

Southeastern Atlantic Rottweiler Klub

February 10-11, 2014 Judge: Mick Svaljek (FCI-Australia)

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Yumbo vd Alten Festung



L-R:

Greetings to all. It gives me great pleasure to submit this report on the SARK Spring Sieger Show, held at the very picturesque Wannamaker Park, surrounded by a beautiful lake and offering many different types of activities for the general public. This in itself is a very good temperament test for our Rottweilers whilst in the ring, as we had many people come and go along the walking track very close to the show ring, at times including young children being very loud and boisterous. To my pleasure, the dogs were not fazed at any stage of the proceedings. This is my third judging appointment in the United States, and as with previous experiences, this one was memorable in many ways. Not only was I able to judge some excellent type Rottweilers, but also had the opportunity to see how some of the young exhibits have come up in the past two years. It's always pleasing to see many familiar faces still doing what we love to do as a hobby, and pleasing to see young people who are starting out with a new and fresh outlook on dog shows. On Saturday, we started with young puppies through youth, both male and female. The temperature on this day was not very pleasant for exhibitors, and particularly not for the judge. We do have cold weather in the location I reside in, but not to this level. I can remember looking at my hands and seeing a very different color to the normal skin tone, and thinking, "Boy, it's cold." However, it was perfect for the dogs and when we introduced the running phase, it was a great way for exhibitors to keep warm.

4-6 months males and females: Both classes were very well balanced and very pleasing in character and confidence for such young exhibits. Males overall had very good bone and substance, correct eye color and typical strong head types. The winner of the female class, VP1 **Oxsana is Rojaus Slenio**, brought a smile to my face from the time she entered the ring. She was full of confidence, great attitude, very alert, with a clean, strong head with a beautiful expression. If she continues along this path, I am certain that she has a great future ahead of her.

6-9 months males and females: In general, very good breed types, with some needing better front angulation and tighter feet. In these classes, as with all the others, the strength of bone is very good. On all occasions that I have judged in the United States, I can honestly say that bone is probably the best I have seen anywhere. More countries should pay attention

to this detail. We don't want too-heavy type dogs; but, in some cases, we are getting a little on the light side when it comes to bone. The male winner, VP1 **Gentry Creek's Zeke**, was of very good type, strong, very well boned, in good condition with fluent movement. The female winner, VP1 **Gentry Creek's Bella**, was compact with very good substance, strong female head with very pleasing expression and very energetic movement, was a clear winner in a very strong class.

9-12 months males and females: VP1 and Best Male Puppy, **Eternal Moon on Fire**, was a medium size dog of very good substance, dark eye, well-balanced head to body proportions, correct rich tan markings, very good coat, with correct



Mick Svaljek



Lucie vd Rod





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Lucie vd Rod

movement. VP1 and Best Female Puppy, **Gentry Creek's Zoey**, was strong all over, compact body, very pleasing head type, very firm topline for a young exhibit, and very well prepared for this type of show, correct markings, very good angles front and rear, giving her a very strong and sound movement.

12-18 months males and females: In the male class, dogs were somewhat uneven in general type, with only three exhibits receiving the grade of V. The others required more substance, firmer top lines, and better head form (in particular, more stop, fill of eye, and strength of under jaw). V1 and Best Youth Male, **Black Moriah's Aragon**, was of excellent type with powerful ground-covering movement, strong expressive head, and very good substance. V1 and Best Youth Female, **Mercedes aus der Espenstatte**, very dry clean type, in excellent physical condition, dark eyes, great attitude, very alert at all times, correct markings, and with lovely expression. Once fully matured in body, in my opinion, she will do very well in both the working and show rings.

18-24 months males and females: Male winner, V1 **Aramis Od Dragicevica**, was a dog with clean lines, excellent head piece, this is the desired head type in my opinion with very good ratio of skull to muzzle, fill under eye, strong under jaw, correct pronounced stop, eyes should be slightly darker, very good top line, excellent attitude in the ring, still in the maturing stages of body, very good mover. Female winner, V1 **Davinci's Sette Di Nove**, had very good breed type, well balanced all over, very good in movement.

Open males and females: Male winner, V1 **Broly-ohn Seinauf vom Mutig Herz**, large, powerful build, very good bone, excellent angles, very good mover-it's pleasing to see large males of such substance and great attitude. Female winner, V1 **Mamma von Hartenkern**, a medium size female with an excellent head piece, very well-muscled, strong topline on the move, great attitude, presented in excellent physical condition. This class was pressed somewhat in running. We ran close to 20 laps of a considerable size ring to split first and second place, V2 **Tabea vom Vollenhaus**, as both are very desirable breed types. One very important aspect that I noticed in my winner was the relationship this female had with her handler. The unreserved love and willingness to work for him was exceptional. Some of us, including myself, can learn from this as we do forget to show affection from time to time when our Rottweilers are giving everything for us.

Breeder Class Male: V1 **Klutch vomStolz Seinauf**, a large well-built dog with excellent topline, correct front and rear angles, strong head, with dark eyes, excellent gum pigment, in very good physical condition, and as with many other exhibits, very strong bone.

Breeder Class Female: V1 **Bridget vom Hause Hudson**, a female of very powerful build, very strong head, strong bones, compact, short back, with excellent attitude and powerful ground-covering movement. For some, a



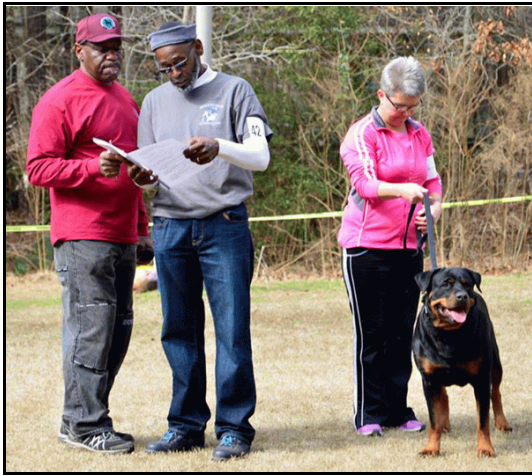
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female of this type may be a little on the strong side. For me and in my interpretation of the breed standard, she is an excellent type that can be clearly defined as a quality female, presented in very good physical condition, which she proved by the amount of time this class spent not only running but also walking and being represented for expression.

Gebrauchshund Class males and females: Both of these exhibits were presented in top physical working condition, something very important in our breed. At times, we forget what our beautiful breed was originally bred for and pay too much attention to only beauty points, to where some exhibits can only maintain condition for very short periods. I do appreciate

that overall these are conformation shows. However, it's my belief if the exhibit does not demonstrate the very important hallmark of the Rottweiler-Companion, Service, and very, very importantly, Working Dog-then the exhibit should not be rewarded as such. V1 Male, **Vili Crni Lotos**, a medium size dog of excellent construction, in particular the top, underline and rear angles, excellent expressive head piece with very alert ring presence. V1 and Siegerin, **Lucie von der Rod**, medium size, clean and very muscled body, excellent headpiece, a quality female all around. Energetic and powerful movement made her a clear winner on the day. I am very confident that this female will and can compete anywhere in the world and not only V rate, but be placed very highly up the line. Thank you to both male and female owners-handlers for exhibiting them in my ring. It's always very pleasing for a judge to have exhibits in excellent physical condition with the willingness to work in their ring. Both the male and female classes were pressed and pressed, and I must congratulate all the exhibits in both classes for being presented in top physical condition.

Working Class Female: V1 **Arisa von der Stark**, presented as such in working condition, dry clean female, with excellent angles, correct body structure in that she is very balanced front to rear, giving her the ability to move with energy and purpose, should have richer markings, needs a little more bone, but overall an excellent type.

Sieger Class: V1 **Yumbo von der Alten Festung**. I have had the privilege of judging this male some years ago. There is no doubt that he is a quality animal, large, compact with powerful build, exceptional headpiece, correct marking, dark eye, very good gum pigment, powerful chest construction with very good movement, the winner in a very strong class.

Siegerin Class: This class could have been awarded in any order from V1 **Tonka Earl Antonius** to V2 **Ivanka vom Wesburg** to V3 **Aska von der Spenberg**. For me, this was the most consistent and strongest class on the day. The entire class was awarded the rating of V, and all are worthy of the title of Siegerin. **Tonka Earl Antonius** has an excellent headpiece and powerful ground-covering movement. It did take some time for the final decision to be made; it was due to her continuous willingness to move and move that she was awarded first place.

Veteran Male: V1 **As vom Falke Koniglich**. I said it on the day and will repeat it here also-for me, the best Veteran Male that I have judged anywhere in the world. Large, powerful build, excellent head type, in excellent physical condition. This is how we should treat our Veterans-maintain them in proper condition to give them the respect that they deserve. Too many times, we tend to just dismiss them as too old for shows so we can let them lounge around. This exhibit is a perfect example of a dog at eight years of age that has been cared for in the proper manner and has been utilized for what our breed was intended for. Congratulation to his owners.

Finally, a big thank you to Mr. Eric Fitch (President, SARK) and his small, but very dedicated, group of helpers on the weekend. On top of organizing the show and looking after the judge, they did a great job to ensure that things went very smoothly during the show. Also, thank you to Bernard Nesmith (Vice President, SARK) for putting up with me during my short stay in South Carolina. It was a very memorable trip. His patience for a visiting judge who continuously complained about the cold was much appreciated. Thank you to all that travelled great distances to not only exhibit their dogs under me, but more importantly, for supporting clubs around your country. I look forward to seeing all of my American Rottweiler Friends very soon.

Mick Svaljek



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