

National Shoot-To-Retrieve Field Trial Association

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 **PURINA Top Performance Winner**
QUAIL VALLEY'S NOSE KNOWS

Adam Fellers, Owner/Handler

Mo-Kan Region

NSTRA Regional Champions



MidSouth Region

Southern Pride General Jeb
Owner Steve Jaspering



Alabama Region

Clark's Skip Sugar
Owner Wesley Downs



Lone Star Region

Heaton's Dakota Trek
Owner Dale Heaton



South Carolina Region

Redclay's Belle Star
Owner Linda Lowe



Eastern Carolina Region

Shouse Dogwood Molly
Owner Chase Cogar



Dixie Region

Vaughn's L T
Owner Jeff Gamble



Georgia Region

Quail Valley's Got Trim
Owner Jeff Keck



Gulf Coast Region

Llano's Hot Attack
Owner Scott Thomas



Illinois Region

Double R Grace
Owner Kathy Ralston



Northern California Nevada Region

Histep Crosswind Kennedy's
Curly Top
Owner John Hervey



Oklahoma Region

Rockin G's Uodibar Rusty
Owner John George



Virginia Region

Smokin Ridge Spark
Owner Don Bowyer



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

TOP PERFORMANCE & REGIONAL ELLIMINATION WINNERS *p 20-41*



**MIDWEST
REGION
IN ACTION!**



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Look for Official
Trial Entry Forms!

DISCOVER A BREAKTHROUGH INNOVATION FOR DOGS 7 AND OLDER



THE INSIGHT

around age 7, a dog's glucose metabolism in the brain begins to change, which can affect memory, learning, awareness or decision-making.



PURINA DISCOVERED

enhanced botanical oils can be used as an additional energy source for the brain in dogs age 7+.



THE RESULTS

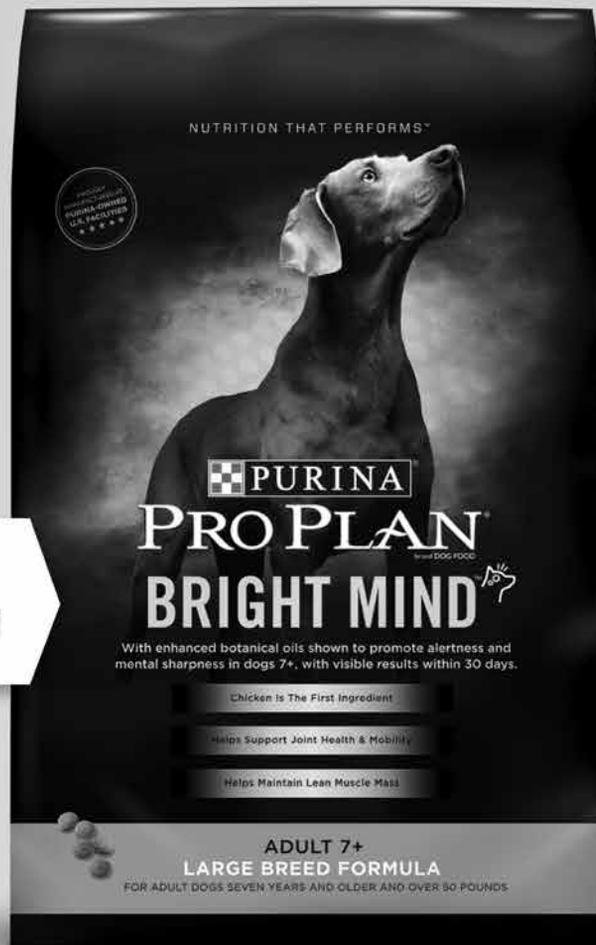
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News From the Officers

Thank you to all our members that recently participated in the national election. We are tabulating the ballots as we go to press and will be announcing the results at the Dog of the Year trial later on this month.

In response to complaints and suggestions regarding our judging seminar materials and presentation, we appointed a committee to review, revise and rework our training material. After many months of thorough work, they have presented us with a new and improved product. All region presidents will have a copy of this within the next week. We are asking them to review the material and provide constructive feedback to be discussed at the Board of Directors' meeting in October. We are going to ask the Board to vote on adopting the new procedures and will continue to improve some aspects, such as video, as we work to establish a premier training package that will simplify the judging seminars and standardize NSTRA judging across the country.

During the Board meeting, we will also be presenting the proposal for the computer system/website/online draw overhaul. As previously reported, the new online draw system not only enlightened us to the multiple issues that can occur in developing a new draw (both good and bad) but more importantly, it made us aware of the absolute necessity of updating our current database and website data. This is not going to be an inexpensive proposition and we want to make it clear the changes and costs involved in order to continue to operate and provide the information, records and data that are necessary.

As we go to press, we have just completed the Purina Endurance Classic trial held for the first time in Osceola, Iowa and hosted by the Iowa Gun Dog Club. What a great time! The fields were tough, the dogs even tougher. The food was great and the people were friendly. A hearty congratulations to those hardworking folks in Iowa. We can't wait to see what you have in store for us next year! Look for pictures and results in the next issue.

See you in the fall!

Sincerely,

CC

**Deadline for Dec/Jan
publication information is
November 3, 2015**

NSTRA MEMBERSHIPS - <http://nstra.org/forms.htm>
NSTRA has 32 regions that cover the lower 48 states and Central Canada.

Please visit our regions page to determine which region is the nearest for you. Should you need assistance to determine your region or any additional information is needed, feel free to contact the NSTRA office.

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NSTRA members receive our bi-monthly magazine. Remember, you must be a member to participate in NSTRA Sanctioned Field Trials.

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October 1, 2015

First day to accept change of home region requests

October 28-31, 2015

Dog of the Year, Amo, Indiana

November 1, 2015

Spring trial schedules due. Hall of Fame nominations accepted.

November 11, 2015

NSTRA office closed in honor of Veteran's Day.

November 26-27, 2015

NSTRA office closed for Thanksgiving.

December 24 - 25, 2-15

NSTRA office closed for Christmas.

December 28, 2015

Deadline for entries in the Quail Invitational Trial.

January 1, 2016

Last day to accept change of home region requests.
NSTRA office closed for New Year's Day.

January 27, 2016

Last day to submit By-Law changes before the Trial of Champions.

February 26, 2016

Last day to submit Rule changes before the Trial of Champions.

February 25-27, 2016

Quail Invitational, Lake Wales, Florida

March 14, 2016

Deadline for entries in the Trial of Champions.

March 31, 2016

Deadline to submit Hall of Fame Nominations.

April 27-30, 2016

Trial of Champions, Amo, Indiana

May 1, 2016

Fall Trial Schedules Due

June 1-4, 2016

UKC Performance Classic, Waverly, Nebraska.

THE CHUKAR

Selecting Your Chukar Hunting Boots©

The most important element in your hunting gear!

(Photo is author's inventory of chukar hunting boots L-R: Asolo Titan, Insulated Mountaineering Boots; Danner Trophy, Insulated, Airbob-sole Hiking Boots; Danner Grouse, Non-insulated, Airbob-sole Hunting Boots; Asolo Sasslong, Non-insulated Hiking Boots; and Sorrel Pack Boots used for snow shoeing and snow hiking. Back is a Tubbs Buckle System Wilderness 25" Snowshoe.)

Chukar Hunting Footwear

Chukar hunting footwear can be divided into four main categories and one accessory item: trail running shoes, light hiking boots, midweight hiking boots, heavy-duty mountaineering boots and accessory short-lightweight snowshoes (must be knowledgeable about avalanch dangers/avoidance). To get the best footwear for your activity, you should start by determining what type of terrain hiking you'll do most. Of course, if you frequently hike in various weather conditions and do long-distance hunting as I do, you'll probably benefit from owning a few different pairs of boots. Unless you have foot problems you can probably eliminate the trail running shoes but we will cover those as a last resort chukar hunting shoe (boot) option.

Always research Reviews on all products.

Let's take a look at your options:

Trail Running Waterproof Shoes

Designed to provide a mix of lightweight support, moderate cushioning and stable traction, trail running shoes are ideal for short, relatively flat hikes (about 1-2 miles) on mild, solid-ground terrain with moderate elevation gain. Because they offer good support, trail running shoes are also a great choice for day-to-day training wear during the off season, too. Chukar country can be in areas very wet ground, so waterproof type construction to keep your feet dry is a must.

Light Waterproof Hiking Boots

Geared toward short and medium hikes (about 1-4 miles) on easy to moderate solid ground terrain, light hiking boots offer a little more support than trail running shoes without much added weight. This type of boot is usually a good choice for most well-maintained trails and not carrying a lot of weight. Light hiking boots are suitable for mild to moderate elevation gain, but not technical challenging ascents/descents or extremely rugged/rocky terrain.

Midweight Waterproof Hiking Boots and Backpacking Boots

Ideal for extended hikes (4 or more miles) and trekking over rougher terrain and mixed ground conditions. Midweight hiking boots provide increased support and cushioning. Because they offer better support for carrying a heavy pack, backpacking boots generally fall into the midweight category. Mid hiking boots are capable of taking on more elevation gain and fairly rugged/rocky/drier type terrain.

Waterproof Mountaineering Boots

Offering maximum support and foot protection, mountaineering



boots are extremely durable and provide the most ankle protection. These boots have thick, stiff soles designed for difficult mountain topography, snow and significant elevation gain. Most boots in this category are waterproof, and some include insulation to protect feet in cold, windy and wet conditions. Many mountaineering boots are compatible with snowshoes, which makes them suitable for traversing snowpacks.

The Accessory: Short-Buckle Binding Snowshoes

(must be knowledgeable about avalanch dangers and avoidance)

Snowshoes are usually needed in chukar country when the snow dept exceeds +/- six inches (6"). Snowshoes allow you to travel across snow-covered ground without sinking or struggling. This makes hiking on snow covered ground much easier than walking with regular boots. Snowshoes are easily carried on a fanny pack and allow access to areas in the wilderness by offering a great mix of aggressive traction, floatation and toughness to tackle the demanding chukar country terrain. People who wear snowshoes for chukar country trekking need to be very knowledgeable about avalanch dangers/avoidance because the country is steep and snow depts can increase due to drifting. Only the very experienced chukar hunters/mountaineers should utilize snowshoes for chukar hunting.

Waterproof Protection

Not all hiking shoes and boots are waterproof, and that's okay. If you prefer hiking in mild conditions, you should be fine with standard footwear. However, if you think you may encounter wet or snowy conditions, waterproof footwear is the way to go. Below are the three main types of weather protection.

Waterproof Breathable Lining

Waterproof breathable linings like Gore-Tex® fabric can be built into hiking shoes and boots to prevent moisture from passing through permeable materials and reaching your feet. These linings usually have sealed or taped seams for even better protection from encroaching moisture.

Even though linings like Gore-Tex® will keep the inside of your shoes and boots dry, they don't prevent the exterior materials of your boots from absorbing moisture. Wet boots can become increasingly heavy, so it's a good idea to treat the exterior of your boots with a DWR (durable water repellent treatment) for another layer of protection. This will also reduce wear and tear. We'll cover this in more detail a little later.

Continued

ALL ABOUT CHUKAR BOOT CARE...

Waterproof Leather

Full-grain leather footwear may include an external waterproof coating, such as wax, oil or a DWR. However, if a boot is poorly constructed, leaks may still occur. Check the seams on waterproof leather footwear for signs of weakness (like loose threads or missing stitches). Realize that even “waterproof” leather may allow some moisture to pass through if it becomes soaked for extended periods.

Waterproof Construction

This refers to manufacturing techniques that enhance waterproofness, such as sealing or taping seams, using special stitching or having the boot lower area rapped with a rand (see below). Waterproof construction is usually combined with another type of weather protection, such as a waterproof lining or DWR (durable water repellent treatment).

Chukar Hunting Boot Construction & Budget

Quality construction is just as important as using good materials. Low-quality manufacturing can lead to leaks, rips, splits, delamination and premature wear. For this reason, if you plan on doing extensive hiking, it’s a good idea to avoid off-brand hiking footwear. Of course, all shoes and boots wear out eventually. If your boots have a lot of use, always give them a close inspection before heading out for an extended trip. Generally, high quality chukar hunting boots run in the \$150 to \$300 range.

The sole of a shoe or boot is usually either stitched or cemented to the midsole and upper. Boots with Goodyear welt construction are very durable and can be resoled. Cement construction, on the other hand, is less expensive than welt construction. Cemented bonds tend to wear more quickly, however.

There are several types of lacing systems found on hiking boots, depending on the intended use of the boot. Below are some common lacing styles:

The Ring lacing systems will provide the most boot tightening ability, the eyelet systems the least.

Chukar Hunting Boot Height

The height of the upper helps determine the ideal use for a specific boot. Generally, taller boots (+/-6”) offer more support for difficult terrain, keeping debris out and transporting heavier pack loads. Low-profile shoes (<6”) are best for shorter hikes.

Hiking Shoes and Trail Running Shoes

Low-profile trail shoes don’t offer significant stability on rugged terrain and may not be ideal for challenging terrain hikes. However, lightweight hiking shoes are better suited for short distances on well-maintained trails.

Mid-Cut Hiking Boots

Mid hiking boots provide increased stability for the foot and ankle on rougher terrain. They also provide better protection from debris, such as small rocks and brush. Mid boots allow you to walk easily, but may not be ideal for extremely steep, aggressive terrain.

High-Cut Boots

This style covers above your ankle and provides superior support on rough, uneven chukar country terrain. High boots (>8”) also provide the most stability when you’re carrying a heavy fanny pack. Generally, high-cut boots take the longest to break in. Most mountaineering boots fall into this category.

Chukar Hunting Boot Soles

There are several support layers in hiking boots, including the insole, midsole, shank and outsole.

Insole

A soft, cushioned insert that can usually be removed and replaced. The insole is also the part of a shoe that provides arch support. If your boots don’t offer enough arch support, you can usually replace the insoles (i.e. Super Feet is what I use) with better quality inserts or custom-made orthotics.

Midsole

A layer of shock-absorbing material that helps dampen impacts on rugged terrain. It can be made from a variety of materials. Chukar country is lava country so shock absorption is extremely important. The following are some of the materials used:

Compression-molded EVA (Ethyl Vinyl Acetate) midsoles are made of expanded EVA foam that provides good shock absorption.

Injection-molded EVA midsoles are made from melted pellets of EVA. They offer a more uniform density from heel to toe compared to compression-molded EVA.

Polyurethane (PU) midsoles are lightweight and offer cushioning, shock absorption, flexibility and good durability.

TPR (thermoplastic rubber) midsoles offer lightweight durability and flexibility.

Shank

A stiff piece of material inserted between the midsole and outsole to provide torsional stability. In some boots, the shank may be placed inside the midsole. In hiking boots, the shank is usually made of either a composite material or steel. Lightweight trail shoes typically don’t include a shank.

Outsole

Most modern hiking soles are made of thermoplastic polyurethane or another type of synthetic rubber. Boots and shoes designed for hiking have all-terrain soles that usually include a pattern of protruding treads, also called lugs. The more aggressive the lug pattern, the better the traction will be on loose, muddy and uneven terrain. Trail shoes usually have shallower lugs to reduce weight and increase flexibility. Proprietary soles like Vibram® can provide even more traction and durability. For this reason, Vibram® outsoles are used by many leading hiking footwear brands, including Asolo, Vasque, Merrell, Columbia Sportswear and The North Face. Airbob Soles (i.e. Danner, etc) provide the best surface contact in all weather conditions but wear badly.

Chukar Hunting Boot Fit

Even with all the bells and whistles, if a boot doesn’t fit, it won’t be very comfortable on the chukar hunting trek. Check out these chukar hunting boot fitting tips to help you find a pair(s) that will work well for you throughout the hunting season. Balance is a key factor in chukar hunting, so you need the sensitivity of what surface your foot is on all the time, much like knowing the pressure of a snow ski edge through a ski boot. Chukar country is demanding hiking, crawling over lava fields in all types of weather conditions is a major part of exceptional chukar hunting success. To avoid falling in lava fields you need boots that provide you with the opportunity for outstanding balance on all surfaces. Both your body and gun will benefit!

Your boots should feel snug around the ball and instep of your foot, but loose enough so you can flex your foot forward comfortably. Rock onto the balls of your feet and then back on your heels. This motion should not make your feet feel restricted.

ALL ABOUT CHUKAR BOOT CARE...

You should be able to wiggle your toes comfortably inside the toe box. With the right amount of room in the toe box, you'll be able to spread your toes for stability/balance and to allow for the small amount of natural swelling that occurs when you hike. A little extra room in the toe box will also prevent restriction on your circulation to keep those toes warm.

As you walk, your heel should stay in place inside the boot (assuming your boots are laced correctly). If your heel shifts around a lot as you walk, it can cause blisters and discomfort. This is a sign that your boots are too large or wide for your feet.

When you are trying on or breaking in a new pair of hiking boots, be sure to wear the same sock(s) that you would wear on a chukar hunt.

Don't be afraid to customize. Getting different insoles, wearing high quality socks or changing your lacing technique (or laces) may help you achieve a better fit. If you have high arches, for example, consider investing in a pair of insoles (i.e. Super Feet) with added arch support and adding cushioning/stiffness to the sole of the boot (lots of sharp lava rocks in chukar hunting). Medium-weight or heavy-weight snow skiing socks that have extra material in the foot area of the sock can help protect feet and toes from bruising. Lacing your boots differently can eliminate pressure points and prevent hot spots on the top of your foot.

Although new chukar hunting boots will fit better after breaking them in, no amount of break-in can fix a pair that doesn't fit right in the first place.

Boot weight is also a factor. The heavier the boot the more energy you will burn ascending those steep chukar hills.

Recommended Chukar Hunting Boot Features

Since chukar hunting boots are designed to be used off the beaten trail they require some features not found in most hunting boots. I purchase chukar hunting boots that have all of the following features:

Rand

This is the most important feature for me in selecting a chukar hunting boot. A boot rand is a tough rubber guard that runs along the outer edge of a boot, which should include a rubber toe cap or "toe rand (your going to be kicking a lot of lava rocks)." A rand is designed to provide added water/rock bumping protection and to reinforce high-wear areas, which can also increase the life of the footwear.

Gusseted Tongue

Tongue gussets link the tongue to the upper of the boot or shoe to prevent water, dirt, small rocks and other trail debris from getting into the footwear.

Padded Collar and a minimum of 6" Height

Thick, padded collars provide additional ankle support and comfort on the hunt and the 6" height keeps out rocks, seeds and other items that want to climb into your boot on the journey.

Waterproof Boot Linings

Moisture-wicking linings like Gore-Tex®, Cambrelle® and Dri-Lex® help absorb sweat and keep feet dry. Some footwear linings

and insoles also include a built-in antimicrobial treatment to fight odor. I can promise you, you'll be sweating even in the coldest temperature due to the elevations you'll be ascending while chasing those darn chukars. Most of the season I use uninsulated boots because of the energy that one burns in chukar hunting. Only in extreme cold (>15 degrees) and snow that is more than 4" in depth will I move to my insulated boots.

Thick Midsole/Deep Lug Outsoles

Boot soles that have a thick rubber midsole and that have deep lug outsoles are the most desirable. A thick outsole helps absorb shock from all the rocks surfaces your feet will encounter. The best traction outsoles for chukar hunting in wet, icy conditions are Airbob lugs. In drier conditions, outsole lugs should be deep to afford the best traction going up steep chukar country hills and ones that expell dirt and keep rocks from lodging between the lugs.

Chukar Hunting Boot Care

At the very least, brush all dirt and debris off your chukar hunting boots after each use. I use several different types of boots and rotate them depending on weather conditions (high temperature hiking, really cold icy ground conditions, snow, etc). Layers of caked-on dirt and mud will make your footwear wear out faster.

Nylon and mesh uppers (not a good choice for chukar hunting because of all the grasses your boots will be in and the seed pods that attach themselves in the fabric) can be washed with mild dish soap and warm water. Avoid using harsh detergents, as these can break down synthetic fabrics over time.

If your boots get soaked, fill them loosely with newspaper or paper towels and let them dry in a warm place. Don't place your footwear near an open flame, stove or other heat source. This can damage or weaken your boots.

Leather boots can be cleaned with a gentle leather cleaner, dried completely and then rubbed with neatsfoot oil or another leather conditioner to prevent the leather from drying out. Oiled leather will naturally repel water and dirt. Suede boots can be wiped clean with a moist rag, allowed to dry and treated with a suede proof or DWR treatment designed for hiking boots. Periodically cleaning and re-treating your chukar hunting boots can significantly extend the life of your footwear.

Hot glue and super glue are great products to use in repairing worn/torn boot areas. It will extend the life of your well broken in chukar hunting boots. Apply before you treat the surface of the boot with any products.

Need additional information. Contact: idahochukarfoundation@hotmail.com ■



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Good Nutrition Goes Far in Recovery and Immunity Function

Nutrition plays an important role in helping hardworking bird dogs recover physically from hard work. Feeding a quality performance dog food is the foundation of optimal performance and recovery.

Trainers should stay on top of monitoring their dogs' body condition. If a dog has lost weight from a multiple-day field trial, the portion fed of a quality performance dog food, such as *Purina Pro Plan SPORT Performance 30/20 Formula*, should be increased. Alternatively, during the post-season recovery,

since dogs are working less intensely, they should be fed a smaller portion of a high-quality performance dog food to help maintain ideal body condition.

During field trials, dogs should work on an empty stomach, says Purina Senior Research Scientist Arleigh Reynolds, DVM, PhD, DACVN. "Most hardworking dogs should be fed only once a day, and as close as possible to 24 hours before the time they will perform," he advises. "When dogs run within a couple of hours of the time they are fed, we cause



Refueling During Recovery

An important recovery tool is the *Purina Pro Plan SPORT* ReFUEL nutritional supplement bar, which should be fed within 30 minutes after exercise to allow the muscles to maximize nutrient uptake. “You want to give the ReFUEL

bar after the last hard exercise bout,” Purina Senior Research Scientist Arleigh Reynolds says.

Designed for short-term recovery after strenuous

activity, the ReFUEL bar is specifically formulated to deliver a targeted portion size of rapidly digested carbohydrates to enable glucose to enter the bloodstream when fed within 30 minutes of the completion of exercise when muscles are maximized for sugar uptake and glycogen replenishment. Although glycogen is an important fuel for intense work, the muscle has a limited capacity to store it.

To learn more about the ReFUEL bar and other products in the *Purina Pro Plan SPORT* nutritional platform, visit proplan.com/dogs/platforms/sport. Share how *Purina Pro Plan* brand dog food has been vital to your own dog’s success by writing a review at proplan.com/reviews.



several mechanical and metabolic problems that could impair performance.”

Feeding close to performance results in an increase in insulin secretion. Insulin inhibits the release of fat from the tissues to the bloodstream and impairs the availability of the most important fuel for muscular work. Insulin also increases the uptake of glucose, or sugar, from the blood into the muscles, which can cause fatigue from low blood sugar.

Feeding shortly before exercise also increases blood flow to the gut and thus decreases the amount of blood available to the working muscles. “The mechanical load induced by carrying food in the intestines during work may cause problems during performance,” says Reynolds. “Dogs should have time to empty their bowels before they work. This helps make them more comfortable.”

Warm ups and cool downs are tools to help with the removal of waste. Before and after a trial, bird dogs should run loosely 10 to 15 minutes. Leash walking or controlled walking in groups allow you to evaluate for soundness and identify a problem. You may notice a dog getting a little stiff that would benefit from a massage to take away the soreness.

Avoid Overtraining

Trainers of conditioned bird dogs that are at their peak with the field trial season underway should decrease the volume of training, increase the intensity and build in more time for rest. Between events, it is important to monitor dogs for signs of stress, lameness and injury.

“It takes three to five days for the neuromuscular system to recover from work,” Reynolds explains. “This is why you don’t want to work a dog too hard right before a trial.”

Trainers should be aware of the risks of overtraining dogs, which include the potential deterioration of performance combined with injuries, infection and chronic fatigue. Whereas normal fatigue lasts a few hours to 24 hours, chronic fatigue can be career-ending.

“The immune system is the first to suffer when a dog has inadequate recovery or nutrition,” says Reynolds. “The important thing is knowing what to do to keep dogs healthy when they are competing.”

Moderate exercise improves immune function by increasing the white blood cell response. In contrast, overtraining decreases white blood cell activity and impairs the body’s ability to react against infection from viruses, bacteria and parasites. Diarrhea, kennel cough and parasites can take a toll when a dog’s immune system is compromised.

“In training, we periodically push the body beyond the intensity or duration of exercise that it is accustomed,” Reynolds says. “With adequate rest and nutrients, the body adapts into a higher state of fitness. If the stress of exercise is beyond the body’s ability to respond or inadequate rest is given, overtraining may result.”

Monitoring a dog’s resting heart rate can help you determine if a dog needs rest. A resting heart rate in the 40s and 50s is normal, whereas one in the 60s indicates a dog may be getting sick and one in the 80s may mean a dog needs a week off to come back strong and be prepared to work.

It always is better to prevent problems associated with overtraining than to have to treat them. Promising bird dogs will not achieve their potential if they are overtrained. ■



IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER!

Purina Endurance Classic:

Entry into this trial will be based on all open points earned from June 1 through May 31. Points earned from placements in the final "Top 4" of National Championship trial or Regional Championship trial do not count; however, points from qualifying rounds do count.; however, points from qualifying rounds do count.

TOP PERFORMANCE:

Dogs must have at least 20 open points from June 1 through May 31 of the applicable year to be eligible. Points will be from weekend trials only. From there, the award will be based on national trials and regional eliminations. The Performance Trial will be the beginning national trial each year, even if it ends prior to June 1st in order to keep the number of nationals the same each year. The Regional Elimination trial will be based on regularly scheduled regionals for each year and only one regional can count per year. Regionals scheduled or rescheduled to be held after June 1 will apply to the previous year. For national trials, a dog must make the Saturday cut to receive a qualifying score. Each national trial will have a point value of 800 points. The value will drop 25 points per placement throughout the Saturday cut (1st – 800, 2nd - 775, 3rd – 750, etc.). In addition, 100 bonus points will be awarded to the Champion, 75 for second place, 50 for third and 25 for fourth. Each regional elimination will have a point value of 600 points. The value will drop 25 points per placement until the last dog or points run out (1st – 600, 2nd – 575, 3rd – 550, etc.). In addition, 100 points will be awarded to the Champion, 75 for the second place dog, 50 for the third

and 25 for fourth. The placement for the regional eliminations and national trials is determined by the score of the last round in which the dog ran.

HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS:

Hall of Fame nominations will be accepted November 1 through March 31 of each year. Send these to the office. Nominations of dogs to the NSTRA Hall of Fame are NOT "carried over" to following years should the dog not be elected in the year nominated. Plainly stated, a dog that does not get elected to the Hall of Fame in the year nominated must be re-submitted each year in order to be considered for election.

TRIAL SCHEDULES:

Fall trial schedules are due in the office by May 1. Spring trial schedules are due in the office by Nov. 1. All trials must be published on the website 4 weeks prior to their running.

SCHEDULING FEES:

Trial scheduling fees are due in the NSTRA office 4 weeks prior to your trial date.

TRIAL REPORTS:

Trial reports are due in the NSTRA office 10 days after the trial date.

QUAIL INVITATIONAL:

This trial is always held the last week in February that includes a Saturday. The qualification period for this trial is Nov. 1 through Oct. 31. This includes all points earned during the time frame, except points earned from placements in the final "Top 4" of a National Championship trial or Regional Championship trial (qualifying rounds do count). Entry into the trial is based on points (dog with most points first to get in and on down the list, etc.). NO

INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT. Any dog with a placement during specified time frame will be eligible to enter. Amateur points do not qualify entry into Championship trials.

TRIAL OF CHAMPIONS:

The criteria for entry into this trial is that the dog has earned an open championship and is at least a 1X open champion by February 1 of the current year OR the dog can be a paid standby for this trial by achieving their open championship between February 2 and March 31 of the current year.

UKC PERFORMANCE CLASSIC:

The qualification for this trial is points earned from April 1 to March 31. Weekend trials only. No points from qualification or final rounds of national championship or regional championship trials will be counted.

DOG OF THE YEAR:

This trial will begin on Wednesday of the last full week of October. This trial is based on region elimination placement and/or high point status. All entries must be postmarked 45 days prior to the first day of the Dog of the Year trial. (NO INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT.)

CHANGE OF HOME REGION:

Members requesting a change of Home Region must do so, in writing, through the National Office between the dates of October 1st and January 1st. *Exception: A member who permanently relocates to within the boundaries of a Region, other than their Home Region, may make written application to the NSTRA office at anytime to request a change in their Home Region.

continued on next page

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS:

Associate memberships are available to members' spouses and children 18 years and under, still living at home. There must be at least one regular paid membership in the household to qualify. Associate members have the same rights as regular members EXCEPT they are unable to vote in any regional or national elections including rule or by-law changes, they cannot hold an office, and they do not receive a magazine.

RULE CHANGES:

Proposed new rule changes or additions shall be submitted sixty (60) days prior to the first day of the Trial of Champions and/or the Dog of the Year trial.

CONSTITUTION/BY-LAW CHANGES:

All proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-laws shall be submitted to the National Officers at least ninety (90) days prior to the first day of the Trial of Champions or the Dog of the Year trial.

REGION HIGH POINT:

Points earned in the qualifying rounds of a Regional Elimination or a Championship trial DO count towards the region's high point competition. Points earned in the finals of above trials DO NOT count towards the region's high point.

OWNERSHIP CHANGE:

Once a dog takes a NSTRA placement, any subsequent ownership changes must be sent to the NSTRA office. Please send a copy of the papers with the new owners' names to the office. Transfer copies will not be accepted. The date of transfer will be the date shown on the papers.

FIRST TIME PLACEMENTS:

The National Office now requires a copy of the dog's registration certificate for first time placements. This can either be submitted by the owner or the trial chairman. We will accept copies by fax (317-839-4197), e-mail (office@nstra.org) or a photocopy by regular mail.

NSTRA Distinguished Members:

The NSTRA Distinguished Members award honors those extraordinary men and women whose contributions and achievements significantly helped develop, or continued to improve, the National Shoot to Retrieve Field Trial Association, Inc. This award will be presented annually at the Dog of the Year banquet. Nominations are to be submitted by August 31. A short description of the individual and their contributions to NSTRA should be sent to the national office. A picture of the individual should be included if available. Contact the NSTRA office for a list of criteria.

Nominations are to be submitted by August 31. A short description of the individual and their contributions to NSTRA should be sent to the national office. A picture of the individual should be included if available.

The committee will review all nominations and verify contributions. Decisions will be made not only by the information submitted but by any other information collected.

The committee will make their decision by September 30. A permanent plaque will be located at the NSTRA office with a smaller plaque awarded to the individual or their family if deceased.



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PUP PICS

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Little girl and her puppy



Tyler Dawson playing ball with his favorite pup!



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Dog Portraits of Distinction

Painted by Bob Bertram



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2016



February 25-27, 2016

Lake Wales, Florida

Entry Fee: \$150 (\$154.50 cc)

Entry deadline: December 28, 2015

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Dog's Registered Name: _____ Number: _____

Region: _____

Owner: _____ NSTRA #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Handler: _____

Email address for official notification: _____

CC# _____ Exp Date: _____ CV# _____

Qualification: Nov 1, 2014 through October 31, 2015 – All open points earned during the time frame except points earned from placements in the top 4 of a national championship trial or regional championship trial. Qualifying rounds do count. Entry is based on number of points.

Deadline: December 28, 2015 Email & Fax entries must be received in the office by 5:00 pm Eastern on deadline dates. Entries taken by mail, fax or email only, no telephone entries accepted. No after hours messages will be accepted.

Late Entries: Late entries of bye dogs will be accepted in the office up until close of business (5:00 pm Eastern) on Monday, February 22, 2016. ALL late entries (after the initial entry deadline) will be charged \$25 extra per entry.

Please verify your entries online at www.nstra.org/national-trials/quail-invitational.html



Send Entry Fee to:
NSTRA
203 N. Mill
Plainfield, IN 46168

If paying my check or money order,
please submit one per entry.

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PRO 550



2015 Top Performance Quail Valley's Nose Knows

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships." - Michael Jordan

This is the perfect description of this year's Top Performance Winner, Quail Valley's Nose Knows, owned and handled by Adam Fellers, of the MI Region. Adam and Nose consistently run hard and work together to finish strong. Nose is an 18xNSTRA CH, 1x National Championship, and has won the Top Performance award for the last three years. They brought home 39 weekend points, and a total of 2800 Top Performance points; finishing 5th at the 2014 Purina Endurance Classic, 9th at the 2015 Quail Invitational, 2nd at the 2015 Trial of Champions, and 2nd at the 2015 Mo-Kan Regional Eliminations. Nose is a 6 year-old German Shorthair out of 13xNSTRA CH Premier's Fancy Trial Blazer and Pointing Home Major League. Congratulations again to Adam and Nose on an outstanding year!



2015 Top Performance Runner-Ups



Resa's Mazie, owned and handled by Jogn Resa of the MK Region

This year's 1st Runner-Up goes to 7xCH Resa's Mazie, owned and handled by John Resa of the MK Region. She started her year off by becoming a 1x National CH winning the UKC Performance Classic. John opted not to go to the Endurance Classic or Quail Invitational, meaning that Mazie had to be even more consistent at the other national trials. She finished 18th at the Dog of the Year trial and 9th at the Trial of Champions, giving her a total of 2300 Top Performance points. She also finished the year with 29 weekend points. Mazie is a 4 year old English Setter out of 17xCH, 1x National CH, and 2005 Top Performance Winner, Resa's Trouble Mace and 4xCH Resa's Diamond Girl. Mace was out of NSTRA Hall of Fame, 1995 DOY Champion, 6xCH Sue Maggie Sue, and John has been very pleased with this line of Setters over the years. Congratulations to Mazie and John.



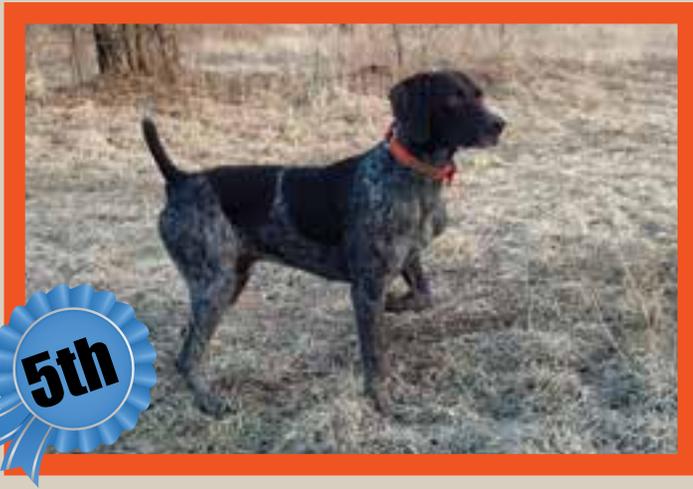
Ragin Cajun Athena, owned by Angie Fishburn and handled by Wayne Fishburn of the IN Region

This year's 2nd Runner-Up is 3xCH Ragin Cajun Athena, owned by Angie Fishburn and handled by Wayne Fishburn of the IN Region. This was the first season that Wayne's focus was on Athena instead of Zeus, and she did not disappoint. It was evident that she was going to be special when she was holding point and retrieving birds shot over her at 12 weeks old, but he did not expect her to be placing in the Top Performance award this year. She finished the year with 34 weekend points, and 2075 Top Performance points. Her first national trial was Dog of the Year, where she finished 8th and she then followed that up with a 3rd place at the Trial of Champions and 2nd place in the IN Regional Elimination. Athena is a 3 year old German Shorthair out of 11xCH Ragin Cajun Zeus and Wild Thing O'Riley, and she is just getting started.



Ragin Cajun Zeus, owned and handled by Wayne Fishburn of the IN Region

3rd Runner-Up is 11xCH Ragin Cajun Zeus, owned and handled by Wayne Fishburn of the IN Region. Not a bad year for a good “Weekend Trial Dog” that can only run at Amo. As a pair, Zeus and Wayne have had the worst luck at national trials, but Zeus has proven that he is more than capable to perform at that level. Zeus finished the year with 23 weekend points, finished 6th at the Quail Invitational and followed that with a 7th place finish at the Trial of Champions, giving him 1925 Top Performance points. Athena knocked him out of a chance to run in the Final Hour of the IN Regional Elimination, but that’s ok - Dads are supposed to let their daughters win! Finishing 3rd at the Regional allowed Zeus to take his 2nd placement in Top Performance in the last 3 years. Zeus is a 6 year old German Shorthair out of 22xCH Ruck’s Brockway Mad Dash and 11xCH Last Dance Lily.



Crosswind Micro Chip, owned and handled by Scott Townsend of the MI Region

4th runner-up is Crosswind Micro Chip, owned and handled by Scott Townsend of the MI Region. Chip is a 7xCH, 2xRegional Champion, and 1xNational Champion. Finishing the season with 27 weekend points and 1825 Top Performance points, Chip placed 2nd at the Dog of the Year and UKC Performance Classic. Chip is a 6 year old German Shorthair out of 16xCH, 3xRegional Champion, 3xNational Champion Crosswind Truckin Fritz and Ricadea Reba’s Mack.



Heaton's Electric Macy, owned and handled by Dale Heaton of the LST Region

5th runner-up in the 2015 Purina Top Performance competing in 4 of the 5 National Trials. Macy started the season placing 8th in the Purina Endurance Classic. Entering in Amo for the first time, Macy placed 13th in the Trial of Champions. Macy is a 3x Champion, earning 24 qualifying points this season in Lone Star and Gulf Coast trials, and 1725 Top Performance points. This year Macy placed 3rd in the Lone Star Regional Elimination, and was Lone Star High Point runner-up up for the second year in a row. Macy is a very easy handling 4 year old English Setter out of 17xCH, 1x National CH, and 2005 Top Performance Winner, Resa’s Trouble Mace and 4xCH Resa’s Diamond Girl, and a litter mate to 7xCH Resa’s Mazie. In 2013, both litter mates won their respective regionals and Diamond was first runner-up.



Kickapoo Jack’s Ranger, owned and handled by Roger Parient of the IN Region

Kickapoo Jack’s Ranger took 6th runner-up honors in this years award. Ranger finished the season with 1700 points and 20 weekend points. Ranger achieved a 6th place finish at Dog of the Year, an 11th place finish at the Quail Invitational and ended the season with a 6th place finish at the Indiana Regional Elimination. A 3XNSTRACH, Ranger is a 3 year old English Setter out of 5x CH Kickapoo’s Jackpot and Kickapoo’s Little Sis.



Tomoka's Smokin X-Rated, owned by Jim Kirkman of the EC Region, and handled by Greg Wood of the KY Region

7th runner-up dog is 4xCH Tomoka's Smokin X-Rated, owned by Jim Kirkman of the EC Region, and handled by Greg Wood of the KY Region. Molly finished the year with 41 weekend points and 1575 Top Performance points. She placed 8th at the Quail Invitational, 12th at the Trial of Champions, and 8th at the EC Regional Elimination. Molly is a 4 year old English Setter out of 8xCH, 2x National CH, Tomoka's Smokin Gun and X-Rated Katie.



TJ's Micro-Tequila Watson, owned and handled by Clayton Ashmore, and co-owned by Sharron Watson, of the FL Region

8th runner-up 4x CH, and 1x National CH, TJ's Micro-Tequila Watson, owned and handled by Clayton Ashmore, and co-owned by Sharron Watson, of the FL Region. When Clayton's not available, he will let his dad, Sam Ashmore, handle Watson but everyone knows that Watson is truly Clayton's dog. Sometimes called "Punk", the Ashmore's say that Watson is a pleasure to handle and a nice dog with personality plus, moving around the field like a rabbit and loving to find quail. Watson finished the year with 25 weekend points, placed 4th at Dog of the Year and became a 1x Regional CH at the FL Regional Elimination giving him a total of 1450 Top Performance points. Watson is a 3 year old Brittan out of Shale Valley's Micro Bullet and Mel's Ginger.



Shouse Dogwood Abby, owned by Randy Cunningham of the OH Region and Mikeal Mulberry of the KY Region

9th runner-up 7xCH Shouse Dogwood Abby, owned by Randy Cunningham of the OH Region and Mikeal Mulberry of the KY Region. Abby got off to a great start this year under the handling of Harold Smith of the IN Region, and proved the type of dog she is by not slowing down when going through a handler change to Mikeal. Abby racked up 44 weekend points, and 1350 Top Performance points. Abby not only placed in the qualification rounds of the Endurance Classic and Trial of Champions, but also placed 21st and 15th. Abby finished the year strong by placing 3rd in the KY Regional Elimination, is 6 year old English Setter out of 15xCH Angie's Dogwood Skipper and Cumberland Lady.

REGIONAL ELIMINATION TRIALS

throughout the country!



ALABAMA

by Dianne Minton Sec/Treas

It's the end of the 2014-15 season for the Alabama Region. On March 20th and 21st, we held our region elimination in Tallapoosa, Ga. on the beautiful fields at "Foxwoods Shooting Preserve". At the end of the day, Wess Hallmans', (s/m) L.J. was the leader of the 16 dogs that qualified.

On Saturday, the final six were as follows: Cobb(s/m) owner Bill Millians, Luke(p/m) owner Mike Markham, Odie(s/m)owner Bill Millians, Sugar(s/f) owner Wesley Downs, Sport (s/m) owner Bill Minton, and Jeff(s/m) owner Wess Hallman.

Congratulations goes to Wesley Downs, as "Sugar(s/f) won the Region Elimination Championship for 2014-15. First Runner-up goes to Bill Minton "Sport(s/m) Second runner-up goes to "Jeff"(s/m)Wess Hallman. Bill Millians takes third place runner-up with Cobb(s/m).

Our dinner was held on the grounds at "Foxwoods" at their banquet center, catered by Atlanta Finest. Following a delicious meal, our meeting was called to order by our President, Alan Holloman. He announced the new president for the 2015-16 season would be Bradley Davidson. Bill Minton was elected Vice-president, and I (Dianne Minton) would remain Sec/Tres.

Several awards were given to some of the members. Rookie of the Year was Gunner Grimm. Sportsman of the Year was Bill Minton. Most Improved Dog was "Sport" owned by Bill Minton. The voting was very close, but Jason Harper was chosen Judge of the Year.

Alan recognized Jeff Welker and Ricky Gunyon for their great job judging this year. Sharry Downs was field Marshal, and as always, kept the trial going smoothly. Keith Howard did an excellent job as Bird planter.

As our old High Point Plaque was filled, it was awarded to Wesley Downs. Due to the fact he had most of the dogs on the plaque, it seemed fitting for him to keep it.

The Alabama Region is looking forward to working with Bradley Davidson as our new President. We thanked him for making the "Champion Stand" for the pictures.

A special thank you to everyone who put on trials, and worked at making this year a success. We are looking forward to the next season.



Bill Minton and Sport (1st runner up), Wesley Downs and Sugar (Champion), and Bill Millians and Cobb, (Cobb was third runner up as Wes Hallman and Jeff (2nd runner up) had to leave because of illness in the family. The rear left to right is Jeff Welker (Judge), Keith Howard (Bird Planter), and Ricky Gunnyon (Judge).



Jeff Welker(judge), Alan Holloman (2014-15 Pres) and Ricky Gunnyon (Judge)



Bill Minton and Sport (First Runner Up)



Gunner Grimm, Rookie of the Year



Wesley and Bradley



"I got him!"





2015 Arkansas / Louisiana Region Elimination Championship

A beautiful April weekend greeted trialers and fifty-eight dogs bidding for the Championship of the Arkansas/Louisiana Region. The host club was the West Arkansas club. They had the field in tip top shape and an added bonus was the new club house which was greatly appreciated by all attending. A gathering point of the club house is a porch where the gallery can sit in comfort and see clearly approximately 90% of the field. Many stories were told and new memories made during the trial. Numerous comments were made regarding the friendliness of all attending and the spirit of sportsmanship exhibited both on and off the field.

The trial was kicked off Friday evening with a fish dinner prepared by members of the WestArk club and provided by the region and a calcutta. Saturday dawned pleasant with dogs being turned loose at 7:00. Advancing to the next round on Sunday were: Hawk-Moser, Bullet-Fox, Hank-Jacobs, Dixie-Johnson, Rose-Moser, Francis-Meline, Pepper-Hildebrand, Raymond-Burson, Hawk-Moser, Ginger-Prince, Lucy-Morgan, Ellie-Cumbie, Shiloh-Newman, Amos-Blankenship, Smokey-Franks, Annie-Cook, Buster-Branch, Spider-Nutt, Ellie-Beetch, Jill-Nutt, Lefty-Delisle, Mosley-Aston, Doc-Scribner, Gator-Prince, Jackson-Newman, Jill-Parker, Bud-Reed, Jack-Cook, Gunner-Boyd, Rowdy-Nutt, Emma-Hildebrand, Jake-Jacobs, Lippy-Meline, Nell-Moser, Ruby-Daniels, KK-Moser, Sadie-Johnson.

Placements were as follows: A Field; First: Doc-Scribner, Second: Buster-Branch, Third: Rowdy-Nutt. B Field; First: Jill-Johnson, Second: Jake-Jacobs, Third: KK-Moser.

Saturday evening was a time for friendship, food, awards and another calcutta. Participants and their families enjoyed catered ribs and brisket provided by the region and a calcutta conducted by auctioneer Jerry Hyde. Awards were as follows: Newcomer of the Year: Josh Miley, Most Improved Dog: Chad Prince - Ginger, Sportsmanship: Jerry Hyde, Amateur Dog of the Year: Frank Knight - Rusty, High

Point Dog: John Branch – Sport. Josh has been a welcome addition to the region. He has stepped up and competed with more experienced handlers and done a fine job. It seems just like yesterday Chad was beginning in the region. Now he is one of the more accomplished handlers. His dog Ginger is a fine example of the class dogs Chad handles. Jerry is a fellow everyone wants to sit by on the porch. He is a gentleman and talk's people and dogs up and not down. Rusty is showing signs of developing into a first class field trial dog and will provide top notch completion in the years to come. Sport is a well deserving High Point Dog. He hunts with abandon and always exhibits a strong nose no matter what the conditions may be.

Placing fourth was 4x Champion Pay Perview's Jill – Scotty Johnson. Jill covers the field and is very quick and light-footed. She always exhibits good style and form. Third was 2x Champion Bella's Honky Tonk Shadow – David Hildebrand. Pepper exhibits class while on point and hunts extremely hard. Never out running her nose Pepper is equally good in cold or hot weather. Rylan Elhew Crow Joe handled by L.D. Moser was second. With one of the best noses of any dog in the trial KK can find birds in thick grass and in the heat. She covers her ground in a smart and snappy manner which is conducive to finding birds. Winning the championship was 3x Champion - Power's Gun Slinger handled and owned by John Branch. Buster is a joy to watch covering the field. He is very smart and always seems to turn up just in the right spot to find an extra bird when needed. He has an intense desire to please and to find birds. The champion was well received and is worthy to take his honored place with the best.

Many thanks to our judges; Chad Collison, Ron Huels, Bill Moore. The trial was a great success due to the tireless efforts, in part, of the WestArk Field Trial Club members.



Region President Bo Nutt and Auctioneer Jerry Hyde



Beautiful water retrieve, Dixie owned by Scotty Johnson



Exceptional style - Ellie and Glenn Cumbie



Champion, Buster, owned by John Branch



Randy Jacobs, Good shot!



John Branch and High Point Dog, Sport



Trophies for trial



Award and trophy winners



Award and trophy winners



Flush - Debbie Meline and Lippy

L to R: John Branch, L.D. Moser, Donnie Parker, David Hildebrand, Debbie Meline - Front: Scotty Johnson



AR-LA Regional Elimination: L to R - Fourth: Pay Perview's Jill, Scotty Johnson

Second: Rylan Elhew Crow Joe, L.D. Moser, Champion: Power's Gun Slinger, John Branch

Standing: Aaron Hunt, Judge; Bo Nutt, Region President; Chad Collison, Judge



ARIZONA

By Brian Rebello

2015 Arizona Regional Winners



The Arizona Regional once again took place in the cool pines of Northern Arizona, unlike previous years with the forestry fire restrictions this year the regional had been delayed a month because of a blizzard that came through the Southern Rockies. The 2015 was judged by Mr. Ron Horn & Mr. Mike Kitchens both gentlemen endured two long days in the saddle, our praises & thanks go out to both of these men for doing such a great job. The scenting conditions at the grounds were less than stellar this year with both dogs and handlers challenged to put birds on the cards. This year we had a first in our region with two of the top twelve dogs to make the cut being both German Wired Hair Pointers: 1xChampion Belle handled by Alan Churchwell and Wyatt handled by one of the regions newer members CJ Vermaak. Great job fella's! The top six was made up of four English Pointers, Wedo handled by Brian Rebello, Catfish handled by Bob Henson, Emma handled by John Trout, River handled by Jim Schroeder, one German Shorthair Ruby handled by Debbie Carnahan and one German Wire Hair Belle handled by

Alan Churchwell. After the top six were ran the scores were tallied with Belle & Ruby coming out on top for the hour run off. Gracie Vom Desert Dancer "Belle" was the clear winner at the end of the hour run off, with Alan & Belle making history in the AZ Region to be the first German Wired Hair Pointer to be crowned the Regional Champion, Congrats to both Alan & Belle.

After history was made we held our annual regional banquet-meeting; new board members we identified, regional business was discussed, awards were given. This year's High Point dog award was a highly contested battle that came down to the last trial of the year, Ginger Roger's Mad Max (Max Jr) that was expertly handled by Bob Henson knocked out last year's winner Ruby (Max & Ruby are both out of Max Sr.) Great Job Ginger, Bobby & Max, the region couldn't be happier for you..

The 2015 Big Sky Regional Field Trial was held at the Fallon Ranch in Lewistown, Montana May 16 and 17th. Jim and Miriam Fallon are long time NSTRA members that have graciously loaned out their property for the last five years for the Endurance Trial in Lewistown. Our Region greatly appreciates the use of their property for our Regional.

The weekend went smooth with one exception, the weather. It started raining Friday night and didn't let up until the final hour on Sunday. Luckily for us, our judges Doc Ramsey and Nolan Huffman are experienced boat operators. Doc and Nolan were put to the test for sure. They drove three long days to get here and arrived late Friday night as they had several tire issues along the way. Then it was straight into judging for two days in the rain. Their experience and attitude ruled the day and the trial went smooth. Kyle Donovan was our bird planter. This was Kyle's second regional as bird planter and as always he did a fantastic job. Kyle is always prepared and keeps the trial on schedule, which was a big plus with the weather issues this year. Our Field Marshal Jack Bell was imported from Billings, Montana. Jack did a masterful job of keeping things going too. He and Monta brought their motorhome and got to enjoy an extra night in Lewistown as the motorhome isn't a 4x4 and wasn't going anywhere on Sunday. We appreciate all their help.

Our dinner Saturday Night was put on by our friends from the King Colony in Lewistown. Marvin and his family did a pig roast and it was awesome. The food was over the top good and the stories were pretty spirited. Marvin also

provided the birds for the trial. The birds weren't water proof, but they did stay alive so that was a big plus.

This year's placements were as follows: 2015 Big Sky Region Champion HPD's Tiny Dancer, owned/handled by Jim Wiitala; 1st Runner Up 7xCH Footluce Louie Little Pants owned/handled by Mark Donovan; 2nd Runner Up O'H Aodhas Coco B Fuzzy owned by Jennifer Hughes and handled by Rick Hughes; 3rd Runner Up CH Tana's Little Pants owned/handled by John Attard; 4th Runner Up was CH Dixieland's Black Beauty owned/handled by Jon Edwards; and 5th Runner Up was Whitewater's Magic Lady Von Vanhorn owned/handled by Micheal Jepsen.

Tiny is a young dog that just started running late this spring trial season. She literally got her first placements two weeks before the Regional to get qualified. Tiny comes from a long line of winners. Her great grandfather, 4xCH Dixieland's <http://www.nstra.org/uploads/images/topnational.jpg> Hawkeye, won the Big Sky Regional in 2004; her grandmother, 4xCH Dixieland's Black Magic, won the Big Sky Regional in 2008; her mother, CH Dixieland's Black Beauty, was 1st Runner Up in 2012. Congratulations again to Jim and Dawn for all the hard work they put into developing Tiny into this year's Big Sky Region Champion.

Congratulations also to the following for other Regional Awards: Brent Underdahl and 4xCH Treasure State Tiger Woods for winning the 2015 Big Sky Region High Point; Fred Rauch and Bozeman's Ripley for winning the 2015 Amateur High Point; and Anni Shores and Ennis Lake LC for winning the 2015 Futurity Award.



R to L 1st- Shouse Dogwood Molly, owned by Chase Cogar, handled by Mike Barker.
 2nd- Pine Top May Bell owned by Mike Barker, handled by Phyllis Barker. Melissa Kirkman holding May
 3rd- Tomokas Smokin Jett, Jimmy Kirkman 4th- Abigail Von Carolina, Janna Ewing
 5th- Cripple Creek Cooper, Glenn Blackwell 6th- Purdie's Billie Jean, owned by Ted Purdie, handled by Jordan Purdie



Eastern Carolina's 1st regional elimination trail after becoming a region on Nov. 1st, 2014. Molly, owned by Chase Cogar and handled by Mike Barker.



1st Molly and Mike Barker
2nd May Bell and Melissa Kirkman



1st Molly, Chase Cogar owner. Mike Barker handler
2nd May, Mike Barker owner, Phyllis Barker handler. Melissa Kirkman holding May Bell, 3rd Jett, Jimmy Kirkman, 4th Abbie, Janna Ewing
5th Cooper, Glenn Blackwell, 6th Billie Jean, Ted Purdie owner, Jordan Purdie handler



FLORIDA

WOW 'Was it Hot or what!

The Florida Spring Trials have wound down with a twofold barn burner finish at the Pap Heddon Memorial Trial, hosted by Butch Butler and Wayne Myer and our Regional. As we entered our last trial of the season the High Point race was extremely tight with 4 dogs a top the list just a placement away from changing things; Oscar, Watson, Rowdy and Cooper were heavy in the mix. At the end of the double trial and final brace, Clayton Ashmore handling "the little punk", a/k/a "Watson", Brittany Male, had the deciding runs with a first place on C & D fields with scores of 1058 and 881 respectfully to sew up the High Point Award for the year.

Other placements that day were: On D field - 2nd place - Sam Ashmore with Cricket; 3rd place – Butch Butler with Joe; 4th Place – Sam Ashmore with Cooper. On the C Field was in 2nd place Garry May and Patch; 3rd Place was Tina Sterner and Nikki, and in 4th Place was George Sterner III and Dude.

Then two weeks later we rounded it out our year with the Regional Meeting and Trial. Congratulations to repeat President, George Sterner III; Secretary – Sharron Watson; and new to the officer roles, VP – Clayton Ashmore; and Treasurer - Wayne Myer

With the meeting over it was on to the Regional Trial and doing the draw in the morning over breakfast; Thanks to Bill Pickard, Sandy Trezona, Cheryl Highum for helping me with the draw. The trial was a grueling one with temps topping out at 91, no wind (or very little) and humidity with feel like temperatures close to 100's. A special thanks goes to Garry May for making sure everything was ship shape for the trial, Ashley and Bob McCandless (KY Region) for Judging, Dale Aldridge (GA Region) for some outstanding bird planting (and Gene Pritchett said Dale now has his bird planting union card) and finally, but definitely not least, Cheryl Highum for coming in from Denver to Field Marshall for us and keeping the boys in tow. They were all awesome!

The first day and Qualification Round was a really rough day with the heat, many dog only found one or two birds on both fields. I think our trial officials went through A LOT of sun screen and water! At the end of the day we had our finalist to continue onto Sunday. We had a wonderful catered dinner Saturday night of Steak and Lobster where we handed out the Goody Bags and placement awards for the day and Top 8 High Point awards. Placements for the day were 1st – Sam Ashmore with Cooper (1040); 2nd – Clayton Ashmore with Rowdy (848); 3rd – Sam Ashmore and Cricket and 4th – Bill Pickard and Ace (652).

On Sunday morning that big ole' hot Florida sun broke through and same conditions as Saturday. At the end of the morning we had our six finalist and then down to our final four with the run off for the final two. As a side note, we really need to record Sandy Trezona when Rick is out handling the dogs... it's a hoot! Sandy, how many shots did he take??? In the final hour we had a familiar duo, however, with new contenders; Sam Ashmore with Nancy's EP-F, Cricket and Clayton Ashmore with his and Sharron's BM, Watson. It was noted that as the two of them were getting ready to go, Clayton was tying up his shoes and Sam told him "you'd better tie those up tight" and Clayton responded with a firm voice, "Not This Time!" They were off and the Watson/ Clayton team was on a mission. They finished up with a 7 to 3 advantage over the Cricket/Sam team and a final score of 1360 to 716.

The final six (three of whom started out in the Novice Program denoted by *) were: Winner - Clayton Ashmore BM - TJ's Micro-Tequila Watson – "Watson"
1st Runner Up – Nancy Ashmore (handled by Sam) EP-F- In George's Honor – "Cricket"
2nd Runner Up – Neal Willis ES-F -Skipper's Pocket Rockit – "Rockit"
3rd Runner Up – Sandy Trezona's (handled by Rick) EP-F – Sandy's Sissy Girl – "Sissy"*
4th Runner Up - Wayne Myer BM – Dan Little Rebel – "Rebel"*
5th Runner Up – Garry May (handled by James Carver) ES-M – Sir Patrick's Regan – "Patch"*



Judges: Ashley & Bob McCandless
Field Marshal: Cheryl Higham
Bird Planter: Dale Aldridge



Clayton receiving High Point Buckle from George Sterner



Officials at work



Waiting on the draw



Sam and Clayton, final hour, they're off! Final six, owners and handlers



Clayton and Watson after final hour brace



Clayton and Watson, and Sam and Cricket (final two)



Clayton, Watson, George and Sam.



Clayton and Watson, Regional Winner and High Point dog for Florida.



Cricket and Sam Ashmore, 1st runner up. Brandy Ashmore, filling in for Dad.



Garry May (6th)



Neal Willis (3rd)



Rick Trezona & Sissy 4th place



Wayne Meyer & Rebel 5th place





GEORGIA

2015 Georgia Region Championships 4-Star Plantation, Elberton, GA March 27-29, 2015

Spring in the South can be hot. We were a little concerned when the temps started climbing a week before our Regional in N. Georgia. Trialing is fun- less so when the temps are in the 80's! But, we needn't have worried, the rain showed up followed by a tremendous cold front and morning temps in the 20's! The sun was bright and the breeze was perfect under clear skies for the entire three days of the trial.

Friday, we ran a normal trial. That enabled us to get acquainted with the fields (more so for the dogs, since many had never been on these fields). The points, of course, and the placements did not count towards the upcoming Regional Saturday and Sunday, but carried forward to next year. A Field placements were: 1. Randy Schultz/Cap, 2. Keith Howard/Frank, 3. Randy Schultz/Ruby, and 4. Ken Buck/Chance. B Field placements were: 1. Jeff Keck/Trim, 2. Brandon Pritchett/Taz, 3. Randy Schultz/Cap, and 4. Randy Schultz/Ruby. (Randy had a good day!) Judges J.W. Collins, Brad Mitchell, Bodie Ray and Walt Sanderson, Bird Planter Casey Roberts and Field Marshal Stan Perdue kept us on the straight and narrow.

Going in to Saturday morning, the dogs were ready and the handlers were nervous. The fields were huge and both had cutouts, ponds, tree lines and fingers extending in to the woods. 36 dogs qualified for the Regional this year and we elected to run 18 braces Saturday with a cut to 16 dogs carried forward to Sunday. At the end of Saturday, Keith Howard and Frank were First, Mitch Hurst and Ace- Second, Bill Green and Brennen Green and Toothpick -Third, and Bobby Wheat and Smoke -Fourth.

Saturday night we held our region banquet in the 4-Star Plantation clubhouse. After a dinner of "steak the way you like it" and all the fixings, we got down to some serious business with our elections and awards. Apparently, we found some suckers.....er, volunteers, to run for President and the other officers. Ballots were counted and the new Georgia Region Officers are: President Gene Pritchett, Vice President Jeff Keck, and Treasurer Brenda Keck. The two elected Directors-at- Large are David Healan and Bodie Ray.

The Awards for the last season were handed out by Brenda Keck, as Mistress of Ceremonies. The Rookie of the Year went to Gerald Pannell. Gerald stepped in and took over our website and has a fine dog to compete with, as well. The Most Improved Dog Award went to Flatland's Sir Brennan (Toothpick) owned by Brennan Green and handled by his father, Bill Green. This pointer is a force on the move! Sportsman of the Year was awarded to Dan Miles. His little Brit, Ty, kept us all looking over our shoulders. Dan is a new guy who's made a big impact with us. Whether he comes off the field with 5 or 0, he's happy to be there and is always ready to lend a helping hand. The Judge of the Year went to Stan Perdue. An eagle eye and a sharp pencil kept us all in line! The Scott Clark Award for all-round super attitude was awarded to Gary Garrett for his work at his grounds and striving to make his place a National Class venue in Ball Ground, GA. The first-ever Service Award went to Angela Healan for her 20+ years of handling the checkbook and statistics of the Region! No small feat and she did it consistently well! High Point Dog was awarded to



Final Four- Jeff/Trim, Randy/Cap, Gary/Ziggy, Jeff/Aunt B



Finals – L to R – Randy Schultz/ Cap and Jeff Keck/Trim

Jeff Keck and Trim. Despite sickness and injury and an inability to make every trial, Jeff and Trim managed to surge to the lead in the last trial of the season! High Point Female went to Randy Schultz and Ruby, who took it home the last trial weekend, as well.

Sunday morning the temp was 26 degrees. Camper heaters were running and it really felt like a day to trial! Judges J.W. Collins and Brad Mitchell took us through the entire day. Their calls were fair, consistent and non-partial. And, I'm here to tell you they used the entire scoring scale....just sayin'. It was a pleasure to have them down to judge us. Field Marshals Bodie Ray and Stan Perdue kept the trial moving. They handled a tie for 4th and 5th place, extra birds and 15 min braces, late handlers, back to back runs and all the other minutiae involved in a Region Trial. And, they did it in fine fashion! Casey Roberts continued to outfox us with his bird planting skills and we appreciate his dedication. Two more cuts later, the Final Hour competitors were Jeff Keck and Trim (Setter/Male) and Randy Schultz and Cap (Brit/Male). They released at the line, and for an hour the gallery had no idea who was ahead, behind or more tired! Randy didn't want to waste time heading for the cutout and jumped the 4-board fence, twice. Jeff and Trim worked like it was a day in the park, methodically and with class. (Jeff did not give the old man any slack, whereupon Randy called AARP and appealed for help and an ATV- denied!) At the end, Jeff and Trim came off the field victorious and not only captured the Georgia Region High Point Dog Award the previous night, but the #1 Dog in Georgia that day! 2nd was Randy Schultz and Cap, 3rd Gary Drinnen and Ziggy, 4th was Jeff Welker and Aunt B (to the tune of the Andy Griffith Show), 5th was Keith Howard and Frank, 6th was Randy Schultz and Ruby.

Congratulations to Jeff Keck and his fine setter, Trim! 2015 Georgia Region Champions! See you in the blind!



GULF COAST

On Saturday March 28 the Gulf Coast Region held their Regional Elimination at Giddings, TX with 24 dogs entered in the trial. We would like to thank the judges from the Lone Star Region Buzz Taylor and Greg Carnley as well as the field marshal Brian English of the Gulf Coast Region for officiating the trial. We kicked the trial off at 7:00 am with the scenting conditions being tough all day. The placements for the day are as follows:

1st - Pete / Jim Meyers 2nd - Callie / Scott Thomas
3rd - Pepper / Ugene Olson 4th - Ginger / Pat Conn

The Regional Banquet was catered and the awards were given out by Region President Scott Thomas. High Point Dog went to Callie and Scott Thomas, 1st Runner-Up High Point went to Pete and Jim Meyers. The Gulf Coast Region lost several great dogs this past year:

Gambles Texas Rose (Region HOF)
Owned and Handled by: Doug Neyer
10X NSTRA CH.
4X Region High Point Dog
1X Regional Champion
2006-2007 3rd Runner-Up Purina Performance Award

Impressive Mallory
Owned and Handled by: Scott Thomas
6X NSTRA CH.
2008 Dog Of The Year 4th Runner-Up
2009 Purina Endurance Classic 1st Runner-Up

Magnum's Jaegerin Blitzhund
Owned and Handled by: Orin Ozias
7X NSTRA CH.
1X Regional Champion

Dynamic Zeke
Owned and Handled by: Bill Bohn
5X NSTRA CH.
1X Regional Champion

On Sunday we started the day at 7:00 am with the scenting conditions being much better than the day before. After lunch we had the top 6 dogs Uno/Jim Meyers, Buck/Bill Bohn, Tanner/Scott Thomas, Petey/Coby Begnaud, Kloey/Kris Sparks, and Callie/Scott Thomas.

The Final Hour would be pit the reigning regional champion Buck against this year's high point dog Callie. When it was all said and done Callie had 5/5 to Bucks 4/4 back. Congratulations to Scott and Marilyn Thomas and Callie on winning both the high point title as well as the regional championship.

We look forward to this coming years trials and finally a big thank you to everyone who helped set up the trial.



Regional Champion - Llano's Hot Attack



Top 6 dogs

Regional Champion – Callie / Scott Thomas
1st Runner-Up – Buck / Bill Bohn
2nd Runner-Up – Petey / Coby Begnaud
3rd Runner-Up – Kloey / Kris Sparks
4th Runner-Up – Tanner / Scott Thomas
5th Runner-Up – Uno / Jim Meyers & Fred Reyna



ILLINOIS



2015 Illinois Regional L to R - Winner; Herb Ralston - Grace; 1st RU; Mike Morton - Cash; 2nd RU; Dean Reynolds for Tim Reynolds - Doc; 3rd RU; Russ Taylor for John Rawdin - Max; 4th RU; Mary Kay Kunza - Cutter.

Rick Bertinetti presenting Herb Ralston hi-point buckle for Double R Streak - 2014-2015





INDIANA

This year's Indiana Regional Elimination was held May 16th and 17th at Pigeon River Kennels, in Angola, IN. Region President, Pete Zeldenrust, was on hand as the Trial Chairman and Bird Planter with Sara Moore (IN) serving as Field Marshal; John Griffiths (MI) and Eric Griffiths (MI) joined us to judge for the weekend. Thank you to everyone who came and helped make this a great trial.

Saturday started with 24 dogs from throughout the region, and after a long muddy day, placements were awarded. Taking first place was Wayne Fishburn with Zeus (1032), followed by Roger Parient/Ranger (939), Wayne Fishburn/Athena, owned by Angie Fishburn (769), and finally Jeff Moore/Beer (703). On Sunday, the weather turned hot and the grounds dried out, making the scenting conditions tough on the 12 dogs that made the cut. After fighting the fields all morning, we moved on to the Top 6 to determine the dogs that would make it to the Final Hour. Joe Dunigan, with Ruby, and Wayne Fishburn, with Athena, came to the starting line and took off for an interesting last brace. At the end of time, Ruby came out of the field as the 2015 Indiana Regional Champion.

Tink's Classic Point Ruby, owned and handled by Joe Dunigan, is a 6 year old German Shorthair out of 1xCH Griffiths Classic Deke and Makayla's Dizzy Izzy. Ruby and Joe got into this year's Regional with a 4th placement in January, and went on to dominate the Sunday rounds. This placement made Ruby's first ever 1st place points, and everyone was very excited for her and Joe.

Congratulations to everyone who took a placement over the weekend, and especially to Joe and Ruby!



Regional Champion - Joe/Ruby, with Eric, John, & Pete



Top 6 Handlers - Wayne, Joe, Roger, Jr & Scott



Top 6 Placements with Officials



1st RU - Athena with handler, Wayne



KENTUCKY

The 2015 Kentucky Regional Elimination was held May 2nd and 3rd in Corbin, KY and hosted by the Tri-County Quail Club. Connie Cook and the gentleman of the club did a wonderful job of getting everything organized and set up, and were some of the most gracious hosts around. Region President, Jackie Steele, did a great job as chairman and keeping everything running smoothly. Bill Moore (MS) and Donnie Parker (AR) were the judges, with Jr Coke (IN) bird planting, and Emily (NSTRA Office) coming down to help with the paperwork.

Saturday started the weekend with 15 braces, and at the end of the day placements were as follows: Bob McCandless/Mac (691), Papa John/Jill (688), Greg Wood/Jake (670), and Mark Little/Oakley (666). Sunday started with the Top 16 from Saturday, and quickly moved to the Top 6 followed by the Final Hour ran by Junior Shouse/Casper and Ed Ford/Dan, owned by Ted Cook. Congratulations to both handlers on a hard fought brace! At the end of the day, Casper was Kentucky's 2015 Regional Champion, with Dan coming in at a very close second.



Top 4 Placements - Mikeal/Abby, Junior/Casper, Uncle Ted/Dan & Darrel/Trent

Third place went to Mikeal Mulberry/Abby, followed by Darrel Davis/Trent.

Pepperpoint Casper, owned by Junior & Mark Shouse, is a 1xCH 5 year old English Setter. He placed 6th at the 2015 Trial of Champions, and is out of Long Hollow's Luke and Long Hollow Suzie. Thank you to everyone who travelled so far to assist in making this Regional a great weekend for everyone, and to Connie Cook for your dedication and countless hours given to make this trial one of the best we've ever had!

Congratulations to Junior and Casper!!



Final Hour Handlers - Junior & Ed



Kentucky Region Banquet Setup - Looks beautiful! & Top 4 Trophies



Top 6 Handlers - Junior, Ashley, Mikeal, Darrel, Papa John & Ed w/ Carolyn



LONE STAR

The Lone Star Region held its regional championship on March 21 & 22, 2015 at Lost Prairie Ranch in Wills Point, TX. The weather was rainy and the fields were saturated with water. During the day, there were only a few rain showers, but during the night, several inches of rain would fall. The entrance to the fields was so wet that cars & trucks were unable to navigate to the barn & had to park on the road. Thirty-four dogs qualified for the regional with twenty-two different handlers. The judges for the trial were Donny Parker and Randy Jacobs (Arkansas region), Buzz Taylor (Lone Star Region) was the field marshal and Bo Marcum (Missouri-Kansas region) was the bird planter. After Saturday's competition where the top 16 dogs advanced to the next round, a prime rib dinner was provided by the club for Lone

Star's annual meeting in which the region's high point dog was announced - congratulations to Tom Paullus and his dog Iron Wills Impressive Emma Paullus (10X NSTRA Champion) with 26 points. Dale Heaton's Electric Macy (3X NSTRA Champion) was the 1st runner-up for high point dog with 23 points. Some first time placements were awarded as well as knife mementos to the judges, bird planter & field marshal.

Saturday evening after dinner, a Calcutta was conducted for the top 16 dogs with Geoff Sterner as auctioneer. The dogs advancing to Sunday were:

1st – DUKE'S IMPRESSIVE CLAIRE PAULLUS owned & handled by Tom Paullus - 887.5

2nd – SKIPPER'S PRECIOUS GIRL owned & handled by Bobby Clark - 838

3rd – FLYING O SAM owned & handled by Eddie Orms – 808
 4th – HEATON'S DAKOTA TREK owned & handled by Dale Heaton – 807.8
 Callie, O/Allison Autry, H/Heath Autry Emma, O/H Tom Paullus
 Faith, O/H Rob Martin Kelly, O/H Bobby Clark
 Lani, O/H Tom Paullus Levi, O/H Dave Morgan
 Macy, O/H Dale Heaton Newt, O/H Bobby Clark
 Pearl, O/H Jim Selby Phoebe, O/H Dustin Nelson
 Toebee, O/H Dale Heaton Tori, O/H Dustin Nelson

It had rained a lot during the night so it was wet and cool. Sunday morning, the top 16 dogs competed in 8 braces. The top 6 dogs to advance were:

HEATON'S ELECTRIC MACY, O/H Dale Heaton
 DUKE'S IMPRESSIVE CLAIRE PAULLUS, O/H Tom Paullus
 CLARK'S TUFF TROOPER, O/H Bobby Clark
 FLYING O SAM, O/H Eddie Orms
 NIKKI'S SKIPPIN NEWT, O/H Bobby Clark
 HEATON'S DAKOTA TREK, O/H Dale Heaton

The final 6 were paired off in a draw and the results lead to the final 2.

After a rest, Claire & Trek were off the line for the final competition. After the hour was up, Trek came out on top with 6 finds and 6 retrieves against Claire's 4 finds & 4 retrieves. Final placements were:

HEATON'S DAKOTA TREK, O/H Dale Heaton - Champion
 DUKE'S IMPRESSIVE CLAIRE PAULLUS, O/H Tom Paullus – 1st runner-up
 HEATON'S ELECTRIC MACY, O/H Dale Heaton – 2nd runner-up
 CLARK'S TUFF TROOPER, O/H Bobby Clark – 3rd runner-up

Thanks to everyone that helped make this regional a success. Thanks particularly to Tom Paullus for the use of the Lost Prairie Ranch.



Tom Paullus with Dale Heaton presenting the 2015 High Point Buckle for his dog Emma with 26 points



LST Region Champ Heaton's Dakota Trek (2015 Regional Champ)



L to R

Bobby Clark with Newt
 Eddie Orms with Sam
 Debi Heaton with Dale Heaton's Macy
 Dale Heaton with Trek
 Geoff Sterner with Bobby Clark's Kelly

Randy Jacobs – judge
 Donny Parker – judge
 Buzz Taylor – field marshal
 Tom Paullus with Claire
 Bo Marcum – bird planter



Saturday Placements.
 1st – Tom Paullus for his dog Claire
 2nd – Bobby Clark for his dog Precious
 3rd – Eddie Orms for his dog Sam



2014 Midwest regional top six - Bandit-Shaun Rydl, Maggie-Rod Phipps, Luke-Dave Lathrop, Dee- Ted Dewey, Hawk-Frank Downs, Boogie-Paul Phipps



MOKAN

Before our regional trial began a series of illustrious and disastrous events seriously tested the patience of our first year MOKAN president, Mark Gillespie.

Two weeks prior to the trial date our officers decided on one particular field from four choices at Prescott, Kansas. The very next week, boundaries were mowed, water buckets were set out and a port-a-pot delivered. All was well until a week prior to the trial, a neighboring landowners brush fire got out of control burning the 80 acre trial grounds, the water buckets (with water in them), and the port-a-pot. The second choice grounds were hastily prepared.

Saturday morning of the regional trial, our bird planter failed to show. One of the out of region judges, agreed to plant birds. Our secretary-treasurer agreed to judge as one of his dogs had been killed by a car a month earlier and the other was immobile, injured, and in a plaster cast. I guess it really didn't matter because neither dog was qualified.

Sunday morning during the regional run-off and final, it poured rain. One

of those drenching rains where everything had two inches of water on it and in it. Sunday afternoon when president Gillespie was trying to leave, his pretty new, super duty, 4 x 4 Ford got stuck in the mud and had to be man-handled loose.

In between these memorable events, we did have a pretty nice trial and the region's best dogs came out on top.

Placements for the regional elimination qualification round went to: 1st Resa's Mazie, handler John Resa; 2nd Hampton's Super Sting, handler Gary Hampton jr; 3rd Gator's Gingerbread, handler Bill Burkhart; 4th Power's Easy Money, handler Bob Power.

The MOKAN regional champion was won by Bailey's Drywood Maddy and handled by Larry Bailey. First runner-up was Quail Valley's Nose Knows handled by Adam Fellers. Second runner-up was Mace's Hardtime Deva handled by Mark Gillespie. Third runner up was Power's Easy Money handled by Bob Powers.



Regional Championship presentation



FINAL 6



MIDNORTH

The Mid-North regional elimination was held May 16-17th in Oakes, North Dakota at the Prairie Pothole Lodge. Our thanks go to Tom and Virginia Schumacher for their hospitality; it is always second to none.

The field of 28 dogs headed to the field with a not so favorable forecast for the weather. The first day's running went off without a hitch under the watchful eyes of our seasoned judges, Mike Liane and Travis Tointon. The Region elimination was blessed to have the prettiest bird planter in the area and who always does a great job, Hanna Jepsen from the Big Sky region.

The top 12 dogs were advanced to the next day's run. The top finishers for the first day's trial were 1st Tom Dafnis and Topaz, 2nd Chuck Ludolph with Reco, 3rd Joey Busch with Dutch, 4th Tom Dafnis with Grace. That evening the annual meeting was held along with the election of new officers. Congrats to Sandy Ludolph, our new Secretary and Dean Goodall, b 2nd Vice President. Later on we held our annual fundraising auction and this year set a new record! These funds are used to help run the region and promote NSTRA.

The second day it poured rain all day; a great day if you were a duck. The top six dogs that came out of that round were. Duke- Chuck Ludolph, Eli-Jason Norton, Nick - Cory Schall, Topaz- Tom Dafnis, Reco-Chuck Ludolph, Dutch- Joey Busch. The field of the top 6 competitors were drawn and set to go after a brief rest period. When the mud was cleared (not dust) the top 2 dogs came from the Ludolph kennel, Duke the 10 year old veteran, and Reco the 9 year vet. Now comes the interesting part. Since Chuck could not run both dogs, the real boss came to the field, Sandy, to handle Duke. You know where the real money was betting, with Sandy of course. However, Reco

prevailed handled by Chuck and Duke was the first runner-up handled by Sandy. It poured rain the entire last hour on Sandy and Chuck. This is called couples therapy, or divorce 101. They both came out happy for their dogs and I am sure Sandy told Chuck she let him win to keep peace in the family.

The rest of the field went as follows:

- 1st Chuck Ludolph -- Reco 1st runner up Sandy Ludolph -- Duke
- 2nd runner up Tom Dafnis- Topaz
- 3rd runner up- Cory Schall—Nick Scribe, Tom Dafnis



Chuck & Sandy Ludolph with Reco & Duke - 1st and 2nd place



4th Place
Cory Schall with Nick



3rd Place
Tom Dafnis with Topaz

 **MIDSOUTH**



TopSix

The Mid South Region held its 2015 Regional Elimination Trial at the Volunteer Gun Dog Club in Bethel Springs, TN this year with twenty dogs qualifying for the trial. Judges for the two days were Mike Barker and Glenn Blackwell from the newly formed East Carolina Region. They did an excellent job of officiating over the event and the Mid South members would like to thank them for an excellent job. Handling the bird planting duties this year was our own Ed Stackens and as always he did an outstanding job of keeping the birds down and in the field despite the warm conditions. Marshaling the trial this year was James String who did a great job of keeping the trial moving along. The format as in the past is to run our elimination round on Saturday with the top 12 dogs returning on Sunday for the second round of competition. An awesome lunch was served at noon on Saturday that was prepared by Jack's Creek Barbecue, a local favorite. The elimination round was run with the top three dogs being, 1st, June handled by Chuck Tash, 2nd, Ike handled by Steve Autry, and 3rd, Jim handled by Bill Moore. After the days running the membership had its annual meeting with the rookie of the year award being presented to Russ White, and the sportsman of the year was awarded to Lloyd Hampton. Congrats to all who received awards and placements at the meeting. The membership then elected the new officers for the following year and completed the annual region business. On Sunday everyone returned for the six braces to determine the top six dogs for this year. After the running the top six were, Dot handled by Chuck Tash, Kate handled by Bill Moore, Jeb handled by Steve Jaspering, Packer handled by Mike Grissom, Hawk handled by Bill Moore, and June handled by Chuck Tash. After the draw the braces commenced with the following results; placing 6th was June, 5th was Packer, 4th was Dot, 3rd was Kate, and the two dogs for the final hour was Hawk and Jeb. After

a break to clean the field and give the dogs a break the final hour was completed with Jeb coming out as the winner with Hawk finishing 2nd. As the year comes to a close I hope everyone in the region had a great time this year and after a summer break comes back stronger next year. Again the region would like to thank Mike, Glenn, Ed, and James for a job well done!



Lloyd and Russ

continued



Regional Winner Jeb owned by Steve and Dorothy Jaspering



James, Mike, Glenn, Ed



MIDWEST

Tall Oak Timber, English setter male was whelped on May 22, 2010, just short of a month later, June 19, 2010 Darrin Embray, Doug Embray's brother who was taken home by the Lord. Doug picked up his new setter pup from Jeff Bumstead one month after that and named that puppy Oak, after his brothers love for Tall Oak Timber and the poem that was read at his funeral.

Fast forward five years, May 2-3, 2015, Iowa Gun Dog Club, Osceola, IA Oak showed the strength and durability of his name outlasting 53 other dogs qualified for the 2015 Midwest Regional Championship trial. Oak racked up 1427 points in the final hour over runner up Buckville's Rowdy Fellers owned by Kevin Schlarbaum.

54 dogs were drawn for the trial to be run on two fields for Saturday's

round. Adam Fellers, Curt Beckley, John Resa and Kevin Sprick came up from the south to handle the judging duties. Randy Tangeman was the bird handler for the weekend. Dawn Dewey and Shaun Rydl were the field marshals. 28 dogs were run on A filed with Moonshine's Slate Creek Joe-Mike Rost taking first place, 2nd place was Fort Raz Ma Taz-Bill Sumpter, 3rd Spud Lake Tick-Bill Brown. On the B filed was Phipp's Linking The Past-Rod Phipps in 1st, 2nd was Shawnee Hills Gypsy-Chad Collison and 3rd Phipps Rusty Junk-Paul Phipps. The top 16 dogs from each field were called back for Sunday's runoff.

Saturday night's festivities included a short annual business meeting and the awards banquet. Bruce Murphy was awarded the traveling high point dog trophy for Murph's Mohawks Rider. Shaun Rydl received his belt buckle

The Oak Tree

by Johnny Ray Ryder Jr.

A mighty wind blew night and day.
It stole the Oak Tree's leaves away.
Then snapped its boughs
and pulled its bark
until the Oak was tired and stark.
But still the Oak Tree held its ground
while other trees fell all around.
The weary wind gave up and spoke,
"How can you still be standing Oak?"
The Oak Tree said, I know that you
can break each branch of mine in two,
carry every leaf away,
shake my limbs and make me sway.
But I have roots stretched in the earth,
growing stronger since my birth.
You'll never touch them, for you see
they are the deepest part of me.
Until today, I wasn't sure
of just how much I could endure.
But now I've found with thanks to you,
I'm stronger than I ever knew.



for winning the 2014 Midwest Regional with Skipper's Bandit. Special awards were also given out to Doug Embrey-Judge of the year, Ian Johnson-Rookie of the year, Frank Downs-Sportsmanship award and Bill Sumpter-The Eric Carlson award. A Calcutta auction followed by the draw for Sunday's braces finished of the night.

Sunday morning had 8 braces drawn for each field. The top three from each field would be redrawn for 3 braces after lunch. Oak-Embrey, Rowdy-Schlarbaum, Daisy-Rost, Boogie-Paul Phipps, Dash-Gordon Winkler (handled by Craig Braby) and Collison-Gypsy would be your final 6. Oak and Rowdy would emerge to be the two in the final hour. Two great friends running two up and coming dogs, with Oak having only 12 points and Rowdy just becoming a champion during the trial. Congratulations to Doug Embrey and Oak and to all of the other participants.



NORTH WEST

ROUGH'S VICKY WINS IT ALL!! 2015 NWNSTRA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP - With 944.5 points, English Setter female, Vicky, defeated a feisty little Brittany female, Split Creeks Dream Weaver (Stitch) with 527.5 points in the final Championship brace at Three Rivers Bird Dog Club's grounds near Kennewick, Washington. Thirty-four dogs competed in 18 braces, with almost all of the eligible dogs in the Region entered. John Glenewinkel handled Vicky ably, as usual, and her conditioning paid off. Gary Thompson, new to our Region but a long-time NSTRA member from South Carolina, recently moved full-time to chilly McCall, Idaho, and the heat definitely impacted Stitch's ability to endure the final hour run in the hot and dry fields. Gary is a great competitor, and we are fortunate to have him amongst our ranks. Gary complimented us that our Regional Trial was "Just

like a National; run very well." Thanks, Gary, for the positive feedback.

Vicky is out of the notorious Rough, a big running son of a gun that was a bird finding fool. His daughter is continuing the tradition, and has been hot all year. We look for more good things from her. Interestingly, John nearly withdrew from the Regional Championship as he had a late night meeting the Friday night before the trial. Tempted to call and cancel late Friday night, he knew we needed dogs, so made the late night jaunt from Republic. Dedication and loyalty to NWNSTRA paid off!

This was to have been Arnie Sullivan's trial, but Arnie tragically left us in January. Trial Chairman Paul Schneider stepped up and coordinated this trial, with generous contributions from many folks. This Championship is a testament to the fine people of our Region. Judges Deric Fletcher and Brit

Final 2- Left to Right Judges-Derek Fletcher & Britt Forrester; First Place-John Glenewinkle with Vickie; Runner up-Gary Thompson with Stitch, President-Paul Schneider



Forrester from the Northern California Region contributed to a positive and fair contest, their services arranged for by Mike Stotts in a swap with Northern California. It was a long couple of days for those guys. Field Marshal Bruce Dickey must not have much of a life outside of dog trials, as he spent virtually every minute observing the trial and dog work, and keeping the machine rolling, as well as coordinating the Three Rivers Bird Dog Club facilities and members for our use, a turn-key operation. What a trooper! Linda Jenkins was her usual hard working score keeper, always there for us. Jerry Youmans delivered the birds, and is also a key source of NWNSTRA history, along with wise counsel (also a great auctioneer!).

Third place went to English Setter Jim's Horse Heaven Sandy, with Jim Fuller at the reins, while fourth went to Cherry Bear Holiday, a fine Red Setter with Steve Witz following her around. Jim, you beat Mike Smith, again!

Fifth place went to Matt Huston's pointer MH September Callup, a son of the great Cage, who was our High Point dog of the year but was killed by a car shortly before our Regional Trial. Our hearts go out to Matt; Cage was a superb dog, one of my favorites to watch.

Sixth place went to Charlie Hingston's Princess Grace of Kennewick, "Ace". A frightening side note is that Charlie was diagnosed with a brain tumor right after the trial, underwent surgery, and will be going through chemo and

radiation treatment. Our prayers are with him; we want him back next fall, whatever it takes.

Saturday night's banquet and auction went fabulously! The steaks were great, the company even better; our Region's members genuinely enjoy each other. Several clubs, including Snake River, Clearwater, and Greater Columbia donated tents for shelter, along with tables and chairs...and lots of help in putting it all together. Mike Ouchida was especially helpful in so many ways. It was exciting that Mike's dog, Laser, qualified at the very end of the trial season.

The auction, silent and live, drew many very nice donations, and lots of generous bids. Wine baskets, a Kentucky Derby-style woman's hat (Go American Pharaoh!), beautiful artwork, metal sculpture, a professionally guided fishing trip on the Klickitat River, and hunting gear were highlights. Entry fees alone are not enough to fund the Regional Championship, so the auction, netting over \$2,800, was so helpful. Many of our more affluent members help make this more affordable for our young, retired, and/or more financially strapped members. Again, a great group of people who look out for each other.

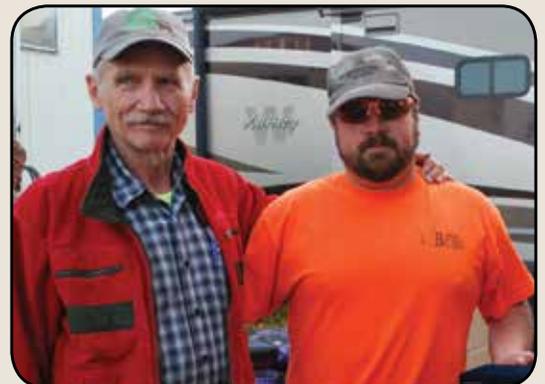
Our annual meeting included an update on our NW Region Hall of Fame, with Matt Huston putting lots of work into developing the program, as well as to our website. We are grateful to our outgoing Secretary, Mike Ouchida. The guy is literally a fixture with NWNSTRA! Lisa Gloss-Lessman will take over the reins from Mike. Brittany Davis stepped up as Treasurer, taking over from Linda Johnson, who ably guided us financially for many years. Nancy Ceccarelli will fill the vacant Vice President slot, as Paul Schneider stepped up to the Presidency with Arnie's death. Thank you, Mike and Linda, and welcome aboard to the new Officers.



Final 6- Left to Right Front Row: Rook, Ace, Vicky, Cherry, Stitch, Sandy Second Row: Matt Huston, Charlie Hingston, John Glenewinkle, Steve Witz, Gary Thompson, Jim Fuller - Back Row: Britt Forrester, Bruce Dickey, Jeremy Lessman, Paul Schneider, Derek Fletcher



Jerry Youmans, auctioneer



Regional High Point President Paul Schneider, Matt Huston owner MH McGee's Dramatude "Cage"



OHIO

45 dogs and their handlers came to Sullivan Ohio for the Region Elimination Trial held at Columbia Game Club on May 2, 2015. For the first time in a few years that this writer can remember, the weather was very co-operative. No wind storms or torrential rain. It was relatively comfortable temperatures and a nice breeze to spread the bird scent. Columbia's ground cover allowed the bird planter, Brandon Mahon from Michigan, to put birds all over the fields. What a great job he did.

Judges, Mike Barker, Ron Huels, Jim Kroeschel and Rich Bertinelli had their jobs amplified by watching a lot of good dogs and dog work. Tough calls but all fair and precise!

Results of the first day in A field were as follows: 1st place went to Ramblin Zeke The Streak, owned and handled by Rod Howard, 2nd place went to Fieldmasters Woodland Cricket, owned and handled by Bo Thompson, 3rd place went to Nutter's Briar Patch owned and handled by Jack Nutter and 4th place went to Satch, owned and handled by Don Stir.

Results in B field were: 1st place went to Hogans Black Snake Shadow owned and handled by Steve Detherage, 2nd place went to Woody's Mountain Bean owned and handled by Don Stir, 3rd place went to Snakes King Cobra owned and handled by Jim Mahoney and 4th place went to Mahoney's Magic Jake owned and handled by Jim Mahoney.

South Cuyahoga Sportsmans Association in Medina, opened their doors to their clubhouse for our Saturday evening annual banquet. Thank you Bob Vibonese and Robin for putting on quite a feast that all enjoyed and also

all the members and family members that helped put on a terrific evening. Awards from the days runs and high point dogs were announced. Special awards were also give out to various members for their (and their dogs) performance during the year.

28 dogs moved on to compete on Sunday, May 3, 2015. Tough competition all morning to the last qualifying brace left the top 6 dogs to run. Once again, veteran handler, Rod Howard and his shorthairs Ramblin Zeke the Streak and Utts Ramblin Dolly, handled by Ann Giacomo, Jim Mahoney and his pointer, Mahoney's Magic Jake, Tom Berry and his setter Turtlecreek Boss, and then, fairly newcomers, Steve Detherage and his pointer Hogans Black Snake Shadow and Jack Nutter and his setter, Nutter's Briar Patch.

The final two, Rod Howard and his shorthair Zeke and Jim Mahoney and his pointer Jake were on the line for the final round. Both dogs were young and ready to go. Handlers experience had to be ready to help them along. Both dogs remained competitive throughout the full hour brace.

All said and done, Rod Howard and Zeke triumphed and won the Ohio Region for 2015. Congratulations Rod and Zeke from all of the Ohio Region Members. Job well done.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank ALL of the Ohio Region Members for their support in keeping the Ohio Region strong and competitive and also for welcoming new members with open arms and helpful information. We cannot stay a strong region without everyone's support.



QUALIFYING ROUND B FIELD: 1st Snake /Steve Detherage, 2nd Banie/Don Stir, 3rd King/Jim Mahoney, 4th Jake/Jim Mahoney (Brittany Rudd pictured)



QUALIFYING ROUND A FIELD: 1st Zeke/Rod Howard, 2nd Cricket/Bo Thompson, 3rd Patch/Jack Nutter



Rod Howard, Region winner congratulated by Jim Mahoney, 1st runner up.

TOP SIX: 1st Zeke/Rod Howard, 2nd Jake/Jim Mahoney, 3rd Snake/Steve Detherage, 4th Boss/Tom Berry, 5th Spud/Leon Lockard, 6th Dolly/Handled by Ann Giacomo owned by Rod Howard



Spud watching the field with Leon



Top Ten Ohio point dogs were given jackets at the banquet.



Hi Point Ohio dog and most improved dog award to Akey and his dog Kobe.



OKLAHOMA



Front L to R : Champion Rocking G's Uodibar Rusty
1st Runner Up Rockin G's Mary Anne, both owned by John George
Back L to R : Judge Randy Jacobs and Donnie Parker



ROCKY MOUNTAIN



Gary Wood with Mattie, Wayne Baker with Belle, David Duchesneau with Roscoe, Gerry Woelfel with Star, Mark Pace with Bart and Rachel Baker holding Tank for handler Wayne Baker.

The Rocky Mountain Regional was held in Rush Colorado at Steel Forks Pheasants. The fields were big with great cover! It was a beautiful weekend with perfect weather. Alan and Cheryl Higham were



judging and Kevin Creen was the official Field Marshall. Rod and Rhonda Hoover, of Steel Forks, hosted the regional meeting in Steel Forks beautiful clubhouse and catered a delicious Prime Rib Dinner! Thank you everyone who helped put on a great regional trial. Thank you Mark Pace for being the Trial Chairman, Cody for bird planting, Rhonda for an incredible dinner and Rod Hoover for providing us with a wonderful location for a regional trial.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

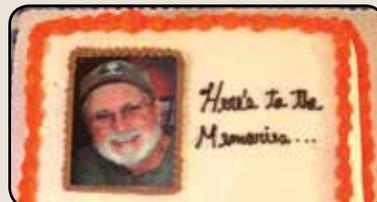
Southern California started off our regionals this year with 24 dogs. The top six dogs from first place were; Gustel owned/handled by Lisa McNamee, Whiskie owned by Don Kalin handled by Wilson Hansard, Blue owner/handler Mark Dieter, Annie owner/handler Jim Wall, Levi owner/handler Craig Beach and Queen owner/handler Don Alfano.

After the dust cleared it was Blue and Levi in the finals. We had a great final run with congratulations going to Mark Dieter with Blue for taking home our Southern California Regional title this year. Levi was 1st runner up, Annie finished 2nd runner up, and Gustel was third runner up. A special thanks goes out to our judges, Richie Hight and Willie Stevens of Northern California-Nevada, they did a great job for us.

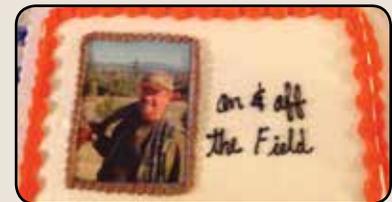
Our Regional weekend ended with a wonderful banquet dinner provided by the California Deer Association. We were able to share great memories and reminisce about two great SoCal NSTRAs members who passed away this last season. Bob Thompson and Glenn Marsden will be missed by all.



Southern California Regionals final four: Regional winner - Mark Dieter with Blue, Craig Beach with Levi, Jim Wall with Annie, and Lisa McNamee with Gustel, along with our Regional judges Richie Hight and Willie Steven from Northern California-Nevada NSTRAs



Bob Thompson



Glenn Marsden



SOUTH CAROLINA

Regionals March 20-22, 2015 This year's South Carolina Regional brought together a lot of great dogs, owners, handlers, judges, field marshals', families and an awesome bird planter. A crowd gathered at Jim Turner's farm "Tokeena Farms" just outside of Seneca, South Carolina for this wonderful event organized by Region President, Gary "Doc" Ramsey. The Region would like to thank Jim Turner, as he has graciously offered his farm, time, equipment and lots of work to the South Carolina Region throughout the years.

Friday was nothing but good ole' field trialing ALL day long. The fields were busy and the excitement was building for what was yet to come. Later on that evening members gathered in Center, SC for the annual banquet. The night was filled with outstanding food, lots of laughs and even some region business. Gary "Doc" Ramsey was voted in as President for another term. Berkley White voted in as Vice-President, Wanda Greenway as Secretary and Jeff Joyner voted in for another term as Treasurer. At the banquet, we recognized and honored James "Buzz" Sims, handler/owner of Nebb (Duncan Creeks Nebb) as High Point Dog of the year. On a lighter note, the "SLASH" award was given to Greg Vaughn. Not so sure Greg was proud to receive this award; however he took it like a real champ!

As dawn began to arise on a beautiful Saturday morning, we all anxiously awaited the running of thirty qualified dogs. The day proved to be nothing short of a "nail biter"; however at the end of the day only the top sixteen would get the chance to compete on Sunday. As the day came to a close

and ALL score sheets were verified, the Region was ready to announce the top sixteen dogs that would move on to compete the following day.

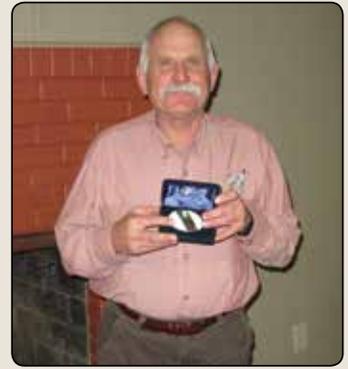
We all awoke to a drizzly, dark and cool Sunday morning wondering who would be our Region Champion. As the excitement and nerves began to build it was time to "get the party started". Fields were flushed, our handlers entered the blind and expert bird planter, Gene Pritchett planted the first

brace of the finals. We were privileged to have two National Judges

continued next page



March 22 at Tokeena Farms "Final Hour" Terry Taylor (Handler) + Belle (Owned by Linda Lowe) & Alan Higham (Handler) + Murray (Owned by Cheryl Higham)



3/20//15 at Banquet held in Center South Carolina, Greg Vaughn "Winner of the SLASH Award".



3/22/15 at Tokeena Farms ... Bodie Ray, Linda Lowe, Terry Taylor, Cheryl Higham, Alan Higham, Berkley White, Nolan Huffman and Cory Perdue. Dogs L to R-Belle (1st), Murray (2nd), Shot (3rd) and Rusty (4th)



3/22/15 Tokeena Farms. L to R Final 6 - Alan Higham, Berkley White, Nolan Huffman, Terry Taylor and James "Buzz" Sims.



UTAH

The pinnacle of our trial season is always the Regional Elimination trial at the end of the season. All the best dogs in the region get together to crown a champion. This year the mosquitoes were thick, but we soaked ourselves in repellent and went forward. We would like to thank Paul Schneider and Mike Smith from the Northwest Region for stepping up to judge this trial. In the elimination round Tracy Neilson's Cheeto had the run of the morning winning the round and getting into the final six, Rhett Collins's dog, Maggie, finished second and Angie Wonnacott's Sunnie went into the round of six in third place. Maureen Goodrich's ageless dog, Mini, Brad Jenkins' young dog Deuce, and Rhett Collins's favorite dog, Gunner, filled up the round of six.

In the round of six, Gunner and Mini battled it out in the first brace. Gunner went 3-3 to Mini's 1-1. In the second brace Deuce and Sunnie would compete against each other. Sunnie had a find in



continued next page

SOUTH CAROLINA *continued*

"Bodie Ray" and "Cory Perdue" here to judge this weekend event. Throughout the day, scenting conditions changed with the ever changing weather which made it impossible to even guess what could happen. Unfortunately, at the end of eight braces only the top six dogs could advance. South Carolina produced some very impressive runs throughout the weekend.

The top six dogs advancing to the finals were:

- Belle - Redclay's Belle Starr handled by Terry Taylor
Owner Linda Lowe
- Hobe - Duncan Creek Hobe handled and owned by James "Buzz" Sims
- Murray - Weathered Stones Murray handled by Alan Higham
Owner Cheryl Higham
- Nebb - Duncan Creeks Nebb handled and owned
by James "Buzz" Sims
- Rusty - Beeline Bullet's Oxidation handled and owned by Nolan Huffman
- Shot - Kate's Big Shot handled and owned by Berkley White

After all was said and done, it was time to announce the "Final Hour" competitors ... Belle, handled by Terry Taylor and owned by Linda Lowe against Murray, handled by Alan Higham and owned by Cheryl Higham.

The "Final Hour" was an absolute head to head battle between Belle and Murray. This run was nothing short of AMAZING for the gallery! In the final minutes, the last bird was pointed, flushed, shot and retrieved by Belle as Murray, held by Alan in his back position could only watch. As the judges called "time" there was still a score to be settled. During this hour, Belle had not proved her backing skill during the competition; therefore, we all found ourselves waiting a little longer for a winner to be announced. A backing situation was set up. Everyone could only wait to see who our South Carolina Region Champion would be. At the end of a very tense day of competition, Belle was our Top Dog for 2015.

On behalf of the South Carolina Region, I would like to congratulate our top four dogs for 2015:

- 1st - Belle - Redclay's Belle Starr handled by Terry Taylor
Owner Linda Lowe
- 2nd - Murray - Weathered Stones Murray handled by Alan Higham
Owner Cheryl Higham
- 3rd - Shot - Kate's Big Shot handled and owned by Berkley White
- 4th - Rusty - Beeline Bullet's Oxidation handled and owned by Nolan Huffman

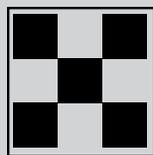
A very successful weekend for NSTRA South Carolina Region and many thanks to ALL who made this year possible! ■

UTAH *continued*

the last seconds to go 3-3 to Deuces 1-1. In the final brace Cheeto and Maggie would compete. Cheeto went 1-1 to Maggie's 2-2 sending Bret Wonnacott with Sunnie and a score of 649.5 along with Rhett Collins' and his favorite dog, Gunner, with a score of 563.5 through to the final hour.

The two dogs were released for the final hour and Sunnie would slam the gallery bird and Gunner would get the necessary back that would be needed for either dog to win. Gunner would get his first find shortly after, and the race was on. The two dogs and handlers Rhett Collins and Bret Wonnacott would work hard for the entire hour, and do their best to find birds. With less than five minutes left, Sunnie had five on the card and Gunner had two, but Sunnie did not have the required back to win. Finally, Gunner had an unproductive point and Sunnie was able to produce a back to seal the win. The trial finished out with Maureen Goodrich and Mini as third runner up, Rhett Collins with Maggie as second runner up, Rhett Collins and Gunner as first runner up, and Angie Wonnacott's Sunnie as Region Champion. Sunnie would also gain enough points to earn her NSTRA Championship, and when you add 2015 high point dog to the list the 2014-2015 trial season was quite a year for young Sunnie. Congratulations Angie and Sunnie.

This trial season was another great one. We have such a wonderful group of people in this region where the friendships are genuine and the competition is always fun. It has been a great experience to watch some young dogs grow up and some older dogs come into their own. Dan Felter's dog, Billi, was able to get that coveted NSTRA Championship by her name and make a strong run at high point dog finishing second. Shane Neilson's dog, Ben, made a heck of a run at high point dog also and earning his NSTRA Championship in the process and finishing third in the overall region standings. Tracy Neilson and Cheeto had a great run at the Endurance National Trial in Montana where they finished third. Bret Wonnacott's Tic earned his second Championship. We saw the first Weimaraner to ever champion in NSTRA and make our region proud - congratulations Mat Blockovich and Boomer. We saw Rhett Collins take his dogs from good to extraordinary finishing as Regional Elimination first and second runner up. And there are too many more stories to mention in one summary. Virtually every trial had a story and someone's dog that stepped up big. In hindsight it was a heck of a year. We would like to thank everyone for all their hard work to make this year fun and successful. We cannot wait to see what next season holds for the Utah Region. ■



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TOP 2015

PERFORMANCE

PLACE	NAME	OWNER	REGION	POINTS
11	DOUBLE R GRACE	KATHY RALSTON	IL 1250	
12	WEATHERED STONES MURRAY	CHERYL HIGHAM	SCR	1225
13	SKIPPER'S PRECIOUS GIRL	ROBERT CLARK	LST	925
14	IRON WILLS IMPRESSIVE EMMA PAULLUS	THOMAS PAULLUS	LST	875
15	SHAWNEE HILLS GYPSY	CHAD COLLISON	MW	750
16	REDCLAY'S BELLE STARR	LINDA LOWE	SCR	700
17	QUAIL VALLEY'S GOT TRIM	JEFF KECK	GA	700
18	GLOVER'S RECO	CHUCK LUDOLPH	MN	700
19	MURPH'S MOHAWK'S RYDER	BRUCE MURPHY	MW	650
20	M&M'S SOUTHFIELD CASH BETS BIER	MICHAEL MORTON	IL	650
21	PIGEON RIVER MAXIMUS	HAROLD SMITH	IN	625
22	BECKLEY'S GREMLIN	SCOTT BECKLEY	MI	600
23	COPPER'S HONKY TONK KOBIE	CINDY BERTINETTI	IL	525
24	SNAKE'S KING COBRA	JIM MAHONEY	OH	500
25	KICKAPOO JACK'S SCOUT	ROGER PARIENT JR	IN	500
26	GAMBLE'S MOSSY CREEK MR. SQUINCE	STEVE CRUMLEY	SCR	375
27	BUDDY'S MINI-COOPER	SAM ASHMORE	FL	375
28	MULBERRYS MAJOR PHILMORE	MIKEAL MULBERRY	KY	475
29	RUCK'S BROCKWAY MAD DASH	TOM ROTUNDO	NI	475
30	FLINTLOCK BUCK TRACK	DONALD BOWYER	VA	475
31	VANDE HEI'S RITZI'S BOUNCIN BACK	CHUCK VANDE HEI	WI	425
32	TEK'S BITSY BOO	NATHAN TEKELL	WTX	375
33	BECKLEY'S ELHEW PANIC BUTTON	PAT BECKLEY	MI	375
34	TT'S HIRED HAND	TERRY TAYLOR	SCR	275
35	VANDE HEI'S LITTLE DIRTY DOG	CHUCK VANDE HEI	WI	250
36	SMOKE CREEK'S OSCAR IV	GEORGE STERNER IV	FL	225
37	FLATLAND'S WILD THING TAZ	BRANDON PRITCHETT	GA	200
38	LANSDSELL'S NORTHWIN RASCAL	SANDRA LANSDSELL	MI	150
39	VANDE HEI'S RIMARDA JACK	CHUCK VANDE HEI	WI	25



Ask Boomer!

The author, Glenn Savage, and his German Wirehair, Boomer, interviewed a Central Illinois pheasant in November of 2006. The interview took place in the middle of a 100 acre CRP field in Montgomery County at 8:00 AM on a Tuesday morning.

Interview With a Pheasant

Author- Excuse me, I see you there by that clump of Indian Grass. Would you mind if we don't hunt today but instead just chat?

Pheasant- "What do you mean "if we don't hunt...?" I'm not hunting, you and your dog are the ones hunting. I'm just going about pheasant business which is all about survival. But I might talk a while if you'll answer a question. I didn't move or even blink as you walked past me. What gave me away?"

Boomer- I smelled you. In fact, I still smell you. I would still be on point if Glenn hadn't told me to "leave it" and then to "sit and stay."

Pheasant- I have got to change my deodorant. I spend a lot of time on grooming and then for my roll-on to let me down---

Author- Do you really use deodorant?

Pheasant- I'm just joking about the roll-on, but I'm impeccable when it comes to grooming. Get it, "im-PECK able"?

Author- Why the emphasis on grooming?

Pheasant- It is part of my survival strategy to groom thoroughly several times a day. Grooming interlocks my feathers' smallest parts to form better airfoils for flying and to make a weather resistant but breathable barrier. Also, I distribute oil that weather proofs my feathers. Underneath my flight and body feathers are down feathers which insulate me from heat and cold. Besides, a clean, well groomed bird gives off less scent than a dirty bird. By the way, you're looking a little disheveled Mr. Hunter; and that dog of yours looks like an unmade bed.

Boomer- Excuse me; let's leave appearances out of this OK? We found you did we not? Besides, your sense of humor is fowl.

Author- Grooming aside, what is your opinion on hunting?



Pheasant- From my viewpoint, hunting is a small part of the survival "big picture." I was in a fight for survival before I left my mother in the egg. The weather could have destroyed me with a late freeze or hail; coyotes, skunks, raccoons, opossums, house cats, or snakes could have eaten me when I was just an egg. When I was hatched, I was at risk from the weather, all the predators I named, plus hawks and owls. Hunting by humans is not a concern until late in the fall. When I am hunted by the rules you humans make up, survival of the species is not a concern at all. Let's face it, with all your special outdoor clothes, fancy guns, and help from dogs, we (pheasants) get away most of the time. The only reason you're getting this interview was that I chose to hide instead of run. Mostly, I wanted a closer look at that strange dog you have helping you.

I answered your question, now how about answering a question of mine. Why do you hunt?

Author- My species had to hunt to survive. I guess hunting is in my genes. When I was little, my dad took me hunting. He taught me to respect the outdoors and its creatures. Now that I'm older, I think that I hunt because it takes me back to the times I spent with my dad. Dad also taught me to respect the land owners, and the rules that govern hunting and the hunting seasons. Hunting for pheasants still helps me survive by keeping me in good health. All the walking I have to do helps me deal with stress and keeps my heart healthy.

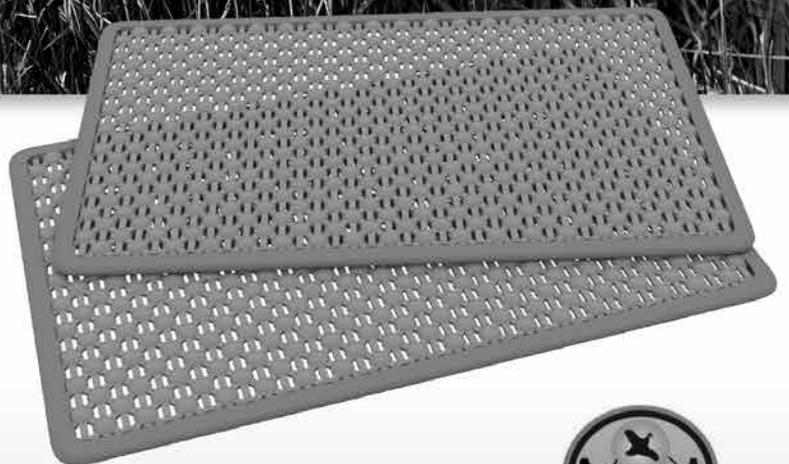
Pheasant- Could you tell your hairy friend to step back a bit, he's drooling as he stares at me. Well, I have to fly now (fly, get it?) You seem to be a respectable sort, but I have to tell you that your species does not have a very good record of preserving the environment. Pheasants, other game and non-game animals will not be around if you don't get your act together. ■



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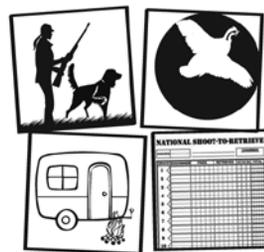


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email: nstrfta@ameritech.net

NSTRA members receive our bi-monthly magazine. Remember, you
must be a member to participate in NSTRA Sanctioned Field Trials.



The American Brittany

The American Brittany Club is a member club
of the American Kennel Club and the recognized
breed sponsor by the American Field. The Club
is comprised of many regional Brittany Clubs
located from coast to coast. Most of the Clubs
hold field trials, conformation shows and hunt
test events. The clubs also hold meetings, fun
trials, training sessions and other events of
interest to the Brittany owner. Membership
in the American Brittany Club entitles you
to a monthly issue of the American Brittany
Magazine. This publication which began in 1949
keeps you abreast of what is happening in the
Brittany world. The magazine contains reports
of field trials, shows, hunt test and agility/
obedience events, club activities and articles
on the care and training of the Brittany.
The magazine also has articles on hunting
and general interest as well as listings of
kennels, stud dogs and trainers.



YEARLY MEMBERSHIP IS \$30.

TO JOIN SEND CHECK TO: The American Brittany Club
PO Box 503, Orefield, PA 18069
Email: ABCMemberships@yahoo.com

TO JOIN ONLINE:

**[www.TheAmericanBrittanyClub.org/
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National Shoot to Retrieve Scorecard

CC REGIONAL FINAL

June 26, 2015 - GROUSE CREEK FARM

Judges: William (sandy) Gunn\Martin Gagnon

First Place: 0xCH Graziano Doc Of Montreal (1644095, GWH/M, by Covey Hills Grisbl-Kandy V Willow Rock) Graziano Lorenzon, Montreal, QC

Second Place: 0xCH Pine Ridge's Amber (PP002919, PUD/F, by Groll Vom Unistrut Hainich-Irma Ze Strazistskych Lesu) Simar Yoos, Ottawa, ON

Third Place: 0xCH Lilly's Grouse Creek Spice (1645292, ES/F, by Long Gone Nixon-Togata Grouse Creek Lilly) Claude Perreault, Valleyfield, QC

CC REGIONAL QUALIFICATION

June 26, 2015 - GROUSE CREEK FARM

Judges: William (sandy) Gunn\Martin Gagnon

First Place: 0xCH Lilly's Grouse Creek Spice (1645292, ES/F, by Long Gone Nixon-Togata Grouse Creek Lilly) Claude Perreault, Valleyfield, QC

Second Place: 0xCH Pine Ridge's Amber (PP002919, PUD/F, by Groll Vom Unistrut Hainich-Irma Ze Strazistskych Lesu) Simar Yoos, Ottawa, ON

Third Place: 1xCH Barilla's Resa Moretti (1581416, ES/F, by Resa's Trouble Mace-Resa's Tekoa Kate) Etienne Lavoie, Ste-croix, QC

GROUSE CREEK FARM A/F

June 27, 2015 - CANTLEY, QC

Judges: Barry Bassingthwaight\Domenico D'angelo

First Place: 0xCH Django Des Belles Plaines (SR78674201, BR/M, by Fc Afc Jaoker's Jackpot-Hampton's Little Ram) Dominic Werotte, Terrebonne, QC

Second Place: 0xCH Carlsbad Can Am Nolan (ZJ475849, BR/M, by Peter Gunn-Beeline Golden Bullet) Glenn Vodden, Carlsbad Springs, ON

Third Place: 0xCH Driving Miss Daisy (VN302069, BR/F, by Whyzley De C'iest-Woodcok Non Sunshine) Guy Gelinas, Terrebonne, QC

GROUSE CREEK FARM A/F

June 28, 2015 - CANTLEY, QC

Judges: Barry Bassingthwaight\Domenico D'angelo

First Place: 0xCH Lilly's Grouse Creek Spice (1645292, ES/F, by Long Gone Nixon-Togata Grouse Creek Lilly) Claude Perreault, Valleyfield, QC

Second Place: 0xCH Driving Miss Daisy (VN302069, BR/F, by Whyzley De C'iest-Woodcok Non Sunshine) Guy Gelinas, Terrebonne, QC

Third Place: 0xCH Barilla's Resa Stella (1609751, ES/F, by Resa's Trouble Mace-Resa's Tekoa Kate) Etienne Lavoie, Ste-croix, QC

REGION: IN

CBDC A/F

July 18, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Peter Zeldenrust\Scott Beckley

First Place: 0xCH Tink's Classic Point Ruby (SR56503506, GSH/F, by Griffiths Classic Deke-Makayla's Dizzy Izzy) Joe Dunigan, Indianapolis, IN

Second Place: 4xCH Tomoka's Smokin X-rated (R251124, ES/F, by Tomoka's Smokin Gun-X-rated Katie) Jim Kirkman, Angier, NC

Third Place: 5xCH Ruck's Brockway Repeat (R242063, GSH/M, by Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash-Last Dance Lily) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH

CBDC B/F

July 18, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Jim Marks\James Collins

First Place: 1xCH Clary's Tomoka Trouble Cody (1652929, ES/M, by Ridge Creek Cody-Clary's Tomoka Trouble) Jim Clary, Madison Heights, MI

Second Place: 2xCH Mac's Predator (R238124, EP/M, by Mac's Super Fly-Mac's Silhouette) Joe Jackson, Brownsburg, IN

Third Place: 22xCH Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash (R242061, GSH/M, by Brockways Ruck Runner-Shooting Starr's Sassy Sami) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH

CBDC A/F

July 19, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Bev Mcadams\Jim Marks

First Place: 3xCH Ragin Cajun Athena (R252021, GSH/F, by Ragin Cajun Zeus-Wild Thing O'riley) Angie Fishburn, Indianapolis, IN

Second Place: 0xCH 5c's Olivia's Rowdy K-os (R251919, GSH/M, by Emmas Crosswind Kicken Axe-Eli's Truckin Lady) Emma Coke, Danville, IN

Third Place: 1xCH Beckleys Gremlin (SR73164801, GSH/F, by Bables Just Simply Simon-Outfox Bables Scarlet Gunner) Scott Beckley, Lagrange, IN

CBDC B/F

July 19, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Crystal Nichols\Sara Moore

First Place: 11xCH Ragin Cajun Zeus (R252010, GSH/M, by Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash-Last Dance Lily) Wayne Fishburn, Indianapolis, IN

Second Place: 1xCH Beckleys Gremlin (SR73164801, GSH/F, by Bables Just Simply Simon-Outfox Bables Scarlet Gunner) Scott Beckley, Lagrange, IN

Third Place: 3xCH Boone County Beer (SR58850301, BR/F, by Mccandless Titlest Driver-Beeline Bravado Easy Money) Jeff Moore, Whitestown, IN

CBDC A/F

August 1, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Sara Moore\Jim Marks

First Place: 2xCH Mac's Predator (R238124, EP/M, by Mac's Super Fly-Mac's Silhouette) Joe Jackson, Brownsburg, IN

Second Place: 22xCH Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash (R242061, GSH/M, by Brockways Ruck Runner-Shooting Starr's Sassy Sami) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH

Third Place: 0xCH Tink's Classic Point Ruby (SR56503506, GSH/F, by Griffiths Classic Deke-Makayla's Dizzy Izzy) Joe Dunigan, Indianapolis, IN

CBDC B/F

August 1, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Scott Beckley\Crystal Nichols

First Place: 1xCH Clary's Tomoka Trouble Cody (1652929, ES/M, by Ridge Creek Cody-Clary's Tomoka Trouble) Jim Clary, Madison Heights, MI**Second Place:** 0xCH Tomoka's Smokin Tc (1658965, ES/M, by Tomoka's Smokin Gun-Tomoka's Smokin Kate) Greg Wood, Shelbyville, KY**Third Place:** 3xCH Ragin Cajun Athena (R252021, GSH/F, by Ragin Cajun Zeus-Wild Thing O'riley) Angie Fishburn, Indianapolis, IN**CBDC A/F**

August 2, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Bev Mcadams\Mychalie Moore

First Place: 1xCH Clary's Tomoka Trouble Cody (1652929, ES/M, by Ridge Creek Cody-Clary's Tomoka Trouble) Jim Clary, Madison Heights, MI**Second Place:** 12xCH Beckley's Elhew Panic Button (1608861, EP/F, by Yellow Rose Tex-Yellow Rose Buda) Pat Beckley, Lagrange, IN**Third Place:** 0xCH 5c's Olivia's Rowdy K-os (R251919, GSH/M, by Emmas Crosswind Kicken Axe-Eli's Truckin Lady) Emma Coke, Danville, IN**CBDC B/F**

August 2, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Jim Marks\Crystal Nichols

First Place: 22xCH Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash (R242061, GSH/M, by Brockways Ruck Runner-Shooting Starr's Sassy Sami) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH**Second Place:** 0xCH Miller's Wild Child (SR82597007, GSH/F, by Matt Mac's Rambo-Hi-n's Annie Oakley) John Gillespie, Fairborn, OH**Third Place:** 2xCH Mac's Predator (R238124, EP/M, by Mac's Super Fly-Mac's Silhouette) Joe Jackson, Brownsburg, IN**CBDC A/F**

August 15, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Mychalie Moore\Tom Rotundo

First Place: 0xCH 5c's Olivia's Rowdy K-os (R251919, GSH/M, by Emmas Crosswind Kicken Axe-Eli's Truckin Lady) Emma Coke, Danville, IN**Second Place:** 7xCH Copper's Elhew Bull (R234156, EP/M, by Stephens Bright Copper-Vance's Elhew Bee) Jim Harmon, Bowling Green, KY**Third Place:** 0xCH Classic Point Hooch (R248837, GSH/M, by Rb's Crosswind Ram Rod-Classic Point Gretchen) Matthew Chase Dunigan, Indianapolis, IN**CBDC B/F**

August 15, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Sam Chandler\Jim Marks

First Place: 4xCH Pigeon River Maximus (1621807, EP/M, by Pigeon River Bull-Honky Tonk Angel) Harold Smith, Hudson, IN**Second Place:** 2xCH 5c's Eli's Truckin Lady (R251680, GSH/F, by Crosswind Truckin Fritz-Sweetwater Ellie) Emma Coke, Danville, IN**Third Place:** 1xCH Sundance Vader (SR42067904, GSH/M, by Uodibar Montana Mitch-Sundance Dixie) Michael Roach, Manteno, IL**CBDC A/F**

August 16, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Mychalie Moore\David Chandler

First Place: 22xCH Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash (R242061, GSH/M, by Brockways Ruck Runner-Shooting Starr's Sassy Sami) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH**Second Place:** 11xCH Last Dance Lily (R242062, GSH/F, by Harrison's Sun Blue Tungsten-Suiters Lady Bella) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH**Third Place:** 2xCH 5c's Eli's Truckin Lady (R251680, GSH/F, by Crosswind Truckin Fritz-Sweetwater Ellie) Emma Coke, Danville, IN**CBDC B/F**

August 16, 2015 - AMO, IN

Judges: Sara Moore\Jim Marks

First Place: 5xCH Peaches River Dan (R246097, EP/M, by Elhew Sidewinder-Yellow River Peaches) Ted Cook, London, KY**Second Place:** 22xCH Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash (R242061, GSH/M, by Brockways Ruck Runner-Shooting Starr's Sassy Sami) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH**Third Place:** 1xCH Sundance Vader (SR42067904, GSH/M, by Uodibar Montana Mitch-Sundance Dixie) Michael Roach, Manteno, IL**REGION: MI****PIGEON RIVER KENNELS A/F**

August 8, 2015 - HUDSON, IN

Judges: Robert Vermeesch\Zach Norman

First Place: 12xCH Beckley's Elhew Panic Button (1608861, EP/F, by Yellow Rose Tex-Yellow Rose Buda) Pat Beckley, Lagrange, IN**Second Place:** 1xCH Tc's Country Diva (SR69274904, GSH/F, by Premier's Kid Brock N Brody-Crosswinds Mya) Todd Craven, Lapeer, MI**Third Place:** 0xCH Lansdell's Northwin Denver (1644889, ES/M, by Clary's Tekoa Sky Hawk-Second Hunt Miss Daisy) Sandra Lansdell, Lenox, MI**PIGEON RIVER KENNELS B/F**

August 8, 2015 - HUDSON, MI

Judges: Tom Rotundo\Ken Loveday

First Place: 1xCH Tc's Get Lucky Lou (SR77112602, GSH/M, by Crosswinds Micro Chip-M'credible Pick Of Destiny) Todd Craven, Lapeer, MI**Second Place:** 1xCH Flying Under The Radar (1648709, EP/M, by Killbuck Bolt Action-Bailey Jo Diamond) Christopher Ritter, Romulus, MI**Third Place:** 5xCH Lansdell's Northwin Rascal (R240106, ES/M, by Lansdell's Northwin Duke-Teeka Hightail Wilson) Sandra Lansdell, Lenox, MI**PIGEON RIVER KENNELS A/F**

August 9, 2015 - HUDSON, MI

Judges: David Chandler\Sam Chandler

First Place: 1xCH Tc's Get Lucky Lou (SR77112602, GSH/M, by Crosswinds Micro Chip-M'credible Pick Of Destiny) Todd Craven, Lapeer, MI**Second Place:** 1xCH Tc's Country Diva (SR69274904, GSH/F, by Premier's Kid Brock N Brody-Crosswinds Mya) Todd Craven, Lapeer, MI**Third Place:** 5xCH Ruck's Brockway Repeat (R242063, GSH/M, by Ruck's Brockway Mad Dash-Last Dance Lily) Tom Rotundo, Orient, OH**PIGEON RIVER KENNELS B/F**

August 9, 2015 - HUDSON, MI

Judges: Zach Norman\Robert Vermeesch

First Place: 0xCH On Point Fiddlin Darby (1625977, EP/F, by Rock Acre Black Hawk-Addition's Fiddlin Girl) Ken Loveday, Monroe, MI**Second Place:** 1xCH Mohawk's Smokin Patch (R247259, ES/F, by Clary's Tekoa Kid-Teeka Hightail Wilson) Brian Boals, Ludington, MI**Third Place:** 4xCH Pigeon River Maximus (1621807, EP/M, by Pigeon River Bull-Honky Tonk Angel) Harold Smith, Hudson, IN**REGION: RM****ROCKY MOUNTAIN A/F**

August 8, 2015 - WOODLAND PARK, CO

Judges: Joshua Loring\Ron Horn

First Place: 0xCH Tgr's Impressive Believe In Me (SR77429807, GSH/F, by Spare Time's Jim Dandy-Scatterguns Gabby) Rob Martin, Bullard, TX**Second Place:** 2xCH Country Lane Hank (1628706, ES/M, by Second Chance Scooby-Milrun Gabby) Elden Miller, Willison, ND**Third Place:** 0xCH Little Honky Tonk Belle (1626389, EP/F, by Wrangler's Honky Toank Joe-Wranglers Little Jo Jo) Nicholas Baker, Arvada, CO

ROCKY MOUNTAIN B/F

August 8, 2015 - WOODLAND PARK, CO
Judges: Rachel Baker\C J Kausel

First Place: 3xCH Black Forest Bart (SR43297007, GSH/M, by Black Forest Brodie-Black Forest Kate) Mark Pace, Colorado Springs., CO

Second Place: 5xCH Tek's Bitsy Boo (SR42950001, GSH/F, by Grandslam Ramblin Rex-Teks Molly Brown) Nathan Tekell, Winters, TX

Third Place: 0xCH Tgr's Impressive Believe In Me (SR77429807, GSH/F, by Spare Time's Jim Dandy-Scatterguns Gabby) Rob Martin, Bullard, TX

ROCKY MOUNTAIN A/F

August 9, 2015 - WOODLAND PARK, CO
Judges: Joshua Loring\Ron Horn

First Place: 5xCH Tek's Bitsy Boo (SR42950001, GSH/F, by Grandslam Ramblin Rex-Teks Molly Brown) Nathan Tekell, Winters, TX

Second Place: 11xCH Iron Wills Impressive Emma Paullus (SR38313905, GSH/F, by Tgr's Impressive Iron Will-Tgr's Impressive Maggie) Thomas Paullus, Dallas, TX

Third Place: 0xCH Black Forest Smiling Mylee May Do (SR76355003, GSH/F, by Five O'clock Miller Time-Shadowrocks Widow Maker) Andy Taylor, Rush, CO

ROCKY MOUNTAIN B/F

August 9, 2015 - WOODLAND PARK, CO
Judges: Kevin Creeden\Charles Golden

First Place: 0xCH Hefty De Broughton (SR73056001, BR/M, by Bako De Keranlouan-Fresca De Broughton) Cathleen Godwin, Lipan, TX

Second Place: 5xCH Duke's Impressive Claire Paullus (SR56592504, GSH/F, by Tgr's Impressive Duke-Tgr's Impressive Lucille) Thomas Paullus, Dallas, TX

Third Place: 5xCH Tek's Bitsy Boo (SR42950001, GSH/F, by Grandslam Ramblin Rex-Teks Molly Brown) Nathan Tekell, Winters, TX



**Deadline for Dec/Jan
publication information is
November 3, 2015**

Submitted by Charlie Strawn

A Dog's Purpose?

(From a 6-year-old)

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish wolfhound name Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.....

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next, stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. It has changed the way I try and live. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life - like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

Live simply.

Love generously.

Care deeply

Speak kindly.

Remember, if a dog was the teacher you would learn things like:

When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.

Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.

Take naps.

Stretch before rising.

Run, romp and play daily.

Thrive on attention and let people touch you.

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.

On warm days, stop to lie on your back in the grass.

On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.

When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.

Be loyal.

Never pretend to be something you're not.

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.



REGIONAL TRIALING



ARIZONA



Friday July 3, 2015 - "4th Of July Triple/Double" - A Field, Kendrick Park, Az
 1st Place - Crown, Owner Rodney Faria, score 989
 2nd Place - Willy, Owner Rocco Petrocco, score 863
 3rd Place - Max, Owner Ginger Rogers, Handler Bob Henson, score 762
 (CONGRATULATIONS on Max's Championship!)
 4th Place - Duke, Owner Tina Cook, score 729



Friday July 3, 2015 - "4th Of July Triple/Double" B Field, Kendrick Park, Az
 1st Place - Emma, Owner John Trout, score 1,111.4
 2nd Place - Bella, Owner Ron Ponciano, score 818
 (S. California Region)
 3rd Place - Walle, Owner Timm Cleaver, score 808.5 (S. California Region)
 4th Place - Slick, Owner Darrin Veros, score 712



Saturday July 4, 2015 - "4th Of July Triple/Double" - A Field, Kendrick Park, Az
 1st Place - Slick, Owner Darrin Veros, score 1,292.6
 2nd Place - Bella, Owner Ron Ponciano, score 972.66 (S. California Region)
 3rd Place - Grimmy, Owner Rocco Petrocco, score 876
 4th Place - Bitsy, Owner Nathan Tekell, score 839 (W. Texas Region)



Saturday July 4, 2015 - "4th Of July Triple/Double" - B Field, Kendrick Park, Az
 1st Place - Paige, Owner Ray Taffora, score 1,104
 2nd Place - Grimmy, Owner Rocco Petrocco, score 908
 3rd Place - Sid, Owner John Trout, score 866
 4th Place - Max, Owner Ginger Rogers, Handler Bob Henson, score 782



Sunday July 5, 2015 - "4th Of July Triple/Double" - A Field, Kendrick Park, Az
 1st Place - Max, Owner Dan Schroeder, score 1,027
 2nd Place - Buddy, Owner Mike Shepherd, score 979 (W. Texas Region)
 3rd Place - Emma, Owner John Trout, score 958
 4th Place - Bitsy, Owner Nathan Tekell, score 871.5 (W. Texas Region)

Sunday July 5, 2015 - "4th Of July Triple/Double" - B Field, Kendrick Park, Az
 NO PHOTO
 1st Place - Belle, Owner Alan Churchwell, score 1,179.98
 2nd Place - Emma, Owner John Trout, score 972
 3rd Place - Sirius, Owner Marty Elliott, score 957
 4th Place - Rocky, Owner Brad Christensen, score 904.33

continued next page



In the blind



Pot Luck!



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Mallory at Stage



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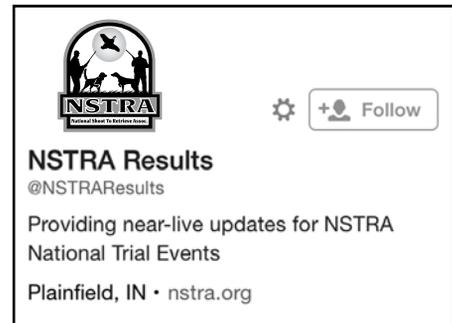
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The National Office now requires a copy of the dog's registration certificate for first time placements. This can either be submitted by the owner or the trial chairman. We will accept copies by fax (317-839-4197), e-mail (office@nstra.org) or a photocopy by regular mail.

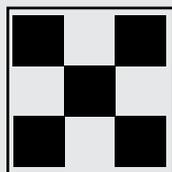
TRIAL FORMAT: OPEN

<i>Registered Name</i>	<i>Date of Placement</i>	<i>Breed</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Owner Name</i>	<i>City and State</i>
MILLER'S WILD CHILD	8/2/2015	German Shorthair	F	GILLESPIE, JOHN	FAIRBORN, OH
DJANGO DES BELLES PLAINES	6/27/2015	Brittany	M	WEROTTE, DOMINIC	TERREBONNE, QC
CARLSBAD CAN AM NOLAN	6/27/2015	Brittany	M	VODDEN, GLENN	CARLSBAD SPRINGS,
BLACK MOUNTAIN DUKE	7/3/2015	English Pointer	M	COOK, DAVID	MARANA, AZ



Champions

<i>Reg Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Format Trial</i>	<i>Breed</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>City, State</i>
1 TIME						
CLARY'S TOMOKA TROUBLE CODY	01-AUG-15	OPEN	ENGLISH SETTER	M	CLARY, JIM	MADISON HEIGHTS, MI
GINGER'S MAD MAX	03-JUL-15	OPEN	ENGLISH POINTER	M	ROGERS, GINGER	SUN CITY, AZ
TC'S GET LUCKY LOU	08-AUG-15	OPEN	GERMAN SHORTHAI	M	CRAVEN, TODD	LAPEER, MI
2 TIME						
LANSDELL'S NORTHWIN DUKE	28-JUN-15	OPEN	ENGLISH SETTER	M	LANSDELL, SANDRA	LENOX, MI
MAC'S PREDATOR	18-JUL-15	OPEN	ENGLISH POINTER	M	JACKSON, JOE	BROWNSBURG, IN
RHOADES WOODS LOKI	28-JUN-15	OPEN	BRITTANY	M	RHOADES, TIM	MONTPELIER, OH I
4 TIME						
TOMOKA'S SMOKIN X-RATED	18-JUL-15	OPEN	ENGLISH SETTER	F	KIRKMAN, JIM	ANGIER, NC
5 TIME						
TEK'S BITSY BOO	09-AUG-15	OPEN	GERMAN SHORTHAI	F	TEKELL, NATHAN	WINTERS, TX
11 TIME						
IRON WILLS IMPRESSIVE EMMA PAULLUS	09-AUG-15	OPEN	GERMAN SHORTHAI	F	PAULLUS, THOMAS	DALLAS, TX
12 TIME						
BECKLEY'S ELHEW PANIC BUTTON	28-JUN-15	OPEN	ENGLISH POINTER	F	BECKLEY, PAT	LAGRANGE, IN
22 TIME						
RUCK'S BROCKWAY MAD DASH	11-JUL-15	OPEN	GERMAN SHORTHAI	M	ROTUNDO, TOM	ORIENT, OH



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We will set up on site selling hunting and trialing apparel for men and women in October at the AMO Dog of the Year National Trial and in May at the Waverly Nebraska Performance National Trial.

Coming soon to our website, we will feature apparel available with the NSTRA emblem!



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STACKSANDPOINTS@GMAIL.COM WWW.STACKSANDPOINTS.COM



NSTRA Youth Scholarship Fund

A. NATURE OF AWARD: National Shoot to Retrieve is offering a one time scholarship to any son or daughter of a NSTRA member in good standing who is enrolled in their junior or senior year of high school or their freshman or sophomore year of college that meets the selection criteria. Said monetary award shall be 80% of the amount raised at the prior year's fundraising event.

B. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

- 1- Any high school junior or senior or any first or 2nd year college student who is the son/daughter of an eligible NSTRA member can apply for this scholarship. For purposes of this award, "eligible NSTRA member/parent" means any member in good standing for at least 5 consecutive years prior to the submission of this application and who has actively participated in at least 6 trials in each of those years;
- 2- Applicant must submit evidence of strong academic performance to date, supported by the submission of official documentation indicating class rank, grade point average and ACT or SAT test scores. Official documentation means this information **MUST** be provided in letterhead from their school and/or national testing office. In the event that this documentation is not available a clear and concise explanation as to the reason must be provided;
- 3- Applicant must be enrolled or accepted in an accredited academic college and supply appropriate documentation. A letter of admission or grade slip from the college if already enrolled, constitutes adequate documentation;
- 4- Applicant must provide 3 letters of recommendation from academic advisors or teachers. These letters must specifically address the applicant's academic achievements and abilities;

5- Applicant must submit evidence of extra curricular activity supporting scholastic achievement, any other school involvement or community activities. Any letters of recommendation from NSTRA members would be in addition to the letters from teachers or academic advisors;

6- Applicant must submit a 3-5 page essay detailing what NSTRA means to him/her, to their family and how the "eligible parent's" participation in NSTRA has impacted on his/her life. Applicant must also explain how a college education would affect his/her future and what his/her educational goals are;

7- Essay must not include name of the applicant. A separate cover letter and application form with all pertinent information should accompany the application. Each application will be assigned an identification number and each will be read by the scholarship committee without a name attached to it;

8- It is expected that the recipient will provide NSTRA for 3 years with follow up to his/her academic achievements after receipt of the award.

C. STIPULATIONS: The recipient will receive a letter of Certification of Award from NSTRA. This letter should be presented, by the recipient, to the university who then may contact NSTRA to secure the monetary award.

D. PRESENTATION OF AWARD: The scholarship winner will be announced during the annual Dog of the Year banquet. The current NSTRA President will make said announcement. If recipient is not present, award will be forwarded.

NSTRA Youth Scholarship Fund Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

email: _____

Phone: _____ NSTRA Region: _____

Parent's NSTRA Member #: _____

High School and current level (ex. Senior, grad, etc.): _____ GPA: _____

College and current level: _____ GPA: _____

Describe any school or community activity you have been involved in over the past three years. Describe specifically your role in each, any offices held, etc. (use additional pages as needed):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

References: Please list at least three persons we may contact for a recommendation (i.e., teacher, region president, NSTRA member). This would be in addition to your three school related references that are received:

Name	Address	Phone
------	---------	-------

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Application must be received in the NSTRA Office by June 30, 2016

"A working dog's worst enemy is dehydration.

If my dogs are dehydrated, they can't go to work. And we're on the road 70,000 miles each year. I worked out a plan with my veterinarian. Now I keep my dogs on FortiFlora® until we're back home."

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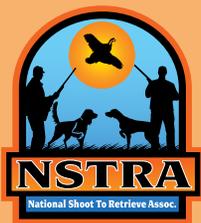
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srossgsp@yahoo.com

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806-679-6001
jamison.hancock@gmail.com



REGIONAL CHAMPIONS



**Arkansas
Louisiana
Region**

Power's Gun Slinger
owner John Branch



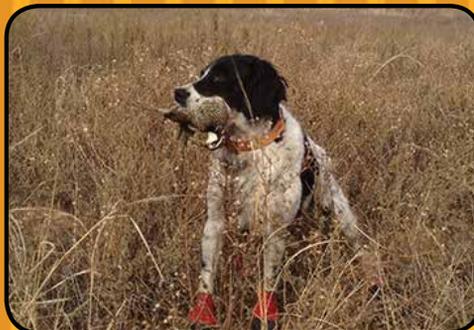
**Florida
Coast**

TJ's Micro-Tequila Watson
owner Sharron Watson



**Mo/Kan
Region**

Bailey's Drywood Maddy
owner Larry Bailey



**West
Texas
Region**

Buck Creek Molly
owner Mike Shepherd



**Northern
Illinois
Region**

Ruck's Brockway Repeat
owner Tom Rotundo



**Arizona
Region**

Gracie Vom Desert Dancer
owner Alan Churchwell



**Kentucky
Region**

Pepperpoint Casper
owner Junior Shouse



**MidWest
Region**

Tall Oak Timber
owner Doug Embray



**Ohio
Region**

Ramblin Zeke The Streak
owner Rod Howard



**Big Sky
Region**

HPD's Tiny Dancer
owner James Wiitala



**Indiana
Region**

Tink's Classic Point Ruby
owner Joe Dunigan



**National Shoot-To-Retrieve
Field Trial Association**

203 N. Mill St.
Plainfield, IN 46168
(317) 839-4059



**MidNorth
Region**

Glover's Reco
owner Chuck Ludolph



**Northwest
Region**

Rough's Vicky
owner John Glenewinkel



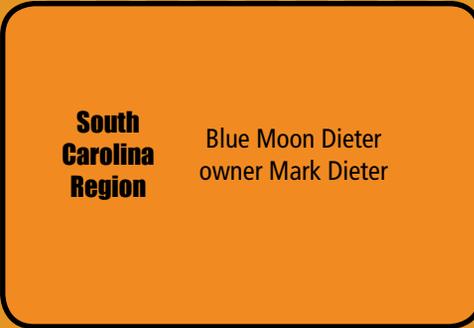
**Rock
Mountain
Region**

Black Forest Mattie
owner Gary Wood



**Wisconsin
Region**

Dreiffe's Magic Powder
owner Paul Femling



**South
Carolina
Region**

Blue Moon Dieter
owner Mark Dieter



**Michigan
Region**

Crosswind Mya
owner Todd Craven



Utah Region

Angie's Mae Sunrise
owner
Angela Wonnacott

**Central Canada
Region**

Graziano Doc of Montreal
owner Graziano Lorenzon



Become a Member Today!

**Please visit our website regions page to determine
which region is nearest for you!**

www.nstra.org