



2022 ABC National Championship

Booneville, Arkansas

J. Perry Mikles-Blue Mountain Site

December 3rd - 6th, 2022

Reporter - Mike Poehler



L to R: Scott Johnson, Richard Beaver with B&T's Sonndance Kid Rock, Bob Burchett, Mike Poehler & Hyatt Burchett with Sniksoh Hank's Hatch, Judge William Smith, Maggie Chang with Scout Upland Trail-Blazer, Steve Chang, Kent Patterson, Judge Bonnie Hidalgo, Crystal Alexander with JWB Arctic Cat, Dr. Robert Rankin, Dennis Hidalgo

The American Brittany Club's 2022 National Championship was adjudicated by Mrs. Bonnie Hidalgo from Brighton, CO and Mr. William Smith from Moscow, TN. We greatly appreciate their time in the saddle; attentive eyes, positive attitude, and their depth of knowledge regarding bird dogs, gave each contestant a prime opportunity to showcase their dog's abilities. Our judges were impressed with the sportsmanship shown amongst the handlers as well as the quality of the placing dogs; such that they could have selected several as Champion.

This year's event saw a variety of weather conditions; cold, rain and even heat played a role in our 4 days of running. The grounds were in great shape due to the efforts of Brad Wells and the crew from the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, who work tirelessly throughout the year to groom the courses in the face of the challenges that mother nature often hurls their way at the J. Perry Mikles-Blue Mountain site. Jerry Oswald spends countless hours planting and feeding the birds and without his knowledge and efforts, a quality event would be difficult to hold on these expansive grounds. At the start of our event, he released 350 birds over the 3 courses at 30 different covey sites and feeds the birds 2-3 times each week at those spots. He's a gracious man who goes out of his way if necessary to make things happen; we cannot thank him enough!

This event would not be possible if not for the continued support of our corporate sponsors, Purina and Garmin who provide both product and monetary support to make our events viable. Purina Pro Plan Performance food is provided to each entrant as well as generous supply to the Champion and each placing dog. Garmin graciously provides their newest tracking/training units. These companies make it easier and more efficient than ever to do the work necessary in preparation of a national caliber dog and we are grateful for their support.

We greatly value our relationship with The Saddle Guy – Kevin Parrish who builds our beautifully adorned trophy saddle to be presented

to the winning handler. Kevin builds one of the most comfortable trooper style saddles available today; he's a pleasure to work with and truly stands behind his work. If you need it, he'll do his utmost to design, modify, alter, and tool it to your specifications!

This year saw Ed Kosta step up to fill the role of driver for the dog wagon. He arose early each day to tend to the tasks required to safely transport our dogs and those wishing to see the event from its comfort and adventurously festive atmosphere. We greatly appreciate his commitment to this essential task which he performed wonderfully! Special thanks go to our Stake Manager, Richard Beaver for assuring that all aspects of the trial went smoothly, checking each day on a myriad of things that the average participant is unaware of, like catching and feeding birds, coordination of removal and replacement of the washer and dryer as well as repair of busted water lines in the shower house. Thank you as well to Dr. Robert Rankin, MD for serving as our Course Marshall each day and assuring that handlers know where the courses go, where the next breakaway is in the event of an early pickup and tending to any needs of our Judges during each day's running.

We were blessed to be able to have Judi Tipton and her crew on hand to provide our meals each day. It's always a pleasure seeing Judi and her crew behind the counter; sharing their smiles, hugs, laughs and friendly dispositions with everyone. Many thanks to Linda Thomas for undertaking the hospitality functions of the dog wagon and assuring that there were plentiful and varied snacks and beverages each morning and afternoon.

Our 2022 National Champion is B&T's Sonndance Kid Rock, handled by Scott Johnson in the 8th brace. Rocky broke away at the Red Gates of Course 1, running fast and staying on the edges to card a beautiful find at 10 min. on a nice covey left of the bridge to Course 2. He made some nice moves to stand with style at 25 min. on a small covey to the left, along

the Dog Wagon path. Rocky's final find came at 35 min. on the right mott prior to the first entrance to the Parish Field.

Our Runner-Up Champion is Sniksoh Hank's Hatch, handled by Bob Burchett in the 16th brace. Hatch ran with speed and purpose making nice moves and handling kindly. His bracemate's rough handle effected his pattern at times after the Lick Creek crossing. Passing the Red Gates, Hatch stretched along the current 109 to the river's edge to stand at 49 min. on a covey with style and intensity. He continued forward working the left edge along the trees to cross to the right edge and dug into the woods there. He showed forward on the right where the dog wagon sits crossing the front to pick up the trees on the right at the turn heading towards the river's edge disappearing, to be found standing tall on another covey at 57 min.; time expired with Hatch heading towards the bridge.

3rd place went to Scout Upland Trailblazer handled by Steve Chang in the 2nd brace. Scout ran a mostly forward race with three well-spaced finds. He displayed a consistent pattern, with some very nice moves standing at 8 min. along the Dog Wagon path, 22 min. along the island in the Parish Field and then was found standing at time by his backing bracemate. This final find came after Scout was out of pocket for a while on a nice covey with style and intensity behind a tree mott, two field before the bridge crossing to Course 3.

4th place went to JWB Arctic Cat, handled by co-owner Jack Alexander in the 6th brace. Kimber broke away at the 2nd entrance of the Parish Field, driving wide left early, sweeping across the front, and picking up the right edge of the woods forward and along the Old 109 roadbed. She carded a nice find at 10 min. to the left, along the Old 109 roadbed shortly after crossing it. From there she worked nicely for Jack and carded another stylish find at 35 min. along the edge of Course 3 shared with Course 1 before the turn toward Mario's Hill. Kimber then swung wide right heading to the Lick Creek crossing standing deep on the right at 50 min. It took two relocations for Jack to produce the bird with Kimber standing nicely through it all. Time expired with Kimber running the right edge towards the Pavilion.

The Running:

1a Almaden's Under Lock And Key (Oudi) – Tillson - Posted

1b She's Outta Control (Jessie) - Johnson

This pair broke away to a hazy cool morning with temperatures rising to the mid 40's. Oudi ran mostly forward at a consistent speed and pleasing pattern that flowed well over the hour, carding two finds. His first find came at 13 min. just past the culvert crossing and his last find came at 44 min. just before the narrows leading towards the Red Gates. Oudi was posted for his performance. Jessie was fast and snappy making several nice moves over the hour, hanging up in some corners. Her most memorable move was along the river past the red gates showing to the front near the last field nearing the bridge at the end of the hour; unfortunately, Jessie was birdless for her efforts.

2a Scout Upland Trailblazer (Scout) – Chang – 3rd Place

2b WW's Miss Carona (Rona) - Wice

Break away was on Course 2 with Scout's performance being detailed previously. Rona ran a fast and snappy hour and just coming 2, showed her young age at times. She had numerous nice moves and was truly fun to watch. She carded a find at 52 min. along the old 109 roadbed with a breach of manners keeping her out of the placements. Rona carded two beautiful backs with her final one at time, helping to locate her bracemate who'd been out of pocket for a while.

3a TNT's Handsome Harry (Harry) - Burchett

3b Sigbrit's Not In Kansas Anymore (Dotti) - Johnson

Both dogs broke away fast and forward on Course 3 with Harry standing at 3 min. on the first large covey deep on the right with beautiful

style, with Dotti being far forward making big moves when Harry was released. He flew forward to stand with style again at 8 min. along the ditch prior to the culvert crossing, with Dotti appearing to back from the front side of the ditch. Upon the flush, suicidal birds flew at each dog's head proving to be too much temptation for the pair and we headed in for an early lunch.

4a Gangsters Jazzabelle (Jazz) - Holman

4b JJ's Levi the Lionheart (Levi) - Williams

This pair took a while to get rolling with Jazz taking off forward and warming to the task. At 19 min. as we approached the Chicken House mayhem ensued when Jazz encountered a covey along the road edge. Levi grew into a pattern with a nice flow and moderate range with very nice bird work, carding 4 well-spaced finds coming at 20 min., 28 min., 39 min. and the last one at 55 min. with time expiring just after the Red Gates.

5a J & M Rodeo Romeo (Tuff) - Tillson

5b Piney Run Patch (Patch) - Patterson

Both dogs broke away hard to the right on Course 2 with Patch not showing again until being spotted deep in the far corner prior the second culvert crossing. Tuff settled in early working nicely for Ed and worked the Old 109 roadbed. Ed elected to pick him up at 18 min. as he wasn't performing to Ed's liking. Patch was out of pocket again until he was spotted coming out of the timber and into the Parish field at 25 min. where he disappeared again until the scout brought him back in the back of the fishhook with Kent calling it a day at 40 min.

6a Pursuit's Broadway Glitz (Betsy) - Burchett

6b JWB Arctic Cat (Kimber) – Alexander – 4th Place

This pair broke away at the second entrance to the Parish field, taking a wide swing out to the left. The rest of Kimber's performance was detailed previously. Betsy emerged and picked up the right edge caring it up to Old 109 crossing the front. She ran wild approaching the bridge to Course 3 swinging the river and field edge to the left where Course 2 starts. Upon returning and crossing the bridge, Betsy ran deep towards the front flying along the edge of Course 3 and Course 1 becoming out of pocket with Bob calling for the tracker at 45 near Mario's Hill.

7a Black Creek Whizki Skip (Skip) - Holman

7b Wingra's Indy-Go (Indy) - Tillson

This first brace of the 2nd day broke away into a cold rain which lasted until 2pm. Skip started at a moderate pace and range which grew and prior to the first turn, where he dove deep into the corner on the left not to return to judgement, with Chad calling for the tracker at 25 min. Indy put down a moderate race with some nice moves and a non-productive at 15 min. near Lick Creek. Indy worked well for Ed and stood again at 37 min. with nice style on a small covey. With Indy's speed and application not pleasing his handler, Ed picked him up at 48 min.

8a B&T's Sonndance Kid Rock (Rocky) - Johnson

8b Jagoub's Spell Caster (Taboo) - Alexander

Rocky's winning performance was detailed previously. Break away was at the Red Gates of Course 1 with Taboo pressing her own agenda upon Jack. She carded a beautiful find along the sunken roadbed of Old 109 after the Old Bridge, on a covey buried deep in the trip briars. She stretched from there some working nicely through the Parish field, and as things started looking up for this unfamiliar team, Taboo ran through a covey in front of Jack and the judges approaching the Fishhook to end her bid at 45 min.

9a Wiyanna (Annie) - Johnson

9b ANJ's Ohio Hellion (Hank) - Burchett

This pair broke away at the second entrance to the Parish Field on Course 2. Hank got right to hunting the right edge carrying it all the way to Old 109, across the front to meet Bob at the road crossing where he

dug in again to stand high and tight at 10 min. on a covey. Upon release Hank flew to the front digging in deep on the left, flying forward and out of sight. Hank apparently missed the bridge and tracker was called for at 35 min. on Course 3. Annie, belonging to the late Terry Gowin, ran a nice pattern for Scott, at moderate range with a beautiful back at 10 min. At 35 min. she was found standing tall on a covey between Course 3 & Course 1 with all in order. Annie stood with nice style again at 48 min. on the edge across from the Pavilion with an eagle lighting in a nearby tree – perhaps Terry sent an emissary to supervise things! Annie's hour expired with her running hard past Gas Well Hill.

10a Arrow's Tequila Rustler (Rusty) - Beaver

10b Urban American Legend (Urbie) - Chang

On Course 1, both dogs took a while to get lined out, with Urbie springing to life just prior to the first turn. Rusty warmed to the task working the left edge to stand at 11 min. before the culvert crossing. During a lengthy relocation necessary for Rusty to pin the elusive birds, Urbie showed up looking for Steve and was sent to the front. With all in order, Rusty continued working well for Richard. Urbie made a nice move as he ran wide after the road crossing carrying the edge all the way around to stand at 30 min. deep in the right corner before the Cotton Field. A lengthy flushing attempt and relocation resulted in a non-productive for Urbie. At the 45 min. mark as they passed the Red Gates, Rusty's bid ended as his performance wasn't pleasing Richard. Three fields before the Red Gates, Steve and Urbie were working towards the front when they carded a second non-productive ending their bid at the 50 min. mark.

11a Jack's Ray Of Sunshine II – (Ray) - Holman

11b Godfather's F.N. Rockstar (Rocky) – Chang

Breaking away on Course 2, both dogs flew forward with Ray heading to the right and Rocky flying straight away. Both dogs ran well with intelligent, forward, and flowing patterns. Ray was out of pocket as we entered the Parish Field, as Rocky worked the center mott forward and into the Fishhook to stand beautifully at 22 min. on the left tree motts, where a large covey was produced. Ray rejoined the front in the Fishhook while Chad was looking for him elsewhere; Scott Johnson handled him, sending him around the far, right edge as Chad slowly worked his way back. At 38 min. Rocky stood again with style on a large covey along the trees on the left side prior to re-entering the Parish Field. Ray stood at 42 min. for Chad, in the Pines at the second entrance to the Parish Field with all in order. Time expired for this brace two fields before the bridge; Rocky showed incredible style and Ray laid down a very nice performance too.

12a Alder Grand Hopes Penny Ante (Penny) - Burchett

12b MK's My Lil Ammo – (BB) - Johnson

Breaking away on Course 3, both dogs broke away fast and heading towards the Red Gates with scouts working hard early and both dogs returned to the front. BB stood at 8 with Penny backing nicely; a non-productive was carded for BB. Each dog ran fast and forward with Penny skirting the edges of Course 1 while BB worked well for Scott. Approaching Mario's Hill, both dogs were out of pocket to return prior to crossing Lick Creek. They were again out of pocket from before the Pavilion until prior to Gas Well Hill. Both dogs continued making nice moves and hunted well without a bird for their efforts; their pace slowing some towards the end of the hour.

13a Gun Creek Gangster (Doc) - Holman

13b WW's Miss Wendy Peppercorn (Wendy) - Wice

Day 3 started with a fog delay and cool temperatures and overcast skies. Both dogs were away with some hesitation; Wendy started to stretch as we made the first turn disappearing on the right edge. Both dogs reappeared near where the Dog Wagon stops after the culvert crossing. Wendy worked forward well for Burton, with Doc being out of pocket and Chad calling for the tracker at 18 min. approaching the

Chicken House. Wendy went out of pocket after the Lick Creek crossing until we crossed the road near Mario's Hill. Wendy took the right edge heading towards the Cotton Field to not be returned to judgement with Burton calling for the tracker at 38 min.

14a MK's My Lil Classic (Nova) - Johnson

14b Dogwood's Fireball Whiski (Whiski) - Burchett

This pair broke away in the back corner of the large field after the Cotton Field on Course 1. Nova started making nice moves and handling well with speed and intelligence for Scott. She shortened some after the Old 109 bridge of Course 2, then stretched again to be found standing on the backside of the near end of the tree island in the Parish Field at 43 min. After an extended flushing effort, it was carded as a non-productive. Nearing the Fishhook at 45 min. Scott called it a day for Nova. Whizki was fast and flying forward from the start, working well for Bob with consistent moves at a fast pace and reaching range. Whizki was out of pocket after crossing the bridge to Course 2, rejoining his handler as we made the turn at the Old 109 bridge heading towards the Parish Field. At 45 min. the scout found him standing beautifully, off the backside at the far end of the Parish Field tree island. A large covey was produced as Whizki stood high and tight throughout the flush and shot. Continuing forward into the Fishhook, Whizki maintained his reaching pattern at a slower pace, carrying the right edge all the way around until time expired as he drove deep into the far corner before the large culvert crossing.

15a Black Creek Summit (Chip) - Holman

15b Hoochie Coochie Man (Karl) - Tillson

Break away was at the second entrance into the Parish Field with Chip being slow to start, then stretched some approaching the Old 109 roadbed. After crossing to the other side of the roadbed, Chip was bullish for awhile disappearing forward. He returned from the front prior to the bridge to cross it with Chad, the dug in on the left of the river edge at the start of Course 3 to not be seen again with Chad calling for the tracker at 38 min. Karl broke away making some nice forward moves all the way to the bridge crossing to Course 3. Once on the other side, Karl started to assert his own will over that of Ed's. Once Ed's fun meter pegged, he escorted Karl to the Dog Wagon ending his day at 35 min.

16a Sniksoh Hank's Hatch (Hatch) – Burchett – Runner-Up Champion

16b Phillip's Lady Eloise (Ellie) - Johnson

Hatch's Runner-up performance was detailed previously. Ellie broke away on Course 1 with speed and purpose, working the edges nicely early. She became bull headed at times and was out of pocket from before the road crossing approaching Mario's Hill until after the Cotton Field sections. She stood at 49 min. before the Red Gates. Scott elected to call it a day at 55 min. as she wasn't pleasing him.

17a Piney Run White Lightning (Buzz) - Johnson

17b CVK's Spartan King (Leo) - Alexander

This pair was released on Course 2 with both dogs away at a rapid pace. Buzz was reaching nicely and mostly on an edge with purpose, when at 9 min. he suffered a breach of etiquette ending his day. Leo made many large moves, mostly on the edges to card a beautiful find along the right edge at 9 min. with great pressure. With all in order, Leo continued making nice moves at a consistent pace, on the edges, going forward except when he reworked some spots at times. Leo worked the Parish Field and Fishhook areas well and stood for his 2nd find at 50 min. in the Pines by the second entrance to the Parish Field. Time expired a few fields before the bridge; a lapse in intensity on his 2nd find took him out of the money, but it was still an impressive performance.

18a Tequila Chica Bonita (Chica) - Beaver

18b Bamajama Willy's Sassy Sadie (Sadie) - Burchett

Breaking away on Course 3, Sadie stood early at the tree mott dead

ahead of the bridge carding a non-productive at 2 min. after a relocation. Upon release, Sadie flew forward to work the tree edges on the left where she ran over a bird at 7 min. ending her day early. Chica was forward with a flowing pattern, though sticky at times. Her first find came at 17 min. with nice style along the right edge that's parallel with Course 1. Upon release, Chica worked well for Richard, driving forward past Lick Creek where she was found standing at 30 min. on the left edge, opposite the Pavilion. She continued working well, hanging up briefly near the Gas Well, then continued hunting well at a slower pace until time was called a field before the Beaver Pond.

19a Wild Wild Willie (Willie) - Tillson

19b TMR's Lucky Betts (Betsy) - Chang [In Season - moved to 24a] Our 4th day of running started on Course 1 with frost and sunshine. Willie ran alone with consistency and a forward pattern at a even pace throughout the hour. He carded his first find at 9 min. in the tall grass after the first turn, halfway to the culvert crossing; a large covey exploded for a staunchly pointed dog. He worked well for Ed to stand again at 23 min. along the woods on the left near the exit of the Cotton Field; this stand resulted in a non-productive. Willie drove forward upon release and out of sight, to be found standing again at 29 min., deep in the Island Mott of the next field. After a prolonged flushing event on a scurrying covey, Judge Hidalgo spotted one of the offenders allowing Ed to fire for a patient dog. Upon release, Willie stretched to the left and hung up in the far corner for a bit. Reunited, Ed and Willie worked forward; Willie worked nicely for the rest his hour with time expiring nearing the bridge.

20a My Lil Classic Mercedes (Cedes) - Beaver

20b Mr. Staley (Doc) - Campbell

Both dogs attacked Course 2 with speed and purpose upon break away. Cedes made nice moves with a beautiful back with great temptation at 10 min. Passing the Old 109 Bridge, she swung wide to the right initiating a nice move then became erratic for a bit and worked it out to stretch to the Parish Field tree island where Richard called it a day at 23 min. Doc made some nice forward moves to stand at 10 min. along the trees of the Dog Wagon path; a breach of manners ended his day early.

21a Ace's One Eyed Jack (Jack) - Janulis

21b Sniksoh Hank's Gypsy Cruise (Cruise) - Burchett

Breakaway was at the first entrance to the Parish Field, with Jack being slow to start. Despite Donna's best efforts, Jack wasn't up to the task and was escorted to the wagon at the 20 min. mark. Cruise made some nice moves, followed by some not so nice moves, resulting in Bob pulling the plug at the 15 min. mark.

22a Piney Run Hilltop Blew (Blew) - Patterson

22b Phillip's Sir Louie Louie We Got To Go Now (Louie) - Johnson

This brace broke away on Course 1 into what was a hot afternoon. Both dogs flew forward to actively check-out the gate to Course 3, then flew forward and out of sight. Louie returned to Scott from the left of the first turn to work well and stay forward throughout his time. Blew rejoined Kent after the large culvert crossing, working well through the Lick Creek crossing, and standing at 22 min. Kent attempted to relocate Blew who decided to catch the front instead, carding a non-productive. Crossing the road near Mario's Hill, both dog's pattern and run started to show the effects of the heat and humidity. Scott called it a day for Louie at 55 min. Blew was out of pocket from after the Red Gates until we turned towards the bridge at 55 min. where he showed up to be set by Kent towards Course 3 where he stood at 59 min. Kent was unable to produce a bird and time expired.

23a Sniksoh Diamond Jack (Jack) - Johnson

23b Prairie Wind Pistol Pete (Pete) - Alexander

This pair broke away on Course 2, feeding off each other from the

start! Both handlers made contact at the first culver at the Buzzard's Roost, sent their charges forward with Pete diving deep into the timber and Jack working the edge to meet Scott at the crossing and take the left edge of the narrow field forward. At 9 min. Jack committed a breach of manners and was escorted to the dog wagon. Jack Alexander, having not seen Pete for some time, called for the tracker at 18 min. as we neared the Parish Field entrance.

24a TMR's Lucky Betts (Betts) [In Season] - Chang

24b Bye

Betts broke away at the entrance to the Parish Field, initially erratic in her application at times, she improved as entering the Fishhook. She worked the left edges at moderate range, then took off making a nice move across the large culvert and towards the pond on the right to stand at 20 min. in the thick scrub. Steve elected to pick Betts up as her efforts weren't to his liking.

**2022 American Brittany National Championship
Grand Open All Age Championship (46S)**

J: Bonnie Hidalgo & William Smith

- 1 - NAGDC/FC/AFC B&T'S SONNDANCE KID ROCK (D), by NAFC/GFC/GAFC Spanish Corral's Sonny Patch x Janee's Dirty Dancer; o Trasa Fowler, h Scott Johnson
- 2- NAGDC/GFC4/FC/AFC SNIKSOH HANK'S HATCH (D), by GFC/FC/AFC Sniksoh Spank's Hank x Sniksoh Boomers Babe; o Adam Freeman, h Adam Freeman
- 3- FC SCOUT UPLAND TRAIL-BLAZER (D), by Frosty Meadow Johnny Be Good x Poor Boys Delight II; o Weldon Eberhardt, h Steve Chang
- 4- GFC/FC/AFC JWB ARCTIC CAT (B), by Maxwell's Outer Limit x Chancey's Frozen Asset; o Jack & Crystal Alexander & Dr. Robert Rankin, h Jack Alexander

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