

**CLUMBER SPANIEL KLUBBENS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW
ORBY, 3rd AUGUST 2003.**

I really enjoyed my trip to Sweden to judge the Clumber Spaniel Klubben 25th Anniversary Championship Show. The show was held at a beautifully spacious Leisure Park near Orby which is about a 50 minute run from Gothenburg. On the day the weather was most unkind but could not, and did not, dampen the spirits of either dogs or exhibitors. This was my second appointment in Sweden as I judged their Club Championship Show in 1987.

I had very comfortable accommodation within about five minutes drive of the ground and was chauffeur driven to and fro. What more could you ask? I was very well cared for and enjoyed the wonderful camaraderie of all gathered there.

I very much liked the dogs and was so pleased to see the wealth of talent in the breeder and progeny classes. There is quite a bit of American influence in the ring and I found absolutely no problem in judging Clumbers with full tails.

The dinner after the show was lovely and lively affair with the auction conducted by Kenth Akerman a real highlight. Plenty to eat, lots to drink and a wonderful friendly atmosphere made it an evening to remember.

I owe profuse thanks to so many people, too many to mention, but I must thank Annika and Kenth for looking after me so well at their lovely home and getting me safely to the plane on time.

So – to the dogs – the real reason for my journey. As mentioned it was a very wet day and I was soaked right through before long as the judging was all conducted outdoors. There were 77 entries in the various classes and I did enjoy going over them. It was interesting dictating an individual critique on each dog. This was transferred to a triplicated form, a copy of which was handed to each exhibitor. I like this system as it does prove to the owner that you really do evaluate the dog in front of you and it shows just exactly what you know about the breed. Sometimes it is difficult to tell. I shall try to give the correct classifications as I judged them.

Dogs

Puppy Dogs under 6 months (4 entries) 1st Marie Svanstrom's Chatarays Solo. Nice length, promising good depth of body. Deep flews, angulation OK and used well in good movement. Promising. 2nd Ingela Kjellberg's Reaggyboy. Sturdy boy of good depth but needs to build up a bit in quarters to strengthen rear movement. 3rd Annelie Norrman's Chatarays Shaggy.

Puppy Bitch (7, 1 absent) 1st Unni Mork's Chatarays Samanta. A very well balanced puppy with a very good front. True mover with good head and good neck and top line. 3 Best Puppy in Show Class. 2nd Annika Akerman's Sugar Loaf Samba Carioca. Not the biggest of puppies but with good lines all over and lovely quarters and good mover. Very promising and very feminine. 3rd Annelie Milton Bjork's Soulqueen.

Puppies 6-9 months (2) 1st Ulrika Faldt's Sallebacks Samba Pa Ti. A lovely, well grown puppy bitch. Strong all over. Well set back shoulders, head, neck and hocks all

in balance with strong quarters and good movement that goes with all this. A very good puppy with lots of promise for future. 2nd Annika Akerman's Sugar Loaf Toscana. Another well made youngster with good head set well on good strong shoulders and well angulated quarters with strength. Again a good mover and a picture standing. Balanced overall and promising for the future.

Best Puppy Challenge 1st Chatarays Solo, 2nd Sallebacks Samba Pa Ti, 3rd Chatarays Samanta.

Junior Class Dogs – No entries

Young Dogs Class – (5) 1st Madeleine Edin's JWW-03 Don's Baconroll. A well made dog with a lovely coat, good depth of chest. Good head well set on strong shoulders. Well developed quarters giving a good picture both standing and moving. Well balanced overall. Should do well later on. 2nd Ulrika Faldt's Westerly Gaels Fox On The Run. Another good moving dog with good front and rear extensions from good shoulders and quarters. Strong head. Needs tighten a little in front but very promising. 3rd Kenth Akerman's Sugar Loaf Yellowstone.

Open Dog Class – (3) 1st Agm Pinxteren's HL CH JNLW-01 Spice Twice Sir Cumin. Lovely dog of good length. Moved well despite being a little straight in stifle. A good Clumber overall. 2nd Christina Lindstrom's Mahsai's DS Nuclear Spycy Boy. Strong well muscled dog, strong masculine head, lots of coat. A bit stuffy in neck and moved a bit close behind. 3rd Inga-Lill Persson's Clumbrols Borsmaklare.

Champion Class Dogs – (13) 1st Ewa Blom-Eriksson and Cia Ytterell's SU(u)CH JWW-02 Sallebacks S.O.S. A lovely strongly made Clumber with all the attributes. Good head, strong well placed shoulders, lovely depth, good front and covered the ground well in movement. I liked him. My best dog and Reserve BIS. 2nd Madeleine Edin's SU(u)CH NUCH Don's Bond James Bond. The report is missing but I remember this is a striking dog, gleaming white, moving a dream but not just quite enough heartroom to challenge the first. Beautifully presented and moved really well. 3rd Mari Pimaa's FI & DK & NUCH JFINW-01 Spice Twice Ginger Finger. This was a very good class of worthy champions and many more deserve mention.

In the Best Dog Challenge Competition the places were 1st Sallebacks S.O.S; 2nd Don's Baconroll; 3rd Don's Bond James Bond; 4th Spice Twice Ginger Finger; 5th Ira Sarlin's Multi Titled South African Import Nonsuch Spycy Twyce who was 4th in the Champion Class.

Seniors 7-10 years Dogs (Absent)

Working Class – (2) 1st Ingella Barnett's SUCH Don's Hasta La Vista Baby. A finer dog showing that he works hard. Good shoulders and good length overall. In fit condition. 2nd Maud & Gunnar Svalstedt-Waern's SUCH Welladays Wannabee. Good headed Clumber. Looks well standing but carried too much weight which affected his movement which was very close behind.

Tracking Class – (7) 1st Sallebacks S.O.S; 2nd Spice Twice Ginger Finger; 3rd Nonsuch Spycy Twyce.

Bitches

Junior (1) 1st Ingela Barnett's UK Import Deuchars Glenscotia. Pretty bitch, feminine head but a little long in foreface but should grow into this as she matures. Nice depth, clean shoulders, good length of body and nice clean movement with extensions to both front and rear. A nice bitch with a very good straight front.

Young Dog Class Bitches (9) 1st Ingela Barnett's Westerly Gaels Wig Wam Bam. Another lovely moving bitch with good fore and extensions covering lots of ground. Strong well bent stifles and quarters as goes with the movement. Classic outline. In good balance and should do well. 2nd Annelie and Leif Norrman's Welladays Wild West Tribute. Beautifully balanced bitch, lovely neckline and strength. Lots of depth and plenty of heart room. Lovely bitch, strong enough yet feminine. Another beautiful mover extending to front and rear to cover the ground effortlessly. A nice Clumber girl. 3rd Ira Sarlin's Spice Twice Clockwise.

Open Bitch (7) 1st Ira Sarlin's Karlux Doris Day. Very well made bitch with good shoulder placement and well angulated quarters. Nice head. She has all the qualities of a good bitch but lacks confidence. With more handling in the ring I am sure she will do really well. I know she will get this experience. 2nd Therese Ohlander's Vrethojdens Pasta Blomma. Nice girl of good length. Could do with more heart room. Lovely front but moves close behind and could do with more work to build the necessary muscles to keep her rear legs apart. Should finish well. 3rd Gunilla Hising-Bohm's LPI Traddles Miss Rachel Wardle.

Champion Class Bitches (11) 1st Ira Sarlin's FI CH N CH FINW-01 Spice Twice Radiant Rosemary. An absolutely lovely bitch in every aspect. Lovely construction from head to tail. Balanced all over, lots of heart room, strong mobile quarters which enabled her to drive round the ring. Must have a Volvo engine inside there somewhere and looks just as much a Clumber when stacked. She'll do for me. My Best Bitch and Best in Show. 2nd Ingela Barnett's SU(u)CH NUCH Don's Ballroom Blitz. Happy bitch enjoying her show and just loving moving which she did so well altogether. Close up to 1st. 3rd Annica Hogstrom's SU(u)CH Don's Bring Home The Bacon. Again so many good bitches went ribbon less. A lovely class to judge. I have been lucky this year to have seen so many great Clumbers in USA and Sweden.

Seniors 7-10 years (4) 1st D. Johnson c/o Karin Brostam and Therese Ohlander's AMCH FINW-00 Clussex Ms Coffee Talk. A lovely bitch in very good condition. Nice depth of brisket, beautifully placed shoulders with front legs fitted well underneath. Lovely length of forearm allowing here to move exceptionally well aided by good quarters. Lovely top line. A real laster. 2nd Cia Ytterell's Sallebacks Before The Rain (Did OK during the rain!). Nice type of well angulated bitch, classic head, lovely depth, moves well and true. Good and fit. 3rd Ewa Blom-Eriksson's LPI LPII SUCH SVCH Sallebacks Mad About You.

Veteran Bitch (1) 10 years and over. 1st Cia Ytterell's Galadhrim Pearl of Wisdom. In very good condition. This 10 year old still shows them how to move. In good condition and belies her age. Classically made with good neck and shoulders and rear angulations still working extremely well as a driving force.

Best Bitch Challenge Competition. 1st Spice Twice Radiant Rosemary. 2nd Don's Ballroom Blitz. 3rd Karlux Doris Day. 4th Westerely Gaels Wig Wam Bam. 5th Welladays Wild West Tribute.

Working Class (3) 1st Annelie and Leif Norrman's INT & NORDUCH SV-00 SV-01 Welladays Basilica. Nice type of bitch. Good length and depth. Good mover front and rear. Covers lots of ground. Nice bitch altogether. 2nd Maud and Gunnar Svalstedt-Waern's SUCH Welladays Wild Life. Lovely feminine head. Strong bitch, parallel movement with lots of straight through drive. Typical Clumber picture. Very nice. 3rd Sallebacks Mad About You.

Tracking Class (8) 1st Spice Twice Radiant Rosemary, 2nd Vrethojdens Pasta Blomma, 3rd Gun Goransson's Mahsai's DS Sweet Dream Lady.

Progeny Group Dogs. My choice was a class of 3 combinations of 9 progeny sired by Nonsuch Spyce Twyce. This class included a good number of my class winners and placed dogs including my Best in Show. Beautiful, typical Clumbers and enjoying their walk around.

Bitches from Best Brood Bitch judged by her produce I chose Tine Niemi's SU(u)CH NUCH Agrippina. T5 Vrethojdens offspring again well together and looking a useful investment. No obvious faults.

Progeny Group. Tine Niemi's Vrethojdens Kennel. My best progeny group was from this kennel and they were so alike that I would have been hard put to it to separate them. Runners Up. The Spyce Twyce lot from Finland. Just differed in type a little because of the numbers but definitely carrying the same stamp.

Best in Show Selection was difficult and was a choice between two really eye-catching and typical Clumbers, I finally chose the bitch, Ira Sarlin's Spice Twice Radiant Rosemary as Best In Show and the beautifully fit and handsome Dog Sallebacks S.O.S, owned by Ewa Blom-Eriksson and Cia Ytterell as Best Opposite Sex and Reserve Best Show.

A really worthwhile exercise, enjoyable despite the weather. Type has changed a bit since my last stint over here and there is less colour. I was impressed with the general condition of the exhibits and was entirely happy with their presentation and handling.

The usual after-show dinner and auction was a fun affair and a rousing success. It was well attended and everyone there combined their efforts to make it a really memorable occasion. This is a Club with great comradeship and marvellous spirit. I loved being made part of it for my short time there.

Bill Ironside.