

Biographies of Candidates for  
2020 and 2021 ESSFTA National Specialty Sweepstakes Judging

Biography of Mike Bockhorn

I am Mike Bockhorn and I live in Collinsville IL, which is 15 miles east of St. Louis MO. It is an honor to be nominated to judge sweepstakes at the ESSFTA national. I have been breeding Springers under the Polesitter prefix for nearly 30 years. I have bred many champions including a Best In Show dog, group placing and numerous sweepstakes and specialty winners. I have also bred 3 of the 4 CH OTCH MACH Springers. I have judged springer sweeps at Keystone, Eastern & TCVESSA specialties, along with Vizsla and Schipperke. I would appreciate your vote and promise to do my best if I get the assignment.

Biography of Karen Carrico

I have lived in Kentucky and Florida and have an M.A. in art. I have done commissioned work, had pieces in group exhibitions and sold many works. My real vocation, however, was middle and then high school art teacher for nearly 30 years. Married 36 years to the same good guy, Terry Carrico, we have a daughter, Emily, who was a junior handler and is now a dancer with the Atlanta Ballet.

My start in purebred dogs began in 1982 with a pet store cocker spaniel. I put a CD on him but couldn't train him to stop biting people, so I switched to the English springer spaniel. I had seen two-time national specialty winner, Ch. Sellier's Quarterback Sneak, at a local show and thought he was the most magnificent animal I had ever seen. I think as an artist, the aesthetic of the English springer spaniel still infatuates me today.

My first springer was a funny little Stuart / Lumpy granddaughter I purchased from Brenda Sawyer (Brendon ESS). Since those days back in the 1980s, I have mostly shown at specialties because I love the quality of the competition and the comradery found there. I enjoy sharing what I know with others and being a sponge as others share with me. I've judged many sweepstakes over the years, including American Spaniel Club and Chattahoochee ESSCGA. I am a member of the Judges' Education Committee and have done and participated in many presentations. I am completely honored to be a national specialty sweepstakes nominee. Thank you.

Karen Carrico

Hannan English Springer Spaniels

## Biography of Sue Ellen Healy

As a child growing up in upstate NY, we had a variety of different dogs. The “city folks” would vacation in the country for the summer and when it was time for them to leave, some would leave their dogs to roam free. My parents were very soft hearted and when we came home with a new dog, it usually got to stay! I was introduced to the Springer world in 1996 when we adopted a springer puppy. We thought he was the best thing since sliced bread! I soon learned that he was not a show dog, but a great obedience dog. We earned both an American and Canadian CDX.

I then began a search for a show springer. In 1998, I was fortunate to find a black and white bitch that Kathy Kirk was willing to co-own with me. It began from there. Kathy was very patient with me and I learned a lot. I began to breed and show springers on my own. I also learned there were other venues out there besides conformation and obedience, such as rally, hunting, coursing and agility. I have handled and earned many obedience, hunting, coursing and agility titles on both my own dogs and dogs of other. I am very proud of the fact that my dogs have titles at both ends of their name.

I have judged at several sweepstakes and have been honored to do so. I am honored to have been nominated for this assignment. As the old saying goes: Springers leave pawprints on your heart.

Sue Ellen Healy  
Caryhill Springers

## Biography of Anne Hutchinson

I bred my first litter in 1981, which produced multiple Champions. My kennel name, Serenade, is permanently registered with the Canadian Kennel Club and I am a life-time member of the CKC with 35 continuous years of membership. I am a member of the ESSFTA.

In partnership with my husband, Paul Richards, we are breeder-owners of the top winning Springer in history in Canada, Am Can Ch Serenade's Family Tradition “Cody” who is the only Springer to go #1 All-Breeds. Also owner of the top producing black and white sire in breed history in the USA, Am Can Ch Serenade's Storm Warning “Dexter”.

I have bred 3 different dogs and owned an additional 2 more, who have won more than 50 All-Breed Bests in Show and numerous Specialties. I have champions in 4 countries and have exhibited extensively in Canada and the USA. Multiple Serenade dogs hold AKC titles in obedience, hunting and tracking, several having obtained the highest level in these activities.

I have attended major shows in both England and Australia and have visited kennels ,in both countries, and had hands-on examination, and discussions on the breed with numerous breeders .

I have been judging All-Breed and Specialty Sweepstakes in Canada and the USA since the 80's and judged our first Top Twenty event.

I am a graduate Veterinary Technician and recently retired after 30 years of owning and operating a boarding and grooming business.

I have two grown children, and two grandchildren and live in Ottawa, Ontario Canada and spend the winters in Florida.

Always keeping the breed standard as my guide, I will judge with integrity, knowledge and experience and without bias towards color,sex,markings, tail status or handler.

Thank you for considering me as a worthy candidate for your vote, I am honoured and humbled and hope everyone has a positive experience when in my ring.

Anne Hutchinson  
Serenade Kennels est 1979

#### Biography of Ann LeFERNIER

As a teenager growing up in Sweden, I rode horses and thought my future lie in that arena. Upon moving to the United States, I switched to dogs once I realized I couldn't afford a horse on my own. My first adult dog was a Springer mix from the pound who inspired me to research the breed and I fell in love. I purchased my first purebred Springer in 1995 and worked with him in obedience competition managing to put a CDX on him. While attending all-breed shows for obedience, I saw conformation English Springer Spaniels and was smitten. In 1999, I got my very first conformation Springer, Julie (CH Jasmine's Jewell), and I finished her completely owner-handled including a specialty major.

When I moved to Texas in 2000, Nancy Johnson and Dana Lodge were so kind and helpful, welcoming me into DFWESSA. Well, competition was tough and I couldn't help noticing that Dana kept beating me. So I adopted the "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em" attitude, and decided to get a dog from her! I got Ollie (GCH Kytra's Keep to the Kode), my foundation sire, in 2004. For although I'd been actively showing in conformation since 1999, I didn't breed my first litter until 2012 and currently co-breed

with Dana and Susie Shore. I'm pleased to say I have contributed to the Studio Kytra Dalsland partnership by either breeding, showing or raising more than 20 champions for the team.

I'm thrilled to be in consideration to judge sweeps at the national, one of the greatest honors bestowed to a breeder.

### Biography of Bonnie Massie (Bonita Springers)

My life with English Springer Spaniels began when I met Sarah Munoz in 1983. As our friendship grew, she gifted me with a beautiful 12 week old puppy bitch who later became my 1st champion, CH Alpine's Spittin Image. We shared the kennel name "Alpine" for over 20 years. As I became very involved with breeding and handling, I feel very fortunate to have raised several Alpine champions as: CH Alpine's Kiss FM, CH Alpine's Grand Central, CH Alpine's White House, CH Alpine's Cigar, CH Alpine Lady's Secret, CH Alpine's Go Baby Go, CH Alpine's Slew O' Gold just to name a few.

In March 2007, I became "Bonita Springers". That same year I was heavily involved with BESSA as we hosted the ESSFTA Nationals at The Kentucky Horse Park.

Tychea Stantz and I became co-owners (Radiant) in 2007.

I have worked in the veterinary World for over 35 years and plan to continue another 5. I served as President and Vice President for 4 terms for the Lexington Kennel Club and am presently on the Board.

I strive to breed "quality instead of quantity" so the 35 + champions I have been apart of may take a little longer to finish as I favor Specialities and Supported shows. However I am an owner with Jennie Carl DVM of the dog who won the Top 20 Performance dog in 2017.

I have been married for 38 years in which we have 3 adult sons and one grandson.

My favorite times are watching quality ESS excel in not only the conformation ring but performance as well.