



HWA Update

January, 2018


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Happy New Year!

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Save the Dates!
 HWA Fun in the Field
 April 14-15th, 2018



HWA 33rd Annual Airedale
 Field Nationals
 Sept. 7-9, 2018

Both at Holly Hills Game Preserve,
 near Chillicothe, OH

HWA's Spinning Challenge Contest is On!

How many times can your Airedale spin in 10 seconds? And why does it matter?

In cooperation with professional trainer Dave Kroyer (see www.davekroyer.com) HWA is holding a two-week contest that goes to January 14th on our HWA Facebook site. Dave has done a couple short videos for our site to explain that he'll offer a four-month subscription to his competitive obedience training videos (Gold level valued at \$9.99 per month) for the best 10 second Airedale spinning video posted in the comments section of his video, reached through the link on our Facebook site's posting of his contest explanation.

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Fun in the Field Kicks Off Our Year

HWA's annual spring **Fun in the Field** event takes place **April 14-15th** at our usual favorite spot, Holly Hills Game Preserve, near Chillicothe, OH. We'll be sending you entry/reservation information in February, so its not too early to start planning to attend.

Fun in the Field is a casual and informal weekend for training with fur (namely, raccoons) and pheasants. We plan on having a live, caged raccoon or two to give our Airedales a chance to safely meet some game. Then we'll show you how to lay a practice track of raccoon scent, and your Airedale will get some nose to ground tracking practice. "Treeing" the raccoon, that is looking up at the end of the track, finding the raccoon and barking at it, is the last part of the game, and a skill set that can be taught. All this can be done on a

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(Spinning, continued from page 2, left column)

This contest is open to all HWA members, so if you haven't renewed your HWA membership (or started it up) this is your added incentive to do that while you're getting ready for your video. You can find that membership form on our website at: <http://huntingworkingairedales.com/media/Membershipform2018.pdf>

Why teach your Airedale to spin in rapid circles? Dave points out that it's a good muscle-stretching and flexibility exercise that teaches a dog to know where its hind legs are in order to use them better. Dave notes in his video that he often ends a heeling exercise with a spinning release to make for a happier ending. Plus, it's a fun energy outlet for the dog and just something to do when its too cold to go outside to play.

So we hope to see your Airedale spinning video soon! Be sure to include the dog's name, age, and any other details you want. If you aren't on Facebook, you probably have a friend or family on Facebook who could help you get the details you need to post your video. In that case, be sure to include your name so that we'll know you're a current HWA member.

HWA Board of Directors for 2018

Patricia Nemeth, *President*
Kate Ostrowski, *Vice President*
Elizabeth Morrill, *Secretary*
John Noland, *Treasurer*

Board Members
John Bell
Diane Cullen
Stuart Eavenson
George Gordon

This year we welcome Elizabeth Morrill as our new Secretary and John Noland as our new Treasurer. We wish them great success in these important Executive offices.

Our appreciation to our former Secretary Pat Bell, who completed her interim term, and to Michael Sites, who completed two full terms as Treasurer. Thank you for all your hard work!

(Fun in Field, continued from page 1)

"let's just give it a try" basis, but it also prepares you and your Airedale to enter the ATCA Fur Tracking test held in May in Wisconsin (see page 3 of this newsletter) and at our upcoming Nationals in September.

In another part of the grounds, Airedales with some hunting skills will be taking turns hunting pheasants. If you think your dog is ready, you can pre-purchase some pheasants on your entry/reservation form. We'll provide the gunners. If your Airedale has never met a pheasant or been around gunfire, we'll help introduce your dog to game birds and get you started with some ideas of what's involved in hunt training.

Holly Hills has ponds for swimming (weather permitting) and space for running your dog. This is a stress-free weekend to enjoy being outdoors with Airedales and people who love them. Hope you can join in!



Molly Brown, owned/handled by Lawrence Alexander, at last year's Fun in the Field

Did You Notice?

This winter, we're using Facebook to try a **Beat the Winter Blues by Training** series of videos on Facebook. The idea is that our members share some short videos of what they do in winter to shake off inertia and to get ready for spring activities, such as Fun in the Field. We started with a video on using indoor pools for swimming and fitness. Now we're using Facebook to do our HWA Spinning Challenge contest.

If you have an idea for a winter training video, please get in touch with us at hwainformation@gmail.com. We'd like to see what you're doing to Beat the Winter Blues.

Get Your AKC Fur Test Title Soon!

If your Airedale has earned an ATCA Fur Test title (currently designated as JHFur, SHFur, or MHFur for Junior, Senior or Master Hunter Fur), come this February, you'll be able to apply to the American Kennel Club to have that parent club (ATCA) Fur Test title put on your dog's AKC record.

Fees to the AKC for recording in the title on your dog's pedigree in their database start at \$20, with a \$30 fee for recording the title and printing you a new title certificate. Among other options, you can have a printed 4-generation pedigree showing the new title for \$32. The new AKC certificates and pedigrees will show only the highest level title earned, so if you're planning to trial your dog all the way to the Master level, you can save money by waiting till you've reached the highest level, rather than applying for a Junior title this year, then your Senior title next year, then your Master title when you get it.

For some of us, this is a big deal. Getting the AKC to recognize parent club Fur Test titles has been a long-standing goal for both HWA and the ATCA. The titles on a dog's pedigree are one way to permanently record a dog's contribution to his/her bloodline and potential influence in our breed. Airedales were historically renowned for their ability to hunt varmints, so a Fur Test title on a current pedigree is proof that ability is maintained in the modern Airedale.

The AKC Fur Test titles may be awarded retroactively, and we're told that any Airedale that has passed an ATCA Fur Test since the start of the current tests in 1996 may be awarded a title, even if posthumously. Those of us who have earned ATCA Fur Tests titles at the Cooley tests in Wisconsin or at HWA Nationals since 2015 may apply for these AKC titles once we get to the AKC's February kick-off date.

The AKC's official announcement letter tells you how to the application works:

"Starting February 1, 2018, three new titles will be recognized as Junior Fur Tracker (JFT), Senior Fur Tracker (SFT), and Master Fur Tracker (MFT).

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(Fur Titles, continued from left column)

"Participating Airedales must be AKC registered or have a Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) Number and must be at least 6 months old.

"Titles can be applied for by using the ***Application To Record a Title Earned in Approved Parent Club PE*** found on the AKC website under the Title Recognition section located at: www.akc.org/events/title-recognition-program/working-dog/.

"Upon receipt of a title application, verification thru the Airedale Terrier Club of America will be confirmed prior to awarding a Fur Tracking title to a dog's record.... "



Higgins, owned/handled by Mary Wright, earns his JHFur title at last year's Nationals.

So if your dog is entered and qualifies in the ATCA Fur Test at this year's Cooley test in May in Wisconsin and/or our HWA Nationals in September, you'll be earning a new AKC-recognized title. And that's historic!

ATCA 16th Annual Cooley Memorial Hunt Test weekend

...takes place on **May 18-20, 2018** at Rock River Kennels, Beaver Dam, WI. The weekend includes an ATCA Fur Test on Friday morning, May 18, followed by their Airedale Retriever Olympics on Friday afternoon. Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20, will have AKC Upland Hunt Tests. Check in with Scott Lichty at lichsmi@msn.com for entry information well before the event, as their AKC hunt tests fill up fast.

Nationals' Workshop News

This year we're pleased that Patricia Rose, who served as one of our HWA Retriever Test judges last year, will return to judge our Retriever Test again and also serve as our Retriever Workshop presenter. **Pat Rose's Beginners' Workshop** will have sessions on Friday morning and



afternoon and Saturday morning. These sessions are intended for those not ready to enter hunt tests yet, as well as for first-timers who just want to give field work a try to see if their dog might enjoy it.

New this year, Pat will have an **Advanced Retriever workshop** on Sunday afternoon, following lunch and the awards ceremony. This workshop will focus on how to teach skills needed to advance beyond the Junior test level, such as hunt deads and land and water blinds. This session will last the entire afternoon, so if you'd like to participate and have a long drive home, you might want to join those of us who book Sunday night in the host hotel for a safer drive home the next day.

Pat Rose is a licensed AKC retriever judge, and a veterinarian by profession. Academically, she's taught at the college level, and in the dog world, she's trained and qualified two of her Standard Poodles to the Master Hunter level, one titling with consecutive passes. Both MH dogs are obedience trial champions, with an another dog with a UDX. Last year Pat Rose presented a six-week retriever training seminar for the Medina (OH) Kennel Club. It was so well received there's a waiting list to take her repeat seminar this summer. Because she judged for us last year, Pat Rose has a good idea of the skill level of the Airedales and owners she'll be coaching. She notes she enjoys helping people get started, and we're certain she has a lot to teach us all.

Airedales Rule at Westminster's Meet the Breeds

If you're in the New York City area this February, you may already be planning on attending the famous Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, held on Monday and Tuesday, February 12-13, 2018. But come a little earlier to take in **Westminster's Meet the Breeds** event, held on **Saturday, February 10th**, from 10 am- 5 pm at Piers 92 and 94 in NYC. The 5th Annual Master Agility Championship will also be held at the same time and place.

The Meet the Breeds event gives thousands of spectators the chance to visit nearly 200 breed-club booths. The Airedale Terrier Club of Metro New York (ATCMNY) does an excellent job of representing Airedales. In fact, last year they won Best Terrier Booth in Show!

As the breed booths typically are decorated to depict some aspect of a breed's historical and current use, we're so pleased that the Airedale booth will have our HWA brochures and photos on hand to introduce visitors to Airedales as hunting dogs.

For more information on Meet the Breeds, check it out on the AKC website via this link: <http://www.akc.org/meet-the-breeds/>

2018 Pheasant Fest A Showcase for Hunting Airedales

This year's **Pheasant Fest and Quail Classic** convention takes place on **February 16-18th** at the Denny Sanford Premier Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. As in past years, members of the Airedale Terrier Club of America's Hunting and Field Committee will be present with their Airedales to take part in this huge national celebration of upland hunting.

Starting with Friday's Sporting Dog Parade -- led by Airedales thanks to alphabetical order -- the three-day event draws thousands of spectators interested in hunting, conservation, dog training, and hunting dog breeds. The ATCA group, led by Scott Lichty, will have their Airedales on hand, as well as versatile Airedale brochures and photos. If you're in the area, be sure to stop by their booth 414. For more info, check out this link: <https://www.pheasantsforever.org/Pheasant-Fest.aspx>

2018 HWA Membership Drive Underway

HWA's membership drive started at last year's Nationals, but picks up intensity now through February. Our membership year runs from January through December, so if someone joins in the middle or end of the year, he or she still pays full dues for a partial year. So this is a good time to download the 2018 Membership form for renewals or new memberships on our website via this link: <http://huntingworkingairedales.com/media/Membershipform2018.pdf>

Why bother?

If you love an Airedale's fire, drive and abilities, and you enjoy doing outdoorsy things with a dog that keeps the hunter's heart that made this breed famous, then this club is for you. And if you enjoy getting together with like-minded Airedale owners to have some fun with our dogs, then HWA is for you. Sure, you can participate without being a dues-paying member, but a paid membership is a sign of commitment to an idea that goes beyond every-owner-for-himself. That's what a club is, and members make a club.

HWA also welcomes members who aren't interested or able to attend our events, train with their dogs, or walk about in hunting fields. After all, there are things like jobs, children, shortages of time, funds or physical limitations that might keep you otherwise-occupied. But HWA is the club for those who believe it's important (as our Mission Statement says) to preserve and promote our breed as a versatile hunting and working companion dog. So we appreciate your membership support!

The Club Topics/Members section on our website, www.huntingworkingairedales.com, is an added benefit for members. By checking into this password-protected Members' section, members can review financial reports, summaries of Board meeting Minutes, and check a membership roster to find out who else is a member of your club.

HWA membership also qualifies you to serve on our Board of Directors, vote in contested elections, be considered for the Breeders' Referral listing, and organize a regional event. While you may not have the time or inclination to be deeply involved in the inner life of the club right now, keep in mind that the continuation of HWA rests in its membership.



Never forget: Though details of running a club can be (sigh) at times, we do this for the PURE JOY of our Airedales in the field. In the photo above, Euro, owned/handled by Linda Sorak, brings us some joy.

HWA Breeders' Referral List Calling on Our Breeders

Whenever we get the question, "Where can I find a good hunting Airedale?" our first suggestion is to check with the breeders listed on the Breeders' Referral listing on our website at <http://www.huntingworkingairedales.com/BreederReferral.html>. All breeders listed there are HWA members who use performance/hunting abilities as an important part of breeding stock selection.

If you're an Airedale breeder who would like to be included in our website's Breeder Referral section, please contact us at hwainformation@gmail.com for more details.

If you're a breeder already listed on the HWA Breeders' Referral Page, be sure to renew your 2018 membership so that you'll continue to be on our list.

If you do not wish to stay connected through our HWA email mailing list, please contact HWAINformation@gmail.com to ask to be removed.

HWA Brochures Still Available

Word-of-mouth is our best advertising, and it's better when reinforced by a visual aid with at-your-fingertips information. HWA's brochures continue to offer you a way to be an ambassador for hunting Airedales. Hundreds of brochures have been handed out in the past few years.

HWA has two tri-fold brochures available to you to pass out to those you talk to about hunting Airedales. If you're an Airedale breeder, we offer a Puppy Brochure to include in the packet of information that you give out to each new puppy owner. You can see the entire brochure in the Club Topics/Members section our website or via this direct link: <http://www.hwamember.com/Puppy%20Owner%20Brochure.pdf> We're happy to mail you some professionally printed copies on attractive glossy paper at no cost to you. Just request some at hwainformation@gmail.com

Here's what goes on at HWA events...

- Loves to chase anything that moves
- Is crazy for catching bouncing balls
- Loves to bring back things you toss
- Is not intimidated by loud noises (even if that's you scolding him)
- Uses his nose to find treats
- Uses his mouth to grab and secure things
- Would rather look out a window for squirrels than nap on a couch
- Likes water play, frolics or swims
- Is ready to explore the world, with or without you

Then you have a hunting Airedale!

Congratulations on your new Airedale puppy!

As you enjoy his or her **ENDLESS ENERGY** and **INTO-EVERYTHING ANTICS** we hope you'll consider participating in Hunting Working Airedale events.

You don't have to be a hunter to enjoy Hunting Working Airedales.

For more information 716-625-9420 or www.huntingworkingairedales.com

If you're bothered when you hear "Why would anyone want to hunt with an Airedale?" we have a brochure for you to hand out. HWA's Versatile 3-in-1 Gundog Brochure explains the advantages of a hunting dog that's full of personality and talents beyond a specialist breed. You can see and this brochure from the Club Topics section of our website or via this link: <http://www.hwamember.com/AiredaleGundogBrochure.pdf> Just ask us to mail you some by emailing hwainformation@gmail.com



Ques: What's this? Ans: A blind retrieve

Facebook for HWA

Much has been said about social media's influence on us. Putting aside Facebook's negatives, we believe Facebook can be a powerful marketing tool for HWA's mission of promoting and preserving hunting and working Airedales.

HWA's Facebook site now has grown to 2,216 "likes" or fans. Last year January newsletter reported we had 1600 "likes." If you like stats, Facebook supplies them: 53% of our fans are women, 45% men. Of our total fans, 1,425 are in the United States; next is the UK with 89 fans, then Canada with 83 and Germany with 79, all the way down to the Ukraine with 2 "likers." When we look at our popularity in cities, we are most popular in Dallas, Texas, with 19 fans, followed by Melbourne, Victoria, Australia with 17 fans.

For a breed as relatively rare as Airedales, that's a lot of worldwide attention to our niche of active hunting and working dogs. We encourage you to be part of our global Airedale group via Hunting Working Airedales, Inc on Facebook.

We're here to show you these dogs can hunt.

Why hunt with an Airedale?

- He lives to hunt anything from grouse to goose, pheasant to duck, venison to big game.
- She can be trained with methods used for all traditional hunting breeds.
- He's a rugged outdoor companion for all terrain and weather conditions.
- She will guard your home and family.
- He will play with and protect your children.
- She will make you laugh. Everyday.
- He's up for any adventure.
- She will challenge you to be a better trainer and better hunter.
- He will be your loyal lifelong friend and hunting companion.

The Airedale is not your average hunting dog.

The Airedale Terrier A Versatile 3-in-1 Gundog
Fur • Upland Game • Waterfowl

VERSATILITY IS THEIR VIRTUE.

We're here to tell you these dogs can hunt.
www.huntingworkingairedales.com

OBEDIENCE IS THE (BORING?) FOUNDATION

You're watching a Master level dog in the field. You see how joyously the dog runs, and you notice how attuned the dog is to his handler's every gesture or whistle. The dog and handler flawlessly meet all the test requirements and get yet another big orange qualifier's ribbon. You wish that your lovable but uncooperative Airedale could be like that, but you doubt it because ... well, she's not a Lab, Golden or Cocker. She's an Airedale.

But just as surely as every concert musician started by plunking out notes and learning the scales, every hunting and working dog, no matter the breed, begins with basic obedience: come, sit, heel, stay. You can't skip this. Without those basics, you'll just have an independent-minded dog that might love to hunt, but would just as soon do it on his own without a handler as part of his team. The usual practice for someone who wants to do hunt training with a dog is to find a local trainer or local bird dog club to train with so that you and your dog learn the basics of bird work. But you'll be wasting that trainer's time if you come to him or her with a dog that runs off or is out of control.

Fortunately, there are many routes and methods available for starting your home-based basic obedience lessons. Finding a local obedience class for you and your young dog is always a good first step. A good class will teach you how to teach your dog basic skills. It may surprise you that after six weeks of classes, your

Airedale still isn't doing so well. Maybe you neglected to do a short but daily practice session every day at home?

While the come-sit-stay-heel exercises may seem so simple and boring that it's easy to skip them, you're shaping your dog's impulse control and self-discipline by getting him to work with you. Maybe this is easy with some breeds bred for generations for biddability, but for most Airedales, it takes time and patience.

There are many schools of thought on obedience training, starting with positive-based clicker training, with HWA member Corally Burmaster being a nationally-known proponent. See her website at <http://www.clickertrain.com>

If you're planning to work among bird dogs or highly-competitive working dogs, you'll notice that most trainers use e-collars to reinforce off-leash commands, even the basics such as come-sit-stay-heel. When your dog is properly "collar-conditioned," meaning he or she understands the cues the e-collar is giving, using an e-collar can be highly effective. There are many YouTube videos that explain e-collar training, or you can consult your pro bird dog trainer. However, don't skip the part about learning how to use the e-collar properly before you try it, since more harm than good can result if you use it incorrectly.

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(Obedience, continued from page 7)

Obedience resources can be as inexpensive as a subscription to *Gun Dog* magazine. Published seven times a year, this publication always has some good articles on the training and conditioning of hunting dogs. For instance, the Nov/Dec. 2017 *Gun Dog* issue has a good article on e-collar conditioning (see previous paragraph), and of course, their June/July 2017 issue featured Airedales.



Many longtime dog handlers subscribe to training programs developed by nationally-known pro dog trainers. Such trainers typically offer expensive and intensive seminars, but you can also learn from their DVDs. Favorites mentioned by HWA members include Bill Hillmann (see www.billhillmann.net), Dave Kroyer (see www.davekroyer.com) and Mike Lardy (see www.totalretriever.com). These trainers offer some free video samplers of their techniques on YouTube or via their websites, but you can also invest in much more in-depth training DVDs they offer through their websites. Such videos are great, as long as you eventually practice their patterns with your own Airedale.

Good news is once you establish the basics, the boring goes away. Just as the beginning musician's plunked out notes finally become music, the next dog training steps take you into finding birds in the field, retrieving waterfowl from the lake, or doing intricate working drills. There's an exciting world of dog sports out there, and it all begins with basic boring obedience.



Winter Training Tip

Don't stop basic bumper drills just because it's snowy out there. You may have noticed that dogs can see white bumpers far better than orange bumpers under most conditions. But with a snowy background, this is the time to bring out the orange bumpers.

For a more complicated marking challenge for your dog ("marking," in this use, being the ability to track the flight of an object and remember where it fell), try tossing white bumpers in a snowy yard. You can give your dog a hint and a chance to use his nose by putting a little artificial bird scent on the bumper. That way, when it disappears into the fluffy snow, your dog has to hunt it up in order to accomplish her retrieve. It's surprising how well deep snow insulates scent, so your Airedale just may get to enjoy some serious buried bumper hunting.

