NOMINEE BIOS

CHARLES BORN (regular Classes)

In 1964 my aunt Marguerite Manhart of Sugarbrook Kennels fame and one of the top black cocker breeders in the 50’s and early 60’s put a lead in my hands at a puppy match.  From there Cocker Spaniels, the people and the club have been a part of my life.   I was fortunate to grow up with and be mentored by her and so many other famous breeders from the past.  After college, as a breeder/ owner/handler we resumed a small breeding program and I finished over 20 champions and numerous others for friends.   When my career demands forced the end of our breeding program, I served as ASC Board Director, VP and President for 13 years.  I’ve mentored many judges and had the pleasure of judging over 20 specialty sweeps and numerous all breed match shows.  It was a thrill to breeder owner handle my own Futurity winner in 1985 and in later years judge bitches at the ASC National Futurity in St. Louis and the entire Futurity at the Flushing show in King of Prussia.  As a Life and Hall of Fame member of the ASC, it’s such an honor to be nominated to judge regular classes in 2020.  Thank you for your consideration.

KENNETH ‘CASEY’ COOPER (Futurity)

I was born & raised in Detroit Michigan. At the age of 24, I met the late great Mike Kinchsular of Lurola Cocker Spaniels, that was in 1984. I couldn't have had a better mentor & teacher. After traveling to a few local shows in Michigan, we drove to my first summer national in Lincoln Nebraska as his brush boy & kennel help. A few years later Mike hurt his back and so it was up to me to take over as handler. After some ups & downs I was honored to show some very nice dogs for some of the nicest people you could ever meet. One of those dogs was "LUROLA'S BAD BOY"(co-owned and bred by Mike and me) who went onto win Winners Dog and Best of Winners. "Isiah" was the very first non-champion dog or bitch ever to win an Award of Merit from the open class under J. Forsyth at The 1991 ASC in Secaucus NJ.

Other highlights as a handler was winning a specialty BOB from the 6-9 puppy dog class at the Mid Michigan Cocker Spaniel Club. Winning ASCOB Winners Bitch & Best of Winners from the 6-9 puppy class in 1997 under Mr. Calvin Ward. I have also won several Sweepstakes,  group wins & finishing over 30 dogs (many from the puppy class) during my time in the ring from 1988-1998. I am now living in Palm Springs California enjoying a great life with my husband G. Michael Crosby.

PATRICIA ELKINS (Futurity)

I am originally from the Dallas, TX area and started showing Cockers in 1998. I have 3 children and am a proud Army wife. Professionally, I am a Telecommunications Network Engineer.

Over the last 20 years I’ve bred 20 AKC champions as well as several champions in other countries. I pride myself on breeding dogs with excellent temperament and I’m proud to have bred dogs who have achieved titles in obedience, agility, hunting, tracking, and trick dog.

I am an ASC member, Washington State CSC member, & Secretary for the Bay Cities CSC. I am a conservation breeder and continually work on continuing education including breeding and structure seminars, ringside mentoring, and judging seminars. I am honored to be considered for judging the Futurity at our National Specialty.

MICHAEL FAULKNER (Regular Classes)

The sport of Purebred Dogs has been an integral part of Michael Faulkner’s life. As a youngster Michael was active in Junior Showmanship and assisted his parents with their kennel and breeding program (Golden Retrievers & Black & Tan Coonhounds). In the late 1960’s Michael acquired his first Golden Retriever, along with Field Spaniels in the 70s, starting a lifelong love for these two breeds.

During the late 1970’s Faulkner pursued his education earning his BFA, MS.ED, from Alfred University, Alfred, New York while maintaining a breeding program and actively showing his Golden Retrievers, Field Spaniels, Springer Spaniels and Pointers. Upon the completion of his education Michael established a partnership with the late David White. For 12 years this team dominated the Sporting Group, completing championships in all of the Sporting breeds, along with numerous group and best in show winners in all seven groups.

Michael has owned, bred and or exhibited eleven multiple best in show winning Golden Retrievers along with owning and breeding champion, Field Spaniels, Pointers, English Springer Spaniels, Black & Tan Coonhounds, and Pugs. He owes his passion and knowledge of the various breeds to his “English Mum” Mrs. Peggy Grayson (judge/breeder/author) who unselfishly took him under her wing as a youngster (1974) providing decades of mentoring. As a student of the sport, Michael spent countless hours with many of England’s great breeders including the late Rae Furness, Kay Holmes, Faith Gilham and many more over a span of forty plus years.

Michael ‘s vast understanding of the sport and the subtle nuances that make each breed unique is something he takes extremely seriously and refuses to compromise when evaluating breeding stock.

Faulkner retired as a professional handler in 1995 and immediately embarked on a judging career. Michael is approved to judge all Sporting breeds, all Herding breeds and numerous Hound, Working and Toy breeds. He is proud of his numerous national specialty assignment, international judging experiences, and multiple Westminster Kennel Club judging assignments.

Michael continues his Golden Retriever breeding program, is an active Board Member of Take the Lead, member of the GRCA and serves on the Breed Standard Committee.

When Michael is not judging dog shows he keeps busy with his artwork, kayaking, gardening, writing and serves as the Executive Director for a Health Clinic.

KEVIN FLINN IRegular Classes)

Thank you to the ASC members for this nomination to judge the 2020 National Specialty.  I got my first cocker back in 2004, a R/W mail.  I finished that dog owner handled at a specialty and I have been in love with this sport ever since.  I bred a few very nice litters that did some nice winning, but for me, showing for others is what I enjoyed.  Taking that young prospect and working with them and bring the best out of them for their owners.  I can relate it now to having the grand-kids, have fun and spoil them before you send them back home.  Currently I am licensed to judge the Cocker Spaniel, but once I am done with my "day" job I hope to pursue additional breeds and groups.   I never thought about judging, but with the convincing of Elaine and LaMar Mathis also Dick and Betty Duding I applied,  so happy I listened to them.  As a breeder judge I love to evaluate the future of our breeding stock and finding a well balanced Cocker that could work in the field all day long.  For me there is nothing more pleasing to the eye then the silhouette of a cocker on the move.

Again, thank you for this nomination.

JOEY SERRANO (Regular Classes)

I bred cockers under the Derano’s kennel name. I was very lucky to breed some very nice dogs that contributed to the breeed. I have judged numerous specialties, several times at ASC as well as internationally. It is an honor to be considered to judge the American Spaniel Club show; it is the pinnacle show for our breed. Thank you for your consideration.