



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2003 • Published Quarterly • Jim Bradford, Editor

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

FUN FALL FIELD TRIAL

October 18th was a crisp, cool Saturday morning with fall in the air, making it a perfect day to quail hunt. With nearly 30 dogs registered and hunters anxious to hunt, the field trial began about 8 am. Some wives and children were in attendance to cheer for their hunters in the competition. Some dogs did well and some hunters need to practice. Congratulations to the dogs, the owners and the hunters that did the best in each class who are:

OPEN DOG

1st Place

Kate, Maggie Barlow (Mike)

2nd Place

John, Terry Cohron

3rd Place

Jake, Kevin Morris

DERBY DOG

1st Place

Hooter, Tommy Smith

2nd Place

Major, Laylon Cox

3rd Place

Brutus, Tommy Smith

PUPPY

1st Place

Lace, Terry Cohron

2nd Place

Lightning, Mark Weaver



Mike & Maggie



Tommy Smith

Frank Harris who is in each photo is a winner "but not in this trial!"



Terry Cohron

Thanks to the **Bama Bird Dog Club** for hosting our trial and to **Joy Dog Food** for donating prizes for the winners. Thanks to Janice Cohron for cooking her delicious chili, hamburgers, hot dogs and brownies that we all enjoyed for lunch. A good time was had by all.

President's Page

HEY FOLKS!

It was great to see Ed Whittington of Mobile in Florida late this summer. We reminisced about a 1999 AQH trip we made to Albany, GA. Clay Sisson, a wildlife biologist showed us the ongoing research he was doing for Auburn. Perhaps another club trip is due.

Summer was good for me and I hope it was also good for you. I was encouraged by the numerous coveys of birds I saw in my travels this summer. Now that Fall has arrived, it is an excellent time to disc your property in hopes of bringing on the ragweed. Fall brought cool nights, but the summer heat hung on during the days. Complaints were common on early preserve hunts from the dogs, either getting too hot or not being able to smell the birds. Frost came later this year than usual, as I recall.

Now that we have experienced a couple of frost and cold weather, hunts and spirits are improving. Conversations in the recent days with hunters chasing wild birds indicate that the birds are staying in the woods. Preseason release is gaining in popularity. Price McGiffert has taught John and I to keep the feeders full when releasing birds several weeks in advance of the hunt. It is close to hunting wild birds. The birds covey up and fly better each week. I hope you enjoy

the season and experience many good hunts, be it on a preserve or hunting wild birds.

Pat Dye spoke to our club this fall. He began by speaking on safety. I hope that you will make safety a priority on your hunting trips. Thanks for your visit Coach Dye.

Thanks for all of you who participated in the AQH Auction for the Alabama Quail Trail. Your donations were outstanding and Harry Puryear did an excellent job creating excitement as our auctioneer. Once all the expenses are settled, we will be able to make a contribution to the AL Quail Trail. You would have been surprised at some of the items that made it onto and off of the auction block, I sure was surprised.

The Bama Bird Dog Club was an excellent host for our AQH Fall Field Trial. Their property is located north of Lincoln. I am sure you will join me in thanking Harold, Tommy, Terry and Mark. Congratulations to Mike Barlow, Maggie Barlow and her dog, Kate who were the all age dog winners for the day. At our Fall Field Trial, a pen-raised bird flew straight into a Fuqua colored outhouse, breaking its own neck. Jim Bradford saw it and Cam Cohron picked up the dead bird. I have heard ya'll brag about how smart and genetically superior they are. I want to know, which one of

you "pen-raised bird proponents" is going to defend this action. I am going to paint all my lead shot Fuqua so I never miss another pen-raised bird again.

A special thanks goes to Jerry Jones, an AQH member, who represented the quail hunting groups at the Boy Scouts of America camporee in Jackson County in October. He and his dogs did a pointing dog demonstration that was enjoyed by all the scouts. AQH contributed a cash donation to help sponsor this camporee.

Leon Flynn and I were treated to wonderful bird hunt in west Texas, courtesy of Harold Ridgeway. Some of the tales about the trip are continuing to form and grow. I hope N. H. Holt will share his hunt to Oklahoma with us.

I know each of you are equally proud of the military's recent capture. Hopefully this will mean that the troops will be home soon. I wish each of you a wonderful Christmas !!!

The upcoming calendar is:
January: Covey Rise
February: open
March 6th : Field trial @ Calera

Frank Harris,
President

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT
www.alabamaquailhunters.org
www.alabamaquailtrail.com
www.alabamaforestowners.com

Treasurer's Desk

Looking at your mailing label, you will see some numbers following your last name. These numbers represent the month and year through which you have paid your dues, according to my records. "12-03" means that you have paid your dues through December 2003.

"12-02" means that you paid 2002 dues but you still owe your \$15.00 for your 2003 dues. If I have made an error with your account, let me apologize in advance. Please Email me at

coalcarr@bellsouth.net or call me at (205) 424-1381. Otherwise, please send me your check made out to...

**Alabama Quail Hunters
1901 Morgan Road SE
Bessemer, AL 35022**

Your \$15.00 dues for 2004 are payable beginning January 1, 2004.

Thank you,

Bob Carr, AQH Treasurer

Quail Shoppers Corner

Sioux's Puppies... Yet to be conceived: Contact Bob Carr if you are interested in purchasing one of Sioux's puppies (Carr's Champagne Sioux). Bob plans to breed Sioux to Elhew Ripkin owned by Morris Slingluff from Dothan, AL. Puppies should be available this summer. Bob's office: 205-424-1381 or Email coalcarr@bellsouth.net.

For Sale: *Reflections* by Ed Mack Farrior. A recollection of the "Golden Years" of quail hunting on the major field trial circuit, from 1913 through 1960. Hardback editions, \$30.00, postage paid. Paperback editions, \$17.50, postage paid. Call Ed Mack at 334-738-2223 or write him at

**207 Chunn St.,
Union Springs, AL 36089.**

A hardback & paperback will be available for viewing at May Meeting.

AQH Members, do you have equipment you would like to sell, or do you need to buy some more equipment? Place your add in the Quail Shoppers Corner for \$5.00 per newsletter.

Welcome New Members!!

Pat Buhler from Pinson

Chris Floyd from Birmingham

Matthew Pardue from Harpersville

Gus Kanellis from Birmingham

EDITOR'S NOTES

I was recently invited to participate on a telephone conference call with Lee Laechelt, Hayes Brown and some others whose names escape me at the moment. The purpose was to develop Ideas for future programs. To prepare myself for the call, I first asked for input at the AQH meeting and then visited their web site at www.alabamaforestowners.com. I received some help at the meeting and was very pleasantly surprised at their web site. You can find land to buy, sell or lease. People to manage your property and biologist to help with game management. All of our members should check this out.

I try to think positive, but I have to admit I was trying to think of ways to steer the discussion to Quail Issues. To my surprise, Lee called on me first and the discus-

sion basically never left Quail. Other than one fellow from Auburn whose primary interest was ducks, these professional foresters basically talked about what individuals and the state could contribute to solving quail problems.

One forester was from Georgia and one lady was from Tennessee. After hearing her, I was rightly proud about our efforts here in Alabama, but of course we are way behind what is happening in Georgia. I invited Lee to speak to our group at a future meeting and he said he would. But before we have him, lets all check out their web site, and join their organization. I thought we were the cheapest group in the state but it only cost \$12 a year to join their association.

By the way Jake at age 13 + was leading after the first field in the only trial he has entered this year. We let down in the 2nd field and finished 5th. He came up lame and missed the fall AQH trial but is now back at full speed ready to go. April 23 & 24, 2004, Quail Habitat Tour, Monroe County. Ask Ben Black for more information. JB

P.S. I hope every one is enjoying and looking forward to their issue of *Covey Rise* as much as I do. If I did this for a living, I would tell every body about it in their fine magazine. This may turn out to be the best thing to happen to Quail Hunting in the Southeast.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

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

Email Address _____

New Member Renewal

2004 DUES – \$15.00

Check Payable to "Alabama Quail Hunters"

Call Jim Bradford, (205) 991-8635 or for more information, contact...



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