ANOTHER YEAR WINDS DOWN....

It’s been a busy year for NCBC: Three field trials, two hunt-test weekends, plus a national specialty and the ever popular Fun Days. Thanks to all who volunteered their time to make these events a success. Now, on to 2017!

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Flip through this issue and see what you see!

NCBC 2017 CALENDAR

March 18-19
Walking field trial, Hastings Island

April 8-9
Hunt Tests, Kick Back Ranch

June 8-11
Woofstock and NCBC Specialty, Solano County Fairgrounds, Vallejo

July 22-23
Fun Days, Hastings Island

Aug. 19-20
Walking field trial, Hastings Island

Sept. 29-Oct 1
Horseback field trial, Clear Creek Sports Club, Corning

Oct. 14-15
Hunt Tests, Kick Back Ranch
MEET YOUR 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It was an interesting year for NCBC. Midway through the year, the club president, Debbie Inferrera, had to step down due to family health issues. Things are on the mend for now and she’s anxious to help out the club in 2017.

The immediate task was to fill several positions on the Board of Directors. A Nominating/Election Committee was formed, and after surveying the membership, there was one candidate per position so an election was unnecessary and the new officers are as follows.

President: Kyle Tetlow - One-year term.
1st VP Field Trials: Jim Murphy - Two-year term.
2nd VP Hunt Tests: Glenda Mazzuca*
3rd VP Show: Annette Pfister - Two-year term.
4th VP Fun Days: Bill Nitto*
Treasurer: Gayle Partmann*
Secretary: Larry Mazzuca-Two-year term.

*Incumbent

With this crew no club can challenge us for the “Best in the West” title. Congratulations to the new members of the Board of Directors. Have a great and fun year. Thanks for trusting in me and helping me finish off 2016.

—Wayne Ricciardi, Interim President

Change in rules governing selection of gunners at field events

The Board of Directors has decided that the position of Captain of the Guns become a permanent annual position. The Captain will be responsible for providing certified gunners for each NCBC event that features shooting. To be certified, a gunner must have a sponsor who has participated in shooting events with the proposed gunner.

To be considered, the proposed gunner must also provide the Captain of the Guns with two references from people who have participated in shooting sports with the applicant. The proposed gunner must also sign a form that states he/she has watched the AKC Safety Video.

The Captain may recruit gunners for extended (i.e. annual) terms. The proposed gunner must comply with all requirements of both the American Brittany Club and AKC, and must carry a valid, active hunting license.

Adopting this will put NCBC’s procedure one step better than the AKC standard. Something we can brag about!

—Wayne Ricciardi, Interim President

NCBC MEMBER RESOURCES

NCBC maintains a website where you can access breed information, view a schedule of upcoming events, download entry forms and read current or past issues of BARKS.

The club’s Facebook page also has club news, along with many photos of NCBC members and their dogs. Separate pages are created for special events like Fun Days.

Love My Brittanys is a Facebook page for Britt fans who want to share photos and experiences. It is administered by club member Shawna Stockton.

DogTrekker.com is a site devoted to things to do and places to go with dogs in California. It is edited by club member Janet Fullwood.
Wet weather didn’t dampen spirits at October hunt tests!

The last NCBC event of 2016, held Oct. 15-16 at Wayne and Wendy Ricciardi’s Kick Back Ranch in Penn Valley, was wet, cold, muddy and soggy. While the premium said “dry camping” was available, there didn’t seem to be any of that.

Walking around the cast-off area, one could hear lots of laughing and many very happy and exuberant dogs. The Irish Setter gang stood out the most. They covered a shade structure to keep out the rain and were busy telling stories and bragging about their dogs. A happy and fun group for sure.

When all was said and done and the last brace was in, NCBC volunteers swept in and had everything broken down and put away in short order. While the number of entries was down slightly compared with the spring, it was certainly a success and better than forecast.

On Saturday, Oct.15, entries included 10 Brittanys, nine Irish setters, one English setter, two German shorthaired pointers, three Vizslas and three Weimaraners.

NCBC member dogs who passed a leg of JUNIOR HUNTER were:

• *GCH Millette’s Tribute JH* (“Tribute”), O: Rich and Cheryl Perez; H: Rich Perez
• *Living Water Cutterzoo’s Lil’ Red Bullet JH* (“ELI”) (Vizsla) O: Robin & Mike Cutter; H: Mike Cutter

Also earning a JH pass were:

• *Willie the Weim*, owned by Robbe McAlexander
• *Leo the GSP*, owned by Alysha Hoffman
• *Prince the Irish setter*, owned by Derrick & Jennifer Mullen & Cindy Stanford ....FINISHED HIS JH
• *Grace the Vizsla*, owned by Irene Ruvalcaba
• *Gage the GSP*, owned by Jeremy Carter....FINISHED HIS JH
• *Wyatt the Irish setter*, owned by Gina Hemphill & Ray Atkinson
• *Lexi the Weim*, owned by Chris & Stacy Stream & Debbie & Bruce Gross

There were no SENIOR HUNTER passes on Saturday.

On the hunt

**MASTER HUNTER** passes went to:

• *Janos the Vizsla*, owned by Walter Windus
• *Kable the Irish setter*, owned by Debra Dove

**On Sunday**, entries included three Weimeraners, two German shorthaired pointers, five Irish setters, two Vizslas and nine Brittanys.

One dog owned by an NCBC member got a junior hunter pass on Sunday: *Living Water Cutterzoo’s Little Red Bullet* (“Eli”) (Vizsla) O: Robin & Mike Cutter H: Mike Cutter

Others passing a leg of JH were:

• *Wyatt the Irish setter*, owned by Gina Hemphill & Ray Atkinson
• *Jolly Rodger the GSP*, owned by Alexis Moe
• *Meadow the Weim*, owned by Shiffra Steele & Michael Ayers
• *Leo the GSP*, owned by Alysha Hoffman
• *Lexi the Weim*, owned by Chris & Stacy Stream and Debbie & Bruce Gross

At the SENIOR HUNTER LEVEL, one NCBC dog passed:

• *CCH Millette’s Ty is the Target*; (“Ty”) O: Don & Annette Pfister; H: Don Pfister

At the **MASTER HUNTER** level, the only pass went to *Kable the Irish setter*, owned by Debra Dove.

Congratulations and many thanks to all! And special congratulations to Prince and Gage, who earned their titles over the weekend!
More kudos for Hunt Test weekend....

*From Robin Cutter’s Facebook post:*

"The Northern California Brittany Club sure knows how to do events right!

Once again, it was another fantastic weekend with fun and amazing dogs and people—this time the NCBC Hunt Test at a Kick Back Ranch, a one-of-a-kind venue. The weather tried to dampen our weekend, but alas, when wonderful shines like this, it can’t help but break through any weather.

Thanks to everyone’s great energy and hard work. From pre-planning, to prepping, to organizing, to everyone making the effort to drive out and run in the weather, and being flexible when the weather throws in little curveballs. It is ALL appreciated!

Special thanks to:
• The Ricciardis for sharing your paradise and all your pre/post event prep work at the ranch.
• Glenda and Larry Mazza for all that one tackles when agreeing to "be the one" so an event can happen. Without someone saying "I’ll do it," the event can’t even get off the ground.
• Debbie Inferrera, whose hands must still be thawing and drying out from the endless mounds of paperwork it takes to do an AKC event. I don’t even know how you managed to keep papers dry and your ink flowing in the damp.
• The bird planters, gunners and most importantly the awesome judges Pam Brann, Jim Simmons, Jim Murphy and Derrick Mullin ALL of whom endured the weather ALL DAY long!
• Ray Solander for feeding us all - my tummy does a little happy dance every time I see you’ll be catering the field event I’m attending. Yum!
• And of course, as always, Steve and Blue Ridge Kennels for taking us under your wing so Eli and Poudre pup can enjoy a pointing dog’s life to its fullest. We are having a blast! (even if Eli has currently pretty much glossed over the "pointing" part of his breed description) :)

Congratulations to every dog, whether you passed or made an oopsie. It was another great day in the field and that’s never a bad day. New and old friends, looking forward to watching your dogs in the field next time. Cheers!"

How to submit your news to BARKS

Without your news, we don’t have a newsletter. But to get it right, we need all the facts. Please submit news items and photos to Janet Fullwood at janetfullwood@me.com.

**Be sure to include:**
• Your dog’s registered name as well as call name.
• Breeding (sire/dam/breeder) if you’d like it included.
• The word BARKS in the subject line.
• For placements, include name, place and date of the event.
• Please email photos to Janet and identify all people and dogs in the image.
NCBC would like to congratulate Jeri Conklin on receiving our first ever Helen Marie Capps Memorial Award, presented in recognition and appreciation of her excellent sportsmanship and her passionate, gracious, patient, optimistic, kind, and supportive way that she inspires others. The award was presented at the club’s hunt test weekend in October.

“I am humbled and blessed in so many ways with this recognition,” Jeri said. “For once, words have escaped me. Thank you for this award in memory of one of the greats in the Brittany community, Helen Marie Holling Capps, a soul gone much too early.

“I am proud to be a part of such a great group of dog enthusiasts! We have fun, we help each other and we celebrate our dogs and our accomplishments, is it about anything else? Thank you Northern California Brittany Club.”

Helen Marie, a longtime NCBC member who led her dogs to many titles, passed away Aug. 10.

NCBC MEMBERSHIP

The purpose of Northern California Brittany Club is to promote cooperation and friendship among the owners and breeders of Brittanys and to encourage the highest standards in breeding, training, and showing of Brittanys in the field and in the show ring.

Yearly membership is $50.00. By joining Northern California Brittany Club, you will also become an American Brittany Club member and will receive its monthly magazine, The American Brittany. The magazine contains reports of trials, shows, and club activities, advertisements, listings for kennels, stud dogs, and trainers, and articles of interest to Brittany owners. NCBC also publishes this newsletter, BARKS, which will keep you informed of club activities.

Click here to join or renew, or contact club secretary Michelle Millette at (530) 357-4183 or millettebrittanys@gmail.com
By Jeri Conklin

It does take a village to put on a successful field trial and we had the best village in Corning. The weather was unusually hot—OK, really hot.

We had entries from as far away as Washington State and Baltimore, Maryland. With the help of our village, judges and the participants, we ran 112 dogs over three days.

I think Pierre Urrutia had it right when he said at the end of the last day, “We must be doing something wrong, we are having way too much fun!”

A HUGE THANK YOU to our judges, all our volunteers (many of whom’s names I don’t remember), our participants and the Field Trial Committee.

Pierre Urrutia arrived early and got it all set up. Wendy Ricciardi manned the camera when I was busy and a few others as it passed from hand to hand; Wayne and Wendy Ricciardi made sure we had everything we needed; Wayne and Heidi Heffelfinger and Dan Gifford were our untiring bird planters; Ray Solander kept us fed; Bill Nitto helped line marshal and performed a host of other odd jobs; Linda Wintroath brought coconut water and pediolyte to keep the humans and dogs hydrated. Jim Murphy kept us all in line, and I did all the paperwork.

A lot of hours go into putting on a field trial behind the scenes, and sometimes we miss saying “thank you.” The sun set and the cranes came out to play in the ponds once again. All was well.

Hope to see you all next March at Hastings Island Hunting Preserve for our 2017 Spring Walking Field Trial.

Now (drumroll), here are the 2016 fall trial results:

OPEN LIMITED GUN DOG
21 Starters
Judges: Jim Murphy & Karen Holmes

1. SMITTY’S HORIZON (D), (English Setter), h: Roy Smith
2. WINDJAMMER’S SLICK DELIVERY (D), GSP, h: Roy Smith
3. CHUKARHILL BARE NEKKID LADY (B), Gordon Setter, h: Trena Cardwell
4. PAR’S RYDER CUP (D), Gordon Setter, h: Roy Smith

OPEN GUN DOG
22 Starters
Judges: Jim Murphy & Karen Holmes

1. WEIDELHUGEL NEW OTTO V GUS (D), GWP, h: Roy Smith

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Big thanks to the bird planters!

Bird planting is essential and very difficult job for any field trial. The birds are never in the right place for the handler and there are never enough of them.

Dan Gifford took responsibility for the North Course at the recent NCBC field trial, and Heidi Heffelfinger took the South Course. Very long days for both of them. Heidi had an advantage as she had a personal driver, Wayne Ricciardi.

Heidi and Dan have recently rejoined the Club and we are happy to have them back.

—Wayne Ricciardi, NCBC interim president

Wayne and Heidi on bird-planting patrol.
FIELD TRIAL RESULTS
(CONTINUED)

2. BRETON’S FRANGELICA A TOAST TO PEPPER AND SUN (B) (FC Breton’s Soleil Midi x French Roast Pepper JH) O: Gordon Theilen H: Scott Azevedo
3. TULE RIVER’S VOLTA VIPER (D), GSP h: Scott Azevedo
4. WYNDANCER MORRIS MACFARLANE (D), GS, h: Trena Cardwell

AMATEUR LIMITED
GUN DOG
10 Starters
Judges: Alan Brann & Nick Nickol

1. DC NMK’S LIMITED FIRST EDITION MH (B), GSP h: Jim Simmons
2. GCH CH NMK’S KISS FROM A PEPP1 ROSE SH (B), GSP, h: Jim Simmons
3. GCH CH GERSTDAL’S LAID-BACK JAKE SH (D) (CH Mich Mt The Suspense Is Over x CH Gerstdale’s Money To Burn SH) o: Don & Anette Pfister, h: Don Pfister
4. CRIMSON HIDE-CSARDAS PRIDE MHA (M), Vizsla, o/h: Gordon Strohmeier

AMATEUR WALKING DERBY
8 Starters
Judges: Pierre Urrutia & Lynda-Sue Swart

1. POWDER RIVER’S CAPTAIN OF THE TEAM JH (D), by GCH CH Breton’s Captain Gold Dust x GCHB Power River’s Catchin The Heart Of The Team JH; o Glenda Mazzuca & Larry Mazzuca, h Glenda Mazzuca
2. CH BRITTANY’S RAMBLIN’ PERFECT STORM AT CAMELOTH JH (D) by CH Britt’s Ramblin’ Roadhouse x GCHP CH Britt’s Ramblin’ The Perfect Cut; o Jeri K Conklin & Kurt E Conklin & J L Larson, h: Scott Azevedo
3. SEAFARER’S DIAMOND HEAD BRIGHT STAR (B), Irish Setter, h: Trena Cardwell
4. WITHHELD

OPEN DERBY
8 Starters
Judges: Lynda-Sue Swart & Nick Nickol

1. GERSTDALE’S SCOUT FOR THE KICKBACK RANCH JH (B), (CH Copley’s Gunner Sergeant JH x GCH CH Gerstdale’s Take The Money N’ Run JH); o: Wayne Ricciardi, h: Pierre Urrutia
2. CH BRITTANY’S RAMBLIN’ PERFECT STORM AT CAMELOTH JH (D) (CH Britt’s Ramblin’ Roadhouse x GCHP CH Britt’s Ramblin’ The Perfect Cut); o: Jeri K Conklin & Kurt E Conklin & J L Larson, h: Scott Azevedo
3. SEAFARER’S DIAMOND HEAD BRIGHT STAR (B), Irish Setter, h: Trena Cardwell
4. WITHHELD

AMATEUR WALKING PUPPY
12 Starters
Judges: Karen Holmes & Jim Murphy

1. WITHHELD

Continued on next page
MORE FIELD TRIAL RESULTS

(Amateur Walking Puppy continued)

2. POWDER RIVER’S CAPTAIN OF THE TEAM JH (D), (GCH CH Breton’s Captain Gold Dust x GCHB Power River’s Catchin The Heart Of The Team JH) o: Glenda and Larry Mazzuca, h: Glenda Mazzuca

3. CH NMK’S SHAKEN NOT STIRRED, GSP, h: Jason Collins

4. BRETON’S TURBO LEXY (B) (FC Une’s Blazin Jake MH x C-Biscuits Runner In Paris For Breton); o: Aaron Douglas Cullor, h: Scott Azevedo

OPEN PUPPY
15 Starters
Judges: James Simmons & Lynda Sue Swart

1. QUANTONAS EPIPHANY (B), Vizsla, h: Trena Cardwell

2. CSARDAS REINDAS ROUGH CUT DENIM (M), Vizsla, h: Scott Azevedo

3. SUNDANCE KID’S RENEGADE COLT 45 (D) (NAFC C AFC Spanish Corral’s Sundance Kid x Tabette JHA); o: James Sterling Cullor, h: Scott Azevedo

4. IZABELLA’S MAMA’S BOY JAEJAE (D), English Pointer, h: Trena Cardwell

AMATEUR WALKING GUN DOG
16 Starters
Judges: Jim Murphy & Alan Brann

1. DC NMK’s LIMITED FIRST EDITION MH (B), GSP, h Jim Simmons

2. BARRON’S RED REBEL (D), by FC AFC A Texas Crisscross x Rebel’s Texas Trouble; o/h Gerald V Barron

3. NMK’S PRESUMED INNOCENT (D), GSP, h Jim Simmons

4. BARRON’S TIGER STRIPE (D), by FC AFC A Texas Crisscross x Rebel’s Texas Trouble; o/h Gerald V Barron

ACCOMPLISHMENTS WORTH BARKING ABOUT!

Breeder Debbie Inferrera holding GCH Gerstdale’s Laid-back Jake SH (CH Mich Mt the Suspense is Over x CH Gerstdale’s Money to Burn SH).

Owners Don and Annette Pfister holding a 3rd ALGD and a 4th placement OLGD at the NCBC field trial in August at Hastings Island and in September at Corning, respectively.

Gerstdale’s Scout for the Kick Back Ranch JH, braved the heat of Corning in September to win Open Derby at the NCBC Field Trial. Scout is trained and handled by Pierre Urrutia and owned by club members Wendy & Wayne Ricciardi.
STILL MORE TO BARK ABOUT!  Gallery courtesy Jeri Conklin