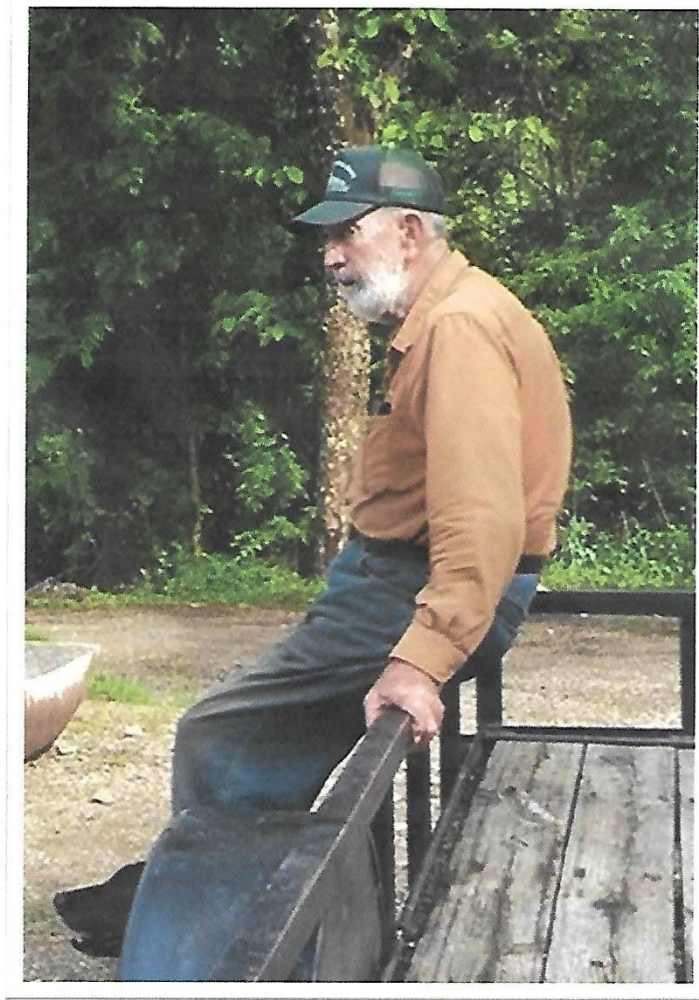




# THE AMERICAN 'PIT' BULL TERRIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

APBTHS Newsletter 36

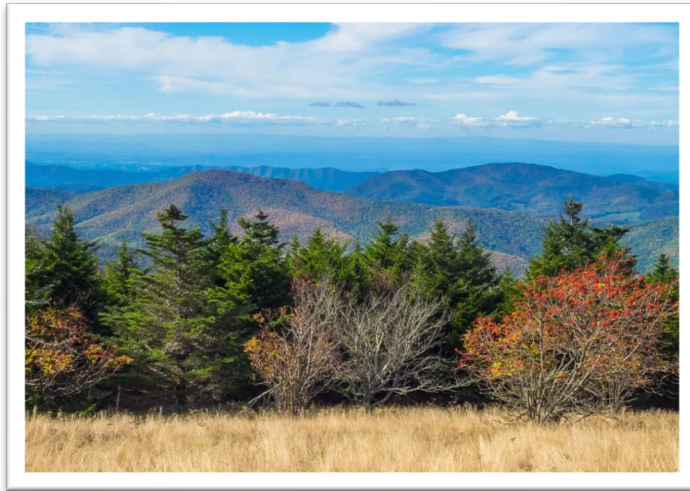
## WILLIAM CABLE



MAY 2ND, 1931, THROUGH NOVEMBER 28TH, 2023



## THE AMERICAN 'PIT' BULL TERRIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**William Cable Jr.**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1931  
Through  
November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

*by E.L. Mullins*

The fog lay thick and low on the winding road, as I made my way along the narrow, barely two-lane highway.

The mountains, as always, were beautiful. I have always had a special place in my heart for the Appalachian Mountains, especially the Roan. You can almost feel them wrap themselves around you, keeping you safe from harm, as if in a mothers' arms.

Even though I was not born here, I have never felt more at home anywhere else in my life. The people who were born and raised here are just as special as the mountains themselves and one would not be the same without the other.

My ride this morning had special purpose, a special visit with William Cable. As some fanciers may recall, Cable's "Fang" bred to Cable's "Lady Killer" produced the female known as Rast's "Queenie", the dam to the ever-famous pair of littermates that went on to become Champions. They were bred by Bob Rast. One was Fletcher Chavis' Champion "Jocko" and the other Bob Rast's Champion "Argo". Both "Jocko" and "Argo" were four-time (4x) winners.

To many of the newer, more modern-day fanciers, the name of William Cable by itself may not mean a whole lot. However, I doubt that anyone with fifteen (15) or more years in the game does not remember him.

I move back to the mountains at the beginning of the 80's and have known William Cable all these years and every day of those years he has remained the same. He was as solid in his beliefs as he was in his stature, standing some 6 foot 6 inches tall. William is a soft-spoken gentleman, one of those "Mountain Men" who still lives less than a mile from where he was born, surrounded by family and lifelong friends. It is part of both the strength and the character of the people of this area.

Cable is an old English name, but of German descent. During the 1700's and the wars that came with them. Germans at that time had the best and most professional armies in the world. A leader of one such group of fighting men was Cable. In the 1700's the Cable family was given a land grant that stretched from Boone, North Carolina all the way to Mountain City, Tennessee. Much of that land still remains in the family today.

William Cable was born May 2<sup>nd</sup> of 1931 and has been around bulldogs his entire life. Even though he was born in Avery County, North Carolina, at the age of one his family moved to Pikeville, Kentucky where he would be raised for the next six years, before moving back to his North Carolina home. He was the son of William Alvin Cable and Ruby Hoss Cable.

It was his Grandfather Woodrow, who gave him his first bullpup at the age of only 3 or 4.

During the mid-1930's the coal mining industry was booming around the area of Jenkins, Kentucky.

The Blacks who worked the mines in that area during those days were also actively involved with the sporting and breeding of The American 'Pit' Bull Terrier.

After an agreement with a breeding to Woodrow's local Champion, Woodrow later received two pups, one of which, was a beautiful brindle male that he gave to his Grandson William.

William named the young bullpup "Buddy". As the dog got older, he would go out "courting" and some of the neighbors were getting pretty ill about it. One day "Buddy" came up missing and was thought to be dead.



A Young William Cable

As the years followed, young William became a pretty good shot with a rifle. In the mid 1940's he would travel to Turkey Shoots and other competition shoots. On one such outing in Kentucky, low and behold, there was a man and standing behind him was William's dog "Buddy"! "Buddy" had been given to a good home, and rather than causing a dispute among neighbors or perhaps really causing a killing, William, almost appreciated the family "Buddy" had found and accepted his fate. It was a heartwarming reunion and William understood the reasons. It was just one part of a foundation for a lifelong caring and admiration for the breed.

William Cable loved all animals and over his lifetime surrounds himself with some of the most unusual animals. He understood their purpose on this earth. He was noted more than once and the "Noah" of the Roan.



William Cable and his own "Long Horn"

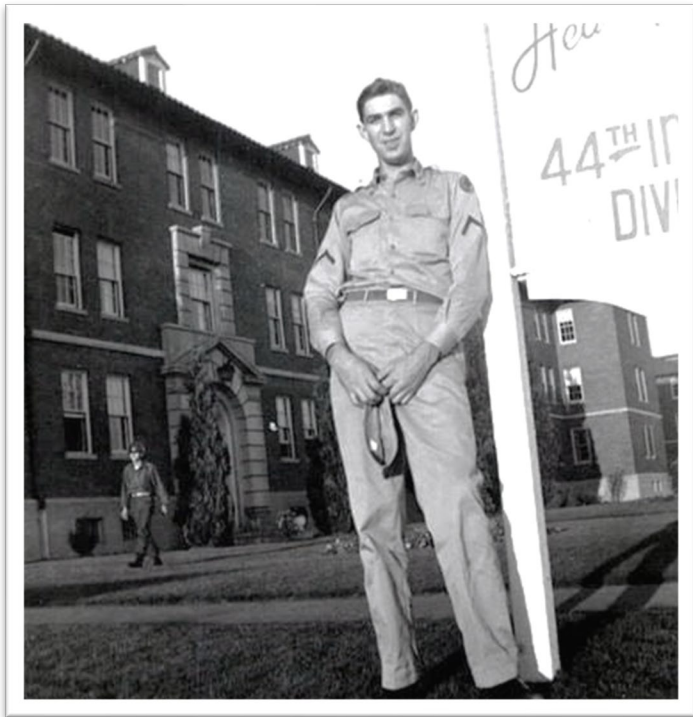
Over the years William Cable came to know some of the greatest dogs and dogmen from all over the country and followed the circuit closely.

Sportsmen who used the dogs of Robert Hemphill of Summerville, South Carolina, and Hobart Stidham of Big Stone Gap, Virginia, all came to know and respect the name of William Cable.

William spoke quiet highly of them, as well as men such as George Long, Lester Hughes, and J. R. Loposay, as well as some of the great dogs of



Lonzo Pratt, and he always enjoyed his visits with Leo and Sara Kinard.



Private First-Class William Cable  
United States Army

As it is with all young men and women, William fell in love and married his wife Betty in 1951. By 1952, he was serving his country, in the Army and the Korean conflict from 1952 thru 1954.

He served honorably with the 44<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division of the United States Army.

The 44th Infantry Division had been reactivated in the Illinois Army National Guard in 1946 and was inducted into federal service in early 1952 during the Korean War. It was disbanded after its release from federal service on 10 October 1954.

A so called “Conflict” or “Police Action” is something William Cable never agree with. No matter what you call it or however the politicians try to ‘tone down’ the name, be it a “Conflict” or a “Police Action” or a “Peace Keeping Force”, or “United Peace Keeping Effort”, men are still fighting and dying! Families are still torn apart; it is still war and there is nothing pretty about it.

It may be necessary, but it is not fit for a general public display or casual conversation or judgement. It is not up for a public debate, definition, or judgement. It is for fighting men and to fight and to win. Either fight or don’t, it is that simple. Blood is too high of a price to pay to play games. We both understood, it may have been Korea or Vietnam, the names may be different, the story remained the same.

Upon his return home, William and Betty made their life and raised four children on the mountain. Life in the mountains requires resolve and resourcefulness. These were two qualities that William Cable possessed in abundance.

When talking with Mrs. Cable, you could hear the pride in her voice. Betty Cable readily admits that William had some very great dogs. She never really minded the dogs at all, in fact she liked them very much. It would seem that her favorite old dog was Cable’s old “Fang”. She said he was the friendliest old dog she ever knew. He would seem to be Williams’ favorite, too. I could not help but laugh at some of the old stories they would tell me about him.

Cable’s “Fang” had been bred by his friend George Long from Robbinsville, North Carolina. He was sired by George Long’s “Big Red” and whelped by Long’s “Abby on June the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1971.

Cable’s “Fang” had grown into a good sixty-pound (60 lbs.) dog that could be worked down to between fifty-one and fifty-two pounds (51-52 lbs.)

Long’s “Big Red” was line bred down from Earl Tudor’s old stock Like Tudor’s Champion “Black Demon”, Champion “Dibo” and his son Champion “Jeff”, and Tudor’s old “Red Mike”

Long’s “Abby” came from George long old friend Hobart Stidham from Big Stone Gap, Virginia and was tightly bred on the dogs of Bob Hemphill.

One such story concerning this sixty pound “Fang” was that of “Fang” and the cat.

You see “Fang” hated cats, as is almost natural with most dogs. Well, as it would be, one day one of the children brought home a cat and you could tell right away that “Fang” wanted to kill it instantly. They placed the cat on the porch and



Cable's "Fang"

that cat wasn't going to go anywhere and get into anything to get him in trouble!

William also told the story about a family member who owned a Chihuahua, a little lap dog with a lot of grit. No brains, just grit! At one particular time, "Fang" was in keep, so he got to come in the house more often. That Chihuahua would be in somebody's lap where "Fang" thought "he" should be! That Chihuahua would chew the nose off "Fang", as "Fang", without hurting the smaller dog, would nose and push until the persistent "Fang" possessed the lap he wanted and deserved, and the lap dog hit the floor.

No, Betty did not mind the dogs at all. What she did not like was the time William spent away from home on the circuit. *"He was gone every weekend"*, she would say. *"Sometimes from Friday to Monday"*.

She went to say how he always spent more time with the dogs than he did with the family. If times got hard and money was tight, if there was any "Cutting back" to do, you could bet it wasn't on the dogs. *"Oh no"*, Betty would say, *"it was grocery money or something for the house, but not one less mouthful of food for the dogs was given up. If one of the kids got the sniffles, they handled it, but let one of the dogs show a sign of being sick and straight to the vet they go."* These are the things that bothered Betty and I guess any good woman married to a "dogman" knows exactly what she is talking about.

For just a moment I laughed inside, not because I didn't realize the seriousness of her concerns, or of her honesty in expressing them, but I realized I myself had heard these same concerns voiced to me by my own loving wife and they rang true. So very true.

During those travels and long weekends William Cable would compete with men like Rex Byrd, Howard Teal (The Kingpin of the South), and his friend and neighbor Lester Huges (The Mountain Man), Jerry Holcomb (Irish Jerry), James Crenshaw, Lonzo Pratt, Bob Finely, Tom Seitz, Junior Bush, Ronnie Hyde and Kimsey Wood, and Maurice Carver and Don Mayfield and so many more. From the Carolinas to California if there was a dogman

William firmly looked at "Fang" and told him in no uncertain terms, *"If anything happens to that cat, you are in trouble!"*

They all went inside. After a while inside, they noticed things got pretty quiet. Almost too quiet!

William walked back outside to check on things and here came "Fang" out of the field with a very limp cat still hanging in his powerful mouth.

In an instant William knew exactly what had happened. However, surprisingly enough, "Fang" placed the cat on the porch unharmed and full of life.

As the cat felt "Fang" release him completely, he was up, off and running again. "Fang" again chased after the cat, caught it, and again brought it back and placed it on the porch. Apparently "Fang" was simply making sure that,

worth knowing, William Cable knew them. William Cable was called on to referee for such great matches as the one for Wood's "Oso Negro."

In the early 1970's there was a group of individuals, many referred to as the Rebels' Hillbilly Club. The Rebels' Hillbilly Club was comprised of men like Lester Hughes (The Mountain Man), William Cable, James Crenshaw (Shaw), Jerry Holcomb (Irish Jerry), Howard Teal, Rex Byrd, "Bucky" Glenn Wise, George Long, Huey Hicks, Dave Adams, Buford Adams, Johnny Johnson, and Lonzo Pratt, just to name a few.

As stated, the dog now known to the world as Cable's "Fang" was bred by George Long of Robbinsville, North Carolina. He was a good-looking red pup with a dark muzzle and was whelped June the 23<sup>rd</sup> of 1971.

It was September the 9<sup>th</sup> of 1973, the first match of a four-card show that Cable's "Fang" would make his debut. William Cable would face Roger Hart with males weighing in at fifty-one pounds (51 lbs.).



Cable's "Fang"

"Irish" Jerry Holcomb was agreed upon as the Referee for the contest. While William Cable used his red dog ("Fang") Roger Hart used a black dog whose name was never given. Both dogs came in on weight.

Upon release the dogs meet center pit and "Fang" get a skin hold and shakes it out. "Fang"

gets in and starts working the chest early in the fight. By the five-minute (5 Min.) mark "Fang" is well into the chest. He seems to be the stronger of the two dogs as he gets back into the chest at the ten-minute (10 Min.) mark. The black dog, who has been unable to get any hold as of yet, makes the first turn and handles are made at the twelve-minute (12 Min.) mark. When called upon to scratch, the black takes the count.

This was the very first time for each of these handlers to ever condition and handle a dog and it was the first contest for each dog as well. Cable's "Fang" was declared the winner at the twelve-minute (12 Min.) mark.

This was the same show where Lester Hughes and "Zebo" is declared the winner of his second contest. In a contest lasting twenty-six-minute mark (26 Mins.) Hughes' "Zebo" defeated Bob Finley's "Pete".

William Cable owned a couple littermates to the dog named "Zebo" at the time. One was named Cable's "Crush" later known as Short's "Crush" and even later to Mark Tackett, and the other was Cable's "Lena", the dam to Cable's "Ranger II".

Cable's "Crush" and "Lena" was not only the littermates to Grand Champion "Zebo", known as one of the greatest dogs of modern history and a Hall of Fame Inductee, their other littermates included Lonzo Pratt's (Atlas Brewer's) two-time winner "Vindicator" and Atlas Brewer's "Rosie".

Lester Hughes. The Mountain Man, once stated, *"The first time I ever saw "Zebo" he bit me!"*. It was William Cable and Lester Hughes together that had gone down to Lonzo Pratt's to look at some dogs.

Lonzo Pratt had his dogs tied along a narrow path. Lester Hughes had asked Lonzo if his dogs could get to them, and Pratt answered. *"No, and that none of them would bite anyway"*. It was just a few steps later that a little black dog hit the end of his chain and grabbed Lester Hughes by the arm. Lester swung his fist and hit him right on the jaw. William Cable and Lester Hughes stated, *"That was the first time we ever saw "Zebo"*.



Grand Champion "Zebo"

Willie Brown was there that day. They had taken a look at the "Vindicator" dog, one of Lonzo's favorites. Lester Hughes had asked William Cable privately which dog he liked better, "Vindicator" or his littermate brother, and William stated he had already seen them both in action before, and that he like "Zebo" better.

A couple of months later they made another trip to see Lonzo and bought "Zebo" at that time. The shoulder on "Zebo" was still hurt pretty bad at the time. William Cable took "Zebo" to a veterinarian and had his shoulder reconstructed.

After his shoulder was completely healed up, it was decided to enter "Zebo" into competition. The contest was set at forty pounds. The other handler was against a friend that had been in service with Lester Hughes. The contest proved to be an easy one, "Zebo" ended up killing his opponent in seventeen minutes. William Cable was still working with other dogs and Lester Hughes later bought out his share on "Zebo" and continued to campaign him. He was later purchased by Dave and Roger Adams and recorded in history as Adams' Grand Champion "Zebo" and was last owned by Rick Johnson and is most recorded as Johnson's Grand Champion "Zebo". This is the way it appeared in Jack Kelly's "Sporting Dog Journal. The dog now recorded as Johnson's Grand Champion "Zebo" went on to make Reister of Merit and when the Hall of Fame was first established by Jack Kelly 1983 Johnson's

"Zebo" was one of only four inductees that had made that recognition and distinction at that time.

One of the first contest of the newly formed Hillbilly Club was William Cable facing off to "Irish Jerry" Holcomb with males weighing in at forty-eight pounds (48 lbs.). Lester Hughes, The Mountain Man was agreed upon as Referee.

It was an absolutely beautiful Saturday night in the North Carolina mountains, the year was 1975, and a nice crowd of friends and fanciers had gathered for the six-card show.

William Cable had conditioned and was handling a dog that belonged to Scotty Swinson named "Rusty". "Rusty" was a red dog that had already lost one fight to Hughes' "Hercules". However, William Cable saw something in the dog that made him want to give him another chance.

Irish Jerry conditioned and was handling his own dog. It was fighting a black dog that had already won two previous matches (2x) and was now going for his Championship against "Rusty", the one-time loser.

Upon release, "Rusty" starts like he knows what it's all about and immediately takes a lead, fighting mostly the head. "Rusty" is definitely ahead at the fifteen-minute (15 Min.) mark and top dog by the twenty-minute (20 Min.) mark.

"Rusty" whirls and a turn is called on him at the thirty-minute (30 Min.) mark and quick handles are made. "Rusty" scratches hard at the thirty-five-minute (35 Min) mark. Fast handles are made again and the black scratches hard at the forty-minute (40 Min.) mark.

"Rusty" scratches hard again at the forty-five (45 Min.) mark. The black returns the favor at the forty-seven-minute (47 Min) mark. It's "Rusty" again at the fifty-minute (50 Min.) mark. Another good scratch by the black at the fifty-two-minute (52 Min.) mark.

At the fifty-five-minute (55 min.) mark "Rusty" hesitates, but then completes a good hard scratch. "Rusty" is staying ahead most of the time now. The fight continues in the same pattern with fast handles and hard scratches until the hour and thirty-three-minute (1 Hr. 33 Min.) mark.

Up to scratch Irish Jerry's black takes the count and William Cable and "Rusty" are declared the winner. "Rusty" had completed twelve (12) hard scratches in all and the black eleven (11).

A lot of the battles that "Fang" won went unrecorded. One recorded contest was at Nebo, North Carolina around the Lake James area. One fellow had a dog named "Junior". Now "Junior" was a known killer, and it was said that no dog could stay with him any length of time. It was figured that they could run "Fang" off. They figured wrong, and "Fang" proved that "Junior" was a good dog and a "dead game" and it didn't take long.

It was during this time that William Cable bred "Fang" to the female recorded as Cable's "Lady Killer". The dam to "Lady Killer" was George Long's "Katey", the littermate sister to Long's "Abby", the dam to "Fang". Thus, making "Fang" and "Lady Killer" maternal first cousins.

The sire to Cable's "Lady Killer" was George Long's "Duke", the half-brother to Cable's "Lena" and her famed littermates, as they were sired by Lonzo Pratt's "Andy".

It was this mating that produced the female recorded as Cable's "Ida Red" and the Register of Merit female Robert (Bob) Rast's "Queenie" (ROM), the Dam to Fletcher Chavis' CCh. "Jocko", Chavis' (Miller's) Champion "Apple" and Bob Rast and Scotty McNeil's Champion "Argo".

I guess it was one of the most famous battles of modern history. Definitely one of the most talked about, often at great length. An upset that changed the directory of the breed.

In was in early March of 1975 that Howard Teal, the ole "Kingpin of the South", had set up a good site for a seven card show that drew spectators from all up and down the east coast from Florida to Canada. Even Bill Cotton was there, who had not been seen at pit side for at least four or five years, was keeping thing lively this day.

It was the first contest of the day and the card read Mr. Ron Bass verse William Cable with males weighing in at fifty-two pounds (52 lbs.) J. Adams had been selected as the Referee.

However, it would be J.C. Vincent handling the red, red-nosed dog that had been turned over to

Howard Teal himself for conditioning for this contest. The dogs' name was "Red Boy".

William Cable condition and was handling his own two-time winner named "Fang". "Fang" was a red dog with a black mask.

Upon release "Fang" goes into the chest on "Red Boy", get a good hold and stays there. "Red Boy" is trying to get him out with an ear hold. At the nine minute (9) mark a turn is called on "Fang". It's a odd call because "Fang" is in holds with the leg of "Red Boy" still in his mouth. The Referee allowed it so, at the seventeen-minute (17 Min.) mark handles are made and "Fang: scratches good.

"Red Boy" scratches at the twenty-one-minute (21 Min.) mark and comes to the top fighting the head. However, "Fang" even thing up a bit by going to the back end at the twenty-eight-minute (28 Min.) mark. "Red Boy" gets on the nose. "Fang" scratches again at the thirty-minute (30 Min.) mark. Handles are made at the thirty-three-minute (33 Min.) mark and the Referee makes another error and has "Fang" scratch again.

Three more scratches each by "Red Boy" and two by "Fang". At the one hour and two-minute (1 Hr. 2 Min.) mark it is "Fang" up to scratch. He wonders toward a neutral corner and is counted out and "Red Boy" is declared the winner.

Once, in Warren, Kentucky, after a hard-won battle lasting two hours and thirty minutes (2 Hrs. 30 Mins.), that William won, they were joking around saying, "*You got anything that will last any longer than that?*" The very next contest in Kentucky lasted two hours and thirty-one minutes (2 Hrs. 31 Mins.), William had won again!

Cable's "Fang" may have been a favorite dog owned by William Cable, but he said "Ranger II" was the best dog he ever owned. Cable's "Ranger II" was one of those destroying type dogs and he loved the legs and chest.

William Cable's "Ranger II" was whelped by Cable's "Lena" and sired by Cable's (Hughes) "Ranger".

The dog "Ranger" was bred by George Long and was whelped November 7th, 1971.

He had been acquired through a mutual friend named "Bucky" Glenn Wise



The pedigree on “Ranger” pedigree reflects the breeding of Earl Tudor’s “Dibo” through his Grand-sire Lonzo Pratt’s “Andy”. His pedigree also reflects the tight breeding of Bert Clouse though the female “Mitzi Jane” that was also own by George Long and the breeding, just as tight, of Hobart Stidham from Big Stone Gap, Virginia. The sire to “Ranger”, George Long’s “Duke”, is the half-brother to “Zebo”.

One of the first dogs Lester Hughes, The Mountain Man, ever contested professionally was Cable’s “Ranger”. He had gone into some men around Smithfield. Hughes’ “Ranger”, as he was known then, won his fight fairly easy that night, in a contest lasting fifty-eight minutes (58 Mins).

As time passed Lester Hughes gave up his interest in “Ranger” to his friend William Cable and from there “Ranger” was registered with the United Kennel Club as Cable’s “Ranger”, and even though Cable’s “Ranger” was only listed as a two-time winner, he went on to win many more.



Lester Hughes holding “Ranger”

As stated, William Cable then bred “Ranger” to Cable’s “Lena” and produced Cable’s “Ranger II”.

William states that he has always liked to keep some of the old bloodlines around. We would talk about the dogs for hours on end and when William Cable spoke about the American ‘Pit’ Bull Terrier it was always with a certain sense of reverence.

By 1975 the famed Hillbilly Club had been formed in which William Cable was a foundation cornerstone, along with most notable members as Rex Byrd, Rick Johnson, Johnny Johnson, “Irish Jerry” Holcomb, James Crenshaw, Robert (Bob) Finley, Lonzo Pratt, Tom Seitz and Junior Bush, J.C Blevins.

The reputation of Wiliam Cable as an honest, reputable dogman and his considerable experience in the pit made him a highly requested referee. He was hosting and refereeing convention like the Brush Arbor Conventions up into the 1980’s.

William spoke with a pained expression when he talked about his dogs, almost as if he was speaking of a condemn friend.



A bit of a gabfest as the elders of the mountain meet. Left to right one sees, George Long, J.C. Blevins, Lester Hughes, and sitting beside him, Tom Seitz, and talking with George Long is William Cable

*“There has never been a fair article written about these dogs.”*

William once told me, as his stern stare gazed around at his 180-acre farm.

*“They are not bad dogs. I am not saying that there are no bad dogs. There are bad dogs just like there are bad people, but a lot of things that have been written in newspapers and shown in television are simply not true. You read stories about pit bulls attacking a child, and a little way down it you read the dog wasn’t a full-blooded pit. Then a little further down you will read and it will say the dog was half German Shepard or half Doberman or something else.”*

William Cable said that he had probably sold as many as 1,000 dogs and pups over the past 50 years. He says he always enjoyed the fighting days with the dogs, though sadly they have since have passed.

William explains that he did not see anything wrong with contesting the dogs. What he did see wrong was “hypocrisy”. *“I don’t think it is any different than a man who owns a couple of other men and fights them.”* He continued, *“Or a man who owns a football team and sends them out to get their legs and arms broken or their brains busted up! Make no doubt, they are owned. They can be bought or sold, or individuals traded around like any other property. It happens all the time.”*

Visiting the mountain top and the home of William Cable was always a treat. William not only kept dogs, but he loves all animals. It is almost like visiting an exotic zoo sometimes (The Noah of the Roan). You could see everything from a four horn goat called Jacobs Shoe, to a fierce fighting four (4) inch tall British Game Cock, Fainting Goats, to Pygmy Potbelly Pigs.

At one time William Cable kept a 500-pound wild boar in his barn that had become a favorite pet.

*“He loved beer”,* William said, *“but you cannot get enough in him to get him drunk. Sometimes I would get with my friends and me and that old boar would drink them all under the table! They accused us of cheating!”*

William Cable designed and built his own fish hatchery and had a live success rate that marveled any government facility. It was noted as one of the largest fish hatchers in North Carolina. He raised thousands of the best mountain trout you could ever taste. William Cable also raised cows and bulls of all shapes, sizes, and sorts.

On one visit, as I sat with William at his kitchen table, a plank on the floor began to wobble on its own. All of the sudden a raccoon pops out and walked up his leg and turned around in his lap, as we sat and talked. Making no acknowledgement of this new arrival, William continued our conversation just as if all was normal. There was a bag of Cheetos on the table and William said, *“Give him a Cheeto. He loves Cheetos.”*

*“Anytime you are making a good living and not having to work too hard at it, you like it.”*, he explained, rubbing the tough stubbles of his chin. *“Of course, you have to win. You don’t stay in anything too long if you are not winning and I was in there for quite a while.”*

All my visits to William Cable were always most enjoyable and extremely interesting, and I feel blessed that there were plenty of them over the years. It is with the heaviest of heart, that I learned of, and now pass on, the news the passing of William Cable Jr. of North Carolina. William Cable was ninety-two (92) years old when he passed away November the 28<sup>th</sup> of 2023.

This short writing has been no more than just one more reminder, a re-introduction to a great man, a man well worth remembrance, and a great line of game dogs, and a great memorable part of the history of The American ‘Pit’ Bull Terrier.

## *In Summary*

You may respond to this article with comments or questions and/or submit your own request for

subjects in the future at:  
[elmullins54@outlook.com](mailto:elmullins54@outlook.com)

or by writing to:

The APBTHS  
P.O. Box 334  
Newland, NC 28657



Remnants of the old Rebels' Hillbilly Club  
Left to Right  
Ed Mullins, Tom Seitz, Lester Hughes,  
George Long and William Cable

This newsletter is intended for the members of The Historical Society of The American Pit Bull Terrier. To keep this publication going depends on members donations.

We hope you enjoyed this our article, history and the story concerning the review and remembrance of **William Cable**. We hope you found it the review both entertaining and informative and perhaps cleared up some misconceptions a few fanciers have had.

These Newsletters are put out on a random basis, intended for the members of The American 'Pit.' Bull Terrier Historical Society. At present they are not designed to be published on any regular

schedule. However, if enough members become interested, it may become a monthly Newsletter. Since our last Newsletter, we have managed to go on-line. You can now pay for the Newsletters on an annual basis from our new website.

[www.apbths.com](http://www.apbths.com)

If the member receiving this newsletter has a least one friend that they can recommend, which it is believed they would, then a financial base can be establish for future publication, projects, and continuation of the website.

The APBTHS  
P.O. Box 334  
Newland, NC 28657

It you wish to recommend a trusted friend, then you should provide their name, address, phone number and most importantly their email address to us at the above address or email. All recommendation must come from active members.

Other members have also asked if they could give out our email address and have their recommended individuals contact us that way. Again, we will work with our members anyway we can. We do not mind if you pass along our email address, however, when those individual contact us, they must let us know who recommended them so that we can verify that information. If they do not, we may not contact them at all.

We have begun the publication of advertisements for our members and would like to hear more from you on that consideration and would appreciate your support through advertising.

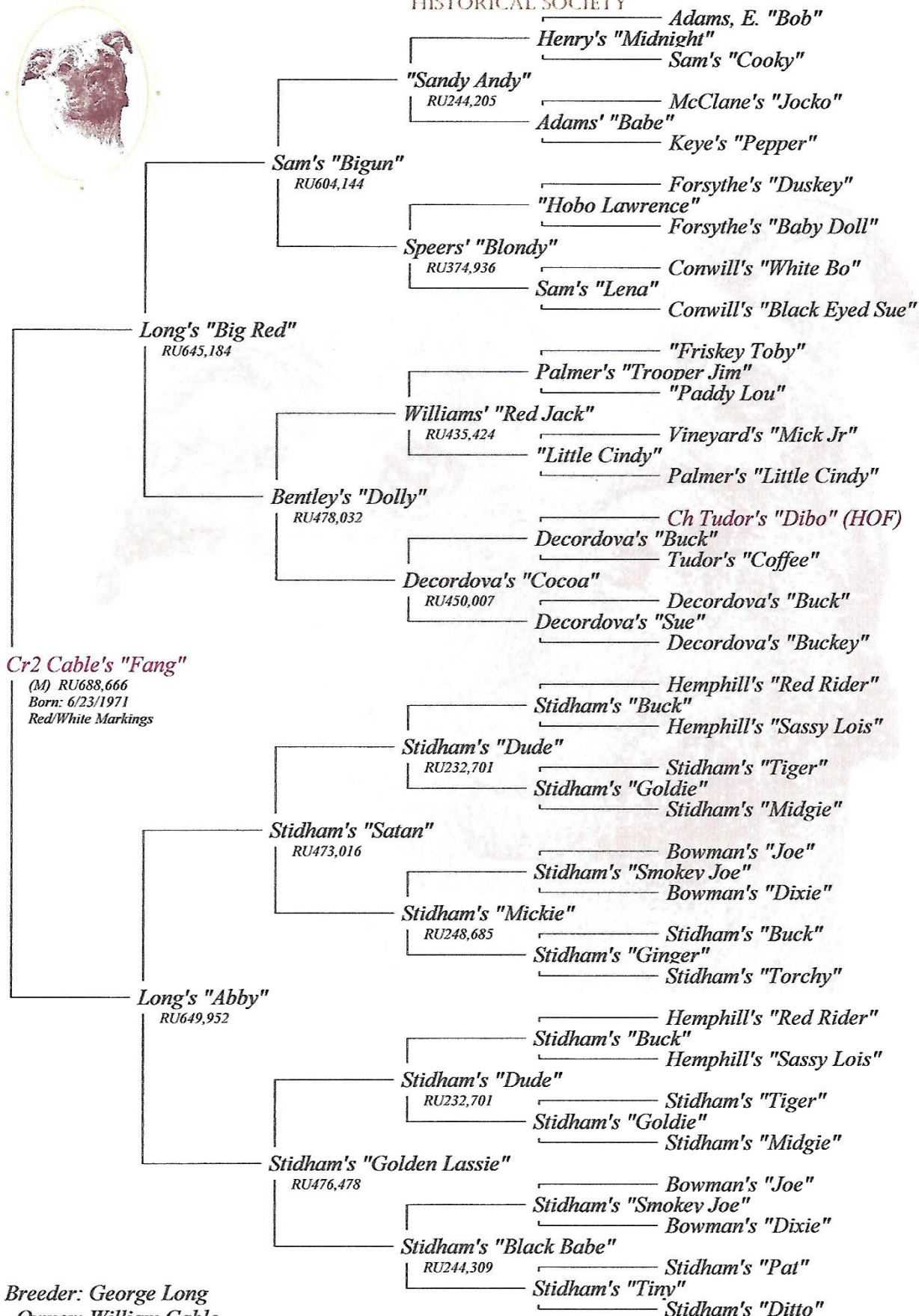
We would also like to include a "Readers Write" or a "Your Scratch" section. Let us know what you think of these ideas and perhaps a few of your own.

Looking forward to hearing from each of you,

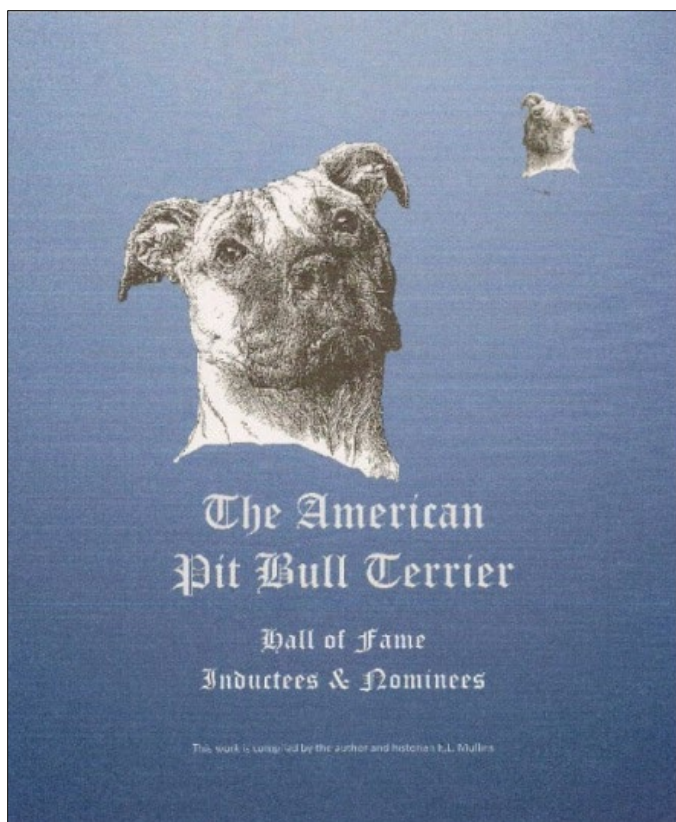
*Till next time, Keep Scratching*



THE AMERICAN 'PIT' BULL TERRIER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY







*The American Pit Bull Terrier  
Hall of Fame  
Inductees & Nominees*

This book covers all the dogs from  
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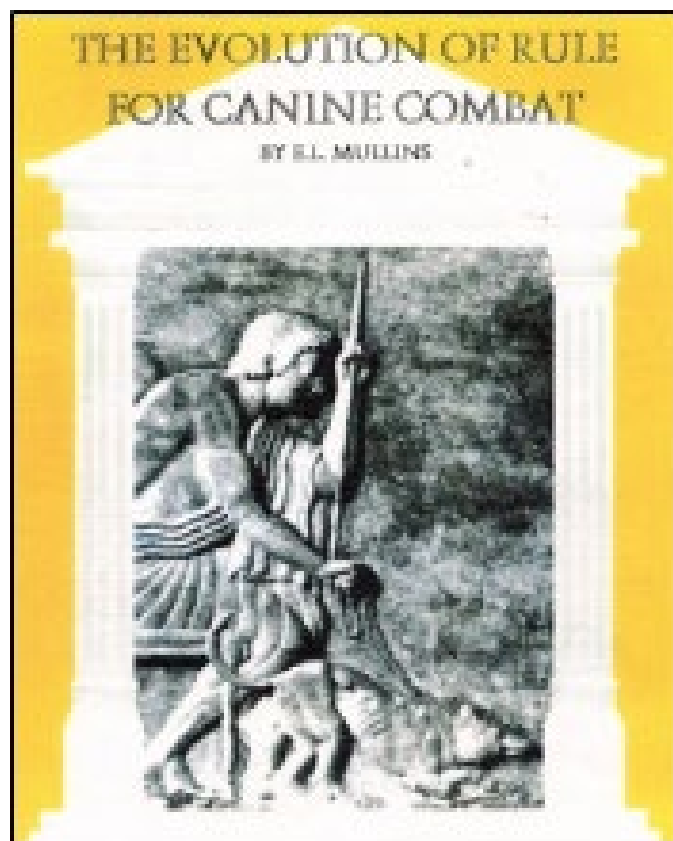
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Past Newsletter Index:

**2020-2021**

- 001 – Register of Merits (ROM)
- 002 – Indian Sonny's Cr1 "Bolio" (ROM) (HOF)
- 003 – "Bass" Cr2 "Tramp Red Boy" (HOF)
- 004 – "Why Old Timers Don't Teach, or better yet, Why Won't Young People Learn."
- 005 – Floyd Boudreaux and a dog called "Eli"
- 006 – Champions and Grand Champions Defined
- 007 – Champion "Jeep", "Charlie" & "Holly"
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**2021-2022**

- 013 – Carver's "Black Widow" 1<sup>st</sup> female (HOF)
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- 030 – Sand Hills Slick (Frank Jacobs) & The Great "Tim Sylvia"
- 031– Saddler's Champion "Rebel
- 032– Tudor's Champion "White Rock"
- 033– (Garrett's) Ramrod's Ch. "Tramp" (ROM)
- 034– Harry Hargrove
- 035 – Rebel's Grand Champion "Shady Lady"

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"Cyrus"



"Crazy Joe"

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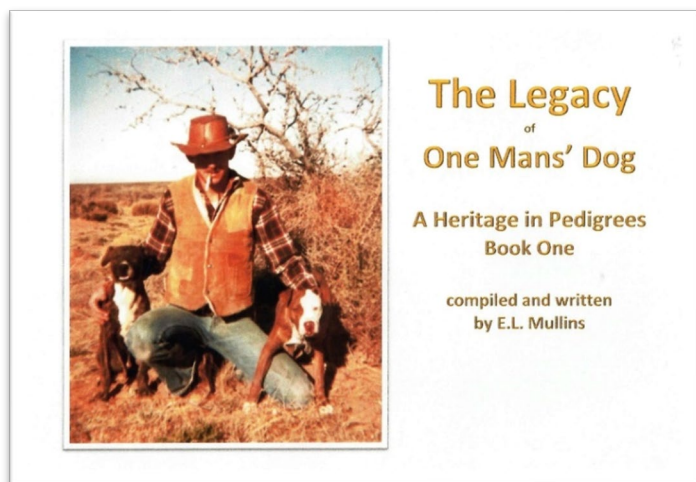


"Storm"



"Bullseye"





## New Book

By the author and historian  
E.L. Mullins

E.L. Mullins' new book, *The Legacy of One Mans' Dog, A Heritage in Pedigrees*, has been said to be an encyclopedia of pedigrees and a wealth of knowledge concerning the heritage of game bred dogs.

Every knowledgeable dogman understands that knowing how to read a pedigree, understanding a pedigree, and comprehending their relevance are vastly different subjects.

Arriving at a more complete understanding of the ancestry and heritage of the American 'Pit' Bull Terrier and how that knowledge may affect the abilities and gameness of these modern-day gladiators has taken E.L. Mullins more than thirty-five years. It is the intent of the author to share with the next generation of fanciers some of that knowledge through the preservation of *A Heritage in Pedigrees, The Legacy of One Mans' Dog*.

This 548-page volume is produced in color, on high quality paper for durability, with spiral binding for easy layout and referencing. Within these bindings, you will find an introduction to *A Heritage in*

*Pedigrees the Legacy of One Mans' Dog*. To help guide you on your journey back through the generations you will find at the end of that introduction:

1. One (1) Master Pedigree Index that lists each of the dogs located on the last line of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) generation of Champion "Golden Girl" as they appear from top to bottom; a total of thirty (30) dogs and page reference numbers to the ancestry to each of those dogs.
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Bob Wallace's "Red Rock"

An excellent example of a deeply game and rugged Old Family Red Rednose Pit



# January 2024

## The American 'Pit' Bull Terrier Historical Society

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Wallace's "Red Rock" whelped January 10 <sup>th</sup> , 1951	11	12	13
14	15 John P. Colby born January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1874	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Obituary - Earl Tudor passed away in 1977 at the age of 84	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Obituary -Walter Komosinski passed away in 1983 at the age of 88	31			

Notes

Obituary - C.P. Delaney passed away January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1962 at the age of 77



### *The Beginnings*

Read the stories, the escapades, and review the pedigrees of what has been referred to by professionals of the breed and the sports as some of the greatest American 'Pit' Bull terriers ever produced in modern times. This Legacy Little Book is an introduction to Gerald F. Clemmons (Jerry Clemmons), the breeder of the famed competitor and producer recorded in history as Red Walling's' Cr2 "Bullyson", his famed pit winning brother Bennett Clayton's Cr2 "Eli Jr.", and their sisters Gerald Clemmons' own famed producing female Clemmons' "Brendy" and lastly Floyd Boudreaux' (Pat Perry's) "Lady".

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## Flummoxed

*By The Historian*

*Should you possess a query, poser, enigma, or quandary, you now have a place to present it.*

### *Should they have been fouled out?*

There was quite a buzz in Detroit awhile back when, after an extended contest and the handlers appeared to be more exhausted than their contenders. One side was up to scratch and their ability to do so was in question. The other handler, as they were in their corner with their dog, lost their hold and the dog headed across the scratch line before the command to do so. The handler was able to immediately get control of their dog and no contact was made. However, the handler had to cross the scratch line to regain control of their dog. At this point the handler who lost control of their dog was fouled out and the contest was awarded to the dog whose scratch was questionable.

The question arose, should the handler who lost control of their dog and the dog "accidentally" got away from them, but control was regained before any contact was made, be fouled out?

Let us review the rules about an "accidental release". There is a lot written about handling and "the scratch". A lot has been written about a handler leaving his corner too soon, but how about the dog?

There has also been a lot written about not pushing, shoving, throwing, thumbing, drumming, kneeling, spanking, slapping or any other way assisting a dog across the scratch line. A dog can be fouled out for jumping out of the pit. A handler can be fouled out for leaving the pit before the Referee has rendered their decision on the contest. But, what if the dog brakes away from the handler and tries to complete an unauthorized scratch by themselves?

1888 – Police Gazette Rule #14 states, “..., *After the attendants handle their own dogs, but under no circumstances shall the attendants handle and let go their own dogs until the signal "let go" is pronounced.*”

1898 United Kennel Club was established.  
U.K.C. Rules Twenty-Five. “*Should a principle leave his corner before the dogs have resumed action, the Referee shall immediately call a foul and announce the opponent the winner.*”

Of course, the U.K.C. rule is referring to “at the scratch”.

No answers were found throughout the “Cajun Rules”. So, where do we look for our answer.

In several sets of rules such as the National Rules written in 1985 by Sonny Saint Marie (Indian Sonny) RULE 9: RELEASING. “*The handlers must take their dogs to their respective corners and await the referee's instructions. Upon penalty of FOULING -OUT the handlers MUST NOT RELEASE their dogs until the referee orders them released. Both handlers must release their dogs immediately upon the referee's command.*”

Repeat, “Upon penalty of FOULING -OUT the handlers **MUST NOT RELEASE** their dogs until the referee orders them released.”

A “release” is a deliberate act of turning loose.  
Release: Definition of “release” by Merriam-Webster  
Merriam-Webster dictionary is - to set free from restraint, to let go.  
“To set free or to let go”. That is not the same as something escaping from or braking away.

Throughout the Canine Rules of Combat, that covers the rules of combat from the late 1700’s through the year 2000, I could find no rule that covers “accidental” release or anything that states it would be a “foul”.

Under the Highlander Rules of 2000 two statements are made; Under the section concerning “**The Wash**”, the statement is made, “*If a dog is unruly, or hard to manage, while waiting in the pit for their opponent to arrive, it is the responsibility of the Handler to maintain control of their Contender.*”

This refers to waiting on the opponent after “the wash”, but perhaps this could somehow apply to other times of “waiting”.

The Highlander Rules further states, under the section “**Release Your Dogs.**”

“*The second command the Referee will give, once the Referee ensures that the dogs are "faced", will be "Release Your Dogs" or "Pit". **The Handlers must not release their dog(s) until command to do so by the Referee has been given. To "Release" your dog before the Command to do so by the Referee, shall be considered as an attempt to gain advantage, and is a foul. The offender is subject to lose the contest.***”

Here again, the dogs are faced and ready to scratch and the act of releasing early would appear to be deliberate. Also, they are “subject” to lose the contest. This is not a definite loss. No. It is left in the discretion of the Referee. This is where it should be.

Was the release “accidental”? Was the release “intentional” in an attempt to gain some form of an advantage?

Would the other dog have made their scratch? Or was the other handler worried; just enough to make and “accidental” release of their dog to make sure the opponent could not scratch? Sure, no contact was actually made; but why? Was there intervention? Did the action come under suspicion? I guess you had to be there. A Referee was there, and they made the call.

One thing all the sets of Canine Rules of Combat agree upon, from the 1700’s through the year 2000, three hundred years of warriors....is...as written in



the 1700's "...the decision of the referee to be final."

If the rules are followed in the beginning, then the Referee was chosen and agreed upon by both parties. In the early 1800's it was written, concerning Referees, that "***None but the most experienced judges should take on this unthankful office.***"

As stated in the opening of the Letter of Introduction to the Highlander Rules.

*"A complete and concise set of "Rules of Combat" will never be able to cover every conceivable situation that can arise in competition. The rules will never, and should never, replace good old 'common sense'.*

*However, individuals need a place that they can start. That place should be fair and equitable and the same for everyone. A good set of rules is only a start.*

*That is why the selection of the **Referee** is so important. In them should be reflected the knowledge, experience, integrity, and judgement that took years to develop and has been proven by trials by fire many times over the years. Difficult situations call for, even demands, this experience and integrity from someone who has been tested themselves. There is no time for hesitation or discussion in many of the calls that a Referee may have to make at a moment's notice.*

*In Professional Competition, a Referee of experience and integrity, is the greatest asset a Handler can have. For the Referee will not be influenced by whether a person has 20 years' experience or it is their very first contest. They do not care if you are rich or poor. They are not influenced by the wager that exchanges hands. An experienced Referee has no friends when they step across that Pit wall. Their only concern is the compliance with the "Rules of Combat", and the application of a fair and equitable contest that will allow the best dog to win."*

## ***Cry "Foul"***

A young fancier of 2021 asks the following question that prompt the writing of this review; "*How many fouls do you get before being fouled out?*"

My answer was simple, "One; Or more; Depending on the Referee."

A "foul" may be "called", or "ask for", or "requested" by either party, at any given time during a contest, and for numerous reasons. Some of those reasons are legitimate, some not so much. In most cases a "foul" has been called because one of the parties perceived that an established rule governing the contest has been broken.

The Referee, as in all contests, has great discretion. Depending on the "foul" called, or the perceived "foul", it is then up to the Referee to determine the legitimacy of the "foul", the intent of the "foul", and the severity of the "foul". The Referee may consider if the "foul" was committed intentionally or by accident. The Referee has many options at this point. They may:

1. They could dismiss the call, or request for a "foul", and state that no "foul" was committed.
2. They could recognize the "foul" or allow the "foul" and issue a "warning" to the offending party.
3. Or, if the severity of the "foul" was found to be detrimental to the outcome of the contest, they could recognize or allow the "foul" and award the contest to the offended party at the time of the commission of the "foul".

The question directly related to the discretion of the Referee themselves. All the more reason why the selection of the Referee is so important. In them should be reflected the knowledge, experience, integrity, and judgement that took years to develop and has been proven by trials by fire many times over the years. That key word being, in my opinion, "integrity".

# Your Scratch



*"The world sure loves a winner in any sort of fight, but it also loves a loser, who does his losing right."*

The past two (2) articles, that of George Saddler's Champion "Rebel" and Tudor's Champion "White Rock" were both requested by none other than Floyd Boudreaux.

Those reading this that do not recognize the name are truly out of touch with the fraternity and the dog game.

However, we have heard little from our newer members and some of our older members have laid back some.

We would very much enjoy hearing some of your suggested subjects that you would like to read. Send those on into us.

Remember to keep those subscriptions coming in. We need all your support to keep going.

## Obituary

The fraternity lost a true Legend in dog fighters with the passing of **Harry Hargrove on September the 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Harry Hargrove was 90 years old. It was the media itself that labeled Harry as the dog fighting "Legend" during his arrest back in 2011.

Word rapidly reached the editor that **Bobby (Bullyson) Hall has passed away on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

It is with sorrow and a heavy heart that we must report that **Mike Wilder, Rock Bottom Kennels, passed away April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. Mike was an excellent dogman, honest and straight forward, and an outstanding breeder respected by his peers and honored by his opponents. The fraternity and the sport need more like him. He shall be sorely missed.

Word reached the editor just as the last Newsletter was published that a great friend and dogman has passed from us. **Gerald F. Clemmons (Jerry Clemmons) on August the 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021**. Those who do not recognize his name, truly knows little about the bulldogs. I am sure there are those who have come to respect his dedication to the breed, by win or lose, for he was the breeder of the famed litter containing the dogs remembered as Red Wallings' "Bullyson", Bennett Clayton's "Eli Jr.", his own Jerry Clemmons' "Brandy" and Floyd Boudreaux' (Pat Perry's) Lady".

Jerry was born October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1927. The great benefactors of the breed are passing from us and into history far too fast. We spent many enjoyable hours putting together and reviewing the Little Book on him called The Beginnings. It was a memory created I will never forget. His legacy lives on.

Another great steward and benefactor of the breed has passed from us. A great benefactor he was, known for his preservation of the Old Family

Rednose dogs through his kennel Norrod's Ironline Kennels that he established back in 1969. It was the home of the world famous Norrod's "Red Devil" bloodlines. **Dennis (Mike) Norrod passed away September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** He shall be greatly missed by all who knew him.

## Considerations For Man and Dog

### For Man

Who among this new "fancy" can name the top twenty (20) dogmen of the past twenty (20) years?

Maybe this new "fancy" can name the top ten (10) dogmen of the past ten (10) years?

How about the new "fancy" naming the top five (5) dogmen over the past five (5) years?

Can anyone name or nominate a dogman for over the past year???

If one is name, then tell why you think they should be considered one of the top dogmen.

If one is nominated for a "**Dogman of the Year**" award, then write an essay and tell why they should be considered. It will then be up to the membership to decide.

### & Dog

Who among this new "fancy" can name the top twenty (20) dogs of the past twenty (20) years?

Maybe this new "fancy" can name the top ten (10) dogs of the past ten (10) years?

How about the new "fancy" naming the top five (5) dogs over the past five (5) years?

Can anyone name or nominate a dog for over the past year???

If one is named, then tell why you think they should be considered one of the dogs of the year.

If one is nominated for a "**Dog of the Year**" award, then write an essay and tell why they should be considered. It will then be up to the membership to decide.

## Wisdom of Breeders Past

*"When a game bitch, bred to a game dog, fails to produce pups as game as either the sire or the dam, she does not "throwback" and is simply a victim of circumstances detrimental to the desired results."*

*"A good index to the character of the pit bull fancier is the quality of the dogs he breeds and sells."*

Jim Corcoran –  
(Immigrated from Limerick, Ireland in the early 1800's and imported dogs from Ireland)

It does not matter what road we take along life's journey, the only thing that matters is what we become along the way. *Elm*

A dog owns nothing yet is seldom dissatisfied!  
*An old Irish Proverb*

Personally, I have always felt that the best Doctor in the world is the **veterinarian**. He can't ask his patients what's the matter. He's just got to KNOW.  
Will Rogers, 1879 - 1935

A very old friend of mine called the other day, we always referred to him as "The Buffalo Soldier". Let's just say that neither of us are near as young as we once were. But we have sure seen some decent dogs in our day.

The point of his call was just this, and I just happen to agree, that he felt one of the most damaging things, especially to the future of the breed and the sport, is the fact that very few fanciers report anything anymore!

Men like C.Z Bennett, Eugene Glass, H.Q. Kennedy, Pete Sparks, Don Mayfield, Jack Kelly, are sorely missed. What do these men have in common? They all strived for decades to preserve the history of our breed and record the reports of winning dogs throughout history, even in the face of the greatest of adversities. They were men as game as their dogs! Which is something else sorely lacking in today's fraternity. Honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, and comradery appear to be getting harder to find than a game dog.

However, it takes one person at a time, develop a good club, built the right relationships for a true fraternity again. This can turn around if we simply refuse to accept poor conduct. Always be on the square, remember to cull your friends as hard as you do your dogs. You want your dogs to be straight forward and honest, why not your friends!?!

Pete Sparks taught me a word years ago. You do not have to be rude, or hateful, with those you find less than professional, you simply "Ostracize" them. They simple don't exist in your world. You don't associate with them, roll with them, buy from them, sell to them, invite them to anything, nor go anywhere they invite you, and pretty soon, they will disappear from your world and simply won't exist. In return, your own stress level decreases, you enjoy yourself, your dogs and life in general a whole lot more!

I believe a lot of fanciers don't report, simply because they do not trust. The Buffalo Soldier has a valid point.

Think about it.

"Boomerang" and "Bullyson" walk into a club. After a few moments they noticed no one was wearing a collar and only male dogs were present. Suddenly, they realized they were in a **stray** bar!!!

With all the celebrations, the loud noise, cheers and fireworks, please remember the pets that may be affected and scared by such events and wild revelry and know that you should have culled that sh\*# a long time ago...!

## Mr. Meant-To

Mr. Meant-to has a comrade,  
And his name is didn't do.  
Have you ever chanced to meet them?  
Did they ever call on you?

These two fellows live together  
In the house of Never-Win.  
And I'm told that it is haunted  
By the ghost of Might-Have Been.  
-Good Housekeeping, June 1946

One day a Rottweiler, a Belgian Shepherd and an American 'Pit' Bull Terrier were having a few beers in a bar.

After a long period of silence, the Rottweiler speaks up, *"You know, the other day I was talking with God, and he said I was the most beautiful and strongest dog who ever walked this earth."*

The Belgian Shepherd, shrugging it off said, *"It was just last night that God came to me in a dream and said that I was the most magnificent creature that he had ever created."*

The American 'Pit' Bull Terrier looked up from his beer with this bewildered and horrific expression on his face and exclaimed, *"What? I said what?!?"*

Wildcat and DSK "Ralo" vs  
Underdog's "Schoolboy"

Both dogs come out with a fast pace "Schoolboy" is doing all he can to put "Ralo" away real early, but "Ralo" continues to work from the bottom being very smart and patient at the 25-minute mark you can see "Ralo" is catching up and starting to work face, chest and rear end good. At the 37-minute mark a turn is called and recognized on "Schoolboy". The crowd is going crazy, a handle was made, and "Schoolboy" comes out the corner and "Ralo" meets him. "Ralo" is really turning on



the heat and pressure continuing to work the face, chest and rear end. Another handle was made “Ralo” shoots out the corner like a rocket, applying more pressure and heat to “Schoolboy”. One more handle was made by each corner. “Schoolboy” was picked up at 1:07 leaving Wildcat and DSK’s “Ralo” declared the winner. (Cr1)., Keep’em scratching. Great show and professionalism by each handler.

## **American Pit Bull Terrier**

*To all who see this presence, greetings. Let it be known  
that by both standard and tradition,  
the fraternity recognizes the accomplishments of*

## **Campground’s Champion**

**“Isis”**

**“Honoring Those to Whom Honor is Due”**



Campground’s Champion “Icess”

**Campground’s Champion “Isis”**

**“Honoring Those to Whom Honor is Due”**

Campground’s “Icess”, a buckskin female with a red nose, was sired by “Shy Roy” and whelped by “Hershey” off the “Re-Clamp” dog. She made her debut against GSK’s “Black Lady” at a top weight of thirty pounds (30 lbs.). Fish Cooker is the referee as the two females weigh within fractions of each other. Campground’s “Icess” winning in one hour and forty-two minutes (1 Hr. 42 Mins.).

The second contest came for “Icess” against GMG’s “Daisy”, again set for thirty pounds (30 lbs.) and the female are both on weight. Slim Fast was the referee and declared “Icess” the winner of her second contest on the hour mark (1 Hr.).

The now two time winner “Icess” was going for her Championship title against the one time winner Stackhouse’s “Chiquita” at a weight of thirty and a half pounds (30½ lbs.), a half pound over her previous weights. “Icess” comes in a fraction over at 30.6 pounds and has to pay the forfeit, but it is agreed that the contest would continue. Slowpoke was the referee for this contest and “Icess” was declared the winner and Champion at the one hour and twenty-eight-minute mark (1 Hr. 28 min.)

May 1957- Earl Tudor spins the tall tale of the great little dog he had that would absolutely eat the ears off his defeated opponents’ dog. Then, at one convention he was match into a dog with a short ear trim. As usual, his dog went in and cut the opponent down and when his opponent was lying flat on the floor unable to move, he looked each short ear over, he turned around in great disgust, jump the pit wall and took off. Earl Tudor said the dog was waiting on his front porch steps when he got home to Hobart the next day.

In the March 1940 issue of Bloodlines magazine Earl Tudor made the interesting observation that if

***NOTE: Any Members who wish to have their  
historical reports listed and or historical  
Championship reviewed and published that  
have not submitted them, please do so in a  
timely manner.***

**“Honoring Those to Whom Honor is Due”**

you tell a man there are 270,678,984,341 stars in the universe, he will believe you. But, if you put up a sign "Keep these dogs separated or they will fight," that man has to make a personal investigation.

## **Your Advertisement could be here!**



Every Dogman should have five hobbies

1. One Hobby to make money
2. One Hobby to keep them physically fit
3. One Hobby to keep them creative
4. One Hobby to build their knowledge
5. One Hobby to evolve their mind

By doing so, they will increase the quality of their life, develop a security through self-confidence, and elevate their mind, their body, and their spirit.

### **History of the Pit Bull Terrier**

Wayne D. Brown may still have some books available for purchase to those fanciers serious about learning more concerning the history of our breed, so I listed his address below. Write to him and ask. I could not recommend a better book.

Wayne D. Brown  
6484 Fisher Road  
Dallas, Texas 75214

Tell him Ed Mullins say Hello and Thank You

#### **Forward/Disclaimer:**

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