

Erin Hooper

Erin was raised with German Shorthaired Pointers, which her father, Rudy Karst, competed in AKC hunting tests as well as AKC dog shows. Erin's first time in the ring was when she was just 6 years old. Her father purchased their first GSP from a neighbor who lived down the street, CH Blitz Stormy von Jango. Erin practiced showing whenever she got a chance. She was lucky enough to finish Stormy quickly and then went on to compete in Junior handling for a few years, before they moved to the South, where she got involved with Dobermans for a few years. In 1989, Erin purchased her first GSP - CH Ziegenfeld's E'special E For Me. Jericho started his show career at the Beverly Hills Kennel Club show at just 6 months of age - where he was awarded Reserve Winners Dog. At the GSPCA National Specialty Show in 1990, Jericho was Winner's Dog under Mrs. Anne (Rodger) Clark. Erin finished Jericho's championship the very next weekend.

Erin then got involved in showing Irish Wolfhounds in the early 1990's. She met a Wolfhound she fell in love with and the rest is history for Erin. She has finished multiple Wolfhounds including "Spike" Ch. Kerryarc PearlJam of Pern. Spike is her current special in the ring who finished at a very young age.

Adding to her list of breeds, Erin started handling Smooth Dachshunds which has lead to her new found love, the Wire-haired Dachshund. Erin's parents both had owned Dachshunds early in their lives, and used to share with Erin the lovable qualities of the breed. So when the opportunity arose to start handling them in the ring for clients, Erin already had a warm affection for them and was excited to finally be able to handle them.

Erin has handled Dachshunds now for over 10 years. She started showing smooths bred by Pamela Strong of CA



Devlin taking a break from the ring in his backyard.



GCH, Verdon's Devil in Disguise MW being stacked at the Cabrilleo Show in San Diego. He and Erin took Best In Show that day under breed judge Shelley Hennessy and Best In Show Judge Angela Porpora.

for a few years and finished her first Champion for her.

She then moved on to showing standard long-hairs for Sherry Snyder of CA and finished a gorgeous dog for her whose call name was "Tori".

Erin currently is handling GCH, Verdon's Devil in Disguise MW . (Owned by Sherry Snyder and Starr Henderson of Garden Grove, CA.) Devlin is a top ranked Dachshund

Handler's *point of view*

Continued

Snyder and Starr Henderson of Garden Grove, California. Devilin is top-ranked Dachshund and was awarded Best in Show at the Cabrillo Dog Show in San Diego under breed judge Shelley Hennessy and Best in Show Judge Angela Porpora. Devilin is a multiple breed and Group winner and has appeared in such prestigious events as the AKC / Eukanuba National Championships in 2010. Erin and Devilin will be going to the Westminster Dog Show this year in February.

Although Erin currently shows all breeds, her heart has always remained with the sporting group and hound group.

Erin met Shane - now her husband and partner - in the dog ring. They were married in October 2009 and now proudly hit the road together as a team, showing their canine charges. Erin and Shane's goal will always be the safety and well being of the dogs in their care. They are both in the process of applying to the AKC and PHA. They are both committed to the "quality" of the dogs they handle and not to the quantity, trying to make sure that the dogs they are showing are good examples of their respective breeds. Erin states that their kennels are not boarding kennels and they only keep the dogs they are currently showing or have on their premises for training.

Since their marriage, Shane and Erin have started "Tsunami Kennels", and any future litters will carry that prefix. Erin and Shane co-own and co-breed several different breeds, including: Golden Retrievers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Dobermans, all three varieties of Dachshunds, Labrador Retrievers, Australian Shepherds, and Irish Wolfhounds. They depend heavily on their co-owners across the country to promote their breeding programs, as the time restraints involved with traveling and showing dogs make it impossible for either of them to breed more than an occasional litter.



GCH, Verdon's Devil in Disguise MW putting on a great show in the ring, beautiful!



Shane and Erin Hooper, (and CH Devilin under arm) walking away with their prizes.

You can reach Erin through her website:
www.Handlenk9s.com

Handler's *point of view*

Continued

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