

Page 2 — Wednesday, November 2, 2022 PLAINSMAN





MIKE CARROLL/PLAINSMAN

Eric Brueggeman from Miller prepares to harvest a rooster that has flushed due to the work of his dog, Charley, during the 2021 Bird Dog Challenge.

Bird Dog Challenge kicks off Ringneck Festival

BY LAURIE SHELTON

The 20th Annual Bird Dog Challenge kicks off the 25th Ringneck Festival

The 20th Annual Bird Dog Challenge is Thursday, November 3rd & Friday, November 4th.The Bird Dog Challenge acts as a pre-event to the festival's main event.

Teams of two hunters and one dog between them have 15 minutes to shoot up to five birds. This exhibition tests the skills of both dogs and hunters as points are awarded based on birds harvested, full, partial and normal retrieves, shots not taken and every second that remains on the clock.

The Bird Dog challenge is set up on one property with two fields consisting of 3-5 acres per field. The birds are planted right before the hunters go out into the filed. Hunters are placed in a trailer and do not see where the birds are placed.

This year, the Bird Dog Challenge has a new location which is 8 miles south of Huron on Highway 37, then 2 miles west and one-half mile south. The land was generously donated for the Bird Dog Challenge by Dave Ellwein.

The Bird Dog Challenge can not be done without great volunteers who help run the event. Scorekeepers, bird setters, tabulators and on deck officials all keep the event running seamlessly.

If interest in next years Ringneck Festival and/or Bird Dog Challenge you can contact Laura Cross at the Huron Chamber & Visitors Bureau 605-352-0000, or e-mailing laura. cross@huronsd.com and also going to www.hunthuronsd.com.



MIKE CARROLL/PLAINSMAN

Jerad Finnegan, of Lynch, Neb., left, and Kent Shelton of Huron react to a bird flushed by their four-legged hunting companion, Lucy, a Golden Labrador Retriever, during the 2021 Bird Dog Challenge, which was held in conjunction with the 2021 Ringneck Festival.

Ringneck Festival celebrates 25 years

BY LAURIE SHELTON

Who can believe The Huron Chamber & Visitors Bureau is celebrating 25 years of hosting the Ringneck Festival and 20 years of the Bird Dog Challenge??

While I haven't been at the Huron Chamber & Visitors Bureau for 25 years, I feel I have been part of The Ringneck Festival for the majority of that time. My husband Kent has been hunting in it since 1999 - the third year of the event. He eventually joined the Ringneck Festival Committee in 2002 which gave me an in to the event and its activities. As I reviewed the programs and looked over the teams and participants, many memories of people came flooding back. To me the Ringneck Festival & Bird Dog Challenge is about the camaraderie, the sharing of stories, the friends and acquaintances met along the way. My heart literally is full as I reminisce. One year, as a volunteer, I was charged with taking pictures of the teams when they came in. This was before cell phones with cameras and the camera I was given to use kept freezing up because it was below zero windchills that day. I only had to be out when the teams came in, the hunters were out in it all day. That same year, I helped recruit a couple as volunteer scorekeepers, one happened to be my best friend..... I don't believe she volunteered again as it was so miserable. But of course, there has been years where the weather was per-

fect, not too hot or cold. You never know what weather you'll get. Only the promise that you will have fun if you are prepared.

We reached out to a few people who have been part of the Ringneck Festival for a long time to have them share their memories with us:

Johnny Richman - Ringneck participant since 1999 share with us the following:

One of my most memorable hunts in the festival was vear one. We had an all family team with myself being captain with my dad by my side. We hunted over by Lake Thompson and had a great time with some awesome water retrieves by our canine friends Babe and Patton. We hunted very hard and had

17 birds with my dad having the last shell in his gun. As we were running out of time we had one last hillside draw to walk so the six of us took off hard and fast with the sheer excitement of that last rooster and about halfway through, the dogs got birdie and flushed that bird with my dad in the middle, he raised his gun and fired... and the bird kept flying. All five of us hunters let out the biggest sigh of disappointment for the miss, but my dad just looked at me and said " That's hunting my son – can't get them all" At that moment I realized it wasn't about the birds we got, but about the memories we have in sharing the outdoors with the people we care about. Over the past 25 years I've made some great

friendships and can't wait every yearto make more memories. Maybe win this damn thing once."

Steve Besch – Longtime committee member and em-

"While I have many fond memories of my years on the Ringneck Festival Committee, one in particular stands out. The year E. W. Carr and a two-man crew cleaned all the Pheasants from the Saturday Hunt in a back room at the crossroads on that cold, snowy fall day, and I mean cold and snowy. I believe it started snowing at 7:30 that morning and snowed all day long. He had uplifting conversation and a smile for every member of every team.

FESTIVAL/Page 5

PLAINSMAN

2022 Ringneck Festival teams

Aces Wild

Mike Dorris Madison
Gary Earl Plankinton
Lance Tschetter Huron
Dakota Tschetter Huron
Keegan McMahon Huron
Brad Berens Sioux Falls

All Labs Lives Matter

Carl Prather Glendo, Wyo.
Todd Perdue Grandby, Col.
Ed Lay Torrington, Wyo.
Mike Mulvaney Glendo, Wyo.
Tanner Gravinstein Ozawkie, Kan.
Darrel McMullen Cheyenne, Wyo.

Bill's Mafia

Kevin Glynn

Tom Glynn

Shawn Glynn

Tyler Glynn

Zach Foss

Maverick Birkenholz

Longmont, Col.

Canandaigua, N.Y.

Durango, Col.

Ignacio, Col.

Rudolph, Wis.

Sheldon, Wis.

More teams can be found on page 7



Dr. E. W. Carr 1931-2003

Dr. John S. Carr

Dr. Larry Nickelson Retired 2016

Dr. Wayne H. Carr

Dr. Joseph N. Carr

Dr. Joshua S. Carr

Dr. Taylor J. Carr

Dr. William J. Carr

Dr. Wayne H. Carr Certified Functional Medicine Practitioner

Ashley Curnow, RDN
Registered Dietitian
Nutritionist

Jayda Shillingstad, CPT
Certified Phlebotomy
Technician



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Ringneck Festival committee



CONTRIBUTED

Members of the Ringneck Festival committee are, front row, from left: Paula Mom, Becky Hofer, Laurie Shelton and Laura Cross. Back row: Gail Styer, Justin Lindquist, Rebecca Rink and Kent Shelton. Not pictured: Katie Ball.

2022 Ringneck Festival schedule of events

Thursday, Nov. 4

9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. — Ringneck Bird Dog Challenge

Friday, Nov. 5

9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. — Ringneck Bird Dog Challenge

4:30 p.m.-6 p.m. —Team Registration (Huron Event Center)

6 p.m. — "Meet the Landowners" Social Hour begins

7 p.m. — National Anthem (James Valley Christian All-State Choir)

7 p.m. — "Meet the Landowners" Banquet

8 p.m. — Bird Dog Challenge Awards and Team Calcutta

Saturday, Nov. 6

7:30 a.m. —Rules Breakfast (Huron Event Center)

10 a.m.-4 p.m. — Ringneck Festival Competition Hunt

2 p.m.-5:15 p.m. — Team Check-in (Beadle County Sportsmen's Club)

6 p.m. — Social Hour (Huron Event Center)

6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. —Social and Scholarship Silent Auction

7 p.m. — Dinner and Awards Ceremony (Huron Event Center

FESTIVAL:

When he asked one first time team if they had a good day they answered "were do we sign up for next year". A few short years later I had the sad but honorable pleasure of announcing his induction into the Ringneck Festival Hall of Fame Posthumously. He was represented by his wife and a multitude of his family. What a special memory that was for me. He was a steward of the land, the birds, and a lover of the hunt. He will always be a large piece in the foundation of the Ringneck Festival. You are missed Doctor E. W. Carr."

Peggy Besch – former Huron Chamber & Visitor Bureau CEO for 22 years.

It is funny that as Steve and I were visiting, we both shared a similar memory of EW Carr (Wayne Senior). This was the early years of the Ringneck Festival and the Carr family was heavily vested in the event. EW "volunteered" to clean the harvested pheasants which we all thought was such a generous offer and, of course, took him up on it. The Ringneck Festival teams hunts proved to be bountiful and to our dismay (and probably EW's) there where Ringneck Pheasants stacked from floor to ceiling in a small storage room at the end of the hall off the corridor at the Crossroads. Poor man was up to his ankles in birds and feathers FOR HOURS plucking, cleaning and tagging to ensure each team had the correct birds they had harvested. It was quite a sight! We all knew EW was a man of character and integrity but his determination and perseverance to ensure positive outcomes for both the Ringneck Festival's reputation and the hunter's experience was steadfast! I remember two weeks after the festival, walking down the Crossroads corridor into the hallway and the remnants of pheasant feathers, much like dust bunnies, still lingered along the hallway floors.

Another memory was the year of the Rock! Every year the Ringneck Festival Committee brainstorms to come up with unique and practical gift ideas for landowners as a small token of appreciation for donating their land for the event. This is sometimes a struggle and the committee takes it very seriously. After careful consideration, a decision was made to go with a very large stone...rock...

From page 3

boulder if you will, that will be customize with the landowner's name. VERY COOL! And they were cool! What was not cool was we had not given much thought as to what it would take to move these suckers around! It was BRUTAL! Nevertheless, they were unique and after much work to actually get them to all the landowner's home, all was well (except our backs!).

There are so many great memories with teams and landowners to scorekeepers, committee members, sponsors and friends of the festival. Memories of snowstorms, rain, sleet, heat, tons of laughter and even a few tears! The Huron Ringneck Festival has made it's mark on the hearts and souls of many (including the community of Huron and the surrounding area)! Congratulations to 25 years of success!

Kent Shelton – Participant since 1999 and Committee member since 2002 and Chairperson since 2003:

There are a number of things that have happened over the 25 years that are memories I will always have such as the first year of the festival when my team consisted of four 30 year olds and 2 80-year-olds and we won it with 18 birds. The year E.W. Carr cleaned all of the birds. But what stands out the most to me is the year that Bob Strassman was here and the Chamber received a call that his daughter Stephanie had been killed in a car accident. Peggy had to go out into the field where Bob was hunting and give him the bad news. That was a tragedy. Bob's team packed up and left immediately. But the next year he came back and donated an SKB shotgun to be auctioned off at the Ringneck festival and the proceeds to be used for promoting youth hunting and Outdoor Sports in and around Huron. That shotgun sold three different times totalling approximately \$8,000. Since that day we have had other auctions to build up the fund and that money has been used for youth pheasant hunts, duck hunts, deer hunts and other youth programs around the Huron area. Tens of thousands of dollars have been raised and spent to promote youth hunting and Outdoor Sports in the Huron area.

FESTIVAL/Page 13

2022 Ringneck Festival Landowners

Greg and Bobbi Ward

Iroquois

Doug and Brian Eckmann

Cavour

Danny Hofer Huron

David Struck Wolsey

Waylon and Kayla Walters

Huron

DJ, Chisum and Payton Hofer

Yale

John and Reg Derksen Huron

Brad Tschetter Huron

Jon Rearick Wolsey Todd and Jolyn Hofer Doland Kully and Megan Rawstern

Wolsey

Greg Gruntmeier

Iroquois

Rory and Renae Burke

Willow Lake

Ron and Roger Rounds

Iroquois

Lance and Sammi Tschetter

Huron

Craig Cronin Huron

Randy and Tara Timm Wolsey Jerry Kleinsasser Huron Thelen Family Partnership

Huron Huron

Ed and Robert Verhelst Hjalmer Tschetter Huron

Bird Dog Challenge landown-

Dave and Norma Ellwein

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Cock Blockers

Dan Krugman

Jared Finnegan

Tyler Carson

Mark Mahony

Adam Dorcey

Steve Nelson

O'Neill, Neb.

O'Neill, Neb.

O'Neill, Neb.

Cock Slayers

Brandon Burg Madison
Bill Stromberg Madison
Floyd Rummel Madison
Josh Kearin Madison
John Wingle Madison
Tyler Currey

Fly-N-Gun

Dan Cathcart Carpenter, Wyo.
Tim Samelstad Juda, Wis.
Mike Vaughn Aniwa, Wis.
Bernie Berkinholtz Sheldon, Wis.
Craig Steinbach Thorp, Wis.
Ernest Vigil Cheyenne, Wyo.

Ground Pounders

Johnny Richman
Mike Zell
Huron
Travis Head
Huron
BJ Ball
Huron
Jeremy Coon
Delvin McHugh
Huron

More teams can be found on page 10





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2022 Bird Dog Challenge schedule

This year's event will be held on land owned by Dave and Norma Ellwein South on Hwy 37 to 218th Street; 2 miles est to 398th Street; 1/2 mile; watch for signs

Thursday, Nov. 3

Jay Schwisow/Dennis Anderson (Cassie)

Jay Schwisow/Dennis Anderson (Rory)

AJ Armstrong/Billy Heisinger (Tuff)

Billy Heisinger/AJ Armstrong (Colt)

Craig Gobush/Mike Miller (Joker)

Craig Gobush/Jimmy Stahl (Ace)

Jared Finnegan/Adam Dorcey (Lucy)

Jared Finnegan/Kent Shelton (Lucy)

Jared Finnegan/Dan Krugman (Lucy)

Dan Krugman/Adam Dorcey (Wilson)

Dan Krugman/Kent Shelton (Wilson)

Dan Krugman/Jared Finnegan (Wilson)

Dan Krugman/Adam Dorcey (Scout)

Dan Krugman/Jared Finnegan (Scout)

Dennis Anderson/Jay Schwisow (Zoey)

Jared Finnegan/TBA (TBD)

Chuck Pyle/TBD (Sammi)

Friday, Nov. 4

Craig Gobush/Mike Miller (Joker)

George LeGrand/Craig Gobush (Boss)

Mike Baumgarn/TBD (Cash)

Johnny Richman/TBA (TBD)

Johnny Richman/TBA (TBD)

Balise Tomczak/Mike Hall (Penny)

Blaise Tomczak/Nate Tomczak (Penny)

Blaise Tomczak/Paul Kappler (Penny)

Eric Brueggeman/Clint Paul (Charley)

Eric Brueggeman/Clint Paul (Dakota)

Brandon Goergen/Marc Fenske (Roma)

Cole Luckenholf/David Luckenholf (George)

Chase Luckenholf/Phil Deham (Ruby)

2022 Ringneck Festival sponsors

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HRMC

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NorthWestern Energy

Performance Radio

Plainsman

Prostrollo Motor Sales

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Advanced Sunflower

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American Bank & Trust

Langbehn Properties, LLC

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First National Bank

Greater Huron Development Corp.

Hunt'em Up Kennels

Huron Super 8 Motel

Independent Health Solutions

Iverson CDJR Huron

James Valley Veterinary Cinic

LSI

Montgomery Real Estate

Prairie Smiles Family Dentistry

Premier Bankcard

Titan Machinery

Under the Sun Rental

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Dakota Family Dentistry, Prof. LLC

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Huron Eye Clinic

Jensen Livestock Inc.

Manolis Grocery

Picek Construction

Santel Communications

Signature Plus

Sportsman Bar

Subway

Truck & Trailer Specialists, LLC

Wal-Mart Supercenter

Hawkeye Hunters

Craig Gobush George LeGrand Mike Miller Lane Richter Terry Waychoff

Jim Stahl

Iowa City, Iowa

Virgil

Oxford, Iowa

Sioux Falls

Parnell, Iowa

Huron

Jimmy and the Boys

Cole Searing Huron
Jim Searing Huron
Jason Buckmaster Huron
Wade Sabers Huron
DenJer Dorris Virgil
Alan Dorris Wolsey

Questionable Characters

Rick Hoistad Steve McCullough

Ben Galt

Russell Poppen Nathan Hofer

Peter Schindelholz

Forman, N.D.

Townsend, Mont.

White Sulpher Sprgs, Mon.

Austell, Ga.

Huron

Land O Lakes, Wis.

Razorbacks

Wendell Holmes Kolby Holmes Colt Rainwater Mike Knittig Dale Wilroth Dusty Wilroth

KJRV

Charleston, Ark. Charleston, Ark. Fort Smith, Ark. Fort Smith, Ark. Mountainburg, Ark.

Mountainburg, Ark.

More teams can be found on page 12

Performance Radio

Tiger95

KOKK (1210 AM) features classic country music. Special features include AP News, American Top 40, the Minnesota Twins, NFL game of the week and the Timber-olves. KOKK has coverage of area sports with Matt son as well as news and weather coverage. Catch the

wolves. KOKK has coverage of area sports with Matt Watson as well as news and weather coverage. Catch the morning mess with Jeff Duffy & DK Osier week days from 7-9am. KOKK annually sponsors the Outdoor Show and a summer golf tournament.



1210AM 1340AM 95.3FM 93.3FM

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KIJV (1340 AM) & Tiger 95 (95.3 FM)
Features "Huron's Hits." Weekday programming includes news & weather coverage, the John & Heidi Show from 6-10AM, Matt Watson from 10A-2P as well as Chris Wallace from 2-5P. All programming, including all Huron Tiger broadcasts with Jeff Duffy, are simulcast on the two stations.

Performance Policy are

KOKK

KJRV/BIG JIM (93.3 FM) is pure classic rock and offers The Morning Show Monday-Friday from 6-9AM with Matt Watson including the Birthday Calendar at 7:50AM. Big Jim carries news & weather coverage, Saturday Night "Hard Drive" from 10PM-midnight which showcases mega-hair bands and hard rock legends.



"Performance Radio" is owned by Duane & Barbara Butt, of Dakota Communications in Pierre. Locally, Keith Osier is general manager, Jan Eickhoff is office manager & Mike Rudd is the station news director.



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Kent Shelton Huron

Brian Branson Baker, W.V.

Danny Wilburn Franklin, W.V.

Lake St. Louis, Mo.

Beaver Creek, Minn.

Redwood Falls, Minn.

Redwood Falls, Minn.

Pelican Rapids, Minn.

Breezy Point, Minn.

Chuck Pyle Huron Preston Steele Huron

Kevin Soward Huron

RLB's Rooster Raiders

Scott Greenfield

Tim Plimpton

Kevin Sponster

Steve Ragan

Brian Weninger

Jed Klein

Salt Creek

Ron Hanus

Ken Hanus

Paul Miller

Steve Hanus

Calvin Hanus

Josh Sanders

Six Shooters

John Wood

John Fox

Allen King

Steve Hurst

George Moschner

Steve Wasko

Alma, Ark.

Solon, Iowa

Soon, Iowa

Traer, Iowa

Helotes, Texas

Stanwood, Iowa

Clear Lake, Iowa

Paris, Ark.

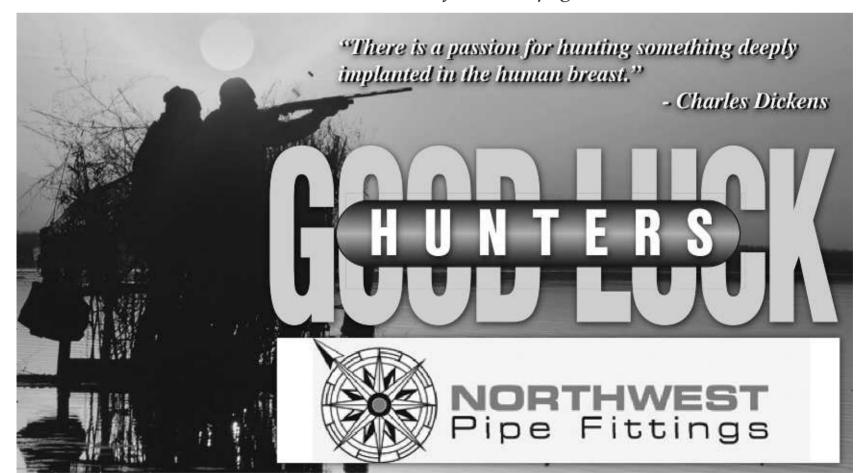
Kinta, Okla.

Greenwood, Ark.

Fort Smith, Ark.

Mountainburg, Ark.

More teams can be found on page 14



FESTIVAL:

So out of a tragedy, wonderful things have occurred. The future of hunting is with our youth and whatever we can do to promote that is absolutely vital to continuing this legacy.

Doug Dutenhoeffer – former Plainsman Newspaper staff, Festival participant and committee member:

In the very beginning 1997-1998 the Ringneck Festival hosted sportswriters from newspapers, magazines and TV to show them how great our pheasant hunting was in Huron, hoping they would go back and write about the great ringneck hunting experience in Huron SD. What took the festival to the next level was when we turned the event into a hunting competition and invited teams from across the country to come to Huron and enjoy 3

days of fun, entertainment, the dog challenge and a great pheasant hunt, plus the top teams had bragging rights and it usually insured they would be back next year to defend their title. It was all in good fun. What made it successful then as it does now, is the hardworking volunteers, committee and staff that put in many, many man hours and a lot of legwork the months before and during the event.

Over the 25 years the Ringneck Festival has hosted 526 teams amounting to 3156 hunters and utilized 1052 volunteer scorekeepers utilizing donated land 551 times by generous landowners. Some years we have had as many as 30 teams and had to turn teams away and in early years as few as 10. Each year, once team registration is passed

on August 31st, we then begin to work on landowners. They are such a crucial component of the Festival. Over the years we have been so blessed by the landowners who have stepped up to donate the use of their land for the benefit of this event and in turn our community.

Because so many have contributed so much to the Ringneck Festival the 2009 Ringneck Festival marked the inception of the RLB's Ringneck Festival Hall of Fame. This honorary award, in memory of Roger Bultman and RLB Kennels, was put in place to recognize participants of the festival who have given tremendously throughout the years. To date, inductees of the RLB's Ringneck Festival Hall of Fame include the following:

2009 – Roger Bultman – Team Member/Supporter and Dr. E.W Carr – Landowner; Rich Langbehn, Landowner and Jack Link – Team Member/Sponsor.

2010 – Questionable Characters – Team & Bob Strassman – Team Member

2011 - TG Westphal – Scorekeeper; 2012 – Danny Hofer – landowner; Kent Shelton – Team Member/Committee; 2013 – Tim Kasinger – Team Member; 2014-Steve Besch -Committee Member

2015 – Peggy Besch – Committee Member; Team Cuttem' – Team

2016 – Hawkeye Hunters – team; Joel Horn – Scorekeeper; 2017 – Greg & Bobbi Ward – Landowners; DJ, Chisum & Payton Hofer – Landowners; John Farrell – Scorekeeper

2018 – Ben Meyer – Auctioneer; JJ & Kelly Burke – Landowner

2019 – Prostrollo Motor Sales – Sponsor; Ernest BaFrom page 5

ruth & Sons – Landowner 2021 – Mike Carroll – Scorekeeper ; Jim Hein – Scorekeeper

Over the years, two different funds have been established. The first was the Strassman Fund, which Kent Shelton shared as part of his memory and then Ringneck Volunteer Scholarship fund for the volunteers and direct family members to apply for as they attend post-secondary education. The Ringneck committee realizes how important these volunteers and landowners are to the success of the Ringneck Festival, and this was just a small way to give back to those volunteers.



Straight Shooters

Eric McNames Shane Spooner Tom Wookey TJ Williams Scott Simpson Riley Dalzell

Team Cuttem

Gianni Morella Michael DiPietro Joseph DiPietro Enzo Morella Peppo Morella Lancy Reilly Watertown
Watertown
Clark
Watertown
Pierre
Bison

Des Moines, Wash. Normandy Park, Wash. Enumclaw, Wash. Burien, Wash. Normandy Park, Wash. Huron

Team Nebraska

Cole Lueckenholf David Lueckenhoff Phillip Denham Nathan Williamson Todd Belgium Chase Lueckenhoff

The Cock Droppers

Clayton Kannas Rod Stroud Kyle Huck Michael Kannas Jeremy Walter Josh Golden Walton, Neb. Walton, Neb. Elkhorn, Neb. Waverly, Neb. Yankton Walton, Neb.

Nixa, Mo. Prescott, Iowa Creston, Iowa Red Oak, Iowa Glenwood, Iowa Mixa, Mo.

More teams can be found on page 15



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Who Let the Dogs Out

Tim Tesch
Pete Schuelke
Jon Dagel
Chuck Schuelke
Rich Koehn
Bob Koehn

Watertown Ringsted, Iowa Florence Willow Lake Watertown Watertown

Wired & Wound

Jeff Matz Frank Zazula Bob Karrick Marshall Tschida Shawn Perkins Jason Gooding

Sarona, Wis. St. Paul, Minn. Grand Marais, Minn. Woodbury, Minn. Luck, Wis. Baldwin, Wis.

2022 Ringneck Festival Scorekeepers

Tiffanie Kouf/Dustin Kouf
Gail Styer/Karen Janes
Julie Waldner/Anita Brick
Kris Waldner/Barry Cranston
Jennifer Moeding/Liz DeShazer
Jessica Hotchkiss/Mark Harvey
Karlus Waldner/Richard Rink
Mike Harrison/Phillip VanDiepen
Mike Carroll/Devon Carroll
Destinni Girton/Sierra Mesman
Charles Frohme/Debbie Hoops
Kelly Wipf/Trent Wipf
Joel Horn/Tom Westphal
Jeff Burns/Jason Rubish

Debbie Thompson/Dixie Ball Alex Wilson/Branden Mom Taylor Pauley/Bill Bindert Blake Larsen/Jared Reno Bev Gallus/Aimee Burgstaller Amanda Metzger/Katie Reno Billy Heisinger/John Farrell

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