

BOB BRISTER (1928-2005) AWARDS

SHOOTING

TSCA Hall of Fame 2004

NSCA Hall of Fame 1999

NSCA Nat'l. Veteran Champion 1994 & 1999

NSCA Team USA 2001 & 2003

NSCA All-American Team 6 times

TAPA All -American Team several times

World Duck Shooting Champion twice

Winner of many USSCA & NSCA tournaments in Open, Veteran & Super Veteran Classification

CAREER

Pulitzer Nominee for Hurricane Carla newspaper coverage

Graphic Arts Hall of Fame inductee for Hurricane Carla photos

National Wildlife Federation Conservation Achievement Award

National Outdoor Writers Assn. Excellence in Craft Award

Texas Outdoor Writers Assn. Excellence in writing Award

UPI, API Awards for writing/photography (too many to count)

Born in 1928 in Kerens, Tx (East Texas) Bob was an avid hunter and always loved the shotgun. After a stint in Army and then to University of Texas. While at U.T. he was offered a job at the Athens, Tx newspaper as Managing Editor. While there he still managed to freelance for outdoor publications. From there he went to larger newspaper markets in Tyler, then Marshall, Tx.

He was then offered the position of Outdoors Editor of the Houston Chronicle (which he was for 40 years). Houston then opened the door to clay target shooting. He was then fortunate enough to meet Grant IIseng (many time skeet & trap shooting champion) at Greater Houston Gun Club. Grant became his mentor & lifelong friend. Bob shot & won in skeet, trap, and international trap. He made a run at earning a spot on the Olympic International trap shooting team in the 70's and was close until back surgery put an end that dream.

When he heard about live pigeon shooting, the clay shooting was over.

The 60's and 70's were spent shooting both columbaire & box pigeon shooting. He won or placed in many shoots and was TAPA All American numerous times.

The editor of *Field & Stream* had been reading Bob's freelance articles and traveled to see him shoot live pigeons. This led to Bob being hired at Shooting Editor of *Field & Stream*, a position he held for over 20 years.

Bob authored two books, *The Golden Crescent* (1961) and *Moss, Mallards and Mules* (1973), both a collection of fishing and hunting short stories. In 1976 he wrote *Shotgunning the Art & Science* which had a great impact in the shooting world and is still being sold worldwide in 2008.

In 1980 he went to England grouse shooting and also spent a week touring English Shooting Grounds. He fell in love with sporting clays and came back home and with the power of the pen in the Houston Chronicle and Field & Stream started a crusade to get sporting clays going in the U.S. It took a while to get any interest until Bob &

friends in 1983 organized the first sporting clays shoot in Houston at Greater Houston Gun Club using trap & skeet fields as well as supplemental traps and benefiting the DU Greenwing Program. The following year this shoot was held at the Orvis Shooting Ground,

The success of the Greenwing shoots prompted Bob & others in 1985 to organize a National Sporting Clays Championship at the Orvis Club. Again, the power of the pen stirred up interest and the shoot was attended by hunters and shooters from all over the country. That same year the U.S. Sporting Clays Assn. was formed with Bob as one of the founding directors.

During the years while writing daily newspaper columns, monthly magazine columns, having TV shows, making movies, and writing books he managed to travel the world from Africa to Argentina hunting and fishing.

He was also active in conservation efforts. He was instrumental in the creation of the Gulf Coast Conservation Assn. (now the national C.C.A.) to restrict commercial fishing on the Gulf Coast and preserve coastal fishing which resulted in the rebound of trout and redfish on the Gulf Coast.

In 1980 he led the crusade for non-toxic shot for waterfowl hunting. It was not a popular idea at the time, but in the end he was right and his efforts won him the National Wildlife Federation's national conservation award.

He shot sporting clays for over 20 years, including the years during cancer therapy. He never lost his enthusiasm for the game, and was always ready to help new and old shooters in an effort to further the sport.