



HWA Update

June, 2019

www.huntingworkingairedales.com

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Coming Up: The Nationals!

HWA's 34th Airedale Field Nationals will take place September 20-22nd at Holly Hills Game Preserve, near Chillicothe, OH. This is the highlight of our year, and we hope that many of you are thinking of attending. Here's why:

If you'd be a first-time attendee at the HWA Nationals, this is a great place to see what Airedale field work is all about and to find out if you like it. If you have a puppy or young dog not trained for field work, our Hunting Instinct Test will evaluate your dog's hunting instincts and enjoyment. See page 5 for more details.

If you love to try field work, but don't know how, this year's Beginners' Workshop will get you started in the skills needed for upland hunting (as in finding and flushing pheasants, quail or grouse) or upland hunt tests. This year popular pro trainer Brent LeMaster returns as workshop presenter. More details on page 3.

Just want to have some fun with your Airedale? Our Barkathon on Friday and Pocket Quail contest on Sunday are two fun contests that invite Airedales to use their voice and their noses - no training required.

Maybe you've never seen an Airedale hunt?



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***Are you part of the
Airedale Nation?
No rules, no dues,
it's just a state of mind.***

Airedales in AKC Retriever Tests

We're thrilled to share some news from the Airedale Terrier Club of America [ATCA] Hunting and Field Committee, via its chair Scott Lichty: after waiting for months for the American Kennel Club to consider the ATCA's petition to allow Airedale Terriers to compete in AKC Retriever Tests, the AKC Board decided in the affirmative. The announcement of the AKC Board decision on the AKC website notes that Airedales have been allowed to run in AKC Spaniel (Upland) Hunt Tests since 2009. It continues: "Though the number of Airedales in spaniel hunt tests remain relatively low, there is no question the breed can flush and retrieve both upland birds and waterfowl. These traits are documented in the breed history and are

(Continued on page 2, right column)

(Nationals, continued from page 1)

The HWA Upland and Retriever tests have a spectators' gallery, so you can watch dogs in the junior to master level HWA tests.

If your Airedale has had some training, the ATCA Fur Test will again be offered on Junior, Senior and Master levels on Friday. Since 2018 the titles you earn in this test can be registered with the AKC so that they appear as parent club titles in your dog's pedigree and title certificates. Several of our members have taken advantage of that opportunity. For future reference, you can find the parent-club title info on our website in the Links/Resources section.

The HWA Upland and Retriever Tests have AKC-licensed judges who want you to succeed. This year our HWA Hunt Test rules have been revised and updated to be more in line with AKC Upland (Spaniel) Test and Retriever Test Rules, so we encourage you to check the "new" rules out on our website well in advance so you'll be prepared for the changes. See more about that on page 4.

HWA's full-color Nationals catalog is a keepsake that's made even better by the advertising pages you send us. More on the how and why of this on page 5.

HWA's Banquet and Auction on Saturday evening is the social event of our year, not to mention our financial backbone. See page 6 for a review of how that works for you.

In short, the HWA Nationals has something for everyone with active Airedales. It's worth a road trip!

Time Sensitive- June 15th deadline

Nominating Committee Named for 2020 Elections

The HWA Nominating Committee for the 2020 Board elections has been named, as follows:

John Noland, Chair
Mary Wright
Sherri Glass

The Nominating Committee will be looking for candidates to fill three vacated Board positions, namely Vice-President, Secretary and Board Member at Large.

These are two-year terms. If you'd like to be
(Continued on page 3, left column)

(AKC Retriever Tests, cont'd from page 1)

demonstrated by dogs whose owners/handlers take time to train and expose them to field work."

While the date that Airedales can start their participation in AKC Retriever tests hasn't yet been announced, it will probably be within the next few months. Meanwhile, anyone who's interested in seeing AKC Retriever tests in their area or possibly planning to enter can find a listing of all AKC tests on their website at https://www.apps.akc.org/apps/event_calendar/index.cfm

HWA has been holding HWA Retriever Tests modeled on AKC Retriever Tests since the since of the HWA Hunt Test program in 1994. As originally written, the HWA Retriever Hunt Test rules were less demanding than the AKC Retriever Test rules, most likely because few Airedale owners trained their dogs as rigorously as the "Lab guys." In recent years, however, a number of HWA members had stepped up their training, joined their local retriever clubs, and participated in the retriever tests open to them through the Hunting Retriever Club [HRC], which is affiliated with the United Kennel Club. A few Airedales earned HRC titles and were advancing through the program when the United Kennel Club decided that, aside from the five Airedales who had earned points in their program, Airedale Terriers would no longer be allowed in HRC tests. With the HRC tests now closed to Airedales, it's a fortunate thing for our breed that the AKC is opening their Retriever Test "door" to Airedales.

In the meantime, in anticipation of the Airedales doing well in AKC Spaniel and Retriever Tests, the HWA Rules Committee has been working on updating and revising our club's HWA Upland and Retriever Test rules to make them more in line with AKC test rules. The newly revised HWA Upland and Retriever Test Rules will go into effect at this year's Nationals. You can read more about this on page 4 of this newsletter.



(Nominations, cont'd from page 2)

considered for one of these Board positions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible. Members can find their contact info in the Members' Roster in the Members' Section of our website, or reach us through our general email of HWAINformation@gmail.com

What does it take to be an HWA Board member? To be an HWA Board member, you have to be an HWA member. You don't have to have vast experience in hunting, training, breeding, or owning numerous Airedales. You should have an interest in the continuation and improvement of the Hunting Working Airedales, Inc. club.

HWA Nationals Entry Begins in July

The HWA Nationals Premium (that is, the entry/reservation forms) will be emailed to you and posted on our website in mid-July. These will include the registration forms that you use to enter our HWA Upland and Retriever Tests. Or, if your novice dog or pup is just starting out, you can enter our Hunting Instinct Test and our Beginners' Workshop. The Premium will also have information on making your reservations at our headquarters hotel, plus meal order forms for our Banquet and lunches. If you choose to make an additional Test Sponsorship donation, you may do so on this form.

As was done the past few years, the Premium (entry form) for the ATCA Fur Test will be emailed to you at the same time as a separate document. If you're entering the ATCA Fur Test, you'll be sending in your completed entry for that test, along with the entry fees, to the ATCA's designated Fur Test Secretary.

Information on taking out an ad page in our HWA Nationals catalog will follow the Premium in a separate mailing.

Limited Raffle Teaser

Corally Burmaster and Pat Reed have something rather unusual lined up for this year's Limited Raffle. We can't give too many hints, but let's just say it could be a conversation starter in your home. We'll send out a flyer revealing this year's Limited Raffle item in late July or early August, and a limited number of raffle tickets will be sold until the Nationals. Watch for it!

Brent LeMaster's Beginners' Workshop

Back by popular request, professional gun dog trainer Brent LeMaster returns to our Nationals to present a workshop designed to help you and your dog get started in upland (flushing) field work. The workshop will include six hours of instruction and participation with dogs, divided into three hours on Friday morning (Sept. 20) and three hours on Saturday morning (Sept. 21). If you're also planning to enter your dog in the ATCA Fur Test, which will be taking place on Friday morning, you'll be able to take a short "leave" from the workshop to run your dog in the Fur Test, so the two activities are not mutually exclusive. You'll also be done with the Friday morning workshop session in time to enter the Hunting Instinct test on Friday afternoon.

This workshop will be limited to 12 participants with dogs, with unlimited paid auditors. So if you're planning to participate, please send in your entry promptly when we send you a notice that the Premium is available in mid-July.



Brent LeMaster,
as our Workshop presenter in 2013.

Brent LeMaster and his wife, Rosalinda carry on the legacy of Guadaira Kennels, which was started in 1971 by Rosalinda's father, John Issacs in Amanda, Ohio. (See www.guadairakennels.com) Brent now breeds English Springer Spaniels, but he has owned and trained setters, pointers and cockers. In recent years, Brent has done well with his Airedale clients too, some of whom first met him in prior HWA Workshops he conducted. Brent is an AKC Hunt Test and Field Trial judge who brings considerable expertise to our HWA test program and our workshop for pups and new dogs.

HWA Hunt Test Rules Revised

This May the HWA Board approved revisions to HWA's Upland and Retriever Test Rules. HWA's Rules Committee (Kate Ostrowski, Patricia Nemeth and Chris Halvorson) in consultation the AKC Retriever Test judge Patricia Rose, undertook a comparison of AKC Upland (Spaniel) Hunt Test Rules and AKC Retriever Rules with HWA's corresponding test rules. The main goal was to note the areas in which the HWA rules had been formerly simplified through omission or "soft-peddling," and to bring the HWA rules up to or close to the standards of the AKC counterpart rules. In the past, we understand that Airedale owners simply didn't train with the same rigor as more traditional bird dog owners were accustomed to. Now we note that those Airedale owners who compete in AKC Upland tests or HRC Retriever Tests have raised their training standards in order to be competitive in the wider sporting dog world. The HWA Board agreed it was time HWA made our club test requirements more in line with AKC tests so that our HWA participants would be well-served by using our HWA tests as stepping stones into the AKC test world. This may well be a challenge for our HWA hunt test participants. We trust you're up to it.

You'll find the updated HWA Hunt Test rules on our website, www.huntingworkingairedales.com in the Links/Resources section. Have a click and first note that the Fur Test Rules, which we share with the ATCA, are unchanged. As noted on the opening page of the rules, all the revisions in the Upland (Flushing) and Retriever Tests are in red type, and in some cases ~~strike-outs~~ will show you what old rules have been replaced or updated. When a HWA rule was changed to be in line with a corresponding AKC hunt test rule, there is usually a citation following the changed rule to point you to the AKC's rule books, if you care to investigate where we're coming from. The red type and citations are temporary, posted online for a few months until the Nationals to help you take note of the changes in order to be prepared for them. After the Nationals, the rules will be "normalized" in black type, without citations.

If you do not wish to stay connected through our HWA email mailing list, please contact [HWApres@gmail](mailto:HWApres@gmail.com) to ask to be removed.

In the **HWA Upland Test** rules, the biggest change is that the HWA Master test has a water blind, which means we're making our formerly-simplified test up to the practices of AKC Master tests. We've also added a "No recast" rule to parts of the Senior and Master tests, which makes it in line with AKC tests.

HWA's Retriever Test revised rules have significantly more requirements reflecting the AKC's emphasis on the well-trained and obedient hunting retriever taking precedence over the independent-thinking, free-wheeling hunting dog. The revised HWA Junior Retriever Test rules have only a couple of changes, for instance, birds must be delivered to hand, and retrieve distances have increased. New HWA Senior Retriever Test rules take significant jump in difficulty, with a water blind required as well as a land blind and land-and-water double retrieves. Self-control and precision of manners for the dog and handler are stressed. The revised HWA Master test rules now require honoring as well as the former difficult land and water multiple retrieves. While this may be new territory for some Airedale owners/trainers, it reflects the standards of performance that other retriever breeds are accustomed to.

So, first step, check out the revised rules on our website via the link mentioned above. If you can find a local retriever trainer or retriever club who will help you train for the new test scenarios, you'll be off to a good start. We know our Airedales are capable of good field work in all venues. Training the owners to take their Airedales there is the challenge.



Handlers' Briefing Before an HWA Test - it's better to know the rules *before* this point

The Hunting Instinct Test is Fun with a Purpose

If you're bringing a puppy or new dog to the Nationals for the first time, be sure to enter the Hunting Instinct Test to give him or her the first taste of field experience. This test is designed to evaluate the hunting instincts of pups around 6 months of age and up (that is, they've finished teething and have adult dentition). Older dogs may also be entered in the test if they haven't had prior field training.

In this informal evaluation, pups will be assessed on such things as their natural prey drive and retrieving instincts, on their reaction to encountering live caged game, and their inclination to follow a scent track, and on their willingness to go into the water. Pups are scored on each "exercise," and those who score at least 70 out of 100 possible points "qualify" and receive a certificate. Sherri Glass, a longtime Airedale breeder who has puppy-tested hundreds of pups, is well qualified work with her assistants to make this a fun and stress-free experience.

Airedale pups often surprise their owners with their enthusiasm, and more than one future "superstar" pup has pulled its owners into further field efforts. Spectators also enjoy watching the pups go through their paces, especially if they're taking note of what kennels or bloodlines are producing pups that do well.

The timing of the Hunting Instinct Test on Friday afternoon allows owners to participate in the Beginners' Retriever Workshop, as sessions don't overlap.



At left, Sadie, owned/handled by K.D. van Drie, reaches for her dead bird in the Hunting Instinct Test.

Nationals' Catalogs, For Those with a Deep Interest in Dogs

Are you addicted to dogs? Dog addicts pour over a dog show catalog from cover to cover, looking at the sires, dams and breeders of each dog entered in order to learn about bloodlines and resulting performance. We love to look at all the advertisements in dog magazines and catalogs, knowing that each ad is a window to someone in our Airedale world. Afterwards, our catalogs stay on a bookshelf as a reference to be returned to when we talk about those special Airedales we remember.

And so we encourage you to consider making your mark with an ad in this year's catalog. You'll get another email on this after the Premium/reservation email comes out in July.

Your ad could include a favorite photo of your dog. Feel free to use any of the photos of your dog taken by our HWA photographers at our events. As for wording, you might have a "Best Wishes for a Successful Event" heading. Or perhaps a "Congratulations to all participants!" statement. Or you could place a memorial ad in for a departed Airedale. Or perhaps an ad that announces a planned breeding, stud dog availability, or a new title.

Cost for a one-page color ad in the catalog is \$50 per page. If you're adept at composing your own ad, you can send that as a .pdf to Cindy Green at cgreendr@aol.com

Ad size print area is 7.25" height x 4.25" wide. If you'd like some help composing your ad, contact us at HWAINformation@gmail.com

This year Cindy Green takes over the editing of the Nationals catalog from Pat Bell, who worked on it for several years. Thanks to the income from the ads, the Nationals catalogs will be available free to all Nationals participants and to anyone who places an ad in the catalog. In addition, a "marked" version of the catalog showing the qualifiers in all tests ---- and your ads ---will again be posted on our website after the Nationals. You can find last year's Nationals' marked catalog in the Field Nationals Reports section of our website.

HWA Banquet and Auction Build On Last Year's Success



HWA's Nationals Banquet and Auction are a long-standing tradition in our club. Thanks to our Banquet coordinators Corally Burmaster and Pat Reed who have been hard at work organizing things back at the headquarters hotel while we're all out having fun at Holly Hills, the evening is ours to socialize, talk dogs, and enjoy good food and shopping.

Once again, our Banquet and Auction will be held in the 2nd-floor dining room, called the "Cork Room," of the Quality Inn. Last year everyone seemed pleased with this more "intimate" venue. This smaller room worked well for dinner entrees served to your table (rather than big buffet lines), so you'll be asked to select your dinner choice when you make your reservation in the Premium/Reservation form that will be emailed to you in July.

The HWA Silent Auction will go on as usual during our Banquet. The Banquet concludes with the announcement of the successful bidder for each item.

Of course, the more items donated by those who attend, the more fun we have. As this evening is HWA's main annual fundraiser, we count on you to help us make it great. We welcome donations that are Airedale-orientated (paintings, photos, books, sculptures, jewelry, etc) or dogs in general, or training gear. Creative non-doggy donations are also popular, especially if they involve gift certificates or alcohol.

If you'd like inspiration for something to bring, Amazon has an interesting assortment searchable under "Airedale gift products." Or just go to www.Ebay.com or www.Etsy.com and type in "Airedale" in the search box, and you'll find donation ideas in all price ranges.

When you know what you're bringing, or if you're sending something in advance, please contact Pat Reed at aireforcep@gmail.com

Then come with an appetite, and don't forget your cash, checkbook, or credit card.

How You Can Help

Hospitality

Hospitality evening on the Thursday prior to the start of our event is an evening when we offer a complimentary light supper and get-together space at our host hotel for meeting and greeting friends old and new. Cost for this evening is about \$500. If you'd like to sponsor all or part of this evening's expense, please let us know at hwainformation@gmail.com

The Gunners' Choice Award Trophy Sponsorship

This award is presented annually to the Airedale the official gunners would most like to hunt over. As such, it is one of the most "good feeling" awards an owner might receive since it shows that hunters experienced with other breeds have picked your Airedale.

Our tradition is the every year someone "sponsors" this trophy at a cost of approximately \$70. If you'd like to sponsor the Gunners' Choice Award this year, please contact us at hwainformation@gmail.com



Sponsorships

A sponsorship of a part of our events is a way for you to play a role in the success of this weekend, whether or not you're able to attend. Sponsorships help us cover the costs of our event, and hopefully to do a little better than break even so that we have some seed money to plan for the coming year. Since we initiated sponsorships a few years ago, they have been an important part of our financial stability. All our sponsors will be listed and thanked in our Nationals Catalog and announced with appreciation at our Banquet.

Hunt Test Sponsorships

Sponsor a **Junior** Upland or Retriever Test for **\$25**

Sponsor a **Senior** Upland or Retriever Test for **\$50**

Sponsor a **Master** Upland or Retriever Test for **\$100**

You will be find a space to sign up for a hunt test sponsorship on our HWA Nationals Premium when it comes out in July, or contact us separately at HWainformation@gmail.com

Event Sponsorships

If you'd like to do something more in the way of a "three-figure" monetary gift, we do have some challenging expenses to meet, including:

Workshop Sponsor

Judges' Hospitality
(meals and gifts for our judges)

Judges' Accommodations
(motel rooms for our judges)

Contact us at HWainformation@gmail.com
if you can help.

The Hunting Airedale Initiative Or, Training on a Lonely Planet

By now you'll have realized this edition of our HWA newsletter is largely about our upcoming HWA Nationals.

So if you can't come to the Nationals (and we realize that Life – jobs, finances, kids, distance, etc. -- will keep many of you away), does that mean you have to give up all hope of field work with your Airedale? We'd say, no of course not. HWA's Nationals puts a lot of opportunity in your reach, but if you can't join us, you still can give your Airedale the field work he'll love. It just takes initiative on your part.

You may live in a area where you've got the only Airedale in sight. Or, if there are others around, none of them are doing much except barking at their neighbors. Feels lonely? Our advice would be to do what others with sporting dogs do: use your resources to make connections. Google is your good friend. Use the internet to search for Hunting (or Spaniel or Retriever) Dog Clubs in your area. Also, search for Gun Dog (or Bird Dog) pro trainers in your area. You can't get very far in training a hunting Airedale without a club or a trainer who will mentor you and provide you with the birds, fields, and ponds you'll need for field training.

If you live in the Midwest, be sure to attend the Airedale Terrier Club of America [ATCA] Cooley Memorial Hunt Test weekend, held every May in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. This weekend hosted by the ATCA's Hunting and Field Committee is comparable to the HWA Nationals in that its hosted by Airedale people who hunt with their dogs, and they're ready to help you get started. Find out more information on that from the ATCA website at www.airedale.org

You can also Google "AKC Hunt Tests" to use the AKC website to find upland (spaniel) or retriever tests in your area. Take the time to go to a test as a spectator, smooze with the participants; and after they've run their dog and have time to talk, find out who they train with and how they train.

Meanwhile, while you're making connections in the sporting dog world, you have resources at hand to help you get underway. From puppyhood on, you should be working on basic



Few things are more fun than field work.

obedience skills with your Airedale. Sit. Stay. Come. If this is your first dog and you aren't sure how to teach the basics, most communities have dog obedience schools that exist to teach owners how to teach their dog. Again, do an internet search. Basic obedience is a prerequisite for field training, so don't skip over this while you're dreaming of flushing pheasants this fall.

There are tons of resources to help you train even as you sit in your easy chair doing "research." Subscribe to *Gun Dog* magazine for regular training advice. YouTube is overflowing with dog training videos. As a starting point we recommend Bill Hillmann videos (some available free on YouTube, with a paid subscription giving you more). Check out the variety of hunting dog training books and videos out there. Pick a few to get started and give you a general idea of what's involved with field training.

You may decide that field training is a lot of time and effort, and its just not for you. BUT you may be surprised to find that you and your Airedale are really enjoying this hobby and the time together outdoors. This will be especially true if your Airedale shows you this is the sport he'd most love to spend his time on. If you start out in training-isolation with your Airedale, you're in the spot that many of us started from. If you take the initiative to make your training connections, you'll have as much of a chance to have a great hunting companion dog as the does anyone starting out with a Lab or a Golden.

Fun in the Field Photo Page

The 2019 Fun in the Field weekend took place on April 6-7th at Holly Hills Game Preserve (which is also the site of our Nationals). Fun in the Field is an annual spring field training weekend for Airedales.

This year we had a good group of Airedales and owners, some of whom enjoyed the practice sessions in raccoon-scent tracking and barking at the raccoon tree. In another field, we had plenty of pheasants (even late-season roosters) for upland flushing and retrieving practice. It was a no-test, no-stress, casual weekend for enjoying our dogs together. On Sunday, we had a group of five take the Gunners' Seminar presented by Dave Barto of the English Springer Spaniel Field Club. We hope these five will use their hunt test gunners' certifications for future HWA events.

These photos bring back good memories for those of us who were there, AND if you couldn't come, we hope they'll give you a good idea of all Airedales can do. Picture yourself there next April!

