



CMRC NEWS

January 2024

CENTRAL MINNESOTA RETRIEVER CLUB
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THE NEXT CLUB MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH AT 10:00 A.M. FOLLOWED BY A POTLUCK CELEBRATION AND AWARDING OF THE 2023 HIGH POINT DOGS OF CMRC!

Club Meetings in the months of January through April will be held at 10 AM on Saturday Mornings. Training may follow the club meetings, depending on the weather. Saturday morning meetings in the winter are an excellent opportunity for club members to gather, enjoy each other's company, and for new club members to come and meet some of our more experienced members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>February 2024</u>	<u>March 2024</u>	<u>April 2024</u>	<u>May 2024</u>
10 th – Club Meeting	9 th – Club Meeting	9 th – Club Meeting	8 th – Club Meeting
10 th – Potluck!			8 th – Shot Clinic
18 th – Informal Trial	17 th – Informal Trial	17 th – Informal Trial	23 rd -26 th – Licensed Trial

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE!

A membership form is included at the end of this newsletter.

FEBRUARY POTLUCK AND 2023 AWARDS

For many years CMRC has held an annual banquet and awarded trophies to the High Point Dogs of the year. The high point dogs are determined through our winter informal trials. The high point dog trophies are only awarded to dogs owned by club members and points are awarded for each placement in our winter informals. Traditionally we awarded the trophies at our annual banquet, which for many years was held in February.

Unfortunately, the past two years there hasn't been anyone answer the call to spearhead the annual banquet. Without a person or two to take charge and arrange the reservation, select the menu, order the cake and perhaps organize a raffle or silent auction, none of it happens.

At our January Club Meeting someone had the great idea of having another potluck celebration in February. Gather the club members together, share some food, have some lively conversation, enjoy each other, and announce the High Point Dogs of 2023. It was a stroke of genius!

So, on Saturday, February 10, following our regular February Club Meeting, we will have a potluck lunch. Come to the meeting and stay for lunch, or just come for lunch. Bring a dish to share. After we have filled our bellies, we will celebrate the high point dogs and award some trophies.

AND there will be a small raffle with some fabulous prizes. Thanks to our special relationship with Dakota 283 Kennels, we have secured a fantastic kennel we will raffle off at the potluck luncheon.

Lunch will begin at 12:30 pm. You are welcome to bring the beverage of your choice and expected to bring some sort of food to share. We will hang out and talk smart, eat, drink and be merry!

LITTERING

We all enjoy our amazing grounds and facilities here at CMRC. Our property is exceptional. Here in Minnesota, there are several clubs like ours with property that is accessible to club members year around, but if you get away from Minnesota, it becomes a luxury. It is the obligation of EVERY club member to help us maintain our grounds.

We have noticed there is a growing amount of trash on the grounds. A candy wrapper here, a coffee cup there, a plastic grocery bag that blows out of your truck and ends up in the brush line. PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOURSELF! We have a remarkable facility that we must take care of. It would be a shame for it to begin to look neglected. You may even want to consider removing the orange and pink tape we use to mark our blinds occasionally. Sure, some of that stuff may be advertised as biodegradable, but do we really want to look at it?

Thank you for your attention to this.

BIRD FREEZERS AND TRAINING BIRDS

One of the advantages our membership enjoys here at CMRC is the ability to use frozen training birds from the club freezer while training here on the grounds. We have a specific freezer that almost always has PLENTY of training birds in it. Now, these are training birds mind you. They are far from pristine, once shot flyers that have been put away dry and fluffy. These training birds can get to be in pretty rough condition. They get used over and over and over and over again. Most of us know enough to not put wet, soggy birds back in the freezer as when you do that you end up with a bunch of birds frozen into one solid block of ice and duck. These training birds can get pretty beat up. Now, on the other hand, its training. When I am working my dogs, I don't mind the birds being beat up a bit. My dogs need to pick up whatever is thrown for them. If it is a nasty old duck that has been thrown a hundred throws, they had better pick it up. In fact, when I am training a young dog, I've got a nasty old stinky rotten duck at home in the bottom of my bird freezer that I pull out and use for about a week. It's gross. It is sloppy. It is nasty. But my dogs have learned when I say "fetch" they had better respond.

Training birds are there for our members to use while here on CMRC grounds. Return them when your training session is finished for the next group to use. Simple.

HOWEVER, we have found this winter that a great number of the birds we have set aside for our informal trials and licensed trials have been disappearing. These birds we save for the informal and licensed trials are in considerably better shape. In fact, the trial birds are usually flyers that have been shot once, retrieved and then froze to become dead birds at the beginning of our next licensed trial. The informal birds are not as pristine as the trial birds are, but in better condition than the training birds are.

We CANNOT afford to lose any more of our trial birds! If we run out of birds for the informal trials, and have to dig into the dead bird supplies we have reserved for the licensed trial, then we have to kill live birds to start the trial and that gets expensive in a hurry. We are having to install locks on all the freezers with the exception of the training bird freezer. It is disappointing that some member(s) have removed birds from the trial freezers. This is the first time in my 20+ years that we have had to resort to locking all the freezers. The freezers are marked plainly. You personally may not like the quality of bird you find in the training freezer, but that is what the club provides. No member is entitled to removing birds for personal use from the trial freezers. If you don't like what we have in the training bird freezer, you are more than welcome to not use them and secure your own training birds elsewhere.

CHIPS, CANDY AND DRINKS

Many of us who have been around for more than 6 months recall we used to have an old Pepsi Machine in the clubhouse, and there were usually some chips and candy bars on the counter FOR SALE. With the renovation the board decided to get rid of that old pop machine. It took up a lot of space and half the time the darn thing stole a quarter or two before you got your pop. We got \$100 when we sold it on Facebook Marketplace! And there was almost always a box of assorted chips and candy bars on the counter.

We currently are continuing that practice. There is a dedicated refrigerator we are keeping stocked with a variety of soft drinks. And there are still chips and candy on the counter. YOU ARE ON YOUR HONOR TO PAY! We are keeping the price low. It's 50 cents for a drink, bag of chips or a candy bar. There is an orange can on the counter and another can in the refrigerator for you to drop in your money. Make yourself some change if you need to.

We stocked the fridge and left out the boxes of chips and candy the beginning of December. After the first month we did not break even. Some of us must have forgotten to drop in our two quarters. We went through over 100 items but the money doesn't come out.

We've reloaded the drinks and snack selection and will give it another month. If we are breaking even, we will do our best to keep things supplied.

CMRC 2024 AKC LICENSED EVENTS

Please consider making plans to volunteer to work at some of our licensed events this coming season. Although we do not have a work requirement here at CMRC as some clubs do, we do expect all club members to contribute throughout the year with some time spent working at licensed events. We thank you for your consideration.

You can get a jump on volunteering to help by calling the respective event chair for each event and letting them know how you would like to help.

THE SPRING FIELD TRIAL WILL BE HELD FRIDAY MAY 23rd – SUNDAY MAY 26TH.

Open begins Thursday, Derby begins on Friday, Amateur and Qualifying begins on Saturday.

Co-Chairs Andy Hawkinson, 612-655-7138, hawki238@umn.edu

and Tom Torvik, 320-492-8022, ttorvik@jetup.net

THE SPRING HUNT TEST WILL BE HELD FRIDAY JUNE 14TH – SUNDAY JUNE 16TH

Owner/Handler Qualifying begins on Friday, Master and Senior begins on Saturday, Junior Begins on Sunday

Chair Dan Tongen., 612-369-5208, dctongen@hotmail.com

THE SUMMER HUNT TEST WILL BE HELD FRIDAY JULY 26TH – SUNDAY JULY 28TH

Owner/Handler Qualifying begins on Friday, Master and Senior begins on Saturday, Junior Begins on Sunday

Chair Zach Grauf, 763-354-4899, zgrauf21@yahoo.com

THE SUMMER FIELD TRIAL WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 1ST – SUNDAY AUGUST 4TH

Open begins Thursday, Derby begins on Friday, Amateur and Qualifying begins on Saturday.

Co-Chairs Andy Hawkinson, 612-655-7138, hawki238@umn.edu

and Tom Torvik, 320-492-8022, ttorvik@jetup.net

Message from Gordie Schlichting, CMRC President

Good Day CMRC!

I've included a lot of messages elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter. I know some of it may feel a bit negative and like a reprimand. Apparently some of us need a few reminders about how to take care of this great club we all enjoy and share. I'm still proud of this club and value every one of its members.

We are in the dead of winter right now, and some may think this is the quiet time for the retriever club. Not so. This period is the time when so much of the planning for the summer season takes place. Field Trial and Hunt Test chairs and committees are meeting and planning for the upcoming events. Judges are being secured, paperwork is being filed with AKC, premiums are being posted on Entry Express, accommodations for judges are being reserved, and all of the other sundry items it takes to prepare for a licensed event. It's a lot of work, but what better time to do it than when it gets too cold to train our dogs.

Remember, if you'd like to get involved with one of our event committees, there is still time to do so and a great service to our club. We need those events to generate income to maintain our facilities. It takes about \$20,000 each year to keep our doors open by the time we pay property taxes, electricity, propane for the furnace, gas for the tractors and mowers, etc. Membership dues do not cover all of our annual expenses. We enjoy low membership dues here at CMRC with the expectation that we have ample volunteer support from the membership to run our revenue generating events. Simple maintenance of our facilities is the priority before we can make capital improvements.

The board took action in January in an effort to help prevent the low water situation we have faced two of the past three years. We moved to purchase a 4 inch "trash pump" to move water around the property. We have the goose slough that oftentimes has water in it, but we haven't had a way to get it into our technical water. We approved a budget to purchase a \$1700 pump that can move up to 1200 gallons per minute. In the event we have another low water situation going forward, we will try pumping water from the slough. We know there has been previous discussion of drilling a well, but at this time with our current debt on the clubhouse remodel, punching a well is not in the budget. And punching a well isn't as easy as some think. We investigated very thoroughly a couple of years ago. We may revisit that in the future. This trash pump hopefully is a more affordable measure we can take to solve a problem when it arises. We will give it a try for now. Other clubs in the region have used similar pumps to work around low water conditions on their properties.

Speaking of the debt, we took out a \$40,000 loan to finance the remodel. Donations continue to come in and we have also determined to put 50% of all profits to paying off the capital. Already in December, only one month into the loan, we made a \$2000 payment on the principle. Here in January, we have received a \$1000 donation from the Greater Minnesota Hunt Test Association as well as two additional Life Memberships, so a few thousand more dollars will come off the principle here in January. I have the utmost confidence we will make short work of this loan and we will soon be able to consider other capital projects.

Some of you may also notice we are not advertising for some positions to be filled. We are fortunate to have a new hunt test chair for our August test in Zach Grauf and a new Super Singles Chair in April with Shaun Van Vark stepping forward to chair that event. Greg Murtha and myself are going to keep the newsletter going for now.

There you go, I've written way more than I had planned. Take care, be safe and enjoy the retriever grounds over the winter months.

INFORMAL RESULTS – January 21, 2024

Open	Judges: Tom Kooiman and Dan Tongen	10 Dogs Entered
1 st – Hoover	BLM	Spencer Buerkle
2 nd – Jaeger	CLM	Jeff Deelstra
3 rd – Finn	BLM	Savannah Stang
4 th – Delta	YLF	Andy Hawkinson
JAMS-		
Stella	BLF	Doug Braun
Jimmy	CLM	Jeff Deelstra
Qualifying	Judges: Lance Lerum and Dave Pichotta	13 Dogs Entered
1 st – Yogi	YLM	Rick Konkler
2 nd – Ada	BLF	Zac Fairbanks
3 rd – Jimmy	CLM	Jeff Deelstra
4 th – Tess	GRF	Sharon Sweep
JAMS-		
Watson	YLM	Steve Butler
Derby	Judges: Corey Bruss and Lon Rust	7 Dogs Entered
1 st – Doc	BLM	Steve Goetze
2 nd – Dutton	GRM	Tom Lane
3 rd – Gunner	YLM	Noah Schlangen
4 th – Voodoo	BLF	Micah Jassman
Puppy	Judges: Corey Bruss and Lon Rust	4 Dogs Entered
1 st – Lady	BLF	Doug Braun
2 nd – Tillie	BLF	Mike Croteau
3 rd – Chess	BLM	Anthony Ciesinski
4 th – Kudos	BLM	Tom Torvik
Hunter	Judges: Rick Konkler and Spencer Buerkle	15 Dogs Entered
1 st – Charlie	GRF	Tom Lane
2 nd – Ada	BLF	Zac Fairbanks
3 rd – Kill	GRF	Joel Ihnen
4 th – Preacher	GRM	Adam Lane
JAMS-		
Willie	CBRM	Tim Bonnema
Tigger	CLF	Lon Rust
Junior Hunter	Judges: Harry Decker and Al Frieberg	11 Dogs Entered
1 st – Voodoo	BLF	Micah Jassman
2 nd – Doc	BLM	Steve Goetze
3 rd – Tigger	CLF	Lon Rust
4 th – Lady	BLF	Doug Braun
JAMS-		
Stella	BLF	Anthony Ciesinski
Gunner	YLM	Noah Schlangen
Whiskey	YLM	Luke Ahlman
Max	BLM	Dave Jordet

JANUARY 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Annual Membership Fees

Associate/Voting Members

\$75

Professional Trainers

For Those Using Grounds

\$750

Life Members

30 Years & Under - \$2,000

31 to 50 Years - \$1,750

50 Years & Over - \$1,500

The expectation for Club members is to work at least two (2) days throughout the year for CMRC Club sponsored events.

Events to work include the Spring Field Trial (May 23-26), Spring Hunt Tests (June 14-16), Summer Hunt Test (July 26-28), Summer Field Trial (August 1-4) and Informal Trials which are held on the third Sunday of the month in January, February, March, April, and December.

Examples of volunteer opportunities include cleaning the club house prior to an event and each morning of the event, prepare and or deliver lunches to the workers, transfer equipment into and out of the fields on the morning and the end of the events, stakes chairs, marshalling, taking and hanging birds from line, throwing dead birds, gunning for live birds, taking dead birds back to the barn, planting blinds, mowing, weed-whipping, thistle patrol, gopher control, road maintenance and grounds up-keep.

Please check the Club events you are interested in working:

- Spring Field Trial
- Hunt Test
- Summer Field Trial
- Informal Club Trials
- Maintenance and grounds upkeep

Signature _____

My signature on this application for membership in the Central Minnesota Retriever Club verifies that I subscribe to the purposes of this club; that I am in good standing with the American Kennel Club and that I agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Central Minnesota Retriever Club and the rules of the American Kennel Club. CMRC assumes no liability for the injuries that may occur to dogs during training or events. Owners and handlers train their dog(s) and enter/participate in all events at their own risk.

***Return Membership Form and Dues payable to: CMRC,
PO Box 724, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379***