club Hunt Test 7/21-23.

Message from Gordie Schlichting, CMRC President

It's July 15th and we are in the midst of the "Dog Days of Summer?" It's an often-used phrase, but what does it really mean and from where does it have its' origins? We usually associate this period of July and Early August with some of the warmest and most humid weather of the summer months. Some would say "weather not fit for a dog." Others suggest it's the time of year when the extreme heat drives dogs mad.

The "Dog Days" of summer are from July 3 to August 11 each year.

The phrase is a reference to Sirius, the **Dog Star**. During the "Dog Days" period, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, the brightest star visible from any part of Earth. Sirius is a part of the constellation *Canis Major, the Greater Dog*.

In the summer, Sirius rises and sets with the Sun. On July 23rd, specifically, it is in conjunction with the Sun, and because the star is so bright, the ancient Romans believed it actually gave off heat and added to the Sun's warmth, accounting for the long stretch of sultry weather. They referred to this time as *diēs caniculārēs*, or "dog days."

Thus, the term Dog Days of Summer came to mean the 20 days before and 20 days after this alignment of Sirius with the Sun—July 3 to August 11 each year.

Ok, enough of the astrology lesson. The "Dog Days of Summer" do have significant importance to us here at CMRC and it has nothing to do with the stars, the weather or our canine partners' general attitude. The "Dog Days" are the period when we get really busy at the club with licensed events. Over the course of three weekends, we will have our guests, the Four Points Retriever Club, host their summer NAHRA event on the CMRC Grounds, followed by our July AKC Licensed Hunt Test and then our August AKC Licensed Field Trial. Days of Dogs for certain...lots and lots of dogs.

Grounds update:

This period of usage also requires lots of upkeep of the grounds. If you have been on the grounds recently you will see our water is in tiptop condition. Thank you to our club members who spent a couple of evenings out treating the water for the weeds and algae growth. And of course, thank you Mother Nature for the rains this year...lots and lots of rain. You will also see the grass is getting a little long, but we hope to have that all knocked down shortly. The past couple of years we have had a good relationship with a neighboring farmer who has come in and hayed the property. I think it is a good thing for both the club and the farmer as he is getting some hay off the ground and we don't have to put the fuel and time into cutting everything ourselves. Of course, there are areas the heavy equipment can't get to and that leaves a number of our club members to hop on the club equipment to mow the low areas, the points, the narrow spots, the mounds, etc. And of course, there is the mowing the yard. We are fortunate to have a handful of members who spend quite a few hours at the club tending to those needs.

Some of you might be wondering where your annual dues go. Well, the gas to run that equipment and the herbicide to treat the ponds doesn't come cheap. A week ago, a member spent about \$250 to fill up 5 gas cans to run the rough-cut mower and 4-wheeler. Those cans are empty! We need more gas and I know you all are feeling the prices of inflation just like me. It takes nearly \$20,000 a year to keep our club doors open. That is the property taxes on our property, the gas for the furnace, the electricity, the gas for the mowers and 4-wheeler and weed whips, and all of the other general maintenance we put into the grounds and facilities.

Your member dues help in maintaining our grounds, but do not cover the entire costs to keep the doors open. And none of those folks who are tending to the tasks of maintaining the property are collecting so much as an ice-cold beverage at the end of the day much less any sort of remuneration for their time and efforts. So, if you are out on the grounds and see a fellow club member mowing mounds, weed whipping points, trimming the grass around the yard or doing some maintenance or repair on a piece of equipment, stop by and say THANK YOU, or offer them a cold drink or a helping hand. Or better yet, if you would like to offer to put some “sweat equity” into the deal, ask them for a lesson on how to operate the equipment and spend some time on the equipment.

Reminder about training birds:

If you use training birds out of the freezer, be sure they are put back dry and laid out individually. The club has frozen training birds available for our club members to use, but they need to be handled properly and not just thrown back in the freezer where they end up as a giant frozen blob. If the birds you’ve used are not worth saving, be sure to put them in a **black plastic garbage bag** in the freezer and we will dispose of when we have the dumpster dumped, **or throw the birds into the bird tube on your way out of the grounds.** DO NOT PUT SPENT BIRDS IN THE DUMPSTER! Likewise, please pick up any trash you might see and be certain that if you are the last to leave the grounds, regardless of the time of day, the gate is locked behind you.

I do sincerely hope you are having a great summer and successful training, trialing and testing season.

Gordie

WAGS AND BRAGS

Congrats to all our club members who have earned passes or titles in the past month!

Do you have a brag to share? Email Debbie Russell at debbierussell@hotmail.com