

The TarTan hosted 2012 GSCA National Specialty - SIGH

By Cindy Fitzgerald

And whose idea **exactly** was it to host yet another GSCA National Specialty ?

That name will go unsaid to protect their identity but, I will have to admit, when the suggestion came up at the TarTan board meeting, once the members picked their jaws off the floor and stopped shaking their heads, the idea didn't seem quite so bad.... after all, we had successfully hosted three other national specialties as well as the national field trial.

Although I do remember **THAT LOOK** that Larry Clifford gave me when it came up in 'new business'. But, we are a bit of an overachieving club, and the National had not been held in NE for a while, and we were anxious to include a hunt test (mostly to prove a point) with a National again, so.....

We began by 'going to the bench' and bringing all our previous committee chairs out of retirement and then fleshing out the committees with our new recruits.





PHOTO KEY

Front page: Left top to bottom: Cake by Joyce MacWalter, Piper & people waiting for Veteran Sweeps, Janie Bristow & Gin finish her CD; Dog

Wash; Center: Welcome bags; Right top to bottom: Memory shells, Raffle display, Vet Sweeps Judge Gordon Chambers and Honoree Camilla Anderson. This page: Junior show lineup, Welcome party, Oldest veteran Tagg trying out her bed trophy w/Judge Chambers, Ginette Desrosiers and Gunner with Rally Q ribbon, HIT Ch Timbaray's Blackhawk CD JH w/Judge Tibby Chase, owner/handler Barb Meining, Karen Gatchell with trophy, Maureen McLatchy and Jake's recall on the way to finishing their Rally Q. Back page top: BOB GCh Firethorn & Sandpiper's Easy On The Eyes, BOS GCh Hollyhunt Take A Chance On Me; bottom: Select Dog GCh Firethorn's Eye Deal, Select Bitch Ch Woodsmoke Ten Cents A Dance CD JH.



Silly me agreed to serve as Event Coordinator again, and then we 'wheedled' an affirmation from Irish Setter friend Nancy Conner to again serve as our Chairman. Then the Hill Sisters came on board as our event secretaries and we were 'good to go'....well, 'good to start' anyway.

Fundraising was a priority and the beautiful logo crafted by Laura Bedford lent itself to wonderful inventory items. We had a major kick off and huge sales at the 2011 Ohio National thanks to aggressive salesmen Robin Marshall and Liz Wilshere with Val Schmid's modeling skills. Denise Sweeney spearheaded a VISA card raffle and TarTan stepped up to donate proceeds from one of their successful all breed agility trials. The proven team of Candice Bell and Laura Bedford resulted in an absolutely beautiful catalogue and lots of wonderful color ads. Beth Beatty, with back up from Mollie Williams and Sandy DePottey, chose beautiful trophies and Ardys McElwee left no stone unturned while gathering trophy pledges. Excited that the National would be in Rhode Island, Camilla Anderson gave us many lovely donations from her private collection. Add to all that, the wonderfully inspired Memory Shells (thanks to Alison Treadwell and her girls), all the Photo Contest submissions (organized by

Field Trials 101

What is a field trial? What's the difference between that and a hunt test? I have a really dumb Gordon Setter. How can he possibly compete in the field?

Honestly, a field trial is not unlike a hunt test. Our dogs are asked to perform specific tasks in the field, doing what they've been bred to do, and what they've LOVED to do, for hundreds of years. Like a hunt test, dogs go out two at a time, followed by their handlers and by two judges, a marshal, and sometimes a gallery, (others who might like to watch). There are different STAKES, or classes, in which different standards are used to judge the dogs' performances. However, unlike hunt test, field trials are competitive, with dogs being awarded first through fourth place in each stake. The judges are on horseback; the handlers sometimes are, but not always. TarTan offers several foot-handled stakes, for those who prefer to walk. Even in stakes where horseback handling is allowed, it is not required, and the pace is set by the walking handler.

Our stakes this fall will be as follows: Open Limited Gun Dog, Open Derby, Open Gun Dog, Open Puppy, Amateur Gun Dog and Amateur Walking Derby.

Puppy stakes in field trials are open to puppies 6 months to 15 months old. In this stake, your pup does not have to be "broke," or steady to wing and shot. Puppies don't even have to have bird contact. No gun is fired in this stake. This is an excellent place to let your dog go, and allow them to have the time of your life. From the AKC Rulebook: *"Puppies must show desire to hunt, boldness, and initiative in covering ground and in searching likely cover."* I will bet your puppy can do that!

Derby stakes are for dogs 6 months to 2 years. Their performance is judged similarly, but they must have bird contact and show they will point a bird in order to place. It is similar to Junior Hunter, except dogs usually cover more ground in Derby, and run a larger course than in a hunt test. From the AKC Rulebook: *"Derbies must show a keen desire to hunt, be bold and independent, have a fast, yet attractive, style of running, and demonstrate not only intelligence in seeking objectives but also the ability to find game. Derbies must establish point."* A blank gun is fired in this stake. [Don't worry if you don't have a gun; someone will be sure to lend you one.] This year we are also offering an Amateur Walking Derby-everyone but the judges on foot, and no pros!

Please remember that we have a horse wrangler with sedate and peaceable mounts for anyone who wishes to handle their dog or just to watch some braces (a terrific idea!). If you plan to enter, send in your entries to arrive at the opening date because our entries are limited to the number of dogs that can be run in the available daylight hours. If you think you would like to come, but aren't sure – send in your entries anyway – you can always scratch before the closing date with no penalty. We are fortunate to have some of the best field trial grounds in the northeast, a large tract of land, a safe place to turn that ornery puppy loose and see what he or she can do! We can always use help from new folks and novices – and there is no better way to learn than by helping. We will teach you what you need to know. ALL OF US started out as novices. ALL OF US felt unsure of ourselves and our dogs.

We'd love to have your donations of food, soup and baked goodies for our kitchen. Field trailers are hungry folks! We will also try to run a 50/50 raffle to help support the trial. Because running a trial is labor intensive, we hope some additional club members might like to come to the trial and help us with things like selling raffle tickets. And who knows, maybe a new-comer will be tempted to rent a horse, watch some braces, or enter the walking stake.

The TarTan Gordon Setter Club will hold its Fall Field Trial on **Saturday and Sunday, October 20 - 21 at the Dr. John Flaherty Field Trial Area** in East Windsor, Connecticut. Premiums lists will be emailed to members in mid September; the first date that we can accept entries will be September 17. Larry Clifford will again serve as our field trial Secretary.

The fabulous judges' dinner will be held Saturday night in the clubhouse, catered by none other than the inimitable Jim Blaschke. We hope you will come and make a weekend of it. Questions? Contact Chair, Susan DeSilver at 1647 Middletown Ave., Northford, CT 06472. Phone (203) 484-4738 or Secretary, Larry Clifford at (603) 463-7951. You can also email Susan at sdesilver@att.net.

Complete Rules and Regulations for field trials can be found at:

<http://www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RFTPNT.pdf>

Submitted by Susan DeSilver

Suzanne Montgomery, Ginny Radonis and hands on representation from Ashley Scott) and those last minute breakfast donations from so many generous TarTan members and we had a recipe for success. Speaking of recipes, how about that AWESOME recipe book that was produced as a fundraiser,...full of TarTan member recipes and anecdotes. It was one of the first items to sell out !

One of the best compliments we received was how well informed we kept the membership. As soon as we had enough information, we published an informational pamphlet and then between our website and Facebook pages (thanks Donnah Brnger and Jani Wolstenholme) the word was starting to spread. Rosanne Schwiegerath's email blasts and the printed word from Karol Paduch and Sue Drum kept the membership aware and on deadline.

Going back to the site of one of our earlier nationals , the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, RI was one of the smartest moves we made, as they proved to be wonderful to work with and extremely accommodating to our club. The other smart move we made was to visit the site while it was hosting the ESS National where we made invaluable relationships and stole some of their smartest ideas. When we saw how beautiful and

efficient it was to ring the conformation tent with spectator tenting, we knew that it was something we wanted to make happen. Our RI guardian angel, Tom Javor, was the one who came up with the idea of buying 20 commercial grade 10x10 E-ZUPS instead of renting and then selling them back to the membership at a bargain rate, thereby recouping some of our cost, as well as making 20 people

extremely happy. Tom continued in that role throughout the following year and well into the depths of the specialty week, often turning into our personal magician ...making things appear out of nowhere when something was needed.

My grandmother always said that many hands make light work. Combine that with something that I've said before, and will continue to say....give a Gordon person a task, stand back and watch it happen.....and we have a successful event...no questions asked.... like when we decided at the last minute to produce flags to line the drive of the hotel. Cost of flags with our logo was waaaay too expensive so I bought some suitable material, contacted the hotel for flag dimensions and sent out a plea to the TarTan membership for people with sewing skills. The response was overwhelming, allowing each person to sew a few flags each...Robin Marshall, Deb Burke, Carol Shriber

and Karol Paduch dusted off their sewing machines and Joanne Williams added a frame to her flag so it could stand for pictures.

TarTan had the ring equipment for all the outdoor rings, but we had to equip the Grand Ballroom for obedience/rally and veteran sweeps which meant finding matting and ring gates. To our rescue came two of TarTan's national-newbies, Jim and Joyce MacWalter. They contacted Jim's club, the South Shore Dog Training Club, who agreed to loan the ring gates and mats. Joyce and Jim contacted an old biker friend who had just the transportation we needed and he let them use it free of charge (although I think a 24 pack might have come into play someplace). I might add here that some of our crew (Jim, Ralph, Larry, Robin and Chris) made a heroic effort on Monday night and took the drive up the coast to return all that equipment.

When the committee started arriving on Saturday morning the 5th, it was not unlike a Starship invasion. While waiting for the tent company to put up two massive tents, the committee busied itself by making sure the waste stations were in place, bathing tubs at the ready and all trophies, rosettes and Welcome bags were sorted out. The generous donations for the



bags, the Silent Auction and the raffle forced us to rent a cargo van in order to bring everything to RI, and that van was filled to the roof! Beth Beatty and Judith Brown started the sorting/ and marking process to make things easier for the ring stewards at judging time with help from the 'Canadian Bobbies', Sandy DePottey, and Mollie and Colleen Williams. Welcome Bag conga lines soon covered the floor of the hospitality room

as Donnah Brnger, Liz Wilshere, Jani Wolstenholme, Chris Anderson, Karol Paduch, Sherie Grober, and a zillion non-committee members jumped in to help 'stuff'. It was wonderful to see member Karen Gatchell who jumped into the fray and helped out where needed just like the old days.

Meanwhile the activity outside was unprecedented as the grooming tent was marked out thanks to Jim MacWalter and his crew- Susan DeSilver, Paul Reilly, Robin Marshall, Joyce and granddaughter Anna. The rings started taking shape. Larry Clifford, Tom Javor, Ralph Schmid and Bill Dargay had to keep neutralizing Paul Reilly who kept marking off a bigger and bigger ring each time they looked up! Janie Bristow, Robin Marshall, Ellen Shanahan, Candice Bell and Laura Bedford kept popping up (literally popping up the E-ZUPS) to assist wherever needed. Dan and Karen Arterberry and Beth Dillon

spent hours setting up the Silent Auction room thanks to all the more than generous donations (something like over 260 items) and that set up continued through the weekend when Shareen Brown and Coleen Banks arrived to help add more and more items to the auction. And thanks to Coleen and her trusty credit card machine, the Silent Auction netted us over \$9,000. We knew the party had started when Phyllis Perrelli showed up with her coffee pot in hand, ably assisted by Charlotte and Nancy Smith and Vanessa Cappello.

Candice had 'planned ahead' and organized a pot luck dinner for our hardworking crew for that Saturday night and it really hit the spot as we gathered in the hospitality room, sharing crock pots meals, wine and bottles of aspirin.

Then came the 'Great Mat Roll Out'.....after a LOOOONG Saturday work day, the ballroom crew arrived at 7 am Sunday morning to start the 'roll out' process of unloading 35 ft rolls of matting and batches of expandable gates to lay out the indoor rings. Fortified with aspirin, BenGay and buckets of coffee a huge crew arrived and started work. Besides the usual cast of characters, Denise Sweeney, Chris Anderson, Derek Gould, Maureen McLatchy, Joanne Williamson and a slew of others too many to mention lugged, unrolled and measured out suitable rings.)

Sunday, May 6th was the official start of the National and what better way to begin than showing off the Brains portion of our BBB dogs.

Chris Anderson stepped up to her newly acquired role as Obedience and Rally Chair and did such a good job, she may have been given that position for life. There were 25 dogs entered for Rally and Obedience events but unfortunately there were some scratches for reasons of injury (we missed seeing Maureen McLatchy's Jake working after he strained his back during the early rounds of Rally). Ably assisted by Maureen McLatchy, Joanne Williamson and Robin Marshall, our favorite judge, Elizabeth 'Tibby' Chase was, as always, a pleasure to show under as she totally understands our breed and appreciates them for what they are - clowns!

The crowd held their breath while TarTan's own movie star 'Thule' Lustenberger made an attempt for her final CDX leg, albeit in vain, but then cheered for Ralph and Val Schmid's Ginny as she finished her CD. (The start of what would be a 'hat trick' for her...CD leg, class placement and a Master Hunter leg). Other TarTan members showed their support and participation with obedience and rally entries...some successful, some not so much....Diane Dargay, Ginette Desrosiers, Jim MacWalter, Sue Adams-Conley, and Trudie Whitaker. Ultimately the HIT was awarded to Ch. Timbaray's Blackhawk CD, JH

The TarTan worker bees did not rest during the obedience competition. Outside was a 'buzz' of activity as Donna Grant started the GREAT GENERAL RAFFLE set up. Bill and Diane Dargay, Janice Beatty, Paul Reilly, and Brad Porterfield were all pressed into service as hundreds of donated items were displayed and marked. Things did appear to get a little carried away though. When looking for the table decorations for the cocktail party, we found all of the Yankee Candle toppers spread out amongst the raffle items.....sheeesh....no wonder Donna had such a great spread !!!!

After brief afternoon respite, it was back to the Grand Ballroom for our Veteran Sweepstakes with dogs and humans alike all spiffed up in their Sunday best. After a moving a cappella 'Star Spangled Banner', our piper came on board to continue our Scottish tradition. Veteran Sweeps Judge Gordon Chambers, dapper as always in his tux, escorted a surprised Camilla Anderson to center ring where she was given a bundle of roses and honored for her many years in Gordons and her Touchstone Kennels. Then it was time to watch our beloved seniors shine with ring stewards Mollie Williams and Sandy DePottey efficiently calling the anxious dogs and their handlers into the ring. Of course, no one told these guys they were veterans as their handlers 'hobbled' around the ring, our beloved Gordons practically flew...delighting in the crowd applause.! Of course the boxes of Kleenex were being passed all evening, but sentiments ran rampant as 13 ½ year old 'Tagg' came into the ring and literally dragged her owner Alice Pickett-Hale through their paces. There was no slowing down this girl! And how cute was she when presented with a huge dog bed for being the oldest veteran, she promptly lay down in it in the middle of the ring.

"What a thrill and pleasure to judge the Veteran Sweepstakes at our National Specialty. The club should be commended for a fantastic event. I would like to thank each of you for your hours of hard work that went into putting on this event. I also want to thank my stewards for a well-organized and smooth running assignment.

I enjoyed my 'work' immensely. I was excited as dog after dog came into the ring to have their special time at the center of attention of the Gordon Setter world. When showing a Veteran, each of us wonders if this will be the last time for us to go around the ring together. I hope each exhibitor felt special and each dog enjoyed themselves. It is very hard to place dogs in order in a class when you know how much that dog means to that owner. I would like to thank all of the exhibitors for their graciousness.

Congratulations to the winners. Best In Veteran Sweepstakes: AmCan GCh Sassenach King of the Castle and Best of Opposite Sex: Ch Windcrest Some Kind of Wonderful. These are fantastic typey dogs in superb condition. Many years ago a renowned judge gave me some advice. She asked me the question "Is this what you want the breed to look like in 100 years?" I would be very pleased if Gordon Setters looked like these two dogs in 100 years!

Finally, I would like to especially thank Ravenwoods Larkin MacWalter CD RN. I will always remember her lying in her bed at the conclusion of the evening. It brings a smile to my face and a tear to my eye!" - Gordon Chambers

The lovely evening continued with a 'Welcome' cocktail hour where we could all gather together and begin a wonderful week of renewed relationships and new found friends. We had asked our talented member, Joyce MacWalter if she would be willing to bake a 'Special National Cake' for us and did she outdo herself. Not only a work of art, but one of the most delicious we have ever had. Kudos and yum! (especially the chocolate !!!!)

Monday morning the sky was bright and blue and the white tents were practically sparkling as those fresh youngsters started filing into the ring for Puppy Sweepstakes.

“I would like to thank the 2012 National Specialty Committee and the TarTan Gordon Setter Club for giving me the opportunity to judge the National Puppy Sweepstakes in Warwick, Rhode Island. I would really like to give a big thank you to the breeders, owners and handlers who gave me such a lovely group of young dogs to judge. The quality of the entry gives me great hope for the future of our breed.

I have loved this breed for 33 years now and there have been times when I was a bit worried about quality of future generations. But, looking at the young dogs that I had the honor to judge, I am very confident in the future. Overall, I would say that the bitches were stronger than the dogs. This seems to go in waves, sometimes it is the dogs, sometimes it is the bitches. A number of the classes were very difficult to judge as the quality was high. The class that really stood out was the 12 – 15 month bitches. They were all lovely and to pick just four was very difficult. Any one of them could have been in the ribbons. When I got down to my final eight, I was very pleased with what I had and any one of those dogs could have been my best in sweeps and best of opposite in sweeps. (Ultimate winners were: Best going to Valley View Elvira and Opposite to Trilogy Sastya Flight Of The Falcon)

Thank you once again for giving me a memory that I will always cherish.” - Alison Rosskamp

Immediately after puppy sweeps, a small but dedicated group of exhibitors, committee members and spectators made a quick trip out to our off site Agility trial at the Wide World of Indoor Sports in North Smithfield, RI. TarTan member, and staunch agility supporter, Joanne Williamson, loaned us her top notch agility equipment and she and Maureen McLatchy had driven it down the night before. After building courses, exhibitors, committee and spectators enjoyed an afternoon of fun, frolic and friendship as we watched many of our Gordons give us the gift of humility!

We had 33 total entries with 26 showing. We need to thank our gracious judge Debra Carlson who designed open, flowing courses for the Gordons to run on and asked for no fee, only that we send a donation in her name to Health & Genetics. We also need to thank Secretary Noreen Bennett of PawPrint trials for taking on our small trial and being so supportive of our club. Noreen runs our February and August trials and is one of the ‘good guys’ for sure. Some of Maureen’s agility friends came down for the afternoon to help our committee: the ever present Larry Clifford, Ralph Schmid, Robin Marshall, Chris Anderson (with Camilla cheering everyone on), Denise Schiele, Susan DeSilver, Janie Bristow, Heather Fiedler, Liz Wilshere and Cindy Fitzgerald.

There was no rest back at home base as Gary Andersen and the Judges’ Education committee got into full swing and the bathing tubs and grooming tent were a buzz of activity in preparation for the start of class judging the next day.

Kristi Boehm was the ‘Ever Ready’ rabbit, jumping from task to task and helping to keep things running. She became quite familiar with the hotel staff on Monday night, for Dr

Jerold Bell’s seminar on Progressive Retinal Atrophy drew a huge crowd and Kristi had to keep asking for more and more chairs. Dr Bell’s speech was well received and the attendees were interested and involved and had many questions for Dr Bell on this disease.

At this point I need to point out some of our ‘hardest working ever’ Irish Setter friends who have continually come to our rescue over the years. Cathy and Fran Hill served as our overambitious specialty secretaries, as well as some of our biggest catalogue and raffle tickets sellers. Nancy Conner has come to our rescue as Specialty Chair before, and her calm and reassuring manner and efficient presence is something that cannot be made light of. She squired Mr Cline to dinner, posed for pictures, ran errands, answered questions and generally held our hands through the whole event. When our own John Lawreck could not be with us in his perpetual role of Chief Ring Steward, we were lucky enough to enlist Karolynne MacAteer. Karolynne and our own Barb Gaffney put in hours of time as ring stewards and kept everyone on their toes. I think it would be safe to say that our national would never have run so smoothly without the help of our honorary Gordon Setter family.

So, on to class judging with Dana Cline. Tuesday the 8th awakened to an overcast, but bearable weather day allowing our dogs to make the most of the cooler temps and give Mr Cline a run for his money. The younger generation prevailed in our dog line up with **Brynbar Tamarack Sonic Boom** grabbing the purple Winners rosette from the Junior Dog class and **Stargazer Finnish Line** following as Reserve from the 9 to 12 class and also Best Puppy. Our non-regular dogs followed suit with tough classes making for tough decisions.

Then it was time for our talented juniors to enter the ring. What a wonderful group of poised and professional young people. Many of us have watched them grow through the years, and it was with great pride that we watched them show their quality and determination. Our club and breed will be in fine shape for years to come if these juniors continue to follow this path. **Ashley Scott** won as Best Junior after a hard fought battle, and I think her mother Pam may have been more excited than Ashley !

Mr Cline might have been through for the afternoon, but the day of judging was not yet finished .



Jim MacWalter and Ralph Schmid in Senior Handling

Last year the Senior Handling Extravaganza had premiered and this year, Val Schmid and Robin Marshall took up the torch. A fundraiser for the AKC CHF GSCA Donor Advised Fund, the senior handling is a good natured afternoon of fun, all for a good cause. New England's own 'forever young' Greg McCarthy was our 'mystery judge' and he surprised our Best Junior by requesting that she join him in the ring. And then the fun began. Not restricted to Gordons, our judges had handlers with all types of setters, a pair of Scotties (courtesy of Liz Gordon), a stuffed flamingo (swiped from my tack box and reminiscent of flamingo stealing at last year's national) a stuffed Gordon (much better behaved than most of ours), a brace of black and tans (kind of) and even the Queen and her Corgi. Our judges entertained the audience by asking our exhibitors to perform complicated gaiting patterns...E's, Q's and the like...as well as using the costume gaiting and the egg in a spoon gaiting (of course Ralph ended up with the glued egg) in order to weed out the winners.



Senior Handling Judges
Ashley Scott & Greg
McCarthy

The relaxed and fun atmosphere continued into the evening, when we all gathered for our inaugural Mid-Week Dinner, which had record breaking numbers. The tables were full to overflowing with friends from Canada, Australia, Germany and Finland.

The room was full to the roof with warmth and good feelings as Amy Edwards-Johnson gave out the Annual Awards. Then it was down to the important stuff...BINGO!!!! Gordon Chambers agreed to handle the Bingo Caller duty and Robin Marshall, Liz Wilshere and Cindy Fitzgerald quickly sold a record number of bingo cards. Kristi



Ralph's Bingo Bonnet



Best Bingo Caller

Boehm, never having played Bingo before, bought 10 cards! I suppose we should have warned her, but it was pretty funny to watch her! And who would have thought that the quietest table would have been Susan DeSilver and Debby Freidus's as they concentrated on their cards. Pretty soon cries of BINGO started to be shouted out and prizes were being passed around the room in a frenzy. We think everyone had a great time and hope that this may become a national tradition.

Back to our rooms and ready to go again the next morning with bitch judging and best of breed on the schedule. Mr Cline donned his raincoat as the weather had taken a turn for the 'wet' but 'the show must go on'. Sporting dogs down to their souls, the weather had no impact on the bitches' feistiness or performances as Mr Cline finally narrowed his search and pointed to the Open Bitch winner, **Firethorn and SpringRun's Truth Or Consequences** for his Winners Bitch and his Bred By Bitch, **Bit O'Gold Technique**, taking Reserve and, eventually, the Best Bred By rosette.

After a quick lunch break, Mr Cline renewed his judging by standing back and watching a beautiful sea of black and tans enter his ring. Even with the 'not so perfect' weather, our Best of Breed class was spectacular and every animal deserved their spot in the line-up. Working both dog and handler to the very end, Mr. Cline finally chose his Veteran Dog, **GCh Firethorn & Sandpiper's Easy On The Eyes** for his Best of Breed with his Winners Bitch going Best of Winners and **GCh Hollyhunt Take A Chance On Me** garnering the Best of Opposite award. Select Dog and Bitch were **Ch Firethorn's Eye Deal** and **Ch Woodsmoke's Ten Cents A Dance, CD, JH** (from the Hunting Bitch class). Awards of Merit were distributed to **AmCan GCh Sassenach King of the Castle**, **GCh Sastya's Eleven Eleven**, **GCh Wildwood's Whirlaway** and **GCh Gilnockie's Seven Strong**.

To the members of the GSCA,

An invitation to judge at a national specialty is a great honor, one that I hold in highest regard. Gordon Setters have been a part of my life for a very long time, having grown up near Mrs. Loree Ragano and assisting her in showing dogs for several years. Many years ago I was fortunate to have been invited to judge the sweepstakes with the national specialty when it was in the Chicago-land area.

While the weather could have been more cooperative, I felt the dogs and exhibitors made the most of it and everyone did great considering. The venue for the show was spectacular, and ideal for the dogs to have full advantage and show themselves to their best.



Bingo Winners

As a judge, breeder and handler, National specialties are an ideal place for us to come together, no matter what the breed, to share our knowledge and continue to grow and learn about any breed. This opportunity afforded me such an opportunity and at such a high level. Thank you for such a great experience.

Needless to say, I found several spectacular animals in the entry, many more than I had ribbons. My Best of Breed class was an incredible sight and as I worked through the dogs, it was a pleasure to have such depth of quality and some very hard decisions to make, right to the final cut. In the end, when the whole process is complete, you look back and ask yourself if you are pleased with your choices. My answer was a very definite ABSOLUTELY! So many beautiful dogs standing before me in the end.

Thank you to the members, stewards, hospitality, breeders and all the exhibitors for having the confidence in me to judge your wonderful national! It is a memory that will stay with me for a very long time! -Dana Cline

Our time in Warwick was winding down, but the conclusion of our 'gi-normous' General Raffle and spectacular Silent Auction insured even more winners. Gathering for a "Thank You For Coming" Pizza Party in the hospitality rooms allowed everyone a chance to wind down, share special moments and make plans for next year.

But wait, things were not over yet. A short drive the next day led to Danielson, CT where the GSCA National Hunt Test was being held. The weather turned crystal clear, the grounds were well groomed and the lodge comfortable. Chairman Jim Dillon reminisced "In 1989 the TarTan Gordon Setter Club hosted the National Specialty show and as part of this National we petitioned the AKC to hold a single breed hunting test to be held with the show. John Whittall organized the event and it was a success from the start."

There was a good entry, on wonderful grounds at Markover Preserve, with a free brunch for all, sponsored by Cabela's. (Thanks to Jerry Bell's request to their CEO - a fellow OFA board member) Larry Clifford and Karolynne McAteer (there is that pesky Irish Setter lady again) line marshaled, Ralph



Robin Marshall & Sherrie Groeber with their energetic pups.

Schmid was Mr. Transport with the Gator and Jim MacWalter and his buddy Art gunned and planted birds in the Senior/Master bird field. Beth Dillon was the hardest worker of the day, planting birds for almost all the Junior braces. Secretary Liz Wilshere kept everyone in line, including Jim and you should have seen Jay Kitchener's face as she teased him about his first JH leg on 'Ticket'. Our talented, gracious and ever patient judges: Walter Cruz, Paulette Peckol, Gail Ryan and Jim Dwyer rounded out an extremely successful day.



A full week of hard work and exhibition did not slow down the entrants or their handlers and owners; Judith Brown, Janie Bristow, Jim MacWalter, Kristie Boehm, Candice and Jerry Bell, Laura Bedford, Ralph Schmid, Anita Lustenberger, Jani Wolstenholme, Sue Conley, and Karen Gatchell. Our show chairman Nancy Conner did not end her support in Warwick as she drove down to cheer on our black and tans out in the field (and rescued us with a quick stop at the grocery store).



Master Hunt Test breakaway.

And now our exhausted committee could head for home.....and collapse. We should all pat ourselves on the back, committee, exhibitors and spectators alike, for producing a great Gordon event. I, personally, am proud to have been part of this TarTan hosted event and thrilled to be able to consider myself a 'Gordon person' as I think we throw one "heck of a party" !

TarTan ROCKS ...again !

TarTan Tidings

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In Memoriam

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming TarTan Events

Monday, October 8

TarTan Specialty, Rotary Pavilion South Windsor CT
CLOSES: Sept 19
Catherine Hill, SHW SEC, 4433 244TH ST, DOUGLSTON, NY 11363
Mrs. Madeline B. Fish: Breed, Jr. Showmanship
Ms. Elizabeth "Tibby" Chase: Obedience
Nancy Conner: Puppy Sweeps

Saturday & Sunday, October 20 & 21

TarTan Field Trial, Flaherty FT Area, East Windsor CT
OPENS: Sept 17 8:00 a.m. CLOSES: Oct 16 7:00 p.m.
Sec Larry Clifford, 43 Boxford Rd, Ipswich, MA 01938

Saturday & Sunday, November 4 & 5

TarTan Fall Hunt Test, Sharpes Farm, Hopkinton NH

More information forthcoming soon

Home to quality Gordon Setters

Glen 'OOR

for show or field



The Aristocrat of the Setters

Jim & Joyce MacWalter

55 Puritan Road

Pembroke, MA. 02359

781-826-4737

Kennel

AKC Hunt Test Judge

hdtravler@comcast.net



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Wiggles & Giggles & Wags & Brags & Puppies!



Glenlea


Announces Puppies!


4 Boys and 2 Girls Arrived on August 2nd


Sire: AmGrCh/CanCh Sasty's Twelfth Night By NCM


Dam: Ch Woodsmoke Ten Cents A Dance, CD JH


Health Clearances & Further Information Upon Request


Lynne Lavigne


860-963-0280/508-245-0857





Final line-up in Veteran Sweeps.

Editor's Note: All official win photos are by Kenneth Reed Photography. Candid photos are courtesy of Barb Meining, Joyce MacWalter, Silvia Timmerman, Charlotte Smith, Matt Whitaker, Jani Wolstenholme and possibly others whose names are inadvertently omitted. Our sincere thanks to all. All photos are copywrite of the individual photographers and may not be used without their permission.

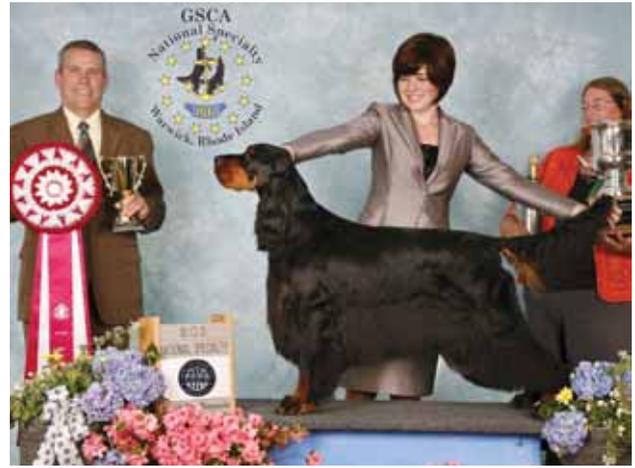
Photos of more National Winners will appear in the next Tidings

The Rhode Island~Alberta Connection



Many thanks to Veteran Sweeps judge Gordon Chambers for the honor of two first placements for my wee household! Ronan, Ch. Sassenach Roads Scholar RN, won his 10 to 11 year old class, and Lillie, Am/Can Ch. Hernwood Diamond Lil, JH, took first in the 8 to 9 year old class. To make it even more special, this was Ronan's final time in the ring. I made him a promise when he turned 10. Both dogs are co-owned with Judith Brown, and Lillie is also co-owned by her breeders, Peter and Christine Sandiford., UK.

Ronan and Lillie are roommates of Jani Wolstenholme in Newport, RI



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