



Master National Retriever Club

Sam Ferguson – Vice President Region I

It is an honor to be elected Vice President of Region 1. While I have only been actively involved with AKC Hunt Test since 1995, I have always been associated with dogs and hunting. Having been fortunate enough to grow up in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, my association with hunting dogs started at a very young age.



I can never remember my family and friends not having dogs around. My father raised and trained Beagles and other relatives had everything from Bear dogs to Bird dogs. Some of my fondest memories are of the all night coon hunts and some day I might do a book on the "Lighter Side" of my coon hunting experience as a child.

My first Lab was a gift from my grandfather who referred to that small yellow lovely creature as "your 'GYP' dog that will require a great deal of training and care". To this day I tell everyone she trained and took good care of me for several wonderful years. Neither of us knew anything about force fetch or handling but with her innate

abilities, we did very well in the field.

She never won any competition nor is she listed in any publications of great dogs but she did teach me what a good dog should be able to do. Thus, those few of you that know me, know I judge the dog and not always the person that brings a dog to the line.

My wife Jeannie and I are very fortunate to live in North Florida and South Georgia where some of the most beautiful training grounds in America are located. I had the distinct honor and pleasure to be President of the Tallahassee Hunting Retriever Club during the 2003 Master National. I truly believe that the Master National is a great experience and I look forward to serving on the Board.
