February 13, 2022 General and Annual Meeting

Board members in attendance:

Heidi Wszolek

Pat Swallows

Chris Schram

Alison Weber

Kim Bridgewater

Eric Petrosky

Gen Dever

Robert Pantier

Members in attendance:

Judy Merians, Sue Berres, Renee Schulte, Laurie Nastas, Jennifer DuRocher, Case and Donna DeYoung, Bob Zapalski, Mike Darnell, Cindy Franklin, Jennifer Martin, Jim Trotter, Tim Kaier, Peter Ketola, Gregg Seddon, Winn Harper, Cynthia Geller, Tom and Carol Haas, Chris and Alex Schram, Judy Dahlke, Carol and Jeff Lowe, Mike Foley, Peg Burlett

Meeting called to order by President Heidi Wszolek at 9:40a

Heidi welcomed all members to the meeting. The minutes from the January Board Meeting were approved as sent via email. Motion by Judy Merians and seconded by Judy Dahlke.

Heidi Wszolek and Pat Swallows met with Aaron Jorgensen late in 2021 and our relationship with the Jorgensen’s continues to be positive. He really enjoys seeing people out on the property working with the dogs. Aaron is very willing to continue the relationship with Michigan Flyways.

Chris Schram went over the treasurer report. The club lost approximately $800 in 2021. This was due to buying new logo wear inventory and purchasing boomer guns. We will recoup this loss in 2022. The balance in the bank is about $29,000.

Kim Bridgewater went over the financial comparison report for Michigan Flyways members and Jorgensen training members for the last 3 years.

Old Business

The club would like thank Gen Dever and Glenn Dittmar for housing the birds for the club. The new set up has worked well and has been a learning experience for all of us. There is some maintenance that will need to be done in the Spring. We are looking for a couple of volunteers for a 1/2 day or so to help with new tarps, zip ties, and gates. We also need to come up with a better system for the water source for the ducks. The kiddie pools don’t hold up and are hard to keep clean. If anyone has any ideas please contact Gen Dever at gendever@gmail.com.

Greg Seddon has agreed to continue working on the trimming of the grounds and Case DeYoung will maintain the ponds. Dewey will be instructed to keep the edges of the ponds a little longer to offer some cover. There will be a lot of events this year so we will do our best to manage the cover.

The hunt test job boards were available at the meeting. Thank you to those that have signed up. We will be in need of volunteers for all three tests. If you would like to volunteer for the May test please email Kim Bridgewater at bridgewaterkim@live.com. The July hunt test chair is Jan Masica, to sign up please email Jan at toikar@aol.com. We are still in need of a hunt test chair for August. Heidi Wszolek is willing to co-chair if you are new to the job. Please contact Heidi hwszolek@comcast.net if you are interested. I have attached the committee description board that was presented at the meeting. If you are interested in signing up for one of the committees please contact Alison Weber at gotalab425@icloud.com.

Case DeYoung has volunteered to maintain the inventory list for the equipment trailer. This will be done 3x a season. Currently, we have enough boomer guns for each stake and shotguns in case workers prefer to use those for walk-ups in senior and master. Poppers are scarce and the club still needs about 8 cases of ammo. If anyone has leads on availability please reach out to Robert Pantier at col\_duck@pantier.com.

The club reached out to Russ Reavis from AKC to ask about the need to keep boomers on a gun stand and he explained that it is not a requirement. The club is trying to come up with a way to modify our current stands if workers are more comfortable with the boomer in a stand. Some clubs have used Velcro straps attached to the popper gun stands that seem to work well and this is something we may try. If anyone would like to work on this please contact Gen Dever at gendever@gmail.com

Eric Petrosky stated that about 1/2 of the new logo wear inventory was sold. If you have a size request please contact Eric Petrosky at ericpetrosky@sbcglobal.net. There are still some pieces of “vintage” logo wear available to purchase for a reduced fee.

New Business

Chris Schram discussed some of the results from the survey that was presented to the membership via email. 55 people responded. About 1/2 of the 55 that responded said they attended a training day and the overall response was good. The club is looking at having bird boys at the winger stations to help assist dogs if needed. There was also good feedback regarding the seminars that were held in 2021. The club is willing to hold another live flyer day. It is more convenient to hold it at Gen Dever’s since the birds are already there. 83% of the people that responded to the survey had a training membership and were appreciative of the lower membership fee. There were a few responses regarding the pond at area 1 (M-52 pond). While it would be nice to see something done with the pond it is ultimately up to Aaron Jorgensen. He has been very gracious with the work that he has done to improve some of the other ponds and adding an additional pond in the woods. As of right now there is no plan to make changes to the M-52 pond. Another topic of concern was groups signing out multiple areas on the grounds. This led the board to restrict training groups to signing out 2 adjacent areas only. Please remember to sign in/out when using the property. Also as a reminder guest passes are to be utilized by guests they are not for members of Michigan Flyways. Another big topic was the ending time of the master stakes. The reason there is an ending time put in place is to allow those workers who show up at 7:00a, sometimes earlier, and those that have jobs to do after the test ends, a chance to get some rest to start over again the next day. While it seems easy enough to just get people to work the stations in order to continue to run master, there are many things that go on behind the scenes after that test ends. We need to be mindful of those workers. There were some suggestions to move some of the test dates due to heat, conflicts with The Grand and Master National. Please remember that these dates are set way in advance with the AKC and cannot be easily moved. Also, The Grand and Master National are not always held on the same week, they can vary from year to year, so it can not always be avoided.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the survey. The board is open to suggestions and feedback!

This year the crops that were beans will be winter wheat. The alfalfa fields will remain alfalfa.

There were no nominations from the floor for officers or board members.

There were no questions from the floor.

General Meeting adjourned at 10:35a - motion by Jennifer Martin, seconded by Judy Dahlke

Annual Meeting

Called to order at 11:35a

The slate was accepted as read:

motion by Judy Merians seconded by Judy Dahlke

President - Heidi Wszolek

Vice President - Pat Swallows

Treasurer - Chris Schram

Secretary - Alison Weber

Membership - Kim Bridgewater

Officers - Eric Petrosky

 Gen Dever

 Robert Pantier

The membership voted in 3 new members, we would like to welcome:

Jim Trotter

Bruce Hravatic

Robert Nikolas

New Business

All hunt tests for 2022 will consist of a single master, 2 junior and 2 senior tests. The dates of this season’s hunt tests are:

May 21st-22nd

June 23rd-24th

August 20th-21st

The board decided on holding single master stakes due to the lack of workers available for the tests. The board realizes that this could impact our numbers for junior and senior stakes and that we may lose some pros if we would have offered 2 master tests. The board will re-evaluate as the season goes on.

There is a possibility of holding a 90 dog mid-week master in June, August or September. As always it comes down to the amount of workers we can get. Some of the feedback discussed was:

* Why hold a 4th test when we already hold 3
* Hold the mid-week master in conjunction with our scheduled test (same week)
* The people entered would have to be the ones working the test
* Pro’s generally work the mid-week master
* Mid-week master tests would allow us to open up areas of the property that might not normally be utilized.
* Another opportunity to enter a master test

We did ask for a show of hands as to who would be interested in a mid-week master and 17 (majority) were in favor. Chris Schram will put together a survey regarding mid-week master tests to send out the membership.

AKC is allowing clubs to utilize a waitlist option. Some key points to know are:

* Individual clubs will determine how many dogs will be allowed to enter from the waitlist. Michigan Flyways will allow 10 dogs to move from the waitlist once the event closes.
* As scratches come in, Judy Merians will contact those who are on the waitlist. Those wishing to enter will have 4 hours to contact Judy to confirm they want the spot, otherwise it will go to the next person on the waitlist.
* Please remember to update your information on EntryExpress!
* Entry fee must be paid to Judy Merians before the test starts or the dog will not be allowed to run. Exact cash or check will be accepted the Friday before the test from 2:00p-6:00p and by 7:30a Saturday, the morning of the test, at the township hall/headquarters.
* Any scratches made after 9:00a the Friday before the test will not be replaced with waitlisted handlers.

Cher Craite has volunteered to be our Training Day Chairman. She will be the contact person regarding training days. We will need facilitators for the 2022 season. The dates that have been set aside are:

May 8th or 9th

June 18th or 19th

July 16th or 17th

August 13th or 14th

If you would like to volunteer to facilitate a training day please reach out to Cher at mizak2labs@gmail.com

Birds could be an option for training days but will be on a per training day basis.

Michigan Flyways will be hosting 3 seminars in 2022.

Carol Cassity - June 24th-26th. Gen Dever is the coordinator

Pat Burns - July 8th-10th. Heidi Wszolek and Gen Dever will be coordinating.

Kevin Cheff - August 5th-7th. Chris Schram is the coordinator

Emails regarding each seminar will go out approximately 6-8 weeks prior to each event. Workers will be needed for each event. If you are interested in working please reach out to the coordinator assigned to the seminar. These workers will be paid and will not count towards your discounted membership training dues.

We have several clubs using the grounds in 2022. Some of these events will require full use of the property and others will only require a portion. Please be courteous and respectful of their tests while training on the grounds during these events. They will have priority.

Toller Backyard Classic July 10th

Golden Retriever National Specialty - Master, Senior, Junior September 2nd-3rd, WC/WCX September 11th

Chessie National - Master, Senior, Junior, working dog test September 24th-26th

This year we will be using Scheffler’s for our birds. The deposit has been sent. We are locked in for the season. There will be an increased fee to purchase birds due to the cost of feeding, housing and transporting them to the test. If you are interested in buying fresh birds and order them before the test you must contact Heidi Wszolek. Any birds that are requested during the weekend of the hunt test will need to go through Gen Dever. We will send out an email in March to see how much interest there is for obtaining birds. If we have enough interest we might be able to get a separate order before the test season starts.

There are a couple of updates to the 2022 Training Membership.

* Training members will be given 2 guest passes per training member
* Groups of 2 or more people are LIMITED to 2 adjacent training areas.
* Guest passes can be purchased as an add on to the seminars for $25/day and can be used 2 days prior and 2 days after the seminar for participants and presenters only. You must be accompanied by a Jorgensen’s Training Member. The hours to use the property will be from 7a-3p.

If we have any members that would like to facilitate a 1 day presentation on training day set-ups or other canine related topics in 2023, please reach to Pat Swallows at topmastgoldens@gmail.com.

Greg Seddon suggested holding a Qualifying Event in conjunction with our mid-week master. He will put an email together with information about what would be required and present it to the board for consideration.

Congratulations to all who received awards and shared brags!

We took a moment to remember our 4 legged friends that we lost in 2021:

Gwen Coon - “Chip”

Adele Yunck - “Sonic”

Judy Merians - “Attie”

Jennifer DuRocher - “Brienne”

No other questions or suggestions were presented.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35p motion by Chris Schram and seconded by Judy Dahlke

Minutes submitted by Alison Weber, Michigan Flyways Club Secretary