



# HWA Update

June, 2015

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## 30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HWA Field Nationals

**HWA - 30 Years, and Going Strong**

This year's HWA Airedale Field Nationals, to be held **Sept. 11-13, 2015** at Holly Hills Game Preserve near Chillicothe, OH, is a milestone event marking the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the HWA Nationals.

Since we're all about Airedales, you know there's going to be a lot of terrier-driven fun and seriously-exciting hunting dogs. But in this special year, we'll carry on with a deep sense of our history, with the promise of more to come.

So read on for a preview of our developing plans for the 30<sup>th</sup> HWA Airedale Field Nationals. You are cordially invited to come be a part of it.



We've got something to bark about!

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### ATCA Fur Test to be Held at HWA Nationals

The Airedale Terrier Club of America [ATCA], our breed's AKC parent club, will be holding an ATCA Fur Test on Friday, September 11, the first day of our HWA Nationals this year. What's the big deal about an ATCA Fur Test at the HWA Nationals?

For practical purposes, the ATCA Fur Test and the HWA Fur Test are the same test, run under the same rules and procedures. HWA considers qualifications in an ATCA Fur Test to be the equivalent of qualifications in an HWA Fur Test, so any title earned in an ATCA

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## Watch for our Nationals' Premiums Coming in July

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The HWA Nationals Premium (that is, the entry/reservation forms) will be emailed to you and posted on our website in mid-July. These will be the forms that you use to enter our HWA Upland and Retriever Tests; or, if your novice dog or pup is just starting out, to enter our Hunting Instinct Test; our Retriever Workshops; plus reservations and payment for our Banquet and lunches. Information on making your reservations at our headquarters hotel will be included.

*New this year*, the Premium (entry form) for the ATCA Fur Test will be emailed to you at the same time as a separate document. If you're entering the ATCA Fur Test, you'll be sending in your completed entry for that test, along with the entry fees, to the ATCA's designated Fur Test Secretary.



The Nationals' Barkathon (photo at right) is a fun event open to all Airedales.

How many barks can *your* dog bark in one minute?

### Did You Know

HWA's Facebook page now has nearly **1,200 "likes,"** bringing together interest from Airedalers all over the world.

Find us on FB by searching for "Hunting Working Airedales, Inc." And then tell all your dog-loving friends to click LIKE us to see what Airedales can do!

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Fur Test can be used as "legs" towards an HWA Versatile title or towards winning the Joan Shea Gordon Memorial Trophy award.

For symbolic purposes, holding an ATCA Fur Test at our HWA Nationals is a huge step towards re-establishing a good working relationship between two Airedale clubs which share a history and many joint members and shared goals. Our current Hunting Working Airedales, Inc club began in 1985 as a committee of the ATCA. In 2007, HWA was incorporated as a non-profit club separate from the ATCA. This separation caused a rupture and some hard feelings in both clubs.

But with the passage of time, all those currently involved agree that those troubled times have faded, and we're left with shared goals and renewed friendships, all for the good of Airedales. HWA is thrilled to be taking this big step with our ATCA friends. We welcome ATCA members to join us at our Nationals. Support your club with an entry in the ATCA Fur Test (see page 8 for how to get ready for that). Support HWA by participating in all the weekend's events. And enjoy being surrounded by Airedales at their best in the field.



Our breed's latest Master Hunter Fur: Aircraft Kira Stella Sites, SH [AKC], SHV, MHFur, CGC, owned/handled by Michael Sites. Title earned at the ATCA's Cooley Memorial Hunt Test, May 15, 2015.



Kate Ostrowski & Filson,  
Bridget Bodine's star pupils

## Nominating Committee Named for 2016 Elections

The HWA Nominating Committee for the 2016 Board elections has been named, as follows:

**Patricia Nemeth, Chair**

**John Bell**

**Craig Contofalsky**

The Nominating Committee will be looking for candidates to fill two vacated Board positions, that of Secretary and a Board Member-at-large spot. These are two-year terms. If you'd like to be considered for one of these Board positions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee during the first three weeks of June while they're doing their considerations.

What does it take to be an HWA Board member? To be an HWA Board member, you have to be an HWA member. You don't have to have vast experience in hunting, training, breeding, or owning numerous Airedales. You should have an interest in the continuation and improvement of the Hunting Working Airedales, Inc. club. And you should have some time and talents that you're willing to devote to the club.

So if you think you'd like to make a contribution to HWA as a possible future Board member, please don't be shy — let a member of our Nominating Committee know! Members can find their contact info in the Members' Roster in the Members' Section of our website.

## Retriever Workshops Planned for Nationals

**Bridget Bodine**, professional gundog trainer, will be our workshop presenter at this year's Nationals. As you'll see if check out Bridget's website <http://www.discoverlykennels.com>, Bridget is experienced in training upland, retriever and pointing dogs.

Bridget also does a good job working with Airedales, as shown by her star pupils, HWA member Kate Ostrowski and her Airedale Filson, who won the prestigious Joan Shea Gordon Memorial trophy at last year's Nationals and are now working on their AKC Senior Hunter title.

As our Nationals have offered Upland workshops the past two years, we're changing it up by focusing on retriever skills this year. Whenever a workshop is offered, there's the challenge of making it interesting and worthwhile to people and dogs who come in with a range of skills, from Know Nothing and Just Starting, on up to Done Some Training, but Need More.

Consequently, Bridget's workshops will be divided into Beginner Workshop, with sessions on Friday morning and afternoon and Saturday morning. This will cover getting started, on up through Junior Hunt Test skills. Then on Saturday afternoon (following our HWA Retriever Test land series), Bridget will begin a workshop on Senior/Master Skills and Drills. This workshop will continue on Sunday afternoon, so we encourage those interested to stay on after lunch.



## Judges Announced for HWA Nationals

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Every Hunt Test experience benefits from judges who are knowledgeable, competent and empathic to the handlers running their dogs. The line-up of judges for this year's HWA Nationals tests meet that criteria well.

The **ATCA Fur Test** on Friday, Sept. 11 will be judged by Lawrence Alexander and Chris Halvorson. Both judges are longtime HWA members with experience in running and training their Airedales for fur tests. Lawrence is an Airedale breeder who has produced many Airedales who have HWA Fur titles. Chris' Airedales have earned Senior and Master Hunter Fur titles. Kim Burrier will be the ATCA liaison for the ATCA Fur Test.

The **HWA Upland Test** judges will be John Dudash and Sam Stazzone. Both men are AKC Upland Hunt test judges with considerable experience in training and handling their English Springer Spaniels in hunt tests and field trails.

The **HWA Retriever Test** judges will be Leslie Phillips and Ed Zawodny. Leslie and Ed were our Retriever Judges at last year's Nationals, and both were asked to return this year by popular approval. Ed and Leslie are both AKC-licensed Retriever Test judges. They train their Flat Coat Retrievers in obedience as well as hunting trials, which gives them an appreciation of versatile breeds.

These judges deserve a good entry, so we encourage owners who have been working with their Airedales to set their sights on entering these tests. You'll find the rules for the Fur, Upland and Retriever Tests on our website at <http://huntingworkingairedales.com/media/HuntTestRules112.pdf>. Please note the ATCA Fur Test rules are the same as the HWA Fur Test rules, so the document on our website will give you all the information you need to know the requirements you need to train for.

*If you do not wish to stay connected through our HWA email mailing list, please contact [HWApres@gmail.com](mailto:HWApres@gmail.com) to ask to be removed.*

## Hunting Instinct Tests for Pups and Untrained Dogs

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We're hearing about lots of spring litters of Airedale pups spreading out around the country with new owners. We're looking forward to seeing many of those pups entered in the Hunting Instinct Test at our Nationals.

The Hunting Instinct Test is geared to evaluate the hunting instincts of pups around 6 months of age and up (that is, they've finished teething and have adult dentition). Older dogs may also be entered in the test if they haven't had prior field training.

In this informal test, pups will be assessed on such things as their natural chase and retrieving instincts, on their reaction to encountering live caged game, and their inclination to follow a scent track and on their willingness to go into the water. Pups are scored on each "exercise," and those who score at least 70 out of 100 possible points "qualify" and receive a certificate.

Whether or not a pup qualifies isn't as important as the fun process of doing the exercises of this test with your pup. At times owners are surprised by how well their pup can do all this "hunting" stuff, and they're encouraged to give the pup more chances to hone his skills. The results of the Hunting Instinct test are also a good indicator of which breeders are producing pups that consistently demonstrate strong hunting instincts. This is important if you'll be looking for your next Airedale as a hunting companion or performance dog.

*Please note that pups or dogs entered in the Hunting Instinct Test should **not** be entered in the HWA Hunt Tests offered this weekend, since those Hunt Tests require trained skills.*



## Sponsorships Show Your Support

Say you'd love to come join in our big 30<sup>th</sup> Nationals weekend, but the timing or distance prevents you from coming. Or maybe you don't currently have an Airedale who'd be up for the events. Or maybe you feel you personally don't care for hunting, BUT you totally support the Airedale Terrier as a hunting breed. Or maybe you're coming and you're entering, but you'd like to do a little more....

Then a sponsorship of a part of our events is a great way for you to play a role in the success of this weekend. Sponsorships help us cover the costs of our event, and hopefully to do a little better than "break even" so that we have some seed money to plan for the coming year. Since we initiated sponsorships a few years ago, they have been an important part of our financial stability. All our sponsors will be listed and thanked in our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Nationals Catalog and announced with appreciation at our Banquet.

### *Hospitality!*

Hospitality evening on the Thursday prior to the start of our event is an evening when we offer a complimentary light supper and get-together space at our host hotel for meeting and greeting friends old and new. Cost for this evening is about \$500. If you'd like to sponsor all or part of this evening's expense, please let us know at [hwapres@gmail.com](mailto:hwapres@gmail.com)

*Our thanks to George and Ellen Gordon, this year's sponsors of the Gunners' Choice Award Trophy.*

Here are some other ways you can help:

#### Hunt Test Sponsorships

Sponsor a **Junior** Upland or Retriever Test for **\$25**

Sponsor a **Senior** Upland or Retriever Test for **\$50**

Sponsor a **Master** Upland or Retriever Test for **\$100**

You will be find a space to sign up for a hunt test sponsorship on our HWA Nationals Premium when it comes out in July, or contact us separately at [hwapres@gmail.com](mailto:hwapres@gmail.com)

#### Event Sponsorships

If you'd like to do something more in the way of a "three-figure" monetary gift, we do have some challenging expenses to meet, including:

##### Workshop Sponsor

Judges' Hospitality (meals and gifts for our judges)

Judges' Accommodations (motel rooms for our judges)

Contact us at [hwapres@gmail.com](mailto:hwapres@gmail.com) if you can help.

# Nationals' Banquet and Auction - Where We'll Celebrate Our 30 Years

HWA's Nationals Banquets are well-known as "feel-good" evenings, when we clean up after a day in the field, talk Airedales, and enjoy friendships old and new. And this year we'll be raising a toast to 30 years of Hunting Working Airedales, which is in itself a tribute of devotion to our breed.

You'll be able to send in your Banquet reservation forms in the Premium coming out next month, but in the meanwhile, let's think about the HWA Auction.

If you haven't attended as yet, the HWA Auction is held during our Banquet. While we've all been out at Holly Hills, our valiant volunteers Corally Burmaster and Pat Reed have been arranging the array of donated items with sheets for us to sign on with our bids. Bidding goes on throughout the evening, and the Banquet concludes with the announcement of the successful bidder for each item.

This is a ton of fun thanks to all the creative things donated to the auction. It could be something to do with Airedales (paintings, photos, books, sculptures, jewelry, etc) or dogs in general, or training gear. Creative non-doggy donations are also popular, especially if they involve gift certificates or alcohol.

Stuck for an idea of something to bring? Just go to [www.Ebay.com](http://www.Ebay.com) or [www.Etsy.com](http://www.Etsy.com) and type in "Airedale" in the search box, and you'll find more gift ideas than you knew existed.

When you know what you're bringing, or if you're sending something in advance, please contact Pat Reed at [Patricia.A.Reed@gsk.com](mailto:Patricia.A.Reed@gsk.com).

Then come with some cash or a check and get ready for some great shopping!



HWA Nationals Auction - just part of the array

## Nationals Catalog to be a 30<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Catalog

Many of us enjoy saving and collecting the catalogs from our HWA Nationals as a record of dogs that were entered in each year's events. The catalog's traditional spiral binding and photos give it added appeal. Our sincere thanks to Pat Bell, who has undertaken the big job of editing our HWA catalog for the past several years.

This year we'd like to make this Nationals catalog even more special a keepsake since it's our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary catalog.

*We encourage you to consider placing an ad in the catalog.* Your ad could include a favorite photo of your dog. Feel free to use any of the photos of your dog taken by our HWA photographers at our events. As for wording, you might have a "Best Wishes for a Successful Event" heading. Or perhaps a "Congratulations to all participants!" statement. Or you could place a memorial ad in for a departed Airedale. Or perhaps an ad that announces a planned breeding or stud dog availability. Or celebrate a new title. Dog advertising in show catalogs and show dog or hunting magazines is a well-established tradition – it's a special way of taking your place in the record of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Cost for a one-page black/white ad in the catalog is \$50 per page. If you're adept at composing your own ad, you can send that as a .pdf to Pat Bell at [johnpat1@windstream.net](mailto:johnpat1@windstream.net)

Ad size print area is 7.25" height x 4.25" wide. If you'd like some help composing your ad, contact us at [hwapres@gmail.com](mailto:hwapres@gmail.com)

Because we hope to have enough ads placed to defray the cost of the catalog printing, this year we're waiving the usual \$5 purchase price of the catalog. Yep, we're giving it away free to all Nationals participants as a gift in honor of our 30<sup>th</sup>.

Let's make it a special catalog by marking your place in our history.

Here's a sample ad for the Nationals catalog. You could be even more creative!

*Best wishes to all  
at the 30th Anniversary HWA Nationals!*



From (your dog's name)  
and (your name)

Your contact info (optional)  
City, State Phone

Email

### Isaac White Update

Many of our HWA members will remember 13-year-old Isaac White, who was unable to attend last year's Nationals due to a sudden confrontation with cancer. Isaac has spent the past year on a most difficult journey of surgeries, chemo treatments, and hospital stays. We're thrilled with reports that Isaac may soon be nearing the successful end of the worst parts of his treatment. Time will still be needed for a complete recovery, so please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Isaac, all your friends from HWA are looking forward to the days when you and your Airedale Lucy will be running and swimming together again!

## Summer Training Tips

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While summer might be too hot for hunting in the woods, it's a great time for training, as long as you take some precautions.

- ◆ Train early morning or late evening
- ◆ Carry a water bottle for your dog.
- ◆ Do water work. If dog is reluctant to swim, go into the water with your dog to support him. Some trainers like to use a float vest to give their dog more buoyancy and assurance. Just Google "dog swim vest" to find some online.

- ◆ If attending dog events in hot weather, be sure to carry lots of ◆ sunshades, ◆ fans for crates, and/or ◆ cooling vests for your dog.

What's a cooling vest? Some of the latest cooling vest styles work by soaking the vest in cold water, then wrapping it snug around the dog's body. Cooling effects last for hours. This is particularly useful if you're waiting your turn in a blind or during training sessions. The vest is removed when the dog is working, but will keep its cooling effects for when the dog is done. Searching for "dog cooling vests" online will bring up several styles to choose from.



Two styles of dog cooling vests.

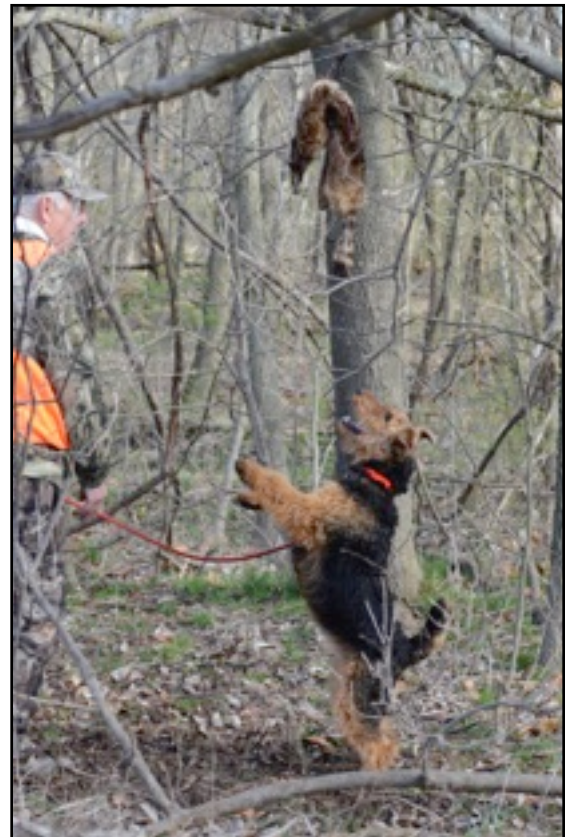


## Get on Track for the Fur Test

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As this year's Fur Test at the Nationals will be a joint effort by HWA and ATCA we'd love to have a strong representation of dogs and owners from both clubs running this test. And while most Airedales have good noses and a liking for finding squirrels in the yard, running a good Fur Test goes better with some special training.

You'll need some raccoon scent (we recommend Cronks Scent, available at [www.fntpost.com](http://www.fntpost.com) or similar stores you'll find online); a raccoon pelt (check Ebay for a good buy), and an area outside of your dog's usual yard with some trees for laying the scent and dangling the pelt. Find complete instructions on our website at <http://huntingworkingairedales.com/media/HowtoTrainFurTes.pdf>



Training with a raccoon pelt leads to a successful test.



## Fun in the Field Photo Page

This year's Fun in the Field weekend took place on April 11-12, 2015 at Holly Hills Game Preserve (which is also the site of our Nationals). Fun in the Field is an informal weekend of training and socializing for Airedales and their owners. We practiced our raccoon hunting skills by using a pelt and a live raccoon, and pheasants for bird work brought an extra measure of excitement. Great food and hospitality, plus the company of folks who love their Airedales made it a highlight of our spring.

We hope these photos bring back good memories for those of us who were there, AND if you couldn't come, we hope these will give you a good idea of all Airedales can do.

