

# Brandywine Bird Dog Club

*George Ekdahl Honored*

By BILL BRUCHEY

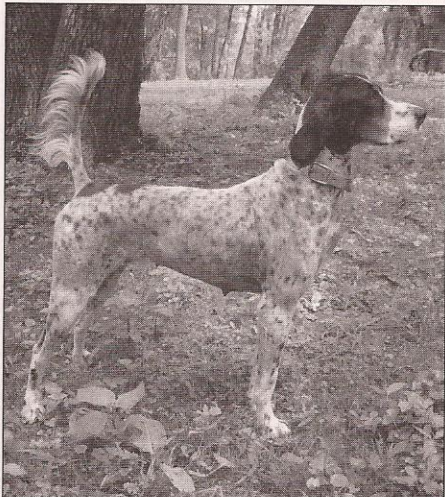
**T**HE Brandywine Bird Dog Club once again held its trial at the Mrs. John B. Hannum estate. The Hannums have graciously made their estate available to the Brandywine Club the last forty years.

It is always a pleasure to see the fine manicured rolling hillsides that require the dogs to stretch from objective to objective and that tax their ability to finish with a flourish.

This year was a special year for two reasons: George Ekdahl's 90th birthday year and Purina's generous support and contribution to the trial.

Bobbie and George have been collecting Purina weight circles since the bags were made of parchment paper. Purina representative Pat Lamantia was able to expedite the redemption of these weight circles and delivery of two fine collapsible canopies in time for the trial. Given the temperatures unexpectedly pushed 90°, an unseasonable high for this time of year, these canopies really came in handy. Thanks Pat, and thanks Purina. Purina has always been a major supporter of field trials and this year marked their very generous support to the Brandywine Club. Pat Lamantia also managed a donation of 900 lbs. of dog food for the winners and runners-up.

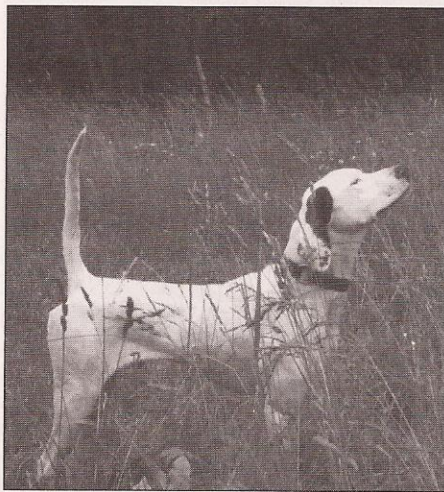
It was George Ekdahl's 90th birthday. George was born in 1920. Not only did George turn 90 years old, he has been field trialing for 74 years. Most trialers aren't even 74 years old. He comes from a time when trialers wore jodhpurs, tweed jackets and fine riding boots. A time of the gentleman trialer, and that certainly describes George.



**SUKARA'S COME HOME JESSIE**  
Second in the Open Shooting Dog Stake

This was also the 40th year for the Brandywine Bird Dog Club. All forty of them have been guided by George Ekdahl. Some say trialing is a dying sport; I beg to differ. As long as there is at least one field trialer with the love of the game that George has shown over the years, it will never die. If you asked George how field trials held his interest for 74 years, he would say "My good dogs."

Trials are the gathering of a diverse group of people. During the year the planning and set up of the trial is conducted by the same group of selected few. Without George and Bobbie Ekdahl, Gene, Naomi and Keith Thomas, it would never happen. They



**REDGATE HAWK**  
First in the Open Derby

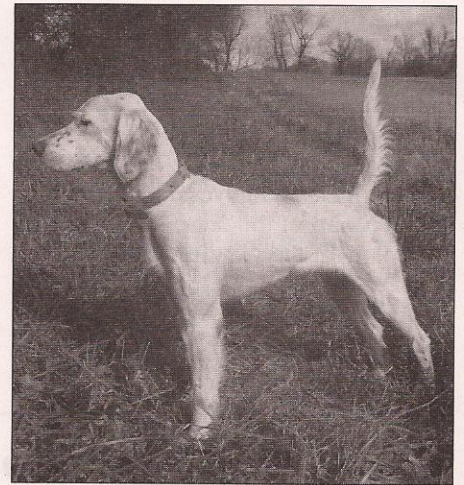
are the glue that holds the club together for 51 weeks and five days. The other two days volunteers come from all over. It doesn't matter what needs to be done, someone volunteers. That's just how trials work. Many thanks to Becky Johnson, the chef on Friday night for our get-together picnic. Also many thanks to all the others who brought their special dishes.

## OPEN STAKES

The Open Shooting Dog Stake was judged under the watchful eyes of Mike Fox of Birchrunville, Pa., and George Mamounis of Newfield, N. J.

This was a "ladies stake." All three placements went to the ladies and all three winners were handled by Jeanette Tracy.

The winner was White Spider, a fine looking setter female owned by R. B. Powell. You know when both judges say



**WHITE SPIDER**  
First in the Open Shooting Dog Stake

"nice dog", they really mean outstanding. Spider had three well spaced finds, an attractive forward race between objectives and a classy back. Both judges commented that Spider "handled like a dream." Sukara's Come Home Jessie, another fine setter female owned by Clair Gross and Ted and Joan Foust, carded four classy finds. Third was Bay Country Hope, pointer female owned by Keith Thomas. Hope also had four nicely spaced finds. The only difference between the three winners was a little stronger race from top to bottom.

In the Open Derby, Redgate Hawk, a nice looking pointer male owned by Odie Adcock and handled by the great conversationalist Dominic Preite, had three stylish finds well-spaced over the course. The judges commented on the quality and style of this young Derby on its birds. They also complimented Hawk's race. It had the look of a finished shooting dog.

Redstone, red setter female, was always to the front and hunted and handled well over the whole course. Third was Nor'easterly Wind, pointer male which had one find, a nice back and an unproductive. He was stylish on his game.

The judges also mentioned John Tomaski's Lonely Tear Drop. All these dogs had the look of future competitive shooting dogs.

The winner of the Open Restricted Shooting Dog was Blue Bell Mercury, pointer male owned by Matt Mensch, guided by Dom Preite. Mercury attacked the course in fine style, carding three well spaced finds. He had a nice forward race, was classy moving and pleasant to watch. Mt. View Decision Maker, pointer female owned by Wayne and Gail Stover and handled by Jeanette Tracy, was very similar in application to



**Amateur Derby Winners.** From front left: Roger Boser with Youtoo, Merv Eisenhart with Maple Valley Bull and Bo Mamounis with Tenacious D. Standing: Gene Thomas, Dom Preite, George Ekdahl, and Judges Jeanette Tracy and Steve Henrikson.

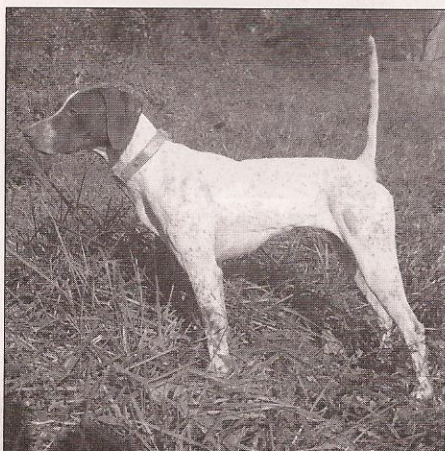
the winner: a nice forward race, a stylish find and easy handle. Hidden Thrill, pointer male owned by Ted and Joan Foust and handled by Tracy, had two nice finds, very stylish on his game. His race was not quite as consistent as the first and second place dogs.

**Unionville, Pa., May 1 — One Course**  
**Judges: Michael Fox and George Mamounis**  
**OPEN SHOOTING DOG — 7 Pointers and**  
**7 Setters**

- 1st—WHITE SPIDER, 1580719, setter female, by The Welshman—Harness Wind. R. B. Powell, owner; Jeanette Tracy, handler.
- 2d—SUKARA'S COME HOME JESSIE, 1585576, setter female, by High Mark—Sandland Bell. Clair Gross & Ted & Joan Foust, owners; Jeanette Tracy, handler.
- 3d—BAY COUNTRY HOPE, 1582052, pointer female, by Calico's Thrillogy—Bay Country Kate. Keith Thomas, owner; Jeanette Tracy, handler.

**OPEN DERBY — 5 Pointers**  
**and 1 Setter**

- 1st—REDGATE HAWK, 1609472, pointer male, by Strut—Richfield Silver Belle. Odie Adcock, owner; Dom Preite, handler.
- 2d—REDSTONE, 1611023, Irish setter female, by Breakstone—Applebee. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.
- 3d—NOR'EASTERLY WIND, 1614401, pointer male, by Wind N Rain—S F Miss Oprah. John Tomaski, owner and handler.



**MT. VIEW DECISION MAKER**  
**Second in the Open Restricted Shooting**  
**Dog Stake**

**OPEN RESTRICTED SHOOTING DOG —**  
**6 Pointers and 2 Setters**

- 1st—BLUE BELL MERCURY, 1604983, pointer male, by Belfield Silver—Awsum Speed. Matt Mensch, owner; Dom Preite, handler.
- 2d—MT. VIEW DECISION MAKER, 1611860, pointer female, by Calico's Thrillogy—Cassique's Blue Label. Wayne & Gail Stover, owners; Jeanette Tracy, handler.
- 3d—HIDDEN THRILL, 1594971, pointer male, by Enhancement Thrillogy—Mt. Nebo's Dollyto. Ted & Joan Foust, owners; Jeanette Tracy, handler.

**AMATEUR STAKES**

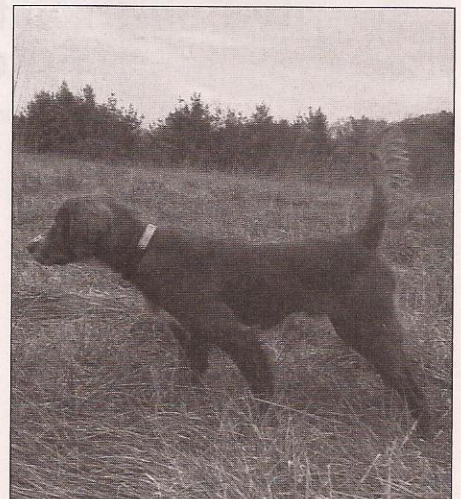
Sunday's running began with the Amateur Shooting Dog. Sunday was the most brutal day of the trial. As the day progressed records were set for heat and humidity, which took a toll on dogs, horses, handlers and judges.

The club certainly owes a debt of gratitude to its judges. Jim and Cathy Kuhns handled the Amateur Shooting Dog Stake. For a fine lady like Cathy, she looked like she had been rode hard and put away wet when the stake was over. The Amateur Derby judges were Steve Henrikson and Jeanette Tracy. These two looked like they had been rode hard and put away wet even before the stake started. Brutal conditions.

The Amateur Shooting Dog winner was Touchstone, red setter male owned and handled by Doc Boser. He had four well spaced finds coming at 6, 10, 18 and 24, all with great style. He ran a very nice race always to the front and required little handling. He made one long cast that only two or three dogs made coming into the hay bale field out of the woods and completed it nicely. He did have the advantage of running early before the heat and humidity became unbearable. Annabull had a back early on the dog lost in the previous brace. She handled the difficult situation of two other dogs pointing two different birds. Her brace mate was not so fortunate in that situation. Her finds came at 10, 17

and 22 with great style. Annabull ran a very nice race in the heat of the day. Separating first and second was a very difficult decision. Third was Peace Dale Scooter, handled by Maggie Strausbaugh. This fine looking setter male had finds at 4, 10 and 12 with great style. He handled the course with style and made one cast where only the other two placed dogs handled. He handled kindly and was rewarded with third.

Tenacious D, owned and handled by George Mamounis, won the Amateur Derby with two finds. The judges commented on his style and intensity on his game. He was a nice shooting dog with strong application from start to finish, even with all the heat and humidity. Maple Valley Bull carded a nice find early and two more finds near the mid-point of his half hour. His move coming into the first big field was exceptional



**TOUCHSTONE**  
**First in the Amateur Shooting Dog Stake**

hanging the right woodsedge, holding it to the end and then shooting onto course near the hay bales. Third was Roger Boser's Youtoo which had one nice find during his half hour, ran a nice race but not quite as strong as the first two dogs.

**Judges: Cathy Kuhns and Jim Kuhns**  
**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG — 26 Entries**

- 1st—TOUCHSTONE, 1605747, Irish setter male, by Breakstone—Applebee. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.
- 2d—ANNABULL, 1595568, pointer female, by Bulltown—Impressive Lady Sue. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.
- 3d—PEACE DALE SCOOTER, 1585944, setter male, by Taz—Pine Hill Pearl. Rich Frisella, owner; Maggie Strausbaugh, handler.

**Judges: Steve Henrikson and Jeanette Tracy**  
**AMATEUR DERBY — 4 Pointers**  
**and 4 Setters**

- 1st—TENACIOUS D, 1613635, pointer male, by Chasehill Little Bud—Richfield Kate's Candy. George Mamounis, owner and handler.
- 2d—MAPLE VALLEY BULL, 1605654, pointer male, by Bulltown—Crossroads Sue. Merv & Arlene Eisenhart, owners; Merv Eisenhart, handler.
- 3d—YOUTOO, 1610607, Irish setter male, by Aiken—Solitaire. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.