

# Kennel Visit

## Damascusroad

Beverley A. Carter, Newfoundland



### *Emily*

#### **CH. Damascusroad's Joyful Noise**

Our foundation bitch who made breed history when she became a New Champion at the ripe old age of 13 years

When Laurie invited me to do this kennel visit, I was delighted, thinking it would be a breeze. But it hasn't been as easy to write, or should I say "not write", as I thought it would be. You can't tell it all so you have to decide what to tell and what to leave out. You can't show it all so you have to decide which pictures to include and which ones to leave out. Not easy! You should try it some time! I have other dogs I'm proud of and would love to share in pictures, especially some from earlier years - but you just can't include them all, so you have to choose. What I've tried to do with the pictures I have included is show those who are interested the background to the Damascusroad puppies I'm producing now rather than a listing of everything I've had over the years. But first, a little about us!

Damascusroad Pomeranians is a small, home-based kennel located in the beautiful province of Newfoundland, an island and the easternmost province of Canada. Damascusroad is owned by me (Bev :-)) and run with a lot of help from my middle daughter Carol Quinlan, the only one of my three daughters

### **Our house in Holyrood**

*Situated in a quiet area on over an acre of wooded land*



### **Me in my other life as a government executive**

*Yes, I know! Cheating! This photo was taken about 7 or 8 years, a good few pounds and a lot of grey hairs ago*

ters who still lives at home. Our home, which is also our kennel since all the dogs live in the house with us, is located in the tiny community of Holyrood, about 25 miles southwest of St. John's, the capital of the province and the oldest city in North America. I try to keep the numbers down, and haven't bred many puppies ~12 in a single year would be a big year up till now. But I retired from my "real" job earlier this year, so that could change. I am active in a number of clubs including the Canadian Kennel Club, American Pomeranian Club, Pomeranian Club of Canada (of course :-), Newfoundland (All Breed) Kennel Club and the Toy Dog Club of Newfoundland (currently Secretary).

Damascusroad didn't officially come into being until the early 1990s, but my love of animals, dogs in particular, has been a lifelong love. I grew up during the 50s and 60s in a rather large family, the oldest of eight children so with Mom and Dad, that made 10 of us living in a very small house. I always wanted a dog but was never allowed to have one (now I understand why!). When I got married in 1968 at the age of 19, one of the first things I did was get a dog - a chocolate brown Miniature Poodle that I called Pepi. I absolutely adored Pepi and, as my husband (now deceased) shared my love for animals, it wasn't long before I had four of these little dogs in four different colors (chocolate, white, apricot and black). I don't think non-breeding agreements and limited registrations were common back then, at least I'd never heard of them and I'd never heard of dog shows or breed standards either. But I loved dogs, especially puppies, so I bred poodles for about 7 or 8 years, maybe a bit longer. By the time that was done, just about everyone in my large family and many of my friends had at least one Poodle and some had more than one!

In 1977, I decided on a whim that I wanted to go to University even though I was pushing 29. Happily, I discovered I loved and was good at it. By the time I went away to do graduate work in 1981, Pepi was quite old. She was my last remaining Poodle and went to live with my brother while I was

### **Sammie ~ the beginning**

#### **Woodfine's Missy**

*a lot of my best dogs (including Andy) go back to this little girl and the MBIS Chriscendo male that I bred her to ~ she was a great producer*



away. Sadly, she died before I came home again. Between the Poodles and the Poms were 10 or 11 years and several other breeds including my Doberman, my daughter's Pekingese and her Shetland Sheepdog which we got just before I got into Poms. They're all gone now and all

we have are the Poms and our Ragdoll cat.

Unlike many Pom people, I stumbled into breeding and showing Poms through somewhat of a comedy of errors. I'd never heard of dog shows when I got my first Pomeranian about 16 years ago, in January 1992. I just wanted a little dog to love. I saw an ad for Pomeranian puppies in the paper. They sounded cute, so I bought 5½ week-old Maggie - yes! the breeder actually sold her that young, amazing isn't it! A short while later, I saw an eight-month-old Pomeranian advertised. Thinking Maggie might like some company, I got Sammie. As it turned out, those two bitches weren't half bad, certainly in terms of their pedigrees, and considering I had bought them as pets out of the local newspaper. Sammie was line bred on MBIS CH. Chriscendo Causin a Commotion (aka Andy), a Medallion son and the winner of 15 All Breed BISs; and Maggie had a similar pedigree. Guess I just got lucky! Sammie had been given by a local breeder, Tom Woodfine, to his niece as the basis for a breeding program. The niece had a change of heart, decided she wanted a bigger breed, and sold Sammie for \$600 on full registration. I was the lucky buyer!

I stumbled into a dog show for the first time shortly after that. Well, it just looked like so much fun and it looked so easy! I thought to myself, "What fun. I can do that!" So I entered Sammie in the next set of shows. No training, no proper grooming, nothing!

Sammie had this thing about me brushing her ~ but she didn't mind my daughter so Carol had been doing it for months leading up to the show. Just before the shows, I decided to groom and bath Sammie myself, and discovered why. She looked fine on the surface, but her undercoat was completely matted. Carol had only been brushing the surface. No wonder Sammie didn't mind! By the time I got the mats out, there was little coat left. Still, off we went to the show with a clean, if somewhat hairless dog.

Well, what a disaster! I'm sure the other exhibitors had a great laugh at my expense. I knew nothing about grooming or handling, and Sammie had never been on lead ~ just a harness during our walks. I managed to drag her around the ring ~ she only got off lead twice, but I managed to catch her! What a

sight we must have been. Turned out, showing a dog wasn't nearly as easy as it looked, and there was a lot more to grooming than I thought or Sammie would endure. Sammie was a very nice line-bred brood bitch as it turned out, but a show dog she was not! It was really quite a disaster, but it was enough to get me interested and wanting to learn to do it well, or at least better. I knew I needed something better to show. So I decided to breed Maggie and Sammie.

I'd seen a stunning Pomeranian at the show - as it turned out, although it didn't ring any bells for me at the time, Freddy (BIS CH. Maracaibo Masterplan) was a multiple All Breed and Specialty Best in Show winner out of two lovely Chriscendo dogs (Can/Am. CH Chriscendo City Lights ROMX x Chriscendo Cotton Jenny). While I didn't realize it at the time, the breeding of Sammie and Maggie to Freddy was actually a very nice line-breeding - and both girls turned out to be free-wheelers even though they weren't very big.

I bred a few litters from these two girls over the next several years. Maggie produced really pretty puppies but gave me white feet/chests and poor pigment, all major faults under the Canadian Breed Standard. So she was only bred twice and all five puppies were placed in pet homes, white feet and all! Sammie's offspring weren't quite so pretty as puppies, matured much more slowly but, like fine wine, they were very nice when they were more mature. Sammie's first litter (late in 1992 I think) was a little boy who died when he was only a few days old. I was heartbroken and began learning early on why they call this the heartbreak-breed. The following year I bred Sammie again to the same dog Freddy and got two puppies in July 1993, a boy and a girl. I kept the girl, my darling Emily, and placed the little boy in a pet home much to my regret later as he turned out to be gorgeous. But Emily turned out very nice too despite the worst case of "the uglies" I've seen to this day.

#### **Emily, the first generation**

##### **CH Damascusroad's Joyful Noise**

*first homebred puppy I kept and the foundation for much of what we have now. She is 13 in this picture, taken two days after she finished in 2006*



And she became the foundation for much of what I have now ~ all thanks to my "pet" Pom Sammie and a fluke choice of a good stud (I didn't know Chriscendo from a hole in the ground then) that produced a nice line-bred bitch for me. How lucky can a beginner get!

I bred Sammie a couple of more times, got mostly boys and

**Evan, our foundation stud**  
**BIS CH Chinadoll's Avenger**

*Multiple Group and BIS winning Canadian Champion, and the love of my life. With Emily, /evab is behind some of Damascusroad's finest*



**Ellie, the second generation**  
**CH Damascusroad's Lady Eleanor**

*Ellie is an Emily/Evan daughter. She and her littermate Gus are both Canadian Champions; and Gus is also an American Champion*



a couple of very tiny girls. The puppies were all placed in pet homes as, at that time, I only wanted girls. Come to think of it, I still don't keep the boys except maybe long enough to finish their Canadian championship and breed one or two of my bitches. Eventually, Maggie and Sammie were both spayed and placed in pet homes, and I went forward with my beautiful Emily who is now 14 ½ years old and one of my best bed buddies. I still didn't know much about grooming or showing, but dragged Emily to a few shows. I got a couple of points on her, but Emily really didn't care for the grooming much and hated showing so never finished her championship as a young bitch ~ but she did finish it eventually, and I'll come back to that later.

I bred Emily a couple of times to a stud I hadn't seen and found out later, much to my chagrin, that the dog was buck-naked - BSD that I hadn't yet heard of and wasn't told about. Remember, this was in the days before the internet and the proliferation of information that came with it. We take the internet and digital cameras for granted these days! I didn't keep anything from Emily's first two litters. But I did place several in pet homes where I was able to watch them grow up - a couple of them turned out really nice and none of them went bald that I am aware of. Besides, what I really wanted was another girl and she'd had all boys in those first two litters as I recall - in fact she only ever produced three girls. And, of course, there was a little lack of foresight on my part as well.

In 1996, I decided to look outside the province for a stud to use with Emily. I called around, did some research on pedigrees and Canadian breeders and settled on the stud I wanted to use. I called the owners and they convinced me that what I really needed, in addition to the stud service, was another good bitch. So I ended up buying a 5-month old bitch from that kennel, one that was supposed to be "specials" quality and cost me \$3,000 (not to mention wasted stud, handling and entry fees - I'll come back to that) which was a lot in 1996. Over the next couple of years I had dealings with them on four other dogs - two males and two females - who I sent back/refused for one reason or another (cow-hocked, fiddle-front, no testicles, butt ugly, all of the above - long story, so I won't go there except to say that before it was over a couple of more years had been wasted and it ended up in the hands of the lawyers. I lived up to my part of the bargain and I forced them to live up to theirs).

But to get back to the first bitch I imported, although she was far from specials quality (wide in the front, narrow in the rear, short on leg and bit long in the back), she was pretty, she showed well and finished quickly. So that was it - four or five years since I'd bought my first pet Poms and I was hooked! I had been taking handling classes so had a better idea what I was doing in the ring, and my grooming techniques had improved a lot too. I'd read everything I could get my hands on. And I wanted better dogs and more champions! Amazing how addictive showing can become.

Early in 1997, I got my foundation stud dog, nine-month-old Evan. You can see from his pictures what a beautiful boy he was. Evan's roots were in Matt Heindl's beautiful Bavanew

line, and he had been line bred on Medallion (MBIS Can/Am/Bda CH Millamor's Rock Medallion ROMX) through his son Calvin (BIS CAN/AM CH. Chriscendo Calvin Klein ROMX). These were lines which by this time I greatly admired so you can't imagine my disappointment when my boy arrived. I can still remember the night I went out to the airport to pick him up, and the extreme disappointment I felt when I opened the crate. He was the rattiest little thing you ever saw - pencil thin, practically no coat, longish thin muzzle, shy ~ just about everything I hadn't wanted in a dog, especially the one that was to be my foundation stud dog. But I felt I was stuck with him, so made the best of a very bad lot, or so it seemed at the time. Took him to handling classes and to every drop-in class I could manage!

May came, time for the Toy Dog Club of Newfoundland Group 5 Specialty. I still could barely get Evan to walk on a lead, but entered him anyway and managed to get him to go around the ring. He was a year old and looking a lot better by this time. To my utter amazement, he won Best of Winners and his first points with me handling. Maybe he wasn't so bad after

all! Soon afterwards he really came out of his shell and his whole body seemed to reformat itself, so to speak. It was the most amazing transformation, almost as amazing as Emily's. He turned out to be a real doll with a wonderful outgoing personality and a dynamite mover ~ and I always handled him myself. Some of his pictures still take my breath away.

I entered Evan in three, back-to-back sanctioned matches leading up to the July shows that year. All three had good entries, and he won every single one of them. Then came the July shows, three in all! That was Evan's second weekend out, a 12-point, triple-major weekend. He took the Breed every show and won a Group 1st, Group 2nd and Group 3rd that weekend, defeating a number of Specials and easily finishing his championship.

The next set of four shows was in September (there are only 18 or 19 shows a year in Newfoundland). He was only entered in two of those shows as I recall, the second and third. All my hard work had paid off and he was showing beautifully by that time. He took the Group easily his first show that weekend, and when I was on my way out of the Group ring with him the teacher from one of my handling classes leaned over and whispered in my ear, "You're looking good for Best in Show today. You gotta stop letting people crowd you in the line-up!" Well, it turned out he was right - Evan did win Best in Show that day - and best of all, I handled him myself. I just about fainted in the ring, and it took me weeks to come down off Cloud Nine! He won the Group again the next day also, as I recall. And he kept on winning for the rest of that year. Evan won the Toy Dog Club of Newfoundland award for Top Toy Dog that year, and the following year he also won the award for Top Toy Sire. It was nearly six years from the time I bought my first pet Poms to the day I handled Evan to a Best in Show.



**Ellie sons, littermates Niko and Andy**

*(Evan/Emily grandsons out of CH Ellie and BIS CH. Chriscendo Call to Arms ROMX "Colt") Andy (CH Damascusroad Deepsee Anchor) and Niko (CH Damascusroad Deepsea Night) each have four different championship titles (three different countries, and an international title). Andy is a MBIS, MBISS and multiple Group winner who was #1 Pom in France for 2005*



**Brooke (left), the third generation ~ CH Damascusroad Deepsea Stream**

*This Evan/Emily granddaughter out of CH Ellie is mother to our first two fourth-generation champions. Pictured beside Brooke, these are CH Damascusroad Deepsea Harlequin (Harley, sired by Colt, middle photo) and CH Damascusroad Ocean Harvester (Harrison, sired by Jockie MBIS Am/Can/Thai CH Starlight's Fun Times). These two boys won multiple Group placements to finish their championship in very short order.*



**Molly**  
CH Damascusoad Deepsea Molly



**Mitch**  
CH Damascusoad Deepsea Mission



**Maggie** (needs just 2 points to finish)  
Damascusoad Deepsea Magic



**Marina**  
CH Damascusoad Deepsea Marina

**Ellie kids, Emily/Evan grandkids and the third generation**

*These three Damascusroad kids are all from the same litter and out of our top producing bitch, CH Damascusroad's Lady Eleanor ROM, Ellie. Three are finished Canadian champions, and Maggie needs just two points to finish. Marina is owned by Laureen Solverson, Pomwinds in Alberta. The other three are here at Damascusroad ~ they hold our future. Molly and Maggie have just given us three lovely boys between them, all sired by Colt (BIS Can/Am CH Chriscendo Call to Arms ROMX). One of them will definitely be staying here, and we hope to show all three of them next year.*

Evan was hard to beat in the Toy ring for the rest of that year and well into the next year, winning the Breed and Group (or at least a Group placement) at every show I entered him in ~ in fact, I think the first time he lost the breed was the following October, when he lost it to his son. Evan was not my breeding, but he was my pride and joy and love of my life! I lost him four months after his seventh birthday and I still miss that darling little boy with his sweet, sweet personality. Thankfully, I entered him in one show that year, his last time in the ring a couple of months before he died ~ he won the breed and a Group 4. There'll never be another one for me like Evan. If you want to know what my ideal Pom looks like, all you need do is look at Evan.

I'll make a long story really short here, and skip a lot to get up to where I am now in the breed. I bred Emily to Evan a couple of times over the next few years and kept a couple of lovely bitches, all of whom turned out to be free-whelpers like their mother Emily and grandmother Sammie (one 5 lb. Emily/Evan daughter Rachel free-whelped four puppies her very first litter). And the best part was Evan really put his stamp on his puppies - short, short back; no ears; beautiful head; great legs with lots of coat; wonderful movement - just beautiful little puppies - and continues to put his stamp on his grandpuppies. Of course, my beautiful Emily contributed too! I also bred my imported bitch several times over these years and kept a couple of those as well. Some of these kids were exceptional and surpassed all my expectations in the show ring, winning Group placements and BPISs as junior puppies. But the imported bitch's puppies, although they were beautiful to behold, did well in the show ring, and finished easily, were genetically a complete disaster - and a lot of wasted years and money.

That bitch, which I had hoped along with Emily and Evan would give me a strong foundation on which to build was bred a total of four times to three different studs - and she gave me nothing but problems. It just took me and my vet a while to figure out that there was more to it than just flukes. Her first singleton litter was a bitch puppy born with one eye (and developed BSD at the age of four, I found out later) - my vet thought

it was a fluke. The little girl in her second litter (of two) was apparently normal and the boy was gorgeous but developed BSD before his first birthday - my vet thought it was fluke. He was neutered and placed as a pet - I found out later he died of heart failure at the age of four. The girl in her third litter was born with severe PDA (patent ductus arteriosus, a congenital heart defect) and had to be put down at five months of age, while the boy still had no testicles by the time he was seven months old - yet another very beautiful pet. And in her fourth and last litter, the boy had no testicles at five or six months of age and the girl was born with one eye and PDA - all three problems in one litter. Needless to say, the one apparently "normal" girl I still had out of her was spayed and went to a pet home - so I was back to the beginning again. That bitch cost me a fortune and a lot of wasted years by the time it was all done, and I still had nothing but what I started with - Emily out of my pet Sammie, and Emily's beautiful daughters. But I also had my beautiful line bred boy Evan.

In the middle of all this, disaster struck and I became quite ill. I couldn't look after the dogs. Everything went to pet homes except Rachel who was sold to a breeder in British Columbia who I later became good friends with (Arlene Fraser of Dannylad, now deceased). Rachel produced some wonderful puppies for Arlene and some of Rachel's offspring are doing well and still producing champions in both Canada and the US. By the time it was all over, and I was on the mend, all I had left were Emily and Evan. But that has turned out to be enough!

Emily was getting up there in age by this time (seven or eight), but I bred her to Evan one last time anyway and got a boy and a girl. Both finished their Canadian championships as junior puppies with group placements, including a couple of Group Firsts and couple of BPISs for the boy. I later sold the male (who afterwards finished his American championship) as I had his father Evan and I still wasn't keeping boys. But I kept the girl, Ellie who is now nearly five years old, a free-whelper like her mother Emily and her grandmother Sammie, and a top producing bitch. In the meantime, I had decided to buy a bitch or two as well - and by this time I knew what I wanted and

where to get it.

I got a lovely seven month old little show girl from Chris and John Hertz (I had been on their waiting list for a few years by that time). Charlotte was gorgeous, worth her weight in gold in the show ring. She won a major, with Chris on the lead, her first weekend out in the US, winning the Toy Group at the Classic Toy Dog Club of Western Massachusetts. Her first weekend out in Newfoundland-she won BOB all three shows, got Group 1st and BPIS the first two shows, and Group 2nd and Puppy Group the third show-all over Specials. She finished her championship easily that first weekend, and then went off to the US with Chris again. Charlotte was very tiny, but I knew that when I bought her. Although I hoped to get something out of Charlotte (by C-Section if need be), I bought her mainly for show. I did try breeding her once, but it didn't work out. So that was it! I never bred Charlotte again; she was a great show girl (which was what I wanted when I got her) so we just let her be one of our favourite couch potatoes. In the meantime, I decided to buy another bitch or two - brood bitches this time. Naturally, I went back to Evan's roots and a man who has since become one of my best friends, in Poms and out, Mr. Bavanew himself, Matt Heindl!

Matt sold me three nice breeding bitches, one of which I finished but didn't keep anything from. I also got a spectacular little boy from Matt, Walker, who finished in two weekends at six months of age. I later sold Walker as he was half-brother to all three of my Bavanew girls so that left only Ellie I could breed him to at the time - in hindsight, that was a very bad decision as Walker was gorgeous and passed his good looks and soundness on to his offspring. I did get one lovely litter from him, with Ellie, before he left for the US.

When my Bavanew girls were old enough to be bred, I decided not to breed them to Evan. Rather, I would use Colt (BIS Can/Am CH Chriscendo Call to Arms ROMX, US & CAN) for their first couple of litters thinking that I could use Evan with the offspring and with them later on. What a bad decision that turned out to be as before I was able to use Evan again, I lost him. All I had left out of him was his daughter Ellie who, happily, was also an Emily daughter. One bitch wasn't much to show for all those years, but it has meant I could carry on that line which goes back to my beginning in Poms 16 years ago.

And the rest, as they say, is history. In the beginning was my pet Pom Sammie who gave me Emily who, with my beautiful Evan, gave me Ellie - CH Damascusroad's Lady Eleanor ROM. Today I have some lovely Emily/Evan grandchildren and great-grandchildren through Ellie ~ Brooke (CH Damascusroad Deepsea Stream) who is mother to our first two fourth-generation Damascusroad Champions; and from Ellie's last litter of four (all finished except one, who needs only 2 points), Mitch ~ the only boy, and Molly and Maggie who just recently gave us three fourth generation boys sired by Colt. A few other lucky people also have some Ellie kids - Annie Gouraud in France who owns Andy (Multiple All Breed BIS, Multiple BISS and Multiple Group Winner, Champion of France, Luxembourg, Belgium and International Champion; and #1 Pom in France for 2005); Lea Vache in France who owns Andy's litter brother Niko, also an outstanding performer in the ring and also has four championship titles to his credit; and Lauren Solverson in Alberta who owns Marina, the only one from Ellie's last litter of four that I sold. Actually, come to think of it, these are the only three Emily/Evan grandkids out

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**Cooper, the fourth generation**

Damascusroad Cooper by the Sea



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**Logan, the fourth generation**

Damascusroad Logan by the Sea



11 week old littermates

(BIS Can/Am CH Chriscendo Call to Arms ROMX x CH Damascusroad Deepsea Molly)

## Damascusroad Luke Skywalker ~ Luke



## BPISA/BPISS Damascusroad Lakota Heritage ~ Lakota



6 month old littermates

*(BIS/BISS Can/Am CH Chriscendo Coldplay x Damascusroad Dreams of Hannah)*

These two are second generation Damascusroad kids descended from one of our Bavanew girls Angie (Bavanew's Angel on Damascusroad). At barely 6 months of age, Lakota was BPIS at both shows (one of which was a Pomeranian Specialty Show) his first weekend out in Russia and Luke got nearly enough points to finish at his first two shows here, winning a Group 2 and a Group 3 placement.

of Ellie that I have placed since her first litter and maybe the only ones I will ever place. I love Ellie's puppies with their short, short backs, no ears and great legs - I love that Emily/Evan line. To each, his own! Right! I already have some Emily/Evan great grandchildren by Ellie's daughter Brooke, and more recently three Colt-sired boys from two other Ellie daughters. I don't think I could ever have too many Emily/Evan grand and great-grandchildren! And I can't wait for the great-great grandkids that I hope to have in the not too distant future.

The lovely girls I was fortunate to get from my good friend Matt Heindl have also given me some lovely kids, including some lovely kids out of Colt (BIS Can/Am CH Chriscendo Call to Arms) who are doing well here in North America and overseas in France, Norway, Belarus, Russia and elsewhere. And here at Damascusroad, we now have some third generation kids (from two litters born in November 2007) that go back to two of the lovely bitches I got from Matt ~ our beautiful black and tan Gabby (Bavanew's Gabby on Damascusroad and our lovely red-sable Angie (Bavanew's Angel on Damascusroad).

It's hard to believe it has been nearly 16 years since the beginning of Damascusroad ~ and the last couple of years have been particularly good to us. In 2006, I did the unthinkable and made breed history! I lost the two girls I had been planning to show myself that year (long story, and not going there) so I decided to show my darling Emily at the ripe old age of 13. She was missing a couple of teeth but had plenty to show her perfect scissor bite, had a fabulous correct coat, and she still had perfect knees so was a good mover. I didn't seriously

expect to finish her at that age, but figured she'd boost the Pom entry and we'd have a little fun. Well, did we have fun! She actually loved the ring and the toy breeder judges loved her. Shirley Limoges awarded her Best of Breed (and Best Veteran) at the Toy Specialty. She also won Bests of Breed under well known and respected Toy Breeder Judges John C. Ross and Maida Puterman. She finished 2 July 2006 with a Best of Breed and Group 4th win awarded by Judge Hans Brunotte. There were nine new Championship titles for Damascusroad kids in 2006, but Emily's New Championship title just beat all - I can't imagine there'll ever be a better New Championship title for us than Emily's! It was the first time in the history of the breed that a 13 year old bitch had become a new champion - all owner/breeder handled. Took a while to come down off that cloud! She is now CH Damascusroad's Joyful Noise, and still going strong at 14½ ~ her mother Sammie lived to be nearly 17, so we're hoping she has a few good years yet :-)

2007 has been another great year for Damascusroad kids descended from our foundation bitch CH Emily - of eleven new championship titles for Damascusroad kids this year, eight of them are Emily's grandkids or great-grandkids. Two Emily great-grandsons by her grand-daughter CH. Brooke (daughter of CH. Ellie) became our first fourth generation Damascusroad Champions this year, finishing with Group Placements: Harley finished with a Group Placement in May 2007 and Harrison finished in August 2007 with multiple Group Placements. Four Emily grandchildren by daughter CH. Ellie have new championship titles so far this year, all with Group Placements and some with BIS placements. Molly finished with a Group Placement in July and her littermate (mul-

tiple Group Placement winner) Mitch finished in August 2007 while the third littermate Marina, Laureen Solverson's little girl, finished in October. The fourth littermate Maggie needs 2 single points to finish. Ellie's son Niko picked up two new championship titles this year (Luxembourg in March 2007 and Switzerland in June 2007); and his litter brother Andy added a fourth title in March 2007 by becoming Champion of Belgium. So far Emily's daughter Ellie (CH Damascusroad's Lady Eleanor ROM) has produced six champions (and 12 championship titles) for us, and has the seventh just needing 2 points.

We also saw Abby, the daughter of our black and tan Bavanew girl Gabby (Bavanew's Gabby on Damascusroad) become Champion of Luxembourg in September while Annie, the Colt-sired daughter of our red sable Bavanew girl Angie (Bavanew's Angel on Damascusroad) became Luxembourg and International Champion in April, for a total of four championship titles. Annie's litter brother Buster (Am. CH. Damascusroad's Dream Buster), owned by Barbara Moore in Texas has been busy in the breeding department and is turning out to be one hot little stud. Mary Latimer, SoFine's Pomeranians, used him to sire a litter of three, two girls and boy ~ all three have finished their American championships and are doing some really great winning in the US. Sue Goddard, Tim Sue Pomeranians, used Buster to sire a litter of two boys, both finished and both also doing some great winning. And David and Carlene Gilstrap, Mountain Crest Pomeranians, have a litter of two boys out of Buster that are starting their show career and doing some very nice winning already. Diane Finch also has a full sister to Annie and Buster, an American champion who has a boy in the US rings now.

I also have some nice kids here that go back to my two love-ly Bavanew bitches including Hannah, who is a Colt daughter out of Angie; and Becky who is out of Angie and sired by our Gabby/Colt son MBPIS/BPISS Can/Rus CH Damascusroad Dreams of Tucson. And now we have some second and third generation Damascusroad kids that go back to these two Bavanew girls ~ two of which made their debut at six months of age in Oct/Nov this year, one by winning BPIS at both shows his first weekend out in Russia (Damascusroad Lakota Heritage, sired by BIS/BISS Can/Am CH Chriscendo Coldplay) and the other (Damascusroad Luke Skywalker) by winning a Group 2 and a Group 3, and getting nearly enough points to finish his Canadian championship) at his first two shows here at home. I also have some other nice kids, thanks to these two Bavanew girls ~ too many to mention but you can see them on my website if you're interested.

It seems like it's been a long road to where I am now in the breed and I've learned a lot of things the hard way, partly because people don't really help or encourage newcomers in my neck of the woods and partly because of a tendency to muddle along independently on my own. A few people have helped me along the way, but none more than my best friend Matt Heindl of Bavanew Pomeranians. It is thanks to his 30 odd years of careful selection and breeding, and his willingness to share his dogs and his knowledge with others, that I

### **Becky ~ Damascusroad Dreams of Quebec**

(MBPIS/BPISS Can/Rus CH Damascusroad Dreams of Tucson X Bavanew's Angel on Damascusroad)

*This little darling has just given us another 3rd-generation Damascusroad boy out of BIS/BISS/BPISS Can/Am CH ChriscendoColdplay)*



have many of the dogs I do today. But more than anything, I am grateful to Matt for his friendship, loyalty and support over the years. I've learned a lot of lessons, but one of the main ones is that everybody needs a mentor and lots of support in the beginning. And if you don't get that, you'll go the long way round to get anywhere in this breed. Because of my own experiences, I have a real soft spot for newcomers and have sold them some of my best - I've only once been disappointed. We should all go out of our way to help newcomers because they are the future of our breed - and we were all newcomers once.

I'm also very grateful to Chris and John Hartz. I don't generally keep more than one or two males, and they have generously shared their stud dogs with me repeatedly. Without their hard work and dedication to excellence, and their willingness to work with me over the years, I wouldn't have many of the dogs that currently make up the Damascusroad Pomeranians gang.

So folks, that's all she wrote! Hope I haven't put you to sleep! It all started some sixteen years ago with a pet Pom, and where it ends nobody knows. I retired from my "real" job a few months ago and I hope to be able to spend on lot more time on my breeding program which builds upon the famous Millamor, Chriscendo and Bavanew lines as the pedigrees of our current breeding stock shows. I also hope to be able to do some traveling and meet in person some of the nice people I've met via the internet and the telephone over the past few years.

I want to end by saying a special thank you to Laurie for honoring me with this kennel visit in Pomeranians in Canada. It's become a wonderful breed magazine, Laurie has been doing a tremendous job (like she always does!) and I'm always happy when I open the mailbox and find it there. It has been a struggle to write this Kennel visit but it's also been a very pleasant stroll down memory lane. It's amazing how much you forget but equally as amazing how much comes back to you.