

The newest addition to our website is a “HANDLER OF THE MONTH” column, highlighting one of our gifted and talented members. It’s a chance for a little recognition of the hard work and dedication they spend honing their skills.

April 2008

## HANDLER OF THE MONTH

*Randy Reed*

Randy has been training and handling dogs for quite a few years. He started out training hunting dogs; then he saw the light and starting training cow dogs!

Randy credits Junior Frazier as the individual who had the biggest influence on him. "He was a very good friend and an excellent hound man. He was a man that enjoyed good dogs, no matter what type of dog they were." For Randy, it was Mr. Frazier's love of these animals that instilled in him a drive to own and train nothing but the best.

Randy enjoys watching his fellow competitors during trials; "I like to take time to study other trainers and handlers, and pick up tips from them." This seems to be working to his favor, as Randy recently won the Sundowner's 2008 Spring Futurity.

Randy loves this sport so much, he trains dogs that are owned by others; that they might find the same satisfaction in a good working dog that he has found. He has even helped several people learn how to handle stockdogs for the ranch and the trial scene. None has of yet surpassed their master, but he looks forward to it.

Randy has learned a few things about himself through all the tribulations that are endured when working with animals. "I've learned to be a little more patient - and no matter how much I think I know about dogs, the next dog I start to train shows me that I didn't know as much as I thought I did."

Randy is a member of the Board of Directors for the Sundowner's Stockdog Association, a member of the West Texas Stock Dog Association, and a member of the Texas Stockdog Association.

Randy is an Oklahoman, born and bred. He was born in Ardmore and spent his entire life in the Love County area. He lives on his rural acreage near Overbrook, OK, with his lovely bride, Brenda. They've raised two children, Tom and Ra'Shelle; six working dogs; one livestock guard dog; and one Rat Terrier that rules the whole bunch!

### **Trials and Triumphs**

2008 Sundowner's Spring Futurity Champion  
2007 Sundowner's Stockdog Association Open Champion  
2007 Crossfire Challenger Champion  
2007 SSA Open Dog of the Year