

# Field Trial Hall Of Fame Celebrates Sport Recognizes New Members

Top honors in the field trial realm were bestowed upon some of the sport's most distinguished people and outstanding dogs during festivities September 15 and 16 at the Bird Dog Foundation's sporting dog center in Grand Junction, TN, when new members were inducted into the Field Trial Hall of Fame. The annual program, honoring the elite of the Pointer, Setter, Retriever, Brittany and Springer pursuits, is the hallmark event of the Bird Dog Foundation, Inc., under whose aegis portraits, memorabilia and historical information reminiscent of field trialing's key players are preserved and displayed for public appreciation in its spacious West Tennessee sporting dog center.

Presiding over Friday evening's program honoring founders, Patron memorials, Life Patron Memberships and other friends of the Foundation were Bird Dog Foundation President, Captain Gary Locke, and David Fletcher of the Board of Directors. Recognized with a Founders Perpetual Membership for her many contributions and faithful service the Foundation was Dorothy Metcalf of Oxford, Maryland. Families and friends of deceased members of the bird dog and field trial community joined in the presentation of Patron Memorial plaques honoring six, including Bill Schrieber of Illinois, Life Patron



**Karen Schreiber with Bill's plaque, and Dave Fletcher. Janet Chase in back ground**

Membership plaques were presented to field trial enthusiast Dr. John Webb of Iowa Park, Texas and to Jack and Ruth Hires of Ionia, Michigan



**Dave Fletcher with John & Judy Webb**



**Dave Fletcher with honorees Ruth and Jack Hires**

Guests from all over the country attended the program and enjoyed the social hour, southern style barbecue at its best and musical entertainment that followed by the Hard Times Blue Grass Band. This evening's program was sponsored by INNOTEK'S Sporting Dog Division.

It was a gala afternoon in Grand Junction on Saturday when a capacity crowd of bird dog folks gathered with Field Trial Hall of Fame celebrities, families and families of deceased Field Trial Hall of Famers to applaud the new inductees to this prestigious sporting group, and to share fellowship at the elegant reception that followed. It was an emotional time, a crowning achievement for those receiving accolades representative of field trialing's highest honor.

The criteria for nomination, election and induction into the Field Trial Hall of Fame follow those outlined at its inception by the late William F. Brown, editor of the weekly sporting journal, *The American Field*. Eligibility for dogs is based upon the animal's entire competitive career and/or its record as a producer, not merely for a particular win or meritorious deed. Persons accorded Field Trial Hall of Fame status earn

that honor through long-term, notable service to the field trial sport.

Government dignitaries and other guest speakers added distinction to the induction ceremony with opening and welcoming remarks by Lt. Governor John Wilder and Grand Junction Mayor Richard Kee, followed by Bernard J. Matthys, Managing editor of *The American Field*.

Foundation director, Bernard J. Matthys, emceed the presentation of scrolls to new Field Trial Hall of Famers, assisted by Bill Cartmell for the Brittany Group: Bill Wunderlich, D. L. Walters and Jay Sweezey for the Retriever group and Harry Henriques for the Spaniel Group.

The Pointer and Setter Field Trial Hall of Fame recognized Eugene E. Casale, William J. Allen and E.L. (Buddy) Smith, three were inducted from the Retriever group and-honored for the first time were five Spaniel enthusiasts.



**Rosco Staton, Donna & Frank Pride with AUX-ARC MARK's plaque, Bill Cartmell, Kraig Staton**

Dogs honored by the Brittany contingent were Aux-Arc's Mark owned by Frank and Donna Pride of Eustis, Maine and Brandy's Bullet owned by Bill Norvell of Richardson, Texas. Pointing Breeds group



**Bill Norvell & Bill Cartmell with BRANDY'S BULLET Plaque**

recognized Tekoa Mountain Sunrise, Nell's Rambling On and Newman's Delivery Dan and Retrieving Breeds group honored four and, for the first time, the Spaniel (Flushing) group were honored with five inductees.

Visitors to the Bird Dog Foundation's sporting dog center can experience bird dog and field trial history first hand through its three facilities, the National Bird Dog Museum, the Field Trial Hall of Fame and the Wildlife Heritage Center. The center is open from Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free, although donations are welcome.



**Part of the Brittany contingent during the presentation of Bill Schreiber's plaque: Ella & Lloyd Conable, John Webb, Ruth & Jack Hires, Mary Jo Trimble, Janet Chase, Karen Schreiber, Jim Chase making the presentation, Dave Fletcher, Bill Cartmell.**

## Grand Junction Sidelights

### By Ella Conable

A trip to the Bird Dog Museum and Field Trial Hall of Fame complex in Grand Junction is a walk through the history of field trials - its dogs and people - both Pointers and Setters and, in recent years Brittannies and Retrievers. This year the Flushing Spaniels were also added to the roster of breeds recognized in these environs. In addition to the paintings of dogs and people and the walls of plaques, there are wonderful displays of memorabilia and trophies (some retired, others still in competition). Foundation President Gary Lockee and Director Bernie Matthys are always a pleasure to talk to.



**Gary Lockee**



**Bernie Matthys**

In addition to those being honored there was a large contingent representing our breed, including Jan, Rosco and Kraig Staton (Mark's trainers/handlers); Bill Cartmell minus Rheta (who was missed!), Neil Mace, Dick Pulliam, Tom and Linda Milam, Delmar and Rick Smith (Bullet's trainer/handler), Jim and Janet Chase, Mary Jo Trimble, Lloyd Conable and Susan Norvell. Our dogs and our people are becoming more visible at Grand Junction - both on the walls and at the ceremonies.



**Tom Milan & Rosco Staton rest in front of one section of Brittany panels.**

Bill Cartmell presented a painting of TORCHY OF LIONHART to the museum. Following Marion Baker's death, Dave LaChance had obtained the portrait and some articles about Torchy's accomplishments against the "long-tails" of his era from a former employee. Torchy ran extensively against pointers in shooting dog stakes and holds the U.S. record for placements (17) in long-tail competition. When Dave judged the Nationals a few years back he brought Marion's scrapbook with Torchy's press clippings with him - it was fascinating reading!

Happy surprises are fun! Everyone who looked at the program knew that Jack Hires was being honored but Ruth's name was carefully omitted. Following the presentation to Jack she told a funny incident about the picture on his plaque. As she turned to leave Dave stopped her and began the introduction to her plaque. The expres-

sion on her face was priceless!

For those who field trialed in the '50's and '60's the name "Longtown" conjures up memories of the Volunteer Brittany Club, Dr. Wiggins Wilder and his dogs named or prefixed after the settlement on I-40 where the club ran its trials. The Lt. Gov. recounted some of his brother's "doggie stories" for us.



**Lt. Gov. John Wilder**

Bob West and Rick Smith were there representing Purina, the ABC's Official Sponsor. A charming young lady, Sharon Lund, was introduced as the new Kasco representative replacing the recently retired Ray Byrum, who has served in that capacity for some years.



**Bob West**



**Ricky Smith**