

2006

Lawrence Martens (Lornie)

Mr. Martens was in the US Army Canine Corp. from 1942 to 1946. While in the military, Lornie worked with several of the top trainers in the country such as T.W. Pershall and Billy Wunderlich. After the military, he continued his love of dogs by training and competing with retrievers in the Field Trial game. He competed in many Nationals and trained numerous field champions. He welcomed many newcomers to the sport and helped them become better trainers and handlers.

Lornie Martens contribution to the Field Trial breeding is legendary. Lornie's dedication and conscience desire to improve the breed is manifested through some of the great bloodlines he helped to foster FC Martens Mister Nifty sired 72-75 NAFC-FC-CNFC River Oaks Corky, who in turn created his own bloodline. Other Martens dogs include FC Martens Scrubby Giant, FC-AFC Martens Castaway, FC Martens Little Bullet and Black Powder Kate who produced Super Powder, who in turn started his own bloodline.

Lornie was also the owner and developer of Martens Meadows, an 80 acre wetland and upland parcel that he developed into one of the top Field Trial and training grounds in the country. His generosity in making his grounds available to nearly everyone has been appreciated for many decades. Upon his passing, he donated Martens Meadows to the Central Minnesota Retriever Club to perpetuate the sport and leave a lasting legacy to the game he loved so much. This donation, along with a recent purchase of an adjoining 40 acres, has provided Central Minnesota with one of the premier privately owned Field Trial facilities in the country.