

St. Clair Flats Hunting Retriever Club, Inc.

"ON THE LINE NEWS"

January, 2007

"Conceived by Hunters for Hunters"

2006 Officers

President: Don Williams	(586) 792-2141	Board: Debbie Horn	(810) 794-0350
Vice President: Lee Koss	(810) 794-3557	Board: Denis Pode	(810) 794-7671
Secretary: Cliff Venticinqu	(586) 739-0423	Board: Dwayne Miles	(586) 752-0037
Treasurer: Matt Lahr	(586) 725-6277	Board: Randy Jezewski	(810) 367-6816
Membership: Rick Horn	(810) 794-0350		

IMPORTANT CLUB DATES

January 28, 2007: Club Meeting, 10 A.M. at Perch Point, Election of Officers and 2006 Awards

February 24 & 25, 2007: Wisill HRC Upland Hunts (4)

March 3 & 4, 2007: Horicon Marsh HRC Upland Hunts (2)

March 3 & 4, 2007: Tri-State HRC Regular Hunt Tests (2)

March 10, 2007: Southern Michigan HRC Preliminary and Regular Upland Hunts (2)

March 17, 2007: Essex HRC Upland Hunts (2)

March 17 & 18, 2007: Badger State HRC Upland Hunts (4)

March 24 & 25, 2007: Great Lakes HRC Upland Hunts (4)

March 31 & April 1, 2007: Gun Creek HRC Regular Hunt Tests (2)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

JANUARY 2007

Happy New Year to everyone. The years come and go so quickly, I can't keep up with them. St. Clair Flats had a great year in 2006 with all the activities and the dogs that got titles. We have 6 new Upland Hunter's, 4 new Hunter Retriever Champions, 4 Hunting Retrievers and 7 Started Hunting Retrievers. That is a great accomplishment for any club. Thanks to all the members that helped with training sessions and congratulations to all the proud handlers and their faithful companions that earned these awards. The awards from our club will be given out at our annual meeting on January 28, 2007.

There are many Upland Hunt Tests in the Region this year and I encourage you to participate in them. You can find more information and dates on our web site www.scfhrc.net. It is also time to think about the hunt tests that you will be running this spring. The tests fill up very quickly and you don't want to miss an opportunity to have your dog tested. Dates and contacts are also available on our web site or in the Hunting Retriever magazine.

The big event this month is our annual meeting when the elections will be held along with the presentation of the awards earned in 2006. If anyone is interested in running for or nominating someone for a position, contact Election Chairperson Debbie Horn.

I have included a bio from Andy Attar who will be presenting our seminar this summer at Hunter's Ridge. This seminar will be limited to 20 participants so there will be quality time for everyone. Let me know if you are interested in attending or call me for more information.

We are having exceptionally warm weather this year, although there aren't any scheduled training days so far this year, don't hesitate to call another member in our club and take advantage of the opportunity to train.

When I had the idea to form an HRC Club in our area 11 years ago, I didn't have any idea that our club would grow to what it is today. I certainly didn't expect to be your President this long. I want to thank all the members that have helped me along the way to make this club the success it is, without you it would have failed long ago. I have enjoyed being your President and I will continue to be active in our club.

Good Hunting, Don



Training/Activities

Andy Attar Seminar: Don Williams has arranged for pro trainer Andy Attar to present a Seminar on August 11th & 12th, 2007, at Hunters' Ridge. Cost is \$200.00 for the weekend, 20 people, 20 dogs, breakfast and lunch included. Spouses allowed as observers only and would pay for meals.

Outdoorsman and hunter Andy Attar began training retrievers in his teens. Exposed to working retrievers while duck hunting, Andy was immediately captivated by the challenges of training and behavior modification. Hungry to learn, Andy spent 2 years helping out an amateur training group outside Chicago, IL before ever owning a dog. During his college years, Andy began competing in club trials and hunting both upland and waterfowl game.

After gaining his bachelor's degree in finance and economics from St. Joseph's College, in 1985, Andy decided to pursue his passion. He joined Mike Lardy at Lake Puckaway Kennels (currently Handjem Retrievers) where the focus was training retrievers for field trials. Working as a tag team, Mike and Andy alternated training young dogs and advanced dogs. In his nine year tenure, he co-trained and handled legends in the world of dogs including 3X NFC AFC Candlewood's Tanks A Lot, 2X NFC NAFC Candlewoods Super Tanker, NAFC Hattie McBunn, NAFC Gusto Lost Control, and Webshire's Honest Abe. During this time, Andy also developed a young dog-training program, which to this day remains the cornerstone of today's successful training programs.

Lottie, Hattie, and a dog named FC AFC Autumn Run's Lil' Toots were dogs Andy and his wife Kari owned and trained and later sold to clients. Lottie was the national derby champion and at the time the highest point derby dog ever. She went on to win 3 national championships. Andy and Kari feel blessed to have had such wonderful animals so early in their career.

With many years of success in training, handling, and teaching clients, the time came for Andy to establish his own business. In 1994, Autumn Run Retrievers was created. Over 30 champions have been trained at Autumn Run since its creation along with a national derby champion, FC Top Guns Able Oakley. The current 2007 NFC, AFC DR. Copper PHD MH was under the tutelage of Andy for some years.

For the past 21 years, Andy has dedicated his life to training retrievers and to teaching others how to train. He has conducted seminars throughout the country and currently is working on his second video project. He has earned the admiration and respect from fellow professionals all over the country. Anyone who is serious about training dogs has heard of Andy.

Currently Andy trains and handles 24 dogs. With help from assistant Seth Stenburgen, Andy competes in trials and attends both the national amateur and the national open every year.

Hunter's Marsh Water Challenge: Rick Horn has set up this activity. Cost for this weekend is \$100 per dog. This does NOT include food or lodging.

This activity is full but if enough members are interested and contact Rick, he could possibly set up another one.

Club Duck Hunt ?: Steve Pittiglio is checking on the possibility of reserving 4 pontoon boats from an outfitter at Sebewaing, 2 days, \$65.00 per gun per day, 4 per boat. (more info later)

Upland Fun Hunt ?: Steve Pittiglio is researching the possibility of holding an Upland Fun Hunt at Perch Point and inviting other clubs. (more info later)

Congratulations are in order!

2006 Club passes: 44 Finished, 19 Seasoned, 25 Started, 47 Upland passes

Total 2006 HRC Passes : 135

2006 Club titles to date: 9 Started, 4 Seasoned, 4 Finished, 8 Upland Titles, 2 – 500 Point Club

Total 2006 HRC Titles: 27

Everyone should be proud of this great achievement. Each of you and your dogs deserve a hearty well done. Your many hours spent in the field and at the various tests have deservedly been well rewarded.

Speaking for myself and I am sure all of the other members that help with the training, we also have been rewarded by your efforts and rejoice in your success. Let's keep up the good effort and make 2007 another great year.

December Meeting Minutes

President Don Williams: Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m., welcome to those in attendance.

Roll call:

√	President: Don Williams	√	Board: Debbie Horn
ab	Vice President: Lee Koss	√	Board: Dwayne Miles
√	Recording Secretary: Cliff Venticinque	√	Board: Denis Pode
√	Treasurer: Matt Lahr	√	Board: Randy Jezewski
√	Membership Secretary: Rick Horn		Alternate:

Number of members present: 25

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Rick Horn to accept the May 06 Meeting Minutes, 2nd by Dwayne Miles, motion passed.

Officers' Reports:

President: Welcomed those in attendance. Thanked Steve Pittiglio for chairing the best Hunt Test our Club has ever held.

Vice-President: absent

Treasurer: Matt Lahr read the Club Financial Report and the Fall Hunt Test report. Discussion followed.
Motion by Rick Horn, to accept the Club Financial Report as read, 2nd by Steve Pittiglio, motion passed.
Motion by Rick Horn, to accept the Fall Hunt Test Report, 2nd by Randy Jezewski, motion passed.

Membership Secretary: Membership number stands at 98 members.

Board Members: Nothing to report

Old Business:

2006 Fall Hunt – Steve Pittiglio thanked everyone that helped make this year's Hunt Test a huge success.

2007 Club Election – Debbie Horn passed out the slate of candidates as of December 10, 2006. Notify Debbie, (810) 794-0350, if you want to run or have someone to nominate to run for an office. If you nominate someone for an office, make sure they have agreed to run for that office.
Motion by Don Williams to nominate Matt Lahr for Club Treasurer, nomination accepted by Matt Lahr.
Motion by Randy Jezewski, if current 3 year Board Member Debbie Horn is elected Treasurer, the person getting the most votes for Board Member at this year's election will complete the 2 years remaining in her Board position, the person getting the second most votes will fill the 2 year Board position and the person with the third highest vote total will fill the 1 year Board position, 2nd by Rick Horn, motion passed.

New Business:

2007 Fall Hunt – Steve Pittiglio and Dwayne Miles will co-chair. The permit for Harsen's Island has been procured.

2006 St. Clair Flats Duck Hunter's Association – This organization gives money to John Shaefer to use for the improvement of the refuge on Harsen's Island. They contacted Rick Horn for a puppy to raffle at their October Banquet. Rick purchased a kennel, collar, lead and dog food to compliment the puppy purchase. Rick requested reimbursement for the \$60.00 spent on these items.
Motion by Don Williams that the Club reimburse Rick Horn \$60.00 for the cost of items donated to the St. Clair Duck Hunter's Association 2006 Banquet, 2nd by Bill Ferrans, motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned – 11:10 AM

Membership Meeting/Election/Awards: Sunday, January 28, 2007, at Perch Point.
