GSPIN
Newsletter of
The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Indiana

**President’s Message** (actually penned by Charlie Edwards)

    Happy Thanksgiving everyone!  It’s time to celebrate those cool fall days which makes it fun to get out and play with the dogs.  I would like to express my appreciation to Char Rutar for her excellent President’s message on my behalf in our last newsletter.  I think we all owe Char a big thank you for producing the newsletter, which is so important to keeping the members informed of club activities and issues.

    We just completed another successful hunt test and I hope many of you were able to attend.  Those who didn’t will get another chance when we have our spring hunt test at the end of March 2003.  I managed to avoid vehicle problems this time so my wife, Amy, and I were able to make this event.  I would like to thank Jason Barille, Dee Ann Bertram, Becky Feigh,  Larry Sowinski and several other club members for their hard work in organizing and running the event so smoothly.  We didn’t have a lot of Master or Senior dogs but we did have quite a few Juniors, most of whom found birds.  One nice benefit of the hunt tests is several new people with puppies were able to come out and see what it is all about.  This helps entries at future hunt tests and maybe we can acquire a few new members as well.  Those who stuck around to the end of the day were able to let their pups run the field and get into some birds.  I know we took our four month-old GSP out and she had lots of fun.  Of course, our 15 month-old Gordon Setter bitch had a little too much fun during her Junior qualification.  She found lots of birds.....it just took us awhile to get her out of the bird field (and the adjoining fields) before they could run the next brace!

    I am always interested in hearing about the diversity of our club member’s dog activities.  I recently talked to Lisa and Mike Stovall at a dog show and learned that Mike is active in National Shoot-to-Retrieve Association (NSTRA) events.  There’s going to be a NSTRA trial the day after Thanksgiving south of Owensboro in Centertown, Ky., if you are up to the drive.

    We had a board meeting at the hunt test and we have a pretty full slate of future activities planned.  We are still interested in producing a web page for the club so if you have interests or ideas to contribute, give me a call.  The spring specialty show is already in the works as is the spring hunt test.  We formed a committee to work on improving our booth and presentation at the Boat, Sport and Travel show in Indianapolis.  We also have put together a committee to explore making a bid for the 2005 GSPCA national specialty show.  I think the club could benefit tremendously both financially and from the exposure this event will bring.  With our central location, this could be one of the largest nationals ever.  They are a lot of work though so anyone who would like to participate in that process is certainly welcome.  It is time for the nominating committee to start soliciting members to serve as officers and board members so if you have an interest in serving, DON”T BE SHY, call me or one of the other officers.

    It looks like it is going be a busy fall season particularly since my wife has decided it would be o.k. if I got a new shotgun!  That is a nice side benefit of getting her enthused about the hunt tests. Hope to see you out there somewhere!