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I have been involved with most aspects of the breed for 40 years now and have had the privilege of breeding more than 100 champions including Sweden's top dog all breeds 2001, Ch Raglan Rory, a top sire in his own right and all time top winning terrier in Sweden.

Judging has taken me to 40 different countries and I feel very fortunate to have met and seen many of the famous personalities and dogs in the breed throughout the world. This has made the task of selecting only three top class Scotties very hard. I have limited my choice to dogs that I have actually seen or judged myself. They are not in any particular order as I find it almost impossible to compare dogs in different countries exhibited at different times.

An all time favourite of mine is the American dog Ch Dunbar Democrat of Sandoone, whom I met on my first visit to the States in the early 70's. He was an essentially British bred dog being sired by Ch Gosmore Gillson Highland King ex a Reanda-bred bitch, always handled to perfection by Bergit Coady-Kabel. Democrat was an important looking dog who carried himself like a king in the ring. He had a long clean head perfect front, neck and shoulders and a very deep, short low- slung body and well angulated strong hindquarters. His movement was excellent, and so was his dense double brindle coat. He embodied breed type and was so soundly constructed in front and rear – not an easy combination in the breed. One of his most outstanding qualities was that he was a strongly made dog without being coarse. I remember him winning BOB at the famous Montgomery show under the legendary British breeder Betty Penn-Bull, one of many top wins for this wonderful dog.

The black bitch Ch Tamzin Total Etiquette, sired by Ch Kennelgarth Romeo ex Ch ,owned and bred by Ray & Ava Platt, was another great Scottie. She excelled in breed type for the same reasons as Democrat. Etiquette was a very deep, short coupled bitch with big ribs, perfect front and very strong quarters. She had a long clean head of quality and a very good coat. She won many CCs and was once reserve in the Terrier group at Crufts. I awarded her CC & BOB at Windsor in the mid 80's and remember saying that she was like a jewel in a crown. I still think so and I consider myself very fortunate having known such a very beautiful bitch who combined substance, quality and type to perfection.

My third choice is Jane Miller's homebred brindle bitch Ch Brio Once Upon a Time, yet another bitch who fitted the standard like a glove. She had great quality and substance without being coarse and clumsy. She had a very deep short body, level top, text-book neck & shoulders and a sound front in combination with strong soundly made hindquarters. Her head was long and clean with dark almond-shaped eyes and she always showed well standing freely with head and tail held high. Her coat was hard and double and she was the very essence of Scottish Terrier type.

Many other top-class Scotties deserve to be mentioned, all outstanding dogs with that dash of quality and breed type that set them apart from the others. The breed record-holder Ch Wildermist Clara, the strikingly masculine dog Ch Kennelgarth Edrick, the top-winning brindle bitch Ch Stuane Highland Empress and the beautiful feminine bitches Ch Gaywyn Leila, Ch Viewpark Anna, **Ch Mayson Canasta** and Ch Brio Jezebel were all wonderful Scottish Terriers of superb quality, and I feel very fortunate indeed to have seen them all at home or in the ring.