

## Chantilly Induction to the Red Setter Hall of Fame

Presented by Allen Fazenbaker

I would like to start my talk this afternoon with a quote...

*"History discloses that the great gun dogs come from dynamic, aggressive, prepotent individuals. Without these brilliant, scintillating, spectacular, hard driving, independent performers, consumed with a passion for finding birds, evincing unquestionable fire in the quest, needing restraint rather than encouragement, the splendid shooting dogs of the current era could not have been bred and developed."*

William F. Brown

former editor, American Field

While Bill Brown probably wasn't thinking of a red setter when he made those comments so many years ago, it certainly seems fitting to mention this quote when describing Chantilly. While there are many red dogs in our history who may be deserving of induction into the Hall of Fame, none are more so than *Chantilly*. In my years as a member of the Board and Futurity Chair for the National Red Setter Field Trial Club I have had the pleasure of seeing many red setters, and *Chantilly* was always guaranteed to put on a show. She never disappointed. Sired by the Red Setter Hall of Famer Champion *Desperado* out of *Come Back Dixie Girl*, "Kelly," as Chantilly was fondly called by her family, garnered a total of 85 career placements during her 8 year career, including 5 championships and 9 runner-ups. She started her career by winning the Red Setter Futurity in 1999 and clinched the Red Setter Derby of the Year. She finished up her derby year by taking Runner Up in the National Amateur Shooting Dog Derby Championship. Under the

tutelage of her owner, breeder, trainer and handler Dr. Boser, *Chantilly* was a force to be reckoned with.

*Chantilly* was always a pleasure to watch. She had a racy and smooth going gait, and she seemed to glide over the ground as she gobbled up the terrain. Her intensity and demeanor around game never ceased to inspire, and she had an uncanny ability to dig up wild bird finds where others had gone birdless. Some of her most impressive placements included Runner Up at the Region 3 Shooting Dog Championship with a field of 63 dogs, winner of the Region 2 Shooting Dog Championship where she bested 47 dogs, and two red setter championships. Without question her greatest performance was the 2003 National Amateur Shooting Dog Invitational Championship. Here is what Joyce Taylor, the reporter for the Invitational had to say: *"This dog is fast. She can fly, no matter the footing, today on snow. She ran a big race, sometime all-age range, and handled well. She improved each day, better than the day before, just what you look for with an Invitational format. She handled to perfection, ran hard and consistently, always to the front. This little Irish setter is an absolute perfectionist on birds with intensity before, during and after flush. She proudly and deservedly took home the runner-up title."* Joyce Taylor was right on the money. *Chantilly* was a little "pocket rocket." She reminded me of one of those bottle rockets that sometimes get away and go shooting across the fields, moving so fast that you had to keep an eye on her lest you miss her. And she was smooth, with a gait that would bring the hairs up on the back of my neck as I watched her flow across the horizon.

I was fortunate to see *Chantilly* run for several years while she was in her prime, both at trials and in training both on the prairies and in Dr. Boser's

winter camp in the Carolinas. She was devoted to her handler Roger, and it was such a pleasure to see them work together as a team. Though she was a wide shooting dog, *Chantilly* had a "sixth sense" and always seemed to know where her partner was heading, and she would show to the front as if she knew exactly what direction Roger was moving. Roger once told me that working with *Chantilly* gave him such pleasure because she had such a "team" approach to bird hunting. She was a true partner in the sport.

One of my favorite memories was visiting with Roger and his wife Mary at their camp in Raleigh, North Dakota. *Kelly* usually stayed in the farm house with us, and she was devoted to Roger, staying at his side while we watched TV, or sometimes in his lap, on her back, having her nightly "belly rub" as any good red setter worth their salt would expect! One of her favorite treats was popcorn, and she and Roger would sometimes share a bag of popcorn, with "*Kelly*" delicately taking each puffed kernel offered by Roger and chewing it as only a "lady" could. She was not so delicate on the farm house mouse population, however. Like most farmhouse that are empty for much of the year, the field mice liked to set up shop in the empty house. When *Kelly* was around, however, they didn't last long! We didn't need any mousetraps when *Kelly* was in the house. "*Kelly*" was a reserved canine, and while she was happy to have me scratch her head, there was no question that she had a special place in her heart for Roger. I don't know if dogs are capable of such an emotion as love, but if there can be such a thing, *Chantilly* sure loved Roger Boser. She is missed today by her family and by the red setter fraternity. It is a special honor for me to have offered this nomination and it certainly is a special honor for the Boser family and for the National Red Setter Field Trial Club.

*Chantilly* was bred sparingly during her career, but the get she produced was exceptional. Red setters *Breakstone* and *Aiken* are but two examples of the exceptional red setters who have come out of *Chantilly*. Dr. Boser notes that the red setter Champion *Breakstone* may one of the most exceptional red setters in his 40 plus years of field trialing. And, the red setter Champion *Aiken* has proven to be an outstanding All Age performer, running the Kansas circuit in All Age competition.

*Chantilly* made a major contribution to what we proudly refer to as "the Purest Challenge In Sportsdom. In her time, she epitomized the Purest Challenge. Congratulations to the red setter Champion *Chantilly* on her induction to the Red Setter Field Trial Hall of Fame.

Presented to Roger and Mary Boser  
National Bird Dog Hall of Fame  
Grand Junction, TN  
February 07, 2015