

## Ainsworth - 2003

A new year at summer camp with lots of new young dogs and some new people too. We'll miss our old friends who can't make the trip this year but I sure hope they make it in the future. Nebraska is coming back from a 2 year drought and while they have more rain this year, they still have a ways to go. It could have a bearing on our overall bird supply but we won't know that for a couple of weeks.

Alex & Alexandra arrived in camp July 24 with Bonnie and Dennis sliding in on the night of the 25th to drop birds off and help set up camp. The crew worked all weekend, mowing, setting out birds & setting up barrels and stakes. Bonnie and Dennis brought some dogs to camp along with horses and an atv. Alex should be ready for the week ahead. Robin was due in camp this week but business has reared its ugly head and it seems she'll miss camp. Sure hope she makes it to Booneville this year. We found out this weekend that besides planning on getting a new refrigerator & microwave, the camp's stove had sinister plans to level the house so we also needed a new stove. Bonnie took on the task of going to Sears in Denver and picking us out some new appliances. Ron & Annie have donated the funds to make this happen and we sure appreciate their generosity. They had rain on Sunday and some more during the week. This helps us all and sure makes the Painter family happy.

Back on the home front, everyone has big work issues. Bob G. & Stan are going through a major restructuring, Phil switched companies, and I'm plodding along with today's construction market but we're still going to figure out a way to make camp. Bob and Amy will be delayed (not stuck just delayed) a week. Stan will be out late with Lee Shoaf pulling the trailer out to haul horses. Phil got a positive answer to taking his planned vacation with the new company and him, Jenny and the kids (Kelly included) will make the trip with us on July 31st. We are ready!

Work on Thursday just slowed the day down but we got loaded and ready to hit the road that afternoon. Almost 3pm by the time we left Sycamore with Phil's new rig, 4 kids, 4 adults, 15 dogs and plenty of enthusiasm. We made it about 70 miles before a connection on Phil's intercooler blew and we tried roadside repairs. Lots of help from Chad and a local tow truck guy but we were forced to limp it to town to get

electricity but we got it fixed and headed out. At least got to Iowa City, had dinner then got the dogs out and a good night sleep. Up early, rolling by 7:30 and a very good travel day. Stopped in Norfolk and got some steaks and sweet corn and hit camp by 5 PM. The crew had us set up in no time and we were able to enjoy a good dinner and a nice bottle of wine and listen to some good tunes. Lee Shoaf had left with Katrina after us. He had the horses and he was able to just keep chugging out. Alex, Lee & Katrina had us unpacked and unhooked and that sure made our day easier. Camp looked great and Dennis was coming tonight with our stove and refrigerator. Camp will be rolling tomorrow.

Saturday morning, we're up and working on camp. Alex had repaired the pigeon house so we had a spot to put the new birds. Stove in, refrigerator hooked up with icemaker and many other small chores completed to have camp really fit to run. A couple of naps and everyone was smiling Saturday night as we ate Elk kabobs that Dennis brought. Hmmmmmm good!!!!!!! Roger, Janet, Devin, Jason, Gerald and Mildred were all down that night and it was great to see our Ainsworth family. Fresh corn and some beans and were we happy! Dennis roaded his crew for an hour that morning as Alex had been working them all week and they came to camp pretty fit. They have a head start on everyone. Some nosey dogs these 1st nights, we'll have to find the culprits and get that straightened out real soon. Ed Meyer rolled in with his dog and Tompkins two and camp was pretty well filled up only Ron Talmage and Annie left to bring dogs. 27 in camp now so we have a nice size crew.

Sunday Aug.3 We're up and moving, getting the whole team ready for that first trip to the hills. Got all the kids saddled up and we're ready.

Hills Clint & Dusty - these 2 got the call to start the trip - Dusty responded by hitting a solid point at about 3 min out He looked great with a command back by Clint. Dennis was thinking turtle but he had a perfectly located chicken. Dusty ran the better of the 2 all the way but neither one really opened up with Clint getting into a turtle pattern- he picked up 5 bumped a chicken he had every chance to pin and generally didn't have it today. Dusty was seen under a bird and both dogs were corrected. 30 min. - 10-12 chickens

**Bandit & Katie** - Bandit ran a decent race - handling at moderate range with Katie showing independence and hunt once she got settled in. Bandit seen working a hilltop very aggressively and she flat knocked a chicken, I think she might have knocked it out of site and had marked the landing zone- plugged in she was corrected only to do it again 2 min. later - she was corrected and finished moderately with Katie slowing at the end. Nice course for the young dog. 31 min. 15 birds- 1 big bunch of young birds.

We saw Roger, Devin and some friends riding to us - they came out for a Sunday morning ride with us only we were a little quick for them. They planned on following the next brace.

**Heidi & Jam** - they ran short with Jam showing more speed and both got hot pretty quick. Got them in the lake and Heidi kept going in circles; I had to wade out to get her before she collapsed. The next 2 ponds she just jumped in, still a high kicker she managed to get out on her own. Jam is a nice moving pup. 20 min.

More plans for the rest of the day but finished doing chores and it got good and hot. Dennis left town for the week. Phil and company went swimming and we snoozed. Had a great dinner and visited with the Painters.

Mon Aug.4 Monday morning, I'm on the phones but the crew got ready and they're running the meadows.

**Inde/Zooka** - Ed and Phil -zooka had nice point along edge just before Sidell's pasture. Flushed a young chucker that only went a few feet. She took 2 steps toward the bird after the shot. In Sidell's pasture, she went on point again and inde came in and stole point. Put inde back, then flushed visible quail to the side..there was probably another bird in there as well. Zooka had another point with Inde behind about 50 yards. After about 3 shouts for Inde to ho, she finally stopped, just in time for Zooka to decide that there was no bird and self-release. Made both stand as a correction. non productive.

a few minutes later, zooka went on point again right at a fence. Phil yelled for inde to ho, and she dropped her head and began walking toward him. We turned her around and let her watch. Turned out to be non productive. pick up zooka at 23 minutes, let ed take inde rest of course in hopes to have a clean find... Both dogs were digging in and hunting with reasonable range.

**Roxy/Glory-Glory** with Lucas in the driver's seat was running with reasonable intensity, but after the 2nd non-productive, Lucas decided to pick her up. Roxy was happy to be out running, but didn't stick to the cover as much as we would have hoped. No birds.

**Rocky/Layla** - Phil and Jason

Rocky - nice point on south side of objective with Johnnie house after 3rd relocate in the thick weeds, he pounced in..obviously in flushing mode at this point. after he spun around looking for the bird, the bird flushed from its perch of about 2ft on a woodpile. Layla had a point in Sidell's pasture, but broke before Jason could get there.... The rest of the time, it was clear that she was more interested in finding crap to roll in. She may be coming in heat...she is due soon... as Rocky tagged her around the rest of the course. When he would get independent, he would turn around and look/wait for her...

Lots of work today but Luke and I got the ATV hooked up and ready for the start of the roading program. Actually, Alex had been doing the Hidalgo string all week.

Tues Aug 5 Foggy morning but we still had plans to do young dogs.

Roading     Clint, Dusty, Cali - 29 min  
                 Dolly, Bo, Brie, Lea - 23 min  
                 Chopper, Bandit - 27 min

Linda's on the rig and hoping her new set up lets her rode

the dogs without bothering her hands. Seems to work.

Meadows Wally, Teama, & Susie - pigeon toss and short run-10 min  
Patti, Hank & Ruddy - pigeon toss and short run-10 min  
All the pups showed plenty of desire for birds.

Birdwork Went to the Sidell loop to work birds.

Inde - scenting and the young birds were tough, finally got her on a single and she handled okay with a couple of steps after the shot. Ed needs to handle it a little different.

Rocky - tried to get him on a bird but no luck so we moved to the pond.

-- worked Inde again and got a find that was okay and a wild flush that she just came to me. She's doing pretty good - likes to hunt and dig the cover.

Lea - dragging a cord she pointed stylishly and stood but the bird was right there and she broke with flush. Tried another but only had an improper stf then a checkcord bird and called it a day.

We've got Bob G & Lee hooking up to get us some older birds. All the birds seem to be a bit strange in that they don't fly up on the ledges and look out which makes them not very spooky when you go to work them. We'll have to see if they change, as they get older. The kids are off to the pool and we're doing business in camp.

Wed Aug 6 Cool morning with a great view of Mars during the night. Really bright in the sky. A bit cloudy this morning with Linda into the program and off roading early. We are running a few braces out of camp to triple gates. Alex and Alexandra are having their last morning on the hills, then off to the airport and back to home. They had a fun time in camp.

Meadows Brie & Inde- Inde a strong start and very good application, hit the edges and dug in all through the meadow. Brie kinda just going through the motions, slow for her and bouncing

around. She never really got it going - by the time we hit the south meadow both were slowing down and overwhelmed by the big field. Took them to the island and got wet, Brie had a non productive by a dried up hole and picked up a little in the low hills but not much of a race for here. Inde the stronger of the 2. They were happy to see the truck at triple gates.

**Hills**      **Picabo & Katie** - ran these 2 to the east on the big hills and they show lots of promise. Katie looped pretty badly for a minute or 2 than started to get into a pattern w/Picabo the wider of the 2 - they hunted and stretched to a medium gun dog range with an occasional stretch. Chased some dinky birds and got them to water at 12 - Picabo still won't go in and Phil got down and gently wet her down to get her used to it - Katie was cool now and started to hit a lick only to have the 2 of them do a t-bone move coming off a small hill - Katie a bit tentative for a couple of minutes but she got better- Picabo really opened up and had a very strong finish with Katie doing a good job too. 32 min.

**Meadows**      **Heidi & Bo-** ran them back from triple gates and Bo started out listening but split to the east at the island, I hit him with the collar but he kept on going, Phil and I waited while Ed and the girls ran Heidi. We just sat and watched with Bo coming back about 5 minutes later when he went past I yelled 'ho' and he tried to blink me but the power worked then and he stood. I took him back to the pond and then turned north and he went with me the rest of the way. Good race with no birds and ended up on a positive note. We got back to camp to find that Heidi pointed at the pond and while Ed was mounting, the horse took and he bailed hitting his head. He got back on and rode in but has no memory of the find, fall or ride in but he also doesn't have a headache so he seems okay. 35 min.

The kids went out to look for Ed's glasses but no luck then Phil and Ed went back and were able to find them. Ed seems fine now so we're good to go. Alex and Alexandra pulled out after saying goodbye. Ed, Jason and I went up to Roger's hay meadow south of the golf course to look for a

new weed running along his field, which he was having no luck getting killed. Ed will try and identify it and see what it takes to control it. We finally had an earlier meal and were able to get a few dogs out for birdwork.

Birdwork **Roxie** - 1 clean bird with not much style for Ed and Roxie-good training for Ed.

**Glory** - Lucas in the drivers seat with Glory, 1 clean bird and good manners.

**Lea** - dragging a cord, Phil worked Lea on a bird with a very classy find, Phil held cord and I went out front to flush and through a different bird. She handled fine, we praised her and put her up.

**Clint** - pointed the 1st one tightly and was clean, took him to a 2nd one w/better style. The bird didn't fly too well and he tried to get in - corrected seriously and put up.

Puppy Owen and him Mom took Ginger for a walk in the meadow. She had lots of fun.

Good day with lots of dogs worked.

Thurs Aug.7 We had a great cool evening to sleep and a little rain around 4 am that just made if feel good. Trying to get a jump on it as the adults are heading to Rosebud tonight for a Wynonna Concert & dinner at Peppermill.

Roading **Clint, Rocky, Zooka, & Cali** - 33 min but Rocky forced 4 min. break, laying down and not wanting to go until Linda hosed him down completely. Rocky is not making up any ground at this point, first he picked on his roading partner yesterday and just hasn't endeared himself to the program.

**Roxie, Dusty, Chopper & Penny** - it worked, I read the notes from last year and found out that Penny wouldn't road for Linda on the left side last year , same the other day so the last 2 days she roaded her on the right and she's

fine. 33 min.

**Lea & Colleen** - Colleen still in season but coming out of her shell. She did just fine on the roading rig with Lea. 26 min.

Meadows **Glory & Inde** - Glory with Lucas and Inde with Ed, they got off while I did some work. Inde the better race but she chased a bird and got corrected. Glory a better race today but no birds. She responds well to Luke's style of handling.

**Dolly & Ona** - Ona showing a lot of speed and some hunt, Dolly showing out of shape, kinda like Brie the other day, just going through the motions. Good few opening minutes but just not the conditioning and too much weight. She's got the heart though and she'll get in shape pretty quick.

**Bandit & Jam** - well I'm going for the whole enchilada- no power assist with Bandit and she rocked out from the get go only to hook the truck going back and Devin had to go get her, Jam hooking the scout but she had good speed and some hunt. Needs some work but has the tools. Got Bandit back only to have her hook the truck a 2nd time with Devin getting her at the pond - we got her going and her gas tank was running down so she handled well the rest of the way with a decent GD pattern but no birds. 32 min.

Wynonna just cancelled her concert. Now we'll boycott all her records until I get a letter of apology. Still going to the Peppermill only now we're taking the kids. Should be a fun time.

Great Dinner at the Pepper Mill!! WE had a fun time and took Jason & Devin with us. Back to the ranch for a relaxing night with Owen giving us his violin concert with a couple of tunes from Corrine & Lucas, Kelly on the baton. We really enjoyed the concert, Owen up to book 3 in Suzuki and all of them doing a great job. Fun to hear and watch.

Fri Aug. 8 Morning was clear and I had a full schedule of work this morning but the crew was up and ready to work for Ed's last morning on the hill. Trying to fill out the workouts for the week, remembering it's the first week of camp. Kelly riding

Doc again this morning and doing a real nice job with him, they've become quite the team on the meadows.

Roading **Bo, Brie, Penny** - 32 min.

Meadows  
puppies

**rudy/wally/dixie**

3 birds per brace worked well...1 at the stakeout, 1 on the way out, 1 on the way back. wally and dixie followed the 1st pigeon all the way to the hill past the far tree objective. on the way back wally had dixie's lead in his mouth and proceeded to do that the rest of the time. rudy brought up the rear and wasn't very expending much energy...

**hank/teama/patti/suzie**

3 birds per brace worked well again with devin dishing out the bird candy. pattie and suzie got into a couple of fights that seemed serious. ed recalled pattie bullying suzie the last time out, so it seems that suzie decided to fight back. it seems that this was on her mind from the get go, as she wasn't even very excited about the bird on the stakeout either, which is stark contrast to the last time we had her out.

**Rocky & Roxie** - Rockie 25 min & Roxie 35- Phil ran Rocky and Ed ran Roxie. Rocky gets the collar the next time out. he started by bumping and tagging roxie from the beginning. i ran him down. he stopped, but with a male dog we would have had a fight. for the most part, it was a replay of the previous time where he more concerned etc. roxie was ready to run...tail was cracking the whole time and handled well. again, she doesn't stick to the objectives as much as might be required to find birds here. ed spotted a chukar running east on the north side of the pond across from the bird house. he brought roxie in. she had to relocate a few times, but finally had a clean find in the pine trees. in the mean time, I picked up rocky.

**Inde & Katie** - Inde-31 min & 35 min Kelly ran Katie and Ed ran Inde. both dogs ran well and were digging in from the

beginning. inde went south just before the sidell loop. ed and lucas ended up losing her until we met up again back by the pond. she was very hot when we caught up with her, so we know she was running and may have got into birds. katie, on the other hand went on point about 5 years from the johnny house on sidell's. She held point all the way through the flush of about 4-5 quail. I went ahead and shot, and she took a step back, then took a few steps forward and went on point again. I flushed 2 more quail that were hidden. She didn't chase, so I collared her and praised her without a shot, then watered her. by the time we got to the pond and caught up with inde, ed and kelly were able to get both dogs in the pond to cool off. no other birds.

**Colleen & Heidi** - 22 min ( Colleen's at the end of her Season and first time down) Phil ran Colleen and Corinne ran Hiedi(with help from Kelly and Lucas). It was obvious that Colleen had not been around horses before, as she got very close several times, but she handled it well. We had a hard time keeping her front, but she seemed to be having fun and digging in on the east/west line before Sidell's loop. However, in Sidell's loop she found a dead squirrel under a log that smelled good and offered plenty of shade. I hauled her out, walked her 50 yard south(to shortcut loop), and watered her. After letting her loose, she went right back. I was going to take her back in, but then she finally decided to go with the group. Heidi ran with more intensity and stayed front except for a fence that shouldn't figure out how to cross....Ed had to go back to get her. Corinne and Kelly did a good job of getting them into the pond. No birds.

Ed came in and packed up and hit the road. He's off to Colorado to drop his truck at Hidalgo's place, go the airport and fly home. The Tompkins will pick it up when they fly in. This way they get 3 dogs to camp and all get to spend a little bit of time. Jenny , Linda and Owen went garage sailing and had a good time. Phil and the other kids went up to help the Painter's hay and spent the whole afternoon. I worked but it was very peaceful and I got a lot done. Bob Geddeis met Lee at o'dark hundred to pick up our reinforcements - 12 week old chukkar. Bob's Jeep was supposed to be fixed this afternoon but they couldn't get everything

done. We discussed a couple of possibilities - Lee S. offered to let him use his and then Jenny figured he could use the Excursion and that would work the best so off they went to meet Chad and get Phil & Jenny's vehicle and off he went leaving Rockford around 7pm and planning on being here for first brace.

Sears was supposed to have the refrigerator man out to fix the ice machine. He showed up at dinner time and didn't have much luck. He said if it wasn't fixed by Monday he'd order the parts. Doubt the medicine he gave it will cure it by then!!!! At least it's their problem and not ours.

We decided to go fishing near dark at the pond south of the meadows. We packed up with the kids, Devin & Jason, Phil & I and off we went to the pond. Jason and Kelly road down on the ATV and told us that there were dead fish all along the pond. We parked on the east side and started to fish with a few dead ones along the bank, then I road around and found thousands of dead minnows, perch and several good size bass. Devin & Phil went back and got fish samples and water samples to try and determine the problem.

Phil & I, Devin, Jason & Kelly sat up and talked listening to good music and enjoying the night. I stayed on after midnight then Jenny got up and their party continued but I hit the hay.

Sat. Aug. 9 Bonnie and Dennis stealthed into camp around 1:30 or so but they were up bright and early. We started getting things ready and about 7:30 Bob & Amy rolled into camp. We were ready!!!!!!!!!! We went and put out the new birds and got ready to go south and ride the hills. Linda was out roading as we got ready and had her string done by the time we were heading out.

Roading **Glory, Dolly, Bo & Zooka - 33 min.**

**Bandit & Lea - 31 min**

Hills Well we're late with everything we had to do and it was getting quite warm already. Last day out for Phil, Corrine, Kelly - they're heading home. Corrine & Kelly are doing a great job and having fun riding the hill. Lucas is staying this week

and heading home with Bob and Amy. We drove south to almost the end of Roger's land and got ready to roll.

**Cali & Clint** - well old Cali sure has a heart - almost 9 years of age and still hits a good lick. Clint much better than his first time down but still has a way to go. We tried to stay near the water but got too far up in the hills and they were struggling around 20 - took Clint to water, Cali had a legit stf on 10 chickens then onward we went , gave them a good watering and they hunted till the end. All in all - a decent performance. 40 min.

**Dusty & Picabo** - Dusty a NP at 3 with Picabo a true test of his manners. We tried to stay near water and Dusty took a different trek. Phil took Picabo to water and got off his horse and spent time walking her into the water to teach her the benefits of cooling down. She got going and finished much better than she started. 30 min. with only a chase of ducks by Dusty to score on.

**Jam & Ona** - we decided to head along the water to camp and ran the puppies to the next gate and see if we wanted to go farther. Jason and I drove the rigs back and when we met them and opened the gates, they had enough. 20 min good hunt - no birds but two young dogs with potential.

We headed back to camp - 89 degrees and climbing, no puppy work. Decided to concentrate on our naps. Hot in the trailer but I got some good winks, Bob on the couch, Amy in her room, Phil in the hammock then the air conditioned trailer and we are headed to a lazy Saturday. Bonnie & Dennis went to town to deliver a horse to Roger Berg. Too bad he didn't stop out and say hello but he had to get back to home.

We had this lazy afternoon and plan on going to the top of the hill for dinner with the Painter family. Hope it cools down some!

Time to go to the hill and in roll the rain clouds, couple of thunderclaps and we thought twice about going to the hill. Good decision, when we started it poured, lightning and an inch + of rain. Had buffalo burgers that Dennis & Bonnie brought - great dinner. Mildred brought some cake

and we had a great time – even a short violin concert by Owen and his accomplices.

Sun Aug.10 A beautiful morning with Phil, Jenny, Corrine, Kelly and Owen packing up and hitting the road. They're taking home the Expedition and leaving the truck for Mr. Geddeis. They had a great camp and Lucas is staying another week to help with the crew and he'll go home with Bob & Amy.

Bonnie & Dennis up early and ready to go with the pups while we help the kids get out. Sonja came over with her friend Dakota to ride the hills. We did the flat dogs and went to the hills for a couple of braces.

Meadows **Susie, Rudi & Hank** – Bonnie and Dennis started with these Pups and got them their first time on horseback. Not bad But still not enough hunt yet.

**Teama, Patti & Wally** – this crew started hard with Patti Trying to knock Wally, he knocked her down and told her off & She tried it again – this time he really told her and it appears the cure worked for today. Some hunt and Wally wired on starlings.

**Colleen & Katie** – nice moving but no real purpose yet – Too much open field running – they need more birds. 1<sup>st</sup> Time horseback for Colleen.

**Inde & Dixie** - plenty of run for Inde – no bird contacts And Dixie runs around just find but no birds.

Hills **Penny & Brie** – we say about 7 chickens early but no dog Involved except Penny giving chase from a long distance – Brie a better time than last but still miles to go. Penny, Called the 'sausage dog by Bonnie' sure knows how to run The country and stay out front. She was the stronger of the Two today & did a nice job.

**Bell & Heidi** – Heidi just a bit overwhelmed today – actually Better towards the end with fine leadership from Bell. We Worked them to where we saw birds go down but only saw

A single and the dogs were out of the area.

Roading **Rocky, Roxie, Chopper** - 35 min. - pretty strong but took  
A break at Sidell's loop letting them watch the birdwork and  
Actually letting Chopper does some.

Birdwork **Belle** - with a cord, under control - not bad.

**Chopper** - not good for him, wanted to dive in and needed  
To be immediately corrected.

**Penny** - worked on a bird, very stylish, mildly restrained and  
put back after a step but not bad.

**Lea** - nice solid point, no checkcord today - a little soft on  
Flush but clean. 2<sup>nd</sup> one nice and solid, good manners for  
Flush and shot.

**Bandit** - space cadet, pointed but no bird there, wanted to  
Leave, took to bird and she hit solid but I couldn't produce,  
Bird walked off, a relocate and she worked hard in green  
Grass but pointed it from 3 sides before she bumped. A  
Stern correction and put her away.

Lots of dogs worked today - 20 sessions. Dennis left to get some round  
Bales to take home and Bonnie took Jason with her to Montana to meet  
Ron & Annie and evaluate horses and haul them if he chose to buy them.  
Good thing she had a co-pilot, she broke a leaf spring on the trailer and  
had to rent one in Sheridan, Wy to finish the trip. Just a bit of  
excitement.

We got pretty hot in the afternoon and it was time for a long siesta. Felt  
good. Took it easy the rest of the day and decided to watch a Sunday  
night flick. Gregg, Cary, Bradly & Alle showed up around 9:30 with their  
new pointer pup they just picked up in Missouri. Real cute pup. They're  
going to stay a couple of days and work dogs. Gregg rented a motor  
home for their vacation and they're just out seeing sites.

Ron and Annie are due in on Wednesday afternoon. We hit the hay and a  
very cool, peaceful evening with dogs about as quiet as we've seen. A

great full moon during the night with promise of Mars being spectacular when the moon disappears.

Mon Aug.11 Great cool night for sleeping but along with the rain  
From the other night, we had a good fog. Busy Monday work load  
For me so the crew is doing the running today. Linda up and ready  
Early but thick fog has slowed her down.

Roading **Clint, Glory, Bo & Zooka** - 40 min. - no problem

**Dolly, Brie, Bandit & Lea** - 35 min. - solid - no problem.

**Cali & Dusty** - Dusty not with it today and Linda decided  
Not to push it with him. - 34 min.

Meadows **Picabo & Colleen** - Picabo headed out to the meadows like  
a streak with Colleen in tow. Both hunted the edge of the  
cover but could not get themselves to dig for the birds.  
Picabo showed more focus on the task with Colleen turning  
puppyish at times chasing butterflies and starlings. Twenty  
five minutes with both finishing with energy to spare.

**Wally & Ona** - Wally was taking a nice country walk for  
most of the stake with Ona running around nicely. No birds  
and not much application.

**Heidi & Katie** - Both hit the ground running hard for the  
first island. Heidi hit the cover and was rewarded with game  
which she pointed nicely. Bird flushed, Heidi chased but could  
not catch. Nice work. Katie had a nice run but no birds.

**Jam, Molly & Zoey** - ( Zoey is Gregg's dog) - All hit the  
ground running but Zoey quickly became a bit intimidated by  
the goings on; a totally new experience and chose to stick  
back with the horses most of the time with occasional forays  
to the front. Jam and Molly both ran well with decent  
application at times and puppyish at other times. No bird  
contact and finished strong at 23 minutes.

Linda and Lucas took Patti to the vet to see if she should have stitches  
for the barbwire cut she got on Sunday. The vet decided to just leave it

heal. Bob and his helpers went to the Johnnie houses to feed birds. On Sunday Jason had found some birds killed by a varmint. Today all the Johnnie houses had more birds and all seemed in fine shape. Devin got us going on filling holes and moving some dogs. We have to remember that they don't want us to trim any branches off these trees and to make sure dogs are staked far enough away that they can't get to the roots. There's plenty of shade in the rows now so no reason to put them that close. Gregg and his family helped with chores and had a very pleasant evening. Bev Hansen came down and visited and stayed for dinner. Good to see Bev. Good dinner and even a movie for some of the crew. Devin spent the night so he could be up to ride early tomorrow.

Tues Aug.12 Very clear and cool night with a very full moon but no sound of any coyotes, that's really strange as we have yet to hear our canine friends.

Roading **Clint, Roxie, Chopper, Penny** -40 min  
**Dolly, Rocky, Inde, Dusty** - 41 min

Hills **Picabo & Colleen** - At triple gates and hoping to get these dogs into birds. Colleen's 1<sup>st</sup> time on the hills and she did okay, it's really big country and takes time for dogs to adjust. Picabo layed down a very solid race, medium range with all kinds of hunt and forward pattern. 35 min.

**Bandit & Zooka** - Bandit a big opening move but I had her plugged in and when I called her she turned and handled nicely. Zooka hard at it from the beginning and she put down a very solid medium SD race for 25+ minutes, both dogs tired some but neither quit. One bird observed but no dog work. 31 min.

Meadows **Glory & Bo** - Lucas taking the line with Glory, he had a big training day, Glory a little slow starting, she bumped and chased a single, Devin had Lucas correct her, then 2 NP's and finally a clean find. That's why they call this training. Bo had Bob doing the driving with me as the scout but this scout had the collar and tracker controls and we had a plan. Unfortunately, Bo had a different plan and he split at about 6 min, using the tracker we located him and brought him

back on course, I waited in the woods while he did the Sidell loop and he managed to slide out and hit the corn field. We waited until I could see him heading away to tickle him And that got his attention. Rest of the way he was a Gentleman with 2 clean finds at the island. 31 min.

**Heidi & Katie & Zoe**( Gregg's pup) – Well Katie hit her Stride today with a very solid SD race on the meadows, plenty of drive and solid application. Heidi some hunt but not up To her sister's standards. Zoe a young pointer just starting Out. Heidi a solid point and chase with Zoe involved but no Birds on Katie. 20 min.

The afternoon saw me at the desk with Devin getting the Spray unit out and with Gregg's help, the fence they washed Yesterday got painted. Did all along the north end. That's A big help. Now we're waiting for some parts so we can Powerwash Gerald & Mildred's house. Bob cooked a great Dinner with steak and garlic potatoes. Got moving a little Earlier so we had time for birdwork.

Birdwork **Lea** – no cord tonight, let her go and got a great point, followed by a bump and a chase and a chase by me that took The atv to allow me to catch her. Brought her back , put her On the cord and did a 2<sup>nd</sup> bird, this time she did fine.

**Picabo** – couldn't pin the bird right away but she finally got One and it flushed wild and I held on to her(barely) .

**Heidi** – worked in on a cord and got a point then a bump but I held her and we accomplished a goal – getting these young Dogs to be thinking birds.

**Katie** – she kinda stalked in, stopped saw the bird then tried To catch, I had her and the bird flushed. Good – she's a nice One.

**Ginger** – just let her run around, bump a chukkar and chase-Good for her.

We called it a night and went back to camp, to which I called it a real night and hit the hay. Bob decided to take Gregg, Carrie, Bradley, Ally all up to the big hill to see the lake. Luke went along to supervise. He was badly needed. Bob needed special guidance and instructions to realize how to maneuver that extended cab dually up and down the hills. He even needed some guidance heading home when he headed to triple gates instead of back to camp. Bob then said that he saw some elephant tracks along the way and Luke told him “ Bob in your little Safari world, I’m sure there are elephants! “ - definitely a good thing that they took Lucas as the guide. They still might be out there looking for elephants at the end of the tracks.

Wed Aug 13        A great sleeping night with cool breezes and a gentle Breeze. Dogs a little noisy at times but not real bad. Still no Water heater so we started calling around and had little luck Getting anyone out here to take a look. Roger came around With a voltage tester and Bob & Roger went to work. After Talking to a plumber, who suggested we try the reset, that Didn’t work either. Found the one wire wasn’t hot, we had a Bad fuse – got it changed and right now it’s working. We Shall see if that’s the fix.

Gregg & his crew got the motor home all packed up and left For home. They had fun!

I got phone duty trying to get hold of a plumber and Bob, Luke & Amy ran the puppies.

Roading        **Cali, Lea, Chopper & Penny** – 40 min

**Roxie & Inde** – 37 min

Meadows        **Wally, Dixie & Patti** – With Bob, Lucas and Amy handling the pups all hit the ground with a lot of excitement with Rocky choosing to join the run albeit with his stakeout chain and stake dragging. Finally gathered him up and put him away and got back to work. with Wally losing out to the girls early; they were just too fast and he tired of chasing them. Dixie found a chukar that Gregg had planted in the middle of the meadow the night before and, without pointing, picked it

up and ran around with the trophy which Bob finally retrieved from her. She then found two more birds which again without pointing caught and ran around to show it off with Wally and Patti in tow. To make sure that last bird didn't fly she took it to the pond, pushed it into the water and stepped on it to make sure it didn't float. Nothing good came of this and we need to think about whether to continue this with her and ruin other pups in the process. She needs birds she can't catch. Finished at 25 minutes with energy to spare; except for Wally who was beat.

**Teama, Hank & Ona** –Hank pointed in the middle of the field with good style although the prey turned out to be feathers. Toward the end of the brace he pointed a chukar near the last Johnny house and carried it around. Ona pointed a bird in the shelter belt coming back into camp. Chased but did not catch. All three pups ran hard Finished at 20 minutes.

**Rudi, Susie & Jam** – Another pretty puppyish race for all with Jam running the hardest. Back at the pond Rudi ran past a chukar in the path without giving it the least acknowledgement. Susie ran into the cover nearby after the chukar had entered it and stopped to a flush without pointing. She did not chase but went on hunting. Otherwise lots of chasing each other and starlings but limited hunt in the cover. Finished at 23 minutes.

**Brie & Rocky** – Rocky had been having a very bad camp With a tendency to bump or tail his bracemates, laying down On the roading rig and not really focused on the job at hand. Today he was plugged in on a very moderate number and we Began the plan for getting him back in focus, kinda like the Hubbell, we needed to install a corrective device. Brie start- Out more like old Brie, focused and reaching although a bit Stalky at the island, she worked through it and onward. The Boy tried to run with her and was quickly reminded of the Word get, then he tried to mark the spot and he found out He was well grounded then at one point he decided to lay Down and quit only to find out the ground bit too – not

Severe but gentle vibrate followed by lite shock and while He never quite got back to hunting his heart out, he did Understand he needed to keep moving without lifting his Leg and to go forward. He had a good back on one of Brie's 4 finds, all excellent style and demeanor. I said very little to Rocky and this will be the plan. I told him to shape up or I'd Put him on the web page with a big For Sale Sign – his choice. Overall, Brie's speed was greatly improved ( not at 100% but much better ). She hunted the objectives and went into the cover as her nose dragged her in. Very nice job. 30 min.

Done for the morning, we got back to camp and this is when Roger showed up to help fix the hot water heater. A beautiful day, low humidity And a clear sky. Dogs are getting into shape and feeling better each time Down. Several still on low rations until their waistline matches their condi- Tioning level & it's happening quickly. Patti is going on the IR for a few Days as her cut is too angry to try running her again for awhile. We'll have to do some birdwork with her.

We had a nice dinner planned with Ron and Annie due in camp tonight. They'll have Sunny & Clancey along with them so we will be pretty full with dogs. Roger & Janet came by and we all shucked corn and got things ready. Nice night but quite windy so we decided to eat in the house. Ron & Annie got in from their 3 day trip to camp. A little worn out but happy to be here. We got the horses and dogs out and then had dinner. Real nice night.

Thurs. Aug 14 Another cool night for sleeping and quiet dogs so a real Nights sleep. Bob G. asked if the dogs barked all night long And it turned out Luke and left the movie Snow Dogs loop all Night so he heard a constant stream of barking. Well he Missed a nice quiet night.

Roading **Rocky, Zooka, Bo & Brie** – Rocky never stopped or laid Down today and even with Zooka behind him it was never An issue today.

**Dusty & Bandit** – Dusty stopped once at 32 & stood! Watched him approx. 15 sec & then off, finished fine.

Meadows **Clint & Picabo** – DOD goes to Picabo – solid race the entire Time. Smooth & hunting with a bump of Clint's bird and a Great covey of chukar find. Clint, much improved with a solid SD race – in the cover w/a good find on single quail in Sidell Look, standing for Picabo to take it for a ride. He dug in the Cover with better speed and drive and finished. 26 min.

**Glory & Dolly** – Glory a nice GD, not as fast as Dolly but Consistant application beginning to end. A good find in the Loop with Glory solid and Dolly a command back. Both dogs Mannerly. Dolly strong at the start with a much improved Attitude and better speed but still a few pounds to go and a Bunch more roading. She was breathing hard at 14 but hung In there fairly well.

**Heidi & Katie** – Luke had to drag Heidi along – just not into Today( needs some serious birds) – Katie a strong race all The way around. 25 min.

**Colleen & Layla** – Colleen not getting into yet, she just Hasn't got into the cover to find birds while Layla was really A lost soul the first half, but then a stf seemed to give her a Bit of focus but not up to what she's capable of for sure.

Lunch time and some painting and powerwashing. Devin & I went up To Gerald's & Mildred's and starting stripping their house. We got the south wall and east wall all stripped and we'll finish it up tomorrow. Had a good dinner and listened to some tunes.

Birdwork **Heidi** – got a decent point on a planted chukkar and let her Chase.

**Colleen** – got her stalking in on a birds and let her chase – Good time for her.

**Patti** – let her smell them, through a pigeon and a chukkar Which worked well, she chased with enthusiasm.

**Susie** – threw a pigeon, let her smell and chase chukkar.

Fri Aug.16 Good sleeping weather and a real clear night. No rain now for Quite a few days and we could use some. We're ready to do a Bunch of meadow work today. I'm on the phone to start the days But we've got Luke and Amy to keep track of Bob and get the Show on the road this morning. Annie & Ron are out there helping And getting the team moving.

Roading **Clint, Cali & Clancey** - 39 min.

**Dolly, Zooka, Inde & Sunny** - 39 min .

Meadows **Wally & Glory** - Glory with Luke at the controls on the Meadow and she's running pretty good but was only able To have a STF and and a NP but Luke's learning how to Read her and Wally gave Bob his best time on the ground Starting to show some promise.

**Hank & Ona** - both dogs getting around the country some With Ona the more drive but Hank appearing to be a nice Moving dog with a purpose.

**Rudi, Jam & Susie** - Susie running around more each time Down with Jam tons of speed chasing butterflies, - Rudi just Hasn't grown into his body and might never get that smooth Way of going, just a little on the clumsy side.

**Teama & Roxie** - Roxie applying herself better to the edges She's appears to be trying hard and getting into good shape. Teama, nice moving and showing more hunt each time down.

We called it a day around noon time as the weather is heating up and we Are in for a hot weekend. Devin and I finished powerwashing Gerald and Mildred's now we're ready to paint next week. I headed back to camp and a good enchilada dinner that Annie was preparing. Good stuff!!!!!!!!!!!!!! This is Amy's last dinner then her and Sonja off to Norfolk so Amy can catch a plane home early on Saturday morning. Amy had a fun time in camp and she's a great help with the dogs and a darn good scout. She helps me all the time and keeps track of Bob when Lucas was busy handling a dog. We got ahold of John Salzman and got permission to run

dogs on his CRP lands west of Hitchcock road. Part of it's been hayed but there are some birds there. We'll try it on Saturday.

Lucas set up the telescope around 10:30 and we had some great looks at a beautiful Mars with no moon in the sky. Then about 11:15 we had a spectacular moon rise. What an enjoyable evening.

Sat. Aug.16 Another great sleeping night with quiet dogs and cool Breezes. Luke and Bob will be leaving tomorrow so we're now planning on going to the rodeo since Lee Jr. cancelled his trip( truck Problems). We're trying to get an early start. Bonnie and Dennis Got in last night and brought a new dishwasher donated by Lee S. - Greatly appreciated that's for sure. Dennis & Bonnie brought lots Of veggies & great elk. We eat good at camp that's for sure.

Roading **Roxie, Inde, Clancey & Chopper** - 40 min.

**Sunny & Lea** - 38 min. with Lea acting tired.- 38 min

Two weeks into camp and Linda has these dogs doing a solid 40 Min. in the hills. Everyone starting to toughen up nicely with a Very solid roading program. Her hands are better with the new Throttle grip but it still takes it's toll just steering it but she's a Real trouper and it makes a big difference in our conditioning Program.

We're on our way to Salzman's to see what's in store for us today. Oops- there goes Picabo dragging her chain - Dennis needs 10+ Min and an ATV to track her down - she's want to run the meadow And we have other plans for her.

Hills **Brie & Dusty** - we're off and 30 sec into it Dusty's chasing a Sharptail with it flying over Brie and she joins in , Bob get's to Brie first and corrects her, Bonnie not even on her horse yet - Hops on - kicks him into gear with a spur and he about bucks her Off but she get's going and helps Dennis run Dusty down - a real Wild beginning. We start hunting the CRP after the mowed field And Brie works a legit stf with good manners - then Dusty appears Way out front with us, calling in her handler, I take him on and he's Looking good, Brie a little short but hunting has a nicely done

Find on pheasant and goes on, Dusty a ragged situation with some Birds and we're split up again. This just turned out to be Brie's Morning with several nice, mannerly pieces of wild bird work for Bob. Dusty a pretty wild morning but ending on a positive note With Dennis calling point for Brie on the way into camp, a bird left And Brie was standing on a pheasant find. Fund brace - 35 min.

**Penny & Picabo** - Penny up all night long at her side job - MINING - yep, she's digging for bones from previous ancestors next to the pigeon coup and she's got a whole tunnel system laid out - she must of moved a bunch last night. These two off and running with Penny hunting but not flying around like's she's capable and no Bird contacts for her today. Picabo is just a sight, great moving With a big forward pattern and a constant hunt. Two bir contacts With great chase, nothing pointed that we could tell but she was Trying. Fun brace - 34 min.

**Glory & Bo** - Luke running Glory with Bob helping and I took Bo With a collar on him plus a tracker with Bonnie one receiver and Dennis the other tracker. Glory had a stf and a find with a nice Race early but tired some in all the confusion with Bo - she did Try hard and was down for 30 min. Bo - now that's a story into Itself - I let him go and he's laying it down as we swing to the north Of the set aside, running and hunting and appearing to handle. He's Way out front and cruising - me acting like I got him - pointing him Out at a 1/2 mile plus. Bonnie spots him a way out there by the Windmill to the west - now 3/4 mile and not moving according to The tracker but - then we saw him way up the hill and going away I had a bead on him and told him to come - tried the juice but No luck -either he couldn't or didn't feel it - we be gone he said & Over the hill he went a mile away. Dennis dropped a fence and we Started riding, the rest went back then Bonnie and Bob started out To help - we all had walkie talkies and we put them to use - WE Dropped fence 2 and got way north looking at the camp road and Highway 7 - the signal said the hog farm was his destination - we Had Ron unhook a truck and take the highway - Bob & Bonnie sent To the hog farm - we shut gates and headed back to the truck- Loading horses and building a possee- we left Annie and Luke hold- Ing down the base trailer and off we drove going up the hill and Trying to get a track - whoops - he's east now heading toward

Home – we call Ron in and send him to hook up and load up –try  
And get Bonnie and Bob to head east – Bonnie later said that they  
Had they're hands full with the horses in the hog farm ( not a place  
They like) and then Bob said – BONNIE – LOOK, LOOK – WHAT'S  
THAT UP A HEAD ON THE ROAD!!!!!!!!!! Bonnie said – that's Jason  
Bob – what do you think it is? Whoops – Bob must have been  
getting overheated ( in the 90's now ) and having a dehydration  
problem – something to that effect. We got everyone back on the  
same page – got the riders coming, Jason driving the back of  
Richardson's – Dennis took a horse and rode east, we drove with  
Ron taking the one rig back to camp – I drove through Richardson's  
with Bob & Bonnie ( got them loaded) – dropped Bonnie off to hook  
up with Dennis and we drove the back way to camp – no Bo now  
after almost 2.5 hours of running and we could tell he was moving –  
Well we unhooked – put dogs away – they're hot just sitting in the  
trucks. Got Jason on search and rescue with the ATV – we're  
regrouping at camp – Dennis calls – THEY GOT THE DOG!!!!!! HE'S  
OKAY! We bring the rig to Richardson's new house on the hill – pick  
up Bonnie & Dennis along the way and go get Bo tied up to Kip's  
trailer – he makes a skunk smell real good at this point. He must  
have took laps in the hog pond but he was heading home and you  
can't get too mad at him at that point. As Bonnie said , “ Tell Lee  
to retire that dog and just breed him!!!! He's got heart , stamina  
and brains to find his way home” good traits that we need and  
when he's right – he's real right. Thus after 3 hours, it's now 1 in  
the afternoon with the temperature approaching 100 – we called it  
a day.

Back at camp, I did the town run – getting a truck wash and some  
stuff and heading back to town. Linda, I & Luke are going to the  
rodeo in Valentine. Bob, Ron, Annie & Monroe are going to  
Valentine for dinner – Monroe just arrived with Penny's horses so  
we took off picking up Sonja & Jason. We had a great meal and it  
was 104 degrees at dinner time in Valentine. Not too bad at the  
rodeo – but not a real lively crowd in the heat. We had a fun time  
with Luke getting ready to head home. Bonnie and Dennis in the  
meantime cooked and Elk dinner for the Painter family ( the adults)  
and everyone enjoyed a nice visit.

Sun Aug.17

Warm this morning – got moderately cool during

The night with very with very quiet dogs last night. A clear Sky and gentle breezes.

Luke & Bob are heading home this morning. We make preparations to bury the remains of Rita. Next . year we'll have a marker for her grave. We had her cremated this spring and wanted her buried on the sandhills . We prepared a spot next to Flash and buried **Brophy's Margirita** here in the place she loved so much. Lucas read the words that were inscribed on her container. We placed into her Resting place and our good friend "**RITA**" will now greet us every summer as we return to camp. She loved these hills – sometimes for the turtles, sometimes for the chickens & other times just for the thrill of the race. We loved the way she loved this place. She was a Superstar with the biggest heart I've ever seen. I've had some great dogs but not are the equal of Rita..... you will be remembered!!!!

Now, these three very, very special friends are now buried on these hills:

**Boomer, Flash & Rita!**

These three have all been a major part of our life here in the sandills.

We'll miss them & remember them!

**Goodbye good friends! May the shamrocks fall softly!!!!!!!**

Bob & Lucas were loaded and ready to shove off at 7:30am. Lucas was given very careful instructions about making sure was aware of the responsibilities of driving a full size dually – with trailer attached. He'll keep him in line.

Roading We had a big week so we gave the crew and Linda the day off. They need a break.

Hills Salzman's CRP

**Susie, Jam, Rudi & Dixie** - No birds but some good Runs with Susie starting to click, Jam doing a nice job, Dixie - independent and hunting but Rudi just a little bit On the uncoordinated side.

**Teama, Ona & Hank** - another good brace with all These dogs showing improvement and lots of independence. Hank a nice moving male with Teama & Ona both having a nice way of going.

**Wally, Colleen & Heidi** - Wally thinking it's Heidi That was in season, not a banner day for Wally, Heidi a Flake but Colleen her best time down on the ground. She's showing some class moving for sure.

No birds for any of the pups but we can get these Young dogs into some birds when needed and this will Help tremendously.

**Cali & Bandit** - off they go with Bandit having nice Flow and pattern and a reaching race - Cali showing her Experience, reaching nicely with plenty of pop. A bird In the air and Bandit some chase, corrected and set Back she seemed to handle it well, also corrected on A backing situation and Cali had a couple of contacts Chasing a bird and corrected. Scenting must be poor Because we couldn't get anything real positive on Either dog. - 35 min.

**Clint & Dolly** - warming up but these two started out Nicely with Clint the wider and both showing some Good improvement. Dolly a bit of speed in her step And a definite crack in her tail - good sign. Clint had Reasonable STF, Dolly too but no well defined bird work Just an honest effort by both of them. 34 min.

**Rocky & Belle** - took them to the west Richardon Crp and they hunted w/Rocky plugged in for leg Lifting and loafing - he's confused - need to work him

Alone -handled a bird and that was good but overall  
Not a good session - Belle hunted but not holding birds  
So Dennis taking him home to birdwork.

We called it a morning and decided that Sunday afternoon  
should be a R & R day so naps and showers were the  
afternoon with almost 100 degree temps. Ron and Annie  
Did the bird loop and we appear to be holding steady with  
Most of the Johnie houses - hopefully , this week will see  
Some improvement in the birds. Needs to cool down some.

Penny due in camp this evening. Penny made it in around 6:30 and we  
did hamburgers on the grill along with a pasta and listened to a few tunes.  
Nice relaxing, HOT afternoon.

Mon Aug 18 Cool, clear morning - I'm at the desk today with Ron,  
Annie, Penny & Jason running the string. We let out some birds  
This morning.

Roading **Clint, Dolly, Glory & Inde** -51 min.

**Bo, Zooka, Brie & Dusty** - Dusty just not roading well  
Right now - 36 min.

Meadows **Clancey & Katie** - Clancey with Ron doing the handling had  
a great time down - 3 great finds - 1 on a covey of chukkar  
and all 3 perfect. Ron felt great with Clancey - Katie had a  
strong race, reaching and hunting but no birds. 33 min.

**Sunny & Susie** - Susie really getting it together, starting to  
Show her speed and range, Sunny 2- NP's and showing she is  
In season - pretty flakey. 31 min

**Patti & Ona** - Patti her best time down, speec and range -  
Ona showing lots of hunt and plenty of speed and range -  
Patti a solid point on chukkar with a bump and chase. 36 min

Hot this afternoon, just did chores and several people went to town.  
Looked like it might rain this afternoon but no luck - we need it. Penny

was the cook tonight and she made a great southern pork chop dinner – all HEALTH FOOD !!!! right – pleasant evening and it cooled off nicely.

Tuesday Aug 19 Another good sleeping night, some clouds and a little rain in the middle of the night but not enough to really do anything. We're off early with Linda a full load this morning. Jason not in camp this morning.

Roading **Rocky, Glory, Clancey & Cali** - 57 min with stops, Rocky a couple of stops towards the end.

**Chopper, Zooka, Bandit & Bo** – lots of energy on Chopper Part – too bad it was lost between his legs, want to breed Dita-she's the most beautiful female but it all came to an end At triple gates as he tried to breed her as Linda switching From 3 – 4<sup>th</sup> gear--- he decided it wasn't worth it—Linda in The meantime had Bandit toss a cactus at her neck trying To get a way from Chopper – not a pretty picture. 50 long Minutes.

**Penny, Lea & Sunny** – 56 uneventful minutes.

Meadows **Brie & Susie** – Brie a so – so time down – good application, Some speed and 2 NP's w/Susie flat flying and showing lots Of run for a puppy. Starting to come together for this pup. 32 min

**Inde & Rudi** – Rudi with Ron at the controls – just doesn't Have the body to move the way he needs to & not sure of What he's out there for yet. Inde rolled but no birds – big Front running, edge and cover orientated – this one has a Future – no birds but plenty of run and application. 30 min

**Heidi & Teama** – these 2 knocked a couple of birds and Really did a good job – plenty of hunt and drive. 22 min.

**Roxie & Hank** – Roxie avoiding the cover today – had to Make her hit it – no birds and plenty of conditioning but not The application. Hank a better moving dog than Rudi but the Light hasn't come on yet. 30 min

**Wally & Jam** – Jam her least appealing time down – just Looping around the course – Wally looked sore – not good Weight either – need to kick him up – adding oomph to his Diet and see if we can perk him up – good moving and fast But not showing too much yet. 20 min – done in by the Heat.

I let birds out of 3 pens earlier and all the chukkar except the pond had 14-18 and the birds seem good, yesterday there were 23 quail in the Sidell pen – today at least 45 – flew like rockets – I think we have that one doing great and chukkar are improving –starting to see some loose covies and some back at camp – we’re getting there.

Afternoon is hot, 90 again with a stiff breeze. Ron and Annie went to town, the rest of us worked at camp. Had a quiet meal and Roger & Janet came over and visited.

Wed Aug.20 Another nice morning but the promise of plenty of Heat today. Ron not feeling well today with maybe a touch of Too much heat. He’s going to take the morning off. I let out Some birds.

Roading **Roxie, Dusty, Rocky & Bandit** – 51 min.

**Chopper, Penny** – 51 min

With the promise of extreme heat, I decided to do some work than head over to Gerald’s and get some 1<sup>st</sup> coat on their house. When I got there, Roger was there and he gave me a hand doing that south wall. Warm already by noon. I went back to the ranch and did work – watched the movie that Ron & Annie brought – all about a ‘horse whisperer’ competition in Ft. Worth, Tx Really very interesting with the gentle way of breaking horses.

Had a nice meal and called it a night early.

Thur Aug.21 A warm day yesterday with no breeze until dark but it Turned into a nice night and work to a hazy daylight morning. I

Went out and released birds on the meadows and planned on getting several dogs worked. Ron still not up to par with Annie  
Awaiting the birth of her grandchild, Penny, Devin and I hit the Meadows.

Roading **Glory, Dolly, Zooka & Brie** - 52 min.

**Inde, Sunny, Cali & Lea** - 52 min.

Meadows **Clint & Picabo** - Clint started out all business with a very Nice find at the island, Picabo just rolling around the country Side - big and smooth, Clint reaching nicely and hunting with A very good find deep in the woods on a chukkar. Picabo Establishing nicely in the open had a chukkar pinned nicely. Solid brace. 28 min.

**Katie & Pattie** - Pattie trying to stay w/Katie - they finally Separated with Katie showing plenty of leg and good application and Pattie steadily improved as we went on. No birds But a nice 23 min. brace.

**Colleen & Ona** - Colleen not quite reaching but showing an Improved hunting pattern - Ona digging the cover nicely had 2 stylish points which produced birds. Colleen one chase on quail. 23 min.

**Susie & Jam** - Susie had got loose early this morning and Ran a race on her own, she broke away this time with a huge Opening 5 minutes - Jam a bit loopy the first 10 min - she Got better with Susie showing lots of hunt but a depleted gas Tank towards the end. 21 min.

We called it a morning and I got ready and went over to Gerald's, Met Devin and we finished putting primer on the house by 4 O'clock or so. Ron, Annie & Penny went to Valentine to hit the Country Western Store and we had plans to go to the Peppermill But Linda and I decided to stay home and do chores. John & Betty Got into camp this afternoon. They left in the middle of the night To beat the heat - over 100 out in Missouri & Kansas. They did Fine and got set up this afternoon.

The rest of the crew ate at Peppermill with Ron still not up to par. We sat around and listened to tunes and had a nice evening. Got A lot planned for tomorrow.

Friday Aug. 22 A noisey night with the critters talking all night long – even Heard some coyotes for the 1<sup>st</sup> time. Wally got loose and came Over to visit his Mom – full bloom in season – she didn't think it was Funny, about took his head off. I got up and put him away, yelled At some dogs and had a decent look at mars but it was kinda hazy out, still pretty impressive.

Roading **Glory, Bo, Zooka & Roxie** – solid 51 min. Linda has the Rooding program going very smooth with the dogs really Getting into shape.

**Inde, Dusty, Lea & Rocky** – Rocky and Dusty not worth A darn up front – just not into a focused program.

Meadows We've got Betty & John with us this morning. They're ready For some good dog work – hope we give it to them.

**Dolly & Bert** – Bert was just not feeling real well, had a find On a pair of Quail – all in order but her run just didn't please John – she was just puttering. Dolly, very nice early and Easily her best race although not a strong finish, good speed And hitting the over pretty nice – no birds for Dolly-28 min.

**Clancey & Bandit** – Ron handling Clancey but he's definitely Under the weather – got some kind of bug that's for sure. Bandit started out grabbing the edges and hitting the coun- Try – a nice stylish find at 6 min. w/Clancey backing. Great Style and good manners, I cautioned her some just to keep Her straight- Clancey a little jumpy on the flush. We seper- Ated but from what I heard, Clancey had a NP and a find but Just wasn't with the program. Bandit scooted to the front And made the big move to Sidell's – out of sight a while, we Found her standing nicely near the johnie house but pointed Into the cover – had a bid covey of quail pinned nicely – very Good manners, a 180 degree mark – cautioned and stood,

Just praised her bigtime – rest of the way was powerful but Handling. Definitely the DOD today and as good as we've had All summer. 35 min.

**Heidi & Wally** – boring – 20 min w/neither one making a Decent move. I asked Penny if she could groom and engrave The words ' For Sale' into their coats.

**Colleen & Teama** – a better brace with Teama showing Some independence, just not to the front. Colleen showing Some hunt and range but not a lot of stamina at this point – Some good things for both dogs w/them into a clutch of Young pheasants – Colleen pointed some and made an effort To dislodge them from the heavy cover but both girls were Pretty tired and not quite as much reaction as I would hope For. 22 min and some warmth – upper 70's.

I'm convinced all the green isn't helping us out at this point but Here we are – 3 weeks into camp and dogs are dropping weight – We've upped almost everybody's food so they are a bit on the Stressed side. We should start to see the corner being turned this Next week – sure hope so.

Ron was convinced to go to the local doctor and he camp back with A very possible diagnosis of West Nile – all the classic symptoms – Just do the normal thing for flu and he should be fine but it isn't Fun.

Got the birds all fed and watered, horses moved around and now The wind is blowing – just about 90 degrees this afternoon. Linda Called me in town and a semi was trying to get into camp to deliver 8 gallons of paint to us – really a sight but he made it. I saw John Sidell today, he was moving hay – they're going to come to dinner On Monday, saw Amos's dad- Amos is recuperating from a broken Back and some paralysis – making progress but will never be totally The same – just lucky he can move with the help of a walker. Visited with Bob Richardson and he's doing good – they'll stop over one night – we have permission to run on their land. I think we will this weekend.

Too hot and windy to work tonight – big weekend planned but talk of 100+ weather again – whoa – we need a break. Penny's last night in camp – she's cooking a good ole southern meal! Bonnie and Dennis due in tonight – got the whole week in camp next week.

Sat. Aug 23 A very hot day on the horizon –we're up and running early with John getting camp moving by 5 am – we got Linda down the road with the roading rig at 6:30 am and we're off to Richardson's by 7 am – they tell us upper 90's today. Penny is leaving for home this morning and Ron still very under the weather is staying in camp hoping to start getting better.

Roading **Roxie, Inde, Chopper & Penny** - 55 min.

Hills **Clint & Spot** – running the home pasture at Richardson's saw a bunch of chickens as we drove in – cut these 2 loose and they both got to hunting, a medium SD race – with Spot reaching more consistently than Clint yet both dogs hunting nicely. No luck finding the chickens we saw on the way in and as we turned back into the wind they started getting quite handy. No pond to dunk them in – the jugs just weren't enough.

**Cali & Brie** - Cali and Brie ran the S Richardson pasture and we had chickens in the 1<sup>st</sup> – 2 min. then into cactus and we never really got the whole thing together. A stf for Brie than a clean find for Brie immediately followed by a turtle and that was the way the day went – Cali thinking about pointing something but never got it done. 36 min.

**Luke & Picabo** – Luke under control with Picabo just doing a nice job all the way around – no defined birds but Picabo in the area of a couple but no indication that she had them, we sure like the way she went the distance. Powerful and better speed as we went, even got her to get in the water some and I think she's almost starting to like it. 35 min.

Driving back to camp, it's well into the 90's and we saw 4 chukkas so we let Luke & Picabo out to work the birds – didn't have any luck with that and Picabo left the country and decided she wasn't

done the hook on her. Now we have the heat coming and it's serious, back to camp and an afternoon heat of 102° – we cooked – ended up having elk enchilada casserole – hmmm! Good. A few tunes was about all we could handle in the heat and it was hot even at bed time.

Sun. Aug. 24     Somebody said something about a birthday today but I decided to keep it a secret. No such luck with this group. Actually it cooled down during the night and wasn't too bad sleeping. We were up and ready early with Linda out with the roading crew at 6:45 or so and we left for the CRP by 7:05 – had some dogs to work today and wanted to get them done.

Roading     **Glory, Zooka, Clancey & Chopper** 58 min. – Linda has the team well on their way to being in 1<sup>st</sup> class shape.

**Inde, Roxie & Sunny** – Sunny still in season but just about over it – this group went a strong 56 min.

Hills     **Penny & Dolly** – over at the Salzman CRP we cut these two loose expecting big things. Penny the more consistant of the two w/Dolly under a big bird( pheasant or chicken) at 1 min than a STB and she never quite recovered. Several birds seen that brace but nothing well defined. It was already hot on the hills and we quit this brace at 28 min.

**Bandit & Dusty** – Well these 2 hit a lick with bandit just flowing nicely. A bird got up close to her that she never acknowledged and I didn't make a scene – onward with good moves and Dusty rolling and busting the cover but nothing really defined- a clutch of young pheasants flushed right over her with a command STF well executed and I told her so – made the loop and decided to go on – got her on the wrong side of the woods got – Dusty front while Bonnie, Betty and John all went after Bandit, she was trying to do a 2<sup>nd</sup> lap – got her front but her tank was empty – took her to a mott w/Dusty coming from the other direction and she made game but came on – Dusty pointed and knocked a pheasant – this brace had the power but a rather inconsistent race and not

well defined birdwork. Really see signs of Bandit making the connection. 40 min. – well into the 70's by now.

**Bo & Katie** – Bo back at the scene of the crime but we cut him loose the other way – he was a the god Bo today and he decided he wanted to handle ( maybe because he had a long talk with Clancey this morning – Bo handled but wasn't a boot licker by any means – We made the front loop and then hit the back, we had Bonnie & Dennis helping me with Bo and John handling Katie and Betty helping – Katie was really hitting a lick – no birds but a very solid point w/John getting down but she moved on – Bo backed w/little style and great manners. He had a nicely handled pheasant at 30 w/level style and very good manners – Bo was a gentlemen today and quite good in the heat. 42 fun minutes.

**Lea & Attie** – a bird out of the box for Attie – got her going w/a chase and never quite got it together after that – Lea showed good independence & a willingness to reach but no defined birdwork her first time run with another dog – not unhappy at all with her in the heat. 20+ minutes.

A very hot afternoon, back well into the 100's. The Painter' came over in the afternoon and got Dennis and his big flatbead hooked up , started the bulldozer and away they went up to Roger's place. We all took some naps & Monroe showed up to get Penny's horse for the trip home. Ron & Annie stopped out early but Ron is still really struggling with this West Nile and not up to doing anything in camp. He needs some cool air conditioning and serious rest. We talked and played some games but the Sunday afternoon was really a day of R & R or just coping with the heat.

Birdwork is scheduled for this evening but it's going to need to cool down bigtime. Homemade spaghetti sauce for dinner so were doing chores and looking for a cool down. Just a great birthday being in the sandhills with good friends and the dogs. A bit hot but we're making the most of it.

Mon. Aug 25

