

SHERRARD

MISTYBRIER

Kay Sherrard

Why Westies: It was my husband's choice. He loved terriers, and I wanted a second dog (our first was a Sheltie). So, I chose something that I knew he would like. While it was not my first choice of breeds initially, eventually it became so.

Where obtained? Our first came from Christine Swingle.

Pet or show? That first Westie was purchased as a show dog, but an injury she sustained at six months rendered her ineligible for the show ring. Instead, I showed her very successfully in obedience.

Most important mentor? Christine Swingle, since it was she from whom I purchased my first Westie.

Remember most about Mentor? Her deep love of Westies.

Other mentors: Christine's sister, Judy, who helped me with grooming, and Bettina King and Barbara Langdon, who owned the first stud I used, and who were a wealth of information and Westie history.

Most memorable moment? Winning a "Best in Match" at the large Farmington Valley KC match with Mistybrier Solitaire (who went on to become a champion and earn a CD degree).

Favorite show: That would be the Farmington Valley KC when it was held in Farmington, Connecticut, because it was close to our home and held in a beautiful setting, and the Hodgenville, Kentucky show because of the lovely area where it was held, and because the food was wonderful.

Learned grooming? I almost always groomed my own dogs, and was taught by Christine and Judy Swingle. Plus, there were always LOTS of help from friends at dog shows, both in Kentucky and Connecticut.

Litter evaluation? All of the people mentioned above helped me evaluate pups. In Kentucky, Betty Williams was a great help. Melinda Lyon and Debbie Owen also helped with later litters.

Favorite Westie: Bonnie Brier Misty Morning, CDX - my first one. She attained a national ranking in obedience. We were always in tune with one another. She was very smart, although she had an independent streak. My husband's favorite was undoubtedly Ch. Mistybrier Feisty Fiona, CD. The first Westie that I remember having a significant impact on the breed was Ch. Elfinbrook Simon.

Montgomery: I don't remember which year it was, but I remember a Montgomery with a LOT of rain, and the lengths we had to go to in order to keep the furnishings of the dogs clean and dry.

Centennial: The greatest thing about the Centennial was to see many old friends there. I had been inactive for a number of years, and it was the first I had seen of them in a long time.

Influential authors: John Marvin and Ruth Faherty.

Favorite collectible: A Westie needlepoint of Misty done by my sister.

Regional clubs: Westie Club of New England when I lived there.

Future? The future of the breed is a bright one because of the large number of caring people who are actively involved in all phases of the breed.

The WHWTCA members can assure the well-being of the breed by adhering to the standard when evaluating their dogs, adhering to the Code of Ethics, and always striving to learn more about the breed. Don't make the mistake of trying to please every judge or follow every trend. Stick to the standard.