
GOLD COUNTRY ENGLISH SETTER FANCIERS

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Feb/Mar 06

March has come in like a lion and I hope goes out like a lamb. I guess that's a pretty old line and your actually wondering "where the heck was my last newsletter"? I can only say "I do apologize for my performance or lack there of". Now that being said lets get down to business. I missed the last meeting where I am sure that the Annual Hunt Test was discussed and de-briefed. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize everyone who made the two days in Feb 2006 happen. First of all thanks to Sharon Woodland for the supreme effort as the Secretary. Often a thankless job, its one that everyone knows must be done. The Test cannot take place unless the Secretary sends out the flyers' announcing the show; gathers the entries and then sorts out the entire mess into a workable and organized activity. Sounds easy, I know its not and I say thank you from my heart. Once we have the paperwork organized, on the day of the hunt test, you need people to manage the flow of people in the braces. Thanks to Mary Rossmiller Anna Harlow and Joyce Weichsl the Junior Field ran like clockwork. Dave Rossmiller made the bird field run smoothly. Planting birds in the Junior Bird field is so critical. This is often the first time a young- or even the veteran dog ever has been exposed to the environment and you want the experience to be a success. That's what brings them back next year. Food is what gives you the energy to survive this "Two day Event". Thanks to Joan Constantine and May Jean Ralph for putting together such a great Hospitality Table. Our lunch on Saturday and Sunday was awesome. Thanks also to Scott Woodland. I cannot be everywhere at one. Scott kept a close over watch on activities and insured that nothing went amiss. The overall success of the Hunt Test was an effort by the club members. It is really very exciting to see people at the Hunt test that had never had a dog in the field before. Boy the expressions on the novices faces as thir dogs found and pointed the expertly planted birds. I would also like to thank Mother Nature for her cooperation in making sure that we had balmy weather to run the test in. It is truly appreciated.

The next activity is the Annual Specialty in May 2006 at the Fairgrounds in Woodland California in May 2006. Denise Gilly is the Show Chair for this activity. A hard job but I am sure that the activity will draw many dogs. We are introducing Rally Obedience this year. Watching Rally Obedience training classes I promise, it looks like tons of fun, but you have t0 be thinking about what you're doing probably 3 exercises ahead of where you are you are. Just too much for my Blonde (grey) locks.

See you round the Dog show!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

WHAT the HECK is "CHIC"?

Many ESAA members received CHIC Certificates in the mail in recent months.

If you got one (or more) you are probably wondering what they are.....

General Stuff About CHIC: (Canine Health Information Center)

- it's a centralized health database run jointly by AKC/CHF and OFA
- it's goal is to provide a source of reliable health information
- it helps **Breeders** evaluate dogs to use in their breeding programs
- it helps **Buyers** pick breeders who do health testing and verifies that a pup's parents have been screened
- it helps **Researchers** track the incidence of health issues over generations of dogs and across all breeds
- it helps **All Of Us** monitor disease prevalence and measure our progress in breeding healthier dogs!

Do I have to apply for a CHIC#?

- no, it is automatic
- any English setter complying with the CHIC requirements for ES will get a CHIC# & certificate

Does a CHIC# cost me anything?

- NO! Not if you use ESAA or OFA screening tests. (There is a one-time \$25/dog fee to submit Normal test results from other sources like OVC. There is no fee to submit Abnormal test results from other sources.)

What does my dog need to do to get a CHIC#?

- the dog must be screened for all three (3) health items defined as important by ESAA
- the dog does NOT need to have normal results on ANY of the screening tests, it just needs to be tested
- the dog must have some form of permanent ID (tattoo, microchip or DNA profile)
- the dog's owner must agree to let OFA post the test results "in the public domain" (on their website)

What are the CHIC requirements for English Setters?

- check for **Hip Dysplasia** using either OFA or OVC (a Canadian database)
- check for **Elbow Dysplasia** using either OFA or OVC (a Canadian database)
- check for **Hearing** using the BAER Test. Send results to either the ESAA Database or OFA Database

GCESF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 26, 2006

Minutes for the general meeting held on Sunday, February 26, 2006 in Gold River, CA.

Vice President Mike Gorman called the meeting to order at 1:55. Minutes for January meeting corrected as follows:

Change Field Trial to Hunt Test

2006 Specialty: Photograph of perpetual trophy will NOT include engraved name of newest winner.

Minutes approved as corrected.

Treasurer: Report will be attached to newsletter

Secretary: CHIC document read to club and is attached. Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act, HR 3858 read to club and is attached.

Rescue: Gorman's are fostering a rescue bench puppy retrieved from shelter in Stockton. Reilly is a 3 to 4 month old blue. He is neutered, chipped and has his vaccinations. He still has his dewclaws. He is untrained but very sweet. Club members are encouraged to assist in finding Reilly a home.

Council of Dog Clubs: No report

OLD BUSINESS

Hunt Test: Scott Woodland thanked everyone for their help in another successful hunt test. We have been told that our club sets the standard for how to put on a hunt test. English Setters represented over ½ the entry. The hunt test committee has requested additional Port-A-Potties for future hunt tests.

2006 Specialty: Our original obedience/rally judge informed the club that she would be unable to judge. We will now be sharing the new judge, Alvin Eng, with the Doberman specialty. Consequently we will need creative scheduling for our obedience/rally since the Doberman folks will be using the judge first and also want to take him to lunch after their obedience is complete. We will need to discuss this further at March meeting. Alternatives are: conformation after a late starting obedience or a late starting obedience after conformation. Our decision may also affect the type of hospitality we have.

Details for our raffle will also be discussed at the next meeting with, hopefully, more members represented. Discussion items will be: how many raffle items do we want (we currently have a directors chair, doggie hammock and MBF certificates) and amount club wants to spend on the MBF certificates.

Mary Rossmiller has generously volunteered to attend the Camellia Capital/specialties meeting at the fairgrounds in Woodland on March 8th. She will be requesting our ring, tables and chairs and the availability of kitchen appliances for hospitality. If you have any questions you would like her to bring up, please contact her.

2006 Obedience Workshop: Joyce will reserve park space on March 1st.

2006 Supported Entry at Richmond Dog Fanciers (8/5 & 8/6): Our sweeps judges will be Misty Tracy on Saturday and Pam Brann on Sunday. Maryl has sent all necessary information to Richmond Dog Fanciers. Motion made, seconded and passed to support RDF's "Meet the Breeds" event. RDF arranges for spectators at our ring to watch the classes. After completion of classes those who would like to participate bring their dogs to a designated tent where they educate the spectators about our breed. RDF strongly encourages photos/posters of any rescue dogs the club might have.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cheryl has updated our membership list and emailed it to club members. Please report any changes or corrections to her.

Mary informed club members that BAER tracings reported to ESAA for their data base must have the results written on the strip. ESAA does not want to have to interpret the tracings.

Next meeting will be ½ hour after judging at the Oakland Kennel Club show at the Solano County Fairgrounds in Vallejo on March 26th. Maryl will notify those club members who are not showing of our show time and ring number. Club members are encouraged to attend.

A big thank you to Chris Dahmen for hosting this month's meeting. We all had a great time!

Meeting adjourned at 3:10.

BRAGS AND CRIES:

Megan Gorman attended Westminster with the handlers she works for and had a great time. She LOVES New York!

Dave & Mary Rossmiller: Lillie discovered birds at the hunt test! Lillie went Best of Winners/Winner's Bitch Sunday at Santa Clara and Best of Opposite/Winner's Bitch on Monday.

Old Dogs, Old Guns and Old Men

Do you own a camera? I am so glad that I own a digital camera. This has to be the best thing next to sliced bread. A digital camera enables you to see and save the pics you just took nearly immediately. My friend Paul Kromhaught carried one along last weekend on our last outing of the winter Of 2006. The end of the Hunting season is drawing to a close, As a matter of fact, after 26 March 2006; it will be time to get the new puppy "Gaines" out to the field. Our desire is to have him ready for the Rooster Hunt, 2 weeks prior to the 2006-2007 seasons. Several members of this club have decided to start a Saturday morning Dog Training Klatch. I am very excited about training this puppy in the field. His mother, Copper is the most exciting bitching I have see in the field sine M.A. Samuelsons Ha Ha and Cindy went to the great beyond. Last weekend my neighbor Bart, "my new hunting partner" and I made it out to the Suisun Marsh on Fri, Saturday and Sunday. Talk about being on your feet for a weekend. Paul Kromhaught took some pictures that you can only see in the \$5.00 glossy magazines at the Barnes and Noble Book Store. It was exciting to look at the pictures of the dog in action. On several instances, you could see the gun smoke drifting from the barrel of my little 28 gauge Remington 870. The dog had held for the flush of the bird and the smoke was surrounding her as she waited to be released.

Once, I lost sight of her as she crossed a large ditch that ran along the edge of our field. By the time we caught up with her, we found her in water up to her shoulders looking in the ditch for birds. She reminded me of the Loc Ness Monster. Again it was good to have Paul with us as he again saw what a highly motivated dog can do with a bit of training and a good run in the gene pool. He has a puppy from the last litter. He's taking the time to build a foundation with his dog by taking it to obedience training. In early April, we will start the process that will turn his dog into a "gentlemen's gun dog. With Luck we will also get him to a dog show or two and maybe convince him the "dog show fancy" can be fun. We'll see about that.

It's late as I write this. I hope that you enjoy my ramblings. I will try and do better in the future.

It's now time to close this bit of prose Thank you again for being the club that you are. It's good to know that we have the talent amongst us to do so many things within the dog fancy. Wouldn't it be boring to just run around in circles?

Hug those dogs, we never have the right ones for long enough. I'm sure they treasure every moment they have with us.