

LINES FROM *Linda*



BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

The Orlando area itself is a journey into a realm of wonder. World-renowned for its adrenaline-pumping theme parks, sports, and leisure activities, it served as the perfect backdrop for the 1995 Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America's National Specialty Show.

When two-hundred-thirty descendants of Cardiganshire descended on the magical city, Disney's Magic Kingdom and Shaquille O'Neal's O-Rena took a back seat. Plenty of magic moments could be found at the Holiday Inn Resort Hotel in the center of International Drive adjacent to Wet'N Wild.

Instead of singing Mickey's songs, we were belting out to the tune of "Green Acres".....

Cardigan Welsh Corgis are the dogs for me.

Short and furry is the way for me.

When trouble makes big dogs want to run and hide,

All I need is a Cardigan by my side.

No, a Pembroke's what I want to see.

Corgis with tales just aren't for me.

But we all know a Cardigan is twice as much fun...

And since this is true, you gotta have more than one.

Airedales...no tails.

Great Danes...what pains.

It's a Corgi for me, this dog has set me

free.

A friend for life I've found.

And, to the tune of The Monkeys TV theme song.....

Hey, hey, we're the Corgis

Here we come walking down the street.

Get the funniest looks from everyone we meet.

Hey, hey, we're the Corgis

People say we herd things around

But we're usually too busy playing To make anybody frown.

Hey, hey, we're the Corgis

People say we herd things around

We're the ones with tails

And we'll never let you down.

Let me tell you, the owners of this breed are something else! Songwriter, Bill West, is waiting for a recording contract any day now.

An array of exciting events were guided by Show Chairman Extraordinaire, Leah James, beginning with a fun night on Wednesday and ending on Sunday with Herding Trials. In between,

Sweepstakes Judge Mrs. Cindy Bossi, Obedience Judge Mrs. Claire McClure, Obedience and Breed Judge Mrs. Ethel Dwyer, and Juniors Judge Mr. Charles "Chuck" Murray dispensed ribbons, titles and awards, casting enough magic spells to last a lifetime for their winners.

Chuck is a breeder-judge who owns "Trilogy Cardigan Kennels" which have produced over 50 champions since 1974. Move over Mickey... Chuck and his wife, Joyce, bred the movie star dogs who dazzled us in the films Dave, The Accidental Tourist and Don't Tell Mom The Babysitter Is Dead, as well as numerous commercials. Joyce Murray's great grandmother planted the first navel

orange tree in California.

Wonder what Florida's citrus growers would think about that?

Not to take away from Walt Disney World's lovely merry-go-round, but musical Cardigan carousels were hand-crafted by Doug and Ingrid Greig for the winners. Wooden sleighs were also trophies, but instead of being pulled by reindeer, Santa chose





Corgis. Charles Ellis made Cardigan wooden silhouettes and Jim Haney added the dazzling ring markers of the dogs in black and tan, and Leah gives much of the credit for the success of the National to Show Secretary, Maureen Setter.

Club President Bob Caldwell was joined by Joyce Murray and Edwidge Stuve in judging a very special event, The Megan Competition. Approved in January of 1994, this was dedicated to the memory of Roberta Holden Bole and her beloved Ch. Megan, the first American Cardigan. Mrs. Bole brought the first Cardigans to the United States in 1931. She was the impetus behind the formation of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America in 1935 and organized the early Cardigan supported shows and specialties. In all, Mrs. Bole imported more than 20 Cardigans. Some died in transit. Others she was never able to register. Nevertheless, through her continuing efforts, she was able to launch the breed in this country for all of us to enjoy. Bob Caldwell's wife is the gracious Helen Jones, the granddaughter of Roberta Holden Bole.

At the annual meeting and awards ceremony were Miss Eugenie Bishop and Mrs. Leah James, the presenters of the prestigious Ken-L Ration Medal for Good Sportsmanship. This year's recipient was Mrs. Helen Jones.

The American Kennel Club is right on target in wanting applicants for new

PHOTOS BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

breeds judges to attend breed seminars and National specialty shows. These experiences are priceless! Paul Slaboda, Helen Jones and Leah James presented the brand new illustrated standard of the Cardigan Welsh Corgi for our intellectual stimulation. I enjoyed having the opportunity for interactive exchange with knowledgeable breeders and other prospective judges of Cardis. Shamefully, only three students took advantage of

signing up for this well prepared educational seminar.

On a personal note, I want to thank all of the breed mentors and the exuberant little Corgis like Cheyenne, Addie, Maggie, Max and Tyler who created all of the magic for me.

Paul Slaboda, "world renowned writer and official Cardi poet" sent me a little note with the following poem:

*Well our National is over and everyone's back,
From the Town with the Mouse, the Magic and Shaq,
There were guests from all over and Cardi galore,
And the buzz 'round ringside was like Shaq taking the floor,
But there were no baskets and no referees,
No Shaquille slam dunks and no one shot threes,
We just showed all our Cardis for all we were worth,
And those who earned wins are not yet back to Earth,
So we left that city that's run by a mouse,
And retired to a condo, apartment or house,
Remember there's next year in St. Louis, MO.,
Maybe then it is your turn to go Best in Show.*

Don't miss the magic! - LTK