

Saturday PM Judge: Karen Martin

My involvement with dogs started when I was 15 years old with a Sheltie that I trained in obedience. I trained her right out of a book and entered my first dog show without ever having been to a dog show before! We qualified and I was hooked on dog shows forever! I spent many years doing obedience with a Sheltie and a Great Dane as a teenager. Then as an adult with Labradors and a Rottweiler. Over the years, I've done obedience, field work, tracking, agility, rally, Fast CAT and have enjoyed every venue of showing dogs.

It was not until I met my husband Bernie that I got involved again with Great Danes. In 1989 we got our first two Great Danes from Bev Swinford. Tracer and Lacey were the beginning of our life together in our marriage and with Great Danes, as breeders and showing in conformation. We've been lucky to own and breed quality dogs with the brains to do it all!

To date we have bred over 90 American Champions, 12 Canadian Champions and 25 or more dogs with almost 150 working titles between them! I have been an AKC judge since 2006. Some of my most memorable accomplishments in Danes:

- Winning the 1997 National BOB with a dog I bred, Am Can CH Diamonds Canadian Style CD.
- Owning and training the 2 youngest titled Great Danes in our breed by earning their TD on their 6 month birthday; Lacey went on to be the first champion TDX Great Dane.
- Our first AOM was awarded to Tracer in 1994 with my husband Bernie showing him.
- Our first natural-eared girl Glory won the BBE class at the National! Glory was the first of our many natural-eared champions and BISS champions.
- More recently, I'm a proud co-breeder of the 2022 Top 20 Winner Marina (GCHG CH Legado N Danemark's A Captive Spirit) with Jaye and Frankie Dubman.

I am honored to have been asked to judge your specialty. It means everything to me to have the faith and confidence of my fellow breeders and exhibitors. I will do the best job I can do to find my idea of the dog who fits the standard the best.

I hope you all have as good a time as I am going to have!

