

WHO IS ON THE BALLOT

REGULAR CLASSES

Genea Jones

My love of the Cocker Spaniel started when I was a child we had a red & white Parti sweetie, Andy. I have shown & bred Cocker Spaniels since 1988, and produced nearly 100 champions under the Ashwood or Ashdown kennel names. Ashwood is my original kennel name which I still use but, when I breed with my friend Bruce Van Deman, Southdown, we combine our kennel names to Ashdown. I have been blessed to be successful in my breeding program producing a multiple All Bred Best In Show winner who was top ranked among all breeds in the nation in 2014 - 15. Two Ashwood/Ashdown cockers have won the national specialty. I have had a Futurity winner and many other nice wins at the national and local level. I served on the American Spaniel Club board for a number of years as a zone director. I was the Financial Liaison for the Summer National 2013. I am very involved in my local cocker spaniel club, currently the President. When it comes down to it I love the Cocker Spaniel, I have willingly and passionately devoted a large part of my life to bettering it, both in the show ring and it's overall health. I have a great deal of experience evaluating puppies. I would be honored to judge the America Spaniel Club show.

Mark Ragusa

I started showing cockers in 1988 with a black bitch I purchased from my original mentor, Alice Barnes (Senrab). I spent all my free time reading through Alice's old breed magazines and studying pedigrees. I went to as many shows as possible with Alice and John Oulton, listening, watching, and learning. Under the Mario's Cockers prefix, my Mother and I bred on a limited basis while I raised two daughters. We finished dogs in all three varieties before concentrating on parti-colors. My love for parti-colors has not changed. Since 2009 and after meeting Marlene Ness (marrying in 2016) we have been blessed with much success in the black variety under the Mar-K's prefix.

I am a long time past president/show chair and current member of the Connecticut Westchester CSC and I have recently served two 3-year terms as a director at large on the ASC board.

I have had many memorable moments in dogs highlighted by 'Harley,' BIS BISS BIF Ch Mario N Somersets Sportster winning the futurity in 1999 and then his great grand daughter 'Hailey,' BIS BIF Ch Mar-K's Hot N Spicy winning it in 2014. I had the honor of judging the futurity in 2012 during a year in which 'Ace' ,BIS BISS CanGCH GCHG Mario N Beechwoods Midnight Express won the black variety at Westminster and went on to Top Dog All Breeds in Canada breaking all records in Canada for cocker spaniels in the process. Ace won BOB

at the US National in 2014.

Being nominated by my Peers to judge at National is truly an honor. Being voted in to judge at the National would be an unbelievable thrill of a lifetime topping any and all moments I have experienced in dogs!

Thank You for your consideration.

Joe Serano

I bred cockers under the DeRanos prefix. Some of our dogs went on to produce top winners as well as ASC, AKC, and Westminster group winners. I have judged internationally as well as at national and local specialties. Nothing gives me more pleasure than to see what breeders are doing to improve our loving breed

Barbara Shaw

Thank you for considering me as a candidate to judge the July 2021 National Specialty! This is such an honor!

As for my history: My husband and I began our odyssey in pure-bred dogs in 1977 with our first cocker spaniel, Spanky, followed by Darla. Two endearing pet cockers we found in a newspaper and on the wall at the vet's office. A trip to a boarding kennel introduced us to Marion Hunt of Pat-Mar Cocker. She had a litter of black puppies only 3-4 weeks of age. I looked into that box and noticed how different they were from Spanky and Darla. Without hesitating, I asked Marion, "How did you do that?" With that simple question, Our Gang cockers and kennel became a reality.

We have titled Cocker in all 3 varieties, enjoy looking ahead two or three generations with breeding considerations, and loving the fun we have with all of it! I became a judge; and, with that privilege, traveled around this country and the world interacting with people who share the same passion we all have for our dogs.

We still have a black cocker girl. Ester is, I believe, the first Cocker Spaniel to earn the AKC Temperament Test title. Ester was part of the trial tests before the final release to the kennel clubs. Cocker are so willing to do anything we ask.

Next on our horizon is breeding to our black dog, Ch. Our Gang's Harlem On My Mind, Winner's Dog 1989! The desire never ends. It never occurred to me in the beginning that our passion for animals would send us on this life-long journey. I am profoundly grateful for all that passion has given to us: friends who share the same neuroses! Thank you so much for the opportunity!

FUTURITY

Jessica Legath

I was born into cocker spaniels.

I learned to walk by leaning on our pet, "Little Bit". My mom and dad raised me through dog shows. I began showing puppies at puppy matches. There were a lot of them back then. I always loved showing the puppies for everyone.

I learned confirmation through the years by watching the people whom I admired. Of course my mom taught me a lot but I always went off to shows with others, including my hero, the late, great, Marty Flugel. Also, Ellen Roberts was always fun to go to shows with. She taught me things you can only learn by being in the moment. I was taught so many things by so many people.

My fondest memory was when I showed my first dog, MacGyver, to his championship. I started him at 6 months old and of course we didn't go to a ton of shows, but I finished him a year later. Not an easy feat back then as there were 9 or 10 handlers always in the ring at a time. At the CT cocker specialties, Ted Young, Jr (also a late great) rewarded me and MacGyver a 4 point major! Not a dry eye in the building.....great memories of all who were so happy for each other.

I will be retiring from handling and moving in to judging. It's something I will take great care in doing. I know I won't be perfect in everyone's eyes, but I will try my hardest to find the best dogs on that day.

If you will have me, I would love to judge at one of the most highly prestigious dog shows for the cocker spaniel fancy. It would be my pleasure.