

Midnight Sun Gun Dog Association

2007 March Newsletter

"Having Fun Training Retrievers"

Website: msgda.org



Letter from the MSGDA President Kody Bull

2006 was another fantastic year for MSGDA! As a recap, we held our annual Board Meeting/Spring Banquet at Soupy's Café, conducted a NAHRA judges clinic, and ran three picnic events, two sanctioned NAHRA hunt tests and Fall Fun Hunt at Falcon Ridge. All of our events were successful because of our members who volunteered their time and expertise so those who attended could feel welcome and enjoy their MSGDA experience.

Based on feedback from our membership, our Board of Directors has planned yet another busy year in 2007. Again this year we will hold three picnic events, which we reintroduced in the spring of 2005. Picnic events are training days to simulate actual NAHRA hunt tests with land and water marks for both members and individuals interested in training hunting retrievers. These events give new handlers opportunities to be exposed to testing scenarios utilizing actual birds. Experienced handlers benefit by getting some additional field work in and the personal reward that goes with helping new handlers. Come join us again this year for fun and food at our picnic events!

Other exciting events include the 2007 Annual MSGDA Auction & Banquet and Membership Meeting, a MSGDA booth at The Great Alaska Sportsman Show, three NAHRA hunt tests with live flyer marks, and "outside" judges at NAHRA events. You will find more information about these upcoming events in this newsletter, as well as at our club website (www.msgda.org).

(Continued on page 2 - See "President's Letter")

MSGDA 2007 Annual Auction & Banquet April 14, 2007 - Great Ready for Spring Training!

The annual MSGDA live auction and banquet is designed to raise funds for MSGDA programs and events. This year's event will be held Saturday April 14 at the Eagle River's Lion Club located at 8344 Eagle River Road. The auction is a fun opportunity for guest, club members, individuals interested in training retrievers, and the general public to contribute to MSGDA while bidding for sought after items.

Festivities include Baron of beef and teriyaki chicken dinner, with salad, mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetable dish, rolls, and yummy deserts. Raffle and auction includes a CZ-USA 12 gauge O/U shotgun, outside hunting trips, dog training certificates, hunting supplies, dog food and training supplies, artwork and framed prints, and more. A sample of auction items can be found on our homepage along with additional information about the auction and banquet.

To donate items to items to the event, please contact Kathleen King at kaking@alaska.com or 907 696-2252. To RSVP, please contact Kent Bull at kentbull@gci.net or 229-2951.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at the MSGDA 2007 Annual Auction & Banquet and membership meeting!

MSGDA 2007 Membership Levels

Individual Membership	\$25.00 (1 club vote)
Family Membership	\$35.00 (2 club votes)
Contributing Membership	\$50.00 (2 club votes)
Sponsor Membership	\$100.00 (2 club votes)

(President's Letter - Continued from page 1)

As we go through 2007, the success of our club depends on our members voicing their thoughts and volunteering time to our club. Everyone has something to contribute; it is just a matter of what you enjoy doing and a willingness to help out. Feel free to contact any of the MSGDA Board Members if you are interested in volunteering or to inquire about Board/Officer positions.

Thanks again for making MSGDA a family-oriented club dedicated to hunters and their hunting retrievers and we look forward to seeing you at our events.

MSGDA Club Membership Due

It's that time of the year again to renew your MSGDA Club Membership. As of April 1, 2007 memberships will expire.

Please use the membership application form in this newsletter to renew your membership. Memberships may also be renewed at our Annual Auction and Banquet on April 14, 2007.

All MSGDA club memberships run from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

2007 Auction & Banquet Tickets

MSGDA can be purchased early by completing the enclosed form or by contacting Kent at 229-251. We accept cash, check or credit cards.

Auction & Banquet Tickets: \$30.00 Each
Purchase early to be eligible for the Early Bird Raffle of a CZ-USA 12 gauge Shotgun

2007 Annual Auction & Banquet Time

Time Schedule

Doors Open - Raffle Ticket Purchase & Merchandise Viewing	6:00 PM
Cocktails	6:00 - 7:00
Dinner Service Begins	7:00
Annual Membership Meeting during Dinner	7:15
Live Auction & Bonus Raffle Event	7:45
End of Evening	9:30 PM

Buy your Banquet Tickets Early and be entered in the 2007 Early Bird Shotgun Raffle!

Raffle Eligibility:

- Purchase MSGDA Auction & Banquet tickets on or before April 1, 2007
- Purchase or renew MSDA membership on or before April 1, 2007

Go to our homepage at www.msgda.org and click on the "Win a CZ-USA 12 gauge Shotgun" link for more information and complete Early Bird Raffle eligibility.



**CZ-USA 12 gauge O/U Shotgun
Early Bird Raffle
at the MSGDA 2007 Auction & Banquet**

2007 MSGDA Schedule of Events

March 29	MSGDA Booth at The Great Alaska Sportsman Show
March 30	MSGDA Booth at The Great Alaska Sportsman Show
March 31	MSGDA Booth at The Great Alaska Sportsman Show
April 1	MSGDA Booth at The Great Alaska Sportsman Show
April 14	MSGDA Annual Auction & Banquet and Membership Meeting at Eagle River's Lion Club. Address: 18344 Eagle River Road, Eagle River
May 6	Land Picnic Test at Heaven's Field in Palmer
May 19	Land Picnic Test at Boyd's Potato Farm in Palmer
June 3	Water Picnic Test at Boyd's Potato Farm in Palmer
June 23-24	NAHRA Hunt Test at Falcon Ridge in Point McKenzie
July 21-22	NAHRA Hunt Test at Turnagain Pass in the Chugach National Forest
August 4-5	NAHRA Hunt Test at The Beaver Pond on the Kenai Peninsula

MSGDA at The Great Alaskan Sportsman Show March 29 - April 1, 2007

This year MSGDA will once again be sharing a booth with Falcon Ridge and the Arctic Bird Dog Association at The Great Alaskan Sportsman Show. The show will be at the Denali Hall, and the Sullivan and Ben Boeke arenas, March 29 through April 1. Our booth will be located in the Ben Boeke arena. Please stop by and say "hello"!

Picnic Hunt Test & Pot Luck 2007 Schedule



This year MSGDA will be conducting three picnic hunt tests. These are mock hunt tests with the intention to show new members how the NAHRA Hunt Test can help improve your dog's abilities in the duck blind as well as in the pheasant field.

This is also a great time for the handler to learn some training tips, to shake off the rust of a more seasoned dog from the long winter, and to get out and socialize with friends we haven't seen since the past fall's hunting season.

Date	Location	Time	Event
May 6	Heavens Field	9:30	Land
May 19	Boyd's Farm	9:30	Land
June 3	Boyd's Farm	9:30 AM	Water

All events will include land or water marks, as well as land or water blinds. This will be a great time to meet our other members and develop training groups. Ducks and pigeons will be used for all events. MSGDA will provide hot dogs and hamburgers at all events. Please bring a side dish or desert to share.

Cost per Event: \$10.00 per dog. Cash, credit cards and checks are accepted. Please make checks payable to MSGDA. Junior handlers and individuals interested in training hunting retrievers are encouraged to partake in the events. Guest and non-members are welcome. All MSGDA events are family events, so we hope you will bring your family members

Please check our events webpage for any schedule changes or updates.

NAHRA Licensed Hunt Test Dates

June 23 and June 24

Falcon Ridge, Point McKenzie

July 21 and June 22

Turnagain Pass in the Chugach Nat. Forest

August 4 and August 5

Kenai Peninsula Beaver Pond



Junior Handlers Wanted! 50% Discount on NAHRA Licensed Hunt Tests

NAHRA Field Test Entry fees for all handlers 16 years of age and younger is reduced by 50%.

Get Ready for the 2007 Summer Hunt Tests!

Reminder: The Official NAHRA Hunt Test Rules, General Procedures and Judging Guidelines are now posted on our website at:

http://www.msgda.org/Rules_NAHRA.pdf

MSGDA Training Library Training Resources Available to all Members

We have our training references available for all MSGDA members to check out. We hope that members will take advantage of this great opportunity. If you are interested in checking out any book or video, please contact Baron Rea at 357-5227 or wetland_retrievers@yahoo.com.

Titles available include:

- Trained Retriever "Hold" - Part I
- Trained Retriever "Fetch" - Part II
- Tri-Tronics 3 Action Introduction - Volume I & II
- Total Retriever Training w/Mike Lardy
- Command Performance w/David Dikeman
- Water Dog w/Richard Wolters
- Sound Beginnings Retriever Training w/J.Mertens

Check our MSGDA Club Library webpage (http://msgda.org/msgda_library/msgda_library.htm) for a current listing of training books and videos available.

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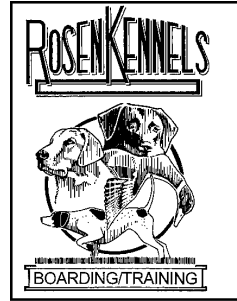
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