

The Whoa Post

A Publication of the BSEBGDC & the PPDC



July 2017

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July Issue

It is July in North Dakota and once again setting record highs for temperatures. We are seeing grass fires that consume thousands of acres and in many cases, the cause of the fire is unknown. The dry conditions are in contrast to other parts of the country that are very green and lush. My daughter, Helen and I recently celebrated her 18th birthday in New York with friends that live on Long Island. Coming from North Dakota, it was a shock to our systems in many ways including the diverse population, traffic, and how green New York is. We enjoyed our trip very much mostly because of our friends, Ray and Carol. They acted as tour guides, cultural consultants, and made us part of their family.

You see, Ray and Carol have dogs. They face the same struggles that we do with house dogs and fight to find places to exercise their dogs in the off season. Beaches are off limits because of the sun worshippers, sand dunes are off limits because of the nesting piping plovers, and the fields and woodland areas are off limits due to high tick populations. Ray is clever and even in this environment finds a few small areas to let them burn off energy. The dogs welcomed us home each day. Zena would “talk” to us if we did not give her the proper amount of attention. Pippa was very sweet and snuggly, while Rascal patrolled the property perimeter, keeping us all safe.

Back home I was welcomed by our 4 dogs with sniffs and barks, sure that we had betrayed them with other dogs. New York was a fabulous adventure, but there is no place like home, dry brown grass and all. I’m back in training mode helping out Pete, my spousal unit by taking care of multiple bird species and evening sessions on area ponds or grass fields. We are fortunate not to have the tick/Lyme disease problem that the eastern United States has and even more fortunate to have vast areas of public land to walk, hunt and enjoy.

Sherry Niesar

Whoa Post Editor





Dog Training and Vocational Education

by Ken Bruwelheide

Since this Whoa Post issue is about training I have been giving a lot of thought to my human training and educational background. I am a vocational educator by training and practice. My career spans 36 years at the secondary and collegiate levels in the laboratory-shop and classrooms as well as designing and implementing curriculum in the public safety arena.

What I have learned along the way is that everything that we do in life is, in one way or another, training. My observation and experience with dogs is the same as humans. The following statements may apply to both.

- Select behavioral outcomes that make sense in field performance. Training in context.
- Basic obedience is an essential part of good training and can/should begin much earlier than field specifics.
- Structure the dog's life so that everything you do with your dog relates to current and later training.
- At some point your dog will "get it." The light bulb will come on and that skill is set. We all can remember the first successful retrieve to hand.
- We know that our dogs must attain a certain level of maturity before field training can build upon basic instincts.
- Part of building the contextual framework of skill training for your dog is developing a task analysis of desired training outcomes i.e. break down the steps into smaller parts that relate to field performance.
- Like with children be firm, friendly, and fair while maintaining the alpha position. Don't forget to give a lot of praise.
- Go from simple to complex and build on repetition.
- Give your dog the opportunity to perform, in some manner, year round. Training off season with live birds can be difficult. Don't expect excellent performance unless meaningful training and reinforcement has taken place year round.
- Enjoy the relationship with your dog no matter how excellent they are or are not.

I am not a breeder. My dogs and I are a hunting team. Field trialing can be important but more relevant for me is a hunting dog in the field. There is a big difference between a 15 minute trialing time frame and several hours hunting on the ground.

I wish that I was a better trainer for my dogs. Until then I will rely on the training experience and expertise of others who are and who can train me also.



Pressure Point by John Mooney

Several years ago I received a phone call about and eventually trained a Large Munsterlander. His main issue was bumping birds. This young male (let's call him Jake) loved birds so much he wanted to get his mouth around them as soon as possible.

When the owner first contacted me, he told me the story of his young Jake. Early in his bird work (six months old) he was as solid as a rock on point but over time Jake started to jump in on birds. The owner and I had a long conversation where I asked him many questions about how Jake was on his retrieves, whoa, healing etc. Jake was doing well in all other aspects of his training he told me. The gentleman seemed knowledgeable in his dog training so I didn't have any real concerns until I thought of one last question.

I asked him how he approached this young pup when he was on point. He said when he would see Jake on point he would walk up hard directly behind him. I asked why he did that and he said he was trying to get to him before the bird flushed. He had done this from early on when Jake was first starting to point. The owner was so excited he would rush up behind him. He told me Jake didn't start moving in on the bird until Jake had come in contact with several birds.

In an earlier article I wrote about a wing on a pole and how puppies, once they know there is a bird in the grass, want to jump in on the bird to see what they are pointing. This is another situation that could have been avoided by approaching the young Jake wide right or wide left when on point while giving the command whoa. Since Jake had started off pointing very staunch, the owner approaching Jake hard from behind made Jake feel pressure from behind and then he would move forward bumping the bird. The owner was causing a problem and didn't even realize it. After two months of training Jake was again solid on point.

When your dog has come in contact with several birds and has a solid point it won't matter how you flush the bird. Just take your time getting to that point. When your young puppy is on point, do you and him a favor, approach so he can see you calmly and quietly, helping intensify the point.

Of course the success of this training tip, like many others, can vary with both dog and trainer. These challenges are what I love most about being a professional dog trainer.

John Mooney owns and operates L'Escarbot Kennels, Hampton, MN

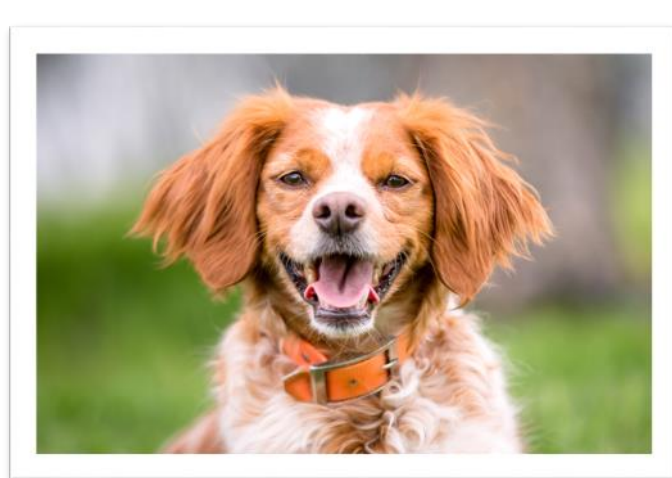
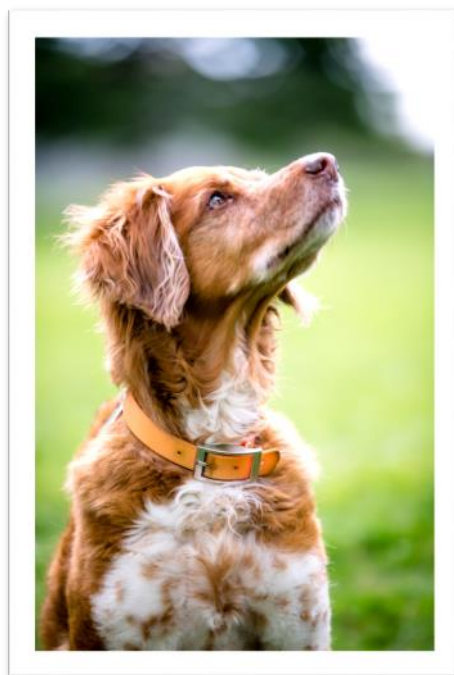
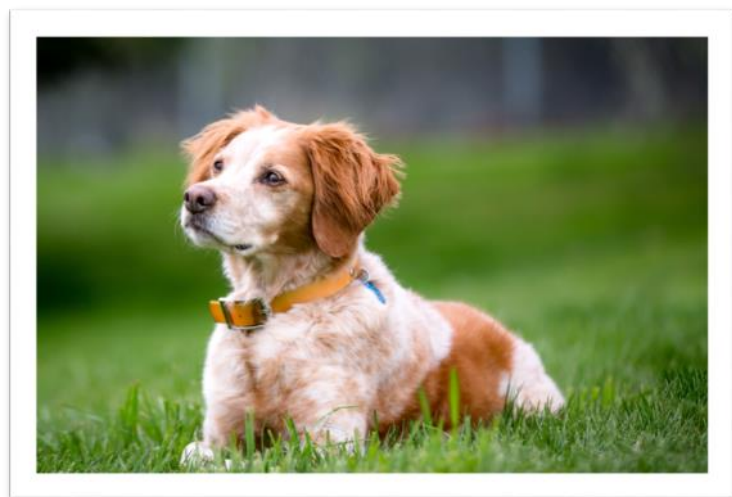


A Photo Shoot with a Professional Photographer

by Janis Bruwelheide

A few weeks ago I won a session with a local photographer in Bozeman, MT who has a special interest and talent for photographing pets. I enjoyed the session so much that I registered for a workshop with her to learn some techniques. Jess Dunbar is a very talented lady whose love for animals shows in her photographs. Some tips that I learned include: take photos from eye level of the animal and focus on the eyes; taking a photo from above the pet can provide an interesting perspective; and have good treats available to direct their attention! Our goal was to have some stately photos of our dogs in addition to some fun action shots and Jess captured their expressions perfectly.

<http://jdp406.zenfolio.com/>



Shackle-A-Rod by Peter Wax

Wally Wahl a celebrated senior judge in NAVHDA, professional trainer, breeder of German shorthairs (foundation stock), and mentor of young men and women on everything from bird dog training, judging, shooting and living the good life once told me: "Listen up" (When Wally said listen up it means something important is about to be spoken) "no bird dog ever amounted to shit without birds. A pup need birds to find, to chase, to point, and to be fetched. There is no way in hell to train a bird dog no matter how well bred without birds".

When I got my first pointing dog I had no money to purchase training quail and no access to capture barn pigeons so when I got a bird it was a precious commodity. One night/early morning I managed to capture three pigeons off a bridge spanning the Missouri River (nearly killed myself) and the next weekend went to train with Wally Wahl. Over the course of the afternoon Wally showed me how to properly plant and work a dog on pigeons but to my horror we used all three. To make matters worse one was a fly-off and one was captured and killed on the ground by my iron-jawed drahthaar.

After everyone else had left I slowly packed to go home. My thoughts were on where to get another bird to train with and the options were thin. At that time the house payment, food and diapers took all my money and I was seriously considering giving up. Deep in thought I didn't hear Wally walk up behind me until he cleared his throat. I turned around and he is standing right there holding two big barn pigeons, a cut-off fishing pole and a launcher. "Here" he says and hands me a big blue-barred cock "put that in your bird box and then come with me and I will show you how a poor man trains".

The Shackle-A-Rod system is really quite simple and could also be called catch and release training. This system allows you to release a bird many times and never lose it. In its simplest form all you need is a fishing pole, a pole holder and a bird. In its more formal setup it is composed of a modified solid glass rod, old-timer bait casting reel, leather shackles, and a launcher. A launcher is not required for general steadiness training but sure is handy for fixing soft points, honoring and stop to flush – but those are stories for another day.

Building a Shackle-A-Rod

All the parts needed to build a Shack-A-Rod can be purchased for next to nothing on e-bay, the neighborhood garage sales or estate auction. I have never spent more than \$25.00 on parts.



Continued on page 6

Shackle Rod - Continued from page 5

Parts & Construction:

(1) Fishing Reel.

- a) The best reels are the 1950's or 1960's level wind bait caster like Pflueger, Shake-speare or Bronson that ideally still have the original braided line. The original line is thicker than the modern stuff and much less prone to tangle.
- b) If your only birds are pheasants you might want to find an old heavy duty Penn, but the most important features are that the reel is level winding and has an adjustable drag.
- c) A spinning reel with monofilament will work, but they are much more likely to tangle.



(2) Fishing Rod.

- a) Ideally find a solid fiberglass fishing rod (like the one Grampa fished for pike with) cut it off 24 inches or so below the last two ferrules and sharpen the end into a dull point. Then take the bottom piece and drive or drill out the rod from reel seat and reattached it to the stubby rod by sliding it over the pointy end and glue with epoxy, silicon, or gorilla glue.
- b) If you cannot find a solid pole get an inexpensive ice fishing pole (The strongest thickest one you can find) and a rod holder.

(3) Soft Leather for Shackles.

- a) Leather shackles are optional. Instead you can tie a loop in the end of the fishing line and use the "Butch Nelson Solution" which is a couple bread ties to attach the bird. Get the heavy duty twist ties. Twist ties are cheap, easy and reliable.
- b) Leather shackles are made out of pliable thin and still stretchy leather. The tongue leather from an old boot works, but for a couple bucks you can get some new leather from the local hobby store.
- c) Cut in the configuration shown. Always make a double shackle as sometimes the bird slips one and if you are on a two bird diet for sure you will lose one or both in the first session.



Shackle Rod - Continued from page 6

The process of implementation is self-explanatory. Stick Shackle-A-Rod (dull point down) into the ground, shackle bird to the line, hide or place bird in launcher than go get dog. Flush or launch bird when desired. Bird flies off attached to line and after dog is back under control reel bird in and repeat.

While this appears fairly straight forward there are a few pointers that might prevent some common mistakes. First test the reel drag with a bird you are using. A strong chukkar or wild barn pigeon once air-born can pull a lot of line out of a reel with the drag set too light and if it attains full speed can break the line or injure its self when it meets the end. The inverse is just as important, as a young bird or weak flier might not get air-born at all and can come back and land on your pup. Also make sure that the line is free from obstructions and not pre-tangled. Common places for tangles are around the rod tip, some tall plant or the bird's head. The later of these always ends badly for the birds especially out of the launcher.



With your new training tool, a few birds and following these tips I wish you good training and also a request. The request is that each time you use the Shackle-A-Rod you copy Wally Wahl by being a mentor to those who need it, and also to share a barn pigeon with a trainer less fortunate than yourself.

***Money can buy you a fine dog, but only love
can make him wag his tail.***

Kinky Friedman

DIY: Leash Whistle Lanyard by Susan Davy

Last fall I was given a hand-made gift of a Whistle Lanyard/Leash. I loved it and used it all the time. This spring I lost it and was devastated, but luckily I had taken a picture of it. Between our local hardware store and the internet, I was able to re-construct it. Here it is for any who like to build things yourselves:

- 1/4" soft braided rope, color of your choice and length to your liking
- 1 swivel Eyebolt Snap—my original lanyard came with a 3", which I thought was a little heavy, so found a smaller one



- 1 steel ring—I found many choices at a store that sells keys and key chains—diameter, your choice
- 2 1/4" ROPE CLAMPS—who knew they came in a choice of colors. I found these on the internet.

The components



The finished product!

The Head, Brain Bucket, Noggin of the Epagneul Breton

by Pete Wax

The Standard “correct” shape, angle and plane of the Epagneul Breton’s head, eyes and nose is based purely on function. To inject fashion in an attempt to improve it is folly. The head, eye set and muzzle angle in the Standard is to ensure an excellent view and alignment with the scent cone while carrying the head high while galloping. The angles are identical to the wolf who has no time for fashion. The length of cranium to muzzle is a ratio of 3:2 which is the ideal length to ensure enough space for the brains and teeth, and enough acoustics to amplify scent to the nose. This ratio produces dogs that are smart, that rarely have bad bites, that can carry heavy objects with ease and that can identify the faintest of scents.

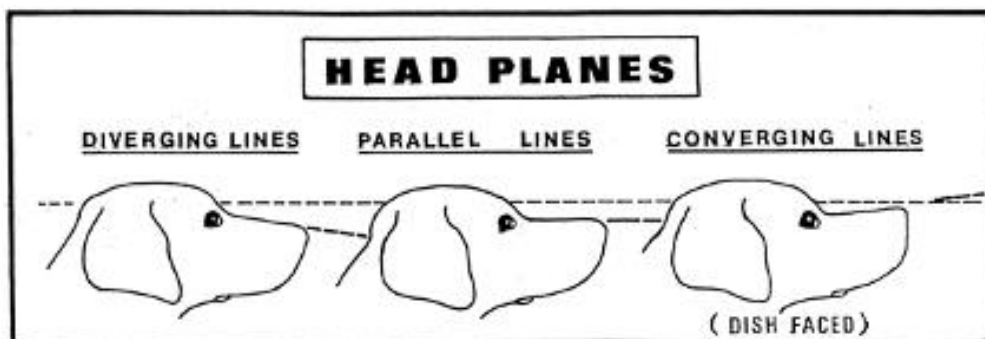
For visual instruction, below are two well known field performers. Note that the head and nose are on parallel planes, that the ratio of nose to head is a near perfect and the depth of muzzle is substantial. Lastly notice the heads on both of these dogs are beautiful and easily recognized as well proportioned Epagneul Bretons even without a ruler. Additionally, I have included Jean Louvet’s well know diagram of the head.



Nat du Buissen de Choisel



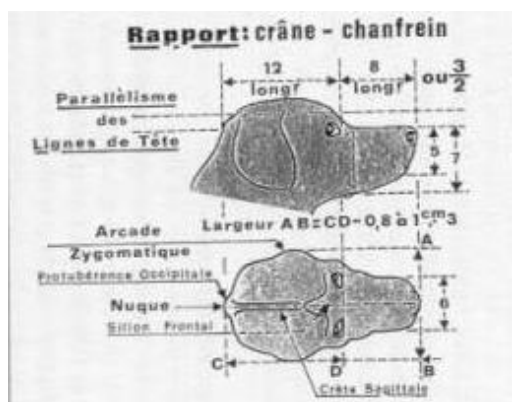
Ska du Saint Tugen



The proper Epagneul Breton head plane (Center) compared to improper head planes. By Jean Louve

Continued on page 10

Head, Brain Bucket, Noggin... - Continued from page 9



Maintaining the correct head in shape and proportion is vitally important if the Epagneul Breton is to remain intelligent and functionally true to the breeds intended purpose, which is to hunt. This is shown in drawings, illustrations, cartoons, and written out in mathematical ratios and equations. There is a reason for it, so follow it.



The Wolf and the Epagneul Breton share a basic confirmation – this is not a coincidence.

Indy de Saint Lubin is maybe the most famous Epagneul Breton of modern times. He is not a throwback or an old fashioned dog. He is a dog bred to the breed Standard with a near perfect head. It is not a coincidence that Indy and nearly all other superior field performers have a nearly ideal shape to their heads and a near perfect cranium to nose ratio. Instead it is this standard that allowed a dog with unusual intelligence, natural ability and drive to rise to the top.



Photo Gallery



Ares living the good life.
Photo provided by Bob Clayton



My Garden Helper
Photo by Fatmi Anders



Bash the Water Dog
Photo by Fatmi Anders



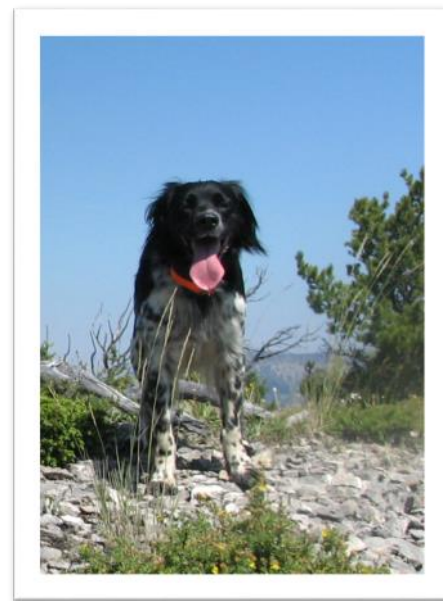
Puppies!
Photo By Norman Pope



Keeping Your Dog Hydrated from *purinaproclub.com*

Hydration Tips

- Monitor a working dog for signs of heat stress and dehydration
- To slow dehydration, a dog should be given small amounts of water every 15 - 20 minutes when working and especially during events lasting longer than 60 minutes
- Try Cooling your dog by periodically squirting them down with a spray bottle or mister. The wetness on the coat has a cooling effect as it evaporates.



Water Rules

- Always give an overheated dog cool water rather than ice water. Ice water can cause the dog to cool down too quickly. Ice water can cause blood vessels to constrict, which slows blood flow to the brain and the cooling process
- To boost water consumption, try baiting water with low sodium chicken broth to encourage drinking or try mixing a few food kibbles with water and adding chicken broth.
- Use running water or a faucet or hose to wet down a dogs body. Never submerge a dog in water as this could cause a dog to cool too rapidly and lead to other problems.
- After working, make sure a dog has access to water, but wait until a dog's panting slows down before allowing the dog to drink a large volume of water.

<i>Heat Stress</i>	<i>Heatstroke</i>
Shade-seeking behavior	Distressed & anxious
Lethargy	Profuse or thick drooling
Heavy panting, possibly with tongue curled up	Extreme panting
Lack of coordination	Vomiting & Diarrhea
Loss of focus & motivation for training	Gums & Tongue may turn dark pink/bright red





Whoa Post Market Place

PUPPIES!! 2 EB male puppies born 5/24/2017 from TR2 Iven Du Mas D'Pataula TAN (CHF-W F'Nat Du Mas

D'Pataula TAN x Dodie Du Mas D'Pataula TAN) and GUN Ichauway Du Mas D'Pataula TAN (NBOB CHF-W Brique De L'Ardour x Cloud De L'Ardour TAN). Both have a lot of white. One is orange and the other is black. Armour, SD

Contact Norman Pope: 303-324-9972 or popecpa23@gmail.com.



PUPPIES!! 4 Male puppies available. Whelp Date: June 10, 2017.

For more information contact Butch Nelson at Hyalite Kennels, 406-567-4200 or

hyliteknls@yahoo.com



Recipe: Zucchini Noodles with Parmesan

Ingredients

- 2-3 medium summer squash (zucchini and yellow summer squash), straighter is easier to spiralize
- 1 tablespoon each butter & olive oil
- 1 large clove of garlic, minced
- Juice of ½ lemon
- Cherry tomatoes, halved or diced red bell pepper
- Fresh thyme leaves or thin strips of fresh basil
- Shaved or grated Parmesan cheese



Instructions:

- Using your Hand-held Spiralizer make squash "noodles," cutting long pieces in halves or thirds as needed.
- In a large sauté pan melt the butter, add the olive oil and garlic. Sauté briefly to infuse the garlic flavor. Add the squash noodles, tomatoes or red bell pepper if using, and turn to coat with the butter and oil, and gently cook until heated through - just a few minutes. Squeeze the lemon on top and sprinkle with salt. Toss with Parmesan, fresh herbs and serve.

About the Spiralizer:

I cut the ends off my squash, inserted the cut end into the coring blade, then twisted to start the process. In no time at all, I had a bowlful of spiralized zucchini and summer squash ready to sauté. I pat the veggies dry, cut some of the longer strands into more manageable lengths and fired up my non-stick frying pan. Within minutes my side dish was ready to roll. Food holder keeps hands safe and acts as a cap for safe storage. There are many brands of spiralizers, but this is the brand I found at our local Target store.



Do you have a recipe to share with the whoa Post readers?
Please send it to Sherry Niesar, *Whoa Post* editor at sniesar@outlook.com

*You can trust your dog to guard your house,
but you cannot trust him to guard your sandwich.*

Anonymous

Breeders

Auburn Bretons

Bob Clayton
206-852-8333
bobclayton2003@yahoo.com
www.auburnbretons.com

Chantant K-3 Kennel

Norman & Judy Pope
popecpa23@gmail.com
605-724-2533, 303-324-9972

Coteau Kennel

Pete Wax & Sherry Niesar
sniesar@outlook.com
701-222-8940
www.coteaukennel.com

Hannahatchee Kennel

Jackie Hutwagner
770.883.8360
hutwag@gmail.com

Hyalite Kennel

Butch Nelson & Karen Paugh
406-567-4200
hyaliteknl@yahoo.com
www.hyalitekennels.com

Pataula Power French Brittanys

Fred Overby
406-209-0006
foverby@bellsouth.net

Topperlyn Gun Dogs

Lynda Kieres
topperlyn@hotmail.com
406-777-5894
www.topperlyngundogs.com

Stud Dogs

1. CHF-Wild NBOB 2XTR Brique De L'Ardour *

Hip Rating - A (France)
*Frozen Semen only

2. CHF-W F'Nat du mas d'Pataula ("Pride")

TAN

Hip Rating- Good - OFA

3. GUN Griz du mas Pataula TAN

Hips OFA-Good
Fred Overby
406-209-0006 (after business hours, please)
foverby@bellsouth.net

GRCHF CH Gallant Thor Sur Le Delavan TAN

Hip Rating - OFA Good
Jackie Hugwagner
770-883-8360
hutwag@gmail.com

1. NBOB GRCH Beau de l'Hospitalier

Hips – “A” – Belgium

2. 2XTR CH TopperLyn D'Artagnan

Hips – OFA “Good”
Live coverage &
artificial insemination on both dogs.
topperlyn@hotmail.com
406-777-5894

www.topperlyngundogs.com

Just Perfect Du Auburn Bretons NAVHDA NA Prize 1, 112 Points

Penn Hip Lt: 0.46, Rt: 0.42
Sherry Niesar
701-527-3714
www.coteaukennel.com
sniesar@outlook.com

The **Breeders and Stud Dog List** is available to all paid members. If you are not a member, complete the membership form and send it to Fred Overby, Club Treasurer. Only Breeding Kennels/Breeders who raise UKC registered Epagneul Bretons will be listed in this **Whoa Post** column. The Whoa Post is sent directly to over 100 email addresses and posted on line on the club web site and Face Book page. Provide your information to sniesar@outlook.com.

To be listed in this column, pay your membership and provide the following information.

Breeders:

Name of Kennel and/or Breeder
Contact Name, Phone, Email, Website

Stud Dog Listing:

Name of Stud Dog
Hip Rating (OFA or Penn Hip)
Contact Name, Phone, Email, Website

Up Coming Events

August 26 & 27, 2017

Northern Plains EB Gun Dog Club Wild Bird
Trail & TAN, Timber Lake, SD
Field Trial Secretary: Norman Pope 605-724-
2533 or popecpa23@gmail.com

September 9 & 10, 2017

Club De L'Epagneul Breton Inc., Mount-
Laurier
Quebec, Canada
Wild Trial & Water Trial
Field Trial Secretary: Reynald Lefebvre,
450.585.6242

Sept. 16 & 17, 2017

Heart of the Prairie EB Gun Dog Club
Green Valley, IL
Liberated Field Trial
Field Trial Secretary: Clint LaFary,
309.231.8868

October 21 & 22, 2017

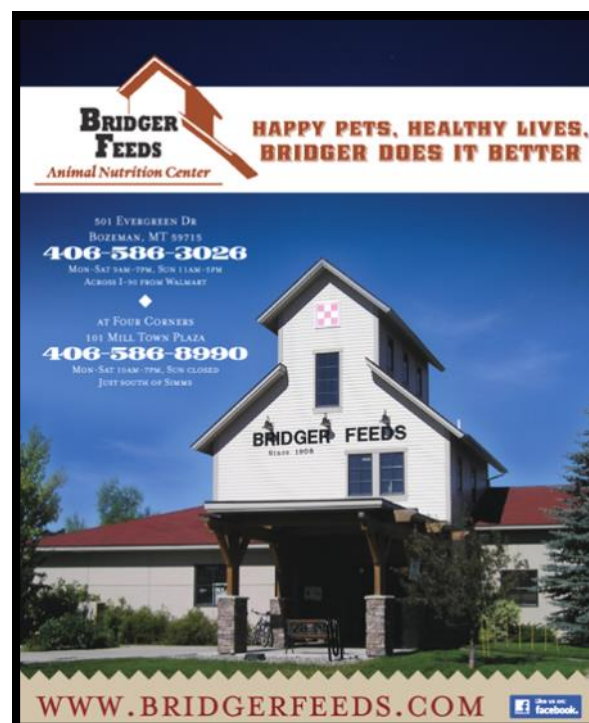
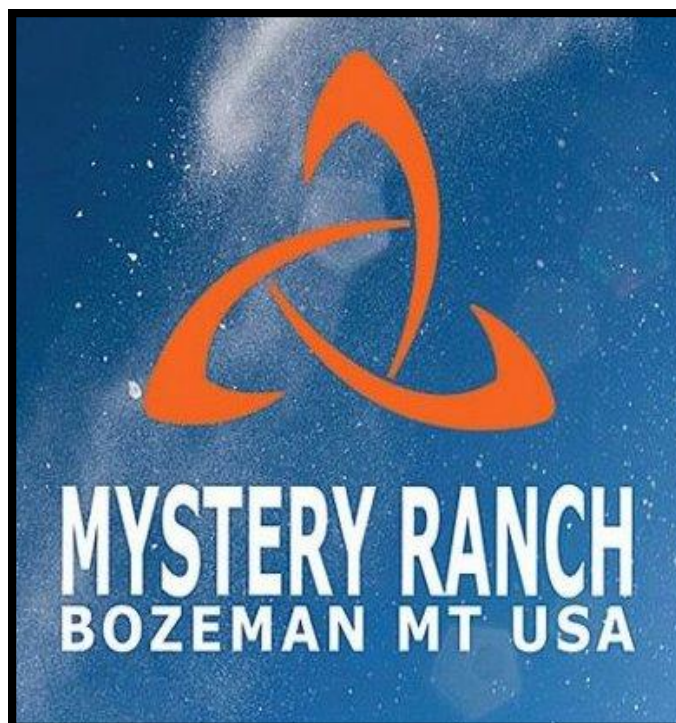
CEB – US
Bloomfield, IA
Wild Field Trial, TAN, Water Field Trial
Field Trial Secretary: Clint LaFary,
309.231.8868

December 9 & 10, 2017

Cumberland Mountains EB Gun Dog Club
Spring City, TN
Liberated, TAN, WRT
Field Trial Secretary: Tom Lehmann
502.228.6694

January 6 & 7, 2018

Cumberland Mountains EB Gun Dog Club
Wild, TAN, WRT
Field Trial Secretary: Tom Lehmann
502.228.6694



Renew Your Membership

Membership to the Big Sky Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club is due at the beginning of each January. Each of the club's members are an important component to the club, adding to the newsletter with articles and photographs and at the clubs annual field trial. If you are not a member, then consider becoming a member. Aside from becoming a part of a group of talented, friendly and likeminded dog owners, members:

- Receive the Whoa Post
- Are eligible to place ads in the Marketplace at no charge
- List Breeder and Stud Dog information (newsletter and web site) at no charge
- Have access to dog training professionals and mentors
- Receive advance notice of special events
- Have opportunity to participate in UKC sanctioned field trials
- Join a fellowship of like minded individuals

Sally Says: "Hey Boss! It's time to pay our membership dues!"

Bi

Membership is open to all individuals. Membership fee is \$20 - individuals \$30 - family or \$50 - business (Business membership receive a business card size ad in the Whoa Post for the year.)

Please take a few moments to complete the Membership Form below and return to Ken Bruwelheide at:

Big Sky Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club
Kenneth Bruwelheide
1406 Robin Lane
Bozeman, MT 59715



Big Sky Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club Membership Form

Name _____ 2nd Family Member _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Membership Category \$20 Individual _____ \$30 Family _____ \$50 Business _____

Make Check out to: **Big Sky Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club**

Return form & dues to: Kenneth Bruwelheide, 1406 Robin Lane, Bozeman, MT 59715