

LINES FROM LINDA

BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

SPECIAL DELIVERY for Annie Clark



MISSING FROM THE SCHEDULED JUDGING PANEL AT THE HOST GREENVILLE KENNEL CLUB'S FOOTHILLS CLUSTER WAS MRS. JAMES EDWARD CLARK.

*Annie, while you are recuperating from your recent surgery, our club members and guests are sending you very special greetings and memories via **SHOWSIGHT Special Delivery***

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Judy Beltz, Greer, South Carolina

Get well soon!! We miss you.

I brought my five year old Pembroke Welsh Corgi out to play in the Best of Breed Competition. Ch. Martindale Covert Fox Patrick took Best of Breed under Annie Clark – then went to Herding Group and took first in the group. Thank you, Mrs. Clark for a wonderful weekend seven years ago. Patrick was a true showman. Thank you for his first Breed after he had been sitting in the kennel for three years.

Judge, Breeder, Owner/Handler

Beverly Eichel, Monroe, North Carolina

AKC had just put their “push” on observing in-ring when I attended an institute at the Houston Astrodome. I never got a chance to observe under Annie, as everybody was asking to be in her ring to learn at the hands of one of the greats. She is missed.

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Leigh Ann Yandle, Monroe, North Carolina

You have meant so much to the fancy. It's not the same without you. Hurry Back!

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Charlotte Ross, Donalds, South Carolina

It was always a pleasure to show to you and I have enjoyed your handling lessons. I have always respected your judging. We really missed you at our shows in Greenville. Hurry and get well!

Judge

Anna Wanner, Varina, North Carolina

I wish you the best. We need you so hurry and get going. You did it before so do it again.

Looking forward to seeing you in the ring!

Handler

Tim Gains, Franklin, Tennessee

Best wishes for a Speedy Recovery!

Get some much needed rest as the dog world needs you back in the ring!



John Lyons, Chief Operating Officer of the American Kennel Club and your author with well wishes for Annie.

*AKC Judges Institute
Speaker Annie Clark*

*A Favorite Photo
by
Linda Ayers
Turner Knorr*



When I was young I was sent to a boarding school, where we had housemothers that were strict and well respected. I have always had the utmost respect for the way Ms. Clark ran her ring and went about her evaluations of the dogs. So much, so that when she asks me to do something in the ring, I usually answer with YES SIR! Now it has become something that tickles me. Before it was embarrassing!

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Virginia Stonebraker,
Bluefield West Virginia

Breeder/Owner/Handler

J. B. and Erika Mallard,
Hephzibah, Georgia

Best wishes for a speedy and full recovery. May you always have fair winds and following seas.

Thanks for your years of guidance and encouragement. It's because of you that so many of us are still showing dogs.

Owner/Handler

Meg Farmer, Henderson, Kentucky
May your recuperation be swift and complete!

Before that late summer weekend, I had never put a point on a dog. The truth is that I hadn't been in the ring but twice. I had a high-spirited Vizsla (even for a Vizsla) on my arm. And I was getting ready to show my Z to a judge named Annie Clark. **Little did I know that, I was getting ready to go to the Annie Clark school of how to handle a dog!** My class was instructed to go around with our dogs on a loose lead. "Gee, a loose lead versus what?" was crossing my mind. When it was Z's and my turn to do the triangle, I got to do it and then I got to do it again. Then I got to do a down and back over and over, each time with instruction on how to hold the lead, what to do with Z's head, and other instructions that have been lost between the floors of my mind. In spite of me, Annie Clark saw a bitch she liked and awarded her the class win. Then to my total amazement, she awarded Z and me with the winners bitch ribbon! In that ring that day was a fellow that Mrs. Clark must have been training. After

all was said and done, he walked past me and without a word just patted my shoulder. I could see the look of pity in his eyes. Actually, I felt that Annie Clark was the one to be pitted. She had to work really hard that day. **I'm sure she was thinking "this is not my job". Then again, maybe she was thinking, "this is what my job is all about!"**

Owner/Handler

Pat Hodges,
Lewisburg, West Virginia

You are in our thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery.

Shirley VanCamp,
Greater Monroe Kennel
Club, Monroe, NC

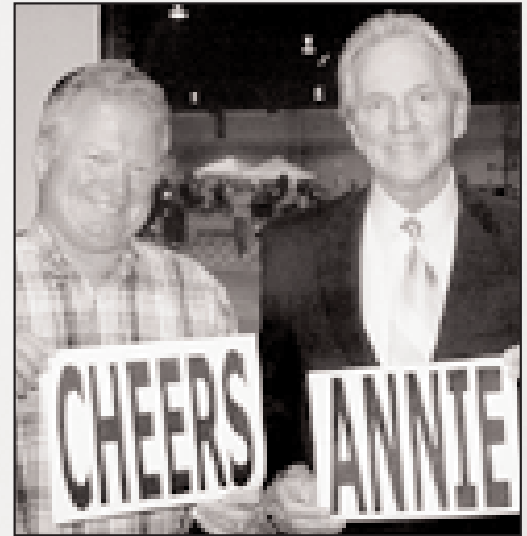
The first year of the Louisville, Kentucky March shows you judged Borzoi. I finished my first "Breeder Owner Handled" bitch under you. You also gave her breed over Best In Show specials and her litter mate owned by me and handled by my husband, was Best of Opposite. That was a "special" weekend!

Thank you!

Karen & Phil Cramer,
Shelbyville, Indiana

We hope your recuperation is going well and you will soon return to judging. We miss showing to you as we always knew we would get an honest evaluation by "the best"

Annie judged our Dandie Dinmont bitch as National Specialty winner in





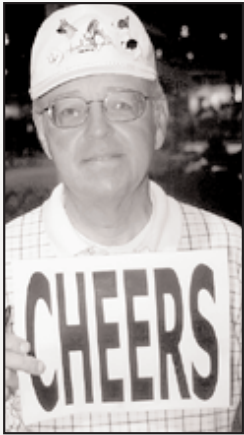
1999 at Columbus, Ohio. We were proud, but especially proud to have achieved this honor under Annie Clark!

Breeder, Owner

Don and Betty Lou Wood,
Simpsonville, South Carolina

Best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

Mrs. Clark had given our Great Dane, Bubba, Best of Breed. We were in the ring talking while we waited for the photographer. She spotted something outside the ring and excused herself. When next I saw her she was holding an albino Boa Constrictor.

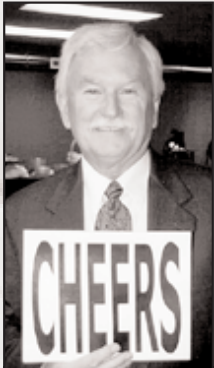


Owner, Breeder

David Sombach, Ashland, Virginia

My thoughts and prayers are with you for a speedy recovery and look forward seeing you back at the shows. That void cannot be filled.

I would have to say one of my fondest memories of Mrs. Clark – The Judge – was back in the early 80’s when I was still apprenticing. I was campaigning a German Shorthaired Pointer from a kennel in California. This Ch. Dog was big!! He fit in with dogs being shown in California but was a lot of dog for East Coast rings. Anyhow, he was doing quite well in the breed ring, despite his size and enthusiasm!! Actually, one needed a strong hand to keep him under control. At five years of age he was like a wild pony!! To be nice I was at some shows in Long Island and Mrs.



Clark awarded him Best of Breed despite the crowd’s disapproval – mainly because he was only in control part of the time. Come group time, as she was going over the dog – she quietly – in her manner of speaking said to me “You and I are under the magnifying glass

here!” (as she had many people question her judgment earlier in the day). **“I don’t care how you do it, or how long it takes, but you are going to move this dog down and back, under perfect control!”** Well, knowing this dog’s reputation for acting like an untrained German Shepherd at the end of the breed – adding the intimidation factor sure that seemed to emanate from this great dog lady, my heart was racing and I was sweating bullets. I moved the dog on his down and back, starting very slowly, got to the end of the mat in a ring that seemed like it was a mile long – made it back to her and free baiting my charge. She looked at us for a long minute (I’m sure it was seconds in real time). Then said “That was good – that was for the crowd – now I want you to do the same thing for me!!” The look in my expression could have spelled terror/fear/confusion all at once. I moved the dog again and he was perfect to me that day! She instructed me to go around to the end and I was never so thankful to get through an individual examination in my life.

I will never forget that day, nor will I forget the lesson learned about control under pressure situations by a wonderful dog purist, Annie Clark.

Owner/Handler

Jamie Clute, Carrollton, Georgia

The Moses Mob is thinking of you and we are praying for your speedy recovery in your absence from the world you love so much. May your fond memories of the sport bring you comfort until you once again are in the middle of the ring giving your stamp of approval.

The Moses Family

Owner/Handler

Debbie King, Greenville Kennel Club Vice President, Greenville, South Carolina

Hope your recovery is speedy and long lasting. We look forward to showing to you again.

Loved the article on you in the AKC Gazette. You are truly gracious and a class act both inside and outside the ring!

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Alan F. Ream, Easley, South Carolina

Wishing you a speedy recovery!

Thank you for being such a great example to the Dog Show Fancy.

Your methods and manners in the ring are appreciated by





amateurs and professionals alike

Your courtesy in dealing with kennel club members and new show chairmen are an example to all.

Thank you for making the past 12 years a great experience every time I've been in your ring.

My partner David finished his First Brussels Griffon under Mrs. Clark in Lexington, KY.

While having their picture

taken I was helping to set up the bitch. Then, I proceeded to tell David to straighten his tie, button his coat, etc.

Annie said with her much loved sense of humor – "You have to go through all this and put up with him too" to which I replied, "Yes, and Harriet Rathbun and I co-bred the bitch."

Annie told David how sorry she was, as she knows how picky and critical both Harriet and I are about our Griffs!

Breeder

Vivian Moran, Waddy, Kentucky

Best wishes for a speedy recovery. We all want to see you back in the ring, pointing to Best in Show real soon!

A few years into my show life I had one of my Cardigans in the ring in Louisville under Annie. Many of us were on the ground hand stacking our dogs. Annie instructed everyone to get on their feet, stop showing our dogs like toys and present them like the herding dogs they were.

Owner/ Handler

Steve Johns, Waxhaw, North Carolina

Get well soon. You belong back in the ring.

My first Group placement as a handler came under Mrs. Clark in 1995 at the Piedmont Kennel Club show in Charlotte, North Carolina. It was a Group Two for Ch. Row-Bar's Southern Heritage, my Smooth Collie Special at the time.

Judge, Owner/Handler

Susan Adams, Atlanta, Georgia

Annie, I think about you all the time. The sport needs you – come back soon!

All of my memories of Annie are special! Annie has taught me so much about showing. She loved my Katie – Annie is a part of all my show memories.

Owner/Handler

Chris Reid of Dog Show Tours, Denver, North Carolina

Hope to see you back in the ring soon!!

Speedy recovery!

Long ago I had the good fortune of obtaining a Norfolk Terrier from Mr. and Mrs. Clark. Mrs. Clark was watching me in her driveway as I gaited the pup, she stopped me and offered some pointers, then handed me one of her seasoned champions to work with. I gaited this dog as she watched. Afterwards she asked "if I could walk and chew gum at the same time?" I was so thrilled just to be there that I replied, "right now I don't think so!"

Judges

Ed and Dot Martin, York, South Carolina

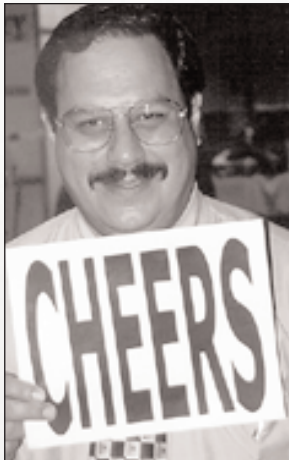
We hope you are doing well and recovering quickly from the surgery.

Use your quiet time to enjoy yourself and be self indulgent.

Everyone misses you but we all are hoping for a complete and speedy recovery.

I remember in-ring observing breeds the most. Also I remember attending the Judge's Breed Seminar at the Poodle National in





Maryland. Annie was the presenter and brought a lovely black standard bitch and taught us how to examine a poodle correctly. I also enjoy reading your articles in the magazines.

Superintendent
Bob Carlough

Hi Annie,

Hope you are feeling better and will be back at the shows very soon.

My favorite story happened a few years back now. I had just started as an MB-F Superintendent and was pulling sheets in Annie's ring and she asked me what had placed in the Groups so far. Well I did not know and had to tell her that. Believe me I learned very quickly to always know that information now!

*All my best wishes to you,
Bob Carlough, MB-F*

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Jean Bjork Mirloon, Mill Spring, North Carolina

Best wishes for a quick recovery. I enjoy your judging and hope to see you back in the rings soon.

Judge, Breeder, Owner/Handler

Meg Weitz and Michael Greenberg, Yanceyville, North Carolina

We send out good wishes for a speedy recovery and everyone's looking forward to your being back to judging.

*Warm wishes,
Meg and Mike*



Handler

Bob Double, Renfrew, Georgia

Annie,

Missed you at the Weimaraner Futurity Maturity.

Hurry back soon.

Breeder, Owner/Handler

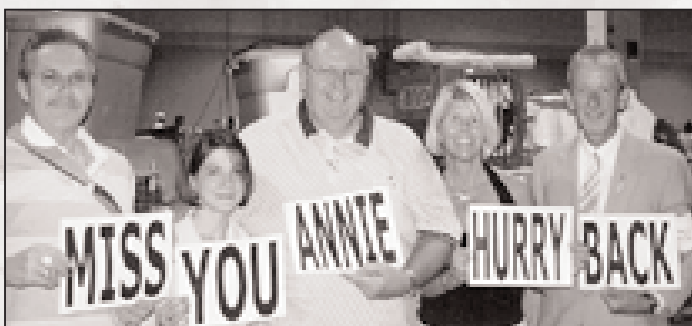
Jane Hammett, Jackson Springs, North Carolina

Best wishes for a speedy and healthy recovery. This sport needs you and your knowledge. We all miss you!

Favorite memory was in Washington, DC at the Smithsonian when Annie was the host to the Scottish Wags, a program about Scottish Dogs or dogs who descended from Scotland. Annie captivated her audience with quick wit and great knowledge about each breed. She received a standing ovation for five minutes. It was an honor to be standing up on the stage with her and my Sheltie Ch. Shadow Hill's Air Force One Century Club Open Agility, Novice Agility Jumpers standing with me.

Breeder, Owner/Handler

Van and Annette Pusey, Raleigh, North Carolina



Annette and I wish you well. The shows aren't the same without you.

I remember one show Mrs. Clark was judging 6 – 9 class. She asked me the age of my dog as she usually does (and I should know that). Catching me off guard I said 11 months. She said, "Van, why are you in here then?" I then remembered his age. My respect for (Annie) Mrs. Clark always made me nervous.

*Always,
Van and Annette Pusey*

Breeder, Handler

John Oulton, Norwalk, Connecticut

My very best wishes to you. Please take care and I hope to see you out and about very soon.

I am sure you remember the Centennial '86 when I showed Chorrine to you and you gave me the breed. Also thank you again for Kirby's first Best in Show. He is fourteen

years this December and looks great.

*Love,
Little John, Kirby*

Annie, what about our earthquake?

Remember that great photo I took of you leaning at the podium at our AKC Judges Institute in Ontario, California? I loved eating with you and Frank Sabella and recalling the old days.

Annie, you have been loved by my own Roy Ayers Family most all of my life.

Prayer changes things! You're in ours.

*Cheers,
Linda Ayers Turner Knorr*

