

## What is your breeding or training program doing for you?

We have finished our 2008 AKC Hunt Test season with a record we are proud to share with our customers and those of interest. This year we personally ran in 10 AKC Hunt test in 9 states, 105 braces with a 76% pass ratio (AKC average is 33%) - finishing 5 master, 4 senior and 4 junior dogs. Our customers and trainers have their own success stories and we hope to capture these on our site to recognize their efforts and the support they have given. Top Gun Kennel has 12 new master, 8 new senior and 7 new junior hunters titles as well as 4 NAVHDA Utility and 9 Natural Ability Prized dogs tested by our customers themselves.

There was a great deal of effort and sacrifices put forth by our customers, Team Sport trainers and our Families this year and we have enjoyed the success stories from events across the United States. During our travels, we had time to think about how we could share this information without sacrificing the privacy of others we work closely with. Our proven breeding and training program has captured attention from people in the mid west including judges, brace mates and fellow breeders, and even those at different breed events.

We share this information with you because 9 out of 10 phone calls or e-mails we receive ask about our prices before any other questions about our program. One of the frustrations we have in this business is that we are evaluated amongst other breeders and trainers that have no proven records or current means for evaluating themselves or measurement for performance or health in their breeding stock.

The terms "back yard breeder" or "puppy mill" in our eyes does not always mean that neighbors with the same breed of dogs have a litter advertised in the local paper or self created web site. In America we have the freedom to manipulate the truth by using the efforts of others to capture interest with over pricing and delivering unproven products or services. Often this manipulation results in very bad experiences after the sale and unsatisfied customers that received imitations while thinking they were getting Top Gun quality.

So let's ask ourselves these 10 important questions and only you will know the answers:

- 1.) Does the kennel or trainer of interest for your future hunting companion have any means of evaluation to limit the risk of your investment for the next 12-15 years?
- 2.) Does the breeder use health certifications required by the "GSPCA Guidelines for Responsible Breeders" for health assurance in the offspring they have at a discounted price?
- 3.) What is the level of success and measurements used by the breeder or trainer in the test and trials offered in this country, and how do these support the needs in your next hunting or family companion? Don't be fooled by "just hunting stock"!
- 4.) If you were to ask the breeder and trainer to describe the difference between Natural ability, Trainability, and Bid ability would he/she know the difference? Could they explain the economic difference of each of these traits to the expenses and ability to take your prospect to the highest level of training with a positive pass to fail ratio?
- 5.) Divide the difference in price over the years you expect to hunt this prospect. Is this worth the risk of buying a discounted puppy, started or finished dog and settle for less than average or health issues that add up to major dollars?
- 6.) What services do you receive for doing business with the breeder or trainer after the sale? Once your check is cashed is it over until another one is written or can they provide professional consultation?
- 7.) What means of planning of a litter or training does the current breeder or trainer have with your future hunting prospect and what is their interpretation of "satisfaction guaranteed"?
- 8.) If you make a bad decision on the performance or health expectations from your new hunting companion, yet your Family has grown attached to your investment, will you be force to live with it or will you have to make other arrangements and sacrifices to start over?
- 9.) Does the breeder offer a training program or consultation if needed to meet your personal goals and needs that might influence your decision of a buying into complete package or proven program? Some breeders will not train dogs from other non-proven breeding programs with the same sincerity as their own.
- 10.) Does the breeder or trainer share the same values and understanding of meeting your needs from a personal and financial importance to the outcome of your investment?

We hope that your next purchase or training experience does not lend you to paying tuitions that could have been avoided by more careful selection of both dog and kennel!