

UKC®

FIELD

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UKC TEAM IN THE FIELD

— *An update from Domenick Muoio*

The clock is ticking down for time left to get your Hall of Fame nominations in and confirm your subscriber status to ensure you have a vote! The September issue will include voting information, so if you still need to subscribe to the paid print version of the UKC[®] Field, make sure to do that this month. Next month we will also include a list of the individuals who make up the voting committee. This committee will decide your 2023 Hall of Fame inductees.

The heat of the summer is almost behind us, fall is right around the corner, and many of you may be reading this from your camps up north. We wish you all a healthy and productive training season and eagerly await the first reports of the fall season!

— *Domenick Muoio*

Field Trial & Hunt Test Program Manager

Voting Committee Members Only:

If you are an outgoing individual or an individual whose position has changed, please let us know so we can ensure the correct individual receives their ballot.

National Champion



MILLER'S BLINDSIDER

Nick Berrong, Owner | Jamie Daniels, Handler | Fran & Jack Miller, Breeders

[Photo by Chris Mathan]

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RON WILLIAMS

Dog wagon driver, cook, and cowboy (Region 13 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship)

FIELD TRIAL HALL OF FAME

Nominations For Candidates Readers Deem Deserving

[See more at www.americanfield.com]

Rivertons Funseek'n Scooter

On a hunt with Richie in Idaho, Scooter was released behind the kennel and, in the next three-plus hours, found and flawlessly handled chukars, Huns, valley quail, and pheasants. When Richie would come to Chickasaw in winter, Scooter, just out of a crate on day one, was a vacuum cleaner on quail. The dog was one of the best bird finders I have ever seen and had an uncanny ability to adapt to different game birds and geographies. Most notably, the dog was able to transmit these qualities to his offspring.

Funseeker's Rebel got into the Hall of Fame based on his record as a performer and producer. That stated, much of his production record passed through his son, Rivertons Funseek'n Scooter. Similarly, Just Irresistible, a son of Scooter, was elected to the Hall of Fame due in large part to his production record. Rivertons Funseek'n Scooter is the key link in this impressive production chain and deserves recognition for it.

Rivertons Funseek'n Scooter was a threat from the piney woods to the prairies and amassed an impressive performance record. A 200-word limit does not allow amplification. The dog deserves consideration for the Hall of Fame.

— *Dr. Ron Deal*

True Confidence

I've always believed a true all-age dog wins from the prairies to the piney woods and everywhere in between. True Confidence is a dog that did that consistently over an impressive ten-year career. Bob was one of the most consistent dogs I've ever competed against, and he never took himself out of a field trial. That and his uncanny ability to find birds and his immaculate style made it tough for all his competition.

A true Hall of Fame dog does all of the above and then produces it as well. True Confidence has proven his worth as a sire. I campaigned his son, Dogwood Bill, to Purina Derby of the Year (2019). Bill was just one of the many champions Bob produced, winning on the major circuits across the country.

True Confidence meets every criteria to be in the Hall of Fame. Please join me and many others to put this most deserving dog where he belongs.

— *Jamie Daniels*

I scouted True Confidence during his career on the open all-age circuit with Luke. I would find him on point but never had much else to do except direct him back to Luke. Bob did it all on his own and had his mind on birds and Luke. He was a front-running dog who always found birds. True Confidence is deserving of Hall of Fame recognition.

— *Tommy Davis*

True Confidence ("Bob") was a consistent performer that won from the piney woods to the prairies on every game bird but chukar. Over a ten-year career, the dog amassed six championships and eleven runner-up titles. True Confidence possessed exquisite style both running and pointing and was able to maintain that style into an advanced age and through multiple game contacts in a single performance. In fact, the dog won the Southeastern Quail championship at age ten with a five-find performance. Near time on his fifth find, he still exhibited picture-perfect composure. True Confidence proved his longevity even more by winning the Hawthorne Open All-Age Border Classic at the age of eleven.

True Confidence and Confident Nation comprise the only father-son combination to win the Southeastern Quail Championship (2019 and 2022) before 2023. The dog has produced multiple other champions and is still adding to his production record. Like Red Water Rex before him, everything that I have seen True Confidence throw makes a bird dog, whether they are privileged to compete or not.

True Confidence has made a positive impact on our sport and deserves consideration for the Hall of Fame.

— *Dr. Ron Deal*

I'm writing to endorse Ch. True Confidence for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. Bob's qualities meet and exceed every criteria for the Hall of Fame. He was a consistent, winning performer—a dog handler's dream, giving his all every time he was under the whistle. And it didn't matter who was handling him; Bob always ran his best race and hunted with intent and perseverance. As a top contender his entire career, Bob had immaculate style and composure and produced many winners and multiple champions. Dedicated to

the field trial sport, Bob's greatest legacy will be the lasting and special memories he gave so many. Please join me in voting True Confidence into the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— *Luke Eisenhart*

I encourage people to vote for True Confidence for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. I have seen this dog in amateur competitions and in open trials. He was always a threat to win and a very good bird dog. Rich Heaton and I judged him on the prairie in the United States Chicken Championship in 2018. He put down a great race with three finds in 97-degree heat and won. He always gave a good effort on the ground. As a sire, he has produced several good dogs. Please consider him in voting for the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— *Mike Jackson*

I had the privilege of seeing True Confidence ("Bob") develop from a little puppy to a veteran true all-age dog. Bob was a rare specimen who possessed it all—super nose, immaculate style, natural ability, physique, and, most notably, supreme intelligence. Frank LaNasa knew from early on that he had something extra special. Bob was one of those rare dogs we all hope to have in our kennel at least once in a lifetime. I saw him perform many remarkable feats at our summer camp, and he carried those traits on to competition. Most of the championships I witnessed Bob win left no doubt about who the clear winner was. It didn't matter if it was Luke or Frank at the helm; Bob wanted to please.

Versatility is another important trait we should consider. Bob won convincingly in the piney woods, on the prairie, in the Midwest, and in edge country, up to nearly twelve years of age. Not only was Bob a great performer, but he has also sired many champions and winners, including 7x Ch. Confident Nation.

Please join me in voting for True Confidence for the Hall of Fame.

— *Scott Jordan*

I went to the Prairie with Frank LaNasa when True Confidence was a young derby. Frank told me then that he thought he had a very special dog on his hands. I had the

pleasure of watching Bob in workouts, compete, and win on many venues and different game birds, including his extraordinary, memorable Top Qualifier run in the 2020 Continental Championship. His consistency was remarkable every time out. His longevity while remaining competitive should not be overlooked as a rare quality. His last win was at the 2020 Hawthorne Classic in North Dakota at age eleven-and-a-half. What a great way to end his career with Frank handling.

I've also witnessed many of Bob's sons and daughters perform and win in field trials. His good qualities are clearly being passed on to his progeny.

Bob was a real standout competitor who more than deserves a spot in the Hall of Fame.

— Ben McKean

Bob is a common name in the United States, but Frank and Jean LaNasa's "Bob" was anything but common; in fact, he was an extraordinary competitor and an exceptional companion. When I came onto the all-age scene as an owner in 2016, I became well-acquainted with Luke Eisenhart's string, and Bob became a favorite of mine almost immediately. His running style and hunting patterns were nothing less than compelling. There are many "Bob performances" that I can recount, but the one that embodied most what he represented in the field was his captivating show at the Quail Invitational Championship in Paducah, Ky., when he was named runner-up in 2019. We let loose in the early morning hours onto frost-covered, icy ground, and he hunted up quail like only a master does! Please join me in voting True Confidence into the Hall of Fame.

— Claudia McNamee

I judged True Confidence in Montana early on in his career and watched him compete several times after that. The championships on wild birds are the most impressive to me and, in my opinion, have the most impact on the sport. It was evident early that Bob had all the characteristics of a champion—intelligence, speed, style, a good nose, and that rare combination of desire and biddability. His win and production records speak for themselves. I fully endorse True Confidence for the 2023 Bird Dog Hall of Fame.

— Kim Sampson

Clinton "Joe" Bush

It's time to put in a legendary scout! Joe has been working bird dogs for over 50 years since he was a fourteen-year-old boy

living next door to Harold Ray.

Joe scouted Fiddler and Fiddler's Pride for every championship they won. He scouted Evolution, Builder's Addition, Heritage's Premonition, Fiddler's Bo, Fiddler's Pride's Iris, Builder's Free Boy, Ballentine, Spy Hill Bullett, and many more champions.

The following year Joe won the International Pheasant Championship with an entry of over 80 dogs. He ran in the first brace and was named champion with no runner-up. The dog's name was Meadowbrook Joe.

Joe is the first black man to train, develop, qualify, and run a dog in The National. He has developed many dogs that became all-age field champions.

Joe has judged numerous field trials, including the Invitational Shooting Dog Championship, the Georgia Shooting Dog Championship, Georgia All-Age Championship, and many weekend trials.

Most recently, Joe scouted Strut Nation to requalify him for The National.

Joe Bush has over fifty years of involvement with field trials: scouting, handling, judging, and training. Joe will help and give advice and encouragement to anyone who asks. Please support Clinton "Joe" Bush for the Hall of Fame.

— Karen Norton

Gary Lester

Quoting Domenick Muoio's note to what a Person's election to the Hall of Fame should entail, "The contributions to the sport should be undeniable. Is the sport better for this person being involved?" The answer would have to be a solid yes vote for Gary Lester. He has had an extremely successful career in the amateur and pro divisions. The sport has been made better through his contribution as a breeder; one does not have to search too hard to see this evidence when reading and studying pedigrees and looking at the results of field trials throughout the United States. He has donated his time in the saddle to judge many major trials and has been involved as a club official. He has been a generous supporter of youth organizations which are the lifeline to the future of this sport. Yes, he has given to the sport and made it better; let's give him the recognition due to him and elect him to the Hall of Fame.

— Fran and Jack Miller

Richard Robertson Jr.

I first encountered Richie in 1972 when his father would bring the entire family to the trials in California. Richie was an outgoing but well-mannered and polite

teenager willing to help anyone who needed it. Those same traits have made him an outstanding ambassador for our sport since he turned professional over forty years ago.

Richie has won over 150 Championships. In addition, many times, he has beaten himself using his scouting proclivity to help other handlers. Although he has been a dominant force in his home region, he has also successfully shown his talents from the prairies to the deep South and in all points between. Richie has won all the Prairie Championships on both sides of the border, plus the North Dakota Classic. He has also won the Florida, placed in the Continental, and won the Oklahoma and Kansas Championships, among others.

Richie has demonstrated a talent for breeding and an ability for developing nationally competitive dogs. Two dogs he developed are already in the HOF, and another has been nominated this year.

Richard Robertson Jr. deserves your consideration for the HOF based on his multiple contributions to our sport over time.

— Dr. Ron Deal

Nine years ago, I was diagnosed with kidney cancer. When Rich found out, he called and asked me if I needed anything, asked if I wanted him to come and get the horses and dogs and take care of them while I was down. Just being diagnosed with cancer, I was numb, but the offer made me feel better and brighten my outlook at that time. I didn't have dogs with Rich and he offered to make that ten-hour drive each way to care for my animals. That's the kind of person Rich Robertson is. For 30 years, he traveled across the United States every year to compete with his owners' dogs in The National, Florida, and Continental Championships. He then traveled across the U. S. to compete in the West Coast trials. In my 30+ years being involved with the dogs, I feel there's never been a person that's more deserving of this honor than my good friend Rich Robertson.

— Jeff Gilbertson

I am writing to express my support for Rich Robertson Jr. His contribution in the last four decades has been invaluable to the sport. He has endless hours on the horse, in the field, and traveling from coast to coast. I believe Rich's exceptional achievements and dedication to the field make him a deserving candidate.

Rich's illustrious career as a trainer spans over four decades. His accomplishments in breeding, training, and handling dogs have

left a mark on the field.

Rich should be recognized mainly because of his outstanding record in field trials. He's consistently achieved remarkable success throughout his career, earning numerous championships.

Rich has also made significant contributions to the community through his mentorship and dedication to the preservation of the sport. His willingness to educate and mentor others exemplifies the true spirit of the community, making him an invaluable asset to the sport.

Rich's outstanding achievements, dedication, and positive impact on the community make him an exceptional candidate. I strongly urge the committee to recognize his significant contributions. I believe that by including Rich, we will honor a remarkable individual and inspire future generations of trainers. Please vote for Rich, Trail Boss.

— Sean Kelly

Rich Robertson Jr. has spent his lifetime demonstrating sportsmanship and selfless service to the sport of field trialing. He will drop whatever he is doing to help anyone he finds in his path that has a genuine need, whether that is a helping hand, some honest and thoughtful advice, or an encouraging word. His list of accomplishments and the lives he has influenced spans North America from coast to coast.

Rich is extremely talented and gifted in all aspects of field trialing: training dogs, handling, scouting, and judging. He has earned a place among the top tier of pointer/setter competitors, but he has never lost his selfless desire to help someone in need, whether a fellow competitor, field trial chairman, or "newbie."

In multiple venues spanning 50 years, Rich Robertson Jr., has shown that he personifies a true sportsman who treats others as he would want to be treated and is a "giver," not a "taker." The field trial world is a better place for his having spent a lifetime in it.

— Keith Richardson

David Williams

The first dog I ran in The National was Tripoli, back in the '70s. David and I were friends, and he was there and saw it. He then went with me to work Tripoli a few times, which is how it started for him and field trials. He had a setter we placed a little after that, and then he got a pointer from me that I had raised and started. That was Hawk's Royal Rebel, and it has gone from there for him.

David has been really good to me and a lot of other people along the way. He has had dogs with other trainers, provided grounds to let people work, and let them stay too; he has been really generous to many people, especially me. He has spent a lot of time and money and has done a lot of hard work, and it shows. I believe David deserves the honor of being in the Hall of Fame, and I hope you will join me in supporting him.

— Weldon Bennett

I would like to nominate David Williams for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. David checks all the boxes as a handler, judge, owner, and regional and national trustee. He also has and continues to offer his grounds for trials. Our sport is better today because of the work and dedication that David provides. As a good friend of mine and Hall of Famer would say, "Enough said."

— Larron Copeland

Feeling fairly new to the sport, I often ask a lot of questions. David has always welcomed my questions matching my excitement and love for this sport. He's such an impactful and important person to the community and the continuation of field trials.

The first time I met David was at the Quail Invitational in 2019. I was curious why he would put a dog with a pro when he competed as well. He shared that he was more pleased to have raised a nice dog and enjoyed seeing others have success with that dog even more than himself.

Last summer, I headed north and was thrilled to get to train with David. That morning I asked him to teach me a little about how to get the judges' attention when running. David said to me, "Right here, Tierra, stop your horse, turn a little, look back at your judges, and holler, 'Mr. Judge, there goes my dog!'" At that moment, I felt it click.

David Williams belongs in the Hall of Fame because, without people like him, this sport would become stagnant and fall asleep. He supports the young and newcomers in sacrifice to himself.

— Tierra Hadley

I want to nominate David Williams for our Field Trial Hall of Fame. I have owned pointers for over 50 years and have competed in field trials since 1993 (walking and horseback) throughout the Midwest and Northeast and for the past eight years within Region 6. I have also had my dogs trained

by many top professional trainers. The field trial community is incredibly supportive, but no one has ever treated me better than David Williams. He has provided me access to his land, facilities, and lodging and scouted for me whenever I needed help. Even when he is not scouting, he takes an interest in your dogs and often has provided me with guidance on handling and performance. Yes, he is competitive, but he also enjoys a top performance by any dog or handler, which are qualities I admire. I still work full-time and have limited resources; some people may think that I am a nobody in field trials, but to David Williams, everybody is somebody and treated with respect. I believe David Williams represents the best that our sport has to offer and is deserving of election to the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

— Dr. James Heimdal

As we go along in life, sometimes we are fortunate enough to meet certain individuals, human or otherwise, for whom the current of life flows just a little bit stronger than those around them. And when the beauty and courage of these individuals come shining through in their great achievements, we call them champions.

In the people category, I am asking for the field trial fraternity to support David Williams of Beech Bluff, Tennessee. I met David at The Madsen Ranch, just outside Kennebec, South Dakota, in the late '90s. The late John Criswell was conducting the All-American Prairie Championship in conjunction with Joe Hicks' Iron Nation stakes at that time. Since then, David and I have had many great conversations about life and all aspects of our sport, especially the REBEL dogs! He does everything and then some for the field trial sport, animals, and friends, not himself.

— Jadie Rayfield

I would like to nominate David Williams for the Field Trial Hall of Fame. David is a giver. From his Carroll County farm, which he provides for numerous trials, to years as an AFTCA trustee, to the president of the AFTCA, David has helped promote field trials and supports them. He breeds and trains his own dogs and then competes with them regularly. I ask you to support this very worthy nominee.

— Mike Small

Hall of Fame Nomination for

RICHARD ROBERTSON JR.



I support Richard Robertson Jr.'s nomination to the Field Trial Hall of Fame.

Rich Robertson Jr. has spent his lifetime demonstrating sportsmanship and selfless service to the sport of field trialing. He will drop whatever he is doing to help anyone he finds in his path with a genuine need—whether that is a helping hand, some honest and thoughtful advice, or an encouraging word. His list of accomplishments and the lives he has influenced spans North America from coast to coast.

His dad, Richard Robertson Sr., was a pro trainer who held Rich to a high standard of service and sportsmanship from an early age. As a young man, Rich struck out on his own and soon headed to Grand Junction to find a place to train. Wilson Dunn recognized that Rich was a “giver,” not a “taker,” and set him up with some great grounds, helping him to

get his start on the national circuit. Rich has paid the sport back for Mr. Dunn's kindness many times over.

Rich is extremely talented and gifted in all aspects of field trialing: training dogs, handling, scouting, and judging. He has earned a place among the top tier of pointer/setter competitors, but he has never lost his selfless desire to help someone in need, whether a fellow competitor, field trial chairman, or “newbie.”

In multiple venues spanning 50 years, Rich Robertson Jr. has shown that he personifies a true sportsman who treats others as he would want to be treated and is a “giver,” not a “taker.” The field trial world is a better place for his having spent a lifetime in it.

Sincerely,
Keith Richardson

MN/WI PURINA COVERDOG OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Congratulations To The 2022-23 Season Winners

By Ryan Hough | St. Bonifacius, Minnesota



Moss Meadow Seeker
Open and Amateur Shooting Dog Winner

The points have been tabulated, thanks to Neil Anderson, our new cover dog points chair for the Purina MN/WI Cover Dog of the Year Awards. We appreciate his efforts as the “points guy;” it is a thankless job.

The winners killed it this year. It was a very competitive season with plenty of really nice dogs competing.

Special thanks to Greg Blair and Purina for sponsoring this prestigious award.

Open and Amateur Shooting Dog Winner

Three-time Champion and Runner-up Champion Moss Meadow Seeker, bred, owned, and handled by Michigan amateur Ken Moss.



Little Hawk
Open Derby Winner

Seeker had an awesome season, winning the Wisconsin Cover Dog Championship and North Country Championship back-to-back. Seeker is a well-built, powerful five-year-old male English setter with a knack for finding and handling ruffed grouse and woodcock.

Last year’s Open Shooting Dog winner was Over The Hill Patty, owned and handled by Rod Lein. Rufus Del Fuego, owned and handled by Neil Anderson, won the Amateur Shooting Dog.

Open Derby Winner

Little Hawk, bred, owned, and handled by Paul Cook of Alderfork English Setters.

Ryan Hough handled Little to one derby



Hackberry's Amos Moses
Amateur Derby Winner

win for Paul while he was on a guiding trip. Little is a hard-charging, wide-ranging two-year-old female setter that we expect great things from going forward.

Amateur Derby Winner

Hackberry’s Amos Moses, owned and handled by Ben Brettingen and bred by Hackberry Kennels.

Amos consistently grabbed and held the judges’ attention with his focused and forward “edge of bell range” race, placing in multiple large entry derbies. Amos is a two-year-old male pointer.

Last year’s Open and Amateur Derby honors were awarded to Easy Money, owned and handled by Kyle Peterson.

REGION 8 OPEN ALL-AGE

Westfall's River Ice Wins 2023 Running

By Mike Griffin | Inola, Oklahoma | March 3, 2023

We drew a short number of dogs this year but had a great deal of talent, and all winners were well-received. We enjoyed good weather, food, many visits, and good results. We got started with expectations to be rewarded. The dogs had good races coupled with lots of bird work. I believe nearly all of the dogs had contact with birds, as the winners all had multiple finds. Most everybody chipped in to help with this trial, of which a broken hip hampered me.

First place was awarded to Westfall’s River Ice (Daugherty). He ran on the third

course with lots of speed and control in a big race with three finds and great style. He showed why he has a good winning record.

Second place went to Wynona’s Nickleback Sugar (Vincent), a young dog coming on. He made a great showing with a good race, three nice finds, and very good style and rapport with his handler.

Third place went to Westfall’s Power Trip (Daugherty), another young dog from Westfall’s Camp getting started. He ran a great all-age race with multiple finds, good style, and ground effort. He has a bright future in this game.

We had a great trial, and we hope to see everyone again in the fall.

Inola, Okla., March 3

Judges: Ken Chenoweth and Barry Ward

REGION 8 OPEN ALL-AGE [One-Hour Heats]

– 15 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—WESTFALL’S RIVER ICE, 1659989, pointer male, by Westfall’s Black Ice—Westfall’s Quick Gold. Brad Calkins, owner; Andy Daugherty, handler.

2d—WYNONA’S NICKLEBACK SUGAR, 1690017, setter female, by T’s Nickleback—Carpenter’s Don’t Ya. Bruce Sooter & Brad Tolson, owners; Allen Vincent, handler.

3d—WESTFALL’S POWER TRIP, 1693198, pointer male, by Westfall’s Black Ice—Westfall’s Cutter. Ryan Westfall, owner; Andy Daugherty, handler.



Open Derby Winners (front, l-r): Garvin Collins with Westfall's Pioneer Pete, Colt Harris with Sandridge Big Iron, and Bob Barker with Barker's Lightning Bolt. (Behind): Andy Daugherty, Bill Westfall, Lynn Oxendine, Allen Vincent, Barry Ward (judge), and Ken Chenoweth (judge).

OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—WESTFALL'S PIONEER PETE, 1698838, pointer male, by Foster's Tall Cotton-Flush Em Feathers Queen. Ryan Westfall, owner; Andy Daugherty, handler.

2d—SANDRIDGE BIG IRON, 1700919, pointer male, by Westfall's True Grit-Gin Smoke and Lies. Dr. Jim Mills, Steve Lightle & Natalie Cooper, owners; Allen Vincent, handler.

3d—BARKER'S LIGHTNING BOLT, 1700253, setter female, by Doc's Second Wind-Hard Hats Bad Doty. Bob Barker, owner and handler.



Region 8 Open All-Age Winners (front, l-r): Garvin Collins with Westfall's River Ice, Bruce Sooter with Wynona's Nickleback Sugar, and Ryan Westfall with Westfall's Power Trip. (Behind): Andy Daugherty, Bill Westfall, Bob Barker, Ken Chenoweth (judge), Allen Vincent, Matt Cochran, and Barry Ward (judge).

ENGLISH SETTER CLUB OF AMERICA

Garden State Shooting Dog Classics

By Lloyd Miller | Lacey Township, New Jersey | March 24, 2023

The English Setter Club of America Garden State Shooting Dog Classic program started Friday, March 24, and concluded Sunday, April 2. The weather was great except for a planned stoppage in the running on Saturday afternoon, March 25, where there were to be some dangerous thunderstorms and possible tornadoes passing through the area. They did not form, but the precaution was taken anyway.

The Club would like to thank SBHA this year for supporting this event. It was most appreciated. Next, I would like to thank Joseph Cincotta, our trial chairman, and Joe Lordi, the trial co-chair and secretary, who did most of the work in putting this event together. Others who did much of the work during the event were Matt and Norman Basilone and your scribe with the bird planting, and Bob Brooks, who did a yeoman job with the dog truck all week. A trial is not a success without these very vital tasks. We would also thank those who made the runs to get lunches for the judges daily and others.

Our judges this year were Josh Ruitter of Philadelphia, Pa., Joseph Buchanan of Brick, N. J. Dan Jolly of nearby Chatsworth, N. J., Mike Mullineaux of Atlantic, Va., John Frank of Medford, N. J., Marc Janiec of Cranbury, N. J., and Joseph Cincotta of Stockton, N. J. We thank them all for their time in the



Garden State Open Shooting Dog Classic Winners (front, l-r): Melissa Basilone, Matt Basilone with Triple Nickel Carbon Copy, Joe Lordi with Navajo Cody, and Julie Crowling with West Wind's Blue Image. (Behind): Marcus Ramseur, Miranda Basilone, Joe Buchan (judge) with daughter, Josh Ruitter (judge), and Mike Mullineaux.

saddle and attentiveness throughout. Their decisions were well received.

This year we utilized a new layout for these grounds due to the state having burned hard the north side of Cable Road, leaving not a desirable option for bird planting. We started with our usual counterclockwise course for the hour stake, taking in the extreme southern limits of the grounds, switching to the inner south loop and reversing clockwise on the outer

south, and finishing on the inner south loop before starting over on a continuous course layout. It provided a nice flow for dogs and handlers and plenty of bird work utilizing portions of fields not used normally, providing plenty of cover for birds and excellent bird work during the running.

The Garden State Open Shooting Classic had a very good entry of 22 top shooting dogs. Emerging as the winner was Triple



Garden State Amateur Shooting Dog Classic Winners (front, l-r): Melissa Basilone and Mia Basilone. (Behind): John Frank (judge), Brian Sanchez with Great River Yellowstone, Bo Mamounis with All American Honky Rock, Marcus Ramseur with Harbor City Sure Shot, and Mike Mullineaux (judge).

Nickel Carbon Copy, a white and orange pointer male, owned by Robert and Linda Bergen of Vineland, N. J., and ably handled by Matt Basilone. He ran in brace No. 2 Friday afternoon and scored on four perfectly mannered and stylish quail finds and one back of bracemate. His race was always forward with good range to best the field this day.

Taking the second spot was Navajo Cody, a seven-year-old pointer male owned by Camille Masiello and Sal Morelli of White Plains, N. Y. Cody, handled by Joe Lordi, ran in brace No. 1 Saturday morning (5th overall) and also did a great job. He had five really good stands with two backs in his hour. He ran a good forward-searching race.

Third place went to West Wind's Blues Image, a German Shorthair pointer male, owned by Lance Fargo and handled by Mike Mullineaux of Atlantic, Va. Blaze ran in brace No. 3 Friday and had three nice and stylish quail finds coupled with a big searching race.

Others that were close to the winners were Smoke N Mirrors, a pointer female, who ran in the first brace Friday and scored with five nice finds and a good race. Also, Ravenwood Throwing Smoke, a pointer male, in the last brace, No. 11, finished with three finds and a back. Matt Basilone handled both.

The Open Derby ran Sunday afternoon. Taking the first-place spot was Tee's Sweet Emotion, a white and liver pointer male owned by Great River Kennels of Central Islip, N. Y., and capably handled by Brian Sanchez. Tee had one standout quail find and a big, forward, classy race.

Second went to Double A's Axle Rhoads, a young white and liver German Shorthair pointer male owned by Alexandra Frank and Alec Rhoads and handled by John Frank. Axle also had one nice piece of bird work and a strong searching race.

Third went to Westwind's Royal Cut, a German Shorthair male owned by Julie Crowling of Virginia. Gonads scored with one piece of bird work with a good hunting

race. Mike Mullineaux ably handled him.

The 30-minute Open Shooting Dog stake ran Monday. Taking the blue ribbon was Iron Will's True Grit, a white and liver pointer male. Grit had two standout quail finds on the outer south and a big, forward, classy race.

Second went to Monica's Little Lizzy, a German Shorthair female owned by Charles Monica and handled by Mike Mullineaux. Lizzy had one nice find at the southeast corner of the course and a good classy forward race.

Third went to Iron Will's Raging Bull, a white and liver pointer male. "Baz" had one good find at the Cable Road crossing near time and a good searching race. The first and third-place dogs are owned by Robert and Lisa Brooks of Hammonton, N. J., and were ably handled by Matt Basilone.

In the Amateur Shooting Dog Classic and taking the top spot with an excellent performance this week was Great River Yellowstone, handled by Brian Sanchez. Yellowstone had eight standout finds and a stop-to-flush with a big forward-searching race. A great job by the handler showing off a strong running and fast dog.

Second place went to All American Honky Rock, a white and orange setter male owned by Lenny Puchliakow and handled by Bo Mamounis of Newfield, N. J. Hank showed off his great nose, scoring eight times with a great forward race.

Third place was Harbor City Sure Shot, a white and liver pointer female, owned by Richard Gillis and Karen Lordi and handled by Marcus Ramseur. Sadie ran in brace No. 10 and scored nine times, with great style and class, to get the final spot. It was a great stake with a good field of thirty-one top shooting dogs.

Others that had good efforts during their hour in order of appearances are as follows:

Calico's Guns N Roses with Alex Smith (brace No. 1) had five finds at 5, 7, 36, 43, and 50, with an unproductive at 48. A fourteen-minute absence in the middle hurt his chances.

Tin Man's Heart with Alene LeVasseur (brace No. 2) had a good run scoring eight times at 8, 16, 24, 30, 40, 48, 54, and 58—a nice consistent forward-hunting effort.

Backcountry Bruiser with Tim Catanzarite (brace No. 3) had eight finds and four backs of bracemate—a good competitive brace with bracemate (back and forth finds).

Fluid Drive with Joe Lordi (brace No. 4)



Amateur Derby Winners (front, l-r): Robert Verderosa and Miranda Basilone. (Behind): Mike Mullineaux (judge), Joe Cincotta (judge), Tom Tracy with L H Coach, Chris Catanzarite with Back Country Pure Gold, Marcus Ramseur with Iron Will's Raging Bull, and Robert Brooks.

had a nine-find effort and a good forward race.

Waybetter Bobby with Robert Verderosa (brace No. 8) scored seven times at 3, 10, 17, 26, 34, 40, and 41.

The final stake, the Amateur Derby, ran Sunday afternoon, April 2. The winner was L H Coach, a white and liver pointer male. Coach showed off a great nose with three stylish finds (one was a nice size covey). His race was strong and forward. It was a nice performance. He is owned and handled by Tom Tracy of Lebanon, Conn.

Second was Backcountry Pure Gold, a pointer female with Chris Catanzarite at the helm. Gold scored with one nice stand and a good race.

Third was Iron Will's Raging Bull, a white and liver pointer male. Baz had two finds and a good hunting race. Marcus Ramseur of Newfield, N. J., handled him.

Lacey Twp, N. J., March 24 – One Course

Judges: Joe Buchanan and Josh Ruitter

GARDEN STATE OPEN

SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC (One-Hour Heats)

– 16 Pointers, 2 Setters and 4 German Shorthairs

1st—TRIPLE NICKEL CARBON COPY, 1692617, pointer male, by Miller's Hennessy-Jamback's Amazing Grace. Robert & Linda Bergen, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

2d—NAVAJO CODY, 1668520, pointer male, by Great River Ice-Blaze's Isis. Camille Masiello & Sal Morelli, owners; Joe E. Lordi, handler.

3d—WEST WIND'S BLUES IMAGE, 1663716, German Shorthair male, by Dress Blues-West Wind's High Dollar. Lance Fargo, owner; Mike Mullineaux, handler.

Judges: Mark Janiec and Josh Ruitter

OPEN DERBY – 6 Pointers and 6 Setters

1st—TEE'S SWEET EMOTION, 1699148, pointer male, by Touch's Red Rider-Tee's Funseekin Belle. Great River Kennels, owner; Brian Sanchez, handler.

2d—DOUBLE A'S AXLE RHOADS, unreg., German Shorthair male, by Keg Creek Mc's Big Lick-Monica's Quail Point Black River. Alexander Frank & Alex Rhoads, owners; John Frank, handler.

3d—WESTWIND'S ROYAL CUT, unreg., German Shorthair male, by Keg Creek Mc's Big Lick-Monica's Quail Point Black River. Julie Crowling, owner; Mike Mullineaux, handler.

Judges: Dan Jolly and Josh Ruiter
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 5 Pointers, 1 Setter
and 5 German Shorthairs

1st—IRON WILL'S TRUE GRIT, 1697739, pointer male, by Hyhope Chipper-Iron Will Suzie. Robert & Lisa Brooks, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

2d—MONICA'S LITTLE LIZZY, 1687182, German Shorthair female, by Uodibar's Lights Out-Monica's Bye Bye Smokin Sally. Charles Monica, owner; Mike Mullineaux, handler.

3d—IRON WILL'S RAGING BULL, 1697738, pointer male, by Hyhope Chipper-Iron Will Suzie. Robert & Lisa Brooks, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

Judges: John Frank and Mike Mullineaux
GARDEN STATE AMATEUR
SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC [One-Hour Heats]
– 25 Pointers, 5 Setters and 1 German Shorthair

1st—GREAT RIVER YELLOWSTONE, 1688796, pointer male, by Fast Forward's B K Gunner-Wiggins Miss Stella. Great River Kennels, owner; Brian Sanchez, handler.

2d—ALL AMERICAN HONKY ROCK, 1678475, setter male, by All American Rockster-Minerva of Paradise. Lenny Puchliakow, owner; George Mamounis, handler.

3d—HARBOR CITY SHOT, 1668549, pointer female, by R J's Long Shot-Harbor City Sugar. Richard Gillis & Karen Lordi, owners; Marcus Ramseur, handler.

Judges: Joe Cincotta and Mike Mullineaux
AMATEUR DERBY – 9 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st—L H COACH, 1699305, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Trail Warrior-Steel Valley Wardance. Tom Tracy, owner and handler.

2d—BACKCOUNTRY PURE GOLD, 1694791, pointer female, by Springflow's Backcountry P-Backcountry Tornado. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

3d—IRON WILL'S RAGING BULL, 1697738, pointer male, by Hyhope Chipper-Iron Will Suzie. Robert & Lisa Brooks, owners; Marcus Ramseur, handler.

NITTANY VALLEY BIRD DOG CLUB

Spring Trial

By Robert Boos | Philipsburg, Pennsylvania | April 1, 2023

On April 1, the Nittany Valley Bird Dog Club held its spring field trial. The trial was run on recently developed grounds at the Black Moshannon State Forest.

Special thanks to Greg Blair at Purina for supporting the trial by paying for the cost of the ad and supplying product to the winners.

Additional thanks to Lion Country Supply for providing the judges' gifts. Not enough words can be said for the driving force of Jeff Keller for the development of these new grounds and to all those that spent many hours clearing and marking courses. Over the course of the two days of running the Open Shooting Dog stake, nine grouse and thirteen woodcock were observed. Mojo's Remington Steal placed first with one grouse and one woodcock.

Northern Slopes Bell placed second with two woodcock. Grouse Trails Warrior Cat placed third with one woodcock.

I want to thank all those that helped move cars and kept things running smoothly, and looking forward to seeing everyone again in the fall.

Philipsburg, Pa., April 1

Judges: Robert Kays and Rob Matson
OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats]
– 8 Pointers and 16 Setters

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

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

3d—GROUSE TRAILS WARRIOR CAT, 1690752, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Laurel A. & Patricia L. McKellop, owners; John McKellop, handler.

Judges: Justin Evans and George Hetrick
OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers and 10 Setters

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

2d—ASH CREEKTUG, 1700419, setter male, by Ash Creek Domino-Ash Creek Cloe. Gerard Burke, owner and handler.

3d—ROCK SOLID RONNIE, 1700176, setter female, by Lightning Flash Remington-Grouse Ridge Lazer. Douglas J. Dix, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

Judges: Austin Boos and Marty Stoker
OPEN PUPPY – 4 Pointers, 6 Setters and 1 Irish Setter

1st—GREY EAGLE MOLLY, 1700978, setter female, by End Game-Riverside's Honey Howard. William Drawl, owner and handler.

2d—SHADY HILLS ZEEVA, 1703773, pointer female, by Double Deuce Zeke-Shady Hills Zeena. Debra Nihart, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

3d—GROUSE HILL MAC, 1702136, setter male, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Spata Setters Sally. Giovanni Capocci, owner; Christy Helms, handler.

CASCADE OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Highground Toby Named Champion; Highground Gidget, Runner-Up

By Alex Mauck | Payette, Idaho | April 5, 2023

The Cascade Open All-Age Field Trial is one of the great Western competitions. Held on the wonderful Richardson Ranch in Payette, Idaho, the grounds are home to many native wild bird species. The rolling hills and rocky ridges are ideal for showcasing great all-age dog work and expert dog-handling skills.

The Cascade Open All-Age Championship took place in Payette, Idaho, on the Richardson Ranch, April 5-6. The ranch had experienced one of the wettest regional winters on record. Despite persistent inclement wet weather, the Cascade Board felt the trial should proceed as it would be too difficult to cancel at such

a late date. Snow had barely melted before the ranch saw several weeks of constant rainfall soak the grounds of the ranch preceding the field trial.

Difficult soggy ground conditions made bird work problematic. Valiant field trial supporters made every effort to brave early icy morning conditions to properly plant birds. The ranch has the advantage of a good population of wild birds, including chukars and Hungarian partridges.

Tom Griffin, from Reno, Nev., and Bill Owens, from Santa Barbara, Calif, judged the field trial. We deeply appreciate the judges' time and devotion and the nice,

professional job they did.

A 24-dog field made for a competitive twelve-brace competition. Field trial competitors attended and competed from as far away as Canada, Arizona, Utah, California, and the greater Northwest. The trial experienced awesome all-age work by excellent handlers.

Congratulations to Lori Steinshouer on winning the championship with Highground Toby and runner-up with Highground Gidget. The dogs are actual littermates.

Champion High Ground Toby is owned by Jeffrey Gilbertson, Lori Steinshouer,



Cascade Open All-Age Championship Winners (l-r): Phil Bowden, Terry Erickson, George Gover with Highground Toby, Bill Owen, Lori Steinshouer, Jim Ledington, Bridget Ledington, Todd Marriott, Talmage Smedley with Highground Gidget, Nick Schade, Courtney Bastian, Ryan Marriott, Kris Wall, and Sergio Velez.

and Charles and Kara Kunde and handled by Lori Steinshouer. George Gover scouted. Toby held steady, coming around on his own. He ran well to cover, finding and holding to the front very well. The dog made it easy on the handler. He had a broke find on two pair of wild huns as time was running out. The win resulted in qualifying the dog for the Nationals.

Runner-up Highground Gidget is owned by Lynn and Teresa Stinson and handled by Lori Steinshouer. George Gover scouted. Gidget handled nearly flawlessly, with a great deal of style and race. Her manners were perfect. The dog had a broke find at about the 50-minute mark on two wild huns.

The Cascade Open recognized the lifetime achievement of Rich Robertson, Sr., specific to the phenomenal impact he had on the lives of his family/friends, other hunting dog enthusiasts, the Richardson Ranch development, Tekoa Mountain Sunrise, and subsequent breeding lines and

all-age field trials in general.

A presentation was made on the last night of the field trial to his family and those in attendance. The presentation was conducted by Alex Mauck and Talmage Smedley, close associates of Mr. Robertson. The primary presentation was made by Dr. Stephen Asher, owner of HOF Tekoa Mountain Sunrise.

A Cascade All-Age Memorial trophy was commissioned to recognize his life's great work. All winners and all future winners will be added to the trophy.

Payette, Ida., April 5

Judges: Tom Griffin and Bill Owen

CASCADE OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 14 Pointers, 9 Setters

and 1 German Shorthair

Winner—HIGHGROUND TOBY, 1688620, setter male, by Highground Tonka-Lying Eyes. Lori Steinshouer & Jeff Gilbertson, owners; Lori Steinshouer, handler.

Runner-Up—HIGHGROUND GIDGET, 1687282, setter female, by Highground Tonka-Lying Eyes. Lynn & Teresa Stinson, owners; Lori Steinshouer, handler.

CASCADE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Judges: Terry Erickson and Bridget Ledington

OPEN DERBY – 3 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—T'S SIGNATURE SIG, 1698407, setter male, by T's Gunslinger-Erin's Red Nose. Ryan Marriott, owner and handler.

2d—SERANOVA'S VALLEY BELOW, 1700479, pointer male, by Touch's Malcolm Story-Seranova's On Guard Annie. Nicholas Schade, owner and handler.

3d—CARBONADO'S DON PABLO, 1702622, pointer male, by Touch's Diamante-Empire On Line. Nicholas Schade, owner and handler.

Judges: Ray Larrondo and Talmage Smedley

OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 6 Pointers

1st—FAR WEST ASTEROID, 1702286, pointer male, by Skyfall-Phantom's Rebel Ransom. Michael Wilkin, owner and handler.

Judges: Ray Larrondo and Bridget Ledington

OPEN DERBY – 2 Pointers and 6 Setters

1st—T'S RIDGE REAPER, 1698425, setter male, by T's Gunslinger-Erin's Red Rose. Talmage Smedley, owner; Terry Erickson, handler.

2d—FAR WEST APOLLO, 1702287, pointer male, by Skyfall-Phantom's Rebel Ransom. Michael Wilkin, owner and handler.

3d—T'S HILLBILLIE GIRL, 1698426, setter female, by T's Gunslinger-T's Unjaded. Talmage Smedley, owner; Terry Erickson, handler.

Judges: Terry Erickson and Bridget Ledington

OPEN ALL-AGE – 3 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—PIZZAZZ, unreg., setter female, breeding not given. Todd Marriott, owner; Ryan Marriott, handler.

2d—PAINTED OWYHEE STORM, 1698778, pointer female, by Painted Owyhee Toad-Painted Owyhee Sagebrush. Jim Ledington, owner and handler.

3d—HERO, unreg., setter male, breeding not given. Todd Marriott, owner; Ryan Marriott, handler.

Please submit write-ups
and Essential Data forms to:

Dinora Wellmann
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REGION 19 (AFTCA) AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Northwoods Sir Gordon Named Champion; Flambeau River Meg, Runner-Up

By Kyle Peterson | Augusta, Wisconsin | April 14, 2023

The 2023 Region 19 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship was hosted by the Minnesota Grouse Dog Association. The trial was originally slated to be held at the MGDA trial grounds, but Mother Nature's grasp proved too strong. The snow and road conditions to and from the courses left the MGDA with one option, to call an audible. With the help, guidance, and grace of the Chippewa Valley Grouse

Dog Association, the trial was moved to Augusta, Wis. Located in the Eau Claire County Forest, the CVGDA grounds are a premier venue for cover dog field trials and have been holding trials in or around the same area since 1968. It should come as no surprise, moving a field trial for a host club comes with hurdles. These hurdles could not have been cleared if not for a concerted effort from all Region 19 clubs.

Winter may have left earlier in Wisconsin than it did in Minnesota, but it still took its toll on the courses. With the help of many volunteers, just a week before the running, we were able to get six courses ready for the championship, a true testament to the state of Region 19 cover dog trials.

The Championship

Tough conditions require tough judges.

We were lucky to secure two qualified and attentive judges for the championship: Bill Frahm of Minong, Wis., and Scott Anderson of Scandia, Minn.

With the unseasonably hot weather, just a few days removed from snow and flood warnings, birds were hard to come by. The hot and dry weather made scenting conditions very tough. After the last brace and some deliberation, the judges decided to call a few dogs back: Northwoods Sir Gordon (Ben McKean, owner and handler), North Slopes Allie (Ed Graddy, owner and handler), Hidden Acres Sand Man (Joe Landowski, owner and handler), and Northwoods Atlas (Greg Johnson, owner and handler). The only dog elected to be seen and first on the ground was the eventual champion.

Named champion was Northwoods Sir Gordon, or “Gordo,” a six-year-old black and white male setter, owned and handled by Ben McKean of Minnetrista, Minn. Gordo took to the Gas Line course in the fifth brace. This brace came in the heat of the day, as it was the second brace after lunch. From the breakaway, until the judges called time, the powerful setter searched the likeliest places at the edge of bell range for the entire hour. He showed up for Ben when and where he needed to, fast and forward. Overheard in the gallery was, “Eighty degrees isn’t slowing that dog down.” No birds were found in the hour, but it certainly was not for lack of effort. Gordo was called back, and after 20 minutes on the ground, he was found dug in deep in a young cut, standing proud. Ben produced a woodcock; all was in order. A champion was named.

Named runner-up champion was a six-year-old tri-color female setter, Flambeau River Meg, owned and handled by Joseph Colglazier of North Liberty, Ind. Meg drew the fourth brace, the first after the lunch break. Seventy-nine degrees at the breakaway, Meg was hard charging on the Wilson Park course. At 15, Meg’s bell stopped to the front and down the hill from the course. As the gallery approached, Meg was seen standing. Joe flushed wide, and a woodcock took flight. All was in order. After her bird contact, Meg scoured the rest of the course for another, the rest of her time on the ground. Her effort and bird work earned her runner-up champion.

Augusta, Wis., April 14

Judges: Scott Anderson and Bill Frahm

REGION 19 AMATEUR WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]

– 1 German Shorthair, 2 Pointers and 14 Setters

Winner—NORTHWOODS SIR GORDON, 1674314, setter male, by Erin’s Prometheus-Northwoods Carly Simon. Ben McKean, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—FLAMBEAU RIVER MEG, 1670686, setter female, by Grouse Busters Zeke-Cornerwood Mya Storm. Joseph Colglazier, owner and handler.



Region 19 Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Championship Winners (l-r): Ben McKean with Northwoods Sir Gordon and Joe Colglazier with Flambeau River Meg.

Minnesota Grouse Dog Association

The Open Derby and Open Puppy

Thanks to the judges—Jordan Pharris, Brainerd, Minn., and Joe Landowski, Howard Lake, Minn.— two very qualified, attentive judges for a large spring derby stake.

First place was awarded to Morgan, a white and black pointer female owned by Robert Zielke and handled by Rod Lein. Morgan had a grouse find early on in her brace at 5, showing that she could pinpoint birds in less-than-ideal weather conditions. She then went on to prove that she was deserving of the placement by laying down a consistently forward-flowing race that was far-reaching at times and handled smoothly for Rod until time was called.

Second place went to Rhonda, a white and orange setter female owned and handled by Scott Anderson. Rhonda showed the judges early on that she knew her purpose in the woods. She had a grouse contact at 10 and spent the rest of her brace diligently looking for birds. The judges couldn’t help but comment on her determination to find birds and how she never faltered from the task at hand. That, coupled with a good response to her handler Scott, made the judges happy with their decision.



Open Derby Winners (l-r): Rod Lein with Over The Hill Morgan, Jordan Pharris (judge), Scott Anderson with Planet Queen, Joe Landowski (judge), and Ben Brettingen with Hackberry’s Amos Moses.

Third place went to Amos, a white and liver pointer male owned and handled by Ben Brettingen. Amos displayed great maturity in the woods by showing judges he knew where to go to look for birds and how to look good doing it. Amos made consistent big forward moves in search of birds yet still showed great response to the calls of his handler. Although no birds were produced for Ben, Amos impressed the judges with his abilities.

Judges: Joe Landowski and Jordan Pharris

OPEN DERBY- 10 Pointers and 11 Setters

1st—OVER THE HILL MORGAN, 1699010, pointer female, by J T H Scion-Over The Hill Patty. Robert Zielke, owner; Rod Lein, handler.

2d—PLANET QUEEN, 1702708, setter female, by Rufus Del Fuego-Stumbo’s Scarlet. Scott Anderson, owner and handler.

3d—HACKBERRY’S AMOS MOSES, 1695788, pointer male, by Elhew Sinbad-Numark Surefire Peg. Ben Brettingen, owner and handler.

Judges: Ben Brettingen and Chris Bye

OPEN PUPPY – 2 Pointers and 4 Setters

1st—NORTHWOODS CEDAR EDGE, 1703153, setter female, by Snyder’s Pioneer Scout-Northwoods Cedar. Eric Saetre, owner; Lindsay Saetre, handler.

2d—MINNESOTA RED CONFIDENCE, 1702232, pointer male, by True Confidence-Red Sunshine. James Wood, owner and handler.

3d—PAIGE’S WAGGERS LILY, 1703739, pointer female, by Touch’s Malcolm Story-G H Thunderbolt Star. Alex Anderson, owner and handler.

The Minnesota Grouse Dog Association would like to thank our sponsors. Purina, supplied dog food to the winners and we also thank OnX for contributing to our cover dog trials. Along with sponsors, several individuals need thanks as well. Region 19 club members Chris Bye, Neil Boos, Eric and Lindsay Saetre, Alex Anderson, Paul Bukovich, Brent Sittlow, Rod Lein, and Jim Kleve helped with the course cutting to get the grounds in order. Roger King and Rod Lein helped tremendously with their knowledge of the

grounds and course order to keep things running smoothly. Jim Kleve took lunch orders and delivered lunch daily for the many people in attendance. Collectively, everyone in attendance helped when needed, especially with moving vehicles and having dogs ready to run to keep things running smoothly.



Open Puppy Winners (l-r): Lindsay Saetre with Northwoods Cedar Edge, Ben Brettingen (judge), Minnesota Red Confidence with Rylee Wood, Chris Bye (judge), and Alex Anderson with Paige's Waggers Lily.

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BEAVERTON GROUSE DOG CLUB

Spring Field Trial Events

By Tammy Chaffee | Meredith, Michigan | April 22, 2023



BGDC Spring Open Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood (chairman), Ron Levitan (judge), Rich Hollister with Back Creek Lucy, Tom Fruchey, and Scott Forman with Grouse Hill Bullet Proof. (Not pictured): Ghost Train Solitaire.

The 42nd running of the Michigan Grouse Dog Puppy Classic, in conjunction with the 17th running of the Eaton Spring Derby Classic and the BGDC Open Shooting Dog and Amateur Shooting Dog events, commenced April 21, at the fabled Gladwin Game Refuge near Meredith, Mich. The spring events sported a whopping 116 entrants! In addition to the many field trial veterans, many new faces participated in this trial and other club events this spring. We welcome them all and hope they enjoyed the game refuge, the competition, and our family of field trialers.

As is always the case, the weather in Michigan was an event in itself. The previous weeks' events struggled with temperatures in the 80s! The temperature certainly moderated to more normal and even some below-normal temperatures for the Beaverton trial, which was a welcome relief to dogs and handlers alike.

The grounds were in great shape after a few late winter storms and some minor clean-up by a crew from the Gladwin grounds committee. Many thanks go to those hard-working folks.

The Club enjoyed all the assistance from the many participants who marshaled braces, moved cars, provided snacks and meals, and generally kept a large contingent of people moving along the grounds' sixteen courses. A rather large undertaking, considering the large entries. As always, shout out to the Hollisters, Rich and Jenny, for providing sure-footed and safe mounts for our judges. Also, thank you to perennial supporter Purina and their representative Greg Blair for their continued donations of Purina dog food and support for advertising costs.

After the running on Saturday, the Club hosted a well-received steak fry. After two long days of running, the nourishment

was a welcome pick-up. The steaks were deliciously grilled by Ken Moss and Mike Singleton.

The Running

The Michigan Grouse Dog Puppy Classic began Saturday morning and was judged by long-time field trialer Ken Moss and newer member Jeff Sweet. They presided over 20 potential field trial grouse dogs over the puppy course at the northeastern end of the game preserve. At the conclusion, they found Confidence Squared Kelly, a female pointer owned and handled by newcomer Rachel Van Eyk, as the winning candidate. According to the judges, "Kelly moved around the course efficiently with a good forward race and very little handling. Dog and handler were in tune, each knowing where the other was always. Kelly stayed in the 'pocket' for the entire brace and was a joy to watch."

Placing second was Hifives Rolling Stone, a male pointer owned and handled by J.P. Jones. "Stone ran a strong race with style, making big casts and hitting likely cover. Stone is a well-built, handsome pointer," according to the judges.

In third place was Grouse Hill Princess, a female setter owned by John Capocci and handled by Christy Helmes. The judges stated, "Princess had a good forward race right from the start, hitting likely cover and didn't require much handling. It was obvious that Christy and her pup were a team." The judges also stated that several puppies were in contention for placement, as the cool weather allowed them to show their best.

The Eaton Spring Derby Classic commenced on Saturday at the conclusion of the Open Shooting Dog on course No.



Michigan Grouse Puppy Classic Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood (chairman), Tom Butler, Rachel Van Eyk with Confidence Squared Kelly, Jeff Sweet (judge), J. P. Jones with Hifives Rolling Stone, Ken Moss (judge), and Grouse Hill Princess with Christy Helmes.



Eaton Spring Derby Classic Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood (chairman), Abraham Downer (judge), Rich Hollister with Grouse Feather Tilly, Brian Ralph with Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, Mike Singleton (judge), and Mike Rosario with Northwoods Dexter.



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood (chairman), Brian Ralph with Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, Ricky Hollister (judge), Brandy Ralph with Stokely B Annie, Rich Hollister (judge), and Ken DeLong with Faith's Maximum Justice.

4. Judges Mike Singleton and Abraham Downer determined that the top dog was Grouse Feather Tilly, a female setter owned by Curtis Coleman and handled by Rich Hollister. Tilly ran on course No. 4 to start the competition with a very nice woodcock find, backed by her bracemate. Her hard-hunting style set the standard for the rest to follow.

In second was Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, owned and handled by Brian Ralph. Rip handled course No. 6 with a strong and hard-charging forward race.

In third was Northwoods Dexter, a 9-month-old male setter owned and handled by Mike Rosario. Dexter covered course No. 8 in a forward and consistent style that required minimal handling.

The Open Shooting Dog stake began on course No. 1 at 8 a.m. sharp. Judges Ron Levitan and Justin McGrail rode for sixteen thirty-minute braces on Friday, finishing up with three more on Saturday morning. Plenty of ruffed grouse were heard and seen on the grounds, but getting the wily King of the Woods pointed proved difficult. The grounds were particularly dry, with no spring foliage sprouting yet, and the running lanes were wide open. If ruffed grouse are the King, then woodcock proved to be the court jesters, as they played hide and seek with dogs and handlers alike. In the final analysis, judges Ron and Justin named Back Creek Lucy, a setter female owned by Steve Graham and handled by Rich Hollister, as the winner. Lucy combined a consistently forward race with a clean woodcock find on course No. 10 on Friday.

Second was Ghost Train Solitaire, owned by Ghost Train Kennels and handled by Tom Fruchey. "Bella" was steered through a tight course No. 16 at the end of the day on Friday and was rewarded with a dug-up woodcock find.

Third place was Grouse Hill Bullet Proof, owned by John Capocci and handled by Scott Forman. Proof was placed on his superb race, "going to all the right places with style and power," according to the judges. The judges also liked, in no particular order, Carson Foster's Kit's Whiskey Creek Patsy, Bob Wheelock's Tupelo Honey, and Snyder's Sadie, owned by Steve Snyder and handled by Tammy Chaffee.

According to Judge Justin McGrail, "The heartbreaker of the trial was a newer handler, Mike Rosario, running a male setter named Wally. He pointed a woodcock about 60 seconds off the breakaway. He looked like he was posing for the cover of a magazine, beautiful throughout a long flushing attempt. Finally, we got the bird up pretty close to him, and he couldn't quite contain himself at the shot. Took a few minutes to get him picked up, and I found myself wishing I could see more."

Rich and Ricky Hollister adjudicated a starting lineup of 24 dogs in the amateur event. Coming out on top was Ralphy's Chasehill Rip, a derby-age male pointer owned and handled by Brian Ralph. Rip was fancy and forward, staying in the pocket. Just as Rip came to a stand on a grouse, his bracemate commenced flushing the wily bird, but Rip remained staunch throughout. An impressive find for a young dog.

In second was Stokely B Annie, a female setter owned by Tony Bly and handled by Brian Ralph. Annie ran fast and fancy like her kennelmate, staying in the pocket for her owner. Near time, Annie dug up a grouse, with all in order at wing and shot.

Third was awarded to Faith's Maximum Justice, a male pointer owned and handled by Ken DeLong. Justice ran a big, hard-charging race coupled with a

mannerly woodcock find at time.

Meredith, Mich., April 22

Judges: Ron Levitan and Justin McGrail
BGDC SPRING OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 2 Pointers and 36 Setters

1st—BACK CREEK LUCY, 1683067, setter female, by Peyton's Legacy Kip-Girl's Little Dixie. Steve Graham, owner; Rich Hollister, handler.

2d—GHOST TRAIN SOLITAIRE, 1683701, setter female, by Ghost Train Cody-Ghost Train Sassy. Ghost Train Kennels, owner; Tom Fruchey, handler.

3d—GROUSE HILL BULLET PROOF, 1664897, setter male, by Waymaker Super Sam-Vitali Grouseringer Purdy. Giovanni Capocci, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

Judges: Abraham Spencer and Mike Singleton
EATON SPRING DERBY CLASSIC – 11 Pointers, 22 Setters and 1 Brittany

1st—GROUSE FEATHER TILLY, 1703250, setter female, by Grouse Feather Hawk-GF Southern Belle. Custis Coleman Jr., owner; Rich Hollister, handler.

2d—RALPHY'S CHASEHILL RIP, 1697746, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Brian Ralph, owner and handler.

3d—NORTHWOODS DEXTER, 1701733, setter male, by Snyder's Pioneer Scout-Northwoods Cedar. Mike Rosario, owner and handler.

Judges: Ken Moos and Jeff Sweet
MICHIGAN GROUSE PUPPY CLASSIC – 6 Pointers and 14 Setters

1st—CONFIDENCE SQUARED KELLY, 1703363, pointer female, by True Confidence-My Lucky Day. Rachel Van Eyk & Thomas Butler, owners; Rachel Van Eyk, handler.

2d—HIFIVES ROLLING STONE, 1701648, pointer male, by Titanium's Hammer-Hifive's Allisin. J. P. Jones, owner and handler.

3d—GROUSE HILL PRINCESS, 1702135, setter female, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Spata Setters Sally. Giovanni Capocci, owner; Christy Helms, handler.

Judges: Rich Hollister and Ricky Hollister
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 2 Pointers, 17 Setters, 3 Brittans and 2 German Shorthairs

1st—RALPHY'S CHASEHILL RIP, 1697746, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Brian Ralph, owner and handler.

2d—STOKELY B ANNIE, 1667183, setter female, by Stokely's Frankie B-Fernwood Cove's Bella. Tony Bly, owner; Brian Ralph, handler.

3d—FAITH'S MAXIMUM JUSTICE, 1660276, pointer male, by Nelson's Van Max-Wild Apple Faith. Kenrick DeLong, owner and handler.

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BIG SKY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

U. S. Complete Spring Walking Trial

By Taylor Todd | Barber, Montana | April 22, 2023



Open Shooting Dog Winners (front, l-r): Mandy Drysdale with Sweet Grass Skipper, Sonny Clark with Touch's Micro Dot, and David Huffine with Sweet Grass Slim. (Behind): Keith Anderson, John McIltrout, Michelle Sutton, Nick Schade (judge), Taylor Todd, Alex Rickert (judge), and A. J. Rickert.

The Big Sky Field Trial Club held its second USCSDA trial at the Table Rock Ranch in Barber, Mont., April 22-23. The Club is very pleased with a great turnout that included many first-time handlers. Over 50 entries in four different stakes filled the weekend with excitement and many great performances. Although light snow was falling as shooting dog placements were called, the Montana spring weather was fantastic for a weekend of running dogs.

Table Rock Ranch harbors good populations of native sharptail grouse, Hungarian partridge, and pheasants. As an all-wild bird trial, the Club is very happy with the number of bird contacts in each brace throughout the weekend. Table Rock is a beautiful place to showcase a bird dog, and the Rickert Family does a fantastic job of maintaining pristine habitat to support wildlife and great bird populations.

Judging the Open Shooting Dog and Open Derby were Alex Rickert of Bozeman, Mont., and Nick Schade from Salmon, Ida. Alex and Nick bring great experience to the judging regime and did a great job observing dogs and helping new handlers with their first time at a field trial; BSFTC thanks them for their time in the saddle.

First place in the Open Shooting Dog went to Sweet Grass Skipper, a young derby-aged white and orange male setter owned and handled by David Huffine. Skipper ran a strong forward race making

big, exciting moves through Table Rock's CRP. The young dog proved his maturity by finishing the brace with a broke find on a single sharptail.

Second place went to Touch's Micro Dot, a beautiful female pointer owned and handled by Sonny Clark. She ran a nice forward race, and when she disappeared to the front, she was found standing in the bottom of a coulee on her first and only find of the brace. Dot stood as Sonny flushed a group of pheasants, and then she went on to finish her run gracefully.

Third place went to another dog owned and handled by David Huffine, Sweet Grass Slim. Just minutes into the brace, Slim was found standing dug into a shelter belt. When a pair of Huns flushed, he demonstrated a high level of composure as his bracemate nearly jumped over him in chase of the birds. Slim slowed during the end of the brace but finished well.

The Open Derby was very competitive, with twenty-one young dogs contending for placements. First place was awarded to Sweet Grass Skipper, who had a big weekend, winning both the Open Shooting Dog and Derby. Skipper didn't have any birds but ran a captivating race that included a breathtaking move putting him deep into the front in good cover. Skipper finished very strong and handled the course well.

Second place went to Tower Hill's Bright Star, a black and white female setter. "Betty" is owned and handled by Taylor

Todd. She ran a strong and powerful race and handled well. With seconds to spare in the brace, Betty was last seen cresting a grassy hill. She was found spiritedly running just minutes after time.

Third place went to LBF Up In Smoke, a fancy young male pointer owned and handled by Brad McCardle. "Cheech" looks great on the ground while running a big race, and after a long absence, he had some bird work followed by a strong finish to seal the deal on a placement.

The third stake run by the BSFTC was the Open Puppy. This is the first time the Club has run a puppy stake, and everyone in attendance enjoyed it. It was judged by Mandy Drysdale of Bozeman, Mont., and Taylor Todd of Helena, Mont. No bird work was seen in the puppy stake, but many young bird dogs were able to showcase their future potential. Eight dogs were competing in this stake, and first place went to a pointer with a placement in the Open Derby, LBF Up In Smoke, owned and handled by Brad McCardle. Second place was awarded to LBF Bohemian Rhapsody, a male setter also owned and handled by Brad McCardle. Third place was earned by a female setter named Northwoods Annie, owned by Jimmy Blackburn and handled by John McIltrout.

The fun and exciting weekend of walking trials was wrapped up with the Amateur Gun Dog, which Mandy Drysdale and Taylor Todd also judged. Seven dogs were entered, and three placements were awarded. First went to Bells Yellowstone Pride, a female pointer who won this same stake last fall during the club's inaugural walking trial. She is owned and handled by Keith Anderson. Second went to Tallgrass Master of Disaster, a male Gordon setter owned and handled by first-time field trialer Chloe Nostrant. Third place went to Quilomene Sumac, a female setter owned and handled by Tim Powell.

BSFTC would like to extend a very robust thank you to the Rickert Family for the use of Table Rock Ranch for the weekend. The Rickerts not only graciously allow the use of their land for field trials but provide great companionship and are an integral part of the field trial community in Montana.

Many club members assisted with this trial behind the scenes to make things possible. First and foremost is David Huffine, who has not only been the trial

chairman for the two walking trials BSFTC has put on but is responsible for bringing the USCSA to the region and introducing the concept of walking trials in the area. We can't thank David enough. We'd also like to thank those who put in extra effort and time surrounding the trial—Mandy Drysdale, John McIltrout, Michelle Sutton, Keith Anderson, and Robert Jones.

The Club would also like to thank Purina (Greg Blair) for sponsoring the trial and providing awards for our winners.

Barber, Mont., April 22

Judges: Alex Rickert and Nick Schade

OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 7 Pointers and 9 Setters

1st—SWEET GRASS SKIPPER, 1698209, setter male, by Sweet Grass Slim-Tower Hill Zoey Zee. David Huffine, owner and handler.

2d—TOUCH'S MICRO DOT, 1692164, pointer female, by Touch's Diamante-Seranao's On Guard Annie. Klaus Schmidt, owner; R. J. Clark, handler.

3d—SWEET GRASS SLIM, 1685332, setter male, by Sterlingworth Jack-Sandland Miracle Maggie. David Huffine, owner and handler.



Tower Hill's Bright Star, Second in the Open Derby

OPEN DERBY – 12 Pointers and 9 Setters

1st—SWEET GRASS SKIPPER, 1698209, setter male, by Sweet Grass Slim-Tower Hill Zoey Zee. David Huffine, owner and handler.

2d—TOWER HILL'S BRIGHT STAR, 1698424, setter female, by Sweet Grass Slim-Tower Hill Zoey Zee. Taylor Todd, owner and handler.

3d—LBF UP IN SMOKE, 1702242, pointer male, by Touch's Diamante-Empire On Line. Brad McCardle, owner and handler.

Judges: Mandy Drysdale and Taylor Todd

OPEN PUPPY – 2 Pointers and 6 Setters

1st—LBF UP IN SMOKE, 1702242, pointer male, by Touch's Diamante-Empire On Line. Brad McCardle, owner and handler.

2d—LBF BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY, 1702241, setter male, by T's Gunslinger-Erin's Red Rose. Brad McCardle, owner and handler.

3d—NORTHWOODS ANNIE, unreg., setter male, breeding not given. James Blackburn, owner; John McIltrout, handler.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 3 Pointers, 3 Setters and 1 Gordon Setter

1st—BELLS YELLOWSTONE PRIDE, 1687338, pointer female, by Touch's Diamante-Bellita. Keith Anderson, owner and handler.

2d—TALLGRASS MASTER OF DISASTER, unreg., Gordon setter male, breeding not given. Chloe Norstrand, owner and handler.

3d—QUILOMENE SUMAC, 1679207, setter male, by Straight Up Western Sky-D's Red Hot Mama. Timothy Powell, owner and handler.

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REGION 13 (AFTCA) AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Grouse Feather Witcher Named Champion; Miller's Heat Wave, Runner-Up

By Jim Cipponeri | Ionia, Michigan | April 22, 2023

The first Region 13 Shooting Dog Championship since the reorganization of Regions 4 and 13 drew twenty dogs from Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Alabama, Ohio, Georgia, Tennessee, and Canada. The event was hotly contested as Purina Dog of the Year honors were at stake. The Michigan Championship Club hosted the competition with support from Nestlé Purina, and their continued support is appreciated in all of our regional events and the Michigan Open Shooting Dog Championship in the coming year.

We were fortunate to secure two judges with vast knowledge and experience who have had tremendous success competing nationally and locally. Chris Cagle and Mark McKinley are devoted trialers and a joy to have around. They paid close attention to all the dogs that competed and portrayed a positive influence on our sport.

Region 13 Trustee Jeff Haggis and his son Matt conducted the drawing, competed, and assisted Joe Guzman in running the trial. Richard Lipski seeded the course every morning and liberated quail throughout the day. The weather was relatively warm for this time of year, with temperatures ranging from the high



Grouse Feather Witcher, Winner of the Region 13 Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

40s to the low 70s with moderately moist conditions. Ron Williams handled the dog and chuck wagon duties without a glitch and provided good-natured banter along the way.

Mark Johnson supplied snacks, an endless supply of roasted peanuts and various beverages, and a constant dose of goodwill after each day's events. He also judged the Michigan Classic and competed in the weeklong festivities.

Champion Grouse Feather Witcher

comes from a long line of setter champions bearing the Grouse Feather Kennel name. The four-year-old orange and white male ("Tex") was always to the front, ran the edges of Ionia, and had impeccable style and manners on point. Breaking away from headquarters, he had a stylish back from quite a distance along the treeline, then a small covey find at the end of Hires field, followed by a display of edge running along Ainsworth Road up to the horse staging area. At 17, he pointed a recent hawk kill, then had a nice find at 26 near the Dog Leg. Continuing toward the Boy Scout bridge, Tex nailed a running quail with a superb relocation at 39. At 48, Tex pointed but could not put anything in the air. The handler elected to move on without a relocation effort. At time Tex was out of sight of the handler heading toward the old Apple Orchard on course No. 2, moving left to right per judges. As he came into view, he was found on point with what would have been his fourth find. However, judges did not ride to the call of point. He had done enough in the eyes of the judges.

Runner-up Miller's Heat Wave was superbly handled by Alabama native Fran Miller and scouted by her affable husband, Jack. It was their first time to

Ionia, and they were impressed by the well-manicured grounds, local participation, and camaraderie of midwestern field trialers. The Region 13 win secured the Top Amateur Field Trial Shooting Dog of the Year honor in a close battle with Lane Hodges' entries. Heat Wave ran a consistent forward race with an attractive running style. Her three finds were well-spaced, and she looked magnificent on point. This was her first

time running at Ionia under the Millers' guidance, and she did a commendable job of navigating the unfamiliar venue. Jack was called upon a few times and managed to keep Heat Wave and himself on course with incident.

Ohio trialer Tim McClurg had two entries knocking on the door, and Will Langley's setter, Crime Boss, had four finds before being gone too long as a result of a damaged fence along the Gravel Pit.

Ionia, Mich., April 22

Judges Chris Cagle and Mark McKinley
**REGION 13 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
 CHAMPIONSHIP**

[One-Hour Heats] – 15 Pointers and 5 Setters

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

Runner-Up—*MILLER'S HEAT WAVE*, 1675842, pointer female, by Just Irresistible-Miller's Bring The Heat. Fran & Jack Miller, owners; Fran Miller, handler.

94th NEW ENGLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Absolute Dominator Named Champion; Miller's Southern Gossip, Runner-Up

By John Olfson | East Windsor, Connecticut | April 24, 2023

The 94th New England Open Championship commenced Monday, April 24 at 8 a.m. in cool, overcast conditions. The championship is hosted by the New Britain Field Trial Club and the Association of New England Field Trial Clubs. It is the first leg of three consecutive events, which we promoted as "New England's Spring Fling Triple Header."

The roots of the trial date back to the late 1920s when the championship was held in the Concord-Carlisle, Mass. area. Aside from two years at the Concord-Carlisle, Mass. area, one year at Penacook, N. H., and a lone year at Rockville, Conn., the New England Open Championship has had only five other sites. Beginning in 1933 and for the next seventeen years, the championship was held at Hall of Famer (1959) Lee White's farm in Scotland, Conn., which held grouse, woodcock, wild pheasant, and wild quail. Eventually, after those grounds were no longer available, the trial struggled to find a suitable location, moving to Andover, Mass., for six years and Ipswich, Mass., for nine years. Then beginning in 1967, the event settled in at Hall of Famer (1987) Harry Townshend's Ragged Hill Farm in Pomfret, Conn., where it thrived for 47 years. In 1972 for the first time in the event history, the directors conceded to allow the limited use of horses by the handlers, and this move brought in a record entry at that time of fifty-one dogs. Hall of Famer Harold Ray (2006) won with Hall of Fame setter Tomoka (1974). After Harry's passing, the event moved to its present-day location, the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Area in East Windsor, Conn.

Under the joint effort of the Dr. John E. Flaherty Field Trial Clubs Association and its devoted president, Dick Frawley, as well as the State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection and



Absolute Dominator, Winner of the New England Open Shooting Dog Championship

Eastern District Wildlife Biologist Ann Kilpatrick, the grounds were in as good of condition as could be expected with several spots having improved drainage, and stability. We are thankful and appreciate this continued joint effort.

Judges Jeff Smith of Chase City, Va., and Jason Smit of Montgomery, N. Y., named pointer male Absolute Dominator champion. Running in the second brace, he was always forward. His five-find classy effort was a powerful, hard, charging hunt, taking edges nicely, impressive on point. Doug Ray handled him with help from scout John Stolgitis. As previously mentioned, in 1972, Doug's father, Harold, won with a record entry. This year we had a record entry as well with 56 dogs. Dominator's effort came after runner-up champion pointer female Miller's Southern Gossip's run in the first brace. George Tracy handled her to a five-find big race effort, stylish on point, an all-around classy performance.

Absolute Dominator owners Johnny and Joyce Taylor have a lot to be proud of with this dog. In 2021 his second place in the

New England Futurity on these grounds garnered enough points to be named 2021 Purina Shooting Dog Derby of the Year.

It was nice to see Allen Linder and his granddaughter Allison McDonald supporting Allen's fine dog, Miller's Southern Gossip.

Many thanks to Ernie and Karen Saniga for hosting the champion's dinner in honor of their fine dog Bully Rock for winning the 2022 championship.

Special thanks to professionals Matt Basilone, John Stolgitis, Mike Tracy, and Jeanette Tracy for their continued support. Each had some nice dogs, as well as Deb Ozner and Brian Sanchez with their single entries.

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

[The source of event history mentioned came from a publication Gene Casale provided, *50th Golden Anniversary New England Bird Dog Championship*, which Frank E. Foss wrote.]

East Windsor, Conn., April 24 – One Course

Judges: Jeff Smith and Jason Smit
**94th NEW ENGLAND OPEN SHOOTING DOG
 CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]**

– 50 Pointers and 6 Setters

Winner—*ABSOLUTE DOMINATOR*, 1686566, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Pearl Again. Johnny & Joyce Taylor, owners; Doug Ray, handler.

Runner-Up—*MILLER'S SOUTHERN GOSSIP*, 1690150, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Erin's Little Rose. Allen R. Linder, owner; George Tracy, handler.

NGSPA OF OHIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Championship Series Held At Tri-Valley Wildlife Area

By Robert Reynolds, DVM | Dresden, Ohio | April 24, 2023

The 2023 running of the Ohio Championships began on April 24 at the Tri-Valley Wildlife Area near Dresden, Ohio, and concluded on April 28.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife had the clubhouse, kennels, corrals, and field trial grounds in excellent condition. Recent cattle grazing and mowing increased the visibility to a nearly perfect level to watch big-running dogs compete in this venue. Several out-of-state competitors remarked that they felt that Ohio's field trial area offered a great championship trial ground.

Our judges for the Open Shooting Dog and All-Age Championships were Tim McClurg of Ohio and Jeff Currier from Pennsylvania. Both are long-time field trialers. Al Crokek from Pennsylvania and Bill Haynes from Ohio judged the Amateur Championship. The first four days were perfect weather for running dogs, but because of storms and a lack of entries, the Open Derby Classic was not held.

Our judges gave all entries their full attention, and many competitors expressed their appreciation of our judiciary.

Our successful trial was made possible by the German Shorthair Pointer Club of Ohio members, who contributed their time and talent for our event. I especially want to thank our secretary, Jennifer Goodall, Chris Young, Bob Reynolds, Scott and Ann Weslow, Charlie and Laurie Brown, Gayle and Cheryl Graves, and our bird planters, Chris Young and Russ Roth. They did a terrific job planting birds and keeping the trial on schedule.

Once again, Purina is to be thanked for their continued support of our field trial events. SportDOG also provided training collars for our amateur champions.

We want to thank our pros who continue to support our trial: Chris Goegan, Dan DiMambro, and Joe Orndorff. Thank you to the amateurs who continue to make these trials possible.

Open Shooting Dog Championship

The Open Shooting Dog had 26 entries. In Country's Hurricane Jane, owned by Robert Reynolds and handled by Chris Goegan, was named the 2023 Ohio Shooting Dog Champion. The judges reported that "Janie" had five well-placed, stylish finds and an exciting big shooting dog race staying to the front for the entire brace.



NGSPA Open Shooting Dog Championship Winners (l-r): Bob Reynolds, Tim McClurg (judge), Chris Young with In Country's Hurricane Jane, Sherri Tangsrud, Kirk Loftin with Uodibar's Lover Boy, and Jeff Currier (judge).

The Open Shooting Dog runner-up was Uodibar's Lover Boy, owned by Sherri Tangsrud and handled by Dr. Kirk Loftin. "Blue" had a big shooting dog race with five finds and two backs.

Honorable mentions went to "Rocky," who had two finds and a good race and was handled by Kirk Loftin, and "Ella," owned by Tom James and handled by Chris Goegan, with three finds and a back.

Dresden, Ohio, April 24 – One Course Judges: Jeff Currier and Jim McClurg NGSPA OF OHIO OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 25 German Shorthairs
Winner—IN COUNTRY'S HURRICANE JANE, 1672744, female, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. Robert Reynolds, owner; Chris Goegan, handler.
Runner-Up—UODIBAR'S LOVER BOY, 1689423, male, by Diamonds R S Texas Express-Uodibar's Bet Your Booty. Sherri Tangsrud, owner; Kirk Loftin, handler.

Open All-Age Championship

Twelve dogs started in the Open All Age. When the dust settled, the judges



NGSPA Open All-Age Championship Winners (l-r): Tim McClurg (judge), Sherri Tangsrud with Hi N's Allison Miranda, Kirk Loftin, Chris Young with In Country's Slaterock, Jeff Currier (judge), and Bob Reynolds.

named Hi N's Allison Miranda, owned and handled by Dr. Kirk Loftin, the champion. "Allie" had three well-spaced finds with the biggest race and handled kindly.

The runner-up was In Country's Slaterock, owned by Chris Young and handled by Chris Goegan. "Rock" had two evenly spaced finds, two backs, and a strong all-age finish.

Judges gave honorable mentions to "Layla," handled by Joe Orndorff, with three finds, and "Charlie," handled by Hank Lewis, with four finds.

NGSPA OF OHIO OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats] – 12 German Shorthairs

Winner—HI N'S ALLISON MIRANDA, 1676665, female by Hi N's Feed Jake-Chicoree's Sparkle In Her Eye. Dr. Kirk A. Loftin, owner and handler.
Runner-Up—IN COUNTRY'S SLATEROCK, 1694042, male, by Hi N's Bodacious-Slaterock Mattie Clark. Chris Young, owner; Chris Goegan, handler.

Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

Fourteen dogs were entered in the Amateur Shooting Dog. The champion was Hi N's Curtain Call, owned and handled by Hank Lewis. "Charlie" had one find and an exciting forward race that gave him the win.

The runner-up was Uodibar's Robbi Jo, owned by Sherri Tangsrud and handled by Dr. Kirk Loftin. "Robbi" had four well-placed finds with a medium shooting dog race.

Honorable mention went to In Country's Hurricane Jane, which had three finds with one lengthy relocation and an

unproductive.

Judges: Al Cropek and Bill Haynes
NGSPA OF OHIO AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
CHAMPIONSHIP [One-Hour Heats]
- 14 German Shorthairs

Winner—*HI N'S CURTAIN CALL*, 1687995, male, by *Hi N's Bodacious-Hi N's Hasty Matilda*. *Hank Lewis*, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—*UODIBAR'S ROBBI JO*, 1662507, female, by *Uodibar's Against All Odds-B D K's Sin City Casino*. *Sherri Tangsrud*, owner; *Dr. Kirk A. Loftin*, handler.



NGSPA of Ohio Amateur Shooting Dog Championship Winners (l-r): Al Cropek (judge), Hank Lewis with *Hi N's Curtain Call*, Bill Haynes (judge), Sherri Tangsrud with *Uodibar's Robbi Jo*, and Kirk Loftin.

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U. S. COMPLETE MID-ATLANTIC WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

Back Country Bruiser Named Champion; Hirollins Gone and Doneit, Runner-up

By Joe Cammisa | Ginter, Pennsylvania | April 24, 2023

The venue chosen for the 2023 renewal of the Mid-Atlantic Walking Shooting Dog Championship was the Warriors Mark Wingshooting Lodge and Kennels grounds in Houtzdale, Pa., owned and managed by Eric and Bernadette Gilliland.

The grounds are no stranger to weekend and championship caliber trials, as the U. S. Complete National Open Championship, Mid-States Championship, Region 2 AFTCA, and the Mid-Atlantic, along with several other trials, have been held there. The championship followed after the National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity and its companion stakes, drawing 44 contenders.

The drawing was held at the home of Secretary Chris Catanzarite in Scenery Hill, Pa., and all was put into motion.

In the judicial saddles were Lee Long of Berkey, Ohio, and Dennis Kivikko of Powhatan, Va., and a wonderful team they made. Both are accomplished breeders, owners, trainers, and handlers of championship-quality pointing dogs. They are both outstanding sportsmen and were well-received for their knowledge and fair play.

Bird planters for the event, Norm Meeder and Cliff Monroe, were ready first thing Monday morning. After an initial stocking, they were there for the trial and never let up, faithfully “neither rain, nor hail, nor sleet, nor dark of night, kept them from doing their rounds.” A judge noted that during one of the mornings, they experienced all four seasons.

There was a good mix of professionals and amateur handlers on the scene. Aaron McAfee, Dave Park, Chris Catanzarite, and Cliff Monroe were some of the amateurs.



U. S. Complete Mid-Atlantic Open Shooting Dog Championship Winners (front, l-r): Chris Catanzarite with *Backcountry Bruiser*, Mark Hughes with *Hirollins Gone And Doneit*, and Tony Bingham (handler). (Behind): Dennis Kivikko (judge), Aaron McAfee, J. D. Waters, and Lee Long (judge).

Dave Hughes, Mark Hughes, Tony Bingham, Robert Ecker, Zack Erne, and Andy Erne rounded out the professional side.

Thank you also to Dave Hughes, who furnished and drove a side-by-side to be used as the dog wagon; he additionally furnished an ATV used by the bird planters. Dave was also responsible for purchasing and managing the donut distribution every morning.

Dinner was provided by the Greensburg Pointer & Setter Club on Monday night at the Warriors Mark Lodge.

Backcountry Bruiser (PM) with Chris Catanzarite was run in brace No. 18 on the third day with *Braggabull* (PF) with Mark Hughes. *Bruiser* was off to a good start with a strong breakaway streaking to the front and, from the beginning, was hitting objectives with speed and efficiency, using the wind, and running with great style. He took the breakaway deep and ended up having six well-spaced finds. His bird contacts were handled impeccably with great style and composure until he was sent on by his handler. Catanzarite's charge also showed great efficiency in his

one relocation opportunity, attacking and pinning the running bird with ease. *Bruiser* rearranged the dogs' order in the judges' book, those of which had been carried since the first day. *Bruiser's* outstanding ground application, composure, and all-business attitude set him apart from the crowd. As one of the judges said, “He was definitely a dog that I would want to take home with me.”

The runner-up came out of brace No. 21. *Hirollins Gone And Doneit* (PM), owned by Warren Parrott and handled by Tony Bingham, put down an excellent ground race. With his pleasing-to-the-eye running style, he had six well-spaced finds, all handled with style. He covered real estate like he owned it, handling when need be as he and his handler worked nicely as a team to bring home the runner-up title.

Neither of the two top dogs is a stranger to the winners' circle. *Backcountry Bruiser* boasts an impressive winning past. He is the Region 2 Horseback Shooting Dog Champion, U. S. Complete Shooting Dog Amateur Invitational Champion, Region 2 All-Age Champion (twice), Region 4 Walking Shooting Dog Champion, and is now the Mid-Atlantic Walking Shooting Dog Champion. He has also won runner-up titles in the U. S. Complete National Amateur, U. S. Complete Open Invitational, Region 2 Walking Shooting Dog, and Region 4 All-Age, making him a six-time champion and four-time runner-up champion. He has 40 one-hour wins and was last year's South Carolina Horseback Shooting Dog of the Year.

Hirollins Gone And Doneit (Gunner) has won nine titles to date. And titles have been won this year alone in seven states, with three different handlers. He won in Indiana,

Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Additionally, he won two classic trials this year. Gunner has 44 placements in walking, horseback, and all-age. This year he is the U. S. Complete Open Shooting Dog of the Year and runner-up in SBHA and South Carolina Horseback. He has become quite a producer this season; his offspring has two Puppy of the Year winners, two Derby of the Year, and a National Bird Hunters Futurity winner. Warren readily admits that he is the most consistent dog he has ever seen, "he stays on autopilot." He was Dog of the Year for Puppy, Derby, and Shooting Dog.

Other Dogs of Noteworthy Mention

A Distant Spec, a classy pointer female handled by Mark Hughes of Hughesview Kennels, was run in the first brace. She put on a bird-finding clinic to set the stage for this competitive championship. She kindly handled and scored seven finds while backing twice. She had one unproductive and a nice forward race to end her hour.

The second brace of the trial featured My Way Little Bud, a strapping pointer male with Tony Bingham, who, at the end of his run, took over the number one spot in the judges' book. He ran a good stylish

race scoring five times, one of which resulted in a super-efficient relocation. He pointed with good style and finished as strong as he started.

This order held until brace No. 6 when Glassilaun War Paint (PM), with Robert Ecker of Midnight Kennels, put down an eight-find performance, one of which he had to withstand great pressure from his bracemate. He had one unproductive. War Paint carried number one for a long time until Bruiser took over the slot.

The Mid-Atlantic Championship would like to thank our sponsors, Greg Blair and Purina, for their generous support. Additionally, thank you to all who helped in any way to make this trial a huge success.

Ginter, Pa., April 24 – One Course

Judges: Dennis Kivikko and Leroy Long

U. S. COMPLETE MID-ATLANTIC

OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 30 Pointers and 14 Setters

Winner—BACKCOUNTRY BRUISER, 1672645, pointer male, by Erin's War Creek-Backcountry Tornado. Chris Catanzarite, owner and handler.

Runner-Up—HIROLLINS GONE AND DONEIT, 1679825, pointer male, by Fastforward's B K Gunner-Littlewing B K Tia. Warren Parrot, owner; Tony Bingham, handler.

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Essential Data • Brace Sheet

Field Trial Checklist

LAKE STATES FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Spring Trial Held At The Gladwin Field Trial Grounds

By Denise Peters | Meredith, Michigan | April 25, 2023

On April 25-27, the Lake States Field Trial Club hosted its spring trial at the Gladwin Field Trial Grounds, with temperatures perfect for the occasion. With temperatures reaching the high 80s weeks before, we enjoyed the coolness of a normal Michigan spring. This spring brought unprecedented entries for our trial this year. We were represented by handlers from our fine state of PURE Michigan, our Upper Peninsula, Ontario, Canada, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, and New York. We drew 101 dogs for our three stakes in a three-day exciting event. This trial, as always, was a Purina-sponsored event. Bryan Wood stood again as our stakes manager, with Richard and Jennifer Hollister wrangling their string of sturdy steeds for our judges. Putting on a big trial takes a village; too many folks to name them all. Everyone helped to get the cars moved and helped marshal braces. George and Marilyn Ferguson were there every morning to serve us hot coffee, homemade cookies, and breads. Their continued

contributions will always be appreciated. Mike and Deb Singleton were the chief cooks and served tailgate lunches daily. We enjoyed grilled burgers, hot dogs, cheesy potatoes, tacos with all the trimmings, and pizza, serving over 115 folks over three days.

On Tuesday morning, we kicked off the John Hadaway Cover Dog Classic with Eric Naus and Ronnie Eldridge in the saddle to judge the 44 of the 45 dogs drawn, who gave their best efforts in optimum conditions. First place was awarded to Kasida, owned and handled by Paul Cook of Danbury, Wis. Kasida was a flashy and stylish English setter with a good forward race and application. She had a woodcock find and a back showing exceptional bird manners throughout.

Meridith Grace Corky, owned by Dennis Keysor and handled by Tamara Chaffee, took second place. Corky had a good race with a pair of grouse pointed. Corky stopped two other times in good-looking locations, but no bird was produced.

Third place was E J Jonesy, owned by Taylor Kagley and handled by Scott Chaffee. Jonesy was another flashy and stylish English setter with a good race and application that produced one woodcock find. Our judges noted that birds were seen on nearly all the courses during this Open Shooting Dog stake.

Wednesday morning, we enjoyed 24 fine-looking puppies on the puppy course in the Bob Doran Open Puppy Classic, with Chris Wasserman and Rob Ellis sitting in judgment. Our LSFTC President, Mike Brown, acted as stakes manager to get things done with minimal complications and in a timely fashion. First place went to Vitali's Grouse Ringer Brew, owned and handled by Gary Vitali. Brew looked fast on the ground with little handling and stayed forward. He checked in when needed and hit all the objectives for a puppy on this course.

Second place went to My Shady Grove, owned by Thomas Butler and Rachel Van Eyk and handled by Thomas Butler. Judges



John Hadaway Cover Dog Classic Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood (stakes manager), Kasida with Paul Cook (owner/handler), Eric Naus (judge), Meredith Grade Corky with Tamara Chaffee (handler), Ronnie Eldridge (judge), and E J Jonesy with Scott Chaffee (handler).

noted that she was fast and quick-footed, checking in more often than Brew but went to the covers, hitting puppy objectives purposely with a woodcock encounter at the end.

Baxter's Doc Holiday, owned by Brent and Denise Peters and handled by Brent Peters, took third. Doc ran a good race, fast and pushing independence with conflicts with dogs in the open shooting dog on course No. 6 at the same time. He came back in, cast a nice run on the hill, and ended up in front, covering the ground with an unexpected woodcock encounter. Judges reported that with this amount of young pups, it was the most competitive group to judge.

After the conclusion of our Open Shooting Dog stake on Tuesday, we began



Dell Todd Open Derby Classic Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood (stake manager), Eldridge's Winning Oscar with Ronnie Eldridge (owner), Joe Colglazier (judge), Meredith Grade Penny with Scott Chaffee (handler), Bob Wheelock (judge), and Mountain Top Nellie with Marc Forman (handler).

our Dell Todd Open Derby Classic with an outstanding entry of 32 young dogs. Our judges, Bob Wheelock and Joe Colglazier, had the honor to check out these young hopefuls. Often with bird work hard to capture in a spring trial, all dogs were placed with adequate bird work. First place went to Eldridge's Winning Oscar, owned by Ronnie Eldridge and handled by Scott Chaffee. On course No. 9, Oscar was a big dog, looking nice on the ground and handled well. Down along the creek, he stopped solid and, after a flushing attempt, was moved forward. After being tapped on, shortly, he again came to a hard stop, and a grouse blew out, making his bid with a strong forward finish.

Second place went to Meredith Grade Penny, owned by Dennis Keysor and handled by Scott Chaffee. Penny had a nice



Bob Doran Open Puppy Classic Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood, Mike Brown (stake manager and LSFTC president), Vitali's Grouse Ringer Brew with Gary Vitali (owner/handler), Rachel Van Eyk, My Shady Grove with Tom Butler (owner/handler), Rob Ellis (judge), Baxter's Doc Holiday with Brent Peters (owner/handler), and Denise Peters.

solid and forward ground race, looking good on a woodcock find to put her in the running.

Mountain Top Nellie, handled by Marc Forman and owned by Jeffrey Keller, took third place. Nellie had a very good ground performance with a nice relocation on a woodcock find to nail her position.

Another note by judges is that Brian Ralph's pointer Rip had the best ground race of the stake but didn't have the bird work to nail a position. We concluded our Derby stake on Thursday and, at the conclusion, went to the Alibi for announcements.

A huge thank you to Purina for their dog food contribution and continued sponsorship. Another huge shout out to all the participants who helped marshal, move cars and make this event a huge success.

Meredith, Mich., April 25

**Judges: Ronnie Eldridge and Eric Naus
JOHN HADAWAY COVER DOG CLASSIC**

- 5 Pointers and 40 Setters

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

2d—MERIDITH GRADE CORKY, 1681353, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Call Me Maggie. Dennis Keysor, owner; Tamara Chaffee, handler.

3d—E J JONESY, 1693374, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Eldridge's Beauty And Beast. Taylor Kagley, owner; Scott Chaffee, handler.

**Judges: Rob Ellis and Chris Wasserman
BOB DORAN OPEN PUPPY CLASSIC**

- 7 Pointers and 17 Setters

1st—VITALI'S GROUSE RINGER BREW, 1700649, setter male, by Vitali's Grouse Ringer Stogey-Vitali's Grouseringer Razzle. Gary Vitali, owner and handler.

2d—MY SHADY GROVE, 1703364, pointer female, by Crosswind Jim-Loneridge Justify'd Shawnee. Thomas Butler & Rachel Van Eyk, owners; Thomas Butler, handler.

3d—BAXTER'S DOC HOLIDAY, 1701013, setter male, by Thornapple Casey-Baxter's Mary Katherine. Brent & Denise Peters, owners; Brent Peters, handler.

**Judges: Joe Colglazier and Bob Wheelock
DELL TODD OPEN DERBY CLASSIC**

- 9 Pointers and 23 Setters

1st—ELDRIDGE'S WINNING OSCAR, 1701135, setter male, by Ponderosa Mac-Eldridge's Beauty and Beast. Ronnie Eldridge, owner; Scott Chaffee, handler.

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

3d—MOUNTAIN TOP NELLIE, 1696822, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Grouse River Woodcock Annie. Jeffrey Keller, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

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

Email your nominations of 200 words or less by August 5 to:
Dinora Wellmann • dwellmann@ukcdogs.com

Keep an eye out for voting instructions in the September issue!

BIG SKY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Costas Wins Sharptail Open Shooting Dog Classic

By David Huffine | Winnett, Montana | April 27, 2023

Costas, a two-year-old pointer male owned and handled by Gordy Jones, bested a field of 37 dogs to take first place in the Sharptail Open Shooting Dog Classic. The precocious, white and orange pointer is sired by Dominator's Rebel Heir. His dam is Searchin For A Rainbow. Mike Robbins scouted for Gordy.

Second place was awarded to Edelman, a six-year-old pointer male, also handled and owned by Jones. Edelman dominated last year's Winnett competition, but this year was edged out by his young kennelmate. Edelman is out of Miller's Light Cruizer and Heard Hill's Queen Mary. Mike Robbins also scouted Edelman.

Third place went to Touch's Micro Dot, a pointer female owned by Klaus Schmidt and handled by R. J. "Sonny" Todd of Kechi, Kan. Dot is out of Touch's Diamante and Seranoa's On Guard Annie, both Montana dogs. Austin Turley scouted Dot.

The Classic began on April 27 at the Joe C. King & Sons Ranch, a fifth-generation cattle operation about ten miles east of Winnett, Mont. The ranch is particularly scenic with approximately eleven thousand rugged and undulating acres of sage, cactus, and native grasses, which supports pheasants, Hungarian partridge, and sharptail grouse and also presents the thrill of a sizable population of sage grouse. The Classic was run on six separate courses, most of which are unmarked except for the occasional two-track.

The trial featured Alex Rickert of Bozeman, Mont., and John McIltrout of Roundup, Mont., as judges. Alex is an irreplaceable fixture on the Big Sky field trial scene and graciously gives his time and expertise. He and his family are generous with a nearby family ranch that is home to several horseback and walking trials each year. Outside of Montana, Alex is known for his dogs that compete successfully at the all-age level, including Touch's Malcolm Story, who was the Purina Dog of the Year in 2021.

John is a well-respected pro trainer who also carried the laboring oar in hosting the trial and served as trial chairman. John has vast experience in training and handling dogs at a high level of competition but has also judged many trials and championships, both within and outside Montana.



Sharptail Open Shooting Dog Classic Winners (l-r): Sophie Robbins with Costas, Gordy Jones, Mike Robbins with Edelman, Sonny Clark with Touch's Micro Dot, Alex Rickert, Shannon Nygard, Dave Noell, John McIltrout, Taylor Todd, and Marcos Puiggari, joined by spectators.

Birds were surprisingly scarce this year. Reports from other parts of Montana indicated good holdover bird populations but weather conditions were not conducive to significant bird work at this trial.

The Placements

Costas' winning performance came in brace No. 10, which began on course No. 4 on Friday. His big, forward race produced a sage hen find at 21, all in order. Jones pushed him on as he headed west through the sage until the road crossing. He slowed a bit in the middle of his hour but recovered for a strong finish. Like most of the dogs run by Gordy, Costas is on the edge between a prairie shooting dog and an all-age dog, and his race suited him well in this trial. His bracemate was C K Guy's Light My Fire, a Vizsla female handled by Brian Gingrich. She also had a huge race but did not have any bird work to show for her efforts. She evened things up in a subsequent stake by taking the Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship, with Costas placing second.

Edelman secured his second-place award in brace No. 13. He broke away on course No. 1 on Saturday morning. After an irregular early race, he had a find at 20. Thereafter, he settled into a very admirable forward race and a great finish. He had a second find less than a minute after time. His bracemate was Live Action's Gus McRae (GSPM/Gingrich). Brian's dog wasn't pleasing him, and he picked him up at 40.

Touch's Micro Dot drew brace No. 6 on Thursday amid cold, wind, and rain. She had an unproductive early but followed with a find at 19 which was expertly flushed by scout Austin Turley. She maintained a good shooting dog race thereafter, requiring little handling or scouting to secure third. Dot was braced with Rebeluna, a pointer female handled by young, up-and-coming pro Taylor Todd. She finished her hour with a modest race but produced no birds.

The Running

The Classic began on Thursday in miserable weather conditions of 42 degrees, rain, and wind gusting from the northwest at up to 45 mph. Edge's Hidden Canyon (PM/Mike Robbins) and Carbonado's Rodeo (PM/Austin Turley) broke away at 8:15 on course No. 1 into a crossing wind. Mike's dog had an unproductive at 5. He then crossed the next rise at 10 and was not seen again until Mike picked him up on course several miles to the front. Rod had a back on the unproductive. He then settled into a moderate race that shortened as he turned into the wind. His handler picked him up at 40.

Seranoa's Valley Below, a pointer male owned and handled by Nick Schade, ran as a bye dog in brace No. 2. Nick's young dog had the most bird contact of any dog in the stake with a clean find on paired Huns at 5 and another solid find on more Huns at 10. His last find was at 30, but he moved



Sharptail Open All-Age Derby Winners (l-r): Shannon Nygard, Taylor Todd with Tower Hill's Bright Star, Brad McCardle with LBF Up In Smoke, John McLlrot with Bridgers Open For Business, Dave Noell, and Trevor Walz.

too much on the flush to suit the judges and was up.

Carbonado's Silver Sage (PF/Turley) ran as a bye dog in brace No. 3 due to a late scratch by her bracemate. Sage had a nice performance with a good, solid shooting dog race but failed to find birds. She finished her allocated hour.

Brace No. 4 pitted Touch's Katrina (PF/Turley) with Tower Hill's Deep Wonder (PF/Todd) in the last brace of the morning. Kate had a nice race and an early find on a sage hen. She was found standing again but moved during Austin's flushing attempt. Taylor's dog ran a good race into the wind and rain, but two unproductives ended her day.

Sweet Grass Skipper (ESM/David Huffine) and Ramblin Rivers Unplugged (PF/Gingrich) broke away for the first brace of the afternoon on course No. 5. Skipper showed his youth when he met his first sage grouse at 10. It was not a good experience. He pointed and then put the bird up, making for a short trip. Brian's charge had a really stylish, long race and appeared unaffected by the weather. Brian suffered through the wind and rain to finish his dog but with no bird work.

Brace No. 6 is described in the placements.

Friday morning, braces began in moderate conditions. Prometheus Fireball (ESF/Dave Noell) and Burr Oak's Barney (VIZM/Gingrich) met in brace No. 7. Dave's dog had a nice forward race and was stylish on the ground. She had bird contact at 27 and was picked up. Barney was long and saw a lot of country. He was missing a bit but showed up to the front and finished his hour.

Railhew's Ruby (PF/Lillian Favor) was matched with Ramblin Rivers Natural (PM/Gingrich) on course No. 2 for brace No. 8. Ruby had bird contact at 22 but continued. Brian's dog moved on a flushing attempt at 40 and was called up. Lillian's dog failed to back and was also up.

Brace No. 9 consisted of Caladen's Struttin Bode (PM/Todd) and S T's Locked



Sharptail Open Shooting Dog Derby Winners (l-r): Shannon Nygard (judge), Marcos Puiggari with Pongo, Darrell Curtis (judge), David Huffine with Sweet Grass Skipper, Brad McCardle, Taylor Todd with Seranoa's Valley Below, Nick Schade, and Trevor Walz.

N Loaded (VIZF/Gingrich). Both dogs had good stylish races on course No. 3, which had produced winners the past few years, but no birds were found by either dog.

Brace No. 10 is included in the placements.

Friday afternoon began in warming conditions for dogs and handlers. B K Spot On (PF/Darrell Curtis) and Wiggins Miss Fernie (PF/Marcos Puiggari) were on course No. 5. Both dogs ran strong races, verging on all-age, and kept their handlers busy. Fernie had a stop to flush at 10. Thereafter, both dogs ran well and hunted hard but found no birds.

The last brace on Friday paired Rebel Stoke (PM/Puiggari) and Sweet Grass Slim (ESM/Huffine). Marcos's dog had a nice find on a sage hen at 12, followed by an unproductive at 15. He had another find on a pair of Huns at 22 but marked and moved on the flush. Slim had an unproductive at 10 and a back on his bracemate's unproductive at 15. However, his erratic race unnerved his handler, and he was up at 35.

Brace No. 13 is included in the placements.

Sweet Grass Skeeter (ESM/Huffine) and Redeemed (PM/Shannon Nygard) were on course No. 2 for brace No. 14. Both dogs broke away well before going right as they came down into the creek bottom. Shannon recovered her dog, and he produced a nice, forward race and finish but with no birds. Skeeter had a good race also but had an unproductive at 40. He, too, was birdless.

Nick Schade and Gordy Jones lost Carbonado's La Flama Blanca (PF) and Daisy (PF) on course No. 3 for brace No. 15. Nick's dog had two unproductives to mar a nice race. Gordy's dog had nice ground application and a back on one of the unproductives but produced no birds.

The noon heat was increasing as Burr Oak's Born Again (VIZM/Gingrich) ran as a bye dog on course No. 4 after a scratch by his bracemate. Brian's dog ran a nice race but had only an unproductive at 40 to show for his work.

Brace No. 17 matched Touch's Whitewater (PM/Puiggari) and C K Post Route Scout (VIZM/Gingrich). Marcos lost his dog right early. A long ride with the tracker found the dog a mile away standing bird. Scout provided a good performance for Brian but went birdless.

Mike Robbins put his namesake, Name Like Mike (PM), down to run with Burr Oak's Tommy (VIZM/Gingrich) in brace No. 18. Mike had a nice forward race. A find at 30 moved him into contention, but he moved on flush. Brian's dog took a hard left at breakaway. He ran big but was a tough handle and produced no birds.

The final brace of the Classic matched H B V's Lambeau Leap (GSPF/Favor) with Ramblin Rivers BGK Firewoman (VIZF/Gingrich). Both handlers were convinced that their dogs were not in contention with the dogs likely being carried and picked up at 35.

Winnett, Mont., April 27

Judges: John McLlrot and Alex Rickert

SHARPTAIL OPEN SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC

[One-Hour Heats] – 37 Entries

1st—COSTAS, 1698042, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Searchin For A Rainbow. Gordon Jones, owner and handler.

2d—EDELMAN, 1682222, pointer male, by Miller's Light Cruiser-Heard Hill's Queen Mary. Gordon Jones, owner and handler.

3d—TOUCH'S MICRO DOT, 1692164, pointer female, by Touch's Diamante-Seranoa's On Guard Annie. Klaus Schmidt, owner; R. J. Clark, handler.

Companion Stakes

The Open All-Age Derby was won handily by Tower Hill's Bright Star (ESF/Todd), who showed a promising all-age race. Second place went to LBF Up In Smoke (PM/Brad McCardle) with a solid, forward race. The third spot went to Bridgers Open For Business (PM/Todd). Judges for the All-Age Derby were Dave Noell of Billings, Mont., and Darrell Curtis of High River, Alberta.

Darrell Curtis and Shannon Nygard judged the Open Shooting Dog Derby. The stake produced good bird contact for 30-minute stakes. Marcos Puiggari handled Pongo (PM) to first place with a strong race and two finds. Sweet Grass Skeeter (ESM/Huffine) took second with two finds also. Third place went to Seranoa's Valley Below (PM/Schade), who had one find and a very impressive race.

Judges: Darrell Curtis and Dave Noell

SHARPTAIL OPEN ALL-AGE DERBY

– 11 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—TOWER HILL'S BRIGHT STAR, 1698424, setter female, by Sweet Grass Slim-Tower Hill Zoey Zee. Taylor Todd, owner and handler.

2d—LBF UP IN SMOKE, 1702242, pointer male, by Touch's Diamante-Empire On Line. Brad McCardle, owner and handler.

3d—BRIDGERS OPEN FOR BUSINESS, 1702420, pointer male, by Miller Unfinished Business-Phantom's Santo Sun.

John H. Holt, owner; Taylor Todd, handler.

Judges: Darrell Curtis and Shannon Nygard
SHARPTAIL OPEN SHOOTING DOG DERBY
- 17 Entries

1st—PONGO, 1702632, pointer male, by Touch's Whitewater-Wiggins Miss Fernie. Zenas F. Bliss Jr., owner; Marcos Puiggari, handler.

2d—SWEET GRASS SKIPPER, 1698209, setter male, by Sweet Grass Slim-Tower Hill Zoey Zee. David Huffine, owner and handler.

3d—SERANOVA'S VALLEY BELOW, 1700479, pointer male, by Touch's Malcolm Story-Seranova's On Guard Annie. Nicholas Schade, owner and handler.

Special Thanks

Field trials in remote locations take excessive work and effort by those in charge. Toilets have to be hauled to the camp. There is no water, so four huge water containers must be transported on a flatbed from Roundup, Mont., and must be

replenished in Winnett. John McIltrout and Taylor Todd deserve special recognition for their ground efforts at this trial. Darrell Curtis and Austin Turley masterfully negotiated supplemental water supply with the proprietor of the Winnett Bar, the only restaurant in town, and then transported it to camp. The Big Sky Field Trial Club and the entrants appreciate their efforts.

Bryan Rickert took on the thankless job of driving the dog truck. Communication with the judges and the truck was by radios that worked when they felt like it and then didn't. There are no marked courses, multi-directional two tracks to choose from, and no visible contact with the dogs, handlers, or gallery. His efforts are commended and appreciated.

We thank the judges named above for

taking their time and using their talents to ensure that all handlers and dogs were given a chance to show their talents.

This trial would not be possible without the sharing spirit of the King Family, who allow us to use their wonderful land.

This reporter apologizes for any errors or omissions in the descriptions of the dogs and the braces. Horses were in short supply, and the reporter shared dog wagon responsibilities. Many of the dogs were only seen at 400 yards or more, and the reporting was based upon some visual observation but mostly from notes and comments from the judges. If an owner has a different report from the handler, believe the handler. And if a handler has a different recollection, they are likely correct.

NEW ENGLAND SHOOTING DOG FUTURITY

Calico's Sugar 'N' Spice Wins 87th Running

By Margaret C. Drew | East Windsor, Connecticut | April 28, 2023

I want to refresh folks on the historic connection that the futurity has to the development of bird dogs and futurities as history is often forgotten. When the New England Shooting Dog Futurity was first proposed as a regional futurity in the '30s, the proposal was not well received, or as historian Truman Crowles stated, "proposal did not spread like wildfire." Herbert G. Silver headed a group first proposing a regional futurity; however, although the need for more breeders was agreed upon, defining eligibility and other rules proved to be a challenge. It was necessary for the first year to sidestep futurity rules so that the first futurity was that of one in name only, with seventeen entries running in April 1937. However, breeders and other dog people acknowledged that a regional futurity was necessary to promote bird dogs, so a regional set of guidelines were established, and twenty-one dogs were entered. These rules and whelping dates were adhered to until 1939 when a June whelping date helped to change the venue to run in October beginning in 1941. This whelping provision more aligned the New England Futurity to the National Futurities. The futurity nominations and entries remained a regional entry base for several years, expanding in the late '70s. In the '80s, a few litters were nominated from outside New England, and entries increased as well. In the early '90s, litters and entries declined again, luckily followed by a surge to 50 to 60 entries from 35 litters in the late '90s and early 2000s. At this time, there was a guaranteed purse of



87th New England Futurity Winners (front, l-r): Peyton Gunby with Calico's Sugar 'N' Spice, Casey Hollander and Mike Tracy with Hauser's Hard Line, Doug Ray with CS Four Season's Gunner, and Madison McDonald with Miller's Little Duce Coupe. (Behind): Aiden Malone and a guest, Jeff Smith, John Stogitis, John Malone, Bill Bonnetti, Dick Bembenek, George Tracy, and Allen Linder.

\$2,000; however, with litter nominations declining and entries as well, this policy could not continue. The association would like to return to that position; however, litter nominations and entries are the key. The entry fee has not been raised; however, it too will follow if necessary.

Today, futurities across the country are not as well supported as one would expect. It is a breeder's showcase, but often breeders are not nominating their litters. It seems to me that \$40 would be a fair investment to show off your breeding program. This 87th running of the New England Futurity had only twelve litters

nominated, therefore the sad fifteen entries. Nominations for the 88th are ongoing; contact Margaret.

The clubhouse now displays a wall of Life Patron plaques, taxidermy of upland game, various regional historical plaques, and engraved retired trophies. In an adjacent room is a large pictorial history showing the building of the present clubhouse. In a second framed plaque are historic photos from early trials with identified patrons and dogs, and which trial is portrayed. This is a very nice historical piece. Many of the photos are complimentary of the historic keepings of

the late Truman Crowles. Dick Bembenek made and donated a wooden memory board of all early New England Open winners from its origin in 1929 with spaces through 2028. The original silver tray is displayed at the Bird Dog Hall of Fame in Grand Junction, Tenn.

The grounds at Flaherty were in excellent condition. The Flaherty committee has courses well marked with landmarks and has improved the courses with culverts and crushed fill, making the course safe and allowing handlers and spectators to concentrate on the dogs. The Flaherty grounds committee has made major improvements to the area, and it is an excellent field trial area. As noted in the past, the area has ample parking, running water, bathroom facilities, a full kitchen, a pavilion, and a modern bird room.

The 87th New England Futurity once again used a single course, which broke away down the slight hill on the northeast side of the grounds beyond the horse corrals. We then moved forward toward the center of the property, where the first quail release area has of recent years been on the left of the island trees; however, this year, it was further on toward the woods and pond area. From there, it is a straight shot through the very wide meadow below Fox Hill, through the wooded area near the pond, and down the backstretch to cross the main culvert before continuing up to the top of Tobacco Barn Hill and the apple tree area. Another bird spot is here, although often, the birds fly across the freshly plowed field and are hidden in the wooded edge. The course is now at fifteen to twenty minutes as we make our way down toward the second culvert, which replaced the wet and muddy crossing. The dogs usually transverse the right wooded edge after leaving the top of Tobacco Hill, cross at the bottom, and head for the semi-wooded area below the housing development and into the fields below the clubhouse. The 30-minute finish has dogs hunting the meadow, or usually the edges of it, below the clubhouse and reaching toward the opening cut and on toward the powerline and Deerborn. If the brace is brisk, we travel under the powerlines into the area of Deerborn until time is up. Often dogs cast toward the left and center, requiring scout assistance.

Birds for the futurity were planted faithfully by John Stolgitis and Dick Bembenek. Once again, John also performed his magic chef skills for Friday evening's dinner as Allen Raiano hosted Chasehill Poison Ivy's first-place win in 2022. John had been the handler. Dinner had numerous appetizers followed by prime rib and lobster tails with all the

fixings. As usual, job well done, John Stolgitis! Comments received claimed this to have been one of the best dinners yet. When announcements were made, each placement received a Ziploc bag with checks for breeders and handlers, pins, and DNA information. A thank you to the judges and photos were followed with congratulations.

Without the breeders nominating their litters, owners having their dogs prepared for the futurity, and handlers traveling to run in the futurity, there would be no futurities. This year, Bill Bonnetti and John Stolgitis managed the futurity, with yours truly, Margaret Drew, taking over the litter recording and other necessary paperwork. Litters are already being accepted for 2022 and 2023 whelpings; contact Margaret at (910) 206-0079 or email: margaretdrew39@gmail.com.

Drowning Creek Bird Dogs (Calvin Curnutte) of North Carolina provided judges' books. The trial received generous donations from Purina through ad coverage, hats, and product.

The committee would like to thank John and Aiden Malone for stepping in and giving up a busy Friday to judge the futurity. Neither of these gentlemen needs an introduction, as they have been active in all New England bird dog events for many years. Thanks, John and Aiden.

Supporters this year came from twelve breeders, with twelve different owners and seven handlers. We need to do better for the upcoming futurities.

The Winners

Calico's Sugar 'N' Spice, a pointer female bred by Carl and Colin Bishop with Waybetter Rocky x Waybetter Rummy, was named winner of the 87th New England Futurity. Frank Henderson and Jeff Smith own Sugar 'N' Spice, although handling today was Jeff Smith. This winner ran with style to write home about, plus she just seemed to know where to hunt, therefore requiring very little handling by Smith. At 5, she had a back when she found bracemate stacked up at the end of the wide field to the left of the wooded area near the pond. She quickly disappeared to the front, was seen beyond the culvert area, and found proudly standing in the trees on Tobacco Hill. After a little water and praise, she was released to scoot down the thick area below the hilltop and the brook dividing the lower area of the course below the clubhouse. Sugar 'N' Spice took a welcomed swim before marching up the knoll and covering the area below the clubhouse in a long sweeping cast which resulted in another stylish find. As time was called, she had hunted her way to the

front and was headed for Deerborn. Scout Payton Gunby and handler Smith soon had her harnessed for judges to see.

Second place went to Hauser's Hard Line, a pointer male belonging to Sean and Deb Hauser. Hard Line was from their breeding between Miller's Dialing In x Nemaha Snow Rebel. As with most of us, we hope we keep the right dog from the litters we breed; well, I guess they made the right selection this time. Hauser's Hard Line is under the whistle of Mike Tracy. Hauser's Hard Line ran a snappy reaching race with a powerful gait. Hard Line looked exceptional on his two finds and when backing. Watching him traverse the course with his exciting bracemate made for one exciting half hour.

CS Four Season's Gunner, a pointer male bred by Harold Ray and owned by Tony Gibson with Doug Ray, earned third place. CS Four Season's Gunner had a well-located find approaching the pond early on. At the halfway mark, the course crosses a culvert, and it was here that Gunner stood in the hedgerow for find number two. The pair marched out of sight and were seen at the top of Tobacco Hill, where when the handler arrived, Gunner stood awaiting flush, as did Miller's Little Duce Coupe for this divided find. CS Four Season's Gunner seemed to grow stronger as he disappeared across the brook. As the handlers and judges entered the area below the clubhouse, the pair once again shared a divided find in the pines.

Fourth place went to Miller's Little Duce Coupe, a pointer female from Jack and Fran Miller's litter between Miller's Upgraded Version x Walden's Ice Breaker, handled by George Tracy. Owners Allen Linder and Madison McDonald were riding to watch her performance. Following the divided find at Tobacco Hill, we watched a determined and classy Duce Coupe hunt the edges before crossing the culvert and entering the field below the clubhouse. As the handlers and judges entered the area below the clubhouse, the pair once again shared a divided find in the pines. She finished her time to the front, checking all the appropriate areas for more game.

The Running

The first brace of this 87th New England Futurity was filled by Hall of Famer George Tracy with longtime friend, amateur Brian Sanchez. Tee's Sweet Emotion, a pointer male bred by Christy Swearingen with Touch's Red Rider x Tee's Funseekin Belle, and owned and handled by Brian, was braced with pointer male Miller's Upgraded Design from Jack and Fran Miller's litter between Miller's Upgraded Version x Walden's Ice Breaker.

He is proudly owned by Allen Linder, who was present with granddaughter Madison McDonald to watch the running of the futurity. This brace was a spectacular opening brace with both dogs laying out there at a medium range with forward races and plenty of bird work. The standard had been set high. The judges reported that this brace was carried until brace No. 6 was finished leading to the winners being placed with more similar races, style, hunting patterns, and handling ease. Tee's Sweet Emotion had five broke finds during his half-hour of consideration. Miller's Upgraded Design had four finds and a back with one brief moment of challenge to his handler.

Brace No. 2 had Wintersets Patch of Ice, an English setter female owned by Tom Winter with Mike Tracy as bracemate for Doug Ray's Great River Stallion, a pointer male bred by Sergio Velez. Stallion's owner, Brian Sanchez, was present to observe. Wintersets Patch of Ice, bred by Ian Seletzky, broke away looking sharp and determined. She was seen hunting independently in the area to the left of the pond; however, she was soon harnessed for reasons unseen by the judges. On the breakaway, Great River Stallion burst forward down the path, making a sharp right turn down Deerborn. The handler and scout quickly rounded him up and successfully coaxed him into a forward remaining half hour. He had a find at the top of Tobacco Hill, followed by a second find in the woods across the lower field in front of the clubhouse. Great River Stallion finished with a third polished find in the big area to the left of the opening ten minutes.

Brace No. 3 produced the first and second-place winners. Details of this brace are covered above with the winners.

Brace No. 4 was put down just before lunch as the temperatures rose. Waybetter Thor, a pointer male littermate to the winner, Calico's Sugar 'N' Spice, is owned by the Primms and the Bishops and was handled by Mike Tracy. The bracemate for this fourth brace was Chasehills Wango Tango from a litter bred by Erin Stolgitis with Panola Bacon x Chasehill Little Izzy. Owner Allen Raiano was present to watch as John Stolgitis released Wango Tango to hunt. He pleased his owner with two perfect points on quail before a quail was ridden up by horses, causing Wango Tango to take interest, resulting in the handler electing to pick him up. Waybetter Thor must have had new running shoes on and earbuds in, which led to a difference of opinion with his handler Mike Tracy;

therefore, an early pick-up followed.

Following lunch, only three braces remained due to a scratch by Eli Richardson of his English setter male, Ironstone's Dark Horse. This scratch allowed the bye dog, Isabull, a pointer female owned and handled by Ernie Saniga, to move up to brace No. 5. The bracemate remained Suemac's Wicked Sister, a pointer female owned by Roger and Sue McPherson with George Tracy. These two derbies were littermates from Tommy Walker's litter, Miller's Heat Seeker x Dominator's Heir Kate. The two toured the course at a medium range, finishing their thirty minutes without any bird contact.

Brace No. 6 produced the third and fourth-place winners with an exciting pair of dogs complimenting each other and having everyone keeping a keen eye on the activity. At the end of this brace, the gallery knew that three braces were near the top of the judges' notes. Details of Miller's Little Duce Coupe and CS Four Season's Gunner's brace are covered with the winners.

Brace No. 7 concluded the day's running with Miller's Miss Congeniality, a pointer female bred by Dr. Susan Wells, with Miller's Upgraded Version's Quail Roost Too, owned by Joe McHugh with Mike Tracy. Joe was unable to attend this year, but we hope to see him in attendance next year. Bracemate was Miller's Promotional Upgrade, a pointer male littermate to his bracemate. Jumping off the breakaway, Promotional Upgrade cast to the bottom of the slope and disappeared down Deerborn, leading to an early pick-up. Miller's Miss Congeniality started slowly, picked up speed, and then when not responding to the handler, she also had an early pick-up.

The Breeding

Tee's Sweet Emotion, pointer male, by Touch's Red Rider-Tee's Funseekin Belle. Tracy Swearingen, breeder; Brian Sanchez, owner and handler. *With*

Miller's Upgraded Design, pointer male, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Walden's Ice Breaker. Squire Lee, breeder; Allen Linder, owner; George Tracy, handler.

Wintersets Patch of Ice, setter female, by Erin's Big Casino-Sadie Oak Boo. Ian Seletzky, breeder; Tom Winters, owner; Mike Tracy, handler. *With*

Great River Stallion, pointer male, by B K Bonafide Stallion-B K Hirollins Wild. Sergio Velez, breeder; Brian Sanchez, owner; Doug Ray, handler.

Calico's Sugar 'N' Spice. *With*
Hauser's Hard Line.

Waybetter Thor, pointer male, by Waybetter Rocky-Waybetter Rummy. Carl Bishop, breeder; Carl, Collin, Joyce Bishop and Bill & Muriel Primm, owners; Mike Tracy, handler. *With*

Chasehills Wango Tango, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Erin Stolgitis, breeder; Allen Raiano, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

Suemac's Wicked Sister, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Tom Walker, breeder; Roger & Susie McPherson, owners; Mike Tracy, handler. *With*

Isabull, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Tom Walker, breeder; Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.

Miller's Little Duce Coupe. *With*
CS Four Season's Gunner.

Miller's Miss Congeniality, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Quail Roost Too. Dr. Susan Wells, breeder; Joe McHugh, owner; Mike Tracy, handler. *With*

Miller's Promotional Upgrade, pointer male, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Quail Roost Too. Dr. Susan Wells, breeder; Harold Ray & Jack & Fran Miller, owners; Doug Ray, handler.

[*Drawn but did not run; Ironstone's Dark Horse, setter male, by Maximum Resistance-Deciding Point. Robert Watts, breeder; Elias Richardson, owner and handler.]

East Windsor, Conn., April 28 Judges: Aiden Malone and John Malone 87TH NEW ENGLAND FUTURITY - 13 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st—CALICO'S SUGAR 'N' SPICE, 1700320, pointer female, by Waybetter Rocky-Waybetter Rummy. Jeff Smith, owner and handler.

2d—HAUSER'S HARD LINE, 1702195, pointer male, by Miller's Dialing In-Nemaha Snow Rebel. Sean & Deb Hauser, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

3d—CS FOUR SEASON'S GUNNER, 1701374, pointer by Dominator's Ghost Rider-Piney Woods Gal. Tony Gibson, owner; Doug Ray, handler.

4th—MILLER'S LITTLE DUCE COUPE, 1700309, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Walden's Ice Breaker. Allen Linder & Madison McDonald, owners; George Tracy, handler.

RICH ROBERTSON JR.

for Field Trial Hall of Fame

Ch./Hall of Famer Hicks Rising Sun (1999)

| Ch./Hall of Famer Tekoa Mountain Sunrise (2000)



1983 California Bird Dog Championship (front, l-r): Tekoa Mountain Hope with Rich Robertson Jr., and Ronco Traveler with George Haney. (Behind): Ron Bader, Richard Robertson, Sr., and Alex Mauck.



Dedicated husband, father, and grandfather

Rich began field trialing in the 1970s, with his first championship in 1982 and last trip to The National at Ames in 2016. For 30+ years, Rich started a field trial season off on the West Coast after Thanksgiving, left to go to Tennessee for The National, the Florida Championship, the Continental, and then traveled back to the West Coast to finish the season with the Washington, Idaho, and Nevada trials.

- 150+ Championships in California, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, North Dakota
- 150+ South Dakota, Montana, Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Arkansas
- 150+ Tennessee, Mississippi, Missouri, Georgia, Florida, Alberta, Saskatchewan

Please join these Hall of Fame inductees in supporting Rich Robertson for the Hall of Fame:

**Mike Aldrich* • Dale Bush • Dean Crabbs* • Andy Daugherty • Colvin Davis • Tommy Davis • Dr. Ron Deal
Keith & Robbi Jo Gullede* • David Johnson • Pat McInteer • Garland Priddy • Harold Ray • John Ravidou*
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*Denotes NGSPA Hall of Fame

To show your support for Rich's induction into the Hall of Fame, please send your name to: jlgill1793@gmail.com

6x Ch./4x R-U Ch. Rivertons Funseek'n Scooter



Rivertons Funseek'n Scooter with his sons, Just Irresistible and Funseek'n Hit Man

Owners / Handler

Matt Coverdale & Gerry Hignite, Owners
Rich Robertson, Handler

Breeding

Sire 6x Ch./R-U Ch.
Funseeker's Rebel
Dam: 6x Ch./4x R-U Ch.
Rivertons Blackeye Pea

Production Record

14-38-119

Championship Wins

- Wr, 2009 Pacific Coast Derby Chmp.
- Wr, 2010 National Chukar All-Age Chmp.
- R-U, 2010 California Open Chmp.
- Wr, 2011 United States Chicken Chmp.
- Wr, 2012 Region 9 Amateur All-Age Chmp.
- R-U, 2012 Northwest Chukar Chmp.
- Wr, 2013 Region 9 Amateur All-Age Chmp.
- R-U, 2013 California Quail Chmp.
- R-U, 2014 National Chukar All-Age Chmp.
- Wr, 2014 Western Open All-Age Chmp.

Scooter's Winning Dogs

1st Generation

- R-U Ch. Born On Fourth July
- Ch. Dominator's Rebel Heir
- Ch. Funseek'n Hit Man
- Ch./HOF Just Irresistible
- R-U Ch. Just Unforgettable
- R-U Ch. Just Watch
- Ch. Little Willow Aaron
- Ch. Painted Nickel Mac
- Ch. S B Always Dreamin
- R-U Ch. Wait A Minute

2nd Generation

- Ch. Game Heir
- Ch. Miller Unfinished Business
- Nat. Ch. Miller's Blindsider*
- Ch. Miller's Braveheart
- R-U Ch. Miller's Bushwacker
- R-U Ch. Miller's Cover Girl
- Ch. Miller's Extreme Heat
- Ch. Miller's Heat Advisory
- Ch. Miller's High Heat Index
- Ch. Miller's Heat Seeker
- Ch. Miller's Heat Wave*
- Ch. Miller's Just Plain Rowdy
- Miller's Little Duce Coupe*
- Ch. Miller's Lock And Loaded
- Ch. Miller's Packing Heat
- Ch. Miller's Record Heat
- Ch. Miller's Stray Bullet
- Ch. Miller's Unbridled Forever
- Ch. Miller's Upgraded Version
- Ch. Painted Owyhee Breeze
- Ch. Painted Owyhee Toad

*2022-23 Purina Award Winner

The 2023 National Champion, the 2022-23 Purina Top Amateur Shooting Dog, and Purina Top Derby winners would not have been possible without Scooter.

NATIONAL BRITTANY OPEN GROUSE CHAMPIONSHIP ASSOCIATION

Rock Solid Ronnie Wins Jack Plyler Derby Classic

By Kenny DeLong | Meredith, Michigan | April 29, 2023



Jack Plyler Derby Classic Winners (l-r): Marc Forman with Rock Solid Ronnie, Marc Dozeman (judge), Scott Chaffee with Meredith Grade Penny, Bob Wheelock (judge), and Denny Keysor with Meredith Grade Longshot.

As was the case last fall, we welcomed a sizable entry to the storied Gladwin grounds for the last trial of the five-weekend spring season at the end of April. We were happy to see new faces (including some fine gentlemen from Canada) and old friends—professional and amateur alike. We were blessed with swell weather, jammin’ judges, legendary lunches, wonderful wrangling, marvelous marshaling, super sponsorship from Greg Blair and Purina, and capital cooperation from volunteers and trialers alike. Everything came together for a great trial.

Our showcase event was the Open Shooting Dog, with a whopping 52 entries! Judges Trey Rector, all the way from Virginia, and local Scott Borgeson, logged two full days in the saddles of the Hollister Family’s finest mounts, scrutinizing a quality field of enthusiastic and experienced cover dogs. Judges were very impressed and had difficult decisions to make, splitting hairs among several hopefuls that finished clean and strong with super bird work. This resulted in an honorable mention awarded to Ken DeLong’s Brittany male. This dog ran late Friday morning on course No. 6, hard and forward, always in the likely cover, swapping ends on a timberdoodle late in the brace that Kenny flushed right over him as Shooter stood motionless in the cutting, turning his head to mark the flight.

A trio of well-known setters’ high-quality work on grouse dominated the top three placements. Third place went to Dale

Ash’s Queenie, running in brace No. 17 on course No. 1 Saturday morning. Her race was forward and wide, staying in tune with her handler. At about 23, the setter’s bell stopped well away, forward, and to the front, and her brace mate’s bell fell silent shortly thereafter. Upon arrival, Dale began a vigorous and thorough flushing attempt, with Judge Borgeson finally calling out, “There it goes!” pointing some distance ahead of where Queenie stood with brace mate “Megs” (S. Forman) backing. Handler Ash fired, all in order, and the pair were sent on, both finishing strong and to the front.

The second-place setter ran in the second brace early Friday morning on course No. 2. The venerable Doc Holmes handled the hard-charging, far-reaching, and always forward Buster through an exciting half-hour, punctuated early on with a stylish stand just before the first road crossing. Doc’s intensive first flushing attempt did not put anything in the air, so a tap on the head allowed Buster to relocate and pin the sneaky chicken, hard and stylish, a short distance away. Handler Holmes flushed, his cannon rang out, and all was in order with this exceptional piece of work on grouse. Buster finished far to the front but never out of touch.

“Hillbilly Steve” Graham’s setter Lucy has been tearin’ it up of late and did not disappoint the owner, nor the adept handling of professional Rich Hollister or the gallery when she ran on course No. 10 in the middle of the afternoon

Friday. Driving far to the front from the breakaway, Lucy’s bell stopped out of sight on the left at 9. As Rich approached, a grouse blew out well out in front of her staunch, stylish point. All in order at the shot, and manners perfect. Four minutes later, further up the same creek bottom, she slammed on point again, held rocksteady and polished, as a woodcock was flushed and Rich fired. She finished strong, having hunted hard and forward the entire 30 minutes. Judge Rector later opined, “Lucy looked like a dog with total concentration on finding and handling birds!” A well-deserved first place and blue ribbon were awarded Saturday evening.

The Open Puppy drew seventeen dogs. Adam Thomas and Scott Luther, a couple of fine, veteran setter dudes from Kentucky, ventured North to watch the young bird dogs show their potential. Like the Shooting Dog, this event also saw all setters in the money. Rich Hollister’s “Eve” was the clear winner, running hard with purpose and hitting the cover on the edge of bell range. A huge forward cast at the end into the aspen across the rye field put a lock on the blue for her. Both judges agreed that Eve was a super exciting dog to watch!

Second went to Brent Peters’s “Doc” (no stranger to the winners’ circle), who challenged the winner with his typical strong, wide-reaching race. Gary Vitali’s setter male, Brew, took the yellow ribbon, settling into a nice forward race after a more moderate start.

Placements were awarded over lunch at the Junction early Saturday afternoon. For the second day in a row, Steve and Shelly McKalco treated the large international crowd to a sizable, sumptuous spread of smoked brisket, ham, and pulled pork on homemade flour tortillas, complete with salads, desserts, and all the trimmings. These Friday and Saturday midday tailgate lunches were feasts for the ages—and word of their bounty and delectable taste bud appeal quickly spread far and wide! This reporter is sure he spotted folks on Saturday who had not been present Friday and did not appear to be dog people at all! They had likely just heard the “word on the street” or followed their noses! Better than a food truck, without question!

The Jack Plyler Open Derby Classic began after lunch on Saturday, concluding with brace No. 18 early Sunday afternoon.



Open Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Steve Graham, Rich Hollister with Back Creek Lucy, Doc Holmes with Travel Alert, Scott Borgeson (judge), Trey Rector (judge), and Dale Ash with Pine Straw Fatbottom Girl.



Open Puppy Winners (front, l-r): Rich Hollister with Dunrovens Midnight Eve, Brent Peters with Baxter's Doc Holiday, and Gary Vitali with Vitali's Grouse Ringer Brew. (Behind): Adam Thomas (judge) and Scott Luther (judge).



Open Restricted Breed Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Shane Baxter with Kan Point N Bax Stars Maxd Out, Kenny DeLong (judge), Brent Peters with Conneaut Creek Roisin Dubh, Tammy Chaffee (judge), and Al Fazenbaker with Conneaut Creek Scenic River.

Judges Bob Wheelock and Marc Dozeman put up the first and second-place dogs from brace No. 6 late Saturday afternoon, running on course No. 16. All setters again! Marc Forman's female "Ronnie" broke away hard and stayed forward, carding a very nice grouse find about halfway through, taking the blue.

Second place went to Scott Chaffee, handling Denny Keysor's "Penny," who was somewhat tentative at first but opened up nicely and stuck a woodcock solid late in the brace. Mr. Chaffee returned midday Sunday handling Denny's somewhat more moderate running setter male, "Jack," to a nice grouse find to round out the placements.

Late Sunday morning, veterans Kenny DeLong and Tammy Chaffee hopped in the saddle to watch the Restricted Breed Open Shooting Dog stake. Nice to see Brittanys, German Shorthairs, Muensterlanders, and Red setters competing in preparation for our Restricted Breed Grouse Championship on October 7! This Club will also host another half-hour Restricted Breed Open Shooting Dog at our summer trial on the last weekend of August. Judges liked the animation, forward pattern, and hunting savvy of Shane Baxter's handsome German Shorthair "Max" for first place. Al Fazenbaker's Red setter "Rosie" was close behind, running like half her age. Al's young "River" snatched third place with an animated race, staying mainly to the front while slightly less mature in his

application. Restricted Open Shooting Dog and Derby placements were announced over lunch at West Gate Junction.

We want to thank all the participants and volunteers who pitched in to help move vehicles, marshal braces, set up meals, and lend a hand with the many other assorted tasks that help a field trial run smoothly. The Lord blessed us all with great competition and camaraderie. Thanks to Purina for their generous support. As always, we appreciate the good, seasoned trial horses provided by the Hollister Family. We continue to be impressed with Jenny's original styles in hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and other Gladwin cover dog trial casual wear! Our judges did a fine job, some coming from quite a distance, and their decisions were well received. We were excited to see new trialers, a few different breeds (human and canine alike), and participants from across the Midwest and our northern border. We hope you enjoyed the weekend and will return for more this summer and fall. God Bless!

Meredith, Mich., April 29

**Judges: Scott Borgeson and Trey Rector
OPEN SHOOTING DOG**

- 5 Pointers, 43 Setters and 3 Brittanys

1st—BACK CREEK LUCY, 1683067, setter female, by Peyton's Legacy Kip-Girl's Little Dixie. Steve Graham, owner; Richard Hollister, handler.

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

3d—PINE STRAW FATBOTTOM GIRL, 1692898, setter female, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-Pine Straw Sweet Tea. Dale Ash & Michael Reeves, owners; Dale Ash, handler.

Judges: Scott Luther and Adam Thomas

OPEN PUPPY - 6 Pointers, 9 Setters,

1 German Shorthair and 1 German Wirehair

1st—DUNROVENS MIDNIGHT EVE, 1702222, setter female, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Hunter Run's Maggie Mae. Jessica Hollister, owner; Richard Hollister, handler.

2d—BAXTER'S DOC HOLIDAY, 1701013, setter male, by Thornapple Casey-Baxter's Mary Katherine. Brent & Denise Peters, owners; Brent Peters, handler.

3d—VITALI'S GROUSE RINGER BREW, 1700649, setter male, by Vitali's Grouseringer Stogey-Vitali's Grouseringer Razzle. Gary Vitali, owner and handler.

Judges: Marc Dozeman and Bob Wheelock

JACK PLYLER OPEN DERBY CLASSIC

- 12 Pointers, 21 Setters, 1 Brittany and 1 Irish Setter

1st—ROCK SOLID RONNIE, 1700176, setter female, by Lightning Flash Remington-Grouse Ridge Lazer. Douglas Dix, owner; Marc Forman, handler.

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

3d—MEREDITH GRADE LONGSHOT, 1699460, setter male, by Pine Straw Black Hawk-Pine Straw's Tupelo Honey. Dennis Keysor, owner; Scott Chaffee, handler.

Judges: Tammy Chaffee and Kenny DeLong

OPEN RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG

- 1 Brittany, 2 Irish Setters and 1 Muensterlander

1st—KAN POINT N BAX STARS MAXD OUT, 1696364, German Shorthair male, by Bax Star's Doc Holiday-Kan Point's Summer Lovin. Shane & Christine Baxter, owners; Shane Baxter, handler.

2d—CONNEAUT CREEK ROISIN DUBH, 1661626, Irish setter female, by Come Back Cutter-Come Back Bee Gee. Al Fazenbaker, owner and handler.

3d—CONNEAUT CREEK SCENIC RIVER, 1693481, Irish setter female, by Cedar Creek Talon-Cedar Creek's Skyline Belle. Al Fazenbaker & Ed Liermann, owners; Al Fazenbaker, handler.

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NGSPA HAWKEYE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hi N's Allison Miranda Wins Open and Amateur

By Jeff Wallace | Raymond, Nebraska | April 29, 2023



NGSPA Hawkeye Open Shooting Dog Championship Winners (l-r): Bruce Bryant, Allison Bell (judge), Kirk Loftin, Sherri Tangsrud with Hi N's Allison Miranda, Mark Wasserman with B D K's Dirty Harry, Josh Nieman, Jarrett Bell (judge), and Jeff Wallace.

The German Shorthaired Club of Central Iowa sponsored the 2023 NGSPA Hawkeye Championships, held on April 29-May 2 at the Branched Oaks Trial Grounds in Raymond, Neb.

We want to thank this year's sponsors, Purina and Dogs Unlimited, for their continued support of our championships. We would also like to thank our dedicated judges, Darrin White and Jared and Allison Bell, for their time in the saddle. I would also like to thank Dr. Hoehns for graciously volunteering to scribe our amateur stake, Jeff Wallace for organizing our trial, and Bruce Bryant for all his hard work of planting birds and anything needed to keep the trial running smoothly.

Open Shooting Dog Championship

The Open Championship cast off Monday morning with 23 entries. The cool morning weather turned to gusty Nebraska winds in the afternoon. The dry weather and gusty winds made for challenging conditions this year.

Our judges commented about the impressive bird work and application of our champion and runner-up champion. Both dogs used the limits of the course, with the champion showing an extremely nice power shooting dog course.

Hi N's Allison Miranda ("Allie"), owned and handled by Kirk Loftin and scouted by Sherri Tangsrud, was named champion. B D K's Dirty Harry ("Harry"), handled by Josh Nieman and owned and scouted by

Mark Wasserman, was named runner-up

Raymond, Neb., April 29

Judges: Allison Bell and Jarrett Bell

NGSPA HAWKEYE OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 23 German Shorthairs

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

Runner-Up—B D K'S DIRTY HARRY, 1675196, male, by Slicks Cuttin Wild-C L K's Point Me The Way. Mark Wasserman, owner; Josh Nieman, handler.

Amateur Shooting Dog Championship

The 2023 renewal of the NGSPA Hawkeye Amateur Shooting Dog Championship was run over the Branched Oaks grounds on April 29-30. The Amateur drew fourteen extremely competitive entries and was scribed by Brent Hoehns. Judges for this year's event were Darrin White, a knowledgeable German Shorthair man from Treynor, Ia., and Jarret Bell, breeder/trainer/handler of multiple Vizsla champions, from Troy, Mo. Windy weather was had throughout the weekend, and the judges' attention to the dogs during uncomfortable weather was noted and appreciated. Their decisions were well received. This year's champion was Hi N's Allison Miranda, handled by Kirk Loftin. The runner-up was Uodibar's Lover Boy, also handled by Loftin. Allie had a flashy forward race and four well-spaced finds. Blue was named runner-up with a five-find performance in windy, warm conditions.

The first brace included Hi N's Allison Miranda, handled by Kirk Loftin, and L S V's Hammer Down ("Hammer"), directed

by Jim Jorgensen. Both dogs were away with good range on a cool morning in the low 40s. Hammer struck first with a nice find at 8 on the Buffet Line, all in order. Both dogs scored separately in Mushroom Draw; Hammer at 18, Allie at 19, clean, stylish work by both charges. Past the dry pond and coming up the hill, both dogs were found standing on two separate finds at 25. Both dogs standing nicely at flush and shot. Both dogs came across the starting bottom without a hitch, crossing the bridge and scoring a divided find at 35. Both dogs steady, and both handlers shooting. On the back of the course, Allie had a find at 48 on the levee near the turn-around. She finished well and was found ahead at time. Hammer was lost to judgment near the end of his hour.

The second brace pitted Quijano's W D Forty Rusty run by David Quijano, against Charlie's Perfect Angel ("Mayzie"), handled by Elsa Gallagher. Released on the bottom of the back course, both dogs got ahead, crossing the bridge without mishap. Both dogs scoring early and often. Mayzie with three nice broke finds at 5, 14, and 28, all well-handled. Unfortunately, she was lost around the 45-minute mark, with Gallagher asking for the tracker to finish the effort. Rusty had three finds early, with a find on the Buffet Line pointed from extreme distance with great style, requiring a nice relocation to produce birds. He had a nice limb find for a fourth bird at 39 before being lost at time.

Our third brace paired Twin Creeks Running Rocky ("Rocky"), handled by Loftin and Cajun's Firecracker ("Kadie"), with Bruce Bryant navigating. Starting on the back course, Rocky scored at 3 in a thicket on the bottom, all clean. Kadie then scored at 7 near the turnaround on the back course. Nice style, and all in order. She scored again at 25 near the new food plots before crossing the creek. At 42, Rocky had a find in Mushroom Draw with Kadie backing. This bird required an extended relocation which ultimately proved successful. Kadie, taken on during the relocation, moved ahead, past the dry pond, and scored on the next hill with a stylish find at 52. Rocky, trying to gain the front, scored again at 50, where the old pine draw had been dozed. Both dogs crossed the bottom well, with Kadie making a huge move around the right side of the draw, showing to the front. Kadie finished ahead nicely. Rocky found standing ahead at

61 for a fourth well-handled find at time. After breaking for lunch, the wind and temperature both rose. Temps to the low 70s, winds at 30 mph making for difficult conditions.

Uodibar's Lover Boy ("Blue"), handled by Loftin, was loosed with Mark Wasserman's Chisholm Creek's Cut'er Loose ("Lucy"). Both dogs away from the clubhouse, and both dogs with separate finds at 7 on the Buffet Line, all in order. Lucy scored at the bottom of Mushroom Draw at 15; nicely located and all in order. Blue pointed in the recently cleared area at 19, all clean, with Lucy backing nicely. Both dogs ahead were subsequently found standing together in the field above the dry pond at 26, a nice divided find. Across the wooden bridge, both dogs onto the back of the course. Blue found standing on the levee with a nice find at 38. Both dogs running in warm, windy conditions scoring near the turnaround of the back course. Lucy on the levee at 46, Blue ahead in the draw at 47, clean work all around. Both dogs finished ahead, Blue with a strong, wide-forward finish—a nice brace in tough conditions.

Brace No. 5 was released in the bottom on the back course. Loftin scratched Lexi because of a recent injury.

B D K's Dirty Harry ("Harry") had the course to himself with handler Wasserman. Harry, unfortunately, took a quick left-hand



NGSPA Hawkeye Amateur Shooting Dog Championship Winners (l-r): Bruce Bryant, Darrin White (judge), Allison Bell with Hi N's Allison Miranda, Kirk Loftin, Sherri Tangsrud with Uodibar's Lover Boy, Jarrett Bell (judge), and Jeff Wallace.

turn across the wooden bridge, getting out of pocket early, the handler asking for the tracker around the ten-minute mark.

Sunday was cooler but still windy. Brace No. 6 was released, including Pinnacle Dee's Mighty Mouse ("Dee"), handled by Loftin, and Holcomb's Ava, handled by Dr. John Holcomb. Both dogs released from the clubhouse made nice opening casts, with both dogs found standing at 6 on the Buffet Line. Two separate finds, both handled nicely. Both dogs were a little erratic in application but found standing in Mushroom Draw at 18 with Ava pointing, honored nicely by Dee. Released, Dee was seen to point in the field above the Dry Pond; unfortunately, Ava failed to back and was picked up. Dee remained forward and scored at 40 on the levee on the back course. She finished ahead in windy conditions.

Our final brace paired Uodibar's

Robbi Jo ("Robbi"), handled by Loftin, with Chisholm Creek's Jumping Jax Flash ("Flash") under the direction of Wasserman. Robbi had her running shoes on this morning and made a big move at the breakaway but was lost around ten minutes into the brace; Kirk asking for the tracker at 30. Flash moved ahead and scored at 23 in Mushroom Draw, requiring a lengthy relocation. Flash pointed again above the dry pond, requiring relocation. Flash wasn't pleasing the handler, who picked up his charge at 32.

As always, putting on a field trial takes a lot of help. Bruce Bryant and Jeff Wallace worked tirelessly with entries, setting up the course, serving meals, planting birds, and many other chores. Marty Malloy once again provided us with great flying quail. We want to thank Purina for their unsurpassed support of the field trial game and specifically for this year's renewal of the Hawkeye Shooting Dog Championships. We would also like to thank Dogs Unlimited for their support.

Judges: Jarrett Bell and Darrin White
NGSPA HAWKEYE AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] - 13 German Shorthairs

Winner—HI N'S ALLISON MIRANDA, 1676665, female, by Hi N's Feed Jake-Chicoree's Sparkle In Her Eye. Dr. Kirk A. Loftin, owner and handler.
Runner-Up—UODIBAR'S LOVER BOY, 1689423, male, by Diamond R S Texas Express-Uodibar's Bet Your Booty. Sherri Tangsrud, owner; Dr. Kirk A. Loftin, handler.

NORTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE BIRD DOG CLUB

North Country's Soda Pop Wins White Mountain Derby Classic

By Lloyd B. Murray Jr. | Brownfield, Maine | April 29, 2023

The Northern New Hampshire Bird Dog Club ran its 33rd spring trial in Fryeburg, Maine, under wet and cloudy conditions. The two-day event drew 104 dogs from all of the New England states. Due to permitting issues in Fryeburg, Maine, we ran on the Maine Bird Dog Club's grounds in Brownfield, Maine. Tony Bly did an outstanding job as stake manager with big assistance from his wife, Marie. In addition to handling the drawing, Marie filled out all the judges' books and printed all the draw sheets for both days. The first stake on Saturday morning was the Open Puppy judged by Jay Christian from Harwinton, Conn., and Rick Despina from Gray, Maine. Winning the blue ribbon was Leia, a female setter owned and handled by Roy Hargreaves. Second was Cooper, owned and handled by Jamie Leach from Derby, Vt., and winning the yellow ribbon was Bella, also owned by

Jamie Leach.

The White Mountain Open Derby Classic was next up on the ambitious agenda. We had two courses going at once so a large shooting dog stake could commence while the puppies and derbies ran on another course. If we did not do this, we would have run out of daylight several braces short of the shooting dog's conclusion. Kelly Hayes from Columbia, N. H., and Tony Bly from Milan, N. H., looked over the derbies for us.

Winning the blue ribbon with a very strong performance was North Country's Soda Pop, an English setter female owned by Nicholas Hamel and ably handled by Adam Dubriske. "Moxie," as she is called, scored three broke finds with classic pointing posture to win this Derby Classic going away.

Placing second was Long Gone Juniper,

owned and handled by this reporter. "June Bug," as she is called, notched two broke finds to go with a forward, comfortable race.

Winning the yellow ribbon was Long Gone Kilkenny, an orange and white setter male. Kenny carded three broke finds on quail despite heavy brace mate interference to earn his placement.

The Granite State Open Shooting Dog Classic drew 26 entries and was judged by Jamie Leach from Derby, Vt., and Paige Davis from Ashland, N. H. Thank you to both judges for many, many miles of walking while looking over this large entry. Winning first was Moonlite's Crown Jewel, a female pointer owned and handled by Frank Doyle from Jeffersonville, Vt. Jewel showed the judges what they wanted to see with finished bird work and a forward, driving race.

Placing second was setter male Long Gone DeQuan, who carded four broke fins. Three of these finds were on relocations on wet quail to go with a forward classy race to earn his placement.

Frank Doyle was back in the charmed circle with his pointer female, Blue Moon, winning the yellow ribbon in this competitive shooting dog stake with finished bird work and style to spare.

The Open Shooting Dog Qualifier was next on the puppy/derby course and was judged by Deb Kennedy from Aetna, N. H., and Kellie Short from Buxton, Maine. Sunday morning began with the Amateur Puppy, and again we had two courses in play right from the beginning at 7 a.m. Showers were predicted for the whole day, and they were not lying. The conditions were dreadful, with cold driving rain and quail that could absolutely not fly. However, field trials are like football. We play in any conditions. We want to thank our judges, Cal Robinson and Nick Hamel, for looking over the juveniles.

Hargreaves's classy setter female, Leia, won the blue ribbon again with a driving forward race. Can Am Cooper, Jamie Leach's pointer male, was back in the winners' circle. Third was Ray, Bob Arkley's unregistered setter female.

The George Johnson Memorial Amateur Derby was next, judged by Deb Sloan from North Monmouth, Maine, and Deb Kennedy from Aetna, N. H. The results are listed in the placements.

The Phillips Brook Amateur Shooting Dog Classic was being run on a separate course. With 24 dogs to run, we had our hands full. Tony Bly was again in the judge's saddle along with Grand National Grouse Champion-winning handler Russell Ogilvie from Prospect, Maine. When the smoke cleared, the blue ribbon went to Long Gone DeQuan for his second placement of the weekend, a setter male owned and handled by this reporter.

Second went to the consistent winner Ledge Hill Chippewa, a setter male owned and handled by Jimmy Levesque of Salem, Mass. Quan and Chip showed the judges outstanding bird work to go with driving races to earn their placements. The yellow ribbon went to Dude, a setter male owned and handled by Bob Arkley.

The Open Derby Qualifier was next on course No. 2, adjudicated by Kellie Short and Deb Sloan. Thank you, ladies, for your efforts in the pouring rain. The results are



Long Gone DeQuan, Second in the Granite State Open Shooting Dog Classic; First in the Phillips Brook Amateur Shooting Dog Classic

listed in the placements.

The last stake of the nine-stake program was the unrecognized Amateur Gun Dog. Kellie Short and Tom Richardson looked over these contestants. Karl Kraus from New York State won first and third with Hobbs and Jake, respectively. Gill, with owner and handler Mr. Green, took second place.

Brownfield, Me., April 29 – One Course

Judges: Jay Christian and Rick Despina

OPEN PUPPY – 3 Pointers, 3 Setters and 1 Irish Setter

1st—PAUCEK'S WOODLAND JEDI LEIA, 1703529, setter female, by Paucek's Little Tommy Tucker-Paucek's Andromeda. Roy Hargreaves, owner and handler.

2d—CAN AM COOPER, 1703026, pointer male, by Hirollins Gone And Doneit-Steel Valley Wardance. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.

3d—CAN AM BELLA, 1703027, pointer female, by Hirollins Gone And Doneit-Steel Valley Wardance. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.

Judges: Tony Bly and Kelly Hays

WHITE MOUNTAIN OPEN DERBY CLASSIC

– 1 Pointer, 9 Setters and 1 Brittany

1st—NORTH COUNTRY'S SODA POP, 1694744, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Hunter's Flight Risk. Nicholas Hamel, owner; Adam Dubriske, handler.

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

3d—LONG GONE KILKENNY, 1698129, setter male, by Long Gone Porky-Long Gone Juicy. Lloyd B. Murray Jr., owner and handler.

Judges: Paige Davis and Jamie Leitch

GRANITE STATE OPEN SHOOTING DOG

CLASSIC – 6 Pointers, 19 Setters and 1 Brittany

1st—MOONLITE'S CROWN JEWEL, 1695573, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Moonlite Yellow Jacket. Frank Joyal, owner and handler.

2d—LONG GONE DEQUAN, 1675616, setter male, by Long Gone Studly-Phillips Half Moon. Lloyd B. Murray Jr., owner and handler.

3d—ONCE IN A BLUEMOON, 1695576, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Moonlite Yellow Jacket. Frank Joyal, owner and handler.

Judges: Deb Kennedy and Kellie Short

OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 1 Pointer and 5 Setters

1st—WYNOT LOTTIE, 1696083, pointer male, by Woodcock Haven War Paint-Woodcock Haven Fire Sky. Allen Robbins, owner and handler.

2d—PEAT, 1686939, setter male, by Long Gone Wallace-Christy Grouse Ridge Girl. Robert Urban, owner and handler.

3d—ASPER HILL BANDIT, 1694498, setter female, by Super Storm-Asper Hill Pippi. Jonathan Cullen, owner and handler.

Judges: Nick Hamel and Cal Robinson

NEW HAMPSHIRE AMATEUR PUPPY CLASSIC

– 3 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—PAUCEK'S WOODLAND JEDI LEIA, 1703529, setter female, by Paucek's Little Tommy Tucker-Paucek's Andromeda. Roy Hargreaves, owner and handler.

2d—CAN AM COOPER, 1703026, pointer male, by Hirollins Gone And Doneit-Steel Valley Wardance. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.

3d—RAY, unreg., setter female, breeding not given. Bob Arkley, owner and handler.

Judges: Deb Kenney and Deb Sloan

GEORGE JOHNSON AMATEUR DERBY CLASSIC

– 2 Pointers, 7 Setters and 1 Brittany

1st—PAUCEK'S UP FOR ADVENTURE, 1693887, setter female, by Long Gone Studly-Paucek's Black Pearl. Trevor London, owner and handler.

2d—SPRINGBROOK LITTLE J REBEL, 1698249, pointer male, by Daddy's Little Boy Butch-Double Play Dolly. Russell Ogilvie, owner and handler.

3d—PAUCEK'S YEAGER MEISTER, 1701548, setter male, by Long Gone Studly-Paucek's Black Pearl. Kellie Short, owner and handler.

Judges: Tony Bly and Russell Ogilvie

PHILLIPS BROOK AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

CLASSIC – 2 Pointers, 21 Setters and 1 Brittany

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

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

3d—DUDE, unreg., setter male, breeding not given. Robert Arkley, owner and handler.

Judges: Kellie Short and Deb Sloan

OPEN DERBY – 4 Setters

1st—PAUCEK'S UP FOR ADVENTURE, 1693887, female, by Long Gone Studly-Paucek's Black Pearl. Trevor London, owner and handler.

2d—CAN AM MAGGIE, 1698504, female, by Long Gone Porky-Magic Mist Sydni. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.

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Voting instructions and more will appear in the September issue!

U. S. COMPLETE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella Named Champion; Double Deuce Sage, Runner-Up

By David A. Fletcher | Milford, Michigan | April 29, 2023

The Grand Valley Bird Dog Club hosted the U. S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Open Walking Shooting Dog Championship over fine grounds at the Highland Recreation Area, near Milford, Mich., April 29-30. This was the 10th occasion on which the Grand Valley Club acted as host to this Championship. An entry of 20 in the Championship and six in the Open Derby completed the program.

The weather was coolish, with morning breakaways both Saturday and Sunday and temperature in the 40s, but sunny skies warmed things by mid-day. A few brief light showers did not hinder the running. The spring cover on the grounds was ideal. The snow had flattened the heavier grass areas, and spring leaves had not yet appeared on the brushy areas, so the dogs had ample places to search without difficulty, and bird finding was excellent.

Supporting this championship were professionals Mark Hughes and Robert Ecker, with amateurs Sarah Gomes, Doug McMillen Jr., and Paul Tutro also with entries. Dave Hughes was not present, having been hospitalized two days before the event but was back home resting; nothing serious. Trial workers were headed by Grand Valley Club president Jim Cipponeri, aided by his wife Connie at the drawing. Jim was present every moment, making things go smoothly and also looking after putting out the water tubs on the course. Another huge appreciation goes to Paul Tutro for planting birds for two full days and using his horses to do so. Dave Fletcher did the reporting, wrote the judges' books, and took the pictures. Brian Wood announced each brace at the breakaways.

The judges were two local veteran Michigan trialers in the persons of John Hall and Tom Vanecek. Both have been down the road many miles in terms of bird hunting, dog training, and field trialing. They looked at the championship contenders with experienced eyes.

We also thank Greg Blair and Purina for their support.

The Winners and Others

This was a quality field of 20 starters, with no difficulty for the judges to name a champion and a runner-up. Several were challenged for the titles bestowed. Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella, handled by



U. S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Open Walking Shooting Dog Championship Winners (l-r): Tom Vanecek (judge), Robert Ecker with Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella, Doug McMillen Jr., Mark Hughes, Sarah Gomes with Double Deuce Sage, Jim Cipponeri, and John Hall (judge).

Robert Ecker, was certainly the star of the show with a very stylish way of going, beautifully gaited. Her cast was wide and purposeful, and she swung to the course route on her own. Her lone find was spectacular, standing regally on a hillside as far as you could see her right in front. Her quail was well located, flushed ten feet right in front, and the superb style on point and manners at flush could not have been accomplished in better form. This was the second title win for Harper, having won the Northern New England Woodcock Championship in 2022. She was also the 2020 U. S. Complete Derby of the year and has been invited to the U. S. Complete National Amateur Invitational and the Grouse and Woodcock Invitational. Her owner Marty Festa has won a host of stakes with her in Amateur competition.

Runner-up was Double Deuce Sage, a seven-year-old pointer female handled by Mark Hughes for owner Doug McMillen Jr. Sage had three great finds in her hour, all stylish and mannerly. She was not a contender to soar on the far rim of course; she was more interested in picking out some good cover to hunt and go there and hunt every bit of cover that could hold a quail. Not that she was short in range. After leaving her cover, she hunted thoroughly. She raced ahead on some great casts and hunted another good-looking spot thoroughly. It would be hard to find a harder-hunting bird dog than Sage. That was her hallmark. Sage won runner-up

at the U. S. Complete Invitational, placed second in the one-hour Lee Classic, and won another second in the National Grouse Derby. Sage has won a handful of placements in her field trial career.

Notables that performed in a fashion that might have won them a title on another occasion were Backwoods Wildfire, handled by Hughes, Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian, handled by Gomes, and Attitude's True Grit, handled by Ecker.

The Running

Believing that a championship should carry a brief brace-by-brace account of what each pair of dogs accomplished, here it is.

Day One

Saturday's breakaway was foggy and overcast, with the temperature at 47 degrees, but the sun came on at mid-day to improve conditions.

Miller's Special Upgrade (Hughes) and Glasslaun War Paint (Ecker). They were wide and speedy underfoot, reaching in their casts. Upgrade went birdless, War Paint with a woodcock find, not an overly regal stand this time down.

Double Deuce Oscar (Hughes) and Dun Rovens Midnite Ike (Ecker). Both hunted hard, Oscar lost to judgment at 20 and Ike with a nice find at 35 but took some steps at flush.

Foxy Lady Sadie (Fox) and Double Ridge Elroy (Hughes). Lady, a red setter

was scratched. Elroy's search for birds was very well conducted, with a find at 22, and he finished well.

Bo of Piney Woods (Ecker) and Backwoods Wildfire (Hughes). Bo was defending his 2022 title, owner Richard Warters walking a portion of the brace. Bo was hitting the far edges enthusiastically but was lost to judgment late in the hour. Wildfire was a pleasure to watch, stylish in motion, and beautifully gaited, with a nice find at 59. The dog was carried for a placement much of the stake.

Suemac's Sashay (Hughes) and Ramapo Mountain Doc (Ecker). Sashay had a creditable effort, backed bracemate, and finished well. Doc was wide in his hunting but was lost to judgment.

Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella (Ecker) and A Distant Spec (Hughes). Harper was named champion. Breakaway at 3:30, it was sunny and a bit warmer. Harper was a classy pointer female hitting the far edges of the course. She handled well, made all the course turns, and had a spectacular cast near the end of the hour. Swapping ends to point on the hillside, it was a long ride to get to her beautiful, mannerly stand where a quail was produced right in front. Spec was also hunting widely, had a quail nicely at 14, but was gone from judgment near the close of the hour.

Cal Peak Hundredth Meridian (Gomes) and Wayward Flyin Tomato (Hughes). Peak was another stylish, hard-driving contender with nice finds at 16 and 22. Judges carried this dog for a placement much of the stake.

Tomato backed bracemate at 15 but was not totally mannerly during this incident and was taken up thereafter.

Day Two

The temperature at 41° and steady rain falling at the morning start did not appear favorable. The rain stopped as the initial brace went down and was gone most of the day except for a few light rain intervals.

Miss Penn Star (Ecker) and Double Deuce Zeke (Hughes). Zeke was runner-up in this championship last season. Zeke logged a find, a back, and an unproductive, and to his credit, the hunting effort was superb, forward, and hard going. Penn Star hunted beautifully, worked forwardly, and had a find at 45. At flush, Penn Star made a jump and was leashed.

I'll Be Back (Hughes) and Double Deuce Jack (Ecker). Back hunted from the breakaway in good form, had an unproductive in some very thick cover, and was taken up near time. Jack made some good forward moves, logged an unproductive, and was also leashed.

Attitude's True Grit (Ecker) and Double Deuce Sage (Hughes). The latter was named runner-up. This attractive pointer female logged three immaculate finds and hunted as hard as this scribe has seen in many a day. Her tactic, when the objectives were many in a small locale, hunted them all enthusiastically before a reaching cast would take her to the next promising place. Grit was very impressive in his hunting—stylish in motion, gifted gait-wise, and

really something to look at on the course. Grit was lost for 30 minutes and found pointing, but the dog was out of judgment. Handler took a video of the point, but it was too late. Judges voiced that the dog could have placed had he not been lost.

Red Run Rose (Hughes) hunted and made some pretty casts but was taken up short of the hour.

Milford, Mich., Apr 29, 2023

Judges: Tom Vanecek and John Hall

U. S. COMPLETE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

[One-Hour Heats] – 14 Pointers and 6 Setters

Winner—BLUE RIBBON'S HARPER BELLA, 1682768, pointer female, by Bud of Piney Woods-Blue Ribbon Bella. Marty Festa, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.
Runner-Up—DOUBLE DEUCE SAGE, 1673986, pointer female, by Double Deuce Peter-Funseeker's Holiday. Douglas McMillen Jr., owner; Mark Hughes, handler.

Open Derby

A clean sweep by handler Ecker. Tug, first, and Rambo, second, had great derby bird work and hunted well. Buck, third, was impressive in his hunting.

Judges: Jim Cipponeri and Ron Sposita

OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—ASH CREEKTUG, 1700419, setter male, by Ash Creek Domino-Ash Creek Cloe. Jerry Burke, owner; Robert Ecker, handler
2d—GROUSE HILL RAMBO, 1696375, pointer male, by Bo of Piney Woods-Grouse Hill Prima. John Capocci, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.
3d—BUCK OF PINEY WOODS, 1696648, pointer male, by Bo of Piney Woods-Grouse Hill Prima. Richard Warters & Dr. George Najor, owners; Robert Ecker, handler.

BIG SKY OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

C K Guy's Light My Fire Named Champion; Costas, Runner-Up

By David Huffine | Winnett, Montana | April 30, 2023

CK Guy's Light My Fire, a four-year-old Vizsla female owned by Cody Engebretson and handled by Brian Gingrich, won the 2023 Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship hosted by the Big Sky Field Trial Club and held at the Joe C. King & Sons Ranch near Winnett, Mont. The champion prevailed over a 25-dog field. The champion is out of C K Touchdown Guy and Ck Countryside Lizzy's On Fire.

Runner-up was awarded to Costas, a two-year-old pointer male owned by Gordy Jones and handled by Mike Robbins. Costas is out of Dominator's Rebel Heir and Searchin For A Rainbow.

The King Ranch is a fifth-generation cattle operation located about ten miles

east of Winnett. It is strikingly scenic with approximately eleven thousand rugged and undulating acres of sage, cactus, and native grasses, which supports pheasants, Hungarian partridge, and sharptail grouse and also presents the thrill of a sizeable population of sage grouse.

The championship is run on six courses carved out of prairie, pasture, and creek bottoms.

Alex Rickert of Bozeman, Mont., and Darrell Curtis of High River, Alta., served as judges. Alex has judged many trials in Montana and other locales and is an important contributor to the Big Sky trials. Outside of Montana, Alex is known for his dogs that compete successfully at the all-age level, including Touch's Malcolm

Story, who was the Purina Dog of the Year in 2021.

Darrell is a longtime field trialer and stepped in when another judge had horse issues that prevented him from judging. He is an expert horseman who trains and trials his own dogs.

Birds were surprisingly scarce this year. Reports from other parts of Montana indicated good holdover bird populations, but late April weather conditions were not conducive to significant bird work this year.

The Placements

The champion ran on course No. 1 in brace No. 9, braced with Edge's Hidden Canyon, a pointer male owned and handled

by Mike Robbins. Mike's dog broke away hard to the north and was last seen at 5. Mike retrieved the tracker at 25. Brian's dog laid out at a perfect shooting dog distance, handling well without returning for instructions. She came through the gate at the beginning of course No. 2 birdless but had a find on a pair of Huns at 56 to secure her championship win.

Costas was in brace No. 8 on course No. 6 the preceding afternoon. He had a bigger race, as Gordy's dogs tend to properly push the prairie shooting dog boundaries but was a bit more erratic in his performance than the champion. Costas had a clean find at 30, which put him in the lead until the following morning. Costas had already placed first in the preceding Sharptail Open Shooting Dog Classic and returned to finish first in the Region 14 Amateur All-Age, completing a very impressive week of work. Costas' bracemate, Prometheus Fireball, a setter female owned and handled by Dave Noell, ran a good race but was not as big as Costas. She had no bird work.

The Running

Brace No. 1 featured Burr Oak's Tommy (VIZM/Gingrich) and Carbonado's Silver Sage (PF/Austin Turley) on course No. 1. Both dogs had solid races, but neither had bird contact.

Mike Robbins had the top dog, Name Like Mike (PM), and Brian Gingrich had the bracemate with S T's Locked N Loaded (VIZF) in brace No. 2. Mike ran an all-age race, breaking the front of course No. 2. Mike (the handler) lost him at time and called for the tracker, only to find him standing in the hills to the south. Brian's dog had a more conventional shooting dog race, showing well and to the front but found no birds.

Brian and Mike were braced together again in Brace No. 3, with Brian handling Ramblin Rivers Natural (PM) and Mike running Edelman (PM), owned by Gordy Jones. Again, Brian's dog ran a good, solid race but found no birds. Edelman was standing at approximately 30 but moved during the flushing attempt.

Both dogs in brace No. 4 were scratched, moving brace No. 5 to run on course No. 4. Burr Oak's Born Again (VIZM/Gingrich) was braced with Railhew's Ruby (PF), handled by Lillian Favor. Brian's dog was standing early but moved on the flushing attempt. Ruby was up for failure to back.

Brace No. 6 began in the afternoon heat on course No. 5. It paired Sweet Grass Skeeter (ESM/Huffine) and Burr Oak's Barney (VIZM/Gingrich). Skeeter went wide early and had an erratic race.



Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship (l-r): Shannon Nygard, Brian Rickert, Alex Rickert, Brian Gingrich (judge), Darrell Curtis (judge), Austin Turley, Sophie Robbins, Lillian Favor, and Mike Robbins.

He was standing (along with Barney) at 38, but neither handler could produce a bird. He was picked up at 45 when the handler's blood pressure rose to unsafe levels. Barney ran an exceptionally solid and stylish race, showing well and to the front on the hills to the north. He had the unproductive at 38 but went on to finish his hour without bird work.

Course No. 6 hosted H B V's Lambeau Leap (GSHM/Favor) and Ramblin Rivers Fire Woman (VIZF/Gingrich) for the final brace of the day. Both dogs had modest races with a divided find at 20. They completed their hour.

Braces No. 8 and 9 are detailed in the placements.

Brace No. 10 broke away on course No. 2. O T F's Good Time (GSHM/Gingrich) was braced with Sweet Grass Slim (ESM/Huffine). Both dogs broke away reasonably well, heading up the hill and turning east. Slim shortened significantly and had a UP at the fence crossing at 32. He was picked up by his handler at 40. Brian's dog continued with a good race, finishing his hour without birds.

Shannon Nygard loosed Redeemed (PM) with Gingrich's Ramblin Rivers Unplugged (PM) on course No. 3 for brace No. 11. Shannon's dog ran big but was wide on both sides of the course. Brian's dog had a solid race but was unable to find birds. Both dogs finished their hour.

Brace No. 12 matched Live Action Captain Gus McRae (VIZM/Gingrich) and Austin Turley's Carbonado's Rodeo (PM). Both dogs had modest races and were picked up by their handlers at 35.

The afternoon brace No. 13 presented exceedingly warm temperatures and matched two old-timers and multiple champions, C K Post Route Scout (VIZM/

Gingrich) and Touch's Katrina (PF/Turley). Both dogs gave it all they had, but the handlers were concerned about their health, and both were brought to the dog wagon at 30, finishing the Championship.

Special Thanks

Field trials in remote locations take excessive work and effort by those in charge. Toilets have to be hauled to the camp and returned after the trial. There is no water for horses or dogs, so four huge water containers must be transported on a flatbed from Roundup, Mont., and must be replenished in Winnett. John McIltrout and Taylor Todd deserve special recognition for their ground efforts at this trial. Darrell Curtis and Austin Turley masterfully negotiated supplemental water supply with the proprietor of the Winnett Bar, the only restaurant in town, and then transported it to camp. The Big Sky Field Trial Club and the entrants appreciate their efforts.

Bryan Rickert and 16-year-old Sophie Roberts drove the dog truck. Communication with the judges and the truck was by radios that worked when they felt like it and then didn't. There are no marked courses, multi-directional two tracks to choose from, and no visible contact with the dogs, handlers, or gallery. Sophie intuitively picked up the nuances of the dog truck duties, which was not surprising as she has accompanied her father to Big Sky trials for at least six years.

We thank the judges for taking their time and using their expertise to ensure that all handlers and dogs were given a chance to show their talents.

This trial would not be possible without the sharing spirit of the King Family, who allow us to use their wonderful land.

This reporter apologizes for any errors or omissions in the descriptions of the dogs and the braces. Horses were in short supply, and the reporter sometimes shared dog wagon responsibilities. Many of the dogs were only seen at 400 yards or more, and the reporting was based upon some visual observation but mostly from notes and comments from the judges. If an owner has a different report from the handler, believe the handler. And if a handler has

a different recollection, they are likely correct.

Winnett, Mont., April 30

Judges: Darrell Curtis and Alex Rickert

**BIG SKY OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 27 Entries**

Winner—C K GUY'S LIGHT MY FIRE, 1686285, Vizsla female, by C K Touchdown Guy-Ck Countryside Lizzy's On Fire. Cody Engebretson, owner; Brian Gingrich, handler.
Runner-Up—COSTAS, 1698042, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Searchin For A Rainbow. Gordon Jones, owner; Mike Robbins, handler.

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REGION 14 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Reverts To All-Age Stake; Costas Takes First Place

By Austin Turley | Winnett, Montana | May 3, 2023



Region 14 Amateur All-Age Winners (l-r): Shannon Grady-Nygaard, Mike Robbins with Costas, Darrell Curtis (judge), Austin Turley with Touch's Amazing Greyce, Sophia Robbins with Edelman, David Huffine (judge), and Courtney Bastian (Purina rep).

The Region 14 Amateur All-Age Championship followed the Big Sky Open Shooting Dog Championship and Sharptail Open Shooting Dog Classic. The judiciary for the Region 14 All-Age was David Huffine of North Carolina and Darrell Curtis of Alberta. Dogs were placed first, second, and third on race as no satisfactory bird work was recorded under judgment.

The first brace was Edge's Hidden Canyon with Mike Robbins and High Prairie Storm with Chad Hanson. Hidden Canyon disappeared quickly over the first hill and was not seen again. Storm's race was inconsistent, and the handler took the tracker at 50.

Edelman was handled by Mike Robbins

in the next brace with Carbonado's Silver Sage and Austin Turley. Edelman started strong, and Sage started her brace hunting. By 20, Edelman had become a free agent while Sage had the course to herself; she did not take full advantage of it. By 30, Sage was applying herself, and Edelman had resolved his contract dispute with his handler. In the final 30 minutes, both dogs showed well to the front.

Costas, handled by Mike Robbins, and Touch's Amazing Greyce were the next pairing. Costas started well, and Greyce took a few minutes to build. By 10, Greyce was running strong to the front, and Costas was showing to either side. The brace continued this way until, at 45, well forward, Greyce decided to try her waterfowl instincts at a far pond. By

50, both dogs were forward and finished strong.

Next was Redeemed, handled by Shannon Nygaard, braced with Carbonado's Wilberg, handled by Austin Turley. Both dogs started to our right and looked like they were going to show well to start. Redeemed then showed down low to our left, and Wilberg maintained the higher country to our right. Wilberg took unproductives at 30 and 38 to end his day. Redeemed's race became more of a transgression as the hour progressed.

High Prairie Gypsy with Chad Hanson was braced with Name Like Mike and Mike Robbins. The afternoon had warmed up. Both dogs started strong. Both dogs were showing very well to the front for the first fifteen. Between 15 and 30, Mike was absent. The handler elected to pick up Gypsy by 30 due to the heat taking its toll. At 30, Mike showed to the front. He continued strong. At 54, he was found dead ahead over a hill. The handler flushed and decided to relocate the dog. During relocation, Mike jumped at a bird, and Mike jumped at the dog.

Winnett, Mont., May 3

Judges: David Huffine and Darrell Curtis

**REGION 14 AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP
[One-Hour Heats] – 9 Pointers and 3 Setters
[Title Withheld]**

1st—COSTAS, 1698042, pointer male, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Searchin For A Rainbow. Gordon Jones, owner; Mike Robbins, handler.

2d—TOUCH'S AMAZING GREYCE, 1693629, pointer female, by Touch's Grey Street-Intentional. Austin Turley, owner and handler.

3d—EDELMAN, 1682222, pointer male, by Miller's Light Cruiser-Heard Hill's Queen Mary. Gordon Jones, owner; Mike Robbins, handler.

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NORTHERN NEW JERSEY FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Spring Trial

By Jillian Stuhr | Hardyston, New Jersey | May 6, 2023

Thankful to be under the shining sun and clear skies for this event, the Northern New Jersey Field Trial Club held its annual spring trial on May 6. Newcomers and veteran field trialers came out to enjoy the day, including artist Abigail Braman, who has painted beautiful sporting dog champions and took the opportunity to see some in action!

The Open Derby stake was the first to take advantage of this beautiful day. J And M Waffles, a pointer female run by owner Jason Paternostro, captured third with a fun, flashy race. Coming in second was Indian Creek 9" Nails, an exciting young setter with an extreme forward race and one find. Rounding out the placements was Indian Creek Pineapple, showing the judges a little bit of everything with her bird-finding ability and agile zip. She scored three mature finds.

In the Open Shooting Dog stake, Indian Creek Spur demonstrated his bird-finding ability while attentively handling. He scored three finds. Standing high and proud for her second-place win was Erin's Deja Vu with her signature powerful forward race and three beautiful finds. Congratulations to owner Joe Link! Sliding above the competition, Indian Creek Bocephus took the No. 1 spot. With proud owner Ed Marron in observance, he was



Indian Creek Bocephus, First in the Open Shooting Dog Stake



Artist Abigail Braman and Jillian Stuhr

not about to disappoint, scoring five finds with long stands nicely spacing out his forward race!

Congratulations to all owners and handlers!

Many thanks to our judges and all that came out to support, help and enjoy the beautiful weather! Thank you to our sponsors, Purina, Garmin, Gun Dog Supply, Mule Gear, and OnX Hunt. We look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Hardyston, N. J., May 6

Judges: Steve Chiofalo and Brian Wireland

NBHA OPEN DERBY – 5 Pointers, 3 Setters
and 1 Vizsla

1st—INDIAN CREEK PINEAPPLE, 1697900, pointer female, by Indian Creek Perfect Storm-Indian Creek Ramona. Black Meadow Kennels, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

2d—INDIAN CREEK 9" NAILS, 1703032, setter male, by Indian Creek Wingman-Erin's Deja Vu. Jillian Stuhr, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

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

NBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 8 Pointers
and 2 Setters

1st—INDIAN CREEK BOCEPHUS, 1656742, pointer male, by Brown's Tom Tom-Indian Creek Riptide. Edward Marron, 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 SPUR, 1695312, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Legacy's Pride-Mohawk Mill Dolly. Black Meadow Kennels, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

SUMMERHILL FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Spring Trial Held At George Tracy Training Grounds

By Ernie Saniga | Glenville, Pennsylvania | May 6, 2023

The Summerhill Club ran its annual trial at the George Tracy training grounds near Glenville, Pa., on May 6-7.

Judges were Joe Lordi, Dave McKay, Roger Dvorak, R. B. Powell, and Kevin Joyce. Will Dunn and Bo Mamounis judged the Youth stake. All decisions were applauded.

Karen Saniga is the chairperson and secretary. She is helped by the Tracy team consisting of George, Mary, Mike and Jeanette, and Payton Gunby. George Tracy did all the bird planting.

The Club provided free lunches and dinners. A public drawing was held Friday night before the Saturday start, with

Jeanette Tracy picking the dogs' names out of a bowl.

All the local trialers participated. We also had Lisa Littell from Alabama and Will Dunn from Kentucky running dogs.

The weather was great, and families were everywhere. It was like a field trial from the past. All thank the Southern Bird Hunters Association for their support.

Bob Verderosa won the Amateur Restricted Derby with his pointer male, Seekers Cross Fire, trained by Jeanette Tracy. He had three beautiful broke finds in a classy, hard-hunting race of medium range.

Second went to Lou Palazzolo's puppy, Pal's Prestigious Pete. He ran a big, attractive race with three finds, all pointed with style, and broke at flush.

Gunner Boyer won third with Just Win Daisy. The coming derby was also unbroke but pointed nicely and hunted smartly to the front.

Bull Finch won the 24-dog Amateur Shooting Dog stake for this reporter. The pretty pointer female ran a big race with a back and two sharp finds. Pressing her was Alibi Girl for Larry King. This pointer female did everything right and did it with class scoring three times in her fine effort. Gunner Boyer got the call for third with his



Amateur Restricted Derby Winners (front, l-r): Bob Verderosa with Seekers Cross Fire, Will Dunn with Pal's Prestigious Pete, and Gunner Boyer with Just Win Daisy. (Behind): George Tracy, Payton Gunby, Lisa Littell, Casey Hollander, Mike Tracy, Roger Dvorak, Blake Palazzolo, Ernie Saniga, Lou Palazzolo, Joe Lordi, and Raina Palazzolo.

Gun Runner Carli. She was the bird finder of the trial with five; all handled well to go with her strong race, the only blemish being a longish absence to the side early. There were at least nine others with clean work on game and good races to contend.

Another Boyer, and no relation to Darren and Gunner, was the winning handler of the Amateur Derby. That was Taydem Boyer, Luke Eisenhart's niece, who handled Joe McHugh's pointer female Miller's Miss Congeniality to a strong effort on the ground and finished work on game. Lou Palazzolo placed Pal's Prestigious Pete again in this derby stake. He had another very big race with stylish but unfinished bird work similar to Gunner Boyer's pointer female, Just Win Daisy. The puppy had a lot of finds and backs and hunted well for third.

There was stiff competition in the 20-minute Youth stake since every dog in it was an open or amateur champion or had won an open classic.

The first dog up was Ch. Bully Rock, with Liam Lawrence at the helm. Liam had won before with the dog and made it known he wanted to run him again. Mike Tracy was the scout, and he had the electronic collar as well. Rocco had five finds in his 20 minutes, and young Liam handled him like a veteran.

Brayden Smith was next with his amateur champion, Calico's Guns N Roses; Alex Smith scouted. I guess you could say Brayden is a veteran since when Alex runs Rosie, you can hear Brayden back in the gallery riding with his mom singing to the dog and saying "whoa" when she points. There is also a Facebook video showing Brayden riding on his own, albeit it was a sheep who seemingly thought it was a rodeo bull and soon had Brayden off. "Rosie" was on for Brayden, scoring multiple times without flaw for the young handler who shot his cap rifle over Rosie's finds.

Laine Berdiner ran her dog, Ch. Erin's Big Casino, with her dad Paul riding along and Mike Tracy scouting. The big



Amateur Shooting Dog Winners (front, l-r): Darron Boyer with Gun Runner Carli, Larry King with Alibi Girl, and Ernie Saniga with Bull Finch. (Behind): R. B. Powell (judge) and Kevin Joyce (judge).

attractive setter scored multiple times with Laine flushing, shooting her cap pistol, and collaring her dog away like a serious veteran.

Annie McKay ran Miller's Record Heat. Annie used to run her dog, Ch. North Country Girl, scoring a number of firsts with her but Girl passed away this spring, so she ran Heat, coincidentally named Annie. Both Annies performed like professionals on the dog's multiple finds and had perfect manners.

Annie's younger sister June was next and, like her sister, is a veteran. Since she also ran Ch. North Country Girl in the past, she had to find a new good dog. Mike Tracy brought her the pointer Faithful, who recently won the Carolina Celebration. The dog did a fine job for June, scoring one find after another for little June, who knew exactly how to handle a dog.

Lou Palazzolo's granddaughter, Raina, ran Ch. Miller's High Heat Index. This was her first attempt at handling. Raina rode by herself, ponied by Payton Gunby, and showed much talent flushing and shooting. When asked later how many birds her dog found, she said, "I found them all."

Last up was Lou Palazzolo's grandson Blake with the veteran champion, Waybetter Rocky. Rocky usually does well, and this time was no exception, making Blake's job easier as the dog found a number of birds, and Blake had no trouble flushing, shooting, and taking the dog by the collar away even though he did all this with his broken hand in a cast.

The Youth stake had the biggest gallery,



Youth Stake Participants



Amateur Derby Winners (front, l-r): Taydem Boyer with Miller's Miss Congeniality, Raina Palazzolo with Pal's Prestigious Pete, and Gunner Boyer with Just Win Daisy. (Behind): Ted Foust, George Tracy, Sheila Hart, Mike Tracy, Casey Hollander, Payton Gunby, Lou Palazzolo, Roger Dvorak (judge), and R.B. Powell (judge).

twenty-one riders at times, with four or five side-by-sides for the older people; it was everyone's favorite stake of the trial.

Glenville, Pa., May 6 – One Course

Judges: Joe Lordi Jr. and Dave McKay
SBHA AMATEUR RESTRICTED DERBY
– 6 Pointers

1st—SEEKERS CROSS FIRE, 1700485, male, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Robert Verderosa, owner and handler.

2d—PAL'S PRESTIGIOUS PETE, 1702741, male, by Waybetter Jay-Clarendon's Black Eyed Sue. Lou Palazzolo, owner and handler.

3d—JUST WIN DAISY, 1704018, female, by Chowan River C Rail-War Paint's Little Birdie. Charles & Traci Brunner, owners; Gunner Boyer, handler.

Judges: Kevin Joyce and R. B. Powell
SBHA AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
– 21 Pointers, 1 Setter and 2 Irish Setters

1st—BULL FINCH, 1686091, pointer female, by Dominator's Rebel Heir-Bullerina. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.

2d—ALIBI GIRL, 1667107, pointer female, by Southbound Ben-Shadow's Carolina Molly. L. J. & Casey King, owners; Larry King, handler.

3d—GUN RUNNER CARLI, 1668321, pointer female, by No Hitting No Spitting-North Country Girl. Gunner Boyer, owner and handler.

Judges: Roger Dvorak and R. B. Powell
SBHA AMATEUR DERBY – 6 Pointers

1st—MILLER'S MISS CONGENIALITY, 1699548, female, by Miller's Upgraded Vision-Quail Roost Too. Joe McHugh, owner; Taydem Boyer, handler.

2d—PAL'S PRESTIGIOUS PETE, 1702741, male, by Waybetter Jay-Clarendon's Black Eyed Sue. Lou Palazzolo, owner and handler.

3d—JUST WIN DAISY, 1704018, female, by Chowan River C Rail-War Paint's Little Birdie. Charles & Traci Brunner, owners; Gunner Boyer, handler.

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A VISIT WITH RANDY ANDERSON

By Robert Franks | DeWitt, Arkansas

Forthright and honest, Randy Anderson is one of the premier all-age handlers in the world. A bit of a Renaissance man, his knowledge of dogs and celebrities of the past, coupled with the present-day achievements of handlers and field trial bloodlines, might be equaled but not surpassed. A lover and curator of field trial history, he has the utmost respect for the sport.

Randy's grasp of the sport and admiration for it was evident early on in the interview. "I worry that we are losing a bit of our field trial tradition every day. Every time I come to the prairies, I think of Chesley 'Ches' Harris. My trip up includes Sirius satellite radio, reclining seats, a tilt steering wheel, and air conditioning. I just can't imagine how, around 1919, Ches got from Big Cabin, Oklahoma, which is in the same county I live in, to the prairies. I bet we could take a poll of people in the sport today, and a lot of them would not know who I am talking about. The tradition part of it is that we are still making the trek north, which I hope we continue to do for many years to come. The long and short of it is trying to keep our rich tradition alive and our standards high as we move forward. If not, the dogs will get weaker. I just hope in the future, we are not all in a parking lot going to the same trial because of the loss of venues. For sure, our dogs will get much weaker if we do away with our all-age dogs in the coming years. One thing we are missing in today's sport are people with a true passion for dogs and breeding, like Dr. Hawthorne, John Criswell, Dr. Jack Huffman, and T. Jack Robinson. That's all they did."

When asked about the hardest lesson he has learned while field trialing, Randy did not hesitate to answer: "To accept the judges' opinions. I've noticed that if you actually go and question a judge about a judgment, 99.9% of them can give you a reason. And basically, if you ask them to judge, you are asking them for their opinion. And that is exactly their opinion, and not mine—whether it be right, wrong, or based on a lack of knowledge. That was probably the hardest lesson for me to learn; to respect the opinion of a judge when I really know that it might not be right."

One of Randy's best was 2021 Hall of Fame electee, Valiant. He amassed 22 placements, won the Joe Hurdle Top Dog Award, and the 2019-2020 Purina Top Dog Award. "I picked him out of the litter. He



Randy Anderson and Valiant at The National Championship

was with me his whole life after weaning. One thing that made him stand out from the rest of the litter was he was a little bit bigger than the other pups, and he had a distinctive marking on his head. He also had a uniquely shaped head."

Valiant had numerous traits and abilities that separated him from even the best dogs of his time. "He was very bright, had a lot of good personality, and loved people. He just had a way to grab you. When guests would walk in my twenty-four-run kennel and look around, he would just grab their attention, and they would go straight to him. His head was hard to capture, but Leah Brigham's painting nailed it. The initial breaking process was easy, but as a derby, we put a lot of pressure on him. One reason was, as a puppy, he started running really big. Being out of Happy Jack, I thought we had better start getting a better handle on him. Early on, when I did, he really wanted to submit, and his range started to shorten up. In the breaking process as a derby, I tried to balance getting more run out of him, but with a handle. I never really had him broke until the end of his derby year. I kind of did him the old-fashioned way, as opposed to today, how we break derbies way too quickly. I let him go through his derby year a little bit on the wild side, but by the spring derby time, I could get him pretty well stopped, even though he still might move a little bit. There were flashes during his derby season when he stood like a rock. I was never totally sure what we might get. He really did try to please you, and as a matter of fact, during his career, he was knocked a little bit early on as people wondered if he would ever run big enough. Early on in his training, he didn't run the prairie like I wanted, but he did run the prairie as a young

dog. I can go right to the spot on the prairie where I found him pointed on his first sharp-tailed grouse. The rest is history; he won on the prairies and won in the South. It took a while, but his intelligence helped him to adjust to running both on the prairies and in the piney woods. He did everything I asked him to do, and that led him to the Hall of Fame. I think a true all-age dog, whether they are really stout or hard-headed, those dogs that can win on the prairie and then go south are what I'm looking for."

Randy was then asked about his first impression of Touch's Adams County. "My first impression was that he was developed by Ike Todd, and that was a big plus. I had watched him, and he was a little bit on the short side as far as range. I knew it would not take long until he would run enough. When he became available, I wanted to get a purchase price and an owner. I watched him at the Invitational and knew the run was there, and decided to try and get him. I contacted Rick Peterson, and the rest is history. He didn't have a presence that grabbed me, but he was pretty enough and really pretty when pointed. Bo, his callname, could either work at it or not work at it. When he was on, he was on. He didn't have the greatest nose of the dogs I have worked with but put a lot of effort into it when he wanted to. He wasn't a really personable dog. A lot of times during the year, we bring dogs into the house and try and bond with them. He didn't want to be petted on and didn't want to be in the house. You could bring him in and set him by the couch, and he would just stand there. This was just the opposite of Happy Jack, who would jump up on the couch and cuddle up like a poodle. In 2013-2014, Bo had a career in one year, kind of like Valiant did. He won the Purina Top Dog that year."

What stood out the first time you saw Hall of Famer Miller's Happy Jack? "The first time I saw Happy Jack, I thought he had the best lick I have ever seen on a dog. And, of course, I said that about Valiant. He threw it to Valiant. The way they hit the ground was one of the things that grabbed me. At that particular time, I didn't know how strong of a dog he was until I watched him go through his career. I like that type of dog. However, he was a little bit on the mean side. The late Dr. Bob Cook had tried to buy him as a derby and place him in my string, but he was not for sale at that time. He made a big offer and still was not able to purchase him. Ferrell Miller told me if they got ready to

sell him, he would sell him to me for what he is worth and would come to me first. He was true to his word and told me he thought he would sell Jack after he had run the three hours at The National. Gary Lester said he had quite a bit of bird work, but he watched him knock 'em and told Ferrell to get rid of the dog. Gary told me, 'You see all these gray hairs? They're from Happy Jack.' I knew a lot of the negative when he became available to us was due to pressure. He had not finished hardly any trials that year other than The National. When I got him, we lived with him. I started him on a little bit of yard work and kept everything positive. I became Jack's buddy. We did not sleep with him, but I did bring him in. I was hand-feeding him. He was used to staying on the ground a long time, so I decided to reverse it and short-time him. I had a place with pre-released birds and knew pretty much where the birds would be. I would run him about thirty minutes and usually have three pieces of good bird work. After the workout, I would give him lots of praise, stroke him up good, put him in a harness, and take him back to the trailer. He was a really quiet dog and never barked in the kennel. One thing was for sure, he didn't like storms. He was a better weatherman than the one on TV. If there was a storm coming, he wouldn't come out to eat. He was more self-employed as he got older, but I tried very hard to keep him happy, even when I found him after he had been gone for a while. I remember one time we lost him right after the breakaway. After about thirty minutes, I found him at the dog wagon. The judges said we were out of time. My scout and Jack were on their way back, and my scout got a donut off the dog wagon and started feeding him. We kept it positive. Years ago, Garland Priddy told me that if an all-age dog doesn't like you, there is no reason for him to come back. Happy Jack was the smartest dog that I ever worked. Most of it was for himself, and I was just along for the ride. He was the most self-employed dog I ever ran. I don't think Jack was ever lost; he knew where he was every place I turned him loose."

Randy Anderson is big on mentally preparing dogs just as much as physically preparing them. Curious as to how this was done, I asked him about his process. "Mentally prepared means to be happy. A dog will run off for two reasons: first, to escape pressure, and second, to self-hunt. If you can keep a dog in game, there is no need to self-hunt. If you do that in a positive manner, there is no pressure. These two ingredients, mixed with the word 'balance,' should give you a performer. Now, you are still going to have dogs that will wash out for a lot of different things, such as lack of style or lack of nose, but dogs with the



Miller's Happy Jack

ingredients to stay mentally prepared will rise to the top. Brad Harter has always said, 'Love your work and never be working.' It's the same thing with a dog. If he loves what he is doing, and you are keeping him happy without a lot of pressure, he will learn quicker and perform better. But without the physical preparation, he will be a tired dog that you are grinding down on birds all the time, which will cause him to sour and sulk up. When that happens, you will not get him where you want. Sometimes, you can have a dog too wired up and physically conditioned to do what I am talking about. This even enters into roading and yard work."

Of your dogs, what performance or performances do you consider the best? "I loved the endurance stakes with Valiant. When he won the Invitational, he had two spectacular days and then came back in the finals and did a good job. The first two days were my two greatest days. There are just so many I have been blessed with. I really think the 2020 National Championship will go down as the one I will remember the longest because of how Valiant gutted it out. To see that dog go three hours and point birds in those conditions was just beyond belief. Probably the best prairie run I had was Happy Jack in the Dominion."

If you could breed to any dog, past or present, which dog would it be, and why? "Probably Flush's Country Squire because of the stoutness of that type of dog—the Oklahoma Flush type. Those Flush dogs were stout. I had the Rebel line through Mortlach, which produced Barshoe Brute. Some of those dogs had a lot of strength, possibly not as mentally strong as I would like, but they all have contributed in a positive manner to the bloodlines we have today. I wish I would have bred more to Valiant. I wanted to breed to quality, so I didn't breed everything I saw to him. This led to him being overshadowed by some. I really think in today's breeding programs, we are breeding a lot of really good dogs. However, I do feel like we are hurting for superior sires."

Is there a story to be told about Tina's Tear Drop, Valiant's dam? "Pat Kammerlocher did the breeding on her. When they called about breeding on a puppy proposition, I asked about the names connected to this.

I wasn't all that high on the Blackhawk bloodline; however, I did know it was pretty and threw a lot of class. I had judged Master Hawk and Westfall's River Ice, so I had watched a lot of those dogs, and the Blackhawk dogs were very nice. When I found out she was out of Master Hawk and Motif, I thought this pairing would be pretty good, and we would probably get some class, a little shorter and slow down some of that Happy Jack line. We picked the litter which produced Tangled Sheets and Valiant. If the Tangled Sheets female would have run on the all-age circuit, she would have probably won more than Valiant. I had her as a coming derby, and she was stronger on the ground than Valiant and a good bird finder. She was a very tough dog who had a good career as a shooting dog. She was also an endurance-type dog. I really wish we would have bred more to Happy Jack, but people just aren't breeding dogs like they did in the past. There is only one frozen semen breeding from him left.

"John Criswell taught me as much about breeding as anyone. One time I was standing a dog with which I had won a little bit named Ironclad, who I eventually sold into Robin Gates' string. At the same time, David Williams had a very heavily marked liver dog, Rebel Mischief. We were sitting around discussing dogs with Weldon Bennett and John Criswell. John said, 'Randy, you need to quit breeding your dog. He is cut from the Flush side and not the Rebel dogs. He's not going to produce. According to his pedigree Weldon, you need to be breeding your dog.' I remember Weldon said that he wouldn't let old Bert smell a good bitch. Long story short, Dale Williams bred him, and I've forgotten how many champions he produced out of just two litters. He had a lot of age on him and died of prostate cancer. That Rebel Mischief dog produced Rebel Magic. Point Blank was out of those litters, which I sold to Robin Gates later on. Rebel Mischief had the true look of his pedigree. He had the marking and the likeness to the Rebel bloodline, while my dog, Ironclad, showed more of the Flush side. I got a big education that day. I remember when John Criswell bred Redemption's Reward to a liver female whose name was Limelight. When the puppies were born, I was all excited about it. John asked how my litter was, and I told him we got a big litter. He said, 'I don't think Redemption's Reward is going to be a sire.' I asked why, and he said that all of them are liver. He also said that dogs don't only need to have a great sire line; they need a blue hen sire line also.

Randy continues to advocate for all-age field trials. He is a student of the spot, with the passion and knowledge to campaign some of the best dogs on today's circuit.

ENGLISH SETTER CLUB OF AMERICA

Annual Lee Bird Classic

By Lloyd Miller | Medford, New Jersey | May 12, 2023

The English Setter Club of America conducted its seventh annual Lee Bird Classic, an end-of-the-field trial year trial, over the weekend of May 12-14 on the club's historical grounds at Medford, N. J. The trial drew a very good entry with a full slate of running each day.

The weatherman had predicted some thundershowers over the weekend with a cold front and wind (possible tornado) passing through the area, but it held off some with only a minor inconvenience of a stoppage in the running, which we worked around it and all the club program and festivities were able to be completed with only minor delays. This trial is a celebration of another year of field trialing, which gets together all the English Setter Club of America members (both who are owners of continental dogs and *FDSB*) plus friends to run dogs together and enjoy each other's company, both running good dogs and enjoying great food and saying thanks for the sport we all love. I believe all enjoyed themselves and had a great time winning some stakes and taking some prizes home along the way, besides the great food served by Nancy and Karen Lordi, and Gary Miller during the day and each night of the trial.

The Club would like to thank Karen Lordi and Stacey Goodie for co-chairing the trial this year. The Club also thanks Joe Cincotta, Matt and Norman Basilone, John Frank, Nancy Lordi, Gary Miller, Bob Brooks, and others for their help with this trial. Also, a special thanks to our bird planters for doing an excellent job and to our professional, Matt Basilone, and all the amateurs for their entries and continued support. It was a big effort, and thanks go to all for another successful event.

The Club would also like to thank SBHA (Southern Bird Hunters Association) for sponsoring this event and others who donated to make this trial a great event.

We had a great slate of judges for this trial. The Club thanks all of them for their work and time in the saddle, and their decisions were well received.

The Winners

The running started Friday, May 12. The winner of the Horseback Open All-Age emerged as Erin's Johnny Walker, a white and liver pointer male owned by Theodore Roach and Harrison Lee of Fort Wayne, Ind., and handled by Brian Sanchez of



Harbor City Sure Shot, Second in the Open Shooting Dog Stake; Second in the Amateur Shooting Dog Stake

Central Islip, N. Y. He had one standout quail find coupled with an excellent forward race to take the top spot. The second and third spots were withheld.

The second stake on Friday was the Open Derby. The winner was Great River Stallion, a white and orange pointer male owned by Great River Kennels and handled by Brian Sanchez. Stallion was a standout on quail, scoring three times coupled with an equally good forward race.

Taking second was Rooster's Ringo, a pointer male owned and handled by Enrico Cangelosi of Vineland, N. J. Ringo had two finds (one broke to shot) and a really good race to the front.

Briar Patch Juice, a setter male, rounded out the placements with third. Juice showed well on the ground and scored on one real classy find on quail. Juice is owned by Marvin Roth of Trenton, N. J., and ably handled by Matt Basilone. It was a good derby stake, and it will be interesting to see how these young dogs mature and develop in the fall on into the future.

The next stake was the Open Restricted Shooting Dog. Taking the top spot was Nottingham's Storm Bandit, a pointer male owned and handled by Roger Dvorak of Elkton, Md. Storm scored on two nice finds and a good forward-hunting race. The remaining placements were withheld.

The Horseback Open Shooting Dog followed with a strong field of nineteen contenders and concluded Saturday morning. First place was Smoke 'N' Mirrors, a pointer female owned by Richard Gillis and Stacey Goodie and handled ably by Matt Basilone. "Frankie,"

as she is called, ran in the second brace and scored three times on quail, coupled with an attractive, classy wide forward race.

Second was Harbor City Sure Shot, a pointer female owned by Karen Lordi and Richard Gillis and handled by Matt Basilone. "Sadie" had two nice stands and a good edge-running race with a strong finish.

Third went to Hit's A Ring of Fire, a Brittany male owned by Ralph and Judy Kiracofe of Farmingdale, N. J. "Ringer" had one find on quail and a nice reaching good forward race to gain the final spot this day.

Fluid Drive, a pointer male owned by Sal Morelli of White Plains, N. Y., and handled by Joe Lordi, had a standout performance to win the Amateur Shooting Dog stake over a strong field of local competition. Axle scored nicely on two stylish polished finds coupled with a strong forward race throughout.

Harbor City Sure Shot, pointer female, handled by Marcus Ramseur of Newfield, N. J., had a nice performance with one of her real stand-up styles on point finds and a very good, classy race with a strong going away finish to take second.

Remy Riper Wango, a white and liver pointer female owned by Roger Dvorak and Gordon Ramey of Elkton, Md., was third. She had one really good find, a nice back, and a good forward race to gain nod this day. It was a good stake with many nice efforts.

The Youth stake, judged by Norm Basilone and Stacey Goodie, finished up the running on Saturday. It was the highlight of the trial, with a big galley following each youth with their dog. They all had good bird work and shot over their chargers. It was a fun stake, and everyone had a great time.

Starting the running on Sunday was the Amateur Derby stake. Just Win Daisy, owned by Charles and Traci Brunner and handled by Daren Boyer, won the stake with a very good performance. Daisy, a pointer female, ran in the second brace and scored nicely with two stylish finds and a nice forward race.

Taking second was She Is Top Shelf, a pretty moving pointer female owned and handled by Daren Boyer. She ran a good race and had one nice stand.

Third went to Rooster's Ringo, a pointer male owned and handled by Enrico Cangelosi of Vineland N. J. Ringo had one good find and a good hunting race.

A non-sanctioned Walking Hunting Dog stake followed. First place went to Zoldmali Nova, a Wirehaired Vizsla male handled by Joe Weide, with a four-find performance.

Second was Buttonwood Ryker, a German Shorthair pointer male with John Savarese. He had two good finds.

Third was Little Wing Rudy, a pointer male also with John Savarese. Rudy had one find and two nice backs.

The Lee Bird Open Shooting Dog Classic, a special event for club members only, concluded the running on Sunday. The winner emerged as Waybetter Bobby, a pointer male owned and handled by Robert Verderosa of Trenton, N. J. He had two stylish stands (the last one was overridden by the handler but found by the scout, but all was in order) and finished strong at time.

In second was Harbor City Sure Shot. She scored with one good find and an unproductive, coupled with her usually good forward race.

John Frank's German Shorthair male, Flyin F's Duke Wyatt, won the short-tail division with two finds and a strong race.



Fluid Drive, First in the Amateur Shooting Dog Stake

Medford, N. J., May 12

Judges: John Frank and Stacey Goodie

OPEN ALL-AGE – 5 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—ERIN'S JOHNNY WALKER, 1687099, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Erin's Painted Lady. Theodore Roach & Harrison Lee, owners; Brian Sanchez, handler.

Judges: Joe Cincotta and John Frank

OPEN DERBY – 7 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—GREAT RIVER STALLION, 1702396, pointer male, by B K Bonafide Stallion-B K Hirollins Wild. Great River Kennel, owner; Brian Sanchez, handler.

2d—ROOSTER'S RINGO, 1703865, pointer male, by R'n D's Free Pete-Smyth's Hannah. Enrico Cangelosi, owner and handler.

3d—BRIAR PATCH JUICE, 1693631, setter male, by Mobile Strike-Kolomoki Cascade Mountains. Marvin Roth, owner; Matt Basilone, handler.

Judges: Brian Sanchez and Greg Strausbaugh

OPEN RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG

– 3 Pointers and 2 Brittany

1st—NOTTINGHAM'S STORM BANDIT, 1697928, pointer male, by Storm Rider-Little Wing Wango Tango. Roger Dvorak, owner and handler.

Judges: Dan Jolly and Bo Mamounis

OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 15 Pointers,

2 Setters, 1 Brittany and 1 German Shorthair

1st—SMOKE'N'MIRRORS, 1679185, pointer female, by Just Irresistible-A Whiskey Lullaby. Stacey Goodie & Richard Gillis, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

2d—HARBOR CITY SURE SHOT, 1668549, pointer female, by R J's Long Shot-Harbor City Sugar. Karen Lordi & Richard Gillis, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

3d—HIT'S A RING OF FIRE, 1686271, Brittany male, by M R B's Cool Running-Tranuilcreasangiebabe. Ralph & Judy Kiracofe, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

Judges: Joe Cammisa and Dan Jolly

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG – 16 Pointers,

1 Setter and 1 German Shorthair

1st—FLUID DRIVE, 1659984, pointer male, by Great River Ice-Blaze's Isis. Saverio Morelli, owner; Joe Lordi, handler.

2d—HARBOR CITY SURE SHOT, 1668549, pointer female, by R J's Long Shot-Harbor City Sugar. Karen Lordi & Richard Gillis, owners; Marcus Ramseur, handler.

3d—REMY RIPER WANGO, 1689964, pointer female, by Storm Rider-Little Wing Wango Tango. Gordon Ramey & Roger Dvorak, owners; Roger Dvorak, handler.

Judges: Stacey Goodie and Greg Strausbaugh

AMATEUR DERBY – 6 Pointers

1st—JUST WIN DAISY, 1704018, pointer female, by Chowan River C Rail-War Paint's Little Birdie. Charles & Tracy Brunner, owners; Daren Boyer, handler.

2d—SHE IS TOP SHELF, 1701154, pointer female, by Bad Bourbon-Gun Runner Carli. Daren Boyer, owner and handler.

3d—ROOSTER'S RINGO, 1703865, pointer male, by R'n D's Free Pete-Smyth's Hannah. Enrico Cangelosi, owner and handler.

The deadline for the September issue is August 5!

WOLVERINE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Grouse Hill Bullet Proof Wins David Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic

By David A. Fletcher | Highland, Michigan | May 12, 2023

The Wolverine Field Trial Club, one of the oldest in Michigan in what a scribe calls the “modern age” of field trials in the state of Michigan, held its Mother's Day renewal May 12-13 over fine grounds at Highland Recreation Area near Milford, Mich.

When I refer to the “modern age” of Michigan field trials, we remember the 1970s when the late Oliver De Luca founded the Club in 1978, and Jim Cipponeri quickly joined him to help manage the Wolverine Club affairs. The club had 77 entries in the inaugural event in 1978 at the Highland grounds. I also want to make readers aware of the “early age” of field trials in Michigan when the

Detroit and Brooklyn Shooting Club staged events in 1895 at Brooklyn, Mich., and the Michigan Field Trial Association held “Wild Quail” trials at Lakeview, Mich., in 1898 and 1899. Another chapter could be written about the early trials over the Gladwin Field Trial Area in the 1920s and the “Fort Custer” military venue in the 1940s at Battle Creek, Mich., at which major circuit trainers competed after their summer training on the prairies of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

President Jim Cipponeri was ever present, attending to all the trial duties, as his predecessor Oliver De Luca had done for some 40 years with the Wolverine Club, and his organizational skills and help from

his wife Connie kept the event running smoothly. The trial was completed in two days, Friday and Saturday leaving Sunday, Mother's Day, open for participants to be with family.

Weather for the trial was of the usual May variety, cool in the low 50s at morning breakaways and into the high 70s or 80s after the luncheon. Mostly overcast, there were moments of misty rain, but it was bird-finding weather throughout both trial days. The cover on the Highland course was ideal after winter snows had flattened thick grassy areas. With little water available to the dogs on the courses, large tubs were put out on the course route where dogs can drink or be immersed and

refreshed. Paul Tutro, in addition to bird release on the courses each day, looked after putting out the water tubs, and the Club thanks him for his accomplishment of these tasks. Another thank you to Paul comes from bringing the quail to the grounds from the Rob Vermeesh facility near Port Huron, Mich. We also thank Fletcher Printing for donating the three walnut plaques for the Fletcher Classic. Brian Wood announced all braces at the starting line each day. Smooth riding, mannerly horses were furnished by Rich Hollister. Jennifer Hollister introduced her line of Wolverine Club monogrammed hats, shirts, and other items. We also thank Greg Blair and Purina for their continuing support.

Judges for the Fletcher Classic were Bob Wheelock and Leann Parnell. Judging the remaining stakes were Ken DeLong, Rich Hollister, Bill Klenner, Shawn McKellop, Paul Renius, Jim Cipponeri, and Ron Sposta.

Open Walking Puppy

Rockland Ridge Rocky was the star of the Walking Puppy stake. This contender hunted all the good-looking places, looked good moving, and ran and finished strongly. Slightly less in overall performance, yet displaying plenty of potential, were Rolling Stone, second, and Midnight Eve, third. Several more in this fine stake gave evidence they will be heard from in future events.

Highland, Mich., May 12

Judges: Leann Parnell and Ken DeLong

OPEN WALKING PUPPY - 5 Pointers and 6 Setters

1st—ROCKLAND RIDGE ROCKY, 1700815, setter male, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Spata Setters Sally. Gary Chlapaty, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

2nd—HIFIVES ROLLING STONE, 1701648, pointer male, by Titanium's Hammer-Hifive's Allisin. John Paul Jones, owner and handler.

3rd—DUNROVENS MIDNIGHT EVE, 1702222, setter female, by Grouse Hill Bullet Proof-Hunter Run's Maggie Mae. Jessica Hollister, owner; Richard Hollister, handler

The Fletcher Classic

In its 15th renewal, the Fletcher Classic is the Wolverine Club's premier stake. It began fifteen years ago, hosted by the Southwest Michigan/Kalamazoo Club inaugurated by club member Mike Traxler and was later moved to Oliver De Luca's Wolverine Club to bring them help with their walking stakes, as the Club had run horseback stakes almost exclusively prior to the move.

Brace No. 4 was away at 11:31 on Friday, the initial day. The brace was a great one featuring Larry, a setter male handled by Rich Hollister, and Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella, a pointer female handled by Robert Ecker; she the recent



Dave Fletcher Open Walking Shooting Dog Classic Winners (l-r): Bryan Wood, Scott Forman (handler) with Grouse Hill Bullet Proof, Leann Parnell (judge), Robert Ecker (handler) with Blue Ribbon's Harper Bella, Bob Wheelock (judge), and Arthur Bruno (owner and handler) with Bruno's Piney Run Pearl.

winner of the U. S. Complete Great Lakes Regional Shooting Dog Championship over these Highland grounds. It was a great brace, both hunting the course route, wide at times, very diligently, and always striding to the front. Harper finished second, and had two excellent quail finds, was never behind the gallery, and finished strong out front. Bracemate Larry was not far behind performance-wise and rendered two good finds and two backs. Judges carried both dogs to the final part of the stake for a placement.

Brace No. 9 turned loose at 11:45 Saturday, the second day. Bruno's Piney Run Pearl was sent to hunt. This Brittany gave us a very exciting 30 minutes. Pearl was on point at 4, standing in an open field area, lofty and solid on point. Bracemate roared in, did not honor the stand, and almost turned a somersault to point. The quail came up, bracemate going with it, and Bronco remained rocksteady and unconcerned. Bronco was a delight to watch, pretty in motion and racing to new cover. Near time, Bronco went in some cover that no others had searched, pointed at woodcock nicely, and again was stylish and rocksteady to the flush. Her performance made it three excellent dogs in the stake vying for a placement.

In brace No. 11, released at 5:56 on Saturday, were Grouse Hill Bullet Proof, a setter male handled by Scott Forman, paired with Bo of Piney Woods, handled by Robert Ecker. Proof's hunting was immediately impressive. His range, drive, and hunting of all the forward cover soon gave evidence that this could be the finest hunting effort seen so far in the stake. Next came two immaculate quail finds, style and manners superb. Proof was still going to the best-looking places and hunting with power as the pickup order came. His effort

topped the Fletcher Classic.

Other starters included Annie, Zip, Kona, Lucy, Meg, and Soozie, handled by Rich Hollister; Ramapo Mountain Doc, Dun Rovens Midnite Ike, Glassilaun War Paint, Attitude's True Grit, and Sterlingworth Jack, handled by Robert Ecker; Mags and Bull, handled by Scott Forman; Penny handled by Robert Ellis; Justice and Shooter, handled by Ken De Long; Bo, handled by Bill Darr; and Luther, handled by Mike Brown.

Judges: Leann Parnell and Bob Wheelock

DAVE FLETCHER OPEN WALKING SHOOTING DOG CLASSIC - 7 Pointers, 15 Setters and 2 Brittanys

1st—GROUSE HILL BULLET PROOF, 1664897, setter male, by Waymaker Super Sam-Vitali Grouseringer Purdy. Giovanni Capocci, owner; Scott Forman, handler.

2nd—BLUE RIBBON'S HARPER BELLA, 1682768, pointer female, by Bud of Piney Woods-Blue Ribbon Bella. Marty Festa, owner; Robert Ecker, handler.

3rd—BRUNO'S PINEY RUN PEARL, 1690605, Brittany female, by Piney Run Jake-Piney Run Candy. Arthur Bruno, owner and handler.

Open Walking Derby

With sixteen entries in the Open Walking Derby, one expected great hunting, lots of bird work, and some rewarding performances; that did not happen. The three dogs placed were placed on their hunting effort without contact with quail. It was a very hot day, well over 80 degrees, and the heat surely affected every dog in the stake. The winners, Kaia first and Rolling Stone third, handled by owner John Paul Jones and Cover Queen, handled by owner Robert Ellis, defied the heat and went hard the full heat to claim their placements.



Open Walking Derby Winners (l-r): John Paul Jones with Speed Dialing Kaia, Bob Wheelock (judge), Robert Ellis with Pine Straw's Cover Queen, Sean McKellop (judge), and Bryan Wood with Hifives Rolling Stone.

Judges: Bob Wheelock and Sean McKellop
OPEN WALKING DERBY

- 10 Pointers, 5 Setters and 1 Irish Setter

1st—*SPEED DIALING KAIA*, 1696795, pointer female, by Miller's Speed Dial-Phantom's Santo Sun. John Paul Jones, owner and handler.

2d—*PINE STRAW'S COVER QUEEN*, 1698320, setter female, by Pine Straw Black Hawk-Pine Straw's Tupelo Honey. Robert Ellis, owner and handler.

3d—*HIFIVES ROLLING STONE*, 1701648, pointer male, by Titanium's Hammer-Hifives Allisin. John Paul Jones, owner and handler.

Open Horseback Shooting Dog

Jim Cipponeri's Boss topped the stake with great hunting, a very forward hunting pattern, and found and handled quail with style and manners. With excellent hunting efforts but no birds, Tom Vanecek's



Open and Amateur Horseback Shooting Dog Winner (front): Jim Cipponeri (handler) with Crime Boss. (Behind, l-r): Will Langley, Rich Hollister (judge), and Andy Johnson.

Beauregard was second, and Bill Darr's Mercury Bo third.

Judges: William Klenner and Richard Hollister
OPEN HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG

- 2 pointers and 5 setters

1st—*CRIME BOSS*, 1684310, setter male, by Thornapple Hawk-Boondocks Karens Annie Girl. Will Langley, owner; Jim Cipponeri, handler.

2d—*BAD RIVER BEAUREGARD*, 1665144, setter male, by T's Nickleback-Straight Up Skydancing Lady. Tom Vanecek, owner and handler.

3d—*FLYING MERCURY BO*, 1699724, pointer, by Erin's Country Rebel-Erin's Miss Daisy. William Darr, owner and handler.

Amateur Horseback Shooting Dog

Great forward hunting and a dug-up find on quail took first place for Jim Cipponeri's

Boss. Second was Tom Vanecek's Riley, with an outstanding hunting performance but no birds.

Judges: Paul Renius and Ron Sposita
AMATEUR HORSEBACK SHOOTING DOG

- 1 Pointer and 4 Setters

1st—*CRIME BOSS*, 1684310, setter male, by Thornapple Hawk-Boondocks Karens Annie Girl. Will Langley, owner; Jim Cipponeri, handler.

2nd—*Bad River Ryland*, 1687379, setter female, by T's Gunslinger-T's Unjaded. Tom Vanecek, owner and handler.

Open Horseback Derby

Joe Guzman's littermate pointers took first and third places with very good hunting efforts and good derby bird work. Ron Sposita's Katie, another littermate pointer female who had an excellent search for birds, stayed forward and had one nice find. Three dogs showed their composure and pleasant stature around quail.

Judges: William Klenner and Richard Hollister
OPEN HORSEBACK DERBY - 4 Pointers

1st—*WINDELL MACKINAW STRAIGHTS*, 1701992, male, by Knight's Last Chipster-Windfall Queen of Soul. Joe Guzman, owner and handler.

2d—*DUKE'S C C KATIE*, 1699933, female, by Knight's Last Chipster-Windfall Queen of Soul. Ron Sposita, owner and handler.

MAINE BIRD DOG CLUB

Annual Mother's Day Trial

By Deb Kennedy | Brownfield, Maine | May 13, 2023



Open Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Deb Kennedy with Deb's McKeachie Road, Kelly Hays with Lightning Flash Frank, and Kellie Short with Pauck's Little Tommy Tucker.

It is only fitting that a mother held up the Amateur Shooting Dog stake at the Maine Bird Dog Club's annual Mother's Day trial. A sitting grouse sat tight on her clutch of eight eggs all through Saturday's

derbies and shooting dogs, but on Sunday, she took flight after one dog too many ran by her nest. Stake Manager Kellie Short rerouted the course, and we all hoped that the determined mother would go back to

her business.

Over 70 dogs were entered for the two-day trial, with participants from every state in New England and one competitor from our neighbor, New Brunswick, Canada. Many people pitched in to help, and we continue to benefit from Purina's generous support. Bruce Burnell brought lunch fixings, and Cal Robinson donated two days' worth of soda and water. Our main bird planter, Roy Hargreaves, couldn't compete his fiery young female setter, who picked a rotten time to go into season, but that didn't stop Roy from walking many miles over two hot days, making sure the birds were there for the dogs.

Special thanks go to our judges, especially those who judged the Shooting Dog stakes, Jamie Leitch, Sam Jackson, Adam Dubriske, and Tony Bly. The Shooting Dog entries have been large this year in many New England events, with ten or more braces, making for a lot of walking. Gun Dog stakes have been well represented, too. Several folks held out



Bob Paucek with his new puppy, Bella.



Grouse Nest five feet from trail course.

their dogs to help out the Club when some of our judging slate couldn't make it, a real sacrifice when there are only so many trials in a given season. We are very lucky to have such a deep bench of judges available in our area—Kelly Hays, Jim Levesque, Jim Hathaway, Deb Sloan, Cal Robinson, Roy Hargreaves, and Brian Dix.

Besides the touchy grouse, two other notable events from the trial deserve mention. All three dogs in the Open Shooting Dog stake were handled and owned by women, and a young woman handled her gun dog to a placement. If that has ever happened before in New England, I don't know when it might have been. Finally, near the end of the second day, Bob Paucek bought himself a pretty little pointer named Bella. Watching that old guy love up his new dog was simply beautiful. It made this Mother's Day.

It must be something in the planets because Bob wasn't the only one with a puppy. Everyone seemed to have little a

one hopping around, and judging by the looks of them, it will be a wild fall with all these well-bred youngsters tearing through the woods in the puppy stakes.

We are looking forward to the fall wild bird championships, both to be held in Maine this year, the New England Open Grouse and the Northern New England Open Woodcock. Course work will begin once the birds have fledged. Stay tuned!

Brownfield, Me., May 13 – One Course
Judges: James Hathaway and Cal Robinson
CLIFTON HALE-GARFIELD WALL

- OPEN DERBY CLASSIC – 1 Pointer and 4 Setters**
 1st—PAUCEK'S YEAGAR MEISTER, 1701548, setter male, by Long Gone Study-Paucek's Black Pearl. Kellie Short, owner and handler.
 2d—POOL BROOK DOBBY, 1699125, setter male, by Thornapple Cody-Hfive's Guilty As Charged. Charles Hulbert Jr., owner; Adam Dubriske, handler.

Judges: Sam Jackson and Jamie Leitch

- OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 5 Pointers and 16 Setters**
 1st—PAUCEK'S LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER, 1679370, setter male, by Long Gone Wallace-Paucek's Hickory Roxy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.
 2d—LIGHTNING FLASH FRANK, 1686626, setter male, by Lightning Flash Butch-Grouse Ridge Berry. Brian & Kelly Hays, owners; Kelly Hays, handler.
 3d—DEB'S McKEACHIE ROAD, 1680807, setter female, by Ponderosa Mac-Grouse River Woodcock Annie. Deborah Kennedy, owner and handler.

Judges: Brian Dix and Deb Sloan

MICHAEL S. ROBINSON OPEN PUPPY
– 2 Pointers, 3 Setters and 1 Irish Setter

- 1st—PAUCEK'S ROCKY ROAD, 1704261, setter female, by Long Gone Porky-Paucek's Mandy. Kellie Short, owner and handler.
 2d—RAY, unreg., setter female, particulars not given.
 3d—CAN AM BELLA, 1703027, pointer female, by Hirollins Gone and Doneit-Steel Valley Wardance. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.

Judges: Tony Bly and Adam Dubriske

BERNIE MURRAY AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
– 6 Pointers and 16 Setters

- 1st—LIGHTNING FLASH REMINGTON, 1687367, setter male, by Denco's Crockett Again-Arctic Tundra Bird Dog. Douglas J. Dix, owner; Brian Dix, handler.
 2d—PAUCEK'S DORMIN, 1689478, setter female, by Deadwater Jake-Deadwater Wissah. Kellie Short, owner and handler.
 3d—DUDE, setter male, breeding not given. Bob Arkley, owner and handler.

Judges: Kelly Hays and Jim Levesque

AMATEUR PUPPY – 2 Pointers and 2 Setters

- 1st—CAN AM COOPER, 1703026, pointer male, by Hirollins Gone and Doneit-Steel Valley Wardance. Jamie Leitch, owner and handler.
 2d—RAY, setter female, breeding not given. Bob Arkley, owner and handler.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT BIRD DOG CLUB

Annual Spring Trial Held At Dr. John Flaherty Field Trial Area
By Tom Gates | East Windsor, Connecticut | May 19, 2023

The Central Connecticut Bird Dog Club staged its annual spring event May 19-21 at the popular Dr. John Flaherty Field Trial Area in East Windsor, Conn. Established in 1961, the Central Connecticut Club has run class bird dog field trials for 62 consecutive years. The five-stake event was again chaired by Gene Casale Jr., with dogs from up and down the Eastern United States competing.

As usual, Gene managed the trial with perfection. Every detail was meticulously executed in true, professional "Casale" style. I guarantee that everyone has a great time at a trial run by Gene! He will be hosting the Northeastern Championship in October on these grounds. The Casale Family was well represented; daughters Anna and Heather helped in every detail. Pam Casale, Gene's wife, put

on the Club's famous Saturday night Handlers' dinner—fried chicken and all the fixings. Unfortunately, club member Tony Forte suffered a bad fall, leaving him hospitalized. Thus, he was unable to prepare his prized fried eggplant for the trial. Best wishes to Tony on his recovery! A good time was had by all attending.

Dave O'Brien was a "jack of all trades" this weekend. His dedication to helping in every aspect of the running was an example for us all. Thank you, Dave! Great judges always make a great trial, and we had some of the best! The Club sincerely thanks Kevin Stuart, Dave O'Brien, John Olsson, Tom Tracy, Alene LeVasseur, Anna Casale, and Amilcar Pereira for their fine judicial work. Their decisions were applauded by all attending. Dave O'Brien, Tom Tracy, Anna Casale, and sister Heather were

true warriors planting birds all three days. Thank you all!

The Open Shooting Dog started the trial on Friday with an exceptional field of competitors. The weather was still cool, and the grass was very wet, making for great scenting conditions. Mike Tracy took the blue with Miller's Miss Congeniality. This pointer female was outstanding! She ran the limits of the course, finding quail at three locations. She runs with a very animated, happy gait. A high cracking tail and very fast attack on the ground was certainly unbeatable. A very intense stance was rewarded, with multiple birds lifting over the motionless dog at each find. Very nice dog!

Suemac's Wicked Sister, second, is another pointer female that makes you look at her hard. This day she scored three times

on quail with impeccable manners. When the judges called time, she was a distant dot on the powerline edge.

Tango was a close third for John Stolgitis. The pointer male is another dog destined for top shooting dog honors on the major circuit. He is one of the classiest and most stylish young dogs that I have ever seen in a long time. Today he was found standing twice with birds well located and a statue at shot. Very pretty to watch on the ground; Tango also ate up the course finishing far to the front.

The Scotty Creel Open Derby is named for the memory of a friend and club member who put saving others' lives above his own safety. A Waterbury, Conn. fireman, Scotty was honored several times for his heroic acts. Although injured many times, he always was the first in and the last out, a real-life hero! As the temperature climbed on Friday, ten derbies all demonstrated fantastic endurance. Greta took the blue with a show of speed and ambition. The German Shorthair female had a single in fine form and was found standing twice with covey birds well located. Her style on point is impressive. She finished hard in the midday heat.

Gene Casale had Railway Thor for second. You might want to ride this dog; he's really big going but in tune with the handler. A statue on point, Thor carded two covey finds with birds blasting out everywhere on the second find. A single near the end led to a huge finish on the left edge. Nice dog!

John Stolgitis has a sure winner with Chasehill Snoop Dog. This pointer male is a powerhouse. He never slowed down! His ground application was commendable, especially for a young dog. Found standing once, Snoop looked like a picture—high and tight. He wanted to do another 30 minutes at time. Real nice dog!

The Guard Rail Open Shooting Dog stake honors Eugene Casale's Hall of Fame pointer, who often competed on these grounds. This stake is a coveted placement for anyone's dog. This year, 24 top dogs from up and down the East Coast competed for a chance to add a "Guard Rail" placement to their resume. Southpoint's Hog Wild emerged as the winner. Handled by Mike Tracy, this pointer male is a thrill to watch. "Harley" ran the limits of the grounds. His hard-driving effort was rewarded on three occasions with covey birds flown over a picturesque stance. He had plenty of bottom in the heat, finishing strong on the left edge. A thrill to watch!

Chasehill Poison Ivy was a close second for John Stolgitis in this highly contested stake. Ivy swapped ends in the pines to



Harwich Indian Creek Buck, Third in the Milo Wilkenson Amateur Shooting Dog Stake

score a single in perfect form. She was next found standing in a large covey, birds perfectly located. Her third find saw a pair of quail lift over an intense stand. This ground race was a true hunting effort that couldn't be beaten. The great driving finish made Ivy a sure bet.

Matt Basilone had Smoke'N'Mirrors third with an awesome ground effort in the heat. Smoke swapped ends twice with a very intense pointing style. Her manners were impeccable. This is the type of dog that you want to take home with you! She finished driving on the left edge.

The Amateur Derby started things off on Sunday. Gene Casale took the blue with Railway Thor. The fast-moving pointer male has the tools to become a top shooting dog. Thor had a single in fine form this day and then logged a perfect covey find. Near the end, he was found standing a single. He finished way to the front with that high tail cracking all the time. Real classy dog!

Quest grabbed second in this stake for Tom Tracy. I like this dog! The stylish pointer male was big going, trading ends twice with covey finds. High and tight at shot! He also added a single near the end before a long driving finish on the left edge.

Will Dunn took Tim to third. The young pointer male impressed the judges with great speed and enthusiasm. Two picture-perfect quail finds, and a huge ground race made Tim a sure bet.

The Milo Wilkenson Amateur Shooting Dog stake is named for one of the Club's founding members. Milo was instrumental in acquiring grounds and establishing clubs and the New England Association. Will Dunn took first with Dunn's Sneak'n In. Although temperatures were rising rapidly, these shooting dogs ran like it was November! This big pointer was the epitome of class on the ground. He is exciting to watch and a handful at times for

Will. He carded three evenly spaced finds in perfect form. His pointing style can only be described as intense. A statue flush; he was untouchable.

Alene LeVasseur took Tin Man's Heart ("Coin") to second. This setter did it all; taking the edges, finding birds four times, and finishing as a dot in the distance. His quail finds were perfect, with birds lifting right over his motionless stance on one occasion. Wow, what a great job!

John Olfsen had Harwich Indian Creek Buck in third. Buck is magic on the ground, magic on birds. Two great quail finds in the heat of the day, and a race that got bigger and bigger in the midday heat made him a sure bet.

**East Windsor, Conn., May 19 – One Course
Judges: Alene LeVasseur and Tom Tracy
OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 9 Pointers and
1 German Shorthair**

- 1st—MILLER'S MISS CONGENIALITY, 1699548, pointer female, by Miller's Upgraded Version-Quail Roost Too. Joseph McHugh, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.
2d—SUEMAC'S WICKED SISTER, 1699012, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Roger McPherson, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.
3d—CHASEHILLS WANGO TANGO, 1697813, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Allen Raiano, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

**Judges: David O'Brien and Amilcar Pereira
SCOTTY CREEL OPEN DERBY – 10 Pointers,
2 Setters and 2 German Shorthairs**

- 1st—GREF'S GRETA VON CHICOREE'S, 1698917, German Shorthair female, by Evergreen's Jed-Chicoree's Sparkling Ruby. Paul Grefrath, owner; J. Phelps, handler.
2d—RAILWAY THOR, 1699986, pointer male, by Great River Yellowstone-Guard Rail's Little Annie. Gene Casale, owner and handler.
3d—CHASEHILL SNOOP DOG, 1703110, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Erin Stolgitis, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

**Judges: John Olfsen and Kevin Stuart
GUARD RAIL OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 22 Pointers
and 2 Setters**

- 1st—SOUTHPOINT'S HOG WILD, 1686800, pointer male, by Broken Halo-Backwoods Tennessee Honey. Mark Janier, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.
2d—CHASEHILL POISON IVY, 1694453, pointer female, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Allen Raiano, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.
3d—SMOKE'N'MIRRORS, 1679185, pointer female, by Just Irresistible-A Whiskey Lullaby. Richard Gillis & Stacey Goodie, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

**Judges: Anna Casale and David O'Brien
AMATEUR DERBY – 6 Pointers**

- 1st—RAILWAY THOR, 1699986, male, by Great River Yellowstone-Guard Rail's Little Annie. Gene Casale, owner and handler.
2d—CARBONADO'S FINAL QUEST, 1698283, male, by Touch's Diamante-Empire On Line. Tom Tracy, owner and handler.
3d—TIM, unreg., male, breeding not given. Will Dunn, owner and handler.

Judges: Gene Casale and Kevin Stuart

MILO WILKENS AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

– 4 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st—DUNN'S SNEAK'N IN, 1697090, pointer male, by Dunn's Tried'n True-K F Prairie Storm. Will Dunn, owner and handler.

2d—TIN MAN'S HEART, 1675626, setter male, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-Waymaker Hello Dolly. Alene LeVasseur, owner and handler.

3d—HARWICH INDIAN CREEK BUCK, 1646614, pointer male, by South Bound Strech-Indian Creek Sugar. John Olfson II, owner and handler.

— REGISTER YOUR LITTERS —

Field Dog Stud Book litter enrollment assures authenticity of breeding; it sets up a permanent and always accessible record, and insures against any future accidents to the pedigree papers. Litter enrollment fee is only \$25.00 plus \$2.00 per puppy.

Registration of individual dogs assures that the dog's win and production records will be completely preserved. Fee for registration of an individual dog is just \$25.00. All that is required is an application form accompanied by a breeding certificate that has been filled in and signed by the owner of the dam. Forms may be accessed at www.americanfield.com.

SPRUCE BROOK FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Spring Trial Held At Famed Flaherty Grounds

By Alene LeVasseur | East Windsor, Connecticut | May 26, 2023

The Spruce Brook spring field trial was held May 26-29 at the Dr. John Flaherty field trial grounds in East Windsor, Conn. The weather was dry with cool mornings and mid-80s afternoons, not too bad for a late May trial. We had a large entry with a lot of families in attendance. It was great to see all the kids having fun at a field trial. They are the future field trialers. We want to thank new club member Gary Tavares for all he did every day.

We thank our judges—Dave O'Brien, Gene Casale Jr., John Stolgitis, Alene LeVasseur, Brian Sanchez, Bill Bonnetti, Tom Tracy, Matt Basilone, and Marcus Ramseur. The placements were well received by all.

On Thursday night, John Stolgitis provided and cooked fresh fish that he had just picked up at the dock for all in attendance to enjoy. Jayne Fogarty and Bill Bonnetti provided the dinners and lunch for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We had chicken Francese, meatloaf, and ham with mac and cheese for dinner, and lunches were hot dogs and hamburgers, barbecued pulled chicken, sausage and peppers, and assorted side salads. We all ate very well. We cannot thank you enough for all your hard work.

On Saturday night, we celebrated Matt and Mandy Basilone's birthdays. Their family, customers, and friends were in attendance. It was a large social event for all. Cake, ice cream, and smores were the hit of the evening.

The Open All-Age started things off on Friday morning under favorable skies. Hauser's Hard Line, owned by Sean Hauser, was first handled by Mike Tracy. He ran a strong forward race and was rewarded with two finds. Silver Sand was second with a race similar to the first-place dog and had two finds. Harwich Indian Creek Buck was third.

The next stake was the Open Restricted Shooting Dog. First place was Erin's Johnny Walker, owned and handled by Brian Sanchez; he ran a good searching race with two finds. Back in the winners' circle was Hauser's Hard Line, second this time, with a good race and bird work. Third was Bull Biscuit, handled by Mike Tracy for owners Dennis Hood and Ernie Saniga.

The Open Derby was the last stake of the day. The temperature was rising, but the young dogs handled it well. John Stolgitis' derby, Chasehill Snoop Dog, was first, running a mature race with three finds. Second was Railway Thor with Gene Casale Jr., who also ran a mature race and had three finds. Rounding out the placements was Thomas Rising Tide for Jim Thomas.

The Open Shooting Dog started Saturday morning under clear and reasonable temperatures for this time of year. First place Hirollins Bad Boy ran in the second brace handled by Matt Basilone with a five-find performance and an excellent race that set the standard for the stake. Owners Ed and Megan McCay were on hand to see his performance. Second was Southpoint's Hog Wild, handled by Mike Tracy for Mark Janier, who was also in the gallery to witness his performance. He ran a good race with two finds. Third place was Raag's Rich And Rare, handled by Mike Tracy for Greg Strausbaugh.

The last stake of the day was the Amateur Derby. Matt Basilone and Marcus Ramseur were in the saddle to watch the youngsters. First place was Suemac's Wicked Sister, owned by Roger McPherson and handled by Will Dunn. She ran a good race with two finds. Second was Hog Hill's Pretty Penny, owned and handled by Tim Cavanaugh. She also ran a good race with two finds and was very close to the winner. Third place was Railway Thor, owned and handled by Gene Casale Jr. His

performance was also very close to the other placements.

Sunday morning was the one-hour Amateur Shooting Dog, a Purina points stake. The winner Jolene Jolene, handled by Dave McKay, ran in the third brace. She ran a strong, steady shooting dog race with five finds. Second place was Navajo Cody, handled by Joe Lordi for Sal Morelli. He also ran a good race with six finds. Dunn's Sneak'n In was third with a good performance.

East Windsor, Conn., May 26 – One Course

Judges: Gene Casale Jr. and Dave O'Brien

OPEN ALL-AGE – 6 Pointers and 1 Setter

1st—HAUSER'S HARD LINE, 1702195, pointer male, by Miller's Dialing In-Nemaha Snow Rebel. Sean Hauser, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.

2d—SILVER SAND, 1688418, setter male, by Awsum In Motion-Cape Point Millbilly. Alene LeVasseur, owner and handler.

3d—HARWICH INDIAN CREEK BUCK, 1646614, pointer male, by South Bound Strech-Indian Creek Sugar. John Olfson, owner and handler.

Judges: Dave O'Brien and John Stolgitis

OPEN RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG – 8 Pointers, 1 Setter and 1 German Shorthair

1st—ERIN'S JOHNNY WALKER, 1687099, pointer male, by Erin's Redrum-Erin's Painted Lady. Ted Roach & Harrison Lee, owners; Brian Sanchez, handler.

2d—HAUSER'S HARD LINE, 1702195, pointer male, by Miller's Dialing In-Nemaha Snow Rebel. Sean Hauser, owner; Brian Sanchez, handler.

3d—BULL BISCUIT, 1694451, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Dennis Hood & Ernie Saniga, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.

Judges: Alene LeVasseur and Brian Sanchez

OPEN DERBY – 12 Pointers, 1 Setter and 1 German Shorthair

1st—CHASEHILL SNOOP DOG, 1703110, pointer male, by Panola Bacon-Chasehill Little Izzy. Erin Stolgitis, owner; John Stolgitis, handler.

2d—RAILWAY THOR, 1699986, pointer male, by Great River Yellowstone-Guard Rail's Little Annie. Gene Casale Jr., owner and handler.

3d—THOMAS RISING TIDE, unreg., pointer male, breeding not given. James Thomas, owner and handler.

Judges: Bill Bonnetti and Tom Tracy

OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 22 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—HIROLLINS BAD BOY, 1689634, pointer male, by Stoney Run's Buddy-Hirollins Fancy Lady. Ed & Meagan McCay, owners; Matt Basilone, handler.

2d—SOUTHPOINT'S HOG WILD, 1686800, pointer male, by Broken Halo-Backwoods Tennessee Honey. Mark Janier, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.

3d—RAAG'S RICH AND RARE, 1684780, pointer male, by Lester's Sunny Hill Jo-Raag's Miss Lightfoot. Greg Strausbaugh, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.

Judges: Matt Basilone and Marcus Ramseur

AMATEUR DERBY – 10 Pointers

1st—SUEMAC'S WICKED SISTER, 1699012, female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. Roger McPherson, owner; Will Dunn, handler.

2d—HOG HILL'S PRETTY PENNY, 1701054, female, by Panola Bacon-Little Miss Bella. Tim Cavanaugh, owner and handler.

3d—RAILWAY THOR, 1699986, male, by Great River Yellowstone-Guard Rail's Little Annie. Gene Casale, owner and handler.

AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG

[One-Hour Heats] – 17 Pointers and 3 Setters

1st—JOLENE JOLENE, 1692447, pointer female, by Miller's Heat Seeker-Dominator's Heir Kate. David McKay & Joe McHugh, owners; David McKay, handler.

2d—NAVAJO CODY, 1668520, pointer male, by Great River Ice-Blaze's Isis. Camille Masiello & Saverio Morelli, owners; Jon Lordi, handler.

3d—DUNN'S SNEAK'N IN, 1697090, pointer male, by Dunn's Tried'n True-K F Prairie Storm. Will Dunn, owner and handler.

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA BIRD DOG CLUB

Spring Trial Held Over Memorial Day Weekend

By Joe Faggiola | Hardyston, New Jersey | May 27, 2023



Open Derby Winners (l-r): Peter Slattery (judge), Garry Malzone, Jillian Stuhr, Lori and John Bleeker with Indian Creek Pineapple, Jason Paternostro with Hurricane Freya, Jill Culmone and Kurt Fedorko with K and J Stillwater Winston, and Joe Faggiola (judge).



Open Shooting Dog Winners (l-r): Peter Slattery (judge), Jillian Stuhr with Indian Creek Spur, Garry Malzone, Jill Culmone, Lori and John Bleeker with Indian Creek Storm Chaser, Jason Paternostro, Joe Link with Winchester of Erskine, and Joe Faggiola (judge).

A great time was had by all who supported the Southeastern Pennsylvania Bird Dog Club this Memorial Day weekend!

The winners in the Open Derby stake made it a competitive one. In third was K And J Stillwater Winston, Vizsla male, with one bird contact with owner Kurt Fedorko watching the performance. Second was Hurricane Freya, with a great race and one find for owner/handler Jason Paternostro. First place was Indian Creek Pineapple, with two finds and a stylish race for owners Black Meadow Kennels.

Winners in the Open Shooting Dog stake were Winchester of Erskine taking third for handler/owner Joe Link. This setter handled the demands of the afternoon temperatures having two finds. Second place was Indian Creek Storm Chaser, with three finds and a classy race for owner/handler John Bleeker. Indian Creek Spur, owned by Black Meadow Kennels, took first place, scoring three finds. He used the course to show us his speed and class. Congratulations to all owners, handlers, and participants!

Purina, Garmin, Mule Gear, OnX Hunt,

and Gun Dog Supply, thanks for supporting NBHA field trials.

Thank you to the judges and all who celebrated their holiday weekend with us.

Hardyston, N. J., May 27

Judges: Joe Faggiola and Pete Slattery

NBHA OPEN DERBY – 8 Entries

1st—INDIAN CREEK PINEAPPLE, 1697900, pointer female, by Indian Creek Perfect Storm-Indian Creek Ramona. Black Meadow Kennels, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

2d—HURRICANE FREYA, 1696741, setter female, by Five B K Country Road Pharoah-Leia. Jason Paternostro, owner and handler.

3d—K AND J STILLWATER WINSTON, unreg., Vizsla male, by Ozy Tighest Peak of Mill Pond Farm-Sterling Kava of Mill Pond Farm. Kurt Fedorko, owner; Jason Paternostro, handler.

NBHA OPEN SHOOTING DOG – 11 Pointers and 2 Setters

1st—INDIAN CREEK SPUR, 1695312, pointer male, by Mohawk Mill Legacy's Pride-Mohawk Mill Dolly. Black Meadow Kennels, owner; Garry Malzone, handler.

2d—INDIAN CREEK STORM CHASER, 1687325, pointer male, by Indian Creek Perfect Storm-Indian Creek Ramona. John Bleeker, owner and handler.

3d—WINCHESTER OF ERISKINE, 1675163, setter male, by Erin's Hidden Shamrock-Indian Creek Daisy. Joseph Link, owner and handler.

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Pointers

The Home of Ch. *Blackhawk Jet* has moved!

Hard Rock Kennels has moved from Decatur, TX, to Walnut, MS, the heartland of field trials, 15 miles from Grand Junction, TN.

Gone but never forgotten, Jet has proven his pedigree all over Texas and beyond.

- Pups and young started dogs for sale
- Limited semen available



FDSB #1538273



Cock'N'Fire Maggie
— Direct daughter of Jet —
2017 National OSD Champion

Call/Text: GEORGE GAGE—(731) 609-3400

Upcoming UKC® Field Advertising Deadlines

SEPTEMBER
Deadline:
August 5

OCTOBER
Deadline:
September 5

NOVEMBER
Deadline:
October 5

DECEMBER
Deadline:
November 5

Please submit ads prior to the deadline date to allow time for revisions and approvals. Materials 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 more information, please email: gsmith@ukcdogs.com

BLACK ASH GROUSE TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

AUGUST 5 • FALL WALKING TRIAL • STARTS 7:00 A.M.
 Grounds: S.G.L. #69, located on 90 degree bend (Maple Hill Road).
 Drawing: Wednesday, August 2, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Russ Richardson.

(Sat.) *OPEN PUPPYEntry Fee: \$25.00
 *OPEN DERBYEntry Fee: \$35.00
 *OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIEREntry Fee: \$45.00
 *OPEN SHOOTING DOG.....Entry Fee: \$45.00

***Ribbons & Certificates**

Judges: To be announced

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

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

BEAVERTON GROUSE DOG CLUB

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

— On behalf of the Association of Michigan Field Trial Clubs —

August 19, 2023 • Starts 7:00 A.M.
Gladwin Field Trial Grounds, Meredith, MI

••• Summer Qualifying trial •••

Drawing: Wednesday, August 16, 7:00 P.M.

OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER (30 Min.)Entry Fee: \$45.00
Multiple courses on native grouse and woodcock.

Judges: Jeff Sweet and Tom Fruchey

Phone or email entries to: TOM FRUCHEY
 Phone: (989) 435-3793 • Cell: (989) 324-8451
 Email: tomnkclinc@yahoo.com



PLAIN FIELDS BIRD DOG CLUB

Member ABHA, AFTCA & KFTA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

September 23–24 • Starts 8:00 A.M.
Central Kentucky WMA, Berea, KY

Drawing: Thursday, September 21, 8:00 P.M., at Czeshka Kennel, Lebanon Junction, KY.
 *OPEN PUPPY (15 Min.)—Ribbons\$25.00
 OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min. or Course)—Ribbons\$50.00
 OPEN DERBY (30 Min. or Course)—Ribbons\$45.00
 AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG (30 Min. or Course)—Ribbons.....\$45.00
 AMATEUR DERBY (30 Min. or Course)—Ribbons.....\$35.00
 *AMATEUR PUPPY (15 Min.)—Ribbons.....\$25.00
 OPEN ALL-AGE(30 Min.)—Horseback; 40%, 50-30-20\$55.00
 OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.)—Horseback; 40%, 50-30-20.....\$50.00
 *OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Horseback; 40%, 50-30-20\$45.00
 Amateur All-Age (30 Min.)—Horseback; Ribbons\$50.00
***At club's discretion**

Judges: To be announced

Entries to: DYLAN LEAR, 1218 Barret Ave., Louisville, KY 40204
 Phone: (502) 727-8211 • Email: kj4yxy@gmail.com

LAKE STATES FIELD TRIAL CLUB

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

Member AFTCA & AMFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!
 UKC/American Field requirements regarding electronic devices will be enforced!

AUGUST 12–13 • STARTS 7:00 A.M.

GLADWIN FIELD TRIAL AREA, MEREDITH, MI

Drawing: Wednesday, August 9, 7:00 P.M., at the home of Secy./Treas. Denise Peters, 7888 Greenwood Rd., Gladwin, MI 48624. All are welcome.
 (Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG QUALIFIER (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses ... \$50.00
 OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses..... \$45.00

Derby to begin Saturday; Start time TBD by entries.

(Sun.) MIKE GROSTIC AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG MEMORIAL (30 Min.)—Multiple Courses..... \$50.00

Rotating Amateur Trophy and Ribbons will be awarded.

Judges: To be announced



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

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

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

MARITIME BIRD DOG CLUB

Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only!

Presents the Labor Day Weekend Wild Bird Trials
September 2-3, 2023 • Beginning at 8:00 A.M. each day

Meet at Hoof and Paw Outfitters at 7:30 A.M.

— Wild bird courses near McAdam, NB —

Drawing: Wednesday, August 30, 8:00 P.M. (AST). Course order to be announced prior to draw. Accommodations: Hoof'n Paw Outfitters, McAdam, NB—(506) 784-8076.

(Sat.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.) ..Entry Fee \$50.00 [USD or CDN Equiv.]
 OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)Entry Fee \$50.00 [USD or CDN Equiv.]
 (Sun.) OPEN SHOOTING DOG (30 Min.) .Entry Fee \$50.00 [USD or CDN Equiv.]
 OPEN DERBY (30 Min.)Entry Fee \$50.00 [USD or CDN Equiv.]

Purse (all stakes): 50% of entry fee split 50/30/20 • Rosettes to all winners

Judges: To be announced prior to draw

Entries to: ROBERT LITTLE

Phone: (506) 784-7047 • Email: robert.little551@gmail.com

Entries accepted for all stakes with the understanding the Maritime Bird Dog Club, its officers and landowners are not in any way responsible and cannot be held liable for any accidents to anyone attending the trials, their guests, dogs or equipment.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD TRIAL ASSOCIATION

ROGER BOSER • Phone: (717) 881-9768 • Email: Rogerboser@aol.com

2022-23 Dog of the Year Award Winners

Awards will be presented the evening of Saturday, October 14, following the York Pointer & Setter trial.

Top Combined Shooting Dog

No dog met the requirement of both Open and Amateur Shooting Dog placement.

Open Shooting Dog Wr: Waybetter Rocky (PM) The Bishops & The Primms, Owners Mike Tracy, Handler	Open Derby Wr: Backcountry Pure Gold (PF) Chris Catanzarite, Owner/Handler
R-U: Miller's Heat Seeker (PM) Dennis Hood & The Primms George Tracy, Handler	R-U: Miller's Upgraded Design (PM) Allen Linder, Owner George Tracy, Handler
Amateur Shooting Dog Wr: Bull Finch (PF) Ernie (Handler) & Karen Saniga, Owners	Amateur Derby Wr: Pal's Prestigious Pete (PM) Lou Palazzolo, Owner/Handler
R-U: Little Wing Inked Up (PM) George Mamounis, Owner/Handler	

2023 Fall Field Trial Schedule

Sept. 16-17 Mountain View BDC	Oct. 7-8 Northern Bucks BDC
Sept. 19 National Shooting Dog Futurity	Oct. 14-15 York Pointer & Setter Club
Sept. 23-24 Penn Jersey Sportsman's Club	Oct. 21-22 Indiantown Gap BDC
Sept. 24 National OSD Pheasant Chmp.	Nov. 4-5 Delaware Pointer & Setter Club



Member AFTCA • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! .32 or 209 Primer Caliber Blanks or Larger Must be Used.

2023 MIDWEST VIZSLA SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

September 7 to Conclusion • Open to Vizslas only! • Breakaway: 8:00 A.M.
Bird Dog Ranch, Willow Rd. and 210th St., Thayer, IA 50254

Directions: Take Exit 33 off I-35 onto U.S. 34 toward Creston. Drive approximately 14 miles and turn left onto Willow Ave. Drive 2 miles and turn right onto 210th St. Drive less than 1 mile to camp grounds on your right. Approved tracking collars permitted but not supplied. Lunch and dinner will be served at the clubhouse. **Entries Close/Drawing:** Wednesday, September 6, 6:00 P.M. (CDT), at Bird Dog Ranch Clubhouse. Completed entries and payment required before drawing; No exceptions! Bitches in season may not compete.

CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour).....Entry Fee: \$225.00 (includes \$5 Grounds Fee)
GARY JAGODA DERBY CLASSIC (30 Min.).....Entry Fee: \$100.00 (includes \$5 Grounds Fee)

Trophy and Purina Pro Plan to all winners • Garmin Tri-Tronics Training Collar and \$500 payout to Championship winner

Judges: Bruce Heiter, Bondurant, IA, and one to be announced

Send advance entries to and request further information from:

JUSTIN HESS, 2527 Littlefield Dr., Exira, IA 50076

Phone: (712) 304-5543 • Email: JustinCHess@gmail.com

The National Vizsla Association and the AFTCA, their members, officers or directors shall not be responsible for any loss, accident, injury or damage of any kind.



MID-COAST MAINE FIELD TRIAL CLUB

Member AFTCA & ANEFTC • Blank Ammo & Manufactured Barrel Guns Only! Approved retrieval devices permitted.

proudly presents the

NORTHEASTERN GROUSE & WOODCOCK CHAMPIONSHIP

Starts Friday, September 29 to Conclusion

Run on multiple one-hour courses through native ruffed grouse and woodcock cover in Frankfort, Maine.



— Coverdog Points Program Sponsored by Purina —

Judges: Bruce Mueller, Bedford, PA, and Jamie Leitch, Holland, VT

Reporter: Russell Gilvie, Jefferson, ME

Entry Fee: \$130.00 • **Purse:** 50% of entries less the grounds fee split 70/30 • Rosettes for the winners

Drawing: Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 P.M., at Jon Cullen's home. All are welcome. Running order will be posted on the Cover Dog Message Board. **Accommodations:** White House Inn, Littlefield Rd., Bangor, ME—(207) 862-3737. No training on the grounds permitted. **Dinner:** The Mid-Coast Maine FTC welcomes all to a dinner on Saturday night at the trial grounds.

Entries to: JON CULLEN • Phone: (207) 991-7039 • Email: Jonathancullen7@gmail.com

Entries are accepted with the understanding that MCMFTC cannot be held liable for accidents or injuries to individuals or animals.

— Many thanks to Purina for their continued support —

2023 NGSPA HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 13 to Conclusion

Richardson Ranch, west of Cheyenne, WY, 849 Happy Jack Rd. (Hwy. 210)



— A Purina Handler of the Year Points Trial —

OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) Entry Fee: \$150.00

— Starts Wednesday, September 13 —

Judges: To be announced

Cash Purse: Champion—\$1000 plus Hun-Mount Trophy; Runner-Up—\$500

AMATEUR ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) Entry Fee: \$150.00

— Follows Open Shooting Dog —

Judges: To be announced

Prizes: Champion—\$750 Gift Certificate plus Hun-Mount Trophy;
Runner-Up—\$350 Gift Certificate plus SportDOG Collar

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

— Follows Amateur All-Age —

Judges: To be announced

Cash Purse: Champion—\$1000 plus Hun-Mount Trophy; Runner-Up—\$500

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.) Entry Fee: \$ 85.00

— Follows Amateur Shooting Dog but if no time, may follow Open All-Age —

Judges: To be announced

Cash Purse: 1st—\$300; 2nd—\$200; 3rd—\$100

OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)..... Entry Fee: \$150.00

— Follows Open Derby —

Judges: To be announced

Prizes: Champion—\$750 Gift Certificate plus Hun-Mount Trophy;
Runner-Up—\$350 Gift Certificate plus SportDog Collar

Please note (all purses): If there are not enough dogs for a Championship stake, there will be no cash purse.

- **Drawings:** To take place on the grounds at 7:00 P.M. (MT), at least one night before running.
- **Directions to Grounds:** From Interstate 25 Northbound, take exit 10B; Southbound, take exit 10D. Both exit to Happy Jack Rd. Turn west, toward Laramie, and drive 17 miles. Just past mile marker 17, turn left into arena driveway. From Interstate 80 Westbound, exit to I-25 north and follow I-25 directions; Eastbound, take Happy Jack Road exit about 5 miles east of Laramie, cross bridge, and turn left. Drive about 21 miles and turn right into second entrance after mile marker 18, 50 yards past the lit entrance.

Grass hay available • Rental horses by Ziggy • Retrieval Collars permitted
All participants and spectators do so at their own risk
2 catered meals daily • RV & Trailer parking with electric hook-ups • Waste dump available
Showers, laundry and restrooms in the Bunkhouse. No smoking on grounds.

Entry forms required for all placing dogs!

Advance entries in writing must be received by September 10 • Phone entries not accepted!

Advance entries to: BOBBI RICHARDSON, Secretary

P.O. Box 21660, Cheyenne, WY 82003 • Fax: (307) 638-7534 • Email: wybobbi@gmail.com

For questions, contact: Keith Richardson, Chmn.—(307) 630-9907 or Bobbi Richardson—(307) 630-1514

2023 NGSPA REGION 8 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Following Hungarian Partridge Championships but not before September 23
Richardson Ranch, west of Cheyenne, WY, 849 Happy Jack Rd. (Hwy. 210)



— A Purina Handler of the Year Points Trial —

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

— Starts Saturday, September 23 —

Judges: To be announced

Prizes: Champion—\$750 Gift Certificate plus a SportDOG Collar;
Runner-Up—\$350 Gift Certificate

OPEN ALL-AGE CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour)..... Entry Fee: \$150.00

— Follows Amateur Shooting Dog —

Judges: To be announced

Cash Purse: Champion—\$1000; Runner-Up—\$500

OPEN SHOOTING DOG CHAMPIONSHIP (1 Hour) Entry Fee: \$150.00

— Follows Open All-Age —

Judges: To be announced

Cash Purse: Champion—\$1000; Runner-Up—\$500

OPEN DERBY (30 Min.) Entry Fee: \$ 85.00

— Follows Open Shooting Dog —

Judges: To be announced

Cash Purse: 1st—\$300; 2nd—\$200; 3rd—\$100

Please note (all purses): If there are not enough dogs for a Championship stake, there will be no cash purse.

• **Drawings:** To take place on the grounds at 7:00 P.M. (MT), at least one night before running.

• **Directions to Grounds:** From Interstate 25 Northbound, take exit 10B; Southbound, take exit 10D. Both exit to Happy Jack Rd. Turn west, toward Laramie, and drive 17 miles. Just past mile marker 17, turn left into arena driveway. From Interstate 80 Westbound, exit to I-25 north and follow I-25 directions; Eastbound, take Happy Jack Road exit about 5 miles east of Laramie, cross bridge, and turn left. Drive about 21 miles and turn right into second entrance after mile marker 18, 50 yards past the lit entrance.

Grass hay available • Rental horses by Ziggy • Retrieval Collars permitted

All participants and spectators do so at their own risk

2 catered meals daily • RV & Trailer parking with electric hook-ups • Waste dump available

Showers, laundry and restrooms in the Bunkhouse. No smoking on grounds.

Entry forms required for all placing dogs!

Advance entries in writing must be received by September 20 • Phone entries not accepted!

Advance entries to: BOBBI RICHARDSON, Secretary

P.O. Box 21660, Cheyenne, WY 82003 • Fax: (307) 638-7534 • Email: wybobbi@gmail.com

For questions, contact: Keith Richardson, Chmn.—(307) 630-9907 or Bobbi Richardson—(307) 630-1514

A Life Lived for the Betterment of Our Sport



David Williams for Field Trial Hall of Fame

David Williams not only meets the lofty requirements to be honored for the Hall of Fame, but far, far exceeds them. For nearly half a century, virtually every aspect of our sport has benefitted from David's tireless giving of his time, knowledge, resources, generosity and commitment.

- David's immaculately groomed and maintained **Carroll County Field Trial Club grounds and facilities** have hosted **hundreds of stakes for the past 30 years**. 6 - 8 prestigious field trials are conducted there annually offering both Open and Amateur Stakes and Championships as well as multiple National Championship Qualifiers throughout the field trial season.
- **Active in field trial clubs as a member and officer since 1980**, David has generously given of his time, knowledge and professionalism volunteering on countless committees and boards. He has served as AFTCA Trustee for Region 6 since 2009, has been president of numerous clubs since 1988, and was AFTCA President for the 2017 - 2019 term. David spearheaded the development of the **Land Contribution Program**, highly beneficial to field trial clubs and trialers around the country.
- Respected for his **integrity and experience**, David has been sought out and a myriad of times filled the **judicial and reporting** saddle for field trials across the country.
- Born and raised in Tennessee, David began quail hunting at the age of ten and two years later got his first bird dog. He has been a **successful amateur trainer and handler as well as a breeder** of his Rebel line of pointers. When not blowing the whistle over his dogs himself, he has **supported numerous professional trainers/handlers** over the years.

To this day, David Williams continues to quietly and selflessly devote his life to the betterment of our sport.

Please join us in honoring David's nearly 50 years of dedication to field trials with your support.

— Thank you, the Committee to Elect David Williams to the Field Trial Hall of Fame



Field Trial Hall of Fame 6 x Champion / 11 x R-U Champion

True Confidence had an extraordinary 10-year long winning field trial career. He won from the prairies to the piney woods and on 5 species of game birds. He was a superior bird dog exhibiting style and composure on game, range, strength and endurance, and above all, intelligence. True Confidence was the very definition of CLASS!

"Bob was a consistent, winning performer...a dog handler's dream, giving his all each and every time he was under the whistle. And it didn't matter who was handling him, he always ran his best race and hunted with intent and perseverance. As a top contender his entire career, Bob had immaculate style and composure, and produced many winners and multiple champions."

— Luke Eisenhart

"I scouted True Confidence during his career on the all-age circuit with Luke. I would find him on point but never had much else to do except to direct him back to Luke. Bob did it all on his own and had his mind on birds and on Luke. He was a front running dog who always found birds. True Confidence is deserving of Hall of Fame recognition."

— Tommy Davis

"True Confidence was one of the most consistent dogs I've ever competed against and he never took himself out of a field trial. He has proven his worth as a sire. I personally campaigned his son, Dogwood Bill to a Purina Derby of The Year. Bill is just one of the many champions Bob produced winning on the major circuits. True Confidence meets every criteria to be in the HOF."

— Jamie Daniels

"True Confidence and Confident Nation comprise the only father-son combination to win the Southeastern Quail Championship (2019 and 2022). The dog has produced multiple other champions and is still adding to his production record. Like Red Water Rex before him, everything that I have seen True Confidence throw makes a bird dog whether they make field trial dogs or not. True Confidence has made a positive impact on our sport and deserves consideration for the HOF."

— Ron Deal

"I had the privilege of seeing True Confidence develop from a little puppy to a veteran true All-Age dog. Bob was a rare specimen who possessed it all — super nose, immaculate style, natural ability, physique, and most notable, supreme intelligence."

— Scott Jordan

Ch. True Confidence — Performer & Producer of Champions & Winners

Ch. Confident Nation, Ch. Dogwood Bill, Ch. Southern Confidence, Ch. True Choice, Ch. Pure Confidence, Ch. Buck Naked, Ch. Boumeester's Bar None, Ch. Thomas Adirondack Turbo, Supreme Confidence, Northern Confidence and many others.

TRUE CONFIDENCE...TRUE CLASS. Help elect a great bird dog to his rightful place in the Field Trial Hall of Fame!

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: mercercbruce@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
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Phone: (508) 648-0598
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Futurities

Grand National Grouse Futurity

Thor Kain
Phone: (570) 702-6670
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Midwest Vizsla Futurity

Rodney Albin
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National Bird Hunters Assn. Futurity

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Email: jojosenglishsetters@gmail.com

National German Shorthaired Pointer Assn.

Jeff Wallace, Futurity Manager
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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

National Walking Shooting Dog Futurity

Chris Catanzarite
Phone: (724) 884-7244
Email: catanzarite@fairpoint.net

New England Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret 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: mercercbruce@hotmail.com

U.S. Complete Shooting Dog Assn. Futurity

Verlene Stephenson
Phone: (252) 589-1521
Email: verlene_stephenson@ncsu.edu

United States Quail Shooting Dog Futurity

Margaret Drew
Phone: (910) 206-0079
Email: bmdrew@windstream.net

Recognized Field Trials

Black Ash Grouse Trial Club

August 5 / Guys Mills, PA
Contact: Russ Richardson
Phone: (814) 807-4335

Lake States Field Trial Club

August 12 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Denise Peters
Phone: (269) 209-1255
Email: dpeters1255@yahoo.com

Atlantic Sportsman's Club

August 19 / Caledonia, NS
Contact: Ian Corbett
Phone: (902) 354-0026
Email: ikorbett@msn.com

Beaverton Grouse Dog Club

August 19 / Meredith, MI
Contact: Tom Fruchey
Phone: (989) 435-3793; (989) 324-8451
Email: tomnkelinc@yahoo.com

Maritime Bird Dog Club

September 2 / McAdam, NB
Contact: Robert Little
Phone: (506) 784-7047
Email: robert.little551@gmail.com

Nittany Valley Bird Dog Club

September 5 / Philipsburg, PA
Contact: Rob Boos
Phone: (570) 337-4894

Midwest Vizsla Shooting Dog Championship

September 7 / Thayer, IA
Contact: Justin Hess
Phone: (712) 304-5543
Email: JustinCHess@gmail.com

NGSPA Hungarian Partridge Championships

September 13 / Cheyenne, WY
Contact: Bobbi Richardson
Phone: (307) 630-1514
Email: wymbobbi@gmail.com

National Open Pheasant Shooting Dog Championship

September 24 / Bloomingdale, OH
Contact: Joe Lordi
Phone: (856) 513-5340
Email: jlordi@comcast.net

NGSPA Region 8 Championships

September 24 / Cheyenne, WY
Contact: Bobbi Richardson
Phone: (307) 630-1514
Email: wymbobbi@gmail.com

Northeastern Grouse & Woodcock Championship

September 29 / Frankfort, ME
Contact: Jon Cullen
Phone: (207) 991-7039
Email: Jonathancullen7@gmail.com

Big Sky Field Trial Club

September 30 / Barber, MT
Contact: David Huffine
Phone: (910) 620-2970

Michigan Woodcock Championship

October 10 / Gladwin, MI
Contact: Craig Merlington
Phone: (616) 862-2296
Email: northkentwell@gmail.com

ABHA TRIALS

Plain Fields Bird Dog Club

September 23 / Berea, KY
Contact: Dylan Lear
Phone: (502) 727-8211
Email: kj4xy@gmail.com

NBHA TRIALS

(No trials scheduled)

SBHA TRIALS

(No trials scheduled)

USCSDA TRIALS

Mohegan Bird Dog Club

August 18 / Weatherly, PA
Contact: Robert Ecker
Phone: (570) 778-3009

Big Sky Field Trial Club

September 16 / Barber, MT
Contact: David Huffine
Phone: (910) 620-2970



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