

English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Hall of Fame Inductions

By David Smith

English Springer Spaniel fans from across the nation descended upon the small town of Grand Junction, Tennessee on Saturday, February 9th, 2013 to witness the inductions for the ESS Field Trial Hall of Fame. The festivities were held in the Field Trial Hall of Fame venue within the National Bird Dog Museum. Two distinguished persons and two deserving dogs were solemnly inducted.

Before a packed house, David Smith, Executive Director of the Bird Dog Foundation, opened the ceremonies with a brief welcome. Don Driggers, BDF President from Robbinsville, NJ, paid tribute to the long-standing sponsors of the event, Purina and the *American Field* magazine. He also welcomed a pair of new sponsors, Garmin and Bird Dog Flavored Whiskey.

Prior to the official ceremony, David Fletcher, BDF Secretary from Morrice, MI, presented Life Patron and Patron Memorial plaques to several sporting dog fans, both living and deceased. Bev Matthews, of Windsor Locks, CT next took the podium to preside over the ESS inductions. As the induction scrolls were presented, each inductee was called forward and given an opportunity to make acceptance remarks (see photos). It was a very dignified and emotionally charged ceremony. A luncheon was provided by Purina, followed in the afternoon with a reception courtesy of the *American Field*.



Moderator

Jpg # 010 – **Bev Matthews** of Windsor Locks, CT presided over the inductions during the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Hall of Fame.

People Inductees



Jpg #080 – **Jack Williams** (left) of Peterboro, Ontario, Canada, holding his induction scroll. Also shown at right, Cathy Lewis, holding portrait.



Jpg #083 – **Dean Rienke**, of Elkhorn, WI, shown holding his induction scroll. At right, Cathy Lewis with his portrait.

Dog Inductees



Jpg #086 – **Denalisunflos Bandita**; owner, Ralph Palmer, Plattsmouth, NE, (left) holding scroll; at right with portrait, David Smith of the Bird Dog Foundation



Jpg #092 – **Pondview's Left in the Light**; owner, Ray Cacchio, Hallandale Beach, FL, (right) holding induction scroll; at left with portrait, Marthe Reynolds.