

Pheasant Fest 2016

Pheasant Fest – what an amazing concept! A huge convention hall filled with everything you could imagine for hunting every type of game imaginable, the top vendors showing their wares, guide groups enticing you to hunt Montana and elsewhere, training seminars and celebrity guests such as Kansas Governor Sam Brownback, Midway USA's Larry Potterfield and Lee and Tiffany Lakosky from the Outdoor Channel. There were aisles of hunting gear, guns, give-aways and Gun Dog Ally.

I had the honor and pleasure of representing the Small Munsterlander Club of North America (SMCNA) this year at Pheasant Fest 2016 in Kansas City, Missouri and had the time of my life. We had a great booth and the many other SMCNA members who helped over the Friday-Sunday weekend event worked hard to make sure our booth was exceptional – we had banners, picture posters, informational pamphlets and a wonderful assortment of Small Munsterlanders waiting patiently to get their turn to be the center of attention.

Working the booth was electric, like an adrenaline rush – so many people crowding in to pet the dogs, ask questions, look at the pictures, asking more questions - it was constant but a lot of fun. I was surprised by the number of people who had heard of the breed but had never seen one up close, so the dogs got a lot of attention during the day and loved every minute of it. Our Munsterlanders were wonderful, sitting or lying quietly on the tables, (often without leashes), seeming to be unaware of the noise and commotion around them, just content to be petted and admired by thousands of guests passing by the tables.

I hope everyone who visited our booth came away with a better understanding of the amazing hunting/tracking abilities of the Small Munsterlander, a Versatile Hunting breed, and also their gentle temperment as a house pet. It was a long but very enjoyable weekend and if you've never attended one, I highly recommend it for all the reasons above. Pheasant Fest, hosted by the Pheasants Forever organization, varies its location each year to allow upland hunters from a wide range of areas to attend. Next year Pheasant Fest 2017 will be held in Minneapolis, MN, so hopefully I'll see you there at the SMCNA booth.