

MOCABEE

HAPPYMAC

Roberta (Bobbie) Mocabee

My start in Westies probably has a familiar ring to it: “I bought a Westie for a pet from a local litter and decided to show him for the fun of it.” Of course I then became “hooked” on dog showing. I was one of a group of the original people including Don and Nancy Davis and Dee and Bill Burdick, who re-activated the WHWTC of California in the early 1960s. I have been a member of the club since that time and also belonged to a number of all-breed clubs.

My mentors in the early years were Laura Sutherland and Dee Burdick who were always very helpful. Since there were no other breeders in the area at the time, I was completely self-taught by observation and practice in evaluating litters and young stock as well as grooming. I spent time observing others and also received help from many people over the years,

My profession as a registered nurse eventually interfered with my new found hobby so I retired to devote full time to breeding and showing Westies. I moved to Stanton, California in 1964 and opened Happymac kennels where I groomed and handled my own dogs.

I look back on my almost 40 years of association with dogs, 24 of which were in the kennel business, with the satisfaction of having bred and/or personally finished 42 Westie champions, nine Sealyham champions, and one Kerry Blue champion. Several of my dogs also held multiple titles. One of my most memorable moments was seeing my first home bred finish her championship shown by my husband, David.

I also had many other Westies and Sealyhams who were titled when I acquired them. In this category I must mention Eng., Am Ch. Ardenrun Andsome of Purston. “Andy’s” record was legendary with 40 All Breed Bests in Show and 119 Group firsts. I was privileged to keep “Andy” for his owner, Dr. A. T. Hunt, after his show career was over. He proved to be a great stud dog as evidenced by his siring many champions while in my care. Tops among brood bitches, was Ch. Whitebriar Jesta who was number one Brood Bitch in 1982 with eight champions. “Jetty” produced five champions from one litter of eight by “Andy”. A favorite young dog was Ch. Happymac’s Top of the Line who finished his title at 15 months from the Bred by Exhibitor Class with four straight majors.

My favorite dog show is Montgomery County. It is a wonderful experience to see all the top terriers in one show. John Marvin was the author who influenced me most – his books and “Jottings and Trimmings” which predated *Westie Imprint*. Over the years I

have acquired a large number of Westie collectibles which will go to the Westie Foundation. I will always remember my first and favorite Westie. He was not quite good enough to show but he taught me how wonderful the Breed is.

Eventually the kennel business became too much for me so I gave up breeding and showing and devoted full time to judging. I have retired from judging, but was licensed to do the Terrier Group and one-half of the Sporting Group. I have never regretted having devoted over half my life to dogs and in particular to my beloved Westies!