

There were 262 entries provided by 138 exhibitors. A hundred special prizes and ribbons were available for winners. The New York Times wrote a review of this show and commented that many were 'as tiny as kittens' and 'some of them looked like muffs of soft silken fur, with a little pink nose and two small eyes'.

Colours noted were – white, sable, black, cinnamon, chocolate, blue, beaver, orange, cream and brown.

The APC had scheduled 62 Classes structured by colour, gender, weight and age. Additionally there was an AKC recorded Champion's Class for each gender and a Special open for Poms bred in America or Canada. The proviso of 'AKC recorded' effectively eliminated incoming British Champs who had yet to gain an American title. A comment was made 'the fact that a dog is imported does not necessarily mean that it is better than our American-bred dogs'.

This was decidedly a society event and some of America's top socialites and debutantes were in attendance. Mrs Frederick Vanderbilt and Mrs Ogden Mills had donated cups and were among the spectators who also included, Miss Eleanor Sears, Mrs Earl Dodge, J Sargent Price of Philadelphia, Mrs George Russell Peabody and the indomitable Mrs Stuvesant Fish (who became a regular spectator at their shows).

The judge was Mrs L Dyer (Afon Kennel) who travelled over from her home in north Wales. It was noted that her judging was 'more severe in her decisions than the American Judges'. In fact early in the show she decided none of the exhibits in some classes were of a good enough standard for a first place blue ribbon 'in these classes she gave but a second, and in some cases only a third'. The article states 'This way of judging was somewhat of a surprise to the exhibitors.'

The "upset" started almost immediately with the withholding of 1st place in Class 4 for Open Dog, black. Again in Class 16 – Open Dog or Bitch White – the first place was withheld.

In Class 24 for orange or cream Poms under 8 lb in weight Mrs Allard, whose Ch Tip Toes was favoured to take the ribbon, refused to accept her ribbon for 3rd place! Apparently Ch Tip Toes had 'never known defeat'.

below - Example of a small black bred by Miss Chell



Eventually the Best in Show was awarded to the APC Club President Mrs Smythe's dog Ch Banner Prince Charming who had earlier won Class 32, Open Dog over 5lb but not exceeding 8lbs. He also won Class 39 Champion Dogs for AKC Recorded Champions and of course the Winner's Class. Prizes included \$10 worth of gold donated by debutante Miss Anna Sands. He was 4 years old by Stocksmoor Sprat x Stocksmoor Topsy (English Poms) and it was said his coat was a 'beautiful texture of coal black hair'.

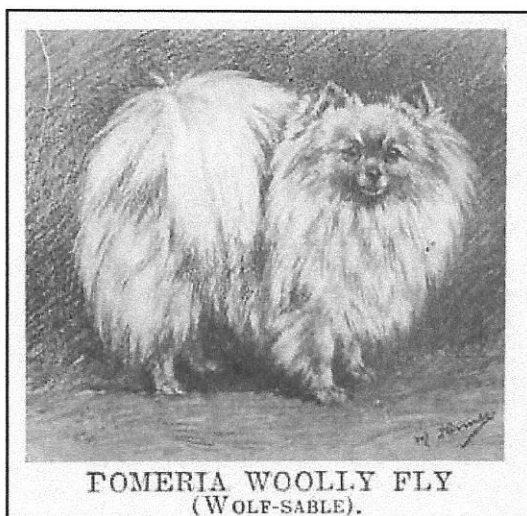
Miss Sands' bitch Pom Patch Belper Tossie won both Class 45 Open bitch, black under 8lb and Class 54 – Open bitch, any colour under 5lb. Belper Tossie imported from Miss Chell's kennel in England was recorded elsewhere as weighing 3lb. Tossie was also a Westminster winner.

Mrs Dyer's over-view was that the standard was very high but she was very critical of the presentation. She did not approve of their beautiful coats being trimmed so closely behind the ears, and thought this 'practice is decidedly overdone in this country'. It seems 'the chances of some exhibits was lessened by bad trimming'.

## AMERICAN POMERANIAN CLUB SHOWS 1912 TO 1915

The APC Show went from strength to strength and here is a brief re-cap of the shows until 1915.

1912 – The second APC show was held on January 12th at the Waldorf Astoria. Judge Charles Hopton drew an entry of 350 from 172 exhibits, there were 71 Classes and 150 Special awards. His choice for Best in Show was Mrs William Caner Wiedersheim of Philadelphia's Offley Kew Marco. He was described as a 'beautiful type of the breed' and weighed 3lbs. His counterpart was the diminutive black Pom Patch Belper Tossie, another 3lb Pom. Reserve Best Dog was Mrs Kirkland's Pomerian Woolly Fly, a heavily coated wolf sable whose photo appears in Miss Ives' book. Mrs Avis' Dainty Mite was Best Puppy.



Offley Kew Marco was bred in England by Mrs Norris, he was born May 1908 and was black in colour. He was by Malwood Marco x Kew Pearl and had placed at several English shows in 1909. Belper Tossie won Open Bitch at Cruft's that year. She was born May 08 and was by Tufnell Nero and Miss Chell's Belper Lulu.

Note - Mrs Byron Hofman mentioned in a book that Mrs Hebden founded the Western Pomeranian Club in Chicago in 1912.

1913- the third APC show was held on January 10 th at the Astor Gallery, Waldorf Astoria. The judge was Reuben Clarke from England. There were 400 entries from 154 Poms & 125 classes. Club President Mrs Smythe entered 30 of her Pomeranians including her newly imported 3 & 1/2lb orange Banner Admiral (previously called Afon Ginger and bred by former APC show Judge Mrs Dyer) and Banner Rose. Lakewood Sprite a Ch Dragonfly son did well at the show. Banner Admiral was the Best in Show with Mrs F Clarke's Ch Ashton Wee Oliver, a heavily coated black in Reserve place. The BOS was Mrs A. de B Keim's Ch Little Sally Lynd who was proudly announced to be American bred!

Quirks of this show were Class 69 for Actresses only and Class 70 Open Dog for those owned on the Island of Manhattan, Champions barred!

A point was made of great anticipation for the Blue Classes 'heretofore been very rare'. Note – this is an odd comment bearing in mind Blue Classes were scheduled in 1899 (American Pet Dog Show).

Of great interest to those who study breed origins were the exhibits from the Royal Kennels of Queen Margherita in Rome, Italy. Mr George Ford of New Haven, Connecticut, had acquired Tulipiano, Violetta, Bello, Bianco and Bambino Caesar from the Queen. The Queen herself had entered a brace at the show. Also bred by the Queen and owned by Miss Maben was Puccina, 'an

exceedingly small orange'. It is very possible that these 'Poms' were in fact Volpino also called Italian Spitz, Italian Pomeranian or Florentine Spitz. In 1912 at the Toy Spaniel Club show (other small breeds had classes) Mr Henry Furst was 2nd in Puppy Dog with Florentine Luppetto. Perhaps a clue!

1914- the fourth APC Show was held on January 30th 1914 at the Waldorf Astoria.

The judge from England was Midgley Marsden and he enjoyed a record entry of 174 Poms. The BIS was the Club President's surprise entry Young Gold Speck (photo right). For the second year in a row she had imported a dog from England that was unseen prior to this show, hence the surprise! He was hailed as 'an unknown orange dog to the American kennel world'.

It was noted that Mrs Otto Lehman of Chicago did a lot of winning with an American bred dog including a victory over Miss Theodora Wilbur's Hartfield Young Girl, imported from England at a cost of \$1250.