



Amateur Shooting Dog Winner Heard Hill's Queen Mary with Lynn Heard. Middle (l-r): Brenda Ballentine, Jack Kimbrell, Julie Kimbrell, Buck Heard, Lawton Huggins. Back: Bob White, Roger and Donna Martens, Judges Matt Basilone and Jimmy McCoy, George Kimbrell, Gilbert Webber, Scott Hicks, Charlie Young, Emsley Laney, unidentified participant and John Ray Kimbrell.

## Association of South Carolina Field Trial Clubs Classics

By BRENDA BALLENTINE

**T**HE Association of South Carolina Field Trial Clubs held its annual Amateur Classic and companion Derby February 19-21 at the H. Cooper Black field trial grounds in Patrick, S. C.

The Classic drew a healthy entry of 30 amateur shooting dogs.

Weather for the trial proved to be warmer than usual for this time of year, making the luck of the draw more of a factor for those running in the heat of the day. The judges kept a comfortable and predictable six-brace per day pace. This schedule allowed the handlers to reasonably anticipate their "time at bat" while still ensuring completion of the trial by the end of the weekend. Of course, without the savvy driving skills of Emsley Laney, who manned the dog wagon and made sure each brace arrived on the line in a timely manner, this would have been impossible. Thank you, Emsley.

### THE WINNERS

This year's winner of the Amateur Shooting Dog proved to be a Derby owned by Buck and Lynn Heard of Moultrie, Ga., and handled by Buck Heard.

Pointer female Heard Hill's Queen Mary claimed the top spot with four solid finds and a strong ground race all to the front. Runner-up was Breakstone, red setter male owned and handled by Roger Boser of Seven Valleys, Pa. Breakstone scored five finds during his hour at 3, 29, 31, 40 and 43. Breakstone also delivered a good ground race and was well received by the judges.

### AND OTHERS

By GEORGE KIMBRELL

George Kimbrell and Picture Perfect ran the first brace. Picture Perfect had an unproductive at 12 and no bird work for the duration of his hour. Bracemate Scott Hicks and Cooper had four finds.

Rick Hulse's Santa Fe Patches had good finds at 20 and 48 with a pleasing race. Bill Britt's Clayhill Bopper was gone at 15 and did not return in time.

Spike (José Marvan) had an unproductive at 35 and was up at 52 after a second unproductive. Charles Young's Jerry's Li'l Jack was gone early; Charles called for the tracker at 25.

Marian Huggins with Black Rock and Roger Martens with Miss Carolina Kate. Black Rock was lost at 20. Carolina Kate had a find at the end of the hour.

Klee's Gentle Ben (Marian Huggins) and Cash (John May). Marian and Ben had an unproductive at 12.

John May returned in the sixth brace with Ben which was lost at the break-away. José Marvan's Ace ran a good race with a finds at 25, 48 and 56. Ace was found to be mannerly on point on all finds and all was in order.

Saturday. Roger Boser and Breakstone were braced with Rick Hulse and his Santa Fe Pal. Pal was gone and not returned in time. Breakstone's performance gave him runner-up and was discussed earlier in this report.

In No. 8, Roger Boser ran Touchstone and Gilbert Webber had Quailcross Southern Sky. Touchstone pointed his first bird at 22. Bird was flushed after a relocation by Roger. Touchstone scored another find near 40 and a third find at 43. At 46 Touchstone found game again. Touchstone handled all his birds well. Sky had a find at 14 and was solid and mannerly but was out of pocket later in the hour and not returned in time.

Rick Hulse and Hasty's Hot Pepper were paired with Tim Ruff and Millie's Pride. Pride scored a find at 5. Pepper found game at 11 and 32 and finished the hour with an unproductive.

José Marvan's Mucho found game at 9. Matt (Rick Hulse) had an unproductive at 8. Then both dogs were lost.

Roger Duerksen and Klee's Blitzer were down with Buck Heard and Southern Rose. Blitzer had finds at 10, 16 and 20. Southern Rose had one back at 16 then found game at 21.

The last brace of the day: Buck Heard and Heard Hill's Queen Mary and Marian Huggins with Klee's Sweet Pye.



Amateur Derby Winners. In foreground, from left: Ross Callaway with Caladen's Bimbo Jones, Brenda Ballentine with Jigs, Lauren May with Erin's Last Emperor. Standing: John Ray Kimbrell, Scott Hicks, Judges Jimmy McCoy and Matt Basilone, Jack Kimbrell holding plaque, George Kimbrell, John May and Chris Waddell.

Queen Mary's performance earned her the winners' circle. Pye was lost.

In the first brace Sunday, Scatter and Hifalutin were scratched.

The 14th brace brought Bob White's Barbie to the line with Klee's My Guy (Roger Duerksen). Barbie had finds at 6 and 41, and her third and final find at 49. Guy was lost not long after breakaway and not returned in time.

Both José Marvan's Seago and Dr. Duerksen's Klee's Showboat pointed at 4. Handlers flushed game. Seago was found on point again at 13 but was picked up by José. Showboat found game again at 35 and 40.

**Patrick, S. C., February 19 — One Course**

**Judges: Matt Basilone and Jimmy McCoy**

**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] — 27 Pointers and 3 Irish Setters**

Winner—HEARD HILL'S QUEEN MARY, 1608461, pointer female, by Erin's Bad River—Twin Lakes Wishbone, Buck & Lynn Heard, owners; Buck Heard, handler.  
Runner-Up—BREAKSTONE, 1582163, Irish setter male, by Sharpton—Chantilly. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.

#### AMATEUR DERBY

The Derby was run on Sunday afternoon.

First place honors went to Scott Hicks and Caladen's Bimbo Jones which found game at 5, 13 and 18 during his bid and put forth a good ground race.

Second was claimed by George Kimbrell and Jigs with one solid find at 20 and a strong race. John May and Erin's Last Emperor took third with finds at 3 and 4 and a good race.

#### AMATEUR DERBY — 10 Pointers

1st—CALADEN'S BIMBO JONES, 1616457, male, by Caladen's Commander—Caladen Elhew Sarah, Ross Callaway & Echo Plantation, owners; Scott Hicks, handler.  
2d—JIGS, unreg., male, breeding not given. Jay Moser, owner; George Kimbrell, handler.  
3d—ERIN'S LAST EMPEROR, 1609440, male, by Erin's Tin Soldier—Erin's Tiny Dancer. John May, owner and handler.

#### Deserving Accolades

The success of any trial is due to the dedicated efforts of many. At the risk of overlooking someone (please forgive me if I do), I wish to thank those whose contributions made a difference and kept things running smoothly. First and foremost, a huge thank you to Matt Basilone and Jimmy McCoy for agreeing to judge. They carried out their judicial duties with professionalism and a respect for all entries. We are grateful for their



#### HEARD HILL'S QUEEN MARY Winner of the Amateur Shooting Dog Classic

contribution and dedication to the sport that we all enjoy.

H. C. Robinson provided an invaluable service with his hot, tasty lunches from Hard Times Café. He can be counted on to serve a hearty and delicious meal, which always includes a generous helping of his unmatched humor (no substitutions allowed!).

A handlers' dinner was served on Saturday night, compliments of the Association. This year we were fortunate to find another gifted cook in George Kimbrell who prepared a wonderful low country boil consisting of potatoes, corn, onions, sausage and shrimp. Not only did George prepare the meal, he arrived a day early to assist with the grocery shopping and general preparations.

And there's George's wife, Julie, who arrived with their son Jack Friday afternoon and together they managed to keep me on task. Julie shouldered the preparation and serving the cocktail party and also assisted George with the preparation dinner. What a team! I would have been lost without them.

George pulled double (or should I say triple) duty by agreeing to be stakes manager and also assist with the preparation of the report. George rode almost every brace equipped with his handy tape recorder and noted valuable details to make the writing of this report easier after the the trial.

Association President John Ray Kimbrell was instrumental in laying out the continuing course to provide optimum and equal opportunity for all. John Ray Kimbrell served as our resident birdman. He was up early and at the grounds every morning to ride the course and put out birds before the first brace. John Ray was also our point of contact with Purina. We were fortunate to have their sponsorship this year, and we thank Purina for the Purina Pro Plan product provided to the winners and for the hats that were made available to all. John Ray received and transported these donated items to the grounds; without his help this would have been a true chore for me. Thank you, John Ray.

And what's a trial without birds? Gilbert Webber made sure that we had birds on reserve with Quail Valley, and Marion Yarbrough did the association a big favor by agreeing to pick up and deliver the birds to the grounds before the trial.

Over the years we have forged wonderful relationships with the staff at Cooper Black. They are always accommodating and at our service whenever needed. Thank you to Chris Waddell and Bonnie Lewis for their continued support during this trial. Their helpful attitudes and professionalism go a long way toward the success of the field trials that are held on these grounds.



#### BREAKSTONE Runner-Up in the Amateur Shooting Dog Classic

#### INDIANTOWN GAP KEYSTONE CLASSICS

(Special Bulletin Petersburg, Pa.)

The Indiantown Gap Bird Dog Club concluded its spring events April 10 at the club grounds near Petersburg, Pa. Featured were the Keystone Open Shooting Dog and Keystone Open Derby Classics. Winner of the Shoot-

ing Dog Classic was Greg Strausbaugh's Serious Threat. Second was Maple Sugar Nuggett, Frank Joyal's pointer handled by George Tracy, and third was Heritage, owned by Tom Hance and Jack Sanchez. Mike Tracy handled the first and third place dogs. There were 44 entries.

The winner of the Derby Classic was Andrea Clark's Coosawhatchie Chief.

The pointer male was handled by Mike Tracy. George Tracy won second with Waiting Till Midnight, pointer female owned by Bill Perry, and third was Nottingham's Classy Chance, owned by Roland Kane and Roger Dvorak and handled by Mike Tracy.

A full report will follow.

ERNIE SANIGA