

SCIPIO'S MR. CHIPS

1974 - 1988

Scipio's Mr. Chips, or Chips as he was called, was whelped on September 19, 1974, by breeder/owners Linus and Rita Keating, the product of a mating of Scipio Spinks (out of HOF Bazooka's Brandy) and Fudge Sundae. During his lifetime, he was trained and handled in field trials by Jack Brooks of Kas'lbrook Kennels, beginning at 9 months of age and retiring at age 10. During his career, he had 150 total wins/placements (99 were 1st or 2nd and 31 of the 99 were 1st in Open All Age stakes) and 5 one-hour wins including 3rd, 1979 ABC National Amateur Championship; R-U, 1980 ABC Pheasant Classic; 3rd, 1980 ABC Chukar Classic; and 1st, 1979 & 1980 ABC Gun Dog Classic in California, during the time when there were few one-hour stakes. It is a rare dog that will perform equally as well for any knowledgeable amateur field trial handler and Chips honored such handlers as Dick Sartini, Dave LaChance, Warren Butler, Benny Gately, Bill Leffingwell and Patsy Brooks.

Chips two most memorable performances came in his bids for the Open National Championships at Ardmore, OK in 1977 and again in 1978. The reporter said, referring to Chips' race, "he handled like a Mercedes Benz and exhibited masterful performance". Chips was a running machine, taking one hour heats in stride. His endurance was phenomenal and rarely did he go birdless as he had that natural proclivity to hunt the birdy places. He had ample opportunity to display his trademark style and intensity of form, always solid and in total control. His casts, range and cross patterns made it almost look like he had a map. In the 1978 bid, he had been one of the leading favorites to win and everyone who had a horse was in the gallery for his brace. He gave a tremendous effort, boldly showing his drive and fire. Never were his performances dull; many a trainer, handler and spectator duly noted that Chips was not a dog that could simply be "equaled" to win; he was the one that had to be "beaten".

Even at his worst, he was the best. One particular event stands out clearly. In August of 1980, at 6 years of age, he won the largest stake ever run in Brittany field trial history—81 entries in the Open All Age stake at a trial hosted by Southern Nevada Brittany Club. What makes that win so special was that a few weeks prior, Chips had undergone major surgery on his bladder! The weekend prior to that win, he also won the Amateur All Age at Sahuaro. To say he was in tip-top condition would be ludicrous. He possessed all the qualities necessary to be one of the all time greats in field trial history, running on pure guts and determination.

For all who ever saw Chips in the field, they alone know that they had the opportunity to see one of the best the breed had to offer. He set new standards of performance and lived a long, productive and loyal life. Chips was as gentle as he was courageous in his pursuit of excellence. His heart, toughness and bravery – all qualities a great bird dog must have – were passed on to his progeny and his production record shows his worth as a proven sire. He produced 10 Field Champions but his impact on the breed can be seen generations later.

DC Chips of Gold II – he produced:

- 5 Field Champions including ABC National Field Champion/DC/AFC Micro Chips of Nutmeg who produced 5 Field Champion progeny (total of 25 hour wins) and
- 7 Field Champion grand-progeny
- FC Maximum Express (3 hour wins)

FC Microchip produced:

- 2 Field Champions including ABC National Field Champion/AFC Microdot HOF

FC Kas'lbrooks That's Jack produced 3 Field Champions (1 hour winner)

FC J & R's Ebony, FC Cornell's Bunky Boy, FC Flint Oaks Special K, FC Chips Pistol, FC Jular Dirty Harry, FC Summit Valley Chips Ahoy, FC Jetta's Suzie Spinks

RKC Markee Mist - she produced:

- 4 Field Champions including FC Rimarda's Rhapsody who produced
- 2 Field Champions including Rhapsody's Ramblin Rose who produced 2 Field Champions and ABC National Amateur Field Champion/FC Lea's Running Jayhawk
- FC Rimarda's Rebel Jac who produced 4 Field Champions including ABC National Field Champion/AFC Rebel Jac's Hammering Hank

Sulaine's Penny - she produced ABC National Field Champion/AFC Bernie of the Briarpatch, the 1991 Iams All Age Dog of the Year