



NEWSLETTER

September 2002 • Published Quarterly • Jim Bradford, Editor

OUR GOAL: To Promote, Preserve, and Experience One of the Greatest Southern Traditions Known... Quail Hunting.

AQH Fall Field Trial November 2, 2002

If you are like me, you have had a daydream or two about those upcoming frosty days to be spent with your bird dog. I realize that daydreaming of those great hunts requires quite a stretch of the imagination when the temperature is hovering around “+Hot+”!! At any rate, we can still dream and plan. Along those lines, AQH has come up with a plan to add some incentive to get you and your bird dog into your fall training schedule. On November 2nd, AQH will host the first annual Fall Open Field Trial. The event site will be near Eastaboga, at the M&H Preserve (see directions below), whose knowledgeable staff has been most accommodating helping us plan this grand event. We will have the same three classes, puppy (up to 12 months old), derby dog (12 to 24 months old), and gun dog (24 + months old), with entry fees of \$35, \$40, and \$45, respectively. We will use the same format and rules used in our Spring Field Trials.

A highlight of this event will be the prize structure including prizes through 5th place in EACH dog group. We also plan to have several GREAT raffle items. The success of our Fall Field Trial will require that we can get early commitments from each of you. Send in one entry form per dog and your fees to Bob Carr.

They must be received no later than October 25th so that braces can be scheduled in advance.

Start getting yourself and your dog in shape! It will be great fun for both participants and spectators. See you there on November 2nd.

Mike Barlow,
Field Trial Chairman

Directions to M&H Preserve are: Take I-20 to Eastaboga and exit at Exit #173. Turn south and go about 150 yards to Talladega Highway #005. Turn left (southeast) onto #005 and go 2.2 (that's 2 point 2) miles to Christy Leigh Lane. Turn right (west) onto Christy Leigh Lane and follow the signs.

AQH Fall Field Trial Entry Form for One Dog

Dog's Name _____

Class _____

Breed _____

Owner's Name _____

Check for Fees Enclosed:

Puppy \$35 Derby Dog \$40 Gun Dog \$45

Send to: **Bob Carr, AQH Treasurer**
1901 Morgan Road SE
Bessemer, AL 35022

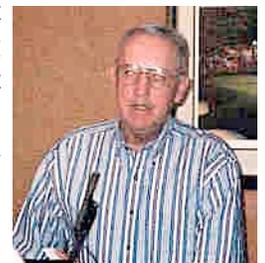
Mr. Ferrell Miller was Guest Speaker at June Meeting

Isn't it funny how one sentence can sometimes speak volumes yet volumes could not adequately cover the topic. Here is just a sketch of Ferrell Miller, a gentleman that is as humble as he is gracious.

He is a fine husband, father, grandfather. He is a member of the Hall of Fame in Grand Junction. He has over one thousand major placements to his credit and he has over one hundred championship wins under his belt. Three of his dogs are in the Birddog Hall of Fame (with more to come). Yes, he has for years, and continues to be, a major competitor on the field trial circuit. YET, he still makes time to visit with other bird dogs owners and handlers and share his thoughts and vision of what it takes, from both handler and dog, to be the best that they can be.

I am honored to have been among those that were present to enjoy a wonderful evening in the company of the “gentleman from Murray, Kentucky.” It was a meeting that I shall not soon forget.

Mike Barlow



Presidents Corner

Hello Folks: I wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve you as president.

First, I would like for you to join me in thanking Jim Bradford for the time he spent serving as chapter president. Jim served prior to the association becoming incorporated. The framework for moving the association forward was constructed under his tenure. During Jim's tenure, Jake has become the best-known bird dog in the state.

Exciting things are happening within Alabama Quail Hunters Inc. A field trial is tentatively scheduled for November 2ND. A spring trial is scheduled for early March 2003. This summer has been an active one with a visit from Ferrell Miller being the highlight.

I hope that each of you will take advantage of the research by Auburn University and other groups on bob white quail. Many of the myths have been put to bed, others need more research.

I continue to believe that we need a bob white quail initiative in Alabama similar to other states. I would like for you to join me in those efforts by talking up the Georgia Bob White Quail Initiative or similar program when in the area of influential people. During election time representatives are more likely to listen to our concerns. I realize building jails and education are important topics. I as many of you have completed high school and have no intention of going to jail. I am looking to the chance to hunt some wild quail. Quail hunting could be a refreshing topic for a politician. Your quest for bob white quail is a noble one. It deserves attention from Department of Wildlife

and Freshwater Fisheries. North Carolina is laying the framework for a program called CURES. Hopefully we will have a program for Alabama soon. A program could have very a positive economic impact to the rural counties in the state.

I would like to invite each of you to attend one of our club meetings or field trials. Volunteers are stepping forward and I believe we can accomplish more than in the past as a result of this participation. Things are up beat and I would hate for you to miss out on the fun.

Frank

Ex- Presidents Farewell

Just when my wife and others are afraid that I will be president for life, Frank Harris steps up to the plate. Frank has been my right hand man for many years now and he will do a great job. Working with an enthusiastic and committed board, I believe he will lead the club to become even more effective in influencing positive changes in quail habitat.

On a personal note, I am sure that no one has had more fun than me over the last 9 years. A partial list of speakers that we have had would include George Hitchcock, Ferrell Miller, Pat Dye, Ted Devos, Stan Stewart, Jerry De Bin and many more. Local Veterinarians/Quail hunters spoke to us every year. Some of our very best meetings came about spontaneously when we had no speaker and we just had round table discussions. The Quail Short course, which we started with Charles Kelley, has reached hundreds of Land Owners. Our Annual spring Field Trial has to be the most fun event in all of

Alabama and it is open to every one. Dues were kept low to encourage maximum participation and a great many people have donated their time and resources for a worthy cause. This organization has always been and will always be open for bird hunting enthusiast from all walks of life.

I will continue to serve on the board, publish the newsletter and make every monthly meeting when I am in town. To me, it is my favorite night out. I love talking about Jake and listening to other people talk about their dogs.

See you at the next meeting.

Jim Bradford

Treasurer's Desk

As of this writing, we have 106 dues paying members. Thank you to all those who responded to my initial dues paying appeal. To those who have not yet remembered to pay their \$15.00 annual dues for 2002, please do so. Please give me your Email address, if you have one.

The AQH Board of Directors approved the purchase of a digital movie camera that will be used to record special AQH's speakers, interviews, field trial activities and other AQH's events. We plan to make video tapes of all the events available to AQH members. This was not a budgeted purchase. Please make a donation to the camera fund to help pay for this valuable tool. Your donation will be appreciated. It is tax deductible.

Bob Carr
Treasurer, AQH

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT
www.newleafpub.com/alaquail

Welcome New Members!

Lester Lockridge
Kenneth L. Johnson
Jerry Couch

AQH Officers

Frank Harris– President
Mike Barlow – Vice President
Jeanise Frost – Secretary
Bob Carr – Treasurer

Board Members

Mike Barlow
Jim Bradford
Terry Burdette
Bob Carr
Jeanise Frost
Frank Harris
N. H. Holt
Harold Ridgeway

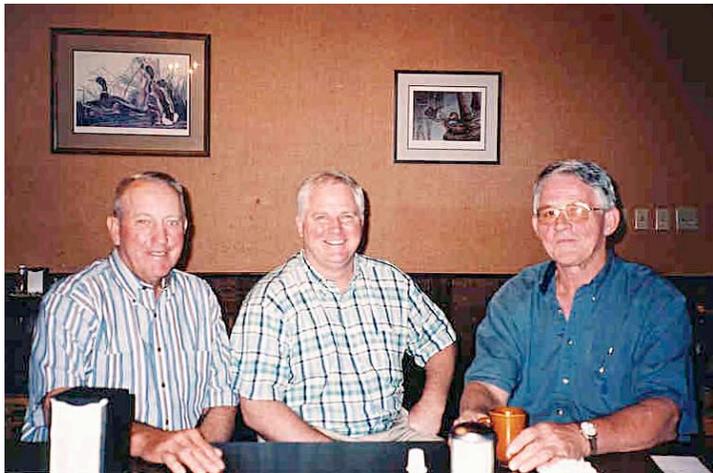
These people are giving their time and also doing an outstanding job. They receive no pay and are working to make our club a vehicle to bring about an improvement in Alabama's Quail Habitat.

WANT ADS ARE COMING!

In future issues of the AQH Newsletter, we will publish your items for sale, trade or the items you may be shopping to buy or swap. To have your advertisement for the item(s) published, just send a description of the item(s), how to contact you and your check for \$5.00 to Bob Carr, Treasurer, 1901 Morgan Road SE, Bessemer, AL 35022.



Mike looks like the “cat who just swallowed the family canary”



Ferrell Miller, Frank Harris and Harold Ridgeway

**Your Ad
OR
Want Ad
Could Have Been Here!**

**Don't Miss Out When
The Next Issue Is Sent!**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Office Phone (____) _____

Email Address _____

New Member Renewal

2002 DUES – \$15.00

Check Payable to "Alabama Quail Hunters"

Call Frank Harris at 326-5598 with your questions.



Alabama Quail Hunters

1901 Morgan Road S.E. • Bessemer, Alabama 35022



Alabama Quail Hunters

1901 Morgan Road S.E.
Bessemer, Alabama 35022