



2009 ABC National Amateur All Age Championship



November 23-27, 2009 • Booneville, AR

Reported by Leslie Andreas • Photos courtesy of Mary Jo Trimble



National Amateur All Age Championship – from left to right: Janet & Jim Chase, Judy & Tom Robin, Paul Pollack, Lisa Pollack with National Amateur All Age Champion/FC/AFC TM'S TENNESSEE TWISTER, Bill Landress, judge Greg Dixon, Margaret Horstmeyer, Tom White with Runner-up DC/AFC TJ'S SINGLE SHOT OF SCIPIO, judge Stan Williamson, Bo Ackerman with third place winner FC/AFC EARLY TIMES, judge June McConnell, Steve Ralph, Tommy Thomas with fourth place winner DC HAVAPAL'S RENEGADE BILLY BOY and Linda Thomas.

The American Brittany Club has run a National Amateur All Age stake every year since 1951. This year's renewal ran from November 23 to 27, at the Blue Mountain Wildlife demonstration area southeast of the friendly town of Booneville, Arkansas. 54 entries were drawn, and all started. As in past years, all entrants had to qualify in regional trials to get here. Entries were actually up from last year, though nowhere near the highs of years past, despite the economy and quite a few trials being cancelled. This is a trial with a lot of history, and is the one all the amateurs wish to win. While its competitive, it is also a social occasion. Friends who have become like family over the years will enjoy visiting, dining, partying and talking dogs.

This year the running was directly affected by a very wet summer which saw over 30" of rain fall, flooding the Petit Jean River far over its banks. The soggy ground could not support the weight of the machinery needed to mow, and cover grew high and thick. The ground remains wet and boggy. Areas of the modified course we ended up using had 20 foot high water marks on the trees. Of necessity, all of course 2 was eliminated, as well large portions of course 1 and 3. The first brace to breakaway in the morning and afternoon would take the normal route of course 1#, leaving from the top of the hill behind Cartmell's place, and remaining as course one as we know it until just short of the old corrals, at which time, we swing right and come out on what is the middle portion of the third course, where we go on to pass Mario's Hill, across Lick Creek and through the field with the pavilion, where we again swing right past the big oak, and rejoin the first course. Wherever one brace picks up, the next is put down, although the judges were very kind in riding on a short distance to give everyone a decent breakaway place. It was not an ideal situation, but everyone had the same opportunities. The good news is that the bird counts were the highest seen in years, maybe the highest ever. Only 6 braces did not have any bird contact at all (as seen by judicial parties) – some tattle tales on the dog wagon told us that some of these braces did indeed have contact, though not the kind that would have helped their causes! Many of the covies that were seen were very large. In addition to the birds released in September that have acclimatized themselves

and act like wild birds, quail were released each night onto the course and account for the singles finds.

Putting together this trial is a truly monumental undertaking, with workers coming from a nation wide organization. It worked as smoothly as a well oiled machine, with everyone knowing just what their job entailed, and doing their parts. Our leader was Tom White, vice president of the American Brittany Club, serving as field trial chairman from California, ensuring that all was well at all times. His wife, Margaret Horstmeyer DVM – provided us with an on-site veterinarian in case of emergencies. Field trial marshal was Bill Landress, another Californian. Tom Robin capably served as stakes manager. Will Langley comes all the way from Michigan each year to provided us with dependable horses that were in shape and ready for action. Will is knowledgeable about horses and people, matching each to a T. I always look forward to seeing Will each year.

A last minute cancellation required a new caterer for our meals, and we were lucky indeed that Ron and Jodi Button stepped forward. They served us wonderful healthy meals three times a day at very reasonable prices, and were cheerful and pleasant to be around. I cannot imagine what we would have done without them. We hope to see them back next year. Steve Ralph did the paperwork, before and after the trial as well as any loose ends during the running of the trial. Larry McAnally and Red Bailey are the State workers that drive the dog wagon, plant and feed the birds, as well as manage the grounds year round. They have become part of the Brittany family, and we all look forward to seeing them each year. The State of Arkansas was ahead of its time when it built these facilities, completed in 1987, with some improvements made each year. The corrals, dog runs, horse barn, and a large club house that caters to all of our meals, meetings, and social get togethers, as well as RV hook ups, make this a very civilized place to have a field trial. The field trial committee was made up of Hank Hartnek, Joyce Miley, Tom Robin, Lisa Pollock, Margaret Horstmeyer, Ray Trimble, Steve Ralph, Tom Milam and Warren Montgomery. Many others took on the marshalling jobs on a daily basis, and while I did not get around to recording



2009 American Brittany Club National Amateur All Age Championship Judges, left to right: June McConnell, Greg Dixon & Stan Williamson



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all that helped we are grateful none the less. The dog wagon ladies-Linda Milam, Darlene Dow, Diana Kubitz and Donna Pride, provided us with pastries, cookies and coffee between braces.

Our three judges are June McConnell of Idaho, Greg Dixon of Wisconsin, and Stan Williamson, Illinois. All are experienced bird dog people, both as competitors and as judges. They did us a great service, through their knowledge and willingness to talk to each other, being very attentive to all competitors, and gave everyone a fair chance to show their dogs to their best advantage. They were very positive judges, all the while upholding a strong standard of performance. It was an enjoyable week for me getting to know them. June and her husband Larry, began with Brittany's, and are now involved in campaigning all age pointers in American Field, with several champions to their credit. Greg Dixon is a professional all breed trainer, along with his wife Liz, who had to stay and hold the fort while Greg was judging. Stan is a amateur Brittany enthusiast, with several owner trained and handled field champions to his credit. It made for an excellent blend of talent.

A beautiful engraved trooper saddle donated by Christie Enterprises of Alvord Texas is sure to please the new winner. Tri-tronics, the best known and oldest name in electronic dog training devices also provided a top of the line collar for the champion. Purina supplied dog food to the winners, which is always appreciated.

Social events are always part of the Booneville experience. Terry Maxwell had a party on Tuesday night to honor Chuck – formally known as 2008 National Amateur Champion Maxwell's Blew By You, complete with DJ Joe and a wide mix of great music for dancing. Thanksgiving falls during our week every year, and as we all gather to enjoy a truly scrumptious meal, we think of all those left home to do the cooking and washing dishes. At the conclusion of the Amateur, Purina hosted the award for Purina All Age dog of the year, won by DC/AFC RuJem's A Touch of Bourbon owned by Jerry and Ruth McGee, after a year of consistency, winning under many different judges, in several different states, against all comers. Purina sets a high standard with their products and their dedication to our sport. Their financial aid certainly contributes to the fact that hour stakes have flourished all over the country. Roy Pelton was present to represent the company, and along with master of ceremonies, Robert Rankin, and artist Ross Young, present for the unveiling of a painting of last years winner, Lane's End WeBe Clean, owned by Tom and Judy Robin.

The winners – the New Champion, FC/AFC TM'S TENNESSEE TWISTER, is not only a star in the field, she has been a star on Animal Planet's popular TV show, "Dogs 101" as the representative of our breed in the Brittany episode. She was filmed during the running of the Deep South Championship last winter, which she also won. "Sway", as she is called, has been winning trials from an early age. She is owned by Brooks Caviness and Lisa Pollock, and was most capably handled by Lisa to this prestigious win. She is from the famous frozen semen breeding of Rimarda's Trademark and Lane's End Bowtie Annie. Five of the resulting dogs were run in this championship, each a winner in their own right. A sixth dog from this breeding has completed a dual championship running in gun dog stakes, and yet another ranks as one of the top obedience trial Brittany's in the country. This was truly a "nick" breeding. Coming out of the 24th brace, the last to run on Thursday, with ideal weather conditions, Sway demonstrated intelligence and desire to find birds for the entire hour she was down. She sought out all the likely spots, got to them with great efficiency, and showed classic manners on all of her four finds. When the opportunity presented itself, she backed from a good

distance on her own initiative. At the end of the hour, she was still driving hard in a quest to find yet more birds. It was an enjoyable hour watching a pair of very good bird dogs, as her brace mate, Special Edition also carded multiple finds.

The runner-up is a most consistent performing bitch, DC/AFC TJ'S SINGLE SHOT OF SCIPIO, call name "Emme". She is owned by Tom White and Margaret Horstmeyer of San Bernadino, California, and was handled by Tom. Emme is a daughter of two former National and Dual Champions, Tequila's Joker and Micro Chips of Nutmeg. Emme came out of the 2nd brace, run Monday morning. She showed style and intensity on her two finds, and ran a very forward, smart race, always handling like she was on a string. Emme has been in the winner's circle in Booneville several times before.

Third place, FC/AFC EARLY TIMES, a leggy white and orange dog owned and handled by Bo Ackerman, from Clermont, Georgia. Earl is the son of FC Ortho Acre's Booker T out of a daughter of FC Bay Meadow's Trucker. Earl, from brace 11, displayed great decorum on his one covey find, put down an intelligent race, maintaining a good pace with a lot of steam left at the end of the hour.

Fourth place dog, coming out of brace 17, DC HAVAPAL'S RENEGADE BILLY BOY, a handsome white and orange male and handled by young Tommy Thomas, from Illinois. He is sired by FC Double Brandy's Bird Buster out of a daughter of DC Masked Shoshoni War Chief. Billy, was out of pocket for awhile, but came back strong the final half of his hour with a powerful forward race and a stellar find right before time on a large covey of birds.

A much sought after award is the woman's handler award, called the Belloak's Ginger Memorial trophy, donated by Jim and Marcelle Bell. It was offered for the first time in 1954. The original trophy was retired, and since 1966 the trophy has been sponsored by the American Brittany Club. With Lisa Pollock handling the winner, it was not too hard to determine who would take that trophy home this year. Lisa also scouted two of the other winning dogs. When the open judge, Jim Cohen and his wife Judy arrived, we found we had five previous winners on the grounds, as Judy had won this award in 1969! Others present who had won the trophy are Diana Kubitz (1992 & 1993), Donna Janulis (1996, 1997, 2000, & 2002), Jessica Carlson (2007) and Lisa Pollock (2008 & this present year.) Lisa plans to come back in 40 years to relive this moment, although we joked Jessica may have to pick her up at the retirement home and drive her there!!

Brace 1# CLYDE'S MICRO BREEZE ("Mike") - Lisa Pollock and SHADOW ATTACK ("Tack") - Philip Dangerfield. Mike and Tack broke away at 8:03 under an overcast sky with mild temperatures atop the normal race 1# hill. Both liver dogs went to work right away tackling the heavy cover. At 11, Mike had the first bird contact of the stake on a wild flushing covey in a manner that did not please his handler. He was picked up. Tack began to get confused over the absence of his usual handler. He did point into a thick plum thicket with handler unable to flush a bird. His anxiety problem increased and he was up early.

Brace 2# TRUCKER'S WILD RIDE ("Rider") - Ray Trimble and TJ'S SINGLE SHOT OF SCIPIO ("Emme") - Tom White. At 9, Emme pointed with good style into a tangled briar patch with Rider honoring, all manners in order. Point was called for Rider at 28 minutes. A long ride ensued, which resulted in riding into the scout and moving dog. Apparently the dog had corrected and gone on. Emme continued to reach for the front. She was always forward and handling kindly. After not being seen for about 6 minutes, she was found at 34 to the front, on point, again with excellent form. Rider caught up in time to back this find also. When we reached the plum thicket where Tack had his non-productive in the previous brace, Emme was standing tightly coiled. Handler spotted the bird on



2009 American Brittany Club National Amateur All Age Championship site superintendent, Larry McAnally with the dog wagon gallery.



2009 American Brittany Club National Amateur All Age Championship horseback gallery.

the ground, but was unable to flush it or show it to the judges. Ray had taken Rider around the action with Rider slamming on the brakes hard as a small covey rose in the next line of the course. Emmie finished well ahead.

Brace 3# JOLOCKAPEX DARK ROUX GUMBO - Dave Lincoln and MAXWELL'S GUNSMOKE ("Pete") - Kent Patterson. Pete, last year's runner-up in this championship, was not as hard charging as his normal self. At the corner behind the barking dog house, Pete stood with high head and tail with Kent unable to produce. Sent to relocate, Pete stopped when he heard a bird lift, then released himself earning himself a trip to the dog wagon. Roux distinguished himself with power and drive and taking lines all the way to their conclusion for a solid hour. As we crossed the road by the single metal gate, Roux was missing, and Dave, knowing his dog, rode hard to the left to find him on point. We rode a long way to view the find. He charged on very hard following this find. He reached the same plum thicket that had been the scene of two non-productives earlier in the morning, and pointed along the edge. Dave was able to flush the bird with apparent ease. All was in order.

Brace 4# DAKOTA ALLEY CAT ("Tiger") - Bo Ackerman and TRADEMARK'S ICE MAN ("Timmy") - Donna Janulius. Tiger was pointed out to the front, many times during the hour as he applied himself well. His good effort was not rewarded with birdwork. Timmy had great application and a wonderful repouire with his handler Donna. He was fired over on a stop to flush in tall grass in the cotton field, with no birds seen by the judges. At 58, Timmy had stopped with a large covey simultaneously rising on their own.

Brace 5# BRISCO'S MR. STUB - Trimble and KINWASHKLY DAKOTA MOLESTER - Ken Seivert. A good breakaway for both dogs. Lester was seen at 5 standing intensely, but nothing came of the flushing attempt. He made some nice moves at the start, but had a flat spot in the mid portion of his hour. As the course made a right hand turn, Lester hit the far tree line and made a flying move all the way down the line coming across the front at the road, and disappearing to the front. At 52, he was spotted on point in a mowed strip, with nice style and manners. After that he flew down the right edge, past the pavilion, down the hedgerow to finish with great strength. Stub had worked hard and long to pin a covey at 24 off the side of Mario' Hill, which he accomplished in good form. He was out of pocket for awhile after this, only to show from the rear at time.

Brace 6# WHITE MOUNTAIN SMOKE - Dale Pool and MUSTANG SALLY VIII - Hans Borggman. Hans had been thrown earlier in the day by his horse, and would have a fight on with him the whole brace. Sally set a blistering pace, spotted by Judge Stan Williamson pointing with beautiful style as we crossed the road near the single metal gate. All went just as it should. Her next move was to take a huge swing around the left edge of a big field, with scout calling point at the end of the edge, again picturesque form and manners. Smoke stood near the road at far end of the cotton fields with birds flushed by the judge, with Smoke flagging a bit on point. His range and pace were conservative for this stake. As we rounded a corner going to Mario's Hill, both dogs were standing with handlers indicating birds had already left. Sally would shorten a bit in the last minutes of the course, but she had covered so much country, that she had to be put back on the same course she had already run on for the final 11 minutes of her hour. At 59 minutes, Sally pointed, tightly coiled, with a single bird flushed directly in front of her. Hans breathed a sigh of relief when they called time.

Dogs Posted Day 1# MUSTANG SALLY VIII, KINWASHKLY DAKOTA MOLESTER, T.J'S SINGLE SHOT OF SCPIO

Tuesday morning, we awoke to find it had rained all night and would drizzle right up till we broke away. Although it was rather cool, with grey skies, the sun came out and we had blue skies in the afternoon.

Brace 7# CHEYENNE WIND DANCER - John Cross and LANE'S END WE BE CLEAN - Tom Robin. Our first find of the morning came as WeBe found a covey of birds along the edge near Hwy. 109 just before the Barking Dog House. Dan worked his way down the same edge and backed the find. At 30, WeBe pointed into a pine tree just at the road crossing by the single metal gate, looking like a white statue. A small covey rose just as Dan came up the opposite line, poor timing for him, as he did not get stopped in time. WeBe turned to mark the birds that had flown behind him. At 32, WeBe pointed in a ditch along the roadside. All went well. His race belied his age-as he was far forward and completed all of his casts, and still had us sitting up at the end of his hour. He finished up by pointing a large covey at 58. Judge June McConnell's comment when he was picked up was "What a wonderful old dog".

Brace 8# ODYSSEY'S TEQUILA AZUL - Neil Mace and TERRA'S CABO WABO ("Sammy") - Tom White. Azul is a powerful looking dog whose range was mostly conservative for this stake. Sammy sped off and was not seen much in the early portion of the course. Where WeBe had his first find an hour earlier, Azul established point with the covey flushed and proper manners observed. Sammy reappeared to the front at this time. Sammy soon pointed with intensity in a large mott. Tom, unable to flush birds, sent Sammy to relocate. He stopped 15 feet to the left of his original stand. The call of "birds have flown", came from the back of the mott, with one bird spotted coming out the judge's side. 5 minutes later, point was called with both dogs standing in a dense jungle of briars alongside a water filled ditch. By the time the two handlers and a dismounted judge Dixon had fought their way in, Azul was no longer to be seen. Moments later, a covey popped out the other end, followed by Azul. Sammy displayed proper decorum and went on with the course to himself. He began to shorten at 45, with Tom picking him up a few minutes short of the hour.

Brace 9# THE ROCK II - Paul Pollock and DEM BONES - Dave Lincoln. Bones is a young dog, who today had directional challenges. It was clear he would not be going with us, so Dave picked him up early. Rock was not reaching out in his normal fashion. After 2 episodes of trying to flush birds and coming up with 4 legged, non-approved game, Rock was retired to the dog wagon.

Brace 10# KB'S SHADOW DANCER - Herb Rea and LANE'S END HAVE MERCY - Tom Robin. As Mercy pointed for a non-productive in a grassy flat near the road approaching the Barking Dog House, Dancer cut through the gallery and was kicked by a horse. He was severely injured and in great pain. Larry and Red promptly responded by unhooking the dog wagon and coming to his assistance. We were later to learn that he broke his shoulder blade. His many fans hope he recovers and can come back from this incident. Mercy added another non-productive and had become very interested in ground scent wanting to stop and check every bush, so did not last the hour.

Brace 11# EARLY TIMES - Bo Ackerman and TSUNAMI - Francis Clausen. There was a very fast pace set. Both Bo and Francis can ride! Earl took the edges mainly to the right with Sue taking the left hand side of the course. Both dogs required and received excellent scouting. Point was called for Earl along the right edge, with the dog standing tall and proud. Bo flushed birds from the thick jungle in front of Earl. Sue at times handled roughly but charged hard to where she wanted to go. Her one find was a well located large covey near Mario's Hill, style



Left to right: Steve Ralph, 2009 Woman's Handler Award Winner Lisa Pollock, and Tom Robin.

Left to right: 2009 American Brittany Club National Amateur All Age Championship fourth place handler, Tommy Thomas, Steve Ralph, Tom White and Tom Robin.

and manners excellent. Earl had a limb non-productive, followed by a long hard ride to catch the front. Both dogs remained strong on the ground until picked up near the Barking Dog House. I always find it comforting to see Francis at a field trial. He was at the first Brittany trial I ever went to (Minnesota Brittany Club, 1968) and 41 years later, he is still around and still competing!

Brace 12# MODAN BELIEVER ("Buddy") - John Cross and MTB CABO RITA DE SCIPIO - Tom White. Buddy, a veteran campaigner with many years of competing here, will retire after today's running. He did not apply himself today, and was short and lethargic for most of his time down. He had a non-productive and was picked up at 45. Rita seemed to be swallowed up by the course shortly after breakaway. Some people thought they heard a distant call of point, but no one was sure of where or who it was coming from. Where ever she had been, Rita reappeared after an absence of 18.5 minutes to remain in contention. Soon after her return, she scored a quality find near Mario's Hill. Rita finished up her hour going forward down the mowed strips.

Dogs posted for day 2# LANE'S END WEBE CLEAN and EARLY TIMES

Tuesday evening we all enjoyed the party hosted by Terry Maxwell, celebrating his last year's champion at this event, MAXWELL'S BLEW BY YOU. DJ Joe played a great mix of music, and a good time was had by all. Wednesday was rather chilly, frost on the ground, but warming as the day went on.

Brace 13# TUB O TEE - Dave Lincoln and DIAMOND HILL DEUCES GONE WILD ("Cooter") - Lisa Pollock. Breaking away atop of the hill into a chilly morning, frost on the grass, blue sky above us, both dogs going to the front and hunting hard. As we approach the Barking Dog house, a single quail lifted from the roadside. Seconds later, Tub pointed in the same spot, but no more birds were to be flushed. On the other side of the course, Cooter also had a find with a covey flushed for him. As we crossed the road by the single metal gate, Tub jumped a water filled ditch and flushed a small covey, but did not stop to their flight. Cooter had a strong last half of his hour, wide to the left hand side of the course, sweeping forward at a fast pace. Cooter was gone from sight at time, but was returned in the grace period.

Brace 14# TLM COMANCHE CHIEF - Tom Milam and THE FAR SIDE'S KID AIMEE - Wice. Aimee made some nice moves before she got separated from us and not returned within judgment. Chief began with a moderate race, scored a find on the same birds that took out Tub the brace before. He was stretching out well to the front following the find, and looking like a competitor! He was missing at time, and failed to be returned during the grace period allowed to him.

Brace 15# STARLIGHT'S BLAZING SIRIUS - Tommy Thomas and MEGASMOKE LIMITED EDITION ("Ted") - Tom White. Si and Ted raced to the horizon off the breakaway. That's the last we saw of Si. Ted did cross over to the front once before he, too, vanished from the course. Trackers were out at about 20 minutes into the hour for each.

Brace 16# TJ'S PRAIRIE BLIZZARD - Jessica Carlson and SHAMROCK'S SIRIUS - Wade Haines. Blizzard went the hour, but did not challenge. He did not find the front appealing today. Si was strong to the front, seen a couple of times, but somehow he managed to get away on us, with Wade asking for his tracker.

Brace 17# MARJO'S RED RUM ("Johnny") - Joe Luisi and HAVAPAL'S RENEGADE BILLY BOY - Tommy Thomas Early in the brace, Si missing from the previous brace showed up to the front, looking like he could run another hour, but we put him on the dog wagon anyway. Johnny stood with style and intensity by some cedar trees, pretty as a picture, but to no avail. For the most part, Johnny was short, and we never did catch the front party. At one point, we had both dogs, and Judge Stan Williamson got Billy going forward to catch up with his handler. He

shot forward, and regained the front. Judge Greg Dixon reported that when Billy caught up, he went straight to the front and stayed way out there, finishing with a stellar find at 59 just off Mario's Hill. Billy had beautiful style with a large covey flushed for him.

Brace 18# LOST CREEK TIMBER RIDGE ("Rowdy") - George McCann and MTB EMMIE'S CABO DE SCIPIO - Tom White. Cabo ran a gun dog type race. At 17 he scored a very pretty find on a large covey of quail, giving a show for the dog wagon parked nearby. His race continued in the same quartering pattern, and Tom relieved him from further action before the barking dog house. Rowdy did not get to all age range early on - but improved as we hit the cotton fields, and then was out of pocket for awhile. The judges informed handler he was not going to change anything just short of the hour.

Third day, dog posted - HAVAPAL'S RENEGADE BILLY BOY

Brace 19# RU-JEM'S A TOUCH OF BOURBON ("Chug") - Jerry McGee and PINEY RUN ARTIE - Kent Patterson. Breakaway from the top of course 1#, with a cool and crisp Thanksgiving morning. Tom Robin announced that turkey had been planted instead of quail today in honor of the holiday. It quickly warmed up to be a real blue bird kind of day. Two mostly white dogs headed off with Artie bee lining for the timber line along the right side of the course, and Chug occasionally spotted up front. Jerry and Kent are very talented amateur handlers, riding ahead with confidence, cool, calm and collected. Artie was sparingly seen until near the single metal gate road crossing, where point was called by the handler. Artie had nice style, and all was in order at the flush. Artie made some big swings, and we nearly caught the front, when Artie pointed again. No bird was flushed, and we did not know until the brace was over that the front party had rode up a quail here. Artie continued with a very competitive race. At 56, point was called for him along the left hand tree line opposite the pavilion, with no game flushed, and during a relocation effort, Arite departed. A tracker was required to find him, buried deep in the woods on point. The judges reported that Chug had run a beautiful race, fast, forward, completing all of his casts. He disappeared near Mario's Hill and was not seen again under judgment.

Brace 20# T'KALI'S FEEL THE WIND ("Kelly") - Laura Wilder and TRADEMARK'S ATM ("Cash") - Jim Chase. At the dry creek crossing, Cash's scout called point. Once Jim arrived, they realized it was the other dog Kelly. Once Laura had arrived, Kelly corrected and moved on. Up ahead, at 9 minutes, Cash pointed intently and Kelly was pulled over to where the action was. She ended up chasing a bird to end her bid. Laura impressed everyone by dismounting to catch her at a fast speed. Cash displayed good manners on this find, despite all the commotion. At 23, in the far corner across Lick Creek, point was called with Cash scoring another well located find. Once we made the single metal gate crossing, we did not see Cash again until we turned to head back on old course 3#. Much credit for keeping him on course goes to his scout, Wade Haines. He again took off and did not show up again until time. When he appeared he seemed to be tiring.

Brace 21# SHADY WAY'S RED TAIL HAWK ("Beau") - Brett Lindback and MAXWELL'S BLEW BY YOU II ("Chuck") - Terry Maxwell. Last year's champion, Chuck, did not have much luck this year. As he sped across the creek bed by the white post, at 3 minutes, a bird lifted and he did not get stopped for a couple strides. Another bird rose with him staying put, but the damage was already done. Beau lasted slightly longer. He was acting birdie along the edge of by Highway leading to the Barking Dog House. He stopped, moved up, and birds rose. We turned around for an early lunch break.

Brace 22# LINVEL'S ACE OF DIAMONDS - Paul Pollock and LE GRAND TANK DU FAYETTE - Ken Blackman. Tank was handy, at gun dog range. He did score a nice find on a large covey in a mowed strip pointing into the tall grass. Ace



Left to right: Steve Ralph, Tom Robin, third place handler Bo Ackerman and Tom White.



Left to right: Tom Robin with Runner-up winners Margaret Horstmeyer and Tom White, and Steve Ralph.

was not running hard either, he did make a couple big moves but interspersed with shorter stints. A non-productive for Ace on the far left edge had Tank back initially then released himself. Tank was up: Ace tried for awhile longer until Paul volunteered to leash him.

Brace 23# KD'S SLIP AND SLIDE ("Splash") - Steve Ralph and JUSTAS WELL BE THE GUNNER - Stan Truska. Gunner was seen dashing across a gap well to the front at 5 minutes. 30 seconds later, he crossed the same gap in reverse, this time after a covey of birds. Splash had a stop to flush in the cover just before Lick Creek crossing. He had a few loopy casts that brought him in from behind. He continued to run a lack luster performance. Steve picked him up early.

Brace 24# TM'S TENNESSEE TWISTER ("Sway") - Lisa Pollock and SPECIAL EDITION - Dale Pool. Two spirited bitches left the starting line to show us where the birds were. At 9 Edition had stopped in tall grass approaching Mario's Hill, but nothing was produced in the flushing attempt. While we watching this piece of work, we heard a distant call of point on the far right edge. Sway had a true limb find, with an enormous covey flushed, with the dog stylish and mannerly. The next piece of action occurred at 28, with Edition pointing with pretty style. As the judges arrived, Sway coming from deep down the line, spotted the standing dog and backed the find. Across Lick Creek at 37, in the left corner, Edition pointed, with a bird seen on the ground but handler was unable to flush in the dense tangles of the thicket. At the same time, 20 feet away across the road, Sway stood high and tight as Lisa flushed a single from a bramble bush. The fast forward pace continued, with scout Paul taking a tumble at the single metal gate crossing when his horse slipped in the mud. He was laughing pretty hard when he got up so it could not have hurt too much. Edition added a find at an old feeder at 51. Point was called at 55, with both dogs standing, scout indicating that birds had already left. Shot was fired and dogs taken on. Credit was given for a divided find. (Lisa wanted to argue that it was a stop to flush, but Paul told her "Lisa, you don't argue with the judge!") Sway pointed again at 57 on the far left edge, with us crossing a boggy field to witness her final classy piece of bird work. With only 2 minutes left on the clock, she was turned loose and made a huge move all the way up the left edge and crossing to the front to show us there was still a lot of desire left on her part. A new standard was set, not to be topped this week. Both of these bitches proved to be bird dogs. Edition was overshadowed on the ground by her wider running brace mate.

Day 4: Dog posted, TM'S TENNESSEE TWISTER

Brace 25# WINDTUCK'S ROCKET'S RED GLARE - Tom Milam and WOLF RIVER'S WINNING TICKET ("Cash") - Ken Blackman. Rocket was seen to the far front a few times after release from the top of the hill of normal Course 1#. When not seen from the Barking Dog House to the single metal gate crossing, Tom requested his tracker. A few minutes later, Rocket showed up to the front on course. Cash was handier, with a tendency to tackle the thick cover and dig right in. The judges requested that he be picked up, at which time he vanished from view.

Brace 26# GRAND JUNCTION JAKE - Dick Pulliam and SPANKY'S LITTLE PILL BANDIT - Bill Hancock. Jake is a very attractive dog who on this day, hunted with an efficient pattern, but lacked all age range. He was to go birdless. For a short time, we had 3 dogs on the ground as Cash from the last brace showed up near the Barking Dog House. Bandit ran a very likeable race, appearing to be one of those dogs who just naturally finds the front and stays there. He made some good moves at a nice pace. It was much harder to keep Bill, the handler on course! Bill picked Bandit up just short of the hour, with no bird work to his credit.

Brace 27# DAKOTA LUKE - Dick Mantler. With his brace mate in heat, Luke went alone, Luke was not reaching out in all age form, but does have a quick animated



Left to right: Tom Robin, Steve Ralph, 2009 National Amateur All Age handler Lisa Pollock, and Tom White.

gait that makes him fun to watch. He got birdie and stopped in some tall grass for awhile, but moved off with no results. As we neared the single metal gate crossing, birds were seen in the air with Luke showing inappropriate interest in them. We retired back to camp for another early lunch break.

Brace 28# JAYHAWKER'S TEQUILA WITH A TWIST ("Taryn") - Jessica Carlson. Taryn is the bitch in heat that was originally drawn in the previous brace. The sun has come out and it is considerably warmer than it was this morning. Taryn ran a sustained smart race, finishing all her casts, but appeared to be affected by the heat. At the field approaching Mario's Hill, Taryn pointed a big covey with exemplary manners. Moments later, on the tree line on the opposite side of the field, she scored another covey find, again all in order, just as the clock ran out.



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**2009 AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB
NATIONAL AMATEUR ALL AGE CHAMPIONSHIP 1hr (54S)**

Judges: Greg Dixon, June McConnell & Stan Williamson

CHAMPION FC/AFC TM'S TENNESSEE TWISTER, by FC/AFC Rimarda's Trademark x FC/AFC Lane's End Bowtie Annie; o Brooke Caviness & Lisa Pollock, h Lisa Pollock

RUNNER UP - DC/AFC TJ'S SINGLE SHOT OF SCIPIO, by NFC/DC/AFC Tequilas Joker x NFC/DC/AFC Microchips of Nutmeg; o Tom White & Margaret Horstmeyer, h Tom White

3 - FC/AFC EARLY TIMES, by Ortho Acres Booker T x Windy Hill Sho-N-Tel; o Bo & Renae Ackerman, h Bo Ackerman

4 - DC HAVAPAL'S RENEGADE BILLY BOY, by FC Double Brandy Bird Buster x Havapal's Shoshoni Ginger; o/h Tommy Thomas