

October 9, 2009

Dear CCA, MWCC, GBCC Members and Friends;

Please accept my sincere thanks for the 2009 AKC Good Sportsman Award. I am truly grateful for such an award. Knowing that this puts me in the company of John Buddie (2008 recipient) is especially gratifying.

Some of you know this has been a challenging time for me. I was very disappointed to have to take a break from my CCA "assigned" post, the announcing job. Just being able to get to CCA 2009 was something of a victory. And then Thursday evening ... after a day of enjoying the magnificent collies and the fabulous company of friends ... I was called into the ring by President Bob Futh. "AKC Good Sportsman Award", Bob said. "Me?" I thought! Wow! What a privilege to even be considered, let alone to win! And now the additional surprise of a Collies-On-Line featurette!

Thanks to all who voted for me for the AKC Good Sportsman Award. Many of you wished me well and told me you voted for me. I'm indebted to Gary and Karen Jordan not only for their patience and support during CCA 2009, but also for the beautifully executed COL featurette.

Special thanks to Carole Stanley, our district director, (who turned in the nomination and coordinated the COL featurette), Jane Clymer (for the marvelous book), Jeanne Marre (who coordinated the many details), Jayne Lynch (who kept the information flow going and me in the dark) and those who supported my nomination with wonderful letters. I appreciate each and every one.

. Thank you all once again. I value this recognition more than these few words can possibly express.

Sincerely,

Bernie Howard



Bernie and Stargazer's Illusionist