

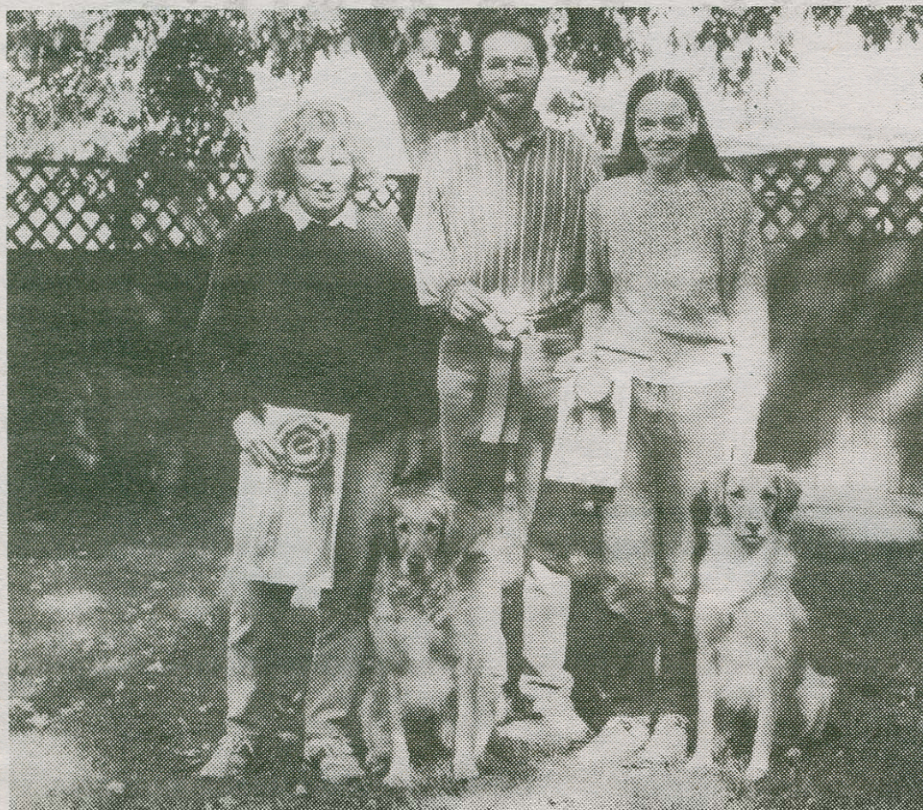
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWS

By Selma Ashley

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Dimity Mueller started her obedience career about ten years ago with her first dog, Mountain Charley's Elsa CDX. She was in Novice A when she noticed a young girl and a beautiful healing Golden Retriever in Novice B. That obedience team she was watching turned out to be Dee Dee Anderson and her young dog, Tess. Little did Dimity know at that time that in a few years she would be training with Dee Dee and OTCH Splashdown Tess of Culywood WCX was to become the 1985 Gaines Classic Super Dog Winner.



**Dimity Mueller, Billy Anderson, Dee Dee Anderson
with Corie and Cookie**

OTCH DD's Poppin Corie, owned by Dimity Mueller, finished her OTCH on October 3rd at Contra Costa Kennel Club. She was handled that day by Dee Dee Anderson. This culminated a goal that

has been a joint effort between Corie and three handlers: Dimity Mueller, Dee Dee Anderson and Billy Anderson.

Corie is a puppy out of Tess's third litter which was the second litter out of DD's Tagalong Thumper TD JH, another dog Dimity had watched and admired throughout his spectacular obedience career. Trips to visit Dee Dee in Redwood City for training started when Corie was a very young puppy. Corie has been a fun and challenging dog to train. She has a strong drive that gets her in a lot of trouble but also keeps her going through the tough spots.

When Corie was almost two years old and had just completed her CD degree, they had a major setback. She was running back and forth retrieving a ball when suddenly Dimity noticed her sitting with one paw held up. A trip to the vet determined that she had dislocated her shoulder! Her whole obedience career flashed in front of her as she worried about her ever being able to walk without a limp. The vet assured her that with lots of rest, she would fully recover. He was right and after a two month set back they went on to Open and Utility.

Corie almost received her UD within one year of her CD. Without the shoulder injury and the Loma Prieta Earthquake, they might have made it. (With Corie there are a lot of might haves, could haves, should haves and only ifs along the way).

Corie completed her UD on May 5, 1990, two days after her third birthday. Dimity was in the OTCH race with one foot in and one foot out until Santa Clara Kennel Club show on January 20, 1991 when she went

home with her first OTCH points: 31 for the day with a 1st in Utility B and a second in Open B. After two more shows and two more first places in Utility, they had 51 points. Dimity decided maybe this OTCH goal was not going to be that tough. Wrong!!! They stayed at 51 points for a long time.

Corie always seemed to pick the wrong times to come in season, resulting in missed shows. Then Corie's over exuberance got her in trouble again when she pulled a ligament in her shoulder and had to miss two more months of shows.

As life got busier and busier with a family and a part-time job, it got harder and harder to go to enough shows to make any progress. Corie would get trained in between soccer, baseball and volleyball car pools. Week-ends were either Dog Shows or kids Sports.

Dee Dee started showing Corie when she could. Her first time out with Corie on 10-5-91 she got a first in Utility for 6 more points. That gave Corie and Dimity a spark of good luck and they began getting a few points here and there and by Spring of 1992, Corie had about 75 points. A big thrill came when Corie received a long awaited first place in Open B at Sacramento Kennel Club on 4-12-92 with a 199. She also received High Combined that day with a second place in Utility B and High in Trial (Their first).

Dee Dee was then starting to show her young dog, DD's Made from Scratch, Cookie, for her UD degree. Off Corie would go to the shows with Dee Dee, Cookie, Billy and their two children. She would show Corie in Open and Cookie in Utility. A few points here and there with Dee Dee and Corie needed the unlucky number of 13 points to finish. Cookie, by the way was getting her share of blue ribbons and High in Trials and started collecting many OTCH points of her own. Since it was hard for Dee Dee to show both Cookie and Corie in two classes each, Billy then started showing Corie in Open B. Billy and Corie did great in Open B on 9-7-92 and received a 199.5 and High in Trial out of Open B at Fresno Dog Training Club. Corie and Cookie had tied for 1st in Utility the day before at Sun Maid Kennel Club with Dee Dee handling both dogs. Cookie won the run off and Corie got one point for second place. Thanks to Dee Dee and Billy, they had broken the unlucky number of 13!

On 10-3-92, Corie and Cookie went to Contra Costa with Dee Dee showing both dogs. Corie needed 8 points to finish. Cookie needed 31 points to finish. Under Judge Selma W Ashley in the Utility B class Cookie and Corie tied. Dee Dee again had to do a run off with both dogs not knowing what place she was contending for. Miracle of miracles, Corie won the run off, it was for 1st place and finished her OTCH with points to spare! Second place would have left her 1 point shy of finishing. She also won High Combined that day!

Corie is now a pampered member of the Mueller household. You can't train and show a dog to an OTCH without developing a very close relationship with your dog Corie is Dimity's constant companion and is full of mischief and spirit no matter what she is doing. They have many good times ahead of them and are looking forward to completing the Junior Hunting title and more field training.