

# COCHISE BIRD DOG CLUB NEWSLETTER

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## CLUB NEWSLETTER

Recently while talking with Dave H. the subject of creating a newsletter came up. We felt that the best way to provide one was electronically by E mail to the members. Since I have had some experience in doing one before I foolishly volunteered to try and start one up.

If there is any item you would like to include in this please send it to me formatted in Microsoft Word so that it can be inserted into the publication.

Hopefully as time goes by we will be able improve it and clean up the thing so that it will be more presentable.

## TRAINING SESSIONS

At the present time the CBDC is conducting its weekly training sessions. Several of the members have improved their dogs level and we are evaluating the dogs each month to mark and recognize their progress.

Chris Sterner has been Force Fetch training Holly for the last month and so far is progressing with the program. The method we are using was developed by Bill Gibbons and involves the use of the pinch collar. Compared to other methods it tends to apply less pressure on the dog and also the Handler. The ear

pinch and toe pinch methods tend to be a bit more aggressive and a lot more stressful on the Handler. The club also has the recently released FF DVD that was recorded at the Gibbons-West Seminar in Texas in May. The DVD is available for club member use on a loan out basis. It is recommended. If you are interested contact Dave.

Chris Orndorff has recently released his Brittany and she is progressing toward the goal of being steady to wing, shot, and fall. If all things proceed according to schedule Babe will be ready for this falls hunting season.

Doug Amos, from Queen Creek, who makes the weekly trip to Sonoita for our training sessions has his young GSP Spot advanced and is in position to be steady to wing, shot and fall also. Being persistent and regular in your training regimen will pay dividends.

## TRAINING TIP

Once your dog is trained it is best to remove it from the training program and only run it for practice thereafter. Only bad things can happen if you continue to run it or work it with the untrained dogs.

## NEW WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION IN ARIZONA FORMED

In March of this year the State Land Trust Department notified several dog clubs in the Greater Phoenix area that a very popular dog training and trial location near the Orme Ranch, north of Phoenix and just west of I-17 would be closed to any further dog events. This area has long been used by dog trainers, both amateur and professional as well as many clubs that conducted a variety of field events on the grounds. Recent wild cat roads and damages to the area necessitated the closure by the State agency. This represents a black mark on the state dog clubs and paints a bad picture for our failure to conduct responsible stewardship of the public land. If public land becomes a part of the solution to permanent grounds in Arizona then we are going to have to be trustworthy and also be a participating manager in cooperation with the agency in charge of the land. We have to improve our image.

The closure has prompted an initiative by the many sporting dog clubs throughout the state. Over 35% of the land in the state is publicly owned and it is apparent that a permanent facility is required for the sporting dog enthusiasts in the state. Many states throughout the country provide dog training and trialing facilities, but there are none in Arizona. The Desert German Shorthair Club, based in Phoenix, was a recipient of the letter from the State land department. They have turned the closure into a positive action that will lead to a much improved situation for sporting dog breeders and exhibitors throughout the state.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of May the first organizational meeting of the Arizona Wildlife Conservation organization was held in Scottsdale. I was able to attend and represent our Club as well as the

Region 12 Field Trial Association of which I am currently serving as president. I am encouraged by this development and proud to be a member of this new organization that has as its primary goals, the conservation of wildlife and the preservation of the rich heritage of pure bred sporting dog development through the provision of quality trial and training grounds in Arizona. More than 25 people attended the initial meeting with representatives from many of the clubs in the state. The membership criteria have not been determined but I would urge each of you to sign up and support this worthwhile project as soon as the organization begins recruitment and enrollment. The organization will be established as a 501 C (3), not for profit under state corporation statutes and the IRS. I have been involved in field trialing for more than 10 years in Arizona and have hunted with trained bird dogs since the mid 60's. There are many factors in play throughout the country that are an open threat to our sporting dog and hunting heritage. This new organization is a positive step in improving and combating the current situation. The Orme Ranch closure, although negative on the surface, is destined to be one of the most positive things that has happened in Arizona for sporting dogs and their supporters.

I look forward to providing you with updated information over the next few months. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

On June 19<sup>th</sup> at Fish Canyon the Cochise Bird Dog Club will be holding its annual Business Meeting. The day

will kick off with a Fun Hunt beginning at 7am and a Picnic at 12 noon. If you plan on attending please let Barb Hershberger know that you are coming at [pointers@theriver.com](mailto:pointers@theriver.com).

Dave H is looking for individuals who would like to run for positions on the Board. There are still several open slots for those of you who are interested. Please contact him if you are interested. As of 28 May one additional board member volunteer is required to fill the slate for 2005.

A current member roster is also provided as an attachment to this newsletter.

**WEB PAGE**