

**Open Shooting Dog Winners.** From front left: Windstar with Robert Ecker, Jr., Bob's Miller Daisy with Bobby Phillips and Lucky Luke Star with Mike Nemshick. Standing: Judges Gus Piperis (left) and Dan DeCelles.

## Mohegan Bird Dog Club

By LARRY CRAIG

**T**HE second annual Mohegan Bird Dog Club wild bird trial was held September 15-16. Once again Dave Murphy opened up his farm in Lake Ariel, Pa., to the club for the event.

Dave's farm is a work in progress. His passion for bird dogs and game birds is evident. He has worked to make his farm a haven for game birds and we witnessed first hand his accomplishments. After the first brace, with several grouse and pheasants in the air, everyone knew it would be a great trial!

The Open Shooting Dog was capably judged by Gus Piperis of High Desert Dream fame and Dan DeCelles, most noted for the setter Full Force. They were intent on covering all the action and tried hard not to miss a wing beat.

The first brace on Saturday morning paired the top two dogs. Right from the breakaway both setter Lucky Luke Star and pointer Bob's Miller Daisy were hunting. The setter was a bit wider and it paid off for him as he was the first to round the corner of the back field. Luke dove into cover on the left edge and immediately his bell went silent. At a brisk pace Ecker was in front and flushed an old male grouse. The dog stood firm at the shot.

Both were trading nice casts when Daisy's bell went quiet to the deep left front. Luke was heard in the area and soon his bell also stopped. Both handlers and judges quickly found Daisy pointing into a blowdown, Luke honoring at a good distance, a classic piece of work and a great reward for an intelligent cast.

The course then turns onto the township road. Daisy dug into left and got into a running pheasant. Eventually she

was fired over. Luke took this opportunity to gain the far front. With time ticking away he locked up in switch grass field, posed beautifully as two hen pheasants, one, then the other, were routed from the high grass. A perfect ending to a very good brace. It would not be beaten all day long.

Lucky Luke Star, owned by Dr. George Najor, was awarded first. Bob's Miller Daisy took home the red ribbon to Tennessee for owner Bobby Phillips.

In the next-to-the-last brace of the trial, another Najor/Ecker setter, Windstar, was tearing up the open field edges of course No. 2 with classy casts. In the back field he stopped in a grape tangle. It was a good spot for both grouse and pheasants but no bird was shown. Then he was hunting over a stone fence in some very thick cover and he stopped again. Judge DeCelles called flight of a bird. When the dog was found he was in a likely woodcock spot. Taken back to the course, Windstar hit the alder run on the right, stopped, then was moved up. He had a running bird in his nose. He soon nailed a very annoyed mature cock pheasant. As it cackled away the shot was fired. Windstar was placed third.

The Open Derby was run the next day, again on multiple courses. Sal Massaro and Pedrag Kazic teamed up to watch and place the young dogs: Fieldstone Farm's Tom, first; Mojo Risen, second, and Celtic's Second Strike, third. All three setters had big forward races.

Two dogs closest to the winners were Hirollins Bust N Loose and Fieldstone Farm's Sally.

Thanks to all who came. See you next year!

Lake Ariel, Pa., September 15

Judges: Dan DeCelles and Gus Piperis

**OPEN SHOOTING DOG — 5 Pointers, 4 Setters and 2 Irish Setters**

- 1st—LUCKY LUKE STAR, 1604383, setter male, by Star Chaser—Caliente Star. Dr. George Najor, owner; R. J. Ecker, Jr., handler.  
 2d—BOB'S MILLER DAISY, 1604796, pointer female, by Weber's Little Bullet—Bob's Elhew Nell. Bobby Phillips, owner and handler.  
 3d—WINDSTAR, 1559955, setter male, by Pennstar—Waymaker's Maggie Mae. Dr. George Najor, owner; R. J. Ecker, Jr., handler.

Judges: Pedrag Kazie and Sal Massaro

**OPEN DERBY — 3 Pointers, 5 Setters and 2 Irish Setters**

- 1st—FIELDSTONE FARM'S TOM, 1642981, setter male, by Grouse Woods Reese—Fieldstone Farm's Judy. Jim Millett, owner; R. J. Ecker, Jr., handler.  
 2d—MOJO RISEN, unreg., setter male, by Terhaar's Elvis—Springpond's Autumn Grace. James Incent, owner; R. J. Ecker, Jr., handler.  
 3d—CELTIC'S SECOND STRIKE, 1644315, Irish setter female, by Celtic's Charismatic—Celtic's Shyra. P. R. Ober, owner; Mike Nemshick, handler.

## Freeland Kennel Club

By JIM WILKINSON

**A**NOTHER beautiful day greeted our first walking trial. The weather was great the morning of September 15. The aroma of bacon and eggs and coffee was in the air as you walked into the clubhouse. Gracie Ecker was cooking in the kitchen. Everyone enjoyed her delicious meals.

Judges for the walking stakes on Saturday were Bo Mamounis and Roger Dvorak. Their dedication to the sport is evident. Their decisions were well received. Thank you both for volunteering to judge.

The Amateur Puppy was won by Snowsquall. Toby Tobiassen handled her for Chris Rarich; both are owners. Second place Foxfires Huckleberry made her owner Dean Avillion very happy. It was their first trial. We hope Dean continues in our sport. The third place dog was run by Debbie Hastings. She placed Rebelu Abby Lee, owned by N. G. "Butch" Houston and Dr. John Dorminy.

In the Amateur Shooting Dog, Limestone Second Time captured the blue for owner-handler Scott Wardrop. John Shields' dog Stoney Fork Roy captured the red. Zuk's Sage took the yellow for Marty Zukovich. Marty also supplied the quail for the trial.

The Amateur Derby was the last stake of the day with four entries. Zuk's Cappeletti bested the field and got the prize for Marty Zukovich.

Weatherly, Pa., September 15 — One Course

Judges: Roger Dvorak and George Mamounis  
**AMATEUR PUPPY — 4 Pointers, 3 Setters and 1 Brittany**

- 1st—SNOWSQUALL, 1644871, pointer female, by Lester's Snowwatch—Mississippi Kite. Chris Rarich & Toby Tobiassen, owners; Toby Tobiassen, handler.

- 2d—**FOXFIRES HUCKLEBERRY**, 1643972, pointer female, by Hirollins Main Attraction—Foxfire. Dean Avillion, owner and handler.
- 3d—**REBELU ABBY LEE**, unreg., setter female, by Shadow Oak Bo—Quail Point Maggie. Butch Houston & Dr. John Dorminy, owners; Debbie Hastings, handler.

**AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG — 2 Pointers, 5 Setters and 4 Brittans**

- 1st—**LIMESTONE SECOND TIME**, 1606812, pointer male, by Distant Shadow—Urban Silver Crude. Scott Wardrop, owner and handler.
- 2d—**STONEY FORK ROY**, 1613714, setter male, by Pine Hill Morgan—Pine Hill Pearl. John Shields, owner and handler.
- 3d—**ZUK'S SAGE**, 1609074, setter female, by Pine Hill Morgan—Pine Hill Pearl. Marty Zukovich, owner and handler.

**AMATEUR DERBY — 3 Pointers and 1 Setter**

- 1st—**ZUK'S CAPPELETTI**, 1645389, setter male, by Grouse Ridge Force—Zuk's Sage. Marty Zukovich, owner and handler.
- 2d—**PRISON BREAK PEGG**, 1645121, pointer female, by Smokin Hot Trouble—Prison Break Penny. Robert Keefe, owner and handler.

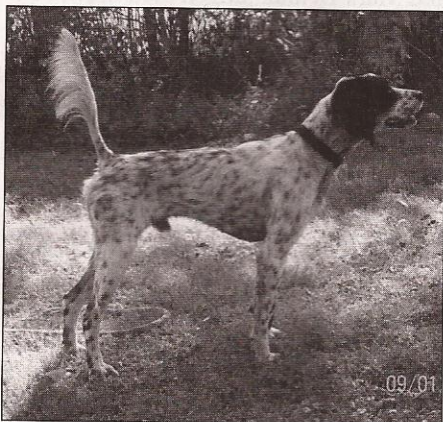
**HORSEBACK STAKES**

Sunday morning ground fog greeted us and delayed the start until the sun removed most of the fog. The remainder of the day was sunny and breezy.

Jeff Currier and Dan Rein occupied the judicial saddles for the Amateur



**Amateur Shooting Dog Winners. From front left: Breakstone with Dr. Roger Boser, Annabull with Ernie Saniga and Redstone with Bo Mamounis. Standing: Judge Jeff Currier, Karen Saniga and Judge Dan Rein.**



**STONEY FORK ROY**

**Second in the Amateur Walking Shooting Dog Stake**

(horseback) Stakes. Roger Dvorak graciously let Jeff judge off his horse Rocky. It was much appreciated. These grounds are noted for lack of scenting and bird work at times. Quail were seen on the course as dogs passed by and participants would see birds either walking or flying out.

Two well known amateurs bested the field of 14 entries in the Amateur Shooting Dog. Dr. Roger Boser won all the "marbles" with Breakstone and also took third with Redstone. Ernie Saniga's Annabull won second.

In the Amateur Derby that followed, Miss Demeanor, handled by her owner Joe Vinsky, won the blue, to Joe's surprise. Ernie Saniga's A Keystone Kid earned the red. Nantucket, Dr. Roger Boser's Irish setter, closed out the placements.

After canceling two or three of the last

trials due to illness and lack of entries, we had a successful trial. A big thank you goes out to everyone — judges, participants and all the helpers, and bird planters, Carl Bergen and Dave McKay.

**Judges: Jeff Currier and Dan Rein  
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG — 10 Pointers,  
1 Setter, 2 Irish Setters and 1 Brittany**

- 1st—**BREAKSTONE**, 1582163, Irish setter male, by Sharpton—Chantilly. Dr. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.
- 2d—**ANNABULL**, 1595568, setter female, by Bulltown—Impressive Lady Sue. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.

- 3d—**REDSTONE**, 1611023, Irish setter female, by Breakstone—Applebee. Dr. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.

**AMATEUR DERBY — 4 Pointers, 1 Setter  
and 3 Irish Setters**

- 1st—**MISS DEMEANOR**, 1641341, pointer female, by Erin's Stoney River—Millwee's Ginger McGee. Joe Vinsky, owner and handler.
- 2d—**A KEYSTONE KID**, unreg., setter male, by Keystone's Red Rage—Beauty Keene Valley. Ernie & Karen Saniga, owners; Ernie Saniga, handler.
- 3d—**NANTUCKET**, 1641135, Irish setter female, by Justified—Solitaire. Dr. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.

**Random Notes**

**A** most welcome early week visitor to the editorial office was Ken Raney, Jr., in town from Dallas on business, chaffing a bit from the Cowboys' loss to the Chicago Bears on Monday Night Football the night before. He noted that a celebratory group of Bears fans was on that morning's Southwest Airlines flight from Dallas to Chicago.

Ken's father, Ken Raney, Sr., owned and campaigned the successful pointer Smackover R, a 22-time winner.

Ken and his dad then co-owned Lipan, which won the 1991 Colorado Open Shooting Dog Championship at Arnett, Okla., with the talented Richard Woolever handling.

Her claim to fame came three seasons later when she won the National Free-for-All Championship at Jimmy Hinton's Alabama Sedgefields Plantation in 1994. A year later she added significantly to her laurels

when she won the National Championship. The late handler Gary Pinalto had her in his string for the last three seasons of her career.

Having won the National Free-for-All and the National Championship in successive seasons, the Raney's soon after retired her.

She was bred twice, in 1996 and 1997, using frozen semen of two-time Texas Open Champion Smackover R. The first litter produced a white and orange pointer female which Ken Raney, Jr. registered as Queen's Call. When bred to Ch. Whippoorwill Razor, she whelped Quail Alley Bonnie, which later Ken Raney, Jr. bred to National Champion Texas Trailrider, that breeding producing Broadway Thriller, sire of Ken's latest charge, Shortgrass Free Spirit.

The Raney's — Ken Sr. and Jr. — long before their involvement with field trials, had bird dogs and enjoyed bird hunting, a great foundation for the field trial game.