

UKC[®] FIELD

August 2022

Issue No. 7

A Newsletter by United Kennel Club





UKC TEAM IN THE FIELD

— *An update from Domenick Muoio*

There is no doubt that our field trial community has been busy this past season. Todd Kellam and I thank the community for their hospitality as we attended many events since the UKC acquired the American Field. I believe I speak for us both when I say how much we enjoy the new formed relationships between the two organizations and the members who actively participate. From the handlers, judges, dog and property owners, and the gallery members; Your passion for the sport is palpable and is no doubt the secret to how this fantastic sport continues to endure the test of time.

I had the pleasure of attending the Purina Awards in Chattanooga, Tenn., this past month and the passion was all the more evident there as well. Congratulations to all Purina Award winners from this past season.

Field Trial Hall of Fame

Another award many of you are familiar with is the coveted honor of being inducted into the Field Trial Hall of Fame. This season the timeline may be slightly different from previous years, and is as follows:

- Nominations close August 5
- Voting will commence September 1 and close September 30
- The votes will be counted, with the top ten dogs and persons sent to the Election Committee by October 7
- The Election Committee will submit to us their selection for dogs and persons by November 7
- Announcement of the official inductees will be included in the December issue of the UKC® Field

Exact instructions on the voting process will be released in the near future. Until then, we wish all nominees the best of luck.

— *Domenick Muoio*

Field Trial & Hunt Test Program Manager

August 5 <i>Nominations Close</i>
September 1-30 <i>Public Voting</i>
October 7 <i>Ballots to Election Committee</i>
November 7 <i>Voting Deadline for Election Committee</i>
December UKC® Field Issue <i>2022 Hall of Fame Inductees Announced</i>

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SOUTH-CENTRAL KANSAS BIRD DOG CLUB

NBHA Spring Field Trial

By Jacob Starnes | El Dorado, Kansas | April 2, 2022



Gun Dog (from left): Feldman's Piddly Nico with Travis Feldman, Gun's Pistol Pete with Kaulin Crook, Kuntree Klub Neo with Stacy Rein, and a cadre of people.

Seasoned field trialers will often reminisce about field trials, dogs and people that have bonded them to this sport over their lifetimes. Whether it was winning a championship, a special dog, the friendships formed, or even the tough breaks they've had over the years, they are all emotional bonds that resonate with them. April 2, 2022 was certainly a day etched in the memories of many in attendance as well as those competing.

The field trial put on by the South-Central Kansas Bird Dog Club will be one to remember for quite some time. What began as a small pilot project by the club to recruit, encourage and provide opportunities for new field trailers, the SCKBDC sought out to host its first youth and amateur field trial. Organized to meet the needs of the youth and novice field trialers, it quickly turned into something more than our club could have envisioned. Reminiscent of the movie *Field of Dreams*, and the quote *"If you build it, they will come"*, the SCKBDC received an outpouring of support from the field trial community to help make this event a success.

There are many in the field trial community that have a true passion for this sport, who want to see it continue to grow, and are dedicated to providing mentorships to all those who want to be involved in this sport. That passion was on display at this field trial, as there were many members in attendance who are pillars in the field trial community that helped build the foundation for several of the youth and new field trialers in attendance on this day. Starting with Kansas Field Trial Hall of Fame member, Mr. Bob Lais. His involvement and help for those in attendance was paramount, as he was one of the marquee people listed in our advertisement and in attendance. We would like to personally thank him for his presence, as well as being available after the field trial for the question-and-answer session. Other noted KFTCA HOF members in attendance were Mr. Chuck Maxson, Mr. Greg Gibson, and Mr. Bud Moore, who were often laughing and chatting with the youngsters and the new field trialers in attendance. Renowned Pro-trainers in attendance were Mr. Andy Neria (Tegridy Kennels)

and Mr. Justin Crook (Powerhouse Kennels), with their families.

At one point during the trial there were as many as 30-35 people in the gallery to watch and support the youth and amateur stakes. This speaks volumes to the commitment these individuals have invested into this sport. We often talk about the fingerprints we leave on our dogs through our interactions and training with them over their lifetimes. But, in comparison, the fingerprints left on the youth and novice handers at this trial will cast the mold for generations to come. In ten, fifteen, even twenty years from now, many of us won't be able to remember what specific dog won a championship in 2022, but we will remember images from April 2, 2022—Frank Schoenborn walking hand in hand with his granddaughter Leah Schoenborn as they flushed a bird in front of Sue for the first time; Bob Lais' huge smile from the gallery as he watched his granddaughter Madison Lais handle Brody while she navigated him around the course; Chuck Kenney walking with his daughter Madison Kenney while all of his family watched from the dog wagon; Justin Crook cradling Lyla in the gallery while proudly watching Kaulin handle his dogs like a seasoned pro; Abraham Starnes competing in his first field trial and getting to handle his own dog for the first time; Brad and Terry Taylor watching Julia Taylor handle Budd in her first field trial; Mia Starnes' embarrassed face when she received a youth participation medal (which may not have been age appropriate for a high schooler); Bob and Stacy Rein, and their dog Neo, competing in their first field trial and having success; Jameson Smith handling Neo while his family watched in satisfaction; Clint Merritt hugging his son Landry after winning the youth stake; Travis Feldman and his dogs, Nico and Gabby, competing with dogs that demonstrated they belong in the mix; Rick Wheeler and his brittany Bessie proving she has what it takes to get to the next level; and lastly, all of the kids playing in the creek and enjoying the outdoors without any electronics found in sight! Most at the trial said attending this event was more satisfying and enjoyable, than going to a trial that crowns a champion at a



Youth Gun Dog: A cadre of people.

national event, and we'd have to agree. All of us are empowered to make a difference in this sport and to take someone under our wing to mentor. A mentor can be anyone. Even a person doing something as simple as saying hi or shaking the hand of a new person in attendance can go a long way. Letting them know they are always welcome in this community, you are available, and that we take care of one another because we are a family.

A special thank you and a debt of gratitude goes out to our judges, specifically Bob Brown and Jason Patty. We also would like to thank Mr. Jason Patty and family for allowing the SCKBDC to host trials on the Skyview Setters Farm; Gretchen Patty and Audrey Kenney for preparing lunch provided by Skyview Wagyu; Chuck Kenney, marshal, bird planter, and gallery wagon; Jacob Starnes for working to secure sponsorships and support for the prizes and giveaways used in this trial; Jacob Holem for taking pictures of our event; Frank Schoenborn for providing use of his Ranger; and John Starnes for helping out in many areas as well. As most know, amateur field trials rely heavily on donations and sponsorships from major organizations, and without these donations, hosting an event of this magnitude in our area would not be possible. The SCKBDC was very fortunate to receive an outpouring of local and national support to help sponsor our event. These companies provide a direct, positive impact on the field trial community, and are dedicated to emphasizing their passions for the outdoors.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for making our event a huge success:

Purina Pro Plan, for continuing to support the NBHA and the field trial sport. With over 500 scientists, nutritionists, and vets on staff, Purina Pro Plan's relentless focus on nutrition, quality and safety is why Pro Plan remains the top supplier of performance nutrition for hard-working, competing hunting dogs.

Steve Snell and Gun Dog Supply, whose passion and commitment to the bird dog world is unrivaled, by providing quality do and field trial supplies with fast, friendly service. Gun Dog Supply continues to support the NBHA, and our competitor's year after year. Please show them your support the next time you are in the market for any of the products they sell.

Our current suite of navigation apps includes onX Hunt, onX Offroad, and onX Backcountry, products built by adventurers for adventurers. We believe that every adventurer needs to know where to go, to know where they stand, and to be able to share their experiences.

Mr. Mike Franklin of Mule Brand Clothing, by providing quality clothing at affordable prices made in the USA for over 38 years. Providing Briarproof clothing and mix of outdoor clothing for all sorts of environments and conditions, from hunters in briars to hunters wading creeks to forestry personnel, farmers, motorcycle riders, and utility workers.

Skyview Setters, committed to producing quality English setters that excel in the field. Skyview Setters' breeding program produces classly bird dogs and companions. Whether in the field or at home, Skyview Setters are a pleasure to be around.

Skyview Wagyu, located in El Dorado, Kan., offers full-blooded Akaushi cattle in a variety of different options suitable to your needs.

Kenney Setters—*Superior English Setters*—focuses on breeding high quality puppies for performance in the field, and companionship in the home.

The Winners

A picture-perfect backdrop of a day was in place for the field trial held on April 2 by the South-Central Kansas Bird Dog Club at the Patty Farm. A brisk morning, with highs in the mid-60s, and low winds out of the north, provided the ideal setting for these dogs. The following wins were recorded by these fine dogs, handlers, and owners:

Gun Dog—1. Nico (Travis Feldman) 2. Pete (Kaulin Crook) 3. Neo (Stacy Rein)

Youth Gun Dog—1. Chief (Landry Merritt) 2. Neo (Jameson Smith) 3. Brody (Madison Lais)

Puppy—1. Bessie (Rick Wheeler) 2. Storm (Bob Rein) 3. Dexter (Brad Taylor)

El Dorado, Kan., April 2 – One Course

Judges: Bob Brown and Jason Patty

NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 1 Pointer, 4 Setters and 1 German Shorthair

1st—*FELDMAN'S PIDDLY NICO*, 1697268, setter female, by Tomoka's Frozen Replica—Morris Flinthills Remi Teen. Travis Feldman, owner and handler.

2d—*GUN'S PISTOL PETE*, 1667396, setter male, by Barker's Big Coon—Carpenter's Daisy Duke. Colby Tackett, owner; Colin Crook, handler.

3d—*KUNTREE KLUB NEO*, 1698698, setter male, by Barbaro's Southern Buster—Rocky Mountain Morris. Robert Rein, Jr., owner; Stacey Rein, handler.

NBHA AMATEUR PUPPY – 2 Pointers, 2 Setters, 1 Brittany and 1 Irish Setter

1st—*WHEELER'S BEAUTIFUL BESSIE*, 1699596, Brittany female, by Jax's First Run—Muddy Creek Hammering Honey. Rick Wheeler, owner and handler.

2d—*KUNTREE KLUB STORM*, 1697491, setter female, by Caprock Stetson—Caprock Sunrise. Robert Rein, owner and handler.

3d—*DEXTER REDDOG TAYLOR*, 1695641, Irish setter male, by Waycross—Stilleto. Brad Taylor, owner and handler.

Planning a Field Trial?

Submit your Fixture information as soon as dates have been confirmed.

Please include: Name of club, start date, location of grounds (city and state), and contact name, phone number and email address.

Previous ads may be requested by emailing gsmith@ukcdogs.com

PENNSYLVANIA GROUSE TRIAL CLUB

Chasehill Hidden Jewel Wins National Grouse Derby Classic

By Joe Cammisa | Marienville, Pennsylvania | April 2, 2022

The Allegheny Mountains in West Central Pennsylvania were the backdrop for the Pennsylvania Grouse Trial Club's 2022 renewal. More specifically, the grouse trial was held in Marienville, Pa., on the Lolita and Lamontville courses of the Allegheny National Forest.

The National Derby Classic was the highlighted stake, and the standard bar is set high. Many of the previous winners have in the past showed that they were not only worthy of the title but went on to win championships to further their careers.

Pennsylvania has an exceptionally long and steeped tradition for high standards and grouse trialing. From a postscript on a trial entry application, "At the 1919 annual meeting during the running of the grouse trial in Kane, Pa., the members decided that the club should prepare and publish a standard descriptive of what their opinion constituted the ideal grouse dog. The current president Jared M. B. Reis and Herbert H. Cahoon were appointed by the committee.

In preparing this standard we have endeavored to describe the ideal grouse dog in as concise a manner as possible. "We have refrained from attempting to picture a "Ghost Dog" or an ideal impossible of attainment. We have been careful to avoid any "scale of points" system and thus have left intact the individuality of the judges."

From their prepared standard and the years that followed is:

"The Ideal Grouse Dog"

"The Pennsylvania Field Trial Club, in its endeavors to develop the ideal grouse dog, has always had in view a dog that would fulfill all the requirements of a high standard, and the schedule below is suggested as covering such requirements, and it is put forward by the club as 'a mark to shoot at in preparing a dog', either for the pleasure of shooting over or for competition.

In determining 'class' in a bird dog it must be acknowledged that in their work there is something apparent to the eye that is not subject to definition. A great deal of the 'class' in a dog is inherent in and peculiar to the individual, and no amount of work in training will produce it if it is not already there.

A high-class grouse dog is one whose every action denotes great intent in his work, which is full of animation and which at all times is searching for birds, in an independent and intelligent manner. He should be under such control that he will do his work with the minimum amount of handling, by either the voice or the whistle. He should keep to the course and hunt to the gun, and within reasonable distance, in a fast snappy manner, work out all the likely cover in front of his handler. He should not cut back but should consume his speed by working out his ground on each side of the course taken by his handler. When the cover is heavy and the course full of briars, he should not hunt the 'easy footing' passing up the likely cover. He must pay little attention to the scent of fur; occasionally pointing a rabbit could be overlooked, but under no condition should he chase one. He should accurately locate and point until the birds are flushed, when he must be steady to wing and shot. He must back at sight of a pointing dog and not approach close enough to interfere with the dog or to disturb the bird. After the bird has been killed over a point, and the dog has been steady to shot, he shall, on being released, go for

and retrieve the bird in a prompt manner and without dropping it, deliver it to the handler in an unruffled and undamaged condition. A dog is classable according to the manner in which he performs the above requirements."

—J.M.B. Reis

—H. H. Cahoon

Sitting in the judicial saddle for the National Derby Classic this year were Dick Brenneman, famed Pennsylvania outdoorsman from Port Matilda, Pa., and Nick Blakeley of Dubois, Pa., who has a long family tradition of field trial bird dogs.

Chasehill Hidden Jewel was this year's winner and is the product of Ashaway, R.I., trainer John Stolgitis' outstanding breeding program. Her sire is Ch./ 2x R-U Ch. Panola Bacon and the dam is multiple champion Chasehill Little Lizzy (who is a Pennsylvania Grouse Championship winner). Both parents are no strangers to the winners' circle and easily meet the standards written by Reis and Cahoon. Jewel is owned by Tadaaki Terada and was handled by John Stolgitis.

Jewel ran big and in the 10-2 pocket for the hour, covering everything the course offered. Her style was impeccable, and her ground application was ideal. She was a couple notches above all the other Pennsylvania Grouse Trial annals.

Second place went to Caliber Peak Hundred Proof, owned and handled by Sarah Gomes of Welandport, Ont., Canada, and was bred by Doug McMillen. Her sire is Ch. Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian, and her dam is multiple champion Double Deuce Molly. Proof ran a well applied race, forward always, working diligently and efficiently to have one broke woodcock find and one spring derby find.

Third place and the yellow ribbon went to Miller's Hopped Up Version, owned by Carlos Escalante and handled by Mark Hughes of Grampian, Pa. Cricket carried herself well throughout the hour, hitting all the likely places. She was forward and fancy while catching the judges' eye. Cricket was rewarded with a well-handled woodcock find and all was in order at the shot.

The Pennsylvania Puppy stake was won by Grouse Hill Boss, owned by John Capocci, and handled by Marc Forman. Boss showed all the skills needed to garner the blue ribbon. Second place is Les Bressler's new phenom Leslie's Elli Mae, a setter female that has all the tools necessary to go on and show well at the next level. She is owned and handled by Les. Rounding out the placements and taking third was Chasehills Wango Tango, the fancy pointer male owned by Allen Raiano and handled by John Stolgitis. Wango Tango scrambled around the course staying to the front and applying himself well. Judges Doug McMillen of Dubois and Sarah Gomes spoke very highly of this year's crop of juveniles.

The All-Age stake ("*Ideal Grouse Dog*") completed the weekend agenda when judges Eric Munden of Phillipsburg, Pa., and Jon Ferdinand of Hazelton, Pa., named Full Breeze the winner. Full Breeze, a setter female, is owned by Dick Brenneman and was handled by Dave Hughes. Bree was forward and ran to the limits. She was braced with the second-place dog, A Distant Spec, pointer female owned by Mike Husenits and handled by Hughesview teammate Mark Hughes. Only a hair divided the two

National IN THE SHADOW Champion for Field Trial Hall of Fame

51

Winners

220

Placements

18

Championships

His winners include:

- **Ch. Shadow's White Warrior**
Wr, 2017 Dominion Open Championship
- **Ch. In Swami's Shadow**
Wr, 2016 Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship
- **Ch. Shadow Image**
Wr, 2015 Southwestern Open All-Age Championship
- **Ch. Shadow's Lord Magic**
*Wr, 2021 Tar Heel Open All-Age Championship
& R-U, 2019 Masters Open Championship*



with Bree covering the most distant ground. Spec was not short by any means and the brace was something of a spectacle to watch.

Third place was Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian, pointer male owned and handled by Sarah Gomes of Wellandport, Ont., Canada. Rye, a fast and fancy pointer, was forward, classy, and applied to the cover well.

The Pennsylvania Club would like to thank all who shared in the work moving cars, specifically Dave Duell, Norm Meeder, Dick Brenneman, and others. Special thanks to Helen Brenneman and Suzie Cammisa for all the home baked pastries, Giancarlo of Bettina's Restaurant for their cooperation working on lunches and to R.B. Powell and David Powell from Nittany Valley Trail Rides for horse rental.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to Greg Blair and Purina for their long-time commitment as a sponsor of this game we all love.

Marienville, Pa., April 2
Judges: Nick Blakley and Dick Brenneman
NATIONAL GROUSE DERBY CLASSIC
[One-Hour Heats] – 27 Pointers

1st—CHASEHILL HIDDEN JEWEL, 1692727, female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Tadaaki Terada, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

2d—CALIBER PEAK HUNDRED PROOF, 1696649, male, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Molly. Sarah Gomes, owner and handler.

3d—MILLER'S HOPPED UP VERSION, 1695106, female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Carlos Escalante, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Judges: Jon Ferdinand and Eric Munden
OPEN ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 5 Pointers and 4 Setters

1st—FULL BREEZE, 1667989, setter female, by Full Blast-Straight Forward. Richard Brenneman, owner; Dave Hughes, handler.

2d—A DISTANT SPEC, 1668665, pointer female, by Erin's War Creek-Brave Heart Cassie. Mike Husenits, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d—CAL PEAK HUNDREDTH MERIDIAN, 1671286, pointer male, by Cover Charge Search Engine-Sandland Dolly P. Sarah Gomes, owner and handler.

Judges: Sarah Gomes and Doug McMillen
OPEN PUPPY – 8 Pointers, 4 Setters and 2 Irish Setters

1st—GROUSE HILL BOSS, 1696374, pointer male, by Grouse Hill Smokey-High Desert Storm. John Capocci, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

2d—LESLIE'S ELLI MAE, 1697969, setter female, by Grouse River Rocken Roll-Grouse River Patti Cakes. Les Brssler, owner and handler.

3d—CHASEHILLS WANGO TANGO, 1697813, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Allen Raiano, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

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MOUNTAIN VIEW BIRD DOG CLUB

USCSDA Walking Stakes & SBHA Amateur Horseback Stakes

By Thor Kain | Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania | April 2, 2022

On April 2nd bird dog enthusiasts from several states convened at the beautiful Murphy Farm in Lake Ariel, Pa., for the U.S. Complete Walking Stakes hosted by the Mountain View Bird Dog Club. Grace Murphy, owner of the farm, was on hand to watch the dogs and socialize with her friends. We are grateful she allows us to run on these grounds and enjoyed her company at the trial. The weather was cold and clear with a biting wind that blew all day. Dave McKay and Roger Dvorak were in the saddle for all three stakes. The club would like to thank them for spending a long day in the saddle.

The Amateur Puppy stake was first to run. Both judges commented they would have owned any one of the pups that were run that day. Taking the honor of the blue ribbon was Grouse Hill Rambo, bred, owned and handled by John Capocci of Connecticut. The red ribbon went to "Willow", owned and handled by Ray Forney. Closing out the placements was "Billy", owned and handled by Ray Forney. Ray was back in the winners' circle for both placements in the Derby stake with Willow taking the blue and Billy second place.

The Shooting Dog stake had many good performances. Dean Avillion's strong, young pointer "Rip" took first place honors with a solid performance. Rip stood tall and proud through all his bird work. Waybetter Bobby earned a spot in the winners' circle for owner/handler Bobby Verderosa. He took second place with a nice race and pretty bird work. Andy Bogar's dog, "Spike", took home the yellow ribbon with mature application and three nice finds.

Kids playing with puppies and horses, old friends trading bird dog stories, good food and a beautiful farm made for a good day. I would like to thank Grace Murphy again for allowing us to use her farm. Thanks are also in order for Larry Miles who took road guard duties, Charlie Killoran for helping wherever needed, and George Nichols for helping with bird planting duties. Also, a big thank you to Greg Blair and Purina for their generous sponsorship of the trial.

Lake Ariel, Pa., April 2 – One Course Judges: Roger Dvorak and Dave McKay AMATEUR PUPPY – 1 Pointer and 7 Setters

1st—GROUSE HILL RAMBO, 1696375, pointer male, by Bo of Piney Woods-Grouse Hill Prima. John Capocci, owner and handler.

2d—WILLOW OAK STAR, 1699579, setter female, by Danny Brooke-Cindy Lou Johnman. Ray Forney, owner and handler.

AMATEUR DERBY – 1 Pointer and 3 Setters

1st—WILLOW OAK STAR, 1699579, setter female, by Danny Brooke-Cindy Lou Johnman. Ray Forney, owner and handler.

2d—RAY'S BILLY BUDDY, 1699478, setter male, by Danny Brooke-Cindy Lou Johnman. Ray Forney, owner and handler.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 14 Entries

1st—HUCKLEBERRY'S ICE STORM, 1686182, pointer male, by Nottingham's Storm Warning-Little Wing Wango Tango. Dean & Catherine Avillion, owners; Dean Avillion, handler.

2d—WAYBETTER BOBBY, 1682880, pointer male, by Waybetter Rocky-Nehawka Amazin Sue. Robert Verderosa, owner and handler.

3d—BIG RUN REBEL, 168075, setter male, by Attitude's True Grit-Bo's After Party. Andrew Bogar, owner and handler.

On April 3rd the inaugural horseback stakes were held at the beautiful Murphy Farm in Lake Ariel, Pa. Amateur field trialing is the life blood of the sport, kids playing and riding horses, old friends telling stories of bird dogs past and present, a welcome dinner Saturday night, and smiles by all whom attended are the reason these weekend trials are so important to the future of our sport. David Murphy poured his heart and soul into this farm. The habitat is second to none for game birds both wild and pre-released.

The day dawned cold with light rain eventually turning into snow. What was predicted as a dusting quickly turned into a couple inches which then laid on top of several inches of mud brought on by the unusually wet spring. The conditions were tough for both dog and horse, but it didn't dampen the spirit of the competitors or gallery.

The Amateur Derby stake was hotly contested with judges Andy Bogar and Bart Hastings having several performances to choose from. Super Storm Cliff, owned and handled by this reporter, took first place honors with three well-spaced finds, mature manners around his birds and a big forward race. Second place went to Newfield's Easy Rider, fancy pointer female handled and owned by Bo Mamounis. She also had 3 finds and a nice forward race. Jolene Jolene, well-built pointer female owned and handled by Dave McKay, rounded out the placements with the 3rd place ribbon. She handled well for Dave and found birds two times.

The Dave Murphy Amateur Shooting Dog stake started as the snow started to add up. The stake was named in honor of Dave Murphy. Murph, as he was often called, was a friend to all he met. He spent countless hours creating habitat on the farm for wildlife, particularly bird cover and food. He is missed by all who knew him, but his legacy lives on through the farm he created. His daughter Grace is committed to keeping his vision for the farm going. We are extremely thankful for her allowing us to run trials on the farm. Bob Watts donated a beautiful rotating plaque with a silver pointer, quail, and pheasant on it to the winner. We plan to honor Dave and continue this stake every year.

Andy Bogar joined this reporter for judging duties. Storm Rider's Shadow put on a perfect shooting dog performance. She had speed, high cracking running style, always forward, handled with ease and notched 5 perfect finds to earn blue ribbon honors and the rotating plaque for owner/handler Roger Dvorak. Roger was on a roll, and he handled the other dog he owns, Nottingham's Storm Warning, big strong pointer male, to 2nd place honors. He was a lot of dog for these grounds and took some handling in the corners but he tallied 5 perfectly handled finds to earn his placement. Kissamee Grousewoods Tea took 3rd place honors for owner/handler Peter Labella. Daisy, as she is called, is breathtaking on point. Nose pointed at the sky, intensity and perfect 12 o'clock tail make her catch the judges' eye wherever she runs.

I would again like to thank Grace Murphy for allowing use of the farm; Larry Miles for road guard duties and helping where needed; Andy Bogar and Bart Hastings for helping with judging duties; my wife for lunches and dinner; and all those who supported this trial.

Lake Ariel, Pa., April 3 – One Course
Judges: Andre Bogar and Bart Hastings
SBHA AMATEUR DERBY – 3 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—SUPER STORM CLIFF, 1691606, setter male, by Blast Zone-Gold Rush. Thor Kain, owner and handler.

2d—NEWFIELD'S EASY RIDER, 1696495, pointer female, by Storm Rider-Little Wing Wango Tango. George Mamounis, owner and handler.

3d—JOLENE JOLENE, 1692447, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Dave McKay, owner and handler.

Judges: Andy Bogar and Thor Kain
SBHA DAVID MURPHY AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
– 12 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st—STORM RIDER'S SHADOW, 1674902, pointer female, by Nottingham's Storm Warning-Williamson's Touch of Ice. Roger Dvorak & Gordon Ramey, owners; Roger Dvorak, handler.

2d—NOTTINGHAM'S STORM WARNING, 1662154, pointer male, by Game Strut-High Value Special. Roger Dvorak, owner and handler.

3d—KISSAMEE GROUSEWOODS TEA, 1672676, pointer female, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Porter Meadow Bette. Peter LaBella, owner and handler.

MICHIGAN BRITTANY CLUB

Annual Spring Trial Held At Ionia

By Bob Watson | Ionia, Michigan | April 8, 2022

The Michigan Brittany Club's Spring 2022 field trial was held on the prestigious field trial grounds at Ionia, Mich., from April 8-10. First and foremost, a debt of gratitude goes out to the men and women who shared their time, knowledge, and resources and served as our judges for this trial. Weather conditions for this trial were not always ideal for judges and handlers (although the dogs were not complaining) with cool cloudy days with on-again off-again rain and snow flurries throughout the weekend. Our judges persevered through everything Mother Nature threw at them and gave each dog and trial participant the attentiveness and focus they deserved. The MBC Field Trial Committee truly appreciates Mike Braddock, Harold Darga, Bill Darr, Charlie Fenech, John Hall, LeRoy Long, Blake Rizzo, Al Van Wieren, Frank Vicari, Mike Vicari, and Rebecca Walters for their service and commitment to the sport of field trialing and our trial.

This trial also benefits from the teamwork and camaraderie of members representing all three Michigan Brittany Clubs (Michigan Brittany Club, Michigan Saginaw Brittany Club, and the Western Michigan Brittany Club) and members of the Michigan Brittany Championship Association working together to make sure the clubhouse is in order, birds are ordered and taken care of, dogs are at the line ready to go, and a host of other tasks and chores that need to be addressed in order to run a successful trial. The fellowship that this group along with our fellow trial participants share was clearly visible at the Saturday night chicken barbeque dinner superbly orchestrated by John Hall. Great food, cold beverages, and good conversation filled with laughter, along with a crackling fire in the clubhouse fireplace created a warm atmosphere enjoyed by all in attendance.

In conclusion, a huge thank you goes out to all the handlers who entered a dog or two in our trial. Handlers from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania were well represented at our trial. The MBC appreciates the support from professional handlers Jesse Chapman, Al Cropek, and Chad Holman for attending our trial with their fine string of dogs. We had a total of 125 entries for the trial. Several entries dropped due to coming into season and a couple more due to judging adjustments. When the dust settled, we had 112 entries come to the starting line. A reasonable number for our weekend trial.

The MBC Field Trial Committee hopes everyone attending

our trial had a good time. We wish everyone a safe and happy summer. We hope to see you at our fall trial September 23-25, 2022.

Ionia, Mich., April 8
Judges: Bill Darr and Leroy Long
OPEN RESTRICTED ALL-AGE – 11 Brittanys, 1 Pointer,
2 Setters and 1 Vizsla

1st—ROYAL FLUSH SIR OLIVER TWIST, unreg., Brittany male, by Walker's Prairie Bandit-Royal Flush Honky Tonk Girl. John & Morgan D. Perrio, owners; Al Cropek, handler.

2d—W W'S GIN AND TONIC, 1676565, Brittany female, by Glade Run Irish-Driving Miss Daisy. Burton Wice, owner and handler.

3d—ACE'S ONE EYED JACK, 1661628, Brittany male, by Odyssey's Ace of Hearts-Lee's Rescue Bell. Ed & Donna Janulis, owners; Chad Holman, handler.

Judges: Frank Vicari and Mike Vicari
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 10 Brittanys,
1 German Drahthaar, 1 German Shorthair and 2 Setters

1st—OVER UNDER REIGN THE FIELD, unreg., Brittany female, by A Trace of Bourbon with Diamonds-Over Under's Kick It Out. Samantha & Ryan Gauthier, owners; Samantha Gauthier, handler.

2d—CENTER RIDGE'S BARREL OF MONKEYS, unreg., Brittany female, by The Graduate of Seven Crowns-Center Ridge's Whitey Girl. Pam Darga, owner and handler.

3d—RAMBLIN GAMBLING WILLIE, unreg., Brittany male, by High Hopes Dark Nite-Windswept's War Bonnet. Samantha James & Dan Dodson, owners; Dan Dodson, handler.

Judges: Harold Darga and Al Van Wieren
OPEN PUPPY – 10 Entries

1st—HIGHWATER'S LUIGI, unreg., pointer male, by Greypointe Nubarron-Drowning Creeks Tilda. Louis Albert & Blake Rizzo, owners.

2d—PRAIRIE STAR WINGMAN, unreg., Gordon setter male, by Clearcut's Thunder Bolt-Whitehorn's Bad Girl. Marianne Gasoway & Sandra Chapman, owners; Jesse Chapman, handler.

3d—HIGHWATER'S ARIAS, unreg., pointer female, by Greypointe Nubarron-Drowning Creeks Tilda. Louis Albert & Blake Rizzo, owners

Judges: Mike Braddock and Charles Fenech
AMATEUR DERBY – 1 German Shorthair and 7 Brittanys

1st—WILDFIRE'S SNOWY MOUNTAIN, 1693164, German Shorthair female, by H's Am Cruiser-Snowy River's Sippin on Fire. Mike Vicari,

owner and handler.

2d—*BULLOCH'S WAKE UP CALL*, unreg., Brittany male, by *A Trace of Bourbon with Diamonds—Delaney's Jazzem Up Rosie She is a Pistol*. Terra Bulloch, owner and handler.

3d—*RED SAGE OF SEVEN CROWNS*, 1696139, Brittany male, by *Hope's Chief of Crosscreek—Autens Woodland Sage*. Robert Scott Watson, owner; Robert William Watson, handler.

Judges: Leroy Long and Blake Rizzo
OPEN ALL-AGE – 13 Brittanys, 3 Pointers,
2 German Shorthairs, 3 Setters and 1 Vizsla

1st—*WICKED QUICK*, 1674810, pointer female, by *Dunn's Tried'n True—Dunn's Get Out Sue*. Sandy MacLean & Kelsey Hajek, owners; Sandy MacLean, handler.

2d—*WILDFIRE'S ROYAL FLUSH*, 1678115, German Shorthair male, by *P J Wildfire's Little Bud—P J Wildfire's Little Angel*. Mike Vicari, owner and handler.

3d—*WICKED HIPPIE*, 1684804, pointer female, by *Lester's Sunny Hill Jo—Wicked Quick*. Sandy MacLean & Kelsey Hajek, owners; Sandy MacLean, handler.

Judges: Frank Vicari and Mike Vicari
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 9 Brittanys, 1 Pointer,
3 Setters and 2 Vizslas

1st—*OVER UNDER REIGN THE FIELD*, unreg., Brittany female, by *A Trace of Bourbon With Diamonds—Over Unders Kick it Out*. Samantha & Ryan Gauthier, owners; Al Cropek, handler.

2d—*AYERIE THE SHADOW KNOWS*, 1685298, setter male, by *Ponderosa Mac—Orionstar Hippie Lyra*. Kim & Ray McVeigh, owners; Jesse Chapman, handler.

3d—*RAMBLIN GAMBLING WILLIE*, unreg., Brittany male, by *High Hopes Dark Nite—Windswept's War Bonnet*. Samantha James & Dan Dodson, owners; Al Cropek, handler.

Judges: Mike Braddock and Blake Rizzo
AMATEUR ALL-AGE – 6 Brittanys, 1 Pointer
and 2 German Shorthairs

1st—*WILDFIRE'S SNOWY MOUNTAIN*, 1694164, German Shorthair female, by *H's Am Cruiser—Snowy Rivers Sippin on Fire*. Mike Vicari, owner and handler.

2d—*JO WILL'S SWEET MANDOLIN MUSIC*, unreg., Brittany male, by *Roustabout All In—Roll on Ms. Bella*. Joe Williams, owner and handler.

Judges: John Hall and Leroy Long
OPEN DERBY – 13 Entries

1st—*BAERENBACH MAID OF MISCHIEF*, unreg., German Shorthair female, by *Chindi's Mischief Maker—Silver Bullet Is You is My Baby*. Denise & Tony Ross, owners; Jesse Chapman, handler.

2d—*FERNIEHIRSTION*, unreg., Gordon setter female, by *Icehot's MacDude—White Lail's Darcy*. Jennifer Stowe & Coleman Richards, owners; Jesse Chapman, handler.

3d—*HIGHWATER'S LUIGI*, unreg., pointer male, by *Greypointe Nubarron—Drowning Creeks Tilda*. Louis Albert & Blake Rizzo, owners.

Judges: Mike Vicari and Rebecca Walters
AMATEUR PUPPY – 6 Brittanys

1st—*HI POINT'S SPICED UP RUDY*, 1695961, male, by *A N J's Ohio Hellion—High Hopes Jac's Original Spice*. Kathy Gulembo, owner; Ron Gulembo, handler.

2d—*KINWASHKLY KISMET*, unreg., male, by *Magnum High Velocity—Kinwashkly French Blaze*. James & Mary Stevens, owners; Jim Stevens, handler.

3d—*AJAX IRISH CHARM*, 1694642, male, by *Ajax VII—Ajax Dark Side Mila*. Richard John Jarosinski, owner and handler.

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VENANGO GROUSE TRIAL CLUB

Anna Lake Klark Wins Puppy Classic

By Joe Cammisa | Marienville, Pennsylvania | April 8, 2022

The Venango drew ten puppies and thirteen derbies for the companion stake to the Ontario Grouse Championship (see July issue for full report). The Venango Derby ran on Friday, April 8th, and the Venango Puppy Classic ran on Saturday, April 9th. The event was run in the Allegheny National Forest, Marienville Pa.

The Derby was hotly contested even though the weather was cold and wet according to judges John McKellop of Meadville, Pa., and Jim Winnen of Wattsburg Pa.

Queenie, setter female, jumped out early to impress the judges and set the bar high and was unable to be topped. She took home the blue ribbon for her handler Scott Forman, showing off her application abilities, style, and fancy movement. Mark Hughes and Thunderhills Ghost Rider, pointer male, garnered the red ribbon in high fashion by covering the ground with style and speed. Dot and Marc Forman faired very well, working hand and hand, showing stylishly, and hitting all the objectives to round out the placements.

The Venango Puppy Classic was judged by Scott Forman and Christy Helms, both of Prattsburg, N.Y. Klark, setter male owned and handled by Rob Matson, ran the course like he owned it, showing off his running and handling skills to win first place. Second saw Leo, pointer male handled by Mark Hughes, in a close second, pushing his way around the Lamonville course with plenty of style and run. Mannie, Irish Setter female owned and handled by Al Fazzenbaker, sealed the deal for third with speed, style and biddability.

The Venango Club would like to thank Pennsylvania Grouse Trial Club President Norm Meeder, who was on hand to help with organizing and keeping the trial moving, along with Dave Duell,

Secretary of the Pennsylvania Clubs, who hosted the donuts, coffee, and lunches in addition to numerous other duties.

The Venango Club would like to thank our sponsor, Greg Blair and Purina, for their continued support to the game we all love.

Marienville, Pa., April 8 – One Course
Judges: John McKellop and Jim Winnen
OPEN DERBY – 8 Pointers and 5 Setters

1st—PINE STRAW FATBOTTOM GIRL, 1692898, setter female, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-Pine Straw Sweet Tea. Michael Reaves & Dale Ash, owners; Scott Forman, handler.

2d—THUNDERHILLS STORM RIDER, 1693192, pointer male, by Thunderhills Pale Rider-High Desert Storm. Harry Tsepelias, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d—WILD APPLE POPS DOROTHY, 1696301, pointer female, by Wynot Atom-Wild Apple Snake Charmed. Daniel Steingraber, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

Judges: Scott Foreman and Christy Holmes
OPEN PUPPY – 8 Entries

1st—ANNA LAKE KLARK, 1695030, setter male, by Grouse Ridge Whitestone-Meredith Grade Annie. Robert Matson, owner and handler.

2d—PRETTY BOY LEO, 1699782, pointer male, by Grouse Hill Smokey-High Desert Storm. Theodoros Mappas, owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

3d—C C SPIRIT OF MARNOC, 1697073, Irish setter female, by Come Back Trump-Come Back Little Bit. Allen Fazzenbaker, owner and handler.

PENNSYLVANIA AMATEUR GROUSE DOG CLUB

Mojo's Remington Steal Wins Edna Morgan Derby Classic

By Eric Munden | Marienville, Pennsylvania | April 9, 2022

On April 9th and 10th, the Pennsylvania Amateur Grouse Dog Club held their spring trial at the Marienville trial grounds in the Allegheny National Forest. Thank you to everyone who entered dogs and gave their time to help this trial run. Dave Duell was on hand to help move cars and pick up lunches, along with many other tasks that were essential to the trial running smoothly. I would also like to thank the judges, Mark Hughes and Robert Boos, for giving their time. The weather presented its own set of challenges with sleet during the all-age on Saturday and snow delaying the start on Sunday.

The Amateur All-Age ran Saturday afternoon following the conclusion of the Venango Grouse Trial Club. Taking home first was Conneaut Creek Lake Erie Storm, an Irish setter female owned and handled by Al Fazzenbaker. Stormy scored on a woodcock around 40 minutes and continued attacking the course

with veracity for the entire brace. Pine Swamp Woody, a tri-color setter male, was awarded second for owner and handler Nicholas Blakley. Woody had a forward searching race hitting all likely points of cover.

Sunday morning started the Edna Morgan Derby Classic. Mojo's Remington Steal, a tri-color setter female, took home first for owners Nick and Renee Moelders, handled by Eric Munden. In second place was Miller's Upgraded Version, a white and lemon pointer female, for owner Carlos Escalante, handled by Krysta Munden. In third was Double Deuce Jack, a white and lemon pointer male, owned and handled by Douglas McMillen.

Following the Derby stake was the Amateur Puppy. Taking home first was Leslie's Elli Mae, a tri-color setter female, for owner and handler Les Bressler, followed by Mountain Top Oakley, a tri-color



Amateur All-Age (from left): Eric Munden (judge), Al Fazenbaker with Conneaut Creek Lake Erie Storm, Nick Blakley with Pine Swamp Woody, and Mark Hughes (judge).

setter male, for owner and handler Jeff Keller. In third was Anna Lake Klark, a white and orange setter male, for owner and handler Robert Matson.

Thank you to Greg Blair and Purina for your support of our trial. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the trial! We look forward to seeing you at future stakes.

Marienville, Pa., April 9

Judges: Mark Hughes and Eric Munden

AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats]

- 1 Pointer, 3 Setters and 1 Irish Setter

1st—CONNEAUT CREEK LAKE ERIC STORM, 1651488, Irish setter female, by Come Back Superfire-Come Back Bee Gee. Al Fazenbaker, owner and handler.

2d—PINE SWOMP WOODY, 1675869, setter male, by Full Blast-Jar's Way Shirley. Nicholas Blakley, owner and handler.

Judges: Robert Boos and Mark Hughes

ED MORGAN AMATEUR DERBY CLASSIC

- 9 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—MOJO'S REMINGTON STEAL, 1690058, setter female, by Long Gone Porky-Long Gone Juicy. Nick & Renee Moelders, owners; Eric Munden, handler.

2d—MILLER'S SPECIAL UPGRADE, 1695107, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Sepcial Edition. Carlos Escalante, owner; Krysta Munden, handler.

3d—DOUBLE DEUCE JACK, 1691404, pointer male, by Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian-Double Deuce Molly. Douglas McMillen, Jr., owner and handler.

AMATEUR PUPPY - 4 Pointers and 4 Setters

1st—LESLIE'S ELLI MAE, 1697969, setter female, by Grouse River Rocken Roll-Grouse River Patti Cakes. Leslie Bressler, owner and handler.

2d—MOUNTAIN TOP OAKLEY, 1696807, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Grouse River Woodcock Annie. Jeffrey Keller, owner and handler.

3d—ANNA LAKE KLARK, 1695030, setter male, by Grouse Ridge Whitestone-Meredith Grade Annie. Robert Matson, owner and handler.



Ed Morgan Amateur Derby Classic (from left): Robert Boos (judge), Eric Munden with Mojo's Remington Steal, Krysta Munden with Miller's Special Upgrade, Mark Hughes (judge), and Doug McMillen with Double Deuce Jack.



Amateur Puppy (from left): Les Bressler with Leslie's Elli Mae, Robert Boos (judge), Jeffrey Keller with Mountain Top Oakley, Mark Hughes (judge), and Robert Matson with Anna Lake Klark.

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FOR 2022 FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME

AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB WESTERN FUTURITIES

High Lonesome Owyhee Storm Wins All-Age; Beans Blazing Ghost Wins Shooting Dog

By Jim Hammett | Ritzville, Washington | April 14, 2022

The Washington Brittany Club was honored to host the American Brittany Club's 2022 Western Futurity in Ritzville, Wash.

Spring weather in eastern Washington can often be challenging, but April 14 proved to be downright brutal. Northeast winds exceeded 30 mph with intermittent sideways snow showers all day. Although the dogs did not seem to mind, horses, handlers, judges, and this reporter suffered wind chill in the low teens and got pelted by grapple and snow. It was a great day to test foul-weather gear!

A big thank you to Purina for supporting this futurity. Their support, financially and otherwise, is greatly appreciated. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management provided the permit for the use of our public land for the event, and their support is critical and appreciated. Also, much appreciation to the following Washington Brittany Club committee members whose diligence and hard work resulted in a successful and enjoyable event: John Henderson, Futurity Section Manager; Nancy Noble, Section Secretary; Shaun Hall, Field Chairman; and Committee members Joe McCarthy, Marty Noble, and Jim Hammett.

The All-Age stake had six dogs; the Gun Dog stake 18. Judges for All-Age were Tom White from Melba, Idaho, and Jim Cochran of Fall City, Wash. The Gun Dog judges were Anne Tyson from Ephrata, Wash., and R.J. Marquart of Moses Lake, Wash. All four judges are experienced trainers and handlers and have judged many stakes. Each of them endured exposure to the wind, snow, and the cold all day.

All-Age Running

Brace 1) Breaking away at 7 a.m., the ground had a dusting of snow, making it hard to see white dogs at distance. Spanish River's Ultimo (Timo) handled by Dan Doiron was braced with Redlines A Trace of Smoke (Trace) handled by brother Paul Doiron. Both dogs pushed forward at moderate range. At the first gate, at 16, Timo disappeared for a few minutes, but was found standing on the far hillside by the bird planter. A bird was produced with all in order. Trace continued to run well and hunt but finished birdless. Both dogs finished strong and forward.

Brace 2) Mr. Stanley (Doc) handled by Dan Campbell was braced with H V K Turns Back Time (Mick) handled by Paul

Doiron. Doc and Mick had an initial collision at the breakaway, with Doc complaining about his right front leg. Dan told Dock to shake it off, which he did after a couple of minutes, and began to stretch out into several all-age casts. Mick ran a shorter race but stayed forward. At 24, Doc had a find northeast of the bowl. He followed this with a second find near last chance hill at 28. Mick finished birdless.

Brace 3) High Lonesome Owyhee Storm (Storm) handled by Jim Hammett was braced with Smokin Hot Ember (Ember) handled by Paul Doiron. Storm broke into a big, fast run at the start and was glimpsed twice at about 5 and 7 on the interior ridge forward 800 yards or better. At the second gate, he was again spotted at 13, running north, and turned and checked in with his handler. After the second gate, he motored out into the flat, making a very wide circle to the west. He made the turn, sped through the bowl and over the top heading north. By the time his handler topped the ridge north of the bowl, he was spotted well out in the flat running east. Making a quick check of last chance hill and approaching time, Storm ran back to the north and, much to the relief of his handler, slammed on point at 29 on top of a rocky bluff toward the end of the course. A bird was produced, and time was called. Ember ran a responsive, forward race, but her range was shorter, and she finished birdless.

Ritzville, Wash., April 14

Judges: Jim Cochran and Tom White

AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB WESTERN ALL-AGE FUTURITY

- 6 Brittanys

1st—HIGH LONESOME OWYHEE STORM, 1690909, male, by Redline's Tequilas Smoker—Sonny's Hot Summer Breeze. Jim Hammett, owner and handler.

2d—MR. STANLEY, 1694752, male, by Beans Blaze—Janee's Rush'n Past the Limit. Daniel W. Campbell, owners; Dan Campbell, handler.

3d—SPANISH RIVER'S ULTIMO, 1691138, male, by Redline's Tequila Smoker—Sonny's Hot Summer Breeze. Daniel Doiron, owner and handler.

4th—REDLINE'S TRACE OF SMOKE, unreg., male, by Redline's Tequilas Smoker—Sonny's Hot Summer Breeze. William & Elizabeth Leffingwell, owners; Paul Doiron, handler.

Shooting Dog Running

Brace 1) Elkhrn Mtn's Poetic Playboy (Apollo), handled by Tommie Dahl was braced with Shadywood Wolcott Quaxinelli Banks (Quax), handled by Joseph McCarthy. Both dogs ran a controlled shorter race, but handled well, with little noise. At 5, a bird was flushed, but which dog was responsible will remain a mystery. At 9, a second bird was flushed, but again was not associated with an observed point. At 21 and 25, Quax pointed birds with good style and forward to his handler.

Brace 2) Wind Mtn's Macsanko Sunrise (Missy) handled by Jason Sanko was braced with Warbonnet Wynd Swept Dunes (Dune) handled by Todd Breitenfeldt. By now the sideways snow had started and the wind was howling. Both dogs stayed forward, running a controlled moderate race. At 9, Dune had a find, but crept in and flushed. At 16, Dune was standing, and Missy came in and pointed the same bird. This created enough pressure that Dune broke and ended up with the bird in his mouth. At 18, a similar situation occurred, but both dogs held. Time was called as the dogs approached last chance hill.

Brace 3) Beans Blazing Ghost (Ghost) handled by Michael Stevens was braced with H V K's Little Man Tate (Tate) handled by Paul Doiron. At 4, Tate put a bird in the air, but continued forward with a nice race. At 12, Ghost made a big cast forward and was

found standing on top of the broad ridge, looking like a million bucks. Tate came in late and stopped with a beautifully executed honor. A bird was produced with Ghost giving chase. This find/honor was the visual highlight of this stake. Both dogs ran well and finished forward. If anything, Ghost ran a bigger race, but both dogs handled well and with little noise.

Brace 4) Shadywood Island Girl (Matia) handled by Sheryl Palmer was braced with P&P's Precious Gem Mica Pc's Shimmer of Finesse (Mica) handled by Allen Grogan. Both dogs were close working gun dogs. Mica had several lateral casts. At 13, Mica was found standing, but caught the bird before it flushed.

Brace 5) Firebrands One and Only (Skeet) handled by Jim Cochran was braced with Jalos O Too (Too) handled by Jim House. Skeet never really got going, as was picked up at 14. Too pointed briefly at 8 but took out the bird and executed a great retrieve to his handler. Too showed lots of speed and drive. Unfortunately, there was more speed and drive at the birds than there was point for most of the brace and he ended up taking out several additional birds with no discernable point. His retrieves were excellent, however.

Brace 6) Wind Mtn's A Little Something Wicked (Liza) handled by Paul Doiron was braced with Elkhrn Mtn's Warbonnet Prairie Huntress at Fireeagle (Artemis) handled by Tommie Dahl. Liza ran hard to the front with some big casts and great ground speed. She finished with 3 finds, two within the last minute of the stake, and no more than 40 yards apart. Artemis was shorter but very responsive to his handler.

Brace 7) Painted Rock Loretta Lynn (Lorrie) handled by Jason Canales was braced with Caliah's Arctic Storm (Storm) handled by Brian Jean. At 6, Storm was standing, but chased prior to his handler's arrival. After this find, Storm made a huge loop to the south and east, taking considerable liberties with the course. Lorrie ran an exciting race with some big casts and ultimately five finds with good style. She handled well and needed a little help from her scout only once to get her back on course.

Brace 8) Caliah's Summer Phoenix Rising (Phoenix) handled by Mary Brown was braced with P&P's Precious PC's Gem A Cut Above the Rest (Petra) handled by Paul Adamson. Petra ran a very consistent, forward race with an easy and quiet handle. Phoenix also ran forward nicely but was shorter and somewhat erratic. At 9, Petra had a find, with all in order. Phoenix came in and chased the bird but continued forward. At 22, Petra had a nice find on top of the hill below derby hill, finishing strong and forward.

Brace 9) Caliah's Journey In Autumn Wind (Journey) handled by Rhonda Jean was braced with Hall's Safari It's a Keeper (Lucy) handled by Shaun Hall. Journey started off well but was hard to handle and was ultimately lost to the south after a flush, requiring the scout to find and retrieve her. At 5, Lucy was standing, but did not continue to hold and chased the bird to the south. Lucy made a very nice retrieve after running down the bird. Lucy continued to run energetically showing great promise, but with more run than point or hold.

Judges: R. J. Marquart and Anne Tyson

AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB WESTERN SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY

- 18 Brittanys

1st—BEANS BLAZING GHOST, unreg., male, by Beans Blaze—Janee's Rush'n Past the Limit. Michael Stevens, owner and handler.

2d—PAINTED ROCK LORETTA LYNN, unreg., female, by Redline's Tequilas Smoker—Sonny's Hot Summer Breeze. Jason Canales, owner and handler.

3d—WARBONNET WYND SWEPT DUNES, unreg., female, by Almaden's Under Lock and Key—Warbonnet Wynd Turing Firestar.

Todd Breitenfeldt, owner and handler.

4th—SHADYWOOD WOLCOTT QUAXINELLI BANKS, unreg., male, by Timberline's Lone Ranger—Shadywood My Georgia Peach. Joseph McCarthy, owner and handler.

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FARMER SPORTSMEN'S FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Erin's Thunder Backus Wins Oliver DeLuca Open Shooting Dog Classic

By Bill Branham | Ionia, Michigan | April 14, 2022



Bill Branham, Shawn Kinkelaar with Erin's Thunder Backus, Allen Dunbar with Grouse Feather Witcher, Kelsey Hajek, and Sandy MacLean with Wicked Quick.

Finally, the Farmer Sportsmen's Club was able to hold the Oliver Deluca Classic after two long years. It was held on April 14-17 at the Ionia field trial grounds.

The weather was not the greatest to say the least. It was rainy and very windy. The grounds had taken a lot of rain over the last several weeks and the courses were very muddy, but we all made the best of it. It was great to see everyone that we hadn't seen in two years.

We would like to thank a few people who helped make this trial a success Purina is first and foremost for their dedicated support. I know it has been a long and difficult couple of years to say the least, our hats off. Also, to all the members who took time out of their busy schedules to come and help to make this a success. Jeff Haggis made his way through the border to help and marshal. Sandy Maclean and Kelsey Hajek did double duty. Besides riding and helping, they also provided a fantastic dinner on Friday night. Judges Blake Rizzo and Leroy Long gave their undivided attention to each brace.

A very special thanks goes to Bill and Cindy Klenner. Cindy, who has been the secretary of Farmer Sportsmen's Club for many years, has decided to step down. And Bill who has been there to lend a hand where it was needed. They both have dedicated their time generously to the betterment of the sport and will be missed.

The winners of the Oliver DeLuca Open Shooting Dog Classic.

First Erin's Thunder Backus, handled by Shawn Kinkelaar. He had a far-reaching run with multiple finds.

Second was Grouse Feather Witcher, SM handled by Allen Dunbar. Witcher had a very nice forward race with a couple of well-placed finds and a back.

Third went to Wicked Quick, PF handed by Sandy Maclean. Quick put down a very pleasing race for her handler.

Ionia, Mich., April 14

Judges: Lee Long and Blake Rizzo

OLIVER DELUCA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC

[One-Hour Heats] – 13 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st—ERIN'S THUNDER BACKUS, 1692320, pointer male, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Erin's Bet On Me. Dr. Tom Jackson & Jerry Moisson, owners; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

2d—GROUSE FEATHER WITCHER, 1688616, setter male, by T's Gunslinger-Wynona's Witchy Woman. Allen Dunbar, owner and handler.

3d—WICKED QUICK, 1674810, pointer female, by Dunn's Tried'n True-Dunn's Get Out Sue. Sandy MacLean & Kelsey Hajek, owners; Sandy MacLean, handler.

Judges: Bill Klenner and Shawn Kinkelaar

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 4 Pointers and 4 Setters

1st—G F TEXAS DANGER, 1679543, setter male, by Hytest Palladin-Wynona's Shamrock Buffet. Allen Dunbar, owner and handler.

2d—WICKED HIPPIE, 1684804, pointer male, by Lester's Sunny Hill Jo-Wicked Quick. Sandy MacLean, owner and handler.

3d—GROUSE FEATHER WITCHER, 1688616, setter male, by T's Gunslinger-Wynona's Witchy Woman. Allen Dunbar, owner and handler.

Hall of Fame Nominations close Friday, August 5!

Voting instructions will appear in the September issue.

GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE PUPPY CLASSIC

Super Storm Hank Wins 73rd Running

By Thor Kain | Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania | April 15, 2022

The Grand National Puppy Classic is back after a two-year hiatus. Pups eligible to run must be from litters nominated by the breeder for the Grand National Grouse Futurity. The owner then pays a forfeit fee, and the nomination process is complete, and the puppies can run in the Classic and then the Grouse Futurity in the fall when they are derbies. Litter Nominations have been down the last few years, but several breeders continue to support the Futurity every year, as well as others who have the occasional litter or are new to the Grouse Futurity. Lance Bressler, Watts/Brenneman, Ronnie Eldridge, John Stolgitis, Ken Moss, and John Capocci have all been the biggest supporters of the Futurity the last few years and for that we are thankful.

The running took place at historic and beautiful Grouse Ridge Farm in Oxford, N.Y. If you've never been to this part of New York, it's worth the trip. Rolling hills, old stone walls, overgrown orchards from yesteryear all set the stage for these scenic grounds. Pete Flanagan had the grounds in top shape and a course laid out that offered fields, thick grouse type cover, open hard woods and just enough turns to make sure the puppies would handle.

In the judicial saddle were two New York natives who were both no stranger to the Grand National Puppy Classic and other grouse trial events—Pat Cooke of Rochester, N.Y., and Scott Forman from Prattsburgh, N.Y. Pat owned the famous multiple-time champion, setter female River's Edge Sadie, and other winning dogs. Scott needs little introduction as he is an accomplished trainer/handler who has developed and handled many winning dogs and champions. Both men are respected judges, and their decisions were well received.

Sixteen setters and ten pointers were drawn for this prestigious event. Handlers and owners came from PA, NY, RI, MI, NH, and CT to run their puppies. Winning the blue and then taking home the revolving trophy was Super Storm Hank, owned and handled by this reporter. Hank was bred by none other than Bob Watts of the Watts/Brenneman setter duo who have bred, owned, and campaigned many a classy winning setter. Hank's dam, Deciding Point, was the product of the mating of two of the most successful and well-known dogs Watts and Brenneman have ever owned, Pennstar and Straight Forward. Bob chose the big, hard charging male, Maximum Resistance, when it came time to breed Deciding Point. This mating proved successful with several pups winning and showing potential to their owners. Hank ran to the limit fading in and off the bell. With a little work he could be shown out front and then put somewhere else for another move. He ran with speed and power and the judges commented that he set the bar high once he ran. Second place honors went to female setter North Country's Soda Pop, proudly owned by Nick and Emil Hamel of N.H. The Hamels entrusted their pup's development to New

Hampshire pro Adam Dubriske, who had Soda Pop ready to roll for the Puppy Classic. She ran with speed, style and went to all the places you'd have wanted to see a pup go. Soda Pop was bred by Lance Bressler of Curwensville, Pa. The cross he has made several times to the famous Champion, Ponderosa Mac and his female Hunter's Flight Risk, has produced several winners, including 4th place in this stake. Lance has an eye for producing quality dogs and these pups are no exception. Grouse Hill Rambo, pointer male, bred, owned and handled by John Capocci won the yellow ribbon with a solid effort. He's a big, strapping pup who runs with class and power. He was braced with the winner and handled with ease for John, proving he was in tune with what John wanted. John has been around bird dogs for a long time. He owned the famous champion Grouse Hill Bell and many other champion dogs. It goes without saying, if John is entering a dog, it's a threat to win. Rambo was from the mating of Ch. Bo of Piney Woods to John's winning female, Grouse Hill Prima. His future is bright, and it looks like John will have another Champion once he graduates to adult stakes. The fourth-place ribbon went to the eye-catching setter male, Resin, owned and handled by Kevin Lahoda. Resin ran a hard charging, fancy race. He's a good-sized male but moves over the ground with a light footed application. He too was bred by Lance Bressler from the successful Ch. Ponderosa Mac x Hunter's Flight Risk. If Lance repeats this breeding, those looking for a winning prospect would be wise to give him a call.

Many thanks are in order for making this event a success. First, thank you to the Flanagans for allowing us to use your beautiful grounds. Deb Nihart has always been a big help with Grouse Futurity events, and she filled in where needed including a last minute trip to town to pick up supplies that were forgotten by this reporter. Thank you, Deb. Kristy Forman, the lovely bride of judge Scott Forman, was everywhere and helped with everything including keeping things moving and clean up duties. Thank you, Kristy, for all your help. Bill Ballin marshaled the first few braces and kept a watchful eye on the event in order to make sure it run smooth, Thank you, Billy. Last, but not least, the Directors of the Grand National would like to thank Greg Blair and Purina for their sponsorship of GNG events. Greg is always available and the generous support they give is very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Futurity this fall.

**Lake Ariel, Pa., April 15 – One Course
Judges: Pat Cooke and Scott Forman
GRAND NATIONAL PUPPY CLASSIC
– 10 Pointers and 16 Setters**

1st—SUPER STORM HANK, 1695853, setter male, by Maximum Resistance-Deciding Point. Thor Kain, owner and handler.

2d—NORTH COUNTRY'S SODA POP, 1694744, setter female, by



(From left): Pat Cooke (judge), Thor Kain with Super Storm Hank, Adam Dubriske with North Country's Soda Pop, Scott Forman (judge), John Capocci with Grouse Hill Rambo, and Kevin Lahoda with Resin.

Ponderosa Mac-Hunter's Flight Risk. Nicholas Hamel, owner; Adam Dubriske, handler.

3d—GROUSE HILL RAMBO, 1696375, pointer male, by Bo of Piney Woods-Grouse Hill Prima. John Capocci, owner and handler.

4th—RESIN, 1696319, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Hunter's Flight Risk. Kevin Lahoda owner and handler.

September Newsletter Deadline:
Friday, August 5

FIELD TRIAL REMINDER / ATTENTION: CLUB OFFICIALS

Trial dates that have been scheduled and confirmed for the season may be submitted for inclusion in the Kennel Fixtures column to provide an early notice of the club's trial before the formal announcement appears.

To comply with the minimum ad requirements, copy should be submitted at least 30 days before the start of a trial. All field trial ads appear on the website Calendar at www.americanfield.com. To be included in print, please see deadlines on page 28.

Questions or need a copy of a previous field trial ad?
Please email gsmith@ukcdogs.com.

RUFFED GROUSE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Annual Spring Trial

By Bill Nelson | Meredith, Michigan | April 15, 2022

The Ruffed Grouse annual spring trial was a great success. Seventy-six dogs ran over 2 days on wild birds using multiple courses. Grouse and woodcock were seen on every course, giving each dog an opportunity to get on the podium table. Cool spring temperatures had dogs eager to hit the sparse spring cover. The perfect weather allowed handlers' dogs to reach out to the far objectives due to being able to see so much further in the spring timber. A special thanks to Purina for providing dog food for winners and participants. Thank you to all veteran club members and new members, and also to the Hollister clan for providing excellent horsepower. It was nice to see so many dedicated trial enthusiasts make this spring trial a huge success.

Jack Secor Memorial Open Shooting Dog

This year's judges, Dave Heavlin and Bill Nelson, pronounced Travel Alert, AKA Buster, as the Jack Secor Memorial Open Shooting Dog winner. Buster had a strong forward ground race with 2 very nice grouse finds. His first find came at 17 in a grassy, open cover where he had a grouse pinned. Owner and handler Harold Holmes was quick to get bird to flight and Buster looked great through it all. Buster continued to drive forward hitting objectives and once again stopped at 24. "Doc" wasted no time and once again had another grouse thundering through the trees. Buster continued forward and finished strong.

Second place went to Sterlingworth Jack. Pro Robert Ecker handled this attractive forward going setter. Jack ran on Course 6 which allows a dog to run in more open cover with far off objectives and Jack took advantage, showing his independence to find game and was rewarded at 14 with a well-located woodcock find. Ecker made a big flushing attempt and put the timberdoodle to flight while Jack stood proud through it all. Jack continued with good ground application to finish his brace.

Centerfold Peach is owned and handled by Doc Holmes of Flint, Mich. Peach broke away on Course 7 through a thick briar patch. Peach had a grouse pinned at the 2-minute mark. Doc went in and flushed the grouse just out front of Peach. All in order, Peach drove hard to the front with little help from Dr. Holmes. She finished her brace strong, showing strong rapport with her handler throughout her brace.

Meredith, Mich., April 15
Judges: David Heavlin and William Nelson
JACK SECOR MEMORIAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG
– 4 Pointers and 37 Setters

1st—TRAVEL ALERT, 1665621, setter male, by Moss Meadow Traveler-Wild Kat Run. Dr. Harold Holmes, owner and handler.

2d—STERLINGWORTH JACK, 1655602, setter male, by Shadow Oak Bo-Hunter Run's Dawn. Jim Millett, owner; R. J. Ecker, Jr., handler.

3d—CENTERFOLD PEACH, 1687669, setter female, by Hershner's Grouse Gunner-Call Me Maggie. Dr. Harold Holmes, owner and handler.

Ruth Stuart Puppy Classic

The Puppy Classic always draws a nice field of young prospects, and this year was no exception. According to judges Mike Bentley and Ken Wreggelsworth, the placements were all well-earned. First place dog was Redoak Elhew Cash, owned by Ted Tamas



Open Shooting Dog (standing): Bill Nelson (judge), Jeff Secor (grandson of Jack Secor), Dave Heavlin (judge), and Bryan Wood. (Kneeling): Harold Holmes with Travel Alert, Robert Ecker with Sterlingworth Jack, and Brent Peters with Centerfold Peach.

and bred by Dave Havelin. Cash is a strongly built white and liver pointer who ran a strong forward race with very little handling from Mr. Tamas. Cash presented style, speed and independence which garnered him the win in the stake.

Second place dog was May's Legacy of Justice, owned and handled by Ken DeLong, bred by Bill Nelson. Freedom's field trial career is off to a good start by placing multiple times in wild bird trials and walking trial events. Freedom again ran a far-reaching forward race, proving he has what it takes to be on the winners' podium.

The third-place dog was Highbanks Final Justice, owned, bred and handled by Bill Nelson. A littermate to Ken DeLong's pointer, Freedom, Final Justice ran a far-reaching forward race and finished strong to earn him a spot in the winners' circle.

Judges: Michael Bentley and Ken Wreggelsworth
RUTH STUART OPEN PUPPY – 8 Pointers, 1 Brittany
and 1 German Shorthair

1st—REDOAK ELHEW CASH, 1696865, pointer male, by Texas Elhew Bodie-Trinity Maize. Ted Tamas, owner and handler.

2d—MAY'S LEGACY OF JUSTICE, 1695469, pointer male, by Faith's Maximum Justice-Chasehill Mighty May. Kenric DeLong, owner and handler.

3d—HIGHBANKS FINAL JUSTICE, 1699690, pointer male, by Faith's Maximum Justice-Chasehill Mighty May. Bill Nelson, owner and handler.

John R. Stuart Derby Classic

The Jack R. Stuart Derby Classic is held in honor of one of the founding members of the Ruffed Grouse Field Trial Club. This year's judges were Lonnie Rademacher of Lake Leelanau, Mich., and Paul Renius of Metamora, Mich. The winner of the event was Coleman's Dun Roven Kona, female setter owned by Curtis Coleman and handled by Ricky Hollister. Kona drew course 10 and scored on a grouse after the turn from "Heart Attack Hill" in some likely cover.

Second place was awarded to Meredith Grade Penny, female setter owned by Dennis Keysor and handled by Tammy Chaffee. Penny ran on course 12 and pointed a tightly sitting woodcock



Derby (from left): Bryan Wood, Ricky Hollister with Coleman's Dun Roven Kona, Dennis Keysor, Tammy Chaffee with Meredith Grade Penny, Paul Renius (judge), and Bill Nelson with Highbanks Diamond Lucy.



Puppy (from left): Bryan Wood, Ted Tamas with Redoak Elhew Cash, and Bill Nelson with Highbanks Final Justice. (Ken DeLong and May's Legacy of Justice are missing from the photo).

near time.

Third was Highbanks Diamond Lucy, female pointer owned and handled by Bill Nelson. Lucy was also braced on Course 12 and placed based on a mature and searching race.

Judges: Paul Renius and Lonnie Rademacher
JOHN R. STUART DERBY CLASSIC
 – 1 Pointer, 12 Setters and 1 Brittany

1st—COLEMAN'S DUN ROVEN KONA, 1693253, setter female, by Dun Rovens Lucky-Dun Rovens Luna. Curtis Coleman, owner; Ricky Hollister, handler.

2d—MEREDITH GRADE PENNY, 1694628, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Eldridge's Beauty and Beast. Dennis Keysor, owner; Tammy Chaffee, handler.

3d—HIGHBANKS DIAMOND LUCY, 1691443, pointer female, by Chippoke's Bud-Chasehill Mighty May. William Nelson, owner and handler.

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COVE CREEK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Second Club Trial Held At "Biddle Place"

By Bruce Mueller | Bedford County, Pennsylvania | April 16, 2022

It was under mostly sunny skies on April 16 when the Cove Creek Field Trial Club held its second field trial. This one-day amateur event drew 28 dogs—10 puppies and 18 shooting dogs. The event site was PA Gamelands #97, "Biddle Place", that holds ample cover for this quail trial. The single course turned through terrain managed for pheasant hunting but has edges known to hold spring woodcock. Land Management Group Supervisor Jonathan Zuck of the PA Game Commission and his crew of habitat managers has continued to improve the grounds. The old stone fences showed evidence of recent "brontosaurus machine" used to control perches the avian predators use. I was told that next year the area is slated for a control burn of the fields. We had a visit from WCO Elliot and Adams. After doing their due diligence we engaged in a discussion of field trials. Neither WCO had experienced a trial and during the brief discussion they were able to watch a dog lock up on a bird and see the handler go in for the flush. A positive experience.

We cannot have such events if it were not for sponsors like the U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association and Purina. They provided us with support and food coupons for the event. We had great participation from "members" who help organize, collaborate, lay out our course, plant birds, and be available to help wherever needed. Eric Locher, Jeff Keller, and Brad May provided the help

we needed.

The puppies began the day at 8:00 a.m. under the judgment of Carlos Escalante of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Nick Blackley of Reynoldsville, Pa. Our judges awarded Elli Mae, a setter female owned and handled by Less Bressler. She made an impressive cast that caught the eyes of both judges. Chuck, a pointer male owned and handled by Eric Munden, was awarded second with an attractive run with style. The third-place dog was Mannie, an Irish setter female owned and handled by Al Fazenbaker. Mannie is a flashy quick moving dog that has a bright future.

After the announcements were made the shooting dogs began. Our judges were a husband wife team, Eric and Krysta Munden. They are very capable judges and felt fortunate that they were able to evaluate the dogs.

As stated previously, the grounds have habitat more suited for pheasants, but there are woodcock, and the edges are where the quail were planted. Most of the dogs were able to turn with the handlers along the course. Some of the dogs would bury themselves into the edge cover where only bells could be heard. Others made impressive casts that were seen by all walking along. Our judges selected Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella, a pointer female owned and handled by Martin Festa, as our winner. Harper made

impressive casts and on her last move was found standing a bird after a bit of scouting. Our Runner-Up was Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian ("Rye"), a pointer male owned and handled by Sarah Gomes. Rye is a big, strong dog that moved well and stood his birds with style. Third place was Double Deuce Oscar, a pointer male owned and handled by Doug McMillen. Oscar's run was without mistakes and handled well for Doug.

Bedford County, Pa., April 16 – One Course
Judges: Nick Blackley and Carlos Escalante
AMATEUR PUPPY – 4 Pointers, 4 Setters and 2 Irish Setters

1st—LESLIE'S ELLI MAE, 1697969, setter female, by Grouse River Rocken Roll-Grouse River Patti Cake. Leslie Bressler, owner and handler.

2d—WILDLAND HIDE THE WINE, 1697105, pointer male, by Double

Deuce Zeke-Beaver Meadow Rose. Eric Munden, owner and handler.

3d—C C SPIRIT OF MARNOC, 1697073, Irish setter female, by Come Back Trump-Come Back Little Bit. Al Fazanbaker, owner and handler.

Judges: Eric Munden and Krysta Munden
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 4 Pointers, 12 Setters
and 1 Irish Setter

1st—BLUE RIBBON'S HARPER BELLA, 1682768, pointer female, by Bud of Piney Woods-Blue Ribbon Bella. Martin Festa, owner and handler.

2d—CAL PEAK HUNDREDTH MERIDIAN, 1671286, pointer male, by Cover Change Search Engine-Sandland Dolly P. Sarah Gomes, owner and handler.

3d—DOUBLE DEUCE OSCAR, 1677854, pointer male, by Cover Charge Search Engine-Double Deuce Molly. Douglas E. McMillen, Jr., owner and handler.

MINNESOTA GROUSE DOG ASSOCIATION

Annual Spring Trial

By Joe Landowski | Mora, Minnesota | April 15, 2022

After an abnormally early spring thaw in 2021, the Minnesota Grouse Dog Association was in high hopes for the spring season of 2022. However, after what seemed like a never-ending winter, the club was forced to cancel its first trial scheduled for April 1st due to poor course conditions. Crossed fingers and a lot of wishful thinking were rewarded for the trial on April 15-16. Although temps and wind speeds were far from ideal, the club came together and was able to put on a smooth two days of running with 4 different stakes and a total of 27 braces. Despite the weather all were in good spirits. It was mentioned several times this spring throughout the region that this year has had some of the biggest draw numbers ever and we were glad to see plenty of new faces in attendance.

Open Shooting Dog

The Open Shooting Dog was judged by Ben Mergens of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and A.J. Kalupa of Big Lake, Minn.

First place was awarded to orange and white setter female Kasida, owned and handled by Paul Cook. "Z" had a picture-perfect woodcock find early in her brace that found her pointed well off her bird. All was in order as the bird was put to flight. Z



Open Shooting Dog: Greg Johnson with Northwoods Atlas, Ed Graddy with Northern Slopes Bell, Paul Cook with Kasida, A.J. Kalupa (judge), and Ben Mergens (judge).

then went on to scorch the ground in search of birds with a great forward moving race and making it look easy for her handler. It was noted that she finished her brace just as strong as she started

Second place went to a mostly white setter female named Bell, owned and handled by Ed Graddy. Bell had a woodcock find in under a minute from the breakaway and showed great composure as the bird strutted around in front of her while Ed worked to put the bird to flight. When the shot was fired Bell was able to show the gallery what broke dog work should look like. Bell stayed out front for the rest of her brace hunting hard and looking fancy to secure her placement

Third place was claimed by tri-color setter male Northwoods Atlas. "Jet" is owned and handled by Greg Johnson. Jet finished his race with a clean woodcock find just 10 minutes into his run. He handled with ease, staunch on his bird and didn't track off course or get behind. Greg handled without any reservations and brought Jet to the finish line.

Mora, Minn., April 15

Judges: A. J. Kalupa and Ben Mergens
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 1 Pointer and 15 Setters

1st—KASIDA, 1682487, setter female, by Erin's Prometheus-War Paint. Paul Cook, owner and handler.

2d—NORTHERN SLOPES BELL, 1682006, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Out of the Shadows. James Graddy, owner and handler.

3d—NORTHWOODS ATLAS, 1674557, setter male, by Northwoods Grits-Northwoods Nickel. Greg Johnson, owner and handler.

Amateur Shooting Dog

The Amateur Shooting Dog was judged by Paul Cook of Danbury, Wis., and Jordan Pharris of Brainerd, Minn.

Taking first place was orange and white female setter Lake Effect Ali, owned and handled by Tim Kaufman. Ali ran a nice forward flowing race and handled smoothly for Tim. She was rewarded with a nice broke grouse find to secure her win. She went on to



Open Derby: Jake Nelson with Rise and Shine Rosie, Paul Bukovich with Berg Bros Wild Bill, and Colin Peterson with Woodcock Haven Chomper.



Amateur Shooting Dog (front): Tim Kaufman with Lake Effect Ali, and Greg Johnson with Northwoods Atlas. (Back row): Paul Cook (judge) and Jordan Pharris (judge).



Open Puppy: Katie Cook with Petra, Sarah Palmer with Fiona, Jerome George with Chase, Ryan Bjerke (judge), and Joel Thorstad (judge).

finish her brace as fancy as she started.

Second place was awarded to tri-color male setter Northwoods Atlas, owned and handled by Greg Johnson. Jet handled easy and was forward moving for Greg. At a sharp left turn in the course, Jet's bell fell silent at good distance in good cover to the right. Both scout and handler would be needed in finding Jet who held his bird for the better part of 15 minutes. When he was eventually found Greg was able to put the woodcock to flight and Jet was steady and tall.

Third place went to another tri-color male setter. The Highway, owned and handled by Dave Moore, ran a beautiful race with good forward momentum that took him to all the places one would expect to find birds. Although no birds were produced it was not due to lack of effort. Rhett finished his race forward and searching.

**Judges: Paul Cook and Jordan Pharris
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 14 Setters**

1st—LAKE EFFECT ALI, 1688438, female, by Northern Lights Sirius-Lake Effect Tilly. Tim Kaufman, owner and handler.

2d—NORTHWOODS ATLAS, 1674557, male, by Northwoods Grits-Northwoods Nickel. Greg Johnson, owner and handler.

3d—THE HIGHWAY, 1681449, male, by Erin's Prometheus-Northwoods Carley Simon. David Moore, owner and handler.

Open Derby

The Derby was judged by Chris Bye of River Falls, Wis., and Ed Graddy of Rochester, Minn.

Black and white pointer male Chomper took first place for his owner/handler Colin Peterson. Chomper had a good looking forward race that took him to all the right places. Added to that was his easy handling leaving judges confident in their decision

Tri-color setter male Billy also had a nice race that kept him to the front and challenging his bell in search of birds, and left owner/handler Paul Bukovich with a lot to be proud of on their second-place finish.

Black and white female setter Rosie produced a pretty woodcock find for her owner/handler Jake Nelson and finished her brace hunting nicely to secure her third-place spot.

**Judges: Chris Bye and James Graddy
OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers and 9 Setters**

1st—WOODCOCK HAVEN CHOMPER, 1699565, pointer male, by Woodcock Haven War Paint-Woodcock Haven Fire Sky. Colin Peterson, owner and handler.

2d—BERG BROTHERS WILD BILL, 1694094, setter male, by Berg Brothers Sagebrush-Berg Brothers Cheyenne. Paul Bukovich, owner and handler.

3d—RISE AND SHINE ROSIE, 1694407, setter female, by Goodwing Missouri Breaks-Goodgoing Gabby. Jacob Nelson, owner and handler

**Judges: Joel Thorstad and Ryan Bjerke
Open Puppy – 4 Setters, 1 Brittany and 1 Irish Setter**

1st—SINGLE NOTE RUN, 1698250, setter female, by T's Nickelback-Hidden Jasmine. Paul Cook, owner; Katie Cook, handler.

2d—PALMER'S FAIRY TALE FIONA, 1698474, Irish setter female, by Come Back Billy Boy-Hatcreek Lady Red. Sarah Marczak-Palmer, owner and handler.

3d—BURNING ROCK CHASSEUR BRETON, unreg., Brittany male, by M J D's In Clean Air-Sonny's Tequila Rule No. 45. Jerome George, owner and handler.

BEAVERTON GROUSE DOG CLUB

Annual Spring Classics

By Tammy Chaffee | Meredith, Michigan | April 22, 2022

The 41st running of the Michigan Grouse Dog Puppy Classic, with the accompanying Eaton Spring Derby Classic, commenced with the draw at the home of Secretary Tom Fruchey. In addition to the puppy and derby classics, participants entered 28 shooting dogs in the open shooting dog event and an amateur event sported 11 starters.

The festivities began on Friday morning at Alibi Hall in the heart of what is arguably the best wild upland game bird venue in North America, the Gladwin Game Refuge. This dedicated field trial acreage has the fortunate support of the current wildlife biologist Bruce Barlow, who has overseen the improvements to the grounds to the benefit of the field trialing community. Each year a contingent of participants gather during the long, hot days of July to clear existing courses and create new ones that take advantage of many poplar cuts as they reach the optimal maturity for grouse and woodcock habitat. Many thanks go to the Gladwin Game Refuge Grounds Committee and all the volunteers who put in the hours to make the refuge what it now is.

It definitely “takes a village” to run a wild bird field trial. Here in northern Michigan, we are blessed to have a large village that keeps the events running smoothly. To name a few, from Bryan Wood, our field trial chairman, keeping the braces on time, to the Hollister family—Rich, Jenny, and Ricky—having safe and pliable horses at the ready. Many club members and non-members alike marshaled braces and moved vehicles. Wayne and Marlene Fruchey had coffee, donuts, and other goodies ready at “donut junction” and a tailgate lunch at the tubes. Club President Ken Moss, Secretary Tom Fruchey, directors Shane Haskin, Roger Johnson, Denny Keysor, Brent Peters, and Tammy Chaffee all did their parts to keep everything running smoothly and on time. Additionally, in recent years we have a number of very welcome new faces to our game and their presence and assistance is very much appreciated.

At the conclusion of the running on Saturday, the announcements for the open shooting dog, derby classic and puppy classic events were announced. Following the announcements, a steak dinner was provided at Alibi Hall, with chefs Ken and Mary Moss and Mike Singleton doing the honors. Many a story has been shared under the covered porch over a superbly grilled steak! This year the club was able to run an amateur stake on Sunday. During dinner, a Calcutta was conducted by Tom Fruchey as he auctioned off the

amateur canine participants to the delight of all in attendance.

We would be remiss if we did not give a huge shoutout to Purina and their rep Greg Blair for their continued support of our sport. A huge thank you to Purina and Greg!

The Running

The Michigan Grouse Dog Puppy Classic had 24 starters this year, the largest number in several years. Thanks to Jeff Sweet for managing the puppy braces and keeping us all in line! The classic was judged by field trial veterans Tom Fruchey and Tammy Chaffee. A daunting job to pick the best 3 of 24! The biggest challenge for the day was the very dry and warm conditions. After a full day in the saddle with a couple of breaks due to conflicts with the other stakes that were running simultaneously, the judges determined that May's Legacy of Justice, call name Freedom, proudly owned and handled by Ken DeLong, was the clear winner. This male pointer is mature beyond his youth and ran a large, animated, and forward race. In second was Redoak Elhew Cash, another male pointer owned and handled by Ted Tamas. Cash ran to all the likely spots with bird seeking determination. Third was Speed Dialing Kaia, a female pointer owned by John Paul Jones and handled by Bruce Minard. Kaia ran an early brace and hit all the birdy looking spots.

The Eaton Spring Derby Classic commenced on Saturday at the conclusion of the open shooting dog stake. Judges Ken Moss and Shane Haskins were charged with reviewing an entry of 17 derbies. At the conclusion, they named Henry Danger, a young setter male owned and handled by Mark Kryzaniwskyj as top dog. Henry ran a super race coupled with a spectacular grouse find on course 11. In third place was Meredith Grade Kati, a female setter owned and handled by Mike Singleton, who ran a fast and forward race on course 10 for her 30 minutes. Second place was withheld.

The spring open shooting dog stake began Friday morning at 8 a.m. sharp on course 1. Fifteen braces were run on Friday, with 3 braces rounding out the event on Saturday morning. Judging duties were handled by the very capable duo of Dave Hawk and Tom Vanecek. When the dust settled, the judges determined that Shady Hill Zeena, a female pointer owned by Deb Nihart and handled by Marc Forman, bested the field of 36 competitors. Zeena had course 7 and handled a difficult course with a forward and searching race that rewarded her with a grouse find just



Open Shooting Dog: Bryan Wood, Marc Forman with Shady Hills Zeena, Scott Chaffee with Flycast Rollie Fingers, and Rich Hollister with Flambeau River Meg.



Derby: Bryan Wood, Ken Moss (judge), Mark Kryzaniwskij with Henry Danger, Mike Singleton with Meredith Grade Kati, and Shane Haskins (judge).



Puppy: Bryan Wood, Tammy Chaffee (judge), Ken DeLong with May's Legacy of Justice, Tom Fruchey (judge), Ted Tamas with Redoak Elhew Cash, Bruce Minard with Speed Dialing Kaia, and Jeff Sweet.

before the road crossing. Second was Flycast Rollie Fingers, a male setter owned by Dr. Robert Haraden and handled by Scott Chaffee. Rollie ran a wide and open course 5 and while covering it all, pointed a tight sitting woodcock. Third was Flambeau River Meg, a female setter owned by Joseph Colglazier and handled by Rich Hollister. Meg had the heavy poplar covered course 4 and through an extensive hunting effort, was rewarded with two grouse finds.

Sunday brought the hotly contested amateur shooting dog stake and was adjudicated by pro trainers Scott Chaffee and Neal Minard. At the conclusion of 6 braces, Ken DeLong's Brittany male, K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot (Shooter) was declared the winner. Shooter covered course 6 in a manner that was nearly perfect and punctuated it with a nice woodcock find. Second was veteran male setter Travel Alert, owned and handled by Harold "Doc" Holmes. Buster was set loose on course 5 and the judges were impressed with how he hunted out every nook and cranny. Third was Singleton's Ginger Ale, owned by Mike Singleton and handled by Ken Moss. Ginger hunted out the variable cover of course 7 with good application for her 30 minutes.

Meredith, Mich., April 22

**Judges: Dave Hawk and Tom Vanecek
BGDC SPRING OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 6 Pointers, 30 Setters
and 1 Irish Setter**

- 1st—SHADY HILLS ZEENA, 1667955, pointer female, by Erin's War Creek-Brave Heart Cassie. Debra Nihart, owner; Marc Forman, handler.
- 2d—FLYCAST ROLLIE FINGERS, 1667526, setter male, by Jetwood-Fireside Drama Queen. Dr. Robert Haraden, owner; Scott Chaffee, handler.
- 3d—FLAMBEAU RIVER ANNIE, 1670685, setter female, by Grouse Buster's Zeke-Cornerwood Mya Storm. Joseph Cogglazier, owner; Richard Hollister, handler.

**Judges: Shane Haskins and Ken Moss
EATON SPRING DERBY CLASSIC – 2 Pointers and 15 Setters**

- 1st—HENRY DANGER, 1696907, setter male, by Ponderosa MacEldridge's Beauty and Beast. Mark Kryzaniwskij, owner and handler.
- 2d—[Placement Withheld]
- 3d—MEREDITH GRADE KATI, 1692672, setter female, by Jetwood-I'm Blue Who. Dennis Keyser, owner; Mike Singleton, handler.

**Judges: Tammy Chaffee and Tom Fruchey
MICHIGAN PUPPY CLASSIC – 9 Pointers, 12 Setters,
1 Brittany and 2 German Shorthairs**

- 1st—MAY'S LEGACY OF JUSTICE, 1695469, pointer male, by Faith's

Maximum Justice-Chasehill Mighty Man. Kenric DeLong, owner and handler.

2d—REDOAK ELHEW CASH, 1696865, pointer male, by Texas Elhew Bodie-Trinity Maize. Ted Tamas, owner and handler.

3d—SPEED DIALING KAIA, 1696795, pointer female, by Miller's Speed Dial-Phantom's Santo Sun. John Paul Jones, owner; Bruce Minard, handler.

Judges: Scott Chaffee and Niel Minard

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 10 Pointers and 1 Brittany

1st—K DEL'S EAGLE MAGNUM HOTSHOT, 1685770, Brittany male, by Magnum High Velocity-K Del's Eagle Chance To Soar. Kenric DeLong, owner and handler.

2d—TRAVEL ALERT, 1665621, setter male, by Moss Meadow Traveler-Wild Katrun. Dr. Harold Holmes, owner and handler.

3d—SINGLETON'S GINGER ALE, 1678106, setter female, by Jetwood-Snyder's Oak Rose. Mike Singleton, owner; Ken Moss, handler.



Amateur Shooting Dog: Neal Minard (judge), Ken DeLong with K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot, Harold Holmes with Travel Alert, Scott Chaffee (judge), and Ken Moss with Singleton's Ginger Ale.

NORTHWEST FIELD ASSOCIATION

Annual Spring Trial

By Lorrie Bohl-Beaulieu | Hankinson, North Dakota | April 22, 2022

The Northwest Field Association held its annual spring field trial at the Sheyenne National Grasslands (Hankinson Hills Unit), in southeastern North Dakota on April 22 and 23. The rolling hills, blanketed in native prairie grass and dotted with groves of bur oak, present a challenging test for dogs, handlers, and scouts as they navigate this unique terrain.

The two-day event kicked off on April 22, Earth Day, and fittingly, participants had a chance to experience the range and power of North Dakota weather as the region awakens from its brumal sleep. Sun, rain, cold, high winds, heat, hail, and sleet took turns challenging the handlers and dogs, and one brace was interrupted as the group sought cover when the clouds erupted with thunder, hail, and strong winds. Despite complications with weather, the competitors' spirits held high and bobwhite quail were found by the dogs that probed into the edge covers where the birds sought shelter.

No field trial can run without the help of many hands. The ever-dependable Don Dack oversaw the dog wagon, ensuring dogs were consistently ready to go at the breakaway and that the humans were fully fueled with coffee and melt-in-your-mouth cinnamon rolls from the Hot Cakes Café in Hankinson. The contributions of club members in varying capacities are always essential and was surely appreciated. And local bird dog enthusiast and friend of the club, Mark Pfeifer, ensured there was an ample supply of fresh water at the camp for horses and dogs. We are fortunate to have your help.

A sincere thank you to Greg Blair and Purina for your sponsorship and loyal support for our Northwest Field Association club's field trials. And finally, a hearty thank you to our judges, A. J. Kalupa, Bob Saari, Scott Jordan, L. J. Lundstrom, Dave Moore, and Don Dack, for their time and attention in the saddle judging the competitors.

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all the participants and volunteers for making it a successful trial.

The Running

Nine to Five Nation, owned by David Moore and handled by Scott Jordan, emerged as the winner of the Open All-Age. "Dolly" ran a true all-age race at extreme speed, always showing to the front. She was found standing at 22 with lofty style, when handler noticed her bracedmate was also standing below the hill he elected to take a back. In the final minutes Dolly was seen way to the front still in search of game.

Pearl Jam Nation owned and handled by Scott Jordan was the top dog in Friday's Open Derby stake. Pearl ran a fast, forward race with an easy-pleasing gait. She was found standing three times with extreme style. Pearl is a young daughter of 4x champion Confident Nation and will be looking forward to a successful derby season this year.

Cold Creek Hank, a nicely gaited Setter male owned and handled by Ian MacTavish, took top honors in the Open Shooting Dog. Hank displayed excellent ground speed and range, well outpacing his bracedmate who picked up mid brace due to heat fatigue. Hank stretched well forward and probed into the edges and thickets where quail were seeking shelter from the wind, and he was rewarded with three well-spaced finds. He demonstrated excellent style and intensity on point, and his manners were all in order.

Rae, a stylish, strong running pointer female owned and handled by Jim Tande, was the top derby. Rae was exceptionally strong on the ground and did not have any lulls in her speed and focus even though the full sun showed its effect on the other dogs' performances. When Rae showed, it was almost always way out front as a flash of white pressing forward to the next objective.

**Hankinson, N. D., April 22 – One Course
Judges: A. J. Kalupa and Robert Saari
OPEN ALL-AGE – 8 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st—NINE TO FIVE NATION, 1693962, pointer female, by Strut Nation-Frontline Dita. David Moore, owner; Scott Jordan, handler.



Open Shooting Dog (from left): Cold Creek Hank with Ian MacTavish, Upfront's Piper with scout A. J. Kalupa, and Prairiewood's Dakota with Todd Manns.



Open Derby (from left): Rae with Jim Tande, Cold Creek Single Malt with Ian MacTavish, and True North with scout Lorrie Bohl-Beaulieu.

2d—NORTHERN CONFIDENCE, 1689632, pointer male, by True Confidence-Southern Songbird. Frank LaNasa, owner and handler.

3d—CHEYENNE NATION, 1681417, pointer female, by Strut Nation-Erin's Amazing Grace. Scott Jordan, owner and handler.

OPEN DERBY – 7 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—PEARL JAM NATION, unreg., pointer female, breeding not given. Scott Jordan, owner and handler.

2d—GAME SURGEON, 1695096, pointer male, by Caladen's Tennessee Red-Caladen's Strutting Dixie. Ian MacTavish, owner and handler.

3d—ELLIE PROUD TO SERVE, 1690798, pointer female, by Cold Creek Kevinator-Berg Brothers Faithful. Tim McElroy, owner; Ian MacTavish, handler.

**Judges: Scott Jordan and L. J. Lundstrom
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 5 Pointers and 6 Setters**

1st—COLD CREEK HANK, 1678604, setter male, by Cold Creek Kevinator-Cold Creek Black Magic. Ian MacTavish, owner and handler.

2d—UPFRONT'S PIPER, 1690450, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Upfront's Southern Star. Todd Manns, owner and handler.

3d—PRAIRIEWOOD'S DAKOTA, 1694445, pointer male, by Boumeester's Duramax-Oday Nation. Todd Manns, owner and handler.

**Judges: Don Dack and David Moore
OPEN DERBY – 7 Pointers and 3 Setters**

1st—RAE, unreg., pointer female, breeding not given. Jim Tande, owner and handler.

2d—COLD CREEK SINGLE MALT, 1697085, pointer male, by Dominator's Bull Market Bud-Erin's Lullaby. Ian MacTavish, owner and handler.

3d—DUE NORTH LOOP, 1691967, setter male, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-Stumbo's Abbey. Dean Renneke, owner; Jim Tande, handler.

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MOOSE RIVER GROUSE DOG CLUB

Willow Creek N W Grouser Wins Open Shooting Dog Classic

By Sigmund Degitz | Moose Junction, Wisconsin | April 23, 2022



Moose River Grouse Classic Winners: Jordan Pharris with Willow Creek N W Grouser, Ben Mergens (judge), Over the Hill Merry with Rod Lein, and Kyle Peterson (judge).



Derby Winners: Second place McGraw Lake Ruger with Jeff Marek, and third place Northwoods Fallset Hope with Mark Fouts.

The Moose River Grouse Dog Club held the 2021-2022 renewal of the Moose River Grouse Classic. The trial was held on Douglas County forestry land in far northwestern Wisconsin. These grounds were initially developed in 2008 and have continually been reworked and improved to provide ample opportunity for dogs to find birds and show well on the ground. Grouse numbers throughout the upper Midwest have seen a significant decline in the past several years and these grounds have not been immune to these declines. However, because these grounds are situated in prime habitat there was an ample supply of birds to go around. Lunches were provided on the ground by club member Brad Holt. He put on a delicious spread for us all Saturday and Sunday. Every trial requires a dedicated group of club members to clear courses, marshal braces and assist with trial details. We would like to thank Bert Benshoof, Ed Graddy, Sig Degitz, Bill Frahn, Brad Holt, Greg Johnson, and Tim Kaufman for all of their hard work.

Shooting Dog Classic

We were fortunate to secure two very qualified judges and would like to extend our appreciation for agreeing to judge this event. Conditions were very wet, sloppy, and demanding on all participants especially the judges. Judges for the event were Ben Mergens of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and Kyle Peterson Rush City, Minn. They were attentive, on their toes at all times, and had a keen eye for the attributes that are necessary in a top-class shooting dog.

German shorthaired pointer male, Willow Creek N W Grouser, handled by Jordan Pharris, was named winner of this year's classic. Grouser ran in the second brace on the first morning. Conditions were less than ideal with a thunderstorm and heavy rain moving through midway through the brace. This didn't prevent

Grouser from pointing 4 grouse in his strong and forward hour. Second place went to pointer female Over the Hill Merry, handled by her owner Rod Lein. Merry pointed a woodcock early in the hour and capped off her effort with a grouse near time. She ran strong and was mostly forward. Earning third place was setter female Woods R Calling Saddle for handler Bill Frahm. Saddle ran a strong race and pointed 2 grouse and 2 woodcocks during her hour. Last year Saddle won the Minnesota/Wisconsin Open and Amateur Coverdog Derby of the Year so it was not a surprise to see her in the winners' circle.

Open Derby

We would like to thank our judges Jack Storer of Hudson, Wis., and Larry Davidson of Chippewa Falls, Wis. Both men have been playing this game for a long time and we were fortunate to secure such experienced judges. They sorted through 28 starters and their placements were well received. First place went to Northern Lights Elara, owned and handled by Sig Degitz. She was fancy, forward, and strong on the ground and required minimal handling. She held nicely on a scouted grouse find until Sig arrived too flush in front of her proud stand. Second place went to setter male, McGraw Lake Ruger, handled by Jeff Marek. Ruger hunted nicely and was found to the front waiting for his handler to flush the grouse. Nice piece of bird work! Earning third place was English pointer female, Northwoods Fallset Hope, owned and handled by Mark Fouts. Hope is super nice on the ground. She was fast, fancy and always to the front. She had an interaction with a woodcock midway through the brace and pointed a woodcock just as time was called.

Moose Junction, Wis., April 23
Judges: Ben Mergans and Kyle Peterson
OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats]
– 2 Pointers, 19 Setters and 1 German Shorthair

1st—WILLOW CREEK N W GROUSER, 1678906, German Shorthair male, by Northwaters Locomotion-Willow Creek's Allie Girl. Chad Hines, owner; Jordan Pharris, handler.

2d—OVER THE HILL MERRY, 1678045, pointer female, by Grouse Trail's Cracker Jack-Diva Dot. Rod Lein, owner and handler.

3d—WOODS R CALLING SADDIE, 1686894, setter female, by Pine Straw Smudge-Break Away Sugar. Bill Frahm, owner and handler.

Judges: Larry Davidson and Jack Storer
OPEN DERBY – 28 Entries

1st—NORTHERN LIGHTS ELARA, 1697276, setter female, by Northern Lights Sirius-Lake Effect Tilly. Sigmund Degitz, owner and handler.

2d—MCGRAW LAKE RUGER, 1694364, setter male, by Rufus Del Fuego-Outcast Starburst. Jeff Marek, owner and handler.

3d—NORTHWOODS FALLSET HOPE, 1694804, pointer female, by True Confidence-Northwoods Comet. Mark Fouts, owner and handler.

NORTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE BIRD DOG CLUB

Long Gone Dequan Wins Granite State Classic

By Lloyd Murray | Stark, New Hampshire | April 23, 2022

The Northern New Hampshire Bird Dog Club held another successful renewal of its spring trial on our Phillips Brook grounds, as always on the last full weekend in April. We have run this event every year since 1989 (except the COVID year of 2020). We have had 6 different venues but this one since 2000. We drew just under 80 dogs for the full two-day, nine-stake event. I want to say "Thank You" to the 18 judges who gave up their time, and efforts to help make this trial a well-organized and fun event!

Tony Bly was the stake manager and did a great job keeping everyone on the line and on time! I also need to thank Deb Kennedy for chasing down all the essential data information, a thankless duty! The weather was good and the birds plentiful! We did point a few grouse and woodcock on the grounds, of course in addition to the released quail.

I want to "thank" the well over 20 handlers who came from all over New England and New York to support our spring trial, especially the "first timers", we welcome you all!

The results are listed below. The next event Northern N.H. is involved with is the running of The New England Open Grouse Championship, with The Setter Club of New England in Kilkenny, September 19th to conclusion. Speaking of Kilkenny, the Grand National Grouse Championship will be back in the Northeast this year beginning Tuesday, November 1, 2022, with The Grand National Grouse Futurity preceding it. Northern New Hampshire will of course help host these great events by working on the multiple courses, holding the special use permit, and providing the insurance for said events. If you would like to help and volunteer for course cutting and clean up duty, please call me at (603) 723-4020 and we will be happy to give you the dates and particulars of the workdays.

Stark, N. H., April 23 – One Course
Judges: Mary Bly and Jay Christian
OPEN PUPPY – 1 Pointer and 5 Setters

1st—CAN AM MAGGIE, 1698504, setter female, by Long Gone Porky-Magic Mist Syndi. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.

2d—LONG GONE JUNIPER, 1697884, setter female, by Long Gone DeQuan-Lilleyhill's Dream Come True. Lloyd Murray, owner and handler.

3d—SPRINGBROOK LITTLE J REBEL, 1698249, pointer male, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Double Play Dolly. Russell Ogiilvie, owner and handler.

Judges: Deb Kennedy and Kellie Short
WHITE MOUNTAIN OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 1 Pointer and 1 Setter

[No Placements Awarded]

Judges: Joe Dahl and Russell Ogiilvie
GRANITE STATE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC
– 2 Pointers and 16 Setters

1st—LONG GONE DEQUAN, 1675616, setter male, by Long Gone Studly-Phillips Half Moon. Lloyd Murray, owner and handler.

2d—LONG GONE PORKY, 1671466, setter male, by Long Gone Boston-D J's Latest Flame. Lloyd Murray, owner and handler.

3d—WILD APPLE HARD CIDER, 1674893, pointer male, by Elhew Black Dose-Wild Apple Calvados. Don Keddy, owner; Craig Doherty, handler.

Judges: Kelly Hays and Deborah Sloan
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 3 Pointers and 4 Setters

1st—ROCK SOLID ROMEO, 1676247, setter male, by Long Gone Studly-Phillips Half Moon. Doug Dix, owner and handler.

2d—DUDE, unreg., setter male, breeding not given. Robert Arkley, owner and handler.

Judges: Doug Dix and Craig Doherty
NEW HAMPSHIRE AMATUER PUPPY CLASSIC
– 1 Pointer and 5 Setters

1st—PARTRIDGE HOLLOW ELRUMHEW, 1695675, pointer male, by Barker Elhew Genesis Jeter-Redrum's Brave Heart Sue. Giuseppe Papandrea, owner; James Levesque, handler.

2d—LONG GONE JUNIPER, 1697884, setter female, by Long Gone DeQuan-Lilleyhill's Dream Come True. Lloyd Murray, owner and handler.

3d—J P'S PICCOLA BELLEZZA, 1694958, setter female, by Rock Solid Romeo-Rock Solid Reba. John L. Peracca, Jr., owner and handler.



Long Gone Dequan, first in the Granite State Open Shooting Dog Classic

Judges: Bob Arkley and Paige Davis
GEORGE JOHNSON AMATEUR DERBY – 4 Setters

1st—LONG GONE KILKENNY, 1698129, male, by Long Gone Porky-Long Gone Juicy. Lloyd Murray, owner and handler.

2d—LUCY'S PRIDE, 1692794, female, by Dashing Nash Bandit-Nora Jean Lindy's Pride. Thomas Jay, owner and handler.

Judges: Art Hembrough and Steve Sumple
PILLIPS BROOK AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC
– 4 Pointers and 16 Setters

1st—LIGHTNING FLASH REMINGTON, 1697367, setter male, by Denco's Crockett Again-Arctic Tundra Bird Dog. Doug Dix, owner; Brian Dix, handler.

2d—LEDGE HILL CHIPPEWA, 1675025, setter male, by Lightning Flash Abe-Grouse Ridge Lazer. James W. Levesque, Jr., owner and handler.

3d—PAUCEK'S LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER, 1679370, setter male, by Long Gone Wallace-Paucek's Hickory Roxy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

Judges: Tony Bly and Jamie Leitch
OPEN DERBY – 1 Pointer and 3 Setters

1st—OPEN RANGE STITCHIT UP, 1696889, pointer female, by Open Range Terminator-Open Range Ice Breaker. Gregg Elliott, owner; Craig Doherty, handler.

2d—LUCY'S PRIDE, 1692794, setter female, by Dashing Nash Bandit-Nora Jean Lindy's Pride. Thomas L. Jay, owner and handler.

Judges: Deborah Kennedy and Thom Richardson
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 3 Pointers and 5 Setters

1st—STARBARN'S CHASE, 1686634, setter male, by Long Gone Porky-Popgun. Ryan Cyr, owner and handler.

2d—HIGHLAND MAXIMUS WIND'EM, 1666055, setter male, by Highland Tip Wind'em-Highland Peggy Sue Wind'em. Thomas Jay, owner and handler.

3d—STRIKING ELHEW WESLEY, 1665287, pointer male, by Strinking Elhew Rex-Striking Elhew Zoey. Anthony Scichilone, owner and handler.

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REGION 13 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Haney's Storm Warning Named Champion; Grouse Feather Witcher Named Runner-Up

By Mathew Haggis | Ionia, Michigan | April 23, 2022



Region 13 Amateur All-Age Championship (from left): Blake Rizzo (judge), Mathew Haggis, Chris Cagle Jr. with Haney's Storm Warning, Jeff Haggis, Chris Cagle Sr., Marc McKinley (judge), Allen Dunbar with Grouse Feather Witcher, and Bill Branham.

The 2022 Region 13 Amateur All-Age Championship ran the weekend of April 23 and 24, following the Michigan Open Shooting Dog Championship. After a 2-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Ontario trials were able to continue in Michigan. Judges for this year's event were Marc McKinley from Conklin, Mich., and Blake Rizzo from Ionia, Mich. Named Champion of this year's event was Haney's Storm Warning, owned by Chris Cagle, Sr. and Chris Cagle, Jr., handled by Chris Sr. "Speck" ran in the heat of the day recording finds at 18 and 40. He impressed the judges with his perfect manners on his game and tremendous style. He stuck to the edges, hunting the bird spots, and showed what it took to run an all-age race at Ionia.

Named Runner-Up Champion was Grouse Feather Witcher, owned and handled by Allen Dunbar. Witcher tallied finds at 5, 15, 42 and 52. He put down a strong forward race and finished strong through the orchard.

Both Champion and Runner-Up received engraved saddlebags provided by Haggis Saddles, as well as dog food sponsored by Purina. Thanks to Greg Blair and Purina with sponsorship of this trial and all they do for field trials.

Other notable performers were Wicked Quick, Grouse Feather

Texas Ranger, Shagtime Buck, and named closest to the winners, Wicked Hippie.

Special thanks to Richard Lipski who planted birds for the event and the Cagles for delivering birds. Kelsey Hajek provided a delicious lunch on Saturday for everyone, and Bill Branham was on hand to run the dog wagon. The trial would not have been a success without them.

Although a smaller than normal entry, the gallery saw some great performances with each dog having a fair and equal opportunity to point birds. We look forward to continuing the Region 13 trials at Ionia.

Ionia, Mich., April 23

Judges: Marc McKinley and Blake Rizzo

REGION 13 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 7 Pointers and 7 Setters

Winner—HANEY'S STORM WARNING, 1691416, pointer male, by Valiant-Haney's North Star. Chris Cagle, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—GROUSE FEATHER WITCHER, 1688616, setter male, by T's Gunslinger-Wynona's Witchy Woman. Allen Dunbar, owner and handler.

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NEW ENGLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Bully Rock Wins 93rd Running; Miller's Heat Seeker Named Runner-Up

By John Olfson | East Windsor, Connecticut | April 25, 2022



Winner (from left): John Olfson (judge), Payton Gunby (scout) with Bully Rock, Mike Tracy (handler), and Keith Cagle (judge).



Runner-Up (from left): Mike Tracy (handler), John Olfson (judge), George Tracy (scout) with Miller's Heat Seeker, and Keith Cagle (judge).

The 93rd New England Open Championship commenced Monday, April 25th at 8:00 a.m., in cool overcast conditions. The New Britain Field Trial Club and Association of New England Field Trial Clubs host the Championship. It is the first leg of three consecutive events which we promoted as "New England's Spring Fling Triple Header".

Roots of the trial date back to the late 1920s when the Championship was held in the Concord-Carlisle, Massachusetts area. Aside from 2 years at the Concord-Carlisle, Massachusetts area, one year at Penacook, New Hampshire, and a lone year at Rockville, Connecticut, the New England Open Championship has had only 5 other sites. Beginning in 1933 and for the next 17 years the Championship was held at Hall-of-Famer (1959), Lee White's farm in Scotland, Connecticut, which held grouse, woodcock, wild pheasant, and wild quail. Eventually, after those grounds were no longer available, the trial struggled to find a suitable location, moving to Andover, Mass., for 6 years, Ipswich, Mass., 9 years. Then beginning in 1967 the event settled in at Hall-of-Famer (1987) Harry Townshend's Ragged Hill Farm in Pomfret, Conn., where it thrived for 47 years. In 1972, for the first time in the event history, the Directors conceded to allow the limited use of horses by the handlers and this move brought in a record entry at that time of 51 dogs. Hall-of-Famer Harold Ray (2006) won with the setter Tomoka. After Harry's passing, the event moved to its present-day location—the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area in East Windsor, Connecticut.

Under the joint effort of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, and its devoted President Dick Frawley, as well as the State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, and Eastern District Wildlife Biologist Ann Kilpatrick, the grounds were in as good of condition as could be expected with several spots having improved drainage, and stability. We are thankful and appreciate this continued joint effort.

Judges John Olfson of West Hartford, Conn., and Keith Cagle of Shelton, Conn., named pointer male Bully Rock Champion. Running in the 11th brace he was always forward, his 10-find effort was the strongest race I have ever seen. Mike Tracy handled him with help from scout Payton Gunby. Very impressive showing, taking edges, making snappy moves, he hunted deeper into

the course than any other dog. This came after seeing runner-up pointer female Miller's Heat Seeker the day before lay out an outstanding performance. She was handled by Mike as well to an 8-find huge race effort. This makes Bully Rock's effort even more impressive to me since after seeing Heat Seeker I thought no way anything could beat it.

Special thanks to professionals Matt Basilone, Doug Ray, as well as Janette Tracy. Each had some nice dogs. Matt's effort with Fort River's Lucky Charm, setter male, was fun to watch. Owner Gary Tavares was in the gallery and had a lot to be proud of.

We thank Greg Blair and Purina for their continued support. We are proud to award Pro Plan Sport to the winners. We all appreciate Purina's effort and support of all sporting breeds; they are far and away second to none.

The source of event history mentioned came from a publication Gene Casale provided, "50th Golden Anniversary New England Bird Dog Championship", written by Frank E. Foss.

East Windsor, Conn., April 25 – One Course
Judges: Keith Cagle and John Olfson
NEW ENGLAND OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 42 Pointers and 7 Setters

Winner—BULLY ROCK, 16749790, pointer male, by Bully Bragg-Bullerina. William & Muriel Primm, Karen & Erwin Saniga, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

Runner-Up—MILLER'S HEAT SEEKER, 1674886, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring the Heat. William & Muriel Primm, Dennis Hood & Jack & Fran Miller, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

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WESTERN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Annual Running Held At Red Rock Grounds

By Jared Tappero | Reno, Nevada | April 26, 2022



Pacific Coast Derby Championship (from left): Gina Bosio (judge), Nard Bailey, Austin Turley, Larry Smith with Touch's Amazing Greyce, Jarry Walton, Linda Smith, Sean Kelly, Jim Ledington, Lori Steinshouer with I'm Gallant, Mike Wilkin, Jim Morehouse, Randy Anderson, Jared Tappero, Brad LaVerne, Torben Hansen, Terry Erickson, and Clifford Mesnard II (judge).

The 2022 renewal of the Western Open Championships, hosted by the Bay Area Bird Dog Club, were held at the BLM field trial grounds at Red Rock, 15 miles north of Reno, Nevada. The Pacific Coast Derby Championship and Western Championship stakes began after the conclusion of the Region 11 Amateur All-Age Championship, which started Saturday, April 23rd, and concluded Monday, the 25th; the Amateur stake drew 34 entrants, all of which started. The four championship stakes ran over a period of nine days under variable weather conditions, with handlers from ten different states participating.

The Red Rock grounds are located on the western edge of the Great Basin; the Sierra Nevada Mountain range rising ominously from the high-desert floor to the west. At 5300-foot elevation the grounds are located on a rolling sage-covered landscape with deep cuts, steep hills, long ridges, rock outcrops, grassy basins, and large patches of western juniper.

Pacific Coast Derby Championship

The Derby Championship began shortly after 8 a.m., Tuesday, April 26th, and concluded the following day. Twenty-one canine athletes were entered and started in this National Championship qualifier, Purina Open Derby, and Handler of the Year Points stake.

The Winners

Declared Champion was Touch's Amazing Greyce, white, liver, and ticked pointer bitch, owned and handled by Austin Turley of

Molt, Montana. I'm Gallant, white, black, and ticked pointer dog owned by Jay McKenzie of Eureka, Kansas, and handled by Randy Anderson of Vinita, Oklahoma, was named Runner-Up. Judges for the Championship were Gina Bosio of Modesto, California, and Clifford Mesnard II, of Clyde, Ohio.

The Running

I'm Gallant (J. McKenzie/R. Anderson) and Idaho's Lucky Mike (R. Heaton) were cast-off from camp at 8:05 a.m. Both dogs were wide to the left initially then forward through the junipers into the big basin. Gallant crossed the front onto the bluff then made his way through the juniper clump at the bottom of the basin. Both Gallant, and Mike, covering the ground nicely with high cracking tails. Both dogs were on the uphill side of the bench near the red top, with Gallant coming to the front near the north trough then making a move to the right in the higher bluffs. After a short lapse in contact Gallant swung to the front proceeding forward to the chute, where Mike regained the front with him. At 36, on the ridge, Gallant was seen pointed-up with high head and tail. As Anderson went in for the flush a single chukar left the mannerly dog; all was in order at the shot. Gallant was then on the bluff and swung deep into the basin, coming up through the junipers. Mike was on the uphill side moving forward toward the basin above camp. At 46 Gallant was found standing in the burnt basin. After a short flushing attempt Gallant was relocated but nothing was produced. Both dogs were watered at Brittany Road, then sent on. In the

rocks Mike was working the uphill objectives and Gallant the lower. At time both dogs were to the front at nice range near the rock piles approaching the gate.

Dunn's Ever'n Onward (W. Dunn) and Perkins Rebel Within (C. Perkins/A. Turley). Both dogs left the line with high tails, Within quick to the gate, while Onward made a move high onto the rocky ridge. Into the rocks Onward remained high, and Within was more moderate and forward. At the big draw Onward was to the front and continued forward past the road trough toward the junipers. Within was watered-up at the trough and sent on. Both were forward at nice range through the junipers and into the big basin. Past the concrete trough Onward made a move onto the big ridge, showing distantly as he climbed and pushed onward. Within handled well through the basin and into the chute, he finished his hour at the top of the basin birdless. The tracker was requested for Onward.

Touch's Cocaine Blues (M. Griffith/R. Anderson) and Sleepless Money Maiden (J. Wolthuis/S. Twer). Matt Griffith, Shawnee, Oklahoma, was in the gallery to ride the day and watch his Cocaine Blues dog run. Maiden was forward through the junipers quickly and wasn't seen again, the tracker requested at 15. Blues had a moderate race initially then opened up about halfway through his hour. At 54 he was seen pointed near a rockpile, with high head and tail. After a prolonged flushing attempt Blues was relocated but nothing was produced for the stylish pointer.

Miller's Newest Version (B. Owen) and I H Pearl's Blindsider (J. Tappero) were cast off from the base of the Petersens. Both Version and Blindsider covered the ground stylishly but at fairly moderate range. At 35 Blindsider put up a jumpy chukar as she high-sticked into her find, and was harnessed. Version finished her hour birdless.

Skydancer Marksman (B. Houston/R. Anderson) and Hale's Honey Badger (B. Hale) were cast off from camp just after lunch. At 5 Marksman pointed up nicely at a clump of sage, but went with the bird as it flushed, and was harnessed. Badger made a nice move to the front then was collected at the bottom of the basin and sent on. Past the red top Badger made a wide swing onto the high bluffs and made her way to the front near the north trough. At 30 Badger pointed staunchly in the little ravine, was relocated, but nothing was produced. The last half of her hour Badger made some big swings and finished deep in the basin near Brittany Road.

Dunn's Sneak'n In (W. Dunn) and Carbonato's Silver Sage (A. Turley) applied themselves nicely, but both were picked up for infractions in bird work. Sneak'n In was found standing atop a ridge at 10, and prior to being relocated moved on his own. Sage had a find near the edge of the big bench at 37 but had a bit of forward movement at the flush.

Steens Mountain Outlaw (J. Tappero) and Painted Owyhee Coal Mine (B. Ledington) were released from camp just after 8 a.m., Wednesday morning. Both dogs had nice forward races, with Outlaw pushing it a little harder than Coal. Coal's finish in the rocks was lower and a little more moderate than Outlaw. Outlaw made a nice move to the rocky ridgetops, hunting the objectives nicely. Both finished the hour birdless.

Awakened (M. Pendergest/W. Dunn) and Copper Jim's Little Bud (M. Cuneo/S. Kelly) were off to the front and through the gate quickly. In the rocks both were forward and hunting the objectives nicely. From Brittany Road and through the burnt basin both had a nice lapse in contact, then showed on the bench near the middle trough. Awakened made a nice move around the top of the junipers into the big basin, Bud was a little more direct in his application. Near the north trough both made nice swings on the hillside and

were to the front at the chute. Both dogs finished the hour birdless near the juniper clump at the bottom of the basin.

Painted Hank (J. Ledington) and Man O War (B. Hale). Both dogs started with moderate races and as the hour progressed got bigger. Near the red top both made swings to the right then were forward at the cement trough, War a bit wider than Hank. Before the chute both were high on the ridge then forward to the burnt basin where Hank was seen low and forward. War had a bit of a lapse in contact then was recovered near the trough at Brittany Road, where both dogs were watered. War and Hank finished their hour to the front, high in the rocks, without birdwork.

World Class Moonshiner (M. Marietta/R. Anderson) and Touch's Amazing Greyce (A. Turley) were cast off from the base of the Petersens, Moonshiner swinging to the left and Greyce to the right, then both were forward to the gate. Moonshiner was forward into the rocks, Greyce swung lower into the flats. Both were seen going through the big ravine and then forward across the spine and into the junipers. After a lapse in contact, they showed again at the basin above camp and continued forward through the junipers. Across the big basin and onto the two-track Greyce showed nicely to the left while Moonshiner swung to the right through the junipers. The dogs were gathered-up and sent on near the north tank with Moonshiner making the chute before Greyce. Greyce headed down the ridge where at 50 she had a find which produced three chukar as the handler rode up. All was in order at the shot. Onto the top of the big basin both dogs were well forward, showing to the front and going away. Shortly after time was called, both dogs were recovered. Moonshiner finishing his hour without birdwork.

Mauck's Wyeast Owyhee Ajay (A. Mauck) ran as a bye from camp in the last brace of the stake. Ajay was to the left initially and then forward through the junipers, and across the big basin. Near the concrete trough she swung into the lowlands and made her way forward to four corners where she proceeded onward, then swung onto the bench where she was watered. Ajay made a nice swing into the little ravine then was forward to the bottom of the chute. At 42 Ajay pointed, self-relocated a couple times, then moved on towards Brittany Road. At 59 Ajay was seen standing near the last of the rock piles near the fence. Upon flush she took a couple steps and her bid ended. This concluded the Pacific Coast Derby Championship.

**Reno, Nev., April 26 – One Course
Judges: Gina Bosio and Clifford Mesnard II
PACIFIC COAST DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 18 Pointers and 3 Setters**

Winner—TOUCH'S AMAZING GREYCE, 1693629, pointer female, by Touch's Grey Street-Intentional. Austin Turley & Keith Wright, owners; Austin Turley, handler.

Runner-Up—I'M GALLANT, 1696254, pointer male, by Valiant-Double Swami Dexie. Jay McKenzie, owner; Randy Anderson, handler.

Western Open Shooting Dog Championship

The Shooting Dog Championship began the morning of Thursday, April 28th, and concluded the following morning. This Purina Top Shooting Dog and Shooting Dog Handler of the Year Points stake drew 16 canine entrants, all of which started. All dogs which competed in this stake are owned, and were handled, by amateur handlers.

The Winners

Named Champion was Lone Tree Splish Splash, white &



Western Shooting Dog Championship (from left): Marc Cuneo, Bill Owen, Bridget Ledington with Lone Tree Splish Splash, Jim Ledington, Jared Tappero, Randy Anderson (judge), Jarry Walton, Will Dunn (judge), Sean and Julie Kelly. Tom Griffin and Maybellene were not available at the time of the picture.

orange pointer female, owned and handled by Bill Owen of Santa Barbara, California. Maybellene, white, black and ticked setter female owned and handled by Tom Griffin of Esparto, California, was named Runner-Up. Judges for the Championship were Randy Anderson of Vinita, Oklahoma, and Will Dunn of Lebanon, Kentucky.

The Running

Double M's Deliverence (C. Mesnard II) and Charlie's Zip Tie (B. Owen). Deliverence was fast and forward at the breakaway, and not to be seen again under judgment; the tracker was requested at 23. Zip Tie had a big forward race from camp, through the junipers, and on across the big basin. Past the hawks' nest he was forward to the concrete trough and onward to the north tank, where he was watered. At the little ravine he was seen standing with high head and tail. All was in order at the shot for the stylish setter. Zip Tie was then forward across the contour above the big basin, and across the top of the junipers. He was found standing stylishly at 50 near the juniper clump at the edge of the little basin; all in order at flush and shot. Zip Tie had a nice forward finish approaching Brittany Road.

Mauck's Wyeast Owyhee Dallee (A. Mauck) and Horizon's Bea (T. Erickson) were cast off from Brittany Road and were forward across the big ditch and into the rocks. Both dogs hit objectives nicely as they worked through the rocks, then, were on through the gate. Bea was forward across the two road crossings while Dallee was wide right at a rock pile where she had a find on wild chukar at 20. On through the big ravine Dallee was low in the basin making her way through the junipers, while Bea was more forward on the contour. At the big basin and on to the bench below the red top both setters were to the front when they finished their hour.

Touch's California Dream (Griffin) and S B Always Dreamin (Owen) were cast off from below the concrete trough. Dream was

just past the north tank at 6 when he stood with high head and tail near the brush patch. After an unsuccessful relocation, the dog was back on course when again he pointed at 10 near the little ravine. This time a bird was produced for the stylish dog. At 22 Dream was again found standing on the edge near the junipers. With birds running in front of him, Dream was mannerly through the flush and shot. Across the top of the burnt basin and Brittany Road both dogs were forward, when at 30 Always Dreamin had a find near a rock pile. With high head and tail the dog stood mannerly through the flush and shot. Both pointers were forward at good range the last half hour and finished strong.

Skydancer's Deal Maker (Griffin) and Tucalota's Rebel Touch (Mayhew) were off from the galvanized tank towards the rocks. Maker showed well through the rocks and on to Brittany Road, where Touch joined him at the front near the narrow ridge. At 15 after a good lapse in contact Touch was found standing at the burnt basin with high head and tail; a single chukar produced for the stylish pointer. At 30 Maker was picked up at the edge of the bluff near the hawks' nest. And at 45, after another lapse in contact, Touch was picked up.

Miller's Newest Version (B. Owen) and Tucalota's Rebel Rush (E. Mayhew) were off from camp after lunch. Through the junipers and into the big basin both dogs were forward at moderate range, their race consistent in this manner across the bench and around to the north tank. At 30 Version was seen pointing, with high head and tail, on the hillside before the chute. At flush she marked her birds but didn't have any forward movement. Both dogs were forward through the chute to the top of the big basin then along the contour towards the junipers. At 43 in the little basin Rush came to the gallery with a chukar in his mouth and was picked up. At 54 Version pointed near the trough at Brittany Road, was relocated, but nothing was produced.

Love Train (T. Griffin) and Deception's Wild Justice (J.



Western All-Age Championship (from left): Larry Smith, John Keel (judge), Jeff Gilbertson, Jarry Walton (judge), Robbie Thompson with B M B's Free Ride, Brandon Blum, Jim Ledington, Sean Kelly, Kay Kelly with Kelly's I B Butler, Linda Smith, Randy Anderson, Brad LaVerne, and Bridget Ledington.

Gilbertson) were cast off from Brittany Road and were through the deep ravine and into the rocks in short order. At the far end of the rocks at 12 Justice was picked up. At 31 Love Train pointed-up near a rockpile, an as the handler went in to flush Train moved forward and was harnessed.

Maybellene (T. Griffin) and Lone Tree Splish Splash (B. Owen) were cast off from camp just after 8 a.m., Friday morning. Both dogs had a consistently forward race from camp, through the junipers, across the big basin and onto the bench near the red top. At 17 Maybellene was seen standing staunchly on the edge near the juniper. At the handlers approach the chukar flew but she remained mannerly; all was in order at shot. At the north tank Splash was wide onto the bluff then around through the saddle and to the front. At 26 point was called for Maybellene on the side-hill by the little ravine, Splash coming in for the back. All was in order for both as the birds were flushed and a shot fired. The dogs were forward through the chute with Maybellene high on the right and Splash to the left. Splash, a little more forward, was to the top of the big basin first and forward along the contour towards the junipers. At the juniper patch, Maybellene was to the right on the hillside, Splash came from the bottom into the little basin. Across the burnt basin and through the deep ravine both were forward into the rocks, with Splash showing at greater range. At time Splash was found standing at a rock pile near the fence with high head and tail; all was in order at the flush and shot.

Face To Face (J. Gilbertson) and Skydancer's Gold Rush (T. Griffin). The two setters were cast off from the galvanized tank towards the Petersens. Face was picked up at 5 and Rush was picked up at 12. This concluded the Western Open Shooting Dog Championship.

**Judges: Randy Anderson and Will Dunn
WESTERN OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 9 Pointers and 7 Setters**

Winner—LONE TREE SPLISH SPLASH, 1672171, pointer female, by Frontline Shack Attack-Whippoorwill Wild Spark. Bill Owen, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—MAYBELLENE, 1660385, setter female, by To The Point-Iron Mistress. Tom Griffin, owner and handler.

Western Open All Age Championship

The All-Age Championship began just after 11 a.m., the morning of Friday, April 29th, and concluded Sunday, May 1st. This National Championship qualifier, Purina Dog of the Year and Handler of the Year Points stake drew 30 canine athletes, 27 of which started.

The Winners

Named Champion was Kelly's I B Butler, white, liver and ticked pointer dog, owned and handled by Sean Kelly of Loomis, California. B M B's Free Ride, white, liver and ticked German Shorthaired pointer, owned by Brandon and Jennifer Blum of Berthoud, Colorado, and handled by Brandon, was named Runner-Up. Judges for the Championship were John Keel of Fresno, California, and Jarry Walton of Reno, Nevada.

The Running

Dunn's Sneak'n In (W. Dunn) and Seahawk's Bam Bam Kam (P. Spencer/T. Smedley). Kam was scratched and Painted Owyhee Breeze (B. Ledington) was brought up from the fifteenth brace. Both Sneak'n and Breeze were cast off from camp, and to the front quickly at good range. After a short lapse in contact both appeared in the junipers and crested the hill into the big basin. At 11 Sneak'n was picked up. Across the basin and to the concrete trough

Breeze made some nice forward swings. At 28 Breeze was found pointed at the white rock pile. With high head and tail Breeze was mannerly at flush and shot. Breeze continued on with her wide and forward race from the chute to the little basin, then onward across Brittany Road into the rocks; Breeze was high and forward through the rocks, and at 59 was found standing at a rockpile near the fence. During the flushing attempt Breeze went with the running covey, ending her bid.

T's Quadranner (T. Smedley) and Born On Fourth July (J. Gilbertson). T's Quadranner was scratched, leaving Born to run as a bye. Born was forward and through the gate, and after a lapse in contact was seen again at the burnt basin. At 23 in a juniper clump Born was found standing stylishly. The flushing attempt produced a covey of birds which ran and flushed wildly as Born stood mannerly. Birds continuing to fly as the dog was collared and moved on. From the basin trough to the north trough, Born was forward and made some nice swings. Time was called in the grassy basin, and a short time later Born was shown to the front.

Brock Force (S. Twer) and Bonner's Bulletproof (C. Cornman/R. Anderson). Force and Bulletproof were cast off from camp after lunch, shortly after 3 p.m. Both were wide initially then forward through the junipers and onto the big basin. At the hawks' nest both dogs were to the front on the bench with Force showing a little higher on the hillside. Past the north tank, through the chute, and onto the grassy knoll both made some nice forward swings, showing well on the hillsides. At time, the dogs were upslope and to the front in the rockpiles near the gate, where they finished the hour without bird-work.

Kelly's I B Butler (S. Kelly) and I'm Gallant (J. McKenzie/R. Anderson) were cast off from the base of the Petersens in the last brace of the day. Initially, Butler and Gallant faded to the left for the high ground, then both were seen crossing the front at good range into the rock piles with heads high and tails cracking. At 18 Gallant was found standing near Brittany Road with head and tail high, nothing being produced for the mannerly dog but feathers. From Brittany Road through the burnt basin and over the ridge both dogs had a lapse in contact. Then Butler was seen making a big move across the little basin and into the junipers, the dog crossing the front distantly and cresting the bluff heading on to the big basin. Gallant came from the bottom and was moving onto the bluffs, then swung right and was forward at nice range. Both dogs again with a lapse in contact, when at 37 Butler was seen stacked-up on the bluff below the concrete trough. All in order at flush and shot for the mannerly dog. As Butler was released from the location of his find, Gallant came from the bottom, and both moved on. At 45 Gallant was found standing high and tight in the brush below the white rock pile, only to be rewarded with a hawk-killed bird. Butler, at this time, was high on the hillside crossing the front and heading toward the ridge above the chute. At 54 Gallant was found standing on the bluff at the bottom of the chute, the stylish dog moving as his birds were flushed. Butler was to the front on to the bluff and forward at distance towards the junipers. At time he was not visible but was recovered in short order.

Sleepless In Sacramento (J. Wolthuis/S. Twer) and Lester's Stem Winder (D. Hensley/R. Anderson) were cast off from camp just after 8 a.m., Saturday morning. Both dogs were quick across the flats and into the junipers, with tails cracking nicely. Neither was seen across the big basin. At 12 Stemwinder showed to the front on the bench past the hawks' nest, Sleepless then showed a couple minutes later on the grassy knolls above the bench. At 16 Stem Winder was seen standing near a lone juniper with high head and tail, Sleepless came in and backed him nicely. After an extended flushing attempt Sleepless was moved on, and

Stemwinder relocated, but nothing was dug up. At 27 near the north trough Stemwinder was picked up. Contact had been lost with Sleepless after moving on from Stemwinders find, and the tracker was requested at 45.

Smak's Redrum Mike (J. Wolthuis/S. Twer) and Tian Butterbean (C. Mesnard II) left the base of the Petersens with a full head of steam. Mike made a nice move to the high rocks and then went forward. Butterbean was more direct and forward through the gate. Through the rocks, across Brittany Road, and across the burnt basin neither dog was seen. At 25 the tracker was requested for Butterbean, and at 28 it was requested for Mike.

S F Hardfork (L. Smith) and Touch's Cocaine Blue's (M. Griffith/R. Anderson) were cast off from camp in the third brace of the day, Blues making a nice cast to the junipers while Hardfork was more constrained in his application. Across the big basin both dogs were forward and covering country with style, but not hitting the limits. At 50 Blues was picked up. Hardfork finished his hour near the base of the Petersens without bird-work.

Highground Gidget (L. Steinshouer) and Dunn's Ever'n Onward (W. Dunn) were forward from cast-off and then went left to the higher objectives above the galvanized trough. After a 12-minute lapse in contact, Gidget came to the front and was watered. Onward hadn't been seen since his initial move high into the rocks and at 25 the tracker was requested. Gidget was then low and swinging to the front towards Brittany Road and was forward through the burnt basin and across the flats. The tracker was requested for Gidget near the far edge of the big basin.

Booneville Explorer (M. Cuneo) and Miller's L'eleto (K. Concilio/R. Anderson) were cast off from camp after lunch. L'eleto was picked up at 5 in the flats before the junipers. Explorer had a nice race and was forward throughout but finished his hour without bird-work.

Highground Toby (J. Gilbertson & L. Steinshouer/L. Steinshouer) and Kelly's Rebel Louie (S. Kelly) were cast off from the base of the Petersens in the last brace of the day. At 5 Louie got birdy, stood, then moved on. Toby was forward and had two big lapses in contact, both times being seen to the front. Louie and Toby were forward past Brittany Road, through the burnt basin, and onward to the north trough. At time neither dog was visible. Toby was recovered to the front in the junipers after a short search. Point was called for Louie high in the basin about ten minutes after time had elapsed. After a short flushing attempt a covey was produced for the stylish dog.

World Class Moonshiner (M. Marietta/R. Anderson) and Dunn's Tried'n True (W. Dunn) were cast off from camp in the first brace Sunday morning. True was to the right edge of the flat along the edge of the junipers making his way forward. Moonshiner was to the left and making his way forward in the same fashion. Both dogs were then onto the bluff and forward into the basin. When seen next, Moonshiner was wide left and a bit behind, the tracker being requested at this time. True made a couple wide swings on the bench past the hawks' nest, and onward to the north trough, then faded to the front near the white rock pile. Through the chute, up onto the contour and forward to the burnt basin, True never resurfaced. At 47 the tracker was requested.

Double M's Deliverance (C. Mesnard II) and Painted Owyhee Toad (B. Ledington) were cast off from the base of the Petersens. Toad made a nice move left to the rock piles, while Deliverance was more direct in his application. At 11 Toad was found standing below the trail at a rock-pile, with high head and tail. At the flush and shot Toad marked his bird but there was no forward movement. Through the rocks, across Brittany Road, and on toward the spine,

Toad was forward. At 22 Toad was found standing at the junipers with high style, all in order at flush and shot for the mannerly dog. At 26 the tracker was requested for Deliverance. Toad was forward to the north tank but not pushing the limits, then started to extend his race. At time Toad was not visible but was shown to the front shortly thereafter.

B M B's Free Ride (B. & J. Blum/B. Blum) and Como Thunder (D. Russell/R. Anderson). Free Ride was forward and to the left initially and Thunder was forward at moderate range to the junipers. Onto the big basin Free Ride was seen very distantly making his way along the contour to the front. Thunder was to the front and beginning to stretch it out. At the owls' nest Thunder was seen working the edge of the junipers; Free Ride was uphill, completing his wide and distant swing, and making his way to the front. At the concrete trough both dogs checked-in, then moved-on. Both were watered at the north trough. At 22 just below the white rock pile Free Ride was found standing; Thunder was above the standing dog making his way through the rock pile. After an extended flushing attempt and a couple relocations nothing was produced for Free Ride. The dogs were through the chute and forward to the junipers, and on to the little basin. They were next seen near the spine before Brittany Road, where they were watered at the trough. Thunder then made a big forward move into the lower basin; Free Ride was to the front into the rock piles where at 50 he was found standing. After an extended flushing attempt, and relocation, a single chukar was flushed uphill from the dogs' initial stand; all was in order at the shot. At time Thunder was distant working a rock pile near the lower cattle guard, and Free Ride was forward near the galvanized trough.

B M B's Freeloader (B. & J. Blum/B. Blum) and Touch's Fire Away (G. & C. Adams/Anderson) were cast off from the Petersens at 12:25 p.m., Sunday, in the last brace of the stake. Fire Away made a nice initial move across the road and up the ridgeline to the rocks, Freeloader made a low cast to the right and was then forward, joining Fire Away through the gate. The dogs were seen casting high through the rocks, then across the deep ravine and Brittany Road. Through the burnt basin the dogs were to the front, and at 22, found standing staunchly in two separate locations in the junipers. All was in order at flush and shot for the mannerly dogs. At 27 near the trough, Freeloader was picked up. Fire away continued across the big basin and onto the bench, at good range, but not pushing the limits. Past the north trough and down through the chute Fire Away was reaching forward with a high cracking tail. Onto the bluff and into the basin Fire Away was showing nicely, and at time was in the junipers. Shortly after time, Fire Away was gathered up and shown to the front.

Southwind Joy's Resurgence (M. Eades/T. Smedley) and Painted Owyhee Breeze (B. Ledington). Joy was scratched and Breeze was moved to the first brace. This concludes the Western Open All Age Championship.

Judges: John Keel and Jany Walton
WESTERN OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 24 Pointers and 4 Setters

Winner—KELLY'S I B BUTLER, 1675374, pointer male, by Kelly's Rebel Louie-Wells Fargo First Lady. Sean Kelly, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—B M B'S FREE RIDE, 1660979, German Shorthair male, by Kimber Tactical-Time To Pay the Piper. Brandon & Jennifer Blum, owners; Brandon Blum, handler.

Acknowledgments

Members of the Bay Area Bird Dog Club would like to thank our

great cadre of judges which put a number of days in the saddle watching a good selection of class bird dogs. A big thank you to Gina Bosio, Clifford Mesnard II, Randy Anderson, Will Dunn, John Keel, and Jarry Walton; all of whom have a number of years behind them sorting out field trial bird dogs. The judges were attentive, gave our dogs the fullest attention, and their decisions were well received. We would also like to thank both Nestle Purina and SportDOG for their contributions and continued support of the Western Championships. Purina provided certificates for their Pro Plan dog feed for the winners, covered the trial advertisement in the UKC® Field, and co-hosted the Wednesday night barbeque banquet.

This year thirty-two folks attended the mid-week banquet, that was once again, prepared by Andy's BBQ & Beans, and served-up by Mel Belding. All who attended enjoyed an amazing meal that included ample helpings of barbeque-smoked beef tri tip accompanied by chili beans, a coleslaw and tossed-green artichoke salad, fresh sourdough bread, soft drinks, and other refreshments. Continued support by SportDOG, which generously provided training collars as prizes for the winners, is much appreciated. Jim Morehouse, representing both Purina and SportDOG, was on the grounds for the mid-week banquet and spent several days with us riding shotgun in the dog truck and visiting with folks on the grounds.

The support provided by Purina and SportDOG representatives Greg Blair and Jim Morehouse is unsurpassed. Thanks again this year to the folks at the Western Village Inn & Casino for offering field trialers such generous rates and excellent accommodations. Clear Creek Outfitters of Chico, Calif., provided us with lively chukar again this year. Lori Steinshouer graciously allowed us to utilize her facilities for dog and horse water throughout the week. Thanks again to our go-to man Bradley LaVerne who manned the dog truck, kept bird bags full, and set up the lunch fixings daily this year. And thanks to Terry Erickson, Mike Wilkin, and Sean Kelly for additional help around camp and on the courses.

In addition, many thanks go out to all the participants whom this year traveled from ten different states across the U.S. to make the Western Open. We were blessed to have such good friends, and such a well-attended event. Thank you!

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MID-STATES WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Backcountry Missy Wins 2022 Running; Waybetter Butch Earns Runner-up Title

By Joe Cammisa | Harrisville, Pennsylvania | April 28, 2022

As the saying goes “It ain’t over til the fat lady sings...” In the last brace of the trial, Double Deuce Sage, a classy and determined pointer female with Doug McMillen, Jr., and Backcountry Missy, a fancy and fast pointer female with Chris Catanzarite were let loose at the starting line. Sage was the first to strike with a stop at the end of breakaway left. No bird was produced, and she was moved forward. Her travels took her along the left treeline and down to the tall grass corner where she went right and just past the duckblind to the right and catching up with Missy. Missy was tending to her own find when Sage came in and backed. After the flush and shot, they both went further up the ditchline and east, Missy scoring again with Sage backing, all in order they were moved on. Both dogs headed to where they were able to show some footwork, crossing the ditch, on around the oil pond corner, along the treeline to the point, right and on up the hill to the tower. Missy ran hard, covered ground, and pointed on the tower left cover with Sage nicely backing. Then it was off to the top o’ the hill where Missy went deep right towards the Amish barn side, Sage going left, Missy finding and pinning a limb find bird in the woods. Once again, all was in order and she was cut free to show her stuff, running down the east boundary and across the mound area and onwards along the left ditch. Both dogs after rounding the clubhouse turn split up and began hunting the big bottom as they swung towards the platform. Sage came to a halt north of the platform for a good find, steady to wing and shot she completed the task. A scout was dispatched just before time, and Missy was found standing lofty after the bell rang in the woods off club house road. The hour was up, and Backcountry Missy was put into the history books.

Brace 9 of the Championship broke away at 8:19 on the second day of the renewal. Waybetter Butch, a mature and well applied male Pointer with Dave Park, was braced with Ramapo Mountain Doc, a classy pointer male with Robert Ecker. The weather was cold and both dogs went deep from the breakaway. Doc going long and right, Butch going long and left. Waybetter Butch was found standing at 8:25 on the breakaway end left and Park went into flush. A bird was produced, and all was in order. Butch was loosed to the dense treeline and left, down the hill to the tall grass corner. Withing just a few minutes, Butch was pointing again, with Doc coming in and around to a good back. No bird was found at home, and the bracemates were moved on. Running towards the right hillside and east, both dogs independently were stopped, one of them below the platform and one closer to the right side of ditch. With all in order, both finds were written into the book. The two ran big for the next fifteen minutes, covering the ditchline, the clubhouse turn, along the woods to the point and up to the top o’ the hill. Butch was found standing on the left cover with Doc backing and both looked great. Butch was relocated and Doc moved on. Butch pinned his bird and Doc came around to back. When they were released, Doc screeched to a halt and Butch returned the backing favor. Butch scored one more time behind the mound and both dogs were given their heads and were able to show their running skills from the mound to the clubhouse turn going right where they shared a divided find. Another five minutes on the ground and Butch was pointing once more with Doc backing. They were cut loose, and both finished the hour.

The backdrop to the trial is the Oakridge Bird Dog Club in



Backcountry Missy, 2022 Champion

Harrisville, Pa. Oakridge has for some time now been available to the Pennsylvania clubs that recently held the National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity and U.S. Complete Mid- Atlantic Regional Championship. The Mid-States Championship is the third leg of the Triple Crown held this year. After an unusual warm spell, the temperature dropped, and cold rain set in, the weather stayed cold for the rest of the trial and most went from shorts during the Futurity to long pants, knitted caps, gloves, hooded sweatshirts and rain suits for this Championship. Mud prevailed in the otherwise normal wet spots and the hills became steeper as the weather became colder and wetter.

The Mid-States trial is headed by Secretary Tom Mains and twenty-eight dogs were drawn to compete. The trial was held April 27th and 28th. The birds were plentiful as Tom and his two sons, Dominic and Joseph, took on the bird planting duties.

Judges for the trial were Scott Forman of Plattsburg and Jeff Phelps of Rochester, both from the great State of New York. They are long-time outdoorsmen with plenty of experience raising, training, and handling championship caliber competitors. They fought off the wind, cold and rain, ever daunting and holding their positions. A couple days in the saddle under those conditions are enough for anyone. The judges also noted that there were several other good performances. The judges are to be honored for attentiveness and the giving of their time.

The Mid-States Championship committee would like to thank, first and foremost, our sponsor Greg Blair and Purina for their contributions to our sport. Additionally, our appreciation goes out to Eric Munden and Lion Country Supply, Sheetz of Harrisville, Pa., Brandon Kruerer, and all that helped make the trial a success.

Harrisville, Pa., April 28 – One Course
Judges: Scott Foreman and Jeff Phelps
MID-STATES WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 28 Pointers

Winner—BACKCOUNTRY MISSY, 1672663, female, by Erin’s War Creek-Backcountry Tornado. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—WAYBETTER BUTCH, 1660432, male, by Brown’s Tom Tom-Waybetter Reba. Dave Park, owner and handler.

BEAVER VALLEY POINTER & SETTER CLUB

Annual Spring Trial

By Joe Cammisa | Rochester, Pennsylvania | April 30, 2022

The first week of May comes fast after winter, and that weekend framework for over fifty years, marks the spring renewal at Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club. The “Beav” was founded in 1949, but ever since that one someone decided to run their Spring trial on the weekend before Mother’s Day, that instant hit became a tradition in the making. So, the weekend before Mother’s Day it is... and do as we all do here, put it on your calendar.

The stage was set for a great trial, the mowing, along with discing began early on a few of the fields. Always being careful to leave cover for the trial, inside the clubhouse was swept, plumbing after winter checked, all was done and ready for the first brace release—for the special weekend of April 30-May 1.

Prior to and after the ad was placed, Field Trial Secretary Norm Meeder accepted all the competitors and did the brace drawing. With over thirty-three entrants, two days were slotted for the trial.

Saturday (day 1), saw mild weather that was just right for running bird dogs, cool and just right. The first stake, the Open Puppy, was judged by Justin Mason and Dave Duell, two outstanding sportsmen, as are all the judges here this weekend. Early in the stake, Ellie May, setter female with Les Bressler, broke loose from the pack and set the standard that could not be touched. Ellie stayed in the ten to two pocket and handled as she should, searching and running big, covering all the likely objectives. Second saw Molly, setter female handled by Norm Meeder, give a run for the money then she settled for the red. Molly covered most of the ground that Beaver Valley had to offer. Third place was Denver, pointer male handled by Dave Park, bumping the two top dogs, but unable to break through and pass them on the winners’ ladder. Denver had a well applied race.

Veteran bird planter Bob Smith was loosed and given the green light to “salt” the course.

The Open Derby had Bryant, pointer male with Justin Mason, single handedly covered the ground and handled his birds well beyond derby standards, showing he was taking his training well and was ready to advance. Judges Dave Duell and Alex Meeder were happy with their selection and noted that all dogs were worthy of consideration.

The Open Shooting Dog was hotly contested, all three of the winners tallied several finds making it difficult for judges Dave Duell and Andrew Dawson. A few other contestants were pushing the envelope but, in the end, Bull, a pointer male handled by Scott Forman, held the lead, and never looked back. Second had Girl, a stylish pointer female handled by Chris Catanzarite, not give up easily, bolstering the judges to a hard decision. Third saw Scott Forman jump back into the limelight with Whiskey, setter male, and no stranger to the winners’ circle. Whiskey is a hard running, bird finding machine. The judges commented that all three placements were well deserved and could have won anywhere that day.

The Amateur Puppy was an infield double for Elli Mae and Les Bressler as she slid into second base taking home the blue once more. Judges Christy Helms and Alex Meeder were well satisfied with her performance and noted their judges’ books to seal the deal.

Kathleen Carroll prepared and served the lunch at noon both days and at the end of the days’ running Joe Cammisa made

homemade pizzas for everyone.

Day two was full of dark clouds, rainy skies, and a somewhat diminished feeling about getting wet. But to no avail, the horses were saddled, and judges Chris Catanzarite and Andrew Dawson were on the line and calling for the first brace of the Amateur Derby. Al Fazenbaker and River, his latest Red Setter phenom and gorgeous moving female, came up in the last brace to topple the field. Her bird work was more than sufficient, additionally her gait and style are impeccable. June, pointer female with Brooke Lanning, stood out for second, with her fancy and stylish ways and a nice ground application. Chet, pointer male with Tom Mains, rounded out the placements. His good application and style have him pegged for the future.

Judges Chris Catanzarite and Andrew Dawson stayed right where they were in the saddle and onto the Amateur Shooting Dog. Dude, with Nick Lasica, put on a show, running, handling, and pointing his way into the blue ribbon.

Beaver Valley would like to thank Kathleen Carroll, Bob Smith, Deb Fazenbaker and all who helped by working and attending to make the trial the success it always is. We would especially like to thank Greg Blair and Purina for their continued support to our trial and the undying commitment they make.

The “Beav” is always a fun time, and this year was no different. The mood is calm, the dogs are swift, the handlers are always at the ready and the birds are fast.

Come visit us at our fall trial, as Beaver Valley Pointer and Setter Club has always been the little trial with the big trial experience....

Rochester, Pa., April 30 – One Course

Judges: Dave Duell and Justin Mason

OPEN PUPPY – 5 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—LESLIE’S ELLI MAE, 1697969, setter male, by Grouse River Rocken Roll-Grouse River Patti Cakes. Les Bressler, owner and handler.

2d—MULBERRY FIELDS MOLLY, unreg., setter female, by Stillmeadow’s Benjamin-The Tiger. Norm Meeder, owner and handler.

3d—QUEHANNA COUNTRY ROADS, 1699803, pointer male, by Grouse Trails Tuscarora-Halestorm. Dave Park, owner and handler.

Judges: Dave Duell and Alex Meeder

OPEN DERBY

1st—BRYANT, unreg., pointer male, breeding not given. Justin Mason, owner and handler.

Judges: Dave Duell and Andrew Dawson

OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 7 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—PISTOL PATCH BULLET, 1692513, pointer male, by Unlisted Bullet-Pistol Patch Annie. Pat Smith, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

2d—BACKCOUNTRY GIRLFRIEND, 1682667, pointer female, by Waybetter Rock-Backcountry Polly. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

3d—SHADY HILLS WHISKEY BONFIRE, 1662197, setter male, by Shady Hills Billie Too-Shady Hills Beanie. Shady Hills Kennel, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

Judges: Christy Holmes and Alex Meeder
AMATEUR PUPPY – 2 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—*LESLIE'S ELLI MAE*, 1697969, setter female, by Grouse River Rocken Roll-Grouse River Patti Cakes. Leslie Bressler, owner and handler.

Judges: Andrew Dawson and Chris Catanzarite
AMATEUR DERBY – 5 Pointers and 1 Irish Setter

1st—*CONNEAUT CREEK SCENIC RIVER*, 1693481, Irish setter male, by Cedar Creek Talon-Cedar Creek's Skyline Belle. Al Fazenbaker & Ed Liermann, owners; Al Fazenbaker, handler.

2d—*BITTERSWEET RECOVERY*, 1696166, pointer female, by Showtime

Sam Houston-Rester's Katie Lee. Brooke Lanning, owner and handler.

Judges: Chris Catanzarite and Alex Meeder
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 3 Pointers, 1 Setter and 1 Irish Setter

1st—*WAYBETTER DUDE*, 1683853, pointer male, by Waybetter Rocky-Steel City Karen. Nick Lasica, owner and handler.

2d—*LESLIE'S SHILOH JOE*, 1664509, setter male, by Hunter's Pale Face-Hunter's Chippewa Squaw. Leslie Bressler, owner and handler.

3d—*CONNEAUT CREEK LAKE ERIE STORM*, 1651488, Irish setter female, by Comeback Superfire-Come Back Bee Gee. Allen Fazanbaker, owner and handler.

REGION 1 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Thomas Adirondack Turbo Named Champion

By John Olfson | East Windsor, Connecticut | April 30, 2022



From left: Milkar Ferrara, Nadine Thomas, John Stolgitis, Jim Thomas with Thomas Adirondack Turbo, John Olfson, Brian Sanchez, Craig Santos with Miller's Unbridled Forever, Doug Ray, Taylor Santos, and Gene Casale.

The Region 1 Amateur All-Age Championship commenced Saturday, April 30, in East Windsor, Conn., at the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area with judges Doug Ray and John Stolgitis mounted and ready for action. Doug and John are professional pointing dog handlers and trainers, both with many championships under their belt. We are most appreciative they accepted the assignment.

Under the joint effort of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association, and it's devoted President Dick Frawley, as well as the State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, Eastern District Wildlife Biologist Ann Kilpatrick, the grounds were in as good of condition as could be expected. We are thankful and appreciate this continued joint effort.

Pointer male, Thomas Adirondack Turbo, was named Champion. Turbo running in the first brace set the tone early. He ran a hard

charging forward race with 6 perfect finds. He always turned up in the right place for his handler and owner Jim Thomas. Turbo is a multiple champion, having won the 2020 Amateur Pheasant Championship with Jim as well as the 2021 Region 1 Horseback Shooting Dog Championship. He's an Open Champion as well from when he was campaigned with Mike Tracy. Happened to be present when breeder Rich Giuliano delivered Turbo as a young pup. The breeding has proven to be very successful; his littermate brother Pure Confidence is a multiple champion and reigning NBHA Dog of the Year.

Pointer male Miller's Unbridled Forever was named Runner-Up. He ran a strong race, taking edges, always hunting, gorgeous on point. Veteran handler Brian Sanchez got him around with 6 finds and a back.

Many thanks to Greg Blair and Purina for their continued support. We are proud to award PRO PLAN Sport to the winners. We all appreciate Purina's effort and support of all sporting breeds; they are far and away second to none! In fact, I know of no one in our New England group of field trialers who does not feed PRO PLAN.

East Windsor, Conn., April 30 – One Course
Judges: Doug Ray and John Stolgitis
REGION 1 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 24 Pointers

Winner—*THOMAS ADIRONDACK TURBO*, 1656122, male, by True Confidence-Richfield Rose. James Thomas, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—*MILER'S UNBRIDLED FOREVER*, 1661404, male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Great River Kennel & Neil Walker, owners; Brian Sanchez, handler.

Visit www.americanfield.com for more news!

U.S. COMPLETE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Bo of Piney Woods Wins 2022 Open Walking Shooting Dog Stake

By David A. Fletcher | Milford, Michigan | April 30, 2022



U.S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Championship (kneeling, from left): Sarah Gomes with Bo of Piney Woods, and Mark Hughes shows Runner-Up Champion Double Deuce Zeke. (Back row, from left): Dr. George Najor, Diane and Bob Wheelock, Jim Cipponeri, Eric Munden, Doug McMillen, Bill Branham (judge), and Kelsey Hajek (judge).

The Grand Valley Bird Dog Club hosted the U.S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Walking Shooting Dog Championship April 30-May 1, weekend over fine grounds at the Highland Recreation Area near Milford, Mich. The Silo course was again used providing a plethora of quail this time, likely because the scenting was excellent, the cover reasonably low and the abundant rains of April had left the ground very moist and quail scent seemed to be enhanced by all the dampness. This was the ninth time the Grand Valley Club has hosted this popular Championship. The weather and temperatures both days was coolish, no rain of any consequence, simply very reasonable conditions for dogs to hunt hard and show their capabilities and smell birds. Many handlers reported that almost every brace the dogs were finding at least five or more birds. In addition to the many birds found and pointed during the running, woodcock banders Leanne Parnell and Mike Brown put bands on some woodcock chicks on the grounds prior to the weekend trial.

Support for this Championship came from handlers Robert Ecker and Dave and Mark Hughes with their strings, and in addition amateurs Bob Wheelock, Doug McMillen, Eric Munden and Sarah Gomes. There were 29 starters. A huge load of duties fell on Club President Jim Cipponeri, beginning with the drawing where wife Connie in her finest, very legible printing, made the running order sheets. Jim also had the job of marshaling the course and quail liberation, two very busy days. Help came from Dave Fletcher, writing the judges' books and bringing the rosettes, and serving as trial reporter. Brian Wood faithfully announced the braces at the starting line. As always, the club would like to express appreciation for the support of Purina.

Judging was the team of Bill Branham and Kelsey Hajek. Both

were very attentive to the performances and made their decisions regarding the winning performances in great fashion. Both are experienced in pointing dog circles.

The Winners and Others That Challenged

The Championship winner was Bo of Piney Woods, seven-year-old pointer male owned by Richard Warters of Barkhamstead, Conn., handled by Robert Ecker. Bo is a consistent winner at field trials. His performance here was outstanding, with four great finds and a hunting effort that would be hard to top in any stake. His stance on point was lofty, rigidly sure at flush and he scorched the course each time sent on from a find. He had a hard driving finish, always reaching forward and turning his casts to the front of course. His record shows several Championship and Runner-Up placements, the most impressive being a win of the U.S. Complete National Championship. Runner-Up was Double Deuce Zeke, six-year-old pointer male owned by Doug McMillen of Du Bois, Pa., handled by Mark Hughes. Zeke had a very fine hour of hunting, scoring five finds. All were a display of pointing style, manners around birds, location of the quarry and steadiness to wing and shot. This dog does it all. His hunting effort was wide, his swings forward, and he handles well. Zeke had a good finish and his gait and running style are excellent. This is Zeke's first Runner-Up title. He has won five Championships in total including the 2020 Grand National Grouse Championship. He has in excess of 20 overall field trial placements including Puppy and Derby wins.

There were several dogs that made challenges for the placements of Champion and Runner-Up Champion. An early performance that drew praise and a challenge for a placement came from Bob Wheelock's Tupelo Honey in the second brace...multiple finds

and a hard hunting forward effort. Runner-Up Double Deuce Zeke came along in the third brace. In the sixth brace Sterlingworth Jack logged four excellent finds and great hunting to toss a challenge. Bo Of Piney Woods appeared in the ninth brace and claimed the Championship. One of the most interesting braces of the stake was the 12th during Sunday's running. Bracemates Warrior Zeke handled by Mark Hughes and Glassilaun War Paint, handled by Bobby Ecker, alternated points and backs on abundant birds on their course and made their presence known.

Other starters include Ramapo Mountain Doc, Doodle Ridge Elroy, Backwoods Wildfire, Grouse Hill Bullet Proof, Suemac's Sashay, Attitude's True Grit, Double Deuce Sage, Miller's Hopped Up Version, A Distant Spec, Jar's Way Leroy, Angel's Envy, Island Fantasy, I'll Be Back, Braggabull, Wayward Flyin Tomato, Wildland

Warrior, Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian, Dun Rovens Midnite Ike, Teen Spirit, Miss Penn Star, Double Deuce Oscar, and Miller's Special Upgrade.

Milford, Mich., April 30

Judges: Bill Branham and Kelsey Hajek
U. S. COMPLETE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL
OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] - 16 Pointers and 13 Setters

Winner—BO OF PINEY WOODS, 1661644, pointer male by Bud of Piney Woods-Medlin's Dancin Abigail. Richard Warters, owner, Robert Ecker, handler.

Runner-Up—DOUBLE DEUCE ZEKE, 1673940, pointer male by Double Deuce Peter-Funseeker's Holiday. Doug McMillen, owner, Mark Hughes, handler.

THREE-HOUR TRIALS — DON'T EVER LEAVE US

By David A. Fletcher | Morrice, Michigan

Three-hour birddog trials have been with us for over a century. Some of the most famous bird-dog men in our sport created, ran, or hosted them over the years and they were cherished by many. To my knowledge there is only one left on the scene, the National Championship over the fabled Ames Plantation at Grand Junction, Tennessee. There isn't much likelihood it will go away, not with the spacious plantation grounds, bird management and the stipulations in the will of Hobart Ames widow, Julia Colony Ames. It feels good to have certainty regarding the future of the three-hour national championship. The National Championship was initiated by Hobart Ames, a New Yorker who came to Grand Junction to hunt, at times, he stayed in his railroad car camp. He acquired land and put together the Ames Plantation and loved three-hour dogs. That was a feature of his national championship. He was however in favor of dogs that handled well. From a copy of a letter by A.H. Brenneman sent to my friend, Bob Fleury, I quote. "I rode with Mr. Ames at the national, just as a visitor. I remember one of the things he said to me many times. "Let's see if he will look us up." This comment came when the dog had been absent for a while.

Why do we hold three-hour pointing-dog trials in such esteem? Which notables began them and why did these events ever come about? What is it about three-hour dogs, the successful ones, that is so outstanding? I will try to relate my feelings on the matter in this journalistic endeavor.

The National Free-For-All Championship began in 1913 and featured three-hour heats, with history of over 100 years as a three-hour contest, but in recent years has gone to a one-hour qualifying series and a 90-minute final series for the callbacks. Another event, the International Open Shooting Dog Championship, began in 1968. This three-hour championship for many years was staged at Ardmore, Oklahoma, and has moved in recent times to Conway, Arkansas, featuring single-series heats of 90 minutes. The National Championship is holding fast with their wonderful three-hour National Championship event at Grand Junction, Tenn.

Let's look at the Free-For-All and explain that club's inauguration. In 1913, the U.S. Club Trial was one of the well-established,

premier events in America. After the 1913 trial, most of the officers and directors resigned over issues and formed the Free-For-All stake running under the National Field Trial Club name. Let me quote from the 1913 announcement printed in the American Field. "The National Field Trial Club has been organized with the definite purpose of holding trials at which dogs must be thoroughly tested in every necessary requirement before being placed. The members of the club feel that there has been a marked tendency at field trials for several years to place so-called class dogs, and that judges, to enable them to arrive at a decision, have allowed the dogs to be hunted or followed to such an extent that the former intelligence and true bird finding ability of the breed are fast becoming a thing of the past. We wish it distinctly understood that we are not in favor of a slower or closer working dog. We want all the range and speed a dog can well utilize, but it must be properly applied, and to do so a dog cannot work his way through his country on straight lines but must follow his intelligence and bird sense by hunting the likely places on the course allotted to him, work for his handler and swing to the course when the character of the country requires so doing. While range and speed are most important factors, they are, in our estimation of small value when not accompanied by a desire to hunt the birdy places and the ability to handle and courage to be handled on game when found. A bad feature of field trials, as now conducted, is the fact that in a great many cases, dogs have been assisted during competition by one or more persons besides their proper handler. The rule governing this unfair practice will be rigidly enforced. Every dog will be given an ample opportunity to prove his bird finding qualities and he should handle his game in a bold, pleasing manner". Let me quote additionally from a bulletin in the pages of the 1913 American Field. "The National Field Trial Club has been organized for less than one year. Its organization was the result of a serious disagreement as to the policy and management of the United States Field Trial Club. Owing to the disagreement, many of the most influential members resigned their membership. A.G.C. Sage, President, and H. R. Edwards, Secretary of the new national club filled the same offices in the U.S. club, at the time of resignation".

I was fortunate enough to be assigned as Reporter for the

Free-For-All as Staff Writer of the American Field in 1967. I left employment with American Field in 1969. I was recently married with a home in the country and a family in the planning stages. In 1980, Jimmy Hinton asked me to report the National Derby Championship and the Free-For-All, and I reported for 13 more years. Albert Hochwalt was Reporter for 21 years and William F. Brown, Editor of the American Field, reported 38 times. In one of my more creative moments, I wrote a description of what I felt the Free-For-All concept really was. It reads, "The Free-For-All is a distinctive event. Its' format provides a stiff test for aspirants to the title. The Free-For-All standard glorifies the ambitious, aggressive, brilliant running bird dog with diamond like sparkle and inexhaustible energy, plus the strength of Samson in all he does. It is an ideal, impractical to some, all too seldom realized, but most rewarding when it is approached."

The Free-For-All concept was put forth in 1913 by A.G. Sage, and his colleagues. He was the owner of the dogs which won the event and many national championships, a premier three-hour event. Dogs such as De Soto Frank, the 1917 National winner, Superlette, Timbuctoo, Rockabye Baby, Luminary, Ariel, and Saturn. With the demise of Mr. Sage, Sedgewilds Plantation ownership came into the hands of Clyde Morton, Mr. Sage's long-time trainer. In 1966, Clyde brought the Free-For-All to Sedgewilds Plantation from Shuqualak, Mississippi. Upon the death of Clyde Morton, Jimmy Hinton acquired Sedgewilds from the heirs and hosted the event until 2006. At that point, Bud Moore brought the event to his nearby Shell Creek Plantation from 2007 to 2012. With the sale of Shell Creek Plantation, the Free-For-All found a new home at the Panther Creek grounds near Fitzpatrick, Alabama. Those grounds were secured by Rick Stallings and Frank Rutland and were very suitable for the three-hour Free-For-All, through 2018. In 2019, the move to the M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area between Greensboro and Demopolis, Alabama was made. The event was advertised as a forty-five-minute qualifying series and 90-minute final series heats. No longer a three- hour contest.

The third three-hour championship is the International Endurance Championship inaugurated by Delmar Smith, Chuck Taylor, and Charlie Jackson, over the spacious state field trial grounds at Ardmore, Oklahoma. The start came in 1968 and was later moved to Conway, Arkansas, where it still runs today, but it is a single series with 90-minute heats. Early devotees of this endurance event were Ronnie Smith, Sr. Tom Smith, Jud Little and Dr. Nick Knutson. I reported at that trial on several occasions during that era. It was reported that Chuck Taylor moved the event from Ardmore to Arkansas where heats became ninety minutes, and of a single series for economic reasons. Three-hour trials consume, at times, many days to complete with only four dogs a day running. If ground rentals or fees are daily and additionally, motel expenses, this can be a problem for the sponsoring club's treasury. Johnny Van Horne is managing the popular event presently.

All this history regarding three-hour field trials leads to one question: Why have them? What good are they? Do they simply prove the endurance of the dogs that win? The answer, in my opinion, is much deeper than that. A phone call to Delmar Smith seemed to answer the reason the International Endurance Field Trial was established. Many of the southwest area dog trainers furnished dogs for south Texas quail leases and guided hunting, during the duration of the quail season. Delmar relates that between the active trainers, about 200 pointing bird dogs were needed to guide these hunts and furnish the well-mannered bird dogs they needed to do this successfully. The Smith family was well represented in this south Texas guiding program. By himself, sons, Rick and Tom, brother, Ronnie, Sr. and other trainers. This group was breeding and buying puppies for the future years of

guiding quail hunts—dogs that would, hopefully, mature into good members of their hunting strings were the sought-after commodity. Puppies from three-hour trial-winning parents were strong candidates for this process.

Another phone call, this time to Rick Carlisle, Ames Plantation Manager, one certainly as well versed as they come in three-hour trials told me this: He referred to the breeding program of the late Dr. Jack Huffman and his associates, one of which was Dr. Terry Terlep. Dr. Huffman fell so deeply in love with a great three-hour dog, Whippoorwill Rebel, that he concentrated Rebel's bloodline in his breeding program and produced a half dozen national champions...all of them three-hour national champions. On one occasion, Rick Carlyle witnessed Whippoorwill Rebel running his three hours in the National Championship. The dog had a six-inch wood splinter pulled from his foot after the two-hour mark, yet finished strongly and at pickup, coming into the gallery, ran through it and on to make another cast. There was desire and durability strongly evident in this remarkable dog. In my years at the Free-For-All, I witnessed some remarkable three-hour performances. I can remember some of the outstanding ones, Allure won it three times in succession under Billy Morton, followed by Whippoorwill Rebel, handled by Tommy Davis. Then despite some of the most severe weather ever seen at this event, K's High Rise won it two years in a row for Roy Jines. Alluring won it in 1989 sired by Whippoorwill's Rebel.

How important is heredity in breeding dogs? Terribly important in my book. Do three-hour dogs show their bloodlines are among the best to be had? Yes, I believe three-hour dogs have the best chance to show you what they are made of and the traits they have inherited from their bloodline. My brief, neophyte study of genetics found this novice making the following notes, "Traits are accredited to genetics." "Genes are the basic units of inheritance. Each pair of genes (one male and one female) are a code for a specific trait." A cell was defined and brought on more notes. "Inside a cell is the nucleus. All genetic information is housed within the nucleus of a cell in the form of pairs of chromosomes". I did not research any further but what I found convinced me that what traits a three-hour dog has and shows you in competition are a commodity one should seek in a bird-dog-breeding program. Three-hour trials are a great showcase.

Three-hour dogs need a good set of lungs. They need to transfer oxygen to the bloodstream and carbohydrates to glucose for the energy and endurance they need. They also need good running gear. I have seen many dogs taken up with breathing problems or bloody foot pads in three-hour heats. They need a good spinal column, muscles, tendons and ligaments and three hours tends to display those inherited attributes. Genes are the units of inheritance. Mentally, I believe dogs' genes also supply their desire, attitude, and intelligence. Does a good bird finder just run into birds? No, I believe a good bird finder mentally directs his hunting to places he recognizes as having had birds for him to find and point on previous occasions. If a dog's mental processes are inherited through genes, a strong case is made for bloodline inheritance.

The Free-For-All was always my favorite trial and I have faith that my good friends, Ruthann Epp, John Henry Kitchen and Bill Mason and others who might join in to help, will carry this great event into the future successfully. They have been the mainstays of the National Field Trial Club for many years, and they remain after President, Rick Stallings, has gone. It is my hope they will find a way to bring it back to three-hour heats.

Three-hour heats are important to me, and I firmly believe they are important to field trials. Please don't let them go away.

HISTORIC GLADWIN GAME REFUGE, COVER DOGS, FIELD TRIALS & CONTINENTAL BREEDS

By Kenny DeLong | Greenville, Michigan

For a century and a half competitive bird dog field trials have provided a means by which sporting enthusiasts have been able to demonstrate the results of good breeding programs, lots of hard work and rigorous training of their charges. Healthy competition, good fellowship, and lots of good pointing dogs are a combination that is hard to beat. The Gladwin Game Refuge was established in 1916 as a venue for cover dog trials on native grouse and woodcock, and over the years, with careful management and monitored timber cutting plans, has evolved into one of the premier wild bird field trial grounds in the country. Sixteen half-hour courses wind their way through the rolling hills of mixed timber, marshes, creek bottoms, and aspen cuttings—all designed, monitored, and periodically re-routed to maximize the opportunities to encounter Ruff & Woody.

Cover dogs are expected to search the varied terrain boldly and independently in a forward-reaching pattern for the type of cover most likely to hold grouse and woodcock, all the while being in tune with, but not dependent, on their handler. Intelligence, drive, enthusiasm, gait, speed, style in running and on point, nose, wisdom gained from training and experience, rapport with the handler, and more figure into the making of quality, competitive, potential champion cover dogs. Adult cover dogs are expected to be “finished” shooting dogs: fully broke, steady to wing and shot, and honoring their brace mate when the opportunity presents itself. Birds are blanked (not shot) when put to flight, no retrieving occurs. Those that rise to the many challenges, surprises, and intangibles that regularly present themselves in competition usually become the most sought after for breeding.

For many years before WWII, the pointing breeds of the British Isles (English Pointers, English, Irish, and Gordon Setters) dominated field trial competitions. Over the many decades since, the pointing breeds from across the Channel—on the Continent of Europe (hence the term “Continental”)—not only gained a following and popularity but became increasingly competitive as well. The

Brittany was one of the first of these breeds, but several others have followed. First as beloved hunting companions but increasingly in the last couple decades, the GSPs, GWPs, Drahthaars, Vizslas, Weims, Meunsterlanders, Braque du Bourbonnais, Spinones, and others have appeared at field trial breakaways.

The National Brittany Open Grouse Championship Association was formed nearly 50 years ago in Michigan to promote the then up-and-coming little gun dog, showcase its capabilities on grouse and woodcock in the northern woods, and demonstrate the Brittany’s increasing competitiveness with the English breeds. NBOGCA’s first Brittany Grouse Classic was held in 1978, and twenty years later the Club was awarded a Championship by the American Field. Many fine dogs have competed over the last thirty plus years, and the best have earned the title of Champion.

For the first time last year NBOGCA expanded to include all Continental Breeds. While the club regularly (early May, late August, and early October) offers Puppy, Derby, and Shooting Dog stakes that are open to ALL pointing breeds, two shooting dog events each year are open ONLY to the Continental Breeds. These are the half-hour Continental Open Shooting Dog stake at our summer trial in late August (27-28 this year), and our one-hour Continental Cover Dog Championship in October (8 this year). Unregistered dogs may compete, but Championship titles are only awarded to FDSB/UKC registered dogs. Register your dog!

We at NBOGCA are actively encouraging folks that own the short-tailed breeds to come join us this summer and fall to experience the wonderful world of Cover Dog field trials at the “best location in the nation”—the Gladwin Game Refuge—where grouse and woodcock trials have been held for over 100 years. Look for ads and information in the UKC® Field newsletter or online. Visit the Cover Dog Field Trial Message Board and the Cover Dog Field Trial Facebook page. Feel free to contact Kenny with any questions—birddawgger@hotmail.com or (616) 894-7447. We want you!



Nominating a dog or person for the Field Trial Hall of Fame?

The deadline is Friday, August 5!

Email your nominations to:
Dinora Wellmann • dwellmann@ukcdogs.com

FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

Nominations for Candidates Readers Deem Deserving

(View more nominations at www.americanfield.com)

David Johnson

Champion field trial dogs do not appear out of thin air. This takes talent, a knowledgeable handler, a devoted owner, and a superior scout. Represented in the Hall of Fame are many deserving handlers and owners but only one scout, Ben “Man” Rand. The 1950s through the 1970s may be called the “gold age” of scouting. They exuberated incredible feats of horsemanship as well as reports of uncanny eyesight, hearing and tracking ability. It is past time for the Hall of Fame and voters to give another scout well-earned recognition in David Johnson.

He is described as upright, honest, respectful, good around people, and all business. His philosophy was not to be a showman but to know your dog well and to have the knack to figure a dog out.

David believes he has scouted approximately 123 winners in his distinguished career. Among these dogs are HOF Texas Fight, Flush’s Wrangler, The Master Craftsman, Palariel Stormy Clown, Solid Reward, HOF Oklahoma Flush, HOF The Texas Squire, and Special Duty. His scouted championships include the Free-for-All, Oklahoma, Georgia, Continental, Florida, and the Invitational.

Let’s bring a piece of trial history and a true gentleman into the Hall of Fame.

— *Robert Franks*

David started with the legendary program of John Rex Gates. After John Rex hung up his whistle David moved and help build a very successful program for Texas businessman Stephen Harwood. This program produced the likes of Champion Classic Addition and Hall of Fame Champion Rebel Wrangler, just to name a few. The entire Harwood program was purchased by Stephen Walker from the west coast. The program was put in the hands of Hall of Fame trainer Bill Hunt. David made the move from Texas to Tennessee to work for the Walker / Hunt program with a lot of success. From there David went to another private program of the late T. Jack Robinson and his son Fred—a place where David still calls home. David’s lifelong dedication to the sport makes him very deserving to be elected to the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— *Randy Anderson*

By any measure, by any standard, David Johnson exceeds any and every requirement for the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

David Johnson is from the golden bygone era that pre-dated group efforts or conglomerations. From age seventeen to this day at age sixty-nine, his life has been about bird dogs. Countless champions scouted. Countless Hall of Fame dogs scouted.

David’s contribution to the sport of field trials is unrivaled.

— *Kevin Dixon*

Gary Lester

I met Gary Lester at Ferrell Miller’s, running puppies. My wife and I became lifetime friends with him, and his wife (Joy).

Accomplishments: Six National Championships with five dogs. Two additional National Champions (Shell Creek Coin, Touch’s Without) came from his program. Won 3 National Free-for-All, Open Invitational and Southern Championship twice, and Southeastern, Masters and Georgia Championships. Won 3 National Derby, Continental Derby, Invitational and All- America Derby Championships multiple times. Won the National Amateur Quail, National Amateur Invitational, and multiple Amateur Regional Championships. Won Purina Dog of the Year twice and Amateur Dog of Year. National Champion, Lester’s Snowwatch, elected into the Hall of Fame.

Great ambassador for sport! Most important is Gary’s love for the sport. He helps newcomers feel welcome. He helps provide horses, etc., to ride at trials. He gives days of his time during events like “Puppy Day” and speaking. He shares training and breeding insight. He recognizes his mentors. He creates career opportunities and promotes beginning trainers, handlers, and breeders. Gary financially supports amateur clubs and led the Kentucky Lake trial for years.

Gary is exceptional for our sport! Join me in voting Gary Lester into the Bird Dog Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— *Clarence Clowers*

Fred Rayl

I have known the Rayl family over forty years and Fred is a good friend. I have gone to his camp and worked dogs. His accomplishments as a trainer and developer of all-age dogs are legendary. Hall of Fame dogs Fiddler, Builder’s Addition, and Fiddler’s Pride are the foundation sires of the top pointer lines today. Fiddler’s Ace was sold, and many bird hunters wanted his line for gun dogs. Fred has won over fifty open championships and seventy-five runner-up championships. His record at the Quail Championship Invitational is amazing. Fred has judged major championships, amateur trials, and cover dog trials. Fred volunteered to teach several gun dog clinics to our local gun dog club and two of the dogs reached number one in their respective breeds.

Fred wanted his father Bill Rayl to win the National Championship before him. In 1980, Fred let his father run Builder’s Addition and Fred scouted. Two years later Fred won the National Championship with Heritage’s Premonition and Bill Rayl scouted for him. He competed against legendary Hall of Fame handlers and some of the greatest Hall of Fame field trial dogs to ever run. Fred’s desire is to be elected to the Hall of Fame based on his merits and not politics. He more than meets all requirements for the Field Trial Hall of Fame and deserves to be in the Hall of Fame alongside his father, W.F. “Bill” Rayl.

— *James Spencer*

**Lifelong commitment and dedication to the sport of field trials
and to the development of outstanding bird dogs!**



**FRED ♦ RAYL
FOR THE FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME**

— MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS —

Saskatchewan Chicken Championship
+ Strongman (1976)

4x Quail Invitational Championship
+ Builder's Addition (1977)
+ Fiddler (1980)
+ Fiddler's Pride (1984 & 1985)

4x Masters Quail Championship
+ Builder's Free Boy (1978)
+ Lady Addition (1989)
+ Spy Hill Bullett (1995)
+ Fiddler's Pride's Iris (1996)

5x Florida All-Age Championship
+ Builder's Addition (1979)
+ Fiddler's Bo (1982)
+ Fiddler's Pride (1986)
+ Yoshi Fiddler's Hope (1991)
+ Pride's Alibi (2006)

5x Georgia Derby Championship
+ Van Mar Blackjack (1979)
+ Monogard (1981)
+ Kilsyth Dan (1998)
+ Quick Cash (1999)
+ Bal's Dancer (2001)

All-America Chicken Championship
+ Builder's Free Boy (1979)

2x International Pheasant Championship
+ Fiddler (1979)
+ Molesworth John (1987)

3x All-America Quail Championship
+ Builder's Free Boy (1980 & 1981)
+ Fiddler's Pride (1984)

4x Continental Derby Championship
+ Fiddler's Pride (1981)
+ River City Fiddler (1988)
+ Ballentine (1996)
+ Spy Hill Pride (1997)

Dominion Chicken Championship
+ Heritage's Premonition (1981)

National Championship
+ Heritage's Premonition (1982)

All-America Derby Championship
+ Trivoli Terror (1982)

8x U.S. Chicken Championship
+ Fiddler Pride (1983 & 1985)
+ Redemption (1984)
+ Solid Brass (1990 & 1991)
+ All Things Considered (1992)
+ Fiddler's Pride's Iris (1997)
+ Pride's Bullett (2002)

2x Georgia All-Age Championship
+ Fiddler's Pride (1983)
+ Spy Hill Pride (1999)

2x Continental Open All-Age Championship
+ Solid Brass (1989)
+ Spy Hill Pride (2000)

2x Southeastern Quail Championship
+ Fiddler's Repeat (1993)
+ Ballentine (1999)

3x Kentucky All-Age Championship
+ Spy Hill Bullett (1995)
+ Goodbye Joe (2000)
+ Quick Cash (2003)

3x American Field Futurity Winner
+ Builder's Recession (1981)
+ Bal's Regent (1998)
+ Pride's Big Red (1999)

1981–82 Purina Top Dog of the Year Award
+ Ch. Heritage's Premonition

Field Trial Hall of Fame
+ Ch. Builder's Addition (1992)
+ Ch. Fiddler (1998)
+ Ch. Fiddler's Pride (1993)

**Compilation of Field Trial Hall of Fame inductees who had direct involvement
— with Fred Rayl during his participation in the field trial sport over his 50-year career —**

HOF Family Members
+ W.F. "Bill" Rayl

Hall of Fame Owners
+ T. Jack Robinson
+ E.L. "Ted" Baker
+ Dr. Terry Terlep
+ N.G. "Butch" Houston
+ Geraldine Livingston

**Awarded a Championship placement
under HOF Judges**

+ Arthur S. Curtis
+ Alvin H. Nitchman
+ J.D. Boss
+ John S. O'Neill, Jr.
+ Floyd Hankins
+ John B. Criswell
+ J.F. "Tobe" Stallings
+ Joe G. Walker
+ Truman F. Cowles
+ Billy Lee Morton
+ Lee R. West
+ Charlie R. Jackson
+ Collier Smith
+ Dr. Terry Terlep

**HOF Handlers competed within
a major all-age Championship**

+ Paul S. Walker
+ John Rex Gates*
+ D. Hoyle Eaton*
+ Fred Arant, Jr.
+ Fred E. Bevans
+ Ferrel Miller
+ Roy Jines*
+ Freddie Epp*
+ Billy Lee Morton*
+ Marshall S. Loftin
+ Colvin Davis*
+ Bill Hunt*
+ David Grubb*
+ Hugh J. "Bud" Daugherty*
+ Garland Priddy*
+ Collier F. Smith*
+ Tommy Davis*
+ Andy Daugherty*
+ Robin Gates*

**Denotes handlers shared the winners' circle
within a major all-age Championship*

I would be honored to nominate Fred Rayl for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. I was fortunate to work bird dogs with Fred Rayl during the summer of 2015 in the Montana prairies. During that summer I was able to experience firsthand the skills and knowledge that he had accumulated during the decades of his lifetime spent developing high class bird dogs. That summer was definitely the best time of my life that I will never forget.

Fred Rayl is always happy to provide some of his wisdom regarding bird dogs, especially with younger individuals such as myself. As long as I have known Fred Rayl, he has always been an encouraging mentor in my life as I learn more and progress in the sport of field trials. Fred Rayl, along with his father and brother, has also bred, developed, and campaigned some of the most distinguished pointers in the history of the sport. Many of those dogs have become the foundation of every pointer bloodline run in the American Field. Someone that has contributed as significantly to the history of this sport as Fred Rayl most certainly deserves to be in the Hall of Fame.

— Jesse Brown

In 2012 as a member of the Black Ash Grouse Trial Club located in western Pennsylvania, I contacted Fred Rayl, who I had not met up till then, asking if he would consider judging our two-hour Armstrong-Umber Endurance Classic, its fourth annual running. Without hesitation, Fred agreed to judge. That March he and his lovely wife Inday drove up from Georgia. Fred gave his all and thoroughly enjoyed judging a field trial on a wild bird he was not much familiar with. He was supportive of the club members' strong beliefs in the importance of the endurance aspect of all field trial dogs and he was genuinely interested in our grouse dogs. Club members and trial participants enjoyed his company, and the field trial stories he told, which were never centered on himself.

As far as winning goes, Fred has made his mark winning prestigious all-age championships over many years. He handled the first Florida Open All-Age Championship winner, the great Builder's Edition in 1979, went on to win it again in 1982 with Fiddler's Bo and three more times as well as Runner-Up three times. It's well time to honor Fred by inducting him to the Hall of Fame this year.

— Chris Mathan

I second the nomination of Fred Rayl to the Field Trial Hall of Fame. He has earned the honor over many years training and handling all-age champions.

— Tom Word

Please strongly consider Fred Rayl for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. In the 66 years that he has been in the field trial sport, he has competed and won against several Hall of Famers. His father, Bill Rayl, was inducted into the HOF; bird dog training and field trialing are in his blood. Fred was a year old when he started going to the prairies with his dad and has been going ever since. When I was around 18 years old, Fred hired me to go the prairies with him. At that time Fred had already won more championships than I knew existed. When I went to work for Freddie, I knew how to feed and water dogs, but not much about handling them. I still do not know everything there is to know but Fred is always there to answer my questions and advise me. It is not just his skills as a handler and trainer, but his willingness to help and share his knowledge with others in the industry. He's enthusiastic for the

sport, and it's his passion to keep it alive and well.

To date, Fred has won close to (if not more than) fifty championships and over seventy runner-up championships. His dogs—Builder's Addition, Fiddler, and Fiddler's Pride—are in the HOF, and their bloodlines still greatly contribute to this sport.

I urge you to vote for Fred Rayl. He is more than qualified and has earned the right to join the ranks of his father and others who earned this honorable title.

— Ben Stringer

Henry Weil

In May of 1952, a group of West Kentucky sportsmen formed an association to identify and secure the use of a suitable location to hold bird dog field trials. The principal characters involved in the development of the West Kentucky area were Arthur Curtis (Hall of Fame, 1971); J.D. Boss (Hall of Fame, 1983); and Henry E. Weil, first chairman of the Quail Championship Invitational (1964-1979). These men were the constants as sources of vision, standards, and leadership for the development of a venue and events that occupy special significance in the sport.

Henry Weil was a prominent individual in the Paducah-McCracken County social and business arenas. He was a WWII veteran, worked in insurance and real estate development, and served on several prominent boards. Consequently, his political connections were instrumental in securing the support necessary to build the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area.

A patron of John S. Gates, Henry's best-known dog was "Queen of the Prairies" Ch. Susan Peters (Hall of Fame, 2011). Recognizing the potential of the WKWMA to support major trials, Henry and John S. Gates introduced open all-age competition to the area in 1960 as the inaugural Kentucky Quail Classic. It quickly became recognized as a significant trial in the "Major Circuit," serving as a National Championship Qualifier and Purina Points trial.

Henry's association with John Gates was instrumental in the resurrection of the Quail Championship Invitational. Often described as the "Dream Trial," it quickly became one of the most prestigious titles in the sport. Henry was essential in establishing the standards under which the trial would be conducted. His standards were high, and the sport was better because they were.

If recognition in the Field Trial Hall of Fame is based on contribution, then the recognition of Henry Weil is long overdue.

— John P. Russell

House's Rain Cloud

I nominate House's Rain Cloud, long overdue and the only three-time winner of the Open Invitational at Paducah (1996, 97, 98) and on wild birds when they were scarce. His races were forward and deep, cast after cast, with dug up finds on the limb. Great judges admired him, one year so much they named no runner-up. He won other championships and was a major producer. I reported his wins, watched every cast and find. Read about him in John Russell's great history of this ultimate endurance stake.

— Tom Word

Election of dogs to the Hall of Fame is based on contribution, accomplishments as a performer and producer. The number

National IN THE SHADOW Champion

Dianne Bowman with In The Shadow



First point on wild birds!

From Puppy to National Champion!

"He was last seen on a long cast to the front toward Cypress Pond field. The dog had SIX finds and had a strong consistent race and a very strong finish."

— Robert McDavid, reporting the 2012 Continental Championship on wild birds

"This 10-find performance combined with a super strong race will go down in history as one of the greatest exhibitions of a bird dog's performance in the last couple of decades."

— Brad Harter quoted after the 2010 National Championship at Ames Plantation

"The job Buster did in that trial was the best I've ever seen there in 27 years. I'm not saying it's the best that's ever been, but it's the best I've ever seen!"

— Robin Gates quoted for the Purina Magazine after the 2010 National Championship

"Shadow's 7 finds and huge race made for an outstanding performance. It takes a real dog to look good at Chinquapin, but that's what field trials are all about."

— Don Wood, reporting the 2011 Sunshine Open All-Age
[In The Shadow was a two-time winner of the Sunshine Open All-Age and Florida Championship, all held at Chinquapin on wild birds!]

for Field Trial Hall of Fame

of wins alone is not a sufficient measure but the significance of the wins. For the all-age class, no factor is of greater importance than that of endurance. The "gold standard" for the all-age class is measured in the traditional endurance trials: the National Championship, National Free-for-All Championship, Quail Championship Invitational, Continental Championship, and the Southern Championship.

House's Rain Cloud met the standard for recognition in all respects. As a competitor, he won 37 placements primarily in major circuit competition, including six championships: the Border International Chicken Championship, Missouri Open Championship, Alabama Open Championship, and the Quail Championship Invitational. House's Rain Cloud won the Quail Championship Invitational three times, the only dog to do so in the history of the trial. He competed at the Invitational six consecutive years, not a record but a remarkable achievement of consistency.

As a producer, House's Rain Cloud met the test of volume and significance. He produced 74 winning offspring from 262 registered puppies. His winners earned a total of 387 placements including six championships. He was the sire of House's Hiplain Drifter, the 2003 Invitational Champion. He appears in the sire line of House's Snake Bite and L J Confidential, both Invitational Runners-up.

House's Rain Cloud checked all the boxes for recognition in the Field Trial Hall of Fame. If you saw him perform, you saw the epitome of the open all-age performer, bold and powerful, displaying finished qualities but not pedestrian perfection, exciting throughout.

— John P. Russell

In The Shadow

I would like to show my support for In the Shadow, better known as Buster. I cannot sit here and tell you his exact win record, nor can I list all the winners he has sired. However, I can tell you he was a threat every time he was turned loose. I wish my buddy, Robin Gates, was here to write this instead of me but if I had to guess, "Big" would say, "Florida Championship, Continental Championship, National Championship, enough said.

It is about time Fred Rayl goes into the Hall of Fame also, enough said. Thanks for your support,

— Mark McLean

National Champion In The Shadow meets all the criteria to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. He was a proven winner on the highest stage as well as a proven producer. In The Shadow won the Triple Crown of bird dog field trialing, the Florida Championship, the Continental Championship, and the National Championship. He won from Canada to Florida. In The Shadow has produced a good number of champions to go along with his impeccable win record. Please join me in putting In The Shadow alongside his Hall of Fame handler Robin Gates by voting In The Shadow for the Field Trial Hall Of Fame.

— Luke Eisenhart

It is both an honor and a privilege for me to support 2010 National Champion In The Shadow for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. In The Shadow was known as "Buster" to his Hall of Fame handler Robin Gates, as well as owners Carl and Dianne Bowman.

In *The Shadow* possessed an incredible combination of intelligence, bird-finding ability, and the desire to work as a team with Robin. I could list many accomplishments, but his “Triple Crown” wins stand out. In *The Shadow* is the only dog in field trial history to win these three prestigious Championships—The National Championship (10 finds), the Florida Championship (86 entries), and the Continental Championship (89 plus entries).

Please join me in voting for In *The Shadow* for membership into the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— *Jim Reece*

Just Irresistible

In 2013 *Just Irresistible* became the first derby to win the Southeastern Quail Championship. The young dog bested a stellar field of sixty-six contestants with a far-flung ground race and three limb finds, all handled with extreme style. That summer he convincingly won the Border International Championship. An encounter with a porcupine as a derby nagged him with infections throughout his competitive years and eventually resulted in an early death at age six. Despite his competitive career being cut short, *Just Irresistible* still managed to win Runner-Up honors in the Florida, Masters, and Southeastern Quail Championships.

The physique, style, application, and bird-finding ability shown by *Just Irresistible*, plus his genetic background, did not go unnoticed by discerning breeders. A total of only one hundred puppies were registered as sired by *Just Irresistible*. Of those, forty-four became winners and fifteen became champions, an amazing statistic.

Just Irresistible's progeny have won three Purina Top Dog awards, eleven national titles, and multiple shooting dog championship wins. They continue to win and add to his already impressive production record. This year his get amassed fifty more placements.

Just Irresistible demonstrated at an early age that he possessed the traits needed to prevail in the toughest competition. His production record proves that he was able to pass on these winning traits to his get. By doing so, *Just Irresistible* has made a significant contribution to our sport and deserves your vote for the Hall of Fame.

— *Ron Deal*

When I think of dogs worthy of the Hall of Fame, the first one that comes to mind is *Just Irresistible* (“Stud”). Not only is the dog's record as a performer considered but also the record as a producer, contributing not only to the sport by the quality of their achievements but also their contributions to the pointing dog breed by their quality of their offspring. Stud is exactly that!

Unfortunately, I never had the pleasure of watching Stud compete. His record speaks for itself in just four short seasons, winning all across the country. From the prairies to the hills of Kentucky, to the piney woods of the South. Stud is truly a dog I regret I did not get to see compete.

Personally, I have firsthand knowledge of his offspring. My father, Neil Walker and I are lucky to own one of his sons—Ch. Miller's Unbridled Forever—with 26 placements to date; 13 of those are in championships. We also have grandchildren of Stud that are winning as well. From what I have seen Stud produces the most natural front-running bird dogs I have seen.

When it comes time to cast your votes, let's all help owner

Mary Devos and trainer Jamie Daniels get this very worthy and deserving candidate in the Hall of Fame!

— *Brian Sanchez*

Without a doubt *Just Irresistible* has had one of the biggest impacts on the future of the pointer breed. Besides his own stellar field trial career as a performer, he has proven himself as a producer. He has passed his many great attributes on to the next generation.

We were blessed to have had the opportunity to breed one of our females, Miller's Bring the Heat, to him three times. These breedings produced sixteen dogs that between them have 58 championships and runners-up. Nine of these were national title events and two dogs were Purina Dog of the Year winners. Their versatility is across the field trial spectrum with wins in open all-age, open shooting dog, amateur events, and derby competition.

The genetics he has left us with will be such a betterment for our sport for generations to come. Already he has several sons that have themselves produced futurity winners and champions.

Please join us in putting “Stud” in the Hall of Fame to cement his place in bird dog history.

— *Fran and Jack Miller*

Mary Devos chose an appropriate name for her first major circuit contender because *Just Irresistible* was every bit the epitome of his name. His registered name belied his undeniable ability to perform at the top echelon of our sport and his call name is what he has become—a stud dog.

When Tracy Haines and Jamie Daniels made the decision to breed *Just Wait Bess* to Riverton's Funseekin' Scooter, they had high hopes for the litter. Jamie began walking the litter daily and soon glowered at their progress and ability. I was fortunate enough to watch the litter develop. There was one precocious youngster that was consistently forward, independent, and classy as he floated through the country. That pup became “Stud”. That mating produced several winners and that continues today through “Stud” and his scions.

Others have cited his outstanding performances in field trial competition and his accolades as a winner and producer. They have eloquently illustrated his merits for inclusion into the annals of field trial history by including his name in the Hall of Fame. Suffice it say that I strongly feel he belongs in that hallowed fixture as well as in my heart. He was one of those special ones that you just don't forget. Thank you for your consideration and vote.

— *David Williams*

Just Irresistible is the kind of dog that was always destined for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. His outstanding record of achievements has amazed us all. The first time I saw *Just Irresistible*, I knew I wanted a puppy out of him. This dream soon became a reality, and I was lucky enough to get not one, but two incredible dogs from him— Showtime Sam Houston and Showtime Mocking Jay. Sam is a 4x championship winner and Jay is a Purina Award winner and National Amateur Quail Champion. We hope to continue this trend with *Just Irresistible*'s grandson, Showtime Game Changer. Please consider this nomination when casting your vote.

— *Larron Copeland*

Lundy's Red Bull

A dog elected to the Field Trial Hall of Fame should have both a significant win record and an impressive production record. Lundy's Red Bull has accomplished both. Dual registered both in the American Field/Field Dog Stud Book and with AKC, he had 45 placements. He accumulated 19 placements in AKC National Championship events. In all-breed American Field shooting dog stakes, he proved he was not only a great Vizsla, but a great bird dog. He won the AFTCA Region 19 Amateur Championship and became the first continental breed ever invited to the AFTCA National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational. As a prepotent sire, he was an AKC Versatility sire in 2019 and a 2020 & 2021 Top Producing Field Sire. His offspring have garnered Championship and National Championship titles as well as many FC & AFC titles. They are very successful in all breed competitions placing in AFTCA shooting dog and all-age points qualifiers for the National Amateur Quail and National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitationals. Bull was one of those unique dogs that checks all the boxes. Please consider this great dog—Lundy's Red Bull—when casting your vote for the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— John Lewis

Miller's Happy Jack

The game changed for us in the spring of 2013 when a new player, Dialed In ("Claire"), was introduced to our team. She is a direct granddaughter of Ch. Miller's Happy Jack. The success of Miller's Happy Jack and his offspring is well-known throughout the field trial circuit, and we are blessed to have his blood as a staple in our success.

Happy Jack's influence on our kennel has been abundantly clear through Dialed In and her offspring. She won the coveted Purina Amateur All-Age Dog of the Year in 2019 and is also a 5x All-Age Champion.

Claire has taken our kennel to the next level, producing high caliber dogs, just as she has proven to be. Her first litter in 2015 produced three National Championship qualifiers—Pendy's Good Grace (2017 Purina Derby of the Year), Marques Armed Robber and Ascension.

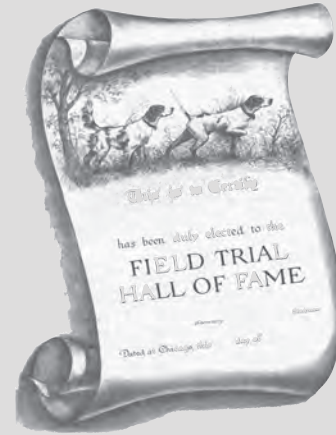
Claire has amassed a record of 48 wins and produced 7 winners with 102 wins. Even in 2022, she adds to the success of Happy Jack's lineage with granddaughters Awakened, the Top All-Age Derby of the Year, and Ch. Touch's Amazing Greyce. Their dam, Intentional, proves to be a top producer, carrying on the strong genetics from the Miller's Happy Jack line.

The Pendergest Family is very grateful for the influence of Miller's Happy Jack in field trial bird dogs. His attributes and success are illustrated through his bloodlines for generations of winners and producers. We strongly support Miller's Happy Jack for the Field Trial of Fame.

— Oak Bridge Kennel (Jim & Matt Pendergest)

Much has been written about the career and production record of Ch. Miller's Happy Jack. It would be difficult to embellish upon his field trial career and the ever-growing win record of his progeny.

If open all-age field trials are the benchmark standard to the betterment of the Pointer breed; then the many wild bird hunting dogs born from these dogs are the proving grounds of that standard.



FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME

*Deadline for nominations
is Friday, August 5!*

Voting instructions will be included
in the September issue. Stay tuned!

Miller's Happy Jack heavily influences hunting dogs all over the country in storied places like the Red Hills Region of South Georgia/Florida, the Carolinas, Kansas, the Dakotas, California, West Texas and of course our favorite, Coastal South Texas.

It's easy to put a number to the field trial win records of Happy Jack and his progeny, however, it would be impossible to quantify the joy and the pride of the many hunters and guides who have had the privilege to own or hunt behind.

If ever a dog has exemplified the goal of bettering the pointer breed by any standard of measure it is Ch. Miller's Happy Jack.

On behalf of all the many hunters and guides that turn loose the offspring of this great dog each fall to pursue the birds they hunt; it is an honor to endorse and recommend Ch. Miller's Happy Jack for the 2022 Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— Kevin Dixon

I highly recommend Champion Miller's Happy Jack for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. He was as fine an athlete as I've ever run, and his production record speaks for itself.

— Ike Todd

THE MAKING OF THE U.S. COMPLETE SHOOTING DOG ASSOCIATION

An Interview with Mills Hodge, An Original Member

By Calvin Curnutte, Jr.

Mills Hodge of West End, N.C., was one of the original members of USCSDA at its concept and inception. Mills has since been voted into the USCSDA Hall of Fame. Founded by Bob Lee, Jack Myrick and Gerald Shaw, the idea and discussions became a reality in 1981. Mills and Bob Lee shared a kennel at that time, Pinekone Kennels. A few years later, Mills and Bob split and Mills started calling his kennel Sandland. Mills is 89 years old now and still actively involved in field trials as an owner, breeder, and host, still retaining the land that the original Pinekone Kennels was located on.

The Interview

1. In what year was USCSDA an idea? The players? Enacted? Starting location? First trial held?

It all began as a discussion in 1980 and grew into a concept, then a series. The players were Bob Lee, Jack Myrick and his sons, Gerald Shaw, Jimmy Edmundson, and Mills Hodge. The first trial ran in 1981 at Jack Myrick's Quail Lake Plantation in West End, N.C. Though it has recently changed grounds by a few miles, Clayton Myrick still runs the Quail Lake Plantation in West End, N.C., still offering some of the best quail hunting in the area.

2. Was it difficult at that time establishing a new walking series of field trials with the American Field?

The American Field was very supportive of the idea and starting a new series of walking trials. They did want them to run a Classic for two years before offering them a Championship title event to run. As the series grew, more regions started and then more Championships were added.

3. What were the Open Shooting Dog standards when USCSDA started?

The Shooting Dog standards were the same as today except the dog had to retrieve a killed bird and had to back during the trial. If the opportunity wasn't there during the judgment time. After the running of all the dogs, a retrieve was setup, and a back was setup. It wasn't until 1995 at the request of Virginia, that the killing and retrieving of birds was stopped. Blank firing being the standard since.

4. How many years did it take before the first USCSDA National Championship was run?

The first Championship was run in 1983. Named Champion was Graham Parker's PM "Jack" with a big race and (5) finds. The Runner-Up Champion was Bob Lee's "Star", handled by Mills Hodge. Star had tallied up 10 perfect mannered finds in the hour. It was a very big day for Mills and he remembers it well.

**As a note, the bird count above was from the USCSDA website. Mills tells a different story as he remembers it. They were using some horseback judges for the Championship; Jack had a very big race to the front and racked up one find. Star handled, ran a nice walking shooting dog race, and tallied up nine perfect finds and retrieves.*

5. Did USCSDA start out by running both Open and Amateur stakes? Who was running in the Open stakes in the early years?

The series offered both Open and Amateur stakes. In the early years, many of the amateurs ran their dogs in both the open and the amateur stakes. Paul Mason, from Goldsboro, N.C., was a main competitor in the open stakes as a professional. Buddy Smith and Ronnie Rogers from Tennessee with an occasional appearance.

6. How quickly did people start looking for and attending these trials?

Right away the competitors and the gallery were very big. They purchased an old school bus with the top cut off that became the gallery wagon. Standing room only and people waiting for room to ride the next brace.

7. What were the other walking organizations at the time? Did they have a lot of trials and Championships in the area?

National Bird Hunters was the most prominent in the area, besides all the horseback trials.

8. What was the hardest obstacle to overcome starting the new organization and at trials?

The hardest thing was finding judges, knowledgeable judges. As they didn't want to lose any competitors from the trial to judge duties. During one trial Bob Lee's "Dot" was running a little too big for Bob. He elected to pick him up and put him into the gallery wagon. When it came time for the judges to announce the winners, they named Bob Lee's Dot in first place. Paul Mason spoke up, "The dog can't win, he was picked up". The judges said, "You tasked us with picking the best dogs, we did, and we're not changing our decision, especially if you'd like us to ever help again." Dot with the win!

9. Who dominated the USCSDA trials during the early years? Handler and Dogs?

During those early years, Jack Myrick and his sons placed a lot. Along with Bob Lee and an occasional ribbon for Mills. When Paul Mason started coming, he placed a lot. Jack Myrick had a dog named "Sue" and Bob Lee's "Star" placed in many of the trials. Mills and Bob bred some very nice setters in those early years. Some proving to be more of a horseback than a walking dog. Many pedigrees on the horseback circuit contain those setters to this day.

10. After all these years what makes you the proudest about your involvement with the start of USCSDA?

With a big smile on Mills' face, he stated that USCSDA is still around and doing well. That's what makes him proud to be involved with starting the organization. It's lasted the test of time and grown into the series it is today.

*If you know the enemy and know yourself,
you need not fear the results of a hundred battles.*

— Sun Tzu



Horseback Open Shooting Dogs



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THE NATIONAL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

A List of Qualifying Trials

By Heather Klinck | Union Springs, Alabama

The 2023 National Open Shooting Dog Championship will begin Monday, January 30, 2023.

As per the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors held on January 30, 2022, a placement in one of the following field trials will qualify a dog to run in the National Open Shooting Dog Championship. This placement must occur within the 24 months prior to the drawing of the 2023 Championship.

PLEASE NOTE: Essential Data Forms MUST be received by the National Open Shooting Dog Championship Secretary prior to the drawing for dogs to be eligible. It is the responsibility of the dog owners and handlers to ensure this information is received.

- Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship
- All-America Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Arizona Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Arkansas Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Atlantic Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Bama Quail Club Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Bear Pond Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Big Sky Field Trial Club Open Shooting Dog
- Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship
- California Chukar Open Shooting Dog Classic
- California Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Can/Am Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Carolina Celebration Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Conecuh Station Field Trial Club Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Dixie Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Eastern Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Egyptian Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Farmer Sportsman De Luca Classic
- Fleetwood Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Fort Mill Field Trial Club Open Shooting Dog
- Garden State Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Garden State Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Georgia Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Gulf Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Henry Banks Sr. Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Idaho Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Illinois Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Indiana Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Indiantown Gap Keystone Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Inez C. Smith Open Shooting Dog Classic
- International Endurance Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Jayhawk Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Kentucky Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Keystone Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Lesser Sandhills Field Trial Club
- Lone Star Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Masters Open Shooting Dog Championship
- McMinnville Field Trial Club
- Michigan Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Middle Atlantic Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Midwest Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Mill Pond Field Trial Club / Jep Wade Open Shooting Dog

- Mississippi Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Missouri Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Montana Open Shooting Dog Championship
- National Chukar Open Shooting Dog Championship
- National Open Shooting Dog Championship
- National Pheasant Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Nevada Bird Dog Club /
Kelly's Rebel Maggie Open Shooting Dog Classic
- National Prairie Chicken Open Shooting Dog Championship
- North Carolina Open Shooting Dog Championship
- New England Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Northeastern Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Northwest Chukar Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Oklahoma Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Oklahoma Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Oregon Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Ozark Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Pacific Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Pacific Northwest Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Paul Brock Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Razorback Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Russell County (AL) Field Trial Club
- Shadow Oak Field Trial Club
- South Carolina Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Southeastern Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Southern Comfort Field Trial Club
- Southwest Missouri Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Sunflower State Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Swamp Fox Open Shooting Dog Classic
- Tennessee Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Tennessee Valley Field Trial Club
- Texas Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Tootsie Hurdle Shooting Dog Classic
- United States Shooting Dog Invitational Championship
- West Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Western Open Shooting Dog Championship
- Woodward County (OK) M.F. Ferguson Classic

Please add **“A Qualifying Trial for the National Open Shooting Dog Championship”** in your advertising.

The Board of Directors will review this list at each Annual Meeting and may add or delete trials as it sees fit. If you would like to request that a trial be added or removed from the list, please provide particulars. The National Open Shooting Dog Board of Directors will review each request at the Annual Meeting which is held during the running of The National Open Shooting Dog Championship. An updated list will be posted annually.

Heather Klinck, Secretary

National Open Shooting Dog Championship

Phone: (334) 207-9422 • Email: hsklinck@gmail.com

3655 County Road 165, Union Springs, AL 36089

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Robin Gates, Handler • Hunter Gates, Scout • Carl Bowman, Owner

- Only winner of the Field Trial “Triple Crown”

- Only dog in field trial history to win the two premier wild bird Championships and The National Championship

- 2008 Florida Championship (86 dogs)

- 2010 National Championship (39 dogs)

- 2012 Continental Championship (89 dogs)

- Also, six first placements in Canada

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Jamie Daniels, Owner/Trainer

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Email: jameshdaniels79@gmail.com

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Field Trial & Gun Dogs Trained

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Oakdale, CA 95361

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www.twerkennels.com

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Larry Huffman

2873 Whippoorwill Rd.

Michigan City, MS 38647

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Upcoming Events

BLACK ASH GROUSE TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

AUGUST 6 • FALL WALKING TRIAL • STARTS 7:00 A.M.

Grounds: S.G.L. #69, located on 90 degree bend (Maple Hill Road).

Drawing: Wednesday, August 3, at 7:30 P.M., at the home of Russ Richardson.

(Sat.) *OPEN PUPPY..... Entry Fee: \$25.00

*OPEN DERBY Entry Fee: \$25.00

*OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER Entry Fee: \$35.00

*OPEN SHOOTING DOG..... Entry Fee: \$35.00

***Ribbons & Certificates**

Judges: To be announced

Phone entries to: RUSS RICHARDSON—(814) 807-4335

Entries are accepted with the understanding that the club, its officers and members and landowners are not responsible and cannot be held liable for accidents involving anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs, or equipment.

ATLANTIC SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

Grand National Grouse & Woodcock Invitational Points Trial

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! .22 cal blank gun (preferred) or larger.

August 20–21 • Wild Bird Season Opener • Starts 7:30 A.M.

Grounds: Caledonia, NS, Canada. Multiple courses in prime woodcock and grouse habitat winding through old farmsteads and cuts.

Drawing: Wednesday, August 17, 8:00 P.M. (ADT).

(Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Multi wild bird courses\$40.00 (CAD)

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Single course\$30.00 (CAD)

OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—Single course\$20.00 (CAD)

(Sun.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Multi wild bird courses ...\$40.00 (CAD)

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Single course\$30.00 (CAD)

OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—Single course.....\$20.00 (CAD)

Rosettes for all placements

Entries to: IAN CORBETT

Phone: (902) 354-0026 • Email: ikcorbett@msn.com

For more information, go to: www.atlanticsportsman.com

Club members and landowners are not responsible for injury or damages to participants.



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LAKE STATES FIELD TRIAL CLUB

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs, Inc. —

Member AFTCA & AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Requirements regarding electronic devices will be enforced!

AUGUST 13–14 • STARTS 7:00 A.M.

GLADWIN FIELD TRIAL AREA, MEREDITH, MI

Drawing: Wednesday, August 10, 7:00 P.M., at the home of Secy./Treas. Denise Peters, 7888 Greenwood Rd., Gladwin, MI 48624. All are welcome.

(Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses..\$50.00

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses.....\$45.00

Derby to begin Saturday; Start time TBD by entries.

(Sun.) MIKE GROSTIC AMATEUR

SHOOTING DOG MEMORIAL (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses..... \$50.00

Rotating Trophies and Ribbons will also be awarded.

Judges: OSD—Marc Dozeman and Kenric DeLong; OD—Brendan Terrien and Mike Brown; ASD—Richard Hollister and Harold Hollister.



Direct entries to: DENISE PETERS, 7888 Greenwood Rd., Gladwin, MI 48624

Phone: (269) 209-1255 • Email: dpeters1255@yahoo.com

Entrants and spectators participate at their own risk. LSFTC and/or its officers are not responsible for injury or accidents.

MICHIGAN AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUB

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs, Inc. —

Member AFTCA & AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

August 20–21



Meredith, MI

Grounds: Gladwin Field Trial Grounds, Meredith, MI. To be run on multiple courses. Public

Drawing: Tuesday, August 16, 8:00 P.M. (EDT), at the home of Bob Wheelock. For all AFTCA sanctioned events you must be an individual AFTCA member to enter your dog.

Use of retrieval collars are allowed in all stakes under strict compliance of AFTCA guidelines. Accommodations: Northwoods Motel, 5800 M-30, Gladwin, MI 48624—(989) 426-4021.

(Sat., 7:30 A.M.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER (30 Min.)\$40.00

(Sun.; May start Saturday, if entries warrant) OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)\$40.00

(Sun., 7:30 A.M.) *AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.).....\$35.00

*Grand National Invitational Points Stake

Judges: To be announced

— Rosettes to all placed dogs and AFTCA Win Certificates as appropriate —

\$3.00 of each entry support the Gladwin Grounds Fund and the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs.

Entries to: BOB WHEELOCK, Pres., 17780 Wallin Rd., Thompsonville, MI 49683

Phone: (231) 970-1571 • Email: bobwheelock@comcast.net

Richard Hollister, Vice-Pres. • Eric Naus, Vice-Pres.

Directors: Rob Ellis, Chris Jaeger, Carson Foster

NGSPA Sharptail Championship Association

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 TO CONCLUSION

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The Dean Wang Ranch, Hwy. 7 approx. 7 miles south of Baker, MT.

Entry gates will be marked.

All stakes run on native game • All stakes run on continuous courses

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— Plaques awarded to all Winners & Runners-Up —

NGSPA SHARPTAIL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) ... Entry Fee: \$150.00

Judges: Sherry Ebert, Mott, ND, and one to be announced

NGSPA SHARPTAIL OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) Entry Fee: \$160.00

10-dog minimum for payout (\$750 / \$250)

Judges: Sherry Ebert, Mott, ND, and one to be announced

NGSPA SHARPTAIL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)..... Entry Fee: \$160.00

24-dog minimum for payout (\$1500/ \$750)

Judges: Eric Mauck, Boring, OR, and Alex Mauck, Ontario, OR

***NGSPA SHARPTAIL DERBY CLASSIC (30 Minutes) Entry Fee: \$ 90.00**

****Will run if and when time allows***

Judges: Art Cox, Lehi, UT, and Bruce Mueller, River Falls, WI

If no champion is named in the Open All-Age or Open Shooting Dog, all money will be retained by the club.

Accommodations: Various motels in Baker, MT.

All entries to: TOM DAVIS, Chairman

4441 Mitchaw Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560

Phone: (419) 843-5344 • Cell: (419) 205-5686

****Drawing for Amateur Shooting Dog on Friday, September 2, 7:30 P.M.****

****Dogs must have a completed entry form to be drawn! All dogs drawn must pay.****



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The NGSPA Sharptail Championship Assn., Field Club and its landowners are not responsible for any injuries, loss or damage at the property incurred during the trial.



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For questions, email gsmith@ukcdogs.com

**High-Resolution Color Images Preferred.*

Upcoming Events

NATIONAL BRITTANY OPEN GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP ASSOCIATION

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs —

August 27–28 • Starts at 7:00 A.M. each day



Grounds: Gladwin Field Trial Area, Meredith, MI. Lunches will be available on the grounds. Entries Close & Drawing: Wednesday, August 24, 8:00 P.M., at the home of the Kenny DeLong.

(Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Qualifier\$50.00

(Sun.) OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)\$50.00

(Sun.) CONTINENTAL BREED OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)\$50.00

Starting time Sunday for Continental Shooting Dog to be announced

— Multiple courses —

Judges: OSD—Kenny DeLong and Lonnie Rademacher;

OD—Brent & Denise Peters; Continental Breed OSD—Scott & Tammy Chaffee.

Entries to: KENNY DeLONG • Phone: (616) 894-7447

1450 Shady Ln., Greenville, MI 48838



NBOGCA announces the Running of the Continental Cover Dog Championship during our Fall trial October 6–9, 2022, at the Gladwin Field Trial Area.



U.S. COMPLETE SHOOTING DOG ASSOCIATION



BIG SKY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Friday, September 23, 2022 • Starts 8:00 A.M.

Grounds: Table Rock Ranch, 56 S. Barber Rd., Barber, MT. Multiple continuous courses with Sharptail grouse, Hungarian partridge and pheasant. Drawing: Tuesday, September 20, 6:00 P.M. at 774 Melville Rd., Melville, MT.

OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)\$35.00

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)\$35.00

OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—Time permitting\$25.00

AMATEUR GUN DOG (30 Min.)—Time permitting\$35.00

All stakes are walking and will run under the rules of the U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association. National Points will be awarded for placements. Horseback stakes will begin September 24.

Judges: John Todd and Isaiah Todd



Entries to: DAVID HUFFINE • Cell: (910) 620-2970

By entering or attending this trial, all participants relieve the landowner, its employees and the members and officers of the Big Sky Field Trial Club from any liability for any damage or injury to any equipment, animals or persons including loss of life resulting from any accident.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

ROGER BOSER • Phone: (717) 881-9768 • Email: Rogerboser@aol.com

2021-22 Dog of the Year Award Winners

Awards will be presented the evening of October 8, following the York Pointer & Setter trial.

Top Combined Shooting Dog

Wr: Bad Bourbon (PM)
Gunner Boyer, Owner/Handler

R-U: Bull Finch (PM)
Ernie (Handler) & Karen Saniga, Owners

Open Shooting Dog

Wr: High Drive Fancy Pants (PF)
Allen Linder, Owner / George Tracy, Handler

Amateur Shooting Dog
Wr: Little Wing Inked Up (PM)
George Mamounis, Owner/Handler

R-U: Navajo Cody (PM)
Sal Morelli, Owner / Joe Lordi, Handler

Open Derby

Wr: Steel Valley Raven (PM)
Lisa Pollock, Brian Sanchez & Ted Foust, Owners
Jeanette Tracy, Handler

Amateur Derby

Wr: Jolene Jolene (PF)
Dave McKay, Owner/Handler
R-U: Steel Valley Raven (PM)
Lisa Pollock, Brian Sanchez & Ted Foust, Owners
Taydem Boyer, Handler

2022 Fall Field Trial Schedule

Sept. 10-11 ... Ridgerunners BDC

Sept. 21 National Shooting Dog Futurity

Sept. 25 National Pheasant OSD Chmp.

Oct. 1-2 Northern Bucks FTC

Oct. 8-9 York Pointer & Setter Club

Oct. 15 Penn-Jersey Sportsman's Club

Oct. 16 Delaware Pointer & Setter Club

Nov. 5-6 Indiantown Gap BDC

Nov. 12-13 Lehigh Valley FTC



MILLER'S HAPPY JACK FOR FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME

My field trial story began with Happy Jack...

In the fall of 2007, my father and I were driving home to Kentucky from a hunting trip in Nebraska. Caught up in the success of our trip, I confidently told my dad I wanted to buy a hunting dog. He told me to call a man he knew back in Kentucky. If bird dogs were a corporation, this man would be the founder and CEO. When I went home to Murray for Christmas, I called the CEO, and he said he had a little female for sale. In the drizzling December rain, we loaded up in his pickup truck, and he turned the little girl loose. She was perfect. I was sold. I named her Cali, after my home place, Calloway County, Kentucky. I took Cali and a training DVD, free with purchase, and proceeded to train my little dog. She could do it all—sit, stay, retrieve. I had my hunting dog.

The CEO called and checked up on us a few times. I told him how well she was coming along and that she could even retrieve now. I could hear his eyes roll over the phone and his quiet utterance, "That wasn't on the video." After Happy Jack, Cali's littermate, won the All-American Derby Championship, the calls increased in frequency, the number of calls began to coincide with the number of placements Happy Jack racked up.

As the calls grew, so did our friendship. The CEO lamented his desire to go to the Dakotas, citing his age as a potential hindrance in making the trip. I told him I would take him, so we headed North. I experienced all the uncomfortable and exhilarating experiences a newbie trialer does when they go North for the first time. I was trained, and Cali was retrained, not to retrieve. I was hooked, and I never looked back.

The trajectory of my life in field trials tracked that of Happy Jack. The CEO's focused interest in following Happy Jack's line became my own. I followed the line and watched the young line dogs develop into champions—Ch. Miller's Dialing In, Ch. Touch's Pond Dam, Phillips Warning Line, Ch. Touch's Game Point, Ch. Miller's Creative Cause and Ch. Valiant. I knew this was the bloodline I wanted in my kennel and in front of my horse.

Cali, whose portrait hangs in my office, sadly passed away during her first whelping. Since that first summer in the Dakotas, I have been fortunate to have many successful dogs in my kennel and in front of my horse, most notably, Dunn's Tried'N True ("Jack"), the 2019 National Champion, grandson to Happy Jack. Happy Jack and his progeny have just enough outlaw, but unproductives are not in their vocabulary. True bird dogs. Just what I wanted, and just what I got, and all attributable to Happy Jack.

This year Tried'N True ran the race of his life in Reno, and as I watched him sail across the mountains, overcome by his achievements, I remembered my first summer as a rank amateur, and humbled, my thoughts went to Happy Jack, where my field trial story began.

—Will Dunn

Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America

www.aftca.org

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Phone: (662) 223-0126
Email: piper.huffman@aim.com

American Bird Hunters Association

www.facebook.com/trialabha/

Ronnie Rogers, President
Phone: (865) 712-9229
Email: esetter34@yahoo.com

National Bird Hunters Association

www.nbhadow.org

Ken Sauer, President
Phone: (281) 960-2508
Email: kfsauer@sbcglobal.net
Tim Penn, Secretary
Phone: (660) 341-1165
Email: tpennhwy6@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Association

www.ngspa.org

Natalie Inderman, Secretary
Phone: (806) 777-2769
Email: Nataliealicia@gmail.com

National Red Setter Field Trial Club

www.nrsftc.com

Ed Liermann
Phone: (414) 625-0715
Email: eal1886@aol.com

National Vizsla Association

www.thenva.org

Robert Tomczak
Phone: (715) 829-8104
Email: shilohkl@aol.com

Southern Bird Hunters Association

www.southernbirdhunters.org

Marty Robinson, President
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Georgia Casey, Treasurer
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U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association

www.uscomplete.org

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Mike Spotts, Secretary/Treasurer
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FUTURITIES

Grand National Grouse Futurity

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Midwest Vizsla Futurity

Rodney Albin
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National Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

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National German Shorthaired Pointer Assn.

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National Red Setter Futurity

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National Shooting Dog Futurity

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Email: mdh275@gmail.com

National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity

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Email: catanzarite@fairpoint.net

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North American Woodcock Futurity

Joe Dahl
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Email: JosephDahl@aol.com

Southern Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

Bruce Mercer
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Email: mercerbruce@hotmail.com

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assn. Futurity

Verlene Stephenson
Phone: (252) 589-1521
Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu

United States Quail Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret Drew
Phone: (910) 206-0079
Email: bmdrew@windstream.net

RECOGNIZED FIELD TRIALS

Black Ash Grouse Trial Club

August 6 / Guys Mills, PA
Contact: Russ Richardson
Phone: (814) 807-4335
Email:

Lake States Field Trial Club

August 13 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Denise Peters
Phone: (269) 209-1255
Email: dpeters1255@yahoo.com

Atlantic Sportsman's Club

August 20 / Caledonia, NS
Contact: Ian Corbett
Phone: (902) 354-0026
Email: ikcorbett@msn.com

Michigan Amateur Field Trial Club

August 20 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Bob Wheelock
Phone: (231) 970-1571
Email: bobwheelock@comcast.net

National Brittany Open Grouse Championship Association

August 27 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Kenny DeLong
Phone: (616) 894-7447
Email:

Southwestern Championship

August 31 / Trail City, SD
Contact: Garland Priddy
Phone: (601) 259-1515
Email: garlandpriddy01@gmail.com

NGSPA Sharptail Championships

September 3 / Baker, MT
Contact: Tom Davis
Phone: (419) 843-5344 or (419) 205-5686
Email:

North American Woodcock Championship & Futurity

September 9 / McAdam, NB, Canada
Contact: Robert Little
Phone: (506) 784-7047
Email: robert.little551@gmail.com

ABHA TRIALS

(No upcoming trials)

NBHA TRIALS

(No upcoming trials)

SBHA TRIALS

(No upcoming trials)

USCSDA TRIALS

Big Sky Field Trial Club
September 23 / Barber, MT
Contact: David Huffine
Phone: (910) 620-2970
Email:

CONTACTS

Essential Data Forms & Write-Ups:
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Advertisements & Fixtures:
Gina Smith • gsmith@ukcdogs.com
Field Dog Stud Book:
Jason Lee • jlee@ukcdogs.com



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