

Gaines United States Obedience Classic

Goldens Steal The Show

By Janis Teichman and Judy Myers

Long Beach, California and the Pacific Obedience Association hosted the Gaines United States Dog Obedience Classic on December 7 and 8, 1985. Dog and handler teams came from 25 states including 97 from California to compete in the Novice, Open and Superdog divisions of the two-day event. The Red and White shows were held on Saturday and the Blue show was held on Sunday at the Long Beach Convention Center. Entries for Super Open and Utility included 59 dogs, Open class had 60 dogs and Novice class had 70 contestants.

The excitement began with arrival at the Queensway Bay Hilton – the headquarters hotel on the water in Long Beach. The hotel was just down the road from the Queen Mary and the Spruce Goose. The hospitality suite was already busy as everyone gathered to collect their bag of souvenirs and enjoy a picnic on the lawn. Naturally, there were always many competitors who were sharpening up their four-footed partners at the practice area. The hotel was just across the water from the Long Beach Convention Center and the Shoreline RV Park where those with motor homes were staying.

The competition began with the traditional Star Spangled Banner and much excitement. Warm ups were allowed in adjacent rings. Spectators watched from a balcony that surrounded the rings.

Goldens were represented by some of the breed's best. In all, 49 Goldens competed. The next largest entry included 25 Shelties, 18 Border Collies, 16 Poodles, 13 Labradors, 7 Dobies, and 6 Papillons. Goldens placed four times in the Superdog finals, 7 times in the Novice and six times in the Open finals. A total of 17 Goldens won honors in the 30 placements available – a whopping 57% took home the ribbons.

In the Superdog division, 14 Goldens competed and 4 placed in the top ten. First place and the sterling silver dumbbell went to Northern California's own (and proud of it) Dee Dee Anderson and AM.CAN. OTCH SPLASHDOWN TESS OF CULYNWOOD, CDX. Dee Dee also took home a check for \$500 and had an average score for the three shows and six classes of 197.667. Hot on her trail was a Border Collie with a score of 197.417. Other Goldens that placed included: 4th – Deborah Ryan and OTCH RYAN'S MAJOR GOLDEN GLOW, 6th – Sherri Samel and OTCH SANDYACRE'S XIV KARAT GOLD, WCX, 8th – Alfred Einhorn and OTCH MEADOWPOND STARDUST REGGIE.

The Open division was also won by a Golden. Theresa Arnold from Swansea, MA and her Golden MEADOWPOND KEEPIN IN STRIDE, CDX won the honors with a score of 198.667. The Sunday's best score was also won by Theresa and Stride. Other Goldens that placed in the Open division include: 2nd – Connie Drobac and HERON ACRES MR. RYAN MVP, CD, 3rd – Sandra Tilden and EASTGATE'S GOLDEN JAZ TRIZAZZ, 6th – William Oman and DESTINY'S CHOICE FOR WILLIAM, CDX, 7th – John Carrabine and DAUX'S GOLDEN JACKPOT, CDX, and 9th – Sherri Samel and GOLD-SUN'S ENGAGING ENDEAVOR, CDX.

Proving that nobody can do it better, the Novice division results produced a Golden in first place. Laurie Snell of Kirkland, WA and EASTGATES GOLDEN BRUGGE swept 1st with a score of 198.000. Other Goldens placing in the Top Ten Novice dogs include: 2nd – Dean Seaton and AMBERAC'S MAGICAL KING, 3rd – Karen Wood and DORADO JUNGOLD ROK JAMMER, CD, 5th – Mary Fry and WYNWOOD'S DOUBLE DELIGHT, 6th – Sharon Fulkerson and WYNWOOD'S STRAIGHT SHOOTER, CD, 8th –



OTCH SPLASHDOWN TESS OF CULYNWOOD
Dee Dee Anderson, Redwood City, CA – 197.667

Judy Melrose and SUNSPRITES DREAM CHASER, CD, and 10th – Jerry Bibergall and SUNSPRITE'S KARAT GOLD.

Superdog Tess (co-owned by Lynn Fletcher) is also the Top Golden for 1985 and placed 2nd in AKC's OTCH point competition. Dee Dee and Tess appeared on the David Letterman show as guests of Gaines and have been busy with many local TV shows and news programs. Congratulations to all winners and participants. You have proven again, GOLDENS REALLY CAN DO IT!