

SO YOU WANT TO HOST A MONDIORING TRIAL??

by: Ann Putegnant

Themes, scenarios, props, retrieve items, accessories..... and on and on and on! Your first trial, as a new club of enthusiastic mondioringers, can be a daunting



prospect. It seems like there is so much to do, so much to plan! The idea of creating scenarios, or building props, does not come naturally to some folks. Just the idea of having to be 'CREATIVE' sends chills down the spines of many people!

This article will attempt to give you ideas and allay your fears just a bit. Providing props for a mondioring trial does not need



to break the bank. Nor does it take a set designer for a Broadway production. There are clubs in the organization that have gotten crazy with the props, creating elaborate scenarios that any theatre aficionado would drool over.

However, those same clubs have had trials that simply used things on hand. That is the focus of this article.....using what you or the club as a whole have in their garages, sheds or back pastures.

The Colorado Mondioring Club has probably done this the best. They have had a Spring Cleaning trial, a Farm Equipment trial (Charley lives on a ranch in the southwest), and an Indian Village trial – to name a few. Included are some photos of those events. Lonestar Mondioring Club has done both ends of the spectrum. Elaborate beyond words, and super basic, using what we have. We have done a Sports Clinic trial, a



Construction theme, and three Christmas trials.

Photos of these included. Endeavor Mondioring Club, best known for their incredible scenarios and elaborate props, had one trial that was in the 'frugal' venue. They had a Garage Sale trial, and then when it was over, conducted a garage sale on the field for the community. One other that comes to mind was the Amarillo Mondioring Club, who had a Tornado Alley trial. That was easy. Lots of twisted stuff!!

Mexico recently came into the Mondioring scene. As their judge,



I can tell you that when I arrived there was not a shred of equipment on the field to create scenarios, etc. Despite assurances from my host, I was worried. I located the groundskeeper for the FCM in Mexico City and elicited his help. Between the two of us, we created a field that was basically a beach scenario, constructed of the bits and pieces of equipment stored in their storeroom. By the second day, I had convinced people to contribute and the field looked



more like a real beach scene.

From the judge's perspective, I would advise clubs to plan some sort of scenarios and establish some focal points on the field using those props. If you leave it ENTIRELY to the judge, you may get some surprises that you were not counting on. The rules say that

the organizing club sets up the field. The more you have in place, the less is left to the judge. Get your retrieve items set and in a row. Get your accessories and your guard of the object items established. If you wait, and let the judge poke around.....you may not like the results!

There are many clubs around that have hosted a couple of dozen trials. Feel free to contact them, or others for help. This is a village, and there are many in the village that are talented scenario builders. Reach out! Someone will answer!!

