



**Plans are well under way for the 2022 MAI in Sedalia, MO!**

**May 22, 2022**

**Dog to the line  
Sunday 8:00 am**

**Keep checking the MARC website as we will be adding information on a monthly basis.**

**By now you all know the drill! You must be an amateur and a member of the MARC before running a test for your passes to count. Log on and join today!**

**<https://www.masteramateur.com/memberoptions20.html>**

**If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to your regional Directors.**



**2021 Q4**

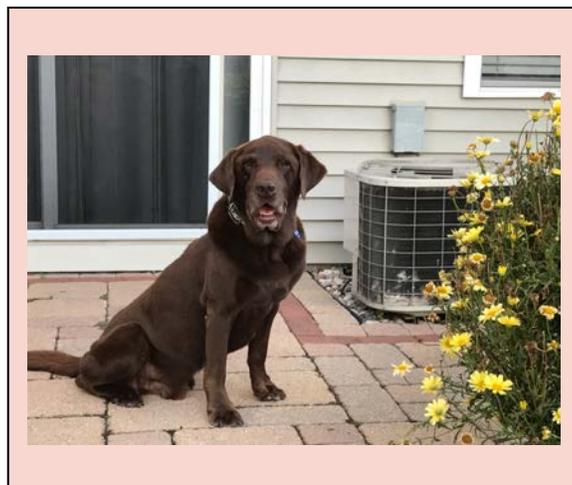
### **Newsletter**

**From the desk of the Secretary –**

Each quarter I send out a reminder to the four corners of the states, asking for a quick shout out from each of the Board members in their respective regions to share with all of you. As I am putting this newsletter together only a few days before Christmas, I'm giving them all a pass so they can finish their preparations for Christmas. (Don't worry, they will be back at it again in 2022).

So, this is just from me:

As I look back on 2021, the memories I've gathered, the friends I've made, (the friendships that grew stronger,) I remembered what drew my husband and I into this game. Our first competing dog – Siren. We learned so many things from him (many of them were of the "what not to do" variety). He listened when it suited his needs, would go through hell for a duck, was aptly named as he would not take "quiet" for a command when someone drove up our driveway, was a fabulous companion, and wrote the Labrador's Manual on "How to Creep". He chose to leave us while in my son's gracious care as Jim and I were in Emporia to run the 2021 MAI. He retrieved ducks until the day before he was called to lay at the feet of the angels. We were surrounded by friends who have all gone through it and were comforted by their hugs and prayers. For all of you who have begun your journey in the hunt test world with your own "Siren", here's his picture, as he always was, smiling for the camera.



Take the lessons they taught us and train each and every one of your dogs to be better and better, but don't forget to cherish the memories of that first crazy nut that started you on this journey and the wonderful friends you made along the way.

**Secretary  
Nancy Bauer**

It might seem as if the 2022 Master Invitational is in the distant future, but it's really coming up fast! The Hunt Test Committee has been busy and has many of the pieces already in place.

The MARC website has been updated with area hotels and campgrounds. Check it out and make your reservations early! We are making plans for three flights. Of course, that means we will need more workers. Reach out to Beth Gerdes at [gerdes2@maxwire.net](mailto:gerdes2@maxwire.net) or Wilson (Boogie) Lejeune at [wlejeune@camtel.net](mailto:wlejeune@camtel.net). Pick your area of expertise or just let them know you will be happy to be plugged in wherever help is needed.

**Not all jobs require heavy lifting:**



**Maybe you could deliver lunches to our judges**



**Or offer to announce at the test.**



**You get the picture: It takes an army to put on an event of this magnitude. Be a part of the army!**

### *Good News!*

During 2021, almost all of the efforts put forth by the Board of Directors went towards hosting TWO Master National Invitationals. President Fred Nusbeckel, realizing the amount of work the Board was doing, paused the efforts of those working on the Long Range Planning Committee to give everyone time to place their focus on Corning and Emporia. With those successes completed, he has assembled a new Long Range Planning Committee who will begin their work soon. Look for updates in future newsletters!

### *More Good News!*

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce it has decided to allow the current membership dues to remain unchanged, so when you get the announcement (soon) to renew your membership, the cost remains again at only \$50 for a family membership. These funds allow the Board to effectively operate the organization as well as power our ability in advance of the Invitational to make needed downpayments to vendors and allow us to purchase supplies. Please know that we watch over the monies entrusted to us carefully. Where else can you have this much fun for \$50??

*There is still time!*



You can still get your nominations in for the John O. Blackbird Memorial Award for 2022, but hurry! Nominations close January 1, 2022. Download the form on our website and send your nominations to Ed Sullivan ([esullivan10@kc.rr.com](mailto:esullivan10@kc.rr.com)).

*There is some confusion!*



We've received a number of phone calls from members asking for clarification on the rule surrounding the timing of the reception of a dog's Master title and the passes that count towards the Master Amateur Invitational.

**Pursuant to Section 2.4 in the Policies and Procedures:**

To qualify for the Master Amateur Invitational a dog must have both an AKC Master Hunter title and have passed at least four (4) AKC Master Hunt tests by the qualifying deadline. The 4 test pass requirement is INCLUSIVE of tests used to achieve a Master Hunter title provided those tests were run during the same qualifying year. A test will only count towards qualification for the MARC Invitational if the dog was handled by a MARC member for that test.

Thus the dog must have an MH title by the end of and have passed 4 MH tests during the qualification year. The 4 passes DO NOT need to be after the MH title is achieved. Passes used to achieve that title also count. A dog that has 4 passes but DOES NOT have an MH title by the end of the qualification period will not have qualified for the Invitational.

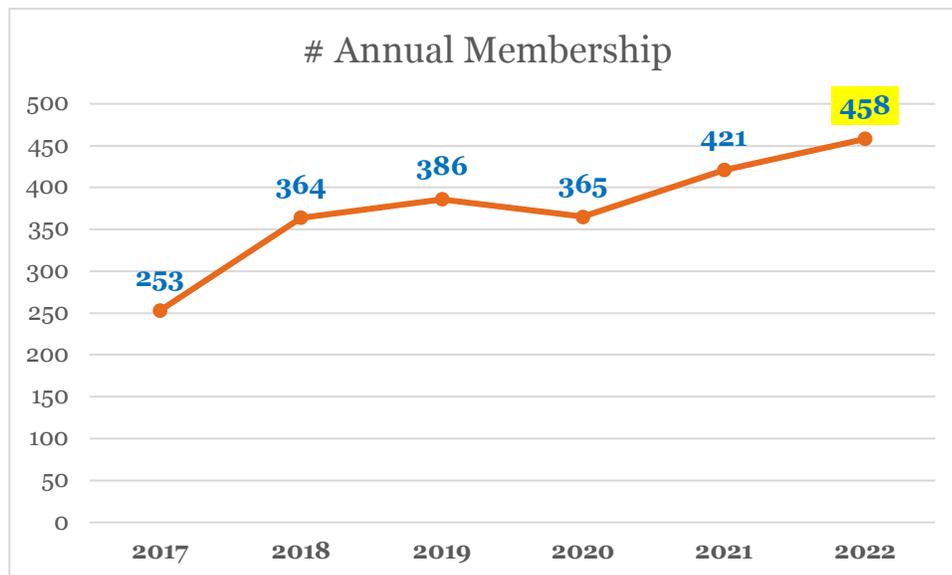
*Keep your eyes peeled!*

Nominations will be accepted for the open positions on the MARC Board of Directors. Blast will be sent in early January. Start thinking of candidates now!!



The Master Amateur Retriever Club is growing! Don't be left behind! There are currently 458 annual members and we would love to see that grow. Remember, you must be a member for your passes to count towards the 2022 MAI event in Sedalia! We are already planning for three flights, join us! Let's make this the largest Amateur event yet!

<https://www.masteramateur.com/memberoptions20.html>



Talk us up! There is no better or more important proponent than someone who has experienced the fun of running the Master Amateur Invitational. Your friends trust your judgement and value your opinion. My favorite of all time basketball coach had a quote I love for this club:

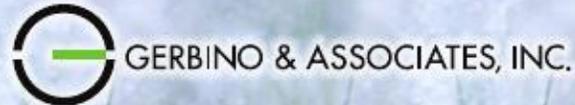


***There's no one who's dropped on top of the mountain, you have to work your way to the top. -Al McGuire***

The next page highlights our sponsors. These companies are tireless supporters of the MARC. They donate product and funds, without which we might not be able to put on our events. Do what I do with the supporters of my home club – buy from them at every turn. They are priceless!

# Thank you!

... to our generous Sponsors



MARC sincerely thanks you for all your **contributions and support!**

**We cannot do this without them! Please support our sponsors!!!**



As we close the doors on 2022, I'd like to thank all of our Amateur members for your support and enthusiasm. Your input only serves to make us better so please keep reaching out to your Board with your suggestions.

“The Biggest room in the world is the one for Improvement.”

-Helmut Schmidt



*Respectfully submitted*

*Nancy Bauer*