



# 2019 ABC Derby Invitational

December 5, 2019

Blue Mountain fi J. Perry Mikles WDA, Booneville, Arkansas

by Jan Kilpatrick



L to R: Kathy Gulembo, Chad Holman with Gangster's Secret Weapon, Judge Richard Beaver, Robbie Myers with Spanish Dancer, Kent Patterson, Bob Burchett with Sovereign's Notjustabirdog, Dawn Droel, Hyatt Burchett, Judge Tom Milam.

2018 was a good year for Brittany litters and 12 of these youngsters worked hard all year to earn a spot in this 4th running of the American Brittany Club Derby Invitational. 2019 saw some changes to the ABC Derby Invitational as both the Shooting Dog and All Age derbies were combined when the Horseback Gun Dog Nationals moved from Ionia, MI to Booneville, AR. The Judges for the ABC Derby Invitational were Tom Milam and Richard Beaver, both long time Brittany enthusiasts, who have judged and handled many promising young Brittansys.

## THE RECOGNIZED:

1st Place: Bottom Dog Brace 5 - Gangster's Secret Weapon "Sniper", white and orange male born 5/20/2018. Sire: FC Gun Creek Gangster, Dam: Gun Creek Whizki. Sniper is owned by Ed and Donna Janulis and handled by Chad Holman.

2nd Place: Bottom Dog Brace 6 – Spanish Dancer, "Sassy", orange roan female born 01/19/2018. Sire: NAFC/GFC/FC/AFC Spanish Corral's Sonny Patch, Dam: Janees Dirty Dancer. Sassy is owned and handled by Robbie Myers.

3rd Place: Bottom Dog Brace 2 – Sovereign's Notjustabirdog "Champ", liver and white male born 10/01/2018. Sire: CH Sovereign's Cut To The Chase, JH Dam: CH Sovereign's Legendary Chocolate, JH. Champ is owned by Dawn and Joe Droel and handled by Bob Burchett.

## THE RUNNING:

Brace 1 Diamond Hill Dangerous Odds "Whitley", Lisa Pollack and Tequila Triple Threat "Troy", Ed Tillson

After an initial fast breakaway both dogs began handling close by. At 8 point was called and Troy was found standing on an edge of deep cover

on the right side of the course. Nothing but a bloody pile of feathers was discovered so Ed moved Troy forward. Whitley suffered 2 non productives prior to his one nice find at 48 along the center treeline after the double gates. It took some time but after about 2 minutes up came 2 birds, shot was fired and off we went again. Both dogs finished lively but handy.

Brace 2 Rebel's Fly Me To The "Moon", Ed Tillson and Sovereigns Notjustabirdog "Champ", Bob Burchett

When in sight Moon was an exciting dog to watch run making huge all age casts all over Course 2 and then some. However, he was never found on birds and his big race took a toll on his finish. Champ, the 3rd place dog in this stake had a smooth eye pleasing way of moving across the course at a classy moderate race and range. Champ handled kindly and never left an objective unsearched. At 19 he pointed with style and handled the birds with acceptable derby manners. Champ finished his run to the front with the same ease he started with to earn his well-deserved 3rd place finish.

Brace 3 Hck Decans Jericho "Jerry", Steve Chang and Gangster's Jezabelle "Jazz", Chad Holman

Neither dog found any birds but they ran distinctively different races. Jerry covered a lot of objectives, ranging to the front at a moderate range and speed and always attentive to Steve's directions. Jazz on the other hand was a girl on fire running at a fast pace in all directions and appeared mostly indifferent to Chad's commands.

The morning braces concluded at 11:15 and we all headed in for lunch.

Brace 4 B&T's Sonndance Kid Rock "Rocky", Trasa Shinpoch and Red Granites "Henry" Will B A Star, Bob Bakas

After an initial road race Rocky and Henry separated early with Rocky

surging forward and Henry diving into the left side tree strip where he successfully logged a small covey find at 19 which he handled with style and acceptable derby manners. Dogs and handlers came back together at 37 and at 49 Henry locked up, Bob kicked around for a few minutes and at 52 a large covey took flight, shot was fired and Henry was rounded up and moved forward. As we approached the bridge both dogs pointed staunchly at 57, Henry on the left and Rocky on the right. After considerable kicking around birds were flushed for both dogs, shots fired and the dogs sent forward just as time was called.

**Brace 5 MVP Game On "Joe", Paul Doiron and Gangster's Secret Weapon "Sniper", Chad Holman**

Throat lozenges were handed out to both handlers after this brace concluded as much loud singing was required to get these two juvenile rockets around Course 2. Joe stayed out of sight a lot but showed up just enough, mostly to the front, hunting hard but he never pointed birds that we saw. Declared 1st place for his outstanding all age race, Sniper had two forward bird finds, one at 35 around the pond and again in the corner bend at 57. Sniper pointed with style and exhibited acceptable derby manners on both finds. This was a very fast moving, action packed brace to watch with both dogs exhibiting all the right stuff to become real all age contenders.

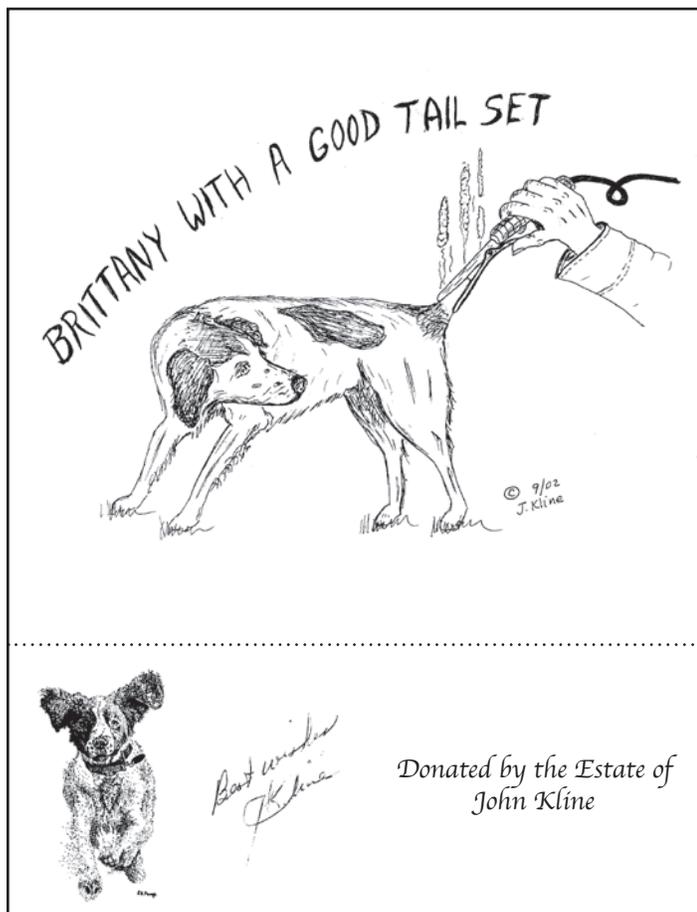
**Brace 6 Spanish Ranch's Full Blown "Gale", Paul Doiron and Spanish Dancer "Sassy", Robbie Myers**

From the get go these girls were in serious bird finding mode. First find went to Sassy at 8. Sassy looked terrific on point and remained staunch through the flush and fire. At 10 Gale had a find which she handled superbly through the flush and fire. Gale's next move took her to points unknown so the tracker came out at 27. Sassy continued her fast forward far reaching race stopping at 15, 18 and 47 for impressive finds which she handled with style and manners. Sassy impressed the gallery with her consistently forward fast race and bird finding ability all the while handling kindly at an extended range. Her finish was strong and forward, everything the judges needed to see to award Sassy the welldeserved 2nd place finish.

**2019 ABC Derby Invitational  
National Derby Invitation 1hr(12S)**

**J: Tom Milam & Richard Beaver**

- 1 - GANGSTER SECRET WEAPON (D), by Gun Creek Gangster x Gun Creek Whizki; o Ed & Donna Janulis, h Chad Holman
- 2 - SPANISH DANCE R (B), by Spanish Corral's Sonny Patch x Janees Dirty Dancer; o Robert R. Myers, h Rob Myers
- 3 - SOVEREIGNS NOT JUST A BIRD DOG (D), by Sovereign's Cut to the Chase x Sovereign's Legendary Chocolate; o Joe & Dawn Droel, h Bob Burchett



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