

Meet . . .

Owner-Handler

Barbara Knight Moffett

Delta Breeze Danes

- 1) I've been showing for 27 years
- 2) My kennel name is Delta Breeze Danes. We lived in Stockton, California that is a Deep Water Ocean Port 120 miles inland. In the evenings we would get the Delta breezes coming in to cool our hot days off! Thank Goodness.
- 3) For shows I have gone as far as Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Reno, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles but usually show in Northern California due to my occupation. Now that I am retired from Teaching I may able to do more traveling.
- 4) How many shows I attend in a year depends on if I have anything to show and I if they are ready.
- 5) I did use a professional handler to show my dog at first. Sylvia Rodwell told me I better learn to show because my bitch was too smart! I also hired a handler to get that last major on one of my boys who was getting too complacent with me! He got a Reserve one day and Finished the next day!
- 6) I owner-handle because I enjoying showing my Danes. It also is the relationship you gain with your dog and the feeling of accomplishment. I also do obedience and Rally with my dogs. Now that is really team work!
- 7) For me owner-handling advantages include saving money and knowing my dogs and what makes them tick.
- 8) Disadvantages of owner-handling are sometimes I think they may get a little lazy with you, you can't double-handle, and you can't see how others see your dog.
- 9) Advice to prospective owner-handlers includes knowing your Standard, understand Form and Function, never stop reading or going to Educational Seminars, watch others in the ring, and watch other breeds. Don't believe everything you see on-line!
- 10) Overlooked as an owner-handler in the ring?! Maybe. Depends on judges and shows!
- 11) There may have been a stigma against owner-handlers years ago but I don't believe so now.
- 12) To anyone owner-handling, remember to breath and have FUN! Be prepared! Find a respected Mentor! Breath and have fun or your nervousness goes down the lead. Have good ring-side manners.
- 13) My favorite judges are the ones that talk to you to make you relax and seem to enjoy judging. And of course the ones that put up and recognize my dogs.

