

The Whoa Post

December 2020

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The December Issue

According to dictionary.com *Gratitude* is defined as the quality of being thankful. In this day and age, this word is used a lot and sometimes without substance. But looking back at my fall, I am grateful and have gratitude for family, friends, great dogs and the ability and opportunity to enjoy all in a safe environment. My family and I shared the part of September in Montana chasing grouse in the mountains and on the prairie. I shot my first blue grouse! We visited with good friends around a socially distant campfire and talked about good times and made new memories, something I am very grateful for.

Back home in North Dakota, we continued to hunt for prairie grouse, waterfowl and pheasants. We've had some great dog work from our two dogs and no injuries, so far (knock on wood). But mostly we have had safe and healthy times in the outdoors.

Tradition is defined by dictionary.com as the transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation. Our family has a tradition of hunting. This activity has been passed on by generations. I don't know how far back this tradition goes on both sides of the family, but if you look at pictures from the past, you will find family members outside with assorted game animals. It's always fun to look at not only the bag limits, but the fashion statements. What was once a wool clad group has transited to sleek, engineered attire. Deer hunters of the past wore green or brown while today they are required to don orange hats and vests.

This year my son embraced deer season traditions. While he has harvested deer before, he has not taken on the responsibility of the hunt. He shot, gutted and hauled his deer out by himself and transported it home. Once home, he butchered his venison on the family table with family. He did need a little direction on a few cuts. I am looking forward to the day when he can help me.

What ever you are grateful for, do so with substance. Embrace family traditions, be safe, maintain your health and enjoy the season.

Sherry Niesar
Whoa Post Editor



Montana Pheasant Opener, 2020 by Ken Bruwelheide

Pheasant season opened on October 10 this year and runs through January 1, 2021. Hungarian Partridge and Sharptail Grouse opened on September 1. It is with a great deal of excitement that many upland bird hunters look forward to the second Saturday in October annually.

Extra excitement prevailed in 2020 due to the pheasant numbers in recent years. The spring and summer of 2017 saw an unprecedented drought that carried through to 2018. Pheasant numbers improved in 2019 and 2020 was expected to be an excellent year for ring necks. Following this long-term trend was also the "huns and sharpies."

A real plus for Mel Kotur and me this fall was that the wives decided that they wanted to come along. Our hunting party was expanded to two campers, two companions and four dogs. Mel and I went to our favorite haunts in Eastern Montana and shared this beautiful country with the ladies.

Janis and I arrived in the area on Thursday, October 8, and set up our travel trailer. We exercised the dogs and had a pleasant evening. We were to meet Mel and Kim on Friday at the farm central to the area we planned to hunt on Friday.

We were up early and on the road before first light since it is about 25 miles on gravel road to the farm. The weather was cool with no wind. During that drive we must have seen about 80-100 ring neck pheasants along the roadside. We were excited and knew that the FWP bird counts must have been accurate. It was beginning to look like the old days! That day we went to the farm and signed in for the permitted time limit and scouted some areas for all birds prior to the arrival of our friends.

Janis and I covered a number of areas and located some huns and sharpails. The dogs pointed a couple of



hen pheasants. These birds were a bit wild after several weeks of hunting and they got up far ahead of the dogs. No birds made it into the bag, but we enjoyed walking in a beautiful setting with very excited dogs. We contacted the Koturs and made arrangement for the following morning opener.

Opening Morning, Saturday

The weather changed overnight. Strong winds came up and the previously cool temperature began to rise. All those pheasants we had seen on Friday along the road had gone elsewhere due to the high winds. We met Mel and Kim to begin hunting at first light in a stubble field that has a creek and is usually very productive for pheasants.



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Montana Pheasant Opener - Continued from page 2

Kim walked along with Mel and we had two dogs on the ground, Maisie and Sally.

The wind increased and it became unseasonably warm and it was very dry. The pheasants must have been hunkered down in the shoulder high cattails and grass to be out of the wind. By midafternoon, the temperature was in the low 80s. The dogs found a couple of birds by scent but could not move them from the cattails and dense grasses.

Sunday and Monday

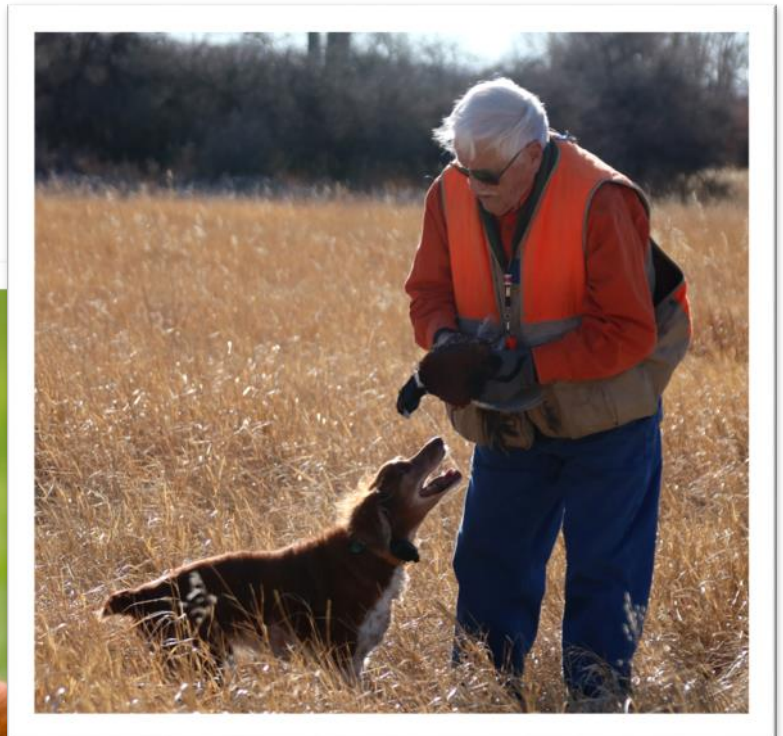
Sunday and Monday were equally as windy and very warm. We walked a lot for only two birds. The flip side is that we had great companions, beautiful scenery, and a lot of great dog work even in tall grasses. All was not lost!

Tuesday, October 13 was a travel day home. The winds kept up and we had about 400 miles of buffeting headwinds. There will be more dog work and hunting yet this fall. We all look forward to that. I have learned over the years that the quality of the hunt is not always measured by the number of birds in the bag.



As an homage to our Daisy, Ambra du Hyalite...We lost Daisy on January 20, 2020 at the age of fifteen. We are so glad that she scored two pheasants on her own during opening weekend of 2019 and that she graced our lives with her presence for so long. Daisy taught Ken to hunt, as he likes to say, because she was so talented. We miss her daily as do Cassie and Sally.

Daisy



Ask Butch by Butch Nelson



Butch, I am wondering about what you believe the proper timeline for the growth and development regarding training pup for hunting and basic obedience. People seem to get wrapped around the axel about their pup not doing something, as though it is a black mark against their character, when in fact, the dog is just being a dog. On various Brittany groups, in particular in the Hunting and Training group on FB, people have expectations about their dog not doing X or their dog is doing Y. For example, a man (from overseas) said his 6 month old EB is not retrieving a stick consistently. Thoughts? *Linda*

Dear Linda...Thanks for your patience with your "Ask Butch" question. As you've figured, Pete, Sherry, myself and all other westerners take a break after September 1st to go bird hunting. By living near heaven we are entitled to an extra long bird season which we do take advantage of. But, with high winds and ten inches of snow I've giving my dogs a slight break (and myself) and hope I can answer your most interesting question.

Regarding Facebook, I'd say it's another example of one man's treasure verses another man's garbage. I would like to believe that everyone who posts training answers or ideas are sincere in helping. Now that I've said that, we all have read political views being represented in social media that if the material was true (Let Me Die In Peace). I believe it takes knowledge to gain knowledge. I believe we learn from experiences and for most, with age brings wisdom. It's also true in working with dogs. Because you're successful with your first hunting dog may not mean you'll be with the second dog or third. The best way to treat Facebook for me is to remember it's only someone's opinion. They have a right to express it and we need to decipher whether it's fact or fiction.

As for a time table, I will only share what we do at Hyalite Kennels. First: We don't train puppies, we mold them. We want to see their inheritable traits. I believe when you train you'll always take something out. By training a pup you might never see it's potential. I will add that some pups and or breeds can take early pressure but I ask "Is it worth the risk"? "Train the pup without the pup knowing it's being trained". Take him for walks; with dogs and by itself. Take the pup to a soccer match or baseball game. Take the pup to Church if allowed but air first. Well, maybe not.

Play retrieve and introduce feathers at an early age. Don't throw a ball for a year and then a year later expect the pup to retrieve a shot up bird the first hunting season. I never have a pup retrieve a toy or anything more than three times a session and the next only once or twice. Keep up the excitement. So you can see, Linda, my time table is different. By living close to heaven and that all pups are seven months come July 15 it's time to work or chase wild birds. I'm building that fire because by next winter or spring it's time

Ask Butch - Continued from page 4

for obedience. I've witnessed it's natural ability and, most important, it's learned to search. Now it's time to start to take away. The first hunting season a puppy can't make a mistake but it has learned to go with us. It's also learned we are a team. We will teach whoa, come every time I call and be a better student about the rest of it's life.

Let me digress. A pup who's raised in the house is a different cup of tea. The pup learns very early that they can't do things in the house that can only be done outside for one. Raising a pup in the house is no trade off for getting in the field.

To reiterate, this is I'm my opinion. You can like it, share it or trash it. It works for me.

Let's get back to the training schedule. After it's second hunting season it might be time for finishing. The pup is now a dog and will respond to us because we've never abused or neglected. We've taken care of his or her needs and with that they know their place, right next us.

So Linda, they'll always be a chart for growth, mental and physical within each breed. Until we have mechanical dogs and we all have the same experience training, the training on Facebook is only an opinion. Good luck...*Butch*

Butch, What can one do with a well trained 8-year old pointing dog who, when hunters spilt up always go with the other hunter. Looking for a solution other than hacking with e-collar. *Susan*

Dear Susan....To help you, a whole lot more information is needed. A well trained dog that won't go with you is not a well trained dog. He might of been at a certain point in his life but the continued education was limited in my opinion to shooting planted birds; not patterning. Most dogs worth their salt by age six will say "I don't need you as much as I did". Or is he saying "If you can't kill birds for me I'll hunt with someone who can." I see this a lot with owners who bring back dogs in the fall to hunt with me. They always hunt for me. I'm constantly heading the dog back to their owner confusing the heck out of the dog I'm hunting with. Truth be known I end up controlling both dogs unless we can make enough separation.

I went off on a tangent there so I'll go back to the situation where the 8 year old dog has been giving to long of a rope. Since you don't want to nag him with an e-collar I'll suggest what replaces it. Carry a six foot lead in your vest and when you go your separate ways with your hunting parter, stop the hunt, snap the leash on him and go in different directions. Next summer when he's nine set up a training session with a friend and your dog might just get the picture.

Good luck...*Butch*



Put Butch Nelson's many years of dog training experience to use by submitting your training questions to the Whoa Post. Send your dog training questions to the Whoa Post at sniesar@outlook.com. Be sure to put *Ask Butch* in the subject line. We look forward to hearing from you.

Auto-Loader by Peter Wax

The man was from east of here. A fervent duck hunter, he wanted to shoot a sharptail grouse and a Hungarian partridge. The goal appeared honorable, so I took him to one of my best spots. It was late in the season but uncommonly warm for the last three days. Unusually warm weather like this will often convert seasoned birds into opening day rookies.

We stop on the approach to the CC ranch's north hayfield and unload. Reaching over the wire to place my old double against the gate post, the slide slams shut on Mr. East's Italian piece of plastic, wire, springs, plumb-fittings, drainpipe and photo finish camouflage. Turning around he is twirling the piston-pushing long recoil operated cornshucker. With uncontained exuberance he recites the statistics on the latest, lightest, fastest, wing-banger ever made. Digital desert snake in color "Ugly" does not begin to describe it. I give a toothy smile in the affirmative.

Letting the two champions out of the truck I am questioning my sanity. As both dogs pass, I instruct Mr. East if he shoots a dog, he better shoot me as well. He chuckles. He is the only one laughing.

I open the gate instead of climbing through. Walking northwest the dogs are quickly on bird. I indicate to Mr. East he should follow them. He starts to jog. I shake my head and say: "They will wait for us". He raises his eyebrows and says: "But will the birds?" I pretend not to hear him.

Coming around the corner of the hill we are treated to a shared point. Instead of acknowledging me and swinging wide, Mr. East quickly marches right between the two Bretons. Uncharacteristically for late season birds, they let him clear the dogs before exploding in a single bunch.

Bang, Bang, Bang, three birds are shaking their life out on the ground and a slow cloud of feathers drifts back over the dogs. Unmounted shotgun in hand, I watch the five survivors fly towards dog butte. Halfway there, the lead bird peels out of formation and crashes into the sod. Looking back the dogs are stationary and on mark with the last bird. Mr. East is out front picking up his birds. I let the Champs go and they run to the late dropper, find it, and race it back to me. Good puppies they are.

Heavy and warm the bird is goodness in my hand. I smooth the beautiful white belly feathers and straighten the legs and marvel at the engineering of the most successful of all prairie grouse. The complete tail feathers checked with black squares tells she is an adult. Mr. East is beside himself with pleasure over a quick limit and wants to get onto some Hungarians. I gently slip the brood hen into my game vest in exchange for a water bottle. Watering the dogs, I smile, and inform Mr. Auto-Loader I think we can find some a few miles up the road from here. As we walk back to the truck, I make a silent promise to the spirits to never take him hunting again.



Everybody Get Your Hats!

Kappy Shack and Ryan Kappes generously donated hats to the Big Sky Club. There are still have a few available for purchase. They make great gifts or stocking stuffers or just a treat for yourself.

If you are interested in purchasing a hat, orders are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Contact Sherry Niesar by email sniesar@outlook.com or at 701-527-3714 are requesting a hat shown below. All hats are \$20. There is no shipping charge. When ordering your hat, make sure you include your mailing address and indicate which style and color you want. Hat's will be shipped when payment is received.





Recipe: Roasted Sharp-tailed Grouse

by Mike Johnson

Directions

Let cleaned bird sit at room temp for 30 minutes. I skinned my bird but if you are willing to take the time, a plucked bird is always better. You could also use just the whole skinned breast. (save the legs for soups).

Season the bird with Happy Salt and rosemary. Happy Salt is a product sold by AmishFarm.com. It's a mixture of salt, dried onion, garlic and other spices. Place the bird in a baking dish/pan, breast side up.

- Place slices of butter on breast and legs.
- Preheat oven to 425.
- Roast Bird for 15 minutes
- Remove from oven
- Turn oven temp down to 350
- Baste the bird with the sauce you prepared earlier (see below)
- Return bird to oven for 10 minutes
- Remove bird from the oven and cover it with aluminum foil
- Let the bird rest for 10 minutes
- Carve meat from breast bone and remove legs if using whole bird.
- Plate the grouse meat and sides
- Drizzle remaining sauce on the meat and sides.
- These cooking temps and time resulted in a bird that was done medium and very moist.

While the bird is roasting prepare your side dishes and sauce. I had a Royal Blend Select mixture of white, brown and wild rice. It cooks in 30 minutes. Baby carrots make a nice side also and add color to the plate. A nice presentation on the plate always entices the palette for that first bite.

Sauce In a small pan gently heat the ingredients below to make a basting sauce. Save enough to drizzle some on the plated meat and rice medley.

- 5 table spoons of Jelly/Jam - I used homemade rhubarb and blueberry.
- 3 table spoons of water (adjust as needed to set the correct consistency for the sauce)
- A pinch of cayenne pepper.



Send your recipes to the Whoa Post Editor at sniesar@outlook.com

Three Dog-Handler Teams Track Blood in 2020

by Joe Schmutz, Saskatoon

*Reprinted from LMAC News, December 2020

On 11 September 2020, three dog-handler teams turned up at Alvena, Saskatchewan, to take the VHDF-Canada tracking (<http://www.vhdf-canada.ca/BloodTracking.html>) This was the day before two full days of VHDF-Canada Field Testing.

VHDF-Canada had changed its approach somewhat by treating the blood tracking test as a stand-alone, apart from the field test. In our original design of VHDF in 2007, we treated blood tracking as an optional subject that was part of the Performance Evaluation. This was in keeping with the Verbandsgebrauchsprüfung (VGP) in the Jagdgebrauchshundverband (JGHV) system in Germany. This separation of the blood-tracking and field testing gives hunters more options and has worked well for VHDF-Canada so far.

The 2020 test entries were:

- Luna de Belle Chasse, Picardy Spaniel, with Todd Shury
- Sunnynook's Fergus, Large Munsterlander, with Derek Oderkirk
- Sunnynook's Cue, Large Munsterlander, with Rick Schryer



Left to right: Rick Schryer with Cue, Todd Shury with Luna, Joe Schmutz, Derek Oderkirk with Fergus, Brent Grabowski and Nell McKim

The test was organized by Brent Grabowski with Nell McKim and Joe Schmutz assisting in judging. Brent went to the test site, consisting of tall grass in a long ago re-seeded pasture. He spread 400 ml of blood over 400 m using a spray bottle. The track was laid in the morning and the test run 4 hrs later. The handlers brought their own treats to amply reward the dog at the end for work well done.

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Teams Track Blood - continued from page 9

All dogs struggled. They leaned eagerly into the tracking lead right at the start, or soon thereafter. However, it was a hot day with 24° C and strong wind. The dogs overheated soon and began to pant. Out of 10 points, the scores were Luna 5, Cue 4 and Fergus 4.

What appears on the surface a relaxed activity is actually extremely demanding for the dog. The constant need to pass air over the olfactory tissue interferes with the orderly supply of oxygen to the body. Even on calm and cool days, dogs need ample breaks on long tracks.

The track is recorded on a score sheet showing the lay of the land, direction of track with three or four bends in it, and showing the route taken by the team. The challenge for the dogs was to detect the change of direction. If overshoot, the dog needs to circle to re-find the track. Here, like everywhere else, it's hugely important for the handler to read the dog well, and assist rather than interfere with misplaced tight leads in re-finding of a track. All the tracking gurus stress the importance of dog-hunter relationship and savvy. Successful tracking means that the relationship with your dog has reached new heights. A firm command "Track" with raised voice has no place in such a relationship. More likely, the hunter feels privileged at being able to engage in a thousand's of years old dog-human relationship and encourages the dog into joint action with a whisper.

As opposed to the dry conditions that hampered the three teams, wet is actually beneficial. According to Blood Tracking Guru Uwe Tabel, even 15 cm of powder snow covering the blood track poses little to no problem for the dog (Tabel, Uwe. (2012). *"Auf der Schweißfährte: Ausbildung und Führung des vielseitigen Jagdgebrauchshundes."* Franckh-Kosmos Verlags-GmbH & Co. KG, Stuttgart, Germany, 139 pp.). The moist conditions of snow and rain can actually be helpful. This is providing the snow has not melted or been rained upon forming an air-sealing crust, or a downpour washed away the blood and scent. Physiologically, all scent particles from grouse or deer need to go into solution first before they can enter into the olfactory cells in the dog's nose to be interpreted.

After the test, we sat in the shade and discussed the day's work. Brent shared his insight gained after many years of his dog-handler career in the police service. We compared a dog following marks made by running shoes on pavement or across a city backyard and park, compared to ground disturbance by a hoof in a forest.

All handlers vowed to do more practice tracking and try the test again. They want to be ready with their dog for the day when that sinking feeling of a crippled and lost deer keeps us awake at night.

UKC Events

December 12 -13, 2020

EB Gun Dog Club of Georgia
5th Annual Curtis Bryan Avery Mem. Quail Classic
Contact: Amy Bird markamybird@icloud.com

January 2 & 3, 2021

Sylvania, GA
Southeastern Pointing Dog Club
Wild Field Trial OPEN & GUN
Species: Bobwhite Quail, Woodcock
Contact Jackie Hutwagner (770) 883-8360

February 6 & 7, 2021

Dawson, GA
Southeastern Pointing Dog Club
Wild Field Trial OPEN, GUN, TAN/WRT
Contact Jackie Hutwagner (770) 883-8360

April 21 - 24, 2021

Milaca/Ogilvie, MN
CEB – US National Conclave
SAVE THE DATE!



How dogs stole our hearts by David Grimm

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2015/04/how-dogs-stole-our-hearts>

If you think of your dog as your “fur baby,” science has your back. New research shows that when our canine pals stare into our eyes, they activate the same hormonal response that bonds us to human infants. The study—the first to show this hormonal bonding effect between humans and another species—may help explain how dogs became our companions thousands of years ago.

“It’s an incredible finding that suggests that dogs have hijacked the human bonding system,” says Brian Hare, an expert on canine cognition at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, who was not involved in the work. Hare says the discovery might lead to a better understanding of why service dogs are so helpful for people with autism and post-traumatic stress disorder. “A finding of this magnitude will need to be replicated because it potentially has such far-reaching implications.”

Dogs are already renowned for their ability to interact with humans. It’s not just the walks and the Frisbee catching; canines seem to understand us in a way that no other animal does. Point at an object, for example, and a dog will look at where you’re pointing—an intuitive reading of our intentions (“I’m trying to show you something”) that confounds our closest relatives: chimpanzees. People and dogs also look into each other’s eyes while interacting—a sign of understanding and affection that dogs’ closest relatives, wolves, interpret as hostility.

It was this mutual gazing that piqued the interest of Takefumi Kikusui, an animal behaviorist at Azabu University in Sagami-hara, Japan. Kikusui’s lab studies oxytocin, a hormone that plays a role in maternal bonding, trust, and altruism. Other groups have shown that when a mother stares into her baby’s eyes, the baby’s oxytocin levels rise, which causes the infant to stare back into its mother’s eyes, which causes the mother to release more oxytocin, and so on. This positive feedback loop seems to create a strong emotional bond between mother and child during a time when the baby can’t express itself in other ways.

Kikusui—a dog owner for more than 15 years—wondered if the same held true for canines. “I love my dogs, and I always feel that they’re more of a partner than a pet,” he says. “So I started wondering, ‘Why are they so close to humans? Why are they connected so tightly to us?’ ”

Kikusui and his colleagues convinced 30 of their friends and neighbors to bring their pets into his lab. They also found and reached out to a few people who were raising wolves as pets. When each owner brought his or her animal into the lab, the researchers collected urine from both and then asked the owners to interact with their animal in a room together for 30 minutes. During this time, the owners typically petted their animals and talked to them. Dogs and their owners also gazed into each other’s eyes, some for a total of a couple of minutes, some for just a few seconds. (The wolves, not surprisingly, didn’t make much eye contact with their owners.) After the time was up, the team took urine samples again.

Mutual gazing had a profound effect on both the dogs and their owners. Of the duos that had spent the



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How dogs stole our hearts - Continued from page 11

greatest amount of time looking into each other's eyes, both male and female dogs experienced a 130% rise in oxytocin levels, and both male and female owners a 300% increase. (Kikusui was one of them, participating in the experiment himself with his two standard poodles, Anita and Jasmine.) The scientists saw no oxytocin increase in the dogs and owners who had spent little time gazing at each other, or in any of the wolf-owner duos.

In a second experiment, the team repeated the same essential procedure, except this time they gave the dogs a nasal spray of oxytocin before they interacted with their owners. There were also no wolves this time around. "It would be very, very dangerous to give a nasal spray to a wolf," Kikusui laughs. Female dogs given the nasal spray spent 150% more time gazing into the eyes of their owners, who in turn saw a 300% spike in their oxytocin levels. No effect was seen in male dogs or in dogs given a nasal spray that contained only saline.

The results suggest that **human-dog interactions elicit the same type of oxytocin positive feedback loop as seen between mothers and their infants**, the team reports online today in *Science*. And that, in turn, may explain why we feel so close to our dogs, and vice versa. Kikusui says the nasal spray may have affected only female dogs because oxytocin plays a greater role in female reproduction, being important during labor and lactation.

This positive feedback loop, he says, may have played a critical role in dog domestication. As wolves were morphing into dogs, only those that could bond with humans would have received care and protection. And humans themselves may have evolved the ability to reciprocate, adapting the maternal bonding feedback loop to a new species. "That's our biggest speculation," says Kikusui, who suggests that because oxytocin decreases anxiety, the adaptation may have been important for human survival as well. "If human beings are less stressed out, it's better for their health."

"I definitely think oxytocin was involved in domestication," says Jessica Oliva, a Ph.D. student at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, whose work recently showed that **the hormone enhances the ability of dogs to understand human pointing**. Still, she says, mutual gazing doesn't happen in a vacuum; most of these dogs probably associate the behavior with food and playing, both of which can also boost oxytocin levels. So although we may view our dogs as our babies, they don't necessarily view us as their mothers. We may just be cool friends who give them an occasional massage.



Photo Gallery



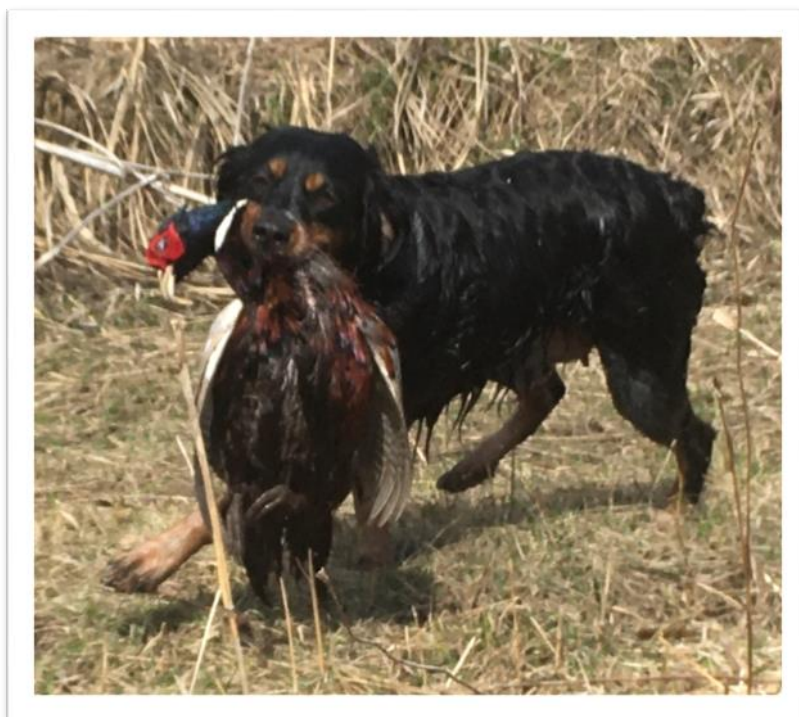
O'Hannahatchee sur le Delavan with 1 day old pups.
Photo by Jackie Hutwagner



After the hunt. Left to Right: Ed, Legend, Indiana, Maestro, and son Troy.
Photo provided by Ed Smith



Ken Bruwelheide with Cassie on her retirement hunt. She is looking forward to many couches!
Photo by Janis Bruwelheide



Jipsie Sur le Delavan – pheasant retrieve from a creek.
Photo by Jim Mondrella

Stud Dogs



Just Perfect Du Auburn Bretons
NAVHDA NA Prize 1, 112 Points
NAVHDA Utility Prize III
Penn Hip Lt: 0.46, Rt: 0.42
Sherry Niesar
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www.coteaukennel.com
sniesar@outlook.com



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Bre

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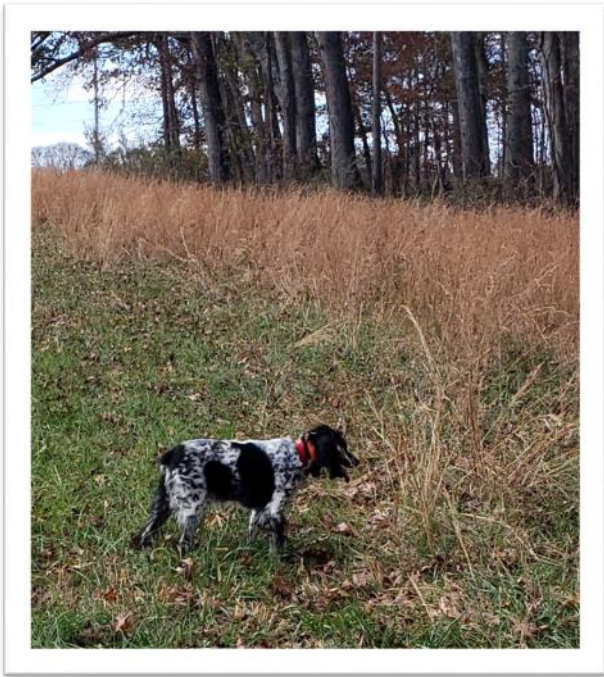
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Smith's Epagneul Bretons
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www.smithepagneulbretons.com

Photo Gallery



Avene De Calastray. 15 years
Photo by Larry Ellison



Betsy doing her business.
Photo by Larry Ellison

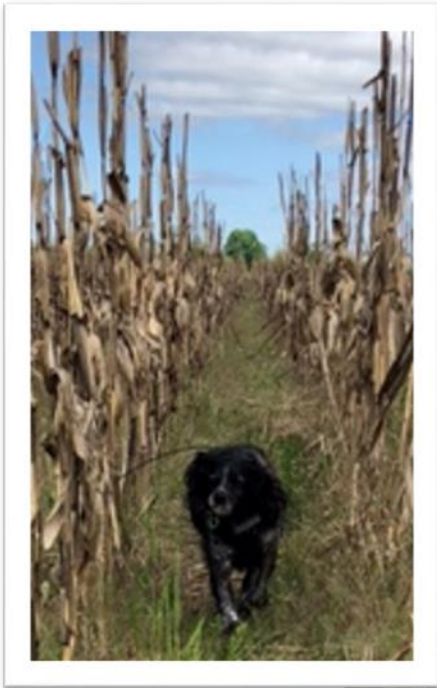


We are having our own Christmas pageant: Xena is the virgin Mary and Rascal appearing as Joseph, including the 3 Wise Men.
Photo by Ray Peres



Dan Hart and Rocket de Chantant K-3
after a Montana Sharptail hunt.
Photo by Dan Hart

Photo Gallery



Xena, "the warrior princess"
Photo by Ray Peres



French Kissing Life d'Hannahatchee working on Cross training drills
Photo by Jackie Hutwagner



Smith's Legend on point,
Indiana De Broughton
backing
Photo by Ed Smith

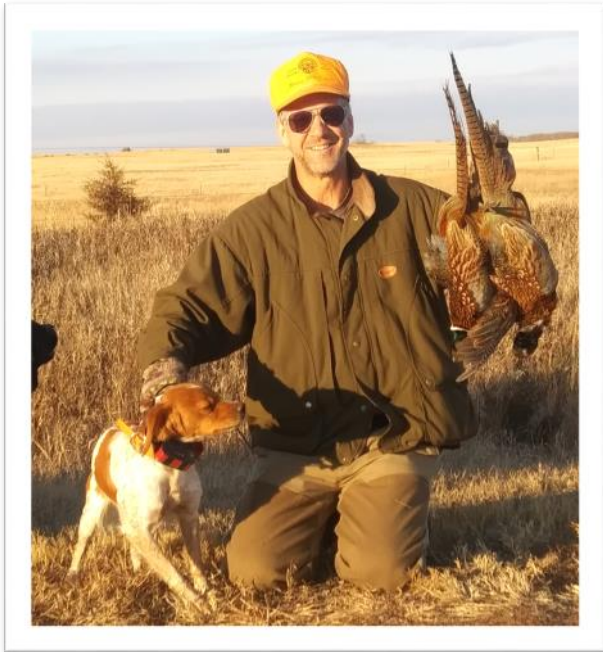


3 month old Russell De L'Escarbot second point on a bob white quail. Sire: Jarred du Comte De Batz Caselmore. Dam: Nixi De L'Escarbot
Phot by John Mooney



The boyzz
Photo by Fatmi Anders

Photo Gallery



Maggie's first pheasant!
Photo by Steve Clarke



Kim Kotur with Rosie and Maisie.
Photo by Mel Kotur



Dan Hart and Nitro de Chantant K-3
Photo by Norman Pope



Norman Pope and Rambo de Chantant K-3 taking
a break on a Montana hunt.
Photo by Dan Hart

Renew Your Membership

Membership to the Big Sky Epagneul Breton Gun Dog Club is due at the beginning of each calendar year in January. Each member is 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 joining. 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!"



Complete your membership form today and help support the UKC trial system.

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: Mel Kotur 2525 Arnica Dr. Bozeman, MT 59715

Merry Christmas

From The Big Sky Epagneul Breton Gun Dog
Club Board of Directors

