

Curly Commentator

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The Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America



Angus Rocks the 2014 Master National

Qualifies for MN Hall of Fame



The AKC Master National Retriever Club Hunt Test was held in Corning, California this year from October 11 – 19, and was hosted by the Marin County Retriever Club. There were 824 dogs that qualified for the event and 604 dogs entered. To be invited, a dog must have passed six Master Hunter tests in a qualifying year. The MN test this year consisted of six very challenging series. The field was divided into four flights of 151 dogs. In order to give each dog a fair chance, the starting numbers were rotated for each series. Starting numbers for the first day of the test were cleverly chosen by having a dog fetch a random numbered bumper out of a box for each flight.

This was Angus' third trip to the Master National event, having passed in Alabama in 2012 and Kansas in 2013. The pass or "callback" rate this year was 33 percent. Angus excelled and now has the title MNH. He is officially in the MNRC Hall of Fame, which requires three successful years of passes. At five years old, Angus is one of the youngest dogs, and most importantly, the first curly to achieve this honor.

Steve Raney, of Raney Ranch Retrievers, has trained and handled Angus from Junior Hunter to competing at the highest level of Master Hunter. Steve recognized his talent and understood the nuances of training a curly that would raise him to a consistent level of performance. In the past three years, Angus and his family have traveled the western states with Steve, competing in hunt tests in California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. As one of the few non-labs on the circuit, Angus has become familiar to many of the participants and judges have been surprised to see what a curly can do.

Angus was bred by Jennifer Harms, FullCircle Curlies, who has been very supportive of his hunt test career. One of the highlights of this journey was when Jennifer brought Angus' mother, Gypsy, and sisters Willow and Gale to meet him at the 2012 MN event in Alabama. Many thanks to the curly community who has encouraged our boy's development so he could show the world what curlies do best: Real fieldwork! We are so proud.

- Pamela & Alan Dadd