

2024 Brittany Field Trial Hall of Fame Inductions

February 10, 2024

Bird Dog Museum, Grand Junction, TN

This Hall of Fame's purpose is to honor individuals, past and present, both human and canine, who have made significant contributions to the field trial sport. Their legacies will be preserved so others can remember and be inspired.

Jim and Mary Crawford arrived at the museum on the preceding Monday to begin the project of installing cleats for rehangng plaques and Rick Smith arrived Wednesday to help. The rehangng of plaques will provide more wall space for future plaques.

It is a tradition to have a welcome cocktail/snack party on Friday evening in the hotel lobby. This year we were full to overflowing! Our gathering saw a record number of attendees from all across the USA, from the west coast to New England. Attendees had donated a multitude of items, Brittany and otherwise, for the annual auction.

Scott Johnson was again our valiant auctioneer for the evening with Rick Smith handing up items and spotting bidders. Mary Karbiner kept track of the dollars as usual and reported that we made \$4000. During the auction, everyone snacked on Chick-fil-a and Mary Jo Trimble's delicious salads and dips along with drinks and beer courtesy of Dave Lincoln. Nancy Clendenen and Sandy Faulkner's help readying the meal and otherwise was very much appreciated.

We thank everyone for their personal and club contributions throughout this past year; every penny goes into our endowment fund to ensure our breed history will always have a home! If you don't donate already, how about your club adding a \$1.00 on to your entry fees to donate to our endowment fund? Contact Dave Lincoln for information.

The HOF ceremonies took place on Saturday at the Bird Dog Museum and, since we were scheduled after lunch, it gave visitors a chance to tour our museum in the morning. A wonderful lunch buffet was served to everyone after the morning session. Thank you to all of the sponsors of this year's event—Purina, Garmin and Ainley Kennels & Fabrication.—who made this event possible. We sincerely thank Purina for their continued support of field trial events.

This year the induction ceremonies had a record attendance of around 375 people and the Brittanys had the largest number of people of any breed! The Brittany presentations presided over by Rick Smith were last on the afternoon agenda and began with plaque presentations followed by the inductions.

Plaques honored the following people:

Peter Thuman, along with his wife Leslie, presented by Mary Crawford

Jim Crawford presented by Shawn MacLeod

Jim House and Paul & Peggy Doiron presented by Joe Gower

Henry Wierzbicki presented by Mary Crawford

Harms Family presented by Kent Patterson

Julie Asmus plaque read.

Inductee Steve Ralph, presented by Bret Lindback with response by his Steve's wife Lori

There isn't a Brittany person who does not know Steve and his contributions to field trialing, the ABC, the Brittany breed and our BFTHF website. He was so emotional that Lori had to give his response to Bret's speech.

Inductee Spanish Corral's Sundance Kid, owner Joe Gower, presented by Tom White

Sonny's accomplishments and production record certainly are "hall of fame" worthy. Joe had many family members attending for this special honor.

Congratulations to all the Inductees and Plaque recipients!

If you missed 2024's festivities, mark your calendar now for February 8, 2025! We hope everyone adds a trip to Grand Junction to their Bucket List! Our thanks to Tonya Brotherton for being a tireless worker and a great Director of the National Bird Dog Museum, and to her staff and volunteers. Hope to see you next year!