

Breed First - SBCA High In Trial



Wintersets Penny Ante

Ken Nelson

By Ken Nelson

I was Show Chairman for the 1974 National, and had decided to offer Obedience competition for the first time. The Board went along with the proposal, but was dubious whether the entry would justify effort.

About 6 weeks before the Show I began to panic about the entry, so I decided to make an entry...even though I didn't have any Obedience dogs in the kennel. For some reason I can't recall, I decided I would at least try to train Penny enough that she wouldn't make a complete fool of me in the ring.

To my great surprise she learned most of the exercises very quickly but wasn't very reliable on sits and downs. And, since she had never been to a dog show, I wasn't very confident that we would qualify, much less score very well.

However, when we got to Kalamazoo she settled down quickly and, again to my surprise, worked better than she ever had in training. The judge, Mr. Al Meuneke, commented later, "She worked more like a Golden Retriever than a giant breed." If I recall correctly, she qualified twice more that same week to earn her CD.

I don't recall the exact entry, but it was enough that the Board agreed to keep offering Obedience as a regular feature of the National Specialty.

The sad part of the story is that Penny died from bloat about 2 weeks after the National, so I never had a chance to see how well she would have done in advanced classes.

By the way, the trophy presenter is Margaret Hamisch. Paul and Margaret designed and made all the trophies for the 1974 Specialty.

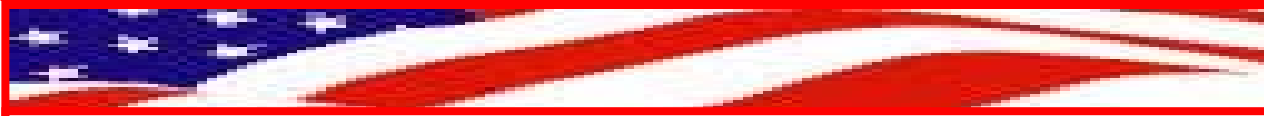
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First to win the
SBC of America National Specialty
Obedience Trial

May 24, 1974



The Saint Bernard Club of America's 1974 National Specialty Winners

Date: May 24, 1974

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Judges: Roy Stenmark (I) John Staneck (D) Larry Powell (B)

Dogs In Competition: 334

Obedience: NB 197.5



BOB: CH Stanridges Thor Of Opydke



BOS: CH Sanctuary Woods Litany



WD/BOW: Stanridges D G
Cadet Of Bemar



WB: Belaps Brenda V Zetto



HIT: Wintersets Penny Ante
Judge: Albert Munneke