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#### 2015 NAHRA Invitational Committee Members

Test Chair – Dave Combs

Test Secretary – Maggie Rathje

Test Treasurer – Jill Combs

Head Marshall - Craig 'OB' O'Brien

Hospitality Chair – Tom Rourke

Gun Captain – Mike Hass

Bird Steward – Don Morgan

Raffle Chair – Jim Wetzler

Merchandise Coordinator – Joe Meade

Donations Coordinator – Ted Hosmer

1000 point Dog Ceremony – Tony Carlo

The 2015 Invitational field test committee would like to thank all of those who have helped make this event possible. NAHRA members really know how to stick together and we are excited that we can once again host this premier event with the support from our close-knit family. From those making the extra effort to qualify for the event, to the never-ending job of selling raffle tickets and to those that donated goods, services and time, a heart felt thank you goes out to all of you.

Thanks from all of us, 2015 Invitational Committee



Welcome to the 2015 NAHRA Invitational!!

I'm excited that we have finally made it to this day and to see the efforts of all the people involved come to fruition!

I would first like to thank all of our handlers and applaud their efforts at qualifying for the

event. Especially those that made this a goal for 2015, and to those that traveled from distances outside their normal test range. This is a big deal to not only this club, this organization and to each one of you, but to your dogs as well. I'm sure they feel the excitement just as much as we do and can't wait for the first series.

I would also like to thank my committee. They have volunteered to put up with countless calls, texts and emails from me. I even annoy myself, so I can only imagine what they have endured. They have done an excellent job in putting together an amazing test with as many amenities as we could think of. With every i dotted and every t crossed, if there's something this group hasn't thought of, it's only because it wasn't possible.

I would also like to thank the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for allowing us to use the 3 Rivers Management Area for this purpose. Please remember we are guests here and to respect the property. Parking in designated areas, obeying the restricted area signs and picking up after your self will help ensure that this property will be available for future events.

Also, please remember to respect your fellow participants, judges and test workers. Everyone has made an effort to be here and this should be a pleasant experience for all.

We have had help in putting this test on in many areas, both in financial and product support. Please remember these businesses when it comes time to make purchases. With out them we would not have many of the extras that have been made available.

If I have missed any one to thank I apologize. There have been so many aspects to putting this on it is often hard to keep track of it all. I hope everyone has a great time and a memorable experience with that special four-legged friend.

I'll see you walking to the line! Dave Combs





#### Friends,

Welcome 2015 NAHRA Invitational participants. Thank you so much for your continued participation in our program at its highest level to produce some of the best hunting retrievers in the world. Though it has changed from the original format of "by invitation only" the event is no less exciting and fulfilling for the participants, especially the first timers. Your dogs have worked though the lower levels of the program culminating in becoming a Master Hunting Retriever, a dog any owner would be proud to own and hunt with. You retrievers are among those dog's that can be hunted most anywhere and under just about any conditions and perform consistently and with precision. We applaud your success and your journey as we all know what it took to get here.

A special thanks to the Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association for once again taking on the sometimes thankless task of hosting this event. From those that have walked in your shoes, we understand what an endeavor this can be and know the how burdensome the planning and execution of such an event can be. Hats off to you all! While I know for fact that enough ribbons were purchased for all entrants, history tells us that not all will come home with one. Even if you do not qualify, I hope you take stock in and appreciate that you have produced a fine animal just to get to this point. Enjoy the great Finger Lakes Region of New York, make some new friends in the game you love, watch some great dog work, and have a cold one or two. Enjoy the experience regardless of the outcome but I do wish you all success and hope you come home red, white and blue! Lastly, since this will be my last time presiding over this event as your President, I want to thank all the handlers that cannot be here this year for their continued participation as well. While we can only watch the dogs that are here, it should be said that NAHRA holds this event to showcase the MHR and what they do, which is a reflection of all of the MHRs in the program, past and present, here in the fur or not.

Again, I wish all great success and be safe in your travels. Then on to Wisconsin in 2016! Pick em up clean!

Frank Plewa NAHRA President



#### **2015 NAHRA Invitational Schedule of Events**

#### Saturday August 1st - Sunday, August 2nd

Self-guided training in designated areas of Three Rivers. Shooting live birds is prohibited.

**Monday, August 3rd -** Self-guided training in designated areas of Three Rivers. Shooting live birds is prohibited.

**Tuesday, August 4th -** Self-guided training in designated areas of Three Rivers. Shooting live birds is prohibited.

6:00 pm Judges Dinner

#### Wednesday, August 5th

7:00 AM - 3:00 PM Judges test set-up with test committee

7:00 AM - 3:00 PM Handlers Checkin & Orientation at Test HQ, Sixty Road

7:00 AM Self-guided training in designated areas of Three Rivers. Shooting live birds is allowed

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Bitch Check at Test HQ, Sixty Road

Time & Location TBD 1000 Point Dog Special Recognition Ceremony

5:00 PM Welcome Banquet at Clarion Inn

#### Thursday, August 6th

6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Bitch Check at Test HQ, Sixty Road

6:30 AM Late arrival registration at Test HQ, Sixty Road

7:00 AM Land Series Testing Begins

6:00 PM (Tentative) Workers Appreciation Dinner - Details TBD

#### Friday, August 7th

7:00am Upland/Trail Testing Begins 6:00 PM (Tentative) "Dutch Treat" Dinner - Details TBD

#### Saturday, August 8th

7:00 AM Water Series Testing Begins 6:00 PM (Tentative) Award Ceremony and Dinner at Clarion Inn

#### Sunday, August 9th

7:00 AM Testing completes if necessary Time TBD Awards ceremony at Test HQ if necessary

#### **EAST REGION - DEBBIE BRENNAN**

My husband, Robin, and I joined the Navesink River Hunting Retriever Club in 1994 for additional training for our dog, Kody, who was a great hunting dog but not so much for running tests. We met a lot of great people who were members of NAHRA and who suggested that we join NAHRA. We have been members of NAHRA ever since.

NRHRC would run a Club Fun Test each year and a "NAHRA Judge" would ask a club member to be a Judge also for the club test. It was at one of our club tests that I was asked to Judge and I began to learn about setting up tests and judging. After that, I started asking various judges if I could sit with them and learn more about judging.

I became more involved in apprenticing with the judges and when I went to a Hudson Highlands Club test, I "apprenticed" with Jack Jagoda and Wendy Basile. Jack gave me a pad and pencil and told me to "judge" the dogs and to keep in mind that if I am iffy on a point, then the point should go to the dog. At the end of the day they each looked at my comments and scores and said we were all in the "same ballpark" and suggested that I take the test and start judging. I did, and the rest is history.

Since those days I got a dog of my own – Misty - and started running her. My husband and I trained her through force fetch and put a JH and Started title on her. At that time we were both working full time and raising 4 children so we did not have a lot of time for the "finishing" touches that Misty needed, so we sent her for extra training help and we became a real team working together. We then titled her through GMHR. Robin and I campaigned Misty to the honor of becoming the first Chesapeake Bay Retriever to attain 1,000 points and receive the title of Champion GMHR I. When she retired she had over 1,400 points to her credit. During those years, when I would be asked to judge, Robin would run Misty, and vice versa.

I was asked to be a presenter for Judges Clinics and recently became the 7<sup>th</sup> Judge to attain 100 points as a Judge for NAHRA.

I was once told that if you come to the line and don't feel like you're going to lose your cookies then it's time to quit. I still feel that way when I get up there, and I still enjoy working with the dogs and watching the dogs work.



#### West Region - John Gilbert

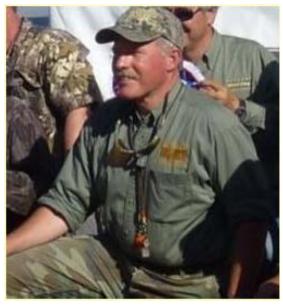
Welcome handlers. I am excited to be part of the judging team for this year's lineup of the greatest retrievers around. No doubt I'm a little biased on that matter, but I come by my opinions honestly. In my view no dog or human is absolutely perfect (I think we all agree they come closer than we do). When I combine the ability to be a quality & versatile hunter, family member, and just general companion, NAHRA Senior dogs are the top canines out there. Enough about selling a program to all the people that are already believers. Give me a soapbox and I can't help myself.

While living in Spokane as a Firefighter/Paramedic I was introduced to and started running NAHRA in 1991. Haven't missed a year yet. Usually I have two dogs, but currently am running only one. I may do all my own training, but between helpful friends, watching others, reading, videos and seminars, I can hardly say I did it all myself. Judging is another way we all learn and I strongly suggest everyone that can spend at least a little time on the other side of the scorebook. This not only improves us as trainers, but also strengthens our program in so many intangible ways. I started judging in 1994 and it's kind of scary when Rosemary lists all those tests I've judged. There have been many lessons from each and every one I was part of.

Along my personal path I have had the fun and frustration in creating three GMHRCH's, and one GMHR. Currently I'm bringing my newest four-legged pupil into the Intermediate world. The challenges continue. In the Invitationals I've run the one constant has been walking away with wonderful memories of time spent with like-minded people. My selection as a judge is a special honor and makes me one of the many stewards in continuing this goal for all handlers.

Two of my dogs were related, but other than that they have all been from different bloodlines. This didn't start off as a purposeful direction but I it has helped in seeing retrievers as individuals, all having some talents stronger than other abilities. I've loved each one for who they are. Watching their eyes on the prize while I get to enjoy the ride. My newest and latest angle is having my same retrievers also pull two-wheeled scooters, sled dog style. When started early most of them really enjoy it. A great activity for working dog fitness and just plain kick in the pants fun. After all, we do call them VERSATILE retrievers. Definitely keeps life interesting.

Now that I have retired I'm still living in Eastern Washington and am still very involved in the Spokane Bird Dog Association. For over twenty years we have hosted two or three weekends of licensed tests each year. Like most clubs I have visited it is usually too few folks wearing too many hats. I want to put out thanks to not only our Spokane core group, but also all the other core groups that get'er done. I have been as guilty as most in forgetting to say it out loud. But I do notice, and simply cannot pass on this opportunity to say, "we couldn't do it without all of you, everywhere. Thank You so much"



#### Alaska Region - Kody Bull

I started with NAHRA and the Midnight Sun Gun Dog Association in high school. I was brought in as a helper and the year after graduation became gun captain and joined the MSGDA board. Soon after that I got my first retriever, named Magic, and started training. My very first NAHRA event was in started; we failed, but I had a blast at that event and continued to improve my training. A few years later, I was able to achieve the title of MHR on my very first hunting retriever. I was hooked!!! As time went by I got more involved with the MSGDA, and NAHRA.

Today, I have the only two living GMHR's in Alaska, Addy and Zink. I also have a 12 week old pup named Gypsy that will also be running NAHRA events in the future. These dogs have brought much joy, not only to me but to my family. I need to thank my wife, Nikki for supporting my "obsession" with this sport.

I have been blessed in many ways; a lot of it because of NAHRA. We've traveled to many different regions running or judging dogs, meeting new friends, hunting new locations, and just last month in Eastern Oregon, I was able to be there when my son, Kolten shot his first upland birds. What great experiences I have had.

It is an honor and privilege to be chosen as a 2015 NAHRA Invitational Judge. I want to thank the Invitational Committee, and the Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association. Not only for choosing me as a judge, but also for the hard work and dedication it takes to put on an event like the NAHRA Invitational. I look forward to celebrating the NAHRA organization with all of you, but most importantly the NAHRA Master Hunting Retriever. Congratulations to everyone involved and good luck to all the participants. We will see you in New York!



1) Call Name: Lizzie

Registered Name: GMHR-I Rebeltoes Dizzie Lizzie MH



DOB: 04/12/2006

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Daniel Carlson

Sire: FC-AFC Two Toes Out The Door

Dam: Rebelstar's Lean Kate

Handler: Joan Hilts Owner: Joan Hilts

Additional Owner: Dave Hilts

Address: 305 Council Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14304

Phone: 716-417-3358

Lizzie has been my fun dog to train and run in tests. She has always been a quick learner and ready to work. As of late, I swear she can tell time. She knows when it's breakfast, lunch and dinner time and pesters me to get cooking! Besides her GMHR title, Lizzie is also an AKC Master Hunter. We entered the Master National in Maryland in 2011 and took home a plate and ribbon. We also qualified at our first NAHRA Invitational in 2013. A few years ago, we tried some Field Trials "just for fun" and placed fourth in the Qualifying stake. When she is not running tests or training, Lizzie loves pheasant hunting. Dave and I wish all the handler/dog teams best of luck at this year's Invitational.

2) Call Name: Shooter

Registered Name: Hammertime Shootin' a Limit

DOB: 07/11/2009

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Barry Hohmann

Sire: True Grit's Rooster Cogburn MH

Dam: GMHR Take It In Strider

Handler: John D Barton Owner: John D Barton Additional Owner:

Address: 3816 West Oak Hill Rd

Jamestown, NY

Phone: 716-488-0333



I was born and raised with hunting dogs of all types- beagles, pointers, bird dogs. When I saw a working retriever fhe first time, I knew that was the breed for me. I started running the NAHRA program back in 1989 with my Jessie dog. We ran our first invitational together in Culpepper, VA, in 1994. After 2 GMHR dogs and 1 MHR dog, Shooter is the fourth dog I have run through the NAHRA program. Shooter is an example of all the attributes we all strive for in our NAHRA dogs - a dog I am always proud to stand along side. Through the years in the NAHRA program, I have had the opportunity to watch and learn from some great professional and amateur trainers. This has taught me what I needed to know to have a superior hunting companion. Over the years, I have had some great times at NAHRA events. I am looking forward to spending time with old friends and new.

3) Call Name: K

Registered Name: Mays South of the Border Karob

DOB: 11/06/2008

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Chocolate Breeder: John FIncher

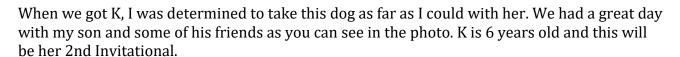
Sire: Fowl Weather's Token Trouble

Dam: Kelly Ann FIncher Handler: Ray May Owner: Ray May

Owner: Ray May Additional Owner:

Address: PO BOX 115 219 Thompson Rd, Donegal, PA 15628

Phone: 724-516-9263



4) Call Name: Gee Registered Name:

GMHR-III Dakota Creek's Royal Navigator MH

DOB: 12/18/2007

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Lisa Hartman

Sire: Waterdog's Sure Shot Turbojet MH

Dam: HRCH Scoop's Little Scout

Handler: Sue Snow Owner: Sue Snow Additional Owner:

Address: 5561 Erin 2nd Line, Acton, ON, CA L7J 2L9

Phone: 519-855-6366



When we started running NAHRA tests many years ago, we were amazed in watching the Senior dogs and the level of training they needed to successfully run and pass at that level. At that point we knew we were hooked. Our "bucket list" had a new objective .... To have a dog capable of running in NAHRA's Invitational event! In 2007, Gee joined our family and became the dog to make that dream come true. Quiet and intense on the line, Gee has proven herself to be a very driven competitor in NAHRA field tests as well as successfully running AKC & CKC hunt tests and field trials. Her pups have followed in her footsteps and are currently running NAHRA Senior, CKC / AKC Master tests and CKC field trials in Open, Amateur, Qualified and Derby.

The NAHRA program developed Gee into an all round retriever who is as comfortable hunting waterfowl in Ontario as she is upland hunting in South Dakota. She has taken us on adventures to new places like Iowa and Alaska, allowing us to meet new friends and catching up with old friends along the way!

5) Call Name: Brew

Registered Name: LZL's Five O'clock Somewhere

DOB: 3/2/12

Sex: M Breed: Lab

Color: Chocolate

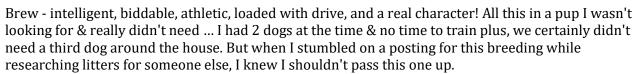
Breeder: Laurel Perram Sire: FC AFC Land Ahoy

Dam: Dreammeyer's Hope of the Summit MH

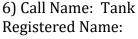
Handler: Tom Rourke Owner: Tom Rourke Additional Owner:

Address: 7113 Thorntree Hill Dr. Fayetteville, NY 13066

Phone: 315-632-4986



By the way, "He" was supposed to be "She" and a black dog not chocolate one. At least that was the plan when we went to pick the pup up. The breeder had the little black female pup tentatively picked for us and my wife's last instruction was that we should come home with that black female. But Brew had other ideas. My son, Conlan, rode along with me to pick up the pup & that's how Brew picked Conlan (even though Conlan thinks he picked Brew!). However happened, I'm sure glad it turned out the way it did. I couldn't have asked for a better day-to-day buddy, hunting partner, or newest member of the family!



**GMHR The Sagacious Ground Force QFTR MH** 

DOB: 11/27/2008

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: HP Wiliams

Sire: NAFC FC Cody Cut A Lean Grade Dam: GMHR Wishful Thinking QAA

Handler: Harry Williams Owner: Harry Williams Additional Owner:

Address: 11600 Wicks Lake Rd SW, Port Orchard, WA 98367

Phone: 360-876-4860

A puppy with flair turned into a friend for life. At home we think he's quite special. In the field he has the potential to be spectacular.



7) Call Name: Jock

Registered Name: Jacques de French Creek

DOB: 02/26/2009

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Shawn Trzeciak

Sire: Wildrose French Creek Dieble Dam: French Creeks Black Kersey

Handler: Jim Bennett Owner: Jim Bennett Additional Owner:

Address: 110 Saffron Lane, Greensburg, PA 15601

Phone: 724-837-9595



Jock and I have been hunting buddies for the past 6 years and are looking forward to the upcoming hunting season. He is the happiest in the fields hunting or running a hunt test or laying at my feet. We look forward to participating in the Invitational.

8) Call Name: Daisy

Registered Name: Devil's Duck Crazy Daisy

DOB: 07/28/2009

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Deb Lewis - Shalane Kennels

Sire: CH Zinfndl Brigham Dam: Shalane Evening Star Handler: Ted Hosmer Owner: Ted Hosmer Additional Owner:

Address: 243 Pebble Beach Trail Webster, NY 14580

Phone: 585-739-6150



Daisy is a little deceiving. Breed for confirmation, she's a little dog, that packs a big punch. Calm off the field, people love her, say how good she is, she must be easy to train. Not correct, she has mind of her own, and team work isn't in her vocabulary. I wish I were a better trainer in the beginning, I've learned a lot having her. She's a pleasure to watch, and full of energy. I wouldn't have her any other way.!!

9) Call Name: Lucy

Registered Name: Moore's Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds

DOB: 03/30/2010

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Michelle / Rod Lucas Sire: Trace Of A True Blooded Tribe Dam: Moe's Midnight Shadow

Handler: Tom Moore Owner: Tom Moore

Additional Owner: Rose Moore

Address: 21 Shanandoah Ln, Vincetown, NJ 08088

Phone: 609-859-5462

Lucy came to us during a difficult time. We had lost our Midnight, who I started in this game with and I was dealing

with an illness that left me depressed. My wife pushed me to get a puppy to help pull me out of a funk. I'm so glad she did. Lucy has always been easy to train and eager to please. She received her first started leg at five months old. We have had our ups and downs over the past five years, mostly ups though. She works hard in the field, but at home is a perfect companion. She loves to lie on the deck and take rides in the car. Anyone that visits our home falls in love with her. They all love Lucy.

10) Call Name: Smoke Registered Name:

GMHRCH IV Silverbrooks Smoke on the Water SH

DOB: 04/15/2006

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Trish Jagoda

Sire:

GMHRCH HRCH UH Silverbrooks Amazing Sparkle Boy MH

Dam: Silverbrooks High Hopes Handler: David Mellender Owner: David Mellender

Additional Owner: Ann Mellender

Address: 14492 Sentry Rd, Nokesville, VA 20181

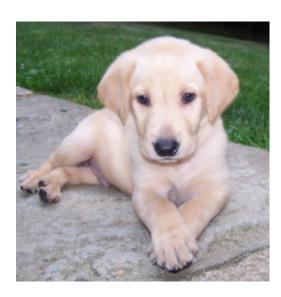
Phone: 571-393-8677

Ann and I picked Smoke up from Silverbrook Kennels on June 3, 2006, that is the day this journey began. Since Smoke started training he has always been eager to please and excited to make the retrieve, even as the grey hairs fill in. Smoke achieved his "Grand Master Hunting Retriever Champion" title in Vermont at LCRC in August 2013.

Smoke's excitement for the game has not faded, his tail wags constantly, whether we are doing bumpers in the yard, training, hunting or for the grandkids rubbing his ears; with all this excitement we never know when the next "break" will happen.

NAHRA hunt tests have taken us too many wonderful places: Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls and a spectacular drive to Alaska for the 2014 Invitational. We have met so many wonderful people and dogs along the way; some have become dear friends thru the NAHRA family. The hunt tests and Invitational give us time to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones. We are excited to continue this journey with our NAHRA family





11) Call Name: Black Betty

Registered Name: MHR I Waylon's Little Girl SH

DOB: 03/31/2010

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black Breeder: Jeff Bye

Sire: MHR I Finger Lakes Ramblin Man SH

Dam: Midnight Ria De Negro Handler: Mike Hemmer Owner: Mike Hemmer Additional Owner:

Address: 252 N. Brimar St, Palmer, AK 99645

Phone: 907-745-4320



This is the 2nd NAHRA Invitational that I have the privilege of entering. I really do enjoy the life that my dog & my dog club have brought me. Before I started my dog training education, I never realized the deep connection it takes for 'man & beast' to work as one. My Dog Betty truly has been my teacher. Betty has taught me how to be a better person by always making me aware when I get frustrated, mad, LOUD and yes also when I am happy. Maybe dog is god...a lesson we're meant to learn here. I am glad to be able to reward 'us' with adventures such as this event. I can't wait to visit with Betty bouncing beside me. See you all at the line

12) Call Name: Brewer Registered Name:

GMHR I HRCH UH Cedarwood's Brewmaster MH

DOB: 04/16/2007

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

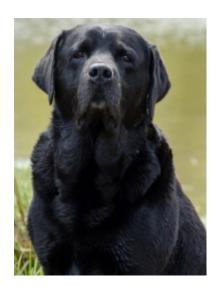
Breeder: Nancy R. Brandow

Sire: CH Ransom Armbrook's Hole in One CD MH Dam: Cedarwood's Timberline CDX RN SH

Handler: Kim Smith Owner: Kim Smith Additional Owner:

Address: 7 Upland Drive, No. Chittenden, Vermont 05763

Phone: 802-483-6158



2015 will be our second Invitational, the first being 2013 in Newville, PA. Since, Brewer has become a Dad after finding his "special purpose" and siring 2 litters. (apologies may be needed to some of you) Now 8 years old, Brewer continues to have good health and enjoy every moment he can either competing, hunting or "picking up" at some of our local shoots. We're fortunate to have, not only a great field dog but, also a companion whose personality exemplifies what the human/K-9 relationship should be.

Best of luck to everyone for a successful 2015 NAHRA Invitational.





Registered Name: Dakota Creek's Royal Gem

DOB: 02/01/2013

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Chris & Sue Snow

Sire: NAFTCH AFTCH Mjolnir Bluebill of Allanport Dam: GMHR-III Dakota Creek's Royal Navigator MH

Handler: Sue Snow Owner: Sue Snow Additional Owner:

Address: 5561 Erin 2<sup>nd</sup> Line, Acton, ON, CA L7J 2L9

Phone: 519-855-6366

With the success we had experienced hunting and running tests and trial with then MHR Dakota Creek's Royal Navigator, Gee was bred to the winner of the 2011 Canadian National Amateur Field Trial "Blue". With a litter of eight pups, this gave us the opportunity to find our "pick of the litter". The female with the red collar remained at the centre of our attention and by the time the pups were ready to head to their new homes, "Ruby" had been picked as our next NAHRA candidate! Ruby definitely follows in her mother's footsteps, whether she is running marks or blinds. Very intense on the line, you better be ready with whistle in mouth, when the judge says "dog" as Ruby only knows one spped and that is .... FAST!!

We are looking forward to the 2015 Invitational!

14) Call Name: Ty

Registered Name: GMHR Chance Tyd One On SH

DOB: 03/10/2007

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Michael L Cameron

Sire: GMHR1 Diamond Brooks Lucky Chance

Dam: Michaels Taboo Irick I Huntr

Handler: Wayne Goodrich Owner: Wayne Goodrich

Additional Owner: Dale Goodrich

Address: 706 Bridge Rd, North Hero, VT 05474

Phone: 802-372-6077

TY is an eight year old black Labrador retriever that is always eager to retrieve. He has earned his GMHR and continues to run NAHRA field tests. He has a great temperament and is very quiet. He loves training, testing and hunting ducks and geese. His favorite pastime is sitting in a duck blind, duck boat or a goose field watching for incoming birds and hoping his hunting partner does his job with the shotgun! TY and I would like to thank NAHRA for all of the fun field tests. TY and I wish all of the participant's good luck at the 2015 Invitational and thank Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association for hosting the 2015 Invitational.

15) Call Name: Rain

Registered Name:

Texas Pointing Labs Storms Chance of Rain

DOB: 03/23/2006

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Maryanne Byerley

Sire: Jazztime Last Chance VPekisko Dam: Storm of startedpointinglabs.com

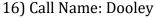
Handler: Chris Giardina Owner: Chris Giardina

Address: 136 Essex Street Jersey City, New Jersey 07302

Additional Owner: Phone: 201-310-7909

Rain is now nine years old but still runs around and plays like a puppy. Whether chasing birds or bumpers she's 100% pure effort.

We are excited and proud to attend the 2015 NAHRA Invitational.



Registered Name: Roxxys Dooley ODudley

DOB: 02/08/2011

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: John Pundt

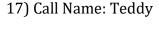
Sire: Madcap's Catch the Buzz Dam: Roxy of the Breeze Handler: Craig O'Brien Owner: Craig O'Brien Additional Owner:

Address: 307 Seneca Rd, Rochester, NY 14622

Phone: 585-544-8748

Dooley is a 4 year old black lab male and the first dog that I have done any type of formal training with so he is also the first dog that I have done hunt tests with. He is hoping that his handler doesn't do anything to embarrass him at the Invitational and we are both excited to have the opportunity to be participants at Baldwinsville. I am looking forward to meeting handlers from around the country and to watch some fine dog work.







Registered Name:

GMHR II Colonel Roosevelt's Rough Rider

DOB: 08/06/2010

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Tim Galeazzi

Sire: Texas Pointing Labs Nitro High Caliber

Dam: Stillwater's Maggie Red Rock

Handler: Tony Carlo Owner: Tony Carlo Additional Owner:

Address: 2381 Noble Rd Clyde, New York 14433

Phone: 315-256-5809

Teddy had some pretty big shoes to fill, and he has come very close. His personality and desire to please could fill even the biggest pair of waders.

This little guy is the reason I get my butt up off the couch on those days that I just don't feel like training. I can't say no when he asks for just one mark.

In the marsh and field, Teddy is a team player. He seems to really understand what it's all about. His endless optimism has helped me stay out just a little longer.

I hope some day I can become the person he believes I am.

18) Call Name: Oakley

Registered Name: MHR WR TTF CAS-HI Shady Character

DOB: 09/03/11

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Bedford Floyd & Colleen Floyd Sire: GMHR TTF Cas-Hi Never Tucker Out

Dam: FTW Leawyn Lainne Handler: Dave Combs Owner: Dave Combs Additional Owner:

Address: 953 County Rd 4, Geneva, NY 14456

Phone: 315-521-0442

Oakley has been the dog that made me remember that you have to train for success. Having been out of the game for a while, and having older dogs for a time before that has made me realize, again, what it takes to make a good dog become great. Oakley is a dog well on his way to greatness on many levels - running NAHRA is just one way he shows it.



19) Call Name: Tank

Registered Name: GMHRCH II Harvest Thyme's Tanks-A-Lot MH

DOB: 08/14/2005

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Cheryl & Jeff Riebling

Sire: GMHRCH MFR Fowlweathers Token Trouble Dam: GMHRCH III HRCH Silverbrooks Ravin Rebel MH

Handler: Jeff Riebling Owner: Jeff Riebling

Additional Owner: Cheryl Riebling

Address: 842 N Biesecker Rd, Thomasville, PA 17364

Phone: 717-792-9463

20) Call Name: Carbon Registered Name:

GMHRCH-IV FOWL WEATHER'S CARBON COPY

DOB: 03/30/2003

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Keith D. Omslaer

Sire: GMHRCH I MFR Fowl Weather's Token Trouble

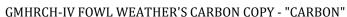
Dam: MHR Duncans Chance of Dutch Lane JH

Handler: Frank Plewa Owner: Frank Plewa

Additional Owner: Valerie Plewa

Address: 1479 Hanover Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Phone: 717-334-7135



This will be Carbon's fifth and likely his last Invitational as the old man is twelve plus now but still in pretty outstanding condition despite being retired from the testing circuit for over six years. Hopefully the weather will permit the old boy to show his stuff one more time. He has been one of the truly great dogs I have had the pleasure to own and run. Age has slowed him but in his prime, he was one of the most precise marking and lining dogs I have owned.

Carbon has never liked training but in a game situation, he has always been outstanding. I cannot recall any time when I could not count on him to pull off a difficult triple and blind and make it look easy. Like his father, point him in the right direction and he pretty much would do the rest, lining his share of blinds.

While the younger dogs in our pack do most of the hunting now, I still enjoy a few outings with Carbon as does he. While he is not as good as he once was, he is as good once as he ever was! Regardless of the outcome this time around, I will still be proud to stand beside him at this event as it will, even though I said it before, likely be his last Invitational. Thanks Carbon.

21) Call Name: Max



Registered Name:

GMHR HRCH UH Maxwell Edison of Liverpool MH

DOB: 06/05/07

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Peter & Melissa Biolchini

Sire: Buxbury Barnaby

Dam: Princess Callie of Smokin Barrels

Handler: Karen Loh Owner: Karen Loh

Additional Owner: Javier Perez

Address: 166 Duane St 4A, NY, NY 10013

Phone: 646-234-6688



Dearest Max: Remember life as a baby, living in a NYC high rise? You were afraid of stairs, panicked any time you were around water and had constant diarrhea? Things have changed since then, don't you think? We got you "Max's Krib" in the country where you can play; found Scott and Sheri (now of Sundance Retrievers) who helped you overcome your fear of water, developed your hunting skills <u>and</u> taught us how to manage them; found Frank's great Upland Hunting Preserve where we hunt up hundreds of birds each year; pack up each winter for a fun Southern quail hunting road trip. Remember, during the off-season, how we tried to kill time until we could hunt again? And then how life changed again when we stumbled onto LHRA and NAHRA three years ago: that guy Tom Rourke who took us under his wing and guided us wisely into the world of games? Maggie Rathje and Jim Langa who have supported us through our ups and downs? All the fantastic people we have met at the different clubs, places we have been and dead ducks we have picked up along the way? Maxie, we hope we have given you a good life in spite of all our mistakes. You have given us more than we could have imagined when we brought you into our family and we cherish every moment we have you in our lives. We love you, Karen & Javier.

22) Call Name: Mist

Registered Name: Valhalla's Valkyrie Bay Mist

DOB: 04/13/2005

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Dan Storts & Dana Storts

Sire: FC AFC Carolinas Smoke on the Water

Dam: GMHR Hang on Sloopy II Handler: James Hundemer Owner: James Hundemer

Additional Owner:

Address: 9295 Mitchell Rd La Plata, Maryland 20646

Phone: 301-848-3235



Mist came into my life just over ten years ago as a forty-five day old black ball of fur and intensity. She has grown to become an excellent retriever and companion, and her intensity has not waned with the passage of time. She is preeminent in the pheasant fields of North Dakota where speed and accuracy are required to ensure the recovery of downed birds, while on Maryland's Eastern Shore she has wowed our hunting companions by making marked retrieves on geese exceeding 350 yards. Running Mist in field tests is like the excitement of driving a Ferrari, you never have to be concerned about enough power but you are always on the razor's edge of control. She is pure joy to hunt and handle and I am certain there will never be another dog like her in my life.

23) Call Name: Moxie



Registered Name:

HR Silverbrook Tiger's Bold Venture SH

DOB: 03/06/09

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Patricia Jagoda

Sire: FC AFC MHR Westwinds Bold Tiger Dam: HRCH GMHR First Lite;s Ler'er Rip MH

Handler: Melvin McKnight

Owner: Melvin and Maria McKnight Additional Owner: Patricia Jagoda

Address: 907 Bean Rd, Plainfield, VT 05667

Phone: 802-454-7746

It was indeed a bold venture when Trish Jagoda, Silverbrook Kennels in Fredericksburg, Virginia) bred two of her females with frozen semen from Westwinds Bold Tiger (died 2/22/1996). The payoff on March 6, 2009: nine puppies in the two litters, the first Westwinds Bold Tiger puppies in more than 10 years. Our Moxie, a daughter of Tiger and granddaughter of the famous Trieven Thunderhead, comes with a lineage of Hall of Fame retrievers. Her dam, Rip, brings her heritage rich with Field Champions and her own NAHRA, HRC, and AKC titles for all venues. Moxie wears a white spot on her chest as a reminder of the link to the early "water dogs" of Newfoundland.

Moxie, born in March 2009, completed her NAHRA Hunting Retriever and AKC Junior Hunter titles in 2010; her AKC Senior Hunter in 2011, and NAHRA Working Retriever in 2012. After a hiatus of more than two years due to injury, surgeries, and more, she is back in the games and completed her NAHRA Master Hunting Retriever in 2015. Meanwhile, she divides her time between being a faithful companion for Mel around The Farm and an attentive sous-chef for Maria in the kitchen.

We congratulate all the handlers and dogs qualified to enter the NAHRS 2015 Invitational and wish all participants success throughout the week. We appreciate the work of the Invitational Organizing Committee to make this a successful event. We thank the Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association, the members and workers, for hosting the Invitational.

24) Call Name: Mandy

Registered Name: Seal's Stormin' Devil

DOB: 12/10/2009

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Chocolate

Breeder: Lynne Busch Sire: Taken By Storm MH

Dam: Hi Priority Lil of Dagwood

Handler: Margaret Rathje Owner: Margaret Rathje Additional Owner:

Address: 223 Rainbow Shores Rd, Pulaski, NY 13142

Phone: 315-298-4588

Mandy is my sixth generation and very special. She is seriously dedicated to the sport . Mandy will give  $110\,\%$  even if it is the upteenth time back to the pile. She is a pleasure to train and exciting to watch. Memory, marking , selection , she has it all with a lot of enthusiasm. And a pleasure around

We are proud and happy to be a part of the NAHRA Invitational. To partake with top dog---, We can do it! Will we do it? We will have fun. Thanks to all for sharing this great moment

the house Mandy is the ultimate companion. Am I bragging-no just telling.

25) Call Name: Rye

Registered Name: Topbrass Rye with a Splash





DOB: 03/06/2007

Sex: F

Breed: Golden Retriever

Color: Red

Breeder: Jackie Mertens

Sire: AFC Emberain Rugby WCX OS FDHF

Dam: Nealcrest Super Sleuth \*\* OD Handler: Paul Zurka or Linda Sperco

Owner: Paul Zurka

Additional Owner: Linda Sperco

Address: 31 Revere Ave. Maplewood, NJ 07040

Phone: 973-761-0695

"Rye Leigh" ["Rye" to her friends] has been on a mission since she first set foot into our home; stay as busy as possible, take no prisoners and live like there's no tomorrow. Completely owner trained and handled, Rye is a quick learner, even quicker on her feet and is always looking for new and inventive ways to accomplish the task at hand. Many thanks to Jackie Mertens for sending us this wonderful girl and many more thanks to everyone who helped us on our journey – our Navesink River HRC and Westchester HRC training groups, Lisa Kane & Grace Mondrosch, and a special thanks to Pat Nolan for always making time for us.

Paul spent the first 11 post college years as an Industrial Education Instructor. Attending evening classes, he added an Electrical Engineering degree and spent the next 28 years as a Supply Chain Engineer and Materials Manager for a major defense contractor. He retired in June of 2013 so he could spend more time with his dogs.

Paul is married to Linda Sperco and resides in Maplewood, NJ. Linda is the owner of "Blue Ribbon Dog Sports Coaching, LLC".

26) Call Name: Hawkins

Registered Name: HIHOPES FLYING ACE

DOB: 04/24/2009

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Donald Morgan

Sire: HIHOPES SIR LOIN of ANGUS

Dam: HAPPY ACRES EMMA

Handler: Don Morgan Owner: Don Morgan Additional Owner:

Address: 3465 Plank Road, Livonia, NY 14487

Phone: 585-346-9406

Hawk has been a great dog for me. Does what he is trained to do, find and pick up birds. Enjoying it most of the time, there was the 5 degree day with icebergs flowing down the river I was on, that day maybe not so much. Hawk and the other dogs like him are the best conservation tool a hunter can have. Good success to all this week.

27) Call Name: Radar Registered Name:



GMHRCH - II Fowl Weather's Final Approach

DOB: 11/06/2008

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: John A. Fincher

Sire:

GMHRCH-I MFR Fowl Weathers Token Trouble

Dam: GMHR Kelly Ann Fincher

Handler: Frank Plewa Owner: Frank Plewa

Additional Owner: Valerie Plewa

Address: 1479 Hanover Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Phone: 717-334-7135

GMHRCH - II FOWL WEATHER'S FINAL APPROACH - "RADAR"

I have had the privilege of standing beside a lot of really good dogs that I have owned and those that I have trained for others. Radar is definitely another really good one and I am proud to be his owner and buddy. I have bonded with all of the dogs that have come to live with us but this bond is like no other. We are the team that many strive to be and are so much poorer when we are not together. Radar is such a bubbly dog and never seems to have a bad day. Like most dogs, he has that uncanny ability to brighten your day regardless of how bad it's been. We have spent so many mornings and evenings crafting that home and field companion that everyone wants to own. Always willing and ever ready to try, Radar has grown into a polished dog that you can take anywhere and hunt any type of fowl regardless of the temperature.

He has been an incredibly steady performer in our wonderful NAHRA game. While never a flashy dog, he is about as dependable as a retriever can be. Since his last Invitational in Pennsylvania, Radar became our fifth GMHRCH and did it with a perfect run finishing up last year. He was retired from testing then and this will be his first test in about a year so I am anxious to run him again with all the other great NAHRA dogs entered.

Radar has been my anchor for those training days that aren't going as planned and in testing, the dog in the lineup that always seems to set things right again during a bad run. His strength has been his consistency, always performing admirably regardless of the task. We are honored to be here with so many other great dogs and handlers, the best of luck to everyone from us!

28) Call Name: Bry Registered Name:

GMHRCH-IV Silverbrook's Life of Brian MH CC

DOB: 05/14/2009

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Patricia L. Jagoda

Sire:

**GMHR HRCH UH Silverbrook's Amazing** 

Sparkle Boy MH

Dam: MHR Silverbrook's Mustang Sally

Handler: Larry Housman Owner: Victoria Pepper

Additional Owner: Larry Housman

Address: 1278 Battery Ave, Baltimore, MD 21230

Phone: 410-269-4610



Bry has spent the last year giving the illusion of putting up with an annoying little puppy with much more grace and good humor than I would have thought possible. As his official Invitational Picture hints, he is constantly on the verge of killing the little guy, but remarkably hasn't yet done so. I am a bit fearful, however, that he has put young Hank, this year's test dog, up to going rogue on the land blind in front of the entire gallery so I do the deed for him.

29) Call Name: Jazz

Registered Name: MHR Fortune Crest's All That Jazz



DOB: 09/06/2010

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Chocolate

**Breeder: Joan Sharpless** 

Sire: FC/AFC Way-Da-Go Call of the Wild Dam: MHR Critter Creek Worth a Million MH

Handler: Jeff Riebling Owner: Jeff Riebling

Additional Owner: Cheryl Riebling Address: 842 N Biesecker Rd,

Thomasville, PA 17364 Phone: 717-792-9463

30) Call Name: Bumper

Registered Name: GMHR-II Maggie's Perfect Throw

DOB: 11/12/2008

Sex: Female Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Jim & Sarah Tracy

Sire: FC/AFC TNT's Mr. Peabody Prairiemarsh

Dam: GMHRCH-IV Silverbrook Mag Autumn Gold, MH

Handler: Jim Tracy Owner: Jim Tracy Additional Owner:

Address: PO Box 360, Burley, WA 98322

Phone: 253-686-0250



Registered Name: Twin Lakes Hotsy Totsy Ruby

DOB: 03/07/2008

Sex: F Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Woody Thurman

Sire: Rippin Good National Express MH Dam: Mitimat Lances Miss Liberty MH

Handler: Ted Eggertson Owner: Ted Eggertson Additional Owner:

Address: 458 Driscoll Dr, Brick, NJ 08724

Phone: 732-892-7231



Seven years ago a 7 week old female black lab picked my wife and me to take her home. Little did I know when I named her Twin Lakes Hotsy Totsy Ruby that she would live up to her name and beyond. Ruby is the epitome of a well rounded dog. A loving house companion and great hunting and trial partner.

32) Call Name: Onyx

Registered Name: MHR Chance's Black Onyx

DOB: 03/10/2007

Sex: Female Breed: Lab Color: Black

Breeder: Michael Cameron

Sire: GMHR-I Diamond Brook's Lucky Chance

Dam: Michaels Taboo Irick I Huntr

Handler: Vicki Butler Owner: Vicki Butler

Address: 2957 Carter Hill Road Swanton, VT 05488

Additional Owner: Bruce Butler

Phone: 802-238-2526



Onyx is my third labrador retriever. My first one was given to me many years ago and kindled my interest in the breed. After dabbling in a few other things like obedience and agility with her, I stumbled across the hunting test game. Turned out she didn't like gunfire, so I bought myself another Labrador puppy to try out this field test game. He, unfortunately for me, was from show lines and turned out to be a lot of struggle with little to show for it. Great looking dog though. Fortunately for me, Onyx came along and turned my interest into a passion.

Onyx was given to me at 20 months old. She had one leg of her NAHRA Started title and very little obedience training. Once I started working with Onyx, it didn't take long to get her started title finished up. After that we sailed through Intermediate. In 2012 we started toward her senior title. In 2013, I set the goal of finishing up her senior title, and earned her MHR at Leatherstocking HRC in June 2013 and we're now closing in on her GMHR.

I'm extremely grateful for acquiring her. I believe I would have given up on this game if she had not come into my life. August 2015, we are looking forward to the NAHRA Invitational, along with one of her littermates.



Registered Name: Seal's Go Devil

DOB: 12/10/2009

Sex: F Breed: Lab

Color: Chocolate Breeder: Lynne Busch Sire: Taken By Storm MH

Dam: Hi Priority Lil of Dagwood

Handler: Margaret Rathje Owner: Mark Nobert Additional Owner:

Address: 344 Ouderkirk Rd, Pulaski, NY 13142

Phone: 315-387-6264

Chip, aka "the special brown dog" is a lovable hard working girl. Her day starts with a potty call and then breakfast. After that it's back to bed for a nap. After all, watching over her master and greeting visitors is hard work. Not to mention being on squirrel patrol and keeping the yard squirrel free. Days off are great.

So are workdays with a dog like Chip. She enjoys working and gives it her all, coming home and falling into bed. Tired, but happy.

Chip was picked from the litter to be an average companion dog, but turned out to be way above average. Her willingness to please makes her easy to train. Chip's affinity for water makes her fun to watch. Curiosity and an excellent nose have gotten her into trouble, like Ferdinand the bull sniffing the flowers, but she is easy to get back on track most of the time. Highly sociable and so much cuter than her sister, Chip makes you smile every day. We are looking forward to running a great series and enjoying great friends. It is all about the memories of good dog work and people who you share it with.

34) Call Name: Target Registered Name:

GMHR I Fowl Weather's Dead On Center

DOB: 05/10/2011

Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow

Breeder: Don Morgan

Sire: GMHRCH-II MFR Fowl Weather's Cornfield Commando

Dam: MHR Hi Hopes Autumn Surprise

Handler: Frank Plewa Owner: Frank Plewa

Additional Owner: Valerie Plewa

Address: 1479 Hanover Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Phone: 717-334-7135



At times he is that "Bubba" we have nicknamed him. He is that big kid that cannot sit still and is always working on something, usually wrecking it. He just made the cut into the Invitational lineup the last time but is now a strong and steady performer for me. He is a mature and seasoned retriever with several seasons of hunting and testing under his belt. He is 90+ pounds of muscle and as intense and motivated as any retriever I have seen. His frame makes any retrieve very doable regardless the terrain, cover or how long the course. While that intensity makes him at times, a hair trigger, he has been steady and focused for every situation presented to him. Target is best suited for late season geese but can go all day in the pheasant field as well.

At home, no bird or varmint goes unnoticed with Target on the job. I was unaware before we brought him home just how many daily inspections of the property it takes to ensure that squatters have not taken up residence. There is no woodpile too tall to root out a rabbit, no stack of pallets too heavy to grab a groundhog, and no cover that cannot be decimated to flush a pheasant with Target in the neighborhood. He has already provided a lifetime of laughs and stories that will be his legacy in our home.



Call Name: Hank

Registered Name: NPRC's Basking in the Glow of Good Enough

DOB: 11/03/2013

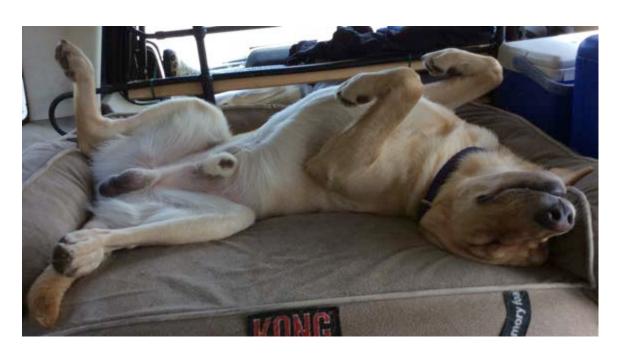
Sex: M Breed: Lab Color: Yellow Breeder: Jeff Brown

Sire: Rebel Ridge Brace for Impact Dam: Wyn-Ne-Woods Avada Kedavra JH

Handler: Larry Housman Owner: Victoria Pepper

Additional Owner: Larry Housman

Phone: 410-269-4610



In addition to honing his ability to fall asleep in any venue, young Hank gave a valiant effort to qualify for this year's Invitational, but in the end he fell a bit short. He was, however, honored to accept the 2015 Miss Congeniality Award and we both hope he's able to be of help to the handlers as test dog.

#### **1000 Point Dogs**

As a special thank you to the 1000 point dogs that have joined us for this year's invitational, we would like to honor them with a ceremonial shot flyer and a special token of recognition.

GMHRCH IV Silverbrooks Smoke on the Water SH "Smoke" - Dave Mellender

GMHRCH-IV Silverbrook's Life of Brian MH CC "Bry" - Larry Housman

GMHRCH - II Fowl Weather's Final Approach "Radar" - Frank Plewa

GMHRCH-IV FOWL WEATHER'S CARBON COPY "Carbon" - Frank Plewa

GMHRCH II Harvest Thyme's Tanks-A-Lot MH "Tank" - Jeff Reibling

GMHRCH I Twin Lakes Hotsy Totsy Ruby "Ruby" - Ted Eggertson

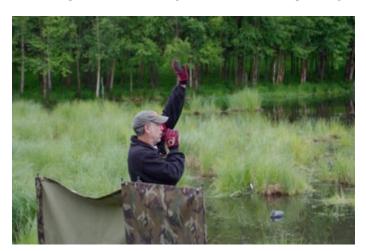
Congratulations to all of you on a great accomplishment!!!

#### 2015 Invitational Photographer



A HUGE GIANT THANK YOU TO <u>LARRY HOUSMAN</u> FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SET UP AND MANAGE THE INVITATIONAL WEBSITE, INCLUDING THE ONLINE ENTRY, INFORMATION SUBMISSION AND MERCHANDISE ORDERING PAGES. TRULY A SHOW OF DEDICATION AND LOVE FOR THIS CRAZY THING WE DO.

PLEASE LET HIM KNOW WHAT AN EXCEPTIONAL JOB HE HAS DONE!!!





#### **Local Medical Facilities**

Urgent Care – North Medical 5100 W Taft Rd, Ste 1c, Liverpool, NY 13088 (315) 452-2333

Urgent Care West 5700 W Genesee St Camillus, NY 13031 (315) 488-6393

Upstate University Hospital 5108 Velasko Rd Syracuse, NY 13215 (315) 475-1433

#### **Local Veterinary Facilities**

Animal Ark Veterinary Hospital 2996 Belgium Rd Baldwinsville, NY 13027 (315) 635-2525

Beaver Lake Animal Hospital 1528 W. Genesee St Baldwinsville, NY 13027 (315) 635-6241

David Clegg DVM 8205 Oswego Rd Liverpool, NY 13090 (315) 622-2882



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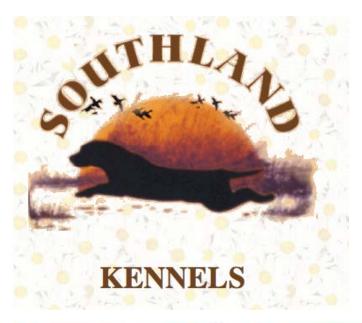


Mel and Maria McKnight Bill Preston Tom Rourke Mark Nobert Wayne and Dale Goodrich Kim and Judy Smith

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