

Gamekeepers Retrievers



**NEW LOCATION!
UPDATED PROGRAM!**

FOUR DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP

JULY 2ND - 5TH, 2015

BEAR COUNTRY RETRIEVERS, 420 PAUL THOMPSON ROAD

BETHPAGE, TN



This will be a hands-on workshop.

Limited to 12 dog/handler working teams.

Working teams will receive instructional guidance directly from Mitch White of Gamekeepers Retrievers.

Auditors are welcome

(auditor spots are unlimited)

What to expect...

NEW PROGRAM FORMAT! This year we are changing things up a bit and combining the backbone of most of Mitch's programs (drills, land and water marks/blinds and giving participants feedback on the fly as they work their dogs) with some of the elements of the very popular Set Up Seminar. Our goal is not only to help you advance your dogs to the next level in training, but to also assist you in thinking beyond your dog to the how/why your training set up affects your dogs performance. This program will be open to dogs and handlers of all levels.



Mitch will work with each dog and handler team on drills, land/water marking skills, training concept development, basic level skills or blinds (as needed). Then the group will be divided into two design teams and each team will be tasked with setting up a training scenario.

Each design team will be asked to "defend" their scenario by explaining the set up and identifying the factors and elements that will affect the dogs performance. Each design team will run their dogs on the other design team's set up. Mitch assist the handlers in working their dogs and he

will address how the set up affected each dog's performance. He will "grade" the team on how effective their set up was and how well the design team did in correctly identifying the factors and elements affecting the working dogs.

Working Dog/Handler teams will be limited to running TWO (2) dogs throughout the seminar. Please note that only ONE (1) dog may be run per training segment.

Auditors are invited to contribute to the discussion. In addition, Auditors will be invited to design a scenario for the working teams to run on the final day of the workshop.

The workshop will be held at:

Bear Country Retrievers and Gun Dogs 420 Paul Thompson Road, Bethpage, TN 37022

GPS Coordinates: 36.553778, -86.372184

Gamekeepers Retrievers would like to thank Clint and Sherie Catledge of Bear Country Retrievers and Gun Dogs for allowing us the use of their fabulous training grounds for this year's workshop. These incredible training grounds have been designed with the retriever in mind and will provide endless opportunity to train and challenge both you and your dog.

Directions:

From I-65 - Exit 117 (Portland, St. Road 52). East to Dobbins Pike (174) which is 13 miles from I-65. Right on 174 and left onto Oak Grove Church Road. Right on Paul Thompson Road and follow to 420.

From I-24/I-40 - Take I-40 to Exit 239 (109 North) through Gallatin and up Dobbins Pike.



HOTELS:

Check with the hotel regarding rates, dogs in the room and pet deposits that may be required. These hotels are approximately 30 minutes to 1 hour from Bear Country. Please allow adequate travel time each day.

Super 8
3811 Nashville Road
Franklin, KY 42134
(270) 586-5090

Quality Inn Gallatin
1001 Village Green Crossing
Gallatin, TN 37066
(615) 451-4494

CAMPING:

Bledsoe Creek State Park and Campground
400 Ziegler's Fort Road, Gallatin, TN 37066
(615) 452-3706

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A continental breakfast of coffee, juice, fruit and pastries will be provided by Gamekeepers each day.

Due to the nature of the workshop, breaks and lunch times will vary. Please bring food and beverages you can eat on the run. There is a small country store close by where you can purchase gas, sandwiches, drinks, ice and other essentials.

A list of area restaurants will be provided so workshop participants can organize group dinners if desired.

What to Bring to the Seminar:

Working Handler/Dog Teams and Auditors...

- Pad of paper, a pen, and a highlighter pen
- a clip board or something else to write on
- Clothing for any type of weather (Warm, Rain, Wind)
- Chair
- Questions

NO video cameras, please. Still pictures are allowed.



Working Teams should bring the following as well:

- Water for their dog
- Training Equipment
- Choke or Pinch collar
- Tab Lead
- Regular lead (slip lead)
- E-collar (optional)
- Whistle

Everyone bring a fun attitude and a willingness to learn new things!!

Mitch White – Head Field Trainer/Key Note Speaker:

Mitch has been training retrievers for field work since 1988 when he got his first retriever, Hershey. His program has been developed to utilize an approach that works with all breeds of retrievers. One of the main ingredients of the program is fairness to the dog. Mitch believes in putting the work into teaching the dog to create a skill set to aid the dog in making decisions. Poor decisions are corrected and good decisions are praised. Since Mitch trains many different breeds, he often has to get “outside of the box” from popular retriever training methods. Mitch also gets a lot of dogs in for “rehab” work. These are dogs that have been in other programs and have developed issues that have prevented them from going further in training. Mitch has had tremendous success turning these dogs around so they become confident workers again.

Since 2004, Mitch’s clients and students have earned over 60 field titles per year, at all levels, including several Master National Qualifiers and Finalists and dogs with Field Trial placements.

Mitch’s training manuals will be available for purchase at the workshop for \$35 each. These texts contain extensive material about the Gamekeepers Retrievers training program over and above that material that will be supplied in your workshop booklet.

Gamekeeper’s Basic Manual (185 pages) —\$35

Gamekeeper’s Transition Manual (175 pages) —\$35

Topics of training will include but not be limited to...

Basics (to include Force Fetch)
Land/Water Marking Drills
Lining & Casting Drills
Land/Water Marking Concepts
Land/Water Blinds
Setting up training concepts
Set Up Design/Critique
Identifying Elements/Factors



- Schedule -

Thursday/Friday/Saturday, July 2 - 4 - 8:30 am to approx. 5:00 pm

Sunday, July 5 - 8:30 am to approximately 3:00 pm

- Format -

(subject to change as necessary during the workshop)

DAY 1: Check in will begin at 8:30 am on Thursday morning.

9:00 am: Introduction. Discussion of where Working Teams are in training and of their goals for the workshop. Working Teams will run a set up and/or drills designed by Mitch to give him a feel for each Working Teams’ abilities.

During the afternoon session Working Teams will be divided into two Design Teams, each tasked with designing a land scenario based criteria given by Mitch. A time limit will be placed on the design phase. Each set up will be discussed, Working Teams will run the set ups with training assistance from Mitch. Discussion will follow on the influence of the factors and elements of each set up on the dogs.

Day 2: 8:30 meet on the drill field. Discussion of previous day’s work. Run drills. Working Teams will be reshuffled into two new Design Teams and tasked with designing a water scenario which will then be run as in Day 1.

Day 3: Will follow same format. Set up focus will be designing Land/Water scenarios.

Day 4: Morning will begin by immediately dividing into two new Design Teams for set up design and running set ups (Mitch’s choice). The afternoon set up will be designed by the Auditors. All Working Teams will run the Auditors set up. Q&A, discussion and final address will be held at the conclusion of the workshop.

PLEASE NOTE: Mitch will advise each Working Team on how to break down each set up to make it appropriate for the skill level of their dog

ALL LEVELS WILL BE WORKED EACH DAY.