

Volume 1, Issue 7

July 2007



PIN OAK HUNTING RETRIEVER CLUB

July Newsletter

President's Message

By: Doug Bush

Hello Everyone

Hope everyone that was able to make it to our annual picnic had a good time, I know I did, who would have thought rain would be a problem the middle of July but it held off long enough for us to get in a few rounds and some great fellowship and I'm not going to complain about rain in July. Thanks again to Mike Pinkett and his dad for the great fish that they cooked, if you where not able to make it you sure missed out on a good meal.

We had a good turnout for our training day the following Saturday with some new faces participating, looks like there will be good number of Started Dogs to run test this fall. Hope everyone has been able to enjoy the dry air that we have had the last couple days it sure helps with training this time of year. August is almost here and that means the fall hunt test season will be getting kicked off around the middle of the month so good luck on your next pass and hope to see you at Gander Mountain for our next meeting.

Doug

Officer Reports

Secretary Report—Sonya Bush

Please let me know if any of your contact information changes so that we can keep an up to date roster.

Treasurers Report – Dickie Edmund

The balance in the account is \$12,631. No outstanding debts.

Call To Order

Doug called the July 10, 2007 meeting to order at Remington , 28 members and guest were present.

Summer Picnic

Pin Oak held their annual summer picnic at Remington on July 10, 2007. Rain clouds threatened the picnic, but held out leaving us with a unseasonably cool evening. It was a lot of fun and good fellowship as members tested their shooting and eating skills. My personal opinion is everyone surpassed all expectations on their eating skills.. Mike Pinkett and his father out did themselves with an array of fried catfish, chicken, french fries, hushpuppies and Mike's wife's home made slaw. A special thanks to Mike and his dad!!!!



New Business

Tracy was approached by Avery and asked if Pin Oak would like to host a retriever trial at the Avery Fall Festival to be held Sept 14th-16th at Mack's Prairie Wind in Stuttgart. We would set up a hunt test and contestants would be competing for the fastest retriever to complete the test. This would give our club the much needed publicity and opportunity to recruit new members. In return, Avery agreed to possibly supply us with some raffle items or equipment for the club, itself. The club asked Tracy to get more details.

The club voted to donate \$100.00 towards the Chris Haley Scholarship, Chris was Tracy Rothomel's nephew, who tragically died of cancer at the young age of 23 on May 29, 2007. Chris was an avid hunter and sportsman.

Harold Grimmitt is continuing with his endeavor of organizing Pin Oak's Fall Hunt Test to be held in October at Mayflower. Harold still needs many volunteers, it takes the whole club pitching in to make a successful hunt. Pat Ivy graciously volunteered to cook hamburgers and hot dogs for our lunches and the club voted to have Frazoli's for Saturday evening meal. Tracy Rothomel is checking on retaining the Sardis ball team for bird boys. Marty Davis is to contact Gene Lockwoods regarding possible donations of raffle items.

Upcoming Events

HRC

August, 25-26 East Ark HRC North Louisiana HRC ; LA

September 1-2 Music City HRC; TN

September 8-9 Cajun Retriever Club; LA

September 15-16 South Arkansas HRC; AR

September, 15-16 Old Hatchie; TN

September 15-16 Ozark HRC; AR

September, 29-30 Deer River HRC TN

October 6-7 Pin Oak HRC; AR

October 13-14 West Tennessee HRC, TN

October 13-14 Amite River HRC; LA

October 27-28 L'Anguille River HRC; AR

Training –

I am extremely proud to announce that Larry Wade is on the Pin Oak Board and has gracefully accepted to lead us in training. Larry has a vast amount of knowledge and experiences to share with all of us. Larry and I will be coordinating so that the training you see in your newsletter, hence forth, will be covered at our monthly meeting and followed up with hands-on training the Saturday after our meeting.

Training provided by Larry Wade:

The training for this month will be a discussion about the basics: From the Crate to the Line. We've all seen Bubba let Hairball bound out over the tailgate and race around as he heads to the blind. We'll discuss a few key points that will set Hairball up for success at a test or in the field. We're going to cover leaving the crate, airing Hairball out, key training tools, and the various stands and blinds you may encounter during the test or any hunt.

We'll take these ideas to the Mayflower training ponds on Saturday, starting at about 6 30 am. It is early so we can try to beat the heat. Below you'll see some facts from the HRC Rulebook that explains a reasonable standard for almost all situations. I've also included a couple quotes describing the use of heeling stick that can be a key training tool to enforce obedience to and from the line during training.

Quotes from the HRC Rulebook:

- “The Judges should look for the dog that walks obediently to the line, sits obediently and exhibits an attentive attitude.”
- “Controlled breaks, poor obedience and poor manners should be noted and when excessive or repeated, should be cause for failure.”
- “Hand Signals, voice, and whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Seasoned Hunting dog to perform; however, should excessive handling or noise occur which, in the opinion of the Judges, would disturb the hunt, the Judges may declare failure of the test.”

About the Heeling Stick

Mike Lardy

The heeling stick should always be carried when you run marks. A good guideline is to always carry the stick once you are running the dog with a taut lead. Keep the stick resting upright on your shoulder so that you don't have to wind up to use it. This way you will avoid having the dog flinch whenever you move.

The dog should be accustomed to your carrying the stick – it just means you are going to work. Use only as much stick pressure as needed, and always precede the stick correction with a command. Be careful not to carry it only when you think you will need it or the dog will become 'stick-wise'.

The correction will be most effective if it lands on the hip. Dogs vary in their sensitivity to the heeling stick. For some, a gentle tap is all it takes. Using the heeling stick while holding the taut lead can get a little awkward, but with practice it will become easy.

David Didier

- “...it seems to insure compliance while carried for other commands and can be used to aid compliance with a variety of commands.”
- “The idea is not to whip your pup into compliance but to give him a firm rap if he moves ahead of you during a heeling exercise.”

You will be provided with copies of a power point presentation to follow as Larry discusses this month's training.

**PIN OAK HUNTING RETRIEVER
CLUB**

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Visit us On-line
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Classifieds