



EDITOR'S CORNER

All the best for the New Year, I hope your winter training goes well and the weather turns around and brings some milder temperatures.

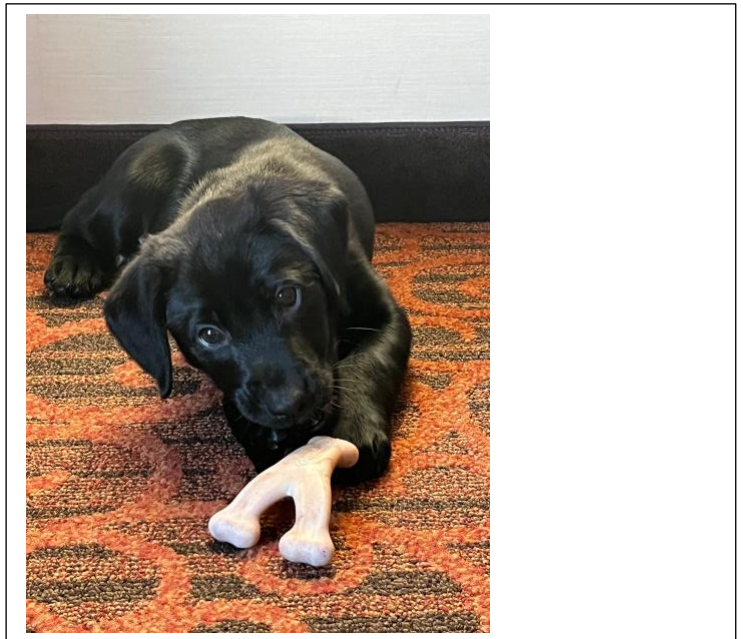
I have been thinking of Bob and Mimi Chrystal a lot this week, we sure will miss Bob. They both have been such strong supporters of our sport.

If you have any suggestions or articles for the newsletter please forward them to me, I really appreciate any help I can get.

Send in your pictures for the draw for the next cover.

COVER PHOTO:

Baypoints Livin' like a Renegade "Renn" owned by Allan and Moni Robertson



THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS:

- Blake Hasiuk
- Moni Robertson
- Medie Robinson
- Carrie Whenham

Our condolences to:

- *Mimi Chrystal & family*
- *Carrie Whenham, James Oake and Samuel*
- *Trent Sprouls & family*



ROBERT HARRY (BOB) CHRYSTAL

April 3, 1930 - January 27, 2023

It is with profound sadness we announce that while peacefully sleeping, Bob passed away in the early morning hours on Friday January 27, 2023 at Riverview Health Center at the age of 92.

He is survived by his loving wife of almost 71 years, Mimi. His daughters Linda Fiedler, Brenda (Wayne) Striowski. His son Rob (Kelly). Grandchildren Danny (Charlotte) Fiedler, Jeff (Tracy) Fiedler, Michael Striowski and Michelle Striowski (Sean). Great-grandsons Devon and Kaden Fiedler. Sister Mary-Lou (Gary) Leggero. Niece Cori (Roger) Yager and daughter Isabella. Nephew Jim (Tracy) Leggero and sons Turner and Evan. As well as Bob's extended families, and his many lifelong friends.

Bob enjoyed a successful career in hockey playing defence with Brandon Wheat Kings, Denver Falcons, Cleveland Barons (having scored the winning goal to win the Calder Cup 1952-1953) and the New York Rangers #6 (1953-1955) as part of the Original Six era. Bob was inducted into the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame (1995) as an individual inductee, and into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame (2009) as a team member along with the entire Brandon Wheat Kings team of (1948-1949). Bob was honoured to have his biography book "Block That Shot-The Bob Chrystal Story" written by Ty Dilello (2018).

After his hockey career he was a PR rep/Sales rep for Carling Brewery and later District rep for Hiram Walker Distillery.

Bob together with his wife Mimi enjoyed their favourite pastime of raising and training Labrador Retrievers for over 50 years.

The family would like to thank Dr. R. Albak and Roseanne. Pharmacist Devarshi and staff at Silver Heights Pharmacy. Homecare givers Alem, Donna (RN) Kendra and Carol. As well as the Doctors, Nurses and staff at Riverview Health Center (floor 2 West) for all the care and kindness given to Bob.

In keeping with Bob's wishes there will be no formal service. A gathering of family and friends will take place at a later date.

"Thank You" for being the man we all loved and respected, you are our hero and will be in our hearts forever.

In lieu of flowers donations to Cancer Care, Riverview Health Center, Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame or Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame would be appreciated.

Looking for activities you can do with your retriever?



MANITOBAGUN DOG ASSOCIATION (MGDA) is hosting a 6-week orientation program introducing you to Hunt Tests, Field Trials and Hunting Techniques*.

The course runs Thursdays from May 11, 2023– Jun 15, 2023 from 6:30 – 8:30 at the MGDA grounds in Balmoral MB.

Each week there will be a brief lecture on the topic of the week. Then you will be assisted by club members in basic obedience that is specific to creating a dependable retrieving dog, teaching hold and fetch, and retrieving bumpers and birds.

The Program is \$100.00, which includes your annual membership fee for the Manitoba Gun Dog Association.

Membership gives you access to 160 acres of land, specifically groomed for retriever training, quarterly newsletters that include tips and training, information on retriever training events and a place to meet other retriever enthusiasts.

Topics

Week 1 - Orientation	Orientation to the grounds. Introduction to throwing marks.
Week 2 – Training Equipment and Resources	You will be shown various items used for training
Week 3 – Rules of the Game	Discussion on various rules for the different competitions
Week 4 – Hunting and the Hunt Test	What to expect when hunting with your retriever, and what goes on at a Hunt Test.
Week 5 – Field Trials	The differences between a Field Trial and Hunt Test will be discussed.
Week 6 – Wrap Up	Review of topics

*Dogs must be a recognized retrieving breed, and registered with the CKC or AKC. They must also have attended a basic obedience class, and be up to date on their vaccinations.

Contact Blake Hasiuk at bhasiuk@mymts.net to reserve your spot in this program or visit our website at Manitoba Gun Dog Association for details.

President's Message

Dear MGDA Members,

Like you, I have been reading and enjoying the MGDA newsletter for years. So I have to start off by thanking Larry Baker because if it wasn't for him we wouldn't have this great resource published four times a year.

The newsletter always starts with the President's Message, and this year I have the honour of doing it. In this sport we have many "Firsts" ...First retriever, First ribbon, First title, First first etc. This year I get to add First time President of the MGDA to my list.

I'm pleased and excited to be President, and I look forward to working with this years Executive as we plan the year's events, but more importantly as we work to create a place where you can build success with your dog, and have fun along the way.

It would be nice to have a "normal" year this year, after our year of drought that was followed by a year of flooding.

As far as our events go, we will be hosting our spring and fall Hunt Tests and Field Trials. I don't have to tell you that the success of these events lies totally with the volunteers that make them happen. From the committee members, to the judges, marshals, gunners, and throwers, it is their tireless commitment that makes these events a success.

We will be holding our new members orientation again this year. It will run for 6 weeks on Thursday nights from May 11 th to June 15 th . We've already got people signing up, so that is a good sign.

There are a couple of other events that are still in the planning stage, but we're hoping to get in a judges clinic, as well as a couple of informals, or picnic trials.

You will be able to find about our events on our website as Carrie Whenham keeps this vital link to the outside world going.

I look forward to seeing you all this year, and wish all the success with your dogs.

Blake Hasiuk
MGDA President



Blake & Reggie working the double "T"



Lifeguards in Croatia



Available for purchase

ANNUAL AGM AND AWARDS MEETING

On December 3rd, the MGDA held their Annual General Meeting and Awards Lunch at the clubhouse in Balmoral. It was a warm winter day and with the fireplace stoking the clubhouse, we had a warm gathering with 22 people, a combination of members and their guest. Our 2022 President, Dewayne Hay welcomed everyone and proceeded through the agenda. Each year at our Annual General Meeting, we elect a new executive to carry forward into the new season. This year's 2023 elected executive is as follows:

Past President – Dewayne Hay
President – Blake Hasiuk
1st Vice President – Ross Peden
2nd Vice President – Bob Norris
Secretary – Crystal Fulton
Treasurer – Larry Lewarton
2 year Director – Matt Mutcheson
2 year Director – Allan Robertson
1 year Director – Peter Dozois
1 year Director – Dustin Dola

Thank you to our previous executive members, Medie Robinson, Geoff Plouffe and Carrie Whenham for your contributions to our executive.

While we could smell the bbq cooking, we celebrated success of our members in the 2022 season. We had two members who were recognized at the national level

Peter Dozois and his male lab, **Razor's Red River Rocket "Rocket"** travelled the country from east to west and earned the 2022 Canadian High Point Junior Dog with 37 points. Together they entered 15 Junior Stakes earning 15 Ribbons with 4 wins, then challenged themselves and completed 3 series in 2 Opens and earned their JFTR title. As a handler, Peter was tied for 2nd overall in Junior handlers in Canada. Congratulations Peter and Rocket on your 2022 season of success.

Medie Robinson and her male lab **Baypoint Black Bugatti "Coupe"** travelled to the Canadian National Retriever Championship in Long Point Ontario and were successful in all 10 series, handled by Dan Devos becoming a finalist. During their season, they were successful with Open 2nd x 1, Open 3rd x 2, Open 4th x 1, Open jam x 1. Congratulations Medie and Coupe on a successful season and earning your QFTR title!

We had many other members who also achieved titles with their teammate this season! Earning a title is a big accomplishment that can take years of training and completion of series in both Hunt Tests and Field Trials. This year our title dogs and their bird takers were:

Razor's Livin On Da Edge "Quinn" and Scott Anderson earned their Amateur Field Trial Champion, Field Trial Champion (AFTCH –FTCH)
Razor's MM and All That Jazz "Jazz and Matt Mutcheson earned their Amateur Field Trial Champion, Field Trial Champion (AFTCH –FTCH)
Win-Toba's Little Black Devil "Reggie" and Blake Hasiuk earned their Junior Hunter and Working Certificate titles (JH and WC)
Prairiestorm Golden Star "Star" and Tannis Peikoff earned their Senior Hunt and Working Certificate Excellent title (SH and WCX)
MBHLabs Sammy "Sammy" and Allan Robertson earned their Junior Hunt title (JH)
AMRAAM's Irish Storm "Storm" and Trent Sproule earned their Working Certificate (WC) (WCI)
Razor's Hotter Than a Carolina Reaper "Pepper" and Trent Sproule earned their Working Certificate (WC as well as below the border their HR – Hunting Retriever title)

Each year we acknowledge our teams participating in the Field Trial level that recognizes High Points achieved. This year we had four teams who were congratulated for receiving the MGDA High Point award for our Junior, Qualifying and Open level competition level.

This years High Point MGDA Junior Dog was awarded to Peter Dozois and the "Rocket"! Congratulations!

This years MGDA High Point Qualifying Stake was a tie! Congratulations to both teams of White Wing Goose is Loose MH "Goose" and Paul Cook Docheno's Got me All Fired Up "Ember" and Matt Mutcheson.

This years MGDA High Point Open Dog was awarded to FTCH-AFTCH Razor's MM and All that Jazz "Jazz" and her teammate Matt Mutcheson. Congratulations on your success!

As well as the awards for the teams of dogs, we also recognized Blake Hasiuk for his years of membership with the MGDA. Blake has been an active volunteer, member and executive member along with his wife for many years. Blake and Helen are always reliable, friendly and have been a face that is always welcoming on and off the grounds. He represents our clubs at events as a judge and participant with pride. Thank you Blake for your years of service and we look forward to many more.

Dewayne Hay, MGDA past president also took time to acknowledge the volunteer efforts of Trent Sproule and the work that was done with our grounds in the fall. Trent's tremendous efforts in working on the MGDA grounds spanned the entirety of a very challenging year. He spent many hours with his UTV pulling the club mower through challenging flooded conditions to prepare for both the spring and fall trials. His efforts on the grounds went above and beyond at season's end when he spent 8 solid days of his time and with his personal equipment cutting back the overgrowth that wet conditions had left us with this year. He literally brought the grounds back for us, and his efforts will allow us to start the 2023 season on a much stronger footing. Thank you Trent for your efforts.

Once the awards were done, we were treated to a delicious lunch donated by Peter Dozois and his wife Angela, as a thank you to our members in helping in whether it was with training, or participating in trials, or keep the grounds in shape so that he could have a successful season with Rocket. It was a celebration for Pete to share with the club. Thanks again Pete!

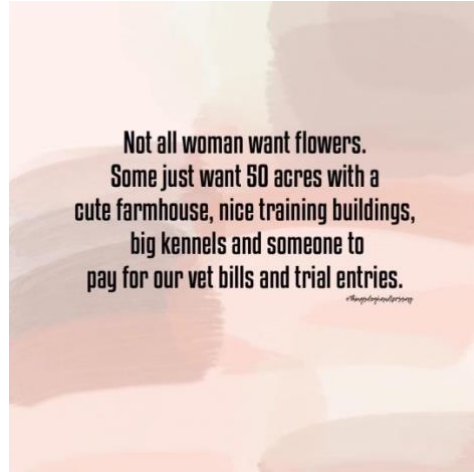
When the last vehicle left the clubhouse it was around 2pm, the sun was shining, and I think those who have passed on in the last year from our club may have been smiling down, enjoying seeing our members come together mid winter to say hello, have a laugh and continue to look forward to the 2023 season.

MGDA NEWSLETTER WINTER 2023





Welcome to MGDA "Miss May" – owned by Trent Sproule



PLEASE PAY YOUR 2023 CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR ALL CLUB ACIVITIES, PLEASE PARTICIAPTE AND BENEFIT FROM THE FRIENDSHIPS AND HELP THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR TRAINING NEEDS

Preserving Working Retrievers Since 1935

The MGDA was originally formed in 1935 by a group of hunters and sportsmen with an interest in training retrievers for waterfowl hunting and competition. Incorporated in 1972, The Manitoba Gun Dog Association Inc. has played an important role in Canadian working retriever history. Today the MGDA has approximately 75 members. The Club hosts two Canadian Kennel Club licensed Field Trials and two CKC licensed Hunt Tests annually. In addition the club provides a number of informal Picnic Trials and Retriever Workshops each year .

<http://www.manitobagundog.com>

OUR EXECUTIVE 2023

PRESIDENT	BLAKE HASIUK
PAST PRES	DEWAYNE HAY
1 ST VICE	ROSS PEDEN
2 ND VICE	BOB NORRIS
SECRETARY	CRYSTAL FULTON
TREASURER	LARRY LEWARTON
DIRECTOR	MATT MUTCHESON
DIRECTOR	ALLAN ROBERTSON
DIRECTOR	DUSTIN DOLA
DIRECTOR	PETE DOZIER