

Ed Powell Memorial Open Limited Gun Dog
Judges: David Taylor and Cindy Findley
Union County Bird Dog Ranch
Thayer, Iowa
April 7-8, 2008
Reported by Ken Windom



Front Row (L-R): Bob Burchett with Ruffwood's Algonquin Indigo, Tom Thomas with FC/AFC Tolka-Belle O Rusty's Pro, Karen Stout with DC Country Road's Navigator, and Julie Condron with DC Ricochet's Maggie's Jac.

Back Row (L-R): Ken Windom (reporter) holding the Ed Powell Memorial Traveling Trophy, Chris Burchett, Marvin Stout, Cindy Findley (judge), and David Taylor (judge).

The inaugural running of the Ed Powell Memorial Open Limited Gun Dog hour stake was held on the grounds of the Union County Bird Dog Ranch at Thayer, Iowa on April 7 and 8, 2008. Judges were Cindy Findley, who handled her dog to the 2005 Gordon Setter National Amateur Championship win, and David Taylor, whose judging credentials include the American Pointer Club's 2000 National Field Trial Championships and the 2003 AFTCA Region 11 Open Championships, as well as the Mid-America and Nebraska Brittany Championships. Seventeen dogs vied for the honors, with 4 year old **Ruffwood's Algonquin Indigo** emerging as the winner. She ran in the third brace and exhibited a forward, snappy race, handled kindly, and scored 3 well-spaced finds during

her hour. Bird work for this stake was abundant; every dog had at least one contact with game.

The event honors the memory of Ed Powell, a steadfast member of the Iowa Brittany Club for over two decades. Ed and his wife Joyce bred Brittanys under the name of Shoshone Kennels. Ed was an avid conservationist and worked tirelessly for the betterment of the Brittany breed and for the preservation of land and game where the Brittany can show its natural abilities. He was one of the original members of individuals who secured the grounds at Thayer and spend many hours improving them for bird dog trials. It is fitting that the winner of this inaugural event, as well as the fourth place dog, trace their lineage back to Ed's breedings. This was a quality stake and we hope to continue to hold it on an annual basis.

Many thanks to all who participated in the planning and execution of this event. Thanks go especially to Julie Condron for providing the beautiful traveling trophy that goes to the winner each year. We hope this will remain a lasting tribute to a wonderful individual and dear friend.

The Running.

Brace 1: FC Covey Rise's Rambo JR (JR) – Chuck Schaefer; DC/AFC Country Road's Navigator (Andy) – Bob Burchett. Brace 1 cast off from the regular All Age breakaway at 8:00 under mostly sunny skies with the temperature right around the freezing point. Both dogs went forward toward the left side and over the ridge toward the hedgerow. JR was seen standing in the cut as riders crested the ridge, but he left and both dogs were observed making game in the area. At 4, Andy established point at the place JR had occupied, and JR came up into a back. Handlers dismounted and a small covey was produced. Both dogs turned to mark the flight, but JR was a bit overanxious in following them, thus ending his bid early. Andy continued on and scored finds at 6 by the terrace feeder, at 14 in the south feed strip, at 15 in the willows along the ravine, at 20 along the feed strip north of the ravine, at 23 at the feeder by Karbiner Crossing, and at 27 at the hedgerow feeder. We crossed the road onto the north course at 34 as Andy continued to hunt the feed strips and other edges. At 39, he was making game, then pointed just as the handler rode up a hen pheasant. He was released and went on point again at 41 at the feeder along the south edge of the "hedge and honey locust orchard." His tenth and final find came at the feeder at the end of the finger north of the double crossing. He continued his searching pattern until the end of the hour.

Brace 2: DC Ricochet Maggie's Jac (Jac) – Julie Condron; FC Tolka-Belle O Kid Rusty's Pro (Rusty) – Bob Burchett. Dogs were released at the water tanks on the northwest corner of the grounds and headed southeast. Jac pointed at 1 at the fence corner. After a relocation, a bird was produced and Jac was sent on. He had his second find at 4 less than 100 yards from the first with all in order. From there, he ran the edge of the field and turned along the N-S fence to the west crossing. Meanwhile, Rusty established point near the orchard feeder at 5, then had a second find at 9 along a feed strip south of the "red cedar forest." Jac caught the front shortly after Rusty's second find and both dogs crossed

the road back onto the south course and headed toward the hedgerow. Bob called point at 22 on the south side of the hedgerow. Both dogs were found standing. Bob flushed and fired; Julie settled for a back. Both dogs were sent on and Jac scored another find at the terrace feeder at 25. Meanwhile, Rusty had moved ahead and had a find along the south feed strip at 29. Reunited after Rusty's release, both dogs continued west along the south end of the course. Point was called as riders topped the ridge west of the crossing. Both dogs were standing, apparently on separate birds. Julie produced a single and took Jac on. Bob was unable to produce game. Hunting separately, both dogs had finds at 38 at different locations along feed strip on the south side of the west ravine. Still separated, Jac scored another find at 40 along the north side of the ravine and again at 45 on a single that had flown onto the mowed portion of the course. Meanwhile, Rusty scored finds at 43 at the feeder on the long finger coming up from the creek and at 47 at the hedgerow feeder. Released from his last find, Jac topped the ridge, then roaded into a point at the finger feeder at 49. Julie made a prolonged flushing attempt, combined with an extended relocation effort by Jac, but no bird could be produced. Jac continued on to the hedgerow where he scored his final find at 59.

Brace 3: Speeding Ticket's Radar Gun (Radar) – Jim John; Ruffwood's Algonquin Indigo (Indigo) – Bob Burchett. Dogs were released across the road on the north course and both went to work searching for game. Both had snappy runs, with Indigo being the more forward of the two. The pair went through the orchard and onto the north end of the course, then back around the west side. At 30, Indigo scored a find at the orchard feeder. Radar established point in a thick area just off the course where it turns back east at the south end of the north course. Jim was unable to produce game and Radar was sent on. (A nesting woodcock was produced in this area in a later brace). Radar crossed the road at 40 and made the front at 44 as Bob called point for Indigo on the hedgerow. Radar had a find at the terrace feeder at 46 with all in order. After Radar made the front once again, both dogs hunted the bottom area of the south course. Indigo caught the south feeder strip and rimmed it all the way to where it turns back north along the ravine, then slammed on point at 54 with Radar backing. One bird was produced with all in order and we finished the brace, then broke for lunch.

Brace 4: TNT's Little Pheasant Finder (Cody) – Tom Thomas; DC Barney's Hi Proof Ronrico (Rico) – Bob Burchett. The first brace after lunch was released behind the pines on the north course. The temperature for the afternoon braces was generally warmer than in the morning, but varied considerably as clouds alternately covered and uncovered the sun. Rico suffered a breach of manners at 4 near the orchard feeder, ending his day early. Cody continued on course, running a generally forward but somewhat short race. She pointed at 14 at the end of the feed strip near the old barn site, but Tommy moved her on when all he found was a pile of feathers. She stopped again at 22 near the hay bales on the west end of the alfalfa field, but moved up and inspected the remains of an old deer carcass. She again established point along the fence south of the alfalfa field at 27 and a bird was produced. She continued south and crossed the road at 44, then pointed at the hedgerow at 50 where two birds were produced. She continued on and finished the hour at the south end of the course.

Brace 5: FC Tequila's Dynamite (Mike) – Chris Burchett; DC Ricochet Hemi Baracuda (Buck) – Bob Burchett. Dogs were released south of the pond and headed west. Mike swung north along the middle ditch and rimmed the feed strip south of the ravine where he went on point at 3. Chris rode up, but Mike had already flushed the birds before she could dismount. Buck continued on alone without bird contact until he crossed the road onto the north course. He was credited with a stop-to-flush near the orchard feeder, then had a find at 29 along the ravine north of the double crossing. Up to this point, Buck had been running into a moderately stiff wind, which seemed to affect his range and pattern. After a brief excursion with deer, Buck came around and headed downwind, at which time his range lengthened. He established point at 48 in thick sumac and brambles where the orchard meets the red cedar forest. No bird was produced. Continuing on, he had a find at 52 along the south fence of the red cedar forest. Two birds were produced with all in order. Buck rimmed the west edge of the field north of the pines, then swung east and rimmed the north edge of the dogleg north of the road crossing. He went into the woods and was gone at time, but reappeared shortly on his own.

Brace 6: FC W-Haven's Moose and Dixie's Kim (Kim) – Chris Burchett; Tru's Poise N Ivy (Ivy) – Bob Burchett. The final brace of the day was released at the all age breakaway. Both dogs headed toward the hedgerow and Bob found Ivy standing at 4. Kim came around and backed from approximately 80 yards. Ivy grew impatient with Bob's flushing attempt and moved in to help, ending her race. Kim continued on alone, but seemed distracted on this day. She scored a find at 20 near Karbiner Crossing with all in order. She crossed on to the north course at 31, then established point at 33 in the same thicket where Radar had previously suffered a non-productive. Chris could not produce a bird on the first attempt and had Kim relocate. She re-established point and Chris saw a nesting woodcock, which she finally coaxed into flying. Kim was sent on and pointed again near the orchard feeder at 40. No bird was produced and Chris elected to pick up at this point.

Brace 7: CSB JL Sullivan (Sully) – Chris Burchett; Upland Acres Overland Express (Zip) – Bob Burchett. The first brace of the second day was released at the all age breakaway in a light, but persistent rain with the temperature hovering near 40 degrees. Chris called point for Sully at 4 south of the hedgerow. A bird was flushed, and all seemed well until the bird flew into a low-hanging limb. This caused it to flutter conspicuously as it regained its equilibrium, then turned and flew directly over Sully's head. The excitement was too much for Sully, ending his day early. Zip continued on and scored a find at the terrace feeder at 5 with all in order. He disappeared at 10 behind the feed strip in the Church Corner and scout was dispatched. Scout called point at 12 and we rode to find Zip standing on point along the wood's edge. A bird was produced and Zip was sent on. He later suffered a non-productive at 18 under a cedar tree south of the old pond and a find at 25 along the hedgerow. His race was inconsistent today, however, and handler elected to pick up at 35 when we reached the road crossing.

Brace 8: DC Country Road's Rough Rider (Cooper) – Bob Burchett; Bye. Cooper broke away north of the road and went on point near the woodcock nest. Bob was unable to produce a bird, however. Cooper made a big move through the next field, making long

casts along feed strips and scored a find at 8 near the orchard feeder. He continued through the orchard and into the north field. He had a great ground race and rimmed the far eastern feed strip near Kermit's Pasture, took the edge all the way to the end, and crossed over to the alfalfa field, still eating up ground. He was found on point at 29 along the feed strip south of the alfalfa field, but was unable to resist chasing the bird at the flush, ending a strong bid for the win.

Brace 9: CH Magic You Can Be My Wingman (Jake H.) – Bob Burchett; Bye. Jake was turned loose by the water tanks west of the alfalfa field. He headed across country and made a huge cast to the right and along the tree line. He crossed to the left and deer were seen in the same vicinity. He was called off and taken through the orchard where he scored a find at the south feeder. He rimmed the field between the orchard and the pines, then crossed over and took the tree line all the way around the dogleg, then disappeared into the woods. He was collected up on the road by Bob, then crossed over to the south course. Jake scored his second find in the hedgerow at 24, with all in order. He proceeded to smoke the course from that point on, making a huge cast into the Church Corner and coming out along the downwind side of the south feed strip. Midway along this feed strip, he suddenly turned and appeared to be making game when a quail flew. Jake stopped, then proceeded to follow the bird, ending what was shaping up to be a spectacular performance.

Brace 10: Jazz's Sweetest Little Secret (Karo) – Bob Burchett; Bye. Karo broke away below the pond and headed west. Her youthful exuberance was evident as she ran the course, crossing the ravine and into the west field. She was on the long finger at 4 when a quail flew and she stopped to the flush. Handler dismounted and fired and all was in order. She was sent on and ran to Karbiner Crossing where she encountered more quail at 11. She initially pointed, then broke and disappeared into the heavy cover. She returned with her trophy, ending the stake.

Ed Powell Memorial OLGD (17 Starters - 1-hour heats)

J: David Taylor and Cindy Findley

1st: **Ruffwood's Algonquin Indigo** (Ruffwood's Rustic Hunter X Ruffwood's Skyfire At Fieldfun)

o: George & Sherri Harrison/h: Bob Burchett

2nd: **FC Tolka-Belle O Kid Rusty's Pro** (FC/AFC Renegade's Regal Wrigley X Tolka Belle Erin's Daisy Mae)

o: Andy Kroll/h: Bob Burchett

3rd: **DC/AFC Country Road's Navigator** (CH Rolyart's White Russian X CH Country Road's Celebration)

o: Karen & Julianne Stout/h: Bob Burchett

4th: **DC Ricochet Maggie's Jac** (DC/AFC Masked Shoshoni War Chief X DC Ricochet Magnum Four Forty)

o/h: Julie Condron