**Specialty Judge: Joseph Minor (United States)**

I and my husband, Dr. Robert Place, have lived with salukis for thirty some years around Albuquerque, New Mexico. We began our adventure with sighthounds with a couple of afghans, a whippet, a borzoi, then salukis, and later a sloughi. The saluki became our breed of choice, having the endurance and stamina, with minimal mishaps, needed to maneuver the desert-like terrain where we course and hike with them weekly. Their generally sweet and sensitive disposition is a bonus. We’ve bred 7 litters over those years and finished 19 show champions, 7 lure coursing champions, and 13 open field coursing champions.  We strive to acquire titles on both ends, in keeping true to the saluki standard to preserve form and function.

My ideal saluki would be a smooth-flowing, sound, and balanced dog of moderate

proportions, emanating grace, strength, and speed. I appreciate all the diverse styles of salukis allowed by our standard, smooth and feathered, looking for a well-conditioned and vigorous dog, with effortless movement, equipped to perform its intended function.

I have been a long-time member of the American Saluki Association and a member of the Saluki Club of America since 1999. My previous judging assignments for salukis have been in July 2018 for the Huron Valley Saluki Club, March 2019 for the Fort Worth KC, August 2019 for the Northern Cascades Saluki Club, January 2020 for the Saluki League of Southern Arizona, October 2021 for the Saluki Club of Greater San Francisco, and October 2022 for the Saluki Club of Victoria in Australia. In June 2018, I had the pleasure of judging Sweepstakes at the National Saluki Specialty with well over a hundred entries.