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2023 MAI in
Giddings,
Texas



2022 Q2 Newsletter



And so another MAI comes to a close. The 2022 Invitational in Sedalia was a grand success. We saw a return to normalcy, our opening ceremony culminating in a yummy buffet started the week off on the right foot! Our Flight Coordinators (Jeff Bundy in A and Boogie Lejeune in B) set the tone for our tests to run smoothly and efficiently. For those of you active in your own club's events, you know just how many working parts there are to successfully running an Invitational of this magnitude. Jeff and Boogie have our sincere thanks for a job well done!



Boogie Lejeune



Jim Bauer, Jeff Bundy, and Charles Pugh

Our fearless Leader, Beth Gerdes, never stopped smiling to the very end. There were no disasters that could upset her day. She kept her cool and led the many working parts with style and grace. Thrown into the position with little training, she never flinched. Superb job Beth!!



Our judges were truly fantastic! Set up week was full of hard work, laughs, and anticipation. They provided the handlers with inspiring tests that ran the gamut. We saw short and in your face set ups, we saw challenging long marks that tested the dogs' memories, the blinds were technical allowing the handler and dog to showcase their teamwork, and each test was worthy of a national invitational. Our judges were fun, engaging and knowledgeable. This sport would not exist without the willingness of individuals, like Lin Gelbman, Micky Novak, Laura Judd, and Bill Skeels to give up their time for us!



And as all of us know, nothing happens without the support of our extremely generous sponsors. We cannot thank Purina, Avery, Garmin, Dogtra, Gerbino and Associates, Kent Cartridge, Up Close Photo, Zinger Winger, Retriever News, and Entry Express enough. (See our full page!) They have been there at every turn for us. Make sure you do as I do, buy from our sponsors and encourage your friends and training partners to do the same!



Naval Commander, Sean Rice, working to make Flight B run smoothly! We are fortunate to have many of our cherished military, both active and retired in our MARC family. We are grateful for their service and extremely happy to have them as members.

Picture provided by the talented John Gerbino, an avid supporter of the MARC!

There were 389 dogs qualified to run the Master Amateur Invitational in Sedalia. All of the handlers and owners of these dogs deserve a big round of applause. It's not easy getting a Master Hunter title on your dog and then qualifying to run the Invitational. It takes time, hard work, money, and dedication. Kudos to all Qualifiers!



For those of you that either couldn't attend the Invitational or did not qualify; Please plan to qualify your dog and run the MAI in Giddings, Texas. We would love it if ALL qualified dogs entered!! Also, remember, you must be a member before you run a test for that test to count. [/https://www.masteramateur.com/memberoptions20.html](https://www.masteramateur.com/memberoptions20.html) and sign up today!

Annual Individual / Family memberships can be purchased for \$50 / year.

Compared to everything we spend on our furry friends, this is a steal!



When you run your test, make sure you tell the Marshal that you are an Amateur!



Each year the members send in their nominations for the John O. Blackbird Award. This award was created to celebrate John's life and recognize others who have brought significant contributions to our sport.

Congratulations to the newest John O. Blackbird recipient: Jace Tramontin



Here he is, receiving the award from Ed Sullivan. Richly deserved! Thank you for all you do!

You should all start thinking about who you will nominate for the 2023 award! Let's give credit to those willing to give of their precious time to our sport! Look for that notification to go out later this year.



-In the News

The Board of Directors has voted to return the number of Master passes back to six for qualification to the Master Amateur, starting in 2023. With the changes AKC has made to help members to enter tests more readily (increasing the entries to 66, Entry set aside for Amateurs, clubs allowed to use waiting lists) as well as a nation better equipped to handle the Covid 19 virus, the Board felt it was time to return to the passes to six.

*Set your sights on Giddings, Texas for the 2023 Master Amateur Invitational. We are already working to make it the next best event!! We will be on the fantastic Roger and Kaye Fuller's grounds.



Thank you!

... to our generous Sponsors!



Photo by Mark Atwater



MARC sincerely thanks you for all your **contributions** and **support!**



“Our modern perception of "amateur" suggests someone who does something poorly or with a lack of professionalism, but the Latin root of the word "amateur" is amor, someone who pursues a pastime out of love.”

□ Mark Frost



“Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

– Winston S. Churchill

*Respectfully submitted
Nancy Bauer*