

Inaugural Pacific Specialty a resounding success!

No matter how you measure it – by the weather, the spirit of the day, or the presentation of many stunning Salukis, the first Pacific Saluki Specialty was a resounding success.

Our little BC committee (to whom I am indebted with gratitude) – Georgie, Marcel, Margaret, Donald and me – were very pleased that our Canadian Salukis showed so well. It meant that the first Della Cup was awarded to local SCOC member Roberta Parish with her lovely bitch, 'Elle.' It seems fitting that the cup should remain on home turf this time around as Della worked so hard to bring this show to fruition.

My express gratitude goes to both Georgie Paone and Jennifer Pite. Georgie not only "co-chaired" with me, she also slaved for days preparing a fantastic feast for lunch. This was our main fundraiser and we did quite well by it. Thank you, Georgie! Jennifer came over from Vancouver Island just to run the auction. It was fairly chaotic at the start because the clubs were combining efforts and communication was, well.... very human.

Jennifer pulled it all together and things ran smoothly.

Marlyn and Greg Peet treated our judges to Five Star accommodation at their home, something the rest of us appreciated as much as Lesley and John did.

The icing on the cake was the judging. Both Lesley and John have a kind and sensitive approach to the dogs and the exhibitors, which, I am beginning to understand, makes a show chair's job much easier.

Lesson learned, though, always confirm the ring steward personally. I won't elaborate, suffice to say that we had a terrific ring steward, just not the one we'd originally planned.

A very special thanks, also, to Sandra who is truly amazing at keeping us all in order, and Patty who took on the unenviable task of chairing the Western Specialty Committee. It was through her diplomacy and ingenuity that we were given the opportunity to initiate the Pacific Saluki Specialty.

– Susan Mitchell, Show Chair

John and I so rarely get away together these days, so it was doubly a pleasure to have both of us invited to judge at the Saluki Club of Canada's Pacific Specialty. Not only did we have the honour of assessing some truly beautiful Salukis, we also got a mini vacation in the bargain as well! Peace Arch Park is such a lovely venue with lots of cooling trees around for shade, a definite blessing this year with the heat. So thank you to the SCOC for inviting us and to its hard-working club members who made the show a reality. A special thanks needs to go to Margaret Coe and Susan Mitchell for their hard work in making all the various arrangements and to Marlyn and Greg Peet for their unparalleled hospitality while we were up there, which included fighting airport traffic on our behalf and letting us watch movies in their personal home theatre (it was Mama Mia and we loved it!). We also want to thank our last-minute substitute ring steward, Chelsea Mosher, a Junior Ibizan exhibitor, who valiantly stepped up to the plate and coped admirably when the regularly scheduled steward failed to appear. We especially enjoyed the after-party at the Peet's amazing home where we got a chance to meet some of the exhibitors in a more relaxed (not at a show!) environment. So thank you one and all.

– Lesley Brabyn



PHOTOS BY ELAINE

Sweepstakes results

Judge: John Brabyn



Best in Sweepstakes and WD/BOV/BP

YOUTH SWEEPSTAKES

6 to 9 Month Dog

1st **Scimitar Avari Aajah Jager**
Owner: Cathi Steiner

A refined puppy with potential. Was presented well, very sound moving and nicely balanced when stacked.

2nd **Dadaelis Az'ai Nyren Suka Yakone**
Owner: Deborah Dillman

Beautiful colour, and preferred this puppy's substance to the winner. Hard to assess movement; could use more ring training. When stacked, was high in rear at this stage, which could change with age. Could use a stronger topline.

6 to 9 Month Bitch

1st **Scimitar Avari Aajah Sapphira**
Owner: Cathi Steiner

Nice moving puppy, sweet expression and a great attitude. Would prefer more substance and less rear angulation.

12 to 18 Month Bitch

1st **Aziz Ejare**
Owner: Darin Collins

Nicely feathered, flashy black-and-tan. Lots of curves and a great underline. Well presented. Would prefer less arch to topline.

Best in Sweepstakes
Scimitar Avari Aajah Jager

Best Opposite in Sweepstakes
Aziz Ejare

**WHAT I DID
LAST SUMMER**
by Elle

... Finally got to a show!



... Then I went to the
Pacific Regional Specialty!



Specialty results Judge: Lesley Brabyn

After you've been judging awhile, you find that each show has its own personality. There are common, predominant trends – some virtues, some vices – among the entries at every show. On this day, I found dogs to be generally well presented and in excellent condition.

There appeared to be few temperament issues. I saw no unacceptable bites and basic soundness was, on the whole, much better than I have seen elsewhere. On the negative, there were several downsloping toplines, without the slight arch over the loin. While this may produce a racy silhouette, it is not a Saluki silhouette and should be heavily penalized. Also, way too many pasterns were straight as sticks. Just where is the cushion supposed to come from for these running hounds when they are leaping over hill and dale if all you allow them is a rod, not a spring? Ask your mechanic to give you rods instead of springs in the suspension of your next car and just see how THAT feels

when you take it for an off-road spin. And then see how long the rest of the car lasts over time and how many parts begin to fall off or warp. A slight bend to the pastern performs an invaluable function and let us not forget what that is, even though you personally may not be taking your dogs coursing.

If you breed Salukis, you must keep in mind function. If you cannot do this, then get a breed where this is not a factor. If you are new to Salukis, please do your homework and should you decide to breed at a future time, ground your decisions in the history and function of the breed. The Saluki has been very effective at what it does for thousands of years, so let's not change it now.

It was most reassuring to find that the ultimate winners on this day were sound, moderate and balanced Salukis, who could hold their own wherever in the world they might compete.

– Lesley Brabyn

6 to 9 Month Dog

1st **Scimitar Avari Aajah Jager.** 12/2/08.

Breeders: Cathi Steiner & Wanda Sirianni, by Miriah's River Runs Thru It ex Sirianni Red Scimitar. Canada. Owner: Cathi Steiner.

Irish-marked black-and-white. Flowing outline, very smooth and light on the move and sound coming and going. Pretty head, great attitude. Nicely constructed front set under dog, strong topline and has some width to second thigh. Well presented. Will be quite an elegant, dramatic dog when he grows up. Would prefer slightly more bend to pastern and a little less rear angulation.

2nd **Dadaelis Az'ai Nyren Suka Yakone.** 1/9/08.

Breeder: Marilyn Labrache Brown, by Ch. Dadaelis Kenai Fjords ex Ch. Dadaelis Azali Farouk. Elsewhere. Owner: Deborah Dillman.

Less mature red boy of a different type. Not quite so together on the move today as the winner nor as smooth in shoulder, but one could see glimpses of what he could become with time. Has a lot of potential.

Bred By Exhibitor Dog

1st **Miriah's Shall We Dance.** 11/13/04.

Breeder: Maureen Clark, by Miriah Poetic Justice ex Miriah's What Dreams May Come. Elsewhere. Owner: Maureen Clark.

Cream. This dog has a very deep brisket, with nice flow to the underline with a good tuckup and a nice long tail. Excellent condition. Would prefer less downward slope to the topline and a little more bend to the pastern.

Open Dog

1st **Dadaelis Zo'lo Cool Hand Look.** 10/15/07.

Breeders: Heather Ayre & Marilyn Labrache Brown, by Dadaelis Monab Apollo ex Ch. Dadaelis Zoe. Elsewhere. Owner: Kathleen L. Jones.

Dramatic, tall, shaded-red dog. Excellent on the move, both on the down and back and from the side. Very pleasing head with correct oval eye and dark pigment. Deep brisket, excellent tuckup. Very well presented and a great attitude. A little higher in withers than I prefer and I would like to see a little more spring to the rib cage.

2nd **Dadaelis Kushiels Scion Of T'Cai.** 11/4/07.
 Breeders: Marilyn Labrache Brown & Heather Ayre, by Ch. Dadaelis Cairo ex Ch. Dadaelis Tirzah. Elsewhere. Owners: Erika Parton, Tomme Trikosko & Marilyn Brown.

A cobbler black-and-tan, this little dog pushed the winner hard. I loved his type and he was very sound coming and going. Had an excellent shoulder assembly with correct layback to shoulder and upper arm with the assembly set properly under the dog – the best front construction in the class, if not in the entry. However, he did not have the easy side gait I was looking for and seemed to have to work hard to get around the ring. Ironically, he was moving much better later on in the day when he was perhaps, a little more relaxed.

3rd **Dadaelis T'cai Juuso Wushk Samr.** 11/04/07.
 Breeders: Marilyn Labrache Brown & Heather Ayre, by Dadaelis Cairo ex Dadaelis Tirzah. Elsewhere. Owner: Deborah Dillman.

Black-and-tan smooth. Good layback to shoulder, strong topline. Great condition. A little out at pastern when moving at you and could use a longer tail.

4th **Dadaelis Monab T'cai Reflections.** 11/4/07.
 Breeders: Marilyn LaBrache Brown & Heather Ayre, by Dadaelis Cairo ex Ch. Dadaelis Tirzah. Elsewhere. Owner: Marilyn LaBrache Brown.

Cream smooth. Deep brisket. Could use more arch over the loin and was also a little out at pastern when moving toward you.

Winners Dog
Scimitar Avari Aajah Jager

Reserve Winners Dog
Dadaelis Zo'lo Cool Hand Look

6 to 9 Month Bitch

1st **Scimitar Avari Aajah Sapphira.** 12/2/08.
 Breeders: Cathi Steiner & Wanda Sirianni, by Miriah's River Runs Thru It ex Sirianni Red Scimitar. Canada. Owner: Cathi Steiner.

Nice puppy, moving very soundly. Pretty head with good

pigment. Nice shoulder, good underline, a little more rear than I prefer. Great attitude. Should go far.

12 to 18 Month Bitch

1st **Aziz Ejare.** 3/1/08.
 Breeder: Stina Jalkanen, by Aziz Zendegei ex Aziz Siah. Elsewhere. Owner: Darin Collins.

Very pretty little black-and-tan bitch. Beautiful head with lots of feathering for her age. Dramatic tuckup with nice width to second thigh. Excellent condition and very nicely presented. Would prefer more substance and less fall-off to croup.

Open Bitch

This was a tough class to judge. There were nice representatives from several different types and all had their pluses and minuses. Certainly, the first three placements could easily have traded places on another day and it got down to nitpicking in deciding placements.

1st **Faridaat Danae, FCh.** 2/8/06.
 Breeder: Shelley G. Work, by Iroki Oberon ex Burydown Violane Gem. Canada. Owners: Carol Adley & Catherine Williams.

Not a glamorous bitch, but very well put together with a strong topline, moderately angled front, nice tuckup, good width to second thigh and the desired slight bend to the pastern. Pleasing head with slight stop, a dark eye, good eye shape, and good pigment. Nothing glamorous about this bitch, but she was so balanced and sound, that she could not be denied on this day. Looks like she could run and hold up over time.

2nd **Dadaelis Kushiels Chosen Of T'Cai.** 11/4/07.
 Breeders: Marilyn Labrache Brown & Heather Ayre, by Dadaelis Cairo ex Ch. Dadaelis Tirzah. Elsewhere. Owners: Erika Parton, Tomme Trikosko & Marilyn Brown.

Also a very nice bitch, but of a different type. Glamorous, with an exotic eye and expression. Nice shoulder layback with a deep brisket and good tuckup. Strong topline and good width to second thigh. Moved soundly. Would prefer more width in front between elbows and a little less rear angulation.

3rd **Salish Scimitar Sahalee.** 10/18/06

Breeders: Shawn M. Davis, Paige Davis & MaryDee McMinn, by Lorrequer Istabraq ex Salish' Legacy Bey. Elsewhere. Owner: Cathi Steiner.

Very dramatic cream with an easy, light, reaching side gait – the best in the class. Pleasing head, dark pigment. Nicely balanced and lovely type. A little high in withers and soft in topline.

4th **Aziz Uzma.** 10/12/03.

Breeder: Stina Jalkanen, by Aziz Jadugar ex Azuz Nehayat. Elsewhere. Owner: Darin Collins.

Tricolour with beautiful markings. Gorgeous head with a lovely expression. Heavily feathered. Extremely deep brisket. Shoulder well laid back, but shoulder blade is short relative to upper arm, which may be causing restricted side gait. Would prefer longer loin.

610 **Dadaelis Zo'lo Heaven Sent.** 10/15/07.

Breeders: Heather Ayre & Marilyn Labrache Brown, by Dadaelis Monab Apollo ex Dadaelis Zoe. Elsewhere. Owners: Tomme Trikosko & Marilyn Labrache Brown.

Winners Bitch

Faridaat Danae, FCh.

Reserve Winners Bitch

Dadaelis Kushiels Chosen Of T'Cai



Winners Bitch

Specials Only

615 **Ch. Khamsin's Raffi El Marrakech.** Dog. 7/25/05.

Breeders: S. Konopa, J. Petru, and B&K Miller, by Ch. Khamsin's Sirocco El Marrakech ex Barakisch Orkideh Yaganeh. Elsewhere. Owners: Janet Phelps & James Petru.

616 **Ch. Dabka's Chance.** Dog. 7/11/02.

Breeders: Liz-Marie & Anders Persson, by Kirman Laertes ex Khalils Dabka Darwis. Elsewhere. Owners: Susan & Donald Mitchell.

617 **Ch. Dadaelis Bzantium Rita Kumar.** Dog. 1/11/06.

Breeders: Sharon Grause, Marilyn Brown, Sue Ann Pietros & Cindy Cowan, by Khalils Katra ex Ch Shira's Athena Shikidan. Elsewhere. Owners: Susan Marithon & Marilyn Labrache Brown.

618 **Ch. Sadik Sansar Wind.** Dog. 4/6/06.

Breeder: Catherine L. Chapman, by Sadik Solar Flare ex Lorrequer Illusion at Sadik. Elsewhere. Owner: Georgie Paone.

619 **Ch. Burydown Winterhaefen.** Dog. 9/25/03.

Breeders: Hope Waters & Carole Adley, by Shelby Budah Beccan ex Ch. Burydown Hilerica Ulahni. Canada. Owner: Roberta Parish.



Best Opposite Sex

620 **Ch. Canapus Galadriel**. Bitch. 10/16/05.
Breeder: Felix van der Drift, by Canapus Shukran ex Canapus Mira Ceti. Elsewhere. Owners: Roberta Parish & Mary White.

621 **Ch. Hillside's Alabama Of Lightspeed**. Bitch. 3/21/06.
Breeder: Vikki McDonald, by Karista's Believe It Or Not ex Al Khabara Badaya of Hillside. Elsewhere. Owners: Susan & Donald Mitchell.

Best of Breed

Ch. Canapus Galadriel

Gold bitch of a nice moderate size. Well balanced with front fitting smoothly into body. Good neck into shoulders, pleasing head, although I would prefer darker pigment. Moved very soundly coming and going and was balanced on the side. Could use more bend to pastern, like most of the dogs on this day, but overall, a very nicely constructed bitch.

Best Opposite Sex

Ch. Dabka's Chance

A well put together black-and-tan. Moderately angled fore and aft, masculine head, Very smooth neck into shoulders. Good width to second thigh. A heavier dog, but very balanced and moves soundly in all directions. Pushed hard for this award by a cream dog. However, in the end, I preferred the balance, stronger topline and moderation of the winner.

Best of Winners

Scimitar Avari Ajah Jager

Best Puppy

Scimitar Avari Ajah Jager

Best Bred By Exhibitor

Miriah's Shall We Dance



Best of Breed