

North Carolina Pointing Dog Association and Swamp Fox Field Trial Club

Three Purina Top Shooting Dog Award Trials Start the New Year in North Carolina

By MARGARET C. DREW

THE North Carolina Pointing Dog Association and Swamp Fox Field Trial Club joined forces to sponsor a 10-day event in North Carolina billed as Three Purina Top Shooting Dog Award trials.

This event was held at the Carrington Tract, land designated for public use as part of the North Carolina Sandhills Game Lands in Scotland County. The 820 acres are located 15 miles south of Aberdeen, N. C., behind the Deercroft Golf Course on Highway 15/501. The site is used by bird watchers, fishermen, as well as rabbit, dove, quail and deer hunters. The land was once a cattle farm; therefore, the open fields, ponds and open wooded areas. Area dog clubs work closely with the state to obtain permits for both walking and horseback trials. The club thanks Bill Parsons from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for his help with parking and permits.

The inaugural running of a field trial occurred here in February, 2007. For the 2013 running adaptations were made with a newly mowed parking area designated by the state, as well as a summer fire clearing much of the interior grounds allowing for a new course to be put into use. Water is not easily obtained now that the well is no longer in operation and the two lakes at the



North Carolina Celebration Amateur Shooting Dog Winners. From left front: Brian Sanchez with Great River Magnum, Roger Boser with Breakstone and Tom Brigman with Jaycee's Rose Bud. Standing: Mike Tracy, Jeanette Tracy and Vinnie Ballester, the judges; John and Sue Campoli and Pam.

back of course are low and no longer accessible for pumping; however, the club pooled resources and rented a 1,000-gallon tanker from a local

business. A horse trailer with awning and pop-up canopy provided ample headquarters for coffee, meals etc. The Drews opened their home for a few social evenings with meals after the running on Saturday and Monday evening. Mother Nature cooperated with seasonal weather, mostly sunny days with only one day of occasional drizzle.

The Fox Swamp Club was originally led by Marvin Boswell in South Carolina; however, for more than ten years J. C. Turner has organized the trial, including arranging for it to become a recognized Purina Points trial.

The North Carolina Pointing Dog Association was formed in 2007 to promote horseback shooting dog trials in the Tarheel State. The North Carolina Open Celebration has had points for three years and this year awarded points for the amateur portion of the trial.

Club members J. C. Turner, Ted Riley, Earl and Margaret Drew appreciate all entries, the good sportsmanship of participants and especially the help from Purina, which made the whole trial possible by awarding points, help with our ad, providing food for the winners, as well as hats and a banner. Thank you.

The entrance off Hwy 15/501 and the



Swamp Fox Open Shooting Dog Winners. From left front: Mark McClain with Richfield Silver Belle, Brian Sanchez with Great River Ice and Jeanette Tracy with Grand Heritage Motion. Standing: Jan Shaw, judge; Mike Tracy, Dillon Shaffer, Dennis Snyder, and J. C. Turner.



North Carolina Celebration Open Shooting Dog Winners. From left front: Jeanette Tracy with Chisled In Stone and Mark McClain with Octavio. Standing: Dillon Shaffer, George Kimbrell and Brenda Ballentine, the judges, and Mike Tracy.

entrance to the grounds were marked with Purina banners, bringing in a few community people.

The 820 acres of state land is named Carrington and until about eight years ago was a cattle farm. The land is comprised of open fields, wooded areas, a short distance of thick woods and the remaining woods piney open woods. There is one large field where long leaf pines were planted four years ago. The course was laid out to skirt the edges of cover crops planted to replace the soy bean and corn that was there during the growing season. We cross through the woods on the southeastern edge, cross the brook and then enter the back large growing fields where we cross a dam. The two small ponds, more puddle-like now, serve as a landmark when entering the two fields and then take a wooden pathway to the upper field before returning to cross the dam again. The center of the course meanders through an open area and then into a piney woods before reaching the field where young long leaf pines grow. Two old barns had stood on this property until a fire last summer. We used their location as a point to circle before ending in an open area leading back to the trailers and starting line. During the eight days of these trials 500 quail were released, often being pointed in coveys of 3 to 12. The birds lifted with intensity and flew well, giving hope they would survive with the ample food, water and cover in the area. The ground is covered with

citrus melons, which are used by quail.

For eight days coffee and snacks were served after two hours of running and then lunch followed after two more braces. Club members John and Gretchen Adsit arrived from Vermont to winter in their Hoffman home just in time to help serve lunch and plant birds a few afterwards.

SWAMP FOX STAKES

The Swamp Fox stakes were judged by Dennis Snyder of Thomasville, N. C., and Jan Shaw of Greensboro, N. C.

The Open Shooting Dog drew 32 entries: 27 pointers and 5 setters. Mike Tracy handled the winner, Richfield Silver Belle, pointer female owned by Bill and Claudia McNamee from New York. This very white pointer danced forward for an early find, then continued effortlessly on, scoring six polished finds before the hour was up. She required very little scouting and after losing her bracemate at 35 she hunted smoothly, scoring finds in several areas.

Second placed Great River Ice is owned by Great River Kennel and the Sanchez family. Brian was present to observe Ice's performance. Handler Mike Tracy pointed Ice out in his snappy coverage of the course, taking the green field edges and easing through the wooded areas. His wide race required some scouting, always happily returning to handler or proudly awaiting shot when quail were indicated.

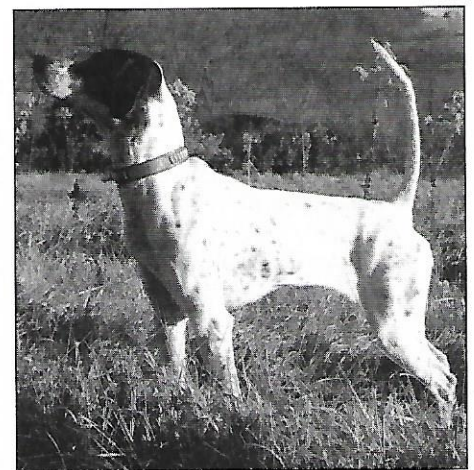
Third was Grand Heritage Motion, owned by Bruce Cooper from Skaneate-

les, N. Y., and handled by Jeanette Tracy. The setter male rendered an impressive ground race, using his stylish setter flag to good advantage. He had three tall finds, two dug-up finds where others had not found birds. The judges noted that all three winners used the end of the new course to finish forward and strongly.

Others noted and carried by the judges were: Chisled In Stone, Klee's Shooting Star, Land Cruiser, Buffalo Bull, and especially Harry Conner's Rod with Steve Browder.

The Swamp Fox Derby had 10 entries, the judges noting "ten very high quality Derbies."

They awarded Quail Acres Jake first place and his littermate Quail Acres Rosebud, third. Owner and handler is Alvin Hurst of Morven, N. C. Jake had a great race, both in range and style. Rosebud ran a good race, albeit went birdless. Second was pointer female Palara, owned by Sal Morelli of White Plains, N. Y., and handled by Mike Tracy. She laid out a good race, one find and a stop to flush.



PALARA

Second in the Open Derby

Aberdeen, N. C., January 1 — One Course

Judges: Jan Shaw and Dennis Snyder

OPEN SHOOTING DOG

[One-Hour Heats] — 27 Pointers and 5 Setters

- 1st—RICHFIELD SILVER BELLE, 1564951, pointer female, by Belfield Silver—Stray Voltage. William & Claudia McNamee, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.
- 2d—GREAT RIVER ICE, 1603849, pointer male, by Westfall's Black Ice—Tallgrass Bee. Great River Kennel, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.
- 3d—GRAND HERITAGE MOTION, 1603583, setter male, by Ragged Hill Bandit—Ida O Pippin. Bruce Cooper, owner; Jeanette Tracy, handler.

OPEN DERBY — 9 Pointers and 1 Setter

- 1st—QUAIL ACRES JAKE, 1626668, pointer male, by Quickmarksman's Hard Terms—Palmetto's Mattie. A. D. Hurst, Jr., owner and handler.
- 2d—PALARA, 1628048, pointer female, by Tommy's Rebel Son—Brodie's Lil Ann. Sal Morelli, owner; Mike Tracy, handler.
- 3d—QUAIL ACRES ROSEBUD, 1626700, pointer female, by Quickmarksman's Hard Terms—Palmetto's Mattie. A. D. Hurst, Jr., owner and handler.

NORTH CAROLINA POINTING DOG ASSOCIATION

The North Carolina Amateur Celebration attracted 28 entries — 20 pointers, 2 setters and 6 Irish setters — from North and South Carolina, Illinois and Pennsylvania, all showing good bird-finding ability and eager desire to hunt. Several dogs were carried for their good races or multiple finds; however, the winners were easy handling, showing good rapport with handlers as their races flowed smoothly forward, stopping only briefly for polished multiple finds.

Judges were Jeanette Tracy of Glenville, Pa., and Vinnie Ballester of Simpsonville, S. C.

Brian Sanchez's pointer male Great River Magnum was named as the top dog, closely separated from second place by his 60-minute animated, strong and punching race. He had five quail finds, the first at 10 off course, and away from the planted bird areas. Second went to Roger Boser's red dog Breakstone with a steady forward race; he smoothly

covered the territory, scoring seven nice finds. Third was Jaycee's Rose Bud, owned and handled by John Campoli of Texaco, Ill. Rose Bud's race was consistent start to finish at a moderate range, scoring three precise quail finds.

The Open Celebration drew 35 dogs, judged by Brenda Ballentine and George Kimbrell who noted that they were looking for and placed dogs that ran to the front, showed a shooting dog range with excellent bird work.

First went to Joe McHugh's Chisled In Stone, handled by Jeanette Tracy. "The dog did a heck of a job!", one judge commented. The pointer female ran a very strong race, was always forward and covered the edges of all fields with a powerful gait. Stone had three precise finds and a back. Second went to Mike Tracy with Jamie and Mary McConnell's setter male Octavio which ran a snappy race, covered edges well, had five finds and one divided find.

Steve Browder handled Harry Conner's pointer male Harry's Rebel

Roy to third. Harry was riding to watch his three dogs compete in both the North Carolina and Swamp Fox stakes. Roy had a big race, four finds and an unproductive.

Judges: Vinnie Ballester and Jeanette Tracy
NORTH CAROLINA CELEBRATION
AMATEUR SHOOTING DOG
[One-Hour Heats] — 20 Pointers, 2 Setters and 6 Irish Setters

- 1st—GREAT RIVER MAGNUM, 1602382, pointer male, by Westfall's Black Ice—Tallgrass Bee. Brian Sanchez, owner and handler.
2d—BREAKSTONE, 1582163, Irish setter male, by Sharpton—Chantilly. Roger W. Boser, owner and handler.
3d—JAYCEE'S ROSE BUD, 1598466, pointer female, by Hobbs Pete Rose—Harbor City Breeze. John & Sue Campoli, owners; John Campoli, handler.

Judges: Brenda Ballentine and George Kimbrell
NORTH CAROLINA CELEBRATION
OPEN SHOOTING DOG [One-Hour Heats] — 30 Pointers and 5 Setters

- 1st—CHISLED IN STONE, 1621999, pointer female, by Stone Free—Enhancement Tess. Joe McHugh, owner; Jeanette Tracy, handler.
2d—OCTAVIO, 1589409, setter male, by Stone Tavern Matrix—Made In America. Jamie & Mary McConnell, owners; Mike Tracy, handler.
3d—HARRY'S REBEL ROY, 1615220, pointer male, by Sonny's Rebel Roy—Shadow's Delivery Girl. W. H. Conner, Jr., owner; Steve Browder, handler.

Flashback . . .



Point! National Championship, Ames Plantation, 1976.