

Life Member: Jean Mason

Jean's first Golden was bred by her sister in the 1950s. Following frequently heard advice, she picked *the most outgoing* puppy, and Tawans Braeside Bonnie went home with her. Jean stumbled on some shows a summer or so later and entered Bonnie. Being inexperienced and not knowing what to do, or when to do it, someone had to push Jean into the ring at the right time and she walked around with Bonnie. This was fun and often the judge would look at Bonnie and hand Jean a blue ribbon. Jean would leave the ring only to be pushed in again, and another blue ribbon would be handed to her. Frequently Bonnie would get a blue and white ribbon. Hayden and Jean thought the ribbons were very pretty. Jean was unaware that with the ribbons came points and Bonnie was close to her championship. A professional handler approached Jean at a show and said if he hired him he could finish Bonnie. Jean did not hire him, feeling he was greedy and just wanted money.

Jean was an early member of Yankee and has held many offices in the club, chairing committees, serving on the Board, and as President. While we honor her tonight for her contributions to Yankee it would be remiss not to mention her participation in Ladies and Middlesex County Kennel Clubs. She has held offices in both and has just stepped down after a long term as President of Middlesex.

Jean Mason represents what we should all aspire to. As a breeder she is ethical, as a fancier of the breed she is knowledgeable. She willingly shares her experiences and gives advice only when asked. She is everyone's friend and is always there to lend a helping hand. She has generously given us her time, and tonight Yankee gives its heart to her.

We are indeed privileged to name Jean Mason as a Life Member.

Annual Meeting January 26, 1991
Remarks by Joan Gebron, YGRC Trophy Committee