



Woodcock Workshop

Hosted by the Ruffed Grouse Society and American Woodcock Society for the Sandhills Pointing Breeds Club

Date: Saturday, January 3rd, 2026

Time: 10:00AM to 4:00PM

Overview

Sandhills Pointing Breeds Club, in partnership with the Ruffed Grouse Society & American Woodcock Society (RGS & AWS), invites club members to a special seminar dedicated to the American Woodcock. This event is designed to help dog handlers and novice hunters discover the unique experience of woodcock hunting. While many participants are familiar with AKC hunt tests, many have limited or no exposure to upland bird hunting. This seminar aims to bridge that gap by providing both educational insights and practical field experience, all while promoting habitat conservation and ethical hunting practices.

Agenda

10AM: Educational Seminar

Location: Fred Lawrence Community Center, 118 Firetree Lane, West End 27376

- **10:10AM: Welcome and Introduction** – Steve Smith, Sandhills Pointing Breeds Club,
 - Connecting upland hunting experience to AKC hunt test success
- **10:20AM: Woodcock Ecology, Migration, and Habitat** – Sara Cerv, RGS & AWS
 - Woodcock ecology and migration overview
 - Fundamentals of habitat and cover management
- **10:30AM: Role of the Dog in the Hunt** – Grant Erhard, RGS & AWS
 - Understand how dogs help locate birds in dense cover
 - Scouting for woodcock (OnX and field signs)
- **10:45AM: Basics of Woodcock Hunting** – Suzann Novak, Experienced Hunter
 - Essential equipment and safety considerations
 - Hunting etiquette

11AM: Lunch

12PM: Travel to Field Session

1PM: Field Session

Location: Uwharrie National Forest

- Dog work demonstration and handling in the field
- Identifying habitat and bird sign
- Using OnX to navigate in the field, mark locations, etc.