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July 28

Wednesday - Linda started the packing several days before our trip started. It takes a massive effort to get everything ready for dog camp. Tuesday morning had the vet call for a shot update and health certificates for the horses and dogs. Lee Shoaf left on Tuesday with a special trip just to bring my horses and his dogs to camp. Alex had arrived on the 24th and Robin on the 25th and began the task of setting up camp. When Lee arrived they put out barrels and Jason had done some mowing plus Lee's weedeater and the dog area started to shape up.

Linda, Lucas and I left home on Wednesday about 11:30 AM and off we were to meet Bob Geddeis on Route 20 on the way to Nebraska. Unfortunately, we got to Rockford and I realized that I forgot my office stuff and computer in our car at home! We had to turn around and go back towards home and I got Allyson to go to the house and meet us half way with all of my needed work items. Slowed us down some but we had Bob go on ahead with the idea he scope out a rest area in Iowa for us to meet and put out dogs.

We changed our route this year to take Highway 20 all the way to camp not Interstate but good road, less hills and way less trucks with a much more scenic drive. We made good time and finally decided to call it a day at Ft. Dodge, IA. Bob got us a room at a Holiday Inn and set up a shady place on the grass to put the dogs out – 19 between us and Bob's 2 horses so had quite the spread. Actually a mild day in the upper 70's with some very light rain when we stopped. We let the string rest and eat and got ourselves some dinner and hit the sack early.

July 29

Thursday-Up and the dogs staked out by 6:15 we were on the road by 7:30 with a quick breakfast stop and moving on down the road.

Crossed into Nebraska about 10 am and we were starting to feel like we were almost home. Clear sunny weather in the low 80's. We heard from camp that the haying was done (not a very good year with drought still very prevalent in this area) and camp looked good. Recent light rains had everything green but water was very short, most of the potholes were totally dry. Got into camp about 1:30 and with a lot of help, we were unloaded and set up pretty quick. The dogs seemed happy to be back and our shelterbelt Cedars where the barrels are staked out had reached 12-15' tall providing excellent shade for the dogs.

Robin made us a great dinner and we all took it easy that night.

July 30

Friday –I had a full day of work on Friday and we let the dogs rest the 1st day so nothing much happened with the dogs. Alex was busy fixing things, Lucas helped put things together, ATV, roading rig and just unpacking was the order of the day. Jason had driven up to Rabidou's

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camp on Friday and picked up 50 Hungarian Partridge for us to try. Ed and Karen were due into camp tonight. Lee had a fajita dinner planned and it was a feast. Some 'blue canoes' and good wine along with some lively music and we were set.

Time for bed for us but not for the dogs- a full moon and plenty of energy made for a very ugly night. Ed & Karen rolled in about 1 am with a banged up motor home – it appears that Ed hit a deer about 45 miles south of camp. No serious damage but a dented grill and the overflow just bent up a little. He was real lucky and it kept them awake the rest of the way. They spent their trip driving and hitting the casinos along the way and napping only occasionally. Seemed like they had a fun trip.

Bonnie and Dennis rolled in during the night and just parked on the hill so not to wake everyone up. Lee left around 5 am with Layla to meet Ray Marshall in Iowa so we could breed Layla/Otie. Layla decided to come in season 2 days after Ray & Jackie were at our house to trade dogs with Mr. Dohse – such is life.

July 31 **Saturday**- the group was a tad bit growly with everyone very short on sleep but we got over it. Dennis, Lucas, Bob and myself set out to put the Johnnie houses back together and stock the birds. We moved 2 of them and took the one to the backside line and took it out to the edge along Richardson's corn circle by some deadfall. (talked to Kip a few days later and he said we could drop a fence there and work dogs around the circle. Should be good for pups. We also took the one from the east shelterbelt .at Camp and moved it out to the east side of the lake at the west Triple Gate pasture. That one we stocked with 50 – 8-week-old Huns – let's see how they work. So all in all, we have 3 chukkar johnnie houses, 1 quail and the huns. Dennis raised the quail and chukkar and they seem to be good flyers.

Hills

Dottie & Katie – Robin ran them out and Alex met her at Triple Gates With dogs.

Ginger & Casie – Ginger went a different route – plenty of run but no pattern and lost – found at 90 min and herded back to the truck by Bonnie on a green horse for Robin to hook up and bring her in. She needs some come work.

Karen cooked a great dinner with ribs, fresh California tomatoes, avocados, sweet corn, 3 pies and of course some very nice wine. Very relaxed evening with friends. Karen is only here to Monday AM- taking her dog Bo to Sherry Ebert for some polish.

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Aug 1

Sunday – Day started off mild and we got going at a decent time. We worked from camp to Triple Gates then out in the south pasture and finally back to camp.

Hills **Penny & Bo(holmes)** – Bo the bigger running dog here – covered a lot of ground and hadn't been worked in months. Penny started slow but got stronger as the brace went on – had some good moves but a bit sticky at times= 32 min. – no birds

Hank, Dusty & Jackie –kinda wild with Dusty going 1 way, Jackie another and Hank somewhere else – obviously somebody had missed the front – Dusty a move on some cattle- Dennis (handler) on the ground discussing the world situation with his young horse- dogs switching handlers and everyone smiling – fun- out of control but fun. Dusty his typical big way of going, Jackie a young dog w/real promise – all the eye appeal and litheness you can ask for – Hank and bold with a nice way of going and a high head and tail when he runs. Birds around – maybe 5 sightings and 10+ birds but the only thing the dogs can take credit for was some cactus – they found it and had some holes but I see real talent in Jackie and Hank – he's a big boy but has the potential to grow into his body. Dusty is a star when he's right and the dry conditions just don't help pointing wild birds. 40min.

Zooka & Spot- Spot – what a change from a young dog – something to be learned here – as a young puppy he ran with 5 legs – no tail to speak of but now he moves with grace – high head and tail – good moves, lots of hunt – Zooka a very stable front running dog – not huge but several VG moves – no backward casts at all – Spot got a bit roguish at times and needed some serious riders on seasoned horses – unfortunately that wasn't the case as Bonnie & Dennis had green mounts and Spot had more tools than the horses but they got him around. Big covey of chickens right near Zooka but no luck getting them pointed. 20+ birds – 35 min.

Meadows

Sol - Bonnie ran these 2 by themselves on the meadow and kept them down about 10 min

Chester- she wasn't displeased with either one.

Birdwork

Picabo –this young girl just hasn't been roaded off the ATV and we started by Luke taking her to the Sidell loop – she did fine and will have this part down pat in no time. Put the collar on her and released some quail – solid stylish point but got too excited w/the flush and had to be

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corrected – next one just perfect and we are starting out slow with this one.

Lea- clean and sharp – had her plugged in just to make sure but a very neatly handled, stylish find.

Patti- check corded in – good point – 10:30 tail and made her stand.

Buford- 1st time for me – worked dragging a cord but didn't run – took the cord – points hard but took some good steps – tapped and he stood – next one much better – still couple of steps but good overall.

Katie - worked on a single – under control but a perfect find with great style and manners.

Bonnie and Dennis headed home for 2 weeks. Robin, Bryan, Bob, Ed, Linda, Luke and I went to Pizza Hut for lunch. Came back to camp and it was in the upper 90's – most of us went to the river – Linda staying in charge of the animals. Got to be 100+ - Alex & Karen made it down as did Sonja and some friends. Plenty of sunscreen and the 2 little weenie dogs of Robin had a ball. We sat in the river for about 3 hours or more – just relaxing. Back to camp and nice dinner on all the leftovers we had – cleaned out the refrig. Roger and Janet came and visited and we had a great evening but still extremely hot even as we went to bed. Hot and humid and very foggy as we awoke the next morning.

Roading

Bo, Brie, Lea, Clint – 31 min

Bandit, Glory, Katie – 22 min

Dolly, Indie, Cali – 31 min

Picabo – 12 min (out to Sidell loop and back)

Aug. 2

Monday - We got up to heavy fog, very humid and quite warm weather. Still needed to get things done. Alex and Karen were going to take off around 8 to Pierre, SD.

Roading

Zooka, Bandit, Buford, Roxie – 24 min.

Birdwork

Dan – worked on a check cord, got a good point – medium style then Robin ran him around the loop.

Brenna, Erin, TBA & Emmy – staked these dogs out and showed them a pigeon then got ready to cut them loose – threw a bird and cut them loose

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– off they went – Erin pointed 1st - & 2nd – then Erin – bump and chase on the quail – great flyers so nobody caught anything. Plenty of hunt by all of them and very little play. TBA & Emmy not seen around birds – pheasant seen leaving the area. Good 1st outing.

Casey, Shammie, Joy – put these 3 on the stakeout while Robin worked **Dan** – Joy immediately clicked on birds – saw the 1st pigeon – then tweety birds and wired. Cut them loose after Robin ran Dan – Shammie ran and hunted some but Casey and Joy showed the most – lots of hunt by Casey – Joy very independent – even with Shammie bumping her – got over it and they hunted around the cover.

Noontime is here and so is the heat. We went to each Johnnie House – added feed – only about 32 quail in the house – no feed already – the birds were floating around the area though so that's good. Chukkar pen at chukkar alley had a snake in it – about a 4' but not too thick – 1 dead chukkar. We got the snake out. Other chukkar pens had 20 birds but nobody up top yet. Huns were up at the top plus a bunch on the ground, they must've come out the hole – we figured at least 18 out – good flyers and walking at the pen. We'll work them tomorrow.

Back in the 100 degree range. Worked in the office, naps, book reading and movies were the order of the day – still hot at 6 pm – I guess we'll feed but no dog work. Gonna take some time getting it together in the heat.

Had a real good dinner, Robin made Cornish game hens, a few tunes – some nice wine and everyone kinda drifted off early. Hopefully it's cooler tomorrow.

Aug. 3 **Tuesday** – muggy and light clouds at dawn, almost fog but not quite-humidity definitely on the high side. Robin was up and ready early and got us moving this morning. We needed a good kick in the butt.

Roading

Bo, Katie, Brie & Glory - 28 min.

Lea, Clint, Dolly – 27 min.

Picabo & Inde – 29 min.

Hills

Casey & Suzie – Casey just didn't want to get forward and drifted off to the sides and then slid behind us – we worked on it but still have a long way to go – some nice moves out of Suzie and mainly front but got to some bad puttering holes – got on her and she'd open up showed decent hunt & forward pattern and came to me once for help with cactus and took

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water. At time she went down a fence and I waited until she was insight and crossing away from me then called her to come – no response – hit her on the low setting and she turned, saw me and trotted all the way in – just like the textbook said. 31 min. – warm and muggy but cloudy.

Katie & Patty – a touch of play at the start, got over it quick- both got to hunting, mainly front – got to the lake and chased the Huns – Patty got one to chase and both were a bit turned on – Patty didn't want to leave the bird house, finally got her going and they hunted around with some nice moves and stamina – tried to water the pair and they came to the other handler but at least we got them watered. Took them to the windmill – got them in and headed in. 28 min.

Jackie & Rudy – Rudy started out showing some nice leg – Jackie kicked it in gear and got the covey already back near the house. Bob got off and counted 32 in the box. So that's a real good sign. Rudy got to rolling in feathers and marking his territory pretty bad but then took off again – Jackie made 2 great moves but ran out of gas and caught the road – we got them watered & Jackie got going again – Rudy had a grouse and so did Jackie – good chase – Rudy was marking a bit too much for me but had some good hunt at times. Jackie went on with the next brace and showed some 2nd wind. Rudy 31 min – Jackie 40+ min.

Dottie & Teama – Dottie just didn't come to play today, Teama showed good leg early and some real nice moves but it was warming up fast – good 10-12 for Teama but got into cactus and shut her down – we waved Alex down in the truck and got these 2 caught up & cooled down – sun out and muggy. 15 min.

Bob & Ed hooked up with Roger and Gerald to go catch bulls. Should be Fun. Clouds rolled back in and we got dogs off the wagon and cooled down. Hopefully the clouds are sign of the cool front.

Bob & Ed came back a few hours later – ended up moving the herd and rounding up 10 bulls – one bull came a charging they had some fun with him. Ed had a hard time keeping Clem in his walk – not that he wouldn't walk but he thought working cattle called for some 'balls to the wall moments' and he broke out his gallop – Ed stayed on.

They say over 100 chickens down south working cattle. The birds appear to be in good numbers. Plus pheasants along the roads – appears promising. Alex, Robin, Ed and Bryon are down south painting fence with Bryon learning to spray. They washed the fences up by Rogers and we're waiting for the red. Should get our painting done next week.

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Aug.4

Wednesday – cool and overcast with a light mist in the air. Great morning for working dogs. Everyone was ready and getting horses and loading early. I went to let out some chukkar and the two on the home meadows both had birds up on top in the house – those flew good – full houses w/20 birds or so – the one on the far fence line were all in the bottom and the birds I left out hardly flew at all. Robin loaded up her truck with young puppies – Alex helping her at the Quail house. Ed, Lucas, Bob & myself did the meadows to triple gate course. Linda has the roading program in high gear and off we went.

Roading

Bo, Dolly, Lea, Clint & Cali – 29min.

Puppies @ Quail House by RB

Brenna, Erin, Emmy, Joy - Staked pups out in the puppy training area. Launched pigeons by hand and all pups were excited. Released all pups and Brenna found a Hun and chased with vigor. Erin put up Hun on line worked into the wind. Joy is my pick from the standpoint on snap, carriage, stamina and agility. My partner has different opinions, Erin was his pick from the standpoint of tail and head carriage and was into cover and race.

Shammie, TBA and Jack – Pitched pigeons in front of all dogs. Shammie ran with all pups following. Jack pointed well was able to stroke up tail. TBA was handy planted bird for TBA went by bird the bird popped he stopped and chased.

Rambo, Jackie and Katie – Rambo was a bit scared, so we worked on his terms. Walked chukkar in front of him to gain enthusiasm. Put bird out for Jackie, she pointed hard and was stroked high. Katie was the product of a poor bird planter-me(RIB) bird walked she worked to the wind on other side of the fence and pointed. I was not happy with what I wanted to see so Alex planted a bird and she hit it was stroked up and bird flew about 5 feet. Enough for her. Rambo was worked into the area that bird was present and was helped over barbwire. Rambo the took north into Sidells north pasture. 2 hours later he was found in woods west pasture. Scared but ok.

What a day!!!!!!

2 horses that left their riders, one car high centered, one puppy lost for 3 hours , so, we went to pizza hut and Ranch Land to drown our sorrows. We succeeded.

Meadows/Hills

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Zooka, Buford – Buford plugged in & Zooka all business as we get off to hunting from the get go. Zooka reaching to the cover and applying herself. Buford up the west side of the big island and had a stop on sight piece of birdwork – step on the flush –corrected and onward. Zooka took edges, had a NP but hunted consistently and objective orientated while Buford showed his immaturity and the big change in his life by doing more looping than casting. Still a solid time down – 28 min.

Bandit & Katie – our overcast had turned into fog and I thought we might lose Bandit as she blended into the fog – both dogs started out strong with Katie showing more leg than I've seen to date –had a good edge move but Bandit a good bit bigger, I saw Bandit in an area on the edge with lots of speed and circling but couldn't see anything fly- she crossed the fence and I lost sight, Katie hit the area and went near a hay bale and picked up a bird in the open – corrected she went on – Bandit on point on the other side – broke w/flush – tapped and brought back –very gentle correction and sent on – Katie had solid well handled bird at the pond – out in wide open spaces – good style and manners. Bandit stopped for a bird running along the edge –not sure she say but then went on – I tried to let her point but she blinked it – next edge she pointed a long way ahead of us and as I got close she looked at me and came walking bet – tapped and put back, flushed and fired then picked her up. 29min.

Glory & Roxie – Lucas at the controls for Glory and Ed handling Roxie – these 2 experienced dogs showed good solid hunt all the way around with Glory the more drive today and Roxie showing more inclination to hit the objectives. Glory a solid find at 5 w/good manners and a tough one w/relocate at 20 – manners all in order. Good hunting finish 28 min.

Brie & Picabo – fast and forward for both these 2 w/Brie a very nice race and Picabo a little more immature in application, big strong side by side move down Richardson's fence only to have point and move on – no bird but I decided to make Picabo come to water, she didn't at 1st but a good tickle made her come and made her realize that I was in control. Brie roaded a bird out in the middle and than knocked it – strong correction – took Layla on and she went birdless but showed good hunt and pattern just not able to get one pointed – Brie had an open field wounded bird that earned her another correction – then did a real good one toward the end – Ed – off his horse to help Bob – lost his horse so my scout and I had to go get Clem for Ed. 30 min.

We had heard early over the radios that Rambo had 'left the room' --- no that's really the county!! He took off for the hills and just disappeared. Robin, Bryan, Linda and Alex had mounted a search team to no avail. We split forces and scoured the countryside to no avail. Finally, Ed, Bob & Alex worked one section of woods since he was dragging a checkcord and

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we were worried he was hung up plus Alex detected a strong skunk odor in one area and we didn't know what happened. Robin and Linda scoped out the Richardson cornfield and Lucas and I had the high ground with the base unit CB to coordinate efforts and watch towards camp where Bryan watched for him coming home. Almost 2 hours before he appeared out of the woods were he 1st disappeared – a bit spooky to Alex (probably the atv) but made up to Bob. He seemed no worse for the whole ordeal but we sure need to keep an eye on him.

Wednesday afternoon was plenty warm got busy working. Made the loop checking birds and feeding. Huns & Quail are doing great so far, chukkar not quite doing the flying we need.

Aug. 5

Thursday – work issues kept me in camp this morning but the rest of the crew got things running. It's Robin's birthday this morning—**Happy Birthday Robin!!!!!!!** Valentine tonight --- bad night sleeping – dogs just wouldn't shut up—going to need a nap to make it to party.

Alex & Alexandra are busy packing up this morning. They've had a fun week in camp and as usual Alex is super busy making all kinds of repairs and keeps us running smoothly. Going to miss their smiling faces.

Roading

Katie, Zooka, Bandit, Brie - 29 min.

Glory, Buford, Picabo, Roxie – 29 min.

Meadows

Hank & Casey– meadow 22 min. – Hank got hot and tired out – had a bird contact but chukkar got caught.

Rudy & Suzie – meadow –23 min. – some leg here but again the heat caught up with them and called it a day.

Pattie & Teama – meadow 20 min. – Patti didn't want to get front today and Teama laid down a good one – strong and reaching front. DOD

Hank – meadow 19 min. – ran by himself because Chester kept coming back to camp – have to work on that.

Sol & Jackie – 21 min. – Jackie a big opening moved – left the group and came back to camp while Sol was front running and a did a good job.

Afternoon was major naptime. We got cleaned up, dogs feed early and off to Valentine in time to hit Young's Western Store. Linda and I got there a bit late, picked up Jason and took him with us. Had a real good dinner and

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a very nice evening celebrating Robin's birthday. Nice mild day out with the highs about 80.

Aug. 6 **Friday** – this morning we're off to help Roger move some cattle up by his Johnstown pastures. We got out early with Linda getting her roading done before we left. Took 2 braces to run on Roger's place.

Roading

Bo, Zooka, Brie - 30 min.

Brie, Roxie, Inde – 30 min.

Birdwork

Inde – in the Sidell loop, she was cut loose – plugged in and full bloom in season – had a clean, well-mannered find – little flagging then tight level tail.

Picabo – solid point- good till flush, broke – tapped and she stood – put her back – then sent on but never could get her on another bird.

Ginger – took her on a cord but never got her on a bird.

Hills

We got to Roger's place and they had left so we hustled over to the place. Parked next to Roger and they were already out so we got 2 dogs ready and ran a brace.

Dolly & Katie – took Lee's Katie by mistake but that's okay – got these two going into a very stiff wind – made the 1st turn and here comes the herd so we hustled back to the truck so as not to interfere. 15 min. at best.

Gerald came over and told us where to head and we were off moving cattle and spent the next few hours moving cattle. Roger said we missed it as he got bucked off before he even got both feet in the stirrups – landed pretty hard on his hip. We moved to heard of cattle and helped cut the bulls out of the pack and separated them for the trip back home. They got to a bit of fighting but nothing too major. And about 1:00 we had some loaded in the trailer. Robin & Roger took the 1st load to camp and we're all standing around talking – here comes one of the bulls, left a gate in the chute open and he just come walking out. Got some horses rounded up and off we went , got him back in and that was it – called it a day. Too hot to run dogs so we took off to camp.

Linda had the place all cleaned up and her and Bryan went to town for lunch and some shopping. Roger came back in the evening, limping and

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stiffening up – he's going to be a sore puppy. Real windy still – we ate inside tonight. Decided to do some birdwork.

Birdwork

Inde – went to a chukkar house and worked – she had a solid find, solid but low tail – perfect manners. Let her work a 2nd and while she was low tailed – no flagging and good manners.

Picabo – cut loose and she pointed a chukkar – a long way off – very nice style and perfect manners for the shot.

Early to bed night for most of us.

Aug. 7

Saturday – moderate sleeping night – dogs not too bad and we have a light cloud cover. Phil and the rest of his crew are due in camp today. We've got a pretty full day scheduled with Bob, Lucas, Ed and me going south to the hills. Robin handling the meadow dogs and Linda the force on the roading rig.

Roading

Katie, Dolly, Lea, Calie – 38 min. with Katie being rather tired but she was worked real hard this week.

Hills

Ginger – well the fun started with Ginger getting off as we loaded her on the truck and off to the races – 35 min. later with Luke & Bob in the jeep, me on the atv and Ed walking back to camp, she was caught in between us running the Sidell hills. Absolutely loves to run but no handle what-so ever – loves trash birds but has a very pretty way of going, lots of class on the ground. Finally got her gathered up and left her in camp.

Clint & Suzie – getting warm as we went 3 pastures south – cut these two loose and Clint set the pace and Suzie hunting fast and hard. We headed west to the fence and turned south up the hills – got to hearing an animal crying noise and thought one of the dogs were hurt, up the hill and Bob saw an animal up front on top of the hill – a coyote making the weirdest noise – dogs started towards it and I yelled to Bob to get the transmitter out as we had Suzie plugged in to pick her up – Clint came off it but Suzie kept going and Bob tapped her, they came within inches and growled but Suzie came off and we steered the dogs away – the coyote kept up it's aggressive screeching the entire time we road south, made a loop and went back north but a good bit east of the hill. The coyote watched us till we got even with it and then came charging our whole group – 300+ yards and never veered off, Bob gave me the collar transmitter and I headed the dogs towards the cattle – Bob chased the coyote and fired his blank gun numerous times until the coyote finally gave up. 30 min for the dogs with

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some good hunting and range for both dogs – no worse for the coyote or the heat – good stamina, no birds.

Rudi, Pattie & Chester – ran the next pasture and had some good range with Rudi doing the best job – carrying himself nicely – good range – Pattie showing some good hunt and a better forward pattern today – Chester had some moments but this is just too big for him at this time. He needs more meadows. 27 min.

Meadows – Robin had this group

Hank & Jackie – These two were paired perfectly. They both were front running and strong. The ground speed on these two youngsters is remarkable.

Katie (Baker) & Teama – Katie likes the meadows better than the hills. Much easier for her. She went on point on chukker and the birds barely flew. She was in hot pursuit. Teama is a nice classy going dog that goes well into the cover.

Sol & Casey – Sol is all over his brace mate. Released some pigeons to get tem going forward and have enthusiasm.

Puppies

Shammie - likes birds and likes encouragement to leave the handler

Rambo – handle with care still unsure of himself but getting better.

Ritha – She is excited to see birds but seems a bit soft to the touch. She wants to please but needs confidence.

Jack – he has a nice point but has pattern is soft.

TBA – he is a pup that wants s to stay a little too close to the handler. Strategy was when dog would come back a pigeon was released to sent him away.

Bird work

Brie & Lea – we had 2 horses with Lucas & Bob handling and we drove to a vantage point to view the area around the Huns. Johnnie house. Onward they came – with both dogs hunting nicely – no birds as they went around the whole lake, Ed left out 5 or 6 huns and they came back through the area with both dogs pointing independently – Lucas flushed first to no avail and then Bob started to flush – Lucas found his bird, it flushed and he fired with Lea being perfect but Brie left and chased the Hun all over and finally catching the bird – not good for Brie but a great day for Lea – especially when you consider she was roaded earlier.

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Inde – cut loose and quick solid point – very slight flag to start but stopped and was clean for flush and shot. Just trying to chain good times together for Inde. (plugged in)

Picabo – worked her on foot with Bob riding just for effect – a solid piece of work with her trying to be good on running birds – relocate but could never pin them – finally turned east and birds ran out in front of her and she stopped with perfect style. Good job.

Buford – ran him on foot – he ran past a bird and stopped and pointed and then broke – corrected and hunted on but no luck on finding another bird.

Got progressively hotter as the day went on. I took a nice long nap. Phil and Bill Lloyd got in about 3 or so – they had a good trip. Robin's cooking tenderloin and Ed's waiting for dinner they heading to Denver to fly home. He's had a good week in camp. We discussed lots of dogs and breeding ideas. His wine selection was excellent.

Bob's friend from Illinois – Jack and his grandson Steven – got to camp about 7 or so. He's from Bob's area and has a place in Johnstown where he comes all the time to work his falcons on grouse. He's a biology major with a a lifelong love of falconry and game birds. He has pointers and hopes to come out and work out with our dogs a day or two. We had a great dinner, fine wine and good music again. Just a tough way to rough it.

Jenny, Sue, Corrine and Owen got in after dinner around 9:00 pm – a good trip into camp. We sat up for awhile and watched a great star show but there was a bit of lightning to the NW. I figured the weather was passing to the north.

We hit the hay and were ready for a good sleeping night. Whoooooosh – up came the wind – a huge gust at about 2 in the morning and lightning and the trailers rocked – left some doors open ours and they just banged away – lots of lightning , wind and some showers but no significant amounts of rain. Blew a lot of things around in the yard and damaged our front door but all in all not a problem.

Zooka & Casey came into season and Inde is prime – Layla by Ray's being bred to Otie. Had a AI today. We moved the girls to our trailer.

Aug.8

Sunday – lots of clouds and the promise of more rain, we just sat around and talked, drinking coffee – letting a few sleep in. Finally the weather was breaking so about 8:30 we got cracking – several dogs planned on the meadows.

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Roading

Zooka, Roxie & Inde – 40 min.

Meadows

Sonja, her cousin, Kelly, Corrine, Phil, Lucas, Bob, Bryan & me all on the meadows this morning.

Bandit & Brie – well off to the races, both started out of camp going smoothly to the front on the meadow – both took the island and I went around to check – there was Bandit high and tight near the house – standing in the woods with perfect style, Brie backed from a distance and looked good. A well-handled piece for Bandit – Brie broke and was corrected. Sent on we had a pretty good brace with both dogs showing their ability to go – Bandit handled and for 20 looked good but her gas tank was low- stopped and watered at 18 but it just didn't help a lot, she never quit but never got it back together either – Brie had the better 2nd half but no birds and clearly Bandit won the brace. 32 min.

Glory & Picabo- Glory hunting hard but kinda lateral into the wind with Picabo just rolling along. Not a single piece of birdwork with Glory in one of her puttering moods. Picabo handled and hunted but no luck getting her into birds.

Kelly (Phil & Jenny's niece) got a pretty good kick to the thigh trying to take a cactus off her horse's leg. She'll be okay but a pretty nasty bruise should follow.

Sue (Jenny's mom) was on her new horse Fritz for the rest of the morning. He's doing real nice for her – Lucas scouted off him the 1st brace this morning.

Lea & Dolly – Dolly out of camp and said she was ready – fast and fluid, Lea showing consistent improvement – Dolly dove into the cover at the long tree row, Bob went to scout – I went on – Bob went to the pond – called on the warlike talkie – no Dolly – about that time she was spotted coming out of where we lost her – I called and she came all the way back and brought me a chukkar. I corrected and sent on. No more birds even though we had released some – Lea needed Dolly to help her around but overall improving. Stamina was good on both dogs with both plugged in to insure they couldn't get flagrant on us. 33 min.

Buford – Phil went back with Sue and Corrine and they road the hills all the way over to Sidell's this morning. Just a nice ride. They didn't miss much with Buford. Buford still showing a strong loop in his pattern early finally got him going down a fence row – didn't or couldn't figure out

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how to cross and almost hurt himself trying to get through it – fast and strong but not much in the way of pattern – have to carry him everywhere. Good head and high tail with a hook while running. Had a point at the quail house – turtle – sent on – he routed out a nice size covey of quail – not pretty – put the hook on him – baby steps for sure.

Now back to camp and the majority are off headed to the river or the store and we're just catching up. A pretty good first week in camp.

Aug.9 **Monday** - moderate temperatures this morning. We're getting the crew moving but really an office morning for me.

Roading:

Bo, Picabo, Clint, & Roxie -45 min.

CRP The crew went to Salzman's CRP grounds today. We went all the way back to the CRP to the mowed meadows. Water was at a premium. All tanks dry
Jackie & Shammie – Jackie got into 2 prairie chickens. Shammie watched birds fly and gave some chase. He has a problem with trying to bite the horse's tails. Jackie was the wider of the two.

Katie(Baker) & Rambo –Katie was fast but didn't get into any birds. Rambo wants things on his terms-.slower. He needs time to work out this big world we have thrown at him into. Katie has improved in going front.

Casey & Teama – Teama was a very nice going dog. We got into wild chickens Teama chased and had a great time. Casey smelled birds but her piss poor handler pushed her through it and she ended having to birds pop from the rear.

Bird work - morning

Brie - worked on a bird and it was perfect. Just knew what to do and did it right.

Dan – checkcord with a derby find – nice style and his health is improving.

Kelly & Corrine road back on the roads from the Salzman CRP – they handled the cattle guard at the top of the road fine and I road up and helped them with the 2nd one.

Lucas and Owen went with Bill & Sue Lloyd to see Mt. Rushmore. They had a fun trip but quite a bit of traffic due to the Harley meeting at Sturgis.

We had a great Mexican dinner that Robin cooked and was enjoyed by all.

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Al & Bev Hansen came down this afternoon and visited and had dinner with us. Good to see them. Al's custom feeding hogs from different areas and Bev runs the Ainsworth Golf Course.

Bird work – evening

Inde – just let the quail loose – no human scent. She started out hunting and handling – pointed but flagged a bit – I made a so so look and then relocated her, she moved up 25 yards and turned hitting a solid point – level tail but solid. Quick flush & shot, manners good and I colored her and sent her on – another time without mistake and no shock.

Picabo – she worked hard but looks a bit worn out to me – going to give her a couple of days off – let her recoup, she just plays hard. Went right to work and hunted hard – got into the woods and worked the downfalls showing her athleticism finally hitting a high solid point – bird flushed right past her, she spun with no forward motion and actually almost sat but erected herself and styled up – perfect manners – another good session for this young one.

Brie – worked her around and sent Bob around woods as bird left – she pointed area where bird left – we sent on and around the woods, Phil got another bird and as he went to planted Brie pointed Phil – he left and as Bob came he sent her on only to have her point on the other side of the cut with a good find and perfect manners. Sent on she had a NP where another bird had left – all in all a good session for Brie – trying to do it right.

Buford was on the truck but too dark to try and work him. We called it a night and went back to camp, listening to a few tunes and watching stars.

Aug.10 **Tuesday** – a cool, overcast morning and we're going to the hills. We had a full crew and Robin working the meadows with a bunch of young dogs.

Roading: - Linda's Team is getting a good workout at more of a running speed, building that cardiovascular conditioning they need so bad. She's got the new roading rig and is real happy with how it's working. The crew is building up fast, waiting for them to hit a wall but so far, so good.

Bandit, Brie, Cali- 40min.

Glory, Dolly, Indi – 24 min and the rains go so hard, Linda could hardly see so she headed into camp.

Meadows - Robin's Team

Brenna – Very nice litter. Boldest one in the cover. Hits cover hard and is birdy. Chases with vigor.

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Chester –young and likes other dogs. Likes birds and uses meadows other than cover

Sol –He has the puppy gait that we have to wait on. He likes his brace mates too much.

Erin- another of the litter Erin carries himself high on both ends. They love birds and like to run.

Emma –Emma is also a nice pup from that litter she has a nice way of going and hits the cover. She put up two chukker and caught one.

TBA –He loves to be a pup. He is behind his sister but has found out if you come back it isn't pleasant and birds fly not by people.

Joy-MY PICK of young pups. She carries herself with confidence and likes birds.

Hills:

Katie(Shoaf) & Ginger – well a small delay as we were pulling around past Richardson's corn circle, I was going too slow and hit the soft sand kinda sunk in, had to unload horses because it was only a delay. Of course there were all kinds of witnesses with Jason following with his trailer. It didn't take long and we got ready to run but it had taken us forever to get going this morning and it was misting by the time we cast off and the coolest morning of camp.

Off we went- into the mist, ah rain – more rain and Ginger opened up big – taking a fence line backwards we had to wait on her but she was fun to watch as she made the loop, Katie into cactus from the get go and just never really got over it- Ginger gave us a dynamite puppy race the whole time down and we lost near the end in the CRP – we saw 2 groups of chickens on the hills but no dogs involved – Ginger might've got into birds in the CRP as we saw a couple but we can't be sure! We're all pretty well soaked as the only one prepared with rain gear was Jason – took us about 10 minutes to get a hold of Ginger but she's improving and man can she run. Need to bird work her!

We decided we need to go back to camp and have some hot coffee, dry clothes and raingear. Ended up having pancakes and that hit the spot. Most of us loaded up and went back out to finish the morning dogs.

Hank & Pattie – well it started to rain but we were ready – everyone with raingear on – off we go up the hill – 20 seconds or so – and there goes the thunder – not a smart thing to run when it's lightning out – we loaded up again and back to camp, this time taking the saddles off.

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Almost everyone in town doing something, Ranchland, getting their hair done, grocery – maybe a cold one – just an easy afternoon.

Back at camp, we just never got it going again – had chicken/dumpling soup that Robin made a family get together – watched “ Some like it Hot” on the DVD – with a couple falling asleep during the movie but a relaxing day all in all.

Aug.11 **Wednesday** – cool and great sleeping night – down to 46 degrees – just a great night – dogs pretty darn quiet. Up, we got ready and loaded up pretty quick – had the whole crew ready for the hills but we had a few miscommunication issues on the location of the breakaway but we got it together.

Roading:

Zooka, Lea, Roxie, Inde - 42 min.

Hills/Meadows

Pattie, Jackie & Hank – well we broke way out of camp – Jackie decided to take to the hills & the last Robin saw him was going through the bull pasture – 2 hours later after running around camp chasing pigeons for the last 30 minutes, she got the hook. Boy does she like to run; hopefully they can harness that energy. Hank did a bump and chase with a catch on chukkar in the first field – Pattie chasing too but coming back – got Pattie to hunt better but Hank was awesome – sheer power and all age moves for the entire brace, I don’t know what else he had but it was fun to watch. Pattie showed solid improvement with a very nice derby find on chukkar and not able to catch. 27min.

Clint, Rudi, Katie(Baker) - Clint a solid time in the hills with nice forward pattern and medium shooting dog race, legit STF and none of the problems we saw all spring. He seems to just be feeling good. Rudy doesn’t have the class or eye appeal that his brother Hank has but he does have good stamina. A low head and a tendency to snarf just don’t look good. Katie has animation and range but lacks constant forward pattern so far, she came in with a big barbwire cut on the top of her head – saw her chasing 2 chickens with Rudi in on one – she can really cover the ground. 33 min.

Glory, Casey & Suzie – Glory a much better time on the ground with a solid GD performance, front running and patterning w/good speed and drive – just nice, Casey has some growing up to do but has good speed, eye appeal for a young dog. Suzie not plugged in today with a nice medium shooting dog race, very good speed and excellent stamina (no signs of a problem) reaching and chasing some trash birds but not

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excessively. Got into some cactus and let Bob pull some out – onward, she was big at the end and didn't come to the trailers, we didn't call her and just whistled her around while she blinked us for a couple of minutes- finally Robin drove out a ways with a bird bag and truck, she started to come in and Robin got out and called her in – she came. Good sign but I won't try that every time. 27 min.

Buford- some rode into camp on the road and Lucas pulled the truck in for us so we ponyed his horse in – Buford – well that's an ongoing story, so far he hasn't clicked yet – a better time down today but not showing that he knows to hunt this cover – he's quite loopy but carries himself well – a hook at the end of his tail is unappealing. He had a NP that he dove on the relocate – another bird walking out behind him and he chased at the end of it – 28 min. Plenty of room to improve.

The afternoon was some work and Phil's entire crew cleaned and oil about 16 pairs of boots, saddles, reins and assorted tack – what a job – just a nice cool afternoon to do it and they got it all finished and put away. Thank you gang!

Robin and Bryan spent the afternoon packing as they're on the way home tomorrow morning @ 0 dark hundred! They've got 22 hours driving home. Robin's leaving a couple of dogs for Jack Haines and taking Karen's dog TBA .

Phil, Lucas, Jason & Kelly put a 2nd coat of paint on the south fence. Looks good all white – they loaded up everything and brought it back so Robin can take her generator home. We'll hit the fence up by Roger's later this week and then the rest when Lee gets here with his generator.

Bob cooked some smoked double thick pork chops for Robin's going home dinner and invited the Painter's up. Everyone came even Ty with the new baby Amelia and we had a great dinner and fun visiting with the whole Painter family.

Aug.12 **Thursday** – Cool, crisp a bit of rain during the night and overcast today. Robin's all packed up and ready to head out. We made some coffee and sent her down the road. It sure seemed to be a good camp for Robin and Bryan and fun to have them back after a couple of year absence.

Roading -

Bo didn't want to be dragged out of his barrel this morning – just a nut case.

Bo, Picabo, Katie, Dolly – 40 min.

Meadows: Today we got the kids on horseback, multiple loads of puppies

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Pigeons and we handled the groundwork. Staked out Brenna, Erin, Emmy & Joy.

Suzie & Shammie – cut these 2 loose after we let Shammie see a pigeon fly and all the other pups watched. Really got them going, the horse crew took them around the woods and into the island – no bird contacts.

Suzie & Joy – let Suzie keep running and cut Joy loose with her – she hung with Suzie for the 2nd lap and gave chase to a quail. Suzie got hung up at the end at the Johnnie house – caught her and put both them up. Had the collar on but didn't use it.

Ritha & Rambo – cut a pigeon loose and they chased – the other pups very intent on the program – Rambo more hunt and Ritha kind of low tailed and a bit fearful – Rambo a much better tail running and more focus but still not where I thought they should be.

Ritha & Teama – left Ritha down with a more experienced dog and she followed Teama some but actually was not that interested in birds, a pigeon flew right past her and she turned to chase a bit only to turn and leave it. Going to have to give her some TLC around birds.

Chester & Sol – ran the 2 boys together and like the rest, the kids took them around on horseback – Sol is hunting nicely, tail cracking and fast but Chester's light bulb hasn't come on yet.

Brenna, Emmy, Erin & Joy – wired they went to hunting – chasing pigeons and going about their business, couldn't get them to go with the riders all the way around – they knew where the birds were – great point by Brenna, - flash point by Emmy and Erin joined in the chase – Joy off on her own at the time. Very good session with this group.

Meadows

Took Inde and Brie to work birds at the dry pond.

Brie – worked her into a very stylish point – couldn't produce in very heavy cover – a solid relocate with remarkable style – had to run to flush and she broke with the shot – plugged in she was stopped and her string was stopped at 6 – she stays plugged in for awhile. Bob is working her with no voice commands at all and I think getting her in the right direction.

Inde – still in season but hunting nicely and we hit the whole island and let her go to the south – lost her and found her standing, - level tail but standing solid – took a run to flush and she stayed with good manners – took on, we went all the way around and disappeared right before where

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her 1st bird had been and found her at the base of a tree with almost 11 o'clock style – perfect for a difficult flush but she had it and retained her style – just a great job.

Johnstown

Went up to Bob's falconer friend, Jack and met his pointers and young bird. We went up towards Norton to the Nature's Conservancy and saw some great views – crossed the river and got high on the hills – just a great site – found out we were getting a flat tire and had to head to town to the local repair shop. The guy there, dropped what he was doing and fixed it – really a good job and very fair price.

We went south of Johnstown to the Plum Creek Wildlife Management Area and worked a couple of Jack's pointers along with some of our dogs.

Hills

Clint & Brie – big going and steady patterning was the rule for both of these dogs – just a nice job in moderate temperatures but no water and the last 5 minutes we needed to get them wet but still an overall good job with no birds observed.

Came back home and the ladies had a fun day 'garage sailing' – cooked a great meal and visited with Jack and his grandson. A fun day on the prairies.

Aug.13

Friday – a cool night sleeping and the dogs were good until 4:30 – never quite got it quiet after that – very cool and damp when daylight came. Off to Richardson's hills this morning. We had everyone of the horses saddled up today as Jack and his grandson came from Johnstown. They've never watched dogs work from horseback. Hope they enjoy it.

Roading:

Zooka, Glory, Roxie, Inde & Cali – 39min.

The girls all road well together and Linda says that Cali just feels great and looks great. Bonnie's been working her all along and the program appears to be working.

Hills

Bandit & Lea – definitely Leas's best time down – Phil had her a back of Bandit at 20 – had to be talked into it but she did well although she still uses her bracemate more than I like. Bandit – strong and mostly front – showing she's trying to listen – had a STF that might've been a STBump but I gave her the benefit of the doubt. All in all, a real good brace. 16 or 17 chickens.

Buford & Pattie – these 2 got into cactus on the 1st hilltop and never got over it. Buford showed an occasional move that wasn't a loop and

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actually finished on a positive note- Pattie had some early hunting but overall just didn't really go for it. 32 min.

Hank & Ginger - moved over to Salzmänn's to run these 2 – Ginger just got with it right out of the box – big and reaching – showing a pause several hundred yards out as a pheasant or grouse flushed and she gave chase – Hank – not as powerful as the other day but still hunting and had at least a couple of contacts but no pointing on these very wild birds. At about the half way mark – Ginger left the area and reached the far western fence – Phil and I worked to get her to go with us and we told the rest of crew to run the next dogs. We had the tracker but just couldn't get her to respond.

Rudi & Jack's dog- Rudi actually did a bit better than Hank today from an application standpoint – Rudi had game contacts but no points and a solid lap for 24 min. Still no Ginger so they brought out Jack's vehicle and Luke came to help – finally we got her slowed down in the cedars and she was under a tree because she was hot and Luke caught her – we wet her down and put her in the truck. Well over an hour 15 with a full gas tank almost to the end.

Phil, Jenny, Bill & Sue and all the kids spent the afternoon in Valentine – going to Ft. Niobrara. Had a good time in the park and went to Youngs to do a bit of shopping and then the Peppermill for dinner. A good dinner at the Peppermill. Linda, Bob and I stayed in camp and fed the crew. A nice relaxing evening.

Aug.14 **Saturday** - another good sleeping night and moderately cool weather. The dogs were pretty good except for one outbreak at 3:30 and then it stopped. Bill & Sue were leaving this morning and Owen was heading home with them, Kelly gets to stay the extra day.

Ray & Jackie are in due in camp today – they're bringing Layla back hopefully pregnant with Otie pups. They haven't been to camp in a few years; it'll be good to see them even if it's just for an afternoon.

Roading

Bo, Katie, Bandit & Buford – 42 min.

Meadows

Brie & Picabo – these two were off on a windy morning. We had let some birds out early and were hoping for some good work. Brie had a good find at the island and Picabo was hunting nicely, plugged in but still showing good pop – we hit the Sidell loop with Brie pointing near the johnnie house and Picabo back off the back edge – Brie was good – Picabo broke at the shot and was corrected – sent on she didn't back on

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Brie's next point and was corrected – turned out to be a NP – sent on they hunted nicely with Brie digging into the cover and Picabo on the edges – Brie scoring on the dry pond quail and Picabo going on – I split off and took her hunting – Bob run in on the shelter belt and had a chukkar find with Brie – Picabo didn't have anymore contacts. Brie clearly the winner but still an important time down for Picabo. 32 min

Sol & Rambo – well this was 30 min of sheer frustration - about the only thing going on was the wind. These two never had any contacts nor did they do anything today to merit any contacts.

We took a coffee break that turned out to be it for the day – just too windy and we all needed a little break. Ray and Jackie came in – went to Ranchland and donated to the cause and came back before taking Mildred and Gerald to Valentine for dinner. They had a nice visit and Layla looks great.

Bonnie & Dennis rolled in around 7 with some new horses. We had Roger and Jason over and everyone had a great dinner. Wind started to let up some close to dark.

Aug.15

Sunday – cool and still some wind this morning. This is the last day in camp for Kelly, Lucas, Phil & Jenny. Corrine staying this week and will go back to Denver with Bonnie & Dennis and fly home from there. The kids have had a great camp with Luke turning into a first-rate helper, scout and handler. Kelly has been working on her horse Apache and doing pretty good, Jason has been helping her especially after she got kicked a couple of times – that's not good and he needed some serious correction.

Roading

Bandit, Clint, Roxie – a very solid 40 min. – Linda running out of room to road them, she's going at a very brisk pace.

Spot, Ona, & Chopper – just into camp – 33 min.

Hills

Glory & Inde – strong start for Inde but she tired some the last 12 – Glory a patterning gundog with strong drive and good handle for Luke – some loss of application in the home stretch – no birds. 27 min.

Dusty & Dolly – these two were both pretty strong but couldn't really buck the huge headwind – still good hunting and desire for the 33 min. they were down – no birds – w NP for both separately pointing the Huns Johnnie house from a long way off.

Lea & Penny – Lea's worst time down – too much tailgating – Penny hunted most of the way but no birds contacted. 33 min.

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Birdwork/meadows

Took all the puppies out to the Loop – took pigeons.

Brenna & Emmy – got a good point by Brenna – flash point Emmy and off they went chasing the pigeon.

Joy & Erin – same thing – worked on a pigeon and we say lots of hunt, good pop – cracking tails and fun.

Chester & Rambo – best time down for Rambo – roaded in on a bird with good high tail – chased and lots of enthusiasm – Chester a bit on the tentative side.

Sol & Ritha – Sol showing good drive – not as high a tail – Ritha a rather low tail but a bit more enthusiasm today – chasing the pigeon a good bit – she came back and Sol said Adios! – Luke ran him in on the ATV.

That was it for the day – wind blowing and warming up with packing to do for the rest of Phil & Jenny's crew. Dennis packed up and headed home, wishing he could spend the week. He got out at a reasonable time – Phil, Jenny, Luke & Kelly said their good byes – kinda sad to see them go – just have so much fun with them in camp. They hit the road about 3:30. Roger came down with some hay bales for us and told us there was a storm watch till 9:00.

We cooked dinner and decided to watch a movie. Got it cooked as it drizzled on us then it let loose with a big rain – the biggest we've seen out here in a couple of years. The front yard was flooded and it was green and blowing – some big lightning strikes. We needed the rain that's for sure so no one was complaining – Roger called to make sure we were getting the big storm he was getting – they were happy for it.

Phil called and they were broke down in O'Neil – broke a lower cooling hose. They were set up in a deserted parking lot and will wait for Monday morning and the Ford Dealer – at least it happened in a good location.

Aug.16

Monday

Phil's crew sat in O'Neil until after lunch before they got his truck fixed. Turned out the part was a warranty issue but they got it going and headed home. Monday morning is a full workday for me so Bob, Corrine and Bonnie carry the load. Actually we got close to 1" of rain last night – really needed it.

Roading

Cali, Zooka, Brie, Picabo - 42 min.

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Buford, Penny & Spot – 50 min.

Meadows

Suzie & Jack – Suzie clearly the dog of the day with big moves, hard running and periods of good hunting – still more run than hunt but she's getting it together. Jack lots of energy spent chasing dicky birds – kinda all over the place but no direction and mostly to the rear.

Teama & Shammie – Shammie irritating Teama several times with Teama getting pretty ticked off but Shammie thought they were Terms of Endearment – not a bright lite shining for Shammie yet. Teama ran the edges nicely and hunted most of the way.

Sol & Rudi – Rudi making his mark by rolling in several cow pies – he has some leg but his desire to mark leaves a lot to be desired and he was the bottom of the barrel today. Sol hunted pretty well for her handler – Corrine – some dicky bird chases but he still managed to gain the front.

Hank & Patti – Hank has been kinda flat since his big run on the hills – hunted mostly but not huge, Patti not big but hit the cover and hunted some of the way.

The crew put in a hard morning. We spent the afternoon doing chores and Linda hit town with Corrine – when I got done I made some Stew with the elk Bonnie brought. Good stuff – very nice cool evening. Kinda of a low key day in camp.

Aug. 17

Tuesday – cool morning – 54 degrees, clear skies and the promise of a nice day with a high about 80. Full schedule today. We're going over to the Richardson's fields west of the corn circle. Haven't been there in a long time.

Roading

Bo, Bandit, Glory, Dolly & Dusty – 49 min.

Lea, Clint, Roxie, Inde & Chopper – 50 min.

Hills

Spot & Picabo - ran the old CRP for the first 12 min than hit the hills to the west, these two started hunting from the get go with both showing great carriage and class on the ground. Spot got into a young pheasant and chased – Bonnie had him plugged in but it didn't work (later she found out she had lost the plug) Bonnie got him caught and corrected him – onward we went up into the hills to the northeast and the pair hunted nicely – med to big SD with Spot the bigger of the two – Picabo handling nicely but no birds were found the rest of the brace. Still a fun brace-35 min.

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Brie & Katie – these too were quite flat this morning – short and lateral GD's with not their usual pop. Hunted around – plenty of cactus – finally at 22 a bird lifted and Bob saw Brie standing with excellent style – he went to her and at least 18-20 chickens lifted in groups from all around her – great piece of work – brought Katie in for the back and she had to be corrected – this picked Brie up and her last half improved especially for about 10 min after the find with a couple of big moves – still not vintage Brie. 40 min. – some dogs are showing that they're a little worn out – hitting the wall.

Rambo & Chester – took these two up to the CRP by the Richardson house – Rambo showed his best time down – started out hunting – slight hook of some trash birds but at least focused then chasing some pheasants – Chester got into them too – 8-10 single pheasants kept these puppies hunting – good time for them. 22 min.

Back to the ranch – slightly overcast this morning so we got 4 more young dogs and went back to the CRP.

Pattie & Teama – both started hunting nicely with Patti showing some real good interest for her and Teama all business – chased some pheasants early and they hit a lick – Teama worked up an edge of a freshly mowed field and stalked for 30-40 yds only to have the pheasant lift off her side and she didn't see it – fired anyway and both chased – not knowing what it was – got to a windmill but couldn't catch Patti to wet her down and she never really recovered – Teama a long ride to a point on a fenceline only to have her move on – NP. Good brace! 28 min.

Sol & Suzie – had Suzie plugged in – off we go with Sol into a big pheasant right off the bat – Suzie going to the hills – I called and she didn't come – tapped her and road to her – she started to come – got into cactus – tried to get her to come – she's coming but stopping to get cactus – had to touch her again – reluctantly coming to me – cactus in her feet and she bends down to get it out – ends up in her nose – finally I get to her and she's screaming – can barely hold her – biting at me – a big cactus has penetrated her lower lip all the way through and the one in her nose is being driven in deeper – Bob came over and we finally got it out – had to pull several spines out – decided this day was best over for her – 10 min and we just roaded her in. Sol in the meantime was being handled by Corrine (she handled Chester earlier) and did a nice job – only the one bird but plenty of hunt and a good lap.

Back to camp – almost 1:00 in the afternoon – spent the time doing chores – working, Bob getting packed up – he's on the road tomorrow. Been a fun camp for him and his dogs, they'll be staying and he might make it back for Labor Day. George Newcomb and Rich Barber came by camp

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and visited in the afternoon. Rich is pretty close to us and George about an hour away. Good to see them.

Bonnie marinated some elk and we had another great meal. Roger, Janet, Jason & Amelia came over to say goodbye to Bob. Actually, brought some rain clouds with and we got a pretty nice rain. We'll take every bit we can get. Dogs are pretty peaceful tonight.

August 18 **Wednesday** – great sleeping night – dogs were quiet – a gentle rain fell for a little bit. Bob getting ready to pull out – he should have a pleasant trip home. We got about .3 of inch of rain last night and some drizzle today.

Roading

Katie, Zooka, Bandit & Glory – 54 min. Glory appears to be in season today. Linda had a pheasant flush in the distance but no dog work.

Inde, Cali, Clint, Bo – 54 min.

CRP

We headed down to Hitchcock's meadow today and along the way we saw a bird cross the road. Stopping we let **Brenna & Erin** out to hunt – they both started enthusiastically and worked the cover w/desire – Brenna headed down the cover on the right side of the wind – pointed then moved – pointed again and continued to work while Erin worked the cover hard – out came a big old rooster and Brenna had it in here sights – off to the raises – Erin didn't see it but he worked it hard anyhow.

We loaded them up and continued down the road – drove into Hitchcock's and drove all the way to the old place – high and dry now – turned around looking for a spot to run and we got west of their current house and saw a couple of young pheasants – stopping Bonnie and Corrine let **Emmy & Joy** out – they immediately chased several birds – crossing the fence and working the cover – Bonnie and Corrine walked up the hill briefly stopped as a bird left – both hunted hard and chased birds – very good session for all 4 young dogs.

Penny & Hank – got these two out and hunted west of the lake – had Hank start out rolling – feeling better today for sure – he slid off to 8:00 but I got him swung heading front but didn't see for the next 5 – several birds in the air – Penny had some around her in the air but the cover was just too tall to get a definitive piece of work – still we got them swung around – got close in touch with Hank only to have him get right behind a fawn and off they both went – really worried about him catching it – we didn't see him for quite a while-took Penny back to the truck- Corrine manning the watch post at the truck and Bonnie went down the road to

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Hitchcock's house and I road the all lake bottom – Bonnie found his tracks and no deer tracks then found Hank – no worse for the wear. 24 min.

Rudi & Onna – moved down to Salzman's CRP – cut loose these two only to have Rudi start out rolling – high head – good tail and reaching – big move to the north fence – got him going with us – he spotted some cattle and wouldn't come – I figured I had grabbed Hank – not good but what the heck – onward we went around the cedars – got Onna pointed but she never saw the pheasants leave – went on we got Onna pointed again and this time she gave good chase – got a shot off when she was quite a ways off and chasing hard – no problem. Corrine and Bonnie kept running Onna and I went looking for Hank – finally I saw back across the road hunting past the truck – still working hard – road to the truck and he came up to me – whoops it's Rudi – he was feeling real good today. About 25 minutes – not sure if Rudi had birds but he ran.

We headed back to camp – good morning with lots of birds – that always makes it fun – these pheasants are helping the young dogs a bunch.

We decided to try our luck bird working this evening along the roads and by all accounts it was quite successful. Took a ride down Hitchcock's road a bit and got a bird running – took **Inde** out and she worked pretty handily – got her downwind but couldn't see her – birds got out and found her standing a bit off from the area of flush so I presume she was good – mannerly for shot and sent on.

Picabo- she was next and we had seen birds but couldn't get anything pointed – 1 stylish point – no bird and a turtle there but she come off it-worked her about 15 min but no luck.

Cali – she worked the other side of the road and point staunchly but not as stylish as Bonnie would like – mannerly for flush but she didn't see birds.

Called it a night – and back to camp and a good dinner – rumor that we should do some night hunting so I set the traps (mousetraps that is) – a very successful. We just don't ever let up here at camp – we hunt em' 24 hours a day!!!!!!!!!!

Aug.19

Thursday – well cool last night – Linda came in the house to make sure her granddaughter was safe from those varmints I was busy hunting – she didn't realize that I had already put them into retreat. Very cool sleeping – 39 degrees in Valentine – 42 in Ainsworth at 6:15 – quite cool. We had a bit of phone work to do so we didn't rush to get dogs on the line – don't want to spoil them with fall temperatures already.

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Roading

Spot, Dusty, Dolly & Chopper - can't say enough about the roading program - Linda kicks it up 10 minutes per week as I kick up running dogs about 10 minutes less than her roading rate. She's at the fastest clip I've seen her - concentrating on cardiovascular work with a good aerobic rate and maintaining it for an extended period - much less pulling (but some) and more speed. The dogs appear to me to be kicking it up a notch a lot quicker since we've started this last fall. Weight is an issue and they are getting to be lean, mean fighting machines with everyone cleaning there plates and most dogs getting some canned meat and extra dry. The fact that we're roading around a big cornfield gives them good footing, very little cactus (they get enough of that on the hills) and appears to be allowing longer runs between watering. **Linda** watches these dogs like a hawk and picks up on the suttlst details - helps us stay right on top of each dogs condition.

Birdwork

Shammie, Ritha & Jack - took these 3 to the Hun's pasture and cut them loose on foot - Bonnie and Corrine handling - I went to the johnnies house to let some birds out - Jack got an old chicken up - scented it and chased for ever but really good for him - wired - lots of dicky birds for him to chase - all the eye appeal but he needs real birds to get his mind off the trash. Shammie and Ritha about equal - lots of desire to play - will chase a bird if it appears at the right time (dicky or game bird) but no real show of hunting - lots of speed and drive got them at 18 min. took to 28 or so to get Jack back - he can get huge real easily and looks good the whole time.

Meadows

Buford & Roxie - Bonnie handling Roxie - she had her own agenda today and took Bonnie on a different course than I had - Corrine and I took Buford or followed Buford - still running him on the meadows and he'll make a move or 2 but shows very little if any idea of why he's out here - no birds today so no points and just a generally lack luster performance on his part - he's got the body, speed but lacks serious hunt.

Ginger & Lea - wow - Lea was boring - tapped her for loitering or snarfing - never quite got over it - just have to be patient - she jumps in the cover but not focused after her initial big move with Ginger - Bonnie ran Ginger - I think!!!!!! The hills, meadows - whatever she wanted to run - got a chukkar in the air and that was it - Bonnie got her coming with her at about 30 - galloping into camp and I got a pigeon in hand and we got her caught. Definitely a leg, definitely hunting, definitely **not hunting for us** - what's wrong with this picture but too much talent to overdo the correction - we'll keep adjusting - Ginger has the tools.

Ainsworth - 2004

Birdwork

Well we decided to wild bird work some dogs tonight – but since we had let out a few Huns this morning we took Inde and Picabo to the pond and work them.

Inde – haven't birdworked her in a while – just trying to link good things together for this girl – she was roaded today for 54 min. Cut her loose and worked well but wasn't jumping and hitting it hard – still hunted and handled – finally got her on the side of a ridge with a solid point – no flagging and good manners – ticked some as I ran away from her to flush but tightened up nicely as I went back to her and flushed in another direction – solid as I chased a Hun that wouldn't flush – finally shot over her and took her on – with perfect manners – another time down with the collar on and haven't had to use it- just keep linking them together – she really knows she's being a good girl.

Picabo - fast and snappy from the get go – hunting, hunting, hunting – worked the ridges and wind very intelligently – lots of zip – swung a big circle with her and got a v/nice point up on the rise – worked along time trying to flush – she ticked a couple of times and I went back to her to relocate – no anticipation – gingerly hunting forward and working the birds very smartly – 2nd time she hit hard – repeat of the 1st – sent her on and a 3rd very nice point – stylish throughout as I flushed the Huns 20 + yds away near the water – a hard flying pair and she was glued to the ground – classy and very good manners – total calmness as I go back to her – she's got the tools and we're linking them together.

Afternoon – back from our last dogs at almost 1pm – a little bit warmer – Corrine and Bonnie worked Clem and Jackson – Corrine trying to straighten Jackson out for Stan – we'll see how it works out.

Afternoon business for me and almost 6 o'clock now so we're loading dogs and going hunting. Lee and Katrina are on the road heading to camp, as is Don Larsen – Dennis will be back on Friday night. Very nice day but warmed some this afternoon – not hot but upper 70's – we got dinner set to go and then road hunted.

Chopper- coyote hunting the cover the same time as us, we had to fight for our birds – Chopper hunted area – bird got out but he didn't see – worked around birds – say them leaving – good handle – but couldn't get anything done- overall around birds but nothing definitive.

Brie – went north towards Painters and saw birds – cut Brie loose – she worked one spot but couldn't get it pinned – stylish point but moved on – ended with a legit STF and had to call it because the birds went towards the others and didn't want delay – she was very mannerly.

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Ona – got out by Salzmann's and she worked right to the spot - good solid point and 3 or 4 birds left – no problem with my gunshot.

Aug.20

Friday – very cool morning and we were ready for the CRP. Several people due in camp today. We're going to the rodeo in Valentine tonight so have to get our dogs done early.

Roading

Zooka, Brie, Glory & Picabo - 54 min. (Brie did it but wearing down – Glory did great.

CRP Salzmann's & Richardson's

Bandit & Penny – Bandit started out very nice with a very nicely done find on a pair of young pheasants – lots of class – Penny's back was less than desired. Bandit had a NP later that Penny backed nicely – strong and reaching and got kinda handy at the end – actually the last 10 or 12 – maybe I had the collar too tight but even after I fixed it and watered her she didn't pick up. Penny in the area of a couple of birds but you couldn't tell for sure. 30 min.

Onna & Suzie – Onna another good time down – got into pheasants early and in the middle – no problem with the shot – Suzie started out in cactus – not good especially after her last experience but she got over it – and hunted with us – wide and fast – little put of puttering & trash chasing but overall a good strong hunting race. Suzie back into cactus and pick up – she came to us but went under the truck – a little stressed by cactus but at least came to us. 28 min.

Sol & Patti - Patti off and hunting – Sol a little bit too much play today – Patti hunting pretty hard we got hung up and split apart in the cedar grove I ended up going west – Corrine and Bonnie went east – I went west - finished apart with both dogs hunting but no more birds produced. Not Sol's best day.

Rambo & Chester - moved across the road to Richardson's – Rambo started out hunting and moving nicely from the start – Chester with Corrine at the controls – she kept him going but he wasn't very focused today – Rambo the clear leader here – he hit a bunch of chickens in the trees in back and hunted them up hard – some very good moves for Rambo.

Lee and Katrina arrived a bit ago – busy getting set up and loaded into camp.

Birdwork - Lake Hun's Johnnie House

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Clint - first one out of the box – he pointed very nicely but the bird run off and he showed he still had plenty of desire as he chased it – put him away.

Spot – very fast out of the box – strong and aggressive – popped around pretty good and then up on top of a dune he jammed a bird – very stylish and intense – bird a long way away as I flushed and it went back passed him – he stood very mannerly but sat slightly as I walked to him – a flank pinch and no talking – he stood tall.

Lea – good hunt – a bit cautious but pointed with class – good manners for the run off bird – swung her around and she had a 2nd – very mannerly and stylish find. Bird flew right at her – no problem her.

Chopper – not his best day – put down a pigeon – I tapped him for creeping but it didn't get him – he broke and was stood back – didn't much care for the collar around his waist – kinda like a bucking horse – overall we did it again and got him clean but not very classy.

Clint – worked again – got a very stylish point with perfect manners. Ended up positive with him.

That was our day – almost 1PM – fed about 3 and head to Valentine at 5 for a good dinner at the Peppermill and a Rodeo. We had a great time at the rodeo – it was a good time – fast paced and good – We really enjoyed it.

Hope about 11:30 and ready for bed – wanted a nice quiet night – didn't get it – 3:30 ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE – the dogs were very noisy – I just figured Don was in camp but no such luck – I've had better sleeping nights that's for sure.

Aug.21

Saturday – really a nice cool morning with lots of dew – Devin hear at 6:30 am ready to ride – good to have him in camp. We had 7 riders this morning so we decided to go south and see if we could get into some wild birds.

Roading

Bo, Roxie & Chopper – 54 min. – Chopper tried to breed Roxie prior to starting - he almost got chopped.

Clint, Lea, and Buford – Lea ran hard – Buford only had his mind on chasing dickey birds.

Hills

Dusty & Katie – Dusty wide but not as forward as he can be and Katie showing a strong GD pattern – not big but hunting hard – some good moves early for Dusty than kind of a lateral slide that Bonnie needed to go get him – a point by Dusty in an area we had seen birds leave and Katie refused to back so she was corrected. A stylish point for Katie at 23 but

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no birds produced – Dusty a point at 35 and then a couple of steps up to knock the bird – he should've had a good find but he couldn't deal with success today and was corrected – Katie a tad slow near the end by overall a decent performance. 42 min.

Dolly & Spot – big, bigger and let them rip – these two got off to a fast start with Spot going wide into an adjoining pasture – Dolly just hunting the front and getting bigger with each cast, both dogs fast and very stylish on the ground – Made the 1st turn with Spot going very wide and Dolly two hills ahead – lost her to the front – meantime we lost Spot to the side – Corrine, Devin and I kept looking for Dolly to no avail – finally spotted the other group at a distant windmill on Slidell's field – called her some and she turned and after a few minutes was back in contact – went on leaving the other group looking for spot – Dolly reached the front and hunted to the west and then she started turtle hunting – went to hell at this point and the last 15 was a moderated race in search of turtles – got back to the truck and they radioed in that they had Spot. Not much happening here now – 36 for Dolly – 42-Spot.

Hank & Inde – moved up to triple gates and cut these two loose going to camp – Both dogs very wide to start with Hank the more forward and Inde going into the Lake Hun pasture – had to ride over and hop the fence and go look for her – she finally came and we went forward – she showed a reaching race – hunting the objectives and mainly front – Hank, while very big – seem to handle well – no birds for either dog – 32 min.

Today was trash day and Dennis & Bonnie had a dinner plan – kinda a general celebration – they're last night in camp – we partied with the Painter's – Bonnie & Dennis's anniversary, Linda and my birthday – and just a fun time in camp. Devin was in town along with Ty and the baby Amelia, so were Jason and Sonja and the grandfolks so we had a great time. Elk kabobs and homemade ice cream. A very nice evening although still quite windy.

Earlier when feeding, Bonnie noticed Rambo off his game- just kinda punk, not eating and quite hot – we got a thermometer and found his temp to be 106 – not good – he's in the shade all day and it was warm out – mid 80's but not hot. Got him in the tank and ran some cool water over him for 15 min – Linda called the vet and we continued to cool him off running a light stream of cool water over him – I took him to Ainsworth and by the time we got there his temp was 102.5 – much better. The vet found him in the early stages of pneumonia – got him a shot and some antibiotics for the next 5 days and injured reserve list for 10 days. Rambo has a lot of puppy coat and after soaking him down – Bonnie had noticed he was a lot thinner than you'd think – have to watch him a lot closer.

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Aug. 22

Sunday – mild temps this morning- going to be hot. Don Larsen is supposed to make it her today and Bonnie and Dennis will be leaving and taking our star student – Corrine home with them then she'll fly to Chicago on Monday. She's a great help and really a hard worker. It's been fun having her in camp and boy can she show Stan something – ole Jackson is parking out like a pro – he did it when Stan got him but it hasn't be reinforced in a long time – well Corrine has him doing it perfectly. Sonja up to ride with us this morning. – We haven't had her too many times this summer. Busy time for her – made the varsity volleyball team – she's real proud of it.

Roading

Zooka, Bandit & Glory – 53 min.

CRP

Cali & Rudi – Cali's only time on the ground this year – just roading her very carefully to see how she came along. She had fun and hunted hard – had running birds along the fenceline – work along way – 1/4 mile or more – finally one got out and she went with it but having fun – Bonnie and all of us sure enjoyed watching the old girl – not a lot of style left on her birds but plenty of heart and a lack of hearing (she had that most of her life) – just a fun dog to watch. We'll miss seeing her fiery personality in competition but sure will enjoy visiting with her whenever - she's got a lot left to give by just being around her. Rudi reverted back to his old self – hit 3 or 4 cow piles in the 1st few minutes – than chased a bird – that helped – overall still lacks the eye appeal running to make a competitive dog but very nice to be around and will make a solid bird dog/pet. 30 min.

Penny & Picabo –solid time hunting for Penny but no definitive bird work – she got kicked by Bonnie's horse while Bonnie was watering her – not good but she kept going – Picabo – flows front – hunts with great eye appeal and chased a couple of doves till I let her know she couldn't do it – she came with and I hunted through the heavy part of the CRP – worked and worked – then a solid stylish point – wanted to move up as I dismounted – let her alone – finally I whoa'd her – went out in front, very intent- went back to her and she had a young pheasant pinned – good for flush but moved the other way with shot – corrected and put her back – she seemed to understand – worked on – had a good hunting finish – really seem to be connecting with her. 34 min.

Getting hot at this point –moved down to Richardson's other CRP and decided to run 2 braces – 3 young dogs each – going to be too warm otherwise.

Chester, Teama & Ritha – ran these 3 around to the east – Teama clearly the winner here – plenty of hunt, forward pattern and good stamina –

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clearly Teama had a good chase on a bird – Chester with Corrine handling – Ritha with Katrina – these two have plenty of room for improvement. – 22 min.

Ona, Sol & Jack - Jack ran his own course which strictly was focused on chasing every stink, trash bird he could find – he spent several minutes clearly all the birds from around a pond – left it and came back – must've been there 10 minutes. Could not get him to go with me by singing so I shut up and road back and he showed up – still chasing dinks – like that in real young ones but this is a bit excessive especially when we load up a few minutes later and drive past the spot where he was playing and see 7 pheasants leave the cover right next to where she was bumping trash birds. Sol ran really good till the heat kicked in and Ona was kinda on the handy side today but hunting. 18 min for Sol & Ona – 22 for Jack but not because we wanted it that way.

Back to camp for us – Bonnie and Dennis have to load up. Don made it to camp and we got him arranged – Dennis shod his horse- Bonnie did the loading and we sat around and talked a bit. Corrine getting packed up ready for her first solo flight.

Lee and Katrina went to river – going to push 90 degrees this afternoon. We took care of some chores and checking the dogs out. Rambo still has a low grade fever but is doing much better. Showing a perky attitude and good appetite, he should be on the mend.

Roger came by and we visited, finally talked him into dinner – Jason showed up about the time food was ready and we had a real good meal. Got to bed plenty early tonight & tomorrow being Monday is a very light day for the dogs as I'm always busy with work on Monday.

Aug.23

Monday

Dogs in the quiet mode last night – just an occasional barker – we're up and running but no dog work planned until late. Don fixing equipment, Lee working his horses – Don on his too, we just have a semi-day off. Never got to working dogs today. Must've hit about 90 degrees today and we just took things as they came – need to do that every so often. I had a full day at the office so it worked out just fine.

Aug.24

Tuesday – a warm morning, quite humid to start the day. I planned a full day to help celebrate my birthday. Running dogs is the ideal way to spend a birthday and they tell me that's what I'm having today. All kinds of birthday calls this morning plus presents and reminders all over the place.

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Lake Hun

Erin & Emmy - let the pups out and they immediately started to hunt – lots of drive and independence – knocked a Hun and chased with great enthusiasm.

Brenna & Joy – lots of drive here with Brenna making a huge cast and Joy keeping up – they hunted hard with Joy getting hung up at the Johnnie house and Brenna coming back 5 minutes later with a Hun – didn't want her to catch one but she just knows the game.

Roading

Katie, Glory, Dolly & Picabo - 54 min. but at 20 Linda said they were really flat – the heavy air was taking it's toll. She had to slow the pace down today and only did 3 laps around the corn circle.

Meadows

Clint & Inde – Clint right to business as was Inde, I had Lee handling Clint and dug the cover – Inde the bigger moves and trying to keep up with her – she dove in the woods out to the loop and I had Katrina go around - found her hunting in woods and has a legit STF but left it and I tapped her for the mistake. She came along and seemed slightly affected. 31 min. with Clint a hole going across the big field and both dogs a nice finish hunting along the north side of Lake Hun.

Bo & Lea – Bo with a leg from the get go but handling – Lea doing some hunt and some puttering – trying to just encourage her on without over handling – she has the potential but not the total package yet – Got some very big moves by Bo – both dogs hunting the west edge and Bo a long way down the line hit point. Lea came along and I cautioned her – she backed and then turned her head – she had birds too – 3 Huns - well handled by both – sent on, we hunted them through the meadow and Lea slowed some at the end – v/nice job for Bo – improving for Lea.

Teama & Brie – We took off fast with Brie a little hoppy – had to loose the collar – off they went, Teama showing a nice steady forward pattern with Brie hunting in the cover very nicely. Got around the loop and headed north with Brie taking the fenceline east to the dried up pond –she didn't come back and I went to look – found her standing stylishly but it turned out to be a turtle – brought along I sent her down the Richardson fenceline and had a NP in the big deadfall pile – sent on she had a very good fine on Huns – perfect manners - #8 (for Bob.G) onward she reached the windmill then came across and I sent her across the fence to Lake Hun – got her heading east and reaching – lost her – called ahead to Lee to cross Triple Gates and go look but then I saw her standing back near the lake – the Hun left and so did Brie – I corrected and we're back to

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Zero(Bob G.) but she is improving. Brie 32 min. Teama a solid time down with no birds but plenty of hunt.

Bidse & Patti – hunted them in the east hills and it was warming up – got the 2 young dogs into heavy cactus right off the start – a good bump also didn't help and we had a difficult time keeping them front – about the 18 min. mark Lee called flight of chickens and we brought them in – got both dogs to chase one and Patti a 2nd – let her up a bit – working better at 23 she indicated sense and roaded in about 50 yds, flash pointed and out came 15 – 20 chickens – big chase and lots of enthusiasm. Bidse was just out of gas and into too much cactus – her tank was empty – crossed the gate and got Patti in the woods – better hunt now. They were about done for the ride to camp. 34 min. 25 chickens.

Well that turned out to be my day – work caught up with me as one of my guys fell off a ladder and had to be rushed to a hospital in Philadelphia. Another crew had a truck breakdown and it made for a long afternoon. Luckily I had Linda her to cheer me up with some really fun presents and a smile – great gifts from the whole family – Robin had a present in hiding here for Linda and I, Don took us to dinner and Lee had a touch of the Irish and we ended up on a positive note finding out my man had been released from the hospital – banged and bruised but intact. It made for an exciting and HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Aug.25 **Wednesday** – a pretty noisy rain, we 27/100 – keeps the grass green but they still could use a lot more. Quite windy & very cool to start the morning. Lee, Katrina & Don are running dogs on the meadows as I'm trying to realign my crews.

Roading

Bandit, Lea & Inde – 53 min.

Meadows

Zooka & Shammie – 3 finds, 2 with good style and a solid course for Zooka – Shammie just along for the ride. 38 min.

Jack & Hank – Hand a big race, handled and a solid find as Lee got over to flush – Jack everywhere but with them – chasing tweetie birds to oblivion. Dave has his hands full with this one. 46min.

Susie & Ritha – Ritha definite signs of improvement – Susie just flat rolled – big, front with lots of drive – got a bit hot and both watered at the windmill by the bulls, let loose and Susie picked up where she left off – plenty of drive her – brought her into camp and I gave her a gentle reminder and she came to us. 23 min.

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Bidse & Katie – Bidse tried to bump Katie – she just took her for a ride until she ran out of gas – Katie hunting nicely and showing good forward movement and application to the edges. 28 min.

Birdwork – Lake Hun – I got a release from the office and went for bird work.

Picabo – cut her loose 1st – she hunted hard but couldn't pin the birds we saw near the Johnnie house – let her try for 10+ min and then put her up.

Inde - worked her hard and got a solid find – level tail but good manners. That's pretty good after the problem she had running the other cay.

Buford – worked him and got a solid point – very tight through the flush and broke with the shot – chased to the water edge and ran in but I corrected or he was prepared to continue the chase via swimming.

Brought him back – he has far more purpose when hunted on foot but the same foot hunting looping is very evident.

Buzz - plugged in, he worked a ways down the cover and established a solid point after a lot of hunting but broke on Don and needed some correction. Got him stopped and went back to the basics.

Picabo - put one out for her and got a good solid find with good manners – a little mark. Overall good.

Called it a day – had plenty of work to do & Don was working on leads for us. He's going to leave Friday AM for Branched Oak and a field trial – he'll be meeting Mr. Dohse there.

Got the work yesterday that our friend Tommy Schwertfeger passed away down at Sean Doering's Farm. He was a great guy and fun to be around, a quality judge that just loved the entire sport. We'll miss Tommy – that's for sure!!!!!! May the Shamrocks Fall Softly!

Aug. 26 **Thursday** – well the boys made the commitment to go paint fence today – cloudy and overcast, no breeze and mild temperatures the call for the day. We loaded up early and Roger's House around 8 am.

Roading Linda had the roading rig ready to go and this sure does a great job of keeping our dogs in shape. I really have noticed the speed that these dogs are running with this year and I think the way Linda roads is making a big difference.

Brie, Dolly, Picabo & Clint - 60 min. Strong brace with good pop.

Buford, Roxie – 57 min.

Lightning - out of retirement to train the young dogs how to road. - 29min.

--**Teama** – 11 min – took to it like a pro.

--**Hank** – 9 min. – no problem

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--**Patti** – 9 min – no problem

We'll we painted an hour or so – had some drizzle and had to stop – went to D & B – got some breakfast and then back at it. Roger came around and he and Don went and washed more fences south of the barn. We painted the sections south of the house and it really came out nice. Moved across the road and set up Lee on a section of purple fender – he did that while I did a work conference call. Then we did the sections by his metal building and Roger brought out some more of the red we had left from before – it turned out to be more salmon colored than red so we got rid of it and painted fence to we ran out. Just as we cleaned up at dinnertime – the pump blew a packing and we were done - still have some white to do but we'll have to fix the pump first.

Back to camp, a weary crew had a good dinner, a few tunes and a big nights sleep.

Aug. 27

Friday – cool, overcast and a few drops of rain – close to .2 of an inch. Those little rains are helping – hills staying green. Up and at it early today. Don is leaving for the field trial so we're birdworking dogs 1st.

Birdwork – Richardson's Fenceline Johnnie house with Huns. Taking pictures.

Bidse – worked on a checkcord and a very nice stylish point. Don flushed and kept Bidse under control.

Buzz – got a good point and styled up nicely – broke with flush and corrected – not bad. I worked with Don on technique.

Gracie - had her plugged in and got a very good, stylish find with good manners.

Rudi – couldn't get a good point – young dog.

Birdwork – 2nd Batch – Sidell Loop – taking pictures

Katie – 1st go around

Brie – run/hunted hard and fast – very nice stylish find – perfect manners.

Picabo – good zip and a stylish point – good manners but sat as I walked back to her – corrected.

Buford – got him a bit wired today and he hunted – seems to understand the foot hunting—loops and came in w/STF – dove at bird. Worked on a 2nd but didn't get a good piece.

Katie – couldn't get it done today – STB was the best we give here.

Roading

Zooka, Glory, Inde, Lea – 57 min.

Lighting – she's digging this – back on the string for Lightning!

--**Hank** – 9 min.

--**Patti** – 9 min.

--**Teama** – 11 min.

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Hills

Bandit & Bo – ran these 2 on the dinner hills – rock and roll from the get go – big forward running, very windy – lots of birds observed – 4 chickens than a single – while I watered Bandit – a very flighty bunch of sharptails left about 50 yards from me – 13 rocketed out in one bunch. These dogs were pretty hard at for 30- turned into the wind and each had points on turtles – got pretty ugly w/Bandit – couple of long rides to her on point only to have it be a turtle – she encounter an aggressive turtle and that might've helped – still the wind was blowing – both had some hunt left but not much pop. Bo the better pattern and a STF on 4 chickens. 58 min.

Road Hunting

Zooka - took Zooka out on pheasants but the best we could get was a STF. – Had Dolly on the truck but never sighted another bird.

Spent some time in town in the afternoon. Got Linda's B-Day on Thursday and I'm going to be gone to Florida for a few days. I was pretty desperate for a haircut too so it was a good afternoon to do that.

A cool crisp night out played some tunes and had a nice dinner. Just the 4 of us in camp tonight. Hope the dogs are quiet tonight.

Aug. 28 **Saturday** - nice cool morning – lightly overcast to start the day. We planned on puppies first.

Roading

Bo, Brie, Dolly, Buford – 62 min.

Meadows

Erin & Joy – cut these 2 loose by the Richardson Hun House and they immediately went to hunting. Fast and independent. – some real big casts – finally swung them past the Johnnie house and they were done – wouldn't leave the house once those birds started jumping – called it a day for them.

Brenna & Emmy – took these 2 to the dried up pond area – hunted them around – left a few quail out and one flew out into the open field – both made a long cast down the fence row with Brenna coming back 1st – Emmy came a bit later – went past the single quail – swapped ends and point solidly with a 10 o'clock tail – excellent solid point – 1st one for that I know of for sure, she chased and caught it but Lee was on the spot to get it back. Both hunted a bunch – with Emmy really rolling today – worked Brenna in the cover – Emmy started screaming while Lee and I ran to her – she came up to Lee – no marks, cut's or other signs – checked the barbwire but she seemed fine – her crying had gone on for quite a while –

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we'll have to watch but I cut her loose across the fence and she went right back to hunting – Katrina had Brenna and she found and pointed and chased a quail – nice job for Brenna too.

Back to camp, we hooked up, loaded horses, got some new dogs and off we went.

CRP – over to Salzmänn's CRP this morning.

Clint & Katie – cut these 2 loose with high hopes – 1st see a pheasant in the air w/Clint under it – then a quick point by Clint, bird gets out and both dogs are under it – then Katie bumped – Clint around another one in the air – him and I are having a serious discussion. Lee decides to put Katie in the harness and I go on with Clint – I'm actually pleased because Clint has so much drive and enthusiasm – way different dog than last summer – the glucosamine sure is helping – we've never been able to determine what exactly hurts him but the treatment since May has made a remarkable difference in him – way better than last year – conditioning extremely well with good speed and style. As I went around, I could barely hang on to him – almost belligerent – well about 30 he slowed some and I got him to the tank – could cool down and he rolled again – crossed the road and hunted the south side of Richardson's CRP – Good finish. 42min.

Had a nice visit with Ken Steel who has a place down the road from us – him and his buddy are big duck hunters and we sure had a nice visit. Hope they make it down to see the dogs work sometime.

Picabo & Zooka - off and running to the north – worked towards the old lake and willows – had a solid point by Picabo – just as I got off she moved up a little –solid & stylish – had good manners on a young pheasant – sent on – she went about 25 yds and pointed again, this time we had bird get up behind her – mannerly and all in order - onward she had a very solid course – hunting and very forward – Zooka a bit more of a handful – Lee a STF and later a find with Zooka – good job. They both finished hunting with Zooka the more lateral today and Picabo with the front. 45 min. over 20 pheasants in the 2 braces.

CRP – Richardson's

Ritha & Shammie – not a whole lot going on here yet – lots of play – some run – Shammie looks a bit lame to me – took them around but no luck with birds today. 20 min.

We got a lot done today and now time for packing up. Lee & Katrina head home tomorrow morning early and I head to Omaha and fly to Florida for a meeting on Monday then back to camp Tuesday night.

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Don will be back on Sunday night and Dave and Vicki are due in this evening. Dogs are really starting to get over the hump – seeing more bounce in their step and anxiousness for the work – they want to go.

Aug.29

Sunday - HAPPY BIRTHDAY LINDA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I had plans of giving Linda the day off but she wanted to road her dogs so off she went.

Roading

Brie, Glory, Inde – 58 min.

Birdwork

Ritha - tried putting her on a pigeon to get her head on right – really didn't show the kind of enthusiasm you expect from a pup that age.

Shammie – same plan and just about the same results – some chase on her part

- then cut these two loose off horseback and mainly a play routine with Shammie not leaving Ritha alone. Not what I'm hoping for here.

Meadows

Hank & Susie – cut these 2 loose and Hank was a touch flat and hooked some tweety birds – Susie all business – she got bigger & bigger & bigger and poof!!! She's gone – hooked up with the corn circle to leave the county. Linda was roading around the cornfield and had site of her for a while but couldn't get her to have the same front. Hank continued on while Dave, Linda on the ATV and me in the truck tried to track her down. Hank disappointed Lee today and he called it at 30 min. Dave went back to camp and got the ATV and continued his search. Linda checked camp.

Patti & Teama – ran these 2 on Lake Hun pasture – Teama started out strong and Patti had better application – still not focusing on the front like I like – Teama got near the Johnnie house and had a nice point as 2 Huns got out – each going different ways – continued around the lake – Patti some cactus problems – Teama a lot more hunt – finally worked Patti back with me and let Lee, Katrina & Vicki swing wide – got Patti into the water – that helped the cactus then she got into a Hun and that picked her up – Teama the winner her but Patti better than last time. 27 min.

Way too long for Suzie so I went back to camp with the dogs – Vicki roaded my horse in, Lee & Katrina headed west and I picked Dave up at camp as he came down the road from Richardson. We headed back there with Lee way west in the CRP SW of the house – we went down to Hitchcock's still no luck – talked to Lee & Katrina – now it's 3.5 hours and still no dog – 1 more pass around the CRP – we went north, Lee and Katrina went south and spotted her running the hills – still popping – he

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dropped a fence (there was a gate 50 yds. down the way) but time was of the essence and he couldn't see it – off he went and got a hold of her – she was doing pretty good, lots of cactus but no battle scars, maybe a bit dazed. Brought her back to camp and got her cleaned up – she'll be just fine.

Linda decided she wanted homemade spaghetti sauce for dinner so we started the pot. Sounds like a good birthday dinner to me. Maybe a bit of road hunting later on? Don should be back this evening. I'm glad I didn't make the Florida trip – would've missed a good birthday party!!!!

Aug.30

Monday - I had to be prepared for an all day conference call for this meeting I was supposed to do today. Dave, Vickie, Lee & Katrina were all set to run dogs and handle the crew for me so everyone who was due to work got worked. Linda up and at it early – beautiful cool morning but the heat is supposed to be back for the 3 or 4 days.

Roading

Dolly, Clint, Bo, Zooka & Bandit - 58 min. w/Clint and Dolly on the tired side.

Meadows

Dave & Vickie handling the 1st -2 braces by themselves with Lee and Katrina sliding a dog in between them.

Emmy & Erin - 32 min, Emmy chasing/jumping at horsetail at start, got her going front handling reasonably well but more meadow running than edges. Erin running edges and digging into the cover handling well. No bird contacts either dog.

Ritha – Lee & Katrina ran her by herself in hopes of getting her to focus on the job at hand – some improvement noted. 20 min.

Brenna & Joy- 26 minutes – Brenna not wanting to leave chukar cage at start – Joy front and forward at the start. Got Brenna forward and both dogs moving well. Joy hunted up a single quail near the west end of the pond held long enough for a flash point. Brenna hunting in cover near west pond went on stylish point. Handler road around island and walked in while Brenna still standing with style. Brenna stood until covey of 10 quail flushed. Both dogs finished strong and to front.

Meadows/Hills

Lea & Roxie - Both dogs off line well. Roxie hunted cover well staying forward. After Sidell loop Roxie hooked a deer, took it for a ride down the fence line past the end of the corn. Got her back with an empty tank. Roxie went on flat point at the dry pond with a pump handle tail. Lea

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came in for a (shared) find. 10 to 12 quail produced. Sent both dogs on with Lea finishing forward and Roxie coasting in on empty.

Katie & Buford – Cut dogs loose at camp headed out through meadows through the cut past the dry pond. Katie had a find at pond with Kodak moment style. Buford came in failed to back and ran circles around Katie putting bird in air. Katie stood with perfect manners. Lee proudly fired and thanked Buford for flushing the bird. Collected dogs and cast dogs towards hills immediately southeast of pond. After a couple of turtles, Katie had a 10 to 12 chicken find with Buford crashing in again. Buford now running with abandon and without purpose. Headed to water with Katie making some nice casts. Buford starting to show some purpose and hunt. Katie had second wild chicken find with Buford not backing in spite of multiple commands. Hit water second time and headed both dogs back to camp with Katie showing drive, focus and intent and Buford staying with us with an improved pattern and some sense of hunt.

Afternoon found me still on the phone – 4 straight hours and more to go – this is boring!!!! The pain is I can't use the Internet – got to do the wireless deal for next year.

Lee & Katrina (Lee still playing hooky) along with Dave, Vicki – Roxie and old Patti all went to the river. Pushing 90 today – Linda stayed and took care of keeping the dogs quiet while I was on the phone.

Got a break on the phone and took **Dolly & Zooka road** hunting – Got Zooka out and all she could muster was a borderline STF – then left – not her fault. We never got Dolly an opportunity.

They all came back and we had a great dinner – Don Larsen made it in early in the afternoon. He was pooped – his dog Duke took a 3rd at the trial and Ray Marshall's Teddy took 3rd so they had a good time but he was worked pretty hard.

Got the tunes playing and we started telling stories and everyone was still going at 11:30 pm.

Aug.31

Tuesday – Everyone ready today but we've been working the team real hard and want to finish on a positive note so I pulled the whole roading crew – gave them and their boss the morning off (as off as anyone can be in camp – there's always something we can do) – Linda was busy getting her stuff caught up – Don repaired a lot of our lead lines for dogs. We're trying some new type with cable and have yet to find the perfect solution. Three braces on the meadow today.

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CRP/Hills

Brie & Glory- big plans for this brace – we ran the Richardson CRP just west of the corn circle, hoping to go through the back gate and into the hills only to see the young bulls there so we turned and went to the south hill gates – both dogs went to hunting – nice forward pattern in the heavy cover (this cover has proved to be short enough to see dogs in but not the typical jungle – good conditioning for the heavy cover we'll hit back home) – got around the south side and Brie was seen under a bird – corrected and sent on – Glory a NP where pheasants landed – on to the hills – Glory her best lap of the summer- solid hunting and it was warming up quick. Brie never got it together, cactus and the correction took their toll – Glory a shaky STF on chickens – lightly corrected. Very hot already – dogs were done at 32 min. Brie quite flat – Glory was strong.

Picabo & Inde –moved to the north CRP up near the house. Both started out nicely with Picabo pointed along the circle's edge – a little tentative but styled nicely, I dismounted and Inde backed the situation – good job. I worked Picabo with a short relocation – good style and pheasant flushed – very good piece of work – sent on (dam hot already) both hunting nicely with Picabo working the cover to near a tree – pheasant seen leaving and Picabo was standing – Inde into the area as a 2nd bird left with Picabo solid on point – Inde around the other side of the tree – 3rd bird out and Inde standing also – good job and great manners for both. Sent on – they immediately back to hunting and Picabo stretching the cord I'm handing onto to the limit – about a 500 yd cast but I got her to go with me and brought her to the windmill where Inde was already getting wet – Picabo took the line and dove in the cover – out come to pheasants and a few seconds later out came Picabo – glad I had the correction – light tap and she stopped and watched – then came to me – we discussed the matter and she promised that she had seen the light. Sent on Inde about to leave us around the corn – gathered her up and both hunted in very heavy cover the remainder of their brace with each opening up as the cover thinned. A very good brace and Picabo is definitely a shinning star of camp but Inde has impressed me with her progress. 30 min – in 80-degree+ heat.

Meadows

Patti & Zooka- back to camp and cut these two loose – Patti improved some but not a lot of stamina – heat a factor – Zooka a solid GD course with minimum correction – no birds. 30 min Zooka – 24 min. Patti.

Unloading at the start of the 1st brace had Jackson with Stan's saddle get hooked on EB – a lot of shuffling and noise but we got them apart – the only thing suffering was Stan's saddle. Definitely defective equipment caused this problem as his deformed stirrup started the entire mess. Some were in favor of just duct taping the pieces together but we decided to just

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have it fixed and bill Stan for the repairs and the inconvenience it caused us. Had to radio Linda and have her bring out replacement saddle.

Everyone found something to do and Lee wet the lawn down and resprayed our yard. Flies (shoo – not to loud) are way down close to the house and the combination of Lee's yard spray and Ed's suggestion we spray all the dog droppings prior to tossing has made a marked difference in camp flies. Just up on the hill where Lee parks – way more flies. Now don't get me wrong – they haven't gone extinct but at lease we have a bearable amount. Thanks guys – we appreciate the ideas and actually sat out and had a very pleasant meal- warm and windless and flyless – wow!!!!

Sept.1

Wednesday – well the heat is still here and the winds are on the way – when they call for wind here – they mean **WIND!!!!!!** As the famous philosopher (Lee Shoaf) says: “ What they call gentle breezes in Ainsworth are a gale somewhere else” - well maybe not an exact quote but close enough. We stayed up late last night and just had a ball – lots of good tunes and stories and a full moon with clear skies.

Going to do puppies 1st so it's cool while folks are getting ready. We decide to go to Lake Hun with the 4 young kids. Those older puppies really hate these young kids – 5 + months old and more hunt then most of the ones 3-4 months older. Not that the other ones won't make nice dogs but this group of young ones are very special.

Meadows

Erin & Emmy- drop them off the back of the truck – immediately they are hunting – fast, tail cracking and reaching – independent – maybe an occasional bump to the bracemate but no play at all – hunting, hunting and reaching – 200 yd casts are not uncommon but paying attention to where we are and going front with very little encouragement. Man this is fun – a big loop and Erin gets a snootful, working the scent and trying to pin it as Emmy comes on the scene and hooks it to – they're out to get it – a bump with a low flying Hun heading to the lake and Erin in hot pursuit – dives into the lake and teaches himself how to swim – he needs another lesson or two – the bird lands in the lake and he's deciding if he can make it out there while Emmy works on the land and produces her own bird. Great time for the pups – 13 or 14 min.

Brenna & Joy – these 2 go the other way and disappear in the same hills – maybe 250 yds away and need some pretty good encouragement to get them front – got them swung around and they hunted hard and independently the entire time down – hit the Johnnie house and we grabbed them – no birds but still a very nice puppy brace.

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Back to camp – switch dogs and off to the CRP.

Roading

Linda back on track this morning. Got her crew going.

Bo, Bandit & Buford- 62 min. – Dita tried as a front dog but looked and Bo behind her and went to hide under Linda's front tire – Linda was in 4th gear at the time – Bandit not hurt but a bit scared – scared both her and Linda – she remained as a front dog but she's more of the rig now.

Hank & Teama – both on the back of the rig – no problem – getting the hang of it. – Taking it easy as these two need some R & R and some pounds but they're getting it.

Lightning & Patti – Lightning's enthusiasm and experience has been a great tool for teaching the youngster's says Linda. Learning to run front, no fear of rig, spray water and barrel water at the end all are very important. Patti would watch Lightning and then do what she did – great to see dogs willing to learn from the old girl. She's having a ball.

CRP

Dolly & Roxie - Fast out of the box at the Salzmänn's CRP – birds everywhere – no dogs chasing but not getting them pointed either – Dolly went north and Don went looking so did Lee, so did Ken and Katrina found her 20 min later – a bit hot and a mile away – hmmm – this isn't going to plan – Roxie with Dave – got a bit hot and he gave her a break – onward with a spotty finish – Roxie good pop and Dolly back reaching but the only bird we got is one old Rooster that Eb stepped on 20 feet from where the dogs watered and they both mannerly stopped to flush – lots of power – 40 min.

Clint & Katie – back to heating up – they both hunted hard and front with Katie really showing lots of pop and good application – Clint flowing and high head and tail as he hunted front – Katie seen under a bird she didn't put up – sent on that was our only contact but overall a solid time down on the ground with 2 good watering breaks – 45 min. and fun to watch. Probably Katie's best time on the ground.

Back to camp and switch dogs.

Meadows

Lea & Buzz – we decided on a short lap for these 2 as it is warming up – got them around with some decent moves out of Lea – Buzz pretty flat, as it's quite a while since he's been run. 25 min. – no birds and some good signs with Lea – patience is definitely a virtue.

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I went to town to get the partially repaired saddle. Dave, Vicki and Don went to S. Dakota to look at some horses the Ruth Morton had for sale. Lee got a contract a few hours away so they're staying in camp while he sets it up. Stan will be heading out tomorrow and Phil on Friday so we'll have a full house on the weekend. Cooler weather is forecast.

I got lots of work done and Katrina and Linda did the dogs but it really got hot – 95 degrees in my office and the wind is blowing!!!! Dave, Vickie & Don called – they're on the way back to camp – should be back by 8:30 – they bought a 4 year old Paint walking horse. Sounds like a nice one!

Vickie had made dinner (mannicotti) yesterday and all we had to do was bake it and we had it ready when they got home. Very nice looking horse – and appears to be well mannered. The wind settled down some so we ate outside and enjoyed the evening.

Sept.2 **Thursday** – cool but not as cool as it has been – supposed to be very windy and quite warm today. We'll get going early.

Roading – Linda's last time for the hour – we're starting to back off and taper some for the dogs and let them gain some weight back. We'll just see how they respond.

Zooka, Glory & Inde – 63 min.

Meadows – Lake Hun – on foot.

Ritha & Bidse - some pretty extensive bumping for Ritha, Bidse using her nose – Ritha just along for the ride – bumped a Hun and Bidse chased into the lake.

Shammie & Rambo – a bit more hunt here with Rambo showing the tools to do the job – Shammie showing more hunt but lacks the body carriage I need. She's a sweetheart with a big smile!

Meadows – back to camp and saddled up.

Suzie & Teama – Suzie with a trackor and the collar – she wasn't going to leave us today. Actually both started out strong with good moves and hunt – Suzie mainly with us but got kinda rank going to the Sidell loop – we altered the course some to accomadate the dogs – gave Suzie a tap for blowing him off – she came and that took a bit of wind out of her sail. Teama strong the first 1/2 then tired some – Suzie got the around with a couple of corrections – overall good experience for both of them. Dave's new horse worked just fine – very well trained and classy looking. 28 min.

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Ginger & Jack - these two are a handful – fast and rolling with Ginger digging the woods and hunting the cover – Jack handled today and did some tweedy birds but Dave was able to call him off. Ginger got wound about half way and didn't come with us as well – got her caught and gave her a drink (good sign) but she got real hot – never could get her rolling again so we put her in the harness and called it a day. 25 min.

The Nebraska winds are back – big winds 25 mpg + and the heat is hear today – more 90