

The Iron Dog

Kaer de Cornouaille Trophy

Alan Stuyvesant Memorial Trophy

Included in the history:

Alan Rutherford Stuyvesant

Ms. Barbara Rokas, Mt. Bethel, PA
Brittany owner and close friend of Mr. Frantz

Harold Frantz, Kennel Manager and Game Keeper, Stuyvesant Estate, Allamuchy Valley Kennels, Allamuchy, N. J.

Richard Fath, sculptor.
France

Assembled by Mary Crawford



Alan R. Stuyvesant



November 1950 - Officers of the American Brittany Club

Alan Stuyvesant Coy Conwell Walter B. Kleeman William Averill Howard Clements


PERPETUAL MEMORIAL TROPHY
AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB





The Iron Dog, on loan to the Brittany Museum by Ms. Barbara Rokas



Alan R. Stuyvesant, holding new trophy

Preface

This book includes the history of the four (4) statues commissioned by Alain R. Stuyvesant and created by the famous French sculptor Richard Fath. These statues are commonly known as the Iron Dog.

The history is recorded in articles from *The American Brittany,* the magazine of the American Brittany Club. The magazine issue month and page precede each article.

Initial possession of each of the four (4) statues:

1. The American Brittany Club - gifted by Alain Stuyvesant as a rotating trophy for the winner of the National All-Age Championship. This trophy was retired by Towsey in 1959 and remains in the possession of Mrs. Tom Black of Wichita, KS.

2. Mr. Walter Kleeman - a very close friend of Mr. Stuyvesant. This trophy was donated in 1960 by Mrs. Kleeman to the ABC after Towsey retired the first trophy and remains today in the possession of the ABC as a perpetual rotating trophy for the winner of the National Amateur All-Age Championship.

3. Retained by Mr. Stuyvesant - After his death the statue was given to Harold Frantz, Mr. Stuyvesant's kennel manager. The statue was passed on after his death to Ms. Barbara Rokas of Mt. Bethel, PA, a close neighbor and friend of Mr. Frantz. Ms. Rokas has generously loaned this trophy to the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame for display in the Brittany museum.

4. Given to the French Brittany Club in France.

ABC Magazine, June 1952, page 3
Front cover – Fath Iron Dog Trophy
Article - Includes picture of Alan R. Stuyvesant with Iron Dog trophy

Our front cover shows a photograph of the magnificent bronze statue recently brought from France by Alan R. Stuyvesant, owner of the Allamuchy Valley Kennels at Allamuchy, New Jersey, to be given as a challenge trophy for the Open All-Age stake of the National Brittany Trial.

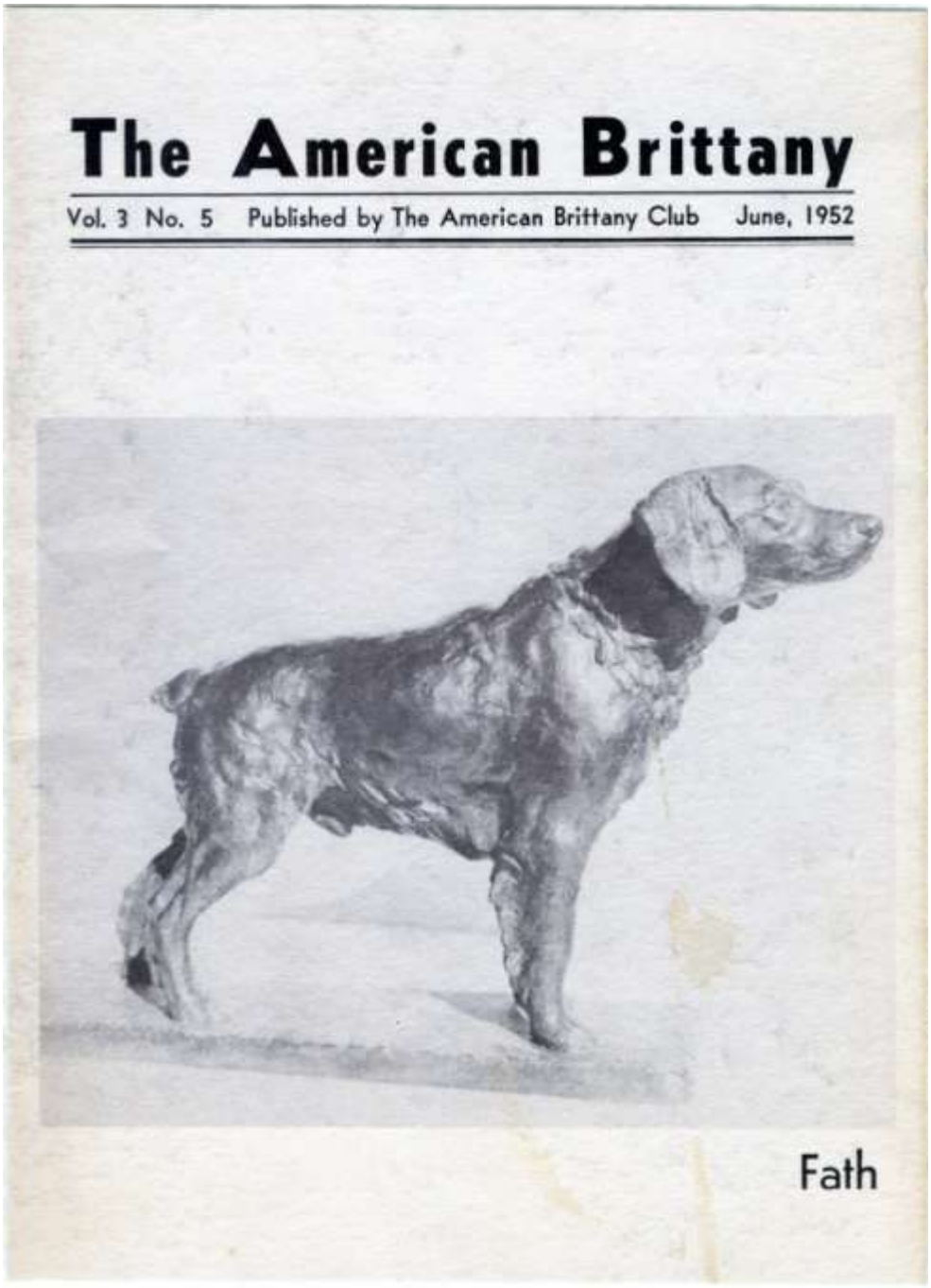
To be known as the Kaer de Cornouaille trophy, it will be held for one year by the owner of the winning dog at each National. Permanent possession will be gained if it is won three times by the same dog, or three times by one owner of any three winners of the National All-Age, not necessarily the same dog.

This beautiful bronze was modeled by Fath, the famous French animal sculptor, and represents a composite, ideal Brittany. Many models were made during a period of six months before the final plaster model, from which the bronze was cast, received the approval of Alan Stuyvesant and several well known French judges who assisted him in its preparations. The pointing position, rather than a show pose, was one of the latter's suggestions.

In being named for Kaer de Cornouaille, the trophy honors a Brittany which was bred by Emile Bourdon of Callac, Brittany and imported to this country by Alan Stuyvesant in 1936. Kaer played a large part in gaining early recognition of the Brittany among the field trial fraternity by winning outstandingly in leading competition. He received national acclaim when he won the Jockey Hollow Club Shooting Dog Championship in 1940 against some of the country's foremost Pointers and Setters, and when he again placed in this event in 1946. He was also a winner in the Mexican All-Age in 1940 at Vera Cruz, likewise an Open competition.

Kaer's greatest renown, however, came from his prepotency as a sire and the indelible mark which he made in improvement of the breed. His name will be found in most of the pedigrees of winning Brittanys both in this country and abroad and for this reason alone it seems fitting that this unusually fine trophy should carry his name.

A chance to get a leg on the new challenge trophy should be a real incentive to come to the National.





Alan R. Stuyvesant, holding new trophy

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COMPLIMENTS

OF

BELLOAKS

KENNELS

1952 Tenth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1953, page 3

Article – First name/winner listed on the trophy

Pontac's Dingo Howard Crippen, owner Jane Thompson, handler

"Never underestimate the power of a woman" -- especially when it comes to handling dogs. What Jane Thompson, veteran Brittany handler from Northville, Michigan, did at the Nationals this year, will stick like a thorn in the flesh of every male handler. It was not enough that Jane repeated with Howard Crippens's Dual Ch. "Pontac's Dingo" what she did last year in winning the big Open All Age Stake. Dingo has now retired the old American Brittany Club rotating National trophy, and he is the first dog to have his name engraved on the beautiful bronze statue that Alan Stuyvesant had cast in France. And presented to the club.

1953 Eleventh Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1954, page 4

Article – Second name/winner listed on the trophy

Tennessee Luke Howard P. Clements, owner/handler

And the large bronze statuette of a Brittany, donated by Alan Stuyvesant is awarded to the Open All Age winner of the year. Winner of the Open All Age Stake: "Tennessee Luke," Howard P. Clements, Chicago, IL; owner-handler.

1954 In memory of Alan R. Stuyvesant

Born July 31, 1905, Paris

Died February 9, 1954, France

ABC Magazine, June 1954, page 4

Front cover – The late Alan R. Stuyvesant

Article - In Memorium by Walter Kleeman

You and I, and every owner of a Brittany Spaniel in the United States have suffered a great loss in the unfortunate passing of Alan Rutherford Stuyvesant. On February 8, 1954, while making one of his numerous journeys to France aboard the line United States, he suffered a fractured skull, due to a severe accidental fall, and he did not recover consciousness thereafter.

Alan's manifold social and business responsibilities, as well as his heroic military service during the second World War, are well known to most of us, Alan Stuyvesant was one of the foremost exponents of Brittany Spaniels for many year. Louis Thebaud is considered the founder of Brittany Spaniels in America, as he was the first to import a number of them into this country and maintain them. He succeeded in having the American Kennel Club recognize the breed. In 1937, Mr. Thebaud formed and became President of the Brittany Spaniel of America Club. Being in advanced years, Mr. Thebaud soon found the burden and problems of a young, new breed club beyond his failing strength. Fortunately, like proteus of Old, Alan upheld the torch and added fuel to the feebly flickering interest in the organization by accepting the position of acting President; and when interest in the breed had reached to the height of creating the American Brittany Club, Alan, a stalwart of both organizations, was actually the motivating force that produced the merger of the two organizations, and through his efforts won recognition from the American Kennel Club of the American Brittany Club as the parent body.

Alan contributed mightily in time, effort and finance. He imported many splendid specimens of the foundations stock of France, and was most generous in bringing over top Brittany Spaniels for his friends. He bred and distributed many young dogs without recompense. His counsel was always available whatever the problem might be. No man in America was better qualified, by reason of his frequent trips to

France, his participation on both sides of the broad Atlantic in field trials and shows, maintaining as he did the basic, fundamental thought that the Brittany must ever be a dual dog, neither exclusively show nor exclusively field, but ever reaching toward that elusive characteristic of perfection both in the field and on the bench.

I, personally, feel poignantly the great loss that has been forced upon us. In March, 1936, Alan and I both obtained our first Brittany Spaniels. Pioneers as we were in the vast wilderness of dogdom, with a little known, and even less respected pointing breed, naturally we were drawn together. Correspondence, telephone calls and later personal contact developed a warm friendship that endured and increased throughout the years.

Having enjoyed his society both in the field and by the campfire, we enjoyed a great many trips together. It was Alan who introduced me to the grouse and woodcock coverts of New Brunswick, and the Hungarian partridge shooting on Prince Edward Island. We exchanged puppies, argued breeding programs, and worked together in all of the affairs of the American Brittany Club. An excellent shot, he was a delightful field companion, and a raconteur of rare charm in the afterglow following a day afield.

I am sure that Howard Clements, Hugo ?, Jack Whitworth, Tom ?, Dick ?, Herb ?, and Evelyn Monte, as well as that myriad of other friends, who have known him intimately, will join me in a pause of silent devotion; and as the poet Omar has so aptly phrased it, "When the moving finger writes, having writ" our final summons, and having reached the gates of Valhalla, may we be assigned to that special niche devoted exclusively to Brittany Spaniels and their human companions.

Before us the plain sweeps majestically to the horizon, well populated with pheasants, quail, partridges and prairie chickens. To the left, a heavy marsh, where waterfowl trade back and forth, bringing offerings for water retrieving. To the right, hills and dales well covered with hardwoods, properly sprinkled with conifers, the tinkle of the location bell fades into silence, broken only by the whistling of the woodcock's wing and the thunderous rise of a ruffed grouse.

Alan, we miss you. Auf Wiedersehen!

The American Brittany

Vol. 5 No. 9 Published by The American Brittany Club June, 1954



The late Alan R. Stuyvesant

IN MEMORIUM

BY WALTER KLEEMAN

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Alan, we miss you. Auf Wiedersehen!

1954 Twelfth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1955, page 4

Article – Third name/winner listed on the trophy

F.C. Miste De Klemanor Walter B. Kleeman, owner Tom Cox,handler

1955 Thirteenth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1956, page 16

Article – Fourth name/winner listed on the trophy

Towsey Tom Black, owner Delmar Smith, handler

First photo with winning dog & Iron Dog trophy

1956 Fourteenth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1957, page 26

Article – Fifth name/winner listed on the trophy

Jeffrey of Argard TA. Leroy Magnuson, owner Jess Hayslip, handler

Second photo with winning dog & Iron Dog trophy *page 42*

1957 Fifteenth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1958, page 4

Article – Sixth name/winner listed on the trophy

Towsey Tom Black, owner Delmar Smith, handler

1957 In memory of Walter B. Kleeman (died September 1957)

ABC Magazine, January 1958, page 2 & 3

Article – includes photo of Walter B. Kleeman, Walter B. Kleeman Trophy

Resolution

The American Brittany Club, Incorporated, at its annual meeting at Carbondale, Illinois, on December 2, 1957, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

That the directors of the American Brittany Club, for themselves and on behalf of its Officers and all other members, record with profound sorrow the untimely death, on September 28, 1957, of Walter B. Kleeman.

Over the long and eventful period following the organization of the American Brittany Club, Mr. Kleeman gave most generously of his time and effort to forward its best interests. Prior to his death he had been a member of its Board of Directors for many years, and also during its history had served as its Secretary, Vice-President and President.

Walter Kleeman won the confidence of all who knew him and, by his constant devotion, dynamic personality, and inspiring leadership, he added immeasurably to the outstanding success and high character of the American Brittany Club and the wide recognition now extended the Brittany as a great sporting dog.

Always considerate and kind, he was a loyal, genial, inspiring and helpful associate and friend, whose memory we shall treasure with love and admiration.

ABC Board of Directors

Jul 58



—Photo by John G. Hemmer

WALTER B. KLEEMAN

IN MEMORY OF WALTER B. KLEEMAN

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—Kornbaugh and Millsap Studio

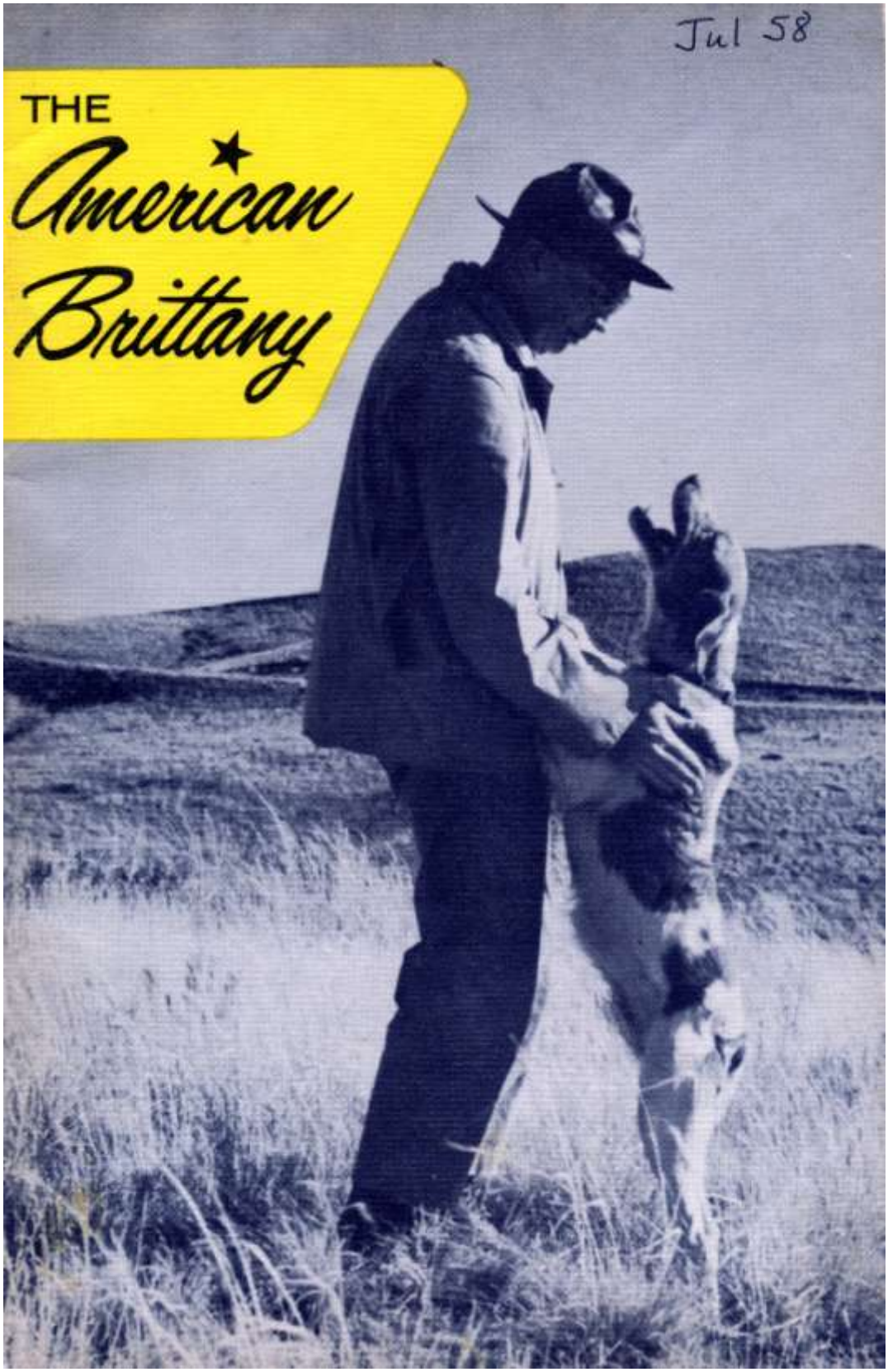
WALTER B. KLEEMAN TROPHY

In over 30 years experience with field trial people and their dogs, I have known many men . . . Walter Kleeman was a giant among these men.

After returning from the Pacific in the mid 40's I was introduced to the Brittany and attended my first field trial where I met Walter. By 1948 he and Alan Stuyvesant were grooming me for other duties far removed from simply hunting with the Brittany. In our frequent meetings and communications, Walter's devotion to the breed he admired and the organization he was so instrumental in founding became more and more apparent. His sense of fairness to all was sometimes obscured by his intense desire to formulate an organization to protect and preserve both breed and individual. Through many trying times he guided the destinies of the struggling American Brittany Club until he now leaves us with an organization of which we are all justly proud.

Walter's true sportsmanship was shown in regard to the National Champion Stake. Originally only lukewarm to the possibilities of such a program, he later worked untiringly to have it approved. The necessary journeys to New York and elsewhere were made at a great sacrifice of his time and efforts. It is only fitting that his name is attached to this stake, the greatest of all Brittany field trials, and is inscribed on the rotating trophy presented to the annual winner. The American Brittany Club is honored to have his authority and dignity perpetuated by this association. Some may give as freely and unselfishly of their time and energy, but it is doubtful if anyone will ever mean as much to the American Brittany Club as the late Walter B. Kleeman.

ALLEN TRUEX



Walter B. Kleeman

1958 Sixteenth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1959, page 3

Article – Seventh name/winner listed on the trophy

Hellou's Yankee Timber

Bernard Neiberger, owner Ralph Hesseltine, handler

1959 Seventeenth Annual National Trial

ABC Magazine, January 1960, page 2

Article – Eighth name/winner listed on the trophy

Towsey Tom Black, owner Delmar Smith, handler

Once again the ball-carrier of the Brittany Nationals in 1959 was Towsey, just as it was in 1955 and again in 1957. Yet this time when he proudly takes home the bronze statuette of a Brittany, he has it "for keeps". The late Alan R. Stuyvesant had the French sculptor Fath cast the 'Kaer de Cornouaille' trophy in bronze, and presented it to the American Brittany Club in 1952 as a challenge trophy to be retained one year by the winner of the National Brittany All-Age. Permanent possession would be gained if "it is three times won by the same dog, or three times by one owner of any three winners, not necessarily the same dog". Towsey has complied with the first requirement and his exhibition this year really clinched the trophy.

1959 Kaer de Cornouaille Trophy Retired

ABC Magazine, February 1960, page 28

Article – Includes picture of the Iron Dog Trophy

Fld. Ch. Towsey, by virtue of his third win of the National All Age-National Championship Stake, has now retired the rotating Kaer de Cornouaille Trophy. This trophy has a long and distinguished history, and it is fitting to review its past, now that it has been retired. With the passing of time, this national trophy has come to be known affectionately as "The Iron Dog", and other less endearing terms usually muttered under their breath by the handler 'unfortunate' enough to carry it home after the Nationals. Alan R. Stuyvesant, owner of the Allamuchy Valley Kennels, New Jersey, brought this statuette from France, and offered it in 1950 as a challenge trophy for Open All-Age Stake of the National Brittany Trials. It was to be held by the owner of the winning dog for one year. Permanent possession could be gained if it was won three times by the same dog, or three times by one owner of any three winners of the National All Age Stake (National Championship) not necessarily the same dog. Tom Black and Towsey did it the hard way - three times with the same dog!

This beautiful bronze was modeled by Fath, the famous French designer and animal Sculptor, and represents a composite, ideal Brittany. Many models were made during a period of six months before the final plaster model, from which the bronze was cast, received the approval of Alan Stuyvesant and several well-known French judges who assisted him in its preparation. The pointing position, rather than a show pose, was one of the latter suggestions.

The trophy was named for Kaer de Cornouaille, honoring a Brittany which was bred by Emile Bourdon of Callac, Brittany, and imported to this country by Alan Stuyvesant in 1936. Kaer played a large part in gaining early recognition of the Brittany among the field trial fraternity by winning in an outstanding manner in leading competition. He

received national acclaim when he won the Jockey hollow Club Shooting Dog Championship in 1940 against some of the countries' foremost pointers and setters, and when he again placed in this event in 1946. He was also a winner in the Mexican All-Age in 1940 at Vera Cruz, likewise an open competition.

Kaer's greatest renown, however, came from his prepotency as a sire and indelible mark which he made in improvement of the breed. His name will be found in most of the pedigrees of winning Brittanys both in this country and abroad.

It is fitting that this trophy has been retired by Towsey, a dog of renown and truly great stature and a dual dog.



Original Iron Dog Trophy at home of Tom Black having been retired by Towsey

Feb 60

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DEADLINE FOR COPY

ADVERTISING AND FEATURE

MATERIAL

23rd of MONTH PRECEEDING

MONTH OF PUBLICATION

Oct 60

ALAN STUYVESANT MEMORIAL TROPHY

The Club is delighted to announce at this time that Mrs. Walter Kleeman has donated as a memorial to the late Alan Stuyvesant a beautiful bronze Brittany statue modeled by the famous French designer, Fath. This is a duplicate of the Kaer de Cornauaille trophy retired last year by Towsey. It will be a perpetual trophy going to the winner of the National Amateur Stake.

It is very fitting that Mrs. Kleeman should donate the trophy at this time. Walter and Alan were close friends, dating back to the late thirties, and both contributed a countless amount of time and money to see that the Brittanys were properly launched in this country. Alan, through his family connections in France, knew all the prominent French breeders. And as a result,



only the best of the breed was imported to this country. He was also responsible a few years later in having the French Brittany Club select a number of young dogs with outstanding blood lines and fly them to this country where the majority were given away to breeders. This was an important contribution because at this time the breed in this country was badly in need of new blood.

Probably there are few of our present day members who had the good fortune to attend one of our early trials on the Stuyvesant estate at Allamuchy, New Jersey. This estate comprised some 16,000 acres of rolling country. A spacious kennel could house fifty or more dogs. With a large rambling house, no one could forget his hospitality and his amusing little Chinese house boy.

When the war started, Alan financed his own ambulance corps, took it to France and promptly lost all his equipment at Dunkirk. He again organized another corps, joined the Free French in Africa where he was taken prisoner and retained in an Italian prison camp for some time. On his release, he joined the American Intelligence and on V. E. Day found himself being dropped back of the German lines. I recall he often said it sounded like the opening of the pheasant season in New Jersey. After the war, he again became active in Brittany affairs until his untimely death aboard ship on his way to France.

Regarding Walter Kleeman, I am sure every one ever interested in Brittanys knew of him. He was often referred to as "Mr. Brittany Spaniel," a title he well deserved. It was his untiring effort in the early days of the Club that resulted in its reorganization and the writing of an approval by the A.K.C. of the Club's bylaws.

Also a prominent breeder, he was generous to a fault in giving dogs away when he thought the individual was deserving.

It is a great compliment to have Mrs. Kleeman, who has done so much work for the American Brittany Club, knew the older members and the dogs, offer this trophy and she can be assured her gift is greatly appreciated and that she has the sincere thinks of all the members of the Club.

This trophy has been donated to be a permanent and non-retirable inasmuch as this is a work of art that can never be duplicated. A mounted replica of the inscribed plate on this triphy will be also annually awarded.

• • •

REMEMBER TO DONATE TO THE NATIONAL TROPHY FUND.

<u>1960</u> Alan Stuyvesant Memorial Trophy
ABC Magazine, October 1960, page 12
Article – Includes picture of the Iron Dog Trophy

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Also a prominent breeder, he was generous to a fault in giving dogs away when he thought the individual was deserving.

It is a great compliment to have Mrs. Kleeman, who has done so much work for the American Brittany Club, know the older members and the dogs, offer this trophy and she can be assured her gift is greatly appreciated and that she has the sincere thanks of all the members of the Club.

This trophy has been donated to be a permanent and not-retirable inasmuch as this is a work of art that can never be duplicated. A mounted replica of the inscribed plate on this trophy will be also annually awarded.



People involved in the history of the Iron Dog

Alain Rutherford Stuyvesant

Ms. Barbara Rokas, Mt. Bethel, PA
Brittany owner and close friend of Mr. Frantz

Harold Frantz, Kennel Manager and Game Keeper,
Stuyvesant Estate, Allamuchy Valley Kennels,
Allamuchy, N. J.

Richard Fath, sculptor, France

Alan Rutherford Stuyvesant

Biography in separate book titled
“Brittany History – Alain Rutherford Stuyvesant”



Ms. Barbara Rokas

Ms. Rokas has donated an untold number of items to our museum and loaned an original Kaer de Cornouaille “Iron Dog” statue for display. We are indebted to her for her generosity.

Ms. Rokas became involved with Brittanys in the early seventies. She and her husband had been looking at acquiring a bird dog and, after seeing a Brittany perform in the field, she was hooked on the breed. After acquiring her first dog Tia, a female, and living in New Jersey, Barbara became involved with the North Jersey Brittany club. As her interest in the breed grew, she became very active in both field trialing and showing her dogs. During those years of involvement, she was able to produce several Dual Champions. Her most successful dog was Hope’s Maximillien Robespierre who was a Dual Champion, Amateur Field Champion and a Canadian Champion. Max was her pride and joy with many field and show wins.

Barbara was a career school teacher and, while driving home from school one day in 1990, was involved in a horrific head on crash that nearly took her life and left her almost totally disabled. Surviving that crash and not being able to be physically involved with the Brittany has not dampened her love for the breed.

Barbara has a keen interest in the history of the Brittany in America and has been a strong proponent of the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame. Living in the western New Jersey-eastern Pennsylvania area, she became friendly with Harold and Dorothy Frantz who lived nearby. Harold was the long time trainer, kennel manager and game manager for Alain Stuyvesant at Allamuchy Valley, located just a few miles away.

Following Stuyvesant’s accidental death, Harold inherited a lot of the early Brittany paraphernalia including one of the original Iron Dog bronze statues. The statue, commissioned by Stuyvesant in the image of his great producer Kaer de Cornouaille, was created by the famous French sculptor Richard Fath.

There were several other items belonging to Stuyvesant that were important to the history of the Brittany breed that were also included in the bequeath to Frantz. Following Frantz’s passing, Barbara became the recipient of these items.

In the past several years, Barbara has donated all of these items to the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame museum where they will be preserved for generations to come tracing the history of the Brittany in the United States.



Ms. Barbara Rokas and DC/AFC/CKC Hope's Maximilien Robespierre





DC/AFC/CKC CH HOPE'S MAXIMILIEN ROBESPIERRE
1973 - 1986

We were extremely fortunate to have had a dog who was a Dual, Amateur Field and Canadian Champion. He was the epitome of a bird dog - extremely intense on point and so pleasing to the eye be it in the field, at a trial or hunting, at a show or just at home. We had a dog who thought everything we did was right. When he looked at us we knew just what he was thinking and we knew that he understood us, too. In short, we had the pleasure of owning the greatest Brittany one could ever wish to have. Not too many of our breed have accomplished what Max was able to do in spite of us - over 50 adult placements in AKC and American Field trials and more than 50 Best of Breeds in the U.S. and Canada including group placements in both countries. Max, we thank you for all you have taught us. You will never be forgotten as you hold a very special place in our hearts.

Bob & Barbara Rokas

* * * * * * * * Dec 86

Harold Frantz

<u>1986</u> Harold Frantz Passing

ABC Magazine, December 1986, page 33

In Memoriam

1908 – 1986

It is with deep sorrow that I report the passing of Harold Frantz. Harold was the kennel manager and game keeper for the Stuyvesant Estate in Allamuchy, NJ for 39 years. He began working for Alan Stuyvesant in 1936 when the Brittany was a little known breed in the U.S. At that time the estate consisted of 6,000 acres including 650 acres referred to as the Deer Park which was enclosed by an 8' cyclone fence so that dogs were protected during the hunt. Mr. Stuyvesant was very influential in helping the Brittany in America and Mr. Frantz was his right hand man.

Because Mr. Stuyvesant spoke French fluently, the war years took him to Europe a great deal of the time and Mr. Frantz then had total responsibility of the dogs. Often he was the one who decided on the breedings, trained and hunted the dogs, field trialed and showed them. At one time Mr. Frantz had 85 Britts in his charge.

He traveled from Canada to Mexico field trialing dogs such as Allamuchy Valley Addie, Allamuchy Valley Joe, Iane, Jilo, Kaer, Pamalie and Allamuchy Valley Winny. He also attended many dog shows including Westminster and he even took Pamalie to New York for the Quizz Kids TV show. He attended and participated in the first field trial of the North Jersey Brittany Club in 1947. Although Jilo was Mr. Stuyvesant's favorite, Harold had his favorite in Pamalie. Some of the memorabilia in Harold's trophy case includes the ABC plaque for the 1947 "Nationals" winner Allamuchy Valley Addie; ribbons from Jockey Hollow Field Trial (1948), NJBC held at Preakness, NJ (1949), Best of Breed Westminster (1953); a 1938 copy of the American Field with a write up about Iane; judges ribbon 1956 GSPC, etc.

I feel extremely honored to have had the opportunity to meet Harold Frantz and to have shared so many stories and memories with him. He was a gracious, wonderful person and to this wife, Dottie, we extend our deepest regrets.

Barbara Rokas

<u>1954</u> North Jersey Brittany Trial

ABC Magazine, June 1954, page 43

Everyone agreed that the late **Alan Stuyvesant** would have been proud and happy to see the way the club, in which he had such a major part in founding and was so much interested in, is progressing. As evidenced by its annual spring trial, held this year at Bevans, N.J., on April 24-25, it has a fine group of sportsmen at the helm who are united in thought, endeavor and goal! The trial was a good one, buoyed by the youthfully enthusiastic and competent field trial chairman, Ted Cwik; by **Harold Frantz, the president**, Sanford Vreeland, secretary and John Carrigan, field trial secretary, all of whom went all out to make it a notable success.



North Jersey Brittany club officers pose for photo following annual spring trial at Bevans, N. J. From left to right they are**:** **Harold Frantz, president**; Al Meester, vice president; Martin Kracke, treasurer; Sanford Vreeland, secretary.

Although a feeling of sadness pervaded the gathering, due to the recent passing of the Brittany "pioneer" from Allamuchy, N. J., so many wonderful tributes were paid to Alan Stuyvesant, so many warm thoughts expressed that his presence was felt and rather than a sadness of depressing nature it was uplifting.

At a dinner held on Saturday night at McKeown's, Cuivers Lake trial headquarters, Dr. Charles Buvinger, past president of the club, gave a splendid talk honoring Alan. On view was the beautiful memorial trophy, a large sterling silver bowl given by the club for the amateur all age stake and which carried a replica for permanent possession of the winner. . . .



Ted Cwik, field trial secretary for the North Jersey Brittany Club, presents the Alan Stuyvesant Trophy to Bob Mahlett with Club President **Harold Frantz** looking on.

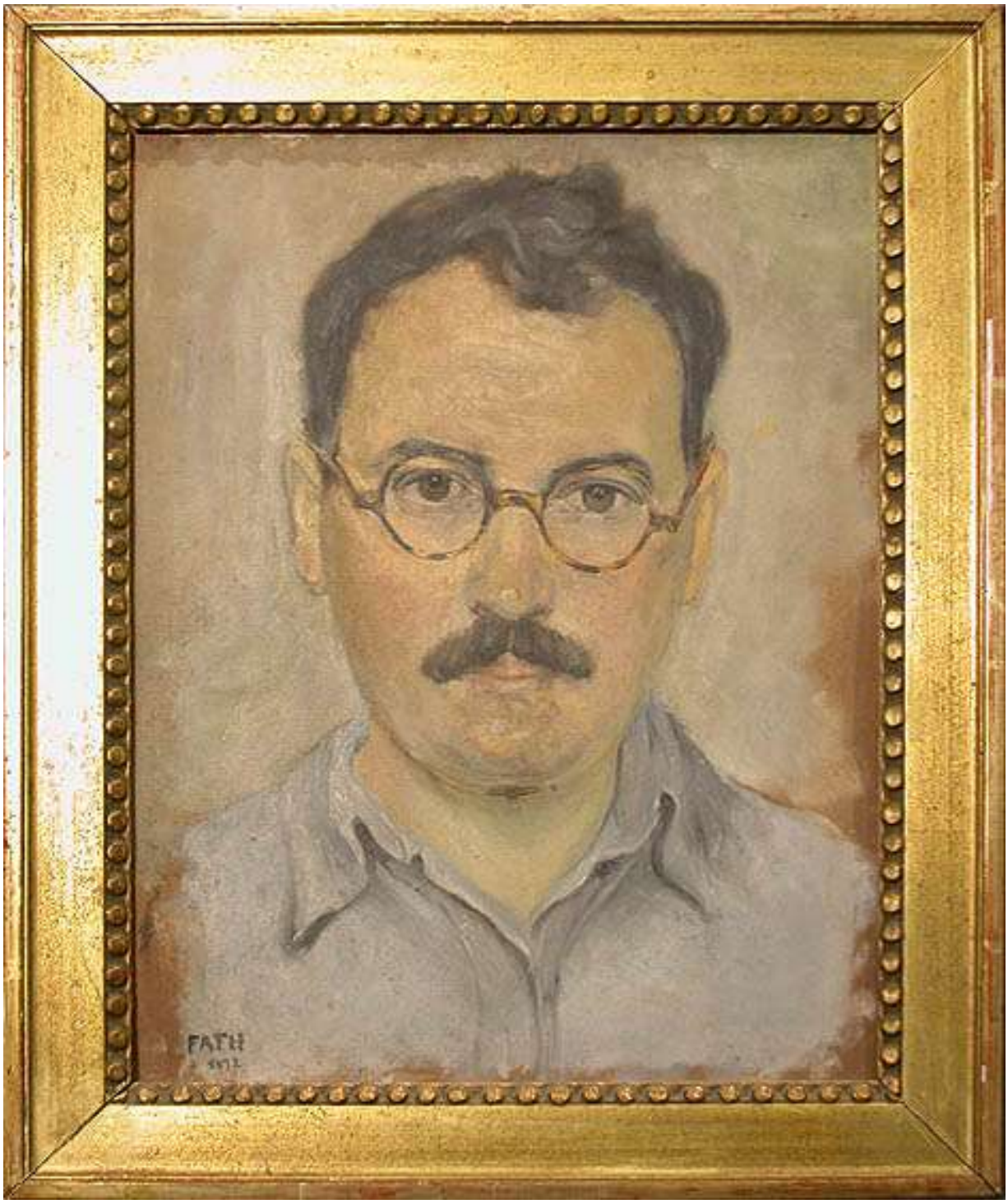
Richard Fath

(French, 1900 -1952)
Sculptor, medallist, painter, engraver, animals

Richard Fath was born in Paris and was an artist of extraordinary talent who, when his peers were working in the accepted, stylized mode of the art deco, chose to depict dogs and animals with a verisimilitude that is unmatched to this day. Unlike his more well known contemporaries such as Pompon and Bugatti, Fath is inextricably linked to the specialized world of purebred dogs. He knew the prominent breeders of his day, as well as the officials and staff of the Société Centrale Canine, the French equivalent of the American Kennel Club, and he created original sculptures in bronze, terra cotta and plaster, of some of the finest purebred dogs. From 1922 to 1926, Richard Fath was a pupil of Jean Boucher at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He was also a friend of Paul Belmondo. He made his first real debut around 1925. He exhibited at the Salon des Artistes Français, where he received honourable mention

Fath was drawn to animals from an early age and they were his primary subject matter. He first trained at the studio schools of Saint-Maur-des-Fosséés, later enrolling in 1924 at the sculpture studio of Falguièère-Merciéé-Boucher, and making his first models of dogs in 1926. He received numerous awards during his lifetime, and was awarded an Honorary mention for his stone sculpture of Charlie van den Ruhmeshall, a Great Dane, at the Salon des Artistes Franççais.

Fath received numerous public and private commissions in France, including several from the Ministry of Agriculture, but he also received great international acclaim. Among the Americans who collected his work was the well-known Mary Crane, who commissioned bronze portraits of her well-known Great Pyrenees' imports. Fath's sculptures are represented in several French museum collections, most notably The Museum of the Hunt in Gien, The Picardie Museum in Amiens and the A.G. Poulain Museum in Vernon, among several others. In the United States, The American Kennel Club in New York and the American Kennel Club “Museum of The Dog” in St. Louis, have several of his bronzes.



Richard Fath self-portrait