



HWA Update

January, 2020

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Feel free to read it, save it, share it or (sigh) delete it.*

Save the Dates!

**HWA Fun in the Field
April 4-5th, 2020**

**HWA 35th Annual
Airedale Field Nationals
Sept. 11-13, 2020**

**Both at Holly Hills Game Preserve,
near Chillicothe, OH**



Fun in the Field Plans Include Intermediate Workshop

HWA's **Fun in the Field** spring training weekend takes place on **April 4-5th** this year, once again at Holly Hills Game Preserve.

This year we're planning something new with an **intermediate-level workshop** intended for started dogs and their handlers. "Started" dogs means dogs who have been shot over and who have some idea of finding, flushing, and retrieving birds in the field. Also included in this workshop would

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Happy New Year!

As we begin this club's **35th** year, we're planning some new things at our events – such as a new kind of workshop planned for Fun in the Field and a new host hotel for our Nationals – but we're staying true to our longtime goal of bringing together as many field-minded Airedale people as possible. Read on for news on what's going on in our club, as well as Airedale activities in companion clubs.



(Fun in the Field, cont'd from page 1)

be dogs and handlers getting ready for AKC or HWA Upland Hunt tests. These are handlers and dogs who have the basics down, but can use some tips with hunt test procedure, expectations, and rules. Our experienced HWA handlers will be the coaches for our workshop participants. The idea is that a coach will walk with each handler and dog as they hunt up their pheasants, providing tips on how to make them a more successful team.

Those Fun in the Field attendees who don't want to be in the workshop, perhaps because they've reached the advanced level and just want to hunt as usual, will be taking their turns integrated into the morning and afternoon hunting sessions. These pheasant hunting opportunities, with gunners and fields provided, are a great chance for practice and hunt test prep.

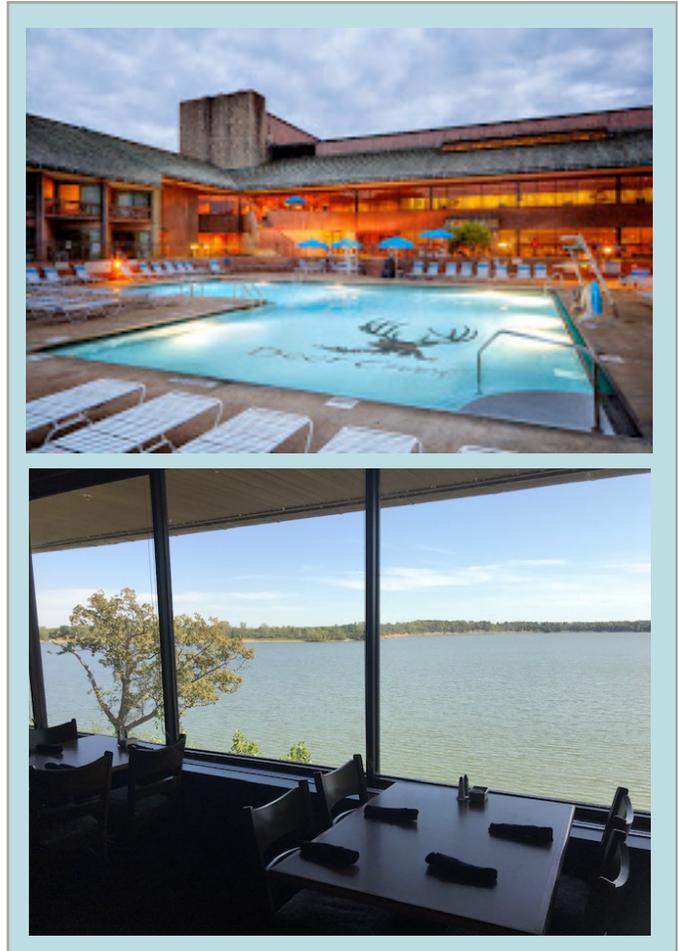
Workshop attendees and independent hunters will also be able to fit in some raccoon-practice.

Beginners with pups or untrained dogs will start with an Introduction a raccoon and fur tracking, with a later session for Introduction to Game Birds. On Sunday we'll have an assortment of afternoon mini-training sessions offered by our volunteers. Possibilities include beginner obedience for field dogs, bumper drills, swimming or whistle training, but the plan is to work on skills the newcomer group is most interested in. Our goal is not to be too programmed, but have some fun with training.

Entry forms for Fun in the Field will be sent out via email and on our website at the end of January.



HWA Nationals has a New Host Hotel



Deer Creek State Park Lodge will be the new host hotel for our **35th Airedale Field Nationals**, coming up on **Sept. 11-13th**. The Deer Creek Lodge is on the grounds of Deer Creek State Park in Mount Sterling, OH. The park offers 3,100 acres of natural setting, including numerous hiking trails, a lake and beach, campground, golf, and fishing. The spacious lodge has a fireplace, indoor pool, restaurant, and catering for our Banquet. And yes, our dogs will be allowed in our rooms for a reasonable pet fee.

Check out their website at <https://www.deercreekparklodge.com> or find them on Facebook by searching for Deer Creek State Park Lodge.

Did you know?

HWA's Fun in the Field weekend started off many years ago with a camper set up with a bonfire in a field as the headquarters for a group of Airedalers who shot some pheasants, and later gathered to eat them.

2020 Membership Drive Ongoing

HWA's membership drive starts at the Nationals, but picks up importance now through February. Our membership year runs from January through December, so if someone joins in the middle or end of the year, he or she still pays full dues for a partial year. You can download the 2020 Membership form for renewals or new memberships on our website, www.huntingworkingairedales.com or via this direct link: <https://www.huntingworkingairedales.com/HWA%20Membership%20form%202020-1.pdf>

If you love the Airedale spirit, drive and abilities, and you enjoy hunting or even just doing outdoorsy things with a dog that keeps the hunter's heart that made this breed famous, then this club is for you. And if you enjoy getting together with like-minded Airedale owners to have some fun with our dogs, then HWA is for you. Sure, you can participate without being a dues-paying member, but a paid membership is a sign of commitment to an idea that goes beyond every-owner-for-himself. That's what a club is, and members make a club.

HWA also welcomes members who aren't interested or able to attend our events, train with their dogs, or walk about in hunting fields. After all, there are things like jobs, children, shortages of time, funds or physical limitations that might keep you otherwise-occupied. But HWA is also a club for those who believe it's important (as our Mission Statement says) to preserve and promote our breed's heritage as a versatile hunting and working companion dog. So we appreciate your membership support!

The Members section on our website is an added benefit for members. By checking into this password-protected Members' section, members can review HWA's financial reports, summaries of Board meetings, and check a membership roster to find who else is a member of your club.

HWA membership also qualifies you to take a turn serving on our Board of Directors, vote in contested elections, be considered for the Breeders' Referral listing, and organize a regional event. While you may not have the time or inclination to be deeply involved our club right now, keep in mind that the continuation of HWA rests in your participation. We're only as strong as you make us.



HWA Board of Directors for 2020

President
Chris Halvorson

Vice-President
Susan Hogsette

Secretary
Kim Zaborniak

Treasurer
John Noland

Board Members

Cindy Green
Diane Maxwell
Mary Wright
Linda Potter

This year we welcome Susan Hogsette as our new Vice President, Kim Zaborniak as our new Secretary, and Cindy Green as a new Board member. Our appreciation to our former Vice - President Kate Ostrowski and Board member Stuart Eavenson, both of whom have completed two consecutive Board terms, and will now rotate off the Board due to term limits. Our appreciation also to Elizabeth Morrill, who served a term as Secretary, and to John Bell for his years of Board service. As John left the Board with part of his second term left, our Board has appointed Linda Potter to finish his term. Thanks to Linda for accepting this position, and to all for your hard work!

Warning!

At this point in time HWA's Membership Chair, John Noland, advises us that many of our longtime members have not yet renewed their membership. Even some past Board members! The next step is to snail-mail non-renewers a personal letter asking for their renewal. It's a bother, and costs time, effort and a stamp.

*Please don't make us beg you!
Renew today!*

“Where Can I Find a Hunting Airedale?”

The #1 question we get via the Contact Us section of our website and our HWA Facebook page is “Where can I get a good hunting Airedale?”

Our starting point answer to contact the breeders listed on HWA’s **Breeders’ Referral** listing on our website, listed under the About tab or via this direct link: <https://www.huntingworkingairedales.com/breeder-referral>

All breeders listed there are HWA members who use performance/hunting abilities as an important part of breeding stock selection. Unfortunately we don’t have a wide geographical distribution of participating breeders, but breeders on that list report that buyers are often willing to travel considerable distances to acquire the right pup.

If you’re an Airedale breeder who would like to be included in on website’s Breeder Referral section, please contact us at hwainformation@gmail.com for more details.

If you’re a breeder already listed on the HWA Breeders’ Referral Page, be sure to renew your 2020 membership so that you’ll continue to be on our list.

We’d also like to encourage Airedale breeders to include our HWA Puppy Brochure in the puppy packets sent home with new owners. That brochure is a colorful tri-fold that encourages new owners to consider HWA events as something to try with their new Airedale. You can preview that brochure in the Links/ Resources section of our website at <http://www.huntingairedales.org/Puppy%20Owner%20Brochure.pdf> For professionally printed copies for your litter, please contact hwainformation@gmail.com You don’t have to be an HWA member to take advantage of this offer. We’ll be happy to mail you brochures at no cost to you.

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

Meet the Breeds Brightens January in NYC

For dog-lovers anywhere near the Big Apple on **January 25th-26th**, the **AKC’s 11th Annual Meet the Breeds** can be a day-brightening event. This year’s Meet the Breeds weekend, which will be held at the Jacob Javitts Convention Center, 10 am-5 pm, brings together over 200 breeds shown off in creatively-decorated booths that focus on elements of each breed’s history and talents.

Airedales are well-represented by members of the Airedale Terrier Club of Metro New York (ATMNY). Club members not only bring their Airedales to meet and greet the public, they also educate and advocate for our breed. Airedale hunting heritage and abilities are shown off by a hunting poster, with HWA brochures offered at the booth. Our appreciation to members of the ATMNY for showcasing our versatile breed. For more information on Meet the Breeds see <https://www.akc.org/sports/meet-the-breeds/>



Poster for the ATCMNY Airedale Booth
at Meet the Breeds in NYC

2020 Pheasant Fest Heats up Minneapolis This Year

The **2020 Pheasant Fest and Quail Classic** takes place on February 14-16th at the Minneapolis Convention Center. As in past years, the Airedale Terrier Club of America's Hunting and Field Committee will be present with their Airedales to take part in this national celebration of upland hunting. This event is an annual golden opportunity for publicizing Airedales in the field.

This huge three-day event organized by Pheasants Forever draws approximately 30,000 spectators interested in upland game bird hunting (pheasant and quail), dog training, and wildlife habitat management and restoration. In addition, Pheasants Forever will hold seminars on habitat improvement, pheasant hunting, shooting sports, wild game cooking, dog training, and conservation, and lots more.

Scott Lichty, chair of the ATCA's Hunting and Field Committee, notes that after several years of meeting and "talking Airedales" with thousands of spectators who stop at the Pheasant Fest Airedale booth (pictured below) the general public is becoming more familiar and accepting of Airedales as valid hunting dogs.

Starting with Friday's Sporting Dog Parade -- led by Airedales thanks to alphabetical order -- the ATCA group will have their Airedales on display, as well as versatile Airedale brochures and photos. If you're in the area, be sure to stop by their booth. For more information, see <https://www.pheasantsforever.org/Pheasant-Fest.aspx>



HWA Spring Raffle

Be on the lookout next month for the flyer for HWA's Spring Raffle! Tickets will be available by the end of February, with the winners drawn at Fun in the Field (though you do not have to be present to win).

We can't give away too many hints, but you may have noticed we said "winners" will be drawn. Hmmm



Libby, owned/handled by John Bell, at the ATCA Retriever Test at the 2019 Cooley

ATCA 18th Annual Cooley Memorial Hunt Test Weekend

The **2020 Randy Cooley Hunt Test Memorial** weekend takes **May 15-17th** at Rock River Kennels, Beaver Dam, WI. This weekend of Airedale activities is hosted by the Hunting and Field Committee of the Airedale Terrier Club of America [ATCA]. The weekend offers tests that showcase Airedale's abilities as a three-in-one gundog.

The weekend begins with an ATCA Fur Test on Friday morning, May 15, followed by an ATCA club Retriever Test on Friday afternoon. Saturday and Sunday, May 16-17, will have AKC Upland Hunt Tests. Check in with Scott Lichty at airedalescott@gmail.com for entry information well before the event, as their AKC hunt tests fill up fast.

Airedale Hunt Test Title Database Updated Annually

Every January HWA updates its listing of all Airedales (to the best of our knowledge) who have earned hunt test titles since the start of our program. Our listing currently has 159 hunt-test titled Airedales. If a dog has at least one hunt test title, we want to include that dog in this database. HWA is the only organization that maintains and publishes this record. Along with the dog's hunt test title, we list that dog's other performance and/or conformation titles that show the dog's versatility. This database is important documentation for our breed's history.

"Hunt test titles" means titles earned in AKC, HWA, ATCA [Airedale Terrier Club of America], HRC, or GLSDA [Great Lakes Sporting Dog Association]. Performance titles include all titles offered by an organized program or club, including agility titles and IPO titles.

In addition, HWA's website has a photo showcase of Airedales who have earned a hunt test title offered by the AKC. This recognizes achievements of Airedales and owners who have successfully competed in the wider, established multi-breed sporting dog world, and by so doing have brought favorable attention to our breed.

You can find our Hunt Test Title Holder listing and our photo showcase on our website under the About section, or by this direct link: <https://www.huntingworkingairedales.com/hunt-test-title-holders>

We show the listing of hunt test title holders two ways: sorted alphabetically by owners' names and sorted alphabetically by dogs' names. Those of us who take note of which owners or kennel names produce successful dogs should find these listings to be useful research tools, as well as a historical record. The photo showcase gives more information of each dog's accomplishments, appearance, pedigree and breeder. Again, a useful research tool.

If we have inadvertently missed your Airedale who has a hunt test title, please let us know by contacting hwainformation@gmail.com

Upland Training Seminar Considered at DeCoverly

We're pleased to pass along some information on a possible training seminar this summer, to be offered by Bridget Bodine on the beautiful grounds of DeCoverly Kennels in Falls, PA. -- <http://www.decoverlykennels.com> If interested, please contact Bridget directly through her address on the DeCoverly Kennels website. Bridget is a professional retriever trainer who has worked with several HWA members and their Airedales, as well as holding seminars for Airedales in conjunction with HWA. In this case, the seminar she is considering holding would be open to spaniels and all flushing breeds (including Airedales). It isn't an HWA event, but Airedales could participate. The dates being considered are the third week of June or the first week of July.

Jerry Cacchio would be the presenter. Jerry is a nationally-known and respected professional spaniel trainer who also writes the "Flush" column in Gun Dog magazine. Jerry is also an AKC field trial judge who was inducted into the Field Trial Hall of Fame 2012. In 2015 he was a nominee for an AKC Lifetime Achievement Award.

This seminar will probably fill up fast with dogs/owner teams working on intermediate to advanced levels. Contact Bridget without delay if you're interested in participating.



E-Collar Aversion

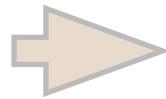
Most bird dog trainers use e-collars as one tool in their training toolkit. Retriever folks may rely more heavily on e-collars as unquestioning obedience/ compliance is a big part of their teamwork with their hunting dogs. Spaniel people, understanding they may have a gentler, bred-to-be-biddable companion hunter, will still use an e-collar to keep in touch with their dog from a distance.

When Airedales re-entered the sporting dog world after the introduction of e-collar use, terrier people were unfamiliar and wary of e-collar use. Early model e-collars offered harsh corrections that were characterized as “zapping” or “frying” a dog. We heard of harsh use of such collars ruining many a dog. We vowed definitely not the thing for our free-spirited, independent-minded terriers.

Over time, e-collars and their use have become more subtle and sophisticated. Today’s plethora of e-collar models offer stimulation options going from the gentle prompting vibration to mild stimulation to hundreds of steps up to strong. “Collar-conditioning” is the practice of introducing the e-collar to the dog in a process so that the dog understands how the buzz on his neck relates to his action. The agreed first principle is that the collar is only used to reinforce a command that the dog already fully understands. The correct and humane use of e-collars is fundamental in most pro trainers’ programs, and train-him-yourselfers can find countless videos on YouTube by searching “e-collar conditioning.”

And still, judging from discussions on various Airedale general discussion groups on Facebook, there is some aversion to e-collars among terrier people, paraphrased as “I would never shock my Fur-Baby!” “My Airedale is perfect and always does what I say, so I don’t need a SHOCK COLLAR.” “Just give them treats and pats!”

Its hard to argue with entrenched training ideas, but author M.J. Nelson does so in the current *Gun Dog* magazine (Dec. 2019/Jan 2020) in an article titled “A Sea Change.” Ms. Nelson, who, by the way is a longtime supporter of hunting Airedales, writes in favor of using more positive reinforcement methods rather than traditional coercive retriever training methods, a



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change so bold it would meet the sea-change definition of a “marked change or transformation” in training practices.

“Certainly the old coercive-training techniques have worked,” Nelson writes, “and have produced dogs that represented the absolute highest levels of achievement including national and national amateur field championships. But a lot of potentially good dogs have also been ruined by these methods, in particular the misuse of the e-collar, or blindly sticking to a ‘training program’ when its clear that particular program is not working with that dog. So, the trick is figuring out in which category each dog belongs, and what’s appropriate reinforcement at each phase of their training.”

Nelson was probably thinking of her Chesapeakes, but could have been thinking of our Airedales when she wrote: “There are some hard-headed dogs with attitude that require you to be dominant every minute you work with them. But for some dogs, positive training is the only thing that will work. For others, it requires a balancing act between positive and negative reinforcement, but always leaning towards the positive.”

Using an e-collar as a standard training accessory, as in putting it on even if you never need to buzz it (but its there if you need it), in conjunction with Nelson’s recommendation for positive reinforcement in the form of praise, pats, treats, or toys as rewards is a sensible approach for most Airedalers. See M.J. Nelson’s article in *Gun Dog* for suggestions on more books on this.

