

Maine Spaniel Field Trial Club

Secretary's Report

Held At:

White Rock Grange

38 Wilson Road, Gorham, Maine 04038

Sunday, April 12, 2026, at 11am (meeting) – Followed by
12pm Potluck – Celebrating the Life of Barbara Haupt

In Attendance – Theresa & Ray Sampson, Melissa O'Brien, Jack Klette, Pat Keliher, Dick & Sandy Moore, Jeannette & Nick Sampson, Tom & Rachel Grant, Gary McFadden, Susan Saveikonis, Peter Dalfonso, Shawn & Linda Bergeron, Tenley Skolfield, Randy & Kathie Beltz, Bryan & Faith MacLaren, Lee & Becky Randall, Pat & Steve Cutler, David Kleinpeter, Pete Morse, Mike Sanford, David Giampetruzzi

Report of the President - Theresa Sampson – Called the meeting to order at 11:10am and welcomed members.

Report of the Vice President – Discussed the opportunity to sponsor/host a cocker spaniel field trial in the south (SC) in February 2027. Pat will put together a budget and additional details.

Report of the Secretary - Melissa O'Brien, January 10, 2026, meeting minutes were emailed in January and offered for viewing at meeting. There were no discussion or corrections. Minutes were accepted.

Report of the Treasurer - Jack Klette, reported a new balance of \$16,469.21 which was accepted. There was a discussion about potentially raising dues rates for next year as well as considering raising event prices to help cover the rising costs of hosting events. Pat reminded us that if the club was to incur a large expense, like if the gator needed to be replaced, it would be pretty expensive and would cut into the balance quickly.

Committee Reports

- **Training Day/Water Day** –
 - Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the Nichols Property in Conway, NH. Cleanup of grounds first at 9am with training to follow. Email by 4-15-26 with bird order to terrysam@maine.rr.com Price TBD.
 - Saturday, June 6, 2026 at 10am at Theresa & Ray Sampson's, 203 Sebago Lake Road, Gorham, ME. Email by 4-15-26 with bird order to terrysam@maine.rr.com Price TBD.
 - Pat Keliher possibly putting a training together in Dresden. June?
 - Pat Keliher also said that a small training day (limited to 12 participants) with Mike Walsh mid-week in September is a possibility at his house.
- **Hunt Test** – June 20 & 21 at Firefly Kennel in Dixmont, Maine. Shawn Bergeron is the Chairperson, and Melissa O'Brien is the Secretary. Judges Sarah Foster, Jenn Perkins, Terry Oliver, Patricia Jackson. Gun Captain is Mike Mocniak. Ray Sampson will be bird planter. Need to check with Julie what time we can set up on Friday. Also looking for volunteers to help with lunches.
- **Spring Cocker Field Trial** – May 30 & 31 at the Nichols Property in Center Conway, NH. Theresa Sampson is the Chairperson & Melissa O'Brien is the Secretary. Terry Oliver is gun captain, Ray Sampson will be bird planter, Jeannette Sampson will Marshall. Judges are Jack Glinsky and Pete Zuleger. Volunteers needed to drive the dog shuttle, help with set up and take down, and help with lunches.
- **Springer Field Trial** – September 5 & 6 (Labor Day weekend) – Location is Greenpoint in Dresden. Peter Dalfonso is the Chairperson and Theresa Sampson is the Secretary. Gun captain is Mike Mocniak. Ray Sampson will be bird planter with Tom and Angus helping. One judge secured (didn't catch the name but from Quebec) and still actively looking for a second judge. Finding judges has been difficult because it is Labor Day

weekend. It was also mentioned that many judges are refusing to do the mandated Stewards of the Children class that AKC is now requiring.

- **Fall Cocker Field Trial** – September 26 & 27 - Location is at Wall Farm in Belgrade. Pat Keliher is the Chairperson & Tenley Skolfield is the Secretary –Judges: Ted McCue and Olivia Mortimer Steele. Volunteers needed!
- **Election of new members** – David Kleinpeter was voted in.
- **Nominations Committee** – Pat Keliher, Theresa Sampson & Shawn Bergeron headed up this committee. The nominees below were all voted in with no objections.

Officer Nominations:

President - Pat Keliher
Vice President - Jeannette Sampson
Secretary - Melissa O'Brien
Treasurer - Jack Klette

Board of Directors Nominations:

Gary McFadden
Peter Dalfonso
Jenny Wadhwa
Shawn Bergeron

Unfinished Business

- Jack brought up the shortage of guns and gun captains. Jack, Theresa, and Pat have all been working on trying to rectify this.

New Business

- Pat led a discussion about the Farm Bill – specifically H.R. 5017 which, if passed, could go so far as to impact anyone that hunts with bird dogs or scent hounds by banning the use of “live lures” in dog training or field trials. It is encouraged for all members to reach out to our senators to ask them to oppose.
- For Maine please contact your congressional representatives.

<https://www.collins.senate.gov/contact>

<https://pingree.house.gov/contact/>

<https://www.king.senate.gov/contact-home>

<https://www.congress.gov/member/jared-golden/G000592>

- High Point Recognition
 - 2023 and 2024 Charles Roberts
 - 2025 Mike Sanford

Next Meeting

- Next meeting TBD (possibly at the June Hunt Test)

Open Forum

- Theresa shared a scrapbook that was made many years ago with photos from club events. It was suggested that we carry on with that tradition. Becky Randall volunteered to take on that task.

Meeting Adjourned at 12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa O'Brien
MSFTC Secretary

Club Officers

President – Pat Keliher
Vice-President – Jeannette Sampson
Secretary – Melissa O'Brien
Treasurer – Jack Klette

Board of Directors

Shawn Bergeron (28)
Gary McFadden (28)
Peter Dalfonso (28)
Jenny Wadhwa (28)
Ray Sampson (27)
Julie Brown (27)