

Minutes of the 2018 Whistling Wings HRC Annual Awards Banquet and Business Meeting

Set up for the Whistling Wings HRC 2018 Annual Awards Banquet and Business Meeting held at the Academy of Canine Behavior, 4705 240th St. SE., Bothell WA 98021, began on Saturday, February 3, 2018 shortly after 4:00 PM.

Setup was largely completed by 5:30 PM in time for the Social/Happy Hour to begin on-time at 5:30 p.m. Unlike previous years, this year's meeting was held in the large daycare building at AOCB (due to a conflict with the class in the smaller classroom where the event has been held in previous years). While the Board had not completed a formal "After Action" review, there appeared to be a consensus that the new location at AOCB worked well, the extra space made it easier to stage the food and the raffle, and yet the venue was well-scaled to support good social interaction among members.

Dinner was plated shortly after 6:30, and the Annual Business Meeting began shortly after 7:00 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction of the Board

President Sam Pace welcomed the members, and extended a special welcome to guests from the Irish Water Spaniel club who had been invited by Colleen and Jack McDaniel, as well as Cascade HRC President Pam Ulsh, Newaukum President Davie Kendall, Newaukum Board Member and HRC Region 14A PR Rep Marty Sweet, HRC Region 14 PR Rep Bev Gatling, and Lower Columbia HRC Treas. and Board Member Sandi Whitman. On behalf of the club, Sam extended special thanks to Jack and Colleen McDaniel, owners of AOCB, for their gracious hospitality and for hosting the event at their facility without charge.

At Sam's invitation Sandi Whitman reported on two events Lower Columbia will be putting on, including a Handlers and Judges' seminar later in the month, as well as special event with Texas HRC Regional Rep Glenda Mitchell over Labor Day weekend. Sandi explained that the event would be all and to all comers on a first-come first-served basis, and she extended an invitation and to anyone who is interested to contact her about the event and to register.

Sam Pace then introduced the members of the Whistling Wings HRC Board of Directors including:

- Vice President Jerry Leitch
- Treas. Nancy Harney
- Secretary Robin Adair-Marshall
- At-large Directors: Holly Williamson, Colin Ching, Doug Burt and Mike Hastings
- Sam noted the position of Immediate Past President is currently vacant due to the untimely passing of Bill Mitchell last year.

First-time attendees to the Annual banquet and business meeting were then invited to introduce themselves and tell the assembled group a little bit about themselves and their dogs, which has always proved interesting and enlightening.

Old Business

Present Sam Pace provided a brief recap of Recap 2017, including the challenges with Hunt test grounds at Peppers in connection with WWHRC's June Hunt Test (Mowing and Owner's interjection of camping fee issues into attendees' after-hours discussions) and WWHRC's August Hunt Test (lack of available water for water scenario setups, and camping fee-related

drama). In addition, Sam noted that club had made significant investments in assets (10 new 12-gauge Remington 870 express shotguns with synthetic stocks, and a new 28" barrel for the club's existing 870). Sam noted these investments in equipment for the club to be able to put on Hunt Test competitions followed-on 2016 investments in new Wingers. Sam noted that Treasurer Nancy Harney would have additional information and detailed reports on both the investments the club made during the year as well as detailed financial reports, and he invited Nancy to provide the club with the Treasure's report

Treasurer's Financial Report – Nancy Harney

Nancy Harney provide add an overview of 2017 and calm, expenses and associated operations, and distributed the following three written financial reports covering (1) 2017 overview (2) June 2017 Hunt Test, and (3) August 2017 Hunt Test:

**Whistling Wings HRC
Treasurer's Report for 2017**

Current balance in the WWHRC checking account: \$12,310.10

2017 was a busy year for Whistling Wings HRC. The club sponsored a total of eight event: two hunt tests and six training days. Since Whistling Wings has had approximately \$18,000 sitting in our account for the past several years, the club's been able to invest in new equipment/repair work and still maintain a robust balance in our account. In 2016 we purchased new Wingers; in 2017 we perform much-needed maintenance on the trailer and our electronics, or just 10 new Remington 870 shotguns, and continued to provide a high standard for club sponsored activities. In addition to the club's usual expenses for insurance, HRC charter fees, training grounds rental fees, and food* for the annual meeting and training and training days, 2017 expenses also included birds for training days, poppers, ribbons, hats with the club logo (these will be sold and costs recovered) and gun cases for the newly purchased shotguns. These expenses are itemized below:

Trailer Repairs	175.93
Trailer equipment	117.25
Restock trailer	202.19
Training Day birds	513.00
Electronics repair	207.00
Poppers	358.98
Ribbons	970.00
Hats	994.09
Shotguns	3,461.85
Gun cases	115.62
Insurance	650.00
Carlson's rental	900.00
Charter Fee	50.00
Total	\$ 8,715.91

The June and August Hunt test expenses are attached. In June, we had a net loss of just under \$1000, and in August we essentially broke even. There are number of reasons why we did not make money on our test this year. First, our entries were down. Secondly, the Board decided to spend more money on tent rentals, catered tailgate dinners and on more bird boy/girl help. Set-out on the next page are copies of the income and expense reports for both the June and August Hunt Tests.

Of course, along with our expenses we also had revenue from membership dues, training days, hunt tests, food sales, auctions and raffles. Total income was \$25,197.28
There being no questions or objections, the Treasurer's Report and Financial Review was accepted.

**Whistling Wings HRC
June 2017 Test Financial Report**

INCOME

Total for Entries, Food and for Memberships* \$ 9,946.50

EXPENSES

Peppers	\$1,000.00	
Sanitation	450.00	
Waste Management	163.19	
Tent rental	689.61	
Printing (judges' books)	199.15	
Birds	2,562.68	
Food		
Carolina Smoke	1,096.11	
Judges Dinner	128.63	
Lunch + supplies	494.79	
Judge/Vet Gifts	420.46	
Bird boys + extra help	2,220.00	
Ice	78.17	
Supplies	264.19	
Fuel	15.00	
Propane	43.42	
Ferry reimbursement/Tracy Griffin	50.00	
Jim Zilkha refund	100.00	
Bolwell refund	3.00	
HRC fee	603.00	
UKC fee	350.00	
Total Expenses		10,931.40

NET LOSS

(984.90)

* These memberships were collected during the hunt test weekend and were included in the total deposit at the bank. Some membership dues were included in a check with entry fees. If they are subtracted from the hunt tests income and calculated separately, the Hunt test net loss is somewhat higher.

**Whistling Wings Hunt Test
August 2017
Final Income and Expense Report**

INCOME

\$9,963.88

EXPENSES

Peppers	\$1,000.00	
Sanitation	450.00	
Kent Rental	689.61	
BBQ dinner	559.35	
Bird Boys	1,560.00	
Judges gifts	352.23	
Wilson travel	381.28	
Food	534.56	
Waste Management	163.19	
Birds	2,698.43	
Vet gift	50.00	
Scratches	240.00	
HRC/UKC fees	828.50	
Ice	73.70	
Water & soda	127.10	
Raffle tickets and propane	47.63	
Judges books	162.50	
Postage/copying	20.69	
Total Expenses		\$9,938.87

NET PROFIT

\$ 25.01

New Business

National Items

CAROL RUTH FORD: Sam Pace advised that at the HRC National Board of Directors meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, on the second Saturday in April 2018 the Board of Directors will receive a motion to extend a posthumous HRC Honorary Life Membership to Carol Ruth Ford, a longtime National Secretary and started judge. Some of the members at the meeting share their recollections of Carol, all of which were favorable. Without objection, the consensus of the members was to recommend the 2018 President of Whistling Wings vote in favor of the motion at the national meeting.

RUNING RULES PROPOSALS: Sam Pace, who is a member of the National Running Rules Committee and serves as the Running Rules Rep for Region 14, reviewed each of the eight (8) proposals for changes to the HRC Official Running Rules in order to identify whether the members wanted the WWHRC vote on each of the proposed rules to be cast *in favor of the proposal*, *in opposition to the proposal* or as *an abstention*. The proposed rule changes will be presented to The National Board of Directors for a vote at the National Meeting in June.

- Allow dogs to be double entered: **No Consensus, Abstain**
- Clarify: Seasoned dogs may be cast from the retrieving line two times per bird: **Approve**
- Clarify: Started dogs are required to be steady, but can be held at the retrieving line to achieve steadiness: **Approve**
- Clothing: Would add new language to rules and procedures on page 8: **Oppose**
- 12-Dog Per Handler Rule (two companion rule proposals): maintain the current 12 dog limit for regular and Upland tests, but clarified the 12-dog limit does not apply to The Grand: **Oppose**
- Remove the “diversion bird” from Seasoned: **Oppose**
- Automatic failure if a Seasoned dog switches on the “diversion bird” - **Oppose**

Local Items

HUNT TEST: Sam pace discussed Hunt Test events and some of the issues the Board may be considering opening it up to request comments from the membership. Sam indicated that because of the consistent challenges in 2017 at Peppers regarding mowing, camping, lack of water and failure to do a good job with maintaining and improving the test grounds, the Board may consider moving the hunt test to Greenleaf which was recently purchased by Jerry and Sheila Leitch. In addition, Sam indicated the Board may consider the possibility of holding just one hunt test in June when we have more water. Lack of water has been especially problematic in August at Peppers, which resulted in only having use of the big water without access jigs pond for the technical water on the southwest corner of the property (all of which was further complicated by algae on the west end of the big water) and mandated constrained, close water test setups.

Sam indicated the Board may also be considering holding just one test this year during the first weekend of June. He noted Green Valley's test will be the third weekend in May, and there will be a Memorial Day AKC doubleheader on Sauvie Island.

Sam reported that the Board has had four different discussions (beginning in the early fall last year) about their concerns with having a conflict with the Bitterroot test in Montana on the first weekend of June. The Board would strongly prefer to avoid a conflict because many WWHRC members enjoy that test in Montana and have a great experience there, whether running dogs or judging. He noted the test is in a different region (14A) and HRC basically takes the approach there is no conflict if the test is more than two hours away, however because we do not have as many tasks west of the Rockies as HRC has in the deep South, we are more sensitive to those conflicts (even multi-regional conflicts). WWHRC was originally scheduled to have its test during the second week of June (which would have allowed us to avoid the conflict), and UKC had sent us the license paperwork for that, but the HRC rulebook prohibits any tests that conflict with the HRC National Meeting in June. Sam reported he has had conversations with Mark Wilson, and that Bitterroot is constrained by water. If they don't have their test by the first weekend in June, they don't have adequate water for their test.

Sam noted that WWHRC has a lot of cross-over with AKC (on our board and in our membership). That creates local conflicts that seriously constrain our ability to put on a test and make it harder to break even when we are trying to draw registrations from handlers who are running their dogs in other local tests that conflict with ours (even if we are able to move our test to a different location). That is compounded by the fact that many handlers will be giving priority to qualifying for the AKC master National which will be held in Roseburg OR this year. In addition, the Board has been endeavoring to ensure we don't create conflicts with two new HRC clubs in our own region (Green Valley & Newaukum - both of which have had their fair share of challenges).

Sam observed that he doesn't like conflicts that necessitate choosing between tests but said that if there is a small silver lining in the increasing number of conflicts he believes it is that HRC is experiencing significant growth west of the Rockies. Originally, HRC had just two clubs in the West (Whistling Wings and Salt Chuck in British Columbia). Each club had to do two tests per year in order to provide sufficient opportunities for dogs to earn titles. The increasing number of conflicts (which is not limited to retriever events, but also includes conflicts with events for dogs that also point birds) is reflection that there are a whole lot more events going on now than when HRC was first getting started in the West.

TRAINING DAYS: Training days have typically been held on the second Sunday of each month at Carlson's Canine Country Club in Fall City. Sam reported that:

- The April training day is likely to move to the third weekend in April in order to avoid a conflict with the Cascade HRC Hunt Test which will be held on the second Sunday of April. Cascade's President, Pam Ulsh, was present and expressed her appreciation.
- Future training days may be held at Greenleaf (Jerry and Sheila Leitch's property). It has a better summer water (unlike Carlson's which tends to become somewhat overrun with lily pads in the summer), and would also provide an opportunity to practice on what may become our test grounds.
- A number of members have expressed up preference for holding training days on Saturdays rather than Sundays (as long as the Saturday does not conflict with Cascade's regularly-scheduled Saturday training days). Among the reasons the change has been suggested are

that it would avoid a perpetual conflict with Mother's Day, attendances constrained by people who also want to go to church, and attendance drops off significantly as football starts up, and especially when Seahawk preseason games begin in August.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Doug Burt, whom the Nomination Committee is recommending be elected President for 2018/2019, spoke about the opportunities to strengthen the club through member engagement – volunteering - and that if elected President he anticipates finding lots of opportunities for people to do so, including opportunities that are both large and small, as well as structured and fluid. Doug indicated he has a special interest in the future of Whistling Wings and HRC, and that he hopes to make bringing young people into the support a major initiative going forward.

WEBSITE GUEST ARTICLES: Sam said he had recently been contacted about a request for WWHRC to put third-party information on our website, including a recent article entitled "Take Kids Hunting – Rules for Success." Kids Hunting - Rules for Success." Members indicated the general idea was one worth trying out.

Election of 2018/19 Officers and Board Members at Large

On behalf of the club, Sam recognize folks will be leaving the Board, including Treasurer Nancy Harney, Board Member at-Large Holly Williamson and Board Member at-Large Mike Hastings.

Sam also thanked the members of the Nominations Committee - Mike Haistings, Nick Pezzillo and Julie Chaykin who have recommended the following slate of Officers and Directors At-Large, each of whom has agreed to serve if elected:

President –	Doug Burt
Vice President –	Dow Derato
Treasurer –	Jerry Leitch
Secretary –	Toni Pace
At-Large:	Colin Ching, Wayne Hardy, Jeff Hunter & Robin Adair-Marshall
Past President –	Sam Pace

Before hearing from any of the candidates who were recommended by the Nominations Committee, Sam asked four times if there were any nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. Sam then advised the members that if they wanted to approve the slate of candidates recommended by the Nominations Committee without the necessity for distributing, marketing, collecting and counting ballots, the members have the option to make a motion to “approve by acclamation” the slate of candidates recommend by the Nominations Committee. Jack McDaniel moved, with numerous “seconds” to his motion, but the slate of candidates recommended by the Nominations Committee be accepted by a unanimous vote. The motion was approved, and the following officers and directors at-large were elected to serve two-year terms for 2018/2019: President, Doug Burt; Vice President, Dow Derato; Treasurer, Jerry Leitch; Secretary, Toni Pace; At-Large: Colin Ching, Wayne Hardy, Jeff Hunter & Robin Adair-Marshall; Past President, Sam Pace.

Awards

Awards - consisting of certificates for all awards earned by member members and their dogs in 2017, together with pins and embroidered hats for all HRC Titles Grand Passes and

“Championship Points” plateaus (500, 1,000 and 1,500 Championship Points) - were handed out, including recognition of the following HRC Awards:

- 3 Upland Hunter Titles (UH)
- 5 Started Hunting Retriever Titles (SHR)
- 6 Seasoned Hunting Retriever Titles (HR)
- 5 Finished Hunting Retriever Titles (HRCH)
- 2 Grand Hunting Retriever Titles (GRHRCH)
- 4 Grand Passes
- 1 500 Point Plateau (which included both a silver plate sponsored by Grouse Mountain Kennels, and a second training group engraved plate)

Whistling Wings HRC 2018 Awards			
Owner Handler	Dog's Registered Name	Call Name	2017 Titles & Awards
Pam Ulsh	SHR UH Goldengun Crank It Up	GATLING	UH
Pam Ulsh	HR UH Itza Pepper 2	PEPPER	UH
Pam Ulsh	HRCH UH Dunoons Tuck and Run	TUCKER	UH
Sandi Whitman	SHR Deep Run Denali Labrador's Shades of Autumn	AUTUMN	SHR
Marty Sweet	SHR A Sweet Joyful Noise	JOY	SHR
Martha Jordan	SHR Ch. Whistle Stop's Mischievous Thought JH CDX BN GN WCX RAE RATS CGC CGCA CGCU	MOSS	SHR
Dave Berg & Davie Kendell	Tudorose Tis Queen Caroline Reigns	MOXIE	SHR
Joe Colello	SHR Morgan's Point Reginald Luke APR	REGGIE	SHR, APLA Certified Pointing Retriever, APLA Advanced Pointing Retriever
Tom Mackey & Marilyn Huckleberry	Cat's Rusty Charlie CGC, RN, TKA	DOUGIE	AKC: Canine Good Citizen, Rally Novice, Trick Dog Novice, Trick Dog Intermediate, Trick Dog Advanced
Sandi Whitman	HR Denali Labrador's April	APRIL	HR
Holly Williamson	CH, HR, Pumpin Harbor Eleanor Roosevelt New Day WC, CGC	ELLE	HR
Vivian Huynh	Onedrdogs Over The Salish Sea	MAISEY	HR, Senior Hunter
Jeff Hunter	HR Hunters Muddy Waters SH	MUDDY	HR, Senior Hunter
Larry Torey	Aces High Deuces Wild	TROUT	HR, HRCH, Senior Hunter
Heidi Bateman	CH HR Soundview's One If By Land SH CGC WCX	WINNIE	HR, Senior Hunter
Wayne Hardy	GMPR HRCH Bella Dona at Long Lake MH	BELLA	APLA Grand Master Pointing Retriever
Pamela Gunderson	Int.CH, UCH Cimarron Rua Shenanigans CGC	RIONA	IABCA International Champion & AKC - CGC
Judy Dupree	HRCH Chantilly Ace II SH	ACE	HRCH, SH
Al Dupree	HRCH Ace's Devils Cut SH	CUTTER	HRCH, SH
Marty Sweet	HRCH UH Sweet Little Hotshot Eden	EDEN	HRCH
Dow Derato	Blue's Stormy Weather Satchmo	SATCHMO	HRCH, Master Hunter
Donna Pederson	HRCH UCD Truline Rio Arctic Creek Flyer CDX, RA, MH, AXP, AJP, WCX, CCA	LINDY	Master National Pass (#2)
Andy Fontenot/Steve McKeen	HRCH Duck Dogs Mischief Maker MH	MACK	Grand Pass (#1), Master National Pass (#2)
Andy Fontenot/Joe Talley	HRCH Double J's Retrieving Rascal MH	RASCAL	Grand Pass (#1), Master National Pass (#2)
Andy Fontenot/Felix Konat	GRHRCH Waterdogs Thunder Shock MH	ELLA	Master National Pass (#2), Grand Pass, (#2), GRHRCH Title
Andy Fontenot/JR Webster	GRHRCH Waterdogs Cash Money Maker MH	BISCUIT	Master National Pass (#2), Grand Pass (#2), GRHRCH Title
Judy Dupree	HRCH Trumarc's Sweet Alabi MH, CNMH	ALLIE	HRC 500 points, Duke of Earl's Outstanding Dog of the Year For LCHRC

Raffle and Silent Auction: Winners were announced.

Adjournment: There being no further are business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Toni Pace

Toni Pace, Secretary