

# 2015 Brittany Field Trial

## Hall of Fame Inductees

By: Diana Kubitz

This year we decided to drive to Grand Junction since we had the Woman's Handler Trophies for the National All Age and National Gun Dog Championships to take down to the Brittany wing. The ABC board had voted to retire them, so the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame made room in one of our two new beautiful curio cabinets. We arrived on Wednesday just before lunch and, after checking into the Hampton Inn in Collierville, Gary and I drove to Grand Junction to deposit the trophies.

While in the museum area of our wing, we admired an old desk belonging to who else but Bill Brown, longtime editor of The American Field! WOW, next came the question we heard most throughout our stay, how did the Brittany wing get Bill Brown's desk? My Dad always told me if something was worth having, it was worth asking for. Rick Smith, also subscribing to that principal, talked to Bernie Matthys of The American Field and found out that they wanted Bill's desk to go to the Bird Dog Museum but it was expensive to ship it. Rick said, "If the Brittany's pay for the shipping, could we get it housed in our wing?" Bernie agreed so now the desk is in the BFTHF wing on exhibit. I think it was one of the most visited exhibits in the museum that weekend.



**L to R: Mary Jo Trimble, Quinn Johnson, Kennie Davis, Steve Davis, Shane Mason, Mary Karbiner, Robert Karbiner & Kennie Karbiner**



**L to R: Harlene Gale Hoyt, Scott Johnson, Meam Floyd, owner (holding painting), Justin Hagedorn, Francis Clasen, Marge Johnson, Steve Wheeler, Lyle Johnson, Joyce & David Lincoln**

Thursday and Friday, the dedicated folks that came down to Tennessee early worked diligently to get our wing ready for the myriad of visitors who would walk through the halls while visiting the induction ceremonies and the national championship that would begin that following Monday. Every couple of hours Delmar Smith would stroll through the wing complimenting the workers on what a fine job we were doing. Who knew that on top of all the rest of Delmar's accomplishments, he's also a great cheerleader!

At our meeting Friday evening, Rick Smith had an exciting new proposal to tell us about called "The Road to Ames" raffle. A beautiful portrait of National Champion Shadow Oak Bo painted by Bob Bertram is First Prize for this raffle, a fundraiser for the Bird Dog Foundation. The BFTHF took 2500 tickets to sell with all proceeds going to the Brittany Fund. This year that's important since the entire museum needs a new roof and the BFTHF must share in its cost. More information on this fundraising will appear in a following article.

We had fifty-five people from the Brittany world attend the 2015 HOF inductions in Grand Junction on February 7, 2015, at the National Bird Dog Museum and Field Trial Hall of Fame. Every breed was represented and this year's sponsors were very generous. Nestle-Purina sponsored the luncheon between the morning and afternoon presentations and it was delicious and gave everyone a further opportunity to catch up with old friends. We heartily thank Purina for their continued support of the Brittany field trials.

After the usual welcome speeches from various dignitaries and the invocation, the plaques for Tom Fife and John Kline were read and now have a home in our Brittany wing.

We had one person and two dogs inducted into the BFTHF this year – Mary Karbiner, Poki-Dot and Just Call me Roy. Their complete biographies are on the BFTHF website.

Mary Karbiner, or "MarKar" as she always signs her letters and emails, was introduced by Mary Jo Trimble. Mary's family was in attendance along with members of Loyd Budd's family. Daughter Kennie spoke about her mother and brought tears and a couple of finger shakes from her mother, family and the Brittany contingent. Mary joined the ABC while living in Wisconsin during the mid-70's. During the early years she was active as an "amateur trainer", handler, scout, breeder and member of the Milwaukee Brittany Club where she served as club secretary and field trial chairperson in the 1980's. Currently she serves as secretary/treasurer of the Lone Star Brittany Club in Texas where she has resided since 1989.





**L to R: Kent Patterson, Tom Ettinger, owner (holding scroll), Ben Lorenson**

Mary is a driving force behind two championships, the US Brittany Championship Assn. with the Victoire Nationale, a one-hour derby championship, and the Texas Open Brittany Championship as part of the Lone Star Brittany Club field trial. Additionally, for many years Mary and Loyd Budd promoted the Region VI AAA Championship. Mary is a much sought after judge and reporter for all the pointing breeds, both AKC and American Field. She is also a member of the ABC HOF and a platinum supporter and director of the BFTHF. She continues to support and render exemplary service and dedication to the Brittany breed and to the sport of field trialing.

7XCH, 6X RU CH, NFC, 2XNAFC,FC,AFC Just Call Me Roy owned by Tom Ettinger  
 Kent Patterson took center stage to talk about Roy's accomplishments. Kent's eloquent speech made everyone in the room feel like they were there with him handing Roy and marveling at Roy's prowess as a bird dog. Kent proved that not only can he write, he is also an excellent speaker that we are proud to have in our Brittany group. Watch any athletic event

and, at some point, the commentators will attempt to describe the contestants with special talent. Most compliments relate to speed, strength, intelligence, etc. But many times when words fail them, they are left stating he or she just has "IT!" GO to any field trial and ask a judge how he chooses a winner and you'll get, "I'll know it when I see it!" All of this applies to Roy and if you believe that the gifted dogs shine, all you have to do is look at Roy's records at the ABC National All Age Championships to realize just how great his record is statistically.



**L to R: Paul & Lisa Pollock**

Kent Patterson remarked, "As the only reporter of the Deep South Free-For-All Championships for 10 years, I watched Roy perform in the very difficult conditions served up by Tara Hill Plantation. I consider it one of the most challenging endurance events our breed has ever faced since dogs must perform twice, qualifying and championship, to be awarded the title. Roy had 44 total hour stakes with 26 total hour placements.



**Tom Fife's Plaque**

7XCH, 2XRu CH, FC,AFC Poki-Dot owned by Jim (deceased) and Meam Floyd  
 Dave Lincoln did the honors for Poki detailing her many accomplishments. Former trainers Lyle and Marge Johnson, scout Francis Clasen and last handler Scott Johnson were all in attendance along with lots of other friends and Poki admirers. Scott spoke briefly about how fortunate he was to have been able to handle and win with Poki to the end of her career. Meam has Poki's pink collar that she will be donating to the BFTHF.

That Poki had a remarkable field trial career was not a surprise as she was a remarkable dog. She was a "no-nonsense" competitor with heart, drive and exceptional ability. Because of her extreme desire, she almost always found birds and had the ability to know exactly where they would be. Her memory and her ground speed were phenomenal. Her illustrious career included 76 field placements with 18 one-hour placements on grounds all over the country in addition to her 9 championship wins. Poki was the 2000 IAMS All Age Brittany Dog of the Year, 1999/2000 Kasco Pointing Dog of the Year, 2003/2004 Royal Canin Pointing Dog of the Year. She won the prestigious US Open Brittany Championship that required one hour qualifying and one hour finals to become Champion. Having only been bred 3 times and to two different sires, she produced 18 Field winners with one third becoming FC's or DC's.

It was a wonderful induction ceremony and it always leaves me feeling in awe of the wonderful dogs and people chosen by their breeds for these honors. I've said it before and I'll say it again and again, "when I walk through the museum and the Brittany wing I feel like I'm greeting old friends." There is so much to see as you wander through the halls of the entire museum, marveling at how different breeds display their hall of famers and things that mean so much to their breed. If you haven't visited Grand Junction, "The field trial capital of the world" be sure to put that on your bucket list as a must do! You'll be greeted by great southern hospitality; Tonya Brotherton and Barb Sweeney are only too willing to take you on a tour and answer any questions you might have.

A virtual tour of the BFTHF is available on our website along with lots of photos from this year's festivities: <http://www.brittanyfieldtrialhalloffame.com/>. There is also information available on how to nominate a person or dog for the HOF and write-up's of the nominations for the 2016 HOF nominees. All year long we collect for plaques as memorials or to honor the living for their contribution to our breed. Come visit with us in February 2016!