



USMRA "The Horn"



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 26, 2007

International Championship of Mondioring 2006 Cascais, Portugal

The 2006 International Championship of Mondioring was held in Cascais, Portugal. The United States Mondioring Association was represented by a team of four dog / handlers. Lisa Maze and Feist du Loups du Soliel competed at the Mondioring 3 level. Representing the USMRA at level two were Kathy O'Brien and Dynamite OT Vitosha and Sharon Novak with O'Bre-ons Ysha Rose. Representing us at level one was Risa Hunnicutt with Real de San Carlos Barakuda. Tim Bartlett was Team Captain.



Our USMRA international team!

After a rocky start to their voyage, during which the dogs were left behind by the airlines in Frankfurt, the teams arrived in Portugal and adjusted quickly. Risa and Kuda competed on Friday morning, and after a very respectable performance, ended up in sixth place. Kathy and Dyna were the next member of the team to com-

pete. Dyna was doing well, and had found the bad guy in a very challenging hiding place. Suddenly in the escort, she stopped and held up a leg, unable to continue. Kathy and the judges laid her on her side to try to determine the problem. It seems that she suffered a severe leg cramp. This ended the trial for Dyna, but the exercises that she did complete were

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A USMRA Member — Your Participation is our Future

USMRA is a new and growing organization. The best way for individual members to help our organization to grow is simple, PARTICIPATE!

- If you do not have a club in your area, start one. The best way to understand how USMRA operates on a smaller scale is to assist in organizing a local club.

- Assist at trials. There are many jobs to do and all help is appreciated.
- Volunteer to be on a USMRA committee.
- Run for a USMRA office.

President's Message

Dear USMRA Members,

We are again at the end of a great year for USMRA. I would like to share with you a few of our successes. Without your help this progress would not have happened.

This year showed a tremendous growth in clubs and membership, exceeding our goals set at the beginning of the year. We now have 12 Full Member clubs and 90 Active Members. Each of those clubs are scheduling trials, gaining members and training hard. Our two new American judges have been active at these trials and we have also made new European friends who have visited our country for the first time. Our goal to increase the number of trials has happened!

We had the largest world team yet: four members and a team leader. When you see them, give a big thank you to Tim Bartlett, Team Leader, and Lisa Maze, Kathy O'Brien, Sharon Novak, and Risa Hunnicutt for doing a great job at a big event.

The Decoy Committee has been active in revising the regulations and participating in decoy selections. They are working on the rules for selecting decoys for our national championship.

Due to an unfortunate theft of some of the work and equipment that made the DVD's possible, that project was put on the back burner until we can decide how to fund it again.

And, finally, our big news is the determination that we are ready for a national event. The National Event Committee is madly working to make the Alice in Wonderland theme a rewarding experience for all. Watch for its evolution on our website. We will also plan for a member happening during that time. Let us know what you would like to have us plan for members at that time.

Again, thank you to all for making our organization so successful.

Augusta

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

- The first annual meeting of the general membership will be Friday, March 16, 2007
7:00—General Meeting
8:00—Buffet
The location will be posted on the website, but it will be near the Championship event. Please be prepared to pay for dinner by noon on Friday, March 16.
- Annual membership renewal and dues notices have been sent out; dues are due and payable at this time. Your contribution to this sport is greatly appreciated!

USMRA Committees

2007 ELECTION NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dave Kroyer, Chair
Isai Rodriguez
Charley Bartholomew

2007 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

Scott Thomas, Chair
Tim Bartlet
Leri Henson
Dave Kroyer
Terry Miller
Ann Putegnat

DECOY COMMITTEE

Isai Rodriguez, Chair
Tim Bartlet
Matt Moore
Sharon Novack

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Ann Putegnat, Chair
*Other members needed

FORMING COMMITTEES:

2008 National Championship Committee
International Events Committee
By Laws Revision Committee
Judge's Committee
Auditing Committee

HELP WANTED

Looking for dedicated committee members. No experience required for some positions. Benefits include great coworkers and satisfaction for a job well done. If interested, please contact Augusta Farley (Ducielrouge@gmail.com).

Also looking for someone to keep this newsletter going.

International Championships (cont.)

done very well. Sharon and Ysha were the last team to compete on Friday, as Ysha was in season. Her lightning fast sendout, incredible recalls and superb work in the protection phase added to Ysha's reputation as a super competitor. We will see more of this team, I am sure! This team ended up in 5th place, overall. A very, very nice performance.

Lisa and Feist competed on Saturday and Sunday along with 27 other dog/handler teams. At the International Championships, the level three routine is divided between two days: 8 exercises on Saturday and 9 on Sunday. Each day, the dogs do several obedience exercises, a jump or two and several protection exercises. In addition, the order of competition is not known ahead of time. On Friday night, two names are drawn, the first and second dogs of the day for Saturday. Then, on Saturday, as each handler checks in to

compete, he or she pulls a name from the hat to select the next competitor.

On Saturday, Feist was a crowd pleaser in two separate exercises. During the execution of the Palisade, Feist decided to perch on the top, waiting for instructions from Lisa. After the judges consulted, scratched their heads, consulted some more.....Lisa was told to move towards the back of the jump to draw him off. She repeated the jump successfully, and Feist was rated very high on cuteness factor. He definitely had the attention of the crowd! His second episode of super stardom came during the search and bark exercise. It was a particularly difficult search. Entrance to the hiding place was well hidden; many dogs missed it and lost the exercise entirely. Feist ran around and around, trying to find a way in. We all were holding our breath, sure that the clock would run out. In

the last seconds left on the clock, Feist leaped to the top of the enclosure and perched, waiting for Lisa to arrive. He successfully held the guy in place by barking just above his head, ready to pounce if he moved a muscle. Photos of Feist perching on the narrow ledge, barking like crazy, circulated around the world by that evening!

The judges for this event were Gerardo Straterman (Spain), Deputy Judge; Valeer Linclau (Belgium) and Claude Dopp (France), judges. This was a well run, and very challenging event. Hats off to the Portuguese organizers. Hats off, as well, to our team!! They traveled mostly on their own nickel, and represented the USMRA well. Congratulations!!

The Championships in 2007 will be in France. Stay tuned for more info!

"This team ended up in 5th place, overall. A very, very nice performance"



Feist finds the bad guy!

ELECTION RESULTS JUST IN:

- PRESIDENT: Augusta Farley
- VICE PRESIDENT: Scott Thomas
- SECRETARY: Ann Putegnat
- TRESURER: Sarah Rackley
- BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE:
 - Tim Bartlett
 - Lisa Geller
 - Rich Schneider

Updated contact information and short bios will appear in the next volume of this newsletter.

As we look forward to the next generation, a huge Thank You to previous officers and board members for your selfless dedication to the USMRA.





**United States
Mondioring Association**

www.usmondioring.org

USMRA PURPOSE

1. To promote, organize, and administer in the United States of America the international working dog sport known as mondioring. Procedures and standards will be based on FCI rules and regulations;
2. To promote sportsmanlike conduct, and fair and humane training at all dog sport activities;
3. To work in a friendly and cooperative manner with other dog sport enthusiasts and with other national and international organizations to promote and preserve working dog activities;
4. To provide opportunities for members of USMRA to achieve training and trialing goals in mondioring;
5. To develop programs and activities to educate the public about mondioring and the working dog sports in general;
6. To compete with a USMRA team at international mondioring events.



1st National Championship

**BE THERE
FOR
USMRA'S
1ST
NATIONAL
CHAMPION-
SHIP**



The United States MondioRing Association is proud to be holding its first ever National Championship. This event will help to elevate Mondioring in the US and internationally. Further, this event will allow us to showcase this fascinating dog sport by showcasing some of the finest Mondioring trainers our country has to offer. The USMRA Executive Board looks forward to everyone's participation and interest in this our first national event, and the board wishes all the participants the best of luck.

-- Scott Thomas, USMRA VP

Lone Star Mondioring Presents
2007 USMRA CHAMPIONSHIP
March 16-18 at Triple Crown in Hutto, TX
with Trial Theme Alice in Wonderland

Brought to you by
Judge Margaret McKenna from Belgium
Decoys Tim Bartlett, Chris Moody, Matt Moore, and
Rich Schneider

