



Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame 2017 Inductions

By: Diana Kubitz

This year's Hall of Fame inductions and celebrations took place on February 11, 2017 in Grand Junction, TN at the National Bird Dog Museum. As usual Gary and I made the trip early to work in the museum area of our Brittany Hall and we were thrilled with the new additions! A trip to the Bird Dog Museum isn't something you do just once; you need to visit periodically to see what additions the different breeds have made.



RHETA CARTMELL & FAMILY

Jim Cartmell, Patty Jeavons, Rheta Cartmell,
Tom Jeavons, Delmar Smith

Our special guest this year was Rheta Cartmell and we are thankful that her family could bring her. Rheta brought us various memorabilia from her late husband Bill's collection and we've proudly added those to a display case in our museum. During the inductions on Saturday, we honored Rheta with a presentation, "Remembering Bill Cartmell", and gave her a framed memorial. The Brittany world has so much to thank the Cartmells for. Bill was a staunch supporter of the hour stakes in our breed and it was the Cartmells, along with Dr. John and Judy Webb, and Delmar Smith who envisioned our Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame and made it a reality. Subsequently Jim and Janet Chase worked diligently to secure funds for our new Brittany wing and it became a reality too. Our fearless leader Rick Smith keeps us on track and our eyes and minds always looking to the future.

Our festivities began Friday evening at the hotel with a social gathering of attendees; food and drink provided by Rick Smith, Dick and Carol Pulliam and Mary Crawford. Willo Barfield and Mary Karbinger arranged everything for the group. Bob Fleury displayed the Iron Dog and other memorabilia generously sent by Ms. Barbara Rokas for our museum. He gave a short

history of the Iron Dog and other items that belonged to Alan Stuyvesant. Bob is a longtime friend of Ms. Rokas and handled her Max in field trials years ago.



DEDICATION OF THE BRITANNY BRONZE

Saturday, just prior to the afternoon's induction ceremonies and presentations, everyone gathered around the Brittany Bronze statue on the grounds in front of the Bird Dog Museum. Ken Jacobsen held the dedication of the "Sam" statue and many photo ops followed. The Brittany statue of "Sam" was the first thing I saw as Gary and I drove up to the museum. I'd seen photos, but it was so much MORE in person! Then, as you walk in the front door of the museum, the first thing you see is the Brittany mural on the right! When you reach the Brittany Hall in the new wing, you KNOW that we have arrived as a breed in the pointing dog world!

The afternoon ceremonies began and Dave Fletcher read and presented 3 plaques.



CHARLES "CHUCK" ALFF, PATRON MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Christina Strickling, Carole Alff & Diana Kubitz

Chuck Alff's Patron Memorial plaque was accepted by

his wife Carole and daughter Christine, in remembrance of his contributions to the breed. Chuck was one of the few amateurs to win the ABC National All Age Championship, handling NFC/DC/AFC Cinnabar's Ami Roc De Edwards himself in 1980.



DR. LESLIE HUNT, LIFE PATRON PLAQUE
Robert Fleury, Leslie Hunt & Henry Wierzbicki

A Life Patron plaque was presented to Dr. Leslie Hunt from Bob Fleury and Henry Wierzbicki and the folks from the east coast for her work in that region. Leslie is currently a Director of the ABC and as a former director served as parliamentarian for the board.



DAVE MARSHALL, LIFE PATRON PLAQUE
Sarah Conyngham & Dave Marshall

Dave Marshall received a Life Patron plaque in recognition of his many years as a professional trainer and his service to our breed. Dave was accompanied by Sarah Conyngham.



INDUCTEE MARY JO TRIMBLE
Donna Mott, Mary Jo & Ray Trimble

The first inductee to the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame needs no introduction to the membership of the American Brittany Club. Mary Jo Trimble is someone we've all come to depend on as a friend and as the Executive Secretary of the ABC. She has had a lifetime involvement with the Brittany and field trials. She acquired her first Brit while in college in the 1960's, and after college, moved to Arizona to become a charter member of the Sahuaro Brittany Club. When she returned to Illinois, she became involved in the Illinois Brittany Club, immediately became an officer and began working to save the field trials grounds at Crab Orchard Refuge. When efforts were unsuccessful, she lobbied for new grounds at Rend Lake.

Mary Jo has worked tirelessly over the years to promote our breed and to make sure we know about all the legislation that is being presented that would hurt our sport. She's written articles for several magazines and represented several club in Illinois as well as the ABC to insure our sport continues and our breed is secure.

Mary Jo's dogs have been trained and/or campaigned by professionals over the years, however she and her husband Ray have worked to insure their dogs compete in Amateur as well as Open stakes. One of her dogs, R-U Nat AAA FC Allair's Evereddy sired two National Champions: Franklin County Bandit and Minnehaha's Tammy. Several others have been RU in National All Age Championships as well as other hour stakes and classics. Her line has produced two HOF dogs: Ajax VII and Lane's End Bowtie Annie.

Mary Jo's dedication to our sport has been recognized by many organizations including the AKC's Lifetime Achievement Award for Performance Events, the Illinois Conservation Award, Field Trial Clubs of Illinois Honor Roll and the Illinois Federation of Outdoor Resources Hall of Fame. These awards have been recognition of her hard work for over 50 years representing Field Trialing and promoting Conservation and Recreation.



INDUCTEE SHADY'S TIA MARIA

Windy Schmidt, Marilynne Little, Clem Little, Jimmy Berneathy

Our next inductee, 8x CH, 1x RU CH, DC, AFC Shady's Tia Maria, thrilled many a field trialer as they watched her perform the job she was bred for. Tia was a "once in a lifetime dog" that everyone dreams of owning, especially Clem and Marilynne Little! Tia began her career in the Northwest, but was campaigned in 17 states on all kinds of terrain and game birds. Field trial professionals Dave Walker and Jimmy Berneathy trained and handled Tia as well as both her owners Clem and Marilynne.

She finished her field championship at 18 months of age, winning the 2001 Western All Age Futurity at 19 months, winning her first ABC Chukar Classic/Championship at 21 months and becoming the youngest Dual Champion on record in American Brittany Club history at 23 months of age. As her notoriety grew, so did her gallery! She had a classic style on point with head held high on wild or liberated birds and handled like she was on a string between "10:00 - 2:00" regardless of the handler or terrain.

Tia was named RU CH in the 2004 ABC National Amateur All Age, Winner of the 2006 ABC National Open All Age Championship and earned the prestigious Purina Dog of the Year Award in 2007, being only the 3rd female Brittany in 29 years to earn this male dominated award. She was awarded the 2004 & 2006 ABC Christy Feather Duster Award, went on to place 3rd in the 2008 ABC National Amateur All Age Championship and was inducted into the American Brittany Club Hall of Fame in 2014.

Tia amassed 26 hour wins, 16 of which were 1st place, and 16 of the hours were championships. She placed 1st in a phenomenal 54 of her 105 AKC field placements! She also set several records during her career by winning the ABC Chukar Classic/Championship 3 times, winning the Western All Age Championship twice and of course being the youngest Dual! Her career was cut short when tragedy struck in mid-2009 in the form of IMR (Immune Mediated Retinitis) a type of Sudden Acquired Retinal Deterioration taking her sight in both eyes virtually overnight.

Because of her field career she was only bred once, producing 8 puppies at the age of three. Her first, second and third generation progeny have accumulated a total of 34 hour wins, 391 field placements, 9 FC and 5 AFC as well as 4 RU American Field Champions.



INDUCTEE SMARTEYES-JOKER

Steve Ralph, Lori Ralph, Alissa Ralph

6x CH, 6x RU CH, FC, AFC Smarteyes-Joker aka "Jordan" was owned by Steve Ralph and loved by Steve, wife Lori and daughter Alyssa. He was trained and campaigned by professional trainer Jim John, was Steve's personal hunting dog and amazed everyone at trials with his bird work and run. Jordan's field trial career began with being named RU at the 2000 ABC National All Age Futurity Run-Off. He was considered by many as "one of the most consistent All Age Brittany's", accumulating 31 All Age hour wins during his career, making him the #3 All Age hour winning Brittany in history. His consistency led to him being ranked as one of the top 3 Brittany's in the country 3 out of 4 years from 2004 to 2007 in the Purina Award standings. He had 69 total field placements.

Jordan competed in hour stakes all across the U.S. and demonstrated his adaptability to compete and win in differing terrain and game in 13 states. He proved himself with wins in major All Age Championships, placing 3rd in the 2004 ABC National All Age Championship, 3rd in the 2004 ABC National Amateur All Age Championship, 1st in the 2004 ABC Quail Classic, Runner-up in 2004 and 4th in 2006 at the ABC Pheasant Classics, and he was a top Qualifier in the 2002 U.S. Open Brittany Championship.

As a sire, Jordan produced 4 field winners, totaling 22 hour wins: 4 FC/AFC including 3 American Field Champions, 1 of which had 18 hour wins, was the 2012 Purina All Age Dog of the Year and placed 4th in the 2013 National Amateur All Age Championship.

I'd be remiss if I didn't include David Fletcher in this write-up. Dave was inducted into the Pointer/Setter Hall of Fame this year with his wife Carol and his two children David

and Melissa in attendance for this proud moment. He started reporting for American Field editor William F. Brown in Chicago in 1967 and this year marked his 50-year active tenure on the field trial scene. Dave has reported championships all over the U.S. and Canada. As Dave said in his acceptance speech, "they say good things come to those that wait, and I've waited, and waited and waited!" In addition to his reporting for the "Field" for 50 years, David bred HOF Rimarda's Trademark, which many of you have in your pedigrees! Yes, that's right, Dave is a Brittany owner and breeder. He also does the printing of the program for the induction ceremonies, makes the Memorial and Patron Plaques for the museum and sits on the Board of Directors for both the Bird Dog Foundation and our BFTHF.

The Patron Plaques and Memorial Plaques are a great way to honor someone and also benefit the Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame. All funds raised by Brittany folks go into our endowment fund and will help preserve our history for future participants as well as thrill those of us who still enjoy our sport and our wonderful Brittans! The entry walk up to the museum is going to be repaved and this is your chance to get your dog's name, your name, your club's name or just someone you'd like to

honor's name on this new walkway! You can go to the BFTHF or National Bird Dog Museum websites to obtain information about purchasing a brick. They are reasonably priced with most of the cost going to our endowment fund. Brandy's Bullet had his brick on the welcome table to show everyone what they would look like.

We couldn't have these prestigious events without the help of our sponsors Purina and Garmin. They were responsible for the lovely lunch buffet Saturday and the Purina representatives even gave us their table so some of the Brittany folks had a place to sit! Guys for everything you do throughout the year, THANK YOU!

To see more complete information on each Brittany inductee and photos of all events, please visit our website at www.brittanyfieldtrialhalloffame.com, Past Inductions page. Also visit the National Bird Dog Museum website for information on all dogs/people inducted in all of the breeds. For an experience that will stay with you for a lifetime, please take the time to visit the museum in person and check out our Brittany wing! The staff at the museum takes great pride in their work and would love to give you a guided tour!

FOR UP-TO-DATE NEWS VISIT

WWW.THEAMERICANBRITTANYCLUB.ORG



NOTICE:

THE INSIDE FRONT COVER ADVERTISING SPACE
is available for 9 months.

The months that are
presently committed for are:
June, November and December.

THE INSIDE BACK COVER ADVERTISING SPACE
is available for all 12 months