



**National Bird Dog Museum
Early Fall 2024
Newsletter**



Kick up some dust

Hello everyone! It has been a minute since our last newsletter. We have been quite busy here at the museum with the annual Bird Dog Foundation Art Contest for area students in kindergarten through the 12th grade, the annual Bird Dog Foundation Senior Essay Contest, which awards scholarships to graduating seniors heading off to college, and also several events including the AFTCA Region 6 and Mid-South Association Meeting & Awards Banquet and the NBHA Annual Awards Banquet. For more information on any of these events, just check out the pictures in this newsletter.

I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing okay and enjoying the changes in the weather. August is always the hottest month of the year in west Tennessee and we are enthusiastically anticipating the arrival of the cooler temperatures of autumn. Hopefully you all kicked up some dust, had some fun, and made some memories this summer. Here at the museum, we are already looking forward to the Hall of Fame Induction ceremonies in February and have begun the preliminary prep work for our flagship event. Please make plans to join us at the Hall of Fame Inductions to support both the museum and our amazing sponsors who make it all possible. This is a truly remarkable experience for anyone interested in the field trial sport, as it is your opportunity to meet and hear the stories of some of the living legends of the sport. The induction ceremony festivities is also an opportune moment to visit the museum itself and take in its vast collection of artwork, featuring the works of many legendary sporting dog artists including Lynn Bogue Hunt, Iwan Lotton, and Eldridge Hardie, just to name a few. The annual induction ceremonies are truly the perfect time to visit the museum to get the full experience of everything the museum offers and engage with some of the people who have made the history represented on the walls of the museum come to life. There is truly nowhere on Earth more dedicated to the traditions and history of the field trial sport and the people who have made chasing the dream of a champion dog their way of life.

Enjoy the newsletter!

Tonya Brotherton

Executive Director





A Word from the President



Hi folks. Summer training is winding down, as we welcome the fall field trial season. It has been an unusually warm and dry summer in some parts of the country, but we take what we have and make the best of it. It is hard to believe that in just a few short months we will be gearing up for the Hall of Fame Inductions at the National Bird Dog Museum. That is always a memorable time for everyone. I hope you can plan to attend. Folks if we don't support what we have, it will be lost. I appreciate all of you who continue to show support and encourage you to keep it up as you are able. The museum is our history and legacy. It is very serene if you can visit when the crowd is not here and you can really take it all in to full effect. However, it is a very special experience to be at the inductions with some of the best field trials folks and to hear and share their stories. You can also revisit some memories of your own while you are there. The museum is a treasure for Tennessee and for us in the field trial family. Even if you don't field trial, but just love dogs, you will enjoy this place. You may be surprised at what you discover!

Rick Smith

Never settle.



EDUCATION NEWS
Bird Dog Foundation
2024 Senior Scholarship
Essay Contest Winners

The 2024 Bird Dog Foundation Annual Senior Scholarship Essay Contest winners have been chosen. The winners received a scholarship to their college of choice. The winners are as follows:

FIRST PLACE:

Gavin Sain - "Hunters, Conservation Contributors" - Corinth High School - Corinth, MS

SECOND PLACE:

Calli Schlick - "The Importance of Nash Buckingham" - Eagleville High School - Eagleville, TN

THIRD PLACE (TIE):

Noah Brand - "Eradicating Feral Hogs" - Oak Hill Academy - West Point, MS

Caleb Clifft - "The Relationship of Man and Dog" - Fayette Academy - Somerville, TN



Gavin Sain



Calli Schlick



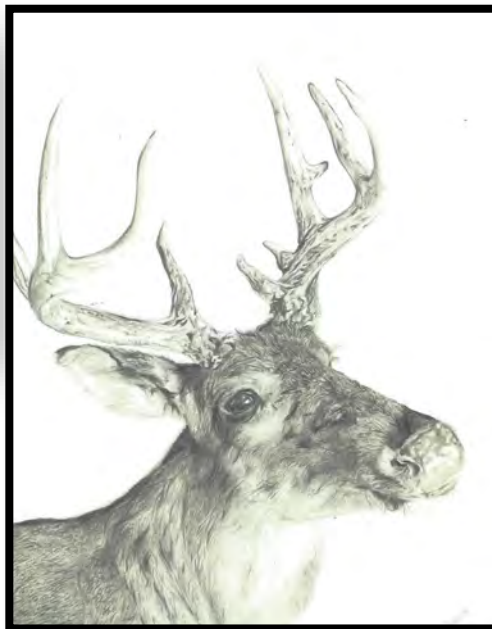
Noah Brand



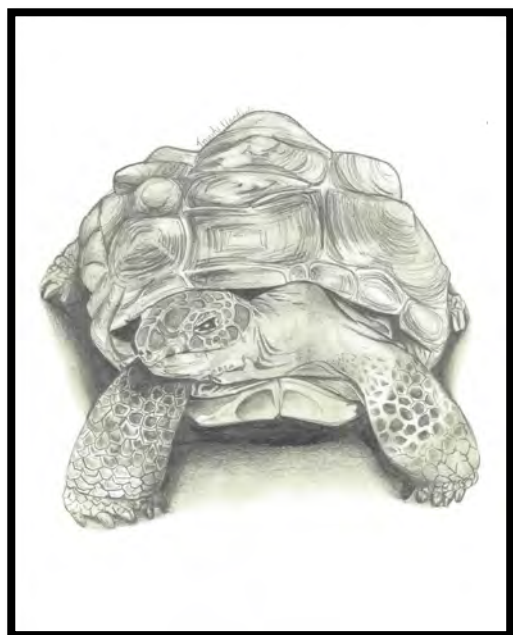
Caleb Clifft

ART CONTEST
☆ WINNERS ☆

The pictures on this page are a sampling of the winning artwork from the very talented young artists who participated in the contest this year.



(LEFT) Taland Williams—McNairy Central High School—Selmer, TN—12th Grade 1st Place, Division 4 (10th-12th Grade) Winner, and Judge's Special (Overall) Winner



(LEFT) Trinity Vandiver—McNairy Central High School—Selmer, TN—12th Grade 2nd Place



(ABOVE) Alex Fawcett—After School Art Program—Moscow, TN—6th Grade 1st Place and Division 2 (4th-6th Grade) Winner



(ABOVE) Gabrielle Dobbelaire—Haywood Middle School—Brownsville, TN—8th Grade 1st Place and Division 3 (7th-9th Grade) Winner

(RIGHT) Jaycee Neely—After School Art Program—Moscow, TN—3rd Grade 1st Place and Division 1 (K-3rd Grade) Winner



NEWS WORTH SHARING



(LEFT) Jadie Rayfield Sr. and Jadie Rayfield Jr. at the Chesterfield Field Trial Club in 1972 with Knight's Delivery Lady. Jadie Jr. was 12 years old and was in Bible School at the time. He has been field trialing ever since, about 50 years now.



(ABOVE) We had these folks from China to visit us in May



(ABOVE) Memphis Quail Forever Chapter came by for a tour August 24. We enjoyed having them visit us.



(ABOVE) Billy Morton stopped in for a short visit on May 3



(ABOVE) Greg Blair, our amazing Purina rep, with his family and trainers having his dog, Blair's Witch Project, being inducted into the NBHA Hall of Fame in July



UPCOMING EVENTS



*Kick-Off of the 126th
Running of the
National Field Trial
Championship at the
Ames Plantation will be
February 10, 2025 at
8:00 a.m.*

American Field Trial Clubs of America Banquet December 10, 2024

Time to be announced

National Bird Dog Museum

2025 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony February 8, 2025 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Please make arrangements to come join us to honor those being inducted and to show support for our sponsors, without whom the inductions would not be possible.

This is a very special event and is extremely important to the folks that have made it to this point. Congratulations to everyone being inducted.

The induction ceremonies will be a little different this year as we are making some changes, so please check our website for updates. Things just happen along the way that sometimes force change.



Ronnie Rogers
AFTCA Region 6 Sportsman of the Year
May 18, 2024

Recent

E V E N T S



The serving line at the AFTCA Region 6 and Mid-South Association Awards Banquet May 18, 2024. They enjoyed on the spot hamburgers and hot dogs.



NBHA Annual Awards Banquet

Greg Blair pictured with Gary Malzone 2023-2024 Open Handler of the Year and Terry Boatright 2023-2024 Amateur Handler of the Year



Everyone enjoying the barbeque and chicken at the NBHA Awards Banquet. Mr. & Mrs. Jim Ogle in the front.



NBHA Youth Handler 2024 Meadow Thornton pictured with Ken Sauer and Tim Penn



NBHA Youth Handler 2024 Anna Katherine Schalk pictured with her mom Mary Schalk and granddad Mike Crouse

MEMORIALS

The National Bird Dog Museum has received donations in memory of the following:

Julie Asmus

Oliver Gene Byrd

Robert Burcham

Doug Copsey

Dean Crabbs

Richard Davis

Larry Earls

Peter Easter

Julian Fleming

Robert Haapala

Barbara Harms

Charlie Hays

David Highsmith

Donald Hilliard

Lewis & Lorraine Hott

Diana Kubitz

Frank Lonberger

Dr. John Niebruegge

Dick Pulliam

Billie Harmon Traylor

Jim Wonnell

Greta Young

IN HONOR

The National Bird Dog Museum has received donations in honor of the following:

Diane Crabbs

Kenny Dickerson



LEGACY



(LEFT) A picture that sums up the love between a dog and his owner. This is professional handler Russell "Lefty" Dixon of New Haven, Michigan with Dixon's Sheila, winner of the 1955 and 1956 NGSPA Championship. Lefty Dixon was born and raised in Dexter, Michigan and grew up an avid quail hunter. He was recruited to play football for Louisiana State University, but his college football career was cut short when it was learned he had already played football professionally. He then played baseball professionally as a pitcher in the Southern League in Popular Bluff, Missouri. In 1930, he moved to Detroit to work for the United States Rubber Company and play baseball for their corporate team. In World War II Dixon served in the United States Army as a K-9 handler in the Pacific Theater. After the war, he returned to Michigan to become a professional breeder & handler in 1948, first operating his kennel in St. Clair Shores and later, with the financial support of Henry Weiss, at better facilities in New Haven. He was a strong supporter of the NGSPA and retired the first NGSPA rotating trophy with his third win of the stake. This picture was taken in the mid-1950s and is one of many vintage photos displayed in the Hall of Fame here at the National Bird Dog Museum.

(RIGHT) Daniel K. Langhans was a legend in the Springer Spaniel world and was a friend to many across the US and Canada. I had the pleasure of meeting Dan and his wife Marie a couple of times. He was a true gentleman and was full of knowledge. Dan was born in Chicago in 1929 and called Illinois home until his death. He and his wife Marie were married in October 1950 and were devoted to each other for 64 years. Before he began dog training, he served in the US Army as a military policeman and was a successful carpenter contractor for many years. Dan started dog training in 1961 and began to run his dogs in licensed trials in 1963. He became a professional handler in 1973, training not only his own dogs, but also dogs for clients around the country. His kennels, Dansmirth's, found its permanent home at the "Leprechaun Farm" in Harvard, Illinois in 1978. Throughout his years of training and field trialing, Dan won nine National Championships, more than anyone else in the sport to this date. In addition, he had over 35 champion dogs, mostly from his Dansmirth line. He was inducted into the Springer Spaniel Hall of Fame here at the National Bird Dog Museum in 2000.



WAYS TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL BIRD DOG MUSEUM

_____ \$50.00 Annual Membership - You receive a small appreciation gift and a discount in the gift shop.

_____ \$500.00 Life Membership - You receive an appreciation gift, a tax letter, and a discount in the gift shop.

_____ \$1200.00 Life Patron / Patron Memorial - You will receive a plaque that will be hung in the museum.

_____ \$1000.00 President's Council - You receive a certificate, gift, and a discount in the gift shop. Your name will be added to a special President's Council plaque in the museum.

_____ \$1400.00 Walk of Champions Dog Markers - You receive a granite stone marker to be placed along the walkway in front of the museum.

_____ \$250.00 Memorial Wall Plaque - You receive a bronze plaque to be placed on the outdoor memorial wall.

_____ General Donation in any amount you choose. This is greatly appreciated and will aid the museum immensely.

You may also choose to support the National Bird Dog Museum in your will.

Your contribution is tax deductible.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL (TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTER): _____

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

OR CHARGE MY: _____ AMERICAN EXPRESS _____ DISCOVER _____ MASTERCARD _____ VISA

CARD NUMBER: _____

CCV CODE: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____

Please make checks payable to Bird Dog Foundation and mail to:

Bird Dog Foundation, P.O. Box 774, Grand Junction, TN, 38039





YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Tickets would make a great gift for Christmas, birthdays, or many other occasions!

National Bird Dog Museum 2024 Annual Gun Giveaway

Our annual Fall Fundraiser has begun!

The drawing will be held on the weekend of the 2025 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies in February.

For information on the shotgun, ticket prices and how to purchase, see below. For any questions relating to the giveaway, please contact us at the number below.

Thanks to all who participated in our Spring Fundraiser!



Tickets are 5 for \$100.00 or \$25.00 each.

If you have not received tickets in the mail, please contact us if you are interested in purchasing your chance to win this beautiful shotgun at 731-764-2058.

The National Bird Dog Museum’s 2024 Annual Gun Giveaway contest has begun! This year, the gun is a Caesar Guerini Summit Sporting 20-Gauge over and under shotgun with 30” barrels. This is a special order Caesar Guerini model that is extremely hard to find. We hope that you will help support this fundraiser event! The picture below is representative of this beautiful shotgun that sells for around \$5000!





Summer is winding down and my favorite season is upon us. Fall is the time of year when we can get outside and breathe the fresh air without suffering the stifling heat of the summer months. Fall allows us the opportunity to slow down and enjoy the simple things in life. Even the nighttime is full of wonder, stargazing, and the sounds of hoot owls. I love to get outside during this season and ride my four wheeler. It makes me feel free and relaxed. I am unplugged for a while, disconnected from the problems of the modern world and everyday stress, and love the feel of the cool breeze on my face. As we age, being active outdoors seems more daunting, but the season just seems to be inviting us outdoors even more. We must try to get outdoors. What are we doing to ourselves if we just sit inside watching TV or constantly staring at social media on our phones or computers? What example are we setting for our children or grandchildren? Believe me they are watching and learning from our examples. I find that sometimes we need to look back at the path we have walked and decide what is worthy of holding on to and what makes us happy. As contrary as it sounds, sometimes you can move forward by looking back. Find activities or hobbies that give you joy and hang on to them, as they can be a distraction from this crazy world. Set your sights high for the upcoming fall season.

In this unfamiliar and ever-changing world, life is always giving us obstacles to surmount. As Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* said, "There is no place like home." Home is where we feel safe, loved, and like we belong. However, we must remember that it is also great to explore, experience new places, and live the experiences that make memories that will last forever. I encourage you to step out of your comfort zone, travel down the unbeaten path, and discover unique sights and places (like the National Bird Dog Museum). This also offers you the opportunity to meet people you otherwise would never have crossed paths with, which can led to some valued and lasting friendships. Personally, I have made many new friends on my road trips and through people visiting the museum on theirs.

Take some time for yourself and for your family this fall. Disconnect from the electronic world and enjoy life. Enjoy the simple things that life and the outdoors offers. I encourage you to stay away from all things social media for one week and just see how it goes. Chances are you will feel better and enjoy your time more. Social media is just one person's idea or opinion that spreads like wildfire, right or wrong, true or not. Sadly, many people today believe everything that they see and hear on social media and go so far as to wrap their lives around the virtual world.

In closing, as we anticipate the rapidly approaching season, let the noise in your life quiet down. There is an epidemic of hurry in the world today. We are duped by the lie that rushing through the day at breakneck speed in normal and right. By living like this, we are endangering our health, our relationships, and our mental wellbeing. This season, kick off your shoes, get a little mud between your toes, sit by a nighttime fire and just BE STILL! Enjoy each little miracle life provides!

Happy Fall everyone!

Tonya Brotherton