



DPCNA NEWS

Chairman's message – Submitted by Brian O'Connor

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So here it is, the fabled Special Edition Newsletter, all 15 pages of it! As you have imagined by now, Nik and I have managed to survive our relocation from Madrid, Spain to Mountain Home, Idaho and we've noted more than just a few differences between the two locations...however, we were even able to reunite our own herd of dogs, even if it was just for a short time. Baby Jorja is off at bird-camp as I write this and apparently doing well enough to not be sent home early.

Recently John and I had the opportunity to chat eyeball to eyeball with the founder of breed club for another rare breed of pointing dog (who will remain nameless). I am particularly happy with where we are and how things are going. Make no mistake, we still have a good ways to go, but all in all given this "new" reference point I believe the expression is, "I'm tickled pink"!

Okay, enough with the self-congratulatory stuff, we are going to talk a little bit about breeding and in this issue, which is sure to annoy a few and possibly anger one or two. All I can offer is this; don't take any of the information presented personally and understand it's all about the dogs—that is the only reason this club exists! It's not about power, ego, or filling one's wallet, it is 100% about the dogs and about doing our best

to replicate how de Vereniging operates and cares for the Drent in the Netherlands. We have gotten off to a good start and plan to continue to learn and grow in order to continue to develop a culture of stewardship for the Drent in North America. Even so we do know more than the average North American might give us credit for. Even more importantly we've been to their the occasional Vereniging event to see the dogs and meet the people behind the dogs; their board members and prominent breeders with thirty and forty years of experience. To continue our learning about why and how our parent club has been so very successful with growing the breed and keep it healthy and in tune with the three pillars of the breed.

At the very least I hope you find this issue informative and useful. On behalf of the Executive Council I do hope you can make it out to Western Wings this coming October for our Club's first non-competitive hunt and confirmation assessment.

Well I need to go get Paxson out of another badger hole before it turns ugly! Again thank you one and all for your support!

Sincerely, Brian



Doing what Drents do best, Breeder's Day, Barnveld,

Volunteer centric organizations, such as our own, exist and thrive because of their volunteers! But do volunteers sacrifice their time energy and many times hard earned money for recognition? I figure the answer is no, however on the other hand it is human nature to enjoy knowing one's efforts have been recognized and appreciated.

That being said, just what has Rob en Tiny Key done which is so special to the DPCNA? After all you may not have ever heard of them. Well we could start with the little stuff, like hosting our multiple visits and brewing gallons upon gallons of coffee, the dozens and dozens of hours we have talked about the dogs, be it in person, over the phone or by e-mail. We could talk about assisting at shows and de Vereniging club events. But we really need to get down to the brass tacks. Rob en Tiny, even though they'd never take credit for it, provided the impetus to

create a North American breed club for the Drent. They have run countless trail-matings and have advised on just about anything imaginable, to include providing us with comprehensive registry records dating back to 1981, when de Vereniging itself began keeping detailed records! They gave us the good the bad and the ugly about everything you could ask about, and given plenty of other information freely. Yet most importantly, they have always insisted any and all decisions about our club and dogs be made by us!

Tiny en Rob's actions truly have epitomized Distinguished Service!

So again it is my greatest pleasure to be able to once again say Thank You Rob en Tiny for all that you have done for us on behalf of all the members of the DPCNA. We would not be where we are without your selfless service, Thank you!

A few words from our 1st DSA Recipients — submitted by Rob en Tiny

To the Board and all the members of the Drentsche Partridge Club North America (DPCNA),

We, Tiny and Rob Key of the Kennel, The Gloucester, want to thank you all again for the wonderful surprises that you have given us on Breeders day 16 April 2011 in Barneveld, NL.

That the DPCNA has given us both a special award was a gift that we never could have expected and the words on receiving this special reward make us speechless and that does not happen often! We both did only what we thought

that we must do, to export excellent Drentsche Partridge Dog puppies, so far we know now, to North America. We also were very happy we were able to help educate the Club with all of the necessary information about the breed so that in time you can make your own decisions, for what you want and how to do it in North America; we were sure that educating was the right way to do it.

...a gift that we never could have expected...



Tiny en Rob Key at the 2011 Spring Breeders day after receiving the DPCNA's DSA!

That a few owners of a Drentsche Partridge Dog were able to establish the Drentsche Partridge Dog Club North America (DPCNA) and make it possible that this race is now recognized is by the AKC was a great and important job, all the credits for you all, the Board and all the members congratulations.

As long as the DPCNA would like to have our help and information we are always, so far as we can, happy to give that to you. We thank the DPCNA for the special awards and we will be sure that they will have a prominent place in our home.

Many, Many thanks and regards from Tiny and Rob Key
Kennel the Gloucester

He's a what??? — submitted by Jenna Myers

That's the question we got asked the most these past couple of months. This Spring we, Jared and I, traveled to Southern Washington, Oregon, and even Idaho campaigning Fowler in both NAVHDA and AKC Hunt Tests. This is the first year for our Drents to be able to participate in the AKC system of testing, so it was really exciting to be able to bring out a new breed that nobody had seen work before. Likewise, Drents are not very common in the NAVHDA world either, despite being an accepted versatile breed for years.

Hunt testing was something we had been unsure about participating in since it's really only a snapshot of your dogs working abilities. A test situation is so unlike how a dog would hunt in the wild. In fact, I know many Master



Fowler hunting at Cooke Canyon in Eastern Washington

titled hunting dogs that have never seen a wild bird in their life. We planned on doing the majority of our hunting and training on wild birds, so we weren't sure if testing would really be the right fit for us. In the end we decided to go for it for several reasons. First, you meet some really amazing people at these events. In fact, a couple of the host clubs had information printed off the internet about the Drent so that everyone could read about them before meeting Fowler. Every club has been so welcoming, and we have enjoyed many an afternoon sitting around in camping chairs and talking dogs! Second, testing Fowler has been a great way to get the breed name out there. The AKC accepted the Drent into the FSS program for a reason - we might as well capitalize on the opportunity and show the world what our dogs



Jared & Fowler with 1st qualifying point!

can do! Third, we have had the chance to see some top quality dogs do what they love most. Walking with the advanced dogs has really been an eye opener to what is possible if you willing to put in the hard work. And finally, Fowler loves it! I cannot stress this enough - we would not be doing nearly the amount of training with Fowler if he didn't love it. I have never known a dog who wanted to please the way Fowler does.

I'll be the first to admit that hunting was not the way I saw my relationship with my dogs going. Both of my dogs love doing other activities such as hiking, agility, canicross, and even Dock Dogs. I will never be the type of person that thinks a dog must hunt because he is a "hunting breed." Sure, the dog

might be good at it, but if it's not something you enjoy doing together, then you shouldn't feel obligated. But Fowler is a hunter. I believe he was born that way and he loves to show off. I swear he does things in the field at a hunt test that he would never do anywhere else because he knows people are watching. He has such determination and gracefulness in the field. So as for the results - we have been pleasantly surprised by the scores and comments that we have received from both NAVHDA and AKC. We were warned not to expect exceptional or perfect scores because of the novelty of the breed. Most, if not all, of the judges had never seen a Drent before, let alone a working Drent. They knew nothing about his style of hunting or pointing. I'll talk a little bit about NAVHDA first.

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The NAVHDA Natural Ability Test is scored based on several criteria: Nose, Search, Pointing, Water, Tracking, Desire to Work, and Cooperativeness. The test setup and rules are rather confusing and best not described by me here; however, to sum it up each dog is run and judged for 20 minutes in the field, followed by it's ability to track a running, flightless pheasant, and ending with



Fowler, making sure the birds are ready for him!

it's desire to enter the water and swim for two retrieves. Each dog is given a score of 1-4 in each of the above categories. Each category is weighted slightly differently, with Nose, Search, and Desire to Work being the most important. Then after a bunch of calculations which I still don't really understand, each dog is given a final score out of 112. Fowler's score was 107! He did awesome and we are so proud of him! With an almost perfect score, he earned a Prize II at just 12 months old. Now for the AKC - at the Junior Hunt level, which is where we tested Fowler, each dog is scored on a scale of 1-10 on four criteria: Hunting, Bird Finding Ability, Pointing, and Trainability. To earn a title a dog must receive four passing scores at four separate tests. To receive a passing score a dog must score at least a 5 in each category, but the average must be a 7. So if a dog receives a 5 in one category, then it must receive much higher scores in the rest in order to bring the average score up to a 7. After three long weekends of driving and many nights spent in hotels, Fowler received his final

received some great feedback and everyone seems to love watching Fowler work. He makes it look easy despite all the hard work we put into his training. Hopefully we have made some great friends and met some good training partners for the future. I guess here's where I want to give a



Jared Myers with Fowler just after earning his Jr. Hunt title

qualifying score on June 18, 2011. To make the victory even sweeter, he never received lower than a 7 in any category, and on his final run he received several 9s and even a 10! He is now officially Fowler JH.

We are really excited to see how far Fowler can go and are looking forward to this year's hunting season and next year's tests. We have excited to see how far Fowler can go and are looking forward to this year's hunting season and next year's tests. We have received some great feedback and everyone seems to love watching Fowler work. He makes it look easy despite all the hard work we put into his training. Hopefully we have made some great friends and met some good training partners for the future. I guess here's where I want to give a shout out to my husband, Jared, for handling Fowler. We co-train him, but Jared is the one who sweats it out in the field while Fowler does his thing. Some day I'm sure I'll be up to handling him, but right now it just makes me too nervous! So for now I'll hang in the background and take the pictures! Dog training and handling can be so frustrating at times, so kudos to both Jared and Fowler for sticking it out through the rough times.

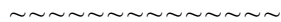
So if you are interested in taking your dog to a test of some kind, whether it be AKC, UKC, VHDF, or NAVHDA, just remember - it's about having fun. It's ok to be nervous if it's your first time, or even your tenth! If you and your dog are having fun together, then that's all that matters!

How I got into this mess — submitted by Lisa Lourie

We would like to preface this article, by first thanking Lisa for putting this article together and more importantly putting herself “out there” in an effort to help everyone else. In all sincerity, Thank you Lisa! - John Lambregts & Brian O’Connor



Keelin and Arrow’s offspring



Back in the day, before several hard working people donated many hours to get the Drent recognized here in North America, things were different. Call it the “Wild West Era” of the Drent, call it the time of unregulated Drent breeding, things were different, not better.

I first found the Drent in a dog encyclopedia that my friends owned. At least 500 pages thick with color photos and lengthy temperament descriptions, it kept me spellbound for hours. I had lost my faithful Boarder Collie mix three months before and I was shopping for another wonderful companion. A very tall order. My husband always says that you can judge a dog by its eyes, and it was the eyes that first grabbed me. Drents have exceptional eyes: intensely focused, willing, eager eyes. When the description listed farm, family and hunting, I knew I had found my new dog. Or so I thought.

It turned out that finding one was going to be a long, difficult process. What little data there was on the web was in Dutch. I spent hours on the web, asking my Dutch friend to translate for me. I spoke with breeders in Holland and asked multitudes of questions about finding a US breeder, all to no avail. My family was thoroughly entertained and teased me about my new obsession. They wondered why I couldn’t just go down to the pound and save a dog as we had always done before. Perhaps only you, my fellow Drent owners, can understand the answer to that question. I couldn’t explain it at the time, I just found it unfair that the average person did not have access to this marvelous dog (and I hadn’t even met one yet)!

Months later, via a very circuitous path, I found John Lambregts. We talked about the breed and I sold myself as well as possible, but the bottom line was, that because I wasn’t a hunter, I would be last on any list of his to get a pup. I got it, I still get it.

It is important to keep the purpose of this dog alive and well. So I waited and kept my fingers crossed. About a year or so later, John’s dogs had pups. We flew out to Idaho to pick up the one he chose for us (hopefully the one with the worst nose) and it was love at first sight.

Since then, John and I have had several conversations about breeding Drents. I have asked him, not once, but twice, to intervene on my behalf to obtain female dogs with pedigrees that would allow more options to breed to here in the North America. Both times, I went overseas to bring the pups home. I have met and visited with the lovely people who bred these dogs and have kept in touch with them, letting them know how they were doing.

When the DPCNA was formed, I was happy to join and got my stud dog tested and approved. All this, and when it came to breeding, I messed up. I simply never made sure that the female that I had brought over and bred my dog to got certified as well. Maybe I just figured that she was papered over there and that was enough. I don’t honestly know.

Thinking back on it, I have no good excuse. We were not rushed and I knew the importance of testing before breeding. I guess in my single-minded effort to get pups, I missed a step.

It has never been my dream to be a big Drent breeder. I breed horses, not dogs. But I knew a good dog when I saw one and I wanted there to be more available. I wanted to help the breed grow in America. I started out by trying to be responsible to the breed by bringing in more varied bloodlines. I fell down by not guaranteeing ahead of time, their genetic fitness.

In horse breeding, we test for a few viruses before breeding, but the true test of breedability is based on performance. If the horse is not conformationally correct, then it can’t do it’s job and shouldn’t be bred. With dogs it’s different, we know how to test for certain ailments and therefore have a responsibility to do so.

I respect the people who have worked long and hard to get this breed recognized here in America. I understand the importance of clean genetics and good record keeping. It is my sincere hope that others will learn from my mistake and get their dogs certified before breeding them. Do not let your love for the breed get in the way of doing what is best for the breed.



What could be cuter than a baby Drent?

As one of our mentors likes to say "if you want to start an argument, start a dog club". The corollary would be, if you want to start an argument, discuss the other guy's dog's hunting style.



Dutchboy's Patches in Idaho's big sky country

In the standard for the Drent, it states that the dog hunts "under the gun". At first glance, that's pretty clear. You have a hunter, a gun and a dog, and the three hunt together. Of course, most shotguns have barrels no longer than 30", and most dogs are longer than that...

So, what does "under the gun" mean? Generally, most people will assume that means the dog hunts within reach of the gun. Which, in open country, means something in the 40 or 50 yard range. Hunters that are new to pointing breeds are comfortable with that, because they haven't learned to trust the dog to work for them and hold the birds until the hunter gets there. Of course, old hats get kind of irritated if the dog doesn't move out. Might even call them "bootlickers". After all, if 30 or 40 yards is all the dog ranges, why have a pointing breed? That's why they invented flushers, who have to stay within range of the gun, because they aren't smart enough to know how to point, and their owners don't know there's a better way to hunt.

Old hats, and you can take old figuratively as well as literally, have learned to trust their pointing dog. We enjoy taking people out into the field with us that haven't hunted with pointing dogs before. You can feel a novice getting nervous when that dog takes off for 200 or more yards into a CRP field, like our beloved Bowi used to do. All we'd say is "trust the dog", and sure enough, Bowi would lock up, relocate once or twice, and wait for us to trek over to him. 50 yards, 100 yards, 200 yards, no matter. He'd hold the birds, and only rolled his eyes a little bit when we were too slow. So, as far as old hats is concerned, letting the dog range out a bit more is a good thing. It means the dog is doing the work, covering more ground, finding more birds, without any more effort on the part of the hunter.

Now, let's look a little closer at the phrase "under the gun". We know it's not literal. It also doesn't say "within range of

the gun". There's no call for a pointing dog to stay within range of the gun - when he points, the hunter has plenty of time to walk up and flush the birds for the shot (or have the dog flush the birds, as they do it in the old country). In continental field trials, ranging out is expected when a field is 200 yards wide: the dog is expected to adjust his range to the field being hunted.

So, what does "under the gun" mean?

The opposite of a dog that hunts "under the gun" is the English or US plantation style hunting, usually with dogs such as the Pointer. If you've never seen this, it's very simple. The owner releases the dogs, whereupon the dogs take off like a shot, completely out of control, as far as I can tell. The hunter has no choice but to try and follow, usually while mounted. The dogs hunt or pretty much do whatever comes to mind. If they happen to come upon a covey, and feel like pointing, the hunter dismounts and flushes the birds for the shot. My take? If you have to follow the dog for two counties while wearing out a horse... I submit that's emphatically not hunting "under the gun".

I think the correct interpretation is in the meaning of the word "gun". "The gun", especially in Europe, doesn't just mean the firearm, it is used to describe the hunter, or more correctly, the shooter. So for a dog to hunt "under the gun" is really a traditional way of saying "under CONTROL of the hunter". Or, perhaps even better "in direct cooperation with the hunter". Closer in poplar or aspen thickets with ruffed grouse, and farther out in CRP fields with gray partridge or sharp-tailed grouse. But, under the gun means always as a team, with the dog keeping track of the hunter. Of course, that is exactly what a Drent does: always keeps track of the hunter, always looking for directions, always working as a team with his hunter, while still adapting to the terrain and birds at hand.

So trust that dog, and let him range out. Makes him happy, produces more points, and saves on shoe leather...



Booker the wooly pointing mammoth, surface temp 135!

I hope I can find a rallying point with everyone, since this topic seems to elicit emotional responses', from folks. Let's face it, not everyone gets into breeding dogs for altruistic reasons...yet everyone I have talked with about the Drent agrees they are indeed special creatures, with great personalities, an uncanny willingness to please his boss; and of course the Drent is a flashy and handsome dog - all of which conspire to make the Drent a very desirable dog. The intent of this article is to try to juxtapose the DPCNA's own code of ethics, breeding requirements, and misconceptions and misinformation about the AKC into one place. A tall order and I can feel it from where you're sitting right now; you can't wait to read this article in its entirety. Well maybe that is a massive stretch. Grab a snack and a cold beverage as I hope to keep the dry tenders of fuel for this "discussion" from becoming a sermon, inflammatory or sound like some whack-job's manifesto.

When talking about breeding we need to understand and agree upon a few common reference points. I am suggesting we start with the Drent's three pillars, which are even more fundamental than the breed standard for proper confirmation: the Drent has been expected to hunt all game, pull duty as watchdog or property dog, and be a playmate for the children. While all that may sound cliché or even quaint, those three elements are at the very heart of de Vereniging's and of course the DPCNAs' breeding programs. As such our club's breeding activities and goals must be supportive of the Three Pillars. So how do the breeding requirements listed on our web support the three pillars? Let's have a closer look, Temperament: I hope like me, you can see how correct temperament is involved in all three of the Drent's pillars. Health: contains the underpinning factors which makes it all possible and work - I'll go into further detail later on why health is so critical for the Drent in



Puppy Vana relaxing in the garden

North America; Eyes: must be CERF examined and meet current criteria; Hips and Elbows: must be examined by OFA or PennHip and meet DPCNA standards; General health: your Drent must be free from any significant known health problem i.e. epilepsy, various genetic conditions, etc., many of these issues require personal integrity on reporting to the club. There are a number of registries you can choose to use for your Drent, however there is only one North American registry which is concerned with the details just mentioned, which are critically important for our breed - that is our very own DPCNA registry, we'll discuss this further on.

You were possibly thinking I missed one requirement, but it is true we also have a concern with Confirmation: our breed standard describes a dog capable of hunting all sorts of game in all sorts of terrain all day with his boss. Our breeding stock should at least be good, if not very good or better, representatives of the breed. In the Netherlands there are not yet clear differences between field lines and show lines within the Drent - Only Nimrod and Clovis types and even then dogs predominately from one line can throw one resembling one from the other, so even there it can be very confusing for the new Drent enthusiast. Why is confirmation so important? It is typically by identifying the external differences of a dog which kennel clubs' decide to recognize breeds. The standard itself is supposed to describe "the ideal individual" which may or may not have existed in real life. In our case the standard is said to describe Nimrod himself. Confirmation showing events began as a means to identify high potential (most correct) individuals for breeding. By conferring a title, the "correct" dog would gain notoriety and in theory this would help to produce more offspring like the standard.

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Puppy Jorja's last day in Madrid

I feel it is important to raise this point because there are organizations in North America with which you may show your Drent here and now today. There is a catch, and that is: the breed standards these organizations are using are not anything close to the FCI or Dutch standard for the Drent. So by using these dogs identified as high potential breeding stock will not continue to create more Drents, but some other dog breed altogether eventually. Know this and enjoy those events for what they are worth.

As a DPCNA member you should have a passing familiarity with our Club's Code of Ethics, as a Breeder or anyone considering becoming a breeder please review the code in its entirety. If you have questions about the code or any policy, for that matter, please ask! With that, just what is a Breeder? If you are a club member who has arranged for your dog to mate with another or making serious plans to mate your dog with another, you are a dog breeder. This is said to help you to possibly better identify with our code of ethics as a set of standards we have chosen abide by and strive to live up to – strictly for the betterment of the breed.

In many ways the DPCNA breeding requirements and policies pretty well mirror the policies of our Dutch parent club, de Vereniging, and so we are effectively supporting the three pillars of the Drent. Despite what one might think about the DPCNA being an AKC affiliate club working towards full



Paxson and friends take the field outside Idaho Falls, ID

recognition there are a few misconceptions about our Club and the AKC that need to be cleared up.

The #1 difference is the DPCNA maintains its own registry, but even so that isn't enough, our club needs your support! I hope to explain and demonstrate how we need your involvement. Plain and simple, any Drent may be registered with the AKC's FSS program (with or without a 3-generation pedigree); the 3-generation pedigree becomes critical when we go to petition for full breed recognition. At that point all of the Drents in the AKC system need to have 3-gen pedigrees on file in order to be eligible for "conversion" to full recognition. It is kind of tricky and a bit misleading to say the pedigree isn't needed (now) when in fact it is needed later (upon conversion). In other words you don't need the pedigree to get your Drent into the FSS program, but later on down the road the FSS Drents missing 3-gen pedigrees become a limiting factor for full recognition. So where do you get at least a 3-gen pedigree for your Drent? If you imported your dog from Europe, he or she should have come with one – in fact don't import a Drent without a pedigree from its country of origin! Imported dogs without pedigrees are indicative of "grey cycle (unsanctioned)" dogs or possibly worse... The only way to obtain a pedigree with at least 3 generations for your *North American bred and born* Drent is to ensure your Drents parents were bred in accordance with DPCNA standards.



Bento at the 2011 Spring Breeder's Day, Barnveld, NL

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Therefore North American breeders must comply with the rules and regulations of the (DPCNA) registry in order to breed and have offspring which are pedigreed. Not many AKC breed clubs own or manage their own registry; this fact does make us very different from the rest of the pack. In fact our arrangement with the AKC is very much like de Vereniging's relationship with Raad van Beheer!

In fact our situation with the AKC's FSS program is very representative of the relationship I just mentioned, in that FSS registered Drents can be bred to other FSS registered Drents and the offspring be registered directly with the AKC's FSS program – without any health checks or DPCNA oversight. Yep that's right! We can't tell you who to breed your dog to and you may register your dogs with the AKC too without any help from the DPCNA. These North American "grey cycle" AKC (or other registry) "only" Drents will not be issued a 3-gen pedigree from the AKC (the breed needs to be fully recognized by the AKC to be given an AKC pedigree) or very likely the DPCNA, but they will receive an FSS registry slip if registered with the AKC. Remember it is the Drent with a 3-gen (or greater) pedigree which actually helps get our breed recognized and the only way to get that, is to use and follow DPCNA guidance. The information presented here is 100% accurate with current AKC FSS breeds policy. Ultimately these AKC (or other registry) only Drents will be cheaper and easier to breed than our DPCNA certified breeding stock, since breeders will not be burdened with expensive health checks, but really the marketability and value of those pups is limited in relation to sanctioned DPCNA litters of pups, with the certified health and investigated/approved parentage and 4-gen pedigrees. In essence the DPCNA pedigree is a mark of quality, an assurance certain specifications have been met or exceeded. With that being said, I can hear it already, "you

are in it for the money!" Well I don't know of any Drent breeder in North America who has even come close to covering the costs of purchasing, importing and certifying their breeding stock, miscellaneous vet expenses, training costs, travel, etc. In my own case I thought I was pretty savvy with my money until I looked at my own Drent expenses...When my own kennel comes to fruition it'll be a money out proposition for many years to come. It's all about the dogs; it's all about the future of the breed.

What about the Drent breeder only wanting to produce pet Drents, not fancy show dogs or hunters where pedigrees don't mean so much, after all that is needed is another Drent of the opposite sex and you're off to the races! Yes, we need pet Drents too; however the owners of your pups might have other interests, aspirations and desires than your own. Would you like people making hard and fast decisions which greatly limit the future of your dog before you even had the chance to own him or her? Most notably, and it cannot be overly stressed, how important it is to have your Drent Certified for breeding because of the small number of Drents we have in North America. . I'd really like to get people to think about this next passage, read it twice if you must. Just a few weekends ago, between two households; we had over 10% of the North American Drent population in one backyard! It is critically important we make this realization and think more in these terms; as a percentage of population, your solitary Drent is a significant number! In direct contrast, today as I write this article, there are 24,761 Labrador Retrievers on petfinder.com looking for their forever home. . So, by using an individual which has HD, RD or other defect (unknowingly?) in our breeding population will have the ability exert a massive amount of influence on future generations of Drents. By having your dog cleared and certified for breeding you are providing all future Drents cheap health insurance. - CONTINUED on page 13



Momma Clio with her pups



Paxson Jr. sleeping in Marsha's lap

As our club continues to mature and more Certified for breeding Drents become available in North America it is appropriate we start to peel back a few more layers of the onion to see what we have. An Assessment of natural ability is an easy way to see what we have. Also truth be known we don’t have the man-power or experience to put on a full-fledged field trial or hunt test. However those avenues are available for you and your Drent through the AKC, NAVHDA and VHDF. Also, this event may serve as the basis for future formalized club titles and recognition which maybe in turn recognized by the AKC, aka Breed Club traditions.

So, what we intend to do at the hunt assessment is to plant several birds for each dog participating, and assess how the dogs perform “in the field”. Now, don’t even get started with the “it’s planted birds” thing; if I could get wild birds to show up on a given time and place, I’d be all for wild birds. In this case, the lure of controlled situations outweighs a four mile hike in the CRP looking for sharpies or huns. Who would probably flush wild the third week of the season, anyway...

The objective of the assessment is for members and breeders to see dogs, potential sires and dams, hopefully, perform in the field. How do they scent? High head, low head? Do they linger on old scent? All business, or all play? How steady are they on point? Do they creep? How is their intensity? Do we have (too many) false points? Does the dog put enough pressure on the birds, or does he give the bird a chance to run? What is their range? Is he a bootlicker, or (my favorite Dutch expression!) a horizon-flash? Hopefully, somewhere in between!

Of course, by using planted birds, we also get a chance to see the dogs work AFTER the shot. For those not particularly sure of their firearms prowess, a “designated gun” will be available. After the shot, the dog can be assessed on the work after the shot: finding, picking up, retrieving

and delivering to hand.

If there is sufficient interest, we will add a “over water” component, where a bird is thrown across a body of water for the dog to retrieve. This would allow an assessment of the “willingness to enter the water” that is so important for the water fowlers among us.

The objective of this activity is to see Drents perform in the field. Your Drent, my Drent, the other guy’s

Drent. It is emphatically NOT a competition: it is a chance to show, to see, to compare, but most of all, to learn from other Drents: how they hunt, how they work. What is good, what is better, what is exceptional?

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In similar fashion we would like to

perform a slightly more formalized evaluation of confirmation than we have conducted in years past. Again, this will be done on a non-competitive basis, like the hunt assessment, very similar to how de Vereniging conducts its Breeder’s Day. We will cover the main points outlined in our in-draft breed standard to help you identify your dogs strong points, and not so strong points. Drents will be leave being graded as poor, good, very good or excellent. *Both of these events will count towards your Drents Certified Breeding Stock certification.* We hope to see you there.



Swampthing





# HUNT & CONFIRMATION ASSESSMENT PREMIUM LIST

**Drentsche Patrijshond Club of North America**  
Western Wings  
North of Idaho Falls, Idaho  
**October 15th, 2011**

ALL STAKES OPEN TO ALL DRENTS

**BITCHES IN SEASON MAY NOT COMPETE IN ANY STAKE**

**This hunt & confirmation assessment is held under the Rules and Procedures of The Drentsche Patrijshond Club of North America.**

### MAIL ENTRIES WITH CHECKS PAYABLE TO DPCNA

Nikki O'Connor, DPCNA Treasurer  
9300 James Ageberg Ct., Mountain Home AFB, ID 83648 (575) 446-1471  
Email: [dpcna.gundogs@gmail.com](mailto:dpcna.gundogs@gmail.com)

Mail-in entries prior to 30 Sept, 2011 to be accepted

Entries, when drawn, are considered a binding contract between the entrant and The DPCNA. Completed entries with payment must be received prior to the event commencing.

Entries will close at 7:00 p.m., September, 30th, 2011 with the DPCNA Treasurer at 9300 James Ageberg Ct. Mountain Home AFB, ID 83648  
Drawing will take place at 7:30 p.m., October, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 at 9300 James Ageberg Ct. Mountain Home AFB, ID 83648

## OFFICIAL DRENTSCHE PATRIJSHOND CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA HUNT/CONFIRMATION ASSESSMENT ENTRY FORM

Full Name of Dog:

|                                        |               |            |      |                |                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Breed:<br><b>Drentsche Patrijshond</b> | DPCNA Reg #:  | Call Name: | Sex: | Date of Birth: | I enclose entry fees:<br><br>\$50 (USD) per application<br><br>One dog per application |
|                                        | NHSB Reg#:    |            |      |                |                                                                                        |
|                                        | AKC FSS Reg#: |            |      |                |                                                                                        |

|       |      |
|-------|------|
| Sire: | Dam: |
|-------|------|

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Actual Owner(s): | Name of Breeder: |
|------------------|------------------|

Owner's Address:

|       |        |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| City: | State: | Zip: |
|-------|--------|------|

Name of Owner's Agent/Handler:

Agent/Handler's Address:

|       |        |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| City: | State: | Zip: |
|-------|--------|------|

### AGREEMENT

I certify that I am the actual owner of the dog, or that I am the duly authorized agent of the actual owner whose name I have entered above. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I (we) agree to abide by the rules and regulations of The American Kennel Club in effect at the time of this event, and any additional rules and regulations appearing in the premium list of this event and entry form and any decision made in accord with them. I (we) agree that the club holding this event has the right to refuse this entry for cause which the club shall deem sufficient. In consideration of the acceptance of this entry and of the holding of this event and of the opportunity to have the dog judged, I (we) agree to hold the AKC, the event-giving club, their members, directors, governors, officers, agents, superintendents or event secretary and the owner and/or lessor of the premises and any provider of services that are necessary to hold this event and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties, and any DPCNA approved judge, judging at this event, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person or thing by the act of this dog while in or about the event premises or grounds or near any entrance thereto, and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, injury or damage to this dog. Additionally, I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves), or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in this event, however such, injuries, death or property damage may be caused, and whether or not the same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other persons. **I (WE) AGREE THAT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE ENTRY, EXHIBITION OR ATTENDANCE AT THE EVENT BETWEEN THE DPCNA AND THE EVENT- (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED IN THIS PREMIUM LIST) AND MYSELF (OURSELVES) OR AS TO THE CONSTRUCTION, INTERPRETATION AND EFFECT OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO ARBITRATION ALL APPLICABLE AKC BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES MUST FIRST BE FOLLOWED AS SET FORTH IN THE DPCNA CHARTER AND BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES..**

Signature of owner or his  
agent duly authorized to make this entry: \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Telephone: | Email address: |
|------------|----------------|

What was I doing? Was I really traveling more than 500 miles to attend a Rick Smith Seminar? Was it going to be worth it? Would I feel welcome? Would I learn anything? What about the little Drent, Jager, accompanying me. Just six months old. Was he too young? Would he learn anything? Would I learn anything?

Pulling into the driveway at 436 West Avenue in Albion, New York, all doubts vanishes. I had a good feeling that the experience would be a fine one. Pick-ups and SUVs were parked all over the place with tailgates down, dog crates open and welcoming friendly faces everywhere. The Harling Family were our hosts and extremely hospitable.

The Harling name has been synonymous with Brittany Spaniels for over forty years. Ron Sr. (Doc) bought his first Brittany Spaniel in 1961...and as it states on his website "Forty some odd years later and a Futurity winner, a National Champion, four Classic winners, five American Field Champions and six A.K.C. Field Champions later the Harling's are still at it." I think it is safe to say that this was a serious hunting family hosting a serious Seminar.

I first became intrigued with The Smith Method of "Silent Training" when I stumbled across a sportsman's demonstration at L.L. Bean in Freeport, Maine, fifteen years ago. Delmar Smith gave an amazing demonstration and in my eyes he became the "Dog Whisperer". Today was a wonderful opportunity to learn from Delmar's son, Rick Smith. Rick Smith turned out to be just as amazing as his Dad. Rick was very succinct in his instruction. He was approachable. He also was very consistent. In each issue of *The Pointing Dog Journal*, I read faithfully his instructional article, "Trainin' Dogs with Rick Smith". Rick's instruction in real life is the same voice found in his articles.

Our class consisted of approximately sixteen people and twenty dogs: a few English Setters, several German Shorthaired Pointers, lots of Brittany Spaniels and one Drent. The Harling's young granddaughter stole the show with her 10 week old Brittany pup. As Rick Smith explained repeatedly "We are not here to train your puppy or your dog. We are here to train you, the trainer."

And so, Rick Smith began, full speed ahead, setting out to train us..."Training the Trainer". We learned about commanding respect from out dogs: manners, puppy stand still and puppy pay attention. It is our job to get the dog's head into the training game. We learned how to get "the garbage" out of our dogs. Puppy is not to casually put his paw on our foot. That stance reflects puppy dominance. Puppies are to be quiet on the chain. No barking. Puppies are to be quick during training. No stalling. No lying down. No looking away.

Foundation work. Use of the command lead, check cord and whoa post. Get it right. Go slowly. Get things perfectly right. Not right? Repeat. Then repeat with more repetition.

Does all of this sound familiar? Yes. It is the basic stuff. But wait. There is more. This Rick Smith Training Seminar was for the Intermediate Level of Training. Rick moved us rapidly forward into e-collar work. It became clear that the goal of this Seminar was to train us, the trainer, how to transition from the mechanical cues of a rope, the basic stuff, to the remote cues of an e-collar. Rick moved us from "Heeling" to "Quartering" to "Here". Then we were schooled on "Backing", preventing "Chase" and "Creep" and table work for "Retrieve".



Dutchboy's Barrett Jager & Rick Smith!

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The Seminar was fast moving and was two full days packed with information. After teaching us a new technique, Rick would have us work with our dogs and we would receive tips and corrections directly from him. The Drent pup was used for the training table demonstration and Jager, with his extra long puppy tail, was fabulous.

As we moved through the two days, fine friendships developed. We got to know each other not only by being "classmates" but by participating in practice periods and sharing many delicious meals together.

What was I doing? I was learning!!! I was having wonderful time. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with Rick Smith. I any of you have the chance to do the same – grab it!



Jager, model student

## So you want to breed!?! - cont' 3

Still we only have to look at other rare breeds of "pure bred" animals to see many have serious health and confirmation issues because their breed club failed to effectively self-police or they got started too late and are fighting the difficult uphill battle of correcting known problems. That and we may need one of those pups as a future breeder; we just can't afford to paint ourselves into a corner at this point of the game.

Okay so you see why the club wants to certify and use only approved Drents for breeding. I'd like to address the contingency of, "My Drent is certified and I want to breed my Drent to whatever Drent I wish!", "Or why is my breeding plan of any business or concern of the Club and why should the Club have any input on what dog(s) I breed?" Let us dig in a little deeper. The DPCNA does not have a Breed Warden, who strictly controls all breeding activities, like the German breeds back in their fatherland. We do it just like our Dutch parent club, with a "steering committee"



which is designed to help you the breeder to make better decisions about which dogs to use, or more importantly not to use. "I'm still not buying it", I can hear. Are you so sure you know that much about the breed? For example, at this point in time two Dutch kennels have dominate positions in North America and even if you are looking at your dogs pedigree and the prospective mates pedigree, you still might not have any appreciation of how closely related those dogs are even if there appears to be different kennel names throughout the pedigrees! In many instances "senior" breeders mentor and/or work closely with other breeders which create separate, but not very different kennels and bloodlines. These closely aligned and related "shadow kennels" have been identified as a problem which must be corrected, as it is causing de Vereniging challenges. The DPCNA registry can help you with identifying and clearing those issues in as little time as it takes for a computer to boot up or worst case scenario, the answer is a few phone calls away – why risk it? In fact our registry now has the same quantity and quality of information as de Vereniging's has, and dates back to 1981, just like theirs as well! Truth being told we have thousands and thousands of dogs to enter into our database, but we can add the most relevant ones we need first. Also we have the ability to track much, much more information about our dogs as well. As a dues paying member with access to this information, why would we not work together to produce the highest quality Drents that we can?

- CONTINUED on page 14

So is the DPCNA trying to control you and your kennel - the answer is a resounding NO! Are we trying to ensure that we, as a group of concerned owners, are breeding good and healthy dogs for future Drent enthusiasts? The answer is an emphatic YES!

So what is it about this AKC FSS thing? The AKC's FSS program is the first rung on the ladder to achieve full breed recognition. The AKC puts breeds in the FSS program to allow the governing club and breed to mature and become better entrenched and organized before going "big time". So as far as formal recognition goes the Drents registered in the AKC's FSS program (with 3-gen pedigrees) represent the Official Number of Drents in North America, as it stands we need 75 more registered in order to begin petitioning the AKC's for Miscellaneous Class status, the next rung on the ladder. Being admitted to the Miscellaneous Class will bring us one step closer to achieving one of the DPCNA's top goals; which to be able to breed our Drents back to the Drents in the Netherlands.

As hunting restrictions continue to tighten in the NL, the Drent will only be hunting outside of its motherland, being able to breed directly back to Dutch breeding stock will be just as good for us as it will be for the Dutch Drent population. Being able to maintain those instincts will be highly sought after by the Dutch – after all being a good hunter is one of the three pillars of the breed, and will enable us to broaden and explore breeding options for our own narrow base. In this interest, I highly encourage our active breeders to register your pups with the AKC FSS program or at the very least encourage your new owners to peruse FSS registration for their pups. Also FSS registration will allow your Drent to participate in a good number of AKC events, and soon confirmation showing



Bayberry Kennel's Star

– to an approved standard no less. To see all of the FSS opportunities you will have to spend some time reading up on the FSS program starting here at the [AKC FSS home page](#). We do need to understand the FSS program is a double edged sword; the FSS program will entice some owners to strike out on their own, which will more than likely make the road more difficult for us to maintain the breed's good health, temperament and acceptable confirmation. However with dedicated owners, breeders and Club we can work to mitigate that concern. Sadly there isn't a magic silver bullet to get us from where we are to where we would like to be. As I am sure many of you are aware, there are other registries which automatically accept FCI breeds, why bother with all the AKC stuff at all? While that is true, those organizations are not in turn recognized by the FCI and in turn recognizable by the Raad van Beheer, the Dutch Kennel Club. For all of the AKCs bumps and warts it is the only path for us to achieve our goal of a "united Drent". The AKC will not ruin our breed, with the many opportunities and doors the AKC offers us and our beloved Drent, the AKC also brings with it challenges which we will need to meet head on to preserve and protect our Drent. The AKC is simply a club of clubs, and it is the breed club's responsibility to manage its breed of focus and create a culture of stewardship for their breed. The AKC and FSS program are but a stepping stones for our breed and club. The AKC doesn't have control over our dogs or registry, we do and if our dogs go to pot, we can only have ourselves to blame.



Bayberry Kennel's Belle

## Judas con Perdiz (chukar) — a traditional Spanish dish

### List of Ingredients:

- 400 grams (15 oz) of medium sized white beans
- 2 whole partridges cleaned and eviscerated
- 11/2 complete cloves of garlic
- 11/2 medium white onions
- 1 green pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- Olive oil as needed
- Salt and pepper as needed
- 1 liter (4.25 cups) of beef broth (optional)



### Directions:

- In a stock pot incorporate the green pepper (seeded, cleaned and coarsely chopped), the whole onion (coarsely chopped), the head of garlic (whole and unpeeled), beans (previously soaked in water for 8 hours), paprika, bay leaf and a generous dash of extra virgin olive oil.
- Cover with water and place over low heat until the beans are tender (the time will depend upon the bean you use. Then simmer.
- While the beans simmer, in another pan lightly sauté the remaining 1/2 chopped onion and 1/2 clove of garlic and brown the whole partridges. When the vegetables are sautéed and partridges are browned, add the beef broth and cook covered until tender, about two hours.
- Once you have both beans and partridges nice and tender, remove birds from their broth and vegetables.
- Use a food processor to grind the mixture used to cook the partridges then add to the beans. Retrieve the whole clove of garlic from the beans, and remove the natural shell of the garlic using a fork, return the cloves to the beans.
- With the partridges you have two options, either debone the birds returning the crumbled meat to the beans or serve Spanish family style, by chopping the whole birds into several pieces – be sure to let folks know there will be bones.
- Bring the whole dish back to a boil, to make a final integration of flavors. Serve hot and enjoy.

## Parting Shots



Breeders Day, wipes 'em out

## DPCNA Special Thanks & Credits

Photography contributions: Nikki O'Connor (cover, 6b, 7, 8t, 9t, 10), Jenna Myers (pages 3 & 4) Brian O'Connor (pages 2, 6t, 7, 8b, 9b, 13b) Marge Governale (page 5), Ann Barrett (pages 12 & 13), James Johnstone (page 14)

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