

NATIONAL



Jan and rescued potcake 'Ripley' were part of the Pampered Paws obedience class demonstration.



Caleb Darbo and his pup 'Dexter', named Best Looking Male



Andrea Piche and 'Peaches' who captured Best in Show

Dog show deemed a 'barking success'

BY KATHI BARRINGTON

PINT-sized pup Peaches, owned by Andrea Piche, captured the coveted Best in Show prize on Saturday at the seventh annual TCSPCA dog show.

Despite torrential rains early in the day, the parade of pooches posing in the ring was a huge success.

Held at Turtle Cove Marina, the event was supported by crowds of proud dog owners, friends and family who turned out to cheer them on.

This year there were seven events, plus Best In Show, in which potcakes and bred dogs strutted their stuff.

Dogs of all shapes and sizes, many dressed in ribbons, caps or bows,

vied for Best Trick, Waggiest Tail, and Dog the Judges Most Wanted to Take Home, among others.

The new scheduled start of 3pm saved contestants and their owners from the earlier downpour and the heat of midday.

The crowds cheered on their favourite pooches, visited the various tables to buy food and drink (served up by the Tiki Hut Restaurant), T-shirts and raffle tickets.

The 17 raffle prizes included an Islandcom Blue Flash phone with \$200 of service, dinners for two at several Provo eateries, nights at luxury resorts, a signed copy of Keith Richard's autobiography, beach cruises, and more.

One little dog made his mark on

more than one occasion, thinking that time in the ring was time to relieve himself. Spectators and judges roared.

Lead sponsor of the event was PPC Ltd., whose senior meter reader, Donnie Stubbs, was a judge. Other judges included Donna Doran of Pampered Paws, veterinarian Peggy Perkins and Donald Astwood, of Scotia Bank and owner of a former Best in Show winner.

Graceway IGA, Pedigree Dog Food and Turtle Cove Marina were also sponsors, providing dog food, goodie bags and the venue for the show. All the sponsors have been backing the annual event and the TCSPCA for many years. Their

generosity has made it possible for the organisation to continue to provide affordable spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations and outreach programmes each year.

Guests of honour were Allan Robinson, of PPC, and Heather Forbes, founder of the Potcake Foundation, which raises money for the TCSPCA and other potcake charities. Both were on hand to award the prizes.

It was clearly a day for family with many children proudly showing their pets. The Enid Capron Primary School steel drum band opened the show, and students and their owners, in the Pampered Paws obedience classes, gave a terrific half time demonstration.

WINNERS:

BEST IN SHOW

Peaches owned by Andrea Piche

BEST TRICK

1. Bear - Mike Eareheart
2. Wisley - Ros Pickavance
3. Faith - Sally Collier

MOST ORIGINAL POTCAKE

1. Luna - Simone Costa
2. Daisy - Hannah Trayler
3. Buggy - Jasmine Young

DOG THE JUDGES WOULD MOST LIKE TO TAKE HOME

1. Cookie - Irene Mayorga
2. Crash - Sheilah Ludington
3. Bear - Savannah Eareheart

BEST VETERAN (DOGS OVER 8 YEARS OLD)

1. Nemo - Melinda Volkert
2. Mott Lee - Kathi Barrington
3. Scooter - Sharon Kidd

WAGGIEST TAIL

1. Peaches - Andrea Piche
2. Nemo - Melinda Volkert
3. Crash - Sheilah Ludington

BEST LOOKING FEMALE

1. Brandi - Vadijah Smith
2. Cookie - Stefanie Zins
3. Daisy - Hannah Trayler

BEST LOOKING MALE

1. Dexter - Caleb Darbo
2. Sawyer - Steve Martin
3. Makoe - Shawna Missick

The annual dog show is a principal fundraiser for the TCSPCA, which helps all animals of the Turks & Caicos. The charity has just opened a chapter in Grand Turk, and board member, Ginny Allan, flew from the capital island to MC the event.

A TCSPCA spokeswoman said: "This was a community event which, paws down, was a huge success.

"Thanks to everyone for sponsoring, competing and joining in the fun. See you next year."