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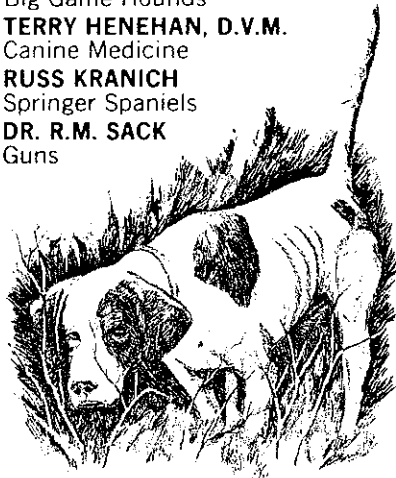
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America's Award Winning Magazine

1966, Honorable Mention, Best Breed Magazine: Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1966, Best Column by a Professional Writer, "Ask Herm" by Herm David: Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1966, Honorable Mention, Best Article by a Professional Writer, "A Yank Tramps Southern Swamps" by Earl Fink: Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1966, Honorable Mention, Editorial, "Dog Week," Gaines Pet Care Center • 1967, Honorable Mention, Best Breed Magazine: Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1967, Dog Writer of the Year, Herm David, Gaines Pet Care Center: elected by Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1967, Best Article by a Non-professional Writer, "No Hunting" by Tom Wood: Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1968, Best Article by a Non-professional Writer, "Pedigrees" by Dr. James G. McCue: Dog Writers Assn. of America • 1971 Annual Hunting-Conservation Award, presented to Hunting Dog Magazine and George R. Quigley by the Palm Beach County Florida Wildlife Conservation League • 1973, Annual Hunting-Conservation Award, presented to Hunting Dog Magazine and George R. Quigley by the Palm Beach County Florida Wildlife Conservation League • 1973, National Sporting Dog Writers Association, Best Sporting Dog Publication Award • 1975, Honorable Mention, Roy Speece, Hunting Dog Magazine, Dog Writers Association of America • 1975, Best Color Photo Award, George R. Quigley, Outdoor Writers Association of Ohio • 1975, Best Feature Award, Robert W. Charlton, Outdoor Writers Association of Ohio • 1976, Best All-Breed Magazine, Dog Writers Association of America • 1976, Certificate of Merit, feature series "Canine Medicine" by Frank L. Johnson, D.V.M., Dog Writers Association of America • 1976, Best Black and White Photo Award, "Canoe Camping" by George R. Quigley, Outdoor Writers Association of Ohio • 1977, Best Series in a Magazine, "Canine Medicine", by Dr. Terry Henehan, D.V.M.; Dog Writers Association of America • 1977, Best Short Story, "Buddy" by Doris Fisher Harris: Dog Writers Association of America • 1977, Certificate of Merit, Short Story, "Show 'Em Who's Boss," by James Evans: Dog Writers Association of America • 1977, Honorable Mention, Short Story, "Certain Time, Certain Place" by Elizabeth Hartley, Dog Writers Association of America.

What Makes Ol' Red Run?

by R. J. Schweiger



A couple of months ago, as the grass was a greenin' and our worst winter in history was fading from still numb minds, many a person's fancy was turning to field trials . . . and in particular Red Setter field trials.

So it was with many of the members of the National Red Setter Field Trial Club, (NRSFTC) as a large number of people journeyed to Berea, Kentucky, to attend the Spring trial. Those in attendance represented states many miles distant. Many came to compete, others to observe, and some came just to be counted as a part of this diminutive but dedicated group.

That's what this article is all about. The individuals, the club, the NRSFTC publication and the dogs called Red Setters. What's behind the impetus that causes folks to invest great amounts of time and money into the field trial sport?

It doesn't take an accountant to tell anyone that it's expensive to be a field trialer. It requires a bit of doing to support a winning pointer at local trials. It requires *SACRIFICE* to campaign a member of the minority breeds. A prime example of expense is the travel you will have to face to compete in "breed" trials. Red Setters are in the "breed" class and the folks that own and support them know the meaning of sacrifice.

I was flattered when the NRSFTC invited me to write the report on their recent trial. My assignment — cover the Championship and the sixth Red Setter Futurity — both stakes were of the highest calibre. Both of the stakes were exciting to watch; both overflowed with *QUALITY* performances. Everybody had done their homework! The blow by blow account has been sent to *THE AMERICAN FIELD*, and to the NRSFTC publication, *THE FLUSHING WHIP*. No need to repeat the tale here, but some of the highlights of the event are indeed worth mentioning, as are the names of those who conducted the trial.

In the Championship, Osage Molly O'Shawn, owned and handled by Don Beauchamp of Cheney, Kansas, set the pace with a sparkling effort. She ran a far reaching hour with six bird contacts and, when she cast off to parts unknown late in her hour, you could almost feel the gallery and judges worrying with her handler

and scout that she wouldn't reappear. But reappear she did, and right where she should reenter. Molly's thrilling performance earned her the Runner-Up spot at this trial.

In the fifth brace Buddwing, (The world's winningest Red Setter), was paired with Dainty Celtic Sally. Proud owner Don Beauchamp was whistling signals for "Budd" and "Pro." Clair Gross was handling with aplomb for "Sally." Sally is owned by Ms. Peggy Boling of Fairfax, Virginia. Both dogs had come to win. The hour was filled with interchanges of pointing and backing by the duo. Both dogs ran hard and with style. At the close of the hour the pair shared a divided find, all in all it was a beautiful thing to watch. "Sally" eventuated the Champion as a result of her efforts in this hour.

The seventh brace saw the well known Abra make his bid for the title. Owner, Stan Zdanczewicz, sat in the handler's saddle for his hopeful. Abra was just a red streak as he covered the course. One third of the hour expired, Abra had a stop to flush. At the three quarter mark, a fine find with all in order. Then a deluge of wind, ice, and rain turned the beautiful day we had been enjoying into an impossible situation. Horses flattened their ears and hesitated to move. Riders were blinded temporarily and dogs

were more prone to seek cover than birds. The storm erased Abra's effort with only a few minutes left in the hour; a truly crushing blow.

County Clare's Rosie, a previous winner of the title, ran on the final day of the trial. Rosie started out as if she was going to change things about. The little dog recorded three finds in the first half and then seemed to slow somewhat. Handler, George Tracy, elected to pick up at forty.

As anyone whoever read a field trial report knows, the names of those working in various capacities during the trial are listed and lauded. It's only fair that these folks receive recognition for their efforts. The first item of business at a field trial is the drawing. A drawing, where the dogs are actually paired, can be described as an accountant's nightmare. Drawing cards have to be checked for accuracy, females in season have to be sorted out and it must be determined if the entry fee has been paid.

Ms. June Eilers of Franksville, Wisc., is NRSFTC secretary and it was her lot to oversee the drawing. June is an accountant's accountant, no detail goes unattended, and the drawing was conducted smoothly.

Don Beauchamp "Chaired" the trial. Don was asked to handle the trial on very short notice and he

1978 Ch. Dainty Celtic Sally points with Osage Molly O'Shawn backing. This type of action is becoming more "routine" at NRSFTC events.

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picked up the reins without hesitation. Don not only did a splendid job of managing the whole affair, he piloted the Runner-Up to her placement.

Gerry Hyland of local Man-

chester, Ky., was the field trial secretary. Gerry was "Johnny on the Spot" when problems arose and without his efforts it would have been nearly impossible to coordinate the entire trial.



Judges Ferrel Miller and Ronnie Beane with the Champion Dainty Celtic Sally and Clair Gross and the runnerup, Osage Molly O'Shawn and Don Beauchamp.



Futurity Winners (back row, left or rt.) Ferrel Miller, judge; Ronnie Beane, judge; Bob Watts, NRSFTC President. (Front row, left to rt.) Denise Zdanczewicz with ZanSetts Gale, First; Dr. Roger Boser with Razzle Dazzle, Second; Anne Kubatz with Suwannee Third; Clair Gross with J.B. Keri Redbird, Fourth.

The judges were Mr. Ferrel Miller of Murray and Ronnie Beane of Farmington, both in Kentucky. Although both judges were from "outside" the breed, their helpful hints to each handler and the complete concentration they gave each contender gave an insight into their capabilities. These gentlemen were "major circuit" in every way. The NRSFTC has over the past ten years sought judges from the "major circuit" to evaluate their dogs. Mr. Miller and Mr. Beane joined a host of field trial superstars who have judged this trial, for example, Dr. H. A. Gray, Bowling Green, KY, J. D. Boss of Paducah, KY, Fred Shappart, Belvidere, IL, Ray Settle of Nashville, TN, Bill Martin of Ohio, IL, and many others.

The field trial grounds, its facilities, and the personnel so very necessary to conducting a successful trial were provided by the State of Kentucky. Everything was in apple pie order and, except for one brief interlude, even the weather bureau cooperated.

That summarizes the individuals who deserve full credit for the special effort they gave for the four days of the trial. But, undoubtedly, there is more to conducting a successful trial than just a few days of concentrated effort. Just what did it take to get us all in this single location for the four days we just enjoyed so much?

The red dog clan has dubbed their cause "The purest challenge"; an effort by interested individuals to return the Red Setter to a respectable position as a "bird dog." They have come a long way toward meeting that challenge. Over the past fifteen years I've ridden behind a great many dogs. I've seen some fine dogs and I've seen some sorry ones. At Red Setter trials I've listened as some boasted and others "roasted" the red ones and their progress to become a "bird dog." Boasters claimed progress was being made, albeit slowly. "Roaster's" asked why there were no Open All-Breed Champion in the Red Setter ranks. Although this fact remains true, the Red Setter is knockin' at the door. It's only a matter of time now, and there will be an Open All-Breed Champion — with red hair! At this point in time I'm mounting the bandwagon with the positive thinkers. The dogs I watched and then wrote about in this trial were indeed thrilling to observe. A quarter century of effort is paying off. Who's effort?

Is it the fact that the breeders have become more proficient at their science? Could it be the diligent efforts of those that have

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worked so hard with their dogs over the years so that they might have a solid contender? Perhaps the influx of professional trainers has had something to do with the climb of the Red Setter. Notice too, the efforts of the board of directors and the officers of the NRSFTC. And finally, the well informed atmosphere that results from the communications supplied by "The Whip." I contend it's all these things and more. It's also the Futurity program, modern methods of training and *THE DOGS THEMSELVES!*

Club members have spent interminable hours afield with their dogs. Most have become adept handlers. Dr. Roger Boser, Pat Ryan, Don Beauchamp, Clifford Foster, Paul Ober, Stan Zdanczewicz, The Kubatz's Randy and Anne, Ken Rodenhouse, Guy Cleverly, Reuel Pietz, and many others are expert at handling a dog in field trials.

The officers and directors of the NRSFTC have been, and continue to be, industrious in their efforts to keep bylaws and standards updated. The club is endeavoring to upgrade their product and to fulfill the elusive "purest challenge."

Hardworking professionals who earn their living with bird dogs, don't attend trials just for fun. Years ago it was rare to find a top flight shooting dog trainer at a red dog trial. Now, many of the *TOP* trainers have several red dogs in their string. George Tracy, Clair Gross, Gene Lunsford and others familiar across the nation are tying Red Setters to their chain.

Red Setter "Pro's" continue to work toward greater successes also. Sid Page, J. B. & Pam Owen, Ray Dohse, and Tony and Sue Baron have realized a great amount of recognition for their efforts in All-Breed stakes with Red Setters.

The breeders also have raised their sights. The futurity creates a new horizon. Not only are Red Setter pups nominated in the "breed" futurity, they are enlisted in a multitude of all-breed futurities. The breeder, the owner, and the handler of the nominated hopeful attend more trials; trials out of his neighborhood of past experience. He now sees what it takes to win and he returns home to improve in the lacking areas. The result? A new type of Red Setter, a classy dog, with enough run to compete and also a dog with a combination of brains and desire to find birds. Yes, the breeders have indeed helped the situation over the past six years.

THE FLUSHING WHIP is little known outside the Red Setter world. It began as a newsletter and has

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evolved into a monthly publication. It has had several editors: Marge Moffat, Herm David, Larry Crum, Bob Kerans and now Bob Sprouse. "The Whip" keeps the membership informed and, in truth, holds the club together. A large organization scattered across the nation which holds only one membership meeting annually needs an organ like *THE FLUSHING WHIP* or it becomes akin to a ship adrift. Not enough acclaim can be heaped on this official publication of the NRSFTC.

Now for the final ingredient in the recipe: the dogs themselves. On past occasions I've seen the Championship withheld. I've also seen the futurity awards go to derby entrants for high class puppy efforts. Their races were superb, but they never pointed a bird. This 1978 trial was a different story! In the championship a number of dogs were under consideration and "the cream just came to the top." The event could be considered a "judges' trial," no search for a champ that wasn't available. The futurity's pointed birds out on the course; no artificial bird-field. These youngsters know how to hunt and they looked good doing it.

Yes, the future looks bright and well worth the long years of waiting. I would bet a farthing that it will be a long time before the title is not given in a Red Setter Championship. And I would further wager that the title will be given with *PRIDE*. And, just as surely, the futurities will go on to become bird dogs and some eventual champions just as Dainty Celtic Sally has done.

Yes, the list of people who are

Judge Lee West Resigns From C.A.B.

Civil Aeronautics Board Member Lee R. West has submitted his resignation to President Carter, effective June 30. He will join the Tulsa, Oklahoma law firm of Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Collingsworth and Nelson, P.C.

In his letter of resignation, Member West expressed gratitude for the opportunity to have served almost five years on the Board and "to have taken part in carrying out the transition to the policy of increasing competition in the United States air transportation system."

Referring to the benefits that air travellers have received from the CAB's present policies of encouraging competition and innovative low-fare offerings, West observed that "I have consistently supported these policies during my time on the Board, first as a

dissenting Member, and happily during the last year, as a Member of the majority.

"I know that these policies are in accord with your personal views," West wrote, "and, because of the goals we share, I feel particularly privileged to have served here during your administration. I therefore feel some regret about leaving the Board even a short time before my term expires. I have decided, however, that the time has come for me to return to the private practice of law in my native Oklahoma, and believe that the many problems involved in relocating my family will be more easily solved during the summer months."

Hunting Dog readers will recognize Lee West as a renowned and enthusiastic field trialer.

George R. Quigley

involved and helping the Red Setter is too lengthy to publish here. The list of red dogs who are capable of winning in any company is also growing rapidly. It has taken twenty five years to "put it all together," but now the puzzle is taking shape. Like a fine watch all the components are synchronizing.

Each year, the ticking becomes more even, much stronger, almost like a heartbeat of an organization, three hundred strong, who have a single purpose: to return the Red Setter to his rightful place — *in the field* — and that's what makes ol' Red run! 🐾

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