

Denton, Montana.

On May , 17, 2007 in a Spring Type (L) field trial run on Bobwhite Quail here in Denton, Montana Zeus Ebony Leaps Alot achieved the final requirement to be named the second UKC Champion of the Field (CHF) in the United Kennel Club, Inc. Pointing Dog Program. The five year old hard charging black and white Epagneul Breton male, earned his third First Place, and further added to his already impressive record, a Reserve Placement the next day in a separate field trial.

Zeus's three First Place Wins have been earned under UKC Judges Sandy Gunn of Canada, Regis Toulet of France, and Butch Nelson of Montana. However, any judge who has had the pleasure of watching Zeus work, will tell you that he is an outstanding bird dog. "Over time, Zeus has just gotten better, and better and he is now at the top of his game," said UKC Senior Judge, Butch Nelson, who awarded the recent First Place, satisfying the final requirement of the UKC Champion of the Field Title. Zeus is owned by Peter Wax and Sherry Niesar of Bismarck, North Dakota. He was handled by Peter Wax in each of his UKC field trials.

Zeus' inaugural field trial First Place win came in Hinsdale Montana, where Zeus displayed beautiful form, when he pointed a pair of wild Hungarian partridge near a thicket of chokecherry bushes in high steppe country. This was a Type (W) wild bird field trial run on native partridge, pheasant and grouse. The dog pointed with a high head, in the classic style of the Epagneul Breton, and remained taunt as the pair of honeymooning partridge flushed away and the shot of the blank gun saluted their exit. After that first sterling piece of bird work resulting in a First Place win and the first Open placement for a dog in the burgeoning UKC program, Zeus had several near misses from being atop the winner's podium, earning two Reserve Placements and a Pass in field trials run on both wild birds and liberated birds.

Zeus Second First Place win came at the 2008 FBGDA National Level Field Trials in Minneapolis, Kansas, on a bitterly cold day in March. That placement was earned with perfect handling of three birds demonstrated to Epagneul Breton breed specialist Judge Regis Toulet of Ossun, France, in a Type (L) shot bird field trial. Judge Toulet also liked the stout black and white dog's conformation, as he rated him a Very Good specimen of the Epagneul Breton breed based on the dog's physical structure when performing confirmations of individual dogs the day after the field trials. His hips are also sound, and rated OFA-Good.

Zeus's owners keep him in top physical condition, by running Zeus almost daily when in field trial training mode. Aside, from his ribbons and accolades in competition, Zeus is an outstanding hunting dog and places many pheasants and grouse in the Wax game bag each fall. As a companion, Zeus is also a unique individual. He lives in the house with the Wax family, sleeps at the foot of the bed, and on more than one occasion has kept Peter's feet warm at the bottom of his sleeping bag during those frosty mornings, when snow can greet field trailers in the northwest part of the United States. Peter has also had success in the NAVHDA circuit, where Zeus received a Utility Prize 1 Score or 204, and is believed to be the first Epagneul Breton ever invited to the NAVDHA Invitational. While hard charging and intense in the field, Zeus is a mellow individual around the house. He tolerates his playful offspring well, rides up front on the way to hunting places (to make sure no birds are missed), purrs like a cat when his belly is scratched, and likes to pass the summer heat in North Dakota, by submerging his rear end, in a pool of cool water.

All whom have judged and competed with Zeus and Peter extend a hearty congratulations to an exceptional bird dog, and a fine gentlemen serving as his owner/ handler. Zeus and Peter have truly earned, and well represent the title "UKC Champion of the Field."



Zeus
Champion of the Field