

Fellow Club Members:

Another MTARC Hunt Test is now in the books. Well, the books are signed and I need to officially file the report with AKC. I need a day or so to clear my head before tackling that project.

We as club members deserve a pat on the back as we pulled together and got a very big job done. I know I have repeated this, but thanks go to **Matt Griffiths** and Tommy **Fairchild** for their dedication to the pumping project. You all have no idea how much time and effort was expended to fill those water holes and have the grounds in that great shape for the weekend. Nice to have **Steve Faith, Tim Aston** and the **Kresses** staying on the grounds to ensure the safety of our equipment.

Bill Speck introduced several new members of his AKC Performance staff and gave them a bird's eye view of a Retriever Hunt Test. I am sure they were very impressed.

Despite coming out to our biggest event of the year, we managed to recruit several new club members. Welcome **Jon Butler** (Chesapeake) and **Jeremy and Joy Parsley** (labs). Also, welcome back, **John Walker**.

Thursday night, Matt hosted the Judges' Dinner at the Omni Hut per MTARC tradition. They always welcome us with open arms and that night was no exception. Everyone enjoyed the "Feast" and judges were able to get to bed at a decent hour.

I know it was hard to commit for three days, but we had a very good member turnout. On Friday at the Master 1A, **Don Johns, Tracy Tucker, Jimmy Hughes** rocked in keeping things moving. At 1B, **Erik** and **Steve Faith** took charge. 1C had **Donna Smith** and adopted club member **Kristie Wilder**. **Sheila Nelson** and **Tim Aston** kept the Senior stake moving along.

Ramona and Jim Finn ensured that the judges and workers were fed well during the day, and then went above and beyond when Monie prepared our Judges' Dinner for Friday evening. Steak, baked potatoes, salad, green beans, and some nice pies ensured that the judges were happy before retiring for the evening.

The weather continued to be ever so cooperative with temps in the 70's with a lovely breeze throughout the day. **Marty Kress** and **Valerie Marks** tackled the Master 2A stake; friend **Melinda Greewell** and **Helen Romain** assisted at 2B. **Richard Slicker** and the **Tuckers** took on 2C and **Erik** plus **Laurice Williams** kept the Lady Judges happy over at 2D. Other club members providing assistance were **Kim Smith, Scot Chaney, John Walker, Josh Wilcox, Ed Sample, Nate Lester, Scot Marcin, Dave Kress, Henry and Blair Ragle, Gravel Graves, Stuart Shook and Shawn McBrien**. **Karen Passons**, while not an outdoors type of person, came out both Saturday and Sunday and relieved me at the Secretary's Table so that I could run my dog. In addition, she brought additional bags of ice plus garbage bags and paper towels so that we didn't have to run out to the store. Like I said earlier, every little bit helps.

The Junior stakes both days were expertly marshaled by **Paula Harris** and **Scotty Clenney**. These two ladies kept the holding blinds full and were very organized throughout the weekend. I think Scotty kept **Ty** in check as well ☺ Several non club members filled in the gaps, and for that we are eternally grateful.

In addition to the very full judging panel, we also had three apprentices; two in Senior and one in Master. This will enable the judging pool to continue to grow and will also assure MTARC the use of their services at some point in the future.

The tailgate dinner was provided by **Keith Gilliam** and the ribs (and chicken) were outstanding. We got many compliments and several club members were seen entering the pavilion for multiple helpings. The ribbon presentation went very well with the occasional title ribbon award which provided the night's entertainment. The raffle was a success and brought in over \$1000, probably closer to \$1400. This money helps defray the costs associated with the dinner, so that is always a good thing.

It will take a while to go through the income and expenses, but a Treasurer's Report should be available by the next Board Meeting.

Congratulations go to the following club members earning passes at the Hunt Test:

Friday Master:

Prairie Sky Sally - Jon Butler
Quick Wheels Herbie - Don Johns
Mosby's Big Jake - Jimmy Hughes
Jessica's Chocolate Cait - Jimmy Hughes
High Mileage Firestorm - Dave Kress
River City Jesse James - Steve Faith
Baypoint's Lean N'Abe L - Henry Ragle

Friday Senior:

Way-Da-Go Buffalo Bill - Tim Aston
Born in the Boondocks - Henry Ragle
Southhills Shuda Ben A Cowboy - Jeremy Parsley
Gamekeeper Third Time Around - Sheila Nelson **(TITLE)**
High Mileage JB's Believer - Dave Kress

Saturday Junior:

Stoneridge Abigail Trixie - Matt Griffiths
Belstar Song of End O'Lane - Sherie Catledge

Saturday Master:

River City Gunsmoke - Steve Faith
River City Bonanza - Steve Faith
Jessica's Chocolate Cait - Jimmy Hughes
Mosby's Big Jake - Jimmy Hughes
Jamie's B.T. Bailey - Richard Slicker
Waterdog's Double Dare - Erik Gawthorpe

Sunday Senior:

Stoneridge Quick Trick - Matt Griffiths
High Mileage JB's Believer - Dave Kress
River City WD Ponderosa - Steve Faith

Sunday Junior:

Barren River Rebel with a Cause - Clenney
Seawind Merrymaker Limerick - Paula Harris
Gentle Ben's & Cuda's Gator - Clenney
Belstar Song of End O'Lane - Sherie Catledge **(TITLE)**
Southhills Cruisin Untouchable - Joy and Jeremy Parsley
Barren River Splash N Go - Clenney
Stoneridge Abigail Trixie - Matt Griffiths

If I forgot anyone, I sincerely apologize. My eyes are still a bit crossed today.....SHERIE