

POINTERS



Name: Brad O'Connell

State of residence: Wisconsin

Family members: Cindy (wife) and Kristen (daughter)

Dog's name: Sunny (4) and Deke (12, retired)

Breed: Both are English Setters

What have been your fondest memories in the field with your dogs: I am always impressed with Sunny's style and strong desire to find birds.

How long have you competed in competitive hunting: 4 years

What events do you compete in: Top Gun Main and Masters

How were you introduced to upland hunting competitions: I previously competed in NSTRA (still do some) and this sport was the closest thing I could locate when I originally moved to WI.

Who do you most frequently travel with while competing: My dogs

What is one thing that your peers may not know about you: I no longer harvest wild birds, but do put my dogs on them for training purposes. One day again I will do this but for now I am happy knowing they'll be there when I decide to.

If you could say one thing about another competitor (s), what would it be: I am grateful to all of the local Menomonie guys that took the time and had the patience to help me with the nuances of the sport. THANKS!

Who helps you with your dog's training: I self train a bunch and also get help from a NSTRA pro, Jim Smith.

What type of firearm do you use: My wife bought me a Benelli 12 gauge automatic long ago, before they were as popular as they are today. I have used it for a long, long time.

What type of ammunition do you use: Ounce and a quarter, seven and a halves!

What is your favorite hunting story: For a long period of time I had a string of consecutive years that I'd taken a buck. The first time that I took Kristen (daughter) along with me, she shot two bucks before noon from my favorite stand. My string was broken.