# UKC®

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# **TWO HISTORIC REGISTRIES BECOME ONE** Changes and Opportunities In 2024

# By Todd Kellam

Six score and two years ago, two different registries were serving the dog world with "working ability first" goals, and they were doing so on similar but separate planes. Both were very successful and rose to the top of their individual areas of expertise. On September 1 of 2021, those two leaders became one when UKC acquired the *Field Dog Stud Book* and American Field Publishing Company. The continued preservation of the decades of work of hunting dog enthusiasts was something worth taking a moment to celebrate. But it was time to get busy, and the work was just beginning.

Bringing together two different institutions is not an immediate nor simple process. Readers of this newsletter have felt the pain, at some level, and for your patience and understanding, we thank you. It was a challenge of the highest degree. I am excited to report that blending these two historic registries has been quite the strategic process, and the next phase is here!

Beginning January 1, 2024, the first installment of one registry serving two revered brands took place. The goal of this article is to offer the first of many introductions to come. I assure you there will be topics to address in the future that have yet to be thought of. The takeaway that I hope readers understand is that going forward, there is but one registry: United Kennel Club. UKC is committed to continuing to grow, support, and enhance both the UKC and American Field brands while continuing to carefully manage the FDSB legacy. That being said, let's look at some changes that took effect on January 1 that will be new to all customers, whether they have UKC or American Field backgrounds.

First, let's discuss event entering eligibility. Dogs previously registered by FDSB will now be eligible to be entered in all UKC events, and dogs previously registered by UKC will be eligible to be entered in American Field events, provided that other breed and age requirements are met. While I don't see a lot of dogs on the extreme end of any sport taking advantage of this, I do think it opens a lot of doors and opportunities for many owners to experience more of what the performance dog segment has to offer them. I do see some *FDSB* continental breeds trying a variety of UKC sports. I can also picture UKC-registered Epagneul Bretons showing up at American Field events. Time will tell.

Next, we need to discuss how your registration numbers will change. Two unique sets of registration numbers needed to be merged into one data system. Fortunately,

both registries use a six-number numerical system. The only difference is that UKC also uses a letter prefix to the six-number numerical identity. Ironically, the letter "F," which you hopefully identify as "Field," was available for a prefix! Since 1979, when the UKC registry was computerized (after being paper-only since 1898) until now, the letter F has gone unused as a prefix. How's that for fate? It means UKC is able to accommodate this monumental step by simply adding the letter "F" in front of your current FDSB registration number. Programmers everywhere will cuss me for calling this a simple fix, but in my mind, it could have been worse! Just remember to add an "F" in front of your dog's number in the future. It might seem like a small detail that is hardly worth relaying to you in this article - but when the credentials you carry are of such major importance to you and us, our goal is to provide you with as much transparency as possible in this landmark development.

Let's talk about the design change to your pedigree. If I hadn't mentioned this, I am very curious as to what percentage of customers would have noticed it on their own. I mean, it is a watermark in the background of the information you are concentrating on. However, since this is of historical significance, it is important to people like you and me. Did you know? All aspects of your dogs' storied lineage, from concept to paper sourcing to printing and packaging of each UKC/FDSB pedigree, occur on UKC property and are conducted by UKC team members. For the past two years since the acquisition, we have maintained the existing look and measurement of the FDSB pedigrees as they were at the time of the acquisition. Now that the combination of the stud books is complete, we are proud to offer you more upgrades and a refreshed product line. Our high-caliber equipment allows us to bring you enhancements like new sizes, superior visual elements, and a more vibrant color scheme.

You will also notice newly commissioned artwork in the background of your papers. It's similar to what has been there for years but is now a refreshed Pointer and Setter scene. What you will notice is that the background is a little less "busy." It looks great, and Pointer owners can take comfort in the fact that although I made a case to reverse the image so that the Pointer was backing the Setter, I failed in my plea.

New to UKC customers is that all pedigrees for UKC registered pointing breeds will be printed on American Field brand pedigrees. Now, keep in mind these are, for the most part, the same pointing breeds that *FDSB* has previously registered; Nothing new there. Performance Pedigrees® will feature a combination of titles, wins, progeny numbers, and other performance data, covering UKC and American Field program accomplishments.

I guess it's time to talk about pricing changes. I believe this will be good news and well received. Previously, an *FDSB* registration cost \$25 and did not include a pedigree. A registration transfer of ownership will cost \$30 and will automatically include a three-generation performance pedigree at no additional fee. There are upgrades available, such as pedigrees with additional generations of ancestry and these you will also find more affordable. For example, a registration with a five-generation pedigree with wins used to cost \$65 and will now cost \$42. Good news for *FDSB* customers, but again, the same price for all UKC customers.

Good news with litters also. UKC has a flat fee of \$34 per litter. *FDSB* previously charged \$25 plus \$2 per pup. So, your average litter of six pups will now cost \$34 instead of \$37. And you don't have to do any math! There are more perks we will get into later as time and space permit, such as each litter registration, including a puppy packet for each pup.

Perhaps the best news of all is the opportunity to submit your litter applications online beginning January 1, 2024. We have been looking forward to being able to offer this convenience to *FDSB* customers since the acquisition, and we are happy to report it is time. This also applies to single registrations, which is less of a factor for *FDSB* customers but is a great opportunity for new customers. No more stamps and envelopes! This is a service we have been offering to UKC breeders for some time, and now, with the databases becoming one, it will be an option sure to be well received by the *FDSB* community.

There will be more announcements to come as we continue to work on projects that will allow us to better serve our entire customer base. We understand that changes are not always easy, and there may be a short learning curve as you digest these changes. Remember that we are here to answer any questions you may have, and look forward to helping everyone get up to speed.

Wishing everyone a safe, enjoyable, and successful new year.

Mational Champion



MILLER'S BLINDSIDER Nick Berrong, Owner | Jamie Daniels, Handler | Fran & Jack Miller, Breeders [Photo by Chris Mathan]

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- 6 NGSPA Great Lakes Championships
- 7 Kansas Prairie Open All-Age Classic
- 9 Garden State Shooting Dog Championship & Derby Classic
- 10 Associated Field Trial Clubs of Florida (Members' Memorial Trial)
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CAROLINA JAMBOREE October 2023 • Hoffman, North Carolina Photo by Hayden Dobbins

# NATIONAL PRAIRIE CHICKEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP B G K's Luke Named Champion; Confident Nation, Runner-Up By Ed Liermann | Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin | September 24, 2023



National Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship Winner (I-r): Ed Liermann, Joe Hughes (judge), Allison Bell with B G K's Luke, Jarrett Bell, Scott Little (judge), Lisa Little, and Gary Wolf.

The cover was down, entries were up, and chickens were abundant for the successful running of the National Prairie Chicken Shooting Dog Championship on the Buena Vista Grasslands that started on September 24, 2023. Summer drought restricted growth and parts of many of the courses were a little easier to traverse. We found birds on every course.

We welcomed a seasoned pair of judges for this year's running. Traveling from down south, Scott Little was accompanied by his lovely wife Lisa from Woodlawn, Tennessee, and Joe Hughes from Moulton, Alabama. Both men are well-traveled and bring a wealth of experience in handling dogs and judging championships.

# **The Winners**

B G K's Luke, a white, orange, and ticked 5-year-old pointer male, emerged as the winner and new champion with a great forward race that covered a lot of country. He is owned and handled by Jarrett Bell of Troy, Missouri. He had a back at 6 and a back at 17. He had a nice find at 23 with all in order, and a second find at 39 where he was spotted forward standing high and tight. Several birds were flushed with all in order. Very nice! He had a stop to flush at 57 and finished the hour strong.

The runner-up was Confident Nation, a white, orange, and ticked 5-year-old pointer male owned and handled by Scott Jordan of Grant, Minnesota. He had a big, far-reaching race with a nice find at 15, all in order. He had an unproductive at 30 and a nice find at 40 with all in order and finished strong.

Temperatures were cooler than normal, with rain and gray skies throughout most days. Every field trial has a cadre of people who work tirelessly to make the trial work seamlessly. We appreciate the team effort that includes George and Anne Ihrke and Doug and Judy Reisner for helping out at road crossings throughout the day, along with dog wagon driver Gary Wolf. This is essential, especially on the blacktop roads we have to cross. Gary Wolf has been our dog wagon driver for over 20 years and takes vacation days to help us. Hard-boiled eggs at break time, especially after the first brace, is a trial tradition, thanks to Anne Ihrke and Judy Reisner for a steady supply for all to enjoy.

We value our partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and their 50-plus-year support of this event. Site manager Lesa Kardash continues a long-standing tradition of cooperation to facilitate this event. Special thanks to Lesa and other Wisconsin Natural Department of Resources personnel, including John Soergel, Joey Biebel, and Erin Grossman, for helping when and where it is needed. Our list of guests and dignitaries included Andy Lewandowski from the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources officials that included Diane Brusoe, Administrator-Division Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and Alissa Kakatsch, Assistant Turkey and Pheasant Ecologist, Bureau of Wildlife management for spending the day with us.

Entries were up, and we had a great group of trialers from around the country that included John Mathys, Frank LaNasa, Doug Ray, Scott Jordan, Doug and Judy Reisner, George and Anne Ihrke, Dennis Lutynski, Chad Chadwell and Nancy Browne, Mark Johnson, Sean Patrick Derrig, Jarret and Allison Belle, Tom Hennes and your scribe Ed Liermann.

Purina has been a sponsor of this event for years. Thanks to Purina, Greg Blair, and Terry Trzcinski; we are grateful for their support. SportDOG is another big supporter of this trial, and we thank Jim Morehouse and SportDOG for their continued support.

After the completion of the Amateur Championship, it is a trial tradition to swap morning and afternoon courses for the Open Championship. This year, we were not able to do this as we started on Sunday afternoon.

CS Four Season's Gunner (Ray) and Erin's Southern Comfort (Derrig). Both dogs fast and forward. Four Season's ran a nice forward, consistent shooting dog race but didn't have a bird. Southern Comfort had a nice find at 22, with birds leaving as judge arrived with all in order. He disappeared at 50 and didn't return to judgment.

Miller's Promotional Upgrade (Ray) and Pearl Jam Nation (Jordan). Upgrade started out with a nice race and had a back at 24 and then at 34; with birds in the air and both dogs in the same vicinity, handler elected to pick up. Pearl Jam started out with a nice ground race showing in all the right places, and with birds in the air, handler also elected to pick up at 34.

Walden's Ridge Slap Shot (Ray) and Erin's Country Rebel (Derrig). Slapshot ran a beautiful, snappy race with a strong finish but didn't have a bird. Country Rebel ran a big, far-reaching race throughout the hour and finished strong to the front without birds.

Northern Confidence (LaNasa) and Skydancer Silver Spur (Lutynski). Northern Confidence ran a nice forward race, was gone a bit, and picked up at 58, not pleasing handler. Silver Spur had a breach of manners at 20 and was picked up.

Erin's Tin Lizzie (Johnson) and Sugar

Cane Express (Chadwell). Lizzie had an unproductive at 2. Moving on, she had a nice find at 15 with all in order. At 30, with birds in the air, she was moving and picked up. Sugar Cane had a nice find at 5 with all in order. He had a breach of manners at 50 and was picked up.

Luke's Gospel Reward (Hennes) and Cedar Creek Sixgun (Liermann). Gospel ran a nice race, had an unproductive at 7 and a nice find at 40 with all in order. Sixgun had a nice forward race, gone for a bit at 45, then had a find at 55 with all in order and finished going away.

Cole Fusion (Hennes) and Hard Truth (Ray). Fusion started out with a nice race with some big swings. He failed to stop on a big covey at 39 and was up. Hard Truth had a nice race with a stop to flush at 39 and a nice finish.

B G K's Luke (Bell) and Boumeester's Duramax. Luke's performance was mentioned earlier. Duramax had a nice forward race. He had skunk at 6, a nice find at 15 with all in order and was up at 30, not pleasing handler.

I'm Spartacus (Ray) and Saginaw Luke Skywalker (Johnson). Luke was scratched. Spartacus had a nice race throughout, with a find at 57, where he left with the bird and was up.

Erin's Ty Breaker (Ray) and Skydancer Triple Nickel (Lutynski). Ty Breaker made some big casts and had a nice find at 19 with all in order. Triple Nickel ran a forward race and had a nice find at 5.

Walden's Ridge Rain Storm (Ray) and Notorious Immortal (Mathys). Rain Storm hunted hard throughout the hour and had a back at 14. Immortal had a nice find at 14 with dog high and tight as birds left early. He had a nice forward race throughout.

Cottonwood Bud (Hennes) and Dakota Nation (Ray). Bud was picked up at 25, not pleasing handler. Dakota was picked up at 15, not pleasing handler.

Hatteras Rip Tide (Ray) and Confident Nation (Jordan). Rip Tide had a nice race but failed to back at 29 and was up. Confident Nation's performance was noted earlier.

Hatteras Sand Storm (Ray) and B G K's Lone Gunman (Bell). Both dogs picked up at 9, not pleasing handlers.

Reve's Royal Hawaiian (Chadwell) and Wiggins Pree Dawn Reward (Hennes). Royal Hawaiian ran a forward race and hunted hard. He was picked up at 30, not pleasing handler. Pree Dawn Reward ran a big race covering a lot of ground but was picked up at 35, not pleasing handler.

Southern Confidence (LaNasa) and



Open Derby Winners (I-r): Ed Liermann, Jarret Bell, Allison Bell with Erin's Doc Holliday, Joe Hughes (judge), Doug Ray with Hatteras High Tide, Scott Little (judge), Lisa Little, Erin Grossman with Miller's Upgraded Patent, and Gary Wolf.

Great River Stallion (Ray). Southern Confidence was a scratch. Great River Stallion had birds on the breakaway and left with them.

Chief's Rising Sun (Mathys) and Smooth Talking (Ray). Rising Sun took in the country as it was laid out, with a nice find at 11 and an unproductive at 32. He had a breach of manners at 46 and was up. Smooth Talking wasn't pleasing the handler and was collared at 8.

Stone Church Rooster (Jordan) and Murphy's Law (Hennes). Rooster was biddable and hunted hard throughout the hour. Murphy's Law was not pleasing handler and was up at 2.

Cross Country Ryan (Hennes) and Absolute Dominator (Ray). Ryan had a find at 10 and left with the birds. Dominator had a beautiful race and hunted hard throughout the hour.

Two Spot Tommy (Ray) and Elhew Mara Jade (Hennes). Tommy ran a nice race but was up at 40. Mara Jade had a forward race with a find at 5 and an unproductive at 32.

A Buccaneer (Ray) as a bye. Buccaneer had bird contact at 4, left with the birds, and was up.

## Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., September 24 Judges: Joe Hughes and Scott Little NATIONAL PRAIRIE CHICKEN SHOOTING DOG

CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 41 Entries Winner-B G K'S LUKE, 1690405, pointer male, by Dunn's Tried'n True-The White Pearl. Jarrett D. Bell, owner; and handler.

Runner-Up-CONFIDENT NATION, 1674546, pointer male, by True Confidence-Southern Songbird. Scott Jordan, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

# **Open Derby**

Erin's Doc Holliday, owned and handled by Jared Bell, placed first with a big forward race hanging on the edges. Second place went to Hatteras High Tide, handled by Doug Ray and owned by Jett Ferebee. High Tide ran a big race and had a bird at 15. Third place was garnered by Miller's Upgraded Patent, handled by Doug Ray and owned by Jack and Fran Miller, with a nice forward race and bird at 28.

## **OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers and 2 Setters**

1st-ERIN'S DOC HOLLIDAY, 1704304, pointer male, by Erin's Lone Star Law-Erin's Little Lullaby. Jarrett D. Bell, owner and handler.

2d-HATTERAS HIGH TIDE, 1703798, setter male, by Black Top-Jo Veeta. Jett Ferebee, owner; Doug Ray, handler.

3d-MILLER'S UPGRADED PATENT, 1704924, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Bob Canada & Harold Ray, owners; Doug Ray, handler.

## Sidelights

Each year, we have our "Chicken Championships" Auction at our Saturday night Purina banquet under the big tent. Through the proceeds, the Central States Field Trial Club gives away a \$500 and a \$250 scholarship sponsored by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students. The students are enrolled in the College of Natural Resources and volunteer on the Buena Vista grounds through the Adopt-A-Wildlife program. This year's recipients were Tristan Stanton and Parker Kreie. Students are considered for these scholarships based on the volunteer hours they devote each year to habitat improvement and helping DNR staff with various tasks. We also fund grounds improvement and help support DNR staff with funds to help pay for continuing education. Thanks to all who participated in this event, and special thanks to Purina, Greg Blair, Terry Trzcinski SportDOG, and Jim Morehouse for their continued support.

## 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 requirements, ads must appear on the website Calendar at least two weeks prior to the start of the event. To be included in a print edition, please see deadlines below:

Material must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date. Deadlines that fall on weekends or holidays move to the next business day.

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

# NGSPA GREAT LAKES CHAMPIONSHIPS Fall Championship Series By Dan DiMambro | Ionia, Michigan | October 9, 2023



NGSPA Great Lakes Amateur Shooting Dog Championship Winners (front, 1-r): Marc McKinley with In Country's Hurricane Jane and Sherri Tangsrud with Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee. (Behind): Chris Young and Kirk Loftin. (Behind): Chris Young and Kirk Loftin.

The Great Lakes Championship ran Cotober 9-13, 2023, at Ionia State Recreational Area. The grounds were in the best shape thanks to the IFTGA, comprised of volunteers who groom the grounds during the summer months. Our hats are tipped to those who have donated their time to make these grounds some of the best in the country to watch our bird dogs perform. As always, the fall colors are brilliant and full during this event, and there are many magnificent views throughout the courses. As with many field trials, this trial isn't any different in that it has gone from many helping hands to only a few. Thanks to those who stepped up to help with various duties throughout the week, including Dan and April DiMambro, Marc McKinley, Tom Davis, Kirk Loftin, Sherri Tangsrud, Hank Lewis, Joe and Cindy Orndorff, Jesse and Christine Conroy, Gale and Cheryl Graves, Hank and Dina Lewis, Chris Young, and Jen Goodall, and Becky and Andy Dynkiewicz. Thanks to our judges, Cliff Mesnard, Fred Ryan, and J. P. Jones, for watching our dogs all week. Dick Lipski was there to lend a hand, planting birds for the week.

The Great Lakes Championships would also like to thank our sponsors, Purina and SportDOG, for their long-time support. These two companies diligently support horseback field trials.



NGSPA Great Lakes Open Shooting Dog Championship Winner (front): Sherri Tangsrud with Stoney Hills Pinnacle Dee. (Behind): Fred Ryan, J. P. Jones, Kirk Loftin, and Cliff Mesnard.

The Open Shooting Dog drew 23 entries, and the stake was filled with exceptional dogs. In the end, the judges could only name two winners. This year's winner was Hi N's Secret Society, owned and handled by Hank Lewis. "Stella" had a bold and forward race with four finds. The judges commented on her speed, style, and stamina. The runner-up champion was Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee, owned and handled by Kirk Loftin. Dee is no stranger to the winners' circle on these grounds. She had four finds and a great forward application.

Our Open All-Age stake drew 14 entries this year, and there were several great performances from the stake, which, with all-age dogs, is sometimes hard. Hi N's Allison Miranda, owned and handled by Kirk Loftin, was named the winner. Allie ran a big forward race, had three finds, and took the outer rim of these Ionia grounds. Twin Creeks Running Rocky, owned and handled by Kirk Loftin, was the runner-up champion. Rocky had a great race with several limb finds.

The Amateur Shooting Dog stake was won by In Country's Hurricane Jane, owned by Robert Reynolds and Chris Young and handled by Chris Young. Janie had four finds during the hour and was stuck to the tree lines of Ionia like glue.



NGSPA Great Lakes Open All-Age Championship Winners (front, I-r): Sherri Tangsrud with Hi N's Allison Miranda and Jesse Conroy with Twin Creeks Running Rocky. (Behind): J. P. Jones, Kirk Loftin, and Cliff Mesnard.

Stoney Hill's Pinnacle Dee, owned and handled by Kirk Loftin, had five wellspaced finds throughout the hour. She exemplified great style and was very classy about her way around the course.

#### Ionia, Mich., October 9 Judges: Cliff Mesnard and Fred Ryan NGSPA GREAT LAKES OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 23 German Shorthairs

Winner-HI N'S SECRET SOCIETY, 1688000, female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Hi N's Hasty Matilda. Hank Lewis, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-STONEY HILL'S PINNACLE DEE, 1694168, female, by Simons Gunner-Shadowrocks Mighty Mouse. Dr. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

#### Judges: John Paul Jones and Cliff Mesnard NGSPA OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 14 German Shorthairs

Winner-HI N'S ALLISON MIRANDA, 1676665, female, by Hi N's Feed Jake-Chicoree's Sparkle In Her Eye. Dr. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

Runner-Up-TWIN CREEKS RUNNING ROCKY, 1685652, male, by Twin Creeks Running Ruger-P J Wildfire's Little Lexi. Dr. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

## NGSPA GREAT LAKES AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 18 German Shorthairs

Winner-IN COUNTRY'S HURRICANE JANE, 1672744, female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. Dr. Robert Reynolds & Chris Young, owners; Chris Young, handler.

Runner-Up-STONEY HILLS PINNACLE DEE, 1694168, female, by Simons Gunner-Shadowrocks Mighty Mouse. Dr. Kirk Loftin, owner and handler.

Please submit write-ups and Essential Data Forms to: Dinora Wellmann • dwellmann@ukcdogs.com

Blank Essential Data Forms may be found at www.americanfield.com under the "Results" tab.

# KANSAS PRAIRIE OPEN ALL-AGE CLASSIC Barshoe Forget Me Not Wins National Qualifier By Doug Meyer | Medicine Lodge, Kansas | October 17, 2023

The Z Bar Ranch and Gyp Hills Field Trial Club again hosted the Kansas Prairie All-Age over the rolling hogback prairie on the 43,000 acres of native prairie in the Red Hills of South Central, Kansas. The multiple courses are routed to take advantage of the ranch's scenic views as well as the riparian areas along the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River, Cottage Creek, and East and West forks of Dry Creek. Water was in all of the creeks this renewal as the ranch had received nearly 8 inches of rain above normal, falling in a timely manner all summer. Despite the presence of 2,000 head of grazing bison and some mowing on the courses, visibility was difficult over much of the venue. The professional handlers and dogs were challenged to stay in contact with each other and still show an all-age race. Most of us have never seen Indiangrass, Little Bluestem, and Big Blue as rank as the cover this year. Ah...but the Bobwhite quail were there in force. The third-place dog, Westfall's Mandalay, pointed a covey early in the brace, and Andy Daugherty flushed 20 birds right in front, with another separate covey of over 20 flushing behind the dog 30 yards away. All the coveys pointed or moved were robust, showing just how rainfall benefits wildlife in the more arid ranges.

Barshoe Forget Me Not, a pointer female handled by Allen Vincent, was in a hurry everywhere she went, nailing a covey of birds in the created wetland on Course 2 right after she entered one of the feed strips planted for all the Z Bar wildlife. This came at about the 45-minute mark, and "Patch" then showed a driving race through the rest of that country and out onto the prairie beyond. Vincent wisely kept her in check along the west side of Cottage Creek even though she was jumping to take off despite the warm conditions and heavy cover. When Allen let her go, her finish was fast and strong over the hill ahead. The race, find, and endurance was a no-brainer for judges Dr. Buck Neil and Jon Humphrey, who named her first place.

Ramblin Rivers Unplugged, a pointer female handled by Brian Gingrich for owner Bill Stapleton, in their first trip to the Z Bar, ran a strong race through the native prairie on the second hour. Her run in the hot part of the first afternoon was impressive as she was driving the whole way in her always-forward race. Unplugged made good casts when afforded



Kansas Prairie Open All-Age Winners (l-r): Jon Humphrey (judge), Barshoe Forget Me Not posed by Matt Cochran (scout), Allen Vincent, Joe Worsham with a substitute for Ramblin Rivers Unplugged for handler Brian Gingrich, Dr. Buck Neil (judge), Westfall's Mandalay with Andy Daugherty, Donnie Jeffrey (marshal), and Doug Meyer (trial chair).

an edge or spotting an objective far to the front. Despite not pointing birds for this effort, the judges put her up for second place after the impressive all-age ground performance. Good judges in an all-age stake know the importance of proving a dog's credentials on the ground through speed, drive, hunting the objectives, and endurance. Unplugged was all of that in the conditions.

Westfall's Mandalay initially ran a very strong race in the morning cool across the prairie with a find at 20 on a very nice covey. While Andy Daugherty flushed his birds, a second huge covey exploded from the native grass cover behind the dog, slightly unnerving Mandalay, but all was in order. His race was strong and forward until we entered the Salt Fork bottom, and Daugherty chose to keep a close handle on him until getting through this very tight section. When turned loose afterward, the dog had shortened, detracting from what likely would have moved second place.

Another dog in the mix was pointer male Big N Wild, for handler Matt Cochran. Big was busy hunting the country in a controlled manner. He had an unproductive early, an STF on a big covey after a nice cast along the edge of Cottage Creek, and then scored a good covey find at 40. Big then dove into the wide creek bottom along Cottage and was absent, with both scout and later handler coming back to search the woolly confines. Big popped out at the front without handler about 15 minutes later to actually record a strong finish. The judges weighed his effort long and hard for third place but ultimately chose the other dog for third. It was a good showing, especially in terms of hunting the country and his finish. Texas Wild Rex, a pointer male for Vincent, was lost after an excellent ground effort and a good find. Disappointing but easy to have happened in the cover conditions this year.

Other dogs in the 18-entry stake included Mayfield Storm Charger (Vincent) and Reed's Yellowstone (Cochran), who were both picked up by handlers on the sunny, warm first afternoon. Firefly's Invictus (Vincent) and Westfall's Power Trip (Daugherty) were both picked up about 45. Sandridge Big Iron (Vincent) was braced with the second-place dog and ran pretty well but was leashed at 50 after an unproductive. Texas Wild Rex (Vincent), braced with Mandalay, was strong on the ground with an excellent find, only to be lost around 30 minutes with the tracker required. Dream Chaser (Daugherty) was lost off breakaway braced with Big N Wild. Wynona's Nickleback Sugar (Vincent) had owner Bruce Sooter riding in support, braced with former winner Westfall's River Ice. Sugar had an unproductive at 10 while running a race that maintained good contact with her handler and finished the hour without game. River Ice had a find at 18, but the tracker was required late in the hour. Worsham's Spitfire (Joe Worsham) and Westfall's Pioneer Pete (Daugherty) were picked up in the heat; Spitfire at 40 and Pete at 25 after recording an STF on Bobwhites earlier. Dunn's True

Reign (Vincent) and Westfall's Wheels Up (Daugherty) were lifted early. Westfall's True Grit was scratched due to torn pads and would have been braced with the first-place dog.

Despite the heavy cover, warm conditions, and only one cooler morning to run, we moved a surprising number of birds. Scouts and gallery all rode up birds fairly frequently, and we moved four additional coveys in the Derby stake, which was run on a separate continuous course area on the first morning. I was pleased and will try and determine a good place on the schedule for an amateur club trial this spring. Hoping the bison and some winter precipitation help to lower the warm-season grasses a bit.

## Notes on Barshoe Forget Me Not

Allen Vincent picked up "Patch" as a small puppy from a litter bred by yours truly. She was precocious and had the opportunity to go north at 7 months to knock and chase sharp tails in the Columbus, North Dakota environs. She was probably Allen's strongest derby prospect the next summer, and he requested Lee West's daughter to use the Barshoe prefix on her registered name; it was granted, and the winning began. She made the season-ending Derby Invitational and had other major circuit placements before winning this qualifier to take a big step to Grand Junction.

## Medicine Lodge, Kan., October 17 Judges: Jon Humphrey and Dr. Buck Neil KANSAS PRAIRIE OPEN ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 17 Pointers and 1 Setter

Ist-BARSHOE FORGET ME NOT, 1692349, pointer female, by Whippoorwill Justified-Greypointe Invierna. Robert Gum, owner; Allen Vincent, handler. 2d-RAMBLIN RIVERS UPLUGGED, 1698585, pointer female, by Miller's Blindsider-Wells Southern Charm. Bill Stapleton, owner; Brian Gingrich, handler. 3d-WESTFALL'S MANDALAY, 1682881, pointer male, by Strut Nation-Erin's Amazing Grace. Jim Santarelli, owner; Andy Daugherty, handler.



Open Derby Winners (l-r): Allen Vincent with Wynona's All Business, Dr. Buck Neil (judge), Matt Cochran with Sta'ao O' War, Jon Humphrey (judge), and Andy Daugherty with Westfall's High Cotton.

# **Derby Stake**

The derbies run on a circular one-hour course west of the main trial venue. It is one of our training areas when we visit, and we have moved as many as 11 coveys on two courses as different braces run and encounter birds across the prairie and among the plum thickets and wooded edges. This year, we moved four different coveys of Bobwhites. Wynona's All Business (Vincent) was fast and strong to annex first place. Sta'ao O' War (Cochran), owned by Douglas Spale, who has added a field trial setter to his competitive retrievers, took second with a nice derby race. Westfall's High Cotton (Daugherty) was third in the 12-dog stake. Tough cover shut down a few of the youngsters, but you can be sure the ones who tackled this terrain will be heard from some more!

Our thanks to Purina and Greg Blair for their support and Grace Meyer for handling all the lunches, coffee, and biscuits with gravy in the morning; one thing the club doesn't have to worry about is her support. Thanks to club officer Joe Worsham for handling the marshaling as I was laid up (again) and forced to the dog wagon. Great to see Donnie Gerstner and his daughter Lisa, who is a documentary filmmaker, along with her other artistic pursuits. Lisa will be putting together a field trial history video as part of a tribute to her 95-year-old father's 80-year journey with bird dogs. The picture of Don turning loose a dog on the Z Bar a couple of weeks before his 95th birthday is something I'll treasure. Thanks especially to the Z Bar management, Keith, Eva, Trent, and, of course, Thane Yunker, who graciously handles the dog wagon for the club. We had a great time riding in the truck, discussing dogs and the ranch goings on for the duration of the field trial. Talley Ho, my friends. Come see us this spring if wild birds in natural country are your thing!

## OPEN DERBY – 9 Pointers, 2 Setters, and 1 German Shorthair

1st-WYNONA'S ALL BUSINESS, 1704053, pointer male, by Miller Unfinished Business-Phantom's Sangria. Robert Rankin, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.

2d-STA'AO O' WAR, 1704718, setter female, by T's Nickleback-T's Hidden Grace. Douglas Spale, owner; Matt Cochran, handler.

3d-WESTFALL'S HIGH COTTON, 1705192, pointer male, by Foster's Tall Cotton-Flush Em Feathers Queen. Ryan Westfall, owner; Andy Daugherty, handler.

> Upcoming Print Deadlines March Issue: February 5 April Issue: March 5 May Issue: April 5 June Issue: May 5

Please submit advertisements prior to the deadline dates to allow time for revisions. Questions? Email: gsmith@ukcdogs.com

Due to health reasons, Jay Lewis will be unable to judge the NBHA Futurity and Jerry D. Kilgore Puppy Classic. Replacing him will be Bob Burchett of Conway, Missouri.

The Pinehurst trials scheduled for January 5-7 are postponed until February 16-18, due to weather. The drawing will take place Tuesday, February 13, at 2:00 p.m. Please contact Paul Gadd at (828) 310-6688 for more information.

# NOTES

The Powhatan Field Trial Club postponed its January trial due to weather, and it has been rescheduled for February 24. The drawing will be held Thursday, February 22, 7:30 p.m., at the home of Dennis Kivikko. Please contact Dennis at (804) 218-4581 for more information.

The Northeast Arkansas Pointer & Setter Club rescheduled its January trial for February 6-8 at Camp Robinson, near Mayflower, Arkansas. The drawing will be held Monday, February 5, 7:00 p.m. Please contact Marty Moore at (870) 240-6612 for more information.

> Updated ads may be found at: www.americanfield.com

# GARDEN STATE SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP & DERBY CLASSIC Harbor City Sure Shot Named Champion; Ravenwood Throwing Smoke, Runner-Up By Lloyd Miller | Lacey Township, New Jersey | October 23, 2023

The English Setter Club of America Garden State Shooting Dog Championship program started Monday, October 23, 2023, and concluded Wednesday, October 25. The weather was great throughout.

The Club would like to thank SBHA and Eukanuba this year for their support of this event. This year's championship judges were Josh Ruiter of Huntington, and Dan Pennsvlvania. Jolly of Chatsworth, New Jersey. Marcus Ramseur judged the Open Derby with Dan Jolly. We thank them for their time in the saddle and attentiveness throughout. Their decisions were well received. The Club also thanks Joe Cincotta (chairman) and Joe Lordi (co-chairman) for the work they did in putting this trial together. It was a monumental effort on their part to pull off the running of this event, which was part of a four one-hour stakes program accomplished over two weeks, all run continuously in a row. These were the Middle Atlantic Open Shooting Dog Championship and Amateur Shooting Dog Classic, the Garden State Open Shooting Dog Championship, and the Elwin G. Smith Amateur Shooting Dog Classic. We thank them very, very much. We also would like to thank all the English Setter Club members who pitched in to do the logistics of putting on a great two-week event, plus the pros who made these events possible. We would also like to thank especially Bob Brooks for doing the dog truck throughout, plus our bird planters, and not least, Dan Jolly, who lives locally and helped with providing water for our horses and dogs, and the Setter Club for providing the water tanks and others who did the water runs. We also had a brand-new tent this year provided by the AFTCNJ, which was a crowning touch.

The Garden State Open Shooting Championship had a great entry of 32 top shooting dogs. The birdwork this year was breathtaking, with enormous covey rises at numerous places on finds throughout the course. Taking the championship this year was Harbor City Sure Shot, a white and liver pointer female owned by Richard Gillis of Minnesota and Karen Lordi of Tabernacle, New Jersey, and ably handled by Matt Basilone. "Sadie," as she is called, scored six finds with her usual high head-on-point style. Her winning performance came from the 15th brace overall, which ran at 1:40, the first brace on



Harbor City Sure Shot, Winner of the Garden State Open Shooting Dog Championship

Thursday afternoon. Her race was strong to the front throughout the hour—a very good effort to gain the judges' nod this day.

Taking the runner-up honors was Ravenwood Throwing Smoke, a white and black pointer male owned by Joseph Cincotta of Stockton, New Jersey, and handled by Matt Basilone. Smoke ran Wednesday in the first brace of the day (11th brace overall), carding six nice finds with a strong, consistent forward race.

There were seven other dogs that ran clean and completed their hour heats with some good efforts of their own. We had several worthy performances, and it was a really good competitive championship. Listed in order of running, they are the following dogs.

Starting things off at 1:21 (2nd brace overall Monday afternoon), I'm Spartacus, a pointer male with Doug Ray in the saddle, scored nicely with a good race, a back of bracemate at 1:24, three finds in a row at 1:28, 1:34 and 1:38, and a UP at 1:40. He finished with several more finds to end his hour. Next, off at 2:35 (3rd brace Monday afternoon), was Fort River's Lucky Charm, a setter male handled nicely by Matt Basilone with a 10-find effort and a strong hunting performance on the ground.

Tuesday morning, we had Pine Straw Sweet Tea in the first brace (5th brace overall) with Jeanette Tracy at the helm, who scored on 10 quail stands coupled with a good, stylish hunting effort. Absolute Dominator, a pointer male with Doug Ray, was off at 9:39 a.m. (6th brace overall) and had numerous coveys and a good race in his hour. The second brace after

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lunch (9th overall) was Riptide, a setter male with Doug Ray. Tide had a very nice performance with some good birdwork and race. Steel Valley Raven, a pointer female with Jeanette, followed. Off at 2:56 (10th brace overall), she had a good run with, I think, about seven coveys and a good race on the ground.

Wednesday's first morning brace was the runner-up, as previously described. Braces 12-14 were picked up early. The eventual champion in the 15th brace was Steel City Avenger, a pointer male with Jeanette, who had numerous finds at 1:44, 1:46, and 1:50, and a non-productive at 1:56. I believe he had several more finds, which I have not got data on. His race with the many finds early was good, but he was sort of in a catch-up mode at times.

## Lacey Township, N. J., October 23 – One Course Judges: Dan Jolly and Josh Ruiter GARDEN STATE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 26 Pointers and 6 Setters

Winner-HARBOR CITY SURE SHOT, 1668549, pointer female, by R J's Long Shot-Harbor City Sugar. Richard Gillis & Karen Lordi, owners; Matt Basilone, handler. Runner-Up-RAVENWOOD THROWING SMOKE, 1675094, pointer male, by Erin's Stone Cutter-Erin's Annie. Joe Cincotta, owner; Matt Basilone, handler.

# GARDEN STATE OPEN DERBY CLASSIC

The Garden State Open Derby Classic ran Monday morning. Taking the blue ribbon was Newfield Primus, a pointer male owned by George (Bo) Mamounis of Newfield, New Jersey. He scored on five classy quail finds and one UP, coupled with a nice forward-searching race. Second went to Ladywood's None Other, a pointer female owned and handled by Jeanette Tracy of Glenville, Pennsylvania. She had three nice pieces of birdwork and a good effort on the ground. Third was Miller's Upgraded Patent, a pointer female owned by Fran and Jack Miller of Barwick, Georgia, and nicely handled by Doug Ray of Wavnesboro, Georgia. She had two very classy finds and an excellent race.

# Judges: Dan Jolly and Marcus Ramseur

**OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 6 Pointers and 2 Setters** *1st-NEWFIELD PRIMUS, 1704494, pointer male, by Little Wing Inked Up-Prison Break Turk. George Mamounis, owner and handler.* 

2d-LADYWOOD'S NONE OTHER, 1705033, pointer female, by Waybetter Jay-Clarendon's Black Eyed Sue. Jeanette Tracy, owner and handler.

3d-MILLER'S UPGRADED PATENT, 1704924, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Jack & Fran Miller, owners; Doug Ray, handler.

# ASSOCIATED FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF FLORIDA Members' Memorial Trial By Petie Brown | Punta Gorda, Florida | October 28, 2023



Members Memorial All-Age Winners (I-r): Larry Yager with Myakka Freddie Freeloader, Beth Brown with Myakka Maxed Out, and Justin Muzynski with Holopaw's Rear Axel. (Standing): Eva, Greg Poole, Daniel Linehan, Judith Hamilton, and Carol Muzynski.

Welcome weather conditions for Southwest Florida greeted our first trial of the season. Sure, there were more mosquitoes than quail, but Joe Hicks was keeping count, and we had a good show of 13 coveys for the All-Age and Derby. Not all the birdwork was stellar, and not all the quail were under the dogs' noses, but there were plenty of birds around. As always with wild birds, they will try to sneak away when possible, and it was noted that a dog might point in one direction, and the birds were making a loop and putting on their track shoes, giving the dog the old "run around." Thankfully, the grounds were dry where needed, with plenty of water for the dogs.

Many thanks to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FFWC) for having the grounds so presentable, including the feed plots and burn and timbered areas. Landmarks for the last 70-plus years look vastly different to the benefit of those with all-age dogs. The courses, while marked, had not been driven on during early training, and a keen eye was needed for marshaling in some areas. That said, the helpfulness of all was so appreciated as we kicked off our season in typical "big field trial family style."

As mentioned earlier, while plenty of birds were seen, not all the birdwork was stellar due to wily birds, even with some very experienced dogs, and conditioning was a factor for other entrants, as expected for the first trial of the season. The first and last braces of the day had more favorable scent and temperature conditions, while the late morning and mid-afternoon entries were recognized for their fortitude and ability to keep a solid run going. The judge's decisions were well placed, and we thank them for their time in the saddle accommodating our first trial.



Members Memorial Derby Winners (l-r): Justin Muzynski with Holopaws Big Bad John, Petie Brown with Myakka Abby Road, and Judith Hamilton with Higby Mattiel. (Standing): Carol Muzynski, Daniel Linehan, and Greg Poole.

Saturday morning's first place, second brace, went to Holopaw's Rear Axel, with "Alex" laying down a solid all-age run, listening to Justin Muzynski and trying his best to produce. Myakka Maxed Out placed second late morning with another big run and one unproductive, which was suspicious for a dog not known for being unproductive. Myakka Freddie Freeloader, braced with Alex, ran big and was in all the right places, taking third place for owner and handler Beth Brown.

Saturday afternoon's Derby set off at 3 p.m. We were thankful for the small number of entries that allowed for a later/ cooler start and time for a leisurely lunch and prep for the evening's festivities. Mattiel, owned and handled beautifully for Judith Hamilton, taking first place. We were all excited about Mattiel's performances last season, and she didn't disappoint; well done. Second and third place went to Myakka Abby Road and Holopaws Big Bad John, littermates owned and handled by Petie Brown and Justin Muzynski, respectively. It was exciting to see the growth and maturity of these two big-running, responsive dogs that handled well together.

Sunday morning started with some early pickups, making for an early start of the second brace. The birds were scarce after the first brace, with the conditions growing warmer, and placements were primarily



Judith Hamilton flushing.



Members Memorial Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Daniel Linehan with Higby Getaway, Judith Hamilton with Higby Rilo, and Guppy with Holopaw's Mack. (Standing): Greg Poole, Beth Brown, Carol and Justin Muzynski.

based on the dogs' run, working the right areas, and checking in when needed. First place went to Holopaw's Mack, a young pointer in his prime whose handler, Justin Muzynski, might not have seen his dog backing at pickup. Mack's bracemate went on point right before pickup, and Mack immediately backed. Justin called for his dog but was not able to see him at that moment, and Mack left the back to join Justin. Second and third place went to Judith Hamilton's Higby Rilo and Higby Getaway, respectively. Thank you, Purina, for your sponsorship.

## Punta Gorda, Fla., October 28 Judges: Judith Hamilton and Daniel Linehan OPEN ALL-AGE – 10 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-HOLOPAW'S REAR AXEL, 1690238, pointer male, by Holopaw's Axel-Hot Digity Dot. Ken & Justin Muzynski, owners; Justin Muzynski, handler.

2d-MYAKKA MAXED OUT, 1670323, pointer male, by Elhew G Force-Myakka Hey Jude. Beth Brown, owner and handler.

3d-MYAKKA FREDDIE FREELOADER, 1654682, pointer male, by Funseeker's Rebel Tex-Nacho Myakka Miley. Beth Brown, owner and handler.

## Judges: Beth Brown and Daniel Linehan OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-HIGBY MATTIEL, 1699678, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Higby Bon Hiver. Judith Hamilton, owner and handler.

2d-MYAKKA ABBY ROAD, 1702966, pointer female, by Myakka Freddie Freeloader-Myakka Rebel. Petie Brown, owner and handler.

3d-HOLOPAWS BIG BAD JOHN, 1703930, pointer male, by Myakka Freddie Freeloader-Myakka Rebel. Ken & Justin Muzynski, owners; Mustin Muzynski, handler:

#### Judges: Beth Brown and Petie Brown OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 6 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-HOLOPAW'S MACK, 1690237, pointer male, by Holopaw's Axel-Hot Digity Dot. Ken & Justin Muzynski, owners; Justin Muzynski, handler.

2d-HIGBY RILO, 1659529, pointer female, by Chasehill Little Bud-Shaula. Judith Hamilton, owner and handler. 3d-HIGBY GETAWAY, 1653084, setter male, by Specter-Higby Ruby. Judith Hamilton, owner and handler.

# ALABAMA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP Calico's Sky's The Limit Named Champion By Anna Grace Tompkins | Union Springs, Alabama | October 30, 2023

The Alabama Open Shooting Dog L Championship was held on the beautiful grounds of Conecuh Station in Union Springs, Alabama. The trial began on Monday, October 30, 2023, and concluded on Thursday, November 2. A special thanks to landowners Tony and Becky Gibson for hosting the trial on their beautiful grounds. Breakfast was prepared and served each morning by Faye Duncan, George Cole, and Steve Hutto. Lunch and dinner were prepared by Chef Ban Stewart and his wife. Allison, and cocktails were provided by Tony and Becky Gibson each night at the field house. Chris Sellers and Keith St. John came from the great state of Tennessee to give their time to judge the hopeful entries. A special thanks to the club members of the Alabama Field Trial Club for putting together yet another well-managed and executed trial and to Purina for sponsoring and donating bags of dog food to the winners.

## The Running

The trial drew 48 dogs, making 24 braces. The unseasonably warm weather and dry scent conditions made it tough for even the most seasoned bird dogs and handlers to reach their full potential and finish the hour. Of the 48 dogs, only 10 made the full-hour brace, most of which had birdwork.

Brace 2: Miller's Record Heat, a pointer male handled by Mike Tracy, finished the hour brace with one find and one unproductive after a relocation.

Brace 3: Waybetter Rebel, a pointer male handled by Mike Tracy, finished the hour with two finds and one unproductive find. Nonami's Johnny Come Lately, a pointer male handled by Ray Pearce, finished the hour with one find.

Brace 4: Hillhavyn's Major Tom, a pointer male handled by Mike Martino,



Alabama Open Shooting Dog Championship Winner: Robert Moorer, Chris Sellers (judge), Mike Tracy (handler), Steve Hutto, Casey Hollander (scout) with Calico's Sky's The Limit, Keith St. John (judge) and his wife, Hunter McDuffie, and Allison Stewart and her daughter Amelia. (Behind): Chef Ban Stewart.

finished the hour with no birdwork.

Brace 6: Miller's Stray Bullet, a pointer male handled by Clay Ferguson, finished the hour with two finds and a very handy performance.

Brace 7: Miller's High Heat Index, a pointer male handled by Mike Tracy, finished the hour with two productive backs and one unproductive find. Pineywood's Legacy, a pointer male handled by Darron Hendley, finished the hour with two finds and one unproductive find.

Brace 8: C S Trump, a setter male handled by Joe Varner, finished the hour with two finds.

Brace 13: Calico's Sky's The Limit, a pointer female handled by Mike Tracy, finished the hour with five finds.

Brace 18: Miller's Heat Seeker, a pointer male handled by Mike Tracy, finished the hour with two finds and one stop to flush find.

Out of the 10 dogs that finished, one proved to be the top dog and caught the judges' eye, and that was Calico's Sky's The Limit. "Sky" is a stylish black and white pointer female owned by Allen Linder, and Bill and Muriel Primm, handled by Mike Tracy, and was scouted by Casey Hollander. With an outstanding five finds, one being a turkey and a strong finish, this was the most birdwork shown by any dog during the trial. Sky was the only dog to run a true shooting dog race, earning her the championship title. Although some others finished, none showed the caliber and drive that she displayed.

#### Union Springs, Ala., October 30 Judges: Chris Sellers and Keith St. John ALABAMA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 43 Pointers and 5 Setters

Winner-CALICO'S SKY'S THE LIMIT, 1692352, pointer female, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Calico's Country Strong, William & Muriel Primm & Allen Linder, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

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# **GEORGIA-FLORIDA INVITATIONAL FIELD TRIAL CLUB**

Fall Trial Held At Cherokee Plantation

By Maria Bassham | Tallahassee, Florida | November 3, 2023



Open Shooting Dog Winners (I-r): Ray Pearce with Nonami's Johnny Come Lately, Thomas Rice Jr. with Real Thing Cuz, and Trey Mills with Mayhaw's Strom Chaser, joined by the judges and spectators.

running of he 61st the Georgia-Florida Invitational Handlers' Trial was held at the beautiful Cherokee Plantation in Tallahassee, Florida, on November 3-4, 2023. The temperature was cool in the mornings and warmed up nicely for the afternoon braces on both days. Friday was a little cloudy, but Saturday cleared up nicely with bluebird skies. We had 18 pointers and a setter contender in the Open Shooting Dog stake and 16 young dogs in the Derby.

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Ingalls family for allowing us to run the two-day trial on their beautiful grounds. We are extremely grateful for their generosity! Thank you to the staff of Cherokee Plantation for marshaling and keeping everything running smoothly. Thank you to Allen Popell for catering two exceptional meals on Friday and Saturday and to Ag-Pro for sponsoring both. Tables were set up under the big oak trees for everyone to enjoy the wonderful meals. The Rice and Chastain families enjoyed their lunches picnicking under the big oaks while some of their future youth field trialers played together! A huge thank you to all the sponsors and members of the club for keeping this field trial alive and running for 61 years. We couldn't do it without you all.

We were honored to have the

father-son duo of Ed and Wyatt Epp riding in the judicial saddles! They live locally, with Ed in Tallahassee, Florida, and his son, Wyatt, just up the road in Thomasville, Georgia. We can't thank them enough for their time and watchful eyes while judging these fine canine athletes. We wouldn't be able to hold trials like this if it weren't for the kindness and expertise of these fine gentlemen.

## The Winners

The first-place Open Shooting Dog winner was "Jake," handled by Trey Mills. Jake ran a forward 45-minute brace along with "Cash," handled by Ben Stringer in the first brace of the trial Friday morning. Both dogs started strong with a divided find at 52 seconds in. Trey called point at 20 minutes, where both dogs were standing once again. Birds flushed for both divided finds. Jake continued his race with a relocation at 28 minutes. The handsome male pointer ended his impressive winning brace with his last classy find at 34 minutes and a sizeable covey up.

The second-place winner was "Cuz" and handler Tommy Rice Sr. Cuz ran in the first brace Saturday morning, bringing the Open Shooting Dog stake to a close. Tommy called point at 23 minutes and flushed a nice-sized covey. The pointer male continued his race and backed a find by "Margie," handled by Dustin Kirby, to which Margie had a large covey rise. He ended his 45-minute brace with one more clean find at 39 minutes, and birds got up once again. Cuz was with Tommy when time was called.

The third-place winner was "John" and Ray Pearce. John, a pointer male, was braced with "Dixie" and Lee Phillips in the 5th brace on Friday for their 45 minutes on the ground. John stopped at 3:50 with a nice covey up. At 19 minutes, both dogs stopped, with Dixie honoring John. Ray relocated John, but dog moved on. One last find was at 27 minutes, where John held steady to wing and shot.

# The Open Derby

The three Derby winners were firstplace "Joe" with Ray Pearce handling, second-place "Buddy" with Danny Tankersly, and third-place "Man" with Tommy Rice Sr.

Joe had a successful 30-minute winning brace with three exciting finds consisting of abundant coveys. Buddy and Man had one find each during their braces with birds seen for each. All three pointer male derby winners were birdy, handled well, and showed enthusiasm while running with their bracemates.

## Tallahassee, Fla., November 3 Judges: Ed Epp and Wyatt Epp OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] – 18 Pointers

Ist-MAYHAW'S STORM CHASER, 1696473, male, by Mayhaw's Perfect Storm-Mayhaw Queen Bee. Mayhaw Plantation, owner; Trey Mills, handler:

2d-REAL THING CUZ, 1694070, male, by Melrose Big Rambler-Melrose Ramblin Heart. Thomas Rice Jr., owner and handler.

3d-NONAMI'S JOHNNY COME LATELY, 1694190, male, by Ransom-Pinewood's Jenny Bell. R. E. Turner, owner; Ray Pearce, handler.

#### **OPEN DERBY – 18 Pointers**

Ist-NONAMI'S SMOKIN JOE, 1703258, male, by Touch's Malcolm Story-Beane's Sky Liner. R. E. Turner, owner; Ray Pearce, handler.

2d-CAPTAIN'S BLACKBELT BUDDY, 1706757, male, by Crouse's Heart of Dixon-Crouse's Skiptomylu. Danny Tankersley, owner and handler.

3d-REAL THINIG BUSINESS MAN, 1706396, male, by Miller Unfinished Business-Real Thing Reba. Thomas Rice Jr., owner; Thomas Rice Sr., handler.

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# SHADY GROVE FIELD TRIAL CLUB Fall Trial Held At Camp Robinson By Jim Martin | Conway, Arkansas | November 3, 2023

The Shady Grove Field Trial Club held the first field trial at Camp Robinson for the fall 2023 season.

Due to a lot of work by the Arkansas field trialers, things are definitely looking up for Camp Robinson. Birds were found in almost every brace. These birds were released, purchased, and cared for by the Arkansas field trialers. Also, all mowing was done in September by four local guys using their own tractors. Harold Woodward oversaw the mowing. The coveys are huge and get gone.

Next year should be even better as we use the things we've learned over the years.

#### Conway, Ark., November 3 Judges: Robby Robinson and Les Rowell OPEN DERBY – 4 Pointers

Ist-SALINE RIVER JUDGE, 1704433, male, by Game Wardon-Saline River Jill. Steven James, owner and handler. 2d-US WILD ROSE, 1706471, female, by Moore's Gamer-Hainline's Silver Jill. Harold Woodward, owner and handler.



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (front, r-l): Robby Robinson (judge) with Touch's Steely Dan, John Van Horn, Harold Woodward with Erin's Alibi, and Les Rowell (judge) with Game Street. (Behind, r-l): Marty Moore, Steve James, Terry Kellums, and Jim Martin.

## AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] - 9 Pointers

Ist-TOUCH'S STEELY DAN, 1694320, male, by Touch's Smooth Rider-Touch's White Assault. John Van Horn Jr., owner and handler.

2d-ERIN'S ALIBI, 1687197, male, by Erin's Redrum-Daisy Bad River, John Van Horn, owner and handler.

3d-GAME STREET, 1700581, male, by Touch's Grey Street-Game Dot. John Van Horn Jr., owner and handler.



Open Derby Winners (r-1): Robby Robinson (judge), Steve James with Saline River, Harold Woodward (judge) with US Wild Rose, and Jim Martin. (Behind, r-1): Marty Moore and Terry Kellums.

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# SOUTHERN FIELD TRIAL CLUB Masters Amateur Classics By Steve Standley | Ochlocknee, Georgia | November 3, 2023



Roy Clarke Amateur Shooting Dog: Rentz's Tipped Up with Joe Rentz, Erin's Demolition Man with Paul Kelly, and Southern Ritz Lane with Lance Servais, joined by participants.

The Southern Field Trial Club once again hosted its Masters Amateur Classics at Burnt Branch Plantation in Ochlocknee, Georgia. Eddie and Carole Sholar graciously shared their high-quality hunting venue with all that came to this historic trial.

Unselfish is a word that comes to mind when you mention the Sholars, and they share only the best. The three one-hour courses are a mix of large fields with long edges as well as many carefully gridded



Dan Bateman Amateur All-Age: Touch's Blue Knight with Woody Watson, Touch's Lone Dominator with Kent Cantrell, and Rester's Cowboy Bill with Cecil Rester, joined by participants.

acres among the mature piney woods. Their bird program features a very large prerelease of quail that renders all dogs ample opportunities to contact game. Multiple finds with strong flying coveys were common during all stakes.

The Burnt Branch team features Greg Shepherd, who is heavily involved in burning and blocking the grounds also marshaled during the trial. Also in the field was Kojack Wynn, who has worked on this property for years. He knows our game and



Gene Brooks Amateur Derby: Mo's Curtain Call with Tim Moore, Rentz's Catch A Buzz with Joe Rentz, and Southern Shadows Kingpin with Lance Servais, joined by participants.

is helpful in many ways.

Greg's wife, Ashley Shepherd, is very much involved in the hospitality side of things at Burnt Branch, and she is delightful.

Longtime Southern Field Trial Club members Tim Moore and Woody Watson wore many hats, and they put it all together in the most cheerful manner. Tim's wife, Polly, offers support in many ways.

Enough cannot be said about the culinary bounty prepared and shared at this

trial. Sausage biscuits were available after the first brace. Carole and Ashley work together seamlessly to offer wonderful lunches.

The pièce de résistance was a special quail supper. Eddie is an avid wild quail hunter, and he saves the birds harvested on a number of wild bird quail plantations throughout southwest Georgia. Not only sharing such a prized meal with his friends at this trial, but Eddie is also a gourmet cook of quail. He explained in detail his manner of preparation, and everyone enjoyed a special evening.

The Club is grateful to Eddie Sholar and Woody Watson for judging the Amateur Derby. The Dan Bateman Amateur All-Age was evaluated by Tim Moore and Jesse Graffam. Rounding out the judicial panel were Kent Cantrell and Cecil Rester for the Roy Clarke Amateur Shooting Dog stake. The placements follow.

## Ochlocknee, Ga., November 3 Judges: Eddie Sholar and Woody Watson GENE BROOKS AMATEUR DERBY – 10 Pointers

1st-MO'S CURTAIN CALL, 1705285, female, by Miller's High Heat Index-Osceola's Seminole Wind. Tim Moore & Jim & Theresa Morrell, owners; Tim Moore, handler. 2d-RENTZ'S CATCH A BUZZ, 1704837, male, by Oahe Buck-Hill's Georgia Brown. Joe & Tricia Rentz, owners; Joe Rentz, handler.

3d-SOUTHERN SHADOWS KINGPIN, 1705878, male, by Southern Shadows T Rex-Southern Ritz Lane. Lance Servais, owner and handler.

## Judges: Jesse Graffam and Tim Moore DAN BATEMAN AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 9 Pointers

1st-TOUCH'S BLUE KNIGHT, 1680548, male, by Touch's Knight Rider-Touch's Maswood Anne. Woody Watson, owner and handler.

2d-TOUCH'S LONE DOMINATOR, 1692275, female, by Miller's Blindsider-Pearl Again. Kent Cantrell, owner and handler.

3d-RESTER'S COWBOY BILL, 1683365, male, by Dunn's Tried'n True-Rester's Redial. Cecil Rester, owner and handler.

## Judges: Kent Cantrell and Cecil Rester ROY CLARKE AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] – 14 Pointers and 3 Setters

Ist-RENTZ'S TIPPED UP, 1687037, pointer female, by Redlands Jacked Up-F F Bit O'Honey. Joe & Tricia Rentz, owners; Joe Rentz, handler.

2d-ERIN'S DEMONLITION MAN, 1699908, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Erin's Rebel Maiden. Paul Kelly, owner and handler.

3d-SOUTHERN RITZ LANE, 1687633, pointer female, by Phillips Warning Line-K H Dialing Dots. Brian Peterson & Lance Servais, owners; Lance Servais, handler.

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GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE FUTURITY Mohawk Mill Miss You Wins 79th Running By Thor Kain | Gladwin, Michigan | November 5, 2023



Grand National Grouse Futurity Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood, Mike Flewelling, John Stolgitis with Mohawk Mill Miss You, Tom Frutchey, Scott Forman, Christy Forman with Scottland Ponderosa Belle, Brian Ralph, Jeff Sullivan with Jewett's Creek Oakley, Craig Merlington (judge), Tammy Chaffee with Mac Sullivan, Bruce Minard (judge), Leeann Parnell, and Roger Johnson.

The 79th renewal of the Grand National Grouse Futurity brought grouse trialers from all over the country to the beautiful Gladwin field trial grounds in Michigan. Thirty-three dogs were entered to run starting November 5. The support that breeders have shown for this Futurity is truly humbling. Year after year, they take the time to nominate litters, pay fees, and educate puppy buyers on the importance of a futurity. That very importance can't be overstated, and that is bettering the breeds. I think all would agree that the setter and pointer lines that run in grouse trials have steadily improved throughout the years.

Good breeding practices and trials like the Grouse Futurity play a big role. It pays to buy a pup from a good breeder, and it doesn't matter if you are a field trialer or just a grouse hunter; the breeders that support this Futurity are the best place to start looking for your next pup.

It takes an army to run a trial like this properly, and the people of Michigan came out in force; there were so many who helped it would take half this report to list them all, so please forgive me for not naming everyone. Just let me say they went above and beyond to make this trial

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Grand National Grouse Futurity secretary, I was unable to attend this year. Brian Ralph stepped up and took on the secretary's duties for the two days. He is also secretary of the Grand National Grouse Championship, so he had his hands full for the entire week but added more to his plate without hesitation-a big thank you to Brian for doing this. No trial at Gladwin would be right if Bryan Wood weren't at the line announcing each brace. Woody made sure every breeder, dog, and handler got the acknowledgment they deserved. Veteran field trial participants and judges Bruce Minard and Craig Merlington were in the saddle to watch this batch of derbies. Both men gave every dog their attention, and their decisions were just how everyone had them. On behalf of the Grand National, thank you to Craig and Bruce for looking over this crop of derbies and doing so in a way that everyone enjoyed the experience.

prestigious, fair, and a good time for all. As

Twenty-eight grouse were seen within 20 yards or less of the course during the two-day running. Unfortunately, they proved to be a challenge to get pointed. The judges had eight dogs in reserve they could have used and commented on how bright the future looks for all of them. Mac Sullivan, a setter male bred and owned by Leeann Parnell and handled by Michigan pro Tammy Chaffee, took home 4th place honors. Mac's sire is the legendary Ch. Ponderosa Mac, and no doubt, he is carrying on the legacy that he created. He ran in the second brace with Tammy handling and making sure he showed and checked all the right spots. He was always forward and off the bell at times, but Tammy could gather him when needed. He was unable to get a bird pointed and called back to the bird field to point one.

Third place went to Jewett's Creek Oakley, owned by Jeff Sullivan and bred by John McKellop III. She is out of John's winning female, Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Oakley ran in the 12th brace and did so with purpose, always hunting and checking the right type of cover where grouse and woodcock live. At times, Oakley ran to the edge and off the bell but was never gone long. Birds were seen but didn't give her an opportunity to get one pointed. Her ground race and application earned her a trip to the bird field, where she had great manners and took home the yellow ribbon.

Second place was Scottland Ponderosa Belle, owned by Scott and Lori Johnston, bred by none other than Bryan Wood, and handled by New York pro Scott Forman. Woody is a longtime supporter of the Grouse Futurity, and you can always count on one he bred being in the mix. Belle is another Ponderosa Mac offspring and again adds to the legacy of a very special dog. Belle ran with speed and style, attacking the course with vigor. She stopped and started twice, trying to get a no-doubt spooky grouse pointed, and on the last stop, a grouse lifted with Scott firing, all in order. This performance earned her the red ribbon, and she will be another one to contend with on Scott's string of dogs.

First place was won by Mohawk Mill Miss You, bred by Gary Winall, owned by Bill McFadden, and handled by Rhode Island pro John Stolgitis. You may recognize both the McFadden and Winall names. Bill is a longtime supporter and enthusiast of grouse trials, with many winning dogs attached to his name. He recently got back into it and called John Stolgitis to help him get a dog and back on the winners' podium. Gary Winall is one of the most successful amateur all-age handlers of our time, but he also breeds and develops all his own dogs. Although the Mohawk Mill prefix is not usually attached to a grouse trial dog, Gary has excellent wild bird dogs, and they have no issue adapting to the cover grouse trials present. John Stolgitis has an impressive win record in grouse trials and this Futurity. The combination of a good owner, breeder, and a handler at the top of his game was no doubt the contributing factor in Miss You's big win. Through her sire, Mohawk Mill Big Stuff, and dam Mohawk Mill Dolly, she goes back to 19x Ch./19x R-U Ch. Chasehill Little Bud, who John famously owned, developed, and had unbelievable Miss You's with. success early development can be credited to Winall and his special touch with puppies and derbies. She was cut loose in the second brace, and at the 11-minute mark, her bell stopped,

and a grouse quickly lifted, Stolgitis firing and collaring his charge. The longer the brace went on, the better Miss You got. She ran with speed and style and seemed to sense the prestige of being on the big stage, which added to her strong finish.

This trial would not be what it is without the breeders who nominate litters, so again, thank you for your support of the Grouse Futurity. Nestlé Purina and our rep Greg Blair provided generous amounts of Purina Pro Plan to the winners. On behalf of all Grand National Grouse members, thank you, Greg and Purina, for your unwavering support. Garmin was also kind enough to support the Grouse Futurity by providing a TT25 collar to the winner. Thank you to our rep, Patrick Bowman, and Garmin for your support. The Grouse Futurity is stronger than ever, and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Puppy Classic in Michigan this spring and the Futurity in Wisconsin next fall.

#### Gladwin, Mich., November 5 Judges: Craig Merlington and Bruce Minard GRAND NATIONAL GROUSE FUTURITY – 33 Entries

1st-MOHAWK MILL MISS YOU, 1703199, pointer female, by Mohawk Mill Big Stuff-Mohawk Mill Dolly. Gary S. Winall, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

2d-SCOTTLAND PONDEROSA BELLE, 1703397, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Grouse River Woodcock Annie. Scott Johnston, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

3d-JEWETT'S CREEK OAKLEY, 1703338, pointer female, by Toth's Tornado Reloaded-Grouse Trails Warrior Cat. Reegan Sullivan. owner and handler.

4th-MAC SULLIVAN, 1703646, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Springpond's Autumn Adeline. Leeann Parnell, owner; Tammy Chaffee, handler.



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# DIXIE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC Bittersweet War Cry Wins Classic By Anna Grace Tompkins | Union Springs, Alabama | November 6, 2023



Open Shooting Dog (front, l-r): Mike Tracy with Bittersweet War Cry, Molly Darnell with Miller's Record Heat, and Will Dunn with Miller's Heat Seeker. (Standing): Alan Atkins, Roger Key, Robert Moorer, and Anna Grace Tompkins.

The Dixie Open Shooting Dog L Classic began on November 6, 2023, at Greenway Sportsman's Club in Union Springs, Alabama. A gracious thank you to the Green family for providing their well-kept grounds for the trial and the Sedgefields Field Trial Club for hosting and putting together the trial. Breakfast of warm fresh biscuits was provided by the Bullock County Tourism Council each morning from Hall's X-Roads Grocery. Chef Ban Stewart prepared and served delicious lunch and dinner each day and night throughout the trial, "some of the best food served at a trial" was the talk after each meal. The Alabama weather had a mind of its own throughout the week: cool mornings that led to unseasonably warm afternoons with lots of sunshine and dry terrain made it a tough competition for the bird dogs and handlers. The trial drew 37 dogs, making for 20 braces, with three being bye-dog braces. Alan Atkins and Roger Key of Auburn, Alabama, took the task of judging the hopeful entries.

# The Running

Brace No. 1: Miller's Heat Wave (PM/ Mike Tracy) and Proof Nation (PM/ Tommy Rice) took the line. Miller's Heat Wave had a find at 20, with a strong race, and had a back at 38. Proof Nation had his first find at 6 and his second at 38. Both dogs finished the brace.

Brace No. 2: Oahe Buck (PM/Tommy Rice) and Miller's Extreme Heat (PM/

Mike Tracy). Oahe Buck finished the brace with no birdwork and a strong race. Miller's Extreme Heat had an unproductive find at 18 and was picked up at 38.

Brace No. 3: Bittersweet War Cry (PM/ Mike Tracy) and Sedgefields Get Back John (PM/Squire Lee) took the line. Bittersweet War Cry had his first find at 8, his second find at 22, and his third and final find at 38, finishing the brace with a strong race. Sedgefields Get Back John had a back at 8 and finished the brace.

Brace No. 4: Miller's Stray Bullet (PM/ Clay Ferguson) and Faithful (PF/Tommy Rice). Neither dog finished the brace.

Brace No. 5: Raag's Rich and Rare (PM/ Mike Tracy) was up against Panther Creek Rosie (PF/Tommy Rice). Neither dog finished the brace.

Brace No. 6: South Point Hog Wild (PM/ Mike Tracy) and Erin's Tough Grit (PM/ Tommy Rice). Both handlers asked for the tracking devices at the 10-minute mark.

Brace No. 7: Boumeester's Bar None (PM/Tommy Rice) and Miller's Little Duce Coupe (PF/Mike Tracy). Little Duce Coupe had her first find at 8, with Boumeester's Bar None backing. Boumeester's Bar None was picked up at 25, and Little Duce Coupe was picked up at 28.

Brace No. 8: Waybetter Rebel (PM/ Mike Tracy) and Dakota Nation (PM/ Ted Roach). Waybetter Rebel had an unproductive find at 25 and another unproductive at 41; he was then picked up. Dakota Nation had an unproductive at 32 and another at 41; he was then picked up.

Brace No. 9: Suemac's Wicked Sister (PF/Mike Tracy) and C S Trump (ESM/ Steve Hurdle). C S Trump had his first find at the 10-minute mark; he had his second find at 40 after a successful relocation and finished the brace. Suemac's Wicked Sister was picked up at 40.

Brace No. 10: Erin's Ty Breaker (PM/ Ted Roach) and Miller's Special Cinderella (PF/Mike Tracy). Erin's Ty Breaker finished the brace with no birdwork and a strong forward race. Miller's Special Cinderella was picked up at 35.

Brace No. 11: Triple Nickel Carbon Copy (PM/Mike Tracy) and Sugarknoll Pay Dirt (PM/Steve Hurdle). Triple Nickle Carbon Copy was picked up after 8 minutes. Sugarknoll Pay Dirt (Hurdle) sadly had to be scratched due to medical reasons.

Brace No. 12: C S Rester's Speculation (PM/Steve Hurdle) and Miller's Lock and Loaded (PM/Mike Tracy). Both dogs finished the brace with no birdwork.

Brace No. 13: Trumped (PM/Mike Tracy) and World Class High Def (PM/ Squire Lee). Trumped was picked up at 35 minutes. World Class High Def had one unproductive find at 16; he finished the brace with no birdwork.

Brace No. 14: Senah's Rum Chaser (PF/Clay Ferguson) and Miller's Heat Seeker (PM/Mike Tracy). Miller's Heat Seeker had a find at the 36-minute mark with Senah's Rum Chaser backing. The dogs shared a divided find at 42, and both finished the brace.

Brace No. 15: Calico's Sky's The Limit (PF/Mike Tracy) and Pavo Thrill (PM/ Tommy Rice). Both dogs were picked up at 36.

Brace No. 16: Cold Creek Thrill Tuff (PM/Tommy Rice) and Houser's Hard Line (PM/Mike Tracy). Cold Creek Thrill Tuff had an unproductive find at 19 and was picked up at 42. Houser's Hard Line was picked up at 42.

Brace No. 17: Tallokas New Business (PM/Jason Loper) and Hightailing Penny (PF/Mike Tracy). Tallokas New Business had her first and only find at 4, with an unproductive find at 37; he finished the brace with a strong race. Hightailing Penny

was picked up at 25.

Brace No. 18 was the first of three bye-dog braces. Miller's Record Heat, a pointer female handled by Mike Tracy, had two finds and finished the brace.

Brace No. 19, the second bye-dog brace, had Elhew Independent (PM/Mike Tracy), who did not finish the brace.

Brace No. 20, the final and last bye-dog brace had Jolene Jolene (PF/Mike Tracy), but did not finish the brace.

After a tough four days in the saddle, the judges had to decide on who would take home the three placements. The dry conditions and ever-changing weather made it a tough trial for both the dogs and handlers. Third place was given to Miller's Heat Seeker, a pointer male owned by Bill and Muriel Primm, Dennis Hood, and Jack and Fran Miller, and handled by Mike Tracy. Second place was handed to Miller's Record Heat, a pointer female owned by Allen Linder and handled by Mike Tracy. First place was awarded to Bittersweet War Cry, a pointer male owned by Joe Lordi and Ralph Gillota and handled by Mike Tracy. A special Congratulations to Mike Tracy for sweeping the trial!

#### Union Springs, Ala., November 6 Judges: Alan Atkins and Roger Key OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] – 36 Pointers and 1 Setter

Ist-BITTERSWEET WAR CRY, 1674743, pointer male, by Sugarknoll War Paint-Mohawk. Ralph Gillota & Joe Lordi, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

2d-MILLER'S RECORD HEAT, 1685700, pointer female, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Allen Linder, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.

3d-MILLER'S HEAT SEEKER, 1674886, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Fran & Jack Miller, Dennis Hood & Muriel & Bill Primm, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

# **Open Derby**

The Dixie Classic Open Derby was held after the conclusion of the Dixie Open Shooting Dog Classic. The trial drew 22 dogs, making 11 braces. The trial was a short day and a half of riding, and Chef Ban Stewart continued to keep everyone well-fed and ready to go. The sun was out, and the weather was warm, but everyone stayed hydrated thanks to the coolers at the breakaway courtesy of the Sedgefields Field Trial Club. Alan Atkins and Roger Key continued their judging duties and



Open Derby (front, l-r): Southern Shadows T-Bird with Lance Servais (owner), Mo's Curtain Call with Will Dunn (scout), and Sue with Ted Roach. (Standing): Brian Peterson, Roger Key, Mike Tracy, Robert Moorer, Anna Grace Tompkins, Tony Gibson, Alan Atkins, and Steve Hurdle.

watched the hopeful young dogs work.

## The Running

Brace No. 1: Neely's Special Business (PM/John Neely) and Kim (PF/Mike Tracy). Neely's Special Business had his first find two minutes in and his second find right after at 4; he finished the brace. Kim had one unproductive find at the end of the brace, and she was finished.

Brace No. 2: Sedgefields Second Chance (PM/Squire Lee) and Doc (PM/Robert Moorer). Sedgefields Second Chance had his first and only find at 2; he was finished. Doc had an unproductive find at 3; he was finished.

Brace No. 3: Jill (PF/Mike Tracy) and Sue (PF/Steve Hurdle). Sue showed a strong race; she had an unproductive find at 5 but quickly had another successful find at 6 with Jill backing. Jill showed a strong race and handled well. Both dogs finished the brace.

Brace No. 4: Jack (PM/Mike Tracy) and Mayfield Branch Ricky (PM/Squire Lee). Jack had his first and only find at the end of the brace with Mayfield Branch Ricky backing. Both dogs finished the brace.

Brace No. 5: Dark Rebel (PM/Tommy Rice) and Tim (PM/Mike Tracy). Both handlers requested their tracking devices.

Brace No. 6: Twin Willow Troubadour (PM/Bobby Hartwig) and CS Main Play (PM/Steve Hurdle). Twin Willow Troubadour finished the brace with no birdwork and a strong race. Hurdle requested the tracking device for CS Main Play.

Brace No. 7: Pete (PM/Steve Hurdle)

and Tom (PM/Mike Tracy). Tom finished the brace with no birdwork. Hurdle requested the tracking device for Pete.

Brace No. 8: Southern Shadows Kingpin (PM/Brian Peterson) and CS Tik Tok (PM/ Steve Hurdle). Southern Shadows Kingpin had his first and only find at 6; he finished the brace. Hurdle requested the tracking device for CS Tik Tok.

Brace No. 9: T-Time Lane (PM/Brian Peterson) and Pete (PM/Mike Tracy). T-Time Lane (Peterson) finished the brace with no birdwork. Tracy requested the tracking device for Pete.

Brace No. 10: Southern Sweets Lane (PF/Brian Peterson) and Dan (PM/Steve Hurdle). Hurdle requested the tracking device for Dan. Southern Sweets Lane finished with no birdwork.

Brace No. 11: Southern Shadows T-Bird (PM/Lance Servais) and Cal (PM/Mike Tracy). Southern T-Bird finished the brace with no birdwork but an impressive and strong race. Tracy requested the tracking device for Cal.

These young dogs displayed some promising talent, finding birds and working the ground despite the tough weather conditions and dry terrain they prevailed. Three placements were up for grabs, and the judges had a tough decision to make. In third place was Southern Shadows T-Bird, a pointer male owned and handled by Lance Servais. Second place was given to Jill, a pointer female owned by Tim Moore and Theresa and Jim Morrell and handled by Mike Tracy. First place was awarded to Sue, a pointer female owned by Tony Gibson, and handled by Steve Hurdle.

A special thanks to Purina for sponsoring the trial, to Mike Green and the Green family for providing their well-managed grounds, and a thank you to the members of the Sedgefields Field Trial Club for hosting and putting together yet another well-managed field trial.

#### **OPEN DERBY – 22 Pointers**

*1st-SUE, unreg., female, breeding not given. Tony Gibson, owner; Steve Hurdle, handler.* 

2d-MO'S CURTAIN CALL, 1705285, female, by Miller's High Heat Index-Osceola's Seminole Wind. Tim Moore & Theresa & Jim Morrell, owners; Mike Tracy, handler. 3d-SOUTHERN SHADOWS T-BIRD, 1705877, male, by Southern Shadows T Rex-Southern Ritz Lane. Lance Servais, owner and handler.

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# **TEXAS OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP** Upfront's Southern Star Named Champion; Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, Runner-Up By John Van Horn Jr. | Conway, Arkansas | November 14, 2023



Texas Open Shooting Dog Championship Winners (I-r): Harold Woodard, Shawn Kinkelaar, Dr. Jim Mills, Jeremy Gulick with Upfront's Southern Star, Robby Robinson, Allen Vincent, Matt Cochran with Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, John Van Horn, Jim Martin (judge), and Marty Moore (judge).

The Texas Open Shooting Dog Championship has found a home in Conway, Arkansas. Dog fees are collected by the local sportsmen and used to enhance the grounds. Having quality field trials helps make that possible. We released 4,600 quail in mid-September, filled and serviced 100 fee sites, installed waterers during the drought, and mowed travel lanes through heavy cover. All this effort significantly improved the area from last year. Our future plans with AG&F approval are adding back food plots.

This is the first major trial of the season for the area. We averaged moving 10 coveys per day, not single coveys. Covey size was 15-30 birds each. Birds were distributed evenly through all courses, morning and afternoon. Every course provided handlers an opportunity to show their dog on game. That's the first time we could say that in a long time.

The Texas drew 48 entries, of which there were 42 pointers and six setters. Seven professional handlers and one amateur competed. Upfront's Southern Star, a pointer female handled by Shawn Kinkelaar and owned by Lance Schulz, ran in the ninth brace on the third course in the morning. She was turned loose with her bracemate at the Oak Tree, heading west towards the Nursery Pond. Her first find came at the 30-minute mark along the lake edge, a huge covey with manners in order. She left there with a renewed purpose, digging in the country looking for quail. Her next find came at 40, between the Nursery Pond Road and Darnell's crossing—another perfectly located covey with impeccable manners for the flush and shot. Roo laid down a performance that would not be topped and would be named champion, her 10th.

Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, а setter female handled by Allen Linder and owned by Bruce Sooter, captured runner-up honors. Sugar ran in the 17th brace, starting on top of the mountain heading east. Her first piece of work was a covey find on the side of the hill just west of Dead Horse Curve. She left there at a brisk pace, hunting and showing to the front. Between Dead Horse Curve and the next gravel road, Harold Woodard had a horse wreck. Fortunately, Harold will be fine, but I had to depart the gallery to take his horse in while Harold rode the dog wagon to the clubhouse. I rejoined the field trial at the 50-minute mark to watch



Ed Beverly Memorial Derby Winners (l-r): John Van Horn, Marty Moore (judge), Sandy Van Horn, Dr. Jim Mills, Allen Vincent with Blackhawk Lucky Charm, Robby Robinson, Matt Cochran with Shavs Money Mabel, Eddie Taylor, Rayne Thone with Rayne Dot, and Jim Martin (judge).

the finish. The setter was still hitting the ground hard, hunting every jump. At the 45-minute mark, Sugar had her second find. The judges felt Roo bested Sugar's ground effort.

The judges made certain that I mentioned Touch's Steely Dan, a pointer male handled by Virgil Moore and owned by John Van Horn, and Thunder Bolt's Storm, a pointer female handled by Shawn Kinkelaar. Both dogs had two finds each and strong ground efforts. The judges deliberated for some time on runner-up before picking out Sugar.

## Conway, Ark., November 14 Judges: Jim Martin and Marty Moore TEXAS OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 42 Pointers and 6 Setters

Winner-UPFRONT'S SOUTHERN STAR, 1662579, pointer female, by Ransom-Double Wild. Lance Schulz, owner; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

Runner-Up-WYNONA'S NICKLEBACK SUGAR, 1690017, setter female, by T's Nickleback-Carpenter's Don't Ya. Bruce Sooter, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.

## **Ed Beverly Memorial Derby**

The Derby drew 14 pointers and two setters handled by five professional handlers. Blackhawk Lucky Charm, handled by Allen Vincent and owned by Dr. Jim Mills, Dr. Natalie McDonald, and Steve Lightle, won first place. "Jet" had a strong ground effort and one clean find at the 20-minute mark. Shaws Money Mabel, handled by Matt Cochran and owned by Gary Shaw, was second. The setter female had a scorching ground effort, was fast, snappy, and hunted the right places. Rayne Dot, handled by Eddy Taylor and owned by Rick Thone, was third. Dot's stylish, snappy ground effort demonstrated she will be a force to contend with in the future.

A special thanks to our judges, Jim Martin and Marty Moore. Both men rode hard and gave fair and impartial judgment to all participants. Having two outstanding, experienced individuals took all the work out of the trial and made it a pleasure for all to participate. A special thanks to Purina for their great product and support. Sandy Van Horn had hot lunches ready when we hit the clubhouse. This was not a diet field trial. Ronnie Miller made coffee for the dog wagon every morning and was there to fill any task needed. Rick Thone was flagging traffic and helping as needed with Yell County wisdom by the campfire. Roger Martin drove the dog wagon and was always on time and in the right place.

## ED BEVERLY MEMORIAL DERBY – 14 Pointers and 2 Setters

Ist-BLACKHAWK LUCKY CHARM, 1703965, pointer female, by Blackhawk Jet-Hard Rock Archer City. Jim Mills, Steve Lightle & Natalie McDonald, owners; Allen Vincent, handler.

2d-SHAWS MONEY MABEL, 1701750, setter female, by Shamrock's Hidden Cash-Shamrock's Hidden Bristol. Gary Shaw, owner; Matt Cochran, handler.

3d-RAYNE DOT, 1703624, pointer female, by Como Thunder-Como Sis. Rick Thone, owner; Eddie Taylor, handler.

# BIRD DOG CLUB OF CAPE COD

Fall Amateur TrialBy Jim Hathaway | Falmouth, Massachusetts | November 19, 2023



Amateur Puppy (front, I-r): Eric Rizza with Hifive's Sweet Basil, John Di Perrio with Hog Hill Storm Tracer, and Jim Hathaway with Wizard's Paigh Am Piobaire. (Standing): Dave Cookson (iudge) and Brian Folev (iudge).

ate-season trials in New England ∠can be tricky. The weather can leave you at any minute, and you can end up knee-deep in snow. The one predictable hazard is daylight hours. Any time after the end of October, you can only count on nine hours of running time. That's only 18 braces if you only have a single course. Fortunately, we have two courses we can run simultaneously, so that can nearly double our runnable hours and braces. The other unpredictable hazard, especially here on our grounds, is the birds. Yes, we put out plenty of quail to assure an even trial, but also, this is a state pheasant stocking site; then, with Cape Cod's milder winters, woodcock too can usually be found. Woodcock, pheasant, and quail. Oh my! Young dogs, beware.

Despite all these possible drawbacks, nothing but blue skies and smiling dogs were found here that Sunday. The entries were a bit light. We had ordered 75 quail for the day and put them all out. There were quail everywhere on the courses. Since the entries were light, I kinda figured we'd have a relaxed running.

Thanks to all the judges. I had more volunteers than I could use, and everyone I asked agreed to judge on the spot. That takes such a load off any trial chairman. Thanks to Purina and U. S. Complete. The Purina coupons are a great bonus to us



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Amateur Derby (front, l-r): Brian Dix with Tattle Tailer and Richard Rogers with Ore Mountain Meadow. (Standing): Rob Hopkins (judge) and Allen Raiano (judge).



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (front, I-r): James Levesque with Ledge Hill Chippewa, Brian Dix with Lightning Flash Remington, and Lanny Dellinger with Snuff Mill High Caliber. (Standing): Jim Curtin (judge) and Gregor McCluskey (judge).

amateur handlers.

We have had requests to hold an open stakes trial here in the spring. I'm working on ideas for that; Maybe a two-day trial in May with a one-hour Shooting Dog to run Saturday and Sunday with the Open Puppy, Derby, and Amateur Gun Dog to run on the west course during the Shooting Dog. If you have ideas, please pass them on.

#### Falmouth, Mass., November 19 – One Course Judges: Dave Cookson and Brian Foley AMATEUR PUPPY – 7 Entries

1st-HIFIVE'S SWEET BASIL, 1705357, pointer female, by Hifive's Ruff Runner-Wild Apple Siri. Eric Rizza, owner and handler.

2d-HOG HILL STORM TRACER, 1706376, pointer male, by Tattle Tailer-Ms. Antebellum. John Di Perrio, owner and handler.

3d-WIZARD'S PAIGH AM PIOBAIRE, 1704385, setter male, by Long Gone Wallace-Shepherd's Clair. James Hathaway, owner and handler.



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (front row, I-r): James Levesque with Ledge Hill Missing In Action, Eric Rizza with Stokely's Naughty Daughty, Tom Jay with Highland Maximus Wind'em. (Standing): Jmy Losi (judge) and John Di Perrio (judge).

## Judges: Rob Hopkins and Allen Raiano AMATEUR DERBY – 2 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-TATTLE TAILER, 1705140, pointer male, by Trumped-Campbell's Hog Hill Remi. Elias Richardson IV, owner; Brian Dix, handler.

2d-ORE MOUNTIAN MEADOW, 1701753, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Ore Mountain Speed Dial. Richard K. Rogers Jr., owner and handler.

## Judges: Jim Curtin and Gregor McCluskey AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 13 Entries

1st-LEDGE HILL CHIPPEWA, 1675025, setter male, by Lightning Flash Abe-Grouse Ridge Lazer. James W. Levesque Jr., owner and handler.

2d-LIGHTNING FLASH REMINGTON, 1687367, setter male, by Denco's Crockett Again-Arctic Tundra Bird Dog. Douglas Dix, owner; Brian Dix, handler.

3d-SNUFF MILL HIGH CALIBER, 1697973, setter female, by Mohawk Mill Lucky Charm-Richfield Oakley. Lanny Dellinger, owner and handler.

## Judges: Jmy Losi and John Di Perrio AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 9 Entries

Ist-LEDGE HILL MISSING IN ACTION, unreg., setter female, breeding not given. James Levesque Jr., owner and handler.

2d-STOKELY'S NAUGHTY DAUGHTY, 1657642, setter female, by Stokely's Frankie B-Jonesy's Rebel Revenge. Eric & Gabriela Rizza, owners.

3d-HIGHLAND MAXIMUS WIND'EM, 1666055, setter male, by Highland Tip Wind'em-Highland Peggy Sue Wind'em. Thomas Jay, owner and handler.

# QUAIL CHAMPIONSHIP INVITATIONAL Erin's Code of Honor Named Champion; Bonner's Bulletproof, Runner-Up By Alaina Berendzen & Mary Sue Schalk | Kevil, Kentucky | November 25, 2023



Quail Championship Invitational (front, I-r): Judd Carlton (scout) with Erin's Code of Honor and Bridget Ledington with Bonner's Bulletproof. (Standing): Alan Benson, Dennis Sneed, Stan Wint (judge), Luke Eisenhart (handler), Michael Kennedy (judge), Mike Crouse (judge), Mary Sue Schalk, Vincent Major (dog wagon drive), Randy Anderson (handler), Jay Lewis, Alaina Berendzen (reporter), and Eddie Berendzen (scout).

The history of the Quail Championship Invitational is rich with exceptional dogs and people. With the inaugural running held in December of 1940 in Albany, Georgia, albeit a 22-year break and a change in venue, to the 60th running held in November of 2023 in Kevil, Kentucky, the performances never cease to amaze and excite those who love a good bird dog.

With a points system in place, the club invites the top 12 performers to Paducah, Kentucky, to compete on the West Kentucky Wildlife Area Management grounds. The format would be the same as the '41 and '42 events. The dogs would compete in one-hour heats on successive days in the qualifying series. Then the dogs called back on the third day would run for two hours in the final series. Currently, the Invitational is the only championship that requires a four-hour performance in a three-day period.

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The winner of the Quail Championship Invitational must demonstrate the requisite qualities of the all-age class at a high level. The Invitational winner must:

\* Hunt boldly and independently throughout—should not require excessive direction from the handler,

\* Demonstrate qualities of the finished dog by consistent coursing to logical objectives, responsiveness to the handler, and maintaining a forward pattern, \* Exhibit strength, courage, and an unquenchable desire to find game regardless of cover conditions—not simply choosing the easy path but hunting through habitat likely to hold game,

\* Exhibit style, speed, and stamina in action,

\* Handle game correctly—locate and point quickly and accurately using body, not ground scent, back without caution, be steady,

\* Demonstrate extreme character and finish around game—style, intensity, location, and polish—must not show softness or apprehension.

The Quail Championship Invitational seeks to identify the epitome of the open all-age class of dogs, an individual with strength, courage, intelligence, and character at the highest level. A flawless performance of pedestrian quality should not be favored over one that, although imperfect, thrills with the magnitude of the effort. Above all else, the Invitational seeks to identify the endurance performer. If the judges are, to any extent, uncertain of the ability of an individual to continue at an all-age level of performance, then that dog should not be recognized as the Invitational champion.

(The Invitational Champions, John Russell, pg. xii)

The Quail Championship Invitational returned to the West Kentucky Wildlife

UKC® Field • February 2024

Management Area at Paducah, Kentucky, on November 25. The West Kentucky Field Trial Club again hosted the running. Mary Sue Schalk, in addition to being the chairwoman of the Invitational, is also the club president. Mike Crouse is the vice president. The father/daughter team keeps the wheels running to ensure the trial runs smoothly. The club roster identifies the remaining members as Alan Benson, Don Wiggins, Michael Kennedy, B. J. Wright, Don Wiggins, Greg Veatch, Vincent Major, Gary Lester, Sarah Clary, Cora Clary, and Joe Hopkins.

The trial is a Purina Handler of the Year and a Top Dog Award points trial. It is also a National Championship qualifier. The drawing was held Friday, November 24, at 6 p.m., at the clubhouse, and the 10 pointer males, one pointer female, and one setter male were paired for the two qualifying days of running.

Purina has been a consistent sponsor of this prestigious event for many years. Greg Blair coordinates Purina's donation of Pro Plan—eight bags to the new champion and four bags to the runner-up. Purina's generosity is one of the reasons for the longevity of this significant and respected event. Thank you seems too little to say when Purina does so much for field trials.

SportDOG was the exclusive electronic dog trainer device sponsor this year. Our thanks go to Gretchen Goodson of SportDOG for making these trainers available for our use. Both winning handlers were awarded their choice of the products donated.

Vincent Major added a unique touch for the second consecutive year, providing leather works for both the champion and runner-up. Collars and leashes for both dogs and spur straps for the scouts. He once again made judges' and marshals' gifts, which were holsters and water bottle holders. He is a gem to the event and the West Kentucky Field Trial Club.

Tim Khrer manages the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area. His workforce currently consists of only himself and one tech, and as with other industries, employees are hard to come by. Their efforts to have the courses groomed and ready for the trial were exceptional. They were commended for their hard work.

As president, Mary Sue is responsible for the success of the trial, but she gives credit to all who share in the duties. She makes every effort to ensure the success of the trial. She readily accepts the responsibility that comes with her position. She stated that her objective was to honor and respect everyone who comes to the trial whether as a participant or someone who just rides in the gallery. The Invitational is for people who love horseback field trials, and the Invitational is one of the greatest events in the history of field trials.

Mary Sue Schalk served as the head marshal, keeping us on the correct path. Her service was invaluable. Alan Benson, Don Wiggins, and Dennis Sneed helped with marshaling duties. They shadowed judges to make sure he was reunited with the judging panel if he was behind for any reason.

Nathan Berendzen served as the rear marshal. He went with a handler to find a wayward dog to make sure the handler was able to find his way back to headquarters. He also helped ensure that the gallery stayed on pace with the lead.

Vincent Major served as the dog wagon driver for the second consecutive year. Vincent was very popular not only because he was punctual in having the dogs at the right place but also because he had hot coffee and snacks. Punctual and efficient, an excellent dog wagon driver!

Dr. Stan Wint returned from Gardner, Kansas, to complete his term as an arbiter of this event. He has been involved with bird dogs and field trials for over 30 years. He began his career in walking dog stakes and won his first championship in 1992. He has adjudicated in NBHA trials as well as horseback shooting dog and all-age American Field trials. He also served on the judges' panel for the National Championship and other prestigious events. His experience and desire to recognize the qualities of an Invitational champion made him highly qualified to fill a judicial saddle.

This year, Mike Crouse of Dixon, Kentucky, was added to the judges' panel. A no-brainer when creating a judges' team, he was a welcome addition. Crouse has over 50 years of bird dog and field trial experience. Competing as an amateur across the country, winning championships, judging championships, hosting events, and marshaling the Quail Championship Invitational year in and year out are only a few of the pieces of his résumé. He continues to give to the sport, adding a National Bird Hunters Association field trial event on his farm last fall, and looks forward to hosting the event annually. His commitment, knowledge, and passion for the sport make him overly qualified to judge this championship.

Michael Kennedy from Opelika. Alabama, rounded out the judicial panel. His introduction to bird dogs was when he began to hunt with his own walking dogs. He has trained his own dogs for over 20 years. His field trial involvement was interrupted to dedicate his time to his wife and three young children. He has since been very active in field trials and has participated in all areas of administration and responsibility. His judging assignments have taken him outside Alabama. Some of the major championships he has judged are the Kentucky Shooting Dog Championship, the Kentucky Quail Classic, the NBHA National Amateur Championship, the ABHA Free-For-All, and many weekend trials. His experience well qualifies him for this assignment.

The dogs that accepted invitations were:

• Miller's Blindsider, reigning National Champion, owned by Nick Berrong and handled by Jamie Daniels

• Haney's Storm Warning, reigning Invitational Champion, handled by his owner, Chris Cagle

• Erin's Code of Honor, owned by Allen Linder, handled by Luke Eisenhart

• Touch's Fire Away, owned by Dr. Greg and Carmen Adams, handled by Randy Anderson

• Miller's Heat Advisory, owned by John Mathys, handled by Judd Carlton

• Game Heir, handled by his owner, Dr. Fred Corder

• Erin's High Note, owned by Mike Sweet, handled by Judd Carlton

• Barshoe Forget Me Not, owned by Robert Gum, handled by Allen Vincent

• Miller's Speed Dial, owned by Mick Marietta, handled by Randy Anderson

• Erin's Wild Atlantic Way, owned by Sean Derrig, handled by Luke Eisenhart

• Nighthawk's Rebel, owned by Long Pine Plantation, handled by Luke Eisenhart

• Bonner's Bulletproof, owned by Chris Cornman, handled by Randy Anderson

Participants, guests, and volunteers were happy to return to the clubhouse on Friday, November 24, for a sumptuous meal, "Southern Style," catered by Byron and Farrah Caldwell. Dinner included greens, ham, beans, cornbread, and bread pudding. The silent auction has become a tradition to offset costs for the three events and would not be possible without contributions from businesses and individuals. This year, we had several contributors, including Dogs Unlimited, Gun Dog Supply, Upland Addiction, Judd Woodward, Vincent Major, Matt Schalk, Bruce Hawkins, Mike Crouse, and SportDOG. The proceeds of the auction provide financial assistance for the operation of the trial. Thank you all for your generosity.

The evening concluded with the drawing for the Quail Championship Invitational conducted by Mary Sue Schalk. Conducted with order and precision, Mary Sue was assisted by Cody Duncan, an attorney from the Nashville area. Cody and his father, Chip, helped prepare for and conduct the drawing, handling the minute details of typing the running order and completing judges' books. A much welcome assistance for a tedious task!

## The Running

2023 Quail Championship The Invitational began Saturday, November 25, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. The wind was sharp, and the temperature cold, but the sun was high in the sky to pour out onto us to keep us warm. The horses were feeling the cool air all around and danced with anticipation for the event of the day. We began at the clubhouse at 7:30 with a reminder of the rules and the introductions of the judges and marshals. We had a moment of silence for the ones who had gone before us as the dogs yapped on the dog wagon. Mary Sue Schalk, the trial chairman, blessed us with a prayer, and then we were off to the starting line. The two dogs were Miller's Speed Dial, run by Randy Anderson, and Barshoe Forget Me Not, run by Allen Vincent. The judges decided they were ready when the handlers were. With a whistle, both dogs shot out of the front, running hard and straight on course. The handlers continued on the mowed path as both scouts mounted their horses and rounded to the right to try and get an advantage to see where the dogs traveled. At 20, Speed Dial was found on point to the left of the course. Speed Dial was buried deep into a brush pile with his tail standing high. Randy dove in to flush the birds. Anticipation grows as Randy tries to navigate through the tightly packed brush. He decides to find his way out and relocate Speed Dial. No birds were found, and Speed Dial was taken on to run a good race, and no more finds. While Speed Dial was on point, Forget Me Not had hit his edges immediately with his nose inches from the ground. Forget Me Not had a find simultaneously to Speed Dial, just before the first creek crossing on the left, and birds were found. Forget Me Not came into the Handicap Lake field and immediately hit the edge, nose to the ground, in search of birds to show off his skills. We hit 3 minutes to go just as we crossed the railroad tracks. Scouts and handlers went right and came back for a successful pick-up time at time.

After coffee and a few far-fetched stories

were told, we got back on to start the second brace. This time, we had Bonner's Bulletproof, run by Randy Anderson, and Haney's Storm Warning, run by Chris Cagle, going against one another. Both dogs began the race, running big. Bonner's Bulletproof was gone for 15, came back with a vengeance to find some birds. He ran hard to the front, hitting his edges. He was gone again and was later found hunting the rows of the power line field. He had a find at 56, and he stood as Randy got off, and the birds flew immediately. Storm Warning expressed his all-age abilities. He had been gone for a while, and then the gallery was able to see him back on the powerline field, making a big swing to stay on the course. The judges called time, the dogs were picked up, and the gallery meandered over to hear some more lies and stretch our legs. The sun was getting higher, and the sun was baking down harder, making the cold feel much more bearable.

The third brace before lunch began with Erin's Code of Honor, run by Luke Eisenhart, and Game Heir, run by Fred Corder. Both dogs rolled through the sunflower, making for a beautiful all-age cast. Game Heir had a find, and birds flew. As we all rode through the powerline field, the scout behind the gallery called point. Everyone was shocked; no one had seen him for a while, and we all had ridden by him on point. Luke came back and flushed, and birds flew. You could hear their wings flapping, making a rush of wind. Code of Honor had another find at 17 right off a finger of the woods in the field. He stood beautifully, carefully watching and waiting for the covey to boil out at any minute. He was right, and the covey sure did boil from what seemed right out of the ground. Code of Honor was taken on and had another find at time, and everything was in order. On the third and final day, he will be named champion.

As we got fresh horses and our bellies full, we rode to the line to start the second half of the day. With the sun out, the day was still comfortable. The fresh horses stood at the starting line to soak in the warmth of the sun. The fourth brace of the day consisted of Erin's Wild Atlantic Way, run by Luke Eisenhart, and Miller's Blindsider, run by Jamie Daniels. Atlantic Way had a find before the creek and had his nose pointed at the ground as if showing exactly where the birds were. Birds flew, and he stood. He was taken on but may have shown his all-age genes too well, and Luke ended up picking up the tracker. Blindsider had a big race. He stayed to the front and was seen occasionally on the edges of the next field. He had no birds that the gallery nor judges could see. We concluded the brace and settled in for a



Judges Mike Crouse, Michael Kennedy, and Stan Wint.

break while the next handlers retrieved their dogs from the wagon.

With Touch's Fire Away, run by Randy Anderson, and Miller's Heat Advisory, run by Judd Carlton, on the line, the brace began with a whistle and the faint "beeps" of watches starting their stopwatches. Fire Away had been out hunting and was found on point. Randy went to flush and found a dead quail under Fire Away's nose. Fire Away had another find at time of 40 right into the power line field with his head perpendicular to his body. Randy had a hard time finding the birds, so he relocated Fire Away. He pointed again, but no birds were found to flush. Heat Advisory made big casts in every field. He had a huge race that may have cost him to have been gone too long.

As the sun was getting closer to the tree line, the last brace of the day began with Nighthawk's Rebel, run by Luke Eisenhart, and Erin's High Note, run by Judd Carlton. Rebel had a fast find in the powerline field by a lone tree. Birds were flushed; they flew up and made the trees look as though they were full of leaves again. At the sunflower field, Rebel took a hard left and hit the edge running. High Note ran a big all-age race and hunted the perimeter of every field in hopes of finding hidden birds. He was successful at 55. He stood like a sculpted statue as a quail traveled around his head. This was the end of day one. Everyone went home to begin their speculations on who would be named the champion.

Sunday, November 26, 2023, started with a downpour, and the temperature dropped from the day before. As everyone says, it wouldn't be the Invitational without some kind of weather. Everyone geared up in their warmest and driest rain gear to see the six best dogs perform on day two. With the rain coming down and the harsh wind threatening to make us colder, we started day two with another blessing from Mary Sue over us and Erin's High Note, run by Judd Carlton. High Note had a find at the handicap lake field, which was successful with birds. High Note had a great all-age race and showed just why he was qualified to be there.

Anderson, and Miller's Blindsider, run by Jamie Daniels, started our second brace of the second day. Blindsider had a find with birds that flew straight over his head. After his find, he showed his all-age qualities too well and Jamie was forced to take the tracker. Fire Away had a successful back to Blindsider's find. Fire Away later had a find in the high line field. He stood great as the birds were flushed. He had a good race, ran his edges, and responded when it mattered the most.

Touch's Fire Away, run by Randy

Miller's Heat advisory, run by Judd Carlton, ran too big and had to be found via tracker in the third brace before lunch. Nighthawk's Rebel, run by Luke Eisenhart, had a great all-age race but had no luck finding birds.

The rain went away over lunch, and that cool breeze came to stay. The sun never made an appearance, making that cool breeze more vicious. Bonner's Bulletproof, run by Randy Anderson, and Erin's Code of Honor, run by Luke Eisenhart, stood shivering at the starting line. Some say it was the nerves and excitement causing them to shake, while others claim it to be the brutal weather that was bestowed upon us. Code of Honor had a find right after we crossed the road, and the birds were home. He exemplified his all-age qualities with his race. Bulletproof had a successful back to Code of Honor's find. Bulletproof had many big, wide casts, coming back just at the right times.

Up next for the fifth brace of the day was Barshoe Forget Me Not, run by Allen Vincent, and Game Heir, run by Fred Corder. Forget Me Not hit his edges hard and kept running. He had a find at the time of 41, and birds flew as Allen flushed them up. Game Heir had a find at 24 with his eyes fixed on the ground where a dead quail was found. Game Heir ran big, and Corder decided to pick him up early.

The last brace of the day consisted of Haney's Storm Warning, run by Chris Cagle, braced with Miller's Speed Dial, run by Randy Anderson. At the time of 13, Speed Dial had a find. The course goes straight, and Speed Dial was on the left frozen with a flagpole for a tail and facing exactly where the birds were. The birds were flushed, and he stood frozen, watching them fill the sky. As we entered the pond field, Speed Dial was on point, and birds flew. Storm Warning had a successful back to this find, and he stood tall with style. Speed Dial had another find right after the pond field, and he stood as if paralyzed as the birds flew. We finished the day just about frozen. The dogs were loaded, and the gallery went to the barns as the judges discussed their decision for the

last and final day.

Everyone gathered at the clubhouse for Mary Sue to receive the official paper from the judges reading who the callback dogs would be. Once everyone was there, she read Barshoe Forget Me Not, run by Allen Vincent, and Code of Honor, run by Luke Eisenhart, for the first brace. For the second brace, it was Erin's High Note, run by Judd Carlton, and Bonner's Bulletproof, run by Randy Anderson. The standby dogs were Nighthawk's Rebel, run by Luke Eisenhart, and Speed Dial, run by Randy Anderson. We all went home that night to try and get some sleep before the final day.

The final day had come. The gallery's breath left hanging in the sky at the starting line as the crowd buzzed with anticipation. Who would be the best of the best? Who would be the champion? At the line was Barshoe Forget Me Not and Code of Honor. They were off at the chirp of a whistle. Both dogs blew out the front end, Forget Me Not showing her all-age abilities too well and cost him. Vincent picked up his tracker and went to find his dog. Code of Honor kept on rolling to the front. He had a find at 33; birds flew, and he stood as they toppled over him.

At 1:42, Code of Honor had another find just before the powerplant fields. Quail decided to make an appearance, and Code of Honor welcomed them as he stood with his feet planted. Time was called, and Code of Honor was on point. His tail still standing tall and strong after two hours of a pure all-age race, he was rewarded with a covey of quail flocking over him. He had a great all-age race and the edges in search of quail very well. He stuck to the front and only checking in when necessary. A gutty performance over the course of three days, this is who the 2023 Quail Champion Invitational judges would name champion.

The second brace was run by Erin's High Note and Bonner's Bulletproof. Bulletproof had a nice find at 9 and was backed successfully by High Note; there were birds flushed. Bulletproof took a cut and was unseen for a while; he came back two fields after we had last seen him. He had a find at 1:01, and the birds were far ahead on an edge. At 1:07, the two dogs had a divided find. Birds were found. Bulletproof had a nice race and seemed to be hunting every time he was visible. This is the runner-up champion of the Quail Champion Invitational of 2023.

Chairman Schalk graciously concluded the Invitational for 2023 with appropriate thanks to many and then announced our new champion, Erin's Code of Honor, owned by Allen Linder and handled by Luke Eisenhart, scouted by Judd Carlton. Named runner-up champion was Bonner's Bulletproof, owned by Chris Cornman and handled by Randy Anderson, scouted by Eddie Berendzen.

Another great test on tough grounds produced a memorable field trial. As always, many memories were made, stories told, and connections made.

A field trial is a great game that cannot be permanently won or lost, only played. It is a test...

Until next year.

Kevil, Ky., November 25 Judges: Mike Crouse, Michael Kennedy, and Dr. Stan Wint QUAIL CHAMPIONSHIP INVITATIONAL [One-Hour Qualifying Heats on Consecutive Days; Two-Hour Finals] -- 12 Pointers

Winner-ERIN'S CODE OF HONOR, 1696057, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Erin's Miss Maggie. Allen Linder, owner; Luke Eisenhart, handler.

Runner-Up-BONNER'S BULLETPROOF, 1683585, pointer male, by Miller's Speed Dial-Miller's Martha White. Chris Cornman, owner; Randy Anderson, handler.

# KENTUCKY QUAIL CLASSIC Haney's Storm Warning Wins Classic By Mary Sue Schalk & Joe Hopkins | Kevil, Kentucky | November 28, 2023

The 2023 Kennucky Kenne All-Age and Derby stakes were The 2023 Kentucky Quail Classic held on November 28 and concluded mid-afternoon on December 1. As with tradition, the trial ran immediately following Quail Championship the Invitational. thus retaining some Invitational competitors along with other top dogs from those handlers choosing to stay for the event. Thirty-five dogs were drawn for the Kentucky Quail Classic, one English setter to the 34 pointers. The Derby stake also had a solid draw of 16 pointers.

Joe Hopkins of London, Kentucky, and Allen Dunbar of Oconto, Wisconsin, judged both the All-Age and Derby stakes over the course of four days. Both men are accomplished in their own right in the field trial world and are promoters of the sport. Hopkins, a staple in the National Bird Hunters Association, has recently started a podcast and, through this venue, is promoting the sport in a big way! His enthusiasm, wit, and great communication skills make for pure entertainment. In his free time, he is a strong competitor both in walking and horseback stakes with



Kentucky Quail Classic Winners (I-r): Ike Todd, Allen Dunbar (judge), Stegan Smith (scout) with Haney's Storm Warning, Chris Cagle Jr. (owner), Mary Sue Schalk (scout) with Barshoe Forget Me Not, Joe Hopkins (judge), Allen Vincent (handler) with Dunn's True Reign, Isaiah Todd, and Mike Crouse.

his small but mighty string of English setters. A positive addition to any field trial event, Hopkins gave full attention to all participants, and his efforts were much appreciated. Dr. Dunbar, who prefers to be called Allen, is well known for his performance as a veterinarian in the sporting dog world. His contributions to injury repair and rehabilitation are immeasurable, especially to those personally affected. He, like Hopkins, is also a strong competitor, primarily in horseback shooting dog stakes. His Grouse Feather moniker is familiar to most who follow the sport, and his English setters are a force to be reckoned with in competition. A diligent analyst, Dunbar rode forward and gave all competitors his full attention from beginning to end.

Throughout the week, each day's running started promptly at 7:30 a.m. Alan Benson handled the dog wagon responsibilities, as well as ensuring lunch was provided for participants. Mike Crouse rode as front marshal when he was not competing, and Mary Sue Schalk also helped marshal. The West Kentucky Field Trial Club appreciates the time of volunteers to help the week run smoothly.

# **The Winners**

Haney's Storm Warning required little to no handling for a majority of his bid for owner/handler Chris Cagle Sr. An audit of all applicable, appropriate, and desirable lines, edges, and objectives was found almost always with Storm Warning being right where he needed, thundering handsomely far and away to the front out of sight only to be seen again at distances slicing through acreage like a razor blade. A brave forward cast on the morning course out of sight resulted in the handler's hat in the air several minutes later just over the rise to find Storm Warning standing statuesque in his customary fashion, high on both ends. Birds were put to wing without a muscle's twitch from the dog named first at the conclusion of the trial. As the brace advanced, the desire for game visually supercharged the dog and only made him stronger, finishing the hour several hundred vards down the inside line of the large power lines going away at pickup. Storm Warning also backed King Post at 45 in his trademark stance.

Barshoe Forget Me Not kept all in the gallery and judicial saddles far from fading through the rigors of three days riding when she scorched the earth under her feet with a scintillating ground game, a jovial disposition, and high cracking tail. Field after field, Forget Me Not was making all the right moves while handling elegantly for her handler, Allen Vincent, with the gas pedal clearly to the floor. If the handler asked, Forget Me Not responded not only with the response but also with unforgettable class through her advance. An unproductive at 42 was all but masked by her masterclass ground race and was rectified with a find at 54, proving herself a bird finder in addition to a sight to see on the ground, earning her second-place honors.

Rounding out the placements, Dunn's True Reign had the ground race of a true all-age competitor and showed it both early and late in his hour. Handling confidently, handler Allen Vincent managed an even and forward advance after the dog would disappear only to affirmatively see True Reign taking the next obstacle as if a script was written for him. A mannerly and quick action find was recorded at 20 with all in order, True Reign would back his bracemate shortly thereafter at 32. He finished his hour just as he began, strong to the front, earning him the third-place spot on the podium.

# The Running

In the first brace, Korry Rinehart handled Ascension, paired with Randy Anderson and Slick Water Frac. Ascension ran diligently but did not achieve the all-age race established by later braces. He finished his hour. Frac never found harmony with his handler and was picked up at 38.

Como Thunder, handled by David Russell, ran with handler Anderson and Touch's Cocaine Blues. Thunder ran strong, with some brief absences. He had the first find of the trial, locating a known covey at 54. All in order, he finished his hour strong. Touch's Cocaine Blues to find and keep to the front, however, he did back Como Thunder at 54 and finished his hour.

Sandridge Big Iron made cause for both judges to sit up in the saddle, making big swings and distant casts in the third hour. Handled by Allen Vincent, Big Iron had a find at 25 in good order and finished his hour. His bracemate, Bonner's Hot Rize, was not pleasing his handler, Korry Rinehart, who picked him up at 38.

Bridget Ledington was in the handler's saddle for the fourth brace, running her dog Painted Owyhee Toad. The connection was strong between Toad and Ledington; however, his ground coverage was not that of an all-age dog this time. David Hendricks, also an owner/handler, ran his dog Pleasant Run Sally with Ledington. Sally is a fancy female who made a beautiful bid and had an early find at 8. She applied herself dutifully and filled the grounds but, unfortunately, was lost at pickup.

Allen Vincent turned loose Texas Wild Rex in the fifth brace but requested the tracker at 28. His bracemate, Lester's Front Porch, was handled by Gary Lester. Front Porch ran strong the first half of his hour. He did have an unproductive but continued and finished his hour.

To complete the first day of running, Anderson ran I'm Gallant with David Russell and Haney's Hurricane Seeker. I'm Gallant ran intently, making good casts and hunting in sensible locations. Although he had an unproductive at 30, he did locate birds at 47 and was able to handle them with class as the birds flushed across his muzzle. He finished his hour. Hurricane Seeker took large bites of the country from the start; his handler worked diligently to keep him in check, but with long absences, Russell did ask for the tracker at pick up.

For the second day of running, Gary Lester started the day with the seventh brace and Miller's King Post. The canine athlete put together a very good ground race, showing linearly and disappearing, only to be seen again advancing on another field edge. At 30, King Post backed his bracemate Haney's Storm Warning and tried to make game on an edge under the power lines. No birds could be lifted, although the handler did produce feathers at the dog's stand. He finished his hour.

Randy Anderson returned in the eighth brace with No Strings Attached and, unfortunately, was not pleased with the dog picking him up at 30. Mike Crouse was braced with Anderson running Crouse's Heart of Dixon. "Hearty" ran with the strength of a bull. With intermittent absences, he did require some assistance to regain connectivity with his handler. At the end of the hour, the handler's hat was in the air riding to the front on a known covey location where birds were confirmed in front of the dog's stand and a shot fired with all in order.

Chris Cagle Sr. returned to handle Haney's Silver Dollar in the ninth brace. Silver Dollar all but emulated his string-mate, blowing down edges and lines like straight-line winds with a high cracking tail and enthusiasm. Silver Dollar indicated birds on a stand on the edge of a bramble where an extensive flushing effort ensued, eventually resulting in confirmation of a stubborn duo of quail. His bracemate, Dunn's True Reign, backed with all class. Silver Dollar went on, maintaining a solid ground effort; another extensive and long flushing effort would be required at pickup, with Silver Dollar being found by the bracemate's handler on yet another edge of a very large and intimidating slash pile. Nevertheless, the handler climbed, stomped, scaled, and pressed through the thick island of cover but with no birds out to fly to close out the hour

After lunch, Gary Lester turned loose Lester's Shockwave to kick off the afternoon and the ninth brace. He reeled out early in his run but troubled his handler with frequent returns and early exits on casts made. Regardless, the bird-finding prowess of the dog shone through regardless of the ground efforts, with two intact and mannerly finds at 35 and 53 minutes. He finished his hour. His bracemate, Coldwater Odyssey, struck early at 9 but after an unproductive flushing attempt, the dog was asked to relocate by handler Weldon Bennett. Birds were inadvertently evicted on the relocation, ending Coldwater Odyssey's hour early.

Stylishly and with the grace of a ballet dancer, Crouse's Tennessee Game Kate bound around the course with far-reaching casts with a spirited ground application evident with a high cracking tail as she bladed through the various bean field edges and wood lines. Several times, she emerged from cover breaks only to eat up the numerous field edges as if her run was a choreographed dance. Her lone find came shortly before pickup at 55 with birds precisely located. She finished her hour going away and enjoyed by all. Owned and handled by Mike Crouse, Game Kate was carried in the placements by the judges until the final day, but with such a performance rendered, the dog was named honorable mention.

Bonner's Bulletproof, handled by Randy Anderson, kept his string of performances rolling into the classic, piecing together a respectable showing on the ground responding to his handler's requests, marking moves in and away to the front at allowable places on course requiring little to some handling. Initially found to be backing his bracemate shortly before pickup at 55, Bulletproof was collared due to a breach of manners.

To finish day two, running the 12th brace, Weldon Bennett turned loose his second dog, Coldwater War Cry. After not making the turn across the culvert at 20, Bennett asked for the tracker to retrieve him. Braced with War Cry, Lester's Stemwinder had glimpses of excellence showing at times and requiring encouragement at times. Randy Anderson handled Stem Winder and located the dog standing at 15. He handled his birds mannerly and finished his hour.

For the final day of the Kentucky Quail Classic, Allen Vincent ran Firefly's Invictus with Gary Lester and Lester's Storm Surge. The 13th brace of the trial ran the first hour of the six hours of running. Firefly was harnessed after a lengthy absence off the breakaway; Storm Surge finished his hour to the front.

Allen Vincent handled Mayfield Storm Charger in the 14th brace. He was charged fully for his time residing in large expanses of real estate with an absence of significance in the middle of his run. Birds would be located by Mayfield



Open Derby Winners (l-r): Gary Lester (owner/handler), Allen Dunbar (judge), Korry Rinehart (scout) with Lester's War Bird, Bridget Ledington (scout) with Full Ride, Randy Anderson (handler), Ann Forrester (owner) with Bandit's Hill Avenger, Stegan Smith (scout), Ike Todd (handler), and Joe Hopkins (judge).

Storm Charger late with two finds at 50 and 55. He finished his hour strong. His bracemate, Touch's Fire Away, made cause for attention when striking birds early at 8 after rimming a bean field edge merging onto a perpendicular wood line where scent abruptly stopped the dog in his tracks, cranking his head high into the air. Birds were raised, and Fire Away continued with moments of grandeur and moments of wanting more. His handler, Randy Anderson, knowing what placements would require, picked up the dog at 45 minutes.

In the 15th brace, the only English setter in the Classic, Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, located a bevy not found by any previous competitors at the base of a cluster of small trees on a secondary field edge found by her scout early in the hour. A beautiful stance by the female produced an expertly located covey. Sugar would not realize an effort customary of her résumé nor demanding of honors for this trial and was put into the harness at 35. Randy Anderson handled Miller's Speed Dial, which was strong from the moment of being loosed, and the tracker requested at 16.

Black and white pointer male Crouse's Quiet Man ran strongly as customary of his performances in the 16th brace. Owned and handled by Mike Crouse, "Duke" experienced several long absences but showed himself in places, proving himself to be an all-age competitor. A find at 53 with all in order would show the dog's efforts to find birds during his headstrong run as he would finish the hour in hand to his handler's delight after their efforts. Scott Beeler handled Beeler's White Knight with Crouse and Quiet Man. White Knight stood at the one-minute mark in a sparse edge of a bean field, but no birds could be sourced there nor in the adjacent wood line behind said crop buffer. Adamant about another discovery of quarry, Beeler's White Knight would go on point again at 9 in another bean field, indicating birds in the woody cover on the edge. A concerted flushing effort followed by a relocation

would prove otherwise; Barshoe and White Knight were harnessed.

The final brace of the stake Barshoe Forget Me Not's performance was recounted with the winners, as she was handled to second place by Allen Vincent.

#### Kevil, Ky., November 28 Judges: Dr. Alan Dunbar and Joe Hopkins KENTUCKY QUAIL CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] – 34 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-HANEY'S STORM WARNING, 1691416, pointer male, by Valiant-Haney's North Star. Chris Cagle, owner and handler.

2d-BARSHOE FORGET ME NOT, 1692349, pointer female, by Whippoorwill Justified-Greypointe Invierna. Robert Gum, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.

3d-DUNN'S TRUE REIGN, 1680537, pointer male, by Dunn's Tried'n True-Dunn's Get Out Sue. Norris Sims, owner; Allen Vincent, handler.

## **The Derby Stake Winners**

There were 16 derbies drawn, and eight braces concluded. Several young dogs had birdwork, including the top three dogs. The first-place dog was Lester's War Bird owned and handled by Gary Lester. He had a strong all-age raceband and was consistently found to the front. Full Ride, owned by Kevin Dixon, earned second place with a strong performance for handler Randy Anderson. Third place was Bandit's Hill Avenger handled by Ike Todd. Avenger's owner, Ann Forrester, was on hand for his performance. A solid field, with enjoyable performances. The field of young dogs was a nice ending to a week of enjoyable bird dog work.

## Judges: Dr. Allen Dunbar and Joe Hopkins OPEN DERBY – 16 Pointers

1st-LESTER'S WAR BIRD 1705485, male, by Lester's Storm Surge-R W Susie Q. Gary Lester, owner and handler. 2d-FULL RIDE, 1702143, male, by Dixon's Rolling Stone-Dixon's Girl's Got Rhythm. Kevin Dixon, owner; Randy Anderson, handler.

3d-BANDIT'S HILL AVENGER, 1702642, male, by Touch's Smooth Rider-Bandit's Hill Daisy. Ann Forrester, owner and handler.

## •••••••••••••••••

Note: Many thanks to all those who continue to support our field trials in Western Kentucky. We certainly could not have our events without those who come year in and year out. I would specifically like to thank the pros who support both the Quail Championship Invitational and Kentucky Quail Classic annually. I also want to thank the members of the West Kentucky Field Trial Club, Alan Benson and Vincent Major, for their dedication to our annual events. Thank you to sponsors Purina and SportDOG, and participants and owners. Last but not least, thanks Dad, Mike Crouse, for fueling the fire, ordering the birds and being there always. Best of luck as the season continues for all!

— Mary Sue Schalk, West Kentucky Field Trial Club President

# **CENTRAL PRAIRIE FIELD TRIAL CLUB** *Fall Trial Held At Ellis Farm* By Dan Crunk | Orchardville, IL | November 26, 2023

On November 26, the Central Prairie Field Trial Club held its fall trial at the grounds in Orchardville, Illinois. The day before, the Mid-South Bird Hunters held their trial in perfect weather. The 26th was very different as we had light rain/misting until around 11 a.m. Then the temperature dropped, and the wind picked up. With the rain, the birds got wet and did not fly very well. But we still had a very good trial with good numbers drawn.

Again, we held the trial on private grounds on the Ellis Farm in Orchardville. Our Club is so thankful that we are allowed to use these grounds. The grounds are as good as we run on in a year's time for 30-minute stakes. Judges for the day were Rick Stanford and Brad Hargis judging the Shooting Dog stake; Brad Hargis and Rick Stanford judging the Derby stake; Brad Hargis and Ted Ellis judging the Gun Dog stake; and Frank Christie with his grandson Declan Wheat judging the Puppy stake. All stakes were amateur stakes. Thank you to all those judges who stepped up and did a great job judging each entry. Lunch was served around noon. It was prepared by Jae Crunk, along with her homemade cookies.

## **Amateur Shooting Dog**

Eleven dogs were drawn, and we had scratches due to Craig Hiatt having some pain in his back and Steven Feuss having issues when dogs were exposed to another dog at home with an illness. The winner of this stake was "Shooter," a Brittany male handled by Ken DeLong. Shooter probably had the best 30 minutes in this trial, as he had four well-placed finds. After each find, when turned loose the judges would not see Shooter for a short time and find him in the next field on point. I would also mention that on each flush, the wet birds would only flutter out about 3 feet and sit down, and on each flush, Shooter would stand solid for the shot. I would also mention that Shooter won the NBHA Invitational at Grovespring the following weekend.

Second place in this stake went to "Joker," a German Shorthaired male, for John Landolina. Joker had three finds in his brace.

"Diamond," a German Shorthaired female for John Landolina, was third. Diamond had one find and two backs for her 30 minutes.



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (front, I-r): K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot with Ken DeLong, No Limits Wildfire's Wildcard with John Landolina, and No Limits Little Slick with Myah Landolina. (Standing): Judges Brad Hargis and Rick Stanford.

## Amateur Derby

Six dogs were drawn for the Derby stake. "Jack," a setter male handled by Rob Warner, captured first place. Jack had four finds and one back. Jack was always to the front and runs and points very stylishly.

Second place went to "Sting," a setter male for Eryn Pearson. Sting had one find and was very attractive, running and pointing. Eryn reported that Sting was only 7 months of age.

The third-place dog was "Pancho," a pointer male owned by Charles Leonard and handled by Travis Patterson. Pancho had one find in his brace with a very attractive point.

## **Amateur Shooting Dog**

Eight entries were drawn for the Gun Dog stake. First place was "Hawk," a setter male, for Rob Warner. Hawk had four finds and one back for Rob.

"Lina," a red setter female for Mike Fox, took second place. Lina had three finds in her 30 minutes.

Taking third was "Diamond," handled by Myah Landolina. Myah got Diamond around with one find and two backs. Myah is a youth handler and did a fantastic job handling Diamond. She also scouted for her dad in other stakes. We can look for her handling Diamond in future trials.

## Amateur Puppy

The judges were very happy with the quality of the entries drawn out in the Puppy stake. The placements were based on race and handling. Judging was based on the puppies going with the handler and staying to the front. Based on these criteria, "Sting," a setter male for Eryn Pearson, was awarded the first-place plaque. Second place went to "Queenie," a pointer female for Travis Patterson. Travis also picked up the third-place plaque with "Poncho," a pointer male. This puppy stake was filled with quality entries with a lot of potential for the future.

The Central Prairie Field Trial Club would like to thank Purina Pro Plan and Gun Dog Supply for their support of our field trials. I also would like to thank our judges for their work on a day that was not so pleasant. Thanks to Rick Stanford for his work in putting the trial together. Hope to see everyone this spring.

## Orchardville, Ill., November 26 Judges: Brad Hargis and Rick Stanford NBHA BUTCH SPELBRING MEMORIAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 11 Entries

1st-K DEL'S EAGLE MAGNUM HOTSHOT, 1685770, Brittany male, by Magnum High Velocity-K Del's Eagle's Chance To Soar. Ken DeLong, owner and handler. 2d-NO LIMIT'S WILDFIRES WILDCARD, 1705637, German Shorthair male, by P J Wildfire's Little Bud-P J Wildfire's Little Angel. John Landolina, owner and handler. 3d-NO LIMITS LITTLE SLICK, 1702850, German Shorthair female, by Right Stuff's Rock N Roll-Outbak's Attitude. John Landolina, owner and handler.

## NBHA AMATEUR DERBY – 4 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-WARNER'S UTAH JACK, 1701466, setter male, by T's American Gunfighter-T's Whistling Dixie. Robert Warner, owner and handler.

2d-WOODSWAY'S STINGIN' RAIN, 1706022, setter male, by Woodsway's Dark Knight-Toccoa River Sugarfoot. Eryn & Colleen Pearson, owners; Eryn Pearson, handler. 3d-ERIN'S PANCHO VILLA, 1705859, pointer male, by Erin's Grey Justice-Erin's Miss Daisy. Charles F. Leonard,

Erin's Grey Justice-Erin's Miss Daisy. Charles F. Leonara, owner; Travis Patterson, handler.

## Judges: Ted Ellis and Brad Hargis NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 8 Entries

1st-SKY HAWK'S LITTLE RASCAL, 1670670, setter male, by Hytest Palladin-Sky Hawk's Blues Traveler. Robert Warner III, owner and handler.

2d-FOXY ABRALENA, 1682017, Irish setter female, by Zansett Simply Red-Foxy's Lil Red Missy. Mike Fox, owner and handler.

3d-NO LIMITS LITTLE SLICK, 1702850, German Shorthair female, by Right Stuff's Rock N Roll-Outbak's Attitude. John Landolina, owner; Myah Landolina, handler.

## Judges: Frank Christie and Declan Wheat NBHA AMATEUR PUPPY – 7 Entries

1st-WOODSWAY'S STINGIN' RAIN, 1706022, setter male, by Woodsway's Dark Knight-Teccoa River Sugarfoot. Eryn & Colleen, owners; Eryn Pearson, handler.

2d-HUBER'S ICE QUEEN, 1705274, pointer female, by Lester's Shockwave-Bonner's Carolina Belle. Aaron T. Patterson Jr., owner and handler.

3d-ERIN'S PANCHO VILLA, 1705859, pointer male, by Erin's Grey Justice-Erin's Miss Daisy. Charles Leonard, owner.

# NORTH MISSOURI FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION Over The Hill Merry Wins NBHA Bob Catlett Open Shooting Dog Classic By Kevin Western | Grovespring, Missouri | November 30, 2023

The North Missouri Field Trial Association, with the help of the Missouri Bird Hunters Association, held the Bob Catlett Open Shooting Dog Classic on November 30, concluding on December 2. This event was held in conjunction with the NBHA National Amateur Invitational Championship. This year, the event was held at the Sportsman's Field Trial grounds near Grovespring, Missouri. As always, the grounds were in excellent condition, with milo strips, an abundance of birds, and many objectives to make for a very competitive trial.

As stated earlier, this year's event was hosted by the North Missouri Field Trial Association with the help of the Missouri Bird Hunters. Helping out were Tim Penn, Joe Zimmer, Randy Zimmer, Jack Glover, and Kevin Western. This is a hard-working bunch of guys who are willing to help out wherever it is needed. This year's judging duties were handled by Dan Draffen of Bunceton, Missouri, and Tim Penn of Edina, Missouri. These two are seasoned veterans of the field trial game and rode attentively and evaluated the field of top contenders. Their decisions were well received.

The Missouri State Bob Catlett Open Shooting Dog Classic winner was Over The Hill Merry (PF) for Ron Lein. Merry ran in the fifth brace; she accumulated four finds and had stopped to flush. Merry started her hour with a find at 4; she backed her bracemate at 11, 20, and 24. Merry went on to have finds at 29 and 32, all in order. She had a stop-to-flush at 35 and an unproductive at 54. Merry's final find came at 56. She was very staunch in her birdwork throughout all of her birdwork. She had a good forward range, hunted hard, and was pleasing to watch, earning her first place.

The second-place dog was Snow's Rhiannon (PF), handled by Kenny Snow. Rhiannon ran in the sixth brace, and had one find at 27, all in order. She finished the hour as she started always to the front, working the cover as a shooting dog should.

Third place came in the eighth brace with River City Hit Man (ESM), handled by Zach Ernie. "Roy" had a single find at 29 with excellent manners. Roy was very



Bob Catlett Open Shooting Dog Classic Winners (I-r): Rod Lein with Over The Hill Merry, Kenny Snow with Snow's Rhiannon, and David Gates with River City Hit Man. (Standing): Bud Moore, Randy Zimmer, Dan Draffen (judge), Joe Zimmer, Ken Sauer (NBHA president), Kevin Western. Tim Penn (NBHA secretary and judge), John Holt, Andrew Erne, and Zach Erne.

strong in the first half of his hour, but he started to show some stress towards the end of his hour. It appeared that he had injured himself and had swelling in his front leg, but he still muscled out a good finish and was rewarded with third place.

The Open Derby had John Holt's young derbies taking first and second. Bridgers Insane Bolt (PM) was the first-place derby, and Bridgers Open For Business (PM) was the second-place winner. Both of these derbies are showing a promising future.

Rounding out the amateur stakes was Ken Sauer winning the Amateur Shooting Dog with K C's Tye Oneon (PM). Tye finished the hour with two finds and a good forward race.

The Amateur Shooting Dog (JC@F) was won by Penrosa Behrdevil (PM), owned and handled by Tim Penn.

The National Bird Hunters Association is blessed to have such generous sponsors. Purina Pro Plan, Garmin, Gun Dog Supply, OnX Hunt, and Mule Brand Gear are valued and much-appreciated sponsors. Their participation and sponsorship of the NBHA are much appreciated.

Again, we would like to thank all our sponsors, the judges, the helpers, and all our participants. It is the work and participation of all that help make up a great event. The participation and dedication of the good folks who come to these trials make the future look great for the National Bird Hunters.

## Grovespring, Mo., November 30 – One Course Judges: Danny Draffen and Tim Penn NBHA BOB CATLETT OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] – 13 Pointers, 3 Setters, and 1 German Shorthair

Ist-OVER THE HILL MERRY, 1678045, pointer female, by Grouse Trails Cracker Jack-Diva Dot. Rod Lein, owner and handler.

2d-SNOW'S RHIANNON, 1690447, pointer female, by Jimfork's Sunny Hill Jack-Jimfork's Katie Hawk. Kenny Snow: owner and handler.

3d-RIVER CITY HIT MAN, 1697155, setter male, by Erin's Wild Atlantic Way-Wynona's Gunslinger Jewel. David Cates, owner; Zach Erne, handler.

## NBHA OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers

1st-BRIDGER'S INSANE BOLT, 1702589, male, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Upfront's Southern Star. John Holt, owner and handler.

2d-BRIDGERS OPEN FOR BUSINESS, 1702420, male, by Miller's Unfinished Business-Phantom's Santo Sun. John Holt, owner and handler.

#### NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] – 4 Pointers

Ist-K C'S TYEONEON, 1692606, pointer male, by Valiant-Cypress Church Junebug. Ken Sauer & K C's Kennels, owners; Ken Sauer, handler.

## Judges: Danny Draffen and Zach Erne NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 2 Pointers and 2 Setters

Ist-PENROSA BEHRDEVIL, 1676392, pointer male, by Lester's Sunny Hill Jo-Miss Kitty Russell. Tim Penn, owner and handler.

# VIRGINIA AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUB Fall Trial Held At Cutawhiskie Farm By Gene Hogge | Ahoskie, North Carolina | November 30, 2023



Open All-Age Winners (l-r): Mohawk Mill Good Advice with John Stolgitis, I Dream of Jeannie for Kyle Whitfield, and Mohawk Mill Big Stuff for Ashby Morgan. (Second row): Judges Larry Cox and Lee Flanders. (Back row): George Doyle, Gary Winall, Pat Casey, Ellen Winall, Barbel Fetkoter, Gene Hogge, Gary Ansell, and his grandson.

The Virginia Amateur Field Trial Club held its annual trial over the late Dr. Aubrey Morgan's Cutawhiskie Farm in St. John, North Carolina November 30 through December 3. Moving what had been a late March date to a late November start in 2023 proved to be the right thing to do, as the trial was supported by a banner number of entries.

Weather for the trial was chilly for the first two days, clear and cold with frost in the mornings. Rain showers moved in on Saturday as the temperature moderated, and Sunday provided a warm, cloudy finish.

The course was muddy in some of the fields that had been disced but not as bad as some had anticipated. Rains came a week before the trial and ended what had been a hot, dry spell.

Judging the trial were Jim Jones of Gloucester, Virginia and Larry Cox of Randleman, North Carolina. Both judges have completed numerous assignments in major stakes, and we were very fortunate to secure their services. Lee Flanders of Surry, Virginia, filled in for Jim Jones on Sunday for the Open All-Age stake.

Outside of the dogs, food is a primary focus for the club. Barbel Fetkoter makes sure there is an ample supply for three squares a day, and she was assisted by Skip Brown's annual chicken barbeque. Larry King's dinner Saturday night in honor of last year's Amateur All-Age winner, Alibi Girl, was a fine event enjoyed by all. Gary Ansell chipped in with a bushel of oysters, and John Stolgitis brought up some Rhode Island mussels that were a big hit as well.

The Club welcomed a number of first-time participants. Grace Ann Lawson ran several competitive entries, as did



Open Derby Winners (I-r): Mohawk Mill King Pen held by Ellen Winall, Chase Hill Snoop Dog held by John Stolgitis, and Sweet Grass Spike held by Ashby Morgan. (Second row): Judges Larry Cox and Lee Flanders. (Back row): George Doyle, Gary Winall, Pat Casey, Barbel Fetkoter, Gene Hogge, Gary Ansell, and his grandson.

Robert Spillman. Pete and Chris Del Collo ran their strapping Sugarknoll White Lightning. Ashby Morgan also ran a dog or two and got a placement in the Open All-Age.

The 30-minute Verle Farrow Puppy Classic was topped by Kyle Whitfield's setter male, Whitehall's Fleetwood Mac, with a smooth edge running race. Crazy Mountain Pearl, a setter female handled by David Huffine, was a close second with a good forward race just off the edges. Gary Miller's pointer female, Elvira, ran a forward hunting effort to round out the placements.

The Parke Brinkley Amateur Derby Classic was won by Gary Winall's pointer male, Mohawk Mill King Pen, with one find and a forward edge running race. Second was another of Gary's dogs, pointer male Mohawk Mill Patriot, which also had one find and a good ground effort. Gary Miller's pointer female, Miss Lucille, was forward and snappy on the ground to take third.

The one-hour Amateur All-Age stake drew 18 dogs and proved to be very competitive. Gary Winall's pointer male, Mohawk Mill Jacked Up, narrowly edged out his bracemate, Whitley Stephenson's pointer male, Southpoint's Speedy G, in the seventh brace. Jacked Up had an extremely strong ground race. Found on point at 12, he was gone some showing to the front and impressively taking in the back fields. At 52, he was again found on point and finished strongly. Speedy G was also impressive, with a huge opening cast. His scorecard showed a covey find at 20 and a woodcock find at 40. Mohawk Mill Good Advice, a pointer male handled by Gary Winall, was third with finds at 15, 55, and 59.



Mohawk Mill King Pen was the class of the Open Derby. His race was forward and sometimes extreme. He was gone at time and found on point at 38. Second place was awarded to Chasehill Snoop Dog, a pointer male handled by John Stolgitis with a broke covey find at 9 and a very good ground effort. David Huffine's setter male, Sweet Grass Spike, had a broke find at 17 and a back at time, coupled with a good race to take third.

In the Open All-Age, Mohawk Mill Good Advice, a pointer male handled by John Stolgitis had a fast, classy race punctuated by finds at 7, 13, 20, and 28. I Dream of Jeannie, Kyle Whitfield's setter female, was all class with finds at 20 and 27 for a well-deserved second. Ashby Morgan handled pointer male Mohawk Mill Big Stuff to third place with a find at 20 and a divided find at 25.

#### Ahoskie, N. C., November 30 – One Course Judges: Larry Cox and Jim Jones VERLE FARROW AMATEUR PUPPY CLASSIC – 5 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st-WHITEHALL'S FLEETWOOD MAC, 1703561, setter male, by Hot Blooded-Shamrock's Miss Grace. Kyle Whitfield, owner and handler.

2d-CRAZY MOUNTAIN PEARL, 1706787, setter female, by Caladen's Andy Warhol-Caladen's O'Keeffe. David Huffine, owner and handler.

3d-ELVIRA, unreg., pointer female, breeding not given. Gary Miller, owner and handler.

## PARKE BRINKLEY AMATEUR DERBY CLASSIC – 8 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-MOHAWK MILL KING PEN, 1703198, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Big Stuff-Mohawk Mill Dolly. Gary S. Winall, owner and handler.

2d-MOHAWK MILL PATRIOT, 1703194, pointer male, by Indian Creek Spur-Hirollins Fantasy Girl. Gary S. Winall, owner and handler.

3d-MISS LUCILLE, 1704780, pointer female, by Quickmarksman's Excalibur-Hirollins Fancy Lady. Gary Miller, owner and handler.



Parke Brinkley Amateur Derby Classic Winners (l-r): Ellen Winall Mohawk Mill King Pen, Whitley Stephenson Mohawk Mill Patriot, and Gary Miller Miss Lucille. (Second row): Gary Winall, Larry Cox (judge), and Jim Jones (judge). (Third row): Ashby Morgan, Gary Ansell, Jeff Smith, Skip Brown, and David Huffine.

## AMATEUR ALL-AGE CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] - 16 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-MOHAWK MILL JACKED UP, 1689941, pointer male, by Stoney Run's Buddy-Hirollins Fancy Lady. Gary S. Winall, owner and handler.

2d-SOUTHPOINT'S SPEEDY G, 1692332, pointer male, by Miller's Speed Dial-Bonner's Ransom Dot. Whitley Stephenson, owner and handler.

3d-MOHAWK MILL GOOD ADVICE, 1685480, pointer male, by Stoney Run's Buddy-Hirollins Fancy Lady. Gary S. Winall, owner and handler.



Verle Farrow Amateur Puppy Classic Winners (I-r): Whitehall's Fleetwood Mac for Kyle Whitfield, Crazy Mountain Pearl for David Huffine, and Elvira for Gary Miller. (Second row): Gary Winall, Larry Cox (judge), and Jim Jones (judge). (Third row): Ashby Morgan, J. Parke Brinkley, Barbel Fetkoter, Gary Ansell, Skip Brown, and Whitley Stephenson.

## Judges: Larry Cox and Whitley Stephenson OPEN DERBY – 12 Pointers and 2 Setters

Ist-MOHAWK MILL KING PEN, 1703198, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Big Stuff-Mohawk Mill Dolly. Gary S. Winall, owner and handler.

2d-CHASEHILL SNOOP DOG, 1703110, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Erin Stolgitis, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

3d-SWEET GRASS SPIKE, 1700670, setter male, by Black Top-Jo Veeta. David Huffine, owner and handler.

## Judges: Larry Cox and Lee Flanders OPEN ALL-AGE – 7 Pointers and 5 Setters

1st-MOHAWK MILL GOOD ADVICE, 1685480, pointer male, by Stoney Run's Buddy-Hirollins Fancy Lady. Gary S. Winall, owner; John Stolgitis, handler. 2d-I DREAM OF JEANNIE, 1699099, setter female, by Hot

Blooded-Shamrock's Miss Grace. Kyle Whitfield, owner and handler.

3d-MOHAWK MILL BIG STUFF, 1691821, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Trail Warrior-Hirollins Fantasy Girl. Gary S. Winall, owner; Ashby Morgan, handler.

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# UNITED STATES CHAMPIONSHIP & OPEN DERBY Haney's All In Named Champion; Miller's Heat Advisory, Runner-Up By Ruthann Epp | Greensboro, Alabama | December 1, 2023

The named champion for the 2023 United States Championship is pointer male Haney's All In, handled by Mark McLean of Doerun, Georgia, and owned by Steve Croy of Richmond Hill, Georgia. Congratulations! The runner-up champion is Miller's Heat Advisory, a pointer male handled by Judd Carlton of Cairo, Georgia, and owned by John Mathys of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Champion Haney's All In ran the last hour on the second day of running. He went deep to the front, made the turn through Little Prairie Pasture, and was seen going across the far hill of Black Cow Pasture. He made it through Taylor Field and the Wild Woods. He and bracemate Haney's Hurricane Seeker (Russell) were next seen standing in the far corner of New Ground. It was at 35 minutes both handlers flushed and fired their guns, with dogs showing lots of style throughout. All In stayed forward the entire brace and showed at the right times. Point was called for him at 55 minutes in Gum Springs Bottom. McLean walked in the trees in front of him and flushed a huge covey while his dog showed perfect form. He finished the hour strong to the front.

The United States Club was honored to have Alex Mauck from Ontario, Oregon,



United States Open Championship (I-r): Haily Moreland, Mark McLean, Jerry Raynor with Haney's All In, Alex Mauck (judge), Jim Michaletz (judge), Lefty Henry with Miller's Heat Advisory, Sherry Michaletz, Judd Carlton, and Schley Rutherford.

and Jim Michaletz from Ennis, Montana, to judge the Championship and Derby. Both men have field trialed for many years and worked closely with numerous professional trainers. Sherry, Jim's wife, added to the appeal of their visit. They were introduced to the Red Barn in Demopolis and got to watch the Georgia-Alabama football game at the restaurant because, in Alabama, that is what you do. Handlers for this year's running included Lefty Henry and Jerry Raynor of North Carolina, Tom Shenker and Jim Hughes from Alabama, Scott Beeler from Missouri, Mark McLean, Luke Eisenhart and Judd Carlton from Georgia, Steve Hurdle and David Russell from Mississippi, and Chris Cagle from Michigan/Tennessee. Bill Mason and Ted Roach, both of Alabama, also participated as scouts. Alex Rickert, the owner of last year's winner, Touch's Malcolm Story, sponsored a catered dinner on Sunday night for everyone at the trial. All enjoyed cocktails and a delicious meal at the White House, and there was a lot of storytelling and laughing going on.

The weather was in the 60s and muggy all but the last day. Despite the dryness, however, quail were found most braces. Typically, we have mud at this venue this time of the year, but footing was good, and washing down the horses was much faster. No complaints! The judges especially enjoyed escaping the cold at home for several days.

Running a championship trial requires many volunteers, hard work and time, and so we want to thank those who made this one a success: John Henry Kitchens, Chris Koutris, Wayne Pope, Justin Howard, Bill Mason, Dosson McKemie, Jim Hughes, Tim Jones, Rick Olds, Pete King, Kirsten Givhan, Olivia Alison, Taine Alison, Chris Cagle, Haily Moreland and club officials Schley Rutherford and Jennifer McKemie for their help.

Thanks are also in order to manager Brae Buckner of the Forever Wild Area and Scotty Hammerle for their dedication to mowing the courses so that the dogs could show off their championship performances. We are grateful to the state of Alabama and the M. Barnett Lawley Forever Wild Field Trial Area for the opportunity to compete with world-class dogs on these beautiful grounds. The sunsets were amazing, and the early morning light shining on the horses and dogs at breakaway was Eagles soared over the breathtaking. gallery every day, as did ducks. This is a big country venue that every dog handler should experience. According to manager Buckner, improvements to the facilities are in the works. The building of additional stalls is underway now, and there are plans for the construction of a dining lodge, pavilion, and hookups. Every field trialer present mentioned being thankful to Alabama for providing these grounds, as private tracts of land for trials are fast disappearing.

Sponsors are also essential to the success of our sport. Thanks to Purina for sponsoring the U. S. Championship for many years and giving dog feed to the winners. Greg Blair has been very gracious in his support. Once again, the AFTCA 20th Century Fund granted Cahaba Bend Field Trial Club funds for the betterment of trials on these grounds. The U. S. Club, along with several others who host trials here, all benefit as well. We greatly appreciate the support provided by the 20th Century Fund over the past nine



Judges Alex Mauck and Jim Michaletz.

## years.

## The Running

Brace No. 1: Rester's Cajun Spirit (Carlton) was lost off the breakaway, and Touch's Midnight Rider (McLean) was picked up early with no birdwork.

Brace No. 2: Haney's Silver Dollar (Cagle) and Rester's Johnny Ringo (Eisenhart) were both out of pocket a lot. Cagle's scout called point way in the distance across the road. The judge and handler made it, and all was in order. They joined up with the gallery, but both dogs disappeared. Both handlers asked for their tracking device.

Brace No. 3: Dragonfly (Hughes) and Touch's Shadow Rider (McLean) started the second morning. Rider pointed with Dragonfly backing, birds were flushed, and the gun shot, but Rider moved too much and at 3 minutes was picked up. At 8 minutes, Dragonfly had a find at Warden Hill, then at 23, a distant cry of point was heard along the red barn line for find No. 2. At 28 minutes, Hughes lifted his hat near the head of Turkey Lake; Dragonfly had beautiful style with all in order. He also had a find at 38, then took the line. and when the gallery entered Black Bottom Pasture, he was at the end of the field and styled up for find No. 5. He left Taylor Field, and the handler rode past, but the scout and judge spotted the dog in the brush on the edge of the lake just before pick up for find No. 6. He disappeared out the front and each time was found pointed.

Brace No. 4: Southern Nation (Henry) and Haney's Storm Warning (Cagle) had the second brace of the morning. They were both making big casts parallel to the highway and when Cagle topped the hill at Turkey Lake, he saw his dog pointed on the fence line at the other side of the field. Upon getting there, Southern Nation was backing. All was in order for Storm Warning, but Southern Nation had a breach of manners and ended his bid. Storm Warning then had an unproductive at 40 minutes, another find at 47 minutes just after crossing the ditch into the dove field, and a third find at 52, followed by a strong

## finish.

Brace No. 5: C S Code Blue (Hurdle) and Erin's Wild Atlantic Way (Eisenhart) had the third course. Code Blue was making big casts and made a cast around the big lake and showed up front, but then he was never seen again after going into Taylor Field, so at 40, Hurdle asked for the receiver. Atlantic Way had a find in the Wild Woods at 35. He disappeared out the front and was missing in New Ground, but he joined back with his handler and Eisenhart called point at the big tree with all in order. He took all of Gum Springs, and as the gallery crossed the culvert into the havfield. Eisenhart called point for his setter on the woods point and flushed for a pretty find to finish the morning.

Brace No. 6: Erin's Code of Honor (Eisenhart) and Woodville's Yukon Cornelius (McLean) didn't have it in the cards on this day. Code of Honor disappeared, not to return, and Cornelius had an unproductive and didn't connect with his handler, so the brace ended early.

Brace No. 7: Beeler's White Knight (Beeler) and Como Rain (Russell) started the brace with lots of run. Both had finds at 25 minutes in two different spots, and then they joined up, and at 32, they were together, and point was called, but they both lost their manners, and the brace ended.

Brace No. 8: Country On (McLean) and Erin's Perfect Storm (Eisenhart) started with the weather sunny, warm, and still. Neither dog seemed to be having a good day, so both were picked up before time.

Brace No. 9: Haney's All In (McLean) had his running reported earlier, and Haney's Hurricane Seeker (Russell) made a good showing, too. Besides the divided find, he stayed strong throughout the hour. Point was called at the end of the hour, but the birds left before the judges got there.

Brace No. 10: C S Dirty Harry (Hurdle) and Miller's Heat Advisory, runner-up (Carlton), showed their speed and were pointed out from time to time. As the gallery entered Black Bottom Pasture at 30 minutes, both dogs were on the far fence line pointed at least 100 feet apart. The judges went to their respective dogs, and both handlers flushed birds and fired their guns. Upon entering Taylor Field, Carlton had to go after his dog as he had taken the turn to the third course. At 40 minutes, Dirty Harry had a find at the Lake. Carlton and Heat Advisory caught up around Black Cow Pond. The scout called point for Heat Advisory on the cedar line. A dead bird was produced, but no others were found. Both dogs finished across the gravel road with Heat Advisory still making strong



Enjoying dinner sponsored by Alex Rickert and Touch's Malcom Story, 2023 U. S. Champion.

casts to the front.

Brace No. 11: Hunt's Rollin' The Dice (McLean) and Southern Thunder (Shenker) turned loose going east. Point was called for Thunder at 10 minutes with all in order. McLean's scout called point, but no birds were flushed. Thunder made a huge sweep all the way around Turkey Lake out of sight. McLean's scout called point for Thunder at 29 on the red barn fence, so he made a big swing. All was in order. McLean picked up Dice. Then, at 32 minutes, when the gallery went through the gap into the hayfield, Shenker called point. He couldn't flush and let the dog relocate. He pointed again, and Shenker flushed in front of the dog's nose with birds coming up from a tight circle. At 35 minutes, Thunder pointed again for find No. 4. He made a wide cast to the front and was next seen coming down the line going into Little Prairie Pasture. He was making game, stopping, then moving, and then he took out the covey to end the brace.

Brace No. 12: C S Rester's Speculation (Hurdle) and Touch's Breakaway Fred (McLean) started at 9:46 and disappeared with no scout able to come up with them, so the two handlers asked for their tracking receivers to round up their dogs.

Brace No. 13: Late Hit (Shenker) and Knight Moon (Eisenhart) were on standby at their trailers, so the dog wagon brought them to the line since we still had time and course for the morning. They turned loose in the Wild Woods at 10:25. Late Hit went 10 feet and slammed to a stop. Shenker flushed birds in front of him with all in order. Hit took the ditch edge in the big bottom, but after that, his energy faded.



Open Derby Winners (I-r): Luke Eisenhart, Judd Carlton holding Rampage, Jim Michaletz (judge), Alex Mauck (judge), Jerry Raynor with Moss Hill Conference Call, Brian Spear, Schley Rutherford, Cody McLean with Woodville's Long Hard Ride, Hoyt Henley, and Mark McLean.

Both handlers picked up early.

Brace No. 14: Touch's Malcolm Story (McLean) and Erin's High Note (Carlton) had an exciting start with a divided find at 5 minutes on the red barn line. Then, at 11 minutes, Malcolm Story had birds at the Warden's Hill. He had us thinking he might give a performance like last year, but then decided he wanted to go his own way. After 30 minutes, McLean put the rope on him. High Note, at 18, was standing at a birdy area, but Carlton could not flush birds, so he took him on. After taking Taylor Field, High Note lost his drive, and Carlton harnessed him.

Brace No. 15: C S Smoke Roll (Hurdle) and Lester's Storm Chaser (Henry) were loosed, and Roll took a wide tour over on a far hill on the other side of the lake with no way to get back, so he ended his bid. Storm Chaser made some nice casts and at 42 had point called for him with birds, but the dog was hot, and Henry picked him up.

Brace No. 16: Como Thunder (Russell) and Touch's Gallatin Fire (McLean) started at 2:07 for the last brace of the trial. Both dogs made a big cast. With the wind blowing, Gallatin Fire turned east, and we went west, so McLean got his tracking device. Thunder fought the sun and wind until Russell decided to end the brace.

## Greensboro, Ala., December 1 Judges: Alex Mauck and Jim Michaletz UNITED STATES OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 29 Pointers and 3 Setters

Winner-HANEY'S ALL IN, 1698756, pointer male, by Ransom-Haney's North Star. Steve Croy, owner; Mark McLean, handler.

Runner-Up-MILLER'S HEAT ADVISORY, 1685672, pointer male, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. John Mathys, owner; Judd Carlton, handler.



First brace of the Derby breakaway.

## **Open Derby Winners**

The 30-minute Derby was reinstituted as a stake in the U.S. Club. It ran prior to the championship as in years past. The first and second-place dogs ran in the fourth brace. First place, Rampage, handled by Luke Eisenhart and owned by Tucker Johnson, had a find at 16 on the red barn fence line, and Moss Hill Conference Call, handled by Mark McLean, pointed in Black Bottom Pasture with birds at 22. Both dogs covered extensive real estate and showed lots of potential, so look for both names again in future trials. Conference Call's owner Brian Spear was in the gallery watching his pointer and brought along long-time field trialer Hoyt Henley Jr. Third place went to Woodville's Long Hard Ride, a setter male owned by Carl Owens and handled by Mark McLean. Hard Ride had a forward race, with three finds at 5, 17, and pick up. He, too, will be one to watch.

## **OPEN DERBY – 12 Pointers and 2 Setters**

Ist-RAMPAGE, 1705323, pointer male, by Touch's Red Rider-Southpoint's Dixie Chick. S. Tucker Johnson, owner; Luke Eisenhart, handler.

2d-MOSS HILL CONFERENCE CALL, 1702105, pointer female, by Dial Direct-Lady Lou. Brian & Emily Spear & Buck & Lynn Heard, owners; Mark McLean, handler. 3d-WOODVILLE'S LONG HARD DRIVE, 1705218, setter male, by Woodville's Saddle Tramp-Yukon Gold Rush. Carl Owens, owner; Mark McLean, handler.

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James R. Memorial Amateur All-Age Winners (l-r): Tessa Hughes, Mason Ashburn, Greg Tapp (judge), Gary McKibben, Joe Hughes, Mike Small, Kenton Bryant (judge), and Ronald Thrasher.

The 2023 Alabama Amateur Field Trial took place on December 1-3 at Blue Mountain, Mississippi, at the beautiful Hell Creek Wildlife Management Area grounds. We want to express our thanks to Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks for the tremendous work they do on these grounds to make them so hospitable for our sport. We very much appreciate the time and effort the state of Mississippi puts into its natural resources so that its citizens can enjoy the outdoors at sporting events like field trials. The Club would also like to thank its sponsor, Sportsman's Pride Dog Food, for its generous and continued support of our sport. Our Club is always a joint effort, including the work contributed by various folks, including marshals Joe Hughes, Lowry Strickland, this author, and our stake manager and secretary, Greg Bain. We also greatly appreciate our club member who drove our dog wagon, my father, Ronald Thrasher. We were so happy to welcome our very capable judges this year: Greg Tapp of Somerville, Tennessee, who generously judged all three stakes; Jonathan Burch of Holly Springs, who judged the Shooting Dog stake; and Kenton Bryant of Nashville, Tennessee, who judged the Derby and All-Age stakes. We appreciate the time and careful attention each judge gave to the entries in front of them.

# James R. Page Memorial <u>Amateur All-Age</u>

Nosam Silver Dollar, pointer male, and Coldwater Paradise, pointer female, were the first-place and second-place winners, respectively, of the all-age this year, and they were braced together in the first brace of the trial. Silver Dollar won the first-place trophy this year, securing the



Amateur Derby Winners (I-r): Mike Lemons, Unknown with Dr. Corder's dog (copying Greg and Joe to ask them to advise who that is), Dr. Fred Corder, and Kenton Bryant (judge).

James R. Page Memorial All-Age out of a field of 10 all-age contenders. Silver Dollar is a beautiful white and orange pointer male owned and handled by Mason Ashburn. Paradise is an eye-catching orange and white female owned and handled by Gary McKibben. Silver Dollar secured his win with a very stylish find at 7 before the pond in the little thicket "island" on the left you pass as you leave the first big field after the breakaway and go down through the muddy area. Paradise was past Silver Dollar when he scored his find. Silver Dollar handled his birdwork masterfully, standing well for wing and shot. He then carried on with the brace, rejoining his bracemate, and both dogs put on a fast-paced race in the first hour. At 48, after we came through the pine thicket "tunnel," Paradise swung in on point, standing with head and tail high, and Dollar backed her nicely. Paradise stood well for the flush, and both dogs were away again, finishing their brace strong.

The third placement in the All-Age went to Small's White Charger, a pointer male handled by Mike Small. Charger drew the third brace across Hell Creek and showed well to the front for his hour. He suffered one unproductive but otherwise ran a hard and impressive race to the front.

## Blue Mountain, Miss., December 1 Judges: Kenton Bryant and Greg Tapp JAMES R. PAGE MEMORIAL AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 10 Pointers

Ist-NOSAM SILVER DOLLAR, 1702035, male, by Phillips Silver Lining-New Hope May. T. Mason Ashburn, owner and handler.

2d-COLDWATER PARADISE, 1684062, female, by Coldwater Spectre-Coldwater Belle. Gary McKibben, owner and handler.

3d-SMALL'S WHITE CHARGER, 1687724, male, by Phillips Off Line-Phillips North Line. Mike Small, owner and handler.



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Greg Tapp (judge), Tessa Hughes (scout), Ronald Thrasher, Joe Hughes, and Jonathan Burch (judge).

# The Amateur Derby Stake

Our Derby was well-attended this year, with 17 entries—15 pointers and two setters. The glorious Miss Arkansas, a pointer female handled by Mike Lemons, surged in with her beautiful high head, snappy tail, and lightning pace to seize the first-place honors. Miss Arkansas blazed her own trail through part of the third course across Hell Creek, running hard and always to the front.

Game Star, a pointer female owned and handled by Dr. Fred Corder, secured her placement with another aggressive and beautiful forward ground race. Interestingly, both the first and the second-place winners were sired by multi-champion Lester's Storm Surge.

Nosam's Silver Spark, a pointer male handled by Mason Ashburn, swooped in to seize the third placement with a find at 22. He handled his birdwork well, looking classy and on point and went on to finish his 30 minutes with style.

## AMATEUR DERBY - 15 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-MISS ARKANSAS, 1705667, pointer female, by Lester's Storm Surge-Game Snow. Mike Lemons, owner and handler.

2d-GAME STAR, 1704929, pointer female, by Lester's Storm Surge-Game Belle. Fred Corder, owner and handler. 3d-NOSAM'S SILVER SPARK, unreg., pointer male, by Small's White Charger-Nosam's Patchwork. T. Mason Ashburn, owner and handler.

## The Amateur Shooting Dog Stake

Our Shooting Dog stake, now for this first year also a Purina Shooting Dog points stake, kicked off Saturday afternoon with 16 entries. J Maple Jester, an orange and white pointer female handled by Joe Hughes and owned by Joe and this author, took first-place honors. Jester was in the second hour course, breaking away from the rock road rather than the Game Warden's house, and she stopped in the first small field at the tree line, scoring a find after relocation at 7 in heavy briars. She then continued on, hunting always hard and to the front. She suffered an unproductive toward the end of her brace and then finished her hour.

Bryant's Give It A Rip, a black and white setter owned and handled by Kenton Bryant, blew us away with a beautiful find on the first course at 7. This find was in the same general vicinity as the aforementioned little island thicket, and Rip did an excellent job on his birdwork. Rip then continued on, carrying himself well, showing nicely always to the front. He ran a good strong hour, hunting well for his handler.

The Lovely Lady May, a liver and white pointer female owned and handled by Joe Hughes, seized the third-place trophy with an aggressive ground race. She was braced with Rip in the first hour of the Shooting Dog stake. She ran her race always to the front, making fast and strong casts and never coming off line to secure her placement.

## Judges: Jonathan Burch and Greg Tapp AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] – 14 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-J MAPLE JESTER, 1675700, pointer female, by J Maple Jake-Coldwater Queen Kate. Joe & Tessa Hughes, owners; Joe Hughes, handler.

2d-BRYANT'S GIVE IT A RIP, 1701553, setter male, by Erin's Wild Atlantic Way-Cline's Live Oak. Kenton Bryant, owner and handler.

3d-THE LOVELY LADY MAY, 1702016, pointer female, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Gal Gadot. Joe Hughes, owner and handler.

# NORTHERN NEW JERSEY FIELD TRIAL CLUB Winter Trial By Jillian Stuhr | Hardyston, New Jersey | December 2, 2023

On December 2, 2023, the Northern New Jersey Field Trial Club held its annual winter trial at Indian Creek Shooting Preserve in Hardyston, New Jersey. The weather was mild for this time of year, and both dogs and handlers were excited to get out and enjoy the beautiful day and grounds. Trialers from Connecticut, South Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts joined us, making for a perfect get-together to celebrate the upcoming holiday season!

The first running of the day was the Open Derby stake. Taking third place was the all-enthusiastic "Waffles" for owner/handler Jason Paternostro. Claiming the second spot with two finds was Tattle Tailer for owner Elias Richardson, with Tim Cavanaugh as handler. Capturing the top spot was Indian Creek Pearl Jam with a powerful forward race, scoring one find for handler Garry Malzone.

The Open Shooting Dog kicked off next, with all states mentioned above having representation. Indian Creek Courageous Cat took third for owner Ed Marron. Erin's Deja Vu captured the second spot with four very impressive finds and a forward race for owner Joe Link, who was there watching the show! Rounding out the placements was Indian Creek Sprout, with four impressive finds, topping it off with a limb find at finish. All dogs were handled by Garry Malzone.

The Amateur Shooting Dog proved to be the most fun of the day! Grandfather/



Open Derby Winners (front, l-r): Garry Malzone with Indian Creek Pearl Jam, Gabriel Cavanaugh with Tattle Tailer, Jason Paternostro with J and M Waffles. (Behind): Rob Hopkins and a friend, Brian and Kerri Wieland (judges), Tim Cavanaugh, Lori and John Bleeker, and Joe Link.

grandson duo Tim and Gabriel Cavanaugh battled it out on the field. Claiming third place was Ms. Antebellum for owner/ handler Tim Cavanaugh. "Jenny" had an impressive find on a meandering chukar right off the breakaway, setting the stage for a very nice performance. Placing second above his grandpa, Gabe Cavanaugh took the red ribbon home with Little Miss Bella having two finds and a back, all handled expertly by this youngster! The blue ribbon went to Little Miss Margaret, handled by Tim Cavanaugh with nice reaching moves and perfect birdwork; she was hard to deny! Congratulations to the Cavanaugh family on a great weekend. Gabe was the highlight of the trial, assisting with dogs, helping plant birds, and providing enough energy for all of us to attempt to keep up with. Thank you, Gabe, for your hard work and for making us all smile!

Thank you to our judges, Brian and Kerri Wieland of Hawley, Pennsylvania, and Tim Cavanaugh. It's always a pleasure seeing old friends!

#### Hardyston, N. J., December 2 Judges: Brian Wieland and Kerri Wieland NBHA OPEN DERBY – 6 Pointers and 2 Setters

Ist-INDIAN CREEK PEARL JAM, 1703034, setter male, by Indian Creek Wingman-Erin's Deja Vu. Jillian Stuhr & Garry Malzone, owners; Garry Malzone, handler. 2d-TATTLE TAILER, 1705140, pointer male, by Trumped-Campbell's Hog Hill Remi. Elias Richardson IV, owner; Tim Cavanaueh, handler.

3d-JAND M WAFFLES, 1703225, pointer female, by Erin's Hollywood-Indian Creek High Tide. Jason Paternostro, owner and handler.

#### Judges: Tim Cavanaugh and Brian Wieland NBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 10 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-INDIAN CREEK SPROUT, 1693330, pointer female, by Indian Creek Perfect Storm-Indian Creek Ramona. Jillian Stuhr, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

2d-ERIN'S DEJA VU, 1679292, setter female, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-T T's Southern Miss. Joseph Link, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

3d-INDIAN CREEK COURAGEOUS CAT, 1670105, pointer female, by South Bound Strech-Indian Creek Sugar. Edward Marron Jr., owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

#### Judges: Brian Wieland and Kerri Wieland NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 6 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-LITTLE MISS MARGARET, 1693526, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Tim Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

2d-LITTLE MISS BELLA, 1664328, pointer female, by Chasehill Little Bud-Shaula. Tim Cavanaugh, owner; Gabriel Cavanaugh, handler.

3d-MS. ANTEBELLUM, 1695333, pointer female, by Mohawk Mill Trail Warrior-Steel Valley Wardance. Tim Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

# **BAMA QUAIL YOUTH TRIAL** Shug and Shelby Street Take First In The 21st Running By Darron Hendley | Tuskegee, Alabama | December 3, 2023



Bama Quail Youth Trial Winners (front, I-r): Shelby Street with Shug, Addison McDuffie with Lulu, Reese Green with Josie, and Hayes Green with Bo. (Behind): Anna Grace Thompkins, Tony Reynolds with his children, Darron Hendley, Bucky Street, Meredith Street, Mindy McDuffie, Hunter McDuffie, Justin Green, and Mike Green.

ongratulations to all the kids who participated in the Bama Quail Youth Field Trial on Sunday, December 3, 2023, in Tuskegee, Alabama. This was the 21st consecutive Bama Quail youth trial on these grounds, making it the longest consecutive youth field trial on the same grounds in America! We had a great turnout of support for the kids and the sport they love so much! A huge thank you to the judges, Pat McPherson from Burnt Corn, Alabama, and Lane Hodges of Griffin, Georgia. Both men are top-notch amateur dog trainers and handlers. In fact, Hodges trained and handled the reigning National Amateur Free-For-All Champion held on Sedgefields Plantation last year. McPherson bred and trained the 2012 National Champion, Conner's E Z Button. Fitzpatrickians Robert Thompkins and Tony Reynolds drove the dog wagons. Kara Anne Beatrous had a tasty hot meal ready to enjoy at the lunch break. Stake Manager Darron Hendley marshaled the trial. Purina and Oak Hill Quail Farm were our generous sponsors. Chris and Cindy Sellers of Selmer, Tennessee, graciously paid the entry fees for every dog.

The weather was pleasant, and Bobwhites were active. Six aspiring youngsters brought 12 dogs to compete. They were Clair Street, Reese Green, Ella Grace Montgomery, Hayes Green, Addison McDuffie, and Shelby Street. All but two dogs found birds.

Taking first place was Shug, a pretty little female English pointer handled by Shelby Street, from Notasulga, Alabama. Shug was the top bird finder of the bunch, having turned in an impressive three-find performance. Addison McDuffie, Cecil, Alabama, claimed second for her female pointer, Lulu. Lulu had a nice forward race and was rewarded with a big covey. German Shorthair Josie, handled by Reese Green of Union Springs, Alabama, took third with a good forward race and a nice divided find. Mr. Hayes Green's German Shorthair Bo was named top dog in the Junior Division. Hayes also reigns from Union Springs.

Alabama started hosting youth field trials regularly 40 years ago. The Alabama Youth Field Trial Association (AYFTA) was formed and placed into competition a revolving trophy for the annual Alabama Youth Handler of the Year. In 2009, the Hartley Carter Foundation was founded to provide a \$1,000 post-high school educational scholarship to each subsequent youth handler of the year. Just a few years ago, a revolving trophy for the runner-up youth handler of the year was placed in competition. Two years ago, a \$500 Hartley Carter Foundation annual scholarship was instituted for the runner-up handler of the year. A Junior Division for handlers 12 and under has also been started. Each youth trial will name a top dog in the Junior Division. The top Junior Division handler will be recognized and awarded for his/her success at the annual summer meeting.

Thank you to all the friends, family, and parents of these kids who love and encourage them to keep this sport alive! There's nothing like watching the excitement of a young handler bounce back to his horse with a smile the size of Texas after his dog held steady to wing and shot.

Anyone interested in participating in or promoting youth field trials may contact Darron Hendley, points secretary for the Alabama Youth Field Trial Association, at (334) 300-5836. Our annual fundraiser will be the last week of February. Donated items for a silent auction are greatly appreciated.



# NBHA NATIONAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP K Del's Magnum Hotshot Named Champion By Tim Penn | Grovespring, Missouri | December 3, 2023

he NBHA National Amateur Invitational Championship was held on December 1 at the Sportsman's Field Trial grounds near Grovespring, Missouri. The grounds were in excellent condition this year, with milo strips that bordered the edges throughout the course. This championship is a two-part series, with the first series running on Friday, December 1. The final series, "The Callbacks," was run on Sunday morning, December 3. As part of this event, a handlers' dinner is served at the end of the first series to announce the callback dogs that will make their final bid to win the championship. Other activities, such as a raffle with various donated items, are given out. To conclude the activities was a presentation of a portrait of last year's winner, Craig's Runin Roxie, for owner and handler Craig Hiatt.

This year's event was hosted by the North Missouri Field Trial Association with the help of the Missouri Bird Hunters. Helping out were Tim Penn, Joe Zimmer, Randy Zimmer, Jack Glover, and Kevin Western. This is a hard-working bunch of guys who are willing to help out wherever it is needed. This year's judging duties were capably handled by Tony King of Thompson, Missouri, and Adam DeLude of Campbellsport, Wisconsin. These gentlemen gave their undivided attention to their job at hand, and we were lucky to have them evaluate our dogs.

The National Bird Hunters Association is blessed to have such generous sponsors. Purina Pro Plan, Garmin, Gun Dog Supply, OnX Hunt, and Mule Brand Gear are valued and much-appreciated sponsors. Their participation and sponsorship of the NBHA are much appreciated.

Again, we would like to thank all our sponsors, the judges, the helpers, and all our participants. It is the work and participation of all that help make up a great event. The participation and dedication of the good folks who come to these trials make the future look great for the National Bird Hunters.

## Initial Series

The first brace of the championship had Faith's Maximum Justice with handler Kenny Delong braced with Chippewa's Dog of War with Geoff Johnson as handler.



NBHA National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship (l-r): Joe Zimmer, Tony King (judge), Kenric DeLong and Tammi with K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot, Tim Penn, and Adam DeLude (judge).

This day started out fast and furious as Chippewa's Dog of War was gone to the front and was pushing the limits. Faith's Maximum Justice was found pointed and then was relocated prior to the road crossing; he suffered an unproductive here at 20. At 25, Chippewa's Dog of War had his only bird contact of the hour; he was again to the front. Faith's Maximum Justice had finds at 53 and 58 and finished his hour.

The second brace had K C's Guitar Man handled by Ken Sauer, braced with Raintree Blue Moon handled by Kathy Lewis. K C's Guitar Man had finds at 12 and 32; he was picked up by this handler at 56. Raintree Blue Moon's first find came at 29, and he backed K C's Guitar Man at 32. At 48, Blue Moon had his final piece of birdwork with all in order. He finished the hour for handler Kathy Lewis.

The third brace had K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot with Kenny DeLong as handler. His bracemate was Foxy Lady Sadie, with Mike Fox handling. Eagle Magnum Hotshot had finds at 8, 15, 18, and 25. He suffered an unproductive at 55 but finished the hour. Foxy Lady Sadie had a divided find at 15 and then, after being turned loose, was lost the remainder of the brace, ending her bid.

The fourth brace was Sol Fire Bend, handled by William Langley, and Cates

Rocket Girl, handled by David Cates. Sol Fire Bend was lost from the start; Cates Rocket Girl had a find and was picked up at 55 due to infraction.

The fifth brace was Double D's Red Lancelot, handled by Dan Draffen, braced with Fast Money, handled by Bud Moore. Double D's Red Lancelot was picked up shortly after his first find at 15. Fast Money finished the hour with two finds for her handler, Bud Moore.

The sixth brace had Bakers Shining Star Duke, handled by Mike Baker, braced with Sulphur Bend Firestorm, handled by William Langley. Duke had finds at 15, 35, and 57 and finished the hour. Sulphur Bend Firestorm had an unproductive at 30 and again at 45 and was picked up by handler.

# The Final Series — "The Callbacks"

Faith's Maximum Justice was braced with Bakers Shining Star Duke in the first brace. The second brace was Raintree Blue Moon with K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot. Standby dogs were Fast Money and Chippewa's Dog of War.

After the completion of the final series, the judges named K Del's Eagle Magnum Hotshot, a Brittany male owned by Kenric DeLong, champion of the NBHA Amateur Invitational Championship. Hotshot finished the hour with five finds and carded one unproductive. He was to the front and competed with intensity throughout, showing what a champion should do. His four-find performance in the first hour and a five-find performance in his final hour demonstrate the true measure of a champion. Congratulations to Kenny DeLong, and special thanks to all our participants. Grovespring, Mo., December 3 – One Course Judges: Adam DeLude and Tony King NBHA NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Qualifying Heats; One-Hour Finals] – 6 Pointers, 1 Setter, 1 Brittany, 2 Irish Setters, and 2 German Shorthairs

2 Itsis sectors, and 2 German Shorthan's Winner-K DEL'S EAGLE MAGNUM HOTSHOT, 1685770, Brittany male, by Magnum High Velocity-K Del's Eagle's Chance To Soar. Kenric J. DeLong, owner and handler. No Runner-Up Named.

NBHA KENTUCKY STATE CLASSIC Two Seamer Wins Classic By Justin Crook | Berea, Kentucky | December 7, 2023

To say that the Kentucky Classic was a big success is an understatement. The Classic drew 30 dogs for the Shooting Dog, and the weather was chilly at times, but the expected rain did hold off.

I want to personally thank the Boatright family, along with the other members of the Bluegrass Club, for all the effort they put into this trial. Special thanks to the cooks Anne Panko, Donna Boatright, and Marla Stockrahm, who kept our stomachs full and warm. Donna Boatright put on an excellent lasagna dinner Friday night for all to attend and enjoy some camaraderie. I would also like to thank all our sponsors, for without them, we could not do this.

The trial was held on December 7 and finished on December 10 in Berea, Kentucky. The trial started Thursday with the Puppy stake. Judges James Kleve and Robert Kester observed many outstanding youngsters showing themselves as future winners in this game. Leading the pack was a very nice and fancy young female pointer, Prince's Fallen Angel, owned by John Prince and handled by Justin Crook. Second place was another female who has been to the podium a lot this season, Boatright's Audubon Outcast, owned and handled by Terry Boatright. Rounding out third was PB Texas Tornado.

Next on the list were the amateur derbies, where Terry Boatright successfully swept all three placements. In first place was a very strong forward running setter male, Boatrights Iron Eagle. Second place was Outcast Siren Song, and in third was Boatright's Audubon Outcast, judged by me and James Kleve. All three of these derbies came to make a mark for themselves with strong races. Friday

morning saw the start of the Classic, judged by two outstanding veteran judges, Barry Stumbo and Dr. Kristine Hammons, who rode and watched thoroughly for three days. We are very appreciative of their time and diligence in the saddle. First place went to Two Seamer, a pointer male owned by Colby Tackett and handled by Justin Crook. Two Seamer rimmed the edges and was always found to the front, having a find at 35 and another one at 45: when time was called, scout Terry Boatright rode hard to the front to get him put in the harness. Second in the Classic went to Tenacee Cooper, owned and handled by Greg Isenberg. He laid down a very nice forward race and was able to get pointed up right before time was called. Rounding out the placements in the Classic was Tenacee Franklin, another very nice dog owned and handled by Greg Isenberg, who also had a couple of finds and a forward race, just not as strong on the ground as the other two dogs.

Last but not least was the Kentucky Derby Classic. First place went to a dog that has a very bright future and showed it on Sunday, Boatrights Iron Eagle, owned and scouted by Terry Boatright and handled by Kentucky pro James Kleve. "Chappy" had a strong forward race rimming all the edges with an eye-catching performance. Second place was Outcast Siren Song, a very nice female handled by James Kleve and owned by John Clough. Third place was a very nice up-and-coming puppy, PB Texas Tornado, owned by Brian Stockrahm. Big thanks to all involved in this trial; these Kentucky people's camaraderie sure proves to be something special.

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#### Berea, Ky., December 7 – One Course Judges: Robert Kester and James Kleve NBHA OPEN PUPPY – 7 Pointers and 1 Setter

Ist-PRINCE'S FALLEN ANGEL, unreg., pointer female, breeding not given. John Prince, owner; Justin Crook, handler.

2d-BOATRIGHT'S AUDUBON OUTCAST, 1705038, setter female, by Audubon Americus-Circle B Burning Stardust. Terry Boatright, owner and handler.

3d-PB TEXAS TORNADO, 1705951, pointer female, by Shorty Gotta Skeet-Peregrine's Jersey Girl. Brian Stockrahm, owner; Justin Crook, handler.

#### Judges: Dr. Kristine Hammons and Barry Stumbo NBHA KENTUCKY STATE CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] – 19 Pointers, 10 Setters, and 1 Irish Setter

Ist-TWO SEAMER, 1688946, pointer male, by Rock Acre Shortstop-Frozen Desert Blizzard. Colby Tackett, owner; Justin Crook, handler.

2d-TENACEE COOPER, 1672129, pointer male, by Miller's Dialing In-Greg's Wild Ivy. Greg Isenberg, owner and handler.

3d-TENACEE FRANKLIN, 1686506, pointer male, by Elhew Moneymaker-Class Act Pretty Penny. Greg Isenberg, owner and handler.

## NBHA KENTUCKY DERBY CLASSIC – 3 Pointers and 7 Setters

1st-BOATRIGHTS IRON EAGLE, 1700325, setter male, by Woodville's Yukon Cornelius-Outcast Starbreeze. Terry Boatright, owner; James Kleve, handler.

2d-OUTCAST SIREN SONG, 1703063, setter female, by Outcast Jericho Hilltopper-Outcast Clear Vision. John Clough, owner; James Kleve, handler.

3d-PB TEXAS TORNADO, 1705951, pointer female, by Shorty Gotta Skeet-Peregrine's Jersey Girl. Brian Stockrahm, owner; Justin Crook, handler.

## Judges: James Kleve and Justin Crook NBHA AMATEUR DERBY – 10 Setters

1st-BOATRIGHTS IRON EAGLE, 1700325, male, by Woodville's Yukon Cornelius-Outcast Starbreeze. Terry Boatright, owner and handler.

2d-OUTCAST SIREN SONG, 1703063, female, by Outcast Jericho Hilltopper-Outcast Clear Vision. John Clough, owner; Terry Boatright, handler.

3d- BOATRIGHT'S AUDUBON OUTCAST, 1705038, setter female, by Audubon Americus-Circle B Burning Stardust. Terry Boatright, owner and handler.

Need a copy of a previous field trial ad to updated? Visit the calendar at www.americanfield.com or email: gsmith@ukcdogs.com

### **REGION 6 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP** *Como Thunder Named Champion; Dialed In, Runner-Up* By Lisa Little, Region 6 Secretary | Huntingdon, Tennessee | December 8, 2023

The Region 6 Amateur All-Age Championship Championship commenced on December 8–10, 2023, with 26 talented competitors. The Buck Tuck Field Trial Club hosted the trial in Huntingdon. Tennessee. The club officers would like to thank David Williams and his family for the use of the grounds and facilities during the championship. We would also like to thank Sportsman's Pride for the advertising sponsorship and donation of \$975 in gift cards to be awarded to the winners. As with any field trial, it takes a team of dedicated individuals to make the event run like a well-oiled machine, and Huntingdon is no exception.

Club officers Jonathan Burch and Elton Bray served as judges, each bringing a wealth of competing and judging experience to the position. David Williams, Michelle Williams Clark, Gary McKibben, Joe Hughes, and Scott Little served as marshals and scouts when not competing. John Burrow, Phillip Barnett, and Lebob Stanfill took on the responsibilities of dog wagon drivers. Rounding out the jobs at the trial were Tessa Hughes, Michele Clark, and Lisa Little, making sure that hot meals were prepared throughout each day. Each of these individuals' contributions makes for a great trial.

The following information concerning the running of the competitors is from the notes left to the author by the judges, as the author was not able to ride each brace. The pre-release and feeding program of quail that David Williams has created at the Huntingdon grounds has proven to be productive, with an overall count of 35 finds during the 13 braces of competition. Not one brace went without birdwork.

Taking top honors as champion in the trial were awarded to Como Thunder and his handler, David Russell.

Como Thunder ran in the 11th brace of



Region 6 Amateur All-Age Championship Winners (l-r): Elton Bray (judge), David Russell, Gary McKibben with Como Thunder, Jonathan Burch (judge), David Williams, Matt Pendergest with Dialed In, Meghan Henry, Amy Pendergest, and Jim Pendergest.

the trial, which was pushed to the first hour brace on Sunday morning due to a severe storm on Saturday. During his brace, he had one find, two divided finds with bracemate Storm's End, an unproductive, and a back. Como Thunder's birdwork, handling, and up-front run impressed the judges to bestow the championship to him. Como Thunder is co-owned by Billy Blackwell, Doug Arthur, and David and Rachel Russell. The 4-year-old pointer male is white, liver, and ticked in coloration. Como Thunder's sire is Skyfall, and dame is Catch Me Dot.

Receiving the title of runner-up champion was Dialed In and her owner/ handler Jim Pendergest. At 10 years old, the white and orange pointer female hasn't missed a beat or let her years of competition slow her down. Dialed In ran in the 12th brace of the trial on the second course Sunday morning. She showed her bird-finding expertise with four impressive finds and a well-handled brace. Dialed In continues to show class and style, adding this title to her many championships.

The champion received an M & W bridle and rein set from Region 6, plus \$575 in Sportsman's Pride gift cards. The runner-up received an M & W breast collar from Region 6, plus \$400 in Sportsman's Pride gift cards. The officers of Region 6 AFTCA and the Buck Tuck Field Trial Club would like to thank all the handlers for their entries and express appreciation to all the individuals who helped make the trial a success.

#### Huntingdon, Tenn., December 8 Judges: Elton Bray and Jonathan Burch REGION 6 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 23 Pointers and 3 Setters

Winner-COMO THUNDER, 1687714, pointer male, by Skyfall-Catch Me Dot. B. K. & Rachel Blackwell, Doug Arthur & David Russell, owners; David Russell, handler. Runner-Up-DIALED IN, 1655274, pointer female, by Miller's Dialing In-Rester's Zumba Girl. Jim Pendergest, owner and handler.



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U. S. Complete National Open Invitational Championship Entries

The National Open Invitational was held in December 2023, with 12 dogs attending. This year's running was held at the Poston Farm in Pamplico, South Carolina. Last year's champion, Glassilaun War Paint, had been retired by his owner, Jamie Nee; therefore, he did not accept the invitation. Others invited but unable to attend were Double Deuce Sage due to whelp in January and Hirollins Gone And Doneit, recovering from tendon surgery. The standard for invitation is based on national points achieved from open placements during the year. When additional dogs are needed, the national secretary goes down the list until a replacement dog accepts. Often, these replacements are not notified until late; consequently, distance, conditioning, and personal schedules interfere with accepting the honor.

Those who accepted (listed here by braces for day one) were:

No. 1: Moonlite's Crown Jewel (PF), owned and handled by Frank Joyal from Vermont and North Carolina, and Warrior's Mean Louie (PM), owned and handled by Dennis Kivikko from Virginia.

No. 2: Grouse Hill Bullet Proof (ESM), owned by John Capocci and handled by Scott Forman from New York, and Mohawk Mill War Hawk (PM), owned by J. D. Waters and handled by Tony Bingham from North Carolina.

No. 3: Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella (PF), owned by Marty Fester and handled by Robert Ecker from Pennsylvania and North Carolina, and Suemac's Sashay (PF), owned by Roger, Susie, and Daulton McPherson, and handled by Mark Hughes from Pennsylvania.

No. 4: Backcountry Bruiser (PM),

owned and handled by Chris Catanzarite from Pennsylvania, and Smoke Rise Jake (PM), owned by P. F. Rose and handled by Tony Bingham from North Carolina.

No. 5: Ramapo Mountain Doc (PM), owned by Robert Shaban and handled by Robert Ecker from Pennsylvania and North Carolina, and Ms. Lady W (PF), owned and handled by Earl Drew from North Carolina.

No. 6: Double Deuce Zeke (PM), owned by Doug McMillan and handled by Mark Hughes from Pennsylvania, and Backcountry Missy (PF), owned and handled by Chris Catanzarite.

It is interesting to note that for this Invitational Open Championship, six open-trained and handled dogs attended, and six amateur-owned and handled dogs were invited. In today's economy, more amateur-owned and handled dogs compete weekly; therefore, there are larger than usual amateur handler qualified dogs. The dog is the key here, not the handler!

This year's location was on the Poston Farm in Pamplico, South Carolina. As handlers turned off Route 51 onto East Shirley Road, they were greeted by a large Purina banner announcing their arrival. As you turn right into the grounds, a dirt driveway takes you straight to the clubhouse and a large, mowed grass area with ample parking and room to stake out dogs and horses. Several folks travel with living quarters, and they, too, had ample room with access to water. The clubhouse served as a gathering place, outside and inside chairs. It also provided an easy serving area for lunches and Thursday evening's Purina Handlers' dinner. Lunch on Thursday was hot meatball grinders with homemade baked goods by Suzie Cammisa. On Friday, the buffet was warm "leftovers" from Thursday.

The course breaks away about halfway down the driveway toward Shirley Road. The dogs receive the whistle and head west across two open fields where the crop has been harvested and the ground smooth. On each side of these fields, there are feed crops along tree lines. At about 15 minutes, the course turns south into a long field fenced on the right westerly edge, as well as having a feed crop. On the left, there is additional bird cover and feed crop, as well as thick woods and water ditches. Ten minutes later, the course bends south easterly, crossing another harvested field and into a more natural area with plenty of quail habitat. At approximately 30 minutes, the course then passes the clubhouse and crosses the entry driveway. The territory here has more natural cover, a substantial wooded area, followed by open fields with feed plots and grass cover. As this course is basically a figure 8, we do cross one pathway before finishing on the far-left side of the opening fields. There were plenty of birds there, both from the pre-release coveys several months ago and the daily quail added by the club. The bird planter was Cliff Monroe. Thanks to Cliff, as well as to Warren Parrott, for supplying a vehicle with which he could maneuver the course.

Judges were landowner Rodney Poston and Joe Camissa from Butler, Pennsylvania. Rodney not only judged but was the perfect marshal. As Rodney raises quail for his "mini plantation," birds released were purchased from him.

Purina sent hats, banners, and food for entries. The winners received letters to have 12 and six large 37.5 lb. bags of Pro Plan Sport delivered to their homes. Smaller bags were provided to all dogs

that were entered. Garmin also supports U. S. Complete championships and will be sending product to the winners and the runner-up. The chairman for this championship was Tony Bingham, assisted by Cliff Monroe, National Secretary Jameson Crandall, and reporter Margaret Drew. The national secretary is responsible for all the points and keeping and sending invitations to attend. He also does the first drawing two days before the event. As the U. S. Complete Invitational is an average of two days, with a third day the option of the judges, day two was drawn on Thursday afternoon prior to dinner. Dog of the Day was awarded to Smoke Rise Jake. Three dogs were not eligible for the day two drawing due to errors in the first series. All participants were presented with a framed certificate of participation. U. S. Complete National President Chris Catanzarite was kept apprised of the progress throughout the fall. He was also involved with planning and had two dogs entered.

### The Winners

Four-year-old pointer male Smoke Rise Jake was named champion, with female pointer Suemac's Sashay named runner-up. These two dogs link back to Chasehill Little Bud. Sashay is the direct daughter of Bud, and Jake is a second generation through Stoney Run's Buddy, who was from Chasehill Little Bud (x Racie Kate). Both litters were from a January whelping; Jake is 6, and Sashay will be 10 in 2024. Jake had multiple pieces of birdwork on both days, with a strong ground race and good rapport with handler. Sashay scored finds both days with a consistent race.

### Day One Running

Called to the line by 8:15, the event commenced with Moonlite's Crown Jewel and bracemate Warrior's Mean Louie. It was a little chilly by South Carolina standards at 38 degrees and a slight breeze. The breeze continued for most of the morning, making good conditions for the dogs and handlers, although a jacket was needed for judging or gallery riding. Moonlite's Crown Jewel had a good race; she was very light on her feet and had a consistent ground race. At 48, we all thought we finally had a bird located when we found Jewel standing proudly on a knoll backing her bracemate, who was buried deep in the cover among bamboo saplings. Despite a thorough search and relocation attempt, no birds were flown. Louie's race was at a constant hunting range and always in hunt mode.

Brace No. 2 called the only setter, Grouse Hill Bullet Proof, to the line. Bullet Proof is a sharp-looking black and white setter with a forward race as he searched all possible objectives with no success. His bracemate Mohawk Mill War Hawk was with Tony Bingham. At 24, the course swings back toward the clubhouse through some good-looking quail habitat. The judge noted to Bingham that his dog had stopped to the front on the right. As handler went to flush, a deer jumped up and ran off-Mohawk Mill War Hawk stood obediently until handler approached and took him on. The dog's mind was distracted, and he was unable to focus on his hunting task following that experience. In 6 minutes, he snapped into a promising poise; however, no birds were flushed. He repeated this routine for another 4 minutes and was then leashed by handler. This resulted in his being unable to be drawn for day two.

Brace No. 3 found Robert Ecker with Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella and bracemate Suemac's Sashay with Mark Hughes. This pair were eagerly off the start line, showing a promise for quail to be located. Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella ran a snappy-gaited race, which grew stronger as her hour progressed. At 25, she was casting back toward handler after a determined cast when she scored a nice quail find. As her hour continued, she became independent, requiring Ecker to demand more of her. Suemac's Sashay gets recognition for having the first find of the stake. At 20 minutes, she was hunting right to left along a grassy edge when we watched her slow her gait and then turn into the cover. Her tail was soon seen as she staunched up to await handler. Quail were flushed, and with all in order, she was collared to the corner and whistled away. With this first find under her collar, she was energized and marched strongly forward. A few of her casts during the remaining 45 minutes were wide, and a few times, I thought she had been ridden by. This had been a good brace.

Lunch followed, with brace No. 4 on the line at 12:55. Backcountry Bruiser was braced with Smoke Rise Jake. The breakaway was quick and forward, with these two powerful pointers out to see who could locate the first quail in this hour. Their patterns showed a good hunting sense as to where to attempt location. At 16, the pair were standing, Jake scoring the find and Bruiser, a back. Good style and manners for both dogs. Bruiser required some firm commands by handler to keep him under control. He did score an unproductive and a nice find at 57. The judge noted he was a powerhouse on the ground. Smoke Rise Jake had a second find at 25 before crossing the entry driveway and was obediently healed across

the roadway to be whistled away as his bracemate caught the front. He had one additional find. He pointed with a high head and tail each time while staunchly awaiting flush.

Brace No. 5 was tapped to hunt at 2:16 with Ramapo Mountain Doc and bracemate Ms. Lady W. Ramapo Mountain Doc was fast on his feet off the breakaway, although settled into a sweeping hunting pattern. Along the fence by Route 51, he had quail flushed at 15. Your reporter did not see this part of the race as I was scouting my own dog; however, the judge reported that his finds were well-spaced and that he was fast on his feet. Ms. Lady W was forward with her bracemate in a tandem race until the second field. She cast to the left and out of sight, returning at 14 to continue down the left planted seed plot and disappear briefly. She was next seen well to the front, edging the crop field and into the cover. She ran an animated wide race, always forward, with a nonproductive at 54.

The final brace for day one was on the line at 3:46; Mark Hughes had Double Deuce Zake as bracemate for Backcountry Missy. This final afternoon brace was a challenging hour. Zeke had finds at 20 and 25. He and handler Hughes get the recognition for the first covey of the stake. The course crosses a wide bare crop field at 20; Zeke was forward and seen entering the standing feedstock. He pointed and then took a second step and firmed up. He awaited flush and shot. The remainder of his hour went downhill, as he developed a stubborn side of not responding to handler or scout. At pick-up time, he was found standing along the roadside fence near the 15-minute mark. As an electronic device was used, he was not eligible for day two.

Backcountry Missy was making her way southeasterly about 16 minutes into the hour. A bird was seen, and she was in the area, although she did stop. The judge deemed it a stop to flush and allowed her to continue. At 20, Missy had point called by scout on the wooded edge side of the harvested field. Missy had a bad day with additional nonproductives, scoring at 40 and 50. She was not invited to run on day two.

### Day Two Running

Friday morning found heavy frost on the ground, temps 29, causing the start time to be pushed back to 8:40. Chris Catanzarite brought Backcountry Bruiser to the line as bracemate with Ms. Lady W with Earl Drew. The two were forward at the sound of the whistle and release of the collar as if shot from a cannon. We watched them pass the two breaks in the fields and head toward the field along the fenced road



U. S. Complete National Open Invitational Championship Winners (I-r): Cliff Monroe, Tony Bingham with Smoke Rise Jake, Chris Catanzarite, Mark Hughes with Suemac's Sashey, Rodney Poston (judge), and Joe Camissa (judge).

along Highway 51. Bruiser was hunting appropriately to the front as we made the southerly turn; however, not stopping to indicate game. He continued a powerful march forward. When he entered the open area beyond the fenced neighbor, he skirted to the right through the standing feed plot. When a scout was dispatched, point was called. I did not see what happened; however, the report given to me was "he was picked up." Ms. Lady W was well to the front, crossed the ditch by the wooden scout bridge, and then headed south. When we could see her, she was in a determined searching gait; however, nothing stopped her until a large covey lifted as she cast toward the clubhouse after a long absence, and she chose not to stop. This short brace was a surprise to all.

Brace No. 2 was Ecker with Ramapo Mountain Doc and Bingham with Smoke Rise Jake. These two briefly displayed an unfavorable start, each doing "dog stuff" after a long night in their crates. Jake was first to begin a real hunting cast, traveling well to the left, where he was stopped by quail along a steep bank along a water channel. Scout called point at 5, where Jake stood shivering, proud and sure. Handler Bingham made his way down the embankment and thrashed around with the judge watching closely. Finally, a quail was seen running under branches. Shot was heard, and Jake awaited the handler to

return and take him on. After the handler led Jake toward the course, he was released to continue. He obediently moved forward and out of sight, entering the road field well ahead of his handler. From the front, we could hear Ecker and judge indicating that Jake was upfront. Judge Cammisa told Bingham to make his way through the middle cut so as to catch the front. Upon arrival at the far end of the field, Ecker and judge stated that they had not seen what had happened but thought Doc was backing. After looking the situation over, Bingham decided not to attempt flush, as he felt the two dogs were sight-pointing each other. Both dogs were taken forward and returned to hunt. This was a "nonevent." At 25, Jake pointed, although no birds were flown, and Doc, returning from a long cast, was watered as he approached the vicinity. Soon, both dogs were hunting to the front. At 34, Jake pointed, and Doc backed. There was a long flushing attempt. At 45, Jake had a nice covey find. Nearing 55, a hawk was seen lifting from the side, although no bird was seen, and Jake was spotted well to the front.

Brace No. 3 contained Grouse Hill Bullet Proof with Forman and Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella with Ecker. This pair had an eight-minute hesitant start, each checking in closely and not casting forward in a search for game. Once whistled on and encouraged by handlers, the hunting got started. At 28, Bullet Proof stood solid, facing a patch of seed crop, although with an old-fashioned style. To everyone's disappointment, a nonproductive was scored. At 50, both dogs were hunting where we could all watch; Bullet Proof showing his determined hunting mode, although ranging a little further as the hour progressed. Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella was making several long independent casts and had to catch handler on a few occasions on this second day. At 24, Ecker called point for her, and after a flushing attempt produced no quail, he declared a pile of feathers and collared Harper on.

Brace No. 4 followed the best "leftovers" lunch one could ask for. Suemac's Sashay, with Mark Hughes, hunted independently most of the hour, checking in enough to keep everyone watching. She scored a three-bird covey find at 56 as she neared the end of her thorough coverage of the course. Warrior's Mean Louie, with Dennis Kivikko, hunted the course with good application and nice style; however, a stop to flush ended his hour early.

The final brace had to run as a bye-dog; however, Moonlite's Crown Jewel did not seem to mind. Handler and owner Frank Joyal set out for a nice hour's hunt. Jewel checked the sides of the course as she should and continued a forward pattern. When the course changed terrain. she would check for handler. Nearing the clubhouse, she stopped with impressive style and remained staunch after two coveys flushed—one to her right side some 20 feet away with 12 birds ridden up by your reporter and the second flushed by handler on the far side of a downed tree in front of her. This time, 20 birds thundering skyward. One of the nicest pieces of birdwork in the stake. Handler did not finish his hour.

#### Pamplico, S. C., December 14 – One Course Judges: Joe Camissa and Rodney Poston U. S. COMPLETE NATIONAL OPEN INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats on Consecutive days; One-Hour Finals] – 11 Pointers and 1 Setter

Winner-SMOKE RISE JAKE, 1684876, pointer male, by Stoney Run's Buddy-Smoke Rise Mariah. P. F. Rose, owner; Tony Bingham, handler. Runner-Up-SUEMAC'S SASHAY, 1658242, pointer female, by Chasehill Little Bud-Richfield Stella. Roger, Susie & Daulton McPherson, owners; Mark Hughes, handler.

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### AMERICAN RED SETTER BIRD DOG CLUB 2023 Fall Trial By Al Fazenbaker | Rose Hill, North Carolina | December 15, 2023

The American Red Setter Bird Dog Club was formed in the summer of 2023 by a group of walking field trial enthusiasts who were interested in promoting walking trials, not only with red setters but with all breeds. The Board of Directors of the ARSBDC elected to run an inaugural trial in 2023, with a long-term goal of hosting an amateur championship on wild birds at some point in the near future. Thanks to the generosity of Joe and Brenda Edwards, we were able to host our first-ever field trial on the Six Runs Farms near Clinton, North Carolina.

The pinev woods and open croplands of coastal North Carolina are prime bird dog country, and we were so fortunate to have these fine grounds for our first trial. Home to the iconic Come Back Setters, Hall of Famer Joe and Brenda have hosted trials for many years, and this year drew a good number of dogs to the running. The grounds at Six Runs are ideally suited for running bird dogs, with a mix of pine woods, croplands, and long strips of lovegrass, ideal for holding birds tight. The Great Coharie Creek runs the boundaries of Six Runs, creating a natural boundary to keep errant dogs from leaving the grounds. This year, the weather started warm and dry, but then torrential rains resulted in the postponement of the running on the third day; over 5 inches of rain fell in one day at Six Runs. In nearby Wilmington, North Carolina, some areas received over 6 inches! Because of the extensive rain, a majority of Six Runs Farm was underwater, and even after a day of postponement, the waters of the Great Coharie Creek continued to rise. The next day, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Roger Boser, we moved the trial to Dr. Boser's property, where we were able to finish the last stake of the trial as the waters came out of the banks and crept across the field trial grounds. As the saying goes, you can't mess with Mother Nature!

Our judging staff was well experienced and brought with them many years of working with bird dogs. Jeremy Estep (Troy, Pennsylvania), Andy Weik (Freeville, New York), Joe Edwards (Rose Hill, North Carolina), Allen Fazenbaker (Kingsville, Ohio), and Sean Melvin (Garland, North Carolina) all gave of their time to watch dogs during this trial.

No trial can be conducted successfully without help from willing volunteers and sponsors. The most important function of



Open Derby Winner (l-r): Joe Edwards (judge), Roger Boser with Shotput, and Jeremy Estep (judge).

planting birds was very well accomplished by Karen Vaughn and Milt Schafer, who ensured a plentiful supply of birds in the fields and in the places where birds would be found. Deborah Fazenbaker, Brenda Edwards, and Linda Coppedge all worked overtime to keep everyone attending wellfed. Tom and Linda Coppedge donated an absolutely delicious meal of BBQ pulled pork with all the trimmings. Andy Weik cooked up a great meal of venison chili, and Deborah Fazenbaker baked a wonderful pork sausage lasagna. The ladies baked enough desserts and cookies to feed an army; no one was hungry during this trial!

I would be remiss, not to mention some folks who were essential to the success of this trial. Joe and Brenda Edwards offered not only the grounds but also their side-by-side for bird planting and the use of their horses for judging. Dr. Roger Boser offered the use of his grounds so that we would be able to finish the trial after the flooding, and he also offered the use of his horses for judging as well. Sean Melvin also offered the use of his horses and took time out of his workweek to assist with judging after the change of venue due to the flooding. Allen and Deborah Fazenbaker opened their home in Ingold, North Carolina, to host participants for the draw and evening meals. Dr. Boser likewise graciously opened his home near Garland, North Carolina, to feed the trialers on the last day of the trial. These folks were exceptional and very giving of their time and resources, and this is a testament to what William F. Brown called the "Gentleman's Sport." It was certainly evident this week.

A special thanks goes out to Purina, a stalwart in the support of our sport. Purina offers a high-quality product backed by



Open Horseback Shooting Dog Winners (I-r): AI Fazenbaker (judge), Joe Edwards with Come Back Trump, Mike Fox with Black River Ruby, Jeremy Estep (judge), Roger Boser, and Tom Coppedge.

research; please consider Purina when feeding your future champion! Our walking events were sanctioned by the National Bird Hunters Association, and we are grateful for the support offered by NBHA. This organization gives full support to walking field trials and the improvement of walking field trials and bird hunters. SportDOG also supported our trial; consider SportDOG when choosing your electronic training needs. They offer a high-quality product that produces winning dogs!

We also want to thank the professional trainers who took the time to attend and enter dogs. This trial would not have been successful without the help of Calvin Curnutte (Jackson Springs, North Carolina), Daniel Bell (Kenansville, North Carolina), and Sean Melvin.

### The Running

The trial opened Friday with the Open Puppy. Taking the blue was Andy Weik with "Birdy," an unregistered German Shorthaired pointer, who showed a wide race but handled nicely.

The Open Walking Derby was taken by Ruff Country Simply Ginger, a forward-going red setter who kept to the front and had several nice derby broke finds for her handler, Andy Weik. Close on her heels was CC Lenni Lenape, a nice moving red setter male who showed broke manners on his birds. Lenni was handled by Al Fazenbaker. Stump Hill Farms Toby, an English setter male, rounded out the placements for his handler, Daniel Bell.

The Open Walking Shooting Dog commenced immediately after the Derby on Friday with a respectable entry of 11 dogs. Winning the stake was Conneaut Creek Scenic River, a red setter male



Open Walking Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): AI Fazenbaker with Conneaut Creek Scenic River, Andy Weik (judge), Mike Fox with Foxy Lady Sadie, Tom Coppedge, and Sean Melvin with Black River Sue.

handled by Al Fazenbaker. River showed a forward and purposeful race, with four nicely handled finds. Taking the red was Foxy Lady Sadie for handler Mike Fox. Sean Melvin handled Black River Sue to a third-place finish.

Saturday brought warmer weather, with weather forecasts predicting intense rain the next day. The Open Horseback Derby started the day with a small entry, won decisively by Shotput, a red setter female handled by Dr. Boser.

The Open Horseback Shooting Dog followed immediately after the Derby. Taking the blue was Come Back Trump, Joe Edward's veteran red setter, who showed a wide and forward race and was always found standing for the judges. Black River Ruby, a setter female, was close behind for handler Sean Melvin, with a wide race and excellent birdwork. Gratitude took the yellow for handler Dr. Boser, with impeccable manners and a slightly shorter race.

With the threat of rain on the horizon, the Amateur Walking Shooting Dog commenced immediately after lunch. Mike Fox's Foxy Lady Sadie garnered the blue with a wide and forward race and multiple bird finds. Conneaut Creek Scenic River was in the number two slot with a productive and forward race for his handler, Al Fazenbaker.

Sunday morning brought torrential rain, with some areas receiving more than 5 inches in 12 hours. With high winds, driving rain, and local rivers coming out of their banks, it was decided to postpone the Amateur Horseback Shooting Dog to



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Joe Edwards with Come Back Trump, Sean Melvin (judge), Roger Boser with Gratitude, Al Fazenbaker (judge), and Brenda Edwards with Come Back Little Bit.

Monday. By Monday morning, much of the Six Runs farm was underwater and was not safe to traverse for man, dog, or horse. The decision was made to move the stake to Dr. Boser's farm, and he graciously opened his land and home to the trialers. The stake was completed by Monday afternoon, with the river literally licking at our heels as we finished the last brace. Come Back Trump, continuing his winning ways, took the blue for Joe Edwards. Gratitude locked in a second-place finish for Dr. Boser, and Joe Edwards followed with Come Back Little Bit. After the announcements, everyone retired to Dr. Boser's place for a meal of venison chili and all the fixings, courtesy of Andy Weik and Deborah Fazenbaker.

This concluded the inaugural field trial for the American Red Setter Bird Dog Club. We hope you will join us for future trials as we continue to showcase dogs on the walking field trial circuit. Visit us on Facebook or at https://www.arsbdc.com/ for info on upcoming events!

> Rose Hill, N. C., December 15 Judges: Jeremy Estep and Al Fazenbaker NBHA OPEN PUPPY – 1 Irish Setter, and 2 German Shorthairs

*lst-BIRDY, unreg., German Shorthair female, breeding not given. Andy Weik, owner and handler.* 

#### Judges: Joe Edwards and Sean Melvin NBHA OPEN DERBY – 1 Pointer, 3 Setters, and 2 Irish Setters

1st-RUFF COUNTRY SIMIPLY GINGER, 1703466, Irish setter female, by Zansett Simply Red-Come Back Stellar. Andy Weik, owner and handler.

2d-CC LENNI LENAPI, 1705228, Irish setter female, by Silver Creek Wild Again-Roses Are Red. Al Fazenbaker, owner and handler.

3d-STUMP HILL FARMS TOBY, 1705401, setter male, by Southwin Wind Dancer-Carpenter's Stardust Mollie. Daniel Bell, owner and handler.

#### Judges: Joe Edwards and Andy Weik NBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 3 Setters and 8 Irish Setters

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-FOXY LADY SADIE, 1691626, Irish setter female, by Zansett Simply Red-Foxy's Lil Red Missy. Mike Fox, owner and handler.

3d-BLACK RIVER SUE, 1681700, setter female, by Joe Is Hot-Rose Hill Sally. Wendell Evans, owner; Sean Melvin, handler.

#### Judges: Jeremy Estep and Joe Edwards NBHA OPEN DERBY – 3 Irish Setters

1st-SHOTPUT, 1704405, female, by Gratitude-Slingshot. Roger Boser, owner and handler.

#### Judges: Jeremy Estep and Al Fazenbaker NBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 3 Pointers, 4 Setters and 2 Irish Setters

1st-COME BACK TRUMP, 1673917, setter male, by Come Back Audie-Celtic's Spectacular. Joe Edwards, owner and handler.

2d-BLACK RIVER RUBY, 1663048, setter female, by Rose Hill Bill-Rose Hill Mariah. Wendell Evans Jr., owner; Sean Melvin, handler.

3d-GRATITUDE, 1676458, Irish setter male, by Come Back Cutter-Come Back Doodle. Roger Boser, owner and handler.

#### Judges: Al Fazenbaker and Sean Melvin NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats] – 6 Entries

1st-COME BACK TRUMP, 1673917, setter male, by Come Back Audie-Celtic's Spectacular. Joe Edwards, owner and handler.

2d-GRATITUDE, 1676458, Irish setter male, by Come Back Cutter-Come Back Doodle. Roger Boser, owner and handler.

3d-COME BACK LITTLE BIT, 1676023, Irish setter female, by Come Back Cutter-Come Back Bee Gee. Joe Edwards, owner and handler.

### Judges: Jeremy Estep and Sean Melvin NBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

#### [One-Hour Heats] - 1 Setter and 5 Irish Setters

Ist-FOXY LADY SADIE, 1691626, Irish setter female, by Zansett Simply Red-Foxy's Lil Red Missy. Mike Fox, owner and handler.

2d-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.

#### 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.

For your trial ad to appear in print, please see the deadlines on page 72.

### MID-SOUTH AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUB Annual Trial Held At Hell Creek By Ken Walker | Blue Mountain, Mississippi | December 15, 2023

The Mid-South Field Trial Club held Lits annual renewal on December 15-17, 2023, at the Hell Creek WMA in Blue Mountain, Mississippi. Due to many conflicting trial dates in the area, this year's entry was down from previous years' running. Nonetheless, ideal weather prevailed, and all the winners this year were well-deserving. Special thanks to Chris Weatherly, who rode the judicial saddle for all three stakes. Joining Chris this year were Mike Small, Joey McAlexander, and Jeremy Taylor, who pitched in to sort out the shooting dogs, derbies, and all-age dogs respectfully.

One highlight this year was 79-year-old Billy Blackwell saddling up once again to guide all-age first-place winner Como Rain to a two-find performance. Rachel, David, and the grandkids were all there to witness! Other stake winners are shown below.

#### Blue Mountain, Miss., December 15 Judges: Mike Small and Chris Weatherly AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] – 7 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-THE LOVELY LADY MAY, 1702016, pointer female, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Gal Gadot. Joe & Tessa Hughes, owners.

2d-J MAPLE JESTER, 1675700, pointer female, by J Maple Jake-Coldwater Queen Kate. Joe & Tessa Hughes, owners.

3d-COOPER'S REBEL BUDDY, 1692027, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Game Snow. Bryce Cooper, owner and handler.



Amateur All-Age Winners (l-r): Jeremy Taylor (judge), Billy Blackwell with Como Rain, David Russell with Haney's Hurricane Seeker, Rachel Russell, Billy's grandkids, and Chris Weatherly (judge). Not pictured: Cochise B for Dr. Marion Brown.

Judges: Joey McAlexander and Chris Weatherly AMATEUR DERBY – 8 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st-COLDWATER CRACKERJACK, 1702009, pointer male, by Coldwater Odyssey-Coldwater Fancy Like. Gary McKibben, owner and handler.

2d-MISS ARKANSAS, 1705667, pointer female, by Lester's Storm Surge-Game Snow. Mike Lemons, owner and handler.

3d-MOJO RISIN, 1702108, pointer male, by Lester's Storm Surge-Welsh's All In. Jeremy & Tammy Taylor, owners; Jeremy Taylor, handler. Judges: Jeremy Taylor and Chris Weatherly AMATEUR ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 8 Pointers and 2 Setters

Ist-COMO RAIN, 1687713, pointer male, by Skyfall-Catch Me Dot. B. K. & Rachel Blackwell & David Russell, owners; Billy Blackwell, handler.

2d-HANEY'S HURRICANE SEEKER, 1698759, pointer male, by Ransom-Haney's North Star. David Russell, owner and handler.

3d-COCHISE B, 1695918, setter male, by Shagtime Max-Shagtime Hope. Marion Brown, owner and handler.

## REELFOOT FIELD TRIAL CLUB Second OVFTC Event of The Season By Mary Sue Schalk | Kevil, Kentucky | December 15, 2023

The Reelfoot Field Trial Club hosted L the second Ohio Valley Field Trial Circuit event of the 2023-24 season on December 15-16, 2023. Once again, the field trial goers were met with fair weather and missed most of the rain that came in at the conclusion of running on Saturday. With tradition, the past several years of this event, Joe Hopkins of London, Kentucky, and Michael Kennedy of Opelika, Alabama, returned to judge some of the stakes. James Kleve of Paris, Kentucky, and Alan Benson of Cutler, Illinois, also stepped in to judge, allowing all judges to compete. The judges' panels combined experience, enthusiasm, and passion for the sport, providing a well-rounded pair for all

three open stakes.

The Open All-Age stake drew six entries-five pointers and one English setter. James Kleve and Michael Kennedy served as the judges for the first event of the weekend. In the first hour, Seven of Diamonds had the lone find of the all-age stake before the handicap lake. The English setter, owned and handled by Joe Hopkins, ran a strong hour and handled his single find well. Drawing the second hour, Pleasant Run Sally bested the field with her forward, classy performance. She and her bracemate, Crouse's Quiet Man, put on a true all-age performance, running strong throughout the hour. The 3-yearold pointer female earned first place for

owner/handler David Hendricks of Russellville, Kentucky. Crouse's Tennessee Game Kate returned to the winners' circle for owner/handler Mike Crouse. During the third hour, Game Kate met the edges with gusto and ran strong throughout the hour. The white 4-year-old pointer female came from behind after an absence near the halfway point but recovered with a strong finish down the power line for the second-place spot. Finishing out the placements for the Reelfoot Open All-Age stake in third place was Crouse's Quiet Man. His aggressive ground coverage kept the gallery forward in their saddles as he was paired with first-place dog Pleasant Run Sally. "Duke," a 5-year-old black and



Open Shooting Dog Winners (I-r): Vincent Major, James Kleve (judge), Cora Clary (scout) with Crouse's Total Eclipse, Joe Hopkins (owner/handler), Michael Kennedy (scout) with No Leaf Clover, Alan Benson (judge), and M. D. Crouse (owner/handler) with Crouse's Pond River Gus.

white pointer male, is owned and handled by Mike Crouse.

The Reelfoot Open Derby stake began immediately at the conclusion of the Open All-Age stake. Joe Hopkins and Michael Kennedy served on the judicial panel for this stake of three English setters and five pointers. Two braces ran Friday afternoon, with the remaining braces wrapping up Saturday morning. The two pointers earning first and second place ran Saturday morning. Both liver and white pointer males. Crouse's Comeback Kid and Crouse's Prairie Spirit, are littermates raised by Alan Benson of Cutler, Illinois. Crouse's Comeback Kid is owned by the father/daughter team of Mike Crouse and Mary Sue Schalk of Dixon, Kentucky. Schalk handled "Ted" to the first-place spot as he scoured the countryside for 30 minutes. He handled well for a strong, young dog, thus earning placement. Crouse's Prairie Spirit is owned by Janice Benson and handled by Alan Benson. "Will" exhibited similar qualities as his brother, strong and forward; however, sometimes lateral, his second-place finish was well earned in his very first field trial. Grouse Feather Knighthawk, an English setter male owned by Allen Dunbar of Oconto, Wisconsin, was handled by Pete Glass of Pembroke, Kentucky, to the third-place spot. The English setter moved well, hunted diligently, and responded well to his handler.

The Derby stake drew a fair number and a strong field; always enjoyable to watch the up-and-comers.

James Kleve returned to the judge's saddle with Alan Benson to sort the



Open Derby Winners (I-r): Cora Clary, Mary Sue Schalk (owner/ handler), James Kleve, M. D. Crouse (scout) with Crouse's Comeback Kid, Alan Benson (handler), Ben Weddington (scout) with Crouse's Prairie Spirit, Michael Kennedy (judge), and Joe Hopkins (judge). (Not pictured): Grouse Feather Knighthawk.

eight-dog Open Shooting Dog stake. Three English setters and five pointers made the field. Super scout Cora Clary returned for the weekend and scouted the first and third-place dogs in the stake. Crouse's Total Eclipse, a black and white pointer female, won the stake for owner/handler Mike Crouse by convincingly showing to the front over the course of her hour. She ran the second hour with second place dog, English setter, No Leaf Clover. "Finn" is owned by Joe and Brittany Hopkins and handled by Joe Hopkins of London, Kentucky. With the top two dogs coming out of the second hour, you can imagine the enjoyment that was had during the hour. Rounding out the field was Crouse's Pond River Gus, owned by the Schalk/Crouse team and handled by Mike Crouse. Gus started off slow but progressed throughout the hour, carving out his spot on the podium. Another fair entry for our Open Shooting Dog stake and a nice selection of dogs for the judges to discuss.

To all participants and volunteers, we say thank you! We certainly could not have these events without the support of our volunteers and sponsors. A big shout out to Greg Blair and Purina. Each club in the Ohio Valley Field Trial Circuit receives Purina dog food for prizes. Also, this year, we have received support from SportDOG, as they are providing some collars for prizes and collars for the top dogs on the circuit at the end of the season. Many thanks to our judges and our dog wagon driver, Vincent Major. A big thank you to the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area team. We are very fortunate in Western Kentucky to be able to utilize public grounds for horseback field trials,



Open All-Age Winners (I-r): Pete Glass (scout), David Henricks (owner/handler) with Pleasant Run Sally, Michael Kennedy (judge), James Kleve (judge) with Crouse's Tennessee Game Kate, and Mike Crouse (owner/handler) with Crouse's Quiet Man.

and we appreciate the work that the WMA employees do to keep the grounds ready. The WMA serves both the Ohio Valley Field Trial Circuit and Region 4. To those working hard, playing hard, and chasing bird dogs - keep at it, and best of luck this season!

#### Kevil, Ky., December 15 Judges: Michael Kennedy and James Kleve OPEN ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats] – 5 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st-PLEASANT RUN SALLY, 1695714, pointer female, by Valiant-Haney's North Star. David Hendricks, owner and handler.

2d-CROUSE'S TENNESSEE GAME KATE, 1685162, pointer female, by Game Wardon-Tennessee Coldwater Pearl. M. D. Crouse & Mary Sue Schalk, owners; M. D. Crouse, handler.

3d-CROUSE'S QUIET MAN, 1685396, pointer male, by Crouse's Ebony Masterpiece-Crouse's Gerri Wind. M. D. Crouse, owner and handler.

#### Judges: Joe Hopkins and Michael Kennedy OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers and 3 Setters

Ist-CROUSE'S COMEBACK KID, 1701214, pointer male, by Crouse's Heart of Dixon-Crouse's Skiptomylu. M. D. Crouse & Mary Sue Schalk, owners; Mary Sue Schalk, handler.

2d-CROUSE'S PRAIRIE SPIRIT, 1705219, pointer male, by Crouse's Heart of Dixie-Crouse's Skiptomylu. Janice E. Benson, owner: Alan Benson, handler.

3d-GROUSE FEATHER KNIGHTHAWK, 1703408, setter male, by Grouse Feather Hawk-GF Southern Belle. Allen Dunbar, owner; Pete Glass, handler.

#### Judges: Alan Benson and James Kleve OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] – 5 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st-CROUSE'S TOTAL ECLIPSE, 1673980, pointer female, by Crouse's Ebony Masterpiece-Crouse's Gerri Wind. M. D. Crouse, owner and handler.

2d-CROUSE'S POND RIVER GUS, 1680453, pointer male, by Lester's Sunny Hill Jo-Crouse's Pine Landy. M. D. Crouse & Mary Sue Schalk, owners; M. D. Crouse, handler.

Consistent advertising can make your kennel or business a household name!

### NORTH CAROLINA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP Hard Truth Named Champion; Chelsea's Mae West, Runner-Up By Margaret C. Drew | Hoffman, North Carolina | December 18, 2023

The North Carolina Championship has had a floating date since early 2000. For several years, it ran in partnership with the United States Quail Futurity. Sixty years ago, a group of hunters worked with the NC wildlife commissioners to establish the U. S. Quail Futurity. It was shortly thereafter that the Open Shooting Dog Classic became the North Carolina Championship.

In early 1968, the NC Wildlife Commission proposed а 10-year development plan for 950 of these acres. A substantial portion of the field trial area was already in blocks of sericea lespedeza. About 87 acres of these blocks were within the proposed 31-mile planted strips. In 2023, this is nearer 32 miles. At the end of the initially proposed 10-year time frame, this 31-mile planted strip would contain 782 acres of sericea lespedeza and 84 acres of rye and millet for a total of 950 planted acres. The work on what we now know as the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds began in 1949; however, the first field trial was not held until 1954. By 1970, the NC Wildlife Commission expressed that the area had developed a favorable environment, and they wanted to attract more outsiders. As the decline of quail progressed everywhere, a plan to release coveys of quail was adopted in 1981. A tractor and spreader were purchased for feeding, and planned crops have continued. There is a five-year plan that provides for burning on courses. In early 2000, an additional course loop was constructed behind the barn, bringing the total number of courses to six. These six courses are about 6 miles long and used only once daily. Each course has a start sign, which reads "start of heat 1," etc. In 2023, the state added road signs on dirt roads and safety markers along the courses. These small square markers denote where you are on each course by mileage. EMS would be able to assist if necessary.

Today, these six courses are maintained by the state and planted by the same. The NC Association purchases and releases 5,000 quail annually. The association purchases millett and owns a tractor and spreader with which the six courses are fed on a regular basis. Water is put out, although the grounds do have some manmade water holes, brooks, and lakes. During this championship, the bird count was good: 13 on day one, six on day two, five on day three, five on day four, four



North Carolina Open Shooting Dog Championship Winners (front, I-r): Kaley Lee with Hard Truth, Hunter Prevatte with Chelsea's Mae West, Ed Jesson with Upfront's Southern Star (honorable mention), and Jett Ferebee with Hatteras Rip Tide (honorable mention). (Behind): Doug Ray with new trophy, Greg Robinson (wagon driver), Margaret Drew (reporter), Shawn Kinkelaar with new trophy, Chad Wheeler (judge), Chris Catanzarite (judge), and Calvin Curnutte Sr. with honorable mention ribbons.

on day five, and on the final day four, but remember the final day was derbies and half a day.

The grounds at Hoffman are among the best in the country. When the wildlife commissioners established the Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, their objective was to have the best grounds and attract the best dogs to the area. With an entry of 54 shooting dogs, followed by a 28-dog derby, success can be hailed in all areas. The income brought to the area in revenue from fuel, lodging, and restaurants is noteworthy. When folks come to Hoffman, they tell about how exciting it is to ride the braces and even more to release and guide a dog over the courses. When birds are flown over your dog at Hoffman, it feels like a celebration; after all, it is usually a covey of quail, not just singles. These coveys were from 4 to 20 birds. The sight and sound of the covey lifting and to see the dog standing straight and firm, his tail poker straight and his head pointing skyward, is a thrill for all. (If you have never been to Hoffman to see this, please join us). Every weekend there is a trial; the wagon is free and available for anyone to ride. It leaves the clubhouse at 8 a.m. and, following lunch, leaves again in the neighborhood of 1:30. Each trip is roughly 4 hours to cover the three courses.

To enter a championship at Hoffman is a chance to earn a prestigious honor. In the North Carolina Championship this year, there were at least 36 champions seeking their next championship.

As I have heard, field trialing is not just a sport but a culture on its own. The characters you meet are real, and their stories are real with some exaggeration as stories get retold. Bird dogs are bred to run and point whatever game bird is in the environment you release your dog in.

In July of 2023, the annual N. C. Field Association held its annual meeting at the Hoffman Field Trial clubhouse. It is at that time each July that all clubs meet to elect officers, recognize the top dog winners, and draw dates for the coming field trial season, which runs from October to the end of March. The president of the association is the normal chair of the North Carolina Championship; however, for the 2023 season, President Johnny Atkinson asked Calvin Curnutte to fill the chairmanship role. Calvin did an excellent job revising the trophies given to the winners and judges and adding a 30-minute Derby stake. Calvin also asked the judges to recognize two additional dogs. These two additional dogs received a 10% check. Calvin and his father prepared and served lunch daily. On Tuesday evening, there was the Purina Handlers' Dinner.

There had been a silver bowl with silver cups recognizing each year's winner; however, when the clubhouse went through a renovation several years ago, it turned up among some other missing items. The new symbol for the North Carolina Championship is an eye-appealing black metal silhouette of a man on a horse, hat indicating point over a standing dog. The wooden base came from an aged barn board from the Hoffman Barn. (Yes, the board was obtained with permission from the wildlife and replaced with a new board). There is a brass nameplate indicating the year and champion or runner-up champion. The judge's gift has a second horse with a mounted judge viewing the mounted handler and dog.

There is a state-provided and maintained wagon for dogs and people at the Hoffman grounds. There are 10 kennels on the bottom of the wagon, with hay and safety-locking dog boxes. Above the dogs, there are benches on each side. There are cushions available for those who wish to use them. There is water for handlers to refill water jugs or wet a dog down when it is hot. The wagon is pulled by a truck owned by a "wagon driver." This year, the driver is Greg Robinson, who knows the roads and loves the dogs. Greg checks and cleans the dog boxes as needed. He also has snacks, fruit, water, and coffee for everyone to share at various break times.

The sponsor for the North Carolina Championship has been and still is Purina. Purina Sport meal is given to the winners, as well as this being a points trial toward the annual Purina Dog of the Year awards. DC Birddogs provided judges' books.

### **The Winners**

The orange and white pointer male, Hard Truth, with Ray, was down at 8:47 due to early pick-ups in brace No. 13. We watched him power up the hillside and cross the road at the old bunkers area at 21. He was always far forward and moved with eye appeal and strength for the full 60 minutes. The judge's report was a divided find at halfway. Both dogs tight and positive for wing and shot. Hard Truth had an admirable ground race from beginning to end, never showing hesitation. Along Derby Road, his scout traveled along the highway; however, point was then called to the front and on the right of the course where he belonged. This well-located covey at 47 sealed it for a placement of some kind. That kind being: CHAMPION. He was intense on point. Jamie Daniels had the litter with Erin's Redrum x Pearl Again. He placed in four futurities, with a first placement in the New England Futurity. He is owned by Bob Canada, who missed a weekend of his life with bird dogs-Hard Truth winning this Championship and his derby, Miller's Upgraded Patent, winning the companion Derby. Patent is co-owned with handler Doug Ray's father, Harold.

Shawn Kinkelaar guided pointer female Chelsea's Mae West for her reaching tour of the course as she ranged forward. She required a little scouting and was seen making appropriate casts as we made our way toward the road crossing below the barn. Mae West had a nice find at 3 before continuing a front-running animated race. At 39, she stood proud and sure for handler to flush a covey. In the far back part of course 6, Mae West appeared to be missing; however, she returned with 4 minutes to spare. Her range was pleasing as she busily investigated likely bird cover. She finished going away strong with plenty of energy still in the tank. Mae West is owned by Ron Prewitt and Brad Sadler. She began her early birddog development and exposure to birds under the supervision of Brad Sadler and Jamie Daniels. Her sire, Chelsea's Thunder Bolt, had been bred to Chelsea's Southern Chic. Mae West has accumulated three championships, three runners-up, and a Quail Futurity win here on the Hoffman Grounds.

A new introduction to the championship this year was two honorable mentions for a 10% bon oa. These went to Upfront's Southern Star, a pointer female with Shawn Kinkelaar from brace No. 10, and Hatteras Rip Tide, a setter male with Doug Ray. You can read about these two in the dialogue below.

### The Running

By 8:04 a.m. on December 18, Trial Chairman Calvin Curnutte had introduced the judges, given a few details concerning the day's event, and turned the trial over to the judges, Chris Catanzarite and Chad Wheeler. Course 4 opened the route for the next six days. The afternoon braces were run on courses 1-3. Each course was used only one time a day.

Brace No. 1 called Matt Basilone, with pointer male Hirollins Bad Boy as bracemate for Smoke Rise Jake, a pointer male with Tony Bingham. The pair got right down to the business of hunting, rounded the corner, and were out of sight in quick time. When scout Hester did not return with the dog, Basilone rounded Hirollins Bad Boy up himself. By 20, with dog at heal, he was returning to the course when the dog stopped and stood statue still for handler to dismount for flush and shot. He made some good casts, although not seen much. His paw prints indicated he often chose the easy path. At 40, scout called point with all in order. Smoke Rise Jake was not seen from the breakaway until 30 when he was returned by another handler on a rope. The handler reported he found him running down the road. Jake's handler, Tony Bingham, had taken the GPS unit at 25

Brace No. 2 had CS Four Season's

Gunner, a pointer male with Doug Ray, and Heisman, a pointer male with Mike Hester. CS Four Season's Gunner started slowly, checking with handler several times; however, he increased his hunting range with enthusiasm as the hour went on. He scored a find at 40 and a nonproductive at 46. He may have been able to relocate if his bracemate had not returned and raced on by the area while Gunner was checking out the sights and smells. His style standing on point was erect and solid. Heisman had a nonproductive at 43 just before climbing the hill to cross below the clubhouse. Heisman started his hour with plenty of energy but shortened his range and power as the hour continued.

Brace No. 3 had Emert's Grouse Ringer T, a setter male with Tony Bingham, and Absolute Tornado, a pointer male with Doug Ray. Ringer is an attractive black and white setter who runs with a classy gait, although he needed a little adjustment to his forward pattern today. Tornado covered the course with a strong and fancy motion. Nearing 43, while riding to his dog, who was pointing to the front, handler Ray rode up a covey. Nearing the downed brush near Tornado, a second covey lifted. Shot was taken with all in order.

Brace No. 4 followed lunch, this time on course 1 across from the clubhouse. Calvin Curnutte walked setter male Aristotle to the line, accompanied by Tony Bingham with pointer male Smoke Rise Bull. Aristotle put down a fancy gait as he stretched side to side; however, he and bracemate were often in tandem. Smoke Rise Bull was on the ground for about 44 minutes, often with bracemate. Handlers attempted to distract and get their charges to hunt independently. Bull scored two finds; however, he went to a casual attitude. He did not make the hour under consideration.

Brace No. 5 had Matt Basilone with pointer female Smoke'N'Mirrors as bracemate for Two Spot Tommy, a pointer male with Doug Ray. Smoke'N'Mirrors had a very long opening cast, returning at 16 minutes. His range was medium following 20 minutes, and his race was somewhat inconsistent with woods hunting and path running. On one of his off-the-path tours, he scored an attractive poise for a nice covey to be flown at 35. Two Spot Tommy passed McGee's Castle and hunted well forward. At 14, he had point called as he moved forward into tall grass. He stood nicely on point; however, after handler made a thorough search and no quail were flown, Tommy was tapped to relocate. He took a few steps, and a 12-bird covey lifted. He was roaded back to the clubhouse

Brace No. 6 was whistled on to complete

the afternoon at 3:46. T's American Outlaw, a setter male with Tony Bingham, and Mike Hester with pointer male Quickmarksman's Dan. Outlaw lived up to his name, choosing to hunt wherever he wished and not willing to listen to handler or turn with scout. By 37, handler Bingham took the GPS. Quickmarksman's Dan was in and out as he covered the course, starting with a close hunting range. As his hour extended, he reached more to the front, scoring a find at 54.

Brace No. 7 was on the ground at 7:58 a.m. with setter male Due Respect with Shawn Kinkelaar, as bracemate with Hatteras Sand Storm, a setter male under the whistle of Doug Ray. Respect rocketed to the front and disappeared. A GPS was required. Sand Storm had a swinging, strong race with a covey find at 13 minutes. Unfortunately, he had nonproductives at 35 and 45; therefore, an early pick-up was required.

Brace No. 8 called Smoke Rise Hanna, a pointer female with Tony Bingham. She began her challenge as the temperature rose to a good dog-hunting level under bright skies. After a lengthy spell of not being seen, handler requested the GPS. She was up before the bunker area. Bracemate Greypointe Nubarron, a pointer male with Calvin Curnutte, was into the hunt mode as soon as he was released. He had good range and hunted well. He scored a covey find at 22, where he excitedly watched their flight. He continued to hunt forward and more carefully following his find. He had a nonproductive at 48. When he attempted to assist with flushing, he was leashed.

Brace No. 9 was on the standard course 6, which normally breaks away behind the barn into overgrown fields and then opens into piney woods with lots of warm season grasses and love grass. With early pick-ups in preceding braces, the brace started about 25 minutes early. Kinkelaar had pointer female Chelsea's Mae West as bracemate with Marques Armed Bandit, a pointer male with Lefty Henry. Both dogs ranged forward, required a little scouting, and were seen making appropriate casts as we made our way toward the road crossing below the barn. When point was called for Bandit and handler approached, Bandit began to self-relocate and was leased. Chelsea's Mae West's performance is covered under the winners as the runner-up champion.

Brace No. 10 had Quickmarksman's Excalibur, a pointer male with Mike Hester, and Upfront's Southern Star, a pointer female with Kinkelaar. The pair hunted to our front with many lateral casts as well. In the long mile field, both dogs were appropriately covering the territory.

At 25, Excalibur had an unproductive, despite a noteworthy attempt to relocate. He did not complete his hour. Southern Star made mature casts and showed herself to be classy and very sharp on point. She had a find at 44 with all in order. Her second point came when she was found after time. As time was called, she had been seen at the top of the hill before the course 2 signposts; however, when time was called, she was missing. Handler and judges rode forward; however, when not seen, scout and handler went back to her last seen location. When point was called, judge went to the location, down over a little knoll where time had been called. She stood erect and solid, refused to move when tapped on, and remained locked up as a covey was flushed by handler.

Brace No. 11 was off at 2:29 with Woodlands Ridge Jim, a setter male with Calvin Curnutte, and setter male Lincoln County Jack with Tony Bingham. In the still chilly air, Jack was bound to warm up, and he did with a positive launch forward. He failed to return, and a GPS was taken. Jack was found quickly, standing on a nice double covey. Jim has a very white and slightly framed body with good motion while covering the ground. He ranged well for the first 30 minutes; however, when birds were not found, he narrowed his search and was picked up at 45 minutes.

Brace No. 12 would complete day two with Doug Ray commanding the white setter male Hatteras Rip Tide as bracemate for Matt Basilone with the black-headed setter male, The Gray Ghost. Ghost's owner was present to watch. The judge commented, "These were the best pair of stylish dogs with the best ground race so far." Unfortunately, Ghost had a nonproductive at 48. As Rip Tide was touring well to the front, he had point called; however, neither judge had seen the birds lift.

Brace No. 13 once again called upon Kinkelaar and Bingham. This time, Kinkelaar had pointer female Hale's Smooth Touch, and Bingham had setter male Hirollins All American. The early morning frost did not distract these two, with Touch checking everything that flew with slight discrimination as to whether it was game bird or not. She ran with a good gait and had good contact with handler; however, she did not remain down the hour. All American ran with a classy stretching gait with weak communication with handler. He tried to get Bingham to come his way; however, when that did not work, he was up at 40.

Brace No. 14 was down early with the sound of whistles at 8:47. Kinkelaar had pointer female Silver W Jill Z as bracemate

with orange and white pointer male Hard Truth, with Ray. Jill is a slightly built female; however, she glides gracefully through the cover. She crossed the road by the bunkers at 26 behind her bracemate, who had flown up the hill and beyond the bunkers at 21. Her route was forward toward the far horizons, showing just enough to be pointed out by handlers or judge for the full hour. The judge's report was a divided find at halfway. Both dogs tight and positive for wing and shot. Hard Truth is covered with the winners.

Brace No. 15 had Matt Basilone with pointer male Red Alert Lane paired with Kinkelaar. Pointer female Thunderbolt's Boon was eager to please handler on a sunny morning with less wind than yesterday. The temperature had risen to 37 by this 10:15 breakaway. As Alert marched toward the clubhouse, he turned left into the thick love grass as a covey began to lift. The dog stopped, but the damage had been done. As handler led his horse toward the dog for pick up, two more quail lifted. Thunderbolt's Boon made some nice casts with a very animated gait; however, she often took the path less traveled. She was not down the hour.

Brace No. 16 was down on course 1 at 1:01. Bingham with pointer male Lincoln County Buddyboy and pointer male J N Bolt Action with Kinkelaar. This pair were whistled away to hunt at 1:01. Both dogs tore down the hillside opposite the clubhouse. Although temps were up to 37, Bolt Action appeared not to like the cooler air. He marched far to the front and was seen once more before a GPS device was required at 35 minutes. Lincoln Country Buddyboy was happily across the small stream and up the hill. He pointed tall and solid at 25 along Baggett Lake; however, no birds were flown even after a good relocation attempt. As he rounded the top of the knoll into the long field above Baggett Lake, we expected to see him hunt down the edge with many objectives here. Although he had begun his hour with excited casts and an active tail, he shortened his range once in this long field. At 37, he was returned to the wagon when no birds were located.

Brace No. 17 paired Basilone with pointer male Southern Shadows Rick as bracemate for Hirollins B K Bushwacker, a pointer male with Bingham. Southern Shadows Rick completed his hour with a consistent medium-range race and a desire to hunt as he attacked all the right spots. At 28, he had reached the wooded area before the sign indicating the start of course 2. It was here that he scored a well-indicated and mannerly find. He stretched out and forward, crossing toward the field and approaching the "chicken/ turkey coop" area. At 54, Hirollins B K was still a bit inconsistent with range and frequent lateral casts. When he turned up missing for over 20 minutes, Bingham requested a GPS.

By brace No. 18, the gallery and helpful participants had narrowed to two handlers, two judges, one scout, and a reporter with a dog wagon driver. Wagon driver Greg Robinson willingly turned a dog loose for Kinkelaar's pointer female, Thunder Bolt's Storm. Basilone had a pointer female, Limbsmoke Urban Lullaby, and a scout. Both of these pointers were orange and white. Storm was seen once in 25 minutes: therefore, Kinkelaar took the GPS unit; however, while awaiting satellite connection, Storm returned. Limbsmoke bounded forward, passing bracemate off the line. He also was on a single track of a straight-line tour of the grounds, which led to requiring a GPS.

On a cold and frosty morning, brace No. 19 was called to the line at 8:15. Pointer male Mohawk Mill War Hawk with Bingham and setter male Erin's Thunder Backus with Kinkelaar. Mohawk Mill War Hawk had tightly laced his running gear this brisk morning; therefore, he was out of sight before the bend in the course, about two football fields from the breakaway. Nearing 20 minutes, handler called for the GPS after no one got another glimpse of him. Bracemate Erin's Thunder Backus was equally eager to be out of the box and on the ground. He zipped through the cover in a straightforward cast, where we found him stopped in the millet near the water hole at 13. A large, 20-plus covey thundered skyward while Backus obediently awaited shot and to be collared on by handler. His race was definitely forward, although usually in the path, without searching any feed areas. He did not complete his hour as he continued to race well to the front and out of sight.

Brace No. 20 found Ray with pointer male I'm Spartacus as bracemate for setter male Fort River's Lucky Charm with Basilone. These two covered the course pleasingly, which offered the gallery an opportunity to watch two nice hunting dogs with obvious birds on their minds. Spartacus scored a nonproductive at 39 shortly after the turn from Derby Road at Jacob's corner. Lucky Charm ran with great head-to-toe style, active and spirited, although, like his bracemate, he closely checked in frequently. Both maintained an animated medium-ranged race.

Brace No. 21 found pointer male Lester's Another Shockwave with Kinkelaar and bracemate pointer male Ravenwood Throwing Smoke with Basilone. The hour's excitement heightened when point was called at 13. Both dogs were stacked with high heads and erect tails as handlers flushed several quail. Throwing Smoke backed Another Shockwave at 16, where favorable birdwork was witnessed once again. Shockwave continued his strong march to the front and made a lateral ring of the bowl area in the back of course 6; however, he never made it to the front with handler. Both scout and handler made another search of the area, judge listening alertly for the call of point. Shockwave was finally located, coming to the front with handler, although he was in the wagon soon. Throwing Smoke had moved on; however, he was on a self-guided tour by this time; consequently, his handler took a GPS.

Brace No. 22 found pointer male Hirollins B K Bulletproof with Bingham as bracemate for pointer female Thunder's Bolt Agin with Kinkelaar. By 15, both dogs were down the slope and through the water. First one and then the other, stepping out in a determined march up the steep hill. At 26, we reached the mile-long field above Baggett Lake. Bulletproof made some good casts, although his race was inconsistent in range and hunting application, leading to an early pick-up. Bolt Agin ran a medium race, zipping through the feed millett rows in the long field. His name symbolizes his character: totally a little wild. He did not finish his hour.

Brace No. 23 had pointer male Smooth Talkin with Ray as bracemate with pointer male Upfront's McQuade with Kinkelaar. The afternoon sun was surprisingly warm, as evidenced when Upfront's McQuade returned after completing several good casts showing signs of heat. He was watered and picked up shortly thereafter. Smooth Talkin was seen hunting down a row of millett. He stood appropriately at 20. No birds were flown. He cast to the right and moved on; however, by 25, his eye-appealing style was not rewarded with quail being flown. Therefore, handler picked him up.

Brace No. 24 would complete the fourth day of this championship with a start time of 3:19. Filling the slot were Tug O'War, a pointer male with Kinkelaar, and Morgan's Yellow Ledbetter, a pointer male with Phil Stevenson. Hunting with a purpose and with independent casts, both dogs were forward with determination. The course here has several remaining plum bushes, although the state has cleared away many, making this area huntable. Point was called at 16 for a nice divided find. Tug O'War made some deep casts in the woods, requiring some scouting assistance. Scout called point at 30. Despite Kinkelaar

making a wide search of the area among the green saplings, he tapped the dog for a relocation. As the dog attempted a spirited relocation attempt, first one and then two quail popped up. Tug O'War's hour was over. While the gallery awaited Tug O'War to have quail flushed, we heard a shot ring out from the front part of the gallery. Ledbetter had scored a nice find at 30 minutes. For the next 20 minutes, Ledbetter hunted methodically to the front and with the handler. By 55, he had gone to the fight top of a slight knoll where a tall skeleton of an old pine tree leaned slightly left near a plum thicket. The dog made several casts in this area, although never pointed.

On Friday morning, brace No. 25 opened the final three braces of the North Carolina Championship before the beginning of the companion Derby. Bingham brought Twiggy, a pointer female, to the line as bracemate for Absolute Dominator, a pointer male with Ray. While traveling down the open cut and heading toward the water hole on the left, one dog was seen covering the ground well. There was no sight of a second dog. Twiggy was straight out the front and required some GPS assistance to be gathered up. Absolute Dominator had a well-pointed covey near the water hole at 28, with nearly a dozen lifting quail a welcomed sight. Dominator stood proudly with good manners. From the road gallery, we watched Dominator cross the dirt roads several times, nearing the bunkers; handler healed him to the top. He was whistled away to continue his strong ground race, although he still had some difficulty in handling. As time was called, he was well to the front, requiring handler and scout to ride to the front to gather him up.

Brace No. 26 called Kinkelaar to the line with pointer male Big Man On Campus as bracemate for pointer male A Buccaneer with Ray. Big Man was light in coloring and Buccaneer dark, so keeping track was easier this hour. The two skirted to the lower wooded edge and bounced merrily forward in tandem. At the corner turning away from Derby Road or Jacobs corner, Buccaneer had scout called, where he was well buried in the tall season grass. While Ray was attempting flush, Big Man's scout approached and found him standing some two football fields to the side of Buccaneer. Both handlers attempted to flush; however, with no birds put to air, the two dogs were tapped on. Big Man hunted independently wide and hard, although he did not locate any quail. Buccaneer made several good casts, returning frequently. He hunted the lower hillside of thin pines just beyond Denton Road, which looked to produce birds but did not. The hour came to an end behind the barn toward course 6.

The final brace was No. 27, with Kinkelaar bringing pointer male Hunt's Full Moon Rising to the line as bracemate with Bingham and pointer female Lady X. Moon Rising had point called by scout at 8 off to the left of the course. Quail were flown; however, Moon Rising's over-excitement caused him to be leashed. Lady X was busily investigating likely bird covers at medium range with consistent checking with handler. After a brief conversation with the judges, handler called Twiggy to heal and put her in the wagon as she was not surpassing what the judges were carrying.

At this time, everyone returned to the clubhouse, where lunch was waiting. Announcements were made, and by 1:30, the Derby stake was underway with a new pair of judges.

#### Hoffman, N. C., December 18 Judges: Chris Catanzarite and Chad Wheeler NORTH CAROLINA OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 42 Pointers and 12 Setters

Winner-HARD TRUTH, 1685784, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Pearl Again. Bob Canada, owner; Doug Ray, handler.

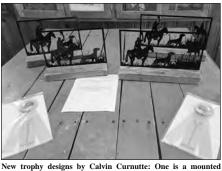
Runner-Up-CHELSEA'S MAE WEST, 1686810, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Chelsea's Southern Chic. Ron Prewitt & Brad Sadler, owners; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

### **Companion Derby**

The North Carolina Championship was completed at 11:30. The senior Calvin Curnutte had lunch waiting as the group returned to the clubhouse for announcements and lunch. At 1:15, the new Derby companion stake was ready under new judges Dennis Snyder, Thomasville, North Carolina, and Ed Jesson, Monroe, North Carolina. The judges were saddled and ready to see some 30 youngsters.

The judges of a derby stake have a more difficult job than folks acknowledge. A derby judge has to look for signs that the derby is progressing to become a national shooting dog champion to run at Ames or Sedgefields. That means he has to show style and animation on the ground, and he has to hunt in places where birds might be. He has to show range and desire to be hunting with his handler. He has to show bird interest, and if birds are located, he must at least flash point.

The judges at this venue kept great notes to share with your reporter. Thanks



New trophy designs by Calvin Curnutte: One is a mounted handler with a hat in the air and a dog pointing, and the other is a mounted handler with a dog and horse with a judge.

for your great observations. In addition to those named as winners, the judges pointed out the great potential they saw in several other derbies. These other derbies were Backcountry Champagnesupernova with Chris Catanzarite, Calvin Curnutte with Rev Brown's Browns Contender, Doug Ray with Jett Ferebee's Hatteras Storm Watch, and Erin's Ikon with Shawn Kinkelaar. They felt that these four would soon be knocking on a championship door.

First place went to a pointer female, Miller's Upgraded Patent, handled by Doug Ray. She started out as a small pup with Jack and Fran Miller. The Millers whelped her litter with Miller's Upgraded Version x Miller's Special Edition. From there, she went to live with Harold Ray, where she began her bird dog life. Later, she became co-owned with Harold and Bob Canada. Doug Ray obviously has a key role here in training and handling at trials. The judges credited her with a gait that locks your eyes as she is in a constant forward pattern. At times, including her last 6 minutes, she would be far to the front. Some fearing she was lost. With a minute to go, she was found standing in the tall cover just before the brook crossing. She even had mature manners when several quail were flown. The judges told me that she had the nicest race of all 30 derbies: ground race, style moving, and positive bird location with mature manners when birds were flushed.

Second place went to a dog from the third brace on Friday afternoon. Rocky River Halo, pointer male, owned by Carl Lefler and Phil Stevenson. Phil was handling today, as Carl was ill and unable to attend. This orange and white young male is from a cross between Southpoint's Speedy G x Lone Tree Last Snow. He has



Open Derby Winners (front, 1-r): Kaley Lee with Miller's Upgrade Patent, Shawn Kinkelaar with Laura Pergolizzi, Doug Ray, Dennis Snyder, Ed Jesson, Greg Robinson, and Earl Drew. (Not pictured): Rocky River Halo and Phil Stevenson.

been with Carl and Phil since he was a small pup. Carl is usually at the Hoffman trials; he was missed this week. Rocky River Halo ranged with determined speed in a snappy motion, with casts turning to the front the whole way. He made a few extended casts, which resulted in a limb find at 10 minutes. Halo stood high and tight to await handler as scout called point. He remained mannerly for wing and shot.

Third place went to Laura Pergolizzi, known as "LP." This derby is owned by Nicole Lombardi and Doug Swingley. LP is one of Shawn Kinkelaar's promising derbies. Francis Buche bred LP with a cross between Chelsea's Thunder Bolt x Buche's Elhew Rebel. Although no birds were pointed by LP, her race took her to all the spots where birds should have been. Her race was consistent and always to the front with powerful strides. (It was announced on December 24, 2023, that her sire, Chelsea's Thunder Bolt, had passed away. Among Thunder Bolt's accomplishments were 23 open championships and four national Purina Dog of the Year awards.)

#### Judges: Ed Jesson and Dennis Snyder OPEN DERBY – 23 Pointers and 7 Setters

1st-MILLER'S UPGRADED PATENT, 1704924, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Miller's Special Edition. Bob Canada & Harold Ray, owners; Doug Ray, handler.

2d-ROCKY RIVER HALO, 1703164, pointer male, by Southpoint's Speedy G-Lone Tree Last Snow. Carl Lefler & Phil Stevenson, owners; Phil Stevenson, handler.

3d-LAURA PERGOLIZZI, 1705950, pointer female, by Chelsea's Thunder Bolt-Buche's Elhew Rebel. Nicole Lombardi & Doug Swingley, owners; Shawn Kinkelaar, handler.

#### Did you know?

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# DR. DAVID B. KUYKENDALL, DVM January 11, 1943-December 3, 2023

avid Blanton Kuykendall passed away on December 3, 2023, at 80 years old. He was born in Gordo, Alabama, but moved to Carrollton, Alabama, at the age of 5. When he was 12, the family moved to Clayton, Alabama, as his dad became Superintendent of Education for Barbour County. He graduated from Eufaula High School in the class of 1960. He started Auburn that fall as a pre-vet student and graduated with his DVM degree in 1968. While at Auburn, he met the love of his life, Patricia Bailey. They were married in December 1967 and had been married for 55 years.

After graduating from Auburn, they moved to Birmingham, where he joined Center Point Animal Clinic to practice with Dr. Marcus F. Martin. They became the longest-practicing veterinary partnership in Alabama until David retired in 2010.

David and Pat had two children, Chip and Karen. They both shared their love of the outdoors with their dad. This continued with his three grandchildren, Ana, Aaron, and David, at an early age.

In addition to his numerous outdoor pursuits—hunting, especially turkeys, bird dogs, and field trials (he co-owned Nat. Ch./HOF Native Tango with Jack Allen, successfully campaigned by handler Collier Smith, and also owned Ch. Hook's Bounty Hunter), fishing, and arrowhead hunting—David enjoyed Auburn football, travel, playing bridge, and reading.

He had a magnetic personality with a gift of making all who met him feel at ease and enjoy his company. He developed numerous friendships in all walks of life over his time here. His ability to tell a story was an experience. He will surely be missed by all those who knew him.

He was predeceased by his parents, Ira and Velma Kuykendall, and his brother, Dan Kuykendall. He is survived by his wife Pat, children Chip (Joan Kuykendall) and Karen (Keith Smith), as well his three grandchildren, Ana (Anderson Givhan), Aaron (Paige Kuykendall), and David III (fiancé Abbey McDanal) and a great-grandchild (Charlotte Givhan), sister-in-law Liz Kuykendall, niece Kathy Elrod (Johnny), nephew Danny Kuykendall (Meredith), and several great and great-great nieces and nephews.

As is often the case, when one half of a loving couple from a long-time relationship passes away, the other half is not far behind. Donna Martens, age 84 passed away on December 23, 2023, in Ridgeville, Ontario, just eight months after the passing of her husband, Roger W. Martens, in March of 2023. Roger and

#### DONNA MARTENS April 21, 1939-December 23, 2023

Donna were married for 64 years.

Donna participated on the field trial circuit with Roger when they campaigned their winning string of pointers under the banner of Springtime Kennels for many years. She enjoyed the social aspect of field trialing immensely and participated in the organization and management of several well-known events. She served on the Board of Directors of the National Shooting Dog Futurity and was heavily involved in the major events of Region 13 and the New York State Bird Dog Association for several years.

Another dedicated patron of the field trial sport is gone; may she rest in peace.

*— By Mike Husenits West Lebanon, Pennsylvania* 



### Wanted

## What is the funniest, strangest, dumbest, smartest, most unusual or heartbreaking thing(s) you have witnessed in field trials or working with pointing dogs?

Former field trialer, struggling screenwriter, setter lover/breeder working on a field trial screenplay would love to hear from you!

### Please call, text, or email: **JOHN McGRATH** • (860) 638-7989 jcarrollmcgrath@gmail.com

I can't pay you, but if this project sees the light of day, you will be thanked in the credits. God bless you for any help you can lend! Sincere thanks!

### **Field Trials**

# ALABAMA REGION OF SBHA



er SBHA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only February 9-10, 2024 • Starts 7:30 a.m. daily Murphree Valley Farm, Walnut Grove, AL

Directions to Grounds: From Walnut Grove, AL, on AL Hwy. 278, turn onto Murphree Valley Rd. (County Rd. 39). Go approx. 5 miles and turn left onto Ragsdale Rd. (Google Maps Coordinates: 34.023388, -86.364176). Lunch will be provided. Drawing: Wednesday, February 7, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Jim Crook. Please bring all info on your dogs to the trial. Accommodations: Covered Bridge Inn of Oneonta, AL-(205) 625-3961; Days Inn of Oneonta, AL-(205) 274-2200 (10 miles to grounds).

SBHA WALKING STAKES & ORDER OF RUNNING:	
OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20	\$25.00
OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20	\$45.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—50%, 50-30-20	\$55.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.) - 50%, 50-30-20; JC@F; Time permitting	\$55.00
AMATEUR PUPPY (20 Min.)—Awards	\$25.00
AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Awards	\$40.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Awards	\$50.00
Judges: To be announced	
Entries to: JIM CROOK-(256) 208-1157 -or- ED COOLEY-(256) 30	2-2592

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	Sporting Dog	

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Questions? Email: gsmith@ukcdogs.com

### **Field Trials**

# WEST VALLEY BIRD DOG CLUB

Commences 8:00 A.M., Friday, February 16, 2024, to Conclusion

### PURINA

73rd PETE CUNNINGHAM PUPPY CLASSIC (30 Min.)	\$50.00
GEORGE HANEY OPEN ALL-AGE (30 Min.)	\$50.00
HAL MEYER AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (30 Min.)	
PAUL ROSE OPEN SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)	\$50.00

Judges (all stakes): To be announced

\*\*PC Puppy, George Haney OAA, Hal Meyer ASD & Paul Rose OSDD Perpetual Trophies do not travel. Winners' names will be added by WVBDC.

Grounds: Stinson's Moonlight Ranch, Valley Springs, CA. Grounds generously donated by Lynn & Teresa Stinson in support of field trialing, bird dogs, the sportsmen and sportswomen of Region 11. Liberated Bobwhite quail and native valley quail. Directions: Hwy. 99 (North or South) to Hwy. 26. Go east approx. 26 miles to Silver Rapids Rd. Go right to Hogan Dam Rd. Turn right across river and continue approx. 7 miles to "T". Go left on gravel road (Gann Rd.) to the gate. Signs will be posted. \*\*Gate Combination: 0000 (2nd lock from right)\*\* Drawing: Thursday, February 15, 6:30 p.m., at Ranch Headquarters. Ranch Accommodations: Bunkhouse; bring your bag and towels. Meals: Three served daily. Social Hour: Friday and Saturday evenings at Ranch House.

All entries to: JAN CORBITT, Secretary • Phone: (209) 613-5327 Email: Ladymarten@aol.com (WVBDC - In subject line)

WVBDC Moonlight Ra hall not be i



# **IBHA BLUEGRASS WALKING** SHOOTING DOG CLUB

Member NBHA, AFTCA, KFTA & ABHA · Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

February 17-18, 2024 • Berea, KY Grounds: Miller Welch Central KY WMA, 638 Dreyfus Rd., Berea, KY. Entries Close/Drawing: Tuesday, February 13, 7:00 p.m. Drawing to follow at 8:00 p.m., at the home of the chairman.

OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)	\$30.00
OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)	\$60.00
OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)	\$45.00
AMATEUR PUPPY (20 Min.)	
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)	
AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)	\$40.00
- Ribbons or plaques to all placements -	

Judges: Scott Forman, Christy Helmes, Rich Meadows, and Brian French

PURINA

GARMIN

Entries to: GARY VITALI • (859) 351-1266

NBHA, Bluegrass WSD Club, AFTCA, or KFTA are not liable for accidents or injuries to persons and/or animals.



GARMIN

PENINSULA BIRD HUNTERS CLUB Member AFTCA, USCSDA & VAUSCSDA

Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 STARTS 7:30 A.M. Grounds: Dr. Morgan's Cutawhiskie Farm, Ahoskie, NC. Lunch on grounds. Horseback scouting and tracking collars will be permitted. Drawing: Thursday, February 15, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Lee Flanders. The Ollie Routten and Sonny Mason Memorial Trophies will be awarded.

AMATEUR PUPPY	\$35.00
OPEN DERBY	\$45.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG	\$50.00

Judges: John Outlaw and Jimmy Jones Reporter: Steve Moore



Entries to: ASHBY MORGAN—Cell: (804) 384-7185 -or- LEE FLANDERS-Cell: (757) 871-4551

ly entering or attending this trial, you relieve the landowner, his employees and the members and officers of the Peninsula Bird Hunters Club from any liability for any damage or injury to any equipment, animals or persons including loss of life resulting from any accident.





KANSAS FIELD TRIAL CLUBS ASSOCIATION Horseback Trial Sponsored By



(Nutri

BIRD DOG CLUB Member KFTCA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

February 22, 2024 • KFTCA Points Trial • Starts 8:00 A.M. Grounds: Moline, KS, 1 mile north of Hwy. 160 and Hwy. 99, then east 3 miles. GPS Coordinates (37.380823, -96.222129). Signs will be posted. Multiple courses run on native and liberated quail. This will be a single day trial. Lunches provided on grounds. Drawing: Tuesday, February 20, 8:00 p.m., at the home of the chairman. Headquarters: Crooked Creek Lodge & Swinging Bridge Café, Moline, KS—(620) 647-4055.

OPEN HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.) \$65.0	0
OPEN HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)	
Judges: To be announced	Ũ
Entries to: FRANK SCHOENBORN • Cell: (316) 641-8144	

The WBDC, its officers, directors, members and landowners assume no responsibility for participants or spectators in the event of injury or damage to person or property.

# DELAWARE VALLEY BIRD DOG CLUB

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

March 2, 2024 • Bernville, PA Spring Woodcock Classic — Walking Trial

**Grounds:** State Gamelands 280, Bright School Rd., Bernville, PA 19506. **Drawing:** Wednesday, February 28, 8:00 P.M., at 32 Crimson Dr., Norristown, PA 19401.

### OPEN SHOOTING DOG—Ribbons & Certificates.....\$40.00

Judges: James Humes Sr., Norristown, PA; James Humes Jr., Norristown, PA; Nicholas Humes, Norristown, PA; and Michael Humes, Palmyra, NJ.

Entries to: JAMES HUMES JR., Founder & President 32 Crimson Dr., Norristown, PA 19401 Phone: (484) 550-2957 • Email: jphjr1215@gmail.com

# SOUTHWESTERN FIELD TRIAL CLUB

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

### FEBRUARY 17-18, 2024

Grounds: Jim Edgar Panther Creek, Chandlerville, IL. Drawing: Wednesday, February 14, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Jeff Wagoner. Phone: (309) 657-2536. OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—40% divided 50-30-20......\$55.00 OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—40% divided 50-30-20 ......\$50.00 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Prizes .....\$50.00 \*AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Prizes .....\$50.00 \*RESTRICTED OPEN DERBY—Prizes .....\$50.00 \*Will run pending entries

\$7.00 grounds fee and dog tax deducted from purses.

Judges: To be announced

Contact: JEFF WAGONER • Phone: (309) 657-2536

14402 W. Notzke Rd., Brimfield, IL 61517

Entrants recognize that participation is at their own risk, and that the Southwestern Field Trial Club cannot be held responsible or liable for accident or injury.



KANSAS FIELD TRIAL CLUBS ASSOCIATION Walking Trial Sponsored By

WICHITA BIRD DOG CLUB Member KFTCA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

February 23, 2024 • KFTCA Points Trial • Starts 8:00 A.M. Grounds: Moline, KS, 1 mile north of Hwy. 160 and Hwy. 99, then east 3 miles. GPS Coordinates (37.380823, -96.222129). Signs will be posted. Multiple courses run on native and liberated quail. This will be a single day trial. Lunches provided on grounds. Drawing: Tuesday, February 20, 8:00 p.m., at the home of the chairman. Headquarters: Crooked Creek Lodge & Swinging Bridge Café, Moline, KS—(620) 647-4055.

ROBERT LAIS DERBY CLASSIC (30 Min.)	\$65.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG-JC@F	\$65.00
OPEN PUPPY (20 Min.)	\$25.00

Judges: To be announced



Entries to: BRAD TAYLOR • Cell: (316) 259-8514 The WBDC, its officers, directors, members and landowners assume no responsibility for participants or spectators in the event of injury or damage to person or property.



HANOVER FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION Member USCSDA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

MARCH 2, 2024 • STARTS 7:00 A.M.

**Grounds:** Cohoke Shooting Preserve, 10004 Mt. Olive Cohoke Rd., King William, VA. **Drawing:** Thursday, February 29, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Kirk Regensburg—(804) 730-8433.

No texts or emails day of the drawing • Please make checks payable to L. K. Regensburg Club, officers and landowners are not responsible for accidents, injury or loss incurred to any person, horse, dogs or equipment.

# **CLARKSVILLE** BIRD DOG CLUB

Member AFTCA, Region 6 & Mid-South AFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!



FEBRUARY 1-4\*, 2024 HUNTINGDON. TN

(\*Depending on entries) A PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE & PURINA TOP AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG AWARD, NATIONAL AMATEUR INVITATIONAL, REGION 6 & MID-SOUTH DOG OF THE YEAR AWARD POINTS TRIAL AFTCA TOP AMATEUR HANDLER CHALLENGE FOR THE BLUE



Grounds: Located at 1431 Smyrna Rd., Huntingdon, TN 38344. Drawing: Monday, January 29, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Secretary Lisa Little.

AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour)	\$75.00
AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)	. \$35.00

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)..... \$75.00 Judges: AA-A & AD-Steve Towery, Murray, KY, and Scott Little,

Woodlawn, TN; ASD-Steve Towery, Murray, KY, and Brett Towery, Murray, KY.

Entries to: LISA LITTLE, Secretary • Phone: (931) 980-0452 Email: doubletroublestables@yahoo.com

SCOTT LITTLE, President • Phone: (931) 624-5705 1301 Ross Dr., Woodlawn, TN 37191

Club officials, members and landowners are not responsible for accidents, injuries or loss of any kind to persons, horses, dogs or equipment.

### PACIFIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA · Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

MARCH 2-3, 2024

Grounds: Imperial Cattle Ranch, 941443 Hinton Rd., Maupin, OR 97037. Directions: From Maupin-Take Hwy. 197 to Bakeoven Rd.; turn left on Bakeoven Rd. for 17 miles to Hinton Rd.; turn left for 0.6 miles and turn right into the gravel pit area. From US 97—Go to Bakeoven Rd. towards Maupin, OR, for 7.5 miles to Hinton Rd.; turn right for 0.6 miles and turn right into the gravel pit area. Drawing: Friday, March 1, 6:30 P.M., at The Riverside, 597 S. Hwy. 197, Maupin, OR-(541) 395-2438. Lodging: Imperial River Co., Maupin, OR-(800) 395-3903.

(Sat.) OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Region 10 Points	\$40.00
SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)-Region 10 Points	\$40.00
ALL-AGE (30 Min.)-Region 10 Points	\$40.00
SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)—Region 10 Points	\$40.00
SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)	\$40.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)	\$40.00
(Sun.) *OPEN RESTRICTED DERBY (30 Min.)	\$40.00
*RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)	\$40.00
*RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)	
SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)	\$40.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)	\$40.00
ALL-AGE (30 Min)	\$40.00

\*For dogs that have not received a placement

Judges: To be announced

Entries to: TODD SCHAAF, President, 106 NE 389th St., Woodland, WA 98674 Phone: (503) 267-4853 • Email: tschaaf@emsco.com

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# SOUTH CAROLINA **AMATEUR CLASSIC** CELEBRATION

Sponsored by Palmetto Quail Club Member SBHA, AFTCA & ASCFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

February 9-11, 2024 • Pamplico, SC





### A Purina Top Amateur Shooting Dog Award & AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

Grounds: Palmetto Quail Club, 364 E. Shirley Rd., Pamplico, SC 29583. Drawing: Tuesday, February 6, 6:00 p.m., at the Palmetto Quail Club.

— HORSEBACK TRIAL —

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)—Awards.. \$90.00 \*OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)-50%, 50-30-20...... \$45.00

\*Time permitting

Judges: Steve Browder and Mike McKinney

**Entries to: RODNEY POSTON** Phone: (843) 319-4814

Email: Rposton1023@gmail.com



FIELD TRIAL CLUB Mid-South Amateur Field Trial Association —

Member of AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! FEBRUARY 15-18, 2024 • BLUE MOUNTAIN, MS





Points Trial for National Amateur All-Age, Shooting Dog & U. S. Amateur Derby Invitationals, Purina Amateur All-Age Award, Region 6 & Mid-South Amateur Field Trial Association

# PURINA

Grounds: Hell Creek WMA, Blue Mountain, MS. Drawing: Tuesday, February 13, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Amy Spencer and AFTCA membership number must accompany entry.

AMATEUR ALL-AGE (1 Hour)	. \$75.00
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)	. \$75.00
AMATEUR DERBY	. \$45.00
Judges: AA-A-Amy & Bubba Spencer, Bolivar, TN; ASD & AD-	–Brody
	2

Byrd, Hickory Valley, TN, and Greg Tapp, Somerville, TN. Entries to: AMY SPENCER, Secretary • Phone/Text: (731) 343-0561 Club officials and landowners are not responsible for accidents, injury, or loss. Ride at your own risk.

UKC® Field • February 2024



Eastern Oklahoma Quail Club

Member ABHA, KFTCA, OKFTCA & AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

# ABHA WESTERN REGION WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

# February 1-4, 2024 • Mt. Vernon, MO

Grounds: Robert E. Talbot Wildlife Conservation Area, near Mt. Vernon, MO, on Hwy. 96, one mile east of Hwy. 96 and Hwy. 97 junction (north of I-44 and east of I-49). Drawing: Monday, January 29, 8:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Ivy Crook.

CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)—Payout: 40% of entries split 60-40 ...... Entry Fee: \$150.00 DERBY (30 Min.)—Prizes to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd ....... Entry Fee: \$60.00 \*BUD MOORE PUPPY CLASSIC (30 Min.)—Prizes to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd ...... Entry Fee: \$50.00 \*Rotating Trophy to Winner

Judges: Championship—Scott Hadley, Alma, CO, and Harold Gearhart, Kingsville, MO; Derby & Puppy—To be announced.

Entries to: IVY CROOK-(417) 388-3705

Eastern Oklahoma Quail Club not responsible for accidents, injury or loss to participants, animals or property during event.







The Kansas Field Trial Clubs Association presents the KANSAS OPEN DERBY & PUPPY CLASSICS

Sponsored by: Kansas Red Setter Club & Wichita Bird Dog Club Members AFTCA & KFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

March 22\*, 2024 to Conclusion • Dexter, KS • Starts 8:00 a.m. (\*Or March 21 depending on entries)



- KANSAS DOG OF THE YEAR AWARDS POINTS -This Event Sponsored by NutriSource



Grounds: Paula Radcliff Ranch, located approximately 15 miles east and 11/2 miles south of Winfield, KS, or 1 mile north, 1/4 mile east & 11/2 miles north of Dexter, KS. Directions: Leave Winfield, KS, on Hwy. 160 and 15, go 1 mile east on Hwy. 28 from its junction with Hwy. 15. Then follow the sign south 11/2 miles to trial headquarters. Lunch served daily at the Red Barn on Hwy. 28. Motels: The Cabins at the Stone Barn, just outside of Dexter, or Bunk House in Dexter-Home: (620) 876-3467 or Cell: (620) 886-1703; or Grouse Valley Lodge in Dexter-(620) 876-7323. Drawing: Tuesday, March 19, 8:00 p.m., at the home of Don Beauchamp, Cheney, KS—Home: (316) 542-0103 or Cell: (316) 772-3684 \*OPEN ALL-AGE (1 Hour) ......Entry Fee \$100.00 National Amateur All-Age Invitational Points Trial \*\*KANSAS OPEN DERBY CLASSIC (45 Min.) ..... Entry Fee \$ 90.00 American Derby Invitational Championship Points Trial \*OPEN SHOOTING DOG (1 Hour)..... Entry Fee \$100.00 National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Points Trial \*\*KANSAS OPEN PUPPY CLASSIC (30 Min.).....Entry Fee \$ 75.00 \*Gifts to 3 places • \*\*Purse: 50%, 50-30-20 Judges: Greg Gibson, Jay Lewis, Ed Berendzen, and Nathan Berendzen

DON BEAUCHAMP, Chairman • Cheney, KS Home: (316) 542-0103 • Cell: (316) 772-3684 An entry is accepted as a waiver of any claim for loss or damage from the sponsoring clubs, Kansas Red Setter Club

entry is accepted as a waiver of any claim for loss or damage from the sponsoring clubs, Kansas Ked Setter Clu and Wichita Bird Dog Club, their employees and officers, landowners, and/or other trial sponsors.

### Kansas Field Trial Clubs Association announces nominations open for

# KANSAS FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME

We are accepting nominations through April 1, 2024, for inductees (people and dogs) into the Kansas Field Trial Hall of Fame. Blank nominating forms and a complete list of criteria are available by calling or emailing Stan Wint—(816) 863-6113; Stanwint@hotmail.com.

The inductees (a maximum of 2 people and 2 dogs) will be inducted at the KFTCA Summer Meeting.

Any person who lived and field trialed in Kansas for a minimum of 5 years would be eligible for inclusion and can be living or deceased. Dogs would have to meet a series of tests to determine their Kansas status. Dogs that have been kenneled outside of Kansas, but competed HEAVILY in Kansas, may be eligible for voting and inclusion. Please see the bylaws if you have any questions. Dogs must be deceased.

We encourage nomination submissions from within and outside Kansas. We do encourage you to use a **standard nomination form** to assure that the election committee will have ample and standardized information on each nominee. Multiple nominations can be submitted by a single person but please do your homework!

### Send a copy of your nomination form to: STAN WINT, 14200 Waverly Rd., Gardner, KS 66030

After the nomination time period, the Board of Directors of the Kansas Field Trial Hall of Fame will narrow nominations received from the public to a maximum of 10 people and 10 dogs for submission to the full election committee.

Please help our efforts to obtain outstanding nominations to the Kansas Field Trial Hall of Fame—send in your forms now!

# REGION 8 (AFTCA) AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

209 Primer or .32 caliber or larger blank ammunition required

# February 2-4, 2024 • Starts 8:00 a.m.

# at Ingersoll McFarland Ranch, north of Inola, OK, on 560 Rd.

**Entry Fee:** \$175.00 | **Prizes:** Trophies to Champion and Runner-Up **Judges:** Brandon Johnson, Guthrie, OK, and Bob Gum, Tuttle, OK

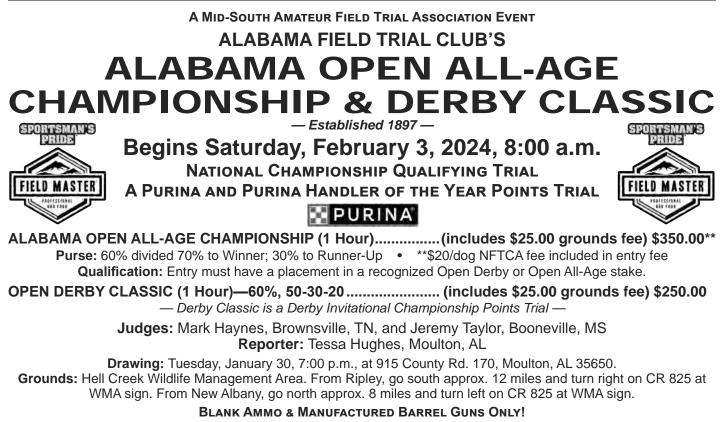


QUALIFYING TRIAL FOR THE NATIONAL AMATEUR ALL-AGE INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP A PURINA AMATEUR ALL-AGE AWARD POINTS TRIAL

Bob Gum, President • Bob Rankin, Vice President • Brandon Johnson, 2nd Vice President • Tyson Traw, Treasurer

### Entries to: MIKE GRIFFIN, Chairman—(918) 797-5807

Region 8, AFTCA, OFTCA, Oil Capital Field Trial Association, Ingersoll-McFarland Ranch and their officers and directors are NOT liable for injuries or damages to persons, animals or equipment during the field trial. All who wish to participate, observe or otherwise enter onto the grounds do so at their own risk.



Entries to: GREG BAIN, Secretary • Phone: (256) 762-2014 JOE HUGHES, President • 915 County Road 170, Moulton, AL 35650 • Phone: (205) 616-0191 Entries accepted with the understanding that the Alabama Field Trial Club, officers and the State of Mississippi are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents to anyone attending the trial, their horses, dogs or equipment.



WEST TENNESSEE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Bill Currie President Ike Todd 1st Vice-President Curt Waddell 2nd Vice-President J.P. Hathcock Secretary Crutcher Stoots Treasurer

# WEST TENNESSEE OPEN ALL-AGE STAKE & DERBY STAKE STARTING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 • DANCYVILLE, TN



### A Purina Handler of the Year Points Trial, National Championship Qualifying Stake & American Derby Invitational Qualifying Stake

Drawing: Monday, February 12, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Bill Currie. Entries must be paid before running.

NOTE: Entries will close at 7:00 P.M.

Grounds: Currie Farm, Miller Rd. and Blalock Dr., 3 miles east of Dancyville, TN. Negative Coggins test required for all horses. Bar-B-Q Saturday night, 6:00 P.M., at clubhouse.

OPEN ALL-AGE (One-Hour Heats)—60% of entry divided 50-30-20..... Entry Fee \$225.00\*+ \$30 grounds fee \*\$20/dog NFTCA fee not included in entry fee

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—60% of entry divided 50-30-20 .....Entry Fee \$125.00 + \$30 grounds fee

Judges: Gailen Cooper, Hazelhurst, MO, and Tony King, Centralia, MO

Reporter: Jim Atchison, Caruthersville, MO

### Phone entries to: BILL CURRIE—(731) 780-3683 • J.P. HATHCOCK—(731) 443-0050

For Motel Reservations, call: Comfort Inn—(731) 772-4082 or Days Inn—(731) 772-3297 (both located at I-40 and Hwy. 76, Exit 56). West Tennessee Field Trial Club is not responsible for accidents on the grounds. Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

# REGION 4 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP & NBHA COMPANION STAKES

Starting February 23 or 24, 2024 (pending entries) • Berea, KY Hosted by Licking River Bird Dog Club

Member AFTCA, KFTA, NBHA & ABHA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!



Grounds: Miller Welch WMA, Berea, KY. Drawing: Tuesday, February 20, 6:00 p.m. (CST), at the home of Region 4 Secretary/Treasurer Mary Sue Schalk.

STAKES AND ORDER OF RUNNING:

**REGION 4 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (One Hour)...\$135.00 Qualification:** A recognized placement in an AFTCA Amateur Shooting Dog or Amateur Derby stake.



 NBHA AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)
 \$ 45.00

 NBHA OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)
 Run at club's discretion

 Solution
 \$ 55.00

Judges: Ben McKean, Minnetrista, MN, and Rich Meadows, Somerset, KY

— Jonathan Dunn, Chairman —

Contact: MARY SUE SCHALK, Region 4 Secretary/Treasurer • Phone: (270) 625-0196

Entries accepted and attendance of this event are with the understanding that the AFTCA, NBHA, their officers, directors, members, sponsors, and the landowner(s) are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents or occurrences involving anyone attending or participating in the trial, their animals, or equipment.

JAY LEWIS President

JON LAM 1st Vice-President EDDIE BERENDZEN 2nd Vice-President KAY MORRISON Secretary/Treasurer

# REGION 5 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Only solid or plugged barrel guns with blank ammo may be used!



February 23-25, 2024 (if entries warrant) • Starts 8:00 A.M. Pyramid State Park (Captain Unit), Cutler, IL

# Entry Fee: \$125.00

Judges: Jon Lam, Makanda, IL, and Keith Lowry, Altamont, IL Scouting to look for a dog on point with permission from the judges. No harassment of the judges or officials will be tolerated!

**Grounds:** Located on first road north approximately <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile west of Denmark Church (at Purina sign), 2262 Pyatt Cutler Rd., Cutler, IL. **Drawing:** Wednesday, February 21, 6:00 p.m., at the home of the chairman. AFTCA Win Certificate number required for dog and handler. **Lodging:** Oxbow B&B, 3967 IL-13, Pinckneyville, IL—(618) 790-4369; Fairgrounds Inn, DuQuoin, IL—(618) 542-5000.

Entries to: BRAD HARGIS, 3308 Lazy Acres Rd., Salem, IL 62881 • Phone: (618) 292-1798

An entry is accepted as a waiver of any claim or demand for any loss or damage incurred from the sponsoring club; Region Five; AFTCA, Inc.; their employees, agents, and officers.

# REGION 17 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

# Hosted by Wichita Bird Dog Club

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







# Starts Friday, February 23, 2024 • Starts 8:00 A.M. each day Delong Ranch, Moline, KS

**Grounds:** Moline, KS, 1 mile north of Hwy. 160 and Hwy. 99, then east 3 miles. GPS Coordinates (37.380823, -96.222129). Signs will be posted. Multiple courses run on native and liberated quail. **Meals:** Lunch to be served daily; Saturday night Banquet. **Drawing:** Monday, February 19, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Diane Shoemaker, Grain Valley, MO. **Headquarters:** Crooked Creek Lodge & Swinging Bridge Café, Moline, KS—(620) 647-4055.

REGION 17 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP......\$150.00

Prizes: To champion and runner-up.

Qualification: A recognized placement in an AFTCA Shooting Dog or Derby stake.

AFTCA membership number required at entry.

Judges: Jason Patty, El Dorado, KS, and Brad Taylor, Towanda, KS

Brad Taylor, Trial Chairman

## All entries to: DIANE SHOEMAKER • (816) 309-4773

Entries accepted and attendance of this event are with the understanding that AFTCA, Region 17, their officers, directors, members, sponsors and the landowner(s) are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents or occurrences involving anyone attending the trial, their animals, or equipment.

# **DIXIE FIELD TRIAL CLUB**

Member AFTCA, AFTA & Dixie Trace FTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

# Starting February 24, 2024, 8:00 a.m. Round Pond Plantation, Leesburg, GA

— Our sincere thanks to the Walker Family for the use of their grounds —



## Purina Dog of the Year and Handler of the Year Award Points Trial, 2025 National Championship Qualifier, Purina Derby of the Year Award and American Derby Invitational Points Trial

**Directions to Grounds:** From Leslie, GA, approx. 7 miles south on State Hwy. 195 and east on Batts Rd. (dirt). From Leesburg, GA, approx. 10 miles north on State Hwy. 195 and east on Batts Rd. Follow signs. Lunch will be served on the grounds. **Drawing:** Thursday, February 22, 12:00 p.m. (EST), at the Mercer Mill Plantation office. Public is invited.

- Kate Morton, Secretary, Sasser, GA-

Entries to: BILLY WAYNE MORTON - (229) 344-1784 -or- JUDD CARLTON - (229) 393-6608

Club or landowners are not responsible for any accidents or injuries to equipment, animals or persons.

# ILLINOIS SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Hosted by Mid-State Bird Dog Club

Member AFTCA & FTCI Points Trial • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024\* \*Depending on weather and entries, to end March 2.



JIM EDGAR PANTHER CREEK CHANDLERVILLE, IL

MAX ELDRED MEMORIAL OPEN DERBY (30 Min.).....Entry Fee: \$ 90.00 Purse: 50% divided 50-30-20; \$30.00 per entry deducted for grounds fee.

- To follow Max Eldred Memorial Open Derby -

A Purina Top Shooting Dog Award & Handler of the Year Award Points Trial

Purse: 50% divided 70-30, if runner-up is named; \$40.00 per entry deducted for ad and grounds fee.

Qualification: Recognized placement in an Open Derby or Open Shooting Dog stake. Judges: Jim Corpening, Lawrence, KS, and Steve Auxier, Lincoln, NE • Marshals: Jeff Wagoner and Mark Livingston

Championship & Open Derby Drawing: Saturday, February 24.

### MID-STATE BIRD DOG CLUB STAKES BEGIN SATURDAY, MARCH 9-10

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—40%, 50-30-20 ...... Entry Fee: \$50.00 AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min.)—Prizes; Run at club's discretion...... RESTRICTED OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Prizes; Run at club's discretion ...... Entry Fee: \$50.00 Mid-State BDC Drawing: Wednesday, March 6.

Judges: To be announced

For information and entries, contact:



JEFF WAGONER, 14402 W. Notzke Rd., Brimfield, IL 61517 • Cell: (309) 657-2536 MARK LIVINGSTON, 1012 Waubeek Rd., Central City, IA 52214 • Cell: (319) 361-3214 Mid-State Bird Dog Club, members and club officers are not held liable for accidents, injuries or loss.



# SOUTHEASTERN QUAIL **CHAMPIONSHIP** PURINA

Sponsored by Southeastern Field Trial Club Contested over the Abigail, Chickasaw and Ecila Plantations

Purse: 60% of entry fees divided 65-35

ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP—Starts Friday, March 1...... Entry Fee \$300.00\* Must have a placement in either a recognized Open All-Age or Open Derby stake • \*\$20/dog tax not included in entry fee

### A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING TRIAL

A PURINA TOP DOG AWARD. PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR AWARD AND DIXIE TRACE FTA POINTS STAKE

Judges: Mike Jackson, Battle Ground, IN, and Jeff Gibbons, Deatsville, AL Reporter: Claudia McNamee, Chattahoochee Hills, GA

Pre-Draw: Wednesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m., at Chickasaw Plantation Lodge, Houston Grove Church Rd., Dawson, GA.

Phone: (478) 955-7823 • Email: rondeal@bellsouth.net Email entries will be acknowledged if received!

Directions: From Albany or Dawson, GA, take U.S. Hwy. 82 to Sasser.

Located at 716 Houston Grove Church Rd., Dawson, GA (USE Apple or Google maps; DO NOT USE Waze maps).

ABSOLUTELY NO TRAFFIC THROUGH PLANTATIONS

The club, its officers and landowners disclaim all responsibility for loss, accident or injury to visitors, participants, their animals and equipment. Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

For information, contact: DR. RON DEAL—(478) 955-7823 -or- LAMAR CHILDERS—(404) 790-2944



Judges: Scott Miller, Beaufort, SC, and Buck Daniels, Yemassee, SC

**Drawing:** Monday, March 4, 6:00 p.m., at R. Duerksen's farm. **Qualifications:** Entries must have an Amateur Derby or Amateur Shooting Dog AFTCA win certificate. Handler must have handled a dog to an AFTCA win certificate and be a member of the AFTCA. Owners and co-owners must be members of the AFTCA. **Lunches and Dinners:** Served on the grounds compliments of Region 3. **Accommodations:** Day's Inn and Quality Inn—(855) 971-2079.

Entries to: R. L. DUERKSEN • Phone/Text: (412) 951-5033 • Email: rlduerksen@gmail.com

MIDWEST SHOOTING DOG FIELD TRIAL CLUB ASSOCIATION'S

MIDWEST OPEN SHOOTING DOG



**MARCH 12\* TO CONCLUSION** 

\*Or 24 hours after the conclusion of the Missouri Open Shooting Dog Championship, but not before March 12

CHAMPIONSHIP



Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns only!



WESTFALL BROTHERS RANCH ELK CITY, KS

**Directions:** From Independence, Kansas, go West on 160 for 18 miles to road 1300, then North <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile to Road 5800, then West 1 mile. From Longton, Kansas, go East on 160 to Blackjack Road, then 1 mile. **Drawing:** Friday, March 8, 7:00 p.m., at the home of David Taylor. Phone: (712) 310-7882. **Lodging:** Super 8, Independence, KS—(620) 620-6003.

Entry fee includes \$25.00 grounds fee and \$2.00 Midwest Dog Tax • Payback 50% after grounds fee and dog tax **Purse:** Divided 70% to Champion and 30% to Runner-Up, if named.

Qualification: A recognized placement in an Open Derby or Open Shooting Dog stake

Judges: Dr. Stan Wint, Gardner, KS, and Dr. Robert Rankin, Edmond, OK • Reporter: David Taylor, Neola, IA

Garvin Collins, Trial Chairman • Bob Raynolds, Dog Wagon Driver

Phone entries to: DAVID TAYLOR, Secretary • Phone: (712) 310-7882 • No voicemails

Field Trial Committee: Bob Reynolds, Garvin Collins, Harold Gearhart, David Taylor, Scott Hadley, Tierra Hadley Westfall Brothers and/or Midwest FTA will not be held responsible for losses or injuries to livestock or individuals.

JAY LEWIS President



EDDIE BERENDZEN 2nd Vice-President KAY MORRISON Secretary/Treasurer

# REGION 5 (AFTCA) AMATUER SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP









AN AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS & PURINA AMATEUR TOP SHOOTING DOG AWARD POINTS TRIAL Thursday, March 28, 2024 (if entries warrant) • Starts 8:00 A.M. Pyramid State Park (Captain Unit), Cutler, IL

Entry Fee: \$150.00

Judges: Harold Gearhart, Kingsville, MO, and Chuck Stretz, Blackwater, MO

**Grounds:** Located on first road north approximately <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile west of Denmark Church (at Purina sign), 2262 Pyatt Cutler Rd., Cutler, IL. **Drawing:** Tuesday, March 26, 7:00 p.m., at the home of the chairman. AFTCA Win Certificate number required for dog and handler. **Lodging:** Oxbow B&B, 3967 IL-13, Pinckneyville, IL—(618) 790-4369; Fairgrounds Inn, DuQuoin, IL—(618) 542-5000.

Entries to: JON LAM, 256 White Deer Run, Makanda, IL 62958 Phone: (618) 967-5906 • Email: jonlam17@yahoo.com

An entry is accepted as a waiver of any claim or demand for any loss or damage incurred from the sponsoring club; Region Five; AFTCA, Inc.; their employees, agents, and officers.

# NGSPA REGION 16 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Starts following the Southern Open Brittany Regional Championship, but not before February 4, 2024

Showtime Plantation, Bronwood, GA

- A Purina Handler of the Year Points Trial -







AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP\$210.00 Trophies to Champion and Runner-Up Judges: Lisa Pollock, Lucas, IA, and Justin Hess, Exira, IA
AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP
DERBY—To be run as time permits\$100.00 Trophies
Judges: To be announced
Please mail entries to: DIANE COPPENS, Field Trial Secretary 2208 Motel Road, Highland, Illinois 62249 Phone: (618) 604-4377 • Email: rakersd14@gmail.com — All entries due by January 24 • All email entries will be confirmed —

- Thank you to our sponsors, Purina and SportDOG -

The club, its officials, directors or the landowners are not responsible for any accidents, injury to participants, animals or equipment.

# NGSPA REGION 11 CHAMPIONSHIPS

February 6-9, 2024

Mormon Mountain • Mesquite, Nevada

# **Open to German Shorthaired Pointers only!**

(NGSPA Region 12 Championships to precede)

# — A Purina Handler of the Year Points Trial —

Bitches in season are allowed in all stakes.



OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)......Entry Fee: \$160.00 Judges: Gregg Knight, Alta Loma, CA, and Larry Metter, Scottsdale, AZ Plaque and Rosettes to Champion and Runner-up

## OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) .....Entry Fee: \$160.00 To follow Open All-Age

Judges: Mark Calder, Union Bridge, MD, and Mick Cheshire, Highland Park, CO Plaque and Rosettes to Champion and Runner-up

### AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour.).....Entry Fee: \$160.00 Judges: Gregg Knight, Alta Loma, CA, and Jeff Rhine, Encinitas, CA Plague and Rosettes to Champion and Runner-up

**Directions to Grounds:** From Las Vegas (via I-15)—Take Exit 100 (Carp Elgin Rd.), turn north (left) and follow access road NE approx. 3.7 miles. Turn north (left) on Rainbow Pass Rd., and travel approx. 12 miles to field trial site. (Note: Will enter Hills at approx. 7.5 miles on Rainbow Pass Rd.). From Mesquite, NV—Take Exit 100, off I-15, then turn right onto access road (Carp Elgin Rd.). Potable water will be available. **Closing & Drawings:** To take place at 6:00 p.m. (PST), on the grounds, the night before running.

Terry Zygalinski, Chairman

# Entries to: WARREN EIZMAN, Secretary • Phone: (760) 828-0782 P.O. Box 428, Panaca, NV 89042

Provide Name and address of owner(s), handler's and dog's registered name. The dog's DNA certificate number and *FDSB* registration must be provided before the close of entries or the dog will not be allowed to compete!

Approved retrieval collars are permitted. Only bank ammo permitted. Running is according to NGSPA and American Field Rules. Entries accepted with the understanding that the NGSPA Region12, its members, and the State of Nevada are not responsible and cannot be held liable for an accident, injury or loss/damage to any/all individual property during the conduct of this Field Trial. All Participants and spectators do so at their own risk!

# NGSPA REGION VII CHAMPIONSHIPS









# February 10–19, 2024

# Lake Murray Field Trial Grounds, Ardmore, OK

– A Purina Handler of the Year Points Trial —

# Amateur Shooting Dog Championship • 1 Hour • Entry Fee: \$185.00

Judges: Sean Anderson, Decatur, TX, and Bob Thompson, Stratford, MO Prizes: Champion and Runner-up Champion will receive a SportDOG collar, trophies, and other prizes.

# Derby Classic • 30 Minutes • Entry Fee: \$85.00

**Judges:** To be announced **Prizes:** Gifts, prizes, and trophies to all placed dogs.

# **Open All-Age Championship • 1 Hour • Entry Fee: \$190.00**

**Judges:** Tim Hidalgo, Hardesty, OK, and Will Barbee, Dallas, TX **Purse:** 30% of entries split 60-40; Gifts, prizes, and trophies to all placed dogs.

# **Open Shooting Dog Championship • 1 Hour • Entry Fee: \$190.00**

**Judges:** Tim Hidalgo, Hardesty, OK, and Laura Miller, Manhattan, KS **Purse:** 30% of entries split 60-40; Gifts, prizes, and trophies to all placed dogs.

Drawing: Friday, February 9, 6:00 p.m., on the grounds.

# For information, contact: KIRK BOMER, Chairman Phone: (281) 413-0514 • Email: mkbomer@gmail.com

# United States Shooting Dog Invitational Championship

Winning handler prize package includes:

- \$8,000 Guaranteed Purse
- Garmin Astro tracking and Tri-Tronics units

Winning owner prize package includes:

- Ross B. Young original oil painting
- Montana Silversmiths belt buckle

### Trial starts February 17, 2024

Drawing: February 16, 5:30 p.m., at the Camp Robinson Wildlife Management Area clubhouse, Conway, AR.

### Activities

Friday: Cocktails, Dinner, Drawing & Calcutta (5:30 p.m.) Saturday: Cocktails & Dinner (5:30 p.m.) Sunday: Cocktails & Dinner (5:30 p.m.)—hosted by Lance and Marcie Schulz, owners of the 2023 Invitational winner, Upfront's Southern Star.

### **Confirmed Participants**

**Upfront's Southern Star** Owner: Lance Schulz Handler: Shawn Kinkelaar

Erin's Thunder Backus Owners: Dr. Tom Jackson and Jerry Moisson Handler: Shawn Kinkelaar

**Chelsea's Mae West** Owners: Ron Prewitt and Brad Sadler Handler: Shawn Kinkelaar

Wind Ridge Sugar Plum Owner: Eugene J. Spiotta Handler: Eddy Taylor

Absolute Dominator Owners: Johnny & Joyce Taylor Handler: Doug Ray

Lester's Another Shockwave Owners: Dr. Tom Jackson, Jerry Moisson, Lance Schulz, Bjorn Peterson, and Todd Mann Handler: Shawn Kinkelaar **Thunder's Wild Agin** Owners: Doug Swingley Handler: Shawn Kinkelaar

Hale's High Flyer Owner: Dr. Jeffrey Hale Handler: Eddy Taylor

Silver W Jill Z Owner: Dr. Debbie Ozner Handler: Shawn Kinkelaar

**Game Sport** Owner: Bart Hicklin Handler: Harold Gearhart

Erin's Three Leaf Shamrock Owner: Tucker Johnson Handler: Tracy Swearingen

**Touch's Big Whiskey** Owner: Dr. Richard Steckley and John Stretz Handler: Chuck Stretz





The Invitational participants have been selected on the basis of the Purina Top Shooting Dog Award for 2022/23. All braces to run one-hour heats on two consecutive days, 90-minute heats for finals on third day. The number of dogs called back for finals is entirely at the discretion of the judges. Champion only, no Runner-Up.

Find us on **F** US Shooting Dog Invitational Championship www.usshootingdog.com





**Invitational Entry Fee: \$300** 

**Judges** Dr. Jim Mills, Searcy, AR

Dr. Jim Mills, Searcy, AR Matt Cochran, Reydon, OK

**Reporter** Joyce Taylor, Paron, AR

Purina Top Shooting Dog Award Points 400 Bonus Points Purina Top Handler of the Year Award Points



2023 Invitational winner Upfront's Southern Star with handler Shawn Kinkelaar, scout Tommy Rice, and owners Lance and Marcie Schulz

Nestlé/Purina Garmin SportDOG Witt & Carol Stephens Leather Brothers The Collar Clinic Dr. Debbie Ozner & George Hickox

Invitational Sponsors Tucker Saddlery Tri-Tronics World Class Kennels Dr. Jeff & Melanie Hale Haggis Saddle Company Farmers Association

Johnny & Joyce Taylor

Lee Cruse Charlie & Linda Jackson Randy & Lynn Potter

Invitational Benefactors Ron Previtt Jack, Audrey & Brian Sanchez

For more information

Johnny & Joyce Taylor 32000 Kanis Rd., Paron, AR 72122 Johnny: (501) 681-0125 or Joyce: (501) 681-8580





# THE NATIONAL AMATEUR FREE-FOR-ALL CHAMPIONSHIP

A qualifying and bonus points trial for the National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational and Purina Top Amateur shooting Dog Award bonus points trial

A Member of the AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA • 410 ga. shotgun with AFTCA approved blank ammo!

Presented under the auspices of the National Amateur Free-For-All Championship Association, Inc. — Sanctioned by the Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America —

# TO BE RUN STARTING FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AT UNION SPRINGS, ALABAMA







Judges: Jeff Gibbons, Deatsville, AL, and Brian Spear, Lowndesboro, AL Reporter: Morgan Brewer, Wetumpka, AL



Pre-Drawing will be Thursday, February 15, 2024, at the Sedgefields Plantation Field House at 7:00 p.m. (CST) Running to begin at 8:00 a.m., February 22, 2024



## Entry Fee: \$300 • AFTCA Membership Number required with all entries!

Qualifying Heats will be 45 minutes; and the Finals will be one and one half hours. A Champion and a Runner-Up will be named. Also, the most outstanding dog in the Qualifying Series will be selected. Defending Champion, One Day Queen Bee, is automatically qualified for the first brace of the finals.

tritronics Pro 500 collar to the Winner and a Sport 50 collar to the Runner-Up.

## **MEMORIAL TROPHIES**

The A.H. "Bill" Hembree, the J.F. "Tobe" Stallings, the Hoyt Henley Sr. and the Kevin "Bubba" Goolsby Rotating Memorial Trophies (Winner's name engraved on trophies and kept in Amerifirst Bank at Union Springs, AL)

Sterling Silver Trophies to Champion, Runner-Up and "Best Dog" in Qualifying Series.

Social activities will be announced at the drawing. Lunches served daily in Field House. The National Amateur Free-For-All Championship Association, Inc., its officers and directors, and the owners of Sedgefields Plantation are in no way responsible for any accident of any kind on the grounds. You are welcome at your own risk. <u>NO</u> PISTOLS ALLOWED. Blanks not furnished by the club.

### EARLY ENTRIES WITH NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER-HANDLER, INCLUDING PHONE NUMBER AND INFORMATION ON DOGS ENTERED, WILL BE APPRECIATED. AFTCA MEMBER NUMBER REQUIRED.

All entries should be sent to: RICK STALLINGS, President P.O. Drawer 70040, Montgomery, AL 36107

Phone: (334) 244-2093 • No text or email entries accepted

## SHIRLEY VARNER • Phone: (334) 224-4888

- No telephone entries AFTER 3:00 p.m. (CST), February 15, 2024 -

# NGSPA GREAT PLAINS CHAMPIONSHIPS PURINA®





— Sponsored by Purina, Burris Optics and Front Range Gun Dog — Hosted by Holler Point Field Trial Club

# A PURINA HANDLER OF THE YEAR EVENT

**Open to German Shorthaired Pointers Only!** 

# February 24–March 7, 2024 • Starts 8:00 a.m. Holler Point Farm, Abilene, KS

Special thanks to the Shoemaker Family for hosting the grounds.

**Directions to Grounds:** From Exit I-70 at Abilene, KS, go south on Hwy. 15 for 20.6 miles. Entrance to farm is between 400 and 300 Ave., off Hwy. 15. Look for sign on west side of the road. Must keep gate closed at all times. Lunches and dinner will be provided. **Entries Close:** Friday, February 16, 6:00 p.m. Drawing(s) to follow the closing at 110 Broken Ridge Ln., Platte City, MO. Running order will be posted on the NGSPA Facebook page. **Lodging:** American Best Value—(785) 263-2050; Super 8 Motel—(785) 263-4545; or Budget Lodge—(785) 263-3600.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)Entry Fee: \$200.00 Trophies to Champion and Runner-up
Judges: Ken Sanderson, Olathe, KS, and one to be announced
OPEN ALL-AGE DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)Entry Fee: \$200.00 Trophies to Champion and Runner-up Judges: Robert Salamone, Brookfield, WI, and Jack Marchese, Oconomowoc, WI
OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)
DERBY CLASSIC (30 Min.)
Contact: MARK A. VERDOORN, Chairman, 110 Broken Bridge Ln., Platte City, MO 64079 Cell: (816) 674-4801 • Email: mverdoorn@barkleyasphaltkc.com
TRACY R. VERDOORN, Secretary, 110 Broken Bridge Ln., Platte City, MO 64079 Cell: (816) 678-3822 • Email: trverdoorn@gmail.com

All completed entry forms must include DNA & FDSB numbers before closing (does not include derbies).

Entries accepted and attendance of this event are with the understanding that the Great Plains members, landowners, KFTCA, NGSPA, Region 17, their officers, and directors, members and sponsors are not any way responsible and cannot be held liable for an accidents or occurrences involving anyone attending the trial, their animals or equipment.

Ric Peterson 1st Vice-President Larron Copeland 2nd Vice-President Jim Pendergest 3rd Vice-President

# AMATEUR FIELD TRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA PRESENTS THE NATIONAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP

Only Manufactured barrel blank guns with blank ammo to be used.



# March 4, 2024 Ames Plantation, Grand Junction, TN

(Start date dependent upon entries)

Those in attendance are special guests of the Ames Plantation and will be asked to comply cooperatively with staff concerning traditional running rules on the Ames Plantation.

# **One-Hour Heats** • Entry Fee: \$150

Judges: Jon Humphrey, Claremore, OK, and Austin Bryant, Collinsville, OK

— immediately followed by the —



# NATIONAL AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP



**One-Hour Heats** • Entry Fee: \$200

Judges: Tim Penn, Edina, MO, and Steve Auxier, Lincoln, NE Reporter: Chris Weatherly

**Entries Close:** Wednesday, February 28, 6:00 p.m. (CST). **Drawing:** Thursday, February 29, 9:00 a.m. (CST), at the office of the secretary. Must be an individual member of AFTCA to enter. Please have your AFTCA membership number and win certificate number when entering. No dog or handler suspended by UKC/The AMERICAN FIELD or *FDSB* will be declared a winner. **Social:** Purina will host a dinner Wednesday, March 6, at the Rhea Building.

GARMIN collars to the Winner and Runner-Up.

Runt France sculpted game bird plaques to Winner and Runner-Up.

## Contact: PIPER HUFFMAN—(662) 471-1700

[Entries will be taken by phone calls ONLY, no email entries accepted. All entries will be confirmed, no messages accepted.]

OFFICERS Todd Schaaf President Chase Cochran Vice-President Amanda Schaaf Secretary/Treasurer



BOARD MEMBERS Dan Hoke Mel Lueck

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo Only!

# — 124 Years of Field Trialing in the Pacific Northwest —

A Purina Award & Purina Handler of the Year Award Points Trial A National Championship Qualifier & Amateur Invitational Points







# Starts March 25, 2024

# Imperial River Cattle Ranch, Maupin, OR

PACIFIC COAST SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1-Hour Heats)...... Entry Fee: \$260.00 A Purina Top Shooting Dog & Purina Handler of the Year Points Stake

### AFTCA AMATEUR INVITATIONAL POINTS TRIAL

**Eligibility:** A placement in a recognized Open Shooting Dog or Open Derby stake. **Judges:** Cliff Mesnard, Modesto, CA, and Jimmy Wallace, Prospect, OH

PACIFIC COAST ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1-Hour Heats)...... Entry Fee: \$275.00 A Purina Award & Purina Handler of the Year Points Stake • National Championship Qualifier AFTCA Amateur Invitational Points Trial

> **Eligibility:** A placement in a recognized Open All-Age or Open Derby stake. **Judges:** Thomas Griffin, Santa Barbara, CA, and Jimmy Wallace, Prospect, OH

SHOOTING DOG DERBY (30 Min.)—Time permitting; Judges TBA	Entry Fee: \$ 40.00
ALL-AGE DERBY (30 Min.)—Time permitting; Judges TBA	Entry Fee: \$ 40.00
SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Time permitting; Judges TBA	Entry Fee: \$ 40.00
ALL-AGE (30 Min.)—Time permitting; Judges TBA	Entry Fee: \$ 40.00

• **Grounds:** Imperial River Cattle Ranch, 941443 Hinton Rd., Maupin, OR 97037. *From Maupin*—Take Hwy. 197 to Bakeoven Rd.; turn left on Bakeoven Rd. for 17 miles to Hinton Rd.; turn left for 0.6 miles and turn right into the gravel pit area. *From US 97*—Go to Bakeoven Rd. towards Maupin, OR, for 7.5 miles to Hinton Rd.; turn right for 0.6 miles and turn right into the gravel pit area.

• Drawing: Friday, March 22, 6:30 p.m., at Imperial River Hotel. Appetizers will be served at the drawing.

• Entry Fees: All entry fees to be paid prior to drawing.

• **Prizes & Purses:** *All-Age*—Split 50% to club and 50% to winner and runner-up divided 70-30. From the winners' purse (per entry): \$20 to NFTCA, \$15 to Grounds Fees, \$5 to Region 10 (AFTCA), and \$25 General Fees. Winner takes all if no runner-up is named. The champion and runner-up will also receive a SportDOG collar. *Shooting Dog*—Split 50% to club and 50% to winner and runner-up divided 70-30. From the winners' purse (per entry): \$15 to Grounds Fees, \$5 to Region 10 (AFTCA), and \$25 General Fees, \$5 to Region 10 (AFTCA), and \$25 General Fees. Winner takes all if no runner-up is named. The champion and runner-up divided 70-30. From the winners' purse (per entry): \$15 to Grounds Fees, \$5 to Region 10 (AFTCA), and \$25 General Fees. Winner takes all if no runner-up is named. The champion and runner-up will also receive a SportDOG collar. PURINA will award ProPlan Performance Dog Food to all of the winners and runners-up.

• Accommodations: Imperial River Co., Maupin, OR—(800) 395-3903.

Reporter: Amanda Schaaf, Woodland, WA

Thanks to our sponsor, Purina.

# Email entries to: TODD SCHAAF, Field Trial Chairman • Email: taschaaf@tds.net

The Pacific Coast Championships Association, Inc., its officers, directors, membership and landowners assume no responsibility for participants or spectators, in the event of damage to persons, animals or property.

### **Kennel Fixtures**

### **Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America**

www.aftca.org Piper Huffman, Secretary 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.nbhadog.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@ymail.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 Phone: (770) 862-6568 Bruce Mercer, Secretary Phone: (470) 345-6369 Email: mercerbruce@hotmail.com Georgia Casey, Treasurer Phone: (618) 638-2952

#### U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Association www.uscomplete.org

Chris Catanzarite, President Phone: (724) 884-7244 Email: Catanzarite@fairpoint.net Bill Bonnetti, Vice-President Phone: (508) 648-0598 Email: bonnetti-william@comcast.net Jameson Crandall, Secretary/Treasurer Phone: (804) 577-3788 Email: jameson.crandall@gmail.com For the most up-to-date trial dates and ads, visit the Calendar at: www.americanfield.com

### Futurities

**Grand National Grouse Futurity** Thor Kain Phone: (570) 702-6670 Email: TKain63@gmail.com

Midwest Vizsla Futurity Rodney Albin Phone: (636) 366-9746 Email: rodneyalbin@centurytel.net

National Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity Jim Ogle Phone: (417) 388-0734 Email: jojosenglishsetters@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Assn. Jeff Wallace, Futurity Manager Phone: (641) 891-9513 Email: jeffwallace@iowatelecom.net

National Red Setter Futurity James Inbody Phone: (330) 306-8065 Email: BonasaHunter72@aol.com

National Shooting Dog Futurity Mark Hughes Phone: (814) 591-3540 Email: mdh275@gmail.com

#### **Clarksville Bird Dog Club** February 1 / Huntingdon, TN Contact: Lisa Little Phone: (931) 980-0452 Email: doubletroublestables@yahoo.com

North Carolina Field Trial Association February 2 / Hoffman, NC Contact: Grayson Francis Phone: (434) 610-8601

Region 8 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship February 2 / Inola, OK Contact: Mike Griffin Phone: (918) 797-5807

Alabama Open All-Age Championship February 3 / Blue Mountain, MS Contact: Greg Bain Phone: (256) 762-2014

NGSPA Region 16 Championships February 4 / Bronwood, GA Contact: Diane Coppens Phone: (618) 604-4377 Email: rakersd14@gmail.com

National Open Shooting Dog Championship February 5 / Union Springs, AL Contact: Heather Klinck Phone: (334) 207-9422 Email: hsklinck@gmail.com Region 11 (NGSPA) Championships

February 6 / Mesquite, NV Contact: Warren Eizman Phone: (706) 828-0782

Georgia Amateur Celebration February 9 / Waynesboro, GA Contact: Nell Mobley Phone: (706) 554-2991 or (706) 466-2991 South Carolina Amateur Classic Celebration February 9 / Pamplico, SC Contact: Rodney Poston Phone: (843) 319-4814 Email: Rposton1023@gmail.com Associated Field Trial Clubs of Florida (Puppy Derby Classic)

February 10 / Punta Gorda, FL Contact: Beth Brown Phone: (941) 737-3660

### National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity Krysta Munden

Phone: (724) 840-8400 Email: krystamunden@gmail.com

New England Shooting Dog Futurity Margaret C. Drew Phone: (910) 206-0079 Email: margaretdrew39@gmail.com

North American Woodcock Futurity Joe Dahl Phone: (207) 478-3063 Email: JosephDahl@aol.com

Southern Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity Bruce Mercer Phone: (470) 345-6369 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 C. Drew Phone: (910) 206-0079 Email: bmdrew@windstream.net

### **Recognized Field Trials**

NGSPA Region 7 Championships February 10 / Ardmore, OK Contact: Kirk Bomer Phone: (281) 413-0514 Email: mkbomer@gmail.com

**Fuji Field Trial Club** February 12 / Bando Tone River Field Contact: Satoshi Kobayashi

The National Championship February 12 / Grand Junction, TN Contact: R. J. Carlisle Phone: (901) 878-1067 Email: rcarlisle@amesplantation.org

Gulf Coast Open Shooting Dog Championship February 15 / Union Springs, AL Contact: Robert Moorer Phone: (334) 558-7080 Email: Robertm7080@gmail.com

West Tennessee Field Trial Club February 15 / Dancyville, TN Contact: J. P. Hathcock Phone: (731) 443-0050

**Pinehurst Field Trial Club** February 16 / Hoffman, NC Contact: Paul Gadd Phone: (828) 322-9223

West Valley Bird Dog Club February 16 / Valley Springs, CA Contact: Jan Corbitt Phone: (209) 613-5327 Email: Ladymarten@aol.com

**Southwestern Field Trial Club** February 17 / Chandlerville, IL Contact: Jeff Wagoner Phone: (309) 657-2536

United States Shooting Dog Invitational Championship February 17 / Conway, AR Contact: Johnny Phone: (501) 681-0125

Region 15 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship February 18 / Tone River Field Contact: Tatsuo Ishino Phone: (053) 925-3029

### **Kennel Fixtures**

National Amateur Free-For-All Championship February 22 / Union Springs, AL Contact: Rick Stallings Phone: (334) 244-2093

Southeastern Open Shooting Dog Championship February 22 / Lake City, FL Contact: Joel Norman Phone: (352) 356-3561 Email: joelnorman1959@gmail.com Region 4 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship February 23 / Berea, KY Contact: Mary Sue Schalk Phone: (270) 625-0196 Region 5 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship February 23 / Cutler, IL Contact: Brad Hargis Phone: (618) 292-1798 Region 17 (AFTCA) Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship February 23 / Moline, KS Contact: Diane Shoemaker Phone: (816) 309-4773 **Dixie Field Trial Club** February 24 / Leesburg, GA Contact: Billy Wayne Morton Phone: (229) 344-1784 NGSPA Great Plains Championships February 24 / Abilene, KS Contact: Tracy Verdoorn Phone: (816) 678-3822 Email: trverdoorn@gmail.com Eastern Kanto Field Trial Club February 25 / Chiba-Ken, Japan Contact: Toshiji Yoshioka Derby Field Trial Club February 26 / Hoffman, NC Contact: Calvin Curnutte Phone: (910) 995-7902 Email: drowningcreekgundogs@yahoo.com **Illinois Shooting Dog Championship** 

February 26 / Chandlerville, IL Contact: Jeff Wagoner Phone: (309) 657-2536 **National Amateur Quail & Derby Championships** February 26 / Greenville, FL Contact: Piper Huffman Phone: (662) 471-1700

Southeastern Quail Championship March 1 / Dawson, GA Contact: Lamar Childers Phone: (404) 790-2944

Delaware Valley Bird Dog Club March 2 / Bernville, PA Contact: James Humes Jr. Phone: (484) 550-2957 Email: jphjr1215@gmail.com Pacific Coast Championship Field Trial Club

March 2 / Maupin, OR Contact: Todd Schaaf Phone: (503) 267-4853 Email: tschaaf@emsco.com

Carolina Celebration March 4 / Allendale, SC Contact: Billy Kerr Phone: (843) 473-5464 Email: Billy.Kerr@coxinc.com National Amateur Shooting Dog Championships March 4 / Grand Junction, TN Contact: Piper Huffman Phone: (662) 471-7000 For the most up-to-date trial dates and ads, visit the Calendar at: www.americanfield.com

Region 5 (AFTCA) Amateur

### **Recognized Field Trials**

Region 3 (AFTCA) Amateur Shooting Dog Championship March 7 / Ridgeland, SC Contact: R. L. Duerksen Phone: (412) 951-5033 Email: rlduerksen@gmail.com

Willie "Byrd" Owens Derby Classic March 7 / Union Springs, AL Contact: Robert Moorer Phone: (334) 558-7080 Email: Robertm7080@gmail.com All-America Derby & Quail Championships March 8 / Pinckneyville, IL Contact: Nathan Phillips Phone: (812) 499-0418 Email: Lawlesskennels@yahoo.com Conecuh Station Amateur Shooting Dog Classic March 9 / Union Springs, AL Contact: Robert Moorer Phone: (324) 558-7080 Email: Robertm7080@gmail.com

Mid-State Bird Dog Club March 9 / Chandlerville, IL Contact: Jeff Wagoner Phone: (309) 657-2536

Pennsylvania Amateur Grouse Dog Club March 9 / Marienville, PA Contact: Eric Munden Phone: (724) 961-1969 Midwest Open Shooting Dog Championship March 12 / Elk City, KS

March 12 / Elk City, KS Contact: David Taylor Phone: (712) 310-7882 **Region 17 (AFTCA) Amateur** Walking Shooting Dog Championship

March 14 / Abilene, KS Contact: Diane Shoemaker Phone: (816) 309-4773

FTCI Horseback Winners' Classic March 15 / Chandlerville, IL Contact: Sean Patrick Derrig Phone: (773) 447-6131 Email: Spderrig@gmail.com Beaver Valley Pointer & Setter Club

March 16 / Rochester, PA Contact: Norm Meeder Phone: (412) 671-1043 Kansas Open Derby & Open Puppy Classics

March 22 / Dexter, KS Contact: Don Beauchamp Phone (316) 542-0103 or (316) 772-3684 Email: donbeauchamp1@gmail.com

National Amateur Chukar All-Age Championship March 23 / Maupin, OR Contact: Piper Huffman Phone: (662) 471-1700 Chickahominy Field Trial Association

March 24 / Jarrett, VA Contact: Mert Jones Phone: (804) 512-7567 Email: fewpointers@gmail.com

Kanto Pointing Dog Club March 24 / Kanna River, Japan Contact: Nobumasa Takeishi Pacific Coast Championships

March 25 / Maupin, OR Contact: Todd Schaaf Phone: (503) 267-4853 Email: tschaaf@tds.net Cockade Bird Dog Club

March 28 / Ahoskie, NC Contact: Ellen C. Winall Phone: (804) 836-6590

Shooting Dog Championship March 28 / Cutler, IL Contact: Jon Lam Phone: (618) 967-5906 Email: jonlam17@yahoo.com Egyptian Open Shooting Dog Championship April 1 / Cutler, IL Contact: Jim Lawless Phone: (618) 317-7811 Cascade Open All-Age Championship April 2 / Payette, ID Contact: Alex Mauck Phone: (503) 320-2847 Email: alex.mauck@gmail.com **Ontario Grouse Championship** April 2 / Philipsburg, PA Contact: Joe Cammisa Phone: (724) 859-3908 CAN/AM Open Shooting Dog Classic April 4 / Payette, ID Contact: Alex Mauck Phone: (503) 320-2847 Email: alex.mauck@gmail.com The Virginia Classics April 4 / Scottsville, VA Contact: Tommy Stargell Phone: (434) 960-2651 Region 10 (AFTCA) Amateur All-Age Championship April 6 / Payette, ID Contact: Alex Mauck Phone: (503) 320-2847 Email: alex.mauck@gmail.com Vancouver Island Pointing Dog Club April 6 / Parksville, BC Contact: Kelsey Leah Phone: (250) 713-2203 Email: eventsecretary.vipdc@gmail.com Pennsylvania Grouse Trial Club April 11 / Marienville, PA Contact: Dave Duell Phone: (814) 706-1297 Grouse & Woodcock Invitational Championship April 17 / Gladwin, MI Contact: Joe Cammisa Phone: (724) 859-3908 **British Columbia All Breed Pointer Club** April 20 / Princeton, BC Contact: Kelsey Leah Phone: (250) 713-2203 Email: bcallbreedpointerclub@gmail.com ABHA TRIALS **ABHA Western Region Walking** Shooting Dog Championship February 1 / Mt. Vernon, MO Contact: Ivy Crook Phone: (417) 388-3705 Wichita Bird Dog Club February 22 / Moline, KS Contact: Frank Schoenborn Phone: (316) 641-8144 NBHA TRIALS **NBHA National Invitational** Breeders' Championship February 14 / Grovespring, MO

February 14 / Grovespring, MO Contact: Jim Ogle Phone: (417) 388-0734 Email: jojosenglishsetters@gmail.com NBHA Futurity

& Jerry D. Kilgore Puppy Classic February 16 / Grovespring, MO Contact: Christian Ogle Phone: (417) 388-0734 Email: jojosenglishsetters@gmail.com

### **Kennel Fixtures**

Bluegrass Walking Shooting Dog Club February 17 / Berea, KY Contact: Gary Vitali Phone: (859) 351-1266 Wichita Bird Dog Club February 23 / Moline, KS Contact: Brad Taylor Phone: (316) 259-8514 Licking River Field Trial Club February 23 / Berea, KY Contact: Mary Sue Schalk Phone: (270) 625-0196 NBHA National Open Championship February 27 / Dancyville, TN Contact: Greg Blair Phone: (262) 939-2775 Email: glblair5@gmail.com

### SBHA TRIALS

**Central Alabama Shooting Dog Association** February 8 / Alberta, AL Contact: Teresa Justice Phone: (334) 419-4125

Alabama Region of SBHA February 9 / Walnut Grove, AL Contact: Jim Crook Phone: (256) 208-1157

#### **Recognized Field Trials**

SBHA National Open Horseback Shooting Dog Classic
February 13 / Union Springs, AL
Contact: Marty Robinson
Phone: (770) 862-6568
Southeastern Continental Breed Championship
February 15 / Waynesboro, GA
Contact: Heather Miller
Phone: (864) 607-7922
Email: SecBCH1@gmail.com

Cedar Valley Classic March 25 / Hoffman, NC Contact: Calvin Curnutte Phone: (910) 995-7902 Email: drowningcreekgundogs@yahoo.com

USCSDA TRIALS USCSDA National Open Championship February 8 / Hoffman, NC Contact: Jameson Crandall Phone: (804) 577-3788 Email: jameson.crandall@gmail.com North Carolina Pointing Dog Association February 16 / Marston, NC Contact: Lynne Leith Phone: (802) 373-1747 Email: lynne.leith@gmail.com Peninsula Bird Hunters Club February 17 / Ahoskie, NC Contact: Ashby Morgan Phone: (804) 384-7185

USCSDA Southeast Regional Championship March 1 / Hoffman, NC Contact: David Huffine Phone: (910) 620-2970 Email: dhuffine51@gmail.com

Hanover Field Trial Association March 2 / King William, VA Contact: Kirk Regensburg Phone: (804) 730-8433 or (804) 543-3470 Email: regensburglinwood@gmail.com

Derby Field Trial Club March 12 / Hoffman, NC Contact: Calvin Curnutte Phone: (910) 995-7902 Email: drowningcreekgundogs@yahoo.com Chickahominy Field Trial Association March 23 / Jarrett, VA Contact: Mert Jones Phone: (804) 512-7567 Email: fewpointers@gmail.com

### 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 requirements, ads must appear on the website calendar at least two weeks prior to the start of the event. To be included in a print edition, please see deadlines below:

### **FEBRUARY 2024**

\*Deadline January 5

### MARCH 2024 \*Deadline February 5

APRIL 2024 \*Deadline March 5

### MAY 2024 \*Deadline April 5

\*Please submit ads prior to the deadline date to allow time for revisions and approvals. Material must be received and approved by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date. Deadlines that fall on weekends or holidays move to the next business day.

> For a copy of a previous ad, please email: gsmith@ukcdogs.com or visit the calendar at www.americanfield.com

# FIELD DOG STUD BOOK

*Field Dog Stud Book (FDSB)* is the oldest purebred dog registry in the United States providing dog owners with authentic documentation, registration, certified pedigrees and DNA services. From 1874 to 2021, the FDSB registry was managed by original publisher – the American Field Publishing Company.

On September 1, 2021, UKC announced the official acquisition of Field Dog Stud Book & the American Field Publishing Company.

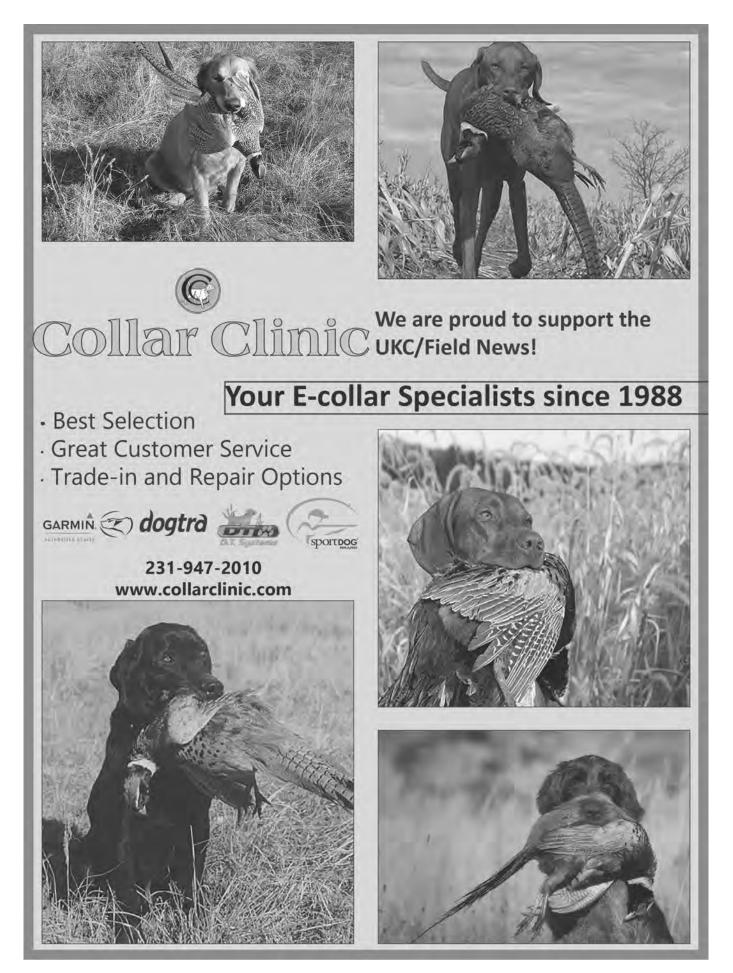
The historic blending of these registries has been a strategic process. On January 1, 2024, the two registries officially step into the future as one stud book with Dual Privileges offered both retroactively and moving forward. The details below reflect the added options and eligibility now provided.

As of January 1, 2024 there are select breeds eligible to receive pedigrees under the FDSB mark. Some of those breeds are: Brittany, English Pointer, English Setter & Llewellin, Epagneul Breton, German Shorthaired Pointer, Irish Setter, and more. For a complete list, please visit ukcdogs.com/register-my-dog. Any breed not listed above may apply for registration with UKC directly and will receive the appropriate UKC registration package in return. Any dog granted FDSB registration is automatically considered Dual Priveleged in UKC and has the full privileges appropriate for its breed.

PREVIOUS TO 2024	STARTING JANUARY 1, 2024
Individual Dog	Individual Dog
Included (\$25): • Registration Certificate	Included (\$30): • Registration Certificate with 3-Gen Pedigree with Wins (UKC's standard Performance Pedigree)
Upgrades Available: • 3, 4 and 5-Gen Pedigrees with or without wins	<ul> <li>Upgrades Available:</li> <li>Upgrade Registration Package to include a 4-Gen Pedigree with Wins</li> <li>Additional 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7-Gen Display Pedigrees</li> <li>Upgrade any selection to include Enhanced Metallic Details</li> <li>Purple Ribbon Bred dogs with 3 consecutive generations of registered ancestry will automatically be given Purple Ribbon Status and be designated as such on any Pedigree selection</li> <li>Levels of shipping upgrades available to receive paperwork with tracking information (including Next Day mailing)</li> <li>Registration Products Available:</li> <li>UKC Pedigree Binder and inserts for easy organization of paperwork</li> </ul>
Litters	Litters
<ul> <li>Litter Fee plus a Per Pup Fee (\$25 plus \$2/pup)</li> <li>Breeder receives the Litter Enrollment with the Stud Book Number. Each New Owner completes the Application for Registration with a signature from Breeder to complete the Pup's registration and receive their FDSB Registration Number</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Litter Fee and no Per Pup Fee (\$34)</li> <li>Breeder receives a Puppy Registration number pre-printed on a Puppy Kit that includes a Puppy Application inside for the new owner to complete. The Puppy Registration number turns into the FDSB Registration Number once the application is submitted to FDSB/UKC</li> <li>Breeder has the option to Permanently Register any amount of Pups at the time of Litter Registration Certificate with Pedigree)</li> </ul>
DNA DNA	
• Fee was \$65 with a Certificate of DNA Analysis	• Fee is now \$55 with a Certificate of DNA Analysis



For complete details on the UKC/FDSB registration process and any changes, please see **ukcdogs.com/registration-info** To register your eligible dog or litter online, visit **ukcdogs.com/registration** 



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