

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. 1st 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. 2nd 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 1st 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 2nd 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 toclick, 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 Banidit 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 – 4th 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 1st 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 Opeing 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 1st 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 1st – 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 1st 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 2nd 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 Warm and humid this morning but some cloud cover so
Maybe we'll get a break. I'm in the office today but the rest of

The crew will run the young puppies today and see if we have any Real stars. A chance for some rain today but still to be well into The 90's.

Roading **Clint, Brie, Cali & Bandit** - real smooth- 62 strong minutes

Rocky(now known as shitfaced) , Dolly, Dusty & Lea - Rocky a lazy bum all day finally got his just do as he was busy trying to lick Dolly when she had a case of the squirts - Linda said that That said it all.

Meadows **Picabo, Teama & Wally** -

Heidi, Susie, & Jam -

Colleen, Patti & Ona -

Hank & Rudi

Addie & Penny -

Good morning, they just kept working dogs - taking some of the real young puppies out to romp. Overcast almost all day - that kept the temperatures way down - in the 80's all afternoon. Ron still struggling but improving. They're packing up to leave tomorrow and start the trek home. Bonnie and Dennis's wedding anniversary today. They're making marinated elk tenderloins for dinner - sounds good to us.

Tuesday August 26, 2003 - Bonnie's doing the write up for the next few days

Ken left at 3:30 am to drive to Grand Island and then fly to Florida. Ron and Annie headed for home just after 7. We headed for the CRP about that time.

Picabo and Spot. We headed west into the CRP hills from the trailer. Denny was running Picabo, John handling Spot. Both were making game in heavy cover. Picabo established a stylish point. She held almost til we got there and then gave it a ride. Nice find

for a young dog! Spot thought about helping her chase but stopped on whoa! Both put down good races and hunted all the way. More birds were ridden up but none were pinned by the dogs. They were down for 36 minutes. The sun was getting hot already.

Penny and **Perky** were next. Penny hunted hard and was successful but not mannerly. She found pheasant on two occasions giving plenty of training opportunity. Perky made game a few times without luck. Penny was still running hard at 40 when we headed in.

Chopper and **Katie** were the last to run on the west CRP area. Katie did a great job on the ground, hunting at a fast forward pace. She is a pleasure to watch. She also handles like a dream. She should have a great future. Chopper hunted hard but wanted to hunt his own way. He made some nice moves but also got behind. Bonnie's horse stepped on the only bird seen that brace. He actually pulled the tail feathers out of a grown rooster's tail. Talk about sitting tight! They were down for 34 minutes.

We went across the road to work the irrigation circle CRP.

Luke and **Inde** were first. Inde had been loose in camp this morning and had apparently worn herself out. She didn't have much drive. The only move she made was at the end. Luke handled for John and pointed a pheasant in the trees at the back of the field. Very nice job, style and manners. They were down for 25.

Susie and Heidi were supposed to be next but it turned out that **Teama** was loaded in place of Heidi. Both did a nice job on the ground but it was hot and their time was cut short at 20. Birds were flushed but neither had contact.

On the way back to camp Betty saw a sharptail on the haystack just before the old schoolhouse. She had a brood of 14 below her. Denny and John took

Penny and **Spot** on checkcords. Spot stopped to flush twice. Penny failed to stop to flush and came back to Dennis. He stood

her up and walked in front of her and flushed the sleeper. She was steady.

Roading **Clint, Bo, Zooka** and **Roxie** did 62.

Glory, Brie and **Sunny** went 63.

It was still 90 at 7pm so birdwork was foiled again.

Wednesday August 27 2003

Hills

Spot and **Glory** ran the next pasture south of the west triple gate pasture. They ran the west half for 42. **Glory** knocked chicken at 5 and wouldn't stop for **Bonnie** at first but was caught and corrected. She pointed at 9 but went with the flush this time she stopped more readily. **Spot** stopped to flush nicely on both occasions. **Spot** ran a nice race which got bigger as he went. **Glory** was forward with a quartering pattern.

Luke and **Dusty** ran the east side of the water in the same pasture. Both started well. **Luke** got bored and started hunting turtles. **Dusty** turned in a great race but no birds were seen. They were down for 46.

Cali and **Roxie** were next and they ran the west triple gate pasture starting from the south end. **Cali** started fast forward showing along the west fence a few times. **Roxie** quartered but at good range. They both slowed in the cactus on the return trip. **Roxie** jumped a jackrabbit and forgot the cactus for a little while. No birds were seen, both finished forward after 45.

Pattie, Ona and **Heidi** were grouped together in an effort to beat the heat. They were run around the water on the south end. **Pattie** was overly aggressive and at all times was trailing one of the others. She could use a little help on this problem. **Ona** hunted consistently but was bothered by cactus as were the other two. **Heidi** hunted some but not always forward, she was bothered by **Pattie** and did her best to avoid her. They were down for 20.

Colleen, Jam and Dixie ran the west side of the pasture from the south end to the windmill by triple gates. They did a nice job once they were out of the cactus. Colleen was as strong as the other two but hunted. They were down for 23.

Back at camp **Lea and Penny** ran the meadows for a short session as the temp was already at 82. Penny pointed and then caught a chukkar at the island. Lea flash pointed and knocked a chukkar at 10 near the Johnny house on the backside of the woods. She whoaed briefly but then went on. She was brought back, styled up and then taken on. She went the rest of the way to camp with no further contact. She was down for 20. Penny was down for 24. She had only the one contact so Denny planted a chukkar for her in the shelter belt and ran her off horseback into it. She pointed it and was steady to wing and shot.

Roading

Rocky, Dolly, Chopper and Addie. Rocky got fired up early over the sighting of a big grey coyote and roaded great the entire time.

Sunny, Bandit, Zooka and Bo were next. Both sets went 62 minutes.

The heat prevented birdwork again. The heat doesn't subside til after dark.

Thursday August 28, 2003

We worked the meadows today. Chukkar and quail were released from the Johnny houses before we began.

Inde and Spot were first and were down for 35. Inde went directly to the first johnnie house. She pointed nicely but broke on them before we could get in front of her. From there she went thru the gap and made for the Johnny house on the back of the woods by the time we caught up to her we couldn't tell if she'd made contact. The course went around Sidell loop and to the quail house. Dennis waited there and both dogs appeared well ahead of handlers. Inde pointed nicely, Spot failed to back. Inde was steady to wing and shot. At the next Johnny house she took out chukkar. It appears she knows where the houses are and doesn't hunt

much in between them. Spot knocked chukkar in the shelter belt. He ran a nice race.

Picabo and **Luke** ran for 36. Picabo shows a lot of promise. She has a forward hunting pattern and moves gracefully. Luke ran well but took out chukkar on the way in.

Rocky and **Penny** were down for 40. Rocky caught a chukkar at the island johnnie house when he let it go Penny chased it. Penny chased quail in the Sidell loop. Rocky pointed at the pond house but no birds were produced. Penny pointed and knocked one near the pond and gave it a long ride. There is a possibility that Rocky may have been working that bird. Linda arrived with roading dogs as Penny was being returned. She took Rocky to camp as he had done nothing wrong here and didn't need to watch Penny's correction. Another bird was planted for Penny and she handled it perfectly.

Lea and **Perky** went for 30. Perky ran well and had one nice find in the shelter belt. Lea ran well but chased quail. She shortened after that.

Susie and **Heidi** were paired for 22. Susie started out shorter than usual but got fired up over larks and ran bigger. Heidi also got excited over the larks and ran her best. They were both involved with birds at the pond. Susie pointed quail with high style before chasing them. She saw where one landed and pointed again, this time Heidi got scent and was in on the chase. At the shelter belt house Heidi found and caught a chukkar but was so proud of it she brought it almost back to Denny.

Katie and **Hank** ran for 30. Katie was her usual fast forward self. Hank seemed to figure things, running stronger as time went on. He made some nice moves and showed some sense.

Teama and **Rudi** had 20 minutes of work. They had no birds. They weren't quite as focused as the last brace and it was getting hot.

Roading

Clint, **Brie** and **Addie** did 65 minutes.

I rolled in around 1 am on Thursday morning from my trip to Miami. Two days of traveling – 14 hours in the air and 10 hours driving time and multiple hours waiting in airports for a one hour meeting. It actually went pretty good so I guess it was worth it. Up this morning and at the desk for the majority of the day. Bonnie, Dennis, John & Betty worked the string.

About 4 in the afternoon, Bob and Stan rolled in with Phil's truck. They're here for the week and Lee is due in tomorrow. They brought sweet corn, tomatoes from home and some beverages. Roger was around for a little while with Devin and Jason.

We had a great dinner and then Dennis and I drove the south hills looking for the gate into Richardson's land east of camp. We found it and when we got back, they had already left with the birdwork team and were waiting for us out in the field.

Birdwork

Penny – worked with a cord dragging and she had two nice pieces Of birdwork with style and manners. **Jam** brought in by Bob to Back- she didn't understand the 1st time but the 2nd was good.

Belle – not such a pretty session, dove in on her belly to catch the bird with Bonnie shaking her like a ketchup bottle but no luck getting her to release it – Bob had gentle bite her ear – 2nd one more mannerly but she is a struggle.

Lea - very stylish and mannerly point – good job.

Sunny – quick and easy with a nice point – good manners – to the hills for her tomorrow.

Rocky – I let Bonnie handle him and he was a space cadet – yelled at for excessive marking, he tried to quit – than a poor STF – then a point where he acted like he didn't know what he was doing so I just walked over to him and threw him (seriously) into a crate – he was quitting – so I let him quit.

We called it a night – back into camp for some easy listening and hooking up for an early departure tomorrow morning. The Tompkins and Lee S are all due in camp tomorrow. Should be a fun week.

Friday August 29th – Linda’s Birthday--- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY LINDA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
Up at o’dark hundred with dogs being loaded – horses already and it’s till dark out. No roading today – Linda’s coming to the hills. We’re out of here at 6:40 and on our way.

Hills

Inde & Bandit – these 2 start off – ROLLING!! Banidit big – Inde Bigger – both doing the job with Bandit more consistent – Inde Into cactus – then Bandit into at about 25 – both shut down – Bandit so bad we had to put her on the horse and carry her to water – she was strong at the end reaching for the truck at 40+ minutes – we wet Inde down and look around for Bandit – she kept on going – set on a search and rescue team w/Bonnie scouting all the way to triple gates – got her track near the windmill – I unhook and Linda and I drive to camp – no Bandit – about this time she shows up running on the next brace – down a total of 1 hour and 40 min. – still looked good.

Glory & Spot – We decided to boot the rest of the dogs as the cactus was real bad. I was gone but Glory ran her best race with Spot doing another solid job on the ground but needing a little obedience work.

Dolly & Calli – Calli had birds at 3 min. mark – nice covey of chickens but not the desired birdwork – corrected she was quite tentative – Dolly had some lateral hunting but never really got with the program. Boring brace for these 2 – 40 min.

Sunny & Dusty- Dusty a very nice trace but no birds – Sunny not with the program at all – I don’t know if she didn’t like the boots we put on to fight the cactus – picked her up at 15 and roader her 15 more - - Dusty 37 min.

Luke & Penny – Luke not his all – age day – no birds , no race w/Penny a very consistant medium SD race – no birds but a steady as you go course.

Back to camp at noon – had lunch and now some chores. Lee & Katrina made it to camp and they're busy getting unloaded. We cooked dinner for Linda – special filet's that Stan brought – some good pasta, cake – we were in for one good meal. Part of the crew went out and birdworked dogs while we got the dinner going.

Birdwork

Glory - good mannerly w/level style birdwork for Luke's dog

Chopper –pointed and ah then tried to grab – corrected – that did an instant replay.

Penny – stylish point – turned and took steps on 1st – 2nd was a flat out chase – 3rd one got the picture and was broke.

Pattie – one of the staked out crew – cut her loose – hunted by herself and a decent race – no birds.

Hank, Heidi & Colleen – a staked out puppy –ran the three with Heidi caught the front group w/Pattie – hunted – Hank outrun the Handler but showed well, Colleen hunted and handled – no birds for The entire bunch.

Ona – checkcord and did a nice job running – pointed nicely w/style-jumped in at flush – corrected lightly.

The crew finished birdwork and we had a great meal celebrating Linda's B-day. Very nice night.

Saturday August 30th

Saturday morning was just awesome – barely 50 degrees, sweatshirts were the rule and we were up very early and going to the Salzman's CRP. Linda a short roading list as we're backing off the dogs a bit – they're just a little flat.

Roading **Rocky & Lea** - 15 min.

Hills/CRP **Zooka/Clint** – Lee on the hills today w/Zooka and she just rolled

around the hills looking and reaching to the limits. One legit stf with no well defined birds. All in all a v/good session. Clint his best time down with a decent race although not at full speed yet – a STF that was okay – then a well defined find with 10 o'clock style and good manners. Good finishes w/both dogs reaching at time 42 min.

Bo & Brie – Bo a med SD race with a handle all the way around – one NP - a missed opportunity to back but he finished reaching and handling – Brie – her best speed and application to date with a short chase on a pheasant, a good back on Bo's NP(great style), a legit STF and a solid find at 35 with Bo being corrected – stylish and mannerly and a decent finish pushing her at the end. 40 min.

Chopper & Katie – as Dennis said, back to the drawing board with Chopper – he runs nicely but not handling birds at all – Katie – a great derby dog performance – just rolling around the countryside – big, fast , forward and handling- Bid SD race –classy dog-Chopper ran big but was seen under pheasants, flash pointing one. 30 min.

Luke & Roxie – took them across the road – had a lots of birds around but neither dog really got one pointed. Roxie pointing at a time when a bird got up about 50 yards upwind of her but not definitive enough to give her credit – kinda rolled around this field not achieving the birdwork goal we hoped for. 15 min.

Susie & Picabo – had Stan go open the gate in the back of the CRP and these 2 started just fine w/Susie making an all age opening move and Picabo quartering out there till we got through the gate – we didn't boot these two and we sure should've – immediately into a cactus jungle and our brace was done. Not pretty – 15 min.

Back at camp at noon with lots of dog work done. We decided to eat early and make tonight the rodeo. We all did our different chores and got ready to feed early. Had a great rib dinner(thanks Lee) – homemade potatoes, baked beans and a trip to the rodeo. Bonnie and Dennis stayed home to work dogs – went to Yellow Throat – very thick and too much cover to try and run young dogs. Had 3 pheasants within 50 ' of truck – got corrections and kept going ending with a broke pheasant find on **Penny** - wild bird. Good job.

Got home to a very cool sleeping night.

Sunday August 31

A great sleeping night – woke up – 48 degrees- overcast and a super day to run dogs –we have very big plans with the forces splitting and half on the meadows and the rest on the hills by triple gates.

Meadows

Sunny & Spot – Sunny was a challenge – didn't want to go forward today – had a find w/style but not manners. Very sticky. Spot ran a great race and no birds. 40 min running the big course.

Perky & Inde – Perky a very fine brace – plenty of range and drive – 35 min. Inde – v/big and rangy in the open field, reaching for the meadows only to catch up with her knocking birds – corrected we went on to a reduced course – new ideas are needed for Inde.

Bandit & Colleen –Colleen w/John at the controls – shows more hunt, speed and application – seen under a chukkar early but not determined if she pointed – one of her best times down but still a tendency to loop – Bandit rolled and I believe she was involved in the chukkar but can't prove it, followed her to the pond & when she blinked me, I plugged her in – helped the handle but still not sure was in the bird handling mood today. 40 min.

Cali & Glory –Ug – that sums it for both of these 2 – not worth talking about – 30 min for Glory – 32 for Cali.

Hills

Dolly & Teama – A very solid hunting race for Dolly – medium SD with good forward application and improving speed – a very shaky STB/F with steps was corrected and she shortened some but overall a worthy performance – Teama a really improving puppy with plenty of range and go juice – some really talent is appearing here. Dolly – 42 min/ Teama – 38 min.

Rocky & Ona – both forward for the 1st 20 – Ona the wider of the 2, cactus got them and shut them down for awhile with Ona

opening up at the – Rocky never getting it back – seems to be responding to Bonnie and not marking the whole world.

Dusty & Jam – Jam hit with cactus and never really got it together – Bonnie helped her as best as possible but the damage was already done. Dusty ran a med. SD – then finished almost all age. 1 NP in the meadow – and a distant stand that we were unable to get to and he came with no birds observed.

Hank & Heidi – Heidi running big at times, chased geese – had fun that needed some help – 2/3 of the way got into cactus bad – then a cattle issue that got corrected and finished happy. Hank stayed forward with good hunt for a young dog.

We had a very relaxing afternoon – holiday weekend got to take the time for some R & R. Plenty of naps, showers and just sitting around. Denny finished his wood carving that he did for the Painters – a really nice horse head! We had plans for dinner by the Tompkins – deep fried Tilapia – fresh from California – along with with all the trimmings plus Gwumkee – Katrina brought from home made by Lee's original Nanny of Elizabeth. Really a very good dish. A very cool evening out and some cloud rolled in with light drizzle – not enough to do anything but we moved inside and sample some California Red's – all except 2 buck Chuck's specials – Lee defended the wine but he about caused an uprising from this group of wine snobs – yes we're proud of it! It was a very nice evening.

Monday September 1, 2003

A new month and the last week of camp. It's been great fun but really hurting for the kind of birds that can really finish a dog off – we've made due but this is definitely the smallest bird crop since we can remember (at least 2 weeks). The hot spell was tough but are system still allows us to be productive even in the heat.

Roading Now we've changed the major roading to develop a taper for the dogs – everyone will be roaded 15-20 min the day after they work out – just to loosen them up – and the hour roading will stop until we get home.

Glory, Dolly, Rocky & Inde - 20 min

Bandit, Layla, Sunny & Dusty – 20 min (both braces out to the windmill and back.

Meadows The first 4 braces will be camp to triple gates with birds released from the johnnie houses. Then the last two will just be a lap out of camp.

Lea & Zooka – Zooka – good hard hunting all the way around – had 2 finds near the pond- after an earlier NP – Lee whoa'd her on the 1st and relocated but ended clean on the 1st – solid on the 2nd. Lea has the nice way of going but very immature in her application – a nice solid, stylish point at the 1st house but she finally dove in and took for a ride – got her and corrected w/Zooka a command back of the situation – then Lea flat knocked them at the Sidell loop - - corrected I sent her on one more time and then she stole point – I corrected – had Lee fire and then put the harness on her – worked her into a very good back on Zooka – perfect manners while on the cord. Lea 17 min then roaded in – Zooka 35 min.

Penny & Roxie - Penny showing the ground race you want but not the birdwork – finally ended up positive while dragging the checkcord – Roxie a bit erratic and finally a shakey bird work piece but Dave thought it was all a good sign – overall she hit the cover better than she usually does. 35 min.

Brie & Bo- Lee's got the controls on Bo and he's listening and handling – a very good stylish find at the 1st island – sent on he was doing the job and basically going with us – I gathered him up and shot him front – he showed well – then went to the pond and knocked chukkars – Lee gently corrected him and he was very short for the most part after that –showing he knew he messed up – this dog has taken giant steps at camp – Brie really gave Bob a nice piece of work at the island but just screwed up bigtime at the pond w/a chase at the shot plus three attempts to delay chase – Bob corrected on each and finally had her drag the cord – she didn't quit but I think he made his point. Brie – 20 min + 15 with a cord. Bo – 35 min.

Clint & Katie – Clint a nice step to him but really flakey in the big hay meadow – I had to draw the line in the sand and made him finish the move – he hunted around the woods on his own with Stan

keeping track of him and me following the course – all in all – good hunt but not up to full speed – he ended w/a very well done find on chukkar near camp – tight with birds running away from in plain sight – this was a good finish. The brace and day actually belonged to Katie – one of those great prairie races that certain young dogs give you that tell you, I'M SPECIAL – pay attention and let me develop because I'm going to make you look at me. She rolled a dot on the horizon and always out front – no visible bird contacts and some dicky bird chasing but this young dog has a future – 19 months old and part of a stellar crop of young dogs that we have this year – Katie, Picabo, Ona, Susie, & Teama plus a few others that haven't clicked on yet but appear to be close. Dogs like Heidi, Colleen, Jam & Hank – all have shown us potential that makes this a good camp even with short birds. 30 min. brace.

Picabo & Susie – very solid brace – both dogs running hard and hunting with Picabo the more mature course (19 months to 9 months) Great speed and hunt w/both dogs having a flash point and find on chukkar at the last shelter belt. 23 min.

Luke & Patti – Patti still a project, just hasn't clicked yet – threw a couple of pigeons but she still wanted to play with Luke – no real connection to these birds – got some chukkar and got on foot with her , she knocked and chased 3 birds than smelled and winded the 4th and this seemed like a good thing. Luke was doing okay but pattered too much for John and he gave him a tape and Luke said –I've had enough – John's working on plan b and it doesn't appear to include electricity.

Bonnie was extremely under the weather and didn't come out this morning – wondering if she's added to the list of West Nile victims – Ron & Phil being the 1st two – she got a bunch of signs. Bonnie & Dennis head home today – vacation is over – Stan has to go to Omaha and fly to Chicago tomorrow for a 2 hour meeting than back on Wednesday – John & Betty head home tomorrow. Camp is winding down!!

A relaxing afternoon – Vicki finished doing dogs nails – did a bunch yesterday with Linda, Bob and Dave today. The whole crew is groomed up – checked for bad cactus and burrs – most of them were Frontlined yesterday. Everybody appears to be eating well except Bandit – kinda went off her feed when Stan

came. Beautiful afternoon – just about 80 out and a very nice breeze but we are so dry. The little dew and light fog this morning seemed to help scenting conditions. We need water, the ponds are only a few days from being dry. The other day when Cali & Dolly got into the mud, it appears it really put a strain on Cali's rear end and she's quite sore. We started giving her some Rymadal for a few days.

Birdwork

Bo - set him up and had a good point but Lee couldn't produce & he relocated him into a bump.

Brie – set her up to work a bird and as Bob chased the bird to flush she broke and helped him – not a good piece for her.

Inde – had a clean find but no style – manners okay.

Sunny – good, clean and stylish – no problem with this part of the program.

Lea – checkcorded in on a bird – she was okay to start but moved in on the bird – corrected.

Patti – worked her on a cord – she sight pointed slightly – flushed and let her chase.

We called it a night with big plans for the next couple of days – starting the rest of the paint process and clean up in camp. Had a great “Lou to Go” dinner – great pizza!!!!!!!!!! Thanks to the family for our birthday gift!! Stan missed the pizza that day but got it for lunch on Thursday. Stan had to go to Omaha to fly home and do a one day business meeting and come back. John & Betty slid out of camp at 3:30 this morning. They seemed to have a great time and boy are they troopers. They work hard from dawn to dark are always there when you need them – fun to have around.

Tuesday September 2, 2003

A nice cool morning but going to warm up to 90+ this afternoon. A busy morning at work so Bob, Dave, Vickie, Lee & Katrina handled the write up.

Roading

Clint, Zooka, Brie & Roxie – 20 min – just to keep loose.

Bo & Lea – 20 min

CRP

write up – Lee, Dave, Vickie & Bob

Heidi, Teama, Picabo – good – all independent w/Picabo running big to the front and handled. Heidi started slow and then finished strong & independent. Teama ran good, independent and handled will with no birds moved. All dogs hunted the objectives. 22 min.

Katie, Suzie & Ona – off the line well they hit the cover and hunted close to the yellow grass, then Katie & Suzie ranged out and stayed front and out. Ona stayed close, always around then wouldn't get caught and ran big in the field. Horses put up 3 birds. Katie/Suzie- finished strong and front, Ona finished under horses and then went big in field for 20 min not wanting to get caught. 28 min -- ++ for Ona

Hank & Jam – ran huge, picked own front and picked own course, ran meadow where there was no cover. Jam & Hank – we were able to turn them a couple of times but mostly they ran their own course. 17 min.

Colleen/Rudi – Colleen med range but trouble turning at corners and getting back to front. Pointed 2 turtles – very stylish – no birds. Rudi- Basically lost dog, doesn't know front, doesn't know yo then hangs around horses. 23 min.

Ginger – 15 min w/Dave – she's already 28 lbs and a star at camp – she's not afraid of anything.

We left at 1:30 or 2 and went to Gerald's & Mildred's – spent the afternoon taping and painting their house. They want the 2 sheds out back painted – it was about 95 degrees about the time we got done – very hot but the place looked good. A tired group came back to camp and we had a fajita dinner that was great! Some good Blue Canoes' – fun night.

Wednesday September 3, 2003

Very cool morning – this is a great day to work dogs and much cooler to paint. We're up and ready early.

Roading **Dusty, Glory & Chopper** – don't think these will make the hills this week so we gave them 62 min.

Cali, Rocky, Brie & Dolly - 20 min.

Hills

Sunny & Bo - We ran the bull pasture and got these 2 out as the sun was coming up over the hill. Sunny is just not comfortable yet – very tentative and we had to boot both dogs as the cactus is plentiful - Bo going w/Lee and while big – not out of control – he doesn't always have powersteering but he is coming – just slightly at his own pace – this boy has shown a big improvement in handle – Sunny was better than last time and actually had some moves in the middle – she reached for Sidell's woods and so did Bo a minute later, very independent hunt through this area – as we came back around – Sunny got sticky again but I do say that this was an improvement. 30 min. – very dry even though early. No birds.

Zooka & Roxie – these 2 hunted their hearts out – very wide but reaching across the front for what you'd expect out of medium gun dogs to short SD- the speed and drive was very high and a pleasure to watch hunt. I thought Zooka had the stronger 1st have – kinda even in the middle w/Roxie the better finish. 2 bunches of birds moved – 5 chickens & 16 sharptails – dogs close but no scenting – sure was a nice brace. 48 min.

Birdwork

Inde – well here is the plan – we got all our dogs loaded and our team is assembled!

Dave has the handle – Bob the scout.

Ken the dog wagon driver and the assassin at station 2.

Lee let out and the assassin at station 1.

Devin taking over the driving w/Vickie the designated observer.

Out the crew goes, we drop Lee on the long south edge going to Sidell's, he goes stealth and hides in the woods near the johnnie house after releasing chukkar.

Ken, let's out quail at Sidell's and hides in the middle of 8 hay bales.

Devin moves the truck to the west side of woods while him and Vickie await the results.

Bob & Dave cast off and away goes Inde – straight as an arrow hitting the island and working through – she hits the long line to Sidell's , hangs a left and off to Lee's post, she slinks around the johnnie house &

What! OH shit – Lee screams at the top of his lungs running through the woods- drives his head into a limb and Inde is shaking !!!!! The Indians have attacked – we call for reinforcements and Bob and Dave arrive – all this carefully planned to scare the bajeezers out of her for not handling a bird when we weren't there – she then points and handles it cleanly but short on style. They send her my way and she's off – coming through quail island w/no finds – she's off around the inner edge as Bob and Dave arrive – hitting the cover she proceeds to have her best point of camp w/great style and intensity – 10:30 and tight – ummmmmm! Good – clean for a pair of quail – this girl just had a session!!!!!!

Now you'd have to be in camp to hear the story as told by Lee – us whispering on the radios- planning and enacting our attack but it sure is fun to hear the blow by blow of a **Successful Mission.**

Still cool out, we proceeded to our second victim!

Lea – allowed loose dragging a cord, she went into a very stylish point but broke as I flushed – shaken very intensely we put out another bird and got a good piece of although not officially flushing the bird.

Chopper – dragging a cord and Bob, he was brought in and pointed w/level tail – not planning on being perfect, he was tapped w/the half hitch and stood as I flushed and shot – a baby step.

Brie – another major mission- got the birds w/Bob at helm and Dave the scout. Off they go to the pond, we plan birds at the shelter belt house and Bob proceeds to have a well handled dead bird plus a single chukkar out in the middle – both classy and stylish. Brie w/ a slight delay chase problem points at the gait w/2

birds 20' apart, I have him flush the one she can't smell but he can't find so I have him throw the spare bird I had him carry and fire and then the 3rd bird leaves on it's own. Taken on a short way, she is sent on and the entire session is perfect. She's got the picture.

That's it, back to camp for a lunch and off to the next project with our roll as 'Painter's Painters - one for all and all for ?' Bob & Lee w/Devin's direction are powerwashing at Rogers. Dave and I go paint the sheds and after a minor rebuilding of the pump we get the 2 buildings done. Back over to Roger's w/Dave holding the equipment on the flatbead, we go ahead and all paint the barn, shed and fence. We got it looking good - got our projects done and back to the house so Bob can make his 30 clove chicken dinner - that's 65 cloves when you're making a bigger batch - the vampires are out of the picture for at least a year and so I have to make pasta w/major garlic so we need wine to kill the garlic - You know the drill --- a few tunes - dinner at 10 pm and every indication that they're will be intense fog in the morning!!!! But we had fun - pushed back the break away for an hour and we were up and ready to go - this group is definitely all age!!!!

Thursday September 4, 2003

Cool, very crisp morning w/the dogs good to 4:30 but then 'Wiley Coyote' into the neighborhood and it wasn't quite the same still a pretty good night. We're going south to the big hills and the pasture south of Hitchcock's. Devin made it down this morning so we got 8 horses in the trailer and 6 dogs. Clean up to begin this afternoon.

Hills

Clint & Picabo - this was the brace - Picabo just rocks and rolled with Clint his absolutely best time on the ground, good speed and range along with a front pattern. 44 min. w/Picabo knocking a big bunch of birds 10+ and chasing to oblivion. Fun time as we rocked and rolled and neither dog tired as we got them into plenty of water. A very nice brace.

Dolly & Katie - took them west and they tried but just got into some cactus combined with a lack of water and no birds - they just couldn't get the job done. Both had some moments of good hunt and moved nicely, it was just a so so brace. 44 min.

Bandit & Susie – decent start w/some trailing by Susie – kinda got into Bandit's head and they were very lateral into the wind but nice and wide – still coming into the horses for a long period of time really distracted – then into a huge sand burr patch and at about 25 into the water and turned w/the wind at their back – they both opened up and finished nicely w/Susie a very good puppy and Bandit a reaching SD the last 8 or 9 min. 37 minutes – no birds.

I went to work after our Lou Malnatti's lunch – great food – then all business all the rest of the afternoon. The guys got into the dirt piles that Devin placed around so we could fill holes. They hard and got a system going and replaced the dirt in their caves. Penny the winner this year but Dennis got her slowed down by putting some hog wire down and that made it tough to deal with – might do all the dogs next year just to save filling the holes. Devin wants us to make sure that no one trims any branches off the cedars – want to keep the windbreak thick. Went up to Roger's and put some more paint in the shed to keep from freezing and picked up the powerwasher and pump for me to take home – need to get them up to speed for next year.

I have a ton of work to do so I'm at the desk all day and Linda & Vickie went to town and continue get ready to shut camp down. It sure has been a fun summer with the weather greatly improved the last week – our attitudes have improved greatly – actually, we really handled the heat quite well – just a good group of people.

Birdwork Photo ops!

Susie- a good point with 10 style.

Colleen – pointed on the cord w/level style.

Tried some others but the wind was blowing, no scenting and still in the upper 80s.

Time for dinner – cooling down somewhat – a bit of a breeze and we're planning on working hard tomorrow. Have the Painter clan coming down for Friday night dinner.

Friday September 5, 2003

Dave and Vickie leaving camp after we run. Time for everybody to start hitting the road home. Nice morning but going to heat up again today and through the weekend.

- control group for infectious diseases having been with 2 guys that caught **SARS** (not confirmed) when they were in China and now with 2 people and maybe 3 that had **West Nile** and the common denominator for them has been ' **johnie walker black**' - they'll continue their test and report back next year.

Meadows

Roxie & Brie - these started off nicely with Brie on the edges from the get/go. A very good find at the end of chukkar alley as we were heading to the Sidell loop - dug in and buried with great style and perfect manners. We waited for Roxie to make the loop then went on with Brie just rolling along - Roxie I'm not sure but I believe had one find. Brie

Sunny & Dolly - Sunny a great point at the island as Dolly was hunting in the cover and rolling to the front - Sunny flat knocked the bird as I approached to flush and was strongly corrected - sent on she spent the rest of the brace just thinking about it with Dolly pointing on the back loop and then knocking birds , she got corrected and sent on - Sunny was pushed along and she just thought about her error, Dolly a good find later and a strong race, she appears to be in shape, finally. 27 min.

Inde & Cali - Inde rolling the edges but listening today, had a good race and was corrected as she knocked a bird at the pond - put on the roading rig and called it a trip but she was surprised - Cali with me at the controls did too much puttering and we moved her along with no definitive bird work today.

We called it a morning and went back to packing and fixing things, took my truck to Lee's truck wash and then Stan took Phil's - Lee is equipped to get them clean. Dave and Vickie got packed up and headed home. They have two long days back to Napa Valley. Sure had fun with them in camp. Went to town and spent some money at Ranchland. We had the whole Painter clan over for a nice Italian Dinner - sure had fun, telling some old stories. We sure do appreciate them letting us come here each summer and sure do enjoy the friendship that has developed over the years.

Saturday September 6

Well Stan and Bob will not be awarded the Stealth Award. These boys were on the road before 6 am and everyone was well aware of it. They got everything loaded with Phil's rig and all our horses and have a big haul to get home tonight. Time to get back to work! Bob made good progress with Brie and I'm pretty sure we made good progress with Bandit. Dolly was a bit slow coming back to form and took birds the last day but we saw that spark in her run on Friday and I think she's close to being back.

Meadows

Bo & Dusty – Bo was off and running – appearing to handle early than taking a left when and going to chukkar alley – appeared to make game and went through the cover, Denny say him and found Dusty at the same time w/Dusty pointing and Bo taking out the chukkar – he corrected and we went on – Dusty kind of all over the place today for Bonnie – Bo split again and was found knocking some birds in the loop at the pond – corrected and the hook was put on him – Dusty a zig zag time down with just the one piece of work. 35 min.

Mickie & Zooka – a new dog that Denny is working for Charlie Williams – good derby dog with a very nice race and good handle. Zooka just went out and did her job – 4 good finds with style and manners. 35 min. –Zooka 27 – Mickie

Penny & Rocky – Bonnie handling Rocky and he ended up getting credit for a clean piece but sure could've been moving on an indiscretion of Penny's but pointed in the middle of it - he still wandered around looking like he was just going through the motions – we'll see if Bonnie and Dennis can get him back to liking field trailing – Penny a correction early then a lot of handling and Dennis taking her back out right to get the job done one time. Rocky –25 Penny – 25 + 10.

Lee and Katrina spent the rest of the morning packing up and getting things ready for the trip home. Katrina's 1st extended stay in camp and she appeared to enjoy it and learned a lot. They left early afternoon. We just worked at an easy pace putting things up. Had a nice steak/chicken dinner, Roger & Janet

visited and called it a day. One more morning to work a few dogs and we'll be calling it a WRAP.

Sunday September 7, 2003

Our last day at camp. Ended up getting quite hot again and was well into the 90's yesterday – more of the same today. Still, we couldn't ignore the young dogs so we went to the CRP for one last hunt.

CRP

Patti – saw a pheasant cross the road and took her out by Richardson's CRP and let her hunt the willows for Denny – no luck.

Heidi, Ona & Jam – Ona another good day on the ground with her under at least one bird, Heidi v/birdy several times and we saw in the area of one & Jam very focused half way through – new she had birds but just didn't see it. Heidi good progress towards the end of camp but still on the soft side. Ona a star all the way from beginning to end. Jam still quite young but lots of speed and several good sessions. 31 min.

Colleen & Micki – Micki is Charlie Williams dog that the Hildalgo's are going to handle and co/own with Charlie who is in failing health. He's a star – big running with a great gait and a super nice handle – runs big but stays with you – Colleen – just worth staying the extra day to see the progress she made – her best time down – good hunt, front – a NP with probably a running bird but overall she did a real nice job but couldn't beat a big SD race that Micki threw at her. 28 min.

Picabo & Patti – figured Patti couldn't affect Picabo – wrong – she just is into playing and has no maturity yet – Dennis took Patti one way and Bonnie & I went the other – nice race from Picabo but not her best by any means and not enough to out perform Micki or Ona today – still a very competitive young dog and my overall pick for the best camp of all the dogs. 27 min

In closing I would have to say that the combination of intense heat and no real wild bird population this year that it made for a tough camp. We focused on getting the old dogs in shape and the young dogs into some birds and

patterning with good success here but the young greenbroke and 1st year broke dogs just didn't get the opportunities that I would like. Still a good camp, lots of fun and some great memories.

Bonnie packed up and helped us, she's still struggling with West Nile but she's off to Report a pointer shooting dog championship. She's a trooper, Dennis was there to the end and Linda and I finally hit the road about 3:00 in the afternoon – got in the truck and said goodbye to our friends Boomer, Rita & Flash – we never forget them when we come or go.

We'll be back next year!!!!!!