



HWA Update

Winter, 2023

*This digital newsletter goes out only by email to save \$\$.
Feel free to read it, save it, share it or (sigh) delete it.*

A Letter from HWA's New President

HWA members, Happy New Year!

I want to introduce myself as the new president of HWA for the next 2 yrs. But before I do that, I want to thank Chris Halvorson for all her many years not only as her total of 8 yrs as president, but for all the other things she has done for this organization and the MANY hours doing everything she can to keep this group going and making as much progress as it has made. And to all the other planning and Board members over the past. There would never be the success this organization has made without all of them.



HWA President Mary Wright and Journey at the 2022 HWA Nationals

I have been in Airedales for about 35 yrs. I become involved in HWA about 10 yrs, but not until my current dog was I able to fully participate. I initially became involved when I first saw Airedales run loose in a field and didn't run away. I was amazed and wanted that for any
(Continued on pg. 2, left column)

In This Newsletter:

Letter from the President	1-2
Did You Know?	1
Save the Dates	1
Fun in the Field Spring Event.....	2
Looking Ahead to the Nationals.....	3
2023 Board of Directors	3
2023 Membership Drive Reminder3-4
Linking Performance and Pedigree.....	4-5
HWA's New Online Store	5
ATCA Field Events in 2023	6
ATCA Specialty Schedule	7
Nationals Photo Page	8

Did You Know?

HWA's website - www.huntingworkingairedales.com had 276 visitors in December and has had over 130 visitors so far this month.

If you haven't looked lately, you'll find our website offers a wealth of information on hunting Airedales. Not to mention an archive of years of photos of Airedales in the field.

You're invited to have a good time browsing!

Save the Dates!
HWA's Fun in the Field - April 29-30, 2023
HWA's Airedale Field Nationals - Sept. 8-10, 2023



Both events to be held at
Elk Ridge Game Club
Bucyrus, OH

(President's Letter, cont'd from pg. 1)

dog I had. I have learned so much about field work, met so many wonderful people, and been able to travel with my dog for events. I also got involved in Obedience competition, as this is so necessary for the field. We are enjoying this also.

I agreed to take this position because there were no other candidates able to do it. I am still working full time, train my Airedale, Journey, and am currently training a service dog puppy. I am single, so I also have all my household tasks to maintain. I also have VERY little computer abilities. I often don't look at emails more than a couple times a week. I tell you this in case I am not as quick as responding to emails. Chris has agreed to continue taking care of posting on the web site and keeping up with Facebook (I don't do Facebook). I am so grateful for this.

No one knows what the next year of two will bring for any of us including the HWA organization. Initial goals of getting the Airedale approved by AKC to participate in all field events have been met. I am committed to do what I can to keep the organization viable, but we need all of us to be involved in what ever way you can.

I look forward to seeing as many of you at Fun in the Field and our annual fall Nationals and appreciate any help and participation you can offer HWA.

Respectfully,
Mary Wright
January, 2023

Fun in the Field is HWA's Spring Event

HWA's Fun in the Field takes place April 29th to 30th this year, a little later than usual – maybe it won't be snowing this year! This weekend is an informal and fun all-Airedale training event. Our event site, Elk Ridge Game Club in Bucyrus, OH offers us plenty of fields, a pond, and some wooded areas --- and a clubhouse with hot lunches, too.

This Fun in the Field weekend is training time for those with dogs who are started in their flushing, retrieving and swimming work. If your dog has some field experience (meaning your dog has been shot over) we'll have experienced gunners on hand so you can get some upland hunting practice in. Whether you're just getting started or already training and participating in hunts or hunt tests, this is your chance to get some bird time in. The Premium (entry /registration form) that you'll receive in February will ask you to plan ahead by pre-ordering your birds when you enter.

If you're interested in raccoon tracking, we'll have some raccoon scent and a pelt on hand to practice. If you've never laid track, this will be a good time to roll up your sleeves and learn. Such practice will come in handy if you're planning to enter an ATCA Fur Test later in the year.

This weekend is also an excellent starting place for puppies and novice dogs with inexperienced trainers. We don't have formal workshops, but rather, we all help each other. Newcomers are welcome, as are spectators who just want to see what Airedales can do in the field.

The Premium for Fun in the Field will be emailed to our mailing list and posted on our website by mid-February.



Looking Ahead to the 2023 Nationals

HWA's 37th Annual Airedale Field Nationals will be a three-day weekend taking place on **September 8-10, 2023** at Elk Ridge Game Club in Bucyrus, OH.

We could say "By popular demand, we'll repeat what we did at last year's Nationals!" but that needs some amplifying. Last year was the first year we provisionally replaced our traditional HWA Upland and Retriever Tests with workshop training sessions. At the time, we weren't sure if this would be a popular idea among participants.

As it turned out, the 2022 Nationals was very successful, even without trophies and ribbons. We started the Nationals with our traditional ATCA Fur Test and Hunting Instinct Test, and had an added bonus having attendee Claudia Weakland give us a talk on the Search and Rescue work she does with her Airedale Finn. On Saturday and Sunday, professional retriever trainer Bridget Bodine joined in to lead us in two successful days of workshops. Bridget's individually-tailored lessons and coaching shared



Bridget Bodine and her Crosby at the 2022 Nationals

time with pheasant hunting for those who wanted some field time with their Airedales.

2023 Nationals will have the usual ATCA Fur Test and Hunting Instinct Test. And back by popular demand, Bridget Bodine

will return as our workshop clinician, this time for the entire three day weekend. We're so pleased Bridget has agreed to return to continue the good work she started last year.

Stay tuned for more details on the 2023 Nationals. Premiums for the Nationals in September will be sent out in July.

HWA's Board of Directors for 2023

President
Mary Wright
Vice-President
Susan Hogsette
Secretary
Kim Zaborniak
Treasurer
Kate Ostrowski
Board Members
Sherri Glass
Cindy Green
Linda Potter
John Noland

This year we welcome returning Board members Sherri Glass and John Noland. Mary Wright takes over in the HWA President position vacated Chris Halvorson, who rotated off the Board after serving two consecutive terms. Many thanks also to Angela Dobbins for serving as a Director for the 2021-2022 term. And continuing thanks to all our Board members for all your hard work!

2023 HWA Membership Drive Continues Just One More Month

HWA's annual membership drive starts in September and continues through February. Many thanks to those of you who have already sent in a new or renewed membership! If you haven't got around to it yet, we encourage you to do so now. Our membership year runs from January through December, so if you join in the middle or end of the year, you still pay full dues for a partial year. You can download the 2023 Membership form for renewals or new memberships on our website in the Contact Us section or via this link: <https://www.huntingworkingairedales.org/2023%20HWA%20Membership%20form%20.pdf>

You may be on the fence about whether to be an HWA member. We often hear "Well, I can't get to the events and I don't hunt, but I do like reading about them and all the pictures of Airedales in the field." We'd say that qualifies you to be a member. After all, many people have memberships to organizations such as the World Wildlife
(Continued pg. 5, right column)

Linking Performance and Pedigree

Most sporting dog fanciers quickly learn that they'll have the best chance for a good hunting companion or field trial dog by getting their pup from a breeder who has produced generations of proven hunting dogs. Randomly-bred Springers or Labs may have an interest in hunting, but purposely-bred field dogs are born with inherent instincts and abilities. Popular hunting breeds have many breeders producing dogs for every level of hunter.

Hunting Airedales are harder to find. It's true that Airedales have a long-standing reputation as great hunting dogs, whether as farm dogs keeping away vermin while doubling as pheasant dogs, or working as "big game" dogs out West. The stories and artwork of hard-scrabble and tough Airedales are part of the breed's mystique.

But it probably wasn't until the start of the Hunting Working Hunt Test program in 1993 that any formalized attempt was made to evaluate Airedales with hunting performance standards similar to those used by other sporting breeds. Over time we've kept a record of which kennels (breeders) have produced successful hunting Airedales, and with deeper research, which sires and dams repeatedly appear in pedigrees of hunt-test titled Airedales.

Every January HWA updates its listing of all Airedales (to the best of our knowledge and the owner's willingness to share information) who have earned hunt test titles since the start of our club. Our listing currently has 164 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 - no longer in existence]. Performance titles include all titles offered by an organized program or club, including agility titles and IPO titles.

(Continued on pg. 6, left column)

(Membership Drive, cont'd from pg. 4)

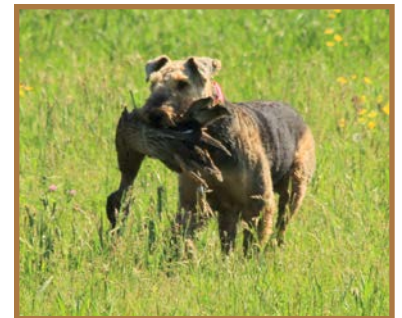
Organization or the ASPCA even if they themselves never interact with the animals they support. HWA membership basically means that you give your approval in the form of financial and morale-support to HWA's mission of maintaining and promoting the Airedale as a versatile hunting companion dog.

HWA membership gives you access to the member's section of our website, where you'll get a closer look at the club through its financial reports and summaries of Board meeting minutes. Being an HWA member is more of a state of mind or identity rather than joining a club so that you get freebies like address labels or a calendar in return.

Of course, we hope that many of our HWA members will be able to attend our events, such as Fun in the Field in April and the Nationals in September. These events provide an all-Airedale venue for training and forming friendships in the Airedale world. HWA's function in bringing together Airedalers with a shared interest in Airedales in the field is an important reason for its existence.

HWA membership also qualifies you to serve 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 in the inner life of the club right now, keep in mind that the continuation of HWA rests in its membership. This club is only as strong as its members make it.

Two new AKC title-holding Airedales in 2022



At left, Maya, owned/bred by Michael Sites, earned in AKC Junior Hunter (Upland) title. Right, Sunshine, owned/handled by Kate Ostrowski, earned an AKC Junior Hunter Retriever title.

(Pedigrees & Performance, cont'd from pg. 5)

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. This year we added two new title holders to the showcase: Maya, who earned an AKC Junior Hunter (upland) title with owner/breeder Michael Sites and Sunshine, who earned an AKC Junior Hunter Retriever title with owner Kate Ostrowski. See their photos on the previous page.

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.org/hunt-test-title-holders> or under the About tab on our website, www.huntingworkingairedales.com

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.

The Number One question coming to HWA is "Where do I find a hunting Airedale puppy?"

These listings are a useful research tool for those searching for a hunting Airedale puppy. HWA's Breeder Referral listing <https://www.huntingworkingairedales.org/breeder-referral> will take you directly to the breeders behind some of the prominent kennel names. You can also simply do a Google search on some of the kennel names to see if the breeder maintains a personal website. .

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

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

HWA'S New Online Shopping Store

Recently HWA started a new online shopping store by working with the popular company, www.Bonfire.com We started with a selection of tees and sweatshirts with two Airedale designs available in a variety of colors and several colors.

You can shop at HWA's Bonfire store at your convenience via this link: <https://www.bonfire.com/store/hunting-working-airedales/> or by clicking the shopping cart button on the homepage of our website, www.huntingworkingairedales.com



Bonfire is used by many organizations to create and sell club merchandise, and we thank HWA volunteer Priscilla Mumea for introducing us to Bonfire and for developing HWA designs and shopping site. When you buy HWA merchandise through Bonfire, you pay them directly and they ship directly to you. HWA gets a percentage of each item sold. We know we won't get rich on this, but we also benefit from seeing HWA's name worn by our supporters.

In the future we hope to offer more designs and merchandise through Bonfire, and to have some available at our events.

But an important advisory: The announcement of HWA's Bonfire merchandise on our HWA Facebook page attracted some scammers who urged people to "check your order for a logo sweatshirt" by clicking their link. The sweatshirt was *not* HWA merch, and the scammers wanted to hack computers via their fake links. They were reported and blocked, but if similar posts appear again, don't fall for it!

Plan Ahead for ATCA Airedale Field Events

The Airedale Terrier Club of America [ATCA] is our breed's parent club, and they have an active Hunting and Field Committee that includes several HWA members. Our clubs are pleased to work together to promote Airedale field activities.

In 2023, the ATCA's Hunting and Field Committee has several big events planned.

On **February 17-23, 2023 Pheasant Fest, sponsored by Pheasants Forever, takes place in the Minneapolis Convention Center.** The ATCA Hunting and Field Committee members will be bringing their dogs to their Airedale booth. Throughout the three-day expo, ATCA Hunting and Field team will introduce thousands of event spectators to the concept of Airedales as upland hunting dogs – and maybe even make some converts. See <https://www.pheasantsforever.org/Pheasant-Fest.aspx> for more information on that event.



ATCA volunteers Lexie Nordahl Inks and her Dad, Matt Nordahl with their Airedales at Pheasant Fest

On **May 19-21, 2023, the Randall Cooley Memorial Hunt Test weekend** takes place at River Rock Kennels in Beaver Dam, WI. The ATCA Hunting and Field team traditionally has an ATCA Fur Test and an ATCA Retriever Test on Friday of that weekend (May 19). Saturday and Sunday will have AKC Upland Test with Airedales given entry priority among the many breeds that can enter. The Premium for this event usually are available on <https://www.huntsecretary.com/> in February.



The ATCA's Cooley Hunt Tests are very popular with even with those who don't have Airedales. Enter early if you want to compete.

On **August 24-27, the ATCA Airedale Specialty** weekend takes place in Stillwater, MN. That weekend has several Airedale Specialty conformation shows, as well as obedience and rally classes for Airedales. Socializing among all the Airedale owners will be encouraged by activities such as a river boat cruise and a banquet dinner. If you've never gone to a dog show before, this would be a great place to come to see what they're about. See next page for a more complete outline of the weekend's events.

Activities for hunting Airedales will be a big part of the Specialty weekend thanks to the efforts of the ATCA's Hunting and Field Committee. As a short summary:

- Thursday, August 24: Airedale Retriever Training for all levels
- Friday, August 25: The ATCA National Specialty conformation show will include a "non-regular" Hunting Dog Class, open to Airedale with hunting titles
- Saturday, August 26: AKC Upland Test *exclusively* for Airedales
- Sunday, August 27: Northern Flight Retriever Club AKC Retriever Test, open to all retriever breeds, including Airedales.

For more information on ATCA Hunting and Field events, contact committee chair Scott Lichty at airedalescott@gmail.com

The ATCA Specialty Weekend Schedule
August 24-27
Stillwater, MN

You Are Invited To Celebrate . . .

“THE AIREDALE TERRIER, AN AMERICAN GOTHIC!”

at the
August 25, 2023 ATCA National Floating Specialty
hosted by
The Twin Cities Airedale Terrier Club
Washington County Fairgrounds, Stillwater, MN

SERVING UP A WHOLE MENU OF ACTIVITIES:

CONFORMATION AND OBEDIENCE/RALLY EVENTS

- + North Star Terrier Association Specialty (Puppy & Veteran Sweeps; Reg Conformation classes; NOHS; and Obedience/Rally)
- + ATCA National Floating Specialty
 - Puppy/Veteran Sweeps – Jean Surfus, judge
 - Regular Classes – Gier Flykt-Pedersen, judge
 - Obedience/Rally – Karen J. Anderson, judge
- + Twin Cities Airedale Terrier Club Concurrent Specialty
 - Puppy/Veteran Sweeps – Anne V. Curtis, judge
 - Regular Classes – Richard Powell, judge
- + St. Croix Valley Kennel Club All-Breed Show

FLOATING SPECIALTY HUNTING RELATED EVENTS

- + Retriever Training – Kelley Land & Cattle Company, Marine on St. Croix, MN
- + Hunting Dog Conformation Sweepstakes Class (*New addition to conformation classes*)
- + AKC Hunt Test for Airedale Terriers – Good Go ING Kennels, Baldwin, WI
- + AKC Retriever Hunt Test (Northern Flight Retriever Ass.) – Kelley Land & Cattle Co.

WEEKEND SOCIAL EVENTS

- + Wednesday night Hospitality Room
- + ATCA Floating Specialty morning continental breakfast in the show grooming area
- + Friday night river paddleboat cruise/dinner down the picturesque St. Croix River valley
- + Saturday night ATCA Floater/TCATC Specialty Dinner – historic country Outing Lodge at Pine Point

So, from one American “classic” – about another . . .

*“Well I wouldn’t trade my life for diamonds or jewels
I never was one of them money hungry fools
I’d rather have **an Airedale** and my farmin’ tools
Thank God I’m a country boy!”*

John Denver (with poetic liberties!)

*And finally, a photo page
featuring images from our 2022 Nationals.
Because it's all about the dogs!*

