

The Kansas Hawking Club Newsletter

May 2006

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Editors Column

Nate Mathews

Hello everyone, I hope you are all having a good spring so far, and have been able to stay safe with some of the most bizarre weather I have ever seen. Only in Kansas, can it be 95 degrees one week and then hailing golf ball size hail on my truck the next week. We had a falconry demonstration last Thursday for a Boy Scout group. This was a voluntary effort made by several members of our club. There is a twist to the story: Due to poor scheduling we showed up a week early. This was unfortunate and as a result, we did not have as many birds to show when we were able to do the actual demonstration. However, we returned the following week and had the opportunity to share our sport with approximately 35 scouts and parents. It is always a joy to participate in these events. If you have the opportunity in your area to volunteer to do demonstrations for any group, please take advantage. It is well worth it. One thing that this has taught me is that kids will say anything! Just ask Chris Porterfield or Randy Sasher (one young scout asked what a red-tailed hawk would do to his pet miniature Chihuahua). How would you respond to such a question?

As far as club news goes, I have heard several members are going to be raising eyases this spring. Some are working diligently locating nests, while others are ordering from breeders. Several of these birds will be imprint short wings. Many members have chosen to inter-mew their red tails this year and they are already dropping feathers. I'm sure that they will be ready this fall to get back in the game. I have heard some good things from some of the breeders

in the state, and with a little luck, the young that are or will be produced will be healthy. I look forward to seeing you all at the summer picnic. If you can't make it please let me know. And I would really like to hear some input from you on the current status of the topics that we have to cover at the meeting.



Above: Active 2006 Coopers Hawk

Club Meeting Discussion

I have been talking with several members and have decided that during our picnic this summer, we should discuss some options to change some current procedures concerning our club. The list of topics to discuss will include:

The new club website

I want to know if you have had a chance to look at it and how you feel about it. There has been positive feedback. It is an excellent tool for people who are interested in falconry in Kansas. But, we will have an open discussion about the website and please be prepared to talk about options other than the current set up, or if you feel we should do away with it all together. If you have not checked it out yet, please go to www.kansasfalconry.com

Field Meets

We will be discussing the 3 locations of our last meets and approve the locations for the meets in the coming year. One thing I would like to see would be a better turnout this next year in Field meet attendance.

Club Events

I have contacted the Scottish Festival and we will be representing our club again this September. Most likely, we will be in the same location and they are looking forward to hosting us as we are considered to be a highlight of the Festival. I would like to create a sheet of members who are willing to put input into the newsletters (as far as articles or research). Based off of the club's response to the website, we will be posting the newsletter on the website (for those who do not have internet, you will receive a hard copy in the mail. We will be looking at the option of printing an annual or semi-annual club report that will be mailed out

Officer Voting

This is the year for new officer elections. If you have input on nominations for new officers, please be prepared to share that.

If you are planning to attend the picnic, please let me know so I can make arrangements to accommodate you.

If you will not be able to attend the picnic, please write or email me your input for the club discussion before June 3. My email is etan68@hotmail.com

Or mail to

128 Circle Dr
Wichita, KS 67218

Any feedback that you can give me is greatly appreciated. Please bring to my attention any upcoming events that I have overlooked. If you feel that you have opportunities to build public relations through the club, please let me know, or if you have potential new field meet locations areas we can hunt) contact me as well. We are always looking for new opportunities in different areas of the state. Remember, no good spot is too far! Please respond, I need the club's input to format this next year's club newsletter.

The Kansas Hawking Club ***Current Officers for Kansas Hawking Club***

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